

Economy advances at close

Latest rate is more than double the 1.4 percent growth recorded in first half

LOCAL/7C

Disposal firm faces lawsuits

Lawsuits filed in Texas, New Mexico allege Midland company stored medical waste improperly

LOCAL/1B

'Bam' waits on NFL word

Byron Morris likely will skip his senior season at Texas Tech if he is first round draft selection

SPORTS/1C

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Daily 50¢, Sunday \$1.25

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1993

Vol. 66, No. 289

THURSDAY /

NEWS WATCH



Jacklyn Hoover, 2, of Deer Trail, Colo., looks for Santa Wednesday at a shopping mall in Aurora, Colo., but mall management had pulled Santa from his job due to threats that were delivered Monday by fax, authorities said. The threat was signed "Terminator" and it said they would shoot the "imposter." /5B

Military gays

WASHINGTON — Military troops may be investigated for hand-holding, kissing or even carrying a certain type of placard in a gay-rights parade, the Pentagon said Wednesday in new regulations explaining its ban on homosexual conduct. /6B

Closed for holiday

City, county and state offices will be closed Friday. Federal offices also will be closed Friday, although the U.S. Postal Service will remain open with deliveries as usual. On Saturday, the post office will be closed. Banks will generally close at noon on Friday with some having extended hours on Thursday.

Equal status

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — Defying shouts of "Treason!" and threats of war from rightists, the white-run Parliament approved a constitution Wednesday giving whites and blacks equal status in South Africa for the first time. /6A

INSIDE TODAY

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Cityline
Then press 1200 for
NEWSLINE -- local, national
and world news highlights.



Clinton denies charges

Allegations dominate interviews

■ Troopers stand by story they helped Clinton meet women, booked hotel rooms for liaisons.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Clinton denounced allegations Wednesday that he used his security detail while governor of Arkansas to help arrange extramarital affairs. "They're outrageous and they're not so," he said of the accusations.

"We have not done anything wrong," the president told The Associated Press. It was his first public comment on charges by two Arkansas state troopers that they helped Clinton meet women, booked hotel rooms for liaisons and sneaked a woman into the governor's mansion after he was elected president.

He denied that he tried to buy the silence of one trooper by offering him a job before the allegations became public. "The allegations on abuse of the state or the federal positions I

Please see **INTERVIEW/4A**



President Clinton sits for an interview with reporters from Arkansas newspapers in the Roosevelt Room of the White House.

AP Laserphoto



Kelsey Smith, 10, slid head first down a slope at Grafa Park on Wednesday. Related photo/1B

Cold front dumps under inch of snow in Midland

By Katherine Poteet

Staff Writer

It came too early to be a white Christmas, but a Canadian cold front gave the Permian Basin a few, brief hours of snow this holiday season.

The cold front blew into the area about 2:40 a.m. Wednesday on the heels of a Pacific cold front that brought a steady drizzle of rain and chilly temperatures on Tuesday. The front dumped just under an inch of snow in about a seven hour period that began at 3:25 a.m., said a National Weather Service spokesman. The snow lasted until about noon, when the

sun finally broke through and quickly began melting the precipitation.

The snow was gone by Wednesday evening, but an anticipated overnight freeze had forecasters warning about possible ice patches later in the evening and early Thursday morning.

The early morning snowfall didn't cause any major accidents in the area. Midland recorded five minor accidents between midnight and noon, while Odessa recorded about eight, including a hit and run in which a vehicle collided with a light pole and then drove off.

The Department of Public Safety reported 16 accidents, all minor, in the

area.

No precipitation was in the forecast through the Christmas holidays, but the colder temperatures are expected to continue through tomorrow. Christmas Day will reach into the 50s and Sunday could climb to 65, the NWS spokesman said. The lows will continue to dip into the 20s.

Today will be mostly sunny with a high in the mid to upper 40s with southwest winds at 5-15 mph, becoming north to northeast at 10-20 mph. Tonight should be partly cloudy with a low between 20-25.

Thursday should be mostly sunny with a high between 45-50.

Jackson breaks his silence: 'I am totally innocent'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Reclusive superstar Michael Jackson fought back Wednesday against child molestation allegations, and described a court-ordered body search as "the most humiliating ordeal of my life."

"I am totally innocent of any wrongdoing and I know these terrible allegations will all be proven false," Jackson said in a live four-minute message televised worldwide from his Neverland Ranch in Santa Barbara County.

"Don't treat me like a criminal because I am innocent."

Jackson, who previously hadn't been seen in public since he returned to Southern California this month, confirmed for the first time he was forced to undergo the body search by criminal investigators. He called it "dehumanizing."

They served a search warrant on me that allowed them to view and photograph my body, including my penis, my buttocks, my lower torso, thighs and any other areas that they wanted," he said in a quavering voice.

"It was the most humiliating ordeal of my life — one that no person should ever have to suffer."

"And even after experiencing the indignity of this search, the parties involved were still not satisfied and wanted to take even more pictures," Jackson said in his most forceful remarks since he was accused of molesting a 13-year-old boy.

The boy had given police a detailed description of the entertainer's private

Please see **DENY/4A**

Rascals

3-year-old Gemini Cee Barnett, left, and his brother Brandon "Bug" Hall, 8, of Fort Worth, are shown Tuesday in Fort Worth. The two have been chosen to play Porky and Alfalfa in Steven Spielberg's upcoming movie, "Little Rascals." /3B

AP Laserphoto



Number of flu cases jumps this year in Midland, across Texas

By Michael Kashgarian

Staff Writer

The number of reported flu cases this year in Texas has already surpassed last year's count. Meanwhile, a sharp increase in the flu and other flu-like illnesses have been noted in Midland recently.

Locally, in comparison to last year, "we're seeing more and hearing more about these types of (flu) symptoms," said Monette Burke,

health administrator for the Midland Health Department.

That observation has been found true across Texas as well.

The Texas Department of Health in Austin had 155,568 reported flu cases last year compared to 215,509 so far this year, officials said.

Local officials and health-care professionals have noted a jump in flu cases in the last one to four weeks.

A Midland Memorial Hospital

Please see **SICK/4A**



Cliff Demeritt of Haverhill, Mass., checks the sights on a rifle at the Kittery Trading Post, the largest gun seller in Maine, Wednesday.

AP Laserphoto

Gun sales surge as shoppers have visions of AK-47s in their stockings

By Mitchell Landsberg

Associated Press

Peggy Derheim of Robbinsdale, Minn., has been dreaming of a most special Christmas, one that would fill her stocking with a Feather Industries AT-22 semiautomatic rifle, accessorized by a 20-round clip and ventilated barrel shroud.

Santa has been good to her.

Derheim trooped off with her parents to Bill's Gun Shop & Range this week to get her early present. The Derheims were among legions of Americans buying guns this Christmas, straining the capacity of firearms makers and sending the prices of some weapons to astonishing heights.

Please see **GIFT/4A**

Officials say Palestinian gunmen kill 2 in West Bank

BEITUNIYA, Occupied West Bank (AP) — Palestinian gunmen riddled a passing car with bullets Wednesday, killing two Israeli men in an attack that intensified right-wing calls for an end to talks with the PLO.

"Again we see that this peace isn't peace. It is costing victims," said Moshe Nissim, a parliament member from the opposition right-wing Likud bloc.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, or Hamas, claimed responsibility for the shooting in the Palestinian village of Beituniya, 10 miles north of Jerusalem, and threatened more attacks.

Brig. Shaul Mofaz, a West Bank military commander, said a Hamas leaflet was found at the scene and soldiers were searching for the assailants.

The victims were identified by Israel radio as Meir Medelovich, 33, a father of eight and Eliyahu Levine, 25, a father of a 1-year-old girl. Both men were Orthodox Jews from the predominantly religious Tel Aviv suburb, Bnei Brak.

The attack, the first on an Israeli since Dec. 12, could complicate Israeli-Palestinian talks on implementing the PLO-Israeli accord on self-rule in the occupied territories. The two sides held secretive talks Wednesday in Versailles, France.

"There is no doubt this is an attempt to torpedo agreement at the last minute," said Avraham Poraz, a legislator from the dovish Meretz bloc.

Under the accord, Israel was supposed to start withdrawing its troops from the Gaza Strip and Jericho in the West Bank on Dec. 13. But differences over control of border posts, police cooperation and the size of Jericho have delayed the plan.

The head of the governing Labor party, Nissim Zivili, met with Yasser Arafat at PLO headquarters in Tunis, Tunisia. Zivili told Israel radio the PLO chief "took the report of the attack very hard" and said speedy progress in the talks would weaken terrorists.

Afif Safiya, the PLO envoy to Britain, told Israel television he regretted the violence that has killed 16 Israelis and 45 Palestinians since the accord was signed Sept. 13.

"I personally believe that every victim is one victim too many," said Safiya, who is visiting Jerusalem to celebrate Christmas with his family.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said from France the killing underlines the urgent need to reach an agreement.

"A loss of time is a boost to the terrorists while an agreement is a blow to them," Peres said.

In the Israeli parliament, the Likud and three other opposition parties introduced no-confidence motions that will likely be voted on next week, but stand little chance of toppling Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Settler leaders, who are right-wing, called on Rabin to cancel the accord and resign.

They organized nearly 70 demonstrations throughout the country and said they planned additional protests at the homes of government ministers and in front of PLO headquarters in east Jerusalem. They also pledged to privately patrol roads in the occupied territories.

In Bnei Brak, mourners burnt tires and trash on the central street, but no violence was reported.

Anti-government protests were held in Jerusalem and near Tel Aviv.

Floods kill 4, German news media say

BERLIN (AP) — The mighty Rhine River overflowed its banks after three days of pounding rains Wednesday, flooding Cologne's old town and parts of Bonn and Koblenz. Farther south, waters of the raging Neckar River engulfed Heidelberg.

Four people were killed, including one in Belgium, German news media said.

U.S. soldiers stationed in Germany joined rescue crews in Bad Kreuznach and other cities.

Christmas shopping was sharply curtailed in dozens of cities in southern and southwestern Germany, with stores and offices closed. Adding to the gloom, German insurance companies said their policies generally exclude flood damage.

In flooded areas, small boats cruised inundated streets, and firefighters rescued people trapped at home and ferried food to those who refused to leave.

German emergency crews checked hastily erected dikes and other barriers, hoping to hold back some of the nation's worst flooding in decades.

Weather forecasters predicted more rain and snow.

The floods stretched from Trier, near the border with Luxembourg, to Saarbrücken along the French border and to Regensburg in eastern Bavaria.

Federal authorities halted shipping on the Rhine, Europe's main north-south commercial waterway. The closing was expected to last at least until the weekend.

In Cologne, the Rhine's brown waters began pouring Wednesday night over a steel barrier erected earlier in the day. Narrow alleys of the city's historic center were inundated.

About 10,000 residents stood on elevated roadways watching the spectacle.



A FEW WORDS ABOUT MINOR EMERGENCIES.

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Colombian officials fear 80 dead in landslides

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Landslides across Colombia cut a major highway and buried dozens of homes. The death toll could reach 80, authorities feared.

A landslide early Wednesday covered a stretch of highway between Colombia's two biggest cities, Bogotá and Medellín. It followed a rainstorm and came as Christmas holiday travel began.

Television footage showed a 20-foot-high wall of dirt and boulders covering the highway. Travelers had to take an alternate route that doubles the normal seven-hour driving time. The cities are separated by 165 miles and two mountain ranges.

Road crews may need six days to reopen the highway, Omar Dario Cardona, director of the national Disaster Prevention Agency, said by phone.

That landslide apparently caused no injuries, but up to 25 people were believed buried by slides on Tuesday that hit the provincial capital of Manizales, 100 miles west of Bogotá, burying 18 homes, Cardona reported.

Crews with search dogs and shovels began work Wednesday afternoon to search for bodies under the tons of rock and earth, Cardona said.

Two looters were buried by a later slide, the newspaper El Tiempo said.

Manizales, a city of 400,000 in Colombia's coffee-growing region, is prone to slides because it was built along a mountain ridge, with streets plunging and rising through neighborhoods of Spanish colonial homes and modern office buildings.

Neighborhood residents had

complained in recent weeks that the area became unstable during rains, according to the TV news program "24 Hours."

Residents of Dabeiba, 140 miles north of Manizales, pressed their search for bodies from a mudslide Friday that killed at least 42 people, destroyed about 30 homes and damaged scores more.

Cardona, who returned to Bogotá after visiting the disaster area Tuesday with two government ministers, said 13 others were missing and presumed dead.

Heavy rains caused the slides in Dabeiba, which lies in an lush agricultural zone on the western range of the Andes.

Red Cross official Orlando Rolandan said the disaster left 652 townspeople homeless.

Bethlehem tries to celebrate Christmas

By Clyde Haberman
N.Y. Times News Service

BETHLEHEM, Israeli-Occupied West Bank — Norway, front-runner in the Middle East for 1993 Country of the Year if they were to invent such an award, had a 50-foot fir that it wanted to give to Bethlehem as a Christmas tree.

The symbolism was pretty obvious.

Norway had brokered what is widely, if inaptly, heralded as the peace agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Bethlehem, of course, is the biblical birthplace of the Prince of Peace.

But there is a moral to this tale, and it is that Christmas is never simple in the not-so-little town of 50,000 where it all began.

Israel's agriculture ministry stepped in. It was concerned less about spreading peace than possibly spreading disease, a problem that it said is acute with coniferous trees.

"As with humans, older trees tend to have more diseases," said a ministry spokesman, Roni Hasid (whose name means righteous in Hebrew). "This was to be a very old, mature tree with a potential for bringing with it many problems."

So the ministry said no to Norwegian wood.

"I tried to explain to them the political significance of this gift," lamented Elias Freij, Bethlehem's long-serving mayor. But the ministry stood firm.

Norway had to settle for sending Christmas lights, which were draped around a home-grown but less impressive tree in Manger Square, until some grinch made off with them a few nights ago, leaving Freij to shake his head over what the world had come to.

In the West, people complain all the time that the holiday's spiritual meaning is engulfed by a sea of

commercialism. In Bethlehem, Christmas means politics, a linkage that has grown steadily stronger over the last six years of the Palestinian uprising known in Arabic as the intifada.

Under intifada rules, the holiday has had a deliberate handgrip look here, with no lights or parties or grand parades, to make the point that celebrating is out of the question under Israeli occupation.

On Christmas Eve, the dreariness is deepened by the ubiquitous presence of Israeli soldiers, standing guard and forcing everyone who enters Manger Square to pass through metal detectors.

Israel's fear is basic: all the Jewish state needs is to have 100 Christian pilgrims blown apart by a terrorist bomb at Christmas. No such disaster has ever occurred, but the Israelis believe in playing it safe even if it leaves Manger Square looking like an armed camp.

Still, Israel's troop buildup each year tends to be a self-inflicted black eye in the public-relations field, reinforcing the sense of occupation and leading to news reports that are usually less than flattering.

But this year the politics changed, and so have the Christmas symbols.

Thanks to the Norwegian-brokered accord, this is supposed to be a holiday of smiles, of hands forming V signs, of peace in our time.

The Israeli army has done its part by dismantling an unfriendly fence trimmed with concertina wire that had ringed the Manger Square police station, a few dozen steps from the Church of the Nativity, the fourth-century church built above the grotto where tradition places Jesus' birth.

The soldiers are still there. But without the fence, the air of menace has been thinned.

And the city has done its share,

stringing lights across the square, festooning trees with ornaments and in general putting on a happier face for the 10,000 or more pilgrims expected to flock to Bethlehem on Friday night, Christmas Eve.

In his wood-paneled office, opening some of the thousands of Christmas cards he has received, Freij, who is Greek Orthodox, predicted that next year will be even brighter. He plans to buy 100,000 bulbs shaped like candles and to fill the square with them.

It is hard, though, to escape the feeling that Christmas in Bethlehem has been commandeered by the PLO, especially the mainstream Fatah faction of Yasser Arafat.

A religious holiday? Not really, says Nafez al-Rifal, a Muslim who heads the Fatah office here.

"It's a Palestinian national holiday," he said, sipping coffee under a "Merry Xmas" sign stretched across City Hall. "We consider the Christ to be the first Palestinian martyr."

Rifal laughed in a way that suggested his theology is not to be taken too seriously. But the PLO is nonetheless all business about turning Christmas 1993 into a nationalist event.

It did so this week by raising the Palestinian flag on the steps of City Hall for the first time and announcing that hundreds of scouts will march through the town on Friday flying the Palestinian colors and playing nationalist music.

To show that it means business as well, the Israeli Army told Freij that the flag in front of City Hall had to come down because it violated a rule affecting government property.

"This is a humiliating military order," the mayor replied, and he has threatened to call off the celebrations if anyone touches the banner.

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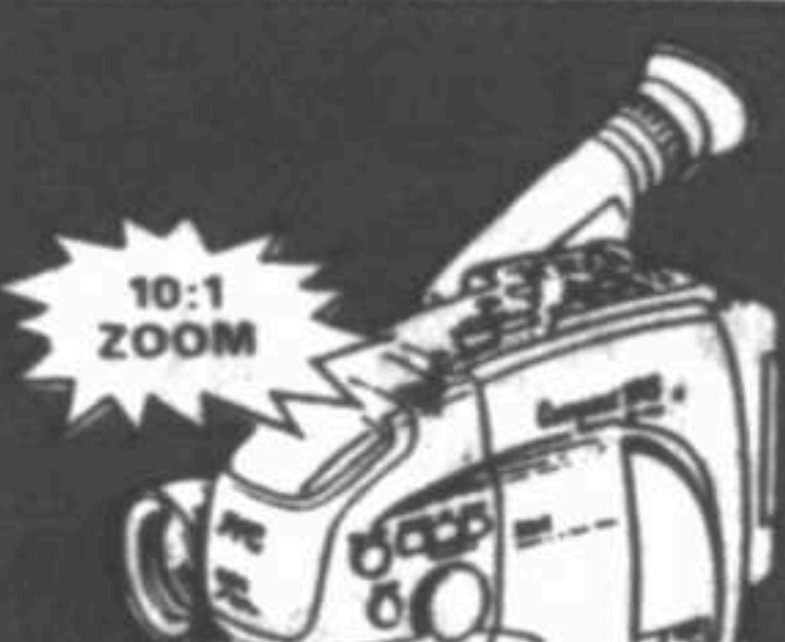


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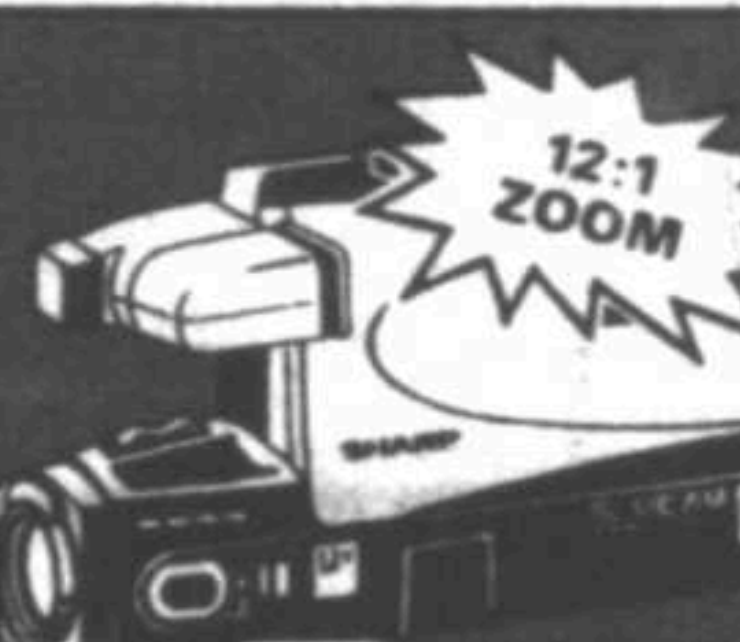
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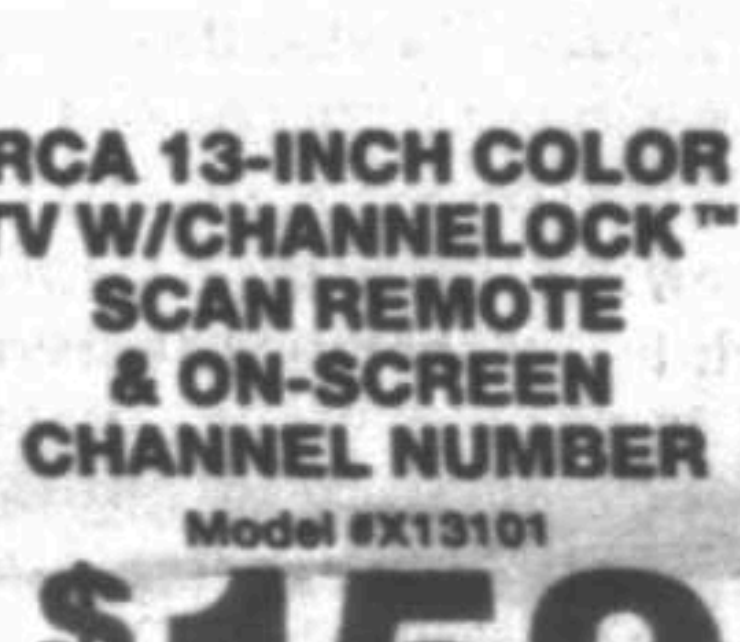
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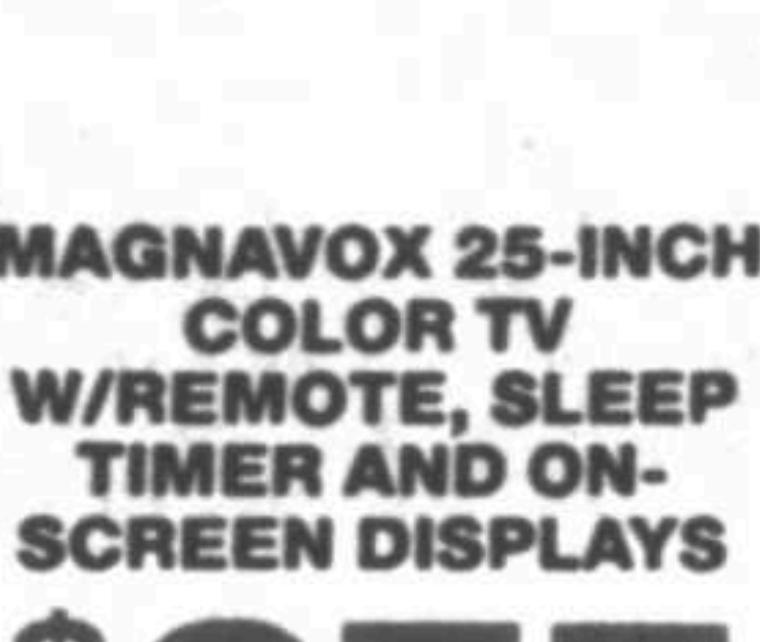
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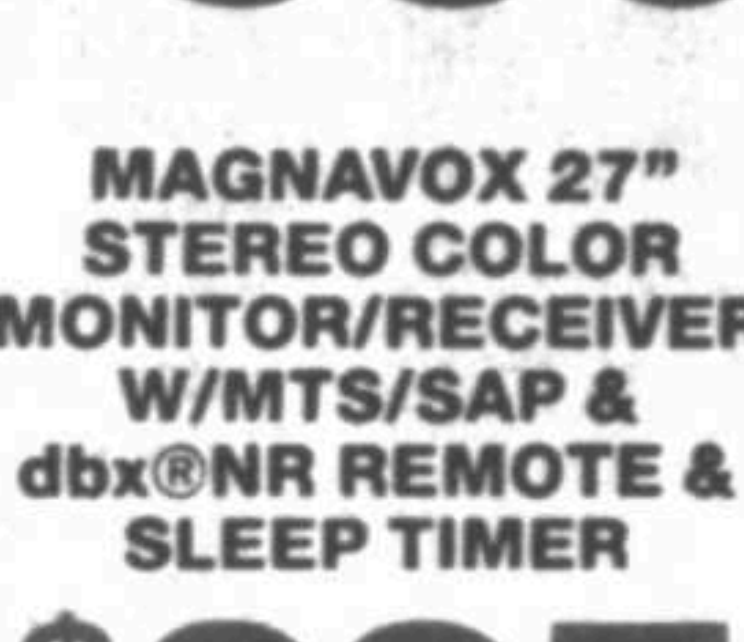
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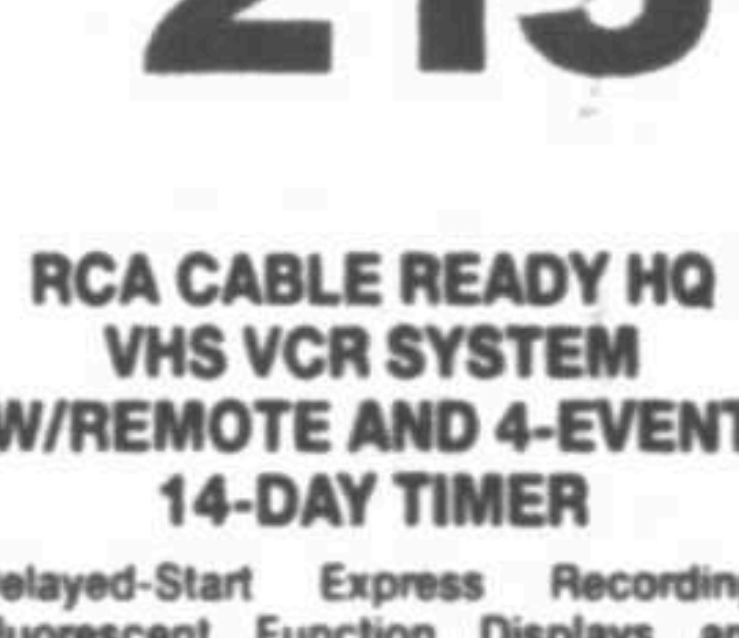
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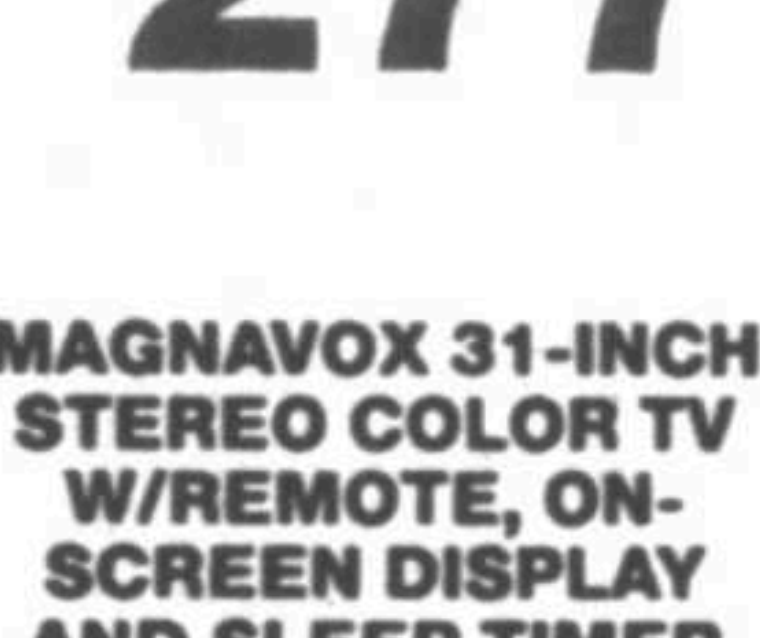
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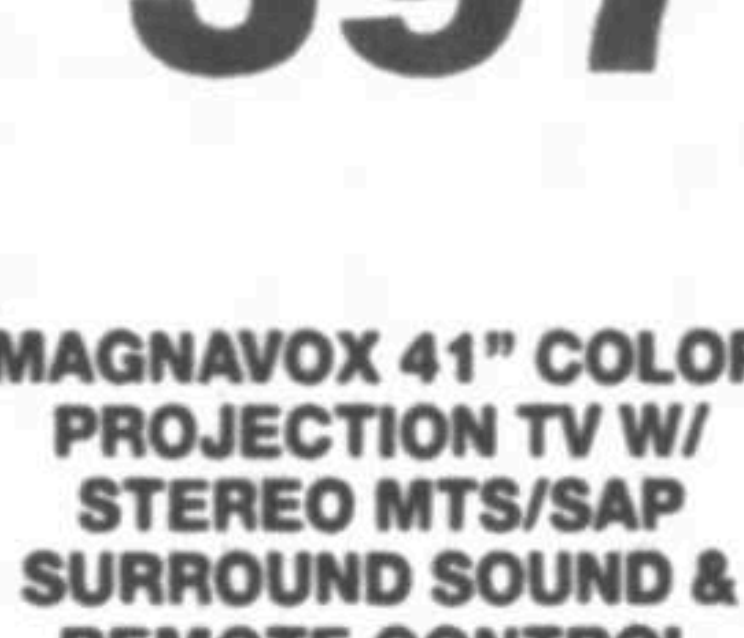
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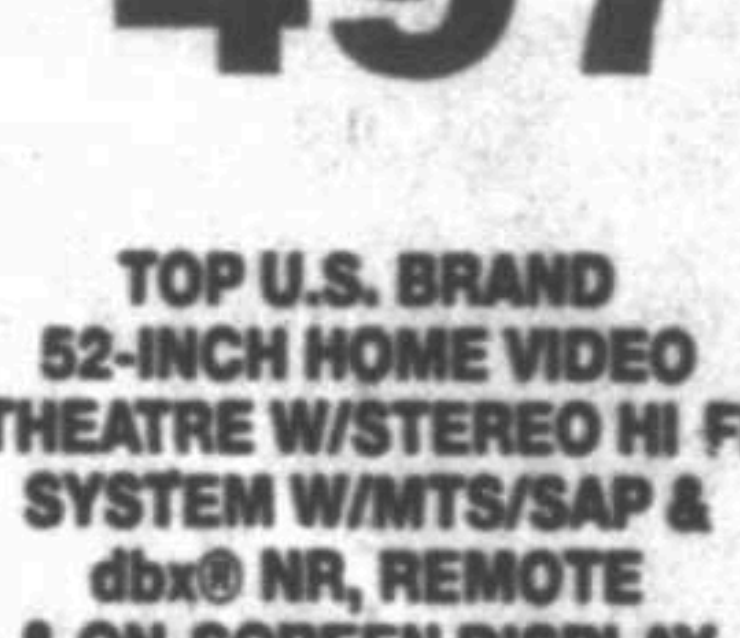
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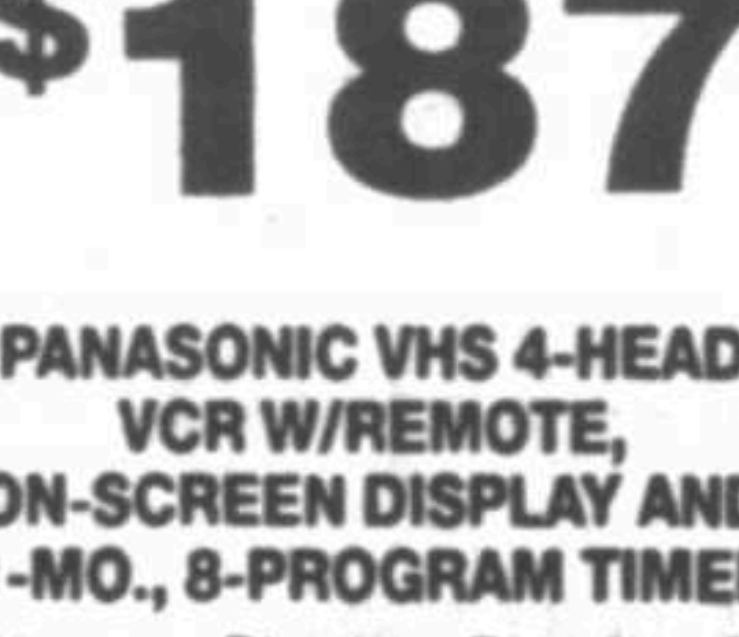
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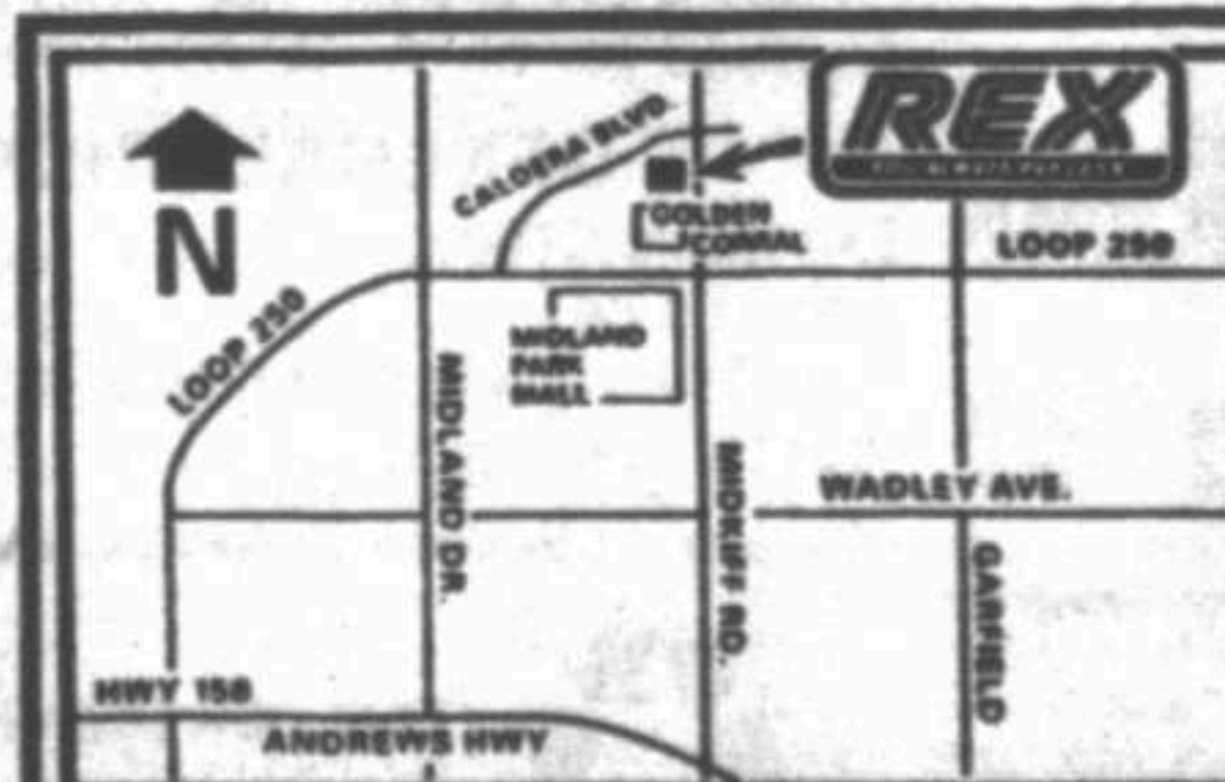
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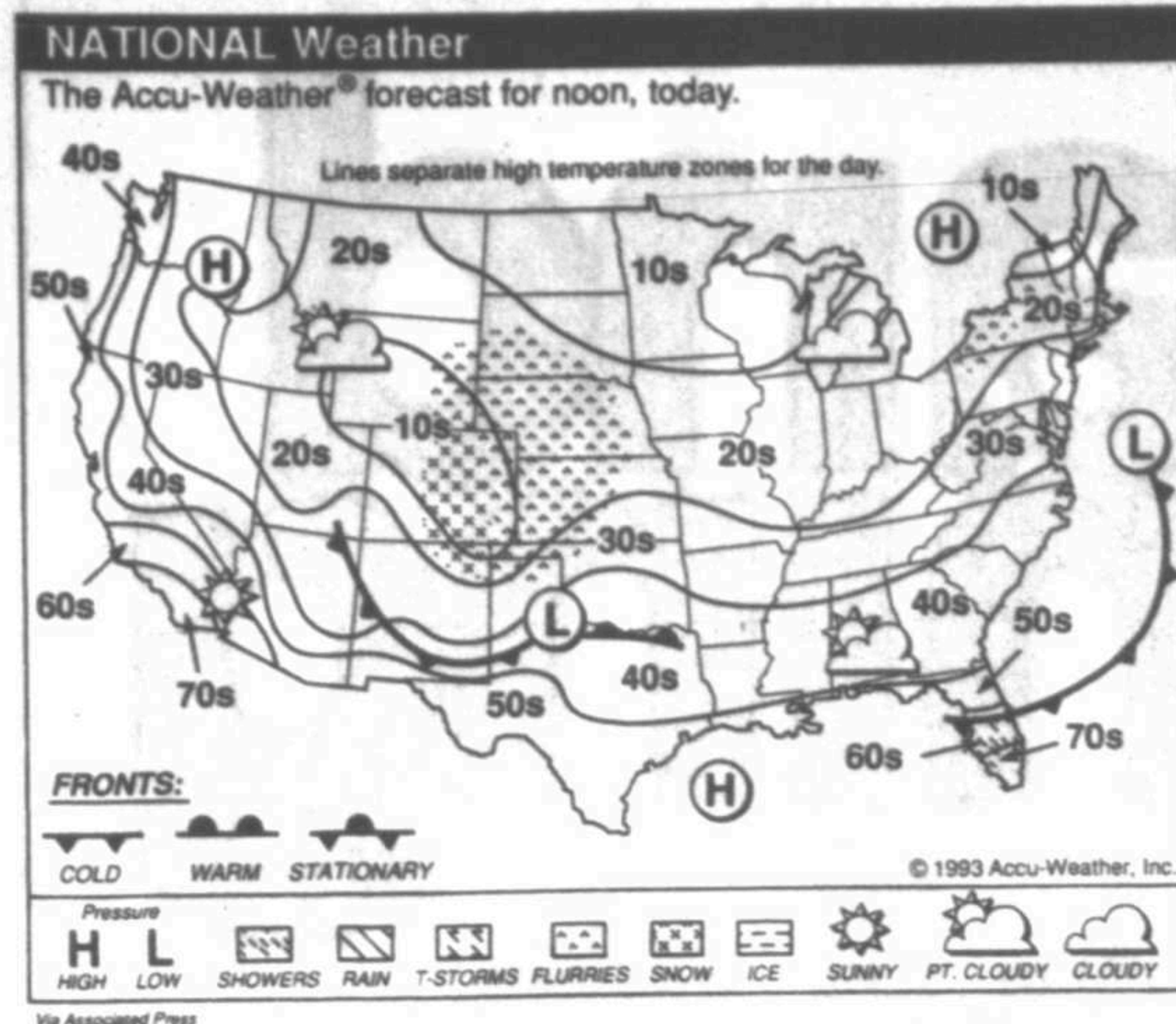
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WEATHER WATCH



NATION

Light snow was scattered from the northern Rockies to New England on Wednesday, and snow and rain stretched across the South.

At midday, snow showers were scattered over the northern Rockies, the upper Missouri Valley, the northern Plains, the upper half of the Mississippi Valley, the Great Lakes, the Ohio Valley, the northern Appalachians and northern New England.

Trucks jackknifed and cars collided in a chain-reaction wreck on an icy section of Interstate 75 near Lima, Ohio. At least 10 people were injured and a five-mile stretch of the highway was closed.

A winter storm watch was in effect through early today over Wyoming's Big Horn Mountains, the National Weather Service said.

Snow and rain were scattered from northeastern Texas across the South and Tennessee Valley into northern Georgia and the Carolinas.

In Mississippi, snow accumulations between one-half inch and 1 inch already were reported by late afternoon near Magee and Hazlehurst.

Highway departments and utilities across the South got crews and equipment ready in case of heavy snow or ice. Utilities in North Carolina were still working to restore service to customers who lost power during Tuesday's heavy snow.

Winter storm watches were in effect overnight over the northern third of Georgia, northwestern South Carolina and western North Carolina.

Snow was falling on parts of Georgia by late afternoon, and 4 inches of snow was possibly by early today over the northern third of the state.

There were no reports of heavy rainfall during the six hours up to 1 p.m. EST.

Snowfall amounts during the same six hours included one inch at Abilene, Texas; Dubuque, Iowa; Erie, Pa.; Kalispell, Mont. and Midland, Texas.

Wednesday morning's low for the Lower 48 states was minus 15 at West Yellowstone, Mont.

Temperatures around the 48 states at 3 p.m. EST ranged from minus 4 at Devils Lake, N.D., to 78 at Miami.

STATE

Snow showers moved across North Texas and parts of Central Texas at midday Wednesday as a cold front that was expected to bring bitter Christmas temperatures pushed its way across the state.

Thick showers of large white snow flakes fell from Wichita Falls through Fort Worth, Dallas into the Hill Country and across East Texas as the front squeezed the moisture from the air.

The snow, however, melted as soon as it hit the ground and all but the eastern sections of North Texas were under sunny skies by late afternoon.

Afternoon highs were in the mid 30s to the lower 40s. Northerly winds breezed across the region with speeds mainly at 10 to 20 miles an hour. Gusts to near 25 miles an hour were noted in the south central sections.

The forecast for North Texas called for clear to partly cloudy skies today with highs from 41 to 44 and lows from 24 to 30.

In West Texas skies were sunny everywhere but the Concho Valley and the Edwards Plateau, where they were mostly cloudy.

Highs were in the 30s and 40s and winds were from the north or northwest at 5 to 15 mph with occasional gusts to 21 mph in the South Plains.

The forecast for West Texas called for light snow or snow flurries in the Panhandle today, partly cloudy skies over the South Plains and mostly sunny skies elsewhere.

Highs today will range from the mid 30s in the Panhandle to the mid 50s in the Edwards Plateau. Lows will range from the teens to the upper 20s.

The cold front also had moved into the Hill Country and into south Central Texas late this afternoon.

The forecast for South Texas called for partly cloudy skies today with lows in the 20s and 30s in the Hill Country to the 50s in the Valley. Highs will be in the 40s and 50s.

Midland statistics

FORECAST
Today: mostly sunny, high in the mid to upper 40s, winds southerly 5-15, becoming north to northeast at 10-20 mph.
Tonight: mostly sunny, low between 20-25.
Friday: mostly sunny, high between 45-50.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE READINGS:
Yesterday's High: 41 degrees
Overnight Low: 30 degrees
Sunset today: 5:50 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow: 7:47 a.m.
Precipitation: 0.00 inches
Last 24 hours: 0.00 inches
The month to date: 0.03 inches
Year to date: 16.36 inches

LOCAL TEMPERATURES:
6 p.m.: 40
7 p.m.: 40
8 p.m.: 40
9 p.m.: 40
10 p.m.: 40
11 p.m.: 40
midnight: 40
1 a.m.: 40
2 a.m.: 41
3 a.m.: 36
4 a.m.: 33
5 a.m.: 33
6 a.m.: 32

Texas temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Prc
Alpine	46	26	10
Amarillo	38	17	
Austin	46	40	51
Beaumont-Port Arthur	44	42	29
Bryan-College Station	43	40	30
Corpus Christi	47	45	22
Dallas	41	36	24
El Paso	44	31	32
Fort Worth	42	35	26
Galveston	47	43	27
Houston	45	41	47
Lubbock	40	27	

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Here are results of Lotto Texas winning numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery:

7-9-17-27-32-32
Estimated Lotto Texas jackpot: \$15 million

Pick 3 Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Here are results of Lotto Texas Pick 3 winning numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery, in this order:

4-7-4

GIFT: Shoppers pack gun stores for holiday

(From 1A)

Industry insiders attribute the rush, beyond the usual search for the perfect holiday gift, to a fear of crime and a dread of gun control. "I have heard that sales are through the roof," said Michael Saporito, a senior vice president of RSR Wholesale Guns Inc., one of the nation's largest distributors of firearms. "It's been probably the best year the firearms industry has experienced in at least the last 20 years."

Bob Lesmeister, manager of the National Association of Federally Licensed Firearms Dealers, estimated holiday gun sales will be up more than 100 percent over last year.

Those assessments were corroborated by visits to a sampling of firearms superstores across the country, from Maine to southern California. At store after store, business was bustling.

More than a thousand customers a day have been flocking into Turner's Outdoorsman in Signal Hill, Calif., a gritty industry town surrounded entirely by the city of Long Beach.

"I shop here all the time," said Tom Black, a gun collector who was there Tuesday night with his wife, son and daughter. "Tonight, I'm looking for some last-minute

"I have heard that sales are through the roof. It's been probably the best year the firearms industry has experienced in at least the last 20 years."

—Michael Saporito
senior vice president
RSR Wholesale Guns Inc.

things."

Black was interrupted by his 5-year-old daughter, Megan, who wanted a slingshot. "Please, Daddy," she said. "My mother intervened. 'Honey, there's one in the garage.'"

Handguns have been selling briskly at Turner's this December. Among the best sellers are a Browning Buckmark .22-caliber automatic and a Beretta 92FS double-action 9mm.

Not among the listed specials: the Ruger 9mm semiautomatic pistol that Turner's sold last spring to Colin Ferguson, who is accused of killing six people on a Long Island Rail Road commuter train in New York earlier this month.

Just as that tragedy aroused gun control advocates anew, passage of the Brady Bill — and partial passage of an omnibus crime bill

— has given an enormous boost to the firearms industry.

"When they passed the crime bill, business went up 10 times," said Ed Nicely, the owner of Ed's Gun Shop in Southern Pines, N.C.

Although separate versions of the crime bill have passed both houses of Congress, a final bill awaits consideration next month. It is expected to include a ban on selected military-style assault weapons.

That has caused a run on those weapons, such as Russian-style AK-47s, as well as on similar weapons that are not presently included in the bill, such as SKS semiautomatic rifles. Prices have jumped accordingly.

"On the retail level, they're just astronomical," said Saporito, the gun distributor. "I've seen firearms that 90 days ago would have sold for \$300 now selling for

\$1,200."

But gun control isn't the only issue motivating firearms sales. Fear of crime has surged in the past year and recently was the No. 1 concern of Americans in a nationwide CBS News poll.

At Ed's Gun Shop, Capt. Lane Carter of the Moore County Sheriff's Office was buying a .38-caliber pistol as a Christmas present for his wife.

"She wants one," he said. "She thinks she needs it."

Elsewhere, customers voiced similar concerns. "Your ordinary citizen is starting to feel that police aren't able to protect them," said Ed Fong, a customer at the San Francisco Gun Exchange in downtown San Francisco.

"People are just basically scared to death," said Jim Hurlinger, a firearms dealer who owns Jim's Military Collectibles in Plano, Texas, an affluent Dallas suburb. Popular items in his store this season include the SKS semiautomatic carbine and the Taurus Model 85, a snub-nosed, .38-special handgun.

In Robbinsdale, a suburb of Minneapolis, business at Bill's Gun Shop has been up a modest 10 percent this Christmas, about 50 percent for the entire year, according to owner Bill Penney.

INTERVIEW: Clinton denies troopers' allegations

(From 1A)

have — it's not true," Clinton said.

"That absolutely did not happen," Clinton said firmly.

Questions about the troopers' allegations dominated three separate interviews Clinton conducted as year-end assessments with reporters from news agencies, radio networks and the Arkansas media.

"It's a painful thing, especially at holiday time," the president said. At times, he seemed uncomfortable talking about the charges.

In his interview with AP Broadcast and other radio networks, the president was asked directly, by Peter Maer of Mutual-NBC Radio, "So none of this ever happened?"

"I have nothing else to say," Clinton said. Groping for words from his chair in the Cabinet Room, he hesitated and then continued: "We ... we did, if, the, the, I, I, the stories are just as they have been said. They're outrageous and they're not so."

