



Online: www.mrt.com

Sports

Commitment

Andrews High School's Jeremy Woods gives an oral commitment to play football for Texas A&M, but he can still change his mind. /1C

15
countdown to 2000

Today: In 1999, President Clinton orders airstrikes against Iraq in response to Saddam Hussein's defiance of U.N. weapons inspectors.



Midland Reporter-Telegram

Daily 50¢, Sunday \$1.50

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1999

Vol. 72, No. 282

Drug suspects appear in federal court

By Rick McLaughlin
Staff Writer

The government aired in federal magistrate judges' court Wednesday more details of allegations of criminal activity against six former employees and relatives of members of the Herrera Law Firm and its principal partner, Jesse Herrera.

Herrera has not yet been charged with any crime. Pedro Sanchez Baeza, Sergio Franco Juarez, Jesus Raymond Lucero, Aaron Herrera, Sandra Herrera and Dulces Nombres Nieto were six of the 23 suspects arrested Dec. 9 in a drug operation sweep in West Texas and New Mexico.

They appeared in the court of U.S. Magistrate Judge L. Stuart Platt Wednesday for preliminary

DEA Special Agent Michael Keene said a government informant came to know Octavio Herrera, brother of Jesse Herrera, and over a period of several months, 'at the behest of the DEA,' was able to make several purchases of cocaine and marijuana from Octavio Herrera.

examination and detention hearings.

Baeza was granted \$25,000 unsecured bond and Juarez will have his preliminary hearing 3 p.m. Wednesday. Lucero was denied bail and ordered to be held, while Aaron Herrera was granted \$50,000 no-cash bond, secured by his mother's property. Sandra Herrera was ordered to be held in a halfway

house and Nieto was granted \$25,000 bond provided that family members signed for a \$25,000 no-cash bond.

Pedro Sanchez Baeza is charged with conspiracy to distribute marijuana, conspiracy to import marijuana up to 1,000 kilograms and actual distribution of marijuana up to 50 kilograms. A

kilogram is equal to 2.2 pounds. He could receive from a minimum of 10 years up to life in prison for the conspiracy charges if he is convicted for his part in the alleged conspiracy.

■ Sergio Franco Juarez

Juarez was charged with conspiracy to distribute cocaine and actual distribution of 3/4 of a kilogram of cocaine. For the conspiracy charge, he could receive 10 years to life in prison, depending on numerous factors.

Juarez has charges pending with the Immigration and Naturalization Service because of a previous deportation related to prior criminal activity.

Please see DRUGS/4A

'Little Christmas angel'

8-year-old finds \$101, finds owner

■ Girl discovers money at mall store, goes on trail to find woman who dropped it.

By George Torres
Staff Writer

This time of the year there are always stories, TV specials and even movies about what the true meaning of Christmas really is. They usually focus on how the spirit of giving prevails over a sad situation that would otherwise cause a decent human being to suffer through an unfortunate holiday season.

But sometimes those stories are true. Indeed, an 8-year-old Midland girl — Amber Cartmell, a second-grader at Midland Advantage Charter School — is just such an example. And it all happened earlier this week at Midland Park Mall.

While Amber was Christmas shopping with her mother Lori Cartmell, she came across something on the floor at K B Toys store. It was a bank envelope, full of the stuff that generally puts a sparkle in eyes of the finder ... money.

Amber had just found \$101. But then the Christmas spirit took effect. The little girl decided she didn't want to use the money to purchase the Furries, the telephone or even the CDs she had been asking for.

She wanted to find the owner of the lost cash and return it to them. "I was very proud of her," Mrs. Cartmell said. "Instead of saying, 'Can we keep it,' she wanted to find the owner."

Examining the contents of the envelope, the mother and daughter ran across the driver's license of Sierra Ramos, a 21-year-old resident of Big Spring. With great pleasure the two started the search of finding Ms. Ramos.

"Amber said, 'Mom, mom! There's a driver's license in here, we can find her,'" said

Please see CASH/4A



MISD heads into final stages of renovation project

By Jeff Stevens
Staff Writer

The Midland Independent School District is heading into the final stages of its elementary renovation project. Renovations at Jane Long are expected to be completed over the Christmas break. And according to Wilson Heidelberg, executive director of auxiliary services, all elementary school renovations will be finished by December 2000.

Renovations at MISD began in May 1997. Long will mark the sixth campus completed, with just seven more to go. Henderson Elementary and Bonham are still under construction. Heidelberg

said Bonham is expected to be completed by March 2000. Henderson is expected to be completed by May 2000.

"We are very pleased for a variety of reasons," said Superintendent Joseph Baressi Jr. "One is for the quality of the renovations. Most people have been impressed that we are getting the equivalent of new buildings."

The renovation projects are part of the \$39.5 million bond issue that voters approved in March 1997. The money generated from those bonds will eventually renovate 13 elementary campuses.

"I think it speaks well of our maintenance and auxiliary staff," said Baressi

of the district's accomplishments in regards to the renovations. "I think we are getting good quality work and are inside the budget."

Three campuses remain under the renovation schedule: Rusk, Emerson and Jones elementaries. The school board awarded a total bid package of \$3,023,525 for the Rusk renovation at Tuesday's meeting. Lee George Construction of Big Spring was the successful bidder. Heidelberg said the project will begin in January. During construction, half the Rusk students will remain on that campus. The remaining students will be bused to the old Travis

Please see MISD/4A



School work

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram
Bonham Elementary School classrooms are being gutted as part of the school's renovations.

'We are very pleased for a variety of reasons. One is for the quality of the renovations. Most people have been impressed that we are getting the equivalent of new buildings.'

— Joseph Baressi Jr., MISD superintendent

Exxon-Mobil merger means more job losses, executives say

NEW YORK (AP) — The merger of Exxon and Mobil will bring bigger cost savings than expected for shareholders, though thousands more employees will lose their jobs, company executives said Wednesday.

Exxon Mobil Corp. will cut almost 16,000 jobs — about 15 percent of its work force — by the end of 2002, an increase from the 9,000 cuts estimated when the companies announced their plans to merge a year ago.

Officials declined to say precisely where the cuts will be made.

Chairman Lee Raymond and vice chairman Lucio Noto met with securities analysts at the New York Stock Exchange, Exxon Mobil's first meeting with analysts since regulators approved the \$81 billion merger on Nov. 30.

Raymond said the company's outlook for cost savings and improved earnings was even better than executives had expected, at \$3.8 billion per year

instead of the \$2.8 billion estimated a year ago.

As a result, the combined company will earn about \$1 billion more next year and \$2.5 billion annually by 2003, Raymond said.

Raymond said the sale of assets required by regulators — including a refinery and more than 2,400 service stations — will raise up to \$5 billion and create a net gain of about \$1 billion.

Analysts expect the company to put additional money from the asset sales into oil exploration and production, especially in the Middle East and Africa. Officials said that, unrelated to the merger, the company will produce 4 percent more oil and gas volume next year.

"I'm impressed that a company this big is still expecting 4 percent volume

Please see MERGER/4A

Midland High School kills girls team's road trip

By Jeff Stevens and Lee Passmore
Staff Writers

The Midland High School girls basketball team is canceling a two-game road trip to Amarillo next week stemming from the possible suspension of some team members for violating school rules.

The suspension may be linked to a Monday incident where several members of the girls basketball team returned to school after drinking alcohol at lunch.

"I've talked to Dr. Baressi and he told me this morning that he was aware that there were some students that came to school under the influence," said school board trustee Pat Hodges.

MHS had been scheduled to travel north to play a pair of games next Monday and Tuesday against Amarillo Palo Duro and Amarillo Tascosa, along with crosstown rival Lee High. MISD Athletic Director Tim Whalen, though, said that the Midland High girls will

not make the trip because of "lack of personnel."

Midland High School Principal Neil Richmond would not return phone calls Wednesday. However, he said through MISD Executive Director Barney Welch that the trip had been canceled because Richmond did not want to incur the cost.

However, Whalen said Midland High's two scheduled games at home against Frenship Friday and Lamesa Saturday are still slated to be played. The Lee girls are still scheduled to make the trip to Amarillo.

Whalen couldn't confirm the exact disciplinary action that may have been taken against certain members of the MHS girls team and was not aware of any team members being specifically suspended. He said that disciplinary action falls directly under the umbrella of the Midland High administration.

Again Richmond would not return phone calls. Baressi and Executive Director of Secondary Education Ricardo Torres would not comment as to the nature of the discipline or

offense, other than to say the issue was under investigation.

"My only thought is that we don't have all the evidence," said Baressi. "There is one situation. I don't know that any of them are finished as far as the formal investigation."

In addition to the game cancellations, there seems to be some controversy over the equity of punishment. By all accounts, the drinking incidents may have involved several students, but only one has been expelled.

"The question has been raised to me that that could be a problem," said Ms. Hodges. "We enforce zero tolerance and I would expect that zero tolerance would be enforced for all students."

The district policy for students involved in alcohol infractions calls for an 18-week suspension. So far, only one student is facing that punishment in this incident.

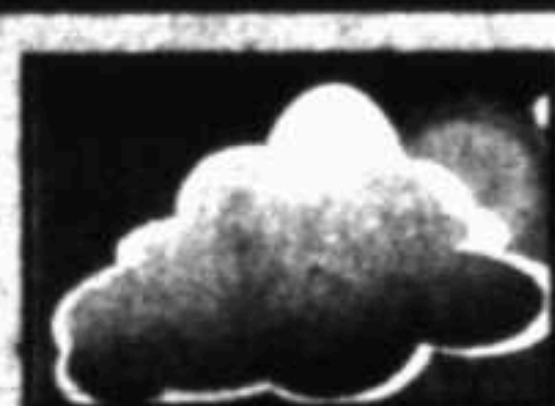
No one from the district could discuss any names or specific cases because of privacy

Please see GIRLS/4A

A look inside

INSIDE

- Bridge 4B
- Business & Oil 8C
- Classified 2D
- Comics 4B
- Crossword 5B
- Deaths 2B
- Lifestyle 9C
- Local 1B
- Movies 6B
- Opinion 8A
- Sports 1C
- TV Schedule 5B
- Weather 4A



TODAY
Partly cloudy with
high in mid-60s.
Weather on 4A

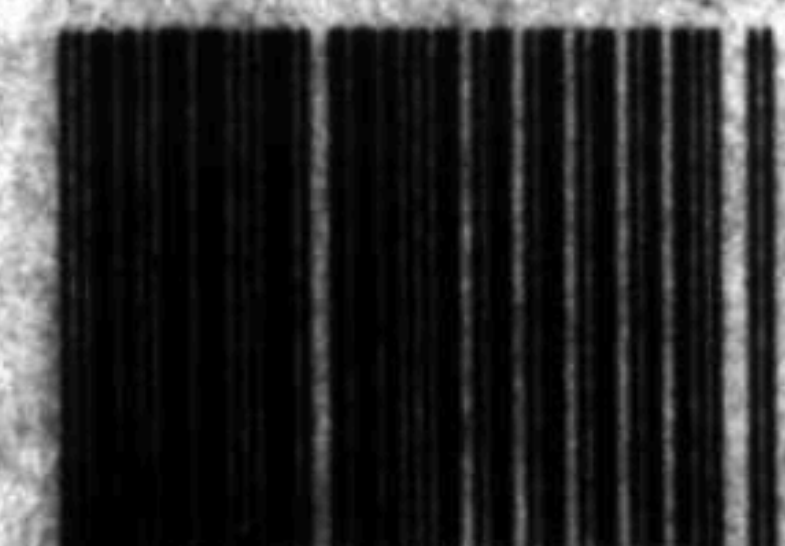
Ed Todd

Change and
renewal are
among the
blessings of
the
season/1B



Off the wire

- Chernobyl officials insist plant is Y2k safe/5A
- Institute recommends nutrition counseling as Medicare benefit/7B



DECEMBER 16, 1999

Chechens beat back Russian forces in Grozny

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Russian tanks and armored personnel carriers stormed into the Chechen capital of Grozny on Wednesday but were beaten back in bitter street fighting by Chechen defenders firing rocket-propelled grenades.

The bodies of several dead Russian soldiers were seen sprawled around the burning wrecks of their vehicles in Minutka Square after the attack was stopped Wednesday evening.

It was the first time Russian armored forces had tried to move into Grozny since federal troops encircled the city last month — an indication that Russian commanders were stepping up their efforts to capture it.

Seven Russian tanks and eight armored personnel carriers managed to get into the square, about two miles from the center of Grozny. The Russian troops apparently became confused and were later trapped, making it easier for the rebel fighters to attack the convoy.

The Russian Defense Ministry had no immediate information on the attack. Rebel casualties apparently were few.

The raid came as Russian forces continued to shell the city around the clock. Plumes of black smoke rose over the city's devastated center as salvos of Russian shells screamed overhead, exploding in bright flashes of red and orange.

Earlier in the day, a top military official in Moscow predicted that Grozny would be taken in "a matter of days," and that the Russians would completely defeat the militants by February.

But the rebels expressed confidence Wednesday. Grozny mayor Lechi Dudaev said the fighters "are afraid of nothing but Allah."

Russian forces now control 60 percent of Chechnya, and it will take two to three months to defeat the estimated 12,000 to 15,000 rebels throughout the breakaway republic, said Gen. Valery Manilov, first deputy chief of the Russian General Staff.

The Russian military's march across Chechnya so far has faced limited resistance from the outgunned militants, who have repeatedly retreated rather than wage full-scale ground battles.

But Lechi Islamov, a senior Chechen commander in Grozny, told The Associated Press that rebel forces had repulsed six Russian ground attacks in the north and southeast of the city



Russian soldiers push bombs for Su-24 bombers at an air base in Mozdok, northern Osetia, Tuesday. Rebel forces battled Russian soldiers amid the wreckage of bombed homes and factories in southern Grozny on Wednesday as federal artillery pounded the Chechen capital from all sides.

during the past 24 hours.

Several thousand militants are well-entrenched in the battered capital, where they have been preparing for weeks for a Russian assault.

The rebels have a wealth of experience in guarding against Russian attacks on Grozny. Chechen fighters fiercely defended the capital at the beginning of the 1994-96 war against Russia and recaptured the city near the end of the conflict.

However, if Russia's superior firepower overwhelms the rebels, as many predict, the militants will retreat to southern Chechnya and wage guerrilla warfare from the mountains.

Islamov said rebel groups outside the city are finding it difficult to send reinforcements and supplies through the Russian lines encircling the city.

From 10,000 to 40,000 hungry civilians are believed to be trapped in the city, many too old and infirm to make the dangerous journey through Russian shelling out of the capital.

The Emergency Situations Ministry said almost 3,000 civilians had left the city since Saturday, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported. But reporters say they have seen only small numbers of people straggling out.

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said the Russians would first complete the "anti-terrorist operation" and would then look to solve "political problems by political means," according to his

spokesman, Mikhail Kuzhukhov.

Emergency Situations Minister Sergei Shoigu said he was ready to hold talks with Chechen President Aslan Maskhadov to discuss evacuating civilians from Grozny.

"I am ready for contacts with Maskhadov, or the devil himself, to provide for the safety of the peaceful population," Shoigu said.

According to Islamov, more than 100 Russian soldiers have been killed in the past two days of fighting and 86 civilians have died in Grozny due to Russian shelling over the past 10 days.

The figures could not be independently confirmed, and both sides routinely exaggerate casualty claims.

Amid strong international criticism of Russia's military campaign, Knut Vollebaek, chairman

of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, offered to mediate a cease-fire.

"We need to find a political solution," Vollebaek said Wednesday in Ingushetia, the Russian region bordering Chechnya that has taken in the vast majority of the refugees.

Holidays have you rushed?

Free Gift Wrap!
Free Delivery on Paintings!
Thomas Kinkadee
Signature Galleries
Of West Texas
Wadley & Garfield, Midland
682-9911

BRIGHT CHRISTMAS IDEAS!



Holiday Shopping Hours Extended

Thursdays 10am-8pm
Sundays 1pm-5pm

ONCE UPON A TIME

3001 Loop 250N
Across from Pier 1 Imports
699-4270
Mon.-Wed., Fri & Sat.
10am-6pm

Jordanians arrest 13 terrorist suspects

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) — Jordanian authorities have arrested 13 members of a terrorist group linked to exiled Saudi militant Osama bin Laden who were planning attacks against Americans, Israelis and other targets, a senior Jordanian official said Wednesday.

At the White House, spokesman Joe Lockhart declined to discuss details of the arrests, other than to note they had been carried out by the Jordanian government.

The terrorist group included 11 Jordanians, one Iraqi and one Algerian, the senior official said. He declined to provide further details. A security official said the arrests were made three days ago. The men asked not to be identified.

Lockhart said, "We certainly believe these were members of bin Laden's organization that posed a threat to Americans. We are following closely a number of threats and continue to be very vigilant on that front."

U.S. officials in Washington said they were aware of arrests linked to a terrorist threat, some with possible ties to bin Laden, when they issued a travel warning to Americans in the Middle East over the weekend. The warning said anti-American terrorists could target locations where there would be large Year 2000 celebrations.

Bin Laden has been indicted by a New York grand jury on charges of conspiracy and murder in the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that killed 259 people. He is living in Afghanistan under the protection of the ruling Taliban militia.

The Taliban have refused to hand bin Laden over to the United States or a third country for trial on charges of terrorism.

News of the arrests came the day Syrian and Israeli officials resumed peace talks in Washington after a three-year hiatus.



Give the gift of Light for the holidays.

All Lamps on Sale 3 Days Only 20% off

Thurs. 16th Fri. 17th Sat. 18th

New Arrivals
Great Selection of Floor Lamps

A Shade Above

Locally owned & operated
3328 N. Midkiff • 694-2229
Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-5:30pm
Sat. 10am - 3pm

TWO DAYS ONLY

UP TO 60% off

Oriental Rugs

Presented by:
Foamam Oriental Rugs
Dallas World Trade Center
1-800-303-2432
Since 1975
We buy & trade your old rugs

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
DECEMBER 18 & 19
9AM - 7PM

MIDLAND HOLIDAY INN
4300 W. HWY. 80
697-3181

GIVE THE GIFT OF A RELAXING MASSAGE

Gift Certificates Available

697-8818

By Appointment Only
CENTER FOR MASSAGE

NO TIME TO SHOP?

Order a GOURMET GIFT BASKET from

A Personal Touch

Gift Baskets for all occasions

We Deliver

(915) 520-5655

www.a-personal-touch.com

The Preferred Princess Cruises EXPERT!

AMERA TRAVEL NETWORK

4610 N. Garfield St. A-3 (915) 687-0313 Mon-Fri 8:30-6:00

A MASSAGE A MONTH!

Give A Gift That Lasts All Year Long

CALL US FOR DETAILS.

SPECIALIZED 684-6408

LOOP 250N AT GARFIELD

Now

WOMENS DESIGNER FASHIONS & SHOES ARE 1/2 OFF

1/2 off

Swartz

Plaza Oaks Wadley Avenue at Garfield Phone 682.7777

Swartz Charge, VISA/MC, AMEX, Discover

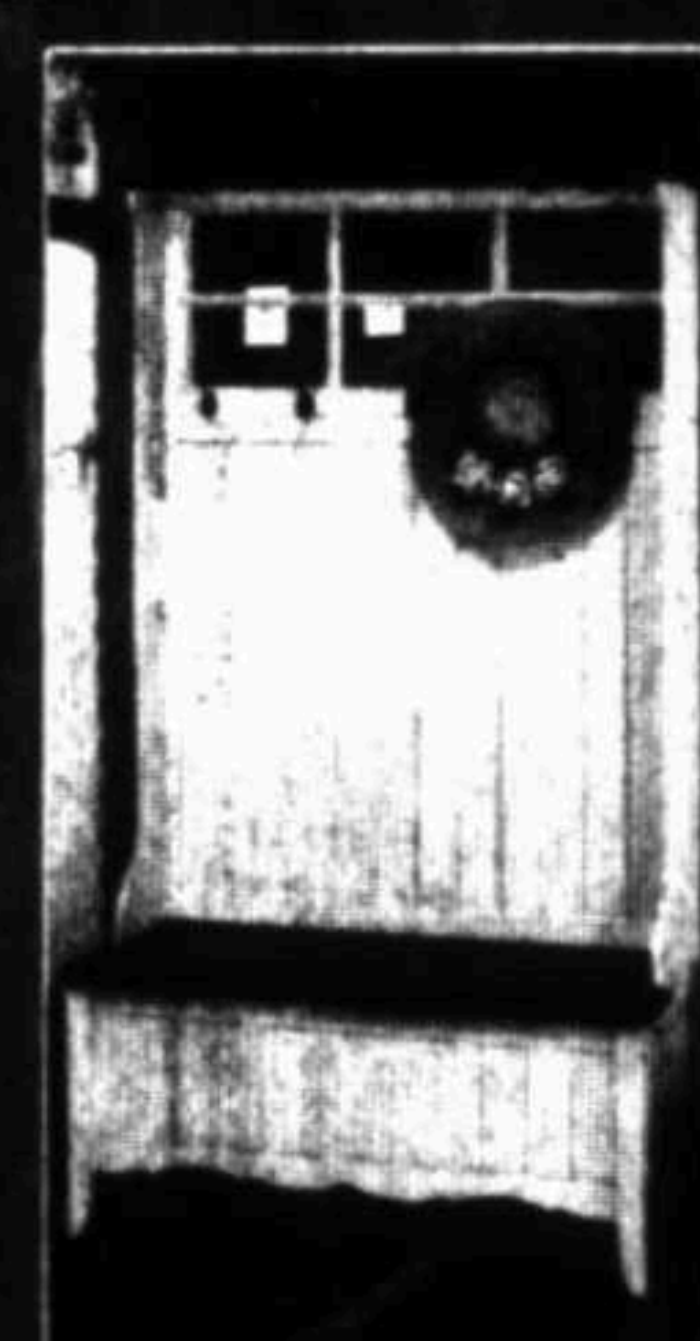
Please make your selections carefully. All sales final on sale purchases.



Accent Table-This glass top accent table will add a decorator's touch to any room \$99⁹⁵



Chairside Storage Table-This bombe style storage table with beautiful hand painted flowers will gracefully accent any room \$149⁹⁵



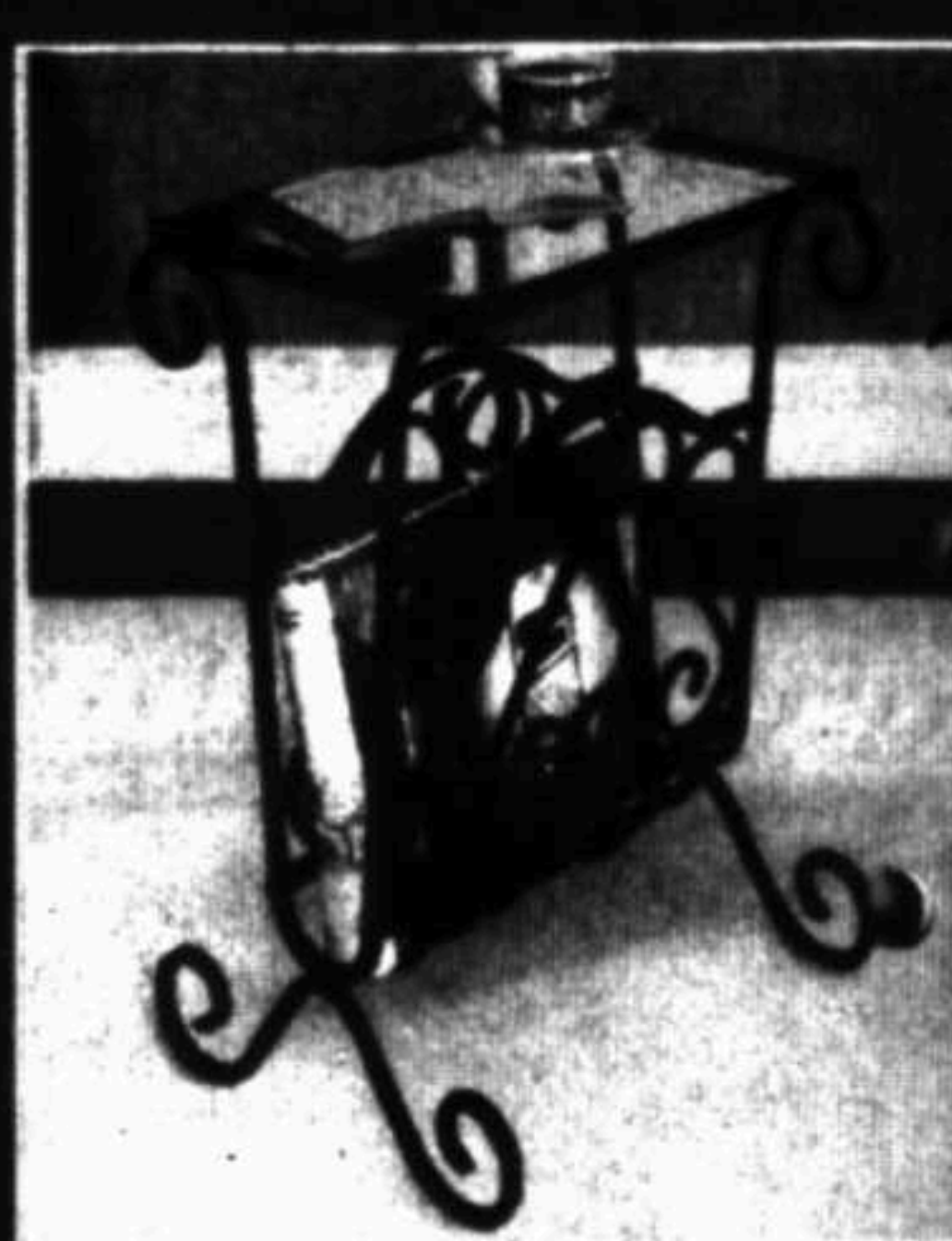
Hall Tree with Storage Bench-Keep your entryway tidy with this beautiful and unique hall tree \$289⁹⁵



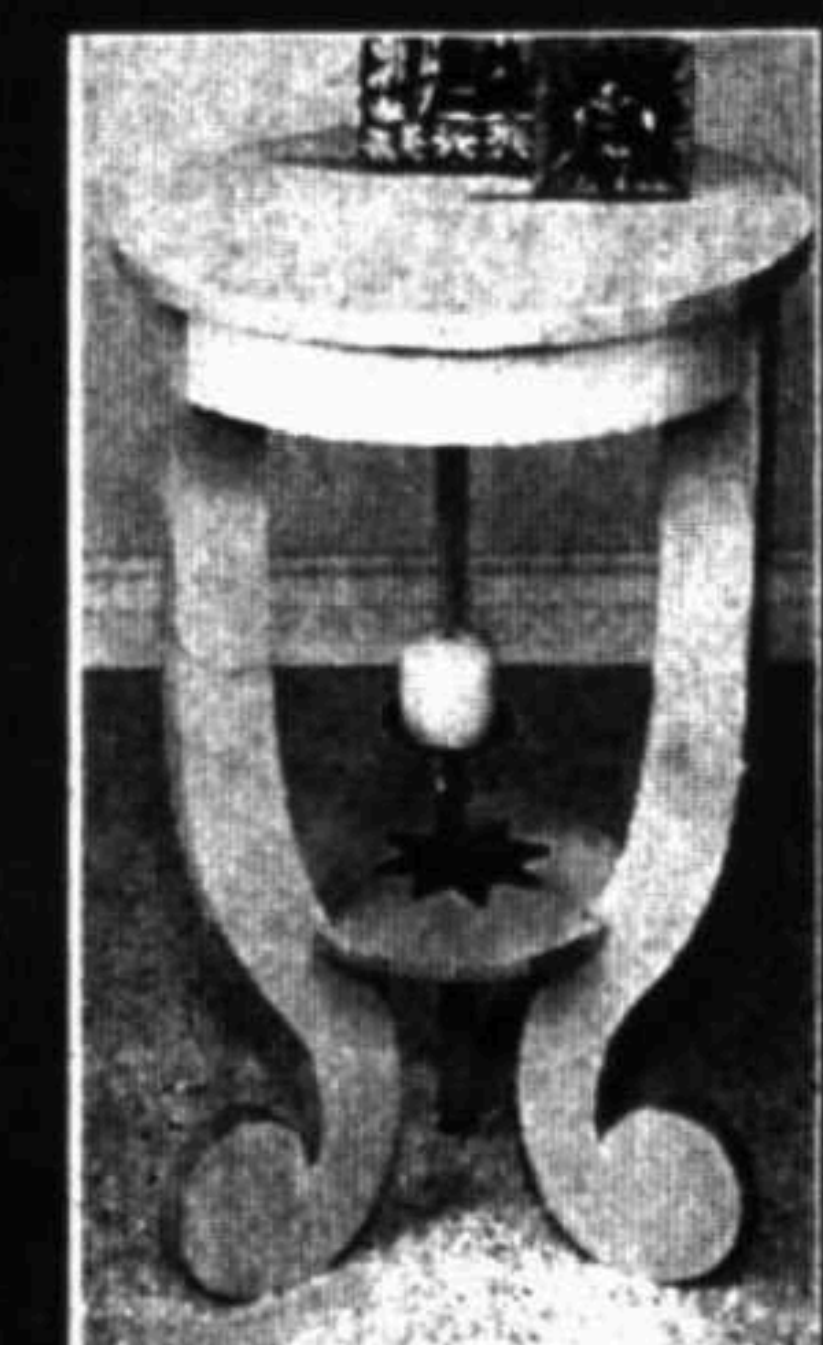
"Mission Oak" Plant Stand - with bottom shelf is ideal to display your favorite plants and collectibles \$79⁹⁵



Manchester Bistro Table -with Iron Bistro Chairs- Comfortable wood seat iron chairs superbly accent the matching bistro table \$369⁹⁵



Magazine Rack Table-Magazines, newspapers, and books can be neatly stored in this elegant iron table \$99⁹⁵



"Clear Maple" Finish Accent Table- This attractive table is great in both traditional and contemporary settings \$149⁹⁵

Carter's furniture

501 East Illinois

3 blocks east of downtown

Financing Available

682-2843

Free Delivery

12-year-old twins lead 'God's Army' against Myanmar dictatorship

By Apichart Weerawong
Associated Press

KA MAR PA LAW, Myanmar — Here at the jungle base of God's Army, no one questions the leadership of Luther and Johnny Htoo.

No matter that the 12-year-old twins are shorter than the M-16 rifles some of their followers carry. The fighters who have rallied behind them believe the brothers offer divine protection in a children's crusade that blends elements of the Old Testament and "Lord of the Flies."

An offshoot of the ethnic Karen guerrilla movement that was nearly crushed in a brutal government offensive two years ago, God's Army is made up of about 100 battle-hardened veteran fighters, former university students and children.

But the Htoo twins are unlike most of the estimated 300,000 child combatants in Third World conflicts around the world. They rule their unit, which operates from Ka Mar Pa Law, a village base in the malarial jungle near Myanmar's border with Thailand.

They tell their followers when to fight, what to eat, how to behave. Their leadership is never challenged.

Surrounded by adult aides and a bodyguard of rifle-toting children, the twins speak little to outsiders. Reporters must first be carefully screened by their sympathizers in Thailand and then make a half-day trek on foot through mountainous jungle to reach their remote camp.

Johnny, chubby cheeked and shy, seems the more childlike of the two. He readily lays aside his gun to bounce a volleyball.

Luther, whose moods swing quickly between cocky and sullen, has a disturbing 1,000-yard stare. Both boys smoke cigarettes constantly.

"I have never cried," Luther told an Associated Press reporter who recently visited the base. "Why would a man cry?"

When Luther noticed a gun lying unattended, he shouted for its owner. A larger boy came forward. Luther ordered him to do 100 jumping exercises as punishment.

Like most Karens, God's Army are Christians in a predominantly Buddhist country. The twins

have a fundamentalist bent and don't allow fighting, swearing, drugs or alcohol.

The twins' power dates to 1997, when Myanmar all but crushed the Karen National Union, the mainstream rebel movement which has fought for Karen autonomy for half a century. According to refugee accounts, government forces killed men in front of their families, raped women and torched villages.

When the army came to Johnny and Luther's village, the story goes, the guerrilla fighters fled, leaving it unprotected. The twins rallied some men and directed a successful counterattack.

Since then, the twins have been deemed to have powers from God.

The government sees nothing divine about their fighting force.

An official spokesman for Myanmar's military government, in response to queries by the AP, said the government considers God's Army a group created by the Karen National Union to carry out terrorist activities against Myanmar, such as the Oct. 1 takeover of Myanmar's embassy in Bangkok. The spokesman insisted his name not be used, in line with government rules.

While many in God's Army are children, others are tough Karen National Union veterans or members of the dissident student

group that carried out the embassy takeover in which 38 hostages were seized.

Their small following receives arms from the Karen National Union, but operates independently from them.

The estimated 4,000 fighters of the Karen National Union mostly carry out hit-and-run attacks, and God's Army fights the same way. But because of the twins' unbeaten record and alleged powers — their followers believe they are immune to gunfire — it has high morale and attracts hard-core guerrilla fighters.

"God sent these two leaders to rescue all the Karens," said Su Bia, a veteran fighter who has joined the ranks of God's Army. He said he lost six siblings in the 1997 fighting.

"Those who do not listen to the leaders will not be protected when they go out on the front line," he said.

The twins' parents live in Ka Mar Pa Law, and the boys profess love for them, though they seem to have little contact with them.

"We knew from the day they were born" they would be special, their father, Pu Kaw, said. "We had a vision that they would be pure, extraordinary people."

"When I first heard about the twins, I doubted that it was true," said a leader of the Myanmar



AP Photo
Johnny Htoo, second left, and Luther, sitting second right, 12-year-old Karen twin brothers, pose with fighters at their jungle base of Ka Mar Pa Law in Myanmar opposite Thailand's Ratchaburi province, 95 kilometers (59 miles) west of Bangkok Monday, Dec. 6.

Embassy takeover who gave only his first name, which is also Johnny. "But when I met them, then I realized that they are really special. They definitely have something."

Y2K Ready?
Get Your Bottles, Dispensers and Water Early
while supplies are good
2813 N. Big Spring
1219 N. Midkiff
4313 D West Illinois

HOLIDAY CLEARANCE
ALL REMAINING CHRISTMAS TREES
TAKE AN ADDITIONAL
25% OFF
OUR EVERYDAY PRICE OF 1/2 OFF MFG RETAIL
CARD & PARTY FACTORY
4612 Billingsly Blvd. #5-1B • 689-8490 • Mon.-Sat. 9am-7pm • Sun. 12:30-5:30

JUST IN TIME SALE
SEE OUR 4 PAGE INSERT IN TODAY'S PAPER
Open Thursday 8 A.M.

13 Only Ladies Suede Jackets TODAY \$19.99 Orig. \$90	Flannel Plaid Skirts TODAY \$9.99 Orig. \$34 Assorted plaids
32 Only Terry Robes TODAY \$24.99 Orig. \$62	DANIEL GREEN BOOTIE • Camel • Blue • Moss • Black Not all sizes all colors
15 Only Silk Pant Sets TODAY \$19.99 Orig. \$66	
23 Only Lurex Shirts TODAY \$9.99 Orig. \$32	

DUNLAPS
Open 8 A.M. • 694-8888 • Midkiff 46 Illinois

Celtic Crosses inspired by original carved stone crosses in Scotland & Ireland...at:
FOLGER GALLERIES
Imperial Shopping Center • Midkiff at Midkiff
697-3778

New Shipment of Mam' Christmas Earrings
Gunnys Collection
#13 Imperial Shopping Ctr. Corner of Midkiff & Midkiff
689-8933

Silk Garden
All Christmas
25% Off
Silk Trees
10-50% Off
Midland Plaza
Near Mervyn's
689-2552

Pamper Yourself with wonderful Bath Products at Ivy Cottage
Free Gift Wrap
Open Sundays Dec. 19th 1-5 pm
The Ivy Cottage
3101 N. Big Spring
Midland 687-6010

50% OFF SHEETS & COMFORTERS

Crown Crafts Williamsburg Collection "Carter's Grove" ensemble
Inspired by a richly colored service of Worcester china in the Williamsburg Museum collections, this elegant pattern features delicately drawn bouquets and butterflies framed by broad awning stripes textured with Oriental damask scrolling. The 200-thread-count all-cotton sheet sets offer soft comfort and deep-pocket fitted sheets for a secure fit on thicker mattresses, while the oversized comforters drape fully over the bed.

Item	Orig.	Now
Queen sheet set	95.00	47.50
King sheet set	125.00	62.50
Queen comforter set	280.00	140.00
King comforter set	350.00	175.00
Decorative pillow	35.00	17.50

Crown Crafts 310-thread-count reversible Royal Sateen® sheets
The ultimate in natural fabric luxury, Royal Sateen sheets are made of only the finest Egyptian combed cotton with a 310-thread-count for a soft, smooth touch. Their distinctive dyeing process and mercerized finish result in richer, more vibrant colors for lasting beauty. Choose from four handsome colors — blue, sage, red and plum — all reversible to charcoal.

Item	Orig.	Now
Queen flat or fitted sheet	60.00	30.00
King flat or fitted set	70.00	35.00
Standard pillowcases, pair	40.00	20.00
King pillowcases, pair	45.00	22.50

Can't decide?
A Dillard's holiday gift card makes the perfect present.
Even better than gift certificates, our gift cards are available in any amount and can be used like prepaid credit cards! See store for details.

All items subject to prior sale.
Dillard's welcomes your Dillard's charge, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or Diners Club card.
SHOP MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:30 A.M. TO 9:30 P.M. • SATURDAY 9 A.M. TO 9:30 P.M. • SUNDAY 10 A.M. TO 8 P.M. • Midland Park Mall, 697-7911

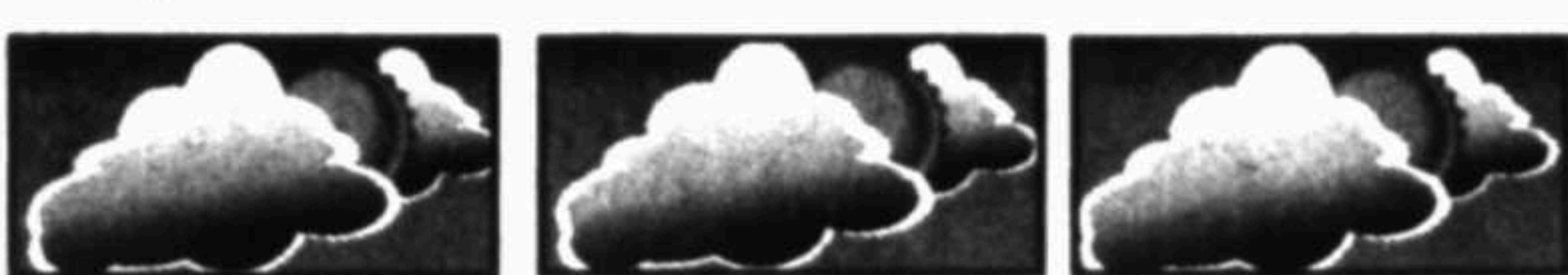
Dillard's

DECEMBER 16 1999

WEATHER

Midland forecast

3-day forecast



Today
Partly cloudy
High 60-65
Low mid-30s

Friday
Partly cloudy
High 60-65
Low mid-30s

Saturday
Partly cloudy
High mid-60s
Low low 30s

Today's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a high around 60-65. The wind will be from the southwest at 10-20 mph.

Tonight's forecast calls for fair skies with a low around 30.

Friday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with high around 60-65. Friday night will be partly cloudy with a low around 30-35.

After an overnight low of 20, Wednesday's high reached 50, compared to the record high for that date of 76 set in 1977. The record low of 11 was set in 1987.

Yesterday's precipitation
Rainfall Wednesday .00 in.
Rainfall Tuesday .00 in.
Total for month .00 in.
Total for year 7.6 in.
Normal total (year to date) 14.66 in.

Yesterday's temperatures
High .56
Low .38
Normal high .59
Normal low .31

Sunrise ... 7:42 a.m.
Sunset ... 5:47 p.m.

National forecast

United States temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Prc	Out	City	Hi	Lo	Prc	Out
Albany, N.Y.	41	32	07	m	Harrisburg	45	37	02	cdy
Albuquerque	41	32	07	m	Hartford	39	37	07	cdy
Anchorage	59	30	cdy		Helena	35	24	cdy	
Asheville	59	30	cdy		Honolulu	80	68	cdy	
Atlanta	61	38	cdy		Jackson, Miss.	54	44	cdy	
Atlantic City	50	44	cdy		Jacksonville	67	37	cdy	
Baltimore	44	37	cdy		Juneau	29	26	14	sn
Baton Rouge	59	47	cdy		Kansas City	37	31	05	cdy
Birmingham	56	40	cdy		Knoxville	55	31	cdy	
Boise	38	34	04	cdy	Lake Charles	59	44	cdy	
Boston	43	43	23	m	Las Vegas	54	31	cdy	
Buffalo	50	33	01	sn	Lexington	49	36	cdy	
Burlington, Vt.	41	32	14	sn	Lincoln	35	29	19	cdy
Caribou, Maine	32	20	sn		Little Rock	52	44	cdy	
Casper	30	14	cdy		Louisville	49	34	05	cdy
Charleston, S.C.	63	39	48	cdy	Memphis	50	43	cdy	
Charleston, W. Va.	58	30	cdy		Miami Beach	82	70	cdy	
Charlotte, N.C.	60	33	cdy		Minneapolis	36	32	24	cdy
Chattanooga	58	33	cdy		Mobile	61	44	cdy	
Cheney	36	20	cdy		Montgomery	62	40	cdy	
Chicago	38	26	10	cdy	Nashville	52	36	cdy	
Cincinnati	47	34	06	cdy	New Orleans	60	53	cdy	
Cleveland	49	39	12	sn	New York City	48	43	07	cdy
Colorado Springs	45	15	cdy		Newark	47	42	10	cdy
Columbia, S.C.	64	32	cdy		Norfolk, Va.	52	46	cdy	
Columbia, Mo.	65	36	cdy		North Platte	39	9	cdy	
Columbus, Ohio	49	38	04	sn	Oklahoma City	52	31	cdy	
Concord, N.H.	35	33	09	m	Omaha	33	29	14	cdy
Daytona Beach	69	52	cdy		Orlando	72	58	cdy	
Denver	43	21	cdy		Philadelphia	48	42	03	cdy
Des Moines	33	32	cdy		Phoenix	67	37	cdy	
Detroit	43	38	sn		Pittsburgh	54	39	sn	
Duluth	30	26	cdy		Pueblo	52	16	cdy	
Eugene	52	44	10	m	Raleigh-Durham	60	37	cdy	
Evansville	45	31	02	cdy	Rapid City	32	15	sn	
Fargo	46	13	cdy		San Antonio	57	32	cdy	
Flagstaff	41	10	cdy		St. Louis	52	37	cdy	
Fresno	57	33	cdy		Salt Lake City	33	20	cdy	
Goodland	47	15	cdy		San Diego	67	46	cdy	
Grand Junction	39	9	cdy		San Francisco	55	40	cdy	
Grand Rapids	40	32	13	sn	San Jose	57	36	cdy	
Great Falls	42	25	cdy		San Juan, P.R.	81	75	cdy	
Green Bay	32	32	28	cdy	Santa Fe	38	8	cdy	

State forecast

Texas temperatures

City	High	Low	Pcp	City	High	Low	Pcp
Abilene	60	20		Houston Intercontinental	73	38	
Alice	81	44		Huntsville	71	39	
Arlington	69	37		Junction	68	24	
Austin/Bergstrom	74	30		Kingville	81	43	
Beaumont	69	40		Laredo	80	43	
Brownsville	77	54		Longview	68	37	
Burnet	70	34		Lubbock	43	16	
Childress	47	27		Lufkin	50	30	
College Station	72	32		Marfa	55	19	
Comstock	79	32		McAllen	80	52	
Corpus Christi	79	47		McKinney	67	37	
Corsicana	69	32		Mineral Wells	67	42	
Cotulla	78	36		New Braunfels	73	29	
Dalhousie	44	15		Paris	63	37	
Del Rio	78	34		Rockport	72	49	
Denton	64	32		San Angelo	64	26	
DFW Airport	70	39		San Antonio	72	32	
El Paso	51	33		San Marcos	72	30	
Fort Stockton	62	28		Terrell	67	37	
Galveston	70	49		Tyler	67	38	
Georgetown	73	27		Victoria	75	36	
Guadalupe Pass	50	27		Waco	69	36	
Hartsville	80	51		Wichita Falls	55	30	
Hondo	73	29		Wink	58	17	

CASH: Money was for gifts

(From 1A)

Mrs. Cartmell.

The two began by calling Ms. Ramos' bank, searching for a way to return the money. The mother told the bank that her daughter had found the money belonging to Ms. Ramos. One of the bank tellers, who happened to be a client where Ms. Ramos works, then informed Ms. Ramos that she had "some good news."

Ms. Ramos, to say the least, was overjoyed.

"I'm so grateful," she said. "I was just devastated and cried the whole night because that was the Christmas money I was going to use to buy my little girl clothes."

MISD: Renovations almost done

(From 1A)

Elementary building, which will remain in use until the renovation projects are complete.

Emerson is scheduled to advertise for bids in March 2000 with Jones following in May 2000. Heidelberg said both those campuses would be complete by December 2000.

Baressi said that renovated

at Old Navy," said Ms. Ramos. Ms. Ramos is a single mother of two children and has had to survive on "a pretty tight budget."

And that's why it was so shocking to Ms. Ramos when she realized the money was gone.

She recalled that K B Toys was the last place she had shopped, and quickly returned there. But she had no luck in finding the money.

It was gone ... until Amber came to the rescue.

"I'm going to call her my little Christmas angel," Ms. Ramos said. "This is what Christmas is all about."

campuses enhance the educational opportunity for all Midland children.

"I think it's (quality campuses) very important. I definitely think it's important at the elementary level with the prospect of unitary status and neighborhood schools that every child in Midland have a quality facility no matter where they live," said Baressi.

NASA to have rare Christmas flight

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — For the first time in decades, NASA plans to fly a spaceship during Christmas, giving up the holiday in order to revive the Hubble Space Telescope.

With Hubble out of action until astronauts deliver replacement parts, scientists and NASA managers are rooting for a launch this week of space shuttle Discovery — even if it means working over Christmas.

NASA has three chances to launch Discovery — Thursday, Friday or Saturday — before giving up the year to avoid any potential Y2K problems. Liftoff is set for 9:18 p.m. Thursday. Good weather is forecast.

"My team and the shuttle team are willing to give up their holidays to do this," Hubble program manager John Campbell said Wednesday.

Discovery's pilot, Scott Kelly, said: "I told my 5-year-old daughter that we're going to point the telescope at the North Pole and take a picture of Santa Claus, so she's really excited about that prospect."

In 38 years of human space flight, NASA has flown only two missions over Christmas: Apollo 8 in 1968 and Skylab in 1973. Men flew to the moon for the first time on Apollo 8, and Skylab was a space station with a permanent crew.

On Wednesday, as the countdown proceeded, engineers pored over documents and X-rays to make sure Discovery's external tank is sound. NASA just learned that the wrong material was used to weld pressurization lines for a tank being built, and officials wanted to make sure the material was not used for Discovery's tank.

Late Wednesday, after hours of analysis, NASA declared Discovery's fuel tank safe to fly.

Besides the seven astronauts aboard Discovery, as many as 300 people will have to work over Christmas to support the flight, said shuttle program manager Ron Dittmore.

Dittmore said he has no idea how much that will cost in overtime pay.

"That's another one of those things that I haven't even worried about, because we're going to do it, and the cost is the cost and that's the way it is," he said.

As it is, NASA is spending close to \$25 million a month to operate Hubble, whether it is working or not. The telescope stopped working in mid-November when its system for pointing at stars failed.

NASA never would have found

itself in this predicament if Discovery had flown in October as planned. The mission was put on hold, and the entire shuttle fleet grounded, after an exposed wire caused a short circuit during Columbia's launch in July. A dented fuel pipe aboard Discovery further delayed the flight.

Dittmore said some managers have told him they have the sense that workers are disgruntled by the push to launch by year's end. But he said they are bothered by having their holiday plans spoiled, not because they feel rushed.

Dittmore said he expects more Christmas missions, what with the international space station under construction in orbit.

"It's not going to be uncommon in the future," he warned, "and so we better get used to that."

DRUGS: DEA agent testifies in hearing

(From 1A)

The government introduced wiretap evidence against Jesus Raymond Lucero. When asked by Assistant U.S. District Attorney John Klassen, Drug Enforcement Agency Special Agent Michael Keene claimed Lucero was "heavily involved in the cocaine trafficking organization."

Keene said a government informant came to know Octavio Herrera, brother of attorney Jesse Herrera, and over a period of several months, "at the behest of the DEA" was able to make several purchases of cocaine and marijuana from Octavio Herrera. The informant had gotten to know Octavio because Octavio Herrera was a primary focus of the investigation at that time.

Keene said that as the investigation continued, it became apparent that Lucero was also involved in the distribution. Lucero is a cousin of Octavio Herrera and was working at the time for Jesse Herrera.

"Our understanding was that he was an office manager and runner for the Herrera Law Firm office in Amarillo," which closed in 1998. Keene said several purchases of cocaine were made from Lucero by undercover agents including two ounces of cocaine May 14, one ounce June 23, and three ounces July 13 by an undercover police officer.

Keene testified that government wiretaps indicated that Juarez and Lucero were arranging purchases of illegal drugs. Lucero's phone was tapped for 60 days, Keene said. The DEA agent added that "at least 50 of the phone calls from Mr. Lucero's phone were of an evidentiary nature," meaning they were drug deals, mostly for cocaine.

Deals in Las Cruces, N.M., and Amarillo, as well as Midland and Odessa, were mentioned in testimony.

"There was a conversation where Lucero received a call from Aaron Herrera from the Herrera Law Firm in Midland

where Aaron Herrera advised he had people coming from out of town," and asked Lucero if he could provide "five dozen tamales" (code, officials said, for five ounces of cocaine), Keene said.

Lucero allegedly reminded Herrera that the request involved a great deal of money and asked if he could come up with that much. Keene testified that the recorded conversation shows Aaron Herrera indicated he could make the purchase.

At the Las Cruces office, Lucero was recorded talking to a Bobby, last name unknown, discussing prices for illegal drugs and other aspects of narcotics trafficking.

Keene also said that Ishmael Herrera, uncle to Jesse Herrera, and office manager of the Herrera Law Firm, called Lucero and told him that there was the possibility of an informant in a deal and to stay away from him.

The government fought to keep Lucero detained, noting that "it is safe to say that Lucero, over the summer, was a full-time drug dealer and not trustworthy to live up to the conditions of release." Klassen said the earlier conviction "apparently had no effect on Mr. Lucero."

The government alleged that Aaron Herrera, whose wife testified that he is no relation to the Herrera Law Firm family, is linked by drug transactions to Octavio Herrera, brother of Jesse. In the late summer of 1998, said Keene, an undercover source made controlled buys of cocaine and marijuana from Octavio Herrera, Lucero and another suspect, Richard Aranda.

Keene testified that the source had known Aranda for some time and had been in business with him. When the source began working with the investigators in 1998, Aranda was working as an office manager and errand runner for the Herrera Law Firm in the Midland office.

Conversations between the source and his contacts were recorded and maintained. The

source had conversations with Aranda at the law firm, Keene said. He said the source asked Aranda what Aaron Herrera's job was and he was told by Aranda that "Aaron did the dirty work for the firm and was the killer, that is the enforcer for the illegal narcotics operation," Keene testified.

In addition, the source met Aranda at the law office in 1998 and, while wired for sound, bought one ounce of cocaine from Aranda for about \$700. Aranda told the source that the cocaine was provided by Aaron Herrera, according to testimony.

Later, the source indicated that Aranda had said Aaron was fired from the firm and the reasons for his termination included "making a bad bail bond deal and selling too much cocaine out of the office."

Taped calls also confirmed Aaron Herrera's side of the conversation about the "five dozen tamales" and the ability to pay. Keene testified that Sandra Herrera, sister of Jesse and niece of Ishmael, came to the attention of the investigation in February 1998 when the investigators were looking into the alleged narcotics activities of Octavio Herrera.

