



Sports

RockHounds debut

Midland Double-A baseball is about to get rocking and rolling. The RockHounds era officially kicks off at 7:05 p.m. today when Midland travels to San Antonio to open Texas League play against the Missions. It's part of a 10-day road trip which also includes a stop in Wichita. 1C

267

countdown to 2000

Today: In 1944, Dr. W.E. Ryan of Midland was promoted from major to lieutenant colonel in Army Medical Corps. He was stationed in England.



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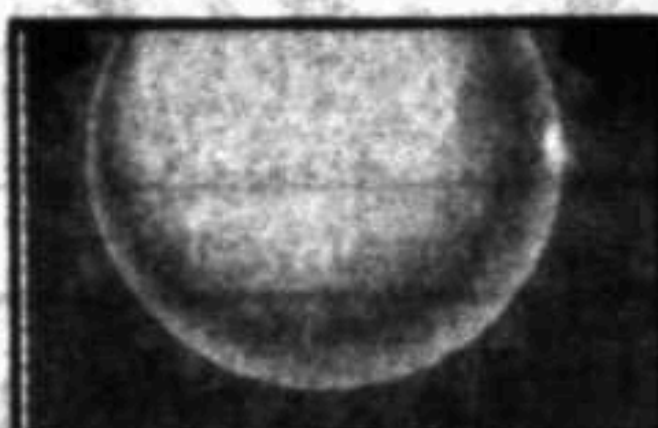
THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1999

Vol. 72, No. 30

A.M. BRIEFING

TODAY

Mostly sunny with a high in the mid-80s. Weather on 4A



Native landscape

You can have the wonderful experience of intermingling butterflies, hummingbirds and flowers by adding native plants to your existing landscape. Adding natives to your landscape greatly reduces lawn care. Native plants will fare much better than plants that normally grow in other climates.

Home/Garden, page 1D

Oil bill update

The fate of statutory unitization is now in the hands of the nine members of the House Energy Resources Committee in Austin, and a vote on the much-debated issue is expected to come Tuesday. Committee members, in a lengthy 10-hour debate, the longest session in history for the committee, heard pro and con arguments for an oil and gas law that will have a profound impact on the Permian Basin — win or lose.

Story page 1B

Spy plane downed

WASHINGTON — An unmanned U.S. Army reconnaissance aircraft crashed in Yugoslavia on Wednesday after apparently being shot down, defense officials said. The twin-engine plane, known as a Hunter, is used as a surveillance aid that can transmit video images to battlefield commanders.

Story page 8A

Ed Todd:

It's a wonder some of us survived foolhardy boyhood stunts.

Page 1B



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Stadium shopping began in early '99

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

Midland city and public school officials, in carrying out their brand of homework assignments, have been traveling to Texas high school football stadiums to glean ideas for a proposed city of Midland sports complex.

"We had to do a certain amount of homework," noted Midland City Councilman Don Washburn, who was part of a two-day Dallas-area tour of football stadiums, including Pennington Field in Bedford, in January. "We had to have some school input" to discern requirements for a football field to replace the 1948-vintage Memorial Stadium.

The Dallas trip — including air fare, food and lodging, and the car rental —

cost the city of Midland \$1,140 for three officials on the tour, according to Deputy City Manager Rick Menchaca. For three Midland Independent School District officials, the cost totaled \$588.66, according to school records. The MISD costs did not include car rental; the city rented two cars for the tour, Menchaca said.

There were also stadium-shopping trips to Scottsdale, Ariz., and possibly California, but details on who went on those trips and the receipts for those trips have not been made public. Those trips would have been specifically to look at baseball stadiums.

A new sports complex would heighten the possibility of Midland's attracting playoff games and would economically

Please see STADIUM/4A

Stadium could be a boon to local economy, experts say

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Supporters of a plan to construct a new multimillion dollar sports complex say the complex would benefit the city's economy.

They point to the fact that one weekend last month, according to the Convention and Visitors Bureau of the Midland Chamber of Commerce, a swim meet, basketball, baseball and golf tournaments meant \$800,000 to local hotels,

restaurants and retail stores.

No dollar figure can be given for the economic impact of the complex if it is built, said Marvin Wynn, president and chief executive officer of the Midland Chamber. But he cites figures from the Texas Department of Tourism that estimate that visitors spending the day attending a sporting event spend an average of \$35 per day while visitors who stay overnight spend an average of \$75

Please see BOON/4A

Look out, Tiger Woods



Fifteen-month-old Michael Conaway was practicing his shots Wednesday outside his grandparents' house on Cardinal Lane.

Tim Fischer/Telegram-Reporter-Telegram

Three tiers or two? Difficult decisions still loom for MISD

By Daniel Arp
Staff Writer

The question for Midland Independent School District in the coming months as it grapples with the volatile issue of ability grouping may be: Whom do we please?

A federal judge who has given a virtual mandate to change the current system, parents who call board members warning them not to water down their children's educations, or other parents and community members who say a change will raise the bar for all children?

"To the extent that there's the possibility of four board members supporting it, it would come up at a future board meeting. The decision is whether they want to reopen the decision or not," said MISD Superintendent Joe Baressi.



general, advanced or honors courses

based on academic performance. The board is considering a two-tiered alternative that would integrate general students — at some schools, only a handful of students — into advanced courses, but despite months of discussion and hours of testimony from outside experts, no action will be taken at Tuesday's board meeting and may never be taken, said Superintendent Joseph P. Baressi Jr.

"To the extent that there's the possibility of four board members supporting it, it would come up at a future board meeting," said Baressi. "The decision is whether they want to reopen the decision or not."

At issue is more than just a tracking system.

The U.S. Department of Justice has claimed that the three-tiered system encourages segregation, since the majority of students in the general tier are minorities.

MISD is still operating under a more than 20-year-old consent decree and four-year-old Agreed Judgment in a desegregation lawsuit involving the United States and a group of local plaintiff-intervenors.

Denying a district motion to dismiss the lawsuit last November, Federal District Judge Edward Prado pointed to a recent decision to retain the three-tiered system as a "disturbing" one that would make dismissal "extremely difficult, if not impossible."

"The judge already told us what we need to do," said board member Adela Marmolejo, who supports a two-tiered system. "When we have the Justice Department, the intervenors and the judge telling us we should do the two tiers, I just don't see any reason to support three tiers."



"When someone tells me, 'You're not doing this right,' I have to look at options," said MISD board president Martha Manulik. "Until we know what you're trying to replace this with, nobody's going to make a change."

Please see MISD/4A

Statistics show women still earning less than men

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

In her 1990s anthem to working women, Donna Summer sang, "She Works Hard for the Money."

The Texas Federation of Business & Professional Women want to publicize that, though she may work hard for the money, she still earns, on a national level, 74 cents to every dollar a man earns, according to statistics from the National Committee on Pay Equity. The federation will participate in Equal Pay Day today, a national day of action to protest unequal pay.

"I'd venture to say that there's not a woman who hasn't experienced this," said Nancy Bowlin, marketing director at Midland Park Mall. "Anyone in the workforce for any length

of time has probably experienced it whether they realize it or not."

Chris Hagen, now a vice president at Dawson Geophysical, said she personally experienced pay differences when she was starting out and went to work for a certified public accountant. Shortly after, she said, she learned that a male co-worker who started around the same time, with similar qualifications and experience, had received a higher starting salary.

"I've been fortunate in going to work for Dawson and working my way up to vice president, they've been very fair," she said.

Other local professional women say they, too, have been fortunate to receive equal pay and equal advancement opportunities.

"I like what I do and I don't care what I make," said

LuAnn Morgan, division manager for TU Electric. "I do it because I like what I do and I don't compare what I make with what others make."

Karen Hopkins, executive assistant with Bobby Cox Companies, said she too has been fortunate to be fairly compensated in terms of pay and bonuses as she worked her way up the ranks in the restaurant industry.

In her field of environmental consulting, said Sandra Elliott, office manager with ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller, "we have the opportunity for equal pay and equal advancement regardless of sex. I've been very fortunate and I've been paid well."

Observed Liz Harrell, senior vice president at Community National Bank, "I've always felt I've gotten equal pay" as she worked her way up through the ranks of the banking industry, starting as a teller in 1976 up to being named senior vice president and cashier.

None of the women, however, doubt that the problem

Please see PAY/4A

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Serbs keep Albanian refugees from leaving; Cypriot works to free Americans

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Yugoslav authorities sealed off Kosovo's main border crossings Wednesday, preventing ethnic Albanians from leaving as the wave of refugees approached the half-million mark. As NATO stepped up its airstrikes, a Cypriot mediator sought freedom for three captured U.S. soldiers.

NATO planes and cruise missile struck military targets in Kosovo and inflicted heavy damage elsewhere in Yugoslavia.

Albania's parliament approved NATO plans to send in 24 U.S. Apache attack helicopters — a move that should bolster the alliance's firepower against the Yugoslav tanks and armor that have driven ethnic Albanians from their homes in Kosovo.

After forcing more than 400,000 refugees out to neighboring countries, Yugoslav authorities closed the main exit route on Wednesday without explanation, forcing tens of thousands of people back toward the burned villages they had been escaping from.

German Defense Minister Rudolf Scharping warned that the Yugoslavs may be planning to use the civilians in Kosovo as "human shields" against NATO attack.

In Morini, the crossing point for Kosovo refugees into Albania, the flow of cars and tractors suddenly stopped at 3 a.m., witnesses said. Yugoslav border guards could be seen laying what appeared to be mines and digging fortifications just inside their territory.

"The refugees ... were told to return to their places of residence — whatever is left of those places," said Doran Vienneau of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which has been monitoring the border.

Scharping said Yugoslav forces had begun forcing ethnic Albanians back from the border areas into the province. He showed aerial photos that he said showed Serb tanks surrounding a Kosovo village, separating the men and women, and then opening fire on houses.

The former president of Cyprus,

Spyros Kyprianou, began a mission to win the release of three American soldiers seized along the Yugoslav border with Macedonia on March 31. Cyprus, which is not a NATO member, has historically had close ties with Yugoslavia.

Kyprianou flew to Athens, where he said he was "waiting for the green light from Belgrade" before going to Yugoslavia today.

He said he believed the release of the soldiers was imminent.

Sandy Berger, President Clinton's national security adviser, was cautious about the mission but said "we certainly would welcome any release."

Another nightmare was brewing for the tens of thousands of Kosovo refugees who had made it across into neighboring Macedonia only to be trapped for days in squalid conditions.

With frightening efficiency, Macedonian officials emptied the border city of Blace on Wednesday, hustling thousands of refugees onto buses so quickly that some were separated from their families.

Macedonia, which has been criticized for conditions at the makeshift camp, said it shipped 10,000 refugees to Albania and moved 25,000 others to NATO tent camps further in-country.

Aid workers said about 10,000 refugees from the camp were unaccounted for.

"Most people here don't know what their fate is going to be. They don't even know where their relatives are, where their mothers are," said Nebi Qena, 21, after being moved from Blace to a NATO-run camp. "My brother was on the other side of the border waiting to get in. I don't know if he was turned back."

Macedonia has been flooded with more than 130,000 refugees since NATO airstrikes began March 24, and it has castigated the United States and its NATO allies for failing to stem the tide.

At NATO headquarters, Air Commodore David Wilby said alliance aircraft struck before dawn Wednesday at dozens of mil-

itary targets and what NATO called "fielded forces in and around Kosovo" with "surgical precision."

He announced NATO's "first major breakthrough against armored forces in the field," saying "we were able to locate and attack several units." In one attack, he said, allied planes dropped weapons on a column of seven to 12 vehicles.

In Washington, Air Force Maj. Gen. Charles Wald, vice director for strategic plans and policy for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the low-flying "tank killer" A-10 aircraft hit Serb forces in Kosovo overnight, the first time the Warthogs struck enemy targets in the campaign.

"The early reports are excellent," Wald said, without providing details.

The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said at least 10 people were

killed and eight seriously injured in an airstrike Wednesday on administrative buildings in Kosovo's capital of Pristina.

Television footage of Pristina showed huge mounds of rubble, twisted steel and broken glass. NATO is trying to force Milosevic to withdraw Serb special police and military units from Kosovo and accept a three-year interim autonomy agreement that would be policed by 28,000 NATO troops, including American soldiers.

Ethnic Albanians made up 90 percent of the 2 million prewar populace of Kosovo, a province in Serbia, the main republic in Yugoslavia. Milosevic's crackdown on ethnic Albanian separatists began 14 months ago.

NATO spokesman Jamie Shea told reporters in Brussels, Belgium, that NATO was "deeply preoccupied" by reports of atrocities being committed against

civilians and that in Kosovo 50 villages reportedly have been burned since Saturday.

He also said three mass gravesites been identified, based on refugee testimony.

On Wednesday, the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army claimed Serb forces massacred at least 51 civilians, including 12 children, during

a raid on the village of Celina, southwest of Pristina, hours after the airstrikes began.

In Washington, State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said nine Serb commanders have been linked to atrocities in Kosovo and could face war crime prosecutions.

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Milos

By George Jahn
Associated Press

BELGRADE, Y. unilateral cease-fire willingness to release U.S. soldiers bodan Milosevic r for a way out in his with NATO over K

And there are signs Serbia may welcome with the end weeks of airstrikes

"Clearly (Milosevic) has been given this has been going Belgrade jour Radulovic said.

In particular, announced Tuesday attempt by the Yug head off any effort allies to send in g bring an end to the forced hundreds ethnic Albanians c

"Milosevic is fast point where getting negotiations are in order to halt the before the decisio ground forces," sa a former Clinton official now with Institution in Wash

"Milosevic can longed aerial war victory in the end survive the intro forces," he said.

But it's also po cease-fire was an Yugoslav leader home audience — he knew would be could continue to p a demonic force be Serbia.

"We offer a ceas continue bombing van Cvijic, a Serb another Balkan w backing off now!"

Anthony Cordes of national secur town University i said Milosevic loo

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Milosevic may be ready to deal

By George Jahn
Associated Press

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — A unilateral cease-fire, a possible willingness to release three captured U.S. soldiers. President Slobodan Milosevic may be looking for a way out in his confrontation with NATO over Kosovo.

And there are signs the people of Serbia may welcome a compromise with the enemy after two weeks of airstrikes.

"Clearly (Milosevic) miscalculated his options and realizes that this has been going on too long," Belgrade journalist Dusan Radulovic said.

In particular, the cease-fire, announced Tuesday, may be an attempt by the Yugoslav leader to head off any effort by the NATO allies to send in ground troops to bring an end to the conflict that has forced hundreds of thousands of ethnic Albanians out of Kosovo.

"Milosevic is fast approaching a point where getting some kind of negotiations are in his interest in order to halt the bombings and to forestall the decision to introduce ground forces," said Ivo Daalder, a former Clinton administration official now with the Brookings Institution in Washington.

"Milosevic can survive a prolonged aerial war and proclaim victory in the end, but he cannot survive the introduction of ground forces," he said.

But it's also possible that the cease-fire was an attempt by the Yugoslav leader to play to the home audience — making an offer he knew would be refused so he could continue to portray NATO as a demonic force bent on destroying Serbia.

"We offer a cease-fire, and they continue bombing," fumed Milovan Cvijic, a Serb refugee from another Balkan war. "There is no backing off now!"

Anthony Cordesman, a professor of national security at Georgetown University in Washington, said Milosevic looked to be trying

News analysis

to "improve the very negative image of Serbs-as-aggressors in the West."

"Dealing humanely with the POWs is one way, as is opening up negotiations... His best strategy is to hope that these moves will weaken NATO's resolve," he said.

But are Washington and the NATO allies ready to cut a deal? If the cease-fire was an attempt to split the Western alliance, it apparently failed — even member nations less hawkish than the United States and Britain were reported determined Wednesday to continue the air attacks.

Even so, Daalder said, Milosevic is "a brilliant tactician and he's now testing with his various probes how little he has to do to get NATO to split. I believe you'll see other probes like this in coming days."

President Clinton dismissed Yugoslavia's cease-fire against ethnic Albanian guerrillas in Kosovo as a hollow promise and said Washington and its NATO allies are "determined to stay united and to persist until we prevail."

The heaviest night of airstrikes since the NATO assault began March 24 followed Milosevic's cease-fire offer Tuesday, making clear that NATO countries continue holding out for much more.

NATO leaders have demanded the withdrawal of Yugoslav military and paramilitary forces from Kosovo and an international military force to police a settlement

that grants autonomy to Kosovo, a province of the main Yugoslav republic of Kosovo.

Despite the fury among ordinary Serbs over the two-week NATO bombing campaign, Milosevic may still need to do some morale-boosting at home.

Crowds at the daily anti-NATO rock festival held in the heart of Belgrade have dwindled from up to 20,000 — the day of the first one March 28 — to about 5,000 on Wednesday. And the defiance voiced during the first days of air attacks appears to be slowly changing to desperation, despite a steady diet of programming on state television meant to strengthen resolve.

"If they want to bomb, they should do it quickly, to get it over with," said Zoran Mijuskovic, a Belgrade bookstore owner. "I am sick of hiding in a cellar."

And, Milosevic may be hampered in any attempt to offer concessions by his own propaganda campaign that spread the message of a fight to the end rather than caving in to NATO.

"They are ready to give a great deal of things but they don't know how to start," said Miodrag, a man in his 20s who asked not to be fully identified. He said Milosevic must first "prepare the ground" so that Serbs who have been told to resist now can accept compromise.

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Orig. \$69

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Bandolino "Amica"

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pump.

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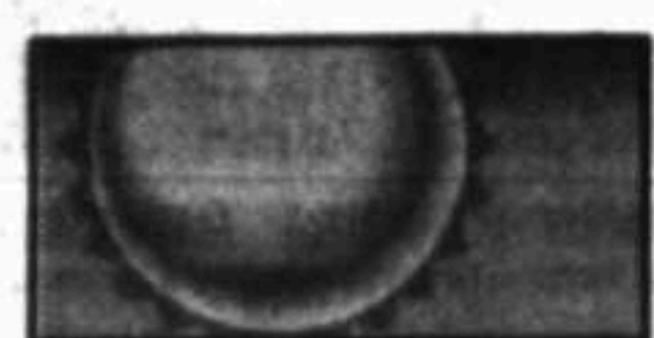
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WEATHER

Midland forecast

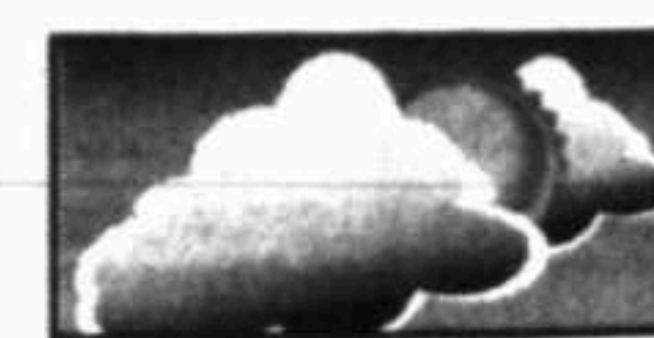
3-day forecast



Today
Mostly sunny
High 85
Low



Friday
Partly cloudy
High 90
Low 54



Saturday
Partly cloudy
High 81
Low 50

Today's forecast calls for mostly sunny skies and windy with a high in the mid-80s and gusty west winds blowing at 20-30 mph, diminishing late.

Tonight's forecast calls for fair skies with a low near 50. Friday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a high near 90. After an overnight low of 56, Wednesday's high reached 91, compared to the record high for that date of 93 set in 1989. The record low of 23 was set in 1939.

Yesterday's precipitation
Rainfall Wednesday ... 0.00 in.
Rainfall Tuesday ... 0.00 in.
Total for month ... 0.08 in.
Total for year ... 1.63 in.
Normal total yr to date ... 1.72 in.

Yesterday's temperatures
High ... 91
Low ... 56
Normal high ... 78
Normal low ... 47

Pollen count

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

Sunrise ... 7:29 a.m.
Sunset ... 8:13 p.m.

United States temperatures

Temperatures indicate previous day's high and overnight low to 8:00 p.m. EDT.

City	Hi	Lo	Prc	Outk
Albany, N.Y.	59	47	01	
Albuquerque	75	42	01	
Anchorage	29	20	01	
Asheville	79	44	01	
Atlanta	84	57	01	
Atlantic City	73	49	01	
Baltimore	82	46	01	
Bilings	65	34	01	
Birmingham	77	32	01	
Bismarck	61	26	01	
Boise	61	33	01	
Boston	66	46	01	
Buffalo	51	42	01	
Burlington, Vt.	53	49	01	
Casper	61	32	01	
Charleston, S.C.	79	54	01	
Charleston, W.Va.	75	50	01	
Charlotte, N.C.	80	57	01	
Cheyenne	63	32	01	
Chicago	77	33	01	
Cincinnati	70	38	01	
Cleveland	67	43	01	
Columbia, S.C.	87	60	01	
Columbus, Ohio	70	44	01	
Concord, N.H.	60	44	01	
Dayton	69	42	01	
Denver	72	39	01	
Des Moines	76	45	01	
Detroit	66	38	01	
Duluth	60	37	01	
Evansville	75	43	01	
Fairbanks	15	14	01	
Fargo	59	41	01	
Flagstaff	44	30	01	
Grand Rapids	67	35	01	
Great Falls	61	33	01	
Greensboro, N.C.	79	55	01	
Hartford, Conn.	67	46	01	
Helena	63	25	01	
Honolulu	83	72	01	
Indianapolis	87	42	01	
Jackson, Miss.	84	58	01	
Jacksonville	84	65	01	
Juneau	43	33	01	
Kansas City	81	49	01	
Las Vegas	62	52	01	
Little Rock	81	50	01	
Los Angeles	58	49	01	
Louisville	76	47	01	
Memphis	85	54	01	
Miami Beach	81	71	01	
Milwaukee	76	39	01	
Minneapolis	71	43	01	
Nashville	81	48	01	
New Orleans	84	66	01	
New York City	70	48	01	
Norfolk, Va.	75	63	01	
North Platte	74	31	01	
Oakland	78	50	01	
Omaha	78	48	01	
Orlando	85	62	01	
Philadelphia	71	46	01	
Phoenix	70	53	01	
Pittsburgh	66	44	01	
Portland, Maine	59	42	01	
Portland, Ore.	53	41	01	
Providence	71	43	01	
Raleigh-Durham	82	59	01	
Rapid City	68	32	01	
Reno	51	34	01	
Richmond	81	55	01	
Sacramento	54	40	01	
St. Louis	82	48	01	
Salt Lake City	58	34	01	
San Diego	61	52	01	
San Francisco	52	48	01	
San Juan, P.R.	83	70	01	
Santa Fe	70	32	01	
St. Ste. Marie	52	34	01	
Seattle	49	49	01	
Shreveport	83	60	01	
Sioux Falls	70	43	01	
Spokane	57	33	01	
Syracuse	59	46	01	
Tampa-St. Petersburg	87	70	01	
Tulsa	78	46	01	
Tucson	75	48	01	
Tulsa	79	53	01	
Washington, D.C.	74	51	01	
Wichita	75	52	01	
Wilkes-Barre	66	47	01	
Wilmington, Del.	72	45	01	

STADIUM: Officials began shopping in early 1999

(From 1A)

benefit the town, Washburn suggested.

"Nobody wants to play at Midland Memorial," Washburn said. "We had zero playoff games here this year (last season)."

City and school officials were checking out stadiums long before a petition got under way last week to compel the city of Midland to call a sales-tax referendum to increase the tax by one-fourth of a cent to eight cents from 7.75 cents on the dollar to help pay for the \$35 million estimated cost of the complex.

The proposed one-quarter-cent sales tax increase would cost the taxpayers "25 cents for every \$100 spent," or "one thin dime" in taxes on a \$40 purchase, said Ken Marks, a Midland businessman and sports enthusiast. He is on the petition's five-member committee that also includes Doss Rogers, Tommy Ratliff, Bill Williams and Gary McCright.

By law, the sales tax is limited to 8.25 percent, of which the state claims 6.25 percent. The remaining 2 percent (two cents on the dollar) may be claimed by local governments and taxing districts not including public schools. The city already exacts a one-cent sales tax, and Midland County imposes a half-cent sales tax on the dollar. "It (the sports complex) will enhance Midland and enhance the community in every way," Marks said. "The quality of life will be good. It will be the greatest thing around."

'Great' returns

"For the money that's invested, the returns on it are just going to be great," said Marks, who noted that he had received "a lot of good response" to the petition.

To get the Midland City Council to place the sales-tax proposal on the Nov. 2, 1999, election ballot, the petition committee — by a formula in the law — must get valid signatures from at least 560 registered voters, who represent 20 percent of the vote in the city's May 2, 1998, election in which 2,794 people voted.

"We are going to shoot for about 5,000 signatures on the petition," said Williams, to make a good, positive showing. "There are petitions everywhere," he said, and "300 or 400" signatures already have been collected.

"Most of the people where we've been set up are sports fans," Williams said. "Obviously, they are very favorable. We've not been in the mall or places like that, where you'll get a better cross-section of people. You'll have the years and the nays."

The complex would include a new baseball stadium for the Midland RockHounds, the minor league affiliate with major league's Oakland Athletics, and is only one of 28 Double-A minor league teams in the nation.

MISD: Board must decide whom to please

(From 1A)

Some board members, however, do.

"Judge Prado is in San Antonio. I have to consider the parents and children in MISD," said board member Pat Hodges, who said she fears children currently in general classes will not be able to handle the rigors of an advanced curriculum.

As for the ramifications of a decision that would ignore Prado's orders, Ms. Hodges said she was confident the district could show the current system — though racially identifiable — does not discriminate against students on the basis of race.

"We have experts who say we can prove we are not discriminatory," said Ms. Hodges, referring to Christine Rossell, an expert who visited Midland in January and indicated there was evidence she could present in court on behalf of the district.

Among board members, Ms. Marmolejo and James Fuller already have come out in support of two tiers. Ms. Hodges and Glen Butler have shown the strongest aversion to changing.

Board President Martha Manulik and board member Becky Oekerman may be the wildcards. Jackie Hamilton, a board member

The two other Double-A clubs in Texas are the San Antonio Missions and the El Paso Diablos.

The Kansas City-based HOK Sports Facilities Group, which is preparing initial plans for the sports complex, is to send an enhanced concept of the complex to Midland this week, according to Rick Carden, the Midland RockHounds' assistant general manager.

The Midland RockHounds, which lease the 1952-built Christensen Stadium from the city for \$525 per game, is under pressure from the Texas League and baseball's major league to play in a stadium that meets standards for Double-A baseball, said Monty Hoppel, the RockHounds' general manager.

The Midland and Lee high school baseball teams play at Christensen Stadium under an "exchange-of-services" agreement between the city and school system, according to Chuck Swallow, the city's director of community services.

Checking out football stadiums in the Dallas area on behalf of the Midland schools were, according to MISD records, Tim Whalen, MISD athletic director; James Riggen, MISD director of school plant services and school architect; and Wilson Heidelberg, MISD executive director of auxiliary construction services. More than half of the cost was Southwest Airlines tickets, which cost \$315. The remainder was in food and lodging.

City officials on the trip were Washburn, Menchaca and Swallow.

'Always research'

"There is always research being done," such as the planning that occurred for the \$42 million terminal at Midland International Airport.

"Some pan out; some don't pan out," Menchaca said of the research trips.

Midland is "a dynamic community; it is always growing. It is always looking to the future ... to make it a better community for its people."

In that homework exercise, "You hope to not repeat the mistakes" that other cities may have made in similar undertakings, Menchaca said. Midland City Manager Mike McGregor traveled to various cities and states, for example, in getting ideas for the airport's terminal, Menchaca said.

"You are going to have to spend a few dollars in doing some research and learning from other people what did best and not best" in various projects, Menchaca said.

Midland city and school officials apparently are planning a trip to study a Georgia-made artificial turf, FieldTurf, that covers the gridiron at Amarillo's Dick Bivins Stadium.

Tex Nolan, Amarillo Independent School District's athletic director, who said that Menchaca had made inquiries about a Midland city-school tour of the stadium there, said that the FieldTurf there cost \$538,000, or \$6 to \$9 per square foot. Nolan is projecting a 10- to 12-year life on the artificial turf, which has a remarkable grass-like quality, he said.

"And it is in better shape today than it was the day we put it in" in 1998. In one season, 37 football games, 25 soccer games, and 39 marching bands performed on the field.

"We had no surgery-related injury on that field in football or soccer," Nolan said.

The FieldTurf rates with the "best grass field you could imagine and plays exactly the same, and you don't have the maintenance. It exceeds our expectations."

The yearly cost of maintaining grass on that field ranged from \$50,000 to \$60,000, including the \$22,000 to \$30,000 water bill, he said.

Nolan said that the University of Nebraska Cornhuskers' head football coach, Frank Solich and football players, recently flew to Amarillo on two Lear jets to check out the FieldTurf.

"They had players out there running and cutting," Nolan said. The stadium's new footing is "good for the kids of Amarillo," Nolan said, and is "a source of pride for Amarillo and the entire Panhandle."

Hoppel said that the proposed baseball stadium calls for 5,000 permanent seats with back rests, room for expansion to 8,000 permanent seats, and a grass berm for 3,000 additional baseball fans. "People love that (grass berm) in minor league."

Making it work

"We want to make this thing work," Hoppel said of the sports complex. There are no plans to build a "Taj Mahal that we don't need. We are very conscious of just what we need" to meet the Double-A standards set forth by major league baseball.

Hoppel said that Christensen Stadium is to host 71 professional RockHounds games from April through early September and that number would be increased by 10 were the RockHounds in a playoff. Additionally, "anywhere between 60 and 80 other games have been played" at the stadium.

Williams said that preliminary plans for a new high school football stadium call for 15,000 permanent seats and berms for 3,000 fans. Memorial Stadium has room for 10,830 spectators, he said.

"It's not set in stone," Williams said of the sports-complex plans.

City Councilman Washburn figured that the "economic impact those (football-soccer and baseball stadiums) can potentially have (on Midland) is pretty astounding."

ing." Washburn, who is a certified public accountant, said that he would be heading up to Amarillo "on my own money" after the tax season to check out the FieldTurf football field there.

Rogers, a marathon runner and auto dealer who serves on the petition committee, said that building the stadium complex is dedicated to bettering Midland.

"It's more of a chamber of commerce thing," he said. If approved by the voters and built, the complex would "bring playoff games here and improve the overall appearance of the city," similarly to the upbeat appearance of the new airport terminal.

"If we don't build a new baseball stadium, we are going to lose the RockHounds," he said. "If you lose them, what are the odds of getting (a team) back?"

Unlike Memorial Stadium, a new football-soccer stadium would attract "playoff games. Odessa's Ratliff Stadium hosted eight playoff games last year, he said, and playoff games were held in Lubbock.

"The average person, over and above their ticket, spends \$20 a person if they come into town for a game," Rogers said. "It adds up real fast. They all are going to eat here, shop here. They will help pay for the stadium."

The sales-tax approach to financing the stadium "does not take away from educating kids or building new schools," said Rogers, a former football player. "This is strictly a sales-tax deal to improve the city of Midland. It's like that (airport) terminal building out there."

The sports complex would cost the consumer "25 cents for every \$100 you spend," Roger said. "If that is going to prevent you from buying something, you don't need to be buying it."

The complex would make "Midland a better place to live," he said. "If you care about Midland at all, how could you be against it?"

However, Rogers noted that "the great about" being an American is that the citizens can "vote yea or nay."

Of Midland officials' travels to size up sports stadiums, Midland Mayor Bobby Burns said that they are trying to "do their homework. We've got a lot more homework to do."

While "there are some minor costs associated with it," Midland officials are "very wise with our money."

Of the citizenry's view of the proposed sports complex, "a lot of people haven't decided," Burns said. "I wonder how much support and distraction is out there."

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BOON: Economists positive about sports complex

(From 1A)

a day.

Economists say sports complexes can boost a town's economy, but the success depends on attracting out-of-town dollars to the new facility and its impact on the surrounding neighborhoods.

"You can structure one well or you can structure one poorly," said M. Ray Perryman of The Perryman Group in Waco.

He said his company has studied a number of sports facilities, "and a number of them have been successful, but the economic impact depends on how successful they are in bringing in new dollars. In metropolitan areas, someone might decide to go to a game instead of to dinner. That's just circulating dollars that are already circulating. In the Permian Basin, where you're successful in drawing people in, the proposal could have a positive impact."

Kevin Skipper of Desert Analytic, a local economic analysis firm, called the idea of investing in tourism-related infrastructure such as sports or convention facilities sound. He said he is in the process of compiling data on tourism and visitors for the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

"The Chamber of Commerce, the CVB and other organizations have demonstrated convincingly that they can successfully recruit conventions, conferences and sporting events that inject hundreds of thousands of dollars into our economy. This represents money that would not have come here without assistance, and it represents tax revenue and jobs which would not exist without these events," Skipper said.

