MIXED NEWSPAPERS
DIS EL PASO 799

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Hustlin' Hereford, home of Terri Johnson

The Hereford Brand

97th Year, Vol. No. 118 Deaf Smith County, Texas Thursday, December 18, 1997 10 Pages 50 Cents

NEWS in brief

NATO TROOPS NAB WAR CRIMES SUSPECTS

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) - NATO forces captured two Bosnian Croats indicted by the U.N. war crimes tribunal early today in central Bosnia. One of the suspects was shot three times when he fired on Dutch forces while resisting arrest.

Dutch troops led the early morning operation while American forces provided undisclosed backup, officials at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, said.

No NATO forces were injured but spokesman Maj. Peter Clarke in Sarajevo said one suspect was hospitalized and the second was taken to the international tribunal's prison in The Hague, Netherlands.

The arrests came about 1 a.m. (8 p.m. EST Wednesday) near the Croat-held central Bosnian town of Vitez, 30 miles northwest of Sarajevo, Clarke said.

The wounded suspect was identified as Vlatko Kupreskic, 39. Tribunal documents indicated he was a cousin of Zoran and Mirjan Kupreskic, who were publicly indicted on Nov. 10, 1995, for allegedly participating in atrocities against Muslim villagers near Vitez in 1993.

SOCIAL SECURITY RETHINKS; KIDS KEEPING SSI

WASHINGTON (AP) - Advocates for the disabled have complained all year that children were being unfairly taken off the disability rolls as the Social Security Administration implemented tighter standards meant to weed out children with only mild problems.

On Wednesday, Social Security's new chief said they were right.

Commissioner Kenneth Apfel also agreed that many families were not properly told how they can appeal termination from the Supplemental Security Income program. He ordered new reviews for 45,000 children who were cut from the rolls and gave every child another chance to appeal.

"I am deeply concerned that children could be disadvantaged as a result of deficiencies in the manner in which decisions are made," Apfel wrote in a report released Wednesday.

Advocate complaints were mostly dismissed by the Social Security Administration until September, when Apfel was asked about the issue during his Senate confirmation hearing. He promised a "top to bottom" review once in office.

He found retarded children had been wrongly terminated and certain states had disturbingly low accuracy rates.

PUT IT OFF

Prospects dim for quick long-term fix of entitlements

WASHINGTON (AP) - As the robust economy all but erases federal deficits, it is becoming more likely that lawmakers will delay facing the next big budget problem: the financial pressure the baby boomers will put on Medicare and Social Security.

President Clinton said this week that he wants to tackle the long-term problems of Medicare and Social Security before he leaves office in 2001. And House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., has promised to revamp Medicare in 1999 after a bipartisan commission makes recommendations on how to do it.

But analysts who once foresaw unrelenting budget deficits now predict a string of surpluses beginning as early as 1998. Fiscal storm clouds could reappear if the economy sours, but for now the cheery budget news means less pressure on Clinton and legislators to make politically painful changes in Social Security and Medicare benefits that tens of millions of Americans need and believe they deserve.

"There is no possible way to expect a political body to take on pain a dozen years ahead of schedule in this political climate," said Gail Wilensky, who ran Medicare under President Bush and is now a senior fellow with Project Hope, a health education foundation.

No one disputes that the 32-year-old Medicare and 62-year-old Social Security programs face jarring problems. In a decade, as the 77 million baby boomers begin retiring, a gaping financial hole will be torn in the government's huge health-care and pension programs for the elderly and disabled.

Medicare's Part A Trust Fund, which uses a payroll tax to finance hospital care for 38 million recipients, should run out of money in 2007 despite changes made last summer in the budget-balancing package. Social Security, which pays retirement, disability and survivor benefits to 48 million people and collects payroll taxes from 144 million workers and employers, faces its crunch when baby boomers begin retiring around 2010.

Proposals to address these problems include letting Social Security recipients invest contributions in the stock market and

See FIX, Page 9



Where are the reindeer?

This Santa Claus has abandoned his eight tiny reindeer for four small John Deer -- lawn tractors, that is. The Christmas display is behind a fence at an Umbarger business. Santa, by the way, also has swapped his sleigh for an antique manure spreader.

ECONOMY: U.S. trade deficit narrows

WASHINGTON (AP) _ America's trade deficit with the rest of the world narrowed sharply in October to $9.7 billion as a record level of export sales helped to offset a relentless climb in imports.

In a potentially ominous sign for the future, the U.S. deficit with Japan soared to the highest level in 21/2 years. Analysts are forecasting bigger deficits with all Asian countries next year as the U.S. economy feels the effects of the financial turmoil that has engulfed the region.

The Commerce Department report today showed that the overall trade deficit was down 13.7 percent from a September figure of $11.3 billion, which had been the worst showing since last January.

Even with the improvement, the trade deficit through the first 10 months of this year is running at an annual rate of $114 billion, even worse than last year's $111 billion imbalance.

Economists are predicting an even bigger deterioration in the deficit next year as Asian imports flood into the country, made suddenly cheaper because of the sharp currency devaluations that have occurred in the region.

A rising U.S. trade deficit is expected to be the main adverse impact felt in this country by the financial market turmoil that has forced South Korea, Indonesia and Thailand to turn to the International Monetary Fund for record bailouts to stabilize their economies.

Forecasters believe that economic growth in the United States could be shaved by one-half percentage point or more next year by the rising trade deficits.

In a separate report today, the Labor Department said weekly applications for unemployment benefits rose by 5,000 last week to a seasonally adjusted 319,000. The small increase was in line with expectations and left jobless claims at a level showing that the job market still remains tight.

While unemployment in the United States is currently at a 24-year low of 4.6 percent, the growing trade gap has already caused political headaches for President Clinton, contributing to growing protectionist pressures that helped last month to derail his effort to win renewed trade negotiating authority from Congress.

To moderate the rising deficits, the administration has been urging Japan to do more to stimulate domestic demand rather than rely on increased sales to the United States. Japan is on the brink of a recession that might be deepened by the troubles of its Asian neighbors.

Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto did announce this week a package of tax cuts and support for the Japanese banking system aimed at dealing with his country's weak economy. The Clinton administration reacted with cautious approval, urging the Japanese to push forward quickly to implement the measures.

For October, the deficit with Japan was up a sharp 14.3 percent to $5.87 billion, the worst showing since April 1995, reflecting a big surge in imports of Japanese cars.

The deficit with China, which set a record in September, narrowed a slight 5.9 percent in October to $5.2 billion as American exports climbed to a record $1.4 billion with increased sales of soybeans and commercial aircraft.

The deficit with the four Asian tiger economies _ South Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan _ narrowed to $1.4 billion in October from a record $2 billion in September. But economists are predicting a flood of goods from this region, the epicenter of the crisis, in the coming year.

The improvement in October's deficit reflected a rebound in exports of goods and services, which climbed 2.4 percent to an all-time high of $80 billion. There were big increases in sales of American-made cars and parts, farm products and capital goods such as oil drilling and earth-moving equipment.



CHRISTMAS STOCKING FUND

With Christmas day just a week away, the contributions for Hereford's Christmas Stocking Fund holiday charity climbed sharply Wednesday. Boosted by two $1,000 donations, the total passed the $15,000 mark.

The influx of donations helped the Christmas Stocking Fund committee to make plans for additional food baskets. Food assistance was also received from a local company Wednesday when it donated food items for all the baskets.

A CSF spokesman reported that the Red Cross toy program still needs new toys or those in good condition. They can be taken to the Red Cross office, no later than Monday.

The anonymous CSF committee will make deliveries Friday, distributing almost all the food baskets and some of the vouchers for assistance with clothing, utility bills or medical expenses.

The Hereford Brand is still accepting cash contributions for the stocking fund. Contributions can be taken to the newspaper office, 313 Lee, or mailed to CSF, Box 673.

TOTAL 12-16-97:	$11,391.00
Balance forward:	$11,391.00
Anonymous	100.00
Student Action Committee, West Central School	150.00
Anonymous	100.00
In loving memory of Brooke Harrison	50.00
Gld & Juanita Brownd	25.00
Anonymous	15.00
Catharine Russell	25.00
M/M Edd Cardinal	25.00

See FUND, Page 9

City ends '97 on good note

By DONALD M. COOPER
Brand Editor

Hereford ended 1997 on a good note when it received a sales rebate payment of $81,648 from the Texas Comptoller's Office.

The payment was 2.1 percent higher than the $79,949 the city received in December 1996.

For the year, Hereford, which levies a 1.5 percent sales tax, received rebate payments of $1,037,746, a 6.4 percent improvement over 1996.

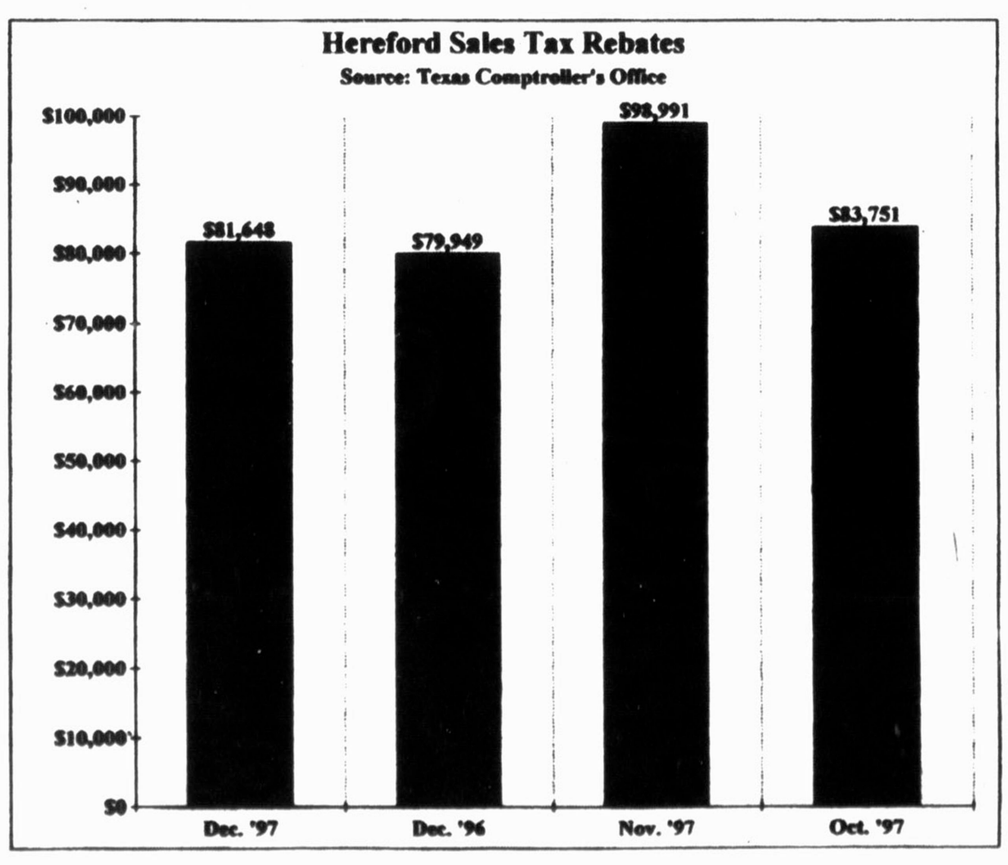
The December showing followed a gain in November, when the city received $98,991, a 20.6 percent improvement over the $82,106 payment for November 1996.

Deaf Smith County, which levies a 0.5 percent sales tax, received a payment of $70,614, down 2.8 percent from the $72,660 it received in December 1996.

For the year, the county has received total payments of $1,003,703, up nearly 11 percent from the $904,444 for 1996.

Comptroller John Sharp on Friday delivered the final sales tax rebates for 1997, a total

See REBATES, Page 9



Study: Gap widens between rich, poor

WASHINGTON (AP) - The gap between rich and poor has widened in nearly every state since the 1970s, a liberal research group says.

In 44 states, the richest 20 percent of families got richer while the poorest 20 percent got poorer between the late 1970s and the mid-1990s, said the report released Tuesday by the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities.

In four states, both groups gained income but the rich group gained more.

Two states, Alaska and North Dakota, saw income of the poor growing faster than income of the rich.

"People have a perception that economic trends affect different regions differently," said Kathy Larin, who co-wrote the report. "This just shows how pervasive (income inequality) really is."

The report is based on data about families from the Census Bureau, which has also reported about growing income inequality.

Among the findings of Tuesday's report:

- On average, the top 20 percent of families with children saw their income increase by 30 percent, or nearly $27,000, to $117,500 since the late 1970s. By contrast, the bottom 20 percent saw their wages, in inflation-adjusted dollars, decrease by 21 percent, to $9,250. That's a drop of $2,500.

- The income gap grew the most in Connecticut, followed by New York, West Virginia, Arizona, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Ohio, California and Kansas.

- In 1994-96, New York had the largest difference between incomes of the rich and the poor. The groups' incomes were closest in Utah.

See GAP, Page 9

DEC 18 1997

THE HEREFORD BRAND

Local Roundup

Candidate files

Sammy Gonzales of Hereford has filed for the Democratic nomination for Precinct 2 county commissioner in the March 10 primary election.

Filing will continue through Jan. 2.

Mostly cloudy

Tonight, becoming mostly cloudy, with low 30 to 35 and southwest to west wind 5-15 mph.

Friday, mostly cloudy with a slight chance of afternoon showers and high 45 to 50. Friday night, cloudy with a 50 percent chance of snow and low in the upper 20s.

5-DAY FORECAST

Saturday, cloudy and cold with a chance of snow and high near 30.

Sunday, cloudy with a chance of snow early, becoming partly cloudy late, low around 20 and high in the upper 30s.

Monday, partly cloudy, low 15 to 20 and high in the upper 30s.

WEDNESDAY'S RECAP

High, 63; low, 32.

NEWS in brief

FORMER FUNERAL HOME OPERATOR CONVICTED IN SLAYING

ANGLETON (AP) - A jury has convicted a former Sweeny funeral home operator of criminally negligent homicide in the 1991 slaying of his common-law wife.

The guilty verdict was returned Wednesday against Jay H. Johnson, 65, who was being tried on a capital murder charge in the Sept. 29, 1991, killing of Edwina Prosen, 57.

Jurors had options to convict him of lesser charges, however, including murder and involuntary manslaughter.

Authorities say Johnson probably will not spend any more time in jail on the misdemeanor conviction since he already has been in custody for more than the maximum sentence, one year.

He would have received an automatic life sentence had he been convicted of capital murder since prosecutors were not seeking the death penalty.

MAN KNOWN AS "BUBBLE GUM KING" DIES

McALLEN (AP) - The man known for decades as the "Bubble Gum King" has died of a heart attack.

Andrew J. (Andy) Paris, 78, died of a heart attack Wednesday night.

He established the Paris Bubble Gum Co. at McAllen in the Lower Rio Grande Valley in 1946 and helped put the city on the map, friends say.

"He is going to be missed," said John Paris, the bubble gum celebrity's son. "He's the type of guy you can never forget. He meant a lot to a lot of people."

Former McAllen Mayor Othal Brand and longtime friend of Paris, said he had an unforgettable personality.

OPPONENTS AGREE ON TOUGHER DWI LAWS

AUSTIN (AP) - Rick Perry, GOP candidate for lieutenant governor, wants tougher laws to punish drunken drivers - including a lower legal blood-alochol level, mandatory jail time and seizure of the drunk's car on a third conviction.

His likely Democratic opponent, John Sharp, said he's favored tougher DWI laws for years.

"I'm glad that Rick Perry has now decided to join the efforts I led as a legislator in fighting drunk driving," Sharp said.

Emergency Services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for Dec. 17, 1997 include the following.

Police Department

Arrests

--A 17-year-old man was arrested for trespass and possession of drug paraphernalia.

--A 21-year-old woman was arrested and charged with shoplifting.

--A burglary of a residence was reported on Westhaven.

--A broken car mirror reported at 100 Avenue H.

--An argument and food fight was investigated in the 600 block of Irving.

--Officers spoke to some parents concerning the sexual conduct of their teenage daughter.

--A flock of peacocks was reported roaming the 500 block of Star. The owner could not be located.

--Pornographic pictures in chalk were discovered on the sidewalk at Bluebonnet. Police have no suspects at this time.

--Officers spoke with a woman who wanted advice about someone picking on her son at the High School. She was referred to officer Stribling, school resource officer.

--A 2-month-old baby was accidently locked in a car in the 100 block of north 25 Mile Avenue. A locksmith was called and opened the door.