Ms. Herrera, who has since moved to Midland with her two daughters and a grandchild into a house owned by Jesse Herrera, lived in Hobbs, N.M. Investigators asked the Lea County Narcotics Task Force if they knew of her narcotics activities. They advised the investigators that they not only knew, but had an undercover agent buying illegal drugs from her.

Keene testified they initially believed that her drugs originally came from Octavio. Lea County believed they came from family members, but didn't know which members, Keene testified.

An agent made contact with a seller in Midland who said that a request for drugs in Hobbs could be filled by Ms. Herrera. The agent was subsequently introduced to Sandra on July 17,

MERGER: 16,000 jobs to be cut

(From 1A)

growth," said Steve Pfeifer, an analyst with Merrill Lynch.

George Gaspar, an analyst with Robert W. Baird and Co. in Milwaukee, said the company was benefiting from Mobil's vast acreage off the west coast of Africa and Exxon has bought additional leases there this year. Gaspar predicted that within 10 years the company will triple or quadruple its production in the region.

In the company's most detailed statement yet on job cuts from the merger, Noto said 6,000 of the 16,000 cuts will come from retirements, including early ones, and 10,000 from layoffs.

More than half of the cuts will be made in the next year — 4,000 in the United States and 6,000

abroad, Noto said, with Exxon employees accounting for 60 percent of the cuts.

One thousand job cuts will come at the management level, but the company would not specify from where the other cuts would come. About 2,000 people had already lost their jobs before the merger was completed, officials said.

Analysts had widely expected the higher estimates of job cuts and savings.

"They didn't really make any surprises. The meeting met expectations," said Arjun Murti of Goldman Sachs.

Noto, the former chairman and CEO of Mobil, said the combination will draw on separate strengths of the two companies. He said Exxon did a better job of efficiently running its production

facilities but that "some of the Mobil efforts with respect to ... being able to work with customers is something maybe Exxon didn't do as well."

Raymond added that if Exxon Mobil, the world's largest publicly traded oil company, performs well, it will prevent other companies from joining Exxon Mobil, BP-Amoco and Royal Dutch Shell as the major players in the oil industry.

"If we do our business right, there's going to be tremendous pressure on people who are trying to ... broad players but don't have the scale," he said.

In late afternoon trading on the New York Stock Exchange, shares of Irving, Texas-based Exxon Mobil were up 75 cents at \$83.12 1/2.

Charles Schulz is planning farewell 'Peanuts' strip

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Charles Schulz will give readers one final "Peanuts" strip before he officially retires, his editor said Wednesday, a day after the cartoonist announced the end of his beloved comic strip.

Will Charlie Brown finally outsmart Lucy and send that football sailing? Will he win the love of the little red-haired girl? "I haven't seen it yet; I can't

tell you," his editor, Amy Lago said. Then she thought a minute. The farewell strip will be published Jan. 3.

Ms. Lago said she was unsure whether Schulz will draw the strip or put together a collage of characters Schulz has already drawn. Schulz announced Tuesday that he planned to retire his 49-year-old strip.

He had drawn daily strips for

use through Jan. 1 and Sunday strips for use through Feb. 13 before undergoing emergency surgery last month.

Doctors diagnosed him with colon cancer at that time, and the 77-year-old cartoonist, who took pride in meeting deadlines, decided to retire when he realized that he did not know when he would be well enough to withstand the pressure of daily deadlines.

1998, met with Norberto Pando Aranda and Ms. Herrera for a purchase of four ounces of cocaine. Norberto Aranda is one of the remaining eight suspects still at large.

Ms. Herrera went to work for the Herrera Law Firm in Odessa, in at least two different periods, and purchases were recorded from her, some at the Herrera Law Firm and some at her residence.

There was no testimony in the Dulces Nombres Nieto case because he waived the preliminary examination hearing. Testimony indicated Nieto is the father-in-law of Octavio Herrera.

Octavio Herrera, Richard Aranda and Ricky Jones, three of the suspects arrested Dec. 9, had their preliminary examination hearings Tuesday in Las Cruces, N.M., and are being held by the U.S. Marshall's Service and are awaiting transfer to Midland in order to bring the disparate parts of the case together, Klassen said.

Sandra Herrera is being detained in the Midland County jail and the five men are in the custody of the U.S. Marshall's Service at the federal detention center in Odessa.

Midland-Reporter-Telegram

ISSN 0890-5932
A Hearst Newspaper
Published each morning by the Hearst Corporation, Midland Reporter-Telegram Division, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland TX 79701. Periodicals postage paid at Midland TX 79711. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland TX 79702.

Readers' guide

MAIN NUMBER:
915-682-5311
Out-of-town: 800-542-3952
e-mail address:
mrt@basinlink.com
classified e-mail address:
mrtclassified@basinlink.com
Web site: www.mrt.com
Texas Online Connection:
498-2323
Texas Online Information:

On Israeli, Arab sides, some not ready for peace

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Syrians and Israelis may be sitting together in Washington to talk peace, but back home the war is not over.

Hezbollah — fighting a guerrilla war with Syria's blessing to dislodge Israel from southern Lebanon — and Jewish settlers in the Golan Heights are among the groups unhappy with the prospect of peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

Hezbollah even put its displeasure into action, launching a series of attacks Wednesday against the Israeli-occupied zone the day talks opened in Washington.

In Israel, the 17,000 Jewish settlers in the Golan Heights have organized demonstrations and mobilized public opinion to protest what they sense will be the outcome of the Israeli-Syrian negotiations: the return of the heights to Syria.

And there are others who may use the talks as a pretext to strike at Israel and the United States, such as Saudi fugitive Osama bin Laden.

Last week, President Clinton told the negotiators they "will have to stand firmly against all those who seek to derail the peace — and sadly there are still too many of them."

A few days later, the State Department warned Americans living or traveling abroad to take extra precautions between now and the first week in January, citing reports of possible imminent terrorist attacks. On Wednesday, U.S. officials said 13 people — some with possible links to Bin Laden — had been arrested in Jordan on suspicion of planning year-end terror attacks against Americans.

While Bin Laden is more of a general threat to the West, especially the United States, he is also against the peace process and fervently opposed to Israel.

Observers and analysts say there may be disruptions to the talks because, generally, as progress is made in negotiations, the forces against them resort to violence.



Syria's Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa glances at President Clinton as Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak listens at left during statements by the three leaders in the White House Rose Garden, Wednesday.

But they do not expect the same kind of large-scale, bloody violence that made the Israeli-Palestinian talks crawl in a stop-and-go pattern and eventually led to the suspension of Israeli-Syrian talks in 1996.

"Anyone who was prepared to predict that there won't be some form of disruption of the talks would be a very brave person," said Terence Taylor, assistant director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

But Taylor said despite the vigorous opposition, he was "cautiously optimistic" the talks would yield results.

"One can't deny the high level of determination on the part of Syria and Israel," he said.

In Israel, polls suggest that Israelis overall are evenly divided over whether to return the Golan Heights, the strategic plateau Israel seized from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war that Syria has set as the price of peace.

Opposition to the talks comes not only from the settlers. The Likud Party and many of the more than 800,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union are also against the negotiations.

Former Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky, who is interior minister in Prime Minister Ehud Barak's Cabinet, has said that based on his personal experience with a totalitarian regime, he didn't think the Syrians could be trusted.

Still, unlike the Israeli-Palestinian talks, the Israeli-Syrian ones do not involve strong religious and ideological elements.

Even though some parts of the Golan Heights are mentioned in the Bible, few consider the strategic plateau part of the historic land of Israel.

Mark Heller, a Middle East specialist at the Jaffee Center in Tel Aviv University, said he did not expect large-scale violent opposition from the settlers. He noted that settler spokesmen have said they would make their opposition known democratically.

"Of course, you cannot ever completely rule out the possibility of some marginal or fringe element resorting to violence," Heller said.

The resumption of talks between Syria and Israel is expected to increase the chances of a peaceful solution for southern Lebanon, where Hezbollah is spearheading the fight to dislodge Israel from the enclave it occupies.

The Iranian-backed group has made it clear in recent days that talks or no talks, attacks will continue and fighting in south Lebanon has stepped up.

"Sending Lebanese and Syrian delegates to the negotiations does not mean that ... the resistance will throw away their weapons," Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, was quoted as saying Monday by the Lebanese daily An-Nahar. "The resistance is alert and ready to confront Israel."

Chernobyl insists it's Y2K safe; not everyone's sure

CHERNOBYL, Ukraine (AP) — Rainer Goehring spends his days helping ensure the Chernobyl nuclear plant is safe, but he plans to be far away when the New Year rolls around. Just in case.

Ukrainian officials say Chernobyl, scene of the world's worst nuclear accident, has been purged of the Year 2000 computer problem.

Goehring, a civil engineer who manages a project on storing spent nuclear fuel, says he's heard the assurances and decided to leave.

"I'm not convinced," said Goehring, a Belgian. "I propose everybody decide for themselves."

International monitors say they do not expect all systems at Soviet-era nuclear power plants in Ukraine, Armenia and Lithuania to be Y2K compliant by the New Year, creating the possibility of widespread blackouts — or perhaps worse.

Goehring's office is a few hundred yards from the towering concrete-and-steel structure known as the sarcophagus — a haunting reminder of what happened at Chernobyl in April 1986 when its No. 4 reactor went up in flames and exploded.

The blast spewed radiation over much of Europe. The Ukrainian government has blamed at least 8,000 deaths on the accident — including those killed immediately, workers who died in the massive cleanup operation and people who died later of radiation exposure.

No one is sure what Y2K glitches might do in this former Soviet republic of 50 million people. Western analysts say cash-strapped Ukraine is among the world's least-prepared nations.

At Chernobyl, a wall separates the crumbling sarcophagus that covers the ruins of the No. 4 reactor from the plant's only functioning one, No. 3.

It is scheduled to be operating during the Dec. 31 rollover, with a normal shift of 178 workers on duty.

Chernobyl officials insist the

Y2K glitch will not cause a repeat catastrophe.

"Of course, we guarantee that," said Anatoliy Ilichev, Chernobyl's Y2K expert, adding that all problems have been fixed.

Foreign observers say chances are slim of Y2K-induced nuclear accidents at Chernobyl or others of the 57 Soviet-era reactors in Russia and elsewhere in the old Soviet bloc. But they say bug-triggered failures are possible in some plant systems.

"The primary headaches are Ukraine which has 16 (reactors), Armenia which has only one and to a slightly lesser degree two Chernobyl-type reactors in Lithuania," said David Kyd, spokesman for the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. body that monitors the industry.

Kyd said the IAEA expects some secondary Ukrainian reactor systems, including computers designed to detect radiation leaks, to not be Y2K compliant by year's end, though primary systems may be ready.

Nor are all systems at the Lithuanian reactors expected to be ready, he said.

In addition, Y2K problems may not only be confined to the New Year. Because 2000 is a leap year, Feb. 29, March 1 and Dec. 31 could also be problematic, Kyd said.

In any case, the 14 working

reactors at Ukraine's five nuclear plants experience problems almost every week, frequently shutting down.

Chernobyl officials say reactor No. 3 underwent extensive Y2K tests before resuming operation on Nov. 26.

Although the new computer is not date-sensitive, it has been tested for Y2K risk and the Soviet system was tested by simulating the Year 2000 changeover, officials say.

"The central control's main computer was found to be Y2K-sensitive. It controls all the reactor's parameters and that was our main headache," Ilichev said. "But we have conducted tests and are certain now the main computer will pass the changeover."

Both computers supply operators with information on the reactor, but the reactor itself is run by analog systems that are not susceptible to the Y2K glitch, said Borys Baranov, a Chernobyl shift manager.

Ukraine had pledged to shut down Chernobyl by 2000, but now says it needs foreign aid to complete two new reactors to compensate for Chernobyl's lost power and to find new jobs for most of the plant's 9,561 workers.

Christopher Radko
Ornaments THE Canopy
#22 Plaza Oaks SE Corner of Garfield & Wadley 683-8474

Christmas Sale
30% off with this ad
Expires 12/18/99
Frontier Galleries
1926 E. 8th Street • Odessa • 333-3000 • 580-8600

STACY ADAMS
49⁹⁹
"EARLSTON"
Brown or Black
LEATHER
SHOE DEPT. Midland Park Mall 699-0095 10-9 Mon-Sat. Sun 12-6

BASS
34⁹⁹ Reg. 39.99
LADIES' "BUC"
MEN'S 39⁹⁸
MEN'S "KILTIE" Brown LEATHER
Reg. 59.99
MEN'S "BOAT" Brown LEATHER
SHOE DEPT. Midland Park Mall 699-0095 10-9 Mon-Sat. Sun 12-6

Common Scents
San Miguel Square
3303 N. MIDWAY
699-6803

JOIN US FOR
CHRISTMAS TEA
SAT. DEC. 18
Antiques Etc.
2101 W. WADLEY #9
M-S 10:30-6 SUN. 1-5

ASSOCIATED MASSAGE
Grand Opening Special!
First 1-hour massage \$25 reg. \$35 697-0611
The best gift is a massage
Gift certificates available

NORMAN HARRIS, M.D.
OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY
Board Certified
PPO PROVIDER FOR:
BC/BS TED L. PARKER
CHAMPUS BEECH STREET
HMO BLUE HUMANA
BLUE CHOICE TRAVELERS
ACCEPTS MEDICAID
ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS NOW!
PROMPT APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE
Westwood Office Bldg.
Appointments: 580-PAPS (7277)
Serving the Permian Basin 18 years

THOMAS KINKADE
Painter of Light™

Sunrise
Thomas Kinkade's painting for the New Millennium.
Now taking orders...
Signature Galleries of West Texas
Wadley & Garfield
Midland, Tx. 79705
(915) 682-9911
Mon-Sat. 10am-7pm • Sunday 12-5 • Private Viewing by Appointment

CORRECTION NOTICE
In our December 16 insert, we advertised the CD *Still I Rise* by 2Pac + Outlawz as available. Due to manufacturing delays, this title is not currently available. However, we will be offering rainchecks on this title.
We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.
BEST BUY
©1999 Best Buy

ACRYLIC IMAGE INC.
New Acrylic Magic...
The Botanica Collection Blossoms of crystal-clear, heavy acrylic. Impeccably detailed with frosted touches to enhance the shape.
Free Gift Wrapping
"when you think Acrylic, Think Acrylic Image"
1107 Pueblo Mon-Fri 9-6 Sat 9-5
687-0391
"across from the entrance to Midland Country Club"

TURF SPECIALTIES, INC.
FIREWOOD SALE
Thurs., Fri., Sat.,
Open Sat. 12-18 9-5

OAK • JUNIPER • MESQUITE • WOOD VARIETIES
DELIVERED PRICES **PICK-UP PRICES**
Full Cord \$195⁰⁰ Full Cord \$170⁰⁰
1/2 Cord \$95⁰⁰ 1/2 Cord \$85⁰⁰
1/4 Cord \$45⁰⁰
Deliveries available Saturday 9-5
Stock up for the holidays and for Y2K
2427 E. Hwy 80
Just West of the Exhibit Building
Turf Specialties, Inc.
684-7166 570-7166
"PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FROM THE GROUND UP"

Year after Operation Desert Fox, scars still obvious; Iraq still defiant

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A year later, scars from Operation Desert Fox are still visible in Baghdad, a reminder of the massive damage U.S. and British air and missile strikes inflicted on Iraq.

But also still in place is Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein — perhaps more entrenched than ever because his survival has been fuel for propaganda.

Because of its "steadfastness," Iraq has become an example for the Arab nation. Saddam declared this week as he decorated members of his ruling Baath Party and Revolutionary Command Council for bravery shown during the bombing a year ago.

The Desert Fox bombing crusade to punish Iraq for what the United States and Britain said was its failure to cooperate with U.N. weapons inspectors was launched on the night of December 16-17, 1998.

The scars from the attack are still obvious: Cranes and scaffolds, heaps of crumbling bricks, damaged telecommunications capacity.

But U.N. weapons inspectors still have not returned to monitor whether Iraq is destroying its mass destruction capabilities, as it is required to do under the agreement that ended the 1991 Gulf War. Iraq has vowed that inspectors will be allowed back only when the United Nations scraps trade sanctions against the country.

'America is not accustomed to deal with a man of President Saddam Hussein's characteristics,' al-Ramadhani said. "It thinks he is like any other Third World leader who can be tamed and contained easily.."

—Dr. Mazen al-Ramadhani, of Saddam University's Faculty of Political Sciences

The United Nations, meanwhile, is still struggling to frame a new policy toward Baghdad. U.N. Security Council permanent members Russia, China and France have expressed concern that the standoff with the Iraqi government is endangering and impoverishing ordinary Iraqis. Even in the United States, voices have been raised against the sanctions.

Iraq is defiant, but far from unscathed. The Pentagon said 524 cruise missiles were fired during the 70-hour offensive, hitting nearly 100 targets. President Clinton said last year the attacks

inflicted "significant damage" on Iraqi weapons programs and military infrastructure.

Iraqi officials say they have rebuilt most of what was bombed. Some construction continues, and some targets remain off-limits to journalists.

Badly damaged were telecommunications centers, particularly in southern Iraq. It is still difficult to call the southern city of Basra from Baghdad, and local television and radio transmission is not as clear and powerful as it was before.

Collateral damage to hospitals, schools and residential areas was

swiftly mended. The high-rise building of the Military Industrialization Commission, where U.S. cruise missiles were said to have gouged a huge hole down to the ground floor, has been meticulously rebuilt.

Missiles and bombs also hit weapons factories and presidential palaces, including the house of Saddam's daughter, Hala. Reports said her house was destroyed, but no one was home.

Despite the damage, Iraq has declared itself the victor in the standoff. Saddam will outlast bombings and sanctions, said Dr. Mazen al-Ramadhani of Saddam University's Faculty of Political Sciences.

"America is not accustomed to deal with a man of President Saddam Hussein's characteristics," al-Ramadhani said. "It thinks he is like any other Third World leader who can be tamed and contained easily.."

Really BIG Buildings
Buy 'em Now
Save Big On All Big Buildings!
Lowest Prices of the Season
BUILDINGS & SPAS Morgan Since 1961
12000 W. Bus. I-20 • 563-1807

ACRYLIC IMAGE INC.
Just In Time For Holiday Entertaining
FRESH CHEESES
From **MOZZARELLA COMPANY**
For large holiday parties special orders are recommended.
"We're as fresh as Acrylic, That Acrylic Image!"
1107 Public Main-Fri 9-5:30 Sat 9-3
687-0391
"We're from the heart of Midland County, TX!"

Entire Stock
25%-50% Off
Soft Spot, Hush Puppies, Naturalizer, Easy Street & More.
"Comfort our Specialty"
Dee Jay's Shoes
Imperial: Wadley at Midkiff 694-7037

Why Do Children Love Backyard Birdfeeding?
(Maybe it's just their nature.)



Backyard birdfeeding is a joyful activity that children find fascinating. Begin with a simple feeder, the right kind of seed, a good location and some free advice and you'll end up with a lifetime of smiles. Nobody brings people and nature together like the Certified Birdfeeding Specialists at Wild Birds Unlimited.

Not valid with any other offers. Expires Dec. 24, 1999. BRING IN THIS COUPON.

2 pounds of our exclusive Deluxe birdseed FREE WITH PURCHASE OF A WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED BIRDFEEDER.

Wild Birds Unlimited
Your Backyard Birdfeeding Specialist
WADLEY & GARFIELD IN OAK RIDGE SQUARE
CALL: 570-4520 FOR FREE INFORMATION
BIRDS • FEEDERS • BIRDBATHS • OPTICS • NATURE GIFTS

sell it in 10 days or we'll run it again!*

classified
682-6222

*Anything on wheels, 4 lines minimum - \$20
Call today for complete details.

SALE
40% OFF FALL
30% OFF HOLIDAY
Excludes infant wear & selected gifts

ASU KIDZ
Imperial Shopping Center
694-1363

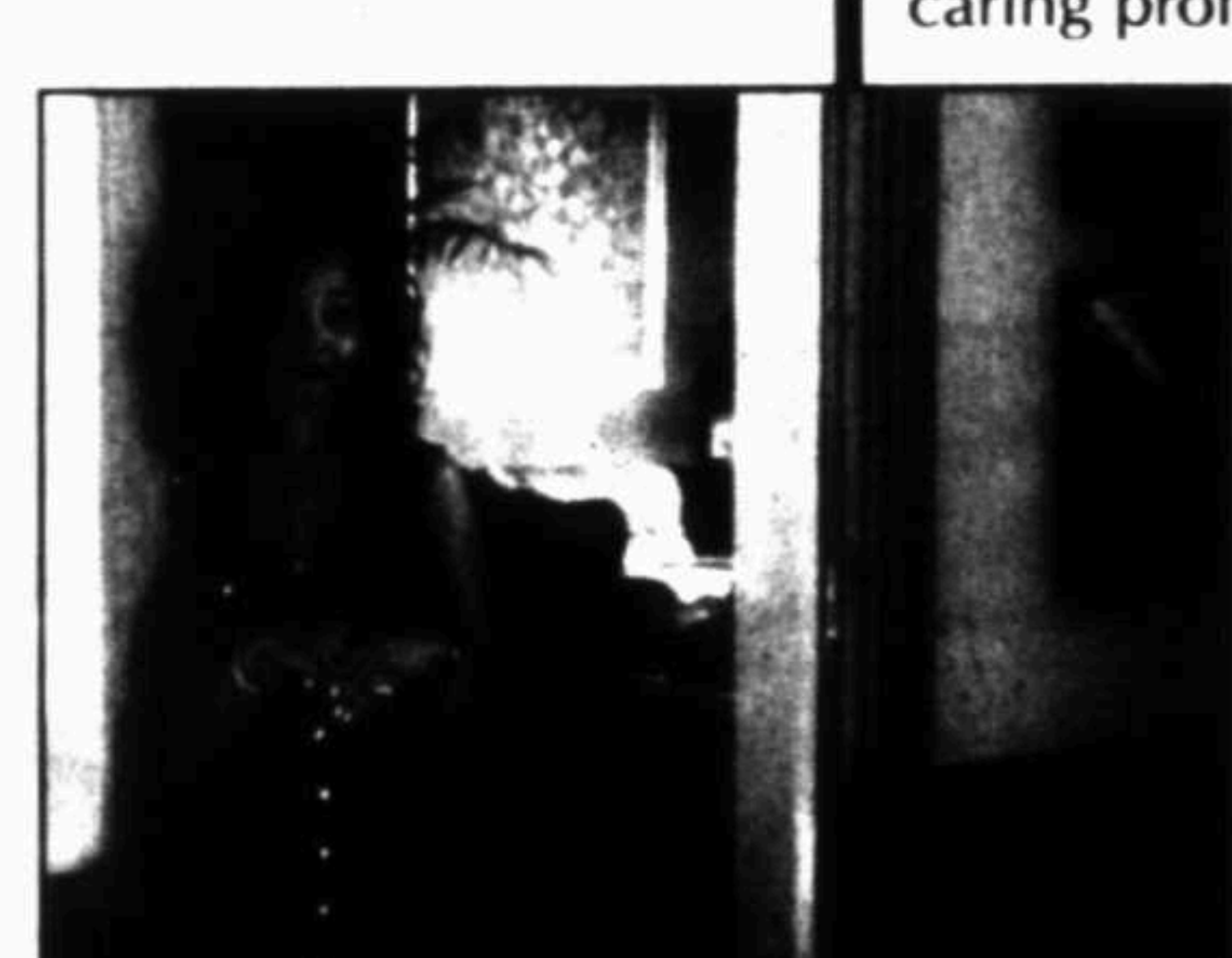
Pashmina
at
Antiques Etc.
9 Plaza Oaks

"The Perfect Wrap" and The Perfect Gift
Here & Now at Antiques Etc.

SCARVES \$45 12x56	BABY BLANKETS \$75 36x36SM	SHAWLS \$95 28x78	LG SHAWLS \$125 36x78	THROWS \$250 45x90
-----------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------	--------------------------	-----------------------

Here & Now

Dealing with loss is never easy...
but Hospice of Midland helps the terminally ill and those who live on.



Midland's original non-profit organization of caring professionals and volunteers offers services for the terminally ill patient and their family. Hospice of Midland knows how difficult dealing with loss can be, but they are there when you need them most.

"Hospice of Midland helped us keep our dad at home... Whatever he needed to keep him comfortable — That's what they did."

For more information on the services offered by Hospice of Midland, please call us at 682-2855.

Hospice of Midland... providing comfort, compassion and support.

HOSPICE of Midland, INC.
911 W. Texas Ave. • 682-2855

Great Holiday Gifts at Bag'n Baggage

Infinity III Duffle or Shopper Tote, Your Choice FREE!



Receive your choice of a matching Shopper Tote or Duffle FREE with any \$200 Atlantic Infinity III luggage purchase at Bag'n Baggage for a limited time, while quantities last!

Style shown	MSRP	NOW
22" Carry-All Suiter	\$340	\$149.95
26" Upright Suiter	\$360	\$159.95
Shopper Tote	\$100	\$49.95
Cargo Duffle	\$100	\$49.95

*Your Choice FREE with any \$200 Atlantic Infinity III luggage purchase!

Where Your Travels Begin
Bag'n Baggage®
Midland Park Mall 697-2277
Luggage - Business Cases - Small Leather Goods - Gifts - Complete Repair Services
Visit www.bag-n-baggage.com for more information or stores in other cities.

ALLDREDGE GARDENS CHRISTMAS

Christmas Preview
Celebrate a fabulous Christmas season at Alldredge Gardens.

ALLDREDGE PERMANENT TREES
If you are making the switch to a permanent Christmas tree, come by and see our selection.

7 1/2' BLACK FOREST
Beautiful full dark green.
\$179.99

7 1/2' BLACK FOREST SLENDER
Narrower version of our standard tree.
\$149.99

Living Christmas Trees
This Christmas, try the tree that will be around long after the holidays. Choose a living Christmas tree from our large selection of PINON or ELDARICA PINE. Make this a new tradition in your home or a great "GIFT" for someone you love.

Deck The Halls Sale

Lights Lights Lights
Super selection of Indoor and Outdoor lights.
NOW 50% off
Choose: C-7 and C-9 Clear, Twinkle, and Multi-colored. Miniature multi-color.

Christmas Poinsettia
Ready to decorate your home or a great gift.

Garland & Wreaths
Great selection of wreaths and garlands. Now Save **40%**

Ribbon
BY THE YARD OR BY THE BOLT
"Bow Making Available"
"Santa isn't the only one who delivers"

Alldredge Gift Ideas
Frames
Flags
Candles
Birdbaths
Fountains
Statuary
Chimenea
Pinon Wood
Collectable Christmas and Much, Much More!

3300 FAIRGROUNDS
682-4500
STORE HOURS: MON-SAT. 9:00-6:00, SUNDAY 10:00-5:00

Flood dead
CARACA — Torrential Wednesday 10 missing and forced poll closings erendum on Officials drowned w created ragi and swept th state, 18 mil la's capital, killed whv their homes The 10 n feared dead, assistant dir Civil Defens toll was li authorities h reach some blocked high Electoral would close planned beca not been able ters. Venezze whether to a al charter pr Hugo Chave The gove state of eme including th tination of Falcon st Venezuela, flowed Tues Civil Defens ate 10,000 homes. The flood lans voted of that would change the vastly incre allowing him up to 13 year Chavez

Rebel
ANKARA Six months to death for leader Abdul tried again — two top co going back The trial was quickly ary. Ocalan is ratism, mu membership along with including h Kesire Ocala manders of are still on t An appea upheld the against Oca

L
MA
AN
M
Ant

•E
(E
•E
(C
•S
(C

FA
Yo

Floods in Venezuela leave 17 dead as referendum continues

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Torrential rains and mudslides Wednesday left 17 people dead, 10 missing and 10,500 homeless and forced the postponement of poll closings during a national referendum on a new constitution.

Officials said several people drowned when the downpours created raging rivers in valleys and swept them away in Vargas state, 18 miles north of Venezuela's capital, Caracas. Others were killed when mudslides buried their homes.

The 10 missing people were feared dead, said Rafael Nieves, assistant director of the national Civil Defense. He said the death toll was likely to rise since authorities have not been able to reach some areas cut off by blocked highways.

Electoral officials said polls would close two hours later than planned because many people had not been able to reach voting centers. Venezuelans were voting whether to approve a new national charter proposed by President Hugo Chavez.

The government declared a state of emergency in six states, including the popular tourist destination of Margarita Island. In Falcon state in western Venezuela, two reservoirs overflowed Tuesday night, prompting Civil Defense officials to evacuate 10,000 people from their homes.

The floods came as Venezuelans voted on a new constitution that would eliminate the senate, change the country's name and vastly increase Chavez's power, allowing him to stay in office for up to 13 years.

Chavez appeared headed

toward an overwhelming victory in the constitutional battle that has become the centerpiece of his "peaceful revolution." Polls indicate that more than 70 percent of Venezuelans favor the new charter.

"This is an historic day," Chavez said as he cast his ballot amid throngs of cheering admirers Wednesday morning. "It is a day that will define the next 200 years in Venezuela."

The torrential downpours slowed the opening of polling stations, and at first few of Venezuela's 11 million eligible voters ventured out. But turnout seemed to improve as the day went on.

If Chavez's constitution passes, the wildly popular former coup leader will have achieved what has eluded most Latin American revolutionaries for decades: the elimination of the old political order and the creation of a new state.

"I have faith that with this constitution we're going to dig the country from out of the swamp that corrupt leaders have thrown us in," said Antonio Ochoa, a 34-year-old truck driver.

Chavez says he wants to root out some of the world's worst corruption and rule in favor of the poor. But critics say he is trampling the law and creating a state at odds with the demands of modernity.

The proposed constitution, drafted by a 131-member assembly dominated by Chavez's supporters, expands the rights of minorities. It seeks to clean up corrupt courts and break the political stranglehold of political parties that most Venezuelans blame for squandering the West-



AP Photo
A soldier instructs Venezuelans waiting to vote in Caracas, Wednesday. Venezuelans voted Wednesday on whether to approve a new constitution that would eliminate the senate, change the country's name and vastly increase the power of President Hugo Chavez, allowing him to stay in office for up to 13 years.

ern Hemisphere's largest oil reserves.

But the charter sharply reduces civilian control of the army and increases the state's role in managing the economy. It also includes a controversial clause calling for "truthful information" in the media, which some say is a recipe for censorship.

In addition, the charter changes the country's name from the Republic of Venezuela to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, after South American liberation hero Simon Bolivar, who is Chavez's idol.

Chavez, who broke into Venezuela's political scene eight years ago by staging a failed military coup, has been accused of dividing the South American nation through incendiary rhetoric.

"What the president wants is

to annihilate his adversaries, reduce them to nothing," complained Venezuela's former apostolic nuncio, Cardinal Rosalio Castillo, who earlier in the week compared Chavez's tactics to those used by Italian dictator Benito Mussolini.

But Chavez says he is merely providing an escape for deep popular frustrations.

"Venezuela is a time bomb that can explode at any moment and it is our job, through the power of the vote, to defuse it now that there is still time," he said.

If approved, the new constitution will lead to elections early next year for a unicameral congress and local offices. Given Chavez's approval ratings, which often top 80 percent, the president's leftist Patriotic Pole coalition would likely win those races handsily.

China finally puts pirates on trial

BEIJING (AP) — The pirates led their bound, handcuffed and gagged victims on deck, blindfolded them, smashed their skulls with clubs, then dumped their weighted bodies overboard.

The trial of 38 suspects in the vicious November 1998 hijacking signals China may finally be cracking down on high-seas piracy — and the corrupt officials who encourage it.

China has released suspected pirates on several occasions in recent years. The current trial, now under way, is China's first of suspected pirates in at least a decade, said Jayant Abhyankar, the London-based International Maritime Bureau's deputy director.

"It's long overdue," said Noel Choong of the maritime bureau's piracy reporting center in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. "China is showing these people that it is not a safe haven any more."

The November 1998 hijacking of the Chang Sheng was one of communist China's worst inci-

dents of high-seas piracy. The 38 suspects, on trial in the southern port of Shanwei, face charges of murder, robbery and possession of firearms and drugs. If convicted, at least 12 could face the death penalty.

The trial phase could conclude by Thursday, with a verdict expected Monday, a court official said.

Members of the gang posed as anti-smuggling police to hijack three ships in 1998, including the Chang Sheng, a freighter carrying coal cinders, official Chinese newspapers reported.

The gang's suspected mastermind, an Indonesian identified by Chinese media as Sony Wei, allegedly led the first of the Chang Sheng's 23 bound crew members up on deck, blindfolded him and clubbed him to death, the reports said.

"These pirates joined forces in killing the 23 crew members one after another in this manner," the Beijing Morning Post said.

915-686-9999

A GIFT
CERTIFICATE FROM
DR. DOLLY DOCTOR'S
WEIGHT CONTROL
CENTER

DOLLY DOCTOR
M.D. IS BOARD
CERTIFIED IN
BARIATRIC
MEDICINE
AND
BOARD
CERTIFIED IN
INTERNAL
MEDICINE

SHED THOSE EXTRA POUNDS! THE
BEST GIFT YOU COULD GIVE OR
RECEIVE IS THE GIFT OF GOOD
HEALTH. CALL AND ASK ABOUT OUR
"PARTNERS PROGRAM".
2114 W. TENNESSEE
MIDLAND, TX 79701

DEAR SANTA,
THIS YEAR I
WOULD LIKE TO
LOOK BETTER
AND FEEL
BETTER.
GOT
ANYTHING IN
YOUR BAG
FOR ME?

Rebel leader Ocalan being tried again in Turkey

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Six months after being sentenced to death for treason, Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan is being tried again — this time along with two top comrades for crimes going back two decades.

The trial began Wednesday and was quickly adjourned to February.

Ocalan is accused of separatism, murder, extortion and membership in an armed gang along with 100 other defendants including his estranged wife, Kesire Ocalan, and two top commanders of his rebel group who are still on the run.

An appeals court last month upheld the June death sentence against Ocalan, but his lawyers

have taken the case to the European Court of Human Rights.

The new trial was adjourned until Feb. 23, to wait for a formal confirmation of the appeals court decision and for an answer from

the Netherlands on Turkey's extradition request of a defendant, rebel commander Murat Karayilan.

Karayilan has asked for political asylum in the Netherlands.



Arleen Cantu
SPORTING EVENTS, MEXICO
& WEDDING SPECIALIST
arleen@takeavacation.com



Midland Travel
4410 N. Midkiff Rd., Ste. B-3
Midland, Texas
694-1101 • 520-2229

Midland Pediatric Associates

John W. Foster Sr., M.D.
W.C. Watson III, M.D.
Samuel N. Macferran, Jr., M.D.
Merrill C. Horne, M.D.
Lori Sherman Adcock, M.D.

Announce the association of
Jay P. Schwartz, M.D.

Board certified by the American Board of Pediatrics

Participating provider for most insurance plans including Medicaid and Texas Health Steps. Seeing patients at Memorial Hospital and Medical Center and Westwood Medical Center. Midland Pediatric Associates offers scheduled clinic hours 7 days per week.

2409 West Illinois, Suite D
Midland, Texas 79701

Phone 915-620-8687
to schedule appointment

LAPIS &
MALACHITE
ANIMALS



MOTIF of
Antiques Etc.

HOLIDAY
SELL-OFF
TAKE
AN
EXTRA 40% OFF
ALREADY LOW CLOSEOUT PRICES

- ENTIRE STOCK ORNAMENTS AND TREETOPPERS REDUCED
(Excludes Murano art glass ornaments; includes Categories 6051-54, 6056 and 6059)
- ENTIRE STOCK BOXED CHRISTMAS CARDS REDUCED 4 DAYS ONLY!
(Category 6284, all styles)
- SELECT METAL OR WIRE OUTDOOR DECORATIONS AND YARD ART
(Category 6680; select styles reduced)

Discount taken at register on closeout, sale or clearance items in the above categories for a limited time only. Discount not applicable to previous purchases. Quantities limited to in-store stock, and selection varies by store.

FAMOUS NAME
ELECTRICS
YOUR CHOICE
CLOSEOUT
\$29.99



Save \$58 on Cuisinart
ice cream maker
Retail \$79.99



Save \$48 on deluxe juicer
with auto pulp ejector
Retail \$69.99



Save \$58 on
15-cup coffee
maker with
digital clock
Retail \$79.99

livesday Morning

GIFTS 50% TO 80% OFF EVERYTHING.

Available at your convenient Tuesday Morning Store

Reebok 39.99

49.99 MEN'S & LADIES' "CLASSIC LEATHER" Reg. 59.99

MEN'S & LADIES' "MEANDER" Reg. up to 49.99

the SHOE DEPT. Midland Park Mall 699-0095 10-9 Mon-Sat, Sun 12-6

Timberland 54.99

MEN'S & WOMEN'S "EURO" REG. 99.99 Brown LEATHER

MEN'S "MOC-TOE" REG. 99.99 Brown LEATHER

MEN'S & WOMEN'S "EURO" REG. 79.99 LEATHER FABRIC

79.99

SHOE DEPT. Midland Park Mall 699-0095 10-9 Mon-Sat, Sun 12-6

MEN'S "WALKER" REG. 59.99 Black or White LEATHER

49.99

Rockport

Select Styles Up To 25% OFF

79.99

"PROWALKER" REG. 99.99 Black or White LEATHER

"DRESSPORT WINGTIP" Black or Wine LEATHER

SHOE DEPT. Midland Park Mall 699-0095 10-9 Mon-Sat, Sun 12-6

DECEMBER 16, 1999

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Editorial Board
Charles Spence publisher
Gary R. Ott city editor
Meta Minton editor
Missy Hallmark news editor
William E. Modisett editorial page editor

News Services
Reporter-Telegram Washington Bureau
The Associated Press
N.Y. Times News Service
Hearst News Service

Trimble honor recognized his great 'calling'

Bobby Trimble is a man of action. Not only does he dream big dreams, he makes them come true. That was the case with the Christmas in April program that Trimble was instrumental in starting 27 years ago, and it remains true today.

Honored during Tuesday's Midland City Council meeting with presentation of the City of Champions award, Trimble is without question an ideal honoree. As Mayor Bobby Burns noted, "Bobby is one of those remarkable individuals that saw a need and put millions of hours into filling that need."

Anyone who has ever worked on a Christmas in April project knows one truth: Trimble is the hardest-working, most knowledgeable person in the entire program. If you need a question answered, if you need to know where to obtain additional supplies, if you need to know anything about the recipient families, ask Bobby. He's the first person to arrive at the Christmas in April warehouse on the annual workday and the last to leave when that weekend is over. Of course, he leads regular CIA work crews throughout the rest of the year, too, while most of the rest of Midland forgets Christmas in April for another year.

Trimble is a great supervisor for the volunteer housing repair program that he helped start in 1972. He is a walking encyclopedia on all aspects of the history of the program, how many houses have been worked on, how much money has been spent, and how the program has answered the desperate needs of the elderly and handicapped residents living here during the past 27 years.

But for Trimble, the Christmas in April program, which was taken nationally several years ago and internationally earlier this year by way of a project in New Amsterdam, Guyana, is more than a mere way to help less fortunate members of our society. Rather, it is a way, Trimble believes, to live out the scriptural message in James 2:15. That message asserts that Christians are to meet their brother's human requirements for shelter, warm clothing and food — their physical needs — in addition to their spiritual needs.

There is no question that Bobby Trimble has had a definite impact on the residents of Midland and this nation or that he was more than deserving of the City of Champions award. He provides a great Christian example for us all.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Dec. 16, the 350th day of 1999. There are 15 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
 One hundred years ago, on Dec. 16, 1899, Sir Noel Coward, the English actor, playwright and composer, was born in London.

On this date:
 In 1653, Oliver Cromwell became lord protector of England, Scotland and Ireland.

In 1770, composer Ludwig van Beethoven was born in Bonn, Germany.

In 1773, the Boston Tea Party took place as American colonists boarded a British ship and dumped more than 300 chests of tea overboard to protest tea taxes.

In 1809, Napoleon Bonaparte was divorced from the Empress Josephine by an act of the French Senate.

In 1944, the World War II Battle of the Bulge began as German forces launched a surprise counter-attack against Allied forces in Belgium.

In 1950, President Truman proclaimed a national state of emergency in order to fight "Communist imperialism."

In 1960, 134 people were killed when a United Air Lines DC-8 and a TWA Super Constellation collided over New York City.

In 1985, reputed organized-crime chief Paul Castellano was shot to death outside a New York City restaurant.

In 1991, the UN General Assembly rescinded its 1975 resolution equating Zionism with racism by a vote of 111-to-25.

Ten years ago: Federal appeals court judge Robert S. Vance was killed by a mail bomb at his Alabama home. Walter Leroy Moody Junior was later sentenced to death for killing Vance, and received seven life terms on federal charges in that killing and the death of civil rights attorney Robert E. Robinson.

Five years ago: The White House and Republicans traded barbs over whose tax plan was fairer to the middle class, a day after President Clinton presented a package of proposed tax cuts. White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers announced she was leaving her job at the end of the year.

JACK ANDERSON

Flag dispute has lasted longer than did Confederacy

COLUMBIA, S.C. — This state has an aptitude for disgruntlement. It may have suffered more than any other state from the Civil War, but it deserved to, having done more than any other to ignite it. And even now, when it is a full participant in the prosperity of the country's southeast quadrant, it finds itself riven by an utterly optional argument.

While most Americans are too busy making money to wage culture wars, South Carolinians find time to be at daggers drawn with each other over a symbol. The issue is whether the Confederate battle flag should fly, as it has since 1962, over the state capitol.

That building is itself a battle flag — or perhaps a bloody shirt — in stone, its walls marked with wounds inflicted by General Sherman's guns. Gov. Jim Hodges probably wishes the capitol were closed for refurbishment, as the governor's mansion is.

Hodges, a Democrat elected last year, knows a standoff when he is stuck smack in the middle of one. Tourism is the state's biggest industry, and the NAACP is urging a boycott of the state until the flag comes down. Pro-flag forces refuse to budge under the duress of the boycott.

A proposed compromise has been cobbled together with the help of some members of the state Legislature's black caucus and three legislators who are members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. (The Adam's Mark hotel chain,

which operates in 12 Southern cities, has asked the Sons not to schedule more meetings at its facilities. When Alabama's chapter of the Sons met at an Adam's Mark hotel in Mobile, the profusion of Confederate flags so offended the hotel's largely black service staff, many called in sick and hotel executives had to make beds.) The compromise would be that the flag would be moved to a Confederate monument not yet built on the capitol grounds and the governor would press to make Martin Luther King's birthday a state holiday.

One reason the compromise is not working, yet, is that some Republicans believe, mistakenly, that they lost the governorship in 1998 because their incumbent, David Beasley, joined the run-it-down-the-flagpole side. But many of the most intense supporters of the flag as a symbol of a valorous heritage are rural and blue-collar Democrats. Many business-minded Republicans, whose most revered symbol is "\$," think the flag is bad for business, so furl it.

Pro-flag people understandably worry that the anti-flag forces' appetite for cultural cleansing will only be whetted by victory at the capitol. Southern towns large enough to have Dairy Queens have Confederate monuments and street names, none of which would be safe. Why, the University of South Carolina might have to rename Longstreet Theater. (Considering General Longstreet's sorry performance at Gettysburg, the Sons of Confederate Veterans might favor that renaming.)

But now come George Campsen Jr. and George (Chip) Campsen III, father and son, with a Solomonic solution. The father, now 70, was a legislator in 1962. He has polled surviving

members of that Legislature, who refute the accusation that the flag was put up as an act of segregationist defiance.

In 1957 Congress called upon states to commemorate the coming centennial of the Civil War, and in 1960 President Eisenhower urged that the commemorations continue for four years. The surviving legislators argue that the flag was put up for that honorable purpose. And they say it was supposed to fly only during the centennial — that it was a mere oversight that the legislation putting it up did not contain a date to take it down.

Chip Campsen, a Republican state legislator, says the argument has been framed improperly, forcing people to choose between preserving a heritage and extirpating racism. He wants what he calls a "paradigm shift," one confining the argument to the actual issue at hand: "The universal and timeless criteria for a flag to fly over a capitol is that it must be the flag of an existing government that has jurisdiction over people inhabiting the state."

So, the flag can be removed from the capitol without conceding any imputation of racism, and the reason for removal cannot be used to attack other commemorations of the Confederacy. Will this bring an armistice to the flag fight?

This flag dispute has lasted longer than did the Confederacy, which amounted to a piddling 1.2 percent of the 33 decades of South Carolina history since some planters from Barbados helped get the colony up and running. Now the state has a way out of the dispute, but probably will not take it, such is the state's appetite for argument.

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



CAL THOMAS

Israel's enemies happy to give Clinton his 'legacy'

The parade of nations preparing to divide Israel's estate after its demise continues this week, with the Syrians coming to Washington to claim their rights as heirs.

In a deal already negotiated behind the scenes, representatives of Syrian dictator Hafez Assad will receive the strategic Golan Heights in exchange for agreements that undoubtedly will be broken and aid that will be converted into instruments of war.

For this "peace of the brave," as Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak has called it (and he is fast becoming the Neville Chamberlain of his time), Syria will get billions of American dollars to resettle 18,000 Golan residents and probably billions more in military and civilian aid. If the past is any guide (and it always is in the Middle East), Syria will use the money to buy weapons from outcast states, strengthen its army and continue supporting an estimated 15 terrorist organizations from the Middle East, Latin America and Europe. Diplomatic sources indicate Syria will not be required to end its occupation of Lebanon which, in addition to being part of the "greater Syria" mystique of Damascus, is also a source of drug money for the Syrian government.

What will Israel get? AWACS surveillance planes, early-warning stations, helicopters and jet fighters and lots of assurances that "peace is at hand."

This latest charade is being pushed by the Clinton administration so the president can claim a decent legacy, but it's at the expense of the Jews. In the past, Jews have had to die for the sake of land, oil and the religious and political comfort of others. It is particularly unpleasant when Jews are co-conspirators in their own destruction.

No matter what Syrians sign and no matter how much American money they receive, they will still hate Israel and adhere to Assad's vow at the start of the 1967 war: "Our forces are now entirely ready ... to initiate the act of liberation itself and to explode the Zionist presence in the Arab homeland The time has come to enter into a battle of annihilation." Nothing Syria has done since indicates this goal has

changed. In fact, Assad has repeatedly broken agreements with the United States, Turkey and his Arab neighbors.

Bashar Assad, the son and probable heir of the president of Syria, said in an August interview with a Saudi weekly (quoted in the Jerusalem Post): "The proposed peace will be highly restricted. There will be a formal peace agreement, but the possibility of conflict between the two countries will remain, requiring Syria to continue arming itself." So Israel is supposed to be content that Syria will now be armed with American weapons instead of Russian weapons? Changing the gas manufacturers at the Nazi death camps would have left no fewer Jews dead.

There are many false assumptions about the Middle East. The Westerners who are unsophisticated in the region's complexities often are seduced by contemporary spin. The Syrians have no right to the Golan Heights, any more than Germany has rights to Eastern Europe, or Syria has a right to Lebanon. In 1920, the League of Nations included the Golan Heights in the original British Mandate for Palestine. The Golan fell under Syrian control in 1944 when the French mandate was terminated. Syria controlled the Golan for 23 years, and Israel, following Syria's unprovoked attack in 1967, has controlled it for 32 years. So why doesn't Israel have a legitimate claim to the territory? To return the Golan to Syria rewards the aggressor.

Writing in last Friday's Wall Street Journal, Steven Plaut, who teaches at Haifa University in Israel, said America's policy toward Syria should resemble Ronald Reagan's policy toward the Soviet Union. We should do what we can to topple dictatorial and oppressive regimes teetering on the brink of extinction, not throw them a lifeline.

Israel's enemies are happy to give President Clinton his "legacy," then wait until he leaves office to impose their "final solution." The United States has sold out the Jews before, closing its borders to them during World War II. Rather than doing penance, we are compounding our sin by helping to destroy a nation that, in our guilt, we helped create. Syria this week will play the heir to a largest estate. Israel is the estate.

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

DOONESBURY



ART BUCHWALD

As Tiny Tim says: It sounds like you have an online problem

Scrooge and Marley's Christmas business was lousy, so Scrooge decided to sell turtledoves and pear trees on his Web site at www.humbug.com. Scrooge had no choice as his S&M counting house business had lost out to Price-waterhouse. The problem was that Scrooge, as tight-fisted as he was, bought a very cheap secondhand computer with hardly any memory at all. S&M lost a lot of orders.

Scrooge was stuck with several gross of turtledoves and dozens of pear trees. This made him short-tempered. He said to his employee, Bob Cratchit, "Don't people know how to order on the Internet anymore?"

Cratchit said, "Sir, maybe we should upgrade our computer."

The old man said, "Bah, humbug," and went home to bed. There he found an e-mail on his laptop from Marley. It was a joke. Marley was always sending people jokes by e-mail.

The jokes always had to do with a dog going into a pub and ordering a drink from an unfriendly bartender.

Marley also told Scrooge that if he didn't change his ways and become a better person his screen would go blank, his hard drive would freeze, and his software would turn to oatmeal.

Scrooge was frightened and said, "What can I do?"

Marley said, "Call the 800 help number."

Scrooge dialed the dealer, and a voice came on the line. It said, "This is Christmas Past. All our lines are busy, but your call is very important to us."

Scrooge became even more frightened. Four hours later the voice said, "Your call is very important to us. If you know your party's name and the date of birth of his grandmother, punch them in now."

Scrooge decided next to call the Ghost of Christmas Present. A voice said, "What's the problem, dummy?"

"My screen is dark and I can't take orders for turtledoves and pear trees."

"Is your power line plugged in?"

"Yes."

"Did you try booting the Escape key with your foot instead of your hand?"

"Yes, spirit."

"Okay, kick it."

"You want me to kick my computer?"

"This usually works."

Scrooge kicked the computer, and the screen still stayed dark.

He called Christmas Future, but a recording said they were only open on Easter and Guy Fawkes Day.

Scrooge decided to go to Bob Cratchit's house for Christmas. He walked in and said, "My computer has crashed, so don't give me any of your Christmas cheer."

Tiny Tim, Cratchit's little boy, said, "It sounds like you have an online problem. You should upgrade your modem and increase your memory. If this doesn't work, you probably have a dead mouse."

Scrooge was amazed. He went home and did what he was told. He never had trouble with his computer again, and business was so good he added to his Internet inventory seven swans a swimming, six geese a'laying, five golden rings, four calling birds, three French hens, two turtledoves and a partridge in a pear tree.

Art Buchwald's column is distributed by the Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

An inmate make-shift tin Parish five Cuban cers hosts

Jail u limbo

ST. MA (AP) — Cuban inmate warden a hostage en Wednesday has under the fate Cubans lo bo in U.S.

"Every the issue Gary Les lawyer wh cate for C

The Monday inmates f area at the jail. Since said, as m prisoners hostage-ta at least pa

Leaders have said would be deported a the Cuban that he ha years. The Naturaliza not confir

Leshaw are 1,500 across the are being from murg offenses. I not provi inmates of jails wher

The U.S. not releas

QUIT BUS 15-5 Furniture Gift Every 4p 404 Andrew

OPEN THUR Crosses J. Dub ONCE U 300 Across fr Mc



AP Photo
An inmate drops what is believed to be a note past a make-shift white flag on the second floor of the St. Martin Parish jail in St. Martinville, La., Wednesday. At least five Cuban inmates are holding three corrections officers hostage.

Jail uprising highlights legal limbo of incarcerated Cubans

ST. MARTINVILLE, La. (AP) — A standoff by Cuban inmates holding a warden and two guards hostage entered its third day Wednesday, in a siege that has underscored once more the fate of hundreds of Cubans locked in legal limbo in U.S. prisons.

"Every time there's a riot the issue comes up," said Gary Leshaw, an Atlanta lawyer who acts as an advocate for Cuban detainees.

The hostages were seized Monday as they escorted inmates from an exercise area at the St. Martin Parish jail. Since then, officials said, as many as four other prisoners have joined the hostage-takers, who control at least part of the jail.