Perryman said that "for any tourism initiative promoted for economic development, that keys into how many outside dollars the initiative brings in or how many dollars it keeps in the town."

Another key, he said, is the economic impact of the facility on the surrounding area and how its design fits into the neighborhood.

For example, he said, two new stadiums, one planned for San Antonio and the other for Dallas, could positively impact their neighboring areas.

"In Dallas, the stadium will be built in an economically blighted area that will be developed into a retail area," Perryman said.

Again, he said, the key to success is attracting out-of-town revenues.

"It doesn't matter if I go to a movie or to dinner or to a game, that's revenue that's already circulating. But when you bring in out-of-town dollars, that's hotel nights, restaurant use and retail sales."

A group of Midlanders have proposed a \$24 to \$30 million complex that would consist of a football-soccer stadium and a baseball park and are seeking to put a November referendum on the ballot to increase the city's sales tax by one-fourth of a cent to pay for the complex.

"I think it has potential," Perryman said. "Certainly sports complexes are proving to be positive for their communities."

PAY: Women still earn 74 cents on the dollar compared to men, according to statistics

(From 1A)

exists. "Even though great inroads have been made in that regard," said Ms. Bowlin, "I think unequal pay for equal work is alive and well."

And they see its roots in tradition.

"All in all, I think it's more tenure that's caused, unequal pay," said Ms. Morgan. "Women haven't been trained as long. In my generation, 50 percent of women didn't go to college. You have to compare tenure and educational background; women are just now establishing themselves. In 1976 when I entered the workforce, there weren't that many women in the workforce. There's so much difference with today, there's no comparison."

Said Ms. Bowlin, "it probably

has something to do with the fact that men

U.N. official calls effect of sanctions in Iraq devastating

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Once a month, the citizens of sanctions-strangled Iraq line up for rations bought with government oil money: a few pounds of rice, sugar, cooking oil and other staples.

The food basket, sold by the government at a subsidized price of about 8 cents per person, is too meager to live on, according to a U.N. official interviewed this week by a human rights group opposed to the sanctions.

The Seattle-based group, Physicians for Social Responsibility, on Tuesday showed The Associated Press a videotape of its interview with Hans Von Sponeck, humanitarian coordinator for the Iraq program in Baghdad.

Iraq can only sell its oil to buy food and medicine under a U.N. deal that "gives, at best, \$180 for all the needs of a person for a year, clearly not enough," Von Sponeck said.

Hans Von Sponeck, humanitarian coordinator, said infrastructure and education were deteriorating, 'depriving a generation of their futures as responsible citizens.'

A PSR team left Baghdad later Tuesday with plans to publicize findings made during its two-day visit to Iraq.

The group, along with the Chicago-based Voices in the Wilderness, donated \$50,000 worth of medicine and books to Iraq on Monday.

Iraq has been barred from exporting oil freely since U.N. trade sanctions were imposed in 1990 to punish it for invading Kuwait.

The U.N. Security Council has said the sanctions, backed mainly by the United States and Britain, will not be lifted until Iraq has complied with Persian Gulf War cease-fire resolutions that require the country to dismantle its weapons of mass destruction.

The sanctions have crippled the economy and the buying power of ordinary Iraqis. Von Sponeck said infrastructure and education were deteriorating, "depriving a generation of their futures as responsible citizens."

Initially, Iraq was allowed oil exports worth \$2 billion each six months. The figure was raised last year to \$5.2 billion. According to a U.N. statement released

Wednesday in Baghdad, Iraq has exported an average of 1.8 million barrels per day since Dec. 26, earning an average of \$9.60 per barrel.

Western leaders have accused Iraqi President Saddam Hussein of diverting resources to his military machine and exploiting his people's suffering for propaganda purposes.

Iraqi Trade Minister Mohammed Mehdi Saleh on Wednesday accused the United States and Britain of blocking deals for Iraq to purchase water treatment, sanitation, education and sewage equipment under the oil-for-food program.

The United Nations on Wednesday reported progress in efforts to accelerate the purchase of high-

protein biscuits for malnourished pregnant or nursing mothers and milk for severely malnourished children.

It said Iraq has allocated \$16 million to fight malnutrition, which affects up to 23 percent of Iraq's five million children. It said two Iraqi contracts forwarded to the United Nations on this topic were immediately approved.

Report: Nearly 24,000 Russians died last year of alcohol poisoning

MOSCOW (AP) — Alcohol poisoning killed 23,986 Russians last year, the highest figure in a decade, a news report said Wednesday.

The chief epidemiological inspectorate of the Health Ministry compiled the numbers of deaths from alcohol poisoning, or drinking a lethal amount in one sitting.

The inspectorate said the figure was the highest in 10 years, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported. The report did not speculate on

reasons for the rise or give specific figures from previous years.

The Health Ministry estimates up to 10 million of Russia's 148 million people are alcoholics.

Vodka is hugely popular and sold cheaply on most street corners, affordable even for impoverished Russians. Russians also often resort to brewing cheap but often lethal alcoholic concoctions, and many die every year from drinking the mixtures.

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Study broadcast wake-up call for young smokers

A wake-up call for all teen-agers was issued this week by researchers at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine.

Maybe the teens won't believe their parents who have already lived through the same threat, but they need to believe the results of this study. It found that smoking in the teen-age years causes permanent genetic changes in the lungs and forever increases the risk of lung cancer — even if the smoker quits.

That isn't all. The younger the smoking is started, the more damage is done. John K. Wiencke, a genetics expert at the university, said, "It looks like it is the age when smoking starts that is important. It didn't matter if they were heavy or light smokers — what mattered is that they started young."

That ought to be pretty sobering for young people who, targeted by cigarette manufacturers, have begun smoking more in recent years. In fact, statistics reveal that a third of all young people take up the smoking habit during their teen-age years.

Earlier studies had indicated that young smoking stunts the lungs' full development and increases the risk of breathing problems later in life. They also indicated that smoking was more addictive in the teen years and that people who start smoking at an early age are less likely to break the habit.

While statistics indicated that 34.8 percent of high school students were regular smokers in 1995, that percentage jumped in 1997 to 36.4 percent. The number of young smokers is on the increase.

Now there is concrete evidence that smoking by teen-agers does cause permanent genetic changes that can be particularly damaging to long-term health.

Are you listening teens? This is your life this study addresses.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, April 8, the 98th day of 1999. There are 267 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 8, 1974, Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves hit his 715th career home run in a game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, breaking Babe Ruth's record.

On this date:

In 1513, explorer Juan Ponce de Leon claimed Florida for Spain.

In 1935, the Works Progress Administration was approved by Congress.

In 1946, the League of Nations assembled in Geneva for the last time.

In 1950, ballet dancer Vaslav Nijinsky died in London.

In 1952, President Truman seized the steel industry to avert a nationwide strike.

In 1970, the Senate rejected President Nixon's nomination of G. Harold Carswell to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1973, artist Pablo Picasso died at his home near Mougins, France, at age 91.

In 1981, General Omar N. Bradley died in New York at age 88.

In 1990, Ryan White, the teen-age AIDS patient whose battle for acceptance gained national attention, died in Indianapolis at age 18.

In 1992, tennis great Arthur Ashe announced at a New York news conference that he had AIDS. He died in February 1993 of AIDS-related pneumonia at age 49.

Ten years ago: The Soviet Union announced that one of its nuclear submarines caught fire and sank off Norway the day before. The next day, the Soviet government said 42 lives had been lost.

Five years ago: Kurt Cobain, singer and guitarist for the grunge band Nirvana, was found dead in Seattle from an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound; he was 27. Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa announced his intention to resign in the wake of an ever-widening financial scandal.

One year ago: The nation's major cigarette makers withdrew support for a historic tobacco settlement, saying Congress had twisted their offer to help cut teen smoking into a harsh attack on their industry and sharp tax increases for American smokers. Thirty-six people were killed by tornadoes that struck Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia.

Today's Birthdays: Former first lady Betty Ford is 81. Opera singer Franco Corelli is 76. Comedian Chevy Chase is 73. Actress Dorothy Tutin is 69. Lyricist Fred Ebb is 66. Actor Klaus Lowitsch is 63. Investigative reporter Seymour Hersh is 62.

GEORGE WILL

Baseball marketable without corporate logos

Major league baseball is considering selling advertising on players' uniforms. The ads might be small patches on the sleeves.

— A news item

LOS ANGELES — The outlook wasn't brilliant for the Jiffy Lube Giants this day. They trailed the Burger King Dodgers 4-3 with but one inning left to play.

Dodgers' pitcher, Kevin "Chevy Trucks: Like A Rock" Brown (during the Seventh Inning Stretch, which was brought to the fans at Microsoft Dodger Stadium by Frito Lay, General Motors bought the naming rights to Brown) toed the big "S" on the chocolate-brown Snickers pitcher's mound and glared toward the red Papa John's Pizza home plate, where the recently renamed Barry "Tylenol" Bonds menacingly waved his black Twizlers Licorice bat with the bright yellow M&M's sweet spot on the barrel.

The Dodgers' How Do You Spell Relief? R-O-L-A-I-D-S bullpen was busy as the Giants' runners took their leads from the pink Victoria's Secret first base, the purple Eunice and Ralph's Bar, Grill, Bowling Alley, Truck Stop, Massage Parlor and Pawn Shop second base, and the sea-blue Santa Monica Condominiums: If You Lived Here You Would Be Home By Now third base. The Giants' coach in the Hertz coaching box at third peered toward his manager in the Motel 6 visiting team dugout, then ran through



Will

his signals to Bonds, tugging the Toyota bill of his Dr Pepper cap, brushing the Maxwell House patch on his left sleeve, the Visa card logo on his right hip pocket, the MCI script on his left thigh, his South-west Airlines belt.

Brown touched the Starbucks resin bag, ground the pilsener-yellow Coors Light ball into the Citibank logo in the pocket of his bright green TruGreen-ChemLawn glove and ...

Has it come to this? Not yet. And the people pondering the advertising-on-uniforms question say not to worry. A word to the wise: Worry.

Those thinking about putting advertising on uniforms say it is unthinkable that baseball could become like stock car racing, where drivers, wearing jumpsuits plastered from shoulder to ankle with advertisements, drive cars that are rolling billboards, and at the end of a race pop out of their cars holding particular products — say, a sponsor's soft drink. But the way to prevent a slide down a slippery slope is to stay off the slope.

Some will say: Lighten up — we are already slaloming swiftly down the slope. Ads on uniforms would just be additional bits of ballpark signage, so would putting one small — say, two-inch square — logo on one sleeve (the "R" of the uniform manufacturer, Russell Athletic, already is on a sleeve).

Let us be clear. Baseball, like any business, should be unsleeping in pursuit of profits. "Soaring revenue" is the second-most beautiful phrase (second to "Opening Day") in the American language. America would be a better, more holy place if the Fortune 500 list of biggest businesses were Major League Baseball and 499 also-rans.

Ballpark signage is as traditional as players spitting. (The origin of the term "bullpen" is lost in his-

tory's mists, but some say it was born when pitchers warmed up along fences adorned with Bull Durham tobacco signs.) Corporations make sensible advertising decisions by buying naming rights to ballparks, thereby helping themselves, their communities and baseball. (Why is a ballpark bearing the name of a business offensive to fastidious fans who get misty-eyed thinking of old ballparks named for businessmen — Crosley Field, Ebbets Field, Wrigley Field, Shibe Park, Griffith Stadium, Comiskey Park, Navin Field which then became Briggs Stadium before becoming Tiger Stadium?) If businesses want to sponsor (and they do) pregame lineup announcements, calls to the bullpen, seventh inning stretches — good.

But advertisements on uniforms cross a line — a fine line, but one worth drawing — between advertising so strategically placed so that large numbers of people are apt to see it (say, on the scoreboard) and advertising so unavoidable it is assaultive. Advertising on players — the necessary focus of fan's attention — obscures the fact that within the cheerful swirl of commerce at a ballpark, there is a baseball game — dignified competition in a zone of its own, within the white lines.

Furthermore, baseball, unique among American sports, is in its second century of traditions that are still more often cherished than traduced. Those traditions, which include some teams' uniforms (Yankees, Red Sox, Cardinals, among others), are a marketable asset. So baseball has a business interest in conserving the aura of being a bit more than a mere business. So leave the sleeves alone.

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

CAL THOMAS

Is Balkan crisis another Vietnam on horizon?

The situation in the Balkans isn't like Vietnam, we're told. Sure. And the situation when we first began sliding into Vietnam was different from the disastrous French experience in Indochina. The French warned us not to go there. We didn't listen, we're not listening still. History can teach, but only if students are willing to learn.

In late 1961, President John Kennedy dispatched a small group to Vietnam. He told Gen. Maxwell Taylor, Gen. Edward Lansdale and aide Walt Rostow, "Bear in mind that the initial responsibility for the effective maintenance of the independence of South Vietnam rests with the people and government of that country."

But Kennedy didn't take his own advice. While telling The New York Times that he remained "strongly opposed to the dispatch of American combat troops to South Vietnam," his written instructions to Taylor, as recounted in Richard Reeves' book, "President Kennedy: Profile of Power," were different: "As part of your appraisal, I should like you to evaluate what could be accomplished by the introduction of SEATO or United States forces into South Vietnam, determining the role, composition and probable disposition of such forces."

Kennedy, like Lyndon Johnson after him, and Bill Clinton now, had an objective, but it was the wrong objective and the policies were also wrong, seeming to be made up as they went along. Those more than 55,000 names on the Vietnam War Memorial are testimony to the folly of wrong goals backed up by bad policies.

President Clinton says the purpose of the NATO bombing is to stop the ethnic cleansing efforts of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. But the displacement of hundreds of thousands of ethnic Albanians from Kosovo is virtually complete. Now President Clinton says he wants to drive out Milosevic's forces so the Kosovars can return home. To what, more death and destruction? Such a goal will require a permanent occupying force, as has existed in Korea for more than 50 years. Otherwise, the parties will resume their warfare as they have done for hundreds of years. The president says he wants to "end" evil in the region. He might as well declare war on original sin.

According to press reports, the Joint Chiefs advised President Clinton that a bombing campaign would not stop ethnic cleansing in Kosovo and could end up rallying Serbs around Milosevic, which is precisely what is happening. The bombing of Belgrade has inflamed more than buildings. In addition to Yugoslav citizens, the Russians are making noises about ending the arms embargo against the Serbs. U.S.-Russian relations are taking a beating at a time when the stability of the Russian government and the nuclear weapons under its control has never been more tenuous.

The CIA also warned the president, according to U.S. News and World Report and the Washington Post, that bombing would lead Serbian forces to step up their ethnic cleansing. The president and his top aides decided to proceed.

Will President Clinton follow his hero, Kennedy, and Kennedy's successor, Johnson, and send large numbers of ground forces into Kosovo? He might, but it's not like him. He probably knows what Kennedy told Roger Hilsman, the chief of the State Department's intelligence bureau, as recounted by Richard Reeves: "The military wants a force of American troops (in South Vietnam). They say it's necessary to restore confidence and maintain morale. But it will be just like Berlin. The troops will march in; the bands will play; the crowds will cheer; and in four days everyone will have forgotten. Then we will be told we have to send in more troops. It's like taking a drink. The effect wears off, and you have to take another."

Nothing has changed since Georg Hegel observed in 1821: "What experience and history teach is this — that people and governments never have learned anything from history, or acted upon principles deduced from it."

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



ART BUCHWALD

How now Dow Jones Industrials?

There was a time when only J.P. Morgan was a financial genius. Now that the Dow Jones is hovering around 10,000, everyone considers himself or herself a genius.

Dinner at the Clockmans is typical of what is going on in America's living rooms.

Beach, who usually bored us with the details of his most recent golf game said, "I bought 100 shares of Bethlehem Steel, sold 89 shares of No Fizz Water, and told my broker to go after Crucible Windows if it hit 30."

Dubow said, "I'm in mutual funds, but I would like to get into something more comfortable."

There was an extremely attractive lady at the party. I thought she was a model or an actress.

"What do you do?" I asked.

"I buy soy beans and use my profits to invest in



Buchwald

sugar futures."

"Where do you do that?" I asked her.

"On my computer at home. I might make 15 transactions a day. The trick is to keep looking at your screen until it's time to hit the sell button."

"Are you making a lot of money?"

"At the moment I'm in the red, but there is always tomorrow."

The conversation came around to how many geniuses were playing the market — not just brokers and investment bankers, but taxi drivers and people who sell hot dogs in ball parks and telephone salesmen and airline porters.

"Suppose," I said, "the Dow Jones goes down."

"It won't go down," Beach said. "Investors are too smart to let it fall. As long as inflation is bottoming out and pork bellies are going through the roof, we all stand to make a fortune."

"Why?"

"Because financially, as a group, we're the best and the brightest."

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

WHOM TO WRITE

Following is a list of the names and addresses of various state and federal officials Midlanders may wish to contact from time-to-time:

PRESIDENT: Bill Clinton (D), The President, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500 or call (202) 456-1414, Fax (202) 456-2461.

Senators: Kay Bailey Hutchison (R), The Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510 or call (202) 224-5922, Fax (202) 224-0776; or write to Kay Bailey Hutchison, 1100 Commerce, Suite 7C14, Dallas, TX. 74204.

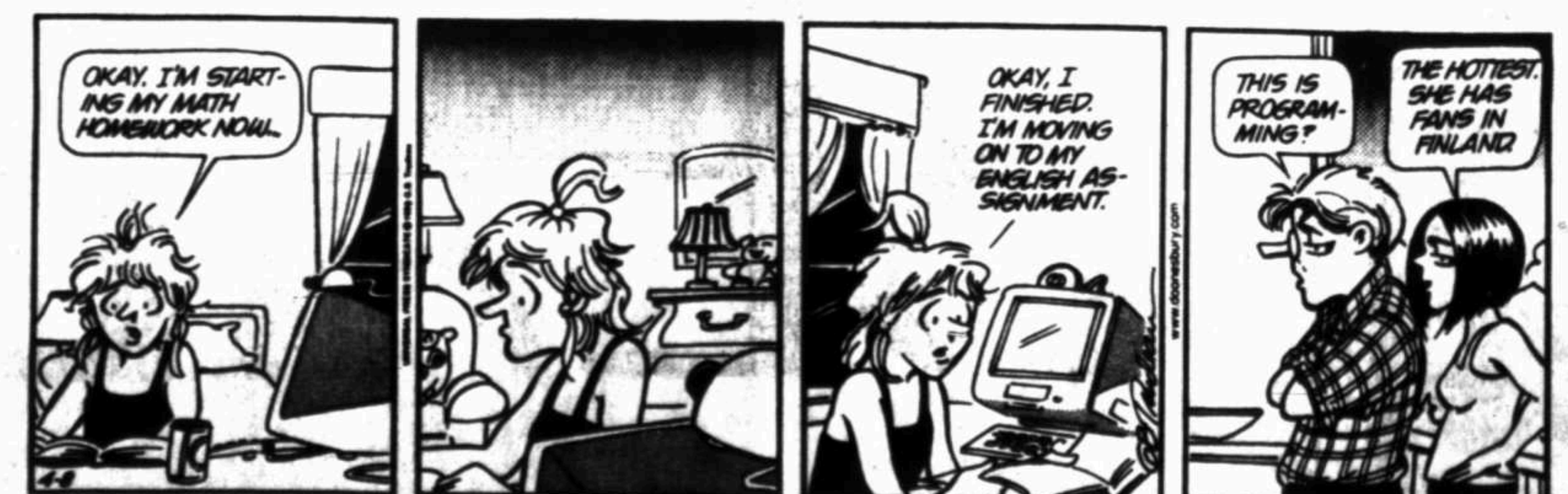
Phil Gramm (R), 370 Russell Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 or call (202) 224-2934, Fax (202) 228-2856.

Representative: Larry Combest (R), District 19, 1511 Longworth Building, Washington D.C. 20515 or call 550-0743, Fax 550-0852.

Representative: Lamar Smith (R), District 21, 2231 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 or call (202) 225-4236, Fax (202) 225-8628; or 4305 N. Garfield, Suite 228B, Midland, Texas 79705, or call 687-5232, Fax 687-5234.

Representative: Henry Bonilla (R), District 23, 1529 Longworth, Washington, D.C., 20515 or call (202) 225-4511, Fax (202) 225-2237; or 4400 N. Big Spring, Suite 211, Midland, Texas 79705, or call 686-8833, Fax 686-8819.

Doonesbury



U.S. cites atrocities, threatens Serb leaders with prosecution

By David Briscoe
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Naming names, the U.S. government warned nine individual Serb commanders Wednesday they could face war crimes prosecution. The warning came along with a report citing "indicators of genocide" in Kosovo gathered by a special U.S. envoy.

President Clinton again promised to "persist until we prevail" in Yugoslavia, while U.S. officials indicated NATO bombing of Belgrade would cease long enough Thursday to allow a Cypriot leader to fly in with the hope of bringing back the three U.S. soldiers held by Yugoslavia.

As the Kosovo refugee crisis intensified, U.S. military authorities acknowledged it could take one or two months to transfer all 20,000 of the Kosovo refugees who are to go to the U.S. military base at Guantanamo, Cuba.

The Pentagon now estimates that as many as 1.3 million ethnic Albanians have been displaced, either inside the province or in neighboring countries — 430,000 of them since NATO bombing began March 24 to force Yugoslavia to allow freedom for the ethnic Albanian majority in the Serb province of Kosovo.

Any Yugoslav army or Serb police commander who "plans, instigates, orders or even aids or abets in a war crime, crimes against humanity, or genocide, is individually responsible for crimes committed in Kosovo," said State Department spokesman James P. Rubin. The dramatic warning listed the names of nine top Serb commanders in Kosovo.

Rubin said the U.S. government had no specific evidence that the individuals ordered soldiers to commit crimes. But he said commanders could be prosecuted for allowing crimes to occur or for not prosecuting soldiers who commit

them. "We're not saying that these individuals, to our knowledge, are responsible for war crimes," he said. "We're putting them on notice."

A determination that they were acting under orders from Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, who has also been targeted by U.S. officials for possible prosecution, would not leave them immune, Rubin said.

The decision to name names came after David Scheffer, ambassador at large for war crimes issues, presented top officials the results of 15 hours of interviews at the Yugoslavia-Macedonia border. Scheffer, who talked to refugees without revealing his identity, presented a litany of horror reminiscent of the Holocaust, although his report said the crimes could not yet be individually verified.

"One refugee who sought to carry his mother was stopped, his mother shot dead, and then told by the Serb who shot the mother that, 'Look, I've made your hike easier,'" the report said.

It relayed claims of mass killings, rapes, a forced march, execution victims left on streets, injured children, people stuffed in rail cars and beatings. Not all aggressors were soldiers, the report said. Some ethnic Albanians recognized the voices of Serb neighbors behind black masks.

"The widespread and systematic character of the criminal conduct of Serb military, paramilitary and police units in Kosovo is among many of the indicators of genocide that we are seeing," it said.

Scheffer is setting up a reporting system for the refugees' stories, with other interviews continuing by U.S. officials working among them.

At the Pentagon late Wednesday, defense officials said a U.S. Army unmanned Hunter spy aircraft had crashed, apparently shot down by Yugoslav forces. The only other aircraft lost by NATO in the air campaign was an Air Force F-117A stealth fighter-bomber. The pilot was rescued and the Pentagon has not confirmed reports it was shot down.

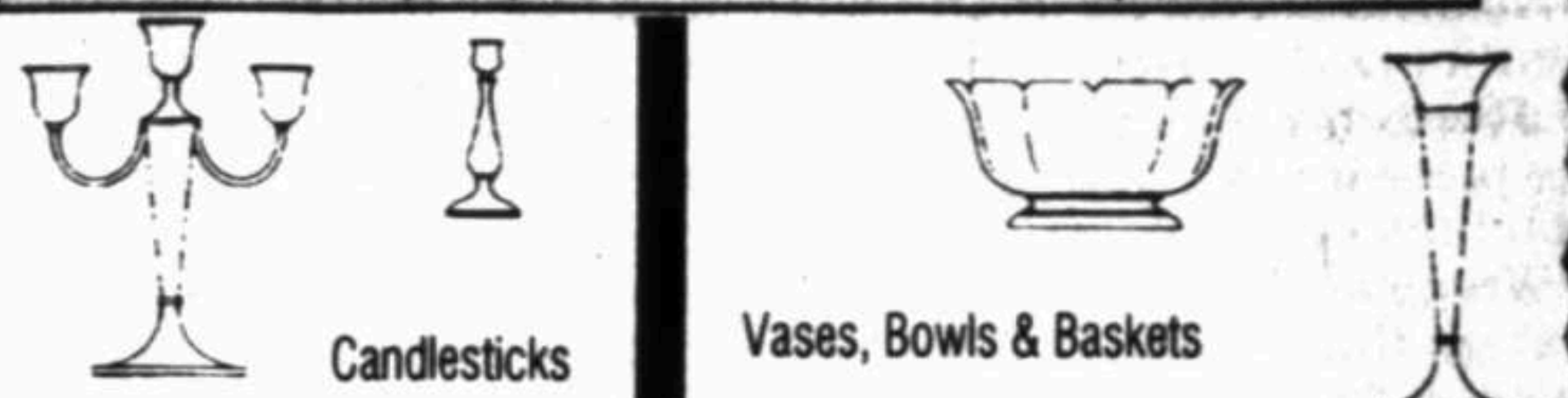
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Kosovo price tag could crimp planned election-year tax cut

By Alan Fram
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The cost of the bombing campaign in Yugoslavia is giving Republicans uncomfortable choices back home. They may have to shrink their planned election-year tax cut, dip into Social Security funds they have pledged not to touch or engage President Clinton in a difficult fight over spending cuts.

No official cost estimates have been made for the conflict over Kosovo. But government and private analysts say if the fighting continues much longer, the price for the United States alone could easily hit \$2 billion or more.

Whatever the cost, Congress will have to find some way to finance the fighting and the planned movement of 20,000 refugees to Guantanamo naval base in Cuba for what officials say may be a six-month stay. In a year in which lawmakers have been scrounging for every dollar they can get for tax cuts or new spending, the Yugoslavia crisis will only intensify the problem.

"Clearly, this makes their job harder," said Marshall Wittman, congressional affairs director for the conservative Heritage Foundation.

The costs of the confrontation with Yugoslavia will certainly be only a tiny portion of the \$111 billion federal surplus the Congressional Budget Office expects this year. But that surplus comes entirely from the Social Security trust fund — money congressional Republicans have pledged not to use for anything other than helping senior citizens.

"They're kind of stuck on their own rhetoric

■ More national news/8B

here," said Richard May, a consultant and former GOP staff director of the House Budget Committee. On the other hand, many Republicans seem eager to avoid fighting Clinton over financing U.S. troops while they are still in the field in the Balkans.

As he proposed with a package of aid to Central America that is stalled in Congress, Clinton is expected to ask that the costs of the Yugoslavia conflict be declared an emergency, which would mean they would be financed using budget surpluses. Numerous GOP aides said this week that they expect Congress to go along.

Underlining GOP reluctance to fight Clinton over spending cuts, conservative Rep. Todd Tiahrt, R-Kan., said he would not oppose using surpluses to pay for the Yugoslavia crisis. Just last month, he led an unsuccessful fight to cut spending to pay for some military costs in the Central America aid bill.

"I wouldn't want them to have any question that we're not behind them," Tiahrt said of U.S. troops in the Balkans.

But there may be divisions. The Heritage Foundation's Wittman said he believes the Yugoslavia costs should be fully paid for, particularly if the legislation that would fund the operation attracts unrelated domestic spending items as must-pass legislation almost always does.

"The question for conservatives is: Were they serious in 1997?" Wittman said. Spending limits were enacted as part of the budget-balancing pact in 1997. "This is a true test of their seriousness."

Unmanned U.S. Army plane down in Yugoslavia

WASHINGTON (AP) — An unmanned U.S. Army reconnaissance aircraft crashed in Yugoslavia on Wednesday after apparently being shot down, defense officials said.

The twin-engine plane, known as a Hunter, is used as a surveillance aid that can transmit video images to battlefield commanders. It is smaller and less sophisticated than the Predator, the other U.S. unmanned surveillance aircraft flying over Yugoslavia.

The Hunter drone, which cost \$300,000 to \$350,000, went down over the Serbian province of Kosovo, according to a defense official, who said the precise cause is under review.

Another defense official said it appeared the unmanned plane was shot down. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity.

Officials said the Hunter began flying missions over Yugoslavia this week.

On Friday, Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon confirmed that both the Hunter and the larger Predator would be used in Kosovo. The advantage of these aircraft is that pilots are not put at risk in gathering battlefield intelligence. That is particularly important in Yugoslavia because of the Serbs' strong air defenses.

The only other aircraft known to have been lost in NATO's air campaign against Yugoslavia was an

Air Force F-117A stealth fighter-bomber, which crashed near Belgrade on March 27. The pilot was rescued. Defense officials have said that plane was shot down, although the Pentagon won't confirm it.

Only eight Hunter planes were built because the Pentagon canceled the \$4 billion program in 1996, deciding to put more money into the Predator and other spy planes.

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BASIN BRIEFING

Planning meeting

The city of Midland is in the process of developing a plan for use of Community Development Block Grant funds and has scheduled another meeting to get public input. The meeting is set for 7 p.m. today at DeZavala Elementary cafeteria, 705 N. Lee St. The city is to receive \$1,314,000 for 1999-2000 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. For more information call 685-7408 or 685-7402.

Book signings

A double book signing — featuring authors Wayne Barton of Midland and Ken Hodgson of San Angelo — is scheduled for 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Walden Books in Midland Park Mall. Barton will be signing copies of his book "Lockhart's Nightmare." Hodgson will sign copies of "Hellbenders."

Agency initiative

Larry Oaks, executive director of the Texas Historical Commission, and other commission staff members are to meet 4:30-6:30 p.m. today at the Haley Library in Midland to announce a new agency initiative, the State of the State of Preservation. The first-ever Midland meeting of the THC is one of 20 that the THC is hosting around Texas to "lay the groundwork to build preservation partnerships for a new millennium," Oaks said. The public is invited to attend.

CNN presentation

A CNN presentation on the Permian Basin and the downturn in the oil industry, originally scheduled for April 14, has been rescheduled for 9 p.m. April 21. The segment will be aired on Newsstand Fortune. CNN producers said that news in the Balkans is forcing a delay of the Permian Basin feature, in which camera crews followed Kermit oilman John Bell for a day.

Church fund-raiser

ODESSA — A fund-raiser for St. John's Episcopal School in Odessa is scheduled for 7 p.m.-midnight Saturday at Odessa Country Club. The theme of the event is "Best of the '70s, '80s and '90s." Tickets are \$25 a person and \$50 a couple. A 1946 Ford pickup will be raffled. For more information call 332-2290.

TODAY'S AGENDA

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

NAACP, 7 p.m., Hollowell United Methodist Church, 684-8974.

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

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

East Side Lions, 8 p.m., Los Enriquez, 1401B N. Lamesa Road.

Optimist Club of Midland, noon, Best Western Sidewalk Cafe.

Bereavement Support group, 7 p.m., Hospice of Odessa, Texas Commerce Bank, fourth floor, 332-1431, 332-0991.

Westside Lions Club, noon, Westside Lions Den.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Flatlanders Ski Club, 7 p.m., Best Western, Midland Airport, open.

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

NAACP, 7 p.m., Greater St. Luke AME Church, 401 S. Adams, 684-8974.

Compulsive Eaters Anonymous, noon, First United Methodist Church, 694-2860.

Committee to vote on unitization

By John Paul Pitts
Oil Editor

The fate of statutory unitization is now in the hands of the nine members of the House Energy Resources Committee in Austin, and a vote on the much-debated issue is expected to come Tuesday.

Committee members, in a lengthy 10-hour debate, the longest session in history for the committee, heard pro and con arguments for an oil and gas law that will have a profound impact on the Permian Basin — win or lose. Both sides of the issue said they were pleased with the results of the committee hearing and expect the House Energy Resources Committee to rule in their favor.

John Smitherman, division manager for Bass Enterprises Production, and an opponent of statutory unitization, said those opposed to the bill turned out in large numbers to speak against HB 1624.

The bill was introduced by Rep. Warren Chisum, with the support of all six Texas oil and gas associations, including Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

"Those testifying were about equally divided among those supporting and opposing statutory unitization. I thought it went well for our side," said Jim Henry, president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

The association has been the lead organization in support of the unitization law, which has at its center the creation

of jobs, property rights and the responsibility of the state to preserve natural resources.

The bill would allow oil and gas operators to form units for oil production with the consent of only 80 percent of royalty and working interest owners, instead of the current 100 percent. Those favoring the unitization measure say the 20 percent shortfall is needed to compensate for the highly fractionalized ownership of oil and gas fields. Opponents say it is not needed — that units can still be formed voluntarily in most cases, and to force one to join a unit is tantamount to the seizure of assets.