--A man's driver's license, social security card and other ID lost on Main Street was recovered and turned in to the police department.

Obituaries

ARNOLD MITCHELL MORGAN
DEC. 16, 1997

Arnold Mitchell Morgan, 84, died Tuesday at the Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Funeral service will be 2 p.m. Friday in the Rose Chapel of Gililland-Watson Funeral Home with Rev. H.W. Bartlett of Temple Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in the Castro Memorial Gardens in Dimmitt. Arrangements are under the direction of Gililland-Watson Funeral Home.

Mr. Morgan was born Nov. 28, 1913, in Montague County to John Morgan and Bertha McAllister.

He came to Deaf Smith County in 1982 from Leonard. He was a carpenter and a member of the Temple Baptist Church.

Survivors include three sons, Harold Morgan, Hoy Morgan, both of Hereford, Russell Morgan of Kingman, Ariz.; two daughters, Thelva Stone and Sharron Howell, both of Lubbock; one sister Zennie Taylor, of Marlow, Okla.; 14 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

LILLIE T. WUERFLEIN
DEC. 16, 1997

Lillie T. Wuerflein, 91, of Earth, died Tuesday at the Muleshoe Area Health Care Center.

Funeral services will 2 p.m. Thursday at First Baptist Church of Earth with Rev. Bobby Broyles and Rev. Stacy Conner officiating. Burial will be in the Littlefield Memorial Park Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Parson's-Ellis Funeral Home.

She was born Feb. 13, 1906, in Fox, Ark. She married George Wuerflein on July 4, 1937, in Enid Okla. She was a homemaker and a member of the First Baptist Church of Muleshoe.

Survivors include two sons, Edward Wuerflein of Hereford, Frank Wuerflein of Muleshoe; one daughter Martha Morgan of Irving; 7 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Japanese cartoons sicken children

TOKYO (AP) - Government officials sought medical experts' help today in the investigation into why an episode of a popular TV cartoon triggered convulsions, vomiting and seizures in hundreds of children.

The government also asked television production specialists for help determining what set Tuesday night's episode of "Pocket Monster" apart from dozens of other brightly illustrated cartoons broadcast on Japanese television.

The investigation was expected to focus on whether a scene featuring rhythmic bursts of blue, red and white light was so rapid and intense that it interrupted normal brain function.

Such scenes, however, are not uncommon in Japanese cartoons, making the wave of illnesses all the more mysterious.

"Many commentators have been saying the colors or the flashes were the cause but we want to look at the entire program and see if there was anything else that could have led to the problem," said Yoshihiko Fujiwara of the broadcasting bureau of the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry.

"It's important that we find out why so many people were sickened and what can be done to prevent it from happening again," Fujiwara said.

Beyond medical experts, Fujiwara said the ministry was working closely with TV Tokyo, the network that aired the cartoon.

Nearly 700 people, nearly all of them children, were treated and 208 were hospitalized after the 30-minute program triggered symptoms including blackouts, nausea, and fainting, according to the Health Ministry.

The cartoon, shown since April, is the highest-rated program in its time slot and is aimed at kindergartners and the early elementary levels.

TV Tokyo is canceling it until the cause of the reactions becomes clear. The network today also called on video stores to stop renting all episodes of the show.

Dr. Philip Sheridan, chief of the epilepsy branch of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke in Bethesda, Md., said the children's reactions could have two different causes.

Some children may have started to hyperventilate from the excitement and the flashing lights, he said Wednesday. That can cause dizziness, nausea and fainting. This kind of problem often spreads in groups of children as they see each other having trouble, Sheridan said.

In other children, the flashing lights might have acted directly on the brain to cause seizures, he said. An affected child would momentarily stare and not respond even to shouting, or have a stiffening of the body with jerking arms and legs for up to a minute. That would happen if the flashing disrupted the natural pacemakers that regulate patterns of activity in the brain's circuits, he said.

Such brief seizures do not damage the brain and do not mean a child has epilepsy, Sheridan stressed. Epilepsy involves repeated seizures without provocation.



Elves in toyland?

Even though they are surrounded by toys and games, they really aren't elves. Betty Henson, director Tri-County Red Cross Chapter supervises volunteers Lupe Ortiz and Mary Ortiz in the long process of sorting and separating toys. Volunteers will be delivering toys to families later this week and into next week.



Acting up

Juan Quinton, Jessica Hernandez and Melinda Gonzalez were only a few of the performers willing to get up on stage and act a little silly during the Student/Teacher talent show at Shirley to help stock the local food pantry shelves. Winners of the talent show were: first place skits Ely Sanchez, Fausto Mendoza, Tony Cuellar; first place instrument Josh Schroeter; first place singers went to Los Cinco Rosas- Marisol Alvarado, Vanessa Barrios, jennifer Lara, Chasity Flores, Mariza Crox; first place dance, Latino Breakers - Eleno Juarez, Bennie Juarez, Freddy Guerrero, Vanessa Cerda; first place gymnastics, Denise Gonzales, Amanda Estrada, Jovany Frias, Melinda Gonzalez, and Yesenia Aguillon.

Gunman storms day care

PLANO, Texas (AP) - A gunman who demanded money from a bank customer in a parking lot stormed a nearby day-care center and was holding an undetermined number of hostages early today.

Police refused to say how many captives were inside after the man, identified by relatives as James Monroe Lipscomb Jr., released 60 children and four adults Wednesday.

However, Police Chief Bruce Glasscock said all adult hostages had been released. Most were freed shortly after the afternoon standoff started; one adult was released just before midnight and another at about 4 a.m.

That left only children with Lipscomb, Glasscock said. However, he declined to say how many children were inside the Rigsbee Child Development Center, a converted house on a residential block.

However, several parents of the freed children said police told them three children, including two of the suspect's own, remained inside the center.

FBI agents and Texas Rangers were on the scene early today along with officers from nearby Richardson who were brought in to relieve the Plano officers.

"We're here for the long haul," Glasscock said.

As they were released, some children appeared to be shaken up but none was injured.

Glasscock said authorities were in constant contact with the gunman and telephone negotiations were going well, but authorities had no timeline for getting the man to surrender.

Police said the man had tried to rob someone outside the nearby Plano Bank and Trust shortly before he stormed the day-care center in this suburb about 20 miles north of Dallas.

June Rossetti, senior vice president of the bank, said a customer was approached in a parking lot and ordered to withdraw money, but it was uncertain whether funds were actually withdrawn.

Police refused to confirm the suspect's identity or reports that he is married to a day-care employee. Witnesses said the couple has marital problems.

Lipscomb's brother, nephew and neighbor identified him as the hostage-taker.

"I don't know why he would do something like this," said neighbor Brianna Stanberry, whose 1-year-old niece was released from the day-care center. "He's never done anything like this before. What's important now is getting the children out of there."

Fifteen-year-old Terrance Shaw said he hopes his uncle "remembers what he always used to tell me _ a moment of madness can lead to a lifetime of sadness."

Police received a call about 3:15 p.m. regarding a gunman at the day-care center and backed off after they found him in a doorway, Duke said.

Children who were released were taken to nearby Meadows Elementary School, where frantic parents gathered. Early in the standoff, one woman sobbed uncontrollably and fell to the street when told her child was among the hostages. Others prayed in groups.

As the children were freed, some with eyes red from crying, parents cradled them in their arms.

"She's OK," said Charles Fink, whose 7-year-old granddaughter, Lana Brewer, was released. "That's what counts. She's my love."

Classes at the school were canceled today.

HISD board approves long term facility plan

Long range facilities plan for the Hereford Independent School District, with an estimated cost of up to 8 million dollars was the main topic of discussion at the December meeting of the board of trustees.

The plan calls for heating, ventilation and air conditioning, new roofs and cosmetic repairs at Northwest and the Junior High and a new roof and cosmetic repairs at Aikman. These projects should be completed in 1998-99.

The following years, 1999-2001 a new roof and cosmetic repairs will be scheduled at Hereford High School. During the same time, renovations at Stanton including a new roof, heating ventilation and air conditioning systems and cosmetic repairs.

Through the year 2002 plans call for new roofs and cosmetic repairs at Tierra Blanca, Bluebonnet and Shirley. West Central will receive the same repairs and possible replacement of the heating and air conditioning.

Board member Mark Landrum was named to the Tax abatement board. The 1996 audit report was accepted and the board approved a number of job descriptions and evaluation tools.

TPA MEMBER 1997

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

LOTTO TEXAS

By The Associated Press

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The tickets would have been worth an estimated $12 million.

The numbers drawn from a field of 50 were:

9, 15, 18, 24, 30, 44.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $18 million.

By The Associated Press

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

6-2-4

THE HEREFORD BRAND

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O.G. Nieman — Publisher
Don Cooper — Managing Editor
Mauri Montgomery — Adv. Mgr.
Diana DeLeCruz — Circulation Mgr.

Lifestyles



Christmas offering

A candy cane is the object being offered to the little boy who sits on the park bench among Christmas greenery and poinsettias as depicted in this special entry display at the Deaf Smith County Museum. Visitors will find other decorations of the season enhancing the displays throughout the museum. Regular museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday; however, the doors will close at noon on Christmas Eve and remain closed for Christmas Day.

Changes are urged in 'gimme' way youngsters view holiday

By LoANA M. GONZALES
Waco Tribune-Herald

WACO, Texas - Gimme, Christmas.

Christmas, gimme.

For some people - namely kids with long "gimme" lists for Santa - the two words are synonymous.

Darlene Cates, director of volunteers for Caritas, said materialism is part of Christmas because it is just part of our culture.

"I don't know if it's because of all the ads on TV or because there are two parents working and sometimes there's extra money," she said. "Maybe because the parents aren't at home a lot and they overcompensate by giving (their children) things."

Children, it seems, probably get worse cases of the "gimmes" than anyone else around the holidays.

And who can blame them? Between visits to Santa and doting grandparents, it's no wonder some children automatically associate Christmas with a time to rake in the goods.

Still, in a world where it seems like folks just can't get enough, some people are working to change the way youngsters view the holidays.

Cates, who has four children ages 15 to 21, said her inspiration for reaching out to others came from her own parents. "I grew up watching my parents do things."

She has since tried to pass that lifestyle on to her own family.

As for parents who haven't pushed their children to think of others during the holidays, Cates said it's never too early or too late to start.

Opportunities for getting parents and their children involved in selfless activities for the holidays are in abundance.

Cates suggests working for food

(See GIMME, Page 7)

Senior Citizens

MENUS

FRIDAY-Fish nuggets with lemon wedge, oven brown potatoes, Scandinavian vegetables, garden salad, French bread, bread pudding with raisin sauce; or McRibb, sherbet.

MONDAY-Meat loaf, noodles alfredo, seasoned spinach, carrot/raisin salad, whole wheat bread, vanilla pudding; or fish sticks, D'zerta pudding.

TUESDAY-Chicken fillet, mashed potatoes with gravy, French green beans, pineapple/cottage cheese salad, roll, carrot cake; or roast pork smothered, cottage cheese, pineapple tidbits.

WEDNESDAY-Mexican stack, Spanish rice, pinto beans, salad fixings, tostados, cheese cake with fruit topping; or chicken, apricots.

ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY-Pool classes, line dance 10-11 a.m., Thrift Store open 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

SATURDAY-Games 12 noon-4 p.m.

MONDAY-Pool classes, line dance 10-11 a.m., doll class 1-4 p.m.

TUESDAY-Pool classes, exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., decorative tole painting 1-3 p.m., choir practice 1-2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY-Pool classes, ceramics 1-3 p.m.

SCHWAN'S
Shopping Day ...
at Family Dollar parking lot on Park Avenue has been CANCELLED due to health reasons.

$ NET WORK FINANCE
The gift of giving is made easy with a loan from us!
$100 - $450 Signature & Auto Title Loans
372-LOAN
701 S. Fillmore STE. 100
(Corner of 7th & Fillmore)
372-5626

Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: I am a 19-year-old university student. Yesterday, in my Organizational Behavior class, we were asked to read a case study that dealt with ethical dilemmas in employment. The case was about two employees, one married, the other single. They were having an affair. The question: "What disciplinary action would you impose if you were the human resources manager?"

I raised my hand and responded, "Fire them both!" To my dismay, in a class of over 50 students, not a single person agreed with me. Not even my professor.

The rationale was that they were both consenting adults and free to do whatever they wanted. I was outraged and asked the class to walk in the shoes of the wronged party. What if it was your wife or husband fooling around? What if there were children involved?

This made me wonder, are we becoming so hard-edged and jaded that we now accept adultery as the norm? Are these the kind of morals we want to pass on to our children? I pray that we have not slipped down to that level. -- Morally Correct in Calgary, Alberta

Dear Calgary: Sorry, I disagree. A company has no right to become involved in the personal lives of its employees unless their behavior is affecting the quality of their work or causing favoritism. "Big Brother" does not belong in the workplace.

Dear Ann Landers: My husband is 79. I am 75. We have been happily married for 51 years. The problem I am writing about concerns our 50-year-old daughter, "Mary."

Both my husband and I have been blessed with good health. We are energetic and have a variety of interests. He has done well financially (we are not wealthy but comfortable) and hope to live for several years more, God willing. We have told Mary that everything we have will be evenly divided between her and her brother.

Her brother never talks about what life will be like when we are gone, but Mary has brought the subject up several times. It is beginning to get on my nerves. Yesterday, she called, crying on the phone about how miserable she will be when "it happens." I was annoyed and told her, "Get a hold of yourself." She became angry and hung up on me.

I'm starting to feel that what she really wants is to make sure she will be well taken care of. I resent being "reminded." Any advice? -- Apprehensive in Calif.

Dear Calif.: It sounds as if you have a good grasp of the situation. If Mary didn't get the message and brings up the subject again, simply say, "Everything is taken care of, and there is nothing more to talk about." Period.

Dear Ann Landers: I thought that this was pretty funny and that you might want to share it with your readers:

The graduate with a Ph.D. in philosophy asks, "Why does it work?"

The graduate with an engineering degree asks, "How does it work?"

The graduate with an accounting degree asks, "How much will it cost?"

The graduate with a liberal arts degree asks, "Do you want fries with that?" -- Illinois Reader

Dear Reader: A college education today is mighty important if you want to make it in the Big Time, regardless of what subject your degree is in. It doesn't guarantee success, but it sure helps.

Gem of the Day: Everyone has a photographic memory, but some people don't have enough film.

Forget to save some of your favorite Ann Landers columns? "Nuggets and Doozies" is the answer. Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for $5.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Nuggets, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562. (In Canada, send $6.25.)

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Hints from Heloise

FAST FACTS

Empty wicker baskets? Here are some suggestions:

- Put in the kitchen for potholders and dish towels.
- Put in the bathroom to hold soap, shampoo, etc.
- Use to keep pet supplies all together.
- Put books you want to read in one.
- Place by the door and keep keys in it. — Heloise

HANDY NIGHT LIGHT

Dear Heloise: My husband and I travel a lot and we pack a night light to use in the motel rooms, which can be really dark sometimes! — Susan Shepler, Goliad, Texas

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Gilbert will graduate



TRACIE GILBERT

Tracie Gilbert is a candidate to graduate Magna Cum Laude from Texas Tech University with a BBA and MSA in accounting. Graduation ceremonies are scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Gilbert graduated from Hereford High School in 1993. She is active in Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity and Beta Alpha Psi accounting fraternity. She has been on the president's or dean's list every semester.

Following graduation, she plans to work for the firm of Ernst and Young, LLP in Dallas.

She is the daughter of Steve and Connie Gilbert.

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Sports

On the Sidelines

NBA

Wednesday's Games
Washington 88, Miami 74
Boston 88, Toronto 83
Indiana 87, New York 80
New Jersey 105, Detroit 101
Minnesota 94, Philadelphia 90
Charlotte 99, Milwaukee 90
Atlanta 94, Cleveland 83
Chicago 104, L.A. Lakers 83
San Antonio 98, Vancouver 87
Thursday's Games
Utah at Orlando, 6:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Seattle, 9 p.m.
Golden State vs. L.A. Clippers at Anaheim, Calif., 9:30 p.m.

