

SPORTS

Rams win Super Bowl

St. Louis Rams quarterback Kurt Warner, who was named Super Bowl XXXIV's MVP, threw a 73-yard touchdown with less than two minutes left to beat the Tennessee Titans 23-16./1C

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Midlanders join Bush in N.H. homestretch

■ Enthusiastic supporters greet GOP frontrunner at town hall meeting.

By Gary Ott
City Editor

HUDSON, N.H. — It was a classic political stump speech Sunday afternoon — complete with calls for a massive tax cut and local control of public schools — as Texas Gov. George W. Bush made one more pitch for votes in Tuesday's New Hampshire Republican primary.

And based on the enthusiastic response from the more than 1,000 mostly Bush supporters that crowded into a small high school cafeteria in Hudson, N.H., the message hit its mark.

His comments were repeatedly greeted by rousing cheers and an occasional standing ovation.

But it was his call "to cut taxes on people who work for a living" that drew the loudest, and most sustained, applause. Then he made a not-so-subtle dig at his chief GOP opponent, U.S. Sen. John McCain, when he added, "There is a debate in our own party about tax cuts. I want a tax cut for every American. Others want a tax cut that is just like the Clinton-Gore tax cut.

"There are those who suggest if we cut taxes, people won't get their Social Security and Medicaid, but that's not the reality of the times."

Praising the country's current economic prosperity, Bush said it was proper to give every American a tax cut, adding that no one should pay more than one-third of his income to the federal government.

Still, the issue that Bush, a former Midland oilman, became most emphatic about was "education in Texas," especially during his time in office. He said student test scores have continued to climb in Texas public schools, especially among African-Americans and Hispanics.

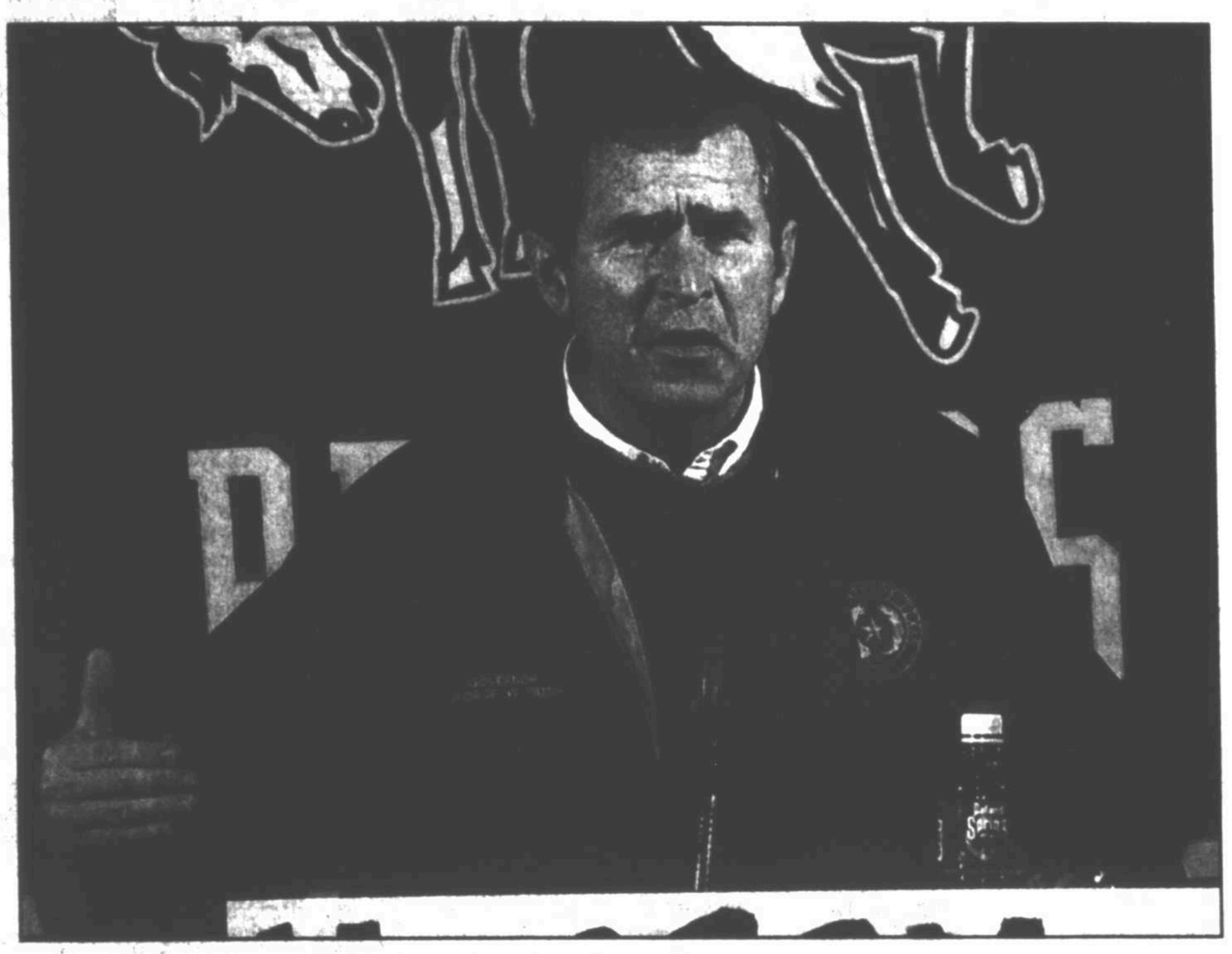
Some of his opponents for the Republican nomination, notably Steve Forbes, have publicly disputed Bush's claims.

"I have a great record on education in Texas," he said without going into specific numbers or programs.

But he also said that the best thing the federal government could do regarding education is to allow local districts to run their own schools, especially when it comes to determining how to spend money.

The one thing the federal government

Please see JOIN/2A



George W. Bush, above, states some of his presidential goals Sunday afternoon at a town hall meeting at Alvirne High School in Hudson, N.H. BELOW LEFT: Elizabeth Dole sticks her head out the tour bus window to talk with the media Sunday afternoon outside Alvirne High School. BELOW CENTER: Barry Williamson, former Midland businessman, traveled to New Hampshire to help support Bush. BELOW RIGHT: State Sen. Teel Bivins talks with Jay Hendricks of NewsWest 9 in Hudson, N.H., Sunday afternoon.

Photos by Tim Fischer







Media, campaign volunteers disrupt pace of daily life in New Hampshire

By Gary Ott
City Editor

MANCHESTER, N.H. — It was at about 10:45 a.m. on Sunday that an out-of-town reporter stood up in the middle of Gregg's Place cafe in downtown Manchester, N.H., and asked, "Would anyone be willing to be interviewed about presidential politics this morning?"

He was greeted by a roomful of polite, yet determined, smiles and negative nods of the head.

He tried again.

But the response was the same.

Everyone laughed.

When the reporter returned to his table, the waitress refilled his coffee cup and said some of the people were growing a little weary of discussing politics.

And for good reason. They have, after all, been in the national spotlight for the past several months as the state of New Hampshire gears up for the first-in-the-nation presidential primary on Tuesday.

Candidates, both Republican and Democratic, have crisscrossed the tiny state in search of votes. And with those candidates have come hundreds of volunteers who flood the streets daily spreading their message.

■ Related story/8A

Many of them are young college students getting involved in national politics for the first time.

And while they relish that experience, it is the politics of New Hampshire, and the uniqueness of New Hampshire residents, that have caught the attention of most of the volunteers.

"Politics in New Hampshire is different from any other state," said Stephanie Hodge, a college student from San Diego who is working for the Al Gore campaign. "The people are very active and very politically aware."

Fellow Gore supporter Janie Drozd, a student at Boston University, agreed. "People here expect more personal contact from the candidates."

And that is exactly what the candidates, and especially the volunteers, give

Please see LIFE/2A



U. Frank Williams Jr./Reporter-Telegram
Lee High School senior Andrew Williams reads a question during the Academic Decathlon Saturday at Odessa High School.

Academic Decathlon tests high school students' wits

By Matt Josefy
Staff Writer

ODESSA — Millions of Americans have been glued to their television sets and on the edge of their recliners with million-dollar quiz shows on nightly network broadcasts.

But this past weekend at the Academic Decathlon at Odessa High School, area high school students were fielding tough questions that would put Regis Philbin's softballs to shame.

"As described in 'Losing Strands in the Web of Life,' which of the following is applicable to vertebrates?" read one question.

The meet was the culmination of more than a semester's worth of work for both Lee and Midland high schools.

"Education is important. Anything that offers a broad area of study like Academic Decathlon, with scholastics, arts, and music, increases knowledge and can only move to the betterment of mankind," said MHS captain Justin Gregg.

"We have the opportunity to learn about a very diverse range of subjects. It allows you to become well-rounded," said LHS senior Vinesh Patel.

"I've learned the importance of preparation rather than cramming," agreed classmate Robert Gillette. "We look at different aspects that would normally only be covered in electives and we learn more interesting facts.

"It's a great opportunity to learn different subjects and various fields rather than just core subjects," he said.

Russian foreign exchange student Natalya Radjabova had the opportunity to compete for Midland High School.

"I like all of it, but especially the literature. It's harder than the other stuff (at school). Because of that, I enjoy it even more," she said.

"Although Midland doesn't support Academic Decathlon as much as other schools that really put serious money and importance on it, it is wonderful to work with students who have a genuine love for knowledge," said second-year MHS coach Sergio Mendoza.

"There are a lot of study materials and a lot of extra practices. Our team works after school, on Saturdays and over Christmas break," explained Cindy Bond, who along with David Fly, coaches the LHS team. "It's worth it because we end up with kids who say this is the neatest thing they've ever done. For about half of ours, it's the only extracurricular activity they have and they end up saying 'look what I can do.'"

Please see TESTS/2A

A look inside



TODAY
Partly cloudy with high in mid-50s.
Weather on 2A

INSIDE

Bridge 6C
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Person to Person



Frances Atwater, a 1940 graduate of Midland High School, is historian for MHS and First United Methodist Church./1B

Off the wire

■ Elian's grandmothers receive a heroes' welcome./3A
■ Austin and Phoenix top list of best-managed cities./7A

Task force seized $1.5 million in drugs in '99

By Rick McLaughlin
Staff Writer

Taking stock of hundreds of narcotics-related arrests and nearly $1.5 million in drug seizures in 1999, representatives of member agencies of the West Texas Narcotics Enforcement Task Force say they are pleased with another productive year.

David Bradshaw, commander of the Task Force, said that from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1999 the Task Force initiated 323 criminal investigations resulting in the arrest of 236 defendants, with the seizure of 17 vehicles and $33,472 in cash.

While making the arrests, the Task Force seized 2,079 pounds of marijuana with a street value of $1.182 million; 2,458 grams of cocaine with a street value of $139,385, 104 grams of crack cocaine valued at $13,832, 180 grams of heroin valued at $24,765, 1.25 pounds of methamphetamine valued at $13,960, 94 doses of LSD valued at $658, and 20 marijuana plants valued at $32,340, Bradshaw said.

The total street value of the narcotics seized by the Task Force during the calendar year of 1999 was $1.407 million.

In addition, the West Texas Narcotic Enforcement Task Force assisted other agencies with the seizures of 3,760 pounds of marijuana, 4.39 pounds of cocaine, 9 grams of crack cocaine, 1.5 pounds of heroin and 1.8 pounds of methamphetamine. "The total value of drug seizures in which the Task Force assisted is $2,294,160," said Bradshaw.



File Photo
This crack is part of past seizures of the West Texas Narcotics Enforcement Task Force.

"In the past 12 months, through cooperative efforts with the FBI, the Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force, Texas Department

Please see DRUG/2A

JAN 31 2000

WEATHER

Midland forecast

3-day forecast



Today	Tuesday	Wednesday
Cloudy	Cloudy	Partly cloudy
High 55-60	High mid-40s	High high 60s
Low 35-40	Low mid-30s	Low mid-30s

Today's forecast calls for increasingly cloudy skies, with highs between 55 and 60 and winds at 10 to 15 mph out of the south.

Tonight's forecast calls for mostly cloudy skies with lows between 35 and 40.

Tuesday's forecast is for cloudy skies and lower temperatures, a 30 percent chance of rain and highs in the mid-40s.

The forecast for the remainder of the week is for dry and higher temperatures.

Sunday's high was 51, compared with a record 80 set in 1971. The low was 22, compared with a record 8 set in 1951.

Yesterday's precipitation

Rainfall Sunday	0.00 in.
Rainfall Saturday	0.00 in.
Total for month	0.61 in.
Total for year	0.61 in.
Normal total (year to date)	0.36 in.

Yesterday's temperatures

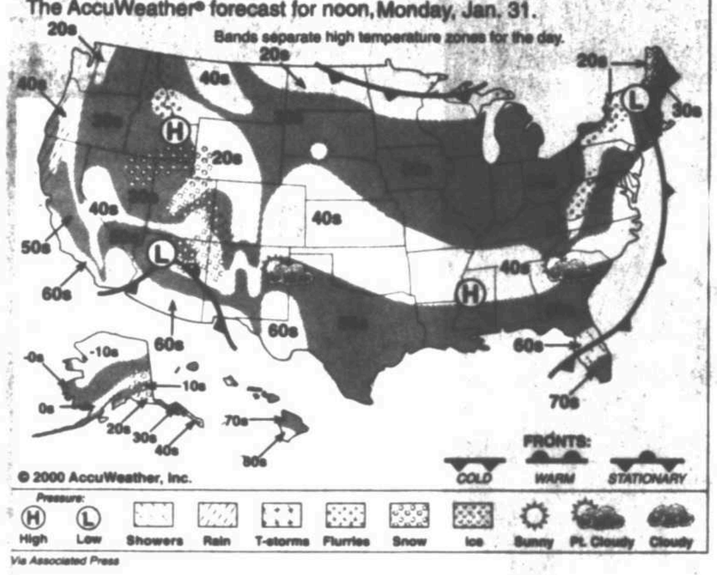
High	51
low	22
Normal high	58
Normal low	30

Sunrise ... 7:43 a.m.
Sunset ... 6:21 p.m.

National forecast

National weather

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Monday, Jan. 31.



Via Associated Press

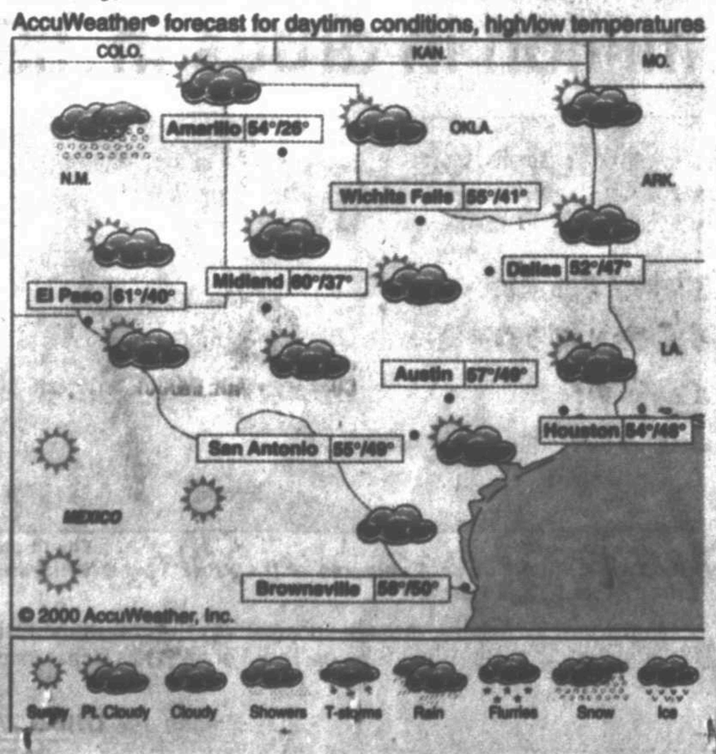
United States temperatures

	Hi	Lo	Prc	Otlk
Abilene,Tex.	53	22	cdy	
Akron,Ohio	33	25	sno	
Albany,N.Y.	26	-4	sno	
Albuquerque	47	23	cdy	
Allentown,Pa.	30	2	.23	sno
Amarillo	46	19	cdy	
Anchorage	18	12	.07	sno
Asheville	34	26	cdy	
Atlanta	35	30	.18	cdy
Atlantic City	35	5	.17	cdy
Austin	47	22	cdy	
Baltimore	29	7	cdy	
Baton Rouge	53	36	.02	clr
Billings	32	13	clr	
Birmingham	41	36	cdy	
Bismarck	27	20	cdy	
Boise	42	21	cdy	
Boston	47	18	in	
Bridgeport	33	13	cdy	
Brownsville	47	43	cdy	
Buffalo	35	13	sno	
Burlington,Vt.	30	-5	sno	
Caribou,Maine	29	5	sno	
Casper	26	12	cdy	
Charleston,S.C.	48	37	.29	clr
Charleston,W.Va.	35	33	.28	cdy
Charlotte,N.C.	33	29	.70	cdy
Chattanooga	42	34	cdy	
Cheyenne	35	7	cdy	
Chicago	49	25	.09	cdy
Cincinnati	32	26	.04	sno
Cleveland	35	26	sno	
Colorado Springs	30	1	cdy	
Columbia,S.C.	34	31	1.00	clr
Columbus,Ga.	42	35	.21	cdy
Columbus,Ohio	34	27	.15	sno
Concord,N.H.	42	0	sno	
Corpus Christi	48	40	m	
Dallas-Ft Worth	49	25	cdy	
Dayton	30	25	.02	sno
Daytona Beach	78	54	.02	cdy
Denver	36	9	cdy	
Des Moines	25	21	.04	cdy
Detroit	31	25	.11	mm
Duluth	31	6	clr	
El Paso	62	30	cdy	
Elkins	33	30	.38	sno
Erie	36	19	.01	sno
Eugene	41	27	m	
Evansville	30	25	cdy	
Fairbanks	-5	-20	sno	
Fargo	26	1	clr	
Flagstaff	44	13	sno	
Flint	28	23	mm	
Fort Smith	36	28	cdy	
Fort Wayne	27	25	.03	cdy
Fresno	53	47	.27	cdy
Goodland	38	10	clr	
Grand Junction	41	21	cdy	
Grand Rapids	27	23	.08	cdy
Great Falls	36	13	clr	
Green Bay	30	16	cdy	
Greensboro,N.C.	32	28	.97	cdy
Harrisburg	28	7	.40	cdy
Hartford Spgfld	32	1	m	
Helena	28	2	clr	
Honolulu	78	66	clr	
Houston	53	33	cdy	
Huntsville	37	34	cdy	
Indianapolis	24	24	.03	clr
Jackson,Miss.	46	30	cdy	
Jacksonville	75	52	.27	cdy
Juneau	39	35	.05	m
Kansas City	26	19	cdy	
Knoxville	38	34	.01	cdy
Lake Charles	54	35	cdy	
Lansing	44	23	.10	cdy
Las Vegas	53	40	cdy	
Lexington	32	30	.02	cdy
Lincoln	28	11	.01	cdy
Little Rock	40	20	cdy	
Los Angeles	59	52	.01	clr
Louisville	30	30	.03	cdy
Lubbock	50	20	cdy	
Macon	38	33	.24	cdy
Madison	30	24	.20	cdy
Medford	54	47	.10	m
Memphis	32	29	clr	
Miami Beach	78	66	.70	cdy
Midland-Odessa	53	22	cdy	
Milwaukee	29	27	.10	cdy
Mpls-St Paul	26	12	clr	
Mobile	50	41	.19	cdy
Montgomery	41	37	.02	cdy
Nashville	32	31	.03	cdy
New Orleans	50	39	.07	clr
New York City	36	21	cdy	
Newark	53	21	cdy	
Norfolk,Va.	48	25	.81	cdy
North Platte	28	18	.01	cdy
Oklahoma City	39	16	cdy	
Omaha	23	11	cdy	
Orlando	80	56	cdy	
Paducah	31	28	cdy	
Pendleton	28	25	cdy	
Peoria	m	20	clr	
Philadelphia	33	11	.22	cdy
Phoenix	69	51	cdy	
Pittsburgh	34	27	.16	cdy
Pocatello	32	9	cdy	
Portland,Maine	43	9	sno	
Portland,Ore.	41	37	m	
Providence	40	16	m	
Pueblo	34	2	cdy	
Raleigh-Durham	32	30	1.15	cdy
Rapid City	24	14	clr	
Reno	45	24	.09	sno
Richmond	32	24	1.10	cdy
Roanoke	31	28	.67	cdy
Rochester	38	-1	.06	sno
Rockford	29	25	.07	cdy
Sacramento	56	46	.67	cdy
St Louis	27	21	.02	clr
St Thomas	82	72	.01	cdy
Salem,Ore.	43	31	.02	m
Salt Lake City	42	20	sno	
San Angelo	56	18	cdy	
San Antonio	49	26	cdy	
San Diego	62	54	m	
San Francisco	57	54	.54	cdy
San Jose	58	52	.08	cdy
Santa Fe	44	15	cdy	
St Ste Marie	25	4	sno	
Savannah	41	36	.34	clr
Seattle	47	39	m	
Shreveport	40	24	cdy	
Sioux City	23	12	cdy	
Sioux Falls	21	13	cdy	
South Bend	27	26	.07	cdy
Spokane	31	11	cdy	
Springfield,Ill.	27	17	.01	clr
Springfield,Mo.	25	21	cdy	
Syracuse	34	0	sno	
Tallahassee	67	54	.39	cdy
Tampa-St Pbrsbg	79	58	cdy	
Toledo	31	25	cdy	
Topeka	28	20	clr	
Tucson	68	39	cdy	
Tulsa	36	23	cdy	
Tupelo	40	32	clr	
Waco	48	25	cdy	
Washington,D.C.	30	22	.68	cdy
W.Palm Beach	77	64	cdy	

State forecast

Monday, Jan. 31

AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions, high/low temperatures



JOIN: Elizabeth Dole speaks on Bush's behalf

(From 1A)

can do is to limit the liability that can be faced by teachers and principals who provide a safe classroom for their students, he said, adding that a lack of discipline, and being unable to enforce it, continues to harm many districts.

Some of the more conservative candidates for the Republican nomination — Forbes, Gary Bauer and Alan Keyes — have accused Bush of being soft on social issues, especially abortion.

Bush did not discuss the criticism or the abortion issue at his Sunday rally.

Following his 25-minute speech, as most of the crowd remained behind to catch a glimpse of the candidate and his wife, Laura, a Midland native, the scene took on something of a West Texas appearance. Several people with Midland ties are playing roles in Bush's campaign, the most significant being Don Evans, who has headed up his incredibly successful fund-raising effort.

But there are others.

Former Midlander Barry Williamson, who served on the Texas Railroad Commission before his unsuccessful run for attorney general, is the captain of a team of 200 persons who have been going door-to-door for the past several days in New Hampshire.

"It's really a lot of fun and we have received a wonderful reception from everyone," he said, adding, "You can feel the momentum building. I really think we're going to win on Tuesday."

The most recent polls in New Hampshire continue to show a very tight race between Bush and McCain.

Most GOP insiders say Bush can afford to lose Tuesday and still be the Republican frontrunner. But, they add, because McCain doesn't have the financial resources available, he needs to either win in New Hampshire or finish a close second in order to maintain the momentum to keep his campaign viable.

One Midlander who has also been going do-to-door on Bush's behalf is Trinka Taylor.

"People say New Englanders aren't friendly, but that's not true," Ms. Taylor said. "The people have been great. They honk their horns and laugh when they drive by while we're putting signs in yards. It's just lots of fun."

But the one visitor to the Bush campaign trail on Sunday who caused the biggest stir was Elizabeth Dole, who earlier dropped out of the GOP race and endorsed the Texas governor.

On Sunday, she again spoke out on his behalf.

"He is the right man to lead this country. He is a man of great vision and integrity."

Ms. Dole also noted that Bush had carried a majority of female voters in his re-election bid for governor in 1998, and that is a group with whom recent Republican presidential candidates, including her husband, Bob Dole, have done poorly.

State Sen. Teel Bivins, a Republican from Amarillo who represents Midland, said he was playing a different role in New Hampshire.

"I'm going around the state disputing some of the things Forbes has been saying about Bush's education record. They haven't been exactly truthful."

Bivins is chairman of the education committee in the Texas Senate.

But not everyone present at the Bush town hall meeting was there for partisan reasons.

Author Kathleen Kendall, a college professor who recently wrote, "Communication in the Presidential Primaries: Candidates and the Media, 1912-2000," was one such person.

Every four years she spends time in New Hampshire studying the candidates. And while she gave Bush high marks for organizational skills, she said McCain generally was the better communicator.

"McCain has a quiet manner and crowds listen to him intently. He often draws more emotional reaction from the audience than Bush does."

LIFE: Residents have personal contact with candidates

(From 1A)

them.

Often that means impromptu pep rallies on the street corners of major cities. On Sunday morning, for example, several youthful Bill Bradley supporters could be seen waving signs to passing cars that urged motorists to honk their horns if they supported Bradley.

Each time a motorist complied, loud cheers would erupt from the group.

But it was not just the Bradley supporters. Sign-waving supporters of Gore, George W. Bush, John McCain and Steve Forbes also took to the streets.

It was a good-natured competition, with each group attempting to make more noise than the others.

Indeed, in many ways the entire state has taken on something of a festive atmosphere. In addition to the street rallies, yard signs can be seen all over town, and along many of the rural highways. News media representatives can be spotted everywhere.

On Sunday morning, at the Holiday Inn in Manchester where C-SPAN had set up its campaign studio, NBC anchorman Tom Brokaw was shaking hands with visitors and discussing his network's election night coverage.

And outside, trucks with huge satellite dishes lined streets. All of the major networks will be reporting live from somewhere in New Hampshire between now and Tuesday's primary.

Most political pundits say, even though it might not seem fair, how a candidate finishes in the state of New Hampshire can make or break a campaign.

As a result, the residents of New Hampshire get an inordinate amount of attention from the candidates. And that one-on-one attention can work to the advantage of certain candidates, especially conservatives, according to Dan Robertson of the Steve Forbes campaign.

"Because there is more personal contact with the candidates, the people can ask more questions themselves and rely less on polls and what the establishment is telling them. That face-to-face contact has traditionally helped conservatives here like Pat Buchanan," Robertson said.

Loren Fox, a college volunteer supporting Bradley, agreed that New Hampshire voters are a different breed.

"They're the only people I know who will invite you into their homes while you are campaigning door to door. They'll invite you in and ask you questions."

And that's what makes New Hampshire so special, said Dan Dimendberg, a Cornell University student who was spending Sunday taking in the activities. "It's all about grassroots here ... going door-to-door and talking to people face-to-face."

Storm knocks out power for thousands along East Coast

ATLANTA (AP) — A winter storm that glazed much of the Southeast in a thick coat of ice moved up the coast on Sunday, leaving higher temperatures and drier roads for thousands of football fans who trekked to Georgia Dome to watch the Super Bowl.

The storm brought snow, sleet and rain from the Carolinas to southeastern New York, knocking out power to tens of thousands of customers.

The same storm had dumped more than a foot of snow in parts of the southern Plains and the South just days earlier. It was expected to reach western Maine today.

"There are a lot of cars out there tonight, slipping and sliding all over the place," said Richard Parese, whose towing company in Sinking Springs, Pa., had 30 calls from stranded motorists in less than three hours Sunday evening.

"I thought most people would have stayed home tonight to watch the Super Bowl," Parse said.

By Sunday evening, 6 inches of snow had fallen in western Maryland and dozens of flights were canceled at Baltimore-Washington International Airport. In Virginia, more than 175,000 electricity customers lost power as conditions worsened through the day.

In eastern Pennsylvania, where drivers were still sliding on side streets slick with ice from a storm earlier in the week, up to 12 inches of snow were expected overnight. The Legislature canceled today's sessions.

A mix of snow, freezing rain and sleet was expected across Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island through Monday night, with accumulations of as much as 8 inches of snow.

Although the icy conditions made driving hazardous, North Carolina authorities said there were few accidents and most motorists appeared to be staying home Sunday, especially with some stores closed and church services canceled.

"I think people are realizing that they shouldn't be on the roads if they don't know how to drive in it," said Penny Roark, a dispatcher in Watauga County, N.C.

TESTS: Several local students win at decathlon

(From 1A)

She claims that the secret to success is just rote memorization. Each team has access to hundreds of pages of information that could be tested.

The contest concluded with a Super Quiz, in which each participant answered five questions. The Super Quiz was built around the theme of "Infrastructure through history." Previous events included interviews and written tests in a variety of subject areas.

Participation is for students of all levels, but the competition stretches them all to their utmost capacity as all questions are all of superior level. Up to nine members can compete, broken down into the three categories of varsity, scholastic, and honors.

Jarred Barbour, a LHS senior, said "It's been a lot of fun to do something a little bit different. The only thing I would change is to add even more subjects."

* * *

Local finishers in Academic Decathlon

Midland High School

Ryan Pai - Gold in Essay and Math; Bronze in Economics

Top Team Scorer Honors - Justin Gregg

Top Team Scorer Scholastic - Jonathan Garcia

Top Team Scorer Varsity - Pete Reyes

Lee High School

Vinesh Patel - Gold in Economics; Bronze in essay

Cody Hansen - Bronze in Art, Bronze in Math

Kyle Clifton - Bronze in Economics

Russ Farr - Silver in Math

Robert Gillette - Silver in Essay

Top Team Scorer Honors - Vinesh Patel

Top Team Scorer Scholastic - Cody Hansen

Top Team Scorer Varsity - Russ Farr

* * *

Lubbock schools won the top honors

1st - Lubbock High

2nd - Lubbock Coronado

3rd - Lubbock Monterey

Lubbock Estacado won the medium school division

DRUG: Investigations led to numerous arrests

(From 1A)

of Public Safety and various city and county law enforcement agencies, narcotics totaling $3.7 million were taken off the streets in West Texas," said Bradshaw.

The chief also told the representatives that the West Texas Task Force actively participated in two federal investigations on large drug trafficking organizations. "These investigations resulted in 52 federal indictments, most of which are within the task force project area."

"I am extremely pleased with the task force in the past year," said Odessa Police Chief James Jenkins, "not only for the productivity, but for the cooperation of the participating agencies."

Funding for the West Texas Task Force is provided by funds from the U.S. Bureau of Criminal Justice.

"Currently, it appears that the cost of local matching funds to the local participating agencies would be minimum, if any," Bradshaw said.

For that, Chief Lonny Smith of the Big Spring Police Department is grateful.

"Being a member of the drug task force has allowed putting resources in place and getting assistance, resulting in big benefits for the residents of Big Spring and the surrounding counties."

He noted that just two of the federal investigations in Big Spring resulted in the dismantling of one family drug organization that had been doing business in Big Spring since the 1950s. Smith said the other resulted in the arrest of eight people doing illegal narcotics business in Howard and Glasscock counties for nearly 15 years.

The members of the West Texas Task Force include: Texas Department of Public Service, Presidio County, city of Marfa, Brewster County, city of Alpine, Pecos County, city of Fort Stockton, Crane County, city of Crane, Upton County, Ector County, city of Odessa, Martin County, Howard County and the city of Big Spring.

The West Texas Task Force also has a co-operating agreement with the city of Midland.

Midland County belongs to the Trans Pecos Drug Task Force, which has only been active since Aug. 1, said Assistant Commander James Semmler.

In that time, the Trans Pecos Task Force has worked 216 cases with 156 arrests, 10 vehicles, three houses, and $107,360 in cash seized.

In addition, the Task Force seized: 994 pounds of marijuana valued at $565,870, four marijuana plants valued at $6,468, 16.9 pounds of cocaine valued at $157,981, 25 hits of LSD valued at $175, 14 grams of black tar heroin valued at $3,584, six grams of psilocybin valued at $54, and 1.3 pounds of methamphetamine valued at $14,519.

The Trans Pecos Task Force is composed of representatives of Reeves, Jeff Davis, Culberson, Ward, Loving, Winkler, Andrews, Midland and Reagan counties.

Correction

Patrick "Pat" Bostick, Republican Party candidate for Midland County sheriff in the March 14 primary elections, was incorrectly identified in a front-page caption in Sunday's newspaper as an independent candidate. The Reporter-Telegram regrets the error.

The accompanying story on political campaigns correctly labeled Bostick, a 42-year-old investigator for the District Attorney's Office, as a Republican candidate.

Midland-Reporter-Telegram
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Elian's grandmothers return to heroes' welcome in Cuba

HAVANA (AP) — Elian Gonzalez's grandmothers arrived back in Cuba on Sunday without the child they had hoped to bring home, but they were greeted as heroes nonetheless with an enormous government-organized parade through the streets of the Cuban capital.

"It's very sad," said the boy's maternal grandmother, Raquel Rodriguez, breaking down in tears before President Fidel Castro and 1,700 schoolchildren who greeted the grandmothers at Havana's Convention Palace.

"You are here and Elian cannot be because we could not bring him," she said.

Before leaving Dulles International Airport in suburban Washington on Sunday, Elian's paternal grandmother, Mariela Quintana, said the boy would never be happy growing up in the United States "because he grew up in Cuba. ... He is a Cuban boy. He has a father. He has four grandparents and an entire family back there."

