

SPORTS

Baylor women reach national championships./1C



MONDAY MORNING

Person to person with graduate who sees dreams come true./1B



WEATHER

Expect mostly sunny skies with high of 87, 10 mph winds./5B



Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Cardinals fly to Vatican to elect new pope

By Michael Paulson
N.Y. Times News Service

This morning at 10:30 in Rome, the princes of the Catholic Church will file into Bologna Hall of the Apostolic Palace, still grieving over the death of Pope John Paul II, but looking increasingly toward the moment in two weeks when they will formally begin to choose his successor.

In the room will be cardinals from Italy, where many are looking to reclaim the top post in a church they led for centuries before John Paul II's election, and cardinals from the developing world, where many hope the church will look for a powerful symbolic choice as it did in choosing a Pole in 1978.

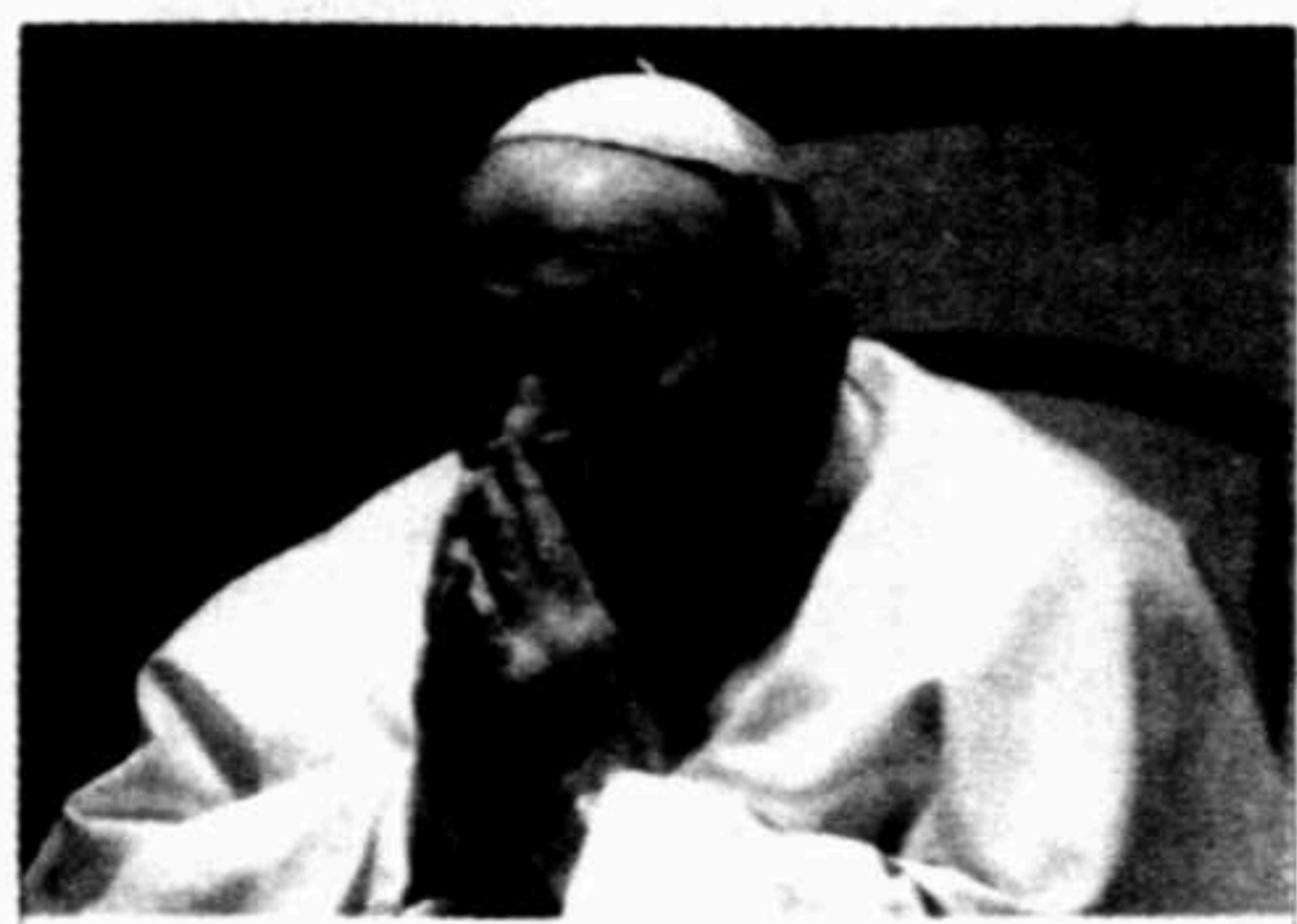
"This will be interesting, exciting and a little scary," Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, the archbishop of Washington, D.C., told reporters as he prepared to leave for Rome. "You know you're going to share with another 116 people that extraordinary opportunity and that extraordinary responsibility."

The cardinals will be in many ways united by a shared doctrinal orthodoxy — all but three of them were appointed by the current pope — but differentiated by their varying life experiences, shaped in part by geopolitics and their varying roles as administrators of dioceses around the world or as heads of agencies at the Vatican.

Although many of the 117 men who will elect the next pontiff have met one another — despite living all over the world, the cardinals meet periodically at church gatherings and ceremonies — nearly one-quarter were named cardinals just 17 months ago and remain relatively unknown.

During these next two weeks, the cardinals will have a chance to size one another up, meeting daily as the College of Cardinals assumes collective oversight of the global church and the Vatican bureaucracy during this interregnum.

"They're not allowed to politick directly, to speak about names, but they are encouraged to talk about problems facing the church, their perspective on the problems and priorities, and in doing so they get a very clear sense of where one another are coming from," said William J. Tighe, an associate professor of history at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa.



Snapshot of Pope John Paul II

NAME — Pope John Paul II was born Karol Jozef Wojtyla.
BIRTH DATE — May 18, 1920.
AGE — 84.
BIRTH PLACE — Wadowice, Poland.
EDUCATION AND EARLY CAREER — John Paul studied for the priesthood and was ordained in 1946. He then went to Rome for more study. He returned to Poland, earned a doctorate in theology. He became auxiliary bishop of Krakow in 1958 and bishop in 1964. Three years later, Pope Paul VI made him cardinal.

PAPACY — John Paul II became pontiff in 1978 — the "year of the three popes." He was the first non-Italian pontiff in 455 years and at 58, the youngest pope in 125 years. His predecessor, John Paul I, had been pope only 33 days, succeeding Paul VI, who died after a 15-year reign.

QUOTE — "What human institution, what parliament, has the right to legalize the killing of an innocent and defenseless human being? What parliament has the right to say 'You are free to kill,' or even 'killing is in order,' where the greatest efforts should be made to protect and help life in the first place?" — Mass at Radom, Poland, June 4, 1991.

at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa.

Scholars who study papal transitions say history suggests that the cardinals

Please see POPE/4A

INSIDE

John Paul II's life should serve as inspiration to all./6A



GATHERING AT VATICAN
Thousands of people crowd St. Peter's Square at the Vatican as they attend a Mass for the repose of Pope John Paul II's soul celebrated by the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Angelo Sodano Sunday on the steps of St. Peter's Basilica. The Vatican announced John Paul died at 9:37 p.m. Saturday after a long public struggle against debilitating illness. He was 84. Today, 117 princes of the Catholic Church will file into Bologna Hall of the Apostolic Palace to spend two weeks deciding who will be his successor.