In Little Rock, troopers Roger Perry and Larry Patterson also met with reporters, and they stood

by their charges. "I'm telling the truth," Patterson said. "I've told the complete truth. I have no reason to lie." He said he was willing to take a lie detector test "or any other test you can come up with," although his attorney said otherwise.

Perry said, "I'm scared to death. I've never felt so alone in my life." He said he decided to come forward because "I sat and watched him (Clinton) being packaged, groomed and polished for this job. I thought the American people ought to know this man."

On another controversial matter, Clinton said he would cooperate with federal investigators if they want to review a personal file on his investments in an Arkansas real estate deal and the deal's ties to Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan. Federal investigators and congressional officials are looking into the costly collapse of the S&L and the owner's personal and financial ties to Clinton.

The file was removed from the office of White House counsel Vin-

cent Foster after his suicide and given to the Clintons' personal attorney, David Kendall.

Clinton said he did not know what was in the file and that no one had asked to see the documents. "But if anyone wants, thinks that we have some relevant information, then obviously we'll do what we can to cooperate," he said.

Officials said Justice Department investigators are interested in reviewing the file but declined to say whether it has been subpoenaed.

On Capitol Hill, Rep. Jim Leach of Iowa, senior Republican on the House Banking Committee, urged Attorney General Janet Reno to designate a special counsel to investigate Clinton's Arkansas finances.

Clinton refused to discuss the sexual charges in any detail, saying he did not want to go beyond a statement issued earlier by adviser Bruce Lindsey calling the allegations "ridiculous."

Hillary Rodham Clinton, in an interview a day earlier, told AP the accusations were "outrageous,

terrible stories that people plant for political and financial reasons."

Declining to respond specifically on Wednesday, Clinton said, "We put out a very strong statement about it and I don't really have anything to add to what has been said in our written statement or what Hillary said yesterday."

Asked if he had enemies in Little Rock who were trying to destroy him, the president chuckled and said, "I don't have anything to say to add to what's been said. I think what I should do is keep working, doing the best I can at my job. I just — I have nothing to add to what's been said."

Asked why he didn't deny all the allegations in "simple, clear language," the president said, "I think we have cleared it up. ... I just think it is not appropriate in a situation like this for me to do much more than I am doing. What I need to do is just keep working at my job and keep going on. Apparently in the world we live in things like this happen."

DENY: Jackson fights back in live broadcast

(From 1A)

parts, which could be crucial to verifying the boy's claims, sources close to the case have said.

In February, Jackson told Oprah Winfrey in a TV interview that he had a discolored skin condition known as vitiligo. Jackson's condition was diagnosed in 1986 by Dr. Arnold Klein.

A criminal investigation began four months ago. No charges have been filed.

A trial in the civil molestation case is scheduled for March 21.

Jackson, 35, had not made any public appearances since he returned to Southern California on Dec. 10 after canceling his "Dangerous" concert tour and seeking

treatment in Europe for what he said was an addiction to painkillers.

"There have been many disgusting statements made recently concerning allegations of improper conduct on my part. These statements about me are totally false," Jackson said.

Jackson's attorney, Howard Weitzman, praised the entertainer for going on the offensive.

"I think it's great to have a client who participates with his lawyers and shows the world he's innocent of these charges," Weitzman said, adding, "Michael intends to participate in an aggressive defense."

Jackson's family released a statement of support through

spokesman John McLaughlin: "The Jackson family has always and will continue to stand by Michael. They believe in his innocence and are confident that his dignity and humanity will prevail."

Sister LaToya, who said she believes Jackson has molested children, did not immediately issue any statement.

Attorney Larry Feldman, who represents the 13-year-old in the lawsuit, told CNN: "I have a very compelling client who is a young man who I would love to put on television and have him look in the camera like Mr. Jackson did and have him tell the facts that support his claim. But that's not the appropriate thing to do."

In his statement, Jackson railed against sensational media coverage of the scandal.

"I will say I am particularly upset by the handling of this ... matter by the incredible, terrible mass media," Jackson said.

"At every opportunity, the media has dissected and manipulated these allegations to reach their own conclusions."

"I ask all of you to wait to hear the truth before you label or condemn me. Don't treat me like a criminal, because I am innocent."

An hour before Jackson's message was read, an intruder at the Neverland Ranch was arrested by Santa Barbara County sheriff's deputies.

SICK: Number of flu cases jumps this year

(From 1A)

spokeswoman said the hospital's Urgent Care Center and emergency room have seen a marked increase of flu patients since the first of the month.

Dr. Dan Kinzie with the First Care clinic said the Asian influenza has been the primary culprit in patients he's seen.

"I'd say about 70 percent of my

patients are running (around) with the flu in the last week and a half," he said. "It's up a lot since last year. Last year it was negligible compared to this year."

A respiratory illness — with cold-like symptoms — caused by a bacteria called Mycoplasma pneumoniae also has affected some area residents.

"I've seen a definite increase in the last few days, but that pales in

comparison to the Asian flu," Kinzie said.

The flu generally exhibits more aching, fever and a disabling effect, while Mycoplasma pneumoniae generally produces more coughing and chest distress, he said.

Kinzie recommends that someone experiencing flu or cold-like symptoms should visit a physician.

"Treatments at home without the advice of a doctor are likely to be unsuccessful," he said.

For those trying to avoid the flu — who don't currently have the virus — a vaccine is still available.

"The flu vaccine has been very effective for the people who have taken it," Kinzie said.

Otherwise the best prevention, Kinzie said: "Don't mingle in crowds where it's likely to exist."

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Yeltsin promises to continue reform policies

MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin promised Wednesday not to abandon his free-market policies and blamed discord among reformers for the upset by extreme nationalists in parliamentary elections.

In his first major response to the elections, Yeltsin ended days of deep concern at home and abroad that he might alter the reform course following the victory of ultranationalists, who have vowed to dismantle his economic policies.

But Yeltsin told a Kremlin news conference that "the limit of the people's patience has nearly been reached" after two years of painful economic reforms.

He said his government would do more for the poor and unemployed, who have suffered the most and were vulnerable to "aggressive populist slogans."

Yeltsin, smiling frequently, was upbeat and confident throughout the hour-long news conference, broadcast live on national TV from the meeting hall of the former Soviet legislature.

The nationalist Liberal Democratic Party led by Vladimir Zhirinovskiy won nearly a quarter of the vote in the Dec. 12 election, raising fears Yeltsin might seek to accommodate a dangerous political force.

But Yeltsin emphasized Russia's economic and foreign policy would remain the same and said he

would serve out his term as president, which expires in June 1996.

In Washington, President Clinton said Wednesday that Zhirinovskiy's strong showing makes his own trip to Moscow next month even more crucial to bolster Yeltsin. He said he has no plans to meet with Zhirinovskiy.

Clinton is scheduled to meet with Yeltsin Jan. 12-15.

Clinton said he talked to Yeltsin in a "rather lengthy" phone call Wednesday morning and Yeltsin was "very upbeat and eager to get to work with the ... new parliament and pretty confident that the work of economic reform and democracy would continue."

Yeltsin told the Kremlin news conference that Economics Minister Yegor Gaidar, the architect of the reforms, will stay in office. "That means that the course he is following will continue," the president declared.

Yeltsin will be able to pursue reforms despite parliamentary opposition because the new constitution — approved in the same election — gives him sweeping powers.

Yeltsin said the election results were not a tragedy for Russia.

"Throughout the election campaign, wide use was made of demagoguery, preaching of primitive nationalism, outright lies and even dangerous provocations," he said.

"Unfortunately, a substantial part of the electorate is still too trusting

of reckless promises."

Without naming names, Yeltsin criticized the reformers, who split into numerous political blocs rather than uniting in one party to fight the opposition.

"Discord among the democratic forces played a fatal part," he said.

Yeltsin already has fired a number of officials, including reformers, and dissolved the powerful Security Ministry, the domestic intelligence agency, for failing to predict dangerous political currents.

A further government shakeup is likely, Yeltsin said.

Work was under way in the military, which voted heavily for Zhirinovskiy and the Communists, to explain the reforms and counter nationalist tendencies among the troops, Yeltsin said.

Drawing a personal lesson from the elections, Yeltsin said he planned to create a single, "presidential" political party to advance his cause. He did not openly back any party during the campaign.

Yeltsin devoted much time to a discussion of Russia's new constitution, which he said was the "bulwark of stability today."

Voters "were unanimous in one thing: Russia needs strong rule, Russia needs order," he said. "People are irate at the amorphous character of government, they are tired of inconsistency and

contradictory decisions. They are outraged at the growing crime rate. The constitution enables us to create order by legal means."

Yeltsin's ultranationalist and Communist opponents may have won as many as two-thirds of the 450 seats in the State Duma, the lower house of parliament.

Results in the upper house, the Federation Council, are not yet clear. The Central Election Commission said at least 40 members of the old, hard-line parliament that Yeltsin dissolved in September will be in the upper house.

The new parliament convenes Jan. 11.

Yeltsin expressed confidence the democrats in the new parliament would unite and he ruled out any kind of coalition government with ultranationalists or Communists.

But Yeltsin said he would work with all factions in the new parliament that uphold the constitution, and would wait to see whether Zhirinovskiy becomes more moderate.

Yeltsin said Zhirinovskiy's rise could be attributed to "wounded national feelings, dislocation, poor living conditions," similar to those in Germany in the 1930s.

Some senior officials, including Gaidar, have labeled Zhirinovskiy a fascist and called for a broad "anti-fascist coalition," possibly including Communists.

Serbs, Croats pound government troops

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Serbs and Croats pounded government troops throughout battered Bosnia just hours before a Christmas truce was to take effect Wednesday.

Serb gunners on the hills ringing Sarajevo lobbed an estimated 1,800 shells onto the capital in the heaviest shelling in two months. One person was killed, Bosnian radio reported without elaboration.

In central Bosnia, Croats fired more than 3,000 shells at Gornji Vakuf, a town that has been contested by the two sides for months, Bosnian radio said. It gave no casualty figures. Other fighting killed three people, according to the radio.

Talks were continuing Wednesday in Brussels, Belgium, but no progress was reported.

Serbs surrounding Sarajevo have often hammered the city harder than usual just before a cease-fire was to take effect or at the advent of new rounds of peace talks in an apparent effort to pressure the government.

Casualties were apparently kept low Wednesday by the issu-

ing of a government alert warning residents of the capital to stay indoors.

U.N. officials also reported increasing harassment of U.N. aid convoys by Serbs and suggested it too was meant to pressure the Bosnian government.

Elsewhere, heavy fighting and shelling was reported between the government and Serbs around Vitez in central Bosnia and Mostar in the southwest. Two people were killed in Mostar, Bosnian radio said.

It said one person was killed and six wounded in the shelling of Maglaj in central Bosnia, and Serbs attacked several locations north of Sarajevo.

Despite the shelling, Cmdr. Idesbald Van Biesebeek, a U.N. spokesman, said he was still optimistic the Christmas truce, effective at midnight Wednesday, would work. Several cease-fires have been signed and immediately violated during the Bosnian war.

Van Biesebeek also said that a Croat convoy came under fire on its way out of Croat territory in central Bosnia, and one person was killed and one was wounded. He had no further details.

Major says IRA not serious about declaration

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — British Prime Minister John Major accused the IRA and its political supporters Wednesday of stringing Britain and Ireland along over whether it will accept a peace plan.

"Playing the game of saying, 'Well, I'm not quite sure, I'll ask another question today and another question tomorrow,' is just a delaying tactic," Major said. "I'm not playing that game."

Major, on a Christmas visit to the troubled British province, also castigated the Irish Republican Army for continuing violence. But Major set no deadline for a response to the plan he and Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds announced Dec. 15.

Leaders of Sinn Fein, the party that supports the outlawed IRA, have said they want to talk with both governments to clarify provisions of the peace framework announced Dec. 15.

In Dublin, Ireland, Reynolds also rejected calls by Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams for clarifications.

Major has said Sinn Fein can enter exploratory talks on the future of Northern Ireland within three months of abandoning violence.

"Then the questions Mr. Adams wants answered will be answered," Major said.

The declaration envisaged the possibility of a united Ireland, but said the majority in Northern Ireland would have to agree. That would give a veto on Irish unification to pro-British Protestants, who outnumber Catholic nationalists in the province.

"The declaration is a statement of principles, not a basis for negotiation," Reynolds said at the start of a debate in the Irish Senate on the plan. "The next stage of negotiations can only come after peace has first been established."

Major, trying to reassure Protestants, reiterated there would be no amnesties for IRA guerrillas jailed for shooting and bombings, and said police would continue pursuing suspects.

Reynolds, however, suggested in an interview Sunday that amnesties might be considered.

At Belfast City Hall, Major was heckled by members of the Rev. Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party, a Protestant party which has rejected the declaration.

"Why are you allowing the IRA to come to the table without giving up their arms?" DUP member Nigel Dodds shouted at Major.

British officials have said they didn't expect the IRA to hand over its weapons as a condition for opening talks, though they say that will be demanded later.

A formal response from Sinn Fein and the IRA is not expected until January. Sinn Fein has called in the past for talks without conditions — meaning no cease-fire by the IRA.

Meanwhile, The Irish Times of Dublin reported Wednesday that President Clinton has signaled a willingness to permit Adams to visit the United States if the peace process moves along.

The Clinton administration rejected Adams' application for a visa earlier this year, because of his alleged involvement in terrorism.

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Lawmakers approve historic constitution

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — Defying shouts of "Treason!" and threats of war from rightists, the white-run Parliament approved a constitution Wednesday giving whites and blacks equal status in South Africa for the first time.

The historic road map to a new South Africa, endorsed by the African National Congress, passed by an overwhelming vote of 237-45. It was probably the last seating of a Parliament that excludes the black majority and gives Asian and mixed-race lawmakers little power.

The document will result in self-government for blacks for the first time in South African history, and promises protection of individual and minority rights. The country's first election open to all races is set for April 27.

Pro-ANC lawmakers at the emotional session shouted "Viva!" and "Amandla!" ("Power is ours") and lifted their fists in a jubilant salute. Flushed members of the right-wing Conservative Party, sputtering in rage, denounced as traitors all those who voted "yes." Some white rightists shouted "Treason!"

About half of those in the public gallery also stood up in protest, and police had to hustle off one young white protester who showered President F.W. de Klerk with epithets from the gallery. Most in the gallery were white.

Despite four years of "attacks, curses and insults" since he began the process of dismantling apartheid in 1990, de Klerk said Wednesday: "I am now more convinced than ever that I have made the right choice."

"There is no better way to avert the threat of left-wing and right-wing radicalism, from communism or Nazism, than to do it democratically at the polling booths," he said.

The new constitution replaces a system that for generations denied the black majority the right to vote, hold political office or have any voice in national affairs.

"Now, for the first time, the future holds the promise of a brighter tomorrow," ANC President Nelson Mandela said in a statement issued by ANC head-

quarters in Johannesburg. Mandela was en route to a Christmas vacation in the Bahamas.

The parliament to be elected in April can make some changes in the constitution. However, according to an agreement reached among political parties in November, its basic tenets are to be kept intact and protected by a powerful new Constitutional Court. The ANC is expected to win the April vote.

Resolute backing by De Klerk's long-ruling National Party and the ANC, the country's most powerful political group, ensured the passage of the charter worked out during two years of negotiations.

Those talks began after de Klerk, acknowledging apartheid couldn't work, freed Mandela from his life prison term in 1990 and legalized black opposition groups.

Right-wing whites and leaders of some conservative black groups condemn the document, alleging it will result in an oppressive Communist-aligned ANC government. They also say it fails to satisfy the aspirations of ethnic self-determination of whites and others.

White dissenters say they will only feel secure if they attain a white homeland, while blacks such as Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi want preservation of special powers in some of the black homelands set up under apartheid. This would ensure Buthelezi's Zulu-dominated party a power-base in its KwaZulu homeland.

The Freedom Alliance, a partnership of conservative whites and blacks, failed to get any more concessions in last-minute talks Monday and Tuesday.

But the ANC and government agreed to take another look at its demands next month in a final bid for an "all-inclusive" settlement, if the Freedom Alliance in exchange will promise loyalty to the new system.

"This constitution is a monster," said the leader of the pro-apartheid Conservative Party, Ferdi Hartzenberg, whose supporters stood at attention and sang the national anthem, Die Stem, just before the vote.

Abolishing secret police could be watershed

By Bernard D. Kaplan
Hearst News Service

Analysis

PARIS — If Boris Yeltsin is serious about abolishing Russia's secret-police agency, the Security Ministry, his action would be one of the most significant developments since the end of Soviet communism.

The Russian president said Tuesday he is dismantling the ministry — the successor to the old KGB of the Soviet era — and replacing it with a new counterintelligence agency directly under his control.

The acknowledged reason for the security organization's downfall was its failure to alert the government to the armed uprising by anti-Yeltsin parliamentary forces in October. Some of the ministry's troops deserted to the rebels' side.

Yeltsin's decision may also have been influenced by reports of links between ex-KGB officials, some of whom still hold Security Ministry posts, and ultranationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy.

Zhirinovskiy's party, which wants to restore the Soviet Union, scored impressive gains in this month's parliamentary elections. He is now seen as a threat to Yeltsin's leadership.

However, experts here said the significance of Yeltsin's security move could transcend Russia's current tensions.

If Yeltsin means what he says, the abolition of the Security Ministry rings down the curtain on nearly three centuries of Russian history. Since the time of Czar Peter the Great at the start of the 18th century, Russia has possessed some kind of secret police.

Communism's downfall and the disintegration of the Soviet Union brought about a change in the secret police's name and a trimming of its arbitrary powers to interfere in the lives of ordinary people.

But according to historian Jacques Spiro, "over the last two years" the ministry has conducted a public relations campaign to persuade its own citizens and the rest of the world of its new "openness," but it retained the structure and many latent powers belonging to the KGB. This wasn't surprising since it was staffed by the same old KGB types.

Even after several senior KGB officials conspired in the ill-fated August 1991 putsch against then Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, neither he nor Yeltsin, after he became leader of an independent Russia, dared to confront the secret police organization head on.

Spiro said Yeltsin's move this week "may be nothing more than a cosmetic change. It could be that the traditional Russian concept of the secret police as one of the pillars of state authority will remain in some other guise."

But Yeltsin's statement announcing the ministry's abolition strongly suggested otherwise, the analyst added.

Yeltsin declared that all previous attempts to reform the political police had proved "superficial." The system had "outlived itself," he said.

Spiro said that the Russian leader's decision "to form what he calls a Federal Counterintelligence Service suggests that he plans some-

thing on the western model, resembling the FBI or the (French) Department for Internal Surveillance. Such an agency would possess nothing like the enormous powers of investigation and arrest of past Russian police organizations."

Known as the Okhrana in czarist times, the secret police began the system of infiltrating Russian society at all levels, using thousands of informers to root out political dissent. The czarist police ruled as jailers over vast stretches of Siberia, where political prisoners were sent into exile. The Soviets continued the same practices but greatly expanded them.

Within a few weeks of seizing power in 1917, communist leader Vladimir Lenin re-established the secret police as the Cheka (an acronym in Russian standing for State Committee to Suppress the Counter-Revolution). What in the czarist era had been an instrument of oppression became a tool of mass terror and murder that reached its apogee under Lenin's successor, Joseph Stalin.

It is estimated that during Stalin's 28-year dictatorship ending when he died in 1953, at least 20 million people were executed or died in the prisons of the secret police, known successively as the Cheka, OGPU, NKVD, MVD and KGB.

In later years the KGB's power fluctuated, but it remained an integral and key branch of the Soviet government. Its influence extended beyond police matters into politics and the running of the economy. Yuri Andropov, who became Soviet leader in 1982, was a former chief of the KGB.

'Lifetime employees' in Japan get more pink slips

TOKYO (AP) — Like most Japanese white-collar workers, Yasushi Horiguchi wakes up early, boards a train packed with sleepy commuters and heads downtown.

Horiguchi's daily destination, however, is symptomatic of the worst recession to hit Japan in decades: it's the unemployment office.

"I've been doing this nearly every day for two months," he said. "It's pretty tough to find anything."

Fired after working two years in the office of a major industrial pump manufacturer, Horiguchi, 26, began his career expecting the guarantee of lifetime employment usually offered by major Japanese firms.

That tradition, which was limited mainly to the biggest and strongest companies, depended on a fast-growing, export-based economy.

But as the recession stretches into its third year and a stronger yen bites into exports, even the biggest firms are finding they cannot afford to carry extra hands on their payrolls.

"I'm at a loss," said Masatoshi Kurane, a job seeker at an employment office in Tokyo. Kurane said he was fired in June from his job as a driver for an insurance company that trimmed its fleet of chauffeured cars to cut costs.

Kurane, in a suit, tie and immaculate shoes even though he had no interview scheduled, said he was supporting his family of three with unemployment insurance checks worth about three-fourths of his former salary. Those run out in February.

"Things aren't going to get any better," he said. "I'm nearly 50 now, so it's really unlikely I'll find anything permanent."

Japan's jobless rate is still modest by Western standards: the Management and Coordination Agency said recently that the unemployment rate in October rose to 2.7 percent, the highest level in 5½ years.

But private economists say that if the legions of underemployed and surplus workers still on the payrolls were included, the real jobless rate would be as high as 5 percent to 8 percent.

Loath to break the tacit promises they feel they have made, Japanese companies still try to avoid layoffs. In the past, that practice has often obligated them to retain superfluous workers.

But today, corporations are going to ridiculous lengths to force redundant workers out.

In Horiguchi's case, his bosses gave him lists of English engineering terms to memorize under deadline, claiming the knowledge was essential to his job shuffling Japanese-language documents in the firm's Tokyo office.

"I was usually able to meet the deadline, but when the lists got too long, I couldn't pass the tests," said Horiguchi, a fluent English speaker.

His supervisor told him he had no choice but to "retire," he said.

The average Japanese white-collar worker in a major firm, such as Horiguchi's, starts out at about 250,000 yen per month, or the equivalent of about \$2,270.

Lawyers working on an advice hot line set up by Nihon Rodo Bengodan, a group of lawyers that takes on labor disputes, recount similar stories.

Of 256 calls the hot line received in a recent single-day advice session, two-thirds were from men over 45 years old who were forced out of their "lifelong" jobs.

One caller, a 51-year-old man previously in charge of the marketing section of a major electronics manufacturer, was told to retire or drive a company truck for two years. Six others received a similar ultimatum. Only one agreed to become a truck driver, said lawyer Makoto Tanaka said. The others prepared to quit.

Unemployment may be a new phenomenon for Japanese white-collar workers, but union organizers say they are only discovering what blue collar workers, women and foreigners at smaller companies have known all along: that lifetime employment was limited.

Envoy: Somali fighters rearm

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Fighters who terrorized the Somali population before foreign troops arrived are rearming, raising the specter of a return to civil war and starvation once the United States withdraws, a U.N. envoy said Wednesday.

Clan fighters have been stocking up on weapons since peace talks in Ethiopia failed Dec. 12, retired Adm. Jonathan Howe told a news conference.

"People are hedging their bets," he said. "If worse comes to worst, then certainly no one wants to be dominated militarily again and they will fight to defend their territory."

Turf battles have been particularly fierce in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, where bands of young fighters roam the streets on trucks equipped with machine guns.

Howe called on other nations with troops in Somalia to stay until March 1995, a year after the U.S. withdrawal, to give a transitional government time to begin functioning.

"If we ... abandon Somalia, it will very quickly go back to where

it was," he said. "The result I think would be famine, starvation, many people dying again."

All U.S. troops will pull out by March 31.

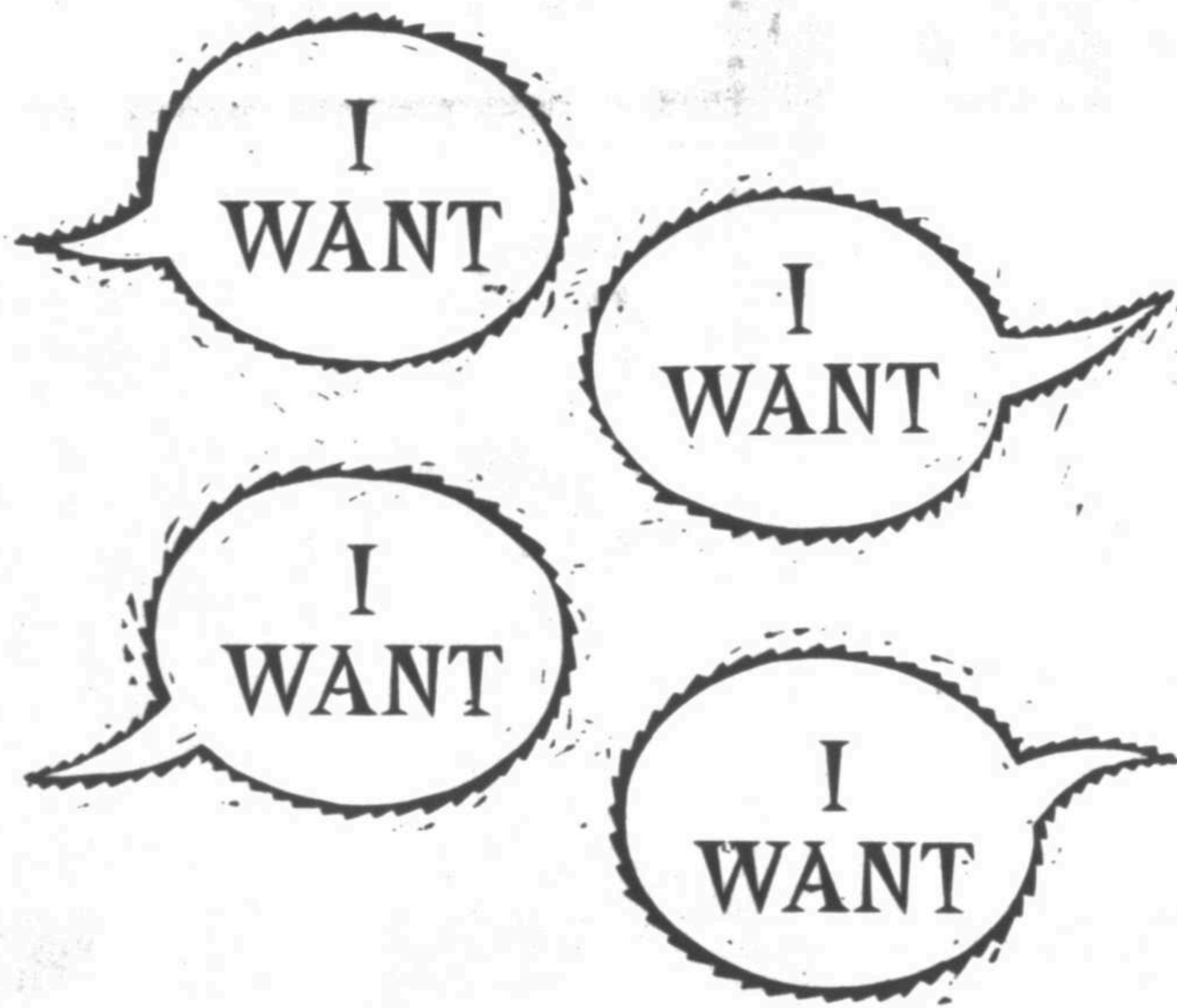
Germany and Italy confirmed this week they also will withdraw their troops from Somalia by March 31. Belgium, France, Turkey and Sweden also are leaving.

Pakistan has offered an additional 2,500 troops, and Howe expressed confidence that "when the Americans leave on March 31 we will have strong international contingents."

U.N. peacekeepers had been confiscating weapons, but stopped doing so in October under pressure from the United States to keep a lower profile.

As a result, U.N. troops no longer patrol the streets of Mogadishu regularly. In addition to allowing fighters to rearm, the end of patrols has also meant an increase in carjackings and armed thievery in the capital, Howe said.

U.S. troops arrived in December 1992 to help Somalia recover from the famine and anarchy which claimed 350,000 lives that year.



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Christmas travel requires planning

You've finished your Christmas shopping and all the gifts are wrapped and under the tree awaiting Christmas morning. The kids' colds appear to be under control for the visit out of town to their grandparents' home. You've even had the car serviced, the antifreeze level gauged, and the tire pressure checked to get ready for holiday season travel. It all looks good!

But, wait. Before embarking on that Christmas sojourn to distant points, be certain to check your emergency preparedness. Holiday traveling is always particularly dangerous because of the crowded condition of highways at those times. Remember to give yourself plenty of time to make the trip and do the following while on the road:

- Keep your speed below the legal limit. Exceeding the limit can create a deadly situation for yourselves or other travelers.

- Change drivers at least every two hours.

- Do not drink alcoholic beverages immediately before your trip or while driving. Having hot coffee or other nonalcoholic drinks can increase your alertness. Watch out for the other guy — drive defensively.

- Wear a seatbelt at all times while traveling.

Weather conditions affect driving time, particularly in periods of freezing conditions. Snowy conditions in Midland at mid-week could continue through the Christmas holiday. Plan to take along blankets in your vehicle and containers of warm drink in case you encounter trouble on the road.

Remember that it's Christmastime and be cheerful and courteous to other drivers. Only the Grinch has an excuse for being in a bad humor at this time of the year.

Most importantly, have a safe, joyous, holy and merry Christmas!

GEORGE WILL

Dickens' book boosts modern holiday

WASHINGTON — The invention of modern Christmas got a boost 150 years ago from a book that begins with three unflattering words: "Marley was dead." In 1843 Charles Dickens, that volcano of Victorian sentimentality, erupted with "A Christmas Carol." Christmas was making a comeback.



Will

When Oliver Cromwell was Lord Protector he protected England from Christmas which, Puritans said, was "an extrae forgetfulness of Christ, by giving liberty to carnal and sensual delights." Of course to Puritans a fruitcake was a dangerous delight.

Christmas in Merrie England had become a rollicking good time after the Norman Conquest imported French flair. By 1252 Henry III was slaying 600 oxen to go with the salmon pies and roasted peacocks. By the 1640s Cromwell was not amused.

Besides, the second syllable of "Christmas" suggested a popish plot. So the House of Commons sat on Christmas days and sheriffs were sent forth to require merchants to open for business. Pro- and anti-Christmas factions rioted. The Puritans were bullies but were not wrong when they said that Christmas observations in December had their origins in pagan festivals of the winter solstice, and no one knew in what season Christ was born. Some say that if shepherds really were tending their flocks in the fields that night, it must not have been winter, when sheep in Palestine were penned at night. Some early Christians in Egypt fixed Christ's birth at May 20, and dates were suggested in every month before December 25 became the consensus choice.

That choice coincided with some rival religions' celebrations of the rebirth of the sun, symbolized by candles and by what would come to be called yule logs. Pagans had traditionally

decked their halls with boughs of holly, evergreens and mistletoe to symbolize winter's inability to prevent the renewal of life. In one of life's nice caroms, Christmas trees, a German tradition, may have been introduced to America during the Revolutionary War by Hessian mercenaries of the sort that George Washington routed from Trenton after crossing the Delaware on Christmas night, 1776.

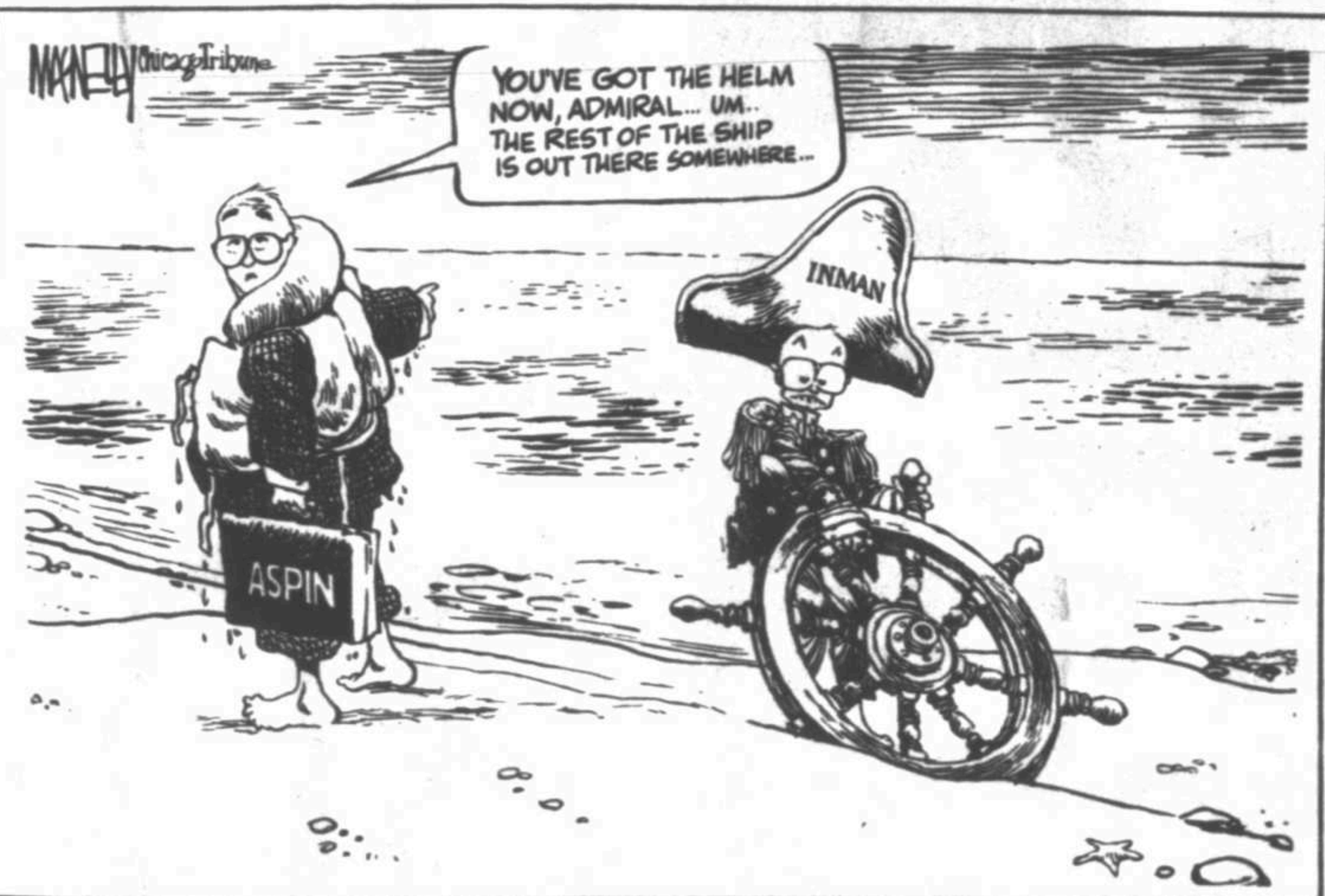
The Puritans brought to New England a Cromwellian detestation of Christmas, the celebration of which was made a crime in Massachusetts in 1659. That edict was repealed in 1681, but in 1686 the governor needed two soldiers to escort him to Christmas services. In 1706 a Boston mob smashed the windows in a church holding Christmas services. New Yorkers, dissolute even then, and Southerners, always sensualists, celebrated Christmas from the 17th century on, but as late as 1874 Henry

Ward Beecher, America's most prominent preacher, said, "To me, Christmas is a foreign day."

The birth of Christmas in its modern form, as a festival of sentiment and material comforts, was made possible by the cooling of religious passions. In 1823 the Troy (N.Y.) Sentinel published anonymously Clement Clark Moore's decidedly secular poem beginning, "Twas the night before Christmas..." Forty years later Thomas Nast, the illustrator and political cartoonist who gave us the Democratic donkey and Republican elephant, popularized the modern image of Santa Claus, a jolly one-man shopping mall.

It was not until 1885 that all federal workers were given Christmas Day off.

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



WILLIAM MURCHISON

Society today grapples with divine birth

The Wall Street Journal shed a little Christmas joy the other day, revealing that Americans regard government with the flinty-eyed scorn they normally reserve for telephone solicitors at dinnertime.

Of course it's possible to take such news, if you call it news, in another sense entirely — as evidence not of corrosive cynicism but rather of maturity: good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.



What is Christmas about, at one level of understanding, if not the futility of the secular enterprise: kings, courts, parliaments, congresses, laws, regulations, codes, the whole shebang? "O put not your trust in princes or in any child of man," the Psalmist enjoins.

Government? Ancient Judea had it in spades — the Roman kind of government; the most meticulous, the fairest, the most efficient in the history of the world up to that time. Perhaps that is not saying much by modern standards, but by the standards of the first century A.D., it is saying a great deal.

Even by contrast with Israel's and Judah's home-grown monarchies, Roman rule had its sunny characteristics. There was order, there was comparative peace — it was nothing like the chaos and dissension under the kings whom God had raised up reluctantly to supplant the

judges. Even the judges hadn't worked out that well. Samuel's own sons "turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment." Why, you might suppose they were congressmen — if that didn't sound like more of the cynicism the Journal's reporters find so unedifying.

Where was it getting anyone? The judges had given way to kings, the kings to foreign invaders, the invaders to the meticulous Romans — who made the chariots run on time. As far in the future as human eyes could see loomed magistrates and decrees, and human desire pitted against human desire.

Whereupon God upset the apple cart — or, as the Scriptures eventually would have it, turned the world upside down. The most extraordinary personage in world history showed up in a stable, of all places, surrounded by shepherds, all of low-born riffraff. The birth of Jesus Christ is rebuke to the pretensions of all those princes and princelings we are bidden not to trust overmuch. Who are they, these petty potentates with the large titles, against the Son of God? What is their power against his?

Such questions, asked in a late 20th-century context, have an attic-y, post-Victorian odor. The 20th century keeps nervous distance from the Son of God: afraid to renounce him entirely (what if he's really who he said he was?) and afraid to embrace him (who needs politicians and public officials if this world turns out not to be the ultimate world, but something intermediate?).

The power machines of the late 20th century seemingly exist for their own sakes, churning

and churning — and with what result? One problem (e.g., the communist bloc) disappears. New ones (e.g., wanton crime and family breakdown) rise to the fore. Some power! We put our trust in princes; invariably, the princes strike out.

All strike out but the Prince of Peace, whose kingdom, as he himself explained, is not of this world. The late 20th century, hugely materialistic though groping toward the spiritual, has no idea what to do with a prince disdainful of worldly power and disrespectful toward its uses.

Jesus, the Babe of Bethlehem, Messiah, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, is quite a morsel for the '90s to digest: dead yet alive, absent yet present, supremely powerful yet tender. What's his foreign policy? ("Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...") How does he stand on welfare reform? ("Blessed are the poor...") On crime? (Whosoever "is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment...") The secular world knows nothing else like it. What it does know, it neither admires nor trusts. As the Babe of Bethlehem extends once more a tiny finger ready for grasping, the world holds back in anxiety.

So many worldly temptations yielded to! So many chances for divine communion passed up! What of this latest? What of the silent and holy night now falling?

William Murchison's column is distributed by Creators Syndicate.

OTHER VIEWS

Border school districts get stuck with unfair bills

La Joya ISD suffers — as do many other Texas school districts, particularly those along the border — from a heavy influx of students from Mexico. ... There's a constant need for new buildings and other equipment, and the burden of providing those facilities falls solely on the district's taxpayers. ...

La Joya ISD officials are to be applauded for their plans to go ahead and adopt a policy that's almost certain to involve the district in what could become a protracted legal battle. The policy, on which the third and final reading is now scheduled for Jan. 12, simply states new students must reside with either a parent or legal guardian. The district will require official documentation to that effect, documentation that

in some cases could cost \$300 or more.

Previously, all that was required was an easily-obtained notarized statement that the person the student was residing with was his/her guardian.

However, it does appear La Joya's proposed policy flies in the face of both federal and state decisions, which, in effect, say that districts must educate all students, whether they are legal residents or not.

The problem with both the state and federal positions on educating all students is that no extra federal or state dollars have been forthcoming to help foot the bills.

— The (McAllen) Monitor

Texas' 1st attempt at bullet train unfortunately skips track

Scratch the first attempt to build a 200-mph bullet train in Texas. The plans of Texas TGV, a French-American partnership given a state franchise to develop the high-speed railroad linking Houston, Dallas-Fort Worth and San Antonio, have gone up in smoke.

Twice in a year the franchise will have failed to meet a condition set by the Texas High-Speed Rail Authority — that it come up with \$170 million of the financing for the \$8.4 billion railroad by Dec. 31.

It seems clear that the project will not be financially feasible on the original terms and that

the state has been the victim of misrepresentation. The law creating the authority specified there would be no state financing. ...

The Post still strongly opposes public subsidizing of the railroad. The deficit-overwhelmed federal government cannot afford such aid. Even if President Clinton should obtain from Congress his proposed federal funding program for high-speed trains, state matching funds would be required. The state of Texas has no money to spare for this. It can't even adequately finance public schools.

— The Houston Post

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Dec. 23, the 357th day of 1993. There are eight days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history: One hundred years ago, on Dec. 23, 1893, the opera "Haensel und Gretel," with music by Engelbert Humperdinck and libretto by his sister, Adelheid Wette, was first performed publicly, in Weimar, Germany.

On this date:

In 1783, George Washington resigned as commander-in-chief of the Army and retired to his home at Mount Vernon, Va.

In 1788, Maryland voted to cede a 100-square-mile area for the seat of the national government; about two-thirds of the area became the present-day District of Columbia.

ART BUCHWALD

Spoiled dog makes gift buying very difficult

Joe Daniel told me that he had done all his Christmas shopping except for his dog, Cooper.

"I wish I could come up with something to surprise him," he said.

"Does Cooper believe in Santa Claus?"

"I don't think so. He tried to bite one in front of J.C. Penney yesterday and the Santa called him a 'bad dog.'"

"How did Cooper react to that?"

"He went over to a lamp post as if nothing had happened."

"Why don't you give him an Oriental rug to chew on?"

"We did that last Christmas. The insurance company refused to replace it. Cooper is high maintenance."

"I read where one of the most popular gifts for dogs was a pet door. Whenever the dog goes in or out, it plays 'Hail to the Chief.'"

"Cooper is not too much into music. Every time we play Henry Mancini he starts barking

his head off."

"What about a basket of dog food with a great bottle of white wine?"

"Cooper doesn't like white wine. He's really very difficult."

"I don't suppose that a T-bone steak would impress him either."

"Every time we come home from a restaurant we bring him a steak. Cooper expects more from us at holiday times."

"I have a friend, Margot Tenenbaum, who gave her dog a mink coat. Would that make any sense?"

"It would except that if Cooper wore it to the park the other dogs would attack him. Many canines become enraged when they see a dog wearing a coat other than his own."

"We must not give up. Why not a new plush, cushy, yummy bed made in China?"

"That won't work. Cooper sleeps at the end of our bed, and every time we try to put him out he jumps right back onto ours."

"Your dog seems terribly fussy."

"He's not fussy about the family's Christmas presents. If we don't tie him up, he'll chew up

every package under the tree."

"What about a rubber bone that plays the theme from Doctor Zhivago?"

"We gave him a squeaky ball last time, and he never even ran after it. What you have to understand about Cooper is that he is very unpredictable. Some days he would much rather chase a live squirrel than a dead Frisbee. What he hates the most is a new leash and collar. He's not too happy about dog tags either."

An idea came to me. "What about having Cooper's portrait taken by Nelson Deckelbaum, the best pet photographer in town?" Joe wasn't too sure that Cooper would go for it.

"If I was a dog, that's what I would want. It's something that Cooper could keep forever," I said.

"Maybe you're right. I'm also going to buy him a Wedgewood dog dish in case he's not happy with the photographer and decides that Christmas is a complete waste."

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

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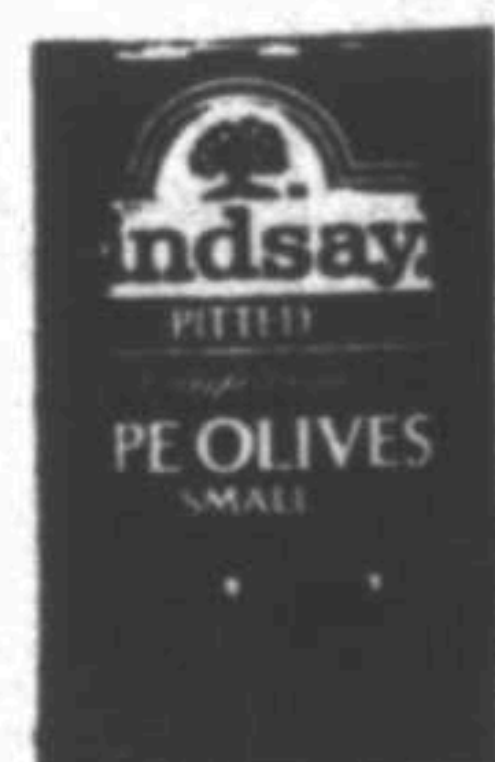
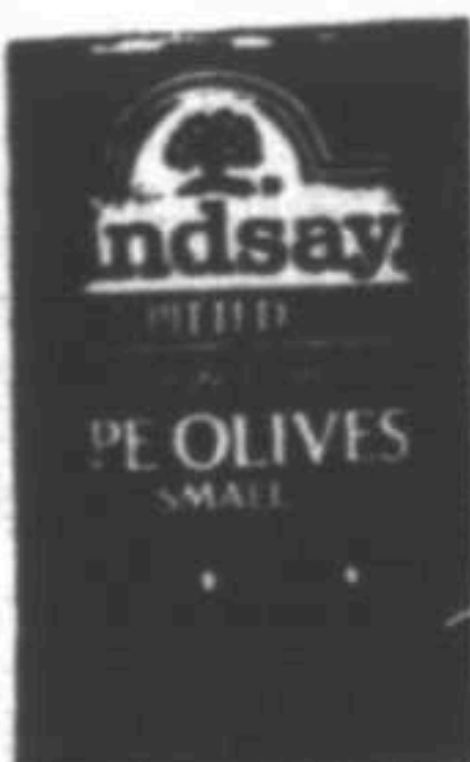
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Judge refuses to disqualify himself in Kevorkian case

DETROIT (AP) — A judge who once revoked Dr. Jack Kevorkian's bond for showing "utter contempt" of Michigan's ban on assisted suicide refused to remove himself from the case despite defense claims he was "litigating morality."

Geoffrey Fieger told Detroit Recorder's Court Judge Thomas E. Jackson that he believed the judge looked upon his client as a "deeply villainous man that needed to be taught a lesson."

Fieger said that was Jackson's motivation for revoking Kevorkian's personal bond and setting \$20,000 bail in the Aug. 4 death of Thomas Hyde.

Kevorkian is charged with violating Michigan's ban on assisted suicide in the deaths of Hyde and Merian Frederick, who committed suicide Oct. 22. Both suffered from Lou Gehrig's disease, a degenerative nerve disorder.

In the Hyde case, Jackson raised Kevorkian's bail after he attended the Sept. 9 death of another man who suffered from bone cancer.

Kevorkian has attended 20 deaths since 1990, and the state ban, which carries a maximum punishment of four years in prison and a \$2,000 fine, was enacted to stop him.

In raising Kevorkian's bond last month, Jackson said Kevorkian had shown "utter contempt and flagrant violation" of the law by allegedly helping another person commit suicide while free on bail.

Kevorkian spent three days in the Wayne County Jail in early November after refusing to post bail.

He was freed after a lawyer posted the required 10 percent cash, saying he wanted to stop Kevorkian's publicity.

