



LOCAL/STATE

Let there be light

MFD expecting second thermal camera as the first proves its value in the field. The camera works on the darkest of nights and turns the blackest of passages light./1B



SPORTS

Chan called it

Back in July, Chan Gailey said the Cowboys would be playing in January. He kept referring to the team as "the 1998-99 Dallas Cowboys."/1C

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TRC seat filled by former Midlander

Midland native Michael L. Williams, a former federal prosecutor now living in Arlington, was appointed by Texas Gov. George W. Bush to the Railroad Commission. Williams replaces Carole Keeton Rylander, who was elected state comptroller.



AP Photo

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Midland native Michael L. Williams was appointed Monday to the Railroad Commission by Gov. George W. Bush.

Now an Arlington resident, where he serves as general counsel to a Richardson telecommunications company, Williams will be the first African-American to serve on the three-member commission and will succeed Carole Keeton Rylander, who was elected Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. The appointment must be confirmed by the Texas Senate but Williams said he expects to be sworn in January 4.

"It is obviously a great honor and I am tru-

ly flattered," said Williams, the son of two teachers.

He continued, "I also recognize that I have a significant learning curve and I will devote my time and energy to learning the job."

Williams said that being raised in Midland, a stronghold of the Texas oil industry, has instilled "a tremendous amount of respect for the men and women of the industry, of the value of the industry to the state and to the nation and for the culture of hard work embodied by those in the industry. I have to commit myself to working hard on their behalf."

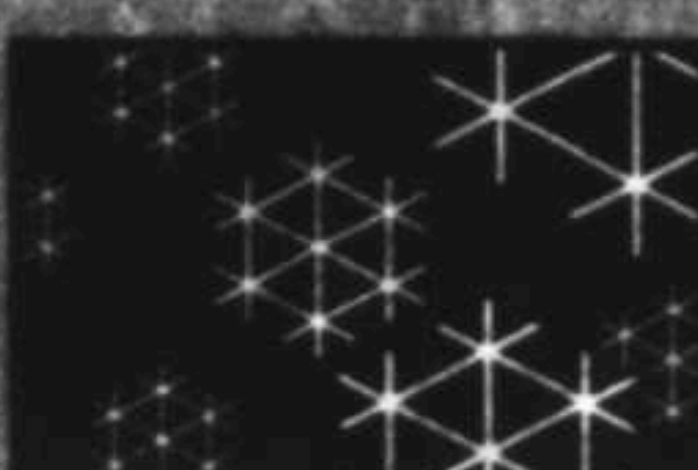
Grant Billingsley, manager of public affairs for Wagner & Brown Ltd., and an acquaint-

Please see TRC/4A

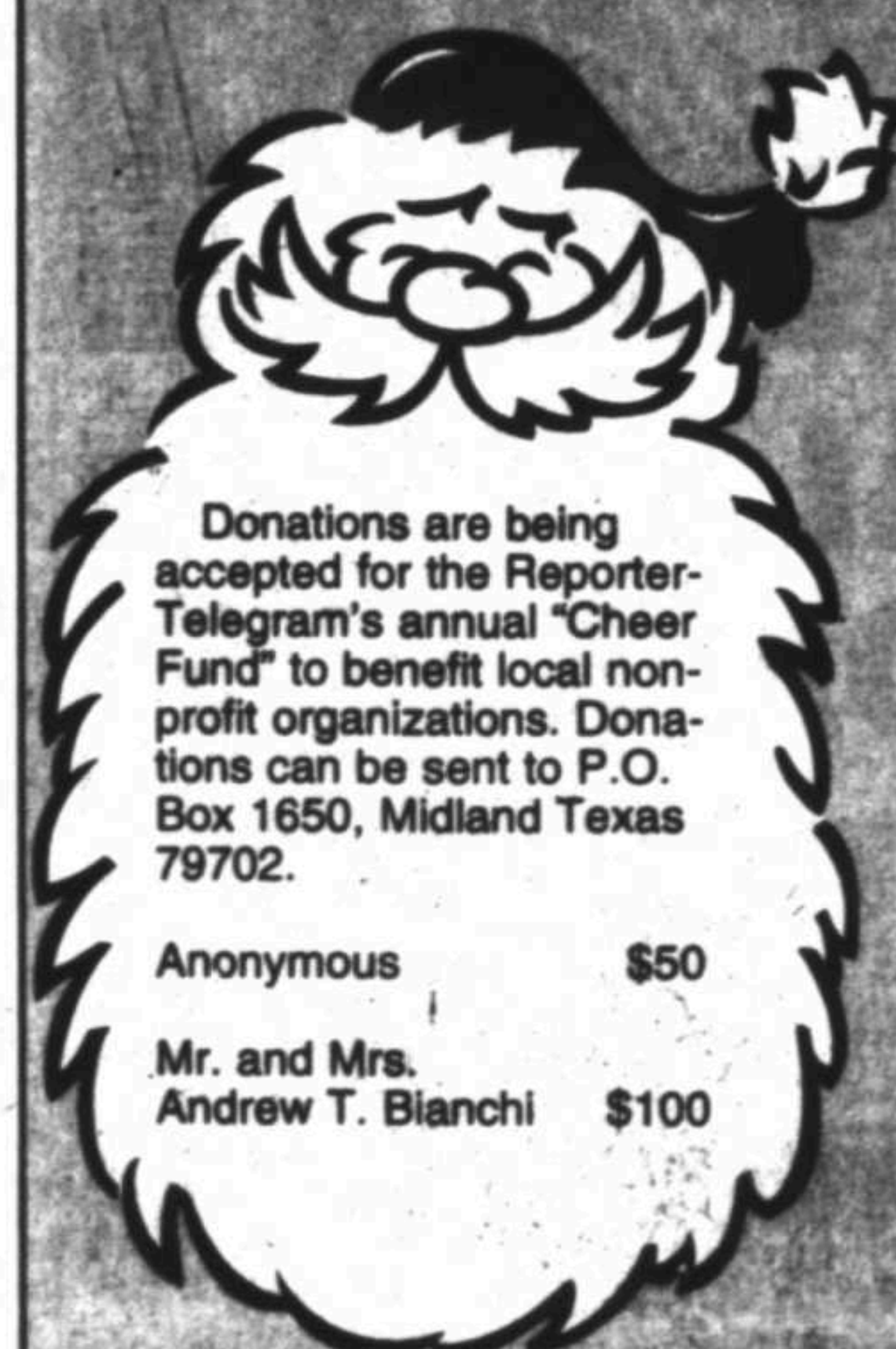
A.M. BRIEFING

TODAY

Flurries with a high in the upper 20s. Weather on 4A



Cheer Fund



Donations are being accepted for the Reporter-Telegram's annual "Cheer Fund" to benefit local non-profit organizations. Donations can be sent to P.O. Box 1650, Midland Texas 79702.

Anonymous \$50
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew T. Bianchi \$100

Impeachment

WASHINGTON — Senate officials dusted off 130-year old impeachment procedures Monday, studying how to conduct a trial for President Clinton, even as Al Gore urged former Senate colleagues to find "a fair bipartisan compromise" to end up with censure. While the vice president continued to make his case, Senate officials moved ahead with consideration of procedures originally written for the Andrew Johnson trial in 1868.

Story page 4B

LHS parade

A parade to honor the Lee High School football team is already being planned, although no firm date has been set. Mayor Bobby Burns is speculating that the first day of the next semester, Jan. 4, would be a good day for the celebration, but will be coordinating with school officials, Lee boosters, the Police Department and other groups over the next two weeks. "That way we could kick off the new year with a lot of fun," Burns said. Planning is just beginning with Burns and Lee Principal George Cooper getting the process started.

Gary Ott:

Jerry Seinfeld may be right: We should wear uniforms.

Page 1B

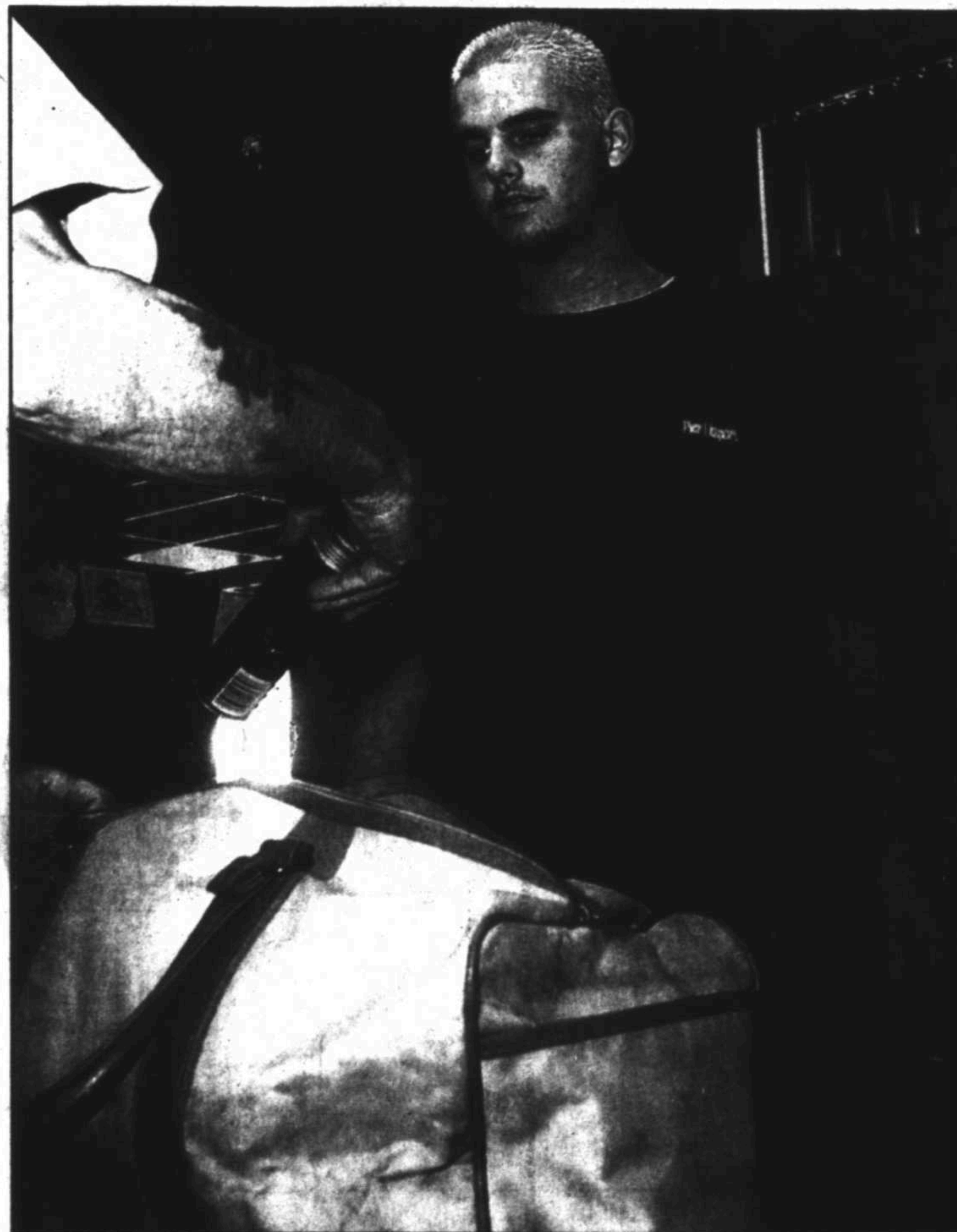


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Plane truth about holiday travel



Travelers taking carry-ons may find no room in the bin

By Meta Minton
Staff Writer

Airports across the nation will be overflowing with holiday travelers this week as airlines are shoring up efforts to stop the tidal wave of carry-on luggage.

"Some people bring two weeks' worth of clothing onboard and try to call it carry-on luggage," said Jane Overstreet, owner of Envoye Travel in Midland. "It's frustrating for your fellow passengers."

The rule of thumb is that your piece of carry-on luggage should be able to fit underneath the seat in front of you, Overstreet said. At most airlines, a display bin is set up in the gate

Please see BAGS/4A

'Some people bring two weeks' worth of clothing onboard and try to call it carry-on luggage. It's frustrating for your fellow travelers.'

— Jane Overstreet, Envoye Travel

Getting to the airport may be all travelers want for Christmas

By Daniel Arp
Staff Writer

Season travelers shouldn't start singing "I'll be home for Christmas" just yet. More apropos might be the refrain, "I'll be waiting."

Travel agents and airport and traffic officials anticipate busy days ahead for the Christmas and New Year's holidays — but that's nothing new.

Deena Szymanski, manager of Midland Travel and a travel agent for 13 years, said in her experience Christmas is even busier than Thanksgiving.

"I think more people travel on Christmas than Thanksgiving," she said. At the same time, there's still a chance this week even for late holiday travel shoppers.

"Right now, there are lots of seats available on the 24th," she said.

The tightest travel date, said Szymanski, would be the Sunday after New Year's, Jan. 3, when a lot of people — including students — would be coming back from extended holiday vacations. Many of the Jan. 3 flights are already fully booked.

"If you're flexible with your dates you shouldn't have a problem," she said.

She added, however, that late comers may have a problem if their pockets aren't especially deep. Ms. Szymanski estimated travelers could expect to pay three or even four times as much this week as they would have had they booked in early November.

"You can get a ticket the day you want to go — you're just going to be paying a higher fare," she said.

Once travelers secure their tickets, the job is far from done. There's still the matter of getting to the airport without getting in an accident or being handed a ticket.

"We consider this 'Operation Holiday,'" said John Barton, a trooper with the Department of Public Safety. "All available troop-

Please see TRAVEL/4A

Josh Kerns, a Midlander bound for Columbus, Ohio, watches as his carry-on bag is searched at Midland International Airport Monday.

Brian Adamcik/Reporter-Telegram

Arctic front announces winter, could bring white Christmas

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

Freezing Arctic winds broke through the Great Plains and into Midland just in time for winter's official start on Monday, and the 1998 Christmas season's first hard freeze.

"This is our first Arctic air mass (of late 1998)," said meteorologist Eric Platt of the National Weather Service at Midland International Airport. "It should go through Christmas day" on Friday when a wintry mix of light snow or freezing drizzle may lace the landscape.

Motorists traveling the highways and byways during the Christmas season may anticipate snow- or sleet-slickened roads and especially overpasses and bridges until the cold Arctic air passes on and warms

Please see WEATHER/4A

Gift from auxiliary helps bring safer, faster breast cancer test to hospital

By Gary Shanks
Staff Writer

Thanks to the Memorial Hospital and Medical Center Auxiliary, new computerized, three-dimensional positioning technology is allowing physicians to test for breast cancer faster and safer.

The auxiliary supplied a whopping \$198,000 toward the purchase of a \$216,000 computerized needle biopsy machine that can sample tiny masses to determine malignancy — causing very little damage to the breast, said Margaret Robinson, vice president of Patient Care Services at MHMC.

Last week, auxiliary president Nada Loper handed over a check for almost \$200,000 to the MHMC

board of directors, who had asked them to help raise funds to purchase the new machine.

"It's the single largest donation the auxiliary has ever given to the hospital," said Kim Modisett. As director of volunteers for MHMC, Ms. Modisett works closely with the auxiliary members.

"We knew we could count on them — they have got a good, strong track record," Ms. Robinson said.

The news that an unidentified mass has been found in a breast is a great shock to a woman, and this new biopsy machine can shorten the agonizing wait for a diagnosis.

"It's an emotional roller coaster until they find out that it isn't cancer ... and if it is cancer, we can begin

Please see HOSPITAL/4A



Debra Daily, a radiologist technician at Allison Women's Imaging Center, works at a new machine that will be used to test for breast cancer.

Curt Wilcott/Reporter-Telegram

Opposition gathering forces against Netanyahu

By Ron Kampeas
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — With Benjamin Netanyahu's closest allies all but conceding defeat in a planned vote on his peace policies, the prime minister's opponents on the left and right planned Sunday for an expected election campaign.

The prime minister will ask parliament in a vote Monday to support conditions he has demanded of the Palestinians before Israel carries out any further pullback from the West Bank, according to the U.S.-brokered Wye River peace accords.

If he does not succeed — a near certainty as Netanyahu's coalition continues to disintegrate — he has said he will go to early elections.

"The big question is not whether or not the early elections law will pass tomorrow, the question is how long it will be before they take place," said Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav, a member of Netanyahu's Likud party and a close ally.

Katsav said he was plotting a campaign against Israel's former armed forces chief, Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, whom he considers the likeliest opposition candidate.

Shahak, who has been on leave since stepping down as military chief in July, would announce his retirement from the military once elections were called, Israel radio reported Sunday.

Netanyahu's Cabinet on Sunday approved his conditions for resuming Israel's compliance with the accords. He says the conditions are necessary because the Palestinians have not met their obligations under the agreement.

The conditions, published by Netanyahu's office, include:

- The collection of illegally held weapons.

- A renunciation by the Palestinian leadership of the intention to unilaterally declare independence by May and of claims to make Jerusalem its capital.

- Recognition that Israel never promised to release prisoners jailed for killing.

- A stop to violence and incitement to violence.

A fifth condition reported by Israeli media — that the Palestinians reduce their police force — did not appear in the final published list.

The Palestinians, who say they have complied with the accord, derided the conditions.

"We have nothing to do with these five points, this is an election campaign," said Ahmed Abdel Ruhman, the secretary of the Palestinian cabinet.

Israeli media reports say Shahak might opt to head a centrist list. Polls have shown that it would likely push Labor Party

leader Ehud Barak out of the race in the first round of voting and lead to a run-off between Netanyahu and Shahak.

Barak, whose party began the Israel-Palestinian peace process in 1993, appeared concerned by the prospect of a Shahak bid.

"I feel it's an unnecessary division of strengths, there is no 'third way,'" he told Israel TV.

Little is known of Shahak's policies. As a soldier, he is prohibited from expressing an opinion, but his deep involvement in the peace talks suggests he is a moderate who favors territorial concessions.

Netanyahu has already lost the confidence of the ministers who back the accord. And hard-liners in Netanyahu's coalition who oppose further concessions to the Palestinians said they would field their own candidate.

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Iraq: Bombing destroyed missile plants, killed 62 soldiers

By Louis Meixler
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi officials confirmed Monday that U.S.-British airstrikes killed 62 soldiers, demolished key missile factories and severed phone lines, acknowledging Western damage estimates while claiming large numbers of civilians also died.

Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz said civilian casualties were "much, much higher," but refused to give details. Iraq earlier said that 42 people were killed in the four nights of airstrikes.

The attacks targeted key military bases, government buildings, communication centers and factories that could be used to manufacture weapons of mass destruction.

U.S. Marine Corps Gen. Anthony Zinni said in Washington on Monday that the strikes hit 85 percent of their targets, 74 percent of them successfully. He said damage assessment from the series of cruise missile and bombing attacks is still ongoing and will probably take a few more days.

Iraq says the missiles also struck colleges, post offices, dormitories, a museum and an oil refinery.

"They want to ... strip Iraq of any serious industrial capabilities," Aziz said. "This is a policy of hatred."

But he added that the United States and Britain failed to seriously harm the Iraqi government or military.

"They boasted of great success. ... They lied," Aziz said at a news conference in Baghdad.

Iraqi authorities have not taken foreign journalists to sites where they say there were significant civilian casualties as they have in the past — a likely indication that civilian casualties either were not high or were scattered.

The Republican Guard, the country's elite fighting force and a main target of the attacks, lost 20 soldiers, he said.

Eighteen soldiers of the Special Republican Guard and 24 soldiers in other branches of the military were also killed, he said. A total of 180 soldiers were injured, he said.

But most of the strikes hit empty barracks, Aziz said, adding that "these barracks could be and will be rebuilt."

In London, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said the airstrikes have set back parts of Iraq's "military infrastructure several years."

A spokesman for Blair, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the targets included 20 command and control facilities and nine sites linked to the Republican Guard.

Aziz confirmed Monday that the strikes, which devastated telephone centers in the southern city of Basra, has severely disrupted communication between the largely Shiite Muslim south and the predominantly Sunni Muslim north of the country.

The south rose in rebellion following the 1991 Gulf War, but the uprising was crushed by troops loyal to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Aziz dismissed claims that the recent attacks could lead to another rebellion.

"They thought, foolishly, that when they sent a few hundred missiles against Iraq that the people of Iraq would rise up against their lead-

ership," he said. "This is fantasy."

The attacks heavily damaged factories that could be used to produce weapons of mass destruction or long-range missiles.

Those sites included the al-Nasser factory in Taji, 40 miles north of Baghdad and the al-Nida factory, south of the capital, Iraqi officials said.

Both factories produced short-range missiles that are not banned by U.N. resolutions.

U.N. weapons monitors closely monitor both factories to ensure that they are not used to build components for rockets with ranges beyond 90 miles.

Iraqi officials, speaking on customary condition of anonymity, said the speed of the attacks took them by surprise and workers did not have enough time to remove crucial equipment.

The United States and Britain began the attacks shortly after chief U.N. weapons inspector Richard Butler accused Iraq of failing to fully cooperate with the inspectors — who are responsible for dismantling Iraq's programs to build chemical, biological or nuclear weapons.

Aziz reiterated Monday that Baghdad will not allow the monitors to return.

"The weapons inspectors were killed by the American missiles," he said. "I cannot give them another life."

He added that the United States and Britain must be condemned and held accountable for the attack, and said U.N. sanctions imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait must be lifted.

"Without that, it would be difficult for Iraq to talk," he said.

Honest, officer, it was a wallaby

TAMWORTH, England (AP) — Kevin Fisher swore he hadn't been drinking when he told police he spotted a wallaby under a lamppost in the central England city of Tamworth.

"Mr. Fisher couldn't believe his eyes and sounded quite shaken. He swore blind he was still sober," an unidentified police spokesman told Press Association, the British news

agency. "Luckily, we took him seriously," the spokesman said. "Though at first we were tempted to tell him to hop it."

The wallaby, a member of the kangaroo family native to Australia, had escaped from a nearby zoo, where it was called "Willy." It was captured Saturday after Fisher's tip.

Lockerbie residents pay tribute to Pan Am 103 victims

LOCKERBIE, Scotland (AP) — To the mournful lament of bagpipes and prayers of healing, the people of Lockerbie paid tribute to the 270 people killed 10 years ago Monday, when a bomb hidden in a suitcase sent Pan Am Flight 103 crashing down on this Scottish town.

The hundreds who packed Dryfesdale Parish Church heard messages from British Prime Minister Tony Blair and President Clinton, who renewed their vows to punish the culprits of the Dec. 21, 1988, blast.

But they also heard quiet sobs that echoed throughout the century-old church as several moments of silence were observed before the bagpiper blew his lament.

"In the lives that were lost, some very young, there was meaning and achievement," the Rev. David Almond told the gathering of about 600 people, including 60 relatives of those who perished. "Our task in commemoration is to continue that meaning and to build on that achievement."

The congregation heard the children of the local elementary school sing a tribute, "Let There Be Love," as well as a message from Queen Elizabeth II.

"We pray on this anniversary that the families will find solace together in quiet remembrance across the

world," the queen's message said.

In a separate service in London's Westminster Abbey, attended by Blair, Foreign Secretary Robin Cook and the queen's second son, Prince Andrew, hundreds listened as, one-by-one, the names of the 259 passengers and crew and 11 of Lockerbie's own residents were read and a candle was lit for each.

The service began at 7:03 p.m. local time (2:03 p.m. EST), the moment when the plane disappeared from the radar screen above Scotland. Simultaneous services were held at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia and in Syracuse, N.Y., which lost 35 college students in the crash.

"This was a very positive, emotional day," Bert Ammerman of River Vale, N.J., whose brother, Thomas, died in the crash, said after the service in Lockerbie. He said the people of Lockerbie have "proven over the past 10 years that good intentions can overcome evil."

Earlier in the day, Prince Philip, the queen's husband, laid a wreath in Lockerbie's cemetery, where the town's Roman Catholic parish priest at the time of the crash spoke to about 200 victims' relatives and townspeople about the "ticking bomb" of justice.

"Ten years ago, for you and for us, a bomb was ticking," the Rev.

Pat Keegans told the crowd, many of them visibly moved. "Be assured of this — there is another bomb ticking — the irresistible bomb of justice and truth."

"Be certain that our wreath-laying today is not a symbolic gesture. It is a declaration that we will not rest until we have justice and truth, until all who are responsible for your deaths are held accountable," he said.

Two Libyan suspects have been indicted in connection with the bombing, but have not yet been turned over for trial. Last week, Libya's Parliament gave its conditional approval for a trial in the Netherlands by a Scottish court, but said some obstacles remained.

The plane had just reached its cruising altitude of 31,000 feet, 42 minutes after taking off from London's Heathrow Airport for New York, when it exploded in the night

sky. The aircraft was felled by a small amount of high explosives smuggled in a portable radio hidden inside a suitcase, which made its way as checked baggage from Malta to Frankfurt, Germany, and then to London.

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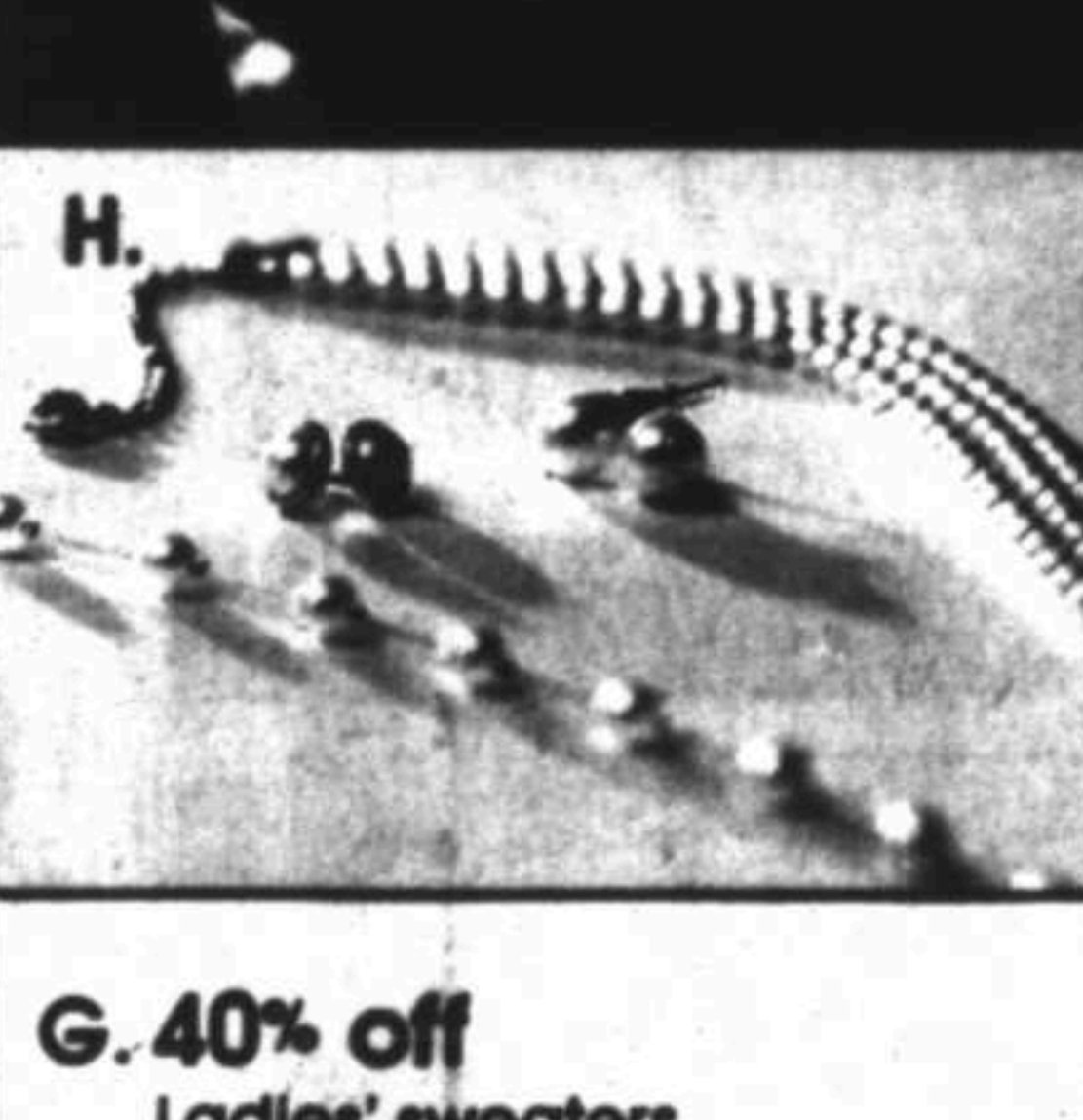
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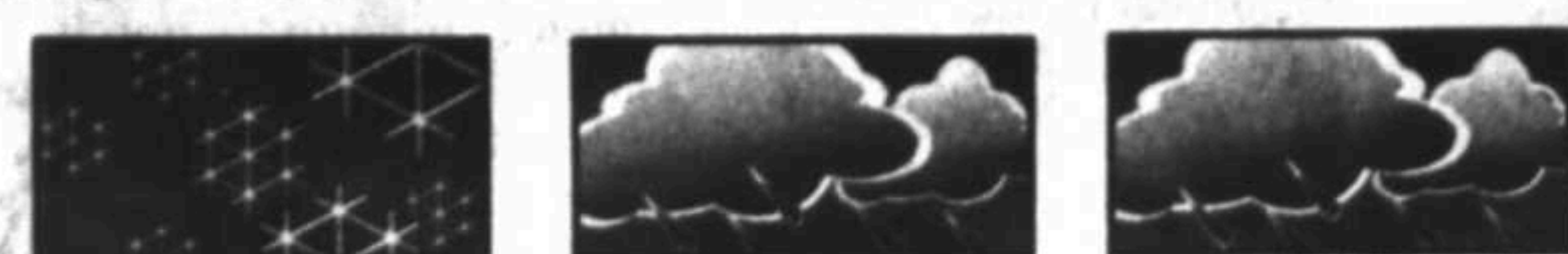
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WEATHER

Midland forecast

3-day forecast



Today
Flurries
High 28
Low 23

Wednesday
Freezing drizzle
High 29
Low 22

Thursday
Freezing drizzle
High 30
Low 23

The meteorologist at the National Weather Service at Midland International Airport is calling for cloudy skies today with snow flurries, high temperatures into the upper 20s, and easterly to southeasterly winds at 5 to 15 mph.

The low temperature tonight is to be in the low to mid-20s as snow flurries and light freezing rain may lace the landscape.

Monday's peak temperature was 66 degrees, and the low temperature was 18 degrees. The Arctic air mass moved in about 1 p.m. Monday and plunged the "steadily dropping" temperatures to 18 degrees near midnight.

The record high temperature for Dec. 21 is 81 degrees in 1981, and the date's overnight record low temperature is 8 degrees in 1989.

The record high temperature for Dec. 22 is 79 degrees in 1983, and the record low is 4 degrees in 1989.

Yesterday's precipitation
Rainfall Monday 0.01 in.
Rainfall Sunday 0.00 in.
Total for month 0.59 in.
Total for year 5.15 in.
Normal total yr to date 14.80 in.

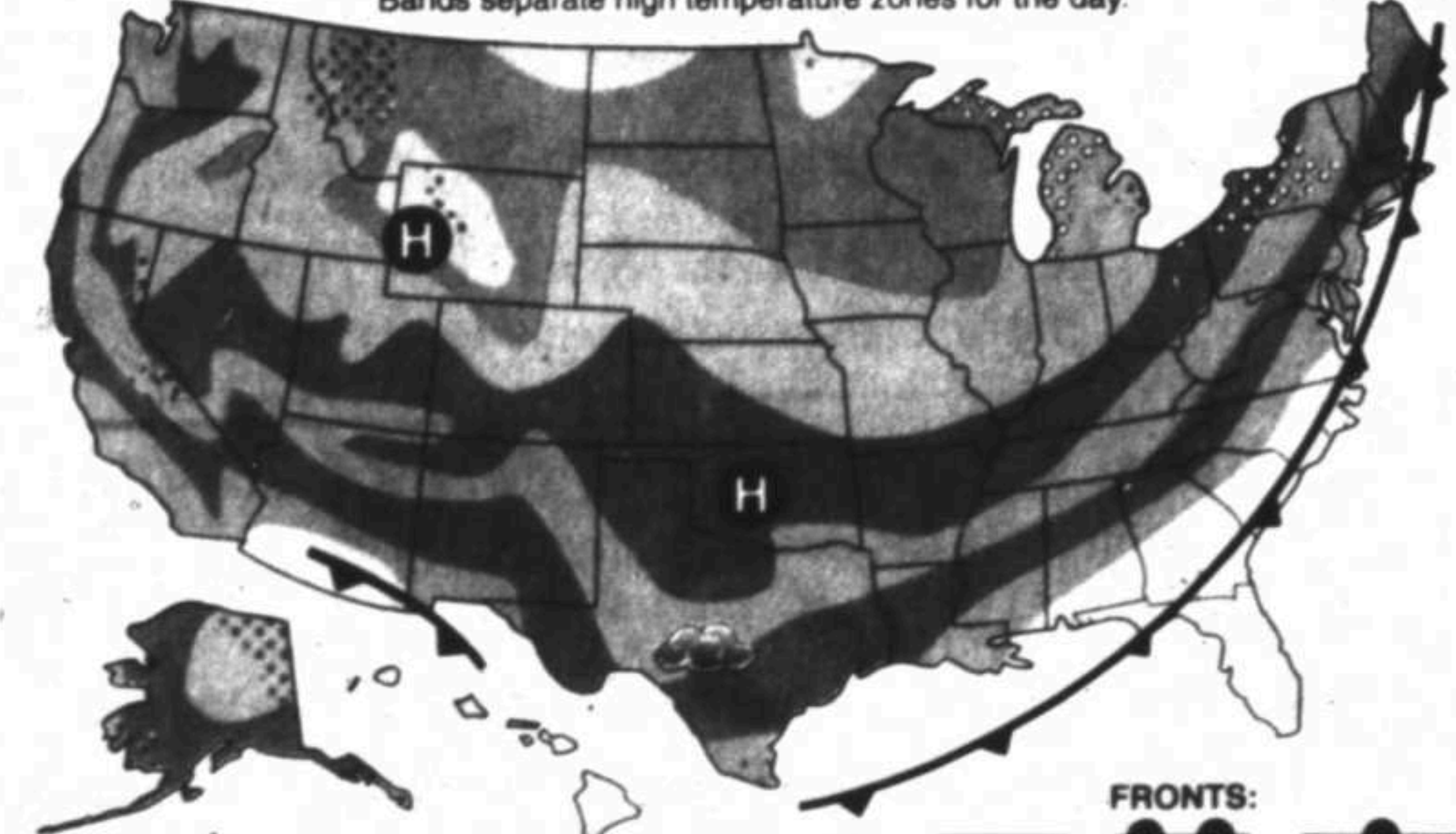
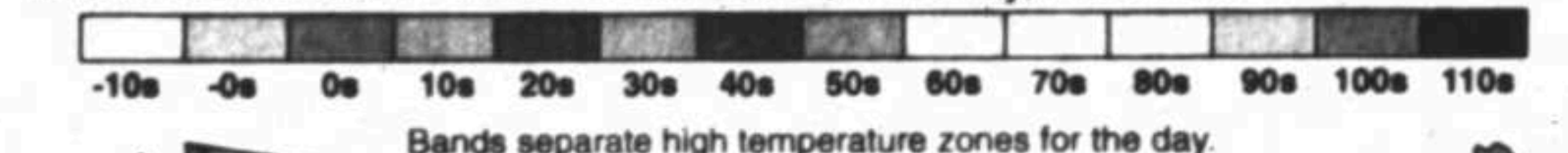
Yesterday's temperatures
High 66
Low 18
Normal high 57
Normal low 30

Pollen count
Trees: Low Weeds: Absent
Grass: Absent Molds: Low
Dust: Low
Courtesy: John D. Bray, MD.

Sunrise ... 7:45 a.m.
Sunset ... 5:49 p.m.

National forecast

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Tuesday, Dec. 22.