The boy's father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, embraced the women as they stepped off a business jet at Jose Marti International Airport, then rode with them in a convertible as they waved at the crowds of hundreds of thousands of people holding Cuban flags in a scene reminiscent of the 1998 greeting for Pope John Paul II.

After an hourlong, 16-mile trip through Havana by motorcade, the two women wept as the children greeted them with cheers of "Free Elian!" at the Convention Palace.

Flanked by their extended families, the women heard children chant poems and sing songs in their honor.

Government television and radio stations, which broadcast the event live, had repeatedly announced the route of the "caravan of dignity," and newspapers published schedules for special buses to take people to it. The event had been announced less than 24 hours before it took place.

Even the national soccer championship game, which had been scheduled for Sunday in Havana, was postponed for a week so players and spectators could attend the event.

The grandmothers were returning after "brave and extraordinary work in the United States, overcoming great obstacles and transmitting a persuasive message to the U.S. people," said a government statement published on the front pages of all newspapers here Sunday.

Elian was found floating in an inner tube off the Florida coast on Nov. 25 after a boat wreck that killed his mother and 10 other people. He has been staying with a great-uncle in Florida ever since. His Florida relatives are seeking to keep Elian in the United States, while his father and other relatives in Cuba are fighting to get him back.

The little boy also is caught in the midst of a major propaganda battle between Castro's communist government and Cuban-American exile groups. Some of the exile groups have complained that the boy should not return to his father because it would be a victory for the Cuban leader.

The struggle over Elian has become one of the largest government campaigns in recent Cuban history, with daily events, some drawing massive crowds, to demand the child's return to his father.

Since the two grandmothers left Havana on Jan. 21, the government has given increasingly massive television and newspaper coverage to their tour of the United States, crediting them with helping sway U.S. public opinion toward Elian's return.

"The heroic behavior of these humble and good-natured grandmothers has gained the respect, the admiration of the people who will await them with a warm and massive reception," the government's statement said.

The women — until recently obscure housewives from the provincial city of Cardenas — have found themselves on worldwide television meeting congressmen, senators and U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno.

"We think we have a step forward but still my grandson is here," Rodriguez, the maternal grandmother, said before leaving Washington.

"I would like to thank the American people and the Cuban Americans who are here and who have helped us," she said. "We would like to remind them to keep helping us, because Elian is still here."

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service has ruled Elian should be returned to his father. But officials are awaiting the outcome of a federal court challenge filed by Miami relatives before trying to return the boy.

U.S. District Judge William Hoeveler will hear arguments Feb. 22 on whether the Miami relatives' lawsuit should be dismissed.

Turkish feminist's killing focuses debate on women's rights issues

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Even in death, Konca Kuris was denied her last wish — that women be allowed to pray alongside men. It was a desire that cost the religious feminist her life at the hands of Islamic radicals.

Police dug up Kuris' naked body from the basement of a hideout used by Islamic militants who videotaped weeks of abuse they inflicted before suffocating her. The bodies of dozens of male victims also have been found and a second female victim was discovered Friday.

The killings have horrified the country, but Kuris' slaying also has focused attention on the role of women in Islam, a flashpoint that was underscored when male relatives at her funeral last week refused to allow her eldest daughter to pray beside her coffin.

"Who are the real Muslims, those who have killed Konca or those who go to mosque together, women and men?" asked Necati Dogru, a columnist for the newspaper Sabah.

"One more person paid with her life for being different and searching for her own voice," Sibel Eraslan, a female commentator, wrote in the Islamic newspaper Akit.

But at Ankara's main Kocatepe mosque, worshipper Nese Ince spoke out against Kuris' feminist brand of Islam. "I don't want the Islam that I have believed in for years to be changed," she said.

Kuris at first was a member of the militant group Hezbollah, which seeks to establish an Islamic state in southeastern Turkey and which is not related to the Lebanese militia of the same name.

She traveled to Iran with a delegation from the organization but gradually became disillusioned with the group's attitude toward women.

She demanded the right to pray alongside men and that prayers be said in Turkish and not the traditional Arabic, which few Turks understand. Although Kuris wore a traditional Islamic head scarf, she said head scarves or the full black robes worn by some religious women were optional and not required in Islam.

Barak meets with Mubarak in fresh bid to push Mideast talks

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Prime Minister Ehud Barak went looking for help from Egypt's president Sunday to revive a flagging Middle East peace process, while Israelis and Palestinians launched intensive talks in a last-ditch bid to meet a deadline for a peace treaty framework.

The Israelis and Palestinians have set an ambitious Feb. 13 deadline for an outline of a final accord that would solve the thorniest issues dividing them: the return of Palestinian refugees, the borders of an independent Palestinian state and the status of Jerusalem, among others.

Negotiators met secretly for two hours Sunday in an undisclosed location. The talks were expected to last 10 days.

In Cairo, meanwhile, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak indicated he would do his best to try to prod along the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, according to a senior Israeli official in Barak's delegation.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Mubarak has already proven his ability to influence Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

"The prime minister told Mubarak he must emphasize to the Palestinians that this is a crucial time to bring our positions together, not to sit and wait, or assume the Americans will solve our problems," the official said.

Mubarak, seeking to protect his role as a Mideast peacemaker, often acts as a broker when talks are in trouble.

Barak successfully revived talks with Syria and the Palestinians last year, only to see both tracks falter in recent weeks. Both partners are now accusing him of not taking their demands seriously.

The latest flurry of diplomatic activity — Barak is to meet Arafat on Thursday, and Jordan's king the following week — comes as the Israeli leader is under increasing fire at home. His party is under criminal investigation for alleged campaign finance violations, and opponents suggest the diplomacy is a smokescreen to divert attention from the scandal.

At a joint news conference with Mubarak, Barak scoffed at those claims.

"This government was elected to advance the peace process, and to do it without any connection to any internal problem that arises in Israel," he said.

Meeting for an hour and a half, the two leaders began by discussing the stalled peace talks between Israel and Syria, officials said, and Mubarak's recent trip to Damascus to meet with President Hafez Assad.

Despite reports that Mubarak came back from that meeting pessimistic about chances for a Syria deal anytime soon, the Egyptian president told Barak he thought a deal was "certainly possible," the senior Israeli official said.

Barak has pointedly praised Assad in recent days as a "strong leader," but on Sunday he reiterated Israel's refusal of a key Syrian demand: a prior commitment to withdraw from all the Golan Heights.

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Pecos residents welcome expansion of prison

Reeves County Detention Center to be doubled to 2,000-bed facility

By Michelle Koidin
Associated Press Writer

PECOS — Soon there will be one prisoner for about every seven residents in Reeves County.

And to those who live here, that's great news.

With a long-running drought, the closure of a sulfur mine and depressed oil prices, residents in this West Texas county are welcoming the major expansion of the county's minimum-security prison, which has a contract with the U.S. Bureau of Prisons to house federal inmates.

When construction is finished this summer, and the number of beds has been doubled to 2,000, the prison will employ an additional 200 people — residents of a county that long has relied on irrigated cotton- and cantaloupe-farming, ranching and oil.

"I'm glad they're doing it," said Larry Windham, owner of the Gibson True Value hardware store. "Anytime you create jobs, it's got to help the town."

Danny Rodriguez, principal of Pecos High School, said the town is "looking forward to working with any industry, including the prison. It's a good neighbor for us."

"It will be very good for the economy," added Pecos Mayor Dot Stafford. "I always hate to say prisons are good for a city, but it's a necessity we have to face."

When the Reeves County Detention Center first opened in 1986, hundreds more people lived in the county, which is about 90 miles west of Midland on the northern edge of the Chihuahuan Desert. But in recent years, drought, layoffs and little activity in the oil patch have driven people away.

Today, the biggest employer in this town of about 11,000 (the county population is about 14,000) is Anchor West, a division of Wisconsin-based Anchor Foods. The factory, which processes and packages frozen vegetables and onion rings, employs about 750.

The second biggest employer is the school district.

With the expansion, the prison will be third. When the new half opens Sept. 1, more than 400 people will work there.

"This project couldn't have come at a better time, when we've seen a downturn in sulfur mining and oil and gas," said Reeves County Judge Jimmy B. Galindo, who pushed to enlarge the prison. He said it can only benefit the town, where many shops have closed and many houses have fallen into disrepair.

The construction alone has been a boon to the local economy, with about 100 residents working on the project, Galindo said.

Private investors are financing the expansion by selling $40 million in bonds, he said. Money to run the prison and pay salaries comes from the Bureau of Prisons, which pays a daily fee for each inmate.

The prisoners are mostly Mexican nationals who are serving time for immigration or drug offenses in Texas and other states and who ultimately will be deported. Local criminals are held at a separate jail in town.

Besides creating jobs, the expansion will help the community by raising even more money for the county general fund, said Warden Rudy Franco. Already, the prison generates almost $1 million a year for the fund by paying rent and for services such as bookkeeping and accounting.

In addition, the prison buys some of its food and supplies from local merchants.

Galindo said the idea of expanding the prison dawned on him shortly after he was elected as county judge — the county's top elected official — in 1995. Before taking office, he went to work as a corrections officer at the prison so that he could understand the life of those who work there.

"That was one of the things that helped me to realize this was an unpolished jewel of the community," he said. "I looked at it as an economic enterprise."

Then, in February 1996, a riot by 172 inmates threatened the prison's agreement with the Bureau of Prisons, Galindo said. Federal officials wanted new management at the facility.

The night of the melee, Galindo met Franco, then the warden at the La Tuna Federal Correctional Institution near El Paso. Dispatched to the scene, Franco sent officers outfitted in gas masks and riot gear marching along the fence, and within hours, officials had regained control.

Less than three months later, Galindo asked Franco to come to Reeves County as warden. They quickly began planning the expansion.

A few residents have grumbled about Franco's salary, which at $120,000 is the highest of any public official in the county. But he and Galindo emphasize that he is paid by the Bureau of Prisons, not by local taxpayers.

And Galindo said there is no question Franco is worth it. He has brought calm and order to the prison since the 1996 riot, Galindo said.

Franco, an employee of the Bureau of Prisons for 23 years who worked his way up from corrections officer to his first warden's job in Puerto Rico in 1993, stresses to his staff that they make themselves available to inmates who are having problems. He said his employees, most of whom are bilingual, work well with the prisoners.

"It's going to be the smoothest running 2,000-bed facility associated with the Bureau of Prisons, something that people can point to with pride and say, 'I work there,'" said Franco.





ABOVE: Prison guard Eric Scott looks over the Reeves County Detention Center last week.

LEFT: Warden Rudy Franco stands in the construction area at the Reeves County Detention Center in Pecos. The prison is being expanded from 1,000 beds to 2,000 beds.

AP Photos

'It will be very good for the economy. I always hate to say prisons are good for a city, but it's a necessity we have to face.'
— Pecos Mayor Dot Stafford

'That was one of the things that helped me to realize (the prison) was an unpolished jewel of the community. I looked at it as an economic enterprise.'
— Reeves County Judge Jimmy B. Galindo

'It's going to be the smoothest running 2,000-bed facility associated with the Bureau of Prisons, something that people can point to with pride and say, 'I work there.'"
— Warden Rudy Franco



White officers' trial begins today for killing of unarmed immigrant

NEW YORK (AP) — No one disputes the math.

Police Officer Sean Carroll squeezed off 16 rounds. So did Edward McMellon. Kenneth Boss emptied five bullets from his pistol and Richard Murphy four, for a total of 41.

Nineteen bullets tore through the body of Amadou Diallo within seconds, turning the 5-foot-by-8-foot vestibule of his Bronx apartment building into a dingy death trap. They pierced his heart, spinal cord, lungs, liver, spleen, kidneys and intestines.

The officers had feared for their lives, they said, believing Diallo to be an armed criminal. They learned too late that he was a 22-year-old West African immigrant carrying only a pager and wallet.

Nearly a year later — racial politics and a mother's plaintive cries providing a backdrop — a jury must decide whether the shooting by the four white officers was murder.

Jury selection is set to begin today in Albany, N.Y., 140 miles north of Diallo's neighborhood, because an appeals court agreed with defense attorneys who argued that pretrial publicity and protests would make it impossible to find impartial jurors in New York City.

Last week, state Supreme Court Justice Joseph Teresi ruled the trial, which is expected to last more than a month, could be televised — partly to ensure access to city residents. His ruling is unlikely to quell anger over the change of venue.

Civil rights activists have vowed to go to Albany to rally behind the Diallo family. They have urged federal authorities to monitor the case they say symbolizes widespread police brutality against minorities. More than 1,200 people have been arrested for their roles in demonstrations.

"There will be those who will tell you in the next couple weeks that we are here because we don't like police, that we are here to divide the races," the Rev. Al Sharpton told members of Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Albany on Sunday.

"This has nothing to do with police," he said. "We're fighting against evil and wickedness in high places. To shoot an unarmed man is a wicked thing."

Kadiatou Diallo, who arrived from her native Guinea five days after the shooting, mourned openly for her eldest child.

"Amadou's blood will feed the battle for justice for everyone," she said last year after the officers were indicted on charges of second-degree murder.

Carroll, 36; McMellon, 27; Boss, 28; and Murphy, 27, all pleaded innocent. But prosecutors allege they demonstrated a "depraved indifference to human life" by unleashing a barrage of bullets on a defenseless man.

The firepower stunned and polarized the city: "In Cold Blood — Police kill unarmed man in hail of 41 bullets," read an early headline. A New Yorker magazine cover portrayed a police officer at a shooting gallery with the sign "41 shots 10 cents." The American Civil Liberties Union ran a full-page newspaper ad dotted with 41 bullet holes.

"If a man was put in front of a firing squad, he would not expect to be shot at 41 times," Sharpton said at the time.

The defendants' decision not to testify before a grand jury left no option except murder charges carrying a maximum sentence of life in prison, said Bronx District Attorney Robert Johnson.

"Without (their) explanation, what we have is four people driving up to a location, pulling out their guns and killing an individual," he said.

Defense attorneys maintain the officers thought Diallo, who sold videotapes on the streets, was reaching for a gun when they told him to freeze. The officers have indicated they will testify in their own defense.

The case is "about whether you give police officers the benefit of the doubt," said McMellon's attorney, Stephen Worth.

"You either somehow believe a bunch of cops thought, 'What the hell, we'll shoot this guy for no good reason,' or you realize that they thought they were in danger of being shot at, and took proper action."

The defendants belonged to a roving Street Crime Unit credited with greatly reducing shootings in New York by arresting armed suspects. Three had been involved in previous shootings, one fatal. All were deemed justified. On the night of Diallo's death, each officer was dressed in street clothes and bulletproof vest and armed with a 16-shot semiautomatic pistol.

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In addition to this government study, the Gas Saver has received patents for cleaning out the carbon deposits and raising octane, making premium fuel unnecessary for most vehicles.

Joel Robinson, the developer, commented: "We have sold over 400,000 Gas Savers. To our surprise, as many people buy the Gas Saver because it extends engine life (by cleaning out the abrasive carbon deposits) as buy it to increase gas mileage or to raise gasoline octane."

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Government Produced Test Data

The government studied fuel saving test data on vehicles made by several auto makers using the Gas Saver. This is the data they provided from a fleet of 15 identical 5-liter vehicles.

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5	12.2	17.1	40.2%
6	9.6	13.3	38.5%
7	13.3	17.9	34.6%
8	9.8	13.1	33.7%
9	14.3	18.4	28.7%
10	10.8	13.9	28.7%
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A glance at any of the high fashion, glamour or health magazines will reveal the almost constant attention paid to this subject. An article in Vogue magazine last year written about a trip to Dr. Larry Rosenthal's office (with whom Dr. Kapp teaches), had by far the most reader response of any that appeared in that publication last year.

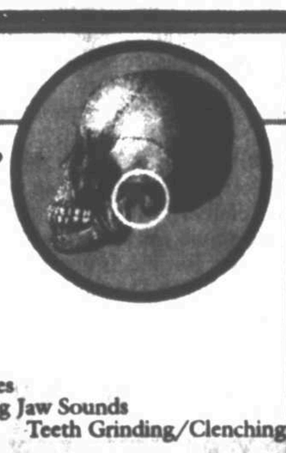
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Train crossings need lighting, crossing arms

Although the initial investigation into the car-train collision last week that killed 61-year-old Bill Walker did not reveal any glaring dangers that would cry out for the installation of additional safety features to warn motorists of oncoming trains, the fact that this was the second life lost in Midland in a car-train crash in a matter of months begs for an investigation into the increasing number of crashes.

According to witnesses at the scene, Walker did not yield the right of way to the train and the lights were flashing at the time of the accident. What actually happened to cause that fatal crash may never be known.

In October 1999, 39-year-old Debbie L. Dobson was killed and her 10-year-old daughter Lisa was injured when their vehicle hit the front end of a train head-on. In that instance, the railroad intersection was marked only with railroad crossing signs. There were no lights, bells or crossing arms.

It is imperative that railroad crossings be made as safe as possible.

Midland is experiencing an increase in train traffic that will continue for some time to come, and as the number of trains coming through the city increases it stands to reason that there likely will be more accidents involving trains and automobiles.

We believe that railroad crossings need to be clearly marked and lighted so that motorists can be warned well in advance of oncoming trains. Of course, even under the best of conditions with such well-marked crossings, deadly crashes still can occur.

But it is imperative that railroad crossings be made as safe as possible. Lights and crossing arms would appear to be the minimum safety features for all railroad crossings in the city of Midland.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Monday, Jan. 31, the 31st day of 2000. There are 335 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 31, 1950, President Truman announced he had ordered development of the hydrogen bomb.

On this date:

In 1606, Guy Fawkes was executed for his part in the "Gunpowder Plot" against the English Parliament and King James I.

In 1797, composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna.

In 1865, General Robert E. Lee was named General-in-Chief of all the Confederate armies.

In 1917, Germany served notice it was beginning a policy of unrestricted submarine warfare.

In 1934, President Roosevelt devalued the dollar in relation to gold.

In 1944, during World War II, U.S. forces began invading Kwajalein Atoll and other parts of the Japanese-held Marshall Islands.

In 1949, the first TV daytime soap opera, "These Are My Children," was broadcast from the NBC station in Chicago.

In 1958, the United States entered the Space Age with its first successful launch of a satellite into orbit, Explorer 1.

In 1971, astronauts Alan B. Shepard Jr., Edgar D. Mitchell and Stuart A. Roosa blasted off aboard Apollo 14 on a mission to the moon.

In 1987, discount airline pioneer People Express flew its last flights before merging into Continental Airlines.

Ten years ago: McDonald's Corp. opened its first fast-food restaurant in Moscow.

Five years ago: President Clinton scrapped a $40 billion rescue plan for Mexico, announcing instead that he would act unilaterally to provide Mexico with $20 billion from a fund normally used to defend the U.S. dollar. Legendary Broadway producer-director George Abbott died in Miami Beach, Florida, at age 107.

One year ago: The Denver Broncos repeated as NFL champions, defeating the Atlanta Falcons 34-19 in Super Bowl XXXIII. Researchers from the University of Alabama at Birmingham presented what they called convincing proof that the AIDS virus originated in chimpanzees and spread to people in Africa.

JACK ANDERSON

We should eliminate the national debt

WASHINGTON — The real message from President Clinton's State of the Union address and the GOP and public response is that budget surpluses have moved the nation's liberal vs. conservative political debate into a new era: The era of right and wrong.



Anderson

The old budget debate over the allocation of scarce resources has become a new debate over the allocation of abundant resources. There is enough money pouring into government coffers not only to reduce the national debt, but, according to Clinton, to eliminate it altogether within 13 years, a feat not accomplished since 1835. There is enough money to cut taxes while shoring up Social Security and Medicare. No longer is it a question of defense spending vs. social spending. There is enough money to do both.

There is so much money that the old arguments of choice are fading. Previously it was a choice of aid to the poor or tax relief for families; choices between education, minimum wage hikes, a prescription-drug benefit, infant health, child care, medical and scientific research, and on and on. But now there is enough money to do it all.

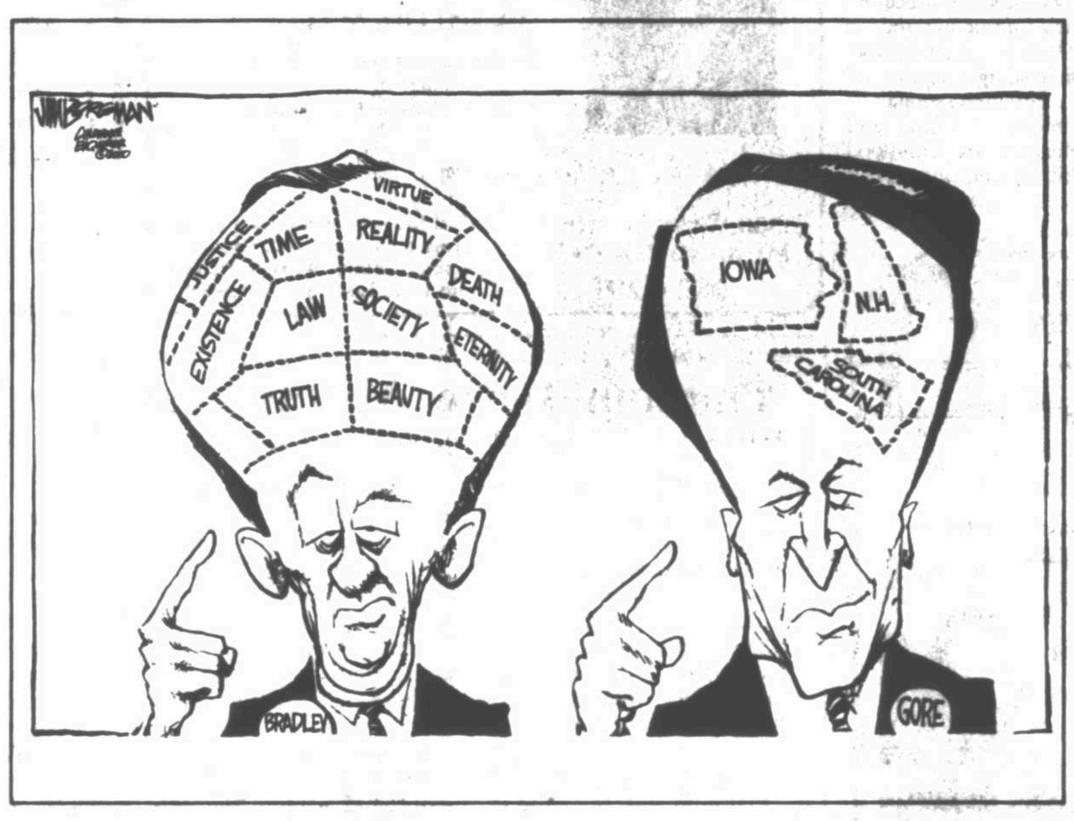
The question is whether there will be enough in the future if it is unwisely spent now. That is why the president's call for the elimination of the debt is the most significant aspect of his plan. Paying down the debt in good times will allow us a reservoir of borrowing in bad times. The pay-down becomes the financial safety net that will protect the economy even if we make some bad allocation decisions for the balance of the budget.

But once that pay-down is established, the question of right and wrong should prevail, and based upon preliminary responses, it will prevail. In his address, the president said, "Our chance to do good is so great," and he went on to say, "no child will be raised in poverty." There is nothing liberal or conservative in those words, only the supremacy of right over wrong.

It is right that poverty, hunger and illiteracy be extinguished in this nation. It is right to provide universal medical care, improved aid to the elderly, and more help for the disabled. It is right to finally spend serious money on medical research for AIDS, cancer and the other diseases that have eluded our will or financial ability to cure. It is right to provide that most essential of all government obligations: safety. This includes safety on a national level against missile and biological attacks and on a local level against crime.

If future generations look back and historians write that these things were within our ability to accomplish but that we lacked the will to address them, we will not be remembered as the "greatest generation," as was the World War II generation, but rather as the "greedy and insensitive generation." The matter will be decided by our willingness to exchange politics for morality -- the politics of left vs. right for the morality of right vs. wrong.

Jack Anderson's and Doug Cohn's column is distributed by United Feature Syndicate.



WILLIAM SAFIRE

Commentary: Besotted with Potter

LONDON — With the help of a tall blond model from Texas, the British have just upheld the side of adult culture in the English-speaking world.

They resisted the pressure to award a top literary prize to J.K. Rowling for her super-selling series of Harry Potter books. Instead, the top honor again went to the Irish poet Seamus Heaney, this time for his translation of the medieval Anglo-Saxon epic "Beowulf."

That was a relief. With the orphan wizard dominating best-seller lists, the Harry Potter phenomenon needs a little perspective.



Safire

These are children's books. Their glory is that their hero's magical charm has captivated a world of kids, inculcating the reading habit in pre-teens who otherwise would be seduced into interactive games of mayhem. Getting children to read is no small blessing, and Rowling has provided them with a key to literacy.

These are not, however, books for adults. Unlike "Huckleberry Finn" or "Alice in Wonderland," the Potter series is not written on two levels, entertaining one generation while instructing another. Rather, it is in the category of Tom Swift and Dr. Dolittle; I was hooked on reading by them, but have laid aside my electric rifle and no longer talk to horses.

The trouble is not that children are being lured into belief in witchcraft, as some tut-tutting clerics complain; Western civilization has survived Merlin's magic in the tales of King Arthur. Nor will poor children be corrupted by tales of life in upper-middle-class English boarding schools.

The trouble is that grown-ups are buying these books ostensibly to read to kids, but actually to read for themselves. As Philip Hensher warns in the Independent newspaper, this leads to "the infantilization of adult culture, the loss of a sense of what a classic really is."

Scholarly tomes will be written about the underlying motifs of the Potter series, justifying its adult readership. Steven Spielberg will slip a little social significance into his movie treatment, further furrowing academic brows. But this is not just dumbing down; it is growing down. The purpose of reading, once you get the hang of it, is not merely to follow the action of a plot, but to learn about characters, explore different ideas and enter other minds.

"Huckleberry Finn" is a classic because it used the device of a boy's coming of age to illuminate a nation's painful transformation. When Lewis Carroll took us through the looking glass, he dealt with madness and injustice in this world by mocking a parallel world. Critics delight in annotating the allusions in such books.

Not in "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone." That's the one I read, noting its nice deployment of the standard tricks. I also enjoy short films, featuring anthropomorphic porcine cartoon characters, that end with "Th-th-th-that's all, folks!" But prize-worthy culture it ain't; more than a little is a waste of adult time.

That's why my hat is off to Jerry Hall, the intelligent Texan and mother of four, divorced from Mick Jagger, who still sort of lives with her. She is reported to have cast the swing vote on the judging panel for Seamus Heaney. That Nobel laureate accepted the $35,000 prize with a line from "Beowulf," "Fate go ever, as fate must" (a somewhat fatalistic response). The Guardian headline: "Heaney pips Harry Potter."

It's about time Potter was pipped (narrowly defeated). His creator, Ms. Rowling, deserved the lesser award she received for best children's book. But let us not exalt Potter, either, as a cultural icon. Adults make a part of their lives only the works that have meaning.

Remember Dorothy in her transforming red slippers in "The Wizard of Oz"? Frank Baum's book, cemented into our culture by the 1939 Victor Fleming movie starring Judy Garland, was a children's fantasy, complete with a Wicked Witch of the West, but dealt deftly with heartlessness, mindlessness and cowardice.

Its symbols became part of our culture. Munchkins presume to advise candidates following the yellow brick road to power, and behind the curtain we discover that the fearsome wizard of bombast is only a frightened Frank Morgan. For adults, Harry Potter may reign over the best-seller lists, but he has yet to heave his philosopher's stone over the rainbow.

William Safire's column is distributed by New York Times News Service.

CHARLEY REESE

Flag flap stems from politics, grasp of history

Now that the Confederate flag flap has gone national, let's examine what this hoopla is all about.

In 1962, as part of the centennial celebration of the War of Northern Aggression, South Carolina raised the Confederate battle flag over its capitol.

The flag is not, by the way, in a "position of sovereignty." It's in the honorary position, as protocol demands, beneath the American and South Carolina flags. If, for example, Massachusetts wanted to fly the rainbow flag in honor of its congressional de0legation, the flag would occupy the honorary slot, third from the top of the flagpole, just as the confederate battle flag does in South Carolina.

So the Confederate battle flag has been atop the South Carolina state house for 38 years. Now, in all that time, has that flag flying had any material or legal effect on any human being?



Reese

I dare say no.

I venture to say that most people were unaware that it was even there. But let's be fair. Let's say the South Carolina Legislature votes to take down the Confederate flag. Now, will the absence of that flag have any material or legal effect on any of us?

No.

So you have a situation in which there is a dispute but not about any substantive matter. Whether the flag's there or not there, our lives remain the same. So what is the argument about?

Well, like so many arguments in America today, it's about politics and interpretation of history. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People got to casting around for some reason to stay in existence and decided to attack historical symbols of the Confederacy. It dubbed the dear old banner "the most odious symbol in the universe." It said that the battle flag is a symbol of slavery and racism. And there's the conflict.

Realizing that the meaning of any symbol lies in the eyes of the beholder, those who defend the Southern heritage adamantly reject the NAACP's definition. To us, the battle flag is a symbol of courage, honor and love of freedom. Despite the mine-deep ignorance of most people today, the facts are on our side. The South did not secede to preserve slavery, and the North did not invade to end it. The differences between North and South, which surfaced long before slavery even became an issue, were economic, cultural and political. The South seceded to preserve the constitutional republic of sovereign states, and the North invaded to destroy that republic once and for all and establish the centralized national government that we have today.

Slavery had been a global institution imposed on the colonies by Great Britain. When the United States was created, slavery was a national institution. Slavery was protected by the U.S. Constitution and upheld by the Supreme Court. If any flag symbolizes slavery in the United States, it is the Stars and Stripes, not the Confederate battle flag.

After all, during the war, it was the commander of the Northern armies who owned slaves while the commander of the Southern armies had freed his. The majority of Southerners didn't own any slaves, and, of those who did, some were black slave owners. In s short, the South is tired of being the scapegoat for national sins and a fund-raising tool for the NAACP.

A second factor in the dispute is the First Amendment. The fact that a minority or even a majority decides that a symbol is offensive cannot be reason to ban that symbol. But, because the NAACP wants to boycott South Carolina and Jesse Jackson wants to boycott Georgia (its state flag incorporates the battle flag), I have a suggestion: Why don't all the South haters boycott the entire South all at the same time?

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

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Austin, Phoenix top list of best-managed U.S. cities

WASHINGTON (AP) — With robust finances and well-trained public work forces, Austin and Phoenix are the best-managed major American cities, according to an analysis by Syracuse University.

The study rated the municipal governments of the nation's 35 largest cities in terms of revenues, assigning grades from A to F on five management criteria: finances, human resources, capital, information technology and results.

Phoenix was the only one with an A or A- in all five categories. Austin finished with an A- average because of a B grade on its use of information technology.

Indianapolis, Minneapolis and Virginia Beach, Va., averaged B+. New York, Philadelphia, Honolulu, Milwaukee, San Diego, San Antonio, Seattle and Long Beach, Calif., all had Bs.

A common factor in cities that scored well was strong leadership, said Patricia W. Ingraham, director of the Government Performance Project at Syracuse's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. The project was financed by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

"Where there is a strong mayor, there is a well-run city, which attracts residents and visitors," Ingraham said. "Contrary to what many of us think, the days of mediocre city management are coming to an end."

She said the most improved cities are those that were in the worst shape five to eight years ago — Detroit, Philadelphia, New York and Washington, D.C.

Detroit, for example, has earned nine upgrades from bond rating agencies. Washington has eliminated its debt, and Philadelphia is tracking its revenues and expenditures better after both cities flirted with bankruptcy, the report said.

City rankings

Associated Press

A: Phoenix

A-: Austin

B+: Indianapolis, Minneapolis, and Virginia Beach, Va.

B: New York, Philadelphia, Honolulu, Milwaukee, San Diego, San Antonio, Seattle, and Long Beach, Calif.

B-: Chicago, Detroit, Boston, Baltimore, Jacksonville, Fla., Denver, San Jose, Calif., and Kansas City, Mo.

C+: Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Memphis, Nashville, Tenn., Houston, Dallas, Atlanta, and Richmond, Va.

C: Los Angeles, Anchorage, Alaska, Cleveland, and Columbus, Ohio

C-: New Orleans and Buffalo, N.Y.

Priests dying of AIDS at higher rate, report says

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Roman Catholic priests in the United States are dying from AIDS-related illnesses at a rate four times higher than the general population and the cause is often concealed on their death certificates, The Kansas City Star reported Sunday.

In the first of a three-part series, the newspaper said death certificates and interviews with experts indicated several hundred priests have died of AIDS-related illnesses since the mid-1980s and hundreds more are living with HIV, the virus that causes the disease.

"I think this speaks to a failure on the part of the church," said Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of the Archdiocese of Detroit. "Gay priests and heterosexual priests didn't know how to handle their sexuality, their sexual drive. And so they would handle it in ways that were not healthy."

The Star received 801 responses to questionnaires that were sent last fall to 3,000 of the 46,000 priests in the United States. The margin of error of the survey was 3.5 percentage points.