Maryland governor pardons man of rape, murder

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Gov. William Donald Schaefer granted a pardon Wednesday to a man who served almost nine years in prison before DNA testing showed he did not rape a 9-year-old girl who was found murdered.

Schaefer said his decision to pardon Kirk Bloodworth was influenced by a Baltimore County prosecutor's statement that they would not have tried Bloodworth if the DNA test had been available when he was arrested in 1984.

The procedure is so new that the FBI has only been using it since April 1992.

More national news/5B

Bloodworth was released from prison June 28. Tests showed that semen found on the dead girl's underwear did not come from Bloodworth.

"I'm a happy man," Bloodworth said in a telephone interview after learning of the pardon.

Bloodworth said the next step is to seek compensation from the state. Without a pardon, he would have been ineligible to receive any money.

Bloodworth said he has dental problems that stemmed from a lack of treatment in prison and a possible liver ailment.

He was convicted of raping and murdering Dawn Hamilton, whose body was found near a shopping center July 24, 1984.

He was sentenced to die in the gas chamber at his first trial. When the conviction was overturned, Bloodworth was convicted a second time and sentenced to two consecutive life sentences.

Clinton names new deputy chief of staff

WASHINGTON (NYT) — President Clinton named Harold M. Ickes, a New York lawyer and Democratic Party stalwart, on Wednesday to be his deputy chief of staff with primary responsibility for orchestrating the health care campaign for the White House.

Ickes, 54, had turned down a potentially less influential job last week and was persuaded to join the Clinton administration after he was given the higher-ranking position, which makes him a lieutenant to the chief of staff, Thomas F. McLarty III, and on par with Philip Lader, the other deputy.

The White House has been struggling for several weeks to develop a coordinated approach to presenting and selling the health care package. At the same time, McLarty was searching for another top aide who could act as a sort of enforcer over the president's sometimes unruly staff.

Ickes, who won plaudits from many involved in Clinton's transition, appeared to fit the bill on both counts. A longtime friend of the Clintons, he enjoys the confidence of both the president and of Mrs. Clinton, aides said.

Ickes, who will begin work at the White House on Jan. 3, hesitated about taking the White House position because of family concerns, the aides said.

He will join Ira C. Magaziner, the health care policy adviser, and George Stephanopoulos, the senior adviser, in putting together the proposal and selling it to members of Congress.

McLarty said, "I think from our standpoint what we want to do after what we felt was a productive 1993 was to build on our successes, some of the things we did right, but also, frankly, try to achieve more evenness, more order, clearer accountability, authority, and responsibility moving into '94."

Ickes was in line to become a deputy chief of staff last year when Clinton took office. But he withdrew from consideration after reports that his Mineola, N.Y., law firm was being investigated for ties to organized crime arising from its representation of Local 100 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International.

The firm was recently cleared of all allegations.

Federal judge bars parental notification

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A federal judge has signed an injunction barring enforcement of a Montana law that required parental notification before girls under 18 could have abortions.

U.S. District Judge James Batten's order on Tuesday ratified a settlement reached earlier between the state and The Center for Reproductive Law and Policy in New York.

Acting on behalf of six doctors and a physician's assistant, the center filed a federal lawsuit that challenged the 1974 notification law. The center said the law allowed no procedure for a judge to waive the parental notice requirement in special circumstances.

State attorneys conceded last week that the law was unconstitutional, broad and was unenforceable.

The New York center said Wednesday that with the Montana decision, 22 states still enforce parental notification laws for abortion. Thirty-five states have such laws on the books, the center said.

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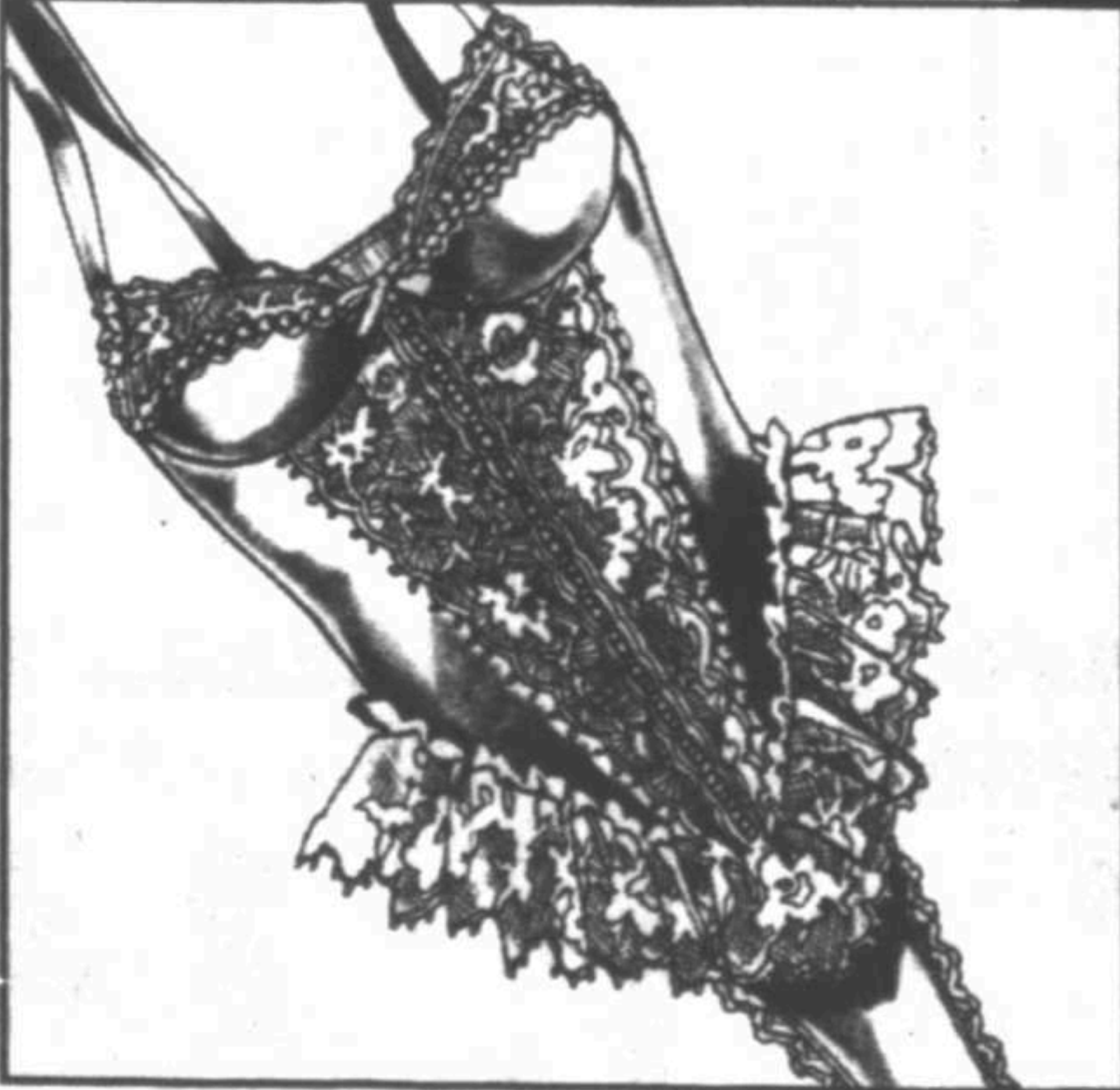
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THURSDAY

DAY WATCH

Grassland lights

Residents of Grassland Estates, at the intersection of Loop 250 and Highway 191, are planning "Lights Before Christmas" from dusk to midnight on Christmas Eve. Homeowners have set up 4,000 luminarias to greet people who drive through the decorated subdivision. "It is our way to welcome families, and especially children... during this special time of year," said Dan Kopet of the Grassland Estate Homeowners Association.

Caller ID

DALLAS — An attorney for the Public Utility Commission isn't ready to let Southwestern Bell unleash its controversial Caller ID feature.

Public Utility Counsel Nolan Ward filed legal documents late Monday accusing the phone company of confusing customers about how they can preserve their privacy once the plan begins.

With Caller ID, scheduled to begin in the Austin area in February, the caller's number flashes on a device at the point being called.

Southwestern Bell spokesman John Loehman denies the accusation. He said the matter can be resolved in the upcoming weeks without reopening the case.

Man survives crash

AMARILLO — The cold was worse than the pain in his ankle, says a New Mexico rancher who walked three miles on a broken ankle after his plane crashed.

J.W. "Dutch" Herring, who ranches near Clayton, N.M., suffered a broken right ankle, a broken right arm and a cut under his right eye when his single-engine Cessna crashed around 3 p.m. Saturday in the Texas Panhandle.

Herring, 54, would not speak to a reporter who called his room at Amarillo's High Plains Baptist Hospital on Tuesday, but Hartley County Deputy Sheriff Scot Leatherwood said Herring told him he walked four hours after the crash before reaching a farmhouse around 7 p.m. Saturday.

"When I got to the house, he was sitting in a chair holding his arm. He had a lot of blood on his face, and we noticed his ankle was pretty swollen," Leatherwood said Tuesday from Dalhart. "He said his ankle didn't hurt much, but he got real cold out there."

TODAY'S AGENDA

Flatlanders Toastmasters Club, Chevron Bldg., 15 Smith Rd., 11:30-12:30pm, 687-7286.

Survivors Group for Sexual Abuse, Rape, Incest Victims, 6 p.m., Glenwood Hospital, 3300 South FM 1788, 563-1200.

Blacksheep A.A. grp., 8pm Glenwood Hospital 3300 S. FM1788, info. 563-1200

Midland Gem & Mineral Society, 7:30pm, Sibley Ctr., by SE entrance Hogan Pk. Call 686-7442.

Codpendants Anonymous, CODA, 7:30 p.m., 2311 Elizabeth. Permian Toastmasters, noon, Permian Basin Graduate Center, 688-7748.

Women's Barbershop Chorus, 7pm, Cutter Beachcraft, Hwy 80 service rd, near airport 694-2035.

PDAP, rm 258, parents/relatives of yng people w/problems, 7:30pm, 1st Baptist, 685-0686.

Bereavement Support Group, 7-9pm, Hospice of Odessa Ctr., Texas Commerce Bank Bldg. 4th floor. 1-332-1431, 1-332-0991.

Northside Lions Club 7:30am, Plaza Club in Claydeata, 694-5624.

Texas State Guard 4th MP Group Hdqtrs, 7:30pm 2nd & 4th Thur., Texas Nat'l Guard Armory Hogan Park Women's Golf Assoc., Hogan Park Golf Course

Westside Lions Club, 12n, Westside Lions Club Den.

Rotary Club of Midland, 11:55am, Chamber of Commerce.

Permian Toastmasters, 12n, Permian Basin Graduate Center.

RHCC Women's Golf Assoc. 9am.

Civil Air Patrol, 7pm CAP Headquarters, 685-3384.

Parents W/out Partners, 7:30pm, Unitarian Univ. Church.

Golden Park Retirement Ctr, Seniors Bingo, 3pm, 3100 W. Kansas.

TOPS, Tex 1139 6:30pm, 1007 Austin St. 694-7273, 694-8643

Narc Anon, St. Paul's Methodist Church, 8pm

Wal-Mart to eliminate handgun sales at retail stores nationwide

BENTONVILLE, Ark. (AP) — Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the nation's largest retailer, will stop stocking handguns at its stores as of February.

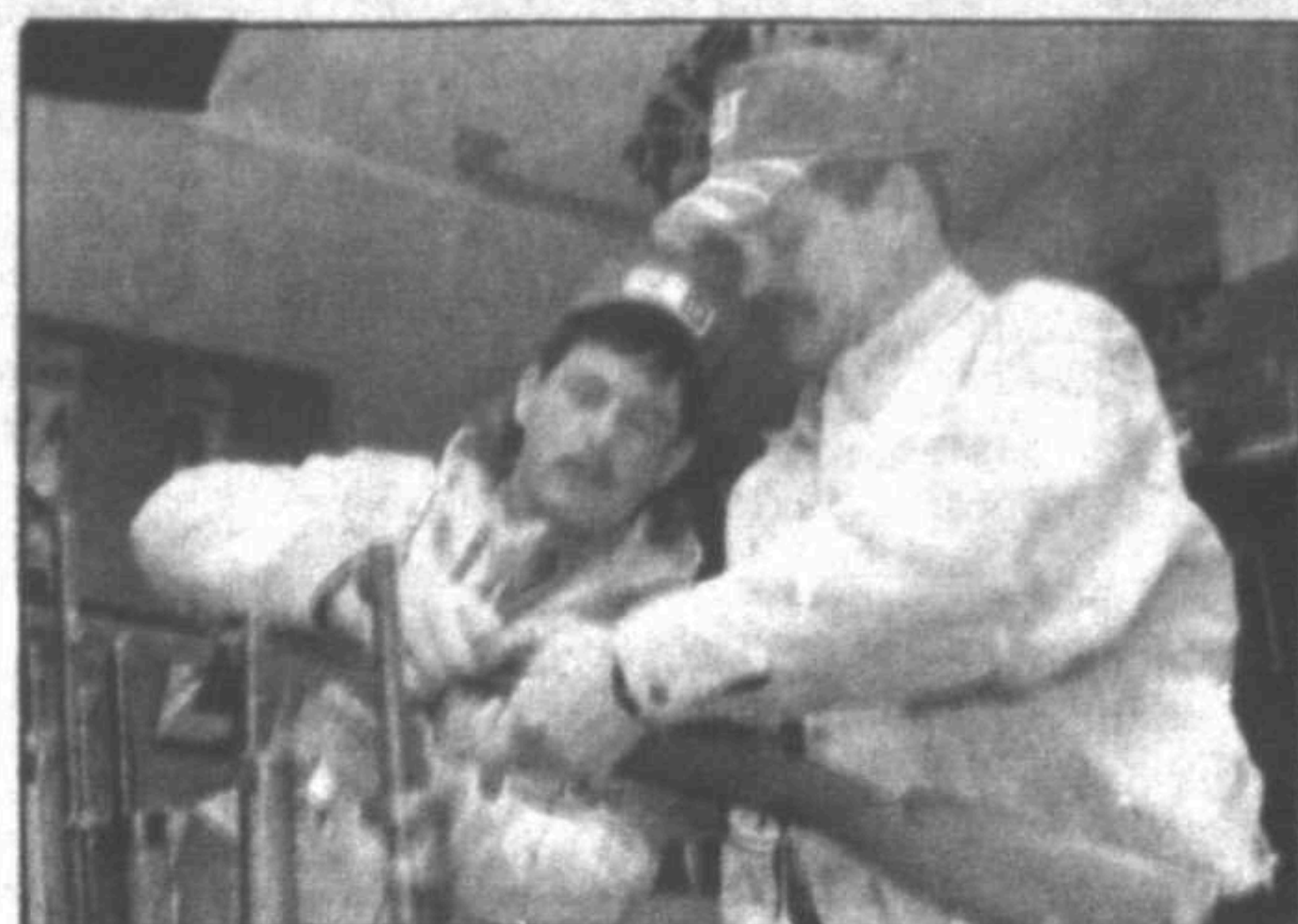
Customers will still be able to select handguns from vendor catalogues at the stores, and rifles and shotguns will still be stocked, a company spokesman said.

The decision wasn't related to the Brady bill or a recent lawsuit filed by survivors of a couple whose mentally ill son

shot them to death with a gun he had bought at a Wal-Mart, a company spokesman said Wednesday.

"Simply, Wal-Mart believes the mood of the country has changed, is changing," spokesman Don Shinkle said. "Some of our customers want to purchase handguns from us. We also recognize that there is another segment of customers who are uncomfortable in stores that sell

Please see GUNS/2B



John Curtis, left, and David Newsom inspect a rifle at Jim's Military Collectibles in Plano Wednesday. New laws have spawned a holiday rush on combat rifles, dealers say.

AP Laserphoto



Brian Adamczik/Reporter-Telegram

Winter wonderland

Natalie Duffy, 12, left, and her brother, J.P., 13, press blocks of snow into place while building a

snow fort. The children were playing at Grafa Park on Wednesday.

Mercury to gold claim produces scandal at A&M

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — A Texas A&M chemist who headed a project that claimed mercury could be turned into gold should be demoted, says a group of fellow professors.

Twenty-three of 28 distinguished professors signed a petition asking that John O'M Bockris be stripped of his distinguished professor title. The appeal was presented to the university provost Tuesday.

Rene A. Henry, a university spokesman, said officials were consulting with staff lawyers about how to handle the petition.

Please see GOLD/2B



AP Laserphoto

Fritz Lynch prepares a squeegee-tipped aluminum pole for cleaning the upper story windows of a building in Houston recently.

Waste disposal company faces 2 state lawsuits

■ Lawsuits filed in Texas, New Mexico allege improper storage of medical waste.

By Gary Shanks

Staff Writer

A Midland medical-waste disposal company, alleged to have illegally stored waste products in non-air-conditioned trailers, is facing lawsuits in Texas and New Mexico.

The New Mexico lawsuit was filed Aug. 12, according to John Getty of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The agency is accusing Collective Resources Inc. of improperly storing hazardous medical waste and fraud in their documentation of waste handling.

A similar lawsuit filed by the Texas Attorney General's Office on Dec. 6 alleges CRI improperly stored six large trailers of medical waste in Colorado City, San Angelo and Del Rio. The lawsuit is based on findings of the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission.

According to information from the attorney general's office, these trailers, loaded with medical waste generated at hospitals, clinics and laboratories, were found with their contents rotting and fluids leaking out onto the ground.

A trailer filled with CRI waste was also found in Oklahoma, but as yet, no lawsuit has been filed in that case.

The Texas lawsuit states that flies surrounded the trailers and the odor was "atrocious" and evidently emanated from "dead flesh."

Two trailers in similar condition were found in Albuquerque, leading to the New Mexico lawsuit, according to information from the NMED. The waste, contained in plastic bags and boxes, was supposed to be taken to a large, state-licensed, incinerator in Terrell, Texas.

John and Joan Iman of Midland, owners of CRI and named as defendants in the Texas lawsuit, have agreed to contact authorized medical waste disposal facilities to transport the waste from the trailers in Del Rio and Colorado City, according to Ron Dusek of the Texas attorney general's office.

The defendants also are ordered, in a temporary injunction against the company, to provide a list of business assets for possible assignment to pay for the cleanup, he said.

Iman has denied that CRI stored medical waste unsafely or illegally.

Every pound of medical waste must be documented by the generating agency (such as a hospital), the transportation agency and the disposal facility, said Robin Long, who owns the Medi-Waste biomedical waste transport company in Lubbock.

This documentation is kept for 36 months and is regularly reviewed by TNRCC officials, Long said. All transporters must be licensed under the TNRCC and can lose this license if documentation is not maintained, he said.

Please see WASTE/2B



Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison and her husband Ray enter the courtroom in Austin Wednesday as the

senator's pre-trial hearing continues.

Judge listens to arguments on Hutchison

By Scott Rothschild

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A judge heard a fifth day of arguments Wednesday in a pre-trial hearing in the ethics case of U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, then recessed the proceedings until next week.

Visiting State District Judge John Onion said he would rule on Mrs. Hutchison's motion to move the trial after he

Please see HUTCHISON/2B

Window washer leaps injuries

By Deborah Quinn Hensel

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Window washers scaling the glassy heights of skyscrapers have a risky job.

For Fritz Lynch, fear of heights was never a problem. The freak accident that cost him both his legs three years ago happened while he was standing on the ground.

Experts told him that what happened was impossible. As Lynch extended an aluminum pole to the third floor of a building he was washing, an arc of electricity sprang from nearby power lines and struck him down.

His father and business partner, Lawrence Lynch, said he heard a sound like "a giant with a welding rod" and saw a flash of light surround his son.

"You could see he was trying to scream but no sound was coming out," the elder Lynch said.

"In my mind, I was screaming," Fritz Lynch said.

"The first thing I thought was 'He's dead,'" Lawrence Lynch said. When he saw his son's eyelids flutter, he knew they "still had something to work with."

"I asked 'Are you still in there?' and he said, 'Yeah, Dad, but it's bad.'"

Both men agree it could have been worse. If the pole had touched the line carrying 20,000 volts instead of entering the electromagnetic field around it, Fritz Lynch, 32, wouldn't have been alive to father his second child, due in February.

Scar tissue where the pole burned into Lynch's body

runs in a diagonal line from his thigh across his chest. "Close to things you wouldn't want burned," his father said, laughing.

There is still an outline of Fritz's feet etched in the concrete at 11455 Fallbrook, where he had been standing that day.

Fortunately, a medical building stands at that address, where doctors stabilized Lynch until a Life Flight helicopter took him to Hermann Hospital.

There, doctors had to amputate his right leg and thumb, badly damaged by exit wounds from the current. Six weeks later, he lost his left leg as well.

Support came from a lot of places. Members of his church built him a wheelchair-accessible house in one weekend. Medical personnel at Warm Springs Rehabilitation Foundation in Gonzales told him, "You set the goals and we'll make it happen."

While Lynch recuperated for a year, his two younger sisters — who never aspired to be window washers — helped their father keep Windowmasters going.

"They were afraid they were going to muscle up and look like Arnold Schwarzenegger," Fritz Lynch said.

With two high-tech titanium and graphite prosthetics that work "like shock absorbers," Lynch sort of resembles Schwarzenegger's indestructible character in The Terminator.

Now, Lynch is back at work, and says he prefers working "over the edge" in a harness and seat.

DEATHS

Ralph Baker

Services for Ralph H. Baker of Midland are to be at 1 p.m. Friday at Crestview Baptist Church with the Rev. Larry Ashlock, pastor, officiating.



Burial will follow in Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Baker died Wednesday at a local hospital.

He was born June 2, 1920, in Cape Girardeau, Mo., where he was raised and educated.

He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II from February 1942 to October 1945. He received seven Bronze Stars while serving in the military.

He married Marge Godwin on July 6, 1945, in Jackson, Mo.

He moved to St. Louis, Mo., where he worked for the Cotton Belt Railroad. He later returned to Jackson, where he was self-employed in the upholstery business.

He moved to Midland in 1963. He joined Drilco Industrial where he worked as a gauge-tool inspector until he retired in 1985.

He was a member of Crestview Baptist Church, the American Legion and volunteered for Meals on Wheels.

Survivors include his wife, Marge Baker of Midland; a son, Steve C. Baker of Corpus Christi; two daughters, Mary L. Burns and Marty Burns, both of Midland; two sisters, Agnes M. Bentley of Walnut Bridge, Mo., and Olga M. Sheeley of Cape Girardeau, Mo.; seven grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Crestview Baptist Church General Fund in Midland.

George Walton

ODESSA — Services for George Alexander Walton, 80, are to be at 11 a.m. today at Westover Baptist

Church with the Revs. Terry Wright and Emmett Barnard officiating. Burial is to follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens under the direction of Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home.

He died Tuesday at an Odessa hospital.

Walton was born Sept. 20, 1913, in Eastland County.

He married Georgia Lea Melton on March 8, 1940, in Nolan County. She preceded him in death on Dec. 15, 1984.

Walton had lived in Odessa since 1947. He was a retired operator for Sid Richardson carbon black plant. He was a member and deacon at Westover Baptist Church.

Survivors include six daughters, Ruth Carlton and Oleta Campbell, both of Odessa, Ann Henderson of Farmington, N.M., Rosie Lea Miller of Grandview, Alma Donaghe of Austin and Barbara Louise Kennedy of Krum; four brothers, Lee Walton of Odessa, Jimmy Walton of Sweetwater, Wayne Walton of Texas and H.L. Walton of Abilene; three sisters, Ada Sanders and Betty Shuler, both of Sweetwater, and Louise Wilson of Atlanta; and 15 grandchildren.

Ava Oglesby

Services for Ava S. Oglesby of Midland are to be at 11 a.m. Monday at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Bob Porterfield, of West Kentucky Baptist Church, officiating. Burial is to be Tuesday at Goldwaithe. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Mrs. Oglesby died Monday at a local nursing care center.

A.G. McCarver

Graveside services for A.G. "Mack" McCarver of Midland are to be at 2 p.m. today at Resthaven Memorial Park with the Rev. Charles Hageman, of St. Paul's Anglican Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

McCarver died Monday at a local hospital.

WASTE: Two states cite storage woes

(From 1B)

All medical waste in Texas is supposed to be carried in leak-proof trailers with the company's license number displayed on both sides and on the back, Long said. In the Oklahoma incident, the trailer was reportedly leased from a private company and abandoned.

There were numerous problems found in the Collective Resources documentation, according to an Odessa TNRCC official. "Some were minor, some were not so minor," the official said.

According to the New Mexico lawsuit, CRI falsified dates on similar documentation and hired a carrier who was not registered to carry medical waste in New Mexico.

In Texas, a hearing on the status of the illegally stored medical waste is scheduled for Jan. 18, Dusek said.

Greytok files land office bid

Staff Report

AUSTIN — Marta Greytok, Republican candidate for the General Land Office, officially filed for the office on Wednesday.

Ms. Greytok filed on Dec. 22 because the agency and post of land commissioner were created on Dec. 22, 1836, and she wanted to emphasize the importance of the office.

"Texans own 20.5 million acres of land and approximately 18,000 oil and gas wells," she said. "Astute management of these resources is essential as they are the fuel for the Permanent University Fund and the Permanent School Fund whose income is distributed to schools and universities for the education of our children."

"My highest priority as your land commissioner will be to protect our heritage and provide for Texas' future through sound management of our lands," she said.

Ms. Greytok is a former public utility commissioner, mayor of Taylor Lake Village and chairwoman of the Harris County Central Appraisal District.

Churches plan special services

Staff Report

Several Midland churches have scheduled services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

■ Grace Lutheran Church, 3000 W. Golf Course Road, has set two Christmas Eve services.

The communion service is at 7 p.m. Friday and Christmas Day service is at 10 a.m. Saturday.

■ First United Methodist Church, Main Street at Ohio Avenue, will hold three services Christmas Eve.

The first service is at 4 p.m. and will be a family-oriented service geared for young children.

At 5:30 p.m., the annual Carol and Candles Service will be held.

A service of Holy Communion will be celebrated at 10:30 p.m.

■ The Permian Church of Religious Science, 2311 Elizabeth Ave., will hold a Candle Lighting Service at 7 p.m. Friday.

■ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 3309 W. Neely Ave., has scheduled two Christmas services.

The Christmas Eve service is set for 7:30 p.m. Friday.

A Christmas Day service of lessons and carols will be presented at 10 a.m. Saturday.

■ Trinity Presbyterian Church, Louisiana Avenue at Andrews Highway, has scheduled two Christmas Eve services.

HUTCHISON: Senator seeks change

(From 1B)

has heard more arguments on one of her motions to dismiss the indictments against her. He scheduled the pre-trial hearing to resume Tuesday.

Much of Wednesday's testimony dealt with Mrs. Hutchison's claim that she could not get a fair trial in Austin because of publicity about the case.

Mrs. Hutchison, a Republican, was indicted on charges that while state treasurer she used state employees and state equipment for her personal benefit and then destroyed records as a coverup. The charges carry a maximum sentence of 51 years in prison.

She has denied any wrongdoing and says the accusations are part of a Democratic plot to foil her reelection bid.

Her attorney, Dick DeGuerin, said much of the local media coverage about the case had been negative and spurred by the Travis County district attorney's office. A "politically charged atmosphere"

existed that would prevent Mrs. Hutchison from getting a fair trial in Austin, he said.

"This is one of the most publicized cases accusing a person of wrongdoing that I can think of," he said. "This case has, rightly or wrongly, become notorious."

In a sworn statement filed earlier, Mrs. Hutchison said, "There is a dangerous combination against me instigated by influential persons in Travis County, by reason of which I cannot expect a fair trial."

Steve McCleery, Travis County first assistant district attorney, denied the office gave news leaks to the media about the case. "This is a politically charged case because the defense has made it that way," he said.

More than a dozen people, including media representatives, Mayor Bruce Todd, workers and volunteers, testified that they believed Mrs. Hutchison could get a fair trial in Austin.

"This is a community of open-minded, fair-minded people,"

McCleery said.

A poll commissioned by the district attorney's office found that 80 percent of the people in Travis County thought Mrs. Hutchison could receive a fair trial there. The poll, taken last weekend, surveyed 402 registered voters in Travis County. The poll cost \$5,000, according to testimony.

In later action, Mrs. Hutchison's legal team argued that the indictments against her were too vague. But prosecutors disagreed, saying the charges were specific.

Onion, former presiding judge of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, then recessed the hearing until Tuesday.

Onion has rejected earlier motions by Mrs. Hutchison to dismiss her charges, after she alleged the indictments were brought by a predominantly Democratic grand jury and politically motivated district attorney.

Mrs. Hutchison has said she wants a trial before the Senate reconvenes Jan. 25.

GOLD: Some worry about reputation

(From 1B)

"There's no procedures to demote anyone ... it's not done. That's why we have to look to the advice of our general counsel," Henry said Wednesday.

Bockris was not immediately available for comment, but he previously has denied wrongdoing. His A&M colleagues made their feelings known in the petition.

"We believe that Bockris' recent activities have made the terms 'Texas A&M' and 'Aggie' objects of derisive laughter throughout the world among scientists and engineers, not to mention a large segment of the lay public," the petition stated.

"The 'Alchemy' caper is, everywhere, a sure trigger for sniggering at our university. And so it should be. For a trained scientist to claim, or support anyone else's claim, to have transmuted elements is difficult for us to believe and is no more acceptable than to claim to have invented a gravity shield, revived the dead, or to be mining green cheese on the moon," the petition stated.

E. Dean Gage, interim president of Texas A&M University, has ordered an internal inquiry into the project. Other academics have termed the project scientific fraud, noting that it was underwritten by a man later charged with unrelated federal securities fraud.

University officials also have said they are trying to determine whether the project headed by Bockris violated professional standards or improperly spent money intended to pay for research. The university is investigating its own process of handling donations for such research projects.

All of those who signed the petition are distinguished professors, the highest honor bestowed by the university on its top faculty members. They included Herb Richardson and Perry Adkisson, both former chancellors of the Texas A&M University System; Frank Vandiver, former president of A&M; and Sir Derek Barton, a Nobel laureate in chemistry.

GUNS: NRA analyzes decision's impact

(From 1B)

handguns on the premises." Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., a sponsor of the new federal law to require a five-day waiting period to allow for background checks for handgun purchases, praised Wal-Mart for the move.

"Wal-Mart deserves a lot of credit," Schumer said. "They are combining good citizenship and corporate responsibility. It's a great holiday gift for all Americans."

But Richard Gardiner, legislative counsel for the National Rifle Association, said the change will "open up opportunities for other retailers."

Family members of a slain Texas couple are suing Wal-Mart, saying store employees were negligent when they sold a .38-caliber handgun to the couple's son, who acknowledged on the required federal reporting form that he had

been treated for mental problems.

Mike Alford used the gun to kill his parents on Sept. 18. Alford hanged himself in jail after his arrest.

On Friday, a gunman used a rifle purchased at a pawnshop to kill two people in a Wal-Mart parking lot in Hugo, Okla. The man killed himself.

POLICE REPORTS

Shooting

ODESSA — An Odessa woman was in stable condition at Medical Center Hospital Wednesday after being shot in the abdomen at her residence.

Carolyn Massey, 34, was shot about noon in the yard at 5200 Locust St., according to police officials. Officials arrested Lucy Yarber Cleaver, 66, about 6:45 p.m. Wednesday at her residence, 5112 Locust St.

Ms. Cleaver was charged with attempted murder and bond was set at \$50,000.

Officials said no motive had been established for the shooting, adding that Ms. Cleaver was yelling at Ms. Massey before she shot her.

Car accident

ODESSA — A two-vehicle accident left an Odessa man in critical condition at Medical Center Hospital Wednesday.

According to a police report, a 1990 Buick, driven by 73-year-old Aime Moyaert, was southbound on Tanglewood St., about noon. A 1989 Ford Probe, driven by 16-year-old Cindy Vidal of Odessa, was eastbound on University St. when it turned north on Tanglewood and the two vehicles hit head on.

Moyaert was transported to the hospital with major injuries, including a collapsed lung. Miss Vidal was transported with minor injuries.

Police said no charges had been filed in the case.

Drug arrest

ODESSA — Permian Basin Drug Task Force and Ector County Sheriff's officials arrested an Odessa man Wednesday after marijuana was found in his vehicle.

According to a report, officials stopped a vehicle about 3 p.m. on Interstate-20, two miles west of Odessa, and seized about 50 pounds of marijuana, valued at \$125,000.

Emilio Portillo Soto, 24, was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana.

Wednesday

Burglary of a Vehicle: Thomas Stinson reported a cassette stereo and a ladies purse containing credit cards and money taken from a vehicle at 811 W. Golf Course Rd. at 7:27 a.m.

Burglary of a Residence: Sharita Broom reported a purse taken from the residence at 601 George Ave., #87, at 8:53 a.m.

Burglary of a Vehicle: Linda Whitaker reported assorted stereo equipment taken from a vehicle at 2409 Emerson Ct. at 8:32 a.m.

Vandalism: Sergio Villas reported someone tampering with a valve on a water heater, which flooded the residence at 116 S. Dewberry Dr. at 9:20 a.m.

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'Christmas Lady' opens her home to children, curious folks

By Al Brumley
Associated Press

DALLAS — June Arnold claims that in this special house, there is no religious symbolism.

That depends on your idea of religion.

True enough, amid the hundreds of figurines, ornaments and wreaths decorating her home, there is but one Nativity scene, set discreetly on one side of the dining room.

But look closer and note that the porcelain figurines kneeling around the Christ child are children themselves.

Even if you don't notice it, Mrs. Arnold will tell you, because this is important to her.

Yes, she is known in her north-west Dallas neighborhood as the Christmas Lady, and for good reason. But this is a fantasy house created each year with the idea that children of all backgrounds

can use a little wonder in their lives.

"I leave the religion to the rabbis, Billy Graham and Jimmy Swaggart," says Mrs. Arnold, 61, laughing joyously. "Oh yeah, and Robert Tilton, too. I guess we ought to throw him in. I don't know anything about religion. I'm appealing to the little folks."

Each year, Mrs. Arnold opens her home to groups of handicapped and retarded children from area schools. She also welcomes the curious who want to admire the outside of her home in the 9200 block of Midway Road, but she has had to cut back on letting strangers inside.

One year, she says, a family barged right in without asking permission. "I heard a noise in one of the rooms, and there they were just standing around," she says.

Hardly an inch of the house remains untouched by Mrs. Arnold's imagination. Each flat surface has

been transformed into a snow scene populated by brightly colored ceramic characters.

Almost every room contains a beautifully decorated tree. Garlands drape each doorway and mantel, intertwined with ribbons and speckled with glass ornaments. Baskets of candy sit just inside the front door. Dozens of Santas rest on bookshelves, counter tops and tables.

Walk into one of the bathrooms and a motion sensor trips a music box that plays Christmas songs. The toilet paper is printed with holly.

A window seat at the front of the house is filled with a Santa Claus roller coaster. A train, complete with sound effects, circles the large tree in the front living room. In the same room, Santa Claus can be seen from the waist down standing in the fireplace.

The attention to detail is overwhelming. In a miniature Santa's

workshop, Bullwinkle the Moose sits in a corner reading a tiny newspaper. The cupboards are lined with cans and boxes affixed with genuine, miniature labels.

One shelf in a back room is devoted to mice, Mrs. Arnold points out. Then, gesturing to the shelf directly above the mice, she lets you in on an inside joke. "And of course, if you have a mouse house, you've got to have a cat house," she says.

Sure enough, the higher shelf is teeming with miniature cats.

Outside, Mrs. Arnold's husband of 44 years, David, has festooned the yard with a sleigh, reindeer, carolers, animals of all sorts and enough lights to guide in a jumbo jet.

Mrs. Arnold admits that when she began "doing this big-time" in 1969, her husband wasn't too keen on the idea. Since then, however, he has succumbed to her holiday passion, although their bedroom is

"the last to go up and the first to go down," she says.

She usually begins decorating in August and has everything up by Halloween. "It's an awesome job," she says, "but somebody has to do it."

She admits that after the first of the year, it's tempting to leave everything up. "But the postman thinks I'm crazy anyway," she said. "I chased him around the yard with a sheet on one year at Halloween. If he saw my house decorated up all year, he'd really think I was crazy."

She does keep one room decorated year-round, though. It's a guest room where her grandchildren sleep when they visit; she and her husband raised three children. At the flip of a switch, about a dozen elves lined up along the front of a chest of drawers begin playing carols by tapping tiny bells.

A Christmas tree in the corner is decorated with pictures of chil-

dren whom Mrs. Arnold has known. A brightly colored quilt with pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Claus drapes the bed, and ceramic figures of Santa and his elves take up every other space.

Mrs. Arnold jokes that she only keeps the room decorated because she's run out of storage space. But she also acknowledges that it's a special room for her. "I just think it's cute," she says. "I like to look at it."

As to why she goes to so much trouble every year, Mrs. Arnold has a simple answer: "Because I can, and because I want to."

"Life's too short, and death is too long," she says. "You only go around once, and if you play your cards right, that's enough."

And as for the children, if their religion includes selflessness, generosity and kindness, they will find it in abundance at the Arnold home.

Spielberg taps Texas boys for movie

FORT WORTH (AP) — Twila Kemp has been calling her sons little rascals for years. Apparently, Steven Spielberg agrees.

Spielberg tapped Ms. Kemp's sons, Brandon "Bug" Hall and Gemini Cea Barnett, to play Alfalfa and Porky in his new movie, "Little Rascals," based on the popular 1930s kids group.

Bug, 8, and Gemini, 3, will fly to Los Angeles Monday and begin filming Jan. 11.

"It's so strange," the boys' elated mother told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "I know that this is happening; I just can't imagine what I'm heading for because we've never been there."

Several friends and relatives urged the family to try out when filmmakers held an October talent search in Dallas, one of eight open auditions held nationwide.

Bug, who dyed his blond hair brown and showed up dressed like Alfalfa, was called for a second audition, then summoned by Universal Studios to go to Hollywood.

The studio also mentioned they were still looking for someone to play Porky, Ms. Kemp said.

So Bug's manager, Mary Stein, sent pictures of Gemini to the studio in mid-November and followed it with a videotape of the youngster reading lines.

The brothers were flown to Hollywood Dec. 13 for six-hour final auditions. The next day, they got the good news.

"I knew I would (get the part) because at first I only had to go against two people," Bug said. "I've gone against more people than that before, so I knew I would make it."

"All I have to do is try my hardest and I can make it."

Bug got his nickname, which he prefers more than Brandon, as an infant crawling around his mother's day-care center. She warned the kids to be careful not to "squish the little bug."

Bug, a third-grader, has appeared in a theater school's production of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" and "Merry Halloween." He performs monthly at Billy Bob's Texas, the world's largest honky-tonk, and has appeared in several commercials.

Gemini's hiring is much more of a surprise considering he's never acted or even shown much interest in doing so, his mother said.

"Wait a second; we are he-men," Gemini said, repeating his audition lines.

Ms. Kemp realizes the opportunity now facing her children but says she's trying to keep things in perspective.

"Them being grounded and keeping Fort Worth in mind is more important to me than for them to be Hollywood and big-time," she said. "I'd rather be poor and have well-behaved kids than movie-star brats."

Officials: Overcrowded jails promote chaos

LAREDO (AP) — A riot that destroyed buildings in a Webb County detention center this week was the fifth major disturbance at a Texas county jail since October.

State and county officials blame the overflow of 22,000 state prisoners awaiting beds in the penitentiary system.

The Texas Commission on Jail Standards says 60 county jails currently are stuffed 120 percent beyond capacity, or higher. And the riot Monday night at the Webb County Detention Center will make things even worse, prison officials say.

At least 10 inmates and a sheriff's deputy were injured in the disturbance at the Laredo facility. Inmates set fires that destroyed the kitchen, law library and administrative offices, according to the county sheriff's department.

Due to the damage, the 430 inmates had to be transferred into state facilities — a move that will further clog already backlogged county jails and likely cause more delays in sending other inmates to prisons.

"Over the next couple of weeks, there could be some interruptions or changes in accepting inmates from other counties to offset this," Andy Collins, executive director of the state prison system, was quoted as saying in Wednesday editions of The Dallas Morning

News.

In Dallas County, 9,200 inmates are currently crammed into cells designed for 6,600.

Incidents in overcrowded jails, or in jails where inmates have been held for long periods, are multiplying at an alarming rate, said Jack Crump, executive director of the jail standards commission.

"We're being choked by the numbers," said Allan Polunsky, a member of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, in a story by the San Antonio Express-News.

"We can't sustain many more actions such as the one that occurred in Webb County," said Polunsky, who last month urged Gov. Ann Richards to call a special session of the Legislature to authorize funding for 50,000 new state prison beds.

"We need 40,000 or 50,000 new beds immediately ... we can't wait for the next session (of the Legislature)," Polunsky said.

The Webb County riot was the most serious so far this year. But jail officials have contended with other flare-ups, including:

■ On March 23, inmates went on a daylong rampage after losing television privileges at the Limestone County Detention Center in Groesbeck, a privately run jail for 475 prisoners.

■ On Oct. 4, about 32 inmates

jailed in Athens began a riot, breaking 15 windows, a television and a radio.

■ On Nov. 3, inmates raged for a day, throwing food trays and breaking televisions at the Montgomery County jail in Conroe. At the time, 800 inmates were crowded into cells designed to hold 580.

■ A day later, inmates in the Midland County jail filed a federal lawsuit alleging that overcrowding subjected them to gang fights. A fight at the jail shortly after the lawsuit sent eight inmates to hospitals.

■ On Dec. 9, inmates in an overcrowded cell started a fire in the Taylor County jail in Abilene. Of the 14 prisoners involved, most were state inmates. The jail is holding 570 inmates in cells designed to hold 232.

Federal wildlife officials wrestle with Texas butterfly poachers

McALLEN (AP) — An indictment of three men accused of poaching butterflies on federally protected lands demonstrates the scope of the illegal trade, a wildlife official says.

"It is a big problem," said Larry Narcisse, manager of Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge near Alamo. "Lots of people collect butterflies. There is an international trade in butterflies."

A federal grand jury in California has indicted three men on charges of poaching on public lands, including the Santa Ana refuge and Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park west of Mission.

The men are accused of operating a poaching ring that trafficked in protected and endangered wildlife throughout the western United States and Mexico.

Indicted were Richard J. Skalski, 38, of Redwood City, Calif.; Thomas W. Kral, 29, of Tucson, Ariz.; and Marc L. Grinnell, 39, of Santa Rosa, Calif.

Authorities said searches of the men's homes uncovered 189 butterflies labeled as taken from the Santa Ana refuge and 134 from Bentsen park.

The men are accused of taking more than 2,200 butterflies protected by law in the United States and

Mexico over a period of nine years, federal authorities say. More than 210 of the butterflies were protected under the federal Endangered Species Act.

If convicted, each defendant would face up to five years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine.

"Some people may think that insects are not important," Narcisse said. "But the food base of most animals starts with the small creatures."

In many cases, one species of insect is the main food source of another. If the one is wiped out, the other is endangered, he said.

Santa Ana and Bentsen have several butterfly species — including the Malachite, the Zebra Long Wing and the Crimson Long Wing — that are not commonly found elsewhere in the United States.

Poachers sell the butterflies to collectors who will sometimes pay hundreds of dollars for a single specimen, Narcisse said.

With so few natural habitats remaining in many areas today, federal lands often are the only places certain species of butterflies are found, Narcisse said.

At Santa Ana, people try to fish illegally, remove Spanish moss from trees and dig up or harvest various plants.

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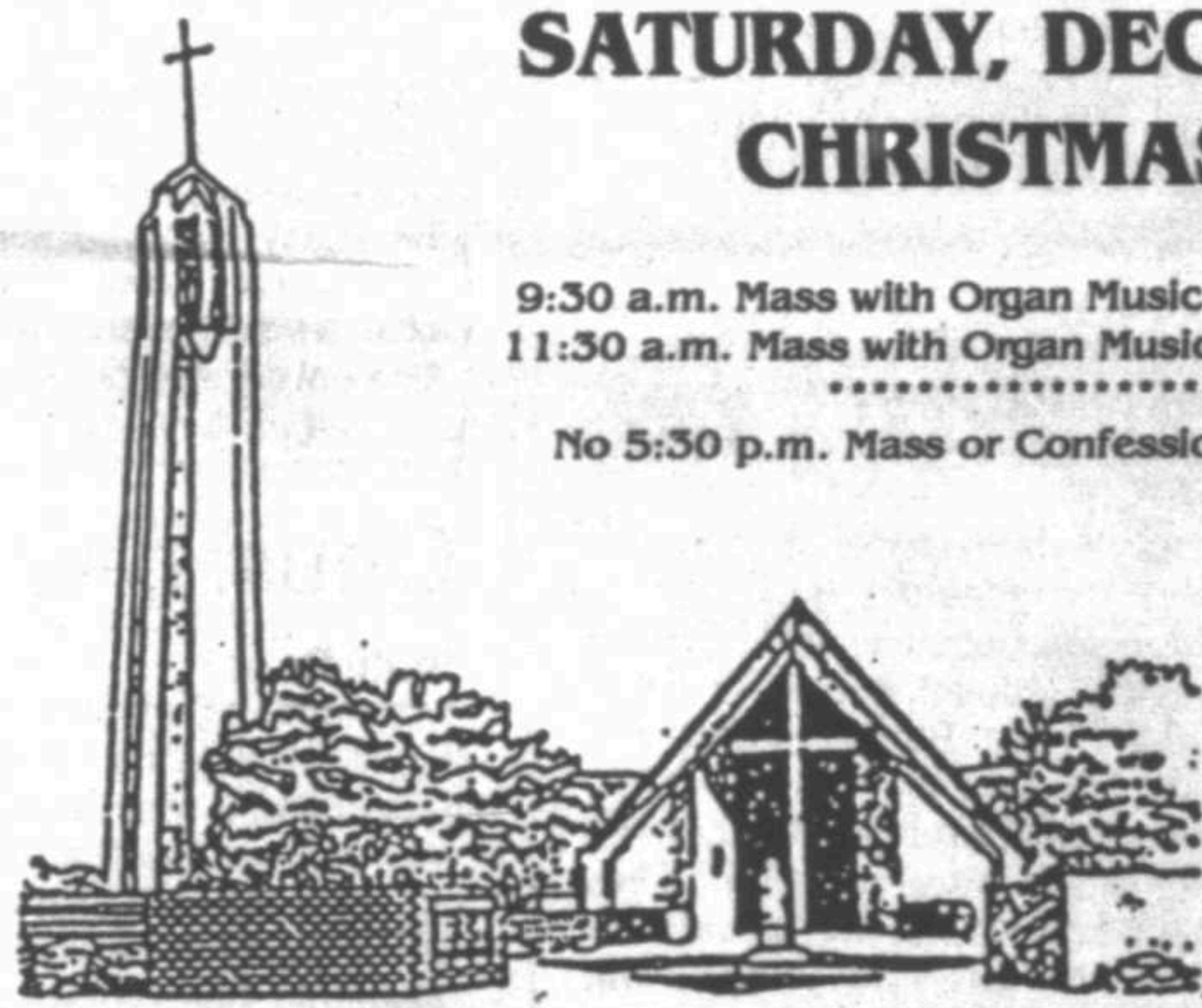
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- 8:00 p.m. Vigil Mass with traditional Christmas music by St. Ann's Folk Choir.
- 12:00 Midnight Mass preceded by special music at 11:15 p.m. by the Cantate Domino Choir, strings & brass

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Family buries man who was killed in parking lot shooting spree

By Ted Bridis
Associated Press

RATTAN, Okla. — The deaths of a man fatally shot with his wife by a gunman who opened fire in a shopping center parking lot were "the work of the devil," a minister told mourners Wednesday.