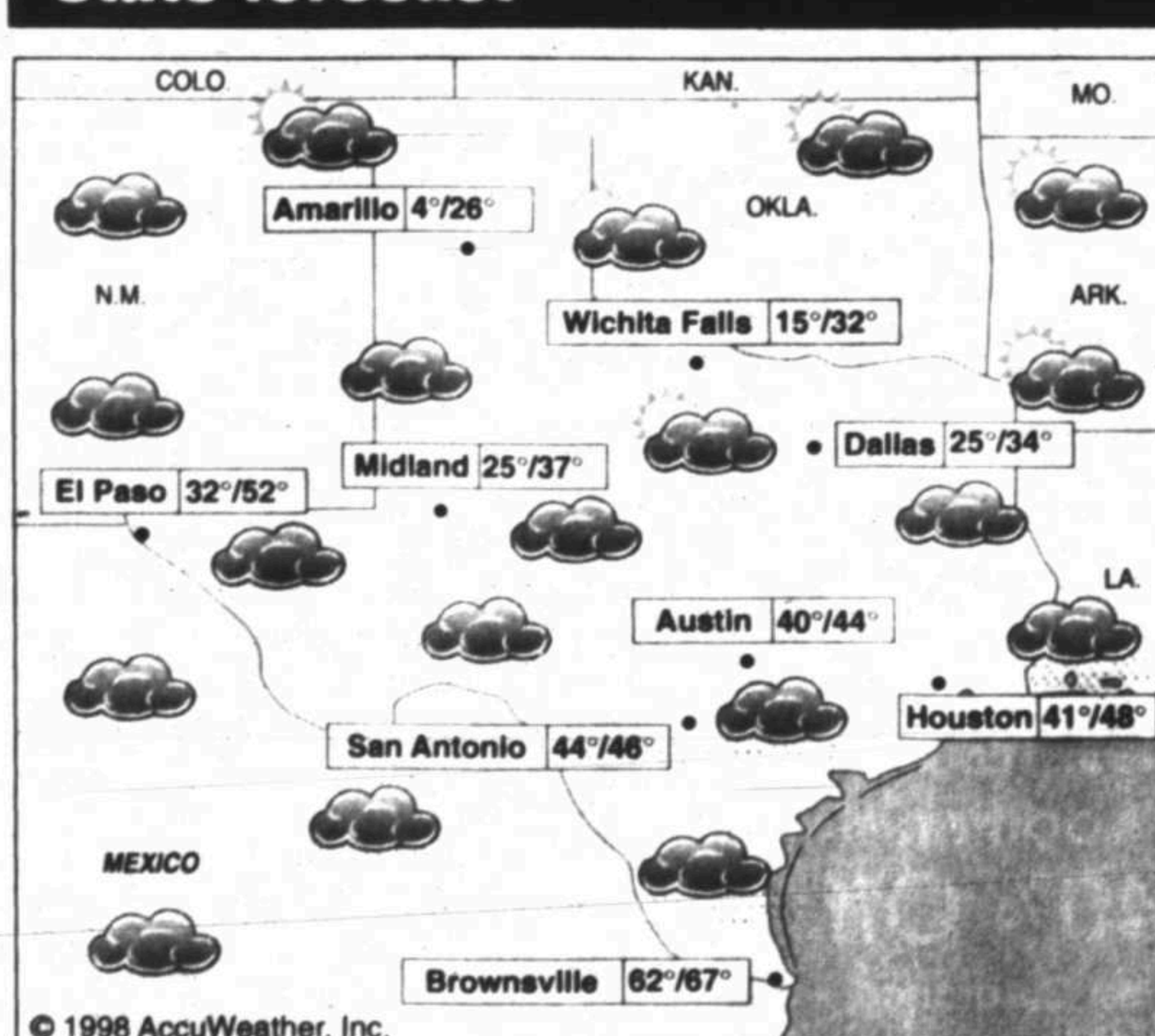


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Pressure: High Low Showers Rain T-storms Flurries Snow Ice Sunny Pt. Cloudy Cloudy
As Associated Press

United States temperatures

Temperature indicates previous day's high and overnight low to 7:00 p.m. EST	Hi	Lo	Prc	Obs	City	Hi	Lo	Prc	Obs	City
Albany, N.Y.	46	29	0.03	cr	Hartford, Conn.	40	38	01	cr	Portland, Me.
Albuquerque	44	36	0.01	cr	Helena	40	21	01	cr	Portland, Ore.
Anchorage	23	15	0.01	cr	Honolulu	81	71	01	cr	Portland, Tenn.
Asheville	65	48	0.01	cr	Indianapolis	45	44	01	cr	Providence
Atlanta	73	54	0.06	cr	Jackson, Miss.	78	61	01	cr	Raleigh-Durham
Atlantic City	56	39	0.01	cr	Jacksonville	78	54	01	cr	Reno
Baltimore	54	44	0.01	cr	Kansas City	24	16	01	cr	Richmond
Birmingham	67	58	0.01	cr	Las Vegas	42	37	01	cr	San Antonio
Bismarck	1	9	0.01	cr	Little Rock	72	47	06	cr	San Diego
Boise	13	0	0.01	cr	Los Angeles	54	42	01	cr	San Francisco
Boston	46	39	0.01	cr	Louisville	55	47	01	cr	Salt Lake City
Brownsville	83	72	0.01	cr	Memphis	59	57	03	cr	San Jose
Buffalo	50	32	0.01	cr	Miami Beach	82	71	01	cr	Seattle
Burlington, Vt.	42	23	0.02	cr	Milwaukee	25	25	02	cr	Spokane
Casper	1	25	0.01	cr	Minneapolis	3	0	01	cr	St. Paul
Charleston, S.C.	74	52	0.01	cr	Mpls-St. Paul	3	0	01	cr	Tampa
Charleston, W. Va.	68	43	0.01	cr	Nashville	69	48	01	cr	Tempe
Charlotte, N.C.	71	47	0.01	cr	New Orleans	79	66	01	cr	Tucson
Cheyanne	4	10	0.01	cr	New York City	45	45	01	cr	Vallejo
Chicago	32	32	0.01	cr	Norfolk, Va.	61	51	01	cr	Vancouver
Cincinnati	60	45	0.01	cr	North Platte	4	0	01	cr	Vancouver
Cleveland	52	40	0.01	cr	Okla. City	25	24	01	cr	Vancouver
Columbia, S.C.	76	57	0.01	cr	Omaha	11	6	02	cr	Vancouver
Columbia, Mo.	57	45	0.01	cr	Orlando	84	62	01	cr	Vancouver
Concord, N.H.	30	27	0.01	cr	Philadelphia	58	46	01	cr	Vancouver
Dayton	56	43	0.01	cr	Pittsburgh	55	44	01	cr	Vancouver
Denver	3	4	0.01	cr	Portland, Me.	29	25	01	cr	Vancouver
Des Moines	12	6	0.01	cr	Portland, Ore.	23	16	01	cr	Vancouver
Detroit	43	35	0.01	cr	Providence	47	39	01	cr	Vancouver
Duluth	2	7	0.01	cr	Raleigh-Durham	65	46	01	cr	Vancouver
Evansville	55	47	0.01	cr	Reno	17	0	01	cr	Vancouver
Fairbanks	12	0	0.01	cr	Richmond	57	38	01	cr	Vancouver
Fargo	0	13	0.01	cr	San Antonio	41	29	01	cr	Vancouver
Flagstaff	29	20	0.01	cr	San Diego	55	48	01	cr	Vancouver
Grand Rapids	34	29	0.01	cr	San Francisco	43	33	01	cr	Vancouver
Great Falls	4	17	0.01	cr						

State forecast



© 1998 AccuWeather, Inc.
Sunny Pt. Cloudy Cloudy Showers T-storms Rain Flurries Snow Ice

Texas temperatures

By The Associated Press
Monday
Highest temperature last 12 hours, lowest past 18 hours and precipitation for 24 hours ending at 6 p.m. CST

City	Hi	Lo	Pcp
Abilene	80	20	0.01
Amarillo	19	7	0.01
Arlington	77	59	0.01
Austin	77	59	0.01
Beaumont	77	59	0.01
Brewster	77	59	0.01
College Station	77	59	0.01
Corpus Christi	77	59	0.01
Dallas	77	59	0.01
Del Rio	77	59	0.01
Denton	77	59	0.01

City	Hi	Lo	Pcp
DFW Airport	55	27	0.01
El Paso	55	27	0.01
Houston	79	63	0.01
Houston Hobby	79	63	0.01
Killebrew	79	63	0.01
Longview	79	63	0.01
Lubbock	79	63	0.01
Marfa	79	63	0.01
McAllen	79	63	0.01
McKinney	79	63	0.01
Mineral Wells	79	63	0.01
Navy Corps	79	63	0.01
New Braunfels	79	63	0.01
Palacios	79	63	0.01

TRC: Former prosecutor named to commission

(From 1A)

tance of Williams, said "I think Michael will make an excellent commissioner. He is intelligent, articulate and an independent thinker who will give his all to the work of the commission. Midlanders should be pleased and I think the industry will grow to appreciate Michael's abilities very quickly."

Morris Burns, executive vice president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, said he was not personally acquainted with Williams but "everything

I've heard about him is good. My understanding is he's a quick learner."

Burns said he was discussing Williams with Railroad Commission member Charles Matthews, who was very complimentary. He added that Williams' name came up very late in the nominating process.

"We haven't had anyone with a strong background in the oil and gas industry since Bill Murray was on the commission," Burns said. "We want someone on the commission who will be fair and work with the industry and with Matthews and (incoming mem-

ber) Tony Garza."

In addition to his work as general counsel to the telecommunications firm, Williams is chairman of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and general counsel to the State Republican Executive Committee. He said he plans to resign both posts when he joins the Railroad Commission.

He was a federal prosecutor from 1980 to 1984, was named special assistant to the attorney general at the U.S. Department of Justice in 1989 and appointed assistant secretary for civil rights in 1990 by President Bush.

Williams said his regulatory,

public policy and legal background will benefit him in his work on the commission.

"The ability look at regulations and see how they adversely impact industry players, to analyze policy and design policy that's beneficial to industry players, that's a valuable tool whether it's energy or other industry," he said.

He said he is excited about his new post and looking forward to the new challenge.

The seat will be on the general election ballot in the year 2000 and Williams said he intends to run for the post.

TRAVEL: Traffic patrols to be out in force

(From 1A)

ers will be out in force."

These troopers will focus especially on three areas of enforcement: DWI, speeding and safety belts. The thinking, Barton said, is that a "high visibility enforcement" will encourage drivers to obey the laws. "Operation Holiday" will run from Dec. 24 to 27 this year.

The Midland Police Department will also be beefing up traffic

patrols, adding two DWI officers on the evenings of Christmas Eve and Christmas, said Sgt. Ernest Wakefield.

Statewide, the DPS projects 36 people could die in traffic accidents over the Christmas holiday. Last year, there were 39 fatal accidents and 47 deaths. Nine of those accidents were DWI related.

There are no projections for Midland specifically.

"It's really hard to say," said

Barton. "There may be years where we don't have any, and other years we may have two."

Barton suggested those planning to drink this holiday weekend should assign a designated driver, and all others should drive with special caution.

At the airport, travelers can expect no respite from the heavy traffic.

The busiest days leading up to Christmas should be the two days before, said Ken Day, director of

airports.

"You've got to gear up for both Wednesday and Thursday," he said, because with Christmas falling on a Friday this year many people will be taking off mid-week for the extended weekend.

Day said all skycaps will be on duty Dec. 23 and 24 to transport travelers from the parking lot to the terminal.

BAGS: Travelers may find no room in the bin

(From 1A)

area to show the exact size of the luggage that will be allowed on the plane with a passenger.

With the Christmas holiday, many travelers will be carrying extra packages and gifts either when arriving or departing.

It only serves to complicate the already confusing carry-on formula.

Rules can vary from airline to airline.

"The airlines would prefer that the Federal Aviation Administration come up with some standardized regulation for carry-ons. Right now there are too many questions like 'Is my purse count-

ed as a carry-on item?' or 'Is my laptop computer counted as a carry-on item?'" said Ken Day, director of airports for the city of Midland.

Flights are going to be very full and overhead bins will be stuffed during the holidays and travel agents are warning that the airlines will not let passengers bend the rules on carry-ons.

"My advice to people is to carry a bigger bag like a duffel bag and then my purse, my kids' snacks and everything else can all go into one big bag," said Midland Travel manager Deena Szymanski.

"We just got back from a trip to Orlando over Thanksgiving.

We had a family of nine traveling and we all took our carry-on items onboard, kids took crayons successfully, my parents and mother-in-law took their stuff," Szymanski said.

"We also checked 11 pieces of luggage and we didn't lose a bit of it."

And of course, there is the problem that "everybody's luggage looks alike," Overstreet said. She advised the use of luggage tags to avoid confusion.

In airports in cities like Austin and Las Vegas, airport security personnel are getting tougher about checking identification as passengers lift bags off the baggage carousel, Overstreet said.

"It seems like an inconvenience, but there have been a growing number of cases in airports of luggage theft," she said. "If it's your bag, you won't mind showing some ID."

All travelers had better be ready to be patient and invest more time in traveling if they will be moving through airports this holiday season.

"With the conflict in the Middle East, stepped up security as well as airport construction in Midland, I'd get to the airport at least 90 minutes before my flight is ready to take off," Szymanski said.

WEATHER: Front could bring Christmas flurries

(From 1A)

up. By daybreak today, the hard freeze was to drop the temperature gauges down to 17 degrees, Pratt said, and the atmosphere was to continue dropping snow flurries. Winds are to be easterly to southeasterly at 5 to 15 mph today. The day's peak temperature is to be in the upper 20s.

"It's an Arctic air mass as opposed to a Pacific air mass," Pratt said. "It's a lot colder than we've seen all year."

Snow flurries and a light, freezing drizzle are to mark tonight's weather.

Temperature lows then are to be in the low to mid-20s. Wednesday's high temperature is to be in the mid-30s.

Monday's peak temperature was 66 degrees. The Arctic air mass moved in about 1 p.m. and plunged the "steadily dropping" temperatures to 46 degrees by 2 p.m. and to 21 degrees five hours later.

The record high temperature for Dec. 21 is 81 degrees in 1981, and the date's overnight record low temperature is 8 degrees in 1989.

The first freeze of the autumn came on Dec. 7, which broke the record late first freeze of Dec. 6 in 1954.

With temperatures plunging into

the sub-freezing cold often comes a turn-up of the heat in the home and, according to Midland Fire Department Marshal Jerry Petree, a reason to be cautious.

"When we get the first real cold freeze, people turn their heaters up ... crank their heaters up high," Petree said. And if those heaters are gas-fueled or electric space heaters, clothing and any combustible materials should be at least three feet from the flame or high wattage grills to avoid hazards.

And to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning due to lack of oxygen and incomplete combustion in an open flame environment, people would be wise to crack open a window to allow fresh air into the house or apartment.

"A lot of times, they turn those space heater all the way up," Petree said. "Carbon monoxide is the result of fires burning without enough oxygen."

"Make sure smoke detectors have fresh batteries," Petree said. In a nighttime house fire in Midland last weekend, "the people just barely got of alive" after the fire was started by a candle, and the smoke detectors were not functional.

"They (candles) can be beautiful, but they can be dangerous," said Petree, who cautioned people

to be especially careful and attentive when lighting and using fire places.

Deborah Bengtson, Texas Agricultural Extension Service horticulturist for Midland and Ector counties, noted that trees, shrubs, and other plants are better able to survive the severe cold if there is adequate soil moisture for the root systems.

"The soil moisture may be pretty good because we had that snow" on Dec. 11, Ms. Bengtson said. "So, watering may not be real critical. We may be in good shape on that (soil moisture)."

"When it freezes, it will actually pull moisture out of the root tissue into the surrounding (dry) soil, and the roots will desiccate or dry out," she said. "You just want a moist soil ... but not soggy. For plants that grow in a moist soil, there is less likely to be damage to the root system than plants that are growing in a real dry soil. You do need to water once or twice a month ... and deep mulch or cover" cold-sensitive plants.

Hoot Leonard, a Midland rancher and former cotton farmer, figured that "in the morning, we are going to have to break ice in troughs and tanks for livestock to get to water."

There is a positive side to the

freeze.

"I think it will get down there and freeze some of those (detrimental) insects anyway," Leonard said. "That's what we need: to get rid of some of those buggers," especially the boll weevils that plague cotton. "They (boll weevils) almost starved to death this year. It was a poor crop out there. The irrigated farmers still have to poison for the boll weevil."

In earlier light freezes in December, "We've had a morning or two with thin ice but not anything to break yet."

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Pro-democracy campaigners get long prison terms

By Renee Schoof
Associated Press

BEIJING — Chinese courts handed down harsh sentences Monday to two leading pro-democracy campaigners: one who was the first to try to set up an opposition party, the other a veteran dissident who tried to rally activists behind the group.

The half-day trials undermined China's tentative steps to bring its judicial system closer to international standards. And the lengthy prison terms showed how firmly China's ruling Communist Party draws the line at open opposition.

The 13-year prison term given Xu Wenli after his trial in Beijing on Monday was the longest for a Chinese dissident in three years. Xu earlier served 12 years in prison — much of it in solitary confinement — for his involvement in the Democracy Wall movement of the late 1970s.

Wang Youcai, a student leader in the 1989 Tiananmen Square demonstrations who declared the formation of the opposition group in June, was sentenced to 11 years. His verdict was announced by a court in Hangzhou, eastern China.

Activists have tried to set up branches of the China Democracy Party in 14 provinces and cities. Xu advised them and helped them communicate with one another.

Xu said in court that his work was entirely peaceful and open, said his wife, He Xintong, who was the only family member or friend allowed to observe the trial.

Court officials denied requests from a U.S. Embassy official to

attend the trial. Police sealed off Beijing's No. 1 Intermediate People's Court and kept foreign reporters about a third of a mile away.

Xu defiantly refused to appeal the verdict or to answer any questions by the prosecutors and judges because he believed the trial was political persecution ordered by China's rulers, she said.

In court "he was courageous, fantastic," she said in a telephone interview late Monday. "He said, 'I'm willing to use the sacrifice of myself to promote democracy in China. I'm not one who encourages a struggle and then just lets others shed their blood.'"

After the trial, court officials tried to prevent her from meeting with foreign reporters by offering to take her to see her husband, she said. When she got to the detention center, they suddenly refused, but Ms. He said she persisted and visited with him for 30 minutes.

The U.S. government was "deeply disappointed with both the guilty verdict and the extremely harsh sentence given to Mr. Xu," said a statement from the embassy in Beijing. "No individual should be arrested, tried or sentenced for exercising international-

ally recognized freedoms."

In Washington, the State Department called on Chinese authorities to release the men immediately.

They "appear to have been involved in nothing more than efforts to form a new political party, which is after all, a form of political expression — a peaceful political expression," spokesman James Foley said.

Foley said there was a lack of due process in the proceedings, noting the absence of adequate legal representation for the defendants.

He said a series of arrests in recent months suggest China has

been moving backwards in the area of human rights.

China recently signed key U.N. human rights covenants but it has not allowed political organizing and refused to let the China Democracy Party register. The ruling Communist Party has never allowed an opposition party.

The crackdown intensified last month when police arrested Xu and Qin Yongmin, another veteran of the Democracy Wall movement, and announced charges against Wang, who was already in custody.

Xu and Qin were given less than four days to prepare their cases.

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Midland terminal building can offer better city image

For almost half a century, the terminal building at Midland International Airport adequately met the needs of the flying public in Midland and the surrounding Permian Basin region. During that time, literally hundreds of thousands of air travelers passed through the terminal building.

But air passengers and flight personnel who go through the aging terminal this Christmas will be using it for what likely will be the last time in the Christmas season. The old terminal is scheduled to be replaced on Jan. 23 by the new \$35 million structure.

While it is likely that more people than not will be happy to fly into the airport and deplane at the sparkling new terminal building, there is no question that the new facility will show a better face to new arrivals. The old terminal building is showing its age and many of the problems that plague it are beyond repair. It simply made more sense to put money into a new facility instead of an aging one without much of a future.

Of course, serving the needs of the Midland-Permian Basin populace was only one reason for replacing the terminal building. Midland International is one of the better known airports in this region and gets lots of use by air passengers merely flying through on their way to another destination. The impression the terminal building and its surroundings makes on those individuals will likely form the basis for what those individuals think of Midland.

It is quite obvious that impression will be vastly improved after the new terminal building opens Jan. 23.

There is no question that the sparkling new terminal building will show a better face to new arrivals to Midland.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 22, 1944, during the Battle of the Bulge, the Germans demanded the surrender of American troops at Bastogne, Belgium; Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe reportedly replied: "Nuts!"

On this date:

In 1775, a Continental naval fleet was organized in the rebellious American colonies under the command of Ezekiel Hopkins.

In 1807, Congress passed the Embargo Act, designed to force peace between Britain and France by cutting off all trade with Europe.

In 1864, during the Civil War, Union Gen. William T. Sherman sent a message to President Lincoln from Georgia, saying, "I beg to present you as a Christmas gift the city of Savannah."

In 1894, French army officer Alfred Dreyfus was convicted of treason in a court-martial that triggered worldwide charges of anti-Semitism. (He was eventually vindicated.)

In 1941, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill arrived in Washington for a wartime conference with President Roosevelt.

In 1984, in a case that drew national attention, New York City resident Bernhard Goetz shot four black youths on a Manhattan subway, claiming they were about to rob him.

In 1989, Romania's hard-line Communist ruler, Nicolae Ceausescu, was toppled in a popular uprising.

In 1990, Lech Walesa took the oath of office as Poland's first popularly elected president.

In 1991, the body of Lt. Col. William R. Higgins, an American hostage murdered by his captors, was found dumped along a highway in Lebanon.

Ten years ago: President-elect Bush appointed Dr. Louis W. Sullivan secretary of health and human services, Samuel K. Skinner transportation secretary and Manuel Lujan Jr. interior secretary.

Five years ago: Singer Michael Jackson, fighting back against child molestation allegations, issued a video statement in which he said he was "totally innocent of any wrongdoing."

One year ago: During his visit to Bosnia, President Clinton thanked American troops and lectured the nation's three presidents to set aside their differences. Gummie attacked an Indian village in southern Mexico, killing 45 people. Actress Hunter Tylo, whose pregnancy got her fired from TV's steamy soap "Melrose Place," was awarded \$4.9 million by jurors who agreed she was wrongfully terminated.

CAL THOMAS

Peace, peace, then no peace in Middle East

Let's put the latest Middle East farce in a setting most Americans can understand. Imagine a national gathering of the wizards and grand dragons of the Ku Klux Klan. The head racist (whatever he is called) gets up and asks for a show of hands on a resolution to repeal the KKK's founding document declaring blacks and Jews inferior to the white race. Should all who oppose the Klan immediately embrace the organization's members and declare victory over racism, or does prudence dictate waiting to see if actions follow words?

President Clinton accepted at face value the big show put on for his and the rest of the world's benefit. The Palestinian "delegates," attired in Western-style suits, raised their hands on cue in a type of Sieg Heil salute as they supposedly repealed the clause of their covenant calling for the destruction of Israel. But Article 33 of the Palestine National Charter says no changes can be made without a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Palestine National Congress (PNC). The PNC's own press office released a statement calling the gathering a "popular convention," not an official gathering of the PNC. The meeting also included many non-PNC members. The number vot-

ing in favor of the "repeal" was 456 out of 727 in attendance, less than two-thirds. So the vote was invalid on two counts, yet the president accepted it as authentic.

For once, Clinton's cynical manipulation of children in pursuit of his policies was turned back on him. Arafat trotted out four tearful children who asked the U.S. president to help free their fathers from Israeli jails. Then Clinton said he had met four Israeli children whose fathers had been killed "in conflict with Palestinians." This indulgence in moral equivalency ignores the fact that the Palestinian men in prison are there because they murdered Israelis, and the Israeli children have no father because they were murdered (not "killed" in a conflict) by Palestinians. Did the World Trade Center bombers of have children? Should they have been introduced to children of the victims?

In his speech, Clinton said that the vote "fully, finally and forever" rejects the passages in the PLO charter calling for Israel's destruction. It does no such thing. A look at the Web page of Arafat's Fateh organization shows the passages are still there, as does the Web page of the Palestinian organization in Canada.

Days prior to the Arafat extravaganza, a political symposium was held in Gaza that included leading Fateh members, officers of the Palestinian security forces, Palestinian Authority propagandists and prominent intellectuals. According to the Arab publication Al Hayat Al-Jadida (as translated by the Middle East Media and Research Institute),

Arafat's advisor for national and political guidance, Othman Abu Gharbiya, discussed Palestinian readiness for a possible confrontation with Israel after the expected declaration of Palestinian statehood next May.

Propaganda on Palestinian television and in newspapers, as well as in Palestinian schools, continues to be inflammatory toward Israel and the Jews. The messages suggest a warlike environment, with Israel being regularly vilified. There was Arafat's Ramallah speech of Nov. 15 in which he declared "our guns are raised, and we will aim them at anyone who prevents us from going to Jerusalem." Then there were scenes broadcast on television that showed military-style children's camps. Boys and girls chanted, recited poems and sang songs praising armed revolution, jihad and martyrdom. Is this the way people behave when they are interested in peaceful coexistence?

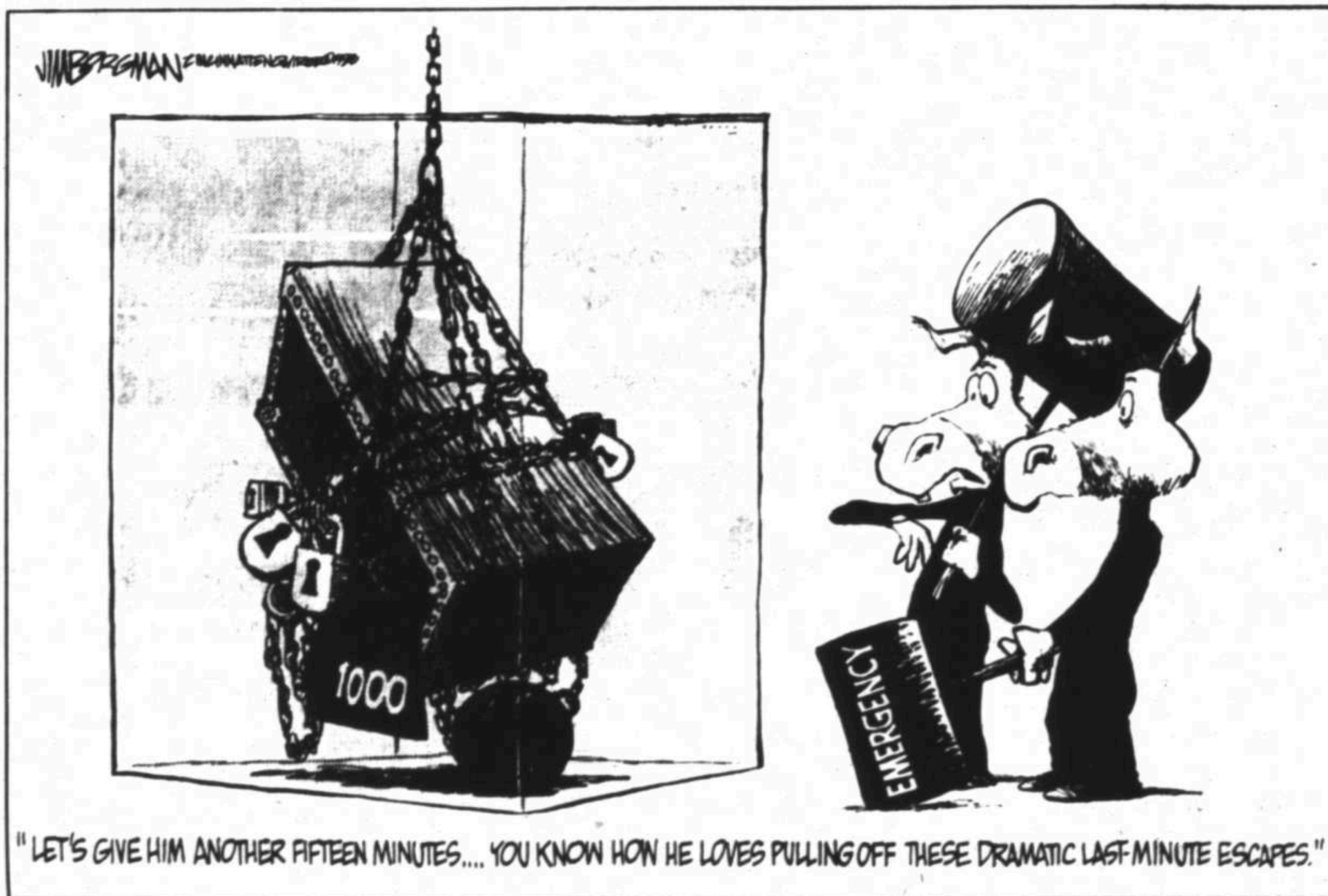
On the heels of the political aid given the Palestinians, the president promised more financial aid, increasing a pledge of \$100 million over five years by another \$300 million. Given a recent audit that showed British aid has been misspent, this is a case of throwing good taxpayer money after bad.

The Gaza meeting was a sham. Yasser Arafat is a liar. No wonder Bill Clinton felt so comfortable. He was among friends.

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



Thomas



"LET'S GIVE HIM ANOTHER FIFTEEN MINUTES.... YOU KNOW HOW HE LOVES PULLING OFF THESE DRAMATIC LAST-MINUTE ESCAPES."

CHARLEY REESE

We must maintain U.S. sovereignty over our troops

The oath that United Nations officers must take, and the one American soldiers take, proves that Michael New, the only American ever tried and convicted by court-martial for wanting to serve his country in uniform, was dead right.

New, a young enlisted man, refused to don U.N. insignia and serve in Macedonia under the command of a Finnish officer. He believes his oath forbids it, and for that he was court-martialed. His appeal is still winding its way through the courts.

But let's look at the oaths. An American soldier swears as follows: "I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the president of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice."

Now, here is the oath that officers serving the United Nations must take:

"I solemnly affirm to exercise in all loyalty, discretion and conscience the functions entrusted to me as a member of the international service of the United Nations, to discharge those functions and regulate my conduct with the interest of the United Nations only in view and not to seek or accept instructions in respect to the performance of my duties from any government or other authority external to the organization."

As you can plainly see, a person cannot be loyal to both the United States and to the United Nations. The United Nations is a separate, foreign government. And that was Michael New's point: He never took an oath to the United Nations and no one had the authority to place him under foreign command.

It bears remembering that when American troops arrived in France during World War I, British and French officials proposed that they be integrated into the allied forces and serve under British and French command. Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing flatly refused. No American soldier, he said, would serve under a foreign commander.

This is an issue that all Americans should join, for it is much larger than Michael New. The question is, Do we want America to retain its sovereignty and independence for which our ancestors fought a war with Great Britain, or do we wish it to become a non-independent part of an international sovereign government? Yes or no.

And you better decide because the American Establishment is opting to gradually dissolve American independence and to merge it into an international order. To prepare Americans for this loss of independence, the present administration is ordering American troops to serve under U.N. command, doing U.N. errands. In a time of peace, for the first time in our history, American troops are posted in more than 100 foreign countries, in nearly every case as U.N. errand boys or U.N. leg-breakers.

In a speech urging rejection of the League of Nations, Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge said, "It must be made perfectly clear that no American soldiers, not even a corporal's guard, that no American sailors, not even the crew of a submarine, can ever be engaged in war or ordered anywhere except by the constitutional authorities of the United States. To Congress is granted by the Constitution the right to declare war, and nothing that would take troops out of the country at the bidding or demand of other nations should ever be permitted."

As you can see, the fight for American sovereignty is an old and continuing fight. Which side are you on, America's or the internationalists? Do you have the courage of Michael New to stand by your country? The shape of the future depends on the answers.

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

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

SUZANNE FIELDS

Celebrities say the darndest things

Art Linkletter, one of the kings of network radio, had a popular feature called "Kids Say the Darndest Things." He collected amusing, homespun, out-of-the-mouths-of-babes humor, and his program was a Pleasantville where kids were always cute.

But now kids, like the rest of us are exposed to information overload. Not much is cute. But there's enough nonsense for something we could call "Celebrities Say the Darndest Things," starting with utterances about impeachment. It's hard to find a larger collection of nonsense on any other current topic.

We could start with a sampling from assorted writers and actors in New York who held what in the 1960s would be called a "teach-in." The group rallying at New York University against impeachment was made up of "glitteries" who knew their words would get attention.

Nobel laureate Toni Morrison described the pro-impeachers as "an arrogant theocracy genuflecting at the knees of a minority." (Sounds impressive, but it makes no sense.) Novelist Mary Gordon, building on an earlier idea of Toni Morrison's that Bill Clinton is our first black president because he behaves like black men she knows, wants us to think of him as our first female president. His "libidinal" longings are a catalyst for right-wing phobias. Sure they are.

Blanche Wiesen Cook, author of a biography of Eleanor Roosevelt, describes those in favor of impeachment as "the filthy-minded swine people."

Someone with such august stature as Elie Wiesel, whose experiences of the Holocaust earn our sympathies and profound respect, criticizes impeachment as "cruel and unusual punishment," and therefore unconstitutional, and it's against the Jewish tradition that forbids public humiliation. (We can be glad he didn't describe Bill Clinton as our first Holocaust-survivor president.)

It's all very curious. "Is there some deeper meaning in the fact that even Mr. Clinton's most intellectual defenders are not able to construct a persuasive defense of his conduct?" asks Bret Louis

Stephens in the Wall Street Journal.

Demonizing adversaries, particularly political adversaries, and deifying friends, is tempting. This was a familiar tactic during the Vietnam War. Anti-war protesters called Lyndon Johnson a "baby killer" and paraded down Pennsylvania Avenue singing praises of Ho Chi Minh. But intellectuals who speak and write for a living ought to be more measured in their arguments. In the debate over impeachment, the president's defenders tell us more about themselves than the Republicans they attack.

The secular glitteries, for example, polarize themselves against the family-values religiously-rooted "others." But it's actually a false dichotomy. While dwelling on matters of privacy and the sex act, they argue as though sexuality rather than the rule of law is the heart of the matter.

It's an easy sell in a secular society. Everybody understands sex; birds, bees, and even educated fleas do "it." The law is complicated. What's at work is really a zeal and cravenness among the secular celebrities that's every bit as virulent as the zeal they see in those "others."

At a Hollywood rally in defense of the president, actress Mary Steenburgen attacked Republicans on behalf of her close friend Bill: "You will not burn him at the stake and use the U.S. Constitution as kindling," she said. "We are watching, and we will remember." Big Sister is watching you.

Actor Alec Baldwin turned himself into the severest mullah of all on the Late Night With Conan O'Brien Show with an astonishing and incendiary rant which he later described as parody.

"If we were in other countries, we would all right now, all of us together would go down to Washington and we would stone Henry Hyde to death and we go to their homes (of pro-impeachment congressmen) and we'd kill their wives and their children."

NBC, recognizing the raw "sensitivities" of the nation said it would not run the Conan O'Brien episode again and Mr. Baldwin wrote a letter of apology to Henry Hyde.

Writer Neal Gabler gets close to the truth with his observation that in America today "life is a movie." We're all actors in it. It's not a pretty (moving) picture.

Suzanne Fields' column is distributed by Los Angeles Times Syndicate.



Fields

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DEC 22 1998

Internet drugs — no prescription, doctor visit needed

By Loran Neergaard
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With a few computer keystrokes — and without ever seeing a doctor — Americans can buy powerful prescription drugs including some not approved for sale in this country.

Supporters say consumers are savvy enough to buy medicines over the Internet. But health experts fear the growing trend could endanger, even kill, patients. Several states are investigating Web sites, and the Drug Enforcement Administration has raided at least one Internet doctor as the government struggles with how to control drugs in cyberspace both here and abroad.

"Consumers are taking a huge risk. ... They may be risking their lives," warns William Hubbard of the Food and Drug Administration. "We're very concerned about this."

Yet some state regulators say they've never heard of the myriad Web sites that post such ads as: "Need Viagra? No prescription? No problem!"

How easy are such purchases? An Associated Press reporter bought from a British Web site a controversial diet drug that the U.S. government has not yet decided is safe. The unmarked brown envelope bearing a month's supply of Xenical cleared U.S. Customs. The unseen British pharmacist had no

way to know the reporter had exaggerated her weight by 30 pounds to qualify for the drug.

A Viagra site promised to ship the little blue impotence pill after an AP reporter answered just one health question — and disclosed she was a woman.

"That's very, very dangerous," said consumer advocate Dr. Sidney Wolfe of Public Citizen, saying both were drugs for which the "patient" did not medically qualify.

"There is a reason that some of these drugs have to be prescribed," added Larry Lessly, director of Nevada's Board of Medical Examiners, which recently barred over-the-Internet sales unless Nevada doctors also see the patients. "People shouldn't just willy-nilly take them."

Colorado publicly reprimanded one doctor for selling Viagra over the Internet; Connecticut, Wyoming and Nevada ordered one Web site to stop selling in those states, and at least eight other states are investigating complaints.

North Carolina is probing Web

sales of a computer program that teaches patients to diagnose their own problems and then pick a medication from foreign Web sites.

"Get self-prescribed medications without a doctor's prescription" including "experimental ... or unapproved drugs not yet available in the U.S.," the site promises. Patient testimonials declare success at buying controlled substances such as narcotic painkillers.

"It's a do-it-yourself doc-in-a-box," complained Dave Work of North Carolina's Board of Pharmacy.

The Internet is making huge inroads in medicine, as doctors e-mail patients, online pharmacies mail refills and patients turn to medical journals now available 24 hours a day.

But it also has opened a Pandora's box: Almost anyone can set up shop as an expert.

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For him: Cologne Spray,
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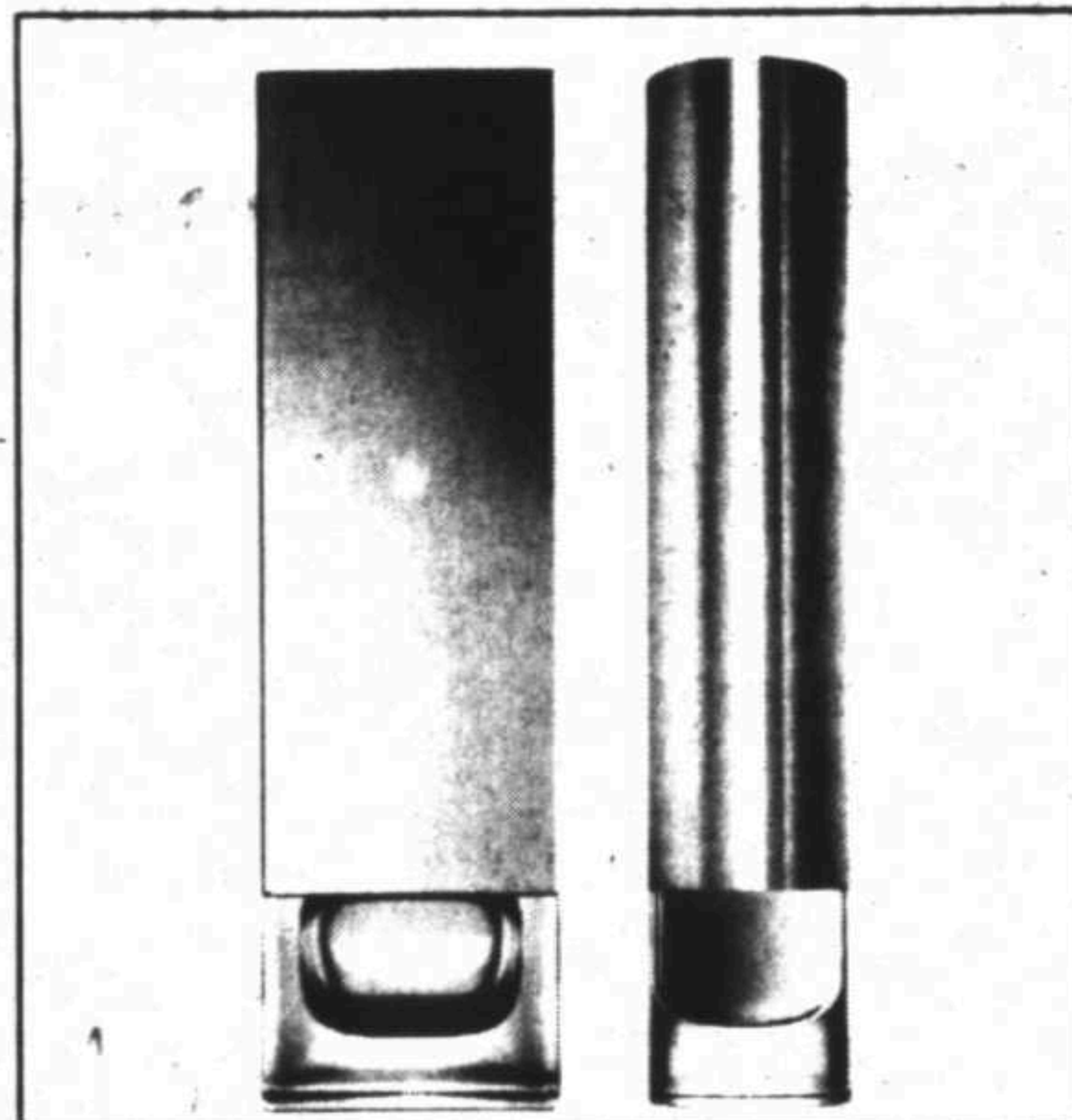
For her: Eau de Cologne Spray,
1.7 oz., **32.00**; 3.4 oz., **47.00**.



ETERNITY by Calvin Klein

For him: Eau de Toilette Spray,
1.7 oz., **32.00**; 3.4 oz., **45.00**.

For her: Eau de Parfum Spray,
1.7 oz., **42.00**; 3.4 oz., **54.00**.



CONTRADICTION by Calvin Klein

For him: Eau de Toilette Spray,
1.7 oz., **32.00**; 3.4 oz., **45.00**.

For her: Eau de Parfum Spray,
1.7 oz., **44.00**; 3.4 oz., **56.00**.