Leaders of the uprising have said they want out and would be willing to be deported anywhere. One of the Cubans told a TV station that he has been held for 13 years. The Immigration and Naturalization Service has not confirmed that.

Leshaw estimated there are 1,500 Cubans in prisons across the United States who are being held for anything from murder to immigration offenses. INS officials would not provide the number of inmates or the number of jails where they are held.

The U.S. government will not release them to American

soil because it considers them subject to deportation. And there is no agreement between the United States and Cuba to have them sent back.

"For legal purposes, they are not here," Leshaw said. "So they are not entitled to due process. They can be held indefinitely."

Leshaw said most of the nation's Cuban detainees were among the 125,000 who came on the Mariel boatlift in 1980, though some came as recently as the 1990s.

At the St. Martin Parish jail, four of the five Cubans who started the rebellion were among a group of 60 being held for the INS. The fifth man was being held on state charges. INS officials refused to say anything about the case histories of the inmates involved in the standoff.

In 1987, frustration with the system was at the center of nearly simultaneous riots by Cuban inmates at the Oakdale, La., federal detention center 50 miles from St. Martinville, and at an Atlanta prison.

About 1,000 rioting Cubans burned down the Oakdale center. Twenty-eight employees were taken hostage and held for eight days before all were released unharmed.

Travel industry offers tips for millennium travelers

WASHINGTON (AP) — For those brave enough to travel over the New Year's Eve weekend, the travel industry has a few tips to avoid any millennium-sized headaches from the Year 2000 computer bug.

"We don't really think anything is going to happen, but it's just one of those situations where people shouldn't take any chances that could end up ruining their vacation," said Kristina Rundquist, spokeswoman for the American Society of Travel Agents. The Alexandria, Va.-based travel industry association, which has nearly 29,000 members in more than 170 countries, said people traveling between Dec. 31 and Jan. 3 should follow these tips to help prevent any problems:

■ Obtain, and carry, a written confirmation of all travel plans including confirmation numbers. If you are traveling to a resort or destination that is booked to capacity, reconfirm your hotel reservations by contacting the resort directly before you leave home.

■ Before departing on an overseas trip, contact the State Department or visit its Web site: <http://travel.state.gov/y2kca.html> to check on your destination's

overall Year 2000 readiness. Check to see how prepared that country's aviation industry is for the glitch that could disable computers unable to distinguish 2000 from 1900.

■ Consider obtaining traditional printed tickets rather than electronic tickets.

■ Take out extra cash or travelers' checks before departure, rather than relying on Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) once you arrive.

■ Think about purchasing trip cancellation insurance. However, before you buy any, make sure the policy covers Y2K-related problems.

■ Make at least two copies of all pertinent travel-related documents including your passport, visas, driver's license, front and back of credit cards, medical/eye prescriptions and important phone numbers.

■ Be sure to keep all essential items — including prescriptions, toiletries and a change of clothes — in your carry-on luggage.

Rundquist said millennium travelers should take the attitude of people "heading into a storm and arriving in a place that was just hit by a storm."

BUY 1 PHONE GET 1 FREE
No Contracts Required
Free Long Distance Anywhere in the United States
522-1033
Midland Park Mall
Sprint. Sprint PCS

***ZERO DOWN**
Full Size Acoustic Guitars
Takamine Starting At
Fender \$99
Peavey
Ibanez
All Guitars In Stock On
Sale!
3/4 Size Acoustic Guitars
\$59
Large selection of keyboards, PA systems, & amps at holiday sale prices!
(Zero down with approved credit. Minimum purchase \$200)
Electric Guitar Packages
Ibanez Peavey \$295
(Includes: Guitar, Amp, Cable, Video, Strap, Gig Bag & Tuner)
Name Brand 5-pc. Drum Set
with cymbals and throne starting at
\$399
Band & Orchestra Instruments On Sale
Caldwell has stocking stuffers & gift certificates, too!
caldwell music
ODESSA 42nd & Dixie 368-4084
MIDLAND 3205 W. Cuthbert 697-0852

GIFTS TO... Add A Little Sparkle
Holiday Dresses & Pantsuits save 50%
Misses, Petites & Women's.
Sale 19.98 to 39.98
39.97 to 79.97 everyday
\$39 to \$118 elsewhere
Stein Mart
The Joy of Giving More. The Magic of Paying Less.

Put Him At Ease
Designer Collections save 30%
Shirts and slacks on the dressy side of casual.
Sale 17.48 to 31.48
24.97 to 44.97 everyday
\$36 to \$69.50 elsewhere
Stein Mart
The Joy of Giving More. The Magic of Paying Less.

Give Some Comfort & Joy
Sweaters For The Family Save 30%
So many choices! Girls', ladies' and men's
Sale 10.48 to 41.98
14.97 to 59.97 everyday
\$20 to \$118 elsewhere
Stein Mart
Selection will vary by store. Does not include entire stocks. Savings off our everyday prices. Sale ends Sunday, December 19.

QUITTING BUSINESS
15-50% OFF
Furniture, Accessories, Gift Items, Antiques
Everything Must Go!
uptown
404 Andrews Hwy 570-0099

OPEN THURSDAY TIL 8:00 P.M.
Crosses & Angels by J. Duban Designs
ONCE UPON A TIME
3001 Loop 250N
Across from Pier 1 Imports
699-4270
Mon-Sat 10-6
Sun 1-5

LOG ON TO A HOT OFFER
Log on to the special offer of FREE installation of gas fire logs to keep you warm this winter. Gas fire logs not only put out more intense heat than wood fires but offer no messy clean up, heat regulation, and lower heating bills.
For a limited time, get FREE gas log installation* when you purchase a Rasmussen gas fire log system. For a company that keeps your comfort in mind call Bosworth, it's worth the call.
THE BOSWORTH Company *Worth the call. 570-5233*
LENNOX
See Bosworth for complete details. Offer good through December 31, 1999.
*when gas is available at fireplace

With this coupon take an extra **20%**
off any one regular priced Children's or Men's apparel item.
Valid through 12/17/99. Must be redeemed at time of purchase. Not valid with other discount offers. One per customer please.

With this coupon take an extra **20%**
off any one regular priced ladies' apparel item.
Valid through 12/17/99. Must be redeemed at time of purchase. Not valid with other discount offers. One per customer please.

Take an extra **40% off** all clearance*
Does not apply to temporary price reductions. Sale ends Sunday, 12/19/99. Price adjustments cannot be made to previously purchased clearance items.
*Excludes designer fragrance and shoes.
Stein Mart
Fashion and Quality. Always at discount prices.
**Holiday hours: Thurs-Fri, 9-10
Sat, 8-10 • Sun, 10-8**
North Park Shopping Center, 4706 North Midkiff Road and Loop 250 in Midland, 520-3188 • 1-888-Stein Mart • www.steinmart.com

DECEMBER 16, 1999

Marathoner Al Gore in 'outstanding' health, doctors say

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Al Gore is in outstanding health, fueled by daily weightlifting, regular jogging and adventures like running the Marine Corps Marathon and climbing Mount Rainier, doctors said Wednesday.

The Gore campaign released the three-page medical summary less than a week after former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley, the other contender for the Democratic presidential nomination, disclosed a non-life-threatening irregular heartbeat.

Gore's report said he had had a common form of skin cancer removed from his right shoulder in 1997, and a possible precursor to skin cancer was removed from his forehead in May. But there has been no recurrence of the earlier problem.

About the worst thing that could be said about his current physical condition is that his

cholesterol is mildly elevated. "He is in superb health," said Dr. Tony Casolaro, who is team doctor for the Washington Redskins and reviewed Gore's records at the request of his doctor. "From a cardiovascular standpoint, he is in the top 1 percent of all ages."

Bradley went to a hospital for his heart condition, called atrial fibrillation, but his heart resumed normal rhythm without treatment. He has been on medication to maintain his heart rate, but said he forgot to take it before last week's episode.

Two Republican candidates, Texas Gov. George W. Bush and Arizona Sen. John McCain, have also recently released their medical records or summaries of examinations.

Gore's summary was based on a May 7 examination at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. The findings were

reviewed by a dozen specialists ranging from a cardiologist to a personal trainer and nutritionist. Among the results for the 51-year-old Gore:

■ He weighed 195 pounds and had a resting blood pressure of 110/68, which contributed to the finding that he had "excellent aerobic capacity and cardiovascular fitness."

■ His total cholesterol was 231, above the 200 level that is considered ideal. His HDL, or "good" cholesterol, was 55, better than the recommended target of 35, while his LDL, or "bad" cholesterol, was 157, worse than the target of 130.

Gore has never taken cholesterol medicine and tries to improve his numbers with a blend of diet and exercise.

■ He had a "basal cell carcinoma of the skin" removed surgically from his shoulder in February 1997. The growth was dis-

covered in November 1996.

"It is a skin cancer of (a) sort, but it's not the bad one everybody thinks of, which is melanoma," said Dr. Richard Tubb, a White House physician who has treated Gore since 1995. "You scrape them off, cut them or burn them and they go away."

According to the American Medical Association's Encyclopedia of Medicine, a basal cell carcinoma is "a type of skin cancer that occurs most commonly on the face or neck" and is the most common form of skin cancer in the United States.

It is usually caused by exposure to the sun.

In May, Tubb also used liquid nitrogen to remove an actinic keratosis from Gore's forehead. That can be a precursor to basal cell carcinoma, but Tubb said Gore regularly uses sunscreen to ward off a recurrence.

■ In a section titled "social his-

tory," the doctors said Gore smoked a pack of cigarettes daily between 1968 and 1973 but "has used no tobacco products since 1973."

They also reported that the vice president "drinks an occasional beer," as well as diet sodas and coffee.

McCain, a former prisoner of war, jokes that his 1,500-page medical record reads like an orthopedic surgeon's dream or nightmare, "depending on your perspective." Gore's medical chart is nothing like that, but it's not empty either.

The vice president dislocated his left shoulder in 1958; got flu-

chipped his right ankle bone in 1980; ruptured his right Achilles tendon while playing basketball in 1994 and strained his right shoulder while skiing in February.

Tubb said all the injuries have healed and Gore completed a stress test at a very high level.

"I wish I had that stress test," said Dr. Gary Malakoff, head of the general medicine division at the George Washington University Hospital, who also reviewed Gore's records.

"He passed it with more than flying colors; it's really like a marathoner's stress test," Malakoff said.

FAA head pledges restraints for child airline passengers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Aviation Administration will require some form of child restraint system for children traveling in airplanes, the agency's administrator said Wednesday.

Jane Garvey told a child safety conference she is not sure how the system will be configured or when it will be mandated, but the agency will comply with a recommendation made in 1997 by a White House commission that studied aviation safety.

That commission, headed by Vice President Al Gore and following the TWA Flight 800 explosion, recommended the FAA drop an exemption that allows children under the age of 2 to travel without being restrained.

Parents now can carry those children in their laps. But in past accidents, some toddlers have been thrown about the cabin in a crash.

"We will get this done. We will mandate child restraint systems. With your help, with constructive collaboration and with the expertise in this room, we will find solutions, and raise the bar on the level of safety afforded our youngest travelers," Garvey told the conference, which was convened in Arlington, Va., by the National Transportation Safety Board.

The board itself wants children restrained in airplanes.

There has been a long-running debate about the value of child safety seats in airplanes.

Airlines and some safety experts have been loathe to require that small travelers be placed in car seats, for slightly different reasons.

The airlines fear it would cost them business because parents would be unwilling to fly if they had to buy an extra seat.

Safety experts argue that requiring children to ride in safety seats would actually put them at a greater risk because their parents would be more likely to drive than fly.

Last year the agency solicited comments about how to best restrain children in airplanes. It received about 150 responses. Garvey said they had two basic conclusions: There was a need for restraints and any restraint designed should be certified both for airplanes and automobiles.

Antiques Etc.
2101 W. Wadley Ste. 9
Invites You To

CELEBRATE
Christmas Tea
Saturday, Dec. 18
10:30-6:00

Refreshments
Served

Christmas sneaking up ON YOU?
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
Friday, Dec. 17
Saturday, Dec. 18

Meredith Baxter Facial, Hand, Foot treatments
Hand Carved Nativity Sets by Ann
Miniature Shoes, Boots, Airplanes
Harley Davidson Collectibles
Magnetic Refrigerator Frames
Margaret Long Collectibles
Mississippi River Candles
Christmas Ornaments
Coca-Cola Collectibles
Lepus Nativity Sets
Ty Beanie Babies
even

Joanne's Fine Gifts

1111 Wadley Shopping Center
Open Mon-Sat. 10:00-5:00

**LADIES & JUNIORS
FALL AND HOLIDAY
clearance
SAVE 50%**

50% OFF LADIES CAREER COLLECTIONS
Update your work wardrobe with an incredible selection of blouses, knit tops, skirts, pants and jackets from lots of your favorite names including **America's favorite designer**. For misses, petites and Dillard's Women.
Orig. \$40-\$168, now **20.00-84.00**

50% OFF LADIES CASUAL SPORTSWEAR
Get comfortable in lots of fabulous separates from the **all-American designer**, **America's favorite designer**, **Napa Valley, Stonebridge and more!** For misses, petites and Dillard's Women.
Orig. \$28-\$138, now **14.00-69.00**

50% OFF JUNIORS DRESSES
Everything you need to stay in style. Choose from lots of awesome casual and social dresses from some of your **favorite names**.
Orig. \$38-\$200, now **19.00-100.00**

50% OFF JUNIORS DESIGNER DENIM COLLECTIONS
Lots of the styles you want, at prices you can't pass up. Choose from a wide variety of long-sleeve knits and denim pants from the **hottest makers**.
Orig. \$28-\$58, now **14.00-29.00**

Selected styles. Selection varies by size and store. Previous markdowns have been taken. All items subject to prior sale.

Dillard's

Dillard's welcomes your Dillard's charge, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or Diners Club card.
SHOP MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:30 A.M. TO 9:30 P.M. • SATURDAY 9 A.M. TO 9:30 P.M. • SUNDAY 10 A.M. TO 8 P.M. • Midland Park Mall, 697-7911

**ALL HOLIDAY
MERCHANDISE
1/2 OFF**

**SUZI'S
CLOSET**

**KID'S TABLE/CHAIRS
& ROCKING CHAIRS**

**KIDS ONLY
TOY STORE**
699-5911

**MISS CAYCE'S
OODLES OF
ORNAMENTS**
Free Personalizing
Midland Dr. & Wadley • 689-7192
Next to Albertson's

Section B
Midland R
Thursday,

Hos

By Mella McEwe
Staff Writer

Midland Memorial Hospital reported a stronger bottom line for the month of its fiscal year. At the monthly board of directors meeting, Hospital District Board Chairman Bob Dimit reported total operating revenue for the month of \$10.24 million, an increase from \$9.8 million a year earlier.

Christmas li
Assisted Liv

Const

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

Midland County "Choc" Harris, a "compassionate understanding people," is seeking election to the stable's office in filling a life dream to be a p officeholder.

The 47-year-old Harris, who has background in enforcement, is ing the Republican Party nomination for the post in the

Ed Todd

The

Winter is on the way. There is a lot of snow in the Great So effect of an o and icicles an and hard-tack n hues of falling air-brush pain storms.

The season is exhilarating a weather which ment not just to ters that scur renewed times Changing w of the seasons In years gon son bled into a tance of chang

Hospital bottom line shows improvement

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Midland Memorial Hospital reported a stronger bottom line during the second month of its fiscal year.

At the monthly board meeting of the board of directors of the Midland County Hospital District, board president Bob Dimit reported that the hospital posted total operating revenues of \$10.25 million and total operating expenses of \$10.24 million, leaving an excess of \$10,244.

"That's about 10 times better than last month," he said, when the operating excess was \$118.

He reported that total current assets were \$78.85 million, up from \$77.77 million a year earlier and total liabilities were

\$26.6 million, down from \$28.44 million a year ago.

"We have good cash reserves and our debt to total assets are under 30 percent, which is outstanding and will help our bond rating," he said.

The hospital also reported a 71 percent utilization rate, a 90 percent utilization rate in the rehabilitation center and 76 percent rate in the oncology unit. Average daily census was 181 patients, up from the 174 budgeted for the month.

Dr. Harold Rubin, president of the hospital, explained that utilization was up because "We see health care as seasonal. In winter, activity increases as the weather gets colder. We traditionally have a lower census in the summer that grows as the weather gets colder. Also, we have expanded our services and have

built a strong relationship with our healthcare providers."

In other business:

■ Anne Shaffer told directors that the catheter labs at the new Heart Institute are being utilized and open heart surgeries should start in the institute's surgical suites next week.

■ Directors approved additional costs to renovate an area on the hospital's first floor to house the hospital's new Wound Care Center, which opened Nov. 1 in the Abell-Hanger Medical Pavilion south of the hospital.

Margaret Robinson, vice president of patient services, explained to directors that when the board approved soliciting bids in August to renovate the first floor site, \$112,000 was appropriated for the renovations, but the lowest bid, from Camp-

bell Construction, came in at \$131,357.

"We recommend taking the low bid but because it exceeded the allocation, we're requesting the additional funds," she said, noting that the bid was slightly higher because "the center will have five exam rooms and seven sinks and that's more plumbing than you normally see in a renovation project."

She said the center, which saw 90 patients in its first month in operation, will open in its permanent home in the spring.

■ Board members accepted the resignation of member Jane Vaughan, who resigned to take a job in New Mexico. Because she served as board secretary, members elected Ora Williams the new secretary.

■ Ms. Shaffer reported that the hos-

pital's outpatient surgery center, Surgi-Care, is in the early phases of expansion. Expansion of the front of the building for a recovery area should be completed next week and renovation of the physician's offices and addition of a third operating room are expected to be completed next May.

■ Directors agreed to solicit bids for a new teleradiology system, estimated to cost \$215,000 when electrical systems are included, to improve the images and the time to move those images. Ms. Shaffer said the hospital's teleradiology system has previously served outlying hospitals in Monahans, Pecos and Kermit.

■ Bids also will be solicited to replace the radiology fluoroscopy unit and to replace the clinical patient management system for the emergency department.

A seasonal occupation ...



Photos by Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram
Christmas lights installed at Raquet Club, above, and Saddle Ridge Lodge Assisted Living Community, below.



Lighting becomes intricate, technical

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Dressing up the house or the office building for the Christmas holidays is becoming more than nailing a string of lights along the roof line.

In fact it has become so intricate that several companies do a strong business doing the decorating for customers.

"It's pretty technical. You have to calculate the load so you don't overload the breakers," said Jason Jennings of J&J Electric, as he spent several hours putting lights in a large magnolia tree. "You have to have a lot of imagination to put up lights and make

them look good. It takes a lot of engineering and ingenuity and it's meticulous. You have to space the bulbs just right on tree trunks and walkways."

Greg Sly, manager with Turf Specialties, which owns the local Christmas Decor franchise, said customers use such services "because we're professional and we know how to make the decorations work. There's more to it than stringing lights. There's electrical considerations, like not overloading the breakers and knowing the number of bulbs to put on each breaker. Also, most homeowners don't want to get up on their steep roofs, whereas we have special shoes and

bucket trucks."

Corey Sly, owner of Corey Sly Electrical Service and Greg's brother agreed, "it gets to be more than an extension cord. Sometimes we have to add power" to light the strings, which he and his staff build themselves. "We may have to draw power from, say, the air conditioner. You can't just wrap the lights around a tree. You have to know how to zig zag them through the tree. There is an art to this."

Some companies charge by the job, others by the hour or by the foot. Jennings charges \$37.50 an hour and Greg said customers have spent as little as

Please see LIGHTS/3B

Constable 'Choc' Harris seeking 'lifelong dream' of holding public office

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

Midland County Constable Charles "Choc" Harris, who said that he offers a "compassionate understanding of people," is seeking election to the constable's office in fulfilling a lifelong dream to be a public officeholder.

The 47-year-old Harris, who has a background in law enforcement, is seeking the Republican Party nomination to the post in the March 14 primary elec-



Harris

tion and election to the \$24,000-a-year job in the Nov. 7 general election.

"If you're going to be a constable or the sheriff or head of a department, you have got to have good people with good judgment working with you," Harris said.

Early in 1999, the Midland County Commissioners' Court appointed Harris constable of Midland County Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2.

In noting compassion as a positive force, Harris cited the late Midland County Sheriff Ed "Big Ed" Darnell and the late Martin County Sheriff Dan Saunders.

"Their whole point was compassion toward the people they served," Harris said. "We've got to have compassion."

While Harris's primary role as constable is to serve Justice Court and to provide court security, Harris said he patrols

his territory in the county to enhance public safety.

"Constitutionally, we do work out of the Justice Court, provide court security for the Justice Court," Harris said. "Plus, we perform the basic job of a Texas peace officer, which is enforcing the laws of the state of Texas."

Harris is one of four constables currently serving Midland County. Precinct 1 Constable Lynn Pope, 38, serves the office of Justice Joe Matlock. Precinct 2 Constable Harris serves Justice David Cobos. Precinct 3 Constable Angel Hernandez, 39, serves Justice Michael Wallace. And Precinct 4 Constable Jack Swan, 65, serves Justice George Zimmerman.

"We're serving our precincts by being out there (in the field) more than the pre-

vious constables," Harris said. "We're serving the people of our community."

"It's not one; it is we," Harris said. "All four of the constables work as a team. If one of us needs help, we all work together."

Harris noted that the constables, whose annual pay was increased to \$24,000 from \$7,200 earlier this year, furnish their own patrol cars, lights, sirens, firearms, and other equipment. "We provide for ourselves," he said, and noted that the county reimburses constables 28 cents a mile for driving their personal cars on the job.

However, the Sheriff's Department is budgeted to provide patrol cars, uniforms, and equipment for deputies.

"We have to have the tools and the equipment to do it (the job)," Harris said.

"We are building up. The commissioners have listened to us" in pleas for an operating budget and equipment.

A previous Commissioners' Court administration, Harris noted, had tried to abolish the Midland County constable posts but was unsuccessful.

Of his academic background, Harris said that he holds the bachelor's degree in law enforcement and police science from Sam Houston State University at Huntsville and the doctorate (Ph.D.) through correspondence from LaSalle University in Louisiana. "It's a real McCoy," he said.

His previous law-enforcement work includes his serving as deputy sheriff in Midland and Pecos counties and working at sea from 1989 to 1993 as senior security chief for Carnival Cruise Lines.

Ed Todd

The blessings of the seasons, life are constant change, renewal

Winter is one of Earth's wondrous four seasons. There is the stark beauty of a severe winter in the Great Southwest. And there is the cosmetic effect of an occasional snow and icicles and frozen ponds and hard-tack rangeland and the hues of falling leaves and the air-brush paintings of dust storms.

The season can be and is as exhilarating as the changing weather which brings an excitement not just to folks but to critters that scurry and revel in renewed times.

Changing weather is drama of the seasons.

In years gone by, as one season bled into another, there was the simple acceptance of changing seasons. The death of winter leads

to the life of spring. There is the bustle of summer, the maturity of autumn, and the reflection of winter before renewal.

The seasons are a journey just as is Robert Frost's delight with words and traipsing into woods.

*The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep.*

And so do we all — day by day and season after season.

The weather changes within the seasons. And the seasons, like the ages of man, gradually change like cool water on flames: Slowly and then suddenly, it is simmering, steaming, and boiling. And so it is nature: The delicacy of youth all too soon evolves to the character lines of age.

Though the tempo may be different, there is vivaciousness in youth just as there is in other seasons

of life — the growing and ever-developing seasons, including those maturing and, euphemistically, the golden years.

All seasons are to be revered in a spirit of humility and acceptance.

In those yesteryears, which become more and more clear and vivid as time marches to the horizon, there was the acceptance of change in seasons and in maturity.

People, it seemed, accepted age with dignity. To the child, grandparents were created that way: loving and generous and kind and sort of old, certainly older than thing heretofore experienced other than things deemed historic.

There was and is a beauty in that grace.

And as weather changed from a breeze to a storm or from a shower to a downpour, there was acceptance. Sometimes there was a temporary change of dwelling: from house to storm cellar. And there were benefits to be gleaned: Weather cleans up the air

after a stir, sweeps the Earth, and renews life with its delightful and essential bounty, rainfall.

There were no snide remarks, that I recall, about the weather: It was never "nasty," as some people are prone to call weather that changes from mild to severe or calm to stormy.

There might be a sense of dread and terror as cyclones, tornadoes and other storms pay a visit. But that's within the soul and not the elements of weather.

There is fascination in all things and in all kinds of weather cast by mankind into "the good" and "the bad."

Just like the life cycle, from the cradle to the grave, it is all part of this gift called life, the trials and tribulation, the canyons and the mountains, the hills and the dells.

Ed Todd is a staff writer for the Reporter-Telegram.

DECEMBER 16, 1999

OBITUARIES



Richard Hoefs

Richard Ronald Hoefs passed away on Sunday, December 12, 1999 at an Odessa hospital. "Dick" was born October 7, 1928 to Rudolph and Bertha Hoefs. He was the youngest of five sons.

Dick attended Peacock Military Academy and Trinity University in San Antonio. It was there he met and married Helene Scriven in 1949, with whom he had five children.

Dick was engaged in ranching and farming for many years and also owned and operated a feed yard in Toyahvale, TX. During this time he was also very involved in local and civic activities. He was a Balmorhea City Councilman, President of the Lion's Club, President of the School Board, Republican Party District Chairman, served on the Pecos Hospital Board, and was on the Boy Scout Council. He was very instrumental in helping establish the Medical Clinic in Balmorhea and served on that board as President. He was a member of the Cattlemen's Association and the Toyahvale Roping Association.

He is survived by one brother, Alan Hoefs and his wife, Mildred, of Pecos; three sons, Mark Hoefs of Austin, Graham Hoefs and wife, Michelle, of Spring, Ferd Hoefs and wife, Cindy, of San Angelo; two daughters, Kathy Armstrong and husband, Andy, of Midland, and Julianne Martin and husband, Bill of Houston. He had six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services are to be held at the Methodist Church in Balmorhea

at 11 a.m. today, the 16th of December under the direction of the Pecos Funeral Home with the Reverend Bruce Abbott officiating. Pallbearers will be John Moore, James Dyer, Jim Ed Miller, Don Wienacht, Bob Hyter and Freddy Moore. Honorary pallbearers will be Helen Humphries, Jean Duncan, Tom Clark and Fred Strode.

Dick was an avid reader. He had read hundreds of books during his lifetime. Therefore, the family requests any memorials be sent to the Balmorhea Library, P. O. Box 251, Balmorhea, TX 79718; or to one's favorite charity.



Marcus Rosenberger

Services for Marcus Jacob Rosenberger, II, 7-1/2 months, of Midland, are scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday at the Hubbard-Kelly Chapel in Odessa.

Jacob died Tuesday, December 14, 1999 at Midland Memorial Hospital.

He was born April 18, 1999 in Odessa, Texas. Jacob was a special little boy.

Survivors include his parents, Marcus and Amy Rosenberger of Midland; a sister, Madison Rosenberger of Midland; maternal grandparents, Johnny and Kathy Henderson of Midland; and paternal grandparents, Doug and Sherry Rosenberger of Odessa; paternal grandmother, Vickie Moyer of St. Petersburg, Fla.; paternal great-grandparents, Jack and Nancy Little of Claremont, Calif.; paternal great-grandmother, Mary Lou Rosenberger of Tiffin, Ohio;

maternal great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Ramsey of Tyler, Tex.; maternal great-grandfather, J. B. Moon of Odessa; uncles and aunts, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clabaugh of San Antonio, Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Clabaugh of Perrysburg, Ohio, Harley Melton, Lori Melton and Gary Rudloff, all of Midland, Derek Scholz and Stephanie Scholz of Odessa; and numerous other relatives. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home.



Gladys Whiles

Gladys Whiles was born October 21, 1918 in San Antonio, Texas to Clyde Hancock and Ethyl White Hancock. She was a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold Whiles; and a son, Harold Oliver Whiles, Jr. She is survived by two sons, David Whiles and wife, Deborah of Midland, and Thomas Allen Whiles and wife, Clare Petersburger of Washington, D.C.; three brothers, Charles Hancock of San Antonio, Clayton Hancock of New York and George Hancock of Corpus Christi; two sisters, Nettie McCord of Baytown, Texas and Selina Hargrove of San Antonio, Texas; 5 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Whiles died Saturday, December 11, 1999 in Midland. Graveside services are scheduled for 3 p.m. Friday in Resthaven Memorial Park with Reverend Gail Wilson, Hospice Chaplain, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Honorary pallbearers will be her grandchildren, Jason Whiles, Jared Whiles, Richard Whiles, Bethany Whiles and Megan Whiles Hodge.



Gary Green

James Gary Green was born August 24, 1940 in Hillsboro, Texas to James and Frances (Erickson) Green. Mr. Green was reared and educated in Hillsboro and Mineral Wells. He married Clarice Nell Cooper in Midland on February 17, 1983. He owned and operated Green's Sheet Metal Shop.

Mr. Green died at a local hospital Monday, December 13, 1999.

He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his wife, Nell Green of Midland; his son and his wife, Michel and Sherri Green of Tulsa; his daughter and her husband, Kimbra and Brian Johnson of San Antonio; 2 stepsons, John Paul Cooper and his wife, Lanetta, of Midland, and Phillip Cooper of California; his brother, Dennis and Randall Green and his wife, Cherie; and 6 grandchildren.

Funeral services have been scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday, December 16, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Bob Porterfield officiating. Ellis Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

The family requests memorials be directed to the NRA or SPCA, 15 Kerry Rd., Midland, Texas 79703.



Mary Wesch

Mary Wesch died December 14, 1999 at the age of 67. Mary was born in Mabank, Texas on October 12, 1932 to the late Scott and Edna Burns. She married Vincent Wesch in Odessa on December 16, 1966. They lived in Kermit, Texas from 1966 to 1996, and then moved to Midland. She and her husband enjoyed traveling.

She was a loving wife and mother.

Her brother, Thomas Burns preceded her in death. She is survived by her beloved husband of 33 years, Vincent Wesch; daughter, Joy Ritchie of Kansas City, Mo.; sons, Leslie Wesch of Arlington and Keith Wesch of Hurst; granddaughter, Cassie Wesch of San Diego, Ca.; her brothers, Leonard Burns of Everman, Tx. and J. E. Burns of Murchison, Tx.; numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives, and many friends.

A memorial service is to be held at 1 p.m. Friday, December 17, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Bob Porterfield officiating.

The family requests memorials be directed to the American Cancer Society, 2304 Wadley, Midland, Texas 79705.

Gage Craft

Gage Michael Craft, 7 years old, formerly of Midland, died on Thursday, December 9, 1999, in Edmond, Oklahoma, in a house fire.

Gage was born on November

14, 1992 in Midland, Texas.

He is survived by his parents, Shawn and Laura Craft, and his 8-year old brother, Joshua. He is also survived by his paternal grandparents, Howard and Ginger Craft of Roswell, New Mexico; maternal grandparents, Denise Reed of Bethany, Oklahoma, and Tom Reed of Midland, Texas; and his maternal great-grandmother, Toni Powers, also of Bethany, Oklahoma; aunts and uncles include Scott and Heather Hanson of Odessa, Texas, John and Miranda Reed of Midland, Tiffany Reed, a freshman at Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Oklahoma, and Matt and Anna Godfrey of Nashville, Tennessee.

Gage was a first-grader at the Edmond Orvis Risnew Elementary School and attended Lakeview Park Church of the Nazarene. He was a member of the Wildcats Football Team in the Edmond City League. Gage was full of life. Everyone that came in contact with him went away with a smile. He was not shy by any sense of the word and became the center of attention, the life of the party, whenever he walked into a room. Gage touched lives. No one was the same after meeting Gage Craft.

Services were held Tuesday, December 14, 1999 at 10 a.m. at the Lakeview Park Church of the Nazarene, 3500 NW 50th in Oklahoma City. Pallbearers are Uncle John Reed, and cousins, Doug and Hardy Gunsalus and Joshua Means. Honorary bearers are brother, Joshua Craft; cousins, Darian and Daylan Hanson; and friends, Jason Mosley and Jonathan Klemm of Oklahoma City and the Wildcats Football Team. Funeral arrangements are directed by Mercer-Adams Funeral Service of Bethany, Oklahoma. Burial is to be at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland, Texas at 4 p.m. on Friday, December 17, 1999. Local arrangements are under the direction of Pipkin Funeral Home.

A memorial fund has been set up at the First Church of the Nazarene, 1208 W. Wall, Midland, Texas 79701.

DEATH NOTICES

Billy Sanders

Billy Charles Sanders died Tuesday, Dec. 14, at a Midland hospital.

Graveside services are to be 1 p.m. Thursday at Resthaven Memorial Park with the Rev. Robert Kirk officiating under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

He was born April 25, 1923 in Dublin.

He moved to Midland in 1966. He worked 29 years for Exxon.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Florence Mae Sanders in 1995.

Survivors include two sons, Chuck Sanders of Midland and Paul Sanders of Houston; a daughter, Betty Balolia of Irving; two brothers, Herb Sanders of Amarillo and C. B. Sanders of Irving; two sisters, Mary J. Trice of Kansas City, Kan. and Kathleen Logan of Dublin; and four grandchildren.

Dortha Ruple

Dortha Ruple died Wednesday, Dec. 15, at a Midland hospital.

Funeral services are to be 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, at the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Bob Porterfield officiating. Burial is to follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

She was born Aug. 14, 1911 in Richland Springs.

She lived in San Saba County, then moved to the Glass Farm in 1927. She was a cashier for Perry Brothers and Palace Drug Store, owned and operated Ruple Laundry and Cleaners, then worked for MISD in food service. She was a member of Wilshire Park Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Theron Ruple in 1993.

Survivors include a son, James Ruple; a brother, Dayton Swails; two sisters, Aldis Wade and Ona Thomas, all of Midland; three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Opal Koonce

Opal Koonce died Tuesday, Dec. 14, in Midland.

Funeral services are to be 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, at the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Bob Porterfield officiating. Burial is to follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

She was born July 18, 1909 in Elida, N.M.

She lived in Eastland County, moved to Martin County in 1911, farmed in the Courtney Community, moved to Lenora and

farmed until 1956, then moved to Midland County, and into Midland in 1982. She was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church, Alamo YMCA, and the Sand and Sage Home Demonstration Club.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles A. Koonce in 1980; a grandson, Dale Wade Koonce in 1977; three brothers, and two sisters.

Survivors include three sons, Louie Koonce of San Angelo, and Norman Koonce and Jerry Koonce, both of Midland; a brother, Loyce Hazelwood of Stanton; a sister, Obara Angel of Stanton; five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

James Smith

James Dayton Smith died Wednesday, Dec. 13.

Graveside services are to be 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, at Resthaven Memorial Park Cemetery with the Rev. Bob Porterfield officiating under the direction of Pipkin Funeral Home.

He was born April 10, 1920 in Windfield, Kan.

He was a plumber and an electrician. He lived in Odessa before moving to Midland. He was a mechanic for Mid-Tex Auto, before retiring.

He was preceded in death by a brother.

Survivors include his wife, Ruby Faye Atwood Smith; a sister, Effie C. Smith; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Artamyse Watts

Artamyse Watts died Wednesday, Dec. 15.

Services are to be 4 p.m. Saturday at the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Dr. Richard Braun officiating. Burial is to follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

She was born Oct. 3, 1900 in San Angelo.

She has lived in Sutton County, Washington, D.C., San Antonio and Midland. She was secretary for Moore Bros., Inc. and Sinclair Oil and Gas Company in Midland, then an independent oil operator in San Antonio. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church, the Woman's Club, Trinity Towers Auxiliary, and the Order of the Eastern Star. She was

Worthy Matron of Midland Chapter No. 253, served several Grand Appointments in the Grand Chapter of Texas, Order of Eastern Star, and Deputy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Texas.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Allen Watts on May 18, 1981.

Survivors include numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to a favorite charity.

Marguerite White

SAN ANGELO—Marguerite White, 88, mother of Midlander Jimmy R. White, died Friday, Dec. 10, at a San Angelo nursing center.

Services were 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13, in the Johnson Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed at Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens.

She was born Dec. 13, 1910 in Carlsbad, N.M.

She resided in San Angelo from 1932 to present. She was a piano teacher for over 40 years. She was a charter member of the Music Teacher's Association, active in PTA, and served in several capacities for Immanuel Baptist Church.

Other survivors include her husband, Finis A. White of San Angelo; two sons, Jackie White and John White, both of San Angelo; 11 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of San Angelo.

Debby Almond

SAN ANTONIO—Debby Martin Almond, 85, mother of Midlander Joann Nolen, died Tuesday, Dec. 14.

Services are to be 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 17, at St. James Episcopal Church with the Rev. Jane Patterson officiating. Burial is to follow at Masonic Cemetery. Visitation will be 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, at the Del Rio Funeral Home.

She was a member of the Episcopal Church of Reconciliation. She was a bank officer, then vice president of public relations at Del Rio National Bank.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joe Almond; and two grandchildren.

Other survivors include a daughter, Cynthia Jones of San Antonio; a sister, Mabel Ellis of Lubbock; a brother, William H. Martin of El Paso; four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Bill Shankles

BIG SPRING—William H. Shankles, 63, died Tuesday, Dec. 14, at a Midland hospital.

Services are to be 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, at Baptist Temple Church with the Revs. Walter McCall and Don Snipes officiating. Masonic graveside rites by Big Spring Lodge No. 1340 A.F. & A.M. following at Trinity Memorial Park under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Visitation will be 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

He was born March 24, 1936 in Idabel, Okla.

He worked for the Idabel Police Department, was a sheriff's deputy for McCurtain County, the Lamesa Police Department and the 106th Judicial District, the Howard County Sheriff's Department, then was elected Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 2, retiring Dec. 1996. He was a member of Baptist Temple Church, Masonic Lodge No. 264 A.F. & A.M. in Idabel, Lodge No. 1340 A.F. & A.M. in Big Spring, Order of the Eastern Star, Valley of Lubbock Scottish Rite, Sheriff's Association, and the West Texas Justice of the Peace and Constable Association.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Ruth Cobb Shankles of Big Spring; three sons, Dale B. Johnson of Idabel, and Michael W. Shankles and Anthony E. Shankles, both of Big Spring; a daughter, Tammy L. Berry of Hermleigh; two brothers, Billy W. Shankles of Idabel and Thomas L. Shankles of Irving; three sisters, Rebecca E. Pollard and Linda F. McGough, both of Idabel, and Phyllis K. Setzer of Valiant, Okla.; 11 grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

Memorials may be made to the Masonic Home and School for

Do you suffer from...
DEPRESSION
and nothing seems to help?
Now, there is an effective short term treatment to remediate depression through the use of EEG biofeedback.
To schedule a FREE screening for depression, please call
SPECTRUM COUNSELING
3000 N. Garfield #272
Midland
Dr. Lon T. Clark
915-570-0096

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.

Children, P. O. Box 15040, Fort Worth, Texas 76119; or the Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, 2222 Welborn, Dallas, Texas 75219.

John Mast

Dr. John Mast died Tuesday, Dec. 14, in Houston.

Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

Mildred Renfro

Mildred Renfro died Wednesday, Dec. 15, at a Midland hospital.

Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

Patsy Darnell

BIG SPRING—Patsy Darnell, 61, died Tuesday, Dec. 14, at a Big Spring hospital.

Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Keep up with
his antics in
the Midland
Reporter-
Telegram
Ed Todd

QUITTING BUSINESS

**FINAL
TWO WEEKS!**

**All
Inventory
50% - 75% OFF**

We will be open
Dec. 15, 16, 17, 18
Dec. 21, 22, 23

Driscoll's Gifts, Inc.

the name for fine gifts since 1961

2101 W. Wadley #28 684-5761

Closed Sunday & Monday

No Gift Wrap • No Returns On Sale Merchandise • All Sales Final

NEED A TAX WRITE-OFF?
Beacon Light Outreach would like
to help you. Contact Pastor C.E.
Hunter Sr. (915) 685-0183 or
683-7655 for further information

God Bless You -
In Advance

Unknown thief carries off Virgin Mary statues in coastal city

GALVESTON (AP) — The thieves come in the night, without sound or trace, to carry their heavy stone booty off into the blackness.

Statues of the Virgin Mary have been disappearing without a trace from lawns and cemeteries in and around the storied Texas port city of Galveston since late summer.

As sharp winds peel off the Gulf of Mexico and holly strands creep over antique lampposts, the mystery of the vanishing Marys has settled over this quiet beach city like a winter fog.

Catholic priests pray for resolution, police scratch their heads and housewives haul their lawn idols indoors.

Some say it's the work of mischievous kids. Others think more savvy crooks are at large. And still others fear the disappearances are manifestations of lurking anti-Catholic sentiment in a city that, at the end of the 19th century, housed the largest Catholic population in Texas.

"I have no earthly idea why this is happening," Galveston police Sgt. David Millican said. "I stopped trying to figure that out."

Nobody knows just how many stone maidens have been snatched. There have been at least five in Galveston, and several more in nearby Dickinson. Millican believes many of the rob-

beries go unreported.

For seven years, Clement and Margaret Hernandez's Mary cast her serene gaze over the lazy traffic. Robe glazed blue, the cement statue stood on a thick marble base. When the couple's seven children crossed the threshold, they paused habitually by the statue to bless themselves.

One morning in late November, 69-year-old Mrs. Hernandez found her flowered grotto abandoned. Somebody had hoisted Mary away, base and all, leaving only a damp patch of soil in her place.

"I just couldn't believe somebody had done that," Mrs. Hernandez said. "There was such an emptiness — somebody was missing."

The Hernandez family was lucky — they enjoyed a happy, albeit bizarre, ending. A few days later, a little boy poking around in a vacant lot was struck by a strange apparition: the family's 2-foot Mary standing alone, palms to the sky.

Crooks had chiseled off the marble base, then abandoned the figure. Since her misadventure, Mary's hem is crooked and cracked, and her forehead scarred. But the Hernandez family says they don't mind the wear. "She's back," a gleeful Mrs. Hernandez said, patting the statue's hooded head. "She'll stay

right here with us from now on, here by the fireplace."

Rubie Huvar is less forgiving. When thieves pilfered the 80-pound Mary from Mrs. Huvar's nativity scene, she was livid.

"I feel like they've invaded my religion," she said.

She regards the thefts as anti-Catholic hate crimes, she said. "They came into my yard and took the thing that shows I'm a Catholic," she said. "I could see once, somebody being silly, but this has happened time after time."

"It is deeply troubling," the Rev. Frank Rossi, chancellor of the diocese of Galveston-Houston, said Wednesday. "We can only assume there is some negative intention."

In the midst of the mysteriously moving Mary's, at least one stone lady has been orphaned.

Police recovered a plaster statue from roadside brush weeks ago. But nobody could identify her, so police turned her over to Sacred Heart Church. The statue rests on a patch of grass, waiting sightlessly to be claimed.

A handful of Galveston families whose statues disappeared have come to Sacred Heart to inspect the mysterious maiden. But so far, the owner has not stepped forward.

"They're so disappointed," church office worker Dorothy



AP Photo
Margaret Hernandez poses with her beloved statue of the Virgin Mary Tuesday at her Galveston home. The statue had been stolen from Hernandez's front yard and later found in an empty field.

Nelson said. "They come in with such high hopes, but they're let down."

Nelson, who bought her own Virgin Mary almost 40 years ago, has stored the statue indoors.

"I just feel like as long as she's there, my house is protected," she said.

Critics question legality of new abortion rules

AUSTIN (AP) — A rule that hides the identity of judges ruling on cases involving underage girls seeking to bypass a new abortion law cloaks those who might rule based on their personal ideology rather than the law, critics say.

The confidentiality clause is part of a set of requirements submitted last week by the Texas Supreme Court. The court was asked by the Legislature to write procedural rules for how girls 17 and younger can bypass the new state law requiring parental notification before an abortion.

Both the law and the rules go into effect Jan. 1.

Critics say the rules also violate the Texas Constitution's ban on closed court proceedings.

The clause "erodes public confidence in the judiciary, particularly in a controversial area like abortion," said Paul Watler, a Dallas lawyer and former head of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas.

"You inevitably give rise to the idea that judges are deciding these cases based on per-

The court was asked by the Legislature to write procedural rules for how girls 17 and younger can bypass the new state law requiring parental notification before an abortion.

sonal ideology and not on the rule of law," Watler said.

"I would be shocked if there wasn't a lawsuit," said Chip Babcock, a Dallas media lawyer who headed the Texas Supreme Court committee that wrote the rules.

Sen. Florence Shapiro, sponsor of the parental notification bill, told the Austin American-Statesman that the names of judges must be kept secret to shield them from electoral intimidation from either side of the abortion

debate.

"There is no public purpose for judging the judges in this particular set of circumstances, because they are not going to be doing their ruling based on their pro-choice or anti-choice views. They are going to be doing it based on the mental capacity of the children," said Ms. Shapiro, R-Plano.

Judges would have to rule within two business days whether or not to allow a girl to have an abortion without telling her parents. The judges must decide that the girl is mature enough to make the decision on her own or that telling her parents would put her in danger.

According to the Texas law, everything about the bypass proceedings must be kept confidential, including the judge's decision.

The confidentiality clause could make it difficult to create a body of case law that judges and attorneys can consult, said Justice Ann Crawford McClure of the 8th District Court of Appeals in El Paso.

"It's really going to be like shooting at a moving target for the time being," she said.

A&M bonfire stack exceeded officials' height recommendation

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — When it collapsed, the Texas A&M bonfire stack was already four feet higher than the 55-foot limit set by university officials and, if completed, might have reached 75 feet, according to a professor's memo released Wednesday.

John A. Weese, a mechanical engineering instructor, estimated in his Dec. 9 memo that the first four tiers of the log stack were 59 feet tall when they fell, killing 12 people and injuring 27.

The memo was sent to A&M's Office of General Counsel to be placed on file for review by a five-member commission investigating the Nov. 18 accident.

A fifth tier, which had not been started, would have added nine feet, while the outhouse that crowns the annual bonfire would have brought the tower to a height of about 75 feet, Weese said.

The estimates were based on discussions with students involved

in building the stack and examination of the center pole, which had been marked at various heights with athletic tape, according to Weese's memo.

Weese did not return phone messages left by the Associated Press Wednesday.

While there apparently is no official university policy relating to the height of the bonfire stack, John J. Koldus, the Vice President Emeritus of Student Services, "approved a 55-foot height limit for bonfire in the late 1970s," according to other documents reviewed by The Associated Press.

More than 2,100 documents relating to the bonfire have been compiled for the investigating commission and for public inspection at A&M's Cushing Library.

Before the 55-foot limit was set, the stack often reached dizzy heights, peaking at 109 feet in 1969.

Officials citing safety and fire

concerns in 1986 considered reducing the stack to 45 feet. They discarded the idea, fearing backlash by students and believing a 10-foot drop would make little difference.

"Since the 55 feet limit was imposed, there has not been a problem with bonfire height," Bill Kibler, associate director of student affairs and then-bonfire adviser, wrote in a Sept. 29, 1986, letter.

He added, "It should be the responsibility of the bonfire adviser to insure (sic) that this height limit is not exceeded. This can be easily done by marking the center pole at 55 feet."

Neither Kibler nor 1999 bonfire adviser Rusty Thompson could be reached for comment Wednesday.

Other university officials had little to say about the matter.

A&M spokesman Lane Stephenson said Wednesday morning there was confusion

about the intent of Weese's memo and exactly how the bonfire stack was measured.

Later in the day, he issued this statement:

"For almost a month, administrators and other staff members at Texas A&M University have responded to a multitude of media questions concerning the bonfire," the statement said. "However, now that the special commission on the 1999 Aggie Bonfire has begun its work, the university is taking the position that its personnel will refrain from commenting on any aspect of the inquiry or on any of the multitude of documents it has placed for public review."

Stephenson said all inquiries to the university will now be directed to Leo Linbeck Jr., a Houston construction executive leading the commission.

Linbeck could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

LIGHTS: Putting up lights involves electrical considerations

(From 1B)

\$50 and as much as \$2,000 to put up Christmas decorations.

Corey said "What amazes me is how much customers will spend this time of year. It's not unusual for someone to spend upwards of \$1,000."

He said his business is primarily installing lights in large trees, a process that can take one to two days, sometimes three, and has decorated trees for residents in Saddle Club and Racquet Club.

Not only does he build the strings of lights and put up the lights, but his company takes them down, stores them, checks for dead bulbs and adds to the strings as the trees grow.

A power generation technician, Jennings began his holiday sideline to augment his income during the oilfield's slow times.

Plus, he said, "I got started putting up lights for family and friends and said 'Hey, I could make some money doing this.'"

He estimates he has six employees working for him during the holiday season as he installs decorations for about 300 residential and commercial customers in Midland, Odessa, Crane, Kermit, McCamey and other towns.

Greg's involvement began four years ago when Turf Specialties owner Russell Potter purchased the Christmas Decor franchise, a franchise founded by

a couple of Lubbock residents who had a lawn maintenance business.

"Christmas is our down season," he noted.

He estimates Turf Specialties has 75 employees doing decorations for 150 customers in Midland and Odessa, including residents in Midland's Grassland Estates and Green Tree subdivisions. Commercial customers include Museum of the Southwest, Schlitzky's, Saddle Ridge Lodge and decorating the interior of Midland International Airport. He said 40 employees serve just as many customers in Lubbock.

He said customers want lights

around their buildings, in their trees and shrubs, and they like garland — "garland is a big seller" and wreaths.

Jennings agreed that lights, especially clear lights, are popular, though multicolored lights and red and white and blue and white combinations are also popular, as are icicle lights.

He estimates an average house can take one to three hours and requires 200 lights to illuminate.

Greg said a typical house takes a half-day and it can take several days to string lights through a large tree.

Workers begin putting up lights and decorations in October, and Sly said "it gets really busy

around November 10."

Corey said "a lot of electricians will start in October putting up lights but usually don't turn them on until after Thanksgiving."

CHOOSING THE RIGHT CAR IS HARD.



CHOOSING THE RIGHT INSURANCE COMPANY IS EASY.



Laura J. Ingram
1202 Andrews Highway
699-1441

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company (not in N.J.)
State Farm Indemnity Company (N.J.) • Home Office: Bloomington, Ill.

DELLWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH
Presents
"The Real Meaning Of Christmas"
December 19, 1999 at 10:30 a.m.
corner of Midhiff & Ohio
Nursery Provided

Free Water for 2 months!
Rent a Shayna Reverse Osmosis Unit and receive THREE MONTHS SERVICE FOR THE PRICE OF ONE with this coupon. The first month's rent is due upon installation and the next two months are FREE. After the first three months, we will begin billing at the \$20 per month rental rate. No installation charge. Some restrictions apply. Offer expires in 30 days.
Look for our ad on page 522 in your Southwestern Bell Yellow Pages.
Please Call
Water Systems 563-9011

Area briefs

Cancellation

Due to a booking conflict, Jack Ingram & The Beat-Up Ford Band will not perform at The Ranch today. The date

has been moved to Feb. 16. For more information, call 682-5911. Ingram last played Midland at "The Last Back to School Picnic of the Century," held in August.

Today's Agenda

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

Flatlanders Toastmasters Club, Chevron Building, 15 Smith Road, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 987-7286.

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

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

Permian Basin Hotel/Motel Association, noon, 561-8000.

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

Parents Anonymous, 7 p.m., 570-1084.

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

Stroke Club, 6:30 p.m., HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital, 520-1600.

Palmer Drug Abuse Program Parent Group, 7 p.m., second floor First Baptist Church, 685-3645.

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

Overeaters Anonymous, 6:30 p.m., Midland Memorial Hospital, Room E-12.

Gary Ott

Tuesdays and Sundays
in the
Midland Reporter-Telegram



**There's a new day DAE...
Coming to the Permian Basin**



*A NEW Look at
"The Twelve Day
of Christmas"*



On the fourth day of Christmas
my true love gave to me...