About 75 people gathered beneath a wooden portico at a rural cemetery in Rattan, about 20 miles from Hugo, for the services of rancher Luke Shehan, 52.

Shehan and his wife, Mary, died Friday when gunman David Mack Flinn bought a rifle at a pawn shop

in Hugo, then hours later opened fire in the nearby Wal-Mart parking lot. The Shehans were Christmas shopping.

Flinn wounded three others before he killed himself.

The Rev. Pete Green urged mourners not to blame God for the killings.

"It's not God's will for any person to perish," he said. "Life is very uncertain. Sometimes we wonder, 'Why does God let these kinds of things take place?'"

"God does not handle man like we are some kind of puppets. God

gives us freedom. This (death) is the work of the devil."

Shehan's only son, Roy Shehan of an earlier marriage, sobbed before the open casket, comforted by his mother standing next to him. Shehan also had eight daughters, including a 14-year-old with Mrs. Shehan.

Shehan's granddaughter, Charlene Rosson, lifted her 3-year-old cousin, Erin Shehan, to her grandfather's casket so Erin could lay a carnation on his chest. A black cowboy hat was buried with Shehan.

The open portico offered no comfort against a biting winter chill.

A large wreath topped with a dozen red carnations called Shehan "Our beloved cowboy." Green said the couple loved their grandchildren, loved the outdoors, loved to hunt and fish.

Mrs. Shehan was buried Tuesday in Paris, Texas, where her family lives. Flinn also was buried Tuesday in Paris.

Shehan is survived by one son; eight daughters, Donna Leneal Shehan, 14; Janice Elaine Glass of Rattan; Barbara Shehan Allen of

California; Delores Annette Langley of Arthur City, Texas; Deborah Ann Shehan of Miami, Fla.; Janette Moore, Mary Charlotte Hines and Alice Amanda Swan, all of Paris, Texas.

Also, his mother, Irene Jump of California; two brothers, Tex Roy Shehan and Lonnie Jump, both of California; four sisters, Dorothy Black and Marie Jump, both of California; Lizzie Mae Williams of Texas; and Elaine Lee of Hugo; and nine grandchildren.

Flinn's sister issued an apology after the shootings.

Mrs. Shehan's brother, who attended Shehan's funeral, said he wanted to make clear the family does not blame Flinn's family.

"I don't know about Luke's kids, but I've talked to my three nieces.

We don't hold Wal-Mart responsible, and we don't hold Mack Flinn's family responsible," said Clark Moore of Paris. "That's something the boy did on his own."

"I've lost all I can lose. I don't hold a grudge against those people. I don't forgive her brother, but I don't hold them responsible for his actions."

Crop weather in Texas was anything but average, officials say

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — The crop weather in Texas this year was anything but average, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service reports.

A cold front sweeping through the state will bring clear skies and colder temperatures through Friday evening, according to Jim Nelson, with the National Weather Service Agricultural Service Center.

Continued clear skies should allow Panhandle producers to complete their cotton harvests. Strong westerly winds Saturday will begin to increase temperatures statewide, but not before nighttime lows drop 10 degrees by Friday, leaving North Texas with lows in the teens and South Texas in the lower 40s, Nelson said.

Muddy pastures kept livestock miserable during much of the first half of 1993, as storm system after storm system blew in week after week. A stable jet stream between Alaska and California delivered Arctic air blasts through the month of January that kept Texas cold and sloppy.

As a result, wheat producers in Southwest Texas missed the "window" for

winter planting, the agency said.

Although Panhandle producers had wheat in the ground, the cold weather retarded its growth. Near Dallas, wheat and small grain fields had nitrogen deficiencies because the water pushed it below the root line where plants couldn't utilize it.

Soggy fields prevented cotton producers in northern portions of the state from finishing their harvests. Five percent to 10 percent of the cotton crop remained in the field until the jet stream shifted in late January and allowed intrusions of warmer, drier weather for harvesting.

That slight break in the weather pattern allowed Panhandle producers to plant wheat, and Southwest Texas farmers to plant their row crops. Cattle were able to recover slightly; however sub-freezing temperatures in the Rolling Plains were hard on newborn calves.

Some South Texas crops actually benefited from the soaking rainfall. Sugarcane producers in Willacy County realized one of their best years for sugar production. Not only did they have

large sugarcane yields, but they also had high yields of sugar processed from the cane.

Fruit crops in East Texas took a licking from a hard freeze in mid-March. Temperatures in the teens killed the blueberry crop in Northeast Texas, and in East Texas, temperatures in the low 20s took out 90 percent to 100 percent of the crop.

As the year ends, grapefruit yields should be the best in recent years as the crop continues to recover from the 1989 freeze, according to the agency.

Pecan producers also have excellent yields, but since prices are so low, pecans remaining on trees may not be harvested. Livestock producers continue to feed their cattle because forage is sparse. Some ranchers are still culling herds.

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by district Extension directors for the week ending Dec. 21:

PANHANDLE: Soil moisture short to adequate. Range cattle good; receiving supplemental feed. Stockers making good gains; wheat providing average

grazing. Wheat crop delayed by cool, dry weather. Sugar beet harvest active.

SOUTH PLAINS: Soil moisture short to very short. Livestock still requiring supplemental feed. Pastures, small grains still extremely dry. Cotton harvest winding down. Preparing land for next year's crops.

ROLLING PLAINS: Soil moisture adequate to short. Cattle mostly good. Supplemental feeding continues. Wheat pastures slowly responding to rain; more needed. Cotton harvest almost complete. Some insect activity in wheat.

NORTH TEXAS: Soil moisture surplus to adequate. Livestock fair to good. Pastures, ranges excellent to poor. Wheat 95 to 100 percent planted; 90 to 100 percent emerged. Oats 35 to 100 percent planted. Peanuts 95 to 100 percent harvested. Pecans 60 to 100 percent harvested.

EAST TEXAS: Soil moisture adequate. Cattle good; being supplemented. Hay short. Good progress in winter pastures. Wheat 95 percent emerged. Active grazing in oats. Winter vegetables good. Pecan harvest complete;

good quality.

FAR WEST TEXAS: Soil moisture very short to adequate. Livestock fair to good. Pastures, ranges, wheat very poor to good. Red pepper (chili) harvest nearly complete. Pecan yields good to average; quality good to below normal; prices low.

WEST CENTRAL TEXAS: Soil moisture very short to adequate. Livestock, good. Pastures, ranges declining. Fall lambs average to good. Insect pressure heavy in wheat. Peanuts harvested; good yields, grades. Pecan harvest nearly complete; yields poor.

CENTRAL TEXAS: Soil moisture adequate. Heavy feeding of livestock in progress. Small grain pastures providing grazing for cattle. Pecan harvest slowing down; yields have been low.

SOUTHEAST TEXAS: Soil moisture adequate. Feeding cattle. Fall calving under way. Pastures fair. Small grains look good; supplies still short; providing fertilization. Preparing land for spring vegetable crops. Planting field crops.

SOUTHWEST TEXAS: Soil moisture very short to adequate. Livestock good.

Authorities charge two teens in death of youth

HOUSTON (AP) — Authorities have charged two teenagers in the slaying of a youth whose body remained in the woods for nearly a month even though several friends knew he was dead.

The 16- and 17-year-old youths have been charged in the death of Robbie Bayley, 18, whose body was found in the woods of a west Houston park in August.

His body was not immediately identified because he had not been reported missing. It wasn't until after Bayley's skeleton was identified that investigators learned several teenagers knew about his death but didn't tell.

"There were probably half a dozen kids who knew of the murder and had seen the body," said homicide Sgt. A.J. Toepel.

Toepel said the 16-year-old was charged about a month ago and is being held under psychiatric care.

The 17-year-old, a juvenile at the time of the killing, was arrested Tuesday night after he returned from Harlingen,

where he was expelled from a military academy.

Investigators suspect Bayley was lured into the woods in mid-July and hit in the head with a blunt object.

"It's been insinuated that it was over narcotics," Toepel said. "We were told acid. The talk is that he stole some from them."

After the killing, Bayley's body remained in the woods until mid-August, when two boys found the skeleton. Even then, no one knew whose skeleton it was.

Bayley's parents didn't suspect the skeleton was that of their son because he had been known to disappear for weeks.

But when Bayley didn't call home on Sept. 8 — his 19th birthday — the parents and other relatives became worried. They called many of his friends before one girl told them, "Oh, he's dead."

The parents called police, and they later received an anonymous call advising them to match Bayley's dental records with the skeleton.

Would-be suitors compete for cowgirl's hand

By Hollace Weiner
N.Y. Times News Service

FORT WORTH — Fort Worth is attempting to snare the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center, the financially strapped museum that is closing shop in the feed-lot Texas Panhandle town of Hereford because it's outgrown its home.

The 19-year-old hall of fame, which keeps alive the spirit of western women such as Annie Oakley and pioneer Mary Ann Goodnight, has received offers to re-settle in five states and at least a dozen Texas towns, including aggressive bids from Abilene, Amarillo and the governor of New Mexico.

The Fort Worth team hoping to bring the heritage center here is backed by philanthropist Anne Waggoner Marion, owner of the sprawling West Texas 6666 Ranch, and billionaire Ed Bass, whose business interests range from Fort Worth's Sundance Square to the realm of ranching.

Grounding their bid on the premise that Fort Worth is where the west begins, the local team has proposed renovating into a museum the 81-year-old, red-brick horse and mule barn in the city's Stockyards National Historic District.

The annual Cowtown Cowgirl Classic rodeo, scheduled Dec. 31-Jan. 2, could also be turned into a week-long event capped by induction ceremonies into the Cowgirl Hall of Fame.

A package with the full pitch and letters from the mayor and city council is being put together by the Chamber of Commerce economic development department.

Hub Baker, general manager of Fort Worth's Cowtown Coliseum, said the Hall of Fame would help the city economically by anchoring a portion of Stockyard's Station, the brick-floored livestock pens that were built in 1911 and recently converted into a market place

mall.

"I don't know any city or site that's going to compare with what the Stockyards has to offer — not only with its 1.3 million visitors a year but with the authenticity of the surrounding western lifestyle," said rodeo broadcaster Shelly Burmeister, a Cowgirl Hall of Fame member who is the go-between for the folks in Hereford and Cowtown.

Baker added: "It's a natural."

But competing towns from Kansas to Wyoming argue they too have western allure and tourists.

Cowgirl Hall of Fame founder and director Margaret Formby has asked that written proposals be submitted around Jan. 15.

It was Baker who assembled the local team that's competing for the heritage center. And it was a chance phone call that transformed the rodeo manager into a museum promoter.

His phone call, two months ago, was to Mitzi Lucas Riley, the Aledo, Texas, rancher and former trick rider whose mother, Tad Lucas, was a world champion rodeo competitor and 1978 inductee into the Cowgirl Hall of Fame.

Riley said that the hall of fame was running out of money and space to display its collection of cowgirl clothing and saddles, pioneer memoirs and frontier art.

"I said it belongs in Fort Worth," said Riley. "Before the days of the automobile and the trailer... this was winter headquarters for rodeo people."

Baker replied: "I have just the place for it."

In quick time, Baker rounded up business, civic, municipal and ranching hands.

In Hereford, a West Texas town of 15,000 in Deaf Smith County, the hall of fame draws an average of 3,000-5,000 visitors a year. Movie producers from Japan, England and Norway have trekked to the center's rambling, 6,000-square-foot house to research details of wo-

men's daily life in the frontier west.

"I really feel like we're giving up something that's a national treasure," said Wenonah Barringer, a parttime researcher and one of the center's two paid employees. "But we can't keep it going. At least they gave it birth here."

The center's 120 inductees include Narcissa Whitman, who traveled the Oregon Trail; Dixie Mosely, the first female rodeo clown, and Oklahoma writer Angie Debo, the early 20th century biographer of the great Apache war leader Geronimo.

Besides Burmeister, Fort Worth area women in the Hall of Fame include rodeo secretary and timekeeper Francis "Flaxie" Fletcher of Lake Worth, trick rider Jerry Ann Portwood Taylor of Graham, and the late Tad Lucas, a World Champion Cowgirl.

"We have a wonderful rare book library with books by and about women — not just cowgirls," said former office manager Sidney Hamer. "Missionaries. Artists. Writers. Wives and mothers."

Perhaps the strongest out-of-state competitor is for the hall of fame is New Mexico Gov. Bruce King, whose office phoned and wrote the western heritage center to back bids coming in from Santa Fe and Ruidoso. To counter the New Mexico governor's weight, Texas Gov. Ann Richards sent a letter urging that the collection remain in Texas, Barringer said.

In Amarillo, Bobby Lee, co-owner of the Big Texan Steak Ranch, has pleaded with the Cowgirl Hall of Fame not to vacate the Panhandle.

"I'd hate to lose it," said Lee, whose preliminary drawings envision a 10,000-square-foot Cowgirl Hall of Fame museum that would be connected to his restaurant on Interstate 40.

The 32-year-old eatery, which advertises its 72-ounce steak on billboards from Colorado to Kansas — the dinner is free if you can eat it all in an hour — draws 300,000 diners annually.

Police: Drunken driver hits officer who's aiding motorist

FORT WORTH (AP) — A 55-year-old Dallas man with a history of drunk driving convictions was arrested Wednesday after slamming into a Fort Worth police officer who was helping a stranded motorist.

Officer Allen Chick, a 10-year force veteran, was listed in critical condition Wednesday afternoon in the intensive care unit of John Peter Smith Hospital.

Chick, 34, suffered head injuries when Eugene Standerford hit the officer shortly before 4 a.m. on Southeast Loop 820 in Fort Worth, said Lt. P.J. Knebllick.

Standerford, 55, was charged with felony driving while intoxicated. He was being held in the Tarrant County Jail on \$5,000 bond.

Standerford, who was not injured, failed a field sobriety test

given by Fort Worth officers, Knebllick said.

"We haven't gotten (blood-alcohol test) results back yet; however, the DWI officers on scene said he showed visible signs of intoxication," Knebllick said.

Knebllick said she was still trying to gather Standerford's previous DWI arrest record.

"He has previous DWI convictions, but I don't know how many. There's more than one because Dallas has pictures of him, so apparently he's been arrested there," she said. "Officers at the scene said he has convictions in other states, but we don't know whether they're final convictions."

The stranded driver, who sustained minor injuries, called for help on the officer's police radio. Her male passenger was not hurt.

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Colorado malls cancel Santa displays following death threats

By Molly Hall
Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Even Santa may not be safe anymore. At least eight malls have sent him packing because of death threats by someone who called him a "fatso" and an "impostor."

The anonymous threats, by mail and by fax, referred to a shooting rampage that left four people dead at a suburban Chuck E Cheese pizza restaurant last week.

"Time is running out on that fatso," one letter said. "By Thursday, he will be history along with anybody that gets in my way. Chucky Cheese was nothing compared to this Terminator."

The FBI is investigating the threats, said police Detective Edward Thomas. Postal investigators also are involved, said Verne St. Vincent, the police division chief in suburban Aurora,

where the four people were shot at the restaurant last week.

Children left malls teary-eyed Wednesday after hearing that they wouldn't be able to whisper their Christmas dreams to Santa. Some malls posted signs near empty chairs that said Santa had returned to the North Pole for urgent business. Other signs suggested youngsters send letters to Santa.

"I wanted to sit in his lap and tell him what I wanted, a pair of rollerblades and my own phone, but he went to the North Pole," 8-year-old Kelli Sauer said at Denver's downtown Tabor Center.

Tomi Anne Wilson, a Santa helper at Cherry Creek Shopping Center, said: "I really feel bad. I have to tell these kids that Santa is too busy this year, he can't come to the mall."

The threats began arriving at malls on Dec. 14, authorities said. The Santas were removed from shopping centers in Denver, Littleton, Westminster, Au-

ra, North Glenn, Englewood and Jefferson County after follow-up threats were faxed to several malls Monday.

In one letter sent to the Cherry Creek mall and signed "Terminator XX," the writer called Santa an impostor and warned he would shoot him if he were not removed from the mall.

"I mean it! You don't know the horrible things I am capable of," the letter said. "I am expert marksman. I have got guns and ammo enough to kill 100 people. I killed people in Nam. I am not afraid to kill again."

The letter continued, "Christmas should be a time to rejoice on Jesus's birthday. I have extremely much hatred for those who make this holy day into a mockery of his birth."

And it went on: "I haven't got long to live, so I don't give a — anyone about anything."

The letter, sent by fax Monday to Cherry Creek, was similar to letters sent to other malls, police said.

Clinton announces \$411 million program for homeless housing

WASHINGTON (NYT) — Addressing one of the nation's most intractable social problems, President Clinton unveiled a \$411 million grant program Wednesday to aid thousands of homeless people.

He announced 187 grants to cities and nonprofit agencies in 44 states that will provide shelter and services for a variety of homeless persons, from families who lost homes because of unemployment to individuals suffering from AIDS, mental illness and drug or alcohol abuse.

Secretary of Housing and Urban Affairs Henry Cisneros said the money would provide housing for more than 11,700 homeless individuals and families. Estimates of the nation's homeless population range from 600,000 to 3 million.

Clinton told more than a dozen mayors and homeless advocates at the White House that homelessness is "one of our most painful and, as a country, one of our most embarrassing problems." Despite federal aid, Clinton said, some of the homeless may have such severe mental or alcohol- and drug-related problems that "we may never find the answers."

Nevertheless, Clinton said, "in plain English what we're trying to do is take people who are battered, bruised and broken, but who still have a lot of God's grace left in them, and find a way to bring all that back to the surface."

Cisneros said that homelessness remains his department's top priority and that Wednesday's funding announcement represents the largest single award of grants for homelessness ever.

Pointing to the death of a home-

less woman named Yetta Adams on a bus-stop bench across the street from the HUD headquarters in downtown Washington last month, Cisneros said, "The American people know we can do better."

He injected a partisan edge into the announcement, saying, "This is the first time that the White House brings this level of attention to the problem of homelessness."

HUD is budgeting \$570 million for the homeless this year, an amount that includes the \$411 million in grants announced Wednesday. The \$570 million is \$20 million higher than what the Bush administration allocated last year.

Cisneros said HUD would seek \$823 million in aid to the homeless next year and \$1.1 billion in 1995.

Housing advocates at the White House ceremony echoed Cisneros' claim that Clinton is doing more to combat the problem than the Republicans did. A local advocate, the Rev. John Steinbrink of the Lutheran Place Memorial Church here, told Clinton, "It's like night has ended and day has begun."

But Anna Kondratas, who headed Bush administration programs for the homeless under then HUD Secretary Jack Kemp, disagreed.

Reached by telephone after the ceremony, she said: "The first large steps were taken in the Bush administration. She noted that funding for the homeless doubled over the course of Bush's four years in the White House. "It's kind of unfortunate that they (the Clinton officials) don't want to admit anything happened before they got there," she said.

Cisneros said that grants were

awarded to about a third of those who applied.

Part of the money, \$298 million, will go to the "Shelter Plus Care" program, in which local housing or other public agencies will match federal rent subsidies dollar-for-dollar with funds for counseling, medical treatment and other services.

"Shelter Plus Care" is designed to help homeless persons with disabilities ranging from AIDS to mental illness to drug or alcohol problems. The program will assist 9,310 persons or families.

A second grant program totaling \$113 million will provide single-room-occupancy housing run by public housing authorities or private non-profit organizations. It will assist 2,435 persons or families.

Cisneros confirmed an Associated Press report on Tuesday that he had advised Clinton last month to balance his tough-on-crime approach in recent public appearances with greater support for urban revitalization, including tax and housing credits for the working poor, child immunization and economic development for blighted cities.

Cisneros told reporters that "there is no philosophical difference" between him and Clinton and said he was encouraging the president to start "packaging" these programs and his crime-fighting proposals together into an "urban fabric."

Cisneros said he was suggesting a "rhetorical approach" to convince urban dwellers that "this administration is putting forward an effective urban strategy."

Increase in juvenile crime prompts Florida governments to set curfews

By Larry Rohter
N.Y. Times News Service

MIAMI — Alarmed by a surge in juvenile crime, including recent attacks on tourists across the state, governments throughout Florida are moving to impose curfews on teen-agers, brushing aside serious reservations on the part of police departments and protests from civil liberties groups and young people.

In the latest such instance, the Dade County Commission last week approved, on a vote of 11-1, a draft proposal that would prohibit teen-agers under 16 from being on the streets of Miami or any other city in Florida's most populous county after midnight Friday and Saturday and 11 p.m. on all other nights.

A final vote on the measure, which was inspired by a Dallas curfew that was upheld by a federal appeals court last month, is scheduled for Jan. 18. If passed, as seems virtually certain, it would take effect late next month.

In addition to Dallas, several other large cities around the country, including Atlanta, Hartford, Milwaukee, Newark and Phoenix, already have curfews in place, although the degree of restrictions and the level of enforcement vary from city to city.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, the only state with a curfew is Hawaii, which requires children under 16 to be off the streets after 10 p.m.

But support for a statewide curfew has been growing in Florida since September, when, in a crime

that drew international attention and became a symbol of rising juvenile violence, a British tourist was shot to death at a highway rest stop outside Tallahassee during a bungled robbery attempt.

Four teen-agers, ranging in age from 13 to 16, were arrested and charged with the murder, which occurred at 2:20 a.m. on a school night. The mother of two of the arrested youths was widely condemned after telling reporters that she had not known where her sons were on the night of the killing because "I don't follow my kids around."

State figures show that 149 juveniles were charged with murder or manslaughter in Florida last year, compared with 69 a decade earlier. During the same period, attempted-murder cases involving juveniles rose to 249 from 13, armed-robbery cases to 1,972 from 645, and aggravated assault or battery cases to 7,083 from 2,688.

Citing that rise in juvenile crime, Florida's attorney general, Bob Butterworth, last week proposed statewide legislation even more sweeping than the county ordinance that has won preliminary approval.

In a letter to a state commission studying ways to overhaul Florida's judicial system, he recommended a weeknight curfew of 10 p.m. for youths under 16 and an 11 p.m. curfew for those under 18.

In addition, Tampa's City Council, despite reservations by the city's legal affairs and police departments, recently gave preliminary approval to a plan similar to Miami's and is expected to pass a final

version of the bill Thursday.

And the tourist mecca of Orlando, citing incidents in which armed or drunken bands of youths have attacked nighttime visitors downtown, is also considering a curfew.

"There are few, if any, prospective Florida visitors anywhere in the world who have not heard recently" of attacks in which 10 tourists were killed in less than a year, Butterworth wrote to members of the state commission. "I think they would welcome news that Florida takes very seriously its responsibility to assure that minors are where they belong."

Butterworth, a former judge, sheriff and prosecutor, said the proposal "is intended to help remove our children from the grasp of violence and criminality" and to "give concerned parents an important new tool to assist them in rearing and nurturing their children."

In addition, he said, it would assist the police in "efforts to protect both our law-abiding citizens and our visitors."

There is little historical evidence that curfews succeed in suppressing juvenile crime, or fail to suppress it. Law-enforcement officials and criminologists say that because the big cities that impose curfews have adopted them only in the last few years, there has not yet been enough time to fully measure their effect.

In any case, law-enforcement agencies around Florida have been lukewarm, at best, to curfew proposals.

Priest faces charges, sues accusers

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A former Roman Catholic priest facing sexual assault charges in New Hampshire has filed lawsuits of his own, saying he was falsely accused in one case and libeled in another.

Gordon MacRae, 40, filed two lawsuits Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Albuquerque. Earlier this month, a judge in New Hampshire rejected MacRae's motion to dismiss 17 sexual assault charges.

MacRae is charged with sexually assaulting three boys under age 14 in the early 1980s in Hampton and Keene, N.H. Two of the boys, now grown, have filed civil lawsuits. But MacRae claims they are more interested in money than

proving any sexual abuse allegations.

"These allegations are not true but it's very difficult for a person in my position to defend myself against a person who says these things occurred 10 years ago," MacRae said in a telephone interview Wednesday. "These people stand to profit a great deal by making these allegations."

Albuquerque attorney Ron Koch, who is defending MacRae in the New Hampshire cases, said the lawsuits are a significant development in cases of alleged sexual abuse by Roman Catholic clergy.

"It's the first time I know of that a priest who has been accused of

sexual abuse has fought back," Koch said. "There are some allegations out there that are absolutely ludicrous."

MacRae is representing himself in his lawsuits and has requested a jury trial. He is seeking compensatory damages and litigation costs.

MacRae's first lawsuit claims that one of his accusers and Concord, N.H., attorney Robert Upton II fabricated allegations of sexual abuse to make money from the Catholic church.

The second lawsuit accuses Keene police detective James F. McLaughlin of slander, libel and conducting a negligent investigation.



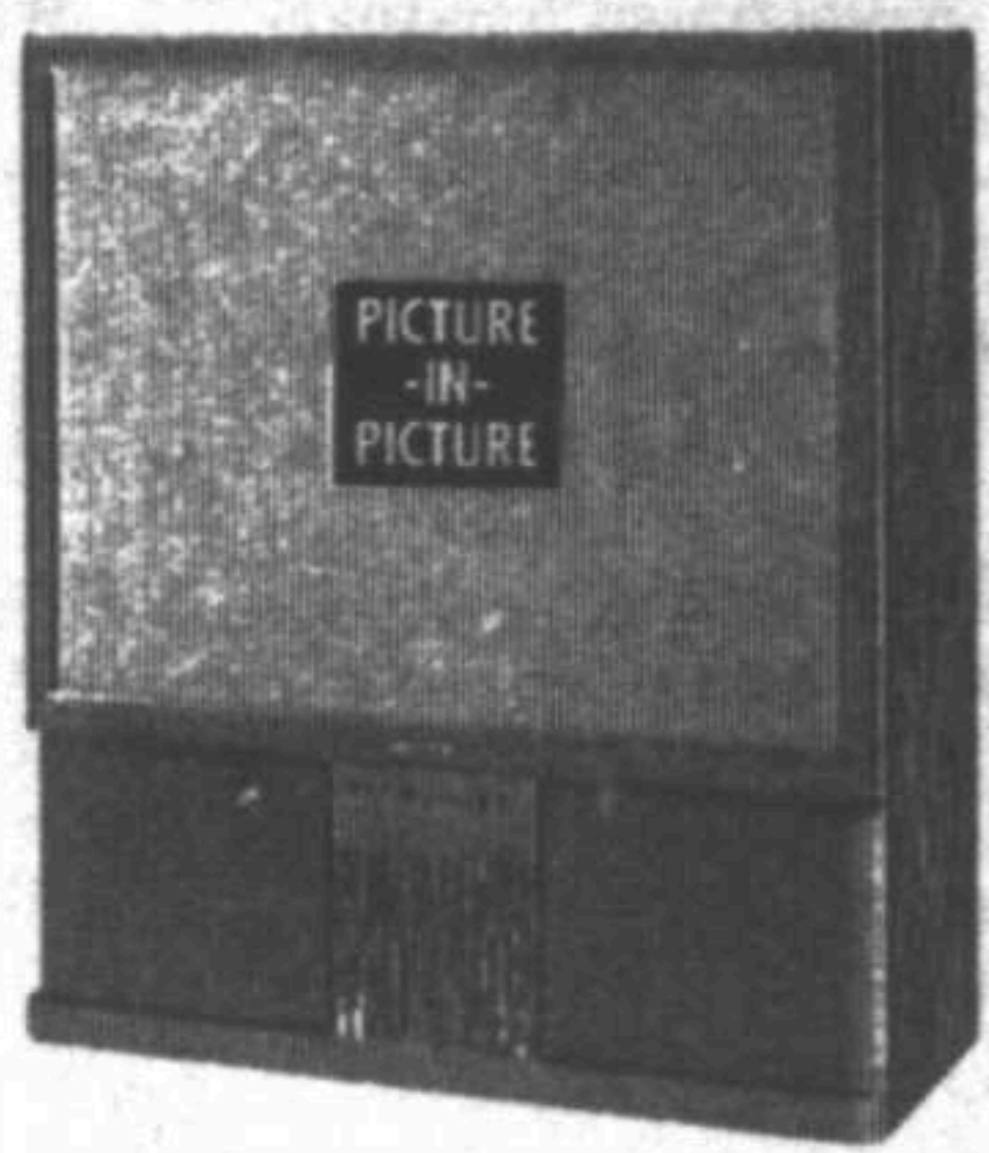
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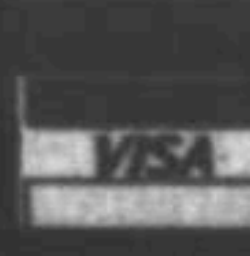
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White House projects \$190 billion deficit in 1995

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton has made final decisions on a "very tight" budget that will reduce next year's deficit to \$190 billion by trimming hundreds of federal programs, the administration said Wednesday.

That represents a \$67 billion slice from the deficit projected for the current fiscal year, which ends next Sept. 30.

In an interview with reporters, Clinton hailed the \$190 billion deficit as "quite an important achievement" given the projections when he took office that the 1995 deficit would be over \$300 billion.

He said the deficit reduction was accomplished while the administration was still able to provide "substantial increases in the investments I think are important to our future" in such areas as education, crime fighting, job training, children's health and defense conversion.

White House Budget Director Leon Panetta said the administration had managed to increase spending in the 1995 fiscal year for such things as Head Start, AIDS research and adding 100,000 police officers.

However, to fund increases in Clinton's "investment" categories, spending had to be reduced

elsewhere to stay within a \$540 billion ceiling on discretionary spending imposed by last year's deficit reduction law.

Panetta said the administration had stayed within the spending caps imposed by Congress by making outright reductions in hundreds of federal programs and freezing hundreds of others at their 1994 spending levels, without even allowing increases for inflation.

Of the government's 14 largest agencies, nine will see smaller budgets for the 1995 fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1, than they have now, Panetta said. He said 100,000 federal jobs would be eliminated by the end of 1995.

"We've got a hard freeze imposed across the board," Panetta said. "We are talking about a very tight budget here."

Clinton personally signed off on the details of the budget after 23 hours of meetings with agency heads and his economic team, Panetta said.

The president's decisions will now be sent back to the agencies and the Office of Management and Budget to be compiled into an administration budget to be sent to Congress on Feb. 7.

While the Reagan and Bush administrations tried and failed to

get congressional approval for many of the same budget cuts, Panetta predicted that Clinton would have more success in part because of the new fervor for deficit reduction.

"I feel very confident that this is a budget that we will be able to pass in this next Congress," he said.

Panetta refused to talk about specific reductions although he did not dispute reports from mass transit lobbyists that one of the cuts the administration will seek is elimination of \$802 million in annual subsidies for urban mass transit systems.

Jack R. Gilstrap, executive vice president of the American Public Transit Association, said that reductions in these subsidies would force cities to cut back services and increase fares.

Among the budget details: **DEFENSE:** Panetta said that a dispute between OMB and the Pentagon over a \$31 billion funding shortfall at the Defense Department has been resolved by an agreement to propose an extra \$9 billion to \$10 billion in spending for salary increases over this period. The 1995 budget does not compensate the Pentagon for what it claimed was a \$20 billion shortage due to increased

inflation, although this issue will be reviewed, Panetta said.

HEALTH: The administration will propose extra spending for AIDS research and increases for the childhood immunization program and women's health initiatives.

CHILDREN: In addition to increased funding for the preschool Head Start program, Panetta said the budget would include increases for the federal infant feeding program, the president's new national service program, the administration's effort to establish national learning standards and federal education programs for poor children. To help pay for the new initiatives, Panetta said the president's budget would propose eliminating several lower priority education programs.

JOBS: The administration will propose additional resources for the Job Corps, worker retraining and the Community Development Bank program to provide business loans in distressed areas.

ENVIRONMENT: Panetta indicated the administration would make up for cuts the Environmental Protection Agency suffered last year.

Pentagon issues new rules for homosexuals in military

WASHINGTON (AP) — Military troops may be investigated for hand-holding, kissing or even carrying a certain type of placard in a gay-rights parade, the Pentagon said Wednesday in new regulations explaining its ban on homosexual conduct.

But under the new policy, commanders are advised not to go on "witch hunts" to ferret out suspected homosexuals.

The new regulations, which are to go into effect Feb. 5, are designed to give precise definitions of homosexual conduct and conditions that would prompt an investigation that could lead to a service member being removed from the military.

The new rules cap an agonizing year in which President Clinton, faced with strong opposition, abandoned his campaign pledge to lift the 50-year-old ban on homosexuals outright. He had to settle for a policy that differs only slightly from the old rules, given the strength of opposition from Congress and the Pentagon's top admirals and generals.

Outgoing Defense Secretary Les Aspin defended the compromise on the "enormously divisive and emotional" issue at a Pentagon briefing in which he said rank-and-file service members would be given more time to understand the policy before they are allowed to talk to reporters on base.

"We've got the right solution: 'Don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue,'" he said.

"Homosexual conduct is defined as a homosexual act, a statement by the applicant that demonstrates a propensity or intent to engage in homosexual acts, or a homosexual marriage or attempted marriage," the new directive states.

Aspin "has utterly failed to solve the issue of gays in the military," said naval Petty Officer Keith Meinhold, who was discharged in August 1992 after disclosing his homosexuality on national television.

Meinhold said the scenarios for when not to open an investigation of a service member were meant to protect heterosexuals. Meinhold re-enlisted in the Navy this month, after a federal appeals court in Meinhold's court case upheld a judge's order banning discrimination against gays in the military.

Along with the regulations, the

Pentagon also released a training guide for commanders in the field, describing several "scenarios" upon which to base their decisions.

For example, a commander may be advised not to open an investigation if a service member is seen leaving a known gay bar, or is seen reading gay publications.

Once a commander has been notified that a service member was seen leaving a gay bar, the commander "should not begin an inquiry into this matter. Going to a gay bar is not a crime, nor does it, in itself, constitute a 'nonverbal statement' by the service member that he is a homosexual."

Another scenario has an officer observing two male service members walking and holding hands, and the information "constitutes credible information" supplied by "someone the CO (commanding officer) otherwise trusts and believes."

The commander should advise the two men of the military's policy on homosexual conduct. "Should they decline to discuss the matter, the question should stop. At that point, the CO may consider other relevant information and decide whether to initiate administrative separation actions based on the information he possesses," the scenario relates.

Another describes a service member being seen by a non-commissioned officer carrying a placard in a televised parade saying, "Lesbians in the military say, 'Lift the Ban!'" Such an act "could reasonably be interpreted as making a statement that she is a homosexual," the scenario states. The commander would then follow the same pattern as in the hand-holding case, and initiate administrative discharge procedures.

A fourth scenario involves a service member who finds two other enlisted men engaging in an act of sodomy in a barracks.

While the military's criminal investigative unit "would not normally initiate an investigation of consensual adult private sexual conduct," the incident may be looked into since "an act of sodomy occurred not in private, but in a shared barracks room," the scenario states. But the two men "would not be asked about other partners with whom they may have had sex, absent evidence of other criminal activity."

Castro's daughter flees Cuba, seeks asylum in U.S.

By George Gedda
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A daughter of Cuban President Fidel Castro has fulfilled a longstanding wish by deserting her homeland for the United States.

Alina Fernandez Revuelta, who has often referred to her father as a "tyrant," flew on Monday from Havana to Spain, where she was granted political asylum by the U.S. Embassy. She then flew to an undisclosed location in Georgia, where she remained in seclusion Wednesday.

Fernandez will hold a news conference today in Columbus, Ga., at the home of Elena Amos, a Georgia woman who has assisted other Cuban defectors.

State Department press officer David Johnson confirmed Fernandez's defection, calling it "one more illustration of the lack of freedom and lack of hope which

pervade Cuba today."

The country has been in a steep economic decline following the collapse of communism in European countries, which were Cuba's main trading partners.

Rep. Lincoln Diaz Balart, R-Fla., a native of Cuba, said Fernandez's departure is "very symbolic of the national consensus in Cuba" against Castro.

A sister of Castro's, Juanita, abandoned the revolution in 1964 and has since lived in Miami. "She had wanted to leave for a long time," she said Wednesday after learning of her niece's departure.

Fernandez, who is believed to have been born shortly before the 1959 revolution, was never able to receive permission to leave from Cuban authorities. State Department officials said they were unaware beforehand of her plans to depart Cuba and had no information on how she was able to leave.

During the 1980s, she was denied

permission to emigrate with her Mexican husband, who eventually returned to Mexico alone. Fernandez reportedly was married on three other occasions.

She had been living quietly with her daughter in a fashionable section of Havana and is believed to have been mainly unemployed in recent years. She once worked as a fashion model.

Fernandez told The Washington Post in April 1992 that she was last allowed to leave the island in 1964 at the age of 8 when she visited Paris with her mother.

"I dream of going back there, of going anywhere," she said. "But I'll never be able to leave, like a lot of other people here."

At another point, she told Andres Oppenheimer, who has written a book about Castro, "What do I think about Cuba's socialism? I used to believe in it when I was very little. But now, Cuban socialism is a dead-end street. In my

mind, I associate it with economic collapse, with food shortages."

She said she hated her father's slogan, "Socialism or Death." "I think human beings are born to live, not to die," she said.

Her main memory of Castro is from her childhood when he would visit the apartment where she lived with her mother.

As a teen-ager, the daughter repaid Castro's scant attentions by refusing to use his surname. Castro has never publicly acknowledged her as his daughter.

The number of Castro's children is not known, although a Castro biographer, George Ann Geyer, has written that the Cuban leader has many children. He acknowledges only Fidelito, who was born in the late 1940s to Castro's former wife.

Oppenheimer says in his book that father and daughter had a nasty falling out over Fernandez's marriage to the Mexican in the mid-1980s.

Employees cite misuse of security force by Supreme Court justices

By Richard Carelli
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court justices have used the court's security force to provide taxi service for visiting relatives, work overtime at wedding receptions and push supermarket carts.

Such assignments sparked deep resentment and led to a policy aimed at curtailing abuses, The Associated Press has learned.

The 80-member police force represents about one-fourth of the high court's total employees. Ten years ago, Congress broadened the court's authority to use police for security after one of the justices was attacked.

"I really don't want to get into

specifics," court spokeswoman Toni House said when asked about recent activities. "There were some past practices when no firm policy was in place. They have been discontinued."

Incidents cited by court employees, who spoke only on the condition of anonymity, include these:

■ When Justice Anthony M. Kennedy's daughter, Kristin, was married last weekend, her parents were hosts for a wedding reception for 300 guests at the state court building.

About a dozen court police officers were assigned to overtime duty to drive justices and other guests to the reception and to help with security.

Similar arrangements were

made for wedding receptions hosted by other court members, most recently Justice Antonin Scalia for one of his daughters.

■ Retired Chief Justice Warren E. Burger had to be told that court police officers no longer could be deployed to help his wife with her grocery shopping. Officers had driven her to the supermarket and pushed her cart through the store's aisles.

■ Several justices routinely have used police officers and court cars to pick up visiting relatives at area airports or ferry them on sightseeing excursions.

House said she had no knowledge of the shopping or relative-driving incidents.

She said the Kennedy wedding

was an "authorized court function, no different than any other official function" that require court police officers to be on duty.

Kennedy did not have to pay for using the building, but apparently did foot the bill for a caterer, a dance floor and flowers.

House said that police officers are no longer used as drivers unless a justice is in the car with them.

"This is the sort of policy that, by and large, is controlled by the chief justice (William H. Rehnquist)," House said. "He often confers with his colleagues, but the policy was worked out by the marshal (Alfred Wong) in conjunction with the chief justice."

The nine justices have long en-

joyed a perquisite provided by law — being driven to and from work.

Then, after a man punched Justice Byron R. White in the face and head in an incident in Salt Lake City in 1982, Congress enacted a separate law authorizing the use of court police to protect justices anywhere in the country.

Some court employees told the AP that the law has been misused, even after the more stringent policy was created.

But House said she doubted the policy is abused frequently.

"It's hard to imagine this happening because of the volatility of the issue," she said. "The justices have been made aware of the sensitivity of the issue."

Reports of using government-provided guards for personal errands occur from time to time elsewhere in government.

President Clinton fired William Sessions as director of the FBI in July for ethical lapses, including his wife's use of FBI cars and drivers for trips to the dressmaker and hairdresser. John Sununu got in hot water when he was President Bush's chief of staff for using a government car and driver to go to a stamp show in New York.

Much in the news this week are the allegations by two Arkansas state troopers that they helped arrange extramarital affairs for Clinton while he was governor of Arkansas.

Ticket buyers set sights on \$90 million lottery prize

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — From Fond du Lac's "Miracle Mile" to Madison's Capitol Square, tens of thousands of Wisconsin residents flocked to lottery outlets Wednesday hoping to win a \$90 million Powerball prize.

They were all trying to beat 1 in 54,979,155 odds against matching five numbers between one and 45, plus the "powerball," which can also be any number between one and 45.

"It's not a very good investment, but everybody wants to be struck by lightning," said Tom Clark of Madison, a semi-retired bank security guard, as he picked up a few dollars worth of tickets at Break Time Video in Madison.

The players remembered that Fond du Lac teacher Leslie C. Robins and his fiancée, Colleen DeVries, won a \$111 million Powerball drawing in July.

The money from a winning Powerball ticket is paid out in 20 equal installments. For a \$90 million jackpot, the annual installments, after state and federal taxes are deducted, come to almost \$2.93 million each.

Business was brisk around the state. Statewide, about 3,000 people a minute were buying tickets at 3 p.m., and lottery officials were expecting business to pick up.

Lottery spokesman Steve Madison said by the time computer terminals shut down, Wisconsin buyers probably will account for \$5

million in ticket sales.

"Once the jackpot gets past \$50 million, it gets busy," said Break Time manager Mark Stegbauer. "A lot more people are coming in."

At Jubilee Foods in De Pere, service desk clerk Patti Willems said she had been "selling lots and lots of them."

"All day long, that's what I've been doing," she said.

At the Sentry Food store in Fond du Lac where Robins bought his winning ticket, a harried clerk said, "We're really busy" and transferred the call to a man who said the same thing and hung up.

At Farrells Country Store across the street, clerk Julie Bartel said customers were in "the winning mood."

"They want to win," Bartel said. "They'll say 'Give me \$5 in winners.'"

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Dr. Jim Humphries, nationally known veterinarian, is with two dogs at his home in Dallas, last Saturday. "Dr. Jim's Animal Clinic" airs four

times on The Family Network and other stations.

Vet: Worst gifts are unexpected animals

By John McFarland
Associated Press

DALLAS — Still looking for the perfect iguana for that special someone this Christmas? If so, proceed with caution. In fact, holiday shoppers should use discretion before handing out puppies, kittens and parakeets, let alone iguanas, tarantulas and African hissing cockroaches. Pets can make good gifts, but they also can be disastrous, says veterinarian Jim Humphries, whose program "Dr. Jim's Animal Clinic" airs four times per week on The Family Network and other television stations. "If parents give a pet to a child who can watch it and care for it, and they realize they're going to have to help, then it's a good idea," Humphries said. The worst presents are unexpected animals, which often end

up sitting in adoption centers shortly after the holidays, Humphries said. "A lot of Humane Societies around the country won't adopt pets for two weeks before Christmas because they've seen so many given right back," he said. But if someone on the shopping list wants a pet, exotic and unusual animals seem to be the way to go. Skinks, iguanas, lizards, tarantulas and large insects have been the season's big sellers, Humphries said. Kathy Chisolm, assistant manager at Jerry's Perfect Pets in north Dallas, says iguana sales have been brisk. She's sold about 20 of the green lizards for \$25 each over the last month. Pot-bellied pigs, all the rage a few years ago, still are in demand, says Kathleen Plauche, owner of Ponderosa Pot Bellied Pigs in south Dallas. Ms. Plauche breeds and sells the

porkers and has sold about 10 in the last week. They go for between \$100 and \$500. Humphries says anyone buying exotic animals should be extra careful. Given to the wrong person, a ferret or salamander could be both inappropriate and creepy. Shoppers should know the source of the pets. Humphries cautions pet buyers to beware puppies and kittens shipped across the country from wholesale animal suppliers, which he calls "puppy mills." "Not only are they susceptible to viruses and diseases, but also behavioral problems," Humphries said. The problem with them is that the "formative" period for the animals usually last six to 12 weeks. If they're cooped up with no exercise or socializing during that time, they could be prone to bark, chew or bite excessively, Humphries said.

'Twas the night Santa almost slipped

By Gordon Zeigler
Associated Press

PLAINVIEW — One man in Plainview has a memory of the Christmas he impersonated Santa Claus that tickles his ribs every time he recalls it. You could call Jamie Williams' story "The Night Santa Almost Slipped." To appreciate the story, one needs a little background about Williams and his experience playing Santa. Despite a longtime resemblance to St. Nick, he had no Santa experience. The lifelong heating and air conditioning installer/repairman has worn a beard for much of his life. Yet, none of his three children ever called their bearded father "Santa." Then, one day, along came grandson Bradley, now 11, who began a habit of calling him Santa. "Hi there, Santa Claus," Bradley often tells his granddad, even to this day, when Williams visits him. Few others, however, had ever "discovered" Williams' Santa-like qualities, or even recruited him for the part. That is despite Williams' full beard that even the "real" Santa would envy. Williams' beard has been a trademark around town for years. He's always had one off and on. In his younger days, it was dark. Then it became a lighter shade of gray. Now, after several decades, it has turned just white enough, and grows long enough at times to make Jamie Williams a near-perfect Santa. With that new distinction came a new responsibility, he learned. One that would put him in all sorts of awkward spots because, when you look like Santa this time of year, you've got to act like Santa, like it or not. Williams learned that on a service call one day in Tulsa. A child answered the door, looked up and stared in wonder. "Are you Santa Claus?" he asked. Williams, caught by surprise, told the youngster the first thing that came into his head. "No, I'm Santa Claus' little brother," he told the

wide-eyed tot. A short time later, friends in a local coffee shop ribbed him unmercifully after hearing he was impersonating "Santa's little brother." Finally, a couple of years ago, Williams got his big break. But it would also provide him a banana peel he would almost slip on. The Plainview Toastmasters held a Christmas Party and asked Williams to dress up in a red suit and entertain the youngsters. "I got there early, and layed way down low in the seat so no one would notice," Williams recalls. The club host found the nervous "St. Nick" hunkering down in the car, and summoned him. Little did Williams know he would soon be tested. "I went in and met the kids. One little girl came up to me. I asked her name," he remembers. "She repeated her name — Williams, just like mine," he explained. His first reflex almost cooked Santa's goose. "That's my name, t..., t..., t..." Williams almost blurted out, stopping in mid-sentence and just in time, he hoped. He recovered, in time he thought. And he ad-libbed his way into another question, breathing a sigh of relief as adults standing nearby let out a good-natured chuckle or grin. "They knew what I had almost done," he laughs. But the girl threw him another curve, asking, "Where are your reindeer?" "I told her Mrs. Santa Claus had them down on the courthouse lawn and was waiting for me," the novice Santa said. It was nip and tuck for a while, but the session with the kids ended as quickly as it began, in fact almost too quickly. For Williams, it is still a fond memory. But it was also his baptism of fire as Santa. His next, and only other Santa impersonation, would be appearing for College Hill and Hillcrest Elementary students in 1991. It would be smoother sailing — even though that time Williams, fully-outfitted in Santa gear but minus wallet and key ring, got locked out of his house and had to wait for wife, Bobbie, to rescue him. But that's another story. In his opinion, nothing could hold a candle to his memory of the night Santa almost slipped.