POLO SPORT by Ralph Lauren

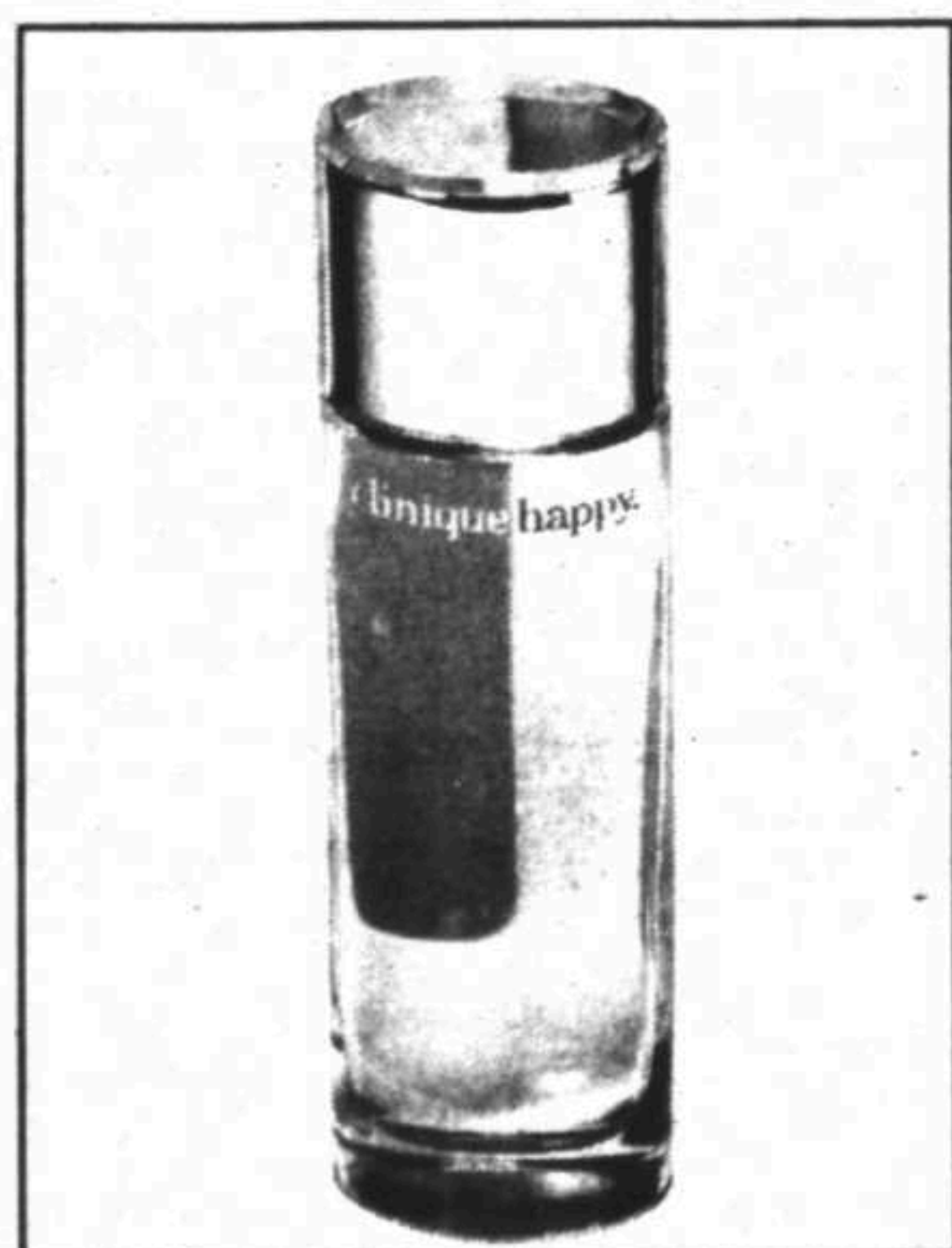
For him: Eau de Toilette Spray,
2.5 oz., **35.00**; 4.2 oz., **48.00**.

For her: Eau de Toilette Spray,
1.7 oz., **32.50**; 3.4 oz., **40.00**.



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de Givenchy

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1 1/2 oz., **53.00**;
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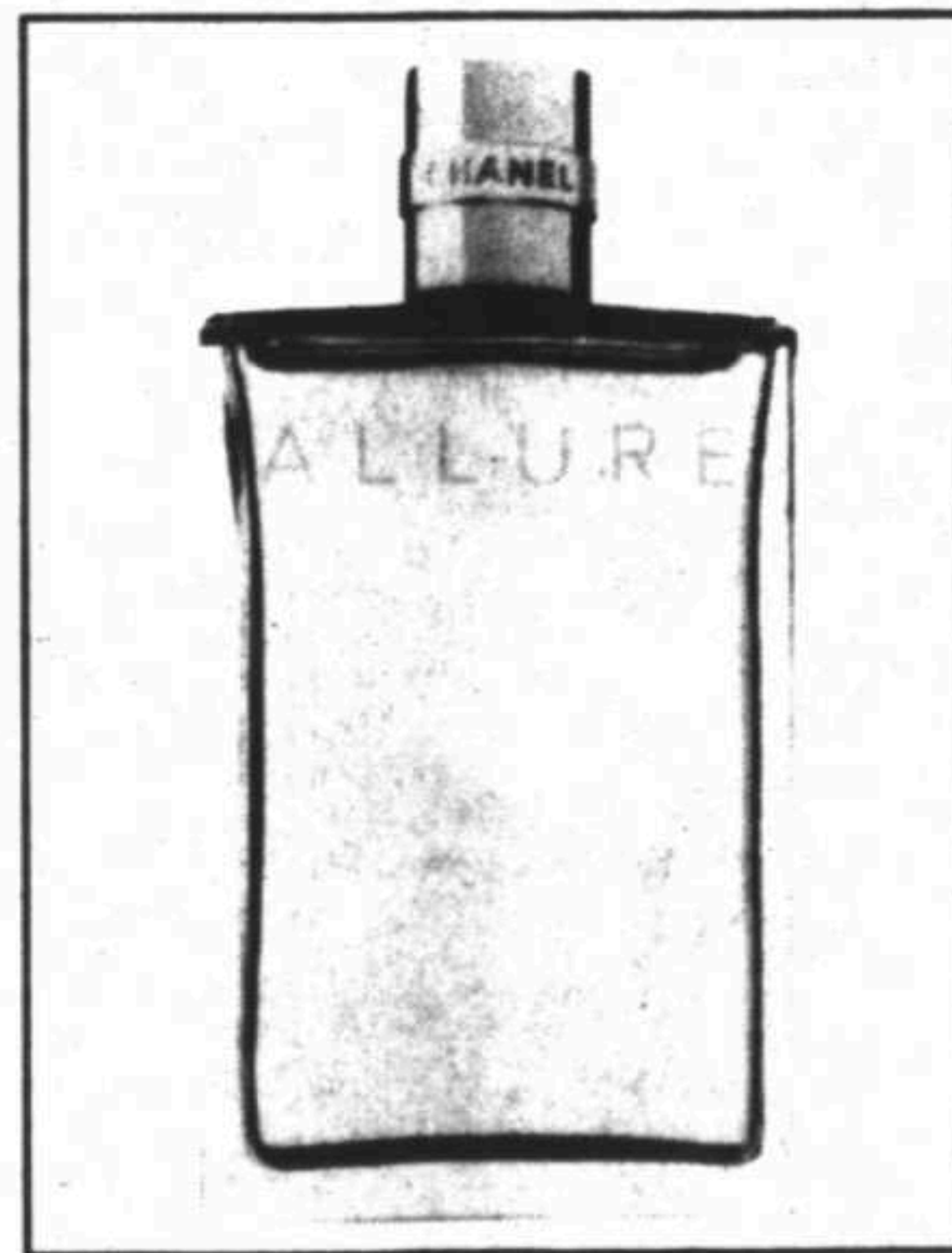
HAPPY
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Perfume Spray,
1.7 oz., **35.00**;
3.4 oz., **47.50**.



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by Lancôme

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1.7 oz., **52.50**;
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ALLURE
by Chanel

Eau de Toilette Spray,
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BASIN BRIEFING

Survivors' party

The "Survivors of Homicide" support group will host a Christmas party for victims and their families from 7 to 10 p.m. today in the Law Enforcement Building, 400 S. Main St. Special guest will be Santa Claus.

Derailment probe

ARLINGTON — An Amtrak train was going 36 mph when it derailed, injuring 24 of the 199 people aboard, federal investigators said Monday. Three locomotives and six passenger cars of the westbound Texas Eagle left the tracks Sunday night several hours after striking and killing a deaf woman who was walking on the tracks in Dallas. The 10-car, three-locomotive train was delayed for several hours after the Dallas accident. James Allen Southworth, lead investigator for the National Transportation Safety Board, said it's unclear whether the earlier accident or the delay contributed to the derailment. "I have no information," he said Monday. "I can't really comment." As a joint investigation into the derailment was launched, crews worked to clear the Union Pacific tracks where the accident took place shortly after 7 p.m. Sunday. The Dallas accident occurred about 3 p.m. Nancy Martinez, 33, died of blunt force trauma, medical examiners said Monday. Police did not know why she was on the tracks. The train, bound from Chicago to Los Angeles, made a normal stop in Dallas and added two yard crew members as a precaution, said Jim Dunn, senior railroad investigator for the NTSB. "We ask the crew if they can go on," Dunn said. "Sometimes they ask for relief." On its way to Fort Worth, the train derailed near The Ballpark in Arlington, home of the Texas Rangers baseball team.

TODAY'S AGENDA

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

Sack Lunch/Parent Education Mtg. for answers and information, Alamo library, 12-1 p.m.

Midland Chess Club, 7 p.m., Memorial Rehabilitation Hospital.

Battered Women's support group, 6:45 p.m., 683-1300 or 1-800-967-8928.

Tx TOPS Morning Chapter, 8:30 a.m., Grace Presbyterian Church.

Morning Lions Club, 8:45 a.m., Carrows Restaurant, 2201 W. Wall St.

Pop-Up Toasters, 6:30 a.m., Kay Sutton Realtors, 702 Andrews Highway, 694-4271 or 694-3716.

Midland West Rotary Club, noon, Furns Cafeteria.

Midland Chapter No. 253, OES, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Temple.

Licensed Vocational Nurses Assoc., 7:30 a.m., Trinity Towers.

Ranchland Hills Ladies Association, 7 p.m., Couples Bridge, RHCC.

Toastmistress Club 7:30 p.m., Memorial Christian Church.

45-Plus Dance Club, 7:30 p.m., Downtown Lions building, 694-8442.

Midland County Young Democrats, 5:30-8:30 p.m., 3802 Avondale Dr., 684-5545 or 684-4152.

Knight of Columbus, Our Lady of Guadalupe, #9215, 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall, Cherry Lane & Tyler St.

Welfare meeting, Midland County Child Welfare Board meeting, 4:30 p.m., Department of Human Services, 2301 N. Big Spring St., 683-5411.

ACOA non-smoking, 8 p.m., Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

AlphaOmega Group, 8 a.m., 4400 N. Big Spring St., Suite C-41.

Bellydancing classes 7-8 p.m., Hawaiian/Tahitian classes 8-9 p.m., 520-4852 or 694-2250.

Study Club, 7:30 p.m., Unity Church of West Texas, 210 E. 12th St., Odessa, 332-5890.

Healthy Alternatives: ADD, 7 p.m., 711 W. Indiana Ave., 570-0272.

Downtown Bible Study, noon, 312 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 6, 682-6748.

Alcoholics Anonymous closed step study, 8 p.m., 111 E. Michigan Ave., 684-9430 or 687-3427.

Dust Devil Divers Scuba Club, 7 p.m., COM swim complex, 570-8761.

Firefighters to get 2nd thermal camera

Junior League of Midland buys life-saving device for department



The Midland Fire Department's thermal imaging camera can pick out the heat signature of a human body, in this case Assistant Fire Chief Chip Balzer, in the darkest of rooms and through the thickest of smoke.

By Gary Shanks
Staff Writer

Thermal imaging technology first developed for military applications is saving lives and property as a tool for the Midland Fire Department.

The thermal camera allows firefighters to see through otherwise opaque clouds of smoke and immediately locate people who have been overcome by the smoke.

The camera works on the darkest of nights and turns the blackest of passages light.

The department has been using its first camera for about a year, and members are extremely pleased with the unit's performance, said Capt. Wayne Dorlay of the MFD.

This camera was purchased for about \$20,000 by the Abell-Hanger Foundation.

The camera stays with the department's rescue truck, which is sent out to every structure fire, said Eddie Klatt, assistant chief of operations for MFD.

But firefighters would rather have one of the life-saving devices at every station, Klatt said.

The camera is also a boon to firefighters searching buildings where the flames have not yet emerged from the walls, Dorlay said.

The camera can pick up a hot spot quickly so firefighters do not have to tear down walls searching for the fire and can expend the minimum amount of water to douse the fire, he said.

After hearing of the extra capability afforded the department by this device, members of Junior League of Midland, Inc., decided to purchase a second thermal camera for MFD as part of this spring's 50th anniversary celebration for the local Junior League.

"We felt like it was a vital need in the community," said Junior League President Vicki Jay.

After researching the camera's use, not only by this department but those in other cities as well, Junior League members decided to purchase a second unit for MFD.

"We voted unanimously to support the purchase of this equipment ... it was an easy decision to make," Ms. Jay said.

Please see CAMERA/2B

Law-enforcement agencies search for missing mother

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

Thirty-six law-enforcement officers, including members of the Midland-headquartered Sheriffs of Texas Agreed Response (STAR), on Monday searched an area in northeast Midland County for a missing mother, 27-year-old Daytina Rhea Hulslander.

"We don't have any earthly idea" of the woman's whereabouts, said Midland County Sheriff Gary Painter, who not-

ed that Mrs. Hulslander has been missing from her rural home since April 27. "She's the kind of woman who was very attentive to her (five) kids."

The officers from 12 West Texas agencies, including sheriff's and police departments, searched "a heavily wooded" area near the woman's home under direction of University of North Texas forensic anthropologist Gill King.

"He is the one who directed

Please see MISSING/3B



E-mail hits mainstream in homes, theaters alike

By Shay Templeton

"You've Got Mail," which reunites "Sleepless in Seattle" duo Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan — and which opened this past weekend at Tall City 10 — emphasizes the overriding impact of e-mail on our daily lives.

The movie debuted at No. 1 at the Box Office, raking in \$18.7 million.

The comedy tells the tale of two business rivals who fail to realize they are also each other's intimate e-mail pals.

This movie, based on the use of computers and e-mail, confirms that the ever-growing technological field is making a grand impact.

Southern Methodist University student, Javan Clay, uses e-mail to correspond with friends, but still prefers the telephone to communicate with her mother, Joni.

"If I had something serious to say, I couldn't use e-mail,"

Please see E-MAIL/3B

Midland Quilters Guild helps young cancer patients wrap up for holidays

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

The Midland Quilters Guild is providing extra warmth for young cancer patients this year.

Children who are patients at Cook Children's Specialty Clinic at 2008 W. Wall were presented quilts made by guild members at Monday's open house. Guild members will furnish quilts for additional patients that come through the clinic during the coming year.

Kristy Young, a registered nurse at the clinic, said the clinic currently has 19 children who are active chemotherapy patients, each receiving a quilt, and estimated that 40 children are treated at the clinic each year.

Some patients come to Midland from San Angelo, Odessa and outlying towns like Fort Stockton and Pecos.

"Having the clinic here means they can come here instead of Fort Worth," she said. "Most of these kids require weekly treatments and having to go to Fort Worth would be hard."

After the children received their quilts, they drew designs that guild members will incorporate into a quilt that will be auctioned in May at Cancer Round Up '99.

"We used to do Care Bears, but we decided that we really enjoy doing quilts," said Edith Stanton, who chairs the guild's service project committee along with Ann Podany. The two, along with member Kathryn Panetto presented quilts Monday.

Ms. Podany said the quilts offer the young patients extra comfort and give them something to cuddle up with.

Please see QUILTERS/3B



Nine-year-old Kelsey Lane gets a hug from Irma Ochosa, a secretary at the Cook Clinic. Lane, battling leukemia, is draped in the quilt given to her by the Midland Quilting Society at an open house at the clinic Monday.

Brian Adamek/Reporter-Telegram

GARY OTT

Seinfeld has a point: Uniforms would make life a lot easier

It was Jerry Seinfeld, in his book "SeinLanguage," who predicted that at some point in time all fashion, both for men and women, will cease to exist, suggesting that someday we will all wear the same thing ... a uniform of sorts.

Then he offered his proof.

"Anytime I see a movie or TV show where there are people from the future or from another planet," he wrote, "they're all wearing the same outfit. Somehow they all decided, 'All right, that's enough. From now on, this is going to be our outfit. One-piece silver jumpsuit, with a V-stripe on the chest, and boots. That's it.'"

And the reason they reach that decision, according to Seinfeld, is because they have grown weary of trying to decide what to wear each morning.

You know the feeling. It's 7:15 a.m. on a Wednesday and with your eyes barely cracked you stare into your closet and ask the same questions you asked the day before ... and the day before ... and the day before: "Do I wear this shirt with those pants? And if so, will this

red tie clash too much? And how about these socks? Are they too gaudy?" Then you slap yourself on the head and say, "Wait a minute! I wore that outfit two days ago."

And the whole process starts all over again.

Sometimes you don't even wait until you are staring into the closet. There are certain mornings when you ponder the possibilities while still in bed. The clock indicates you have only 15 minutes until the alarm will go off so you just lie there and attempt to remember which clothes have been returned from the cleaners and which ones are wadded up in the corner.

And speaking of considering what to wear while in bed, I'm reminded of a story told to me by a female friend who has been married to the same man for many, many years.

Late one night, while sharing, shall we say, an intimate experience with her husband, she suddenly became quite bored with the proceedings. So her mind began to wander. Before long she was staring into the closet, which was located directly across the bedroom. Soon, her eyes focused on a new sweater, the orange one she had purchased the previous weekend. Then it happened. A light bulb went on above her head.

"Wow," she said to herself, finally becoming excit-

ed. "I bet that would look just darling with my tan skirt." Like I say, they have been married for a very long time.

But the point is this: deciding what to wear each morning can be a real headache. And as mentioned before, it is the need to come up with something unique for several days in a row that is the biggest challenge. For men it can be particularly difficult because their entire wardrobe consists of the following: three pairs of blue pants, two pairs of brown pants, one pair of gray pants, four white shirts, two blue shirts, one red tie, one gray tie, one brown tie and 14 pairs of socks, seven of which are black and seven of which are brown.

Figure it out yourself. Piecing together different outfits is no easy feat.

And that's why most men — especially those who work in a typical office environment — look so remarkably similar. The mathematical odds just make it happen.

So maybe Jerry Seinfeld is right. The futuristic uniform is definitely the direction we need to go.

Besides, I've always thought that silver jumpsuit looked just darling with those boots.

Gary Ott is city editor of the Reporter-Telegram.

DEATH NOTICES

Allis Chapman

Allis Purvines Chapman, 92, died Sunday, Dec. 20, in Lubbock. Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, at the First United Methodist Church Glass Chapel with the Rev. Molly Krueger officiating. Burial will be at Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

She was born Feb. 25, 1906, in Carson County. She also lived in Wink, then Midland for 59 years. She was a homemaker, genealogist and talented artist with stitchery and painting. She was a member of First United Methodist Church where she taught Sunday School.

She was preceded in death by her husband, W. Earl Chapman. Survivors include two children, Joan C. Griffin of Lubbock and W.E. Chapman, Jr. of Post; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be made to Square House Museum, Box 97, Panhandle, Texas 79068.

C.B. Fletcher

C.B. Fletcher, 73, died Saturday, Dec. 19, in a Midland hospital.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, at Navarre Funeral Home of Baytown with the Rev. John Berny officiating. Burial will follow at Memory Gardens Cemetery. Visitation will be 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today, Dec. 22, at Navarre Funeral Home.

He was born Jan. 4, 1925, in Dallas. He retired from Exxon Refinery in Baytown. He was a member of the Atascocita United Methodist Church and was an avid golfer.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen H. Fletcher; and a sister, Dorothy Belew.

Survivors include two daughters, Cathy Jones of Humble and Connie Pritchard of Midland; four grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

Johnnie Amos

BIG SPRING — Johnnie June Amos, 83, died Sunday, Dec. 20, at her residence.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. today, Dec. 22, at Myers and Smith Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Dr. Ed Williamson officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Nov. 9, 1915, in Garden City. She was a registered nurse at Indian Hospital in Whiteriver, Ariz., and taught at Howard College where she set up the LVN and RN programs. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by one grandson, James Russell.

Survivors include her husband, George Amos of Big Spring; one son, John Paul Amos of Big Spring; two daughters, June Russell of Big Spring and Vicki Hyer of Keithville, La.; one brother, Jim B. Chaney of Houston; one sister, Arlyne Johnston of Austin; nine

grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Jon W. Amos, Jay P. Amos, Hank Schauer, Lee Colette, Jan T. Whatley, and Van T. Whatley. Honorary pallbearers will be Ray Borel and Chris Oxendine.

Kristine Dunham

BIG SPRING — Kristine Dunham, 49, of White Settlement and formerly of Big Spring, died Friday, Dec. 18, at her residence.

Funeral services were Monday, Dec. 21, at Myers and Smith Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Danny Copeland officiating. Burial followed at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born July 13, 1949, in Big Spring. She was a member of the Glad Tidings Church. She managed several apartment complexes.

She was preceded in death by her father, Roy Ponder.

Survivors include her husband, Lynval J. Dunham of White Settlement; two daughters, Penny L. Dunham of White Settlement and Rose M. Dunham of Plainview; two sons, Lynval J. Dunham, II of White Settlement and Roy D. Kruszewski of Noble, Okla.; her mother, Mary Ponder of Germany; two brothers, Ron Ponder of Tulsa, Okla. and Terry Ponder of Germany; an aunt and uncle; five grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

H.D. Gillette

BIG SPRING — H.D. Gillette, 86, died Sunday, Dec. 20, at his residence.

Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. today, Dec. 22, at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Monroe Teeters officiating under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

He was born Jan. 10, 1912, in Plaski, Tenn. He worked as a heavy equipment operator for Bettie-Womack Construction until 1974. He was a member of the Baptist church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy R. Gillette; two grandchildren; his parents; two brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Ara L. Gillette of Big Spring; two sons, Wayne Gillette of Zion, Ill. and Pete Gillette of Big Spring; four daughters, Penny Timbs of Golden, Miss., Alma Evans of Jacksonville, Ark., and Wanda Nelson and Sandra Norwood, both of Weatherford; 16 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Teri Thomas

BIG SPRING — Teri Thomas died Sunday, Dec. 20, in Alamosa, Colo. after an automobile accident.

Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Jasper Wright

BIG SPRING — Jasper Wright, 95, died Monday, Dec. 21, at Comanche Trail Nursing Home.

Services are pending with Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

OBITUARIES

Claude O. Crane

Claude O. Crane died December 20, 1998 in Wray, Colorado. Claude Otis Crane was born on September 13, 1899 in Mesquite, Texas. He was the son of Ben (Bennet) and Mattie Lee (Bratcher) Crane, who named him for General Elwell S. Otis of the Spanish American War, a friend, as well as Claude Bevell, a neighbor. Claude was the 4th of 7 children.

Claude and Ivy May Roberson of Dallas, Texas were married August 26, 1916. Ivy May was born August 21, 1899, and they met while both were working at the Sears Department Store in Dallas, Texas. Both attended Exposition Presbyterian Church in Dallas, and were students at Burleson College (Baptist Jr. College). Claude first planned to enter the ministry, but later earned a degree in accounting from the International Correspondence School. He became a CPA in Texas at age 21. When he was 24 years old, Claude received an AA degree from the Baylor University Correspondence School.

Claude and Ivy May moved to Arlington, Texas and opened a grocery store in 1922. They left Arlington in 1926 after the interurban train hit the Crane's cow, which put them out of the dairy business. Their next stop was Midland, Texas where Claude O. worked for Midland Hardware. In 1931 he became an associate of Mims, Hyatt and Crane, an insurance, real estate, and abstract company, where he stayed until 1945.

After selling his business interests in Midland, Claude and Ivy May purchased the Whispering Pines Lodge in Ruidoso, New Mexico, which they sold in 1947. They spent the next year traveling over the west looking for the most beautiful place in the United States.

They chose Durango, Colorado. Between 1947 and 1952, he was in the real estate and mortgage loan business in the Durango area.

Claude and Ivy May moved to Vallecito, where for many years they owned and operated Lost Creek Lodge. Besides being affectionately known as "the honorary mayor of Vallecito," he served on the Board of Directors of the Val-

lecito Chamber of Commerce, and was founder of the Dam Real Estate Agency ("Best Buy by a Dam Site"). Claude O. was the only individual identified on the large directional map of important places at Vallecito Reservoir.

In 1981, Claude O. was chosen Citizen of the Year in Durango. After 21 years as a scout leader, he was awarded the Silver Beaver Award, boy scouting's highest honor, which was signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt. He was a member of the Masons over 60 years, was a member of the Lions Club since 1926 and was a long time member of the Gideons.

The church played an important part in his life. He was instrumental in the founding of, and was a continual supporter of, the Vallecito Baptist Church. In addition, he assisted in founding a number of Baptist missions, camps, and organizations. No one will ever be able to measure the time and money he donated to charities, especially Baptist missions.

On November 3, 1980, the Durango Herald described Claude O. as the community fix-it man. "Folks bring every problem in the world through that door," Claude O. had said. He reached out to many friends and family during his lifetime and was known for the hundreds of personalized Christmas cards he sent out during the holidays. Crane was quoted as saying that he was "never bored, never lonely, and I have a lot of fun."

Claude O. and Ivy May had three sons: Robert McKenzie Crane of Dallas, Texas; Lee "Tad" Maxwell Crane of Aztec, New Mexico, and Allen Dee Crane of Wray and Vallecito, Colorado. They also had 12 grandchildren and two adopted grandchildren. There are numerous great-grandchildren, and several great-great-grandchildren. Claude is also survived by a half-sister, Lillian Benie Loden (b. 1917) of Bakersfield, California.

Claude was preceded in death by his wife, Ivy May, on January 10, 1965 in Midland, Texas; and a great-grandson, Michael, on August 27, 1995. He was also preceded in death by his siblings: Waco (b. March, 1890), Minnie L. (b. November, 1894), Bert E. (b. February, 1897), Charlie Joe (b.

Obituary & Death Notice policy

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

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

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

1901) who died as a teenager, Otto Leonard (b. 1904), and George L. (b. 1906).

On his Christmas cards in 1980, Claude shared a favorite quote from Thoreau: "I come to my solitary woodland walk as the homesick go home... I get away a mile or two from the town into the stillness and solitude of nature, with rocks, trees, weeds, snow about me... It is as if I always met in those places some grand, serene, immortal, infinitely encouraging, though invisible, companion, and walked with him."

Services will be held at the First Baptist Church in Midland, Texas at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, December 22, 1998 with Dr. Gary Dyer officiating. Interment will follow in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

The family requests that memorials be sent to Vallecito Baptist Church, Vallecito, Colorado 81122.

Harold James

Harold James, 76, was born April 12, 1922 at Okmulgee, Oklahoma, the son of Earl and Mary (Fine) James. He graduated from Stidham High School in 1939. On February 17, 1942 he married Rosie Brackett at Stidham. He served in the Army Airforce from 1942 until 1944 in England. Mr. James was retired from the Permian Corporation of Midland, Texas in 1984. In 1986, the Jameses moved back to Eufaula, Oklahoma, where he enjoyed his retirement of fishing and sports, and his friends and family. He was pre-

ceded in death by his parents and one brother, L. V. Jones.

Survivors include his wife, Rosie, of 56 years; two daughters, Janice Hedges and her husband, Fred, of Austin, Texas, Judy King of Baytown, Texas; one son, Terry James of Corpus Christi, Texas; four grandchildren, Jill Duval and her husband, Jerry, of Baytown, Texas, Tammy King of Baytown, Texas, and Amber and Heather Hedges, both of Austin, Texas; three great-grandchildren, Brooke King of Baytown, Texas, Abby and Jenna Duval, both of Baytown, Texas; four brothers, Cecil James of Stidham, Oklahoma, Clifford James of Eufaula, Oklahoma, Gerald James of Fresno, California, and Darrell James of Springdale, Arkansas; one sister, Ruth Ridley of Phoenix, Arizona; and several survivors include several other brother and sister-in-laws, and nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Mr. James will be held on Tuesday, December 22, 1998, at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church with the Reverends Tommy Williams and Bill Quinton officiating. Interment will follow in the Greenwood Cemetery with Byrl Brackett, Sam Brackett, Carl Brackett, June Edwards, Ray Jones, and Donald Brown serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will include Jess Proe, Grayson Laman, Tootle Carey, and James Hughes.

Funeral services are under the direction of the Merritt Funeral Service of Eufaula.

CAMERA: 1st device proves invaluable for department

(From 1B)

"It's a fantastic tool to be used in firefighting," Klatt said.

In deciding which unit to buy, the department invited non-firefighters from the community to serve on a panel with department personnel.

After thorough evaluation and demonstrations by a number of manufacturers, the committee decided on the Argus hand-held model for its sensitivity and utility, Klatt said.

While some models can attach to helmets and free the hands for other tasks, they cannot be handed off to another firefighter as the operation continues.

And the device will be used to find fires or to find people in smoky

buildings, which does not allow the searcher to wield a hose, Klatt said.

"He's not going to be squirting water anyway," Klatt said.

Before this technology was available, firefighters were trained to literally feel for survivors when dense smoke obliterated their visibility.

Fire Department personnel were trained in finding the places where people would most likely be if they were trapped. For instance, children will often be found hiding under beds or in closets, Klatt said.

With the new camera, however, bodies shine through the surrounding smoke and can be easily distinguished and retrieved.

"It's a godsend to us," Dorlay said.

Over the last year, firefighters have grown so accustomed to the light variations in the camera, they can tell where a house is losing heat because of a lack of insulation or pick out an electric motor that is going bad and generating more heat than others.

They have grown used to seeing exterior windows interpreted as jet black, being the coolest objects in the room — and finding a mirror in a burning house, which reflects the firefighter's own thermal image to the camera, he said.

TODAY'S FUNERALS

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H. BRACE WIGZELL
11 a.m. — Ellis North
CLAUDE CRANE
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8:00 p.m. - A Christmas Eve Communion Service featuring the music of the Celebration! bell choir and the Grace sanctuary choir.

A nursery will be provided at both services for infants and toddlers.

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A nursery will be provided at both services for infants and toddlers.

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Octuplets hang on as doctors remain guarded about prognosis

HOUSTON (AP) — The tiniest weighs just 10.3 ounces and can fit inside a woman's hand. The largest doesn't measure up to the littles of the McCaughey septuplets. But the Chukwu octuplets were hanging on Monday, a day after seven were delivered to join a sister born Dec. 8.

All eight children of Nkem and Lyke Chukwu remained in critical condition at Texas Children's Hospital Monday with the 13-day-old girl already breathing on her own, breaking for occasional oxygen sips.

"She has done very nicely and remarkably well," said Dr. Patti Savrick, the children's pediatrician. "The other babies still have that rocky first week to two weeks in front of them."

The Texas Children's medical team waved off requests for predictions about the babies' chances for survival, issuing guarded prognoses throughout the day.

"I think it's too early to say. I think they're critically ill," said Dr. Leonard

Weisman, chief neonatal specialist at Texas Children's Hospital. "I think several have shown some improvement and several haven't, but it's too early to say."

But Dr. Timothy Cooper, a neonatologist and assistant professor of pediatrics and ethics at Baylor College of Medicine, said the seven babies weighing in at more than a pound have about an 85 percent chance of survival.

The fifth baby out of the womb, the 10.3-ounce girl, will have a tougher fight, he said.

"For that particular baby it's probably less than an 85 percent chance, and she'll have a higher risk than the larger babies for developing developmental problems," said Cooper, who described her chances at 65 percent to 75 percent.

Chief among the worries was lung development. Baby A, the girl born Dec. 8, was delivered 15 weeks premature. Her two brothers and five brothers who followed early Sunday morning were born 13

weeks early and all placed on ventilators. All the babies were sedated so they wouldn't be disturbed by nurses adjusting them in their incubators, doctors examining their vital signs and other activities.

Possible developmental delays for the babies include problems with the eyes, lung and the brain.

"There's a lot of hurdles for this baby to jump before it's determined what this individual's life is going to be like," said Dr. Randle Corfman, director of the Midwest Center for Reproductive Health in Robbinsdale, Minn.

Making it outside the womb alive is half the battle, he said.

With multiple births on the rise, Weisman said the medical community is concerned.

"It's alarming in the sense premature babies have problems," he said.

Five babies as small as the octuplets survive more than a few hours after birth. An Illinois girl born in August 1997

weighed 12 ounces but went home weighing five times her birth weight three months later. In 1989, doctors at Loyola University's children's hospital successfully delivered a baby girl who weighed 9.9 ounces. The smallest McCaughey septuplet, Kelsey Ann, weighed 2 pounds, 5 ounces at birth.

Cooper, who said he'll be working at Texas Children's next week and probably will look after some of the Chukwu babies, said newborns between 1 and 2 pounds would have had little chance of survival when he began practicing in the early 1980s.

"Now these are pretty big-sized premature babies and at 30 weeks, they're almost big enough not to worry about too much," Cooper said.

Mrs. Chukwu, 27, who along with her family has declined to meet with the media, was bedridden at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital for 15 weeks to protect both her and her babies. For the last nine

weeks, she was on medication to delay delivery as long as possible.

"Mom is a remarkable woman," said Dr. Brian Kirshon, the high-risk obstetrician who coordinated the 28-person delivery effort. "She would go to any lengths to prolong this pregnancy and to get the outcome that she had."

Chukwu's husband Lyke was not at the hospital during the delivery. Officials declined to speculate why; interview requests to the father made through hospital staff were declined.

A call to the family's four-bedroom home in southwest Houston was not returned to The Associated Press on Monday.

The Chukwus' neighbors were surprised but delighted at the news of the births.

"I'll sure do everything I can to help," said Jorge Dumantay, who lives next door. "It's just amazing. I guess we have eight new neighbors."

QUILTERS: Young patients get warm gift from guild members

(From 1B)

"We were having so much fun working with the children, and we knew about Cook, so we talked with Kristy to get an idea of how many children come through the clinic to make sure we could handle that many quilts," Ms. Stanton said. Clinic nurses also gave them information on patients' ages and, once the quilts were made, helped match them with each child.

The quilts are made using patterns the quilters called simple and fun, and much of the fabric and batting used in the quilts is donated.

Kelsey Lane, 9, said she plans to wrap up in her new quilt and watch television. She was busy drawing a house decorated with Christmas lights for the quilt to be auctioned.

Her grandmother, George Ann Crowders, said Kelsey has been in remission for almost two years, having been diagnosed with cancer shortly after the Midland clinic opened.

"It's a blessing the clinic is

here," she said, adding that "I think it's really neat what the guild is doing."

Martin Ellis, 18 months, has been undergoing treatment at the clinic for four months, said his mother, Natalie Garcia. Despite his young age, he scribbled a drawing and provided an outline of his hand to be placed on the children's quilt.

Denise Chavarria, 13, comes to the clinic from Pecos and said she appreciated the quilt.

She noted that she had to make two trips to Dallas before her cancer was diagnosed and her aunt, Anita Prieto, said the family was grateful for the Midland location.

"A long time ago you had to go to Houston or Dallas for treatment," Ms. Prieto said. "It's nice to be able to drive here from Pecos. She feels at home here."

Ms. Stanton said her guild has 130 members, "and half of them are actively involved in some phase of this project. It's been near and dear to our hearts."

Researchers close in on sudden-death gene

DALLAS (AP) — Researchers say they have all but located a gene responsible for a heart-rhythm abnormality that can cause young, seemingly healthy people to drop dead without warning.

The disorder, arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia, or ARVD, could be responsible for 5 percent to 15 percent of sudden deaths among people under 35.

People who are diagnosed with the disorder can be treated with implanted defibrillators, drugs

and, occasionally, surgery. But often, ARVD goes unnoticed until a person drops dead.

Researchers found the gene's approximate location by studying seven generations of a large Canadian family that included 10 people with ARVD. They hope to isolate the gene and then clone it — perhaps within a year or two — and develop a blood test to identify carriers of the deadly flaw.

"The immediate benefit is you can then screen people who have the bad gene, and they can have a

defibrillator put in," said Dr. Robert Roberts of the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. A defibrillator shocks the heart to restore a normal rhythm.

The findings were published in today's issue of Circulation, a journal of the American Heart Association.

Roberts' team studied DNA from 149 members of the family and narrowed down the location of the mutant gene to an area of chromosome 3.

MISSING: Forensic anthropologist leads 36 officers

(From 1B)

the search (on foot) and provided as much guidance as he could," Painter said. "We used a cadaver dog" to assist in the search.

The situation is "very sad," he said.

Previous searches have been by horseback and helicopter.

"We fear foul play," said Painter, who noted that additional searches would be held as leads develop.

Mrs. Hulslander's mother, Elsie Ratliff, 55, of Colorado City, said Monday night, "I believe in my heart that she is dead and that she has been hidden. She would have called me, her mom, and her children."

Her children are three sons,

Dakota, 9, Aaron, 7, and Todd, 6, who are living with their grandmother, and two daughters, Cati, almost 2, and Cori, 3, who live with their father, Alan Hulslander of rural Midland County.

Mrs. Ratliff said her 5-foot-8 daughter, who planned to study to become a drug counselor "to prevent children from making mistakes with drugs, is a fighter; she's a scrapper. If someone tried to kill her, they would have 'a go' at it unless they caught her unaware. She did not run off."

Her husband said his wife "could be anywhere," and that her belongings, including clothing, were still at the house. "I don't have any idea" of her whereabouts, he said.



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E-MAIL: Efficiency makes technology hit with users

(From 1B)

Javan said. "It does work with friends. To keep in touch with friends, e-mail is great as opposed to sending letters."

But because of the lack of intimacy associated with e-mail, Javan now calls her mother.

"The fact that e-mail was cheap was good enough for me," Joni said. "Javan did good for a while; she now calls home more."

Linda Foster, Southwestern Bell area manager-external affairs, loves e-mail.

"Working for a company with more than 100,000 employees, e-mail allows us to update policies and get that information to all employees within minutes."

Over the past five years, Southwestern Bell has experienced a 5 percent increase in additional lines in homes and businesses. Because there is no way to monitor the use

of the additional lines, the increase has not been officially attributed to the increasing popularity of the Internet.

Like Southwestern Bell, companies all over the world are conducting business by e-mail for low cost. But, communication is limited, she said.

"E-mail takes away the personal feel. Its efficiency allows me to log on, say what I need to say, and log off, even at midnight."

For some companies, the lack of verbal communications is minimal. After all, e-mail offers its users the ability to send messages to multiple receivers from a single source and get verification of receipt for no additional cost.

Because of its efficiency, e-mail has replaced many telephone calls, faxes and mail. Users are allowed the privacy of a phone call with the speed of the Internet. For many users, the speed is the deter-

mining factor.

But the efficiency of e-mail does not go unchallenged. Lawmakers are dealing with e-mail's flaws, most notably spamming, according to Michael Eidson, owner and operator of Power Net Online, a local Internet vendor.

Spam is equivalent to postal junk mail. These unsolicited e-

mails are provided by companies whose business is to acquire private e-mail addresses by not-so-honorable means and sell them to other businesses. Thus, users log on to discover that they have as many as 700 messages.

Despite their flaws, the Internet and e-mail are rapidly securing their place in the new millennium.

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Senate weighs trial rules; Gore pushes for compromise

By Larry Margasak
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate officials dusted off 130-year old impeachment procedures Monday, studying how to conduct a trial for President Clinton, even as Al Gore urged former Senate colleagues to find "a fair bipartisan compromise" to end up with censure.

While the vice president continued to make his case, Senate officials moved ahead with consideration of procedures originally written for the Andrew Johnson trial in 1868. One official has also made initial contact with the office of Chief Justice William Rehnquist, who would preside over a trial as specified in the Constitution.

Gore has emerged as a principal voice for the idea of a censure compromise while White House lawyers huddle privately on more detailed strategy to fight the two impeachment articles the House approved Saturday. Clinton is charged with lying to a federal grand jury and obstructing justice to conceal his relationship with former intern Monica Lewinsky.

Though leaving open the option of possible legal challenges to a trial, the White House is focusing in the short term on seeking a compromise resulting in censure, according to presidential aides and advisers.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., has said a trial would begin after the Senate returns Jan. 6.

Lott, who is in Mississippi for the holiday break, "is not open to the idea that they're going to derail the process prematurely," said his spokesman John Czwartacki. "His mindset is that he's in a juror mode." Senators serve as jurors in an impeachment trial.

However, even Republicans were talking about the possibility of censure. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas said that a trial would commence but "a lot of doors and a lot of options" would then open. "I think that at some point I think censure is going to be one of the options."

The White House received warnings from Democrats about trying legal maneuvers that would challenge the legitimacy of the House's impeachment vote.