Six of 10 priests responding said they knew of at least one priest who had died of an AIDS-related illness, and one-third knew a priest living with AIDS. Three-fourths said the church needed to provide more education to seminarians on sexual issues.

"How to be celibate and to be gay at the same time, and how to be celibate and heterosexual at the same time, that's what we were never really taught how to do. And that was a major failing," Gumbleton said.

Asked about their sexual orientation, 75 percent said they were heterosexual, 15 percent said they were homosexual, and 5 percent said they were bisexual.

The Rev. John Keenan, who runs Trinity House, an outpatient clinic in Chicago for priests, said he believes most priests with AIDS contracted the disease through same-sex relations. He said he treated one priest who had infected eight other priests.

The Star said precise numbers of priests who have died of AIDS or become infected with HIV is unknown, partly because many suffer in solitude. When priests tell their superiors, the cases generally are handled quietly.

The newspaper cited the case of Bishop Emerson Moore, who left the Archdiocese of New York in 1995 and went to Minnesota, where he died in a hospice of an AIDS-related illness. His death certificate attributed the death to "unknown natural causes" and listed his occupation as "laborer" in the manufacturing industry.

After an AIDS activist filed a complaint, officials changed the cause of death to "HIV-related illness," the Star said, but the occupation was not corrected.

The newspaper said the death rate among priests from AIDS appears to be at least four times that of the rate for the general U.S. population.

Some priests and behavioral experts believe the church has scared priests into silence by treating homosexual acts as an abomination and the breaking of celibacy vows as shameful, the Star said.

Catholic cardinals in the United States and high-ranking church officials in the Vatican declined requests to discuss the newspaper's findings, The Star reported. The Vatican referred questions to local bishops.

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Bradley questions Gore's integrity; Bush, McCain argue over readiness

Campaign 2000

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Al Gore and fellow Democrats jumped "into bed with special interests" during the 1996 fund-raising scandal, rival Bill Bradley said Sunday, as he struggled with questions about his own health two days before New Hampshire's primary. Sen. John McCain claimed, "There's only one man who is fully prepared" to be commander-in-chief, and he said it's not George W. Bush.

With polls showing Gore's once-commanding lead narrowing, the vice president struggled to deal with Bradley's sudden eagerness to attack. A political flame-thrower himself, Gore accused Bradley of impugning his integrity and "stepping down ... to the level of personal vilification."

Bush, the two-term Texas governor and national GOP front-runner, said his executive office experience would make for a better president. "I'm not of the Washington scene. I'm not a committee chairman," Bush said, digging at Senate Commerce Committee chairman McCain.

"I'm the guy who can beat Al Gore," McCain replied, as the GOP and Democratic campaigns appeared headed for close finishes. McCain holds a slight edge or is tied with Bush in polls here, after leading the Texan for eight weeks. Gore's edge over Bradley is slightly wider, but that contest also could be close Tuesday.

Bradley, McCain, Bush and Republican Alan Keyes made the round of Sunday talk shows while the seven major-party White House hopefuls plowed toward Tuesday's vote with rallies and news conferences.

Running a distant third in Republican polling here, millionaire publisher Steve Forbes kept his eye on Bush. After the Texan told "Fox News Sunday" that he would cut taxes "hopefully in the first term," Forbes questioned Bush's commitment to the issue.

"I don't want to say, 'I told you so' but having led with a timid tax cut and now hedging about whether he can even get that, I think this is part of the waffling and equivocating that people are tired of," Forbes said in an interview.

Keyes, the conservative firebrand, picked up the endorsement of David Schippers, chief GOP investigator for President Clinton's impeachment trial. He said the race between Bradley and Gore is a choice between "the devil or Beelzebub."

Fellow conservative Gary Bauer, struggling to keep his candidacy alive, maintained a light schedule that included a Super Bowl party. Recognizing that football, not politics, held voters' interests Sunday, most of the candidates ended their day in front of the TV.

Lugging cheese popcorn and pretzels through a shopping center parking lot, Manchester voter Dennis Ekerson dismissed a political question with a laugh. "Gary Bauer? Does he play for Tennessee or Los Angeles," the registered independent said.

Bradley, a former basketball star, has been slow to reveal details about his irregular heartbeat condition and acknowledged Sunday that he has briefly undergone anesthesia three times for treatment since December 1996.

He told ABC "it would be appropriate" to invoke the 25th Amendment and turn power over to his vice president if he underwent the same treatment as president.

Though the candidate and his doctors say the condition is simply a medical nuisance, it could become a political problem if voters worry about his health.

Bradley lost badly to Gore in the Iowa caucuses last week and would be staggered by a second-straight defeat in New Hampshire. The former lawmaker surrendered his lead to Gore in New Hampshire polls during the vice president's aggressive final week of campaigning in Iowa.

Bradley, however, has enough money to continue beyond this state, and has released a schedule showing that he intends to do so. The next contests — a series of March 7 primaries — include states where Bradley is strong.

Compromise bill to improve drug coverage for senior citizens faces uphill battle in Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — With President Clinton and majority Republicans in Congress offering competing plans to improve prescription drug coverage for senior citizens, a compromise bill has a shot this year, albeit a long one.

"There will be a very active debate this year on the issue and whether or not something actually gets enacted depends on how engaged the public gets," said John Rother, director of public policy for AARP, the nation's largest organization of older adults.

Political conditions are not ideal for compromise as the political parties try to emphasize their differences before this fall's elections. Yet larger-than-expected budget surpluses have given Republicans some maneuvering room to consider new spending as lawmakers look for accomplishments to tout on the campaign trail.

Democratic pollster Mark Mellman said even younger voters sympathize with older adults' worries about high drug costs.

"The concern is certainly greater among senior citizens, but it's a concern that really does permeate the electorate," Mellman said.

Clinton wants to add drug coverage to Medicare as option for all Americans age 65 and older, who would pay about $24 a month for a limited benefit.

"In good conscience, we cannot let another year pass without extending to all seniors the lifeline of affordable prescription drugs," Clinton said Thursday in his State of the Union address.

Under his plan, the government would contract with the pharmaceutical benefit managers many private health plans use. They negotiate bulk discounts with drug companies and allow consumers to use prescription cards at pharmacies or order by mail.

Republicans say Clinton's approach would waste government dollars replacing the private drug coverage that about two-thirds of senior citizens already have — from former employers, HMOs or supplemental insurance know as Medigap.

GOP leaders have promised alternative legislation soon.

"We're working on a responsible plan to make sure senior citizens have access to affordable prescription drugs," House Speaker Dennis Hastert announced last week. "We don't want to jeopardize the good coverage that already exists."

Hastert said the GOP would focus on helping those who now lack access to or cannot afford private options.

One possibility is a tax credit. A second is a federal block grant to support state programs — already existing in some places — that help low-income senior citizens pay for drugs.

Meanwhile, in the Republican rebuttal to Clinton's speech, Sen. Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said Senate GOP leaders want quick action on legislation that would add prescription drug coverage to Medicare as part of a major overhaul of the program.

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

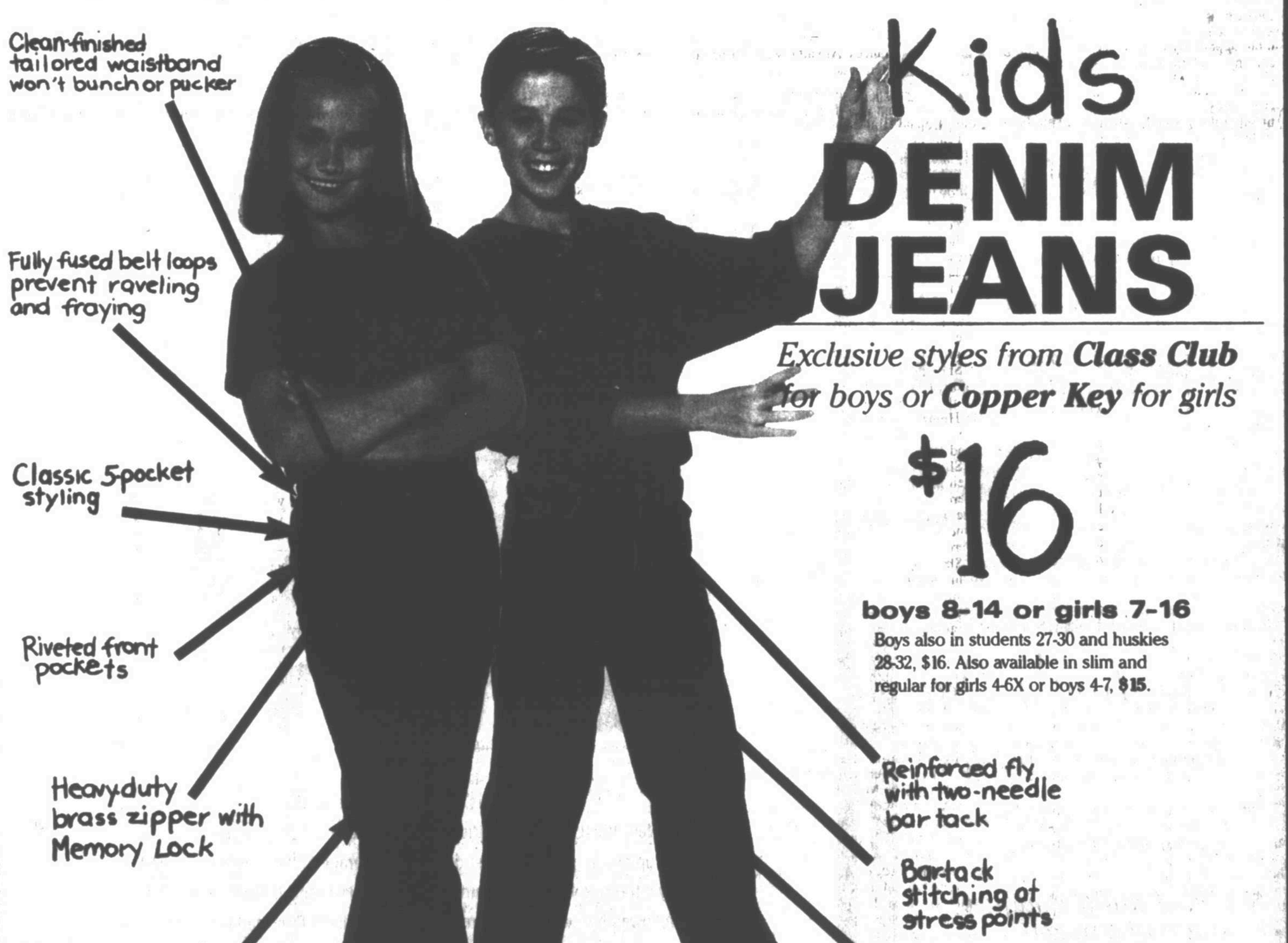
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DAVE BARRY

Gaining weight equal to one's car is part of taking a cruise

I am a hearty seafaring type of individual, so recently I spent a week faring around the sea aboard the largest cruise ship in the world that has not yet hit an iceberg. It is called the Voyager, and it weighs 140,000 tons, which is approximately the amount I ate in desserts alone.

The Voyager sails out of Miami every week carrying 3,200 passengers determined to relax or die trying. The ship has (I am not making any of this up) an ice-skating rink, a large theater, a shopping mall, a rock-climbing wall and a nine-hole miniature golf course. We have come a long way indeed from the days when the Pilgrims crossed the Atlantic aboard the May-flower, which — hard as it is to imagine today — had no skating rink and only four golf holes.



Barry

While aboard the ship, we passengers engaged in a wide range of traditional cruise-ship activities, including eating breakfast.

The only stressful part of our shipboard routine was looking at photographs of ourselves. When you're on a cruise, photographers constantly pop up and take pictures of you; they put these on display in hopes that you'll buy them as souvenirs. At night, my wife and I would join the throng of passengers looking through the photos, hoping to find a nice flattering shot of ourselves, and then suddenly — YIKES — we'd be confronted with this terrifying image of two bloated, bright-red sluglike bodies with *our faces*. Jabba and Mrs. Hutt go to sea!

When every passenger had attained roughly the same body weight as a Buick Riviera, the ship would stop at a Caribbean island, and the passengers would waddle ashore to experience the traditional local culture, by which I mean shop for European jewelry and watches. I frankly don't know why it makes economic sense for a tourist from Montana to fly to Miami, get on a ship and sail to Jamaica for the purpose of purchasing a watch made in Switzerland, but apparently it does, because shopping is very important to cruise passengers. If these people ever get to Mars, they will expect to find jewelry stores.

The other thing you do when your ship is in port is take guided tours to local points of interest. Under international law, every tour group must include one tourist who has the IQ of sod. In Jamaica, we toured a plantation, and our group included a woman whose brain operated on some kind of tape delay, as we see from this typical exchange between her and our guide:

GUIDE: These are banana plants, which produce bananas. You can see the bananas growing on these banana plants.

WOMAN (in a loud voice): What kind of plants are these?

GUIDE: Banana.

WOMAN: Huh! (To her husband:) Frank, these are banana plants!

The woman repeated virtually everything the guide said to Frank. One day he will kill her with a kitchen appliance.

But I am proud to say that winner of the award for biggest tourist doofus was: me. What happened was, during the tour, a man demonstrated how he could climb a coconut tree using only a small rope made from twisted banana fibers. When he came down, he showed me the rope, and I, out of politeness, pretended to be interested in it, although in fact it was, basically, a rope. The man handed it to me and suggested I might want to "take it home to the kids." I frankly doubted that any modern Nintendo-raised American child would be thrilled by such a gift ("Look, Timmy! A rope!"). But I pretended to be grateful. Then the man told me that such ropes usually sell for $15 (he did not say where) but he would let it go for $10. And so, unable to figure out how to escape, I gave him $10. I imagine the other plantation workers laughed far into the night when he told them. ("He gave you $10 for the rope?" "Yes! He must be even stupider than the tape-delay woman!")

But don't get me wrong: I truly enjoyed the cruise. It was fun and relaxing, and it gave me a rare chance, amid all the hustle and bustle of my busy life, to pick up a substantial amount of body mass. Cruising is also romantic, so let me just say this to you couples out there: If you're looking for a way to rekindle the flame in your relationship, I'll sell you my rope.

— — —

Dave Barry's column is distributed by Tribune Media Services.

Person to Person

With Johnnye Montgomery





Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High School graduate Frances Atwater serves as historian for MHS and also for First United Methodist Church. The 1940 graduate was named to the Midland High School Hall of Fame last year.

MHS, FUMC historian

Frances Atwater

On the morning of Oct. 26, 1999, Frances Atwater was sitting at her kitchen table reading the newspaper. When she turned to the local section, she saw that she had been named to the Midland High School Hall of Fame.

Frances was completely blindsided by the honor, and delighted and to this day, amazed.

"This was something I just hadn't considered. I rode in the homecoming parade with Ellen Hardy McKinnon (the other 1999 honoree) and they had a reception for us, and I had a corsage," she said. "Then we went to the game, and Wilson Harding presented us with plaques."

Throughout her lifelong involvement with Midland High, from the time she was class president in her freshman year to last year's induction into the Hall of Fame, she can name few days when she wasn't doing something for Midland or Lee High. (Her children are Lee High alumni.)

She helped organize the Ex-Student's Association of Midland High School in 1985. She serves on the Homecoming Parade Committee, the Hall of Honor Committee, the Reunion 2000 committee, and takes care of the memorabilia case at Midland High.

She was a member of the Bonham PTA, and did their newsletter while her children were in school there, then went on to the Lee High PTA, where she was PTA president, and was awarded a lifetime membership for her work while her children were in school.

She's historian for First United Methodist Church, where she is now collecting photographs of all the ministers who have served FUMC during its 100-plus-year history. She's also campaigning for a room to be set aside to hold FUMC's memorabilia.

"After all, this is Midland's oldest (chartered) church, although we weren't the first to build a building," she said, "We've got some wonderful old photographs and dishes and other memorabilia that we should be preserving and keeping for future generations."

She's been involved in writing three historic accounts of the church, including two pages in the 1998 "Historic Midland."

When the publishers of the glossy coffee table volume told her that they could not include a grainy copy of FUMC's first church house, Frances set her foot down and would not be moved.

"I know it isn't the greatest picture, but it's the best we've got, and it's going in the book," she said. She won. The picture is in the book.

She says she does it because she enjoys it. Always has.

"I loved going to school. I graduated in 1940, when you only went to school for 11 years, which my grandchildren say is not long enough.

"But I remember my freshman year, I was class president, and we had to sit up in the balcony of the high school auditorium, and the class of 1912 came back for their 25th year reunion. I thought I would never live to see my 25th high school reunion, and here I am planning our 60th."

After graduation, Frances went to Draughn's Business School in Abilene, where she says the bookkeeping instructor despaired of ever making her a bookkeeper. But what she could do was type.

"I just loved typing. We typed to music-marches," she remembers. "When I took the civil service typing test, I typed 98 words per minute on the manual typewriter."

After finishing Draughn's, she came home and she and her mother took the summer to sew clothes for her to enter McMurry College in Abilene in the fall. She spent one semester there.

"Pearl Harbor was (bombed) on a Sunday, December 7, 1941," she said. "In the girls' dorm, we heard all this noise outside, and when we looked out the window, here came all the boys from the boys' dorm, carrying crutches and pots and beating on them, making noise. And that's how we learned of Pearl Harbor.

"Within two or three days, there was hardly a boy left on campus. They had all enlisted."

When Frances came home for Christmas, she learned that the U.S. Army was trying to reach her. The Army had access to the test results from the civil service test she had taken at the conclusion of her Draughn's business courses, and wanted to interview her for a job at the new bombardier school. She interviewed and the following February was told she had a job as file clerk for the commanding officer and head surgeon at the station hospital.

"But my father was adamant that I must take my semester exams at McMurry first," she said. "My first day on the job I was so scared. I finally found the office, and they showed me my desk, which was piled with four boxes full of files. I knew nothing about their filing system, so I made one of my own."

She was promoted through the system until she was supervisor of civilian personnel, in charge of hiring and firing. She said she was constantly having to hire new clerks to replace the wives of men who transferred out after training.

It was during that time that she met Howard Atwater. They began to date as the war wound down, and in 1946, after the bombardier school closed, they were married.

Howard went to work for the U.S. Postal Service, and Frances went to work for American Trading Oil Co., where geologist Cy Young taught her to plot logs, and to color them with colored pencils. When she became pregnant, she set up shop at home, plotting logs in her home office for the next 10 to 12 years.

Then Barney Grafa, owner of West Texas Abstract, called to ask her if she would come to work for him.

"He wanted me to do some work at the courthouse and one day while I was there, I met a man copying birth records. He offered to pay me to compile that list for him every day."

It was the beginning of Frances' next home-based venture, the publication of "The Bulletin Board," a daily listing of the county's recorded births, deaths, marriages, divorces, deeds of trust and warranty deeds, changes of address, and new and used car registrations. She would gather the information, rush home and type it onto a mimeograph stencil with her manual Royal typewriter, then process it.

During the heyday of "Bulletin Board" she had as many as 300 customers among the banks, merchants and utility companies that needed such information to keep track of customers and make good decisions as to who might be a likely candidate for the financing of a new refrigerator or car.

The publication usually ran about 12 legal size pages, especially before she learned to make abbreviations.

Frances said the messy mimeograph ink was responsible for countless ruined blouses and skirts and the carpet.

"It was impossible to get that ink out."

Before too long, she began to get calls from schools and organizations wanting other printing done — garden club cookbooks, country club membership booklets, and school programs — all while putting out the daily "Bulletin Board."

"I was lucky. Connie and Jimmie were in sixth and fourth grade at Bonham, and Bonnie was a baby," she said. "A really good baby. And Howard was wonderful. He would come home from the post office and we'd all work to put those pages together, label and fold them and rush them down to the post office before midnight.

"After a few years, I hired other women so I didn't have to go to the courthouse, but I made lots of friends there. The last 15 years, my next door neighbor worked for me."

In 1994, when she was 71, she sold the "Bulletin Board." Howard had retired from the post office in 1962, beset by arthritis. He was able to travel, so they bought a motor home and set out to see the United States.

They went to Padre Island and went camping. They took short and long trips, and planned others. But Howard's health began to fail in about 1996. He died of Parkinson's disease in 1998.

Frances picked up the pieces and went on with her life. She put together a registry of Midland High School alumni. She continued to work on Midland High's memorabilia display, and on the collection

Please see MHS/2B

Ha Ha Ha Ha

Humor to start your week ...

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening worship service and was startled to find an intruder in her house.

Catching the man in the act of burglarizing her home, she yelled, "Stop! Acts 2:38!" (Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven.")

As the burglar stopped dead in his tracks, the woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. Shortly, several officers arrived and took the man into custody.

As he was placing the handcuffs on the burglar, one of the officers asked, "Why did you just stand there? All the lady did was mention a Scripture verse."

"Scripture?" replied the burglar. "She said she had an axe and two 38's!

— Contributed by Midlander Fayla Ward

* * *

The Reporter-Telegram is seeking good, clean jokes that will be published on the Monday Morning page. If your joke is selected for publication, you will receive $10. Your submission should include your name, mailing address, work phone and home phone. Jokes should be submitted to Mary Dearen, P.O. Box 1650, Midland 79701; fax, 570-7650; or e-mail, purple@basinlink.com.

JAN 31 2000

Pecos man rebuilds town's only theater

By Michelle Koidin
Associated Press

PECOS — An equal number of shops are dark and boarded up as those open for business on Oak Street in this West Texas town.

But what out-of-towner Richard Creasy noticed during a visit here was a deserted orange-brick building that could fulfill his dream.

It was the old State Theatre, abandoned on Dec. 31, 1989, when a movie-theater chain closed all of its single-screen theaters. Since then, residents in this cotton-farming, ranching and oil town of about 11,000 have been driving 72 miles to Odessa to see a show.

Even in this age of megaplexes and stadium-style seating, Creasy decided to pour much of his money and all of his sweat into restoring the State to how it looked back when Pecos thrived in the 1950s.

"It's just in my blood," says Creasy, 55, who for 30 years worked as a carpenter and electrician for theatrical productions in Houston and on tour. He followed in the footsteps of his father, who made his living operating a movie projector.

"Show business is what I've done all my life," says Creasy, "and I've always wanted to own a theater."

His wife and partner, Lillian, said when they came upon the theater while in town for a wedding, "We thought, 'This is meant to be.' It just seemed like everything fell into place."

Since that day in May 1998, the Creasys have bought the theater and moved from San Antonio to Pecos. Mrs. Creasy, 60, spends her time searching for grants, paying the bills and talking to booking agents, while Creasy works eight to 12 hours a day with a hammer, saw or broom to prepare the theater to reopen on June 30 — the 46th anniversary of the original opening.

Except for the help of a few volunteers and a hired electrician, this newcomer to town is doing everything on his own to bring back what was once the social center of Pecos, where today entertainment is scarce and poverty rampant. Many shops on either side of the theater have closed in the last 15 years amid drought, layoffs and the arrival of Wal-Mart.

Creasy's work on the theater has created a buzz among townspeople, who fondly recall walking to the theater as children. High school students, who say there's "nothing to do" in Pecos other than drive from the hamburger joint to the convenience store and back, can't wait.

On a recent afternoon, the mustachioed Creasy — wearing a black hat speckled with dust — stepped around chunks of concrete in the aisles and smiled often as he described his vision for the State.

He sees a '50s-style lobby, with black and white tiles, chrome around the concession stand, an antique popcorn machine. He sees a teen-age usher escorting patrons to their seats, which will be reupholstered in powder blue.

He's thankful some things are in good enough condition to keep as they are: the brick exterior of the building, the 20-or-so-year-old projector and the original metal reclining chairs, which are still bolted to the floor and the balcony.

But he will add a new sound system, new screen, new curtains, new ceiling. The carpet has been ripped out; the floor will be painted. The stage will be expanded so that plays and recitals also can be held at the State.

Creasy won't say how much all of this will cost him, or even how much he paid for the theater. Just like the carpentry, he's doing it all on his own, except for a $10,000 donation from the city to fix the roof.

Still, he's only planning on charging patrons $4 a ticket, no matter what time they come, no matter their age. At that rate — at least $2.50 less per ticket than most theaters charge at night — Creasy feels certain the theater won't make him a rich man. He hopes only to break even, or make a little money.

He said he is doing this simply because it is his passion, and because he wants to give the State Theatre back to the residents of Pecos, where his wife's father was the school superintendent in the '20s and where she still has cousins.

Some residents have questioned Creasy's choice of "retirement activity" — for that is what he considers it — expressing doubt that he will be able to keep the State afloat.

Bill Cooksey, owner of the town's only surviving jewelry store, conceded it is a big financial risk. "He's taking it as a challenge, and he wants to see if he can make it work," said Cooksey. "I admire him for his efforts."

So does Pecos Mayor Dot Stafford. "What an optimist — I love it," she said. "He has been working so hard, bless his heart."

Gloria Ontiveros, 49, has faith the revived theater will be a success. A lifelong resident of Pecos, she drives to Odessa at least once a month for dinner and a movie. "We could keep that money here," she said. "I know if we had it here, people would go."

Creasy also has the faith, and he's letting everyone know. On the box office window out front, he has painted these words: "The State will rise again!"

The Creasys hope that others will follow their lead, perhaps opening an ice cream parlor or a cafe near the theater. They believe with a little imagination, folks here can make Pecos prosper again.

Longtime residents may call them dreamers.

But their friends back home in San Antonio are calling them crazy, and their children think they've completely lost it. No one could even believe they chose to move to Pecos.

"They say," said Creasy, "there's nothing out here. And I say that's why we came out here — to make something."

DEAR ABBY

Woman's spiked bar drink could have been last call

By Abigail Van Buren


Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: The letter about club drugs really hit home. I would like to warn all young women about the potential for their drinks to be "dosed" with these drugs without their knowledge.

I went to a neighborhood bar over Thanksgiving weekend, and found myself feeling very woozy and overintoxicated for the amount I had to drink. I had left my drink on the bar while I went to use the ladies room, and when I came back, it tasted strange. Since it was a new drink, I assumed the bartender had mixed it differently.

Shortly after consuming this drink, I became sick to my stomach and lightheaded. A fellow I had chatted with — and who coincidentally had offered to watch my drink — started asking me questions about how I felt and if I wanted a place to crash. I have no doubt he had less than innocent intentions.

Fortunately, two gentlemen by the names of Andrew and Chris came to my aid. They stayed by my side, talking to me, keeping me alert, calling a car service for me and making sure the other guy didn't bother me.

I left the bar before thanking them; so, Abby, please let me thank them now.

Ladies: Do not leave your drink unattended, no matter what! And if the drink tastes "funny," don't drink it! While most of these drugs are tasteless and odorless, others have a salty taste. Just be careful! And to all the Andrews and Chrises out there — thank you. — CHRISTINE IN MIDLOTHIAN, VA.

DEAR CHRISTINE: You are a lucky young woman. You had a very close call. The young man who doctored your drink is a predator.

Your comments about never leaving a drink unattended are important. I hope young people will pay attention. It may seem like a cold reality, but it's part of being streetwise and self-protective.

DEAR ABBY: I am a volunteer at a local animal shelter, and I'm deeply concerned about pet owners who do not take full responsibility for the safety of their pets. Every day dogs and cats are brought in off the streets without tags or identification. Many of them are wonderful, loving pets who belong to someone who didn't bother to put identification on them for one reason or another. As a result, thousands of these wonderful animals are put to death every year because their owners can't be located.

Abby, it is heartbreaking to have to euthanize healthy animals due to lack of shelter space and available homes. Please inform your readers of the importance of putting ID tags on their pets. It could save a lot of heartache. — ANIMAL LOVER IN BEND, ORE.

DEAR ANIMAL LOVER: I'm pleased to publicize this important reminder to pet owners. Dogs and cats are curious creatures who often like to wander. If the animal is picked up, proper identification can literally mean the difference between life and death, so please don't procrastinate.

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

TALKIN' TEXAN

Quiet Florida beach was perfect setting for New Year's

By Tumbleweed Smith


Smith

The sunset was spectacular. The clouds were trimmed with silver and gold as the sun laid a bright, orange stripe on the water before sinking into the gulf.

Sounds like Texas, doesn't it? Well, it's Florida. A little place called Cape San Blas on a strip of beach referred to as Florida's Forgotten Coast.

This is northern Florida. The panhandle. Florida's Big Bend. It's where the best beaches are. Cape San Blas has bright white sand that is so clean it squeaks when you walk on it. The gulf water has a gentle surf here. It's calm and peaceful, a good place to start the new millennium.

We went to Florida because my wife's cousin Bill has an uncle who owns a beach house in Cape San Blas and rents it out The house is named Do Me Good. We were trying to figure out somewhere to go to welcome the new century. We thought about Key West and tried to get accommodations there, but the prices were outrageous. A room at a moderately priced motel that might cost $50 to $70 a night was going for $500 a night.

Cuz Bill told us about the place at San Blas, so we decided to go there. It's near Apalachicola, an historic, old sailing town that feels and looks like the times when big ships came into the harbor there.

Some other places nearby are Saint George Island, Mexico Beach and Port Saint Jo. Palmettos grow here in profusion, right along with tall pine trees. It is an area of beautiful homes. In spite of all the hurricane threats, land is expensive here. A tiny lot next to Do Me Good is for sale for $150,000.

We had oysters at Boss Oysters, a restaurant in Apalachicola. They prepare oysters 17 different ways. We didn't try all of them. My favorite was with ceviche.

Oysters are big business here. Apalachicola Bay provides 90 percent of Florida's oysters and 10 percent of the nation's supply. One and a half million pounds of oyster meat are shucked around Apalachicola each year.

In Florida, fireworks are sold in supermarkets. We bought some at Piggly Wiggly to celebrate the New Year on the beach. The temperature was perfect. Around 70 degrees. High season in Florida is summer, I don't understand that.

All during the last day of 1999, people were building things near the water. The beach sand was formed into a giant Sphinx, a castle-like structure that had turrets and stairs on the inside of it, a bear, a woman and all manner of things. It was fun to walk along and see all the creativity that went into building sand sculptures. At night on New Year's Eve people sat outside and built fires.

Our fireworks were duds. I tried to light a package of firecrackers so they would all go off together, but nothing happened. I threw them in the fire and nothing happened. But some others worked and people on either side of us had some real fireworks, so we got to watch. It was a great way to start a new year.

Tumbleweed Smith is a Big Spring storyteller and folklorist. His radio show, "The Sound of Texas," can be heard 11:23 a.m. weekdays on KMCM (96.9 FM).

Tech professor earns spot in Texas Science Hall of Fame

LUBBOCK (AP) — Texas Tech education professor Gerald Skoog is in good company.

He was recently listed along with three Nobel laureates, four astronauts, a former chairman of the State Board of Education, two famous heart surgeons and a pair of well-known inventors as charter members of the Texas Science Hall of Fame.

"When I was first notified, I asked who else was on the list," Skoog said. "When I found out I was on there with Nobel laureates and the inventor of the integrated circuit, I was pleased to be in such heady company."

The interim dean of Tech's College of Education, where Skoog has taught science education and researched the teaching of evolution in schools since 1969, said he's met very few people in 30 years as quick on their feet as Skoog.

"I've met very few people who can make the right comment at the right time like he can. I've met very few people who can ask the right questions like he can," Larry Hovey said. "When you look at those people who were inducted into the hall of fame, he belongs there. It's not only fitting, it shows who he is.

"He's impressed me."

Skoog first began researching evolution in education while a graduate student at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

"I was a biology teacher," he said. "I taught evolution. I drove by the William Jennings Bryan statue every day."

Skoog analyzed textbooks published from 1900 to 1968 for information about evolution because "the textbook is a strong indicator of what's being taught." After he came to Tech at a time when textbook adoption "used to get pretty rowdy," he also began looking at the legal and religious issues involved in the evolution debate.

Through the years, Skoog's research has led him to speak on the subject before the National Academy of Science and serve as the spokesman for the National Science Teachers Association following the August decision to deemphasize evolution in Kansas state science standards.

That decision last year "says that education is political," Skoog said. "Evolution is seen by biologists and scientists as the central unifying concept of biology. If you don't understand evolution, you can't understand the natural world."

The Kansas debate shows that unlike the 1920s or 1930s during the era of the famous Scopes Monkey Trial, the opposition to evolution tends to come from a better educated, wealthier group with more political pull, he said.

"Science is not a believe it or not thing," Skoog said. "When teachers ignore it or teach it in an erroneous way, I believe they're being professionally irresponsible."

MHS: Frances works on second alumni registry

(From 1B)

of FUMC's historic relics.

In the summer of 1999, she finally found time to ask her doctor about a teardrop-shaped black spot that had developed on the bottom of her right foot during Howard's illness.

"Connie had noticed it. She told me it looked like I had stepped on a Marks-A-Lot. I knew I needed to have it looked at, but I was so busy with Howard."

It turned out that the black teardrop was a melanoma — a cancer. Upon examination, it was found to have spread to the lymph gland in her right leg.

The doctors removed as much as they could, and Frances began a chemotherapy regimen. But she couldn't endure the side effects. She stopped the treatment midway, choosing to use the time to do other things.

For the time being, she's doing well, knowing that she may at some point have to make another decision.