Thousands give toys to flood children

By Roger Munns
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Bruce Coleman saw television pictures of clothing, food and emergency supplies going to victims of the summer's floods, and didn't see anything for the children. So Coleman, of Hamilton, Va., organized his state's American Legion "Miracle Toys for Christmas" campaign for flood families, and the toys rolled in. Coleman wasn't alone. Hundreds of thousands of puzzles, stuffed animals, electronic games, balls and playthings have been sent to the Midwest. "The magnitude is absolutely awesome," said Sgt. Kyle Stangeland of the Marine Corps Reserve Unit in Des Moines. The unit's Toys for Tots campaign distributed a record 32,000 toys last year, but this year was overwhelmed with 600,000 toys. Stangeland said about 100,000 were distributed to Des Moines children, a third went to needy children in nearby states, and half went to other flood cities in Iowa. One of the flood's most widely known victims, 4-year-old Heidi Lynn Ackelson of Des Moines, received more than 2,000 toys from

'They've got three warehouses, like minimart size, just packed. It's overwhelming. It's really nice to know that there are so many people who care. It's hard enough buying for your own family.

—Sgt. Leslie Coakley

well-wishers around the country. The outpouring began in August after an Associated Press photographer caught her leaning against her mother, Tonika Shirts, as they surveyed the flood wreckage of her home. The little girl was crying over a muddy piece of fake fur that used to be a favorite toy. Boxes of stuffed toys arrived, especially skunks, Heidi's favorites. Ms. Shirts said most have been given away to social service agencies.

"She thinks it's neat, and she also likes to know that other kids got some of the animals," the mother said.

She said she couldn't afford to thank everyone who sent gifts and money.

"I figured out with all the letters, if I had sent everybody something back, even just a postcard, it would cost \$900," she said.

In Fort Madison, 120 children in the flood zone received gifts after they and their parents were "adopted" by an anti-drug abuse program in Fort Mitchell and Covington, Ky. Kentucky volunteers recently made their sixth visit to the Fort Madison area, ending with a Christmas party for children.

A Marine toy drive in Rock Island, Ill., was just as productive as the one in Des Moines.

"They've got three warehouses, like minimart size, just packed," said Sgt. Leslie Coakley. "It's overwhelming. It's really nice to know that there are so many people who care. It's hard enough buying for your own family."

The toys were distributed to children in towns along the Mississippi River.

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Summer flood victims try to salvage Christmas '93

By Bill Vogrin
Associated Press

KEITHSBURG, Ill. (AP) — Santa Claus is driving a black pickup this year, passing abandoned, water-stained houses to deliver decorations and gifts donated by Pennsylvania firefighters and New Jersey Girl Scouts.

Santa is one of the few signs of Christmas in the aftermath of the summer's devastating Mississippi River flood.

"It's real important this year that we have Christmas in Keithsburg," said the truck-driving Santa, Pam Heath. "We've got to get people going again."

"A lot of people lost everything in the flood," she said. "Memories are the only thing they have left."

The river breached a levee, inundating homes and businesses in water up to 10 feet deep for more than a month. About 80 homes were ruined and 70 others were

damaged. "I'd like to skip Christmas this year. Christmas morning will be hard," said Mrs. Heath's mother, Bertha Finch, 60, a lifelong Keithsburg resident whose home was wrecked. She and her husband, Albert, are living in a government-supplied mobile home.

"We're not buying nothing. That's the hard thing," Mrs. Finch said. "This time of year, every closet, nook and cranny would be stuffed full of Christmas presents."

Tears flow at the thought of disappointing 15 grandchildren, and at the idea of living indefinitely in the trailer.

"People say I'm lucky to have this trailer," Mrs. Finch said, her voice rising. "I'm not lucky. I had a home. It was furnished and remodeled. I was going to die in my home."

"It's nice to have a trailer. We appreciate it. But we're not

lucky." The two-story house where the Finches raised four daughters is destined for demolition. A brown smudge circles the house about 10 feet above ground, marking the flood's crest.

Neighbor Bette Chenault also is living in a government trailer. She's not sure where she'll put the 20 relatives who traditionally come to her house for the holidays. They won't be crowded by gifts because Ms. Chenault didn't buy any.

"We're afraid to spend anything," said Ms. Chenault. "We're going to need all the cash we've got."

Like many flood victims, the 68-year-old Ms. Chenault is on a fixed income and with little savings and no flood insurance.

Plans for a new \$8.5 million subdivision don't comfort Ms. Chenault because she can't afford a new house on her \$800-a-month in-

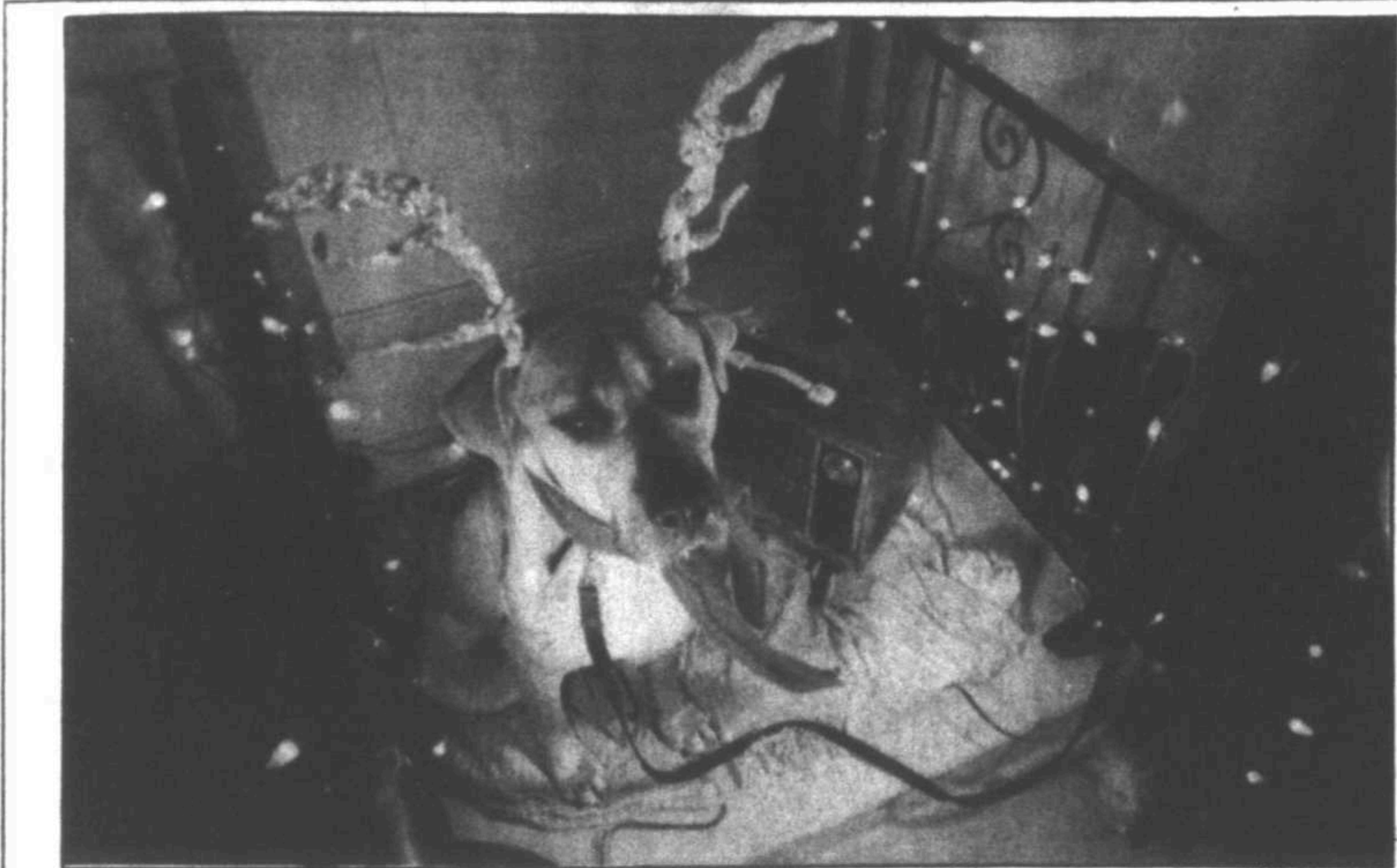
come from Social Security and a pension.

"I owned my house 23 years. It was paid for. ... I have no savings. I can't build a new home. I could build a wigwam, maybe," she said.

Sharon and Clarence Reason's home was spared, but their downtown hotel was ravaged. Flood insurance only covered about 25 percent of their estimated \$45,000 loss. So they borrowed \$30,000 from the Small Business Administration and started renovations.

"We don't have any pensions," Mrs. Reason said. "This was going to be our retirement income."

Finch still visits his house each day. Sitting in his garage, he seems oblivious to activity around him as Federal Emergency Management Agency inspectors appraise property, contractors pour concrete and workers pile sand on nearby levees.



AP Laserphoto

Deck the dog

Levi, a two-year-old Great Dane and Mastiff mix, sits on the stoop of Scott and Mindy Smith's home in Sioux Falls, S.D. this week, decked out in antlers and a scarf. The dog is part of a display for their neigh-

borhood's theme of Reindeer Drive. People stop in their cars to stare at the dog who has two spotlights and a heater to keep him warm.

Power Ranger rates higher than Santa

LOS ANGELES (AP) — If children were ratings points, Santa would be off the air.

Only about 20 youngsters showed up to chat with Santa on Sunday at the Topanga Plaza mall.

More than 5,000 stood in line to greet Power Ranger Tommy, a character on the children's TV show "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers," according to police estimates.

The line of children and their parents extended a quarter of a mile, snaking through the mall and into the parking lot.

"You can always see Santa Claus," said Fallon Grun, 9, of Hollywood, who got up at sunrise to see Tommy. "You can only see Tommy once in a while."

"Power Rangers" features six superhero teens who battle evil. The Fox Broadcasting Co. weekday morning series has spun off some of the holiday season's hottest-selling toys.

Radio station KRTH-FM provided a photographer to take free photos of children with Tommy, played by actor Jason Frank.

"This is phenomenal," said Frank, who sat for hours engulfed by squealing children.

First in line was 11-year-old Brian Hansel, who said he made his father roll out of bed at 5 a.m. to take him to the mall by 7 a.m.

Brian said Santa Claus was OK, but "I like Tommy better."

Santa replies from cyberspace to letters

By Janet Kertin
Associated Press

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Once upon a time, children used crayons to write letters to Santa Claus asking him to bring toys and games. Now, some kids get their messages to the North Pole in a flash, via cyberspace.

And some jolly old elves reply posthaste by computer E-mail.

The replies from Santa are free, but people pay a monthly fee to one of several companies to be connected through phone lines to one of several computer networks.

Four-year-old Lexi Cahill got her wish list on Santa's workbench within a matter of seconds, courtesy of Delphi Internet Services Inc. in Cambridge.

"I want a doll that talks when he watches a video. Also please bring me the things I asked you for at the mall, since I don't remember my list now," she typed on her home computer.

Her message got a swift response.

"Ho, ho, ho. Thanks for the letter. I'm looking forward to stopping at your home on Christmas Eve. I remember you from the mall and I'll do my best to get all you wish for on Christmas," began the reply from a Christmas elf known the rest of the year as Scott

Mandell.

Mandell, director of digitalNation, an on-line service in Arlington, Va., logs on to his home computer after work and fashions a personal reply to each letter writer, about 1,000 of them so far.

About one-third of his letters come from adults asking for Lam-borghinis, better relationships, engagement rings and good college grades.

"A bunch of us at the office were trying to think of some fun holiday thing to do. It's gone off amazingly well," he said in a phone interview from Arlington.

Other high-tech paths to Santa are offered to subscribers by such on-line services as Prodigy and Genie. Prodigy has received 8,000 letters this month.

Rusty Williams, vice president of Delphi, said Internet, which links millions of computer owners worldwide, is the perfect vehicle for such communications.

"The Internet is a give-and-take culture," said Williams, whose company provides access to the network. "It's inherent in the nature of people who interact on the Internet. Some ask questions, some answer questions. It's give and take down to a personal level."

Most children, though, still write letters to Santa the old-fashioned way, and sometimes people make

their visions of sugarplums come true.

The Boston Post Office gathers letters of needy children addressed to the North Pole and gives them to people who want to act in the jolly elf's behalf, said spokesman Mike Doyle.

"If they're written by children, the sincerity of them is very apparent," Doyle said.

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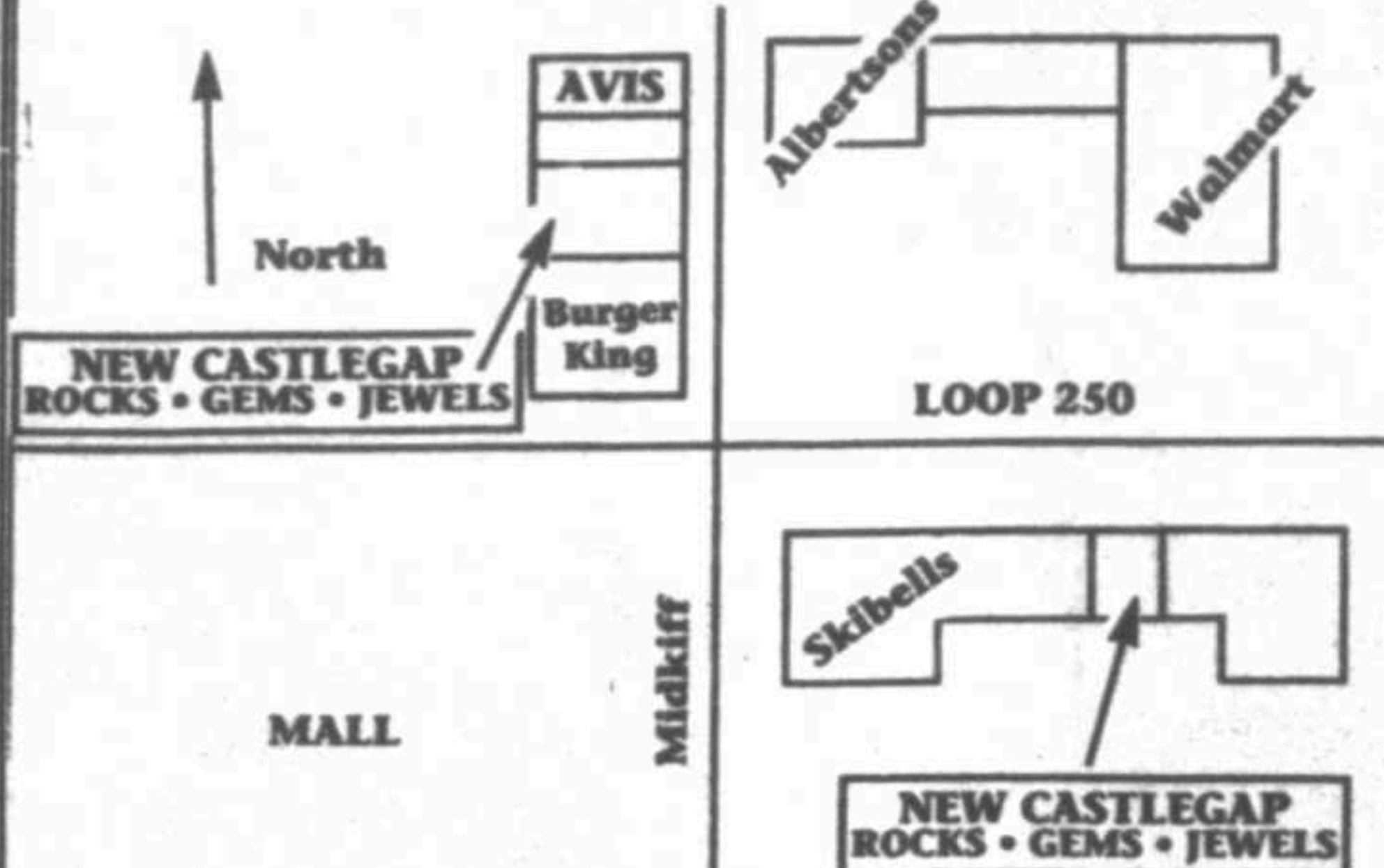
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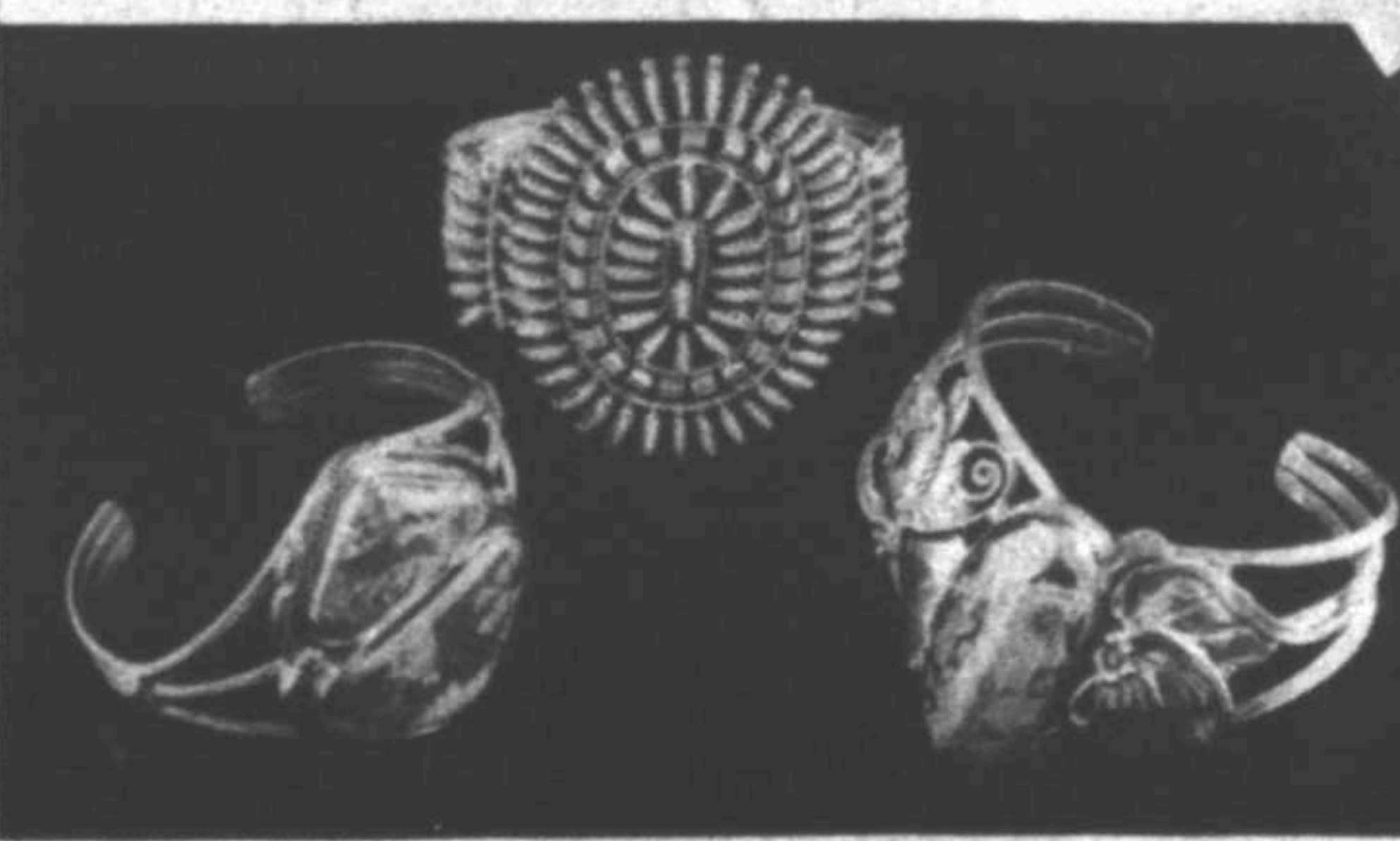
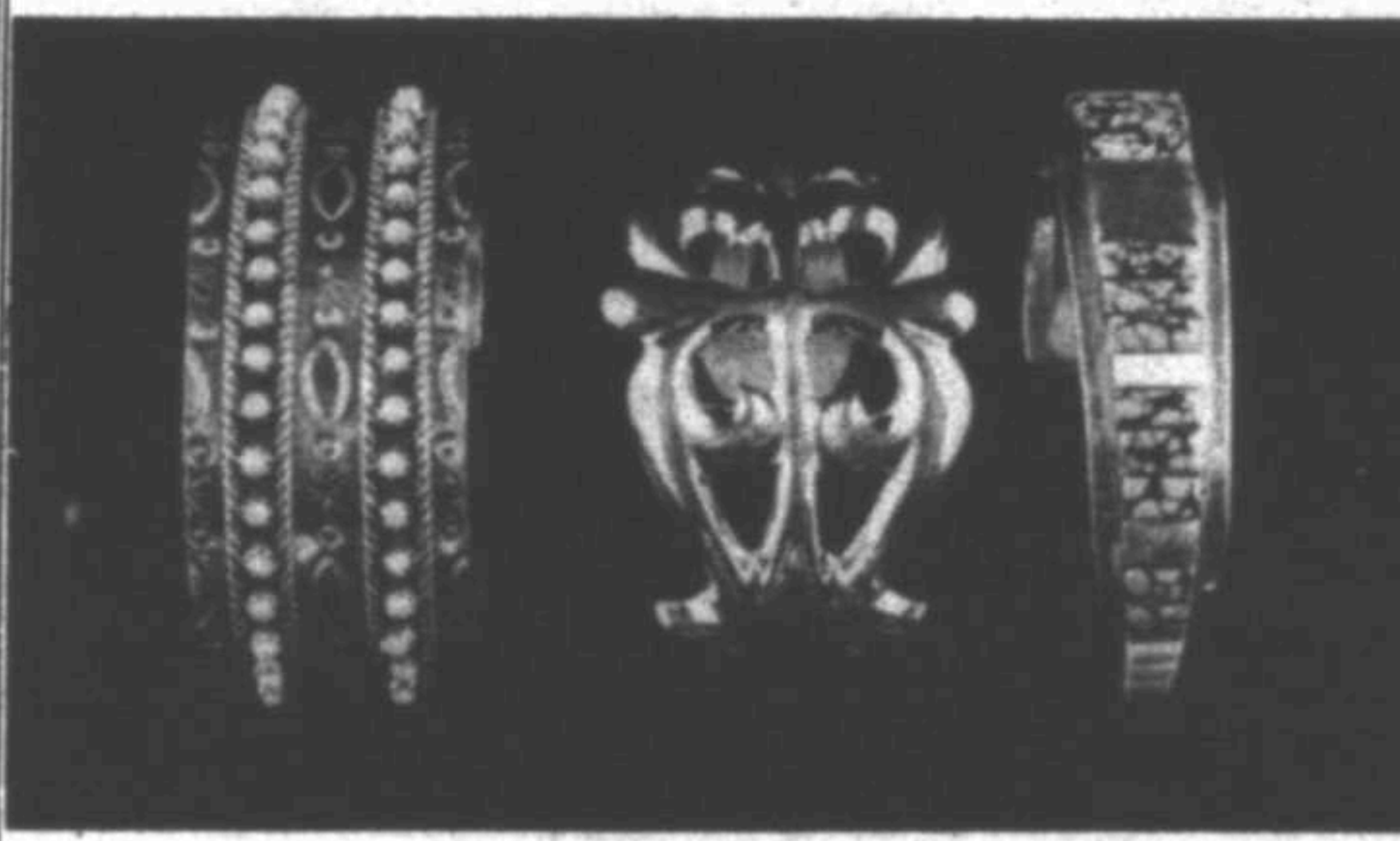
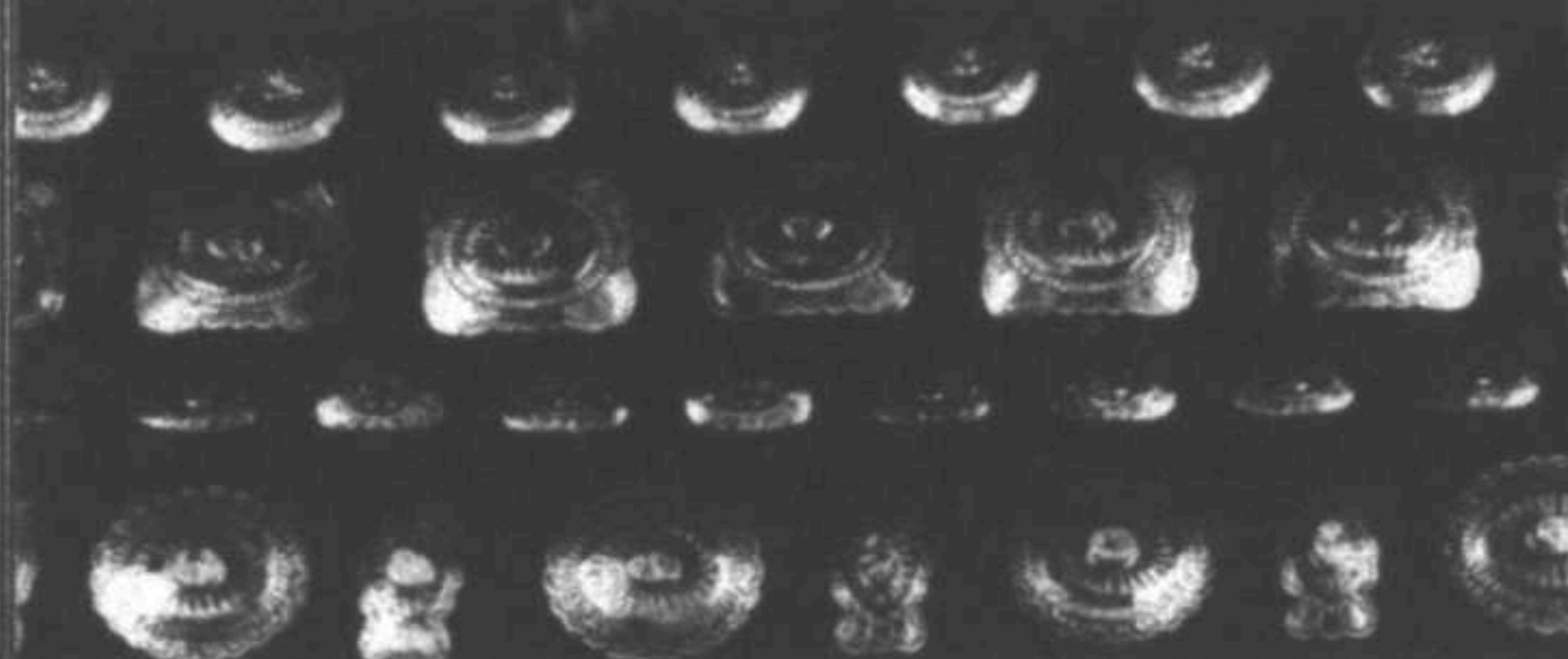
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TV Sports

(Subject to Change)

NBA — Bulls vs. Pistons, 6:30 p.m., WGN.

Hawks vs. Knicks, 6:35 p.m., WTBS.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL — Maui Invitational Championship, 8:30 p.m., ESPN.

TENNIS — Compaq Gran Slam semifinals, 7 p.m., HSE.

BOXING — TBA, 6:30 p.m., ESPN.

Texas Scores

NBA — Milwaukee Bucks 96, Dallas Mavericks 86.

NHL — Dallas Stars at Anaheim Ducks, late.

SWC BASKETBALL — Seton Hall 62, Texas A&M 55.

Texas 97, Tennessee Tech 85.

Baylor 87, Texas Southern 73.

Arizona State 68, SMU 58, OT.

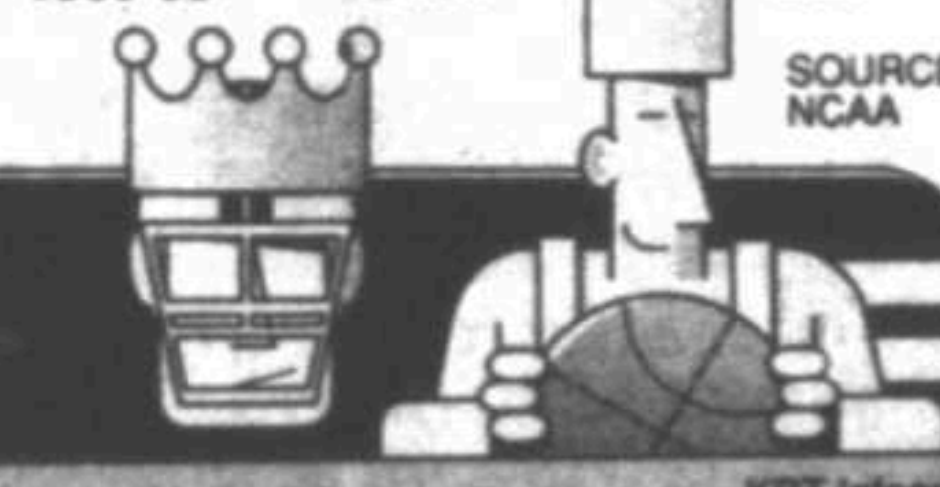
See SCOREBOARD/3C

Sports facts

College football-basketball connection

Last five times a football bowl winner has also won the NCAA basketball championship during the same academic year:

	School	Bowl
1992-93	N. Carolina	Peach
1988-89	Michigan	Rose
1981-82	N. Carolina	Gator
1973-74	N. C. St.	Liberty
1965-66	UTEP	Sun



Givens signs

HOUSTON — Ernest Givens, the Houston Oilers' all-time leading receiver, signed a three-year contract extension and safety Bubba McDowell agreed to terms on a three-year extension, the club announced Wednesday.

Givens' contract will pay him almost \$5 million, according to the Houston Chronicle.

"Ernest has set records for the Oilers this season, and now he'll be around long enough to set a lot more," Jim Ellis, Givens' agent, said. "He wants to stay in Houston because he likes the team and the city."

Player sues

LOS ANGELES — A former North Hollywood High School player who damaged her knee on a slippery basketball court has sued Alemany High School and game officials.

Nikki Hamilton alleges in her lawsuit filed in Los Angeles Superior Court that Alemany and game officials allowed "an accumulation of liquid to make the surface of the basketball court slippery and dangerous."

Hamilton is seeking unspecified damages for medical expenses, pain and suffering and loss of a potential college scholarship, according to her attorney Jason Marshall.

Alemany principal's, Father Robert Milbauer, said, "I guess the claim was there was water on the floor, and everybody I talked to said there was no water on the floor."

Surgery set

IRVING, Texas — The Dallas Cowboys placed center Mark Stepnoski on injured reserve Wednesday because of season-ending surgery planned on the player's right knee.

Taking Stepnoski's place on the active roster will be James Parrish, a 6-6, 310-pound offensive tackle from Temple. Parrish joined the Cowboys' practice squad on Dec. 7 and has been working out with the team since.

Pierce suspended

SEATTLE — The Seattle SuperSonics will be without their top shooting guard, Ricky Pierce, in a game tonight against the Phoenix Suns because of a one game suspension by the NBA.

Pierce, leading Seattle with an average of 17.8 points a game, was suspended Wednesday and fined \$3,500 for throwing a punch at Byron Scott of the Indiana Pacers the previous night.

Smith 'still alive' for title

■ Dallas' Emmitt Smith trails Rams' Jerome Bettis by 62 yards in battle for NFL rushing lead.

By Denne H. Freeman
AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas — He's missed two games, played only a half in another and ran one time for one yard in a fourth before he was injured. Yet, Emmitt Smith of the Dallas Cowboys just might win a third consecutive NFL rushing title.

Smith trails Jerome Bettis of the Los Angeles Rams by 62 yards with two games to play.

"I'm still alive," said Smith with a wry smile. "Don't count me out yet."

Smith won a much-publicized contract holdout when owner Jerry Jones capitulated after the first two games of the Cowboys' season. Dallas lost to Washington and Buffalo without Smith.

When Smith returned, he played only one half against Phoenix. In the Atlanta game, he carried only one time before he was injured.

"I've got to be happy where I am considering the way the season has gone,"

said Smith.

Smith has benefited from injuries to Detroit's Barry Sanders and Pittsburgh's Barry Foster.

Buffalo's Thurman Thomas, who has been bothered by injuries, still has a chance at the title.

Bettis has 1,227 yards, Smith 1,165 yards, and Thomas 1,144 yards.

Smith was looking around for Christmas present ideas for his offensive line-men this week at Valley Ranch.

"Let's see, I've given 'em watches, trips, paintings and champagne," Smith said. "What else can I get 'em?"

Offensive tackle Erik Williams mentioned luxury automobiles.

"Yeah, maybe some baby SL's or Mercedes or something," Smith said.

Someone mentioned giving autographed pictures.

"If I did that, I'd have to run and duck," Smith laughed.

Smith said he hopes he wins the rushing title but admits there are larger goals, such as winning another Super Bowl.

"I can't control what Bettis is going to do so I'm not going to worry about it," Smith said. "I'll do my best, and I'm sure he'll do a great job and I wish him all the luck."

Please see SMITH/10C



Despite missing two games and part of another, Dallas runner Emmitt Smith (22) still has a chance to win a third consecutive NFL rushing title.

'Bam' waits on NFL word

■ Byron "Bam" Morris will likely skip his senior season at Texas Tech if he is a first round draft selection.

Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas — Texas Tech's star running back Byron "Bam" Morris says he will likely skip his senior season if he can be assured he will be a first-round pick in the 1994 National Football League draft.

"I want to talk to my parents and Coach (Spike) Dykes before I make a decision, and if it looks like I have a chance to be drafted in the first round, I think I'll come out," Morris, was quoted as saying in today's El Paso Times.

"If I knew for sure I'd be drafted in the first round, then I'd have to do what's best for me."

Morris, the Southwest Conference's leading rusher this season and winner of the Doak Walker Award, has been the center of speculation because of the possibility he will give up his last year of college eligibility.

The statements he made in the Times are the first indications Morris has given that he is seeking anything more than advice before making his decision.

Morris is a junior and so would have to state his intentions to make himself available in the NFL draft before he could be considered.

Up until now, Morris, who led the nation in scoring with 134 points — 12.18 per game — and finished second in rushing yardage, averaging 159.3, has only said he wanted talk to his parents and Dykes before making a decision.



Texas Tech's All-America running back Byron "Bam" Morris stretches with the rest of the Red Raiders during John Hancock Bowl workout.

Wolverines spark 'saggin' cage style

By Ken Berger
Associated Press Writer

With tongues wagging, shorts sagging and spin-moves styled after their college and pro heroes, high school basketball players are getting a little too hip.

A new national rule this season says high school players must show a little respect by tucking in their shirts and hiking their shorts up to the waist, where officials say they belong.

The rule targets baggy shorts worn below the hips, a style called "saggin'." High schoolers say they got it from the University of Michigan's freshman class of 1992 and, before them, from Chicago's Michael Jordan.

In Michigan, players call it the Jalen Rose Rule, after the Detroit Southwestern alumnus and trash-talker, finger-pointin', big-shorts-wearin' guard for the Wolverines.

To get the baggy look of the Michigan players, whose shorts are four inches longer than the traditional style, high school players have been pulling their pants down and letting their shirts hang out.

Officials with the National Federation of State High Schools in Kansas City, Mo., insist saggin' posed a serious threat to the game. Dick Schindler, as-

sistant director of the federation, said dangling shirt tails were sloppy and pulled-down shorts were downright disgusting.

"In many cases, the pants were pulled down so far that it became embarrassing to the people by the anatomy that was showing," Schindler said. "I don't think that anyone sitting in the stands wants to see cracks on the rear-ends of players."

Brian Dukes, who plays for Chamblee High School in Atlanta's northeast suburbs, said that assessment is a bit much.

"They're not down that far," he said. "Just right below the waist. I don't know why they're putting a dress code on basketball. The object of the game is to put the ball in the hoop."

Kurt Keener, who coached Golden State Warriors rookie and former Michigan star Chris Webber at Detroit Country Day High School, said he's heard grumblings among black players that the rule is aimed at them.

"This is something that's prevalent in urban areas that the black kids like," Keener said. "They see it as just another example of the powers that be, who are not black, imposing their values."

Please see SAGGIN/3C

Fox needs NFL work yesterday

By John Nelson
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Now, Fox must build a sports division from scratch. And it better get started yesterday.

"Obviously, it's a daunting task," said Turner Sports senior vice president Kevin O'Malley, who spent 14 years at CBS before joining Turner five years ago.

"But I think if they get a couple of the right people in place very quickly, it can be done, particularly since there are a number of people out there with experience," he said.

Forget announcers for the time being, O'Malley said. The hills are full of announcers. First, Fox better find producers, directors and associate producers for a pregame show as well as a staff of at least 40 highly skilled people for each of seven remote units it must create.

Even before that, though, Fox needs someone to hire all these people.

"The most important person they probably need now is an executive producer, because the production people need to get to work tomorrow," said O'Malley, who is in charge of programming at Turner and was involved both in administration and production at CBS.

A number of names have surfaced, including those of former CBS executive producer Ted Shaker and former NBC executive producers Michael Weisman and former Midlander Terry O'Neill. Weisman is considered the front-runner by many industry insiders.

Then, Fox must either rent or buy equipment for each of those remote units. Mobile units cost \$5 million to \$8 million apiece, depending on how fancy

Please see FOX/10C



Michigan's Jalen Rose shows the popular "saggin' shorts look.

Detroit makes Sanders happy

DETROIT (AP) — Barry Sanders, no longer the NFL's leading rusher, now leads the league's running backs in another important statistic: salary.

Sanders signed a four-year, \$17.2 million contract Wednesday that will pay him an average of \$4.3 million a year, agent Lamont Smith said. Earlier this season Emmitt Smith of the Dallas Cowboys signed a four-year, \$13.6 million deal.

"We always assumed that Barry would be the highest paid running back," Smith said. "He's the focus of the Detroit Lions offense, the player they build the team around. And he accounts for about 40 percent of the Detroit Lions offense."

Smith said the negotiating process had been slow but three factors speeded the process: Thursday's deadline for extending contracts so they won't count against next year's salary cap; the Lions winning just one game since

Sanders was injured Thanksgiving Day; and the television contracts announced over the past week.

"The Lions could no longer say they couldn't afford to pay him that kind of money," Smith said.

The NFL has agreed to a \$1.5 billion contract for NFC games with Fox television network and \$250 million a year for AFC games with NBC.

Sanders, who was leading the league in rushing when he was injured, was in the final year of a contract that pays him \$1.9 million in salary and bonus money. In November, Smith's agents said they were seeking a deal worth \$18 million. The Lions said they were offering about \$14 million.

"We're obviously pleased that we've been able to reach this agreement," Lions vice president Michael Huyghue said. "Barry is an important part of our team, and this ensures that one of our best offensive weapons is in place for the next four seasons."

Sanders, in a statement released by the Lions, said: "I'm glad this has been resolved, and I'll be here with the Lions."

His contract will be prorated to include this season. Smith would not elaborate on the structure of the deal, but one reason to have players signed before the Dec. 23 deadline was to be able to "front-load" contracts, paying them far more for this year to keep more money available under the cap.



Detroit running back Barry Sanders becomes the highest paid running back with an average \$4.3 million per year salary.

Sanders will be out again Sunday when the Lions, who are tied for first with the Green Bay Packers in the NFC Central, face the Chicago Bears.

"I believe the injury was a blessing in disguise because it didn't jeopardize his career but it let the Lions see just how important he is

to the offense," Smith said. "Sometimes it's difficult to see what you have until it's gone."

Sanders, the 1988 Heisman Trophy winner, had 1,115 yards before he was injured. He owns or shares 12 Detroit records, and is the Lions all-time leading rusher with 6,789 yards.

Raines agrees to return to White Sox

Associated Press

After nearly two months of negotiations, outfielder Tim Raines finally decided to go back to the Chicago White Sox, agreeing Wednesday to an \$11 million, three-year contract.

Raines, 34, hit .306 last season with 16 home runs, 54 RBIs and a .401 on-base percentage. Raines' home-run total this season was the second-highest since he hit 18 in 1987.

Several other players also returned to their old teams, with first baseman Gerald Perry and the St. Louis Cardinals agreeing at \$650,000, down \$150,000 from his 1993 pay.

Just two days after teams got rid of them to avoid salary arbitration, infielder Keith Miller and outfielder Chris Gwynn re-signed with the

Kansas City Royals, pitcher Shawn Boskie re-signed with the Chicago Cubs and infielder Bill Spiers re-signed with the Milwaukee Brewers.

Miller signed for \$700,000, a 35 percent cut from the \$1.09 million he made last season, but he can earn \$200,000 in performance bonuses. Gwynn signed for \$600,000, a raise of \$95,000.

Boskie and the Cubs agreed at \$300,000, a raise of \$90,000. Spiers and the Brewers settled at \$350,000, less than half the \$750,000 he made in 1993. However, he can make \$625,000 more in performance bonuses if he has 575 plate appearances.

Meanwhile, the New York Yankees added Sam Horn, who had four homers and eight RBIs in 12 games for the Cleveland Indians at the end of last season.

Horn, a first baseman and designated hitter, agreed to a minor league contract for \$90,000, and he would get a \$250,000 deal if he makes the big league club. He also could earn \$150,000 in performance bonuses.

Infielder Tim Jones, who became a free agent when St. Louis didn't tender a contract on Monday, agreed to a minor league contract with the Cleveland Indians. Outfielder Chris Jones agreed with the Colorado Rockies on a minor league contract and would get \$175,000 if he makes the big league team.

Among players eligible for arbitration, pitcher Chris Hammond and the Florida Marlins agreed at \$925,000, more than triple his 1993 earnings of \$260,000.

Houston's Jeff Alm calls 911 before committing suicide

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Oilers' Jeff Alm made a frantic 911 call to summon help after a car crash, yelling to the operator, "I have a buddy dying!" Seconds later, the operator heard four gunshots as Alm committed suicide.

Fire department officials Wednesday released a recording of the call Alm made on his cellular phone shortly after his car crashed into a highway guardrail Dec. 14.

His best friend, Sean Lynch, died after being ejected from the car and thrown down an embankment. A despondent Alm fired three shots in the air before turning the gun on himself.

"Sean are you all right?" Alm shouted at the beginning of the call. In the ensuing moments, he tries

to tell the operator the location of the accident.

"Yes, I had an accident on, uh," Alm said. "I had an accident on 59, uh, on 59 north. We're at (expletive) 59 north. Loop, uh, 610. I have a buddy dying!"

The operator tries to get the exact location, and Alm seems shaken and confused as he tries to be precise. After saying "hello," twice, nothing more is heard from Alm. The operator keeps calling out to him.

About 25 seconds after his last words, the first shot is heard, although the operator doesn't know at that time it is a gun firing. The second shot follows about 15 seconds later.

"But it's not quite as loud, so apparently Jeff is moving away from

his car toward the spot where Sean is directly below," Houston homicide Sgt. Johnny Moore said.

The third shot comes about 10 seconds later, and the final one another 10 seconds after that.

The operator repeatedly calls out to the person before finally hanging up.

Police said Tuesday a toxicology report on Lynch showed his blood alcohol content level was 0.30, or three times the legal limit for drivers in Texas. Lynch was the passenger.

Toxicology reports on Alm have not yet been released in part because the doctor handling the case for the Harris County Medical Examiner is on vacation, Moore said.

Moore said he couldn't make any judgment whether Alm was in-

toxicated when he made the call.

"It sounded like someone that has just been involved in an accident, they're excited, they're a little confused," Moore said.

Moore said he didn't know if Alm was familiar with Houston's highway system.

Many highways in the city have an official name and a nickname or two, and the Loop 610 has numerous designations. The crash occurred on a ramp that connects the West Loop South with the northbound lanes of U.S. Highway 59.

Alm and Lynch, both 25, grew up together in Orlando Park, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. Friends said they were very close, and Lynch often visited to watch Alm play.

Mavs tie NBA mark for losses

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — The Dallas Mavericks tied an NBA record for consecutive losses in one season with their 20th straight defeat, 96-86 to the Milwaukee Bucks on Wednesday night.

The Bucks were led by Todd Day with 21 points and Blue Edwards with 19, improving their record to 7-18 overall with just their second victory in 10 games at home.

The Mavericks, 1-23 overall, play Thursday at Minnesota, where they won their only game this season on Nov. 12.

Dallas tied the NBA mark for consecutive losses in a season set by the Philadelphia 76ers from Jan. 9 to Feb. 11, 1973. Cleveland has the overall record for losses with 24 straight over a two-season span in 1982.

Jamal Mashburn led Dallas with 29 points, and Rooks added 17.

The Mavericks, trailing by nine points entering the fourth quarter, appeared ready to make a run when Tim Legler hit a 3-pointer to make it 71-63. But the Bucks scored on a layup by Vin Baker, who later added two free throws to make it 76-64.

Dallas pulled to 90-82 on two free throws by Sean Rooks with 2:52 to play before Day's dunk restored Milwaukee's 10-point lead.

The Bucks ended the third quarter with a 16-6 run, capped by a tip-in by Day, to open a 71-60 lead going into the final quarter.

The Mavericks scored the first five points of the game on a three-point play by Mashburn and a reverse layup by Jim Jackson. A jump shot by Fat Lever and free throw by Mashburn made it 25-18 after one quarter.

The Bucks trailed 37-30 after Mashburn's jumper, but then went on a 16-5 run, including 3-pointers by Lee Mayberry and Edwards, to lead 46-42 at the half.

The Bucks took the lead for the first time in the game on a basket by Baker that made it 39-38 with 3:41 left in the half. Another basket by Baker and Edwards' 3-pointer made it 44-38.

Bulls 106, Timberwolves 98

CHICAGO — Scottie Pippen scored 26 points and Toni Kukoc and Steve Kerr came off the bench to combine for 38, carrying Chicago to its seventh consecutive victory.

The Bulls, who also have won 11 of 12 games, led 80-72 early in the fourth quarter before Kerr's 3-pointer keyed an 8-0 run that put Chicago ahead 88-72 with 6:57 left. Laettner, who scored 21 points for the Timberwolves, then capped a 20-9 burst with a free throw, pulling Minnesota to 97-92 with 1:33 remaining. But Kukoc was fouled driving for the basket and converted the three-point play for a 100-92 lead at 1:14.

Kukoc finished with 21 points and Kerr 17 for the Bulls, while Isaiah Rider scored 25 for the Wolves, who are winless over the Bulls in nine meetings.

The Bulls won despite losing guard B.J. Armstrong with a sprained left ankle less than four minutes into the game.

After the Timberwolves closed to 61-55 on a 22-foot jumper by Rider at 5:50 of the third quarter, Chicago went on a 15-2 run to open its biggest lead, 76-57, on Bill Wennington's tip-in at 1:58. Chicago held a 78-63 lead entering the final

NBA Roundup

quarter. Shooting 60 percent and getting nine points from Kukoc, the Bulls led 28-19 after the first quarter.

Then they went on a 14-5 run at the outset of the second period to open their biggest lead of the first half, 42-24, on a dunk by Pippen at 6:15.

Minnesota was able to close to 54-45 by halftime behind Rider's 17 points.

Heat 98, 76ers 90
PHILADELPHIA — Glen Rice scored 25 points, leading Miami to its first victory in 12 games in Philadelphia.