Four calling birds

**The Gospels of
Matthew, Mark, Luke & John**

Sponsored by

Rio Pecos Corporation
4501 Greentree Blvd.
Midland, Texas
697-2206

DECEMBER 16, 1999

FOR BETTER OR WORSE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



BLONDIE



BEETLE BAILEY



PEANUTS



SHOE



GARFIELD



CATHY



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



LUANN



MARY WORTH



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. 16, 1999:

You can actualize your words and make them a reality this year. You are unusually creative and well-organized, with a great vision of what could be. These assets combined will make for unusual success. Count on getting what you want because of these dynamic assets. If you are single, romance knocks on your door. You'll like the courtship as much as the conquest! If attached, the two of you create a lot of the good feelings and closeness that originally marked your tie. ARIES brings out your playfulness.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Don't hold back; act on that idea. Others appreciate your enthusiasm and energy. Discussions are animated and full of fun. Allow more ideas to filter in from those in the know. Otherwise, you might have a difficult time getting a total perspective. Tonight: Just ask.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Take a back seat as you touch base with others. Your sense of humor comes out with a partner with whom you swap information (and sometimes secrets). You might not always understand what motivates a boss. In fact, you find him downright confusing. Tonight: Take a break — you need it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Don't hesitate to zero in on a long-term dream; you might feel that another is holding some information back. Actually, he simply might not understand what you are asking. Others are full of chatter and are only too willing to share

their good vibes. Tonight: Where the gang is.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ You are in the limelight as others seek you out. A partner might be very pleased and most delighted by your attention. One-on-one relating adds a new dimension to a special relationship. However, don't forget to clear out work. Tonight: A must appearance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Touch base with loved ones at a distance. You hear good news, especially once you open up the channel of communication between you and a loved one. A new associate could be weaving quite a web around you. Be careful! Tonight: Follow the music.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ You feel unusually inspired by your work and those around you. Share some of your holiday ideas with someone who seems short on imagination. Relate on a one-on-one level with partners. When working as a team, get down to the basics. Tonight: Snuggle in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Reach out for others; examine your long-term aspirations vis-à-vis a special relationship. You might not be reading this person clearly. Gain a perspective by asking important questions. Your interest brings another's inner thoughts to the forefront. Tonight: Give another several choices.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Pace yourself, make lists and, above all, don't panic. You will get everything done in time. Sit down at lunch and brainstorm with a co-worker or pal to come up with last-minute Christmas ideas.

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

Two heads definitely work better than one. Tonight: Do as much as possible.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Speak your mind, and you'll get positive results. Others are delighted to hear from you. A romance heats up substantially because of your wit and your fun nature. What you are hoping for could easily become a reality. Just let it happen. Tonight: Kick up your heels.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Don't hold back — share your ideas. Another cares for you a lot. Listen to news and evaluate your choices. Family and domestic life need to take highest priority. You'll enjoy doing all you can for those closest to you. Tonight: An easy night at home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Speak your mind. Others value your creativity. Though you might not be sure what to do or exactly which way to go, powerful information helps you make a needed decision. Tonight: In between doing errands, join a friend for a glass of eggnog.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You are driven to get everything done quickly and effectively for the approaching holidays. Kick back and think through what remains to be done, rather than racing around aimlessly. Take time for a work-related discussion. Not everyone is in holiday mode! Tonight: Think before shopping.

BORN TODAY

TV producer Steven Bochco (1943), actress Alison LaPlaca (1959), TV journalist Lesley Stahl

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Both vulnerable. South deals.

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

The bidding:
SOUTH 1♠ WEST 2♠ NORTH 3♠ EAST Pass
1♠ 2♠ 3♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♥

Study the bidding and play of this deal. Did anyone err, and if so, who?

Certainly, you cannot fault the bidding. North's cue-bid guaranteed four spades and showed a limit raise or better, and South's decision to gamble on slam has this department's endorsement.

West did well to avoid leading the ace of diamonds. Declarer won the heart lead in hand with the queen, and a trump to the king picked up both outstanding pieces. Since the overall marked West with the king of clubs, declarer opted to play West for a doubleton king. A club was

led to the ace and a club was continued. West won with the jack and cashed the king for the setting trick.

If South was going to play on clubs, the line adopted had considerable merit since a simple finesse was surely doomed to failure. However, declarer went after the wrong suit! After winning the first trick and drawing trumps, declarer should ruff a dia-

mond. Declarer then returns to dummy with the king of hearts and ruffs another diamond. After cashing the ace of hearts, declarer enters dummy with a trump and leads the king of diamonds. But instead of ruffing when East follows low, declarer should discard a club. West wins, but is endplayed. A club is into declarer's major tenace; any other plain suit yields a ruff-



ZITS



DENNIS THE



"My Mom Than Sta

FAMILY C



"Can I ju

PEO

Mon

CAMBR

"My Ant

Cather

Dorothy

five books

Monroe th

Radcliffe

anced Stu

"This ju

there was

Monroe th

and popular

a reader," s

acting direc

library.

The boo

ZITS



DENNIS THE MENACE



"MY MOM SAYS SHE'D RATHER SHOP ONLINE, THAN STAND IN LINE."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"Can I just e-mail my list to Santa?"

BABY BLUES



TV TONIGHT

THURSDAY EVENING

December 16, 1999

For Complete Information
Please Check Movie Listings

Broadcast	C	B	6PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
(3) KMD	2	3	2	News 177	Wheel of Fortune 429	Whose Line Is It?	Whose Line Is It?	Behind Closed Doors With Joan London (IX) 3993	20/20 Downtown 5558	News 1048004	Nightline (10:35)	Politically Incorrect	Cheers (11:35)
(5) KPEJ	24	5	3	Home Improvement	Judge Judy 2555	Guinness World Records: Primetime 2790	Guinness World Records: Primetime 2790	Mad About You 9800	The Nanny 9249	Jerry Springer 2871	NewsRadio 7245	Unhappily Ever After	Unhappily Ever After
(7) KOSA	7	7	7	News 8085	Entertainment Tonight	Diagnosis Murder: Santa Clause 43974	Diagnosis Murder: Santa Clause 43974	48 Hours: Class of 2000: Too Much Too Fast 49158	ER: How the Finch Stole Christmas 8278 (TVPG)	News 2022953	Late Show With David Letterman (10:35) 7437230	Late Show With David Letterman (10:35) 7437230	Late Show With David Letterman (10:35) 7437230
(9) KWES	9	9	9	News 2238	Seinfeld 7719 (TVPG)	Friends 2784	Friends 2784	Friends 2784	Friends 2784	Friends 2784	Friends 2784	Friends 2784	Friends 2784
(12) KJLM	42	12	19	News 41142	John Hagege Today	The Light of the Southwest 70852	The Light of the Southwest 70852	Myelery! (Part 2 of 2) 558771 (TVPG-V)	Myelery! (Part 2 of 2) 558771 (TVPG-V)	Magnificent Journeys (Part 1 of 3) 845535 (TVG)	Telecourse 901603	Telecourse 901603	Telecourse 901603
(13) KOCV	13	13	13	The Newshour With Jim Lehrer 442055	Uphront Tonight	Hardball With Chris Matthews 503448	Hardball With Chris Matthews 503448	Rivers Live 504996	The News With Brian Williams 5025332	MacGyver 158626 (TVPG)	Hardball With Chris Matthews 5035719	Rivers Live 4315413	Rivers Live 4315413
(14) CNBC	8	27	27	Business Center (8:30)	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City
(15) WGN	10	10	10	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City	Caroline in the City
(16) WTBS	11	11	11	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
(17) FAM	14	14	14	Drummer	Comedy	The 2nd Nobel Concert for Peace 154413 (TVG)	The 2nd Nobel Concert for Peace 154413 (TVG)	Christmas Miracles 963332	Into the Unknown 287535	The 700 Club 963719	Who's Boss? Comedy	Who's Boss? Comedy	Who's Boss? Comedy
(18) DISC	20	20	20	Emperors of Antarctica	Demolitions 281351 (TVG)	Demolitions 281351 (TVG)	Demolitions 281351 (TVG)	Demolitions 281351 (TVG)	Demolitions 281351 (TVG)	Demolitions 281351 (TVG)	Demolitions 281351 (TVG)	Demolitions 281351 (TVG)	Demolitions 281351 (TVG)
(19) AMC	21	31	31	The Simpsons' 10th Anniversary Special (10:30) 4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852
(20) THN	22	35	35	The Waltons 876222 (TVG)	The Waltons 899500 (TVG)	The Waltons 899500 (TVG)	The Waltons 899500 (TVG)	The Waltons 899500 (TVG)	The Waltons 899500 (TVG)	The Waltons 899500 (TVG)	The Waltons 899500 (TVG)	The Waltons 899500 (TVG)	The Waltons 899500 (TVG)
(21) TNT	23	28	28	ER 961332 (TVPG)	Figure Skating: Canadian Open Championship 277808	Figure Skating: Canadian Open Championship 277808	Figure Skating: Canadian Open Championship 277808	Figure Skating: Canadian Open Championship 277808	Figure Skating: Canadian Open Championship 277808	Figure Skating: Canadian Open Championship 277808	Figure Skating: Canadian Open Championship 277808	Figure Skating: Canadian Open Championship 277808	Figure Skating: Canadian Open Championship 277808
(22) BRAV	24	33	33	Inside the Actors Studio	Las Vegas (TV-14) 4444-4912852	Las Vegas (TV-14) 4444-4912852	Las Vegas (TV-14) 4444-4912852	Las Vegas (TV-14) 4444-4912852	Las Vegas (TV-14) 4444-4912852	Las Vegas (TV-14) 4444-4912852	Las Vegas (TV-14) 4444-4912852	Las Vegas (TV-14) 4444-4912852	Las Vegas (TV-14) 4444-4912852
(23) BET	27	41	41	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News
(24) DISN	27	41	41	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News
(25) CNN	28	22	22	Moneyline	Crossfire	The World Today 821993	The World Today 821993	Larry King Live 734413	CNN NewsStand 827177	Sports	Moneyline	Larry King Live 907581	Larry King Live 907581
(26) ESPN	29	30	30	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974	College Basketball: Cincinnati at St. Louis 83974
(27) USA	30	38	38	JAG: Shadow 713535 (TVPG)	Walker, Texas Ranger 818061 (TV-14)	Walker, Texas Ranger 818061 (TV-14)	Walker, Texas Ranger 818061 (TV-14)	Walker, Texas Ranger 818061 (TV-14)	Walker, Texas Ranger 818061 (TV-14)	Walker, Texas Ranger 818061 (TV-14)	Walker, Texas Ranger 818061 (TV-14)	Walker, Texas Ranger 818061 (TV-14)	Walker, Texas Ranger 818061 (TV-14)
(28) FX	31	31	31	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News	MTV News
(29) A&E	32	35	35	Law & Order: Confession 66603 (TVPG)	Biography 283719 (TVG)	Biography 283719 (TVG)	Biography 283719 (TVG)	Biography 283719 (TVG)	Biography 283719 (TVG)	Biography 283719 (TVG)	Biography 283719 (TVG)	Biography 283719 (TVG)	Biography 283719 (TVG)
(30) TLC	33	33	33	The Young Kennedys 863790 (TVG)	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood! 891968 (TVG)	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood! 891968 (TVG)	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood! 891968 (TVG)	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood! 891968 (TVG)	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood! 891968 (TVG)	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood! 891968 (TVG)	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood! 891968 (TVG)	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood! 891968 (TVG)	Tornado! Hurricane! Flood! 891968 (TVG)
(31) NICK	34	37	37	Call Boy 290448	Cosmo 207784	Cosmo 207784	Cosmo 207784	Cosmo 207784	Cosmo 207784	Cosmo 207784	Cosmo 207784	Cosmo 207784	Cosmo 207784
(32) LIFE	36	40	40	Intimate Portrait: Kelly Preston 264239 (TVPG)	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351
(33) OUTR	39	39	39	The Great Outdoorsman	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351	Seinfeld: Fish World Cup Alpine 8707351
(34) UNI	42	13	13	Sonadoras 79518 (TVPG)	Nunca Te Ovidere 89332	Nunca Te Ovidere 89332	Nunca Te Ovidere 89332	Nunca Te Ovidere 89332	Nunca Te Ovidere 89332	Nunca Te Ovidere 89332	Nunca Te Ovidere 89332	Nunca Te Ovidere 89332	Nunca Te Ovidere 89332
(35) FSN	43	29	29	The Last Word 74887	Sports Tonight: NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks 964516	Sports Tonight: NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks 964516	Sports Tonight: NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks 964516	Sports Tonight: NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks 964516	Sports Tonight: NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks 964516	Sports Tonight: NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks 964516	Sports Tonight: NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks 964516	Sports Tonight: NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks 964516	Sports Tonight: NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks 964516
(36) COM	44	44	44	Daily Show: Stewart	Win Ben Stein's Money	Saturday Night Live: Pamela Lee 3113505 (TV-14)	Saturday Night Live: Pamela Lee 3113505 (TV-14)	Win Ben Stein's Money	Win Ben Stein's Money	Win Ben Stein's Money	Win Ben Stein's Money	Win Ben Stein's Money	Win Ben Stein's Money
(37) ANIM	46	46	46	Pun: Animals	Aquariums	Ways of the Wild 58448	Ways of the Wild 58448	Ways of the Wild 58448	Ways of the Wild 58448	Ways of the Wild 58448	Ways of the Wild 58448	Ways of the Wild 58448	Ways of the Wild 58448
(38) EI	47	47	47	Emergency	Search Party	Myelery! 558771 (TVPG-V)	Myelery! 558771 (TVPG-V)	Myelery! 558771 (TVPG-V)	Myelery! 558771 (TVPG-V)	Myelery! 558771 (TVPG-V)	Myelery! 558771 (TVPG-V)	Myelery! 558771 (TVPG-V)	Myelery! 558771 (TVPG-V)
(39) TVL	48	24	24	Dragnet	Hogan Hero	Beaver	Beaver	Beaver	Beaver	Beaver	Beaver	Beaver	Beaver
(40) ODSY	49	49	49	Avonlea 876264	Snowy River: McGregor	Designing	Designing	Designing	Designing	Designing	Designing	Designing	Designing
(41) HGTV	50	42	42	Old House	Workshop	New Spaces	New Spaces	New Spaces	New Spaces	New Spaces	New Spaces	New Spaces	New Spaces
(42) MSN	51	51	51	Hardball: Chris Matthews	Special Edition/Ann Curry	Edicion Especial 803531	Edicion Especial 803531	Edicion Especial 803531	Edicion Especial 803531	Edicion Especial 803531	Edicion Especial 803531	Edicion Especial 803531	Edicion Especial 803531
(43) TELE	52	52	52	Cateline y Sebastian	Seniors 508167	Seniors 508167	Seniors 508167	Seniors 508167	Seniors 508167	Seniors 508167	Seniors 508167	Seniors 508167	Seniors 508167
(44) TOON	60	60	60	Scrooby Doo	Laboratory	John Bravo	John Bravo	John Bravo	John Bravo	John Bravo	John Bravo	John Bravo	John Bravo
(45) TCM	61	61	61	Liberty Lady 8947261	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852
(46) HIST	62	32	32	History Undercover	Truth About Sci Fi	Truth About Sci Fi	Truth About Sci Fi	Truth About Sci Fi	Truth About Sci Fi	Truth About Sci Fi	Truth About Sci Fi	Truth About Sci Fi	Truth About Sci Fi
(47) ESPN2	63	63	63	NFL 2NIGHT	NFL Hockey: Phoenix Coyotes at Philadelphia Flyers 4491897	NFL Hockey: Phoenix Coyotes at Philadelphia Flyers 4491897	NFL Hockey: Phoenix Coyotes at Philadelphia Flyers 4491897	NFL Hockey: Phoenix Coyotes at Philadelphia Flyers 4491897	NFL Hockey: Phoenix Coyotes at Philadelphia Flyers 4491897	NFL Hockey: Phoenix Coyotes at Philadelphia Flyers 4491897	NFL Hockey: Phoenix Coyotes at Philadelphia Flyers 4491897	NFL Hockey: Phoenix Coyotes at Philadelphia Flyers 4491897	NFL Hockey: Phoenix Coyotes at Philadelphia Flyers 4491897
(48) SCIFI	64	39	39	Children of the Corn II: The Final Sacrifice (R) 729265	Stephen King's The Stand 7981500 (TV-14-V)	Stephen King's The Stand 7981500 (TV-14-V)	Stephen King's The Stand 7981500 (TV-14-V)	Stephen King's The Stand 7981500 (TV-14-V)	Stephen King's The Stand 7981500 (TV-14-V)	Stephen King's The Stand 7981500 (TV-14-V)	Stephen King's The Stand 7981500 (TV-14-V)	Stephen King's The Stand 7981500 (TV-14-V)	Stephen King's The Stand 7981500 (TV-14-V)
(49) PLEX													
(50) FLIX	65	20	20	The Simpsons' 10th Anniversary Special (10:30) 4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852
(51) SHOW	66	16	16	The Simpsons' 10th Anniversary Special (10:30) 4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852
(52) TMC	67	15	15	The Simpsons' 10th Anniversary Special (10:30) 4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852	How Green Was My Valley (4) 4444-4912852
(53) HBO	68	68	68	Unlabeled Lady 8947261	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852
(54) HBO2	69	69	69	Unlabeled Lady 8947261	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852
(55) HBO3	70	70	70	Unlabeled Lady 8947261	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852
(56) MAX	71	71	71	Unlabeled Lady 8947261	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852
(57) MAX2	72	72	72	Unlabeled Lady 8947261	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852	The Mark of Santa (4) 4444-4912852

PEOPLE TODAY

Monroe's books donated to library

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — "My Antonia" by Willa Cather and "The Portable Dorothy Parker" are among five books owned by Marilyn Monroe that were given to the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.

"This just goes to prove that there was more to Marilyn Monroe than the movie star and popular icon. She was also a reader," said Jane Knowles, acting director of the institute's library.

The books were donated anonymously. All are works of fiction by American women, also including Ms. Cather's "Lucy Gayheart," "The Ballad of the Sad Cafe" by Carson McCullers and "The Little Disturbances of Man," short stories by Grace Paley.

The books were among a collection of Ms. Monroe's personal belongings auctioned in October for a total of \$13.4 million.

KINGS POINT, N.Y. — The hometown of George M. Cohan, whose song "Over There" sent American troops marching off to World War I, has won a battle of its own. Trustees for the village on Long Island voted Tuesday to grant landmark status for the house where Cohan once lived. The seven-acre estate was home to publisher and former ambassador Walter Annenberg years after the Broadway showman moved out.

The colonial mansion includes a cottage, swimming pool and sweeping grounds. The designation makes it illegal for the current owner, businessman Klumaz Geula, to tamper with the property without approval.

Geula wanted to subdivide some of the property. He was in Germany and unavailable for comment, said a woman answering the phone at his nearby home.

Cohan, who also wrote "Give My Regards to Broadway," lived in the Kings Point home between 1914 and 1924.



Someone anonymously donated to the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study novels that once belonged to Marilyn Monroe.

COLUMBIA, S.C. — When asked by Rolling Stone magazine to name a hero of the 20th century, the Godfather of Soul cited Sen. Strom Thurmond.

James Brown's tribute is remarkable since the 97-year-old Thurmond ran for president in 1948 as a Dixiecrat to oppose Democrats' efforts to desegregate America. "Senator Thurmond has been able to stay afloat all these years, and he's great for our country," the black soul singer says. "When the young whippersnappers get out of line, whether Democrat or Republican, an old man can walk up and say, 'Wait a minute, son, it goes this way.' And that's great for our country."

Thurmond's response? "James is very generous with his comments."

NEW YORK — Julie Andrews has filed a malpractice lawsuit against Mount Sinai Hospital and two doctors, saying they destroyed her singing voice in a botched operation.

"Singing has been a cherished gift, and my inability to sing has been a devastating blow," said the 64-year-old star of "Mary Poppins" and "The Sound of Music."

Ms. Andrews announced in February she has been unable to sing since she had surgery to remove non-cancerous throat nodules in 1997. She was starring in "Victor/Victoria" on Broadway at the time of the surgery.



AP Photo
This is a 1976 file photo of Texas death row inmate Sammie Felder Jr., who was executed Wednesday at the Texas prison in Huntsville.

Convicted murderer executed 25 years after crime

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Nearly 25 years after a paralyzed Korean War veteran was fatally stabbed with a pair of scissors during a Houston robbery, the man convicted of the murder was executed Wednesday night.

Sammie Felder Jr. was pronounced dead at 6:15 p.m., six minutes after the flow of lethal drugs began. "I'd like to tell my friends I love them, appreciate them being here to support me," Felder said in a brief final statement, which he concluded with the words, "I'm ready." Felder took a couple of breaths, sputtered twice and gasped twice before losing consciousness.

Minutes before the execution, the U.S. Supreme Court denied a petition for rehearing in the case, with a notation that Justice Antonin

Scalia did not take part in the decision.

Felder, 54 and fourth in seniority among Texas' 460 death row convicts, worked as an orderly for a company that provided services to disabled residents of the apartment complex where James Hanks was found dead March 14, 1975.

When Felder, then 29, was pulled over a month later in Idaho on a traffic violation, police arrested him after discovering he was wanted for murder in Houston.

He was tried three times for capital murder and spent 23 1/2 years on death row.

"I think the public has been feeding him long enough," Lorene Autry, Hanks' sister, said this week. "It's time they did something."

Felder, who declined to speak

with reporters preceding his execution, was the second inmate in as many days to receive lethal injection in Texas and the 35th and last to be put to death in the state this year. The 1999 total is second only to the record 37 executions in Texas two years ago.

Felder also was the 199th Texas death row prisoner to be executed since the state resumed carrying out capital punishment in 1982.

At least nine inmates already are scheduled to die in January.

The U.S. Supreme Court Tuesday cleared the way for Felder's execution by rejecting an emergency request aimed at postponing the punishment. The court also rejected a formal appeal that was filed in his behalf.

An auto accident while he was in the Army left Hanks, 41, with-

out use of his legs and only limited use of his arms and hands. When discovered by another employee at the apartment complex, he had stab wounds to the sides of his head. His wallet, with \$300 inside, was missing, along with a pair of stainless steel surgical scissors kept on a table near his bed. Pathologists determined fatal wounds to his head were inflicted with such scissors.

Felder, who had three previous burglary convictions from his native Williamson County, failed to report for work the day Hanks' body was found and never picked up his paycheck.

He later told police he took the wallet and fled to Denver. While there, he bragged to a girlfriend about the slaying.

Testifying against him at his tri-

al, the woman said she asked why he committed the crime.

"A dead man tells no tales," he replied.

A Harris County jury in 1976 convicted him of capital murder and sentenced him to death. The conviction, however, was overturned by a federal appeals court which ruled Felder's lawyer wasn't present when he talked with a Houston police detective who went to Idaho to interview him.

He was retried in 1986 with his confession not used in court and again sentenced to death. But the second conviction was overturned because of what the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals said was an error in jury selection.

A third trial in 1989 resulted in another conviction and death sentence.

Criminal Court of Appeals upholds six death sentences Wednesday

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Wednesday upheld the death sentences of six convicts, including Jermarr Arnold, who killed a fellow death row inmate in 1995.

Arnold, a 41-year-old former construction worker, was convicted in December 1990 for shooting Christine Marie Sanchez in a jewelry store robbery in Corpus Christi on July 15, 1983.

Arnold was serving time in California for another armed robbery, as well as assault, attempted escape and weapon possession when he confessed in 1988 to the Texas killing.

In 1995, Arnold stabbed fellow death-row inmate Maurice Andrews in a prison recreation area outside the Ellis I Unit northeast of Huntsville. Arnold stabbed Andrews in the left temple with a

sharp piece of metal. No execution date has been set. The Court of Criminal Appeals also upheld the death sentences of:

■ Howard Paul Guidry, 23, convicted of fatally shooting a mother of three on Nov. 9, 1994, for \$1,000 in a murder-for-hire plot.

Guidry shot Farah Fratta, 33, for her ex-husband, Robert Fratta, who wanted his former wife killed because she refused to perform certain sex acts.

Fratta, a former Missouri City police officer, also is on death row, along with Joseph Prystash, who drove Guidry to Ms. Fratta's home.

■ Robert Charles Ladd, 42, convicted for the 1996 rape and slaying of a 38-year-old mentally disabled Tyler woman.

Ladd strangled and bludgeoned Vicki Ann Garner on Sept. 25,

1996, before setting her body on fire in an attempt to destroy evidence. Firefighters found Ms. Garner at her apartment partially clothed, her hands bound above her head and the rooms ransacked.

At the time of Ms. Garner's death, Ladd was on parole for the 1978 slayings of an 18-year-old Dallas woman and her two children, ages 3 years and 18 months. Testimony showed he stabbed the woman and then set fire to the house, killing the family.

He had served 12 years of a 40-year sentence before being set free under a mandatory supervised release law.

Ladd has no execution date.

■ Peter J. Miniel, also known as Peter Hernandez, 37, convicted for the May 9, 1986, slaying of Paul Manier, 20, in his home.

While Manier slept, Miniel beat

him with a beer glass, stabbed him 39 times in the neck and back and beat him with a car's shock absorber. Miniel then stole \$20 and a stereo.

He fled to Illinois where he was arrested 13 days later for carrying a sawed-off shotgun. Police linked Miniel to the crime by finding the stereo.

■ Carl Napier, 54, who robbed and fatally shot Andrew, Jack and Martha Carlin on their houseboat which was docked on the San Jacinto River on Feb. 20, 1986.

Napier, an oil field consultant, stole several items and about \$5,000 in cash from the victims. Napier also allegedly cut off Jack Carlin's ring finger to remove a diamond ring.

Napier has no execution date.

■ Larry Keith Robison, 42, a convicted killer who has been on

death row since September 1983 for the murders and mutilations of five people near Lake Worth.

His first execution date of Aug. 17 was postponed after defense attorneys claimed he was mentally incompetent.

Robison pleaded innocent by

reason of insanity in 1983 but a jury convicted him of capital murder for the slayings and sentenced him to death. An appeals court overturned his conviction.

In 1987, Robison was retried, convicted and condemned again.

Federal agent accused in murder-for-hire plot

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent based in Mexico is accused of trying to hire someone to kill a teen-ager suspected in the 1995 slaying of his cousin.

Salvador Michael Martinez, 37, was arrested in Brownsville Tuesday, according to an FBI statement. The arrest came after the Federal Bureau of Investigation office in McAllen uncovered a murder-for-hire plot, authorities said.

Martinez appeared Tuesday afternoon before U.S. Magistrate John William Black, who ordered him held without bond. He is charged with federal violations of murder-for-hire laws, the DEA said. A detention hearing is scheduled for Thursday.

Martinez was being held at the Cameron County Jail Wednesday evening, but was not allowed to receive phone calls or messages.

Martinez's cousin, Lionel "Bruno" Jordan, was killed in a carjacking on Jan. 20, 1995, in El Paso.

Jordan died just days before his brother, Phil Jordan, a veteran DEA agent and former head of the DEA's Dallas office, took over as director of the El Paso Intelligence Center. The DEA and other federal agencies run the center together.

A Mexican youth, Miguel Angel Flores, then just 13, was arrested and charged with the murder. An El Paso jury convicted him but the decision later was overturned. Two successive juries failed to reach a unanimous decision to convict him again and the teen-ager was freed earlier this year.

Phil Jordan, who since has retired from the DEA, said Wednesday he couldn't believe Martinez, his cousin, would arrange a murder-for-hire.

"I cannot believe that Sal would solicit anybody to kill the individual that killed my brother," Jordan said. "To me, he is a dedicated, hardworking DEA agent that volunteered against the advice of the family not to go to work in Mexico."

Jordan said he learned that the FBI arrested his cousin based on the word of an informant, a corrupt Mexican state police officer. Jordan said it's a well-known fact that corrupt federal and state Mexican officers work for drug cartels.

"The picture is very clouded right now," Jordan said. "I think this whole investigation is being handled by Mexican state police and the FBI... which is not very comforting."

Phil Jordan's family has main-

tained that the slaying was not a simple carjacking but rather was intended to send a message to the DEA and to Jordan's family to stay away from the powerful Juarez drug cartel.

Also, Jordan's family gave up pursuing the gunman and has focused its efforts on at least two other people living in the United States who are believed to have orchestrated the killing. Flores was deported to Mexico, Jordan said.

"I seriously doubt that Sal or anybody in Mexico knows where the kid is now, which is why I find it very frustrating to find out that he's been charged with a murder-for-hire plot regarding somebody whose whereabouts we don't know," he said.

Martinez is an eight-year veteran of the DEA. Although he now is assigned to a DEA office in Mexico, the probe that led to his arrest was conducted solely within U.S. borders, officials said.

In a statement, Donnie R. Marshall, acting administrator of the DEA, said Martinez's alleged actions "were to fulfill a personal vendetta, which was in no way related to his duties as a DEA agent."

"His alleged action is deplorable, and we condemn any attempt by a DEA employee to take the law into his or her own

hands," Marshall said.

Mexican officials expressed concern that a U.S. agent working in Mexico was facing criminal charges.

"This regrettable incident reminds us that law enforcement agencies on both sides of the border need to remain vigilant to ensure that their officers abide by the law," said Jesus F. Reyes-Heroles, Mexico's ambassador to the United States. "Situations like this, which are by all means the exception, should not undermine our spirit of cooperation and mutual trust in law enforcement matters."

Corpus school officials say they won't object to Texas Education Agency findings on audit

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Corpus Christi Independent School District Superintendent Abelardo Saavedra said the district likely will agree with the recommendations of a state audit criticizing the way board travel and credit card spending was monitored.

"We may not totally agree on a specific recommendation, but I don't know that the district will contest anything they're reporting in the audit," he said. "The school district did not do an adequate job of monitoring compliance with the board's travel and even the superintendent's travel. I've already directed the staff to kick back everything that does not comply to policy."

The apparent misuse of district funds for travel, dinners and other expenses came to light in a series of articles by the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. Both the Texas Education Agency and Nueces County District Attorney's office are conducting investigations.

Saavedra said CCISD will respond by the TEA's Dec. 19 deadline.

But trustee Dorothy Adkins said she's not sure if the response could be sent in time and that the district might need to get an extension. However, she added that

many of the TEA's recommendations are well documented.

"There may be some flaws or a few little things that need correcting, but I think it's a real thorough audit," she said.

At a special meeting Thursday, the board will discuss its response to the eight-page TEA draft audit. The TEA's final report could be forwarded to the district attorney's office or the attorney general's office if criminal wrongdoing is suspected.

The board approved a new travel policy Monday night.

W. Hollywood Theaters

TALL CITY 10 4915 W. LOOP 250
522-2200

BARBAREE MATHESON PRESENTS BY 91

TOY STORY & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

END OF DAYS & SEEN * (2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40)

REVENGE DUMPLING & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

THE GREEN MILE & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

THE GREEN MILE & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

SLEEPY HOLLOW & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH PG-13 (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

POKEMON & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

HOME COLLECTION & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

MIDLAND PARK MALL LOOP 250 at the Mall
697-7813

ANYTHING BUT LOVE PG-13 (4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40)

THE BACHELOR PG-13 (4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40)

DOUBLE JEOPARDY & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

THE GREEN MILE & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

NORTH PARK Billingsley Blvd. & Loop 250
697-3243

\$2.00 ALL SEATS ALL SHOWS - \$1.00 TUESDAY

POINT BLANK & SEEN * (4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40)

INSPECTOR GADGET PG (4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40)

BLUE STREAK PG-13 (4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40)

THE GREEN MILE & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

CINE 4 3007 Culbert
697-3284

\$2.00 ALL SEATS ALL SHOWS - \$1.00 TUESDAY

ANYTHING BUT LOVE PG (4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40)

STORY OF US & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

STORY OF US & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

STORY OF US & SEEN * (1:10 2:20 3:30 4:40 5:50 7:00 8:10 9:20 10:30 11:40)

NO VIP'S, NO PASSES, NO DISCOUNTS

SHOWTIMES FOR TODAY ONLY

"ONE OF THE YEAR'S BEST FILMS!"
Jeffrey Lyons, NBC-TV

Lush, lavish and completely captivating.
An instant classic.
New York Times OBSERVER

JODIE FOSTER CHOW YUN-FAT

ANNA AND THE KING

STARTS TOMORROW

"A HOLIDAY TREAT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY.
ROBIN IS BRILLIANT. A MUST SEE!"
Los Angeles Times, 12-10-99

"A COMPLETE TRIUMPH! THE MOST BEAUTIFUL MOVIE OF THE MILLENNIUM!"
Cineaste, 12-10-99

ROBIN WILLIAMS

BICENTENNIAL MAN

PG www.bicentennialman.movies.com PART OF GO NETWORK

Hollywood Theaters

TALL CITY 10 4915 W. Loop 250
522-2200

STARTS TOMORROW



"Encourage your children to read the newspaper every day. A newspaper brings us ideas, information, and stimuli from the great world beyond our borders. Just as importantly, our local newspaper fosters community through its coverage of local events and issues. Introduce your children to the pleasures of reading the newspaper; it's the first step toward becoming an informed, involved, and responsible citizen."

Rob Hunt
Music Director/Conductor
Midland-Odessa Symphony and Chorus

Midland Reporter-Telegram
Subscribe Today ~ Call 688-2700

WASHINGTON
should pay for
help senior c
when a doctor
tute of Medic

The sugges
would cost an
five years, wo
ease-preventi

A report from
cent of the 34
65 covered by
blood pressur
betes — just
lems that can
improvements
million disabi
benefit, too
"For severa

Senator loans e credit p

WASHINGTON
Stewart Wils
officer, was i
messy divorc
and had a poo
turned to sto
near his base
"payday loan
check and got
rowing that
him, with fee

"I was neve
Wilson, 38, of
said at a foru
Capitol Hill. I
1996 with a \$
against his bi
pay of around
Sen. Joseph
Conn., conver
cussion on pa
he called "ex
expensive con
ucts in exist

A consume
Consumer Fed
ca, used hars
loan sharking
"Interest rat
average abou
ally, with som
over 1000 per
man, the sen
Senate Gover
Committee.

easy terms an
ty of these loa
high interest
often become
ing cycle of d
The loans
states, and the
loans, provid
locations nati
15 percent to
the holiday se
the industry. T
an estimated
year, Lieberm
Financially
personnel, co
seniors on f
among the gr
use the loans.

An industry
edged at Wed
there are prob
of ex
"rollovers," i
unable to re
extended for
so. However,
eral regulatio
"We hav
almost a year
and encourag
try practices.
ster, presiden
Advance Ar
dent-elect o
Financial Se
"I will be t
edge that our
lems."

He added:
a tremendous
enthusiastic
millions of w
Payday loa
You need mo
day is a wee
write a check
day and give
get your mor
est fee. In tw
cashes your
more interest
over," the l
weeks, possi
est rate.

The typica
advance is \$
say that is r
with the fee
bouncing a c
\$22.

The loans
storefront c
nesses, but
specializing
have sprung
neighborho

Jean Ann
tection dire
sumer Fede
said the fees
amount to
sometimes u
practices to
maintained,
civil charge
for writing l
ening to pur

"These l
keep consu
debt," said
spoke on b
Union, the
Law Center
Interact Res

Institute of Medicine recommends nutrition counseling as Medicare benefit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Medicare should pay for nutrition counseling to help senior citizens change their diets when a doctor recommends it, the Institute of Medicine said Wednesday.

The suggested new benefit, which would cost an estimated \$1.4 billion over five years, would expand Medicare's disease-prevention efforts.

A report from the institute said 86 percent of the 34 million Americans over age 65 covered by Medicare suffer from high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes — just a few of the medical problems that can be helped by dietary improvements. Medicare also covers 5 million disabled Americans who could benefit, too.

"For several conditions that are very

prevalent in the elderly, initial therapy should be (changes in) diet, but it's not a covered benefit," said Dr. Lawrence Appel, an associate professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University who served on the institute committee making the report. "Our recommendation is that it should be a covered benefit."

When Congress last expanded Medicare's preventative coverage in 1997, it also asked the institute to evaluate the need for specified future expansions. Adding prescription drug coverage, now the most widely proposed change, was not included.

Congressional leaders have promised to consider updating Medicare's benefits package again, perhaps as early as next year.

Dietary changes can postpone or eliminate the need for other, more expensive treatments, such as medication or heart surgery. But losing weight or changing eating habits can take more than a doctor's urging or a pamphlet handed out during a checkup.

"It's not something that can usually be done in one session because these are habits that have been built up over a lifetime," said Keith Ayoub a registered dietitian in New York City and a spokesman for the American Dietetic Association.

Medical nutrition counseling includes an initial evaluation by a registered dietitian who is trained to take into account factors such as drug interactions with food, plus follow-up visits or group ses-

sions to reinforce new eating habits or teach shopping and cooking strategies.

Individual sessions with a registered dietitian can cost \$65 or more for an hour. Medicare said this fall that it will spend \$7,200 per person on a pilot project to test whether a radically low-fat diet can change the prognosis for people who otherwise would need heart bypass surgery or angioplasty to clear clogged arteries.

Many private health plans pay for nutrition counseling whenever it is recommended by a doctor as part of a treatment strategy.

Medicare now covers these services during hospital stays and sometimes afterward, when a patient is recovering in a nursing home or getting home health care.

The institute is recommending Medicare coverage as a preventative benefit, before people get so sick they have to be hospitalized, and also more consistently as a follow-up after acute illness.

According to the institute, Medicare could save, over five years, as much as \$167 million on hospital stays and other treatment if it pays for nutrition counseling for beneficiaries with high blood pressure alone.

Medicare, started in 1965, was designed mainly to protect the elderly from high medical bills if they got sick or injured. From the outset, it did not cover most preventative care and still does not pay for annual physicals, for example.

Senator: Payday loans expensive credit product

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stewart Wilson, a Navy petty officer, was in the middle of a messy divorce, needed money and had a poor credit record. He turned to storefront businesses near his base for small, short-term "payday loans" against his paycheck and got into a cycle of borrowing that ended up costing him, with fees, \$5,640.

"I was never out from under," Wilson, 38, of Jacksonville, Fla., said at a forum Wednesday on Capitol Hill. It started in August 1996 with a \$250 cash advance against his biweekly take-home pay of around \$750.

Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., convened the public discussion on payday loans, which he called "one of the most expensive consumer credit products in existence."

A consumer advocacy group, Consumer Federation of America, used harsher terms: "Legal loan sharking."

"Interest rates on payday loans average about 500 percent annually, with some loans going well over 1000 percent," said Lieberman, the senior Democrat on the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. "Because of the easy terms and ready availability of these loans, combined with high interest rates, borrowers often become trapped in an ongoing cycle of debt."

The loans are legal in 31 states, and the volume of payday loans, provided at some 10,000 locations nationwide, increases 15 percent to 25 percent during the holiday season, according to the industry. The industry earned an estimated \$1.4 billion this year, Lieberman said.

Financially strapped military personnel, college students and seniors on fixed incomes are among the groups most likely to use the loans, the senator noted.

An industry official acknowledged at Wednesday's forum that there are problems, including cases of excessive use of "rollovers," in which consumers unable to repay the loans are extended for two more weeks or so. However, he said no new federal regulation was needed.

"We have ... worked for almost a year to develop, support and encourage responsible industry practices," said Billy Webster, president of the company Advance America and president-elect of the Community Financial Services Association. "I will be the first to acknowledge that our industry has problems."

He added: "Our product fills a tremendous market need and is enthusiastically embraced by millions of working Americans."

Payday loans work like this: You need money today, but payday is a week or two away. You write a check dated for your payday and give it to the lender. You get your money, minus the interest fee. In two weeks, the lender cashes your check or charges you more interest to extend, or "roll over," the loan for another two weeks, possibly at a higher interest rate.

The typical fee for a \$100 cash advance is \$15. Industry officials say that is reasonable compared with the fees banks charge for bouncing a check, which average \$22.

The loans often are made by storefront check-cashing businesses, but stand-alone outlets specializing in payday loans also have sprung up, often in poor neighborhoods.

Jean Ann Fox, consumer protection director for the Consumer Federation of America, said the fees charged on the loans amount to gouging. Lenders sometimes use abusive collection practices to get their money, she maintained, including bringing civil charges against borrowers for writing bad checks or threatening to pursue criminal charges.

"These loans are designed to keep consumers in perpetual debt," said Ms. Fox, who also spoke on behalf of Consumers Union, the National Consumer Law Center and the U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

Best Gift Selection at Lowest Prices

10% GUARANTEE

If you find a lower price on an identical item we stock from any other local retailer we'll not only meet that price, we'll beat it by 10% on the spot just for bringing it to our attention!

All Stores Close At 6:00 p.m. On Christmas Eve
All Stores Will Be Closed On Christmas Day



SKIL

12 Volt Corded/Cordless Combo Pack

Includes: drill, flashlight, air pump with PSI display and air attachment holder, power station, corded back-up and battery

Multi-functional cordless tools with corded power supply back-up

120VXT-ALK (644-555)

\$99

Your Choice

Skil 12 Volt Corded/Cordless Combo Pack

or

Makita Woodworker II Combo Kit



Makita

Woodworker II Combo Kit

Includes: 1/4 sheet Finishing Sander with dust collection, 3/8" 3.2 AMP VSR Drill, variable speed Jigsaw and carrying case

DK1023 (642-571)

BLACK & DECKER

\$18.74

3.6 Volt Cordless Screwdriver

- High power with 40 in. lbs. of torque at 180 RPM
- Forward/reverse capability for easy screw installation and removal

9074TB (399-598)

RYOBI POWER TOOLS

\$59.96

9.6 Volt 3/8" Cordless Drill

- Includes (2) batteries, charger, (2) double-ended bits and case
- Variable speed, reversible drill

HP961K (190-901)

DREMEL

\$75

Variable Speed Multi-Pro Super Kit

- 5,000-30,000 RPM
- Includes flex shaft attachment, deluxe case with accessory tray, 72 accessories, guide book and quick change collet nut

3956 (783-782)

DEWALT

\$95

9.6 Volt Cordless Drill Kit with Flashlight

- Includes drill, flashlight, (2) batteries, charger and case

DW952K-2 (810-353)

\$219

Free Installation*

1/2 HP Screw Drive Garage Door Opener with Intellicode™

- Lifetime in-home warranty
- Includes (2) 3-button remote controls, wireless keypad, 3-function wall console and self-diagnostic Safe-T-Beam® reversing system
- Intellicode™ security system prevents unwanted door openings and stops code grabbing thieves

MS1000-2 (315-209)

*Includes the basic installation

Extreme Finish Kit

2 HP Twin Tank Compressor Combo Kit

Includes:

- 2HP Twin Tank Compressor
- Angle Finish Nailer in Kit Box
- Brad Nailer in Kit Box
- 3/8"x50' air hose
- 9 boxes of assorted fasteners

MPFXKA (880-954)

All This For Only

\$399

17 PER MONTH

Your Home Improvement Warehouse For The Next Millennium™

We're Open Every Day!

Mon.-Sat.: 7AM - 9PM
Sunday: 9AM - 7PM

*** Lubbock Hours Mon.-Sat. 6am-9pm**

***LUBBOCK (806) 788-1484**

MIDLAND (915) 694-8700

ODESSA (915) 368-9118

We reserve the right to limit quantities to the amount reasonable for homeowners and our regular contractor customers. In the event of an error, we will make every reasonable effort to accommodate our customers. Details on any product warranties available at store. *Key Credit Terms: For purchases made with your Home Depot Consumer Charge Card, the Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is 21% (18% in VA). For single purchases of \$2,000 or greater that qualify for the Major Purchase Feature of your Home Depot Consumer Charge Card Account, the APR will be 15.49% (minimum monthly finance charge is \$1.00 (\$0.50 in VA and WI)). Any minimum monthly payment shown is an estimate based on purchase price only. Does not include sales tax, insurance charges, or finance charges and may be higher if you have an existing balance or make additional purchases on your account. Offer subject to credit approval by Monogram. Ad Event# 5156

16,5,8,13,17,40,42,52,56,73,87,102,109,113,122,129,147,148,152,140,160,171-121/14-9

122

DECEMBER 16, 1999

Clinton launches new crusade for peace between Israel, Syria

WASHINGTON (AP) — With President Clinton mediating, Syria reopened peace talks with Israel on Wednesday, demanding return of the Golan Heights and accusing the Jewish state of uprooting a half-million Syrians after capturing the border land in the 1967 Mideast war.

Standing with Clinton and an impassive Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak in the White House Rose Garden, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa said the world had ignored Arab suffering since Israel's creation 51 years ago.

And yet, he renewed Syrian President Hafez Assad's offer of a "just and comprehensive" peace. That, he said, "would indeed mean for our region the end of a history of wars and conflicts."

Barak said Israel is aware of the "seriousness, determination and devotion" that will be required to reach an agreement for "a different Middle East where nations are living side by side... in mutual respect and good neighborliness."

Clinton spoke with cautious optimism, saying both sides were "prepared to get down to business. For the first time in history, there is a chance of a comprehensive peace between Israel and Syria and indeed all its neighbors."

The president met with both sides and then individually with al-Sharaa and Barak. He told reporters afterward that the talks "are going pretty well, but it's hard going."

Barak and al-Sharaa did not shake hands, despite calls from photographers to do so. Clinton got beyond the awkward moment by saying, "We're going to work."

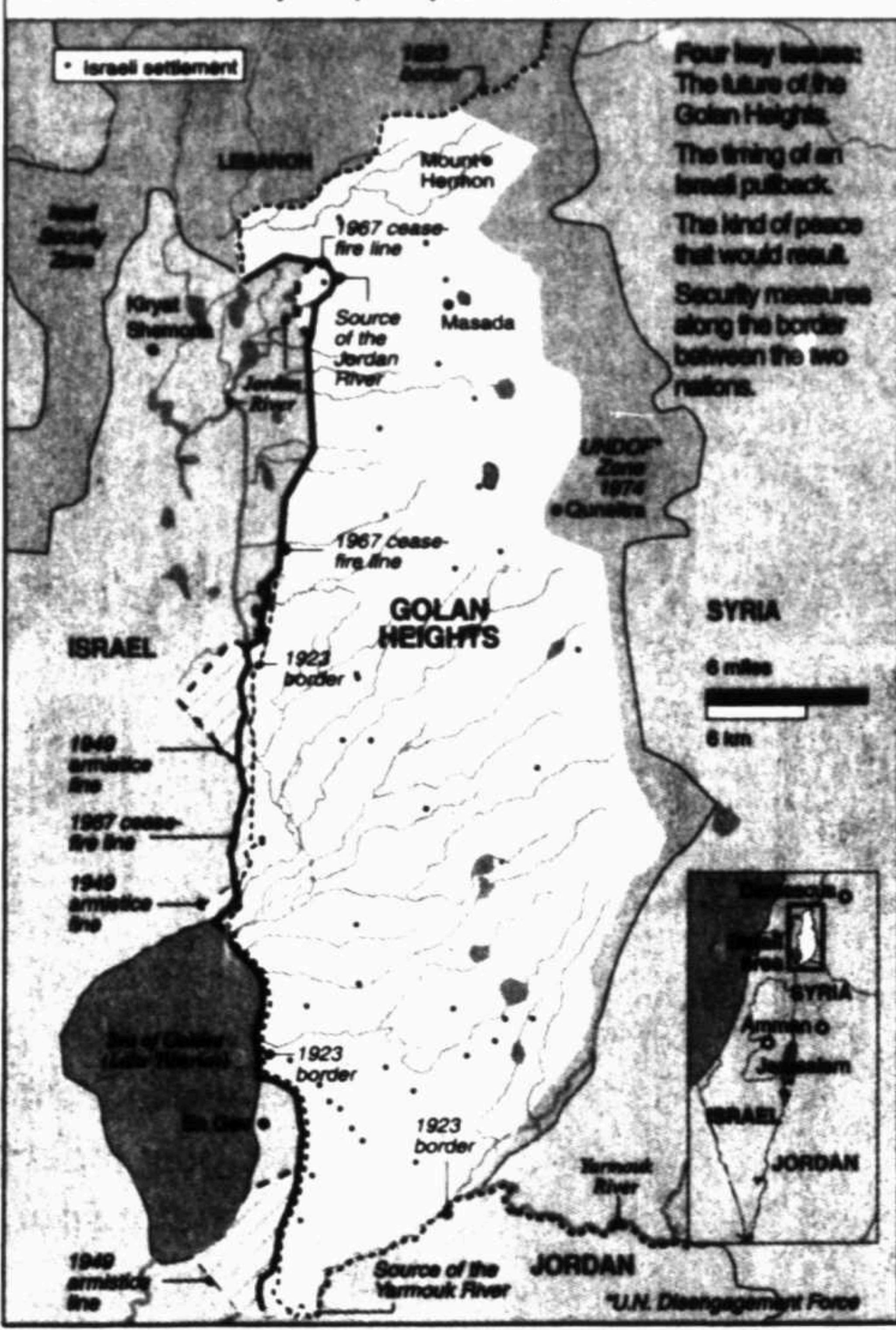
The Israeli and Syrian delegations then motored across Pennsylvania Avenue to Blair House, where presidential guests often stay, to meet face-to-face.

The White House tried to put a positive gloss on the proceedings. Sidestepping any direct reference to Syria's foreign minister, spokesman Joe Lockhart said: "The statements recognized long-standing differences. But there also was a spirit of reconciliation."

Four key issues confront Syria and Israel: the future of the Golan Heights, the timing of an Israeli pullback, the kind of peace

Israel and Syria pursue peace

Direct negotiations for peace between Israel and Syria began in Washington D.C. on Wednesday. The key to peace lies with the future of the Golan Heights, a water rich plateau taken from Syria in a series of wars and currently occupied by some 17,000 Israeli settlers.



Source: Compiled from AP reports. AP/Wide World Photos. J. Castello

that would result and security measures along the border between the two nations that have fought three major wars.

In Israel, Ariel Sharon, chairman of the opposition Likud Party, said the talks were being rushed by all sides for political expediency — Barak to divert attention from failed social policies, Assad to save his ailing dictatorship, and Clinton for his place in history.

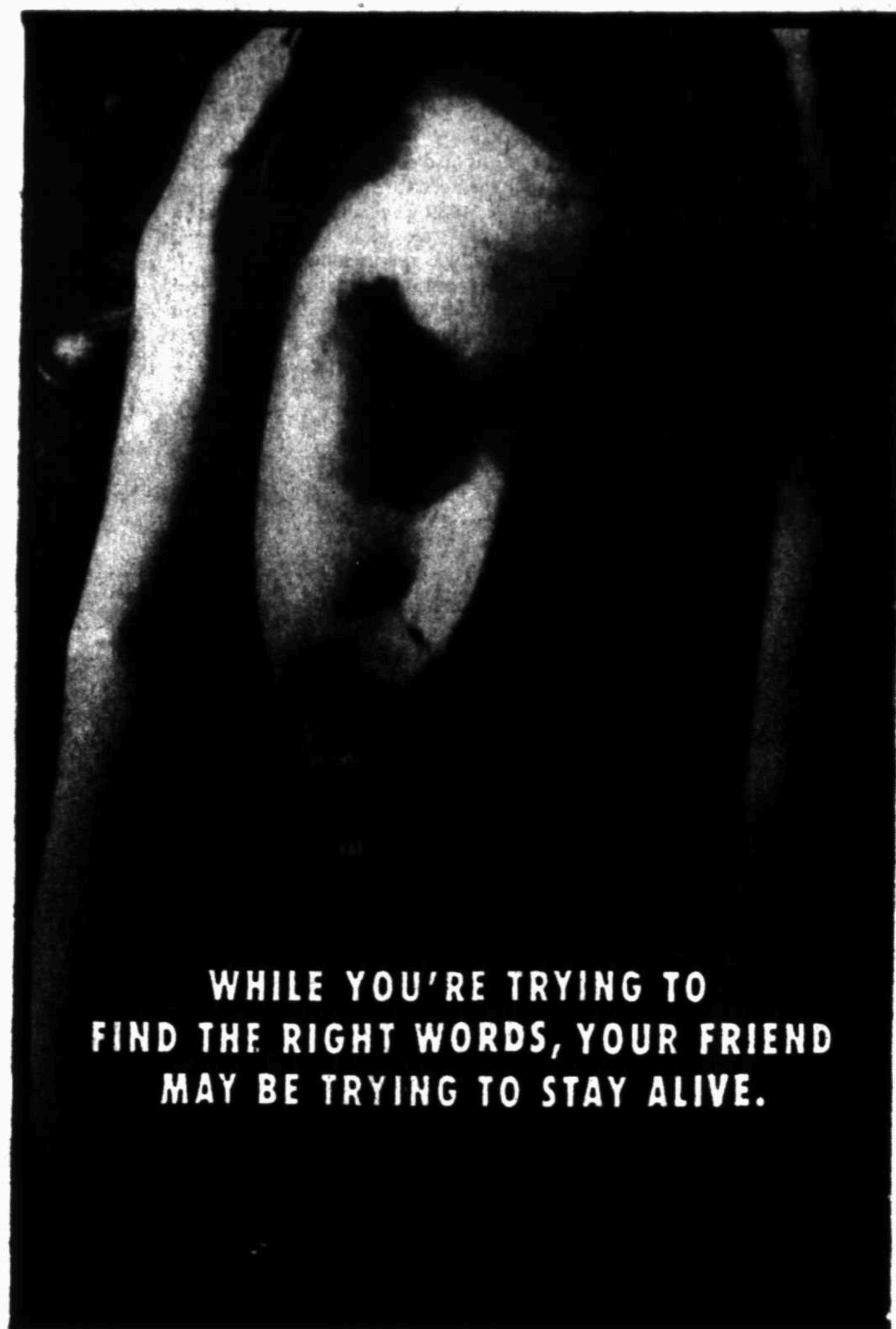
"The dispute is not about the need for peace. We need peace," Sharon said. "But it's about the way, the timing, and the price."