NHL

Wednesday's Games
N.Y. Islanders 4, Buffalo 0
Tampa Bay 2, Boston 0
N.Y. Rangers 4, Florida 2
Detroit 2, Colorado 2 OT
Vancouver 5, Phoenix 1
Chicago 0, Edmonton 0 OT
Toronto 6, Anaheim 2
Thursday's Games
Florida at Washington, 6 p.m.
Carolina at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
Boston at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.
New Jersey at St. Louis, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Calgary, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.
Toronto at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

NCAA Basketball

EAST
St. John's 84, Manhattan 60
SOUTH
Clemson 62, South Carolina 57
Florida St. 77, N.C.-Asheville 60
Georgia Tech 100, Coastal Carolina 63
Louisville 84, Morehead St. 54
Marshall 73, Wake Forest 66
Mississippi 100, Belmont 59
SW Louisiana 68, Ohio St. 64
South Florida 65, Northeastern 56
Southern U. 97, Cal Poly-SLO 85
Va. Commonwealth 70, Norfolk St. 59
MIDWEST
Cincinnati 81, Minnesota 71
Cleveland St. 78, Akron 67
E. Michigan 89, Michigan 83, OT
Michigan St. 95, Wright St. 52
N. Illinois 93, Illinois Tech 48
Northwestern 68, Wofford 51
Ohio U. 79, CS Northridge 77
Saint Louis 69, Georgia Southern 47
Youngstown St. 80, Loyola, Ill. 68
SOUTHWEST
SW Texas St. 77, Lamar 64
Southern Meth. 106, Prairie View 70
Texas 69, LSU 63
FAR WEST
Santa Clara 82, E. Washington 64
UNLV 86, Chicago St. 49
Wyoming 77, NE Illinois 45
EXHIBITION
Arizona 104, Marathon 78

IN BRIEF

Bam case postponed

CATONSVILLE, Md. (AP) -- A preliminary hearing on assault charges against Baltimore Ravens running back Bam Morris was postponed Wednesday after prosecutors asked for more time to prepare their case.

Morris is accused of trying to choke a woman at a private birthday party for teammate Orlando Brown on Nov. 16. According to the police report, April Dawn Brittain was attacked by Morris following an argument with Morris' wife, who accused Brittain of having an affair with the player.

Clemson beats S.C.

CLEMSON, S.C. (AP) -- Vincent Whitt scored 17 points and Clemson held No. 6 South Carolina scoreless for nine minutes to upset the Gamecocks 62-57 victory Wednesday night.

Two free throws by BJ McKie and a basket by Recus Nix in the final minute pulled South Carolina (5-1) to 58-57, but foul shots by Whitt and Greg Buckner kept Clemson in front.

The Tigers (6-3) started the year ranked in the top 10, but fell out of the poll after losing three of their previous five games.

SFA women win

LAS CRUCES, N.M. (AP) -- Anitra Davis scored 31 points and Stephanie Whitmore hit the go-ahead free throws with 28 seconds left Wednesday night as Stephen F. Austin beat No. 25 Alabama 89-87 in the L'eggs Holiday Inn Classic.

Conradt at a glance

By The Associated Press
A look at how Texas' Jody Conradt stacks up victory-wise against the competition:
Winningest All-Time NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Coaches
879--Dean Smith, North Carolina
876--Adolph Rupp, Kentucky
767--Henry Iba, Northwest Missouri State; Colorado; Oklahoma State
759--Ed Diddle, Western Kentucky
746--Phog Allen, Baker; Kansas; Haskell; Central Missouri State; Kansas
724--Ray Meyer, DePaul
706--Bob Knight, Indiana
699--Jody Conradt, Texas
NCAA Division I All-Time Women's Basketball Career Victory Leaders
699--Jody Conradt, Texas
635--Pat Summitt, Tennessee
553--Sue Gunter, Louisiana State
548--C. Vivian Stringer, Rutgers

Sports calendar

Friday
Basketball
Hereford boys, sophomore, junior varsity and varsity, at Borger, 4:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
Hereford girls, junior varsity and varsity, at Borger, 4:30 p.m., 6 p.m.

Mariucci: 49ers can win without Rice

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) -- Jerry Rice came back just long enough to help the San Francisco 49ers gain the home field for the playoffs. Now, after another knee injury, the 49ers will be going the rest of the way without him.

Rice, 35, underwent season-ending surgery Tuesday to repair a fractured left kneecap, an injury he suffered Monday night in his first game back from reconstructive surgery last September to repair torn ligaments in the same knee.

"To not have the greatest receiver ever to play the game in the lineup, that definitely hurts," tight end Brent Jones said Wednesday.

"It was such an emotional high to have him back, and then to hear about that was tough. But guys are going to keep it on. I know Jerry wants us to win the Super Bowl. He wouldn't have come back if he didn't want us to win it."

The NFL's all-time leading receiver, Rice was hurt when he banged his knee on the ground after catching a touchdown pass in San Francisco's 34-17 win over Denver on Monday night.

"It's tough," running back Terry Kirby said. "But I think Jerry wanted to come out and contribute to this team, help us clinch home field advantage and that's what we did.

"But sometimes, if you wouldn't have bad luck, you wouldn't have any luck at all and this is one of those situations. Who would've ever thought this would happen? We're definitely going to miss him but we still have games to play. That's just the way we have to look at it."

Steve Young said he wished Rice's comeback could have lasted a lot longer, but the team also has experience playing without him.

"It was a great few plays and I was very excited to throw him the ball," Young said. "It seemed like riding a bike. It was very easy and I loved it while it was there. But it really was for such a short period, and we've been doing this (without Rice) for a long time."

San Francisco (13-2) wraps up the season Sunday night at Seattle in a meaningless game for both teams. The 49ers then have a first-round bye before playing their next meaningful game, a divisional playoff the weekend of Jan. 3-4 at 3Com Park.

Coach Steve Mariucci said the 49ers won 12 games without Rice while he recovered from his first injury suffered in the Aug. 31 season opener at Tampa, so the team should be able to adjust again to his absence.

"Had Jerry been playing with us all along and -- boom -- now he's out, I think there would be a greater possibility of this team saying, 'Oh, geez, what do we do without our star?'" Mariucci said. "Would we want him? Absolutely. Does he help? Absolutely. Does he give us a spark. You saw it Monday night.

"He's a tremendous lift for everybody, but the reality is he's not with us any more."

Mariucci said the team's young wide receiving tandem of J.J. Stokes and Terrell Owens gained valuable experience in Rice's absence during the season and he expects that to pay off as the 49ers head into the playoffs.

"They're not young guys any more," Mariucci said.

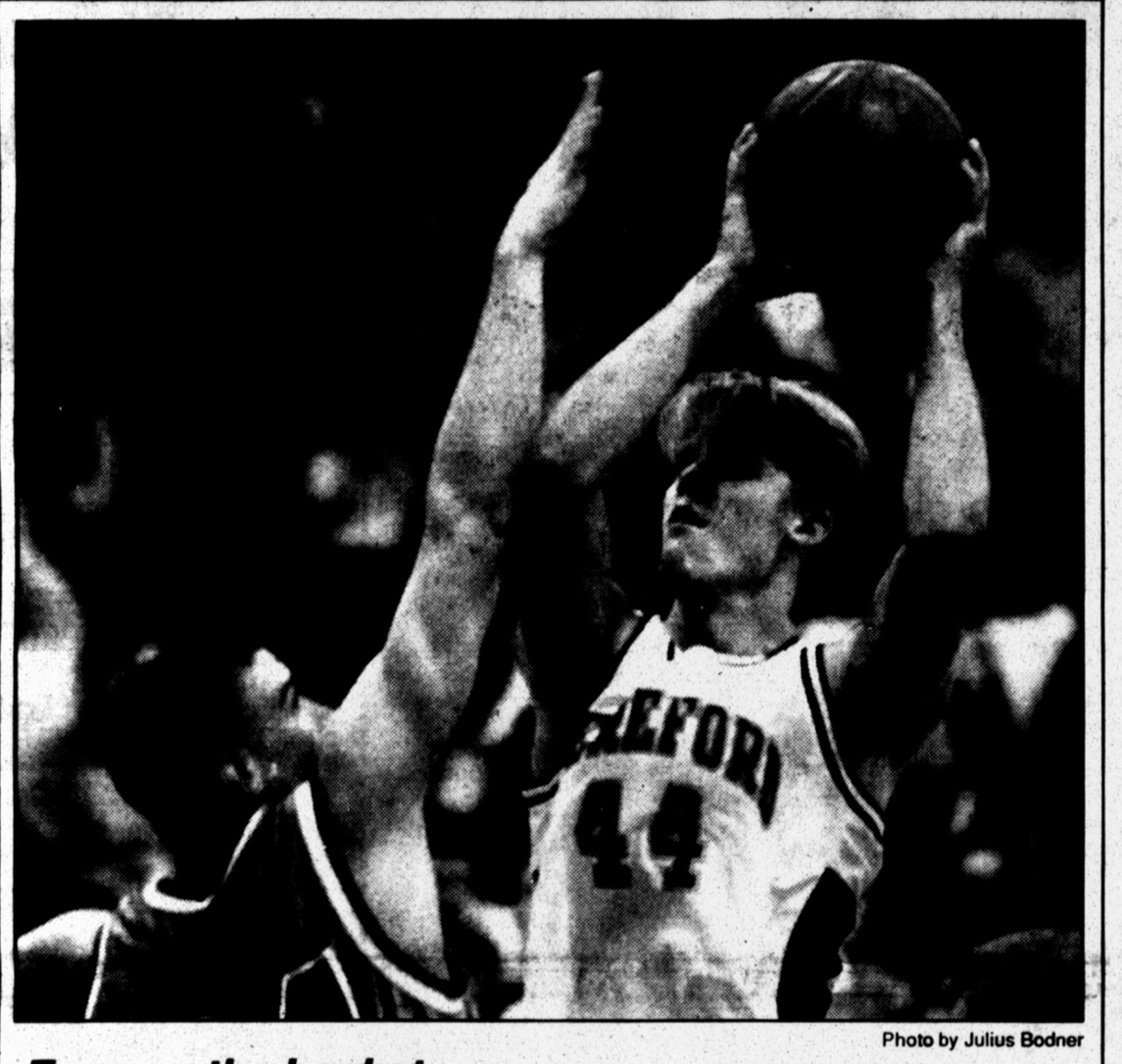


Photo by Julius Bodner

Eyes on the basket

Hereford's Will Matthews gets ready to lift a shot over Lubbock Monterey's Kyle Moeller Dec. 9 at Whiteface Gymnasium during a non-district game. The Whitefaces will travel to Borger Friday night for their second district game. Varsity tipoff will be at 7:30 p.m.

Spurs claw Vancouver

SAN ANTONIO (AP) -- Make it 40 assists over the last two Wednesdays for Avery Johnson.

Johnson had 20 assists and tied a club record with 14 in the second half as San Antonio rallied for a 98-87 win over the Vancouver Grizzlies on Wednesday night.

It was San Antonio's (14-10) fourth straight win after a three-game skid dropped the team to the .500 mark.

"Avery shared the basketball with everyone in the world tonight," coach Gregg Popovich said after San Antonio came back from a nine-point deficit early in the third quarter.

Johnson also had 20 assists in a victory over the Los Angeles Clippers last Wednesday.

The Spurs were outscored 37-16 from the early in the second quarter until nearly four minutes into the third before rallying.

"We just didn't have an answer for Big Country (Bryant Reeves)," Johnson said after Reeves scored 19 of his 23 points in the first half, 11 in the second quarter. "I think it was a challenge to David (Robinson) to step it up in the second half and he did."

Robinson scored 33 points and Tim Duncan added 19.

Many of those points came off passes from Johnson's drives in the lane.

"We're just attacking the basket a lot more now," Johnson said. "Tim and David really stepped up their games inside."

"Their two big guys are always coming at you," Vancouver forward Tony Massenburg said. "It puts you constantly back on your heels."

Shareef Abdur-Rahim led the Grizzlies (9-16) with 24 points.

The Spurs, who trailed 61-52 after Sam Mack's jumper with 8:24 left in the third, spurted back to regain the lead at 64-63 on Robinson's jumper. San Antonio never trailed after Tim Duncan's dunk made it 70-69.

The Spurs extended the lead to 74-69 by the end of the quarter and pulled away for a good with six straight points to make it 85-73 with 6:45 remaining.

VANCOUVER (87): Abdur-Rahim 6-18 12-14 24, Massenburg 1-3 0-0 2, Reeves 10-20 3-3 23, Mack 2-6 0-0 4, Daniels 5-11 4-4 14, Edwards 4-13 0-0 9, Mayberry 0-0 0-0 0, Chilcutt 0-4 0-0 0, Lynch 5-8 1-2 11, Newbill 0-2 0-0 0, C.Robinson 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 33-86 20-23 87.
SAN ANTONIO (98): Elliott 7-12 0-0 14, Duncan 7-16 5-7 19, D.Robinson 13-22 7-12 33, Jackson 3-9 2-2 9, Johnson 4-11 1-2 9, Williams 4-8 3-4 11, Perdue 0-1 0-0 0, Alexander 0-0 0-0 0, Person 1-1 0-0 3, Rose 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 39-82 18-27 98.

Vancouver	20	32	17	18	--87
San Antonio	28	19	27	24	--98

3-Point goals--Vancouver 1-7 (Edwards 1-3, Abdur-Rahim 0-1, Daniels 0-1, Mack 0-2), San Antonio 2-5 (Person 1-1, Jackson 1-3, Elliott 0-1). Fouled out--Elliott. Rebounds_Vancouver 51 (Daniels 10), San Antonio 57 (Duncan 13). Assists--Vancouver 17 (Daniels 6), San Antonio 30 (Johnson 20). Total fouls--Vancouver 17, San Antonio 21. Technicals--San Antonio coach Popovich. A--13,576 (20,557).

International media pick Tyson bite as top story

LONDON (AP) -- Chomp.

The "bite of the century" between Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield was voted the top sports story of 1997 in a worldwide survey by The Associated Press.

In balloting among 50 sports editors from AP subscribers in all areas of the globe except the United States, the bizarre Tyson-Holyfield heavyweight fight was a runaway winner with 328 points.

Points were awarded on a sliding scale of 10 for a first-place vote and one for a 10th-place vote.

The rise of teen-age tennis star Martina Hingis to No. 1 in the world came in second, followed by the selection of Athens as host of the 2004 Olympics and Tiger Woods' sensational Masters victory.

The Tyson-Holyfield fight received 19 first-place votes, 13 more than any other story (Woods was next with six).

Tyson was disqualified after biting both of Holyfield's ears during their June 28 WBA title

Please see STORY, page 5

Few Oilers' faithful left in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) -- Many Houston Oilers fans stopped paying attention last year when the team struck a deal to move to Nashville. Now, as the Oilers finish their first season as Tennessee's team, they have few followers remaining in the city they called home for 37 years.

"It started off small and it's now infinitesimal," says Charlie Pallilo, host of a sports talk show on KTRH-AM, which until this year was the Oilers' flagship radio station. "Out of sight, increasingly out of mind."

"Next year it will be almost totally diminished," adds John McClain, the Houston Chronicle's Oilers beat writer for 18 years who still writes a weekly "Luved Ya Blue" column for the team's faithful.

Oilers merchandise is hard to find in stores. Coverage in the newspaper is similar to any other team. The local NBC affiliate has televised just six games.

That's quite a change for a city that used to be so in love with the Oilers that it twice filled the Astrodome to greet the team after a playoff loss.

Proof of Houston's lack of interest was most evident following the Oilers' 27-14 Thanksgiving Day drubbing of the Dallas Cowboys.

"The night after that, we had maybe one Oiler-related call," says Pallilo, whose radio station aired Oilers games from 1991 to 1996.

Not long ago, Columbia blue hats, T-shirts and anything with "Luv Ya Blue" written on it could be found all over town.

Now, none of the 20 Academy Sports & Outdoors stores in the Houston area sells Tennessee Oilers garb, said buyer Jake Slight.

"When they announced the decision to leave, we actually cleared it out at 50 percent off of retail," said Patrick Workman, manager of a huge Oshman's Sporting Goods. "It just didn't sell."

A Chronicle survey found that fewer than one-fourth of its readers wanted the newspaper to continue making the Oilers their No. 1 NFL team.

Please see FAITHFUL, page 5

Cowboys' LaFleur hopes he opened eyes with TD catches

IRVING (AP) -- Tight end David LaFleur -- a heralded first-round draft pick wearing the official stamp of approval from quarterback Troy Aikman -- was expected to be just what the doctor ordered for Dallas' sickly offense.

Without Jay Novacek, the Cowboys' offense was 24th in the NFL in 1996. Finding a solid blocking, pass-catching tight end was a big offseason priority for coach Barry Switzer.

In training camp, Aikman spoke glowingly of the 6-foot-7, 280-pound former LSU star whom he had personally worked out while the Cowboys were trying to decide their draft order last April.