"I think anything that is seen as parliamentary maneuvering to get out of this is not going to be accepted by the American public," Sen. John Breaux of Louisiana said in a CNN interview.

Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., said such a challenge would be a "terrible mistake."

And Sen. Robert Byrd of West Virginia, the senior Democratic senator, said, "For the good of our nation, there must be no deal involving the White House or any entity beyond the U.S. Senate."

Gore, a senator from 1985-91, said, "I do hope that the United States Senate will rise to this moment, as it so often does, to be the voice of reason, deliberation and healing that America needs."

"I hope the Senate will, therefore, forge a fair bipartisan compromise to end this matter promptly and to end it in a way that will respect the will and the wisdom of the American people," he said.

During the House impeachment proceedings, presidential aides looked to make the case for censure through surrogates and openly attacked the inquiry as partisan and illegitimate. Now, the White House is openly lobbying for censure.

Officials in the White House legislative affairs office were contacting key Senate players, trying to see where each senator stood.

Presidential aides and outside advisers said they expected George Mitchell, the former Senate majority leader who has been advising the White House informally, to play a larger role in contacting senators. And the White House is likely to rely on other figures seen as "elder statesmen" to make the case, the officials said.

Two former presidents, Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter, argued for censure in a New York Times op-ed piece Monday in which they suggested that Clinton publicly acknowledge lying under oath. Part of the deal would prevent a

future prosecution of Clinton. One adviser said the White House was watching to see if there were any senators willing to reach out to Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr — who would have to be part of such a deal — to see whether he would agree not to indict the president when he leaves office.

Clinton's lawyers have steadfastly refused to allow Clinton to admit to anything that might risk future prosecution for perjury.

The president might receive some unexpected help in seeking a censure deal from House Republicans who voted for impeachment.

Ken Johnson, spokesman for Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., said the lawmaker had had discussions with senators "who believe it's

time to put this behind us." "There's nothing the Senate can do that would be any stronger than what the House did," Johnson said. "The Senate is not likely to remove the president."

Congressional officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Republicans are reviewing whether the new Congress will have to vote anew on the appointment of House managers to press

the case for impeachment in the Senate.

The Republicans will hold a narrower majority, 223-211, with one Democratic-leaning independent. If, as expected, outgoing Speaker

Newt Gingrich does not take the oath of office for a new term, the majority would be reduced even further, leaving the outcome of a vote on any impeachment-related matters somewhat unpredictable.

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Teen gets 45 years in 'Scream' stabbings of ex-girlfriend's parents

CHIPPEWA FALLS, Wis. (AP) — A teen-ager who stabbed an ex-girlfriend's parents while wearing a black robe and white mask like the attacker in the slasher movie "Scream 2" was sentenced Monday to 45 years in prison.

Thaddeus Swim, 16, indicated that he was influenced by the movies and "that his reality and fiction started to intertwine," District Attorney Tim Scobie said.

Swim had pleaded guilty to battery and attempted murder for wounding Eugene and Debbie Neitte in their home on July 27. Mrs. Neitte was seriously wounded in the neck. Her husband, a police officer, had less serious wounds.

Swim was wearing a costume similar to the hooded Grim Reaper outfit worn by the knife-wielding attacker in "Scream 2."

Swim will be eligible for parole after serving one-fourth of the term.

Want c
Buy it

By Martin Cru

WASHINGTON — wavering about sive cashmere French handb consider this: between the Europe could n er European store shelves n

The Clinton announced Mon slap punitive early next year lions of doll imports, effect price. It's the la year battle over import rules.

The dispute c short of the tari But both sides i in their heels fo between the w trading partner reached, the s take effect Ma

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Section 301. "It is time to the pernicious

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Want cashmere for Christmas? Buy it now before price goes up

By Martin Crutsinger
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — If you were wavering about buying that expensive cashmere sweater or fancy French handbag for Christmas, consider this: A nasty trade fight between the United States and Europe could make those and other European imports scarce on store shelves next year.

The Clinton administration announced Monday that it plans to slap punitive tariffs of 100 percent early next year on hundreds of millions of dollars in European imports, effectively doubling their price. It's the latest action in a six-year battle over Europe's banana import rules.

The dispute could still be resolved short of the tariffs going into effect. But both sides appear to be digging in their heels for a bitter trade war between the world's two biggest trading partners. If no settlement is reached, the sanctions likely will take effect March 3.

An official of the 15-nation European Union immediately denounced the U.S. threat of sanctions and said Europe would file a case before the World Trade Organization challenging the validity of the U.S. law under which the punitive tariffs are imposed, known as Section 301.

"It is time to take action against the pernicious and unlawful effect

of this wholly unilateral trade legislation," said EU Trade Commissioner Leon Brittan.

The United States argued that the real issue was whether Europe will abide by the WTO's rulings. The Geneva-based trade group was created in 1995 to serve as a final arbiter in such disputes.

The items subject to the tariffs range from clothing such as expensive cashmere sweaters and French and Italian handbags to sheep's milk cheese, British biscuits and German coffee makers. Other targeted items include candles, felt paper, folding cartons, greeting cards, lithographs, cotton bed linens and chandeliers.

Because their price in American stores would essentially double overnight, stores would be less likely to carry them, assuming shoppers would prefer similar products not subject to the tariffs.

Wine, which was on a preliminary sanction list, was left off the final list at the request of American wine makers who expressed concerns that the punitive sanctions could, in turn, harm their sales in Europe.

At issue is a WTO ruling in September 1997 that the European import rules covering bananas unfairly discriminate against Latin American-grown bananas in favor of those grown in former British and French colonies in the Caribbean, Africa and Pacific islands.

Lyme disease vaccine approved

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration approved the world's first vaccine against Lyme disease Monday, a shot anxiously awaited in tick-infested regions — but one that won't eliminate the threat.

Doctors warned that although SmithKline Beecham's LYMERIX will help prevent Lyme disease, it isn't 100 percent protective and it takes three shots over a full year to build optimal immunity. So people still must take precautions against ticks, the FDA stressed.

"You'll have to continue to use insecticides, continue to check for and remove attached ticks," said FDA immunologist Karen Elkins. As one researcher put it, she added, "People should not consider this a license to run willy-nilly through the woods."

The FDA approved LYMERIX for vaccination of people ages 15

to 70 who live or work in grassy or wooded areas where Lyme disease-bearing ticks are present. Although doctors say a Lyme vaccine is urgently needed for children, SmithKline is still studying whether LYMERIX is safe in children and adequately protects them.

Another big question is how long the protection offered by those first three LYMERIX shots will last. SmithKline is studying whether people will need yearly booster shots.

SmithKline said it will ship the vaccine to doctors' offices in a few weeks, but refused to disclose the price.

Lyme disease is caused by a bacterium carried by pin-sized ticks that live in wooded and grassy areas nationwide, but especially in the Northeast and upper Midwest.

DEAR ABBY

Renting with boyfriend could cost woman her independence

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I am a female, 20 years old. I live in an apartment by myself, have a new car and heavy new car payments. I'm working two jobs in order to pay my bills.



Van Buren

Work takes up so much of my time and energy that, quite frankly, I'm about ready to go crazy. Not only that, I don't have time to go to school, which is really terrible — because I have career goals.

My boyfriend and I have dated almost three years. We were best friends for a year and a half before we started going out. He's a wonderful guy, and we've always gotten along great. He lives in a house with a roommate and things aren't going well there, so the

idea of us living together came up. It's not like, "Oh, we need to take our relationship a step further." It's just that we'd both greatly benefit from it, and we get along great — so why not? I know he'd be a good roommate.

My problem? If I didn't have financial problems, and could go back to school as things are now, I wouldn't live with him. I prefer living alone. I have thought this through, but there really are no other alternatives. There aren't any apartments that would cut my living expenses enough so I could quit my second job.

I'm afraid if we live together it would be for the wrong reasons. But if I don't, I won't be able to go back to school. Do you think it would be a mistake? If so, have you any suggestions? — SCARED TO SHARE IN ARIZONA

DEAR SCARED: Yes. Do not move in with anyone unless you're 100 percent sure you want to live with that person. Sell the new car and drive something more eco-

nomical, and put an ad in the paper for a female roommate to share expenses until you can live alone without causing yourself economic hardship. That way, you won't risk losing a boyfriend.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a sophomore attending college in Houston. Every once in a while since I've been in school, I would receive an e-mail message from my grandmother with a nice poem or meaningful essay. I never questioned where she got them because she has always loved to read, and I knew she probably ran across things like that quite often.

On my last birthday in July, she sent me a copy of your booklet titled "Keepers," and as I flipped through it I recognized several of the pieces she had sent me. Then I knew where she had gotten them.

Gramma died suddenly last month of a massive stroke. It was a shock to all of us because we had no idea she wasn't in tiptop shape.

Last week, Mom and I went to her home to sort through her

things and distribute her belongings to family members or her favored charities. I found your booklet in her night stand, right next to her Bible. She must have treasured the booklet to have kept it next to her Bible, which she read every day without fail.

Thank you, Abby, for putting so many meaningful things in one booklet. I'm sure she isn't the only one who has enjoyed it. I will treasure my copy even more knowing she liked it, too. — CYNTHIA BETH IN HOUSTON

DEAR CYNTHIA BETH: Thank you for your heartwarming letter. It pleases me that your grandmother shared her favorite pieces from "Keepers" with you. Please accept my deepest sympathy for the death of your beloved Gramma.

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

Judge allows school records in competency case

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. (AP) — A judge ruled Monday that doctors may use school records and a television interview in evaluating a man who earned good grades in college after being declared incompetent to stand trial in the slaying of his ex-girlfriend.

Kenneth Curtis, 33, suffered brain damage in October 1987 when he shot himself after allegedly killing 21-year-old Donna Kalsen and wounding Ms. Kalsen's date.

Curtis never stood trial for the alleged attack because psychiatrists deemed him incapable of even talking to his lawyers.

But in November 1997, he was re-arrested after police found out that he'd been taking classes at several colleges, earning a B-plus average.

Last month, Judge John Ronan ordered a new competency exam by

a state-appointed psychiatric team.

In his ruling Monday — which allows the doctors to consider Curtis' school records and a 1997 interview by WTNH-TV — Ronan said that "the more information the (psychiatric) team has, the better — for all concerned."

In the secretly recorded interview, Curtis — speaking clearly and with his head held straight — tells an undercover producer that he plans to get a doctorate in psychology.

The image contrasts sharply with his withdrawn demeanor during court appearances.

Curtis' lawyer, Salvatore DePiano, objected to use of the interview, saying doctors must render an opinion on competency on the day of the examination, not any time before or after.

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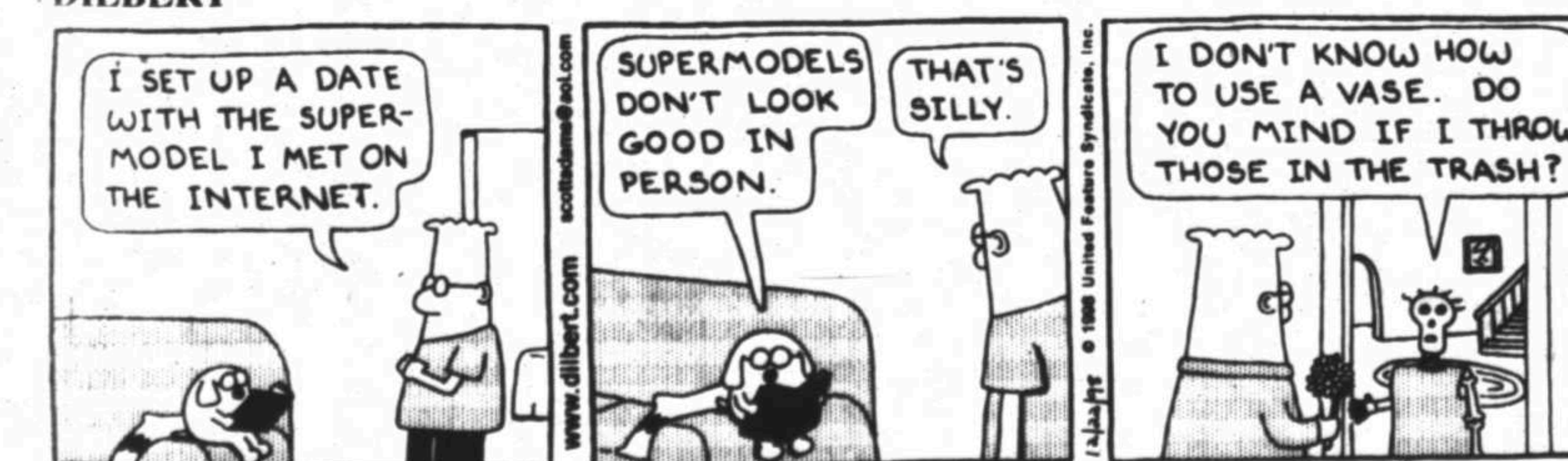
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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Dec. 22, 1998:

You will expand emotionally in 1999. How you manifest this depends on your priorities, though you are likely to focus on domestic life. This could include a new home or renovating your present abode. Some will acquire roommates or a new addition. Finances and building security are highlighted. If you are single, there will be touches of romance with an important relationship entering your life in the next two years. Attractiveness is high. If attached, there could be a lot of discussion about commitments and life decisions. AQUARIUS helps you make money.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You are probably used to the unexpected, yet now it is difficult to contain your temper. You are in jeopardy of losing control of a situation. Be ready to make amends, and quickly at that. Establish limits. Reach out for someone who is at a distance. Tonight: You are happiest with friends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Developments at work might jolt you. Dig in and handle them, rather than going ballistic. Listen carefully before you make a decision. Someone helps you see both sides. Romance could be intense right now. Let it happen. Tonight: Discuss what is really going on.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You gain insight from someone's reactions. You mean well, but your actions could undermine you. Gather feedback. Imagine what it would be like to walk in someone else's shoes. You don't have the whole story. Make calls. Tonight: Look at

the long-term.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Share quiet words with others. Relating enhances your relationships. It feels like everyone wants a piece of you. Enjoy the popularity. Energy is high; you get a lot done most efficiently. Allow your creativity and imagination to flourish. Tonight: Wrap presents.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Allow others to be themselves. Trying to change them is close to impossible. A misunderstanding happens, perhaps because someone sees your caring as more than it is. Be very clear with others. You don't need uproar. Tonight: Go along with someone's plans.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Finish as much work as you can. Pressure intensifies this time of year. You could overspend. Listen carefully to feedback, and try to understand what someone wants. A loved one has expectations of spending more time with you. Don't take his actions personally. Tonight: Meet obligations.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Allow your friendly side to emerge. It isn't like you to be warlike or quarrelsome. Stress could cause you to be reactive. A loved one does everything they can to lighten your up. Allow more caring into your life; don't cut someone off. Tonight: Naughty and very nice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Your need to control comes out now. Unfortunately, you could be quite frustrated by what goes on. Loosen up some. If you are angry, avoid an explosion. Sit down and have a needed discussion. You won't

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

want to ruin the holidays. Tonight: Head on home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Expect the unexpected and you will be pleasantly surprised. Don't let money or someone's expectation ruin a near-perfect holiday. Friendship builds when you exchange ideas. Make plans with friends as well as family. Tonight: My, you are popular!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Be indulgent and understanding with someone, even if he throws a temper tantrum. Your easy, caring manner helps him be more objective about what is going on. Emphasize responsibility and how others see you. Be careful just how far you go with last-minute expenditures. Tonight: Tie up loose ends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Everything happens as it should, but you could throw a monkey wrench into someone's plans. Recognize limits. Don't suppress anger; discuss what is bothering you. Someone needs to understand. You are sensitive and upset others with your unpredictability. Tonight: Make the call.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Listen to feedback from a friend, even if you're offended by what you hear. Recognize that there are many different paths to a goal. Open up to possibilities; be more relaxed about what could be, then go for what you want. Don't hold back. Tonight: Slow down.

BORN TODAY

Actor Hector Elizondo (1936), TV journalist Diane Sawyer (1946), golfer Jan Stephenson (1951)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

HOT AIR IS COSTLY

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 10 4	♥ A K Q 4 3	♠ K	♥ 10 9 8 6 5 2
♦ A J 2	♣ 9 8 3	♦ 10 9 8 6 5 2	♣ 8 7 6 4
SOUTH		K	
♠ A Q J 7 5 3 2	♥ J 7	♠ A Q J 7 5 3 2	♥ J 7
♦ Void	♣ A J 6 5	♦ Void	♣ A J 6 5

The bidding:
EAST 3♥
SOUTH 4♠
WEST Pass
NORTH 5♥
Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠

There is a tendency among duplicate players, when the vulnerability is favorable, for ever lighter opening preempts. That can lead to some strange results, as this deal from a team match illustrates.

To preempt at the three-level on a bad six-card suit with all the high cards on the side is bizarre, to say the least. We would not think of any action other than pass with the East hand. South felt that the holding merited more than just three spades,

which might sound to partner as merely a competitive effort, so jumped to four spades. North cannot be faulted for moving toward slam, but South was not interested.

West led a club and declarer captured East's king with the ace. The bidding and the opening lead made it clear that West held no hearts, so declarer was not tempted to try to get to dummy for the spade finesse. Instead, declarer laid down the ace of spades, with gratifying results. Trumps were drawn, three clubs were discarded on the ace of diamonds and two good hearts, and declarer took all the tricks.

At the other table, East saw no reason to open the bidding, and North-

South ended in a quiet four spades. Again the lead was a club to the king and ace. Declarer, mesmerized by the lure of an overtrick or two, tried to cross to dummy with a heart to take the trump finesse. West ruffed, cashed the queen of clubs and gave partner a club ruff, then ruffed another heart for down one.

Five spades making seven at one table, four spades down one at the other!

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10 WGN

11 WTBS

29 FAM

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FAMILY CIRCUS



"Don't tell ANYBODY, Mommy. It's a surprise! We got you a fax machine!"

ZITS



ANDY CAPP



DENNIS THE MENACE



"SCUSE ME, BUT CAN YOU HELP ME TALK MY MOM INTO BUYING THIS?"

PEOPLE TODAY

Qualms for Minnesota's new first lady

MINNEAPOLIS — The wife of Gov.-elect Jesse Ventura has no doubts about her husband's ability to handle his new job. It's herself she's worried about.

"I'm worried about how I'll do a lot more than how he'll do," Terry Ventura said. "I'll be picking up the wrong fork. I'll be the one tripping down the stairs in her formal gown."

In an interview taped for Tuesday's "Dateline NBC," Mrs. Ventura said her reaction to her husband's upset victory on Nov. 3 was not entirely joyful.

"When I saw the big check mark on the TV screen, at one point I went and sat in my mom's lap and cried," Mrs. Ventura said. "I was afraid that I don't know how to do this. I don't know how — what — to be. My mom said, 'Just be who you are.'"

LOS ANGELES — Pat Boone, fit and tan at 64, attributes his good health to tennis, pumping iron — and soup.

"My breakfast is generally vegetable soup," he said in Monday's Los Angeles Times. "I always was a cereal guy. I wanted the fiber. But if you eat plenty of vegetables, you'll get plenty of fiber."

Boone still drinks milk, but less of it, and skim.

"I cut way down on milk. People say, 'Don't you still drink a lot of milk?' Well, no. I advertised milk for years. Love it. We still keep 2 percent or skim milk in the refrigerator," Boone said.

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — George Michael has completed 80 hours of community service as part of his no-contest plea to lewd conduct in a park restroom.

Municipal Court Judge Charles Rubin warned the singer's attorney during a hearing Monday that Michael is under a court order to stay out of Will Rogers Park for the duration of his probation, about 17 more months.

"Make sure he is reinforced of that," Rubin said after Brad Barnholtz gave the judge proof that Michael completed his community service with a youth leadership program and paid \$910 in fines. He also participated in five, one-hour counseling sessions.

Michael, 35, was arrested April 7 by an undercover police officer in a restroom at the park across from the Beverly Hills Hotel. He acknowledged he was gay after the incident.

NEW YORK — Robin Williams says playing positive char-

acters like Patch Adams comes from his desire to connect with people.

"That's why I've only done one film where I've played, in essence, a villain," Williams said in Monday's Daily News.

"Patch Adams" is based on the life of a doctor who believes in the healing power of humor.

"I've seen the healing power of laughter one-on-one with Chris Reeve. I've seen with other people the effect it has. I've seen it visiting children's wards."

If serious fails for Williams, there's always zany.

"The zany, kind of wild performance things is something I choose to do. It's not something I have to do."

CHAGRIN FALLS, Ohio — Bill Watterson, the creator of the comic strip "Calvin and Hobbes," is enjoying the quiet life back in his hometown in northeast Ohio.

"He would like it all to fade away," his father, Jim Watterson, said in Sunday's edition of The Cleveland Plain Dealer. "He doesn't get his kicks by being famous."

The cartoon about Calvin, an imaginative, mischievous 6-year-old, and Hobbes, the stuffed tiger who came to life around Calvin, ran for 10 years and appeared in more than 2,400 newspapers.

The last strip ran Dec. 31, 1995. About that time, Watterson, 40, moved from New Mexico back to his hometown of Chagrin Falls, a picturesque community 20 miles east of Cleveland.

Since then, Watterson has been painting and "enjoying life," said Lee Salem, editorial director at Universal Press Syndicate.

Will he ever resume "Calvin and Hobbes?"

"I don't know how to answer that, which may surprise you that I didn't say a flat-out no," Salem said. "But I think it's low on his list of priorities."

CULVER CITY, Calif. — Vanessa Redgrave has joined Winona Ryder in the cast of "Girl Interrupted," Columbia Pictures said Monday.

The drama will star Ryder as author Susanna Kaysen, who in the 1960s was diagnosed with borderline personality disorder and spent two years in a New England psychiatric ward.

Redgrave will portray the psychiatrist who confronts Kaysen and helps her reclaim her life.

Angelina Jolie, Whoopi Goldberg and Brittany Murphy will also appear.

The movie, based on Kaysen's book, is being directed by James Mangold and will be filmed in Harrisburg, Pa. It is scheduled for release next October.

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram wire reports.



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DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited by Trude Michel Jaffe

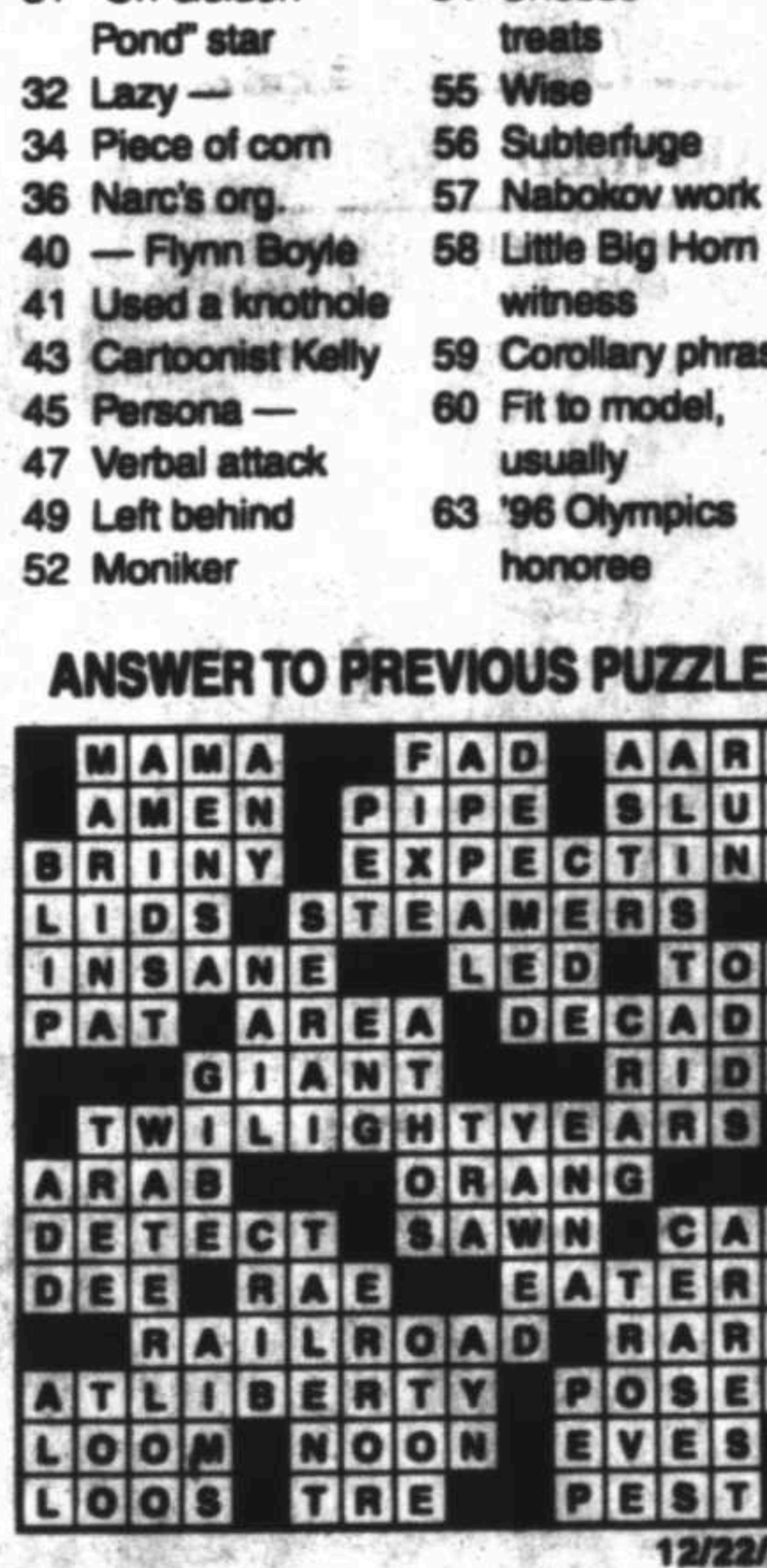
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- Eye shades
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- Social climber
- Rat
- Mild cigar
- "Clock scholar"
- Mozambique neighbor
- Amazes
- Way to order food
- Jane's jungle man
- Swiss abstract artist
- Soothing ointment
- Shortstop
- Pee Wee
- Kind of room
- Turns pages swiftly
- Mistreat
- Earl's wife
- Bud's partner
- Speech problem
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- Blasts
- Aristotle's H
- Envelop
- Work list
- Rival of Northwest
- Ringmaster?
- V-shaped fortification
- Badman
- Pancho
- General Bradley
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- Verb form
- "Betsy's Wedding" star
- Neighbor of India
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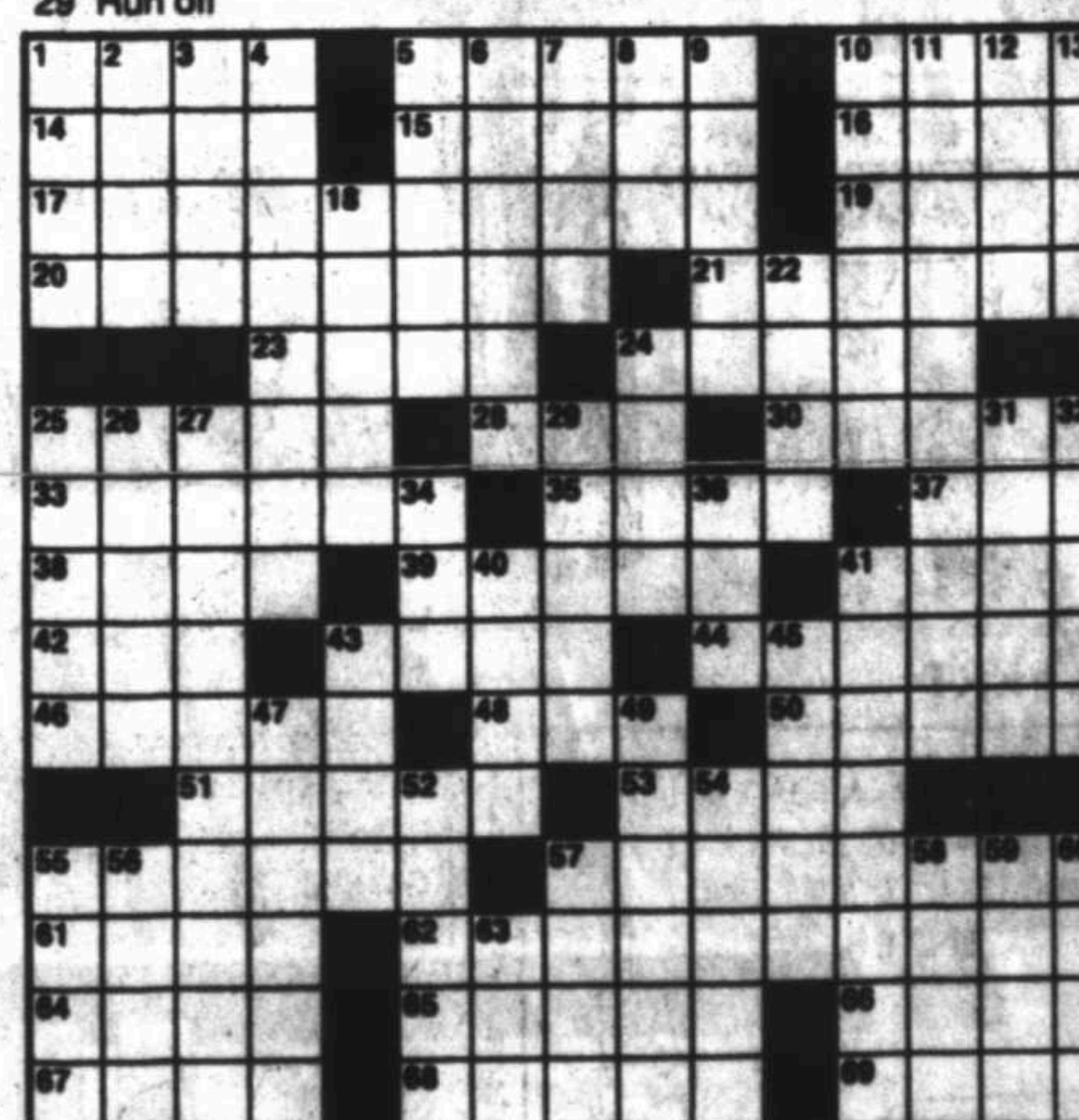
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- Monk's title
- Heart line
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- Distant neighbor of Fiji
- Draft status
- Sailor with a mate
- Big blows
- Friend in need
- Read quickly
- Fit to be tied
- Cream of the crop
- Neighbor of Honduras
- Run off
- 29

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



TV TONIGHT

TUESDAY EVENING									
December 22, 1998									
Broadcast	Channel	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30
3 KMD	23	News 777	Wheel of Fortune	Home	The Hughleys	Spin City 3023	Sports Night	Barbershop 10 Most Fascinating of '88	News 5264
3 KPEJ	24	5	The Simpsons	Home Improvement	King of the Hill	Holding the Baby	Quintessence World Records: Primetime 30368	Mad About You	Jerry Springer 53208
7 KOS	7	News 5377	Entertainment Tonight	JAG: Innocence 67822 (TV14)	3rd Rock From Working 7777	Just Shoot Me Will & Grace	4174	News 514058	Late Show With David Letterman (10:35)
11 KWES	9	News 3551	Stargate 4803	The Light of the Southwest 30632	News 56551	Jay's Mayo	4543	Richard Roberts 26851	Crystal Lyons
12 KMLM	42	12	Harold of Truth	John Hagege 55358	Frontline: From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians (Part 2 of 2) 257019 (TVPG)	News 56551	Jay's Mayo	4543	Richard Roberts 26851
13 KOCV	36	13	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer 420551	News: Venus Unveiled 270463 (TVG)	Frontline: From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians (Part 2 of 2) 257019 (TVPG)	News 56551	Jay's Mayo	4543	Richard Roberts 26851
Cable	Channel	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30
8 CNBC	8	Business Center	Upfront Tonight	Harvard With Chris Matthews 543458	News Live 5400716	News 56551	Jay's Mayo	4543	Richard Roberts 26851
10 WGN	10	Family Matters	Family Matters	Buffy the Vampire Slayer 478342 (TV14-V)	Police: Cheating 587960 (TVPG-D)	News 57754	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)
11 WTBS	11	Roseanne	Roseanne	Jack Frost 798984	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	News 57754	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)
14 FAM	14	Hester	Mr. Bean	Jack Frost 798984	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	News 57754	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)
25 DISC	25	Gimme Shelter: Dornier Addition 406795 (TVG)	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	News 57754	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)
27 AMC	27	Darling Lee 614042	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	News 57754	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)
28 TNT	28	The Watsons 294485	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	News 57754	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)
29 BET	29	ER 367183 (TV14-L)	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	News 57754	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)
30 BET	30	Studio	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	Grizzlies of the Canadian Rockies 894087	News 57754	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)	MacOver: Murderers' Sky 474613 (TVPG-V)
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By Carmen Cohen
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12/22/98

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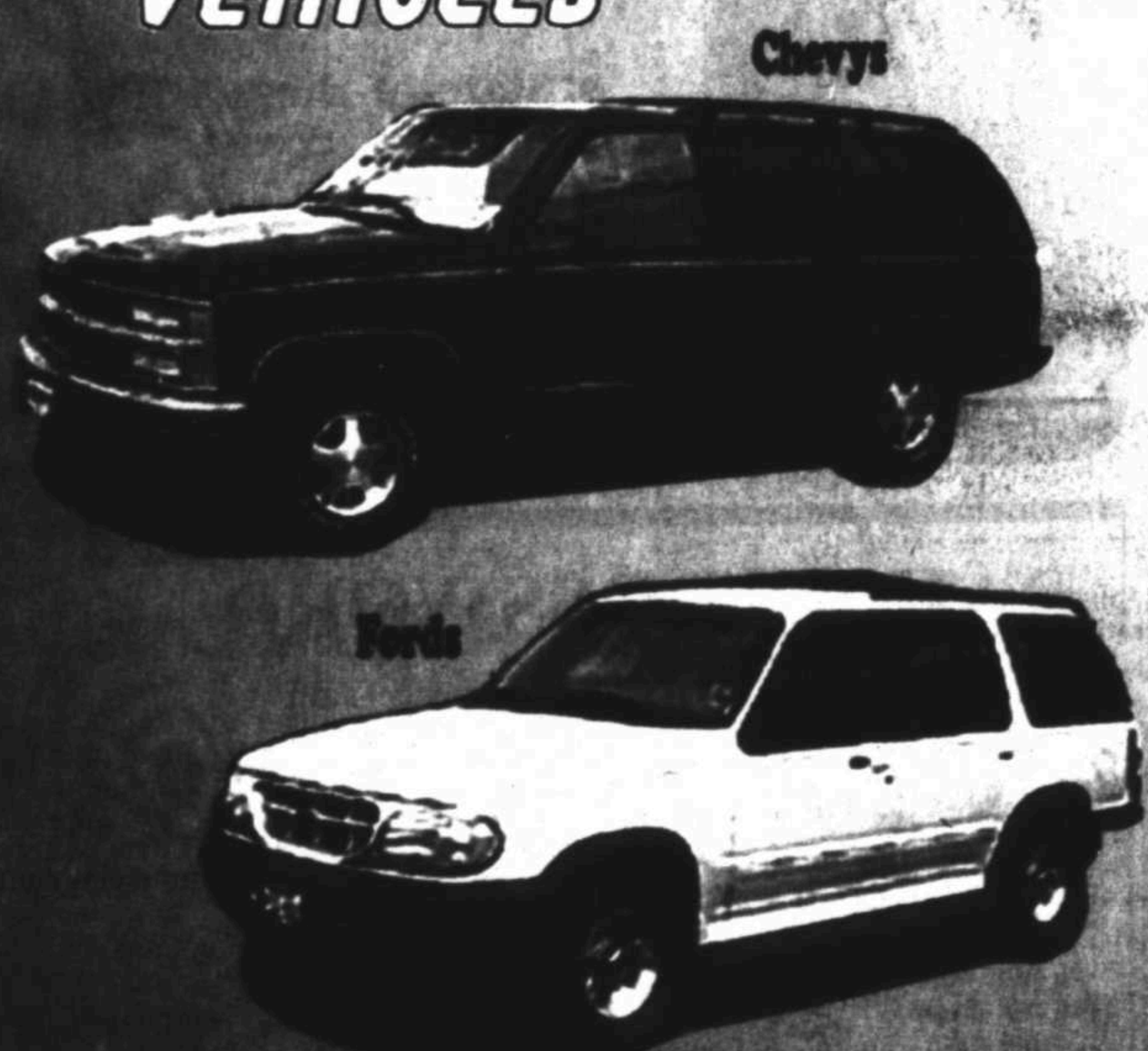


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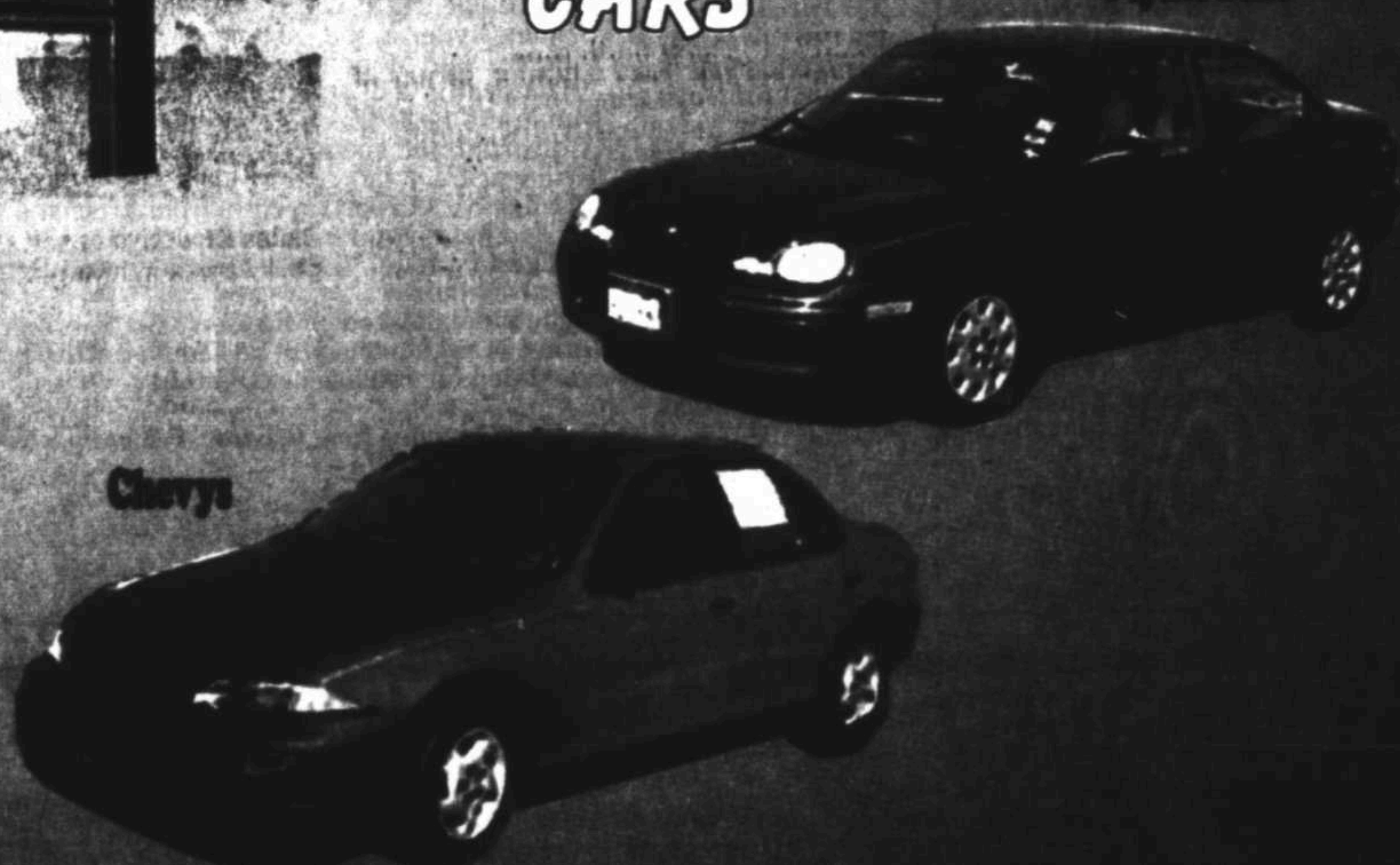
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SPORTS BRIEFING

TV Sports

NCAA BASKETBALL — Jimmy V Classic, South Carolina vs. Purdue, 8 p.m., ESPN; Kentucky vs. Duke, 8 p.m., ESPN.
Oklahoma St. at UNLV, 11 p.m., ESPN.
NHL — Anaheim Mighty Ducks at Colorado Avalanche, 8 p.m., ESPN2.