Andrew Medicini/AP

STANDING GUARD FOR SYRIA

PROMISES A Syrian military soldier guards at his position at a guardhouse with a Syrian flag in Bekaa Valley east of Beirut, Lebanon, Sunday. The Syrian government has promised to remove all its troops and intelligence agents from Lebanon by April 30, the U.N. envoy said Sunday after meeting with Syria's president and foreign minister.

Petros Karadjias/AP



Presidential Museum in Odessa seeks more visitors, money to secure future

By Bob Campbell
Staff Writer

ODESSA — With only the second pair of father-son presidents in American history being from the Permian Basin, you'd think the Presidential Museum & Leadership Library would be more popular.

The museum, 4919 E. University Ave., is in financial straits in only the third year since Texas spent \$2.5 million to build it, and board members are at a loss to decipher the problem.

"We're trying to get financial stability," said board president Lettie England of Odessa Friday. "We're kicking off a membership drive, visiting with community leaders, fund-raising and grant-writing."

"We don't want the museum to close now with the 'Little Bush Home' completed. Bush 41 and Barbara are aware of the house and all we did. They're very flattered. They sent us a wonderful DVD when we dedicated the house in December."

England referred to the small frame house the first president and first lady Bush bought in September 1948 and lived in with 3-year-old George W. Bush

at 916 E. 17th St. until April 1949, when they moved to San Diego, Calif.

It's on the north side of the museum and is open the same hours — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday with \$8 admission for adults, \$5 for students and senior citizens and \$3 for elementary school students.

The Bushes returned in 1950 to the Basin and Midland, where the UTPB-affiliated museum owns the brick home George W. and his wife Laura were in at 1405 W. Golf Course Road when they had their twin daughters.

The Bushes are the first father-son presidents (the 41st and 43rd) since John Adams and John Quincy Adams, the second and sixth chief executives in 1797-1801 and 1825-29. "I think people feel like they're ours," said England.

Ector County commissioners have cut their annual museum support from nearly \$100,000 to \$79,000, and will provide one more year of proportionately reduced funding. It has a \$200,000 operating budget.

Patsy Sparkman, one of three Midland board members, said she was disappointed. Please see MUSEUM/4A

Midland reserve school trains dozens of soldiers

By Emily Baker
Staff Writer

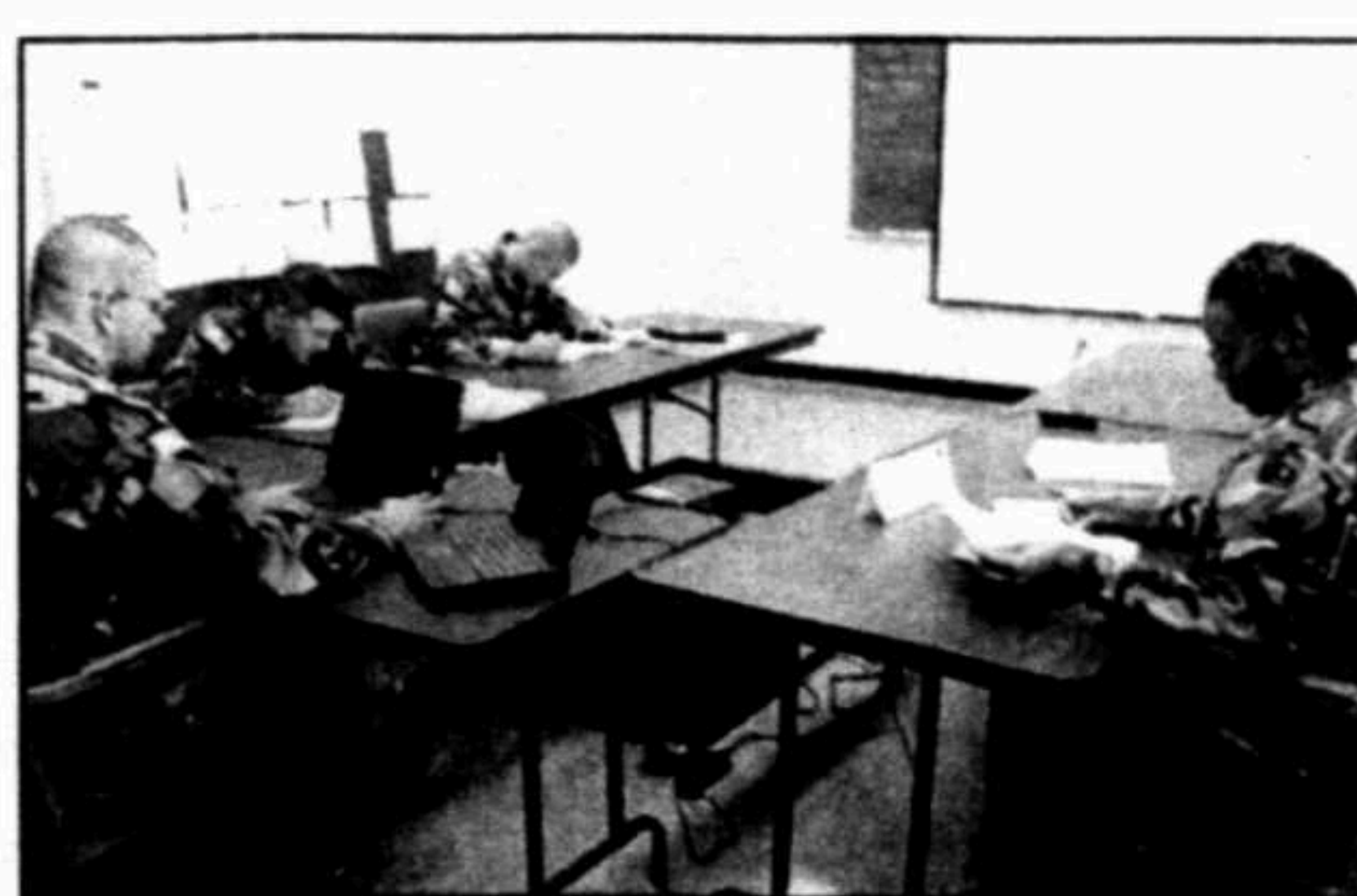
U.S. Army Reserve Sgt. William Bedford hurriedly paced around the front of a classroom as he persistently twisted his wedding ring. He threw a few "and, uh's" into his lecture as he sped up the pace at which he was talking and flailed his arms around the front of his body.

His students immediately picked up on it. Fidgeting, not clearly communicating and being overly dramatic can kill a lesson.

Bedford, an instructor with Team N of the 9th Battalion (Quartermaster), 4th Brigade (Combat Service Support), 95th Division (Instructor Training), which has a school here in Midland, was providing examples to his students of what not to do.

Because training can mean the difference between life and death for a soldier, Bedford's students, who are in school learning to be instructors themselves, must learn proper effective communication.

About 70 Army Reservists train per year at the 95th Division school, which is held at the Armed Forces Reserve Center, nestled between the Permian Basin Vietnam Veterans



SCHOOL U.S. Army Reservist SFC Larry Rodriguez, far left, administers one of nine tests to a group of fellow reservists during Phase I of a U.S. Army Reserve 95th division training school Saturday.

Memorial and the Midland College aviation technician hangar at Midland International Airport. Soldiers from a nine-state region train at the school.

The students attend classes once a month to learn combat service support skills depending on the job they have chosen. Soldiers who attend school in Midland concentrate in any of three areas taught at the school: petroleum supply, food services or laundry and bath services.

Some learn to be instructors of such topics, like Bedford's

Please see RESERVISTS/4A

Hotel/motel tax dollars could help raise tourism

■ High bed taxes do not necessarily deter business, guests or tourism, experts say.