Clarence Weatherspoon and Dana Barros had 17 points each for the Sixers, who won their three previous home games. Steve Smith added 19 points and Brian Shaw 17 for the Heat.

Two free throws by Smith with 2:18 remaining gave the Heat a 90-84 advantage. The 76ers scored the next four to pull within two before a 3-pointer by Rice with 1:26 left and Shaw's jumper with 50 seconds remaining extended the margin to 95-88.

Miami put Philadelphia in a six-point hole early in the third quarter, but Barros hit a pair of 3-pointers to key a 16-2 run that gave the 76ers a 66-58 lead with 5:51 remaining. The Heat rallied to take a 74-72 edge into the final period, with Matt Geiger scoring the final four points for Miami.

Hawks 108, Celtics 103

BOSTON — Atlanta set a team record with its seventh straight road victory, surviving a late Boston comeback for its 16th win in 17 games as Kevin Willis had a season-high 32 points.

The Hawks led 103-96 with 1:51 left before Xavier McDaniel hit a three-point play and a baseline jumper, making it 103-101 with 1:16 to go.

But the Celtics came no closer as McDaniel, who had a season-high 26 points, was short on a 20-footer that would have tied the game with 46 seconds remaining.

After Willis' two free throws made it 105-101 with 24 seconds to play, Kevin Gamble missed a 16-footer for Boston with 20 seconds left. Dominique Wilkins made one free throw, but Sherman Douglas' basket cut the lead to 106-103 with 10 seconds to play. Two foul shots by Stacey Augmon three seconds later clinched the game.

Augmon had 19 points for Atlanta, which won its second straight game after its 14-game winning streak ended. The Hawks' previous franchise-record for consecutive road victories was six in 1968-69.

Rick Fox scored 19 points, Douglas had 18 points and 13 assists and Ed Pinckney a season-high 17 rebounds for the Celtics, winless in their last three home games.

Willis, whose former season high of 31 points came in his previous game, hit an 11-footer as Atlanta opened the fourth quarter with six straight points. Augmon got the last four as the Hawks went ahead 88-81.

They stretched the lead to 101-92 before two free throws by Douglas and a dunk by McDaniel pulled Atlanta within five.

The Hawks led 32-25 after one period thanks to a 15-2 run that gave them a 32-22 lead.

Hatfield returns to SWC

HOUSTON (AP) — Ken Hatfield, who coached six seasons at Arkansas, returned to the Southwest Conference Wednesday as coach of the Rice Owls, replacing Fred Goldsmith, who resigned Dec. 16 to coach at Duke.

Hatfield has a 113-62-3 record as a head coach over 15 seasons including five years at Air Force, six at Arkansas and most recently, four seasons at Clemson.

"Ken has a reputation as a players' coach and as such he is deeply concerned about all aspects of the lives of his student athletes," said Rice president Malcolm Gillis.

"I know he is committed to continuing to bring recruits into this program who can successfully cope with the rigors of academics while competing successfully as athletes," Gillis said.

Rice had awarded Goldsmith a contract extension through the 1999 as a reward for leading the Owls to their first back to back winning seasons since 1960 and 1961. The Owls hadn't had a winning season since 1963.

Hatfield was an assistant coach at Army, Tennessee and Florida and he was offensive coordinator at Air Force for one year in 1978 before becoming head coach there.

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Dealer Discount-2,540
Sale Price\$28,995

1994 Chevrolet 3/4 Ton
Fleetside Diesel
stk# 94-3778, MSRP- \$21,850,
Farm Bureau Rebate- 500,
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Discount- 2,855
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\$18,532, Rebate-1,000, Dealer Disc-2,537
Sale Price\$14,995

1994 Chev. Caprice Classic
stk# 94-2517, light-blue w/ pinstripe, V-8
split seat, wire wheels, tape, pwr windws/locks,
MSRP-\$21,277, Rebate-1,000, Disc-3,282
Sale Price\$16,995

1994 Chev. S-10 Blazer Tahoe
stk# 94-2572, V-6, auto trans, air, buckets,
pwr windws/locks, tape, alum wheels, tilt,
up, carrier, tilt, MSRP-\$20,243, Rebate-
1,000, Dealer Disc-2,248
Sale Price\$16,995

1994 Chev. S-10 Pickup LS
stk# 94-3512, red, air, white letter tires,
tilt, alum wheels, tape, MSRP-\$12,686,
Dealer Disc-1,691
Sale Price\$10,995

1994 Chev. TX-OK Pickup
stk# 94-3088, V-6, short wide, auto trans,
air, AM/FM, rally tires (white letter), tilt,
moldings, MSRP-\$15,839, Farm Bureau-
500, Dealer Disc-2,344
Sale Price\$12,995

1994 Chev. Silverado SWB
stk# 94-0460, teal, 350, tilt, auto trans, pwr
windws/locks, MSRP- \$20,753, Farm
Bureau- 500, Dealer Discount- 2,656
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SAGGIN: Pulling down pants becomes rage

(From 1C)

More Sports/6C

Dukes agrees. "I think that has a lot to do with it," he said. "With black players, it's a style thing. You wear your shorts down, you're it. Plus it's intimidating. You look like you can play."

Schindler said race "was never a part of the discussion." After Rose graduated from Southwestern in 1991, the Detroit public schools passed a rule outlawing saggin'. Violators can be kicked out for the rest of the game.

The national federation's rule calls for a violator to leave the game, cease saggin' and re-enter at the next dead ball.

"Maybe that's not an appropriate penalty," Schindler said. "Maybe there will have to be more of a penalty needed to stop this behavior."

Bacari Alexander, a senior at Southwestern this season, said he can understand why some are leery of the style.

"I think a lot of older people who officiate find it kind of weird," he said. "I play with a lot of players — black, white, blue, green, it doesn't matter. I've seen Arabs do

it before. The reaction is against young folks, not necessarily black folks."

The style also has caught on with some college teams. Georgia Tech's shorts are bigger than usual this year, and players for No. 1 Arkansas are wearing pants that hang down well below the knees.

Some Top 25 programs, like Indiana, are sticking with the traditional look.

There is no NCAA rule on the length of shorts or how they should be worn, said Laurie Bollig, liaison to the NCAA rules committee. A rule passed in 1991 says men and women must tuck in shirts that are designed to be tucked in, she said.

Schindler said basketball isn't the only high school sport where athletes aren't staying fully clothed.

"We've had complaints in track and field about athletes finishing their races and pulling their pants down to their ankles," he said. "The thing to do today seems to be to pull your pants down."

NBA Results

NBA Standings

By The Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

New York 16 6 727

Orlando 13 10 565

Miami 11 11 470

Boston 11 13 458

Philadelphia 9 14 391

Washington 7 16 304

Central Division

Atlanta 15 7 773

Chicago 15 8 652

Charlotte 13 11 542

Indiana 10 13 435

Cleveland 9 14 349

Detroit 8 15 348

Milwaukee 7 16 380

Western Division

Houston 22 1 687

Utah 17 8 590

San Antonio 15 10 600

Denver 10 13 435

Minnesota 6 16 333

Dallas 1 23 042

Pacific Division

Seattle 20 2 909

Phoenix 17 5 773

Portland 15 10 600

Golden State 12 11 522

LA Clippers 9 13 409

LA Lakers 9 16 360

Sacramento 5 17 227

Wednesday's Games

Late Games Not Included

Atlanta 108, Boston 103

Miami 96, Philadelphia 90

Chicago 106, Minnesota 96

Milwaukee 96, Dallas 86

Washington at LA Clippers, (n)

Thursday's Games

Atlanta at New York, 6:30 p.m.

New Jersey at Orlando, 6:30 p.m.

LA Lakers at Miami, 6:30 p.m.

Boston at Charlotte, 6:30 p.m.

Milwaukee at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.

Chicago at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.

Dallas at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Denver at Houston, 7:30 p.m.

Utah at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.

Phoenix at Seattle, 9 p.m.

LA Clippers at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

Washington at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.

Indiana at Portland, 9:30 p.m.

Bucks 96, Mavericks 86

DALLAS (96)

Jones 1-10 2-20, Mashburn 10-21

6-11 20, Rooks 6-11 12, Ewing 12-22

2-7 7, Jackson 7-16 0-0 14, Dwyer 0-0 0-0, Smith 3-5 0-0 0, Lever 1-3 0-0 2, Harris 0-0 0-0 0, Legler 0-0 1-1 9, Howard 0-0 0-0 0, Total 33-75 16-20 86

MILWAUKEE (96)

Baker 5-10 3-13, Norman 4-9 1-20

10, Brickowski 6-10 0-0 12, Edwards 11-5 4-19, Murdoch 2-5 1-2

5, Arent 4-8 3-9 1, Day 6-13 9-21, Mayberry 2-6 0-0 5, Barry 0-0 0-0 0, Total 36-75 16-21 96

DALLAS 25 17 28-86

Milwaukee 18 25 25-86

3-Point goals—Atlanta 4-11

Legler 2-4, Harper 1-1, Mashburn 1-0

6, Milwaukee 3-6 (Mayberry 1-1, Edwards 1-1, Norman 1-2, Murdoch 0-1, Day 0-1, Foy 0-1)

Rebounds—Dallas 39 (Mashburn, Smith 8), Milwaukee 52 (Norman 13), Assists—Dallas 19 (Mashburn 5), Milwaukee 25 (Norman 7), Total fouls—Dallas 24, Milwaukee 20

Technicals—Legler, Day, Milwaukee coach Dunlap, A-15,032.

Hawks 108, Celtics 103

ATLANTA (108)

Wilkins 6-21 2-3 14, Willis 14-23

4-3 32, Konczak 5-10 2-6, Auguston 5-13

9-11 19, Blaylock 6-13 0-2 14, Elio 5-8 2-2 14, Lang 0-0 0-0 0, Kelle 1-2 7-8 9, Whitley 0-0 0-0 0, Total 40-86 24-31 108

BOSTON (103)

Gamble 4-11 2-2 11, Pritchett 4-8

2-10, Perkins 3-7 1-7, Brown 2-7 0-4

Douglas 9-17 2-2 18, East 1-4 0-2

McDaniel 12-18 2-2 26, Radja 3-8 0-6

Fox 9-16 1-1 19, Corcharin 3-8 0-6

Total 46-96 10-21 103

Atlanta 32 22 26-108

Boston 25 28 22-103

3-Point goals—Atlanta 4-8 (Elio 3-0 0-0, Fox 1-1 0-0 1, Corcharin 1-1 0-0 0)

2-2, Blaylock 2-4, Wilkins 0-2, Boston 1-2

(Gamble 1-1, Brown 0-1), Fouled out—None

Rebounds—Atlanta 54 (Willis 11), Boston 52 (Pritchett 17)

Assists—Atlanta 24 (Blaylock 9), Boston 31 (Douglas 13)

Total fouls—Atlanta 15, Boston 23, A-14,890.

Heat 98, 76ers 90

MIAMI (98)

Sally 14-1 2-3, Rice 10-17 6-22

25, Sealy 3-6 0-3 9, Smith 6-14 7-19

19, Miner 3-6 0-0 6, Long 3-10 3-9 9, Shaw 7-12 3-4 17, Geiger 3-3 2-5

C. Lee 1-3 0-0 2, Total 37-75 21-25 98

PHILADELPHIA (90)

Perry 2-6 0-0 4, Weathermon 6-12

5-6 17, Bradley 4-12 0-0 8, Barry 4-10

7-17 17, Hornebeck 6-12 3-3 16, Malone 5-14 5-15, Leckner 0-0 0-0

0-0, Green 3-8 0-0 3, Woodridge 2-4 2-4

6, Dawkins 0-1 0-0 0, Total 37-75 22-26 90

Miami 24 28 22-98

Philadelphia 28 24 22-90

3-Point goals—Miami 3-11 (Rice 3-7, Coles 0-1, Smith 0-1, Shaw 0-1)

Philadelphia 4-15 (Barros 2-3, Green 1-2, Hornebeck 1-5, Weathermon 0-1, Perry 0-1), Fouled out—Sealy

9, Philadelphia 48 (Malone 14), 5 (Sealy 9), Philadelphia 48 (Malone 14), 5 (Sealy 9)

Bulls 106, Timberwolves 96

MINNESOTA (96)

Lester 5-11 15-21, Person 2-10

0-0 4, Brown 1-3 0-0 2, M. Williams 5-9

2-3 12, Rider 9-18 6-25, Bailey 4-0 0-8

5, West 1-2 1-1 15, Longley 0-1 0-6

5, Smith 1-2 0-5, Davis 0-1 0-0 0, Frank 0-0 0-0 0, Total 34-74 29-97

Chicago (106)

Pippen 12-17 2-2 26, Grant 4-10

6-14, King 1-4 0-0 2, Armstrong 0-1 0-0

0-0, Myers 3-8 3-9, Kerr 7-12 1-15

10, Wade 1-0 0-0 1, B. Williams 0-0 0-0

0-0, Smith 1-2 0-0 0, Total 34-74 29-97

Chicago 28 24 28-106

Minnesota 21 28 22-96

3-Point goals—Chicago 1-5 (Pippen 1-3, Grant 0-2, King 0-0, Myers 0-0, Wade 0-0, Smith 0-0, Davis 0-0, Frank 0-0)

Total fouls—Chicago 21, Minnesota 21, Chicago 21, A-18,312.

NHL Results

NHL Standings

By The Associated Press

All Times CST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

NY Rangers 23 8 3 49 126

New Jersey 19 11 4 42 120

Philadelphia 18 16 2 38 136

Washington 15 16 3 36 97

Islanders 14 15 3 31 120

Florida 13 15 5 31 91

Tampa Bay 10 20 4 24 81

Northeast Division

Pittsburgh 17 9 7 41 125

Boston 16 10 7 39 110

Buffalo 14 13 6 35 115

Montreal 14 13 6 34 105

Quebec 14 15 5 33 122

Hartford 11 19 3 25 97

Ottawa 8 24 1 10 147

Western Conference

Central Division

Toronto 21 9 5 43 124

St. Louis 17 11 5 39 105

Dallas 16 12 7 39 124

Detroit 18 13 2 38 114

Chicago 16 11 4 36 97

Winnipeg 12 19 5 29 127

Pacific Division

Calgary 19 5 5 43 134

Vancouver 18 16 0 36 113

Anheim 13 20 2 28 101

San Jose 11 19 6 28 113

Los Angeles 12 19 6 28 113

Edmonton 8 23 5 21 99

Wednesday's Games

Late Games Not Included

Hartford 6, New Jersey 3

N.Y. Islanders 5, Montreal 3

Florida 3, N.Y. Rangers 2

San Jose 2, Toronto 2, tie

Calgary at Edmonton, (n)

Dallas at Anaheim, (n)

Thursday's Games

Pittsburgh at Boston, 6:30 p.m.

Montreal at Buffalo, 6:30 p.m.

Hartford at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.

Toronto at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.

Detroit at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.

N.Y. Rangers at Washington, 6:35 p.m.

San Jose at Chicago, 7:35 p.m.

Tampa Bay at St. Louis, 7:35 p.m.

Quebec at Winnipeg, 7:35 p.m.

Calgary vs. Vancouver at Saskatoon, Sask., 8:35 p.m.

Dallas at Los Angeles, 9:35 p.m.

16-35, Florida 7-10-3, 20, Power

Play Opportunities—New York 2

Florida 2, 2 of 3, Goals—New

York, Richter, 17-5-3 (20 shots-17

saves), Florida, VanBerkoupe, 11-10

(35-35), A-14,706.

Whalers 6, Devils 3

NEW JERSEY (6)

First Period—1, New Jersey, Gurn

6 (Dowd, Zelenka), 5:16, 2

Hartford, Currywirth 5 (Chibrikov

Patrick), 8:36, 3, Hartford, Sandak

(Nylander, Burt), 16:17 (pp), 4, Hart

ford, Verbeek 17 (Tracy Eaton), 19:39

Second Period—5, New Jersey, Zelenka

15 (Dowd, Morko), 10:46, 6

Hartford, Cassels 4 (Verbeek, Storm), 15:50

Third Period—7, Hartford, Sandak

20 (Nylander, Zelenka), 5:03

(pp), 8, Hartford, Verbeek 18 (Cas

sels, Godynyuk), 13:10, 9, New

Jersey, Richer 13 (MacLean, Miller),

18:58 (pp), 3

Shots on goal—New Jersey 7-12

10-25, Hartford 10-13-26, Power

Play Opportunities—New Jersey 1

of 3, Hartford 2 of 4, Goals—

New Jersey, Terrieri 10 (shots-7

saves), Stokicewicz, 0-2-0 (0-00

second, 18-15), Hartford, Reese 7

(pp), 6, Pietrangola, 5-10-1 (15-15 first

22-20), A-8,548.

Oilers 7, Flames 3

CALGARY (7)

First Period—1, Calgary, Reichel

11 (Perry, Roberts), 2:43 (pp), 2

Edmonton, Manson 1 (DeBruin),

8:26, 3, Edmonton, Annett 14 (Ciger

Baker), 10:23, 4, Calgary, Fleury 15

(MacLennan, Roberts), 12:33 (pp), 5

Edmonton, Malby 4 (Weight), 17:09

Second Period—4, Calgary, Ovi

8 (Baker, Drury), 15:20 (0-00

second, 18-15), Edmonton, Reese 7

(pp), 6, Pietrangola, 5-10-1 (15-15 first

22-20), A-8,548.

Oilers 7, Flames 3

CALGARY (7)

First Period—1, Calgary, Reichel

11 (Perry, Roberts), 2:43 (pp), 2

Edmonton, Manson 1 (DeBruin),

8:26, 3, Edmonton, Annett 14 (Ciger

Baker), 10:23, 4, Calgary, Fleury 15

(MacLennan, Roberts), 12:33 (pp), 5

Edmonton, Malby 4 (Weight), 17:09

Second Period—4, Calgary, Ovi

8 (Baker, Drury), 15:20 (0-00

second, 18-15), Edmonton, Reese 7

(pp), 6, Pietrangola, 5-10-1 (15-15 first

22-20), A-8,548.

Oilers 7, Flames 3

CALGARY (7)

First Period—1, Calgary, Reichel

11 (Perry, Roberts), 2:43 (pp), 2

Edmonton, Manson 1 (DeBruin),

8:26, 3, Edmonton, Annett 14 (Ciger

Baker), 1

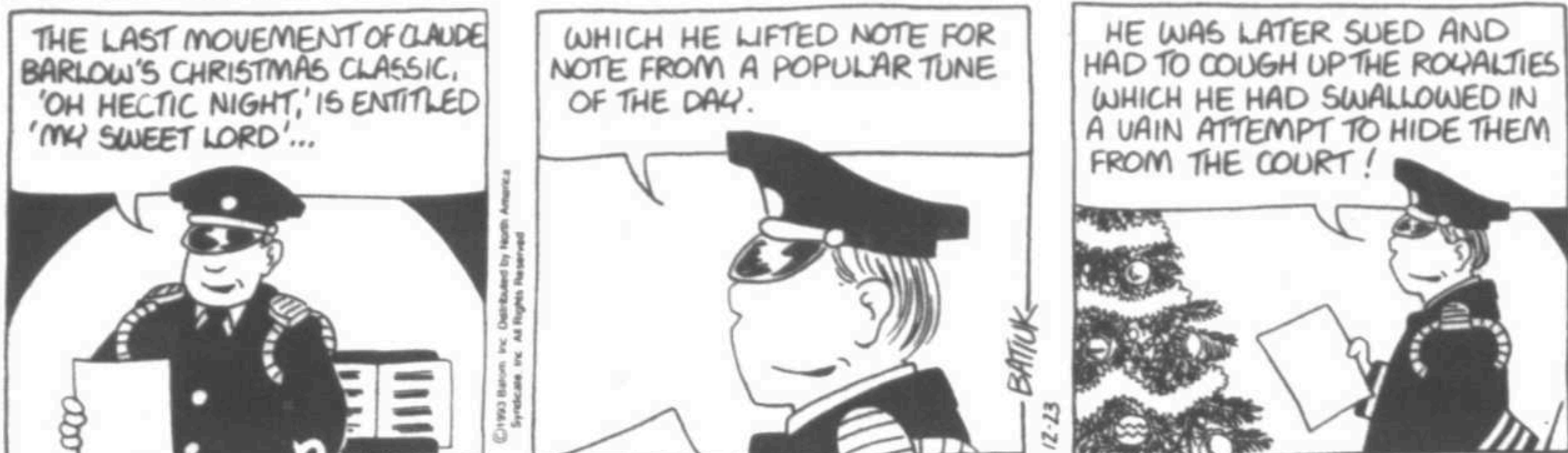
CALVIN AND HOBBS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



LUANN



BLONDIE



MARY WORTH



BEETLE BAILEY



PEANUTS



SHOE



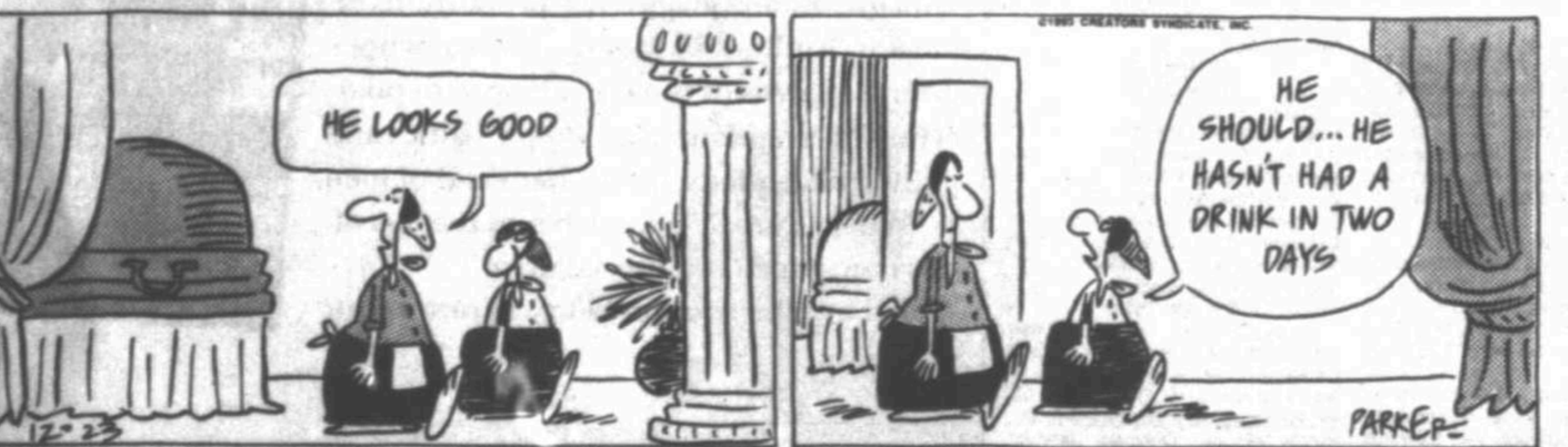
ANDY CAPP



CATHY



THE WIZARD OF ID



STEVE ROPER



Your Horoscope

By Jeane Dixon

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1993

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! IN THE NEXT YEAR OF YOUR LIFE: You will want to follow a fast-paced schedule. Success is within your grasp. Romance could lead to a permanent commitment. Be careful not to press your partner too hard. A retiree shares a strong bond with youngsters eager to learn. Your business interests could be affected by the concessions a labor group wins. Guard your public image.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DATE: actress Elizabeth Hartman, soap star Susan Lucci, actor Corey Haim, portrait photographer Yousuf Karsh.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Duck phone calls until you have more answers. Your financial security is enhanced by a loved one's actions. Show how much you care. A friendship could suddenly turn romantic. Are you ready?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Now that you have regained your stride, your competitors have their work cut out for them. The mail brings glad tidings — perhaps an unexpected check.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Force yourself to complete a study or paper on time. Lunching with an old friend will boost your spirits. Read and reread agreements before signing

them. If in doubt, seek legal counsel.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The way you handle office pressures and interruptions determines how fast you move up the corporate ladder. Do not let false pride stand between you and true love. Partner wants a commitment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A change of environment helps turn things around for you. A career decision is in someone else's hands. Concentrate on doing your job as best you can. Romance involves you in new activities.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Others begin to appreciate what you are trying to accomplish. To save yourself unnecessary trouble, follow all safety rules. Beware of a member of the opposite sex who tries to deceive you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Things begin to move in your favor. An overdue debt is repaid. Romantic partner may need time to cool off. Friends give you a helping hand with a holiday project or children's charity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be content with a promise you extract

today. It will give you something to build on. Good timing brings success in business or finance. You could receive special honors or a bonus.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Although others may be willing to make excuses for you, it is time to shape up. You are more capable than your recent work reflects. A project's successful completion boosts your confidence.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Success is earned through a combination of inspiration and perspiration. Sticking to your original plan will keep a project on track. Romantic feelings grow deeper.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A decorating project involves hard work but will produce a delightful, fresh look. Friends may be unreliable. A new family or fitness venture affords you quality time with your children. Practice what you preach.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A candid chat with your mate or favorite date leads to better rapport. Your excellent manners and sensitivity to people's feelings make you a popular guest. Go with the social flow tonight.

(For your personalized daily Jeane Dixon horoscope, based on your own date of birth, call 1-900-988-7788. Your phone company will bill you 95 cents a minute.)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

HANDLE WITH CARE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A 7 2
 ♥ K 6 3
 ♦ 8 5 4 3
 ♣ Q 10 3

WEST
 ♠ J 10 8 6
 ♥ J 9 8 4
 ♦ A J 2
 ♣ 7 5

EAST
 ♠ Q 9 5
 ♥ 10 7
 ♦ K Q 9 7 6
 ♣ 8 6 4

SOUTH
 ♠ K 4 3
 ♥ A Q 5 2
 ♦ 10
 ♣ A K J 9 2

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
 2 ♥ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
 3 ♠ Pass 5 ♠ Pass
 Pass Pass

diamond stopper, wisely selected the suit game.

West led the jack of spades. There were sure losers in spades and diamonds, so the success of the contract seemed to depend on either a 3-3 heart break or else negotiating a heart ruff in dummy. Declarer won the first spade trick in hand, drew two rounds of trumps with the king and queen and then cashed the ace and king of hearts.

When declarer next led a heart from dummy, East ruffed and returned a spade. Since declarer had no entry to hand to use the queen of hearts for a spade discard, the defenders were able to take a diamond and a spade for down one.

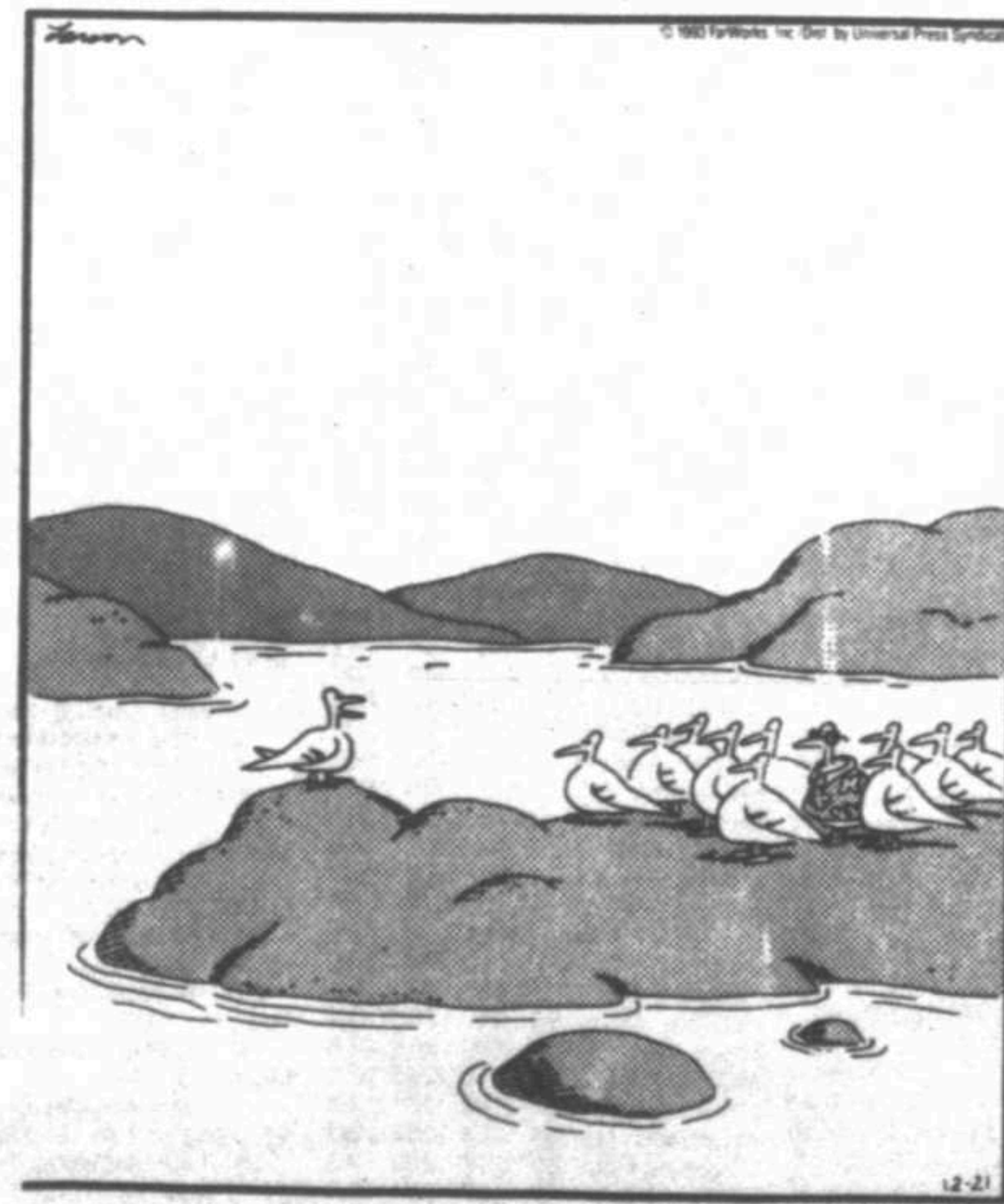
Declarer was on the right track.

South's mistake came at trick one—the spade lead should have been won with dummy's ace. The play then proceeds as above with one slight difference. If East ruffs the third heart and reverts to a spade, declarer wins in hand, discards a spade on the queen of hearts and ruffs a spade for the fulfilling trick.

It does not help East to refuse to ruff the third heart. Declarer ruffs the fourth heart with the ten of trumps and loses only a spade and a diamond trick.

For information about the Charles Goren newsletter for bridge players, write Goren Bridge Letter, P.O. Box 4426, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4426.

THE FAR SIDE



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 then enter
 category
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REVIEW & PREVIEW
 Every Saturday in the
 Midland Reporter-Telegram

DOONESBURY



GARFIELD



FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



PEOPLE

NFL: Super Bowl's halftime show to go country this year

ATLANTA — The halftime show at the Super Bowl is going country.

Wynonna Judd, Tanya Tucker, Clint Black and Travis Tritt will perform at halftime during the Jan. 30 football game in the Georgia Dome, the National Football League announced Wednesday.

The country singers will be accompanied by about 2,000 performers from the Atlanta area.

Natalie Cole will sing the national anthem and Joe Namath has coin toss duty.

Glady Knight is host of the pregame show, a salute to Georgia music makers that will include Charlie Daniels and Kris Kross.

The NFL was turned down by Garth Brooks, Bruce Springsteen, Elton John, Paul McCartney and Billy Joel.

Last year in Pasadena, Calif., Michael Jackson was the lone performer.

NEW YORK — Leona Helmsley, the "Queen of Mean," is coming through for homeless children.

Mrs. Helmsley and her husband, Harry, will pay \$5,000 to replace gifts stolen from a shelter over the weekend, said their publicist, Howard J. Rubenstein.

And the multi-millionaire couple will give \$20,000 for more gifts, Rubenstein said Wednesday.

"Let's make this a great Christmas for them and show them that New Yorkers really care," he quoted Mrs. Helmsley as saying.

Mrs. Helmsley is finishing up a 30-month tax-evasion sentence in home confinement at her Park Lane Hotel.

ROCK HILL, S.C. — A trip to the mall ended in tears for Tammy Sue Chapman, the daughter of fallen evangelists Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker.

Mrs. Chapman hit the mall Tuesday with her two sons and her mother.

"Tammy Sue left crying because of all of

the reporters," said Tammy Faye Bakker, who recently remarried. "This was supposed to be a family day and it upset her a little."

After 30 years of marriage to Jim Bakker, Tammy Faye Bakker filed for divorce in 1992 and married developer Roe Messner in November.

LOS ANGELES — Rap star Snoop Doggy Dogg signed autographs and passed out Christmas presents to children at a hospital.

He made the visit Tuesday to the Martin Luther King Jr.-Drew Medical Center in the poverty-stricken Watts area after giving away gifts Monday at Compton City Hall.

Snoop, whose real name is Calvin Broadus, pleaded innocent earlier this month to a murder charge. Authorities allege he was involved in a shooting that killed a man in August. His bodyguard has been charged with being the gunman.

RICHMOND, Va. — Bill Cosby and Cicely Tyson are working with Gov. L. Douglas Wilder to build a slave museum.

The two entertainers, historian John Hope Franklin, and publishers Lerone Bennett Jr. of Ebony magazine and Earl Graves of Black Enterprise magazine have met with Wilder to discuss plans for the museum in Jamestown, said the state's secretary of administration, Ruby Martin.

The group agreed to help launch the museum through a private, nonprofit organization incorporated in Virginia as The Jamestown Slave Museum, Ms. Martin said.

Wilder's proposed state budget includes \$100,000 in seed money for the project.

"I went to a restaurant with a friend," a troubled reader of Good Housekeeping writes, "where a foil-wrapped baked potato was served with each of our dinners. My friend removed the foil and crumpled it into a ball. She then ate the potato, skin and all. Was this correct?"

Etiquette expert Elizabeth Post said, "The only mistake your friend made was to crumple the foil into a ball rather than just put it to one side or on her butter plate."

But Letitia Baldrige, whose latest book is "Letitia Baldrige's New Complete Guide to Executive Manners" (Rawson, \$30), disagreed. "If you love the skin," she said, "take the foil off with your fingers and roll it into a small ball. The smaller the amount of foil showing, the better."

Doesn't this conflict with Post's advice? "I think you should do what you jolly well please," said Baldrige.

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram wire services.

TODAY'S TV SCHEDULE

THURSDAY PRIME TIME			December 23, 1993		For complete information 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	KMD	2	News 236	Wheel of Fortune	Walt: Return of a Legend 1743	Matlock: The Class 4061	Matlock: The Class 4061	PrimeTime Live 4205	News 10878	Cheers 29526	Real Story: Patrol 07878	Nightline 07878	
1	KPEL	24	Full House 81859	Designing Women	The Simpsons	'Cool ... ' Xmas	In Living Color	Heran's Head	Kung Fu: The Legend Continues 79675	Code 3 28014	In Living Color	In the Heat of the Night 64965	Married ... Children
2	KOBA	7	News 3120	Rescue 911 4472	Garfield Christmas	'Twas the Night ...	Eye to Eye With Connie Chung 28323	Second Chances 15859	News 6951675	Late Show With David Letterman (10:35)	Movie 11210	Late Night O'Brien	
9	KWLS	9	News 1323	A Current Affair	About You	Wings 8659	Boyz n the 4168	John Larroquette 37507	Cafe Americain	News 3326052	The Tonight Show (10:35) 8552156	Movie 11210	
12	KMLM	42	Prime Time Prizes 856120			LoLonde	Dwight Thompson	Prizes the Lord 860217					
36	KVOC	36	McNeill/Lesher News-hour 839507	West Texas Journal	Wild America	Mystery! (Part 2 of 2) 125781	Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory 112217	To Be Announced 116304					
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					
1	CNBC	8	Your Portfolio	Money Talk	Steals and Deals	Equal Time	Pozner/Donahue 6028149	Tom Snyder 6003395	Real Personal	Equal Time	Pozner/Donahue 6470089		
10	WGN	10	Designing Women	NBA Basketball: Chicago Bulls at Detroit Pistons 962233				News: Sanders, Payne 905558	Night Court	Highlander 614033			
11	DWTS	11	Andy Griffith	NBA Basketball: Atlanta Hawks at New York Knicks 4637864				Spencer's Mountain (8:50) (R) ** (Herry Fonda, Maureen O'Hara) 836743					
20	BET	20	Sanford	Happenin' ... Happenin' ... Comicview	Video Soul								
23	FAM	23	The Waltons: The Secret 635743	The Young Riders 294410	Father Dowling Mysteries 270830			The 700 Club 290694	Comedy Screen	Bonanza: It's a Small World 293781			
27	EWTH	27	Daily Mass	James Galway's/Carol	God Bless	Rosary	Closer	Choices	Apostle	Lumen	Daily Mass		
35	CNN	35	Moneyline	Crossfire	PrimeNews	Larry King Live		Year in Review	Sports	Moneyline	Newsnight	Showbiz	
36	ESPN	36	SportsCenter	Boxing 856217				College Basketball: Maui Invitational, Championship Game 858410	SportsCenter	7K World 871589	Fishing 871589		
37	USA	37	Major Dad 936859	Wings 950439	Murder, She Wrote 310897	Wild Card (PG-13, R) ** (Powers Boothe, Cindy Pickett) 390033		Wings 384507	Wings 393525	Odd Couple	Quantum Leap		
39	A&E	39	In Search Of ... 486439	The Real West: Trailblazers and Scouts 743101	The Nutcracker 763965	Dynageti 31941	Bob Hewarth	Mary Tyler Moore	Mary Tyler Moore	An Evening at the Improv: Neil Carter 742472	The Real West: Trailblazers and Scouts 190255		
41	NICK	41	Looney Tunes	Bulfinch	Partridge Family	Get Smart 129994	Dragnet	Mary Tyler Moore	Mary Tyler Moore	Dick Van Dyke	The Lucy Show	Alfred Hitchcock	Superman 455323
43	UNF	43	Unsolved Mysteries	L.A. Law 274656	Wildflower (91) ** (Beau Bridges) 287120	Crossfire	Unhooked	Blavindos 81255	Noticiero Univision	El Supersabido 8143	Carritinas, Perla Aguilar	Mysteries	thirtythree...
49	LIFE	49	Doe Murders, on Camino 59410	Valentina 64781	Conan Salvaje 4011	Lenny Loco 18743							
52	HSE	52	Warren Outdoors	Honey Hole Mag.	Tennis: Compaq Grand Slam Cup, First Semifinal 628435								
53	COM	53	Kids in the Hall	Whose Line Is It?	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	The A-List	Stand-up Stand-up	Mystery Science Theater 3000 1878255	
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					
13	DISC	13	Incredible Animals	Pet Connection	Mysterious World	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	Police Squad!	Police Squad!
15	AMC	15	The Hurricane (37) ** (Dorothy Lamour, Jon Hall)			Blackboard, the Pirate (52) ** (Robert Newton, Linda Bugey Malone (G, 76) ** (Scott Baio, Jodie Foster)							
16	TNN	16	Dance Line	C'try News	Riders in the Sky News	Music City Tonight 822830		Club Dance 649575	C'try News	Riders in the Sky News			
21	TNT	21	Bugs Bunny's All-Stars	Meet Me in St. Louis (44) ** (Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien)				Life Remembers 632395	Robert and Marian (PG, 76) ** (Sean Connery, Bette Midler)				
22	HBO	22	Millennium (4:30)	'Summer Rental' (PG, 35) ** (John Cusack, Richard Craven) 277878	The Swordsman (R, 92) (Lorenzo Lamas, Claire Standfield) 110859			Inside the NFL 122694	Unforgiven (R, 92) ** 904655				
23	TMC	23	Secret Places (5:20) (PG, 34) ** 70674414	Used Cars (R, 90) ** (Kurt Russell, Jack Warden) 545910				Ghostbusters (5:55) (PG, 34) ** (Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd) 8197104	Endino Man (10:45) (PG, 32) ** 2089189				
25	MAX	25	The Last Dragon (S) (PG, 15, 92) ** 913035	The Lover (R, 92) ** (Jane March, Tony Leung) 370459				Howard End (PG, 32) ** (Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thomsen) 819149	Double Trouble				
29	VC	29	Made in America (S)	Made in America (PG-13, 93) ** 13226235				Made in America (PG-13, 93) ** 3938781					
30	HC1	30	Poesse (R, 93) ** (Mario Van Peebles) 3932507			Sine of the Night (R, 93) 3937662				Bolling Point (R, 93) ** (Wesley Snipes) 7575675			
31	CHITS	31	Weekend at Bernie's (PG, 93) ** 7966101			Weekend at Bernie's (PG, 93) ** 7968946				Weekend at Bernie's (PG, 93) ** 2895656			
32	DISH	32	The Comic Book Christmas Caper (PG) (Jeremy Renner) 193830	John Warden	Weekend at Bernie's (PG, 93) ** (Doe Wallace, Stone) 715578								
33	SHOW	33	Oddball Hall (5:30) (PG, 93) ** 271743	The Lawnmower Man (R, 92) ** (Jeff Fahey, Pierce Brosnan)				Mr. Saturday Night (R, 92) ** (Billy Crystal, David Byrne) 467236					

Rencher's 33 hands Texas win

Associated Press

LAHAINA, Hawaii — Terrence Rencher scored 33 points Wednesday to lead Texas to a 97-85 victory over Tennessee Tech in the consolation round of the Maui Invitational.

Rencher, a junior, was two points off his season high in a win at Nebraska and four off his career high against Virginia Commonwealth as a freshman. He was 14-for-20 from the field and handed out six assists.

SWC Basketball

Texas (3-4) will play the winner of the Notre Dame-Chaminade game for fifth place on Thursday.

The Longhorns led just 44-41 at halftime despite Tennessee Tech (2-5) going more than eight minutes without a field goal.

Seton Hall 62, Texas A&M 55 EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Arturas Karnishovas scored 17 points and Dwight Brown made a crucial block with 56 seconds to play to allow Seton Hall to hold off a furious rally by Texas A&M.

The Pirates (4-2) appeared on cruise control for a third straight win when they limited Texas A&M to 25.8 percent shooting from the field in the first half and then opened a 17-point lead with 12:51 to play.



Tennessee Tech's Robert West, center, gets tangled up with Texas' Reggie Freeman (32) during cage action Wednesday.

Baylor 87, Texas Southern 73 WACO — Aundre Branch scored 27 points and pulled down a career-high 13 rebounds to lead the Baylor Bears to a 87-73 victory over Texas Southern University Wednesday night.

The Bears won their sixth straight game and improved to 7-1, while Texas Southern fell to 3-6. The Sun Devils opened the game with an 18-2.

Arizona State 68, SMU 58 (OT) TEMPE, Ariz. — Ron Riley scored a game-high 25 points to lead Arizona State to an overtime victory over Southern Methodist in non-conference action Wednesday night.

Riley, a sophomore forward, hit two of his five 3-pointers in overtime as Arizona State (3-3) outscored Southern Methodist 17-7 in the extra session.

Kansas nips Indiana

Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Freshman Jacques Vaughn hit a 3-pointer with 0.2 seconds left in overtime to give No. 6 Kansas an 86-83 victory over No. 12 Indiana on Wednesday night, the fifth straight time the Jayhawks have beaten the Hoosiers.

Top 25 Roundup

Damon Bailey had pulled Indiana into an 83-83 tie with 18.3 seconds to go with a jumper that gave him a career-high 36 points, all but six after halftime.

Bailey made two free throws to start the overtime and gave the Hoosiers (5-2) a 72-70 lead. The teams traded baskets until Sean Pearson hit a 3-pointer, Bailey missed a shot and Steve Woodberry connected with 30.2 seconds to play for an 83-80 Kansas lead.

Bailey tied it with a 3-pointer with 18.3 seconds left before the Jayhawks (11-1) won it on Vaughn's shot from the right of the circle.

Richard Scott led the Jayhawks with 23 points and 10 rebounds. Vaughn and Woodberry had 13 points each.

Both teams have had trouble shooting this season and each finished at 42 percent after bettering 50 percent in the three previous games.

Kansas led throughout the second half until Pat Graham hit consecutive 3-pointers to put Indiana ahead 68-65 with 3:07 to play.

Greg Ostertag, fouled the next two times Kansas came downcourt, made three of free throws to tie it, then missed. Scott rebounded the shot and put it back in for a 70-68 Kansas lead.

Missouri 108, No. 19 Illinois 107 ST. LOUIS — Lamont Frazier made five free throws in the final 64 seconds and Missouri beat No. 19 Illinois in three overtimes.

Illinois had a chance to win the game with time expired in the second overtime, but freshman Kiwane Garris missed two free throws — to the delight of a roaring sellout crowd of 18,273 — and the teams played another 5 minutes.

Ironically, Garris had made 27 of 28 free throws (96 percent) coming into the game.

Garris hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer in the third overtime, but it came after Frazier's last two free throws gave Missouri (6-1) a 108-104 advantage with 3.5 seconds remaining.

Illinois (6-2) missed 11 of 21 free throws in the three extra periods.

No. 3 Duke 79, Iowa 76 IOWA CITY, Iowa — Cherokee Parks scored 18 points and Antonio Lang and Chris Collins added 17 each as No. 3 Duke gave coach Mike Krzyzewski his 400th victory over fast-closing Iowa.

Krzyzewski, in his 19th season of coaching, has a 400-177 record and is 327-118 at Duke. He is the 78th major-college coach to win 400 games.

Grant Hill added 15 points for Duke (6-0), which snapped Iowa's 43-game nonconference winning streak in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Russ Millard scored a career-high 25 points, 15 in the second half, to rally Iowa (5-2), and James Winters added 22.

Iowa roared back from a 52-34 second-half deficit, with Millard, Winters and Kenyon Murray combining for 12 points in a 20-4 run that pulled the Hawkeyes to within 56-54 with 12:01 remaining.

More Sports/10C

No. 20 Cincinnati 78, Miami, Ohio 75

CINCINNATI, Ohio — LaZelle Durden hit a 3-pointer, Antonio Wingfield a jumper and Keith Gregor two free throws as No. 20 Cincinnati held off Miami of Ohio.

Miami (3-3) got to 65-63 with 2:59 to play, but Durden connected from long range and Wingfield added a basket to give the Bearcats (8-2) a 70-65 advantage with 1:19 left.

Gregor's two free throws in the closing seconds kept Miami at bay after Hackim, who finished with 29 points, hit a 3-pointer and Jamie Mahaffey added a basket to cut the Bearcats lead to three points.

The game was decided at the foul line, where Cincinnati made 22 of 27 to Miami's 9 of 17.

No. 21 Syracuse 81, Miami 52 SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Adrian Autry and Lawrence Moten helped stake No. 21 Syracuse to a big first-half lead and the Orangemen turned the tables on the Big East's top defense, defeating Miami.

The loss kept Miami (6-2, 0-2 Big East) winless in 19 road games since joining the league in 1991.

Syracuse (7-1, 1-1) hit a season-high 11 3-pointers, one shy of the school record set in 1991 against Notre Dame. The Orangemen made six in the first half in building a 47-23 lead. Syracuse hit seven 3-pointers against both Lafayette and Cornell earlier this year.

Autry, who matched his season high with 20 points.

No overconfidence for Dallas

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Nobody gets overconfident at Valley Ranch when the Redskins are coming.

In fact, Dallas coach Jimmy Johnson is glad his Cowboys are playing archrival Washington this week.

It keeps his team from thinking about the Jan. 2 NFC title showdown with the New York Giants.