"If we were able to convince committee members that the state of Texas has

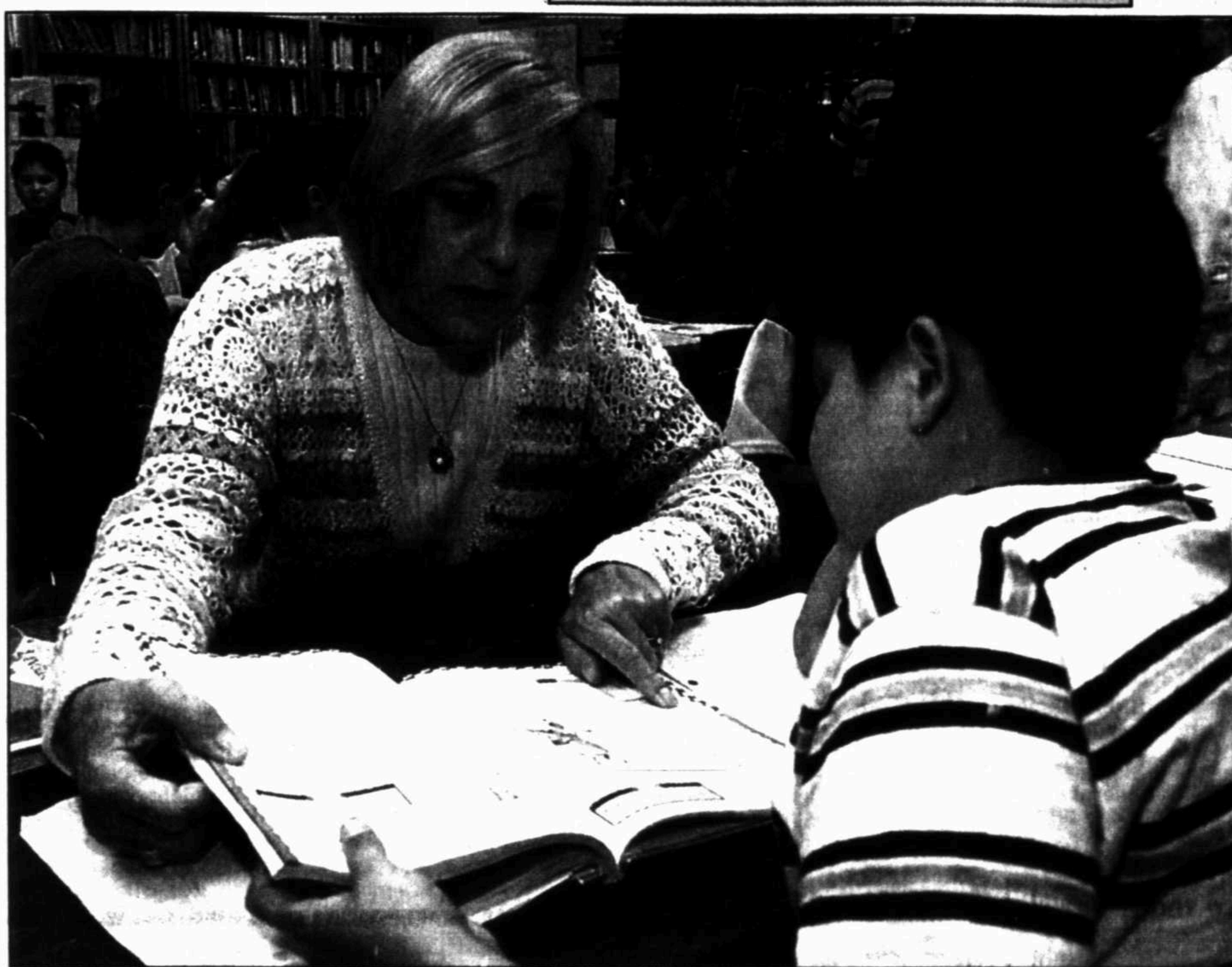
a constitutional responsibility to preserve natural resources, I think we will prevail," Henry said.

Doug Robison, attorney and senior land negotiator for Henry Petroleum, said if the committee votes Tuesday to send the bill to the House floor, it has a strong chance of passage. "It is more or less the committee's stamp of approval."

After the bill is passed out of House Energy Resources Committee it then goes to the Calendar Committee for a date on the House floor. It must also be scheduled for a hearing from the Senate Natural Resources Committee.

"Time is critical because we are now in the second half of the legislative session, which will end in May," Robison said.

National Volunteer Week



Volunteer Joyce Baressi works with Eusebio Herrera, 11, Wednesday at Casa de Amigos. Mrs. Baressi has a regular group of students at Casa who depend on her for a little extra help with their reading and homework.

Midland celebrates city full of volunteers

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Midland residents have long said the city is rich in volunteers, and Casa de Amigos is wanting to show the city just how rich it is.

Ludi Navarro, director of community relations for Casa, is asking organizations to submit their 1998 total volunteer hours to her by Tuesday. On April 22, a check representing the dollar value of volunteer hours will be presented to the city during the Commu-

nity Volunteer Showcase at Centennial Plaza. The showcase recognizes National Volunteer Week.

Donna Rounsaville, executive director of the American Red Cross of Southwest Texas, predicted that the amount on that check "would be close to \$1 million, when you consider all the agencies and all the volunteer hours."

In her grant proposals, she said she considers volunteer time at \$11.13 an hour, an amount set by the National

Volunteer Center.

"If you have 1,000 hours a year of volunteer work, you can do simple math and see the thousands of dollars that is provided to organizations free of charge."

Kelly Ives, executive director for Meals on Wheels at Community and Senior Services, said that if her organization had to pay the 1,500 volunteers it uses each year, "it would be cost prohibitive."

Please see VOLUNTEER/3B

Volunteers say they get a lot out of helping the community

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Non-profit organizations say they couldn't function without volunteers; the volunteers say it is they who get a lot out of their efforts.

"I enjoy it," said Ron Genter, who has volunteered with Area Methodist Outreach Services for three years. "I feel like I get more out of direct contact with people. You give money through your church, but you don't see how it helps people. Here you see how it helps and you see the needs of the community. My life is a little richer."

Genter, a member of First United Methodist Church, got involved with AMOS after he retired.

Joyce Baressi has spent four afternoons a week for the last five years at Casa de Amigos helping children with their homework.

"This is like another family. I know certain students will be waiting for me and wanting my help," she said, adding that "they don't know they're giving to me, but they are. They give me the feeling of being needed, of being appreciated."

After Mrs. Baressi quit teaching at Greenwood school district, she began volunteering mornings at Casa reading to children. She switched to afternoons when she returned to teaching at Midland Independent School District.

Her three children are also involved in community work, she noted. Her two daughters were active with Big Brothers/Big Sisters and her son volunteered at Casa, doing after-school tutoring "before he could drive."

Mrs. Baressi said she instilled the volunteer spirit in her children when her oldest child was an infant. She took her daughter with her when she read to residents at nursing homes.

"It's important to do things and be a role model for your children."

Fun run planned in Big Spring

By T.E. Jenkins
Big Spring Correspondent

BIG SPRING — West Texans from all over the region will be putting on their running shoes April 17, as they attempt to master the mountain in the second Scenic Mountain Medical Center Fun Run/Walk at Big Spring State Park.

Participants will have their choice of either a 5K course or a 10K walk or run spanning the face of Big Spring's Scenic Mountain.

"For those who aren't into the running and racing, we will be holding a 5K walk as well," said project coordinator, Laurie Phillips. "All of the races will be broken down into age groups, but that won't be done until the day of the race."

"This is just a good way to get people out of the house, and some good exercise," she said. "We are also trying to promote the state park as well, and what it has to offer not just the people of Big Spring, but everyone in West Texas."

A health fair is being held in conjunction with the race, she said.

Big Spring State Park Manager Ron Alton said the event drew quite a crowd last year, and following some changes made to the run's rules, he expects this year's turnout to be even better.

"Last year, we had an age requirement to participate in the runs," Alton said. "This year, however, there will be no limit or requirement."

Please see RUN/4B

Lopez, 22, faces up to 20 years in prison. His charges stem from an Aug. 30 accident that occurred at the intersection of Midland Drive and Loop 250.

Jurors convict man on manslaughter, two aggravated assault charges

By Rick López
Staff Writer

After six hours of deliberation, jurors rendered three guilty verdicts against Pablo Gabriel Lopez, who is on trial on one count of manslaughter and two counts of aggravated assault.

His sentencing is set for 9 a.m. today in the courtroom of 238th District Court Judge John Hyde.

Lopez, 22, faces up to 20 years in prison. His charges stem from an Aug. 30 accident that occurred at the intersection of Midland Drive and Loop 250.

Midland police officer Patrick Mayers, a traffic reconstruction

expert, testified that Lopez ran a red light and struck a late-model sedan carrying the three women.

According to testimony, Lopez was driving his sister, her friend and a 10-year-old niece to Walmart.

Killed in the accident was Clemencia Lago, 59, of Venezuela. Her sister, Luisa Searles, 63, and her Midland niece, Cecilia Leonard, 43, suffered serious injuries.

Ms. Lago, who police said was not wearing a seat belt, was ejected from the vehicle and died at the scene.

During closing arguments Please see TRIAL/4B

Ed TODD

It's a wonder some of us survived foolhardy boyhood stunts

Boys, at least this one, do some of the most foolhardy things in, I suppose, the quest of growing up.

It's a wonder we survived. Of course, not all of us did. Quirks of life, call it fate or happenstance, did in some fellows whether it was falling out of trees, overturning a tractor, racing up the street or getting killed in war.

It seems that none of us fellows thought death would catch up with us. That only happened in the newspapers, in picture-show newsreels, over let's-pretend radio dramas, but not to us or anybody we knew. Of course, that all changed.

Charles "Chuck" Brött, a tree-climbing, motorcycling, and swimming buddy of mine from the 1950s, survived Navy duty, became a brilliant physicist, and was killed at home while doing a routine



Todd

chore, I'm told: His lawn mower overturned on a hill.

Chuck, who saved me from drowning in swimming to and from an island in a lake near Wichita Falls, and I used to ride his big, fat Harley-Davidson motorcycle to Wichita Falls at daylight and returned to neighboring Iowa Park in darkness without headlight beaming.

Durwood Sims, a fine hot-rodder in a souped-up old Ford and a fellow Civil Air Patrolter, survived Marine Corps duty between the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War but died when a jack failed, and the falling car claimed his life.

A preacher's son and I, full of vigor, use to drive my brother's 1946 Chevrolet coupe up and down the streets, some hilly, at night in Wichita Falls. We would take turns riding on top of the car as if we were wing-walkers.

Over in Verdun, France, with the Army's Signal Corps, we peacetime soldiers, with our World War II vintage M-1 rifles oiled and at the ready, savored life. We drank our beer to song and cigarette smoke in the beer halls and Verdun's charmingly quaint (to Amer-

icans) bars.

Then, after one night of drunkenness, some fellows were killed while driving on a curve in returning to the barracks. Patched up, their surviving buddies were "hard at it again" — drinking and laughing.

On granddaddy's Delta County farm, the Todd brothers did what country boys do and mostly survived: driving the tractor over cotton fields, hauling loads of cotton and hay, peering down cisterns, ridding on running boards and fenders back when pickups and most cars had running boards and real fenders, drinking that natural cistern water, hunting into the woods, stepping barefoot on rusty nails, and watching the tornado sweep on by.

In the early 1960s, home from Verdun and back in college, I saddled up with an English lass, a legal secretary named Mary. I'll never forget that night along a country road when my 1953 blue Chevrolet sedan sort of slipped in a bar ditch, and all the power in that straight six-cylinder engine wouldn't spin us out. Down

Please see TODD/4B

POLICE REPORTS

Blair loses appeal

AUSTIN — The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals on Wednesday denied the appeal of death row inmate Michael Blair, who was convicted of the abduction and murder of Ashley Nicole Estell, 7.

A Midland County jury sentenced Blair to death on Aug. 31, 1993.

Ashley, who was from Dallas, was abducted from a Plano park, molested and killed by Blair, a paroled sex offender. He kidnapped Ashley from a soccer field as her family watched her brother play.

Authorities moved the case to Midland County as a result of the defense attorney's contention that Blair could not receive a fair trial in Collin County, where Ashley was killed.

County records indicate that Blair's sentence is the third and last death penalty rendered in Midland. Blair's conviction led to a series of "Ashley's Laws" in 1995 to crack down on sex offenders.

Crime of the week

Midland police are looking for three subjects in connection with a robbery that occurred on Jan. 5.

The robbery took place at the intersection of Lamesa Road and Wadley Avenue.

Police said the victim, who was found lying on the ground, told police that she was pulled

out of her vehicle at 310 Hickory Ave.

She said three black males grabbed her by the hair and slammed her face into the vehicle, demanding her money and took her purse, watch and ring, police said.

After being robbed, the victim got back in the car and tried to drive. She said she had to pull over after feeling dizzy. She opened the door, fell to the ground and the car continued in to the ditch, police said.

Anyone with information about this crime should call Midland Crime Stoppers at 694-TIPS or 1-800-7-LOCKUP. Information leading to an arrest or indictment can be worth up to \$1000.

Midland Police Department Tuesday

Criminal mischief: A door was damaged at 1310 S. Pratt St. It was reported at 12:14 p.m.

Theft: A bike was taken at 4100 W. Loop 250. It was reported at 7:14 p.m.

Criminal mischief: Criminal mischief was reported at 700 W. Scharbauer Drive. It was reported at 9 p.m.

Theft: A theft was reported at 1808 E. Maple Ave. No time was reported.

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

OBITUARIES

W. Wayne Weekes

Wayne was born in Ranger, Texas March 26, 1938, and left this part of his life March 10, 1998. He was preceded in passing by his mother, Matilda Weekes, and father, Willis H. Weekes.

He is survived by family members, Stanley and Glenda Weekes of Ranger, Billie and Jim Cunningham of Round Rock, Max Howard-Lloyd of Midland, and his many nephews and nieces, who are spread over the state of Texas and in the Kosovo war area at this time.

One of Wayne's last wishes was that his body be cremated, so that the devastation of cancer be burned and not spread. He also asked that memorials be flowers or remembrances to the "McLaren Comedy Playwriting Competition" at Midland Community Theatre.

If there was to be a regular funeral, rather than a memorial, the pallbearers would be Michael Fitz-Gerald, Jim Galyean, Richard Patterson, Joe Hathaway, Lynne Anderson, Nancy White, Arron Cranford, Herb Cooper, Dr. Mark Cox, and Carl Williams.

Honorary pallbearers: Ann Hathaway, Derby Patterson, Loree Fitz-Gerald, Arlen and Betty Edgar, Alice Moxey, Dan Hallar, Richard David, Ben Weekes, Alice Williams and Sally Mogford.

Wayne was employed by the Scott Theaters and Hodge Theaters in Odessa, before he became a broadcaster and co-owner of KNFM/KNAM (now KMND) Radio in Midland. He also was a travel agent in Odessa, a package store owner, sales clerk at Folger's Superstore, and retailer at McLoyd's Spirits in Midland. He was always a good friend to many of those close to him and everyday acquaintances.

Memorial services are scheduled for Friday at 4 p.m. at Ellis Chapel in Midland with a "Cele-

bration of Life" (a wake) at the Yucca Theatre following the memorial. Friends attending and friends who cannot attend the memorial are invited. The memorial will be officiated by Stanley Weekes.

Veda Whitaker

Veda Brite Whitaker was born November 25, 1918, in Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Whitaker was a member of the Junior League of California, the National Charity League and was a volunteer with Meals on Wheels. She was a member of All Saints Episcopal Church in Riverside, California.

She was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother.

Mrs. Whitaker is survived by her husband, William Franklin Whitaker II of Midland; her son, William Franklin Whitaker III of Phoenix, Arizona; her daughter, Katy Reddell of Midland; three grandsons, William Reddell, Lucas Reddell, and Samuel Reddell; one granddaughter, Randi Kate; two stepgrandsons, Bill Rogers and Vince Rogers; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Whitaker died at a local hospital Tuesday, April 6, 1999.

Memorial services have been scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday at the First Baptist Church Worship Center of Midland with Dr. Gary Dyer officiating. Ellis Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

The family requests memorials be directed to: Meals on Wheels, 3301 Sinclair, Midland, Texas 79707.

Dillon Murray

Dillon Clark Murray, infant son of Tim and Angela Murray of Amarillo, died Monday, April 5, 1999, in Amarillo.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 8, 1999, in Llano Cemetery with Dr. Howard K. Batson, pastor of the

Obituary & Death Notice policy

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

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

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

First Baptist Church, officiating. Services are under the direction of N.S. Griggs & Sons Funeral Director of Amarillo.

Survivors include his parents; one brother, Brandon Murray; and two sisters, Ally Murray and Lauren Murray, all of Amarillo; his grandparents, Don and Lynda Clark, and Clarence and Betty Murray, all of Midland; his great-grandparents, Jewel Clark of Midland and Martha Bauman of Waco; an aunt, Sheila Simmons of Midland; an uncle, Jerry Don Clark of Midland; an aunt and uncle, Kathy and Jim Harrison of Midland; an aunt and uncle, Mark and Becky McCraney of Midland; an aunt and uncle, Jennifer and Paul Sharrick of San Antonio; and 12 loving cousins.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church Children's Ministry, 15th & Tyler, Amarillo, Texas 79105.

Donald Seed

Services for Donald Eugene Seed, 54, of Midland, are set for Friday, April 9, 1999 at 1 p.m. at Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel with Bro. Bob Porterfield officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Odessa. Visitation will be 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 8, at Pipkin Funeral Home. Arrangements are with Pipkin Funeral Home.

DEATH NOTICES

Loyd Hicks

Loyd Calvin Hicks died Tuesday, April 6, at a local nursing home.

Graveside services are to be 11 a.m. Friday, April 9, at Resthaven Memorial Park with the Rev. Bob Porterfield officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

He was born March 12, 1905, in Caldwell.

He moved to Midland in 1947.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Julia Hicks, on Nov. 13, 1993.

Survivors include two sons, Jimmy Hicks of Midland and Loyd Hicks Jr. of Odessa; two daughters, Dorothy Beckham of Midland and Virginia Sessions of Baird; two sisters, Ann Jarolik and Belle Jett, both of Holland; 11 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be directed to Home Hospice of Midland, 1802 W. Wall St., Midland, Texas 79701.

Oleta Reynolds

STANTON — Oleta Reynolds, 84, died Monday, April 5, at a Midland hospital.

Services were Wednesday, April 7, at First Baptist Church in Stanton with the Rev. David Harp officiating. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home.

She was born Sept. 24, 1914, in Salem.

She was a member of First Baptist Church and Home Demonstration Club. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest Lee Reynolds on April 13, 1991; three sons, Kenneth G. Reynolds, Wayne Reynolds and James L. Reynolds; three brothers, Bill Hull, Leslie Hull and Carlton Hull; and a sister, Bertha Stewart.

Survivors include a son, Royce D. Reynolds of Stanton; two sisters, Anna L. Ledbetter of Buchanan Dam and Loreta Posey of Graham; nine grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Mary Bell

BIG SPRING — Mary Bell, 81, of Elysian Fields, died Tuesday, April 6, in Longview.

Services are to be 2 p.m. Friday, April 9, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring with the Rev. Jim Hilton officiating. Burial is to follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park in Big Spring under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

She was born June 24, 1917, in Electra.

She was a nurse and worked for doctors in Big Spring.

She was preceded in death by her husband, W.C. Bell, on Aug. 16, 1971.

Survivors include a son, Wilson C. Bell of Richardson; a daughter, Marianne Mullins of Elysian Fields; two sisters, Olga Rixford and Willie M. Wade; four grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Horace Luce

BIG SPRING — Horace Luce, 87, of Ackerly, died Wednesday, April 7 at a Lamesa nursing center.

Services are to be 4 p.m. Friday, April 9, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring with the Revs. Derrick Looney and Clifton Igo officiating. Burial is to follow at Trinity Memorial Park under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

He was born Feb. 18, 1912, in Bloomburg.

He worked in the oilfield, retiring in the late 1970's and then he drove a school bus for the Sands Consolidated Independent School District. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Ackerly. He was a Mason.

Survivors include his wife, Irene Luce of Ackerly; a daughter, Peggy Sneed of Colorado City; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 3525 Andrews Highway, Suite 111, Midland, Texas 79703; or the donor's favorite charity.

Committee considers school funding measures

AUSTIN (AP) — As Republican Sen. Teel Bivins made changes to his \$2.5 billion-plus school funding plan Wednesday, a Democrat offered a higher-priced substitute with more money for teachers and less for tax relief.

"I think there's one thing we all agree on. Texas teachers deserve a substantial pay raise," said Sen. David Cain of Dallas, a member of the Senate Education Committee that's headed by Bivins of Amarillo.

The committee considered numerous school finance bills at a Wednesday hearing.

Cain said he developed his \$3.2 billion proposal with other Democrats — including those on the Education Committee, which has a 5-4 Republican majority. He offered it as an amendment to Bivins' bill.

Among differences from the Bivins bill, Cain's amendment would:

— Set aside at least \$2 billion for a teacher pay raise that he said would average at least \$4,000 per teacher annually. Bivins' proposal would allocate \$1 billion for increased teacher take-home pay averaging \$2,000 annually.

— Provide at least \$675 million to school districts for educational purposes, including special programs for reading and math. Cain said money sent to school districts in Bivins' bill would be forced out of the system in required property tax cuts.

— Provide \$550 million in school property tax relief to school districts with the highest tax rates.

Bivins' plan as originally filed would provide \$1.35 billion for what he called a combination of school equity and property tax relief and \$150 million for school facilities — which Bivins said also

would provide tax relief.

"This bill provides teachers in Texas with a monetary pat on the back... The property tax payers of Texas also need a monetary pat on the back," Bivins said.

Cain said, "The property tax cut being discussed this session would amount to about \$5 a month for the average Texas homeowner — a

Big Mac, fries and a Coke."

Bivins made changes to his original bill including additional funding to help school districts retire old debt, which he said would particularly benefit the poorest school districts.

The changes were expected to increase the overall pricetag of the measure to about \$2.65 billion,

according to staff.

"My idea is to try to get all those (school funding) issues on the table and see if we can't put together something that can represent a consensus," Bivins said. "I feel the end of the session nipping at my heels."

Bivins' school funding bill is SB4.

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RUN: Fun, good times and great exercise offered to area participants

(From 1B)

"We really hope to see a lot of different people at the run, and of all ages."

Alton said that this is the second year the race will have Scenic Mountain Medical Center at its helm, although the fun run/walk has been going on annually in Big

Spring for quite sometime.

The second "Master the Mountain," offers many runners the chance to prepare for other races, as well as introducing those people who are new in the sport to something quite challenging, Alton said.

"This race is really a challenge, even for experienced runners,

because of the steep hills that the terrain out here offers," Alton said. He said the course will take race participants along a park road that follows the edge of a 200-foot bluff at the northern limits of the mountain's Edwards Plateau.

"We will have three bicyclists pacing the runners as they make their way along the course," he

said. "It should be a lot of fun, not just for the runners, but for anyone who wants to come out and cheer these runners on."

The race will start at 9 a.m. April 17. Park entrance fees will be \$2 for persons 13 and older, unless they have TCP or have a Hiking Pass.

Alton said reservations to participate in the race are not

required, but are encouraged. There will be a \$10 entry fee, which will include entrance into the park, and a T-shirt to commemorate the event. Late registration continues 8 a.m. April 17.

"We are just out here to have some fun, and get some good exercise," Alton said.

The fun and good times are also part of the competitive edge

that drives many of the runners that have already made reservations for the event. Alton said he will be lacing up his running shoes as well.

For more information, or to make race reservations, call Alton at the Big Spring State Park, (915) 263-4931, or Ms. Phillips at (915) 263-1211.

TODD: We are prone to wonder why some die too soon, others survive

(From 1B)

the darkened road we anxiously strolled. A deer hunter, who later pulled the Chevy of the ditch, told us that he at first thought we were deer and almost shot us dead. That's what he said. We believed him and later, before sunrise, sought solace and delight in a bottle of sherry.

I remember putting that old International Harvester Scout into low-range four-wheel drive and climbing slowly but surely up an

earthen dam at Iowa Park.

In the early 1970s near Seymour, the Volkswagen square-back I was driving and a Volkswagen beetle exchanged 60-mile-an-hour glancing blows in the middle of the highway. Both of us drivers proclaimed innocence and both were ticketed for being in the wrong place near the crest of a mild hill.

Tanked up, I've ridden wide open at nighttime on a motorcycle as if it were an airplane at full throttle on takeoff or a wild stal-

lion heading to the canyons and survived.

I can think of a myriad of adventuresome things, from climbing into the hayloft and cycling through the mountains to flying at night and floating down the Rio Grande, that have brought pleasure and excitement to me and which have enlivened and, sometimes, frightened my soul.

Many, many people have survived similar and even far more daring adventures into the sea, up the mountains, and into the wild

blue yonder and beyond. But not all, even those taking those relatively "safe risks," survived.

We are prone to reflect on life and to ponder "why" some people die all too soon and others survive into old age. What to do? I really don't know other than to just keep on living, appreciating the gift of life, and enjoying the adventure.

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

TRIAL: Attorney says car wreck case should not have gone to court

(From 1B)

Wednesday, defense attorney Thomas Hirsch told jurors that Lopez's case should have never made it to criminal court.

"This is a car wreck case. It's tragic, but that's all it is. Is this a case where you want to find a person guilty of a crime that car drivers make everyday?" Hirsch said. "What happened to this lady should not have happened. But they do happen in Midland-Odessa and they will tomorrow."

He said that Ms. Lago could have survived the wreck if she had been wearing her seat belt.

"Why do you think they make seat belts and air bags? Because we make mistakes," Hirsch said. "You don't put someone in jail for running a red light. That's why you have liability insurance ... because the law recognizes that."

Hirsch said his client made a mistake that many teenagers make when they get their first car and driver's license: drive irresponsibly.

"Why is insurance rates for kids 23 and under so high? Because they have more accidents," he said. "That's why they can't drink and can't vote. That's why they call them kids. They do stupid things."

But Assistant District Attorney Ralph Petty told jurors that Lopez

is not the naive, young man his attorney describes.

Lopez has two citations — one when he was 16 and one when he was 18 — for running red lights or stop signs, authorities testified.

"He's experienced in driving and in these vehicle matters," Petty said of Lopez's previous encounters with law enforcement. "The defendant is an adult, so he's not exempt from the criminal law."

Petty agreed with the defense's comment that all drivers — either careful or careless — are potential accident victims, but contends that traffic laws need to be strictly enforced to preserve public safety.

"You have a right to expect that someone's not going to take a risk that will end your life," Petty said. "We have to obey the rules of the road, or we're all going to die on the highway. That's what this case is all about."

Several witnesses — including an off-duty Midland police officer — testified that they saw Lopez run a steady red light before hitting the women's car. He continued to drive before hitting a second vehicle and coming to a stop, witnesses testified.

Petty said the defendant's traffic violations show his disrespect for other motorists. Even the vehicle Lopez drives — a 1998 extended cab Chevrolet pickup — indicates what kind of an aggressive

driver he is, Petty said.

"The defendant's truck weighs 5,000 pounds. It's like a tank," Petty said. "He knew he and the three people in his truck wouldn't be injured. The only people who would be are those people in the victim's car."

"This (accident) cost one woman her life and two others bodily injury. For what? So he could get to Wal-Mart two seconds earlier?"

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AUSTIN called "veg squashed" Wednesday. Legislator Jones McCrory 1995 law to sue talk-show.

"This is bill," the S. said. "This do with pr free speech rights of fo Ms. McC Civil Prac repeal the food produ knowingly statements ages.

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Lawmaker wants to repeal 'veggie libel' law

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas' so-called "veggie libel" law might be squashed under a bill left pending Wednesday by a House committee.

Legislation by state Rep. Ruth Jones McClendon would erase a 1995 law Texas cattlemen used to sue talk-show host Oprah Winfrey.

"This is not an anti-agriculture bill," the San Antonio Democrat said. "This measure has more to do with preserving our rights to free speech than disputing the rights of food."

Ms. McClendon asked the House Civil Practices Committee to repeal the statute, which allows food producers to sue those who knowingly make false disparaging statements that result in damages.

The committee also left pending a similar bill by Rep. Harold Dutton Jr., D-Houston, that would require the loser of a "veggie libel" lawsuit to pay attorney's fees.

"This statute says that perishables in Texas ... get better treatment than some of the people who are breathing in Texas," Dutton

said. He suggested it would be better to amend the law so it could protect more than just produce.

"We protect broccoli better than some people," he said.

Rep. Robert Turner said the 1995 statute he designed was only intended to protect agriculture.

"I believe in freedom of the speech ... but what comes with that is responsibility for factuality," the Coleman Democrat said. "This legislation keeps people from making disparaging remarks they know are wrong."

During an April 16, 1996, program on dangerous foods, Ms. Winfrey said England's recent bout with mad cow disease stopped her cold from eating another hamburger.

Her remark not only resulted in two lawsuits that cost her about \$2 million to defend, but she had to pay another \$3 million to move her show to Amarillo for six weeks during the trial, said Tim Bennett, president of Harpo Productions Inc., which produces the "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

"This statute spawns frivolous litigation," Bennett told the com-

mittee. "The cost of free speech should be weighed against the benefits this bill could bring."

Ms. Winfrey is not the only one who has been accused of libeling vegetables. Last April, a Dallas judge mowed down a grass farmer's suit against a state agricultural extension agent who had written that a certain kind of grass did not hold up well against that city's humidity.

A group of emu raisers took Honda to task for a tongue-in-cheek commercial that said emu tastes like pork.

Several attorneys who spoke at the hearing said they did not know of a single case in Texas where someone actually won a "veggie libel" lawsuit.

"At first, this law might get a chuckle. But it is not a laughing matter," Ms. McClendon said. "The 'veggie libel' law stifles free speech by people like Oprah or you or me who may not mean harm but who are interested in talking about public health and safety issues."

The food disparagement repeal law is HB 126.

Farm Safety Day observed with day camp, discussions

By Emily Baker

ODESSA — Safety is a topic that weighs heavily on the minds of many parents.

Knowing what to do in an emergency can save lives and knowledge of what to do in an emergency can also help prevent them.

Ector County Coliseum will host Farm Safety Day Camp 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. The purpose of the day camp is to teach youth 8 to 18 safety and first aid.

said camp director Susan Magee.

The day camp will feature 12 different presenters, she said.

The Odessa Fire Department will be on hand to demonstrate CPR and entomologist Mark Magee will talk about dangerous insects and explain how to avoid them.

Children can also learn about severe weather, how to safely use hand tools and how and when to use 911.

Other topics for demonstration

and discussion are electrical safety, fire extinguishers, safety around large animals and pipeline safety.

All discussions and demonstrations will be performed by professionals and trained individuals, Ms. Magee said.

There is a \$5 fee, which will cover lunch, a packet of safety materials, and a T-shirt.

For more information or to register, call Jim Word at 498-4071.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, April 8, 1999.

Not much gets you down this year! You have vitality, good will and upbeat irrepressibility on your side. You are unusually lucky; aim for what you want. Your creativity and sense of humor come together. Nevertheless, many demands are placed upon you, especially in the political and professional worlds. You'll meet your worldly responsibilities successfully, though you might often be challenged. If you are single, many suitors could be knocking on your door. All you have to do is choose. If attached, you'll love being together and will enjoy making the scene at many public appearances. Allow enough quality time for the two of you. CAPRICORN makes many demands.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Extremes of all sorts mark decisions and work life. Just when you think everything is resolved, another idea pops up out of the blue. Use this creative period in daily life as well as in work. You might be jinxing yourself by overloading yourself. Tonight: A must meeting.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Think before committing to a trip or course of action. Visiting with others and broadening your horizons hold unusual appeal. In many ways, you might feel that you are limiting yourself. Clear your mind by taking a walk. Tonight: Let opportunity strike.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

You could be confusing a simple decision. Don't put yourself on overload; stay secure with what you've already chosen. You could be pulled between friends

and a committed relationship. You are doing the ultimate juggling act. Tonight: Go for it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

You are being pulled between a partnership and a tremendous work opportunity. Your ability to quickly cover a lot of ground allows you to cover your bases. Know your priorities, yet understand what an opportunity is dropping on you. Tonight: Say "yes!"

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Don't hold back; share new information and what appears to be a great idea. Think through what is going on with another at a distance. Pressure mounts. Make travel plans. Pace yourself; even you can get tired. Tonight: Clear your desk before you leave work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Allow a partner to have more input. You question what is needed, and he is going to tell you! Restraining another proves to be impossible. Maintain a sense of humor, adding more laughter and fun. Allow your imagination to go haywire. Brainstorm and be open. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

A partner shakes up your immediate universe. How you view a dynamic situation could change once more because of another's inevitable feedback. Humor and playfulness need to become more a part of your home life. Changes are long overdue. Tonight: Where the fun is.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Much gets done because of your willingness to put in that extra effort. A busy pace invigorates you. Stay committed but recognize limits. Another wants to

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♦ A			
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♠ Q J 10 8 7			
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♣ J 7			

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Desperate measures are called for if East is to defeat South's four-spade contract. Should the defender take the same chance in a duplicate pairs event?