By Stephanie A. Miller
Staff Writer

Though some may consider a 1.5 percent tax increase a small amount, the additional hotel/motel tax could mean more for the Midland County multi-purpose facility.

The county is seeking the amount as an increase to the hotel occupancy tax, which, if state approved, would help offset operations of the under-construction Horseshoe facility.

Other counties with a hotel occupancy tax larger or compatible to Midland's proposal mainly use the extra funds for tourism promotion.

If the proposed tax, which would be the first for the county, were approved, Midland's hotel occupancy tax, or hotel/motel tax, would rise to a total of 14.5 percent. Since 1976, the city

Please see TAX/4A

A LOOK INSIDE

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OBITUARIES



Syble Tanner

Syble Tanner, age 80, of Midland, passed away peacefully at her home on Saturday, April 2, 2005. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 2005 at 11 A.M. at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Midland, with Reverend Sherry Holloman, Associate Pastor, officiating. The family will receive friends on Tuesday, April 5, 2005 from 6 until 8 P.M. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home, 3800 N. Big Spring St. in Midland.

Syble was born on May 18, 1924 in Shelbyville, Texas, a daughter to the late Bishop and Claudia Andrews. She was raised in Oklahoma and graduated from Wellston High School in 1942.

She had worked at Tinker Air Force Base during WWII. Syble met and married Ashby David "Bud" Tanner on August 4, 1950 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She gave birth to two sons and was a very loving wife, mother, and later, grandmother. The fam-

ily moved to Midland in 1966. For a large part of her life, she was a homemaker, returning to work outside the home after the death of Bud in 1976.

Syble had worked for Midland Independent School District, Permian Basin Petroleum Association, and during all of these jobs, she continued to work as a bookkeeper at Trinity Presbyterian Church where she has held membership since 1966. Syble was a wonderful seamstress, and participated weekly with a group known as "The Wild Old Women and the Sew & Sews" at Trinity Presbyterian. She loved and enjoyed the fellowship with these women.

Surviving Syble are two sons: Paul and wife Donna Tanner of Tom Bean, TX, David and wife Denise Tanner of Midland, TX., four grandchildren, Jonathan and Kirk Tanner, and Nicole and Danielle Barnett, and a sister-in-law: Theresa Andrews of Auburn, Washington.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Bud, and her brother, Sylvan Andrews.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 901 W. Missouri, Midland, TX 79701, or to Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2800 W. Louisiana, Midland, TX 79701.

Services are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory of Midland. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch
Funeral Home
& Crematory
(432) 550-5800

DEATH NOTICES

Pauline Branson

Pauline Branson died Friday, April 1. Services will be 1 p.m. today, April 4 at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Bob Ellison officiating. Interment will be at Resthaven Memorial Park. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

She was born Jan. 23, 1915 to Martson Clay and Lila Puckett in Arkansas, where she was raised and educated. She married Robert Branson in 1931, and the couple moved to Midland in 1948 from Detroit. She was a member of and a Sunday school teacher at Belview Baptist Church for more than 20 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, one daughter, one son, six brothers, two sisters and two grandchildren.

She is survived by one sister, Betty Donaldson of Michigan; five grandchildren; eight great-

grandchildren; and 12 great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be directed to Belview Baptist Church, 1710 N. Big Spring St., Midland, 79701-2624.

John Johnson

John Johnson died Sunday, April 3. Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

Blanche Shank

Blanche Shank of Midland died Saturday, April 2. Services are pending at Ellis Funeral Home.

Miguel Borrego

BIG PRING — Miguel Borrego, 97, of Big Spring died Sunday, April 3 at a local hospital. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Substance abuse prevention programs join efforts to increase funding levels

From Staff Reports

Members of the Midland Coalition joined prevention professionals from across the state at the capitol Thursday to advocate increased levels of funding for substance abuse prevention in Texas.

Mitchell Moore from the Palmer Drug Abuse Program (PDAP), Brent Blackburn from the Midland Coalition and Ruby Moore from Extreme Youth Leadership met with Sen. Kel Seliger, staff members from the office of Speaker of the House Tom Craddick and other legislators to discuss the merits of substance abuse prevention.

Sen. Jane Nelson sponsored Senate Resolution 540, which recognized March 31 as Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Abuse Prevention Day at the State Capitol "in an effort to encourage our citizens to continue their efforts to eradicate the abuse of such drugs from our society."

A 2000 study completed under the Texas Commission on Alco-

hol and Drug Abuse estimated the total economic cost associated with alcohol and drug abuse to be \$25.9 billion in Texas alone. In 2004, the National Institute on Drug Abuse reported that every \$1 invested in research-based prevention programs saves up to \$10 in treatment costs.

"Substance abuse is going down today — all the way down to elementary age children," Moore said. "All we ask is that as appropriations come around, (legislators) don't forget the next group of kindergartners who are coming into the school system."

The Texas School Survey, spring 2002, reported that 50 percent of Midland seniors had used marijuana in the 30 days prior to the survey, 80 percent had consumed alcohol during that time and that the rate of cocaine use among Midland seniors was slightly less than double the state rate.

For more information about substance abuse prevention efforts in Midland, please contact Blackburn at 685-3836.

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Shanna Sissom's
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Haraz Ghanbari/AP

SUPPORT SLIPPING House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, left, and Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., talk to members of the media as they walk to Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist's, R-Tenn., office, March 20 in Washington. House Republicans, seeing Congress as a last hope for Terri Schiavo, convened an extraordinary Palm Sunday session that night to pass legislation aimed at prolonging the Florida woman's life. Democrats refused to allow the measure to go ahead, forcing Republicans to scramble to bring their members back to Washington.

Poll finds DeLay support slips drastically

HOUSTON (AP) — Support for House Majority Leader Tom DeLay has slipped drastically in his district, and a majority of his constituents disapprove of how he handled the Terri Schiavo case, according to a Houston Chronicle poll.

Nearly 40 percent of 501 voters questioned last week said their opinion of the powerful Sugar Land Republican was less favorable than last year, compared with 11 percent who said their view of him has improved, the newspaper reported Sunday. The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus 4.5 percent.

Half of the respondents gave DeLay a somewhat or very favorable rating.

However, 49 percent said they would vote for someone other than DeLay if a congressional election in the 22nd District were at hand. Thirty-nine percent said they would stick with him.

"There seems to be no question that there has been an erosion in support for the congressman," said John Zogby, whose polling company, Zogby International, performed the survey. "He is posting numbers that one would have to consider in the dangerous territory for an incumbent. And he isn't just an incumbent, he is a longtime incumbent."

"Voters in his district have been electing Congressman DeLay for over 20 years. They do that because he's getting things done for the area. He's also earned their support because they know he's guided by principles not polls," spokesman Dan Allen said Sunday.

Seventy-eight percent of Republican voters said they picked DeLay in 2004, and 63 percent said they would do so again.

"He hasn't lost a majority of conservatives, but he has lost enough of them to pull him down," said Zogby, who has conducted public opinion polls since 1984. "These are not good re-election numbers."

But he noted that DeLay still has a year and a half before he has to seek re-election.

DeLay's district, which sprawls across the southern suburbs of Houston, changed shape for the last election because of a state redistricting effort that he promoted to elect more Republicans to the U.S. House. He won his 11th term in 2004 with 55 percent of the vote, his lowest share ever.

The poll findings come as DeLay slogs through one of the roughest years of his two decades on Capitol Hill.

He was admonished three times by the House ethics committee, questions have been raised about the financial backing for some of his overseas trips, and Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle, a Democrat, is investigating the political fund-raising tactics of a political action committee DeLay helped set up.