Jordan's King Abdullah II, meanwhile, said the resumption of Syrian-Israeli talks "opens the doors for a just, regional settlement." Jordan signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1994.

At the Rose Garden event, al-Sharaa read from a prepared text as some two-dozen American, Israeli and Syrian officials listened attentively. He said rejection of Syrian demands for a return of lost territory would send a message to Arabs that the "bloodshed can never stop."

During the last half-century, he said, referring to the years of Israel's existence, "the vision of the Arabs and their suffering were totally ignored." By contrast, he said, Israel was now marshaling sympathy for the Israeli Jews who face eviction if the strategic enclave is returned to Syria.

Barak, in a terse statement, said: "We came here to put behind us the horrors of war and to step forward toward peace."



WHILE YOU'RE TRYING TO FIND THE RIGHT WORDS, YOUR FRIEND MAY BE TRYING TO STAY ALIVE.

Talking with a friend who's being beaten up by her husband will never be easy. We understand that you want to say just the right thing, in just the right way. If you need help finding the right words, call 1-800-END ABUSE and we'll send you useful information and suggestions. Whatever you do, however, don't wait too long to offer her your help. At least one out of every three murdered women is killed by her husband or boyfriend. So your friend might not have the luxury of time.

NO

for Domestic Violence.

Family Violence Prevention Fund

Thursday-Sunday, December 16-19 only!

50% off

ORIGINAL PRICES
OF SELECTED
ITEMS WITH
RED BALLOONS

40% off

ORIGINAL PRICES
OF SELECTED
ITEMS WITH
WHITE BALLOONS

30% off

ORIGINAL PRICES
OF SELECTED
ITEMS WITH
GREEN BALLOONS

Look for the special balloons throughout the store to identify the sale items for this event!

PLUS, SHOP EXTENDED HOURS • STORES OPEN FRIDAY 8:00 A.M., SATURDAY 7:00 A.M.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Thursday.....9:30-9:30
Friday.....8:00-9:30
Saturday.....7:00-9:30
Sunday.....11:00-7:00
Monday-Wednesday..9:30-9:30

JCPenney®

www.jcpenney.com

Midland Park Mall 699-4347

Regular and Original prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Balloon Sale effective December 16-19, 1999 only. Percentages off regular and original prices. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken on original prices. Reductions on original-priced merchandise effective until stock is depleted. Merchandise selection may vary slightly from one JCPenney store to another. Limited to stock on hand. Cannot be applied to prior purchases.

Catalog
699-5161

Salon
699-6541

Section C
Midland Re
Thursday, D

Green

Staff and Wire R

Greenwood offense team performer on All-State Team released. Compton, who started as a defensive back while Smelser were both in the state, based on needs were selected during the playoffs.

Compton is the fourth in the 13 years Bob joins defensive back.

COLLEGE



Andrews running high school at

And to T

By Stewart T
Assistant Spor

An oral contract recruit can sign Signing Day. Those two somewhere in and the first Woods' case exercise the "I have cor that is what I In recruiting ment." In Wo

Aut

By Paul Nowe
Associated Pres

CHARLOTT was arrested Wern Tennessee, hiding in the tru after he failed to charge in the sh friend.

Authorities sa that the Carolin er could be fou sville, Tenn., at

Brow get t

By Jim Vertu
AP Sports Writ

AUSTIN — controversy, the Simms in the "I don't thin white, the Big out of it, it's th There's no big games." Texas coach conference pri No. 24 Arkant Applewhite home (9-4) on regular season

Greenwood's Compton earns all-state honor

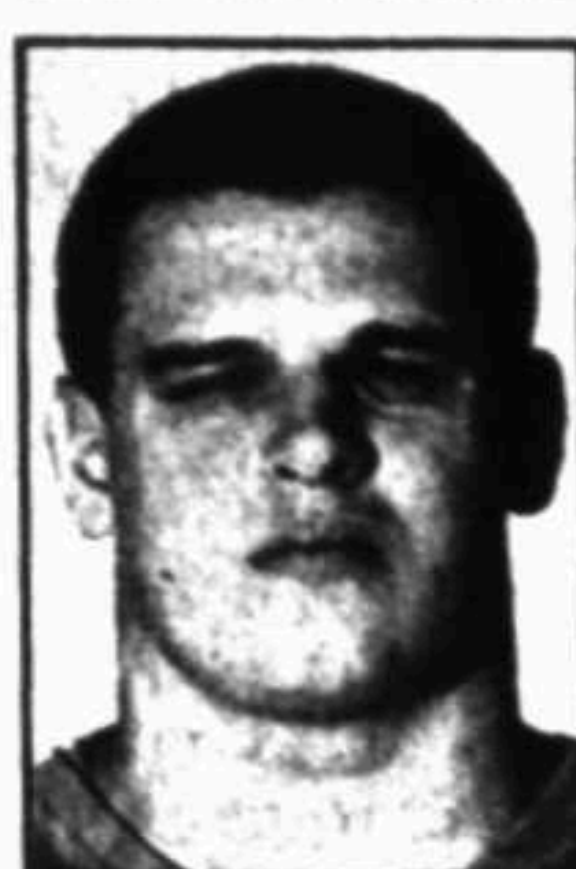
Staff and Wire Reports

Greenwood offensive lineman Barry Compton was named a first-team performer on the Associated Press Sports Editors' Class 3A All-State Team released Wednesday.

Compton, who stands 6-foot-2 and 230 pounds, was not the only Ranger to be honored by AP. Senior Adam Dörner was a second team defensive back while senior defensive linemen John Lewis and J.D. Smelser were both honorable mention selections.

The 10th annual APSE team was chosen by sportswriters around the state, based on players' regular-season performance. Nominees were selected during the season and balloting was conducted during the playoffs.

Compton is the fourth Ranger to be named as a first-team performer in the 13 years Bob Purser has been head coach at Greenwood. He joins defensive back Randy Donnell in 1988, lineman Rusty Purser in 1994 and defensive back Casey Otho in 1995 as Rangers to make the AP or Texas Sports Writers Association team first teams.



Compton

"He has been a difference maker for us," Purser said of Compton. "He is a three-year starter and has been named unanimous all-district twice. He doesn't have a lot of size but is a great blocker."

Compton, a 55-foot shot putter during the track season, played this past season with a torn left pectoral muscle, according to Purser.

"He can't bench press anymore, but he is a naturally strong kid, a bull," Purser said. "He is really physical and has never played against anyone he can't block one on one."

The 1999 season was also a busy one for Sealy's Derek Curry.

In addition to preparing for Saturday's Class 3A Division II state championship game with the rest of his teammates, Curry is having to study for finals and battle the deluge of phone calls that come with being one of the state's most recruited linebackers.

"It does get kind of tough to prioritize things," said Curry, who is being sought by Nebraska, Tennessee, Notre Dame and Baylor. "I'm trying to keep everything separated, but sometimes it all gets kind of jumbled together."

Curry added one more thing to the list when he was named the 3A defensive player of the year.

With Curry leading the way, Sealy's defense allowed 170 yards and 8 points per game. Curry finished with 128 tackles, three interceptions, two recovered fumbles and 10 deflected passes.

"Defense has been a very important part of our success," Sealy coach T.J. Mills said. "And Derek has been a very good defensive

Please see ALL-STATE/4C

COLLEGE FOOTBALL RECRUITING



Andrews running back Jeremy Woods has committed to play football next year at Texas A&M, but — as is any high school athlete's prerogative — he reserves the right to change his mind. Purdue also is a possibility.

Andrews' star Woods commits to Texas A&M, at least for now

By Stewart Doreen
Assistant Sports Editor

An oral commitment is non-binding. The first day a recruit can sign a letter of intent is Feb. 2 — National Signing Day.

Those two sentences, or versions of them, will be found somewhere in every recruiting story written between now and the first Wednesday of February.

Knowing that, meet Jeremy Woods. The Andrews senior has orally committed to play football at Texas A&M. But as last year's No. 1 recruit in the nation, Chris Simms, showed last year — committing to Tennessee initially before signing with Texas — nothing is official until that letter of intent is signed, sealed and delivered.

Woods' case might not be as drastic, although he might exercise the right to change his mind.

"I have committed to A&M, but I can't say for sure if that is what I am going to do," Woods said.

In recruiting lingo, Woods has given a "soft commitment." In Woods' words, he is exercising the right to be

a high-schooler making a very important decision.

"Everybody wanted me to do what they think I should do," Woods said. "I am confused. I am 17-year-old trying to make a decision."

"In my case, recruiting is stressful and long. Some points are fun, but there have been lots of thinking about what I will be doing over the next four to five years."

Texas A&M appears to be the place for Woods. There, he will use his 6-foot-2 inch, 235-pound frame as a fullback for R.C. Slocum's Aggies.

However, Purdue is still in the picture: The Boilermakers like Woods' size and 4.6 speed. They think he would make a great linebacker, a position he didn't even play as a senior. "I don't know whether I will play linebacker or fullback. It is up in the air," Woods said.

Neither A&M nor Purdue was his first choice. "At first, I wanted to go to (Texas) Tech, but with the coaching change, I felt I didn't want to put up with all that," Woods said. "Then, I was going to go to Oklahoma State."

Please see RECRUITING/5C

Odessa benefits as two franchises fold

Staff Report

The Western Professional Hockey League saw two of its teams suspend operations for the remainder of the season Wednesday, and the Odessa Jackalopes benefited.

The WPHL announced that both the Abilene Aviators and the Waco Wizards were closing up shop for the rest of the 1999-2000 season due to their unresolved ownership situations. As a result, the WPHL held a dispersal draft Wednesday evening for the 16 remaining franchises to choose from among the top players from Abilene and Waco.

With the No. 2 overall selection, the Jacks picked Terho Koskela of Abilene, who is among the top 10 scoring defensemen in the WPHL. Then, picking 31st with their second pick, the Jacks selected Craig Perrett, also from Abilene.

Koskela has 18 points on the season with two goals and 16 assists and was Abilene's third-leading scorer this sea-

son. The 6-foot, 195-pound native of Guthenberg, Sweden, is in his second season in the WPHL.



Perrett, a center, was his team's seventh-leading scorer this season with nine points on four goals and five assists. The 5-8, 175-pound native of Calgary was also in his second season with Abilene.

Odessa will immediately have a game wiped out by the folding of the two franchises, as tonight's scheduled game at Abilene has been canceled.

The WPHL said it will replace all games lost to the departure of Abilene and Waco with games against other opponents so that each club can play its originally slated 70 games.

The Jacks have a pair of games with Amarillo scheduled Friday and Saturday.

Red Sox, Houston exchange Everetts

By Jimmy Golen
AP Sports Writer

BOSTON — The Houston Astros traded switch-hitting outfielder Carl Everett to the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday, cutting his multimillion dollar salary from their payroll and getting two minor leaguers in return.

The Red Sox gave up shortstop prospect Adam Everett, who was expendable because they already have Nomar Garciaparra, and left-handed pitcher Greg Miller. Before the trade, Boston signed Adam Everett to a two-year contract with a \$725,000 signing bonus.

Carl Everett made \$2.5 million last year, is eligible for a big raise in arbitration next year and can be a free agent after the season.

"We had some preliminary talks but we never got very far down the road," Astros

general manager Gerry Hunsicker said. "I had a sense of where that might end up and with our payroll situation, we felt it would be in our best interest to make a deal."

The trade, which had been discussed for several days at the winter meetings, was delayed because the Red Sox wanted permission to talk to Carl Everett about a long-term contract.

Boston general manager Dan Duquette said he made the trade without talking to Everett because other teams were willing to make a deal with Houston unconditionally.

"We were willing to take the chance," Duquette said. "Hopefully we'll be able to come to an agreement

Please see TRADE/4C

Deion, Emmitt skip Dallas practice with minor bugs

By Jaime Aron
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Deion Sanders was excused from Dallas Cowboys' practice Wednesday because he was feeling ill. Emmitt Smith was absent, too, but not because of his injured groin.

Smith visited the eye doctor while teammates began preparing for Sunday's game against the New York Jets. He either bruised or strained a groin muscle on his first carry this past Sunday against Philadelphia and did not return.

Although there was no official diagnosis on Sanders, a flu bug hit several players, including Troy Aikman, late last week. He went home after sleeping in the trainer's room during lunch.

Coach Chan Gailey said he was

unsure whether Smith or Sanders would practice Thursday.

Offensive lineman Larry Allen, center Mark Stepnoski and receiver Ernie Mills participated in individual drills, but were held out of team sessions. Gailey said he hopes to have them back Thursday, "but that's not a given."

Allen has missed four games with a strained knee, Stepnoski 1 1/2 games with a strained calf and Mills two with a strained quadriceps.

The good news was that cornerback

Please see DALLAS/5C

Authorities corral Carruth

By Paul Nowell
Associated Press Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Rae Carruth was arrested Wednesday night in western Tennessee, where police found him hiding in the trunk of a friend's car a day after he failed to surrender on a murder charge in the shooting death of his girlfriend.

Authorities said they had received tips that the Carolina Panthers wide receiver could be found at a motel at Wildersville, Tenn., about 100 miles northeast

of Memphis, the FBI said.

FBI agents staked out the motel Wednesday afternoon. They checked the room, then found the 5-foot-11, 194-pound player in the trunk of the car parked in the motel's lot, agents said.

The car belongs to a woman friend who had registered at the motel. The unidentified woman hadn't been charged as of Wednesday night, FBI spokeswoman Joanne Morley said.

"He was cooperative during the course of the arrest and processing," said Victor O'Korn, FBI assistant special

agent in charge in Charlotte.

Carruth was being held in the Madison County, Tenn., jail Wednesday night on a federal charge of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution. An extradition hearing before a federal magistrate was planned Thursday morning.

Carruth was charged with first-degree murder following the death Tuesday of 24-year-old Cherica Adams, who was 6 1/2 months' pregnant when she was shot four times Nov. 16 in her car. The shoot-

Please see CARRUTH/5C

Brown: Applewhite will start, Simms will get to play vs. Arkansas in Cotton Bowl

By Jim Vertuno
AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN — Although nobody at Texas is calling it a quarterback controversy, the Longhorns will use Major Applewhite and Chris Simms in the Cotton Bowl.

"I don't think people will make a big deal out of it," said Applewhite, the Big 12 player of the year. "If there's a big deal to be made out of it, it's through the media. That's where it's going to come from. There's no big deal being made of it here. It's all about winning ball games."

Texas coach Mack Brown announced his plan Wednesday at a news conference prior to his team's first practice or its Jan. 1 game against No. 24 Arkansas (7-4).

Applewhite, a sophomore, started all season for the No. 14 Longhorns (9-4) until a stomach virus sidelined him for the start of the regular season finale against Texas A&M.

Simms, a highly touted freshman, led Texas to a 16-6 halftime lead before the Aggies rallied for 20-16 victory. Applewhite played the final quarter and the entire Big 12 championship against Nebraska, which Texas lost 22-6.

Brown, who successfully used two quarterbacks while coaching North Carolina, has said he'll use both next season. Using both players in the Cotton Bowl accelerates his plan.

Coaches will script a game plan for when to play Simms and Brown said he'll stick to it regardless of how either quarterback performs. Simms said he understands he will play at least a couple series in each half.

"I'm excited that I'm going to get to play a little," Simms said. "There's nothing in stone yet for what I'm going to play."

Said Applewhite: "It's not a 50-50 thing. He's going to play some."

Brown said the move is a reward for Simms and not a knock

Please see COTTON/5C



Arkansas football coach Houston Nutt, left, listens as Texas coach Mack Brown speaks at a news conference in Irving. The Razorbacks and Longhorns will play in the 64th Southwestern Bell Cotton Bowl Classic on Jan. 1.

LOCAL SPORTS

Results of COM meet

Here are the results from a 'C' division swim meet hosted by the City of Midland swim team over the weekend. The top three finishers are listed in each event by age and category.

GIRLS
Open
200 Free Relay: 1. COM A, 2:13.28; 2. COM B, 2:32.25; 3. Big Spring YMCA, 2:45.78. 100 Free: 1. Braunauw Babcock, COM, 1:09.05; 2. Rebecca Jacobson, COM, 1:10.70; 3. Andrea Avila, Andrews Aquatic Club, 1:15.04. 50 Free: 1. Rachel Legg, COM, 57.96; 2. Melissa Palmer, COM, 1:19.18; 3. Betsy Overton, COM, 1:19.87. 100 Fly: 1. Rebecca Jacobson, COM, 1:21.83; 2. Braunauw Babcock, COM, 1:24.37; 3. Elizabeth Painter, 1:27.11. 50 Fly: 1. Betsy Overton, COM, 1:41.61. 100 Breast: 1. Byrne Ulmschneider, COM, 1:32.52; 2. Rebecca Jacobson, COM, 1:33.49; 3. Allison Lester, BS YMCA, 1:35.36. 50 Breast: 1. Rachel Legg, COM, 1:15.21; 2. Betsy Overton, COM, 1:26.93. 100 Back: 1. Andrea Avila, Andrews, 1:23.04; 2. Braunauw Babcock, COM, 1:24.19; 3. Elizabeth Painter, COM, 1:31.31. 50 Back: 1. Rachel Legg, COM, 1:06.37; 2. Melissa Palmer, COM, 1:31.15; 3. Betsy Overton, COM, 1:39.37.

13 and over
50 Free: 1. Ashley Downs, COM, 35.66; 2. Allison Lester, BS YMCA, 35.68; 3. Teresa Cardamone, COM, 37.85. 90 Fly: 1. Jacqueline Jackson, COM, 42.07. 50 Back: 1. Ashley Downs, COM, 40.67; 2. Teresa Cardamone, COM, 49.07. 100 IM: 1. Andrea Avila, Andrews Aquatic Club, 1:25.54; 2. Allison Lester, BS YMCA, 1:30.59; 3. Jacqueline Jackson, COM, 1:36.68.

11-12
50 Free: 1. Claire Legg, COM, 34.04; 2. Amber Singleton, COM, 34.08; 3. Mallorie Cuevas, Lubbock Water Y's, 35.11. 90 Fly: 1. Claire Legg, COM, 39.90; 2. Enika Miller, Lubbock Swim Club, 40.96; 3. Paige Johnson, Lubbock Water Y's, 42.99. 50 Breast: 1. Amber Singleton, COM, 46.87; 2. Wendy Mayfield, BS YMCA, 48.33; 3. Claire Legg, COM, 48.58. 50 Back: 1. Claire Legg, COM, 41.48; 2. Wendy Mayfield, BS YMCA, 42.07; 3. Amber Singleton, COM, 42.94. 100 IM: 1. Byrne Ulmschneider, COM, 1:29.84; 2. Amy Grant, BS YMCA, 1:34.54; 3. Wendy Mayfield, BS YMCA, 1:35.63.

10 and under
100 Free Relay: 1. BS YMCA, 1:16.89; 2. COM A, 1:18.58; 3. Lubbock Swim Club, 1:32.41. 50 Free: 1. Taylor Boswell, COM, 41.67; 2. Jordan Chesworth, BS YMCA, 45.04; 3. Veronica

Andrade, BS YMCA, 45.08. 25 Free: 1. Lauren Parks, COM, 20.29; 2. Jamie Prinz, COM, 22.96; 3. Linda Rodriguez, COM, 27.45. 50 Fly: 1. Jessamyn Morales, COM, 50.11; 2. Taylor Boswell, COM, 53.31; 3. Ashley Cox, Lubbock Swim Club, 55.72. 25 Fly: 1. Kaitlyn Tibbitts, LSC, 24.94; 2. Catherine Leubner, BS YMCA, 31.56; 3. Jamie Prinz, COM, 34.03. 50 Breast: 1. Taylor Boswell, COM, 52.90; 2. Ashley Cox, LSC, 54.28; 3. Sagen James, Monahans Swim Club, 54.38. 25 Breast: 1. Lauren Parks, COM, 26.19; 2. Catherine Leubner, BS YMCA, 29.67; 3. Jamie Prinz, COM, 32.85. 50 Back: 1. Jessamyn Morales, COM, 52.49; 2. Shayla Skinner, Monahans Swim Club, 53.79; 3. Veronica Andrade, BS YMCA, 54.80. 25 Back: 1. Jamie Prinz, COM, 24.48; 2. Linda Rodriguez, COM, 25.14; 3. Lauren Parks, COM, 26.25. 100 IM: 1. Kelly Sage, BS YMCA, 1:40.73; 2. Taylor Boswell, COM, 1:46.30; 3. Ashley Cox, LSC, 1:51.38.

8 and under
50 Free: 1. Gena Bradley, COM, 41.43; 2. Gillian Welch, Lubbock Water Y's, 48.94; 3. Conner Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 51.01. 25 Free: 1. Paige West, LSC, 25.09; 2. Alexandria Yruague, Snyder Tigersharks, 28.72; 3. Ana Vilobos, LSC, 28.87. 50 Fly: 1. Gena Bradley, COM, 58.31; 2. Kelly Sage, BS YMCA, 58.33; 3. Alice Harman, COM, 1:03.59. 25 Fly: 1. Emily Richards, COM, 25.75; 2. Gillian Welch, Lubbock Water Y's, 27.18; 3. Paige West, LSC, 33.13. 50 Breast: 1. Kelly Sage, BS YMCA, 59.60; 2. Gena Bradley, COM, 1:00.82; 3. Alice Harman, COM, 1:02.27. 25 Breast: 1. Gillian Welch, Lubbock Water Y's, 27.18; 2. Ana Vilobos, LSC, 36.63; 3. Alexandria Yruague, Snyder Tigersharks, 37.37. 50 Back: 1. Gena Bradley, COM, 52.60; 2. Paige West, LSC, 56.36; 3. Wmily Richards, LSC, 56.39. 25 Back: 1. Alexandria Yruague, Snyder Tigersharks, 28.91; 2. Catherine Hall, COM, 30.42; 3. Ana Vilobos, LSC, 32.06.

6 and under
25 Free: 1. Conner Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 22.63; 2. 25 Fly: 1. Conner Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 30.90. 25 Breast: 1. Conner Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 32.09. 25 Back: 1. Conner Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 30.71.

BOYS
Open
200 Free Relay: 1. COM A, 2:42.68; 2. COM B, 2:43.37. 50 Free: 1. Matthew McKinney, COM, 50.95; 2. Cody Embry, COM, 1:04.21. 100 Free: 1. Matthew McKinney, COM, 1:25.14; 2. Chris Summers, Andrews Aquatic Club, 1:42.33; 3. Daniel Budke, BS YMCA, 1:44.55. 50 Fly: 1. Seth Kim, BS YMCA, 1:19.31. 100 Breast: 1. Sam Wehner, COM, 1:32.80; 2. Mike Scott, COM, 1:47.89. 50 Breast: 1. Cody Embry, COM, 1:10.98; 2. Seth Kim, BS YMCA, 1:13.94. 50 Back: 1. Seth Kim, BS YMCA, 1:02.19; 2. Cody Embry, COM, 1:12.71.

13 and over
50 Free: 1. Mike Scott, COM, 33.85; 2. Kevin Brown, COM, 35.68. 50 Fly: 1. Mike Scott, COM,

1:29.56. 90 Breast: 1. Kevin Brown, COM, 42.38. 50 Back: 1. Kevin Brown, COM, 47.41.

11-12
50 Free: 1. B.J. Randolph, Andrews Aquatic Club, 34.47; 2. John Elliott, Pecos Aquatic, 34.63; 3. Jack Staub, COM, 34.88. 90 Fly: 1. John Elliott, Pecos Aquatic, 41.65; 2. B.J. Randolph, Andrews Aquatic Club, 42.83; 3. Sam Wehner, COM, 44.00. 50 Breast: 1. B.J. Randolph, Andrews Aquatic Club, 43.92; 2. Jack Staub, COM, 45.96; 3. Scott Runyan, COM, 46.08. 50 Back: 1. John Elliott, Pecos Aquatic, 43.53; 2. Matthew McKinney, COM, 44.70; 3. Sam Cummings, COM, 46.16. 100 IM: 1. B.J. Randolph, Andrews Aquatic Club, 1:26.80; 2. John Elliott, Pecos Aquatic, 1:33.72; 3. Sam Wehner, COM, 1:34.65.

10 and under
100 Free Relay: 1. COM B, 1:22.05; 2. COM A, 1:31.72; 3. COM C, 1:32.75. 50 Free: 1. Matthew Huzzey, COM, 45.69; 2. Bradley Ward, COM, 46.72; 3. Charlie Painter, COM, 47.04. 25 Free: 1. Chris Martin, COM, 20.74; 2. Matthew Parks, COM, 21.55; 3. Michael Stegall, COM, 24.21. 25 Fly: 1. Kush Patel, COM, 29.14; 2. Michael Stegall, COM, 30.43; 3. Charlie Painter, COM, 31.60. 50 Breast: 1. Daniel Budke, BS YMCA, 57.60; 2. Charlie Painter, COM, 1:01.47. 25 Breast: 1. Matthew Dobbs, Lubbock Water Y's, 26.78; 2. Matthew Parks, COM, 27.02; 3. Michael Stegall, COM, 30.77. 50 Back: 1. Charlie Painter, COM, 52.12; 2. Daniel Budke, BS YMCA, 57.02; 3. Matthew Huzzey, COM, 59.60. 25 Back: 1. Matthew Parks, COM, 22.95; 2. Bradley Ward, COM, 27.11; 3. Matthew Dobbs, Lubbock Water Y's, 28.02. 100 IM: 1. Joshua Elliott, Pecos Aquatic, 1:50.76; 2. Daniel Budke, BS YMCA, 1:59.66; 3. Heath Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 2:00.22.

8 and under
50 Fly: 1. Joshua Elliott, Pecos Aquatic, 51.85. 25 Fly: 1. Heath Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 22.36; 2. John Viers, COM, 37.71; 3. Evan Nabors, BS YMCA, 37.96. 50 Breast: 1. Heath Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 1:01.73; 2. Eric Brain, COM, 1:05.61. 25 Breast: 1. Joshua Elliott, Pecos Aquatic, 27.65; 2. John Viers, COM, 28.54; 3. Matthew Langhoff, COM, 29.67. 50 Free: 1. Heath Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 40.65; 2. Joshua Elliott, Pecos Aquatic, 42.26; 3. Waggoner McDonnold, COM, 49.92. 25 Free: 1. Matthew Langhoff, COM, 18.44; 2. William Lea, COM, 20.40; 3. Kiefer Scarborough, COM, 22.56. 50 Back: 1. Heath Armstrong, Pecos Aquatic, 46.73; 2. Joshua Elliott, Pecos Aquatic, 48.12; 3. Eric Brain, COM, 1:01.61. 25 Back: 1. Clayton Seams, COM, 24.01; 2. Tyler Printz, COM, 24.30; 3. Waggoner McDonnold, COM, 26.51.

6 and under
25 Fly: 1. Caleb Lester, BS YMCA, 34.15; 2. Tyler Printz, COM, 42.23. 25 Free: 1. Forrest Wilmon, Monahans Swim Club, 26.35; 2. Caleb Lester, BS YMCA, 27.88; 3. Tyler Printz, COM, 48.09. 25 Back: 1. Caleb Lester, BS YMCA, 33.58; 2. Tyler Printz, COM, 43.08.

Clippers sink to new low by scoring 19 in one half

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The only surprise, perhaps, was that the Clippers didn't already hold the records.

A team synonymous with losing sank to new depths: three points in the second quarter, 19 points in the first half — both NBA lows since the inception of the shot clock in 1954.

The Lakers led 49-19 at halftime and won 95-68. The performance Tuesday night was humbling even for the Clippers, who have plenty of experience in humility.

"The first half was probably the most embarrassing I've ever been, including everything outside of basketball," said the Clippers' Eric Piatkowski, who missed all of his six shots in the first half. "It hurts a lot and we're probably going to feel twice as bad when we wake up in the morning."

The Clippers shot 7-for-38 (18 percent) in the first half. Maurice Taylor finished with two points on 1-of-7 shooting.

"We played like we didn't even know how to play basketball," he said. "It was a horrible performance by all of us. I'm to the point where I think I should be apologizing for the way I played."

The Clippers' three points, on 1-of-18 shooting, was the lowest second-quarter score by an NBA team since the 24-second clock took effect. Utah in 1981 and the Knicks last season had shared the record for the lowest-scoring second period with five points. The Clippers barely missed the record for any

quarter — Dallas had a two-point third quarter against the Lakers on April 6, 1997.

The previous record for fewest points in a half was 20, by the New Orleans Jazz at Seattle on Jan. 4, 1975.

The Clippers, already without Derek Anderson, lost Brian Skinner to an ankle sprain during the game. "You can't really do anything when you have key personnel out," said the Lakers' Kobe Bryant, who scored 18 points. "So you can't really fault them. The effort is there."

Which wasn't to say the Lakers intended to go easy on them.

"We wanted to come in and play hard every possession and not give them any life," Bryant said. "They are a young team, and when a young team gets some momentum, their confidence builds. So once we got them bleeding, we just let them bleed to death."

Not everyone on the Clippers played poorly. Tyrone Nesby scored 18 points on 7-of-14 shooting, making all three of his 3-point tries. Michael Olowokandi had 13 points and 10 rebounds, and Troy Hudson had 12 points, eight assists and seven rebounds.

"I still have confidence in this team," Piatkowski said. "We get them (the Lakers) three more times in this building, so we're going to have to come back and play them that much tougher."

The game was the first between the teams at Staples Center, the new arena they both call home.

Ailing Spurs cure some ills against struggling Rockets

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — San Antonio has not been playing well lately, but the Spurs have still been able to win.

Looking less than impressive, the defending world champions rallied to defeat the Houston Rockets 83-77 Wednesday night.

NBA Roundup

"We played poorly. We're confused and discombobulated," said San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich, who saw his team win for the third time in the last four games. "We have a heck of a lot of work to do. It's a matter of concentration, turnovers, different people and different defenses. We just have to keep working at it."

Tim Duncan had 20 points and David Robinson added 14 points for San Antonio, which made only 41 percent of its field goal attempts and turned the ball over 14 times against the Rockets.

"We're not playing our best basketball," said Duncan, who grabbed 10 rebounds to lead San Antonio. "I'm happy we won. Tonight the ball didn't bounce our way, but it's a win in the books no matter what."

Steve Francis had 24 points for Houston, which dropped its fifth straight game since losing Charles Barkley to a ruptured quadriceps tendon in his left leg on Dec. 8.

The Spurs were trailing by seven with 7:08 left in the game before going on a 12-0 run to take a 76-71 lead. Robinson scored six points in the run.

A free throw by Cuttino Mobley with 1:54 to play brought Houston within 76-73. San Antonio answered with two free throws apiece by Duncan and Porter sandwiched around a jump hook by Kenny Thomas that gave the Spurs a 80-75 lead with 23.7 seconds left.

Mario Elie connected on three free throws for San Antonio over the final 15 seconds that gave the Spurs their largest lead of the game at the final buzzer.

"We lost it at the free throw line," said Houston coach Rudy Tomjanovich, who saw his team make only 14 of 26 free throws. "The theme this year so far has been moral victories. We need a tangible one right now."

Houston, which connected on only 40.0 percent of its shots, dropped to 7-17 with the loss. The Rockets had lost 101-90 to the New York Knicks on Tuesday night in Houston.

"We outplayed them for three quarters and then gave it away the last six minutes," Francis said. "In the last two days we have played both the teams that played in the championship last year and it seems like we gave both games away."

Stars' power play snuffs Flames

Associated Press

DALLAS — All it took was a little luck for the Dallas Stars to break out of their 1-for-19 power-play slump.

Joe Nieuwendyk energized Dallas' sluggish power play with two man-advantage goals to send the Stars to a 5-1 victory over the Calgary Flames on Wednesday night.

"The power play has been a big part of our success the last few years," Nieuwendyk said. "It's been a sore spot for us this year. I got two gift goals tonight, but our power play needed some luck."

Nieuwendyk had a chance for his third goal with 16:30 left but

he failed to get off a clean shot at an open net.

"I tried to redirect it but it rolled on me and it got caught on my stick," said Nieuwendyk.

Brian Skrudland, Sergei Zubov and Mike Modano added even-strength goals to help Dallas improve to 7-2-0 in its last nine games.

Valeri Bure's 17th goal with 7:04 to play averted a shutout for the Flames, who have scored only four goals in their last three games.

Dallas is 11-1-0 when it scores at least one power play goal, but the Stars have scored more than one goal with the man advantage in only three games this season.

Storewide Clearance Sale

Now in Progress!

570-4499

MASTERS GOLF

300 W. Loop 250 N. 1/4 mile West of Big Spring St.

"Because it takes practice"

★ Arnie says...★★★★★

Trust Quality, American-made



Known for Quality Since 1914

Cooper TIRES 55/80R 13 **\$26**

TRENDSETTER A/W

P165/80R 13 P175/80R 13	P185/75R 14 P195/75R 14	P205/75R 14 P215/75R 14
\$28	\$32	\$35
P205/75R 15 P215/75R 15	P225/75R 15	P235/75R 15
\$36	\$38	\$38

LUBE, OIL & FILTER **\$10.00**

Drop your car off for efficient One Day Service.

COOLING SYSTEM MAINTENANCE & Anti-Freeze Coolant **\$10.00**

Includes:

- Drain Radiator
- Check Hoses, Belts, Thermostat & Radiator Cap
- Anti-freeze Included, up to 2 Gallons
- Add \$1.00 For EPA Toxic Removal Fee
- Recommended Service Once A Year

Offer expires 12-31-99

B Williams Tire Center

* SINCE 1969 TIRE PROS WHO KNOW THEIR BUSINESS *

1500 Rankin Hwy. MIDLAND 509 W. Wall

915-682-1671 www.bwtire.com 915-683-4601

7 A.M. - 6 P.M., Mon. - Fri. Both Locations
7 A.M. - 5 P.M., Saturday Rankin Hwy. / Only

ABILENE ★ MIDLAND ★ SAN ANGELO

Major Consumer & Tire Credit Cards Accepted

Nueva Vista Golf Club

Now Open!

6101 W. Wadley

520-0500

You're just going to love this

New Indians' import gets emotional over baseball opportunity

By TOM WITHERS
AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND — Danny Baez's eyes filled with tears as he stood alone behind the mound at Jacobs Field.

As he looked around the enormous, empty ballpark, the 22-year-old pitcher could only think about the family and friends he left behind in Cuba.

"If my mom could see this," he said Wednesday. "If my dad could see this."

Later, trying on a Cleveland Indians cap for the first time, he said, "This is my dad's dream."

Baez's journey to freedom was finally complete.

The Cuban pitcher, who defected last summer while at the Pan American Games in Winnipeg before signing with the Indians, had his first taste of being a major league ballplayer on Wednesday.

Accompanied by his agent, Joe Cubas, Cleveland general manager John Hart and assistant GM Mark Shapiro, Baez toured the Indians home field before being introduced during a news conference.

Baez posed to take pictures in the dugout and was overwhelmed

at the sight of his white Indians jersey — with No. 55, Baez, on the back — hanging in a locker in the team's posh clubhouse.

Baez, who didn't arrive in the United States until late last week, was able to keep his emotions in check until he walked onto the field for the first time. He briefly stood with the group and asked questions before wandering away to be by himself.

"It was a powerful moment," Shapiro said. "I made me think about a lot of things that I might take for granted sometimes. It was very, very special."

Cubas, who represents other Cuban players, including Orlando "El Duque" Hernandez of the New York Yankees, had experienced similar moments. This one, though, he said was different.

"I got goose bumps," he said. "I know Danny and I know what he has been through and what this all means to him. This is a very special player."

The Indians think so.

Despite only being able to scout Baez at the Pan Am Games and in Costa Rica after his defection, the Indians outbid several other teams, including the Yankees, to sign him to a



Danny Baez, left, tries on a Cleveland Indians jersey with the help of general manager John Hart during a news conference Wednesday in Cleveland. The Indians signed Baez, who defected from the Cuban national team during last summer's Pan American Games.

\$14.5 million, four-year contract last month.

The 6-foot-4, 225-pound Baez has a fastball that clocked 99 mph when more than a dozen scouts came to see him pitch in Costa Rica last month.

Asked what he could "bring to the table" as a pitcher, Baez said, "I bring to the table my fastball, my curveball, my slider and my changeup."

The Indians want to bring along Baez slowly. They understand how overwhelming it is for someone who has never even been to a grocery store adjust to all that is coming at him right now.

"Imagine if you or I were just

thrown onto the streets in Iraq," said Cubas. "That's what it's like."

The club is putting Baez through an intensive training period the rest of this week to help his assimilation to American culture. He'll go shopping on Thursday and have lunch with one of the team's nutritionists to discuss his diet.

Depending on how he pitches during spring training, Baez could challenge Jaret Wright for a starting role in the Indians' rotation. Hart said it is more likely that he'll begin pitching out of the bullpen, but isn't ruling out the possibility of Baez starting right away either.

Rangers' spring schedule includes game vs. Cards

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers announced Wednesday that their spring training schedule will include 29 exhibition games, 26 of which will be played in the Florida Grapefruit League.

The Rangers say the highlight of the schedule is a home game against the St. Louis Cardinals at The Ballpark in Arlington on March 31.

Season tickets for 2000 spring training games go on sale Monday. For the training period, the Rangers will play Cincinnati and

Minnesota five times each, Toronto four times, Pittsburgh and Boston on three occasions each, as well as Baltimore, Philadelphia and Tampa Bay.

Closer to home, the Rangers will face the Drillers, Texas' AA farm club, in Tulsa on March 30.

The exhibition season for the Rangers ends April 1 with a game against the Houston Astros at their new home, Enron Field.

Pitchers and catchers report to Port Charlotte, Fla., on Feb. 19 and infielders and outfielders are required to report Feb. 23.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Fantasy Football Standings

MEDIA STANDINGS



Jeff Kush
KMID TV BIG 2



Melissa Hendrix
NEWSWEST 9



Tom Glasman
KOSA CBS 7

35 407
POINTS TOTAL

35 470
POINTS TOTAL

32 405
POINTS TOTAL



John Moesch
KNFM



Terry Williamson
MIDLAND
REPORTER-TELEGRAM

36 455
POINTS TOTAL

39 492
POINTS TOTAL

Rank	Name	Points	Total
47	Stan Sartain	32	406
48	Dan Alford	78	406
49	Melissa Fesmire	47	405
50	A.J. Najera	55	404
51	Brett Stevens	72	403
52	Teresa Hernandez	87	402
53	Irene Montañez	91	401
54	Sage Kinney Deer	47	400
55	Buck Rogers	60	400
56	Mike Bargsley	62	400
57	Fred C. Carter	64	400
58	Pete Maciula	73	400
59	Henry Sanchez	37	398
60	Max Dobler	57	397
61	Judy Dunahm	33	394
62	Roger Fuentez	44	394
63	Jennifer Dodd	47	392
64	Megan Connell	58	392
65	Sherry Daehling	56	391
66	Dale Tervooivn	23	388
67	Todd Larsson	41	388
68	Michael Schigut	59	385
69	Terry Ives	68	381
70	Joe Simer	26	377
71	Mary Kay Harvy	49	377
72	Karen Sanders	53	377
73	K. Nunley	61	374
74	Conrado Molinar	45	371
75	Jamie Castillo	82	370
76	Nickolas Daugherty	37	368
77	Rubin Molinar	32	366
78	Todd Watson	52	366
79	Tim Wilkerson	59	366
80	Martin Garcia	68	366
81	Michelle Brown	32	365
82	scott M. Spencer	45	365
83	Lawrence Jackson	66	363
84	Mathew Daugherty	59	363
85	Alan Reed	26	362
86	Gay Nell McGuire	37	362
87	Dana Wells	41	362
88	Danny Daehling	32	361
89	Rick Bartholomee	57	360
90	Scott Scharfenberg	37	359
91	Leon Wong	39	359
92	Mary Ann Hicks	39	359

PGA forms charity plan for Ryder team

Associated Press

Members of the U.S. Ryder Cup team will receive \$200,000 from the PGA of America to donate to charities of their choice and golf development programs at their colleges, several sources said Wednesday.

The plan to channel a portion of the PGA's estimated \$17 million in Ryder Cup profit to charities at the players' discretion comes four months after the revenue issue threatened to divide the U.S. team.

Jim Awtrey, chief executive officer of the PGA, had pledged to work with players and come up with a plan by year's end.

"We're pleased we have reached an agreement in concept with the players, and we will release details after the holidays," a PGA spokesman said.

According to sources who spoke on con-

dition of anonymity, the players and captain Ben Crenshaw will receive \$100,000 each to designate to their charities.

Golf Briefs

They will direct the other \$100,000 to their college — or several colleges — for a golf development program designed by the PGA.

"The PGA feels like \$100,000 over two years is enough to fund a program that they've already developed," a source close to one of the players said.

The PGA is waiting for players to identify their charities before announcing the plan, another source said.

The plan is similar to the Presidents Cup, in which the PGA Tour gave each member \$100,000 for the charity of their choice.

In essence, it is exactly what Tiger Woods,

David Duval and other players suggested when the revenue controversy first erupted two months before the Ryder Cup.

The United States defeated Europe in September with the greatest final-day comeback in the 72-year history of the matches.

Woods signs 5-year deal with Buick

SAN DIEGO — Tiger Woods has signed a five-year deal with Buick in which he'll reportedly earn between \$20 million and \$25 million to carry the company's logo on his bag and play in a certain number of tournaments sponsored by the company.

Neither Woods nor Buick officials would reveal the exact amount Woods will earn from the deal.

"He prefers we don't say anything, so I've got to defer to his wishes," Buick general manager Roger Adams said today.

TRADE: Astros acquire two top prospects

(From 1C)

where he'll be able to be a long-term contributor."

Everett, who hit .325 with 25 home runs and 108 RBIs for Houston last season, could fill a power-hitting void the Red Sox have had since Mo Vaughn left for free agency before last season. Last year's outfield of Troy O'Leary, Darren Lewis and Trot Nixon hit 45 home runs combined

— 28 of them by O'Leary.

"We're acquiring a center fielder who can play in the middle of the diamond and also hit in the middle of our lineup," Duquette said. "The offensive production of our outfield from was one thing we felt that we needed to improve on from last year."

Adam Everett, no relation, was the 12th pick in the first round of the 1998 amateur draft. The Red

Sox consider him a top prospect, but he wasn't going anywhere with Garciparra in front of him.

Duquette had said the team's primary need is pitching, but "Adam Everett alone was not going to bring us a front line starting pitcher."

The trade leaves Lewis' status in doubt. The former Gold Glove winner helped solidify Boston's outfield since he was acquired as the Red Sox made the playoffs in both of his seasons with the team.

"Darren Lewis is a solid professional. We'll have to see how his role changes," Duquette said. "I would rather have more play-

ers than not enough, particularly in December. And Jimmy Williams does a nice job keeping his team sharp and getting everybody ready to play."

The Astros expect left fielder Moises Alou to recover from knee surgery that kept him out all of last season. Barring further trades, they also have Richard Hidalgo, also returning from surgery, Derek Bell, Glen Barker and Daryle Ward in the outfield.

"We're trying to keep our nucleus but we have to make room for our talent coming up from the minor leagues," Hunsicker said.

ALL-STATE: Crane QB is top offensive player

(From 1C)

player for us."

Sealy, which is vying for its fifth state title in the last six years, also had offensive lineman Keith Zapalac make the squad. The Tigers face Commerce in a championship game for the third time this decade on Saturday at Texas Stadium.

Crane quarterback Clay McGuire was the offensive player of the year after leading his team to a second consecutive 10-0 season. He passed for 1,056 yards and 10 touchdowns while rushing for 618 yards and 13 more touchdowns.

McGuire was joined by teammates Dustin Johns, an offensive lineman, and defensive lineman Tyler Nelson.

Diboll also had two players on the team, with offensive lineman

Lionel Garr and running back Terry Colquitt making it, as did Childress with running back Willie Thomas and defensive lineman Ben Rhodes.

The rest of the offense included linemen Bryan Adams of Newton and Compton, receivers Davon Rogers of Hitchcock and Gainesville's B.J. Banks, and running back DeCori Brimingham of Atlanta.

Rounding out the defense were: lineman Marcus Wilson of Mexia and Jonathan Green of Fairfield, linebackers Justin Jordan of Sweeny and Cory Johnson of Hooks, defensive backs Skipper Robinson of Breckenridge, Aledo's Zach Bankhead, Jesse Upton of Rice Consolidated and La Grange's Wade Booth.

The kicker was Aledo's Colt Dowd and the punter was Cashan Clark of Alvarado.

MIDLAND'S LEADER IN PRICE, SELECTION AND SERVICE

JACK DANIEL'S Gift Set



CHIVAS Gift Set



CROWN ROYAL Gift Set



SMIRNOFF



CAROLANS Gift Set



E & J BRANDY



WE CARRY FINE WINES & SPECIALTY BEERS

WESTERN BEVERAGES

LOOP 250 at MIDKIFF • MIDLAND, TX

Store Hours: Mon-Sat 10am-9pm Phone: (915) 697-1232

ROCKET BASEBALL ACADEMY
4TH WINTER BASEBALL CAMP
DECEMBER 20, 21, 22
ZACHARY FIELD on Cuthbert in MIDLAND, TEXAS
12-UNDER 9:00AM - 12:00 NOON 13-OLDER 1:00PM-4:00PM
INDOOR FACILITIES IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER
\$100 PER PLAYER
*FREE ROCKET BASEBALL ACADEMY T-SHIRT
*FREE BASEBALL CARDS
*AWARDS AND EVALUATIONS
*AUTOGRAPHED CAMP POSTERS AVAILABLE

(915) 520-2821

RED WINGS make Great Christmas Gifts
Red Wing Shoe Store
412 Andrews Hwy. Midland - 692-2651
http://thomson.aol.com/redwingmid/Redwingmid/index.html
MOCCASINS

Ellis

By Jaime Ar
AP Sports Writ

IRVING — wife keeps tel ending leg inju for Christmas first child.

While those prizes, Ellis sti end for the Da

"The big th through for aw Ellis broke i plays into this Philadelphia. V operation to ins the bones grow

The injury a that San Fran Young had las

Young was year but he wa er. His play ha cially since pas his injury.

Ellis already 49er was hosp out in two day

"I hope it ke Ellis, who pla either way, I v son, even if w

UTE

Associated

EL PASO — ers and tecom Charlie Bailey Texas-El Paso nator Gary No head coach W

Nord, 42, cr oping an off 21st in the nat year, will tak year-old Baile month after se coach.

UTEP athl

REC

(From 1C)

but I didn't w lot."

Woods is a Andrews has h running back Andrews care tive ball carri before moving of five Musta intent with a

"It does no have the qual come out the coach Mike L

This past se to tailback fr played in 19 18 touchdow another 57 y

"He did a footsteps." L type of runne we asked and Lebbly doe he figured D be making t

CO

(From 1C)

against App "I think v dously talen terback." B

nothing to d want anyon Chris playe A&M gam deserves the

Since Sim fans have e top-rated qu son of form Phil Simms for the start At 6-foot Simms is a

CAP

(From 1C)

ing forced ery.

If convic or life in p Adams

passing ve neighbor Carruth three othe by cell ph

The co Adams, h moved out lier this m Carruth choice in

DA

(From 1

Kevin Sr with a st ticed for weeks an

"We'll this," Ga ill effec

Ellis has time to enjoy holidays

By Jaime Aron
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — The good news, Greg Ellis' wife keeps telling him, is that his season-ending leg injury guarantees he'll be home for Christmas and the January birth of their first child.

While those are admirable consolation prizes, Ellis still would rather play defensive end for the Dallas Cowboys.

"The big thing," Ellis said, "is that I'm through for awhile."

Ellis broke his left tibia and fibula a few plays into this past Sunday's game against Philadelphia. Within hours, he underwent an operation to insert a titanium rod that will help the bones grow back properly.

The injury and the procedure are the same that San Francisco defensive tackle Bryant Young had last December.

Young was told he might be out an entire year but he was back by this season's opener. His play has improved every week, especially since passing the 1-year anniversary of his injury.

Ellis already is ahead of Young's pace. The 49er was hospitalized two weeks; Ellis was out in two days.

"I hope it keeps on coming real fast," said Ellis, who plans to contact Young. "But, either way, I won't be able to play this season, even if we go to the Super Bowl."

The Cowboys (7-6) likely aren't going to the Super Bowl, especially without Ellis, their 13th player to suffer a season-ending injury.

Dallas coach Chan Gailey said Wednesday that Leon Lett, normally a tackle, will replace Ellis at end against the New York Jets on Sunday, but only in some formations. Otherwise, the Cowboys will stick with their usual multi-player rotation at end and tackle.

The interesting part is that Alonzo Spellman, a former end who had seemed the likeliest replacement for Ellis, will remain at tackle, where he's excelled this season.

"We feel like that's our best matchup for this ballgame," Gailey said after practice. "It may change next week. We'll see how it goes."

Ellis was leading the team in sacks, was tied for the most quarterback pressures and was an excellent run-stopper from the outside. He'd even scored touchdowns on an 87-yard interception return and a 98-yard fumble return.

All told, Ellis was living up to his status as the No. 8 overall pick in last year's draft, quieting some of the critics who lamented Dallas not taking Randy Moss.

His sophomore season came to an end on a play he wasn't even making. Ellis was following a group of players try-

ing to bring down Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb when Spellman helped on the tackle, then rolled into Ellis' legs.

Ellis heard a pop, then saw his foot was at a horrifying angle. He immediately feared the worst.

"I was like, 'Am I ever going to play again?' Just that quick it went through my head," he said.

The only timetable he's received is that the screws will come out in 6-8 weeks. It may seem like 6-8 months considering how badly he slept during his first night at home.

"We could get in the bed and put pillows up, but the couch was the best thing because I can lay down, have my back propped up and then have the ottoman in front of the couch and prop it up on that," Ellis said. "That was tough. I woke up every hour."

The lack of sleep may be a good preparation for what's coming in a few weeks. His wife, Tangie, is due to have a daughter the second week of January.

By then, Ellis hopes to be more comfortable using crutches.

"I'm getting pretty tired just standing on them," he said, wiping sweat from his forehead.

Then he was off, hobbling toward the film room for his first look at his last play of 1999.

"It doesn't gross me out; I can look at it and be fine," he said. "I want to look at it just to make sure that next time I get out of the way."



More Sports/2D



Virginia Tech head football coach Frank Beamer gets carried off the field by players Shayne Graham, left, and Jimmy Kibbie after beating Boston College last month. On Wednesday, Beamer was announced as The Associated Press' College Coach of the Year.

AP selects Virginia Tech's Beamer as Coach of the Year

By Richard Rosenblatt
AP Football Writer

Frank Beamer is coaching less and enjoying it more.