"There might be some talk whether we would look ahead to the New York Giants' game in two weeks, but I don't think there is any danger of that happening because of the way we played against Washington the first time and because of the rivalry between the two clubs," Johnson said Tuesday.

"Washington's big win against Atlanta last week should get the attention of our players," Johnson said. "This is a very important game in our Super Bowl stretch run. We can't afford to look ahead."

Dallas, which defeated the Giants 31-9 earlier in the season, is 10-4 overall, a game behind New York.

The more Johnson looks at the Cowboys' record the

more pleased he has become about their defense of the Super Bowl title.

"We are just one play away from having the same record as we had last year at this time," he said.

He was referring to Leon Lett's Thanksgiving Day blunder against Miami that resulted in a 16-14 loss. Lett touched the ball downfield after a field goal was blocked. The Dolphins recovered with six seconds left and kicked the game-winning field goal.

"We're still a pretty good team," Johnson said. "We've overcome more injuries than we had last year. We're about where we were a year ago. We still have the ability to win any Sunday."

Johnson said the Cowboys were solid in all three phases.

"We're on a good roll with the kicking game, our offense has picked it up, and I like the intensity I've seen on defense," Johnson said.

Del Greco finally accepted

HOUSTON (AP) — Al Del Greco finally feels accepted as the Houston Oilers' placekicker, even if it's taken him three years to prove himself.

Del Greco rescued the Oilers from a disastrous placekicking dilemma in 1991, then kicked 21 of 27 field goals in 1992.

But until Sunday, when Del Greco broke two records held by popular predecessor Tony Zendejas, the 10-year-veteran thought fans didn't trust him.

"Even when I was kicking good I was always in Tony's shadow," Del Greco said. "Tony was such a great kicker and still is. Now it's something I can point to people and say 'I'm as good as he is and I had a good year.'"

Del Greco has kicked four field goals in each of the last two weeks, giving him 116 points this season. Zendejas, now with the Los Angeles Rams, scored 115 points in 1989, as George Blanda did in 1960.

Del Greco also broke Zendejas' club record for field goals in a season.

His boots of 34, 22, 33 and 21 yards in Sunday's 26-17 victory over Pittsburgh that clinched the AFC Central Division title for the second time in three seasons gave him 27, beating Zendejas' mark by one.

"I read a couple of weeks ago, 'until he does something like that (breaks the record)', the thought to

Tony will always be here. If he breaks the record maybe his (Zendejas') memory will blur," Del Greco said.

The Oilers lost Zendejas before the 1991 season to Plan B free agency in a move many fans considered a management bungle.

Because of Zendejas' success and popularity, whoever replaced him was sure to face intense scrutiny. Zendejas going 17-for-17 his first year as a Ram made the situation even tougher.

Ian Howfield was the first to try out, but he was cut after missing a game-winning kick.

In came Del Greco.

In seven games, hitting 10 of 13 field goals in seven games in 1991 and a career-best 21 of 27 last season.

But Del Greco still felt he was viewed as second-best to Zendejas.

"I don't want it to sound like that was my goal to beat Tony," Del Greco said. "Tony's a good friend. I just knew I'd never be considered successful until I broke his record."

Two missed field goals tainted Del Greco's 1992 season.

Although he kicked a 39-yarder in overtime to beat Kansas City in September, he later missed a 39-yarder in a 21-20 loss to Pittsburgh and a 41-yarder in a 19-16 loss to Miami.

Those two misses created an impression he couldn't make crucial

kicks.

"It was just the way the media chose to write about me last year," Del Greco said. "If it had turned out where those kicks didn't mean anything, they might have said I had a great year."

"As it was, they were important kicks, I didn't make them and that's the route they chose and not to say what I did good for the rest of the year. I thought I had a good year, but I wasn't totally satisfied."

Del Greco has a chance to add to his stature the rest of the season.

This season, he's made 27 of 32 field goals with streaks of 10 straight, seven in a row and 10 of his last 11.

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Seagrams 7-Crown	80° 750	7 ⁹⁹
Vat 69 Gold Scotch Whiskey	80° 1.75	13 ⁹⁹
Barcardi Rum	80° 750	8 ⁹⁹
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BUSINESS & OIL

Midland Reporter-Telegram
Thursday, December 23, 1993

Page 7C

Economist predict strong close

■ Latest rate is more than double the 1.4 percent growth recorded in first half.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. economy grew at a moderate 2.9 percent annual pace in the third quarter, better than earlier estimated, and is advancing even more strongly as the year draws to a close.

Previously, the Commerce Department had estimated seasonally adjusted growth in the gross domestic product, the sum of goods and services produced within U.S. borders, at 2.7 percent.

The latest rate, reported Wednesday, is more than double the anemic 1.4 percent growth recorded in the

first half.

And analysts said the economy was undergoing a further pickup, reflecting a revival in housing construction, improved consumer spending and heavy investment in new equipment by businesses.

"In the fourth quarter... what was strong will continue to be strong, or even stronger, particularly housing," said economist Stuart G. Hoffman of PNC Bank Corp. in Pittsburgh.

Housing construction shot up at an 11.9 percent annual rate in the third quarter. Consumer spending, meanwhile, rose at a brisk 4.4 percent rate, driven partly by purchases of goods to put in newly acquired homes.

Purchases of durable goods, which includes furniture and appliances, rose at a 7.6 percent rate.

"You buy a house and the next thing you know you need a couch and a bed," said economist David Wyss of DRI-McGraw Hill, a Lexington, Mass., forecasting

firm.

If not for crop losses from the Midwestern floods and the Southern drought, the third-quarter GDP gain would have been an even better, 3.5 percent.

Analysts said rebound from the flood is contributing to growth in the current quarter, expected at 4 percent or better.

"We're seeing flood replacement. Household spending seems quite strong in the Midwest and some of that reflects replacement of carpeting and furniture damaged in the floods," said economist Lawrence Chimerine of the Economic Strategy Institute, a Washington-based think tank.

Analysts warned, however, that the pace of activity probably will subside, although not sharply, as 1994 gets under way.

THURSDAY BUSINESS WATCH

POSTED PRICE

■ Today \$13.00
■ Previous Week \$12.75
■ One Year Ago \$18.50

SPOT MARKET

W.T. INTERMEDIATE

■ Wednesday \$14.77
■ Previous Close \$14.36
■ One Year Ago \$19.84

Prices rally

Crude oil futures prices rallied strongly Wednesday on the New York Mercantile Exchange on news that six Persian Gulf states were willing to cut production if non-OPEC producers would do the same.

Analysts said an effective concerted effort was unlikely but that even the remote possibility of production cuts was enough to trigger buying in the depressed crude market.

West Texas Intermediate for February delivery rose 41 cents to \$14.77 a barrel.

Local crude purchasers raised their posted price 25 cents to \$13 a barrel.

January contracts for natural gas rose 2 cents to \$2.022 per 1,000 cubic feet.

It was the strongest advance since Sept. 10 for crude oil, which had slid to a five-year low in the wake of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' Nov. 24 refusal to cut production.

The Gulf Cooperation Council, an OPEC subgroup composed of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman, said Wednesday they would reduce production if other producers around the world pledged to do the same.

Dollar tumbles

NEW YORK — The dollar ended sharply lower across the board Wednesday in thin, pre-holiday U.S. trading, pressured by lower domestic interest rates and comments from Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen.

In New York the dollar settled at 110.35 yen, down from 111.18 yen on Tuesday.

In New York it cost \$1.4968 to buy one pound, more expensive than Tuesday's \$1.4880.

Other late dollar rates in New York, compared with late Tuesday's rates included: 1.7025 German marks, down from 1.7103; 1.4380 Swiss francs, down from 1.4503; 5.8005 French francs, down from 5.8155; 1,682.00 Italian lire, down from 1,689.00, and 1.3363 Canadian dollars, down from 1.3449.

Dow climbs

NEW YORK — An afternoon rally in the bond market juiced up what had been a lackluster day in stocks, sending share prices higher Wednesday.

Analysts said stock investors' fears of higher interest rates seem subdued for the moment and some began traditional year-end buying.

The Dow Jones industrial average gained 17.04 points to close at 3,762.19.

Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by about 9 to 8 on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,151 up, 953 down and 632 unchanged.

Takeover fight is in hands of shareholders

NEW YORK (AP) — Paramount Communications recommended shareholders accept a \$10 billion hostile buyout from cable programmer QVC, a blow to friendly suitor Viacom and Paramount chairman Martin Davis.

Wednesday's move at last puts the 3½-month takeover battle for the entertainment and sports conglomerate into the hands of shareholders. But the recommendation is not binding on shareholders, and Viacom Inc. could increase its \$9.6 billion offer.

Still, the board's action is a defeat for Davis, who pulled together the merger with Viacom. Davis had tried to fend off QVC Network Inc. chairman Barry Diller, whom he fired from the top job at Paramount's movie studio several years ago.

While there was no official word from Paramount, an attorney representing the company's shareholders, Arthur Abbey, said he was informed of the board's decision early Wednesday afternoon.

"I think the board was committed to endorsing the highest offer," Abbey said. "I think they had to conclude this was the higher offer."

Shareholders have 10 business days to decide whether to tender their shares to QVC.

"We're pretty much where we've been, waiting to see what Viacom is going to do," said Lisbeth Barron, a securities analyst at S.G. Warburg.

A spokeswoman for Viacom said the company had no comment. Representatives of QVC and Paramount did not return repeated phone calls.

The major stock exchanges halted trading of Paramount, QVC and Viacom stocks Wednesday afternoon after news services reported the board's recommendation.

The exchanges routinely suspend trading in advance of news that could affect a stock's price so all investors can learn about it simultaneously.

However, when no announcements were made, trading resumed for a brief period in Paramount and Viacom shares late in the day.

Paramount stock closed down 62½ cents at \$79.62½ on the New York Stock Exchange. QVC ended down 75 cents at \$41.25 on Nasdaq. Viacom class A stock closed up \$1.12½ at \$51 on the American Stock Exchange.

The Delaware Supreme Court earlier this month ruled that Paramount directors, by contending that a merger with Viacom would provide greater value down the road, had unfairly cast aside QVC's offer.



Reusable candles

Chace Candles Inc., President Sandra Butler demonstrates the reusable candle her company produces at its Albuquerque, N.M., headquarters in this Dec. 20 photo. Butler says the company is expanding into the gift market because the candles aren't just for churches and hotels.

Cattle group projects lower prices, record production

AMARILLO (AP) — Prices at the butcher's counter should drop slightly in 1994 thanks to a projected beef production near 24.2 billion pounds, a cattle group said Wednesday.

The Texas Cattle Feeders Association gave an upbeat review of feedyard activity during the past 12 months, when the 5.3 million head of cattle fed in the Lone Star State set a U.S. record.

Analysts' outlook for 1994 was a little guarded.

"We're not pessimistic, but realistic because of the expected increases in pork and poultry production," said Richard McDonald, TCFA executive vice president.

By the end of this month, McDonald said, 5.3 million cattle will have been herded through Texas feedlots in 1993. Texas' previous record of 5.2 million head was set in 1986.

INVESTORS' GUIDE

Married seniors get one house-sale tax break

By Bill Doyle

Q: My fiancée (a widow) and I (a widower) are both over 65. Each of us owns a home, and we want to sell both homes.

How can we take advantage of the \$125,000 tax exemption on both homes? Do we have to sell both homes before we marry? Or can we sell one house before we marry and the other after we marry?



Doyle

A: Sell both before you wed. That way, each of you can exclude and not pay capital gains tax on up to \$125,000 of the profit from the sale. Technically, it is an "exclusion," not an exemption.

Any taxpayer 55 or older who sells the main home he or she has lived in for at least three of the five years prior to the sale can use that exclusion.

When a married couple sells a main home, both spouses must join in the election to take the exclusion. It is a "once-in-a-lifetime" exclusion. So, after your marriage, you wouldn't be able to take it on the second sale, because one of you already took it.

This rule applies even when spouses own homes separately, both file separate income tax returns and the spouse who has no ownership of the house being sold has not lived there for the required period.

The rules do get complex. For more details, study Internal Revenue Service Publication 523, "Tax Information on Selling Your Home," which can be obtained from your local IRS office or by phoning, toll-free, (800) 829-3676.

Q: I have known all along that the \$125,000 tax exclusion on the sale of a principal residence can be taken only once. But now I learn it applies only to home sales after July 26, 1978.

What is the significance of that particular date?

A: That's when Congress passed legislation authorizing the \$125,000 exclu-

sion. Before that date, anyone 65 or older was entitled to a \$50,000 exclusion from capital gains tax on the profit from the sale of his or her main home.

Think back. Inflation was rampant back in the 1970s and sent home prices soaring. Senior citizens who sold homes pocketed large amounts of dollars, most of which resulted from inflation. After taxes took their toll, many home sellers lost buying power.

The increase in the exclusion was a congressional acknowledgment of that unhappy situation. After all, it's wild spending by government that causes inflation. Fortunately, more sensible fiscal and monetary policy took hold in the 1980s, causing inflation to ebb.

Q: Where does one look to refinance a home mortgage most economically? What are the steps in such a procedure? I am currently paying 9.875 percent on my mortgage and am told 6 percent is the going rate.

A: The 6 percent you mention is low. Around the nation, the average interest rate on 30-year fixed-rate mortgages is

just a shade under 7 percent. If you can find a lender offering a 6 percent 30-year mortgage, grab it. Even at 7 percent, you would come out way ahead.

Locating a good refinancing deal is never easy. It involves time and effort. Start calling banks, savings and loan associations, mortgage bankers and mortgage brokers. If you are a member of a credit union, start there. Credit unions historically have low lending rates.

After you have gathered information from a number of lenders—say, 10 or more—do some careful studying. Compare not only interest rates but also refinancing costs and other strings attached to the proposals.

Bill Doyle is a syndicated columnist for King Features. He welcomes written questions, but is able to provide answers only through the column.

Address your question to Investor's Guide, King Features Syndicate, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, Box 1650, Midland 79702.

NationsBank to buy advertising for Super Bowl

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — NationsBank Corp. will pay big money to buy some of the most expensive advertising time in the world on next month's Super Bowl broadcast.

Unlike two years ago when it bought time for an ad that was shown nationwide during the Orange Bowl game, NationsBank will purchase time in only certain major markets in the Southeast and Texas.

A 30-second spot in Charlotte will cost between \$8,000 and \$10,000. The same ad will cost about \$7,500 in Columbia, S.C.

However, said Bill Loeffler with Charlotte-based Loeffler Ketchum Lovejoy, TV ad rates often are negotiable.

Had NationsBank bought a nationwide slot on the Super Bowl, he said, it would have cost about \$900,000 for a 30-second ad. The cost is tied to the number of viewers, and the Super Bowl broadcast usually is the leading broadcast of the year.

"There may be a year or two when some event topped, but not many," Loeffler said.

Fred Hannon, a NationsBank spokesman, said the ad is scheduled to be tied to the Olympic Games.

NationsBank has invested an estimated \$40 million in the Olympics, becoming a major corporate sponsor of the games. In exchange, NationsBank has the right to use the Olympic symbol of five interlocking rings on its promotional material and is the official bank of the Olympics.

The Super Bowl will be played Jan. 30 in Atlanta, another major NationsBank market. Atlanta also will host the 1996 summer Olympic Games. The winter games will be held next year in Lillehammer, Norway.

Two years ago, NationsBank surprised many in the ad industry by purchasing a 90-second nationwide slot on the Orange Bowl, played on New Year's Day. The ad was designed to introduce the bank, its employees, the region and its chief executive, Hugh McColl Jr., to a national audience.



Then press 1500 for
BUSINESSLINE -- business
and financial headlines.
For oil price update,
press 1211.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

[illegible]

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

1

Handwritten musical score on a page, featuring multiple staves with notes, rests, and musical symbols. The page is numbered '1' in the top left corner. The notation is dense and appears to be a complex piece of music.

WEST TEXAS SPORTS

Banquets...

The Midland Angels will host their fourth annual **West Texas Sports Banquet and Memorabilia Auction** at the Midland Hilton on Wednesday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. Bob Lilly, the former Dallas Cowboys' great, will give the keynote address. Other celebrity guests include California Angel director of minor league operations Ken Forsch, Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Mike Timlin, a former Midland High stand-out; New York Yankees infielder Randy Velarde; Randy Velarde, a former Midland Lee star; Yankees outfielder Mike Humphreys; California Angels infielders Rod Correia and Damon Easley, both former Midland Angels; and 1993 Midland Angels MVP P.J. Forbes. The 1994 Midland Angels coaching staff, including new field manager Mario Mendoza, will be on hand as well as representatives of the Texas Rangers' Winter Caravan. Houston Astros announcer Vince Cotroneo will emcee the event. Tickets for the banquet cost \$50 for adults and \$40 for children under 12. Sponsor tables for eight may be reserved at a cost of \$425. Tickets may be purchased at Angels Stadium, or by calling the Angels' ticket office at 683-4251.

The Midland Lee football banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Jan. 6 and Texas Tech football coach and former Lee coach Spike Dykes will be the featured speaker. The banquet will be at

the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Midland and tickets for \$9 will be available Jan. 3-5 at the Lee field house and LHS office. For more information call 689-1600 or 689-1648.

Soccer...

The Midland Lee Soccer Booster Club for both boys and girls will meet first and third Mondays of each month in the LHS library at 7 p.m. For more information, call 686-7000.

Registration for the Midland Soccer Association's spring schedule begins Jan. 3 and ends at 2 p.m. on Jan. 31. Registration is held at the MSA office, 1909 W. Wall, Suite N, during office hours of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. M-F and on Jan. 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A Super Sign-Up day will be at Midland Park Mall on Jan. 29 during mall hours. Any child four years old before Dec. 31 may play. First time players must provide a copy of birth certificate to MSA. Registration is \$30 for first child and \$25 for additional children within a family. Call 684-5425 for further information.

Tryouts for Blast Soccer Club will be held Jan. 15 at Dunagan Park, across from Midland Freshman on Gist Ave. Times: 10 a.m. for girls born 78-80, 11 a.m. for girls 81 and 83, 1 p.m. for boys 81 and 83, 2 p.m. for boys 78-80. For information call Manu Sanon at 685-1018.

Tennis...

Christmas Holiday Indoor Tennis Camp is Dec. 27-31 at The Midlander with an entry deadline of Dec. 23. Limited enrollment. Contact Luis Valdez or Jon Lanier at 682-0813.

The Midlander is now forming junior tennis clinics by Jon Lanier, Luis Valdez and Shane Wilford for Jan. 3 through Feb. 28 for all ages and levels. Deadline is Dec. 29. Call 682-0813.

Softball...

A fast pitch umpire's training clinic has been scheduled for Jan. 29-30 for anyone wishing to officiate during the 1994 MUGS season. All applicants must be at least 16 years old. Jan. 29 session at St. Stephen's Catholic Church from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 30 session at Ulmer Park (MUGS complex) from noon-4 p.m. Attendance on both days is mandatory for certification. Call Chuck Morganti at 682-4509 (h) or 571-1468 (w) for information.

Swimming...

City of Midland Aquatics will hold **Adult Water Fitness** classes, beginning Jan. 3. Water aerobics, deep water training and arthritis classes will be held throughout the day. Registration is Jan. 3 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For information, call COM, 684-7755.

Stanford has highest SATs

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — Stanford has the brightest football players — those athletes with the highest SAT scores when they were recruited — and Oklahoma is at the bottom of the list, according to a survey published Wednesday.

Ranking right behind Stanford among Division I schools in recruiting SAT achievers were Northwestern, Duke, Virginia and Vanderbilt.

Stanford football players had an average SAT score of 1069 out of a possible 1600, according to the survey done by USA Today, using NCAA data for freshmen entering from 1990-92.

Northwestern's football players recruited during that period had an average SAT score of 1034. Then came Duke at 1003, Virginia at 955 and Vanderbilt at 952.

Also in the top 10 were Rice, Southern Methodist, California, Notre Dame and Colorado State.

Oklahoma headed up the bottom 10 with an SAT score of 759, followed by Mississippi at 768, Kansas State 769, Cincinnati 771 and Texas-El Paso at 772. Then came Auburn, Washington State, Clemson and Auburn tied for eighth and Kent.

USA Today said football players did not score as well as other students in SATs. Rice had the largest gap, according to the survey. The general student SAT score was 1324, compared with the average football player SAT of 942.

At Florida State, No. 1 in The Associated Press rankings, the players recruited from 1990-92 had an average SAT score of 822. The all-student average for the school was 1091.

LOCAL SPORTS

Midlander to play for Tech in bowl

EL PASO — Texas Tech placekicker Jon Davis, who now calls Midland home, will be playing in the John Hancock Bowl Friday against Oklahoma.

Davis kicked 13 of 15 field goals for Tech this year and scored 84 points to rank second in scoring for the Red Raiders behind the 134 points posted by Byron "Bam" Morris.

His grandfather, mother and three uncles all are from Midland and are Tech graduates. Jimmy Zachry, his uncle, was an All-America pick for the Tech baseball team.

Davis, now a junior at Tech, played his high school football in Mississippi where he was an All-State punter and kicker in 1990. He was also an All-State



Jon Davis

soccer pick in Mississippi and served on the Mississippi Junior Olympic Team for four years.

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram staff reports.

Iowa's Odems wants whole bowl experience

Associated Press

Demo Odems wants to sample the entire experience of his first bowl game with the Iowa football team, including the plane trip.

Odems, a freshman wide receiver, could have gone home to Austin, Texas, to spend Christmas with his family and then joined the team in San Antonio, where the Hawkeyes will play California in the Alamo Bowl. Austin is a little more than an hour's drive from San Antonio.

But Odems didn't want to miss anything, so he stayed in Iowa City. He'll fly with the team to Texas on Sunday.

"I feel staying with the team will help me better prepare for the game," Odems said. "Going home, that's OK if you're homesick, but I can wait until after the game for that."

"I want to be with the team to see the whole bowl atmosphere, the traveling, coming into San Antonio and all that."

Odems is more familiar with San Antonio than most of his teammates. He played a few games there in high school and also visited in junior high school with his homemaking class.

Those classes aren't just for girls anymore. In fact, Odems was president of his class.

"We cooked food and made things. It was fun," Odems said. "I was never good at making things, but I could cook because I like to eat. My specialty was chicken."

Odems' specialty this year has been backing up Harold Jasper. He played in seven games, catching 12 passes for 151 yards and one touchdown. The touchdown catch was a 37-yarder that started Iowa on its 54-20 rout of Northern Illinois.

Rangers sign David Hulse for one year

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Outfielder David Hulse, Texas' rookie of the year last season, has signed a one-year deal with the Rangers for 1994.

Hulse hit .290 with one home run

and 29 RBIs in 114 games. He played center field and usually batted leadoff for the Rangers until being sidelined by a strained left hamstring.

SMITH: NFL's rushing crown still within reach

(From 1C)

"I'm behind but I'm not conceding anything. I think I'm capable of catching him."

Dallas coach Jimmy Johnson thinks so, saying Smith is one of the most unique players in the NFL.

"He has great leg strength and breaks tackles," Johnson said. "You don't realize how many hands and arms he runs through. You see him make very subtle cuts running north and

south. A lot of running backs try to use a whole bunch of moves, but when they make them, they are running sideways instead of upfield. That allows defensive players to catch up with the play."

"You see some big hits where guys get tackled from behind and get hurt," he said. "Emmitt doesn't go sideways very often. He's always heading for the goal line."

Smith was at his mother's home the last time

the Cowboys played Washington, which opened the season with a 35-16 victory over the Super Bowl champions.

"It felt funny watching the team play without me," Smith said. "It was real different. I needed to be on that field with them."

On Sunday in Texas Stadium against the Redskins, Smith will be there. And surprisingly, another rushing title will be within reach.

UConn hires Lou Holtz' son

STORRS, Conn. (AP) — Skip Holtz doesn't expect to turn Connecticut into an East Coast version of Notre Dame.

"I'm not coming in with a lot of high-priced terms because I was at Notre Dame," Holtz said Wednesday after leaving as an assistant for his father at Notre Dame to take the coaching job at UConn.

"I'm coming to the University of Connecticut to do the best job I can to field a competitive team."

The 29-year-old son of Lou Holtz replaces Tom Jackson, who resigned Nov. 17 after the Huskies finished 6-5. Holtz, the Irish's offensive coordinator, will take over as coach on Jan. 3. He will stay at Notre Dame through the Cotton Bowl against Texas A&M on Jan. 1.

Holtz agreed to a four-year contract with an annual salary of \$89,000 and an additional \$6,000 for external affairs responsibilities.

He said he hadn't been looking to leave Notre Dame but was excited about the opportunity to

be a head coach.

"I think the University of Connecticut has a lot to sell," he said. "We want to put a team on the field that the state of Connecticut will be proud of."

UConn is considering a move from Division I-AA to Division I-A.

"We believe having Skip Holtz join us here at Connecticut makes a strong statement about us wanting to offer the very best possible football program to our students, alumni and all Husky fans," said Lew Perkins, UConn's athletic director.

Coming to UConn will be a homecoming for Holtz, who was born in Windham, just a few miles from the Storrs campus. At the time, his father, then 27, was offensive coordinator for Connecticut.

"I'm happy for Skip. I'm happy for the University of Connecticut — but I'm quite sad as the coach at Notre Dame and as a father," Lou Holtz said in a statement.

Bonds to help build Retama Park Class 1 track

SELMA, Texas (AP) — Retama Park officials announced Wednesday they'll get \$56 million of the \$79 million needed to build a Class 1 racetrack from tax-free municipal bonds.

The deal finalizes plans for the parimutuel track, meaning thoroughbreds and quarter horses could be lapping the raceway in this town just south of San Antonio as soon as April 1995.

Groundbreaking is scheduled for next month at the more than 200-acre site near Interstate 35 and

Loop 1604 in northeastern Bexar County.

"Quite simply, it's a great day for horse racing in San Antonio, South Texas and all of Texas," said Texas Racing Commission member Lukin Gilliland Jr. of San Antonio.

The bond deal, announced in the Selma City Council chambers, combines with \$23 million in equity, much of which was secured during a private placement offering to individual investors that closed during August.

"Everything's done," said project spokesman Joe Straus III. "There are no more loose ends and no more 'Wait 'till next week.' The money is in the bank."

Selma Mayor Ken Fleenor said his city expects the track to be a major economic boost for Comal and Bexar counties.

Other Texas cities also are seeking to build tracks. The \$84 million Sam Houston Race Park is under

construction in Houston and scheduled to open April 29. The Lone Star Jockey Club is planning a \$100 million facility in the Dallas-Fort Worth suburb of Grand Prairie. Developers of that track have been fighting legal challenges but hope to be ready by May 1995.

"A lot of people have been wondering if it would ever get done," said Keith Asmussen,

FOX: Network needs to hire right people

(From 1C)

they get, O'Malley said.

If Fox would rather rent, they should do that quickly, O'Malley said, because "the other guys have probably already reserved their equipment for next year."

If they want to buy, O'Malley said, "I wouldn't be surprised if they could pick up a couple from CBS, cheap."

Fox was thrown into this creative frenzy over the weekend when it outbid CBS for the NFL portion of the NFL television contract. That forced CBS out of the NFL business and gave Fox

its first major sports property.

"Fox has not spent 30 years building up a live production capacity, like the other three networks," O'Malley said. "All three of those networks have large, institutionalized live production areas, not only because of sports but because of live news for things like political conventions and breaking stories."

"Fox doesn't have a big national news operation. They don't have remote production operations for sports. But they'd better get them."

CHRISTMAS DEADLINES

The business and advertising departments of the Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed Friday, December 24, in observance of the Christmas Holiday and will have the following deadlines:

EDITION	DEADLINE
Saturday, Dec. 25	Wednesday, Dec. 22
Sunday, Dec. 26	
lifestyle, oil, entertainment	Tuesday, Dec. 21, noon
Nueva Vista, Dec. 26	Tuesday, Dec. 21, noon
Sunday, Dec. 26	
main, local, sports	Wednesday, Dec. 22
Monday, Dec. 27	Wednesday, Dec. 22
Tuesday, Dec. 28	Thursday, Dec. 23, noon
Television, Jan. 2	Wednesday, Dec. 22
Neighbors, Jan. 5	Thursday, Dec. 23, noon

The Circulation Department will be open Christmas Eve and Christmas Day from 7 a.m. until 11 a.m. and can be reached at 688-2700.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Midland Reporter-Telegram



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LIFESTYLE & FASHION

Dear Abby/2D
At Wit's End/2D

Wraps are for all seasons

By Francine Parnes
Associated Press

Call it a stole or call it a shawl, a wrap is the simplest, most stylish few yards of fabric you'll ever snuggle up in.

Thrown around your shoulders with a hint of insouciance, it'll do more than keep you toasty.

A mink-trimmed cashmere shawl over a designer suit speaks big-city chic. A wool paisley atop a Shetland wool crewneck and tweed blazer looks classic, cozy and sweetly homespun. And a wrap oozes sexiness in filmy silk chiffon draped over a slip dress.

"Wraps are the one thing you just throw on and don't have to fuss with," says Adrienne Landau, a New York accessories designer. "They're becoming a very big market because women feel they're glamorous, easy to wear over all their clothing and easy to travel with. You put it on and you're out the door."

It's also the ultimate layering piece, welcome in most any climate. It will ward off a chill when a coat seems too cumbersome. And when a coat isn't enough, wear it on top as added insulation.

"You put it over your shoulders like a shawl, then fling one side over each opposite shoulder so you're really wrapped like a cocoon," says Nancy El Naggar, New York buyer for Burberry's stores.

Jessica Ruppert, Laura Ashley's director of public relations in Boston, says the shawl is appropriate in most social contexts.

"Typically you see women in wraps going to the theater, which is great because it adds a layer of warmth over your coat," she says.

"But you can also wear one to a football game over your sweater or blazer if it's not a freezing cold day."

Laura Ashley's paisley wool wrap with delicate fringe, in plum or navy, is about \$74 by mail or at some 200 stores nationwide.

The warmest, most luxurious wraps are cashmere. Scottish cashmere wraps from Ballantyne start at about \$800; at Burberry's, cashmere wraps are at least \$1,100.

Your investment will go further if you pick a reversible style, Jan Mehalick, vice president of Ballantyne in New York, says.

"When you twist it and throw it over your shoulder, your back is in one color, and you have the surprise of another color draping down in front," she says.

Ballantyne's styles, in dozens of colors, are trimmed with ruffles, ribbing or fringe. They're sold at Cashmere Cashmere stores in New York and Chicago, Saks Fifth Avenue, The Gazebo in Dallas and Harry B's in Nashville, Tenn.

Adrienne Landau says her top seller is silk velvet reversing to satin.

"People feel they're getting two pieces in one," she says. "And now that velvet is the hottest trend of the year, it's flying out of the store."

Burberry's El Naggar says the velvet wrap works both day and night.

"As a daytime outfit, you put it over a Donnegal tweed riding jacket and jodhpurs," she says. "In the evening, that same wrap goes over your bare-shouldered velvet dress or tuxedo. It's a really chic European look."



This versatile, reversible wrap in camel and black wool jersey can be worn as a light topper or over a coat as added insurance against winter's wind. It's from Adrienne Landau.



A red satin wrap, from Adrienne Landau, with ruffle is perfect for the holidays or any other festive occasion.

Fans: Body piercing not just fad

By Veronique De Turenne
N.Y. Times News Service

LOS ANGELES — Time was, you had to flip through the pages of National Geographic to see stuff like this: shaved heads; tattooed scalps; pierced lips, tongues, nipples and navels — fashion so fierce it looks more like armament than ornament.

These days, a walk on the wild side leads to the mall. The sales clerk with a ring through his nose reports to a boss with a tattoo on her ankle. The \$10,000-per-day magazine model who peddles cruise wear sports a jeweled ring in her belly button. The children's department sells temporary tattoos aimed at the toddler set.

Welcome to style in the '90s — an edgy collection of tribal and outlaw fashions that pack a visceral punch. With each unusually placed piercing, with every inch of tattooed flesh, the adorned and the embellished are saying, "Keep your distance." "Don't ask questions," "See things my way."

And while trend-watchers call tattoos and body piercing a limited fad, the growing numbers of people going under the needle to alter their appearances say otherwise.

"I do it because I have a need to make myself blatantly different," said Nathan Cox, 22, a fine-arts student at the Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles who has 15 piercings.

His light brown hair, matted into thick, clumped dreadlocks, is dyed red. A slender ring runs through the flesh of his lower lip. When he speaks, the jewelry he wears in his tongue clicks against his teeth.

COX WAS 12 when he shocked his parents by piercing his left ear. At 15, he added a second hole. A year later, he pierced his nose, and when he turned 17, his tongue. For the last five years, Cox, a painter, has been working and reworking the design and location of his first tattoo.

"I just feel so different from my parents," he said. "I feel like a rabbit pulled from a hat — like I was conjured instead of conceived."

Melle Karakawa, a layout artist at the Los Angeles Reader, an alternative weekly, has 11 holes in

her left ear, two in her right ear and a piercing in her tongue and her genitals. She has to pause to tally up her tattoos. Fourteen, she guessed.

"I got my ears pierced when I was 7 years old. My mom sent me," Karakawa said. "Then, when I was in beauty school, the girl who sat next to me had a piercing gun."

Each day, Karakawa came home with a new hole in her ear.

"After three (holes), my dad noticed and he yelled at me. After the eighth, he was really mad," she said. "He thought I'd never find the right husband and my whole life would be ruined."

Karakawa has a boyfriend who thinks her piercings are fine, but he isn't thrilled with her desire to up the ante with a hole in her navel. Her boss and co-workers at the Los Angeles Reader say they see nothing odd about her interest in adorning her body.

"I don't see it — it's sort of not there," said James Vowell, editor and publisher of the Reader. "(People) wear glasses. I have on a wedding ring that makes an indentation on my finger. Just where do you draw the line about what's appropriate and what's not?"

DON'T EQUATE appearance with performance, Vowell said.

"Melle's multiple ear piercings certainly don't keep her from using (the computer program) Quark Express," he said. "Besides, beauty is in the eyes of the beholder, and in this case, the beholder is Melle."

Before the beauty, there was pain, said Leslie Rabine, head of the Women's Studies Department at University of California, Irvine.

"This particular style comes out of the lesbian and gay sadomasochistic liberation movement, in which sexuality has a lot to do with role playing and costume," Rabine said. "What happens with all of these counterculture styles is they find their way into the

mainstream."

Big-name Madison Avenue designers are running on empty, so they quickly purloin fresh ideas from the fashion fringe, she said.

"Piercing and tattooing may seem extreme to us now, but fashion has always been destructive of the body," Rabine said. "Stiletto heels do permanent damage, as did corsets in the 19th century. What happens is the older forms of mutilation get naturalized, and these new forms will be naturalized, too."

Until a pierced eyebrow is as acceptable as a plucked one, piercing and tattooing serve as rites of passage for a growing number of people who feel cheated by modern culture.

"These have become a diary of my life," Cherie Bodenstab said of the four large tattoos and numerous small ones that cover her back, leg and arms. The 26-year-old sophomore at the Otis College of Art and Design began her tattoo odyssey when she was fascinated by the sight of a woman with tattoos all over her body.

"I just knew it was something I had to do," she said. "It's not a fad. It's like you need to do it."

EXTREME EXPRESSIONS involving pain and an element of ceremony, such as tattooing and piercing, serve as surrogate rituals, said Eric Silverman, a cultural anthropologist at DePauw University in Indiana who studies the human body and its relationship to society and ritual.

"As people become more and more disillusioned about society, they feel helpless to do something about it," he said. "By altering your body, you make a statement about society and your place outside of it."

Piercing and tattooing give people a way of asserting control over their bodies at a time they feel they lack control over their lives, Silverman said.

"It's the permanence of tattooing and piercing that makes it so compelling," he said. "It's an aggressive statement about who you are and that you are not bound by any social context."

Body modification makes you feel you've joined an elite and exclusive group, many participants said.

"It's like becoming blood brothers with your best friend," said Barbara Cadow, a clinical associate in the psychology department at University of Southern California.

"Tribal customs like tattooing and piercing fit in with that, too"

Think safety first when piercing

By Veronique De Turenne
N.Y. Times News Service

LOS ANGELES — Don't try this at home. But if the sight of a metal ring curving through pierced flesh appeals to you, experts advise finding a competent professional before letting anyone poke holes in your image. Some basic information:

■ Equipment — Choose a shop that sterilizes everything. Ask them. Insist. You want a place that uses an autoclave, which sterilizes equipment with pressure and heat.

■ Jewelry — Pieces should be individually packaged. Don't try to use earrings for body piercings; they may cause allergic reactions and infections. Choose jewelry made for specific parts of the body. The shop you choose should have a good selection.

■ Questions — As with any other invasive procedure, ask a lot. How long has the person been piercing? Do they have satisfied customers you can talk with? How long will it take to heal?

■ Pain — Exotic body piercing can be as painless or painful, depending on your pain threshold, as ear piercing. Done by a practiced professional in a sterile setting, it should be problem-free, but proper follow-up care is essential.

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Holiday men's wear is elegant, simple

By Victor Panichkul
N.Y. Times News Service

The holidays usher in a season of mirth and merriment: parties and concerts that call for clothes with a little flair and panache. And this season, there are more options than ever for men to find an individual expression in evening wear.

"It's really black-tie season and you end up going to so many of these things, you want to break out and do something different," says Richard Haines, design director for Perry Ellis menswear. "People actually appreciate seeing a personal touch.... So there are lots of different options."

For those who prefer to wear their business suits to concerts, plays, office parties or dinner parties, either out of financial necessity or a lack of time to shower and change, there are several options. Hope Brick, vice president and fashion director at Foley's, suggests shedding the tie and button-down white shirt for a turtleneck, or even wearing a T-shirt or henley collar underneath the suit.

"It's a modern look for the evening," she says.

Shed the wing-tips for loafers, too, and put on a more fashionable belt that has a silver tip and buckle, says Tom Julian, executive director of The Fashion Association, a trade group in New York.

FOR A COCKTAIL party, try adding a little flair. Julian suggests wearing a silk shirt buttoned up to the collar under a European-cut, ventless pin-stripe suit. This combination works especially well with a double-breasted suit, but you can also achieve the same effect if you're wearing a three-button suit.

If it's an option to shed the business uniform completely, the possibilities become almost endless.

"The white banded-collar shirt is a great alternative for evening wear," says Calvin Klein in a written statement. "Either with a classic tuxedo jacket or business suit, the look is very modern and elegant."

Depending on what you combine the shirt with, the outfit could be worn to a black-tie event, like a museum or gallery party.

At Joseph Abboud, the banded-collar shirt is paired with an embroidered vest, a single-breasted black tuxedo jacket and black linen trousers.

"The banded-collar shirt gives the outfit versatility," says Lydia Mornese Babbitt, publicity director at Joseph Abboud. "You can take off the jacket and wear the vest and the shirt" for something a little less formal, such as a jazz club,

a play, or a party with friends.

There are even variations on the traditional tuxedo shirt that can be worn in the same combinations.

"We have some fabulous banded-collar shirts that have the formality of tuxedo shirts because the buttons are covered with fabric," says Betty Munoz of Mondo di Marco's Mondo Collections. "A lot of men want to forego bow ties, and this is a great alternative."

THERE ARE also tux-shirt variations in ribbed or piqued cotton, or even some with plackets to hide the buttons.

There are also attractive variations based on a tuxedo, Haines says. You can wear a tux with a banded-collar shirt or wear the tux pants and white shirt, but skip the traditional black jacket.

"We did some jackets in our holiday line in teal and purple that would be great with the tux pants and a plain white or even textured banded-collar shirt," he says. "It's very elegant, but new and modern. I even love the idea of a tuxedo with a black turtleneck."

If the occasion will allow, you could even go as far as wearing a tux jacket over a turtleneck with jeans and boots, Haines says. The combination would give you a dressed-up, but casual look perfect for family gatherings.

You can also add more color. Designer Jhane Barnes shows sport coats done in traditional plaids, but with updated colors and cuts. These would be perfect for holiday office gatherings.

"It's not the typical red-and-green plaid jacket," spokesman Doug Rock says.

The plaids have a black background, but use purple, teal, red and other colors to give them a more optical effect that stands out against black trousers and a black turtleneck. The jackets themselves can also be varied, from the single-button to the three-button.

You can also wear a fancy or intricately patterned shirt under a jacket that picks up a color of the jacket, Rock says.

For variety, Munoz suggests trying three-button suits in taupe, olive and navy. Another option: cashmere-blend sport jackets in gold, ruby or hunter green paired with flannel or wool pants, a pulled-together but casual look that can be worn with a white shirt, a turtleneck or even a polo shirt.

Just one point to remember in experimenting: "Men should feel confident with what they wear and comfortable in it," Haines says.

So don't choose something outrageous simply for the sake of being unusual.

DEAR ABBY

Family freeloaders must pay the price

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: My stepson has been staying with us for five months. He never helps with any



Van Buren

work around the house. He never cleans up after himself and is rude to his mother. He is on his fourth job, always has money for beer and cigarettes, but has never contributed one dime toward his support. This "boy" is 21 years old.

My own son has also been staying here for four months. He also never helps with any of the housework. He doesn't pick up after himself, or even make his own bed. He is on his third job, and has sent most of the money he has made to his mother. He says he owes her. He has contributed a to-

tal of \$75 to his support. This boy is also 21 years old.

Abby, we eat beans two or three times a week in order to cope with their voracious appetites. I think we should throw the beans out. What do you think? — BOBSLEDDING TO THE POORHOUSE IN MINNESOTA

DEAR BOBSLEDDING: At 21, your "boys" are now men, and part of being a man is accepting responsibility for one's own upkeep. However, before you and your wife change the rules, it is imperative that you have a clear and firm agreement between you regarding what would be a fair contribution from "the boys."

Suggestion: Do it in stages, so they will know what is expected of them now — and why — and what more will be expected in six months or so. It will be less traumatic than a sudden "sink or swim" edict. And please don't label them as "bums." If they have never been expected to contribute

to the household, it's not their fault.

DEAR ABBY: I am an incest survivor. I have been married for almost nine years and have two beautiful daughters, ages 8 and 6. Their father parades around naked in front of the girls. I don't mean in his underwear; I mean in his birthday suit!

When I ask him to please cover himself in front of the girls, he gets angry, blows up at me, and accuses me of thinking he is some kind of pervert. Well, I am beginning to wonder if maybe he is.

Even though I see no signs of abuse with my girls, I don't feel comfortable leaving them alone with him.

Are my feelings justified? Or am I reading more into this than I should? I am only trying to protect my daughters from the terrible experience I had as a child. — THEIR MOTHER

DEAR MOTHER: Your husband

should not "parade" around naked in front of his daughters. Since you feel uncomfortable leaving them with him, you are very wise not to do so.

I recommend family counseling for both you and your husband.

DEAR ABBY: This is for the man who has a terrible time waking up in the morning to go to work. If he doesn't have a sleep disorder (as you suggested he investigate), he might be interested in knowing about a device, intended for deaf people, which can be connected to his alarm clock. All you have to do is set the alarm clock for the time you want to get up, and it shakes the dickens out of the bed! — SLEEPYHEAD IN TAYLOR, MICH.

DEAR SLEEPYHEAD: Please send more information on the abovementioned "device" — it could be very useful for sound sleepers.

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

AT WIT'S END

Husband needs shot of Christmas spirit

By Erma Bombeck

My husband entered the kitchen last night so laden with packages he could barely balance them. His eyes were glistening with the excitement of a man who has found just the right gift at just the right price.



Bombeck

Before you get too choked up by a man so organized, I should tell you that every package was a gift to himself. During the year he never sets foot in a department store. When he finally does, he cannot resist buying all the things he has put off buying during the last year.

In just three hours of shopping, he goes from a man in need of everything to a father and husband

who has it all.

I won't come right out and say he's a man difficult to buy for. I will only tell you that every time we give him a gift, we leave all the tags on, the sales slip between the tissue, and draw directions on how to get to the store where we bought it.

At the time of purchase we tell the salesperson, "Don't make a big deal saying goodbye to this bathrobe. You're going to say hello to it two days after Christmas."

It is my feeling that in all these years, he has never gotten a clear grasp of what Christmas is all about.

I told him, "This is the season of giving to brighten someone else's holiday."

"Exactly," he says, "and who knows better how to brighten mine than me? How many times have I said I only wear striped ties? Every year I get one that glows in the dark, is battery-driven, or is some psychedelic thing that looks like

someone just threw up on it."

"You have to learn to be more gracious."

"I'm too practical to be gracious," he said. "The kids buy me a motorized gismo to hold my two belts, or silk pajamas that I freeze to death in. I need underwear."

"What about the camcorder I bought you?"

"That's like buying roller skates for Tiny Tim. I don't know anything about picture taking."

I watched him as he displayed

his purchases on the dining room table — packages of underwear and T-shirts, a few dress shirts, a sweater, a billfold and a pair of bedroom slippers.

He leaves me no choice. I'll get him a pneumonia shot for Christmas. It fits his guidelines. It's practical and he'll remember it for a long time.

Erma Bombeck's column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.

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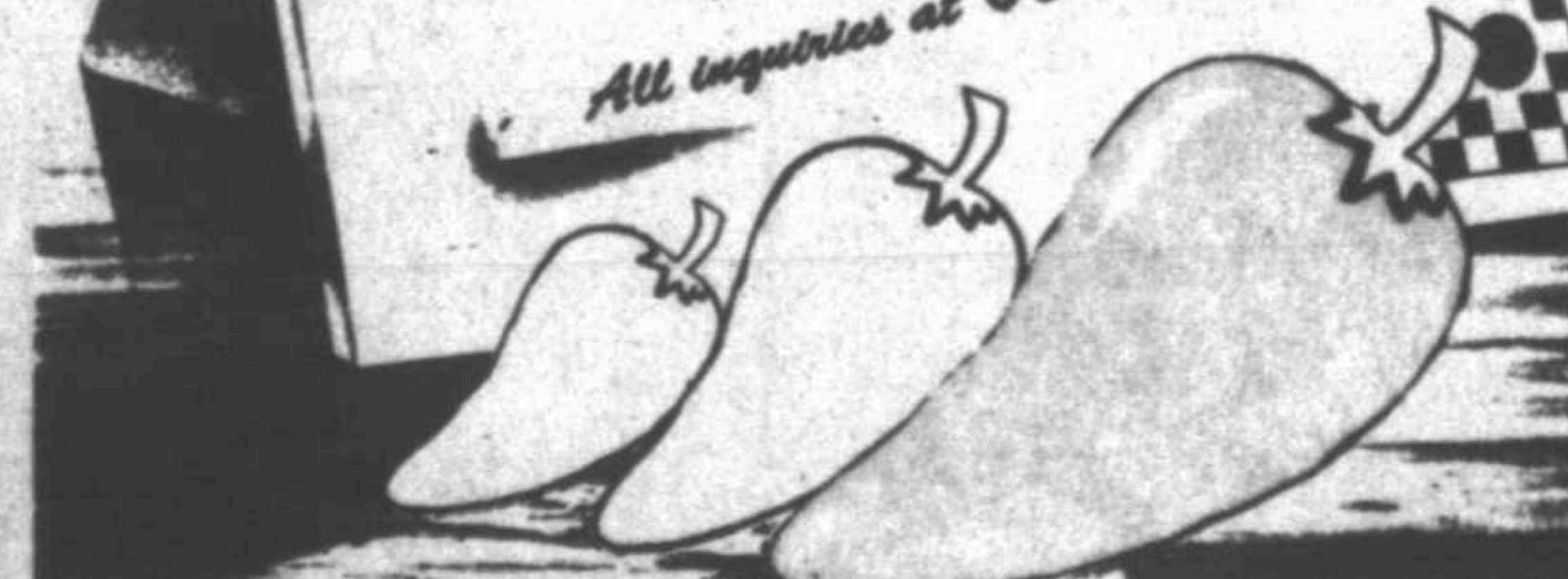
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Suspenders add snap to fashion

By Anne-Marie Schiro
N.Y. Times News Service

Suspenders, or braces, as the British call them, have entered the realm of high fashion for women.