Texas Scores

COLLEGE BASKETBALL — Men, Tulsa 54, Texas Tech 50; SMU 24, Stephen F. Austin 64. Women, No. 10 Texas Tech 71, James Madison 59.
Texas 81, Central Florida 52.
NHL — Dallas Stars 2, Montreal Canadiens 2.

Sports Today

PREP BASKETBALL — Midland Lee vs. Seminole, 7:30 p.m., Chaparral Center.
WPHL — Kristall Elektrostal at Odessa Jackalopes, 7 p.m. **RADIO:** KMCM (96.9 FM).

Lee ranked 10th

The Midland Lee Rebels finished 10th in the final USA Today Super 25 Rankings released on Monday. Lee, which had been unranked the week before, leapt into the Top 10 after an impressive 54-0 win in the Class 5A Division II title game over San Antonio MacArthur. Ironically, Lee replaces Katy at the No. 10 spot in the rankings. Katy had to forfeit its chance for a state championship because a seldom-used reserve lineman falsified his grades. Taking the No. 1 spot was De La Salle High School from Concord, Calif., after extending a winning streak to a national record 88 games with their seventh consecutive North Coast Section 4A title.

Here are the rankings with the season records:

1. De La Salle, Concord, Calif. (12-0); 2. Mater Dei, Santa Ana, Calif. (13-1); 3. Evangel Christian, Shreveport, La. (15-0); 4. Northwest, Miami (15-0); 5. Poly, Long Beach, Calif. (13-1); 6. Richmond County, Rockingham, N.C. (16-0); 7. Central Bucks West, Doylestown, Pa. (15-0); 8. West Monroe, La. (15-0); 9. Bergen Catholic, Oradell, N.J. (12-0); 10. Lee, Midland (15-1); 11. Blount, Prichard, Ala. (13-0); 12. Valdosta, Ga. (14-1); 13. Demathea, Hyattsville, Md. (12-0); 14. Mount Carmel, Chicago (14-0); 15. Catholic Central, Redford, Mich. (12-0); 16. Warrenville South, Wheaton, Ill. (14-0); 17. McKinley, Canton, Ohio (12-1); 18. Harrison, Farmington Hills, Mich. (13-0); 19. Highlands, Fort Thomas, Ky. (15-0); 20. South, Bloomington, Ind. (14-0); 21. Summerville, S.C. (15-0); 22. St. Louis, Honolulu (13-1); 23. J.A. Fair, Little Rock (14-0); 24. Desert Vista, Tempe, Arizona (14-0); 25. Xavierian, Westwood, Mass. (10-0).

Top 25 basketball

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 20, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Connecticut (64)	8-0	1,736	2
2. Duke (5)	10-1	1,440	3
3. Kentucky (2)	10-1	1,404	4
4. Cincinnati (1)	9-0	1,563	5
5. Maryland	11-1	1,485	6
6. Stanford	7-2	1,341	7
7. North Carolina	12-1	1,322	8
8. Arizona	9-2	1,223	9
9. Purdue	11-1	1,216	10
10. Indiana	11-2	1,080	11
11. New Mexico	7-4	998	12
12. UCLA	8-2	902	13
13. Kansas	8-2	888	14
14. St. John's	9-2	809	15
15. Michigan St.	8-3	783	16
16. Clemson	8-1	680	17
17. Minnesota	7-1	591	18
18. Auburn	13-0	510	19
19. Arkansas	8-2	348	20
20. Wisconsin	10-1	325	21
21. Iowa	8-1	282	22
22. Syracuse	7-3	241	23
23. Oklahoma	6-1	230	24
24. Pittsburgh	7-4	187	25
25. Oklahoma St.	6-3	164	

Others receiving votes: Texas Christian 133, California 66, Florida 53, Tennessee 55, Temple 53, Col. of Charleston 34, Murray St. 34, Penn St. 29, Toledo 28, Tulsa 28, Villanova 25, Mississippi St. 22, N. Carolina St. 12, Oregon 11, DePaul 10, Miami, Ohio 10, Southern Cal 10, SW Missouri St. 9, Washington 8, Creighton 8, Georgia Tech 6, Louisville 6, Rhode Island 6, Georgia 5, Xavier 5, Kansas St. 3, Utah 3, Wake Forest 3, Gonzaga 2, Miami 2, Colorado St. 1, South Florida 1.

McGwire's 70th

NEW YORK — Mark McGwire's 70th home run ball — one of the most sought-after in baseball history — will be auctioned off.

McGwire's record-setting ball and Hank Aaron's 755th home run ball were added to five other baseballs from the past season's home run derby, all to be sold by Guernsey's Auction House in Manhattan on Jan. 12.

Aaron's 755th ball was caught 22 years ago at Milwaukee's County Stadium, by then Brewers groundskeeper Richard Amdt.

Salaries By Position

NEW YORK (AP) — Average 1998 salaries by position, as compiled by the Major League Baseball Players Association. Deferred income without interest is discounted 9 percent per year. Figures include first basemen, second basemen, third basemen, shortstops, catchers and outfielders with 100 or more games at the position; designated hitters with 80 or more games as DHs; starting pitchers with 19 or more starts and relief pitchers with 10 or fewer starts and 25 or more relief appearances.

Position	Average	Players
First base	\$3,720,005	25
DH	3,312,611	10
Outfield	2,861,265	75
Third base	2,770,542	22
Second base	2,460,481	24
Starting Pitcher	2,182,700	128
Catcher	2,115,594	19
Shortstop	1,985,123	25
Relief Pitcher	851,053	198

Salary growth slows down

■ Baseball salaries increase 4.7 percent in '98 with Orioles sporting highest payroll.

By Ronald Blum
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — The increase in baseball salaries slowed to 4.7 percent in 1998, and the Baltimore Orioles displaced the New York Yankees from the top spot for the first time since 1993.

The average salary this year was \$1,398,831, according to final figures released Monday by the Major League Baseball Players Association, up from \$1,336,609 last year. This year's increase is considerably less than the

19.3 percent jump in 1997.

Baltimore, which stumbled to a 79-83 record and a fourth-place finish in the AL East, set a record for team average at \$2,761,464, breaking the previous mark of \$2,303,437 set by the 1997 Yankees.

New York, which won the World Series for the second time in three seasons, had the second-highest average at \$2,229,945, followed by Texas (\$2,108,505), Atlanta (\$2,007,665), the New York Mets (\$1,959,971) and the NL champion San Diego Padres (\$1,895,756). All eight postseason teams were among the top 14.

Texas soared to third in the salary standings from 13th in 1997 while the

Mets jumped to fifth from 15th. The Cubs, who won the NL wild card, increased from 19th to 11th and the Astros, who won the NL Central, went from 22nd to 14th.

Florida, which won the World Series title in 1997, dropped from fifth at \$1,793,766 to 28th at \$462,381 following an unprecedented payroll purge. The Chicago White Sox dropped from seventh to 17th and Cincinnati fell from 16th to 26th.

Montreal had the lowest average salary at \$306,162. Pittsburgh, last in 1997, was next to last this year at \$459,552.

First base once again was the most

Please see MONEY/2C

Cowboys can enjoy their dessert

■ Dallas celebrates NFC East title after Gailey predicted winning division.

By Denne H. Freeman
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Chan Gailey celebrated his first NFC East championship with the Dallas Cowboys as wildly as he knew how.

"I had a big dinner and a bowl of ice cream," he said Monday. "That's as big as I ever celebrate."

The Dallas coach, the former offensive coordinator for the Pittsburgh Steelers, flipped the Cowboys from a 6-10 season in Barry Switzer's final year into a 9-6 team that was the best in a bad division.

Dallas has one game left — at home against Washington on Sunday night — but the outcome won't change the NFC playoff schedule. The Cowboys will be home against a wild-card team on Jan. 2 or Jan. 3.

Gailey predicted the Cowboys would be playing in January during the July training camp. He kept referring to the team as "the 1998-99 Dallas Cowboys."

"If you don't believe you're going to get into the playoffs you shouldn't be playing," Gailey said at the time.

On Monday, Gailey said his team is ready for more surprises in the playoffs. "Greatness has never been achieved without a challenge," Gailey said. "Pull this off and people will say it's one of the greatest (upsets) of all time."

Quarterback Troy Aikman, owner of three Super Bowl rings, said there is no reason the Cowboys can't make an impact in the postseason.

"I'd like to think we can go all the way," Aikman said.

Gailey said Dallas won't go through the motions in the final game against Washington.

Dallas swept the season series from Arizona, Philadelphia and the New York Giants. The Cowboys beat Washington 31-10 on Oct. 4 at Jack Kent Cooke Stadium.

Gailey gave the Cowboys a day off Monday as a reward for winning the NFC East.

"They earned it," he said. "They had



Dallas Cowboys coach Chan Gailey looks over play sheets with players and coaches during the team's game against the Philadelphia Eagles in Irving, Sunday. Gailey is celebrating his first NFC East championship with the Cowboys, who beat the Eagles 13-9.

a lot of ups and downs this year."

Injuries remain a big concern for Gailey. He said cornerback Deion Sanders' status for the playoffs is still a big question mark.

"I don't think anybody knows how that will turn out," Gailey said of Sanders' injured big left toe. "He still has a chance to play in the playoffs. It's taken longer (to heal) than what we thought it would. There's still some swelling. We want to be smart about it. We don't need to push him this week."

Gailey said tight end David LaFleur, who has missed the last two games with a knee injury, could be back Sunday. Defensive end Kavika Pittman, who has a pulled hamstring, will miss 3-6 weeks. Backup running back Chris Warren, who aggravated a groin injury, is doubtful for the Redskins.

Please see REEVES/6C

Reeves' return to hospital dampens Falcon mood

By Paul Newberry
AP Sports Writer

SUWANEE, Ga. — The Atlanta Falcons still were wearing their championship hats and T-shirts Monday, intent on reveling in their first title since 1960. On a hill beside the practice fields, fans spray-painted the grass with a salutation that read: "NFC West Champs. We Love It."

But the Falcons' celebration was tempered by concern for coach Dan Reeves, who returned to the hospital Sunday after complications following heart bypass surgery.

While Reeves was in stable condition at Piedmont Hospital — where he likely will remain for three or four days — the setback in his recovery raised the possibility he won't be healthy enough to

coach Atlanta in its first playoff game since 1995.

"All the hoopla came to a hush," free safety Eugene Robinson said. "The guys were concerned about him."

Reeves, 54, tried to rush his recovery and paid for it with an accelerated heart rate. He held an emotional news conference upon leaving the hospital Friday, only four days after quadruple bypass surgery, and traveled to the team's suburban training complex Saturday to address the players before they left for Detroit.

"He did too much too soon," acting head coach Rich Brooks said. "He needs to take care of himself and we'll take care of the team."

The Reeves family released a statement saying, "Dan experienced a mild heart rhythm disorder, not uncommon

following heart bypass surgery. It has been resolved, and we expect him back to full activity in the near future."

Atlanta (13-2) defeated the Lions 24-17 Sunday to clinch its first division title in 18 years and set a franchise record for victories in a season. The Falcons have a bye in the first round of the playoffs, which gives Reeves an extra week to recover from surgery that alleviated blockages in three arteries.

He had hoped to be involved with some of the game preparation for this Sunday's regular-season finale against Miami. Now, Reeves is under strict orders from his doctors to avoid all contact with the team this week while his condition is treated with blood thinners.

"What he needs is rest, which he didn't get last week," Brooks said. "That's partly our fault, partly your (the medi-

cine) fault and partly his fault. He tried to be accommodating to too many people."

While doctors initially were confident that Reeves would recover in time for the playoffs — particularly if the Falcons earned a bye — Brooks acknowledged that's no longer a certainty.

"The feeling is he'll be able to participate in some form two weeks from now, but that has to be monitored," Brooks said. "We don't want him to jeopardize anything, and the doctors aren't going to let him jeopardize anything like he did last week."

Understandably, the players want Reeves on the sidelines for the playoffs. But, as the Falcons demonstrated Sunday, they can win even he is not around.

Please see REEVES/6C

Dolphins and Marino shred Broncos and Elway

By Steven Wine
AP Sports Writer

MIAMI — The Denver Broncos had two problems Monday night: not enough incentive, and too much Dan Marino.

Dominating in his first matchup against John Elway since 1985, Marino threw for a season-high 355 yards and four touchdowns to lead Miami past Denver 31-21.

Miami (10-5) clinched the final AFC playoff berth as a wild-card entry, giving the AFC East four teams in postseason. The Broncos (13-2), who were unbeaten and looked unbeatable two weeks ago, lost their second game in a row.

The Broncos had little motivation because they had already clinched home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs. Still, they're concerned about the late-season slump.

"We don't want to go into the playoffs like this," tight end Shannon Sharpe said. "We are 10 or 14 points better than that football team. We need to shore this ship up before we go into the playoffs. In a loss, it gives you a chance to be real critical."

The Broncos' loss to the New York Giants last week dashed the tantalizing prospect of an unbeaten Denver team playing in Miami, where the 1972 Dolphins are revered for achieving the NFL's only perfect season.

But it was Miami that looked flat at the outset. The Dolphins fell behind 10-0 before Marino threw scoring passes of 9, 56 and 17 yards to Lamar Thomas, who came into the game with just seven touchdowns in a six-year career.

Marino then hit Oronde Gadsden with an 8-yard scoring pass for a 28-13 lead.

"He's a Hall of Famer," Broncos cornerback Darren Gordon said. "He threw the ball as well as he had in a long time."

The Dolphins' defense did the rest. Elway, playing in Miami for the first time in his 16-year career, completed only 13 of 36 passes for 151 yards and was intercepted twice in the fourth quarter.

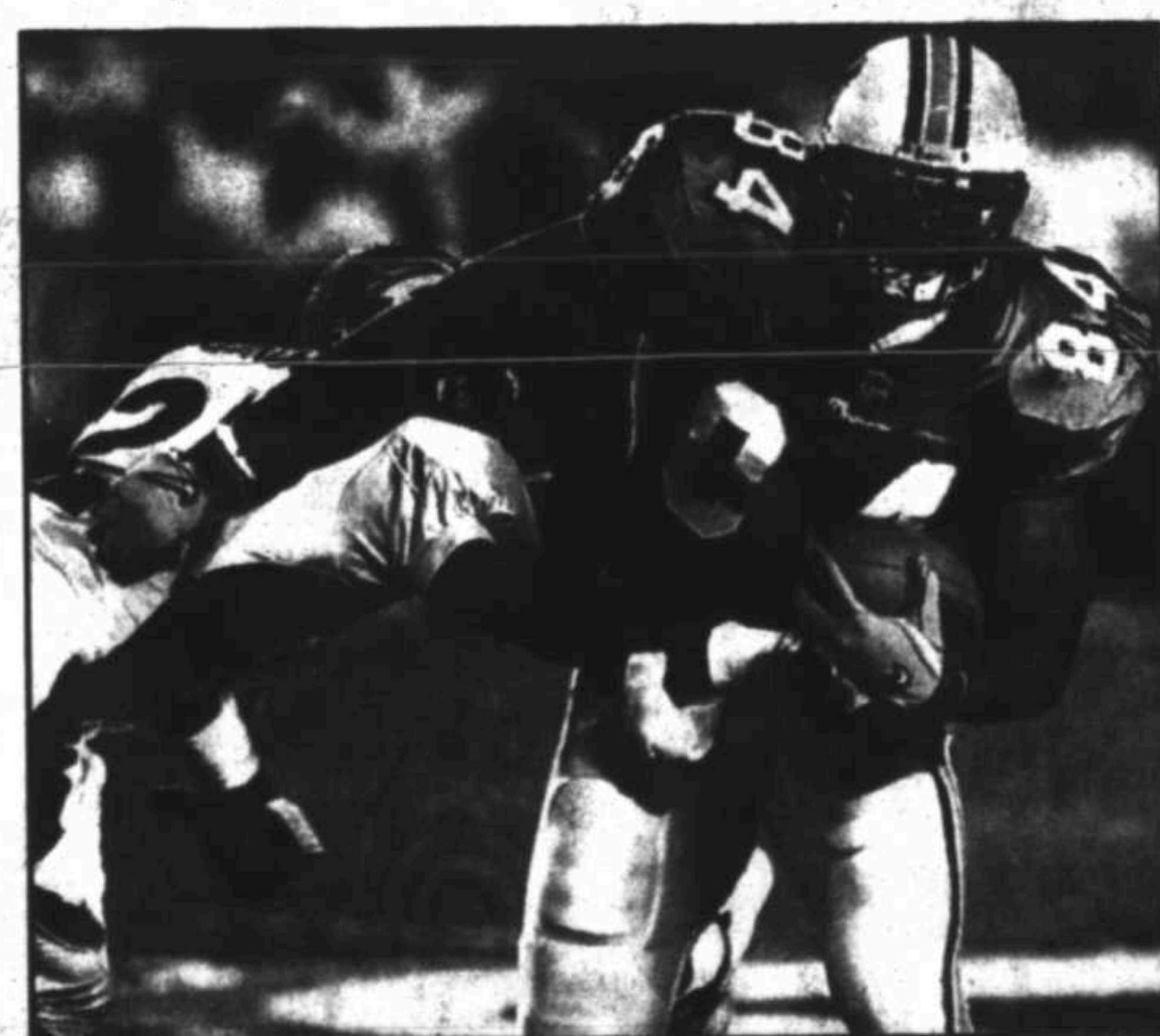
Marino went 23-for-38 and surpassed 3,000 yards passing for the 13th season, an NFL record.

"When you play a team like Denver, you've got to score every opportunity you get, because they have a lot of firepower," Marino said. "We knew everybody had to play well for us to win because they're the best team in the league."

Denver's Terrell Davis had a season-low 29 yards in 16 carries, leaving him 170 yards shy of 2,000.

"Our guys really gave a great effort, every one of them," Miami coach Jimmy Johnson said. "I don't know if you can say enough about our defense."

Please see DOLPHINS/6C



Miami Dolphins tight end Troy Drayton (84) tries to shake Denver Broncos cornerback Darren Gordon (21) as he tries to make ground in first half action in Miami Monday. The Dolphins won 31-21.

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LOCAL SPORTS

Midland gets
UTSA funding

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — The United States Tennis Association (UTSA) announced Monday that Midland is one of 186 markets (10 in Texas) to receive funding in the second year of the USA Tennis Plan for Growth, a five-year, \$50 million commitment to increase tennis participation in communities across the United States.

The USA Tennis Plan for Growth is the most ambitious initiative ever proposed to promote and develop the growth of tennis in this country.

Midland was chosen from among hundreds of applicants and will receive funding for local USA Tennis 1-2-3 and USA Tennis programs is a series of six low-cost, introductory group lessons, while USA Team Tennis offers kids and adults the opportunity to play organized matches in fun, friendly atmosphere. Many of the markets will also hold free USA Tennis Day kick-off events where consumers can sample USA Tennis Programs.

"Midland's passion for tennis helped secure financial support for the development of the sport in 1999," said Midland's Tennis Industry Blitz Captain Luis Valdez. "We are thrilled to be a part of this nationwide tennis initiative."

Prince sets
Hogan mark

Charlie Prince, the former Midland Lee and Midland College standout now competing for UTEP, came back home Sunday and broke the course record at Hogan Park with a 60.

Prince shot a 30 on Hogan's front nine then matched it on the course's second nine holes. He had 11 birdies and just one bogey on the round. Prince birdied the first four holes of the day and also had four straight birdies on holes 13-16, breaking the course record with a birdie on the par-4 390-yard No. 18 hole to break the previous course record of 61.

Prince's round was witnessed by Charles Roberts, Wally Brown, Casey Adams and Terry Garner.

Valdez, Hoffman
tennis winners

Both Gaby Valdez and Hans Hoffman took first place in the annual Big Tootsie Invitational Round Robin Tennis Tournament held at Midland College over the weekend.

The next scheduled tournament is the Valentine's Day Invitational.

The following trophy winners were named:

Boys: Gaby Valdez, 1st; Chad Joyce, 2nd; Kim Vandiver, 3rd; Andrea Gonzalez, 4th. A Bracket: Hans Hoffman, 1st; Pauline Baquirin, 2nd; Lindsey Ham-

MHS over
Lee hoops

The Midland High JV and sophomore basketball teams came away with victories over Lee on Monday. In the sophomore game, it was Midland High over Lee 57-55. For MHS, Andrew Pender had 15, Michael Glascock had 13, Will Smith 13, and Colton Lang added 10. For Lee, Paul Ogan had 13 and T.J. Mansell had 10.

S.A. Lake View 54,
Greenwood 44

SAN ANGELO — The Greenwood Rangers had a rough first period, but that was enough as San Angelo Lake View won 54-44 on Monday.

The Chiefs jumped out to a 23-9 lead in the first period but the Rangers played well after that even though the 14-point deficit proved to be too much to overcome.

Nathan Himbury led the Rangers (5-10) with 11 points. The Rangers' next game is at the Reagan County tournament next Monday starting at 11 a.m.

San Angelo Lake View 54, Greenwood 44
Greenwood (5-10): Gabriel Pallares 4-0-18, Jared Moore 0-1-2, Daniel Odom 2-3-7, Eric Synnatch 1-4-5-6, Nathan Himbury 4-3-4-11, Keenan Stringer 2-0-0-4, Derek Gasch 2-3-6-7. Totals 15-14-22-44.
Lake View: Alonzo Robinson 2-2-4-5, Grant Freeman 4-0-0-11, Charles Moore 2-0-0-4, Michael Gonzalez 1-1-3-3, Tim Abbott 1-0-0-2, Bruce McDonahe 4-0-0-8, Cody Renteria 9-2-2-20. Totals 23-5-8-54.
Greenwood
Lake View 54 9 14 12 9 44
3-point goals: LV 3 (Freeman). Total Fouls: G 7, LV 16. Fouled Out: None.

Bishop says K-State isn't down

By Steve Brisendine
Associated Press Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The sting of lost national-title hopes and major bowl snubs has passed, Kansas State quarterback Michael Bishop said Monday.

Now, he and his teammates are focused on closing out their season with a win Dec. 29 against Purdue in the Alamo Bowl at San Antonio.

"It'd be a great feeling to go out and win your last college game ever," Bishop, this year's Heisman Trophy runner-up, said in a conference call. "Hopefully, this will be the best game of my college career."

That would be a good game indeed, considering Bishop's 46-2 record at Blinn (Texas) Junior College and Kansas State — and the fact that he's never closed out a college season with a loss.

He led Blinn to back-to-back unbeaten national championships. And last season, he threw for four touchdowns and ran for one more in a 35-18 win over Syracuse in the

Fiesta Bowl.

"I've never played with a guy who wants to win more than Michael Bishop," guard Jeremy Martin said. "I've never seen a quarterback who can do the things he can do, with the kind of emotion he has."

"Sometimes he gets so wrapped up in the moment that we have to say, 'Hey, Michael — one play at a time.' He'd score on every play if he could, but that's not the way college football works."

Kansas State (11-1) isn't playing on New Year's Day despite a No. 4 ranking. But Bishop said the Wildcats aren't looking for a big win over Purdue (8-4) to prove they belonged in a higher-profile bowl.

"We don't have to go out and prove anything to anybody," he said. "If we don't go down there and score a lot of points — oh, well. We still know what kind of team we have."

Some Kansas State players have been in this situation before, and know all too well the danger of

overlooking any bowl opponent. In 1994, Martin was a freshman red-shirt on a Kansas State team that thought its No. 8 ranking deserved more than an Aloha Bowl bid — until the Wildcats lost 12-7 to unranked Boston College.

"I wasn't playing yet, so I can't really speak for all of the players on that team," Martin said. "But the perception was that we didn't want to be there, that we belonged in the Holiday Bowl."

Kansas State has nothing but respect for Purdue, linebacker Jeff Kelly said — and especially for quarterback Drew Brees, who has thrown for 3,753 yards and 36 touchdowns this season.

"He hits the open man — and even when they're not open, he hits them sometimes," Kelly said. "He's big, strong, he can run — he does a lot of things for them."

Brees will face a Kansas State defense burned for 324 yards by Texas A&M quarterback Brandon Stewart in the Aggies' 36-33 double-overtime win in the Big 12 title game.

Motor City Bowl promises offense

By Harry Atkins
AP Sports Writer

PONTIAC, Mich. — A year ago, Chad Pennington got into a shootout in the Pontiac Silverdome and lost. This time, he hopes things work out better.

Pennington threw three touchdown passes in the inaugural Motor City Bowl, but Marshall still lost when Mississippi scored with 31 seconds remaining to pull out a 34-31 victory.

"That was disappointing," Pennington said. This year the Thundering Herd (11-1) is back. But the opposition will be just as explosive Wednesday night. Newly revived Louisville (7-4) is a team whose offense might be even more high-powered than Marshall's.

The Cardinals, led by quarterback Chris Redman, averaged 40.4 points per game. Playing in the highly competitive Conference USA, Louisville scored 63 points twice this season, scored 62 points once, and scored 52 another time. The Cardinals never scored fewer than 21 points.

Marshall, winner of the last two Mid-American Conference championships, was only slightly more

restrained. The Herd, despite losing wide receiver Randy Moss to the NFL, still averaged 29.8 points per game.

Marshall, whose only blot on an otherwise perfect slate was a 34-13 loss at Bowling Green, scored 42 points three times.

"I see it as being a lot of spectacular plays," said Nate Poole, Marshall's leading receiver with 49 receptions for 616 yards. "The ball will get tossed around a whole lot."

Redman, a junior who sat out Louisville's 35-23 season-ending victory over Army with an injury, has passed for 4,042 yards and 29 touchdowns with just 15 interceptions.

"That's the way we're going into the game," Redman said. "We expect them to score a lot of points. Every time we touch the ball, we feel like we can take it down and score."

"We have to have a mistake-free ballgame because we respect them an awful lot."

Pennington, also a junior, threw for 3,419 yards and 24 touchdowns with seven interceptions this season. He believes Louisville's defense will try to force turnovers.

Arizona coach not surprised over
underdog status in Holiday Bowl

By Bob Baum
AP Sports Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. — Arizona coach Dick Tomey is not surprised that oddsmakers have made his fifth-ranked Wildcats underdogs in their Holiday Bowl matchup with No. 14 Nebraska.

"People like that probably realize that at least one or two of Nebraska's losses they've had because of the inconsistency at tailback, and he's back. DeAngelo Evans is back," Tomey said Monday. "They've broken in a couple of new quarterbacks, and now they've got a guy who's played six or seven games."

"Plus, just from a reputation standpoint, it's hard to make them an underdog in any game."

Although Arizona carries a gaudy 11-1 record into the Dec. 30 game, while Nebraska is 9-3, the Cornhuskers are three-point favorites. The Wildcats scrimmaged against their scout team's Nebraska-style option on Sunday.

Tomey put his team through one final practice in Tucson on Monday morning, then turned them loose to gather in San Diego

Tuesday afternoon. Some will take the team's charter flight. Many of the players who live in Southern California are being allowed to take their cars so they can go home first.

"We're giving them 30 hours to drive over and see their families and then get down there," Tomey said. "We'll also give them another 30 hours off Christmas Eve day to go home, and we've got several guys taking several teammates with them, which will be nice."

The two teams are staying in hotels that are about 300 yards apart. It's one of the things he likes about the bowl system designed to reward teams at the end of the season.

He said he believes that arriving in San Diego on Tuesday is just about right to get ready for the Dec. 30 contest.

"We're spending a little more than a week, but Christmas is in the middle," he said. "We're getting over there in time to get a little practice in and then take some time off for Christmas. If we went after Christmas, we'd be a little short of time."

"And Nebraska gets there the

same day. They've been so good at bowl games, we're just trying to do what they do."

Defensive back Leland Gayles, who suffered a sprained neck in a frightening collision with teammate Marcus Bell against Washington, probably won't play in the game, but is practicing and will be in uniform.

"I think to put him into action after being out for two months, we'd probably be pushing it," Tomey said.

It will be the Wildcats' second game this season at Qualcomm Stadium. They beat San Diego State there 35-16 on Sept. 24.

Despite the disappointment of narrowly missing a first-ever trip to the Rose Bowl, and despite a reputation for not "traveling well" to bowl games, the Wildcats have sold their entire allotment of 11,500 tickets.

"It's not just a bowl game with no meaning," Tomey said. "It's a very meaningful game for us. We've got a chance to finish in the top five of the nation if we can win it, and win 12 games, which is an extraordinary accomplishment."

Dayne will remain at Wisconsin

By Sharon Thelmer
Associated Press Writer

MADISON, Wis. — Ron Dayne confirmed Monday that he will return for his senior year at Wisconsin rather than test his fortunes in the NFL draft.

Dayne, whose 4,945 yards make him the all-time career rushing leader for the Rose Bowl-bound Badgers, said he decided to return after learning it was unlikely he would have been a first-round pick in next year's NFL draft. Other reasons for staying include his closeness with his teammates and coaches and having another year to get close to his 13-month-old daughter, Jada.

"I just love the family thing the team has," he said. "I can go down and tell a guy my problems and it's a team thing. It's something you won't understand unless you're a football player or on a team."

Dayne said he also wants to improve as a player and has more goals in college football. He declined to be specific, but said winning the Heisman Trophy may be among them.

"Money's not the issue," Dayne said. Next season, Dayne can break the Big Ten Conference career rushing record, held by Archie Griffin of Ohio State, at 5,589 yards and the NCAA Division I record held by Ricky Williams of Texas at 6,279 yards. Dayne has rushed for 4,945 yards.

Dayne's guardian and uncle, Robbie Reid, said last week that the tailback had decided to stay in school another year. But coach Barry Alvarez disputed that, saying a decision had not yet been made.

Dayne said he looked at how a couple of other Bad-

gers had handled the situation. Offensive lineman Aaron Gibson remained with the team this year and is expected to be a high pick in the draft, while receiver Lee Deramus entered the draft early and has regretted the decision.

"I think he made the right decision," Alvarez said. "I think it will help him in the long run, it will pay huge dividends, and obviously it will make us a better football team. But it was all about Ron and what was best for Ron."

Alvarez said Dayne talked to several teams, and one general manager told him only about four teams were in need of running backs now.

Dayne's decision won praise from Texas coach Mack Brown, who counseled Williams when the tailback considered skipping his senior year in favor of the NFL draft. Williams returned to school and a record-breaking season, topped by winning the Heisman Trophy.

"There's no question that Ron, making his decision, turned down millions of dollars," Brown said in a phone interview from Austin. "But those guys are so highly motivated and they set their goals so high and they have so much confidence and they're team guys ... so when they decide to come back it's for the right reasons."

Williams was under a lot of pressure this season but "had a blast," Brown said.

"I just think it is so good to see young guys come back and be successful and send that message that school's important and the college game is important," he said.

UConn names Edsall to replace Holtz as coach

STORRS, Conn. (AP) — Connecticut named Georgia Tech defensive coordinator Randy Edsall as head football coach on Monday, replacing Skip Holtz.

Edsall, a former positions coach at Syracuse and Boston College, is

expected to lead the Huskies football program through the transition from the Division I-AA Atlantic 10 to the Division I-A Big East. His contract runs through January 2003 and will pay \$125,000 annually.

"I like the challenge of going into the Big East," Edsall said. "Connecticut is a very good football state, and the one thing we're going to do is recruit this state very, very hard."

MONEY: Salaries average nearly \$1.4 million

(From 1C)

lucrative position, averaging \$3,720,005. Designated hitters averaged \$3,312,611, followed by outfielders (\$2,861,263), third basemen (\$2,770,642), second basemen (\$2,480,481), starting pitchers (\$2,182,700), catchers (\$2,115,584), shortstops (\$1,565,123) and relievers (\$851,053).

With an increase in the minimum salary from \$150,000 to \$170,000, first-year players averaged \$204,314, up from \$176,470 in 1997. Second-year players were at \$254,379, up from \$217,973.

Third-year players eligible for salary arbitration averaged \$911,058 (up from \$520,556), while those who weren't averaged \$327,345 (up from \$325,978).

Players with between three and four years in the majors averaged \$1,052,483, up from \$926,033. The average of four-plus players dropped to \$1,626,893 from \$1,666,583 from, while five-plus players averaged \$2,476,495, up from \$2,050,366.

Six-plus players, the group eligible for free agency for the first time, averaged \$2,456,226 — a

reflection that many of the top players approaching free agency were signed to multiyear contracts with lower salaries in the earlier years of their deals.

The highest average was for the 24 players with 11-12 years of service: \$3,872,582.

Figures are based on Aug. 31 rosters and disabled lists and salaries deferred without interest are discounted to present-day value. The commissioner's office, which uses a slightly different method to assess salaries, came up with a final average of \$1,380,099.

LOCAL BASKETBALL TODAY

Boys

Midland Lee vs. Seminole
Opponent: Seminole is a District 3-3A team.

Where: Chaparral Center.
When: 7:30 p.m.

Coaches: Lee — Jon House; Seminole — Greg Clark.

Records: Lee is 6-7.

Notes: This will be the final single game tune-up for the Rebels before the serious part of their schedule begins. Lee hopes to get well in this game after a rough trip to Garland which featured two losses. The Rebels lost by 12 to South Garland Friday night before coming back Saturday morning and taking a lead into the final 28

seconds against Berkner only to have it crumble and lose 54-51. Lee must now face the rest of its season without Ken Meyers, the team's second leading scorer who tore his ACL in practice last week. It could help that Chris Packer came to life in Garland, scoring 34 points in the two games, and also that the Rebels will get back five players who were obligated to Lee's state championship football team through Saturday. House said it was unlikely that any of them would even suit up, much less play this evening. Although Seminole is a 3A school, the Rebels will see one of the better players in West Texas in 6-foot-7 center Chris Ogden, who has already committed to the University of Texas.

Next: Lee will face cross-town rival Midland High to end the first round of the Byron Johnston Classic Monday at the Chap Center at 8:45 p.m.

Midland Lee Statistics (6-7)

Player	G	FG	FT	Pts.	Avg.
Matt Winston	13	63	45	180	13.8
Ken Meyers	11	38	26	112	10.2
Chris Packer	13	46	10	111	8.5
Jeramy Conaway	13	43	21	109	8.4
Orlando Castillo	13	27	13	73	5.6
Blake Hinsley	9	19	4	48	5.3
T.J. Mosley	8	14	4	32	4.0
Kyle Shatzer	8	11	5	28	3.5
Cory Simmons	2	2	0	6	3.0
Ben Edelbrock	6	2	6	11	1.8
Russell Burke	7	0	3	0	0.4
Billy Kane	1	0	0	0	0.0

Three-Point Goals: Hinsley 11, Meyers 10, Winston 9, Packer 9, Castillo 6, Shatzer 1, Edelbrock 1, Simmons 1.



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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

JACKS VS RUSSIA

552-PUCK

FACE OFF 7:00PM

GATES OPEN 6:00 PM





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Standings

By The Assoc.
EASTERN CO.
Atlantic D

New York	15-1
Philadelphia	14-2
Pittsburgh	13-3
N.Y. Rangers	11-5
N.Y. Islanders	12-18

Northwest

Toronto	17-1
Ottawa	16-2
Montreal	15-3

Southwest

Carolina	16-1
Florida	11-11
Washington	11-11
Tampa Bay	9-11
Chicago	9-11

WESTERN CO.

Central D

Edmonton	14-1
St. Louis	11-10
Nashville	11-10
Chicago	9-11

Northwest

Edmonton	14-1
St. Louis	11-10
Nashville	11-10
Chicago	9-11

Pacific D

Dallas	19-1
Phoenix	18-2
Anaheim	12-11
San Jose	12-11
Los Angeles	9-21

Monday's Game

Late Game	7:30 p.m.
Boston 3, Tampa Bay 2	
Dallas 2, Montreal 1	
Buffalo 4, Carolina 3	
Toronto 7, Pittsburgh 3	
Colorado at St. Louis	
Tuesday's Game	8 p.m.
St. Louis at Dallas	
Phoenix at Detroit	
Vancouver at Chicago	
Anaheim at Colorado	

Sabres 4, Hurricanes 1

First Period	1-0
(Woolley, Grosak), olina, Kron 5 (Pratt)	
3, Buffalo, Peca 9 (N)	
19:12 (pp)	
Second Period	
1st (Ward, Barna)	

ROCKIES

Colorado

Cuchara Mtn	
new powder 21 ba	
sm 9a-4p	
Eldora Mounta	
26 base 9 of 11 li	
Howelsen —	
2 of 3 lifts	
Keystone —	
base 28 trails 17	

NHL Results

Standings

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	18	4	0	36	94	78
Pittsburgh	14	9	3	31	86	80
N.Y. Rangers	11	13	2	24	86	86
N.Y. Islanders	12	11	2	26	79	93

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	19	11	2	40	105	80
Buffalo	17	6	3	37	94	78
Boston	15	6	3	33	82	61
Ottawa	15	11	3	31	88	73
Montreal	17	7	2	36	92	74

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	15	13	2	32	78	94
Florida	11	16	2	24	73	76
Washington	9	17	3	21	60	78
Tampa Bay	9	17	3	21	68	114

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	11	13	2	24	79	74
Nashville	11	13	2	24	70	83
Chicago	9	16	2	20	71	107

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Edmonton	14	13	3	31	88	84
Colorado	10	17	3	23	79	94
Calgary	12	16	2	26	87	90
Vancouver	11	15	4	26	84	91

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	19	5	4	42	98	62
Phoenix	18	4	4	40	78	69
Anaheim	17	7	2	36	73	69
San Jose	15	11	2	32	71	71
Los Angeles	9	20	3	21	70	91

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	15	11	2	32	71	71
Phoenix	18	4	4	40	78	69
Anaheim	17	7	2	36	73	69
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Los Angeles	9	20	3	21	70	91

Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
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Los Angeles	9	20	3	21	70	91

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Phoenix	18	4	4	40	78	69
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San Jose	15	11	2	32	71	71
Los Angeles	9	20	3	21	70	91

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Anaheim	17	7	2	36	73	69
San Jose	15	11	2	32	71	71
Los Angeles	9	20	3	21	70	91

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NFL Glimpse

By The Associated Press

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Midland Reporter-Telegram
Tuesday, December 22, 1998

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DANIEL WATTS of Salomon Smith Barney

Consider these year-end tax planning strategies now

Tax season is upon us. On your "to do" list of things to accomplish before the year is out, it might be a good idea to include some of these year-end tax planning strategies. They could save you time and money this tax season. Be sure, however, to review your individual situation with your tax and legal advisors before taking any action.

Take investment losses to offset gains. Long-term capital gains result from the sales of capital assets—such as stocks or bonds—held for longer than one year. The IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 eliminates the requirement that individuals hold their securities for more than 18 months to qualify for the maximum long-term capital gains tax rate of 20 percent. The 20 percent tax rate is now available for sales of securities held for more than 12 months, retroactively for sales of securities after December 31, 1997.