Amid these controversies, about 51 percent of voters in his district have a favorable view of him and 44 percent do not, according to the poll.

In the survey, 268 people, or 53 percent, said they are Republicans; 166, or a third, identified themselves as Democrats; one is a Libertarian, and the rest are independents.

On the Schiavo issue, DeLay consistently has stated that his constituents backed his decision to lead Congress into the dispute over whether to continue nourishment to the severely brain-damaged Florida woman.

But nearly 69 percent of people in the poll, including substantial majorities of Democrats and Republicans, said they opposed the government's intervention in the long-standing family battle.

Respondents in the Chronicle survey also were critical of DeLay's individual role. Nearly 58 percent disapproved of his decision to get Congress involved.

Slightly more Republicans approved of DeLay's personal action on Schiavo than opposed it, while Democrats overwhelmingly opposed his efforts to involve Congress.

DeLay argued that his morals guided him in the case of Schiavo, who died Thursday. But nearly half of those polled said he intervened in the case for political gain.

Spurred on by DeLay, Congress passed a bill that granted a federal review of a Florida state judge's ruling that Schiavo's feeding tube be removed as requested by Michael Schiavo, her husband and legal guardian.

Zogby is a Democrat, but he describes his polling firm as "militantly independent" with clients among both major political parties.

POLICE REPORTS

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

Possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram:

Brenda Lee Castillo, 36, of Midland was arrested Saturday by Department of Public Safety

troopers near mile marker 145 on Interstate 20 on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram. Bond not set.

Possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram:

Freddie Aguirre Villa, 37, of Stanton was arrested Saturday by Department of Public Safety

troopers near mile marker 145 on Interstate 20 on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than one

gram. Bond not set.

Theft less than \$1,500 with two or more convictions:

Larry Green, 35, of Midland was arrested Saturday by Midland Police Department officers

at the intersection of Lee Street and Washington Avenue on a charge of theft less than \$1,500 with two or more convictions. Bond: \$2,500.

Note: All reported arrests are felonies.

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Gay o Mich

By Rick Lym
N.Y. Times News

DETROIT — K a pediatric end Children's Hospit said she and her Schwartz, talked some time before the governor.

"We're not Schwartz said, "live our lives qui

But at stake, th health benefits th Moltz's dome receives from W versity, which op pital.

"It is not a sm Schwartz said. " condition. And a moved to Mich would be able to with the children

In November, M along with those approved legisla marriage as an ins a man and a woma Michigan's attorn

Cox, took that one ing that passage o by a margin of 5 percent means that state workers sho in the future for he their partners.

Michigan is no in which a battle of same-sex pa way, but it has be of attention with lawsuit by the Liberties Union same-sex couple courts to clarify amendment's pas loss of their ben

"A lot hinges c in the case in Jeremy Bishop, p for National Pri AFL-CIO's con for gay workers rule unfavorably well imagine the ing the same arg states that passe ments last year."

The argument tion of marria whether it shoul sex couples, has for years but hea after the granti riages in Mass Francisco and el

Proponents of contend that they ing to make clear state constitution ty of Americans defining a gay r marriage.

"Our belief i appropriate that one man and one en special reco incentives and s under the law," president of the Association of M head of the amen

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Gay couples file lawsuit after Michigan denies them benefits

By Rick Lyman
N.Y. Times News Service

DETROIT — Kathleen Moltz, a pediatric endocrinologist at Children's Hospital of Michigan, said she and her partner, Dahlia Schwartz, talked it over for quite some time before deciding to sue the governor.

"We're not conflict seekers," Schwartz said. "We just want to live our lives quietly."

But at stake, they said, are the health benefits that Schwartz, as Moltz's domestic partner, receives from Wayne State University, which operates the hospital.

"It is not a small issue to us," Schwartz said. "I have a thyroid condition. And a main reason we moved to Michigan was so I would be able to stay at home with the children."

In November, Michigan voters, along with those in 12 other states, approved legislation to define marriage as an institution between a man and a woman. On March 16, Michigan's attorney general, Mike Cox, took that one step further, ruling that passage of the amendment by a margin of 59 percent to 41 percent means that gay and lesbian state workers should be ineligible in the future for health benefits for their partners.

Michigan is not the only state in which a battle over the rights of same-sex partners is under way, but it has become the focus of attention with the filing of a lawsuit by the American Civil Liberties Union in which 21 same-sex couples ask the state courts to clarify whether the amendment's passage means the loss of their benefits.

"A lot hinges on what happens in the case in Michigan," said Jeremy Bishop, program director for National Pride at Work, the AFL-CIO's constituency group for gay workers. "If the courts rule unfavorably for us, then I can well imagine the right wing taking the same argument to all 13 states that passed these amendments last year."

The argument over the definition of marriage, specifically whether it should apply to same-sex couples, has been simmering for years but heated up last year after the granting of gay marriages in Massachusetts, San Francisco and elsewhere.

Proponents of the amendments contend that they are simply trying to make clear and cement into state constitutions that a majority of Americans are opposed to defining a gay relationship as a marriage.

"Our belief is that it's only appropriate that marriage between one man and one woman be given special recognition, special incentives and special protection under the law," said Gary Glenn, president of the American Family Association of Michigan, a spearhead of the amendment's passage. The first legal challenge to the

amendments erupted in Michigan solely by chance, Glenn said, because a Kalamazoo city commissioner asked for an opinion from the attorney general about that city's workers.

"I do not believe that the voters of Michigan would have passed this amendment if they knew that it would mean taking away health benefits from same-sex partners," said Kari Moss, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, which has filed suit against the governor in an effort to overturn the attorney general's interpretation.

Advocates for gay rights have argued since the amendment's passage in Michigan that proponents operated a kind of bait-and-switch on voters, pretending that they wanted only to strengthen the traditional concept of marriage when they were actually intending to roll back the rights that gay Americans have won over the decades.

"Personally, I think the conservative right wing has overstated their mandate, just like they did in the Terri Schiavo right-to-die case," said Dennis Patrick, a communications professor at Eastern Michigan University. He and his partner of seven years, Tom Patrick, are raising three adopted sons and two foster children. "Once people hear that benefits are being taken away, they don't like it. They say, 'Hey, wait a second, that's not right.'"

Glenn disputes the contention that any bait-and-switch was involved. The key issue, before and after the election, was defining marriage, he said. As for benefits, his group believes that it is acceptable for benefits to continue to gay households, if structured in a way that does not define the relationship as a marriage.

"The point is recognition of what constitutes marriage," Glenn said, "not who gets benefits."

Actually, the issue may be addressed first in a suit filed long before the amendment's passage by the Thomas More Law Center in Ann Arbor, arguing that public school employees in that city should not be eligible for benefits for same-sex partners. That suit was based on an earlier Michigan law defining marriage, but the center has since filed a motion incorporating passage of the amendment into their argument.

One thing that the courts will likely have to decide, whether in the Ann Arbor case or the ACLU one, is the definition of a state worker. Is a state worker an employee of only a state, county or local government? Or should the definition also include employees of state-run universities and local school districts?

"It seems like you make progress being accepted and then, all of a sudden, they try to take it away," said Wade Carlson, Kalamazoo's city treasurer, who has been in a relationship for 24 years with Kevin McCann, who works for a local factory.

Meanwhile, supporters of traditional-marriage amendments are carrying the cause to more states. On Tuesday, Kansas residents will vote on an amendment to their constitution. In Indiana and Virginia, amendments have passed the legislatures this year, but under the laws of those states must pass again next year before going to voters. In Tennessee, an amendment will go to voters in November 2006.

