MONDAY MORNING

Strokes of genius

Midland artists Mary Rasmussen and Charles N. Pruitt have painted their way into signature-member status in the Oil Painters of America./**1B**

SPORTS

Masters

Right about the time Fred Couples made the Masters look like a walk in the park, he watched Mark O'Meara raise his arms in triumph./**1C**

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Midland Reporter-Telegram

Daily 50¢, Sunday $1.50 | **MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1998** | Vol. 71, No. 35

A.M. BRIEFING

TODAY
Sunny with high in upper 70s. Weather on 4A

AP Photo

Northern Ireland

Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams waits to speak in Carrickmore, Northern Ireland Sunday at a ceremony commemorating the Easter Uprising of 1916. A settlement was reached in the Northern Ireland peace talks Friday.
Story page 2A

Brawley trial

POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. — The judge has stomped off the bench. The stenographer was given her own gavel to keep the shouting down. One defendant called a lawyer a "bald-faced racist." The plaintiff complained he was spit upon under cross-examination. Welcome to the defamation trial of Tawana Brawley's advisers.
Story page 7A

Michelina's legacy

TRENTON, N.J. — Michelina Bauman was born May 16, 1995, was discharged from the hospital the next day and died of an undiagnosed infection the next. Steve and Michelle Bauman's account of their heartbreak helped sway government officials nationwide to end "drive-through deliveries" and require insurers to cover a minimum 48-hour hospital stay after birth.
Story page 8A

Social promotion

HOUSTON — Social promotion — or moving students up to the next grade who aren't academically ready — is the target of a proposal Houston school trustees will consider on Thursday. The plan by Superintendent Rod Paige would essentially end the Houston district's long-standing policy limiting the number of times a student can be held back, the Houston Chronicle reported.
Story page 3B

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Living Well	6B
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LULAC protests Clinton meeting

■ Despite late addition of Felipe Lopez, a Dominican, to the panel, activists are angered that a town hall meeting on racism has only one Hispanic representative.

By Pauline Arrillage
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Hispanic activists voiced opposition Sunday to the makeup of a panel participating in Tuesday's presidential town hall meeting on race and sports, calling the one Hispanic representative "a token."

Felipe Lopez, a basketball player at St. John's University, is the only Hispanic on the 11-member panel, which also includes President Clinton and nine other athletic figures — six blacks and three whites.

"So we're one token," said Johnny Mata, spokesman for the Houston chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens. "It just shows you the lack

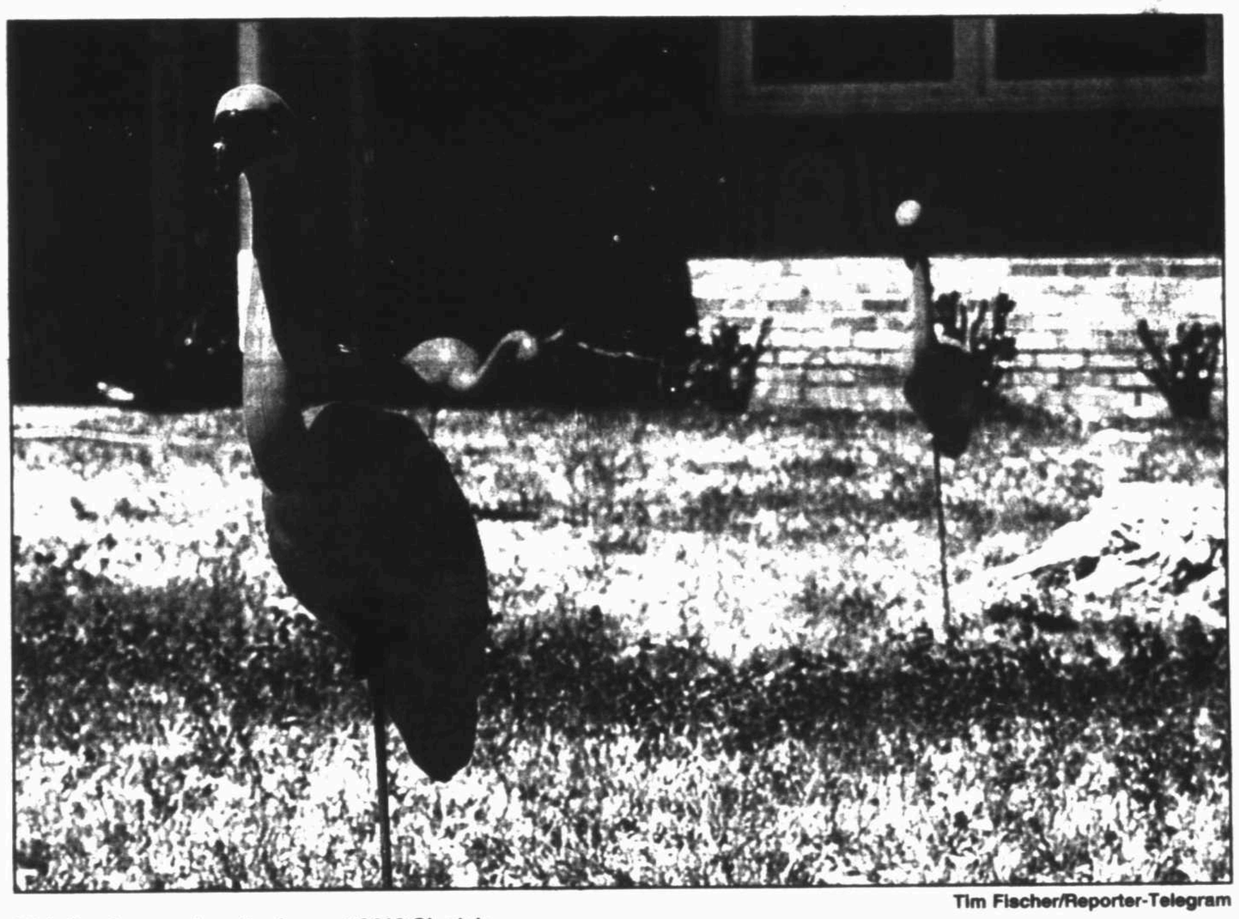
Please see **PANEL**/4A

Alabama Easter

Surrounded by destruction, the Edgewater Baptist Church congregation give a prayer of thanks for their lives and those of their families, during Easter Sunday services in Edgewater, Ala. All that remained of the tornado-damaged church were the pews and the foundation.
Story page 5A

AP Photo

'Flock a Friend'



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Pink flamingos adorn the lawn at 3410 Sinclair.

Midlanders have friends 'flocked' for Easter Seals

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Flamingos are a rare sight in the West Texas desert.

But lately flocks of the popular pink tropical bird have been taken to nesting in the yards of some Midland residents.

The flocks — actually plastic likenesses of the bird — have been traveling around the city courtesy of members of the Midland High School Student Council, their parents, friends and other volunteers, who are raising money for Easter Seals.

"The flamingos will show up in someone's yard and taped to the door will be an envelope saying 'You have been flocked by a friend. This flock will fly away this afternoon for a donation to Easter Seals.' There's no set fee, just a donation, and you put the name of the person you want the flock to go to," said Susan Duffey, whose son Ryan is a junior at Midland High and on the student council.

Approximately 30 students are involved, including students from Goddard Junior High and Midland Freshman, and Ms. Duffey estimates there are approximately 18 flocks of flamingos traveling from yard to yard until the Easter Seal telethon Saturday and Sunday (April 18-19). Midland and Lee High, along with Permian and Odessa High Schools in Odessa are competing to see which school can raise the most money and choose what time they will host the telethon Sunday morning. Funds raised at the telethon will stay in the Permian Basin to benefit the Permian Basin Rehabilitation Center.

"The project has gone real well," she said. "Most people are amused; some people have called and asked to keep the flamingos an extra day for a donation, because they have company coming and want to amuse them. The kids have had a lot of fun, too. Some of them will try to be real quiet and sneak the flock into the yard; others go all out; my son makes a show of ringing the doorbell and then running off."

The Midland High students got

Please see **FLOCKED**/4A

Tobacco trade threats fail to deter officials

■ White House officials and members of Congress maintain stance on tough anti-tobacco legislation.

By Jim Abrams
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Brushing off an industry boycott and threats of lawsuits, both Clinton administration officials and members of Congress say they are confident they'll pass tough anti-tobacco legislation by the end of this year.

Kasich

"We will get bipartisan legislation this year," Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala declared on Sunday. "There's no question about it because it's about public health."

Major tobacco companies last week announced they would not go along with tobacco legislation being debated in Congress, saying the original goal of reducing teen smoking had been subverted into a money grab that would drive the industry into bankruptcy.

Industry leaders stressed Sunday that they would unleash their huge lobbying power to stop the legislation and would go to court to challenge provisions that limit advertising of tobacco products and require companies to pay billions in penalties if teen smoking reduction goals aren't met.

"The first thing we would do, if the present legislation passes, is go to court and have it declared unconstitutional," tobacco industry attorney J. Philip Carlton said on "Fox News Sunday."

Carlton and other industry spokesmen raised the specter of organized crime and drug dealers running black market sales to teen-agers if Congress forces cigarette prices up and the possibility that the industry would move jobs overseas. "You're talking about approximately 2 million American jobs," Carlton said.

But backers of legislation insisted they won't be deterred by the industry's with-

Please see **TOBACCO**/4A

Christians celebrate Easter in Rome, Jerusalem

By Josh Krist
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Incense, candle smoke and a cacophony of pilgrims' prayers filled the Jerusalem church that marks the spot where many believe Jesus was resurrected, as Christians around the world celebrated Easter Sunday.

Thousands of people crowded into the ancient Church of the Holy Sepulcher to hear Michel Sabbah, the Latin patriarch of Jerusalem, proclaim the Easter message.

With the church lit by hundreds of flickering candles and the air sweetened by the smell of incense, Sabbah declared: "Before the glorious Tomb, together we proclaim our faith in the risen Lord Jesus Christ."

In a week marking high points on the Christian, Jewish and Muslim calendars, Sabah wished believers in all faiths "feasts full of joy and abundant life." He noted, however, that the Holy Land was "tired from the absence of peace" and the "siege and limitation of freedom" imposed by Israelis on Palestinians.

Sabbah's plea for peace was echoed at Easter celebrations worldwide.

In Rome, Pope John Paul II continued his Easter custom by appealing for reconciliation in the world's trouble spots, especially the Middle East. In England, the archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, warned that bitter memories of violence can thwart the search for peace.

Celebrating Mass before 150,000 people in wind-whipped St. Peter's Square, John Paul prayed that East-

Please see **EASTER**/4A

An unidentified girl from the Biblical town of Nazareth is held high above the crowd of Easter Sunday worshippers by her father to enable her to view the proceedings Sunday at the Church of the Annunciation, where according to Christian tradition is the place the angel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary the incarnation of Christ.

AP Photo

APR 13 1998

A

AP Photo

Seven unidentified boys with an Irish Tricolour flag sit on a wall to get a view of the Easter Parade on the Falls road in West Belfast, Northern Ireland Sunday. The parade commemorates the Republican uprising in Dublin at Easter in 1916.

Cambodian general: Thai media reporting Pol Pot, Khmer Rouge leaders captured

SIEM REAP, Cambodia (AP) — A Cambodian general said Sunday he was checking reports that Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge's top leaders were captured in Thailand by renegade members of their own guerrilla faction.

But Thai military officers said on condition of anonymity that the Khmer Rouge leaders had not crossed into Thailand and had not been captured.

Cambodian Gen. Meas Sophea told reporters in the northern city of Siem Reap that the news had been broadcast on Thailand television, but added he had yet to confirm it himself.

He said that besides former rebel leader Pol Pot, current Khmer Rouge leader Ta Mok and several commanders were also captured.

"I have been told that not just Ta Mok but all the Khmer Rouge leadership were with him," said Meas Sophea, the Cambodian Army's deputy chief of staff.

But Thai television stations told The Associated Press they had not reported such news.

Ta Mok toppled Pol Pot a year ago and placed him under house arrest. Under Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge regime, as many as 2 million Cambodians perished from forced labor, disease and systematic executions between 1975 and 1979.

Meas Sophea claimed that the Khmer Rouge leaders had been placed under house arrest in Ba Sa-Ngam, about a mile inside northeast Thailand. The mountainous area is close to the Khmer Rouge stronghold of Anlong Veng, about 80 miles north of Siem Reap in Cambodia.

The report came a day after the Cambodian government said its troops had captured Anlong Veng, sending the guerrillas fleeing toward Thailand.

Khmer Rouge guerrillas, who staged a mutiny nearly three weeks ago against Ta Mok to protest his allegedly brutal rule, were being supported by Cambodian government troops in pursuing him.

On Saturday, footage shot by government television of Anlong Veng showed that the army had moved tanks and trucks into the main village and raised a government flag.

The U.S. government has reportedly asked China and Thailand, who have supported the Khmer Rouge over the years, to help capture Pol Pot and bring him to trial. Thailand has denied any deal has been struck to fly Pol Pot to a third country if he is captured.

Also Saturday, Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk made a low-key return to his homeland after spending three months in China.

The king was quoted by a Cambodian newspaper as having thrown his support behind a U.S. plan to bring Pol Pot to justice for crimes against humanity.

Opposition: Government responsible for students' deaths

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Sudanese soldiers shot and beat to death 74 student conscripts trying to flee a military camp outside the capital, Khartoum, a Sudanese opposition group said Sunday.

At least 55 others drowned when their boat capsized on the Blue Nile while they were trying to escape, the National Democratic Alliance said in a statement issued from its headquarters in neighboring Eritrea.

If true, the report would dramatically raise the death toll in the April 2 incident. The government has acknowledged that 31 people died.

There was no immediate government comment about Sunday's report.

The recruits were training at the Ailafoon military camp, 15 miles southeast of Khartoum. The government was believed to have forcibly picked up many of the men from streets and markets for training to fight an insurgency in southern Sudan.

Military service is mandatory for Sudanese men.

The alliance said 261 recruits tried to escape the camp. As they fled, soldiers shot and beat to death 74 of them, it said.

Adams appeals to IRA supporters to see victory in compromise pact

CARRICKMORE, Northern Ireland (AP) — Seeing difficult times ahead, Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams appealed to thousands of IRA supporters Sunday to accept Northern Ireland's compromise peace accord.

Adams' party, an ally of the Irish Republican Army, held commemorations in both parts of Ireland honoring the executed commanders of the 1916 Easter rebellion against British rule in Dublin.

Sinn Fein's support is key to the success of the historic, 67-page peace settlement reached Friday among negotiators from eight parties in the British-ruled province.

In his first public engagement since the agreement, Adams traveled to one of the north's hotbeds of IRA support, the village of Carrickmore, where hail fell between sunbursts and a British army helicopter hovered overhead.

A half-dozen bands of young men and women marched through the village wearing black berets and Easter lilies, playing traditional anti-British tunes on fife, and chanting "I! I! I-R-A!"

In a half-hour speech, Adams said his negotiators had gotten all they could, and that in the talks' final hours Prime Minister Tony Blair had pushed the Ulster Unionist Party — which represents much of the north's pro-British Protestant majority — "much farther than the UUP wanted to go."

The deal will create a new Northern Ireland Assembly and establish a formal link between Northern Ireland and the rest of Ireland — but it still keeps the north firmly tied to Britain.

When asked what they thought of Friday's accord, many people lining the street in Carrickmore said they found little to suggest the north would ever be united with the rest of Ireland. Many thought it looked like an honorable retreat for the Catholic side.

"This agreement isn't worth the paper it was put on. It'll never work," said Dessie McGraw, a mechanic from the nearby town of Omagh.

He gestured to the vast army and police barracks on the edge of Carrickmore and the old bullet holes that speckle its high protective walls of corrugated iron.

"I'd say them holes won't be the last," he said, suggesting that the IRA's July 1997 truce wouldn't stand the test of time.

In the agreement, the British government pledged to reduce "the numbers and role of the armed forces deployed in Northern Ireland to levels compatible with a peaceful society." But it offered no specifics, tying any withdrawal of troops to "the level of threat" remaining from the north's myriad paramilitary groups.

"Getting the prisoners home would be the main good thing I see" in the accord, said Sean Teague, a construction worker from the village of Greencastle, referring to the promise to free imprisoned IRA and pro-British Protestant militants within two years if their cease-fires hold.

"Sure that's better than nothing," he said, but "the other side must know we're just going to keep pushing for more."

Standing before a memorial to the 58 IRA men and women of surrounding County Tyrone killed since 1969, Adams said their sacrifices hadn't been in vain — and that Sinn Fein hadn't yet accepted every paragraph in the accord.

Although negotiators from the eight parties reached agreement, no party was required to sign the accord and acceptance by the parties as a whole is not a foregone conclusion.

David Trimble, leader of the key Protestant party, the Ulster Unionists, is still trying to sell the accord to his party members. He outmaneuvered rebels within his ranks Saturday, winning support of the executive committee, but still has to win over the rank and file.

Adams said the accord's provisions to create a reformed government for Northern Ireland that would be required to cooperate formally with Ireland had advanced the "goal of a free and independent Ireland."

The accord, which must be approved in public referendums May 22 in both parts of Ireland, asks voters in the Irish Republic to drop the country's constitutional claim to Northern Ireland.

Adams signaled that Sinn Fein would oppose this part. Northern Ireland's six counties, he said, "are Irish counties. Nothing can change that."

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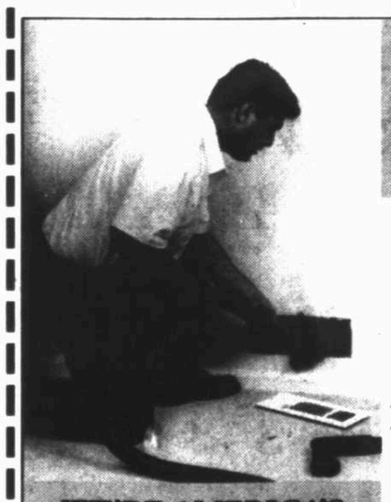
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Dalai Lama calls for refugees to return to Tibet

By Arthur Max
Associated Press

DHARMSALA, India — For nearly four decades, Tibetans have been making the treacherous journey across the Himalayas to escape Chinese rule, taking refuge in exile with their revered leader, the Dalai Lama.

Now, the illicit traffic through the high, snow-covered passes is increasingly moving in both directions. The Dalai Lama wants young educated Tibetans to return to their homeland to keep Tibetan traditions alive.

The Tibetans go the way they came: on foot, braving frostbite and hunger, evading Chinese border patrols. They say they are "escaping back."

International human rights groups say China, which claims sovereignty over Tibet, has flooded the forbidding Tibetan plateau with ethnic Chinese settlers and seeks to destroy the indigenous culture. The Dalai Lama accuses China of committing cultural genocide and wants to negotiate autonomy for the land he ruled unchallenged until 1950.

Chinese officials deny trying to stamp out Tibetan culture and denounce the Dalai Lama and his followers as "splittists" bent on winning independence for Tibet.

Three years after leaving Tibet, 30-year-old Lakshan is preparing for the even more dangerous return.

"Our most effective resistance to the Chinese is to preserve our culture, tradition and language. There is no way we are going to physically fight them," said Lakshan, who has only one name.

"I'm 101 percent sure once I get back I will be in prison for at least a month. Nearly everyone is arrested. But I've got no choice. I'm going back," he said, tossing back shoulder-length hair.

Alongside the steady flow of refugees moving southward across the Tibet-Nepal border, there has always been a smaller stream going north into Tibet: traders and smugglers; professional guides for refugee groups; pilgrims returning home after receiving a blessing from the Dalai Lama.

> **'Our most effective resistance to the Chinese is to preserve our culture, tradition and language. There is no way we are going to physically fight them.'**
>
> — Lakshan, refugee preparing to return after 3 year absence

Also among them are parents who deposit their brightest children at the Dalai Lama's boarding schools in India and return to their remaining family in Tibet.

Some of these children nurtured in India, armed with an education and political awareness, are going home. In the last 10 years, as many as 1,000 have gone back, said Sonam Topgyal, chairman of the Tibetan exile administration.

Many are found, arrested and interrogated. To avoid jail, some sign denunciations of the Dalai Lama. Afterwards, they are kept under surveillance. Usually they are the first to be picked up at the first sign of popular unrest, Topgyal said.

Some simply melt back into their villages. Others find jobs in the tourist trade, although last year 66 India-educated Tibetans were fired from jobs as tourist guides, Topgyal said.

Since the Dalai Lama fled Tibet in 1959 during an abortive anti-China uprising, 100,000 Tibetans have joined him in India. Thousands more live in Europe and North America.

About 2,000 Tibetans make the hazardous exit across the mountains every year to reach Katmandu, Nepal's capital, where officers of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees register them. From there, they are bused to the northern Indian city of Dharmsala, the Dalai Lama's base in exile.

In a valley 6 miles from Dharmsala is a cluster of tin barracks housing 400 Tibetans in their late teens and 20s. Against a backdrop of white peaks and mountain streams, the students take crash courses in the Tibetan language, culture, Buddhism and English. Education in Tibet is in Chinese.

The newcomers are easy to spot. Their eyes are dull, their body language withdrawn. Often their cheeks are still raw from wind, sun and frostbite on treks from remote Tibetan villages that may take a month or more.

The Tibetans call it the "Transit Camp." The Chinese, who are now aware of the 4-year-old institution, call it the "Political Education School" and suspect its aim is to subvert their authority in Tibet.

Refugees between the ages of 17 and 30, those too old for regular school but ill-equipped to work, are sent to the camp for three-year courses.

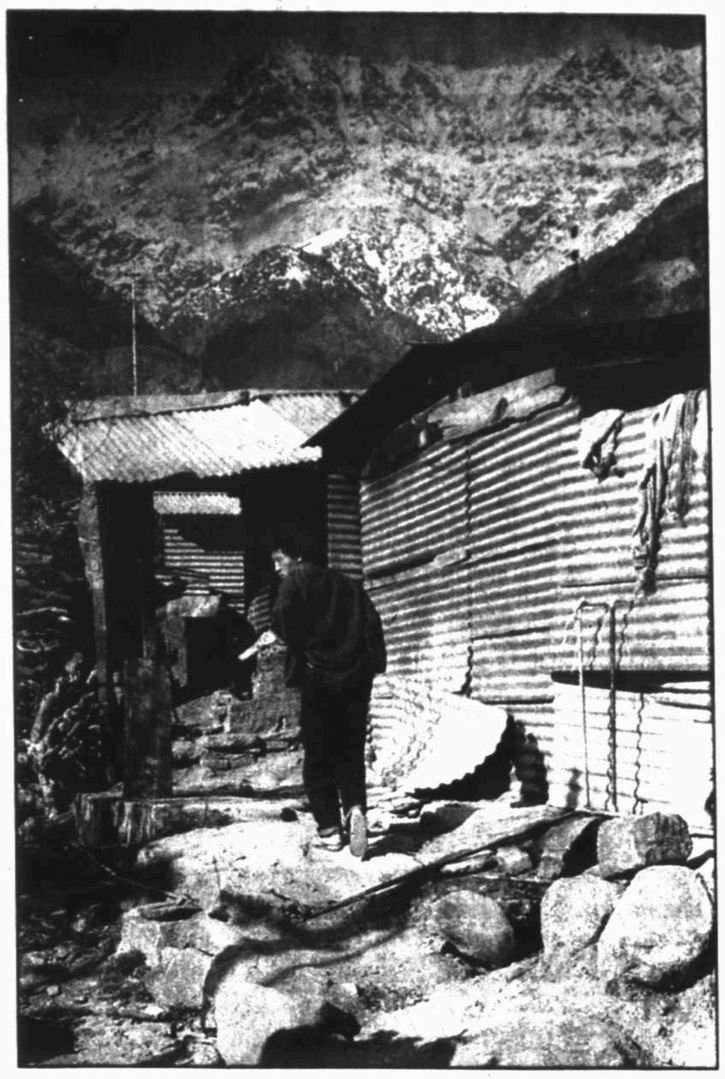
At the Transit Camp they are encouraged to return to Tibet to share their knowledge and to counter what Tibetans call Chinese propaganda against the Dalai Lama. Officials claim about 70 percent do.

"We think it is right for people to go back to Tibet. They give an invisible message and invisible strength to our people," said Professor Samdhong Rinpoche, speaker of the Tibetan exile assembly who is considered the No. 2 political figure after the Dalai Lama.

"The more people who leave Tibet, the easier their (China's) rule," he said.

There is also a more practical reason for urging Tibetans to return home. With so many refugees to care for, the Tibetan exile administration is stretched in resources and cannot absorb many more. Infants who previously were accepted into nurseries are now being turned away.

The facilities of the government in exile are financed by a 2 percent voluntary income tax on Tibetan exiles and by private donations, while schools and clinics are paid for by India's government and international humanitarian agencies.



AP Photo

A Tibetan exile walks through a transit camp near the town of Dharmsala, India. The camp is a cluster of tin barracks housing 400 Tibetans in their late teens and twenties. Students take crash courses in Tibetan language, culture, Buddism and English. Education in Tibet is in Chinese.

U.N. days, years, decades proliferate despite cost cutting

GENEVA (AP) — The United Nations is celebrating the International Year of the Ocean, the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the Second U.N. Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, the Third Disarmament Decade and the Fourth U.N. Development Decade.

And don't forget these special U.N. occasions: World Book and Copyright Day, the International Day of Tolerance, World Television Day and International Civil Aviation Day. That's just a sample of the 44 dates earmarked for observances this year.

At a time when the United Nations is trying to become leaner, cheaper and more relevant, the number of special commemorations declared by the General Assembly is spiraling upward.

Nobody can put an overall price on the events because the vast U.N. secretariat absorbs the cost of some, while others are split among various U.N. agencies.

For this year's World Health Day, marked April 7, the World Health Organization distributed tens of thousands of posters and educational kits on safe motherhood to highlight the risks of pregnancy and illegal abortions in developing countries.

The central budget was $100,000, and supporters say it was worth every cent.

"We can sit in Geneva and make standards and norms, but getting information out into the field can be very difficult," said Christopher Powell of WHO. "Something like a poster gets the message across and lasts for years."

But in some target countries there was limited enthusiasm.

"Millions of rupees are spent each year on World Health Day, government departments release expensive advertisements in newspapers, but the readers do not care," said Alok Mukhopadhyaya at the Voluntary Health Association of India.

"If this enthusiasm of policymakers and U.N. officials comes to an end with a cocktail and dinner and some ritual meetings, then it has no meaning," said Mukhopadhyaya.

In Thailand, 300 medical officials took part in a government program on safe motherhood, but the campaign didn't filter through to the average Thai.

"The idea is good, but I don't see any publicity," said Simit Ngamcote, who drives a motorized rickshaw. For him, last year's World Health Day — with the theme Healthy Cities — had no practical impact on the stinking pollution he breathes 12 hours a day.

Other Days with a health theme include World TB Day and World No-Tobacco Day, meant to encourage people to quit smoking. The best-known is World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, which has helped increase understanding of the problems faced by people living and dying with the virus.

The Rio Earth Summit in 1992 prompted the General Assembly to push through a whole series of days with environmental themes, such as on deserts and on drought, without much planning.

Thus, World Day for Water falls on March 22 and World Meteorological Day comes on March 23. The latter's theme this year was ... water.

Some events are motivated by politics.

For nearly 20 years, Nov. 29 has been the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. June 4 is the International Day of Innocent Child Victims of Aggression in condemnation of what the General Assembly calls Israeli "acts of aggression" toward Palestinian and Lebanese children.

> **'U.N. days have unfortunately become confined to the textbooks of fifth grade students. Frankly nobody knows or cares about them.'**
>
> — Deep Upadhyaya, researcher in India

Many special days are marked by low-key speeches and diplomatic discussions at U.N. headquarters.

For instance, selected "poor" Swiss people were invited to the U.N. European headquarters in Geneva on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, Oct. 17, to read out human rights declarations.

"U.N. days have unfortunately become confined to the textbooks of fifth grade students," said Deep Upadhyaya, a researcher in India, where "frankly nobody knows or cares about them."

If most U.N. days pass with little fanfare, its decades fare even worse. Not least because there are so many of them.

Current commemorations include the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, the U.N. Decade for Cultural Development and the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

Some themes are already into their second, third and even fourth decades.

As for U.N. years, at least there is only one designated theme — and 1998 is the turn of the oceans.

That is being celebrated with great gusto in Portugal, where Lisbon's Expo '98 world fair — with the theme "the oceans — the heritage for the future" — is expected to receive 15 million visitors. The fair also marks the 500th anniversary of Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama's voyage around Africa's Cape of Good Hope.

The ocean theme, however, means there is no official U.N. year to mark the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Undeterred, the United Nations has published more than 80 suggestions on the Internet on how to celebrate that anniversary on Human Rights Day Dec. 10.

Among the ideas is turning trains and buses into "traveling textbooks" by decorating them with excerpts from the declaration. Another suggestion is for text to be included with tax notices and telephone bill mailings or printed on the back of cereal boxes.

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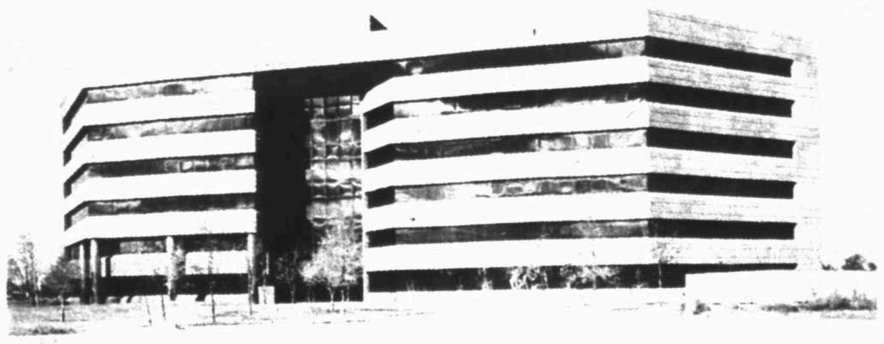
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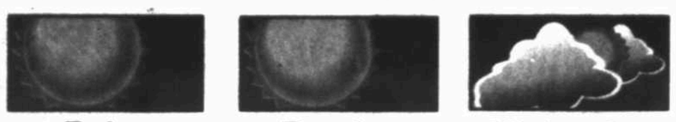
WEATHER

Midland forecast

3-day forecast



Today	Tuesday	Wednesday
Sunny	Sunny	Partly cloudy
High 79	High 85	High 82
Low 48	Low 49	Low 53

Today's forecast calls for sunny skies with a high near 80. Winds will be from the west to northwest at up to 20 mph, according to the National Weather Service.

The overnight forecast calls for clear skies with a low in the upper 40s.

Tuesday's forecast calls for mostly sunny skies with a high between 80 and 85. The overnight low will be in the high 40s.

Wednesday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a high in the low 80s, with an overnight low in the 50s.

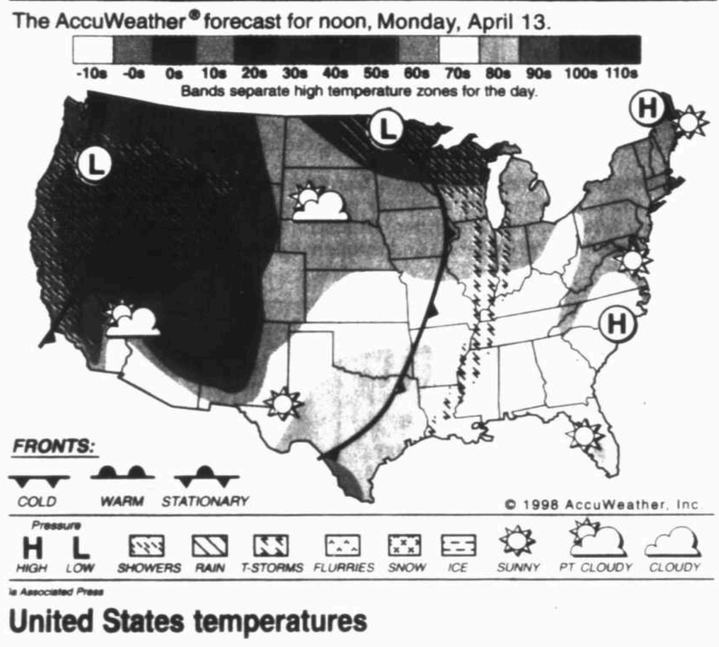
After an overnight low of 55, Sunday's high was 86 degrees, as compared to the record high of 99 set in 1972. The record low is 25, set in 1997.

Yesterday's precipitation		Yesterday's temperatures	
Rainfall	.00 in.	High	86
Rainfall	.00 in.	low	55
Total for month	.00 in.	Normal high	79
Total for year	1.16 in.	Normal low	48

Sunrise 7:23 a.m. Sunset 8:17 p.m.

National forecast

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Monday, April 13.



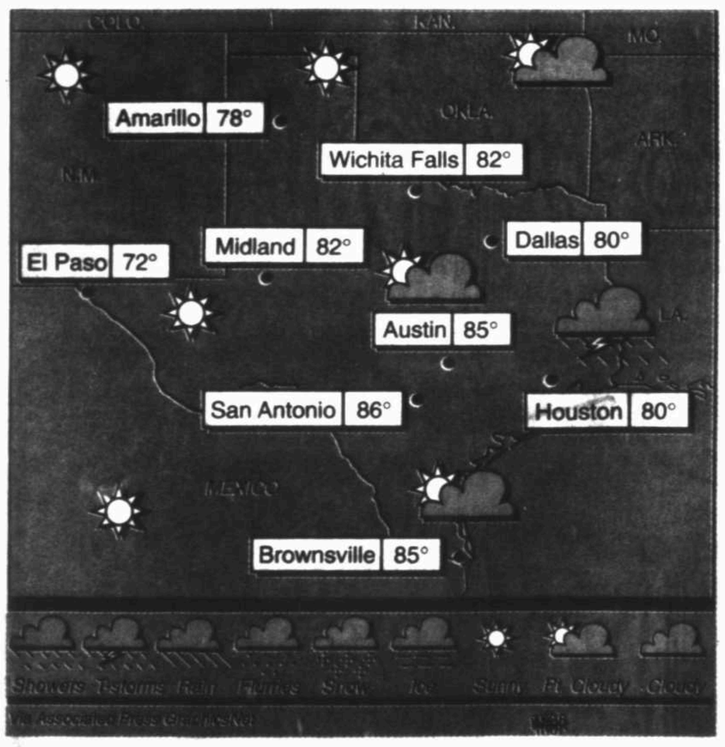
Is Associated Press

United States temperatures

Temperatures indicate previous day's high and overnight low to 8:32 p.m. EDT.

	Hi	Lo	Prc	Otlk
Albuquerque	67	47	cdy	
Anchorage	45	32	cdy	
Asheville	67	35	cdy	
Atlanta	70	43	cdy	
Atlantic City	58	29	clr	
Boston	51	35	clr	
Bridgeport	57	36	clr	
Casper	59	42	cdy	
Cheyenne	59	42	cdy	
Chicago	73	54	rn	
Cincinnati	68	37	cdy	
Cleveland	67	38	cdy	
Dayton	67	42	cdy	
Daytona Beach	74	47	clr	
Denver	66	44	cdy	
Des Moines	72	53	cdy	
Detroit	68	42	rn	
Fairbanks	41	32	cdy	
Fargo	71	57	rn	
Flagstaff	36	31	cdy	
Flint	69	37	rn	
Fort Smith	79	48	cdy	
Fort Wayne	68	39	rn	
Honolulu	79	68	.07	rn
Huntsville	76	37	cdy	
Indianapolis	69	43	rn	
Jackson,Miss.	77	44	cdy	
Jacksonville	74	44	clr	
Juneau	48	29	cdy	
Kansas City	76	60	cdy	
Knoxville	70	34	cdy	
Las Vegas	66	53	cdy	
Lexington	67	36	cdy	
Lincoln	77	60	cdy	
Little Rock	80	45	cdy	
Los Angeles	65	54	cdy	
Louisville	71	42	rn	
Medford	49	35	.09	rn
Memphis	76	51	rn	
Miami Beach	79	59	clr	
Milwaukee	68	49	.01	rn
Mpls-St Paul	73	57	rn	
Mobile	75	42	cdy	
Montgomery	76	38	cdy	
Nashville	74	38	rn	
New Orleans	74	49	cdy	
New York City	58	43	clr	
Newark	59	39	clr	
Norfolk,Va.	57	38	clr	
North Platte	74	57	cdy	
Oklahoma City	77	57	clr	
Philadelphia	66	37	clr	
Phoenix	72	55	.17	clr
Pittsburgh	64	32	clr	
Pocatello	48	37	.14	cdy
Reno	47	29	04	sn
Richmond	66	37	clr	
Roanoke	66	35	cdy	
Rochester	64	31	clr	
Rockford	72	49	rn	
Sacramento	63	46	cdy	
St Louis	76	53	rn	
St Thomas	91	rn	cdy	
Salem,Ore.	54	37	.01	rn
Santa Fe	60	39	cdy	
St Ste Marie	62	35	rn	
Savannah	74	43	clr	
Seattle	52	39	rn	
Shreveport	78	48	cdy	
Sioux City	77	58	.04	cdy
Sioux Falls	74	56	.01	cdy
South Bend	69	44	rn	
Spokane	49	31	rn	
Syracuse	62	28	clr	
Tallahassee	79	35	cdy	
Tampa-St Ptrsbg	78	50	clr	
Toledo	69	36	cdy	
Topeka	75	58	cdy	
Tucson	68	53	clr	
Tulsa	76	58	clr	
Tupelo	75	38	rn	
Washington,D.C.	66	40	clr	
W.Palm Beach	77	56	clr	
Wichita	76	57	clr	
Yakima	55	27	cdy	
Youngstown	65	30	clr	
Yuma	73	57	clr	

State forecast



Texas temperatures

Highest temperature last 12 hours, lowest past 18 hours and precipitation for 24 hours ending at 7 p.m. CDT:

	Hi	Lo	Pcp.
Abilene	86	57	
Alice	83	64	
Amarillo	78	50	
Arlington	80	59	
Austin Bergstrom	81	60	
Austin Mueller	79	60	
Beaumont	74	54	
Brownsville	81	68	
Burnet	79	60	
College Station	79	58	
Conroe	76	49	
Corpus Christi	83	67	
Corsicana	78	56	
Cotulla	87	63	
Dalhart	73	36	
Dallas	77	58	
Del Rio	90	61	
Denton	79	59	
Dfw Airport	79	59	
El Paso	78	59	
Fort Stockton	96	53	
Fort Worth	80	60	
Galveston	74	64	
Hondo	84	59	
Houston Hobby	77	57	
Houston Intrctnl	77	55	
Huntsville	77	56	
Junction	82	58	
Laredo	91	64	
Lubbock	83	53	
Marfa	84	39	
McAllen	87	66	
Mineral Wells	83	61	
New Braunfels	83	58	
Palacios	76	67	
Paris	75	52	
Rockport	78	69	
San Angelo	86	58	
San Antonio	81	59	
Terrell	77	55	
Victoria	80	63	
Waco	81	60	
Wichita Falls	82	56	
Wink	89	53	

EASTER: Pope sends greetings in 57 languages

(From 1A)

er would encourage "those who have believed and still believe in dialogue as the way to settle national and international tensions."

At one point during the 90-minute service, John Paul, weary from conducting an Easter vigil the night before, appeared to almost lose his balance as he raised his arm to sprinkle holy water. One of his aides, an Italian bishop, moved quickly to lend a hand, but the 77-year-old pope quickly regained his footing.

After Mass, the pope read his traditional "Urbi et Orbi" (Latin for "To the city and to the world") message from the steps of St. Peter's Church.

He then wished the crowd a happy Easter in 57 modern languages plus Latin, touching off cheers from groups of pilgrims and tourists when they heard the pope uttering their own language.

In England, Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey said Friday's historic peace agreement on Northern Ireland "has the potential to transcend the bitter memories of the past."

"May Northern Ireland be given the grace to forgive evils that have divided whole communities and look forward to a new future," he said.

Preaching in Canterbury Cathedral, the spiritual leader of the Church of England and the world's 70 million Anglicans also singled out Rwanda, where simmering ethnic violence threatens again to boil over, and Kosovo, where the majority Albanian population opposes Serb rule.

In these violence-torn areas demonstrate the "destructive potential of memory ... where the bitterness of past conflict continues to sour relationships and forbid the possibility of healing or transformation," he said.

Carey's sermon was briefly interrupted by gay rights activists, who climbed on the pulpit to protest against the church's refusal to recognize clergy involved in homosexual relationships.

The archbishop calmly stepped aside while stewards and a police officer dragged the protesters away. Police arrested the protest leader, Peter Tatchell, "on suspicion of damaging a microphone on the pulpit."

After the service, Carey said he was "saddened" by the disruption. "I do not think it does their cause any good."

In Cuba, Cardinal Jaime Ortega on Saturday night celebrated the first outdoor liturgical ceremony on the communist island since John Paul's visit, but drew only several hundred faithful, reporters in Havana said.

Throughout Jerusalem, thousands of extra police and soldiers were deployed because of the threat of terror attacks in the holy city, where Jews are celebrating Passover this week. Muslim Eid al-Adha celebrations ended Friday.

Sunday was also Palm Sunday for the Orthodox Christian churches, which celebrate Easter next week. In the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, a procession of Coptic Christians carrying palm fronds walked slowly through the Easter crowds, singing in Arabic.

"It is rather like the tower of Babel," said Artur Petrig, a pilgrim from Weisbaden, Germany. "Of course, to be in Jerusalem for Easter, for a Christian, the main thing is not the surroundings, but the inner part, what it means."

"Being here with believers all around the world, it's awoken me to the richness of the Christian tradition," said Laurel Nelson, 24, of Longmont, Colo.

AP Photo

Top: General view of St. Peter's square, with St. Peter's Basilica in background, during a solemn Easter ceremony officiated by Pope John Paul II Sunday. The Pontiff, in his traditional Easter message expressed worry about what he called dangerous political decisions about the Middle East and their impact on peace. Above: Cubans pray Saturday inside Havana's Cathedral during an Easter vigil. The rites began outside the Cathedral, the first time such a religious event was allowed in the open air since 1959 in Cuba.

PANEL: Meeting will focus on racism in sports

(From 1A)

of sensitivity on the issue as far as equality of the Hispanics, and that's what the forum is all about — racism in America."

The 90-minute town hall meeting, part of the president's initiative on race, will discuss the impact of race in sports from the playground to the pro level. The forum will be televised on ESPN from Houston's Wortham Center.

The cable sports network, which chose the panelists, announced the selection of Lopez on Sunday, after LULAC officials wrote Clinton to protest the absence of Hispanics.

ESPN spokesman Chris LaPlaca said the network had been looking all along for a Hispanic representative but had been turned down by several athletes, whom he declined to name. He said Lopez agreed Saturday to take part in the discussion.

"We were looking for a variety of perspectives from different sports and ethnic backgrounds," he said. "We've been working very hard to address all that."

But Mata said Lopez's late selection made it appear as though a Hispanic was picked as "an afterthought."

"Nobody wants to be invited in the last hour to the party," he said.

White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said ESPN had made every effort to make the panel ethnically diverse, sending out invitations to some 25 Hispanic athletes, who declined for various reasons.

"They've worked very hard at putting together a good panel, and they have done that," Lockhart said. "The president is very much looking forward to Tuesday's town hall meeting."

Lopez, a 23-year-old Dominican who lives in New York, said he doesn't mind being the only Hispanic on the panel and considers it an honor to participate.

"It's great for myself, not only to be the only Hispanic there but one of the panelists. I will try to give my view about things," he said. "It's going to be a great thing."

Joining Lopez on the panel are NFL Hall of Famer Jim Brown, Minnesota Vikings coach Dennis Green, track-and-field star Jackie Joyner-Kersee, Georgetown basketball coach John Thompson, New York Jets receiver Keyshawn Johnson and ESPN analyst Joe Morgan, all of whom are black.

Also on the panel are San Francisco 49ers President Carmen Policy, San Diego Padres owner John Moores and University of Georgia athletic director Vince Dooley, all of whom are white.

The lack of Hispanic representation, LULAC officials said, is especially shortsighted in light of the nation's rapidly growing Hispanic population.

U.S. Census figures predict Hispanics will become the largest minority group in the nation by 2005, with about 36 million people. In dozens of cities and states across the nation, including New York City, Hispanics already have become the second-largest population group.

In Houston, the population is 41 percent white, 28 percent Hispanic and 28 percent black, with Asians and other ethnic groups comprising the remainder. But Hispanics are projected to become the largest group by 2000, with 39 percent of the population.

"Here in Houston, where one-third of the population is Hispanic, we'd like to see that representation on the panel," said Alfonso Maldonado, director of LULAC's Houston chapter. "Whenever there's a dialogue on race, it's always black and white. They should begin considering Hispanics as part of the dialogue."

Maldonado said his group would not boycott the forum but would continue to push for more Hispanics to be added to the panel.

The forum is the president's second town hall meeting on racial issues. The first one, held last winter in Ohio, drew lukewarm reviews and critics complained that the exchanges between the president and panelists were stilted.

FLOCKED: Rehabilitation center serves 17 counties

(From 1A)

involved when Midlander Greta Rigney was flocked by her parents in Odessa.

"Then the board of the Permian Basin Rehabilitation Center called me and asked to talk to me. They asked if Midland High would be interested in getting involved with this, and they have just loved it," she said, noting that her children, who range from fourth grade through freshman, have been involved in the project.

"It's brought a lot of joy," she said. "I had one woman call and say her husband is in a wheelchair and after they were flocked, she wheeled him to the front door to see them and said it filled him with such joy. And I heard of a little girl whose family was flocked, so she put acorns in front of each flamingo so they could eat."

Spreading joy is the purpose of the 'Flock a Friend' program, she said, along with increasing awareness of the rehabilitation center.

Ms. Rigney, whose family has been involved with the center 37 years, said this is the third round of 'flocking' for the students. They had sessions in November and again this past February, all to raise money for Easter Seals.

She said members of the center's board recently hosted 'Lily Day' at the center for local students in order to give them an idea of what the center does, who it serves and why they're raising money for it.

The center serves a 17-county area and offers rehabilitation services, from speech to occupation, to children, who may have multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy or cerebral palsy, to adults who have suffered a stroke or spinal injury. Equipment, such as wheelchairs or crutches are also provided by the center, all at no charge if the client is unable to pay.

"My father has always said that all of us are just a heartbeat away from needing the center's services, and my family's had quite a few members who have needed it over the years," said Ms. Rigney, the daughter of former Odessa Mayor Jim Reese. She said her family got involved with the center when her sister was born with severe birth defects 37 years ago.

This year, she will host the telethon with her father and former Odessa Mayor Lorraine Perryman, Mike Barker and Horace Brown.

TOBACCO: Lawmakers argue over how to spend extra revenues

(From 1A)

drawal. "We think they should come back, but no one is going to beg them," White House budget chief Franklin Raines said on ABC's "This Week with Sam Donaldson and Cokie Roberts." "Their position has lost its political support."

"I'm optimistic that we can get this done by this summer," Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

The industry walkout came after McCain's Commerce Committee, by a 19-1 vote, approved a bill that would be much tougher on tobacco companies than the $368 billion accord reached with state attorneys general and health advocates last year.

The McCain legislation, which has been praised by the administration, would require the industry to pay $516 billion over 25 years for antismoking programs, would increase the cost of a pack of cigarettes by $1.10, would set a $6.5 billion annual liability cap but offer no immunity from future suits and would levy an annual $3.5 billion industry penalty if teen smoking goals are not met.

The House has moved slower on the issue, but Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., a leading advocate of tough antismoking measures, said he expects a strong bill because in an election year Republicans, long recipients of big contributions from the tobacco industry, don't want to appear pro-tobacco.

"I don't think they want that around their necks," he said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "Ultimately we are going to work in a bipartisan basis and get strong legislation and I don't think the tobacco companies are going to like it."

Steven Parrish, senior vice president of Philip Morris, said on NBC that if President Clinton asked tobacco companies to attend a summit aimed at reaching a deal, "obviously you would have to come." But, he added, "I wonder if it is not too late for that."

Shalala, also on NBC, said that with the administration and Congress now working well together on the issue, "at this point we don't need a summit."

With a consensus that some legislation will pass this year, officials argued over how to spend the estimated $65 billion in extra revenues over five years.

The administration has already targeted the money for health research, aid to tobacco farmers, and education and child care programs. Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, appearing on CNN's "Late Edition," said it should go to making Medicare solvent.

House Budget Committee Chairman John Kasich, R-Ohio, on NBC, said House Republicans were "committed to using any settlement money for tax relief."

"Everybody ought to disabuse themselves of the notion that in the House we are going to take this money and use it either to fund either Bill Clinton's new programs or anybody else's new programs. We want tax relief with that money."

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.

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Gang presence in schools almost doubles since 1989, report says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly twice as many teen-agers reported gangs in their schools in 1995 as they did in 1989 while the number of students victimized by violent crime increased nearly 25 percent, the U.S. government reported Sunday.

President Clinton called the findings "unacceptable" and urged Congress to fight the trend by approving anti-gang and youth violence initiatives he offered a year ago, focusing on "what we know works — tough, targeted deterrence."

"Gangs — and the guns, drugs and violence that go with them — must be stopped from ever reaching the schoolhouse door," Clinton said.

Based on surveys of students aged 12-19, street gangs were spotted in schools by 28.4 percent of those questioned in 1995 compared with only 15.3 percent in 1989, the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the National Center for Education Statistics reported.

Violent crime at school — physical attacks or a robbery by force, weapon or threat — was reported by 4.2 percent of students in 1995, up 23.3 percent from 3.4 percent six years earlier, the Justice and Education departments said.

Pascal D. Forgione, Jr., U.S. Commissioner of Education Statistics, said that while relatively small, "this difference of 0.8 percentage points was statistically significant and represented an increase of about 270,000 students."

Forgione noted the gang increase came in every type of community. In central cities, students reporting street gangs rose from 24.8 percent to 40.7 percent; in suburbs, from 14.0 percent to 26.3 percent, and in non-metropolitan areas, from 7.8 percent to 19.9 percent.

Violence at school shocked the nation last month when two boys, aged 11 and 13, gunned down four students and a teacher at a rural middle school in Jonesboro, Ark. Classmate Melinda Henson said 13-year-old Mitchell Johnson claimed to be part of a gang and wore some type of red "every day, because he was in the Blood Gang."

The survey found that gangs and violence went together. In 1995, 7.5 percent of all students who reported gangs in their schools also said they had fallen victim to violent crime there, compared to just 2.7 percent of the students who reported no gangs in school.

Although citing changes in the six years between the two surveys, the report warned the "reader should not assume ... a stable trend between 1989 and 1995."

Indeed, government data shows that violent crime by juveniles peaked in 1994 and has declined for two years since then. Arrests of teenagers for violent crimes dropped 2.9 percent in 1995 and 9.2 percent in 1996.

And gangs in schools also may be coming down from a peak a couple of years earlier. The National Center for Education Statistics noted that a different study found an even higher incidence of gangs in 1993 than the 1995 study did.

The 1993 study found 35 percent of students said "fighting" gangs were present in their schools. The government cautioned that "data from these two surveys cannot be compared directly due to different wording of the gangs question," but the differences could signal trends.

A coauthor of the report, Kathryn A. Chandler of the National Center for Education Statistics, cited another possible reason for the increase between 1989 and 1995 in gang reports. "What were seeing I think is that more people are aware nowadays of what a gang is," Chandler said.

The survey recorded a slight and statistically insignificant drop in students subjected to thefts and other property crime at school, dropping from 12.2 percent in 1989 to 11.6 percent in 1995.

When property crimes and violent crimes were combined, the overall victimization rate for students — those who suffered one or more crimes — remained level, 14.5 percent in 1989 compared to 14.6 percent in 1995.

The survey also found drugs were slightly more available. In 1995, 65.3 percent of students reported that marijuana, cocaine, crack, uppers or downers were available at school compared with 63.2 percent in 1989.

The 1995 survey found that fewer than one in 1,000 students reported a gun to school authorities, but about one in 20 students said they saw another students with a gun at school. Among those who saw guns at school, 12.4 percent said they were victims of violent crime at school, compared to only 3.8 percent of the students who did not see a gun at school.

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Tornado victims mark Easter with tears, laughter

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — The pulpit of the Open Door Baptist Church lay shattered amid rubble during the Easter sunrise service on Sunday, destroyed along with the rest of the building by a monster tornado.

But hundreds of worshippers who gathered in the church's debris-strewn parking lot only four days after the deadly storm still heard a message of rebirth, love and healing.

There were tears and hugs in the predawn chill. There was also laughter — something pastor Rick Cooper made sure of by telling a couple of jokes about the destruction.