"Great hands," Aikman said of the workout. "He's a big guy who can move."

But once the regular season started, Aikman went elsewhere with his passes. Eric Bjornson, not a good blocker, got most of Aikman's attention at the tight end position.

LaFleur blocked and blocked and blocked.

Then Bjornson got hurt. And in the 15th game of the season, LaFleur caught three passes, two of them for touchdowns, in a loss to Cincinnati. They were the first touchdown passes caught by a tight end all season.

"I hope I opened a few eyes," said the quiet-spoken LaFleur.

He certainly did -- on a diving catch in the end zone for one of the touchdowns.

"That was a heck of a play," Aikman said. "I think everyone agrees that David did a great job as a blocker. And I think he has grown as receiver. I think he will make a tremendous improvement when he goes to his second training camp. I think he can make a major contribution to this team next year."

Please see LAFLEUR, page 5

Despite 6-5 year, USC blows out Robinson

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- John Robinson refused to step aside as Southern California's coach so he was fired and replaced on Wednesday by Paul Hackett, offensive coordinator for the Kansas City Chiefs.

Robinson and USC athletic director Mike Garrett were clearly at odds over the football program, with Robinson refusing to take calls from Garrett the past two days.

Robinson, who said he conducted himself "with dignity" in his five years at USC, learned of his firing when he listened to his answering machine Tuesday night.

"Unfortunately, that dignity was not shown us over the past three weeks," he said at a news conference off campus. "Our coaching staff has kind of been hung out to dry."

Garrett, speaking earlier at a campus news conference, said he spent two days trying to reach Robinson. USC president Steven Sample also did not speak with Robinson about the dismissal.

"I called twice last night, and he

Please see ROBINSON, page 5



Photo by Julius Bodner

Sorry

Hereford's Tori Walker (52) appears to bump into teammate Julie Rampley during a non-district game Nov. 25 with Lubbock Coronado at Whiteface Gymnasium. The Lady Whitefaces will see their last action before the Christmas Break when they play at Borger 6 p.m. Friday night. Hereford will then see its next action at the Caprock tournament Dec. 29-31 in Lubbock.

COLLEGE BOWL GLANCE

Saturday, Dec. 20
Las Vegas Bowl
At Las Vegas
Air Force (10-2) vs. Oregon (6-5), 5 p.m. (ESPN2)
Thursday, Dec. 25
Blue-Gray Classic
At Montgomery, Ala.
Blue vs. Gray, 11 a.m. (ABC)
Aloha Bowl
At Honolulu
Michigan State (7-4) vs. Washington (7-4), 2:30 p.m. (ABC)
Friday, Dec. 26
Motor City Bowl
At Pontiac, Mich.
Marshall (10-2) vs. Mississippi (7-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN)
Saturday, Dec. 27
Heritage Bowl
At Atlanta
South Carolina State (9-2) vs. Southern University (10-1), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Insight.com Bowl
At Tucson, Ariz.
Arizona (6-5) vs. New Mexico (9-3), 7 p.m. (ESPN)
Sunday, Dec. 28
Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
LSU (8-3) vs. Notre Dame (7-5), 7 p.m. (ESPN)
Monday, Dec. 29
Humanitarian Bowl
At Boise, Idaho
Utah State (6-5) vs. Cincinnati (7-4), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN2)
Carquest Bowl
At Miami
Georgia Tech (6-5) vs. West Virginia (7-4), 6:30 p.m. (TBS)
Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Missouri (7-4) vs. Colorado State (10-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)
Tuesday, Dec. 30
Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Oklahoma State (8-3) vs. Purdue (8-3), 7 p.m. (ESPN)
Wednesday, Dec. 31
Sun Bowl
At El Paso
Arizona State (8-3) vs. Iowa (7-4), 1 p.m. (CBS)
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Pittsburgh (6-5) vs. Southern Mississippi (8-3), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Fiesta Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Kansas State (10-1) vs. Syracuse (9-3), 6 p.m. (CBS)
Thursday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Wisconsin (8-4) vs. Georgia (9-2), 10 a.m. (ESPN)
Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
North Carolina (10-1) vs. Virginia Tech (7-4), 11:30 a.m. (NBC)
Citrus Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Penn State (9-2) vs. Florida (9-2), 12 p.m. (ABC)
Cotton Bowl
At Dallas
Texas A&M (9-3) vs. UCLA (9-2), 12:30 p.m. (CBS)
Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Michigan (11-0) vs. Washington State (10-1), 4 p.m. (ABC)
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Florida State (10-1) vs. Ohio State (10-2), 7 p.m. (ABC)
Friday, Jan. 2
Peach Bowl
At Atlanta
Clemson (7-4) vs. Auburn (9-3), 2 p.m. (ESPN)
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Nebraska (12-0) vs. Tennessee (11-1), 7 p.m. (CBS)

Story

bout in Las Vegas. The former champion took a piece out of Holyfield's right ear with the first bite. When the fight resumed after a few minutes to treat the damaged ear, Tyson bit Holyfield's other ear.

Tyson was later fined $3 million and stripped of his Nevada boxing license. He can apply for reinstatement next year.

While Tyson has been a regular fixture in the poll in the 1990s, Hingis appears for the first time.

With Steffi Graf out for most of the year with a knee injury, the "Swiss Miss" took over as No. 1 at the age of 16 and won three of the four Grand Slams -- the Australian Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

Hingis' ascent gained 246 points, only two points ahead of the third-place story: the awarding of the 2004 Summer Olympics to Athens.

In fourth place with 219 points was Woods' record 12-stroke victory in the Masters, which made him the first non-white to win a major tournament and sparked "Tigermania" worldwide. Woods won four tour events and won more than $2 million in prize money in 1997.

The fifth-place story, with 188 points, was Jacques Villeneuve's championship season in Formula One.

Jan Ullrich's dominating victory in the Tour de France, the first by a German rider, came in sixth with 137 points.

The exploits of Denmark's Kenyan-born runner Wilson Kipketer, who broke Sebastian Coe's 16-year-old world record in the 800 meters and went undefeated in 1997, was seventh with 134 points.

The top soccer story of the year was the $55 million transfer deal that took Brazilian superstar Ronaldo from FC Barcelona to Inter Milan, which finished eighth with 116 points.

Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls accounted for the ninth-place story (106 points) by winning the NBA title for the fifth time in seven years.

Qualifying for next year's World Cup in France -- with Italy barely scraping through and Jamaica, Japan and Iran making it for the first time -- was 10th with 105 points.

LaFleur

LaFleur reacted calmly to his first NFL touchdown passes. There was no dancing. No spiking of the football.

"I didn't know how to react," he said. "It took me by surprise."

LaFleur could be a surprise for the Cowboys one year late.

"He looks like he could be the complete tight end," Switzer said. "He's already shown he can be a good blocker in this league. Now, he shows he has the hands."

Said scouting director Larry Lacewell: "The first year is a learning experience for rookies, particularly in the offensive line. He's blocked very well and now we need to exploit his offensive talents. It's going to be fun to see what he can do next year."

Faithful

On television, Oilers ratings in Houston hit as low as a 6.4 rating (103,955 homes) and an 11 share (11 percent of households using TVs were watching the Oilers) on Nov. 2 against Jacksonville.

No wonder KPRC-TV passed on so many games this fall, including Sunday's finale against Pittsburgh.

"We made some judgments based on viewer demand," said station general manager Steve Wasserman.

Fans couldn't even count on sports bars to show Oilers games on their biggest TVs.

Only one matchup this season earned "featured game" status, allowing it to be viewed on an 18-foot TV at SRO Sports Bar & Cafe. Other games have been shown on just one 13-foot TV.

However, over at The End Zone, those left longing for the Oilers can commiserate with bartender Chris Durrett, who remains so devoted that she still has Houston Oilers towels hanging on a bedroom wall.

Durrett has a compatriot in Chris Lockridge, who was so frustrated at not being able to get Oilers games on the tube that he bought a satellite dish.

Lockridge's withdrawal has been severe. He even traveled to Tennessee to watch the team play on his sixth wedding anniversary -- while his wife sat at home in Houston.

"I knew the Oilers before I knew her," jokes Lockridge, a 32-year-old pharmacy worker who even named his son Derrick after the team's logo.

Other football fans in Houston apparently got their fix this fall on Saturdays by going to Rice University or University of Houston games.

Rice had its best average attendance since 1972 (35,509 fans), while Houston drew an average of 19,678, up from 17,551 last year and 16,644 in 1995.

But pro football will return to the nation's fourth-largest city if Houston businessmen Robert McNair and Chuck Watson get their way.

McNair and Watson would prefer to get an expansion team but they also would be willing to buy an existing team and move it to Houston.

If Houston indeed gets a new team, super fan Lockridge would go to games but certainly wouldn't throw himself in to the same extent, filling half his garage with memorabilia.

Robinson

was unavailable," Garrett said.

Garrett said Robinson will be offered another position with the school. Robinson had a contract to coach through the 2001 season, but there reportedly was a clause for a buyout paying him one year's salary, believed to be close to $600,000.

Hackett, who was just 13-20-1 at Pittsburgh in his only other college head coaching job, won't take charge of the Trojans until after the AFC West-champion Chiefs finish their season.

Hackett, a former USC assistant during Robinson's first stint at the school, was not at the USC news conference announcing his hiring.

"I decided to go in a new direction -- that is why we hired Paul Hackett," Garrett said. "I feel that Paul is the right man at the right time for USC. ...

"John had great success here, we all know his statistics. I consider him a friend, I consider him someone I admire. When you think about the great coaches at USC, you have to think of Howard Jones, John McKay. John Robinson fits in that mold."

Texas beats LSU

AUSTIN (AP) -- Brandy Perryman scored 17 points, including five 3-pointers, and Texas hit 12 of 12 free throws in the final minutes of a 69-63 victory over Louisiana State on Wednesday night.

Texas (5-4) scored 12 of its final 16 points on free throws, including all 12 attempts in the final 7:14. Kris Clack and Ira Clark each had four free throws in the span.

LSU (4-3) made only seven of 21 field-goal attempts in the first half but stayed close by hitting 13 of 14 free throws. Texas led 33-28 at halftime.

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SCREAM-2 7:00 - 9:25
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ANASTASIA 7:10
MORTAL KOMBAT 9:15
FLUBBER 7:05 - 9:00
FOR RICHER OR POORER 7:05 - 9:25

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Names in the News

BOBBI McCAUGHEY
KENNY McCAUGHEY

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - If the seven little McCaugheys ought to be in pictures, their agent will have to OK the deal.

Barely a month old and still hooked up to machines to help them eat, the Iowa septuplets already have star quality - and agent Wes Yoder to help them sort out all the offers.

Their mom and dad, Bobbi and Kenny McCaughey, signed with Nashville's Ambassador Artist Agency, which will handle the family's media dealings - fielding 50 to 100 calls a day - as well as any publishing, photo and movie deals.

"These are very unpresumptuous people, very honest," Yoder said Wednesday. "That's why the story has resonated with people around the world."

The little McCaugheys - the world's only living septuplets - were born Nov. 19. The parents said Monday that Kenneth, Alexis, Natalie, Kelsey, Brandon, Nathan and Joel are in fair condition at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines, breathing on their own.

STEVEN SPIELBERG

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Steven Spielberg was stalked by an obsessed man who stockpiled sex toys, kept diaries about his films and family, and prowled around the director's home, according to newly unsealed court papers.

Police confiscated a virtual shopping list of items - including eye masks, handcuffs, nipple clamps, chloroform and dog collars - that the man planned to use in raping Spielberg, Detective Paul Allen Wright said in grand jury testimony unsealed Wednesday.

Jonathan Norman, 31, is charged with one count of stalking. His trial is set for Jan. 13.

Security guards testified they found a box cutter knife blade, razor blades, duct tape, handcuffs and a key when they arrested Norman near Spielberg's home in July.

Charles Anthony Markovich, identified by prosecutors as Norman's longtime friend and lover, testified that Norman's day planner contained "a picture of a naked man which had his head cut off" and Spielberg's face pasted in its place.

"He is a schizophrenic," Markovich testified.

Superior Court Judge Robert Perry unsealed the transcripts at news organizations' requests.

"Neither he nor I want to make a comment," said Spielberg spokesman Marvin Levy.

TOM JONES

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) - It's not unusual for parents to argue over child support, as Tom Jones found out.

An appeals court agreed Wednesday with the singer that those fights can go too far - and that his financial statements aren't for a stranger's eyes.

Katherine Berkery, 34, sued Jones last year to get him to pay more child support for their son, who was born in 1986 after a brief relationship. In 1989, Jones agreed in New York to make monthly payments of $2,791 to Berkery.

After she moved to Florida, Berkery sued to get more money and detailed financial statements from Jones, whose hits include "What's New Pussycat?" and "It's Not Unusual." He refused to release details without a protective order keeping the information confidential, except to say he makes $89,000 a month.

The 4th District Court of Appeal overturned a lower court and sided with Jones, whose devoted female fans frequently threw underwear on stage. The ruling sent the case back to a trial court to determine if Florida has authority to alter an agreement reached in New York.

Berkery's attorneys did not return phone calls seeking comment.

KEITH RICHARDS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - Don't get Keith Richards started about cellular phones.

"Phones, for me, are strictly for information. I don't chat. Phones are the bane of my life. Alexander damn Graham Bell, I'd shoot him," the guitarist said in the Dec. 25 issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine. An interviewer had asked him if he had any strong feelings about Sprint Corp., which is sponsoring the Rolling Stones' Bridges to Babylon tour.

Richards, 54, criticized the company's new digital cellular phones, apparently because his didn't work when he tried to use it in Chicago. He said he doesn't use cellular phones - "it's like sticking your head in a microwave oven" - and isn't much for telephones, period.

CHARLES GIBSON

NEW YORK (AP) - With "Good Morning America" co-host Charles Gibson said to be looking around for other duties at ABC, there's an opening.

"Anyone can walk in the door tomorrow and be a contender,' ABC News Chairman Roone Arledge said Wednesday after a meeting with Gibson, who repeated his desire to be replaced after a decade on the show.

Gibson is said to be talking with ABC about other duties and mulling an offer from the Arts & Entertainment Network.

Arledge insisted he was only joking when he said he wished the show were someone else's problem, a reference to the news division taking control of the struggling morning show from the entertainment division.

The show's ratings slide has only accelerated since Lisa McRee took over as host for Joan Lunden in September.

Tom Bergeron, who will substitute for Gibson during Christmas week, and newsreader Kevin Newman are among candidates to join McRee permanently.

BILL COSBY

NEW YORK (AP) - Bill Cosby says the young woman convicted of extortion for claiming to be his daughter should treat her prison sentence as an opportunity.

"She now sits with a choice of what she wants to do. She can clean up her act," Cosby told CNBC's "Rivera Live" in his first public comments since Autumn Jackson was sentenced last week to 26 months.

The case tarnished Cosby's image as America's favorite father. While he denied being Ms. Jackson's father, he admitted an affair with her mother.

"I don't want to play this tune again, I'll tell you that," Cosby said.

On Wednesday, a man convicted of a minor role in the $40 million extortion attempt, Boris Sabas, was sentenced to three months in prison.

B.B. KING

VATICAN CITY (AP) - Say goodbye to Lucille.

Blues artist B.B. King, scheduled to be among the performers at the Vatican's Christmas concert Friday, said he will donate his famous guitar "Lucille" to Pope John Paul II after the performance.

Other performers on Friday's program at Paul VI Auditorium, where the pontiff holds his public audiences, are Chaka Khan, the Portuguese group Madredeus and France's Mireille Mathieu.

The concert will raise money for the construction of 50 new churches on the outskirts of Rome.

CARL PERKINS

JACKSON, Tenn. (AP) - Carl Perkins is partially paralyzed after suffering his third and most serious stroke in a month.

The 65-year-old writer of Elvis Presley's classic "Blue Suede Shoes" was in stable condition Wednesday in intensive care at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital.

"He's not in good shape now," son Stan Perkins said Wednesday. "It's very serious."

He said the stroke on Tuesday left his father paralyzed on the left side of his body.

Birthdays, special days, a year-around remembrance? Send them *The Hereford Brand*, a gift that reminds the recipient of your love and concern about 255 times a year!