The contract would be reached at every table in a pair competition, except that, in some instances, North would be declarer after a transfer sequence. The weak doubleton in diamonds would persuade North to prefer the suit contract.

At rubber bridge, East found a brilliant defense. There were four tricks available to the defense had West led a heart, but the jack of diamonds was the normal opening lead. Since West could not possibly have a fast entry to lead a heart through dummy's king or to provide a diamond ruff, East elected to give up on the second heart trick in favor of the ruff. The plan needed only for West to hold the jack of hearts.

After winning the ace of diamonds, declarer shifted to the queen of hearts at trick two! Declarer had no counter. The trick was taken in dummy with the king, and declarer came to hand

with the jack of clubs to try the trump finesse. East won and, carrying on with the campaign, exited with a low heart. In with the jack, West had no problem. The defender reverted to diamonds and East ruffed for the setting trick.

Would you defend the same way at duplicate? Only if you were desperately in need of a good result. Most defenders would not find this defense, for a very good reason. Should South hold the jack of hearts or a singleton, this defense would, in all likelihood, blow a trick, something you can ill afford in a pair event.

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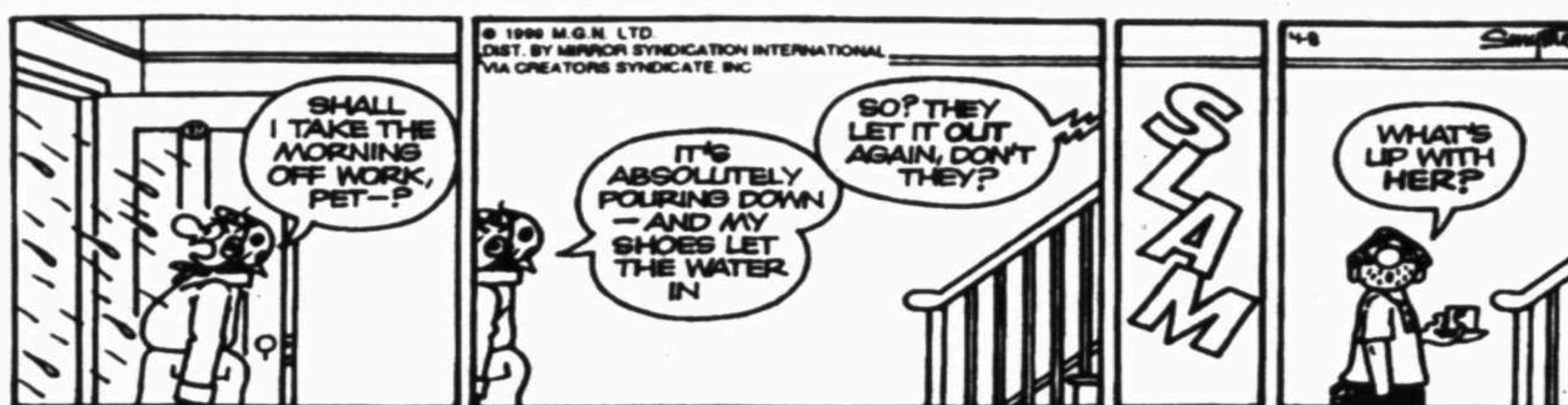


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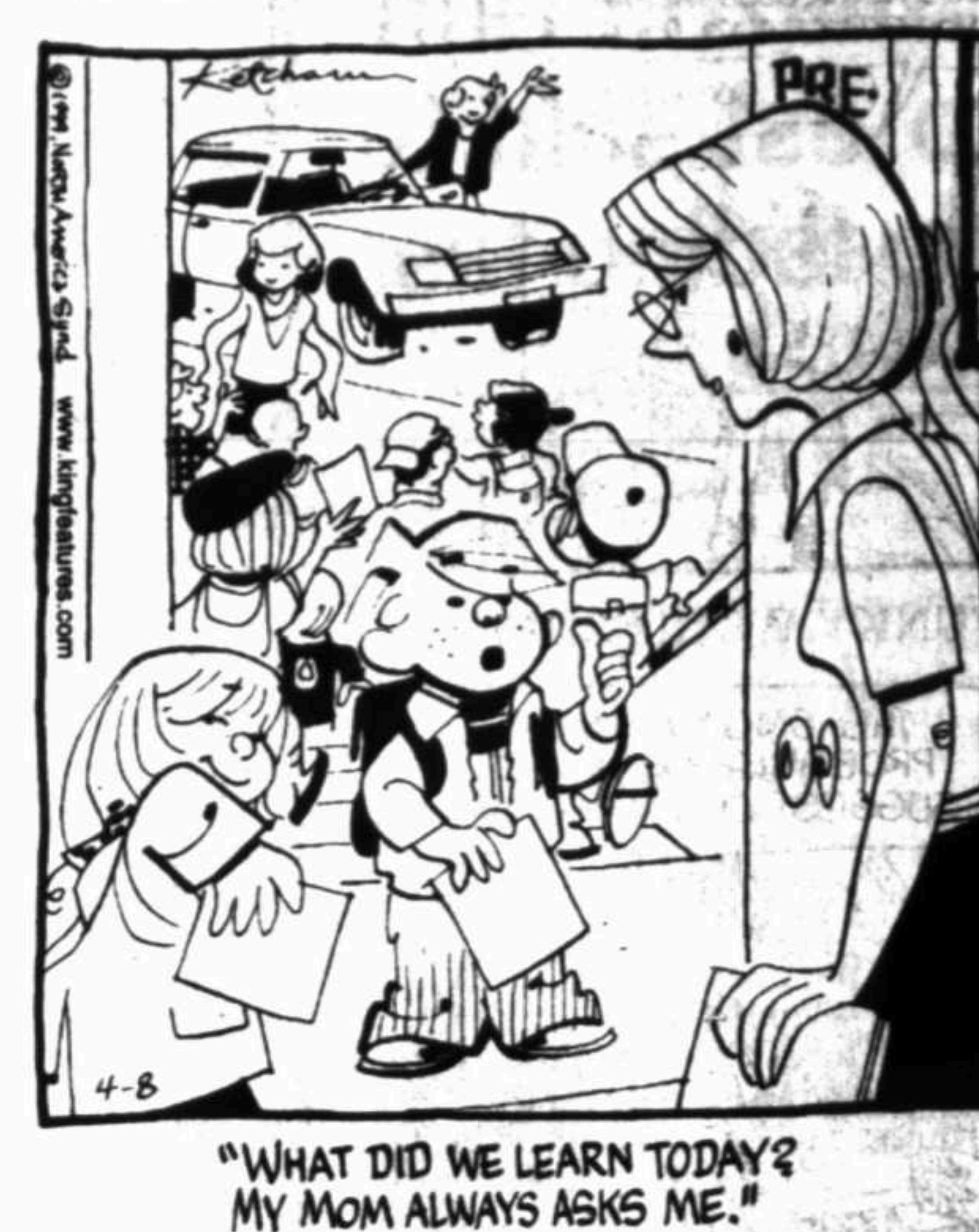
ZITS



ANDY CAPP



DENNIS THE MENACE



PEOPLE TODAY

Tipper Gore jams with former Dead



Dead guitarist Bob Weir called Al Gore "a real human being."

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Tipper Gore took the stage with former members of the Grateful Dead at a \$1,000-a-plate fund-raiser for her husband's presidential campaign.

"He's an old friend," guitarist Bob Weir said. "He's a real human being and we're going to support him."

Weir and percussionist Mickey Hart now lead the Flying Other Brothers Band. Mrs. Gore got behind the conga drums Tuesday night, beating along to a rendition of Bob Dylan's "Queen Jane," a song with cynical lyrics about political pandering and disloyalty. "She'll be the first lady with rhythm," Hart said.

LONDON — Want a peek at the royal art collection? Need to ask the queen a quick question? Check out Prince Andrew's new "zine on the royal Web site."

The prince launched Royal Insight on Wednesday from a cyber-cafe near Buckingham Palace. In contrast to the main site, which includes mostly reference material, Royal Insight will focus on the day-to-day activities of the royal family, with an emphasis on photographs.

The "zine" includes coverage of recent royal appearances and texts of speeches, "Gallery Online," showing art from the Royal Collection, features written by family members about their favorite causes and an interactive question-and-answer section.

A new issue will go online every month. Queen Elizabeth II launched the royal Web site in March 1997. It can be found at www.royal.gov.uk.

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Gov. Jesse Ventura has been named his state's entrepreneur of the year.

Minnesota Entrepreneurs Inc. said Tuesday that Ventura has taken entrepreneurship "to a higher level." The group's president, Jerry Robinson, cited the governor's use of Internet technology and his plans to market his name and image.

Licensed Ventura merchandise, including coffee mugs, T-shirts, hats, action figures and bumper stickers, are sold throughout the country.

NEW YORK — Johnny Cash made it back on stage for the first time in more than a year and a half of illness. "It feels good, it feels good, it feels good," Cash said Tuesday night, his voice clear and strong as he sang "Folsom Prison Blues."

TNT taped the all-star show, which featured Willie Nelson, Bruce Springsteen, Bob Dylan, U2, Sheryl Crow, Emmylou Harris and Wyclef Jean, for a special to air April 18. Cash's appearance in Manhattan's Hammerstein Ballroom was unannounced.

There was some question if he'd ever make it on stage again. Cash, 67, has Shy-Drager Syndrome, a rare neurological disorder that causes progressive damage to the nervous system.

Each performer paid sartorial tribute to "The Man in Black" by dressing in the color.

Near the show's end, the lights dimmed and actor Tim Robbins read a Cash essay about life in prison. The lights rose to reveal the author on stage, breaking into song after his traditional introduction: "Hello, I'm Johnny Cash."

BALTIMORE — Paul Newman said Wednesday he's giving \$250,000 to Catholic Relief Services to assist refugees and others suffering in the Balkan crisis.

"It is our hope that by giving this donation to the Kosovo refugees, we will set an example that other corporations will follow to alleviate the plight of these unfortunate people," the actor said in a statement.

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram wire reports.

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TV TONIGHT

THURSDAY EVENING

April 8, 1999

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

Broadcast	O	C	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
3	KMID	2	3	News 999	Wheel of Fortune	Funny Videos	Funny Videos	The Century (Part 5 of 6) 9601			News 57/158	Politically Incorrect (10-35)	Access Hollywood	9:00
5	KPEJ	24	5	The Simpsons	Home Improvement	World's Wildest Police Videos 50040			Mad About You 45779	The Nanny 45779	Jerry Springer 59311	Cops 33885	NewsRadio 9:00	9:00
7	KOSA	7	7	News 4427	Entertain Tonight	Promised Land: Pursuit of Happiness 96224			48 Hours 92408		News 5953427	Late Show With David Letterman (10-35)	Golf (11-35)	11:00
9	KWES	9	9	News 9779	Satirized 3359	Friends 6576	Will & Grace 2243	Frasier 5224	Just Shoot Me (TVPG)	ER: Point of Origin 32040	News 6104779	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (10-35)	Late Night Conan	11:30
12	KMLM	42	12	Joseph Good 74862	John Hagee 74862	GLC Round Up 103205							GLC Round Up 25514	
13	KOCV	36	13	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer 366601		Small Business Journal			Mystery! (Part 2 of 2) 847953 (TVPG)	Airport (Part 1 of 3) 667717 (TVPG)	Telecourse 927601			
14	FAM	14	14	World's Greatest Magic IV 71953										
15	DISC	20	15	Cougar: Ghost of the Rockies 97795 (TVG)		Guardians of the Night 285137 (TVG)			Divine Magic 274021 (TVG)		The 700 Club 706205	Show Me	Show Me	
21	AMC	21	21	Call Northside 777 (R)		Dead the Wild Wind (42) *** 2570399			Strategic Air Command (R) *** 2570399		Dallas 349717	Dukes of Hazard		
22	TNN	22	22	The Waltons 216040		Life of Glen Campbell			The 5th Annual Evening of Country Greats		The Long Riders (R) *** 92259291			
23	TNT	23	23	ER 209750 (TV14)		The Unsub (R) *** (John Wayne) 11821329			Rock 'n' Roll Invaders		Jerry Herman's Broadway at the Bowl 782779	Sparks 227		
24	BRV	24	24	Inside Actor's Studio		Jerry Herman's Broadway at the Bowl 782779			Comiconview 384089		Walt Disney Presents 401195 (TVG)	Smart Guy 770796	Jamie Foxx Show	
25	BET	25	25	Celebrity		Sparks			Comiconview 384089		Moneyline	Larry King Live 256885	Baseball Tonight	
27	DISN	27	27	Two Lucky Stars *** (R) *** (John Wayne) 11821329		Life of Glen Campbell			The 5th Annual Evening of Country Greats		The Long Riders (R) *** 92259291			
28	CNN	28	28	Moneyline		Crosby			The World Today		NewsStand: Ent.	Baseball Tonight		
29	ESPN	29	29	SportCenter (6-30)		NHL Hockey: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			Larry King Live 516021		Baseball Tonight			
30	USA	30	30	Xena: Warrior Princess 537137 (TVPG-V)		Walker, Texas Ranger 832069 (TV14-V)			Golf: Masters Tournament, First Round 907214		New York Undercover 516392	Silk Stalkings (TV14-V)		
31	FX	31	31	M*A*S*H		M*A*S*H			NYPD Blue 7706798		NYPD Blue 3319408			
32	A&E	32	32	Law & Order: Hot Pursuit 862653 (TVPG)		The X-Files 7783750			The X-Files 7783750		Inspector Morse (Part 2 of 2) 209717 (TVPG)	Law & Order: Entrapment 279576 (TVPG)	Biography 610089 (TVG)	
33	TLC	33	33	Truema: Life in ER		Medical Detectives			Survival in the Sky 311934		Survivor Science: Jungle	Medical Detectives	Survival in the Sky 100040	
34	NICK	34	34	Doug 565750		Rugrats 596330			Brady Bunch		The Wonder Years	Brady Bunch	Happy Days	
35	LIFE	35	35	Party of Five: Olmeca Shelter 191359 (TVPG-L)		Chicago Hope: Verdicts 710408 (TV14)			Bicycle Racing: Criterium International 1020514		Bicycle Racing: Criterium International 1020514	La Mejor de Al Ritmo de la Noche 3698	Unsolvable Mysteries	
36	OUTR	36	36	Trailside		Truema: Life in ER			Chicago Hope: Verdicts 710408 (TV14)		Bicycle Racing: Criterium International 1020514	La Mejor de Al Ritmo de la Noche 3698	Unsolvable Mysteries	
37	UNI	37	37	Gotta de Amor		Truema: Life in ER			Chicago Hope: Verdicts 710408 (TV14)		Bicycle Racing: Criterium International 1020514	La Mejor de Al Ritmo de la Noche 3698	Unsolvable Mysteries	
38	FSN	38	38	Fox Sports News		The Last Word			Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Houston Astros 810175		Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Houston Astros 810175			
39	COM	39	39	Daily Show/Stewart		Ben Stein's Money			Home Alone (R) *** (Chevy Chase, Steve Martin) 237137		Aspen Comedy Festival II 246243 (TVPG)	Daily Show/Stewart	Saturday Night Live 2002021	
40	HBO 2	40	40	Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			
41	HBO	41	41	Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			
42	MAX	42	42	Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			
43	SHOW	43	43	Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			
44	TMC	44	44	Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			
45	HBO 3	45	45	Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			
46	MAX 2	46	46	Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534		Baseball: Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers 362534			

DAILY CROSSWORD

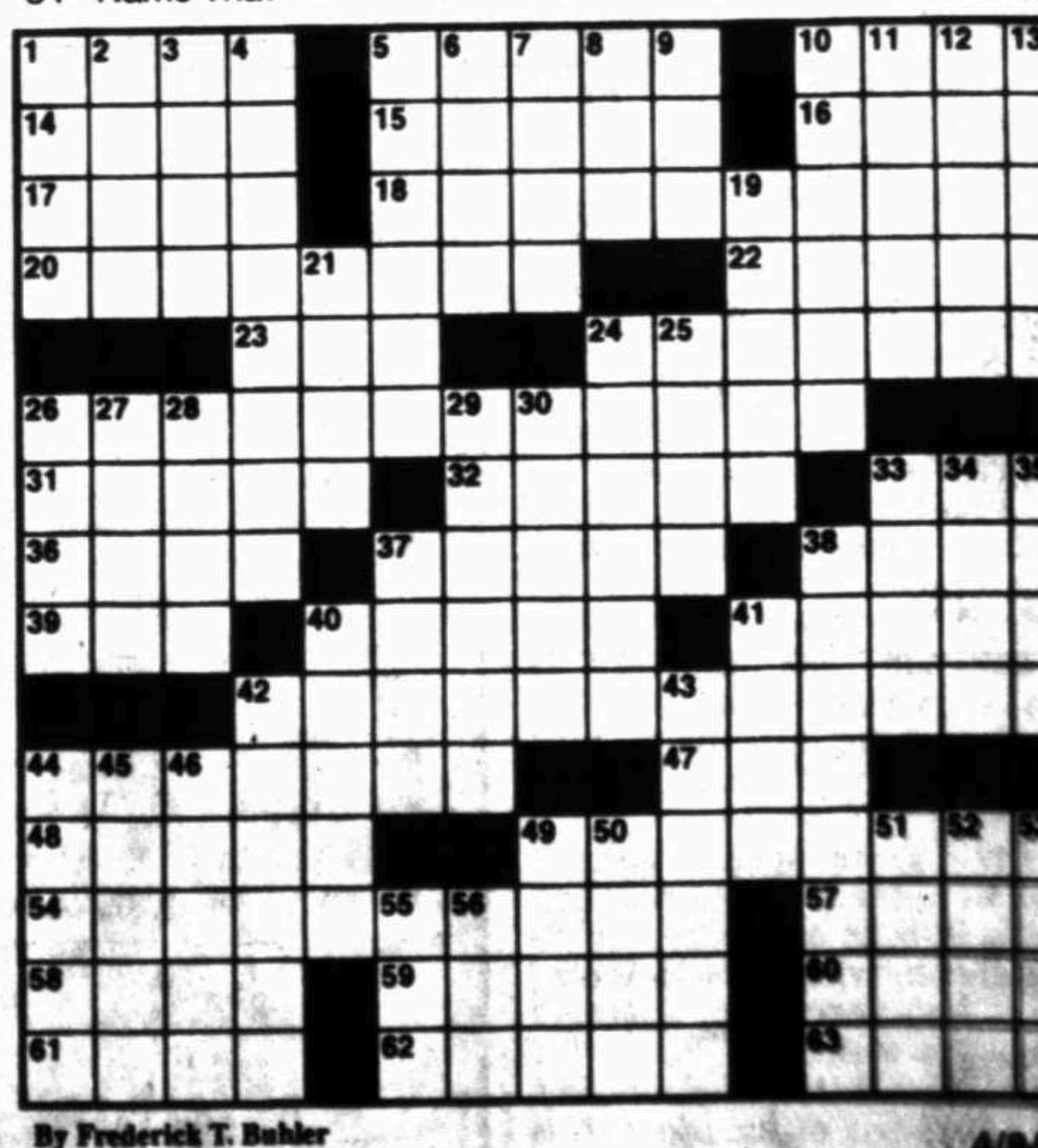
Edited by Trude Michel Jaffe

- ACROSS**
- Pitter-patter's kin
 - Behind all others
 - In charge of
 - Budgie
 - Pirouette
 - Duck-walk
 - Ersatz
 - Filing
 - Vesuvius
 - Dies — contents
 - Kind of deal
 - Kids' baseball org.
 - Playground equipment
 - Sit astride (a horse)
 - Have a ball
 - Kan
 - Dream up
 - Loan limits
 - Vamp
 - Polynesian gods
 - Silent banker: Abbr.
 - "Keep —!"
 - Jeans fabric
 - Swing about
 - Powder holder
 - Electrical output
 - Modify
 - Structure supports
 - Belvedere and belfry
 - Musical gift
 - Dark
 - Actual number of minutes
 - Rhubarb or pumpkin, say
 - Matinee —
 - "Let —"
 - Dravidian
 - Raines or Logan
 - Applied henna
 - Stockholm citizen
 - Witnessed
- DOWN**
- Positive sign
 - Patience's intake, briefly
 - mater
 - Bigmouths
 - Conductor
 - Georg
 - Sea NW of
 - Bukhara
 - Cut and permed
 - Snoopy, e.g.
 - Mecca
 - returnee
 - Noble gas
 - "Fat chance!"
 - Gains
 - Mild complaint
 - More disgusting
 - Lacerate
 - Author Dinesen
 - After dark, these days
 - In great shape
 - Howard and David
 - Nuance
 - A Baldwin
 - "Name That —"
 - Roman love god
 - Togethermess
 - USMA frosh
 - Freezer coating
 - Oklahoma city
 - Unemployed
 - Spy-in-waiting
 - Zip; spirit
 - USMA grads
 - of gravity

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



4/8/99



By Frederick T. Buhler
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Amazon rain forest said to be fading fast

By Jeff Donn
Associated Press

Brazil's Amazon rain forest is being destroyed or badly damaged more than twice as fast as normally believed, according to a study that relied on airplane surveys and on-the-ground interviews instead of satellite images.

The researchers said their method more accurately measured the effects of logging and burning in the 1.3 million-square-mile rain forest.

"It's perhaps even more frightening," said Bill Mankin, director of the Global Forest Policy Project of two major environmental groups. "It's going to creep up on us, and people may not even be crafting a solution because they don't realize there's a problem."

The study was carried out largely by ecologist Daniel C. Nepstad of the Woods Hole Research Center in Massachusetts, and colleagues at the Institute of Environmental Research in Belem, Brazil. They interviewed 1,393 wood mill operators and 202 landholders, and checked the effect of fires from an airplane at 1,104 sample points.

Their findings were published in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature.

They concluded that analysts who study satellite images — the main tool for gauging deforestation — are missing much of the damage from logging and fires set to clear land for farming or pasture. Selective logging is difficult to detect by satellite, and new growth quickly hides fire damage as viewed from above.

Nepstad put the loss at 17,000 square miles last year, or three times the official Brazilian estimate of 5,700. But 1998 was an especially bad year because of an El Nino drought. He estimated that in an average year, actual damage is at least twice the official, satellite-based estimate.

Nepstad estimated that 217,000 square miles, or 16 percent, of the original rain forest has been spoiled over the years. The official Brazilian estimate is 13 percent.

"All these estimates are quite conservative. The problem could be bigger," Nepstad said.

The findings trouble some scientists and environmentalists because perhaps a third of the world's plant and animal species live in the rain forest.

"As we lose species, we don't know which one is the critical one, the keystone species that results in the whole system falling apart," said Robert L. Sanford Jr., a University of Denver ecologist.

The researchers also worry about huge quantities of carbon dioxide entering the atmosphere from the fires and rotting wood left by loggers. Carbon dioxide is thought to cause global warming.

Also, some scientists fear that damage to the rain forest, which gives off enormous amounts of water vapor and keeps the ground from drying out, could throw the Earth's climate out of balance.

The researchers called for more judicious logging, more prevention of accidental fires, and curbs on roads, power grids and water systems.

Most moms with birth defects have well-formed babies

Associated Press

Women with birth defects have normal babies a surprisingly high 96 percent of the time, a Norwegian study found.

Since many birth defects are at least partly genetic, researchers expected to find more of them among babies whose mothers had defects.

What surprised them was that the difference was so small: Birth defects were seen in 3.8 percent of babies whose mothers had birth defects vs. 2.4 percent of those born to normal mothers.

"It's not the usual finding of everything looks dark for that family," said researcher Rolv Skjaerven of the University of Bergen.

The findings are reassuring and fill a major gap in knowledge for experts who counsel couples on genetic risks, said Dr. Donald R. Mattison of Chicago, medical director for the March of Dimes.

"While there is an increased risk, it's at a level many people might feel comfortable with — not a huge risk overall," he said.

The study was published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine. It was based on records of nearly 460,000 females born between 1967 and 1982 in Norway, which maintains a national registry that lists birth defects found in the baby's first five days.

The findings mean that mothers with birth defects are 60 percent more likely than other women to have children with birth defects. But that's 60 percent of a small risk to begin with.

When such birth defects do occur, they are often the same ones that the mothers have, the study found.

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Missions 0-0
(Season opener for both)

Radio
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Broadcast Time - 6:45

Starting Pitchers
Midland's Tim Hudson
vs. San Antonio's Eric Gagne

Next 10 Games

April 9	at San Antonio	7:05
April 10	at San Antonio	7:05
April 11	at San Antonio	2:05
April 12	at San Antonio	7:05
April 13	at Wichita	6:15
April 14	at Wichita	10:15 a.m.
April 15	at Wichita	7:15
April 16	at Wichita	7:15
April 17	at Wichita	7:15
April 18	Day Off	
April 19	El Paso	7:11

TV Sports

GOLF — The Masters, first round, 3 p.m., USA.
NHL — Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers, 6:30 p.m.
BASEBALL — Philadelphia Phillies at Atlanta Braves, 7:35 p.m., TBS.
Chicago Cubs at Houston Astros, 7 p.m., FSN.
SOCCER — Major League Soccer, Columbus at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m., ESPN2.

Texas Scores

BASEBALL — Texas Rangers 10, Detroit Tigers 7.
Chicago Cubs 9, Houston Astros 2.
NBA — Miami Heat 93, Dallas Mavericks 87.
NHL — Dallas Stars 5, Anaheim Mighty Ducks 1.
WJCAC SOFTBALL — Howard College 9, Midland College 3.
Howard College 6, Midland College 3.

Mizzou hires coach

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The job of revitalizing Missouri goes to a man exactly half Norm Stewart's age. The school is hoping Duke assistant coach Snyder, a 32-year-old hired to a five-year contract on Wednesday, will be able to relate to players that his predecessor may have driven away in the past. Unlike Stewart, who resigned under pressure six days earlier after 32 seasons, saying his style was not to be a social worker, Snyder believes the coach-player relationship doesn't have to be adversarial.

He said the same thing to his players in an informal first chat a few minutes before a campus news conference.

"I told them I'll treat them with respect, and I know they'll treat me with respect," Snyder said. "I hope I can be many things to them. Yes, I hope I'm their friend. Being their friend doesn't preclude you from disciplining them."

Players liked what they heard, and gave their new leader a standing ovation along with the rest of the fans in attendance at the news conference.

Stars slam Ducks

DALLAS — Brett Hull scored his 30th and 31st goals, and Mike Keane broke a 34-game drought without a goal as the Dallas Stars moved within one point of matching their franchise record point total with a 5-1 victory over the Anaheim Mighty Ducks on Wednesday night. Hull's power-play goal 23 seconds into the second period snapped a 1-1 tie to trigger Dallas' four-goal period.

The Stars went on to end a two-game losing streak and post their 26th home win, equaling the club record set in 1972-73, 1989-90 and 1997-98.

El-Amin to stay

The advice University of Connecticut coach Jim Calhoun gave sophomore point guard Khalid El-Amin was simple. Wait a year. You'll be better off in the long run. And so will we.

Wednesday, after considering all the options, El-Amin, the heart and sometimes soul of UConn's national championship team this season, decided to stay.

"I think doing it a second time will be even better," El-Amin said.

Rock show begins with 10-game trip

By Oscar LeRoy
Sports Writer

Midland Double-A baseball is about to get rocking and rolling.

The RockHounds era officially kicks off at 7:05 p.m. today when Midland travels to San Antonio to open Texas League play against the Missions. It's part of a 10-day road trip which also includes a stop in Wichita.

The RockHounds come back home on April 19 when they host the El Paso Diablos.

With every new season there is always optimism about the upcoming team and schedule. With a new nickname, a new affiliation (Oakland Athletics) and a new batch of players, comes a new life to Midland baseball. With that breath of fresh air, comes hope that Midland will be back in the Texas League playoffs for the first time since 1995.

"We're kind of excited about this year," said RockHounds manager Tony DeFrancesco during Tuesday's media day held at Christensen Stadium. "We have some of the top prospects coming in and we're looking for a big offensive season. A lot of these players played in Double-A last season, so they have some experience."

"Then we have a starting pitching staff that's pitched in Double-A or higher, so we feel good about that. We feel that we're a pretty balanced team right now."

The opening day roster for the RockHounds includes six of the top 10

prospects in the Athletics' organization. Five of those prospects are pitchers with high velocity and plenty of potential.

Tonight's starter, Tim Hudson, is the No. 10 prospect for the A's who went 14-9 in split time at Class A Modesto (Calif) and Double-A Huntsville (Ala.).

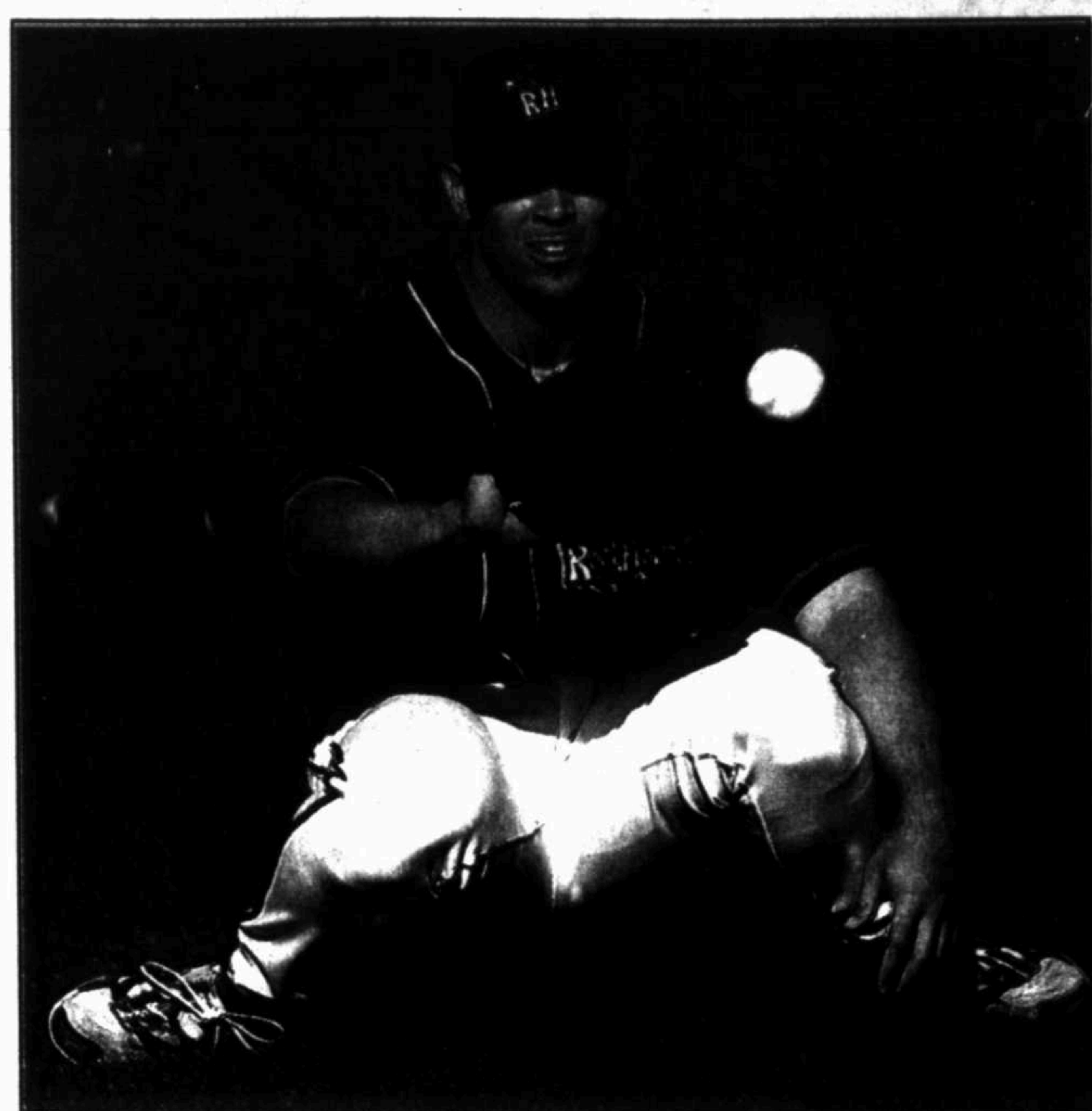
"He's a high priority guy," said DeFrancesco about Hudson. "They (Athletics) are waiting for him to get some command of his pitches and get ready for him to pitch in their bullpen soon."

"At the beginning of the season, I want to start off in the 'W' column, and hopefully, get the season off to a very good start," said the 23-year-old Hudson.

"I think we have a lot of talent on this team. We have a lot of prospects and I could go on and on. I think if this team stays together, it's going to have a chance to do really well in this league. I think it's going to be exciting. I'm looking forward to it."