"There's a time to cry," said Cooper, standing on the remains of a concrete wall and before a wooden cross hung from an exposed steel girder. "But let me tell you: Life is important."

Sixty-nine people huddled inside a central hallway as the Open Door church was demolished Wednesday night by a tornado with winds exceeding 260 mph. Everyone walked out alive, with the most seriously injured being 11-year-old Janna Presley, whose badly cut right arm needed 80 stitches.

"I'm doing better," the girl said shyly, a Mickey Mouse jacket over the big sling that cradled her arm.

"It's a blessing and a miracle God was with them," said Janie Morgan, who attends the church.

Thirty-three people were killed and more than 160 others were injured when tornadoes marauded across three counties around Birmingham. Seven more people were killed by other tornadoes in the South.

"The healing process has to start, and what better time to start than Easter morning," said the Rev. Terry Hill, a United Methodist minister who read the names of victims during services at the neighboring Open Door. "We are here to have a new beginning."

Funerals that began Saturday continued on Easter Day. One followed the worship service at Rock Creek Church of God, which lost six members, including a mother and two sons killed in the collapse of a nearby house.

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Is Hussein really aiming for peace or planning war?

No one who has been following developments in the United Nations' attempt to inspect Iraq for weapons of mass destruction will be surprised by the latest U.N. report.

Its finding was that Iraq continues to conceal the scope of its biological weapons program and that it has failed to account for its missiles that can deliver the weapons. That has been the pattern Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein has adhered to since the end of the Persian Gulf War in 1991.

So the situation involving Iraq and its hidden weapons continues with no real change by Saddam Hussein. He continues to play a game of smoke and mirrors, according to the report, and as long as he does the dangerous dilemma will not be resolved.

So the situation involving Iraq and its hidden weapons continues with no real change by Saddam Hussein. He continues to play a game of smoke and mirrors, according to the report, and as long as he does the dangerous dilemma will not be resolved. He will continue to be a threat to neighboring countries in the Middle East and, potentially, to nations such as the United States that have countered his aggression in the past.

The report was also highly critical of Iraq's attitude going into the Vienna Technical Evaluation meeting held in Vienna, Austria March 20-27. Noting that Baghdad did not send qualified experts, the report stated, "They did not grasp the opportunity offered. The attitude of Iraq ... toward the discussions was disappointing and shows no change since 1995."

With that observation, it's clear that Saddam Hussein and Iraq are not truly interested in peace. The stalemate continues.

Today in History

Today is Monday, April 13, the 103rd day of 1998. There are 262 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Four hundred years ago, on April 13, 1598, King Henry IV of France endorsed the Edict of Nantes, which granted rights to the Protestant Huguenots. (The edict was abrogated in 1685 by King Louis XIV, who declared France entirely Catholic again.)

On this date:

In 1742, Handel's "Messiah" was first performed publicly, in Dublin, Ireland.

In 1743, the third president of the United States, Thomas Jefferson, was born in present-day Albemarle County, Va.

In 1870, the Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in New York.

In 1943, President Roosevelt dedicated the Jefferson Memorial.

In 1958, Van Cliburn became the first American to win the Tchaikovsky International Piano Contest in Moscow.

In 1970, Apollo 13, four-fifths of the way to the moon, was crippled when a tank containing liquid oxygen burst. (The astronauts managed to return safely.)

In 1986, Pope John Paul II visited a Rome synagogue in the first recorded papal visit of its kind.

In 1992, the Great Chicago Flood took place as the city's century-old tunnel system and adjacent basements filled with water from the Chicago River.

Ten years ago: A commandeered Kuwaiti jetliner took off from Cyprus for Algeria, after the pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim hijackers on board freed 12 hostages.

Five years ago: Pulitzer Prizes were awarded to David McCullough for his biography "Truman," to Robert Olen Butler for his collection of short stories "A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain" and to Tony Kushner for his drama "Angels in America: Millennium Approaches." The gold medal for public service went to The Miami Herald for its Hurricane Andrew coverage.

One year ago: With tanks, sharpshooters and thousands of police deployed to protect him, Pope John Paul II preached forgiveness during a mass in Sarajevo. Tiger Woods became the youngest person to win the Masters Tournament and the first player of partly African heritage to claim a major golf title.

Thought for Today: "History, in general, only informs us what bad government is." — Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826).

JACK ANDERSON

Is old Newt Gingrich making a comeback?

Is the old Newt Gingrich making a comeback? If a recent fund-raising letter — in which the House speaker calls for, among other things, the abolishment of several cabinet departments — is any indication, the answer is a resounding yes.

You'd be hard pressed to find any evidence of the old, fiery Newt during recent public appearances in which he's tried his darndest to cultivate a new, nice-guy image.

Anderson

The kinder, gentler and leaner Gingrich is touring the country promoting his new book, "Lessons Learned the Hard Way." So far, he's steered clear of the incendiary rhetoric that marked his early days as speaker, and turned off so much of the public.

The carefully crafted book tour included a folksy interview with Katie Couric on NBC's "Today" show. Gingrich told Couric that he's "learning to keep (my) mouth shut" rather than make the kind of foolish, off-the-cuff comments that helped sink his poll ratings.

The strategy seems to be working. Gingrich's approval ratings have climbed to 36 percent. That may not sound like anything to get excited about, but for Gingrich — who's survived two government shutdowns, an embarrassing ethics probe, a mismanaged coup attempt and approval ratings that hovered at around 20 percent — it passes for exceedingly good news.

So good that Gingrich is now openly talking about running for president in 2000. But don't be fooled by the speaker's public demeanor. In a recent fund-raising letter penned by Gingrich for the National Republican Congressional Committee, the self- proclaimed "revolutionary" was in vintage partisan attack-dog form.

In the letter, reviewed by our associate Aaron Karp, Gingrich asks Republican donors for large contributions so the GOP can counter "the millions of dollars worth of free propaganda (Democrats receive) from the national liberal news media." Of course, that's the same news media that Gingrich is currently using to get loads of free publicity for his new book.

Perhaps thinking that only Republican contributors would be reading the NRCC letter, Gingrich makes several statements that would probably come as surprise to most Americans.

When Republicans took over Congress in 1994, there was much talk from GOP leaders about closing down various cabinet departments. Such rhetoric turned off much of the public, and Republicans turned their attention to other issues — or so we thought.

Gingrich writes that "many (underlined for emphasis) Republicans in Congress want to eliminate the Federal Departments of Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, and Energy." He asks readers if Republicans should "charge forward with plans to abolish these agencies."

It came as news to us that congressional Republicans are still devising plans to shut down cabinet departments. Of course, Gingrich could simply be playing to a partisan crowd in an effort to raise campaign cash. In a non-presidential year, Republicans are expecting a low electoral turnout and are counting on their activist base to help them retain their slim House majority.

FOOD FOR THE DEAD — The government that's supposed to "work better and cost less," to borrow a phrase from Al Gore, is still handing out food stamps to dead people.

A recent comprehensive study by the General Accounting Office of the food stamps program in four states — California, Florida, New York and Texas — found that "nearly 26,000 deceased individuals in the four states ... were included in households receiving food stamps" during the years 1995 and 1996.

In one of the more astounding examples of government waste we've come across in a long time, taxpayers spent $8.5 million to feed the dead.

The GAO blames the fact that states are not required to check the validity of the Social Security numbers provided by applicants. If they did, they'd learn that many of the numbers being used are, shall we say, expired.

"The inclusion of deceased individuals in food stamp households goes undetected," writes the GAO, "because agencies rely primarily on unverified information on household membership provided by food stamps applicants and participants."

The GAO recommends that states match Social Security numbers of individuals in food stamp households with data in the SSA's "Death Master File." The GAO also suggests that it wouldn't be a bad idea for the SSA to notify states when a food-stamps recipient passes on.

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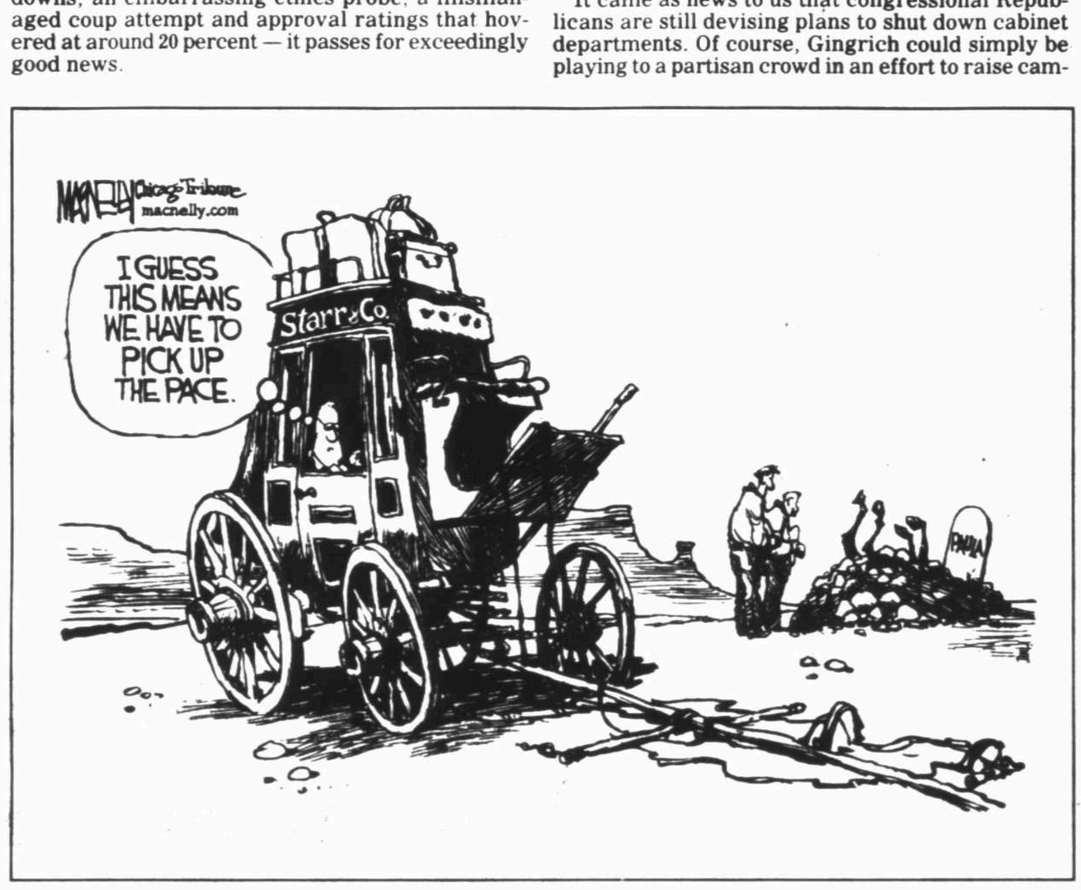
Jack Anderson's and Jan Moller's column is distributed by United Feature Syndicate.



CHARLEY REESE

Blame Congress, not IRS, for tax code

It's tax time, and let's get it right this year, people. If you don't like the tax code, blame the people who wrote it (Congress) not the people stuck with enforcing it (the Internal Revenue Service).

Which is worse? Someone who creates a scapegoat to escape responsibility for his own doings or someone dumb enough to beat up on the scapegoat? Maybe it's six-to-one and half-a-dozen to the other. Anyway, Congress regularly makes the IRS the scapegoat to hide its own dirty work.

Reese

As my regular readers know well, I didn't learn much from the math courses I took, but I did learn something from a library book on math I had checked out and read. You can't solve a problem until you define it correctly.

The tax code is voluminous because Congress made it voluminous. The tax code is complex because Congress made it complex. And taxes are high because Congress made them high. The IRS is to the tax code what a law enforcement officer is to the statute books: They don't write the laws; they just try to enforce them.

In a world that has a fair amount of uncertainties, there are two things you can count on:

1. You will never have low taxes and big government. The two are mutually exclusive.

2. You will never have a simple tax code with a corrupt Congress. The reason the tax code is both voluminous and complex is because it contains so many political payoffs.

For a workingman or -woman whose only income is their paycheck, the tax code is already simple, if not fair. It gets complex for businesses and for people with multiple sources of income. Keep that in mind when you listen to the politicians claim they want to simplify the tax code.

Also keep in mind that they have had the opportunity and authority to do that since the 16th Amendment, which authorizes an income tax, was ratified in 1913. Instead, they have made it more complex.

The key to taxes is not the tax code but the authorization and appropriations process. Government does not create wealth. A private economy can exist without a government; a government cannot exist without a private economy from which to suck wealth. Government, in economic terms, is parasitic. It has to take before it can spend.

Therefore, it is foolish to expect a government that spends $1.7 trillion per year to lower taxes.

How is it going to do that? The only way to lower taxes is to reduce government spending. As long as spending stays high and goes higher, you will get smoke and mirrors but no real tax cuts. For as far out into the future as they project, both Republican and Democratic plans call for annual increases in government spending.

Therefore, they may with fanfare lower a rate and quietly eliminate a deduction, or they may cut a tax here while increasing a tax there. Everything we earn, save, touch, eat, drink, smoke, wear, live in, drive or use is taxed multiple times. Even our deaths are taxed. Under no circumstances can you expect a genuine tax cut as long as government budgets increase instead of shrink.

The American people are already — well, to avoid a vulgarity, let me say, committed to an unpleasant future by the politicians they so carelessly elected to office.

The twentysomething generation ought to rouse itself and become a ferociously active force in American politics. It is their future that has been ruined by irresponsible government spending.

Those of us who crossed the geezer line (my colleagues constantly remind me that 60 makes you a geezer) will be out of here before the worst effects of past economic sins fall like plagues and hurricanes on those who are now young but will suffer when they are most vulnerable.

Better, you young ones, to use that energy now to change your own destiny. All futures are constructed in the present.

———

Charley Reese's e-mail address is OSOreese@aol.com.

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

Doonesbury

DAN RATHER

Leading librarian says renewal is overdue for public

SAN ANTONIO — "One of the wonders of the 20th century is America's public libraries. They are such a treasure, such an important part of what we, as a people, have become. The problem, and it's a growing one, is that Americans have come to take them for granted. I worry about what is to become of our libraries in the century ahead."

Rather

The speaker is the first lady of Texas, Laura Bush, wife of Governor George W. Bush. A former public school teacher and librarian, she is speaking with your reporter inside San Antonio's magnificent new central public library.

One of the outstanding new architectural sites in the whole country, this is a six-story, chili-red building designed by the great Mexican architect Ricardo Legorreta. There is nothing quite like it, architecturally, anywhere in the United States.

Laura Welch Bush is here for the annual conference of the Texas Library Association.

She's 51 now, but doesn't look it. The mother of 16-year-old twins, she is trim, with a smashing smile and quiet grace befitting the librarian she was educated to be.

If her husband becomes the Republican presidential nominee in 2000, as many expect, she will be a formidable asset to him. She already is. As one Texan observed during the conference, "People may disagree with the politics of the Bush men, but you can't deny that they know how to pick their wives."

Mrs. Bush shares the Bush family's commitment to promoting literacy. And libraries are her passion.

"What America's libraries are to become in the 21st century, I have no idea," she is saying, referring to the technological advances that are causing a quiet revolution in libraries' catalogs and collections worldwide. "But this much I do know: If libraries do not remain widely and substantially supported, we, our children, and our children's children will suffer — economically, intellectually and spiritually.

"One reason this has been the 'American Century' has been the rapid development, early in this century, of public libraries."

And right she is. Although public libraries had been around for a while, it was early in this century that steel magnate Andrew Carnegie poured his considerable fortune into endowments for over 2,800 libraries throughout America and Britain.

Carnegie grew up poor. Most institutions of learning had been closed to him as a boy. But he valued learning and wanted future generations to find an easier road to the kind of success he'd attained. Libraries, he believed, represented opportunities to read, learn and grow.

By the 1930s, public libraries were the pride of America's towns and cities, large and small. These beautiful buildings were known as "Palaces of the People."

But several years ago, as "tax revolts" spread across the country, libraries became a favorite target of budget-cutters.

Numbers of new libraries declined, acquisitions of new books fell, and preservation of old books became a luxury. Hours were cut back, sometimes drastically, so that some libraries were open only a few days a week.

Are we now seeing that trend in turnaround? Do San Antonio's new library, and Denver's recently remodeled one, represent a renaissance, a renewed emphasis on public libraries?

Laura Bush finds that a librarian's regard for silence can be politically useful: If she has any specific plans, she doesn't share them now. Instead she smiles demurely and says, "I hope so."

But her bright blue eyes speak loudly. As the Internet bids to become King of the Information Age, as budgets shrink, too few Americans seem to care what happens to the Palaces of the People that are our libraries.

But Laura Bush is not among them.

———

Dan Rather's column is distributed by King Features Syndicate.

Tornado watch: Will El Niño change path of twisters?

FORDLAND, Mo. (AP) — Each spring, with every ugly dark green cloud, Jamey Wright's father would usher the family into a cellar, out of storms' way. Wright professes no fear today, but he learned early to respect the weather.

That may be good, because since 1950 the geographical center of tornado activity in the continental United States is Fordland, about 175 miles southeast of Kansas City — and, more precisely, on Wright's 136 acres.

Nearly five decades of data averaging twister latitudes and longitudes place Wright's property in the middle of the action although, to his knowledge, no tornado has ever hit his farm.

Perhaps one never will. With tornadoes, the past offers no clue to the future. And statisticians attach little significance to such a finding.

But Joe Eagleman, a meteorology professor at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, has plotted a similar "center of activity" on graphs for individual years. Such a spot, he says, is usually in central or southern Missouri.

Weather is a favorite topic for farmers here and April, the start of tornado season, keeps the conversation flowing. The big talk this year is El Niño, already blamed for rain and storms in the West and Southeast.

Though Wright insists "you can't outguess the weather," tornado experts are already watching for the funneling winds and guessing about El Niño's impact.

"The atmosphere is chaotic," says Howard Bluestein, meteorology professor at the University of Oklahoma, Norman. "It's very, very slight changes in what happens at the beginning — slight changes in what happens right now — that will affect what happens a week from now tremendously."

A factor or not, El Niño faces tough precedents. The planet's fiercest tornadoes touch down most often in the United States. On average, 836 sightings are reported each year.

From its Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Okla., the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration recorded more than 38,000 segments — twisters that stay on a straight path — between 1950 and 1995.

Those storms caused nearly 71,000 injuries and more than 4,100 deaths. That's an average of two injuries per twister, according to data compiled from newspaper accounts and National Weather Service reports.

An Associated Press analysis of that data shows that 75 percent of the tornadoes touched down in 17 states — in the Plains, Midwest and Southeast. These include Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin.

Just this past week, tornadoes swept through Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi, leaving dozens of deaths in their wake.

Meteorologists do agree that El Niño — the intense warming of the Pacific Ocean off South America — has intensified in the United States and shifted south the jet stream's winter winds, bringing floods to southern California and heavy rains and winds to Florida.

Will El Niño add kick to this season's tornadoes?

Predictions fluctuate like a meteorologist's wind gauge. William Monfredo, a graduate student at Mississippi State University in Starkville, is sanguine. Earning a master's degree in geoscience, he studies tornado data, El Niño statistics and atmospheric models. His conclusion: The Midwest will see fewer strong tornadoes.

Many side with farmer Wright, claiming flat-out that no one can make a sound prediction. KU's Eagleman and Joe Schaefer, director of Norman's center, say their studies show no definite correlation. Adds colleague Louis Wicker, a professor at Texas A&M University, in College Station: "I've chased storms, and I've been doing that for 18 springs. I can say with some confidence I have no clue."

With expertise rooted in local lore, some of Fordland's 530 residents offer their own ideas, theories and memories of "the big ones."

Mary Jane Keen, Fordland's city clerk, insists that tornadoes follow the railroad tracks that cut through the heart of town. Other residents, including Wright, agree on the town's safe zone: the Dogwood General Store, 12 miles southeast of town, where Route Z crosses state Route 14.

"Z highway, two miles down the road, can get a downpour. Three miles down Highway 14 can get rain showers. We get nothing," says Mark Dever, whose family owns the store.

The Wrights have had close calls. Wright remembers one unsettling evening, 20 years ago, when a neighbor joined him on his porch, about five miles south of town, to count funnel clouds as they formed.

As a youngster growing up in nearby Diggins, Roger Bowers, now an alderman in Fordland, remembers a tornado that came through during the early 1970s. Other family members bolted, "trying to get out before it took the house," and headed for a ditch. He and two relatives ended up outside, clinging to a clothesline pole.

Wright, along with other cattle ranchers south of town, considers his dairy barns shelter for humans as well as animals. Those 3-foot-deep pits, where farmers walk as they hook rows of cows to milking machines, are fine places to huddle.

Whether El Niño makes the season worse or not, Fordland is already bracing for storms, swapping three empty propane tanks for labor from the volunteer fire department to install a used tornado siren. It is to be sounded when a funnel cloud is spotted.

Spruced up with bright yellow paint, the siren — Fordland's first — hangs halfway up the town's water tower. But Wright is no more, or less, reassured.

"I don't worry about storms," he says. "Ain't much you can do."

No order in the court: Slander trial limps along

POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. (AP) — The judge has stomped off the bench. The stenographer was given her own gavel to keep the shouting down. One defendant called a lawyer a "bald-faced racist." The plaintiff complained he was spit upon under cross-examination.

Welcome to the defamation trial of Tawana Brawley's advisers. As proceedings limp toward a fifth month, tensions that first flared after the black teen was found dazed in a garbage bag near this Hudson Valley city in November 1987 have been exhumed in dramatic fashion.

Angry lawyers and a confounded judge have combined to create a disorderly — some might say disgraceful — trial.

The most famous defendant, the Rev. Al Sharpton, ignored the judge's order to be quiet on the witness stand. Suspended civil rights lawyer Alton Maddox, another defendant, has delivered fiery tirades against the judge and the lawyer for Steven Pagones, the plaintiff. Pagones and the lawyer for C. Vernon Mason, the third defendant, have traded shouts of "Shut up!" though with the jury out of the room.

"Even in the most contested cases, the lawyers will slip out and have a beer or a cup of coffee. ... I don't get a sense that can happen in this case right now," said Noel Tepper, a veteran attorney who has visited the trial often since it began Nov. 18.

"It's hard for me at this point to even think of the trial in terms of justice," Tepper added. "It almost seems like mutually exclusive categories."

Examples of courtroom shenanigans:

■ Maddox was held in contempt after calling Pagones' attorney, William Stanton, a "bald-faced racist," out of the jury's presence. When Stanton indignantly retorted he had served with black men in Vietnam, Maddox answered: "You probably shot them." At a later point, the six-member jury sent a note to the judge asking that racial rhetoric be toned down and testimony moved along faster.

■ Failing to halt a shouting match among lawyers by banging his gavel and yelling, "Stop it! Stop it!" state Supreme Court Justice S. Barrett Hickman abruptly adjourned court and stormed from the room.

■ Pagones complained that Sharpton attorney Michael Hardy was leaning so far over the edge of the witness box while questioning him that Hardy's spittle was hitting his face. The court placed a table in front of the railing to keep attorneys a reasonable distance away.

■ A court stenographer became so frustrated with trying to transcribe everyone shouting all at once that she walked off. She was later given her own gavel.

■ Pagones, asked a series of "yes or no" questions by Hardy, repeatedly responded with assertions that Sharpton was a liar. Hardy became piqued, and he stormed off.

Time has clearly failed to mellow hard feelings that developed when the three advisers named a group of white men, including Pagones, a former assistant district attorney, as the attackers who allegedly abducted and raped the girl, scrawling racist slurs on her body in charcoal and smearing her with dog feces.

Pagones, now on leave from his job as an assistant state attorney general, was exonerated by a grand jury that found ample evidence the then 15-year-old Brawley fabricated her claim out of fear of a beating by her stepfather. He sees his $395 million defamation lawsuit as a chance to finally hold the three accountable.

Hickman, a 68-year-old jurist with a slight build and a soft voice, seems ill-suited to the task before him. He appears pained when screaming matches break out, and his common admonition for lawyers to "act like gentlemen" is rarely heeded for long.

Hickman tends to answer shouted objections with mumbles or shrugs, leaving lawyers looking for clarification. A flustered Hardy once shouted at him, "Rule! Rule!"

Hickman held Hardy in contempt earlier this month but reversed himself minutes later.

The case drags on, with Hickman allowing defense attorneys to interrogate Pagones' witnesses on areas far afield from the central question of whether the Brawley advisers defamed Pagones.

Mason and Maddox intend to show Pagones took part in an assault on Miss Brawley over five days in November 1987. As a result, witnesses have been questioned in excruciating detail on matters such as medical records and police notes.

Hickman has said he gives defense lawyers wide latitude to be fair to everyone.

Left unclear is when the trial might end. Pagones, now on the stand, is the last major witness for his side. The defendants are not required to call their own witnesses, although Maddox has implied he would.

A trial that was supposed to wrap up by Christmas has now stretched to Easter. There are hints it will last through Memorial Day.

"It's going to be a long, hot summer," Maddox said.

Pump prices jump nearly 3 cents

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gasoline prices rose nearly 3 cents per gallon in the past two weeks but consumers still enjoy considerable savings compared to a year ago, an industry analyst said Sunday.

The average price of gasoline, including all grades and taxes, was about $1.10 on Friday, according to the twice-monthly Lundberg Survey of 10,000 stations nationwide.

That represents a price increase of about 2.82 cents a gallon since the March 2 survey, Trilby Lundberg said.

"This is after seven months of price warfare," Lundberg said. "It was too hot not to cool down. Many retail competitors were in the red, or close to it, from months of cost-cutting."

Prices still are about 18 cents lower than they were a year ago, Lundberg said. The average national price was $1.28 on April 11, 1997.

Analysts had predicted the price increases a few weeks ago after major oil-producing countries announced they were cutting crude oil output.

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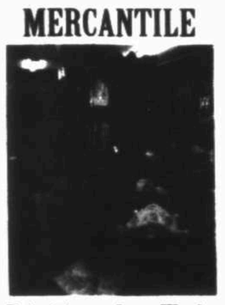
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Couple who helped end drive-through deliveries try to prove HMO malpractice

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Michelina Bauman was born May 16, 1995, was discharged from the hospital the next day and died of an undiagnosed infection the next.

Steve and Michelle Bauman's account of their heartbreak, including testimony before the U.S. Senate and network TV appearances, helped sway government officials nationwide to end "drive-through deliveries" and require insurers to cover a minimum 48-hour hospital stay after birth.

"We don't feel like we did it; we feel like our daughter did," said Steve Bauman, 32.

"She made birth safe," added his wife, 31.

Now the Baumans hope one more retelling — this time in court, in a groundbreaking malpractice lawsuit against their HMO — will change managed health care even more.

A recent shift in federal court interpretations has given the Baumans and about a dozen other plaintiffs the chance to sue their health insurers under state malpractice laws, breaking through the immunity from lawsuits which a legal loophole has given employer-sponsored health plans.

"It means that HMOs, managed care providers, will no longer be immune from financial accountability when their policies result in inadequate medical care," says the Baumans' attorney, Joshua Spielberg.

The Baumans, of rural Williamstown, argue that Michelina's infection would have been detected and promptly treated if the HMO's policy didn't require discharge within 24 hours.

Their lawsuit accuses U.S. Healthcare of negligence and recklessness for having that policy and another discouraging readmission when problems developed after hospital discharge.

Winning "could have a beneficial effect in discouraging other HMOs from acting in a similar manner," Spielberg said.

The lawsuit also names the hospital and pediatrician as defendants.

Jill Griffiths, a spokeswoman for the since-merged insurer Aetna U.S. Healthcare, said the company will prove it was the doctor who decided to discharge the infant and not to readmit her when the first-time parents kept calling about her worsening condition.

"We've been very saddened by what happened in this case, but we do not believe we're liable," she said.

Employer-sponsored health plans have not had to prove that, until now.

The 1974 Employee Retirement Income Security Act, meant to guarantee that employees get the benefits promised them, was interpreted as exempting such plans from lawsuits claiming harm from denial of benefits.

But now plaintiffs' attorneys are fashioning lawsuits accusing managed care companies of providing poor-quality care, rather than just denying a particular treatment.

A few federal judges have decided those cases can proceed in state court; the Baumans got that ruling just two weeks ago.

Louis Saccoccio, general counsel for the American Association of Health Plans, said he expects more such lawsuits, particularly if the first plaintiffs win.

Howard Shapiro, a New Orleans lawyer who represents employers' interests in Employee Retirement Income Security Act litigation, said managed-care companies are doing what employers asked: holding down costs by controlling how care is delivered.

Critics counter that that amounts to practicing medicine, and sometimes to putting profits before patients.

"I think we're setting an example that you shouldn't be afraid of the insurance companies," Michelle Bauman said.

She was so depressed after Michelina's death that she gave up her job. "We had to file bankruptcy, we lost the house we were staying in, the car ...," her husband said.

A construction worker, he's starting a better-paying job Monday, and she's doting on their two children — 2-year-old Alanna Michelle and 9-month-old Steven. Michelina's picture is prominently displayed in their home.

Even if the Baumans don't prevail in court, Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., and Rep. Charlie Norwood, R-Ga., are sponsoring legislation that would give people the right to sue employer-sponsored managed-care plans for malpractice.

Business groups argue that this and similar bills would push up medical costs and force many employers to drop health insurance.

BankAmerica Corp. agrees to merge with NationsBank Corp.

NEW YORK (AP) — BankAmerica Corp. has agreed to merge with NationsBank Corp. to create one of the the biggest banks in the nation and become the first coast-to-coast bank, according to published reports.

A second deal would create the fifth-largest banking company in terms of assets by combining Banc One Corp. with First Chicago NBD Corp, a merger that would be dominant in the Midwest.

Both deals were to be announced Monday in New York, The New York Times reported Monday.

The expected deals come a week after Citicorp and Travelers Group Inc. said they would merge to create the world's largest financial-services company. Banking industry analysts said the deal would put more pressure on other companies to merge in order to compete.

Two spokesmen for BankAmerica refused to comment on the reports to The Associated Press. Messages left Sunday night for NationsBank, Banc One and First Chicago were not returned to the AP.

The merger of BankAmerica and NationsBank would be worth $60 billion and give the combined banks $570 billion in assets, The Wall Street Journal reported Monday on its Web site.

The deal would bring the banks to 24 states and Washington with nearly 5,000 branches and about 15,000 automated-teller machines, the Journal reported.

The merger would create the largest bank in terms of total branches and deposits, the Times said. The combined corporation would be the naton's second-largest bank holding company in terms of total assets.

NationsBank is based in Charlotte, N.C., and covers the Southeast to Maryland. BankAmerica spreads east from its San Francisco base. Both firms have operations in Texas.

The combination of NationsBank and BankAmerica is expected to be run for about two years by Hugh McColl, NationsBank's 62-year-old chairman and chief executive, before BankAmerica's 50-year-old chairman and chief executive, David Coulter, takes over, people familiar with the matter told the Journal.

The deal would complete the ambitions of McColl, who has worked to turn NationsBank into one of the nation's largest banks through aggressive acquisitions. He has long sought to link his bank with the Pacific.

NationsBank is the third biggest banking company, with $310 billion in assets.

The deal between First Chicago and Banc One, of Columbus, Ohio, has an estimated value of $30 billion in stock, people close to those talks told the Times.

First Chicago shareholders would receive 1.62 shares in a new company, which will keep the Banc One Corp. name and will be based in Chicago, for every share they own, the Times reported. Banc One shareholders will get one share of the new company for every share they own.

Alcoholics urged to break anonymity for insurance, research

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fred L., 68, hasn't had a drink in 18 years. But like many recovering alcoholics, who worry they're a sip away from relapse, he avoids being publicly identified as one.

"If you're blabber-mouthing all around, saying, 'I'm in recovery, look what I've done,' ... it isn't going to work," the Minnesota businessman says.

Few disease sufferers are more organized — 1.2 million members of Alcoholics Anonymous meet every week in local chapters around the country. But few are less visible, either, thanks to AA's emphasis on anonymity, one of its "Twelve Traditions," and the social stigma of addiction.

Now they're being urged to break the silence. Treatment centers and health groups want to turn recovering alcoholics into an army of lobbyists for improved insurance and public funding for research and treatment.

Similar lobbying efforts produced more spending on research for AIDS and breast cancer and bolstered insurance coverage for mental illness.

"We have a huge, silent constituency," said Paul Samuels, helping to coordinate the campaign. Unless lawmakers hear from alcoholics and their families, "the likelihood they'll pass something is between nil and virtually nil," he said.

Samuels is director and president of the New York-based Legal Action Center, an advocacy group for sufferers of AIDS and drug and alcohol abuse. The center recently received a $100,000 grant toward its $250,000-a-year campaign.

The Minnesota-based Hazelden Foundation, leading a coalition of treatment centers that includes the Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage, Calif., is holding events around the country to recruit its 40,000 alumni for the lobbying effort.

The treatment centers are pushing legislation to guarantee equal insurance coverage for treatment of addiction.

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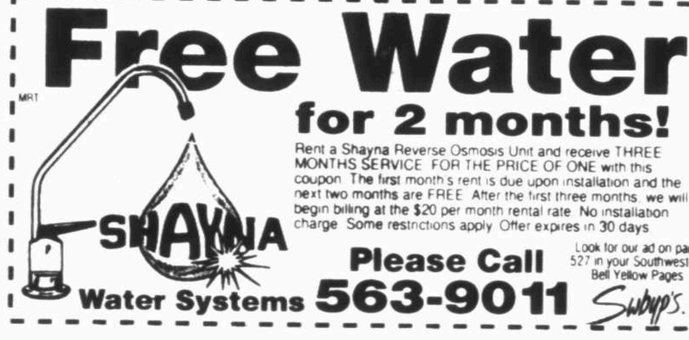

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ATTENTION

NO. 95-08680-B

THE STATE OF TEXAS, et al., Plaintiffs,	)	IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
v.	)	TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
MOBIL OIL CORPORATION and MOBIL PRODUCING TEXAS & NEW MEXICO INC., Defendants.	)	345TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

SUMMARY NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

TO: PERSONS WHO HAVE RECEIVED ROYALTY PAYMENTS FROM MOBIL ON TEXAS PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL AND CONDENSATE

Your rights may be affected by a class action in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to an Order of the 200th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas (the Court), that a hearing will be held in the courtroom in the 200th Judicial District Court, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas at 9:00 a.m. on May 11, 1998 to determine (1) whether the claims against Mobil Oil Corporation and Mobil Producing Texas & New Mexico Inc. (together, "Mobil") in cause number 95-08680-B, *The State of Texas, et al. v. Mobil Oil Corporation and Mobil Producing Texas & New Mexico Inc.*, should be certified as a class action for settlement purposes, (2) whether a proposed settlement of the claims against Mobil on terms set forth in a Settlement Agreement dated March 30, 1998, is fair, reasonable and adequate, (3) whether a proposed final judgement dismissing and releasing the claims against Mobil on the merits should be entered, (4) whether a proposed Plan of Allocation of the proceeds of the settlement should be approved, (5) whether an application for attorneys' fees, costs and expenses by attorneys who have prosecuted the litigation and negotiated the settlement should be approved, and (6) whether additional compensation should be paid to the class representatives.

If you received royalty or overriding royalty payments from Mobil on crude oil or condensate produced in Texas at any time from January 1, 1987 to December 31, 1997, then you may be eligible to share in the proceeds of the settlement of the litigation.

If you fit this description and if you have not received a detailed Notice of Class Action and Proposed Settlement by mail, you may receive a copy of that notice advising you of your rights if you send (i) your name, (ii) your address, (iii) your phone number, (iv) your Social Security number or Federal tax identification number, and (v) written evidence that you received the relevant payments from Mobil, to the following address:

Mobil Texas Oil Royalty Class Action
Request for Notice
P.O. Box 9468
Garden City, New York 11530-9468

The plaintiffs in the litigation claim that Mobil underpaid royalties on crude oil production in Texas since January 1987. Mobil denies those claims, and it denies that it has any liability whatsoever to any member of the class.

The plaintiffs and Mobil have agreed to a settlement of the claims against Mobil. The gross settlement proceeds will be approximately $4,980,000. The net proceeds for distribution to class members will be that amount less attorneys' fees and expenses, as approved by the Court.

If you are a member of the class and do not file a request for exclusion from the settlement, you will be bound by the final judgment in the litigation dismissing and releasing your claims.

Any requests for exclusion from the settlement must be postmarked by May 6, 1998, in the manner described in the Notice of Settlement. The rights of persons requesting exclusion are explained in the Notice of Settlement.

Any objection to the proposed settlement, the Plan of Allocation, certification of a settlement class and/or the applications for attorneys' fees, costs and expenses must be postmarked by May 6, 1998, in the manner described in the Notice of Settlement.

A class member who does not request exclusion may, if he desires, enter an appearance through his counsel.

Clerk of the Court
200th Judicial District Court
of Travis County, Texas

DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT OR THE COURT CLERK'S OFFICE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MATTER

Boomer parents play ostrich on use of marijuana

NEW YORK (AP) — Although more kids are trying marijuana at an earlier age, Baby Boomer parents are convinced that doesn't apply to their children, according to a national study by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America.

"Boomers — many of whom have 'been there, done that' — are surprisingly and ironically out of step with the reality of drugs in their children's lives," Partnership President Richard D. Bonnette said.

Past Partnership studies showed that 60 percent of the Boomers had tried marijuana at least once.

The group's 10th poll, released Sunday, showed that parents underestimated the availability of marijuana, their children's view of its risks, and whether their children's friends were smoking.

"Few sincerely believe their children are exposed to drugs, that drugs are widely available in the schools their children attend," Bonnette said.

The current study showed that among children ages 9 to 12, the number who had tried marijuana was up from 334,000 in 1993 to 571,000 last year — an increase from 3 percent to 5 percent of that age group.

Marijuana use among ages 13 to 16 remained stable, but there was a significant increase among 17- and 18-year-olds — from 41 percent in 1996 to 48 percent last year.

And among parents, the study found:

■ Forty-three percent believed their teens could find marijuana easily. Yet 58 percent of children said pot was readily available.

■ Thirty-three percent thought their kids viewed marijuana as harmful. Among teens, only 18 percent — less than one in five — felt that smoking marijuana was risky.

■ Forty-five percent felt their teen had a friend who smoked marijuana. Among teens, 71 percent said they had a friend who had used marijuana.

■ Twenty-one percent thought their teen could have experimented with marijuana, while 44 percent of the teens said they actually had.

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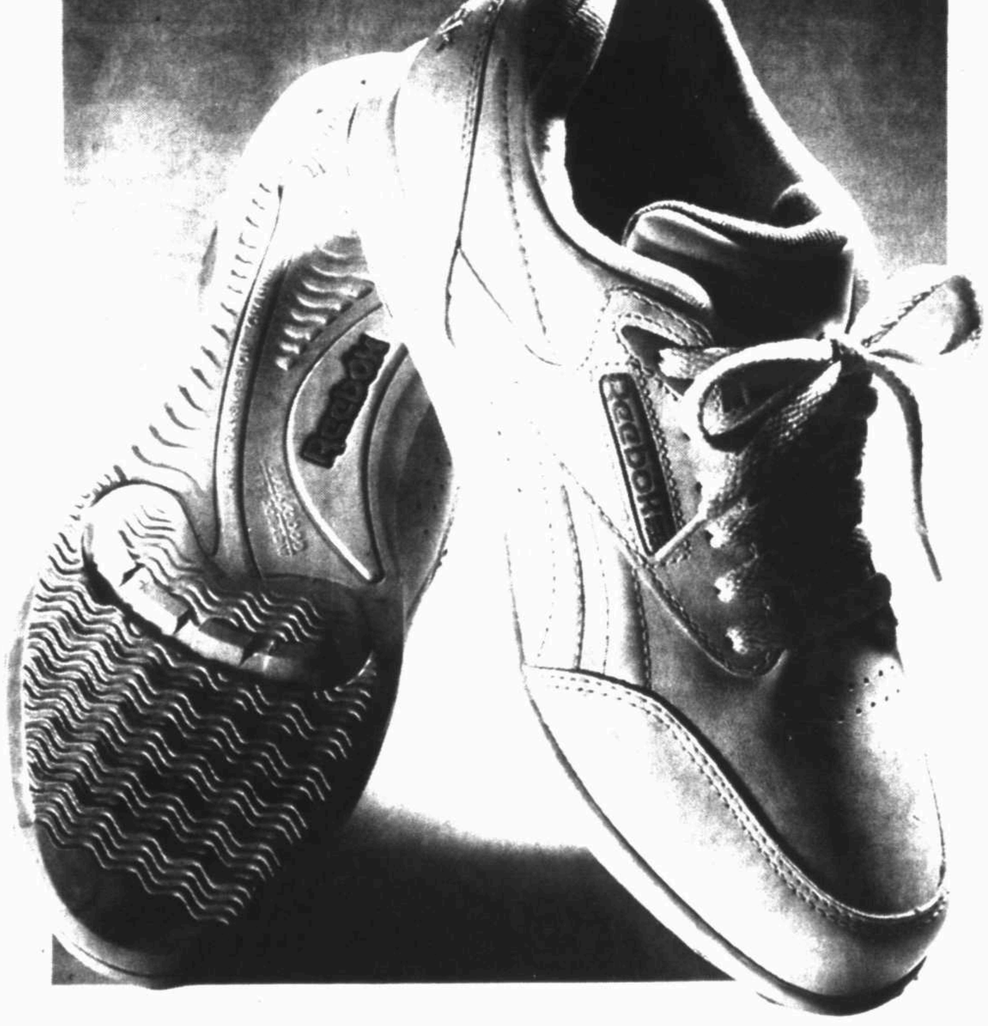

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Black or White	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12	13	14
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Section B
Midland Reporter-Telegram
Monday, April 13, 1998

MONDAY MORNING

Dave Barry/2B

HUMOR ON THE SIDE

Inspirational office posters

The light at the end of the tunnel has been turned off due to budget cuts.

Sure, you may not like working here, but we pay your rent.

If something doesn't feel right, you're not feeling the right thing.

Plagiarism saves time.

TEAMWORK means never having to take all the blame yourself.

You pretend to work, and we'll pretend to pay you.

Late Night Lines

"While visiting in Africa, President Clinton, a Baptist, attended a Catholic Church. Luckily his advisors stopped him from entering a confessional after they calculated that his penance would be six million Our Fathers and 18 million Hail Marys."

"Seventeen-year-old actor Macaulay Culkin got engaged this week to 17-year-old actress Rachel Miner. It will be the first disastrous marriage for both."

"In business news, Mattel has allegedly offered $77.4 million to acquire Bluebird toys, the makers of Etch-A-Sketch. It is predicted that after two weeks, Mattel will become bored with the company and leave it at a friend's house."

"This week, Michigan police returned Dr. Jack Kevorkian's assisted suicide machine. In a related story, Kenny G got a new saxophone."

-- Saturday Night Live

"Today is Al Gore's birthday. Apparently, Gore's friends surprised him by jumping out from behind the furniture, then he surprised them by reacting."

"Parents groups are upset because the new 'Cool Shoppin' Barbie' comes with her own credit card. Apparently, it also comes with a 'Chapter 11 Ken.'"

"Madonna says she has a new boyfriend, but she isn't going to release his name because she doesn't want the press to hound him. After hearing this, President Clinton said, 'Thank you.'"

"Paula Jones' spokesman says the judge's ruling to throw out the case means it's open season for groping and grabbing women in this country. After hearing this, President Clinton said, 'That's not true ... groping and grabbing season doesn't start until June.'"

-- Conan O'Brien

Guardian angel

A woman was walking down the street when she heard a voice shouting, 'Stop! Stand still! If you take one more step, a brick will fall down on your head and kill you.' The woman stopped and seconds later a big brick fell down in front of her!

The woman was shocked at being narrowly missed by the brick. But she went on and in just a little while she started to cross the road. Once again the voice shouted, 'Stop! Stand still! If you take one more step, a car will run over you and you will die.'

The woman asked the voice, 'Who are you?'

'I am your guardian angel,' the voice replied.

'Oh yeah?! And just where were you when I got married?'

How to annoy northerners

Take your own sweet time when doing ANYTHING.

Pronounce all one-syllable words with two.

When giving directions, finish with "it's right down yonder on the left." Confuses the heck out of 'em.

Talk REAL slow, and ask them to speak more slowly so you can understand what they're saying.

Refer to every soft drink as a Coke.

Insist on being addressed by your first AND middle names. Lisa Marie -- John Michael -- Jim Bob ...)

Address all males as "son" and females as "little lady".

Put Tabasco on everything.

For New York Yankees: Act as if the whole state of New York is New York City. In other words, if they say "Yo, I'm from upstate New Yawk!", say,"Well I'll be, my wife has always wanted to see a Broadway show!"

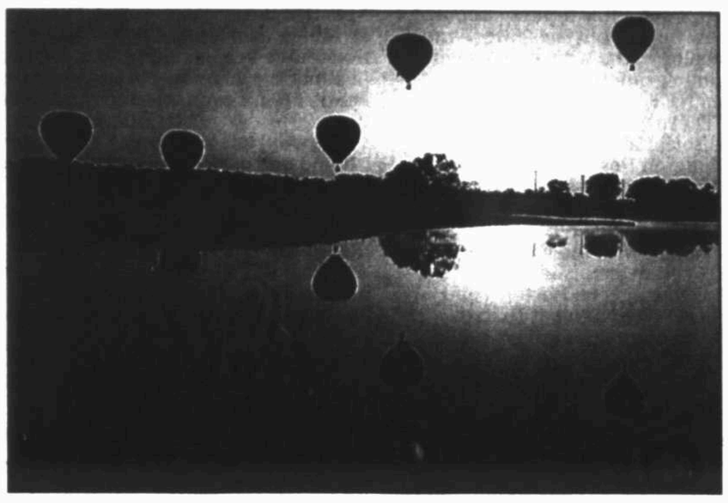
Name all of your children "Bubba".

Use the word "reckon" in a sentence and watch their reaction.

Never simply "do" something. Be "fixin to do" something.

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram wire services and the Internet

MONDAY MORNING EDITOR
JIMMY PATTERSON



Balloon Fest

The rising sun silhouettes hot-air balloons as they lift off over Winthrop Lake in Rock Hill, S.C., Sunday, April 5. The event was part of Rock Hill's annual Come-See-Me Festival.

AP Laserphoto

Just once, can we please sweat life's small stuff?

By Diane White
N.Y. Times News Service

Some guy in a BMW cut in front of me yesterday morning. No signal, no anything. I almost rear-ended him. Was I angry? Of course not.

I had just finished reading "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff ... and it's all small stuff," by Richard Carlson, and I was aware of his advice on how to handle just such a situation: "Try to have compassion for the person and remember how painful it must be to be in such an enormous hurry."

So I mustered some compassion for the knucklehead. I tried to anyway. And failed. Carlson would never call anyone a knucklehead, but then he's probably never driven in Boston.

Carlson, a "stress consultant" who lives in northern California, wouldn't use "knucklehead" because it's a word that conveys not only a lack of compassion but suggests an inclination to judge others, both no-no's in his book.

Please see **STUFF**/2B

Running on faith ....

Woman makes sure families, inmates get together every week

By Paul Zielbauer
N.Y. Times News Service

ALBANY, N.Y. — Every weekend morning, Gloria Jackson unlocks her green Plymouth Voyager, turns up the gospel music and begins another long drive to state prison.

Wearing her trademark baseball cap, hoop earrings and red lipstick, she steers the van through a ghostly downtown, still dark and dead to the world, to pre-arranged pick up points where passengers are waiting. They are folks like Valrie Brown, who climbed aboard one Sunday at 7 a.m., eager to begin the 90-minute trip to Marcy Correctional Facility, where her husband, Peter, is serving 6 to 12 years on a drug conviction.

"If it wasn't for Gloria, a lot of us women would never get the chance to see our loved ones," Brown said cheerfully, speaking over a chorus of rollicking gospel. "She's been a godsend." It's been close to two years since Jackson, a single mom of three children, started the business driving Albany-area residents around the state to visit incarcerated husbands and wives, sons and daughters, friends and loved ones.

"I'm driven," she said this week in her pink-carpeted home office, which used to be her bedroom closet. "This is my baby. I'm really into this now."

A business manager at America Works, an employment company in downtown Albany, Jackson rises before dawn every Saturday and Sunday to drive hundreds of miles to any of the 68 New York state prisons marked on the fold-out map in her closet office. On long-distance hauls to prisons near Buffalo or Plattsburgh — the Voyager can seat seven passengers — Jackson can gross more than $400 a day.

Inspirational Travel Van Inc. is no fluke. Like all solid business ventures, it fills a consumer void. No other private or public bus companies do what she does. Even the state Department of Corrections, which provides limited service to its facilities, doesn't provide a single ride from the Albany area, said Jackson, whose client list at last count was 550 names long.

And to think it all started on a sunny day in 1995, after a park-bench conversation with a lonely old woman.

During a lunch-hour stroll, Jackson struck up a conversation with the woman, who leaned on an old cane and spoke tenderly about a son she hadn't seen in years, a prisoner at Attica.

"She went into this depression," Jackson recalled, "almost to the point she was ready to cry." Jackson gave the woman her phone number. A month later, she found herself on a grueling six-hour drive along Interstate 90 to Attica with the old woman, who agreed to pay gas and tolls.

After a long visit, Jackson watched the woman walk back to the van.

"She was kind of swinging her cane. She looked so different," she said, chuckling. "The whole way home she kept talking about her son, how good he looked."

She spent the next 12 months researching

Please see **CHAFFEUR**/2B

Curt Wilcott/Reporter-Telegram

Mary Rasmussen, left, and Charles N. Pruitt recently achieved signature-member status in the Oil Painters of America.

Strokes of genius

Midland oil painters achieve high honor

By Georgia Temple
Staff writer

Midland artists Mary Rasmussen and Charles N. Pruitt have painted their way into signature-member status in the Oil Painters of America.

"I admired the goals of the organization, and I admired the people that were in the organization," said Mrs. Rasmussen. "And I admired their work greatly. And I wanted to be one of the signature members if possible."

Now that she's succeeded in making that dream come true, Mrs. Rasmussen feels "very honored. You're in good company."

Good company includes such honorary signature members as Cyrus Afsary, Ted Goerschner, Doug Higgins, Tom Lovell, Bettina Steinke, Paul Strisik, Howard Terpning and Zhang Wen Xin, to name a few.

"The basic core of honorary signature members is an impressive group of about 24 people that are some of the best oil painters in the United States," said Pruitt. Despite being formed during this decade, Oil Painters of America represents a first in this country.

"Though there have been many national watercolor and pastel societies, this is the first time in history that there has ever been a national oil painters society in this country," said a spokesperson for OPA.

Since its formation in the early 1990s, OPA has held a national juried show in 1992, 1993, 1994, and regional shows in 1993 and 1994 in 10 states including Texas.

OPA, Pruitt said, is "Made up of oil painters who believe that good drawing, painting and craftsmanship are the foundation of lasting, meaningful art."

The organization now has a membership of around 500.

"The principal reason behind the swelling of the ranks of this national organization, OPA, was the great need for preventing a further decline of this beautiful form of art," the spokesperson for OPA said. "We were witness to the fact that the curricula in our educational facilities told the disturbing story that representational oil painting was rarely being taught in college and universities anymore.

"The avant-garde has taken over for 30 years. While we

Please see **PAINTERS**/2B

Drinking is often much harder than it looks

By Phil Latham
N.Y. Times News Service

■ Humor

All I wanted was a little relaxation.

I did not expect to just relax when I went home for the day. Such a thing does not happen with four children and one dog. I was willing when my wife

offered to cook the main dish for dinner and asked me to fix something to go with it.

I am highly adept at the fine culinary art of using a can opener. I can judge the vacuum swoosh on the opening of a can of corn like a wine connoisseur can judge the smell of a cork.

Nor did I mind it when my children filed past, showing me their small purchases from the local discount house: a set of Barbie clothes, a new band

for my older son's watch, about 17 pounds of gummy bears, reptiles and insects as snacks for my children.

I did not even mind — though I

Please see **SPILLS**/2B

JIMMY PATTERSON

Fairy Fraud: A house full of little con artists

It's a bitter pill to swallow, but I must come clean and make an admission: I live in a house full of scam artists.

Patterson

Before you think me crass in speaking of my family this way, allow the evidence to present itself.

For the second time in two weeks, our 8-year-old daughter lost a front tooth. She has a gap in the top of her mouth wider than Letterman, and the wind whistles through her lateral incisors sort of like it blows through Guadalupe Pass.

It was when she lost this tooth that I finally determined she was a little con kid. It had never dawned on me before that her behavior was in the least bit questionable, but I am now convinced of it.