Comics

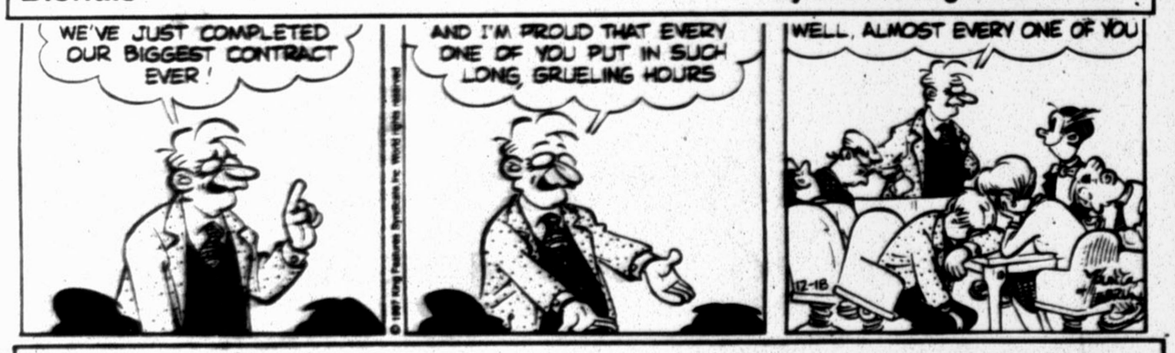
The Wizard of Id
By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



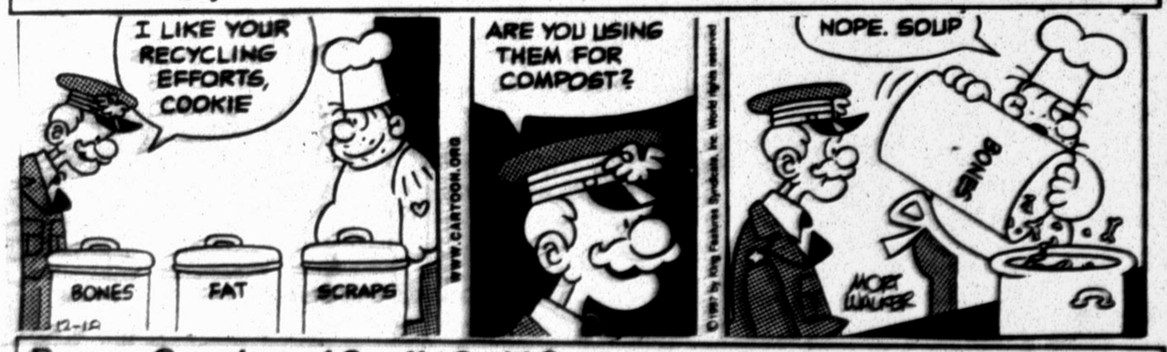
Marvin
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By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Beetle Bailey®
By Mort Walker



Barney Google and Snuffy Smith®
By Fred Lasswell



Television

THURSDAY DECEMBER 18

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
2	Jack Frost		(6:50) Movie: It Nearly Wasn't Christmas		(:25) Movie: The Christmas Star				Walt Disney Presents		Zorro
4	News	Ent. Tonight	Friends	Union	Seinfeld	Veronicas	ER		News	(:35) Tonight Show	
5	Newshour With Jim Lehrer		Lamb Chop's Chanukah		Mystery!		Secrets of...		Charlie Rose		Newshour
6	Griffith	Griffith	(:05) Movie: The Living Daylights (1987) *Timothy Dalton, Maryam d'Abo.* ★★★						(9:50) Movie: The Spy Who Loved Me		
7	News	Fortune	Nothing Sacred		Cracker		20/20		News	Seinfeld	Nightline
9	Fam. Mat.	Coach	Sister, Sis.	Smart Guy	Wayans	Harvey	News		Beverly Hills, 90210		Heat
10	News	Home Imp.	Promised Land		Diagnosis Murder		Dellaventura		News	(:35) Late Show	
13	Grace Under	Mad-You	Single	Between	413 Hope St.		Soldier of Fortune, Inc.		Frasier	Roseanne	Real TV
14	Sportsctr.	NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at Philadelphia Flyers						Up Close	Sportscenter		Superbouts
17	Waltons		Branson C'mas		Movie: The Christmas List (1997) *Mimi Rogers.*				700 Club		3 Stooges
18	(5:15) Movie: This Is Elvis		All Star Concert for Montserrat				Tina Turner: Wildest Dreams Concert		(:35) Movie: Heavy (1995)		
20	(:15) Movie: The Cable Guy *Jim Carrey.* ★★½ 'PG-13'		Movie: The Peacekeeper *Dolph Lundgren.*					Tenacious D	Inside the NFL		Titanic: 1st
21	Movie: That Thing You Do!		Movie: To Catch a Thief (1955) *Cary Grant, Grace Kelly.*				Movie: The Ghost and the Darkness *Michael Douglas.*				Movie:
23	Movie: Show Business		Movie: Don't Go Near the Water (1957). *Gia Scala* ★★½				Movie: The Tender Trap (1955) *Frank Sinatra.* ★★★				Movie:
24	Dukes of Hazzard		Alabama's Christmas		Prime Time Country		Today's Country		Dallas		Dukes
25	Gimme Shelter		Wild Discovery		Unknown	Movie Magic	Wings		Justice Files		Wild Disc.
26	Law & Order		Biography		Holiday at Pops!				Law & Order		Biography
27	Intimate Portrait		Unsolved Mysteries		Movie: On the Second Day of Christmas (1997)				Homicide: Life		Weddings
28	NBA Action	Sports	FOX Sports	Sports	Boxing Fight Time				FOX Sports News		Sports
29	Lois & Clark-Superman		Movie: Road House (1989) *Patrick Swayze, Kelly Lynch.* ★★					Rough Cut	Movie: The Searchers (1956) ★★★★		
31	Doug	Rugrats	Strange	Happy Days	Wonder Yrs.	Wonder Yrs.	I Love Lucy	M.T. Moore	Taxi	Newhart	Van Dyke
35	Highlander: The Series		Walker, Texas Ranger		Movie: The Empire Strikes Back (1980) *Mark Hamill.* ★★★★					Silk Stalkings	
38	Esmeralda		El Alma No Tiene Color		Alguna Vez		Bienvenido		P. Impacto	Noticiero	Al Ritmo
37	Air Combat		In Search of History		When-Century Was Young		History Undercover		World at War		In Search
40	Billiards		Superbouts		Boxing				Bloopers	NHL 2Night	NBA 2Night

FRIDAY DECEMBER 19

	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	12 PM
2	Goof Troop	Mermaid	Pooh	Katie-Orbie	Bear	Wonderland	Chip 'n' Dale	Madeline	Mermaid	Pooh	Jungle Cubs
4	Today				Leeza		Geraldo Rivera		Sunset Beach		Days-Lives
5	Barney	Arthur	Sesame Street		Puzzle Place	Reading	Storytime	Mr Rogers	Arthur	Barney	Katzen
6	Brady	Brady	Little House on the Prairie		Mama	Mama	Hillbillies	Hillbillies	(:05) Matlock		Movie:
7	Good Morning America				Live -- Regis & Kathie Lee		Martha	Gayle King	People's Court		News
9	Tiny Toon	Captain	Animaniacs	PinkyBrain	Batman	MeninBlck	Griffith	Griffith	Geraldo Rivera		News
10	This Morning				Ricki Lake		Price Is Right		Young and the Restless		News
13	C-Bear	Casper	101Dalmts	X-Men	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Kenneth C.	Paid Prog.	Home Team
14	Sportscenter		Sportscenter		Sportscenter		Sportscenter		Sportscenter		NFL Great
17	Rescue 911		Waltons		700 Club			Fit TV	Diagnosis Murder		Home
18	(6:45) Movie: Weekend at Bernie's II 'PG'		Movie: Whiskers *Michael Caloz.* 'G'		(:15) Movie: The Invisible Kid *Jay Underwood.* ★ 'PG'						Movie:
20	Movie: R.S.V.P. *Patrick Dempsey.* 'PG'		Movie: Zeus and Roxanne ★★ 'PG'		(:15) Stomp Out Loud				(:15) Movie: The Hunt for Red October		
21	Movie: Unsinkable		(:15) Movie: Grumpier Old Men *Jack Lemmon.* 'PG-13'		Movie: Real Genius (1985) *Val Kilmer, Gabe Jarret.* 'PG'						Movie:
23	Movie: Honeymn for 3		Movie: Knockout (1941) ★★½		Movie: Never a Dull Moment (1950) ★★				Movie: Lady of Vengeance		Movie:
24	(Off Air)		Club Dance		Crook & Chase		Dallas		Aleene's Crafts		Wildhorse
25	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Assignment Discovery		Home Matters		Housesmart!		Interior Motives		Home
26	McMillan and Wife				Equalizer		Quincy		Northern Exposure		Law & Order
27	Baby Knows	Kids These	Weddings of a Lifetime IX		Designing	Almost	Our Home		Main Ingred.	Handmade	Commish
28	FOX Sports News		FOX Sports News		Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Outdoors	Fishing	Ditka Live
29	Scooby Dooby Doo		Flintstones	Flintstones	Gilligan	Gilligan	Spenser: For Hire		Movie: The Searchers (1956) ★★★★		
31	Looney	Rugrats	Little Bear	Blup's Clues	Busy World	Muppets	Wubbulous	Gullah	Little Bear	Blue's Clues	Muppet
35	Gargoyles	Sailor Moon	Webster	Facts of Life	Strangers	Gimme B.	Wings	Wings	Movie: Night Watch (1995) ★★		
38	(6:00) Despierta America				Malte		Volver a Empezar				Marimar
37	Classroom		History Showcase		Movie: Sharpe's Honour (1994) *Sean Bean.* ★★½				Real West		Caesar
40	Flex Appeal	Bodyshape	Crunch	Training	Perfect	Bodyshape	Fitness	Flex Appeal	World's Strongest Men		NBA 2Night

	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
2	Tale Spin	Donald	Chip 'n' Dale	Tale Spin	Goof Troop	Timon	Aladdin	Dinosaurs	Growing	Growing	Brotherly
4	Days-Lives	Another World		Jenny Jones		Maury		Oprah Winfrey		News	NBC News
5	Body Elec.	Painting	Time Goes	Ancestors	Ancestors	Kitchen	Kitchen	Sandiego	Science Guy	Wishbone	Bus
6	(12:05) Movie: Matlock: The Scam (1995)			Flintstones	Flintstones	Looney	Dreams	Saved-Bell	Saved-Bell	Fam. Mat.	Fam. Mat.
7	Jeopardy!	One Life to Live		General Hospital		Port Charles	Pictionary	Rosie O'Donnell		News	ABC News
9	News	Empty Nest	Empty Nest	St. Jude's: Story of Hope		Beverly Hills, 90210		Fam. Mat.	Dreams	Saved-Bell	Saved-Bell
10	Bold & B.	As the World Turns		Guiding Light		Sally		Am.Journal	Edition	News	CBS News
13	Home Team	Medicine Woman		Little House on the Prairie		Spider-Man	Metallix	Rangers	Turtles	BoyWorld	Roseanne
14	Strength	Cheerlead	Golf	Golf		Golf: World Championship				Up Close	Sportsctr.
17	(12:00) Home & Family			ShopDrop	Shopping	Bonanza-Lost		Tailor	Bear Slept	'Twas Night	White Xmas
18	Movie: Shadow Zone		(:45) Movie: Nosferatu the Vampyre *Klaus Kinski.* 'PG'				Movie: Weekend at Bernie's II ★★ 'PG'			(:15) Movie: Whiskers 'G'	
20	Movie: Hunt-Red-Oct.		Movie: Into the Homeland *Powers Boothe.* ★★½				Storyteller	Movie: Zeus and Roxanne ★★ 'PG'			Fair Game
21	(12:00) Movie: ★★½ Multiplicity 'PG-13'		Movie: Space Jam *Michael Jordan.* 'PG'				Movie: Hero (1992) *Dustin Hoffman, Geena Davis.* ★★½				Movie:
23	(12:15) Movie: ★★★ King of Kings (1961) *Jeffrey Hunter.*					Movie: The Life of Vergie Winters (1934) ★★				Movie: If You Knew Susie	
24	Wildhorse	America's Country Hits		Crook & Chase		Dallas		Club Dance		Dukes of Hazzard	
25	Home	Housesmart!		Interior Motives		Great Chefs	Great Chefs	Travelers		Wings	
26	Law & Order	McMillan and Wife				Equalizer		Quincy		Northern Exposure	
27	Commish	Movie: I'll Be Home for Christmas (1988) ★★½				Night Court	Night Court	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Supermkt	Debt
28	Cowboys	Hardcore Football		NFL-Access	Women's College Soccer				WAC Magazine		Big 12 Show
29	Movie: The Searchers		Movie: Seventh Cavalry (1956) ★★½			Lonesome Dove: Outlaw		In the Heat of the Night		Kung Fu: Legend	
31	Muppet	Muppets	Looney	Beetlejuice	Gadget	Tiny Toon	Garfield	You Afraid?	Rocko's-Life	Figure It Out	Tiny Toon
35	Movie: Night	Movie: Live Wire (1992) *Pierce Brosnan.* ★★				Baywatch		Saved-Bell	USA High	Baywatch	
38	Marimar	Amada Enemiga		Gente Bien		Cristina		Primer Impacto		Club	Noticiero
37	Caesar	Vinegar Joe		Movie: Sharpe's Honour (1994) *Sean Bean.* ★★½				Real West		American Caesar	
40	NBA	NFL's Greatest Moments		Thrill-Spill	Auto Racing	Rugby		ESPNews	ESPNews	Sportsman	Driver

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
2	Movie: Honey, I Blew Up the Kid 'PG'		Better		(7:55) Movie: The Preacher's Wife *Denzel Washington.*				Walt Disney Presents		Zorro
4	News	Ent. Tonight	Movie: Home Alone (1990) *Macaulay Culkin.* ★★★				Christmas in Washington		News	(:35) Tonight Show	
5	Newshour With Jim Lehrer		Wash. Week	Wall St.	Holiday Concert		Red Green	Keeping Up	Charlie Rose		Newshour
6	Griffith	Griffith	(:05) Movie: Live and Let Die (1973) *Roger Moore, Jane Seymour.* ★★★				(:40) Movie: The Man With the Golden Gun (1974) ★★½				
7	News	Fortune	Sabrina	Boy-World	Sabrina	Teen Angel	20/20		News	Seinfeld	Nightline
9	Fam. Mat.	Coach	Movie: Masters of the Universe (1987) ★★				News		Beverly Hills, 90210		Heat
10	News	Home Imp.	Mickey's Christmas Carol		Fam. Mat.	Step-Step	Nash Bridges		News	(:35) Late Show	
13	Grace Under	Mad-You	Visitor		Millennium		Pensacola: Wings of Gold		Frasier	Roseanne	Real TV
14	College Basketball: Princeton vs. Wake Forest				College Basketball Jimmy V. Classic -- Clemson vs. Seton Hall				Sportscenter		
17	Waltons				Diagnosis Murder		Hawaii Five-0		700 Club		3 Stooges
18	(5:15) Movie: Whiskers 'G'		Movie: The Birdcage *Robin Williams.* ★★★ 'R'				Stargate SG-1		Hunger	Movie: Fargo (1996) 'R'	
20	Inside the NFL		Comedy Hour		Boxing Prince Naseem Hamed vs. Kevin Kelley					Spawn	Spawn
21	(5:20) Movie: Hot Pursuit		Movie: The Sunchaser *Woody Harrelson.* ★★ 'R'				Movie: Eraser *Arnold Schwarzenegger.* ★★½ 'R'				Inside Out
23	Movie: If You Knew Susie		Movie: Please Don't Eat the Daisies (1960) ★★★				Movie: The Courtship of Eddie's Father (1963) ★★★				Movie:
24	Dukes of Hazzard		Grand Ole Opry Christmas		Statler Bros.		Beach Country Christmas		Dallas		Opry
25	Gimme Shelter		Wild Discovery		News	Storm	Fangs!		Justice Files		Wild Disc.
26	Law & Order		Biography		Titanic						Biography
27	Intimate Portrait		Unsolved Mysteries		Movie: Fight for Justice: The Nancy Conn Story (1995)				Homicide: Life		Wire
28	Football	Sports	FOX Sports	NBA Basketball Sacramento Kings at Houston Rockets					FOX Sports News		Sports
29	Lois & Clark-Superman		NBA Basketball Miami Heat at Philadelphia 76ers					Inside NBA	Postmen	Movie: Serpico (1973)	
31	Doug	Rugrats	Rugrats	Happy Days	Wonder Yrs.	Wonder Yrs.	I Love Lucy	M.T. Moore	Taxi	Newhart	Van Dyke
35	Highlander: The Series		Walker, Texas Ranger		Movie: Return of the Jedi (1983) *Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford.* ★★★½						Movie:
38	Esmeralda		El Alma No Tiene Color		Alguna Vez		El Balcon de Veronica		P. Impacto	Noticiero	Al Ritmo
37	Vinegar Joe		In Search of History		When-Century Was Young		Movie: Brink's: The Great Robbery (1976) ★★				In Search
40	Motoworld	NHL Hockey New Jersey Devils at Detroit Red Wings						NHL 2Night	Legends of Hockey		NBA 2Night

Reporter takes potshots at West Texas travel brochures

By RICK SMITH
San Angelo Standard-Times

SAN ANGELO, Texas - I've been traveling around West Texas recently, and whenever I travel I pick up those little travel brochures you find in museums and airports and truckstop cafes.