Along with Hudson, the pitching staff has the No. 3 prospect in Eric Dubose, No. 4 Chad Harville, and No. 8 Luis Vizcaino.

"We've got great depth and a lot of great young arms," said Dubose. "I think we can put up great numbers. We just have to go out there and keep the ball down. We've got starters who can come in and give a good seven strong innings. Then we've got a closer (Harville) who can close the deal. And then we've got middle guys who can close guys out. With our pitching staff, we've got a lot of things we can do, and our offense can put up some runs."



Midland RockHounds pitcher Eric DuBose catches during Tuesday's workout at Christensen Stadium. DuBose, the No. 3 prospect in the Oakland Athletics organization, and the rest of the RockHounds open the Texas League season today in San Antonio.

Let's not forget about the pop that goes so well in the hitter-friendly Texas League. The roster is peppered with plenty of the top guys in the Athletics' farm system. Players like No. 6 prospect Mario Encarnacion hit .272 with 15 home

runs and 61 RBIs at Huntsville last season, third baseman Adam Piatt hit 20 homers and had 107 RBIs, and outfielder Justin Bowles belted 10 home runs, and had 48 RBIs in just 74 games at

Please see ROCK/2C

CURTAIN-RAISER AT AUGUSTA

Cast is more than Duval, Woods

By Doug Ferguson
AP Golf Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. — The sun broke through overcast skies Wednesday at Augusta National as Ernie Els slipped quietly into the shade of a Georgia pine. He couldn't imagine a better place to be on the eve of the 63rd Masters.

When the curtain rises on the first major championship of the year, the spotlight will be on David Duval and Tiger Woods, and the script has already been written — the top two players in the world, settling matters in the most spectacular venue in golf.

That's just fine with Els. The 29-year-old South African arrived at Augusta on Saturday with a fresh mind, a fine-tuned game and the kind of credentials worthy of a favorite at any major championship.

Just not this one, not this year.

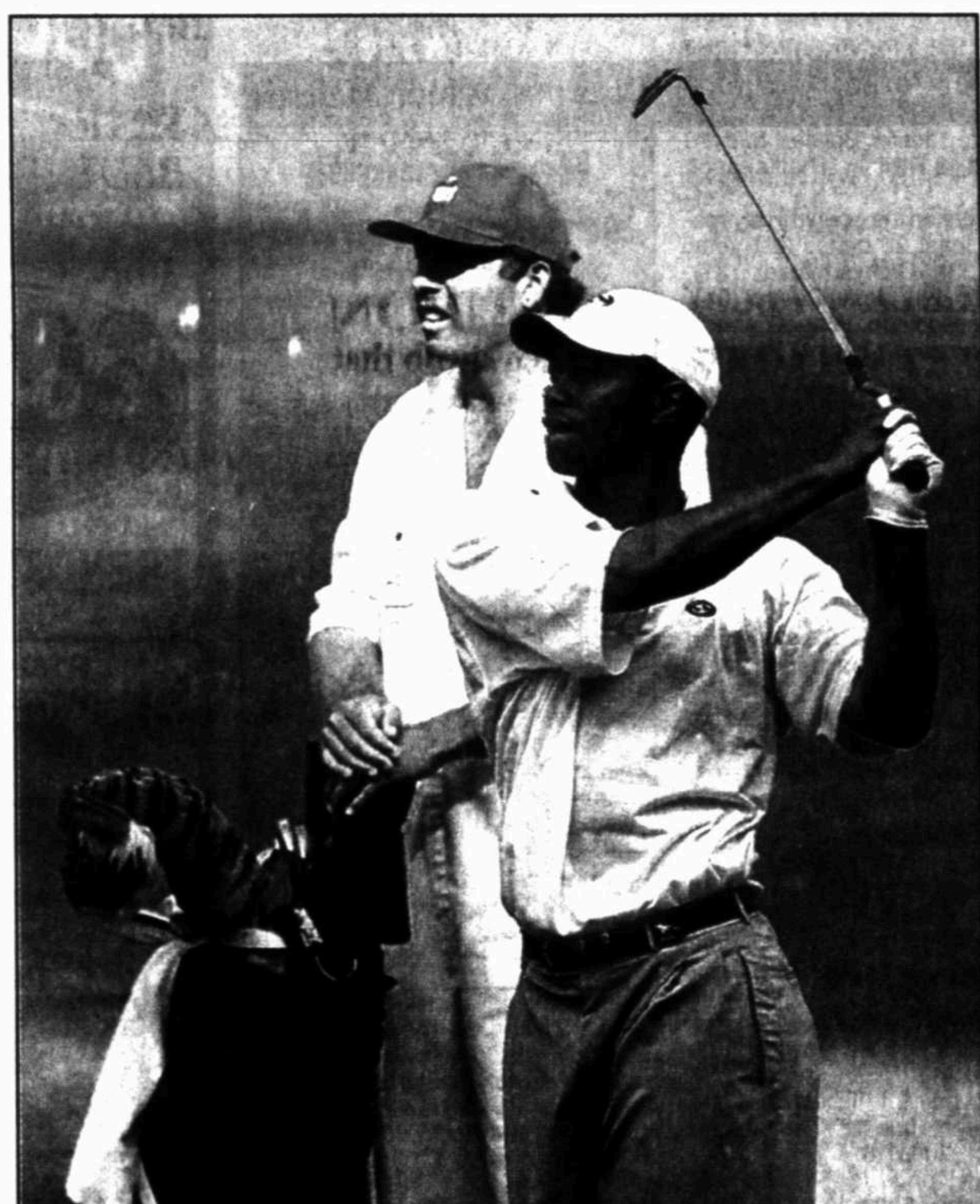
"The only talk is Tiger and David," Els said. "I could ask myself the question that maybe I should play in that group. But the only to do that is to win again. If I win the Masters, you guys will want to write about me."

Under the live oak tree located between the clubhouse and the first tee, Phil Mickelson held court for 10 minutes after he and John Huston teamed up to whip Duval and John Daly in their final practice round before the tournament starts.

In only his seventh year on the PGA Tour, Mickelson already is becoming a forgotten favorite in the majors, in part because he hasn't really contended in any of the last eight. This is the first time Mickelson has come to the Masters without already having won in the year, and that includes his lone appearance as an amateur.

It doesn't help that he is 165th on the tour in final-round scoring at 75.29, which includes an 82 on Sunday in The Players Championship after being within one stroke of the lead.

Still, Mickelson has won 13 times already. Like Els, he is lurking.



Tiger Woods watches his shot on the 10th with his caddy Steve Williams at the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga., on Wednesday during practice for the 1999 Masters.

"I've been trying to build up for this week," he said. "What I've been lacking this year is focus for 72 holes. I've played well for 54 holes in several tournaments, and I feel like I'm just about

Please see MASTERS/2C

Injury finally stops Ripken

By David Ginsburg
AP Sports Writer

BALTIMORE — For the first time since 1982, Cal Ripken missed a game because of injury Wednesday.

Ripken, who left the Baltimore Orioles' season opener Monday in the third inning with stiffness in his lower back, watched Wednesday night's 8-5 loss to Tampa Bay from the dugout while Willis Otañez took over at third base.

"I could beat my head against the wall and go do it today, but it doesn't make sense," Ripken said. "We're going to just work toward being ready tomorrow."

Last Sept. 20, Ripken voluntarily ended his record streak of playing in 2,632 games by sitting out the Orioles' final home game against the New York Yankees.

This time, his absence was not by choice.

"He told me was 90 percent better and I told him I'd rather err on the side of caution and give him another 24 hours," manager Ray Miller said.

"In my heart I know he never played a game just because of the streak. Fortunately for us it's not there anymore, so we can use a little better judgment," Miller said.

If the streak were still alive, it probably would have come to a dramatic conclusion Wednesday night. Ripken, 38, removed himself from Monday's game because his back locked up, leaving him unable to continue.

Although his back felt much better Wednesday, it was far from perfect.

"If it was 90 percent, playing would be a no-brainer," Ripken said. "Every situation is different, but I doubt I'd play tonight regardless if the streak was still alive. ... I want to be able to contribute this whole season, and it wouldn't make sense to push it just to play one game."

The last time Ripken missed a game because of injury was in May 1982 after he got beamed by Oakland rookie Mike Moore. His record streak began later that month and survived two ankle injuries, a twisted knee and a herniated disk in his back in 1997.

Lady Hawks earn sweep of Midland College

By H.A. Tuck
MRT Correspondent

Howard College set the tone early in sweeping a doubleheader from the Midland College Lady Chaparrals Wednesday. The 9-3 and 6-3 wins propelled the Lady Hawks to first place in the three-team Western Junior College Athletic Conference, while MC is third and faced with trying to dig itself out of the loop cellar.

Midland won two from Howard on Tuesday, one of which counted in the conference race.

But Howard looked like a different team Wednesday, scoring four runs in the top of the first on three singles, a double, two stolen bases, a passed ball, and two errors on MC pitcher J. R. Chavira. They added two in the second on a single, two errors by shortstop Melissa Martinez, and two passed balls by catcher Francesca Salcido. The Hawks added another in the second.

Midland finally got on the board in the fourth, scoring three. Jessica Cobos got

Midland College pitcher J.R. Chavira makes a pitch against Howard College on Wednesday.

WJCAC Standings

Team	Overall	Conf.
Howard	39-14	6-3
El Paso	23-16	3-3
Midland	41-16	3-6

on by error, scoring on Chavira's double. Lauren Wallace singled. Laura Martinez doubled Chavira and Wallace in.

The Lady Hawks countered with four more runs in the fifth, thanks to four singles and two more errors.

Maria Lopez got the win for the Hawks, while Chavira was charged with the loss.

Lopez started game two, but was injured in the top of the second inning when she pulled a muscle while running out a base hit.

Midland came out hot against relief pitcher Brandy Smith, getting two runs in the bottom of the second. With two outs, Chavira singled just ahead of Melissa Martinez' big blast over left field. Jessica Cobos then doubled, but died on third.

Jackie Ortega's lead-off homer to left in the third was MC's last score.

The Hawks tallied two in the fourth on

three singles, a walk, a wild pitch and a sacrifice fly. They added two more in the fifth, thanks to a single, two errors, a sacrifice and a double by Josie Rosovich. That gave them a 4-3 lead.

Two more runs padded that lead in the top of the seventh, coming from two walks, two singles and a fielder's choice.

Smith retired 15 of the 17 Chaparral batters after Ortega's homer, allowing only a single with two outs in the fifth and a walk to Laura Martinez in the seventh. Tonya Thompson took the loss for MC.

"I thought our chances were pretty slim when Lopez got hurt," admitted interim HC coach Cotton Mize. "(Brandy) Smith has a hurt right shoulder and will have an MRI tomorrow. Lopez also is going to have to see the doctor."

The Lady Hawks finish their conference season Friday and Saturday with four games at home against the El Paso Tejanas, games which could determine the possible WJCAC title. Midland College goes to El Paso April 16-17 for its last loop contests.

"We came out flat in the first game," MC coach Tommy Ramos reflected. "We had told our players that each mis-

Please see MC/2C



Brian Adamcic/Reporter-Telegram

1999 Midland RockHounds Roster

No.	Pitchers	B-T	Hgt.	Wgt.	Age	Resides	1998 Club(s)
15	Jason Anderson	L-L	6-2	185	22	Salem, Va.	Modesto/Huntsville
30	Benito Diaz	L-L	6-0	160	21	Bonao, D.R.	Huntsville (AA)
19	Jeff D'Amico	R-R	6-3	202	24	Redmond, Wash.	Huntsville, Arizona A's
29	Eric Dubose	L-L	6-3	215	22	Nashville, Tenn.	Visalia/Huntsville
33	Chris Enochs	R-R	6-3	225	23	Newell, W.Va.	Huntsville (AA)
40	Chris Gorrell	R-R	6-2	188	23	Las Vegas, Nev.	Visalia (A)
26	Chad Harville	R-R	5-9	180	22	Savannah, Tenn.	Visalia/Huntsville
15	Tim Hudson	R-R	6-0	160	23	Salem, Ala.	Modesto/Huntsville
45	Andy Kimball	R-R	6-0	190	23	Oakbrook, Wis.	Modesto (A)
48	Tim Marwiler	R-R	6-2	205	24	Annapolis, Pa.	Modesto/Edmonton
20	Chris Nelson	S-R	6-2	180	26	San Diego	Huntsville/Edmonton
27	Luis Vizcaino	R-R	5-11	169	21	Bani D.R.	Modesto/Hunt.
No.	Catchers	B-T	Hgt.	Wgt.	Age	Resides	1998 Clubs
50	Cody McKay	L-R	6-0	207	25	Scottsdale, Ariz.	Modesto/Hunt/Edm.
5	David Skeels	R-R	6-2	195	25	Thousands Oaks, Calif.	Visalia (A)
No.	Infielders	B-T	Hgt.	Wgt.	Age	Resides	1998 Clubs
10	Jose Castro	S-R	5-10	160	24	Villa Vasquez, D.R.	Modesto/Huntsville
17	Dionys Cesar	S-R	5-10	155	22	Monte Plata, D.R.	Visalia (A)
12	Jose Espada	R-R	5-10	175	23	Carolina, P.R.	Huntsville (AA)
23	T.R. Marcinczyk	R-R	6-3	195	25	Plainville, Conn.	Huntsville (AA)
34	Adam Piatt	R-R	6-2	195	23	Fort Myers, Fla.	Modesto (A)
No.	Player-Coach	B-T	Hgt.	Wgt.	Age	Resides	1998 Clubs
28	Webster Garrison	R-R	5-11	193	33	New Orleans	Huntsville (AA)
No.	Outfielders	B-T	Hgt.	Wgt.	Age	Resides	1998 Clubs
25	Justin Bowles	L-L	6-0	185	25	Lake Jackson	Huntsville (AA)
35	Jeff DaVanon	S-R	6-0	185	25	Del Mar, Calif.	Modesto (A)
21	Mario Encarnacion	R-R	6-2	205	21	Bani, D.R.	Huntsville (AA)
24	Tim Garland	R-R	6-0	185	30	Danville, Va.	Shreveport/Bowie/Fred.
32	Roberto Vaz	L-L	5-9	195	24	Tuscaloosa, Ala.	Huntsville (AA)
No.	Field Staff	Position					
11	Tony DeFrancesco	Manager					
56	Glenn Abbott	Pitching Coach					
	Brian Thorson	Athletic Trainer					

ROCK: Most were in Huntsville last year

(From 1C)

Huntsville. "Somebody asked me at the exhibition game (against Oakland last Thursday) if we were going to do a lot of bunting and running and I said, 'no way,'" said Bowles, who's the only native Texan on the roster. Bowles was born in Freeport and currently resides in Lake Jackson.

"It doesn't matter who's on the hill, we're going to be swinging hard," Bowles added. "I can guarantee you that. Anybody from one through nine can hit a ball out. There might be more than one big inning in a game."

"We have a well-balanced team," DeFrancesco said. "Every guy in the lineup is capable of hitting 20-plus home runs. We're still going through development, so

the guys are going to have to learn to handle the bat and sacrifice in some situations.

"Early in the game, I don't see us trying to move the runners over too much. We're going to try to go for the big inning and not waste any outs. Early in the game we'll just try and let the guys swing the bats and run the bases well. If you get into a close game, that's when you change your philosophy."

Of the current 25-man roster, 17 played for Huntsville last season. The familiarity that the players have with each other is hoping to equal that success with the RockHounds. Last season Huntsville made the playoffs and these players hope to make a return trip to the post-season.

"With the exception of a few

guys, everybody was in Double-A last year," Bowles said. "With those guys, and the ones we have on the pitching staff, I think we can do real well this season."

"Half of our draft class is here," said Piatt, who was an eighth round draft pick in 1997 out of Mississippi State. "A lot of us started in short-season (Class A) ball together. We've got a pretty tight knit group that seems to have pretty good chemistry so far. I think that's important, especially for a team expecting to win. Five months is a long time for guys to be together. Having chemistry only gives us a better chance to win."

A winner is something that Midland fans have been starving for the last four years.

Let the rock show begin.

RockHounds BRIEFS

Baseball America ranks the top 10 prospects for each Major League team in the winter and six of Oakland's top 10 prospects will start the season in Midland. Five of which are pitchers who are called upon to tame a historically offensive league and homepark (Christensen Stadium).

No. 3 Pitcher Eric Dubose — 1997 first round draft pick (Mississippi State)

No. 4 Pitcher Chad Harville — Reliever's fastball has been clocked at 98 mph

No. 5 Pitcher Chris Enochs — 1997 first round draft choice (West Virginia)

No. 6 Outfielder Mario Encarnacion — Young (21) outfielder can hit for average and power

No. 8 Pitcher Luis Vizcaino — Another young gun, starter has a 94 mph fastball

No. 10 Pitcher Tim Hudson — Former Auburn star won 14 games in 1998 — tops on A's farm.

To go with the highly publicized pitching staff is an offensive unit that is fast and contains some power.

Outfielder Jeff DaVanon had the second best batting average in the A's system last year (.336) and stole 33 bases.

First baseman T.R. Marcinczyk blasted 26 home runs (2nd in the organization behind Minor League Players of the Year Eric Chavez).

Third Baseman Adam Piatt hit 20 home runs and had 107 RBIs (2nd only to Chavez).

Outfielder Justin Bowles had 10 homers and 48 RBIs in a half season in 1998.

Five players on the opening day roster stole at least 20 bases last year: DaVanon (33), Dionys Cesar (31), Roberto Vaz (23), Jose Castro (21), Piatt (20). In addition, Jose Espada stole an organization-best 47 bases in 1997.

Webster Garrison, the old man in the group, will serve as a player coach. Garrison, 16-year minor league veteran, has played for 11 different clubs over that time and has played at the Double-A or Triple-A level since 1987. Overall, Garrison, who was originally selected in 1983 by the Toronto Blue Jays, has played in 1,753 minor league games, made 6,302 official plate appearances and batted for a .268 average.

Three players (Jeff D'Amico, Mario Encarnacion and Luis Vizcaino) are members of the Athletics' 40-man roster.

Schedule Notes

The RockHounds first 10 games and last 10 games will be played on the road. The home opener is April 19 and the season finale is Aug. 24. Both games are versus the El Paso Diablos.

There will be fireworks shows on four different nights: April 24, May 29, June 26 and Aug. 24.

The first half of Texas League action ends on June 12. The second half starts on June 13.

The RockHounds longest homestand is 12 games (June 19-30 and July

RockHounds series schedule

Date	Opponent
April 8-12	at San Antonio
April 13-17	at Wichita
April 18-23	El Paso
April 24-28	Wichita
April 29-May 3	at El Paso
May 4-8	San Antonio
May 9-14	at Tulsa
May 15-18	at Arkansas
May 19-25	Tulsa
May 26-30	Arkansas
June 1-6	at Wichita
June 7-12	San Antonio
June 13-18	at El Paso
June 19-24	El Paso
June 25-30	Wichita
July 1-7	at San Antonio
July 8-13	Shreveport
July 14-20	Jackson
July 21-26	at Shreveport
July 27-Aug. 2	at Jackson
Aug. 3-9	San Antonio
Aug. 10-14	at El Paso
Aug. 15-19	Wichita
Aug. 20-24	El Paso
Aug. 25-30	at Wichita
Aug. 31-Sept. 4	at San Antonio

8-20). The longest road swing is also 12 (July 21-Aug. 3). The trip to Shreveport and Jackson will be interrupted by a two-day break thanks to the Double All-Star game (which will be played on July 28 in Little Rock).

The Double-A All-Star Game will be played on July 14 in New Haven, Conn.

MC: Lady Chaps have to win at El Paso

(From 1C)

take, each error, came back to haunt us as a run and that's what happened. In the second game, after Lopez got hurt, we thought we had it made and relaxed. This conference is too balanced for that. Now we just have to get ready to play in El Paso."

Jackie Ortega, MC's only sophomore and a competitor in Europe last summer, was involved in two extraordinary plays Wednesday.

In the second inning of the first game, Lady Hawk Christina DeVoss got on by error and tried to take third on wild throws, but she was tagged out at third by left-fielder Ortega, who covered the bag for a throw from first baseman Jessica Cobos.

In the top of the seventh inning of game two, Carlee Lanford tried to take third after Ortega dove for a fly ball and missed. But Ortega fired a strike to Rodriguez at third for the out.

Game 1
Howard 4-10 0-0-9
Midland 0-0 0-0-3
Maria Lopez and Diana Julian; J. R. Chavez and Francesca Salcido; W-Lopez; L-Chavez (18-8); 2B-Jose

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Rosovich, HC; J. R. Chavez, Andrea Rodriguez, Laura Martinez, MC; E-Rosovich, DeVoss, HC; Melissa Martinez (4); Chavez (2); MC, DP-Lopez-Brand; HC

Howard 000 220 2-6
Midland 001 000 0-3

Game 2
Howard 6, Midland 3

Mania Lopez, Brandy Smith (2) and Diana Julian; Tonya Thompson and Jessica Cobos; W-Smith; L-Thompson (21-8); 2B-Rosovich, HC; Rodriguez, MC; HR-Ortega, M. Martinez; E-Ortega, Rodriguez



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MASTERS: Field should be competitive

(From 1C)

ready to play well for 72."

Mark O'Meara spent more time talking about Woods and Duval than his own chances to become only the third player to repeat as champion. Fred Couples, who tied for second last year with Duval, wants another crack at a green jacket but no one seems to listen.

Justin Leonard, whose four victories include the British Open and The Players Championship, has finished in the top 10 the last two Masters. Jim Furyk and his loopy swing don't look like a good fit for Augusta, but he was right in the thick of it last year until going in the water on the 15th on Sunday.

Lee Westwood of England has won as many tournaments as Duval in the same amount of time, even if only one came on American soil. Still, Europeans have won 10 of the past 19 Masters, and he has been around Augusta enough to know how to attack.

"Tiger and David may be the best two at the moment, but I'm not too far behind," he said.

This is the largest field in the Masters in 33 years, even if it sounds like the green jacket will be fitted for one of two players — Woods or Duval.

"Everyone badly wants to win," Els said. "I want to win this tour-

nament. I've had good preparations, and I've got a good feeling."

If anyone can spoil the Duval-Woods showdown, it's Els.

With two U.S. Opens, he has won more majors than Woods and Duval combined. He also has more victories than both of them — 29 around the world.

Woods has won 10 times, including the 1997 Masters and two tournaments overseas. All of Duval's 11 victories have come on the PGA Tour, including four already this year and all of them in the past 18 months.

All that is missing is the major.

"All those guys think they can, and David Duval is one that thinks that — and is doing that," Couples said. "He's a lot better than a lot of people, and he's a little better than Ernie Els and Tiger Woods and Greg Norman."

Perhaps the magic of the Masters will allow for Duval and Woods to match shot for shot on the back nine of Augusta. They have never been paired together in a final round, and they have rarely been in contention during the final nine holes of any tournament.

One of the exceptions was two months ago in Los Angeles, where Els dusted off both of them. The victory made the South African known as the "Big Easy" the first player since Jack Nicklaus to win

at least once in his first six years on the PGA Tour.

Does that sound like someone who can be left out of the mix in the Masters?

The fact this has turned into David vs. Goliath (David is the betting favorite again) has not caused any bitterness among those eager to prove the Masters has much more to offer.

"David has brought this on himself," Els said with a laugh. "We talk about him because he's winning every week. The guy has been blowing everybody out of the water. I'd like to know what's going on his head."

More interesting is the size of his bank account. He already has won close to \$2.6 million after just eight tournaments and comes into Augusta having won the last two weeks. He believes he is good enough to win. No one doubts he is playing well enough, least of all Duval.

But he also knows that Augusta can have its own agenda.

"Each tournament is a new start, a new chance, and that's how I view it," Duval said. "I feel like I'm capable of winning out here. I don't just assume I'm going to win. I know I'm going to have to get some good breaks and play quality shots."

★ Arnie says...★★★★★

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Jiles dh 5 0 1
Jeter ss 5 1 1 0
Clark 1b 5 2 2 0
Palm 3b 4 1 0 0
Hignan rf 3 0 0 0
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DETROIT

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DETROIT

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Gunderson 1
Runyan
Brocal
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McK 4 1
Morgan W-1 2
Cabrera
Gunderson 1
Patterson 1
Wetland S 1 1

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Curtis lf 4 1 1 1

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New York 21 21

Knob 2b 4 1 1 0
Jeter ss 5 1 1 0
O'Neill rf 4 1 3 1
BWilliams cf 4 0 0 0
Martinez 1b 4 0 1 1
Clayton dh 3 0 1 0
Pineda c 3 0

After advertising heavily in support of legislation that would lower access fees, AT&T has suddenly reversed its position. AT&T is now fighting against the passage of legislation that would lower access fees and allow Southwestern Bell to lower rates on several popular services.

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FUTURES

Wednesday, April 8, 1999
Previous close: \$1.5911

NATURAL GAS

Wednesday, April 8, 1999
Previous close: \$1.5911

GASOLINE

NEW YORK (AP) — Gasoline prices fell 6 percent, its steepest drop in more than 3 months, as analysts said demand for oil had slipped and inventories were higher than expected. Demand for oil fell 7.93 percent to 7.93 million barrels a day. Some analysts said demand as low as 7.93 million barrels a day for last day, had forecasted about 3 million barrels. Demand for oil fell 7.93 percent to 7.93 million barrels a day. Some analysts said demand as low as 7.93 million barrels a day for last day, had forecasted about 3 million barrels.

In other markets, copper rose. Research Bureau of Petroleum Inc. said the price of oil fell 188.93, and the price of gold rose 3.57 to 150.2. Gasoline for the week ended April 2, 1999, fell 5.9 cents, or 5.9 cents, on the New York Exchange, the lowest since Dec. 17, 1998, when it fell 1.9 percent from a high of 1.9 percent since mid-1998.

Inventories of oil ended April 2, 1999, at 215.44 million barrels, a decline, according to industry groups and refiners. By Bloomberg, predicted decline, from 2.4 million barrels.

Gasoline for the week ended April 2, 1999, fell 5.9 cents since February, refinery output, gasoline production, acute in California, disruptions of the biggest gasoline.

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New record

NEW YORK (AP) — Industrial average record Wednesday, sought the record as the rate of profit rose.

Broader stock market, mixed, reflected concerns about technology stocks. Bank stocks were time favorites, as the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 10,085.31. It closed above its previous high of 10,085.31 on Monday.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index, its own record, rose 1,326.89. The index was dominated by the technology sector, which rose 18.74 to 2,541.12.

The financial sector, higher, continued to attract interest. The nation's top 100 companies have hinted that earnings will rise in the first-quarter report.

Dollar

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks through Wednesday, the euro and the dollar.

Traders also were concerned because of fears of a recession in Europe. In late New York, the dollar was quoted at \$1.0848 late Wednesday, worth 121.35 yen. The pound was quoted at \$1.5911, an average of 121.35 yen, though it closed before the market opened higher at 10,085.31, its day's record.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

OIL PRICES POSTED

Wednesday \$13.50
Previous \$14.25

FUTURES

Wednesday \$16.03
Previous \$16.81

NATURAL GAS Wednesday \$2.024

Gasoline falls

NEW YORK — Gasoline fell almost 6 percent, its biggest drop in more than 3 months, after the American Petroleum Institute said U.S. demand slipped and inventories declined less than expected last week.

Demand for gasoline sagged 9 percent to 7.93 million barrels a day. Some analysts, expecting stronger demand as service stations filled their tanks for last weekend's Easter holiday, had forecast a drop in inventories of about 3 million barrels. Instead, supplies dropped only a half-million barrels.

In other markets, coffee fell and copper rose. The Bridge-Commodity Research Bureau index fell 1.86 to 188.93, and the energy-weighted Goldman Sachs Commodity Index fell 3.57 to 150.29.

Gasoline for May delivery fell 3.17 cents, or 5.9 percent, to 50.51 cents a gallon on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the biggest one-day drop since Dec. 17. Even so, gasoline is up 1.9 percent from a year ago, after a rally since mid-February lifted prices by more than 50 percent.

Inventories fell 555,000 barrels to 215.44 million barrels in the week ended April 2, the fourth weekly decline, according to the API, an industry group funded by oil producers and refiners. Eight analysts surveyed by Bloomberg News before the report predicted declines ranging, on average, from 2.4 million barrels to 3.2 million barrels.

Gasoline futures have risen 54 percent since Feb. 19, when a series of refinery outages began. The lack of gasoline production was especially acute in California, where four refinery disruptions occurred in the nation's biggest gasoline market.

Gasoline was also boosted last month by rising crude oil prices, after an agreement by exporting nations to cut oil supplies 2.7 percent to end a world oil glut. Crude oil followed gasoline lower today. Crude oil for May delivery fell 83 cents, or 4.9 percent, to \$15.98 a barrel.

New record

NEW YORK — The Dow Jones industrial average soared to a new record Wednesday as investors sought the relative safety of blue-chip stocks as they nervously await corporate profit reports.

Broader stock indicators were mixed, reflecting the fact that investors are concerned about unpredictable technology stocks.

Bank stocks, automakers, and long-time favorites like AT&T drove the rally, as the Dow rose 121.82 to close at 10,085.31. It was the Dow's third close above 10,000, and eclipsed the previous high of 10,007.33, reached Monday.

The Standard & Poor's 500 set its own record, rising 9.00 to close at 1,326.89. The Nasdaq Stock Market, dominated by high-tech issues, fell 18.74 to 2,544.43.

The financial sector was mostly higher, continuing to benefit from stable interest rates. Also, analysts said the nation's banks and brokerages have hinted they will report strong earnings when they begin releasing first-quarter results next week.

Dollar rises

NEW YORK — The dollar followed stocks through their gyrations Wednesday, ending higher against the euro and the Japanese yen.

Traders also held onto dollars because of fears of lower interest rates in Europe.

In late New York trading, the euro was quoted at \$1.0772, down from \$1.0848 late Tuesday. The dollar was worth 121.35 Japanese yen, up from 120.62 yen. However, the British pound was quoted at \$1.5959, up from \$1.5911. The Dow Jones industrial average spent the day mostly rising, though it dipped below Tuesday's close before ending 121.82 points higher at 10,085.31 to break Monday's record high.

Museum inducts new HOF members

From Staff Reports

The word "brilliant" describes the five men who are being inducted into the Petroleum Museum's Hall of Fame today at Midland Center.

One team turned its one-rig operation into a multi-faceted operation; one man gave "eyes" to the geologists; and a father-son team made numerous oil and gas discoveries despite the odds in a company that has survived seven decades.

Honorees are Cyril "Cy" Wagner and Jack E. Brown of Wagner & Brown, Ltd., Midland; the late J. Clarence Karcher of Dallas, inventor of the reflection seismograph; and the late Wm. A. "Monty" Moncrief and son Wm. A. "Tex" Moncrief Jr. of Moncrief Oil Co., Fort Worth.

Special guests at the event will include Patrick Manning, leader of the position in Trinidad and Tobago and a former geologist with Texaco; and Texas Lt. Gov. Rick Perry. For reservations or more information about the event, which begins at 6:30 p.m., call the museum at 683-4403.

Induction of these five men will bring the number of honorees in the Hall of Fame to 100, according to museum Executive Director Jane Phares.

"These men are the treasures of the petroleum industry and we look forward to honoring them and their families for their contributions," she said.

Wagner was born and raised in Tulsa, Okla., and graduated with a geology degree. Brown was born in Brownsville and raised in San Antonio and graduated with degrees in mechanical and petroleum engineering. The two met in Midland while employed by J.E. Jones Drilling



Wagner



Brown



Karcher



Moncrief



Moncrief Jr.

Co. In 1962, they pooled their non-existent financial resources to form a company that today is known as Wagner & Brown, Ltd.

Today, Wagner & Brown, Ltd. operates more than 600 wells in Sterling and Glasscock counties for a combined production of 11 million barrels of oil and 265 billion cubic feet of gas.

Wagner & Brown, Ltd. has diversified over the years and is involved in, among other things, natural gas gathering and marketing; crude oil purchasing and reselling; pipeline development, construction and operation; and real estate development.

J. Clarence Karcher, through his invention of the reflection seismograph, gave the petroleum industry "eyes" to see beneath the earth's surface.

Born in Dale, Ind., Karcher graduated with a physics degree and in 1917 he was tapped to work at Thomas Edison's Laboratory.

While serving on the front lines in France during World War II, he studied sound waves through air as generated by artillery fire.

After the war, Karcher focused on the use of seismic

waves in relation to geology. In 1921, on a farm north of Oklahoma City, Karcher proved his theory: that reflected sound waves can locate subsurface oil structures that might be oil traps. The electromagnetic detector Karcher designed is on display in the Museum of History and Technology at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.