Somewhere along the way, she convinced the tooth fairy that her rate of payment should increase $1 per tooth. When she lost one two weeks ago, she got $3. This week, she lost what was her fourth tooth, and she ended up with $4. This is innocent enough and it's really no big deal. It's the discussion I walked in on last Monday night that bothered me.

It seems that a couple of months ago, our 8-year-old, sweet and innocent daughter found a small white pebble while outside playing. She stuck it in her pocket and when she went to bed that night, she put it under her pillow, in hopes of tricking the tooth fairy into believing it was a tooth so he would leave her some cash. She even painted a small red dot on the top of it to make it look like it had bled a little.

You believe that? We have an 8-year-old who tried to dupe the Tooth Fairy. I am NOT believin' this.

"You did WHAT?" I asked her when I overheard her and her mother talking about it.

She told me again.

"Unbelievable." I walked around for a couple of minutes shaking my head. I was brought back to reality only by the wind whistling through Guadalupe Gums.

Mrs. P smirked and told me it was no big deal.

"It's really nothing to worry about," she said. "It's sort of like what I did when I was a kid."

"And what would that have been?" I was almost afraid to hear the answer.

"When I was about 9, Taffy, our family dog — sweetest dog I ever had— lost a tooth. I took Taffy's tooth and put it under my pillow, hoping the Tooth Fairy would fall for it, but he was too smart."

"You people are NUTS!! I LIVE WITH A BUNCH OF CRIMINALS!! Don't you people have any sense of morals? Am I gonna have to turn all of you in to the BBB?"

Our daughter and Mrs. P looked at each other like I had whacked out completely.

About that time, our 12-year-old daughter chimed in.

"One time, I put money under my pillow thinking that the money fairy would come and take it and leave me a tooth."

Ho-kay. I kept repeating to myself, "She's 12. She'll be all right, IN ABOUT 10 YEARS!"

I live in a loony bin. The Boy is the only innocent person in our house who hasn't tried to dupe the Tooth Fairy. However, The Boy was actually BORN with a tooth, which leads me to believe that he may

Please see **PATTERSON**/2B

APR 13 1998

DAVE BARRY

No. 1: New toilet makes me proud to be an American

As an American, I am feeling pretty darned proud of my country (America). I will tell you why: My new toilet.

Barry

I wound up with this toilet as a result of a column I wrote last year, in which I complained bitterly about the new toilets that we Americans had been saddled with as a result of an act of Congress (official motto: "100 Senators; 435 Representatives; No Clues").

This was the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1992, which decreed that all new toilets had to use 1.6 gallons of water per flush -- less than half the amount of water that the old toilets used. This was supposed to save water.

Unfortunately, the new toilets have a problem. They work fine for one type of bodily function, which, in the interest of decency, I will refer to here only by the euphemistic term "No. 1." But many of the new toilets do a very poor job of handling "acts of Congress," if you get my drift. They often must be flushed two or three times, and even more if it is an unusually large act of Congress, such as might be produced by a congressperson who recently attended a fund-raising dinner sponsored by the Consolidated Bulk Food Manufacturers. The result is that these new toilets were not only annoying, but in some cases seemed to be using MORE water than the old ones.

So I wrote a column complaining about this, and expressing support for a bill, introduced by Rep. Joe Knollenberg of Michigan, that would allow us to go back to toilets that have the kind of flushing power that made America the most respected nation on Earth.

You know how cynics claim that Americans are just a bunch of TV-sedated zombie slugs who don't care about the issues? Well, I wish those cynics had been standing under my mail slot after my toilet column was published, because they would have been crushed like baby spiders under a freight locomotive. I got a huge quantity of letters -- some of them far more detailed than I would have liked -- from Americans who care DEEPLY about the issue of their toilets, and the vast majority of them HATE the new ones.

Granted, I got a few letters supporting the new toilets, but these were mostly from ecology nuts who, because of their organic granola diets, probably don't even NEED toilets, just whisk brooms. There was also a somewhat snippy editorial about my column in The Washington Post (motto: "Even Our Weather Forecast Comes From Anonymous Sources"). But the vast majority of the people who responded agreed strongly with me and were ready to revolt over this issue, just as, in 1773, the courageous Boston Tea Party patriots revolted against British tyranny by throwing 1.6-gallon toilets into the harbor.

Then, about five months after my column appeared, I got a letter from Charles Avoles of Contractors 2000, an association of independent plumbing contractors. He said that a New York City company, Varsity Plumbing, in an effort to find a 1.6-gallon toilet that actually works, built a testing laboratory with room for six toilets side by side. Avoles said that Varsity duplicated all the standard toilet tests, but then, in its quest for the ultimate small toilet -- the Tara Lipinski of toilets -- Varsity "pushed the criteria even further, straining each model to its limits." It must have been exciting: Six toilets, pushing the envelope, going head to head! I don't even want to think about it.

Anyway, according to Avoles, Varsity "found one particular 1.6-gallon toilet that actually works," and the company president, Bobby Bellini, made a one-hour presentation on this discovery at the Contractors 2000 annual meeting (as Avoles put it: "Picture 500 people in a hotel ballroom watching videos of toilets flushing"). Contractors 2000 offered to install one of these toilets in my personal home, and I agreed, on the condition that I would pay full price for it, so that I could write a column about it and claim it as an income-tax deduction.

And so in March a Contractors 2000 member, Anthony Fleming, and his wife, Michele, came to my home and installed a new toilet. I cannot speak highly enough of this toilet. It is an inspiring example of American ingenuity and engineering "know-how." It has become like a member of the family; I have affectionately named it "Maurice." The bottom line is this: If there is an act of Congress that Maurice cannot handle in one flush, I have no personal knowledge of it.

I can't use this column for advertising, so I won't specify the brand of the toilet, but you can write to Contractors 2000, 2179 Fourth St., St. Paul, Minn., 55110. By the time you read this, there will probably be other brands of 1.6-gallon toilets that can get the job done; you can ask your plumbing contractor. Of course, by the time you read this, Congress may have passed a new law, requiring that toilets must flush with a maximum of four teaspoons of water, AND be equipped with air bags. Congress is just full of acts.

(Dave Barry is a humor columnist for the Miami Herald. Write to him c/o Tropic Magazine, The Miami Herald, One Herald Plaza, Miami FL 33132.)

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YOURS FOR THE ASKING

The Petroleum Museum is in need of a golf cart in good running condition. The golf cart will be used to transport our volunteers and guests to the rig site on location at the museum. If you can help, call Twila, at 683-4403.

The Mother's Day Out Program at St. Stephen's Catholic Church is in need of a good used 386 o 486 computer capable of running Windows. If you can help, please contact Lisa Sykes at 687-1375.

Guidelines for submissions to "Yours for the Asking":

- Contact the Reporter-Telegram in writing if you are an individual with something to give away, or a non-profit organization in need of an item or items. Requests should be sent to "Yours for the Asking," c/o Monday Morning, The Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, Texas, 79702, or faxed to 570-7650.
- Non-profit organizations should be prepared to provide a brief description of your organization and a copy of its 501 (c) (3) status.
- "Yours for the Asking" items are printed with the intent they be given away — not sold — and are published at the newspaper's discretion.
- If you'll be calling someone with something to give away, make sure you wait until after 7 a.m. to call the owner.
- Look around your home for something someone else could use. Almost everyone has something no longer needed that someone else may benefit from.

Candle classes get kids all fired up

By Betty Lease
Associated Press

REDDING, Calif. — You could almost see the light go on in their heads.

"This is easy," the students were thinking as they learned how to make their own candles during a recent class class at Yaley Enterprises Inc.

Pouring 190-degree wax into metal molds prompted "aha" looks to appear on their faces. Plans for Christmas gifts and home decor items were taking shape.

That's just what Tom and Patti Yaley hoped would happen.

"We go step-by-step and make it easy," said Yaley, who with his wife, sister-in-law and two employees led 21 students through the candle-making process during a four-hour session. It was the sixth time the Yaleys have taught the popular class offered through Shasta College's Community Education program.

The Yaleys teach the class as a community service, accepting no payment for their work. Students are charged $25 for materials and the $20 registration fee goes to the college.

Participants made a variety of candles, including a thick cylinder (some with decorative wax "chunks"), a votive, a candle in a ceramic dish, and rolled bee's wax candles.

Nancy Ralph of Anderson and Kathy Giles of Redding were back for a second go-around. The two have been busily making candles at home since taking their first class — and have been generally happy with the results — but they were unsure about one step in the process.

As far as they were concerned, it was neither a waste of time nor money.

Their questions were answered, and they learned how to do new techniques.

Another student back for a second class was Paula Mosher of Redding. "And I'd do it again," she proclaimed.

"They're just very kind, very generous, helpful people," said Giles of the Yaleys, whose wholesale business sells candle-making supplies to hobby and craft stores.

"We're the largest in the country," Yaley said of his company, which is a 30-year-old offshoot of the wax refinery business started by his grandfather in the Bay Area during the 1930s.

Yaley's candle-making enterprise began during the late '60s "hippie era" when people were looking for an inexpensive way to create the atmosphere they wanted in their homes.

During the last several years, interest in candles has fired up again, partly in response to aromatherapy, Yaley said.

"It's just gone crazy," he said. "It's much cheaper to make your own candles, and people like to pick their own colors."

"It makes you feel good to create something very beautiful," said Sandra Vinas of Redding, who plans to paint images with acrylic paint on her finished candles at home.

Michele Gunsauls of Red Bluff signed up for the class and alerted her friend Judy Spencer, who also enjoys doing crafts. But when Spencer tried to register, the class was full.

Eventually, room was made for Spencer, also a Red Bluff resident, who has 37 empty gift baskets at home to fill with homemade canned goods ... and candles.

PATTERSON: Kids, you must always go through a parent to contact Mr. Fairy

(From 1B)

have the fraudelent DNA his mother and sisters possess. Whoever heard of a kid being born with a tooth? Before I knew it, the baby doc had come into the delivery room and pulled the tooth out, and that was the last we saw of it, which leads me to believe the medical professional who brought The Boy into the world pocketed a little extra dough herself thanks to the Tooth Fairy.

I told these stories to a coworker of mine, who tried to one-up me by telling me about how her kid woke up one morning in tears because the Tooth Fairy had forgotten about her. To make a long story short, the kid yanked out a tooth, forgot to tell mom, and of course mom didn't relay the message to Mr. Fairy because she didn't know her kid had lost a tooth.

Kids, listen up: You want Tooth Fairy bucks, you have to go through mom and dad. There is *not* a direct line of communication between minors and mythical money-bearing creatures who enter the home at night.

And while I have your attention, *please* don't try to defraud the Tooth Fairy. You get caught and your mug shot will be hanging on the wall at the Tooth Fairy post office.

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

PAINTERS: 1-in-10 accepted as members of OPA

(From 1B)

have no quarrel with abstract art, we were also witness to the undeniable fact that our great art museums were almost totally lacking in the presentation of today's great masters of representational oil painting."

To become a member, an artist must have his work accepted into an OPA show. Out of the 2,000-plus entries, only 200 are accepted, Pruitt said.

"What you're up against in those shows are artists that give workshops all over the country," said Mrs. Rasmussen. "They're in all the magazines."

"They're all full-time artists," Pruitt added.

Mrs. Rasmussen and Pruitt are members of the Southwest Impressionists Group that exhibits work in a special showing at the Nita Stewart Haley Memorial Library annually. The group of four artists are all plein air (on location) painters.

And most recently, in the 1988 Midland Arts Association/Museum of the Southwest spring juried show, Pruitt received Best of Show and Mrs. Rasmussen, who received Best of Show in the 1997 spring show, received first place in oils.

To become a signature member of OPA, an artist first must have her work accepted into three of the organization's shows. Then the artist submits a sheet of slides of work. The slides are reviewed by the organization's board of directors and the artist is either granted signature status or not.

Pruitt received his notification in time to include the initials on his works in the 1998 MAA/Museum of the Southwest show. Mrs. Rasmussen's notification came this spring.

"With a membership of about 500 painters, only 80 have the distinction of being able to add the initials 'OPA' beside their signature displayed on their work," said Pruitt. "Being a part of a very selected group is an honor."

"The reason behind the bestowal of these initials is an important one," said Shirl Smithson, OPA president. "They are given out to artists who have achieved a great degree of professionalism in their work."

STUFF: It's hard to lighten up when the guy in front of you is driving like a jerk

(From 1B)

Having some jerk (nor would Carlson call anyone a jerk, I'm sure of it) cut you off in traffic is small stuff, one of those little incidents that get blown out of proportion and make life miserable. "So many people spend so much of their life energy 'sweating the small stuff' that they completely lose touch with the magic and beauty of life," writes Carlson.

O magic! O beauty! O life!

Oh shame on me for being so cynical about Carlson's book, which has sold nearly five million copies, has been on the New York Times bestseller list for 46 weeks, 47 probably, by the time you read this. He's already churned out two sequels, first "Don't Worry, Make Money: Spiritual and Practical Ways to Create Abundance and More Fun in Your Life," and, just out, "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff With Your Family: Simple ways to Keep Daily Responsibilities and Household Chaos From Taking Over Your Life." Tall orders, both of them.

Oprah did it. She invited Carlson on her show and announced that she slept with "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff ..." on her nightstand. That was it. Apparently we, as a nation, well, those of us who are Oprah-watchers at least, were waiting for somebody to come along and tell us how to be nicer to one another, and nicer to ourselves too.

George Bush tried to tell us and look where it got him. Maybe we were too busy to listen back then, busy learning how to swim with the sharks without getting eaten and boning up on the success secrets of Genghis Khan. We weren't ready to be kinder and gentler, although we might have been if our former president could have brought himself to write a sincere little book with chapter headings such as "Imagine Yourself at Your Own Funeral," "Practice Humility," "Let Others Have the Glory" and "Turn Your Melodrama into a Mellow-Drama."

Carlson's book has 100 such easy-to-digest chapters, each no more than a page or two, each a lesson. His premise is simple. He wants readers to understand that most of the stress and anxiety we experience is self-created. His points are common-sense wisdom. Don't worry about things you can't change. Live in the present. Try to see the other person's point of view. Learn to listen. Stop blaming other people. Don't be too hard on yourself. Lighten up. Be more patient. Don't take life too seriously. Let others take the credit. Don't interrupt people or finish their sentences.

Belaboring the obvious is my specialty, so I feel qualified to say that Carlson is a master at it. But his subtitle notwithstanding, life isn't all small stuff. There is real pain and disappointment and depression and disease and death. Some things hurt. Sometimes it's not possible to repeat to yourself, as he suggests, "Life isn't an Emergency."

If we don't squander our energy on the small stuff will we be better able to cope with the large? Possibly. It's certainly worth trying. But I'm still not going to waste my compassion on that knucklehead who cut me off.

(Diane White is a columnist for The Boston Globe.)

SPILLS: Moral of this story is really quite simple

(From 1B)

was about reaching my limit — when my oldest son handed me his watch and the new band and asked if I could put it on.

A teensie bit of testiness came when my younger son complained that someone (he said this with a motion of his head toward his brother) had eaten roughly three pounds of his gummy animals. Denials and accusations went to and fro until I issued a bit of Solomonic justice.

I believe the exact words of my ruling were, "Don't bother me."

I settled in my recliner with half a bottle of beer that I was using medicinally to help me achieve perfect peace. Feeling right with the world, I picked up the watch to install the new band.

The band was almost on when a scream came from the living room. My hand slipped and the spring loaded pin shot into the air like a miniature shuttle launching.

But a scream wasn't the only sound I heard. The other noise reminded me something of geese honking, but a bit more guttural. It was not a gaggle of geese, but the dog gagging.

The Case of the Missing Gummy Bears had been solved. Now, unfortunately, the gummy bears were coming home to roost, so to speak, on the living room carpet. The scream was the product of the poor individual — my wife — who had the discovered the dog's confession with her foot.

(This whole affair is enough to convince me that, if you want to have a dog to protect your property, do not teach him to bark, but to gag on command.

The world runs from a gagging dog).

My wife hopped into the den on one foot where I was searching for the watch band pin and "suggested" that I offer my expert assistance in cleaning up the crime scene. I did this using four rolls of paper towels and half a gallon of pine cleaner. No evidence remained and I returned to the watch band.

Unfortunately, though the dog had returned all his stolen property, he was still not completely over the ill effects. He kept honking like a hoarse goose all the time I was trying to repair the watch band. Each time he honked, all children would scurry, my hand would slip and the spring did it's impression of America's early space program.

Eventually, I had the watch band where I wanted it. I leaned forward in my recliner just enough so that the bottle of beer I had been nursing tipped

behind my back and directly down the back of my shorts.

I shouted curses, the spring flew, the dog honked and, what is worse, every one of my children laughed at their father. They laughed so long and hard that their sides hurt and the attention sent me off to my room, head hanging low.

All of which brings me to the ultimate moral of my story: A man who can't hold his liquor shouldn't drink in front of his children.

CHAUFFEUR: Faith is the fuel that keeps Gloria Jackson running full throttle

(From 1B)

how to turn her good deed into a weekend business. Advisers insisted Jackson charge $100 and up for her services. She decided on a more reasonable $45 to $70 fee per round trip.

Gloria Jackson is more than a moonlighting prison chauffeur. She's also a therapist, a financial adviser and a fact checker for her clients, who include grandparents, grandkids and gay men visiting their companions.

Indeed, on the long drives, which start at 5 a.m., Jackson finds herself dishing out platesful of motherly advice to shy first-timers. To former welfare recipients with new jobs, Jackson offers tax advice on how to write off a business suit and bus pass.

"I would describe her as a person that believes that things can be done, that things can change," said her boss at America Works, Phil Herschberger. "And not everyone does."

After dropping off her clients at a penitentiary, she heads to the nearest Baptist church until visiting hours are over. Her Voyager may run on unleaded, but faith is the fuel that keeps her going.

In her cramped but tidy closet-office, Jackson keeps a three-ring binder jammed with thank-you letters from her clients and prisoners, each letter neatly stamped with the date it was received. Flipping through the missives, she can recite in great detail every author's story. "It encourages me to keep going," she said.

Jackson's intractable determination evolved from her experiences in Harlem, where she was born and where, as a little girl, she rode a special bus every day to a predominantly white school. It was there she encountered the "negative people" Jackson doesn't much like talking about.

At Public School 68, she sat in a classroom equipped with chairs but no desks. She said the white kids spat at and taunted her and the school's six other black students, who often rode the special bus back to Harlem nursing bloody lips and swollen eye sockets.

One day, when she was 13, Jackson recalled, she told the school's guidance counselor her dream of one day becoming a secretary. The counselor sat her down and told her, "You'll never learn to type."

She moved to Albany from New York City with her husband and three children in 1990. When her marriage ended a few years later, Jackson, like many single moms, faced the towering challenge of heading a family for the first time.

"I always wanted to do something for myself," she said in her soft voice. "I was just determined to prove society wrong, as far as saying if you're a single mom you can't do this or that or you're kids will turn out to be nothing. I just don't believe that."

DEAR ABBY

Widow wants men around her to be men around her house

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I seem to be having a communication problem.

I became a widow a year ago. I have two sons, a daughter and three grandsons. They are very good to me. They take me out to dinner often and will buy me anything I say I need.

Van Buren

However, what I really need is help around the house — someone to mow my lawn, trim the shrubs and trees, paint, etc. I can't do these things myself. I am 72 years old, and having to pay for this kind of help doesn't leave much for extras.

It's a shame, Abby. Here I am with two sons, a son-in-law and three grandsons — and no help. Please don't use my name. I don't want to hurt anybody's feelings. I just want to be heard. — NO HELP

DEAR NO HELP: Here's your letter. You should be more specific about your needs. Offer to prepare lunch in exchange for a day of work around your home, then be effusive with your appreciation. Here's hoping that after this runs, you (and others who are in the same boat) won't have to send out a cry for help.

DEAR ABBY: I have never written to you before, but "Josie," my daughter-in-law, does something that really bothers me. She frequently tells "Sammy," her 3-year-old, to "shut up." That phrase seems so ugly.

I am afraid it will undermine my grandson's self-confidence. Children should be made to feel they are important and loved, and that what they have to say is of interest to adults. They need to be supported. I also think Josie should be more consistent with her discipline. How is Sammy to know if Mommy means it this time when last time she threatened but never acted on her words?

Abby, how can I get my daughter-in-law to quit telling her darling little boy to shut up without coming off as critical and interfering? — MRS. X IN BANGOR, MAINE

DEAR MRS. X: Explain your fears to your son, and offer some alternative phrases for "shut up." Until your daughter-in-law is willing to make a change, there's nothing you can do to force her. All you can do is lavish your grandson with a double dose of love and support.

DEAR ABBY: I recently married a wonderful, unselfish man who was willing to take my last name at the altar instead of my assuming his. The reason for his decision was that his family had other sons to continue their family name; mine is a family of daughters.

In order for him to assume my last name legally, we have been told he will have to go to court and request the name change. Isn't this discrimination? From the time a woman marries, she can begin signing her new last name without legally changing it.

Can't a husband assume his wife's last name without going to court? And, do I call myself "Mrs." even if I keep my maiden name? — CONFUSED IN CANADA

DEAR CONFUSED: Your husband may call himself whatever he chooses, but the prudent thing to do with a last-name change is to discuss it with a lawyer.

And yes, now that you are married you may call yourself "Mrs. John Jones" — your husband's new last name — regardless of the fact that you were a Jones before the marriage.

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

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

OBITUARIES

Becky Childress

Becky McEntire Childress, 47, of Ozona, Texas and formerly of Fort Worth passed away April 11, 1998 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Funeral services will be at 2:00 p.m. Monday, April 13, 1998 at the Ozona United Methodist Church with burial in Cedar Hill Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Preddy Funeral Home.

Becky graduated from Richland High School in Fort Worth in 1969. She attended Southwestern University in Georgetown, where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority and where she met her husband, Dwight. After their marriage in August 1973, she moved to Ozona, where her husband is a rancher. Becky was a former teacher, owner of the Teacher Store and a civic leader in Ozona. She was an active member of Ozona United Methodist Church, serving as a youth leader, Sunday School director, choir member, and on the administrative council. She was the current president of the Ozona Women's League, and a current member of the Ozona school board. She also served as the Crockett County chairman for the American Cancer Society for 23 years. While serving on the Ozona Chamber of Commerce board, she was appointed by the county judge as chairman of the Centennial Celebration. She participated in many other community and charitable organizations.

Becky is survived by a large family that includes her husband, Dwight Childress and their son Mark McEntire Childress of Ozona; Her parents, Rex McEntire and Betty McEntire of Fort Worth; Siblings, Mary McEntire Anderson and her husband, Steve of Keller, Michael McEntire and his wife Kristi of Euless and Leigh McEntire Oatman and her husband, Jim of Terrell; In-laws, John and Eileen Childress of Ozona; Brothers-in-law, David Childress and his wife Kathy of Midland, Duane Childress and his wife Stacy of Ozona; Nephews, Whit Anderson, Taylor Anderson, John McEntire, William McEntire, Will Childress; Nieces, Callie Oatman, Laura Childress, Melissa Childress and Kathleen Childress. Becky also shared a special relationship with Justin Browne of Ozona, who was like a son to her. Becky touched more lives in her brief span than most of us will ever know. She will be missed by all.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be sent to the Becky Childrens Memorial Scholarship Fund, Box 1947 Ozona, Texas 76943 or Ozona United Methodist Church.

Houston school seek to do away with social promotion

HOUSTON (AP) — Social promotion — or moving students up to the next grade who aren't academically ready — is the target of a proposal Houston school trustees will consider on Thursday.

The plan by Superintendent Rod Paige would essentially end the Houston district's long-standing policy limiting the number of times a student can be held back, the Houston Chronicle reported.

The policy, which until recently was a Texas Education Agency rule, said that students may be retained only once in elementary school and once in middle school. The idea is to prevent students from gaining too many years on their classmates.

Paige's proposal comes in the midst of a campaign by Texas Gov. George W. Bush to end social promotion statewide. Bush is drafting his own proposal to be presented to the Legislature next year.

Last year, 6 percent of all students in the Houston Independent School District were held back while 7.7 percent were promoted despite failing grades.

The problem is most obvious in the ninth grade, where thousands of students promoted out of middle school can't pass their high school coursework to earn graduation credits.

As a result, the ninth-grade enrollment in HISD is about 19,000 students, compared with about 15,000 in eighth grade, 12,000 in 10th grade and 7,000 in 12th.

"Our high school is full of students who have been placed in high school simply because of their age, not because of their proficiency," said Austin High School teacher Debbi Savage. "Every high school in HISD deals with that problem on a yearly basis."

But, as teachers know all too well, merely retaining a child and forcing him to repeat a grade doesn't solve the problem either.

"The biggest problem we've had is we tend over the years to look at social promotion as an either-or," said Gayle Fallon, president of the Houston Federation of Teachers.

"Either we pass them on when we shouldn't or we retain them and have the 20-year-old third grader. And we don't look at what is a much better option, which is stop the child, pull him out and teach him what he doesn't know."

Fallon and Houston Education Association President Jon Dansby, a middle school counselor, worry that Paige's proposal so far lacks detail on what intervention strategies and resources will be used to help kids keep pace academically.

But Paige said he is seeking input from teachers, principals and administrators before filling in more details.

According to the proposal, which is now before the board on first reading, students would have to attend summer school if they don't meet promotion standards beginning at least for some grades at the end of the 1998-99 school year.

Promotion standards would be based on three criteria — whether the student passes certain portions of the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills, whether he is close to grade level on the Stanford Achievement Test and whether his classroom grades are passing.

Students who fail to meet at least two of the three standards would not be promoted to the next grade until they receive help from a program designed to boost performance for students considered at-risk.

POLICE REPORTS

Aggravated Assault

A unknown suspect was arrested over the weekend in connection with an aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

An assailant attacked Wayne Houser with a knife at a residence on 3125 Delano Avenue on Saturday at about 8:30 p.m., according to a police report.

Midland Police Department information indicated that there has been an arrest, but no other information was available over the holiday weekend.

Midland Police Department

Saturday

Burglary of Vehicle: A cell phone was taken from a company truck parked at 4534 Sinclair, Greg Russel reported on Saturday.

Criminal Mischief: Shaving cream was put on the front door and sidewalk of a residence at 3400 Edgemont, Jacky W. Dumas reported at 10:30 p.m.

Sunday

Theft: A bicycle was taken from a residence at 1602 Sparks St., Evalie Lockard reported on Sunday.

Midland County Sheriff's Office

Sunday

Structure Fire: A minor barn fire at 6200 E. I-20 was reported. There were no injuries according to the sheriff's office. Leo Preston Whitfield reported the incident at 9:13 a.m.

Assault: An assault occurred at 200 W. Wall, Harold Quincy Williams reported at 10:45 a.m.

DEATH NOTICES

Laura Pylant

Laura L. Pylant, 84, mother of Midlander Corene Morton, died Sunday, April 12, in Midland.

Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

Nellie Mae Smith

WANETTE—Nellie Mae Smith, 91, of Big Spring, died Sunday, April 12, in Big Spring.

Graveside services will be 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 14, at Wanette Cemetery in Wanette, Okla., under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She was born on May 16, 1906, in Shawnee, Okla.

She married A.D. Smith on Aug. 1, 1926, in Shawnee, Okla. He preceded her in death on March 4, 1994.

She came to Big Spring in 1959. She was a homemaker. She was a member of Cedar Ridge Church of Christ.

Survivors include two other daughters, Nola Gluege of Big Spring and Bonnie Koeninger of Austin, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Alzheimer's Association of the Permian Basin, P.O. Box 3389, Midland 79702 or the American Heart Association, Howard County Division, P.O. Box 12223, Big Spring 79721-1223.

Adela Abalos

Adela Abalos, 50, of Rankin died on Saturday at Memorial Hospital and Medical Center.

Mass will be held Tuesday at 3 p.m. at the Rankin Park Buiding with the Rev. Barry McLean officiating. Burial will be at the Rankin Cemetery with services under the direction of Richard W. Box Funeral Home.

Ms. Abalos was born on Oct. 3, 1947 in Pecos County. She was married to Rito Barrera Abalos on Jan. 29, 1965 in Rankin. Her husband preceded her in death on Sept. 28, 1997. She was a life long resident of West Texas and was a member of St. Thomas Catholic Church in Rankin.

She is survived by a son: Mark Abalos of Rankin; her mother Anita Flores of Crane; and four brothers: Adan Flores and Benito Flores of Odessa, Oscar Flores of Midland and Reynaldo Flores of Houston.

TODAY'S FUNERALS

Mary Orson
11 a.m. — Ellis Chapel

"We do not so much as need the help of our friends as the confidence of their help in need."
-Epicurus

Ellis Funeral Home
683-5555

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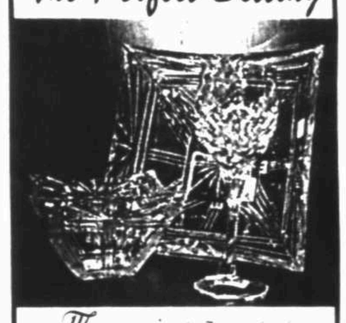

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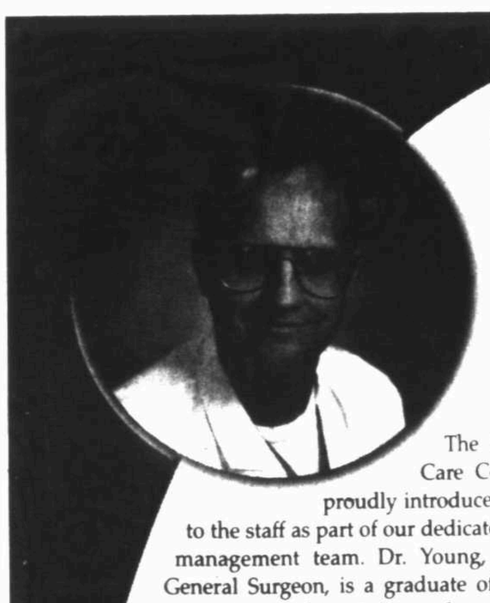

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FUNKY WINKERBEAN

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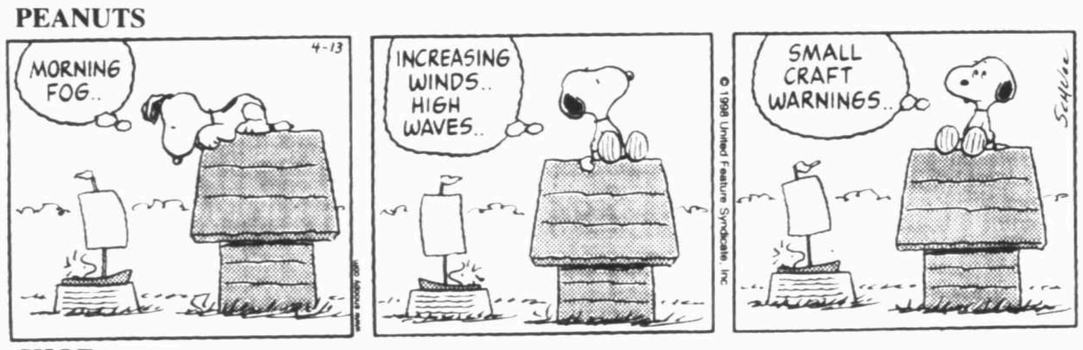
PEANUTS

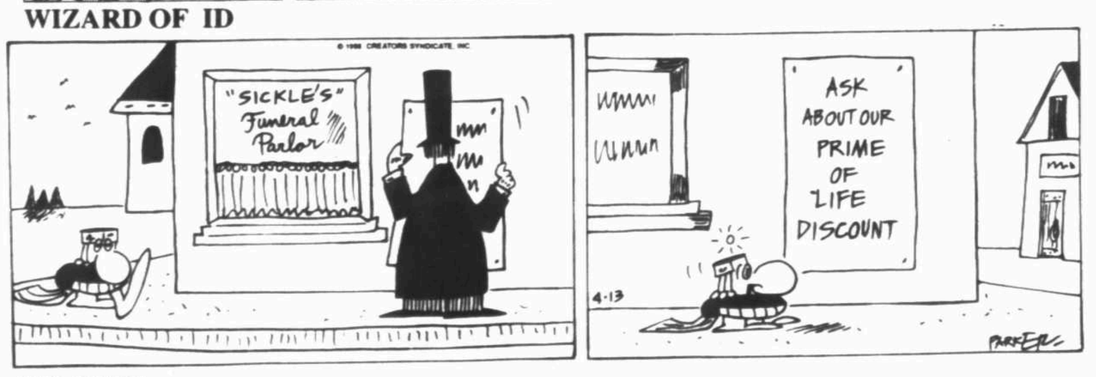


SHOE

GARFIELD

CATHY

WIZARD OF ID



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MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1998

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, April 14, 1998:

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ One-to-one relating pressures you. The unexpected occurs, and you find yourself overwhelmed. Let a partner express his concern. You cannot get clear information now. Pull back, and use your intuition to sort through what is convoluted. Tonight: Go for a massage!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You are in the middle of a cyclone. The trick is not to become affected by different forces at work. Everyone seems out of whack. Question what you want from these people, and express your desires. Surprise! Others will listen. Tonight: Where the action is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Take your time with work, daily details and other types of communications. You can be sure you aren't getting the whole story. Consider another's request, with your own needs in mind. Make yourself your highest priority. Tonight: Run errands on the way home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You can be light and playful, but others might not get it. Carefully review a change, and don't make any financial agreements right now. Another agenda is making itself known. Break past barriers, and be willing to take a risk. Tonight: Kick up your heels!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Get into work, plunge ahead and don't be distracted. A home office might become a necessity, given what is going on. Partners are disruptive, but this isn't new. A partner offers you a financial bonus that you can barely refuse, nor should you. Tonight: Happy at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Talks are active and dynamic. How you see a work-related matter is far different from a partner. You can either get upset or follow a partner's lead. Be careful with domestic matters; you could lose your sense of balance. Tonight: Visit a friend on the way home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You're more possessive side emerges. (Yes, yours!) Lighten up about what is going on, and don't take loved ones, communications or someone's need personally. The way to handle it all is to stay even; focus on work and the day's mundane details. Tonight: Careful with funds.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ You are happy-go-lucky and positive, no matter what happens. You see life from a more dynamic viewpoint than the majority of people. Laughter marks your interactions. But realize that you need to let go of your more conventional ideas. Tonight: Smile away.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★ It is wise to take a back seat. The unexpected erupts. and you are open to sudden changes. Do what you can to get a complete view of the full picture, and don't jump to conclusions. Feedback from a family member gives you a lot of food for thought. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Aim for what you want. Be your cheerful self. Your vision of what could be gives you insight into which direction to take. Do not count on finances. Be willing to reach out for others. Your personality melts down someone's resistance. Tonight: Seek out excitement.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Take the high road. Listen to your instincts, and follow through on what you want. Keep airing ideas, though you are stunned at some of the things you hear. It is better to gather information than try to force your solutions on others. That won't work! Tonight: Work late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Reach out for someone. Dynamic information comes forward. Review answers, stay on top of tasks and heed instincts. Someone doesn't agree with you. Your ideas lead you in different directions. Power plays are counterproductive. Tonight: Get away from it all.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q. 1 As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A Q 5 2 ♡ J ◇ A K Q 8 6 5 ♣ Q 4
The bidding has proceeded
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1◇ Pass 1♡ 1♠
?
What do you bid now?

A. As far as we are concerned, only two actions come into consideration, and neither a jump to three diamonds nor a double of one spades is one of them! Our choice lies between a jump to two or three no trump. Since we are by nature aggressive, especially at this vulnerability, and since partner might pass the former with the one card that might deliver the game, bid three no trump.

Q.2 Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ Q 10 4 ♡ K 8 7 6 2 ◇ 7 4 ♣ Q 9 3
The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♡ 2◇ ?
What do you bid now?

A. Is this a problem? With a terrible 7-count, don't let that fifth heart tempt you into bidding any more than two hearts with your balanced hand. Had you held a singleton somewhere, a jump to four hearts would have been more appealing.

Q.3 Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J 7 5 ♡ Q 9 8 7 ◇ J 5 2 ♣ Q 6 5
The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♣ Pass 1♡ Pass
1♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

A. Your collection of 'quacks' (queens and jacks) merited a single response, and you have already made it. There is no reason to suppose that the hand will play better in two clubs than in one spade, even though partner surely has at least four clubs on this auction.

Q.4 Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K 9 8 ♡ J 6 ◇ A 6 ♣ A K 10 7 6 5
The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1◇ Pass 2♣ Pass
2◇ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A. Although partner rates to have a stopper in hearts, a jump to three no trump on that presumption is too much of a gamble. Similarly, a jump to four clubs commits the hand to five of a minor, which could be a level too high. The lesser evil is a fancy rebid of two spades, hoping that partner finds some bid other than a raise!

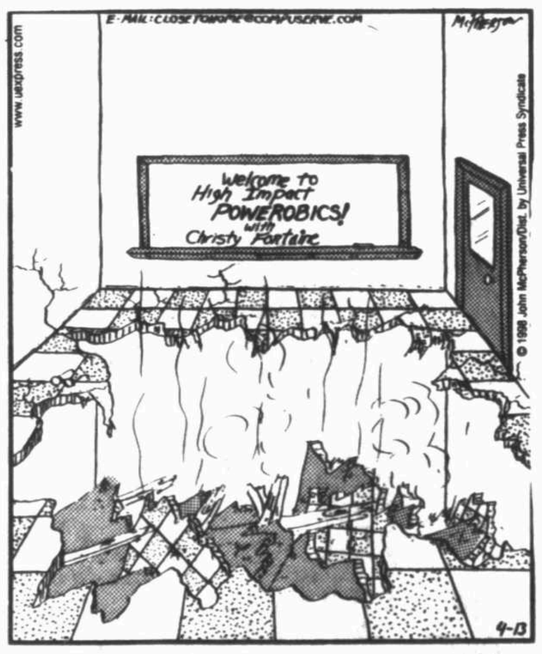
Q.5 Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 5 3 ♡ 6 4 3 ◇ A 6 5 ♣ A K Q 6 3
The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♠ Pass 2♣ Pass
3♡ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A. The lack of a high card in either of partner's suits weighs against an immediate move toward slam — there could easily be a loser in each. Therefore, for the moment be content with a false preference to three spades, to see what that elicits from partner.

Q. 6 East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A K Q J 5 ♡ 6 ◇ A 10 3 ♣ K J 8 7
The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♠ 2♡ Pass 4♡
?
What action do you take?

A. Obviously, despite the vulnerability the opponents are bidding game on shape rather than power alone. That makes it likely that partner might have a few spades and perhaps a useful card or two. In any event, four spades will probably not come to much harm and it could even be cold. If that is not the case, your 100 honors will lessen the pain.

CLOSE TO HOME



ZITS

ANDY CAPP

FAMILY CIRCUS

"Friday the 13th sneaked up on us and came on a Monday."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I LIKE FISH, BUT HE *REALLY* LIKES FISH!"

TODAY'S TV SCHEDULE

MONDAY EVENING — April 13, 1998 — For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

Broadcast	O	C	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
(3) KMID	2	3	News 226	Wheel of Fortune	Push: The Rivals 9510 (TVPG)		20/20 9058		The Practice: The Means 6394 (TVPG-DV)		News 39232	Cheers 42752	Nightline 5684	Politically Incorrect
(5) KPEJ	24	5	The Simpsons	Home Improvement	Damon 31145	Getting Personal	Ally McBeal: Drawing the Lines 44226		Earth: Final Conflict 20890 (TVPG)		Home Improvement	Mad About You	Vibe 99023	
(7) KOSA	7	7	News 9232	Grace Under Fire	Cosby 5110 (TVG)	Raymond	The Closer 4056	Murphy Brown	Brooklyn South: Doggonit 40874		News 6019435	Late Show With David Letterman (10:35)		Married ... Children
(9) KWES	9	9	News 4706	Seinfeld 5058	Suddenly Susan	House Rules 1042	Caroline in the City	Frasier 5329	Dateline NBC 95348		News 5528351	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (10:35)		Late Night Conan
(12) KMLM	42	12	S. Soleyn	J. Hagee	The Light of the Southwest 75481				News	J. Meyer	Richard Roberts 16481		Secrets	V. Jackson
(13) KOCV	36	13	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer 101771		Antiques Roadshow 942955 (TVG)		Riding the Rails ('97) ** 199213		The Men Who Sailed the Liberty Ships		Telecourse 392416			
Cable	**O**	**C**	**6:00**	**6:30**	**7:00**	**7:30**	**8:00**	**8:30**	**9:00**	**9:30**	**10:00**	**10:30**	**11:00**	**11:30**
(8) CNBC		8	Business Center	Equal Time W/Bay	Hardball With Chris Matthews 4072665		Rivera Live 4081313		The News With Brian Williams 4174077		Charles Grodin 4071936		Rivera Live 7148226	
(10) WGN		10	Family Matters	Coach 953333	Bulls Eye 3521139	NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at Chicago Bulls 119787					News 123990	The Honeymooners	In the Heat of the Night 850481 (TVG)	
(11) WTBS		11	Baseball: Atlanta Braves at Philadelphia Phillies 469394						Sleepwalkers (R, '92) ** (Brian Krause, Madchen Amick) 209232				Cat's Eye (PG-13, '85) * 391399	
(14) FAM		14	Jesus of Nazareth (Part 3 of 4) 550023				Carson's 22nd Anniversary Special 562868				The 700 Club 647503		Bonanza: Emily 180313 (TVG)	
(24) BRAV		24	In Search of an Author		Like Water for Chocolate ('92) *** 867771				In Custody (PG, '93) ** 9776752				In Search of an Author	
(26) BET		26	Planet Groove 979435				Hit List 874936		Comicview 887400		BET Tonight 960787		227	Mid. Love
(27) DISN		27	The Mighty Ducks (PG, '92) ** (Emilio Estevez, Joss Ackland) 8186667				Family Reunion: A Relative Nightmare (7:45) (TVG) 28462391			Growing Pains (TVG)	Walt Disney Presents 240955 (TVG)		Zorro 516400	Mickey Mouse Club
(28) CNN		28	Moneyline	Crossfire	The World Today		Larry King Live 219619		Impact 126955		Sports	Moneyline	Newsnight	Sports
(29) ESPN		29	SportsCenter (5:30)	NHL Hockey: Philadelphia Flyers at Buffalo Sabres 373503						Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter 106918		Baseball Tonight	America's Horse
(30) USA		30	Highlander 479435 (TVPG)		Walker, Texas Ranger 122139 (TVPG)		WWF RAW 204787 (TVPG)		WWF War Zone 111023 (TVPG)		Silk Stalkings: Intensive Care 114110 (TV14-S)		Highlander: The Beast Below 531023 (TVPG)	
(31) FX		31	Miami Vice 7977961		The X-Files 2759597		NYPD Blue 2831145		In Color	In Color	The X-Files 2758868		NYPD Blue 5017987	
(32) A&E		32	Law & Order: Apocrypha 623961 (TVPG)		Biography 577665 (TVG)		Poirot 586313 (TVG)		Sherlock Holmes 679077 (TVG)		Law & Order: Privileged 578936 (TVPG)		Biography 900139 (TVG)	
(33) TLC		33	Vila's Home Again	Vila's Home Again	Extreme Machines: Car Crazy 801955 (TVG)		Waco: The Untold Story 963503		The Operation 807139 (TVPG)		Extreme Machines: Car Crazy 809226 (TVG)		Waco: The Untold Story 307329	
(34) NICK		34	Doug 317110	Rugrats 404690	All That 786706	Bewitched 400874	The Wonder Years	The Wonder Years	Happy Days	I Love Lucy	Mary Tyler Moore	Taxi 188892 (TVG)	Newhart 855955	Dick Van Dyke
(36) LIFE		36	Intimate Portrait		Unsolved Mysteries		Remembrance ('96) ** (Eva LaRue) 589042				Attitudes	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Mysteries
(39) OUTDR		39	Great Outdoorsman	Trailside	Float Trip 7846684	Canoe & Kayak	Sport Diver Mag	Fitness Adventures	'97 Ocean Man Tour: Bali, Indonesia 3654348		Float Trip 1727958	Canoe & Kayak	Sport Diver Mag	Fitness Adventures
(42) UNI		42			Esmeralda 20684		Pueblo Chico, Infierno Grande 73972 (TV14)		Cristina ... Edicion Especial 26868		Impacto Extra	Noticiero Univision	Al Ritmo de la Noche 771868 (TV14)	
(43) FSN		43	The Last Word	Fox Sports News	Goin' Deep 95936		High-School Basketball: Capital Classic 86400				Fox Sports News 90435		Fox Sports News 10495	
(44) COM		44	The Daily Show	Ben Stein's Money	The Beast (PG-13, '94) ** (Albert Brooks, Brendan Fraser) 1405099				One-Night Stand	Make Me Laugh	The Daily Show	Ben Stein's Money	Saturday Night Live 1328042 (TVPG)	
Premium	**O**	**C**	**6:00**	**6:30**	**7:00**	**7:30**	**8:00**	**8:30**	**9:00**	**9:30**	**10:00**	**10:30**	**11:00**	**11:30**
(20) DISC		20	Gimme Shelter 732665 (TVG)		Wild Discovery 582597 (TVPG)		Sci-Trek: Lost Mammoths 664145 (TVG)		Would You Believe It? 571481 (TVG)		Justice Files: Have Faith 581868		Wild Discovery 908771 (TVPG)	
(21) AMC		21	Wyoming Mail (5:30)		The Snows of Kilimanjaro ('52) *** 394313				The Sundowners ('60) **** 3736798				Daddy Long ... (11:15)	
(22) TNN		22	Dallas 604315		Today's Country		Prime Time Country		Monday Night Concerts		Dallas 988058		Dukes of Hazzard	
(23) TNT		23	Babylon 5 148503		WCW Monday Nitro 155400 (TV14)						Weird Science (PG-13, '85) * 208348			
(46) HBO		46	Black Sheep (5:30) (PG-13, '96) * 201416		A Time to Kill (R, '96) ** (Sandra Bullock, Samuel L. Jackson) 603481					Positive (R, '95) ** (Vicky Burrese, Angelina Jolie) 1691706			The Substitute 2: School's Out (11:15)	
(47) MAX		47	A League of Their Own (4:45) (PG) 87747987		Dominick and Eugene (PG-13, '88) *** (Tom Hulce, Ray Liotta) 202261				Fathers' Day (PG-13, '97) ** (Robin Williams, Billy Crystal) 3196461				Wager of Love (10:40) ('90) (Steve Landers, Shelby Johnson) 91995356	
(48) SHOW		48	3 Ninjas (5:30) (PG, '92) ** 240930		Jumanji (PG, '95) ** (Robin Williams, Bonnie Hunt) 6633400				The Long Way Home ('97) *** 118936				Poltergeist: The Legacy 8920597 (TVPG-DV)	
(49) TMC		49	Movie (4:50)	Threesome (5:25) (R, '94) *** (Lara Flynn Boyle) 13695709			The Rapture (R, '91) *** (Mimi Rogers) 3774228				Carrington (5:45) (R, '95) *** (Emma Thompson, Jonathan Pryce) 59921419			
(50) VC1		50	The Edge (5) 2048077		Conspiracy Theory (R, '97) ** (Mel Gibson) 3123329					Air Force One (R, '97) ** 4998597				Movie
(51) VC4		51	Soul Food (5:30) (R, '97) ** (Vanessa L. Williams, Vivica A. Fox)				Soul Food (R, '97) ** (Vanessa L. Williams, Vivica A. Fox)			Soul Food (R, '97) ** (Vanessa L. Williams, Vivica A. Fox)				Soul Food (R, '97)
(88) PLAY		88	Dangerous Invitation (AC, '88) (Corby Timbrook)				Secrets/Making Love 1		Private Liaisons		Lethal Affairs Part 1 (AC, '96) (Janine)			
(89) HC		89	Movie (5)	Teach Me ('98) 6948316			Fire Down Below (R, '97) ** 60969329				Hot Body: U'wear Affair		Sex Sells/M. Chambers	

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PEOPLE

Nelson Mandela attacked by hostile honey bees in his vacation house

NEW YORK — **Mark Wahlberg** knows his limits.

Following his acclaimed performance in "Boogie Nights," the actor who transformed himself from rapper Marky Mark into a bankable Hollywood talent recently tried comedy in "The Big Hit." He's ready to tackle new kinds of roles too, with one exception.

"I want to stay away from Shakespeare," Wahlberg says in the Sunday Daily News.

Mark Wahlberg thinks his body has helped further his career.

Known for dropping his pants on stage as a rapper and as Calvin Klein underwear model, Wahlberg revealed much more skin in "Boogie Nights," the story of a 1980s porn star. He's far from ashamed.

"I have it, so I use it," Wahlberg said of his physique. "I think my body helped my career only because there's a lot inside, there's a lot upstairs."

———

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Hostile honey bees attacked **Nelson Mandela** in the bathroom, repeatedly stinging the South African president.

Mandela, 79, said the bees were buzzing outside his vacation home Saturday in Qunu, in the former Transkei tribal homeland, and then some flew inside and attacked, the Sunday Independent reported.

Mandela said he was stung "four or five times" on the abdomen and "also in parts that I can't mention," the newspaper reported.

The onetime boxer's combative inclinations got the better of him.

When he heard heavy buzzing, Mandela said, he knew it would be better to stand still, but he feared getting stung and quickly reached for some bug spray.

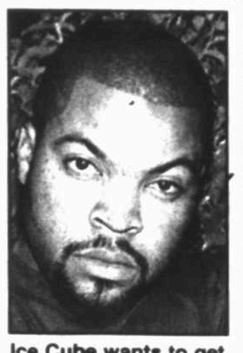
"Then they launched a counterattack," he said. "I had to flee."

———

NEW YORK — Rapper-actor-director **Ice Cube** wants to get back to what got him there.

"What I love is rap music," he says in the May issue of The Source magazine. "It's what I've been doing since I was 14 years old."

The former member of N.W.A has never stopped rapping, despite a turn to acting that includes appearances in such films as "Boyz N the Hood," "Higher Learning" and "Anaconda." He recently made his directorial debut with "The Players Club."



Ice Cube wants to get back to his rapping roots.

"Hip hop gives me the freedom that movies will never give me," he said. "With movies you've got so many suits putting their two cents in."

Still, don't expect the rapper to retrace his steps.

"I can't go over ground I already covered," he said. "And that's what people want you to do. they want another 'Amerikkka's Most Wanted.' They want you do do another record like 'Death Certificate.' I can't do that. That's not where my head's at."

———

PARIS — Actresses including **Sigourney Weaver**, **Winona Ryder**, **Lena Olin** and **Chiara Mastroianni** will be part of the jury lineup at next month's 51st Cannes Film Festival, a newspaper reported.

The 10-member jury also will include French rapper **MC Solaar** and director **Alain Corneau**, the Journal de Dimanche reported.

Festival organizers, who formally announce the jury and films on April 23, say director **Martin Scorsese** will preside over the jury.

———

COLUMBIA, S.C. — **Hootie & the Blowfish** hope the third time is the charm.

The band's debut album "Cracked Rear View" sold a whopping 15 million albums, while the follow-up "Fairweather Johnson" was far less impressive with 2 million sales. Soon, they'll be heading back to the studio to make No. 3.

The band featuring frontman Darius Rucker, Mark Bryan, Dean Felber and Jim Sonefeld has already taken some of its new material on the road, playing shows in the Northeast.

"It's been fantastic, man," Bryan said. "There's been moments during the new songs when the crowd is standing there with their mouths wide open. They don't know the songs yet but they hear our sound and know it's for real. You can tell from the look on their faces that it's like a new feeling."

Hootie has been working on the new material since January, mostly holed up in an abandoned nightclub called Rockafellas. After a local benefit show this week, Hootie heads for Los Angeles to begin recording the album tentatively slated for September.

———

Compiled from Associated Press wire reports.

DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Edited by Trude Michel Jaffe

ACROSS

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DOWN

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6 Put one to sleep
7 Matures
8 Wed in haste
9 Take up again
10 "Iliad" is one
11 Saucer
12 Charles' sister
13 Shea players
21 Orange choice
22 Hospital employee
25 The "wild blue yonder"
26 "Sleuth" co-star
27 Kruger and Preminger
29 From
30 Cut wood
32 Dressing gown
33 Wide awake
34 Hopkins of TV
35 "— Is Born"
37 Talented
39 "Leave — Beaver"
42 Devour
43 Abhored
48 Platforms
50 Ryan O'Neal film
53 Limber
55 Foch and Simone
56 One of the Bears
57 Shoshones' neighbors
58 Legal wrongdoing
59 Until
60 Container for stew
61 Wife of Wang
62 Trot or gallop
63 Bee abode
64 Apple source

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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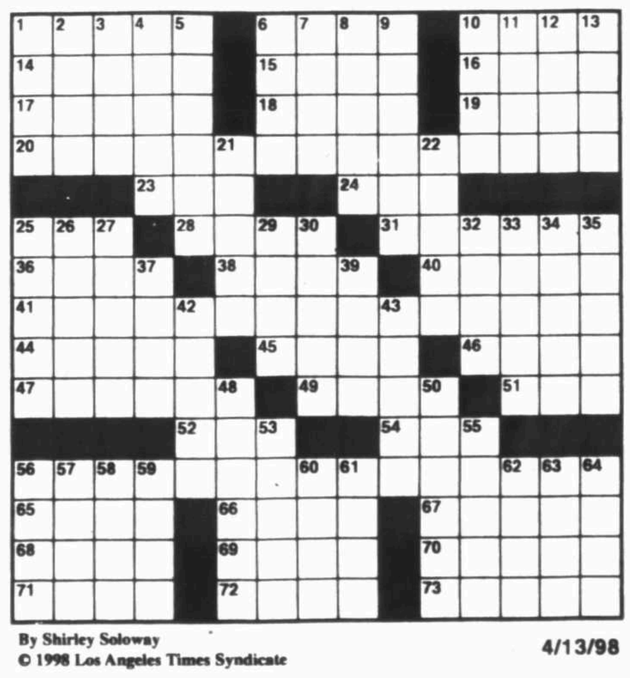
4/13/98



By Shirley Soloway
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4/13/98

LIVING WELL
YOUR HEALTH AND NUTRITION

HEALTH BRIEFING

Addiction remedies

Addiction treatment's reputation for ineffectiveness is undeserved, according to an exhaustive review by a panel of physician leaders. But the American public will take a lot of persuading to believe it, a separate study shows.

Compared to mainstream treatments for medical diseases — high blood pressure, asthma, diabetes — addiction treatment works as well and is among the most cost-effective, a group called Physician Leadership on National Drug Policy said.

About 40 percent of drug addicts comply with abstinence-oriented treatment programs, and 10 percent to 30 percent require retreatment within a year, Dr. A. Thomas McClelland of the University of Pennsylvania found from a review of hundreds of published studies commissioned by the physician group.

By comparison, adult asthma and high blood pressure patients are only 30 percent compliant with treatment, and half of insulin-dependent diabetics adhere to their medication regimens.

Because drug treatment reduces the cost of crime, incarceration, lost productivity and medical care for addicts, it ranks among the top 10 percent of more than 500 health and life-saving measures in cost-effectiveness, the review found.

The Clinton administration's drug policy chief embraced the study. It "clearly demonstrates treatment for drug abuse to be as good as treatment for diabetes, asthma, and hypertension, and better and cheaper than prison," said Barry R. McCaffrey, director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

But a separate analysis, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, shows that public support for addiction treatment is declining.

More than three-quarters of Americans "see the war on drugs as having failed thus far," Robert Blendon of the Harvard School of Public Health found in a survey of more than 100 opinion polls conducted between 1951 and 1997. And public suppor for drug treatment has declined from a high of 65 percent in 1990 to 53 percent in 1996.

The physician group, organized last year, includes former high-level officials in the Clinton, Bush, and Reagan administrations as well as leaders of the American Medical Association and respected academic physicians.

Gene responsible?

Houston doctors have discovered a "sudden death gene" responsible for thousands of previously unexplained cardiac arrests in healthy young people.

The defective gene, called SCN5A, is the blueprint for channels that convey sodium ions from outside the cell — a critical element in the chemical-electrical transfer of energy behind each heartbeat. When the electrical pattern is disrupted, the heart can slide into a chaotic rhythm known as ventricular fibrillation that can quickly cause death.

The vast majority of such cardiac arrests are caused by underlying heart disease. But as many as 36,000 cases each year are "idiopathic," with no known cause. Often these involve young people, from adolescence to the 40s.

Qing Wang of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and his colleagues discovered the defective gene responsible for idiopathic ventricular fibrillation in three out of six families with histories of sudden death.

Better understanding of the disorder "may lead to rational therapies for cardiac arrhythmias," the Baylor researchers write in the British journal Nature published today.

Drugs overprescribed

Forty-four percent of the time US children go to the doctor for treatment of a common cold, they end up with an antibiotic prescription. In 46 percent of the childhood cases of other upper respiratory tract infections, doctors prescribe antibiotics.

"Colds, upper-respiratory infections, and bronchitis accounted for over 20 percent of all antibiotic prescriptions," in 1992, the most recent data available, researchers reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

But there is no evidence that antibiotics improve outcomes in these illnesses, which are almost invariably caused by viruses that don't respond to antibiotics, they noted.

Overprescription of antibiotics is blamed for raising the rates of resistance to these drugs among common germs in the last two decades.

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

AP Photo

President Clinton applies sunscreen to his nose as he begins a round of golf on the island of St. Thomas in January. A presentation at a science conference in February questioned the widely held belief that sunscreen lowers the risk of deadly melanoma skin cancer, but specialists still caution against going into the sunshine without it.

Sunscreens' effectiveness studied

By Daniel Q. Haney

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A provocative presentation at a science conference in February questioned the widely held belief that sunscreens lower the risk of deadly melanoma skin cancer, but specialists still caution against going into the sunshine without these lotions.

Sunscreens prevent sunburns, and since there is evidence that frequent burns, especially at an early age, trigger melanoma, many experts assume that using them should help ward off this cancer.

However, melanoma cases have risen dramatically over the last 25 years even as sunscreen use became more common. The lethal cancer now strikes about 42,000 Americans a year, killing 7,300.

Dr. Marianne Berwick, an epidemiologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, said her own study, as well as a review of other research, offers no convincing evidence that using sunscreens keeps people from getting melanoma.

"It's not safe to rely on sunscreen," she said.

Ten studies have looked at the question, she said at the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting. Three of them, including her own, found no link between sunscreens and melanoma risk. Two suggested that sunscreens seem to prevent melanoma.

The five others found that melanoma risk actually increased among sunscreen users — probably because people who use them most are already at highest risk because of light complexions.

Several dermatologists strongly disagreed with Berwick's report.

Until there is clear proof that sunscreens are ineffective, "it would be irresponsible to discontinue all recommendations about using sunscreens," said Dr. Darrell Rigel of New York University.

Dr. Michael Thun, director of analytic epidemiology at the American Cancer Society, said: "People should not stop using sunscreen because of this study," he said. "The important message is that using sunscreen is only one of several measure to reduce one's risk of skin cancer."

Melanoma may take 20 years or more to develop after excessive sun exposure. Some doctors argue that it is simply too soon to prove that sunscreens are helping, since No. 15 and stronger sunscreens have only been in wide use since the mid 1980s.

Dr. Roger Ceilley of the University of Iowa, president of the American Academy of Dermatology, said most of the people getting melanoma now were exposed long before they began using sunscreens.

"I personally think it very likely reduces the risk of melanoma," said Ceilley. "I use it everyday and recommend it to my patients."

Dr. Jouni Uitto of Thomas Jefferson University said most skin specialists would agree.

"If you asked 100 dermatologists, 95 would say sunscreen protects against melanoma, and they counsel their patients that way," Uitto said.

Still, these doctors cautioned against using sunscreen as an excuse to bake in the sun. They said people at high risk of melanoma should avoid prolonged sun exposure, stay out of the midday sun and wear hats and long-sleeve shirts.

Generally, dermatologists agree with Berwick's contention that genetic susceptibility is the most important factor in melanoma. Her study, based on 1,200 people in Connecticut, found that fair-skinned people who burn easily are about six times more likely than darker folks to get melanoma. And people with many moles have about six times the risk of people with few of them.

Among Berwick's points:

■ The belief that bad childhood sunburns trigger melanoma may be wrong. Studies show that only about half the people questioned repeatedly about blistering childhood burns consistently give the same answer.

■ Many fair-skinned people may be using sunscreens so they can stay out in the sun longer without getting burned. Nevertheless, the excess sun exposure, even if it doesn't burn, may increase their risk of melanoma.

■ Intermittent sun exposure, such as the occasional trip to the beach, may be more likely to cause melanoma than more regular time in the sun.

Sand, water, back pain: Name of the game is golf

By Ira Dreyfuss

WASHINGTON (AP) — Add to tennis elbow and runner's knee another sports complaint: golfer's spine.

The powerful twisting motion in some golfers' swings can, over time, deform bones in the lower back, researchers say. One study terms it the "crunch factor."

"It looks like what is going on is a combination of how the spine twists and how it bends to the side," said researcher Scott A. Banks of the Orthopaedic Research Laboratory, Good Samaritan Medical Center, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Banks and other researchers on golf injuries presented their data recently at a meeting of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons in New Orleans.

Banks' team studied the swings of 43 healthy, experienced male golfers ages 18 to 84, to see where the stress builds. They taped reflective discs over the golfers' joints, then used high-speed cameras to record how the discs moved during the swings. The cameras' data were fed into a computer, which produced a three-dimensional analysis.

Older golfers had the lowest crunch-factor levels, meaning they had the least torque. Younger golfers had the highest levels, the study found. The greater torque in the young could reflect the natural flexibility of youth, and the older golfers may have gotten stiffer with age, said epidemiologist David A. Morgan, who also worked on the study.

But it could also be because older players learned a swing that had less body movement, Banks said. "In the early part of the century, a swing where the hips and shoulders moved more together was more common," he said. "There was less twisting of the back."

The change in swing came because steel shafts replaced hickory shafts in clubs, said Dr. Timothy M. Hosea, who has done separate camera-and-computer research on low back pain in golfers.

Steel shafts allowed greater accuracy, but they were less flexible, said Hosea, of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, N.J. To get more power behind the hit, he said, golfers began to twist their bodies.

Japanese medical imaging experts say they have seen the apparent results of the repetitive stress on the lower back.

They performed X-ray and CAT scans of 26 right-handed male elite amateur or professional golfers, and compared them with results from 105 matched nongolfers.

Many members of both groups had discernible low back problems. But the golfers were more likely to have malformations on their right side, where the torque from the swing would have the greatest effect, the Japanese study said.

About 60 percent of golfers did, compared with about 50 percent of nongolfers.

Back problems afflict golfers and nongolfers, but the right-sided problems were clearly a bigger problem for golfers, Banks said.

About 90 percent of golfers' back problems can be treated with physical therapy, said Dr. Pierce E. Scranton Jr. of Seattle, sports medicine chairman of the American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society. Muscle relaxers and anti-inflammatories can control the immediate pains, he said.

In some cases, however, the problem may require surgery to remove a herniated disk or even fused vertebrae, Hosea said.

Golfers can try to prevent trouble by developing a swing that is right for their bodies, Scranton said.

"Everyone has their own body's unique swing," he said. "I would urge golfers to find their comfort level. There are many ways to do things right."

With simple precautions, golfers can lessen risks

By Ira Dreyfuss

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dr. Patti Farris knows a golfer when she sees one. The hands are the giveaway.

On a golfer, one hand often has more skin cancer or precancerous patches than the other, Farris said. The other hand is protected from the sun by a glove.

"That's something any practicing dermatologist in the South would have observed," said Farris, a dermatologist in New Orleans and an amateur golfer.

She and other members of the American Academy of Dermatology warn that golf gives people a higher risk of skin cancer. "Anyone who is an outdoors enthusiast has a higher risk," Farris said. But because the risk rises with hours spent in the sun and the intensity of the sunlight, golfers have an outsized risk.

"The interesting thing about golf is that golf takes 4-1/2 hours to play," Farris said. Chances are good that golfers will be on the course during the most intense hours of sunlight, before and after noon. "Even if you tee off at 8 o'clock, you are still out there after noon," she said.

A new survey underscores the risk. The poll for Golf for Women magazine looked at 1,010 responses to 1,800 questionnaires mailed to female golfers. About one in 50 respondents said they have had skin cancer. Men probably have a similar risk, Farris said.

As a result, dermatologists, sunscreen companies and the Ladies Professional Golf Association are working together on skin cancer detection and prevention. Dermatologists and representatives of the Ombrelle sunscreen company will visit 10 LPGA Tour sites. The program will give pros and spectators skin cancer screenings, product samples and advice.

Golfers ought to wear protective clothing, including long pants, long-sleeve shirts, and hats or visors with broad brims, Farris said. They also should wear a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15, and the sunscreen should protect against both ultraviolet A and B light.

UVA has a higher risk of the more common but slower-growing basal and squamous cell cancers, which are easier to treat and thus less likely to cause death. UVB has a higher likelihood of leading to the less common but faster-growing and more deadly form of skin cancer, melanoma.

Pro shops also are being asked to promote sun safety, said Dr. Roger Ceilley, a dermatologist in Des Moines, Iowa. And doctors themselves — often not strangers to golf — are being targeted.

"I try as much as I can," Farris said. "I play a lot during the evening after work during Daylight Savings Time." Besides waiting for a time when the sunlight is less intense, she wears a broad-brimmed visor, a long-sleeve shirt when the heat isn't too intense, and a broad-spectrum sunscreen.

SPORTS

Scoreboard/3C

SPORTS BRIEFING

TV Sports

BASEBALL — Atlanta Braves at Philadelphia Phillies, 6 p.m., TBS.

NHL — Philadelphia Flyers at Buffalo Sabres, 6:30 p.m., ESPN.

NBA — Indiana Pacers at Chicago Bulls, 7:30 p.m., WGN.

Texas Scores

BASEBALL — Texas Rangers 3, Toronto Blue Jays 1.

Los Angeles Dodgers 7, Houston Astros 6.

NBA — Seattle SuperSonics 103, Houston Rockets 95.

NHL — Dallas Stars 4, St. Louis Blues 3.

Sports Today

TEXAS LEAGUE — Midland Angels at Wichita Wranglers, 7 p.m. RADIO: KCRS (AM/550).

JUCO GOLF — Midland College at Tyler.

PREP GOLF — District 4-5A Tournament at Abilene Country Club.

Cowboys signing

IRVING — Three-time Pro Bowl running back Chris Warren has signed a three-year contract with the Dallas Cowboys, ESPN reported Sunday.

Warren, 30, was a fourth-round draft choice who became one of the NFL's best running backs before Seattle released him last month in an economic move after signing Ricky Watters.

Warren will become Emmitt Smith's backup. ESPN reported that Smith originally was not pleased with the prospect of Warren's signing.

KDFW-TV in Dallas-Fort Worth said the signing would be announced at a Monday news conference.

The Cowboys would neither confirm nor deny the report.

"We haven't made any official announcement yet," said Cowboys spokesman Rich Dalrymple.

Warren's former position coach in Seattle, Clarence Shelmon, is the Cowboys' new running backs coach.

The Seahawks released Warren, their career rushing leader, after they gave free agent Watters a four-year, $13 million contract. Warren rushed for 6,706 yards in eight seasons with Seattle. He had at least 1,000 yards for four straight seasons, including a team-record and AFC-leading 1,545 yards in 1994.

Last year, when the Seahawks went 8-8 and missed the playoffs for the ninth consecutive season, Warren rushed for 847 yards and four touchdowns.

McAfee wins

EL PASO — John McAfee, a 1996 graduate of Midland Lee now competing for Baylor, set a personal best mark by winning the 110-meter hurdles at the Sierra Providence Track and Field Invitational hosted by UTEP Saturday.

McAfee won with a time of 13.84 seconds and defeated William Erese of USC, ranked the top college hurdler by the NCAA Track and Field Association. McAfee will next compete at home in Waco at the Michael Johnson Invitational Sunday.

La Puente Stakes

ARCADIA, Calif. — Commitisize, ridden by David Flores and carrying 116 pounds, led from start to finish Sunday to win the $83,400 La Puente Stakes by a length on the turf at Santa Anita Park.

Tenbyssimo, ridden by Kent Desormeaux, finished second, a nose in front of Dernier Croise in the field of eight 3-year-olds.

Winless in three previous turf races, Commitisize covered one mile over a course rated good in 1:36 1-5 to earn $50,040, bringing his career total to $253.901. Commitisize paid $7.80, $4 and $2.40.

"There was no speed at all in the race and all I wanted was a clean break," Flores said. "He broke perfectly and made the lead easily. Turning for home, I knew I had a lot of horse left. I just let him roll and he was very strong today."

Tenbyssimo, carrying high weight of 117 pounds, returned $4 and $2.20, while Dernier Croise paid $2.20 to show.

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Barnes to be named Longhorns coach

By Chip Brown
AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN — Clemson's Rick Barnes was named basketball coach at Texas Sunday, replacing Tom Penders, the Longhorns' winningest coach who resigned after a player revolt.

Barnes

Barnes met with Clemson players in South Carolina late Sunday and was to be formally introduced at a news conference in Austin Monday afternoon.

His hiring, announced Sunday night in a faxed press release from the university, and ends a search that began when Penders resigned April 2.

The search had focused on Utah's Rick Majerus until Sunday morning, when negotiations broke down with the Utes' coach, according to two university sources who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

But Majerus had always been a difficult target because he makes roughly $1 million at Utah, and Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds had said that the basketball coach wouldn't make more than new football coach Mack Brown, who earns $750,000 annually.

Penders made $550,000 per year.

Barnes, 43, met with Texas officials Thursday in Atlanta and then again in Dallas on Friday, and he impressed screening committee members with his hard-nosed, defense-minded approach.

Dodds has said he would like a coach who stresses defense.

He also fit Dodds' financial criteria, making just under $700,000 per year at Clemson.

Last year, Barnes spurned big offers from Ohio State and Tennessee, signing a contract with Clemson worth at least $668,000 a year and another $125,000 in bonuses.

An automatic $25,000 bonus for making the NCAA tournament this year meant that Barnes' base salary next year at Clemson would have been $693,000. He had a $100,000 buyout clause in his contract.

Barnes, who was 74-48 in four years at Clemson, was popular with Tigers fans.

He earned a reputation as a colorful personality by doing remote radio standups from Clemson fan tailgate parties before football games and by handing out hot chocolate and pizza to students who camped out for tickets to then second-ranked Clemson's game against No. 4 Wake Forest last year.

He also earned a reputation as a fiery competitor by getting in the face of North Carolina coach Dean Smith two years ago, accusing Smith of unfairly badgering Clemson players with criticism during a regular-season game.

The Tigers set a school mark with their third consecutive NCAA appearance this year.

But it was not the year expected. The Tigers started ranked fifth in the country, but injuries and inconsistency dropped them out of the rankings shortly after New Year's.

Bad foul shooting and nagging injuries to point guard Terrell McIntyre led to eight Atlantic Coast Conference losses by five points or fewer.

After winning three of their final four games, the Tigers carried a lot of confidence into the NCAA tour-

Please see **HORNS**/2C

THE MASTERS

Mark O'Meara wins Masters on final hole

By Ron Sirak
AP Golf Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Mark O'Meara snatched the Masters title with a 20-foot birdie putt on the final hole and stole the show from the greatest master of them all — Jack Nicklaus — who made a thrilling run at a seventh green jacket.

O'Meara had played in 56 major championships without winning, but when that streak ended Sunday at Augusta National Golf Club he thrust his arms defiantly into the air and wrapped them around caddie Jerry Higgenbothem.

The birdie on No. 18 marked the only time O'Meara led during the four days of play.

"I don't think it's sunk in yet," O'Meara said after his close friend and defending champion Tiger Woods put the winner's green jacket on him and gave O'Meara a big hug. "I'll treasure it for a lifetime. I walked to the 17th tee thinking I could still make two birdies."

That's exactly what he did, hitting a great iron to 7 feet on No. 17 and then making the 20-footer on the last hole to become the first player since Arnold Palmer in 1960 to win the Masters by closing with two consecutive birdies.

The tournament appeared headed for a playoff when David Duval, playing in the group in front of O'Meara, missed a 20-foot birdie try on the final hole to finish at 8-under-par 280.

Fred Couples and O'Meara — playing together — were also at eight under, but Couples, who drove into the fairway bunker and then hit the greenside bunker, could only make par and also finished in second at 280.

Couples and Duval both played well enough to win but were simply victims of O'Meara's hot putter. He averaged barely over 26 putts a round and with 105 had the fewest in the tournament on the tricky Augusta National greens.

"I started three back and I shot a 67," Duval said. "Doggone it, that ought to be enough to win here, but it wasn't."

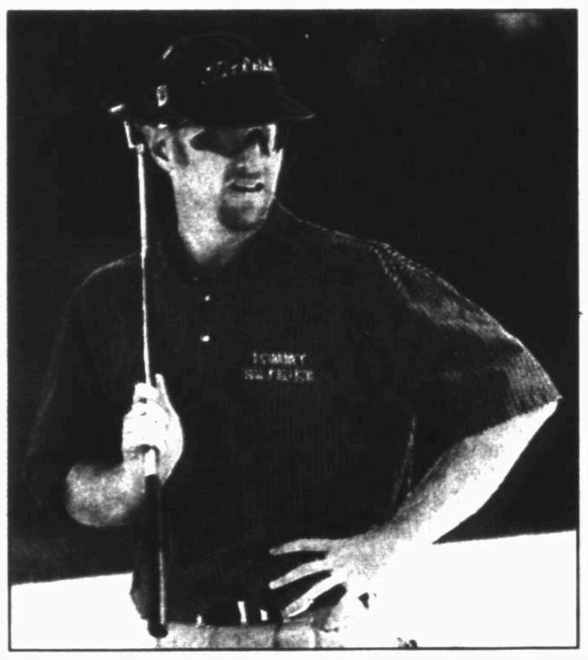
The 70 posted by Couples was also good enough — except for his wild adventure through the trees and water on No. 13, where he made a double bogey.

"I watched a very good round of golf," Couples said about O'Meara. "I played a good one except for one hole."

Couples could only watch helplessly, waiting to putt for his par, as the 41-year-old O'Meara rolled in the winning putt.

Please see **MASTERS**/4C

AP Laserphoto
1997 Masters champion Tiger Woods, right, helps 1998 Masters champion Mark O'Meara put on his Green Jacket after he won the tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club.


David Duval watches his putt on the 15th green during the final round of play.
AP Laserphoto

David Duval is Mr. Runner-up again

By Paul Newberry
AP Sports Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. — David Duval was in a familiar position Sunday.

Before he won three straight PGA events to close out 1997 and another one two months ago, Duval was known as Mr. Runner-up, a talented golfer who lacked the killer instinct that's so necessary when the sun begins to set on the final afternoon of a tournament.

The loathsome bridesmaid label caught up with Duval again in the final round of the Masters.

He had a three-shot lead when he stepped to the 16th tee and was seemingly poised to add a green jacket to the matching shirt and cap he was wearing.

Three holes later, Duval was watching television in a cabin behind the 18th green as Mark O'Meara rolled in a 20-foot birdie putt for the championship. Duval and Fred Couples wound up in a tie for second, one tantalizing shot behind.

"I know I have it in me to finish tournaments off and win them," Duval said with a sigh. "I shot a 67 on Sunday at the Masters. I certainly didn't beat myself."

Indeed, it's hardly fair to say someone choked when they shot 5-under in the stifling pressure of the final round at Augusta National. Certainly, this wasn't anything comparable to Greg Norman's collapse two years ago.

But Duval did create an opening when his tee shot at the par-3 16 sailed long and plopped down on a ridge above the hole, certainly not the place to be on Augusta's icy greens. Three treacherous putts later, he was finally in the hole with a bogey.

On the next two holes, Duval gave himself realistic birdie chances — a 12-footer at No. 17, a 20-footer at 18 — but he couldn't convert either putt.

Playing two pairs ahead of O'Meara and Couples, Duval retreated to the television to see if his 8-under total of 280 would hold up. It didn't.

"I felt I could have won it," Duval said. "Obviously, I'm dealing with some disappointment. But I'm sure when I take a deep breath and step back, it would be foolish for me to look at what I did and be disappointed."

Please see **DUVAL**/4C

Elster's home run lifts Rangers

By Charles Richards
Associated Press Writer

ARLINGTON — With winds gusting up to 40 mph, Kevin Elster was just hoping to hit a fly ball to right field.

He did, and his 382-foot, two-out homer in the bottom of the ninth gave the Texas Rangers a 3-1 victory Sunday over the Toronto Blue Jays.

"I was trying to get under it. A single wasn't really going to help us, and the winds were galing all day long. Anything hit in the air to right was going to go out today," Elster said.

Elster's shot came off Paul Quantrill (0-1), who got the first two outs of the inning before he walked Lee Stevens. Quantrill had shut down a Texas rally in the eighth by getting Juan Gonzalez with the potential go-ahead run at third.

John Wetteland (1-0) struck out the side in the ninth for the win.

Erik Hanson came off the disabled list before the game to start in place of Roger Clemens, who is sidelined with a groin injury. Hanson, starting for the first time since April 22, 1997, struck out three while giving up seven hits and two walks.

"Erik did a great job. We made some great plays, but that last ball just got into the jet stream, and it just kept going," Toronto manager Tim Johnson said.

Clemens, who left a April 7 start against Minnesota after seven pitches, said he hopes return to the rotation next Friday at home against Seattle.

Texas starter John Burkett gave up seven hits in eight innings.

"It's not easy pitching in the wind," Burkett said. "A couple of times, it tossed me around in the middle of a pitch. It's OK if the wind is consistent, but it would push me

Please see **ELSTER**/2C

AP Laserphoto
Texas Rangers batter Kevin Elster (18) tags home plate as teammates wait to congratulate him for his game-winning, two-run home run against the Toronto Blue Jays.

Mondesi shoots down Billy and the Astros, 7-6

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Raul Mondesi hit a two-run homer with two out in the 10th inning Sunday night to give the Los Angeles Dodgers a 7-6 victory over the Houston Astros.

Billy Wagner (0-2), who surrendered a game-tying RBI single to pinch-hitter Mike Devereaux with two out in the ninth, was given a chance to win after Moises Alou led off the top of the 10th with a homer off Antonio Osuna (1-0).

But Wagner walked Mike Piazza with one out and Mondesi drove a 2-2 pitch deep to left center for his second homer of the season. Mondesi entered the game hitless in his previous eight at-bats with runners in scoring position, but singled in a run in the sixth inning that narrowed Houston's lead to 6-4.

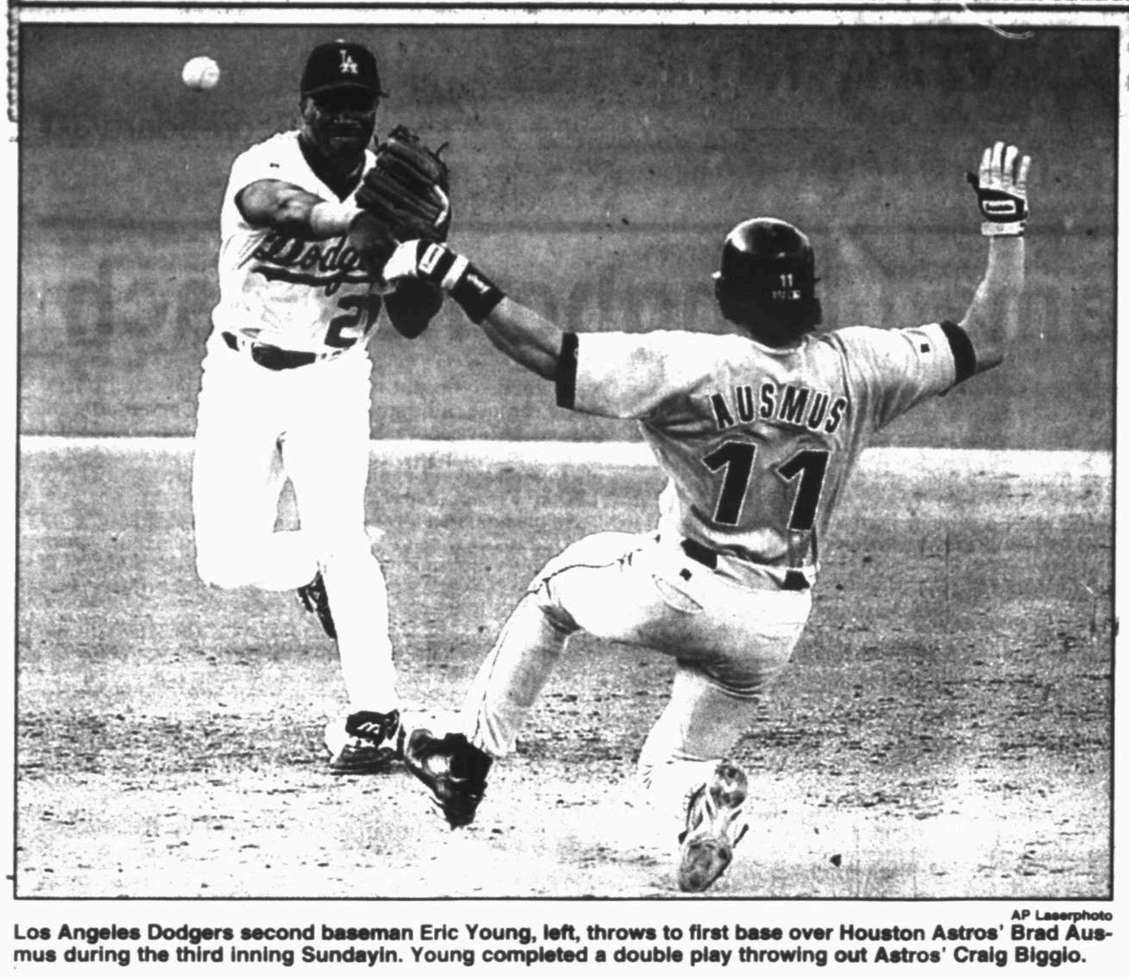
Carl Everett matched a career-high with four hits, and also had two RBIs for the Astros.

Rookie John Halama, making his third start for the Astros, gave up four runs and four hits in 5 1-3 innings. The left-hander, who was shelled for 10 earned runs in eight innings by the San Francisco Giants in his first two outings, was staked to a 5-2 lead but closer Wagner squandered a 5-4 lead in the ninth.

C.J. Nitkowski's relieved Halama with one out in the sixth and Todd Zeile drove his first pitch off the left-center field fence for an RBI double that trimmed Houston's lead to 5-3. Mondesi then beat out an infield hit to shortstop Ricky Gutierrez as Mike Piazza scored the Dodgers' fourth run.

Houston built a 4-1 lead against Dodgers starter Chan Ho Park, who was forced out of last Tuesday's 9-1 victory against Arizona after six innings because of stiffness in his lower back.

Please see **ASTROS**/2C



AP Laserphoto

Los Angeles Dodgers second baseman Eric Young, left, throws to first base over Houston Astros' Brad Ausmus during the third inning Sundayin. Young completed a double play throwing out Astros' Craig Biggio.

Red Sox sink Mariners, 8-7

Associated Press

BOSTON — Jim Leyritz's second home run tied it in the ninth and pinch-hitter Reggie Jefferson singled in the game-winner on Sunday as the Red Sox feasted off the Seattle bullpen again and beat the Mariners 8-7.

Alex Rodriguez hit two homers and Ken Griffey Jr. hit one for Seattle, which blew leads of 1-0, 3-1, 5-4 and 7-6 to extend their losing streak to five games.

Jeff Fassero pitched well in his 1998 debut, but Seattle's relievers blew three save opportunities.

Heathcliff Slocumb (0-1) struck out Mo Vaughn to start the ninth, before giving up the homer to Leyritz. Troy O'Leary walked, took second on a wild pitch and scored when Jefferson, hitting for Mark Lemke, singled to center.

John Wasdin (2-0) pitched 1 2-3 scoreless innings for the win.

Yankees 7, Athletics 5

NEW YORK — Bernie Williams hit a go-ahead, two-run single in the sixth inning and Darryl Strawberry hit his third homer as New York won its fifth straight.

Despite shaky pitching in two of three games against the A's, New York managed a sweep and is 6-1 since an 0-3 start.

With the bases loaded in the sixth, Paul O'Neill hit a hard shot up the middle that bounced off the leg of T.J. Mathews (0-1) and rebounded toward the third-base

■ AL Roundup

line for a run-scoring single.

Jim Dougherty replaced Mathews and gave up the two-run single to Williams.

Rookie Mike Buddie (2-0) got the win despite getting just one out, and Mike Stanton got three outs for his third save.

Orioles 6, Tigers 3

DETROIT — Scott Erickson stayed unbeaten with another win over Detroit.

Erickson (3-0), who is 14-3 in 21 starts against the Tigers, gave up 11 hits — including Damion Easley's third homer — with two walks and three strikeouts in 7 1-3 innings.

Rafael Palmeiro hit a solo homer, his first, and Armando Benitez got his fourth save for the Orioles, whose 9-3 start matches the third-best in club history.

Angels 12, Indians 1

CLEVELAND — Chuck Finley cooled off Cleveland and Tim Salmon hit two homers and scored five runs as Anaheim won for the first time in six tries against the Indians.

Jim Edmonds hit a three-run homer off Jaret Wright (1-1), who allowed a career-worst seven runs.

Finley (2-0) allowed seven hits and struck out four in 7 1-3 shutout innings. He allowed only three runners beyond first base and lowered his ERA to 0.77.

Devil Rays 4, White Sox 1

CHICAGO — Wilson Alvarez pitched eight strong innings, Dave Martinez homered and Roberto Hernandez got a save as the three former White Sox led Tampa Bay.

The win improved the Devil Rays to 6-4, the best record for a first-year expansion team in 10 games. No expansion team has ever been over .500 after 10 games.

Alvarez (2-1) took a shutout into the eighth and beat Chicago for the second time in a week.

Jaime Navarro (1-1) gave up nine hits in six-plus innings for the White Sox, who have lost three of their last four.

Twins 7, Royals 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Pat Meares hit two home runs and Bob Tewksbury allowed four hits in six innings for Minnesota.

Meares hit solo shots in the seventh and ninth innings for his second multi-homer game of his career.

Tewksbury (2-1), who improved to 4-0 at Kauffman Stadium, allowed one earned run and one walk. Rick Aguilera struck out Dean Palmer with the bases loaded in the ninth for his second save.

Hipolito Pichardo (0-1) allowed seven hits and four earned runs in 6 1-3 innings.

Marlins still struggling in April

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — The Florida Marlins' 0-for-April streak continued Sunday when Jermaine Allensworth singled in three of Pittsburgh's first four runs and Jason Schmidt pitched seven effective innings to lead the Pirates to a 7-3 victory.

Florida's franchise-record losing streak reached 11 in a row — all in April — as the Marlins remained winless in a four-game series that concludes Monday. The Marlins haven't won since opening day March 31.

Jason Kendall singled twice to set up Allensworth run-scoring singles, then hit a two-run homer in the sixth to chase Rafael Medina (0-1).

Schmidt (2-1) withstood Cliff Floyd's tape-measure two-run homer and rookie Derrek Lee's solo shot to win.

Braves 3, Phillies 2

PHILADELPHIA — Tom Glavine allowed six hits in eight innings and Ryan Klesko homered as Atlanta ended Philadelphia's five-game winning streak.

Glavine (2-0) struck out four and walked one in improving his lifetime record against Philadelphia to 15-6, including 9-3 at Veterans Stadium.

Mark Wohlers gave up an RBI single to pinch-hitter Mike Lieberthal in the ninth before picking up his third save.

Garrett Stephenson (0-1) allowed two runs and six hits in six innings for the Phillies.

Mets 6, Brewers 4

MILWAUKEE — John Olerud hit a two-run homer in the seventh inning and reliever Turk Wendell picked up his third win for New York.

Olerud's shot saved Wendell (3-

■ NL Roundup

0) who blew a 4-1 lead after replacing starter Brian Bohanon to start the sixth.

With two outs in the seventh, Milwaukee starter Paul Wagner (0-1) gave up a double to Edgardo Alfonzo. Brewers manager Phil Garner brought left-hander Mike Myers in to face Olerud, who hit his second home run.

Butch Huskey also homered for New York and Mel Rojas pitched two innings for his first save.

Jose Valentin's three-run home run off Wendell, his fifth, tied it 4-4 in the sixth.

Expos 4, Cubs 1

MONTREAL — Rookie Brad Fullmer went 4-for-4 and drove in four runs as Montreal spoiled Kerry Wood's major league debut.

Fullmer hit two-run doubles in the third and fifth innings to provide all the offense the Expos needed to beat Wood (0-1), considered one of the majors top pitching prospects.

Dustin Hermanson (1-1) struck out eight and allowed five hits, including Henry Rodriguez's fifth homer, in 6 2-3 innings to lead Expos to their third win this season. Ugueth Urbina picked up his second save.

Wood allowed four runs and four hits in 4 2-3 innings, striking out seven.

Reds 10, Rockies 4

DENVER — Bret Boone hit his first career grand slam and Pete Harnisch blanked Colorado through five innings.

The Rockies lost their eighth straight game and fell to 0-6 at Coors Field.

Chris Stynes ignited the Reds' offense, reaching base five times and scoring a career-high four runs, including a homer to lead off the game.

Harnisch (1-0) went seven innings, allowing two runs on eight hits, including Ellis Burks' sixth homer.

Boone's grand slam highlighted a six-run third inning off Pedro Astacio (1-2).

Padres 4, Diamondbacks 2

SAN DIEGO — Ken Caminiti homered in his fourth straight game, a 439-foot shot to straightaway center, and San Diego won its seventh straight.

The Padres matched the best start in club history, equaling the 10-2 mark of the 1984 club, which reached the World Series. The seven-game winning streak is their first since September 1991.

Andy Sheets hit a two-run homer for his first Padres hit, and Joey Hamilton (2-0) survived solo shots by Travis Lee and Yamil Benitez.

Hamilton allowed two runs and four hits, struck out seven and walked one in eight innings. Trevor Hoffman pitched the ninth for his third save.

Willie Blair (0-3) took the loss.

Giants 2, Cardinals 1

SAN FRANCISCO — John Frascatore walked Bill Mueller with the bases loaded and two outs in the ninth inning to give San Francisco the win.

Brian Johnson doubled with one out in the ninth off Frascatore (0-2), and went to third on Rich Aurilia's groundout. Charlie Hayes and Darryl Hamilton then walked to load the bases before Frascatore threw four straight balls to Mueller.

Robb Nen (2-0) pitched a perfect ninth for the win.

ELSTER: Wetteland shuts out 9th for win

(From 1C)

from one side on pitch and from another side later."

Burkett, who took an 8.76 ERA into the game, was behind 1-0 after the first two batters. Shannon Stewart singled and scored on Tony Fernandez's double to left.

The Blue Jays had runners on second and third with two outs, but Darrin Fletcher popped up.

Hanson had faced the minimum eight batters before Fernando Tatis hit a two-out fly that was held up in the wind and fell in front of right fielder Shawn Green. Tatis stole second and scored on Tom Goodwin's single.

"I feel good about my stuff," Hanson said. "Overall I was pleased with how things turned out for me. Unfortunately, they didn't turn out well for the team."

Notes: Rangers reliever Xavier Hernandez, recovering from shoulder surgery last August, threw about 30 pitches — the equivalent of two innings — in batting practice. ... To make room for Hanson, Toronto optioned catcher Mark Dalesandro to Syracuse. ... Goodwin went 3-for-4 and stole his eighth base. He has reached base in all nine of his starts this season.

HORNS: Coach inherits a team in disarray

(From 1C)

nament. But they were upset in the first round by Western Michigan and finished 18-14.

Barnes was to be without several key players next season with the departure of senior and leading scorer Greg Buckner, the transfer of junior Tony Christie and graduation of redshirt junior Iker Iturbe.

After next season, Barnes would have had five players to replace, including starters McIntyre, Harold Jamison and Tom Wideman.

The Tigers reached the NCAA tournament's round of 16 in 1997, losing in double overtime to Minnesota, which went on to the Final Four.

Barnes' overall mark is 202-134, including one year as coach at George Mason and six years at Providence.

Barnes inherits a Texas team that is in disarray. Four young starters, including freshmen Luke Axtell, Chris Mihm and Bernard Smith as well as sophomore Gabe Muoneke, met with Dodds on March 8 to say that they had lost faith in Penders and his program.

The meeting began a month of controversy that included the suspension of Axtell for academic reasons; the release of Axtell's grades to a radio station; and the resignation of Penders, who received a settlement package of roughly $850,000.

Muoneke, who threatened to transfer, has said he will stay at Texas. Axtell, the second-leading scorer on this year's team, has received his release to transfer and is reportedly considering Kansas and Texas Tech.

Penders had a record of 208-110 in 10 seasons at Texas and took the Longhorns to the NCAA tournament eight times.

The Texas coaching search also included Washington's Bob Bender, who was considered a frontrunner for the job until he and Oklahoma's Kelvin Sampson dropped out of consideration last week after interviewing with Longhorns officials.

North Carolina assistant coach Phil Ford also was interviewed. Wake Forest's Dave Odom declined to interview with Texas.

ASTROS: L.A. comes back

(From 1C)

Derek Bell singled and scored on Everett's bases-loaded single off Park's glove with two out in the first. Bell made it 2-0 in the second with a sacrifice fly, after Park walked Halama and gave up Craig Biggio's double over the head of center fielder Trenidad Hubbard.

The Dodgers scored in the second on Hubbard's sacrifice fly, but the Astros got two more in the third on consecutive RBI doubles by Alou and Everett following an error by shortstop Juan Castro on a routine grounder by Sean Berry.

Bard leads Tech over Kansas; Bears escape shootout with Mizzou; Texas bombs Iowa St.

Associated Press

Texas Tech 7, Kansas 4

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Josh Bard had three hits and drove in three runs, and Texas Tech took advantage of three Kansas errors in the ninth to score three runs and beat the Jayhawks 7-4 Sunday.

Jesse Cornejo pitched a complete game for the Red Raiders (29-13, 10-7 Big 12). He gave up nine hits but struck out eight and walked two.

Two of Tech's runs were unearned in the ninth off loser Mark Corson of Kansas (17-18, 4-11).

Texas 11, Iowa St. 4

AUSTIN — Tommy Nicholson went 3-for-4 with 4 RBIs and Mike Kolbach added 3 RBIs Sunday in an 11-4 victory over Iowa State.

Longhorns starter Scott Dunn (3-5) struck out nine and gave up only three earned runs over 7 2-3 innings for the victory.

Texas (16-22-1, 4-10 Big 12) took a 2-1 lead on Mark Cridland's two-run triple in the third and made it

■ College Baseball

4-1 in the fourth on a two-run single by Nicholson.

Kolbach's two-run single keyed a four-run sixth that put the game away for the Longhorns.

Iowa State ((12-16, 5-8) was led by Brad Bjorklund, who was 2-for-3 with two runs scored.

Brian Curtin (0-3) gave up four runs in 3 2-3 innings for Iowa State.

Baylor 15, Missouri 14

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The wind was blowing and so was the ball as Baylor and Missouri combined for 11 home runs in a game won 15-14 by the Bears Sunday.

Jon Toploski had three homers and drove in seven runs for Baylor (33-8, 15-4 Big 12). His third home run in the ninth gave Baylor a 15-13 lead.

Griffin Moore homered in the bottom of the ninth to get Missouri (24-10, 8-6) within 15-14, but Matthew Marcom got the final three outs for his third save.

Topolski, James Blair, Jeremy Dodson, Charley Carter and Preston Underdown all homered for Baylor.

Torre Tyson, Ryan Fry, Griffin Moore and Mike Rallo homered for Missouri.

Winds gusted from 25 mph to 35 mph across Missouri on Sunday.

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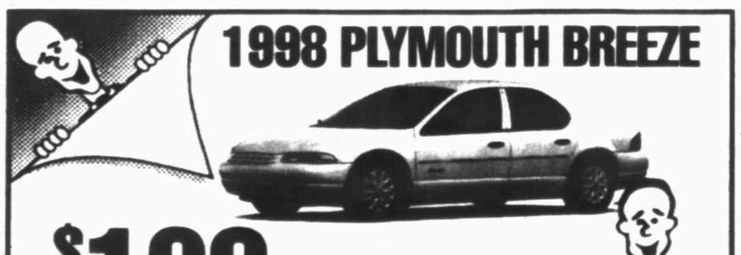
1998 PLYMOUTH BREEZE



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1998 CORPORATE CUP CHALLENGE
APRIL 30 - MAY 3
IS YOUR COMPANY UP TO THE CHALLENGE?

The Midland YMCA/MRT will have the 7th Annual Corporate Cup Challenge April 30 - May 3. There are three different divisions to compete in. The cost is only $100.00, and the registration deadline is April 17, 1998. For more information please call Terry Rudd at 682-2551.

Event	Date	Time	Location
• Golf Tournament	4-21 -98	12:00	Hogan Park
• Bowling Tournament	4-27-98	7:00	Cactus Lanes
Racquetball Tournament	TBA	TBA	Central YMCA
• Volleyball	4-30-98	5:00	Central YMCA
Bench Press	4-30-98	7:00	Central YMCA
• 3 on 3 Basketball	5-1-98	5:30	Central YMCA
5K Run	5- 1 -98	7:00	Greentree CC
Cycling Time Trial	5-2-98	8:00 a.m.	Lamesa Hwy
Swim Events:	5-2-98	1:00	C.O.M.
Men 200m			
Women 100M			
Innertube Relay			
• Horseshoes	5-2-98	5:00	Hogan Park
• Softball Throw	5-2-98	6:00	Hogan Park
• 1-Mile Time Predict	5-3-98	1:30	Memorial Stadium
Track Events:	5-3-98	2:00	Memorial Stadium
Mens 4 x 100 Relay			
Womens 4 x 100 Relay			
100x200 x400 x 800 Relay			
Tug of War	5-3-98	3:00	Memorial Stadium

The Recreation Division will only compete in the events with an • in front of them.

SPORTS SCOREBOARD

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
z-New Jersey	47	22	10	104	218	159
x-Philadelphia	41	26	11	93	232	184
x-Washington	36	30	12	84	209	196
N.Y. Islanders	28	39	11	67	204	218
N.Y. Rangers	23	38	18	64	190	225
Florida	24	41	14	62	198	244
Tampa Bay	17	52	9	43	146	255

Northeast Division

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Pittsburgh	37	24	18	92	214	184
x-Buffalo	35	27	16	86	201	176
x-Boston	36	29	13	85	208	184
x-Montreal	36	31	12	84	228	199
Ottawa	31	32	15	77	185	193
Carolina	33	37	8	74	193	206

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Dallas	47	21	11	105	234	162
x-Detroit	44	20	15	103	245	187
x-St. Louis	42	29	8	92	239	194
x-Phoenix	33	34	12	78	215	219
Chicago	30	37	12	72	188	192
Toronto	28	42	9	65	186	230

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Colorado	37	26	16	90	221	199
x-Los Angeles	36	31	11	83	217	212
Edmonton	33	37	10	76	206	218
San Jose	33	37	9	75	202	208
Calgary	25	39	14	64	207	239
Vancouver	25	40	14	64	221	265
Anaheim	25	41	12	62	193	248

x-clinched playoff berth
y-clinched division title
z-clinched conference title

Sunday's Games

Florida 5, New Jersey 5, tie
Phoenix 2, Chicago 1
Dallas 4, St. Louis 3

Monday's Games

Philadelphia at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
Boston at Carolina, 6:30 p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Islanders, 6:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.
Calgary at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.
Colorado at Anaheim, 9:30 p.m.

Stars 4, Blues 3

St. Louis	0	1	2	0 — 3
Dallas	0	2	2	0 — 4

First Period—None.

Second Period—1, Dallas, Nieuwendyk 38 (Adams, Verbeek), :41 (pp). 2, Dallas, Zubov 10 (Nieuwendyk, Adams), 10:56 (pp). 3, St. Louis, Campbell 22 (Conroy, Pronger), 19:47.

Third Period—4, St. Louis, Duchesne 14 (Turgeon, Hull), :42 (pp). 5, Dallas, Verbeek 28 (Zubov, Sydor), 1:20 (pp). 6, Dallas, Keane 10 (Carbonneau, Hatcher), 10:45. 7, St. Louis, Demitra 20 (Turgeon), 13:22 (sh).

Shots on goal—St. Louis 13-8-7—28. Dallas 6-3-5—14. Power-play Opportunities—St. Louis 1 of 4; Dallas 3 of 9. Goalies—St. Louis, McLennan 15-8-2 (14 shots-10 saves). Dallas, Belfour 35-12-10 (28-25). A—16,928 (16,928).

Panthers 5, Devils 5

Florida	1	4	0	0 — 5
New Jersey	1	2	2	0 — 5

First Period—1, Florida, Svehla 9 (Whitney, Nemirovsky), 8:11 (pp). 2, New Jersey, Stevens 3 (Sykora, Pederson), 16:51 (pp).

Second Period—3, New Jersey, Roiston 16 (Thomas, Morrison), 16:4. New Jersey, Thomas 14 (Roiston, Morrison), :56. 5, Florida, Whitney 31 (Nemirovsky, Gagner), 1:22. 6, Florida, Ciccarelli 16 (Jovanovski, Dvorak), 3:16. 7, Florida, Kozlov 15, 6:51. 8, Florida, Whitney 32 (Ciccarelli, Gagner), 11:10 (pp).

Third Period—9, New Jersey, Sykora 16 (Stevens, Niedermayer), 1:54. 10, New Jersey, Morrison 5 (Thomas, Bombardir), 12:16.

Overtime—None.

Shots on goal—Florida 8-14-4-2—28. New Jersey 7-9-20-3—39. Power-play Opportunities—Florida 2 of 3; New Jersey 1 of 4. Goalies—Florida, McLean 14-20-5 (39 shots-34 saves). New Jersey, Brodeur 43-16-8 (28-23). A—15,116 (19,040).

Coyotes 2, Blackhawks 1

Phoenix	0	1	1	— 2
Chicago	0	1	0	— 1

First Period—None.

Second Period—1, Chicago, Amonte 29 (Chelios, Suter), 10:40 (pp). 2, Phoenix, Baron 1 (Roenick), 14:04.

Third Period—3, Phoenix, Roenick 24, 12:40.

Shots on goal—Phoenix 6-10-5—21. Chicago 10-11-9—30. Power-play Opportunities—Phoenix 0 of 6; Chicago 1 of 6. Goalies—Phoenix, Khabibulin 29-28-10 (30 shots-29 saves). Chicago, Hackett 21-24-11 (21-19). A—17,822 (20,500).

IHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Northeast Division

Team	W	L	SOL	Pts	GF	GA
y-Detroit	47	20	15	109	266	231
x-Orlando	42	30	10	94	257	251
x-Grand Rapids	38	31	13	89	225	242
Quebec	27	48	7	61	211	292

Central Division

Team	W	L	SOL	Pts	GF	GA
y-Fort Wayne	47	29	6	100	270	243
x-Cincinnati	40	30	12	92	274	254
x-Indianapolis	40	36	6	86	245	260
x-Cleveland	35	37	10	80	228	261
x-Michigan	36	39	7	79	223	261

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Team	W	L	SOL	Pts	GF	GA
y-Chicago	55	24	3	113	301	258
x-Kansas City	41	29	12	94	269	258
x-Milwaukee	43	35	4	90	266	261
x-Manitoba	39	36	7	85	268	254

Southwest Division

	W	L	SOL	Pts	GF	GA
x-Long Beach	53	20	9	115	282	210
x-Houston	50	22	10	110	268	212
x-Utah	47	27	8	102	276	234
x-Las Vegas	33	39	10	76	260	305
San Antonio	25	49	8	58	233	334

y-clinched division title
x-clinched playoff berth
NOTE: Two points are awarded for a victory; one for a shootout loss.