Use excess capital losses against ordinary income. If you realize capital gains in 1998, you may offset those gains by selling stock or other securities at a loss. If capital losses exceed gains, you may deduct the excess losses dollar-for-dollar against ordinary income up to \$3,000 (\$1,500 if married and filing separately). Any undeducted losses can be carried over to future years.

Deduct eligible interest expense. If you have incurred interest expense on loans used to finance investments other than municipal bonds, that interest expense is deductible up to the amount of your net investment income for the year.

Sell investments with the highest cost basis first. If you have purchased the same stock at different times and plan to sell some, you can reduce your capital gain by instructing your financial representative to sell those shares with the highest cost basis first. According to IRS regulations, if you do not provide specific instructions, the shares you have held the longest will be sold first.

Postpone income or gains. If your investments have done exceptionally well this year and you expect to find yourself in a higher-than-usual federal tax bracket—say, 36 percent or even 39 percent—consider pushing income and gains to 1999.

Fund your IRA—sooner rather than later. You can fund your IRA for 1998 any time up to April 15, 1999, but the sooner you do, the sooner you can take advantage of the power of tax-deferred compounding. The maximum contribution for an individual is \$2,000. Thanks to recent changes in tax legislation, if you have a non-working spouse (or if your spouse elects to be treated as a non-working spouse), you may establish a separate IRA for your spouse (called a spousal IRA). If you maintain IRAs for yourself and your spouse, you may make contributions each year in an amount up to the lesser of \$4,000 or 100 percent of your gross annual compensation; however, no IRA contributions in excess of \$2,000 per year may be contributed to either of such IRAs.

Or, convert your traditional IRA by December 31, 1998 and receive new tax options. If you are eligible, and convert your regu-

lar IRA into a Roth IRA by December 31, you can elect one of two new tax treatments: (1) Report the taxable amount from the conversion as 1998 income; or, (2) Report the taxable amount from the conversion equally over a four-year period.

If you are self-employed, establish a qualified retirement plan. Your financial representative can help you set up a Keogh or Simplified Employee Retirement Plan (SEP). You'll be able to shelter up to 15 percent of your income per year; in most cases, to a maximum of \$24,000 in 1998. The last day to establish a 1998 Keogh is December 31. You have until April 15, 1999, or later if you have an extension, to establish a 1998 SEP.

Invest the maximum in employer-sponsored qualified plans. If your employer offers a 401(k) or an alternative tax-deferred qualified plan to which you can contribute, take full advantage—under current law, you can contribute up to 15 percent of your salary to a maximum of \$10,000. Self-employed business owners can set up a Simplified Employee Plan (SEP) or Keogh.

Smith Barney does not provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your tax and/or legal advisor for such guidance.

Daniel Watts is a financial consultant with Salomon Smith Barney, a full service brokerage firm. He is also host of the radio program Investment Talk on KCRS, AM 550, Tuesday nights at 6 p.m. Call 620-6067 to make an appointment. The office is located at 6 Desta Drive.



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Prepare now for tax advantage

- ✓ Take investment losses to offset gains.
- ✓ Use excess capital losses against ordinary income.
- ✓ Deduct eligible interest expense.
- ✓ Sell investments with the highest cost basis first.
- ✓ Postpone income or gains.
- ✓ Fund your IRA—sooner rather than later.
- ✓ Or, convert your traditional IRA by December 31, 1998 and receive new tax options.
- ✓ If you are self-employed, establish a qualified retirement plan.
- ✓ Invest the maximum in employer-sponsored qualified plans.

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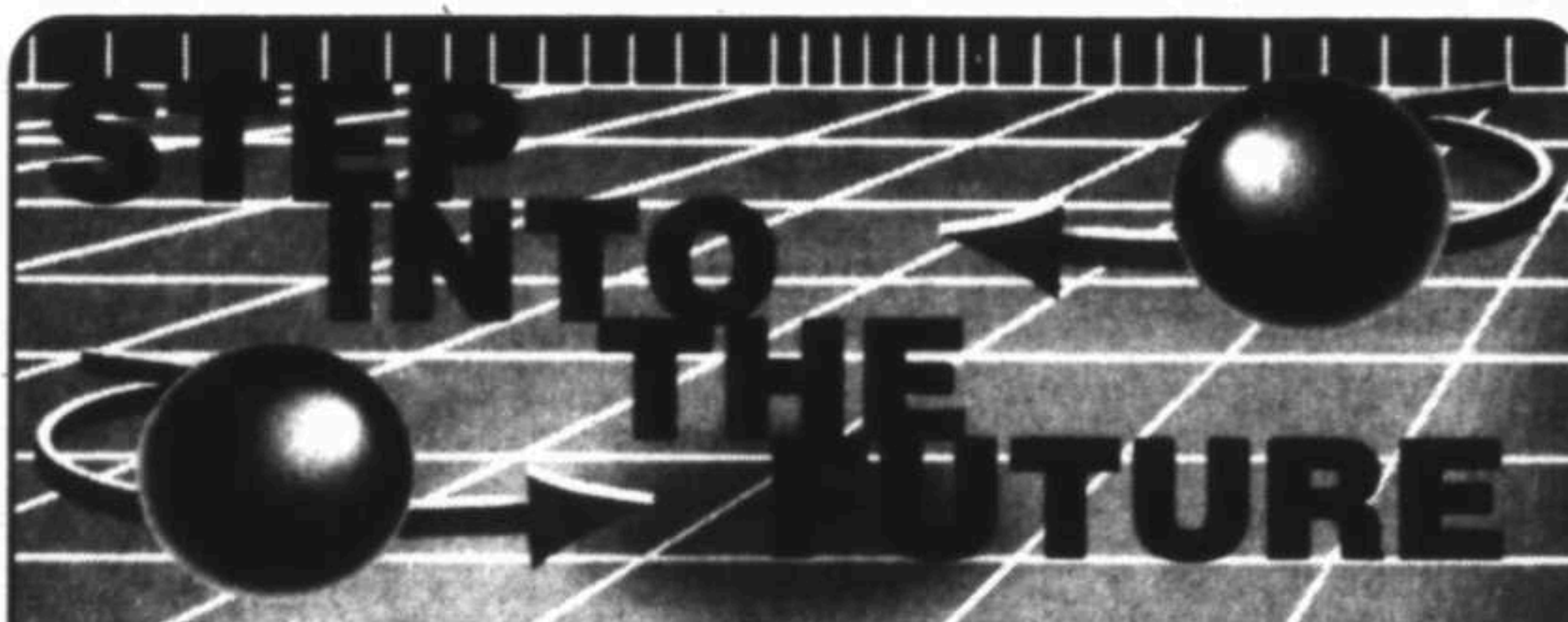
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Which IRA, or IRAs, should you fund? This depends on many factors, including your age, adjusted gross income (AGI), anticipated retirement needs and other uses for the money. The year end deadline is approaching. For more information about retirement planning call Daniel Watts at 620-6070. Salomon Smith Barney does not provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your tax advisor for such advice.

Tune in to KCRS AM 550 every Tuesday night at 5:30 p.m. to hear Daniel Watts's radio show, "Investment Talk" 563-0550

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WEST TEXAS SPORTS

Booster Clubs...

The Midland Lee Softball Booster Club meets the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Lee High cafeteria...

The Midland Lee Basketball Booster Club will meet on the first and third Monday of each month in the Lee cafeteria at 7 p.m....

The Midland Lee Soccer Booster Club meets once monthly during regular school year and twice monthly during soccer season at 7 p.m. in the school library. Dates are 1/4, 1/25, 2/1, 2/22, 3/1, 3/15, 4/12 and 5/3. For information call Debbie Butts at 520-0248...

The Midland High Soccer Booster club will meet the first Monday of every month in Conference Room A. For more information, call Joe Willis at 570-4453 or Robert Winkler at 683-9565...

Baseball...

The University of Texas Winter Baseball Camp will be held Dec. 28-30 for ages 14-18. For more information, please call 512-471-3309...

The University of Texas High School Baseball Coaches Clinic will take place Jan. 14, 1999 at Ditch-Falk Field in Austin from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$15 (check made payable to the University of Texas) and lunch will be served afterwards...

The annual Midland Winter Baseball Camp is at Zachary Field Dec. 28-30. Cost for ages 12-Under is \$75 for three days or \$25 a day from 9 a.m. to noon and the same price for ages 13-18 with camp from 1-4 p.m. daily. Coaches for the 12-under is Barry Russell, MHS baseball coach and Danny Jordan, MHS assistant as well as college and pro players. Coaches for the 13-up are Kevin Jordan in the Houston Astros organization and Jason Baker in the Montreal Expos organization. Call 689-1194 for information...

Softball...

Fastpitch umpires are needed to work high school softball games in West Texas. Find out more by contacting Mack at 520-5961 or Freddie at 694-5508...

The Odessa Thunder 12-under girls fastpitch softball team is looking for interested players for the 1999 season. If interested, please call Wade Allison at (915) 381-4330 or Andrea Swaim at (915) 550-7721...

Tennis...

The Midland Women's Tennis Association will hold its spring tennis league on Feb. 2, 1999 and it will run for 10 weeks. Play will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:15 a.m. at Midland College. Send dues of \$15 to Sherri St. John, 3207 Lockheed, 79707. The Ice-Freeze Tournament will be held on Jan. 19 from 9 a.m. to noon at Midland College. Call Melissa Thompson at 686-9420 or Paula Walton at 686-8109 for information...

Clinics for ladies are being held at the Kimber-Lea Swim and Tennis Club. Beginners clinics are Tuesdays at 11 a.m., intermediate clinics Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and beginner-intermediate clinics Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call Luis Valdez at 689-2237 or 683-5360...

The Club at Mission Dorado is offering junior clinics for beginner, intermediate and advanced levels Tuesdays and Thursdays. Beginner and intermediate clinics run from 4:30-5:30 p.m. while advanced clinics run from 5:30-6:30 p.m. For more information, call Toby Curtis at (915) 563-4707...

The Permian Basin Tennis Association is hosting a junior tennis Christmas Camp Dec. 29-31 at the Odessa Country Club and The Club at Mission Dorado. Clinics for high school players will and grades 5-8 will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily while clinics for kindergarten through fourth grade are scheduled for 10-11:30 a.m. For more information, call 550-0898, 689-2237 or 563-4707...

The Permian Basin Tennis Umpires Association is holding its 1999 certification school Jan. 8-9, at Kimber-Lea Tennis Club. For more information, call Charles Arnold at 687-4827 or Tom McMinn in Odessa at 362-2332 or 550-2338...

Basketball...

Registration for YMCA youth basketball is under way. The league is for boys in grades 7-10. The fee is \$25 for YMCA members and \$38 for nonmembers with a Jan. 17 deadline. For more information, call 682-2551...

Soccer...

Registration for the Midland Soccer Association's Spring 1999 season is underway. Participants must be at least four years old by Dec. 31, 1998 and require a birth certificate if they haven't played in the MSA before. Deadline is

Jan. 17, 1999 to turn in the \$40 fee. Registration is being held at both 1909 W. Wall St., Suite N, Monday through Friday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. or at the Midland Park Mall Jan. 16-17, 1999. For more information, call 684-5425...

The Midland High boys soccer team will hold its first Purple-Gold intrasquad game and their first even-odd Alumni game on Jan. 6 at the C.J. Kelly soccer fields, located at the Northwest corner of Loop 250 behind Lowes. The alumni game will begin at 6:15 p.m., followed by the varsity intrasquad game at 7:30 p.m. The format for the alumni game will be even year graduates against odd year graduates. To be eligible to play, you must have been a member of the MHS boys soccer team at the time of your graduation. Each alumni roster is limited to 18 field players and two goalkeepers. To get a roster spot, give your name to even coordinator Steve Parnell at 570-4949 during office hours. Admission to the game will be one can of food or one bar of soap per person to be donated to charity by the MHS boys soccer team.

Miscellaneous...

The Midland Wrestling Club offers adult, high school, Olympic and freestyle wrestling. Call 685-0531 for information...

Gymnastics classes are being offered at the Mabey Aquatic Center. Parent-tot, grade school and tumbling classes are available. There will also be an advanced team class by tryout only. The staff is certified by USA Gymnastics. For more information, call Megan Rodriguez at 684-7755...

The Alamo YMCA Gymnastics Program is offering classes for all age groups from toddlers to age 17. Parent-tot, beginners, advanced beginners, pre-teens and competitive teams are all offered. For more information, contact Stephanie Barr at 694-2528...

The Alamo YMCA is offering Martial Arts Classes. Tae Kwon Do Classes are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:10-9:10 p.m. and Aikido Classes are Wednesdays from 8:10-9:10 p.m. and Saturday from 11-12 p.m. Call 694-2528 for more information...

Citizens for Midland Skaters is a local group dedicated to raising funds for the establishment of a city park for skateboarding and in-line skating. If you would like to contribute to this project,

please send your donation to Permian Basin Area Foundation/Skate Park Project, P.O. Box 10424, Midland, Texas, 79702. Donations are tax deductible. If you have questions, please call Pam Sledge at 685-3227...

Swimming...

Pre-competitive swimming is being offered at the Mabey Aquatic Center. The program will teach elementary age swimmers techniques of competitive swimming while improving their strokes. It is open to swimmers who can swim at least 25 yards of freestyle and backstroke. The cost is \$35 per month on a year-round basis. For more information, call 684-7755...

COM Aquatics is holding water aerobics classes Monday through Saturday at Mabey Aquatic Center. Classes are at 6:15 a.m., 7:15 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. All classes are open to the public and swimming skills are not necessary. Deep and shallow water classes are offered. For information, call Beth Santilli at 684-7755...

The Alamo YMCA Aquatics Program is offering swimming lessons for all ages. Children are placed in classes according to age and ability. The Skip class, for children three months to three years is a parent participation class while the Pers classes are for children 3-5 and Progressive classes are for children 6 and up. Lessons are also offered for adults. Safety is taught in conjunction with the classes. Group and private lessons are available. For more information, call 694-2528...

The Alamo YMCA is offering water aerobics. Swimming ability is not necessary to participate. For more information, call 694-2528...

COM Aquatics - Learn to Swim year round lessons for both children (3 years of age or older) and adults wishing to learn to swim or improve technique. Private or group lessons (limit four students per instructor) are available. Children are grouped by age and ability. A session normally consists of eight 30-minute lessons. Please call 684-7755 for more details...

The COM Masters Swim Team is open to anyone 20-over. There are two Masters swim team workouts. You can choose from Mon.-Wed.-Fri or Tue.-Thurs.-Sat. at 6-7 a.m. at the COM pool. Call 684-7755 for more information...

In wake of scandals, IOC disallows members to visit potential host cities

By Stephen Wilson
AP Sports Writer

LONDON — Frequent flying is no longer an Olympic sport.

In a dramatic step to combat the worst ethics scandal in IOC history, committee members have been banned from visiting cities bidding to be Olympic hosts.

The move was announced by IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, who also called a special executive board meeting for next month to act on the Salt Lake City bribery scandal and consider changes in the system for selecting Olympic host cities.

"I can tell you that the trips of IOC members to candidate cities, these are terminated," Samaranch told the Swiss newspaper Le Matin.

Samaranch didn't elaborate, but the visits by International Olympic Committee members to bidding cities have long been considered fraught with the dangers of corruption. The members fly first-class, stay in the best hotels and are wined and dined — all in an attempt to win their vote.

In recent years, the IOC has attempted to tighten the rules by restricting the visits to three days and putting a \$150 limit on the value of gifts offered to members. The IOC visits have come under scrutiny following accusations of misconduct surrounding Salt Lake City's successful bid for the 2002 Winter Olympics.

Salt Lake officials have admitted that six relatives of IOC members were among those who benefited from nearly \$400,000 in scholarship aid from the bid committee. There is growing evidence of other favors for IOC members, including free medical care and gifts in excess of the \$150 limit.

In addition, the son of David Sikkulumi Sibandze, an IOC member from Swaziland, worked as a paid intern with the Salt Lake City government. Sibandze told The Associated Press his son, Sibo, got the job with the city on his own after receiving a master's degree from the University of Utah.

"It was my son's own initiative to apply to the city. I remember he phoned me to say he was now working for the city council," Sibandze said. "He phoned me to say, 'Oh, dad, I got a job.'"

The elder Sibandze said wasn't sure exactly what kind of job it was.

A ban on trips presumably would take effect immediately, meaning IOC members won't be able to visit the cities bidding for the 2006 Winter Olympics — Sion, Switzerland; Turin, Italy; Zakopane, Poland; Klagenfurt, Austria; and Helsinki, Finland.

The only IOC member ever to quit in an ethics scandal, Robert Helmick, said first-class airfare for each member and spouse, worth about \$5,000-\$10,000, was "the minimum that's expected (from a bid city) before they get to the gifts. That's tit for tat."

Helmick, who resigned as an IOC member and U.S. Olympic Committee president in a conflict-

of-interest case in 1991, said a small group of IOC members are willing to turn over blocks of votes in return for "extravagant gifts and favors" from cities seeking to stage the Olympics. He said the gifts could range from fur coats to shopping sprees for thousands of dollars in clothes.

He also said Samaranch failed to pay enough attention when allegations of corruption first surfaced 10 years ago.

"He has done a lot of great things for the Olympic movement," Helmick said. "But he did not take this seriously or act promptly, for whatever reason."

IOC vice president Dick Pound, who is leading an investigation into the Salt Lake case, gave a guarded welcome to Samaranch's ban.

"As a response to the present crisis, it's probably a good thing to do," he said from Montreal. "Whether it should be taken as the definitive, long-term response or not, it's too early to say."

In a sign that Samaranch wants the Salt Lake matter dealt with quickly, the IOC president has called a special meeting of his executive board for Jan. 23-24.

A board member, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the panel was prepared to take immediate "necessary measures" on the recommendations of Pound's inquiry.

Samaranch has said any IOC members found guilty of corruption will be expelled or asked to resign. The executive board will also use the January meeting to consider ways of reforming the procedure for selecting host cities.

"Definitely in the executive board, there is a feel for a need for change," the board member said.

Proposals include the establishment of a small "electoral college" of executive board members and representatives of national Olympic committees, international federations and athletes.

The group could either select the winner on its own, or choose two finalist cities and then let the entire membership vote. Changing the procedure would require a two-thirds majority of the IOC assembly, which currently numbers 115.

Samaranch said taking the vote away from the rank and file is like asking members "to cut off their heads." But he said under "special circumstances" the members should agree to changes.

The reforms could be adopted in time for the vote in June on the 2006 Winter Games.

Pound urged caution before overhauling the procedure. He said the status quo offers a "more statistically reliable" system for choosing the right city.

"If you narrow it down to an electoral college or the executive board, you may not cover all the global factors," he said. "The real question is not the peccadilloes of a few minority of IOC members. It's whether you get the overall picture of the Olympic Games."

"The standard of conduct is extremely serious but has to be put in perspective."

Ewing disagrees with Malone on new offer

By Jeff Goodman
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Karl Malone called the NBA's latest offer "fair" and "decent." Patrick Ewing disagrees, and many other players are standing with him.

"That deal is the same deal we've been going over for the last two or three weeks — maybe even longer," the New York Knicks star and union president said.

Malone was referring to a nine-page letter the league sent to players on Thursday, outlining the owners' concessions.

The players' association negotiating committee held an internal meeting Monday, with about 125 players listening in on a conference call. The players gave union director Billy Hunter their thoughts should the sides meet in the near future.

Monday marked the ninth day since the last round of bargaining, and players continue to lose \$50 million a week in salaries as the lockout drags on. No new talks are scheduled, with commissioner David Stern on vacation.

If a deal isn't reached soon, the entire season will be scrapped. Stern has steadfastly refused to say when it will be too late to save the season.

The league and the players are trying to determine how to divide about \$2 billion in annual revenues. Sonics center Jim McIlvaine was among those who attended the union meeting in New York.

"We came out on this morning's meeting the same," McIlvaine said at an event in Harlem where he and Ewing handed out Christmas presents to underprivileged children. Knicks teammates Herb Williams, John Starks and Marcus Camby also attended.

"We just wanted to clarify some things. There's a lot of stumbling blocks in order to make the deal

NBA Lockout

A look at the NBA lockout through Monday, Day 174:
TOTAL DAYS OF SEASON MISSED: 49
GAMES LOST MONDAY: 5
TOTAL GAMES MISSED: 341
EARLIEST ESTIMATED DATE SEASON CAN START: Jan. 22
NEGOTIATIONS: Nothing scheduled
PROJECTED PLAYER SALARY LOSSES (through Jan. 22): \$480 million
TUESDAY'S BEST CANCELED GAME: San Antonio at Houston, 8:30 p.m. A matchup of a pair of the top centers in the game: Spurs David Robinson faces Rockets Hakeem Olajuwon.

QUOTE OF THE DAY: "That deal is the same deal we've been going over for two or three weeks — maybe even longer. They haven't changed their position one iota. All they did was make the numbers look great, but it's not a good deal" — Patrick Ewing, Knicks center and president of the players' union.

and the big one is control," McIlvaine said.

He added that Malone's version of adjustment may not be the same as everyone else's.

"That could be a presidential definition of 'tweak,'" McIlvaine added. "Tweak" for him could mean a major modification for someone else."

One of the items that continued to be a topic for the players was to try to take care of the middle-range salary players.

"Karl said he liked the deal, but he also said there's things that need to be changed," Herb Williams said.

Blue Jays sign Hamilton to \$17 million deal

Associated Press

TORONTO — Right-hander Joey Hamilton, acquired by Toronto last week, agreed Monday to a \$17 million, three-year contract with the Blue Jays.

AL Roundup

Hamilton, who made \$3.25 million last season, gets \$4.25 million next year, \$5.25 million in 2000 and \$7.5 million in 2001.

"I tried over the last couple of years to get something done with San Diego and they weren't very receptive," Hamilton said. "It's like a big burden lifted off my back. I think being able to come here and get a fresh start is going to be really good for me."

Hamilton, 28, was 13-13 last season with a 4.40 ERA. He was obtained from the San Diego Padres for right-handers Woody Williams and Carlos Almanzar and minor-league outfielder Peter Tucci.

With five-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens demanding a trade, the Jays are counting on Hamilton and Pat Hentgen, also a former Cy Young winner, to anchor what shapes up as a fairly young starting rotation

next season.

At this point, the other starters will be Chris Carpenter, Kelvin Escobar and Roy Halladay. None has much more than a year's big-league experience and all are under 24 years of age.

"The thing about Joey is he's 28 years old and he's had five years in the big leagues," said Jays' assistant GM Dave Stewart, who was Hamilton's pitching coach with the Padres last season.

"So there's some experience there that can be drawn from. ... I think we have enough experience to help the younger guys."

Hamilton was San Diego's first-round selection, eighth overall, in the 1991 amateur draft. He is 55-44 with a 3.84 ERA in five major league seasons.

As for Clemens, general manager Gord Ash reiterated Monday that trade talks are on the back burner. He expects to resume discussions with other teams after the holidays.



Hamilton

Rangers agree to terms with

Tom Goodwin, Mike Sims

ARLINGTON — The Texas Rangers agreed to terms Monday on contracts with outfielders Tom Goodwin and Mike Sims.

Goodwin agreed to a one-year contract for 1999 and Sims agreed to a two-year deal extending through the 2000 season.

Goodwin batted .290, hit two home runs, drove in 33 runs and stole 38 bases in 154 games with the Rangers last season. He was seventh in the American League in steals, and his .378 on-base percentage led all AL leadoff hitters. He has 204 steals in four years, second in the majors in that span.

Sims batted .296 with 16 homers and 46 RBIs in 86 games last season with the Rangers. The 16 home runs came in just 186 at-bats, tying the most home runs ever for a player with fewer than 200 at-bats in a season.

The Rangers now have 17 players under contract for 1999. Both Goodwin and Sims were eligible for salary arbitration.

Five Rangers remain eligible for arbitration — pitchers Tim Lincecum, Rick Helling and Aaron Sele, catcher Gregg Zaun and infielder Lee Stevens.

For Henderson and Mets, life begins at 40

By Josh Dubow
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — The New York Mets aren't shying away from the fact they signed a leadoff hitter who will be 40 next season. They're embracing it.

At a news conference Monday to welcome Rickey Henderson back to New York, the Mets wheeled out a birthday cake to celebrate his 40th birthday.

Henderson, whose birthday is Friday, blew out the candles with little effort and it won't take much more for one of baseball's greatest leadoff hitters ever to improve on

the Mets dismal performance at the top of the lineup.

"He was 39 last season and led the AL in stolen bases," Mets general manager Steve Phillips said. "He works very hard to stay in shape and in the lineup."

Phillips filled the hole at the leadoff spot last week, signing Henderson to a \$2.3 million, one-year deal with an option for 2000. Despite batting a career-low .236 last season for Oakland, Henderson led the AL with 118 walks and topped the majors in steals with 66, pushing his record career total to 1,297.

"You can say that you slow

down with old age, but I still work hard, read pitchers and get good jumps," said Henderson, who played for the crosstown Yankees from 1985-1989. "Base stealing is about getting good jumps, not about speed."

He led his league in both walks and steals for the fourth time, a feat accomplished by only three other players, none since 1925. Henderson scored 101 runs, had a .376 on-base percentage, hit 14 home runs and drove in 57 runs in his fourth stint with the Athletics.

Mets leadoff hitters batted .237 with a .321 on-base percentage

and 15 steals last season. The team only stole 62 bases, four fewer than Henderson.

"He was one of the most dominating players I managed against," Mets manager Bobby Valentine said. "He might have lost a step, but he still has the ability to disrupt minds, as well as defenses."

Henderson, wanted to stay close to home in Oakland, but the A's weren't willing to pay him. So he went looking for a team with a good lineup in hopes of reaching his final career goals — setting baseball's career record for runs and walks.

Austria dominates men's World Cup Super-G

By Piero Valsecchi
Associated Press Writer

PATSCHERKOFEL, Austria — This had the look of the Austrian national ski championships.

In a startling display of power before a roaring home crowd, Austria's men made skiing history Monday by capturing the top nine places in a World Cup super-G event.

Led by Hermann Maier, the Austrians did what no other team — men or women — had ever done. Until now, the best team showing in World Cup racing was in 1968 when French women took the first six places in a downhill at Abetone, Italy.

Austrians last month swept the top five places in a super-G at Aspen, Colo.

Maier, who won two gold medals at the 1998 Olympics, recorded his third victory of the season. He was timed in 1 minute, 23.52 seconds on the course used at the 1976 Olympics, fol-

lowed by Christian Mayer and Fritz Strobl. "It was a sensational race for me and for the team," Maier said. "We need more races like this. ... I skied miles away from the ideal line and I struggled to win on this track, as (Franz) Klammer did to achieve his Olympic victory."

Klammer, who won the Olympic downhill on this course in 1976, was at the finish line to congratulate his countrymen. Classes were closed in the Innsbruck area to allow children to see their idols on the course often used for practice by the Austrian team.

"The course was perfect, and the fans gave me a big boost," Maier said. "I just wanted to win here. This race was very special to me."

Mayer trailed the winner by .76 seconds, with Strobl another .01 second behind. Fourth through sixth places — Stephan Eberharter, Rainer Salzgeber and Hans Knauss — were each separated by .01 second.

Patrick Wirth, Andreas Schifferer and Werner Franz finished seventh through ninth. Nor-

way's Lasse Paulsen broke the Austrian streak, placing 10th.

The race, the third super giant slalom of the season, started 65 minutes late because of fog. Maier, fourth in the two previous super-G races, avoided a spill midway down the course, hitting the snow with a hand while clearing a gate.

The Austrian performance followed three consecutive losses by the team in downhill and giant slalom events in northern Italy. Maier, who won for the 13th time in his World Cup career, moved into first place in the overall standings.

With 540 points after 12 races, Maier leads Norway's Lasse Kjus by three points. Kjus dropped to second following his 14th-place finish Monday.

Maier, the defending World Cup overall, super-G and giant slalom champion, tops the super-G standings, leading Eberharter, 280 points to 230.

Plummer building a legend for himself with late comeback wins

By Dave Goldberg
AP Football Writer

The Arizona Cardinals haven't made the playoffs the past 16 seasons.

The San Francisco 49ers haven't won fewer than 10 games in 18 seasons — except for the nine-game strike-shortened season of 1982. They've won five Super Bowls in that time and missed the playoffs once, in 1991, and they still went 10-6 that year.

But the Cardinals finally have something the 49ers don't — Jake Plummer.

Yes, the 49ers already are in the playoffs with an 11-4 record and the Cardinals (8-7) still have to beat San Diego to secure the first playoff berth in 11 seasons in the desert.

But they at least have their future quarterback in Plummer, who is good enough to already get a new contract with a record \$15 million signing bonus.

The 49ers, who could have had him, have Jim Druckenmiller.

Of all the young quarterbacks to come into the NFL in the last half-dozen years, Plummer seems to be the best closer, the kind who can pull out games like Joe Montana, John Elway and Dan Marino. In Plummer's first two seasons, he's won eight games in which the Cardinals have trailed or been tied in the fourth quarter and failed just twice.

Both failures were in November. One was in a 23-19 loss to the Giants, when Plummer twice

drove the Cardinals into scoring position needing a touchdown to win. Once he threw an ill-advised pass that was intercepted, then he threw a fourth-down pass that was knocked down.

The other shouldn't count because it was one of those games decided by the officials.

That was the against the Cowboys, when Plummer brought the Cards back from a 28-0 deficit to 35-28. But Rob Moore was mugged in the end zone on the game's last play, a 4-yard pass that would have tied the score. No flag was thrown.

The most recent game-winner came Sunday, when Plummer drove the Cardinals 69 yards, scrambling for 16 to set up Chris Jacke's field goal that beat New Orleans 19-17. The win kept Arizona ahead in the three-way race for the final wild-card spot in the NFC.

"That's what makes Jake," said his coach, Vince Tobin. "He has tremendous confidence in his ability. He never thinks the situation is out of hand. He thinks if he has time and the football, he's going to get some points."

How does that involve the 49ers? For one thing, Plummer plays a lot like Montana and wears his No. 16.

For another, in April 1997, the Niners were looking for a young quarterback for the inevitable day when Steve Young finally gives way.

They debated between Plummer and Druckenmiller and used their first-round pick on Drucken-

millier, a big, strong-armed QB who doesn't fit their system. He remains behind both Young and Ty Detmer, brought in because Druckenmiller wasn't ready to be even a backup.

Plummer went 16 picks later to Arizona in the second round.

That's probably a plus for the NFL because with Plummer the 49ers might have won 10 games or more for another 15 years. That means they would have maintained what some people call confidence and others call arrogance.

"This team is not an exceptional one," linebacker Ken Norton said of New England after the Niners lost there 24-21 Sunday with backup Scott Zolak at quarterback for the Patriots.

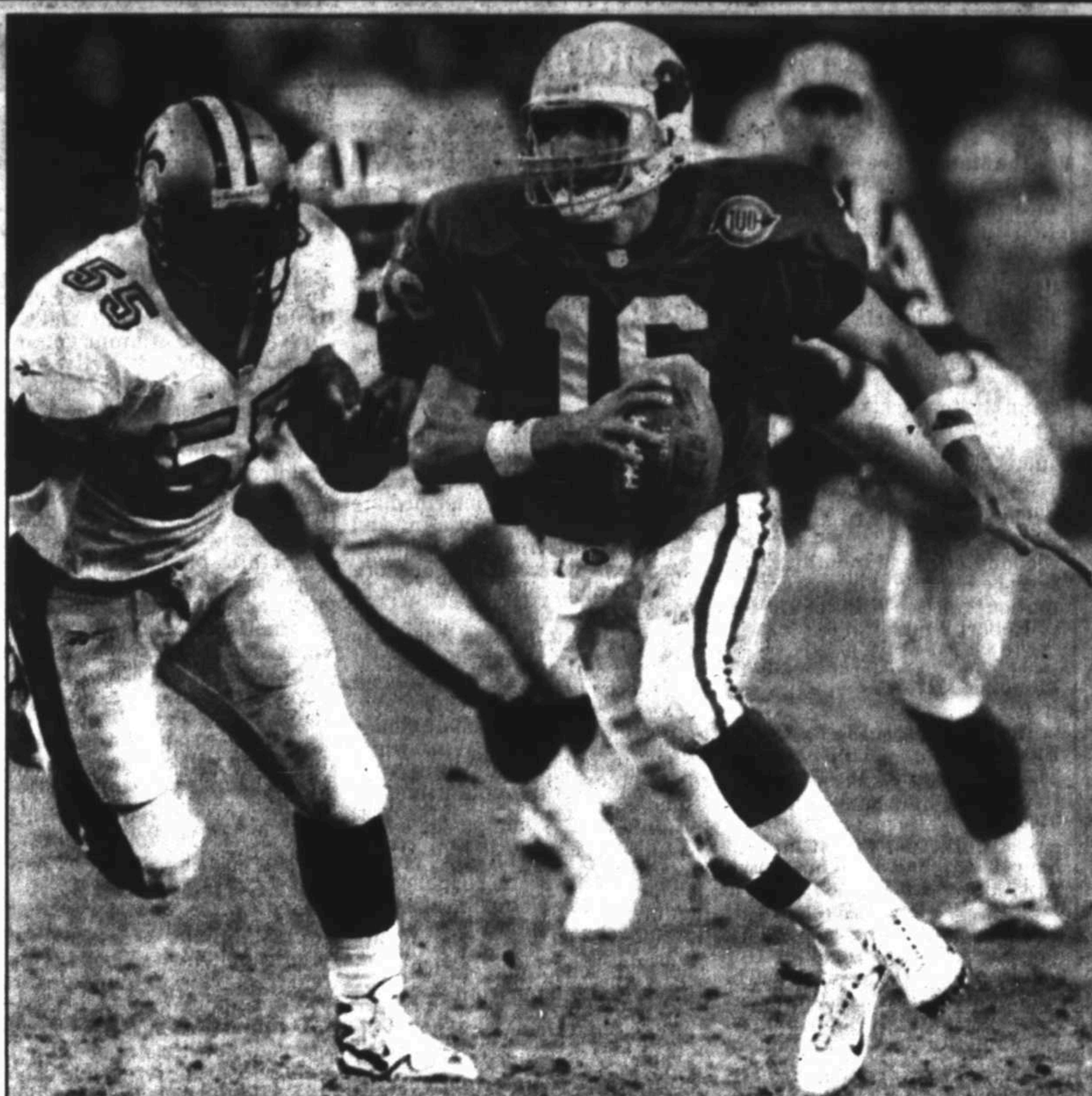
"If we're going to be a contender, we have to beat teams like this. We didn't protect the ball on offense."

Offense? With the defense San Francisco has these days, it could use Jake Plummer.

PLAYOFF PICTURE: It's as clear as it can be entering the final weekend — all the AFC playoff spots are filled and just one is left in the NFC with three teams still alive.

In the NFC, Minnesota (14-1) has home field throughout and Atlanta (13-2) has a first-round bye and will play a home game the second week.

San Francisco (11-4) will play Green Bay (10-5) in one wild-card game, at San Francisco unless the 49ers lose at home to the Rams and Green Bay wins at Chicago.



Arizona Cardinals quarterback Jake Plummer scrambles for a first down as he eludes New Orleans Saints' Mark Fields (55) during the Cardinals' final drive of the game that set up the winning field goal, giving them a 19-17 victory Sunday in Tempe, Ariz.

DOLPHINS: Thomas catches six passes from Marino in win

(From 1C)

Johnson coached the game despite the death of his mother Sunday in Port Arthur. He said nothing to the team about the situation before the game.

"Jimmy is very businesslike," Thomas said, "but we gave him the game ball."

The Broncos scored on a kickoff return for the first time since 1972 on Vaughn Hebronn's 95-yard run-back with eight minutes left, and Bobby Brister's two-point conversion pass to Ed McCaffrey made the score 28-21. A 42-yard field goal by the Dolphins' Olindo Mare with 1:10 left clinched the win.

The Broncos shut down Miami's feeble running game, but Marino got hot late in the first half. After a controversial ruling cost the Dolphins an apparent fumble recovery deep in Denver territory, Marino moved Miami 50 yards and hit Thomas with a 9-yard touchdown pass, cutting the Broncos' lead to 10-7.

A 56-yard catch-and-run play by Thomas — helped when George Coghill failed in his attempt at an interception — put Miami ahead for the first time 14-13 early in the third period. On the next possession, Thomas made an acrobatic catch for a 17-yard touchdown and

a 21-13 lead.

"It feels great," said Thomas, who made six catches for 136 yards. "We came out tonight and played our hearts out."

After each score, Thomas ran to the first row of the stands, handing the balls to his uncle, aunt and grandmother, who was attending her first NFL game.

"We got embarrassed tonight," Denver coach Mike Shanahan said. "Any time you play poorly, you go back and look at yourself. Hopefully you get the momentum back and play like we did earlier in the year."

Notes: Denver safety Eric Brown returned to the lineup after missing four games with a groin injury. ... Broncos defensive end Neil Smith was inactive because of an abdominal strain. ... Elway outrushed Miami 39 yards to 36. ... Denver fell to 4-1 when Davis doesn't rush for 100 yards. ... McCaffrey passed the 1,000-yard mark in receiving for the first time in his eight-year career. ... Randy Montgomery had the Broncos' last kickoff return for a touchdown 26 years ago. ... The Dolphins are in the playoffs for the 18th time. ... The Dolphins weren't penalized in the game.

REEVES: Coach went back to hospital before game started

(From 1C)

"We have so much veteran leadership and the foundation has already been laid," linebacker Cornelius Bennett said. "Coach Reeves is still here, regardless of whether he's in the hospital or at home or in his office looking down on us."

Dr. Charles Harrison, a team physician, said Reeves was admitted to the hospital about 2 p.m. Sunday, a couple of hours before the Falcons kicked off against the Lions. The two watched the game together on television from the coach's hospital room.

Brooks and the players tried to call Reeves at home after their victory, unaware he had returned to the hospital. The coaching staff learned of his condition on the bus ride to the airport, then informed the players on the flight home.

Another team physician, Dr. Andrew Bishop, reassured the players that Reeves was not in serious danger.

"I was very shocked because I

thought things had turned for the worse," Bennett said. "But they told us it was a normal complication after heart surgery."

When the team flight — delayed in Detroit by icy weather — finally arrived in Atlanta after midnight Sunday, some 100 fans were on hand at the airport to provide a noisy reception. More were waiting at the Falcons' headquarters.

"All kind of emotions are running through me," said defensive end Chuck Smith, who has been with the team since 1992 and finally got to wear a championship T-shirt. "It's been seven years of working hard, seven years of the good and the bad, and it all came out at once."

"It was just destiny for us to win the championship."

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Despite pain, Vikings just keep rolling on

By Ron Lesko
AP Sports Writer

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Here's the latest installment in the Minnesota Vikings' version of "It's A Wonderful Season."

Both quarterback Randall Cunningham and center Jeff Christy broke bones in their left hands early in the game Sunday night against Jacksonville. Cunningham threw three touchdown passes before leaving. Christy played the entire game and the Vikings went on to their highest point total in 24 years.

Yawn. Nothing surprises the Vikings anymore. Not even their performance Sunday night, when they ignored another spate of injuries to beat the AFC Central-champion Jaguars 50-10. That made the Vikings (14-1) the first dome team ever to earn home-field advantage for the playoffs and moved them within 12 points of setting a new NFL scoring record.

Just another day in a mind-boggling season for the Vikings, who have the NFL's best record after Denver's loss Monday night and hope they will end up with their first-ever Super Bowl title.

"If you stop and go, 'Wow!', you're going to get your butt beat," running back Leroy Hoard said Monday. "Hey, we just keep going, keep playing hard and just keep doing the things we've been doing and wait till it's all over with to say 'Wow!'"

Neither Cunningham nor Christy are expected to miss Saturday's regular-season finale at Tennessee, when the Vikings will have a chance to become just the third team in NFL history to win 15 games.