"It really doesn't bother me, except that my leg is swollen where they removed the lymph gland. But they told me that would happen."

She is presently working on a second Midland High School alumni registry, while simultaneously doing the preliminary work toward a Lee High registry — a job she's trying to delegate to a Lee High alumnus, if she can find someone willing to take on the task.

"This (Midland High) registry costs $60, and it's worth every penny of it. I use it every day."

Meanwhile, she's planning Midland High's class reunion, which she thinks should also include Lee High and Carver graduates as well.

"After all, this is the millennium. We need a gathering of everyone who ever went to high school in Midland. After all, a future president, or president's wife may be a Midland alumnus."

Hollywood Theaters
TALL CITY 10 4915 W. LOOP 250 522-2200
BARGAIN MATINEES INDICATED BY ( )
ALL STADIUM SEATING
HURRICANE R — (1:35) 4:45) 8:00
NEXT FRIDAY R — (1:15) 4:30) 7:00 9:20
THE GREEN MILE R — (1:30) 7:15
EYE OF THE BEHOLDER R — (1:00) 4:20) 7:00 9:30
STUART LITTLE PG — (1:15) 4:15) 7:25 9:40
GALAXY QUEST PG — (2:00) 4:30) 7:20 9:45
INCONVENIENT MAN PG — (12:50) 3:50) 7:20 10:10
PLAY IT TO THE BONE R — (1:15) 4:00) 7:20 10:15
SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS PG-13 — (1:05) 4:10) 7:10 9:55
THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY R — (12:45) 3:45) 7:05 10:00
NORTH PARK
DOWN TO SLEEP R — 4:30 7:05
MAN ON THE MOON PG-13 — 4:40 7:20
END OF DAYS R — 4:05 7:10
FANTASIA G — 4:15 7:30
CINE 4
DOUBLE JEOPARDY R — 4:50 7:10
ANYBODY BUT ME PG — 4:40 7:00
THE MESSENGER R — 9:10
THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH PG-13 — 4:25 7:00
NO VIP'S, NO PASSES, NO DISCOUNTS
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MIDLAND SOCCER ASSOCIATION
ANNOUNCES
SPRING SIGNUP
NOW THRU FEBRUARY 6, 2000
(from 10:00 a.m. Monday February 7th thru 2:00 p.m. February 11th a late registration period will be held with applicable late fee)

WHERE: Midland Soccer Association Office, 4400 N. Big Spring, Suite C-41 (MISSION SQUARE)

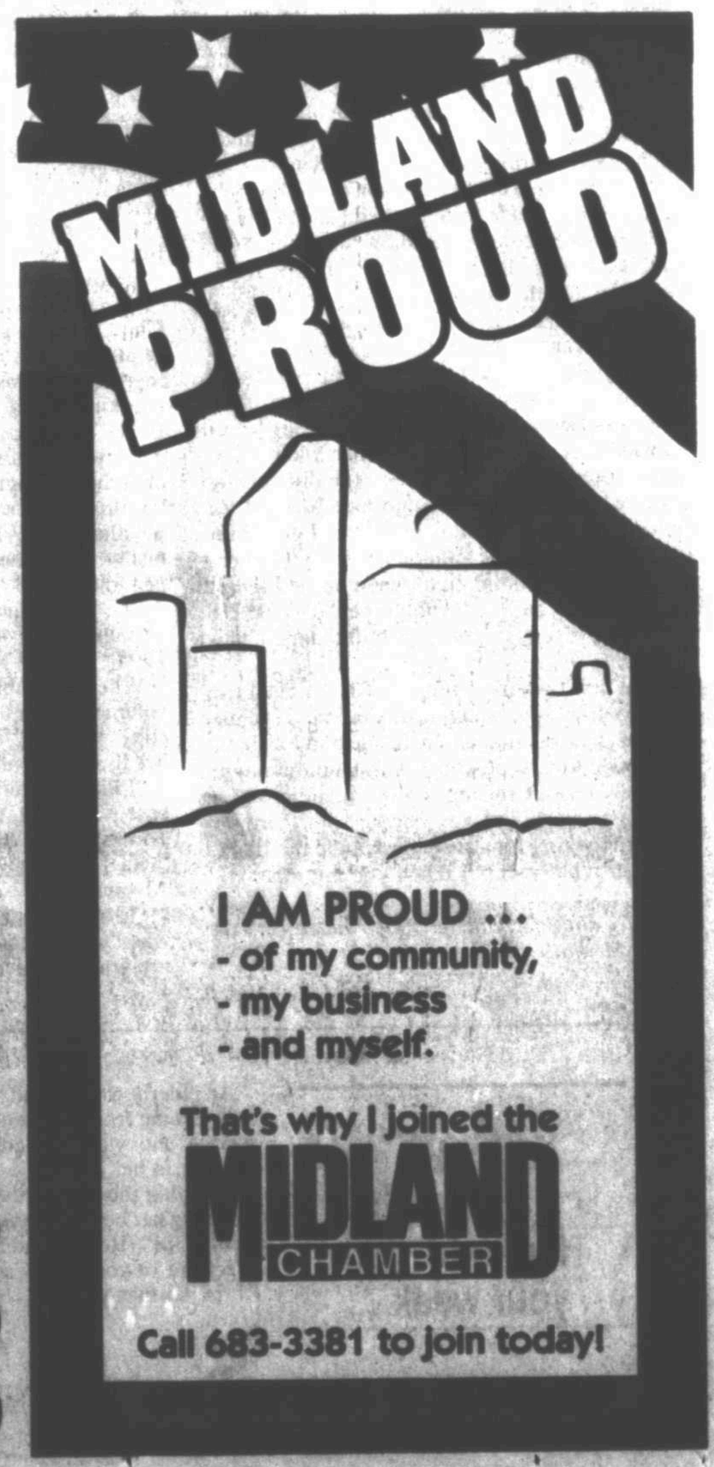
TIME: 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. MON.-FRI., or
Midland Park Mall
February 5 & 6 during Mall Hours in the J.C. Penney Courtyard

COST: $40.00 per player (After February 6th a $10.00 non-refundable late fee will apply)

Players must be 4 years old by December 31, 1999. First time players or those players who have skipped seasons must provide MSA a copy of their birth certificate at registration.

REFEREE CLINICS:
Linesman Clinic (must be 11yrs old by March 1st)
January 28 & 29th
Associate Clinic (must be 12 yrs old by March 1st)
January 30th
Recreational Clinic (must be 12 years old by March 1st)
February 4 and 5th

Call MSA at 684-5425 or Gary Stull at 686-8848 for times and fees and other details.



POLICE REPORTS

Guilty plea

A Ruidosa, Calif., man has pled guilty to attempting to murder a U.S. Border Patrol agent in an incident west of Marfa on Nov. 22, 1999, 40 miles from the U.S.-Mexico border, the U.S. Department of Justice announced.

Shaun Michael Kane, 21, pleaded guilty to one count each of attempted murder, discharging a firearm during a crime of violence and attempted escape.

According to a Justice Department report, during a foot chase around 1:30 a.m. on Nov. 22, Kane fired three shots from a Colt .45 automatic pistol at a U.S. Border Patrol agent who was not injured in the incident. The day before, a Marfa police officer had tried to apprehend Kane after discovering the vehicle Kane was driving had been reported stolen. Kane abandoned the vehicle and fled the scene on foot, according to the report.

On Dec. 17, while in federal custody, he attempted to escape from the Winkler County Jail in Kermit.

Kane remains in federal custody pending sentencing, facing up to 20 years in federal prison on the attempted murder charge, up to five years on the attempted escape and a mandatory minimum of 10 years on the firearm charge.

Sentencing will be handed down by Judge Lucius Bunton on March 27.

Midland Police Department

Thursday

Burglary of a building: A lock was cut on a storage building at 1005 S. L and a microwave oven was taken, it was reported at 9:25 p.m.

Burglary of a vehicle: A vehicle was reported burglarized at 3417 N. Midland Drive at 4 p.m.

Criminal mischief: A vehicle was reported damaged at 3613 Shandon at 9 p.m.

Theft: A theft was reported by Murphy Oil Co. at 4517 N. Midland Drive at 3 p.m.

Friday

Burglary of a building: A burglary was reported at the VFW, 1306 E. Taylor, at 2:30 a.m.

Burglary of a residence: A burglary was reported at 507 W. Tilden at 1:45 a.m.

Criminal mischief: The front windshield of a pickup was reported broken at 1810 W. Illinois at 6 a.m.

Saturday

Burglary of a residence: A television and VCR were reported taken from 2903 Cloverdale at 8 a.m.

Burglary of a residence: A television and stereo system were among items reported taken from 1303 W. Washington at 7 a.m.

Burglary of a vehicle: A vehicle was reported burglarized at 3416 W. Wall at 2:37 a.m. The right-side passenger door was dented and the window smashed.

Sexual assault: A sexual assault was reported at 3100 Caldera at 4 a.m.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle: A 1993 gold Saturn was reported taken from 2415 Idlewilde at 7:30 a.m.

Midland County Sheriff's Office

Saturday

Burglary: A CD case and CDs were reported taken from a residence at 2700 FM 1379 at 7:21 p.m.

Burglary of a vehicle: A vehicle at 2313 E. County Road 140 was broken into and items removed, it was reported at 6:07 p.m.

Criminal mischief: Graffiti was sprayed on property at 3307 S. County Road 1224, it was reported at 2:20 p.m.

Sunday

Theft: Two 30-packs of beer were reported taken from a 7-Eleven at 13920 W. Highway 80 at 12:21 a.m.

Theft: Two 30-packs of beer were reported taken from a Town and Country store at 3115 Garden City Highway at 3:41 a.m.

Theft: Gasoline was reported stolen from the Uncle's convenience store at 4921 N. Loop 250 at 3:42 p.m.

Vandalism: A window at 7701 W. County Road 116 was broken out, it was reported at 3:51 a.m.

Family of slain Columbine student moves to Houston, tries to heal

HOUSTON (AP) — Relatives of the only black student slain in the Columbine High School massacre say they hope to rebuild their lives in a new home on a quiet cul-de-sac in a middle-class Houston suburb.

Michael and Vonda Shoels, who relocated to Texas two weeks ago, said moving is a lot easier than reclaiming a sense of normalcy after their son Isaiah's death.

"Under the circumstances, how can we be normal again?" Michael Shoels is quoted as saying in Sunday editions of the Houston Chronicle. "Isaiah can't come back. It will never be normal. We're going to try to live and do the best we can."

The 18-year-old was one of 12 students and one teacher shot to death before two teen-age killers took their own lives.

The Shoelses moved to Denver from the Littleton area after Isaiah was killed, saying they feared for their safety in Jefferson County.

The Shoelses experienced a variety of criticism after talking of a conspiracy theory against their son and hiring high-profile Michigan lawyer Geoffrey Fieger to file a $250 million wrongful-death lawsuit against the killers' parents.

"Initially, they had the sympathy that the other victims' families had," said Sam Riddle, a family spokesman. "As soon as the Shoelses started speaking out about the almost perverse form of denial the state of Colorado was in regarding hate, anti-Semitism and racism, they began to be treated as if they pulled the trigger. That was wrong."

Shoels said the death of his son, the public scrutiny, the cold shoulder from the community and anonymous threats to his family contributed to the family's flight from Colorado. He vows never to go back.

He even plans to have Isaiah's body exhumed from the cemetery in Colorado and brought to Houston.

"That soil ain't fit for him to be in. It's contaminated with hate and racism," he said.

Kelven Hunter of Houston, Vonda Shoels' first cousin, suggested that the couple and their four children leave Colorado. The Shoels requested that the Chronicle not name the city where they now live.

Shoels said he isn't satisfied with the investigation of the shootings. He contends his son was the victim of a hate crime and that a group such as the Ku Klux Klan or Aryan Nation might be involved.

OBITUARIES

Glen Edwards

Glen H. Edwards was born February 23, 1941 in Roswell, New Mexico to Cecil and Eula (Smith) Edwards. Mr. Edwards has been a resident of Midland since 1969. Mr. Edwards enjoyed the outdoors, especially camping, fishing, and golf.

He was preceded in death by his father, two sisters and a daughter.

Survivors include his son, Lance H. Edwards of Midland; a daughter, Kristi Trower and her husband, James, of Gardendale; his mother, Eula Edwards of Roswell, New Mexico; a brother, Carl Edwards of Roswell, New Mexico; a sister, Geneva Neff of Roswell, New Mexico; 2 grandchildren, Keith and Lacey Trower of Gardendale; and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Edwards died Friday, January 28, 2000 in a Midland hospital.

Funeral services are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Tuesday in Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with Tom Vermillion of Golf Course Road Church of Christ, officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Joyce Driver

Joyce Smith Driver was born April 14, 1903 in Freestone County, Texas to Thomas Hightower and Kate (Collins) Smith. She was a 50-year member of Eastern Star #253, and was a charter member of the Beauciants.

Survivors include two daughters, Griffin Driver Ernsting of Sparta, Illinois and Erma Eugenia Driver Parker of Midland; 5 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Driver died Friday, January 28, 2000 at Mabee Health Care Center in Midland.

Visitation will be Monday from 8:00 a.m. until service time.

Funeral services are scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Monday in Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Tommy Potter of First Christian Church officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Mason will serve as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be Ulys Barber, John Kal Woody and Hollye Bird, Jr.

The family requests memorials be directed to the Shriner Children's Hospital or to First Christian Church in Midland.

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.

DEATH NOTICES

Johnny Okrasinski

Johnny Okrasinski, 60, died Friday, Jan. 28, at a local hospital.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 1 at The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity with the Rev. Stockton Williams officiating under the direction of Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel.

He was born Jan. 1, 1940 in Warsaw, Poland.

At the age of three, he and his father escaped from a concentration camp. He moved to the United States at the age of 10. He lived in Ruidoso, N.M. 12 years, working for the Jockey Club and in Sierra Blanca. He moved to Midland in 1983 and worked at Venezia Restaurant nine years, then was store manager for What A Deal. He was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity.

He was preceded in death by his father, Edward N. Okrasinski; and a sister.

Survivors include his mother, Janina Patera Okrasinski of Poland; four sons, Chase Okrasinski, Lance Okrasinski and Shane Okrasinski, all of New Braunfels, and Rick Carney of Fort Worth; a daughter, Selina Harrington of Tennessee; five grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity.

Bid Gryder

SONORA — Bid Gryder, 62, father of Midlander Faron R. Gryder, died Saturday, Jan. 29, at a San Angelo hospital.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 1, in Fairmount Cemetery in San Angelo under the direction of Johnson's Funeral Home.

He was born April 24, 1937 in Rising Star.

Other survivors include his wife, Candy Gryder of Sonora; two sons, Kendon Gryder of Houston and Brandon Gryder of San Angelo; two daughters, Debra Hopper of Allen and Hollye Gryder of Austin; five brothers, Melvin Gryder of Comanche, Donnie Gryder of Eastland, Ronnie Gryder of Keller, Larry Gryder of Austin and Rodney Gryder of The Woodlands; a sister, Sharon McKee of Pampa; four grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Don Sweeden

Don Sweeden died Sunday, Jan. 30, at a Midland hospital.

Funeral services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

Benjamin Cortez

Benjamin Wyatt Cortez, infant son of David and Melissa Cortez, died Saturday, Jan. 29, at an Odessa hospital.

Services are pending with Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel.

Micah Cortez

Micah Landon Cortez, infant son of David and Melissa Cortez, died Saturday, Jan. 29, at an Odessa hospital.

Services are pending with Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel.

Red pots to demonstrate cutting logs, stacking

HOUSTON (AP) — Aggies in charge of creating the A&M bonfire stack that came crashing down with deadly consequence are to demonstrate for investigators this week the system used to chop, assemble and wire the 7,000 logs used to make the towering structure.

Consultants want to observe the human and behavioral sides of the student-run undertaking, bonfire investigation commission chairman Leo Linbeck Jr. said Sunday.

"How was it organized, how was it supervised, how they divided into teams — all the nonstructural elements," Linbeck explained. "Did the people construct it in the way it was intended?"

Through the decades, bonfire has been a revered A&M ritual, lighted on the eve of the football game against rival University of Texas.

But tradition melted to tragedy when the logs tumbled to the ground Nov. 18, trapping and crushing students. Twelve Aggies were killed in the bonfire collapse; 27 were injured, including John Comstock of Richardson who remained hospitalized in serious condition Sunday in the intensive care unit at College Station Medical Center.

Determined to ferret out the cause of the collapse, a bereaved A&M opened a massive investigation into the bonfire's history, engineering quirks and supervision.

In the tradition's heyday, student supervisors — called "red pots" for the personalized construction hats they donned — were the upper echelon of bonfire leadership.

This week's demonstration is meant to offer investigators "insight" into the human organization, Linbeck said. An account will be added to a fast-growing bonfire report, to be presented to the commission when all inquiries are completed.

A&M officials tapped Linbeck, a Houston construction executive, to head up the independent investigation commission. Engineering experts and consulting firms were enlisted to aid in the inquiry, expected to take months.

In recent weeks, university regents voted unanimously spend as much as $1 million on the probe into the collapse.

"It is a lot of money, everybody knows that's a lot of money," A&M President Ray M. Bowen said after the regents' decision on Jan. 19. "But it's a big issue. We lost our students."

University officials maintain that no tax dollars will be used to cover costs related to the accident.

A&M already has spent more than $290,000 on costs related to collapse, including plane trips for students attending out-of-state funerals, overtime for university police and food and drinks for emergency workers.

Wildlife officials plan rescue of noosed alligator

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Time is running out for a large alligator that may starve to death because of a tight noose around its jaws.

Wildlife officials say they are having a hard time locating the reptile, who was last spotted in November in Cayo Atascosa, a canal at the Highway 106 bridge.

Still, a rescue mission is planned.

Wildlife officials say they do not know who put the noose around the reptile's jaws or why it was done.

"We've heard reports of it for about two months, so we're pretty certain it's been at least that long it's been in that condition," said Kevin Stephenson, outdoor recreation planner with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

He said alligators can go about six months without eating, depending on when it had its last meal.

"But this is not something we can just sit on," he said.

Gladys Porter Zoo herpetologist Pat Birchfield said the alligator cannot be tranquilized because it will drown.

"The only way to catch that animal is to get a noose on it and drag it up on a boat," Birchfield said. "If someone has been trying to catch that alligator, he's going to be pretty wary. It's not going to be an easy task."

One idea being considered is to try to catch the alligator at night by using a spotlight. The gator's eyes will reflect the light, making it easier to spot.

Stephenson said he may ask for help from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, which has experience in capturing and relocating alligators.

He believes the reptile is still alive and could be anywhere along Cayo Atascosa, which is about five miles long but filled with numerous twists and turns, giving the alligator more places to hide.

The outlet for the Cayo is the Laguna Atascosa, the lake for which Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge was named. It also snakes through Cameron County ranch land and part of the Lower Rio Grande National Wildlife Refuge.

TODAY'S FUNERALS

JOYCE DRIVER
10 a.m.
Ellis Chapel, Fairview Cemetery

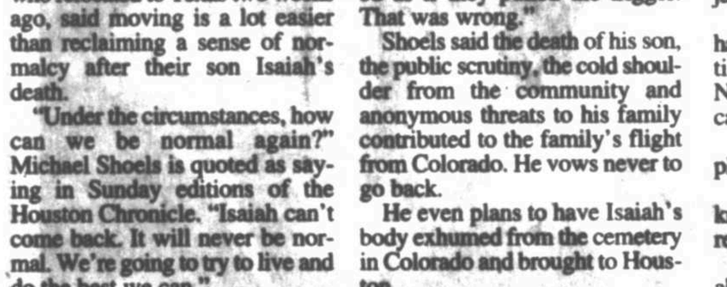
ARTHUR L. GLASCOCK
1 p.m.
Memorial Christian, Resthaven

WILLIAM WHITE
3 p.m.
Graveside, Fairview Cemetery

ALLEYNE HENINGTON
3 p.m.
Graveside, Tatum, N.M.

"A man is seldom better than his word."
-Lord Acton

Ellis Funeral Home
683-5555





JAN 31 2000

Listen Up!

City basks in the melody of all-state selections

By Matt Joesfy



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Students from Midland High, Lee High, Greenwood High and Midland Christian School band, choir and orchestra were honored as All-State band, choir, and orchestra members. From left to right: Front row: Mae Etta Higgins, April Adamson, Kristen Williams, Ben Torres, Karen Ferdinand and Christine Solis. Second row: Amanda Cox, Hannah Siekmann, Christopher Fortenberry, Edmundo Montoya, Julie Whitis and Sommer Jobe. Third row: Alta Striggles, Chris Culley, Patrick Moore and Missy Williams. Fourth row: Diane Boomer, Chris Fierro, Adam Houk and Erin Horne. Fifth row: Tyler Ogden, April Anderson and Jennifer Jordan. Sixth row: Jesse Showalter, Dustin Barnhill, Brian Dees, Aaron Hamblin and Jason Doherty. Back left: John Paul Sheppard and Brad Bailey. Not pictured, Sarah Lodge and Bryan Wilson.

Feb. 9 will be the beginning of a bus ride to San Antonio for 32 local students, but in many ways it is the end of a grueling but rewarding journey. These 32 students from Midland, Lee, Greenwood and Midland Christian high schools made the cut to be classified as the best musical performers in the state, with selections to the All-State choir, band, and orchestra.

"Not everybody gets an opportunity like this. This is the best all-star group you could get together. It'd be nice if we got more recognition, but we're in it because we love music," said Aaron Hamblin, MHS senior and trombone player. "It's pretty meaningful, considering that only a certain number (of students) out of the whole state get it. When you get down there, everybody's hyped about you and there are a lot of scholarship opportunities."

"Eight kids is a new school record for us. Anytime you do something that sets a school record at a school as old as ours, (that) speaks well for the student body as a whole," said William Doherty, band director at MHS. "The kids were very focused and the staff worked really hard. I give the credit to the kids, particularly in light of getting back from London the week before. Having to stay up for a whole week's worth of stuff and to come right back to do that audition was above and beyond the call of duty.

"Now the expectation is there for next year's group," he added.

Paula Edwards, director of the LHS choir, was equally pleased. "We've had one of the best turnouts that we've had in several years," she said. "Five (choir students) from one school is superb. That is a very good showing in our region." The LHS choir led the region in choir selections.

With 10 selections, the LHS band, directed by John Storie, performed just as superbly.

Midland Christian's John Paul Sheppard went out for the choir, despite the school not being in the 5A competition, and claimed a position for himself.

"I think it shows the little guy can win," he laughed. "I think this is one of the top awards (that I'll get in high school) because it means that it's not how well your school does, it's how well you do. I wouldn't say that (I'm a state champion), but it's a big honor."

Sheppard, a senior, wants to double-major in music education and vocal performance, and hopes to eventually reach his dream of performing on Broadway. He plans to attend either Baylor University, Texas Tech University or Abilene Christian University.

"It's hard work on their part. We work with our students over the holiday, and (assistant director) Karen Blackstone spends a lot of individual time with them. They don't get the accolades that your state athletes do, but they are of the same caliber," Ms. Edwards said. "These students have gone through three grueling auditions, each audition getting progressively harder. They spend hours practicing, learning and studying. It's not just physical exercise; it's the mental as well physical discipline that they're developing."

The students competed against students from El Paso to Lubbock, from Amarillo to Big Spring.

"It's a big honor that creates a lot of opportunities to meet people and can open doors for your future," said LHS senior Bryan Wilson. "It ranks right up with there with just about anything. This will be my last time to go, so I'm going to try to make it as memorable as possible."

Wilson, who also was selected last year, plans to major in vocal performance at Texas Tech.

While Wilson does intend to go into a musical field, high school music participation can be classified as anything from an investment to a hobby.

"For this period of time, they're the best. Right now, probably all of them are very interested in a career in music, but there are just as many who don't make (All-State) who will go into music," Ms. Edwards said. "The concert that they do at the Convention Center in San Antonio is standing room only. I think it's really exciting for the students, and probably overwhelming."

While some might think a trip to San Antonio is a reward in itself, Doherty does not think the recognition should stop there. "A kid could go and steal a car and be on the front page of the paper, but I don't think we can do enough for these young folks who have worked so hard. I work with champions every single day of my life, kids doing what they're supposed to," he said.

* * *

Class 5A, All-State Band

Flute: April Adamson, Chris Fierro, Hannah Siekman, LHS.

Oboe: Karen Ferdinand, MHS.

Clarinet: Amanda Cox, MaeEtta Higgins, LHS; April Anderson, Sarah Lodge, MHS.

Bass Clarinet: Alta Striggles, LHS.

Alto Clarinet: Diane Boomer, LHS.

Alto Saxaphone: Chris Culley, LHS.

Baritone Saxaphone: Ben Torres, MHS.

Trumpet: Aaron Hamblin, MHS.

French Horn: Jennifer Jordan, MHS; Chris Fortenberry, Greenwood.

Trombone: Edmundo Montoya, LHS; Brian Dees, MHS.

Euphonium: Jesse Showalter, LHS.

Tuba: Jason Doherty, MHS.

Class 5A, All-State Choir

Mixed Choir:

Soprano II: Julie Whitis, LHS.

Alto I: Missy Williams, Sommer Jobe, LHS.

Bass I: John Paul Sheppard, Midland Christian.

Bass II: Bryan Wilson, LHS.

Treble Choir:

Soprano II: Christine Solis

Class 5A, All-State Orchestra

Cello: Patrick Moore, LHS.

String Bass: Erin Horne, LHS.

Class 3A, All-State Band
(from Greenwood High School)

French Horn: Kristen Williams.

Trombone: Tyler Ogden, Adam Houk.

Bass Trombone: Dustin Barnhill.

Percussion: Brad Bailey.

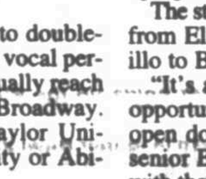
JACK LADD JR.

We need patience to battle, calm our own internal clock

By Jack Ladd Jr.

Tick.... tick..... tick.....

This is the horrible noise that my friend said was going through his head on the way to school. This is the sound of a clock, but not just any clock. It's the sound of the *"I've only got a few days until I get my driver's license"* clock.



Ladd

Our internal clock is one of the most persistant and irritating clocks we can face. The way to defeat that clock is to have one thing ... one very important thing that we need in all aspects of our lives: patience.

There are many instances where our patience is put to the test. For example, Sunday, I was watching "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?," ABC's game show wherein contestants have a chance to win a million dollars by answering questions. They have three "life lines" so they can ask other people what the answers might be. During the show, a contestant was asked to complete this statement, "Duck, Duck, ..." It was an easy question. He sat there and pondered it for a couple of minutes before answering that he didn't know. At this point, I was so angry I didn't know what to do. Then I realized it was just a game, and I calmed down.

Patience can also be tried when we want something or are waiting for something. For me, it is waiting for the same thing as my friend — a driver's license — which, in my case, is many moons away. It is kind of like 3-year-olds waiting for their birthday — they know it's coming, but it *just won't come*, so they have to be patient.

Whether we practice patience or not, it is an important virtue to teach and to learn. Time always seems to go slower if you want something, but if you have enough patience, time seems to go by much quicker. It is OK to get angry and impatient, but when we do, we should just try to stay patient and put it in perspective. I think of my reaction to the man not answering the "duck, duck" question. It's just a game, and we're here to have fun and enjoy it.

— — —

Jack Ladd Jr. is a sophomore at Midland High School.

Magnolia a masterpiece of sight and sound

Magnolia
Director: Paul Thomas Anderson
Starring: Phillip Baker Hall, Melora Walters, Jeremy Blackman, William H. Macey, Julianne Moore, John C. Reilly, Tom Cruise and Phillip Seymour Hoffman
Running Time: 179 Minutes
MPAA Classification: R

"There is the story of a boy genius. And the game show host. And the ex-boy genius. There is the story of the dying man. His lost son. And the dying man's wife. The caretaker. And there is the story of a mother. And the daughter. And the police officer in love. And this will all make sense in the end."

— Magnolia Trailer

Review by Steven Rybicki



Photo courtesy of New Line Cinema

Bartender Brad (Craig Kvineland), Donnie Smith (William H. Macy), and Thurston Howell (Henry Gibson) in a scene from *Magnolia*.

This has been a bad year for fans of linear, traditional, Hollywood fare. Starting with David Cronenberg's *eXistenZ* and *The Matrix*; by December there was *Election*, *Run Lola Run*, *Eyes Wide Shut*, *The Blair Witch Project*, *American Beauty*, *Fight Club* and *The Talented Mr. Ripley*.

Now to end 1999 and start 2000, there comes a film from the director of *Boogie Nights* and *Sydney* (released as *Hard Eight*). It appears to be a trite little movie along the lines of *Story of Us*. But those expecting a conventional Rob Reiner movie with the obligatory "happy ending" will be walking out of *Magnolia* within the first 30 minutes.

Simply stated, I think *Magnolia* is a masterpiece of sight and sound. Its sheer audacity makes this a film that either involves the audience in the epic its characters or alienates the audience to the point of boredom and frustration courtesy of *Magnolia's* 29-year-old director, Paul Thomas Anderson. *Magnolia* possesses many qualities that make this a film worth seeing. It is an experience that will both thrill and invigorate many jaded film loyalists, but, sadly, will alienate most movie-goers from Anderson indefinitely.

One of *Magnolia's* major assets is its cast. All of the actors and actresses involved are at the top of their game, and interpret Anderson's script beautifully. The most publicized of these performances is Tom Cruise's excellent work. He plays the wretched misogynist Frank T.J. Mackey, who is busily promoting his "Seduce and Destroy" "self-help" seminar. Another astonishing performance is that of Jeremy Blackman as the boy genius, Stanley Spector. His innocent temperament combined with the pressure that builds inside and outside of his tiny character makes his acting the best work a child has done since 4-year-old Victoire Thivisol starred in the fascinating *Ponette*. William H. Macey, Melora Walters, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Julianne Moore, Jason Roberds and John C. Reilly all shine in their respective roles, but my vote for best actor in *Magnolia* goes to Phillip Baker Hall.

Hall plays Jimmy Gator, who has spent half his life on a game show entitled "What do Kids Know." His stint as the loveable host has numbed his sense of right and wrong. No matter who he has slept with, no matter how he treats his wife and daughter, no matter how much liquor he drinks, he is still the game show host who can do no wrong. Jimmy Gator has found out that he has a rare type of incurable cancer and wants to atone for his sins. In one of the most emotionally draining scenes I have seen, Jimmy tries to apologize to his wife for all the vile things he has done to her and his daughter. But since Jimmy cannot distinguish between the right and wrong things he has done, he simply sits impotent and silent, full of feelings of hopelessness, fear, angst, and loss.

While there have been many mentions about how the brazen look and feel of *Magnolia* closely resembles Scorsese's visuals in *GoodFellas* and the general themes seem to coincide with Robert Altman's *Short Cuts*, there is another, more subtle, comparison I think that should be made. That comparison is between Anderson and the other golden boy of independent cinema, Quentin Tarantino.

Yes, Tarantino is known for his genre bending noir movies that contain over-the-top violence, but there is a key similarity between these two men's films. That similarity is how they both punish the audience for jumping to conclusions. While Tarantino almost always uses violence to punish (the "Marvin Nash Sequence" in *Reservoir Dogs*), Anderson uses violence along with dialogue. The best example of this low-key dialogue is Stanley Spector's last words in the film. Through the whole film everyone associated with Stanley browbeats or attacks him. By the end, the audience expects an easy politically correct escape — or maybe even a violent catharsis akin to Hamlet where Stanley "avenges his honor." But we are all punished, because we must all helplessly watch Stanley and hear him feebly say to his abusive father, "You gotta treat me nicer Dad. You gotta treat me nicer." His father doesn't listen, doesn't care; his father just sleeps. Through this, we do not get to see justice for Stanley. There is no escape — no happy ending or morally acceptable solution.

During its three-hour running time, *Magnolia* takes the audience on a journey through the triumphs, disasters and unexplained phenomena that plague us all everyday. Yes, this film is a "sad" film, a bleak film. But, overall, *Magnolia* is a graceful and articulate motion picture that captures the highs and lows of real life.

Anderson's premise for *Magnolia* — that we humans are blessed and flawed by the same gift: the ability to plan — is established with the first frame of his film. Through a very intricate prologue, he admonishes the impulse we have in us that drives us to plan our lives as if we absolutely know what is going to happen in the future. *Magnolia* ties this all up through the songwriting skills of the talented Aimee Mann. Her songs, along with the film, eloquently display that the one common thread that holds us all together is our frailty.

St. Louis Rams wear glass slipper

Cinderella of Super Bowl XXXIV is crowned as Rams, Warner survive Tennessee comeback for 23-16 victory

■ Titans' final effort comes up 1 yard short, gives Rams first Super Bowl title.

By Dave Goldberg
AP Football Writer

ATLANTA — A game of yards came down to inches for the St. Louis Rams in the Super Bowl.

The result was a victory for Kurt Warner, Dick Vermeil and the Rams that six months ago seemed no more than a dream after a 4-12 season.

Warner's 73-yard touchdown pass to Isaac Bruce with 1 minute, 54 seconds left accounted for the winning score, 16 seconds after Al Del Greco's field goal brought Tennessee back from a 16-0 deficit.