Similar legislative efforts are under way in South Carolina, Minnesota and other states.

Not all states, however, are moving to restrict recognition of same-sex relationships. Efforts to ban same-sex unions failed this year in Maryland and Idaho. In Connecticut, a legislative committee has approved a bill allowing such unions.



Janet L. Matthews/AP

RUNNING OFF THE RAILS An Amtrak train is shown after it derailed Sunday near White Salmon, Wash. The Portland, Ore.-bound train was carrying 115 people when the locomotive's wheels left the track, leaving four passenger cars leaning upright against an embankment in the Columbia River Gorge, about 45 miles east of Portland, Ore., Amtrak spokeswoman Marcie Golgoski said.

Amtrak train's engine derails, sending at least 10 to hospital

WHITE SALMON, Wash. (AP) — The engine of an Amtrak train derailed Sunday along the Columbia River, sending at least 10 passengers to hospitals with mostly minor injuries, officials said.

The Portland, Ore.-bound train was carrying 115 people when the locomotive's wheels left the track, leaving four passenger cars leaning upright against an embankment in the Columbia River Gorge, about 45 miles east of Portland, Ore., Amtrak spokeswoman Marcie Golgoski said.

Three people remained in hospitals Sunday afternoon, including a pregnant woman who was admitted for observation. Seven others,

including a man with a shoulder injury, were treated and released.

Rail crews were clearing the track, but it was not expected to reopen until Monday, said Gus Melonas, a spokesman for BNSF Railway Co., which owns and operates the track.

By midday, passengers who could travel were loaded onto school buses and taken to Vancouver, Wash., and Portland, Ore.

The National Transportation Safety Board and BNSF were investigating the cause of the accident.

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YOU OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES



Kris J. Murante/Reporter-Telegram

CLEAN UP, CLEAN UP Team Budweiser, consisting of drivers, salesmen, management and distributors of Bud products, comb a lot behind 7-Eleven at Thomason Drive and Loop 250 Saturday morning during a Keep Midland Beautiful Cleanup project. Two of the team members seen here are Chris Olivas, left, and Brian Mehan.

POPE

(From 1A)

will probably look for an older man as the next pope — probably someone between 65 and 75 years old — to increase the odds the next papacy will be relatively short after the 26-year papacy of John Paul II. That is because during a long papacy, power tends to concentrate in Rome; a short papacy would allow power to devolve back to the local church and would function as a kind of transition period.

But this strategy has backfired in the past — in 1878, at the close of the 31-year-long papacy of Pius IX, the College of Cardinals chose 68-year-old Cardinal Gioacchino Vincenzo Pecci, who was in weak health, as his successor. Cardinal Pecci, who took the name Leo XIII, served for another 25 years.

Technically, the next pope does not have to be a cardinal; any baptized man can be elected. But scholars say to be considered papable, or pope-worthy, one must be a cardinal, multilingual — ideally, at least conversant in English, French, German, Italian, Latin and Spanish — and comfortable with the high visibility and frequent travel that has become an expectation of a pope in the information age.

"The personality, character, the holiness, and balance of the man is the most important and determinant issue of choosing the next pope," said Robert Moynihan, editor of the Rome-based monthly magazine *Inside the Vatican*. "It requires a man who can remain balanced in the face of unpredictable and difficult challenges."

But there are also geopolitical con-

cerns. Scholars generally agree the next pope will not be from the United States, in part because of a concern about allowing a citizen of the world's only superpower to assume the helm of the church, and in part because many cardinals view the American church as liberal and problem-plagued.

But, if there is consensus about where the pope will not come from, there is none about where he will come from.

Many Italians would like to reclaim the papacy — the pope, after all, serves as bishop of Rome — and some of the most frequently mentioned candidates, particularly Cardinal Dionigi Tettamanzi, the archbishop of Milan, hail from Italy. There are more cardinals from Italy than from any other country, but the number of Italian cardinals is just 20 — far too few to elect a pope without support from many others.

"It would be preferable to have an Italian pope after a Polish one," Luigi Bianchi, 70, of Rome said Sunday as he sat with his wife in the late-afternoon sunlight, gazing at the continuous flow of people filing into St. Peter's Square. But his wife, Franca, 50, chimed in, saying, "Even if he is foreign, it doesn't make a difference, as long as he is good like this one."

There are a handful of non-Italian Europeans who have drawn attention because of their scholarly accomplishments or other leadership in the church. They include Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, a German bishop who is the church's controversial doctrinal watchdog in his role as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and the archbishop of Vienna, Cardinal Christoph Schvnborn.



Enrico Oliverio/AP

IN STATE In this picture made available by the Italian Presidency, Cardinal Miloslav Vlk of the Czech Republic, left, and Cardinal Francesco Marchisano of Italy mourn Pope John Paul II, lying in state in the Clementine Hall at the Vatican Sunday. The pope died Saturday at the Vatican after a 26-year pontificate. He was 84.

But many church officials and scholars are increasingly focused on the shift of the demographic heart of Christianity in general, and Catholicism in particular, to the developing world. Some argue that the church could strengthen its position in Latin America, Africa and Asia by choosing a pope from one of those regions. Among the leading candidates are Cardinal Claudio Hummes, archbishop of Sao Paulo; Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, archbishop of Buenos Aires; and Cardinal Oscar Andris Rodriguez Maradiaga, archbishop of Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

"We see how in the developing world the church has grown so much in the last 50 years — the axis of Christianity is moving away from Europe to the Southern Hemisphere — and so a pope from Africa or Latin America would be certainly a wonderful sign, but I will defer to the Holy Spirit," Archbishop Sean P. O'Malley of Boston said during a news conference Sunday at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross.

Many Catholics from the developing world are enthusiastic about the prospect

of a Third World pope — partly out of a sense of regional pride, and partly hoping such a papacy could call attention to the regions' concerns, just as John Paul II was able to use his role as pope to help bring an end to the Communist hold on Poland, his native country, and the rest of Eastern Europe.

"I think the next pope should be Brazilian because Brazil is a country where there are a lot of Catholics and there are a lot of Brazilians in the United States and in Europe," Ziuda Elexandina-Moratto, 29, of Brazil said while hugging her two children with the green, yellow and blue flag of Brazil draped over their shoulders in St. Peter's Square.

O'Malley plans to travel to Rome this week for the funeral, but will not participate in the conclave because he is not a cardinal. O'Malley's predecessor, Cardinal Bernard F. Law, will be a participant in the conclave; Law, who resigned as archbishop of Boston because of the clergy sexual-abuse scandal, is now archpriest of the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome. Law said Sunday in a television interview he is preparing for the conclave through prayer and reflection on the challenges facing the next pope.

"We're a very divided world," Law said in an interview on ABC's "This Week with George Stephanopoulos."

"At times, we're a divided church," he said. "There's a lot of anger, a lot of division, a lot of bitterness in the world. It affects families, it affects individuals, it affects nations, the relationship of nations. And what the Holy Father tried to do in his life, and what the next Holy Father will have to try to do, is be a spokesman for unity."

RESERVISTS

(From 1A)

students. And like with any subject, making use of proper methodology is key to effective teaching in the Army.

Rule one: Be a good Army teacher: Begin with an exciting anecdote.

"A lot of military classes are boring enough," Bedford told the class. "You want to entice people to learn."

Rule two: Use action verbs. For soldiers, being told to "unload an M60 machine gun" is much more exciting than "take ammunition of a gun," Bedford said, which brought the enthusiastic Army "hoah" response, adding credence to his instruction.