For Cunningham, it's the second time this season a potentially serious injury turned into a minor ailment. He hurt his knee early in the win over New Orleans on Nov. 8, but was able to return the following Sunday after having two bone chips removed from the knee.

He broke a bone on the top of his hand on Minnesota's first drive Sunday night, then led the Vikings to a 12-3 halftime lead before X-rays revealed the break at halftime. He wore a plastic shield wrapped over the hand in the third quarter, when he threw touchdown passes of 43 yards to Randy

Moss and 14 yards to Andrew Glover.

Brad Johnson finished up as the Vikings scored 24 points in the fourth quarter to complete the rout, but Cunningham worked with the first team in a light practice Monday and showed no signs that the hand was bothering him.

"I'm willing to do whatever it takes," Cunningham said. "I'll go the distance. I don't mind. I have no problem with that. ... I'm not going to go into the game thinking about my hand. I'm going to go in thinking about what we will have to do offensively."

Already the second-highest scoring team in NFL history, the Vikings will need to score just 12 points against Tennessee to surpass the 541 points scored by the 1983 Washington Redskins. That shouldn't be a problem, no matter how much playing time the Vikings give their regulars.

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Fight forfe

SAN JUAN. A vicious elbow followed by shoving and th was declared.

Ramon Gomez, a university of Puerto Rico's Tim with an elbow first half of game of the Classic on Mo

When Oklahoma's Heskett, who front of Amer pushing and among coach referee Eric keeping order ranked Sooner 39-10 at the t forfeit.

"Our kids h to the huddle some cheap sh oma coach K "When that minute mark swung at Tim then stopped and premedit really connect on his jaw. T Sampson sa a concussion of team phy Schnebel.

"Obviously about Tim, 6-foot-1 sopho time you get you're concern be the next d foremost con Tim Heskett

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Associated I

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By Jim O'Co AP Basketball

EAST RUT Not only have been college b teams of the meetings ma best games o

They meet in the second V Classic. An won't decide torical persp No. 2 Duke a

"Playing R It's good for college bask Mike Krzyzew matchup like is what keep going. It's n players or co grams and th all time."

In the other header to rai research in Valvano, the national cha Carolina Sta

Fight gives Sooners forfeit win in tourney

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — A vicious elbow that knocked an Oklahoma player to the floor was followed by some pushing and shoving and then a rare forfeit win was declared.

Ramon Gomez of American University of Puerto Rico hit Oklahoma's Tim Heskett in the head with an elbow with 5:02 left in the first half of the opening-round game of the Puerto Rico Holiday Classic on Monday.

When Oklahoma coaches ran to Heskett, who was on the floor in front of American's bench, some pushing and shoving started among coaches and players and referee Eric Harmon, intent on keeping order, declared the 23rd-ranked Sooners, who were leading 39-10 at the time, 2-0 winners by forfeit.

"Our kids had been coming back to the huddle saying there were some cheap shots going on," Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson said. "When that happened at the five-minute mark, the kid (Gomez) swung at Tim and missed him, then stopped and turned around and premeditated the next one. He really connected. Tim got a wallop on his jaw. That was solid."

Sampson said Heskett may have a concussion and is under the care of team physician Dr. Brock Schobel.

"Obviously we're concerned about Tim," Sampson said of the 6-foot-1 sophomore guard. "Anytime you get a blow to the head, you're concerned about how he will be the next day. ... My first and foremost concern is to make sure Tim Heskett is OK."

The incident occurred when the Sooners (7-1) were in transition, with Heskett trailing the play on the left sideline. Gomez, a 6-1 guard, then hit Heskett in front of the American bench.

Sampson quickly came to his player's side, with assistant coaches and several reserve players in tow. Screaming quickly escalated to shoving, as Heskett lay dazed on the court.

American's Oscar Chiamarillo, an ineligible player from last year's team and now a student assistant coach, came after Sampson but the sides were separated without further scuffling.

But Harmon had seen enough. He wasted little time in awarding

More Sports/3D

the game to Oklahoma and sent the teams to the locker rooms.

"The coaches were about to get into it," Harmon said right after the game.

"He called the game off, and that is when the players left the bench," Sampson said. "I was surprised that he called the game. I thought what should have happened was that the kid (Gomez) should have been kicked out of the game, then let the game go on. That's just my opinion, but you don't know what prior experience the referee has had."

American coach Rafael Torres said there had been some jostling between Gomez and Heskett prior to the elbow.

"On the other side of the court, their player (Heskett) was hitting Gomez and the referee saw that but didn't do anything," he said. "Gomez was mad at him (Heskett). When they were coming down court they were very close together, and Gomez hit him with the elbow. Then the coach from the other team came to our bench and was going after Gomez. All of their team came to our bench."

Torres said Gomez will not play in Tuesday's consolation round game.

Oklahoma will play Mississippi, a 66-61 winner over St. Joseph's in Tuesday's semifinals. American (0-6) plays St. Joseph's.

American lost 10 players from its roster after they were not approved by the NCAA when the school made the move from Division III to II this year. Players on the Division III level don't have to go through the NCAA clearing-house.

The Pirates, who beat Arkansas and Alabama last season, have a team made up of four returning reserves and three walk-ons.

The NCAA said its statistics department does not keep records of games that were forfeited because of fighting. However, it is highly unusual for such a thing to happen.

In 1991, a brawl halted a game between Chicago State and Illinois State. In all, 10 Chicago State players were ejected, and Illinois State won by forfeit.



Tulsa's Brandon Kurtz (13) shoots over Johnny Phillips of Texas Tech during the first half of their game Monday in the Pearl Harbor Classic in Kahuku, Hawaii.

Tulsa crushes Tech in Hawaii by 34 points

Associated Press

LAIE, Hawaii — Michael Ruffin scored 21 points and pulled down nine rebounds Monday as Tulsa manhandled cold-shooting Texas Tech, 84-50, in the first round of the Pearl Harbor Classic.

In addition to Ruffin's work, the Hurricanes (10-1) got 17 points from Brandon Kurtz and 16 from Greg Harrington.

Meanwhile, the Red Raiders (6-4) self-destructed in the second half, making only 4-of-28 shots (14 percent), getting only one basket over the first 12 minutes of the half. For the game, they were 25-of-59 (25 percent).

Tulsa doubled the field goal count with 30, including nine 3-pointers.

Texas Tech also committed 18 turnovers with Tulsa's Jeff Platt getting five steals.

It was a close game for most of the first half, but runs of 7-0 and 9-0 made it 37-25 at the half. At one point, the score was 28-25.

The Hurricanes quickly put the game away in the second half, outscoring Texas Tech, 35-10, with Ruffin getting 10 points.

With leading scorer Rayford Young sidelined with an ankle injury, the Red Raiders got 14 points from Mario Layne and 10 from Andy Ellis. Stan Bonewitz, who had been averaging 15.8 points per game, finished with just four.

SMU 84, Stephen F. Austin 64
NACOGDOCHES — Chad Elsey scored 24 points and Willie Davis added 21 as Southern Methodist

Ex-coach finds Lobos deserving

ALBUQUERQUE (AP) — It seemed just like '70s. A nationally ranked New Mexico team was clobbering an opponent in The Pit and Norm Ellenberger had a front-row seat.

Ellenberger, the head coach at New Mexico from 1973 through 1979 and now an assistant to Bob Knight at Indiana, was among more than 17,000 fans who watched No. 11 New Mexico rout McNeese State 90-46 Monday night.

During the Ellenberger era in Albuquerque, the Lobos went 134-62 and won a pair of Western Athletic Conference titles in 1974 and 1978. Then, as now, they were a fixture in the Top 25.

A recruiting scandal cost Ellenberger his job at New Mexico prior to the start of the 1979-80 season. After leaving the Lobos, he coached an Albuquerque team in the Continental Basketball Association, then was an assistant to Don Haskins at Texas-El Paso.

Since their loss the Wildcats have won six straight and four of those were against ranked teams — UCLA, Kansas, Indiana and Maryland.

"This team is improving because of the seniors," Smith said of Heshimu Evans, Scott Padgett and Wayne Turner.

Those three were keys last season when Kentucky rallied from a 17-point deficit with 9 1/2 minutes to play and beat Duke 86-84 in the South Regional final. Turner had 16 points and eight assists in the game.

The only other time these teams met in the '90s was in another regional final. Christian Laettner took a long pass from Grant Hill, faked, turned and hit a jumper that gave the Blue Devils a 104-103 overtime victory in what many have called one of the best NCAA tournament games ever.

No. 2 Lady Vols romp over No. 8 UCLA by 23

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee is starting to look like the unbeatable team from last year.

The nation's No. 2 team, dominating No. 8 UCLA in virtually every phase, rolled to a 100-77 win Monday night.

"We're beginning to gel and play as a team," said Lady Vol Kristen Clement. "We've proved we can play with the best."

Tennessee coach Pat Summitt agreed after watching five players score in double figures. A strong defensive effort also was pleasing.

"We're starting to get in sync and carry practices over into games," Summitt said. "I was pleased with the outcome."

Chamique Holdscrow scored 29 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead Tennessee (9-1), which forced 23 turnovers and outrebounded UCLA 46-30.

The Lady Vols, who shot 62 percent from the field in the first half and led by 25 points at halftime, also got 16 points from Tamika Catchings and 15 points from Semeka Randall. UCLA (7-3) was led in scoring by Janae Hubbard with 17 points.

Tennessee fell behind 4-0 to open the game, but dominated with defense and a strong transition game the rest of the way.

Holdscrow and Randall keyed a 20-6 run that left UCLA trailing 24-10 midway through the first half. The Bruins committed seven turnovers in the stretch and had 17 turnovers at halftime.

"Tennessee played a very good first half," UCLA coach Kathy Olivier said. "We had a lot of turnovers and they capitalized on the mistakes."

A 22-10 spurt by Tennessee to close out the half gave the Lady Vols a 55-30 lead. Holdscrow had four straight baskets to fuel the run, and Kellie Jolly had a 3-point-er in the closing seconds.

UCLA was hampered by foul trouble in the first half. Post players Hubbard and Maylana Martin each missed valuable minutes in both halves before fouling out.

"That hurt us because scoring in the paint is a big part of our offense," Olivier said.

UCLA's offensive problems continued in the second half. The Bruins scored just five points in the first 6 minutes and fell behind by 30 points.

A 15-4 run by UCLA, sparked by Maylana Martin's nine points, brought the Bruins to within 20 at 83-63. But they would get no closer.

Michelle Snow added 14 points and 10 rebounds for Tennessee. Martin had 16 points and eight rebounds.

No. 3 Purdue 84, No. 20 Florida 76
GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Stephanie White-McCarty set a school record by making seven of eight 3-point tries while scoring a career-high 33 points as third-ranked Purdue beat No. 20 Florida.

White-McCarty was 11-for-17 overall as the Boilermakers (8-1) ended the Gators' 21-game home winning streak. Ukari Figgs added 21 points, including 11-of-12 from the free-throw line, giving Purdue's backcourt a combined 54 points.

Brandi McCain had 16 points, nine rebounds and nine assists for the Gators (9-4), who fell to 9-28 under coach Carol Ross against top-10 teams. The Gators led by as many as eight points at 33-25 with 3:31 remaining in the first half, but Purdue cut the halftime lead to 37-36 with an 11-4 run.

UF extended its lead to 45-40 early in the second half, but Tamara Stocks, who finished with 13 points, picked up her third and fourth fouls on back-to-back plays and sat out the next 11 minutes.

Though the Gators led 54-46 with

Women's Top 25

Stocks on the bench, the Boilermakers used a 12-0 spurt to take a commanding lead. Tiffany Travis led UF with 21 points, but fouled out with 7:07 remaining.

No. 7 Notre Dame 75,

Michigan St. 64

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Ruth Riley had 18 points and 12 rebounds, and Danielle Green added 16 points and 10 rebounds as No. 7 Notre Dame beat Michigan State.

The Irish (9-1) used a 15-0 run in the first half to open a 30-11 lead. The Lady Spartans broke the 11:32 scoreless streak, starting a 13-2 run that cut the halftime lead to 32-24.

The Irish quickly extended the lead to 15 points early in the second half. The Spartans closed to 67-60 when Christie Pung hit a 3-point-er with 2:15 left. But a layup by Niele Ivey and a pair of free throws by Sheila McMillen ensured Notre Dame its second straight victory following a loss to top-ranked Connecticut.

The Irish, who relied heavily on their bench for a win last week over South Florida, got only five points from reserves against the Spartans.

But four of the five starters scored in double figures with Ivey adding 16 points and five assists and Sheila McMillen scoring 11 points. Kelley Siemon had nine points.

California 80, No. 9

Colorado State 75

OAKLAND, Calif. — Sherrise Smith made two free throws with 12 seconds remaining as California upset No. 9 Colorado State in the championship of the Oakland Tribune Classic.

Jennie Leander's short jumper gave the Bears a 74-73 lead with 1:11 left, and Lauren Ashbaugh, who led California with a career-high 18 points, grabbed a defensive rebound with 38 seconds left. Paige Bowie, who finished with 15 points, hit a 3-point-er with 17 seconds remaining for the Bears, but Colorado State's Farah McDill scored five seconds later.

Shavaki Jackson scored 17 points for California (5-2), which won its fourth straight game, and beat its first ranked opponent since March 4, 1995, against then-No. 19 Oregon State. Becky Hammon led Colorado State (12-1) with 27 points, followed by Katie Cronin with 18 points and Angie Gorton 12.

No. 12 Penn St. 84, Temple 53

PHILADELPHIA — Helen Darling had 20 points and nine rebounds, and Andrea Garner added 17 points to lead No. 12 Penn State to a victory over Temple.

Penn State (8-1) put together an 18-5 run to go ahead 27-12 with 4:53 remaining in the first half, and led by as many as 32 points during the second half. The Lady Lions scored 39 points in a school record 54 trips to the free-throw line.

No. 17 Virginia Tech 66,

George Mason 57

FAIRFAX, Va. — Amy Wetzel had a career performance in a game that included more turnovers and fouls than field goals as No. 17 Virginia Tech survived a late scare to remain unbeaten.

No. 23 Virginia 96, Radford 56
CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Monick Foote scored 22 points — 18 in the first half — as No. 23 Virginia routed Radford.

The Cavaliers (6-2) ran off the first seven points of the game and put Radford into a double-digit deficit after just over five minutes of play.

No. 25 Santa Clara 63, Denver 52
DENVER — Katie Pursley scored 15 points and Brook Staebell had 12 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead No. 25 Santa Clara to a victory over Denver.

No. 6 Stanford rolls easily in own tourney

Associated Press

STANFORD, Calif. — Kris Weems hit six 3-pointers and scored 20 points as No. 6 Stanford won the opener of the Stanford Invitational, 82-56 over Elon College.

David Moseley hit four 3-pointers and scored 15 points for Stanford (8-2), which also got 15 points from Tim Young and 13 from Mark Madsen. Stanford was 11-of-30 overall on 3-pointers.

Morgan Bell had 20 points and Brendon Rowell added 15 for Elon (3-6), which is in just its second year in Division I.

Stanford used an 8-0 run, capped by Weems' sixth 3-pointer, right before halftime to build a 42-26 lead. Weems had 18 of his 20 points in the first half.

No. 11 New Mexico 90,

McNeese St. 46

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Lamont Long scored 28 points and Kenny Thomas had 22 points and 14 rebounds as New Mexico finished up one of the softest early season schedules in school history.

Over the last month, New Mexico (8-0) also has beaten Cornell, Northeastern, Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Texas-Pan American and Sacramento State.

McNeese State (1-7) got 17 points from Demond Mallet, who was 6-for-23 from the field and 3-for-16 on 3-pointers.

Men's Top 25

No. 15 Michigan St. 79, Pepperdine 67

LAIE, Hawaii — Mateen Cleaves and Charlie Bell keyed a 19-8 run at the start of the second half and the Spartans won the opening game of the Pearl Harbor Classic.

Cleaves, who was scoreless in the first half, had seven points and Bell added six in the run that gave the Spartans (7-3) a 54-44 lead. All told, guards accounted for 32 of Michigan State's 44 points in the second half.

Cleaves finished with 16 points and Bell had 14. Marc McDowell had 12 points on 6-of-7 shooting for Pepperdine (6-4).

No. 16 Clemson 72,

South Carolina St. 47

CLEMSON, S.C. — Harold Jamison scored a season-high 19 points on 8-of-8 shooting and Terrell McIntyre had 16 points and was 4-of-5 from 3-point range as the Tigers won their seventh straight game.

The Tigers (10-1) held the Bulldogs (4-5) to a season-low in scoring.

Coray Davis had 11 points, all in the first half, for South Carolina State. Mike Wiatre, the Bulldogs' leading scorer at 17 points per game, finished with two points and was 0-of-10 from the field.

Kentucky, Duke renew rivalry

By Jim O'Connell

AP Basketball Writer

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Not only have Duke and Kentucky been college basketball's dominant teams of the '90s, their last two meetings make any short list for best games of the decade.

They meet again Tuesday night in the second game of the Jimmy V Classic. And although the game won't decide much from the historical perspective, it will still be No. 2 Duke and No. 3 Kentucky.

"Playing Kentucky is terrific. It's good for both of us and good for college basketball," Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "To have a matchup like this out of conference is what keeps college basketball going. It's not about individual players or coaches, it's about programs and this is two of the best of all time."

In the other game of the double-header to raise money for cancer research in the name of Jim Valvano, the late coach who won a national championship at North Carolina State in 1983, No. 8 Fur-

due (11-1) will play South Carolina (4-5).

Duke was the team of the early '90s, winning national championships in 1991 and 1992 and appearing in four of the first five Final Fours of the decade. Kentucky has been in charge as the '90s come to a close, appearing in three straight national championship games and winning it all in 1996 and 1998.

"People will make historical judgments down the road," Kentucky coach Tubby Smith said. "This is a big game for both these teams right now."

Both enter the game with 10-1 records, with Duke's only loss to Cincinnati in the Great Alaska Shootout championship and Kentucky's to Pittsburgh in the Puerto Rico Shootout semifinals. Duke comes into the game on a five-game winning streak that started with a convincing victory over Michigan State in the Great Eight and includes four home wins by an average margin of 32.2 points.

"We're playing at a pretty good level right now and are improv-

ing," Krzyzewski said. "Final exams have historically taken a lot out of our guys so I want to see how they react to pressure of the layoff for exams and then going home for Christmas."

Since their loss the Wildcats have won six straight and four of those were against ranked teams — UCLA, Kansas, Indiana and Maryland.

"This team is improving because of the seniors," Smith said of Heshimu Evans, Scott Padgett and Wayne Turner.

Those three were keys last season when Kentucky rallied from a 17-point deficit with 9 1/2 minutes to play and beat Duke 86-84 in the South Regional final. Turner had 16 points and eight assists in the game.

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BUSINESS

Stocks/8C-1D

BUSINESS BRIEFING

OIL PRICES
FUTURES
Monday \$10.81
Previous Close \$10.95

POSTED
Today \$8.25
Previous Close \$8.25

NATURAL GAS PRICES
Monday \$1.947

Prices gyrate

Crude oil futures gyrated wildly before settling lower Monday on the New York Mercantile Exchange. At one point, the January crude oil contract was down 55 cents to \$10.35, a new 12-year low, before rebounding. The contract settled 14 cents lower at \$10.81 a barrel. Technical factors had much to do with the wild swings in the January crude oil contract, which expired Monday. The expiration of a contract can often cause unexpected volatility. Natural gas fell 6 percent, its biggest drop in two weeks, as weather forecasts signaled that temperatures will be too high at the end of the month to erode inventories, now 27 percent higher than they were a year ago. Natural gas for January delivery at the Henry Hub in Louisiana fell 12.7 cents, or 6.1 percent, to \$1.947 per million British thermal units on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Dollar rises

NEW YORK — The dollar rose against major currencies Monday thanks to a surge in the stock market and lessening worries that President Clinton will be forced from office. In late New York trading Monday, the dollar bought 116.21 Japanese yen, up from 115.61 yen in late Friday trading. The dollar also rose against the German mark, to 1.6723 from 1.6641. Trading was light. Other late dollar rates in New York, compared with late rates Friday: 1.3599 Swiss francs, up from 1.3480; 5.6074 up from 5.5790; 1.655.80 Italian lire, up from 1.647; and 1.5507 Canadian dollars, up from 1.5447. The dollar bought \$1.6829 British pounds, up from \$1.6807.

Stocks climb

NEW YORK — The S&P 500 and the Nasdaq composite index set new highs Monday as the impeachment of President Clinton failed to derail a powerful rally by technology stocks. The Dow Jones industrial average rose as much as 175 points before finishing 85.22 higher at 8,988.85. The Nasdaq composite index rose 51.89 to 2,138.03, padding Friday's record high of 2,086.14. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 14.81 to 1,202.84, topping the Nov. 27 record of 1,192.33. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by a 5-to-4 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, but Nasdaq decliners finished with a narrow lead over gainers. NYSE composite volume totaled 918.06 million shares. The NYSE composite index rose 5.83 to 577.70, and the American Stock Exchange composite index rose 2.87 to 654.12. The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 4.41 to 401.83.

NASD election

WASHINGTON — Representatives from smaller brokerages won two seats Monday in the first contested election for board members in the 60-year history of the National Association of Securities Dealers, the parent company of the Nasdaq Stock Market. NASD chairman Frank Zarb promised that the group will closely examine complaints raised by the faction representing small brokerage firms around the country. The group has been challenging what it sees as the unfair dominance in the NASD of major Wall Street houses like Merrill Lynch & Co. and Salomon Smith Barney. In previous board elections, candidates chosen by the NASD's nominating committee have run unopposed. But this year, the faction representing smaller brokerages ran to bring attention to their complaints.

U.S. gasoline prices fall to new lows

■ Analysts say prices could continue falling through this coming spring before stabilizing in time for summer driving.

N.Y. Times News Service

WASHINGTON — The average retail price of regular unleaded gasoline fell to 94.4 cents a gallon last week, the lowest price at the pump in almost a decade, the U.S. Energy Department said. The price is down more than 17 cents, or 15 percent, from \$1.12 a gallon last

year. The drop of 0.1 cent is also the 10th weekly decline. It follows a drop of 1 cent to 94.5 cents a gallon the previous week, and is the lowest since the department began tracking prices in August 1990.

Gasoline prices have been falling with the drop in crude oil. World production is far outpacing demand, largely because of the Asian economic slump. "I don't think we're done with the crude dropping yet," said American Automobile Association spokesman Mitch Fuqua. "It could be March, or around there, before we see things sta-

bilized."

Fuqua said the upcoming Christmas holiday, which usually pushes price up, was unlikely to have an impact at the pump. "We'll probably squeak through Christmas without prices rising noticeably," he said.

The department's independent Energy Information Administration gathers weekly price data from 800 service stations.

Crude oil was down 24 cents at \$11.02 a barrel Monday on the New York Mercantile Exchange, after a four-day air

attack on Iraq by the U.S. and U.K. left its oil pipelines unscathed.

Crude oil makes up about 28 percent of the cost of the average gallon of gasoline, including taxes, and the price of oil is the most volatile factor in gasoline prices.

The agency forecasts gasoline prices will rise slightly early next year, averaging \$1 a gallon through the first six months of next year before rising modestly next summer, assumptions that are based on the expectation that crude oil prices will begin to rebound.

Grinch goodies join Christmas fray

■ Dr. Seuss' widow licenses products to protect his characters.

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Who in Who-ville would have guessed it? Pretending he hated, hated Christmas all along.

Mr. Grinch, that grinning, grim, green character with the heart two sizes too small, is slithering his way into the season of consumerism with a line of ornaments, socks, stuffed toys and hats.

What would the late creator Theodor Geisel say of a Christmas Grinch that comes from a store? His widow, Audrey, says it's something he'd adore.

"Even he foresaw that everyone would try to utilize and bring it forth in the ways that pleased them," she said. "It was then that I didn't have a choice. I had to go into the business... to protect all the Seussian critters."

Penned in 1957, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" was the product of the author's loathe of holiday greed. He embodied it in a pinch-faced Mr. Grinch, who stole all the presents and trappings in Who-ville until Cindy-Lou Who prompted his change of heart.

Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, never cared to market the characters from his 47 children's stories. He simply wanted to write from his San Diego County home, his widow said.

However, before his death in 1991, Geisel told his wife that she was responsible for taking care of his characters. The Grinch could not prevent Christmas from coming, but Geisel could protect what became of his work.

"You keep a firm control as if they really were your children," said Geisel's 77-year-old widow, who heads Dr. Seuss Enterprises. "I don't want the Cat in a bad part of town, so to speak."

The Grinch, The Cat in the Hat, the Lorax and a stable of other characters were licensed a few years ago to prevent them from falling into the public domain, she said.

Since then, she's had more offers than she can count — everything from breakfast cereal to backpacks — for the rights to use Seuss characters, but she's selective.

The Grinch is making a slow appearance — from his face on America Online as a link to a Christmas shopping site and Macy's selling silk Grinch neck ties, to Hallmark using him as their holiday hook.

Audrey Geisel is puzzled about "the remarkable acceptance of the Grinch," but she theorized that maybe it was because "people want something a little more, say, naughty."

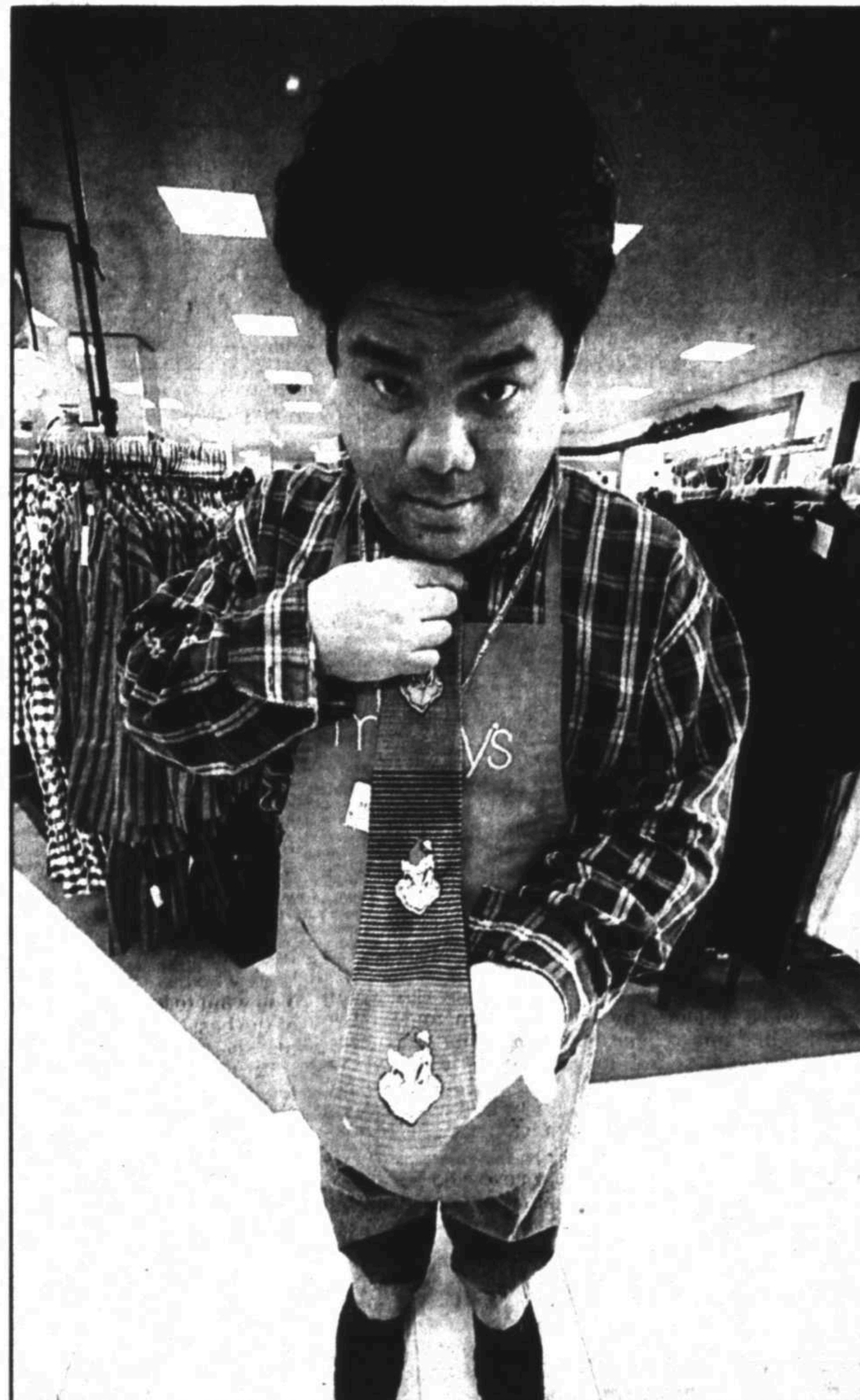
Part of the popularity simply stems from availability, said Martin Brochstein, executive editor of The Licensing Letter, a New York-based business publication.

"It's popular because she's permitted it to be," Brochstein said. "The characters themselves have always been around us."

Besides, the Grinch moral is the perfect fit for an annual Christmas message — a lot like Scrooge, he said.

"It's almost part of the everyday lexicon," Brochstein said. "But part of the appeal is that the Seuss characters have not been widely licensed."

That may change. Audrey Geisel has given permission for the story to appear on stage and screen, which could lead to more toys.



Macy's sales person Michael Arcangel displays a Grinch tie at the company's San Diego Fashion Valley store. Audrey Geisel, the widow of the Ted Geisel, creator of the Dr. Seuss characters, has licensed the use of his creations to prevent them from falling into the public domain.

Jim Carrey will play the Grinch in a Universal Pictures movie directed by Ron Howard that's set to hit theaters by Christmas 2000.

Carrey informed her of his intention to play the character even while the studios haggled over who would get the rights, for which Universal paid a reported \$5 million.

However, the real issue has never been money, Geisel's widow said. It's people identifying with her husband's story and the true meaning of Christmas.

"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! 'Maybe Christmas,' he thought, 'doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas... perhaps... means a little bit more!'" Geisel wrote.

Penned in 1957, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" was the product of the author's loathe of holiday greed. He embodied it in a pinch-faced Mr. Grinch who stole all the presents and trappings in Who-ville until Cindy-Lou Who prompted his change of heart.

INVESTOR'S GUIDE

Many investors will remember 1998 as year of volatility

By Eric Tyson

Q: It seems to me that this past year was a year for great stock market volatility. Can you think of a similar, highly volatile year?

A: After the plunge in prices in the late summer, I sold some of my stocks. It seemed that there were too many problems overseas that were weighing on our increasingly global economy.

If your portfolio is keeping you up at night, what are steps you can take to get a good night's sleep without going too conservative?

A: This year will be remembered by many investors as a year of volatility. However, the major U.S. market indexes are showing double-digit percent gains, so it was yet another great year for stock market investors who bought and held.

It was also another good year for

investors who were regularly feeding in new money, as the late summer correction allowed such investors to buy more shares during the market decline.

Recently, 1990 and 1987 were similar years for the U.S. market, although this year appears to be finishing stronger. In both those years the market had major setbacks but ended close to the break-even mark.

An investor seeking the higher potential returns that come with growth investments such as stocks or real estate must accept volatility as a reality. The financial markets can be more volatile than the underlying economies. Stock market investors should understand, before they invest, how volatile a given type of investment can be. That way, when the inevitable slides occur, they won't be as shocked and likely to do something detrimental, such as bailing out after a major decline.

An investor regularly investing new money should welcome corrections as an opportunity to buy some stock at a discounted price.

If you're investing in stocks, you should be doing so for the decades, not

months ahead. What matters is that many years from now you can look back at an investment that has appreciated.

Diversification — buying stocks overseas as well as in the United States, as well as investing in bonds — helps dampen a portfolio's volatility.

Examine the overall value and fluctuations in your whole portfolio, rather than its components.

We're all human — no one enjoys putting money into an investment that then drops in value. So long as the investment is otherwise sound, use declines as an opportunity to buy more. The worst thing to do is to sell, fearing that you're on a sinking ship.

When stocks go on sale, at least hold on. Don't sell what you have. The best course is to buy more.

Diversification helps many investors to be calmer about putting some money into riskier, more-volatile investments.

Investors should consider how much risk they need to take to reach their financial goals and how much risk they are comfortable taking.

Also important to consider is how many years until you will start to need investment income — the longer the time span, the more aggressive you can be.

While stocks are an excellent long-term vehicle for making your money grow, they are not an appropriate place to put money for shorter-term goals — such as the down payment for a home or car you might buy in a couple of years.

The stock market's generous performance in recent years might lull some investors into believing that it's all right to invest in stocks for just two to three years. While you might do well over some short time periods, during others, you could lose money and not be able to accomplish an important goal within the time frame you had set.

Eric Tyson is author of "Investing for Dummies" and "Personal Finance for Dummies." He can be reached via e-mail: eric@erictyson.com.

Questions for Investor's Guide can be sent in care of King Features, 235 E. 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Union Pacific escapes asset divestment

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators declined Monday to order Union Pacific Railroad to divest itself of some assets in the Houston-Gulf Coast area, to the dismay of customers and rivals alike of the nation's largest railroad.

The Surface Transportation Board, in a much-awaited decision, ordered a handful of "efficiency-producing changes" in Texas, sidestepping requests for more far-reaching action from critics who contend Union Pacific's monopoly on rail assets in the region is damaging.

The board, which in 1996 approved the \$5.4 billion merger of Union Pacific and Southern Pacific, said the permanent relief advanced by a coalition comprising the state of Texas, shippers and rail rivals "would effectively undo the merger in the Houston area."

In its order, the STB granted new authority to dispatch trains over rivals' track to facilitate movement of cars through the Houston Terminal. The STB also directed Union Pacific to consult with the Port of Houston and Greater Houston Partnership on how to carry out its infrastructure improvements.

Union Pacific executives, who had adamantly objected to proposals designed to lessen its grip on the Houston-Gulf Coast region, praised the STB's decision.

The board's action is "a fitting tribute to the 53,000 Union Pacific employees who worked extremely hard to put the merger with Southern Pacific in place and to correct our serious service problems," said Dick Davidson, chairman of Dallas-based Union Pacific Corp., which is the railroad's parent.

But the coalition partners who had pushed for an infusion of new competition in the Houston area expressed dismay at the board's action.

They wanted to force Union Pacific to transfer some of its rail assets to competitors. They also wanted the regulators to turn over to a neutral entity the switching and dispatching duties for railroads operating in Houston.

"It is just an absolute abomination," said Maureen Healy of the Society of the Plastics Industry, which helped develop the consensus plan. "I am just still shellshocked at the decision."

Echoed a Chemical Manufacturers Association spokesman, James Pasierb: "Obviously the first reaction is bitter disappointment."

Texas Railroad Commissioner Charles Matthews, who has long been critical of the federal regulators, found little reason for satisfaction Monday.

"It's just amazing in this time, when we are talking about deregulation and have deregulated every major industry in the country, that we still have one regulatory body and one industry who believe monopolies are the right way to go," he said.

Matthews, who is being joined on the Railroad Commission by two new members, said the commission soon will forward recommendations to the Texas Legislature to add rail infrastructure in the Houston area. He declined to discuss specifics.

Surf

By Doug Fe
AP Golf Writer

Mark O'Meara did the middle-of-the-door.

Graying slightly, O'Meara did the new in was a career in 18 years. I game was the steady influence Tiger Woods.

Meet the central stars where overlooked by Woods and O'Meara rally after sinking on the 72nd hole was considered a nice player's career.

Three months O'Meara won a playoff and for the world champion no. "It's just a have two more a year," O'Meara put my finger it earlier in just a little bit a little bit of ally comes v.

The year for the ages. While the became the win two more feat was m. Tour by a 20 South Korea.

Twenty years had perhaps season in gol en's golf on ning the LPGA U.S. Open in.

Cre

By Raul Do
San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO months away captain is asleep, the A.

Being the which was recent lack The United Europeans sided defeat Presidents.

"The thing about is the short end of shaw said. to my team.

"The Euro Believe me, here."

The Ryder Country Club Crenshaw tional appearance career and questions from his Ryder C.

Gor

By Mike Ha
AP Motorspo

Jeff Gordon tion in 1998 atop the N. standings for Zanardi gave fans a spec.

The 27-year races, mat record, and on the way stock car t.

years. Zanar races, also to champions many follow open-wheel return to Fo.

The perfo and Zanardi lights during auto racing.

NASCAR anniversary: spectacular time series hardt finally.

Earnhard Labonte to victory that NASCAR's a 58-race w some peop Earnhardt.

"That one describe," the rest of good and we can run up ning."

Earnhard 1998, but fi eighth in the Still, now among his next big go eighth Wins the tie with.

Boxin
RENO, N. ee whose Tyson's ter from boxing Holyfield's Mills Lan that he's en as a refere devote mor television b.

Surprising O'Meara had golf's top season

By Doug Ferguson
AP Golf Writer

Mark O'Meara is no longer just the middle-aged man who lives next door.

Graying around the edges, slightly balding on the top, O'Meara did not fit the prototype of the new face of golf in 1998. He was a career grinder, with 14 wins in 18 years. His contribution to the game was thought to be merely a steady influence on his neighbor, Tiger Woods.

Meet the new bully of Isleworth, the central Florida home to the golf stars where O'Meara was often overlooked by young guns such as Woods and Ernie Els. When O'Meara raised his arms in victory after sinking a 20-foot birdie putt on the 72nd hole of the Masters, it was considered a nice reward for a nice player who had enjoyed a nice career.

Three months later, when O'Meara won the British Open in a playoff and raised the claret jug for the world to see, he became a champion no one could overlook.

"It's just an incredible feeling to have two major championships in a year," O'Meara said. "If I could put my finger on it, I'd have done it earlier in my career. I think it's just a little bit of experience, and a little bit of wisdom, and that usually comes with age."

The year in golf was indeed one for the ages.

While the 41-year-old O'Meara became the oldest player ever to win two majors in one year, his feat was matched on the LPGA Tour by a 20-year-old rookie from South Korea.

Twenty years after Nancy Lopez had perhaps the greatest rookie season in golf, Se Ri Pak put women's golf on the front page by winning the LPGA Championship, the U.S. Open in a 20-hole playoff and

Year in Golf

then setting an LPGA scoring record. Pak wasn't the only snapshot of youth.

Who can forget amateur Matt Kuchar smiling during the Sunday pressure of Augusta National and the U.S. Open? Or Justin Rose, the English teen-ager who rejoiced after his birdie chip-in on the last hole to finish tied for fourth in the British Open? Or the shock on the face of Jenny Chausiriporn, hand cupped over mouth, as her 45-foot birdie putt disappeared into the hole to force the playoff against Pak in the U.S. Open?

Woods, meanwhile, had to settle for consistency instead of major championships.

A year after his record-setting win in the Masters raised expectations out of this world, the "Future of Golf" was put on hold. Woods won in Dubai and Atlanta, but that was about it.

Winning a major in 1998 required experience, not to mention a little luck.

Lee Janzen's wayward tee shot fell out of a tree at The Olympic Club just when all seemed to be lost. He went on to his second U.S. Open title, helped also when Payne Stewart's perfect drive landed in a divot. Vijay Singh had a ball ricochet through the many trees of Sahalee in the final round of his victory in the PGA Championship.

Even O'Meara caught a break at Royal Birkdale when a spectator not only found his ball in the third round, but picked it up — giving O'Meara a free drop.

Tom Watson won again on the PGA Tour at 48 but also missed the cut in all four majors for the first time. Jack Nicklaus made another Sunday charge at Augusta National at 58, then hobbled away from the game with an ailing hip

and ended his Ripkenlike streak of 146 consecutive majors.

Casey Martin hobbled into history. Because of a rare circulatory disease in his right leg, Martin won his federal lawsuit against the PGA Tour for a right to use a cart. He also won outside the courtroom — first in the Nike Lakeland Classic, then a spot in the U.S. Open, where he tied for 23rd.