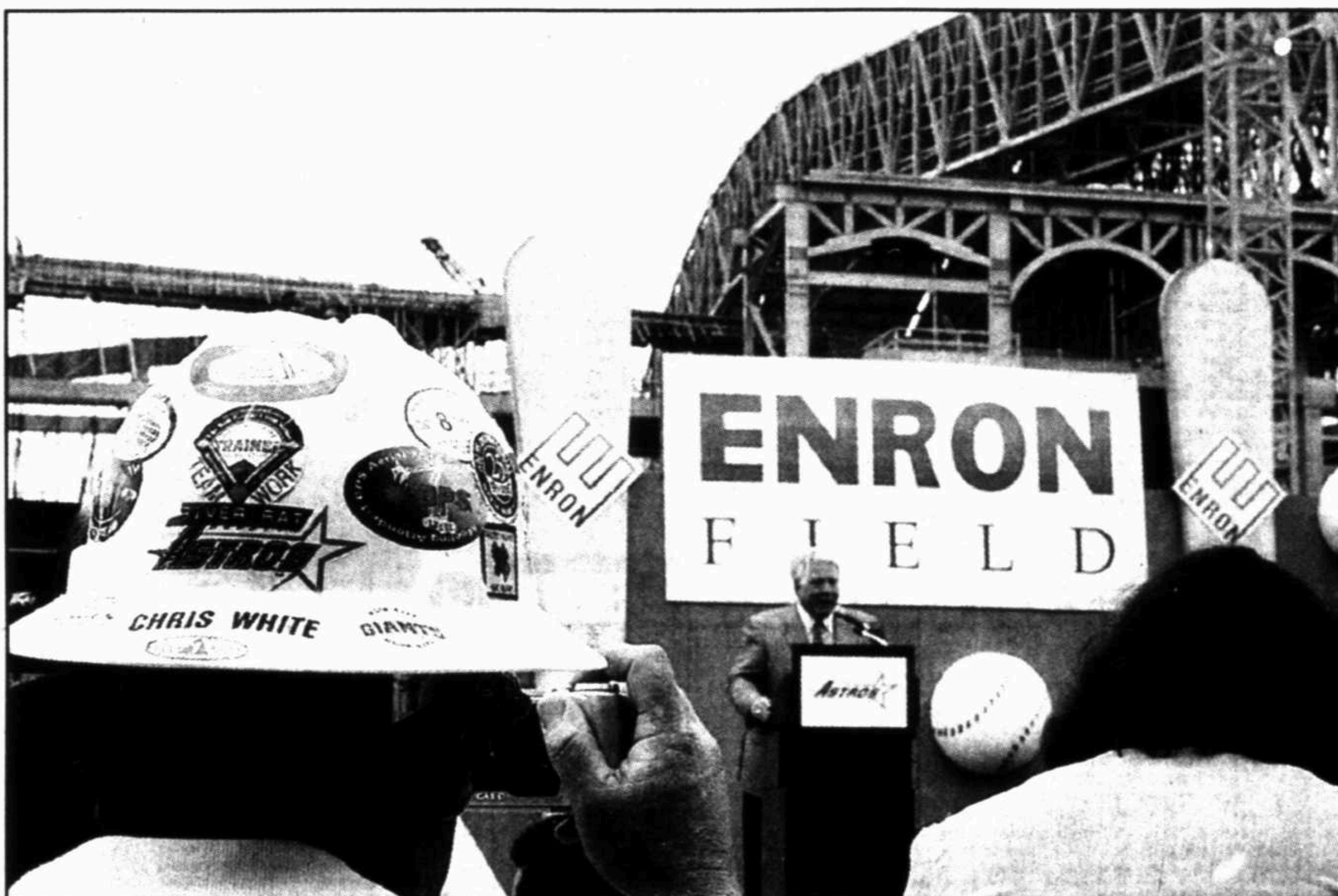
Seventy years ago, William A. "Monty" Moncrief took the plunge and left Marland Oil Co. to become an independent oilman. After drilling 29 dry holes, he hit the big one with Lathrop No. 1 in the East Texas field. Son William A. "Tex" Moncrief, watched the well come in that day and told his mother he wanted to be an oilman someday. In the late 1940s, Tex joined his father in Moncrief Oil Co.

The Lathrop discovery well was not a one-time success for Moncrief. During the 1930s, he worked in the Conroe, Hastings, Cayuga and Rodessa fields and in 1946, he went into the Cedar Lake field where he drilled nearly 50 producers.

In 1949, Moncrief bought a deal to drill in Scurry County, and asked fellow golfers Bob Hope and Bing Crosby to join in it. They took the opportunity. Moncrief first drilled a dry hole, then 28 straight producers in what became the billion-barrel SACROC Field.

Tex graduated from the University of Texas with a petroleum engineering degree and then served in World War II. He returned to Fort Worth and Moncrief Oil where he and his father, who died May 21, 1986, became like "two peas in a pod."

The son made his own incredible gas find in Wyoming's Madden Field, which has proved to be a "long-life" field.



Safety manager Chris White snaps pictures during the unveiling of the name of the baseball stadium under construction in downtown Houston Wednesday. Enron Energy Services will pay the Houston Astros \$100 million over 30 years for the right to call the stadium Enron Field.

New Astros ballpark named 'Enron Field'

By Mark Babineck
Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston corporation that spearheaded a private effort to build a retractable-roof downtown ballpark agreed Wednesday to pay more than \$100 million to name the stadium Enron Field.

Officials for Enron and the Houston Astros declined to be specific on financial details, except to say the naming rights fee would be paid over 30 years and that Enron also would build a large parking garage worth another \$30 million or more.

The deal also includes the right for Enron Energy Services, a subsidiary, to manage the facility. That could

include providing power if the Texas Legislature deregulates the electricity industry as expected.

"We'll do what we do best, which is manage energy and facilities, and we'll let the Astros do what they do best, which is winning baseball games," said Ken Lay, Enron's chairman.

The 30-year management contract could run about \$200 million, said Lou Pai, chief executive officer of Enron Energy Services. His company has a similar agreement with the San Francisco Giants and is pursuing deals with other stadium projects nationwide.

The estimated \$300 million Houston stadium complex had gone by the working title "Ballpark at Union Station" until Wednesday. Officials

dropped the name of the 88-year-old train depot, which shadows left field.

"Union Station still is an important component," Astros owner Drayton McLane Jr. said of the historic building, which will house the team's offices. "We went with Enron Field because it's straightforward."

A handful of major companies were vying for naming rights, but Enron long had been thought to have the inside track because of its intimate involvement in the stadium.

Voters narrowly approved the ballpark in 1996, accepting McLane's pleas that the Astrodome no longer was financially viable to support a competitive franchise.

Mexicans cross border for deals on tanks of gas

By Dane Schiller
Hearst News Service

LAREDO — While droves of Americans cross into Mexico for bargains on blankets and beer, increasing numbers of Mexicans are driving to the U.S. side of the border for an inexpensive tank of gas.

It costs about half as much to fill up in Texas border cities as it does across the Rio Grande in Mexico, where the government owns the national oil company.

The price disparity has left dust gathering on gasoline pumps while steady streams of Mexicans head to gas stations and convenience stores to the north.

On Wednesday, a gallon unleaded gasoline cost \$1.03 in the border city of Laredo; across the Rio Grande in Nuevo Laredo, the cost was \$2 per gallon.

Last month, the American Automobile Association reported that the average price for regular self-serve unleaded gasoline was \$1.08 per gallon nationally.

Mayors of major Mexican border cities plan to go to Mexico City next week to urge the federal government to subsidize gasoline prices along the border to make them competitive with the United States.

Juan Jose Zarate, a spokesman for Nuevo Laredo, said the mayors want the federal government to bring gasoline prices back under control.

"Some stations are on the verge of closing," Zarate said by telephone. "There is a tremendous difference. We have got to equalize the prices."

Analysts attribute the higher prices in Mexico to the cash-strapped government siphoning away profits from the state-run oil company, Pemex.

"The government tends to lean heavily on Pemex during times of financial distress," said Michael Patrick, a professor at Texas A&M International University in Laredo who specializes in border economics. "There is less of the pie to divide up, and the government is still taking its fair share."

John Lichtblau, spokesman for the Petroleum Research Foundation in New York City, said Mexico would use Pemex to get as much money as it can.

"There is only one market there, and they (Pemex officials) can charge whatever they want," Lichtblau said. "If it costs twice as much as Texas, that is their choice."

THE ECONOMIST

Most American industries appear ready for Y2K problems

By M. Ray Perryman

The widespread nature of computer and related technologies make forecasting the Y2K problem's potential effects difficult. However, if examined on a sectoral basis, forecasting impacts becomes more manageable. We recently undertook the challenging (and interesting) task of reviewing the potential fallout for individual industries.

ELECTRIC POWER — According to recent assessments of Y2K preparations within the electric power industry and electric power supply and delivery systems will likely be able to operate reliably into the year 2000 with properly coordinated contingency planning and accelerated preparations. Sources estimate more than 75 percent of electricity supply and delivery organizations have participated in Y2K readiness surveys.

However, most of the respondents are still in the early stages of formulating contingency plans and preparations.

NUCLEAR POWER — Like many industries, Y2K problem-solving efforts in the nation's nuclear power systems have been at least partially guided by government oversight. Recently, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) sent a letter to U.S. nuclear power plants advising

the industry of potential Y2K risks and requesting written statements of readiness by July 1, 1999. Approximately 110 nuclear power plants generate 22 percent of the nation's electricity. Estimates indicate substantial segments of the country depend on nuclear power for at least a portion of their respective electricity consumption. Thus, if the nuclear power supply is interrupted by Y2K, homes and businesses that receive their electricity from nuclear power will be affected.

OIL AND GAS — The Oil and Gas Working Group of the President's Council, in cooperation with the American Petroleum Institute, the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America, the American Gas Association, the American Public Gas Association, and other industry groups, conducted its first survey on the Y2K readiness of the U.S. oil and gas industry in August 1998. About 86 percent of the survey respondents indicated they are in the process of implementing plans for addressing the problem. Industry representatives are optimistic that the U.S. oil and gas sector will be ready for the transition to the new Millennium.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS — Current data from federal supervisory agen-

cies indicate many financial institutions are well ahead of their counterpart organizations in other industries in Y2K preparation. Banks, credit unions, and the futures and securities industries are far into the Y2K remediation process and expect that systems will be ready in advance of the new Millennium. There are, of course, numerous problems that could occur due to Y2K in the financial industry. Many calculations could either indicate that transactions have been open for nearly 100 years or produce negative numbers. New files might not be recognized as the most recent data, causing current files to be erased or archived as old data. These and other logic issues have the potential for causing problems for debt collection, aging of information, calculating interest rates, etc., and could significantly disrupt normal business operations. Additionally, when dates are compared, customer billings could change from charges to credits and vice versa.

BANKING — Depository institutions and credit unions largely have completed the awareness and assessment phases. However, renovations continue and most are now testing mission-critical systems as part of validation phase efforts.

CAPITAL MARKETS — The Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) is responsible for oversight of U.S. securities markets and clearing agencies. In September 1998, the SEC surveyed eight national securities exchanges, the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD), the Securities Industry Association (SIA) — systems manager for the national market systems, and nine registered or exempt clearing agencies regarding their Year 2000 efforts. According to the latest survey data, the exchanges and NASD have completed remediation and testing work on 95 percent of mission-critical systems and have finished implementation work on 73 percent. The clearing agencies have completed renovation and testing on 87 percent of critical systems and implementation on 86 percent.

These are just a few among many industries that may be affected. On the whole, things seem to be moving along quite well. Stay tuned; there's more to come.

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group and Business Economist-in-Residence at the Edwin L. Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University.

THE MARKET IN REVIEW

MARKET SUMMARY

NYSE			
Most Active (\$1 on change)	Vol	Last	Chg
AmOnline 233081	158	-9 1/2	
Lucent 332884	64	-9 1/2	
Compaq 159239	30 1/4	-5 1/4	
Philips 150382	33 3/4	-1 1/4	
Citigroup 142962	71 1/4	+1 1/4	

AMEX			
Most Active (\$1 on change)	Vol	Last	Chg
SPDR 624861	133 1/2	+1 1/4	
Nasdaq100 598181	101 1/4	+1 1/4	
Viacom 19349	45 1/4	+3 1/4	
Ampex 12802	3 1/4	+3 1/4	
Keane 12250	18	-1/2	

NASDAQ			
Most Active (\$1 on change)	Vol	Last	Chg
NetScout 543994	18	-5 1/4	
NetScout 543994	18	-5 1/4	
Oracle 487073	21 1/4	-2 1/4	
Micro 334428	88	-3 1/4	
Microsoft 234548	93 1/4	-3 1/4	

GAINERS (\$2 on change)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
GrubHub 12 1/2	+2 1/2	+29.6	
Hamish 12 1/2	+2 1/2	+28.4	
Avira 38 1/2	+7 1/2	+24.7	
Starline 2 1/2	+7 1/2	+20.6	

LOSERS (\$2 on change)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Lowe's 2 1/2	-1 1/2	-16.7	
Target 2 1/2	-1 1/2	-16.3	
Comptex 16	-3 1/2	-18.1	
Ventas 3 1/2	-1 1/2	-13.2	
Tobacco 7 1/2	-1 1/2	-12.5	

DIARY			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Advanced 1,390			
Declined 1,801			
Unchanged 575			
Total issues 3,666			
New Issues 7			
New Lists 110			
Volume 996,882,448			

DIARY			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Advanced 285			
Declined 291			
Unchanged 170			
Total issues 746			
New Issues 21			
New Lists 33			
Volume 45,780,960			

DIARY			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Advanced 1,696			
Declined 2,229			
Unchanged 1,209			
Total issues 5,134			
New Issues 112			
New Lists 145			
Volume 1,272,753,400			

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Volume 45,780,960			

Here are the 1,675 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, 825 most active on the Nasdaq National Market and 405 most active on the American Stock Exchange. Stocks in bold are worth at least \$5 and changed 5 percent or more in price. Underlining for 50 most active on NYSE and Nasdaq and 25 most active on AMEX. Tables show name, price and net change, and one to two additional figures rotated through the week, as follows:

Name: Stocks appear alphabetically by the company's full name (not its abbreviation). Names consisting of initials appear at the beginning of each letter list.

Last: Price stock was trading at when exchange closed for the day.

Chg: Loss or gain for the day. No change indicated by ...

Tkr: The stock's ticker symbol.

How to use: The ticker symbol can help you get information about a company. Two important uses: Most services that provide stock quotes over the phone require the ticker symbol. Second, stock brokers and analysts can recognize stocks more easily with a ticker symbol.

Generally, ticker symbols resemble the company name although some - such as Anheuser-Busch and Ford - are exceptions. Tickers on the New York and Amex usually don't exceed three letters. On Nasdaq, they go up to five letters.

The names you see in this paper are abbreviations of the company name supplied by The Associated Press. Companies can help determine what their abbreviation will be. Overall, AP tries to use an abbreviation that will most closely match the full company name.

Stock Footnotes: cc - PE greater than 99. dd - Loss in last 12 mos. - New 52-week low during trading day. g - Dividend in Canadian \$, Stock price in U.S. \$ - New issue in last 52 weeks. s - Split or stock dividend of 25 percent or more in last 52 weeks. Dividend begins date of date split or stock dividend. - New 52-week high during trading day. v - Trading halted on primary market. Unless noted, dividend rates are annual distributions based on last declaration. pf - Preferred. pl - Holder owns installment(s) of purchase price. n - Rights. un - Units. wd - When distributed. wt - When issued. wt - Warrants. wt - Warrants. wt - Warrants.

Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Tkr	Name	Last	Chg
Air	Air	18 1/4	+1 1/4
Amgen	Amgen	25 1/4	+1 1/4
Amgen	Amgen	25 1/4	+1 1/4
Amgen	Amgen	25 1/4	+1 1/4
Amgen	Amgen	25 1/4	+1 1/4

Tkr	Name	Last	Chg
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Amgen	Amgen	25 1/4	+1 1/4
Amgen	Amgen	25 1/4	+1 1/4
Amgen	Amgen	25 1/4	+1 1/4
Amgen	Amgen	25 1/4	+1 1/4

SWF	GmffH	15 ¹ -3 ¹ / ₂	OM	Imega	5 -1 ¹ / ₂	MAT	Mattel	24 ¹ / ₂ -3 ¹ / ₂	NFO	NvMO	18 ¹ / ₂ -
GWI	Grangis	44 ¹ / ₂ -1 ¹ / ₂	IPL	Ipalcis	22 -3 ¹ / ₂	XMG	MaximGp	9 ¹ / ₂ -1 ¹ / ₂	NXP	NIPIM2	13 ¹ / ₂ -
GVA	GranteC	52 ¹ / ₂ -1 ¹ / ₂	ITA	Italy	15 ¹ / ₂ -1 ¹ / ₂	MMS	Maximus	23 ¹ / ₂ -1 ¹ / ₂	NQM	NvQI	15 ¹ / ₂ -
GLP	GLPC	29 ¹ / ₂ -1 ¹ / ₂	IXX	IvexPkg	14 -	MAM	Maxim	17 ¹ / ₂ -1 ¹ / ₂	NGA	NvMD	16 ¹ / ₂ -
SLK	GLKCh	37 -				MAY	MayDS	39 ¹ / ₂ -3 ¹ / ₂	NUP	NvUvM	9 ¹ / ₂ -

DAQ NATIONAL MARKET

[illegible]

MUTUAL FUNDS

3-yr	INRA	1199 +02/27.8	CRS	43.88 +01/45.8	DD50001 39.32 +27	Fidelity Invest:	Franklin Class A:	+126.2	Merrill Lynch C:	OKmark Funds I:	+113.0	HMBI	58.85 -27/47.7	LCVQ	22.80 +01.01	ESGA	57.48 -72
AAL Mutual A:	MOA	1370 +03/40.9	Banco	20.00 +06/79.0	GMF	14.52 +20.1	AGFAP	2.74 +01/30.5	Robt Abbott Y:	BAYCI	36.36 +39.94	HMBI	10.28 +08/14.8	Phonic	24.39 +03.49	ESGA	57.48 -72
NAV CHG 3-yr	MOA	1370 +03/40.9	Banco	20.00 +06/79.0	GMF	14.52 +20.1	AGFAP	2.74 +01/30.5	Robt Abbott Y:	BAYCI	36.36 +39.94	HMBI	10.28 +08/14.8	Phonic	24.39 +03.49	ESGA	57.48 -72
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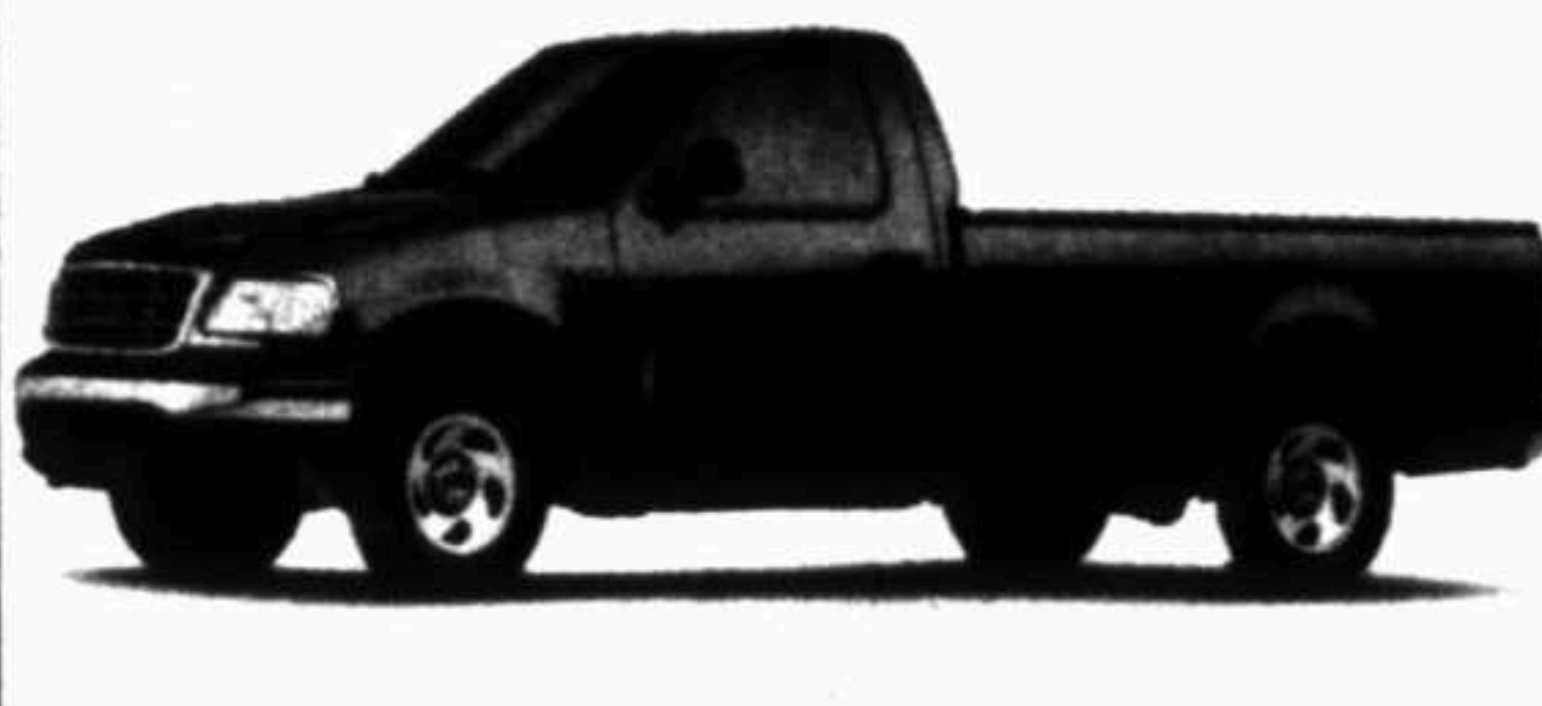
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*Some of the flowers that
can take the heat of
Midland's semi-arid
grassland climate are
breathtaking!*

*Photos & story by
Andrea Charnick*



A queen butterfly, above, lights on a blue mist flower. Native plants often attract butterflies. The stunning red flower of the yucca, left, is another attraction for butterflies and hummingbirds. Bright red Turk's Cap, below, is a true hummingbird plant. This versatile flower can grow up to five feet tall in sunny areas.

*Page design by
Myra Lee Salcedo*

Splendor in the Grassland



The sweet nectar of Salvia Greggii, above, attracts butterflies and the graceful leaves. It's bright blooms are an added attraction to any garden. Sunny yellow Four Nerve Daisy, photo inserted in story, is a winner for the dry corner of your garden.

One sunny day in late August, while standing in the garden, I watched all the bright, colorful activity going on around me. Butterflies fluttered in the sunlight. Queens blanketed the blue mist flowers and were too numerous to count. A Gulf Fritillary nectered on the salvia greggi, while a tiger swallowtail feasted from the Turk's Cap. Various crescents and skippers dined al fresco on the Texas lantana.

A pair of black-chinned hummingbirds argued over the beautiful red-orange Flame Acanthus, and the Red Yucca was the busiest restaurant on the block.

Glistening blue and orange dragonflies patrolled the pathways looking for an unsuspecting robberfly, and a goldfinch lunched on the seedhead of the purple coneflower.

The garden was much richer because of the butterflies, hummingbirds and other creatures that decorated it. They were like a glittering array of nature's jewels.

You too can have the wonderful experience of intermingling butterflies, hummingbirds, flowers and others of God's creatures by adding native plants to your existing landscape. In the evolutionary timeline, man is a recent transplant to this place we call home, while natural species of plants and animals have evolved over time to co-exist in the Llano Estacado region of Texas. If you want to attract wildlife to your landscape, add the plants that these animals and insects need to survive.

Until recently, the standard approach to the home landscape included a large expanse of grass lawn, beds of annuals and brutally pruned shrubs. In most cases, the wisdom of such a landscape went unquestioned, even though homeowners were battling nature instead of working with it.

Keeping such a landscape often requires extensive use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. Many of these sub-



Orange and yellow Lantana blooms provide a feast for many species of butterflies.

stances are expensive and ultimately hazardous to the environment. Repeated use of chemicals will make "green deserts" without the graceful presence of butterflies, birds or beneficial insects.

Another benefit of adding natives to your landscape is that lawn care is greatly reduced. Native plants are natural to this environment and will fare much better than plants which normally grow in the acidic soil of the East Coast or the mountains of Colorado. Instead of fighting the elements to create the "perfect" lawn, work in partnership with nature to enhance your environment. Look for plants that can tolerate this area's alkaline soil, salty water, 70 miles-per-hour wind and 100-degree heat. This does not mean let your landscape go, nor does it mean using gravel and cactus throughout the yard. It does mean, however, spending less time working and more time enjoying your landscape.

Sometimes we feel so overwhelmed by the many environmental challenges we hear about that we believe that one individual cannot make a difference. But if you start in your own backyard, you can make a difference.

By protecting, restoring and maintaining natural habitats in our own backyards, we can help conserve and enhance the natural butterfly and hummingbird populations.

The Midland chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas is dedicated to providing education about — and the promotion of — conservation, preservation and utilization of native plants. Beginning at 9 a.m. April 17, the chapter will host its fifth annual Native Plant Sale at Sibley Learning Center, 1307 E. Wadley. Included in the sale will be the chapter's Awesome Blossoms Top Ten, the plants chosen by members as their favorites for use in the home landscape. These 10 plants will

Please see SPLENDOR/2D

Wild about



Garden and landscape information tailored to Midland's semi-arid grassland environment will be offered by members of the Midland Native Plant Society in this space on the second and fourth Thursdays.

On the first and third Thursdays, news about our environment will be offered by Sibley Learning Center.

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SEEDS FOR THOUGHT

Showers herald tomato planting time

By Deborah A. Bengt Frost

What a wonderful time to be out in the garden! Spring showers have put a green tint in everything, making each trip outdoors full of new sights and surprises. Spring also is the time for many garden opportunities.

DIVIDE PERENNIALS

Many flowering perennials can be divided right now. Some plants become too crowded with time, resulting in fewer blooms and general decline. Division will invigorate plants and increase their total numbers for a more dramatic show of color.



Bengt Frost

In most situations, plants can be divided with a garden fork or spade. Work the tines or shovel into the ground about a spade depth all the way around the plant. The spade should be a few inches away from the plant to preserve roots and avoid plant injury. Once this is done, the whole plant clump can be lifted and divided. Some plants need a sharp knife for dividing while others just need to be worked apart.

Before replanting, prepare the planting site with at least 4 inches of organic matter and some fertilizer if you like. Reset the plants at the recommended spacing, which is based on the mature spread of the plant, and at the same depth the plant was originally growing.

Try plant division with some artemesias, Shasta daisies, fall blooming asters, cannas, some ornamental grasses, Mexican Brush Sage, daylilies and summer blooming phlox. Wait until late summer or fall to divide spring blooming plants, such as iris and columbine.

MOIST SOIL

Moist soil — whether from rain or irrigation — combined with spring weather make good conditions for planting seeds. Many warm-season annuals can be sown at this time. Try cosmos, hyacinth bean vine, cypress vine, morning glory or sunflowers. It's still a little early for annuals that like it hot, such as globe amaranth, narrow leaf zinnia and zinnia.

TOMATOES

For everyone who has been patiently waiting to put tomatoes out — it's time.

For best fruit set and quality, plant in the first two weeks of April. Temperatures and growing conditions are usually better for tomato fruit set. Even though tomatoes will set fruit during the summer, the quality, yield and size don't compare to spring-set tomatoes, so get them out early.

Since the chance of freezing weather is still very real, be prepared to protect tomato plants from freezing or near-freezing weather. Materials such as buckets, milk jugs, wall of water, plastic-covered cages and hot caps will do. Remember, temperatures near freezing can injure tomato plants.

Choose a full-sun site, add 4 inches of organic matter, plant the right varieties and you are set to grow. Good varieties include Celebrity, Carnival, Merced, President, Heatwave, Champion, Simba, First Lady cherry and paste-type tomatoes.

WILD FLOWERS

One of the predominate flowers on local roadsides is Calyophorus, those bright lemon-yellow, low-growing, large, showy plants. Calyophorus has great drought and heat tolerance. Last year these plants were readily available through area nurseries, and hopefully they will be again.

Plant in a sunny well-drained site that doesn't stay wet or receive too much water. Dry gardens or areas without irrigation may be ideal for Calyophorus.

DYNAMITE DUO

Two outstanding spring blooming perennials that have coinciding bloom, do well in this climate, and look good together are Texas Gold Columbine and May Night Salvia.

Texas Gold Columbine is a fabulous cool-season perennial that is in full bloom right now. This pretty plant makes a 2- to 3-foot mound of soft foliage and lovely, yellow, long-spurred flowers. This West Texas-tough columbine will grow in shade and all but hot afternoon sun. It blooms for about two months and tends to be much longer-lived than the columbines that originate in Colorado.

May Night Salvia is a spring-blooming salvia that has a show-stopping display of deep violet flower spikes this time of year. It will repeat bloom some through

the season, but is at its peak right now. This attractive plant has a very neat form, growing about 15 to 20 inches tall and wide. The uniform plant grows in a rosette of textured leaves and multiple upright spikes of deep purple flowers. It grows in partial shade to full sun.

Texas Gold Columbine does best in a moist soil with good drainage. May Night Salvia appreciates a moist soil, but can take drier conditions and tends to be a perennial that lasts several years in the garden. These two look great together, or alone.

OUTSTANDING VINES

Vines can be used several ways: as screening, accenting and shading. Cross vine, Lady Banksia rose and coral honeysuckle are outstanding vines blooming right now.

Cross vine is an underused vine that has outstanding qualities. It is evergreen, has a gorgeous spring bloom and is well adapted to the area. Cross vine will grow in full unrelenting sun or fairly dense shade. It climbs by a slender tendril and will not harm the structure it climbs on. "Tangerine Beauty" is an attractive selection that has vivid orange blooms and a yellow throat.

Lady Banksia is a "wannabe" rose. This spring bloomer has cascading, slender branches that act like a vine with just a little encouragement. The vine is covered in soft yellow baby roses this time of year. An elegant white selection is available, but harder to find. The rose has dainty semi-evergreen leaves and thornless branches. Yearly pruning will help direct growth and keep this tough, vigorous grower in bounds.

Coral honeysuckle, another evergreen vine, has very attractive clusters of slender, coral red blooms. This vine climbs by a twining tip and will not damage the structure it climbs. The blooms are not fragrant, but they do attract hummingbirds. Coral honeysuckle will bloom off and on all year, but now is when it's really showy.

Spring is a delightful but busy time. For more information on landscaping opportunities in landscapes or gardens, call (915) 498-4071.

Deborah A. Bengt Frost is the extension horticulture agent for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Midland and Ector Counties.

Antiques market still booming

Associated Press

Antiques maven Judith Miller is not shocked that a pair of unused Taiwanese telephone cards recently sold for about \$48,000.

"I used to say 'are you kidding?'" about some prices for collectibles," Miller says. "I don't anymore because anything that screams its era is collectible."

Miller, who has been writing and editing books about the international antiques market since 1979 from her base in England, recently breezed into New York to promote her newest tomes: "Miller's Antiques Encyclopedia" and "International Antiques Price Guide 1999." Both are published in the United States by the Antique Collectors' Club Ltd., Wappingers Falls, N.Y. Reflecting on the top prices being paid for relatively new collectibles, Miller says, "If you are going to pay serious money, try to know enough to make an educated guess that the items will hold their value."

She adds that one is less likely to go wrong if one selects craftsman-made items, things with good proportion, and pieces in their original condition, no matter what the period. It helps if the object is objectively pretty. "The 19th-century Continental porcelain plaques that are worth the most money are the pretty ones," Miller says.

Still, just like the stock market, there's no second-guessing the antiques market. Items that are currently desirable often were not popular when new. An example is early 20th-century figurines by Royal Doulton — they weren't successful when they were introduced, but now enthusiastic collectors clamor for them.

Items are subject to collecting crazes and then periods of being out of fashion. Interior decorators often create the fads. At present, anything to do with lighting, from candlesticks to chandeliers, is collectible, mainly because decorators are using period lighting in their schemes. Antique mirrors are also in demand for similar reasons.

The growth of an international marketplace has been the greatest phenomenon in antiques over the past 20 years, Miller says. "When I did my first price guide in 1979, publications weren't interested in mentioning it. Now I get phone calls weekly if not daily from publications and television shows who want to know what's hot, how to get started in antiques, and the best way to buy antiques."

The rise of antiques television shows reflects the growth of interest. "The fact that they can watch these shows and learn without exposing their ignorance makes people feel more confident to go to

auctions and into the snootier shops," the author says.

Miller feels there's a bargain in every shop for those in the know. But those who are counting their pennies should focus their search on flea markets, yard sales and junk shops, although "you probably will have to go through a lot of rubbish to find something great."

The antiques authority tells this mild joke about antiques dealers: "If there were three dealers on a desert island and a Chippendale chair arrived, each one of them would be able to sell it at a profit."