Why not? They're free, and I like to look at the pictures.

I've just collected the latest crop, and, frankly, some are better than others.

I've already picked on San Angelo's "Surprising" slogan, so I won't take any potshots at this year's brochure, other than to say I was surprised by the purple color. Very purple.

Compare that to Odessa's brochure.

The cover has gold lettering on an elegant black background.

The lettering lists the city's slogan: "City of Contrasts."

So far, so good.

But the picture on the cover shows a violin, except that the violin's neck, the part where the tuning keys should be, is an oil field pipe wrench.

It's a fun idea, but the result looks just plain creepy. And the pipe-fiddle thing wouldn't fit in a toolbox - or a violin case.

Midland's brochure shows a silhouette of a James Dean-looking cowboy slouched on a horse in front of a sunset.

So far, so good.

Nice slogan, too: "West Texas Adventure."

But then you open the brochure and realize that the city of Midland is guilty of false advertising.

Some of the brochure's best pictures show scenes from Big Bend National Park and the Davis Mountains.

"...in Midland, you're just a short drive away from some of the region's most spectacular beauty with Big Bend and the Davis Mountains to the south and the Guadalupe Mountains to the west."

Sure.

Big Bend's a "short" 240-mile drive to the south over odd little roads, and 170-something miles will get you to Fort Davis.

Abilene?

"A Whole Lotta Texas Goin' On!" reads the slogan on the brochure cover.

That's as far as I got.

El Paso's has a bright, colorful brochure, but I hate the slogan: "Make History on the Texas Border."

Somehow, that sounds dangerous. As in, "Become History on the Texas Border."

Big Spring, bless its heart, tried hard.

"West Texas Hospitality...." read the big letters on the brochure's cover. And then they add: "So come on out to West Texas, stop in at Big Spring and let us treat your right!"

That's friendly. That's nice. But if you were a traveler browsing the brochure racks, would you be tempted to haul off and drive all the way out to Big Spring just so they could "treat you right"?

I didn't think so.

I like Sonora's friendly brochure.

"Welcome to Sonora, Texas," it says, picturing a Wild West-style cowboy on the cover.

Like all travel brochures, though, it tends to get a little carried away.

"Here, the story of brave pioneers who forged order out of an untamed land is written on every building and every face," it reads.

"Visit Sonora, and watch the Legend of the West come alive."

I've enjoyed many visits to Sonora. I've enjoyed dinners at the Sutton County Steakhouse and tours through the caverns, but I don't recall ever once watching the Legend of the West come alive.

I'm not sure I'd want to, either.

Fredericksburg, as always, is no-nonsense and straight to the point.

"Fredericksburg, Texas," it reads. "Shopping. History. Dining. Culture."

No gimmicks. No odd colors. No pipe wrench fiddles.

Distributed by The Associated Press

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Dec. 18, the 352nd day of 1997. There are 13 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 18, 1865, the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, abolishing slavery, was declared in effect.

On this date:

In 1787, New Jersey became the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1892, Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker Suite" publicly premiered in St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 1940, Adolf Hitler signed a secret directive ordering preparations for a Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union. (Operation "Barbarossa" was launched in June 1941.)

In 1944, the Supreme Court upheld the wartime relocation of Japanese-Americans, but also said undeniably loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry could not be detained.

In 1956, Japan was admitted to the United Nations.

In 1957, the motion picture "The Bridge on the River Kwai" premiered at the RKO Palace Theater in New York City.

In 1957, the Shippingport Atomic Power Station in Pennsylvania, the first nuclear facility to generate electricity in the United States, went online. (It was taken out of service in 1982.)

In 1969, Britain's Parliament abolished the death penalty for murder.

In 1972, the United States began the heaviest bombing of North Vietnam during the Vietnam War. (The bombardment ended 12 days later.)

In 1980, former Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin died at age 76.

Ten years ago: Ivan F. Boesky was sentenced to three years in prison for plotting Wall Street's biggest insider-trading scandal. (He served about two years of his sentence.) Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto was married in a traditional Islamic ceremony to businessman Asif Ali Zardari.

Five years ago: The U.N. Security Council unanimously denounced Israel's deportation of more than 400 Palestinians and demanded their immediate return. Kim Young-sam was elected South Korea's first civilian president in three decades.

One year ago: FBI agent Earl Edwin Pitts was arrested, accused of selling secrets to the Russians. (Pitts was sentenced in June 1997 to 27 years in prison after admitting that he'd conspired and attempted to commit espionage.) Aides to President Clinton disclosed that Asian-American businessman Charles Yah Lin Trie, who delivered $460,000 in questionable donations to the Clintons' legal defense fund, had been to the White House at least 23 times since 1993.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Ossie Davis is 80. Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark is 70. Actor Roger Smith is 65. Blues musician Lonnie Brooks is 64. Rock singer-musician Keith Richards is 54. Movie producer-director Steven Spielberg is 50. Movie reviewer Leonard Maltin is 47. Actor Ray Liotta is 42. Actor Brad Pitt is 34. Country singer Tracy Byrd is 31. Tennis player Arantxa Sanchez Vicario is 26.

Thought for Today: "No one worth possessing can be quite possessed." - Sara Teasdale, American author and poet (1884-1933).

GIMME

(From Page 3)

drives or helping out at local thrift stores for nonprofit organizations. She also said parents can encourage their youngsters to get involved with community events scheduled through their schools.

Another avenue for helping others is through a local church. Even the mall provides outreach programs to help the less fortunate during Christmas, Cates said.

Linda Meza of Waco said she has tried to teach her 6-year-old son, Cameron, the importance of sharing from Day One.

"Once he became old enough to understand the feelings of others, we tried to make him understand that not everyone is as fortunate as he is," she said.

Every year before Christmas, Linda and her husband, George, sit down with Cameron and go through his toy box to give away those things he doesn't play with much anymore. They've done this since he was 2.

"At first he didn't really understand," Linda Meza said. "The second year we did it, he had lots of questions, but now he expects it."

She said they never give away things that are special to him or gifts that came from special relatives. "We don't want to force him to give something away," Meza said. "That would kind of defeat the purpose."

Cameron can bet on getting lots of toys, clothes and other goodies from his two sets of grandparents and plenty of aunts and uncles, all who live in or near Waco.

"He's never had to do without," Meza said with a shrug. "Not for a birthday, a Christmas ... and his grandmas are known for getting him lots of little things here and there throughout the year."

Meza said that as long as she can influence her son, she wants him to grow up to be a giving person.

"He could get really selfish if we didn't teach him otherwise," Meza said. "But that's our job as parents - to try to raise them right."

Older children also can get in on the act of putting others first.

Cates said she is pleased to see so many of the local high schools getting teen-agers involved in helping the community.

Sandi Horton of Woodway said her 15-year-old daughter takes helping the less-fortunate during the holidays very seriously.

"She uses her own allowance to buy food for the food drives at her school," Horton said of her daughter, Laura Gray. "I just thought that was so sweet. She just did that on her own."

Laura, a freshman at Midway High School, said she decided to get involved because she believes everyone deserves to have food.

"I just wanted to help out people," Laura said. "I always have lots of food around Thanksgiving and Christmas."

Horton said that when Laura was little, they also gave away toys to needy children.

"But she always gave the best thing she had," Horton said. "And with the food, she picks out what she likes."

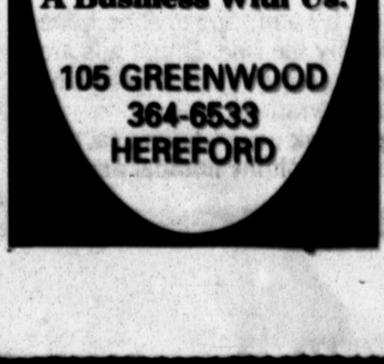
While shopping last week for Food for Families, Laura chose lots of baby food and canned fruits.

She encouraged other young people to get involved with these words: "Everyone is equal, and I think when you see people in need, you should help them out."

Cates said the best thing parents can do to help their children be less selfish and more giving is to lead by example. She suggests choosing at least one way to help the less fortunate and doing it first as a family.

"Even if you just do one thing a year and make it a tradition, that's setting a good example for kids," Cates said. "Hopefully, it makes them appreciate what they have and not expect so much."

Distributed by The Associated Press



An alcohol-free cough suppressant can make the flu a little more bearable.

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Wednesday - ¼ lb. Single Burger ..... 99¢
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Saturday - Single Burger Combo $2.99
Sunday - New Deluxe Chicken Finger Basket $2.99
Mr. Burger
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Merry Christmas from Sun Loan Co.
Come and register for the "WORLD'S LARGEST STOCKING"
Now 'til December 22nd!
Everyone is eligible to enter, you just might be the lucky winner!
Come in today!
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Saturday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.
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Classified advertising rates are based on 15 cents a word for first insertion ($3.00 minimum), and 11 cents for second publication and thereafter. Rates below are based on consecutive issues, no copy change, straight word ads.

Times	RATE	MIN
1 day per word	.15	3.00
2 days per word	.26	5.20
3 days per word	.37	7.40
4 days per word	.48	9.60
5 days per word	.59	11.80

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY

Classified display rates apply to all other ads not set in solid-word lines-those with captions, bold or larger type, special paragraphs, all capital letters. Rates are 5.10 per column inch.

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Ad rates for legal notices are 5.10 per column inch.

ERRORS

Every effort is made to avoid errors in word ads and legal notices. Advertisers should call attention to any errors immediately after the first insertion. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. In case of errors by the publishers an additional insertion will be published.

1. ARTICLES FOR SALE

A Great Gift!!! Texas Country Reporter Cookbook -- the cookbook everyone is talking about. 256 pages featuring quotes on recipes ranging from 1944 War Worker rolls to a creative concoction using Texas tumbleweeds. $13.95 at Hereford Brand. 17961

The Roads of Texas and The Roads of New Mexico are for sale at The Hereford Brand in book form. Texas maps are $14.95 plus tax, and New Mexico maps are $14.95 plus tax. Discover roads you never knew were there. Hereford Brand, 313 N. Lee. 24757

A must book for every home. THE TEXAS ALMANAC, 1996-97 edition. Updates info, facts on Texas counties, politics, education and more, including special features. $12.95 plus tax at the Hereford Brand. 313 N. Lee St. 31062

Rebuilt Kirby's, 1/2 price with warranty. Other name brands. $39 & up. Sales & Repairs on makes & models. 364-4288. 32086

Wood-woven blinds, 6 ft. 2 in. wide by 5 ft.; wood plus orange/gold weave. Very reasonable if you can use them. Call 364-6957. 35636

For Sale: Black BB Gun, Non CO2 powered. Would make a great Christmas gift! Just $15.00. Call 364-8723 after 4:00 PM. 35677

FOR SALE: Nordic Track Ski "PRO" Series Machine - $350.00. Call 258-7212 (local). 35682

For Sale: 2 Kool-Wall Bathroom heaters, 1 shower door, and 1 bathroom oval sink. Call 364-3186. 35684

Senior Citizens Thrift Store
All skirts & blouses are 50¢ each
1306 E. Park Ave. • Open Thursday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm • Restocked Weekly

2. FARM EQUIPMENT

Custom CRP Planting: Call Kirk Marnell, at 346-2708 or 258-7326. 35618

For Sale: Round Bales, $25.00. Call 276-5521. 35647

Classified ads get results! Our classifieds help our readers buy, sell, lease, or re-think career possibilities. Read up on what's available, and put your ad in the classified and see the great results you get!

3. VEHICLES FOR SALE

For Sale: 91 Buick Rivera, Loaded - including a disk player and all works. White with blue leather interior. Clean, Good Tires, $6700.00. Call Bob Sims at 364-4030 (daytime) or 3646903 (nights). 35634

1979 3/4 Ton Ford Pickup, new radial tires, good body, needs head gasket. $750.00. Call 258-7577. 35667

For Sale: 1990 Lincoln. Call HTFCU and ask for Troy Don, 364-1888. 35673

For Sale: 1990 Mitsubishi Galant L. S., Great car. Well below book price. $3500.00. Call 364-7350 days & 364-0254 nights. 35675

For Sale: 1983 Ford F-150 extended cab pickup. White. $900.00. Call 364-0763. After six call 364-6050. 35685

See Us Before You Buy
Marcum Motors Co.
Clean Used Cars & Trucks
413 N. 25 Mile Ave. - 364-3565

4. REAL ESTATE - CITY

For Sale: Only $4995.00, 14x48 Mobile Home. 2 BR-A/C, Central Heat. Ideal to move to lake or great for couple. Call 364-6420. 35267

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Homes of Amarillo
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$999 Down on Doublewide homes O.A.C
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505-762-3488 dl772
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5. HOMES FOR RENT

Best deal in town, 1 bedroom efficiency apartments. Bills paid, red brick apartments. 300 block West 2nd. 364-3566. 920

Nice, large, unfurnished apartments. Refrigerated air, two bedrooms. You pay only electric-we pay the rest. $335.00 month. 364-8421. 1320

Self-lock storage. 363-6212. 1360

Eldorado Arms Apts, 1 & 2 bedroom unfurnished, apts. refrigerated air, laundry, free cable, water, & gas. 364-2302 or 364-4332. 18873

Need extra storage space? Need a place to have a garage sale? Rent a mini-storage. Two sizes available. Call 364-4370. 35526

Apartments for Rent: 2 & 3 Bedrooms. Stove & Refrigerator furnished. No deposit. Call 364-8805. HUD accepted! 35565

For Rent: Brick, 2 BR, 1 bath, 1 car garage. Partially furnished. Central Air & Heat. Call 364-1716. 35683

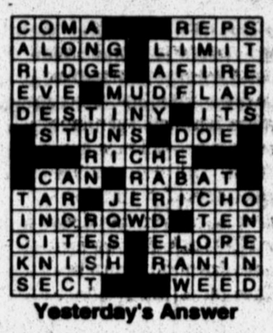
Hereford leading supermarkets and grocery stores advertise in the pages of The Hereford Brand. Shop The Brand ads to look for money-saving coupons and to compare prices. Many Hereford homemakers use The Brand ads to do their shopping at one of Hereford's fine supermarkets!

CROSSWORD

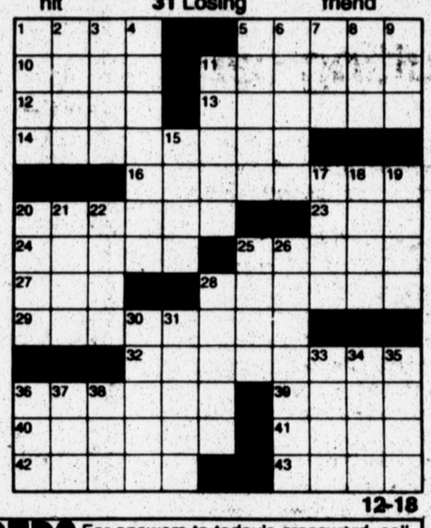
by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 ERA or RBI
5 Tic
10 Zeus's wife
11 Supreme Court justice since 1986
12 Composer Satie
13 Folk story
14 Secondary business
16 Circus offering
20 Gangster great
23 Band-leader Lyman
24 Without help
25 Kid's transport
27 Work leather
28 Gave a smack
29 Coleslaw, for one
32 Pistols, e.g.
36 Lowered
39 Primary
40 Awaken
41 Pound of poems
42 Minnesota team
43 Profound

DOWN
1 "— Gotta Have It"
2 Actress Hatcher
3 Like the Sahara
4 Hires
5 Play part
6 Congress aides
7 Pub brew
8 Sermon topic
9 Enraged
11 Playground fixture
15 Script unit
17 Crones
18 Orchestra member
19 Proceed
20 Broadway hit
21 Jail—
22 Minnow's home
25 Sapient
26 Humbled
28 Pal, slangily
30 German industrial city
31 Losing plans
33 Tear down
34 Bog
35 Ginger cookie
36 Don't just sit there
37 Fiddling need
38 French friend



Yesterday's Answer



12-18

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone / rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

APARTMENTS:
Blue Water Gardens
HEAT, A/C, LIGHTS } INCLUDED
Rent based on income. Accepting applications for 1, 2, 3, 4 bdrms. CALL Debra or Janis TODAY for information & directions. 12-5pm (806)364-6661. Equal Opportunity.