"I will always probably be known as the person in the golf cart," he said.

Martin's case was the only time golf got dragged into the courtroom, but there were other conflicts.

One of them took place at Olympic, where the USGA decided that big, very big and the biggest big advances in technology where getting out of hand. The bluecoats proposed a new method to gauge the "springlike" effect in drivers. Callaway, Titleist and other manufacturers promised a showdown, but by the end of the year the USGA adopted the new test.

Callaway was too busy reeling from layoffs to put up much of a fight. The maker of Big Bertha and its even bigger relatives was among several manufacturers who had financial downturns this year. Callaway took the biggest hit, laying off 700 people, or about 24 percent of its full-time employees.

Another fight that never really took flight was the fledgling Tour Players Association, formed by Danny Edwards, Larry Rinker and Mark Brooks with hopes of having more power and getting a bigger piece of the money pie. Whatever momentum the TPA had came to a stop in Toronto after a players meeting with PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem.

And where was Greg Norman during all of this?

The Shark was spending his summer away from golf recovering from shoulder surgery in April. Norman missed most of the PGA Tour season and the last three majors, but returned in time to help the international team win the Presidents Cup at Royal Melbourne, handing the United States its worst loss ever in a cup.

The real drama in match play took place at Muirfield Village, where Dottie Pepper infuriated Europe with her cheerleading and led the underdog Americans to a victory in the Solheim Cup. Across the pond at the World Match Play Championship in Wentworth, England, the old guy showed up again.

O'Meara gave Singh the worst beating ever in the 35-year event, 11 and 10, then rallied over the back nine to beat Woods 1-up with a final-hole birdie putt from the fringe.

Youth did not disappear. Justin Leonard won The Players Championship, Phil Mickelson won two more tournaments — he has 13 wins at age 28, none of them a major — and David Duval emerged as perhaps the most feared player in golf. Duval won four times, led the PGA Tour in scoring average and earned a record \$2.59 million.

Hale Irwin felt young again on the Senior Tour, winning seven times, \$2.86 million and setting a record for scoring average at 68.59. He was the overwhelming player of the year on the Senior Tour, while Annika Sorenstam beat Pak for the LPGA award, which was based on points.

Duval won twice as many tournaments as anyone else on the PGA, which gave players something to consider when they voted for their player of the year. The vote went to O'Meara, who had a year no one will soon forget.

Crenshaw preparing to captain Ryder Cup

By Raul Dominguez Jr.
San Antonio Express-News

SAN ANTONIO — The Ryder Cup is nine months away but the job of United States team captain is already costing Ben Crenshaw some sleep, the Austin resident admitted.

Being the U.S. captain is "a tough job," which was heightened by the Americans' recent lack of success in team competitions. The United States lost the Ryder Cup to the Europeans in 1995 and '97 and suffered a lopsided defeat to the International Team in the Presidents Cup on Dec. 13.

"The thing I'm immediately concerned about is the Americans have come up on the short end of the stick three times now," Crenshaw said. "I won't have to give any speeches to my team, they know what this means."

"The Europeans are formidable opponents. Believe me, we've got to make our best effort here."

The Ryder Cup is Sept. 24-26, 1999, at The Country Club in Brookline, Mass.

Crenshaw was in San Antonio for a promotional appearance Friday. He talked about his career and offered putting tips, but most of the questions from the media and fans centered on his Ryder Cup captainship.

The captain's decisions on strategy, player selections and pairings have come under greater scrutiny following the losses in the Ryder Cup and Presidents Cup.

"A couple of them (U.S. team members) didn't look committed, I'll just throw that out there," Crenshaw said in his own brief assessment of the Presidents Cup. "The international team looked committed."

Opponents also are outperforming the Americans on the greens, Crenshaw said.

"We've got to get momentum somehow. We've got to start hitting some putts," he said.

"They are making more putts than we are, both in the case of the Europeans in the last couple of Ryder Cups, also the Internationals. They seem to be doing a better job of getting the ball in the hole. I don't know what it is."

Ten members of the U.S. Ryder Cup Team will be selected by a point system, and the two remaining players are chosen by Crenshaw. Although he did not have specific players in mind for the captain's choices, Crenshaw said The Country Club will call for him to pick a certain type of golfer with at least one of his selections.

"You've got to have someone who is a smart player and who is a good manager of his game

because the greens are small," he said. "I think the approach shots on that golf course are probably the most difficult part of playing that course. You have to have a cagey iron player."

Course knowledge is an added benefit Crenshaw and U.S. assistant captain Bill Rogers offer the Americans. Crenshaw tied for 12th in the '88 U.S. Open, and Rogers participated in the '73 Walker Cup. Both events were held at The Country Club.

Rogers, San Antonio Country Club director of golf, and Bruce Lietzke were named assistant captains by Crenshaw.

"I got those two guys not only because they're my friends, but they've achieved a lot in golf," he said. "When they suggest something, (the American team members are) going to be listening to them. You want to learn from somebody who has won the British Open (Rogers). You want to learn from somebody who has one of the best tests and the best record for how little he plays (Lietzke). Golfers respect that."

Crenshaw, Lietzke and Rogers became best friends while competing in junior, high school, college and professional golf. They were members of the Ryder Cup in 1981, considered by many as the greatest team ever assembled.

Distributed by The Associated Press

Gordon, Zanardi dominated in auto racing

By Mike Harris
AP Motorsports Writer

Jeff Gordon gave every indication in 1998 that he'll be staying atop the NASCAR Winston Cup standings for a while, while Alex Zanardi gave CART FedEx Series fans a special parting gift.

The 27-year-old Gordon won 13 races, matching a modern-era record, and more than \$9 million on the way to his second straight stock car title and third in four years. Zanardi, winning seven of 19 races, also took his second straight championship, but disappointed many followers of the American open-wheel series by choosing to return to Formula One in 1999.

The performances by Gordon and Zanardi were among the highlights during a banner year for auto racing.

NASCAR celebrated its 50th anniversary and continued its spectacular growth, while seven-time series champion Dale Earnhardt finally won the big one.

Earnhardt held off Bobby Labonte to win the Daytona 500, a victory that came in his 20th try in NASCAR's biggest race. It ended a 59-race winless streak that had some people speculating that Earnhardt's career was waning.

"That one was so big it's hard to describe," Earnhardt said. "But the rest of the season wasn't as good and we still have to prove we can run up front and keep winning."

Earnhardt did not win again in 1998, but finished a respectable eighth in the points race.

Still, now that the Daytona 500 is among his 71 wins, Earnhardt's next big goal is to win a record eighth Winston Cup title, breaking the tie with Richard Petty.

Year in Motorsports

"I believe I can still drive a race car and that the Richard Childress team is capable of winning another championship or two," he said.

Earnhardt also is involved in the career of Dale Jr., who came out of nowhere in 1998 to dominate the Busch Grand National Series, winning the championship.

The 24-year-old Earnhardt plans to run five Winston Cup races for his father's team next season and then move up to NASCAR's top series for a run at rookie-of-the-year honors in 2000.

Plenty of NASCAR fans are hoping a great rivalry develops between the Dale Jr. and Gordon, who has 42 wins and 123 top-10 finishes in his first 189 Winston Cup races. The kid is the youngest three-time series champion in the history of the stock car series.

"I'm really happy with what happened this year and I want to enjoy that first," Gordon said when asked how tough it will be to keep up his pace. "I'm sure after I relax a little bit from this season, then I'll start thinking about what we're going to do next year."

Hendrick Motorsports is riding an unprecedented string of four consecutive titles. Terry Labonte beat out teammate Gordon for the 1998 championship.

In January, team owner Rick Hendrick, battling leukemia, will finish serving a year's suspension from running his race team and his chain of car dealerships, a penalty stemming from a conviction for mail fraud. If his health allows, he will take over the team from brother John.

Also in 1998, NASCAR responded to the growth of the sport by

adding to its schedule, running the inaugural Winston Cup event in Las Vegas in March, with series runner-up Mark Martin taking one of his seven season victories. A new event next fall in Homestead, Fla., will increase the schedule to a modern-era record 34 races.

The Las Vegas event wasn't the only change. Daytona International Speedway's 2.5-mile oval was lighted, the biggest such project in racing history. The first night stock car race at Daytona was scheduled for July 4 but had to be postponed until October because of wildfires across central Florida.

Zanardi, meanwhile, was almost as dominant in CART as Gordon was in NASCAR.

Driving for Target/Chip Ganassi Racing, Zanardi put away the championship with four races remaining — the earliest in series history. He became only the third repeat champion in CART's 20-year history, matching Bobby Rahal (1986-87) and Rick Mears (1981-82).

Like Gordon's team, Zanardi's is on a roll, with three straight titles. Teammate Jimmy Vasser won the championship in 1996 and is favored to win it in 1999 when CART expands its schedule to a record 20 races by adding an August event at a new track in Chicago.

"This team isn't going to change just because I'm leaving," said Zanardi, an Italian who lives in Monaco.

"Maybe I have helped Jimmy learn to have a little fire in his eye," he added. "He is a great driver and I leave the team in good hands."

Dario Franchitti, a 25-year-old Scot, emerged as a contender for

the PPG Cup, winning his first three CART races and barely losing out to Vasser in the battle for second place.

The season was also notable for Rahal's Last Ride, a farewell tour by the three-time series champion and former Indianapolis 500 winner. Rahal will continue as co-owner of Team Rahal, along with David Letterman. He will be replaced in the cockpit by Italian driver Max Papis, who will join returning Bryan Herta.

In the third year of the Pep Boys Indy Racing League, Kenny Brack of Sweden moved out of the pack to give team owner A.J. Foyt his second series title.

Another 1998 highlight was an Indy 500 victory by 40-year-old Eddie Cheever, only the second win in a career that has included 12 years in Formula One, five in CART and three in the IRL.

Arie Luyendyk, a two-time Indy 500 winner and the biggest name in the IRL, won the season finale and later announced that he will retire after running at Indy in May.

In Formula One, McLaren driver Mika Hakkinen outdueled two-time Formula One champion Michael Schumacher of Germany to win the championship. Hakkinen, joining Keke Rosberg as the only Finns to win the F1 title, wrapped it up with a victory in the season finale in Japan.

That was his eighth victory in 16 starts. Ferrari's Schumacher made it close, winning six times and forcing Hakkinen to battle to the end.

The offseason began with the announcement that Formula One, absent from the United States since 1991, will return in 2000 with a race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Roberto Duran.

"But I'm forever wedded to the Tyson-Hollyfield fight," he said. "There's no question that bite put me where I am now."

Lane made his national television debut as a color commentator this year, doing three fights for the FX network. He has no contract with FX.

Boxing referee Lane retiring, says he'll become television analyst

RENO, Nev. (AP) — The referee whose action led to Mike Tyson's temporary banishment from boxing by biting Evander Holyfield's ear is calling it quits.

Mills Lane of Reno said Monday that he's ending his 31-year career as a referee because he wants to devote more time as a national television boxing analyst.

"It's been a blast, a real helluva ride," he said. "But I think it would be a conflict of interest to make public comment (about boxing) and at the same time be an active referee."

"Sure, I'll miss it, but I feel I'm going out on my own terms. I'm not as good as I was five years ago." Lane gained international atten-

tion in June 1997 when he disqualified Tyson for biting off a piece of Holyfield's ear during a heavyweight championship bout in Las Vegas. It was Lane's 96th title fight.

Lane refereed fights involving nearly every boxing great of recent decades, including Muhammad Ali, Sugar Ray Leonard, Marvin Hagler, Larry Holmes and

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This contract is subject to all appropriate Federal laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will ensure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award. Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Douglas W. Eichorst, Area Engineer, Pecos, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction and Maintenance Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

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NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF DORIS PHONCILLE ELKINS

Administration of the Estate of DORIS PHONCILLE ELKINS, Deceased, has been commenced by the issuance of Original Letters of Administration to the undersigned, on the 18 day of December, 1998, by the County Court of Midland County, Texas, acting in Cause No. P-12-330, styled the Estate of DORIS PHONCILLE ELKINS, Deceased, in which Court the matter is pending. All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby notified to present the same to the undersigned at the address shown below within the time prescribed by law. DATED THIS 18 day of December, 1998.

BURMAN D. ELKINS, Independent Administrator of The Estate of DORIS PHONCILLE ELKINS, Deceased

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REQUEST FOR BIDS ON TEXAS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

Sealed proposals for 13.873 km of base stabilization, underseal, hot mix asphalt concrete, plant mix seal and pavement markings on IH 20 from BI 20-B East of Monahans covered by IM 20-1(141) in Ward County, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 P.M., January 5, 1999, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the letting official, by the specified deadline regardless of the method chosen by the bidder for delivery.

This contract is subject to all appropriate Federal laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will ensure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award. Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Douglas W. Eichorst, Area Engineer, Pecos, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction and Maintenance Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

Usual rights reserved
6-D-12074 6-76-0906-00-054

BUICK

'99 Buick Century
Premier Package
stk#5547

MSRP\$20,220
BIG BERG DISCOUNT.....\$1,145
SALE PRICE **\$19,075** ^{TT&L}

'99 Buick LeSabre
stk#7019

MSRP\$24,064
REBATE.....\$1,000
BIG BERG DISCOUNT.....\$1,509
SALE PRICE **\$21,555** ^{TT&L}

16 in Stock at Comparable Savings!

(915) 694-7741 • (915) 563-1479 • 3205-3403 WALL WALL

Village Two

570-4183

Discount Center 570-4183

2615 W. WALL • If you don't ✓ with Village before you buy, you're probably paying too much

Good Credit - Bad Credit or No Credit... Call 570-4183 Today! We'll Help You Get A Car!

Super Seller II
With Super Seller II, we'll advertise your household item (priced under \$150) for 7 days, for only \$5.
Write a 15 word ad to describe your used furniture, appliance, or other household item, and call today!
Call Classified @ 682-6222

Midland Reporter-Telegram

GMC

'99 GMC Suburban
stk#6608

\$355.00

'99 GMC Yukon
stk#5328—Leather Interior, Hi-Back Bucket Seats, Luxury Convenience Package, Heavy Duty Trailer Package, Alloy Wheels, Locking Rear Differential, Heavy Duty Transmission Oil Cooler, Power Windows & Locks, Tilt, Cruise.

\$31,563 ^{TT&L}

(915) 694-7741 • (915) 563-1479 • 3205-3403 WALL WALL

portunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award. Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Douglas W. Eichorst, Area Engineer, Pecos, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

Usual rights reserved
6-D-12074 6-76-0906-00-073

REQUEST FOR BIDS ON TEXAS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

Sealed proposals for 17.687 km of base stabilization, underseal, hot mix asphalt concrete, plant mix seal, and pavement markings on IH 20 from West Poyte to West of Monahans covered by IM 20-1(141) in Ward County, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 P.M., January 5, 1999, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the letting official, by the specified deadline regardless of the method chosen by the bidder for delivery.

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Usual rights reserved
6-D-12074 6-76-0906-00-075

Legal Notices

Acacia Masonic Lodge #1414
1000 Upland
Reg. Stated
Communication,
Tuesday: 12/22/98,
at 7:30 P.M.
Glenn Flippin, W.M.
Al Talbot, Sec.

Midland Masonic Lodge #623
1800 W. Wall
P.O. Box 1758
Reg. stated
meetings 2nd & 4th
Thurs. 7:30 pm.
Bert Bloodworth, WM
Robert G. Kiker, Sec.

IT'S EASY

'98 Power Window
stk#537
Engine, A/C

48 month GMAC
7.5% APR, \$75
Residual

(915) 563-1479

AV

Midland Shrine
2018 Trade Dr.
689-7003
Reg. ming, 3rd
Thurs. each m
Hoep. 6:30 pm
dine 7 pm., Bus
Earl Seaman, P
Keith Hughes,

CENTENNIAL LODGE #1448
1800 W. Wall
E.A. Degree 12
19-98. Reg. sta
meeting, 1st &
am. Breakfast
Henry McElyea
Bob Elwood, S

NEED A Santa
wrap packages
or whatever! P
4217.

WHISKY COOL
Rock-N-Roll
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520-0707 or 59

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694-7887.

NEW T
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from Shell/ Gar

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LOST: BLACK
ian. Sheppes
Answers to "K
from Shell/ Gar

FOUND: Pair o
Garfield & Co
collars. 684-77

NEW T
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Mail. Sentiment
call 697-1957.

LOST GOLD
an bracelet. C
688-1848.

3 MALE Black
Fat & healthy
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NEW T
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4811.

'98 GMC

MSRP
REBATE
BIG BERG
SALE P

(915)

PONTIAC



'98 Pontiac Grand AM SE Coupe
stk#5373- 2.4L Twin Cam 16-Valve 4-Cylinder Engine, Auto, Trans., AM/FM Stereo, Bucket Seats.



'98 Pontiac Grand Prix GTP Sedan
stk#0811- Leather Interior, Sunroof, P/Windows & Locks, Super Charged Engine, Heads Up Display, CD Player, 5 Spoke Chrome Wheels, P/Drivers Seat, Rear Deck Spoiler

48 month GMAC smart buy W.A.C., \$1,000 down (cash or trade), 7.5% APR, \$750 rebate to dealer. Amount financed \$13,928.75. Residual \$7,948.35, 15,000 miles per year.

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1998 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO Z-34

PW, PS, PL, Tilt, Cruise, CD, Leather.

\$12,695 +TAX

1997 OLDSMOBILE ACHIEVA SL

PW, PS, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Cassette.

\$7,995 +TAX

1997 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE

PW, PL, PS, Tilt, Cruise, Cassette, Rear AC, Extra Nice Van.

\$16,495 +TAX

2000 Autos Domestic

CHEVROLET 1992 Camaro Rally Sport. Teal, power locks/windows, cruise, keyless, new tires, \$6,000 689-2023.

CHEVROLET 1993 Ext Cab. 350. Outrider Package. 90,000 miles. \$12,900. Please call 697-0849.

CHEVROLET 1997 MALIBU. 19,000 Miles. Power door locks & windows, AM/FM cassette. Like new. \$12,400. 686-8409. Leave message.

FORD 1994 Mustang GT Convertible. Christmas special. Mint condition. 8 K miles. Red white top & leather interior. \$15,000. 684-8840, 366-6704.

FORD 1995 EXPLORER XLT. Teal green, power locks/windows, new Michelins. 73,000. All highway miles. \$13,500. 684-9612.

FORD 1997 Mustang GT: Moving. Must sell Black/black leather interior. Mach 400, CD stereo, 5 speed, 20K miles. \$17,500. 697-0357.

FORD 1998 Mustang, standard, excellent condition, 7,000 miles. \$13,500. Please call 689-6800.

MERCUY 1993 TOPAZ. Automatic, air, power locks/windows. 33K miles. See at 4000 W Wall.

OLDSMOBILE 1996 Ciera, tan, loaded, 52K miles. \$9,500 or best offer. Please call 699-3219.

PONTIAC 1995 Trans Am, green, T-top, loaded, leather, like new. Unique special order car. \$15,500. 915-268-9544.

PONTIAC 1999 Firebird. Must sell. List \$23,000 now \$19,995. 60K service contract. 520-1570 or 684-5313.

FORD 1986 Mustang GT Convertible. 5.0, automatic, 90K miles. Adult owned, excellent condition. \$4,000. 570-8143.

FORD 1993 Escort LX. Teal green, 79K, good condition, air, clean \$4,740. List 688-3157 days. 697-8332 evenings.

FORD 1996 MUSTANG Convertible. V6. Excellent condition. Low mileage. \$13,000. 915-694-3545.

MERCUY 1987 Grand Marquis 4 door, air, cassette, all electric, excellent condition. 73,900 miles. \$2,800. 689-0340.

OLDSMOBILE 1989 Eighty Eight 4 Door. Excellent condition. 19,000 Actual miles. Call 689-0544, leave message or after 5:30 pm. Can be seen at 2102 Wyndwood.

PLYMOUTH 1993 Voyager. Must see to appreciate, excellent condition. \$6,000 or best offer. Please call 697-2986.

PONTIAC 1994 Grand Am. Red, excellent condition inside and out. 72,000 miles. \$6,450. Call 686-7305.

PLYMOUTH 1990 LASER RS standard, air, 2.0 L, premium tape, cruise, power, 61K. \$4,995. evenings 689-7148.

LINCOLN 1990 Mark VII, excellent condition, white, cloth interior, 108K, mostly highway mileage, Michelin tires, well maintained. \$5,800. Call 699-5678.

CHEVROLET 1995 Lumina LS. 4 door, slate blue in color, power equipment group, cassette, air & more. Ask for Michael 697-3293.

DODGE 1998 Grand Caravan, extended length, dual air, cassette, seven passenger, power windows-locks, tilt, cruise, 19K miles. Ask for Mike Pinter. 697-3293.

FACTORY DIRECT- No mid-dleman- heavy duty steel carports as low as \$39 a month. Delivery and installation available. 563-3108.

FORD 1995 Contour GL. green in color, power windows-locks, cruise, automatic, 58K miles. Ask for Roman 697-3293.

AVIS 563-0814

110 Lodge Notices

Midland Shrine Club 2018 Trade Dr. 689-7003. Reg. mtg. 3rd Thurs. each mo. Hosp. 6:30 pm, dine 7 pm., Bus. mtg. 8 pm. Earl Selman, Pres. Keith Hughes, Secy.

CENTENNIAL LODGE #1448 1800 W. Wall E.A. Degree 12-19-98. Reg. stated meeting, 1st & 3rd Sat. 8:30 am. Breakfast 7:30 am. Henry McElyea, W/M Bob Ellwood, Sec.

NEED A Santa's Helper? Will wrap packages, buy presents or whatever! Please call 682-4217.

WHISKEY Country/ Western & Rock-N-Roll Dance Band for hire- throughout holidays. Dances and parties. Call Bobby at 520-0707 or 560-0343 beeper.

150 Lost & Found

NEW TODAY

LOST: PRESCRIPTION Ladies tinted eyeglasses. Last seen at Walgreens on Wadley. REWARD!! Please call 682-2800.

FOUND: Female Weimaraner in Storey area. Please call 520-3175 for more information.

NEW TODAY

REWARD LOST: black male cat, vicinity of Neely and Midland Drive, adjustable collar. Answers to "Mr.". Please call 694-2217.

FOUND: FEMALE Blue merle Australian Shepherd, no tags. Please call 686-7354.

LOST: BLACK and white jacket with horse head design. Please return, no questions asked. 689-0156.

NEW TODAY

"ALL I WANT for Christmas is my lost black cat". Vicinity of 3300 block of West Ohio. Please call 520-7104.

LOST: 10 month old, Blue Merle Australian Shepherd, female. Strayed southeast of Greenwood school. (SCR 1065). 682-2378. REWARD!!

LOST: Hearing Aid. Midland Park Mall area. Reward!! Call 694-3808.

HELP 2 Dogs abandoned. Must find good homes. Large mix breed. 522-2071.

NEW TODAY

\$50 REWARD LOST: child's pet, black Pomeranian with white front paw. Has lion hair-cut, no tags. Please call 689-2818.

FOUND: FEMALE Siamese kitten. Please call 697-8655.

115 Announcements

NEED A Santa's Helper? Will wrap packages, buy presents or whatever! Please call 682-4217.

130 Personal

SANTA- MRS. SANTA- Frosty- Christmas Elves- Christmas Tree Costume Rental. Costumes By Dorothy. 694-7887.

150 Lost & Found

NEW TODAY

LOST: 1 Year old Blue Heeler male. Blue collar. Answers to "Sparky". Both ears lay to the side. Call Days. 688-0750. Evenings. 689-1811.

FOUND: Female Siamese kitten. Please call 697-8655.

NEW TODAY

LOST: BLACK/ White Australian Shepherd. Female. Answers to "Kristal" missing from Shell Garfield. 631-9696.

FOUND: Pair of Schnauzers at Garfield & Country Club. No collars. 684-7976 to identify.

NEW TODAY

\$50 REWARD lost: Men's gold ring with gold coin in center, possibly in Midland Park Mall. Sentimental value. Please call 697-1957.

LOST GOLD and diamond tennis bracelet. Call 570-7534 or 688-1848.

3 MALE Black Lab mix puppies. Fat & healthy! Need good loving homes. Call 563-5480.

NEW TODAY

REWARD LOST: one Diamond ring, one Amethyst ring. Sentimental value. Please call 697-4811.

170 Schools/Institutions

SPANISH, FRENCH, math, science, English lessons. Home work help. Reasonable hourly rates. Call David anytime 699-2302.

190 Loans Wanted

LOST: 10 month old, Blue Merle Australian Shepherd, female. Strayed southeast of Greenwood school. (SCR 1065). 682-2378. REWARD!!

LOST: Hearing Aid. Midland Park Mall area. Reward!! Call 694-3808.

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3 MALE Black Lab mix puppies. Fat & healthy! Need good loving homes. Call 563-5480.

NEW TODAY

REWARD LOST: one Diamond ring, one Amethyst ring. Sentimental value. Please call 697-4811.

192 Mortgage Wanted

COLONIAL Financial Services pays cash for residential and commercial real estate notes, business notes and structured settlements. Prompt, professional service since 1984. Call 550-2025 or 1-800-283-2025.

LOCALLY Owned & Operated. Texas' largest volume note buyers! Free Quote- No Obligation. 620-8000 or 1-800-930-NOTE. South Plains Mortgage Company.

195 Loans Wanted

LOST: 10 month old, Blue Merle Australian Shepherd, female. Strayed southeast of Greenwood school. (SCR 1065). 682-2378. REWARD!!

LOST: Hearing Aid. Midland Park Mall area. Reward!! Call 694-3808.

HELP 2 Dogs abandoned. Must find good homes. Large mix breed. 522-2071.

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3 MALE Black Lab mix puppies. Fat & healthy! Need good loving homes. Call 563-5480.

NEW TODAY

REWARD LOST: one Diamond ring, one Amethyst ring. Sentimental value. Please call 697-4811.

Oldsmobile

'88 Olds Eighty Eight L.S.

MSRP \$25,000
REBATE \$2,500
BIG BERG DISCOUNT \$2,505
SALE PRICE **\$19,995** +TAX

'88 Olds Intrigue GL

MSRP \$23,795
REBATE \$750
BIG BERG DISCOUNT \$2,550
SALE PRICE **\$20,495** +TAX

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FORD 1997 MUSTANG. Loaded. All power. Only 14,000 Miles. Like new. \$13,500. 522-1199.

FORD 1995 Thunderbird

LX. V6, white/blue, fully loaded, all power, auto temp control, 41K miles, immaculate condition. \$9,950. 320-xxxx.

PLYMOUTH 1993 Duster 2-door; rear spoiler. 71K miles. \$4,950. Ask for Roman 697-3293.

PONTIAC 1995 Firebird. White charcoal, loaded, CD, keyless entry. One owner, like new. Must see! \$11,995 or best offer. 685-5092 evenings.

PONTIAC 1995 Grand AM, 4 door, 40K miles, rear spoiler, tinted glass, automatic, air, \$7,500. Ask for Mike Pinter. 697-3293.

Jack Sherman Chevrolet Geo, Buick, Mazda Sales & Serv. 4100 W. Wall, 694-9801

BERG MOTOR COMPANY OLDS, CAD, GMC, PONTIAC For Full Sales & Service 3205 W. Wall 694-7741

WE FINANCE. Your Job's Your Credit B & B Auto Sales, 2601 W. Wall.

ROGERS FORD Sales & Service 4200 W. Wall 694-8801.

FORD 1997 Taurus GL, 42K, immaculate, metallic red, all power, 100,000 mile factory warranty. \$10,950. 684-1140, 684-5419, car phone 1-800-992-8087.

LINCOLN 1995 Mark VII. Leather, CD changer, power sun roof, 54K, wholesale \$16,450, sale \$15,250. Perfect condition. 689-8875 leave message.

PONTIAC 1993 Bonneville, red, runs great, body in great condition, 81K miles. \$6,800. Please call 694-7741.

PONTIAC 1997 Grand Am GT 2 door, 13K, power locks, 5 speed, 20K miles and more. \$12,750. 570-5710.

CHEVROLET 1995 Camaro, loaded, 1.6 liter, 4 door, 42K system, new tires. Excellent condition. One owner. \$11,900. 697-2241, 686-1857, Erin.

CHRYSLER 1996 Sebring JX Convertible. Great Christmas Gift! Fully loaded, excellent condition, only 15,000 miles. \$16,450. Work 520-5495, home 697-0728.

EAGLE 1991 TALON TSI turbo all wheel drive, 5 speed, loaded, 42K miles. \$10,950. 520-5495.

NADA \$6,500, asking \$4,900. 570-0207.

PONTIAC 1994 Presale. Just like new! 56,000 actual miles. 305 Automatic. \$4,000. 1211 W. Texas Drive. Evenings. 683-7288, 682-1966 Days.

PONTIAC 1994 Grand Prix SE, 4 door, automatic, blue, loaded. Excellent condition. Beautiful car! Book \$28,500. Wholesale price \$5,700. 570-0207.

TOYOTA 1995 Avalon, 4 door, power, air, moon roof, leather seats, silver dark blue interior, excellent condition. 64K. \$16,750. 915-683-1989.

TOYOTA 1993 Camry LE Coupe. 2 Door, automatic, air, power locks, cruise, 27,500 miles. \$13,500. 682-4678. Ask for Joe.

TOYOTA OF MIDLAND Web site: <http://www.toyotaofmidland.com>

NEW TODAY

WANTED to buy 1995 or 1996 Subaru Outback. Please call Vernon Smith. 915-263-2939.

215 Sport/Utility Vehicles

JEEP 1993 Grand Cherokee. Leather, CD, loaded, 4x4, excellent condition. 44K. \$12,750. 620-8110.

CHEVROLET 1997 Blazer 2 door, 2 wheel drive, \$3,950 or best offer. Please call xxx-xxxx.

CHEVROLET 1997 Blazer LT, 4 door, leather, V-6, 4 wheel drive, tinted glass, CD, auto, excellent. Ask for Michael. 697-3293.

DODGE 1998 Dakota Sport. 5.0 liter, 4 door, 4x4, 32K miles. \$12,900. 520-1111 for more information.

FORD 1997 F150 Super Cab. Sandstone over black, Lariat, leather, CD x6, 3 door, 29K miles. \$20,650 firm. Excellent condition. By owner. 680-4124.

FORD 1999 F-350 one ton dually diesel, fully loaded, 1997 Big Tex trailer. \$38,500 plus 520-4320, pager 495-3923.

FORD 1986 F150. Runs good, rebuilt transmission, new battery. \$2,000. Please call 520-4602.

MAZDA 1992 Pickup Extended cab. One owner, bright red, great shape. Please call 561-5139.

NISSAN 1995 KING CAB, 53K miles, air, cassette, green in color. Ask for Michael 697-3293.

CHEVROLET 1995 S10. Must Sell Under 50K, 5 speed, red, excellent condition. 688-0308 or 742-1087 pager.

GMC 1997 S15, extended cab, V-6, 5 speed, power, air, 115K, excellent condition. \$3,000 or best offer. 699-7107.

MAZDA 1995 B 2300, low miles, very clean, must see. Great Christmas gift. \$8,900. Please call 686-1857.

CHEVROLET 1998 Suburban Gladiador Conversion. Recent tires, shocks, gold air, runs good \$3,500 offer. 699-4907.

CHEVROLET 1990 Astro Van. Extended version. \$3,500. Please call 520-7224 or 683-2870.

CHEVROLET 1993 APV van, Mark III factory conversion, excellent condition. \$5,000. Call 915-268-9544.

CHEVROLET 1993 Suburban Silverado, 4 x 4. Loaded. Extra clean, makes great Christmas gift. \$16,500. 520-6846.

FORD 1989 Club Wagon Van. All electric, alarm, seats 9, in good condition. \$2,700. Call 570-6175.

GMC 1986 Van. Runs well, good tires, air conditioned, low mileage, super nice. \$9,000 or best offer. 684-8192.

MAKE YOUR MONEY COUNT

Make No Payment Till March of '99 On Any New Chevrolet Car or Truck

OVER 30 SUBURBANS IN STOCK NOW

\$274.99

REBATES AS HIGH AS \$3500 ON SELECT MODELS

\$249.99

FINANCING AS LOW AS 0.9% APR ON SELECT MODELS

Save \$4061

MAZDA

Save \$4061

Jack Sherman

CHEVROLET Customer Satisfaction... First!

4100 WEST WALL • MIDLAND, TEXAS • SALES HOTLINE 520-0150 • 694-9801

220 Trucks	222 Suburbans & Vans	228 Commercial Vehicles
CHEVROLET 1990 Sport. High miles, excellent shape. \$5,950. Please call 682-7373 days. 683-2046 after 5 pm.	CHEVROLET 1984 Custom Presidential Van 150K road miles. Engine, carburetor, transmission overhauled. Excellent mechanical condition. \$1,750 best offer. 699-1050, 699-5481.	FORD 1988 VAN, truck mount carpet cleaning set up, 4 dehumidifiers, 3 blowers and more. \$4,000. 570-6175.
CHEVROLET 1994 2-71, black extended cab pickup, one owner, loaded, 42K miles. Immaculate. \$15,900. Big Spring. 915-268-9544.	FORD 1989 AEROSTAR. Clean, runs good. Automatic. Air. \$3,200. Call 699-0604 or see at 205 N Midland.	CHEVROLET 1981 Suburban, four wheel drive, 110K miles, asking \$3,000. Please call 685-9585 evenings and weekends.
DODGE 1998 Dakota. Am Fm cassette, air, 5 speed, list \$13,500 will take \$10,620. 689-0340.	PLYMOUTH 1995 VOYAGER. 64,000 Miles. Green, 5 passenger seating, \$7,850 or best offer. Call 699-5977.	CHEVROLET 1982 El Camiro Pickup. New paint. Clean. Runs good. Loaded! Lots of good parts. Lots of miles. Good tires. Drive to appreciate! \$2,895. For appointment, call 699-6508.
GMC 1989 C-1500, extended cab, two tone, white champagne, high miles, excellent condition. \$6,950. 520-0123.	CHEVROLET 1989, hi-rise van, 350, 3rd ton, 67K miles, new air tires, shocks, runs great. \$7,200. Call 697-6078.	CHEVROLET 1985 S-10. Good runner. 4 Cylinder. \$800. Call 697-1834.
CHEVROLET 1993 S-10 Pick-up Extended Cab. Gray charcoal, 75,000 miles. \$7,000 or best offer. 694-3458.	GMC 1993 Suburban. All power, new tires, running boards, teal color, extra clean, 90K miles. \$15,200. 699-4898.	CHRYSLER 1978 LEBARON. Almost completely rebuilt engine. \$700 or best offer. Call 620-0773 after 7 pm.
CHEVROLET 1997 C-3500 Crew Cab. Silverado. Fully equipped. 47,500 Highway miles. Extended Warranty. Like new. \$23,500 o b o. 697-1968.	FORD 1995 F-350 XL Crew Cab. Extra clean, 5 speed, 81,000 miles. \$14,500 or best offer. 682-0968.	FORD 1978 Fiesta. engine runs, needs work. Asking \$500 as is. For more information please call 683-9797.
TOYOTA 1995 Camry LE Coupe. 2 Door, automatic, air, power locks, cruise, 27,500 miles. \$13,500. 682-4678. Ask for Joe.	CHEVROLET 1991 Silverado 3/4 ton extended cab. Black/char, 90K, \$7,700 or best offer. XXX-XXXX.	HONDA 1988 Accord. New Driver See This! \$1,500. Call 694-4338.
CHEVROLET 1993 S-10 Blazer. 4 door, automatic, V-6, tinted glass, power equipment. Ask for Michael. 697-3293.	CHEVROLET 1995 1/2 Ton Van. Unique conversion, loaded, 33,500 miles, nice \$15,000 or best offer. Call 697-1672.	LINCOLN CONTINENTAL 1983 Mark VI, very good condition, well maintained, \$3,000. Please call 694-1127.
CHEVROLET 1996 Blazer LT. 4 door, leather, V-6, 4 wheel drive, tinted glass, CD, auto, excellent. Ask for Michael. 697-3293.	CHRYSLER 1997 Town and Country LX. 38K. Quad seating. Loaded! Excellent condition. \$18,900. Call 697-3058 or 522-2555.	OLDSMOBILE 1979 Cutlass. Supreme, new battery, \$850 or best offer. Please call 694-6591 after 1 pm.
DODGE 1998 Dakota Sport. 5.0 liter, 4 door, 4x4, 32K miles. \$12,900. 520-1111 for more information.	PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE. Loaded, rear air, remote keyless entry, \$8,000. 686-0734, 687-6406.	OLDSMOBILE 1984 98. As is runs but needs work, landau roof. \$600. Please call 699-5727 for more information.
CHEVROLET 1997 F150 Super Cab. Sandstone over black, Lariat, leather, CD x6, 3 door, 29K miles. \$20,650 firm. Excellent condition. By owner. 680-4124.	PLYMOUTH 1994 Grand Voyager LE. Loaded, rear air, remote keyless entry, \$8,000. 686-0734, 687-6406.	OLDSMOBILE 1984 98. As is runs but needs work, landau roof. \$600. Please call 699-5727 for more information.
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Australian Shepherd mix pup-
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Chihuahua puppies. 8 Weeks
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New floor and serviced by Ter-
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Gentle. 6 Year old Thorough-
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RAFTER H Trailers & Tack.
Drive a few extra miles to save
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4 Miles East of 1-20 on Garden
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TWO WESTERN Saddles,
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GREAT FOR Christmas! Thorough-
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CANON Copy Machine. Auto
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GONDOLAS And Wall shelv-
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SPECIAL PURCHASE- 10'x16'
Red Barn, \$44/ month. Deliv-
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FOR SALE: Structural rods and
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Lincoln 200 amp DC welder on
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590 For Rent
BEAM 16' X 6' covered goose-
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SUTTON PLACE. King sized
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and 3 bedrooms. Washer- dryer
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about our specials on our 1 and
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N. A. 1 Month Free with 1 Year
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Rent December & January on 1
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ALL BILLS PAID
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LARGE 2 Bedroom duplex,
sunken living room with wood
burning fireplace, refrigerated
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\$500 per month plus security
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3 BEDROOMS, 2 baths, 4907
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Water paid. \$395 to \$650/
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NEWLY REMODELED 2 bed-
room duplexes for rent. \$525-
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DUPLEX- 1 bedroom, 1 bath in
nice neighborhood with large
walk-in closet, fenced back-
yard, carport, storage space
and all major appliances includ-
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den, sun room, 3 garages, RV
parking. \$575 monthly. 694-
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NEW TODAY
4806 COUNTRY CLUB duplex,
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parking, central heat, refrigera-
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Midland. 2 Dineings, double ga-
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place, den, carport. \$500/ \$300.
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carport, fenced yard, 1821 Elm.
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FOR SALE or lease: 4802 Nea-
sy, three bedroom, 2 bath, with
pool. Excellent condition.
Day # 694-1993 Evening # 694-
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nice 2 Bedroom, 1.5 bath du-
plex with covered parking.
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no. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath, fenced
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1500 WEST PINE. 4 Bedroom,
2 bath, 2 living area, 2 car ga-
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Furnished
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MOBILE HOME for rent in
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have new homes, 95 with blue
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call 687-6524.

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sage.

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house. 2159 South Loop S.W.
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Fences, stalls, arenas,
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Quality Service! 682-8322.

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as little as
46¢ per month

A small, stylized illustration of a person in a dynamic pose, possibly lifting weights or performing a physical exercise, located at the bottom of the advertisement.

682-6222



A black and white photograph of a wooden ladder leaning against a wall. The ladder is made of wood and has several rungs. It is positioned diagonally across the frame, with the top of the ladder near the top left and the bottom near the bottom right. The wall it is leaning against is light-colored and has some texture. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows.