The easy-going Beamer is not as heavily involved in offensive and defensive strategy as he used to be, saying he has total confidence in his coordinators at Virginia Tech.

"Now that I think about it," Beamer said, laughing, "it seems the less you coach, the more honors you get."

On Wednesday, Beamer was chosen The Associated Press' College Coach of the Year in balloting by AP member newspapers, TV and radio stations.

"It's a tremendous honor for our program," Beamer said. "You can't get this if you don't have a staff that has been together for some time. We have that."

Beamer, finishing his 13th season at Virginia Tech, received 27 of the 84 votes in the AP balloting. Hawaii's June Jones was second with 19 votes and Minnesota's Glen Mason was third with nine votes.

Beamer's staff includes defensive coordinator Bud Foster and offensive coordinator Rickey Bustle.

"I was very involved in the offense at one time, then the defense," Beamer said. "Now I let them do it."

And the players responded so well that the second-ranked Hokies (11-0) will play No. 1 Florida State (11-0) for the national championship in the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 4.

"The key to us was how fast our offense would come along," Beamer said.

How does warp speed sound? Redshirt freshman quarterback Michael Vick was the surprise star of the season, throwing for 1,840 yards and 12 touchdowns and running for 585 yards and eight TDs. Add a top-notch defense and the nation's best special teams, and Beamer had him-

self a sensational season.

The Hokies have been good for years, but not until this season have they gained so much national attention. Virginia Tech will be playing in its seventh straight bowl game.

"All these national awards are new to us," Beamer said. "And believe me, we appreciate every one of them."

All-America defensive end Corey Moore won the Lombardi Award as the nation's top lineman and the Nagurski trophy as the nation's top defensive player, and Vick finished third in the Heisman Trophy balloting behind Ron Dayne and Joe Hamilton. Beamer has collected several other coach-of-the-year honors.

The 53-year-old former Hokies defensive back has handled the spotlight well. When his team was criticized for playing a weak schedule, and when computer wizards were trying to figure out how a once-beaten Nebraska could edge the Hokies in the final Bowl Championship Series standings, Beamer kept his cool.

"We can do nothing, absolutely nothing, about our schedule, somebody else's schedule or how somebody else is going to play. All we can control is how we prepare," Beamer said frequently. Beamer is Virginia Tech's most successful coach, compiling an 88-59-2 record and three Big East titles.

Beamer knew his Hokies were good, but how good depended on Vick, sophomore wide receiver Andre Davis and a young offensive line.

"If our offense came along, we knew we'd be a balanced team," Beamer said. "And then our quarterback goes out and plays better than we had ever hoped, the schedule fell right and we didn't have many injuries. Things just fell into place."

Beamer's Hokies led the nation in both scoring offense and defense, averaging 41.4 points and allowing just 10.5.

UTEP promotes assistant to head coach

Associated Press

EL PASO — With many players and recently retired coach Charlie Bailey pushing for him, Texas-El Paso offensive coordinator Gary Nord was promoted to head coach Wednesday.

Nord, 42, credited with developing an offense that ranked 21st in the nation in passing this year, will take over for the 59-year-old Bailey, who retired this month after seven years as head coach.

UTEP athletic director Bob

Stull said during a news conference that details of Nord's contract had not yet been determined.

Stull said he chose Nord after a week and a half of interviews. The other candidates were Al Borges, the offensive coordinator at UCLA; Bob Wagner, line-backer and special teams coach at Arizona; and Steve Kragthorpe, offensive coordinator at Texas A&M.

"I knew that Gary was a favorite amongst the players, but I also told them that it's still important that I go out and make sure

that I get the very best person for UTEP at this time," Stull said.

He said he believed Nord was the best choice considering his relationships with the team, the community and university officials.

Nord, who was misty-eyed during the news conference, thanked Bailey and the players for helping him land his first head coaching job.

After coaching at Louisville, Oklahoma and Pittsburgh, Nord came to UTEP in 1997. He said next season, won't merely be a

learning experience.

"I expect to be hitting the ground running, because we've got eight of our 11 starters coming back on offense and we've got six of our 11 coming back on defense, and we've got a great group of young kids coming in behind them," he said. "So I expect us to do very well next year."

The Miners were 5-7 this season, their best record since 1988. In Nord's three years at the school, UTEP has improved from 97th nationally in total offense to 43rd this year.

RECRUITING: Cswaykus visits Air Force

(From 1C)

but I didn't want to after thinking about it a lot."

Woods is a talented player, something that Andrews has had plenty of recently. Last year, running back Shaud Williams ended his Andrews career as one of the more productive ball carriers in Texas schoolboy history before moving on to Tech. Williams was one of five Mustang players to sign letters-of-intent with a school.

"It does nothing but help the program to have the quality of athletes that we have had come out the last couple years," Andrews coach Mike Lebby said.

This past season Woods, who was moved to tailback from the linebacker position he played in 1998, rushed for 1,642 yards and 18 touchdowns on 276 carries. He added another 57 yards and two scores receiving.

"He did a good job following in Shaud's footsteps," Lebby said. "They are different type of runners, but he (Woods) did everything we asked and got better as the year went on."

Lebby doesn't doubt Woods' ability. In fact, he figured Division I college coaches would be making the trip to Andrews for a second

straight year.

"I pretty much thought that would happen," Lebby said. "He is an excellent student and good person. Those things are very, very important, and he has those qualities."

Woods plans to use the Christmas holidays as a time when he can sit down with his mother and figure out if A&M is the right choice. "She will play a major part in what my decision will be," Woods said. "I want her to be happy and for me to be happy."

"It will be pretty soon, really soon. I don't know how long. It will be whatever mom and I decide to do."

4-5A on the Dallas Morning News top 100: Six players from District 4-5A were listed among the top 100 recruits in the state by the Dallas Morning News.

Making the list were Abilene High running back Arturo Beltran, Odessa Permian receiver Roy Williams, Odessa High tight end Taylor Casey, Midland High tight end Randy Gardner, Midland Lee offensive lineman Steve Subia and MHS punter Justin Smith. Williams was also named to the Morning News' top 100 list in the nation.

Tall City Update: Midland High offensive lineman Cotey-Joe Cswaykus has visited Air

Force and Rice. Also, he has a visit lined up with North Texas (Jan. 21), and UTEP and Cornell both want him to set up visits.

Cswaykus made it clear that education is a priority and that he also wants the option of continuing his baseball career. Air Force and Rice are willing to give him the opportunity to do both.

MHS tight end Randy Gardner plans to visit Arizona (Jan. 7), Baylor (Jan. 14), and North Texas (Jan. 21). There also might be a trip to Air Force (Jan. 28) in the works.

Smith, a punter, has committed to Texas.

MHS running back Jimmy Smith is getting looks from UTEP, Air Force and some smaller schools.

Lee Linebacker Joe Norman said this week that he has a visit lined up for UTEP and says there might be another one to Kansas State.

In Odessa: Permian wide receiver Roy Williams has five visits set up. Williams has been to Florida State and will go to Texas (Dec. 17), Tennessee (Jan. 15); UCLA (Jan. 22) and Texas A&M (Jan. 29).

Odessa High linebacker/tight end Taylor Casey has been reported as favoring Baylor and North Texas.

COTTON: Freshman QB will get to play

(From 1C)

against Applewhite.

"I think we have two tremendously talented players at quarterback," Brown said. "It has nothing to do with Major. I don't want anyone to think otherwise. Chris played well enough in the A&M game that we think he deserves the chance to play."

Since Simms signed with Texas, fans have expected the country's top-rated quarterback recruit and son of former NFL quarterback Phil Simms to pressure Applewhite for the starting job.

At 6-foot-5 and 210 pounds, Simms is a prototypical quarter-

back with the strong arm and quick release. He also showed good mobility on several rollouts and downfield runs against Texas A&M.

At 6-1 and 210, Applewhite isn't as physically imposing, but he's picked apart defenses with his accuracy and ability to read blitzes. He also showed a soft touch throwing downfield on his way to 3,357 yards passing and 21 touchdowns.

In two years, he's set many school records and has become one of the winningest quarterbacks in school history. He also has had a knack for leading the

team to comeback victories.

"The reason we're in the Cotton Bowl is Major Applewhite," Brown said. "He's had a great year. Whether he got sick or not, we would've worked toward this."

Simms said he doesn't view this opportunity as a prelude to taking over the job.

"I'm really not worried about the big picture right now," he said. "I think as a team and for myself about just concentrating on Arkansas."

Simms played sparingly until the A&M game. He is 19-of-36 passing for 232 yards and two TDs with one interception this season.

Applewhite, who led Texas to victories over Nebraska each of the last two seasons, had one of his worst games against the Cornhuskers in the Big 12 title game. He was just 15-of-42 for 172 yards with three interceptions and no touchdowns. He was sacked seven times.

CARRUTH: Murder suspect arrested

(From 1C)

ing forced doctors to perform an emergency delivery.

If convicted, Carruth could be sentenced to death or life in prison.

Adams was shot in the neck and chest from a passing vehicle as she drove through a Charlotte neighborhood.

Carruth was in a car near the shooting, and the three other men were in a separate vehicle, talking by cell phone, prosecutors said.

The condition of the baby, Chancellor Lee Adams, has improved since the shooting. He was moved out of a neonatal intensive care nursery earlier this month.

Carruth, 25, was the Panthers' first-round draft choice in 1997 out of Colorado. According to the

Pro Football Hall of Fame, he is the first active NFL player to face a murder charge.

Carruth and the other men were originally charged with conspiracy, attempted murder and related charges. Carruth was free on \$3 million bail on the earlier charges when Adams died.

Michael Eugene Kennedy, 24; Stanley Drew "Boss" Abraham, 19; and William Edward Watkins, 44; were charged with first-degree murder Wednesday and were being held without bail. They were to make their first court appearances Thursday on the murder charge.

Carruth's mother, Theodry Carruth, had gone on national television Wednesday morning to say her son would turn himself in to authorities when he was ready. She said she had spoken to him by telephone Tuesday.

DALLAS: Kevin Smith could return

(From 1C)

Kevin Smith, who has been out with a strained hamstring, practiced for the first time in three weeks and could play Sunday.

"We'll see how he feels after this," Gailey said. "If he has no ill effects from today's practice,

then that's encouraging."

Coaches also decided that on Sunday they'll use tackle Leon Lett in place of Greg Ellis, who suffered a season-ending leg injury in the 20-10 victory over the Eagles.

Alonzo Spellman, who moved from end to tackle while Lett was

suspended for eight games, will remain at tackle in Dallas' standard defensive package.

"We feel like that's our best matchup for this ballgame," Gailey said. "It may change next week. We'll see how it goes. We're still going to use our rotation system, so all our guys will play."

Get it fresh every morning...

Begin your day with a hot, fresh-brewed 20 oz. cup of coffee and your morning copy of the Midland Reporter-Telegram from

KENT Kwik
CONVENIENCE STORES

99¢

Offer good Monday through Saturday at any Kent Kwik where ever the Midland Reporter-Telegram is sold. (Cappuccino not included.)

You can now pay for your Midland Reporter-Telegram subscription at Mr. Payroll, located inside Kent Kwik.

DECEMBER 16, 1999

THE MARKET IN REVIEW

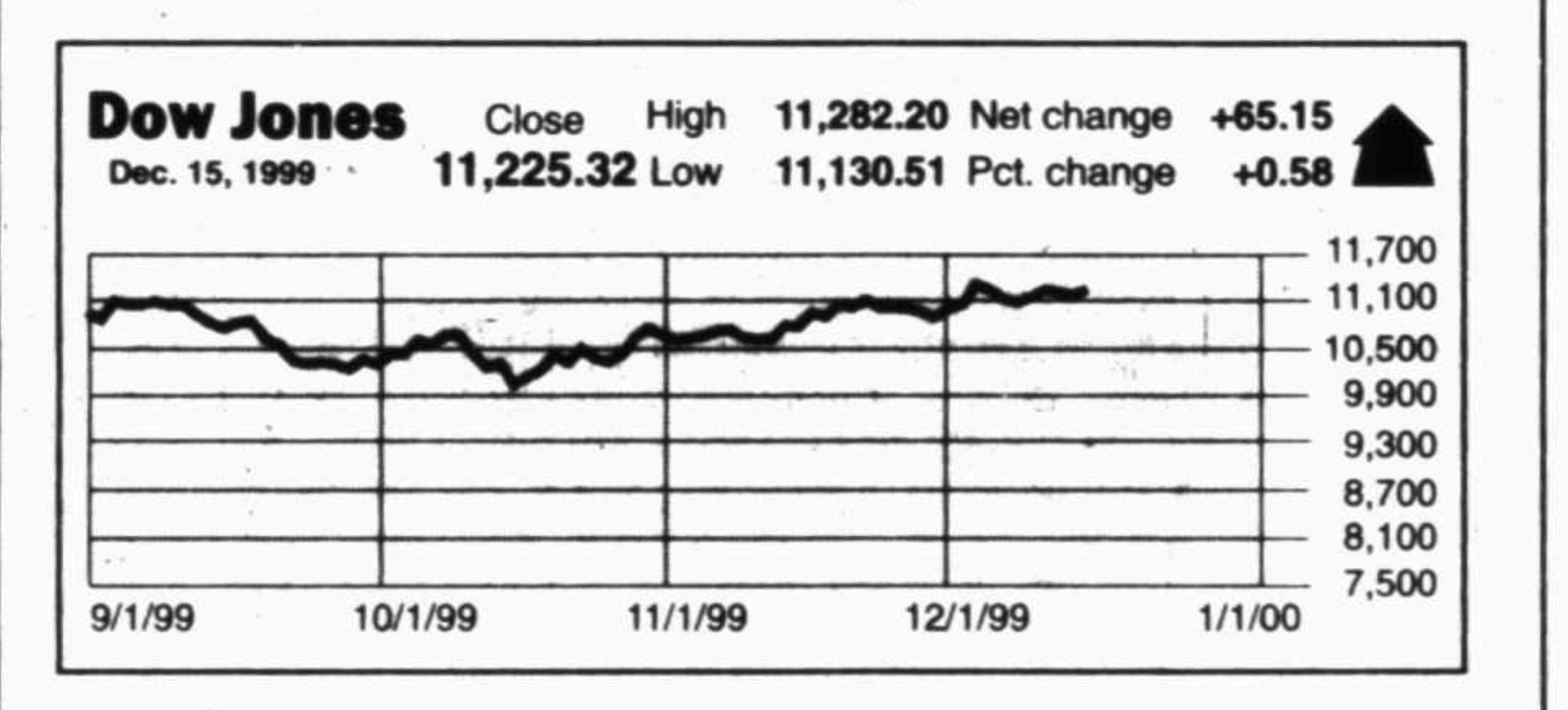
NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

[illegible][illegible]

NYSE				AMEX				NASDAQ			
MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on move)				MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on move)				MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on move)			
Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
AmOnline	288782	87 1/2	-5/8	Nasd100T	n159893	182 +3/4		Microsoft	759363108	7 1/2	+9/16
TYcolint	186710	29 1/2	-1 1/2	SPDR	8879014	13 1/4	+7/16	Cisco	448058	95 1/8	-2 1/4
K mart	139479	11 1/8	-5/16	InterDir	17198	18 1/8	-1/2	Intel	339863	78 1/2	+5/8
Lucent	137767	77 3/4	+1/8	IntertITtrN	17180	187 1/4	-1/4	Oracle	386099	90 3/4	+13 1/2
Pfizer	131935	34 1/4	+1 1/4	FAuSpr	16209	5 1/8	+1/8	SunMic	295491	73 3/4	-2 1/4

GAINERS (\$2 on move)				GAINERS (\$2 on move)				GAINERS (\$2 on move)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Chyron	3 1/8	+1 1/2	+88.5	Unidigital	3 3/4	+2 1/4	+25.0	Futubrio	9 1/4	+4 1/2	+105.8
Unit	7	+1 1/2	+27.3	E-SIM Ltd	14	+2 1/4	+24.0	PopMail n	4	+1 1/2	+68.2
CIWnt	3 1/8	+1 1/4	+24.5	Disperm	4 1/4	+1 1/2	+21.3	RagMail n	4 1/2	+1 1/2	+62.5
DeltaW	2 1/4	+1 1/8	+18.8	Intomart	7 1/4	+1 1/2	+20.0	AsaFco	5 1/2	+2 1/2	+60.0
CwiCo	2 1/8	+2 1/2	+12.5	TexRtrN	5 1/8	+1	+20.3	PszDrDr	8 5/8	+2 3/4	+60.4

LOSERS (\$2 on money)				LOSERS (\$2 on money)				LOSERS (\$2 on money)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
ThmBet	28-11 1/2	-28.5		Seracare	2 1/2	-3	-12.5	iss	5 1/2	-9 1/2	-83.3
Inacom	8 7/8	-13	-20.3	PendPz g	2 1/2	-5 1/2	-11.9	AdvLrng s	11 1/2	-11 1/2	-50.0
SieraHS	6 1/2	-14	-20.1	ThrmPzm	2 1/2	-5 1/2	-10.9	Verity s	26 1/2	-22 7/8	-46.7
Reardst	4 1/2	-7 1/2	-17.7	TownPgs n	4 1/2	-9 1/2	-10.8	LghtPrtB	2 1/2	-1 1/2	-33.2
Carson	2 1/2	-9 1/2	-18.1	Thrmose	2 1/2	-1 1/2	-10.5	Aetac s	15 1/2	-6 1/2	-29.9
DIARY				DIARY				DIARY			
Advanced	1,428			Advanced	291			Advanced	1,772		
Declined	1,668			Declined	319			Declined	2,365		
Unchanged	483			Unchanged	182			Unchanged	901		
Total issues	3,579			Total issues	792			Total issues	5,038		
New Highs	49			New Highs	15			New Highs	87		
New Lows	455			New Lows	54			New Lows	188		
Volume	1,266,691,970			Volume	64,976,390			Volume	1,554,140,201		



INDEXES							
52-Week		Name	Last	Net Chg	Chg %	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
High	Low						
11,365.93	8,678.03	Dow Jones Industrials	11,225.32	+65.15	+58	+22.26	+27.70
3,797.05	2,778.58	Dow Jones Transportation	2,919.54	+10.66	+37	-7.30	+41.73
336.03	266.59	Dow Jones Utilities	272.19	+2.99	+1.11	-12.84	-11.21
683.50	552.83	NYSE Composite	613.93	-14	-02	+6.06	+12.27
836.84	643.70	Amex Index	836.94	+111.16	+35	+21.76	+28.78
3,689.85	1,962.06	Nasdaq Composite	3,621.95	+50.29	+41	+65.18	+80.25
1,447.54	1,136.89	S&P 500	1,413.32	+10.15	+72	+14.98	+21.63
471.76	381.96	Russell 2000	461.32	-1.43	-31	+9.33	+18.33
13,281.06	10,423.37	Wilshire 5000	13,153.23	+64.51	+49	+16.22	+24.17

[illegible]

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

[illegible]

TPR	HyperFeedS 4% + 4%	LPTHA	LightP	10 7% - 4%	NE
-----	--------------------	-------	--------	------------	----

MUTUAL FUNDS

and	40.95	-09+137.5	LCapB1	21.07	+19+103.4	STiniB
Test	26.64	07	DCapB	26.95	-04+80.7	

[illegible]

BUSINESS & OIL

Stocks/6C

BUSINESS BRIEFING

OIL PRICES	
Wednesday	\$26.36
Previous	\$25.73

POSTED	
Wednesday	\$23.50
Previous	\$23.00

NATURAL GAS

Wednesday	\$2.486
Previous	\$2.585

Energy futures mostly higher

NEW YORK (AP) — Crude oil futures prices were higher Wednesday in trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange in the wake of the latest inventory data.

The American Petroleum Institute reported after the close of trading Tuesday that U.S. crude oil stockpiles dropped 7.16 million barrels last week to 294.41 million barrels, the lowest level since January 1997, when crude oil prices reached \$26.74 a barrel. The U.S. Energy Department placed the decline at 5.6 million barrels.

January light sweet crude was 63 cents higher at \$26.36 a barrel; January heating oil was 1.34 cents higher at 67.30 cents a gallon; January unleaded gasoline was 1.54 cents higher at 71.30 cents a gallon.

In London, North Sea Brent crude for January delivery was 41 cents higher at \$25.43 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange. January natural gas was 9.9 cents lower at \$2.486 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Dollar mixed

NEW YORK (AP) — The dollar was mixed against major currencies Wednesday, falling against the euro and rising against the yen, in light foreign exchange trading.

In late New York trading, the euro was quoted at \$1.0070, up from \$1.0043 late Tuesday. The dollar was quoted at 103.70 Japanese yen, up from 103.53. In other trading, the dollar was quoted at 1.5886 Swiss francs, down from 1.5922, and 1.4830 Canadian dollars, up from 1.4807. The British pound fell to \$1.6054 from \$1.6111.

Currencies of the 11 countries participating in the euro are no longer traded separately and are tied to the euro by a fixed rate. Based on the euro's rate, the dollar was worth: 1.9423 German marks, down from 1.9473; 6.5143 French francs, down from 6.5308; and 1,922.91 Italian lire, down from 1,927.79.

Coffee surges

Coffee futures prices surged in trading Wednesday on the New York Coffee, Sugar and Cocoa Exchange as evidence increases that Brazil's coffee crop has suffered major damage from months of dry weather.

Brazil, the world's largest coffee producer, was expected to grow about 40 million bags of coffee for the 2000-01 crop season. However, the lack of rain has reduced crop estimates by as much as 30 percent. A bag is 132 pounds.

Concerns also are growing in the market over the size of the Colombian coffee crop, Ganes said. Estimates place production at 9.3 million bags, nearly 50 percent behind last year's production.

Coffee for March delivery settled 5.85 cents higher at \$1.2835 a pound.

Copper futures

Copper futures reached their highest level in three months in technical trading on the New York Merc.

As futures prices moved to between 81.70 cents and 81.90 cents a pound, automatic buying programs were triggered, strengthening the rally. More buying occurred when prices hit 82.20 cents a pound.

March copper was 3.10 cents higher at 83.95 cents a pound.

Dell invests in new tech support

AUSTIN (AP) — Dell Computer Corp. and a small Austin communications company are forming all.com, an online technical support company that links troubled computer users to automated online help or directly to a technician.

The new venture, which promises to provide "all the support you'll ever need," will help diagnose simple problems that are the root of most costly computer trouble, analysts say.

Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed.

For the system to work, customers have to visit the all.com Web site and download software. Subsequently they can try to resolve technical troubles for free by using an automated diagnostic program or they can connect with a certified technician who, for a fee, will analyze their PC and try to fix the problem online, said Scott Abel, president of all.com and a former executive with

Austin-based Motive Communications.

The service is for all makes of personal computers, not just Dell's.

Connecting to technicians could cost as little as \$3 to several hundred dollars depending on the scope of the problem, Abel said.

Online support is not an original idea — several Internet companies offer similar services — and it won't solve major computer problems, but it will save consumers time and money by diagnosing simple ailments that are often undetected by the novice.

"A very large percentage of calls, particularly from consumers, are over very trivial, obvious problems," said Barry Jaruzelski, an analyst at Booz-Allen & Hamilton in New York. All.com "is a triaging thing. It's for relatively simple problems."

"When systems or applications fail, millions of technology users without big internal support desks turn to the Inter-

net for help," said Richard L. Ptak, an analyst with the Hurwitz Group. "It can provide timely access to support for those who can't afford to spend long stretches of time listening to hold music."

The service, which for now will offer only online help, won't solve every problem but it's a good place for consumers to start, Jaruzelski said.

"What if the problem is the modem doesn't connect?" Jaruzelski said. "Obviously you can't do everything online."

"If that doesn't work then you either trouble shoot it yourself, have someone come out and take a look at it, or you take it to a service center," he added.

Eventually all.com will charge an additional fee to refer consumers who can't get a quick fix for their problems online to technicians who will make house calls, Abel said.

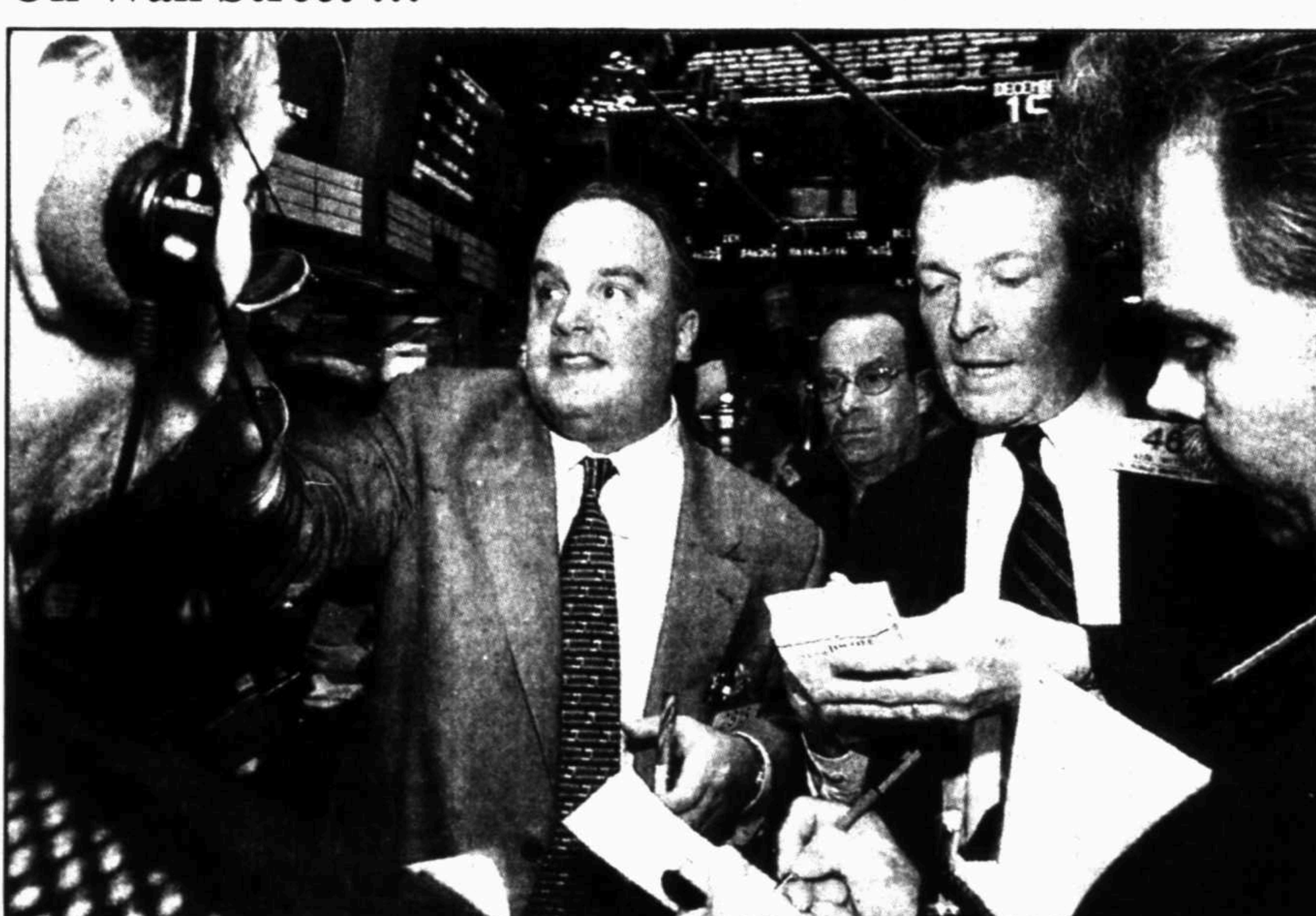
The service is targeted to home and small business customers and will be available in late January.

Also starting next year, Dell will extend its "e-support" by equipping all its personal computers with a button that will allow customers to connect online with Dell. The company currently offers the service through its server and the button feature on the new Webpc.

The partnership is an independent business venture that will bring Dell-like technical service to any customer since all.com technicians will be Dell-certified, officials said. Also, through its own support service, Dell will link customers having problems with non-Dell equipment or software to all.com.

"We think that support on the Internet, it's time has come, and we want to make sure that it's first-class service right from the start," said Carl Everett, senior vice president of Dell's personal systems group.

On Wall Street ...



Specialist Todd Christie, second left, conducts trades in America Online on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Wednesday. Technology stocks were lower for a second consecutive session Wednesday after Cisco Systems repeated a warning that sales may slow in coming quarters.

Stocks rise as Microsoft rejuvenates technology sector

NEW YORK (AP) — Microsoft led the stock market higher Wednesday, putting an end to a one-day slump in technology shares and lifting the Dow Jones industrials.

The Dow rose 65.15 to close at 11,225.32. Microsoft accounted for more than half the gain, and Intel contributed nearly all the rest.

Broader stock indicators closed higher after reversing early declines. The Standard & Poor's 500 rose 10.16 to 1,413.33, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 50.29 to 3,621.95.

Stocks rose after Microsoft said its Windows 2000 code, which has been held up in numerous delays, has been delivered to software manufacturing plants. Retail customers will be able to purchase Windows 2000-based products on Feb. 17.

Microsoft shares rose 9 3/4 to 108 7/16, its highest close ever. The gain sent Microsoft's market capitalization soaring to nearly \$560 billion.

In recent sessions, Microsoft has rebounded from a slump that began in early November, when a federal judge said the company had abused its monopoly in the software business. Microsoft shares fell as low as 83 1/2 after the judge ruled in the antitrust case, and have moved higher amid speculation that the Justice Department will ultimately forge a settlement with the company.

Microsoft's gains were nearly matched by Intel, another newcomer to the Dow, which rose 6 1/2 to 78 15/16. Money managers working to round out their portfolios for end-of-the-year reports are snapping up shares of the most established technology companies, which boast strong stock returns and solid earnings, analysts said.

"There are relative values within the technology arena," said David G. Sowerby, a vice president at Loomis, Sayles & Co. "Compared to some of the Internet stocks, these shares look

like a bargain."

Many Internet stocks fell Wednesday. Yahoo! dropped 5 9/16 to 327 1/2, while eBay lost 4 3/4 to 145 13/16.

Even in the technology sector, where companies without profits can command hefty premiums, the latest wave of earnings news moved some stocks. Oracle, which said late Tuesday its fiscal second-quarter results beat Wall Street's expectations, rose 13 7/16 to 90 3/8. The business software maker earned 26 cents per share, 4 cents above official forecasts and a penny above the "whisper number," an unofficial prediction circulated among traders.

But Cisco Systems, a leading maker of computer networking products, fell 2 1/16 to 95 7/8. Cisco said in a routine filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission that in the future, net sales may not match the company's historically strong growth rate.

NAMEDROPPING



Moore



Kaufman



Juan



Lewis

KWES-TV has promoted LAURA MOORE to news director. She previously served as executive producer and assistant news director. She has been with Newsweek 9 three years.

She succeeds M. GAYLE HILL, former news director, who has been promoted to director of development.

Midlander MIKE KAUFMAN, special agent with Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance, has completed a weeklong career development course with the company. He is associated with the Sale District Agency and the Reeter General Agency.

Two physicians have joined P.V. Patel, M.D. & Associates.

DR. MELENCIO F. JUAN specializes in family practice. He is board certified by the American Board of Family Practice.

DR. JOHN M. LEWIS specializes in interventional cardiology and is a former professor of medicine at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He is board certified in cardiology and internal medicine.

Continental Land & Fur Co. Inc. of Houston announces two new employees and a promotion.

JOHN G. SEAY has been retained in Midland to represent the company in the Permian Basin.

GARY A. DOBBS has joined as land manager in Houston.

R. PAUL LOVELESS has been promoted to the position of vice president, exploration and production.

THE ECONOMIST

Texas economy has grown impressively in the 90s

By M. Ray Perryman

After the roller-coaster ride of the 1980s, the Texas economy has grown impressively in the 1990s. Numerous factors help explain this success; they include unprecedented international trade; a young, large workforce; and an ideal geographical location. One of the greatest driving forces has been the commitment of the Texas Legislature to improve the state's business climate.

A spectrum of legislative measures enacted over the last decade has triggered the state's economic expansion. Restructuring has occurred in workers' compensation, intrastate trucking, judicial equity, and business taxation. We have also seen the advent of laws permitting local voters to approve sales tax initiatives to be used for economic development. Subsequent to the legislation, cities across the state began extending incentives in an effort to garner new and expanded industrial activity. Unfortunately, Texas as a whole has not enjoyed similar opportunities (despite other states that are armed with inducements).

Lawmakers at the recent 76th Session debated the use of incentives along with other issues relevant to the state's business prosperity. When the smoke cleared, Senate Bill 441 (SB441) emerged from the fray as the vehicle for economic development (ED) incentives.

SB441 was originally drafted as a bill to advance non-ED purposes (primarily sales tax exemptions), but the legislation took a different turn in the waning hours of

the Session. In its final form, the bill enacts numerous tax credits designed to lure corporate expansion and relocation to Texas. Among the new incentives at the state level are a tax credit for research and development (R&D) expenditures, an investment tax credit for capital expenditures in certain Strategic Investment Areas (SIAs), and a franchise tax credit for job creation within the SIAs. (SIAs are defined as counties with below average personal income levels and above average unemployment rates; an SIA may also be a designated part of an urban center being redeveloped with federal funds.)

To be honest, the incentives our lawmakers approved are modest compared to some ED proposals that were derailed at the 11th hour — they also pale when juxtaposed to tax breaks available in some other states. Nevertheless, for the first time in Texas, significant resources are earmarked for promoting ED incentives at the state level. The result of this landmark legislation is twofold: the state strengthens its competitiveness relative to other areas, and an important precedent is now established for future legislative action.

You may be wondering if the use of incentives works. Actually, considerable debate exists over whether or not incentives lead to business expansion at the national level (although the most comprehensive studies support the notion that they do). On the other hand, there is absolutely no doubt that companies having decided to relocate or expand are swayed by statewide and local incentives.

The foundation for using economic incentives to attract corporate activity is based on an understanding of how corporations themselves do business. Companies typically will invest in new plant and equipment

(P&E) if the expected benefits exceed the expected costs. The purpose of incentives, then, is to afford companies an opportunity to maximize their benefits by locating in a certain area. All else being equal, any item that reduces costs will simultaneously improve the benefit/cost ratio, thus stimulating additional investment. And so the economy grows.

To be fair, incentives are seldom the sole factor in determining a company's location decision. Tax breaks cannot, for instance, compensate for significant obstacles to production such as an inadequate supply of labor, restricted transportation access, or a scarcity of raw materials. After addressing these and similar basic concerns, most companies compile a "short list" of suitable industry locations. The next and final step is choosing a site from the short list; this decision typically rests on one consideration: minimizing costs. In this strategic moment, ED incentives can provide the requisite ammo to make or break the deal.

In sum, corporate tax breaks are ubiquitous in the "real world" and, as a practical matter, cannot be ignored. The bottom line is that Texas' lack of incentives has caused it to lag the location activity enjoyed in other major industrial states (we have fallen from 1st to 6th over the past few years). But that was then and this is now. By enabling statewide inducements, SB441 has provided the ED tools Texas needs to compete — and win — on the corporate ED battlefield.

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (www.perryman.com). He also serves as Institute Distinguished Professor of Economic Theory and Method at the International Institute for Advanced Studies.



Perryman

MIDLAND REP

WOF

From 10C

he and his wife by an insurance life insurance work as a sales community. He felt it was recalled.

But after a push from his er opened his that has been

Morales said a Hispanic was "For many years I lived like many and say 'G' your employees sified, we call lists the City Force and Mi still has a few ing insurance

A main go Hispanic bus tance of insu "We want to businesses, th Morales said

Morales h Morales, No Morales — Chase Antho pher Gerard,

Each of his two are succe ry owns Ger restaurant th mother, Celi Novert is a la

NOT

From 10C

master (slap) Next, sleep to guilt about You may feel something to that you've sleep all day if you get up you don't do up since 7 a. day, you can guilt if someo do something

"I need yo "Hey, I've I'm tired." 8 a.m. — on the televi

Watching vision is the fect way to g of doing cou chores. Some ple may say get caught w ing televisio I get more t added to my things to do or, "Some there in no good showi or even would rathe a book."

First of a don't quest

Cas

mon

Staff Rep

Casa de AmeriCorp gram. The monthly liv through vo Ludi Nav said there a "We need a bination of Candida starting Jan qualify for Ms. Nav in the prog teers receiv ly living al due to the provide, sh

To be ac be at least ma or equi manent res a criminal Position

■ Liter ■ Healt

DEAR

Pe

By Abig

DEAR work tod truck wi beauti husky do the back we along, moved ously f one side the truc the other

Sudden the jumped hit the p bling ou a full-s slamme

WORK: Hispanic entrepreneurs share struggles and triumphs

From 10C

he and his wife, Celia, were approached by an insurance agent, whom they bought life insurance from, and he was asked to work as a salesman for the Hispanic community. He declined the offer because he felt it was too much work, Morales recalled.

But after careful consideration and a push from his wife, he accepted and later opened his own insurance agency, a job that has been his life since.

Morales said being a business owner and a Hispanic was a struggle in the beginning. "For many years there was no way an individual like me could approach a company and say 'Give me an opportunity to help your employees.' Now that we've diversified, we can do that." Today, Morales lists the City of Midland, Confederate Air Force and Midland County as clients and still has a few from when he began selling insurance, he said.

A main goal for Morales is to educate Hispanic business owners on the importance of insurance for their employees. "We want to focus on helping Hispanic businesses, there's a big need out there," Morales said.

Morales has three children — Jerry Morales, Novert Morales and Cynthia Morales — as well as two grandsons, Chase Anthony Morales, 6; and Christopher Gerard, 10.

Each of his children attended college and two are successful business owners. Jerry owns Gerardo's Casita in Midland, a restaurant that was first owned by his mother, Celia, when it opened in 1977. Novert is a lawyer and owner of his law

firm, the Morales Law Office. Cynthia works with her father at the insurance agency. The three businesses are on the same block, side by side, on Big Spring St.

Just starting out is a hard obstacle to overcome for newcomers to the business scene, said Laura Florez and her mother, Connie Florez.

The mother-daughter team opened their shop, the Candy Bouquet and Special Occasions, on Feb. 1.

Connie Florez was reading a magazine one day and noticed an article that listed the top 10 franchises in the U.S., and the Candy Bouquet was among that list.

"She (Connie) told me to read the article with information on the business," Laura Florez said. When the women decided they wanted to try it out, they flew to Little Rock, Ark. for a seminar to learn about the franchise.

Excited and anxious, the women jumped at the opportunity. "Later we felt we should have thought about it," she said. Since the opening of Candy Bouquet, the two women have been busy using their hands and imaginations to give candy a new look.

Instead of a bouquet of flowers, the women create a bouquet of candy, using hard candy or chocolate. Cookies, chips and other edible items are also used. A simple example of what is offered is a soda can with stems coming from the opening

with candies that act as the flowers.

Elaborate bouquets can look like a dozen roses made from green stems, Hershey Kisses, red plastic, silk leaves, and champagne bottles.

"It's a lot of fun and it's different," Laura Florez said. "People haven't seen stuff like this."

Besides owning a shop, Laura Florez teaches 5 and 6 year-old children Folklorico dancing for

said he "tries to follow the same traditions" as his father had with the customers. He said his dad treated people the way the motto goes, Treat others as you want to be treated."

Taking over the family business was something Lara wanted to do. In order to keep things working smoothly, he continues to take courses to keep up with the new technology that becomes available. "Technology is different than it was when my dad first opened," Lara said. "We have to keep buying equipment to keep up; if we didn't, we would have to get out of the business."

Lara and his wife have two children, George II, who is 13, and Jonathan, 10. He is a board trustee for the Midland Independent School District in District 2, having served the first six months of his three-year term.

The shop employs only three people, Lara, his wife, and his brother, Paul Lara. Participating in the community is a major issue for the business owners.

"Those that have been successful are more generous in giving back to the community," said Diaz of Hispanic businessmen.

The number of Hispanics who have gotten involved in volunteering has been limited in the past. But said that with more Hispanic businesses opening, there is more community involvement among Latinos.

Celia Morales said that individuals should never stop learning and never stop getting involved with the community. "If you cannot give part of your time to the community, then your community cannot grow," she said.

For more information about the Hispanic Chamber call 682-2960.

"I feel proud to be an entrepreneur in Midland, it's a privilege."

George Lara Sr., Owner Lara's Automotive

Hispanic business owners is George Lara Sr. and his wife, Belinda. Together they own Lara's Automotive in Midland.

The shop was originally owned by Lara's late father, Secundino Lara, and was known as Lara's Diamond Shamrock, when the shop first opened in August 1970. After Lara's father retired in 1988, he took over the family business, which is still in its original location.

"I feel proud to be an entrepreneur in Midland, it's a privilege," Lara said. He also said that his dad set the course for him and showed him the path to success. To be like the man he always respected, Lara

POSADA: Tradition begins this evening

From 10C

Upon arrival at the pre-arranged house, the group splits into two and plays out the reenactment.

The first group enters the house and plays the role of the innkeepers, while the rest stays outside to beg for shelter.

The outside group is told that there is no room, and doesn't receive shelter but is welcomed to come in to have candies, pastries, or *ponche*, a Christmas punch with fruit base. Then the group heads out to the next house.

This process is repeated several times throughout the night until they reach the designated final stop. Here the group separates into two groups again. This time, however, the innkeepers are happy to help the holy family and the doors are opened.

At the end of each night a lively party is held at the final house. There are tamales, *buñuelos*, which are fried sugar tortillas, and Mexican hot chocolate.

Traditionally, there is a *piñata*, in the shape of a star in remembrance of the star that led the Three Kings to the newborn Jesus.

This ceremony is acted out each night until the final day of *Las Posadas*, which is Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, on *La Noche Buena* or the good night.

There is also a live *nacimiento* — nativity scene — where the infant Christ is placed into the manger. People dressed as Mary, Joseph, shepherds, and even live farm animals, help add recreation to the birth of Christ. Traditionally, after the newborn Christ is placed into the manger, midnight mass begins.

"I think it's a very beautiful and inspiring event to prepare for Christmas," said the Rev. Burnett.

Las Posadas will be done locally in Midland at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church located at 1405 Garden Lane. Everyone is invited to the celebration, which is scheduled to start today at 7 p.m. at the church.

NOTHING: 'Don't question the master' says ñFACE

From 10C

master (slap).

Next, watching all day can lead to guilt about... sleeping all day. You may feel as if you have to do something to make up for the fact that you've done nothing but sleep all day. On the other hand, if you get up early, no matter what you don't do, you have still been up since 7 a.m. Plus, later in the day, you can turn that fact into doing something.

"I need you to go to the store." "Hey, I've been up since 7 a.m. I'm tired."

8 a.m. — Turn on the television.

Watching television is the perfect way to get out of doing countless chores. Some people may say, "If I get caught watching television then I get more things added to my list of things to do."

or, "Sometimes there is nothing good showing;" or even, "I would rather read a book."

First of all, like I said before, don't question the master (slap).

Watching television is the perfect way to get out of doing countless chores.

Next, watching television has little to do with watching television when you are trying to spend a whole day doing nothing.

If the television is on and someone comes up to you and starts to talk, you can tell them, "Hold on, wait 'til this part is over."

Nine times out of 10 they will walk away, which will give you time enough to come up with another excuse not to listen to them. You can also say, "The show is almost over," which again can buy you some more quality couch time.

Don't be afraid to use the same excuses if you are alone. If you are alone, no one will question you and no one will make you feel guilty.

8:30 a.m. — Set the controls for veg-mode. Anyone can just flop down in front of the television, but only a master can do it while expending as little energy as possible.

You want to sit with the middle part of your thigh on the front part of the chair with your feet flat

on the floor. Then fall back in your chair and relax your neck. If your head falls back then you must either slide down in the chair or support your head with a pillow. Once your head is set, rest your hands on your lap with the remote in one hand and the phone in the other.

The remote hand must be situated in a manner that only the thumb will have to move to change the channel. The phone hand should be set up where a bend at the elbow is all that is needed to bring the phone into talking range.

Make sure your credit card number can be seen without any effort (this will play an important part later).

Next relax your face. Try get your lips to stay together so you can completely relax your jaw without leaving sleep juice on your shirt (we're being lazy, not gross). Finally, let your eyes droop like you can't keep them open.

You may think you want to lay down. Don't question the master

(slap). Just follow the directions. If you lay down on the couch you increase the chance of have a limb fall asleep. That can mess up a good 10 minutes of veg. time.

8:35 a.m. — 11 a.m. Don't move a muscle.

It'll be hard at first, but don't question the master (slap). Do you think Michael Jordan just picked up a basketball and started playing? It takes heart, desire and determination to do nothing all day long.

11 a.m. — 11:45 a.m. — Nap Time.

You may be thinking, "Ha, I can handle this part all by myself." Don't get ahead of the master (slap).

You can't just fall asleep. What good would that do you.

What you need to do is speed dial your favorite pizza place and get an order on its way. You can order what you want, but pizza is the laziest food you can get delivered in the Midland/Odessa area. You can eat it with your hands so you don't need utensils. This is also when you need

your credit card. You can pay for the pizza over the phone so all you have to do is sign the slip when the pizza boy/girl arrives in 30-40 minutes. Which bring us back to the nap.

If you order your pizza before your nap, then you'll get a wake up call, of sorts, and food when you wake up. If you really want to spice up the laziness, you can have them deliver drinks too.

The neatest part of my plan is that once you have eaten, the cycle goes back the other way. You eat, take a nap, watch television, get up and go back to bed.

Remember, the worst part of this is that anything you don't do today you will have to do tomorrow. However, if you can live with that, veg-away.

Richard Acosta is a staff writer for the Midland Reporter-Telegram.

Send your comments, story ideas, love letters or oldest child to "ñface@quepasa.com." Or send in your above mentioned whatnots to the Midland Reporter-Telegram C/O The secret Que Pasa Cave, 201 E. Illinois Avenue, Midland TX. 79701. Check us out on-line at www.mrt.com/quepasa.

Casa volunteers needed, can earn money for college, monthly living

Staff Reports

Casa de Amigos is accepting applications for AmeriCorps volunteers in the Familias Unidas program. The program allows individuals to earn a monthly living allowance and money for college through volunteering.

Ludi Navarro, Director of Community Relations, said there are 45 positions available for interviews. "We need more applicants," she said. "It's a combination of part-time, full-time and quarter-time."

Candidates must commit to a 12 or 5 month term starting January 2000 through December 2000 to qualify for a position.

Ms. Navarro said for individuals who participate in the program is a win-win situation. The volunteers receive educational awards, as well as a monthly living allowance, and the community is helped due to the consistency of the programs the students provide, she said.

To be accepted into the program, applicants must be at least 17 years old, have a high school diploma or equivalent, be a U.S. Citizen, national or permanent resident; pass a basic literacy test and allow a criminal history check.

Positions available for interviews are:

- Literacy tutors (FT/PT/QT)
- Health/Dental Educator (PT)

- Senior Activities Program Assistant (FT)
- Social Services Program Assistant (FT)
- and Parent Educators (FT/PT)

Schedules for these positions are 40 hours per week from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and some Saturdays for full-time volunteers.

Part-time volunteers work an average of 23 hours a week from 3 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, and some Saturdays.

Quarter-time AmeriCorps volunteers work a five month term on a semester basis, Spring and Fall, at 23 hours per week, as scheduled by supervisor, and some Saturdays.

Not only will the students volunteer, they receive benefits, such as a monthly living allowance of \$727.50 (full-time); \$367.92 (part-time); and \$442.00 (quarter-time). An educational award of \$4725 for full-time, \$2362 for part-time, and \$1181 for quarter-time will also be given. For full-time volunteers only, health insurance and child care are available if eligible.

For more information on this program or any other Casa de Amigo's program, call 682-9701, or come by 1101 E. Garden Lane in Midland for an application.

WIN FREE CONCERT TICKETS!!!

For this weekend

Who: Joe Lopez y Mazz
When: Sat., Dec. 18, 1999
Where: La Playa de Colores Night Club in Odessa

You're Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: (H) _____ (W) _____

All entries must be brought to the Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, with one canned good per entry. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17. One winner will be selected. Must be 21 to enter.

WIN FREE NEW YEAR'S EVE TICKETS!

Who: La Tropa F
When: Fri., Dec. 31, 1999
Where: International Ball Room in Odessa

You're Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: (H) _____ (W) _____

Bring or send entries to Y2k Bash, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or enter on the web site at: www.mrt.com/quepasa

Deadline 5 p.m. December 29, 1999, one winner will be drawn. Contestants must be at least 18 years old.

DEAR ABBY

Pets are the wrong cargo for back of pickup truck

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: On my way to work today, I followed a pickup truck with a beautiful husky dog in the back. As we sped along, he moved anxiously from one side of the truck to the other.



Van Buren

Suddenly, the dog jumped out, hit the pavement and began tumbling out of control. I was driving a full-size van at 60 mph. I slammed on the brakes and was

able to keep from running over the poor animal.

I pulled off the road and saw the dog had gotten up and was hobbling across the grassy median toward oncoming traffic. Fortunately, I was able to coax the animal into my arms and I held him until the driver of the pickup returned. I will never forget his stupid explanation: "Why, he has never done this before!" It took all my willpower to keep from smacking the driver up against the side of his head.

Please, Abby, pass this story on to everyone. If just one person reads it and decides to keep his or her pet inside the cab with them, it will have been worth it. — JOHN C., DAYTON, OHIO

DEAR JOHN: Thank you for an important letter. Not only should pets not be allowed to ride in the back of a pickup truck, neither should human beings. As your story illustrates, animals can be unpredictable. And should the driver get into an accident, there is absolutely no protection for the passengers in the back.

DEAR ABBY: I go to garage sales every Saturday and generally come across some interesting items. I found the enclosed "Death Cookbook Recipe" in a set of cards from 1966, put together by the Missouri Avenue Baptist Church, Clearwater, Fla. It is amazing that 30 years later, the problem still exists.

If you feel it is worth sharing with your readers, please print it. I found it very interesting. — BARBARA CONDON, MATITUCK, N.Y.

DEAR BARBARA: It's definitely worth printing, particularly during the holiday season when people are "partying."

Read on:

DEATH'S COOKBOOK
Take: 1 reckless, natural-born fool

3 drinks of whiskey
1 fast automobile
Soak the fool in the whiskey, place in the automobile, then let go.

After due time, remove from the wreckage. Place in a satin box

and garnish with flowers.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I just moved to Michigan from a Southern state because of his job. I had to leave mine, and I want to find new employment here. However, I am 17 weeks pregnant.

If I interview for a job, should I tell my prospective employer of my pregnancy then, or wait until I receive an offer? I am not showing yet. — NEEDS TO KNOW ASAP

DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW: You are not required by law to inform prospective employers that you are pregnant. If they withdraw an offer because they learn that you are pregnant, they

are in violation of fair employment practices.

If you're 17 weeks pregnant, they are going to see soon enough. Enjoy your "New Millennium" baby!

Abby shares her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "Abby's More Favorite Recipes." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 per booklet (\$4.50 each in Canada) to: Dear Abby Cookbooks I and II, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

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

DECEMBER 16, 1999

This week in Hispanic history

December 16

In 1906 the United States first intervened in Nicaragua. The U.S. helped drive President Jose Zelaya from office, the first in a series of rulers the United States would seek to undermine. In 1912 U.S. Marines landed to keep Adolfo Diaz in power. He had been chosen by the United States and had little popular backing. United States intervention would continue for nearly 80 years.

December 17

In 1830 South American liberator Simon Bolivar died in Colombia. He led efforts to liberate Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Peru and Bolivia. He was the ruler of both Colombia and Peru. Between 1824 and 1827 he ruled both countries at the same time. In 1998 the nomination of Jacques-Edouard Alexis as prime minister of Haiti was ratified by the Chamber of Deputies.

December 18

In 1978 the U.S. Senate voted 68-32 to turn the Panama Canal over to Panama effective Dec. 31, 1999.