As excitement about becoming instructors oozed throughout the classroom for students who wanted to train troops ("hoah"), make rank by becoming instructors ("hoah") and gain real-world teaching experience (again, the response to that comment was "hoah"), students in the next classroom were learning the particulars of fuel handling.

A backslash of an image of soldiers advancing on a target provided a motivational ambience for the students as the instructor rattled off specifications of motors, hoses, fuel tanks and pump assemblies, which sounded like gibberish to the untrained ear.

'If we are in a foxhole, and we need to train, you're going to give a class in that foxhole. We're in the military, and we've got to train even when you don't have the ideal circumstances'

U.S. Army Reserve Sgt. William Bedford

As Reservists, the students only attend class once a month, so they have three weeks between classes either to let material sink in or forget what they've learned. Between classes, the students must concentrate on civilian jobs as well.

Sgt. Jose Avalos, a student in the petroleum supply class, said the initial training soldiers receive in basic training helps them to transform what they learn once a month into instinct.

"They drill us (in basic training) to memorize so much information with little sleep," Avalos, an Odessan, said. "It's one of those unexplainable things. We do it because we are soldiers."

Enjoying the class is key to remembering the information, said Staff Sgt. Yuvanda Roberson, also an Odessan.

"You can't be too serious or too lax," she said. "It's not like we spend those three weeks with this on our minds, but when you come back here, it kicks in."

Bedford continued to return to a single point in his lecture. Just as Roberson said, if students

aren't enjoying the class, they won't learn.

That is why there are proper ways to ask a question, address students and adjust to conditions so soldiers can learn skills that will help them return from a mission alive.

"If we are in a foxhole, and we need to train, you're going to give a class in that foxhole," Bedford told the students. "We're in the military, and we've got to train even when you don't have the ideal circumstances."

Roberson, Avalos and Spc. Kevin Dalton of Albuquerque, N.M., graduated from the school Sunday and will continue on to more intense training at Fort Lee, Va., before becoming certified in their petroleum supply jobs.

Anyone who is interested in joining the Army or in learning more about what goes on at the school is invited to attend class with the soldiers. To make arrangements, e-mail Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Dutchover, the school's lead instructor, at jerry.l.dutchover@us.army.mil.

TAX

(From 1A)

of Midland has had a hotel/motel tax, currently sitting at 13 percent.

County officials last week approved the new bed tax proposal, which city leaders are expected to consider next week. At House Speaker Tom Cradick's, R-Midland, request, some city and county officials have been working on reaching an agreement for the county's proposal, which initially sought a 2 percent bed tax.

Some counties have a higher hotel/motel tax. For instance, the bed tax in Harris County, which includes the city of Houston, is 17 percent.

Though some may think high bed taxes may be less attractive to visitors, some tourism experts say that may not necessarily be the case.

The primary use of hotel/motel tax dollars, according to state law, is tourism promotion. According to the Texas Hotel & Motel Association, funding must be used to directly enhance and promote tourism as well as the convention and hotel industry. The money can be used many ways, such as promotion of the arts and paying for administrative costs for facilitating convention registration.

Hotel/motel tax dollars also can be used for solicitations, advertising and promotions that attract tourists and convention delegates. Funds can be used for the establishment, improvement or maintenance of convention or visitor information centers and historical restoration or preservation programs. In some instances, special legislation pertaining to population size, geographic location and others, may apply to certain counties. In either case, state law specifically states how the funds can be used for tourism-related efforts.

The primary use of hotel/motel tax dollars, according to state law, is tourism promotion. According to the Texas Hotel & Motel Association, funding must be used to directly enhance and promote tourism as well as the convention and hotel industry.

According to the Texas Hotel & Motel Association, of the state's 254 counties, 46 are authorized to impose a county hotel/motel tax. Of that amount, 22 actually levy it.

Some counties, like El Paso and Harris, use the money for operations of county facilities.

Harris County, which receives 1 percent of the 17 percent bed tax it shares with Houston, finances debt service relating to the construction and maintenance of the Reliant Center Complex. The county also uses its bed tax to attract tourism, promote activities and pay the complex's utilities and insurance, which averages \$10 million annually. The multi-purpose facility includes the Reliant Center, the original Astrodome, the Astrodome Arena and Astrodome Hall.

Various contracts related to events, parking, concessions and ticket percentages are other resources that cover the facility's operations. The county's hotel/motel tax has existed since 1981.

Most counties adopt a hotel/motel tax as a means of not posing the burden on local taxpayers.

"I think that the hotel occupancy tax is appropriate," said Webb County Attorney Homeo Ramirez.

"It is basically another stream of revenue so that the burden of some of these activities will be borne by the person visiting."

And it appears communities also reap benefits from

hotel/motel taxes. Before Sept. 11, 2001, Harris County generated about \$15 million annually from its bed tax. After the terrorist attacks, it declined to \$14.7 million, where it remained for a few years and since has increased slowly between \$16 million to \$16.5 million.

Last year, it generated about \$17.1 million, largely because of hosting the NFL's Super Bowl.

But it also brings other benefits to communities. "Whether you're bringing in people for the Super Bowl and other events, it brings entertainment and other people to your city and therefore opens up your economy," said Jack Yuran, Harris County's director of financial planning.

El Paso County spends most of its 2.5 percent hotel/motel tax revenue on the El Paso County Coliseum, which had a previous interlocal agreement with the city to fund the coliseum and the city's tourism promotion. But the county decided to use its portion for county-specific tourism programs and the facility, said Wally Hardgrove, budget finance manager with the El Paso County Auditor's Office.

Because revenue was less than the bed tax, the county decided to privatize the coliseum with the El Paso Sports Commission Inc. Since then, improvements have been made, with the county receiving \$541,000 as opposed to the \$375,000 it initially targeted.

MUSEUM

(From 1A)

members, said the \$50,000 the museum spent for a "Little White House" replica exhibit in 2003 attracted 21,000 people, but visitation has fallen off to 500 per month. "I don't know why people aren't supporting it," said Sparkman.

"I know a lot of people in Midland have no idea what is over here. We have this lovely new building and spend a lot of money on exhibits. We just need to get people over here to be part of it."

"We've never caught up with all the bills, and we're getting a new accounting system," Sparkman said.

Curator Tim Hewitt and clerk Meredith Anderson have been the only employees since director Carey Behrends was laid off in last year's downsizing. "We're in

a transition phase that I don't know exactly how to characterize," said Hewitt, who's worked at the museum since it was a county-sponsored building at 622 N. Lee Ave. 13 years ago.

"March visitation was 499 with 175 from Odessa, 61 from Midland, 10 from foreign countries, 135 from other places in Texas and 116 from out of state," said Hewitt. "But we need more support."

Along with paintings of all the presidents by various artists, the museum has analysis of each administration in its Presidential Gallery and a research library on American and Texas history. Other board members are First Vice President Bob Hicks of Midland, Second Vice President Roy Elsner and Treasurer Gary Edmiston, both of Odessa, and Midlander Nancy Plunk.

NORTHEAST FLOODING



Bill Hughes/AP

RESCUE MISSION Berwick firefighter Bruce Angell, left, drives the fire department hovercraft to shore with Heather Peters, right, and her 2-year-old daughter, Jordan, after rescuing them from their flooded home in Bloomsburg, Pa., Sunday. Behind Angell is fireman Ryan Hill.

Residence

By Carolyn Mars

N.Y. Times News Service

SALINAS, Calif. — utation of this farming nity, known as the Salinas World, has been built by giants of American history, the civil rights leader Chavez, who organized farmworkers, and John Steinbeck, a native son who drew images from the Depression-era reality. The pride, fear and hope described were in this weekend as residents and best-selling author read-in to try to avert a come footnote to Salinas the impending closure of the city's three public libraries.