But it took Mike Jones' tackle of Kevin Dyson at the 1-yard line on the game's final play that finally gave St. Louis its win in one of the most thrilling Super Bowl finishes ever.

Dyson was left sprawled on the ground in Jones' arms, stretching the ball toward the goal line in vain. So, a team known for its high-powered offense won its first Super Bowl with the most memorable of defensive plays.

Warner passed for a Super Bowl record 414 yards and was voted MVP, capping a season that began with him fighting for a backup job and ended with him as the NFL's MVP.

"Kurt Warner is Kurt Warner and it's not a fairy tale," coach Vermeil said. "He is a book. He is a movie."

Added Warner: "You may think of this as a Hollywood story, but it's just my life."

But he almost had to rewrite the script after the Titans scored on three straight drives to tie the score at 16.

Tennessee's comeback was engineered by Steve McNair and Eddie George. But it was Dyson who almost pulled off his second miracle finish in four weeks, coming up just short of the tying touchdown after taking a look-in pass from McNair at the 5 and scrambling for the end zone.

"I thought we could do it but we came up about 6 inches from having a chance to do it," Titans coach Jeff Fisher said. "As much as this hurts we have an awful lot of pride in coming so close."

Dyson was the man at the end of the "Music City Miracle," the 22-16 win over Buffalo in a wild-card game, taking a lateral from Frank Wycheck and returning it 75 yards for the winning touchdown with three seconds left.

"I thought he was going to get in," McNair said. "But you've got great athletes on both sides of the ball and they made the play. It was a matter of who won the one-on-one battle and they won it."

Jones said: "The name of the game is to get the man on the ground. They won the wild-card game with a big play and we knew they'd come roaring back. We just made the big play at the end. You get tired chasing Steve McNair and making plays."

It was the first NFL title for the Rams since 1951 and the first football title ever for St. Louis, which lost the Cardinals after the 1987 season and gained the Rams from Los Angeles in 1995.

It not only capped an improbable season for the team but also for Warner, who played in the Arena League and NFL Europe and was left unprotected in the expansion draft last spring. He got the starting job when free agent Trent Green was hurt and went on to win the NFL MVP and throw 41 touchdown passes, only the second quarterback in NFL history to surpass 40.

It was also a triumph for the 63-year-old Vermeil, who was out of football for 14 years before joining the Rams in 1997. He had lost the Super Bowl in 1981 in Philadelphia.

"You know I'm an emotional guy, but right now I feel so good and so proud of this football team," Vermeil said.

The Rams couldn't quite break open the game while opening up a 16-0 lead. Three straight times they had to settle for field goals by Jeff Wilkins of 29, 27 and 28 yards. Wilkins missed another field goal and another was aborted by a fumbled snap.

So even though Warner threw for 277 yards in the first half and the Rams outgained the Titans 294-89, it was only 9-0 at intermission.

"We had some problems in the red zone," said Marshall Faulk, who was held to 17 yards on 10 carries but had five catches for 90 yards. "They played us tough but we came away with field goals."

The Rams seemed to put it away when Warner hit Torry Holt with a 9-yard touchdown pass with 3:59 left in the third quarter.

Two plays earlier, the Titans, already without free safety Marcus Robertson and top receiver Yancey Thigpen, lost strong safety Blaine Bishop with a neck sprain that delayed the game for about 10 minutes while was taken off.

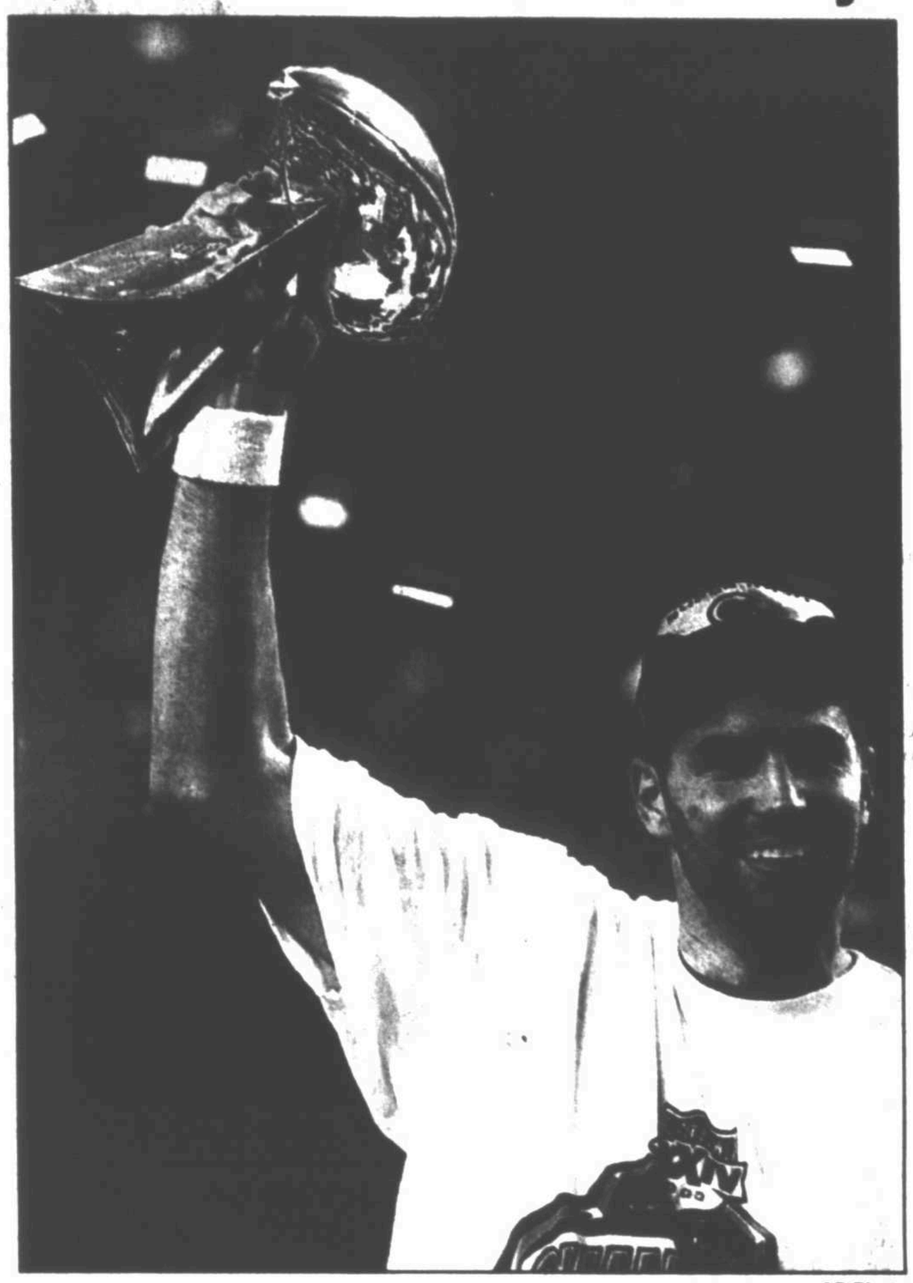
But suddenly, McNair and George got energized and the Rams' defense began to wear down.

The Titans scored touchdowns on their next two possessions as George, who ran for 95 yards on 28 carries, scored twice on 1-yard runs. Tennessee's 2-point conversion attempt failed after the first TD.

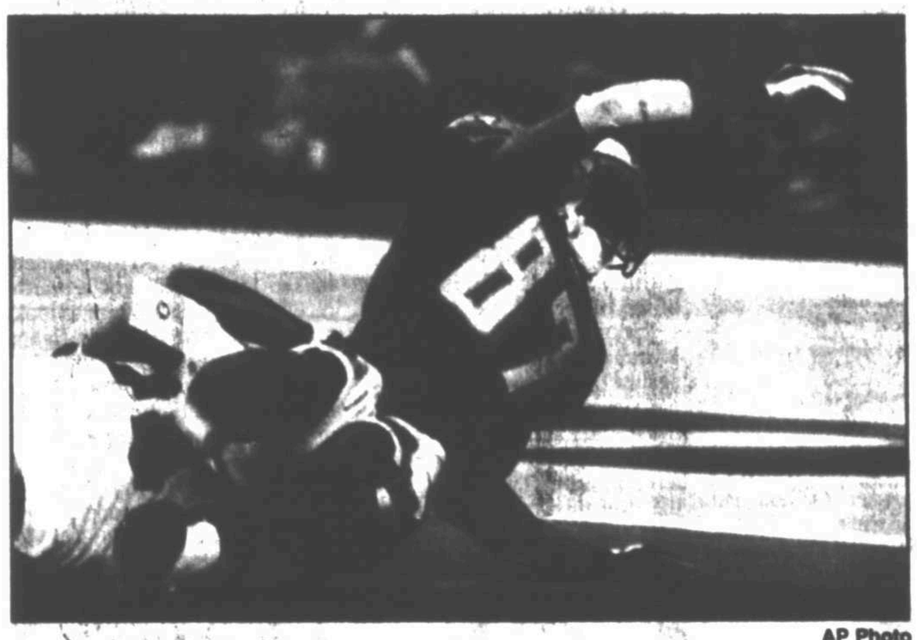
Al Del Greco tied the game on a 43-yard field goal with 2:12 left.

McNair completed nine straight passes during the final drive, and

Please see SUPER/4C



AP Photo
St. Louis Rams quarterback Kurt Warner holds up the Super Bowl trophy after the Rams defeated the Tennessee Titans 23-16 in Super Bowl XXXIV on Sunday in Atlanta. Warner was named Most Valuable Player in the game.



AP Photo
Tennessee Titans wide receiver Kevin Dyson (87) is tackled just short of the goal by St. Louis Rams' Mike Jones, left, on the last play of Super Bowl XXXIV at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta Sunday. St. Louis defeated Tennessee 23-16.

One play, one tackle, one yard

By Eddie Pells
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — Kevin Dyson made the catch just inside the 5 and turned toward the end zone, straining his arm toward the goal line and praying it would stretch far enough to save the Super Bowl.

■ Key to the game

Rams linebacker Mike Jones wrapped up Dyson below the waist and held on with all his might, just the way his coaches had been teaching it for years.

One of the most fundamental skills on any football field — the art of tackling — made the difference in the Super Bowl on Sunday. Jones held Dyson out of the end zone by three tantalizing feet and St. Louis held on for a 23-16 victory over Tennessee.

"When you're a little kid, you dream about scoring touchdowns, not stopping them," Jones said. "I just grabbed him, held on and fell down. When I looked up, the clock said 'zero-zero' and we had won the Super Bowl."

Tennessee's last-second drive began at the Rams' 12 with 1:54 remaining and one timeout.

As he had all season, Steve McNair never lost his cool. He moved the team down and gave the Titans a final chance for yet another miracle.

There were six seconds remaining and Tennessee had used its last timeout when the Titans lined up for the play that capped the most exciting Super Bowl finish ever.

The play was called "Sliver Right." The Titans had run the play three times in practice from the 10-yard line against the same defense the Rams came out in.

McNair threw the ball to the middle of the field, meaning it was a touchdown or nothing. Dyson ran the route a tad shallow.

"Sometimes in the heat of the moment, you tend to cut things a little short," Titans offensive coordinator Les Steckel said.

Dyson made the catch, then scooted toward the end zone, but ran into Jones, an ninth-year veteran who has made a living on his solid fundamentals.

Jones wrapped up, the receiver's reach wasn't long enough, and while the Rams soaked in the confetti and the celebration, the Titans rolled around in despair.

"To come this far and be a half-yard short is just a sick

Please see KEY/4C

George's two TD's in 7:53 span not enough

By Teresa M. Walker
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — When Eddie George woke up, so did the Tennessee Titans.

The 1995 Heisman Trophy winner was a non-factor in the first half of Sunday night's Super Bowl, nearly ignored, carrying the ball only seven times and gaining just 18 yards.

But then came the third quarter, and he flashed the form that made him one of only four backs to gain 1,200 yards or more in each of his first four NFL season.

He helped the Titans come back from a 16-0 deficit, but he couldn't stop the St. Louis Rams from winning the Super Bowl 23-16.

"It was one hell of a ride," he said. "It will always be special to me. We just didn't make enough plays."

First, he capped a 12-play drive with a 1-yard TD run with 14 seconds left in the quarter.

That was nothing compared with his fourth-quarter performance.

He carried seven times on the Titans' next possession, the final one a beauty.

Tennessee had second-and-goal from the 1, and George just couldn't be stopped.

He broke not one, not two, but three tackles to reach the end zone, getting some help from officials. As he got past Jeff Zgonina, officials failed to rule the play dead when George's left knee touched the turf short of the goal line. Another burst put him over the plane and the knee was overlooked.

"Every time I touch the ball, I'm putting forth the effort to be as good as I can be and to put this team in position to win," George said.

Coach Jeff Fisher said George simply did what he has always done. George finished with 95 yards on 28 carries.

"Eddie wanted to carry the load, and it appeared for a while he was going to do just that," Fisher said.

Then George, who became the Titans' head cheerleader this season, stood up and screamed for his teammates to get going.

"All I cared about is that we kept on winning and kept fighting," George said.

But on the final drive, which began with 1:54 remaining, there wasn't enough time for a ground

Please see GEORGE/4C



AP Photo
Tennessee Titans running back Eddie George sits dejectedly on the bench as confetti rains down after the St. Louis Rams beat the Titans 23-16 to win Super Bowl XXXIV. George helped bring the Titans back from a 16-0 deficit with two late rushing touchdowns.

Warner: From supermarket stocker to Super Bowl MVP

By Hal Bock
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — Kurt Warner laughs at the suggestion that this season of his is some kind of fairy tale, a far-fetched script dreamed up by a writer with a vivid imagination.

"I don't think of it as a Hollywood story," he said after finishing it off Sunday with the ultimate exclamation point — a record-breaking Super Bowl MVP performance. "It's my life. I take it one day at a time. I'm truly blessed. If it can be a source of hope to anybody, I'm happy to be a part of it."

The quarterback who once tossed rolls of toilet paper around an Iowa supermarket turned the Super Bowl into his private playground in a 23-16 victory over the Titans.

He picked apart Tennessee's secondary, completing 24 of 45 passes for a record 414 yards, breaking Hall of Famer Joe Montana's mark of 357.

First, Warner constructed a 16-0 lead. Then, when Tennessee made a furious second-half comeback to tie the score with two minutes to play, he won the game with a 73-yard touchdown pass to Isaac Bruce.

Stuff like this reads like fiction. Warner knows that. He just shrugs it off and delivers an important message for every outsider, every player who was ever told he wasn't good enough.

"Don't ever lose sight of the goal," he said. "Don't let anybody tell you you can't reach it. Keep it in you, and there's no reason you can't do it."

Warner did not for a moment believe the Rams would not win this game, even in the face of the Titans' comeback.

"We've got two minutes," he said. "We've been up and down the field all day. There was no reason we couldn't move it for a field goal to win it. By no means were we doubting that we could win the game."

But like a kid in a sandlot, Warner went for broke on first down instead of playing it conservatively.

Naturally, it worked.

"It was a go route," he said. "We called it earlier and Isaac beat his guy. We thought we could get a big one right off the bat. Maybe they weren't expecting it."

Bruce broke loose and took

Please see MVP/4C

JAN 31 2000

WJCAC Basketball Today

Women

No. 22 Midland College at New Mexico Junior College

Where: Caster Activity Center, Hobbs, N.M.
When: 5:50 p.m. (MST).

Records: Midland College is 17-5 overall and 5-1 in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference. New Mexico Junior College is 8-11 overall and 3-3 in the WJCAC.

Coaches: Midland College — Ron Jones (6th year). NMJC — Ara Baten (1st year).

Notes & Quotes: The Lady Chaparrals are coming off another big double-digit win with an 82-56 pounding of Western Texas on Thursday. It was not the best shooting night for the Lady Chaps as they only shot 36 percent. It was, however, still good enough to be a struggling Western Texas squad. It doesn't get much easier with a date against the Lady Thunderbirds tonight. Other than South Plains, playing in Hobbs, N.M., has always proven to be tough. "We had some great games over there," said Coach Jones. "They've been kind of inconsistent this year but they've had some great games at home. We scrimmaged them back in October and we basically played even with them throughout the game. I expect it to be a tough game for us. I think if you catch them on a good night they have enough talent to be real good." NMJC is coming off a 74-63 loss at Odessa College on Thursday... The Lady T-Birds have never beaten MC as the Lady Chaps own a 13-0 series record.

Next: The Lady Chaps host Frank Phillips at 6 p.m. Thursday.

STATISTICS
Midland College Women

Player	G	FG	FTA	FTM	T	AVG
Fatime Ndiaye	22	157	94	61	375	17.0
Julie Rampley	22	98	44	29	263	12.0
x-Nana Lobela	9	33	41	23	89	9.9
Chanovia Rhodes	22	89	102	70	208	9.5
Loren Mostacilla	22	69	83	45	181	8.2
Sheleinah Brazzle	22	58	67	47	172	7.8
Kanedria Wilson	22	57	44	33	163	7.4
Heidi Lange	20	49	25	14	142	7.1
Nikki Maloney	21	34	44	32	106	5.0
Nicole Villarreal	19	30	9	1	89	4.7
Mia Battle	18	33	21	12	81	4.5
Tynesha Gregory	19	14	2	2	35	1.8
Jennifer Roemisch	13	5	3	2	14	1.1
Mishka Bailey	14	5	0	3	13	0.9
Totals	22	708	682	374	1,931	87.8

x-no longer with team

3-point goals: Rampley 38, Lange 30, Villarreal 28, Wilson 15, Brazzle 13, Maloney 6, Gregory 5, Battle 3, Roemisch 3.

Men

Midland College at New Mexico Junior College

Where: Caster Activity Center, Hobbs, N.M.
When: 8 p.m. (MST).

Records: Midland College is 19-3 overall and 6-0 in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference. New Mexico Junior College is 7-14 overall and 1-5 in the WJCAC.

Coaches: Midland College — Junsie Cotten (1st year). New Mexico Junior College — Jeff McCool (1st year).

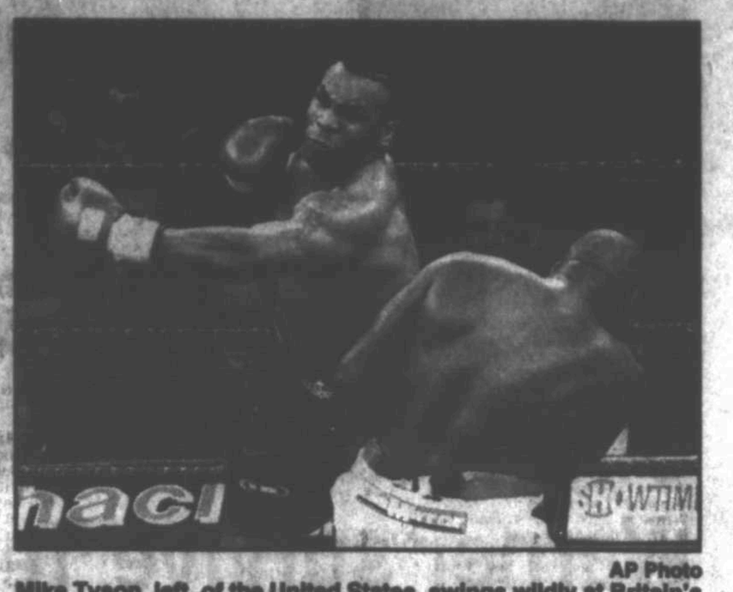
Notes: The Chaparrals remained unbeaten in conference play with a 90-74 win over New Mexico Military Institute on Thursday. The win was the 12th straight for the Chaps and 15th out of the past 16 games. The Chaps now must hit the road to battle the Thunderbirds, who are under the guidance of longtime assistant Jeff McCool, who took over for longtime NMJC coach Ron Black, who retired at the end of last season. The T-Birds are coming off a 74-63 to Odessa College on Thursday. James Felder led NMJC with a game-high 21 points against the Wranglers. Despite the T-Birds' struggling record, the Chaps shouldn't expect an easy battle. These two teams have had a history when playing in Hobbs. Two seasons ago, the Chaps lost a controversial game which was reminiscent of the Texas A&M-Texas Tech fiasco a few weeks ago. Last season, the Chaps swept NMJC and thanks to the Wranglers beating the T-Birds in the final game of the regular season, the Chaps advanced to the Region V playoffs... Overall, MC owns a 35-17 series advantage.

Next: The Chaparrals host Frank Phillips College at 8 p.m. Thursday.

STATISTICS
Midland College Men

Player	G	FG	FTA	FTM	T	AVG
Eugene Costello	22	159	186	162	526	23.9
Teohn Conner	22	96	37	26	254	11.6
Ricky Duff	22	96	57	31	226	10.3
Alvin Brooks	22	60	43	26	182	8.3
Armon Tillman	22	62	37	21	155	7.0
Quannas White	21	34	38	27	103	4.9
Jason Williams	12	22	15	9	53	4.4
x-Jermaine Allen	2	2	2	2	6	4.0
Armon Whitaker	22	20	40	33	79	3.6
Jerome Beasley	20	35	9	5	77	3.9
Adrian Martin	22	21	39	13	55	2.5
Macklin Thornton	13	14	25	10	34	2.6
C.J. Young	16	5	17	9	19	1.2
Totals	22	629	535	369	1,771	80.5

3-point goals: Costello 57, Brooks 36, Conner 32, Tillman 10, White 8, Whitaker 6, Allen 2, Thornton 2, Duff 1.
x-academically ineligible



AP Photo
Mike Tyson, left, of the United States, swings wildly at Britain's Julius Francis during their heavyweight boxing fight at the MEN Arena in Manchester, England, on Saturday. Tyson won the fight.

Tyson thinks about world tour after 2nd round KO victory

By Ed Schuyler Jr.
AP Boxing Writer

MANCHESTER, England — Mike Tyson wants more fights to reach top form, and he wants to do that in Europe.

That's fine with Jay Larkin, who runs boxing for Showtime, the American cable network. Larkin also wouldn't mind taking Tyson to Asia.

More difficult, it seems, will be getting Tyson a fight anywhere against undisputed heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis. Tyson has a contract with Showtime and Lewis with rival HBO.

Tyson put an exclamation point on his two-week ego trip to England in his bout with Julius Francis. He knocked him down five times and stopped him at 1:03 of the second round before a roaring sellout crowd of 21,000 Saturday night in MEN Arena.

He left Manchester about 5 a.m. Sunday, heading to Gatwick Airport outside London for a flight to Phoenix.

"I hope he can come back," said Frank Warren, promoter of Saturday night's fight.

Tyson would like a few fights in Europe. However, his first one, scheduled for March 25, could be in New Jersey.

"We're still talking Meadowlands but we have been getting offers, real offers from Europe," said Larkin, adding he has received calls from Copenhagen, Denmark; Amsterdam, Netherlands; and Paris.

"Asia also is attractive because of the time difference," Larkin said.

A Tyson pay-per-view fight in Europe would have to start about 4 a.m. local time (10 p.m. CST), which hurts the live gate. A fight in Asia — say, Japan — could start in the early afternoon because Japan is 14 hours ahead of the eastern United States.

Larkin indicated that Tyson's March 25 match, probably against Lou Savarese, will be pay-per-view and the Meadowlands is the leading site.

Shelly Finkel, Tyson's boxing adviser, wants Tyson to fight for the title this year. On Sunday, Panos Eliades, Lewis' promoter, said he would offer Tyson $40 million for such a fight. That seems unbelievably high because Lewis would certainly want as much — or almost as much — since he's the champion.

"He'll be there another year or two and then maybe he will retire," Eliades said of his fighter.

He is not optimistic about the fight happening this year.

"I hope it will, but I don't think it will," Eliades said. "There are too many problems in the way. It could be possibly next year."

Tyson says he needs to get sharper before challenging Lewis.

"I've got a ways to go," he said. "I've got to get my stuff together."

Larkin put a damper on a Lewis-Tyson match by saying, "You won't see that fight until Lewis fulfills his contract with HBO."

He said he didn't know how many fights Lewis had left on his contract. As for how many Tyson has remaining with Showtime, Larkin said, "You're looking at Mike spending a significant part of the rest of his career at Showtime."

While Tyson's performance against Francis was impressive, the British journeyman was not the kind of opponent he needs for successful pay-per-view bouts.

The fight, on pay-per-view in Britain, was shown on tape delay Saturday night in the United States.

"He's got to move up, obviously," Larkin said of the quality of future opponents. While Savarese has faded, he is a more legitimate opponent than Francis.

The idea behind Saturday night's fight was to have Tyson fight before a crowd that wanted to see him — he got a warm reception — and for him to look good. His four previous fights included losses to Evander Holyfield — the second one in the notorious Bite Fight — an unimpressive win over Francois Botha and the no-contest.

Francis helped by fighting back, which left him open.

Lehman survives war, takes Phoenix Open

By Mel Reisner
AP Sports Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Tom Lehman broke his victory drought Sunday, winning the Phoenix Open and avoiding a playoff when co-leader Robert Allenby bogeyed the last hole.

Lehman won the Williams World Challenge on Jan. 2, but the Phoenix Open was his first official title in 58 starts since he won the British Open and the Tour Championship in 1996 and was the Tour's Player of the Year.

Both men had difficult putts on the final hole.

Lehman saved par with a 10-foot putt for a score of 4-under 67 and a 72-hole total of 14-under 272.

Allenby, who has never won on the PGA Tour, missed a 5-footer when the ball made a right turn on the rim and rolled a foot away. His final-round 69 landed him in a for second with defending champion Rocco Mediate, who had the best next-year performance at the TPC of Scottsdale.

Johnny Miller won back-to-back titles in 1974-75, when the tournament was played at the Phoenix Country Club.

The $576,000 first prize vaulted Lehman to second on this year's money list ($673,150) in two PGA Tour events. His strong start includes a tie for sixth in Hawaii two weeks ago.

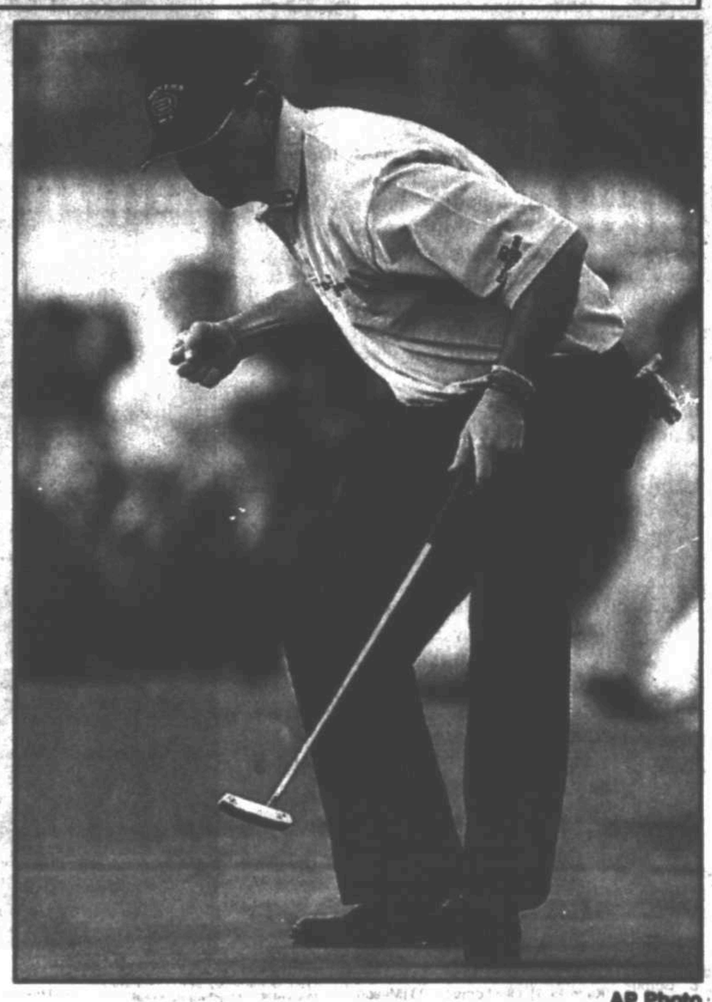
Allenby, a 29-year-old Australian, had his best finish in the United States, improving on a tie for fourth in the 1998 B.C. Open.

Brandt Jobe, Kirk Triplett and Hal Sutton tied for third at 272, with Edward Fryatt, Mark Calcavecchia and Steve Flesch in the next trio a shot back.

As painful as Allenby's finish was, it couldn't have been as sharp as the anguish of third-round leader Frank Lickliter and 1996 Phoenix champion Phil Mickelson, who began the round one shot behind Lickliter.

Lickliter, who was 13-under to start, shot himself out of contention early, bogeying the first hole and taking a triple bogey-8 on the third, and finished with a 74 after previous rounds of 67-64-69.

Mickelson reached 14-under and held the lead until he bogeyed the 11th and 12th holes. He carded a 73 to join Lickliter and six others at 274.



AP Photo
Tom Lehman pumps his fists after parring the 18th hole to win the Phoenix Open, Sunday in Scottsdale. Lehman's 4-under 67 on Sunday and a 72-hole total of 14-under 272.

Houston Rockets embarrass Lakers, 89-83

By Micheal A. Lutz
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — The Los Angeles Lakers came in with the best record in the NBA, but left town feeling embarrassed.

Cuttino Mobley hit a crushing 3-pointer with 19 seconds left, and Kelvin Cato led a late fourth-quarter charge that included blocking a shot by Shaquille O'Neal as the Houston Rockets beat the Lakers 89-83 Sunday.

O'Neal led the Lakers with 27 points and 19 rebounds, but he lost the matchup with Cato in the closing minutes.

"That was an embarrassing performance by our basketball team," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "I was surprised that we didn't perform better than that on national TV. I was very disappointed.

"As bad as we played, even if we would have won, it would have been embarrassing."

With the score tied 79-79 with 3:32 to play, Cato blocked a shot by O'Neal. Seconds later, Walt Williams drilled a 3-pointer from the side and the Rockets didn't lose the lead again.

Cato drew an offensive foul from O'Neal, and after he was fouled by Glen Rice, hit one of two shots. Cato followed with a slam dunk on a feed from Mobley with 2:07 remaining for an 85-79 lead. Mobley's 3-pointer closed the scoring.

"Cato timed that shot pretty well," O'Neal said. "He's known for blocking shots and he did it there."

Cato had four blocks and played in his fifth game since coming off the disabled list on Jan. 22.

"That's just basketball, that's what they pay me to do," Cato said. "I get up for every game because it's been hard sitting on the bench just watching them play."

The Rockets got the best of Cato when they needed it.

"Cato has had some very good games before," coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "He doesn't have to be the scorer because he can help us in so many other ways, like those blocks."

Houston snapped a three-game losing streak, while the Lakers have lost five of their last eight since a 16-game winning streak.

"We didn't shoot the ball or defend very well," O'Neal said. "At the end, we missed a lot of shots. We would get the ball inside and I'd missed a couple of chippies or we'd go outside and just miss the shots."

Steve Francis led the Rockets with 17 points, Mobley scored 15 and Cato 10.

The Lakers never led in the first half, trailing 42-39 at intermission. O'Neal led a 15-5 run that gave them a 54-47 lead with 6:13 left in the quarter. O'Neal had seven points during the run.

Minutes earlier, Los Angeles took its first lead at 47-46 on a three-point play by O'Neal. He followed that with a slam.

Houston responded with a 10-2 spurt, but the Lakers went into the fourth quarter with a 66-65 lead.

Campbell wins Heineken

PERTH, Australia (AP)— New Zealander Michael Campbell was in the unique position of leading two professional golf tours after winning the $1 million Heineken Classic Sunday by six strokes.

Searing heat, a violent thunderstorm and tough competition couldn't break Campbell's concentration as he shot a final-round 66 for a tournament record 20-under 268 in the Australasian and European PGA tour event.

In winning his second straight tournament and third of the season, Campbell became the top money earner on both the Australasian and European PGA tours. Campbell won the Johnnie Walker Classic late last year, also a European-Australasian event, and last week's New Zealand Open.

"The sign of a good player is how he hits shots under pressure and I think I showed that today," Campbell said. "Under the pressure of leading by two strokes with five holes to play, I found an extra gear and I hit some superb shots."

It wasn't until the final three holes that he shook off Thomas Bjorn of Denmark. Bjorn lost concentration after a 104-minute delay because of a thunderstorm.

Local Sports

Basketball

GIRLS
Midland-Odessa Freshman Tournament Championship
Odessa Bonita 64, Lee Maroon 56. For Maroon (13-2): Lauren Hinsely, 23 points; Regina Johnson, 19 points.

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Sports Scoreboard

Super Bowl XXXIV

Statistics

St. Louis 23, Tennessee 16

St. Louis	3	6	7	7	— 23
Tennessee	0	0	6	10	— 16

First Quarter

StL—FG Wilkins 27, 3:00. Drive: 6 plays, 54 yards, 2:48. Key plays: Warner 32 pass to Holt to Titans 42; Warner 17 pass to Faulk to Titans 14. St. Louis 3, Tennessee 0.