December 19

In 1896 artist David Siqueiros was born in Chihuahua, Mexico. After studying in Mexico City, he opened his own painting school. He fought with the Constitutionalist forces in the Mexican Revolution, then began painting murals. His left-wing politics made him controversial, and he was jailed twice for his communist activities. But the Mexican government later gave him the National Prize for Art for his contributions to modern art. When he died in 1974, he was buried in Mexico's Rotunda of Illustrious Men.

In 1946 Puerto Rican writer Miguel Pinero was born. His family moved to New York where his father abandoned the family, and his mother lived on the streets until she found work. He became a gang leader and school dropout. By the time he was 24, he was in prison. There, he began writing plays and acting. One of his plays, "Short Eyes," was performed on Broadway. Other successful plays followed. He died in 1988.

December 20

In 1954 writer Sandra Cisneros was born in Chicago. She gained fame with her collection of short stories, "The House on Mango Street," which incorporated her childhood experiences. She has also gained recognition for her poetry.

In 1989 the United States sent troops into Panama to topple the government of Gen. Manuel Noriega.

December 22

In 1847 Congressman Abraham Lincoln made his first speech to Congress, denouncing U.S. involvement in a war with Mexico. The war brought territory from Texas to California into the Union. Lincoln's stand was so unpopular that he did not run for re-election and his political career seemed over.

In 1935 Mexican-American novelist Tomas Rivera was born in Crystal City, Texas, where his parents were working as migrant workers. Even though he had to spend long hours working in the fields, he was such a good student that he earned a doctorate at the University of Oklahoma. His writings often dealt with his life as a migrant worker. He was also chancellor of the University of California at Riverside. He died in 1984.

From Universal Press Syndicate

Christmas tradition lives on in Midland

Editor's note: This is the first installment of a two-part series about Las Posadas. This part describes the history and tradition of the event.

By George Torres
Staff Writer

As the Christmas season arrives, millions of people around the world celebrate the birth of Christ, setting up Christmas trees and lights and waiting for old St. Nick.

Traditional rituals and objects, celebrated and passed down from generation to generation, often make up the core of Christmas spirit. That is the case with the Las Posadas, which can be traced

back to the time of the Aztecs and the Spaniards.

Today marks the beginning of a festive nine-day Mexican Christmas celebration called Las Posadas. Starting Dec. 16 and lasting through Dec. 25, Las Posadas is a reenactment of Mary and Joseph's cold and difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in a quest for shelter — posada translates into shelter.

The tradition of Las Posadas was invented by Spanish missionaries to comfort and convert former Aztecs to Christian beliefs. The nine days of Las Posadas coincides with the nine day fiestas of the Sun, the virgin birth of the Aztec Sun god Huitzilopchtli. A clever San Ignacio de Loyola created the custom to teach the story of the birth of

Jesus but most important to combined it with the Fiesta's of the Sun.

During the celebration, a group of people gather at dusk with lighted candles and set out to pre-arranged houses. A small child dressed like an angel leads, followed by children carrying figures of Mary and Joseph.

The group of children are then followed by adults and musicians who head out to the homes while singing along the way.

"Right now we are still looking for people to volunteer their homes for this Christmas program," said the Rev. Jerry Burnet, from Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Midland.

See POSADA/9C



Laura Flores, owner of the Candy Bouquet, straightens up the stems of candy in her shop.

Going out on their own

Hispanic businessowners making lasting strides in Midland

With organizations such as the Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce offering easily accessible resources to aspiring Hispanic entrepreneurs, Midland has seen a growing number of Hispanic-owned businesses blossom.

David Diaz, executive director at the Hispanic chamber, said that with today's growing numbers among Hispanics in the United States, it's only expected that there be more Latino businessmen. "I'm real pleased that the numbers continue to grow," he said.

Midland has the most Mexican restaurants per capita than anywhere else in the state, he said, citing an example of the growing Hispanic influence.

A prime example of the trend is Felipe M. Morales, owner of Felipe M. Morales Insurance & Associates in Midland and one of the original founders of MHCC. Morales has

been a businessman since 1971, when he first opened his insurance agency.

Before becoming a successful insurance agent,

See WORK/9C



Top photo, Felipe Morales, owner of Felipe M. Morales Insurance & Associates, has kept tradition by keeping his family involved in his business. Left photo, George Lara Sr., who sits on the board for Midland Independent School District, looks at the underside of an automobile at his shop, Lara's Automotive.

Story by Erica Garibay

Photos by Tim Fischer

inFACE

The art of doing absolutely nothing

As I move into the adult world, I'm starting to see things in a different light. Little by little it is becoming clear that cooking dinner, washing dishes and all other tedious little tasks won't get done unless I do them.

There have even been a few times when I've caught myself telling my girlfriend stuff like, "Are your socks supposed to be on the floor?" just like my mother used to say to me.

However, the one thing I'm going to hang on to as I cross the threshold into adult life is

the art of doing absolutely nothing.

I know what you more mature readers are thinking: "My kids do that all day. I hardly think it is an art form."

To those who doubt the art form I say, "Ha. You know so little about what it takes to do so little."

But don't fret.



Acosta

I happen to be the Jedi of doing nothing and I'll begin your training now, Grasshopper.

First of all you need to have the equipment:

- Your own television with remote.
- Cordless phone.
- Phone numbers on speed dial of restaurants that deliver, and a credit card.
- Pajamas (walking around in your underwear is fine, but you will have to have a robe unless you want to be seen half naked).

■ Couch (easy chair is not the same).

■ List of things you aren't going to do (it is to easy to do nothing if you have nothing to do).

Next you need a plan, something like:

7 a.m. — Rise and shine. This is the part of doing nothing people don't understand. They ask, "Why do I have to get up early to do nothing?"

First of all, don't question the

See NOTHING/9C

TOP 20 Tejano Hits

1. *Fuiste Mala* by Los Kumbia Kings
2. *El Amigo Que se Fue* by Intocable
3. *Mil Botellas* by Jay Perez
4. *Por Eso Te Amo* by Los Palominos
5. *Mi Vuelvo A Enamorar* by David Lee Garza
6. *Tiki Tac* by Elida Y Avante
7. *Me Hace Llorar* by Masizzo
8. *El Cazador* by Bobby Pulido
9. *Dejalo Al Tiempo* by Intenso
10. *El Perdedor* by Intocable
11. *Me Enamore* by La Tropa F
12. *Donde Estas Amor* by Pete Astudillo
13. *Otra Vez A La Cantina* by Michael Salgado
14. *Solamente Mia* by Masizzo
15. *Es Tan Dificil* by Ram Herrera
16. *Duele* by Elida Y Avante
17. *Tengo Miedo* by Jennifer Y Los Jetz
18. *Cantarle A Ella* by Bobby Pulido
19. *Sonador Eterno* by Intocable
20. *No Quiero Estar Solo* by Jay Perez

From KMRK Tejano 96.1 for the past week

TEJANO 96.1

Ex
\$
M
H
S
from
at M
Adic
WIND
Now \$6
Re
SHO
Now \$5
Re

SUZUKI *Now Open!*

Example: 2000 SUZUKI SWIFT

Brand New

\$7,395



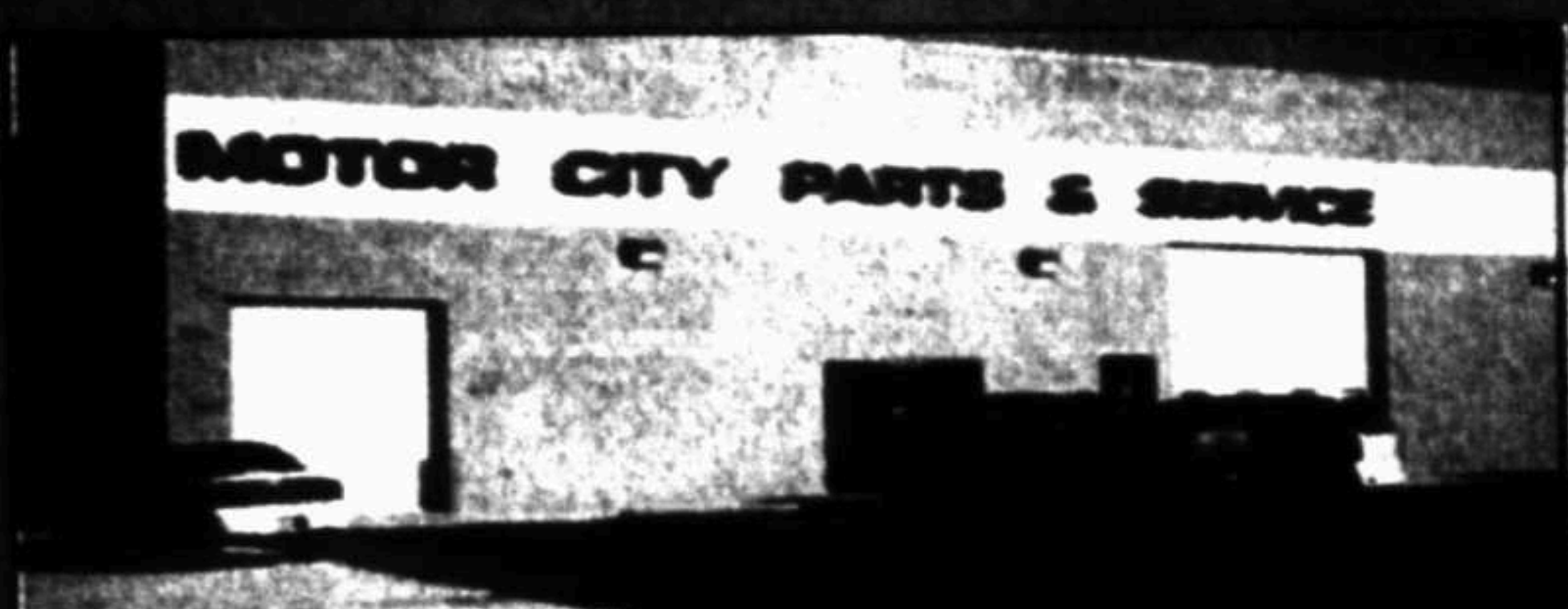
3 YR./36,000 MI. WARRANTY

45 Days til 1st Payment!

\$0 Down \$137/month

\$0 + TT&L down, 72 @ \$137/mo; 9.9 %APR. With approved credit. Price plus TT&L.

ALL SUZUKI OWNERS:



Get Your Warranty & Service done at our brand new Service Department — at the Mall!

MOTOR CITY SUZUKI



4101 East 42nd ODESSA, TEXAS 915/550-8728

Holiday Savings

from **FOOTACTION USA** at Music City Mall



Adidas WIND SUIT
Now **\$69.98**
Reg. \$85.00

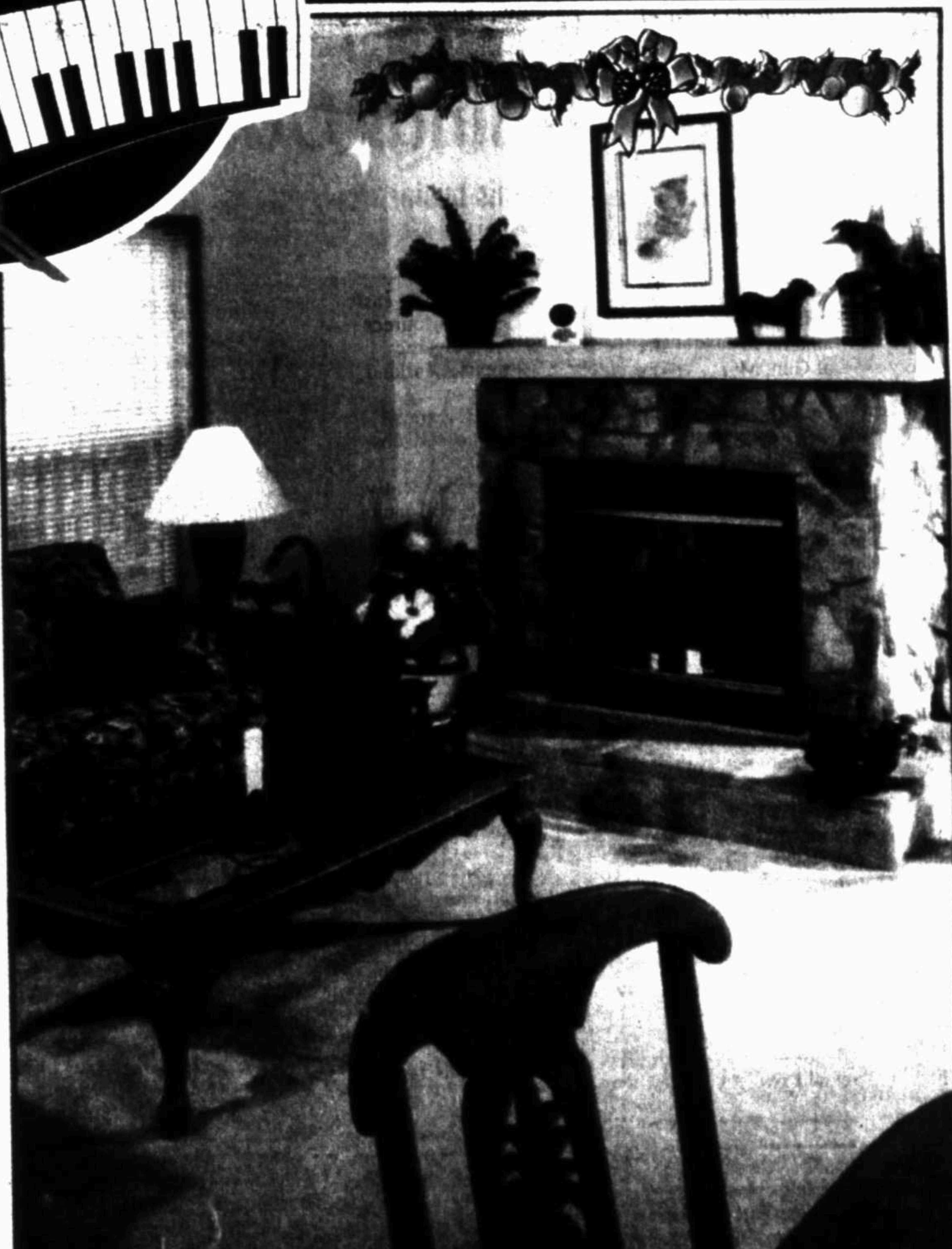
Adidas JACKET
Now **\$79.98**
Reg. \$90.00

T-SHIRT
Now **\$9.98**
Reg. \$18.00

PANTS
Now **\$29.98**
Reg. \$38.00

SHOES
Now **\$59.98**
Reg. \$69.98

SHOES
Now **\$59.98**
Reg. \$69.99



Home for the Holidays

\$366 MO. 4 BEDROOM, 2 BATH LUXURY HOME
* Over 1600 sq. ft. * Glamour Bath * Separate Shower * Deluxe Appliance Package * Walk-in Closets * Built-in China Hutch * Picture Shows May Not Be Advertised Home

U.S.A. HOMES

Pay What You Can Down We Handle The Rest!
4608 W. Wall • Midland 915-520-2177 Toll Free 1-800-520-2177
Music City Mall • Odessa 915-550-5408 Toll Free 1-888-981-9595

DECEMBER 16, 1999

One of 'Magnificent Seven' plans comeback for Sydney

By Nancy Armour
AP Sports Writer

Jaycie Phelps was only kidding when she told her family and friends a few months ago that she was thinking about abandoning retirement and training for the Sydney Olympics.

As the U.S. team continued to falter, though, the second-youngest member of the "Magnificent Seven" realized her comeback was no joke.

"I feel like we have a lot of talent, but we just don't have any experience on our team and I think I can help with that," Phelps said Wednesday after announcing her comeback.

Make no mistake, Phelps isn't putting her life and her college plans on hold just so she can be a cheerleader. She'd like another medal to go with the gold she got in the 1996 Olympics, and she's been in the gym full-time for the last six weeks.

Although she gave up elite-level competition after Atlanta, she's working her way back into shape, honing her tricks and expects to be ready to compete in another month or two.

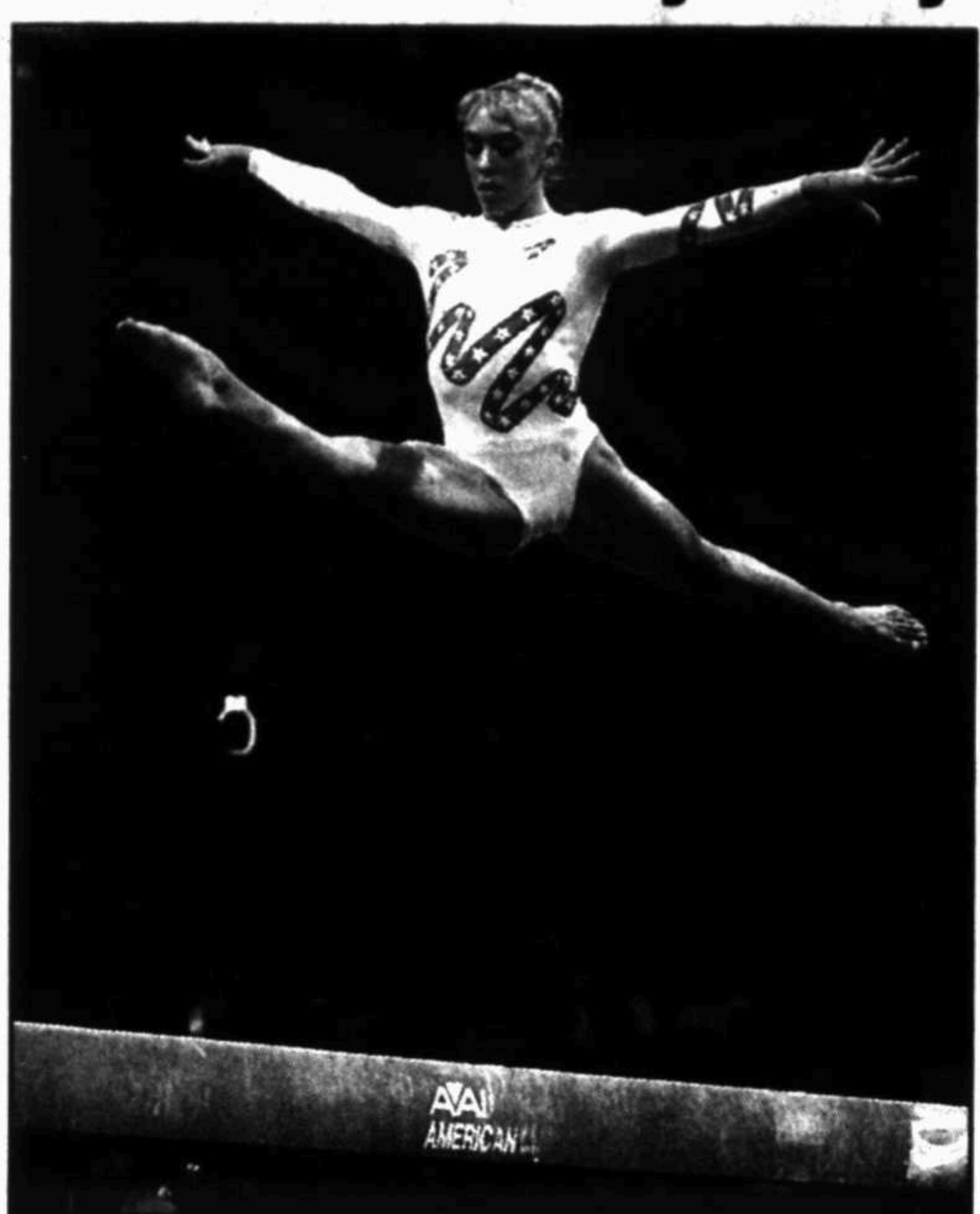
"I competed for 10 years, so I have a lot of competitions under my belt and a lot of practice," she said. "Being 20 years old and deciding to do this again, I want to go all-out and do it rather than just watch it happen."

Phelps was a few weeks shy of her 17th birthday when she and the Magnificent Seven became the first U.S. women's team to win Olympic gold, and there was hope she'd stick around for the 2000 Games like Shannon Miller and Dominique Dawes had for Atlanta. She'd already been on the national team for three years, and was second in the 1996 national championships.

She was 17th in the all-around at Atlanta, and finished seventh on the uneven bars in the 1995 world championships.

But Phelps decided she wanted a break and more time with her family. While she and her mother had lived in Cincinnati so she could train, her father and brother stayed at the family's home in Indiana and visited on the weekends.

In the last few months, though, that old itch to get onto the floor came back. And when she saw the United States finish last in the world championships in China in October — even Australia finished



Jaycie Phelps leaps while performing on the balance beam at the 1996 U.S. Olympic Gymnastics trials. Phelps, a member of the gold medal-winning U.S. women's gymnastics team in 1996, is coming out of retirement for the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

ahead of the Americans — Phelps realized the team could use her, too.

"I don't know what words to use. I wouldn't say disappointing," she said. "Coming off what we did in '96, that's very hard to follow. But there's just no experience."

"We had Shannon and Dominique and Kerri Strug who'd all been to the Olympics in 1992. They knew what the competition was like and knew what it took to be up there. We kind of looked up to them and followed what they did," she added. "We just don't have anyone that is up that high, who's gone through all the training and competitions."

Deciding to come back wasn't that hard. Phelps, who had knee surgery in 1997, was already coaching at Desert Devils Gymnastics in Mesa, Ariz., so she had a place to train. Though she'd planned to start at Arizona State next semester, she still hadn't decided what she wanted to study.

And USA Gymnastics was more than happy to have her back. "These are the kinds of surprises we like," said Bob

Colarossi, president of USA Gymnastics. "She's very, very talented and she was young (in 1996). I think she's well positioned to come back. She's had her knee fixed and she said it feels good. I think she can come back and play a very important role."

Phelps won't be the only familiar face in the Olympic trials. Fellow 1996 teammates Dominique Moceanu and Amy Chow are expected to be there, and Bela Karolyi, the most successful coach in U.S. history, came out of retirement last month to be the coordinator of the women's national team.

Karolyi is in charge of establishing training programs, advising the personal coaches and overseeing the team's preparations for the 2000 Games.

"What we've been missing is partly the experience and the second part is the cohesive plan that Bela brings to the table," Colarossi said. "I really think we can go down to Sydney and be competitive, and that's all we can ask for."

Colarossi said. "I really think we can go down to Sydney and be competitive, and that's all we can ask for."

For All of Your Advertising Needs Classified Can 682-6222

ANNOUNCEMENTS

070 Obituaries
071 Curiosity Corner
080 Odessa Ads
100 New Arrivals
105 Happy Ads
106 Valentines
110 Lodge Notices
115 Announcements
130 Personal
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 Under \$3,000
240 Motorcycles
245 Trailers
250 Rec. Vehicles
255 Veh. Rent/Lease
260 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 Sited Wanted
335 AdultCare Needed
336 AdultCare Prov.
340 ChildCare Needed
341 ChildCare Prov.
350 Bus. Opps.

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

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.

LEGAL NOTICES

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 11:00 am, January 5, 2000, to be opened at 11:00 A.M. in the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications, and General Conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, Midland, Texas.

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 11:00 am, January 5, 2000, to be opened at 11:00 A.M. in the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications, and General Conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, Midland, Texas.

HAPPY ADS

for any occasion as low as \$42⁰⁰
Call 682-6222 for more information.

425 Trade/Swap
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 Offroad Supplies
580 Farm Equipment
590 Legals
595 Public Notices

RENTALS

600 Rooms For Rent
601 Hotel Rms - Rent
603 Rm. mate Wanted
604 Wanted To Rent
605 Apts. Furnished
610 Unfurnished
615 Furn. Unfurn.
620 Houses: Furn.
625 Unfurnished.
630 Furn. Unfurn.
635 Condo/Townhome: furnished
640 Unfurnished
645 Furn. Unfurn.
650 Mobile Homes: Furnished
655 Unfurnished
660 Mobile Home Lots
665 Bus. Prop/Offices
667 Comm'l Property
670 Warehouse/ Stor.
675 Rec/ Resort
680 Out of Town
685 Hunting Leases
690 Oil Gas Leases

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

800-1055

Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices
NOTICE		
The City of Midland finds that the properties located at the following locations & addresses:		
Street Address	Legal Description	Last Known Owner and Address
508 S. Lincoln St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 019 Lot: 005	Shepard, Alice P.O. Box 26216 El Paso, TX 79926
610 S. Lincoln St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 034 Lot: 006	Brackman, C.D. 1614 Hickory Ave. Midland, TX 79705
400 S. Tilden St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 016 Lot: 001	Graves, Benny L. P.O. Box 50631 Midland, TX 79710
402 S. Tilden St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 016 Lot: 002	Graves, Benny L. P.O. Box 50631 Midland, TX 79710
1407 S. Weatherford St.	Add: South Park Bk: 023 Lot: 007	Nelson, Bob RTS P.O. Box 820643 Fort Worth, TX 76182
1514 S. Weatherford St.	Add: South Park Bk: 026 Lot: 008	Aleman, Miguel Angel RTS 1514 S. Weatherford Midland, TX 79701
300 S. Webster St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 007 Lot: 001	Evans, Curtis 2733 Ridgeway Dr. Wichita Falls, TX 76305
302 S. Webster St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 007 Lot: 002	Evans, Curtis 2733 Ridgeway Dr. Wichita Falls, TX 76305
106 S. Adams St.	Add: Moody Bk: 030 Lot: 004	Estep, Fred Et Al RTS P.O. Box 8731 Midland, TX 79708
108 S. Adams St.	Add: Moody Bk: 030 Lot: 005	Estep, Fred Et Al RTS P.O. Box 8731 Midland, TX 79708
307 S. Benton St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 007 Lots: 009	Jones, Genord 15700 Hilcroft Cv. Austin, TX 78717
605 S. Benton St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 029 Lots: 010	Thomas, Flora 136 S. Detroit Lamesa, TX 79331
305 S. Benton St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 007 Lots: 010	Jones, Genord 15700 Hilcroft Cv. Austin, TX 78717
506 S. Clay St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 022 Lot: 004	Holt, David Et Al 702 Webster St. Midland, TX 79701
910 S. Dallas St.	Add: Southern Bk: 189 Lot: 006 Less 1	Anderson, Wanda Fay 782 SE Ridgeway Dr. Topeka, KS 66609
1503 S. Fort Worth St.	Add: South Park Bk: 028 Lot: 021	APS Construction Co. (RTN) P.O. Box 721137 Houston, TX 77272
1520 S. Fort Worth St.	Add: South Park Bk: 027 Lot: 011	McCarthy, Don (RTN) P.O. Box 5057 Kingsville, TX 78364
1303 E. Golf Course Rd.	Add: Arnett Annex Bk: A Lot: 006	Clay, Don 1301 E. Golf Course Rd. Midland, TX 79701
503 S. Jackson St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 019 Lot: 011	Payne, Lonnie J. 24-Hr Bail Bond 1604 W. Front Midland, TX 79701
305 S. Lamesa Rd.	Add: Moody Bk: 044 Lot: 010	Pate, Tessie Mae (RTS) 305 S. Lamesa Rd. Midland, TX 79701
701 S. Lincoln St.	Add: Greenwood Bk: 036 Lot: 016	Davis, John H. 3597 Newport St. Denver CO 80207
1004 Johnston St.	Add: Stockard Acres Bk: 008 Lot: 001	Carlton, Nick 2001 N. D Street Midland, TX 79705

In the City of Midland, Texas, have become a public nuisance and health hazard in as much as they have become overgrown with weeds, tall grass and brush, become strewn with litter, or become a collection point for stagnant water. The owner of the above named properties are hereby ordered to abate the nuisance within ten (10) days and notify the City of Midland Property Code Administration of the same. Otherwise, the City of Midland will then enter the property, abate the nuisance thereon, and charge the cost of so doing as a lien against the property. You may appeal the decision of the City of Midland to enter your property and assess a lien against it by contacting the City Manager's office at 300 North Lorraine, Midland, Texas 79701, phone number 682-7200 within nine (9) days of this notice.

90 Legal Notices	115 Announcements	115 Announcements
------------------	-------------------	-------------------

PORTER, MANAGER/ SEC., GARY MEYER, MANAGER/ ASST. SEC., TERRY LEE BERGSON, MANAGER/ TREAS., KENNETH DOUGLAS ANDERSON, MANAGER, ROBERT EDDIE DICKERSON, MANAGER, AND LAWRENCE CLARK DICKSON, MANAGER.

Email Your Classified Ad!
We now have an Email address created just for you...
mrtClassified@mrt.com

Type out your Classified ad, let us know when you want it published, and how to contact you with a confirmation of the details. (We prefer to confirm by phone, so please give us the number where you can be reached.) If the ad is for your personally, we'll need your home phone number, address, etc. If the ad is for your business, we'll need your main office phone number, address, etc.

As always, you can contact us by phone at 682-6222, or by fax at 682-6999.

(Please allow 1 - 2 days for e-mailed ads. Text only please, no photos or logos accepted. If you want your ad to start tomorrow please contact us by phone or fax. Thank you...)

100 Notices	130 Personals	130 Personals
-------------	---------------	---------------

Personally Speaking
The Fun & Convenient Way to Meet Midland Singles!
Look for it on Fri., Sat., Sun., & Wed. in The Midland Reporter-Telegram Classified.
Call 1-800-834-5294 to place your personal ad.
Or 1-900-656-2300 to respond or browse.

\$2.19 Per minute
You must be at least 18 years of age or older to use this service.

Midland Masonic Lodge #623
1800 W. Wall
No Meetings 12/23/99
Reg. stated mtgs 2nd & 4th Thurs. 7:30 pm.
John P. Cox, W.M.
Robert G. Kikar, Sec.

Midland Shrine Club
2019 Trade Dr. 688-7003
Reg. Meeting 3rd Thurs.
Hosp. 6:30 pm, dine 7 pm., Bus. meeting 8 pm.
Keith Hughes, Pres.
Marvin Wither, Secy.

Acacia Masonic Lodge #1414
1000 Upland
Stated Communication, 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.
Mike Pipes, W.M.
Al Tabbot, Sec.

Centennial Lodge #1446
1800 W. Wall
Reg. meeting, 1st & 3rd Sat. 8:30 am.
Breakfast 7:30 am.
Tom Burns, W.M.
Bob Ellwood, Sec.

BEAUTICONTROL PRODUCTS: Shirley Whitehead, Senior Consultant 520-0418, Danielle McVernin, Consultant 570-1161. All products on sale.

Sell it in 10 or we'll run it again!
Classified 682-6222
*Anything on week, 4 line minimum. \$25. CALL US!

Samaranch tells Congress that IOC has made changes

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch told skeptical lawmakers today that the IOC has become more open, accountable and responsive following widespread abuses in the selection of Atlanta and Salt Lake City as Olympic hosts.

"I think we've cleaned the house and a fundamental reform package has been adopted," Samaranch said in his first ever appearance before a congressional panel.

But lawmakers greeted the 79-year-old Spaniard with open disbelief that the 50 reforms the International Olympic Committee adopted last weekend in Switzerland will be implemented fully. And one, Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas, reiterated his call for Samaranch to resign the post he has held since 1980.

"I would like for you to announce today that you will resign," Barton said. "It's time for some new blood and some new leadership. And this would be a great setting for you to be a true statesman of sport and announce that."

Samaranch did not respond directly to Barton when he delivered his opening statement. Instead, he used it to retrace the IOC's actions in the year since the allegations of vote buying in the selection of Salt Lake City as host of the 2002 Winter Olympics became known.

Samaranch said many of the reforms approved by the IOC last weekend already have been implemented, including a ban on future visits by IOC members to cities competing for the games. And he assured the House Commerce subcommittee on oversight and investigations that the rest of the reforms will be implemented before the 2000 Summer Games in Sydney, Australia, are over.

Samaranch faced anything but polite questioning from some lawmakers who grilled him about a reported \$500,000-a-year hotel suite the IOC maintains for him in Switzerland, about his wife's acceptance of a \$12,000 trip from organizers of the Atlanta games and about the IOC failure to apply the new reforms to its president.



Juan Antonio Samaranch

Samaranch denounced reports of the luxury hotel suite as "a lie." He said he encouraged his wife to take the Atlanta trip and blamed the Atlanta organizers for being overly hospitable. He insisted there was no need for the reforms to apply to him.

Speaking through a translator, Samaranch said he first became aware that cities seeking the Olympics were providing gifts and other amenities to IOC members in 1984, when Los Angeles won the Summer Games. But he said the IOC was not able to take action to stop such abuses before this year because no one ever provided the committee with names of offending members.

"We can only take action at the IOC when we have complete facts," he said.

Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., chairman of the panel, said statements by IOC members following the meeting last weekend give him little confidence that changes will be made.

"The conduct by IOC members and the bidding cities did not spring up yesterday and it will not go away simply because there are new rules written on a piece of paper," he said.

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., warned Samaranch that Congress will monitor the IOC's enforcement of the newly enacted reforms and will take punitive action if necessary. He specifically cited legislation he has introduced that would bar American companies from financially

supporting the games if the IOC does not change its practices.

Samaranch brought along some important allies, including former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and former Sen. Howard Baker, R-Tenn. Kissinger was a key member of the IOC 2000 panel that drafted the reforms, and Baker serves on the new ethics commission the IOC created in the wake of the Salt Lake City abuses.

The reforms include a ban on IOC member visits to bid cities, the addition of 15 active athletes to the IOC, and new rules on age limits and terms of office — all designed to make the 105-year-old organization younger and more accountable.

"We did what we promised," said Samaranch, who had delayed his appearance before Congress until after the vote on the reform package.

Former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young and Billy Payne, who headed the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, acknowledged at hearings in October that Atlanta violated IOC gift rules in lobbying for the 1996 games.

But they denied that the gifts and favors showered on IOC members were designed to buy their votes or corrupt the process that led to Atlanta's selection.

Samaranch arrived in Washington on Tuesday and met with Barry McCaffrey, the White House drug policy adviser who has criticized both Samaranch and the IOC's project for a world anti-doping agency. McCaffrey has since endorsed the drug agency.

"Mr. Samaranch, prior to testifying in Congress, we wanted to stand with him and say if (the IOC) will execute the historic reforms, if they will stand with us on creating an independent drug testing agency, we will support their leadership," McCaffrey said after the 30-minute meeting.

McCaffrey and Samaranch released a 17-point agreement, although McCaffrey conceded it was nonbinding. There were no groundbreaking proposals and the agreement essentially reiterated ideas generated from the formation of the IOC's World Anti-Doping Agency last month and a meeting between McCaffrey and WADA head Dick Pound two weeks ago.

LOST: Bulldog puppy, vicinity of 132. Reward \$100. Call 694-9722.

FOUND: "A" street, Call 694-9722.

FOUND: Horse Mare to identify.

NEW: Neapolitan the vicinity and "A" An Big Reward or 570-7900.

FOUND: dog in Ran area. Please to identify.

FOUND: you dog/ house breed. Call 687-5634 or 180.

LOST: \$400 CALL 683-NC FIN.

COLONIAL: Services pa identical an real estate notes and statements. Prom al service 550-2025 2025.

WE BUY C mortgages for a free Financial (915)362-2 (888)373-08.

CONSOLID Bills/ Cards/Unse Welcome Check! Ser Since 1991.

Attention: Occasionl this section tant points Reporter-T always know the offers. when you an you call Business B signing any giving out y or bank info.

BECOME A Cut payment loans. It is E approval. 1-4.

\$100 TO BY PHO TODAY C ONLY \$2 P \$100 CA TOLL 1-888-7.

TUTORING Geometry, French, Ge Other forms David inform

SHAN Auto Sales job is your payments at Come see Front.

CHRYSLER Baron Con clean, low r transfers. 2617 after 5.

FORD 19 64K, 3.8 lite all power, at Very clean, or. Excele condition. A 687-7309 or

FORD 19 leather inte alloy wheel Rio red. \$8.

160 Lost & Found

LOST - Brown/White Bull Terrier puppy. Building part of house. Vicinity of East County Rd 132. Reward 684-7920.

FOUND MALE - Poodle. Champagne color, vicinity of "A" street and Wadley. Call 694-7333 or 684-9722.

FOUND: Large Quarter Horse Mare. Call 620-0628 to identify.

NEW TODAY

LOST - Grey/blue 160 lb Neapolitan Mastiff. Lost in the vicinity of Scharbauer and "A". Answers to Donia. Big Reward! Call 520-2990 or 570-7901.

FOUND Female, small dog in Ranchland Estates area. Please call 570-1478 to identify.

FOUND: young female bird dog/hound type dog breed. Collar/no tags. 687-5634 after 7.

160 Loans Wanted

***LOANS \$40-\$400 CALL TODAY 683-7613 NOBLE FINANCE**

162 Mortgages Wanted

COLONIAL Financial Services pays cash for residential and commercial real estate notes, business notes and structured settlements. Prompt, professional service since 1984. Call 550-2025 or 1-800-283-2025.

WE BUY Owner financed mortgages. Please call for a free quote. Monarch Financial Services, (915) 362-2191 or (888) 373-0865.

163 Money To Loan

CONSOLIDATE Your Bills!!! Credit Cards/Unsecured Loans Welcome. No Credit Check! Serving West TX Since 1991. 620-0620.

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.

BECOME DEBT FREE Cut payments without new loans. It's Easy! One hour approval. 1-800-517-3406

\$100 TO \$1,000 BY PHONE - CASH TODAY CASHBACK ONLY \$22 AD COST PER \$100 CASHBACK TOLL FREE 1-888-722-2748

170 Schools Instruction

IBS A Tradition of Education Since 1988

• Administration Assistant
• Legal Assistant
• Computer Accounting
• Medical Office
• Spec/Transcriptionist
• Computer Secretary
• Word Processing

NEW PROGRAM Network Operation Technician

Call Now
694-7584
3305 Andrews Hwy.
Midland, TX 79703

TUTORING: Algebra, Geometry, Spanish, French, German, English. Other forms of math. Call David anytime. 689-2302.

200 Transportation

TRANSPORTATION 200

200 Autos - Domestic
205 Classic Cars
210 Autos - Imports
215 Sport/Utility Vehicles
220 Trucks
222 Suburans & Vans
225 4x4 Vehicles
230 Commercial Vehicles
235 Cars/Trucks/Vans
240 Motorcycles
245 Trailers/Utility
250 Rec. Vehicles
260 Bikes & Motors
270 Airplanes
280 Auto Services
290 Parts/Accessories

200 Autos Domestic

We pay cash for clean, used cars. Paid for or not. 915-522-3115

SHAMMY SHACK

Auto Sales. Where your job is your credit. Down payments starting at \$500. Come see us at 500 W. Front.

CHRYSLER 1995 Le Baron Convertible, super clean, low miles, warranty transfers. \$9,000. 683-2817 after 5:00pm.

FORD 1994 TAURUS, 64K, 3.8 liter V6, warranty, all power, stereo/cassette. Very clean interior/exterior. Excellent mechanical condition. Asking \$6,450. 697-7309 after 5 pm.

FORD 1995 Mustang, leather interior, all power, alloy wheels, rear spoiler. Rio red. \$8,000. 694-2347.

Saturn of Permian Basin

NOW OPEN!



\$189⁰⁰mo.
Down + TT&L

2000 SATURN SL

39 Mo. Smart Buy @ 3.8% APR. Stk. #2067Y
1 Balloon Payment of \$6,523.40 12K Miles Per Year.
Total Finance Cost \$12,545.00



\$249⁰⁰mo.
Down + TT&L

2000 SATURN SC1 3 DOOR

39 Mo. Smart Buy @ 6.9% APR. Stk. #2041Y
1 Balloon Payment of \$8,351.75 12K Miles Per Year.
Total Finance Cost \$15,185.00



\$263⁰⁰mo.
Down + TT&L

2000 SATURN LS

39 Mo. Smart Buy @ 5.55% APR. Stk. #3011Y
1 Balloon Payment of \$9,001.80 12K Miles Per Year.
Total Finance Cost \$16,670.00

Saturn of Permian Basin
5201 West Loop 250 North
Midland, Texas 79707
(915) 520-5866

A FREE SATELITE TV SYSTEM*

Our Holiday Gift To You From JACK SHERMAN CHEVROLET/MAZDA

Come in and test drive a new car or truck at Jack Sherman Chevrolet/Mazda, and we'll give you a certificate for a FREE MSLA digital satellite TV system! It's our gift to you for the holidays!

The MSLA Dish Network is a 500-Channel digital TV system your whole family will enjoy! It's valued at \$149 and is yours FREE when you take a test drive of a new car or truck! But hurry, this offer expires on Christmas Eve, December 24!

Jack Sherman
Genuine Chevrolet
4100 W. Wall • Midland, TX
915-694-9601 • 915-520-0156

*Satellite gift requires month activation at \$19.95 mo. Sales tax and installation not included. First time subscribers only.

200 Autos Domestic

ROGERS ★ FORD NORTH

FORD 1994 Explorer 4x4 XLT, sunroof, automatic, custom wheels, \$10,998. 694-7345.

ROGERS ★ FORD NORTH

FORD 1997 Taurus GL, green, 44,505 miles. 4 door, V6, power windows/locks, cruise, tilt, cassette, automatic. Red tag \$9,999. Call 697-3293.

FORD 1997 THUNDERBIRD, Green sport coupe, 43K miles, good condition, sunroof, theft alarm and air cassette. \$12,700. Call 694-1100.

ROGERS ★ FORD NORTH

FORD 1999 Mustang, Loaded, leather interior, sunroof, 18k miles, all fm CD player. \$18,000. Call 570-4174.

NEW TODAY

ROGERS ★ FORD NORTH

FORD 1999 Cavalier, 13K, needs someone to refinance or take over payments of \$382.24/month. Extended warranty. 683-8853 after 6:00pm.

DODGE 1997 STEALTH, 3,000 Mitsubishi engine, V6, 24 valve per cylinder, 60,000 miles on motor, antilock brakes. \$5,500 o.b.o. 528-5178.

DODGE 1997 INTREPID, Beautiful black 4 door, gray interior, am/fm cassette, 27K miles, Excellent condition. \$12,875. Call 570-7465.

FORD 1987 THUNDERBIRD, V6, loaded, 45K miles. Looks new, garaged, excellent condition. 30 mpg/highway. \$3,950. Call 520-2535.

WE FINANCE
Your Job Is Your Credit.
B & B Auto Sales
683-6222

200 Autos Domestic

CADILLAC 1995 Deville, White, excellent condition, priced below retail for quick sale. \$14,500. Call 685-1372. 697-1781 evenings.

CADILLAC 1997 Sedan, Deville, like new. Gold package, new car warranty, will sell at \$20,800 (wholesale). 697-7884, 697-0744 after 6:00pm.

CADILLAC 1998 MONTE Carlo, Z34, black, tan leather, sun roof, 30K, CD, loaded. \$17,500. Serious inquiries. 699-0647.

GEO 1994 4 Door, sky blue, 18,000 miles! Non smoking one owner, great second car. \$7,000. Call 694-1447 leave message.

LINCOLN 1992 Town Car, grey/blue, grey leather, beautiful wife's car, great condition, 100K miles. \$5,495. 682-4143.

MERCUY 1994 Cougar, Great Buy! Nice car, loaded. Low miles. Worth \$9K, but sell for \$6,750/best offer. 570-7387.

BUICK 1987 Park Avenue, Loaded, new paint and tires, garaged, all the extras, very nice car, runs great! \$3,650. 682-7245.

CHEVROLET 1992 CAMARO RS, 25th anniversary, runs and looks great. Hate to see it go! \$5,000 OBO. Must sell! 694-5970.

LINCOLN 1989 Continental, signature edition. Dark blue with tan interior, excellent condition. 96,500 miles. \$3,500. 683-3154 or 694-7054.

PONTIAC 1997 GRAND-AM SE, Red, four door, 46K miles, am/fm cassette, a/c, very good condition. \$9,500. Please call 520-3010.

ROGERS FORD
Sales & Service
4200 W. Wall 694-8801.

BUICK 1996 ROAD, Master-limited station wagon, new tires, low mileage. \$18,000 O.B.O. Diane (home) 697-1902 (work) 694-9601 ext. 146.

PONTIAC 1997 GRAND-AM, Low mileage, 4 door, v6, am/fm cassette, manufacturer warranty. Call 683-5748 or leave message.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PAY NO MONEY DOWN AND MAKE NO PAYMENTS TIL MARCH 2000

ON ANY NEW 1999 OR 2000 CHEVROLET IN STOCK AT JACK SHERMAN CHEVROLET, W.A.C.

Jack Sherman

Genuine Chevrolet

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.JACKSHERMAN.COM

4100 W. Wall • Midland, TX • 915-694-9601 • 915-520-0156

TOMMY HAWKINS

WANTS TO SEE YOU AT WHEELER PONTIAC, BUICK & GMC IN ANDREWS

Tommy Sez - Get Your Best Price and then come to Andrews to See Me!



Deal Directly with the Manager!



Low Overhead Means We Clobber Big City Prices!



Only 30 Minutes From Wal-Mart Or Sams!



Low, Low Prices And No-Hassle Deals!

WORRIED ABOUT SERVICE AFTER THE SALE?

DON'T

BECAUSE WE PICKUP AND DELIVER!

523-2290 1-800-649-9402
Local Toll Free

'99 CHEVROLET BLAZER LS 4X4



Fully Equipped Including C.D. Player and Keyless Entry!!!

'99 BUICK PARK AVENUE



Leather, Low Miles



'99 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE
4 To Choose from!
2 Door or 4 Door
Steve Cummings



'98 FORD TAURUS
2 To Choose from!
Brandon Wallace

915-563-0814
We Take Trade-ins • All Cars • TT&L • Se Habla Espanol
MIDLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
9914 SLOAN FIELD ROAD

FLEET SALES CENTER

'97 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT
6 Cylinder, 5 Speed, Black C.D. Player, Custom Wheels, Low Miles. \$16,800

'96 GEO TRACKER
Automatic Transmission, A/C, Red, Real Nice Pin Stripes. \$6,995

'98 FORD CONTOUR SPORT
24 Valve V-6, 5 Speed, C.D. Player, Power Windows, Power Locks, Red, Tilt, Cruise, Power Of Factory Warranty, Low Miles. \$11,950

'97 PONTIAC GRAND AM
3100 V-6 4 Door Power Windows, Power Locks, Cassette, Cruise, Automatic, A/C, Alloy Wheels, Low Miles. \$11,750

Budget FLEET 2610 E. 8th
SALES (915) 580-8288
CENTER 580-8288
All Prices • TT&L • Mon-Fri 9-6 Sat 9-5

There's a new day DAE... Coming to the Permian Basin

NEW TODAY

WARNING: Do not buy any new or used car until you listen to this recorded consumer information message! Call 580-1404 24 hours a day for a free recorded message & report.

CHEVROLET 1994 1/2 TON Body only, fair condition. No Title \$350. As is. Call 682-6981.

CHEVROLET 1972 pickup, 350 engine, long bed, 150,000. Please call 570-0313 for information.

FERRARI 1977 308GTB, 28K miles, one owner, silver with black leather, one of the last with carburetors. \$25,000. Call 685-3863.

CHEVROLET 1980 SILVERADO, Short-horn, new Goodwrench motor, rebuilt transmission, new carburetor, manifold, A/C compressor, radiator, cd player. \$4,750. 915-520-0341.

VOLKSWAGEN 1974 SUPER-Beetle, engine just rebuilt, excellent condition, new stereo system with cd player and new tires. \$3,495. Call 694-9366.

BUICK 1982 RIVIERA, Convertible, 79K actual miles, very collectible, V8, new top, new tires. \$7,000. 686-8759 1804 Ward.

FORD 1964 GALAXIE 500 4 door, white, blue interior, good condition, one owner. 72,000 actual miles. \$3,975. 694-4767 leave message.

CHEVROLET 1987 CORVETTE Convertible, black with white top, 36K miles, \$15,000. Call 694-4744.

TWO ROLLS ROYCE 1967, Silver Shadows. One right-hand drive, one left-hand drive. Good condition. Both for \$17,500. Call 915-247-3142.

VOLKSWAGEN 1968 Bug, Totally Y2K complaint. Great student car. \$4,150. 911 Bedford. 685-0145.

210 Autos Imports

↓SOLD↓

VOLKSWAGEN 1970 Bug
Runs good, asking \$1,800. Please call xxx-xxxx.

NISSAN 1995 Altima
Automatic, power steering, cruise control, A/C, AM/FM radio with cassette. \$9,000 or best offer. Call 889-7253.

VOLVO 1998 S70
Leather, CD power seats, interior wood grain trim, 22K blue mint condition. \$23,800. 699-0100.

HONDA 1992 ACCORD
Coupe LX, white champagne two tone, blue interior, automatic, 61K, original owner, non smoker. Beautiful. \$8,400. 697-5006.

MAZDA 1998 MILLENA
50K factory warranty, 34K miles, power seat, windows and locks, cd/cassette, wheels and new tires. \$16,900 O.B.O. 915-556-3396.

MERCEDES 1997 E420
One owner, silver/tan leather, moon roof, CD, excellent condition. 70K highway miles. \$35,950 o.b.o. 682-7752.

TOYOTA 1991 Corolla
Clean 5 speed, great gas mileage. A/C. Asking \$3,895. Or best offer. Call 699-7720.

HONDA 1994 ACCORD
EX, dark red 65K miles. Loaded, five speed, four door. 100K mile warranty. \$11,995. Call 699-1629.

HYUNDAI 1999 ELANTRA 41K Miles standard cd, cruise, 4 door, dark maroon, a/c. \$10,500 or best offer. Call 915-694-2171.

MERCEDES 1991 300E
Automatic, dark grey with grey leather, fully loaded, outstanding condition. All records. \$17,900. Call Brenda 699-4835.

LEXUS 1995 SC400 2 door, Blue/taupe leather, CD, moon roof, V8, will scatter! Garage kept. \$27,500. 694-0584. 694-8051.

MERCEDES 1992 300SE
Leather, factory phone, CD, sun roof, dual air, S body style, service records. \$23,500. 697-6300.

VOLVO 1986 740 TURBO
4 door, medium blue, tan interior, sunroof, 160,000 miles. \$4,000. Call 520-5723.

HONDA 1992 CIVIC DX-4
door, 5 speed, upgraded CD player and speakers, excellent first car. \$4,750. Call 682-5225.

HONDA 1996 ACCORD LX
50K miles, green with grey interior. Loaded. \$12,950 or best offer. Call 520-8137 or 425-5674.

NISSAN 1996 MAXIMA
Best buy in town! Pearl white, 55,000 miles, loaded. \$14,800. Call 520-0789. leave message or 425-9004.

MAZDA 1997 MAZ6 23K, Beautiful Montego blue, CD, custom headrest speakers, full warranty. \$13,500 or best offer. 915-689-7148.

TOYOTA OF MIDLAND
Web site: www.toyotaofmidland.com

VOLVO 1990 740GL
Wagon. White with grey leather interior, tinted power windows and power locks. Excellent condition. \$7,700. Call 697-0660.

TOYOTA 1996 Camry
LE, A/C, automatic, auto locks, windows. Excellent condition. New tires. Forrest Green. \$5K. \$13,000. Negotiable. Call 570-4437.

215 Sport/Utility Vehicles

MERCUY 1997
Mountaineer, white, grey, V8, leather, CD, loaded, 59K miles. Excellent condition. \$19,700. Please call 563-0116 days.

FORD 1991 Explorer XLT
4 wheel 4 door, auto, red, leather air, automatic, 63K, excellent condition. \$10,300. 694-6006 evenings.

NISSAN 1992 PATHFINDER
ER. Good condition, very dependable. 81K. Four door, tinted windows. \$8,600. Call Marty at 694-4208.

CHEVROLET 1993 S-10
Blazer, Tahoe LT, four door, V6 Vortec, automatic, power, air, all the extras. Very clean. \$6,950. Call 694-3363. 553-3841.

CHEVROLET 1997
Tahoe. One owner vehicle, non smoker, white, blue interior. Excellent condition. Loaded, all power, 40,000 miles. \$23,000. 694-7603.

FORD 1998 Explorer XLT
tan, five speed. Excellent condition. \$19,999. Best offer. Must sell. Chrs 332. 1288 days. 520-5389 evenings.