Unless the city's \$500,000 by June 30, Steinbeck, Cesar Chavez Gabilan Libraries will be closed, victims of the city's lion budget shortfall. branches are closed, Salinas become the nation's largest city without a public library. The read-in, organized by groups including Code the United Farm Workers America, began Saturday noon and included a picket line on the law Chavez library and read-in authors including Anand Maxine Hong Kingston.

The actor Hector Elizondo, known for his role in the vision drama "Chicago," told supporters on Saturday that public libraries were vital to his personal development and safety as a boy growing up in Harlem. Elizondo said close a library was "like a tourniquet around your throat."

"There were three salons first was the subway, the church and third was the library," he said. "It was a place where I could be creatively subversive. It changed my life because books, I started to read." Alicia Valdez-Rodriguez, author of "The Dirty Club," said her Cuban-born mother learned English at a library in Albuquerque. "We didn't come from here," she said. "Words were our capital."

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Residents fight to keep libraries open in Steinbeck's hometown

By Carolyn Marshall
N.Y. Times News Service

SALINAS, Calif. — The reputation of this farming community, known as the Salad Bowl of the World, has been tarnished by giants of American history like the civil rights leader Cesar Chavez, who organized the area's farmworkers, and John Steinbeck, a native son who borrowed images from the landscape and Depression-era residents in writing "The Grapes of Wrath."

The pride, fear and hope Steinbeck described were in evidence this weekend as residents, celebrities and best-selling authors gathered for a 24-hour emergency read-in to try to avert an unwelcome footnote to Salinas' legacy: the impending closure of the city's three public libraries.

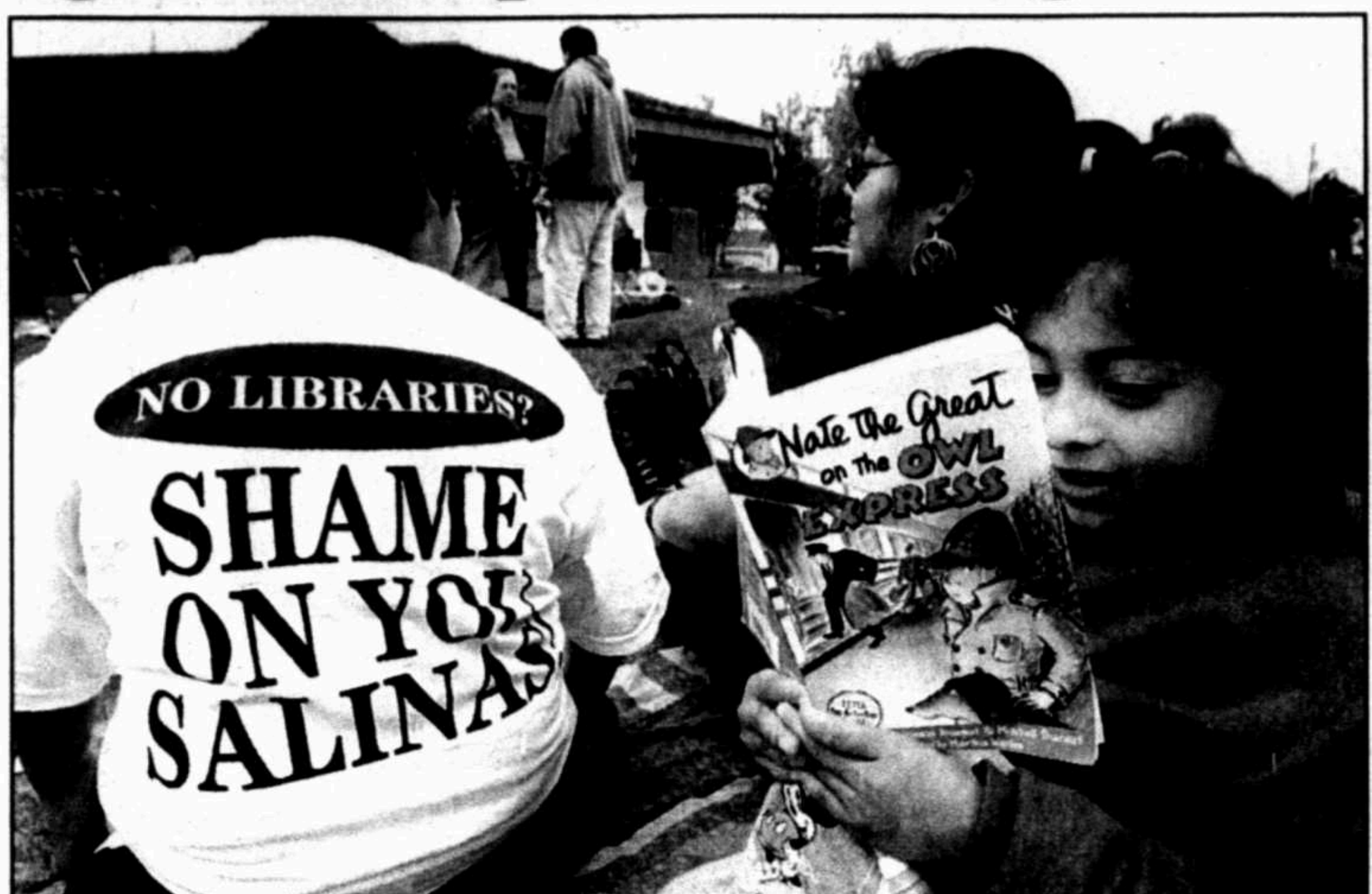
Unless the city can raise \$500,000 by June 30, the John Steinbeck, Cesar Chavez and El Gabalian Libraries will be shuttered, victims of the city's \$9 million budget shortfall. If the branches are closed, Salinas will become the nation's largest city without a public library.

The read-in, organized by groups including Code Pink and the United Farm Workers of America, began Saturday afternoon and included a pitched-tent sleepover on the lawn of the Chavez library and readings by authors including Anne Lamott and Maxine Hong Kingston.

The actor Hector Elizondo, known for his work in the television drama "Chicago Hope," told supporters on Saturday that public libraries were instrumental to his personal development and safety as a boy growing up in Harlem. Elizondo said that to close a library was "like putting a tourniquet around your mind."

"There were three sanctuaries — first was the subway, second the church and third was the library," he said. "It was a place where you could be creatively subversive, and it changed my life because through books, I started to question."

Alicia Valdez-Rodriguez, author of "The Dirty Girls Social Club," said her Cuban father learned English at the public library in Albuquerque, N.M. "We didn't come from money," she said. "Words were our only capital."



READING IS FUNDAMENTAL Yolanda Cesario, 7, reads Sunday next to her brother, Alejandro, 9, and older sister, Maria, 22, on the lawn next to the Cesar Chavez Public Library in Salinas, Calif.

Word of the library closures has spread in recent months. The American Library Association sent a delegation to Salinas in February to meet with local and state officials. The mayor helped to organize Rally Salinas, a fund-raising group, and residents

formed Save Salinas Libraries to explore a ballot measure. Last week, residents drafted a petition to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger requesting long-term help in saving the libraries, because the \$500,000 would only ensure that each library stays open one day a

week through the end of this year. The poignancy of library clo-

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sure occurring in Steinbeck's birthplace has elevated the Salinas problem. But according to the American Library Association, branches across the nation have been forced to reduce hours, eliminate staff and thin inventories. Library services have been cut in Lancaster, Pa.; Onondaga County, N.Y.; and Detroit. The library in Bedford,

Texas, closed its doors on March 30 and will remain closed for at least six months.