Second Quarter

StL—FG Wilkins 29, 4:16. Drive: 11 plays, 73 yards, 5:13. Key plays: Warner 11 pass to Bruce to Rams 27; Warner 15 pass to Bruce to Titans 45; Warner 13 pass to Holt to Titans 32; Warner 15 pass to Holt to Titans 16. St. Louis 6, Tennessee 0.

StL—FG Wilkins 25, :15. Drive: 13 plays, 67 yards, 3:23. Key plays: Warner 16 pass to Holt on 3rd-and-13 to Rams 36; Warner 18 pass to Holt to Rams 47; Warner 15 pass to Bruce to Titans 38; Warner 17 pass to Haikm to Titans 21. St. Louis 9, Tennessee 0.

Third Quarter

StL—Holt 9 pass from Warner (Wilkins kick), 7:23. Drive: 8 plays, 69 yards, 3:59. Key plays: Warner 6 pass to Faulk on 3rd-and-7 to Rams 43; Warner 31 pass to Bruce to Titans 26; Warner 16 pass to Conwell. St. Louis 16, Tennessee 0.

Ten—George 1 run (pass failed), :14. Drive: 12 plays, 66 yards, 7:06. Key plays: McNair 5 pass to Wycheck on 3rd-and-3. McNair 2 run on 3rd-and-1 to Rams 29; McNair 23 run to Rams 2. St. Louis 16, Tennessee 6.

Fourth Quarter

Ten—George 2 run (Del Greco kick), 7:21. Drive: 13 plays, 79 yards, 7:15. Key plays: McNair 9 pass to Dyson on 3rd-and-6; McNair 1 run on 4th-and-inches; McNair 21 pass to Byrd to Rams 24; McNair 21 pass to Harris to Rams 3. St. Louis 16, Tennessee 13.

Ten—FG Del Greco 43, 2:12. Drive: 8 plays, 28 yards, 4:05. Key plays: McNair 11 run; McNair 4 pass to Harris and fumble recovered by Byrd on 3rd-and-2. St. Louis 16, Tennessee 16.

StL—Bruce 73 pass from Warner (Wilkins kick), 1:54. Drive: 1 play, 73 yards, :18. St. Louis 23, Tennessee 16.

A—72,625.

	StL	Ten
FIRST DOWNS	23	27
Rushing	1	12
Passing	18	13
Penalty	4	2
3RD DOWN EFF	5-12	6-13
4TH DOWN EFF	0-1	1-1
TOTAL NET YARDS	436	367
Total Plays	59	73
Avg Gain	7.4	5.0
NET YDS RUSHING	29	159
Rushes	13	36
Avg per rush	2.2	4.4
NET YDS PASSING	407	208
Sacked-Yds lost	1-7	1-6
Gross-Yds passing	414	214
Completed-Att.	24-45	22-36
Had Intercepted	0	0
Yards-Pass Play	8.8	5.6
KICKOFFS-EZ-TB	6-4-1	4-0-0
PUNTS-Avg.	2-38.5	3-43.0
Punts blocked	0	0
FGs-PATs blocked	0-0	1-0
TOT. RETURN YDS	63	121
Punts Returns	2-8	1-(-1)
Kickoffs Returns	4-55	5-122
Interceptions	0-0	0-0
PENALTIES-Yds	8-60	7-45
FUMBLES-Lost	2-0	1-0
TIMEPOSSESSION	23:34	36:26

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING

St. Louis	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Faulk	10	17	1.7	4	0
Holcombe	1	11	11.0	11	0
Warner	1	1	1.0	1	0
Horan	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	13	29	2.2	11	0
Tennessee	**No**	**Yds**	**Avg**	**Lg**	**TD**
George	28	95	3.4	13	2
McNair	8	64	8.0	23	0
Total	36	159	4.4	23	2

PASSING

St. Louis	Cmp	Att	Yds	TD	Lng	Int
Warner	24	45	414	2	73	0
Total	24	45	414	2	73	0
Tennessee	**Cmp**	**Att**	**Yds**	**TD**	**Lng**	**Int**
McNair	22	36	214	0	32	0
Total	22	36	214	0	32	0

RECEIVING

St. Louis	No	Yds	Lg	TD
Holt	7	109	32	1
Bruce	6	162	73	1
Faulk	5	90	52	0
Hakim	1	17	17	0
Conwell	1	16	16	0
Proehl	1	11	11	0
R.Williams	1	9	9	0
Holcombe	1	1	1	0
Miller	1	-1	-1	0
Total	24	414	73	2
Tennessee	**No**	**Yds**	**Lg**	**TD**
Harris	7	64	21	0
Wycheck	5	35	13	0
Dyson	4	41	16	0
George	2	35	32	0
Byrd	2	21	21	0
Mason	2	18	9	0
Total	22	214	32	0

INTERCEPTIONS

None by either team.

PUNTING

St. Louis	No	Avg	Lg	I20
Horan	2	38.5	47	0
Tennessee	**No**	**Avg**	**Lg**	**I20**
Hentrich	3	43.0	49	1

PUNT RETURNS

St. Louis	No	FC	Yds	Lg	TD
Hakim	2	0	8	10	0
Tennessee	**No**	**FC**	**Yds**	**Lg**	**TD**
Mason	1	0	-1	-1	0

KICKOFF RETURNS

St. Louis	No	Yds	Lg	TD
Horne	4	55	25	0
Morton	0	0	0	0
Total	4	55	25	0
Tennessee	**No**	**Yds**	**Lg**	**TD**
Mason	5	122	35	0
Total	5	122	35	0

DEFENSE

St. Louis

	T	A	S	Fumbles Rec	Fmbles Fcd
Jenkins	9	3	0	0	1
Fletcher	9	2	0	0	0
Jones	7	2	0	0	0
McCleon	5	1	0	0	0
Lyght	4	2	0	0	0
Little	4	0	0	0	0
Carter	3	0	1	0	0
Farr	3	0	0	0	0
Wistrom	3	0	0	0	0
Zgonina	3	0	0	0	0
Collins	2	3	0	0	0
Bush	2	0	0	0	0
J.Williams	1	1	0	0	0
Agnew	1	0	0	0	0
Sly	1	0	0	0	0
Clemons	1	0	0	0	0
Horne	1	0	0	0	0
Team	1	0	0	0	0
Holcombe	0	1	0	0	0
Horan	0	0	0	1	0
Warner	0	0	0	1	0

Tennessee

	T	A	S	Fumbles Rec	Fmbles Fcd
Sidney	5	0	0	0	0
Bishop	4	1	0	0	0
Kearse	4	0	0	0	0
Robinson	3	1	0	0	0
Evans	3	0	0	0	0
Walker	3	0	0	0	0
Bowden	2	1	0	0	0
Fisk	2	0	1	0	0
Wortham	2	0	0	0	0
Mitchell	2	1	0	0	0
Jackson	2	0	0	0	0
Dorsett	1	4	0	0	0
Phenix	1	0	0	0	0
Rolle	1	0	0	0	0
Favors	1	0	0	0	0
Killens	1	0	0	0	0
McCullough	1	0	0	0	0
Byrd	0	0	0	1	0

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Tennessee, Del Greco 47 (WL). St. Louis, Wilkins 34 (WR).

Time: 3:29.

Records

INDIVIDUAL

Records Set

Most Rushing Yards, Quarterback — 64, Steve McNair, Tennessee.

Most Passing Yards — 414, Kurt Warner, St. Louis.

Most Receptions, Rookie — 7, Torry Holt, St. Louis.

Most Receiving Yards, Rookie — 109, Torry Holt, St. Louis.

Oldest Head Coach to Win Super Bowl — 63, Dick Vermeil, St. Louis.

Oldest Player in Super Bowl — 40, Mike Horan, St. Louis.

Records Tied

Two Teammates, 100-plus Receiving Yards — Isaac Bruce (162), Torry Holt (109).

TEAM

Records Set

Most Passing Yards, One Team — 407, St. Louis.

Fewest Rushing Yards, One Team — 29, St. Louis.

Records Tied

Fewest Turnovers, Game, Both Teams — 0.

Most First Downs, Both Teams — 50, Tennessee (27), St. Louis (23).

Most First Downs Passing — 18, St. Louis.

Most Yards Passing, Both Teams — 615.

Fewest Interceptions, Both Teams — 0.

Fewest Fumbles Lost, Both Teams — 0.

Fewest Rushing Attempts, Both Teams — 49.

Most Field Goals Blocked — 1, St. Louis.

Champions

By The Associated Press

1967—Green Bay (NFL) 35, Kansas City (AFL) 10

1968—Green Bay (NFL) 33, Oakland (AFL) 14

1969—N.Y. Jets (AFL) 16, Baltimore (NFL) 7

1970—Kansas City (AFL) 23, Minnesota (NFL) 7

1971—Baltimore (AFC) 16, Dallas (NFC) 13

1972—Dallas (NFC) 24, Miami (AFC) 3

1973—Miami (AFC) 14, Washington (NFC) 7

1974—Miami (AFC) 24, Minnesota (NFC) 7

1975—Pittsburgh (AFC) 16, Minnesota (NFC) 6

1976—Pittsburgh (AFC) 21, Dallas (NFC) 17

1977—Oakland (AFC) 32, Minnesota (NFC) 14

1978—Dallas (NFC) 27, Denver (AFC) 10

1979—Pittsburgh (AFC) 35, Dallas (NFC) 31

1980—Pittsburgh (AFC) 31, Los Angeles (NFC) 19

1981—Oakland (AFC) 27, Philadelphia (NFC) 10

1982—San Francisco (NFC) 26, Cincinnati (AFC) 21

1983—Washington (NFC) 27, Miami (AFC) 17

1984—L.A. Raiders (AFC) 38, Washington (NFC) 9

1985—San Francisco (NFC) 38, Miami (AFC) 16

1986—Chicago (NFC) 46, New England (AFC) 10

1987—N.Y. Giants (NFC) 39, Denver (AFC) 20

1988—Washington (NFC) 42, Denver (AFC) 10

1989—San Francisco (NFC) 20, Cincinnati (AFC) 16

1990—San Francisco (NFC) 55, Denver (AFC) 10

1991—N.Y. Giants (NFC) 20, Buffalo (AFC) 19

1992—Washington (NFC) 37, Buffalo (AFC) 24

1993—Dallas (NFC) 52, Buffalo (AFC) 17

1994—Dallas (NFC) 30, Buffalo (AFC) 13

1995—San Francisco (NFC) 49, San Diego (AFC) 26

1996—Dallas (NFC) 27, Pittsburgh (AFC) 17

1997—Green Bay (NFC) 35, New England (AFC) 21

1998—Denver (AFC) 31, Green Bay (NFC) 24

1999—Denver (AFC) 34, Atlanta (NFC) 19

2000—St. Louis (NFC) 23, Tennessee (AFC) 16

MVPs

By The Associated Press

1967—Bart Starr, QB, Green Bay

1968—Bart Starr, QB, Green Bay

1969—Joe Namath, QB, N.Y. Jets

1970—Len Dawson, QB, Kansas City

1971—Chuck Howley, LB, Dallas

1972—Roger Staubach, QB, Dallas

1973—Jake Scott, S, Miami

1974—Larry Csonka, RB, Miami

1975—Franco Harris, RB, Pittsburgh

1976—Lynn Swann, WR, Pittsburgh

1977—Fred Biletnikoff, WR, Oakland

1978—Randy White, DT and Harvey Martin, DE, Dallas

1979—Terry Bradshaw, QB, Pittsburgh

1980—Terry Bradshaw, QB, Pittsburgh

1981—Jim Plunkett, QB, Oakland

1982—Joe Montana, QB, San Francisco

1983—John Riggins, RB, Washington

1984—Marcus Allen, RB, L.A. Raiders

1985—Joe Montana, QB, San Francisco

1986—Richard Dent, DE, Chicago

1987—Phil Simms, QB, N.Y. Giants

1988—Doug Williams, QB, Washington

1989—Jerry Rice, WR, San Francisco

1990—Joe Montana, QB, San Francisco

1991—Ottis Anderson, RB, N.Y. Giants

1992—Mark Rypien, QB, Washington

1993—Troy Aikman, QB, Dallas

1994—Emmitt Smith, RB, Dallas

1995—Steve Young, QB, San Francisco

1996—Larry Brown, CB, Dallas

1997—Desmond Howard, KR, Green Bay

1998—Terrell Davis, RB, Denver

1999—John Elway, QB, Denver

2000—Kurt Warner, QB, St. Louis

Prep Hoops Polls

WACO (AP) — The weekly high school basketball polls as compiled by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches. Records are through Jan. 29.

BOYS

Class 5A

1. Fort Bend Willowridge (24-1); 2. The Colony (26-0); 3. Alief Hastings (25-3); 4. Corpus Christi Miller (23-3); 5. Duncanville (22-5); 6. Galena Park North Shore (24-5); 7. Dallas Carter (25-4); 8. Alief Elsik (22-5); 9. Beaumont Central (21-3); 10. San Antonio Jay (24-3).

Class 4A

1. Port Arthur Lincoln (22-2); 2. Austin LBJ (23-3); 3. Dallas Lincoln (25-3); 4. Dallas Madison (23-2); 5. Cedar Hill (24-4); 6. Weatherford (21-4); 7. North Crowley (22-3); 8. Wolfforth Frenship (25-2); 9. Canyon Randall (21-3); 10. Lancaster (24-3).

Class 3A

1. Glen Rose (24-1); 2. Seminole (23-5); 3. Buna (22-5); 4. Gainesville(18-7); 5. Canton (26-2); 6. Taylor (23-3); 7. Stafford (20-4); 8. Waco LaVega (24-3); 9. Clarksville (16-7); 10. Hearne (21-4).

Class 2A

1. Van Vleck (20-4); 2. Pearsall (21-4); 3. Woden (23-2); 4. Port Aransas (25-2); 5. Nacogdoches Central Heights (21-5); 6. Big Lake Reagan County (22-3); 7. Hale Center (20-4); 8. Eldorado (22-6); 9. Farmersville (22-3); 10. Edgewood (21-4).

Class A

1. Moulton (24-2); 2. Brookeland (26-0); 3. Laneville (21-3); 4. Lipan (26-1); 5. Meadow (24-1); 6. Henrietta Midway (24-1); 7. Kennard (23-3); 8. Ira (24-2); 9. Calvert (20-3); 10. Paducah (18-1).

Boys Large Private Schools

1. Houston Westbury Christian (27-5); 2. Dallas Jesuit (21-8); 3. Houston Christian (23-7); 4. San Antonio Central Catholic (18-7); 5. Harlingen Marine Military Academy (15-12); 6. Fort Worth Nolan (17-8); 7. Lubbock Trinity Christian (22-8); 8. Houston Strake Jesuit (13-11); 9. Houston Second Baptist (21-9); 10. Dallas Bishop Lynch (15-9).

Boys Small Private Schools

1. Waco Christian (20-4); 2. Rosenberg Living Waters (27-4); 3. Cleveland Heritage Christian (12-11); 4. Watauga Harvest Christian (21-8); 5. Carrollton American Heritage (17-7); 6. Dallas Gospel Lighthouse (21-1); 7. San Antonio Sunnybrook Christian (21-4); 8. Grand Prairie Evangel Temple (20-7); 9. San Antonio Cornerstone Christian (19-5); 10. Rockwall Christian (21-2).

GIRLS

Class 5A

1. Copperas Cove (23-1); 2. Alief Hastings (30-1); 3. Mansfield (27-2); 4. Corpus Christi Carroll (27-0); 5. League City Clear Creek (26-3); 6. Georgetown (23-5); 7. Fort Bend Dulles (22-4); 8. Plano (25-3); 9. DeSoto (24-5); 10. San Antonio Taft (25-3).

Class 4A

1. Granbury (26-4); 2. Canyon (25-2); 3. Plainview (24-3); 4. Waxahachie (26-3); 5. Amarillo Palo Duro (26-3); 6. Little Cypress-Mauriceville (25-1); 7. Bay City (20-0); 8. Palestine (25-2); 9. Conroe Oak Ridge (26-5); 10. Weatherford (25-2).

Class 3A

1. Winnsboro (30-1); 2. Seminole (21-2); 3. Crandall (23-5); 4. Canton (28-3); 5. Smithville (25-4); 6. Bowie (21-5); 7. Shallowater (22-3); 8. Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill (20-7); 9. Lufkin Hudson (24-4); 10. Buna (27-2).

Class 2A

1. Hughes Springs (23-2); 2. Crawford (26-3); 3. Farwell (21-4); 4. Port Aransas (25-2); 5. Honey Grove (26-1); 6. Boyd (23-2); 7. Kerens (23-1); 8. Ozona (24-2); 9. Maypearl (21-3); 10. Weatherford Brock (20-6).

Class A

1. Valley View (27-1); 2. Sudan (23-1); 3. Nazareth (23-5); 4. Gail Borden County (22-3); 5. Moulton (25-3); 6. Karnack (21-2); 7. Huckabay (24-2); 8. Tenaha (20-1); 9. Windthorst (22-2); 10. Menard (22-4).

Girls Large Private Schools

1. Dallas Bishop Lynch (21-6); 2. Austin St. Michael's (21-5); 3. San Antonio Incarnate Word (24-5); 4. Carrollton Christian (28-0); 5. Corpus Christi Incarnate Word (20-7); 6. Muenster Sacred Heart (25-2); 7. Houston Second Baptist (24-2); 8. Houston Westbury Christian (26-7); 9. San Antonio Antonian (19-9); 10. Dallas Bishop Dunne (19-4).

Girls Small Private Schools

1. Muenster Sacred Heart (25-2); 2. Houston HCYA (16-5); 3. San Antonio Cornerstone Christian (22-3); 4. Waco Christian (17-8); 5. Round Rock Christian (21-5); 6. Bryan St. Joseph (17-5); 7. Plainview Christian (9-7); 8. Ovilla Christian (17-3); 9. Rockwall Christian (15-2); 10. Cypress Community Christian (13-6).

Tennis

Andre Agassi's Grand Slam Finals History

Australian Open (2-0)

1995 — def. Pete Sampras, 4-6, 6-1, 7-6 (6), 6-4.

2000 — def. Yevgeny Kafelnikov, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

French Open (1-2)

1990 — lost to Andres Gomez, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.

1991 — lost to Jim Courier, 3-6, 6-4, 2-6, 6-1, 6-4.

1999 — def. Andrei Medvedev, 1-6, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.

Wimbledon (1-1)

1992 — def. Goran Ivanisevic, 6-7 (8), 6-4, 6-4, 1-6, 6-4.

1999 — lost to Pete Sampras, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5.

U.S. Open (2-2)

1990 — lost to Pete Sampras, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.

1994 — def. Michael Stich, 6-1, 7-6 (5), 7-5.

1995 — lost to Pete Sampras, 6-4, 6-3, 4-6, 7-5.

1999 — def. Todd Martin, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-7 (2), 6-3, 6-2.

All Four

Players who have one all four major championships in their careers:

Men

Roy Emerson — Australian (6), French (2), Wimbledon (2), U.S. (2)

Rod Laver — Australian (3), French (2), Wimbledon (4), U.S. (2)

Fred Perry — Australian (1), French (1), Wimbledon (3), U.S. (3)

Don Budge — Australian (1), French (1), Wimbledon (2), U.S. (2)

Andre Agassi — Australian (2), French (1), Wimbledon (1), U.S. (2)

Women

Margaret Smith Court — Australian (11), French (5), Wimbledon (3), U.S. (5)

Steffi Graf — Australian (4), French (6), Wimbledon (7), U.S. (5)

Martina Navratilova — Australian (3), French (2), Wimbledon (9), U.S. (4)

Chris Evert — Australian (2), French (7), Wimbledon (3), U.S. (6)

Billie Jean King — Australian (1), French (1), Wimbledon (6), U.S. (4)

Maureen Connolly — Australian (1), French (2), Wimbledon (3), U.S. (3)

Doris Hart — Australian (1), French (2), Wimbledon (1), U.S. (2)

Shirley Fry — Australian (1), French (1), Wimbledon (1), U.S. (1)

NBA Results

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	28	16	.619	—
New York	26	16	.619	—
Philadelphia	24	19	.558	2 1/2
Boston	20	23	.465	6 1/2
Orlando	20	25	.444	7 1/2
New Jersey	17	27	.386	10
Washington	14	30	.318	13

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	28	15	.651	—
Charlotte	24	18	.571	3 1/2
Toronto	24	19	.558	4
Milwaukee	24	20	.545	4 1/2
Detroit	22	21	.512	6
Cleveland	18	26	.409	10 1/2
Atlanta	16	26	.381	11 1/2
Chicago	8	33	.195	19

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	27	15	.643	—
San Antonio	28	16	.636	—
Minnesota	24	17	.585	2 1/2
Denver	19	22	.463	7 1/2
Dallas	17	26	.395	10 1/2
Houston	17	27	.386	11
Vancouver	12	30	.286	15

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	34	10	.773	—
Portland	33	10	.767	1/2
Sacramento	27	15	.643	6
Seattle	26	17	.622	6 1/2
Phoenix	24	18	.571	9
L.A. Clippers	11	32	.256	22 1/2
Golden State	9	32	.220	23 1/2

Sunday's Games

New York 120, Sacramento 111

Houston 89, L.A. Lakers 83

Monday's Games

Detroit vs. Miami, 6:30 p.m.

Phoenix at Orlando, 7 p.m.

Sacramento at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Philadelphia at Denver, 8 p.m.

Milwaukee at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

Boxes

Rockets 89, Lakers 83

L.A. LAKERS (83): Green 1-2 0-0 2, Rice 1-7 5-5 7, O'Neal 12-27 3-8 27, Bryant 8-22 5-6 17, Harper 3-7 3-6 9, Horry 0-1 1-2 1, Fisher 0-6 1-2 1, Salley 1-2 0-0 2, Shaw 2-6 0-0 4, Fox 4-5 0-0 11, Knight 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 31-86 18-29 83.

HOUSTON (89): Bullard 3-13 0-0 8, W.Williams 3-6 6-8 14, Miller 0-1 0-0 0, Anderson 2-3 0-0 5, Francis 6-13 4-4 17, Olajuwon 3-8 2-4 8, Thomas 0-2 4-4 4, Mobley 5-8 3-5 15, Drew 5-11 0-0 10, Cato 2-3 4-6 8. Totals 29-68 23-31 89.

L.A. Lakers	16	23	27	17	— 83
Houston	25	17	23	24	— 89

3-Point Goals—L.A. Lakers 3-9 (Fox 3-3, Fisher 0-1, Shaw 0-1, Bryant 0-2, Harper 0-2), Houston 8-23 (Mobley 2-3, W.Williams 2-4, Bullard 2-7, Anderson 1-2, Francis 1-3, Olajuwon 0-1, Thomas 0-1, Drew 0-2). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—L.A. Lakers 55 (O'Neal 19), Houston 58 (Olajuwon 10). Assists—L.A. Lakers 18 (Bryant 5), Houston 16 (Mobley 4). Total fouls—L.A. Lakers 25, Houston 23. Technicals—L.A. Lakers illegal defense, Houston delay of game 2. A—16,285 (16,285).

Knicks 120, Kings 111

SACRAMENTO (111): Webber 10-18 4-4 26, Williamson 7-9 2-2 16, Divac 8-11 1-1 17, Anderson 4-10 0-0 8, Williams 2-9 0-0 5, Corbin 4-9 0-2 9, Funderburke 1-4 1-2 3, Barry 2-5 5-5 10, Pollard 2-4 2-2 6, Martin 3-8 3-4 11. Totals 43-87 18-22 111.

NEW YORK (120): L.Johnson 4-10 2-2 12, Sprewell 10-17 10-10 32, Ewing 5-12 3-3 13, Houston 12-19 2-2 26, Ward 3-5 2-2 9, Thomas 5-9 3-3 13, Camby 5-10 2-2 13. Totals 44-82 24-24 120.

Sacramento	30	21	23	37—111
New York	30	36	28	26—120

3-Point Goals—Sacramento 7-25 (Webber 2-4, Martin 2-4, Barry 1-3, Williams 1-5, Corbin 1-5, Anderson 0-4), New York 8-13 (Sprewell 2-2, L.Johnson 2-4, Houston 2-4, Camby 1-1, Ward 1-2). Fouled out—Pollard. Rebounds—Sacramento 45 (Webber, Divac 6), New York 41 (Ewing 12). Assists—Sacramento 24 (Williams 12), New York 24 (Houston, Ward 6). Total fouls—Sacramento 23, New York 20. Technicals—Williams 2, Camby. Ejected—Williams. A—19,763 (19,763).

Leaders

Through Jan. 29

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Iverson, Phil.	33	359	243	1016	30.8
O'Neal, LAL	42	483	197	1163	27.7
Hill, Det.	41	391	299	1104	26.9
Malone, Utah	42	392	292	1077	25.6
Webber, Sac.	38	383	156	937	24.7
Duncan, S.A.	44	387	291	1066	24.2
Carter, Tor.	43	401	204	1034	24.0
Payton, Sea.	45	384	172	1052	23.4
Stckhse, Det.	43	308	356	1004	23.3
Garnett, Minn.	41	394	135	945	23.0

Rebounds

	G	Off	Def	Tot.	Avg
Mutombo, Atl.	42	182	429	611	14.5
O'Neal, LAL	42	188	418	606	14.4
Duncan, S.A.	44	163	411	574	13.0
Garnett, Minn.	41	125	366	491	12.0
Feick, N.J.	43	178	306	484	11.3
Webber, Sac.	38	97	315	412	10.8
Brand, Chi.	40	195	212	407	10.2

Assists

	G	Asst.	Avg.
Kidd, Phoe.	42	418	10.0
Cassell, Mil.	43	407	9.5
Brandon, Minn.	38	333	8.8
Stockton, Utah	42	367	8.7
Payton, Sea.	45	387	8.6
Van Exel, Den.	40	343	8.6
Jackson, Ind.	43	359	8.3

College Basketball

Texas Men

No. 15 Oklahoma State 67, Baylor 51

BAYLOR (10-8, 1-6): Kendrick 3-16 4-4 12, Black 1-7 0-0 3, Echols 1-1 2-2 4, Stukes 5-19 2-2 15, Minor 5-12 1-2 13, Jones 0-0 0-0 0, Greenleaf 1-6 0-0 2, Naihe 1-3 0-0 2, Flippen 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 17-65 9-10 51.

OKLAHOMA STATE (16-2, 5-1): Montanati 5-9 3-4 13, Mason 4-11 0-0 10, Jonzen 2-4 3-4 7, Alexander 4-12 0-0 11, Gottlieb 1-2 0-0 2, Adkins 1-2 0-0 3, Williams 4-4 3-3 11, Cazzelle 0-0 0-0 0, Keep 2-2 0-0 4, Webber 2-4 2-2 6. Totals 25-50 11-13 67.

Halftime—Oklahoma St. 41, Baylor 19. 3-point goals—Baylor 8-34 (Kendrick 2-7, Black 1-3 Stukes 3-15, Minor 2-5, Greenleaf 0-3, Naihe 0-1), Oklahoma St. 6-18 (Mason 2-6, Alexander 3-10, Adkins 1-2). Fouled out—Black. Rebounds—Baylor 37 (Kendrick 7), Oklahoma St. 38 (Mason 10). Assists—Baylor 9 (Minor 3), Oklahoma St 16 (Gottlieb 10). Total fouls—Baylor 14, Oklahoma St. 10. A—5,839.

Top 25 Men

No. 6 Connecticut 66, Seton Hall 56

SETON HALL (13-4): Morton 0-0 0-0 0, Dalembert 2-5 0-0 4, Holloway 4-12 0-0 8, Kaukenas 1-6 0-0 2, Lane 6-11 3-4 21, Shine 5-9 3-6 14, Saunders 2-10 0-0 5, Harris 1-1 0-0 2, Manga 0-0 0-0 0, Wilkins 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 21-56 6-10 56.

CONNECTICUT (15-4): Freeman 1-4 4-4 6, Saunders 5-11 0-5 10, Voskuhl 4-5 3-3 11, Mouring 2-7 4-4 9, El-Amin 5-13 4-4 16, Deng 0-0 0-0 0, Robertson 2-5 2-2 6, Wane 3-6 0-0 6, Cox 0-1 2-2 2. Totals 22-52 19-24 66.

Halftime—Connecticut 36, Seton Hall 32. 3-Point goals—Seton Hall 8-22 (Lane 6-8, Shine 1-2, Saunders 1-5, Kaukenas 0-1, Holloway 0-6), Connecticut 3-9 (El-Amin 2-5, Mouring 1-3, Cox 0-1). Fouled out—Lane. Rebounds—Seton Hall 31 (Dalembert 6), Connecticut 39 (Wane 9). Assists—Seton Hall 11 (Holloway 4), Connecticut 15 (El-Amin 5). Total fouls—Seton Hall 19, Connecticut 14. A—16,294.

No. 9 Michigan State 91, Illinois 66

ILLINOIS (11-7): Cook 5-9 2-3 12, McClain 0-1 0-0 0, Archibald 0-1 1-3 1, Bradford 5-11 2-2 13, Williams 3-6 3-3 11, Chukwudebe 1-2 0-2 2, Mast 0-0 0-0 0, Cross 1-1 0-0 3, Johnson 1-1 4-4 7, Harrington 3-5 0-0 8, Brown 1-4 1-2 3, Krupalija 3-5 0-0 6. Totals 23-48 13-19 66.

MICHIGAN STATE (18-5): Anagonye 0-0 1-2 1, Peterson 6-9 1-2 18, Hutson 6-9 2-3 14, Cleaves 6-13 1-2 13, Bell 8-13 1-1 20, Smith 0-0 0-0 0, Thomas 2-3 3-4 7, Ishbia 0-0 0-0 0, Chappell 2-9 0-0 5, Cherry 0-1 0-0 0, Granger 3-5 2-2 9, Ballinger 1-1 2-2 4. Totals 34-63 13-18 91.

Halftime—Michigan State 49, Illinois 30. 3-Point Goals—Illinois 7-18 (Harrington 2-3, Williams 2-4, Johnson 1-1, Cross 1-1, Bradford 1-5, Cook 0-2, Brown 0-2), Michigan State 10-22 (Peterson 5-7, Bell 3-4, Chappell 1-8, Granger 1-3, Cherry 0-1, Cleaves 0-1). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Illinois 16 (Cook 6), Michigan State 41 (Hutson 11). Assists—Illinois 12 (Williams 4), Michigan State 23 (Cleaves 12). Total fouls—Illinois 17, Michigan State 17. A—14,659.

Men Fared

How the top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll fared this week:

1. Cincinnati (20-1) beat Louisville 75-65; beat South Florida 89-72.

2. Stanford (17-1) beat Washington 92-62; beat Washington State 63-38.

3. Duke (16-2) beat Clemson 93-59.

4. Syracuse (17-0) beat No. 6 Connecticut 88-74; beat Boston Coll. 73-65.

5. Arizona (17-4) beat Arizona State 82-55; lost to LSU 66-60.

6. Connecticut (15-4) lost to No. 4 Syracuse 88-74; beat Providence 84-50; beat Seton Hall 66-56.

7. Auburn (17-3) lost to No. 11 Tennessee 105-76; beat Mississippi State 73-57.

8. Ohio State (14-3) beat Purdue 68-59.

9. Michigan State (15-5) beat Northwestern 59-29; beat Illinois 91-66.

10. Florida (15-4) lost to DePaul 71-69; beat No. 20 Vanderbilt 89-63.

11. Tennessee (16-2) beat No. 7 Auburn 105-76; beat South Carolina 73-66.

12. Kansas (16-4) beat Colorado 89-74; lost to Iowa State 74-66.

13. Tulsa (20-2) beat Centenary 84-44; beat Texas-El Paso 89-71; lost to Fresno State 75-73.

14. Indiana (15-3) beat Michigan 85-50.

15. Oklahoma State (16-2) beat Kansas State 71-56; beat Baylor 67-51.

16. Kentucky (15-5) beat Georgia 75-69; beat Miami 60-57.

17. Texas (14-5) beat Nebraska 82

Fanatics, scalpers easy to find before Super Bowl game kickoff

By Erin McClam
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — Four hours before kickoff, Joe Sappington looked his face over carefully in a hand mirror.

Red paint on the left, blue on the right, silver stripe down his nose.

Perfect.

"Lookin' real good," said Sappington, who drove from Franklin, Tenn., for the Super Bowl and was seeking the perfect way to show support for the Tennessee Titans. "She did an excellent job."

Sappington hugged Sally Schaaf, who had also used stencils to spray "Titans" on each of his cheeks, and disappeared into a crowd of thousands of Tennessee and St. Louis fans milling around the Georgia Dome before Sunday's NFL title game.

On another day — even another game day — Sappington would have stood out in a crowd. But on Super Bowl Sunday, his face-turned-canvas was somewhat conservative.

That's because of people like Barry Molteni of Lebanon, Tenn. He wore a 2-foot, metallic blue wig and matching lei into CNN Center before the game. His back pockets carried two team-colored pompoms and a flask.

Molteni wore a replica jersey of his hero, Titans place kicker Al Del Greco.

"But the hair didn't come till the playoffs," he said.

On the plaza between Philips Arena and the Georgia Dome, fans hoping for last-minute tickets to the game and would-be scalpers found each other.