NISSAN 1994 Pathfinder
SE. Leather, loaded, all options. 4 wheel drive. 90,000 miles, excellent condition. \$15,500. 686-8544. days. 683-6117, evenings.

GEO 1993 TRACKER
White with pink trim, looks and runs great. \$4,800. Call 683-0957.

CHEVROLET 1996 Tahoe
Fully loaded, 61K, power steering, windows, leather, CD, new tires. Excellent condition. \$19,000. negotiable. Darryl-638-5388.

FORD 1995 Explorer
leather interior, 6 CD changer, 4 wheel drive, towing package. Great condition. \$12,900. 520-8697 after 6 pm.

CHEVROLET 1997 S10
Blazer, 45K, excellent condition. 520-6828 days, ask for Susan. 683-8432 evenings.

TOYOTA 1994 Landcruiser
loaded, including leather, moon roof, power windows, etc. Excellent condition. 75K miles. \$27,500. Call 686-8544. days. 683-6117 evenings.

FORD 1992 EXPLORER
Nice, good condition. \$5,395. Will consider trade call 694-8714.

FORD 1998 EXPLORER
Excellent condition fully loaded. \$21,000. Please call 685-0085.

FORD 1998 EXPEDITION
(4WD, Bauer edition) 4 wheel drive, leather interior, excellent condition, 51K miles. \$26,500. Call 694-2706 4 to 7:30 pm.

CHEVROLET 1983 BLAZER
ER, 4x4, full size, excellent condition. \$4,500. negotiable. 694-1950.

CHEVROLET 1998
Silverado, extended cab, fully loaded, 100K miles, sprayed in bed liner. 43K. \$21,800. Owner. 570-1099.

DODGE 1999 1500, 12K miles. \$14,800. firm. Please call 699-0492, pager 560-7271.

MAZDA 1987 KING Cab
Must see to appreciate. \$3,500. negotiable. 694-1950.

FORD 1989 F150 extended cab, V8, 5 speed, tool box. New rims, 1/2 speed, new tires and custom interior. High mileage but nice truck. \$9,975. 520-9003.

CHEVROLET 1971 Pick-up, 65K original miles, great condition. \$6,500. Call 806-872-8836 day evening. 806-872-9503 night-weekends.

CHEVROLET 1972 pickup
350 engine, long bed. \$1,100. Please call 570-0313 for information.

CHEVROLET 1978 LE
Camino. 350 with lots new, good condition. \$2,500. Call 684-9685 after 5 pm.

CHEVROLET 1979 Short-bed pick-up. New 350. 4 door bolt main, radiator, tires, shocks, transmission. \$3,100. 523-3377.

CHEVROLET 1990
Silverado, V8, 350, 1/2 ton, power, cassette, 80K. Clean runs great. \$6,500 or best offer. Call 520-7671.

CHEVROLET 1994 SILVERADO S1500, V8, good condition. \$12,500. 520-8813.

DECEMBER 16, 1999

NOTICE!

BERG MOTOR COMPANY ANNOUNCES THEY WILL HOLD THEIR FIRST NO HAGGLE HACKER SALE, AND WILL SELL CARS AS LOW AS \$59!

Midland, TX

Berg Motor Company has announced its plan to have a \$59 dollar new and used car Hacker Sale event this Saturday, December 18th. Rain or shine. Don't miss this one-day event.

Clark Duff, Kenny Green and Jerry Slaughter, Sales Managers of Berg Motor Company say, "we are ready to drop our current overstocked inventory levels and get ready for the new year. Record sales over the past three months have flooded Berg Motor Company with quality trade-ins. Late model year lease returns coupled with giant new car and truck shipments from General Motors and Mitsubishi has left us with a huge inventory problem. So due to the overwhelming response to the last two Slasher Sales and continued requests for another, we will hold our first Hacker Sale.

In order to participate in this event, come down to Berg Motor Company located at 3205 West Wall Street in Midland. Due to the large turnout expected, all those wishing to buy a vehicle at these fantastic low prices must be registered. Registration will begin sharply at 8:30a.m. this

Saturday and the gates will open at 10:00am so buyers may inspect the vehicles. The retail price will be posted on the windshield of each vehicle. When the sale begins, whoever is sitting in the vehicle when the event begins will have the first chance to purchase that vehicle at the low Hacker price. Prices will be cut one time to the rock bottom price, including vehicles for only \$59 dollars. When the sale is completed for the day, Berg Motor Company will resume business as usual. So don't miss this opportunity to save like never before.

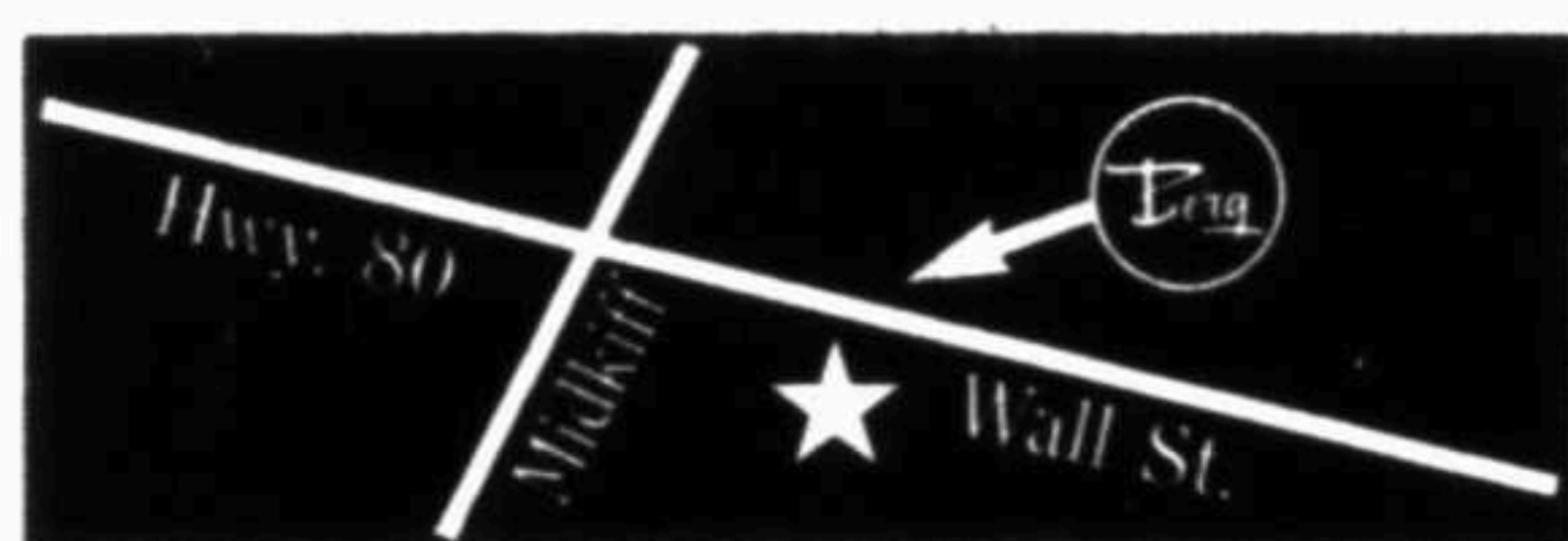
Clark said, "customers can expect the cut prices to be very close to public auction pricing, without the auction fee". Due to the response of this event, Clark has agreed to have all new car and truck trade-ins, lease returns and auction purchases available for the sale. The Hackers approach to selling vehicles is revolutionizing the way vehicles are being sold and allows everybody to get a great deal on a car or truck.

Berg Motor Company will have buyers on hand to take your trade-ins, as well as special finance and credit analysts to get you pre-qualified before the sale. Clark said, even Mitsubishi has come to

our aid with a no down payment, no accrued interest and no payment until February 1st, 2001 program. Even if you've had a problem obtaining auto financing before, we will have some of the most liberal lenders in the area at this event. Just bring in a current payroll stub and a valid driver's license.

We have a multi-million dollar inventory available for this event. Our total inventory will be close to 300 new and used cars and trucks for this event.

Clark further stated that he believes that this is the "absolute best opportunity for anyone seeking a new or used car, truck or SUV to get the best deal ever. Berg Motor Company has been a strong supporter of the community and the community has been a supporter of Berg Motor Company. This is our way of saying thanks." This event allows the dealer to reduce their inventory as well as the customer to get a car or truck for as low as \$59 dollars. Any questions can be directed to (915)694-7741 at Berg Motor Company. You're personally invited to our first no haggle, Hacker Sale. We'll see you there for a sale that won't be out done.



*Must be 18 years of age or older. All prices on a first-come, first-serve basis

Jack Sherman Chevrolet is open 24 hours a day just for you!

Call toll free and apply for your new or used vehicle loan right over your touch tone telephone. It's fast, hassle free, and confidential!!!

1-800-62-CHEVY
or 1-800-622-4389
or apply via the internet
www.ezjs123.getayes.com

★
1st Time Buyers

★
Bad/No Good Credit

★
Charge Offs

220 Trucks

CHEVROLET 1994 Z-71, 4 wheel drive, 62K miles, one family owner. Excellent condition. \$14,300. 915-756-2720.

CHEVROLET 1998 C1500 271, 350 Vortec, power windows/locks, cruise, tilt, cassette/CD, bucket seats, dual air bags, overhead console, automatic, 3rd door. Red tag \$22,999. Call 697-3293.

FORD 1985 CREW CAB-Dually, 460, automatic. New engine and transmission. Needs paint. \$3,750. Call 685-4078 or 695-3746.

FORD 1993 RANGER XLT. Great condition. Premium wheels, am/fm stereo cassette, sliding rear window. \$6,850. 689-4590 between 5:30 to 9:30.

FORD 1995 SUPERCAB XLT. black, 50K miles, excellent condition, clean. \$13,500. Call 699-7807.

GMC 1997 T71. Good condition, includes toolbox, bed-liner, tan color, 53K miles. 4wd. Call 620-6030 ext. 200.

220 Trucks

FORD 1996 F350. Crew cab, 4WD, power-stroke, automatic. 107K miles, ready to go anywhere. \$16,750. Call 685-4078 or 685-3746.

FORD 1996 Ranger Flareside, 32K, cassette, A/C, blue, \$8,967. 694-7345.

FORD 1997 F150 XL-Reg. cab, Flare-side, v6, standard, a/c. Excellent condition, 79K miles, am/fm cassette, tilt/cruise. \$10,500. Call 697-2448.

FORD 1999 F150 1/2 Ton, 5,200 miles. \$12,000. Call 570-8285. Leave message if no answer.

FORD 1995 SUPERCAB XLT. black, 50K miles, excellent condition, clean. \$13,500. Call 699-7807.

GMC 1991 Sierra Sportside, black, custom wheels, AM/FM, cassette, \$3,488. 694-7345.

ROGERS ★ FORD NORTH

220 Trucks

DODGE 1995 RAM Pick-up. Extended cab, very clean, grill guard, tool box. 73K miles, maintenance to a tee. \$14,200. 499-0259.

TOYOTA 1996 T100 truck. Automatic, air, cruise, extended cab, theft control system, 35K, new tires, like new. \$14,500. Call 682-9513.

CHEVROLET 1980 4 x 4. Short, wide, Custom paint, lifted, new interior, CD, amp, 35" tires, mag wheels. \$5,500. 522-2805.

CHEVROLET 1994 Silverado. 3/4 Ton, extended cab, long bed, 6.5 liter turbo diesel, 68K, very nice. \$13,700. 682-4412/699-4883.

CHEVROLET 1994 Silverado. Black, 4X4 271, 5 speed, loaded, excellent condition, new tires, 78K miles. \$14,500 o.b.o. Call 682-8321/697-8275.

FORD 1997 F350 crew cab, 7.3 powerstroke, 1 ton, new tires, long bed, well maintained, \$20,750. 683-3322, 689-8070 home.

222 Suburbans & Vans

CHEVROLET 1990 Suburban. Loaded, CD player, immaculate. \$4,850. Call 683-2023.

CHEVROLET 1993 Suburban. Silverado, loaded, rear A/C, towing package, extra clean. \$11,500. 689-0830.

CHEVROLET 1988 SUBURBAN. Fuel injected, 180K, Excellent Michelin tires. \$3,700. 685-1283.

CHEVROLET 1997 SUBURBAN. Loaded, tan leather interior, navy blue 51K miles. \$24,500. Call 685-1975.

FORD 1992 Aerostar XLT, fully loaded, new transmission. Runs great. \$4,800. Call 699-0604, cell 405-823-2824.

FORD 1998 Windstar, white, 31,685 miles, power windows/locks, cruise, tilt, cassette, dual air bags, rear air. Call 697-3293.

CHEVROLET 1990 Suburban. Loaded, Cowboy conversion, \$5,500. Please call 694-4680.

222 Suburbans & Vans

GMC 1995 Suburban-4X4, white/blue, extra clean, 85K, tow package, navy interior, chrome grill steps. \$20,500. 638-3700.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. 4X4, leather, loaded, 114K miles. Very nice. \$19,500. 557-8204 or 697-5800.

CHEVROLET 1985 S10-Blazer. 172K miles, 4 WD, automatic, Cruise control, a/c, power windows, new shocks. Great shape. \$7,490. 694-5446.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

FORD 1995 Windstar. Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7764.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN S.L.T. 4X4, leather, CD Auto 4WD, rear air, heat, 42K miles, power/gray, non-smoker. \$29,500. 683-3071.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE, one owner. Excellent condition, 83K, dual air, All power keyless entry. \$8,000. 689-2068.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Hot Red! Tan leather seats, running boards, loaded, 60K miles. A Must to See! \$24,000. Call 694-1024.

\$0 DOWN CHRISTMAS SALE OF THE CENTURY!

On ALL Vehicles in Inventory

2000 Lincoln Town Cars Stk #20058 99 Dodge Grand Caravan Stk #49160 2000 Dodge Ram Stk #40005



\$5,000 DISCOUNT and 4.9% apr
MSRP \$40370; Village Discount \$5000; Sale Price \$35370

2000 Dodge Dakota Sport Stk #40106 99 Mercury Mystique Stk #29129 99 Mercury Tracer Stk #29018



\$13,999 **\$14,999** **\$12,999**

If you don't check with Village BEFORE you buy, you're probably paying too much.

99 Dodge Durango Stk #200258 99 Ford Explorer XLT Stk #93516 97 Dodge Ram SLT Stk #93563 99 Lincoln Town Car Stk #93706



\$25,999 **\$22,999** **\$17,999** **\$25,999**
Leather, Air, Auto, Pwr Steering & Brakes, Pwr Seat, Cruise/Tilt, CD Air, Auto, Pwr Steering & Brakes, Pwr W&L, Cruise/Tilt, CD Air, Auto, Pwr Steering & Brakes, Pwr W, Cruise/Tilt, Grille Guard Standing At 10 TO CHOOSE FROM!!! Leather, Low Miles,

99 Dodge Intrepid Stk #93736 96 Mercury Cougar Stk #93693A 98 Chrysler Sebring Convertible Stk #93600 99 Dodge Ram 1500 SLT Stk #93655



\$15,999 **\$8,999** **\$17,999** **\$20,999**
Air, Auto A/C, Auto, Pwr Steering, Pwr Brakes, AM/FM Stereo Air, Auto, Extra Clean Air, Auto, Pwr Steering & Windows, Cruise/Tilt, Bedliner

VILLAGE SALES & LEASING
LINCOLN • MERCURY • DODGE • HYUNDAI
3915 W. WALL • MIDLAND, TEXAS
Se Habla Español 915-522-3115
File photos for illustrative purposes only. All prices plus TT&L. Rebates assigned to dealer. With approved credit.

310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted

FURNITURE MOVERS with experience. Heavy lifting and drivers license required. Leave name number (915)553-1464. NEED EXPERIENCED Dog Groomer or hard worker willing to learn. Must love animals, commission work. 683-3616. NOW HIRING Evening Shift, Thursdays through Mondays. Apply in person Amigo's Convenience Store, 2301 W. Wadley. OTR DRIVER: 48 states. Clean CDL, verifiable employment health insurance, vacation plan. 401(K). 915-523-5778. PINNOCCHIOS PIZZA now is now hiring all drivers for all shifts. Please apply in person 3303 N. Midkiff. SAN ANGELO STANDARDS Times is seeking Carriers for the Midland area. Please call 1-800-588-1884, ext 294.

BLIND BOX REPLY

When replying to a blind box number listed in an advertisement, address your reply to:
(this is an example)

BOX Z-01
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
P.O. Box 1650
Midland, TX 79702

Readers who are interested in a position offered, but do not want their resume to go to certain companies, can simply address the reply to the specific box number and place it in another envelope addressed to: "Classified Supervisor" & the address above. Include a list of the companies that you do not want your resume to reach. If the advertiser is anyone on your list, we will shred your resume without opening it. If you have any questions please call 682-6222. We do not open or screen any mail that has a blind box number on the envelope. The Midland Reporter-Telegram shall not be responsible for any disclosure of information, loss of responses or misdirection of responses.

BOBTAIL DRIVER/WAREHOUSE Person needed immediately. Must have a "clean" Class A or B CDL with HAZMAT endorsement. Propane license helpful. Apply in person only at 11501 County Road 125 West Odessa, between 8 am and 5 pm.

NEW TODAY

CHEF: upscale restaurant seeking experienced Chef. Call 570-4020 ask for Mike

CITY OF LAMESA: Accepting applications for a police officer. Applicants must be TLEOSE certified. Obtain applications from Lamesa Police Department, 601 S. 1st, Lamesa, TX 79331. (806)872-2121. EOE

EXPERIENCED FLORAL Designer needed for a busy shop. Full time position, benefit package. Apply at Flowerama, 907 Andrews Hwy.

NEW IN TOWN?

For your FREE "New Resident" Welcome Packet. Call 570-8045.

NEW TODAY

JANITORIAL/Maintenance person needed for church. Perform cleaning and various maintenance of building and grounds. Please respond to Box J-5081, c/o MRT, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702

KENT KWIK 24 Hour Job Hotline 520-4053 ext. 371

NEW TODAY

MR. GATTI's family fun center is now looking to hire delivery drivers. \$5.25 per hour, \$1.00 per run. Apply in person at 614 W. Wadley. Ask for Amy.

JUST ANNOUNCED



Choose From Best Selection in Stock NOW! **3.9% INTEREST**

ON ALL 1/2 TON '2000 PICKUPS INCLUDING EXTENDED CABS

Jack Sherman
Genuine Chevrolet

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.JACKSHERMAN.COM

4100 W. Wall • Midland, TX • 915-694-9601 • 915-520-0156

310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 311 Medical Help Wanted

CLASSIFIED FAX #1 682-6999

Please include the following information:

- ★ Full name and address
- ★ Billing phone number
- ★ Phone number of person placing ad
- ★ Start date
- ★ Classification

Faxed ads are subject to normal deadlines. We reserve the right to edit, properly classify or decline any ad.

Pam, Jennifer, Nancy & Emily are available to help you with all of your advertising needs.

TELEMARKETERS

We need 6 full-time sales people for telemarketing positions. Must be dependable. Will train. Apply in person only!
10601 W. County Rd. 127 (Behind Warfield)

310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 311 Medical Help Wanted

GROWING OPPORTUNITIES

First Convenience Bank is a fast growing financial institution with immediate openings for Tellers and Customer Service Representatives at our Midland facility, located inside Wal-Mart Super Center at 4517 North Midland Drive, Midland, TX. The successful candidate must be sales oriented, have excellent communication skills, and strong customer service skills. We offer competitive compensation and an excellent benefit package!
Please call Human Resources (915) 699-1527 or fax resumes to (915) 699-9444.
EOE/MF/D/V

311 Medical Help Wanted 311 Medical Help Wanted

Integrated

Medical Collector

Energetic, self-starter to handle medical collections for several physician's offices within the corporate office. Good computer skills, accurate, and detail-oriented. Flexibility to grow and learn other areas of medical office administration. We offer our employees paid vacation time, sick leave, medical and life insurance, prescription card and a 401K plan.
Send resume to Human Resources Department P.O. Box 51537 Midland, Texas 79710

310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted

NEEDED EXPERIENCED

person for a small meal company. Need to know kill floor and processing of beef, hogs, goats and lambs. This is a full time permanent job. Top wages for the right person. Call John at 915-835-2611 in Merton. Experienced only need apply.

NEW TODAY

NEEDED PART-TIME Veterinarian Assistant and Kennel person. No smoking environment. Send resume to box 4371, Midland TX, 79704.

REPRESENTATIVES

Sell Avon Good earnings. \$0 Fee 12/20-1/7 Veris 520-0119. Independent Rep.

SONIC DRIVE INN.

1109 N. Midkiff, is now hiring Carhops for day or evening shifts (flexible hours). Please apply in person. Personality is a plus.

SONIC Midland Drive

now accepting applications for Cooks, Carhops, for all shifts. Apply in person. 4201 Midland Drive, Midland.

V.I.P. Employment

Services 686-9722 Give your resume a face lift. Professional Resumes and Typing Available.

311 Medical Help Wanted 311 Medical Help Wanted

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Needed, experience required. Please send resume to: Dr. Philip Warlick, 3001 W. Illinois, Ste. 183, Midland, TX 79701.

OFFICE MANAGER for OBGYN Clinic needs strong supervisory background, basic business and computer skills, experience in medical coding. Company benefits include insurance and 401K. Send resume to: Midland Women's Clinic, 4214 Andrews Hwy, Ste. 200, Midland, TX 79703. Attn: Marge Bosser.

TRINITY HAVEN

HEALTHCARE of Midland

has openings for CNA's

Full-time & Part-time

PRN weekend

Good starting pay

Family owned & Operated

Apply in person

3203 Sage St. Midland, Texas 683-5403

311 Medical Help Wanted 311 Medical Help Wanted

BUSY DENTAL Office

needs Receptionist. Also looking for Part-time Dental Assistant. Please send resumes to Box J-5059, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

HIREDY

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT-Company.

needs Customer Representative and Equipment Technician

Medical experience preferred. xxx-xxxx.

MIDLAND DIALYSIS

Center is accepting application for RN, LVN, PCT, respite technician. Experience only. Must have experience. Good benefits and salary. Fax resume to: 687-5008 or apply in person, 731 W. Wadley Bldg K, Suite 130 Midland, TX.

ORTHODONTIC ASSISTANT

For fast paced, youth oriented practice. Must be friendly, a good communicator, and able to work as a team member. Non smoking environment. Knowledge of dental profession preferred. Send resumes to: N-4185, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

PERMANENT PART TIME

Exercise instructor needed for 2, one half hour morning classes. 9:00 (Midland Senior Center) and 9:45 (Southeast Community Center) Monday-Friday. Range of motion and stretching. Ability to work with seniors. Experience. Applications at Midland Senior Center, 3303 W. Illinois. 79703.

RN's STARTING at \$26

per hour. LVN's Starting at \$19 per hour. CNA's Starting at \$10 per hour. Quality Nursing Services. 915-570-1021, 915-553-3581.

SERA- TEC Plasma

Center now accepting applications for Physicians Sub. Must be EMT certified. Six months experience in a health care facility. Apply in person 712 West Scharbauer, Midland.

TERRACE WEST Nursing

Center, has current openings for Week-end R.N. If interested, please apply in person at 2800 North Midland Drive, Midland, Texas 79707.

Famous Front Pages

These replicas of Famous Front Pages of the Midland Reporter-Telegram are reproduced on

Aluminum plates,

framed and

matted for

displaying in your

home. They are

great gifts!



Send your order front page, call 1-800-555-1234



MARTY'S MARKETPLACE

Leading you to the best bargains in Midland and the area!



Do you need to get rid of some of your extra goodies around the house? Don't want to spend a lot of cash?

*Marty's Weekday Special

3 Line Ad
1 Item Priced \$300 or Less
Monday through Thursday ONLY
\$4.00

Call or Fax Classifieds today to schedule your special Marketplace ad!

682-6222

Fax 682-6999

*Private Party merchandise ads only. 1 item per ad. Price must be in ad to qualify. Other restrictions may apply, ask consultant for details.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BARGAINS ON VACUUM Cleaners. All brands. New and rebuilt. Repair all makes. 1005 North Midkiff. 520-6464.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BLUE GRAY For all your music needs. 1710 Carter. 25% off until December 23rd. 3pm Merry Christmas & Happy Y2K!

410 Miscellaneous Sales
COMPLETE WATERBED with bookshelves headboard, lighted mirror, \$50. Full size free-standing basketball goal, \$25. 557-0008.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SOFA/ LOVESEAT- Very good condition. Also, a Ford 1982 Lincoln \$300. Call 682-2366 after 4:30.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
RED BARRON Go-Kart, used hours, like new. 2 seater, 5 hp, \$450. (915) 688-5133/ 560-6326 pager.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
ESTATE SALE Framed art, antique French armor and French buffet with marble top. 2 Southwest armchairs, bookcase, overstuffed chair, foosball table, leather couch, lots of Mexican imports, large bird cage, Mexican lamps, lots of Oriental decorative items. Call for appointment 522-2208.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BILLS FIREPLACE used wood insert for sale. Wood stove, gas logs, chimney sweeping. 682-5157.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SEARS CAR Top carrier with accessories. \$25. Call 699-1222.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
HOT TUB- Seats 5 people with deck. \$1800. Call 520-6765.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
NECCHI PORTABLE Sewing machine with case. Like new, \$100. 10 cu. ft. Kenmore upright freezer, weeks well, \$140. 689-7486/ 694-7108.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SCHWINN AIR DYNE Exercise bike like new! \$500. Call 688-5514.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
TRUCK LOAD Sale 10x16 steel storage buildings. 563-1807.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
★ BIBLE TALK "What Did Jesus tell a Samaritan woman about worship?" 915-520-0381. Free recorded message.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
AIRLINE TICKETS (2) 1 Way, round trip anywhere in the US. \$139 each way. 877-359-1929.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BAG CELL Phone New \$60. Please call 685-1780 for more information.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WEDDING DRESS- New white, with attached train. Shoes and veil included. \$2400. Call Donna at 697-2244 or 570-1217.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WORK-OUT- Station (Prosystem II) for sale. \$300. Call 682-2205.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
COWBOY BOOTS, some exotic skins. 20 pairs. 8.5D and 8 pair of exotic loafers. 682-3001.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
UNCLAMER ORDER! Large 8 person spa, blue with tile accents. No payments till May 2000. Delivery and financing available. 563-3108.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FISHER PRICE Doll House- Furniture, car, playground. \$75. o.b.o. 684-9077 leave message.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS Gift! Mans Rolex Presidents Day/ Date, diamond dial and bezel. After 5:30 call 694-2047, weekdays, anytime.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BINGO American Legion, 501 Airport Road, Friday nights, games start at 8. Food, Refreshments. 682-5511.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SLIGHTLY DAMAGED 12x20 workshop/ storage building. \$69 a month. Delivery and financing available. 563-3108.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WASHER/ DRYER- \$200. Refrigerator \$175. Stove \$40. Headache rack, Grill guard and taigale for Ford F150. \$350. 697-4136.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
HANDCRAFTED ANTLER Chandeliers, lamps, tables, fireplace tools. Your antlers or ours. Custom dog and iron furniture. T. Cross 570-4659.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
11 SETS of storm windows, clear glass and metal frame. \$20 each. 694-0277.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BURLINGTON Floral sofa asking \$300. Cherry wood dinette table with 5 chairs, \$650. Or best offer on both. 699-4665.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
QUEEN WATERBED, four poster, new mattress. Good condition- \$150 or best offer. Please call 697-7384.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
KING WATERBED, 4 poster with under dresser. \$350. 685-3023, after 5.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SOLID OAK Twin bunk bed. Excellent condition. \$190. Call 684-5114.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
EXPENSIVE WOOD Combination Bunk/ Day trundle or two twins' bed. \$150. Recliner, \$150. Dining/ living room furniture. 915-362-2746.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
ATOTCHA SHIPWRECK Jewelry. Own a piece of history, made from genuine ancient silver. 694-9852. E-mail: julp724@cs.com

410 Miscellaneous Sales
EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS Gift! Mans Rolex Presidents Day/ Date, diamond dial and bezel. After 5:30 call 694-2047, weekdays, anytime.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WANTING Used motorized scooter (Mosquito) good condition. Call 682-1709.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SOUTHWEST Company Club tickets or other airline mileage awards wanted. Will pay top dollar. 687-5039.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
LOOKING FOR Gameboy Any color. New in package. Will pay \$175. Call 685-1471.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
★ FREE REMOVAL OF your unwanted appliances. Sales & Service 550-6540.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
JR GOLF CLUBS- starter set, LH. irons and putter. \$25. Call 699-5693.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
JR GOLF CLUBS- starter set, RH. irons, putter, woods and bag. \$55. Call 699-5693.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
EAGER BEAVER Firewood- Oak. Pifon, mesquite. Delivery. Stacked. Small quantities available also. 685-3521, mobile 664-0577.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
435 Household Appliances Kenmore side by side refrigerator, 21 cu. ft. with ice maker, white. \$125. 694-9394.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
★ FREE REMOVAL OF your unwanted appliances. Sales & Service 550-6540.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WASHER AND DRYER, \$75 each. Both are in working condition. Call 520-5121.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
GENERAL ELECTRIC- Washer/ dryer unit. Good condition \$300. Or best offer. Call 684-1582.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
REFRIGERATOR, Small size washer & dryer, 2 vacuum cleaners. Call between 8:00 am- 4:00 pm. 687-9030. After 5:00 pm, 694-8544.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WASHER & DRYER \$150 for set. Good working order. Delivery available. Call 683-7040.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
DOUBLE DOOR- Armored, carved with grapes and leaves pattern. \$225. Oak. 90x36" \$300. 520-5066.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
MARKETING OFFICER Position Available. Financial institution taking applications for an experienced individual in the field of marketing. The individual should have experience working with all types of advertising media. Team player and effective communication a must. Excellent computer skills, including word processing, Microsoft Excel, publishing programs, are a definite plus. Send detailed resume to: Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 37802, San Antonio, TX 78202. EOE/AA.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
INDEPENDENT Oil Operator is seeking a responsible, dependable person to handle all office duties. This is a one person office. Experience needed would be answering phones, typing, filing, Work 97, Excel, oil and gas computer knowledge, joint interest billing, opening bank accounts, and more. Apply in person only. Snowwhite Laundry, 303 South Terrell Street.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
OFFICE ASSISTANT: Monday through Friday, 8:00 to 5:00. Must be computer literate and have 10 key by touch. Duties include: Data entry, route settlement, taking and routing orders, answering phones, and more. Apply in person only. Snowwhite Laundry, 303 South Terrell Street.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
★ DP PERSONNEL ★ Temp & Perm Positions Benefits & Bonuses Available 682-0033 or 570-0197

410 Miscellaneous Sales
RECEPTIONIST: Answer telephone, perform multiple clerical tasks. Good people skills and math skills. Ability to lift boxes up to 25 lbs. Bilingual a plus. Salvation Army, 300 S. Baird.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WAREHOUSE & SALES- MAN: Expanding operations. Immediate openings in Odessa, for qualified individuals. High school graduate. Extra good driving record, well groomed, professional appearance & attitude required. Extensive benefit package. Computer skills a plus. Send resume to: Southwest Electric Supply, P.O. Box 64300, Lubbock, Texas 79423.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
TOSHIBA LAP-TOP Pentium processor, 100 MHD, 24MB/ RAM, cd ROM docking station case included. \$450. 697-2425.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SERVICE AFTER THE SALE Computers- New and used, upgrade and repair. Night Owl Computers, 106 E. 8th, 1015-B N Midkiff. 520-5917, 686-8835.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
MACINTOSH LC3- Apple CO/Pro, Y2K compliant monitor included. Excellent starter computer. \$300. Call 620-8858.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
CUTE ADULT cat and kitten- for Christmas, best black kitten, 6 weeks old. Call 697-8535.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FREE MALE- Tabby kitten, real cute, no shots, not neutered. Call 697-1058 leave message.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
CALICO KITTEN- Approximately 3 months old. Greenwood Area. Call 687-6920.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
Brittany Spaniel male dog, eight months. Not registered, full blood. 694-9510 evenings, 682-0033 days, Dine.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FREE CUTE Puppies. Call 685-1962.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
AWESOME 2 year old female black lab mix, "Annie" if you can love her call 687-4287.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
PIANOS- new and used- buy, sell, trade. Financing available. Tuning, repair, moving. Caldwell Music. 697-0852.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
ORIGINAL OIL Paintings at sacrifice prices. 24x36 G. Harvey, Larry Dykes (Golf Course), 24x36 Robert Woods (Waves of Laguna), excellent Christmas gifts. See at Frontier Art Galleries, 1926 E. 8th Street, Odessa, Texas.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
JUDY JACKSON'S Estate Sales. An experienced professional working for you! 699-3536, 682-6147.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WANTED: YOUR Collectibles and Antiques. Fair prices, no furniture please. Call 571-3222-leave message. 694-7508.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
ESTATE Sales by JOSEPH'S. Let our experienced team liquidate your estate. 687-3040, 687-2866, 694-5034.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FINE ANTIQUE European Furniture. Orientalia (Porcelain, Cloisonne, Bronze), and Persian Carpets. Visit Artisan Antiques at Antiques Etc. 2101 W. Wadley.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
485 Collectibles ATOTCHA SHIPWRECK Jewelry. Own a piece of history, made from genuine ancient silver. 694-9852. E-mail: julp724@cs.com

410 Miscellaneous Sales
TY BEANIES and Buddy Bears. Call and leave message. 694-1474, we will call you back.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
ST. LOUIS Chantilly Crystal- 6 glasses, colored. Originally \$1,800, asking \$900. Perfect of New Years. 502-2229.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SHOP NOW AND save 10% to 50% off. Anna Marie's Gifts, 3312 W. Illinois. 522-2229.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FIESTAWARE- original colors plus turquoise and 1950s! One medium green plate. For information/ prices 684-9852.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
VANTAGE Electric Guitar. Case and amp. Excellent condition. \$200. Call 684-9077 leave message.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WURLITZER Player organ, model 470, one owner. \$1,250. Please call 682-3294.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BUY, SELL, Trade used and new pianos. Jones Piano. 682-7533.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
PIANOS- new and used- buy, sell, trade. Financing available. Tuning, repair, moving. Caldwell Music. 697-0852.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
TRUCK PARTS SALES. Largest truck dealership in the Basin is looking for a parts salesperson for inside and/or outside position. Trucks parts experience preferred, but will consider resumes from all who demonstrate aggressive, positive attitude. Basic business knowledge and reasonably good mechanical knowledge are beneficial, but eagerness and enthusiasm in job performance are what we seek. Pay commensurate with experience. Excellent opportunities for advancement and relocation possible. Great benefits. This is a superb opportunity for the right candidate. Interview by appointment only. Call Ruben at 580-7571.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BUSY OILFIELD SERVICE Company now hiring vacuum truck drivers. MUST be experienced, DOT qualified with valid A CDL, hazmat and tanker endorsements. Plenty of work and good pay. Come talk with us at 4601 S. Rankin Hwy. 682-0434.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
CNC OPERATORS- Looking for a strong company with solid benefits and career opportunities? Consider CNC Tech, the nation's largest independent ceramic company and a world leader in development and manufacture of advanced technical ceramic components. We have immediate openings in Odessa for CNC Operators. Qualified applicants will have CNC and precision measuring skills and the ability to read blueprints. Must be able to work any shift. We offer a competitive compensation and benefits package including paid vacation, holidays, health insurance, fully funded retirement plan, 401k, and more. Apply in person Monday through Friday 8 am to 4 pm, at 3565 West 18th, Odessa TX. 79763 EOE affirmative action.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
ELECTRICAL distribution work in Central, TX. Experienced journeyman/ apprentice line workers, digger operators (CDL) for overhead underground long term contract- 5 years in Austin. Salary DOE, travel per diem, Vacation, bonus plan, health and dental insurance. Great opportunity for advancement. Apprenticeship School. For application call: CSBC, 800-357-5003.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
EXPERIENCED Garage Door Installer needed to contract out installations. Full to part time. Please Call 553-0527.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
MACHINIST: Minimum of 4 years experience of job shop experience. Subject to drug test. Must have own tools. Equal opportunity employer with fringe benefits. No flatters, only those interested in long term employment. Phone 362-4132 for appointment.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
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 giving any contract or signing up your credit card or bank information.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SALES PERSON: Place donation boxes, easy work, great pay. Call 1-800-963-8123.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FOR SALE: Quality, profitable West Texas convenience stores with gas. Serious inquiries only. Please write: Box E-3015, El Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
LOCAL BUSINESSES for sale. Small and large. Some have low down payment. Call for a free confidential interview. Sunbelt Business Brokers, 520-1515.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FORMER NANNY Available 24 hours a day in your home. References, CPR Trained. Call 689-6543.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
REGISTERED CHILD Care 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday thru Friday. Meals Provided 563-1910.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES: Opening for toddlers, 18-30 months, in small group. Meals, love, learning. Excellent references. 694-9871.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FOR SALE: Quality, profitable West Texas convenience stores with gas. Serious inquiries only. Please write: Box E-3015, El Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
LOCAL BUSINESSES for sale. Small and large. Some have low down payment. Call for a free confidential interview. Sunbelt Business Brokers, 520-1515.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FORMER NANNY Available 24 hours a day in your home. References, CPR Trained. Call 689-6543.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
REGISTERED CHILD Care 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday thru Friday. Meals Provided 563-1910.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES: Opening for toddlers, 18-30 months, in small group. Meals, love, learning. Excellent references. 694-9871.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
TOSHIBA LAP-TOP Pentium processor, 100 MHD, 24MB/ RAM, cd ROM docking station case included. \$450. 697-2425.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SERVICE AFTER THE SALE Computers- New and used, upgrade and repair. Night Owl Computers, 106 E. 8th, 1015-B N Midkiff. 520-5917, 686-8835.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
MACINTOSH LC3- Apple CO/Pro, Y2K compliant monitor included. Excellent starter computer. \$300. Call 620-8858.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
CUTE ADULT cat and kitten- for Christmas, best black kitten, 6 weeks old. Call 697-8535.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FREE MALE- Tabby kitten, real cute, no shots, not neutered. Call 697-1058 leave message.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
CALICO KITTEN- Approximately 3 months old. Greenwood Area. Call 687-6920.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
Brittany Spaniel male dog, eight months. Not registered, full blood. 694-9510 evenings, 682-0033 days, Dine.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FREE CUTE Puppies. Call 685-1962.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
AWESOME 2 year old female black lab mix, "Annie" if you can love her call 687-4287.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
PIANOS- new and used- buy, sell, trade. Financing available. Tuning, repair, moving. Caldwell Music. 697-0852.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
ORIGINAL OIL Paintings at sacrifice prices. 24x36 G. Harvey, Larry Dykes (Golf Course), 24x36 Robert Woods (Waves of Laguna), excellent Christmas gifts. See at Frontier Art Galleries, 1926 E. 8th Street, Odessa, Texas.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
JUDY JACKSON'S Estate Sales. An experienced professional working for you! 699-3536, 682-6147.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
WANTED: YOUR Collectibles and Antiques. Fair prices, no furniture please. Call 571-3222-leave message. 694-7508.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
ESTATE Sales by JOSEPH'S. Let our experienced team liquidate your estate. 687-3040, 687-2866, 694-5034.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SIX MONTH- old kitten. Very sweet, needs good home. Black male. Call 520-6515 leave message.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FREE LAWN/ RIVER rock and used bricks. Yours to haul away. Please call 697-0682.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
COMPLETE DRUM Set, black, great condition, great Christmas present. \$225. 689-2519.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
YAMAHA CLAVINOVA Piano, an orchestra at your fingertips. \$1,900. Ask for Bill 699-4509.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
CASIO Electronic Keyboard and stand. Like new. \$75. Call 684-9077 leave message.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
REGISTERED GERMAN Shorthaired Pointer puppy. Champion bloodline. Great hunting companions and family pets. Call (915) 697-2482.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
AKC MINIATURE Schnauzer puppies. 1 Female, \$150. 2 Males, \$125 each. Call 694-4305 for information.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
1991 BRUTON Goose-neck 3 horse slant load trailer. \$3,900 or best offer. Excellent condition. (812 000 new) 3-Mile-5-479/ 263-8498 leave message.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
SIX GUEST chairs- four with arms, two without- \$40 each. Eight black conference chairs- \$65 each. 570-4033/ 570-5577.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
18 HOUSE WINDOWS, \$300 for all. Please call 682-4587 after 5:00 pm for more information.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
FOR SALE: 14'x26' heavy duty built. Portable field office, tandem axle, sink, storage closet. \$10,500. 694-7803.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
We move, buy, sell and rent portable buildings. MORGAN (915) 561-1860.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
EQUIPMENT SALE! Ford 8000 Garbage Truck. Oil Conditioner, Heated Parts Washer, 5 Ton Hydraulic Press, 5 Ton Hoist, Forklift Tables, Forklift Cages, Diesel & Propane Generators. Call (915) 682-6762.

410 Miscellaneous Sales
Call Today! 682-6222

GARAGE SALES

Hidden treasures? Junk? Recycle your unwanted items! Call 682-6222 today. A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results!

79701
1600 N. D STREET (off Golf Course). Thursday, Friday & Saturday 8:30-?. Couch, baby clothes, stove, lamps.

79701
BARGAINS ON VACUUM Cleaners. All brands- New and rebuilt. Repair all makes. 1005 North Midkiff. 520-6464.

79701
1/2 PRICE BOOK Sale. Friends of the Library, 2305 West Michigan. Entire month of December- Wednesdays and Saturdays 9 am- 12 Noon. Please park in front or across the street.

79701
114 RIDGLEA DRIVE. 8-4 Friday- Saturday. Designer/ name brand infant- toddler clothing, carrier, toys and more.

79703
4724 W. STOREY. Thursday- Friday, possible Saturday starting at 9 am- ?

79705
Special Christmas Bonus!! 20% off ENTIRE STORE Friday & Saturday only!

79705
Expressions Too 3209 N. Big Spring 682-0536

79707
The Deadline to place an Ad in our Saturday Garage Sale Section is Noon Friday. Call 682-

Who's Who For Service

Call 682-6222

For Further Information

You can advertise your business in Who's Who For Service for as little as \$48.55 monthly

Air Cond - Auto

WINTERIZES - Evaporative water coolers, cover drains, drain waterlines. Work guaranteed. 30 year experience. 581-5559.

Air Cond/Heating

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service. Service all brands. 683-2679. TACLB005482.

CALL PERMAN Basin Air Conditioning for new A/C & heating systems. Repairs on furnaces & heat pumps. 682-2204. TACLB00881E.

UNITED ENERGY Systems. Complete Sales, Service, Repair, Air Duct, Residential, Commercial, Mobile Homes. Free Estimates. Second Opinions. 561-4126. TACLB010538E.

THE BOSWORTH CO. Service and Sales. All makes. We've been in the service business for 40 years! (915) 683-5233. #TACLB00884E.

Appliance Repair

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING Appliance Service. Parts and service on all major brands of appliances. Used appliances with full warranty. 687-5113.

MIKE'S APPLIANCE

Repair. Same Day Service on all major brands. Call anytime. 682-6222 or 561-8038.

FREE REMOVAL OF

your unwanted appliances. Sales & Service 560-6540.

HEAD'S APPLIANCE

Repair all major brands. Same day/after hours. No extra charge. 520-2590.

CMS HOME

Maintenance. All major brands. 550-6648 anytime.

Automotive Paint & Body

COMPLETE AUTOMOBILE Paint jobs starting at \$199.95 guaranteed. 20 years experience in collision repair. Call Alister Refinishing at 915-682-9722.

Barbecue Pits

MIDLAND IRON WORKS. Barbecue Pits, Outdoor Fire Pits, Cooking Wood. 684-4895. Accepting Major Credit Cards.

Bath Tub Refinishing

PROFINISH REFINISHING specialist. Bathtubs, sinks, tile, formica, fiberglass, appliances, chip repairs, cultured marble. 570-5694.

Bathtub Refinishing

DON'T REPLACE Refinish. Bathtubs, sinks, ceramic tile, counter tops and appliances. Westex Refinishing. 520-9898 or 1-800-774-8888.

Carpentry & Cabinets

CUSTOM Cabinets. Rustic furniture, formica tops. References. Work guaranteed. Alpa wood-working 556-7074.

JOURNEYMAN CARPENTER. 20 year experience. Furniture, cabinet making, design, and consulting. Door and all repairs. Painter available. Call Ray Thomas 682-9210.

Carpet Cleaning

FIVE STAR Carpet Cleaning. For all your holiday cleaning. Get any five rooms cleaned for \$99.95. Call 550-3130.

FOBBS CARPET

Cleaning Systems. Discount prices, phone quotes, same or next day service. Licensed technicians. Bonded & insured. References. 580-0686.

Carpet Sales/Rpr & Inst

DAVID - Install carpet, vinyl, V.C. tile. Also repairs. Free estimates. All work guaranteed. 570-8514, 684-0924.

Chimney Sweep

ALL SEASONS Chimney Service. In business 7 years. Free estimate, cleaning, repairs. Call 684-3609. Thanks.

FOBBS CHIMNEY

Sweep. Prices start at \$59.95. 580-4037. Bonded & insured. Quick Response.

Christmas Lighting

LITE RITE LIGHTS. Professional Christmas light installation. Free estimates. Residential/Business. Call 689-2395.

TIS THE Season

for hanging Christmas lights. References available, experienced, reasonable rates. Call 561-8802.

Computer Services

SPEER Computer Consulting. Trouble shooting, Y2K evaluations. Upgrades. Windows and Internet instruction. Member Better Business Bureau. Permian Basin. 589-2977.

Computer Services

COLLEGE STUDENT. 4 Years experience. Computer technician. Will repair and custom build computers. 683-1071.

Concrete Work

AGUIRRE'S CONCRETE. Driveways, patios, sidewalks, & block fences. Free estimates. Call 682-5623.

FOR YOUR needs, please call Raymond's Concrete & Remodeling. Additions, driveways, flowerbeds, & more. 570-8454.

TRANSIT MIX Concrete & Materials. Ready mix concrete. Residential/commercial/industrial. C.O.D. 561-8922.

DAVID VALVERDE

Concrete Work. Patios, Driveways, Sidewalks. Small jobs welcome. Call 915-684-6437/425-7290 cellular.

PAUL RIVAS VAL VERDE

Patios, Driveways, Sidewalks. Small jobs welcome. Call 915-684-6437/425-7290 cellular.

Construction

S.J. WELDING & CONSTRUCTION Pipe Fencing, Privacy Fencing (New and rebuilt), custom fencing, patio covers, carports, metal buildings. Free estimates. Call 570-8636/Pager 489-0792.

JIM'S CONSTRUCTION Building, remodeling, home repair, patio/sunroom additions. Concrete, tile work, painting. 550-5195.

Dirtwork

B & L BACKHOE Dump trucks, maintenance, dozer, grading, measuring, driveways, caliche, dirt, lots cleaned. (915) 687-4878.

ADVANCE BACKHOE

& Dump Truck Hauling. No job too small! Fertilize lawns, lot clearing, complete septic system installation. 470-1704, 634-3807.

OFFICE CLEANING

Trustworthy and reliable service. Bonded and insured. Call 684-9636 for quote.

"DUST BUSTERS"

Because you have better things to do! Uniformed, supervised crews, bonded & insured. Move-ins, move-outs, weekly, bi-weekly/monthly. Residential & small business. 570-1958.

Domestic House Cleaning

NEED HOUSES to clean! Honest and dependable. References available upon request. Please call 458-3285.

KAREN'S CLEANING

Cleaning done right! References available. Call 520-2048 or Page 587-5108.

WILL CLEAN

houses, apartments, storage and also move-outs. Call 570-8342.

GET READY for the Holidays! One time or regular, moveouts. References available. Jennifer 684-5022, 485-5496.

THE HOLIDAYS are here!

Let us help you get ready. House cleaning, Christian work ethics. 684-8292.

Electric Service

CROCKETT Electric. Residential and commercial. Repair service. Licensed and insured. Ceiling fans, telephone and TV outlets. Senior citizen discount. Call 570-9757.

RESIDENTIAL

Commercial. Electrical installations, testing fans, switches, plugs. Free estimates. Insured. License #10. Call 685-0859.

Embroidery

STITCHES TO REMEMBER. Computer embroidery, heat transfers, custom apparel. Credit Cards Accepted. 684-4242. www.shopmidlandtx.com.

Flagstone

COMPANY STONE. Natural stone for your walkways, patios, fireplace, Buckskin, Gold, Oak, Sedona Red, Chocolate, Peach, Rose. 687-4952.

Floor Services

WOOD FLOORS: Refinish/repair/installation/sales. Howard (915) 684-4044.

BETTER PRICES than most stores! Floors, Counter Tops, Showers. Expert quality workmanship. Senior Discounts. Ask for Chuck, 688-5434.

Fences

R J FENCING - 30 years experience. New and repair. Reasonable rates. Free estimates. 550-6714.

CAPITAL SERVICE

Complete lending needs. Repairs on all types. Free estimates. 684-5354/Pager 561-1031.

WOODLAND SERVICES

New fence installation and repairs. Wood, pipe, vinyl, decks, porches and remodeling. 570-0805.

Handyman

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

S & D SERVICES

Home repairs and more. Reliable, clean work. Bonded. Call 561-9610/559-4827.

MIDLAND FIREMEN

Metal buildings, general welding, wood fences, new & repair. Please call 520-0334/683-9387.

ECONOMY DOWN

PRICES DOWN - K.C.'s Handyman Remodeling. Specializing in bathroom remodel. Ceramic tile, sheet rock, painting. Need a carport/fence? Also sidewalks, fireplaces. 687-5953 or 689-5306, pager 587-5253.

FAMILY MAN

Providing: Honey do's, errands, lawn care, Christmas lights, free hauling furniture, etc. 684-2772.

HANDY RANDY

Home repairs, painting, carpentry, construction, sheet rock, and much more! Free estimates. 689-0804.

Hauling

HAULING - Commercial/Residential. Trash, tree limbs, moving household, storage items, etc. 520-4215/10 minute response.

HAULING tree limbs,

trash and also construction clean-up. 561-1208 digital beeper. 10 minute response.

B. JACKSON - Handyman

Service. Haul off trash, old furniture, appliances, carpet-patching, etc. Call (915) 682-2667.

FREE COMMUNITY

HAULING: Donation items, garage sales, furniture, lumber, computers. Available weekends or weekdays. 684-2772.

Home Repairs/Remod.

CMS Maintenance. All types of home maintenance and repairs. Installation of Dish washers, ceiling fans, garage door openers and more. 550-6544.

KITCHEN CABINETS,

vanities, formica counter tops, beveled edges. Reasonable rates, references, work guaranteed. Luis, 682-4544.

REBEL KING TILE

New installation and repairs. New construction/remodel. Free estimates. Work guaranteed. 687-4518.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

Lawn & Garden Service

LAWN GEMVITY PRIDE By the yard. Priced right, fall clean-ups, tree trimming, total lawn care guaranteed. 570-8370.

PROFESSIONAL LAWN/

Landscaping maintenance. Tree trimming, winterizing, lots cleaned. Free estimates. Insured. Call Martin 520-8115.

MURPHY'S LAWN-

CARE. Fall clean-up, vacuuming, mowing, edging, trimming, aerating, fertilizing, hedges, Bill or Marilyn 522-2228.

B & L LANDSCAPING

Trees removed or trimmed. Stump grinder. Bucket truck. Lots cleaned. Top soil. (915) 687-4878.

CURRIE'S YARD SERVICE

Mowing, flower beds, hauling, tillage, alleys, all yard work. Tree trimming. 682-9523.

Lawn Mower Repair

SOUTHWEST LAWN-MOWER. Repairs on all makes/models of small engine equipment/go carts. Free pick-up/delivery. Discover/Amex/VISA/Mastercard accepted. 3414 Thomas. 520-0777.

DON COBB - Lawn mower

repairs. Engines from 2-30 horse power. Pick-up/delivery. 20% Off. 682-3050.

Massage-Therapeutic

LAURA KLAUSS - RMT. Relaxing massage. The perfect gift! Holiday special - \$25/55 minutes; \$30/75 minutes. 2670 Claydale Center. 682-6885.

RESOLVE TO Pamper