San Antonio 8, Las Vegas 3
Long Beach 4, Utah 3

Sunday's Games

Chicago 7, Milwaukee 5
Quebec 5, Fort Wayne 3
Long Beach 6, Las Vegas 1

End Regular Season

Barnes' Record

The head coaching record of Clemson's Rick Barnes, with post-season tournament appearances in parentheses:

George Mason, 1987-88
20-10
Providence, 1988-89 (NCAA)
18-11
Providence, 1989-90 (NCAA)
17-12
Providence, 1990-91 (NIT)
19-13
Providence, 1991-92 14-17
Providence, 1992-93 (NIT)
20-13
Providence, 1993-94 (NCAA)
20-10
Clemson, 1994-95 (NIT)
15-13
Clemson, 1995-96 (NCAA)
18-11
Clemson, 1996-97 (NCAA)
23-10
Clemson, 1997-98 (NCAA)
18-14

CBA Playoffs

Finals
(Best-of-7)
Sioux Falls vs. Quad City
Saturday, April 11
Sioux Falls 95, Quad City 92, Sioux Falls leads series 1-0
Monday, April 13
Sioux Falls at Quad City, 7 p.m.
Thursday, April 16
Quad City at Sioux Falls, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 18
Quad City at Sioux Falls, 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 19
Quad City at Sioux Falls, 7 p.m., if necessary
Tuesday, April 21
Sioux Falls at Quad City, 7 p.m., if necessary
Wednesday, April 22
Sioux Falls at Quad City, 7 p.m., if necessary

Major League Baseball

AL Boxes

RANGERS 3, BLUE JAYS 1

TORONTO	ab	r	h	bi	TEXAS	ab	r	h	bi
Stewart lf	5	1	1	0	TGdwin cf	4	0	3	1
TFrndz 2b	2	0	1	1	McLmr 2b	3	0	1	0
SGreen rf	4	0	2	0	Greer lf	4	0	0	0
Cnseco dh	3	0	0	0	JuGnlz rf	4	0	0	0
Stanley 1b	4	0	0	0	WClark 1b	3	0	0	0
Fltcher c	4	0	1	0	IRdrgz c	4	0	0	0
Sprgue 3b	4	0	2	0	Stevns dh	3	0	1	0
JoCruz cf	4	0	0	0	Alicea pr	0	1	0	0
AGnzlz ss	4	0	0	0	Elster ss	3	1	2	2
					FTatis 3b	3	1	1	0
Totals	34	1	7	1	Totals	31	3	8	3
Toronto				100	000	000	—		1
Texas				001	000	002	—		3

Two outs when winning run scored.
DP—Toronto 2. LOB—Toronto 9, Texas 6. 2B—TFernandez (2). HR—Elster (2). SB—Canseco (2), TGoodwin (8), FTatis (2). S—McLemore.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Toronto						
Hanson	7	1-3	7	1	1	2
Plesac		1-3	0	0	0	0
Quantrill L,0-1		1	1	2	2	1
Texas						
Burkett		8	7	1	1	2
Wetteland W,1-0	1	0	0	0	0	0

HBP—by Burkett (TFernandez).

YANKEES 7, ATHLETICS 5

OAKLAND	ab	r	h	bi	NEW YORK	ab	r	hbi
Hndrsn lf	5	1	2	0	Knblch 2b	4	1	0 0
McDnld cf	4	0	1	1	Jeter ss	5	1	1 0
Grieve rf	3	0	1	1	O'Neill rf	5	1	4 1
Stairs dh	4	1	2	0	BWllms cf	4	1	2 2
Giambi 1b	4	0	0	0	TMrtnz 1b	4	1	1 2
Mgdan 3b	4	1	1	1	Strwbr dh	3	1	2 1
Spiezio 2b	3	1	0	0	Curtis lf	2	1	1 1
Mcfrlne c	2	0	0	0	Posada c	3	0	0 0
Hinch ph	1	0	0	0	Brosius 3b	4	0	0 0
Brnigal ss	2	1	1	1				
Blwers ph	1	0	0	0				
Totals	33	5	8	4	Totals	34	7	11 7
Oakland				002	003	000	—	5
New York				000	123	10x	—	7

DP—New York 1. LOB—Oakland 5, New York 10. 2B—Henderson 2 (2), Stairs (3), Magadan (3), TMartinez (3). HR—Strawberry (3). SB—McDonald (6), Strawberry (3), Curtis 2 (4). CS—Henderson (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Oakland						
Oquist	5	6	4	4	5	5
Groom	1-3	0	0	0	0	0
TJMths L,0-1	1-3	2	2	2	0	0
Dougherty	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mohler	1	1-3	1	1	1	1
Taylor	1	1	0	0	0	1
New York						
RMendoza	5	2-3	7	5	5	2
Buddie W,2-0	1	1-3	0	0	0	0
Lloyd	2	1	0	0	0	1
Stanton S,3	1	0	0	0	0	2

Oquist pitched to 1 batter in the 6th, Dougherty pitched to 1 batter in the 6th.
HBP—by TJMathews (Knoblauch), by RMendoza (Macfarlane), by RMendoza (Grieve). WP—Buddie.

DEVIL RAYS 4, WHITE SOX 1

TAMPA BAY	ab	r	h	bi	CHICAGO	ab	r	hbi
McCkn cf	4	0	1	1	Cmeron cf	4	0	0 0
DaMrtz rf	4	1	2	2	Kreuter c	0	0	0 0
RiBtlr lf	4	0	2	0	Snopek ss	4	0	1 0
McGrff 1b	4	0	2	0	FThms 1b	3	0	0 0
Srrento dh	4	1	1	0	Belle lf	2	0	0 0
BSmith 3b	3	0	1	1	Vntura 3b	4	0	0 0
Stocker ss	3	1	0	0	Sierra dh	3	0	1 0
Flherty c	3	1	2	0	Frazier pr	0	0	0 0
Ldsma 2b	4	0	1	0	MOrdz rf	4	0	0 0
					Drham 2b	3	0	1 0
					O'Brien c	2	0	0 0
					JAbbott cf	1	1	1 1
Totals	33	4	12	4	Totals	30	1	4 1
Tampa Bay				010	110	100	—	4
Chicago				000	000	010	—	1

DP—Tampa Bay 1, Chicago 2. LOB—Tampa Bay 5, Chicago 6. 2B—Sorrento (6). HR—DaMartinez (1), JAbbott (1). CS—RiButler (1), Flaherty (1). S—Flaherty.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Tampa Bay						
Alvarez W,2-1	8	4	1	1	1	7
RHernandez S,1	1	0	0	0	3	0
Chicago						
Navarro L,1-1	6	9	4	4	2	3
CCastillo	2-3	0	0	0	0	0
Rizzo	1	2	0	0	0	1
Foulke	1	1-3	1	1	0	0

Navarro pitched to 2 batters in the 7th.

TWINS 7, ROYALS 2

MINNESOTA	ab	r	h	bi	KANSAS CITY	ab	r	hbi
Nixon cf	5	1	1	0	Damon cf	5	0	1 0
Lawton rf	2	1	0	0	Offrmn 2b	5	0	0 0
Molitor dh	5	1	2	1	HMrris lf	5	0	2 0
Ortiz 1b	5	0	1	2	Palmer 3b	5	1	2 0
MCdva lf	4	0	0	0	JKing 1b	4	0	0 0
TWlker 2b	4	0	2	0	Pndlton dh	3	0	0 0
Coomer 3b	4	1	3	1	Sutton rf	3	1	0 0
Stnbch c	4	0	1	0	MiSwy c	3	0	2 0
Meares ss	3	3	2	2	FMrtnz ss	3	0	1 1
Totals	36	7	12	6	Totals	36	2	8 1
Minnesota				001	002	301	—	7
Kansas City				000	001	100	—	2

E—MCordova (2), Tewksbury (1), Offerman (4). DP—Kansas City 3. LOB—Minnesota 6, Kansas City 11. 2B—Molitor (2), Ortiz (4), TWalker (3), HMorris (2), Palmer (4). HR—Coomer (1), Meares 2 (2). SB—Palmer (4). FMartinez (1). S—FMartinez.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Minnesota						
Twksbr W,2-1	6	4	2	1	1	0
Guardado	1	1	0	0	1	2
Trombley	1	2-3	3	0	0	1
Aguilera S,2	1	1-3	0	0	0	0
Kansas City						
Pichardo L,0-1	6	1-3	7	5	4	2
Whisenant	2	2-3	2	1	1	1
Pittsley	2	3	1	1	1	2

Tewksbury pitched to 1 batter in the 7th.
WP—Trombley.

RED SOX 8, MARINERS 7

SEATTLE	ab	r	h	bi	BOSTON	ab	r	hbi
Cora 2b	5	2	2	0	Grcpnr ss	5	0	1 0
ARdrgz ss	4	2	2	3	JnVntin 3b	4	1	2 0
Grfy Jr cf	5	1	2	2	MVghn 1b	4	2	1 0
EMrtnz dh	4	0	1	0	Leyritz dh	5	2	3 3
Huson dh	1	1	0	0	O'Lry lf	4	3	3 2
Segui 1b	4	1	3	0	Buford cf	4	0	1 0
RDavis 3b	4	0	0	0	Lemke 2b	3	0	0 0
GHill lf	4	0	2	1	Jffrsn ph	1	0	1 1
DWllsn c	4	0	2	1	Varitek c	2	0	1 1
Gipson rf	3	0	0	0	Cmngs ph	1	0	0 0
RWlkns ph	1	0	0	0	Httberg c	0	0	0 0
RPerez rf	0	0	0	0	DLewis rf	3	0	0 0
					Bragg rf	1	0	0 0
Totals	39	7	14	7	Totals	37	8	13 7
Seattle				100	020	220	—	7
Boston				010	003	202	—	8

One out when winning run scored.
E—Gipson (1). DP—Seattle 1, Boston 2. LOB—Seattle 8, Boston 10. 2B—Cora 2 (5), Griffey Jr (3), JnValentin (3), O'Leary (3). HR—ARodriguez 2 (4), Griffey Jr (4), Leyritz 2 (3), O'Leary (1). SB—Segui (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Seattle						
Fassero	5	1-3	5	3	2	1
Spoljaric		1-3	1	1	1	2
Ayala		2-3	3	2	2	0
Fossas		0	1	0	0	0
Timlin	1	2-3	1	0	0	0
Slocumb L,0-1		1-3	2	2	2	1
Boston						
Wakefield	6	2-3	8	4	2	6
Corsi		1-3	1	1	1	0
Eckersley		1-3	3	2	2	0
Wasdin W,2-0	1	2-3	2	0	0	1

Fossas pitched to 1 batter in the 7th.
HBP—by Fassero (MVaughn). WP—Slocumb. PB—DWilson, Varitek.

ANGELS 12, INDIANS 1

ANAHEIM	ab	r	h	bi	CLEVELAND	ab	r	hbi
Erstad 1b	4	1	2	0	Lofton cf	3	0	2 0
Bolick 1b	2	0	0	0	Giles cf	2	0	1 0
Hollins 3b	4	3	2	2	Dnston 2b	3	0	0 0
Nevin 1b	1	0	0	0	Brnson 2b	1	0	0 0
Salmon rf	3	5	2	2	Justice dh	4	0	1 0
Edmnd cf	2	2	1	3	MRmrz rf	4	0	0 0
Mshore cf	2	0	0	0	Berroa lf	4	1	1 0
Fielder dh	4	0	1	2	Frymn 3b	3	0	0 0
GAndsn lf	5	0	2	0	Thome 1b	3	0	2 1
NMrtin 2b	5	1	3	0	SAlmr c	1	0	0 0
Wlbeck c	4	0	0	0	Brders c	3	0	1 0
DSrcna ss	5	0	1	1	Vizquel ss	1	0	1 0
					JbCbra ss	2	0	0 0
					Manto ph	1	0	0 0
Totals	41	12	14	10	Totals	35	1	9 1
Anaheim				241	300	101	—12	
Cleveland				000	000	001	—	1

E—DiSarcina (1), Thome (1). DP—Anaheim 2, Cleveland 1. LOB—Anaheim 10, Cleveland 9. 2B—Erstad (4), Fielder (3), NMartin (2), DiSarcina (2), Thome (3), Borders (2). HR—Hollins (2), Salmon 2 (5), Edmonds (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Anaheim						
CFinley W,2-0	7	1-3	7	0	0	1
DeLucia	1	2-3	2	1	1	2
Cleveland						
JrWright L,1-1		3	7	7	5	3
TMartin		3	4	3	3	5
Plunk		2	2	1	1	0
Morman		1	1	1	1	0

WP—CFinley, DeLucia. TMartin

ORIOLES 6, TIGERS 3

BALTIMORE	ab	r	h	bi	DETROIT	ab	r	hbi
ByAdsn cf	4	1	0	0	BLHntr cf	5	1	2 0
RAlmr 2b	5	0	1	0	Roberts dh	3	0	2 0
CRpken 3b	4	2	2	0	Hggnsn rf	4	0	0 0
Baines dh	4	1	2	1	ToClrk 1b	4	1	2 1
Carter dh	1	0	0	0	LGnzlz lf	4	0	2 0
RPlmr 1b	4	1	2	2	Easley 2b	4	1	1 1
Hmnds rf	4	0	0	0	Randa 3b	3	0	1 0
Surhoff lf	3	0	1	1	JOlver c	3	0	1 1
Wbster c	3	0	0	0	Csnova ph	1	0	0 0
OGllen ss	3	1	0	0	BRpkn ss	3	0	0 0
Bordick ss	0	0	0	0	Ctlnotto ph	1	0	0 0
Totals	35	6	8	4	Totals	35	3	11 3
Baltimore				000	132	000	—	6
Detroit				011	100	000	—	3

E—Higginson (1). DP—Baltimore 2, Detroit 1. LOB—Baltimore 10, Detroit 7. 2B—Baines (1), ToClark (2), LGonzalez (3). HR—RPalmeiro (1), Easley (3). CS—LGonzalez (1), Randa (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Baltimore						
Erickson W,3-0	7	1-3	11	3	3	2
Mills		2-3	0	0	0	0
ABenitez S,4		1	0	0	0	0
Detroit						
Keagle L,0-2	4	2-3	5	4	4	4
Sager		1	1	2	0	2
Runyan		0	0	0	0	1
Florie		2	2	0	0	0
Duran	1	1-3	0	0	0	0

Runyan pitched to 2 batters in the 8th.
HBP—by Keagle (Hammonds).

NL Boxes

DODGERS 7, ASTROS 6, 10 inn.

HOUSTON	ab	r	h	bi	LOS ANGELS	ab	r	hbi
Biggio 2b	5	0	1	0	EcYng 2b	4	1	0 0
DeBell rf	4	2	2	1	Hlndsw lf	5	0	1 1
Bgwell 1b	4	0	0	0	Piazza c	4	1	2 0
Berry 3b	4	1	0	0	THwrd pr	0	1	0 0
BWgnr p	0	0	0	0	Zeile 3b	5	0	1 1
Alou lf	5	2	3	3	Mndesi rf	4	2	2 3
Everett cf	5	0	4	2	Knerko 1b	4	0	2 0
Gtrrez ss	5	0	1	0	Luke 1b	0	1	0 0
Asmus c	4	0	0	0	THbbrd cf	2	0	0 1
Hlama p	2	1	0	0	Castro ss	4	0	0 0
Ntkwsk p	0	0	0	0	Park p	1	1	1 0
Spiers ph	1	0	0	0	Bruske p	1	0	0 0
Scnln p	0	0	0	0	WGrero ph	1	0	1 0
Bogar 3b	0	0	0	0	Clontz p	0	0	0 0
					Dvraux ph	1	0	1 1
					Osuna p	0	0	0 0
Totals	39	6	11	6	Totals	36	7	11 7
Houston				112	100	000	1	— 6
Los Angeles				011	002	001	2	— 7

Two outs when winning run scored.
E—Castro (1). DP—Houston 2, Los Angeles 1. LOB—Houston 8, Los Angeles 5. 2B—Biggio (6), Alou (3), Everett 2 (2), Zeile (2). 3B—Park (1). HR—Alou (3), Mondesi (2). SB—DeBell 2 (3), Bagwell (4), Everett (3). S—THubbard. SF—DeBell, THubbard.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Houston						
Halama	5	1-3	4	4	2	2
Nitkowski	1	2-3	3	0	0	0
Scnln		1	1	0	0	0
BWagner L,0-2	1	2-3	3	3	3	1
Los Angeles						
Park		3	8	5	4	4
Bruske		4	1	0	0	0
Clontz		2	0	0	0	0
Osuna W,1-0	1	2	1	1	0	0

Park pitched to 2 batters in the 4th.

GIANTS 2, CARDINALS 1

ST. LOUIS	ab	r	h	bi	SAN FRAN	ab	r	hbi
DeShds 2b	4	0	1	0	DHmtn cf	4	0	2 0
BJrdan rf	3	1	1	0	Mueller 3b	3	0	0 1
McGwr 1b	4	0	2	0	Bonds lf	4	0	0 0
RLnkfd cf	3	0	1	1	Kent 2b	3	1	1 0
McGee lf	4	0	0	0	Snow 1b	2	0	0 0
Gaetti 3b	4	0	1	0	Jhnstne p	0	0	0 0
Lmpkin c	4	0	0	0	Benard ph	1	0	0 0
DHwrd ss	4	0	1	0	Nen p	0	0	0 0
Frsctre p	0	0	0	0	Javier rf	2	0	1 0
Politte p	2	0	0	0	BJhnsn c	3	0	1 1
Ptkvsk p	0	0	0	0	ADiaz pr	0	1	0 0
Clayton ss	0	0	0	0	Aurilia ss	4	0	2 0
					Hrshsr p	1	0	0 0
					Hayes 1b	1	0	0 0
Totals	32	1	7	1	Totals	28	2	7 2
St. Louis				100	000	000	—	1
San Francisco				000	000	101	—	2

Two outs when winning run scored.
DP—St. Louis 2. LOB—St. Louis 7, San Francisco 10. 2B—Gaetti (3), BJohnson (1). SB—DeShields (3). CS—BJordan (1), Javier (1). S—Politte, Hershiser. SF—BJohnson.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
St. Louis						
Politte	6	5	1	1	2	2
Petkovsek	2	1	0	0	3	2
Frascatore L,0-2	2-3	1	1	1	3	0
San Francisco						
Hershiser	7	6	1	1	0	6
Johnstone	1	1	0	0	1	1
Nen W,2-0	1	0	0	0	0	1

Politte pitched to 2 batters in the 7th.
HBP—by Hershiser (BJordan).

PADRES 4, DIAMONDBACKS 2

ARIZONA	ab	r	h	bi	SAN DIEGO	ab	r	hbi
DWhite cf	4	0	0	0	QVeras 2b	4	0	0 0
JBell ss	4	0	0	0	MaSwy rf	3	0	0 0
TLee 1b	4	1	1	1	Mouton rf	1	0	0 0
MWlms 3b	4	0	1	0	SFinley cf	4	0	1 0
YBntez lf	4	1	2	1	Cmniti 3b	3	1	1 1
KGrcia rf	4	0	0	0	Joyner 1b	3	0	0 0
Stinnett c	3	0	0	0	GVghn lf	2	1	0 0
TBtsta 2b	3	0	0	0	GMyrs c	3	0	1 0
Blair p	2	0	0	0	Sheets ss	3	2	2 2
AFox ph	0	0	0	0	JHmtn p	3	0	0 0
Daal p	0	0	0	0	Hffman p	0	0	0 0
Totals	32	2	4	2	Totals	29	4	5 3
Arizona				100	000	100	—	2
San Diego				020	100	10x	—	4

E—Joyner (1), Sheets (1). DP—San Diego 1. LOB—Arizona 4, San Diego 3. 2B—MWilliams (5), Sheets (1). HR—TLee (2), YBenitez (1), Caminiti (6), Sheets (1). SB—SFinley (2), GVaughn (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Arizona						
Blair L,0-3	7	5	4	4	2	5
Daal	1	0	0	0	0	1
San Diego						

Woods 'Tigerproofs' Augusta by himself

By Doug Ferguson
AP Sports Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. — The Masters officials didn't have to "Tiger-proof" Augusta National. Tiger Woods took care of that himself.

By the time Woods teed off Sunday afternoon, it was clear that nobody — not even him — would be able to come close to his record score of 18-under-par 270 that he shot last year.

In bombing every drive, hitting par-5s with wedges and topping that off with the unthinkable — no three-putts — there were suggestions from every corner that Woods had made Augusta obsolete.

This time, Augusta made Woods just another golfer.

"I'm human," Woods said after a 72 — his 11th straight round without breaking 70 — left him at 3-under 285, six strokes behind his neighbor and good friend, Mark O'Meara.

"The only thing I can say about my game is I go out and give it everything I've got," he said. "Sometimes I'll shoot like I did last year. Sometimes it'll be like this year."

Woods had described his domination of Augusta last year as the whole package. He had boomed his drives an average of 323 yards, which left him shorter irons into greens that must be hit in the right place.

And if the ball is on the right section of the green, it becomes a little easier to not only make birdies, but to avoid three-putts.

About 30 minutes before Woods teed off in the final round, still only five strokes back and confident he could win, he was on the driving range with coach Butch Harmon trying to fine-tune his iron play.

He would take the club a quarter of the way back and then stop, check his alignment, and continue with the swing.

It didn't seem to work. Woods was errant with his iron play all week — not by much, but it doesn't take much at Augusta.

As a result, he hit only 46 of the 72 greens in regulation, compared with 55 greens last year. And it didn't help that his driving distance of 295 yards was 28 yards shorter.

As for those three-putts? Woods' streak of 113 consecutive holes without one ended Saturday on the first green, and he had another one Sunday on the par-5 eighth.

That in itself spelled disaster for Woods. A year ago, Woods was 13 under on the par-5s alone. Not only did he fail to make an eagle on any of them in four rounds, he made bogey twice — No. 8 on Sunday, and No. 15 in the second round.

It was there that Woods conceded his chances to become only the third repeat winner at Augusta was over. He stuck a 7-iron to about 10 feet on No. 15, only to see the eagle putt slip below the hole.

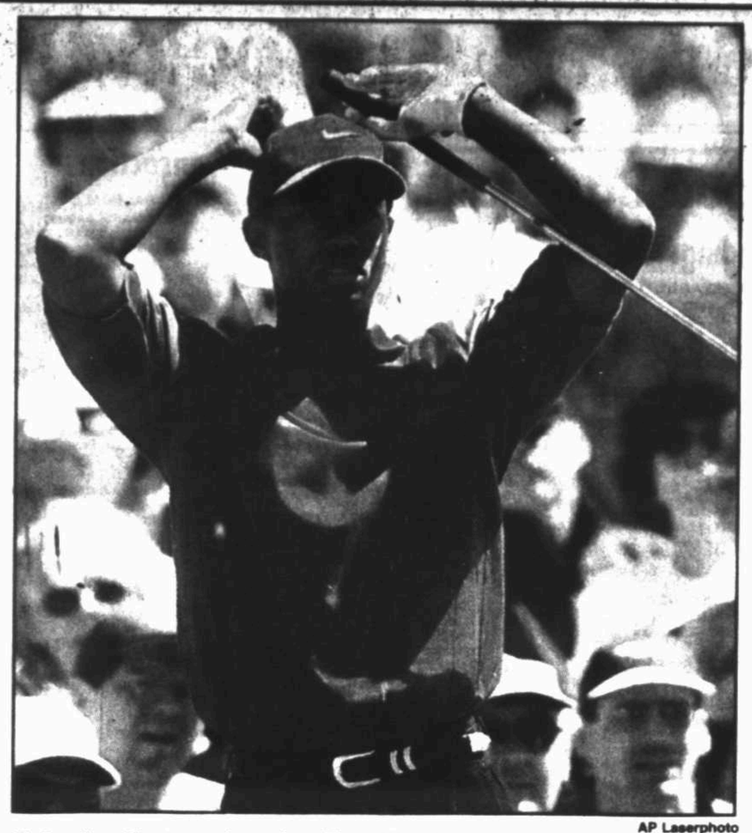
"Unfortunately, I wasn't able to make the key shots and the key putts to get things really started," he said.

Woods still wound up in a tie for eighth and stayed in contention for all four rounds in a major for the first time since he won the Masters last year.

But Jack Nicklaus even said Woods would win at least 10 green jackets, and Woods proved last year he wasn't kidding.

This week, Woods showed only that it won't be easy.

"People just don't know how hard this golf course is," Woods said. "I don't think you need to change this golf course. The conditions here are just tough enough as it is."



AP Laserphoto

Defending Masters champion Tiger Woods reacts to his drive from the 3rd tee during the final round of play in the 1998 Masters, Sunday in Augusta, Ga.

Toms does more than earn Masters invitation

By Paul Newberry
AP Sports Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — David Toms wanted a return trip to Augusta National, nothing more. He wound up shooting one of the great back nines in Masters history.

Toms, a 31-year-old playing in his first Masters, streaked through the final nine holes with a 7-under-par 29, tying the back-nine record set by Mark Calcavecchia in 1992.

Toms also tied the record for most consecutive birdies, coming up with six from the 12th through the 17th, and finished in a tie for sixth with a 5-under total of 283, four shots behind winner Mark O'Meara.

"My goal was to finish top 24," Toms said, referring to one of the standards that ensures an invitation from Augusta National in 1999. "That was it. I knew if I shot a couple under, I'd be in good shape."

He did much better than that, missing the course record by only one shot with an 8-under 64.

"It's one of those nines where if you're playing solid and getting good shots, you can do it," Toms said. "If you're a little off, you can go the other way. I shot a 41 on the back nine Thursday, 12 shots different. I felt like I was playing solid then, too.

"It's tough to explain."

Toms' 64 tied the mark held by three players for the lowest score in the final round, and it tied three records for a first-year player: lowest back-nine score, lowest 18-hole score and lowest fourth round.

"It's probably the highlight of my career I would say to this point," he said. "Just because of the setting, the timing — the back nine on Sunday at the Masters, when I needed a good round to come back next year."

The day didn't begin so smoothly for Toms. He had to get his family packed for the trip back home to Shreveport, La. His wife, Sonya, didn't even get to stay for the entire final round, leaving after he played the 11th hole because she had to catch a flight.

She missed all those birdies and the reception her husband got when he strolled to the 18th green.

"It was a different sound," Toms said. "I've always heard about it, and to experience it was very special."

LOOKAHEAD TO 1999: David Toms wasn't the only one with an eye toward qualifying for the Masters next year.

Among those who might have been on shaky ground before they finished in the top 24 were Darren Clarke (tied for eighth with a 3-under 285), Scott McCarron (tied for 16th with a 1-under 287), Willie Wood (tied for 21st with an even-par 288) and Stewart Cink and John Huston (both tied for 23rd with a 1-over 289).

Also qualifying automatically for next year's tournament was amateur Matt Kuchar, who will still be only a junior at Georgia Tech when he makes his second Masters appearance. Kuchar tied for 21st at 288.

Masters Notebook

FURYK'S CHARGE: Jim Furyk says the Masters is his favorite tournament. He finally came up with a score that matched his enthusiasm.

Furyk shot a 68 on Sunday and finished fourth with a 7-under 281, only two shots behind winner Mark O'Meara. It was quite an improvement for Furyk, whose had finished 29th and 28th in his first two appearances at Augusta National.

"I love playing this golf course," he said. "I need to work on my game, positioning the ball off the tee. I did that all week. I worked on getting into contention. And I did."

MICKELSON'S COLLAPSE: Phil Mickelson made the turn Sunday in the running for his first major championship.

He'll have to wait a little longer.

The 27-year-old Mickelson had two double-bogeys on the back nine, finishing the round with a 2-over 74 and tied for 12th place with three others.

"After 12, I was out of it," he said, referring to the treacherous par-3 where his tee shot splashed in Rae's Creek. "I would have had a shot at it."

Mickelson had another double-bogey at 17, canceling out three birdies in the final four holes.

BEATING A LEGEND: Joel Kribel finished next-to-last among those making the cut at the Masters, but how many 21-year-olds can say they beat Gary Player with a birdie at No. 18?

Kribel, a junior at Stanford, finished off a 13-over 301 by making the birdie at the last hole. His player partner, three-time Masters champion Player, made a par on the hole for a 14-over 302.

"I still have some work to do to catch up with these guys," Kribel said. "I struggled with the speed of the green all week. But playing with Gary, it was awesome. It's incredible to have a chance to play with him. He's a legend. I had a good time."

So did Player, who accomplished his main goal for the week when he came the oldest player in Masters history to make the cut.

Couples can't stand prosperity at Masters

By Doug Ferguson
AP Sports Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Right about the time Fred Couples made the Masters look like a walk in the park, he wound up off the beaten path.

And just when it looked like he would find his way back once again by hitting a shot from a greenside bunker within five feet on No. 18, he watched Mark O'Meara raise his arms in triumph after holing a 20-foot birdie putt.

"Once it went in, I felt like scooping up my coin, walking into the tent and getting the hell out of there," Couples said Sunday.

If only he could have gone back to the 13th tee.

He was still leading by one stroke over David Duval, who two-putted for birdie on the par-5 13th ahead of him.

No problem.

Couples had owned the 485-yard hole the three previous rounds — two birdies, and then a 3-iron within two feet for eagle on Saturday that propelled him to a three-stroke lead going into the final round.

This time, he hit a wild hook that clipped pine branches down the left side, sailed over Rae's Creek and onto a dirt road.

"I might have been luckier if the ball hit the trees and went in the water," Couples said.

He had to play a sand wedge over the pines back to the fairway, but still had only 162 yards. All he had to do was hit the green and two-putt for par and keep right on going.

Instead, his 6-iron tailed off to the right and settled in the bottom of the creek, setting up a double bogey.

"I just had a big blunder on 13," Couples said. "I can't say if I had parred it, I would have won by a shot. But I think that was the deciding blow."

Still, that wasn't the only hole that cost Couples his second green jacket. After all, he made a huge recovery by sending a high 7-iron to two feet on the par-5 15th for an eagle that pulled him back into a tie with Duval, who three-putted No. 16 ahead of him.

But the 13th, as well as the par-4 ninth earlier in the round, was a clear example that Couples simply couldn't stand prosperity.

"I feel like I lost a little bit out there," he said.

It may have started Saturday evening, when Couples' tee shot on the 18th wandered in the woods, and he couldn't save par from a greenside bunker. Then, he started Sunday dominated by cheers for another great run by Jack Nicklaus by making bogey on the first hole.

But as O'Meara was holing long putts early on, Couples was able to match him. Both birdied the par-3 fourth to get to seven under, and Couples began to pull away on No. 7 with a wedge to two feet.

He followed that with a chip to the par-5 eighth green that stopped two feet from the hole, and was in perfect position to get to 10 under when his drive found the middle of the fairway at No. 9, just 105 yards from the flag.

DUVAL: Just short of winning yet again

(From 1C)

But there was no way to escape the anguish.

"I started three back (of Couples to begin the round) and shot 67. I shouldn't be disappointed in myself, but I am," Duval said. "I should be patting myself on the back, but not right now."

Maybe the explanation for all those conflicting emotions is in Duval's past. Before his breakthrough victory in the 1997 Michelob Championship, he had finished second in seven of his first 92 pro tournaments. Five times, he had taken a lead to the final day, only to wilt under the pressure or have someone overtake him with a stellar round.

It was more of the latter on Sunday. O'Meara birdied three of the final four holes, rolling in a putt at 18 that was very similar to the one Duval had missed.

If anyone should be kicking themselves, it was Couples. A double-bogey at No. 13 cost him the lead, and he blew any chance for a playoff with O'Meara when his first two shots at 18 wound up in the sand, forcing him to settle for a par and second place.

Still, Couples sounded a lot like Duval when he praised O'Meara rather than pointing to his own shortcomings.

"If I go out and play well and get beat," Couples said, "there's not much I can do about it."

Despite another second-place finish, the 27-year-old Duval insisted that he'll never be a perennial also-ran again. Let's not forget those four victories, including the 1997 Tour Championship, and let's remember that he was playing in only his third Masters.

"What happened the last six months has really helped my confidence," he said. "I'll never give up hope of winning this golf tournament someday."

Someone asked if he picked out his clothing with a green jacket in mind. Duval looked down, taken aback for a moment.

"It certainly would have matched," he said. "Maybe next year."

MASTERS: O'Meara shoots 67 final round

(From 1C)

"Once it went in I felt like scooping up my coin, walking into the tent and getting out of there," Couples said.

The birdie on No. 18 gave O'Meara a closing round 67 and a 72-hole total of 279 — nine strokes higher than the winning score by Woods last year. Woods and O'Meara live in the same community near Orlando and are constant golf and fishing companions.

"I used to tell Tiger he had to give me strokes on the par 5s," O'Meara said. "Now he wants me to give him strokes.

"What does Tiger mean to Mark O'Meara?" he asked. "You know I have to compete against him. I have to find some way to get around the advantages he has. I think he has brought my game up a bit."

Jim Furyk was fourth at 281 with Paul Azinger at 282, and Nicklaus and David Toms tied for sixth place at 283.

The victory by O'Meara meant that the last 14 major championships have been won by 14 different players.

As thrilling as the finish was, the 58-year-old Nicklaus all but stole the show.

Playing in his 40th Masters, he made four birdies in the first seven holes and was within three strokes of the lead with nine holes to play. But he couldn't match the 30 he shot on the back nine in 1986 when he won his final Masters at age 46.

Still, his closing round 68 put him at 283, good enough for sixth place, the 22nd time he has finished in the top 10 at the Masters.

"I had to try to shoot the lowest score I could and I went after it," Nicklaus said. "I had a chance at the last three holes to make birdies and I missed all three of them. If I had made those I might have been right in the hunt."

Woods, who shot a record 18-under par last year and won by a record 12 strokes, was never a factor at this Masters.

Betrayed by erratic iron play all week, Woods closed with a 70 and a 285 total — 15 strokes higher than last year. But the mere fact that he finished eighth despite not playing well displayed what a force he will be in this tournament for years to come — perhaps just as Nicklaus has been.

"I squeezed the towel dry this week," Woods said about the fact he got more out of his game than he perhaps should have.

"I just hung in there with my short game," he said. "I hit 18 greens in the first two rounds and was still under par. That was a minor miracle in itself. I'm very proud of how I hung in there. People have no idea how hard this golf course is."

The crazy flip-flop finish appeared to be all but over several times, first with Couples looking like he was the winner and then with Duval seeming to have things under control, and finally with a playoff almost certain.

Throughout the day, O'Meara was a mere afterthought as the possible winner — until he made three birdies on the last four holes.

Duval was five strokes behind Couples through eight holes and a mere six holes later was two ahead, a turnaround reminiscent of the deficit Nick Faldo made over Greg Norman in 1996 on virtually that same stretch of holes.

It appeared Couples had given the tournament away on No. 13 when he drove into the azalea bushes on the left side and had to play his next shot off a service road. He handled that well enough but then dumped his 161-yard approach shot into the water and made a double-bogey 7 to fall two strokes behind Duval.

But Couples pulled back into a tie when he hit a 6-iron from 185 yards on the par-5 15th hole to 2 feet and made an eagle while Duval was making a three-putt bogey on the 16th hole.

Couples missed a 9-foot birdie try on No. 17 while Duval missed from 10 feet. Then it all came down to the final hole and once again O'Meara's putting touch carried him through.

Nicklaus, playing in the Masters for a fifth different decade, brought an unbelievable sense of magic to Augusta National. The moment the ball left his driver on No. 1 a man in the massive gallery yelled, "Go in the hole."

As his 20-foot eagle putt rolled toward the hole on No. 2, Nicklaus started to dance to his right in a spirited effort to keep the ball from falling off line.

At 2:50 p.m. the name "Nicklaus" appeared on the leadboards for the first time on Sunday and cheers of appreciation could be heard all over the course. Those cheers cranked up to deafening decibels moments later when Nicklaus chipped in on the third hole for a birdie to get to three under par.

Everywhere Nicklaus moved he was carried along by shouts of encouragement. As he moved from the seventh green to the eighth tee a man walked along with seven fingers held high in the air over his head — indicating that this would be Nicklaus' seventh Masters title.

Only Harry Vardon with six British Open titles has won a major championship as often as Nicklaus has won the Masters.

Nicklaus once said Woods would win more Masters than Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer combined — that's a total of 10. The number almost went to 11 on Sunday.

Instead, O'Meara got his first Masters and first major championship. And now the 14-time winner on the PGA Tour with more than $9 million in career earnings can scratch his name off the list of great golfers who have never won a major championship.

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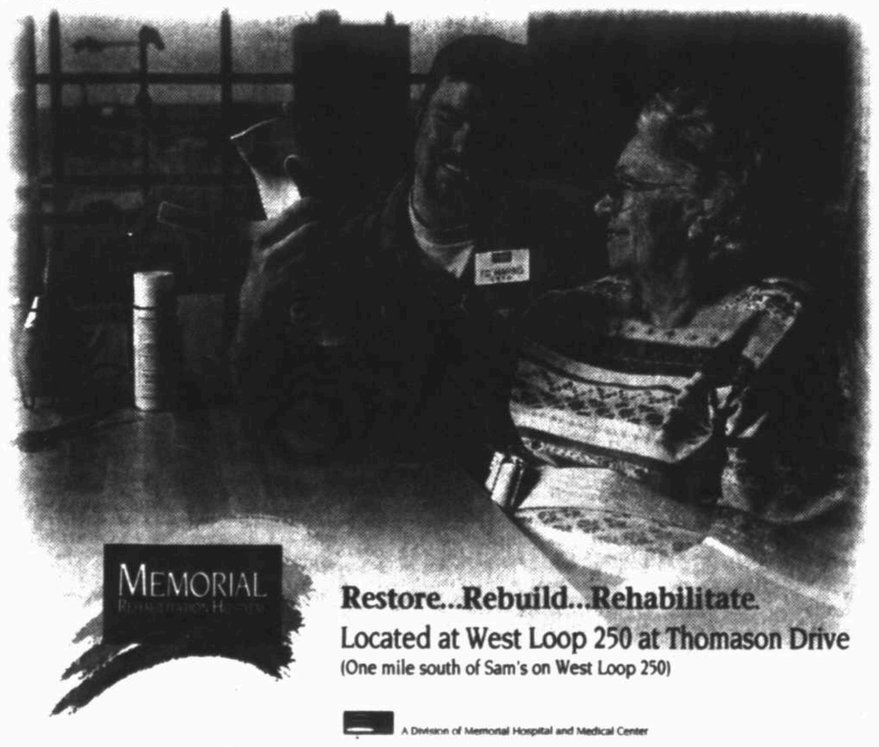

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Hawkins helps shoot down Rockets

■ Heat score controversial 82-81 win over New York Knicks.

Associated Press

SEATTLE — With Vin Baker in foul trouble and Gary Payton having a poor game, the Seattle SuperSonics turned to Hersey Hawkins.

Hawkins scored 16 of his 20 points in a six-minute span of the third quarter as Seattle defeated the Houston Rockets 103-95 Sunday in a possible first-round playoff preview.

"I wasn't thinking about taking the game over," Hawkins said. "They (the Rockets) gave me some breathing room and I got into a nice shooting rhythm."

Hawkins, averaging a career-low 10.5 points per game and shooting a career-low 44 percent from the field, shot 4-of-5 on 3-pointers.

"People forget Hawk is a potent scorer who knows how to pick his spots," Vin Baker said.

"We ran some plays for him, got him some extra shots and he bailed us out," Sonics coach George Karl said.

Houston led 53-52 before Hawkins scored 10 straight points, including a pair of 3-point shots for a 62-53 Seattle lead with 8: 38 left in the third quarter. The Rockets came no closer than four points the rest of the way.

The Sonics and Rockets have met six times in postseason play, with the Sonics winning five of those matchups. The Rockets beat Seattle 4-3 last season in the Western Conference semfinals.

Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich said it's a good possibility the Sonics and Rockets will meet once again in the postseason.

"Their additions have helped them," Tomjanovich said. "They'll be a challenge for anyone."

Seattle trails Utah (59-19) by one game in the loss column in the battle for best record in the West, with the winner likely to meet the Rockets in the first round. Utah has four games remaining and Seattle has three.

Kevin Willis led Houston with 28 points and Clyde Drexler added 25.

Willis' two free throws made it 91-84 with 5: 30 left before Sam Perkins' 3-point shot and a pair of baskets by Baker ignited a 9-2 run that gave Sonics a 100-86 lead.

Drexler said losing the season series to Seattle has no impact on a possible playoff matchup.

"Playoff basketball is a whole new season," Drexler said. "Our focus is getting healthy. If we can do that, we're a dangerous team coming out of the number eight seed."

Payton had 19 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds for the Sonics, who won the season series 3-1.

Seattle's bench outscored Rockets reserves 30-10 as Perkins had 10 points and six rebounds and Jerome Kersey added 10 points.

After Baker went to the bench with his fourth with 10: 28 left in the third, the Hawkins took over. He scored 13 of the Sonics next 15 points as Seattle led 67-58 with 7: 12 left in the third period. His final points of the game a 3-pointer gave the Sonics their biggest lead of 74-60.

Willis had 14 points on 6-for-7 shooting and hit an 18-foot jump shot just before the halftime buzzer to give the Rockets a 52-49 halftime lead.

The Rockets shot 8-of-14 from 3-point range in the first half. Drexler was 3-for-4 and Brent Price was 2-for-3.

Notes: Greg Anthony did not dress for the Sonics because of sore ribs. It was the second straight game he has missed. ... ...Dale Ellis suffered an abdominal bruise in the second period but returned in the third quarter. ... Charles Barkley did not dress for the Rockets because of a groin pull suffered Friday against Sacramento.

Heat 82, Knicks 81

MIAMI — Allan Houston's last-second shot was disallowed when the officials ruled it occurred after the buzzer, and the Miami Heat defeated the New York Knicks 82-81 in a disputed finish Sunday.

The Knicks stormed toward referee Bob Delaney when he indicated the basket didn't count, and coach Jeff Van Gundy ripped off his coat in anger. Television replays indicated Houston released the shot with one-tenth of a second left.

But the Heat won, thanks to three baskets by Tim Hardaway in the final two minutes, and reduced the chances that the two rivals will meet in the first round of the playoffs.

Hardaway finished with 21 points. Alonzo Mourning had 22 points and 13 rebounds. Houston led New York with 21 points.

Hornets 88, Pistons 86

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Charlotte kept alive its fading hopes for homecourt advantage in the first round of the playoffs as Anthony Mason powered the Hornets past Detroit.

Mason matched his season-high with 29 points and added 14 rebounds and four assists, helping Charlotte snap a four-game losing streak.

The Hornets maintained a one-game lead over Atlanta in the battle for the fourth seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Grant Hill had 17 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists for Detroit, giving him six double-doubles and two triple-doubles in 12 games.

Hawks 91, Wizards 81

WASHINGTON — Eldridge Recasner came off the bench to score 10 of his 17 points in the final period, and Steve Smith had 18 as the Hawks rallied from a 14-point deficit to defeat the Wizards.

The Hawks, who have won five of seven, held the Wizards to two points over the final 6: 33.

Washington is 0-3 since a sexual assualt complaint was filed against Chris Webber and Juwan Howard, with two of those games coming after Rod Strickland suffered a season-ending leg injury.

■ NBA Roundup

Nets 116, Raptors 109

TORONTO — Keith Van Horn scored a season-high 33 points, Kerry Kittles added 31 and New Jersey played a perfect final three minutes to move into seventh place in the Eastern Conference.

The Nets (42-36), winners of five straight and seven of their last nine, moved one-half game ahead of the New York Knicks.

The Nets went 5-for-5 from the field and 8-for-8 from the line over the final three minutes. Sam Cassell added 25 points for New Jersey.

Dee Brown finished with 30 for Toronto, including 18 on 3-pointers.

Pacers 93, Celtics 87

BOSTON — Antonio Davis scored a season-high 28 points and Indiana ran its winning streak to four games.

Pacers coach Larry Bird, who led the Celtics to three NBA championships in the 1980s as a player, got a mild ovation before the game — nothing compared with the rousing welcome he received Jan. 18 in his first game in Boston as Indiana's coach.

Indiana (55-23) maintained its half-game lead over Miami (55-24). The team with the better record would have homecourt advantage if they meet in the second round of the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Suns 129, Grizzlies 106

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — George McCloud scored a season-high 25 points Sunday as the Phoenix Suns won their eighth straight and moved into a tie for fourth place in the West with a 129-106 win over the Vancouver Grizzlies.

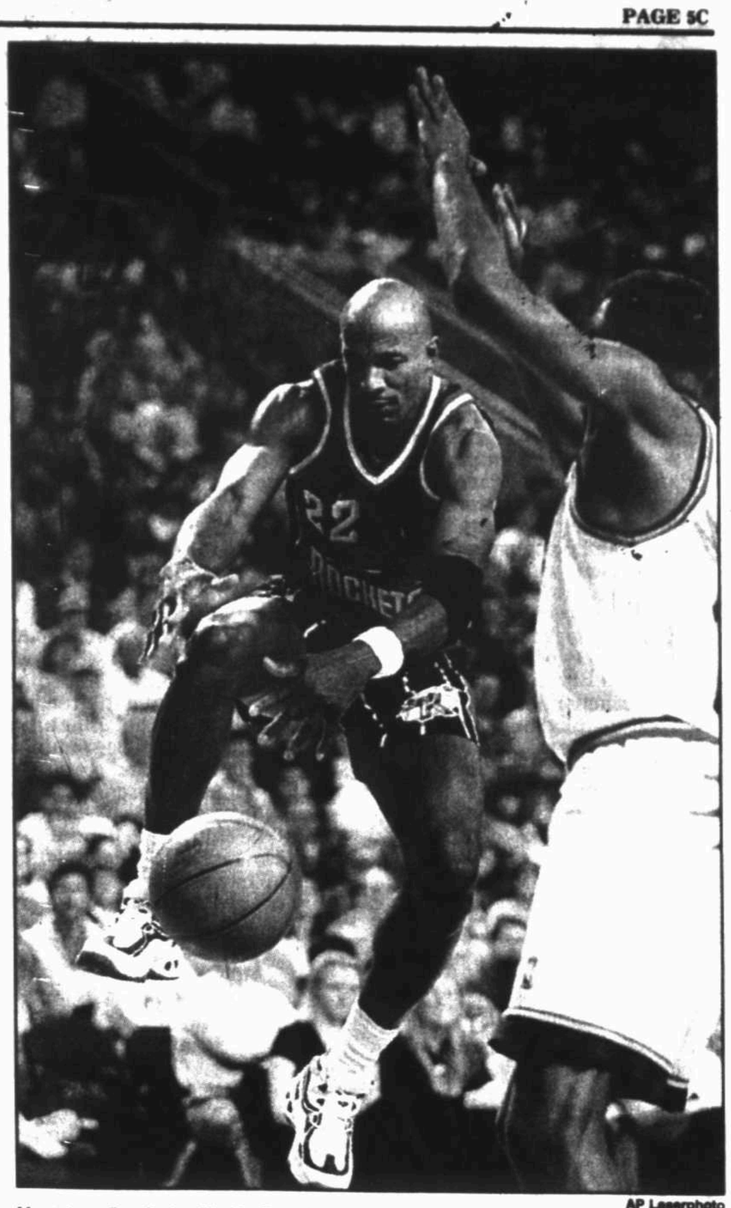
Antonio McDyess chipped in with 23 points and seven rebounds as six Suns players reached double figures in scoring.

McCloud, who make a season-high 11 field goals and pulled down eight rebounds, made his second straight start since taking over for Danny Manning, who suffered a season-ending knee injury Tuesday at Sacramento.

The victory, which extended the Suns' season-high road winning streak to five games, improved Phoenix's record to 53-25, tying them with the idle San Antonio Spurs.

The Suns have the tiebreaker edge over the Spurs by virtue of winning the season series.

The Suns heated up early, hitting 14 of their first 15 shots to build a 30-12 lead seven minutes into the game. Phoenix finished the quarter ahead 39-18 after shooting 17-for-23 from the floor.



AP Laserphoto

Houston Rockets Clyde Drexler (22) loses control of the ball as he drives around Seattle SuperSonics Nate McMillan to the basket during the first quarter Sunday in Seattle. The Sonics went on to win 103-95.

Coaches on bubble; as season ends, bottom teams consider firings

By Curtis Bunn

c. 1998 Cox News Service

ATLANTA — The last week of the NBA regular season also could mark the final days on the job for some coaches. The performance of some teams in the waning outings could determine if some men head for the unemployment office or get another try next season.

The dubious prospects:

— Detroit's Alvin Gentry. The replacement for fired Doug Collins seemed comfortable in the position, probably since he once served as an interim coach in Miami.

However, Gentry failed to turn around the underachieving Pistons and get them into the playoffs. Detroit has been happier under Gentry, whose personable style was the direct opposite of the hard-driving Collins.' Still, the Pistons have been inconsistent. It could help him that All-Star forward Grant Hill has lent support.

— Toronto's Butch Carter. The Raptors have played pretty much the same ball under Carter as they did under Darrell Walker — miserable. Walker bolted at midseason, realizing that his fate was not to coach beyond this season. Toronto allows a league-high 103.9 points a game, which is at the heart of its troubles. Carter has ripped former GM Isiah Thomas, who also quit. But that may not be enough for Raptors management to bring back Carter.

— Golden State's P.J. Carlesimo. The choking victim received support from the Warriors hierarchy immediately after the Latrell Sprewell incident. However, the Warriors have been the Woe-riors, winning less that 22 percent of their games. Worse, attracting free agents with P.J. at the helm might be difficult, at best.

Carlesimo's club scores just 87.8 points per game, which is the worst in the NBA. And if the Warriors' draft pick is in the top three, it goes to Orlando in the Chris Webber trade. Management may decide that a fresh start is needed, even at coach.

— Denver's Bill Hanzlik. Poor Hanzlik. When he left his Hawks assistant job last year for the Mile High City, he couldn't have known his team would be this bad. The Nuggets had to battle all season to avoid being the worst team in NBA history.

Dan Issel took over as general manager, and he hardly gave Hanzlik a ringing endorsement. For a while, the Nuggets looked to be going through the motions — not a good sign for a young coach. But recently, they've fought, presumably to meet a goal they reached by winning their 10th game Thursday: avoiding matching the 1972-73 76ers' 9-73 record, the worst in NBA history.

— Milwaukee's Chris Ford. No doubt, injuries decimated the Bucks in the last quarter of the season. No way they could win consistently without forward Glenn Robinson, guard Terrell Brandon and forward Tyrone Hill. But when they were healthy, Milwaukee was an enigma.

Lately, however, Ford's group has gotten itself together, winning six of 10 during one stretch. Management probably realizes that Ford could only do so much without his top three players. But you never know.

— L.A. Clippers' Bill Fitch. It's about time for the old guy to hang 'em up. The league's perpetual laughingstock will take its usual place in the lottery. The Clips probably will win fewer than 20 games this season, and Fitch has to be held accountable for some of the team's woes. Time for the Clippers to start anew — again.

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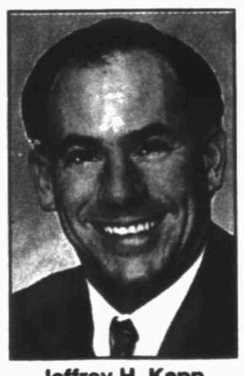

Jeffrey H. Kapp, D.D.S.

If you're one of those people, there is good news for you. In the last few years, we've seen some major improvements in materials and techniques used in porcelain veneers and porcelain restorations for broken down teeth (including replacing old or unsightly silver fillings, which contain mercury, nickel and other toxic materials). This gives many people the opportunity for totally natural looking teeth that will last years and years. It's brought lots of patients new reasons to smile.

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If you want to see what these procedures can do for you before committing to them permanently, we can do a "mock up" by placing temporary veneers on your teeth without preparing the teeth at all. This is a completely reversible procedure. If you like what you see, we can move forward with the permanent treatment. You can also look over some of our before and after photos. Also, some of our previous patients have offered to visit personally with prospective patients and show off their "new" smile.

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Like the veneers, these posterior restorations are done in two office visits, except for very small restorations, which can be done in a single sitting. You can enjoy smiling, eating and chewing immediately, as these restorations are completely finished before you leave the office. Normal care and use should provide you with years and years of worry-free smiles.

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Dr. Jeffrey H. Kapp offers general, cosmetic, implant and restorative dentistry. He is a member of Cosmetic, General and Implant Dentistry. His office is in the Woodhill Building at 3000 N. Garfield, Suite 250. The phone number is 570-7554. His office accepts and files most insurance.

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Schumacher wins Argentine GP

By Stan Lehman
Associated Press Writer

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Ferrari's Michael Schumacher ended the early-season monopoly by McLaren, winning the Argentine Grand Prix Sunday for his first victory this year.

The two-time world champion finished 22.899 seconds ahead of runner-up Mika Hakkinen of the McLaren team in the 72-lap race at the 2,650-mile Oscar Alfred Galvez circuit.

Averaging 105.21 mph, the German completed the race in 1 hour, 48 minutes, 36.175 seconds for his 28th Grand Prix triumph.

His victory supported a prediction he made earlier in the week when he said the Ferraris would soon be catching up with the McLarens — 1-2 finishers in the first two races of the season in Australia and Brazil.

Schumacher not only caught up, but left them behind, proving that Hakkinen was exaggerating when he said Ferrari would need a miracle to catch up.

"I must admit the Ferrari's performance was excellent," Hakkinen said.

Pole-sitter David Coulthard shot into the lead in his silver McLaren-Mercedes, but Schumacher overtook him in the fourth lap after bumping into the rear of the Scot's car, causing it to spin.

Schumacher said Coulthard's car went wide as it turned a corner "so I went for the gap, but he seemed to close the door."

After being hit, Coulthard got back on the track in seventh place. By then, Schumacher had taken the lead, with Hakkinen close behind. After that, the Schumacher-Hakkinen duel was decided by the two teams' pit-stop strategy. When Schumacher made his first pit stop on lap 28, Hakkinen took the lead and held it until he pitted on lap 42.