Some said the weekend ice storm, anything but typical for a city whose nickname is "Hotlanta," was forcing scalpers to sell seats — which often go for several thousand dollars before Super Bowls — for as low as $300.

"It could be the weather," said Rams fan James Shell of St. Louis, who was wearing a placard around his neck that said "Need One Ticket For The Game."

"A lot of people didn't show up," he said.

Shell said he expected to find a ticket at or below face value before kickoff.

Temperatures hovering around freezing didn't bother Yvonne Layton, who stood outside the Dome in knee-high white boots, a mini-skirt and a revealing top, all decorated in Rams colors.

"My hands are the only thing that's cold," said Layton, who claimed she never misses Rams games.

A group of protesters tried to take advantage of the massive crowds to spread their disapproval of Georgia's state flag, which bears a representation of the Confederate battle flag.

The demonstrators threatened a boycott of Georgia — similar to the NAACP's tourism boycott of South Carolina, which flies the battle flag over its Statehouse.

Other than the protesters, people without obvious allegiance to the Rams or Titans were hard to find near the Dome on Sunday.

But not impossible. Phil Farrell of Cumming, Ga., walked around Philips Arena wearing a New York Jets jersey.

He bought tickets to the Super Bowl last year hoping the Jets would make it. They didn't, but Farrell cited this year's improbable Titans-Rams matchup as hope for his team next season. His helmet said "Jets 2001."

"They'll be here next year," he said.



AP Photo

Joe Sappington, of Franklin, Tenn., cheers for the Tennessee Titans outside of the Georgia Dome before Super Bowl XXXIV in Atlanta on Sunday .

Bruce-Warner equal big play

Associated Press

ATLANTA — The call was twins right, ace right 999 halfback balloon.

Isaac Bruce streaked down the field, caught Kurt Warner's underthrown pass at the Tennessee 38 in front of stumbling cornerback Denard Walker, then raced into the end zone for a 73-yard touchdown that won the Super Bowl for the St. Louis Rams.

It was the first exciting play in a final two minutes filled with excitement, and the Rams' 23-16 victory was not assured until the very last second.

"The guy covering me never saw the ball and he fell on his face," Bruce said. "After I caught the ball, the safety overran me and then it was a race to the end zone."

The touchdown call was made by Rams offensive coordinator Mike Martz, who figured his wide receivers could run long routes with 5 seconds left before the two-minute warning.

"With 5 seconds left, I thought we could take a shot, give them some rest if it didn't work, then try again to get the first down," Martz said. "If it had been under two minutes, we wouldn't have tried such a long route. Kurt threw it up, and Isaac had to make the adjustment on the ball."

The three 9's in the 999 play denote that three receivers run deep routes.

"Mike likes to score from anywhere on the field," said Bruce, who finished with six catches for 162 yards. "That's why I like him as the offensive coordinator. We knew we had to get into the end zone. We couldn't win just with field goals."

Warner, who passed for a Super Bowl-record 414 yards, said he was told Bruce had beaten the cornerback on an earlier play, "so we came back to it when we needed a big play. Issac is our go-to guy."

Titans coach Jeff Fisher said Walker did all he could do on the deep pass.

"It was a great throw and catch," Fisher said. "Denard usually makes that play, but he got tripped up."

Bruce said Warner richly deserved MVP honors for the game and for the season.

"I'm so proud of Kurt," Bruce said. "He had one week to prepare, and before the season, he had one week to prepare (after projected starter Trent Green was hurt), and he came through."

SUPER BOWL XXXIV NOTEBOOK

Move to St. Louis worth it for Rams

By Tom Saladino
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — Owner Georgia Frontiere made a difficult decision in 1995 — moving the Los Angeles Rams to St. Louis.

On Sunday, she said it was all worth it when the Rams beat the Tennessee Titans 23-16 in the Super Bowl at the Georgia Dome.

"I am so thrilled. I'm thrilled for St. Louis. I'm thrilled for the Rams," she said in accepting the Lombardi Trophy from NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue.

"It proves that we did the right thing by going to St. Louis," she said of the move to her hometown five years ago.

"This trophy belongs to our coach, our team and our fans in St. Louis."

Frontiere has been chairman and owner of the Rams for 21 years, taking over leadership of the club in 1979.

SWEET MOMENT: After 10 years in the NFL, defensive tackle Ray Agnew now knows what winning the Super Bowl feels like.

"It feels great. There is no better feeling. It is sweet. I wish there were a way to package this moment so I could keep re-living it over and over," said the 6-foot-3, 285-pounder, who was in his second season with the Rams after playing five years with New England and three with the New York Giants.

"It is the sweetest day of my life," said Agnew, who was asked if winning the Super Bowl late in his career made it better.

"It think it is great no matter when it happens. I guess I was starting to think that it was getting late in my career and that it may not happen for," said the former North Carolina State standout.

SUPER PLAYERS: Nine sportswriters and a former NFL administrator, all of whom have attended all 33 previous Super Bowls, were polled to select the best players at each position in the NFL's championship game.

The offensive selections were quarterback Joe Montana, running backs Franco Harris and Emmitt Smith, tight end Jay Novacek, wide receivers Jerry Rice and Lynn Swann, tackles Forrest Gregg and Joe Jacoby, guards Gene Upshaw and Bob Kuechenberg, and center Mike Webster.

The defense was ends L.C. Greenwood and Harvey Martin, tackles Randy White and Joe Greene, middle linebacker Jack Lambert, outside linebackers Ted Hendricks and Chuck Howley, cornerbacks Herb Adderley and Mel Blount, and safeties Ronnie Lott and Jake Scott.

The punter was Ray Guy, and the kicker was Jan Stenerud. The kick returner was Desmond Howard and the coach was Chuck Noll.

The selection committee was Don Weiss of the NFL, Larry Felser of the Buffalo News, John Steadman of the Baltimore Sun, Jerry Green of the Detroit News, Jerry Izenberg of the Newark Star-Ledger, Dave Klein of e-Giants, Will McDonough of the Boston Globe, Norm Miller of the New York Daily News and Post, Bob Oates of the Los Angeles Times and Edwin Pope of the Miami Herald.

ODDS AND ENDS: The preseason odds of the St. Louis Rams winning the Super Bowl were 200-1. They were a touchdown favorite over the Tennessee Titans on Sunday.

The Titans were the 10th team to fail to score in the first half of the Super Bowl. All 10 wound up losing.

The Titans had been 5-0 against teams that had won 13 games during the regular season beating Jacksonville three times, Indianapolis and St. Louis. Tennessee beat the Rams 24-21 on Oct. 31 at home.

Titans punter Mike Horan is the oldest player ever to take part in a Super Bowl. He will be 41 on Tuesday.

MVP: Insurance policy QB pays off

(From 1C)

Warner's pass into the end zone, giving the Rams the lead and pushing the quarterback into exclusive company — Super Bowl heroes such as Bart Starr, Roger Staubach, Terry Bradshaw and Joe Namath.

The difference was that those guys were future Hall of Famers, expected to produce championships for their teams. Warner came out of football's shadows to bring this one to the Rams, who had struggled through nine straight losing seasons before finding him almost by accident.

This was a success story almost too corny to be true.

After playing at Northern Iowa — hardly a hotbed of NFL talent — Warner spent three seasons on the outskirts of pro football with the Iowa Barnstormers of the fringe Arena Football League, and one more in NFL Europe with the Amsterdam Admirals.

He was a backup with the Rams, an insurance policy that St. Louis cashed in when $16.5 million free agent Trent Green was injured in training camp. And suddenly, the anonymous quarterback blossomed into a full-fledged NFL star.

Warner directed a high-powered St. Louis attack to a 13-3 season, setting a team record for passing yards with 4,353 and throwing 41 touchdown passes. He joined Dan Marino as the only player in NFL history to throw 40 or more TDs in a season.

He was the regular season MVP, a most unlikely candidate for the award, given his humble football roots. A year ago, he said, even he wouldn't have dreamed of this.

"At the time, it wasn't very realistic to think I'd be the starter in the Super Bowl," Warner said. "They were trying to figure out if I was good enough to be the backup.

"I always believed in myself. There were no doubts that if I ever got the opportunity, that I could be successful. I continued to believe that through the times I worked in the supermarket and the times I played in Arena Football. I never lost sight of that. To me, that's what it's all about — believing in yourself, waiting for that opportunity and then seizing it when it came.

"I was just hoping I would get an opportunity throughout the season to play and to show people what I could do."

And that turned out to be plenty.

His performance bordered on startling. He led the league with a quarterback rating of 109.2 and gave every longshot football player the hope that someday he could duplicate this kind of unexpected success.

For Warner, it was no surprise.

"I just went out and did what I expected myself to do from day one, things I've been doing for the last few years," he said. "It just happens that some people who hadn't seen me do it, got to see me do it this year."

And on Sunday he did it in pro football's top showcase.

Vermeil: 'This feeling is much better'

By Jim Litke
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — To know how sweet it is, remember from how far back Dick Vermeil came. And how close he came to going back there again.

People who think old coaches can't learn new tricks — one or two, anyway — didn't see Vermeil when the game ended with the Tennessee Titans out of time and a yard short of forcing overtime.

Vermeil was so calm at that moment, he almost looked scary. In that same situation, in his last go-round as a coach, that kind of cool was beyond his reach.

"When the ball went in the air, I was going to get on the phone," Vermeil recalled. He was planning to call up offensive coordinator Mike Martz and have him script the first series of plays for the extra period.

St. Louis linebacker Mike Jones made sure that wasn't necessary. The ball that Vermeil watched so intently went from Titans quarterback Steve McNair to receiver Kevin Dyson at about the 3-yard line, but Jones expertly wrestled Dyson to the ground at the 1. At that moment, Vermeil let a torrent of emotions go.

"I've been in the other locker room," he said after the Rams' 23-16 win was in the books. "I've been in the Super Bowl and lost, so I know how it feels. And believe me, this feeling is much better."

Vermeil's word is fine, but to understand exactly how much better, remember his actions the last time he got to the Super Bowl. That was in 1981, almost an entire career ago.

Vermeil was coaching the Eagles back then, one of the NFL's ambitious young Turks. A relentless worker, he took over in 1976 and immediately started driving the team as hard as he drove himself. After two losing seasons, they carried him to the playoffs as a wild-card entry in their third, the NFC divisional playoffs the next year and the conference championship the year after that.

With Vermeil refusing to take his foot off their necks, the Eagles advanced to the Super Bowl in 1981. There they met a boisterous, curfew-breaking Raiders squad that seemed like the evil twin of the polished, disciplined outfit Vermeil brought to New Orleans.

Not that it did them any good. The Raiders hammered Philadelphia 27-10. In the locker room afterward, with a voice so flat it sent chills down the spine, Vermeil said, "Anyone who says one loss cannot ruin a season never lost a Super Bowl."

"Burnout" was not a word applied to coaches when Vermeil walked away from his job just nine games into the next season. But there was no better way to describe it.

The highs tickled him too much, the lows left him too drained. For far too many months of the year, Vermeil rarely ventured outside his bunker to see what was going on in the rest of the world. Yet once he did, it was just as hard to imagine him going back.

He was close to the game, but with a considerably less-stressful job as a broadcaster. After 14 years on the outside looking in, he decided broadcasting wasn't close enough. Vermeil returned to take the Rams over in 1997, but for all the talk and the outward appearance of a changed man, the differences were not always apparent.

Vermeil still ran tough training camps, tougher practices and full-contract drills as late as Friday of game weeks. His first two seasons ended with the Rams going nowhere, losing 23 of 32 games, and on the edge of a revolt.

But it wasn't just the players who were getting their points across. Vermeil did ease up on practices and off-days, and he took in assistants, notably Martz, to open up the offense. Yet, he was also carefully weeding out the ballplayers who didn't measure up to his work ethic.

And so, when the Rams celebrated Sunday night, it was worth noting that exactly nine guys were left from the roster Vermeil inherited three seasons ago.

"I always had faith in him," quarterback Kurt Warner said. "This is all about winning and everybody shut up this year when we started doing that. He stuck by his players, and went out and got some other guys with character. That's why we've got the chemistry we do on this team."

KEY: Rams make defensive stand

(From 1C)

feeling," Dyson said. "When he got his hands on me, I thought I'd break the tackle. But he slid down to my foot, like you're supposed to, and made a great play. I realized as soon as a I stretched out and was going down, that I didn't get the point of the ball over the goal line."

It was quite a different scene three weeks ago for Dyson.

He was the player who took the disputed lateral from Frank Wycheck and ran the last-minute kickoff back against Buffalo. That was a play that helped propel the Titans into the Super Bowl.

This time, it was something less spectacular. Just a good, clean tackle from a player who has been making good tackles all his life.

"It was a great throw and catch," Titans coach Jeff Fisher said. "He got tripped up. The Rams have done that all year and congratulations to them. We have made those kind of plays all year, and this particular play we didn't."

So, the Titans trudged off knowing they'll be part of the game film that coaches everywhere will use to inspire their players to appreciate the art of tackling.

The Rams will be part of that tape, too — but on the winning end.

"Everybody says this game comes down to fundamentals," said co-defensive coordinator Peter Giunta. "It's a simple game. It's blocking and tackling."

Tackling, to be more precise.

And because Jones made a good one, he was wrapping his arms around a Super Bowl trophy, as well.

SUPER: Bruce makes huge TD catch

(From 1C)

threw for 214 yards in the game and scrambled for a Super Bowl-record 64 more. That included a 23-yard run that set up the first score and a 12-yard scramble with a 15-yard face mask penalty added in the final rally.

"He left everything out there on the field," Fisher said. "I told him we will be back. Don't ever forget this moment because we will be back. We will be back because he has the heart of a champion."

But it wasn't enough.

On the first play after Del Greco's tying field goal, Warner went deep to Bruce, who outleaped Tennessee's Denard Walker at the 38, then cut back twice to score. The play was called by offensive coordinator Mike Martz, who will take over as coach when Vermeil retires.

"He said 'Let's take a shot. Let's go to Isaac,'" Vermeil said. "If we didn't make it, we'd try to get it on the next two downs."

Bruce said: "We had been getting field goals. We needed to get the ball in the end zone."

That still left the Titans with 1:54 and one time out. They worked the ball methodically down the field with two big plays — 27 yards on McNair's scramble and the ensuing penalty and a 16-yard pass to Dyson to put the ball on the 10 with five seconds left.

Then the Titans called their final time out.

The final play was a slant. Dyson grabbed the ball and lunged for the end zone with Jones grabbing him by the ankles. He went down less than a yard from the goal, trying to get his hand with the ball in it over the goal line.

"When he got his hands on me I thought I'd break the tackle but he slid down to my foot like you're supposed to and made a great play," Dyson said. "I realized as soon as I stretched out and was going down that I didn't get the point of the ball over the goal line."

That was a huge relief for the Rams.

"When I saw that ball go in the air, I said 'It's a touchdown,'" Vermeil said. "I was ready to call coach Martz and tell him to get the script ready for overtime."

Instead they wrote a script for a celebration.

GEORGE: RB finished with 95 yards

(From 1C)

game, so the Titans turned to Steve McNair.

George had one last chance to help. But after catching 47 passes in the regular season, he failed to turn around for a pass from McNair with half a minute left, and the ball bounced off his elbow.

With six seconds left, McNair almost came through, finding Kevin Dyson over the middle just inside the 5 on what would be the final play. McNair spun toward the end zone, trying and trying to reach it as time expired.

But Mike Jones was there to hook his hip and bring him down. No touchdown. No tie. No more miracles.

It's the first time since George was drafted in 1996 that he had carried for at least 27 times in a loss. The Titans had been 15-0 in games where George had that many carries until Sunday night.

George did finish the season with a piece of history. He topped Hall of Fame running back Earl Campbell as the team's best postseason rusher. Campbell had 420 yards rushing in eight postseason appearances, while George has 449 yards in four playoff games.

"I knew this was it," George said. "I wanted to make the most of this opportunity. It just wasn't enough."

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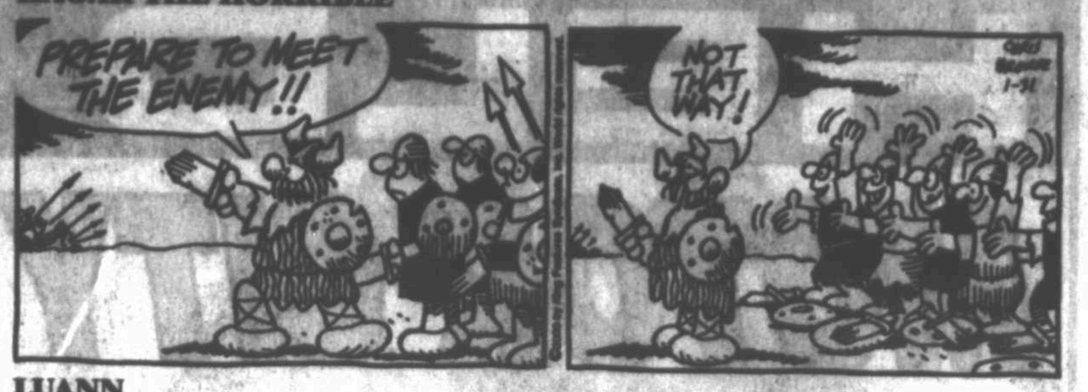
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Jan. 31, 2000:
You offer a lot of ideas and solutions. Friends often seek you out; be your own best friend as well. Push yourself toward what you want. Don't say no or accept self-imposed restrictions. Pace yourself. Get into a good exercise program to help eliminate fatigue and stress. If you are single, others find you witty and appealing. Romance knocks on your door this summer. If attached, you and your mate could often disagree about spending. Listen to your partner's ideas and learn to work as a team. Accept both viewpoints. SAGITTARIUS is your friend.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Let your spirit soar. Work with a friend who has a unique mind. Frustration easily sets in. Relax more, so you can mentally work through different ideas. A brainstorming session draws unusual solutions. Know what you want to create.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ A friend disappoints you, and he might make it necessary to regroup. Head in a new direction. Your perspective may be incomplete. Others express different points of view. Use change as an opening to create more of what you desire.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ A boss throws a tantrum; perhaps he isn't getting enough of your attention and time. Discussions are animated. Let others know what you want. Allow your creativity to soar. You find answers where you least expect.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Dig in your heels and remain determined to get the job done. Another doesn't have to view a situation as you do — in fact, trust that he won't. Build a better understanding through mutual respect. Exchange ideas.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Take a risk. Break past your normal patterns. Your ability to find solutions and your endless ingenuity prove to be your strong suits. Don't let frustration from a partner mar your decisions. He simply isn't approaching a problem the same way you are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Separate your personal life from your work, and you'll succeed. Nurture a family member. Be willing to take a risk. Pressure builds. Others might not always understand what you are doing. Concentrate on one item at a time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your challenge is to be heard and to communicate effectively. Listen to another carefully, even if you don't agree. He can offer you more than you think. Look for holes in your thinking! Be careful about taking on too much.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Be astute when dealing with funds. Take care of security first. Be careful, however. A loved one clearly doesn't see eye to eye with you. Avoid an argument. Settle on a course you feel is appropriate. No risks, please!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Beam in what you want. Don't be hesitant. Others respond to your inquiries and give you excellent feedback. A family member reacts strongly, or you might be angrier than you realize. Openly discuss what is on your mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Your questions backfire, as another misreads you. Understanding comes from breaking down a situation and explaining each part. Financial information needs verification. You just might not be right! Avoid conflict.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You can easily go overboard with spending. Don't forget what your long-term objectives are. Keep a friendship in perspective. Don't allow another to egg you on. Remain direct and communicative. Others value your feedback.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You trigger and get angry easily. Pressure from those you put in charge could frustrate you. Listen carefully as another explains his point of view. Do not hold back information; share what you know. You work well as a team.

***

BORN TODAY
Singer Phil Collins (1951), singer John Lydon (1956), former baseball player Nolan Ryan (1947)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Bidding Quiz

Q 1 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A K J 9 5 4 ♡ 8 3 ◇ 9 5 ♣ 7 6 2
The bidding has proceeded:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
3♣	Dbl	Pass	?

What do you bid now?

A — Even if partner's double is slightly shaded, you have an excellent hand for him — a good six-card suit and, therefore, ruffing values. To do anything other than jump to four spades demonstrates a severe case of rigor mortis.

Q 2 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A J 10 9 5 2 ♡ Void ◇ A Q 6 4 2 ♣ 9 3
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

A — In the modern style, the two criteria required for a jump shift response to partner's opening bid are either a self-sustaining suit of your own or a terrific fit for opener's suit. There is no question that your hand meets the second of these, so start the ball rolling toward slam by jumping to two spades.

Q 3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ Q 7 5 ♡ 10 9 6 3 ◇ A Q 7 6 3 ♣ 8
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

A — When partner opens one of a minor, your first duty is to show a four-card major, regardless of suit quality. Therefore, respond one heart. You can take a diamond preference later, if necessary.

Q 4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 8 7 6 ♡ 10 3 ◇ A Q J 6 3 ♣ A J 9
The bidding has proceeded:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♠	Pass	2◇	Pass
2♠	Pass	?	

What do you bid now?

A — Do not ask partner to do your work for you. You have an opening bid and three-card support for the opening bidder's major suit. That is enough for game, so get their by the most direct route available — jump to four spades. Unless you play that a two-over-one response is a game force, three spades can be passed.

Q 5 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A K 9 ♡ K 7 6 ◇ 9 8 5 4 3 ♣ K 8
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

A — If you play that a jump raise is forcing, by all means bid three diamonds. However, if it is only invitational, you must either make a waiting bid of one in your cheaper three-card major or jump to two no-trump. We prefer the latter course.

Q 6 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A K J 5 4 3 ♡ A 6 ◇ K 10 5 3 ♣ 6
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

A — Your hand does not meet either condition for a jump shift mentioned in the answer to the second question. Therefore, you have no option but to respond one spade. You can bid strongly later to catch up.

CLOSE TO HOME



"OK, let's see... Myron Wuffle, president of one of America's largest HMOs. It says you're allowed in, but you can stay for only 24 hours."

ZITS



BABY BLUES



DENNIS THE MENACE



"SH-H-H. DAD AN' RUFF ARE HAVING A SNORIN' CONTEST."

FAMILY CIRCUS



"You won't cry when you get your shot, Mommy, 'cause you're a BIG boy!"

TV TONIGHT

MONDAY EVENING

January 31, 2000

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

Broadcast	O	C	B	6PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
(6) KMID	2	3	2	News 6:00	Wheel of Fortune 615					Once and Again: Breaking Feelings 1670		News 8477615	Nightline (11:35)	Politically Incorrect	Chaos (11:59)
(8) KPEJ	24	6	3	Home Improvement	Judge Judy 497795	Ally McBeal: It's My Party (Part 1 of 2) 59412		Ally McBeal: Story of Love (Part 2 of 2) 38332		Mad About You 27325	The Nanny 52886	Jerry Springer 59765		Nowhere to Run 22870	Unhappily Ever After
(7) KOSA	7	7	7	News 7:00	Entertainment Tonight	The King of Queens	Ladies Man 3412	Everybody Loves Raymond	Becker 8141 (TVPG)	48 Hours: Murder for Hire? 36344		News 3997997	Late Show With David Letterman (10:35) 2475236		Late Night With Conan O'Brien
(9) KWES	9	9		News 1:00	Survivor 2948 (TVPG)	Pranks and Geeks: The Diary 70666 (TVPG)		Twenty One 82308 (TVG)		Third Watch: Hail to What You Make of It 65870 (TV14)		News 8847626	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (10:35) 70271141		Late Night With Conan O'Brien
(12) KMLM	12	12	19	News 66122	John Hagee Today	The Light of the Southwest 26306				Richard Roberts 36656		News 66656	Joyce Meyer 12526	Duane Sheriff Ministries	Victory Church 94219
(13) KOCV	36	13		The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer 291851		Antiques Roadshow (Part 2 of 2) 400412 (TVG)		The American Experience 486332 (TVG)		Project Censored: Is the Press Really Free? 406666		Telecourse 766877			
(6) CNBC		8	27	Business Center (5:30)	Upfront Tonight	Hardball With Chris Matthews 3266702		Rivera Live 3266122		The News With Brian Williams 3266666		Hardball With Chris Matthews 3266073		Rivera Live 6662764	
(10) WGN		10		Full House 666236	Caroline in the City					News 482122		MacGyver: Dalton, Jack of Spies 402260 (TVPG)		In the Heat of the Night 666544 (TVPG-V)	
(11) WTBS		11	11	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	NBA Basketball: Phoenix Suns at Orlando Magic 703483					Inside the NBA 494666				
(14) FAM		14		Who's Boss?	Who's Boss?					Famous Fam.: Kennedys		The 700 Club 666609		Who's Boss?	Partridge
(20) DISC		20	26	Australia's Reef Warriors		Marine Corps Boot Camp		Cosmetic Surgery		Body Story 923662 (TVG)		Marine Corps Boot Camp		Cosmetic Surgery	
(21) AMC		21	26			Fashion									
(22) TNN		22	31	Matt Houston 214783						Life of Sawyer Brown		Matt Houston 406877		Bill Dance	In-Fisherman
(23) TNT		23	35	ER 207493 (TV14-L)		WCW Monday Nitro Live! 771128 (TV14-DLS)								WCW Monday Nitro Live!	
(24) BRAV		24		Moonlighting 666141						Bee Gees 406606 (TVPG)					
(29) BET		26	33	Hits From the Street		Sparks	Amen	Comicview 115126		Live From L.A. 216770		Tonight With Tavis Smiley		Midnight Love 287764	
(27) DISN		27	61											Zorro 771528 (TVG)	Mickey Mouse Club
(28) CNN		28	22	Election 2000 673877				Larry King Live 673309		Election 2000 666870		Sports	Moneyline	Larry King Live 279764	
(29) ESPN		29	30	College Basketball: St. John's at Syracuse 486036				College Basketball: Texas at Oklahoma 486660				SportsCenter 414615		College Basketball 486666	
(30) USA		30	28	JAG: Ghost Ship 480783 (TVPG)		Walker, Texas Ranger 662054 (TV14-V)		WWF RAW 661762 (TV14-DLV)		WWF War Zone 2271967 (TV14-DLV)		Farmclub.com (10:05) 3706325		Silk Stalkings (11:05) 6666548 (TV14-S)	
(31) FX		31		M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	NYPD Blue 8749615		The X-Files 8726035		Married ...	Married ...	The X Show 8748686		The X-Files 8067783	
(32) A&E		32	25	Law & Order: Homesick 946325 (TVPG)		Biography: Nick Nolte: Acting Up 661716 (TVG)		Investigative Reports: Justice for Joan 398324		City Confidential 796180 (TVPG)		Law & Order: Passion 923647 (TVPG)		Biography: Nick Nolte: Acting Up 663702 (TVG)	
(33) TLC		33		48 Hours: The N.Y. Underground 208651		Paramedics: Double Dose 425702 (TVPG)		Bullet Catchers 412238 (TVG)				Paramedics: Double Dose 424073 (TVPG)		Bullet Catchers 718257 (TVG)	
(34) NICK		34	37	Hey Arnold! 247870	Rugrats 239122	The Wild Thornberrys	Rocket Power 234306	Brady Bunch 527526	Beverly Hillbillies	All in the Family	The Jeffersons 854344	I Love Lucy 114236	Mary Tyler Moore	Happy Days 324626	Laverne and Shirley
(38) LIFE		36	40	Intimate Portrait: Diahann Carroll 982211 (TVG)		Beyond Chance 665412 (TVPG)							Golden Girls 305526	Oh Baby 938670	Unsolved Mysteries
(39) OUTDR		39		The Great Outdoorsman	Wilderness Camper	Surfing 7982580	Summer Down Under	Canoe & Kayak Mag	Sport Diver Magazine	Surfer's Journal	Surfer Magazine	Surfing 2436851	Summer Down Under	Canoe & Kayak Mag	Sport Diver Magazine
(42) UNI		42	13	Sonadoras 44615 (TVPG)		Nunca Te Olvidare 46666		Tres Mujeres 22306 (TV14)		Cristina a... Edicion Especial 35870		Primer Impacto Extra	Ultima Hora	Vivlana a la Madrileno 2878 (TVPG)	
(43) FSN		43	29	Fox Sports News 23666	Sports Tonight	NHL Hockey: Edmonton Oilers at Dallas Stars 176506						Fox Sports News 29257		Toughman Champ.	The Last Word 35493
(44) COM		44		Daily Show/ Stewart	Win Ben Stein's Money					Strangers With Candy	Up'r Citizens Brigade	Daily Show/ Stewart	Win Ben Stein's Money	Saturday Night Live 6666509 (TVPG)	
(45) ANIM		46		Fun. Animals	Lie Like Dog	Life in a Sea of Sand		Legends	Twisted Tale	Emer. Vets	Wild Rescue	Life in a Sea of Sand		Legends	Twisted Tale
(47) E!		47		Emergency	Search Party	Talk Soup	Mysteries	Elizabeth Taylor: The E! True Hollywood Story 686344				H. Stern	H. Stern	Sexy Swimsuits '99	
(48) TVL		48	24	Andy Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Emergency! 3457702		Dragnet	Adam-12	Andy Griffith	Beaver	Honeymoon.	Sanford/Son	A-Team 4666649	
(49) ODSY		49		Avonlea 212325		Snowy River: McGregor						Lonesome Dove: Outlaw		The Young Riders 486342	
(50) HGTV		50	62	Old House	Workshop	At Auction	Collectibles	Bartholomew	Country	If Walls Talk	Dream H'se	At Auction	Collectibles	Bartholomew	Country
(51) MSNBC		51		Hardball: Chris Matthews		Special Edition 8747257		News With Brian Williams		Legends With Matt Lauer		Special Edition 8746526		News With Brian Williams	
(52) TELE		52		Munecs Brave 850509		La Vida en el Espejo		El Amor de Mi Vida 400526		Xica 480764		Noticiero	Ocurrio Asi 760832		Buscando
(53) TOON		60		Chicken	Laboratory	Ed, Edd	Tom & Jerry	Bugs & Daffy 9610290		Flintstones	Scooby Doo	Ed, Edd	Chicken	Batman	Dragon Ball
(61) TCM		61													
(62) HIST		62	32	Idols of the Game (5)		Smallpox: Deadly Again?		UFOs: Then and Now?		Internet: Behind the Web		History's Lost & Found		Smallpox: Deadly Again?	
(63) ESPN2		63		Strong Man	Strong Man	Match Up of Millennium		NHL Hockey: Detroit Red Wings at Phoenix Coyotes 1166851						XBS	Yachting
(64) SCIFI		84	39	The Outer Limits 1630141		The Outer Limits 8159660		The Outer Limits 8138219		The Outer Limits 8148783		Poltergeist: The Legacy		Friday the 13th 6169861	
(53) PLEX															
(65) FLIX		65	20												
(66) SHOW		66	16	Kings of the Ring: Legends of Heavyweight Boxing										The Hoop Life (10:45)	
(67) TMC		67	15												
(68) HBO		68						The Sopranos: Toodle ... Oo 483122 (TVMA)		Children in War 2221412 (TV14)					
(69) HBO 2		69								The Sopranos: Toodle ... Oo 6599257 (TVMA)		Oz: Visits, Conjugal and Otherwise 6662344 (TVMA)			
(70) HBO 3		70				Larry Sanders Show	Dennis Miller Live								
(71) MAX		71											Hot Line (10:40)		
(72) MAX 2		72													

PEOPLE TODAY

Brooks brings 'Smiles' to dentists' group

SAN ANTONIO — Hundreds of dentists showed their pearly whites when country music star **Garth Brooks** made a surprise appearance here to announce his support of a children's charity.

Brooks told a meeting of about 750 members of the Crown Council, an alliance of dentists from throughout North America, that his Touch 'em All Foundation would join in their Smiles for Life Charity Campaign.

The goal is to raise $5 million for various children's groups, Brooks told the dentists Saturday night. The money raised through the Smiles for Life campaigns in the past have gone to St. Jude's Hospital.

"We have 14 charities to start," Brooks said. "The money is for children, and the areas we will use it for is medical, education and inner-city projects since those needs are so great."

For the next three months, dentists participating in the fund-raising will provide discounted teeth whitening procedures to their patients, and payments for that work will be channeled directly to the Smiles For Life Foundation.

Teeth whitening generally costs about $400 but will be available for a reduced price of $200 during the charity drive. Patients will write checks directly to the charity and may claim it as a tax deduction.

* * *

LONDON — **Yoko Ono**, widow of **John Lennon**, is reportedly concerned about the safety of Lennon's two sons after the recent attack on former Beatle **George Harrison**.

"Knowing that our close friend and his family have been subjected to a violent incident I am, naturally, most concerned about the safety of **Julian** and **Sean**," Ono said in The Independent on Sunday, a British newspaper.

Ono has continued to live in the New York City apartment building where she and Lennon lived with their son, Sean, when the star was killed in 1980 by **Mark David Chapman**.

In an attack a month ago, Harrison received a serious knife wound that collapsed his right lung. His wife, **Olivia**, was scratched and bruised when the couple fought off the attacker inside their mansion 25 miles west of London.

Chapman, serving a 20 years-to-life sentence in New York, is eligible for parole in December.