6. WANTED

Custom CRP Mowing, Kenneth Williams, Box 433, Vega, Texas, 79092. Call (806)267-2474. 35299

Shredding - cotton, milo, corn stalks. Other types of plowing also. Reasonable rates. Call 364-4263 or 344-4263. 35579

Experienced CRP sowing--Rodney Hunter, 647-5539 or Richard Hunter, 276-5357. 35657

8. HELP WANTED

Hereford Care Center needs R.N.'s, L.V.N.'s, Medication Aides, & C.N.A.'s. Come by 231 Kingwood or call 364-7113. 33472

Kings Manor Methodist Nursing Home has opening for Med-Aides, CNA's, LVN's. Opening for weekend RN. Contact Kings Manor,400 Ranger, Hereford. 34525

Knowles Trucking, Amarillo, Tx. needs single & team OTR drivers. Must have CDL/Hazmet, 2 years experience. Good MVR. Competitive pay scales & benefits. Call 800-241-6679 or 806 371-7146. 35628

Experienced drivers & or lease operators needed for established trucking company. Must have tank experience and be 25 + years of age. If you qualify, call 800-737-0047. 35665

Wanted 32 people: Are you ready to lose those 20 + unwanted pounds? Call (303) 480-8217. 35669

Needed penrider--must have at least 6 months experience. Apply in person, ask for Jared at Cattletown, Inc. 35681

HELP WANTED
LVN Treatment Nurse
Position available 6-2 and 2-10. Must have current Texas LVN license. Must be dependable and have good people skills.
Apply at
Kings Manor Methodist Retirement Center
400 Ranger
Hereford, Texas

CLERICAL OFFICE POSITION

Position requires experience with Data-entry, filing, telephone and general office skills. Must fill position next week. Send resume & references to:

P. O. Box 2257
Hereford, Texas
79045
Attn: Rodney

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COME EXPERIENCE THE TOWN & COUNTRY DIFFERENCE
Now hiring part-time & full-time employees, excellent benefits, health insurance, paid sick leave, 1st year 2 wks. paid vacation, retirement plan, stock purchase plan & college reimbursement program. Applications are available at your nearest Town & Country location. Drug testing required. E.O.E.

9. CHILD CARE

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Offering an excellent program of learning and care for your children 0-12!
State Licensed
Also - SPECIAL AFTER-HOURS pick-up for Kindergarten Children!
364-5062

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Your advertising is part of your sales force. Ads help to pre-sell the customer and help you close the sale faster. That save you time and saves you money.



The best sea shells can be found during the night or in the early morning hours at low tide.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Slow Pay
Charge Offs
Reps
Bankruptcy
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NO PROBLEMS
CALL NOW!!!
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Se Habla Espanol

11. BUSINESS SERVICES

Defensive Driving Course is now being offered nights and Saturdays. Will include ticket dismissal and insurance discount. For more information, call 289-5851. #C0023-CO733, McKibben ADS. 700

We buy scrap iron, metal, aluminum cans, all batteries, tin, copper & brass. 364-3350. 970

Garage Door and Opener Repair & Replacement. Call Robert Betzen, 289-5500. If No answer Call Mobile, 344-2960. 14237

We buy cars & pickups running or not running. We sell used auto parts of all kinds. 364-2754. 27574

Tree & Shrub trimming & removal. Leaf raking & assorted lawn work, rotary tilling & seeding of new lawns. 364-3356. 31572

Hereford Music Instrument repair - Guitar lessons, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM. Monday - Saturday. Call 363-1111, Sugarland Mall. 35260

Affordable Computers
• Service
• Supplies
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CICS
319 N. Main • 364-6067

13. LOST & FOUND

LOST: 1 full grown male SHAR-PEI (blind), tan color with maroon collar. Call either (806) 364-0480 after 5:00 pm or (806) 265-3480 anytime. REWARD OFFERED!!!! 35656

HOW DO YOU WRITE A CLASSIFIED AD THAT GETS RESULTS?

BE THOROUGH
Sure you want your ad to stand out from the rest, but don't skimp on the sort of information that sells. The items condition, size, age, brand name, and color are some of the basics readers want to know. Without them, your ad may be passed by.

STEER CLEAR OF ABBREVIATIONS
OK, so you want to include all the important basics, now don't confuse your reader by using strange abbreviations. What is perfectly clear to you may be perfectly unrecognizable to someone else!

BE HONEST
Exaggerating your items's finer points may bring in a lot of responses, but a buyer who's misled won't appreciate it - and will take this business somewhere else.

STATE YOUR PRICE
The cost of an item is one of the most important concerns of Classified readers. Ads showing prices are one which get results. Giving a price also serves to "weed out" those buyers not in your price range.

BE ACCESSIBLE
Including a telephone number or address puts you in touch with potential buyers. Be sure to state the hours you can be reached; a caller who can't get through the first time often won't call again.

"Don't hesitate to call with any questions or problems you may have. Our professionally trained sales staff knows the ropes, and would be happy to pass their know-how on to you. That's why we're here: to help you get the results you deserve."
The Hereford Brand Classifieds
364-2030



Divers in the Persian Gulf used goggles made of polished clear tortoise shell to see under water as early as the 1300s.

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination.
State laws of forbid discrimination in the sale, rental or advertising of real estate based on factors in addition to those protected under federal law. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Writing Want Ads that really sell!

Unsure how to write a Classified Ad that will get results? Follow these pointers and you'll soon have an empty space in your storage room and cash in your pocket.

For starters, look at ads which offer the same item/ products. Get a sense of going rates and ideas for how to make your ad stand out. Once you're ready to write, begin with exactly what you're selling: "Dining room set, maple, six chairs." Then, remember these hints:

--Give the price. A newspaper consultant says 70 percent of classified readers won't respond to an ad with no price.

--Use key words to describe what you're selling. The key words for a car are make, model, year, body style, color, mileage and price. If it's a house, key words are location, type of construction, number of bedrooms and baths, and condition.

--Don't use abbreviations. It's tempting to abbreviate and save money if ads are billed by the line. Brand ads are billed by the words, so spell them out so readers won't be confused trying to figure out abbreviations.

-- Don't be misleading. Think accurate and factual when you write. Be sure to include a phone number and the best times to reach you.

Clinton pledges to take action on black farmers' complaints

WASHINGTON (AP) - For Willie Head Jr. of Georgia, President Clinton's pledge to quickly resolve past discrimination complaints against the Agriculture Department is more than just another promise.

It is a long-delayed, official recognition of the hardship many black farmers have endured for decades.

"Before, I felt like I was just a peasant here," said Head, a farmer in Brooks County, Ga., who filed a discrimination complaint over denial of loans in 1992. "Now, I feel like I'm part of America."

Head was among about two dozen farmers and members of Congress who attended a 21/2-hour meeting Wednesday with Clinton and Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman that focused on resolving a backlog of hundreds of bias complaints against the Agriculture Department and on how to improve the economic future for all small farmers.

Sen. Chuck Robb, D-Va., said Clinton listened closely and promised swift action to deal with the complaints, some of them years old.

"The president said he would do everything within his legal power and authority to resolve this situation," Robb said. "He needs to get in and put his foot on the neck of whoever is causing this problem."

Before the White House meeting, the Clinton administration said it would ask Congress in next year's budget request for increases in several lending programs totaling $590 million that are aimed at small and minority farmers. In addition, $10 million would be set aside for a program that helps train and give technical assistance to "historically underserved populations."

The backlog of complaints is the subject of a federal lawsuit, which has grown to 227 black plaintiffs, that demands $2 billion in damages from the government and seeks to represent a class of about 2,000 farm families.

A hearing is set for Friday on whether the government will agree to a mediated settlement. Agriculture Department officials say that out of nearly 1,000 unresolved complaints, fewer than 200 involve denial of farm loans.

The additional loans would enable 1,000 farmers to buy their land and 12,000 to operate their farms, Glickman said. An additional $4 million a year would be provided to Indian tribes to purchase livestock feed in bad weather.

Automakers OK plan on smog-cutting cars

WASHINGTON (AP) - General Motors and Ford say they're willing to build a car that spews out far less smog-producing emissions if Northeastern states drop their insistence that Detroit market non-polluting electric vehicles.

The companies have 60 days to decide whether to produce the vehicles, which they call national low emissions vehicles. They are watching to see whether enough states agree to the program to make them economically feasible to produce.

Dennis R. Minano, GM's vice president of public policy and chief environmental officer, said Wednesday that the program was the best way to achieve cleaner air nationwide at the lowest cost to consumers.

And Ford's Karen Holtschneider said, "For us, it reduces the complexity of manufacturing and gives us economy of scale. We need as many states as possible, but we're not putting demands on any particular states."

This week, the Environmental Protection Agency finalized the legal framework that would allow automakers and the Northeastern states to work out a plan to reduce emissions.

The voluntary plan would allow automakers to produce and sell a gas-powered automobile that would be up to 70 percent cleaner than cars currently on the road, EPA officials said.

The Clean Air Act allows states with the worst smog problems to agree to more flexible federal standards for vehicle emissions or adopt California's strict requirements for zero-emission electric vehicles.

New York and Massachusetts have adopted tough requirements similar to those in California. That plan would require the manufacture and sale of thousands of electric vehicles as well as "ultra-low" emission cars that run on natural gas.

Automakers fear other states will adopt their own laws, creating a patchwork of state rules and increasing the cost of vehicle production by creating separate markets. The auto industry claims emission reductions from vehicles can be met without having to sell electric cars in the region.

The states have 45 days to decide whether to take the deal.

PANHANDLE SALES TAX REBATES

Source: Texas Comptroller's Office

CITY	DEC. 1997	DEC. 1996	YTD 1997	YTD 1996
Amarillo	$2,804,066	$2,925,059	$37,611,600	$35,482,389
Borger	$183,604	$192,776	$2,406,006	$2,313,861
Canyon	$43,249	$46,837	$556,032	$522,600
Dalhart	$80,263	$81,575	$957,344	$907,708
Dimmit	$25,401	$26,964	$284,945	$281,989
Dumas	$70,612	$34,608	$879,321	$780,534
Friona	$21,225	$17,311	$236,889	$224,026
Lubbock	$1,836,053	$1,898,609	$24,328,525	$23,385,567
Pampa	$228,554	$247,587	$2,842,460	$2,749,471
Plainview	$252,588	$189,435	$2,584,708	$2,410,792

REBATES

From Page 1

of $164.7 million to 1,087 Texas cities and 118 counties.

"Total city and county sales tax rebates for calendar year 1997 topped $2.1 billion, and were 6.8 percent higher than total rebates for 1996, as the growth outlook for the Texas economy continues to outshine that for the nation as a whole," Sharp said.

The comptroller's office delivered December sales tax rebates to Texas cities totaling $150.6 million, 3.9 percent higher than the monthly payments of $144.9 million a year ago. Rebates of $14 million to Texas counties were 1 percent higher than allocations of $13.9 million in December 1996.

The December payments to Texas cities and counties include local sales taxes collected by monthly filers on October sales and reported to the comptroller in November.

The comptroller's next sales tax allocation is scheduled for Jan. 9, 1998.

FIX

From Page 1

boosting monthly Medicare premiums paid by higher-income older people.

The question is what will lawmakers do, and when. As deficit projections have improved, the president and Congress have less ammunition to convince voters that it is time to cut Medicare and Social Security benefits, increase recipients' costs or dramatically reshape the programs.

Just a year ago, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office foresaw a 1997 budget shortfall of $124 billion that would swell to almost $300 billion a year as aging boomers begin drawing on Social Security and Medicare.

But instead, the economy and the piles of federal revenue it is producing shrank the 1997 deficit to just $22 billion, the smallest gap in 23 years, and a balanced budget is possible for 1998. In September, the CBO predicted budget surpluses starting in 2002 approaching $100 billion annually by 2007. Long-term budget projections by Congress and the White House due early next year should be even better.

Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., a member of the Medicare commission, said he knows how to address the political problem that dwindling deficits are causing.

He said the effort to reshape Social Security must be defined as a fight to enable middle-income Americans to take advantage of the strong economy by letting them invest some of their contributions. And Medicare overhaul must be described as a campaign to prevent the rapidly growing program from crowding out other domestic programs in the budget, he said.

But many analysts said they don't expect any action until the baby boomers' retirement is much closer and the public understands the problem more - a process that may require a presidential election or two.

"The pressure is off, and the average member of Congress will look at a problem that will surge in the second decade of the next century and conclude that this is an issue for his or her successor," said Robert Reischauer, former director of the Congressional Budget Office who now studies the budget at the liberal Brookings Institution.

GAP

From Page 1

- Looking at changing incomes from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s, the report found the income gap widening in 37 states, home to 86 percent of the nation's population.

In September, the Census Bureau reported that last year, the top 20 percent of American families earned 49 percent of the money, up from 43.8 percent in 1967.

Those in the bottom 20 percent earned just 3.7 percent of the nation's income last year, down from 4 percent in 1967.

The middle 60 percent - households earning roughly $15,000 to $68,000 a year - have also lost out during this period. They used to earn 52.3 percent of the money but now take just 47.4 percent.

FUNDS

From Page 1

Laurence & Jean Ruther	100.00
Hereford Bi-Products	1,000.00
Anonymous	50.00
Hereford Cattlewomen	100.00
Ray & Virginia Kershen	50.00
In memory of Wallace Steinbruger, by Scott, Lori, Riley & Kali Hall	100.00
Anonymous	100.00
Memorial to Shiq Akagi, from Carl and Joan Strafuss	50.00
Memorial to Nancy Wilhite, by Carl and Joan Strafuss	50.00
Anonymous	50.00
M/M Richard Winget	100.00
Joan Schumacher	25.00
Walter Pentzold family	50.00
M/M Donald Meyer	100.00
Silver Screen Video	200.00
Anonymous	51.00
Ralph & Judy Dutton, in memory of Ed Bunger & Harold Kreighauser	100.00
Anonymous	50.00
Anonymous	100.00
Mrs. J.R. Allison	100.00
In loving memory of Sandy, by John, Candi, Tim Stegner and Jessica McDonald	50.00
Anonymous	20.00
Bay View Study Club	100.00
Anonymous	1,000.00
Anonymous	100.00
Mary Thomas, in memory of Wayne	100.00
TOTAL 12-17-97:	$15,877.00

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-18 CRYPTOQUOTE

M A E A Y S G X I B S S F A

N B L X S B E E Y G K J L A X . I B S

S B F Y W A S L G A M G X S F A

S L J A E Y G K J L A . — R A B L R A

A M N Y L M N B B M D A L L H

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Cable rates left alone by regulators

WASHINGTON (AP) - Cable rates are soaring and, at least for the time being, federal regulators aren't showing any interest in cracking down on the industry. Instead, they are looking to boost competition to keep rates in check.

The Federal Communications Commission in a 5-0 vote today proposed rules giving rivals such as direct-broadcast satellite providers and telephone companies greater access to cable TV programs and proposed better enforcement of existing rules to promote cable competition.

Consumer groups think more needs to be done to protect consumers from big rate hikes. They have asked the commission to freeze rates and to tighten pricing controls. The cable industry opposes both efforts.

All five FCC members, including chairman Bill Kennard, have raised concerns about rising cable prices, but none thus far has advocated either freezing cable rates or writing stiffer rate regulations.

Kennard said the FCC will look at the rate freeze request carefully. "In addition, we must explore steps that we could take to give consumers more choice," he said. Aides said Kennard has not decided on a course of action.

Commissioner Michael Powell cautioned: "Rises in cable rates should not provide an excuse to go backward on our journey to a competitive world. "Rather, we should see them as a sign that we need to accelerate our efforts to get to that competitive world as soon as possible."

The FCC also planned to hold a hearing today on cable rates and cable competition.

"You can't just wish a competitive market into place. It's not there and there is nothing that the FCC can do to make the market change overnight," said Gene Kimmelman, co-director of the Consumers Union's Washington office, who was to testify at the hearing along with Decker Anstrom, president of the National Cable Television Association.

NCTA spokeswoman Torie Clarke said that by the end of this year more than 10 million people will get television from a cable competitor - direct to home satellites, phone companies, wireless cable providers. "There is real and growing competition out there," she said.