Schumacher regained the lead, and when he made his second pit stop on lap 52, the 20-second gap with Hakkinen enabled him to return to the track still in the lead.

He quickly outdistanced the Finn, holding on until the end. Schumacher said that after hitting Coulthard, his car began understeering in right hand corners.

"I had to push hard to make the second pit stop without losing the lead," he said.

Hakkinen said he couldn't close the gap because the "surface was very tricky." Light rain dampened the track three-quarters into the race.

"I could have pushed harder in the closing stages of the race, but not without risking my six points (for second place) which I hope are going to be invaluable by the end of the year," he said.

In the 53rd lap, the Williams of defending champion Jacques Villeneuve hit Coulthard's car. Villeneuve was forced out of the race, but Coulthard maneuvered his car back and completed the race in seventh.

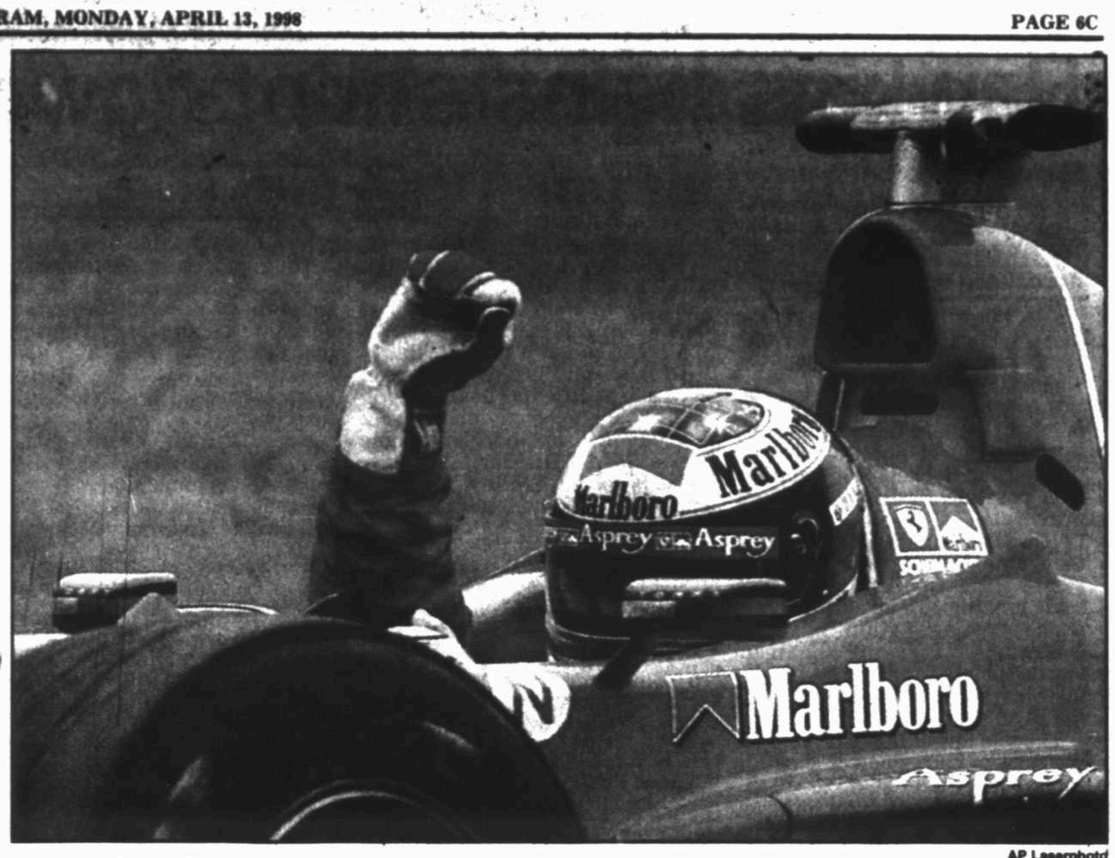
Villeneuve said the accident occurred when Coulthard tried to overtake him on the outside, "leaving me nowhere to go."

"Who knows whose fault it is; it doesn't matter," he said.

In a daring tactic near the end of the race, Benetton's Alexander Wurz of Austria took third place from Ferrari's Eddie Irvine, passing him on the inside of a curve.

But seconds later, Wurz's car spun on the track and Irvine recovered his position, holding it until the end.

"I had a good fight with Wurz," the Brit said. "He got past me when I locked up and went wide when the rain started. Then he lost control and I was back on the podium."



AP Laserphoto

German Michael Schumacher waves from his his Ferrari F1 after winning the Argentine Formula One Grand Prix, Sunday in Buenos Aires. The two-time world champion finished 22.899 seconds ahead of runner-up Mika Hakkinen of the McLaren team.

AP Laserphoto

Victory Gallop with jockey Alex Solis aboard, left, leads Hanuman Highway with jockey David Flores, right, and Favorite Trick with jockey Pat Day, center, to the finsh line at Oaklawn Park to win the $500,000 Arkansas Derby on Saturday in Hot Springs. Victory Gallop and Favorite Trick are Triple Crown nominees.

Owner still thinks he has best horse

By Harry King
AP Sports Writer

HOT SPRINGS, Ark. — Trainer Bill Mott laughed at his decision to run Favorite Trick in the Arkansas Derby instead of the Blue Grass.

"I didn't want to get in a speed duel with Lil's Lad and came to Arkansas and got in a speed duel with ...

"Battle Royale," he was reminded.

After watching several replays of the Arkansas Derby, Mott was still baffled over his previously unbeaten colt streaking down the backstretch head-and-head with a 131-1 shot.

A first quarter in 22 2-5 seconds and a half mile in 46 seconds drained Favorite Trick, and he finished third. He was a half length behind winner Victory Gallop, with Hanuman Highway second.

After nine straight victories in his career, Favorite Trick lost in his final prep race for the May 2 Kentucky Derby. Still, Mott said it's on to Churchill Downs.

"Right now, we're going to go and proceed as if we're going to run," he said Sunday. "It was probably a much better race than what the losing margin showed.

"Like I said beforehand, I wanted to see a win or I wanted to feel like if we got beat, that we had a good excuse to get beat. I think there's a legitimate reason why he didn't win.

"To me, it seems like he was the best horse in the race," Mott added. "I'm not trying to take anything away from the winner or anybody else. I think with proper handling, proper rating ..."

An employee interrupted his sentence, but the remark put the onus on Hall of Fame jockey Pat Day.

"If there was an error made, it was all made in the first 10 jumps away from the gate, the first sixteenth of a mile," Mott said. "Plain and simple, I didn't want him up on the pace like that. I didn't dream that's where he would be. I've seen him run too many times to think that's where he would be."

In his previous races — all with Day aboard — the colt was third or fourth in the early going. Day said Favorite Trick never relaxed and he had no explanation. He also said a close finish always prompts second-guessing.

"He wasn't his usual docile self," Day said. "I guess I could've thrown out the anchor, but I didn't want to start a wrestling match with him."

Mott said that Day nudged the colt three or four times leaving the starting gate.

"I think Pat thought he knew the horse well enough that he could let him run out of there and the horse would come back," said Mott, adding he has not thought about changing jockeys. "He let him run out of there and the horse didn't come back."

Since Favorite Trick emerged as a top 2-year-old, Derby handicappers have looked at his dosage and dismissed his chances for the 1 1/4-mile Kentucky Derby. Dosage is a formula based on a thoroughbred's pedigree. The dosage number must be 4.00 or less for a 3-year-old to be considered promising. Favorite Trick's dosage is 4.60.

Mott said the horse's performance Saturday showed he could handle 1 1/8 miles.

"I can't tell you what a mile and quarter is going to do," he said. "If he runs like he did Saturday, he won't make a mile and a quarter."

Pierce overcomes slow start to capture Bausch & Lomb title

Associated Press

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. — The more Mary Pierce struggled, the more determined she became to win the Bausch & Lomb Championships.

Erratic in dropping the opening set of Sunday's final in the $450,000 women's clay court tennis tournament, Pierce bounced back to dominate Conchita Martinez 6-7 (8), 6-0, 6-2 and win her second title this season.

Runnerup here the past two years, the 1995 Australian Open champion had vowed last spring to return to Amelia Island and take care of unfinished business.

"It feels good," she said. "Finally."

For more than an hour, though, it looked like she might lose again.

Pierce settled down after making 32 unforced errors in the first set, which she nevertheless was able to extend to a tiebreaker that took a toll on Martinez.

"I thought I ran out of steam," Martinez said. "It took a lot to win the first set. Instead of being aggressive, I was waiting on her to make mistakes."

Pierce took control by becoming the aggressor, making a concerted effort to get to the net after playing most of the points from the baseline in the opening set.

She made the same adjustment in Saturday's semifinals to overcome a slow start and upset defending champion Lindsay Davenport, who's ranked No. 2 in the world.

"To be honest it was what I wanted to do the whole match," said Pierce, who credited Martinez for being able to dictate the pace early. "That's the way I've beaten her in the past."

■ Tennis Roundup

After missing two easy shots to lose the tiebreaker, Pierce was nearly flawless in winning eight straight games to take the second set and go up 2-0 in the third.

Martinez failed to hold serve four straight times during the stretch, and her frustration was compounded with an inability to break Pierce after doing it twice in the first three games of the match.

"She kind of took me by surprise," Martinez said of the way Pierce played after the first set. "When she's on, she's very difficult to play."

Pierce, whose performance at Amelia improved her world ranking from sixth to fifth, understood her opponent's confusion.

"When you get someone who plays one way, and they change their game and become aggressive, and they're not making errors ... it's hard to beat them," she said.

Martinez lost for the third straight time on clay to Pierce, who improved her record to 13-2 this season.

Pierce has won two of the four tournaments she's played in 1998, including the Paris Indoors title in February, and earned $79,000 for her 10th career singles victory.

McEnroe beats Borg in Qatar final

DOHA, Qatar — In a rivalry that once produced some of the finest tennis anywhere, John McEnroe beat Bjorn Borg 7-6 (7-5), 4-6, 10-8 Sunday to capture a $500,000 event on the Senior Tour of Champions.

This was McEnroe's sixth senior championship and fifth victory over Borg on the senior tour. They split their 14 matches when they ruled the regular tour.

"It was an incredible match," McEnroe said. "It was very close. I'm glad it was a tiebreak in the last set because Bjorn was looking very fresh."

The first player to win 10 points in the last set, and win by two points, was the winner.

Borg broke to a 3-0 lead in the first set but the 39-year-old American came back to tie the score and relied on his solid serve and deft net play to take the tiebreaker.

Borg again had the early break in the second set. McEnroe having numerous chances to break back, and served three aces in one game, but the Swede held on to force the deciding tiebreaker.

Carlsen wins Salem Open

HONG KONG — Kenneth Carlsen became the first Dane to win an ATP tournament, overpowering Zimbabawe's Byron Black 6-2, 6-0 Sunday in a rain-interrupted final of the Salem Open.

The start of the match was delayed because of rain and was stopped again after the first game of the opening set.

But when played resumed, it took the 76th-ranked Carlsen only one hour to beat the 81st-ranked Black.

Carlsen broke Black three times and lost his serve once in the first set on the hardcourt at Victoria Park. Carlsen continued to apply pressure in the second set with some brilliant passing shots.

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West Texas Sports

Booster Clubs...

The **Midland Lee Baseball Booster Club** will meet each Thursday during the baseball season at 7:30 p.m. in the Lee High School Library....

The **Midland High Baseball Booster Club** will meet at 7 p.m. April 16 in Conference Room A at Midland High.

The **Midland Lee Softball Booster Club** will meet on the first Thursday of every month. Meetings will be held at 7 p.m. in the Lee High School cafeteria...

Banquet

The **Midland High Girls and Boys Basketball Banquet** will be April 29 at Midland Center at 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Nolan Richardson, head basketball coach at the University of Arkansas. Fans can meet the players at 6:30 p.m. This is a chance to meet the 1998 state champion boys basketball team. Tickets are $8 and are available through the two teams' booster clubs, Stadium Sports Center, Manning's Garden Center and Bill Williams Tire Center.

Golf...

The **Spikes and Spurs Celebrity Classic Golf Tournament** is scheduled for May 17-18 at Green Tree Country Club. The tourney is hosted by E.J. Holub, former Texas Tech All-American and Kansas City Chief, and the West Texas Expo Center Board. The tournament benefits the fundraising for the Expo Center and the Midland Cerebral Palsy Center. The tournament is a 4-person scramble, starting at 9 a.m. with three players grouped with a celebrity. Yale Lary, Bum Phillips, Jan Stenerud, Tommy Nobis, Pierce Holt, Tommy Brookshire, Dan Hampton, Ralph Neely, Pat Summerall, Denis Gentry and Bud McFadin are some of the 35 celebrities who plan to attend. Entry fee is $200 per player, which includes celebrity reception, breakfast and lunch. Entry deadline is May 10. For more information call the West Texas Expo Center at 620-WEST or Nancy Swallow at the Chamber of Commerce, 683-3381...

Texas Tech head football coach Spike Dykes will host a two-man scramble **Spike's Open Golf Tournament** on June 27 at the Meadowbrook Golf Complex in Lubbock with shotgun starts at 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Entry fee is $50 per person and includes cart, lunch, two Tech football game tickets and various prizes. Proceeds go to the Texas Tech general scholarship fund. Entries are being accepted at the Meadowbrook Golf Shop, 1-806-765-6679...

The **Andrews Country Club** will hold a 3-man scramble/lowball event April 25-26. Cost is $55 per man with cart extra. Shotgun starts at 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Call Alan Pursley's Golf Shot at 1-915-524-1462 for information...

The **West Texas Longhorn golf tournament** is May 26 at noon at the Club at Mission Dorado in Odessa. This is a chance to meet and play with new Longhorn football coach Mac Brown. The tournament also expects the new Longhorn basketball coach to be present if in place and other members of the UT athletic staff. For information call Dr. Frank Kasman at 520-0220...

The **Martin County Country Club** in Stanton will host the following golf tournaments. May 16-17, 3-person scramble; June 6, parent-child scramble; June 27-28, 2-person scramble; July 25-26, 2-person scramble; Aug. 22-23, 4-person scramble; Sept. 19-20, 4-person scramble; and Oct. 17-18, couples scramble. Call 1-915-756-2556 or 756-2314 for information...

Hogan Park Ladies Golf Clinics are April 14-16 from 6-8 p.m. Clinics will be $60 per person and are for anyone interested in learning about golf. For information call Hogan Park at 685-7360...

Green Tree Country Club will host the **Rally for a Cure golf tournament** on April 29 with registration at 8 a.m. and shotgun start at 9 a.m. Entry fee is $50 per person and includes cart and lunch. April 24 is entry deadline. Proceeds benefit Susan B. Komen Cancer Foundation and the Allison Cancer Center. Format is ABCD players per team with computerized pairings. Call for information at 689-4907 or 694-2215...

The **Camp Fire Boys and Girls 10th Annual Golf Tournament** will be held May 11 at The Club at Mission Dorado. The event will be a 4-person scramble, including men and women, and will begin at 1 p.m. The annual event will be limited to the first 36 teams (144 A,B,C,D players). The entry fee is $100 a person or $400 a team. In addition, the professionals at the club will hold an instructional golf clinic from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Call Debbie Rodriquiz for more information....

The **Midland Chicano Golf Association** is holding a benefit golf tournament for the Midland Magic 14-under girls traveling softball team April 26 at Hogan Park Golf Course. Teams will be limited to the first 60 who sign up. Registration will run from 9-11 a.m. with the first tee time at 11:30 a.m. For more information, call Al Enriquez at 684-8481, coach Jesse Moreno at 699-6316 or Adam Martinez at 682-4549...

The **Midland West Rotary Club** will host its 10th annual College Scholarship golf tournament May 1 at Hogan Park. The four-person scramble has an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. Entry fee is $50. For more information call Raymond Nichols at 682-0958 or Dan Garlington at 697-8036...

The **Knights of Columbus Council No. 9215** is hosting its 10th annual tournament Sunday, July 19 at Hogan Park Golf Course. Entry fee is $45 per player for the four-man scramble and includes green fee, cart,, practice bucket, meal and drink. Registration is 10 a.m. with tee-off at 11:30 a.m. Deadline is July 15. For more information, call Ruben Carrasco at 686-8986, Lon Dominguez at 570-7984 or Sylvester Cantu at 689-6936...

Swimming...

Pre-competitive swimming is being offered at the **Mabee Aquatic Center.** The program will teach elementary age swimmers techniques of competitive swimming while improving their strokes. It is open to swimmers who can swim at least 25 yards of freestyle and backstroke. The cost is $35 per month on a year-round basis. For more information, call 684-7755...

COM Aquatics is holding water aerobics classes Monday through Saturday at Mabee Aquatic Center. Classes are at 6:15 a.m., 7:15 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. There will also be a pre-school excercise class offered in conjunction with the 9 a.m. water aerobics class. All classes are open to the public and swimming skills are not necessary. Deep and shallow water classes are offered. For information, call Julie Harvey at 684-7755...

COM Aquatics is offering beginning diving lessons throughout the school year in its indoor heated Olympic Diving Pool. Participants need to be able to swim in deep water. The COM diving progran also offers competitive team practice and competitions for most ability levels all year long. Please contact coach Maxwell for more information at 684-7755...

The **Alamo YMCA Aquatics Program** is offering swimming lessons for all ages. Children are placed in classes according to age and ability. The Skip class, for children three months to three years is a parent participation class while the Pers classes are for children 3-5 and Progressive classes are for children 6 and up. Lessons are also offered for adults. Safety is taught in conjunction with the classes. Group and private lessons are available. For more information, call 694-2528...

The **Alamo YMCA** is offering water aerobics. Swimming ability is not necessary to participate. For more information, call 694-2528...

COM Aquatics - Learn to Swim year round lessons for both children (3 years of age or older) and adults wishing to learn to swim or improve technique. Private or group lessons (limit four students per instructor) are available. Children are grouped by age and ability. A session normally consists of eight 30-minute lessons. Please call 684-7755 for more details...

Basketball...

The **Midland Lee Youth Center** is holding midnight basketball for boys and girls in grades 4-12 this summer June 23-August 1, Monday-Friday from 6-11 p.m. The entry fee for the program, sponsored by the City of Midland, is $100 for college age players forming their own teams, free for everybody else. For more information, call Barbara Phillip at 689-1175...

Mid America Youth Basketball is conducting 22 tournaments this spring and summer with over 500 teams participating. There will be boys and girls divisions for grades 5-12. Registration deadline is April 30. For more information, call (316) 284-0354...

The **Nothin' But Net Shootout** is May 8-10 in Big Lake. Girls Divisions include 6th, 7th and 8th grade teams with entry fee of $100 per team (10-player limit per team). Entry deadline is May 3. Call Mark Noland at 1-915-884-2551 or Michael Fisher at 915-884-2023 or 1-915-884-2113...

Softball...

MUGS is looking for fast-pitch umpires for league play, which begins in April. Anyone wishing to umpire should contact Mack Gipson at 520-5961 or come to a meeting in the umpire bulding inside the Bill Williams Complex at Hogan Park each Wednesday at 7 p.m...

The **Quick Silver Softball Tournament** is April 17-19 at the Stanton softball park. The men's tournament is double elimintation with 3-homer limit. Entry fee is $110 with an April 16 deadline. Call 1-915-756-3823 or 756-3031 for information...

The Odessa Renegade Tournament is April 17 at the UTPB Complex in Odessa. The tournament is an ASA Men's Class E and Women's Class C event. Entry fee is $100 with an April 15 deadline. Call 366-3545 or 367-2824 for more information...

The **"Magic" Memorial Weekend Softball Tournament** will be held on May 22-24 at Hidalgo and Washington Park. The entry fee is $125, which is due by May 21. Awards will be given out. For more information, please call Max Reyes at 699-2413, Joe Diaz at 520-9516 or Bryan Reynolds at 570-9848....

Latino Lighting Softball Tournament is April 24-26. For more information call 697-8167...

The **Midland Association for Bilingual Education** is hosting its third annual men's tournament April 18-19 at Hildalgo Park. The entry fee is $100 per team with a deadline of April 16. For more information, call Homer Lopez at 682-0819 or Dalia Benavides 520-5409...

Tennis...

Midland Tennis Club's 1998 Tournament Schedule is as follows: May 2-3, Men's Singles; May 16-17; Women's Doubles; May 23-24, Mixed Doubles; June 6-7, Men's Singles; June 13-14, Men's Doubles and Women's Doubles (Adult with Junior); June 27-28, Mixed Doubles (Adult with Junior); July 18-19, Men's Doubles and Women's Doubles (34-under/35-over); July 25-26: Mixed Doubles; Aug. 1-2: Men's Singles; Aug. 8-9, Men's Doubles and Women's Doubles; Aug. 15-16, Men's Singles and Women's Singles; Aug. 29-30, Mixed Doubles; Sept 19-20: Men's Singles and Women's Singles (Championship); Sept. 26-27, Men's Doubles and Women's Singles (Championship); Oct. 3-4, Mixed Doubles (Championship).

Junior Tennis Clinics for beginners, K-2, 3-6 and 7-9, run April 13 to May 22 for $4 per day. Entry deadline is April 12. Advanced groups also start April 13. For information call 689-2237 or 683-5360...

Rodeo...

The **11th annual Midland Ranch Rodeo and Western Heritage Days** is scheduled June 7, 12, 13 and 14. An open youth playday will be hosted by the Tall City Youth Horse Club on June 7. The Midland Ranch Rodeo World's Best Chuckwagon Cook-off, Bit and Spur Exhibit Show and Ranch Rodeo dance, featuring members of the original Bob Wills' Texas Playboys, takes place on June 13. An open team roping will be following an old-fashioned cowboy church service. All events will be at the Midland County Exhibit Building and Arena on East Highway 80. For more information call 687-1351 or 620-WEST...

Miscellaneous...

The **Toughman Contest** is coming to Odessa May 1-2. Competitors — men or women — for this single-elimination boxing contest must be 18-35 years old. No professional boxers are allowed, and competitors must not have more that five amateur boxing victories in the past five years. Kicking and biting are not allowed. For more information, call Doris Brundage at 368-5885 or Jim Morris at (512) 215-8091.

The **Flatlanders Ski Club** is planning a trip to New Zealand, July 24-Aug. 1. The club also offers family oriented rafting, skiing, boating and golfing outings. Call Donna Raburn at 550-5665 for more information

The **Midland Wrestling Club** offers adult, high school, olympic and freestyle wrestling. Call 685-0531 for information...

Gymnastics classes are being offered at the Mabee Aquatic Center. Parent-tot, grade-school and tumbling classes are available. There will also be an advanced team class by tryout only. The staff is certified by USA Gymnastics. For more information, call Megan Rodriguez at 684-7755...

The **Alamo YMCA Gymnastics Program** is offering classes for all age groups from toddlers to age 17. Parent-tot, beginners, advanced beginners, pre-teams and competitive teams are all offered. For more information, contact Stephanie Barr at 694-2528...

The **Midland Women's Bowling Association** will hold its annual spring meeting on April 25 at 3 p.m. at AMF Midland Park Lanes. The election of officers and directors will be held and awards from the Women's City Tournament will be presented...

An **alumni football game** is being planned for former Midland and Odessa high school players. It will be a full contact game with NCAA rules and equipment will be provided for each player. The Midland team is in need of players as well as coaches. For more information, call Brian Northcott at (972) 446-3273...

The **Ector County Independent School District** has two coaching openings. One is for the head boys soccer coach at Odessa Permian and the other is for a junior high tennis coach. If interested, contack Don Ford at 334-7172...

Running...

The **Master the Mountain Fun Run/Fun Walk** will be held Saturday, April 18 at Big Spring State Park. It is being organized by the Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The fee of $10 includes entry to the park. For more information, call Lauri Phillips at (915) 263-1211.

The **1998 West Texas Christian Track Meet** is May 9 at Odessa's Ratliff Stadium. All proceeds benefit St. John's Episcopal School. Entry fee is $5 and entry deadline is April 17. Events are long jump, softball throw, dashes 50 through 800 and 400, 1500 and 1600 relays. Spectator admission is free. Call 362-5168 or 332-2290 for information...

The **Westwood Medical Center Run for the Arts 5K** is May 16 at Centennial Plaza. Entry fee is $12 before May 11. There will also be a children's mile fun run. For information call Mike Leech at 682-0406 or Robin Dobler at 689-2241...

Stars get pp goal to beat St. Louis, 4-3

Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — Pat Verbeek broke a tie with a power-play goal in the third period as the Dallas Stars beat the St. Louis Blues 4-3 Sunday night and improved their chances for winning the Presidents' Trophy.

With a franchise-record 105 points, the Stars took a one-point lead over the New Jersey Devils for the best record in the NHL. The Devils earlier tied Florida 5-5 to boost their point total to 104.

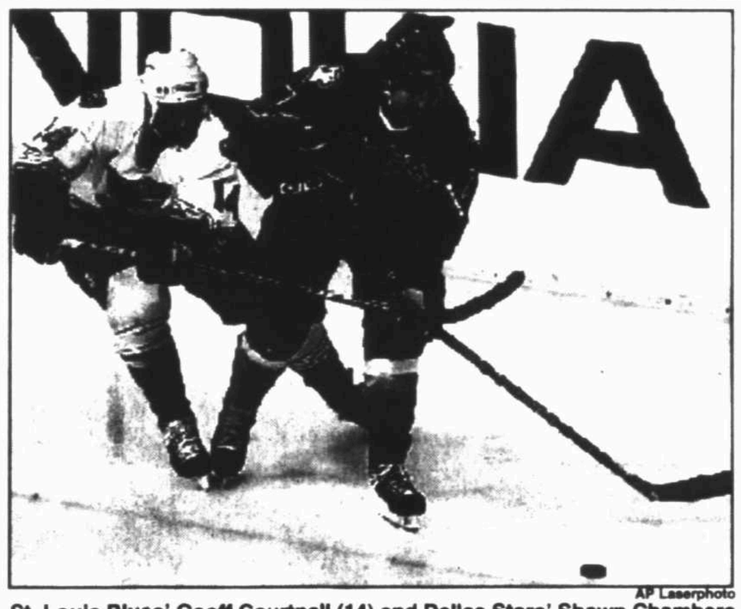
The idle Detroit Red Wings were third at 103.

St. Louis rallied from a two-goal deficit to tie the game at 2 after only 42 seconds had been played in the third period on Steve Duchesne's power-play goal, his 14th.

But a slashing call against St. Louis' Chris McAlpine 30 seconds later gave Dallas a man advantage and Verbeek capitalized for the go-ahead goal eight seconds into the power play when he converted Sergei Zubov's goalmouth pass for his 28th.

Mike Keane scored his 10th at 10:45 of the third to extend the Stars' lead to 4-2. Pavol Demitra's shorthanded goal with 6:28 left, his 20th, pulled the Blues within 4-3.

St. Louis held a commanding 28-14 shots-on-goal advantage, but Ed Belfour's 25-save performance held the Stars in the game.



AP Laserphoto

St. Louis Blues' Geoff Courtnall (14) and Dallas Stars' Shawn Chambers (27) skate for control of the puck during the first period in Dallas on Sunday. The Stars ended up winning the game 4-3.

The Stars' previous points record was 104 set in 1996-97.

St. Louis, which had beaten Dallas in four of the first five meetings this season, has lost three of its last four overall.

Blues No. 1 goaltender Grant Fuhr was scratched with a bruised right knee incurred in Saturday's 4-3 loss to Phoenix, and backup Jamie McLennan suffered his first loss against the Stars this season after winning the first three meetings.

Joe Nieuwendyk's 38th goal from low in the left circle gave Dallas a 1-0 lead at the 41-second mark of the second period. It was Nieuwendyk's fifth in the last four games.

Zubov made it 2-0 at 10:56 of the second with a blast from the middle of the left circle, his 10th. Dallas scored on only two of its three shots in the second period.

But the Blues scored with 13 seconds left in the second when Jim Campbell skated in alone and beat Belfour for his 22nd, narrowing Dallas' advantage to 2-1.

Sports Shorts

Associated Press

Furukawa wins ladies' tournament

MATSUYAMA, Japan (AP) — Chihiro Furukawa shot a 2-under-par 70 Sunday and captured the Kenshoen Ladies-Dogo golf tournament by one stroke for her second career victory and first in 10 years.

Furukawa's final round over the 6,271-yard, par-72 Dogo Golf Club course gave her a 9-under 207 total. Furukawa last won at the 1988 Dunlop Ladies Open.

The victory was worth $69,000 from a purse of $387,000.

Third-round leader Natsuko Noro had a 73 and finished second at 208. Defending champion Kaori Harada tied the course record of 65 and leaped from 16th place to third at 210.

Italian Ballerini wins rainy, muddy Paris-Roubaix race

ROUBAIX, France — Italian Franco Ballerini won a rainy Paris-Roubaix cycling race, in which the favorites endured bloody crashes along the harrowing cobblestone stretches.

"It's the most beautiful race of the season, the race of my life," said Ballerini, who earned his second Paris-Roubaix victory. He also won in 1995.

Ballerini finished in 6 hours, 57 minutes, 49 seconds. The 100-year-old race to this town near the Belgian border covered 160 miles.

Ballerini began his final drive 27 miles from the finish and beat two Mapei teammates by 4:16. Italian Andrea Tafi finished second and Belgian Wilfried Peeters was third.

Two favorites — Belgian Johan Museeuw and Italy's Stefano Zanini — fell on the muddy, cobblestone section in Arenberg forest, 66 miles from the finish. Museeuw sustained a cut knee after running into a photographer, and Zanini had a bloody mouth after falling in a trench.

Frenchman Frederic Guesdon, winner of last year's race, also fell in Arenberg forest.

"I wonder if a cobblestone zone like that should be allowed," said Patrick Lefevere, head of the Mapei team that also represents Museeuw and Zanini.

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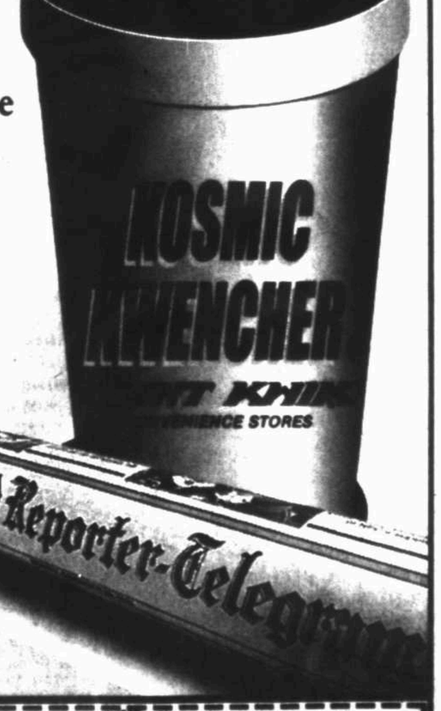

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Boston Garden: Going, going...

Historic New England arena under last phase of demolition

By Bill Porter
Associated Press Writer

BOSTON — Boston Garden sits like a prisoner on death row, sentenced to obsolescence by the $160 million arena next door.

Hunkered beneath a cloud of dust raised by a massive highway tunnel project and eaten from the inside out by souvenir hunters and workers removing asbestos, the old barn is a dusty shell.

This weekend, the final phase of the demolition began. The cranes knocked the last breath out of a place that once roared with life, providing a stage for Bobby Orr, the champion Celtics and everything from rock 'n' roll to rodeos.

With less than a foot of space separating the old building from the new FleetCenter, the destruction will not be dramatic. The building will come down the way it went up — piece by piece.

Those who lived their professional lives there, along with scores of die-hard fans, Garden employees and pigeons, have precious little time to bid farewell to the Titanic place they used to call home as it comes down below the adjacent elevated Southeast Expressway.

"It's ironic, really, that I would have to issue permits for the demolition," said Martin Pierce, the Boston fire commissioner and coach of the Matignon High School hockey team, which won five state titles in the Garden. As a child living in the nearby Charlestown section of the city, Pierce used to sell papers at the Garden.

"You can take down the building, but you can't erase the memories," said Bruin center Milt Schmidt, 79, whose No. 15 was retired and raised to the old rafters.

The memories include a few myths that might as well be torn down along with the building, which opened in 1928.

One is that the Garden was overrun with rats. But, either out of sympathy for the place or because the critters stayed out of sight, no one interviewed for this story would admit to ever seeing one.

The tallest Garden tales involved the Celtics and their cigar-smoking coach, Red Auerbach.

Opponents believed the parquet floor had strategically placed dead spots that gave the Celtics an advantage. Forget it, said John Havlicek.

"There were dead spots, but you never knew where they were going to be," the former Celtic said, "because it depended on how the gang put the floor down on a given night."

The floor, constructed from scraps by the East Boston Lumber Co. during a shortage of materials after World War II, was installed before each game, each section secured by brass screws and bolts. On nights when the crew was a little lax, a square or two might be loose.

But excuses outnumbered dead spots. "If you were dribbling, and you made a mistake with the ball, you would talk about the dead spots," Havlicek said.

The floor survives, having been moved into the FleetCenter in 1995.

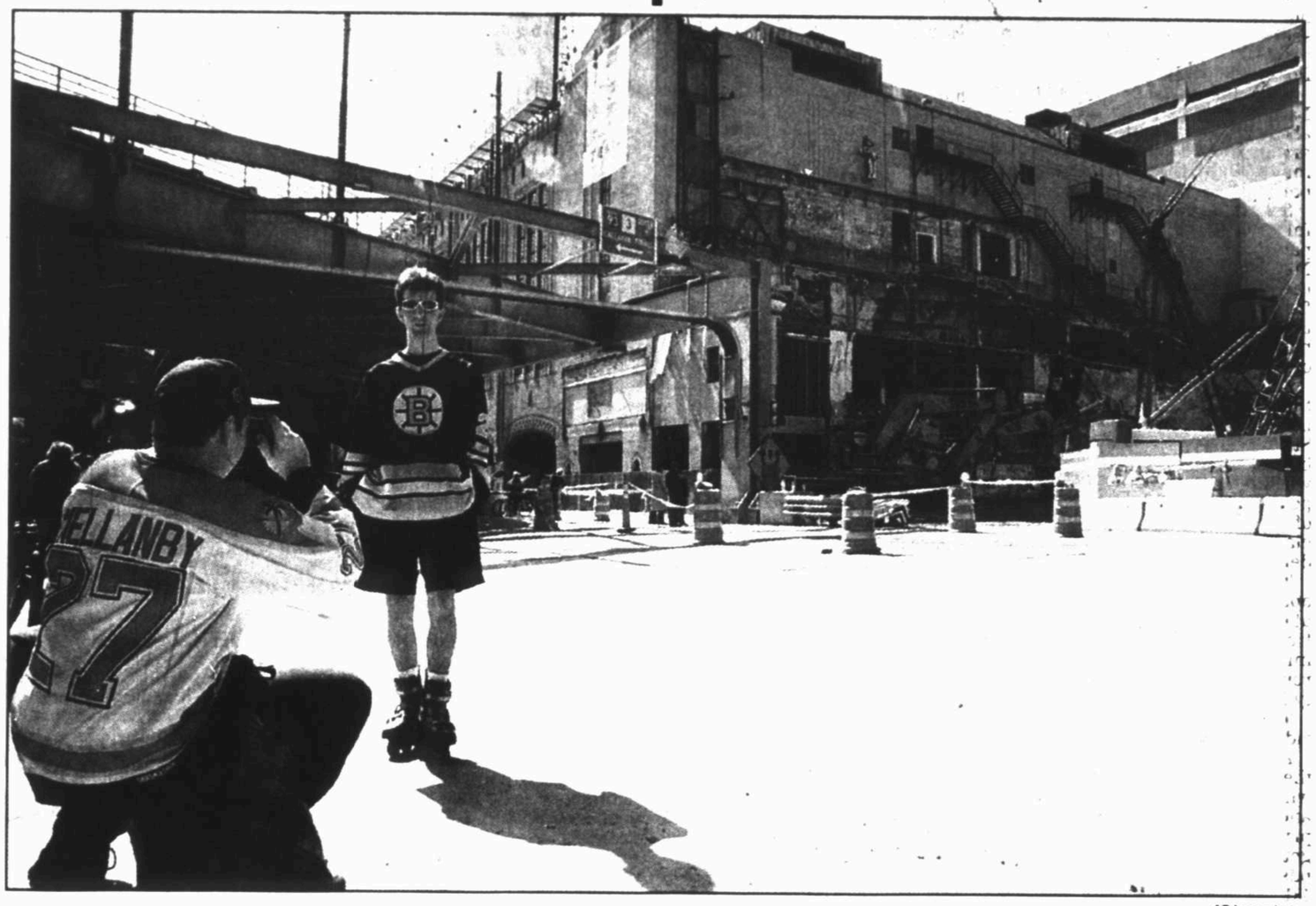
So does Auerbach, today a vice chairman of the Celtics' board, who acknowledged that fear of dead spots worked against opponents by "playing with their minds."

All kinds of hoop gremlins sprang from the Garden's bowels. The visiting locker rooms were too warm, and the visitors' showers were cold — a suspected plot concocted by the coach, Auerbach, who also was rumored to have been chomping on the same cigar for about 100 years.

"When the visitors had cold water, we had cold water, too," Havlicek said. "But the other teams always thought Red did it to them on purpose."

"Red didn't dispute any of it. He wanted them to think that he was doing it to them. It gave us an advantage."

Havlicek's — and perhaps the Garden's — greatest moment was when he deflected an inbounds pass by Hal Greer for a 110-109 playoff win over the 76ers in the final seconds of Game 7 of the 1965 NBA Eastern finals.



AP Laserphoto

Jeff Ford of San Diego takes a photo of Noah Smith of Boston as Smith poses in front of the Boston Garden, which is in the process of being demolished. The new home for the Celtics and Bruins, the $160 million Fleet Center, is only a foot from the Garden.

And that brought another riveting moment: the screaming, gravely voice of late Celtic broadcaster Johnny Most: "Havlicek stole the ball! Havlicek stole the ball! It's all over ..."

The highlight is rivaled only by the image of Bobby Orr flying through the air, lifted off his feet by elation, aided in flight by the stick of St. Louis defenseman Noel Picard, after scoring the winning goal in 1970 to give the Bruins their first Stanley Cup in 29 years.

There is no shortage of memories.

Larry Bird secured a big piece of Garden lore when he stole an inbounds pass from Isiah Thomas and fed Dennis Johnson for a layup and a win over the Detroit Pistons in the 1987 Eastern finals.

A local kid named Tony DeMarco strolled into the Garden from Boston's Italian North End neighborhood on April 1, 1955, and won the welterweight title from Johnny Saxton. After winning, he treated himself to a cab ride home.

During the blizzard of 1978, college hockey's Beanpot tournament went on as scheduled while the raging storm piled snow, rearranged the coastline and paralyzed the state. Players and fans camped at the arena overnight.

"Time marches on," said former Boston player and coach Tommy Heinsohn, who scored 37 points and grabbed 23 rebounds in a double-overtime Game 7 win over St. Louis for the Celtics' first NBA title, to cap his rookie season of 1956-57.

"The feel of the old Boston Garden was all the excitement that happened there. Since they built the new building, the teams haven't won that much. People don't remember the building as much as they remember what went on there.

"Having played my whole career there, of course I'm going to miss it."

Patience may bear fruit for Patriots in this week's draft

By Ron Borges
The Boston Globe

The Patriots are making decisions this week that will shape the future of their franchise into the next millennium. It is an opportunity rife with rewards and fraught with pitfalls, one in which they may not be able to avoid a trap not of their own making. It is a trap that is slowly forming as the Chicago Bears shop the fifth pick in the draft among New England, the St. Louis Rams, and the Jacksonville Jaguars.

What the Patriots have to fear most is that by refusing to pay the king's ransom Chicago wants for the chance to select the draft's top-rated back, they end up paying nearly as much in a panic buy to get the third-best runner later in the round.

Whoever picks fifth will select Penn State's Curtis Enis, a 249-pound battering ram that every team in the league covets. The Bears could stay in the slot, take Enis, and then hope to move one or more of their present stable of veteran backs, but that is extremely unlikely because they just paid $6 million to Edgar Bennett to do the job Enis would do.

The Bears have roughly $400,000 in cap room and cannot afford to add a No. 5 overall pick to fill a position that is not a weakness on a team full of weaknesses. Although ultimately they're likely to unload Bryan Cox ($3.554 million), Rick Mirer ($3.166 million), Rashaan Salaam ($1.095 million), Alonzo Spellman ($2.9 million), and maybe even the disappointing John Thierry ($1.24 million) to clear room for a post-June 1 run at more free agents, the financial burden they now shoulder isn't their worst problem. The worst is that their team is so full of holes that to call it tattered would be an understatement.

That is why vice president for personnel Mark Hatley, in full charge of a draft for the first time, said last week his goal is to end up with three or four picks in the top 50. At present, Chicago has two (fifth and 34th), so that is not unreasonable. What has been is the Bears' asking price for the fifth pick.

According to sources on the teams involved, Chicago has told the Jaguars it wants both of their first-rounders — the ninth and 25th picks — for the No. 5. To move down just one slot, the Bears are asking the Rams for their second-round choice plus a player, believed to be former No. 1 pick Eddie Kennison, who a year ago was considered one of the top three receivers in the draft. The Bears have yet to formally tell the Patriots what Enis will cost, but at the owners meetings in February Hatley casually mentioned swapping his pick for New England's No. 1 next year and its highest two this year. That's no longer likely to be good enough. Word is, now it will take the Patriots two first-round picks and one of their seconds to get to Enis, a price they will not pay.

Jacksonville and St. Louis also are saying that they will not pay the price, but with Chicago on the clock six days from now, things could change.

"We can't look at it just as that pick," Hatley said last week. "We've got a lot of other needs that we have to address and look at all our options on what we can do. We're pretty much set on what we're going to do right now. I'll be real surprised if anything changes."

Hartley added that he'd have no problem drafting Enis, but the fact is his team would have a problem if he does. It would have a roster full of running backs and a No. 1 pick who doesn't fill a need.

That is why Chicago ultimately will deal, and when it does, Jacksonville will have the best shot because the Bears want to stay in the top 10 and the Jaguars' pick allows that to happen. St. Louis is Chicago's fallback choice because the Bears can make the deal with the Rams for just the second-rounder any time, including in the 14th minute on draft day.

Which brings us back to the Patriots. Pete Carroll and Bobby Grier have gone on record saying they are not willing to mortgage their draft for one player because if they were going to pay that kind of price, they would have matched the Jets' offer to Curtis Martin. So the question becomes, would they trade two No. 1s plus something more to move up for Enis?

If they won't, and if Enis goes at No. 5 to St. Louis and Jacksonville takes either Florida's Fred Taylor or Georgia's Robert Edwards at No. 9, as expected, New England would face the worst of scenarios: It could lose the last of the top-rated backs to a team drafting ahead of it or have to fight off Kansas City moving up from 27th to grab that back.

If Enis and a second back are gone after nine picks, as is likely, New England's brain trust knows the third also will be gone before it picks at No. 18. History tells them that, especially with the Chiefs ready to move up and the strong possibility that someone such as Philadelphia might decide the remaining back is too good to pass on.

New England would then face the prospect of paying a king's ransom to a team such as the Ravens, who want to trade out of the 10th slot but would know the Patriots were trapped and would immediately call Kansas City as well. That could force New England to pay nearly as much for the third back in the draft as it refused to pay for the first.

So what is a team to do?

Don't panic, that's what.

It should not be lost on New England's front office that of the 16 backs who rushed for 1,000 yards last season, five came in the fourth round or lower and only four of the top 12 were first-round picks. If they decide to wait it out, the Patriots can address other long-term needs while grabbing a back with a late first-round or second-round pick who might not be a Martin clone but would be at least a serviceable replacement.

There is great opportunity for a team holding six of the top 82 picks in one of the deepest drafts in years, if New England dictates the terms under which they are used. If it cannot get to Chicago's pick, it must avoid the temptation to pay too dearly for the third-best back, who is likely to be the fumble-prone Taylor.

The Patriots must remain patient, get a sound back as soon as they can, but above all turn those six picks into at least three solid NFL starters. If they do that, this draft could truly turn into their horn of plenty.

But before the Patriots get the chance to blow that horn, they will have to pull the trigger first ... and that's where the danger lies on Saturday.

The apparent lack of interest league-wide in free agent running back **Chris Warren** led him to Dallas last week. Warren was released after the Seahawks were unable to trade him because of the $4.1 million on his contract. Dallas offered only the league minimum $325,000 plus incentives but still has the inside track because Warren's former Seattle position coach, **Clarence Shelmon**, is now the Cowboys' running back coach. New England looked at Warren early but was told by some AFC West defensive coaches that he had begun to slip noticeably last season despite rushing for more than 800 yards and averaging 4.2 yards per carry, which is his career average. The Patriots' opinion of him then, when he was still asking for several million a year, was not high. But as his price has gone down, Warren's value has gone up, so don't count New England out yet ... The night before games, Enis fills a whirlpool with ice water and submerges himself for an hour to develop the mental toughness to ignore cold and pain. That led St. Louis coach **Dick Vermeil** to comment, "He won't be on ice long in this draft." ... It's a tough job being the boss in the NFL these days. Dallas's **Emmitt Smith** missed the first official workout called by new head coach **Chan Gailey** last Tuesday because he was in Boston to speak at Gillette's annual sales meeting. And Smith won't be back in Dallas until this week, as a charity engagement kept him from Gailey's second offical workout on Thursday, too ... Some teams learn from their mistakes once in a while. The Rams and Falcons have taken wide receiver **Randy Moss** off their draft boards because of his many off-field problems, which have included jail time, two guilty pleas on battery charges, a domestic dispute with a girlfriend that involved alleged violence, and a positive test for marijuana. The Rams wish they'd taken the same approach with Nebraska running back **Lawrence Phillips**. As Vermeil said of Moss, "I don't need any more problems. That's no reflection on Lawrence Phillips. I'll just tell you this: If he was a New York stock and had been going down all those times, would you invest $6 million in a signing bonus on it? Would you put $6 million of your savings in that stock?" ... St. Louis made it difficult for the Jets to match an offer sheet to restricted free agent **Chad Cascadden**, a backup linebacker, by guaranteeing his first-year salary of $700,000 and including a no-trade clause for 1998. No Jet has such a clause, according to Cascadden's agent. Overall, it's a three-year deal worth $2.3 million and is heavily front-loaded, with $1.3 million coming in the first-year salary and signing bonus of $600,000.

One former teammate who won't soon forget **Marcus Allen** is backup Chiefs back **Donnell Bennett**. When Allen tearfully announced his retirement last Thursday after 16 years in which he played more games than any running back in history, Bennett told reporters about the first day he met Allen. Bennett had had a tough afternoon in training camp, as rookies often do. A **Joe Montana** pass had bounced off his facemask and he had fumbled several times. Feeling that he may have chosen the wrong profession, Bennett left the field with head down. Then Allen introduced himself, Bennett recalled, and "he told me the object of this game is just to do your best and that you have to have a short memory. Then he quoted the words of a song, 'Keep on Pushing,' and said that was the attitude you really have to have to be a success in the NFL." After going to his car, Bennett turned on the radio and the first song he heard was "Keep on Pushing." "It was like they were singing it for me," Bennett said. "That's when I knew Marcus Allen was a very special person." ... It is easy to portray

More Sports/1D

Peyton Manning and **Ryan Leaf** as rivals this week, as they vie to become the first player taken in Saturday's draft, but an adversarial relationship couldn't be further from the truth. Leaf, in fact, made a special effort to avoid such a circumstance early this year when he called Manning at the Tennessee football offices. "He called me back the same day and we've been talking ever since," Leaf said. "It's kind of a release for us. Our names have been associated for so long and early last season there was a lot of talk of Peyton vs. Ryan and I didn't want it to get on a hostile level so I just called him. I didn't mind Peyton being in the spotlight because the harder they push you, the harder you can fall. It's not important to me that I get all the attention. We talk once a week. We don't usually talk about football. We found we had a lot more in common than people thought. We're still only 21-year-old kids." ... Leaf also spoke several times with the Patriots' **Drew Bledsoe** about what to expect both leading up to the draft and in his rookie season. "He's been a great help," Leaf said. "He took time out of his busy schedule to talk to some punk kid the last three years." ... Manning had impressed most of the coaches and personnel gurus who have visited him with the way he handled his interviews. He would come armed with a legal pad and several pens and ask questions about how he would be used and about the team's personnel. "He was interviewing us as much as we were interviewing him," Colts head coach **Jim Mora** said.

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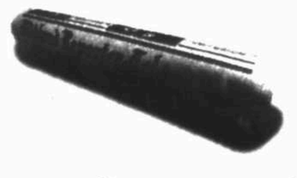

Outdoors: Good to get jump on flounder

By Robert Sloan
Beaumont Enterprise

BEAUMONT — Judging by the number of flounder fishermen I've seen lately, it's a no-brainer to assume that the spring run of flounder is going full bore.

The other day, I was on Sabine Lake and couldn't help but notice about 70 boats anchored on specific areas, along with who knows how many people fishing from the bank.

Sabine Pass is well known for its fall and spring flounder runs. The pass is the link between the Gulf of Mexico and Sabine Lake. When these hard-fighting and savory fish begin their migration back into the bay system, the action from the bank, a boat or pier is nothing short of fantastic.

Recently I've been down around the pass and lake and each time noticed that the Walter Umphrey State Park pier and surrounding bulkheaded shoreline is packed with anglers. It didn't take long for people to discover the advantages of pier fishing in the pass, especially when there's a run of flounder.

The pier is unique in that it's open 24 hours a day and is lighted at night. Better yet, it's free to fish from. If the pier is too crowded you might opt to fish from the surrounding shoreline. There's plenty to choose from.

The pier is located on the pass side of the Causeway bridge.

Another good fishing area is on the lake side of the bridge. That's where you'll find Causeway Bait and Tackle along with a length of prime shoreline fishing. You can get daily fishing reports from the pass and the lake by calling 985-4811.

I'm not sure whether the fishing is more productive from the bank or by boat.

One thing is for sure, with a boat you can access more hotspots. Between the pass and the lake there are lots of proven flounder-ing areas. One of the best is at the base of the Causeway bridge on the Louisiana side of the lake. Or you might try the flats located at the mouths of bayous feeding into the lake.

Some of the best fishing on the lake can be found at Blue Buck Point and on up to Johnson's Bayou. That's a major chunk of shoreline. Once you get past Blue Buck Point and you're heading east along the Louisiana shoreline you'll come to Garrison Ridge, then Greens Bayou, Madam Johnson Bayou and Johnson's Bayou. All offer excellent flounder fishing right now. A neighbor of mine fished the area around Johnson's Bayou last Thursday and caught 44 flounder, along with three reds. That's your basic haul.

In the pass, there are all sorts of flats and humps along the Louisiana shoreline that are stacked up with flounder right now. Oddly, the pass doesn't load up with fishermen like the lake does. During past spring runs, I've consistently found more flounder in the pass than on the lake. One really good area in the pass is at the base of the west jetty. That's where you'll find a big mud flat that's situated off the ship channel. A lot of flounder moving into the pass from the Gulf move to that west jetty flat. Hit it right and the fishing is better than you might believe.

It goes without saying that Rollover Pass is another spring migration route for flounder. Rollover links the Gulf with the far upper end of East Galveston Bay.

At Rollover, you don't need a boat to get into the action. You have the options of fishing between the walls or wading Rollover Bay. Either option will more than likely produce flounder just about anytime day or night, right now, providing you've got a moving tide.

One of my favorite flounding venues is Rollover Bay. Those flats along the channel offer firm footing. Most of the time you'll be better off standing in about 3 feet of water and bumping jigs or live mud minnows along the bottom of the channel.

About the best baits you can use to fool flounder are live mud minnows and plastic jigs. Mud minnows will probably catch more flounder. But I've noticed that jigs tipped with a tiny piece of peeled shrimp seem to come through with heavier fish.

Regardless of which bait you go with, the idea is to cover a lot of water. So you don't want your bait to be anchored in one spot. Use enough weight to allow the minnow or jig to be washed along bottom with the current. You'll cover more water that way. And in the end you'll have more flounder on ice.

Distributed by The Associated Press

Is it case of hunters' ethics or antler envy?

By C. Bryson Hull
Associated Press Writer

DALLAS — To hunters, what he is accused of doing is akin to Milli Vanilli winning a Grammy for songs they didn't sing or Janet Cooke winning a Pulitzer Prize for fiction passed off as nonfiction.

Bruce Morrow's woes stem from the state's 1995-96 Big Game Awards, which he won by entering a 12-point set of deer antlers. He says he shot the buck in South Texas.