The point is that most pieces are sold to dealers many times for each time they get offered to a consumer. Naturally, each one raises the price a bit. "Ideally, you want to find something as it begins its travels, not when it ends up in a smart shop," Miller says.

"If you want bargains, learn to recognize what you see without a label." How? Haunt the museums, she says, look at what's on display, talk to experts and read so you can recognize value when you see it.

That's as good a lead-in as any to "Miller's Antiques Encyclopedia," a 560-page, coffee-table-size book with 1,450 color illustrations that has taken five years to produce. It has extensive sections on world furniture, ceramics, silver and glass.

SPLENDOR: Native plants can take the heat

(From 1D)

be available for sale at the event, as well as a variety of other native perennials, grasses, shrubs and small trees. The chapter has begun installing a native plant garden at the center so that homeowners can see how native plants can be utilized in a home landscape.

Steve Lewis of Mertzon, owner of Native Ornamentals, will be on hand with an eclectic assortment of natives started from seeds and cuttings. All are guaranteed to do well in Midland's environment.

MOST POPULAR NATIVE PLANTS

Number One on the chapter's top 10 list is Cherry Sage, a delightful woody sub-shrub that blooms from early spring until frost. It has bright red, tube-shaped flowers and is a favorite of hummingbirds and larger butterflies, such as the Gulf fritillary. Cultivators now are available in pink, white and salmon.

Running a close second is Red Yucca, which is not a true yucca but is wonderful when used as an evergreen accent. It has long, arching red stems with bright red

flowers and yellow stamens, and is a guaranteed to attract hummingbirds.

If pink is your favorite color, be sure to pick up some Pink Evening Primrose. These old-fashioned flowers can be used as a groundcover. They resemble buttercups except for their wonderful pink flowers. They bloom from early spring until the hottest part of the summer.

Burgundy Gallardia is a relative newcomer. This outstanding native adds a regal statement to any garden.

For true blue bloods, the homeowner should not be without Mealy Blue Sage. This flower stands about 3 feet tall (unlike the cultivated variety that is about half that height) and has tall spikes of blue flowers from April to frost. It adds a cool touch to any garden.

Turk's Cap, another old-fashioned flower, is a true hummingbird plant. This versatile flower can grow up to five feet tall in sunny areas, and provide a wonderful backdrop in the garden. Planted in shade, it can be a high groundcover. The flowers bloom from mid-summer until frost and

resemble red swirls of raw silk with red stamens peeking above the cap.

Texas Gold Columbine is an early spring bloomer that has a soft yellow tubular flower with long "spurs" that attract hummingbirds.

Four Nerve Daisy is a little winner for the dry corner of your garden. It starts blooming as early as February and continues blooming until frost. The foliage is grass-like and almost evergreen.

Texas lantana is an old-fashioned plant that was likely found in your grandmother's garden. Orange and yellow blooms provide a feast for many species of butterflies.

And last but not least, Flame Acanthus, also known as hummingbird bush, has spectacular tubular flowers. Not only does it attract hummingbirds, but it also does well in containers.

For one or all of these wonderful plants, come to the sale on April 17 at Sibley Learning Center. For more information call 699-6258.

DEAR ABBY

Wife blows fuse over sick leave chastisement

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I am very frustrated and need your help. Please do not use my name, city or state. It could get my husband fired.

"Al" works for one of the largest electrical utilities in the country. He's a lineman and puts his life on the line every day. Al works hard, gets along well with co-workers and supervisors, and responds promptly every time he's called for an emergency. He has worked many holidays and missed a number of family celebrations.

So what's the problem? Al is verbally chastised and receives low evaluation scores because he uses his sick days when he's ill. With young children, we have the usual colds, flus and viruses. He got the flu twice last winter, and I thought the company was going to fire him. The supervisor demanded that Al get a doctor's note for the days he missed.

Abby, the unspoken rule is DO NOT USE SICK DAYS. His company touts safety and rewards employees for safety records but demands that they work even when sick. How safe can it be for a man shaking with chills and fever to be perched on a utility pole, 40 feet in the air?

The company hasn't singled Al out — they treat all employees this way. In my opinion, forcing employees to work while sick is not in the best interests of the employees or the company. I cannot imagine why the company clings to this warped way of thinking.

How should we handle this without jeopardizing Al's job? —



Van Buren

LINEMAN'S WORRIED WIFE

DEAR WORRIED WIFE: Your husband has the right to use his sick days as long as the need is legitimate. If the company is strict about bringing a doctor's excuse after each illness, Al must accept it and not take it personally.

Unless Al is being singled out and treated differently than his peers, or the company is violating an established policy, there is nothing to be done except consider finding a job with a different company, or another line of work.

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing in response to the letter from the gay man who finally came out after many years of marriage and several children.

Abby, I can relate to the man's wife. A few years ago, my husband came out at the age of 45, when our daughter was 9 years old. It was very traumatic, but I discovered a support group for us, the spouses.

Amity Pierce Buxton, Ph.D., wrote a book I found very helpful. It's titled "The Other Side of the Closet: The Coming-Out Crisis for Straight Spouses and Families." She also coordinates support groups, and counsels spouses and ex-spouses of bisexual, gay and lesbian mates.

There is also an online support network: Straight Spouse Network at www.ssnetwork.org. It, too, is a lifesaver your readers should know about. — SAN FRANCISCO SPOUSE

DEAR SPOUSE: Thank you for the information. I'm sure it will be of interest to the estimated 2 million straight spouses of bisexuals, gays and lesbians. Originally published in 1991, the book has now been expanded and revised.

Readers, if the book isn't available in your bookstore or the library, you can call the publisher, John Wiley & Sons Inc., at (800)

225-5945, for information on how to order a copy.

DEAR ABBY: You have printed stories in your column about the kindness of strangers. Well, I have a story to tell.

In 1978, my sister and I were traveling together. We visited the London Bridge in Lake Havasu, Ariz. We had some car trouble near Parker, Ariz., and had to be towed to a motel.

After the car was fixed the next day, we toured the Joshua Tree National Monument. At about 2 p.m. we decided we were hungry, so we stopped at a restaurant, only to discover when we entered that they were closed until 4:30 p.m. We asked one of the men sitting at the counter where we could find a restaurant that would be open, since we were traveling and were very hungry. He jumped up and said, "Come on in!"

Abby, the cook was stretched out on the floor napping, but the man got him up to prepare a meal for us. We had pot roast, creamed potatoes, vegetables, biscuits and honey and fresh coffee. We felt like royalty being served in a "closed" restaurant. It was one of the highlights of our trip.

As we were leaving, we took a snapshot of that little restaurant to remind us in years to come how kind they were to total strangers. It was called the Stardust. — RUTH RANSHAW, HARRISBURG, PA.

P.S. At the time, I was 62 and my sister was 73.

DEAR RUTH: We are bombarded daily with bad news, so it's refreshing to hear stories about acts of kindness. It reaffirms the basic goodness of people.

With a customer service policy like the Stardust's, I hope they're still in business and thriving.

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

The Three Stooges Go Postal
Masters of Bedlam and Mayhem
Stir New Stamp Riot!

Owings Mills, Maryland — The first-ever Three Stooges Stamps have just been issued. And fans and collectors are suddenly scrambling to obtain the new 9 stamp commemorative set. This Limited Edition commemorates over seven decades of madcap comedy entertainment by The Three Stooges.

"Collector demand for these stamps has been unbelievable," stated John Van Emden of the International Collectors Society, sole distributor of the stamps. The Three Stooges antics and slapstick comedy have delighted generations. Loyal collectors know this may be their only opportunity to get actual government legal tender stamps that honor the Stooges. In fact, we're nearly sold out."

Collectors are already predicting that in the very near future these stamps will be far more sought after and be more desirable than the U.S. Elvis stamp, the most popular stamp of all time.

"Over 500 million Elvis stamps have been

issued. When you compare that to these colorful Three Stooges stamps, which are limited to just thousands of sets worldwide, you can see the irresistible appeal that these stamps have to stamp collectors and Three Stooges fans," added Van Emden.

Each of the nine stamps is about four times the size of a regular U.S. postage stamp. They're legal for postage in Mongolia and are recognized by every postal authority around the world. And they're authorized by The Three Stooges.

Gotta have 'em? They're available for a short time at \$9.95 (plus \$3 p&h) for the complete set of nine different stamps, accompanied by an individually numbered ICS Certificate of Authenticity and the free pocket guide, "99 Little Known Facts About The Three Stooges." The most you can buy is six sets. Send your check or money order to ICS, 3600 Crondall Lane, Suite 100MLTS, Owings Mills, Maryland 21117. Credit card holders may call toll free 1-800-876-4125.

Visit us at: www.icsNOW.com

Fort Davis Chihuahuan Desert plants up for sale

Staff Reports

FORT DAVIS — The Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute will host its annual Native Plant Sale 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. April 24 and 25 in the parking area of the institute's headquarters building near Fort Davis. CDRI is located four miles south of Fort Davis on Texas Highway 118.

Included in the sale will be a selection of Chihuahuan trees and shrubs that are known for their drought resistance and tolerance to the cold of West

Texas winters.

Also available will be traditional favorites such as Desert Willow, Mountain Laurel, Purple Sage, agaves and sotol, and mint sages, as well as such grasses as Bull Muhley and Deer Grass.

Native and exotic cacti and succulents, and a variety of dish gardens will also be available.

For a complete list of trees and shrubs anticipated to be available at the sale, as well as projected prices and information on related weekend seminars offered by CDRI, try the web site at www.cdri.org

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By Mary F.

AP Sports W

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Saints willing to skip rest of draft to get running back Ricky Williams

By Mary Foster
AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Just when Mike Ditka thought he'd never love again, the New Orleans Saints coach saw Ricky Williams and fell hard.

How hard? Well, the man who judges all running backs by Walter Payton is willing to give up every draft pick this year, some from next year, and a few players as well to get the Heisman Trophy winner.

"We're going to talk to the five teams one through five and see who has an interest in taking all of our picks," Saints general manager Bill Kuharich said on Wednesday. "Maybe all our picks and some other things. We want him. We think he can have an immediate impact on our whole team and our season."

The Saints don't have a second-round pick; that was traded to St. Louis for wide receiver Eddie Kennison. Kuharich said that could be a deal breaker. But if a deal can be made, the Saints want to make it.

"I think this player has an opportunity to make us better all around," Kuharich said. "He'll make our receivers better, our line better, our quarterback better."

Williams arrived at the Saints camp in the afternoon with little knowledge of the team — "I know they never won a playoff game, right?" — and worries about meeting Ditka.

"All I knew about him was just what I'd seen of him walking up and down the sidelines — yelling," Williams said. "I didn't like the look on his face. You know, that mean expression he has. He never looked

happy, ever. I thought I'd hate to play for him, he doesn't smile. I was even afraid of him at the combine. I didn't want to meet him. But he's the nicest guy in the world."

Ditka spent some time reminiscing about the glory years in Chicago, the days when Payton was carrying the ball and the Bears were dominating the NFC Central. He also told Williams he wants to transfer that game plan to the Saints.

"He said that when he had Walter, they needed a quarterback," Williams said. "And he said, 'It wouldn't have mattered because any quarterback I had was just going to hand the ball off to Walter.'"

"He said he likes to run the ball. He's not going to throw the ball around and turn the it over, he's just going to run the ball. They'll get mad at him and it'll be boring but he'll win."

The Saints' offense was 28th in the NFL last season, dead last in rushing.

The Saints are scheduled to pick 12th in the first round. They have picks in every round except the second.

"We have to get a feel for who would be interested in dropping down to the 12th spot," Kuharich said. "In dropping down to that spot, you get a very different group of players than you get in the top 10."

Williams said he hoped the Saints could work out a deal, but didn't believe it would happen. He speculated he'd go on the fifth or sixth pick. Cleveland Browns director of football operations Dwight Clark said Williams impressed him dur-

ing the workout, and Cleveland is the first team New Orleans should talk to.

"If the Saints want to make sure they get him, that's the place to go," Clark said. "To me, you've got a great player with little knowns vs. a quarterback with a larger amount of unknowns."

Williams' agent agreed. Leland Hardy said he believed after seeing Williams on Tuesday, the Browns will need only about five seconds to make him the No. 1 pick on draft day.

"This is all about minimizing risk," Hardy said. "Now you tell me, what's the greater risk, an unproven quarterback who might work out, or a proven running back who was the greatest college player in the history of the sport?"

Kuharich said if a deal can't be made with the Browns, that doesn't mean there won't be a deal.

"The Browns are where we start, but that doesn't mean we have to go that high," Kuharich said. "Speculation is that the first three teams will take quarterbacks. Of course, the closer you get to the sixth spot, the more problematic it becomes."

Williams went to St. Louis Wednesday morning. He was going to Washington and Philadelphia on Thursday and Cleveland and Indianapolis on Friday.

He would like to be headed back to New Orleans after the draft, however.

"I don't think it's going to happen," Williams said of the deal the Saints hope to work. "I want it to. Ideally for me, the Saints trade to No. 1 and I'm the No. 1 pick."

Palmeiro homers to help lead Texas

Associated Press

ARLINGTON — Rafael Palmeiro homered for the first time since returning to Texas, helping make Mike Morgan a winner for his record 10th team as the Rangers beat the Detroit Tigers 8-7 Wednesday night.

Palmeiro found The Ballpark's right-field upper deck in the seventh inning off Felipe Lira. It was just the 34th ball to reach there in five-plus seasons and the second time he's done it.

Palmeiro, a Ranger for five seasons before spending the last five in Baltimore, had only played in The Ballpark as a visitor but was one of the most successful hitters in the stadium.

Morgan (1-0) entered with the Rangers down 4-2 but they were ahead 8-4 when he left because of tightness in his right hamstring. Over 2-2-3 innings, Morgan gave up one hit and struck out one.

Texas gave Morgan the lead with three runs in the fifth off Detroit starter Willie Blair and reliever C.J. Nitkowski (0-1).

Texas' bullpen almost blew the lead in the eighth by allowing RBI singles to Tony Clark, Frank Catalanotto and Brad Ausmus.

Closer John Wetteland, the fourth pitcher of the inning, got Juan Encarnacion to groundout to short with runners on first and third for the final out and finished for his first save.

The Rangers added two runs in the bottom of the eighth on an RBI single by Todd Zeile and a run-scoring double by Stevens.

Yankees 4, Athletics 0

OAKLAND, Calif. — Just as George Steinbrenner had wanted, Hideki Irabu pitched Wednesday — but it was only the ninth inning, in relief of a dominant Ramiro Men-

AL Roundup

doza.

Mendoza pitched eight shutout innings, giving up five hits and not allowing a runner to reach second base, as the New York Yankees defeated the Athletics 4-0.

Irabu originally was supposed to start, but infuriated Steinbrenner by not covering first base in an exhibition game. The owner called Irabu a "fat ... toad" and ordered him left behind when the team broke camp last week.

Interim manager Don Zimmer selected Mendoza instead of Irabu for the start, and stuck to that decision even though Steinbrenner announced on Saturday that he hoped Irabu would pitch — leading to a brief cross-country tiff between Steinbrenner and Zimmer.

Mendoza (1-0) walked none and struck out one, and Irabu pitched a perfect ninth.

Chad Curtis homered for the second straight game, connecting off Jimmy Haynes (0-1).

Devil Rays 8, Orioles 5

BALTIMORE — Cal Ripken missed his first game due to injury in 17 years, watching from the dugout with a stiff back as the Baltimore Orioles lost to Tampa Bay 8-5.

He was replaced at third base by rookie Willis Otanez, who hit his first major league homer and a double.

Dave Martinez homered and drove in four runs for the Devil Rays. Will Clark hit his first homer for the Orioles.

Tony Saunders (1-0) allowed one run in five innings. Juan Guzman (0-1), who went 4-0 with a 0.96 ERA in spring training, gave up six runs in 3 1-3 innings.

Blue Jays 9, Twins 3

NL Roundup

beat the Cincinnati Reds 8-3 Wednesday for a three-game sweep.

Avery (0-1) did not give up a hit until Jeff Kent's leadoff single in the seventh. Leading 2-0, Avery got the first two outs in the eighth before a walk and Javier's first right-handed homer since 1997 tied it.

Russ Ortiz (1-0) got the win. Greg Vaughn, who hit 50 homers for San Diego last season, homered for the Reds.

Expos 4, Pirates 3

PITTSBURGH — Chris Widger's grounder against a drawn-in infield drove in the go-ahead run in the ninth and the Montreal Expos, after stopping a streak of five consecutive hitless innings by Pittsburgh's bullpen, beat the Pirates.

The Expos, who started out 0-7 last season, took two of three in the series.

Shane Andrews doubled to start the ninth against Rich Loiselle (0-1). After a walk, the runners moved up on a grounder. Andrews scored the go-ahead run from third when shortstop Abraham Nunez threw late to the plate on Widger's grounder.

Ugueth Urbina (1-0) pitched the final two innings for the victory.

Cardinals 4, Brewers 1

ST. LOUIS — Fernando Tatis hit a two-run homer, his second in as many games, to highlight a three-run sixth inning for St. Louis.

Mark McGwire, who homered on opening night in a 10-8 loss, was 2-for-3 with a walk and his RBI double off Steve Woodard (0-1) broke a 1-1 tie in the sixth.

MINNEAPOLIS — David Wells wasn't perfect against the Minnesota Twins this time. He didn't need to be, thanks to home runs from Carlos Delgado, Tony Fernandez and Shannon Stewart that lifted the Toronto Blue Jays to a victory.

Wells (1-0), who helped the New York Yankees to the World Series title last year and then returned to Toronto in the Roger Clemens trade, gave up three runs on seven hits in six innings in his Blue Jays debut.

Wells' scoreless streak against the Twins ended at 29 2-3 innings, but he still beat Minnesota for the seventh straight time.

Rookie Roy Halladay pitched three scoreless innings for his first major league save. Mike Lincoln, making his major league debut, gave up five runs in 3 1-3 innings.

Red Sox 6, Royals 0

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Boston's old Royals are killing Kansas City. Bret Saberhagen pitched six scoreless innings. Jose Offerman got two hits and scored twice and Tom Gordon closed as the Red Sox beat the Royals.

Saberhagen, who won 110 games and two Cy Young awards with Kansas City in 1984-91, gave up just three singles.

Gordon, who pitched for Kansas City from 1988-95, relieved with the bases loaded and two outs in the ninth and retired Jermaine Dye on a fly ball.

Offerman, a switch-hitting infielder who had a career year with Kansas City in 1998 and then signed a \$26 million contract with Boston, doubled in the third and scored Boston's only run off Jose Rosado (0-1) on a single by Valentin.

Carlos Beltran had three of Kansas City's four hits.

Kent Bottenfield (1-0) worked six innings and allowed a run on four hits. Juan Acevedo pitched the ninth for his first save.

Braves 4, Phillies 0

ATLANTA — John Smoltz pitched four-hit ball for seven innings, retiring his last 13 hitters.

Javy Lopez had a pair of hits, driving in one run and scoring one, as the Braves won their second in a row after losing the season opener to the Phillies.

Smoltz (1-0) struck out eight and did not allow a runner past second base before leaving for a pinch-hitter. Carlton Loewer (0-1) took the loss.

Mets 6, Marlins 0

MIAMI — Rickey Henderson sparked his new team again, hitting two home runs and two doubles and scoring four times.

Henderson walked in the first, then led off the third with a 417-homer to dead center field. He doubled and scored in the fifth, doubled and scored in the seventh and hit a solo homer in the eighth.

Bobby Jones (1-0), who had a 6.30 ERA in five spring training starts, allowed five hits in seven innings.

Jesus Sanchez (0-1) allowed six hits in five innings and left trailing 2-0.

Padres 2, Rockies 1

SAN DIEGO — Jim Leyritz, who hit four homers in the playoffs last year, hit his first of the year leading off the bottom of the ninth inning to lift the San Diego Padres over the Colorado Rockies.

Leyritz, pinch-hitting for John Vander Wal, drove a 1-1 pitch from Bobby Jones (0-1) into the left-field seats.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Sosa gets first hit as Cubs club Astros

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Sammy Sosa still hasn't hit a home run but at least he's warming up.

Sosa got his first hit of the season and Glenallen Hill had four RBIs, including a two-run homer, as the Chicago Cubs beat the Houston Astros 9-2 Wednesday night.

Sosa went 0-for-4 and struck out three times in Tuesday night's season opener. He made his first hit of the season count with a blistering RBI double to deep left field in the third inning, tying the score at 1. Hill followed with a two-run single for a 3-1 Chicago lead.

Sosa went 1-for-3 with three walks. He struck out against Doug Henry in the eighth inning before Hill hit his first homer.

Sosa took advantage of early wildness by starter Mike Hampton (0-1) to draw a walk in his first at-bat. In the fourth, Sosa worked a full count off Hampton and walked on an inside changeup.

Kevin Tapani (1-0), the Cubs' winningest pitcher in six seasons at 19-9 last season, held the Astros to four hits and two runs over six innings. He left after walking pinch-hitter Jack Howell to start the seventh.

The Astros scored in the second when Richard Hidalgo doubled and scored on Mitch Meluskey's RBI single. It was the first major league RBI for Meluskey, expected to share time with Tony Eusebio at catcher.

Giants 8, Reds 3

CINCINNATI — The San Francisco Giants, held hitless into the seventh inning by Steve Avery, rallied for seven runs in the eighth behind Stan Javier's homer and

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PETROLEUM SALES Must be knowledgeable in motorcycles, have verifiable retail sales experience. Pre employment drug test required. Insurance and 401K available. Salary DOE. Apply at 723 W. First, Odessa.

310 General Help Wanted

PRINTING PRESS Operator Immediate opening, experience required. Ryobi, Multi, Hamada preferred. Knowledge in darkroom, bindery helpful. Salary open. Apply in person Bicko Building, 312 E. 2nd Street, Odessa.

310 General Help Wanted

NEEDED - sell Avon part time full time. Great earnings. Call Verla 520-0119, Independent Rep.

310 General Help Wanted

RETAIL DEPOT 42, new discount retail store in Midland-Managers, Cashiers/ Stockers, all positions open. Experience required. (214)688-4433, Fax (214)688-4431.

310 General Help Wanted

TRAVEL AGENT needed immediately! Minimum of 10 years experience. Send resume with salary requirements to: P.O. Box 9484, Midland, 79708.

310 General Help Wanted

V.I.P. Employment Services 686-9722
Light Industrial Placements

310 General Help Wanted

WAITSTAFF Lunches only. Will train. Great tips. Apply in person. Mr. Reuben's Restaurant 3205 W. Cuthbert.

310 General Help Wanted

WANTED: QUALIFIED Managers, Cashiers/ Stockers, all positions open. Fax name, phone, experience, references to: 915-574-1594.

310 General Help Wanted

WE'RE FUN! We're Needing the Rendezvous! We'd like you to come and join our crew! Call 520-0700, talk to Rhonda if you're a Stylist, Nail Tech or Massage Therapist.

310 General Help Wanted

MAINTENANCE & Custodial Positions needed. Apply 602 N. Baird, suite 200, Midland. Apply Monday-Friday, 1-5 pm.

310 General Help Wanted

FLOOR CARE service, seeking night help. Please call 520-6618.

310 General Help Wanted

BEWARE Of Anyone who tries to sell you information about Government & Postal Job Vacancies. This info. is free... call 210-805-2402 (24 Hours) or 210-805-2406 (To request application form). A public service message from the Midland Reporter-Telegram & the FTC.

310 General Help Wanted

SIX HP JOHNSON outboard, long shaft. \$675. 694-5048, leave message.

310 General Help Wanted

17 CAJUN Fish and Ski 120 HP Johnson trolling motor, custom cover, stainless steel prop. \$10,900. 697-9654 or 694-6691, ask for Terry.

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312 Professional Help Wanted

Production Engineer
Midland, Texas

- Degree in Petroleum Engineering Required
- 5+ years Industry Experience
- Major Oil Company Experience preferred
- Waterflood Experience preferred

Send cover letter, Resume, References and Salary Requirements to:

BTA Oil Producers
104 S. Pecos
Midland, Texas 79701
Attn: Criss Kohl

311 Medical Help Wanted

HOME HEALTH CARE MANAGERS

• Pediatric Case Manager
• Geriatric Case Manager

Unique opportunity to manage all professional nursing aspects of a team of nursing staff to provide high quality home health services. Home health experience preferred. B.S.N. a plus. Salary negotiable based on qualifications. Call:

Infusion Plus, Inc.
(915) 570-7587
Ene Urias/Glen Gray

ADMINISTRATOR
Crescent Health Services, Inc.

Out of L.A., California is currently expanding their operations in the Midland/Odessa area. Candidates must be self motivated and a driven team leader. Ideal candidates should have proven history of quality control and census development. Must have current Texas Nursing Facility License. Fax Resume to (915) 942-1331 Attn: Human Resources.

312 Professional Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

90 YEAR OLD Moving Company needs an experienced Dispatcher for 15 trucks, 50 employees. If interested, please call or fax to (806) 592-4055. For more information please contact: Clota Shaw, Administrator (806) 592-2127.

312 Professional Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

CNA'S NEEDED - CPR Required - Call Nursefinders 570-8083.

DIRECTOR OF PHARMACY

Home Infusion Company. Excellent benefit package. 401K, competitive salary. 8-5 Monday-Friday. Must have current Texas License, IV Preparation experience preferred. Contact:

Frank Bartholomew
111 W. Twining
San Angelo, TX 76903
(915) 942-6432

312 Professional Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

INSURANCE CLERK needed for Doctors office. Mail resume to 2301 W. Michigan, Midland, TX 79701.

Licensed Physical Therapist - Immediate full time position in an established growing medical office. Must be mature, friendly, professional individual with good people skills. Nonsmoking environment. Excellent salary and benefits including Medical, dental, prescription, paid vacation, sick leave and retirement. Send resume to: Box J-5185, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

LVN's

Medical Arts Hospital is now hiring for LVN positions: 7 am-3 pm and 3 pm-11 pm shifts open at Preston Smith Unit (Inpatient). Licensure, Full time employment opportunity with extensive benefit package and complete salary including additional compensation for correctional facility job site. Please send resume/inquiries to: c/o Human Resources, Medical Arts Hospital, 1600 N. Bryan, Lamesa, TX 79331, 806-872-2183 ext. 200, 806-872-5184 fax.

STAFF ACCOUNTANT

Accountant needed for growing real estate company. Primary responsibilities will be A/R, A/P and tenant master file maintenance. Applicants should possess minimum two years college and 3-5 years accounting experience. Knowledge of Microsoft Office 97 desirable. Competitive salary and benefits. Please submit resume and salary requirements to: Box J-5183, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

314 Clerical Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

EXPERIENCE WANTED

- Secretarial
- Oil & Gas
- Word Processing

TEMPORARY RESOURCES
684-0527

314 Clerical Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

Full Time Production Clerk/Accountant

Computer experience required. Send resume to PO Box 4899, Odessa, TX 79760.

314 Clerical Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

Full Time/Part Time Secretary/bookkeeper needed. Must be computer literate, Word Perfect, Word, etc. \$5.50 an hour. Bring resumes and/or a list of qualifications, 10-2 pm, April 4-8, 2512 Country Club, Midland, 79701. Home based oil and gas business. Bring ad with you.

Global Personnel Network
Temp & Perm positions. Locally & around the globe 686-8360.

WE NEED A FEW GOOD SALES PEOPLE

Previous selling experience required.

WE OFFER:

- Up to 30% Commission
- Weekly cash splits
- Monthly bonus up to \$1,000
- Paid Insurance
- Opportunity to advance
- Christmas bonus matching funds
- Training

See Jerry Klein or Scott Hill
10:00am to 4:00pm
4040 West Wall
PERFORMANCE HONDA

314 Clerical Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

★ DP PERSONNEL ★
Temp & Permanent Positions
Benefits & Bonuses Available
682-0033 or 570-0197

314 Clerical Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

90 YEAR OLD Moving Company needs an experienced Dispatcher for 15 trucks, 50 employees. If interested, please call or fax to (806) 592-4055. For more information please contact: Clota Shaw, Administrator (806) 592-2127.

314 Clerical Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

ACCOUNTANT/CONTROLLER for independent oil/gas producer. Must have oil and gas experience, good communication and pc skills, familiarity with Enterprise or Quanta software helpful. Downtown office location. Salary DOE. Please send resume to: Box J-5186, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702, or fax to 683-3862.

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320 Skilled Trades

SHOP FOREMAN
Stable 20 year gas compressor business needs experienced Shop Foreman.

WE OFFER:
Competitive Salaries
Medical/Dental/Life & Disability Insurance
Vacation/Holidays
Uniforms
Assistance with moving expenses

YOU NEED:
20 Years Gas Compressor/Engine experience which includes a minimum of 5 Years in a supervisory capacity
Stable Work History
A willingness to relocate to Victoria, Texas area

Send resume and references to:

Foreman Position
P.O. Box 182
Westoff, TX 77994

330 Situations Wanted

WANTED: EXPERIENCED licensed Commercial Plumber to begin work immediately. Please call 686-0002 or 570-0232.

330 Situations Wanted

CPA, 20 years experience, public and industry. Available for part time or temporary management, business taxes, or special projects. James-687-5656.

330 Situations Wanted

INDEPENDENT Accountant is willing to trade accounting work for office space. Call 687-2130.

335 Adult Care Needed

LOOKING FOR LIVE IN team to take care of elderly couple. Must have some nursing skills. Pay negotiable. Call 683-3919, ask for Ryan.

336 Adult Care Providers

GREAT PLACE for your loved ones and lots of life and cooking. Call Zona 697-0128 or Rhonda 683-6916.

336 Adult Care Providers

CARE GIVER will live in. Excellent references. Please call Jessica 687-2569.

336 Adult Care Providers

NURSES UNLIMITED is now offering home assistance services including housekeeping, personal care, meal preparation, assistance with bathing, dressing, shopping and more. Three levels of care, individualized plan of care developed by a RN. Criminal history checks, CPR, and training for all providers. 24 Hour on-call RN supervision. Family conferences available. Call Dyane Fisher, RN, BSN or Natalie Lawson, RN at 580-0181.

336 Adult Care Providers

INHOME CARE for all your in home health needs. Bathing, cooking, cleaning, running errands, etc. Give us a call for more information at 570-4475, ask for Tonya or Jackie.

336 Adult Care Providers

CNA CARETAKER will care for elderly or disabled. Please call 520-9429.

336 Adult Care Providers

BACKHOE OPERATOR needed. Experience required. Call (915) 556-0086.

336 Adult Care Providers

CABINET SHOP in Austin area looking for personnel in all areas. 1st & 2nd shifts available. Top pay & benefits. 1-800-880-3295.

336 Adult Care Providers

CONCRETE FINISHERS and Form setters needed. Please call 684-4204 leave message.

336 Adult Care Providers

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER needed. Experience required. Please call 684-4204 leave message.

336 Adult Care Providers

EXPERIENCED DIESEL MECHANIC. Good benefits. Stephenville, New. 2798 West Washington, Stephenville, TX. Please call 1-800-242-2717.

336 Adult Care Providers

FENCE FOREMAN opening available at well established 25 year old company. 5 years experience as industrial fencing foreman desired. Corpus Christi, TX 78407-7443.

336 Adult Care Providers

IMMEDIATE OPENING for well qualified HVAC/Refrigeration Technician. EPA certified, non qualified need not apply. Call 620-9911 or pick up applications at 2707 West Industrial Avenue, Midland. References a must.

336 Adult Care Providers

JOURNEYMAN METAL FRAMERS for job in Kansas. Must relocate. Top pay, local company. 570-4879.

336 Adult Care Providers

LARGE CONSTRUCTION. Now taking applications. \$9.00 per hour for qualified applicants. CDL a must. Please call 915-756-4526 for an application (Leave a message). EOE.

336 Adult Care Providers

LOOKING FOR Experienced Journeyman Plumbers/HVAC/Refrigeration Technician. Submit applications to: 1607 South Midkiff.

336 Adult Care Providers

RIO GRANDE Electric Cooperative, Inc. (RGEC) is accepting applications from individuals with varying levels of lineman skills. The position will fill a vacancy in the Cooperative's Marfa Office. Excellent benefits package included. Applicants must be able and willing to work under adverse weather conditions, including holidays, overtime, and weekend duty. Must have physical stamina to climb poles, trim trees, lift heavy objects, operate equipment and tools. Must possess a valid Texas driver's license with two or less moving violations and no DWI/DUI citations in the last three years. In addition from date of hire, Call Donita O'Keefe at 1-800-749-1509 or send your request to RGEC, Administrative Department, PO Box 1509, Brackettville, Texas 78832. Applications may also be picked up from any area office and must be postmarked before April 30, 1999. RGEC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

336 Adult Care Providers

ONE DAY ONLY. Business Presentation "How you can Capitalize on the New Fink Klarer Saturday April 10th 1 pm - 4 pm Midland Hilton Towers. 1-888-860-1800, enter 963248 (for free registration).