In Chanel's spring show, Karl Lagerfeld put them on everything from jeans to tweed skirts. In New York, they held up pants in the spring shows of Ralph Lauren, Isaac Mizrahi and Anna Sui (who sometimes left them hanging down, more for effect than for utility).

Joan Kaner, the fashion director of Neiman Marcus, thinks that adding suspenders is a great way to update a classic pants-and-shirt or pants-and-T-shirt outfit.

In February or March, Neiman's will start selling Chanel's authentic version, with C-H-A-N-

E-L crawling up the front of the suspenders and down the back. They'll be available in black, with white or beige letters.

CINE 4
2207 West Odessa
687-3204

MRS. DOUBTFIRE
2:10 4:50 7:30 10:00 PG-13
NO VIPS

ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES
2:30 4:30 7:40 9:50 PG-13

REMAINS OF THE DAY
2:00 4:40 7:20 9:50 PG

3 MUSKETEERS
2:30 4:30 7:10 9:40 PG-13

\$3.50 PER PERSON
SHOWS BEFORE 6:00 PM

General Cinema

BARGAIN MATINEES EVERY DAY
ALL SHOWS STARTING BEFORE 6 PM

MIDLAND PARK MALL
697-7813 NO. MIDWAY RD. & LOOP 330

RUDY
2:45 5:10 7:30 9:50 PG

BEETHOVEN'S 2ND
1:35 3:30 5:25 7:25 9:25 PG

PELICAN BRIEF
1:30 4:20 7:10 10:00 PG-13

WAYNE'S WORLD 2
2:30 5:00 7:15 9:45 PG-13

NORTH PARK
697-3243 1007 7th - MIDLAND MALL

CARLITO'S WAY
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SISTER ACT 2
2:30 5:00 7:30 9:55 PG

GERONIMO
2:00 4:40 7:20 9:50 PG-13

A PERFECT WORLD
2:00 4:35 7:10 9:45 PG-13

"A HEART-STOPPING, SPINE-CHILLING, ADRENALINE-PUMPING, RUN-FOR-YOUR-LIFE THRILLER!"
- Pat Collins, WFOE-TV

THE PELICAN BRIEF

MIDLAND PARK MALL
697-7813 NO. MIDWAY RD. & LOOP 330

1:30-4:20-7:10-10:00

Baskin Robbins.

2 PRE-PACK QUARTS

\$5.49

(Including Winter White Choc.)
Expires 1/7/94

Baskin Robbins.
Ice Cream & Yogurt

Plaza Center
Wadley & Garfield
682-7131

Premiere Video

3323 N. Midland Drive
Midland (next to Albertsons) 689-6674
(Valid Drivers License & Proof of Residence & Home Phone Number Required)

Stocking Stuffers
Huge Selection of Video as low as \$5.95
Gift Certificates Available
Merry Christmas

WHOO! GOLDBERG, TED DANNON MADE IN AMERICA

PG-13

You'll Laugh Again!
You'll Cry Again!
You'll Hurl Again!!

WAYNE'S WORLD 2

PG-13

MIDLAND PARK MALL
697-7813 NO. MIDWAY RD. & LOOP 330

2:50-5:00
7:15-9:35

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January, 1994
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PAYAN vs. R
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ISSUED AND
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November, 19
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BY DEPUTY
CATHY MC
NOTICE OF
Pursuant to
cle 1302-1.02

CLASSIFIED ADS

Midland's People To
People Market Place

DEADLINES

Word and Space Ads
Word and Space Ads may appear
the very next day when placed by
5 p.m. Ads placed on Saturday will
appear on Monday. Same deadlines
apply for cancellations.

Display Ads

requiring composition must be
processed 2 working days before
publication. Same deadlines apply to
copy changes on existing or new ads.

To Place Your Fast Acting - Result Getting Ad
Call 682-6222

Notices

100

Transportation

200

Employment

300

Merchandise

400
500

Rentals

600

Real Estate

700

NOTICE

Please check your ad the first
day it appears. The Reporter-
Telegram is responsible only for the
first day for an error that
nullifies the value of the ad.



50	Legal Notices	50	Legal Notices	50	Legal Notices	50	Legal Notices	50	Legal Notices	200	Automobiles Domestic	200	Automobiles Domestic	200	Automobiles Domestic	200	Automobiles Domestic
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Midland Independent School District COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES

Year ended August 31, 1993

Data Control Codes		Governmental Fund Types				Totals (Memorandum Only)	
		10 General Fund	20/30/40 Special Revenue Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	60 Capital Projects Fund	August 31, 1993	98
5700	Revenues:						
5800	Local, intermediate, out-of-state	\$53,604,963	1,754,264	4,894,123	1,000,870	61,209,220	
5900	State program revenues	30,270,214	1,995	-	-	30,272,209	
5900	Federal program revenues	36,462	6,563,304	-	-	6,599,766	
5930	Total revenues	83,911,639	8,319,563	4,894,123	1,000,870	98,081,195	
0011	Expenditures:						
0021	Instruction	49,142,558	2,285,799	-	-	51,428,357	
0021	Instructional administration	1,964,183	532,237	-	-	2,496,420	
0022	Instructional resources and media services	2,053,750	-	-	-	2,053,750	
0023	School administration	5,115,747	71,920	-	-	5,187,667	
0025	Curriculum and instructional staff development	412,684	13,056	-	-	425,750	
0026	Communication and dissemination	157,173	-	-	-	157,173	
0031	Guidance and counseling services	2,032,308	121,262	-	-	2,153,570	
0032	Attendance and social work services	207,725	53,205	-	-	260,930	
0033	Health services	457,838	41,696	-	-	499,534	
0034	Pupil transportation - regular	3,309,724	61,104	-	-	3,370,828	
0036	Co-curricular activities	1,249,169	1,116	-	-	1,250,285	
0037	Food services	-	4,932,139	-	-	4,932,139	
0041	General administration	2,399,072	3,300	-	154,720	2,557,092	
0042	Debt services	131,490	-	4,558,729	-	4,690,219	
0051	Plant maintenance and operations	10,970,270	1,379	-	-	10,971,649	
0052	Facilities acquisition and construction	688,164	-	-	13,716,767	14,404,931	
0075	Data processing services	970,404	-	-	-	970,404	
0081	Community services	34	16,585	-	-	16,619	
6050	Total expenditures	81,262,293	8,314,798	4,558,729	13,871,487	107,827,307	
5060	Other resources and (uses):		1,517,036	-	-	1,517,036	
6060	Other resources	(1,517,036)	-	-	-	(1,517,036)	
7000	Total other resources and (uses)	(1,517,036)	1,517,036	-	-	-	
1200	Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other resources over expenditures and other uses	1,132,310	1,701,801	290,394	(12,870,617)	(9,746,112)	
0100	Fund balance, beginning of year	13,659,751	-	1,203,243	12,870,617	27,733,611	
3000	Fund balance, end of year	\$14,792,061	1,701,801	1,493,637	-	17,987,499	

MAKE YOUR MONEY COUNT
Just Announced!

\$5000 REBATE * 4.9%

ZERO DOWN

NO PAYMENTS TILL MARCH 1994

ON 1994 CAVALIERS

18 IN STOCK TO CHOOSE FROM

Jack Sherman
HILKIN CHEVROLET MAZDA

***W.A.C.**

105	Happy Ads	105	Happy Ads	115	Announcements	115	Announcements	115	Announcements
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Only Doretha & Cars

Become Classics at 40!
Happy 40th Doretha Hailey
"Your Friends!"

50 Years Old Guess Who?

Sue Anderson That's Who

Love Glenda, Charlie and all of your Family

TexSCAN
Statewide Classified Advertising Network
313 Texas newspapers for \$250. Call this newspaper for details.

1994 SUPERBOWL XXVIII Program \$10, same as sold in Georgia Dome. Collector's bonus pack \$15. Great Christmas gift. 1-800-621-0188, will arrive by Friday, January 28.

NEEDED: CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISORS, foremen, linemen, 3-5 years experience preferred in coax, fiber optics, CATV construction for Midwest & Western U.S. Send complete resume to: Construction Department, 1911 SW Campus Drive, Suite 462, Federal Way, WA 98023.

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY, AERIAL and U.G. sub-contractors, experience in Coax, Fiber optics, CATV construction including splicing, etc. To work Midwest & Western U.S. Send information to: Contractor, 1911 SW Campus Drive, Suite 462, Federal Way, WA 98023.

EMUS-TOP QUALITY birds available on new purchase/boarding contracts loaded in your favor. Ranch in Llano county. Call TS-Emus (member AEA) for details. 915-643-1770.

WILL YOU PAINT? Will you supervise construction? Do you want home equity? You can own your dream home! Call Miles Homes today. 1-800-343-2884, ext. 1.

WOOD FLOORING SHIPPED direct from manufacturer. Save up to 50%, prices low enough to start a business. Call for information and pricing! Quantity Discounts! 1-800-38-TEJAS.

HAROLD IVES TRUCKING hiring drivers. Free driver training. Students welcome. Excellent benefits, excellent equipment, excellent training, excellent opportunity. Come grow with us: 1-800-842-0853.

DRIVERS - BLANKET WRAP (refuse/shorthaul/OTR). Late model tractors, no slip seating, excellent pay/benefits. Call anytime - Burlington Motor Carriers: 1-800-JOIN-BMC (Ext. 113), EOE.

DRIVERS NOT ONE but three opportunities! North American Van Lines has openings for owner operators in relocation services, blanketwrap and high value products. The choice is yours depending on experience level and type of operation. Tuition free training for

the inexperienced driver. Attractive tractor purchase programs available. Call 1-800-348-2147, Dept. CL-30.

COVENANT TRANSPORT \$500 sign-on bonus (after 90 days). Last year our top team earned over \$85,000 starting at \$2.7 to \$2.9 per mile. Plus bonuses to \$3.8 per mile. • Solos welcome • Spouse rider program • Truck driving school graduates welcome • Paid insurance • Motel, layover pay • Loading/unloading • Vacation, deadhead pay. Requirements: • Age 23 • 1 yr. verifiable over-the-road • Class A CDL with Hazardous Materials. 1-800-441-4394/915-852-3357.

160 RUGGED WEST Texas acres. White-tail, mule deer, quail, javelina. Access to Rio Grande River. Borders two large ranches. \$1,000 down, \$140/month. TX-VET (7.99%-30 yrs.). 210-792-4432.

DISSATISFIED WITH LIQUID & paste wormers? Happy Jack Trivermicide is effective against hook, round & tapeworms in dogs & cats. Available O-T-C at feed & hardware stores.

BREAST IMPLANT DEADLINE information 1-800-833-9121, Waldman**, Smallwood**, Grossman** & Carpenter**. personal injury trial lawyers since 1957. ** Board certified Texas. * not board certified Texas.

AMERICAN LAND LIQUIDATORS, lots, homesites, acreage/vacant land. For sale by owners' across the country. Call for free lists/property data. Buyers: 1-800-480-0090. Sellers: 1-800-364-6612.

ADOPTION: WE'LL OPEN our hearts to your baby and give him/her all our love and attention. Medical/legal expenses provided. Karen/David. Evenings/weekends 1-800-785-3494. It's illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical/legal expenses.

ADOPT: A CARING nurturing home, education, financial security, and all our love for your newborn with physician dad and full-time mom. Call Jenny & Sid 1-800-381-8873. It's illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical/legal expenses.

50	Legal Notices	50	Legal Notices	110	Lodge Notices	115	Announcements
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barred by the general statute of limitation, before such estate is closed, and within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. The address for presenting claims to the Independent Executor is 300 North Maricopa, Suite 700, Midland, Texas 79701.

Raymond Lee Tharp, Independent Executor of the Estate of Dorothy Marie Tharp, Deceased, No. 10,672 in the County Court of Midland County, Texas

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas, will hold a public hearing, at 1:30 P.M., Tuesday, January 11, 1994, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, on a request by JODY SOTO, JIMMY LAWSON, and ASSOCIATES for a ZONE CHANGE from O-1, Office District, to PD Planned District and a Shopping Center, on a 3.977-acre tract, being the western 518.61 feet of Lot 5, Block 8, Polo Park, Section 10, City and County of Midland, Texas. Generally located on the north side of North Loop 250 West, approximately 500 feet west of Polo Park. The meeting facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair entry ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled person is available near the southeast entrance doors. Any disabled person needing special accommodations or hearing impaired person wishing to have an interpreter should request services through the Administrative Services Department at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting Victor Pena, Compliance Coordinator for the City of Midland, at (915)685-7248. If communication via TDD is required, please call 1-800-735-2989.

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas, will hold a public hearing, at 1:30 P.M., Tuesday, January 11, 1994, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, on a request by JODY SOTO, JIMMY LAWSON, and ASSOCIATES for a ZONE CHANGE from PD Planned District for an Office Center to Amended Planned District, on a 2.3-acre tract, 5, North Town Plaza, Section 2, City and County of Midland, Texas. Generally located on the west side of Grand Street, immediately one-quarter mile south of Loop 250. The meeting facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair entry ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled person is available near the southeast entrance doors. Any disabled person needing special accommodations or hearing impaired person wishing to have an interpreter should request services through the Administrative Services Department at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting Victor Pena, Compliance Coordinator for the City of Midland, at (915)685-7248. If communication via TDD is required, please call 1-800-735-2989.

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas, will hold a public hearing, at 1:45 P.M., Tuesday, January 11, 1994, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, on a request by ROBERTO CAVAZOS for a Specific Use Permit for a Lounge or Nightclub, on Lots 11 and 12, Block 2, Brunson Place Addition, City and County of Midland, Texas. Generally located along the north side of Cowden Avenue approximately 450 feet east of Lamesa Road. The meeting facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair entry ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled person is available near the southeast entrance doors. Any disabled person needing special accommodations or hearing impaired person wishing to have an interpreter should request services through the Administrative Services Department at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting Victor Pena, Compliance Coordinator for the City of Midland, at (915)685-7248. If communication via TDD is required, please call 1-800-735-2989.

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas, will hold a public hearing, at 1:45 P.M., Tuesday, January 11, 1994, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, on a request by MIDLAND RED OAK REALTY, INC. for a ZONE CHANGE from AE, Agricultural-Estate District; 1F-1 and 1F-2, One-Family Dwelling District; and 1F-1, Local Residential District; to PD Planned District for Housing Developments; 1F-1, One-Family Dwelling District; and PD, Planned

district for a Shopping Center, on a 383.5-acre tract out of section 10, Block "X", H.P. Hilliard Survey, Midland County, Texas, being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point at the centerline intersection of "A" Street and Mockingbird Lane, at the southeast corner of Section 10, Block "X", H.P. Hilliard Survey, Midland County, Texas, for the southeast corner this tract;

THENCE S 74 degrees 47' 55" W, along the southern boundary of said Section 10, 2626.65 feet to a point for the most southerly southwest corner this tract;

THENCE N 15 degrees 21' 45" W, 1325.82 feet to a point for a corner this tract;

THENCE S 74 degrees 47' 55" W, 1993.95 feet to a point for a corner this tract;

THENCE N 15 degrees 20' 52" W, 663.05 feet to a point for a corner this tract;

THENCE S 74 degrees 47' 55" W, 664.65 feet to a point in the eastern boundary of said Section 10, for the most westerly southwest corner this tract;

THENCE N 15 degrees 20' 52" W, along the western boundary of said Section 10, 663.05 feet to a point for a corner most western northwest corner this tract;

THENCE N 74 degrees 47' 55" E, 2658.61 feet to a point for a corner this tract;

THENCE N 15 degrees 21' 45" W, 664.65 feet to a point in the northern boundary of said Section 10, for the most northerly northwest corner this tract;

THENCE N 74 degrees 47' 55" E, along the northern boundary of said Section 10, 2087.56 feet to the Place of Beginning and containing 383.536 acres of land.

Generally located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Mockingbird Lane and North "A" Street. The meeting facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair entry ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled person is available near the southeast entrance doors. Any disabled person needing special accommodations or hearing impaired person wishing to have an interpreter should request services through the Administrative Services Department at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting Victor Pena, Compliance Coordinator for the City of Midland, at (915)685-7248. If communication via TDD is required, please call 1-800-735-2989.

Acacia Masonic Lodge 1414 1000 Upland at Culberr.

Stated Communications 2nd & 4th Tues. 7:30 pm. Floor school Monday nites 7:00 PM.

Leonard Wood, W.M. (P.T.) Al Talbot, Secretary

Midland Masonic Lodge #623 1600 W. Wall. Reg. stated meetings 2nd & 4th Tues. 7:30 P.M. 682-3282.

W. Dean Porter, W.M. Robert G. Kiker, Sec.

Midland Shrine Club, 2019 Trade Dr. 682-5508. Reg. mtg. 3rd Thurs. each mo. Hosp., 6:30 pm. Catered dinner 7pm. Bus. mtg. 8 pm. All nobles & their ladies invited. Don Kennedy, Pres., Joe Agan Secy.

CENTENNIAL LODGE #1448 1000 Upland at Culberr. Next stated meeting Jan. 1, 1994. Happy Christmas! Gary Painter, W.M. Bob Ellwood, Secy.

320 Skilled Trades
330 Situations Wanted
335 Adult Care Needed
336 Adult Care Providers
340 Child Care Needed
341 Child Care Providers
350 Business Opportunities
400 Auctions
405 Garage Sales (79701)
406 Garage Sales (79703)
407 Garage Sales (79705)
408 Garage Sales (79707)
409 Garage Sales (Area)
410 Miscellaneous Sales
411 Jewelry
415 Miscellaneous Wanted
420 Good Things To Do
425 Trade/Service Goods
430 Household Goods
440 Firewood
450 Sporting Goods
460 Antiques and Art
470 Musical Instruments
475 Crafts and Supplies
480 Cameras and Supplies
485 Electronics/TV & Audio
490 Computers & Accessories
495 FOR FREE
500 Pets and Supplies
505 Livestock and Poultry
510 Office Supplies
515 House Calls/Equipment
520 Bus. Shop Equipment
530 Air Conditioning/Heating
540 Building Materials
550 Portable Buildings
560 Wanted To Rent
570 Oilfield Supplies
580 Farm Equipment
600 Rooms For Rent
601 Hotel Rooms For Rent
605 Roommates Wanted
625 Houses Unfurnished
630 Apartments Unfurnished
610 Apartments Furnished
615 Apartments Furnished
620 Houses Furnished
625 Houses Furnished
630 Houses Furnished
635 Condos/Townhomes Unfurnished
640 Condos/Townhomes Furnished
645 Condos/Townhomes Furnished
650 Mobile Homes Unfurnished
655 Mobile Homes Unfurnished
660 Mobile Home Space
665 Business Property/Offices
670 Warehouse/Storage
675 Recreational/Resort
680 Out of Town Rentals
685 Hunting Leases
690 Oil and Gas Leases
700 Manufactured Homes
701 Real Estate
710 Open Houses
715 Houses For Sale
720 Suburban Property
735 Real Estate Wanted
740 Out of Town Property
750 Lots and Acreage
760 Farms and Ranches
770 Publications
780 Business Properties
785 Warehouse/Storage Space
790 Investment Property
800-1000 Who's Who Services

FOR YOUR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NEEDS - CALL: 682-6222

Weekdays 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Corrections & cancellations may be made on Saturday mornings between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

COPY CHANGES
Monday thru Saturday editions: 3 p.m. the day prior to publication.
Sunday edition: 3 p.m. Friday.

WORD & SPACE DEADLINES
5 pm Friday for Sunday
5 pm Friday for Monday
5 pm Monday for Tuesday
3 pm Tuesday for Wednesday
5 pm Wednesday for Thursday
5 pm Thursday for Friday
5 pm Friday for Saturday

CLASSIFICATIONS:
50 Legals
100 Midland's Newest Arrivals
105 Happy Ads
110 Lodge Notices
115 Announcements
120 Public Notices
130 Personals
140 Care of Thanks
145 Back To School
150 Lost and Found
155 Investment Opportunity
160 Money Loans Wanted
162 Mortgage Loans Wanted
165 Investment Opportunity
170 Schools & Institutions
200 Automobiles/Domestic
205 Classic Cars
210 Automobiles/Foreign
215 Automobiles For Lease
220 Trucks and Vans
220 4x4 Drive Vehicles
240 Motorcycles
245 Trailers, Utility Trailers
250 Recreational Vehicles
260 Boats and Motors
270 Airplanes
280 Auto Services
290 Auto Part/Accessories
305 Job Services
310 General Help Wanted
311 Medical Help Wanted
312 Professional Help Wanted
314 Clerical Help Wanted
315 Sales Help Wanted

PERSONALS
CHRONIC Fatigue Syndrome (CFS), Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome (CFIDS). Expert Medical Information. 1-800-287-7582 - \$2.50 per minute, average call 10 minutes. Jeanette Fitzgerald, Canyon, Texas, 806-655-8588. Participants must be 18 or have parental permission.

EDDIE BARRON, your daughter Paula has been looking for you for 10 years. Anyone with information call collect 412-653-9192.

PRINCESS SHINEY MOON Love and laughter forever? Send smoke! E.

WE WOULD Like to adopt a baby to live in a small town with lots of kids in the neighborhood and horses to ride. We are a very close family. Please call 1-800-587-1474, talk to Lee or Sherrie. It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond legal or medical expenses.

SANTA CLAUS VISITS!!!! Your Home, Office, or Party Fun! Call 550-2401.

IT'S NATURAL AND GUARANTEED! You've nothing to lose but weight! Home/Office delivery. Beverly 520-8222.

REFLEXOLOGY and Shiatsu. Vitamins. Therapeutic massage and colonics. 697-3700.

50	Legal Notices	50	Legal Notices
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THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: The Unknown Stockholders of Roman Well Service, defendants in the cause described in this citation.

You, and each of you, are commanded to appear and to answer before the 142nd District Court in Midland, Midland County, Texas, at or before 10 a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, being at or before 10 a.m. on Monday, the 10th day of January, 1994, then and there to answer the petition of Jose Pedro Payan and Sandra Payan in cause No. A-39, 032, styled JOSE PEDRO PAYAN and SANDRA PAYAN vs. ROMAN WELL SERVICE AND CLEERE OPERATING COMPANY, in which Jose Pedro Payan and Sandra Payan are plaintiffs and Roman Well Service and Cleere Operating Company are defendants. The petition, filed on April 15, 1992, discloses that the nature of the suit is as follows:

Personal injuries sustained by Jose Pedro Payan during an oil field explosion on December 19, 1991.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THIS COURT on this 24th day of November, 1993, at Midland, Midland County, Texas.

BY DEPUTY CLERK
CATHY MC ANALLY

NOTICE OF INCORPORATION

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 1302-1.02 of the Misc. Corpo-

ration Laws Act, and the Texas Business Corporation Act, notice is hereby given that CUSTOM CAT TRUCK SERVICE, formerly a sole proprietorship, has incorporated the business and that effective on the 30th day of November, 1993, the business will be known as CUSTOM CAT, INCORPORATED, a Texas corporation.

Dated this 30th day of November, 1993.

CUSTOM CAT, INCORPORATED
By: John A. White, President

NOTICE OF MERGER OF CORPORATIONS

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 21-20, 125, R.R.S. 1943, that Jade Resources Inc., a Texas corporation, has filed Articles of Merger with the Nebraska Secretary of State and the Texas Secretary of State for the purpose of merging said corporations into one of such corporations, the remaining corporation being Jade Resources Inc., which is designated as a surviving corporation. The terms and conditions of the merger are that as of November 30, 1993, all assets and liabilities of D-S-D Resources, Inc. will be acquired by and assumed by Jade Resources Inc. and after such merger the fiscal year of the surviving corporation shall end on January 31 of each year. Subsequent to such merger, the ownership of all of the shares of stock in the surviving corporation shall be owned by said Jade Resources Inc. No changes are made in the Articles of Incorporation of the surviving corporation as a result of such merger. The creditors and shareholders of D-S-D Resources, Inc. shall continue as creditors or shareholders of the

50	Legal Notices	50	Legal Notices	50	Legal Notices
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surviving corporation.

JADE RESOURCES INC.
D-S-D RESOURCES, INC.
LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 3:00 P.M., January 12, 1994, to be opened at 3:00 P.M., in the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid #31-94 to purchase: 1,029 Uniform Shirts and 72 Shoulder Patches for the Fire Department.

Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Lorraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division
City of Midland, Texas

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ZELPHIA M. SCOGGIN PAXTON, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the estate of ZELPHIA M. SCOGGIN PAXTON, deceased, were issued to CAROLYN SUE "CIDDY" OVEREND and SHARON R. DUNNAM, Independent Executors, on December 20, 1993, in the proceeding styled "Estate of ZELPHIA M. SCOGGIN PAXTON, Deceased", No. 10,688 in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, which is still pending and that said person now holds such Letters. All persons having claims against said estate, which is being administered in Midland County, Texas, are hereby required to present the same to said Independent Executor, at the address given below before suit upon same is

same to said Independent Executors, at 4727 Laura, Midland, Texas 79703, before suit upon same is barred by the general statute of limitation, before such estate is closed, and within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

CAROLYN SUE "CIDDY" OVEREND and SHARON R. DUNNAM, Independent Executors of the Estate of ZELPHIA M. SCOGGIN PAXTON, Deceased, No. 10,688 in the County Court of Midland County, Texas

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY MARIE THARP, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the estate of Dorothy Marie Tharp, deceased, were issued to Raymond Lee Tharp, Independent Executor, on the 20th day of December, 1993, in the proceeding styled "Estate of Dorothy Marie Tharp, Deceased", No. 10,672 in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, which is still pending and that said person now holds such Letters. All persons having claims against said estate, which is being administered in Midland County, Texas, are hereby required to present the same to said Independent Executor, at the address given below before suit upon same is

210	Automobiles Import	210	Automobiles Import	210	Automobiles Import	210	Automobiles Import	210	Automobiles Import	210	Automobiles Import	210	Automobiles Import	210	Automobiles Import
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THE COMPETITION MAY NEVER RECOVER FROM THE SHOCK.

***ZERO DOWN**

MX6
M3076
\$18,795-
\$2496-

\$15,999

* Air conditioning * Automatic transmission
* 14" Alloy Wheels * Power Windows & Door Locks
* Custom Cloth Interior

4.9
Available on
Mazda
Trucks

B2300 CAB PLUS
M45041
\$249⁹⁹

AMOUNT FIN. \$12,261.33 @ 7.9% 750
REBATE TO DEALER, 60 MO. FIN.
* 5 spd manual transmission
* Rear wheel anti lock brakes
* Air conditioning * 3 yr.,
50,000 mile warranty

323
M3276
\$179⁹⁹

AMOUNT FIN. \$8814.60 @ 7.9%
REBATE TO DEALER, 60 MO.
* Custom cloth seats
* 5 spd. manual trans.
* 3 yr., 50,000 mile warranty

929
M3080
\$32,325 MSRP
\$6333-
\$25,995

* Gold Plg. * Dual Air Bags
* Anti Lock Brakes * Leather Interior
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PROTEGE
M4025
\$232³²

AMOUNT FIN. \$11,448.74 @ 7.9% 1500
REBATE TO DEALER, 60 MO.
* Air conditioning * Custom cloth seats
* 5 spd. transmission
* 3 yr., 50,000 mile warranty

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694-9601 4100 W. WALL 563-0214

*with approved credit.

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 WISHES
 YOUR FAMILY
 THE WARMEST
 GREETINGS THIS
 HOLIDAY SEASON

"Dealerships You'd Tell Your Best Friend To Shop!"

BRONCHO
CHEVROLET

500 W. Second Street
Sales Hotline 337-6601

BRONCHO
Geo

2346 E. 8th Street
Sales Hotline 335-5911

PLEASE.....

Check your ad the **first day** it appears
in the

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Please call
682-6222

immediately if you find an error.
The Midland Reporter-Telegram

is responsible only for errors
which nullify the value of an ad
the first day the ad runs.

220 Trucks & Vans

DODGE 1983 150 SE. Black, air conditioning, new tires, custom wheels, tool box, power steering and brakes, automatic transmission, V8. Runs good! \$2,500. 687-4307.

INTERNATIONAL 1972 Dump truck. 250 Cummet engine, overhauled. \$9,000. 570-1526.

CHEVROLET 1989 Supercab Conversion. Longwide, red and black exterior, captains chairs, one owner, high mileage, burglar alarm, exceptional truck. \$8,500. Call James 699-5336.

GMC 1989 Suburban, SLE package. Black with gray interior, dual air, excellent condition. \$10,900. Call Bill 682-8820 or 688-8323 evenings. Leave message if not in.

CHEVROLET 1993 Suburban. 4 wheel drive Silverado, loaded, 24,000 miles, new condition. Call 361-1371 after 5 pm 368-7824.

220 Trucks & Vans

FORD 1983 Supercab. Blue and white, 10 inch tires, back cover, runs good. 683-5510.

CHEVROLET 1983 Suburban. Extra clean, good condition. 689-7139.

1985 MOTORHOME, fully equipped on Chevrolet chassis with a 450 engine, 29 foot long. Twin beds, bathtub and shower, automatic icebox electric or gas, microwave, TV and VCR, CB radio, 1 large awning and 3 small ones. 2 air conditioners with heat strip attachments. 5K generator, power levelers, stainless steel wheel covers, dolly for pulling car. Call 915-367-3630, shown by appointment only.

★ DODGE 1992 Caravan, clean, 4 cylinder, 5 speed. Great gas mileage! Lists for \$12,750, bargain at \$11,500. Financing at 8% with payments as low as \$230. Midland Atlantic Federal Credit Union. Charlene, 688-5585.

220 Trucks & Vans

CHEVROLET 1988 Suburban. 4 wheel drive, new paint, many extras, great shape. \$9,300. 689-3550.

FORD 1979 Chateau Big Van. Carries 13. Blue & white. \$1,710 negotiable. 570-9412.

GMC 1989 S15 for sale. 58,000 miles, 5 speed, new tires. Asking \$3,700. Call 550-7010.

FORD 1985 F-150XL. Inline 6, power steering, air conditioning. Well maintained 150K miles. Excellent condition. \$4,395. 563-4022.

PONTIAC 1989 GRAND AM SE Turbo. Loaded. 31,800 miles. Excellent condition. New turbo. \$8,200. 699-4361.

JAGUAR 1978 XJ-6L. 73,000 miles. All original. Beautiful automobile. See to appreciate. \$7,500. Call 697-5920.

24' SURVEYOR. \$3,000 or best offer. Will consider trade. 694-3773.

EXTREMELY NICE 1984 GMC Stepside. Prime wheels, cassette, CD player, alarm, 18" speakers, 6 tweeters, wing on back. First \$5,500 takes it! 697-8157.

220 Trucks & Vans

CHEVROLET 1991 Extended cab, short bed. Bucket seats. Loaded. Bed mat & cover. \$13,950. 685-1946.

PLYMOUTH 1989 Voyager LE. AM/FM, cassette, air, tilt, cruise and the works. Must Sell! 570-8908.

FORD 1988 F350 with welding bed, auto, 460, air, 73K, great condition. \$7,500. 570-6307.

CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR. Two 1988 Yamaha 500 Wavejammer with trailer. Good condition. \$4,000. 699-0897.

CADILLAC COUPE DeVILLE. Cherry red. Lovely pampered car in perfect condition. 48K miles. \$10,000 firm. 697-0542 or 683-7821.

1990 GMC SUBURBAN TRAILMASTER CONVERSION. Blue with brown graphics. 4 leather captain chairs, dual air, power windows & locks. Very nice. \$14,300. 332-0644, 367-7288.

1988 CAMARO CONVERTIBLE SS 396. Frame-off restored to concours condition. 100% original, all numbers match. Red with white interior. 4-speed. \$22,500. 688-4285(W), 694-2608(F).

COLLECTOR'S CAR. Beautiful 1970 Monte Carlo. Excellent condition. One owner. All original. Power steering and brakes, automatic, 350 engine. Runs great. \$3000. Call 687-7097.

1992 MAZDA MPV 7 passenger. Lots of room. Light brown. Automatic. 17,000 miles. Excellent condition. Originally \$23,000, asking \$15,000 firm. Call 694-1908, leave message

DO-IT-YOURSELF IDEAS

A READER SERVICE OF THIS NEWSPAPER

THREE-PIECE BEDROOM SET

Our 3-Piece Bedroom Set: dresser, chest of drawers, and night stand, is made of oak and designed with the average woodworker in mind. No complicated joints or rabbeted grooves... just simple construction and a professional look. Our plan includes step-by-step illustrated instructions, cutting schedules and diagrams as well as a source of supply for the hardware if it's not available locally.

Send check to: ☐ #768 Bedroom Set \$6.50
KCS Pattern Dept. ☐ 112-page catalog \$3.95
P. O. Box 2383
Van Nuys, CA 91409 (Picturing 700 woodworking and handicraft projects)

Name _____
Address _____
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Price Includes Postage & Handling

310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 310 General Help Wanted 312 Professional Help Wanted 312 Professional Help Wanted 320 Skilled Trades

Distributorships Now Available



PART-TIME INCOME OPPORTUNITY

The Midland Reporter-Telegram has early morning routes which need to be filled with dependable individuals with reliable transportation. Often asked questions:

Is it worthwhile for adults also?

- YES! 95% of our Distributors ARE adults! Morning Routes are attractive for:
- * ADULTS who have fulltime jobs, yet want to supplement their income with a steady part-time job!
- * MOTHERS who can't justify a small job AND daycare, because as a Distributor, you don't need daycare!
- * COLLEGE STUDENTS needing a part-time job which will work with classes!
- * SENIOR CITIZENS wanting regular exercise, added retirement income, or just want to work with people, neighbors, and friends!

How much money can I make as a Distributor?

Depending on the size of the route(s), from \$350 to \$800 monthly, in some cases...even more!

OK...but how long does it take?

The actual delivery takes 1-2 hours Monday-Saturday, and 2-3 hours on Sunday, depending on the size of the route(s). Also some time is needed each month to collect from subscribers. Many Distributors choose to handle some of this by putting envelopes in the subscribers' papers and having payments mailed to them. Some collecting in person will be necessary though, particularly on some routes more than others.

When do the papers have to be delivered by?

Papers must be on the yards by 6 am Monday-Friday, and 7 am on weekend mornings.

Do I ever get a day off?

The job requires a 7-day a week commitment. However, most Distributors do take days off by finding a friend, family member, or another Distributor to substitute for them!

What else?

An initial \$100 refundable deposit is required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT
MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM
688-2700 OR 682-5311

STUDENTS/YOUNG PEOPLE AND OTHERS AGES 14 AND UP NEED CASH?

Begin earning cash immediately! You can earn \$25 - \$100 commission per week getting new subscribers for the Midland Reporter-Telegram. We have exciting programs for Jr. High and High School students as well as others interested in earning good money and cash bonuses. Transportation, from your home and return, is available. No newspaper delivering involved. Call Gerry or the Circulation Dept. at 687-8899



Part Time Income Up To \$500 Monthly

Deliver the Midland Reporter-Telegram to homes and stores in the early morning hours and earn up to \$500 per month, take home after expenses. 3 hours and you're done. Need by January 1, 1994 for High Sky Area. \$100 refundable deposit required. Call Tonya at 687-8807 anytime, leave message.

Part Time Income Up To \$500 Monthly

Deliver the Midland Reporter-Telegram to homes and stores in the early morning hours and earn up to \$500 per month, take home after expenses. 3 hours and you're done. Need by January 1, 1994 for Greenwood Area. \$100 refundable deposit required. Call Tonya at 687-8807 anytime, leave message.



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Free Uniforms

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If these benefits are important to you, talk to one of our managers at:

427 Andrews Hwy.

4320 Andrews Hwy.

2200 West Wadley

4400 North Midland Dr.

FORD 1986 F250. Lariat pack-

age. 490 CI engine, about

70,000 miles, refrigeration unit

works great. Asking price

\$7,500. Contact Regina or Mr.

Wilson at 684-5567 or

682-6436.

PLYMOUTH COLT 1989. Excellent student car.

Low miles. Air, cassette stereo, 5-speed. Great

Christmas gift. \$4,895. 694-7427.

MERCURY 1986 COUGAR. One owner, clean

inside and out. Rebuilt transmission, good motor.

High mileage. 685-3838. \$2,250.

1987 NISSAN PATHFINDER 4WD. New tires, cruise

control. Great old car or Christmas present. Just out

of the 90K mile checkup. Very reliable. \$8,995. 697-2806.

4-Wheel Drive Vehicles

CHEVROLET 1983 K5 Blazer, V-8, automatic, air, power, off-road mag, good shape. 684-5132/ 687-3712 evenings.

CHEVROLET 1978 Blazer, 4 wheel drive, automatic, sun roof, looks and runs good, tag and stickered. \$2,200. Call 570-0309.

GMC 1987 Suburban, 4 x 4, Loaded, excellent condition. 56,000 miles. 699-2516.

CHEVROLET 1984 Blazer, 4x4, automatic, blue/white, fully loaded. 683-7309.

TOYOTA 1990 4 runner, 4x4, V6, low mileage, excellent condition, looks and drives like new. \$16,800. 366-9619.

KAWASAKI 1979 1300. Sacrifice, must sell Big touring bike. Call Big John 683-3070.

HONDA 1993 1100 Shadow. Red, \$5,900, 13,000 miles. 563-4550 or 337-4238.

KAWASAKI 1993 Ninja. Almost new. Approximately 1,500 miles, looks great, runs great. Contact Regina at 684-5567 or 682-6436. Great Christmas Present!

DUNE BUGGY with Volkswagen motor, \$450. Call 362-9729 and leave message.

TRAILER 1991 Rockwood XL Pop-up. Heater, AC, shower, commode, excellent condition. \$6,600. 686-9756.

KRUGMANS CAMPER SHELL. Supermarket - pop up cabovers. Very large selection. 501 W. 42nd 366-9010. Odessa.

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Motorcycles

HONDA 1982 XR250R. excellent condition. 4 stroke. \$600. Call 689-0052.

TERRY'S TRAILERS. 1403 Garden City Hwy. Hitchers, light wiring, trailer repairs. New and used trailers for sale. We also rent trailers. Truck and pickup rigging a specialty. 688-5198.

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Trailers, Utility Trailers

TERRY'S TRAILERS. 1403 Garden City Hwy. Hitchers, light wiring, trailer repairs

690 Oil & Gas Leases

Oil Lease for sale, B.O.P.D. 5 producing wells, 1 injector, Glascock County. Good potential. 915-697-7097.

700 Manufactured Homes

1994 REDMAN home, under 150 per month at 10.25% APR. 10% down and 240 months. Call Nationwide 1-800-456-8944.

701 Real Estate

TOP \$50,000 BUYER for your mobile home. We buy the good, the bad, the ugly. Call 550-4033.

700 Manufactured Homes

1985 SOLITAIRE REPO, 14 x 84. Make Offer. For more information call 1-800-456-8944 or 520-5850.

720 Homes for Sale

FOR Sale by Owner. 14 x 72 mobile home. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths on 1 1/4 acres with a new septic tank. 570-5632 or 682-2658.

700 Manufactured Homes

CASH in 5 minutes for your mobile home! Call Brad in Odessa. 362-2560 or 366-5783.

710 Open Houses

TRADE your home for a new custom home from KEY HOMES, INC. 520-9848

720 Homes for Sale

BY OWNER, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, formal dining room. In Wyndwood Edition. Jacuzzi in sun room, many extras! \$79,500. Call 699-2470 after 5:30 pm.

720 Homes for Sale

3903 CONROE, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, double garage, brick, fireplace, landscaped. \$67,500. By appointment, 697-3503.

720 Homes for Sale

CHAPARRAL REALTORS 911 N. Midkiff Call 686-7000

720 Homes for Sale

REDUCED Polo Park, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath townhouse. Cathedral ceilings, skylight, fireplace, wet bar, security system. Light and bright kitchen with breakfast area. Spacious master with separate marble tub and shower. Close to clubhouse. Rear garage. Low maintenance, sprinklered lawn. \$79,000. 1709 Castledorf. 683-3444.

720 Homes for Sale

HUD VA HOMES. 0 to 3% down. 3 bedrooms and townhouses. All areas. Free List. Free Consultation. Free Bid Placement. 682-0470. Robles Real Estate. Se Habla Espanol.

720 Homes for Sale

List Your House With Us! The Prudential Adobe Realtors Call 694-9548

720 Homes for Sale

OWNER MOVING!!! Must Sacrifice! 4 Bedroom, 3 1/2 Bath, Pool, 2 Living areas plus office, many more extras. \$99,900. 520-7263.

720 Homes for Sale

NEED a 4 bedroom home? Build it in Grassland Estates for under \$110,000! Troy Hunt Homes, 553-1391.

720 Homes for Sale

Government Acquired Homes VA-HUD Qualifying and Non-Qualifying MLS Assumptions Free List & Information How To Buy JO DENNIS, CRS, GRI Dennis Realty, 689-8841

720 Homes for Sale

BY OWNER: 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, tile throughout, big yard. Farnin area. 2203 Gull. 687-3128.

720 Homes for Sale

SPECIAL OWNER FINANCING Three bedroom, two bath houses at various locations. \$30,000 to \$70,000 By Owner 694-7796

720 Homes for Sale

OWNER Financial 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 living. Complete remodel. \$36,000. \$3,000 down. 3909 Anetta. 689-0490.

720 Homes for Sale

OWNER FINANCED. Several 3-4 bedrooms homes. Only \$900 down. Owner/Agent 699-5849, Aztec Realty.

720 Homes for Sale

2 BEDROOM, 1 bath home, off Cottonfield Road. \$13,000. Owner will finance with \$3,000 down. Call 520-2636.

720 Homes for Sale

POLO Park \$83,000. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 dining, fireplace, master suite, sprinklers, alarm. 683-7537.

720 Homes for Sale

CHARLIE GOSS - BUILDER Nassau Townhomes. 694-8662

720 Homes for Sale

HUD HOMES-free list and information on how to buy. Aztec Realty, 699-5849.

720 Homes for Sale

3 BEDROOM, 1 bath. Newly remodeled. \$25,000. Owner financing. \$10,000 down, 5 year note. Cash price, \$23,000. 683-3508.

720 Homes for Sale

NON-QUALIFYING Assumption. \$3,000 down, \$368 payments. Dennis Realty, 689-8841.

720 Homes for Sale

NEW On The Market - 3606 Edgemont Drive. Beautiful 1988 sq. ft. home. 4 bedrooms. 2 baths and formal dining. New flooring and paint. Lots of extras. Non-qualifying loan with \$23,900 equity or new loan at \$91,900. Call to see 689-0842.

720 Homes for Sale

NON-QUALIFYING Assumption. 4 BEDROOMS, 2 baths, 1 car garage. Located at 3117 Delano. No. For information 505-397-0859.

720 Homes for Sale

FOR Sale by Owner. Wonderful country home on 2 acres in Ridge Heights. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Heart shaped pool with 20 x 30 pool house and restroom. Cross fenced for horses with small barn. Lots of storage and trees. 2 good water wells. Too many extras to mention. \$89,500. For appointment call 682-0250 or 684-8732.

720 Homes for Sale

MAKE OFFERS! 4 Bedroom brick, 801 W. Michigan; 6 Bedroom and 1 Bedroom, 1206 S. Lorraine. Sale - Trade. 682-3542.

720 Homes for Sale

3504 Pinemont in Fairmont Park. Key Home's most gorgeous plan to date! 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, exciting new central kitchen design. For more information call Harry at 520-9848.

720 Homes for Sale

702 SHELL - Very nice 3/2/2 in convenient area. \$46,000. 2504 DEANGAR - Farnin Area. 4/3/2, hobby plus workshop. \$85,000. Carriage Company Realtors 684-5881

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4 BEDROOMS, 2 baths, 1 car garage. Located at 3117 Delano. No. For information 505-397-0859.

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720 Homes for Sale

FURNISHED 2 Story. Brick, 4 bedrooms, saddle shop, stables hold 30 horses, arena, roping chute, hot walker, horse business and much more. \$127,500. Call 367-6211, Odessa.

CALL TODAY! 682-6222

750 Lots and Acreage

BY OWNER 1.6 ACRES, waterwell septic, electrical hookup, 15 trees, North of Air Terminal, over \$30,000 invested, must sell, \$11,500. 366-1091 Abe.

760 Farms and Ranches

BY OWNER beautiful 2400 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home on 30 acres with barn, Greenwood School District also will divide. 550-9829 for appointment.

770 Resort Property

NEAR Lake Amistad, 10 acres, undeveloped, Black Brush Addition. 915-655-0141 after 6 pm.

780 Business Property

DON HARVEY REALTORS 915-683-5333. Contact us for all your relocation needs. * MCKENZIE - OWEN * COMMERCIAL & INVESTMENT * 915-684-6278 *

730 Suburban Property

BY OWNER beautiful 2400 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home on 30 acres with barn, Greenwood School District, also will divide. 550-9829 for appointment.

780 Business Property

SALE/LEASE 4,000 sq. ft. building with 9 offices and warehouses. 7 1/2 acres, 4 acres fenced, in county on paved road. 697-1508, 682-0856.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

THE CLASSIFIED DEPT.
of The Midland Reporter-Telegram
WILL CLOSE AT 6:00 p.m. TODAY,
December 23, 1993
and will resume business on Monday,
December 27, 1993 at 8:00 am
Happy Holidays To You and Yours.....

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ULTRASONIC CLEANING SERVICE. Residential/Commercial Blind Cleaning. Eliminate dust, dirt, smoke, bacteria. 684-5351, leave message.

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DOZER, Maintainer, Backhoe, Dump truck service, fill dirt and sod, driveways, grubbing and raking small tracts. Roy Rogers 682-7548, 682-7843.

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Mrs. Clean Maid Service has openings for weekly or bi-weekly. Reasonable rates, references available. For information call 687-4866.

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WOOD FLOORS: refinish/repair installation/sales. Also ceramic tile floors, formica tops. Professional service, references and guarantees. Howard 694-4044.

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FENCE CONSTRUCTION - Wood, chain link, metal fencing. Also, fence repair. Free estimates. Senior citizens discount. 570-0623.

Fences

CHAPARRAL REALTORS 911 N. Midkiff Call 686-7000

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MAKE OFFERS! 4 Bedroom brick, 801 W. Michigan; 6 Bedroom and 1 Bedroom, 1206 S. Lorraine. Sale - Trade. 682-3542.

3504 Pinemont in Fairmont Park. Key Home's most gorgeous plan to date! 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, exciting new central kitchen design. For more information call Harry at 520-9848.

702 SHELL - Very nice 3/2/2 in convenient area. \$46,000. 2504 DEANGAR - Farnin Area. 4/3/2, hobby plus workshop. \$85,000. Carriage Company Realtors 684-5881

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4 BEDROOMS, 2 baths, 1 car garage. Located at 3117 Delano. No. For information 505-397-0859.

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