Prosecutors say he didn't bag it, he bought it, and that he lied when he filled out the entry form for the state-run contest. Morrow goes on trial Monday in Austin on three charges of tampering with a a government record.

If convicted, the restaurant owner could be jailed for up to two years.

And that's for a contest that paid no monetary prize, only bragging rights

"Here in the state of Texas, we take that pretty seriously," said Derry Gardner, an executive board member of the Texas Wildlife Association. "Personally, I don't think they could treat a person like that bad enough."

Morrow got into trouble after Texas Trophy Hunters magazine ran a photo of him posing with the antlers.

A collector who saw the picture thought the antlers were a dead ringer for a set he had sold to a dealer. He notified Texas wildlife authorities, who turned the case over to prosecutors.

Reached at his restaurant Friday, Morrow refused to comment, referring all questions to his attorney, Ted Calisi.

Calisi would not discuss whether the allegations were true, but said he did try to negotiate a settlement.

"The attempts have been futile," Calisi said. "Their offer is arbitrary, capricious and at least unconstitutional."

Calisi said he advised Morrow to reject a plea bargain that called for 45 days in jail, four years of deferred adjudication, 200 hours of community service and a $5,000 fine, and a public apology.

But the kicker, Calisi said, was the requirement that his client print public apologies to the other Big Game Awards participants in The Dallas Morning News and the Austin American-Statesman.

"It is unheard of, especially in a victimless crime, that a defendant would go to jail and have to publish public apologies in major newspapers," Calisi said.

Patricia Robertson, an assistant district attorney, wouldn't comment on the plea bargain, but said jail time is not uncommon in a records-tampering case. She would not comment on whether it was the norm for first-time offenders.

Report: WNBA players considering unionizing

NEW YORK (AP) — Emboldened by a successful first season, WNBA players have begun informal talks about forming a union, The New York Times reported Sunday.

"Everybody was so happy and excited to be playing pro ball — all the hype, the fans, the big time — nobody was going to complain," one prominent WNBA player, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the newspaper.

"We're willing to do what it takes to see the league succeed. But we also have to look after our own interests."

The league had a national TV contract and averaged 10,000 fans a game in its first season. However, despite the benefits of the $15 million marketing effort, WNBA players are paid less than their ABL colleagues. The players in the rival league have guaranteed contracts worth between $40,000 and $125,000 and receive retirement benefits.

While a few star players in the WNBA earn in the six-figure range, the average player makes between $20,000 and $40,000.

Their contracts can be terminated at any time, they cannot endorse products that compete with the league's sponsors and they receive health benefits only when they play, the Times said.

That has fueled talk about unionizing. The NBA players' union began speaking informally to WNBA players last summer about uniting forces. The Women's Coaches Association, which represents college and professional coaches, is also lobbying for the job. But the league, which is owned the 29 NBA teams and signs and pays all the players, is wary about that prospect.

"We are striving to be a major league sport; we want to be the fifth major league," said Valerie Ackerman, the president of the WNBA.

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LOST: Female White with tan spots Pit Bull puppy. Grey eyes, recently cropped ears with stitches still in place. Intersection of Midland Dr. & Illinois area on April 8th. 694-9518. Days or 520-6999, Evenings. ask for Sean. REWARD!

FOUND: OPPORTUNITY Park, pair of mens dark gray aviator style glasses. Call 498-8590.

IF your pet is lost- even if you live in the county, please check with MIDLAND ANIMAL CONTROL (on Fairgrounds Road) every three days.

LOST CAT: Answers to the name of "Casey". Large yellow tabby with white chest/ paws wearing brown collar. Lost 4/6 in 2500 block or Dengar. 570-8148.

FOUND: TAME Tropical bird on 1270 South. Please call to identify the bird. 563-0809.

LOST: (2) Dalamatians, male and female. Answer to names "Abby & Sumner". They mean everything to us! Call 520-6225.

160 Loans Wanted

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163 Money To Loan

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Attention Readers

Occasionally ads found in this section come from distant points and 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 number or bank information.

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1991 OLDSMOBILE EIGHTY-eight. V- 6, 4 door, runs great, $3,500. 687-3545 or 687-4598.

CADILLAC 1990 Brougham D'Elegance. Gold package, 106K, excellent condition, $7,600/ best offer. 520-2851.

CADILLAC 1990 Sedan Deville. 71K miles, excellent condition, a steal at $8,750. 367-5640.

PONTIAC 1994 BONNEVILLE SE, new tires, excellent condition, $9,850. Tom 694-9856.

PONTIAC 1996 Sunfire. 2 door, 5 speed, 2.4 liter Quad4. Loaded. 30K, excellent condition, $11,990/ best offer. 520-7217.

CADILLAC 1990 Sedan DeVille. Garaged, excellent mechanical & body. All power, metallic silver/ gray leather, 67K miles. $8,500/ offer. 685-0505.

CADILLAC 1988 Sedan Deville. Runs excellent, all electric. $3,500. Call 570-9248 after 5:30.

PONTIAC 1996 Bonneville SSEI Supercharge, 18K, chameleon/ black leather. 12 disc CD. $23,000. 687-3888 or 685-3960 after 5.

CHRYSLER 1996 Sebring LX. Power everything, extended warranty. $16,000. 694-2742.

PONTIAC 1991 Grand Am. Very good car. Am Fm Cassette. $4,500. 520-5217.

PONTIAC 1996 Sunfire. 50,126 miles. $9,625.25. 705 W Pine or call 683-4386 after 2:30 pm.

FORD 1997 Mustang. Black, 5 speed, tilt, cruise, electric windows/ locks. $16,000. 697-6386.

OLDSMOBILE 1992 Elite Ninety- Eight. Excellent condition. Loaded! One owner. $8,200. Call 694-1398.

SATURN 1994 SC 2 Coupe. 43K miles. Automatic, cruise, sun roof, six disk cd player. Excellent condition. $9,995. After six pm. 694-4048.

PLYMOUTH 1990 Sundance, 4 door, air, auto, tinted. Well maintained. $2,750. 570-9601.

ACCURATE VEHICLE APPRAISAL, INC. Why buy a car without an appraisal. 5308 W Wall 520-2540.

BUICK 1986 Somerset, V- 6, new valve job, 2 door, maroon inside & out, good condition. $2,850. Rons Engines. 685-1076.

CADILLAC 1994 Concours, estate sale, 33V Northstar engine, low mileage, $19,995. Call 684-5567 ext. 316.

CHEVROLET 1995 Camaro. Granny's car! Fully loaded, excellent condition, 49K. $12,500. 638-2242 mobile/ or 267-6762.

CHEVROLET 1995 Lumina LS. All options. Excellent condition. 27,000 miles. $12,900. Call 367-7646.

CHRYSLER 1994 LHS. Silver with leather interior, excellent condition. 74K, power everything, alarm, super clean. $10,500 O.B.O. 683-0731.

FORD 1992 Crown Victoria LX. All accessories, very well maintained and in very good condition. 117K miles. Asking $5,400. Call 694-2055.

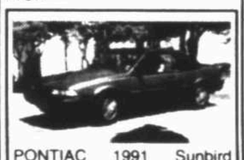
FORD TAURUS LX 1996 Beige, alloy wheels, premium sound, power seats, windows & door locks, tilt & cruise, only 20,000 miles. Must see. TOYOTA OF MIDLAND 3110 W. WALL.

Jack Sherman Chevrolet Geo, Buick, Mazda Sales & Serv. 4100 W. Wall, 694-9601

LINCOLN 1986 Towncar. Fully loaded, new tires, 140K miles, nice car! $2,400. 699-6261.

OLDSMOBILE 1985 Cutlass Supreme Brougham. 2 door, power locks and windows, air condition. $2,450. 522-7222.

OLDSMOBILE 1990 98 Regency Brougham. V-6, 71K, excellent shape. $6,900. 686-7757.



PONTIAC 1991 Sunbird convertible, 4 cylinder, auto, air, electric windows, am/ fm. Excellent condition, lady owned. 54K. $7,900. 686-7100 or 683-9180 after 5:30 pm.

PONTIAC 1993 Grand Am. 2.3 liter single overhead cam, 5 speed, standard transmission, 57K. $6,500. 699-4086.

BERG MOTOR COMPANY OLDS. CAD. GMC For Full Sales & Service 3205 W. Wall 694-7741

ROGERS FORD Sales & Service 4200 W. Wall 694-8801

CHEVROLET 1994 Camaro Z28. White, T- tops, less than 20,000 miles! Adult driven, like new. $15,000. 520-3588.

CHRYSLER 1994 Le Baron, 2 door, convertible, automatic V-6, loaded, black leather, red, black top. 28K, outstanding condition. $13,000. 694-9521.

DODGE 1996 Intrepid Reduced! $12,500. Loaded, 3.5, V-6, 48K miles. See at Loop 250 & Midkiff (Albertson's parking lot). 694-5977.

FORD 1995 Mustang GT Convertible. 5 speed, V-8, red, white rag top, white leather, CD, loaded, 38K miles. $15,500. 697-8509.

CHEVROLET 1993 Corvette. Only 35,000 miles! Very clean. White with red interior, new tires & brakes. $24,000. 530-1140, Mobile 557-0430.

MERCURY 1992 Sable GS. Loaded, blue, leather interior, 88,000 miles, one owner. $6,250. O.B.O. 683-8350.

MERCURY 1995 Grand Marquis GS. White, blue interior, 46K. Excellent condition. $13,000. 682-3067 or see 2509 Princeton.

PONTIAC 1992 Grand Am SE. 4 Door, silver with charcoal gray interior, power locks/ windows. $7,000 or best offer. 689-6939.

PONTIAC 1994 Grand Am, automatic, red, 2 door, new body style, spoiler, pinstriping, excellent condition, 62K. $7,300. Negotiable. 694-8195/ 687-2877.

BUICK 1993 Regal Limited, white, 2 door, full power, air, cruise, leather, security system, 39,000 miles, extended warranty. $9,400. 520-0965.

OLDSMOBILE 1993 Regency Elite. Silver, charcoal leather, CD, loaded, 88,000 miles. One owner. Excellent condition. $9,400. Days 687-4499, evenings 684-4544.

CHEVROLET 1995 LUMINA. Burgundy/ Gray. Power windows/ locks. Tinted glass. Adult owned. Well maintained. Needs nothing! 89K miles. $8,900. 689-5405.

MERCURY 1995 Grand Marquis. 60,000 miles, AM/ FM cassette, tinted windows, cruise, electric windows/ doors, alarm system. $11,800. 520-7175.

CHEVROLET 1993 Camaro Z 28. Red, T- Tops, 44K adult driven miles, loaded. Excellent condition. $12,500. 687-4528.

CADILLAC 1991 Fleetwood, white/ navy cabriolet roof, leather, new tires, alarm package, 64K miles, perfect, $12,500. Call 570-1602 or 686-0686.

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205 Classic Cars

CHEVROLET 1965 El Camino. 327 Automatic with air. Craiger SS Mags & White letter tires. $5,500. 694-2734 or 697-3070.

VOLKSWAGEN 1979 Beetle, convertible, white , collector car. Show winner, must see to appreciate. $15,000. 694-3761.

FORD 1964 GALAXY 500 Convertible. 85% restored. Will consider RV. (other) trade in. $7,500. 697-5603.

PLYMOUTH 1965 Belvedere II, 318 engine, $2,300. 684-0857 message. 561-3936 pager.

CHEVROLET 1964 IMPALA. 90% Restored. Some extras! $7,000 or best offer. Call After 4 pm, 520-5891.

FORD 1964 1/2 Mustang. 6 cylinder, in good shape, baby blue. 13,030 actual miles, $5,000. Call after 5, 697-4657.

LINCOLN 1970 MKIII, collectors car. 68K, excellent original car. $3,850 or offer. 550-2253.

CHEVROLET 1969 Chevelle SS. 454 new TH400, good body, clean interior, CD, $5,400. 915-264-7016.

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FORD 1964 1/2 Mustang. Maroon/ black interior. 289 V-8, air, new tires, excellent condition! $8,000. Call 682-1966, days, 683-7268 evenings.

PONTIAC 1966 GTO. Teal blue, 389 V-8, power, air, 76K actual miles, matching numbers, excellent condition. $8,000. 682-1966 days, 683-7268 evenings.

210 Autos Imports

INFINITI 1993 G20. 88K. White with Tan Leather interior. Great condition! $9,995. One owner. 686-2013.

BMW 1981 320i. Rebuilt engine, new paint, $3,500. 689-3500 days, 694-3945 evenings.

HONDA 1997 Civic Ex, silver, fully loaded, sun roof, 12 disc player, 16K, $15,900. Call 520-8614 after 5 pm.

MERCEDES 1989 560SL. 16,000 Miles. Always garaged! Blue/ Green with tan leather interior. Blue book retails at $38,800. 915-332-1666.

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HONDA 1995 Accord LX. Immaculate, approx. 32,000 miles, automatic, champagne colored. Must sell. $14,750. Excellent condition. 520-2101.

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1998 CHEVROLET CORSICA $7,800 (3 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM)-2 LEFT	1998 NISSAN SENTRA GXE $8,900 (3 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM)-1 LEFT	1998 GEO PRIZM LSI $8,500 (1 CAR TO CHOOSE FROM)
1998 CHEVROLET BERETTA $8,200 (3 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM)-2 LEFT	1998 CHEVROLET LUMINA $8,900 (1 CAR TO CHOOSE FROM)	1997 GEO PRIZM LSI $8,900 (1 CAR TO CHOOSE FROM)
1998 OLDSMOBILE CIERA SL $8,700 (4 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM)	1994 MERCURY SABLE GS $7,800 (1 CAR TO CHOOSE FROM)	1997 FORD F-150 XLT REG. CAB $15,900 (1 TRUCK TO CHOOSE FROM)
1998 OLDSMOBILE ACHIEVA SL $8,800 (2 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM)	1997 NISSAN ALTIMA GLX $11,800 (2 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM)	1998 MAZDA 626 LX $12,800 (1 CAR TO CHOOSE FROM)
1998 BUICK SKYLARK CUSTOM $8,900 (4 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM)-2 LEFT	1997 TOYOTA COROLLA $10,300 (3 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM)	1998 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS SUPREME SL $11,200 (1 CAR TO CHOOSE FROM)

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222 Suburbans & Vans

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CHEVROLET 1990 Sport Van, 14 passenger, low mileage, newly rebuilt motor, great transportation, $5,995/ best offer. 580-3703 days, 682-6372 nights.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban LT, silver with gray leather, trailer package, CD, cassette, rear A/ C, 16K. $32,500. 366-1435, leave message.

TOYOTA 1995 PREVIA, power, tilt, cruise, am/ fm cassette, rear air, luggage rack, new tires, maintained. $18,500, or best. 697-5353.

CHEVROLET 1988 Suburban. Charcoal gray, loaded, excellent condition, very clean. $5,795. 683-6765.

CHEVROLET 1990 Travel Times. White/ gray, 85K miles, one owner, always garaged, non smoker, TV/ VCR, leather seats. $11,500. 683-1756.

225 4x4 Vehicles

INTERNATIONAL 1965 Scout pickup. Good hunting rig. 4X4, new tires, runs good. Seat in bed of truck to hunt from! $1,600 or best offer. (915)-694-0431 days. (915)- 697-3784 evenings.

CHEVROLET 1996 extended cab Z- 71 4 X 4 , Indigo blue, automatic, new tires, extended warranty. 458-3547.

FORD 1984 Bronco XLT 4x4. New tires, good condition, $4,800. Call 689-2904.

FORD 1987 Bronco II. Gold, 6 cylinder, 5 speed 4x4, $2,000 new restoration, new license/ inspection. Excellent condition. $4,800. 699-1315.

TOYOTA 1992 Extra Cab 4X4 138K, runs great, well maintained. 699-2565.

TOYOTA 1995 Tacoma LX 4x4, V-6, auto, 29K, excellent condition, $16,900. 686-7757.

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AUDI 1980 5000, needs work, good transmission, good motor, $200.686-9262.

CHEVROLET 1987 Camaro, V-8 , automatic, air, CD, white/ gray, runs and looks good. $2,800 683-3453.

OLDSMOBILE 1985 Delta 88, tagged, inspected, runs good. $900. Call 689-6849 after 5.

FORD 1988 Country Squire Station Wagon. 90K, runs great! $2,950. See at 1200 Andrews Highway. 694-9663.

GMC 1984 SWB. New transmission. Needs engine repair. $2,000 or best offer. 528-8607.

MERCURY 1981 Marquis. Needs engine work. Excellent body. $250. 520-6185.

HONDA 1982 Accord, Needs work. $750 or best offer. 694-7561 leave message.

GMC 1986 Suburban. New tires. Runs great. Needs minor body work. $3,000 or best offer. 699-2318.

MAZDA 1984 626. 2 door, 5 speed, cruise/ air, power windows, good shape inside and out. $2,250. 697-3473.

TOYOTA 1988 Corolla FX. Air, sunroof, 5 speed, new tires, 107K. Nice! $2,800. 682-1656.

250 Recreational Vehicles

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1987 34' BEAUTIFUL AIRSTREAM Trailer, clean, pampered, and perfect, garaged. Pulled with 1986 GMC Suburban, excellent condition. Package $34,500. 694-5200.

240 Motorcycles

1996 CUSTOM SOFTAIL Springer. Custom paint, extra chrome, 2,200 original miles, must sell! Weekends and after 5 pm call 570-7901, weekdays 8- 5 call 520-2990.

1996 HARLEY DAVIDSON Dyna Wide Glide. Low miles, excellent condition. Priced to sell. Call 682-8743, leave message.

1997 HARLEY XL 1200 Custom, states blue pearl, motorbar, windshield, tall sissy bar, plus extras, 24 months left on warranty. 512-547-5947. e-mail (wiley.e@mailexite.com). $12,000.

1975 KAWASAKI 900. Completely restored, overhauled motor, new tires, paint, battery. Asking $3,000. 520-2734.

1985 HONDA MAGNA, excellent condition, new tires and more! $2,500. 694-3299.

1984 HONDA V65 Magna 1100cc. Excellent condition. New tires. 20,500 miles. $3,000. 915-580-4124.

ROAD KING 1997 FI. Excellent condition, 10,000 miles, with extras! $17,850. 685-0517.

HARLEY 1986 Sportster 883. Red. 19,500K, hugger package, buddy seat, buckhorn bars, Baloney muffler, Live to Ride medallions. $5,500 (915)520-5171.

245 Trailers Utility

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260 Boats & Motors

HOUSEBOAT. On lake Amistad at Rough Canyon, 40', twin engines, 6.5KW generator, full bath/ shower, sleeps 6. $22,000. 337-2360, 550-8666.

TWO 1996 Tiger Shark jet ski's with trailer and covers. $6,000 570-9247.

1994 ROYALE Rascal. 14' MInI jet boat. 90 hp. with trailer. $5,800. 699-0665.

PROCRAFT 1995 17' 115 hp mercury, tournament ready bass boat, custom trailer. Must sell! $12,300 or best offer. Please call 699-0295.

305 Job Services

DELIVERY- $20/ Hour average. Deliver applications locally, no experience. 1-800-373-3696, ext. 6441.

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WILDLIFE JOBS. $21.60/ Hour, including benefits. Game Wardens, Security, Maintenance, Park Rangers. No experience needed. For application and exam information call 1-800-813-3585, Ext 7607, 8 am- 9 pm, 7 days. FDS incorporated.

310 General Help Wanted

Pool Company, an industry leader in Oilfield Services, is accepting applications in the Midland Yard for the following positions:

Kill Truck Drivers
Vacuum Truck Drivers
Transport Truck Drivers
Winch Truck Drivers

Applicants must have a minimum of 1- 3 years experience in the respective positions and be DOT Certified with the proper licenses and endorsements.

Pool Company offers an excellent wage and benefit package including medical and dental insurance, paid vacation, retirement, 401K savings plan, safety awards, holiday premium pay and other off time benefits.

Applications can be completed at the following location:

Pool Company Texas Ltd.
3700 E Hwy 158
Midland, Texas 79706

POOL COMPANY TEXAS Ltd.
An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V

210 Autos Imports

MITSUBISHI SALES & SERVICE
BERG MOTOR COMPANY
3205 W. Wall 694–7741

HONDA 1996 EX 2 door. One owner, $17,000. Loaded, sunroof, spoiler, chrome wheels, all electric, 14K miles, silver. 697-1091.

NISSAN 1995 Maxima. Low miles, extra nice, transferable warranty, lots of options. $14,500. 682-4928 weekdays, 684-7935 evenings/ weekends.

NISSAN 1992 240SX SE Coupe $4,600, 186,000 miles. Excellent condition with maintaince records. Phone 694-3807.

NISSAN 1989 Sentra XE. 5 speed, 4 door, tinted windows, maintained. $3,800. Evenings- Weekends. 687-2551.

MITSUBISHI 1991 Galant VR-4. Turbo, 4 wheel drive/ steering, leather, CD, new air. Below NADA trade in. $6,300. Negotiable. 697-3656.

MITSUBISHI 1992 3000 GTSL. Pearl white/Charcoal gray. 63,000 miles. Automatic, pampered! Well maintained. Adult owned. Great shape! $15,800 firm. 697-5910.

LEXUS 1997 LS 400. Sapphire blue/ beige leather interior, all options, extended warranty, premium sound and more, low mileage. 683-1989.

JAGUAR 1993 XJ6, loaded, white, new tires, wire wheels, immaculate, $13,900. Call 915-837-1482.

VOLVO 850 1994, red with charcoal interior, 100,000 mile warranty, fully loaded, $18,400. Call 570-4033 or 570-5577.

TOYOTA CAMRY LE 1997 Cashmere beige, pw/ l, tilt & cruise, low miles, factory warranty. $16,995. TOYOTA OF MIDLAND 3110 W. WALL.

TOYOTA OF MIDLAND
Web site
http://www.toyotaofmidland.com

VOLVO 1992 940 Turbo Sedan, red with tan leather, automatic, excellent condition, new tires, 48K, $12,950. 684-5824.

215 Sport/Utility Vehicles

FORD 1990 BRONCO II. 2 wheel drive, excellent condition. $4,500 or best offer. 520-0241.

215 Sport/Utility Vehicles

CHEVROLET TAHOE LS 1996 33,000 miles, PW/ L, tilt & cruise, CD, alloy wheels, Special price. Close out. TOYOTA OF MIDLAND 3110 W. WALL.

FORD 1991 Explorer XLT Taupe, loaded, automatic, highway miles, very clean, great condition. Must see to appreciate. $8,500. 683-6765.

*$100 REFERRAL FEE for information leading to my repurchase of this 1969 Bronco, 351 Windsor motor, roll cage, holly 650, headers, customized. (505)541-1314

CHEVROLET 1995 Tahoe, 4 door, 4 wheel drive, CD, power windows/ locks, leather seats, black/ gray, automatic. $20,100. 683-2524/ 687-0071.

GMC 1995 Yukon. 4 Door, 2 wheel drive, 21K, loaded, alarm, CD, warranty, $23,900. 689-2205.

FORD 1988 Bronco XLT. Full size, 351, automatic, tilt, cruise, air, captains chairs, grill guard, auto locking hubs, electric 4 wheel transfer, new tires, excellent condition. $7,100. After 5:30 pm 684-5969.

JEEP 1993 Grand Cherokee, black, tinted windows, fully loaded, alarm system, $11,900 or best offer. 563-5318.

OLDSMOBILE 1992 Bravada. All wheel drive, loaded, leather, 100K, immaculate. $9,900. 684-4013 after 6 pm.

TOYOTA 1995 Forerunner limited. 66K, all leather, power package, 4 Wheel Drive, sun roof, cassette, CD. $19,500. 699-2565.

ISUZU 1996 RODEO. Loaded! 14,000 Miles. $17,995. Call 570-9673 after 5:00 pm or Page 561-1486.

CHEVROLET 1995 TAHOE LT. Leather, loaded! 78K miles. Must see to appreciate (AVA Appraised Vehicle) Price negotiable. Pager, 567-0292. 694-8257.

FORD 1993 Explorer XLT. All the extras, excellent condition. 520-6064 evenings, Pager 495-4766.

215 Sport/Utility Vehicles

NISSAN PATHFINDER 1995 SE V- 6, alloy wheels, 4 X 4, PW/ L, tilt & cruise, sunroof, luggage rack, fender flares, running boards, $18,995 - below book. TOYOTA OF MIDLAND 3110 W. Wall.

FORD 1997 Explorer AWD, 4 door, Eddie Bauer, red exterior, tan leather interior. NADA $29,050. George Glass estate price $26,000.686-9551.

NISSAN 1993 Pathfinder, one owner, great condition, gray, 4WD, 50K, $13,500. 694-8546.

FORD 1992 Explorer, Eddie Bauer. Well maintained, good condition, $7,250. 756-2580, 756-2575.

IZUSU 1996 Hombre. Tinted windows, cd player, standard, still under warranty. 458-3547.

220 Trucks

GMC 1994 SIERRA Styleside Ext Cab. Teal Green. 43,000 Miles. Loaded! $14,995. Call 570-6007 Weekdays.

CHEVROLET 1989 1500. V-8, loaded, good condition. $3,950. Call 686-8934.

DODGE 1996 1500 Extended cab. V-8, CD, bedliner, loaded, nice! $18,700. Call 686-8934.

CHEVROLET 1992 Silverado 5 speed, 115K, great truck, new tires. Appraised at $8,100 will sacrifice for $7,500. 570-6140.

CHEVROLET 1994 C- 1500 extended cab, step side, teal green, Predator package, alarm, fully loaded, 59K, $15,000. 694-3761.

FORD 1988 Ranger. Extended Cab. Tool box and headache rack. Good condition. $3,500. 699-1461.

FORD 1996 Crew cab dually, power stroke, 5 speed. 2/ l custom conversion, 40K, white. $27,500 682-1418.

FORD 1988 F-350 XLT Lariet Crew Cab diesel, 5 speed. $7,500. 756-2580, 756-2575.

CHEVROLET 1980 Short bed, 350 bored, turbo 350, holly carburetor, weiand intake, headers, $2,900.697-2335.

FORD 1985 F-150 Ext Cab . Fully loaded! Toolbox, headache rack. Runs great! $3,000 negotiable. Call 522-2606.

GMC 1986 1/2 Ton. Short wide bed, 305 cu. in., automatic. $4,000. 697-6104.

220 Trucks

CHEVROLET 1995 Ext Cab. Too many options to list! Low mileage. Excellent condition. Must see! 684-9888.

DODGE 1995 RAM 3500 1 Ton Cummins turbo diesel, model BR350D with 40' goose neck trailer. $23,500 for both. 570-4175 after 5 pm 520-6124.

FORD 1991 F-150. V-8, auto, power, runs great! Excellent condition. $5,750 or trade for good Suburban. 570-4796.

FORD long wide bed, 100 gal diesel tank/ switches, large Rat-Pack tool box, aluminimum camper shell. $150 each. 694-5723. See at 4305 Roosevelt.

GMC 1994 Extended Cab. runs excellent, step side, $1,000 and take over payments. Call from 8-2 or leave message. 522-7464.

CHEVROLET 1993 1/2 Ton Extended Cab. Blue, AM/ FM cassette, A/ C, good condition. Asking $7,500 or best offer, 520-7159.

CHEVROLET 1996 Z-71, 4 wheel drive, extended cab, CD, automatic, blue/ blue, power seats/ locks/ windows, 64K, $18,000. 683-2524/ 687-0071.

FORD 1996 F350, XLT diesel crew cab, dually, red 30K gray , Show Trucks USA interior Must Sell, $22,000. 686-9551.

DODGE 1992 Turbo Diesel Extended Cab. Automatic, electric doors, windows, remote control mirrors, 66K. 1 owner, like new, $14,900. 682-9513.

CHEVROLET 1994, C-1500, extended cab, 305, white/ blue. Tinted windows, long bed. High mileage, company vehicle, well maintained. $8,750. 697-0755.

FORD 1993 F-250 XL, regular cab, auto., 46,000 miles, 5th wheel hitch, 2 tail gates, towing package, extras. $10,500. 694-9838.

FORD 1995 F-150. Eddie Bauer 4x4 extended cab. Loaded, all power, CD player, 34K miles. $18,000 699-1814 or 563-3057.

CHEVROLET 1993 extended cab, Silverado package, excellent condition, 60K miles. $12,900. 694-7833.

CHEVROLET 1982 Crew Cab 1 Ton dually. 454, Power steering, new brakes/ wheels/ tires, interior/ exterior. Runs perfectly. $5,500. 694-4820.

222 Suburbans & Vans

CHEVROLET 1990 Suburban. Excellent condition inside and out. One owner, new tires. $7,900. 689-7486.

CHEVROLET 1986 Suburban. 118K, loaded, rear air, boards & flares. $4,500. Call 686-0320.

CHEVROLET 1988 Suburban. Good condition, runs well. $5,450. Call 697-7509.

CHEVROLET 1990 Suburban. White/ blue interior, excellent condition, aluminum wheels. Clean. $7,500/ offer. 686-8674.

CHEVROLET 1991 Suburban. 2 Wheel drive, tinted windows, running boards, luggage rack, alarm/ keyless entry. $9,000 or best offer. 694-9689.

CHEVROLET 1993 Suburban. Silverado, loaded, looks/ runs new. 73K. $17,200. 685-3743.

FORD 1983 15 Passenger Van. Needs some engine repair. Body in good condition. Call 520-1522.

PONTIAC 1997 Transport, V-6, loaded, new condition, 10K, $19,900 684-6339.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban LT. Blue/ gray leather, loaded, 31K miles, $26,500. 520-0090.

GMC 1988 Suburban Good body, new heads, runs good. $4,000 687-2395 after 5:30 pm.

CHEVROLET 1992 Astro Van Gladiator. Fully loaded, must see! $8,400. Call 570-7211.

PLYMOUTH 1995 Grand Voyager Minivan. V-6, quad seating, all options. Excellent condition. $13,499. 520-3778.

GMC 1989 Suburban. Excellent mechanical condition. Minor damage to rear passenger door. $4,200 or best offer. Call 570-7565.

MERCURY 1993 Villager. 7 passenger mini van, 1 owner, 69K miles, new tires, V- 6, dual air conditioner, tilt, cruise, auto, am/ fm cassette, excellent condition, maintence records, $10,850. 699-6474.

NEW AT Morgan's... combination carport and storage building. Starting at $59 a month. Delivery and installation available. 563-3108.

PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE. Fully loaded, rear air, keyless entry, one owner, super clean- excellent condition, $11,000. 686-0734, 687-6406.

260 Boats & Motors

1994 KAWASAKI X 2 650 jet ski with trailer. $3,500 699-0665.

GLASSTRON Carlson CV 23, I/ O. 260 HP, Cobra outdrive, 350 Chevy V8, top, power steering, zip in full enclousure, 2 covers, travel and storage, tandem trailer with spare, surge brakes. Excellent condition. 3402 Crestmont Drive. $8,800. 699-7384.

1990 BAYLINER Capri, new Bimini top, Force 90 hp outboard, trailer with new spare tire. $5,400. 520-4366.

CREST III 1988 29' Pontoon boat. Force 1988 85 hp outboard motor, rear sun deck. Custom towing trailer. $9,750. 683-8350.

CHAPARRAL 1985 inboard/ outboard. 185 hp. Stern drive, lake ready. $5,000 o. b. o. 694-1612.

SPRINT 1997 286 Pro Tournament. Excellent condition, must see. $16,500. 685-0979 after 5.

$AVING$

94 PONTIAC SUNBIRD — $5,950
Low Miles, stk#92282

93 CHEVY LUMINA EURO — $7,950
Power Windows & Locks, Tilt/Cruise. Low Miles. stk#92451

94 CHEVY CAMARO — $9,950
Blue, Automatic, Tilt/Cruise!

96 FORD CONTOUR — $9,950
Power Locks, Tilt/Cruise stk#92423

95 FORD THUNDERBIRD — $11,550
Power Windows & Locks, Tilt/Cruise. stk#92460

97 FORD TAURUS — $12,550
Low Miles, Power Steering. Power Windows, Power Locks & Seats, Tilt/Cruise. 2 to Choose From

94 CHEVY EXT. CAB — $15,950
Power Windows & Locks, Tilt/Cruise Only 44k Miles. stk#92343

96 CHEVY EXT. CAB Z71 — $18,950
2 TO CHOOSE FROM – Indigo Blue & Hunters Green, Power Locks & Windows, Tilt/Cruise, 4x4! stk#92341

IF YOU DON'T CHECK WITH VILLAGE BEFORE YOU BUY... ...YOU'RE PROBABLY PAYING TOO MUCH!!!

*$0 Down with approved credit. All prices + TT&L

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210 Automobiles Imports

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$389 MO* ONLY $1998 DOWN

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1004 S. Midkiff
Midland
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*48 Mo. Closed end lease, MSRP $33,235, $1,998 Cap Reduction, First Payment, TT&L and $495 Acquisition Fee Due at Inception. LEV $19,608.65 12,000 Miles per year, 20¢ mile thereafter, W.A.C.

310 General Help Wanted

COURIER NEEDED- must be over 21, have good driving record, non- smoking environment. Must be able to lift 50- 60 pounds. $6/ Hour. Send resume to: P.O. Box 5204, Midland, TX 79704.

DRIVERS WANTED: experienced Mixer drivers. CDL, drug & alcohol screen, health card required, Inquire at Troy Vines, Inc., 2817 Rankin Hwy.

FITNESS ASSISTANT needed at YMCA, part time. Apply in person at 800 N. Big Spring.

FURNITURE MOVERS with experience. Heavy lifting and Class C drivers license required. Leave name /number (915)553-1464.

GENERAL- COM Aquatics now taking applications for summer employment. Positions available: Lifeguards, Swim Instructors, Maintenance Workers. Training available. Pick up applications at COM Aquatics, 3003 North "A" Street, Midland, Texas. 684-7755.

GENERAL. Never before offered: Nutri/ System Direct™, Home Discount program. No program fee! Call now to order your food or be a Nutri/ System Direct™ Representative. Lose weight, make serious money. Ground floor opportunity. 1-888-588-5247.

GENERAL. Positions available- Maintenance- experience and valid drivers license required. Janitorial- all shifts. No criminal background. Apply at Customer Service, Midland Park Mall. No phone calls please. Southeast Service Corporation.

GET OUT OF THE HEAT! Summer camp in the Cool mountains of northern New Mexico now hiring staff. Cooks, Wranglers, Maintenance, Riflery, Fly Fishing. Call Scott or Tamara 800-722-2843.

GROUNDS KEEPER needed. Large apartment community. Pool certificate required and some knowledge of sprinkler system. Energetic and enthusiastic. Drug testing and criminal history check required. Call 689-9865 for appointment.

HAIR STATIONS Available. 1 Private, 1 wet, family salon. We have more business than we can handle! Centrally located with lots of parking. Call Kelli- Salon 2000, 9- 5, Tuesday thru Saturday, 694-2517.

HEALTH CLUB is hiring for full time membership sales. Base plus commission plus bonus plus growth! Evenings/ Weekends. Motivated and committed need only apply. Vic, 682-0813.

HOT OILER Operator needed with experience and CDL, good driving record, DOT physical card. Good pay, group insurance available. Permian Petroleum Services, 4601 Rankin Hwy., 682-0734.

HOT SHOT driver needed. Local- 200 mile radius. Must have 2 years experience, CDL license, drug test required. Commission paid. Apply in person, McClatchy Brothers, 3901 W. Industrial, Midland.

HOTEL MAINTENANCE position. Must have experience in all areas of general maintenance. Apply in person, Lexington Hotel and Suites, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland.

INSERTERS NEEDED. Wednesday only, 4 pm- 9 pm. $5.75 Per hour. 687-8895, Ask for BJ Elliott.

INVENTORY CONTROL and warehouse person. Must be computer literate and have knowledge of gas compression and processing equipment. Send resume to Box T-05100, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

JUMBURRITO INC. Now hiring all positions. Apply at 908 South Midkiff.

KENT KWIK
24 Hour * Job Hotline
520-4053 ext. 371

LEASING AGENT- part time. Please call for details, 697-4149.

TELEMARKETERS NEEDED. No experience- will train. Cash paid weekly. Call Mr. Taps, 570-5012.

SWING INTO SAVINGS

CHEVROLET

INTEREST RATES AS LOW AS 1.9%

Stk. #986006

$299 MO. 3-Dr., Vortec 5000 V-8 Engine, AM/FM Cass, C.D. Player, Auto Transmission, P/Windows & Locks, Mirrors & More.

'98 CHEVY EXT. CAB SILVERADO

36 Mo. SmartBuy 10.66 APR, Residual Value - $16,514.16, 12,000 Miles Per Year. MSRP- $23,898.00. $800.00 Down +TT&L

$335 MO. Vortec 4300 V6 Engine, AM/FM Stereo with C.D. Player, CS Trim, P/Windows, Locks & Mirrors, Tilt, Cruise.

Stk. #98555

'98 CHEVY BLAZER 4-DR.

$800.00 Down +TT&L, 36 Mo. SmartBuy 8.66 APR, Residual Value - $16,779.12, 12,000 Miles Per Year, MSRP - $26,082.00

'99 CHEVY TAHOE 4-DOOR

$389 MO. Stk. #995014

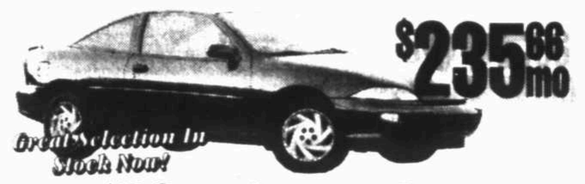
36 Mo. SmartBuy $800.00 Down +TT&L, 9.9 APR, Residual $23,126.56, 12,000 Miles Per Year. MSRP - $31,872.00.

LS Pkg. Front & Rear Air, Heavy Duty Trailering, CD Player & More.

$25,995 +TT&L *5 To Choose From!*

MSRP $31,580.00
BUYERS SAVINGS ..... ($4585.00)
REBATE ..... ($1000.00)

'98 CHEVY FULL SIZE CONV. VAN



Great Selection In Stock Now!

$235.66 mo '98 CHEVY CAVALIER 2-DOOR

Sale Price $14,340.00, Low Mileage Plan 5.8% APR, Residual Value $7,456.80, $500 Cap Cost, TT&L Down.

$227.41 mo '98 CHEVY PRIZM 4-DR.

Sale Price $13,570.00, Low Mileage Plan 6.5% APR, Residual Value $8,304.90, $500.00 Down +TT&L

$296.39 mo '98 CHEVY CAMARO

Sale Price $17,930.00, Low Mileage Plan 8.15% APR, Residual Value $10,861.35, $500.00 Down +TT&L

$299.00 mo '98 CHEVY MALIBU 4-DOOR

Low Mileage Plan 8.4% APR, Residual Value $10,738.00, $500.00 Down +TT&L

'98 BUICK PARK AVENUE

SPECIAL PRICE $29,520.58

MSRP $33,405.00
PRICE REBATE ..... ($1,000.00)
BUYERS SAVINGS ..... ($2,884.42)

BUICK

'98 BUICK LE SABRE LTD

SPECIAL PRICE $24,853.79

MSRP $28,654.00
PRICE REBATE ..... ($1,000.00)
BUYERS SAVINGS ..... ($2,178.21)

'98 BUICK CENTURY LIMITED

SPECIAL PRICE $21,071.83

MSRP $22,870.00
BUYERS SAVINGS ..... ($1,798.17)

BEST BUY

'98 BUICK REGAL LS SEDAN

SPECIAL PRICE $21,329.50

Stk #88088
MSRP $23,082
BUYERS SAVINGS ($1,752.50)

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4100 WEST WALL•MIDLAND, TEXAS•SALES HOTLINE 520-0156•694-9601

310 General Help Wanted

LIFEGUARDS NEEDED. Ranchland Hills Country Club now accepting applications for position of lifeguard. Applications available at 1600 E. Wadley or call Marc Chastain, 697-7720.

LUBE CENTER- Technicians needed for full- time positions in busy oil & lube center. Drivers license & good driving record required. Also, hiring Summer help & all car wash positions. Must be 16 with drivers license. Apply in person, Village Car Wash & Express Lube, 604 Andrews Hwy.

MAINTENANCE and Custodial Persons needed. Apply 602 N. Baird, Suite 200, Midland.

METAL STUD Framers and Sheet Rockers- experienced only. Apply in person, Midland International Airport, Henley Interiors.

NAIL TECH station for lease. Great location for building clientele. Comfortable atmosphere. Call 689-3339 or 570-0749.

NURSERY. Alldredge Gardens is seeking an experienced Landscape Foreman. Must have knowledge of sod installation, hydro mulching, tree and shrub installation., must be able to read blue prints. Competitive wages. EOE. 3300 N. Fairgrounds Road. 682-4500.

ON THE BORDER MEXICAN CAFE. We are now accepting applications for experienced food servers and cooks. Apply in person Monday- Friday.

OTR DRIVERS. Team Drivers for OTR. Must have CDL. Call 682-7811.

❤ REPRESENTATIVES

Needed- sell Avon part time- full time. Great earnings. Call Verla 520–0119, Independent Rep.

RESTAURANT

*** THE BAR ***

Now accepting applications for several lunch and full time waitstaff positions. Apply between 8:00 to 10:00 or 2:00 to 4 pm only- Monday through Friday. 606 W. Missouri, 685-1757.

RESTAURANT Great wait staff, great tips, lunches only, apply in person at: Mr. Reuben's Restaurant & Tavern, 3205 W. Cuthbert.

RESTAURANT- KD's Bar-B-Que. Cashier, Bartender, Cook, Kitchen, & Floor Help needed. Apply within, 3109 Garden City Highway (I-20 & Garden City Hwy), 683-5013.

RESTAURANT- Honest, dependable, hard working Waitstaff and Banquet staff wanted full/ part time. Must have experience. Taking applications Tuesday- Saturday 9- 11 am only. No phone calls please. Green Tree Country Club.

RESTAURANT- The Bar is currently accepting applications for Cooks. Apply in person between 8- 10 am or 2- 4 pm, Monday through Thursday, 606 W. Missouri.

SADDLERIDGE Lodge Assisted Living needs Cook. MUST know how to cook from scratch & follow special diets. We're looking for a well-groomed, enthusiastic team player who works well with the elderly. This part time position will eventually work into full time. Great benefits, great pay, great place to work! Apply in person, Saddleridge Lodge, 1808 W. Loop 250 North. No phone calls please.

SALES ASSOCIATE. Thursday thru Monday evenings only. Must be 21 years. Retired people welcome. Apply Amigo's Convenience Store, 3301 Andrews Hwy.

SERVERS. Ideal for high school or college students or others. Evening & Weekend shifts available. Able to communicate well and get along with the elderly. Stop by 2100 Castleford Road for application.

SERVICE PERSON for lawn service sprinkler repairs. Must have extensive sprinkler experience, above average mechanical ability and good driving record. Will consider part time. 682-4281.

SHEET METAL Duct Installer. Experience tools, references, drug testing required. Wages based on experience. Call (806)637-8024.

SHOGUN & ORIENT Express is hiring experienced cooks and cook trainees for Oriental style cooking. Also, Delivery Drivers with own vehicle and liability insurance. Other positions available also. Apply between 5 & 6 pm. at 4610 N. Garfield, Loop 250.

SONIC DRIVE INN is now hiring all positions day and evening shifts. Also looking for carhops who skate. Apply in person at 2310 N. Big Spring.

WAITSTAFF wanted, evening shift. Come apply in person at Carrow's Restaurant, 2201 W. Wall.

WAITSTAFF NEEDED. Apply in person, Cowboys II Cafe, 1000A W. I-20., Midland.

TERRACE WEST
Nursing Center

has current opening for a relief Laundry Aide. Two mornings and two evenings will work approximately 30 hour a week. All applicants must apply in person. 2800 N. Midland Drive.

311 Medical Help Wanted

DENTAL HYGIENIST

Looking for a dedicated person for our periodontal office who likes to teach as well as treat patients. Some administrative responsibilities. Experience considered. Salary open.

SEND RESUME
Patrick Makins D.D.S.
Periodontics
3010 Greenmeadow
San Angelo, TX. 76904
Qualified Applicants will be contacted for interview.

NURSEFINDERS
SEEKING
RN(s) & LVN(s) & CNA(s) FOR STAFF RELIEF
RN(s) up to $37.50
LVN(s) up to $30.00
Med Surg, ICU, ER
Referral Bonus. Daily Pay. 10 Shift Bonus. Workman's Comp.. & Liability Insurance.
Sign On Bonus $200!
570-8082

SPECIAL CARE
UNIT MANAGER

Position at Comanche Trail Nursing Center is available. Strong administration & organizational skills with a minimum of 2 years experience in health care field. Knowledge of Alzheimer's/ Dementia disease necessary. Fax resume to:
(915)263-4067
Attn: Administrator.

CERTIFIED NURSE AIDES

Terrace West Nursing Center, has current openings for Certified Nurse Aides.
If interested please apply in person at 2800 N. Midland Drive. Midland, TX. 79707

MEDICAL- Mitchell County Hospital District. "80 John Wallace" Medical Unit, Colorado City, Texas is accepting applications for a Correctional LVN. Contact Ms. LeMaster at (915) 728-2162, extension 4265.

311 Medical Help Wanted

CERTIFIED NURSE Assistant. Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 153 bed JCAHO accredited acute care facility has immediate openings for CNA's. Positions available on various shifts. Requires ability to work at a fast pace. Excellent interpersonal skills a must. May require some overtime. We offer a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package including 401(k) retirement. Please submit resume to: Personnel, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or fax to (915)263-6454. Applications may be picked up at the switchboard between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 pm and may be turned in there also. No phone calls please. EOE.

EXPERIENCED- Collections Clerk needed in busy orthopedic clinic. Please send resumes to: Southwest Orthopaedic & Spine Center, 4304 Andrews Hwy, 79703.

LVN
Midland Dialysis Center is accepting applications for full time dialysis patient care technician, experience preferred but will train. Good benefits and salary. If interested apply at 731 W. Wadley, Building K or contact Barbara Vaughn 687-1201.

LVN NEEDED for every other weekend, 13 hour shift. Send resume to First Care, 2310 W. Ohio, Midland, Texas 79701.

MEDICAL- Challenging insurance billing position with group medical practice. Previous billing experience required with good computer and people skills. Offering excellent salary and benefit package. Please send resume and cover letter with salary requirements to Box T-05102, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

MEDICAL. Come work for the fastest growing company in Midland/ Odessa. (2) full time shift salaried positions available for EMT or Paramedic. Must be TDH certified, 21 years or older with good driving record. Also have part time positions available. Call 550-6972 to schedule interview.

MEDICAL. Home Hospice of Midland/ Odessa seeks experienced RN for Midland Field Nurse position. It's not a job- it's a calling! Bring resume to 1802 W. Wall, Midland or call 570-0700 for Hilton or Betty.

Let "Sure Sell" Work For You! Call 682-6222

311 Medical Help Wanted

OUTSIDE MEDICAL supply sales- Big Spring and surrounding area. Knowledge of DME, home respiratory equipment. Pharmaceutical sales background A+. Rapidly expanding local company. Salary, commission, mileage and benefits. Send resume to: PO BOX 12034, Odessa, TX 79768.

PM NURSE SUPERVISOR. Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 153 bed JCAHO accredited acute care facility has an immediate opening for a PM Nurse Supervisor. Requires previous supervisory experience, ability to work in a fast paced environment and excellent interpersonal skills a must. We offer a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package including 401(k) retirement. Please submit resume to: Personnel, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, 1601 W. 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or fax to: (915)263-6465. Applications may be picked up at the switchboard between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 pm and may be turned in there also. No phone calls please. EOE.

ROCK HOUSE of Midland, is accepting applications for Direct Care Staff to work with mentally challenged adults, in group home settings. Part time early morning hours, as well as mid- evening, full- time and weekend shifts also available. Must have valid drivers license, high school diploma or GED. PMAB, CNA, First Aid a plus. Apply in person @ 811 E. Texas Avenue. Benefits available to full time staff. Drug free. EOE.

312 Professional Help Wanted

*** NETWORK * ENGINEERS**

Need 2 network engineers that can deal with the public in a sales environment from network consultation/ design to installation. Novell a must. Primarily Midland/ Odessa. No overnight travel. Profit sharing and excellent benefits. Qualified inquiries only.
800-404-1190

ACCOUNTANT- Opening for Accountant with strong financial background. CPA preferred, oil and gas related. Growing company. Must be willing to relocate to South Texas area. Some travel to offices in Albuquerque, New Mexico will be required. Send complete resume with references to: Pedeco, Inc. HCR 8, Box 480-A, Beeville, Texas 78102.

310 General Help Wanted

SONIC DRIVE- IN
1109 N. Midkiff Rd

Now hiring carhops and counter help for day shift and after school. Minimum wage to start plus generous tips. Must be at least 16 years old. Please apply in person.

KFC

47- UNIT
KFC FRANCHISEE

is seeking friendly, energetic, experienced people for shift supervisor and customer service worker positions.

We offer:
- ✔ Competitive Wages
- ✔ Regularly Scheduled Increases
- ✔ Medical Benefits
- ✔ Vacation Pay
- ✔ Meal Discounts
- ✔ Flexible Hours
- ✔ Employee Recognition Programs

Apply or send resume to:
KFC
2311 N. Big Spring St.
Midland, TX 79705
EOE M/F

*GENERAL
30 PEOPLE
FAST CASH

Needed in our distribution center. Learn warehousing, sales and marketing and office duties. Advancement opportunities available. If you're not making $250/ $300 a week, call Mr. Roberts at 570-4196.

*GENERAL
A NEW START!

Starting Immediately
2 Entry level opportunities with better than average starting pay. Day work - no nights or weekends. Need some sales ability. Telemarketing experience preferred. These are permanent positions with a future. Apply in person only to:
10601 County Rd 127 W
(Near Warfield)

*GENERAL
OVERCROWDED WAREHOUSE
- * Apply today- work tomorrow
- * Full time - days only
- * $300 + per week
- * Lots of overtime

Call Gary at 570-4198

COMMUNICATIONS. Twin Cities Communications now hiring Telesecretaries evening and weekend work a must. Must have typing skills. Only serious applicants apply Monday through Friday 10 -2. Located at 2002 S. County Rd., 1276 at Air Terminal directly behind Big 2 News.

310 General Help Wanted

IHOP

SERVERS

I.H.O.P. in Midland is now hiring servers. 1 year experience prefered. Apply in person Monday- Friday 1- 5 pm, 2507 W. Loop 250, Midland.

***TRUCK DRIVER**

Must have current CDL, oil field experience, clean driving record; benefits and uniforms available. Transport, Vacuum Truck, Pump Truck experience is a plus. Hourly pay depends on experience. 40+ hours per week. No guarantee. Apply in person at 6601 FM 715, Midland. Midkiff Transports, Inc. 682-2405.

***OWNER* OPERATORS**

Needed For
Tank Company.
Can Receive
Full Benefit Package.
Pay 67%

888-364-2425 Ext. 500

✔ PRESS OPERATOR needed. Experience required on A.B. Dick press. Call 694-1232.

AMERA TRAVEL is expanding again. Need immediately- full service Travel Agent, Outside Sales Persons, Cruise Specialist, Group Specialist and Student Travel Specialist. Send resume in confidence to: P.O. Box 9484, Midland, TX 79708 or 915-685-1288 for Interview.

APARTMENT COMMUNITY is seeking full- time make ready person to join their maintance team. Experience preferred. Excellent benefits. Apply in person at: 5101 North "A" St. No phone calls please.

▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼

La Bodega

Now hiring:

Experienced Assistant Manager

Apply in person
2700 N. Big Spring

▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼▲

EARN EXTRA INCOME! We now have openings for year round part time inventory takers. AM and PM hours available, some weekends. Must be 18 or older with good math aptitude. 10 key helpful. Transportation and telephone a must. $6.75/ Hour to start. Call 694-3399 for interview on Monday. RGIS INVENTORY SPECIALISTS, World's Largest Inventory Service. EOE.

CASHIERS WANTED. 2- 10 pm & 10- 6 am shifts available. Top pay. Apply in person, E-Z Mart, 2210 N. Big Spring. No phone calls please.

310 General Help Wanted

ASSISTANT- Odessa American, a 30,000 circulation daily newspaper in Odessa, Texas, has an opening for an Assistant Press Foreman. Qualified applicants must have experience with a doublewide offset press preferably a Harris 1650. In addition, applicants must possess general maintenance knowledge, quality control and have excellent written and oral communication skills. Good salary with excellent benefits package. Qualified applicants should mail their resumes to: Odessa American, Attn: Bob Braswell, P.O. Box 2952, Odessa, Texas 79760-2952 or Fax to: Odessa American, Attn: Bob Braswell, 915-334-8641.