Consumer advocates concede a rate freeze is unlikely, but they hope the FCC eventually will write tighter pricing rules. If that turns out to be the case, the agency will have to act quickly: Existing cable regulations are scheduled to expire on March 31, 1999.

Congress set the expiration date in a 1996 telecommunications bill freeing cable, local and long-distance companies to get into each others' businesses.

SALVATION ARMY NOW TAKING PLASTIC

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Hark! A 106-year-old Christmas tradition got a quiet facelift that could multiply the number of times you hear "Paper or plastic?"

The Salvation Army introduced to Pennsylvania a red kettle equipped to accept credit-card donations.

"It's a direct transaction. It's recorded. It's receipted. It's verifiable," said Gene Phillips, development director for the Salvation Army's western Pennsylvania corps, which gave the credit-card kettle its debut Wednesday.

The telephone-sized register sits atop an old-style red kettle. A credit card swiped through it provides information that the machine relays to the card issuer via cellular telephone.

Parked outside a skyscraper that houses offices, shops and fast-food restaurants, the new kettle didn't seem to get much attention. None of the shoppers passing by ventured to test the gizmo, maybe because reporters and cameras ringed it. One elderly woman did, however, slip a bill into a traditional kettle - just like old times.

CIA CLEARS ITSELF OF ROLE IN CRACK COCAINE

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) - The CIA spent a year and interviewed several hundred people before concluding it had no link to crack cocaine sales in the United States, the *San Jose Mercury News* reported today.

Former CIA Director John Deutch ordered the inquiry after an August 1996 series in the newspaper.

The series concluded that a San Francisco Bay area drug ring sold cocaine in South Central Los Angeles, then funneled profits to the Contras for the better part of a decade. The series traced the drugs to dealers who were also leaders of a CIA-run guerrilla army in Nicaragua.

NEWS in brief

CLINTON TO KEEP U.S. TROOPS IN BOSNIA

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton has decided to keep U.S. troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of a NATO-led force past next June, when their mission is set to expire, administration officials said.

Congress may have another view.

Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., a member of the Senate Appropriations defense subcommittee, said, "We've been in Bosnia a good long time already." After meeting with Clinton on the Middle East, the onetime presidential aspirant told reporters Wednesday: "I want to see what an extension will do."

Clinton planned to make an announcement on Bosnia today, but not provide details on the extended force. "That cannot be done at this point ... NATO only authorized the beginning of options preparations the day before yesterday," White House spokesman Mike McCurry said.

BOEING HIT FOR CONGESTION AT PLANTS

NEW YORK (AP) - A Federal Aviation Administration official described conditions for inspecting planes at Boeing Co. factories as "out of control," The Wall Street Journal reported today.

The commercial jet maker's drive toward a record production of planes has led air safety regulators and some Boeing employees to fear that mistakes could occur during inspections, the newspaper said.

The paper obtained the information under a Freedom of Information Act request.

In a May 21 letter to two top Boeing managers, Vi Lipsky - the FAA's Seattle manufacturing inspection manager - charged that the company's production increases and design alterations "have created an environment that is out of control, and that the FAA cannot continue to support."

The letter added that it is "imperative" that Boeing correct "flawed" inspection processes.

Ms. Lipsky wrote that the company's rapid changes in airplane design left the FAA with insufficient time to determine whether some modifications complied with regulations.

SETTLEMENT REACHED IN SUIT BY MIAMI'S HOMELESS

MIAMI (AP) - Miami's homeless residents may get as much as $1,500 apiece from the city if they can prove wrongful arrest or civil rights violations since 1984 under a proposed settlement of a landmark lawsuit.

If ratified by the federal courts, the settlement also will require special training for city police to sensitize them "to the unique struggle and circumstances of homeless persons," The Miami Herald reported today.

The settlement could cost financially strapped Miami as much as $600,000 in payments plus $900,000 in attorney fees to the American Civil Liberties Union.

The civil rights group estimates there are 5,000 homeless in the city.

In the 1988 lawsuit, the ACLU alleged that police violated constitutional rights by arresting and harassing people who slept and ate in public places. The city's practice amounted to what critics called "pest control."

People sleeping in a downtown park in 1990 were awakened and handcuffed while their personal belongings - medicine, identification, a Bible - were set on fire, according to testimony.

In 1992, Senior U.S. District Judge C. Clyde Atkins found Miami had violated the Constitution. His mandate for no-arrest "safe zones" helped inspire community leaders to establish what now stands as a nationally recognized system to help the homeless - shelter, job training, counseling and other assistance.

DEPUTY GOES FROM GRINCH TO SANTA

RACELAND, La. (AP) - Sgt. Craig Jaccuzzo took away the Christmas tree, the lights and all the trimmings. He took the baby dolls, remote control cars, fishing poles and even gift wrapping paper.

He had to. All the items - including a go-cart, television, video recorder, car stereo and other expensive gifts - had been purchased with bad checks.

Nolan "Redbean" Vedros Jr., 32, was wanted in four parishes for cashing lost or stolen checks, with forged signatures on a closed account, and using the money to buy $5,000 worth of presents for himself and the woman and children he lived with.

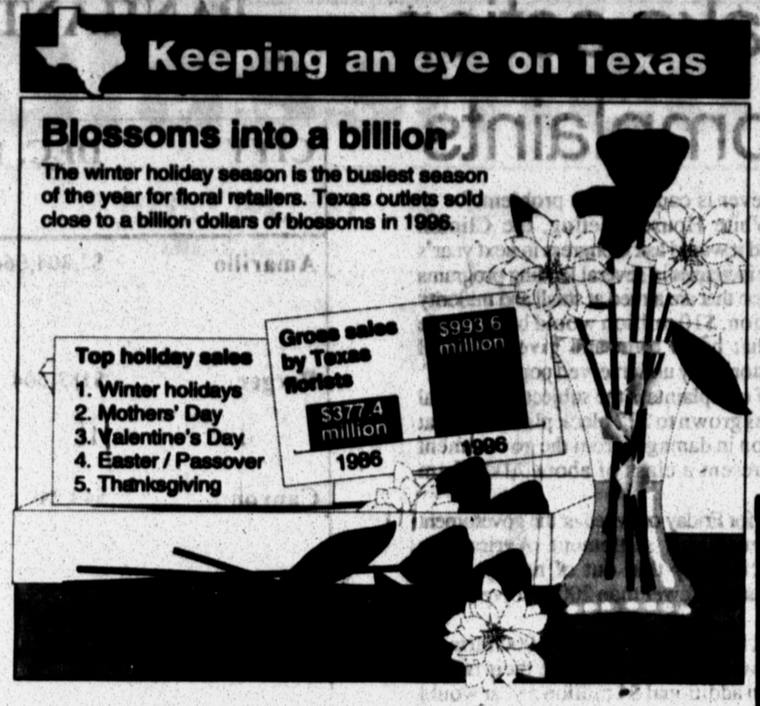
When Jaccuzzo arrived Dec. 6 at the family's mobile home, they were decorating their new tree. Boxes of new ornaments were torn open and scattered throughout the living room. Holiday music was playing.

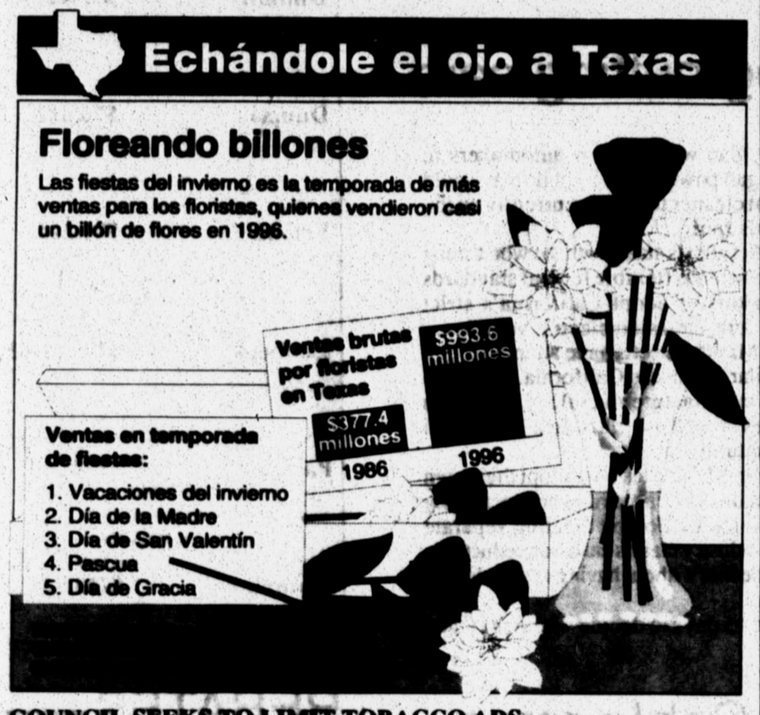
"The real Christmas spirit was going on," said Jaccuzzo, who patrols low-income housing developments in Raceland, 40 miles southwest of New Orleans.

It fell to Jaccuzzo to break the mood. He arrested Vedros on charges of forgery, theft and illegal possession of stolen property.

Then the woman began handing Jaccuzzo the gifts, saying her boyfriend bought them when he went shopping with her children - ages 12, 7 and 4.

"I felt terrible, like the Grinch," Jaccuzzo said Wednesday.





COUNCIL SEEKS TO LIMIT TOBACCO ADS

NEW YORK (AP) - Tobacco ads that loom over the city's landscape would disappear under a bill passed overwhelmingly by city lawmakers who already have banned smoking in most public places.

The bill approved Wednesday would ban outdoor tobacco advertising from within 1,000 feet of schools, playgrounds, arcades and day-care centers - in effect, most of the city.

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani has spoken favorably about the proposal but hasn't said if he will sign it into law.

The city has previously banned smoking in virtually all public places, including sports arenas, offices and most restaurants.

The new restrictions would force businesses to remove thousands of tobacco ads from billboards, water towers and store windows, dramatically reshaping the appearance of New York's streetscape.

The bill also prohibits promotions by tobacco manufacturers, such as distributing T-shirts or hats bearing cigarette brand names or logos, to anyone younger than 18.

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JURY AWARDS $12.2 MILLION TO HIV-INFECTED DOCTOR

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) - Saying she was "thrown to the wolves" with inadequate training, a doctor infected with the AIDS virus while an intern at Yale University won a $12.2 million judgment against the Ivy League school.

The woman, who sued under the pseudonym Jane Doe, blamed the school for not properly training or supervising her when she was ordered to insert a blood line into the arm of an AIDS patient.

The woman was 25 when she pricked herself in August 1988, just seven weeks into her internship at Yale-New Haven Hospital. Six weeks later, she tested positive for the AIDS virus.

"You cannot send young trainees ... out to do something that is inherently unsafe without being properly trained and supervised," she said. "My hope is that it will never happen again."

***

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—Bertrand Russell

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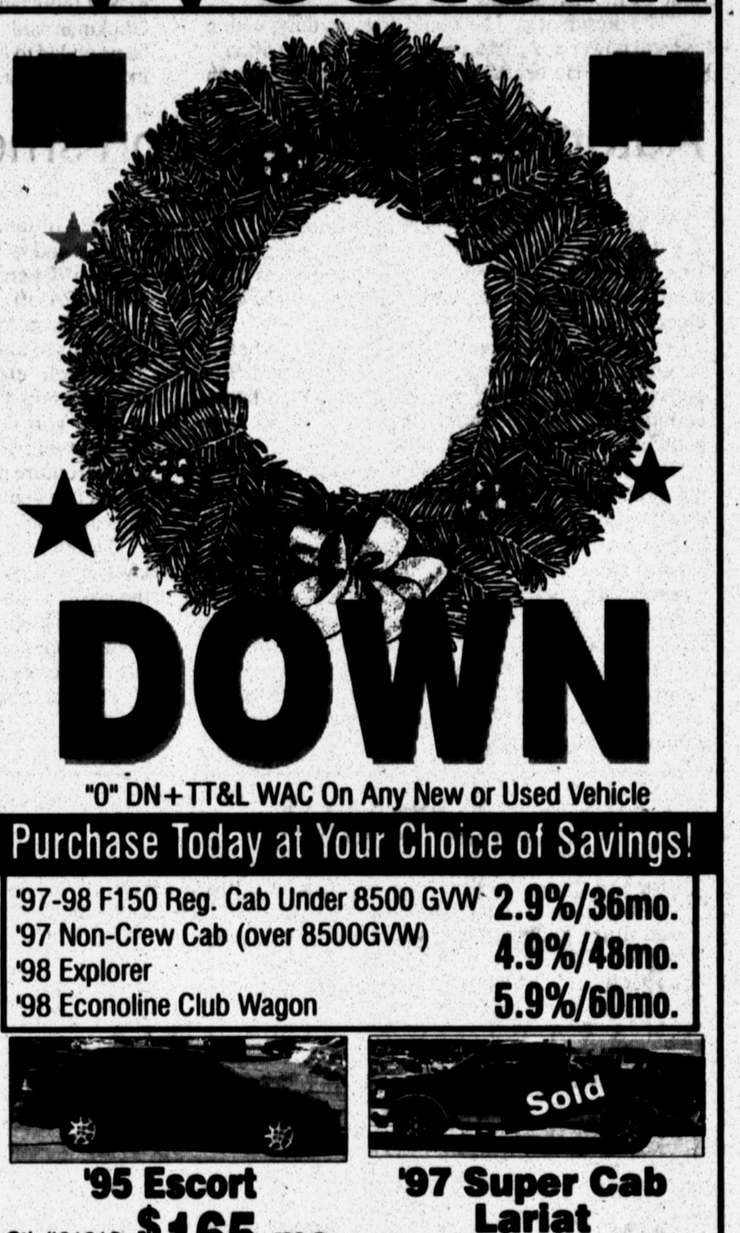
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Western

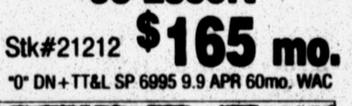


DOWN

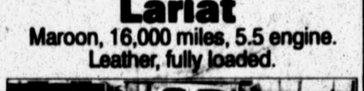
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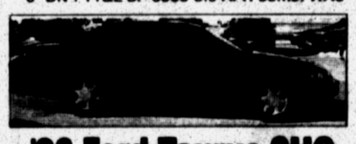
'97-98 F150 Reg. Cab Under 8500 GVW	2.9%/36mo.
'97 Non-Crew Cab (over 8500GVW)	4.9%/48mo.
'98 Explorer	
'98 Econoline Club Wagon	5.9%/60mo.



'95 Escort
Stk#21212 $165 mo.
"0" DN+TT&L SP 6995 9.9 APR 60mo. WAC



'97 Super Cab Lariat
Maroon, 16,000 miles, 5.5 engine. Leather, fully loaded.



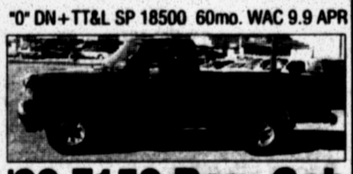
'93 Ford Taurus SHO
Stk#21335 $225 mo.
"0" DN+TT&L 8995 SP 48mo. WAC



'97 Super Cab
Stk# 21310 White $395 mo.
"0" DN+TT&L SP 18500 60mo. WAC 9.9 APR



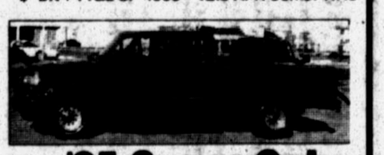
'96 Ford Tracer
Stk 30527P $188 mo.
"0" DN+TT&L SP 8995 9.9 APR 60 mo. WAC



'90 F150 Reg. Cab
Black, Low Miles, Stk#21341 $168 mo.
"0" DN+TT&L SP 4995 - 12.5 APR 36mo. WAC



'94 Taurus Wagon
Stk 30606PF $235 mo.
"0" DN+TT&L SP 10995 9.9 APR 60 mo. WAC



'95 Super Cab
24,000 Miles, Red, Fully loaded. Remote Keyless Entry



'97 Ford Mustang
Sk# 30592P $295 mo.
"0" DN+TT&L SP 13995 9.9 APR WAC



'94 S-10 Pickup
Stk# 21266 $185 mo.
"0" DN+TT&L SP 7995 - 9.9 APR 54mo. WAC



'95 Dodge Neon
Stk#21354 $165 mo.
"0" DN+TT&L SP 6995 60 mo. WAC



'97 Chevy Silverado
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