336 Adult Care Providers

Super Seller II
15 days, 7 days, \$50
Advertise your house-hold item (priced under \$150) with this classified special!
Call 682-6222 for details...

336 Adult Care Providers

SOUTHWEST Company Club tickets or other airline mileage awards wanted. Will pay top dollar. 687-5039.

336 Adult Care Providers

Call Today!
682-6222

GARAGE SALES
Hidden treasures? Junk? Recycle your unwanted items! Call 682-6222 today. A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results!

79701

350 North Midland Drive, (next to K-Mart) To: Teens; Now taking consignments on name brand clothing. Specializing in JR's and teens- infants and childrens. Call 661-8815

79706

ESTATE - GARAGE Sale. Miscellaneous items, dishes, depression, carnival glass, antiques, towels, sheets, books, freezer, lamps. April 8, 9, 10, 8:00 am-7:00 pm. I-20, go south on 1788, 2 1/2 miles to road 150, turn left on road 149. Follow the signs.

79707

TWO (Federal Blue) velvet rocker recliners, rust fabric recliner, navy sleeper love seat, two glass topped wood base end tables/couch table, new Nordic Track AB Shaper with computer/instruction video, Sears Alpine Tracker. 689-0668.

79707

3815 GULF. Friday 7:30-1:00. Giant 2 family sale! Exceptional ladies clothes, large! tall mens clothes, B&O stereo, books, antiques, no childrens items.

79703

4602 CHEROKEE. Saturday and Sunday- 8 until 3! Moving sale! Air conditioner, stove, console TV, miscellaneous items!

79705

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY Side by side refrigerator, 25" console television, treadmill, desk, odds and ends, clothes all sizes. 4908 Anetta.

79706

FRIDAY ONLY Half mile south of I-20 on Midkiff, 3110 West County Road 116, miscellaneous.

79706

FRIDAY ONLY Half mile south of I-20 on Midkiff, 3110 West County Road 116, miscellaneous.

79706

FRIDAY ONLY Half mile south of I-20 on Midkiff, 3110 West County Road 116, miscellaneous.

430 Household Goods

SUPER CAPACITY GE Profile washer/dryer set, under two years old, excellent condition. \$650 for set. Large chest freezer \$150. Gun cabinet-holds six guns, with light, (needs glass) \$20. Call 520-9315.

432 Household Furniture

MOVING MUST SELL. Large entertainment center, sleeper, sofa, chair, ottoman set. Good condition. Six oak chairs, antique 54 inch oak table top. Antique side table. 689-8438.

432 Household Furniture

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, three piece, will sell separately, solid oak, 7' tall, fits 27" TV. One piece - TV cabinet fits 36". Custom made, 5' tall. 689-2205.

432 Household Furniture

KING SIZE waterbed mattress; fiber fill, 95% cottonless - \$150. Please call Karen, pager 587-9392.

432 Household Furniture

SUPER SINGLE water bed for \$50. Complete with bedding. Please call 570-0423 after 5.

432 Household Furniture

BROYHILL Queensize sleeper sofa - blue, rose, teal. Matching Lay Z Boy recliner \$600. Expensive round, Rattan glass topped table, 4 large arm chairs, \$450. Unusual antique Eastlake dresser, marble topped \$450, oval laminate dining table, 6 high backed chairs \$225. 915/362-2746.

432 Household Furniture

FLEXSTEEL Couch \$175; Pectan Tables (2 end, 1 coffee) \$225; crib & accessories \$80; computer desk \$20; Macintosh LC computer with modem \$50. All in good condition, best offer. 686-7135.

432 Household Furniture

SNAPPER SR133S RIDING lawn mower, two years old, rear bagger, used one season, paid \$2,500, asking \$1,500. Call 570-7120, leave message.

432 Household Furniture

CHOPPER SHREDDER \$200; Sears Best 10" radial arm saw \$200; Rockwell 10" table saw \$150; Black and Decker Router table \$20. xxx-xxxx.

432 Household Furniture

BIBLE TALK: Is it Possible for a Church to be Right? 570-0381. Free recorded message.

432 Household Furniture

ONE FIRE fire legal four drawer safe, used, excellent condition. \$500. Please call 682-5251.

432 Household Furniture

EVAPORATIVE COOLERS, mowers, washers/ dryers, refrigerators/ stoves, antiques, dining suites, furniture, BBQ grill, miscellaneous. 570-4851.

432 Household Furniture

CAR STEREO Pioneer super tuner CD player- 100 watts per channel, Kenwood equalizer- 80 watts radial arm saw \$200; amp- 150 watts per channel, 6 months old. Paid over \$500. Will take \$200. 520-6674.

432 Household Furniture

WANT TO BUY small postal Jeep or truck. Please call 694-8220.

432 Household Furniture

SOUTHWEST Company Club tickets or other airline mileage awards wanted. Will pay top dollar. 687-5039.

432 Household Furniture

Call Today!
682-6222

500

500 Pet...
505 Live...
510 Mia...
520 Sto...
525 Bus...
530 A/C...
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AKC CHC...
Reds and...
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AKC CHH...
weeks old...
personality

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AKC REGI...
male, 2 1/2...
stud. Fee 7464.

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WE ARE T...
Lab, puppy...
Mississippi...
pedigree...
bloodlines...
trained to be...
companion...
tail wagging...
disposition...
our new ho...
Call 699-11...
you can con...

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BEAUTIFUL...
shepherd p...
black and t...
Parents or...
697-8412.

500

FULL B...
Rottweil p...
\$100 each.

500

MALE JAC...
weeks, sm...
pedigree...
premises, \$...

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CAROLAT...
Center, b...
beginner, B...
Board/ train...
683-4718.

500

AKC SHI...
females \$3...
black and...
697-1246.

500

AKC AKITA...
7 females...
each. \$20-3...
Call 570-74...

500

2 DOG DO...
\$30 for do...
leave messa...

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COCKATIE...
or Pien...
information.

500

TAILS AR...
Dogs are...
Pampered f...
7674 for app...

500

SLIGHTLY...
12' x 20'...
building. Se...
available. \$5...

500

TWO FEMA...
for sale, \$5...
367-1852.

500

HORSE B...
morning a...
closets, tel...
northwest a...

500

BIG SPRIN...
Track Auct...
10th at 12:3...
Livestock...
welcome to...
(806) 792-56...
TX 79148.

500

CHICKEN...
are now he...
Rock, Br...
Golden W...
Hampires...
Pullets a...
available...
Call for pric...
J & A Hatter...
1-877-522-2...

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HORSE B...
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pastures...
Training, l...
520-2193...
742-3659.

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WELSH PO...
years old...
disposition...
offer. Call 5...

500

WANT TO...
front and...
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1950 Ford...
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12' VERTIC...
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689-6401.

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SIX SETS...
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bookcase...
5251.

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METAL DR...
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682-9011.

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ONE FIRE...
safe, used...
Please call...

500 Merchandise

MERCHANDISE 500

500 Pets and Supplies
505 Poultry/Poultry
510 Office Furniture & Misc.
520 Store/Cafe Equip.
525 Bus/Shop Equip.
530 A/C - Heating
540 Building Materials
550 Portable Buildings
560 Machinery/Tools
570 Oil Field Equip. & Supplies
580 Farm Equipment

500 Pets and Supplies

AKC CHOW puppies, first shots, parents on premises. Reds and creams. Call 687-2732 after 5.

AKC Chihuahua males, 10 weeks old. 1 Male Chihuahua 2 years old. Wonderful personalities. 682-2385.

AKC REGISTERED Retriever male 2 1/2 years old, ready for stud. Fee Negotiable 522-7464.

WE ARE THE CUTEST Black Lab puppies this side of the Mississippi! We have excellent pedigrees from championship bloodlines. Mom and Pop are trained to be a bird hunters best companion. We have a loving, tail wagging, family oriented disposition. We will be ready for your new home on April 26th. Call 699-1156 to find out when you can come see us.

BEAUTIFUL AKC German Shepherd puppies. Solid black, black and tan, black and silver. Parents on premises. \$250. 697-8412.

NEW TODAY

FULL BLOODED female Retriever pups 9 weeks old, \$100 each. Call 520-0557.

MALE JACK Russell puppy, 6 weeks, smooth coat, tricolor, pedigree, parents on premises, \$300. 699-4000.

CARLOT KENNEL & Training Center. Boarding. Puppy, beginner, advanced classes. Board/train service available. 683-4718.

AKC SHIH Tzu puppies, females \$350, males \$300, black and white. Please call 697-1246.

AKC AKITAS: Born March 5th, 7 females. \$50 deposit, \$300 each. Shots included. Please call 520-7348, 620-8855.

2 DOG Dryers: need repair- \$30 for both. Call 520-8099 leave message.

NEW TODAY

COCKATIELS for sale. \$40 each. Please call 684-370 for information.

TAILS ARE Wagging and Dogs are bragging about Pampered Pet Salon. Call 684-7674 for appointment.

SLIGHTLY DAMAGED 12' x 20' workshop/ storage building. Delivery and financing available. 563-3108.

TWO FEMALE pit bull puppies for sale. \$50 each. Please call 367-1852.

505 Livestock & Poultry

HORSE BOARDING: Fed morning and evening, tack closets, telephone, exerciser, northwest area. 694-4978.

BIG SPRING Horse Saddle and Tack Auction: Saturday, April 10th at 12:30 pm at Big Spring Livestock Auction. Everyone welcome to buy, sell or visit. (806) 792-5919. Lance Folsom, TX#8148.

CHICKS! Spring arrivals are now here! We have Giants, Rocks, Brahmas, Leghorns, Golden Wyandottes, New Hampshire, Rhode Islands, Pullets and straight runs available. Custom breeding. Call for pricing and availability. J & A Hatterich, 915-522-2295, 1-877-522-6700.

NEW TODAY

HORSE BOARDING: Indoor/outdoor stalls, roping arena, pastures, feed furnished. Training, lessons available. Call 520-2193, 520-4646, pager 742-3659.

NEW TODAY

PALOMINO STALLION: Two years old, halter broke, good disposition. \$1,000 or best offer. Call 580-3261.

NEW TODAY

WELSH PONY: Bay mare, 10 years old. Foaled twice. Great with children. Larger than normal pony. Located near bus barn. 694-2928.

NEW TODAY

WANT TO BUY cement mixer, front end loader, and other equipment to fit 3 point hitch 1960 Ford 9N tractor. 684-5250 leave message.

510 Office Furniture & Misc.

12' VERTICAL TAB file system. 24 phone Horizon phone. 688-0038, after 5 pm 697-4955/ 688-6401.

ONE FIRE file legal four drawer safe, used, excellent condition. Please call 682-5251.

SIX SETS, matching wood grain office furniture: desk, credenza, file cabinet, bookcase, chairs. Call 682-5251.

NEW TODAY

METAL DRAFTING table with stool, metal bookcase, two metal workbenches. Please call 682-3011.

550 Portable Buildings

We move, buy, sell and rent portable buildings.

MORGAN (915) 583-1860

570 Oil Field Equip. & Supplies

FOR SALE: Structural rods and pipe of all sizes at bargain prices. Call 682-1546.

600 For Rent

Rooms for Rent
Hotel Rooms
Roommates Wanted
601 Want To Rent
604 Apts. Furnished
610 Apts. Unfurnished
620 Houses Unfurnished
630 Houses Furnished
635 Condo/Townhome Unfurnished
640 Condo/Townhome Unfurnished
650 Mobile Furnished
655 Mobile Unfurnished
660 Mobile Home Space for Rent
665 Business Office Property for Rent
667 Comm'l Prop Warehouse/Storage
675 Rec./Resort
680 Out of Town
685 Hunting Leases
690 Oil/Gas Leases
695 Offical Misc.

RENTALS 600

ALL real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination.

1 & 2 BEDROOM 694-2466

CLEAN, West side, upstairs, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, appliances, central air, \$275/month. Call 697-9601.

WE will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby advised that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

RESIDENTIAL real estate located in the heart of the city. All persons are hereby advised that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

604 Want To Rent

FAMILY of five seeking home to rent/lease in country, where livestock's okay. Call 684-7832.

605 Apartments Furnished

ROOMS WITH Complete Cooking facilities for rent for as low as \$17 per day. Includes one per week maid service. Kensington Motor Inn, 1003 S. Midkiff.

1210 COLLEGE Efficiency. Furnished. Bills paid. \$250/Monthly. \$75 Deposit. Inquire: Rear Apt C.

ALL BILLS Paid, furnished, 1 & 2 bedroom, downtown, quiet complex. To see apartments call 682-3589.

NEW TODAY

AVAILABLE NOW - 1 or 2 bedrooms, pool, laundry, carpets, all utilities paid. Imperial Apartments, 405 Sunset. 694-9978.

610 Apartments Unfurnished

TWO BEDROOM, one bath apartment, large parking and patio area, handicap accessible. Senior citizens discount. Water and gas paid. \$370 per month. Call 550-3245, after 5 pm.

DAY SLEEPER? Small quiet apartments, single storey, now available all sizes. Near hospital and doctor's offices. Manager on property. 3001 West Oaks. 694-6858.

\$100 OFF 1st mo. on \$215/mo. 1 bedroom. Student, City, Medical, & Senior Discounts available. Limited time only!

Hunter's Ridge

Call 520-0023
4201 Andrews Hwy.
Midland, TX 79703

COME JOIN US At Courtyard Apartments. Great location, all single story, big backyards. Call for Easter Specials! 682-3831.

FAIRMONT - 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, new carpet, great deal! 1 bedroom den, \$315/monthly. 520-5192.

SILVER CREEK Apartments. 2438 Whitmore. 687-0053. 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms. Washer-dryer connections. Be sure to ask about our specials on our 1 and 2 bedrooms. 1st months rent free.

SUTTON PLACE King size 1 bedroom apartment, 1,050 sq. ft., assigned covered parking. 682-2423.

ALL BILLS PAID. Large 1 & 2 Bedrooms. Excellent location. Abbey Court. 694-2549.

GOLDEN PARK Duplexes - 2 bedrooms, newly renovated. 620-0133.

THORNWOOD APARTMENTS. Great prices, 1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms, Free Cable. Senior discounts. 682-5361.

Home Is Where The Heart Is at "VILLA CHATEAU"

Spacious 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartment Homes.

All Utilities Paid - Free Basic Cable - Covered Parking - Pet Deposit - No Smoking - No Pets - No Firearms

1603 N. Midkiff 694-1112

Done Kelly Realtors

No Charge to Tenant Save Time & Money!

APT. LOCATOR

Willie Dean Berry-Cecil
687-2384 • 682-5177 Evenings
Open 7 days a week • 2302 W. Wadley

610 Apartments Unfurnished

PATIO TOWNHOUSES, 1710 N. "A". Ask about our Move In Special! 1 Bedroom apartments & 2 bedroom townhomes. Gas & Water paid. 682-4783.

ALL Utilities Paid! 1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Deposit required. 683-5161.

EXCEPTIONAL TWO bedroom, one bath, deck, fireplace, cathedral ceilings, covered parking, basic cable, free laundry. \$435 per month. Located in beautiful quiet Whispering Oaks. 1904 North Midland Drive. 694-4001.

1 & 2 BEDROOM 694-2466

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THORNWOOD APARTMENTS. Great prices, 1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms, Free Cable. Senior discounts. 682-5361.

625 Houses Unfurnished

4709 TEAKWOOD Trace, Greentree South. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, formal living and dining, 3 car garage, recent updates. \$1,500 monthly, plus deposit. Available April 5. Call 689-0474. Owner/Agent.

635 Condo Townhome Unfurn.

2 BEDROOMS, 2 baths, 1,461 square feet. Furnished. All utilities paid, cable, garage. Call 697-9768.

640 Condo Townhome Unfurn.

SAGEWOOD - 1 Bedroom available. \$400/monthly. 699-1693.

1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms, 1 & 2 baths. 1,000-1,651 Ft. garage, connections, fans, microwave. \$560/Up. 689-8116, 697-9768.

1,900 FT TOWNHOME. Spacious home in quiet Condo Complex. 2 Story with 3 large bedrooms, one, a master suite 3 1/2 deep. 2 Full baths and dressing room upstairs. Some utilities paid. Delightful common area with club house and pool. Groundskeeper takes care of outside. Freshly redecorated. Near Scharbauer Drive. \$650 per month with month's deposit. For sale or lease by Chaparral Realtors, 686-7000.

LEASE/ Purchase. \$3,500 down. \$700 per month or sell \$65,000. Westside 3 bedrooms, 1 3/4 baths, 2 living areas. Pool and storage. 697-4522.

REFURBISHED DUPLEX 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, new tiled floors, glassed in porch, courtyard, plenty of storage. 694-0498.

ONE BEDROOM. One Bath, stove, refrigerator, furnished, fenced. \$300 Deposit \$300 monthly. 699-0804.

4418 "A" THOMASON: Two bedrooms, two bath duplex, washer, dryer, hookups all appliances, two car garage with opener, small yard. No pets. \$485 plus deposit. 699-6258.

LOVELY GARDEN home, 4 bedrooms, 2 bath in country club area. Available now! \$1,500 monthly. Call Norma Pine at ReMax of Midland/Chaparral Realtors, 915-686-7000, ext. #223.

3 BEDROOM, 113 Howard. \$475 monthly, deposit required. 683-5161 or 687-3413.

NICE 1 bedroom Duplex. Appliances, garage. \$375 monthly. \$300 deposit. No pets. 2601 Roosevelt. 570-7465.

EXTRA NICE: One and two bedroom duplexes ready now. \$375 to \$550. Please call 699-6724.

NICE Two bedroom, one bath duplex, fenced yard, one garage. \$350 deposit. \$385 monthly. Available May 5th. 1106 North Carrizo. 697-4831.

2-ONE BEDROOM duplexes- 702 Kansas \$275; 1103 N. Carrizo \$250. \$150 deposit. Call 686-9647.

TWO BEDROOM, den, living/dining room combo, one nice bath, large kitchen with bar. Hardwood floors, refrigerator air, covered patio, storage, large yard. 1804 W. Michigan Street, available May 1. \$590/monthly. \$590 deposit. Call 683-3540, owner.

SEVERAL nice homes & apartments. \$250-\$725. Jeannie Printz, Agent. 684-8202.

FOR RENT or for sale, 1309 South Lorraine. \$550 monthly rent. Please call 683-3998.

SPACIOUS BRICK duplex, two bedroom, two bath, built ins, utility, den, fireplace, central heat/air, carpet, storage, yard. High, no pets. \$550/\$300 deposit. 3525 West Wadley, 1-915-520-6741 after 6 pm.

NICE THREE bedroom, two bath, two car garage, sprinkler system. \$850 monthly. Call 694-9853.

NICEST DUPLEXES in Midland! Minimum Sq Ft. 1,530. Washer-dryer connections. Covered parking. Fireplace. 2 & 3 Bedrooms available. Call for appointment, 686-8126, 683-7490.

REDUCED!!! 911 COLLEGE/ Duplex- Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, fireplace, refrigerator, stove. \$250-\$150 deposit. 699-7538.

TWO BEDROOM Duplex with garage- 2602 A Mariana. \$250 monthly, Deposit \$150. Also available three bedroom brick. Call 684-7535.

410 A ALTA- 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, appliances, central heat/air, small yard, no pets. \$350 + deposit. 699-6258.

EXECUTIVE 2 and 3 bedroom duplexes in northwest Midland. Double garage, fireplace, small yard. \$695 - \$795. Contact Tammy Edwards 520-7719.

LARGE DUPLEX 3 bedroom, 2 bath, dining, laundry, fireplace, fenced yard, garage/ carport, storage room, water paid. \$675 per month. 697-7097.

NICE, LARGE, two bedroom, one bath duplex, carport, utility room, water paid. 412 Mariana. \$425/\$250. 557-3223.

667 Commercial Property

FOR LEASE: all sizes and types of properties, office, warehouse, retail. 800 to 40,000 sq. ft. Some with fenced yards. 683-8681.

FOR SALE or Lease: 10,000 sq. ft. shop with 1500 sq. ft. office on 2-1/2 acres on US Hwy 80 between Midland and Odessa. Gene Abbott 563-2422.

668 Retail/Store

GREAT LOCATION. Act now to take advantage of 970 square feet. Becomes available May 1. Located at 2304 North Big Spring, Suite B. Please call 683-5639.

RETAIL SPACE: North Midland Drive, Loop 250. Cornerstone Shopping Center. 7,500 Square Feet. Prime. 972-404-9990, 972-679-1700.

670 Warehouse/Storage for Rent

7,168 SQ. Ft. dock high warehouse space available. Midland Industrial Warehouse. 2601 W. Industrial. \$600/monthly. 684-3838.

NEW TODAY

15,000 SQUARE feet, with small offices. Dock high loading, \$1,700 per month. 2107 West Florida. Call 570-4665, 697-9601.

675 Recreation Resort

RUIDOSO Rentals nightly. Cabins, condos, some hot tubs. Century 21, Aspen Realty. 800-657-8990.

RUIDOSO Cabins, Houses, Condos- nightly, weekly. Some with hot tubs. Don Harmon, Four Seasons Real Estate. 800-822-7654. NM License No. 114701.

685 Hunting Leases

HUNTING/ FISHING Portable Cabin. Has bath, kitchen/ living area. \$5,000. Call 570-1701.

SIGNAL MOUNTAIN Game Management. 5,200 acres. Year round management. Spring turkey hunting, \$200 per day or \$300 for two day hunts. Call Don or Ricky at 915-263-0065.

700 Manufactured Homes

MOBILE HOME Credit Hotline! E-Z Qualifying! Call 550-4033, (800) 725-0881.

PRICE BUSTER! 1999 Pioneer! Vinyl Siding, Shingle Roof. Delivered. Only \$27,750! 561-8222.

SI ESTA Casado de pagar renta. Pero su credito esta mal o no tiene credito venga a vernos en A-1 Homes, 7206 W. Hwy. 80, Midland, o hablemos al telefono. (915) 563-9000 o 1-800-755-9133 y pregunte por nuestro acaño, para ayudarle en su nueva casa móvil.

MOBILE HOME for sale. New siding and windows. 3 bedrooms. \$6,000. Call 687-3869, 5:00-9:00.

FACTORY REPO- Benefit from our mistake. 3 bed, 2 bath double wide. Island kitchen, award winning floor plan. \$317/month. 10% down, 8.25% 360 Months WAC. 1-800-698-8003.

WE BUY mobile homes and mobile home land- with or without improvements. Call pager 499-7087.

\$500 DOWN! 1998 Repo Doublewide. Great Condition! 340 Monthly. \$150 deposit. \$276 Monthly. 561-8222.

CREDIT PROBLEMS? You pick up the home I will take care of the credit. Call Billy at A-1 Homes, 563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

GREENWOOD AREA 3 bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Above ground pool, 2/3 acre, \$35,000. 684-8145.

LAND WITH Water Well available for Manufactured Home. Located south of Midland. Owner financing available. Call 685-1875.

SAVE \$5,000 and Payoff your new 16 x 80 in only 10 years? We Will Show You How! 561-8222.

MOBILE HOME Lots and acreage, sell or rent. Please call pager 499-7087.

YOUR JOB is your credit. New and used mobile homes. Please call pager 499-7087.

CIRCLE B in Odessa! New! "Used" Repost! New start \$18,900- up. Extra Big 4 bedroom & 3 baths \$69,900. Trades welcome! Special orders too! Circle B 333-3212, 700 N. Grandview, Odessa.

GOOD CREDIT or Bad Credit! Do not worry I will get you in your own home. Call John at 563-9000.

REPO DOUBLEWIDE: Easy terms, low payment. 1-800-520-2177.

700 Manufactured Homes

REPO! REPO! REPO! 1998 Fleetboard, 3 bedroom, 2 bath doublewide. Low down payment and low monthly payments. Looks brand new. Call Keith at A-1 Homes, 563-9000 or 800-755-9133.

GOOD CREDIT, Bad Credit, Divorces, Slow Pays, Call Calvin, "The Credit Doctor". To own your new home. 80% Approvals. 915-563-9000.

1998 PALM HARBOR Repo- Never lived in 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths. Hurry want last long. Call Jay at A-1 Homes, 563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

BEAUTIFUL 3 bed, 2 bath double wide only \$267/month! Huge Bar-B-Q deck, hookup package, skirting and more. Only 1 available. 10% down, 360 months. 8.25 APR WAC. 1-800-698-8003.

PRICE BUSTER! 1999 Pioneer! Vinyl Siding, Shingle Roof. Delivered. Only \$27,750! 561-8222.

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SAVE \$5,000 and Payoff your new 16 x 80 in only 10 years? We Will Show You How! 561-8222.

Homes For Sale

It takes a House to sell a Home

For an experienced Real Estate professional

Call Sam House at 682-8820, H. 699-2163

RE/MAX OF MIDLAND

Jan Melton ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE 682-2422

LOOP 250 N.: Loop Frontage, 2BR home, barn, 180 acres, great water \$600,000
3914 EDGEBROOK: Mockingbird, 4BR, 3BA, 2LA, 2 DN, 3 car garage, plantation shutters, cul-de-sac street, gorgeous \$215,000
3000 TEALWOOD: Townhome, 2BR/2.5BA, 3 car gar., wetbar \$145,000
4007 LIVINGSTON: Northgate, 2BR, 2BA, 2LA, new carpet/paint \$85,000
MISSION SQUARE: Retail Space Available \$59,500

Call CALLIE

20 Homes For Sale

ME AND LARGE shop for a 2,100 square foot home with 4 or 5 bedrooms, central air and air, 4,800 square foot with central heat and air property. Would be great for a home based business. Owner inced. \$6,500 equity with 1/2 mths of \$606 per month. ase call 570-6369.

730 Suburban Property

NEW TODAY

ASSUMABLE 1997 Oakcreek doublewide with or without one acre. Located south of Midland with improvements. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, formal dining, all upgrades, 2234 square feet. 687-5597

730 Suburban Property

ER UPPER: 2 Bedroom, 2 car garage, 1 bath, 2 car garage. Lots of extras. New fireplace, fenced yard, 7,000 411 E Golf Course 3-6428

730 Suburban Property

39 BEDFORD: Three room, two bath, two car garage, \$57,000 plus closing, 4-411 or 520-4433

730 Suburban Property

LIST Your House With Us! e Prudential Adobe Realtors Call (915) 683-9548

730 Suburban Property

OWNER: Immaculate 2,450 are feet, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, rear old, formal dining, open chers and living room, rnkiers, double garage, fter, small yard to urian. Light, bright, open d extras! \$147,500. Buyers entive bonus offered, 4980 stic Trail 699-1732 for pointment.

730 Suburban Property

POSSESSED Home at 2405 union Avenue, 3 Bedroom, 3 bath, 1342 square feet, 1949. Contract terms, 4,900. Call Bob Kenney, operty Sales Department 1-075-9201, ext 2937 (pacific ne)

730 Suburban Property

NEW TODAY

OK! OWNER MODELING we are moving 3,500 square feet, two car garage. Would ace a nice add on. To be ued. Includes brick 1610 est Gulf, 683-1520 or 559-71

730 Suburban Property

4322 SENTINEL Drive: By vner, approximately 1,800 uare feet, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 ths, oversize two car garage, ener, large corner double lot, nt patio, new carpet/ tile/ tenor paint, skylights, 37,000, or \$7,500 assumable, 310 monthly. Call for pointment, 522-2626

730 Suburban Property

IE MAX of Midland Chaparral 682-8820 686-7000

730 Suburban Property

OUR BEDROOM 2 1/2 bath, 2,100 square feet, two living reas, POOL, HOT TUB, udio, lots of extras \$87,000, all 689-3410 for appointment.

730 Suburban Property

CHARBAUER Townhouses, 8,500 for efficiency or 2 bedroom for \$26,500. Monthly use Jody Smith 694-9426, Chaparral Realtors

730 Suburban Property

HORSE LOVERS: 5 acres, oping arena, 2 acres planted licia grassfield on sprinkler system, 2 barns, horse stalls, great water, 5 Bedrooms, 2 baths, Mexican tile, 3,200 sq. ft., north County Road 1243, 520-3012

730 Suburban Property

3Y OWNER: Southwest Midland, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 20 acres, pecan orchard, 2400 sq. ft. \$175,000. 686-0972

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Placing an ad in Classified is very easy.

All you have to do is call 682-6222.

We'll help you create an effective, easy to read ad, that is delivered daily to thousands of homes in Midland & surrounding areas.

If you expect value and results from every advertising dollar,

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You can advertise your business in Who's Who For Service for as little as \$48.55 monthly

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THE BOSWORTH CO-Service and Sales, all makes. We've been in the service business for 40 years! (915) 683-5233. #TACLA008844E.

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YOU'VE SEEN the rest now try the best! Y2K testing, upgrades. Sales, service, software. Call ComLink Consultants, 686-7732.

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AGUIRRES CONCRETE. Driveways, patios, sidewalks, block building & stucco work. Free estimates. Call 682-5523.

Floor Services

WOOD FLOORS: Refinish, repair/ installation/ sales. Howard (915) 694-4044.

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WE DO IT ALL FOR YOU! Remodels, ceramic tile, carpentry, counter top Westex Resurfacing, 520-9898.

Lawn & Garden Service

MURPHY'S LAWN CARE. Free estimates. Mowing, power raking, (dethatching), vacuuming, aerating, edging, fertilizing, hedges, cleanups. Husband & wife team. Full time year round service. Call Bill or Maryann 522-2228.

Moving & Storage

CANT AFFORD TO MOVE? Packing, loading, storage available. Residential/ commercial. Excellent rates. Mike 520-6610, 567-7956.

Resume Service

WILL COMPOSE and type your resumes and business correspondence. Use Quickbooks to do light bookkeeping, cheap. Call 689-4383 after 5.

Roofing

Roofing/ Remodeling. Guaranteed satisfaction. Acoustic, texture paint, skylights, roofing, cabinets, countertops, fencing, insurance. Specialist. 697-8831.

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WOOTEN SEPTIC Tank Co., since 1954. Pumping, repair, and installation. Please call 570-7465.

Professional Maintenance of Septic Tanks, Grease Traps and Sand Traps. Septic Systems Inspections. AAA Septic Tank Service, 682-7476.

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FASHIONS BY Debbie. Alteration, monogramming, custom sewing, 20 years experience. Please call 915-697-0263.

CUSTOM CLOTHING. Alterations, tailoring, home decor, 50 years combined experience. 694-4245.

Shower Repair

ALL SHOWER- floor- wall- tile. Dependable, many years of service in Midland 631-0285 or 689-6472.

Spa Repair

REPAIR and related services. All brands. Prompt service. All work guaranteed. Free prices. 520-4954, pager 498-1987.

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BASKETT TURF. New installations/ repairs. Free estimates. License #789. Please call 580-9838 for quality work.

STRACENER IRRIGATION. Install & Repair Automatic Sprinkler Systems. 10 Years Experience. Free estimates. 524-8403.

GREEN LAWN SPRINKLER Company. Installations/ Repairs. Joe from Stanton works for just ChoCho Cazares #6180. (915)756-2558.

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TAXES PREPARED

PROFESSIONAL TAX PREPARATION COULD SAVE YOU \$

Tax Preparation

PETERSON TAX & Bookkeeping. Serving Texas since 1976. Basic return \$20. 552-0793.

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BETTER PRICES than most store! Floors, Counter Tops, Showers. Expert quality workmanship. Senior Discounts. Ask for Chuck, 689-5434.

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CLEAN EFFICIENT, SAFE, economical! Quality weekly service to rural Midland and Martin Counties. M&M DISPOSAL 756-2801.

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ECONOMICAL- ANY TYPE. Landscaping, tree, shrub, grass cutting, Sprinklers, plumbing, electric, remodeling, new construction. 682-3542.

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MIDLAND IRON WORKS. General Shop Welding, Barbecue Pits, Outdoor Fire Pits, Cooking Wood, 684-4825. Accepting Major Credit Cards.

Windows CLEANED. Residential/ Commercial. Screens, Caulking, Professional job. Free estimates. Call 561-8158.

Windows PLUS+ Storm windows. Commercial, residential. Caulking, screen repair, some glass repair. Quality Service! 682-8322.

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Resume Service

WILL COMPOSE and type your resumes and business correspondence. Use Quickbooks to do light bookkeeping, cheap. Call 689-4383 after 5.

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Roofing/ Remodeling. Guaranteed satisfaction. Acoustic, texture paint, skylights, roofing, cabinets, countertops, fencing, insurance. Specialist. 697-8831.

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ECONOMICAL- ANY TYPE. Landscaping, tree, shrub, grass cutting, Sprinklers, plumbing, electric, remodeling, new construction. 682-3542.

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MIDLAND IRON WORKS. General Shop Welding, Barbecue Pits, Outdoor Fire Pits, Cooking Wood, 684-4825. Accepting Major Credit Cards.

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Windows PLUS+ Storm windows. Commercial, residential. Caulking, screen repair, some glass repair. Quality Service! 682-8322.

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Floor Services

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