BE A Model- all ages, no experience necessary. $10/ hour on as needed basis over next 3 months. Send name & phone number to P.O. Box 3851, Midland, TX 79702.

BLIND BOX REPLIES

When replying to a blind box number listed in an advertisement, address your reply to: **(this is an example)**

==========
BOX Z-01
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
P.O. Box 1650
Midland, TX 79702
==========

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 and 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 disclosures of information, loss of responses or misdirection of responses.

CAR WASH. Immediate openings full and part time. Apply in person: Classic Car Wash, 2503 W. Illinois.

CARHOPS NEEDED. Days and evenings. Must be friendly and energetic. Also hiring skating Carhops. Apply in person, Sonic Drive In, 4201 Midland Drive.

CARRIER. Seeking individual to deliver the San Angelo Standard Times in Midland. Earn approximately $500 per month. Call 1-800-588-1884, ext. 293.

CMC LATHE and Mill Programmer/ Operator needed with experience. Manual experience a plus. We need a person able to take a print and complete the job. Health insurance, vacation pay, paid holidays. Call MIDCO Machine, 563-2010.

COUNTER SALES, warehouse clerk and delivery driver. Part time and full time positions available. Experienced in PVC pipe fittings, plumbing or irrigation. Clean driving record required. Pay DOE Apply in person. 1101 S. Garfield.

EXPERIENCED Fiberglass Production personnel. Call Viking Pools, 561-9933.

310 General Help Wanted

Dear Mark & Dale:
I work within a fairly large corporation. The corporation has a policy that it does not give recommendations for employees if they are seeking other employment opportunities; they will only verify that you are or have been an employee. This policy is foreign to me, since I previously worked for smaller employers. I have spent the last 10 years of my life with this company and have always gotten excellent performance evaluations. If I seek other employment, what should I do? Would it be acceptable to approach individual supervisors and ask them for a personal recommendation?

Sandra

MARK: Let's start with a discussion of "foreign" policy. When you or I look at a corporation's headquarters, we see a parking lot, a building, a logo, some employees. But when employment lawers look at that same corporation, they see pockets... deep ones. A lot of companies end up making policies not for the sake of their employees, but for

the sake of their attorneys. They don't just look at what's right ot wrong, but what's safe.

DALE: And the problem isn't only lawyers. There's an entire fear industry - consultants who tell horror stories about employee lawsuits and then sell panaceas. It's easy to see how Human Resources gets turned into a division of the legal department. But we ought to back up and tell Sandra how we got from recommendations to lawsuits. It happens like this: Say one on Mark's former employees applies for a new job. The company calls Mark for a recommendation and Mark reveals that he repeatedly caught the guy sleeping on the job. Based on that information, the employee loses out on the new job and then sues Mark for ruining his life. Now Mark has to prove that the guy was sleeping, while spending thousands in legal fees. And who is the jury going to side with? Hint: Are most jurors employees or employers?

MARK: SO "say not evil" policies evolved. Employers simply tried to find something positive to say. But even that wasn't always safe. An attorney friend, Steve Biddle of the firm Streich Lang in Phoenix, told me of a case where an employee was fired from Company A for stealing. Later, Company B called to ask for a recommendation and the people at Company A didn't disclose their knowledge about the theft. The guy got hired and then proceeded to steal. When the employee's history came out, Company B sued Company A and won.

DALE: The upshot is that it's understandable when companies refuse to get involved in recommendations. So they make a policy, and typically extend that policy to all individual supervisors. So if you ask former supervisors for a recommendation, you'll be asking them to break company policy. And moving on to a second and perhaps more important point, if you ask co-workers for a recommendation while you still work there, you'll put at risk the reputation you built over those 10 years.

MARK: Agreed. Even if you don't get fired, you'll find that you get shut out. Who wants to give you a choice assignment when you might leave at any time? Besides, a psychological shift starts - you start to become an outsider, maybe a traitor.

DALE: It's like your spouse saying, "Nothing personal, but I need more space." It's personal.

MARK: So what can you do? Normally, the prospective employer would call your prior companies, but in this case, that information is 10 years old. So, once you're interviewing, I would wait till employers ask for references, then place the problem at their feet: "My company refuses to give any information other than dates of employment. And since I still work there, I hesitate to have you call them. What would you like me to do?

DALE: Better yet, she could explain the dilemma and then offer a solution. She could offer personal references (for instance, a minister or fellow members of professional groups).Plus, she could pick a few people who have already left her current company and ask them to vouch for her.

MARK: And the prospective employer would have to be impressed that she was thinking ahead and thinking of them. Everyone wants to hire someone who is "solutions- oriented" and she would have domonstrated that she can solve problems, even "foreign" ones.

* * *

Mark & Dale Talk Jobs is a new feature of the
Midland Reporter-Telegram Classified Employment Section.

STORE - PROMOTIONS

We need people with Demo or Sales experience for our store booth locations selling the Midland Reporter- Telegram. Tons of promotions to close the sale. All shifts available- easy sales- call Bryan at...

567-3431
Leave a voice message.

HELP- WE NEED YOU!

We need 10 people to fill part time positions! Now! We are looking for Adults and Retirees who need an extra $100- $250 Weekly selling the Midland Reporter- Telegram. You pick the time and you decide how many hours you want to work. Full training and transportation if needed, It's that simple! Hurry- Call Today!

Contact Bryan at 567-3431
Leave a Voice Message

SUMMERTIME = $$$$

We still have positions open for 14 and up to sell The Midland Reporter- Telegram. With new promotions, and a proven selling system- you can't lose! If you are in theatre, we want to talk to you, if you are a talker and selling would come natural to you, we want you!

Hurry and call today!
567-3431, Leave a Voice Message

Saturday Computer Operator

Part time computer operator wanted for PC/ Macintosh functions. PC experience required. Macintosh experience preferred. Previous computer operations experience a plus. Normal shift would be just Saturdays, 8 am- 5 pm, but would prefer individual that could work other hours occasionally (flexible, evening or Sunday) for systems maintenance purposes. Pay is $8/ hour.

Call 682-2119 or fax resume to 682-3041.

312 Professional Help Wanted

CHILD CARE Director. Experience with after school care preferred. Salary depending upon experience. Apply in person, 4500 W. Illinois, Suite 112 by May 1st, 1998. EOE

CONTROLLER/ BOOK KEEPER wanted. 25 employee company in Austin area. Excellent salary and benefits, experience necessary. Moving expenses paid. Send resume to S. Scott, 221 Stearman Dr., Georgetown , TX 78628 or fax 512-869-0098

ENGINEER- Opening for Petroleum Engineer. Growing company. Must be willing to relocate to South Texas area. Knowledge of horizontal drilling, completion, and production a plus. Field experience a plus. Send complete resume with references to: Pedeco, Inc. HCR 8, Box 480-A, Beeville, Texas 78102.

FULL CHARGE bookkeeping needed, and all phases of accounting for full time position. Up to $10.50 an hour. Send resume: P.O. Box 2969, Odessa, TX 79760.

REAL ESTATE ASSISTANT,. Computer experience a must. Prefer Licensed. Please contact Ruth Young, 682-7884.

312 Professional Help Wanted

GRADUATE ENGINEER needed for gas compression and gas processing equipment company. Duties to include: project development and sales. Send resume and salary history to Box T-05101, c/o Midland Reporter- Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

MANAGER for 200 unit property. Excellent salary, bonus and benefits. Strong company, nice people. Send resume in confidence to Box 04041, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702..

PROGRAM DIRECTOR for Youth Agency. Bachelor's degree in Human Services Field. Bilingual a plus. Experience in fund raising, volunteer coordination, staff supervision. Apply in person before May 1st at: 4500 W. Illinois, #112. EOE.

SALES Position available for individual with knowledge of computer hardware and software. The ideal candidate will also have experience in retail sales. Benefits include paid vacations, paid medical. Call for interview 570-8195.

312 Professional Help Wanted

SHERRY OWEN, State Farm Insurance Agency, has an opportunity for a Customer Service Rep., for an ARTICULATE, INTELLIGENT, FRIENDLY & CARING individual with two years of college. Present your transcript and resume at: 2611B N. Midland Dr., Monday- Friday, 9-5.

WENDY'S NOW accepting resumes for assistant manager trainee. Competitive salary, benefits. Mail resume to Wendy s P.O. Box 9511, Midland TX 79708.

314 Clerical Help Wanted

ASSISTANT BOOKKEEPER/ Secretary opening. 30 Hours per week. Required skills: 10 key calculator, Word Perfect word processing, telephone skills, accounting- computer & manual knowledge, ability to work with people. Send resume to: PO Box 4725, Midland, Texas 79704

CLERICAL OPENINGS, at least 6 months experience. Call OLSTEN today, 689-6607.

DATA ENTRY CLERK

Small company is seeking a well organized person experienced in both data entry and heavy phone usage. Minimum of 40 wpm and 10 key by touch required. Non smoking environment. For consideration please send resume with salary history to: Box N-3018, c/o Midland Reporter Telegram P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

★ DP PERSONNEL ★
Temp & Permanent Positions
Benefits & Bonuses Available
682--0033 or 570-0197

INSURANCE AGENT needs full- time Secretary/ Receptionist for one person office. Honesty and dependability a must. Entry level salary while in training. 8:30- 5:30, Monday through Friday. Please send resume to: P.O. Box 5074, Midland, TX 79704.

JOBS AVAILABLE
Select Staff
915-687-1545

Global Personnel Network
Temp & Perm positions. Locally & around the globe! 686--8360.

TEMPORARY OPENING- Office Administrator. Knowledge of Microsoft Office is required. Duties range from accounts payable, printing various reports, processing daily deposits, etc. Must be extremely organized & proficient at multi tasking in a professional environment. Fax resume to (915) 694-3602.

EXPERIENCE COUNTS
* Secretarial
* Word Processing
* Oil & Gas
* Never a Fee
TEMPORARY RESOURCES
684-0527

CLASSIFIED CAN!

Pool Company, an industry leader in Oilfield Services, is soliciting resumes for consideration out of their Midland District Office for the following position:

SAFETY TRAINING SPECIALIST

Applicants must have:

* A thorough knowledge of the well servicing industry's equipment, safety, training and environmental concepts, standards and practices
* An understanding of all applicable government laws, regulations and reporting procedures
* A thorough knowledge of the techniques of accident investigation and loss control
* A capability of developing programs and making presentations to employee groups

Pool Company offers an excellent salary and benefits package including medical and dental insurance, paid vacation, 401(K) Savings Plan, group life insurance, short-term and long- term disability and credit union services.

Resumes can be sent to the following location:

Pool Company Texas, Ltd.
P.O. Box 60910
Midland, TX 79711-0910

POOL COMPANY TEXAS Ltd.
An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V

*EVENT SERVICE COORDINATOR

The Midland Chamber of Commerce and Midland Center is seeking an Event Service Coordinator. This person will report to the Director of Convention and Visitor Development. Responsible for all bookings into the center; assisting clients and arranging facilities and services for various events; and promoting the center to organizations and the public. Excellent organizational, public relations, customer service, and communication skills required. Must be self- starter and highly motivated. Computer proficiency on Microsoft Word and Windows 95, experience with Data management software program helpful. 4 year degree and 2 years experience in sales, special events or related field; or equivalent combination. Submit resumes to:

Shura Lindgren
Midland CVB
P.O. Box 1890
Midland, Texas 79702

314 Clerical Help Wanted

V.I.P. EMPLOYMENT SERVICES- Clerical and Industrial jobs available. Never a fee. Benefits. (915) 686--9722

316 Sales Help Wanted

*SALES
Just Over Broke
20 men & women needed to learn a simple system. No Boss, Travel, Earn money daily. Call John Monday through Friday, 570-4199.

FASTEST GROWING Professional beauty products distributor in Texas. Looking for aggressive sales people. Full and part time positions available throughout Texas. Generous compensation plan with plenty of growth potential for the right person. Fax resume in confidence to, Director of Sales (210)805-8931, or call 800-726-4247.

OUTSIDE SALES rep setting up credit card, check acceptance, ATM machines. Earn $500- $700 per week. No experience necessary. Call 697-3636.

318 Management Help Wanted

***RESTAURANT* MANAGER TRAINEE**
$25K- $40K
Any restaurant management experience.
Texas Positions
1-800-811-9028

PROPERTY Local Self Storage Company seeks responsible couple to manage in Midland. Applicants will have verifiable work references. Competitive Salary, Bonuses & Benefits. 915-694-5959.

319 Oil Industry Help Wanted

DOLLARS PAID for Oil and Gas sales tax refund contracts. For information call 1-800-658-1349. www.davlan.net/sts

WANTED: Experienced Backhoe Operator with at least 2 years experience. For more information call Rusty's Oilfield Service Inc. at 915-756-2821.

320 Skilled Trades

STEEL ERECTION FOREMAN

Needed with experience. Must be willing to relocate to Hobbs, NM. Call (505)393-9161- Johnie Ragsdale for more information.

COMPUTER GRAPHICS Artist wanted for immediate opening position. Please send resume to: P.O. Box 2636, Midland, TX 79702.

CONSTRUCTION, metal framers, drywallers, painters, concealed spline, laborers. Full time. Call 559-4879 for application.

ELECTRICIANS and cable technicians wanted. Minimum 3 years electrical. Minimum 3 years data and telecommunications. Fiberoptics experience a plus. Serious inquiries call Hensley's Computer Cabling, 683-7835 or 522-2270.

WANTED: SURVEY INSTRUMENT OPERATOR

for construction layout. Must be experienced, willing to learn and advance. Must be willing to travel- mostly in west Texas. Send resume to: Paul, % Gilbert Texas Construction Corp., P.O. Box 178, Claredon, TX 79226.

320 Skilled Trades

GENERAL
ASCO EQUIPMENT

ASCO Equipment and ASCO Rental provides opportunities for energetic, forward thinking Service Technicians to join the expansion of our growth company. Must have excellent safety record and be able to pass drug screen and physical. Construction machinery or material handling equipment experience necessary.

Good Pay.
Good Benefits.
Good Opportunity.

ASCO
3412 Kermit Hwy.
Odessa, Texas
915/ 337-2823

MOTORCYCLE MECHANIC. Requires individual with strong mechanical background. Experience on personal watercraft a plus. Must demonstrate excellent mechanical skills, desire to work hard and take direction. Will train the right individual. Midland Powersports, call Rodger, 520-2080.

PLUMBER- Need experienced, licensed Commercial Plumber. Experienced air conditioning & heating service technician and sheet metal helper. Apply in person at Permian Air Conditioning at 311 West 42nd Street, Odessa.

RESIDENTIAL CARPENTERS and Carpenter Helpers. Must be experienced. Call 684-3843 for appointment/ interview.

TRANSMISSION BUILDER & R&R- Immediate openings. Contact Joe or David at J & J Transmission, 520-9442.

WANTED LICENSED plumbers and experienced sheet metal workers. Please call 686-0002.

336 Adult Care Providers

24 HOUR Care for elderly. $1,000 month - private room, $975 semi- private. 687-2533.

CNA will care for you or loved one, home or hospital. 570-9216

INHOME CARE your locally owned sitter service. If you need dependable help call 570-4475, ask for Tamara or Jackie. (Low Rates).

LOST HOME health aid due to Medicare cuts? Still need help bathing and dressing. Call 699-9324 leave message, reasonable rates, 15 years experience, will be happy to call back!

LVN desires full time private duty position in home, 26 years experience. Dependable, good communication skills, and excellent references provided. Call Liz at 520-4736.

341 Child Care Providers

HAVE OPENINGS for infant and toddlers. Hot meals/ snacks provided. Licensed. CPR/ First Aid. 697-4479.

HAVE IMMEDIATE opening for 2 or 3 year olds. Excellent references. Hot lunch/ snacks. 684-5934.

INFANTS ONLY. The most important decision you'll ever make for that most important person in your life! Licensed for 11 years. Jan, 697-2499.

350 Business Opportunities

PET GROOMING Shop for sale. Good location, established clientele. All equipment & stock included. Located at 2509 W. Ohio. $7,500 or best offer. Call Cathy, 686-0945.

Get your Real Estate license quickly, short, day, weekend, evening classes. Southwest College 697-7277

AUTOMOTIVE SALES HELP WANTED

Fastest Growing Dealer in West Texas, Great Working Environment, Great Benefits:
★Insurance ★Holidays ★Vacation ★401k
SEE DARREN DORTCH 522-7400

Kelly Grimsley AUTO GROUP
3918 W. WALL • MIDLAND

NOW HIRING!

$1000 SIGNING BONUS!

SALESPEOPLE
Earn while you learn with the leader in the automobile industry!

See Jerry Jones at Clark for your immediate and personal interview.

Jones MOTORS
1510 East 2nd • Odessa

QUALIFICATIONS
• Neat Appearance
• Good Attitude
• Honesty
• Willingness to Learn
• Good Work Habits
• High School Graduate

SALES/ ACCOUNT MANAGER

* **Salary + Commission**
* **All Expenses + Vehicle**
* **1st Year Potential $50,000**

Regional Honeywell/ Johnson Controls Distributor is seeking a sales professional with proven track record to assume sales and marketing responsibilities. Very little overnight travel required. The successful candidate must have at least five years successful service type sales with a net income of $35,000 or better. College degree or equivalent is necessary. For consideration and interview, contact Western Controls Company at 915-332-0771. An equal opportunity employer.

SUMMERTIME = $$$$

We still have positions open for 14 and up to sell The Midland Reporter- Telegram. With new promotions, and a proven selling system- you can't lose! If you are in theatre, we want to talk to you, if you are a talker and selling would come natural to you, we want you!

Hurry and call today!
567-3431, Leave a Voice Message

HELP- WE NEED YOU!

We need 10 people to fill part time positions! Now! We are looking for Adults , Retirees, and others who need an extra $100- $250 Weekly selling the Midland Reporter- Telegram. You pick the time & you decide how many hours you want to work. Full training and transportation if needed, It's that simple! Hurry- Call Today!

Contact Bryan at 567-3431
Leave a Voice Message

320 Skilled Trades

320 Skilled Trades

ECKEL

Manufacturing Co., Inc.

Design Draftsman/ Chief Draftsman

Skills Required:
* Knowledge of AutoCAD R13
* Knowledge of Machine Shop Equipment and Practices
* Supervisory Skills
* Minimum Trigonometry Math Skills
* Minimum 5 Years Experience

Apply in Person At:
8035 West County Road- Odessa
Equal Opportunity Employer

350 Business Opportunities

MAJOR SBA and B&I Lender looking for established loan originators to receiver generous loan referral fees. 1-800-SBA-LOAN.

3 VENDING MACHINES (Pepsi). Good condition For more information 694-9448, 697-7074, 697-7925. Ask for Rick.

WELL ESTABLISHED Automotive repair business for sale in Lubbock. Equipment & inventory. Very profitable. 8 Bay Service Center & Full Automotive Repair. $150,000. Call Gary, (806)792-8995 or (806)789-1843.

★★★★★★★★★★★★
Attention Readers

Occasionally ads found in this section come from distant points and 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 number or bank information.

★★★★★★★★★★★★

LOCAL BUSINESSES for sale. Small and large. Some have low down payments and owner financing. Call for a free confidential interview- Sunbelt Business Brokers, 520-1515.

FREE MONEY! Insider's guide to government grants. Send $19.95 to Box 50506, Midland, TX 79705.

IMPROVE YOUR life, start business, repair credit, money for college and more! For self help books or distributorship, 699-2192.

MAJOR BRAND service station for sale. Attractive accompanying income also available. Write P.O. Box 13584, Odessa, TX 79768.

Super Seller II
15 words, 7 days, $5
Advertise your household item (priced under $150) with this Classified special!
Call **682-6222** for details...

Get Framed!

See how this ad caught your eye with its effective use of a black border as a frame? Ask Tami, Brandi, Pam, Jennifer, or Nancy about framing your ad today!

682-6222
or fax to
682-6999

400 Auctions

PUBLIC AUCTION! Saturday, April 18, 1998, 10:00 am. Sharp! 201 W. Washington, Midland, Texas. Absolutely No Minimums, No Reserves! Everything sold "As Is", "Where Is" without warranty. Items subject to change without prior notice. All oral announcements supersede any printed material. 10% Buyers premium. Vehicles subject to sellers confirmation. Auction to include: Original Ford 1¢ & 5¢ Gum Ball Machines, classic cars, monumental size bronze, extensive collection of 24% leaded crystal decorative items, Remingtion bronzes, ceramics & pottery, toys, clocks, buffets, video games, Coca Cola collectibles, benches, hall tables. Much, much more! Don't miss grand opening, Friday, April 17, 1998. Ribbon cutting ceremony, 1 pm. Come preview & join the fun. See you there! Call for brochure or more information. Auction Conducted by: Auction Action Midland Supercenter, 201 W. Washington, Midland, Texas 79701. 915-682-1004. Fred F. Munoz, Senior Auctioneer TX License #6250.

410 Misc. Sales

WANT TO know information about Midland High/ Lee High Class of '78 Reunion. Call (915)658-7192 or write Roy Parson, 925 E. 42nd Street, San Angelo, TX 76903.

SLOT MACHINES. 1939- (.25¢) Cherry Mills, $2,500. (10¢) Three Jacks, $1,050. Excellent working order. 520-2734.

NO TIME TO WRITE? Children, Grandchildren, Grandparents, Friends need mail? Call Mawmaw Pat at 570-9768.

GREEN TREE Memerbship, $500. Please call 686-0999 for more information.

BIRDVIEW Satellite receiving system complete, $250. 683-3863.

GAZEBOS- metal frame, top quality, 6', 8' & 10' square. $300 each or 9 for $2,000. Sylvia 694-1664.

ABOVE GROUND pools! Complete set up- built on site- no preparation needed- starting at $59 a month. 563-3108.

★BIBLE TALK: "If I Should be Lost, Will I be Lost Forever?" Part 5. 520-0381. Free recorded message.

BEAUTIFUL Dreamer's Candles- 28 Lovely fragrances. Aroma power that lasts 125 to 150 hours. Retail price- $19.95 each. Special price- $15.95 each. Anna Marie Gifts, 1705 N. Big Spring.

PROM DRESS, sequined, worn once, Size 10, must see to appreciate! $30., 697-8090

BEAUTIFUL mermaid style wedding gown/ veil, sweetheart neckline with drop pearls. Never worn. $400. 689-6939.

EVAPORATIVE COOLERS, Lawnmowers, Cook Stoves, Heaters, Refrigerators, Washers, Dryers, Dining Furniture/ Other. 570-4851.

MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIRranger II. Excellent condition $1,999. 687-0816.

NORTH RESTHAVEN mausoleum crypts, 2 in Sanctuary of Love, level C (C-D3). $5,400- Call Lalla (817)294-1316 or (817)294-8931.

PICKUP CAMPER with stove, refrigerator & sink. Sofa rust/ brown with beige background. Round coffee table. 685-0661.

WEDDING DRESS, size 8, beaded lace inserts, chapel train and veil, $350. Call 699-8021.

2 PIECE SECTIONAL with queen sleeper $175. Rainbow vacuum/ shampooer $750. Nordic Track Pro $450. 697-6906.

LEANN RIMES tickets- floor and lowers, first ten rows. Credit cards accepted. (915) 520-2188.

ACCU-SCOPE Microscope, binocular compound. 4x 10x 43x 100x oil immersion. Used twice by medical student. $500. 689-8404.

SANYO STEREO with cabinet $150, Steelcase desk $150, sewing cabinet $75, cellular phone $50. 697-8090.

BABY BEDDING ensemble with diaper stacker. Primary colors. Call 682-9380.

RESTHAVEN, Garden of Hope, 2 spaces, $1,025 each, negotiable. Call for more information, 699-7543.

410 Misc. Sales

VERTICAL Smoker, Oklahoma Joe's brand, offset firebox, triple food racks. $200. Call 697-7168.

HERBALIFE & Natural efx Independent Distributor. For products or opportunity call 689-HERB!

413 Jewelry & Furs

ESTATE- TIFFANY mounted 1.25 caret oval cut diamond, color I, clarity SI, appraised at $9,900. Sacrifice for $4,950. 686-0547.

415 Misc. Wanted

SOUTHWEST Company Club tickets or other airline mileage awards wanted. Will pay top dollar. 687--5039.

420 Good Things To Eat

20 FLAVORS of coffees and teas, Torani syrups, iced Cappuccino, Cocoa and more. Sugar free syrups, cocoa and candies also. Anna Marie Gifts, 1705 N. Big Spring.

430 Household Goods

COOKWARE- Dinner party type! 100 % waterless! Surgical stainless steel! 7- ply, 17 pieces! Retails $1,497, now $395! $75 bonus! 800-434-4628.

432 Household Furniture

PRICE REDUCED!! Large Drexel entertainment center $650. Quality 8 light chandelier $100. Very nice! 699-0157.

5 PIECE White Country Dinette, $300. Brother word processor, $150. Both like new. Call 570-6211.

QUEEN SIZE waterbed with bookcase headboard. $100. 684-8250 after 5 pm.

MOVING! Winged back chair $200. Camel back couch $200. Oak coffee and end tables $25 for both. Refrigerator $50. Computer desk/ hutch. 684-6047.

SOFA, LOVESEAT (neutral colors) & 2 lamps, all good condition, $200. Call 520-5736.

MATTRESS sets, dinette sets, bunk beds, daybeds and Futon couches. Reasonable prices. Also catalog orders available. Credit Cards- Layaways welcome. Wood & Son Appliances. 2811 W. Wall 699--1224.

KINGSIZE BEDDING (Posturepedic), complete. Like new, $100. 570-4858.

FULL Brass bed, mirrored dresser, TV/ microwave stands, Tiple arcade game, baby bed, high chair, carseat, blue futon couch, BBQ grill, double recliner. 694-1309.

BROYHILL: large pecan Hutch- $900; Dining table with 4 chairs- $550. Both excellent condition. 697-6645, 689-0371.

LARGE Sectional sofa with recliner and full size sleeper. Asking $350. 689-6939.

NEW OAK finish drop leaf desk and tapestry covered bench, paid $300, sacrifice $150. 694-5102.

435 Household Appliances

APPLIANCES reconditioned with 6 month plus warranty. Wood & Son Appliances. 2811 W. Wall 699--1224.

KENMORE DISHWASHER, like new, black front, excellent condition, $100. Call 520-0446 after 5 pm.

MUST SELL this week! '96 display model hot tubs/ spas. Two only- delivery and financing available. 563-3108.

★FREE REMOVAL of your unwanted appliances. 567-5221.

440 Firewood

DICK'S FIREWOOD. Oaks, Mesquite, Pecan & Cedar. We deliver. 1-(915) 453--2151, Fax 1-(915)-453-4322.

450 Sporting Goods

BELGIUM BROWNING superposed 12 gage skeet, with hard case. Excellent Beretta single barrel trap gun. 685-1948.

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!

79707

MOVING SALE. We sell moving boxes, cheap, cheap, cheap! 697-8800.

GARAGE SALE SERVICES

DON'T MISS OUT!

The deadline for a Saturday Garage Sale ad is Friday at Noon.

Please be sure to call 682-6222, before noon, to ensure your ad will be in Saturday's paper.

Tami, Pam, Brandi, Jennifer or Nancy are ready to help you!

GARAGE SALE SERVICES

$20 $20 $20 $20 $20 $20 $20

GARAGE SALE AD PACKAGE $20

★7 Lines (approx. 28-35 words)
★2 Days
★ ■▲/◆♥ Stand Out Emblem
★Garage Sale Kit
(includes Signs, Stakes, Marker, Balloons, Helpful Hints. $6 Value!)
★Package of Flavored Drink Mix
(for the Kids to Open a Drink Stand!)
★$3 Off Classified Coupon
(Place an ad to sell those left-over garage sale items & get $3 off!)

Or Get 3 Days for Only $24!

Call 682-6222 Today!

$20 $20 $20 $20 $20 $20 $20

450 Sporting Goods

BROWNING BAR 338 magnum with Simmon 44 mag scope. $650. Excelent condition. Call evenings. 520-4055.

KUNNAN graphite woods, 1,3, & 5. Regular flex, right hand. Like new, $225. 520-5636.

460 Antiques & Arts

ESTATE Sales by JOSEPH'S. Let our experienced team liquidate your estate. 687-3040, 687-2868, 694-5034.

THE CATS MEOW- 4000 sq. ft of fine merchandise- we buy and sell antiques. 408 Andrews Highway. Mon. - Sat., 10 - 6. (915) 687-2004.

LATE 50'S or early 60's gas pump. Partially restored. 520-0663.

JUDY JACKSON'S Estate Sales. An experienced professional working for you! 689-3536, 682-6147.

465 Collectibles

CURRENT and Retired Ty Beanie Babies, ceramic eggs, collectibles, art glass, organizers, commemorative bottles, gifts, souvenirs and more. Classic Products, 4411 W. Illinois, A-3 near corner of Illinois and Midland Drive. 520-4911. Open Tuesday thru Saturday.

470 Musical Instruments

CASH FOR PIANOS- Verticals and Grands. Call 1-800-201-4551.

KIMBALL UPRIGHT piano with storage bench, excellent condition, $950. Call 687-0929.

475 Crafts & Supplies

FOR SALE- SCRAPS OF Cedar pickets 1x4's 1', 2', & 3'. For craft projects. 697-4712 or 682-5157.

490 Computers/ Access.

✔✔★✔✔
INTERNET ACCESS. Call 620-0839 for details.
✔✔★✔✔

SERVICE AFTER THE SALE Computers- New and used, upgrade and repair. Night Owl Computers, 10am- 8pm, 1015-B N Midkiff. 520-5917, 686-8835.

ZETA 836A CS Plotter, 4 pen, 42" capable. Used in surveying. Make offer. Call 697-8032.

495 FOR FREE

5 CATS for free. 3 Tabby, 2 Grey. Can be picked up at 1112 Chukar Lane.

FREE DALMATIAN 1 year old male, neutered, all shots, good with kids. 697-9928.

500 Pets and Supplies

AKC AKITA puppies, born 1/31/98, 2 males, $300 each. Parents on premises. 520-7348 or 620-8855.

AKC PEMBROKE Welsh Corgi, born 1/26. Shots/ wormed, males $300, female $400. (915)653-6390 San Angelo.

CARALOT Obedience Training Center. Puppy, beginner and advanced classes. Board and train service available. 683-4718.

BENGAL KITTENS, lovable, lap leopard, papered, $350. Please call 362-0282.

SHIH TZU puppies! AKC males, ready for Easter. $300. 520-4138.

1 1/2 YEAR old male poodle, neutered, housebroken, beginning obedience trained. $120. 683-4718.

AKC CHINESE Shar- Pei , born Valentines Day, tons of wrinkles, must see to appreciate. Interested parties only. Please call 687-6251.

ADORABLE AKC Miniature Schnauzer pups for sale. Call 550-8915 550-6547.

RECYCLE LOVE, adopt a golden retriever. 683-3863. (e-mail pbg7r @ AOL.com).

505 Livestock & Poultry

CEDAR STAYS 75 cents straight, 65 cents crooked, 682-1418.

PRICE REDUCED! Slightly damaged- 14x24 Red Barn- heavy duty floor- delivery and financing available. 563-3108.

RAFTER H. Trailers & Tack. Trail Magic Trailers in stock at 5203 E. Hwy 158 at Hodge Welding. 684-5850. Monday thru Friday, 8- 5. Saturday, 9-1.

510 Office Furniture & Misc.

IBM WHEEL RIDER 10 series 2 typewriter. Has spell check, memory, reprint capability, $150. 520-2211.

550 Portable Buildings

We move, buy, sell and rent portable buildings.
MORGAN
(915) 563-1860

WHY PAY Rent... storage buildings/ shops- starting at $39 a month- delivery and installation available. 563-3108.

Sell It, Find It.
Buy It!
682-6222

580 Machinery/ Tools

1990 Intl COE 9600, 290 Cum, air ride, $12,000. 1987 Intl COE 9600, 290 Cum, air ride, $9,000. 1975 Ford COE, day cab, single axle, $4,500. 1988 F700 Ford, gas, 24' Box, walkboard, $6,000. 1973 F700 Ford, gas, 18' Box, liftgate, $2,500. 1987 Ford 350 Econoline Van, $2,000. 1988 Ford 250 Econoline Van, $2,500. Call 563-0067.

570 Oil Field Equip & Supplies

1992 CASE 621 Loader with 8 foot forks and bucket. Excellent condition. 557-2402.

FOR SALE: Structural rods and pipe of all sizes at bargain prices. Call 682--1546.

LUFKIN 640AB-427-192" stroke pumping unit with 50 hp electric motor. Excellent condition. Phone 683-0858 leave message.

605 Apartments Furnished

STUDIOS. 1 & 2 Bedrooms Available. All utilities paid, free cable. Deposit required. Lexington Hotel, 1003 S. Midkiff, 697-3155.

1210 COLLEGE. Efficiency. Bills paid. $250 Monthly, $75 Deposit. Inquire at rear Apartment C.

1 OR 2 Bedroom Executive Apartment. Fully furnished- linens to coffee pot. All bills paid. Easy terms. Close to downtown. 682-3589.

TRAVEL INN MOTEL, 401 E. Texas, Midland. 682-9793. Cable. (Singles Weekly $77 plus tax; Monthly, $325).

RETIREE/ Others for private efficiency. Non- smoking environment. Located 504 S. Terrell. $300, all bills paid. By appointment, 682-1164.

610 Apartments Unfurnished

SANTA FE APARTMENTS
5010 W LOOP 250
●1 bedroom- 1st month free
●2 bedroom- 1st month $99
●New Carpet, Ceiling Fans
●Senior Citizen Discount
694--1349

NEEDING TO move now? Taxes have your money tight? 520-8670, ask for Star, to help stretch your budget.

THORNWOOD APARTMENTS Great prices, all sizes, great location. Free cable. 682--5381.

LEASE- 1 Bedroom Duplex. 919-B Bentwood. Carport, storage building, nice yard, all appliances furnished. No pets. $325/ Month, $325/ Deposit. Call 697-1390.

GARAGES, 2 Bedroom flat, 2 bath, $449: 2 Bedroom townhome, 2 bath, $469: 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, $549, Leisure Estates, 682-5622.

LAS COLINAS, Midland's foremost townhouses, 1 bedroom, $495: 3 Bedroom, $695. Models open 3- 6 pm. except Sunday, 697-8770.

WESTPARK APTS.
2928 W. Louisiana
687--4514
●1-2 & 3 Bedrooms
●Mini-Blinds Throughout
● 2 Pools
●2 Laundry Facilities
●Covered Parking
★ Open (7) Days A Week ★

2 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 Bath, Fireplace, Attached Garage with All Appliances, Washer & Dryer. Approximately 1,300 sq ft. $475 Month, $300 Deposit. 422 W Pecan, Apartment C. 684-6869.

Villa Chateau Apartments
1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms
Senior Citizen Discount
All utilities/ basic cable paid.
1603 N. Midkiff Rd.
Midland TX 79701
915-694-1112

CALL & CHECK Out our Specials! 1 & 2 bedroom duplexes & apartments. Some with W/ D provided. 520-4617.

:Spacious
One Bedroom Apts.
& 2 Bedroom Townhomes
Facing serene courtyard & pool. Covered parking, large fenced yard & great storage space.
NEWLY REMODELED-AVAILABLE NOW!
1710 North A
682-4783
ASK ABOUT OUR
❤SPRING SPECIALS❤

TRELLIS APTS.
1 Bdrms, Start at $190
2 Bdrms, Start at $320
Senior Citizen Discount
3212 W Wadley
697-0177

Don't be blown away by high rent - settle in with us!
Move In For $149.00.
With Approved Applications.
563-4550 or 520-5192.

Hunter's Ridge Apartments
$195 - 1 Bedroom
4201 Andrews Highway
520--0023

AWESOME, 2 Bedroom townhomes. Lot's of space, with washer/ dryer connections, fireplaces, covered parking. Call Angel today. 694-2282.

MARCH Winds have blown in special deals on our 1 bedroom dens and 2 bedroom, 2 baths. Awesome closet space! Call 520-5192.

610 Apartments Unfurnished

Coventry Pointe
2 & 3 Bedrooms Available
Pool • Tennis Court • Sand Pit
& All New Playground for the Kids!
A Great Place To Live!
3329 W. Wadley
697-4149

APRIL SPECIAL
THE JUNCTION COMMUNITY
• W/D Connections & Laundry Facilities
• Fireplace • Ceiling Fans
• Mini-blinds
• Large 1& 2 Bedrooms
• Small Pets Welcome
• On Site (24 hour Emergency) Management Maintenance & Courtesy
Senior Citizens - City/County & Hospital Discounts
No Deposit For Senior Citizens
1902 N. Midland Dr. 699-5168

Get Moving To Golden Park
689-2901
1/2 OFF 1st Months Rent
• 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath
• Swimming Pool
• Large Yards
Selected Models Include Washer/Dryer
3100 W. KANSAS

Fairmont
Apartments & Townhomes
520-0998
SPLASH INTO SUMMER!
NEW POOL
Large 1 & 2 Bedrooms & Townhomes
1/2 OFF *First Months Rent*
4700 BOULDER

Hop On Over To Oasis.
Only a Few Apartments Left
-1 & 2 Bedrooms -
694-5950
2700 North Midland Drive

Dene Kelly Realtors
No Charge to Tenant Save Time & Money!
APT. LOCATOR
Willa Dean Berry-Cecil
687-2384 • 682-5177 Evenings
Open 7 days a week • 2302 W. Wadley

610 Apartments Unfurnished

✔ SILVER CREEK APARTMENTS 2438 Whitmire, 687-0053. One, two and three bedrooms, washer/ dryer connections, large closets, fishing pond, and courtesy officer on premises. Don't miss our special, 1st month free on 1 and 2 bedrooms.

$100 OFF 1st Full Month's Rent! Garden Court Apartments. One & two bedrooms. Very spacious! Monday- Friday, 12- 5:30. Call 683-9270.

ASHTON WAY APARTMENTS
Don't go bust paying your first month's rent. Get your savings at 2613 N. Midland Drive. 1, 2, & 3 bedrooms. $227 - $469. Mon.- Fri. 9 - 5; Sat.10 - 2.
(915)694-1646

LARGE STUDIO Upstairs/ Downstairs. 1 3/4 bath, central heat/ air, covered parking. Clean. 697-3510.

SUTTON PLACE. King size. 2 bedroom Town home 1,450 sq. ft., 2 1/2 baths, fireplace, assigned covered parking. Available May 1st. Also 1 Bedroom apartment available now. 682-2423.

SPACIOUS
1 Bedroom Townhouse
Basic Cable, Covered Parking
THE ARCHES
694-2466

✔ IF YOU ARE TIRED of the elephant walking upstairs, come home to the Courtyard Apartments- single story apartment homes. 2300 North A Street. 682-3831.

ALL Utilities Paid! 1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Deposit required, 683--5161.

625 Houses Unfurnished

SPACIOUS, luxury property (in Odessa) for lease. 3 Bedrooms plus large game room or study and extra bath, gourmet kitchen with island, 2 garage. Contact Cindy Brown, Broker/ Owner with Realty Unlimited 550-5609.

CLEAN 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Henderson/ Goddard/ Midland High. $700/ $700, 697-8090.

625 Houses Unfurnished

FOR RENT: 2 Bedroom, 2 bath duplex. $485 plus deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. $625 plus deposit. No pets. 699-6258 for more details.

SEVERAL nice homes & apartments. $250-$725. Jeannie Printz, Agent 684-8202.

GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD! 3 bedroom, 2 bath, central refrigerated air, fenced yard. $775 a month plus deposit. Call 694-4982.

2 BEDROOM, 1 bath, carport, quiet neighborhood. $200 deposit, $350 monthly. Ready May 1st. For appointment call 686-0623.

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 2 car carport, large living area. Parker/ Alamo/ Lee. Nice backyard for kids! Duplex. $750/ Month. Call RC (Skeet) Doss, Langston Realtors, 563-7300.

GREENWOOD SCHOOLS. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. $500 Monthly. References required. Call 686-8346 Available May 1st.

ADORABLE HOUSE for rent, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, fireplace, $525 per month. 1804 W. Missouri. Call 699-5552.

LARGE 2 bedroom, 2 bath Duplex. Dining room, fireplace, garage, fenced yard. $500 monthly. 697-7097.

LOVELY 1 bedroom duplex. Handicap equipped.Newly decorated, private patio garden. $450/ deposit, bills paid. 682-5491.

3 BEDROOMS, 2 bath, Large living.$450 monthly, $225 Deposit, 682-2939. Leave Message. 1603 W. Kentucky.

FOR LEASE: 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex. 4410 B Thomason. $495 monthly plus $250 deposit. 683-9270 from 12 noon- 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

BEAUTIFUL spacious homes $650. 4804 Thomason; 702 Storey (hardwood floors, character plus) Available now! 699-4461.

$150 MONTHLY or accept valuables/ work. Bills paid. 507 North "A". Remodeled, painted, improvements. 682-3542.

LARGE 1 bedroom Condo, 3000 W. Illinois, Town Plaza. $350 monthly, $250 deposit, $200 small pet deposit. Call 580-7694 or pager 495-9063.

720 Homes For Sale

Dene Kelly Realtors
YOUR ONLY REAL CHOICE
Once used, always preferred!
687-0595
DENE KELLY 686-7809

ANNA Crawford 699-4434	LYNN Cook 550-0595	LISA Buescher 687-4419
NELDA Welborn 697-8301	LINDA Fleseler 694-2609	DAVID Carlson 694-0212
BEN Maxey 699-1088	WILLA DEAN Cecil 682-5177	RAYCHEL Ellis 686-7084

GRASLAND BIGGY 5/3/3, 2-liv, frml. dining, 3300+ sqft. DENE	$219,900
NEW LISTING 3/2/2, lg. liv, seq. master, affordable. Call LYNN	$52,000
EUREKA! YIPPEE! 3/2/1, with pool! New carpet, paint. ANNA	$54,000
NEW LISTING - GREENWOOD 3/2/2, firpl., fresh paint. DENE	$59,000
5 BY 5-Greenwood 5 ac, 5-bed, 4 bath, 3 gar, Call DENE	$250,000
GREENWOOD-call LISA- 687-0595, 687-4419	
DON'T BE TOO LATE! 2-liv, island kitch, formal din., 6.5 ac, GISD	$199,000
'97 CUSTOM 2 story, open kitchen/den, study, shop, 1.8 ac, GISD	$188,500
LAST CHANCE for 3/2/2, 1/2 ac, shop, RV cvr, lots of "new", GISD	$79,900
BRING OFFERS! must sell. 2/2 shop on 1/2 acre. Cute! GISD	$57,000
**********	
STANTON goodie 4/2/2, pool, lg. gar, lots of extras. Call LYNN	$86,500
PERFECT in Gardendale, 4/2/2, 3-liv, 4-1/4 acres, pens. DENE	$165,000
AUTO BUFFS: 5-car gar, 3/3, pool, new paint, carpet. Call NELDA	$125,000
BEST OF EVERYTHING lg. home, pool, acreage, more. LINDA	$129,900
SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT! Reduced re-do, 3/2, 2-liv. NW. ANNA	$50,000
NO MONEY DOWN FINANCING available for 2/1 home. LYNN.	$25,000
SMALL CUTIE 2-bed, sunporch. Call & see it with DENE	$29,500
NEARLY NEW on cul-de-sac, 3/2/2, Bush, 1-yr. old. RAYCHEL	$82,500
FAIRMONT with vast array of "new" 3/2/2. Call & ask for DENE	$83,000
"WALK IN BEAUTY" 3/2/2, in Crestgate.Lovely! Call LINDA	$115,000
TWO FOR ONE WITH OWNER FINANCING! Call DAVE	$43,000
RUSH TO SEE! Large townhouse, 3/3/2, 2-liv, wkshop. Call DENE	$130,000
WYDEWOOD & WONDERFUL 3/2/2, splendid! Ask for DENE	$81,500
TERRIFIC Townhouse, 2/2/2, Handy to all! See it with LYNN	$59,950
COMING SOON be first to see lg. 2/1, w/rental unit. Call ANNA	$35,000
JACUZZI bath, 3/2/2, in Wydewood with lots of new! Call DENE	$93,300
TRINITY TOWNHOUSE new construction, 3/2/2. Call LINDA	$144,900
BIG HOUSE-LITTLE PRICE 4/2, 2-liv. As is. Call RAYCHEL	$25,000
SPACIOUS! 4/3, 2-living areas. Wilshire area. See it with BEN	$62,500
9 ACRES off 1788 on c/r 40. Your own ranchette. Just call DENE	$35,000
TWO(2) 3.8 ac. tract in restricted subdivision. Call LINDA	each $30,000
GREENWOOD new construction, 4/2/2, formal dining ECR109. Call DENE	$117,000
GREENWOOD Large home, 3/2/2, lot's of sq ft. Call RAYCHEL	$99,500
GREENWOOD - Mobile Home lot, 1 1/2 ac. septic & water ANNA	$10,500
7.78 FENCED ACRES, 4 water wells, trees, off 1788	Call LINDA
ZONED COMM'L, Andrews Hwy, between hospitals	$80,000 Call ANNA
2.6 ACRES- near Hospital, commercial zoning	Call LYNN
1, 2, OR 3 COMM'L LOTS - 2 of the lots have buildings	Call LINDA
COMMERCIAL BLDG. - approx 30,000 sqft	Call LYNN
COMMERCIAL SITE	Call LINDA Fieseler
TRINITY SQUARE: New Town homes. Custom qual	Call DENE
AUTO BODY SHOP- Owner Financing, Establish income	Call LYNN
OFFICE BLDG. 1-story, near 10,000 sqft, ample parking	Call ANNA

FREE HOME WARRANTY WITH EACH NEW LISTING OR PURCHASE OVER $75,000
3303 W. Wadley • 687-0595

625 Houses Unfurnished

ELEGANT 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 garage property. 4801- A Dentcrest. $675 per month, $350 deposit. Contact Tammy Edwards, Agent with WGB Realty, 520-7719.

LEASE- 1 Bedroom Duplex. 919-B Bentwood. Carport, storage building, nice yard, all appliances furnished. No pets. $325/ Month, $325/ Deposit. Call 697-1390.

FROM THE Extra large kitchen & den with fireplace to the private enclosed patio- this is one fine home! 3- 4 Bedrooms, 3 baths, double garage with automatic door. $925. 683-3108.

3114 TEALWOOD- 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome for $725/ month. Available immediately. Call Carnage Company Realtors at 684-5881.

630 Houses Furnished

FURNISHED 1 bedroom duplex. $300 monthly, bills not paid. Call 684-5881 ask for Becky or Eula.

640 Condo Townhome Unfurn.

2 BEDROOM, 2 bath Townhouse for lease near Alamo YMCA. Call 683-1091.

2, 3 BEDROOMS 1, 2 baths. 1,007- 1,391 Ft. Garage, washer/ dryer connections, microwave, fans. $660-$760/up. 689-8116, 697--9768.

FAIRGATE Townhomes- 4400 Fairgate Drive. 2 & 3 Bedrooms 12 and 6 month leases. $750 & up. 1,600 sq. ft. Approx. All appliances, fireplaces, garages. Northwest side. 697-9566.

1, 2 BEDROOMS 616- 887 ft. $295 and up. Garage, washer/ dryer, pool, fans. 689-8115.

LAFAYETTE PLACE- West Texas most elegant townhouse complex. 3 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. $1,400. 684-0996.

655 Mobile Homes Unfurnished

NOW AVAILABLE: 3 Bedroom homes starting at $475/ Month with all appliances, large fenced yards. References and deposit required. No vicious dogs. Hurry and call 687-6324.

660 Mobile Home Space for Rent

COUNTRY VILLAGE Mobile Home Estates. Clean /paved streets. Large trees in each lot. Paid water /trash. 1st 3 months free. 694--1120. 3401 SCR 1223 1/2.

CLEAN, QUIET, country living. Mobile home space for rent. 699-4042.

LOOK AT THE REST- THEN
CHOOSE THE BEST
Move - In Special
AIRLINE
MOBILE HOME PARK
Between Midland & Int'l Airport West Hwy. 80. 694-2534

665 Bus. Prop./ Office Rentals

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE Space for rent prime location. 4305 N. Garfield, covered parking, security, great location for dentists and doctors offices, 500 square foot and up. Will remodel to suit. 683-3085.

LOCATION! LOCATION! 409 Andrews Highway; Retail/ office space, approximately 2,500 sq. ft. All or part. Call 683-5574.

4305-B/ 4311-A/ 4313 W Illinois. 1,000- 2,400 sq ft. Will remodel to suit or sell. 689-7107.

ALL SIZES and types of properties. Office, Warehouse, Retail. 800 to 40,000 square feet. 683--8681.

667 Commercial Property

The University of Texas System seeks cash offers to purchase:

Office/ Warehouse
on 39,206 SF Tract of Land
2324 Commerce drive
Midland Industrial Park
Midland, Texas

2,603 Square Feet Two Story Steel Building with frontage on Commerce Drive

Minimum sales price is $75K net of any sales commission. For an offer package, contact: The University of Texas System Real Estate Office, 210 W. 6th St., Austin, TX 78701. Ph. (512)499-4333 or Fax: (512)499-4388. Deadline for submission of offers is 4 pm Central Time on Friday, May 15, 1998. The University of Texas System reserves the right to reject any and all offers.

665 Bus. Prop./ Office Rentals

SINGLE OFFICES, entire suites, free parking, secretarial services, copiers, faxes, phones provided at very reasonable rates. 4500 W Illinois, 201 E. Michigan, 602 N. Baird. Call Midland, 620-1500.

FOUR ROOM Suite, ground floor, new paint and carpet. 700 sq. ft. Also 2 room suite, bills paid. Downtown. Don Roderick, Langston Realtors, 685-0400.

667 Commercial Property

SALE/ LEASE. Office/ Retail Space. Approximately 1,875 sq ft. Call Brad, 570-1144.

ESTABLISHED 10 Year Beauty Salon Location in Odessa. Santa Fe Square- across from HEB. 580-0606.

FOR LEASE- Commercial 2-Bay Shop. $550. Call 570-1990.

668 Retail/ Stores

GREAT LOCATION!!! 407 Andrews Highway; Retail space, approximately 2,500 sq. ft. Call 683-5574.

670 Warehouses/ Storage for Rent

OFFICE WAREHOUSE space for lease. 800 to 40,000 Square Feet. Some with fenced yards. 683--8681.

MINI WAREHOUSE. 510 N. Pecos- Downtown Area. 10 x 10, 10 x 15, 10 x 18- Some are temperature controlled. 24 Hour Access. Call 682-2728.

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675 Recreation Resort

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RUIDOSO Rentals nightly. Cabins, condos, some hot tubs. Century 21, Aspen Realty. 800-657-8980.

LAZY DAY Cabins. Special 3 weekday nights, $99. Cloudcroft. 505-687-3693.

675 Recreation Resort

RUIDOSO- 1 bedroom condo. Nightly/ weekly rentals. Accommodates 4. Maid service. Hot tubs. 682-8314. 694-2500.

685 Hunting Leases

ROCKSPRINGS, TEXAS. Deer Lease, Edwards County. White Tail, Turkey, Hogs, Dove, with cabin. 830-895-4045.

OZONA, TEXAS, Hunting lease available for '98 season. Large Deer, Turkey, Javelina. Cabin/ utilities. Call 830-896-0160.

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*WAC 360 months, 12%, SW- $316 mo/ DW $440 mo.
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KEY To Abbreviations

Bdrm	Bedroom
Ba	Bath
Kit	Kitchen
Dbl	Double
A/C	Air conditioning
Mst. Bdrm	Master Bdrm.
Gar	Garage
Bldg	Building
Cond	Condition
N-QA	Non-Qualifying Assumable
QA	Qualifying Assumable
Ac	Acre
3/2/2	Bdrm./Ba./Gar.

SUPER NICE home with pool! 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, 2 living areas, play room/ office. New roof, new Trane heating/ air, new appliances. $65,000, new loan or non- qualifying assumption. 4508 Anetta, 520-3349.

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3 BEDROOM, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, Wydewood Addition. Very nice! $63,500. Call 520-7403.

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2 ACRES in Greenwood on corner of 307 & 1138. Call 683-9843.

VACANT LOT 806 Howard. For information call 685-0661.

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212 ACRES Inon County Live Oak Country near Mertzon. Plenty of game. 2,000 sq ft home with bunkhouse, windmills. Possible owner financing. $152,000. 915-651-7369, 915-944-0285.

770 Resort Property

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CUSTOM CONTRACTORS of Midland. No job too large or small! Discount prices. Guaranteed/ Bonded. 570-9922.

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