Mary Tyler Moore may consider extended reunion with Valerie Harper.

* * *

NEW YORK — Might **Mary Tyler Moore** extend her reunion with **Valerie Harper** into a series if their new television movie does well?

"That depends on whether I could live with a network coming in and telling me what comedy is. I just don't want 30-year-old VPs on the set," Ms. Moore said in Sunday's Parade magazine. "That may sound a bit arrogant, but I don't want anyone to muck around with my work."

The two-hour film "Mary and Rhoda" is to be broadcast Feb. 7. Ms. Moore's character tries to make a new life after the death of her husband, while Ms. Harper's role has her returning from Paris after a divorce.

* * *

MADRID, Spain — **Pedro Almodovar** won Best Director and Best Film for "Todo Sobre Mi Madre" (All About My Mother) in the Spanish Goya cinema awards presented Sunday.

The movie, Spain's candidate for a foreign-language Oscar, is the story of a single woman who experiences the death of her son and goes in search of the boy's father.

The film's female star, **Cecilia Roth**, also won Best Actress.

Almodovar recently won a Golden Globe for the movie.

Roberto Benigni's World War II era movie "La Vita E Bella" (Life is Beautiful) won the award for best European film.

Organized by the Spanish Cinema Academy, the Goya film awards take their name from the 18th century Spanish painter.

— — —

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram wire services.

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited by Fran & Lou Sabin

Edited by Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Made a mistake
6 Mormon state
10 Jump on one leg
13 "Remington —"
14 Algeria neighbor
15 Exist
16 Emulate the Big Bad Wolf
18 Free (of)
19 "— a Grecian Urn"
20 Bill of —: legislative conviction
22 La., in 1803
23 Liberates
24 Norway's capital
25 "Magic" pen
27 Use a chair
28 Swiss peak
31 Hammer head part
32 Immunity providers
35 Waikiki wreath
36 Director Howard
37 Addams family cousin
38 Opponent
39 Bowling target
41 Final Four org.
42 Sly animal
43 Snakelike swimmer
44 Mad Magazine publisher
46 Penpoints
48 Tear into small pieces
49 Surrounded by
53 Bystanders
55 Allman or Eddy
56 Insignificant amount
57 Shoulder joint support
59 2nd baseman, for one
60 Sheet of matted cotton
61 Keanu or George
62 Ring official
63 Gin flavoring fruit
64 Sun, in the morning

DOWN

1 Chopin piece
2 Allude (to)
3 Change for the better
4 Impetuous ardor
5 Reading room
6 Indefinitely large number
7 More tense, as rope
8 Italian cars, for short
9 Sound system of yesteryear
10 Booze
11 Bay window
12 Cy Young award winner Martinez
13 Took pictures of
17 Add black to
21 Roulette bet
23 Air conditioning gas
26 Taxing month
27 Bristlelike parts
28 Ht.
29 Appomattox surrenderer
30 City on the Arkansas River
32 Word with news or hand
33 Bossy remark?
34 — goddess: Monroe tag
37 Most frigid
40 Mexico money
41 Do a voice-over, perhaps
44 Inner city area
45 Hollandaise and others
46 Polite refusal
47 Hole —: golf coup
48 "Here's to you!"
50 Bluish purple
51 Deduce
52 Dict. entries
54 Mars and Venus
55 German crowd?
58 Hockey great Bobby

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

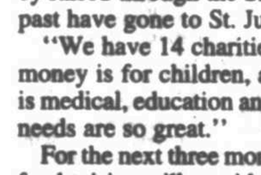
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1/31/00



By Ed Early
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1/31/00

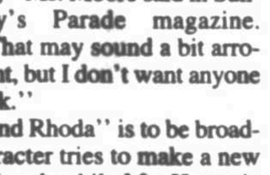


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95 Legal Notices
98 Public Notices
100 Midland's New Arrivals
105 Happy Ads
110 Lodge Notices
115 Announcements
130 Personals
140 Card of Thanks
141 In Memorium
150 Lost & Found
160 Loans Wanted
162 Mortgages Wanted
163 Money To Loan
165 Investment Opport.
170 Schools/Instruc.
175 Sporting Goods
410 Antiques & Art
470 Musical Instr.
475 Crafts & Supplies
480 Cameras & Supplies
485 Electronics
490 Computers/Access.
495 FUR FREE

MERCHANDISE 400
402 Garage Sale Svcs.
404 Garage Sales (79705)
405 Garage Sales (79701)
406 Garage Sales (79703)
407 Garage Sales (79705)
408 Garage Sales (79707)
409 Area Sales
410 Misc. Sales
413 Jewelry
415 Misc. Wanted
420 Things to Eat
425 Trade/Swap
430 Household Goods
432 Household Furniture
435 Household Appliances
440 Firewood
500 Pets & Supplies
505 Livestock/Poultry
510 Office Supplies
520 Store/Cafe Equip.
525 Bus./Shop Equip.
530 A/C - Heating
540 Bldg. Materials
550 Portable Bldgs.
560 Machinery/Tools
570 Oilfield Supplies
580 Farm Equipment

RENTALS 600
600 Rooms For Rent
601 Hotel Rms. - Rent
602 Roommate Wanted
604 Wanted to Rent
605 Apts. Furnished
610 Apts. Unfurnished
615 Apts. Furn./Unfurn
620 Houses Furnished
625 Houses Unfurnished
630 Houses Furn./Unfurn
635 Condos/ Townhouses Furn.
640 Condos/ Townhouses Unfr.
650 Mobile Homes Furn.
655 Mobile Homes Unfr.
660 Mobile Home Lots
665 Bus. Prop./Offices
670 Warehouse/Storage
675 Rec./Resort
680 Out of Town
685 Hunting Leases
690 Oil/Gas Leases

REAL ESTATE 700
700 Mtgs. Homes
701 Real Estate
710 Open Houses
720 Homes For Sale
725 Condo/Townhome
730 Suburban Prop.
735 R.E. Wanted
740 Out of Town Prop.
750 Lots & Acreage
760 Farms/Ranches
770 Resort Property
780 Business Property
785 Warehouse/Stor.
790 Investment Prop.

WHO'S WHO 800

EMPLOYMENT 300
305 Job Services
310 General Help
311 Medical Help
312 Professional Help
314 Clerical Help
316 Sales Help
318 Mgmt. Help
319 Oil Industry Help
320 Skilled Trade
330 Employment Wanted
335 Adult Care Needed
340 Child Care Needed
341 Child Care Prov.
350 Bus. Opptys.
400 Auctions

TRANSPORTATION 200
200 Autos - Domestic
205 Classic Cars
210 Autos - Imports
215 Sport/Utility Vehicles
220 Trucks
222 Suburbans & Vans
225 4x4 Vehicles
230 Commercial Vehicles
235 Cars,Trucks,Vans $3,000 & Under
240 Motorcycles
245 Trailers - Utility
250 Rec. Vehicles
260 Boats & Motors
270 Airplanes
280 Auto Services
290 Parts/Accessories



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95 Legal Notices

Notice of Shareholders' Meeting to Vote on Combination

Community National Bank

Shareholders' Meeting

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to call of its directors, the annual meeting of the shareholders of Community National Bank will be held at the Petroleum Club, 501 Wall Avenue, in the city of Midland, state of Texas, on Thursday, February 17, 2000, at 3:00 p.m., to consider and determine by vote whether an agreement to consolidate the bank and New Bank, N.A., located in the city of Midland, state of Texas, under the provisions of the laws of the United States, shall be ratified and confirmed, and to vote upon any other matters incidental to the proposed consolidation of the two institutions. A copy of the agreement, approved by a majority of the directors of each of the two institutions, providing for the consolidation, is on file at the institution and may be inspected during business hours.

Robert D. Southerland
President

115 Announcements

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(Please allow 1 - 2 days for e-mailed ads. Text only please, no photos or logos accepted. If you want your ad to start tomorrow please contact us by phone or fax. Thank you....)

95 Legal Notices

NOTICE OF SALE
Alamo South Mini-Storage wishes to avail themselves of the Texas provision of Chapter 59, Texas Property Code. This sale is being held to satisfy a landlord's lien on the following unit(s) contents.

The company reserves the right to reject any bid and withdraw any items from sale.

Pattie Hill Unit #20
John Wiggins Unit #57

Location:
Alamo South Mini-Storage
1301 South Connell
Midland, TX
Sale: February 25th @ 10:00 a.m.

110 Lodge Notices

Midland Chapter #283 Order of Eastern Star- 1600 W. Wall, Stated Mtgs. 2nd & 4th Tues. 7:30 pm WM/WP
Betty & Bill Stark

Acacia Masonic Lodge#1414
1000 Upland
Stated Communication, 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.
Mike Pipes, W.M.
Al Talbot, Sec.

Centennial Lodge #1448
1600 W. Wall
Reg. meeting, 1st & 3rd Sat. 8:30 am. Breakfast 7:30 am.
Tom Burns, W/M.
Bob Ellwood, Sec.

Midland Shrine Club
2019 Trade Dr.- 689-7003
Reg. Meeting. 3rd. Thurs. Hosp. 6:30 pm, dine 7 pm., Bus. meeting. 8 pm.
Copper Daugherty, Pres.
Gary Anderson, Secty.

Midland Masonic Lodge #523
1600 W. Wall
E.A. DEGREE, Wednesday, 2/2/00 7:30 pm, Dinner 6:30. pm
John P. Cox, W/M
Robert G. Kiker, Sec.

130 Personals

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130 Personals

BEAUTICONTROL PRODUCTS: Shirley Whitehead, Senior Consultant 520-0416. Danielle McNerlin- Consultant 570-1611. All products on sale.

150 Lost & Found

LOST: Brown & White Female Springer Spaniel. Southwest edge of Midland. Reward for return! 683-0991, 684-4038.

LOST; TWO Rottweilers, one male, one female, collars with no ID, lost on Saturday evening around 7:30 pm. Please call 697-7447.

FOUND: FEMALE Rottweiler, vicinity of "D" & Cuthbert. Call to identify, 685-1774.

LOST DOGS- 1/13/2000 Mariana. Medium black male, brown face/ feet, chain collar, tag. Short white/ tan female, markings like Cocker, built like Basset, blue collar. 699-0174.

LOST; MALE MINIATURE SCHNAUZER,gray and white, brown collar with "Charlie", reward for his safe return. Call 520-2529.

LOST BROWN Chihuahua, Illinois/ McDonald, male. Reward. Please call 694-5935.

FOUND: Vicinity of St. Andrews and Midland Drive. Small Gray Poodle. Call 694-0295 after 5p.m.

LOST 14 YEAR old Black Male Terrier mix with gray muzzle. Reward. Call 620-8042

FOUND; WHITE male Chihuahua, vicinity 3100 block of Louisiana/ Michigan. No collar or tags. 694-5583.

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BUICK 1998 LaSabre Limited, 29,000 miles, all power, automatic climate control, CD, excellent condition, $18,500. 682-3842 or 697-4550.

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LINCOLN 1990 Towncar, one nonsmoking owner, 91K, exceptional mechanical condition, immaculate inside/ out. NADA average $7,100, sacrifice $6,250. 333-6382, Odessa.

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CHEVROLET 1991 Cavalier. 4 Door, good condition, rebuilt engine, automatic, CD, runs great. $3,995. Call 689-7151 or 528-6812.

CHEVROLET 1996 Camaro, 3.8 ltr. V6, Automatic, power steering, air, cruise, teal, 28,000 miles, one owner. $11,200. 699-4135. Leave message.

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FORD 1990 TEMPO G.L.- 65K miles, white. $3,500 Call 694-3089 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Leave message.

FORD 1993 PROBE/GT- White, 2 door. Excellent condition, interior and exterior. 92K miles, AM/FM cassette, cruise. $6,500 O.b.o. Call 682-2457.

LINCOLN 1991 Mark VII LSC, Garnet Red, excellent condition, one owner, 67,600 miles, fully loaded, great deal at $7,000. 697-7733.

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BUICK 1982 RIVIERA- Convertible, 79k actual miles, very collectible, v6, new top, new tires. $7,000. 686-8759. 1804 Ward.

LINCOLN 1991 Town Car: one nonsmoking owner, very clean inside and outside, garaged, 94K, dark blue/ gray, $5,800. Call 697-8506.

CADILLAC 1992 Fleetwood- Dark blue exterior, blue leather interior.. VERY NICE EXCELLENT CONDITION! Below blue book. $6,950. Please call 684-7797.

FORD 1993 MUSTANG Cobra convertible. Race car, street legal, loaded, new CD player- air conditioning- conversion- tires. $4,995 negotiable. 522-2805

CHEVROLET 1993 Corvette, Must sell! New one on the way. $15,000 negotiable. Please call 915-550-4324 after 5 pm.

205 Classic Cars

PLYMOUTH 1984 Savoy, looks/ runs good, $2,500. Call 687-3545/ 697-3587 for information.

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FORD 1968 THUNDERBIRD- 66K miles, rebuilt transmission, new 134A air conditioning, new radiator/ tires, rebuilt drive shaft. $5,250. Call 694-7136

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CHEVROLET 1967 SS/CAMARO- Convertible, original 396 c.u., Automatic transmission, good condition. $14,500. serious inquiries only call 697-4673 after 5 p.m.

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FERRARI 1977 308GTB- 25K miles, one owner, silver with black leather, one of the last with carburetors. $25,000 Call 685-3863

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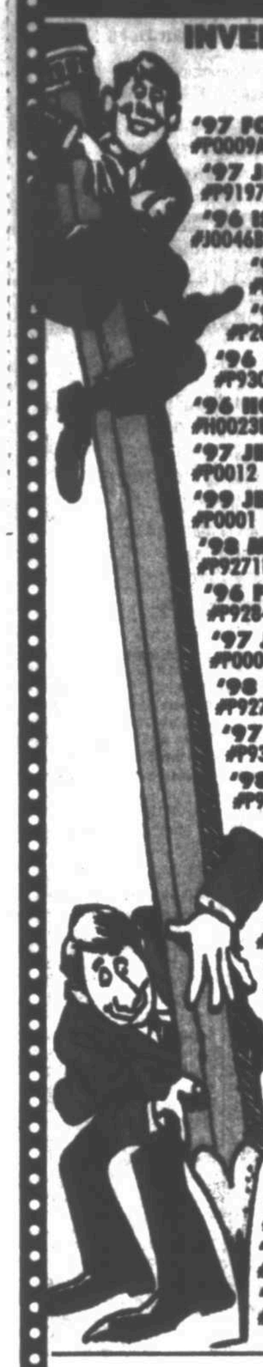
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CHEVROLET 1996 1500 Extended Cab. 63K miles. May be seen at be seen at Village Car Wash.

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CHEVROLET 1997 Z71- Black, one owner, low miles, excellent condition, $21,000 Call 687-3676.

CHEVROLET 1998 Extended Cab Silverado, all power, with CD and cassette. Priced to sell. Please call Phil at 697-3293.

CHEVROLET 1999 Extended cab, midnight black, power windows/ locks, tilt/ cruise, still under factory warranty. Please call Ken, 697-3293.

CHEVROLET 1999 Extended cab, silver metallic, all power, V8 Vortec, need to sell. Please call Baldo, 697-3293.

CHEVROLET 1999 Silverado LS, Extended Cab. Loaded, 9,000 miles, Victory Red, factory warranty, excellent condition. $5,000 Equity, take over payments of $369 per month or $22,000. Call 697-2328.

DODGE 1996 Ram 2500. Extended Cab, V8, 40K miles, white. Bed rails, running board, bed liner. $23,000. Good condition. 561-2219.

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FORD 1995 F150/XL- 6 Cylinder, 5 speed, tilt/cruise, a/c, dual tank, tinted windows, am/fm CD, 57K miles. $8,500. Call 520-6811

FORD 1998 Ranger step side, nice lines and rims, great on gas, need to sell, please all Mike at 697-3293.

FORD 1998 Ranger XLT extended cab. V-6, automatic transmission and more! Only $11,888 694-7345.

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FORD 1998 RANGER- Sport, 6 cylinder, 6K miles. Excellent condition. $8,500. Call 556-2293.

GMC 1996 Extended cab, 3rd door, power windows/ locks, tilt, cruise, alloy rims, bed liner with chrome tool box. Priced to sell. Call Baldo, 697-3293.

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GMC 1998 Trailmaster Conversion Truck, leather, running boards, alloy rims, beautiful blue angel fade, only 10K, great truck, please call Phil at 697-3293.

NISSAN 1999 FRONTIER- King Cab, 13K miles, Excellent condition, am/ fm cassette, 5 speed, v6. $14,000. Call 683-5533 or 687-0714

CHEVROLET 1998 Silverado extended cab, white, clothe, power seats/ windows, CD, 58K miles. $17,900. 697-7684 9:00am- 6:00pm weekdays, 697-0744 home.

DODGE 1985 Ram. Red pickup, long, wide. Good condition. New paint/ tires, chrome wheels, AM/ FM CD. $4,500. 697-2169, 661-9090.

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FORD 1995 F350 XLT, 7.3 Powerstroke, crewcab, power windows/ locks, grill guard, good tires, great condition, $15,900. Call 682-6855.

GMC 1993 SIERRA GT Sportside. 350 V8 power automatic, custom wheels, tires. Loaded! One owner. 50,000 Miles. Immaculate! $11,900. 688-1877.

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CHEVROLET 1998 C1500- Single cab, short wide-bed. Asking payoff value $15,000. Call 522-1348 Leave message.

FORD 1986 F250, four wheel drive, supercab, low miles. 1989 Western Wilderness 9' camper fully equipped. $6,500, best offer. 689-0447.

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FORD 1993 F350XLT- Diesel. Clean, well maintained, all power, automatic, am/ fm cassette, external fuel tank. $12,500. call evenings 684-9662.

CHEVROLET 1997 Silverado C1500. Extended cab, 5.7L, V8, automatic, all power, cruise, tilt, bed liner, 28K, excellent condition, $17,000. 9-15-263-3519.

DODGE 1995 RAM Pick-up. Extended cab, very clean, grill guard, tool box, 73K miles, maintenance to a tee. $14,200. 499-0259.

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CHEVROLET 1995 SUBURBAN- 4X4, Red/ gray interior, excellent condition, custom wheels. New a/c, CD, and tow Package. $19,250. 570-5104/ 634-2277.

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CHEVROLET 1993 Suburban. Excellent condition, extra clean. Gray with red cloth, power windows- locks- seats, rear air, high mileage. $10,400 683-1744 or 683-3475 after 5 pm.

GMC 1993 SUBURBAN- 1500-SLT, navy and tan, brush guard. New heavy duty transmission, towing package. 126k. $9,500. Call 694-4399.

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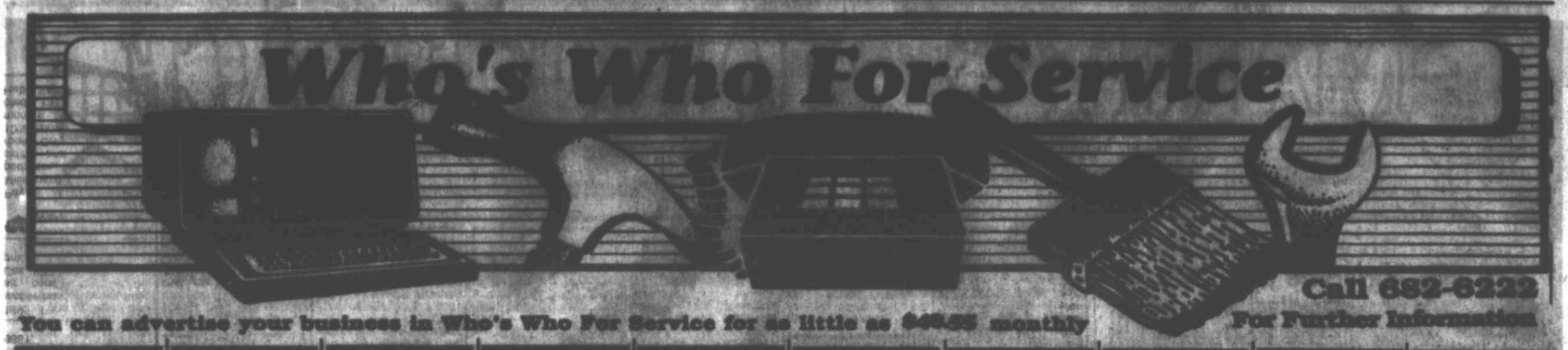
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WE GET more approvals than anyone else. We'll find a way to get you a home. Give us a call and let us work for you! (915)530-0016 or 550-2125.

ZERO- ZIP- ZILCH! 3 Bedroom, 2 bath - Over 1200 Sq/ft. No down payment required!! 915/ 520-2177.

SAVE! SAVE! Save! Buying a new or used mobile home? Let us save you 5- 20% on your insurance. Call us for free quotes. Edwards Insurance Agency (915)570-4736.

CUTE 2 Bedroom, 2 bath mobile home. Call 915-552-9598.

***ABANDONED DOUBLEWIDE- 563-9000.**

MOBILE HOME Credit Hotline! E- Z Qualifying! Call 550-4033; (800)725-0881.

1992 THREE BEDROOM/ mobile home. Central heat, air conditioner. $8,700. Call 697-9649 after 4:00 pm.

WANT FOUR? Don't Pay More! 2000 Millennium model 4 bedroom, 2 bath - Vinyl siding and room, room, room. Only $255/month!! 10% down, 8.5% APR 300 months with approved credit. (915) 520-2177 Se Habla Espanol!

GOOD CREDIT? You deserve the best price and service! Visit A-1 Homes in Midland. 563-9000.

$$ TAX REFUNDS! Invest in a home you will be proud to own. New 4 bedroom fully loaded $398 per month. Call 563-9000. 5% down, 11.25 APR, 360 months, WAC.

FREE- FREE- FREE!! Come qualify for your Free Gift at USA Homes, 4508 West Wall!!

FOR SALE BY Owner- Single wide 2 bedroom, 2 bath, excellent condition. Call 520-3119.

ABANDONED DOUBLEWIDE. Please Call 915-552-9598.

DOUBLE YOUR Dollars! Bring us your tax refund and we'll match it as down payment on the new, pre-owned, or repo home of your choice. In stock models only. Maximum match $5,000. (915)550-0018.

14X78, 2 BEDROOM, 2 Bath, carport, storeroom. New carpet, water heater, much more new updating. 5 year old Trane air conditioner. Corner lot at Airline. $13,500 negotiable. 688-6040, 561-5813.

REPO! $500 Down. Please call 552-9597 for more information.

NEW 3 Bedroom, 2 bath ONLY $17,900. Call 915-698-9695.

WE FINANCE Used Mobile Homes. Call (915)550-0018.

Find It! Buy It! Sell It! 682-6222



700

- 700 Manufactured Homes
- 701 Real Estate
- 710 Open Houses
- 720 Homes for Sale
- 725 Condo/Townhouses
- 730 Suburban Prop.
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- 740 Out of Town Prop.
- 750 Lots and Acreage
- 760 Farms/Ranches
- 770 Resort Property
- 780 Business Prop.
- 785 Warehouse/Storage
- 790 Investment Property

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We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

HUD HOTLINE 1-800-669-9777

BY OWNER- 2505 Bellechasse, three bedroom, two bath,double garage, On cul-de-sac, jacuzzi, lots of wood paneling, $99,500. 682-0702.

IMMACULATE AND Elegant 3100 Sq/ft. Four bedroom, 3 bath, pool, decks, four column atrium, loaded with extras. 694-4508

LANGSTON REALTORS Call Today! (915) 685-0400 682-9495

BY OWNER; Reduced to $58,000. 4901 Brownwood, three bedroom, two bath, two car garage, fireplace, covered patio. No owner financing. 699-4224.

4503 BROOKDALE- HUD Bargain- 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplace, over 2,000 sf. Hurry! Tadlock Realtors, 580-4883

NEW HOME- OLD Midland, Lovely, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Quality throughout with ceramic tile and Frieze' carpet floors. Only $79,500.00. Williams & Assoc., 694-9663.

4911 BRAZOS- 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Northgate, many updates, listed at $67,900. Please call 520-7330.

FOR SALE: 3413 West Storey, three bedroom, two bath, air, brick, garage, fenced backyard. 694-5543.

BY OWNER: 1606 W. Golf Course, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 living, dining, office/ hobby room off double garage. Approximately 2,400 sq. ft with 1,000 sq. ft. workshop/ mother-in-law house. Great yard with deck, above ground pool, 7' fence. Home warranty, $88,500 negotiable. 687-0047.

***Special Programs Available to 1st Time Homebuyers! Homes in all areas- all prices Let us help you like we've assisted many others Call now- Robles Real Estate 682-0470**

OWNER FINANCING: 3710 S. County Road 1195, 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 5.7 acres. $29,900. American Realty, 520-7577.



COMMERCIAL: 200 S. MAINFIELD: 10,000+sq. ft. Free Standing Building, Many Offices, Zoned HVAC, Sub Floor A/C, Ind. Parking Lot..... $135,000

125 BAYBERRY: 4BR, 3BA, 2LA, 3 car garage On 2 Acres..... $270,000

3105 KING RICHARD: 3BR, 2.5BA, 2LA, very nice $130,000

3003 PRINCETON: Old Midland, 3BR, 2BA, 2LA, new carpet/paint..... $79,000

4632 ROOSEVELT: 3 BR, 2BA, 1 Car Garage, Great Price! $47,500

OLD MIDLAND- large private drive, new cedar fence, sprinkler system, workshop, oak floors, huge kitchen, Saltillo tile, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. $65,000. 685-5032. 2311 W. Cuthbert.

LIKE NEW: 2005 North "O" Totally remodeled, over 1,900 sq/ft. New carpet, tile, paint, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living, fireplace, 2 car garage, sprinklers. Covered porch. $82,500. 352-3442

BY OWNER: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, double car garage. Large garage and shop out back. Odessa, 915-367-6150.

ONE OWNER home in Lee District. New kitchen, lots of updating. Excellent condition. For appointment call 694-7976.

OWNER REDUCED! Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2600 sq/ft. sprinkler system. $108,000 4204 Skyline. 697-5142.

REMAX of Midland/ Chaparral 686-7000 682-8620

INCOME TAX REFUND? DOWN PAYMENT ON HOME!

OWNER- 2304 Chretien Place, 3 bedroom, formal dining, 2 living, fireplace, 2 baths, double garage, $128,000. 687-1648.

LIST Your House With Us! The Prudential Adobe Realtors Call (915) 683-9548

FANNIN AREA- 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 living areas, double garage. Many amenities. 3203 Dengar. $79,500. Appointment: 683-2937.

PATIO HOME: Good location, three large bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, plantation shutters, double garage, extra parking. $134,500. 682-4479.

SUPER PRICE. Great Location. Old Midland. Ridge shade trees, patio courtyard, garage/ double carport, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. $600 monthly, deposit or for sale. 2307 W. Cuthbert. 685-5032.

BY OWNER; $65,000/ best offer. 302 Kerth, three bedroom, two bath, two living, one bonus, lots new. 694-4558 or 561-2804.

BEAUTIFUL WARWICK. Must see! 2 Living areas, formal dining, large bedrooms (3 bedroom, 2.5 bath). Security & sprinkler systems. New landscaping. Storage building. 2005 Seaboard. By appointment: 685-0605.

HUD BEST BUYS

2519 Neely	$95's
3306 Canemont	$87's
4509 Lanham	$71's
1602 McDonald	$69's
1902 Ward	$68's
4503 Brookdale	$58's
302 Pylant	$43's

Tadlock Realtors 580-4883 Anytime

1ST TIME HOMEBUYERS

Free updated list of FHA-VA, MLS-HUD Homes- All Areas - All Prices Pictures & Details AMERICAN REALTY 4500 W. Illinois #114 Call 520-7577

BY OWNER- Old Midland, 1605 West Kansas. 2/3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, double garage, hardwood floors, 2,000 square feet. Possible owner finance. $86,500. By appointment 684-9091.

OLD MIDLAND- 1603 West Michigan. Non-qualifying, 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, updated, 2,100 sq/ft. $83,000. By appointment. 685-1150.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH- 2 living areas, sprinkler system, large utility room, lots of extras. $64,900. 3510 West Michigan. Or call 522-2731 evenings.

NEW IN TOWN? For your FREE "New Resident" Welcome Packet. Call Newcomers Unlimited, 570-8045.

2409 ARBOR CIRCLE, quiet cul de sac, immaculate, 2 bedroom, 2 Bath, dual sided fireplace, softener, R/O system, sprinkler system and much much more. Call 694-8931 for appointment.

THREE BEDROOM, TWO bath with study, walk-in closets, fireplace, two car garage, sprinkler system, 4905 Concho. Call 520-4048 or 498-3681.

309 SOLOMON LANE, 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 living area, 3,000 sf., 3 car garage, 3,000 sf. shop on 2 acres. $275,000. 685-3065.

HUD/VA/MLS

LOW DOWN PAYMENTS

3102 Elma, 4/3/2	$94's
2609 Whitney 4/2	$90's
1107 Mogford 3/2/2	$85's
3308 Canterbont 3/2	$83's
4508 Lanham 2/2/2	$71's
1602 McDonald 3/2	$69's
1902 Ward 3/2/2	$68's
4503 Brookdale 3/2	$58's
328 Tanglewood	$48's
302 Pylant 3/2/1	$43's
4614 Erie 3/2/1	$41's
4013 Pleasant 3/1	$39's

Free list of other homes

American Realty 520-7577 Anytime

3610 WEST KANSAS; For sale or lease. Three bedroom, two bath, two car garage. Great location. Call 683-8509.

TOWNHOUSE- LAFAYETTE Place, 2 story, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, large gourmet kitchen overlooking New Orleans courtyard balcony with beautiful ironwork, double garage, extra storage, lots of amenities, 683-6871 or 683-9121.

2 BEDROOM, 1.5 bath Scharbauer townhouse, monthly dues. Only $17,500. Jody Smith, Re/max, 686-7000 or 694-9426.

BY OWNER: 2100 Wadley #60, $48,800. 2 Bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1 living, fireplace, skylight. Ceiling fans, new carpet, vinyl, paint. Great area! Double carport. 682-6912, 699-0449 or 553-2879.

REDUCED TO $70,900. 3204 Elma. Must see! 699-7445.

2 bedrooms, 1 bath town/home. Good investment property. 906-788-1592.

6 BEDROOM, 4.5 bath, 3 garages, country home with large kitchen, game room, hobby room, barn, corral, windmill, 5 acres. $285,000 obo. 687-3545.

BY OWNER, over 1.5 acres, home has mother in law suite, 2 small storage buildings, 2 shops, 2 water wells. Will carry note with 20% down. Cottonflat Rd. Call Pat Semple, 684-7524.

BY OWNER: 2711 Merle, 3,200 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, large living area, fireplace, double garage, in house exit to nice large underground shelter has water well with hand pump, fireplace, bath facility. Large workshop, Orchard, water wells, much more. $188,000. 570-5589.

CLOUDCROFT TOWNHOME: Professionally decorated. Two Bedroom, two bath, with loft. Completely furnished, wonderful kitchen, cozy fireplace. At the golf course. To view call 505-682-6566 in Cloudcroft.

349 RANCH ESTATES; 100' X 300' lots- $3,500, 10% down. Owner finance. Please call 699-2429.

185 ACRES, 90 miles from San Angelo- farming or hunting. Lots of game. Some farm equipment goes with sale. 14x70 mobile home, good for camping. Call Linda 915/944-9585. Coldwell Banker.

ELEVEN ACRES: 90 percent fenced. Mesquite cleared, metal building, sewer, electricity, water. Low taxes. 10 Miles from Midland $18,900, for cash sale. 694-6668.

BETWEEN Midland & Odessa, 2.5 Acre restricted residential tracts- $8,500. Aztec Realty, 520-7853.

SADDLE CLUB East lot on Pinehurst location between 2 beautiful existing homes. Serious inquires only. Call 685-0113 or 682-6917.

HILL COUNTRY

Magnificent estate property, exclusive location- 6 acres, utilities, gatted, Hwy 281 20 minutes north of San Antonio.

Toll Free 1-877-281-7787

1/2 ACRE & 1 Acre Lots. County Road 60, past High Sky Childrens Ranch. $3,000. 10% Down. 689-2429.

5268 ACRES Tom Green Co.- Choice hunting- Excellent improvements- Minerals- 9068 Acres Stonewall Co. Elliott & Associates. Andy Smith Office 915/651-2449. Home 915/949-3438.

5 ACRES North of Kermville, with well, electric, paved road, level, large oaks. $1,300 down, $259/ month. 800-876-9729. www.texasranchland.com.

YOUR DREAMS await you in Colorado. 10.6 acres with a million acres national forest backyard, ski fresh powder, fly fish the mighty Rio Grande, golf on an championship course, relax in cool fresh mountain air, enjoy the beauty of a small mountain village, lay back and help the snow fall. Priced at $699K/ terms. Call Mike anytime toll free 888-873-1185

PART OF King Mountain on this 1,563 acres. Only 2 miles South of Crane on U.S. Highway 385. Will split as small as 160 acres. $100 per acre; seller financing to qualified buyer. 1-(307)632-2967.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, Mobile Home and corner lot in Ruidoso Downs. Asking $30,000. Call (505)378-4578