Maria Roddy, the manager at the Cesar Chavez Library, said the Salinas libraries have been in trouble for the past three years, a tough situation for a community where 16 percent of the population lives below the poverty line.

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Iraqis take first steps toward new government

By Edward Wong
N.Y. Times News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The Iraqi national assembly appointed a speaker and two deputy speakers on Sunday, taking the first step, though a largely symbolic one, in installing a new government.

In last-minute deal making on Saturday and Sunday morning, the leaders of the top political parties settled on Hajim M. al-Hassani, a prominent Sunni Arab and the minister of industry in the interim government, as speaker. They selected Hussain al-Shahrastani, a nuclear physicist and leading Shiite Arab, and Arif Taifour, a Kurd, as the two deputies.

Speaker of the assembly is a largely ceremonial post, and so the step the assembly took was more symbolic than substantive. But it showed that the various parties could at least resolve their differences on minor issues. The first significant move will only occur if the assembly agrees on a president and two vice presidents. Those officers would then have two weeks to select a prime minister, who would appoint a Cabinet.

The assembly formalized the selections in an hourlong voting session. Al-Hassani was appointed after several days of fractious negotiations, in which various groups reviewed and rejected candidates. The groups had agreed that a Sunni Arab should take the post but could not settle on which one.

At the second meeting of the 275-member assembly, on March 29, the assembly did not name a speaker because Sheikh Ghazi al-Yawer, the interim Iraqi president, had rejected the job. That stirred more unrest among many Iraqis, who have been anxiously awaiting the installation of a government since the Jan. 30 elections. The talks to form a coalition government have been mired in debate over many issues, including control of oil revenues and the role of Islam in the new government.

After the votes were counted Sunday, al-Hassani took a seat at 12:20 p.m. at a table at the head of the assembly. He was flanked by his two deputies. He then urged the assembly members to move past ethnic and sectarian differences to work for the greater good of Iraq.

"The Iraqi people have placed their trust in you to rebuild the destroyed country and to eliminate all administrative and financial corruption in state establishments," said al-Hassani, 50, who earned a doctorate at the University of Connecticut Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics and lived in Los Angeles for 12 years. "You should be part of the suffering of your people."

Outside the assembly room, al-Hassani told reporters, "I am an Iraqi before I am a Sunni."

He ran for the assembly as the second name on the Iraqi Party slate led by al-Yawer. During the formal U.S. occupation and the start of the interim government, al-Hassani was a member of the Iraqi Islamic Party, a religious Sunni group. But last November, when that party called for withdrawal from the interim government over the government's support for the U.S. invasion of Faluja, al-Hassani decided to leave the party and continue in his ministerial role.

To Western reporters, al-Hassani puts forth a secular appearance and underscores his time in the United States. But his former ties to the Iraqi Islamic Party indicate that he could support con-

TV - TONIGHT

MONDAY EVENING

APRIL 4, 2005

Channels	G	C	B	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KMID	3	3	2	News 'G' 29	Wheel of Fortune 181	How'd They Do That? 8407		The Bachelor (N) 9365	Supernanny (N) 2029	News 'G' 353742	Nightline 70473704	(06) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) 14 5397181			
KPEJ	8	5	3	Malcolm-Mid. 49181	Raymond 30433	Nanny 911 "Amico Family" (N) 16641	24 "Day 4: 10:00PM-11:00PM" (N) 14 84891	Malcolm-Mid. 71839	That '70s Show 99984	That '70s Show 99984	Raymond 13452	Becker 64723	Becker 64723		
KOSA	7	7	7	News 'G' 8297	Ent. Tonight 9549	Two/Half Men 8433	Two/Half Men 8433	College Basketball NCAA Tournament Final -- Teams TBA. From St. Louis. (Live) 900568							
KWES	9	9	9	News 5181	Seinfeld 6433	Fear Factor "Wild, Wet Episode" 10407	Update/Israel 83636	Behind the Camera: The Unauthorized Story of Mork & Mindy (NR) Chris Diamantopoulos. 15181							
KMLM	11	12	19	Jesse Lee Peterson	John Hagee 52443	Biblical Israel 52407	Antiques Roadshow "Reno" (N) 9 925723	American Experience Silent film actress Mary Pickford. (N) 261297	Second 282655	News 8373487	(35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno 28262100	Late Show With David Letterman PG 41808365	Late Night 9621297	Booker 34346	Scrivner 57471
KOCV	13	13		The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N) 270810	Family Feud 47723	America's Funniest Home Videos 82433	Apuasta por un Amor 79907	Lucky Day (PG-13, 02) Amanda Donohoe, Tony Lo Bianco, Gregor Toerzs. 16687	Cristina 68891	Charlie Rose (N) 924094	Home Videos 20742	Paid Program 67997636	Paid Prog. 71013	Paid Prog. 71013	Paid Program 77723
KPKX	5	14		Inocente de Ti (Series Premiere) 22636	Pat Croce	Pat Croce	One 98568	Cuts 19549	Girlfriends Half 86723	Fear Factor 77549	Friends 65704	Hollywood	Street	Fishing	
KUPB	4	4	13	Pat Croce	Pat Croce	Pat Croce	One 98568	Cuts 19549	Girlfriends Half 86723	Fear Factor 77549	Friends 65704	Hollywood	Street	Fishing	
UPN	21	16		So Raven	So Raven	So Raven	So Raven	So Raven	So Raven	So Raven	So Raven	So Raven	So Raven	So Raven	So Raven
DISN	56	27	41	Smallville 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538	Whose? 545538
FAM	53	54	6	Neutron	Oddparents	SpongeBob	Drake	Full House	Full House	Fresh Pr.	Cosby	Roseanne	Murphy	Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.
NICK	55	34	37	Cold Case Files 809346	Airline 596100	Airline 596100	Airline 596100	Gotti 572520	Gotti 591655	Gotti 829075	Gotti 804891	Crossing Jordan "Conspiracy" 14 555988	Airline 824529	Airline 824529	Airline 824529
A&E	27	32	25	Amer. Chopper 814278	Amer. Chopper 561549	Amer. Chopper 561549	Amer. Chopper 561549	Amer. Chopper 570297	Amer. Chopper 550433	Amer. Chopper 550433	Amer. Chopper 550433	Amer. Chopper 550433	Amer. Chopper 550433	Amer. Chopper 550433	Amer. Chopper 550433
DISC	50	20	26	Modern Marvels 7739297	UFO Files 4494907	UFO Files 4494907	UFO Files 4494907	Dig for Truth 4403655	Lost Worlds (N) 4483891	Monster Hunt. 4493278	UFO Files 7560520	UFO Files 7560520	UFO Files 7560520	UFO Files 7560520	UFO Files 7560520
HIST	71	62	32	In a Fix 290100	Cooper 360 458636	Late Night 5622100	The Contender 3235100	Dennis Miller 3211520	The Big Idea 3231384	O'Reilly Factor 6784758	Special Report 8860907	Special Report 8860907	Special Report 8860907	Special Report 8860907	Special Report 8860907
TLC	51	33	21	Hardball 8727810	Countdown 6685433	Countdown 6685433	Countdown 6685433	TBA 6694181	Scarborough 6681617	Hardball 6684704	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181
CNN	43	24	22	Hardball 8727810	Countdown 6685433	Countdown 6685433	Countdown 6685433	TBA 6694181	Scarborough 6681617	Hardball 6684704	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181
CNBC	46	45	27	Hardball 8727810	Countdown 6685433	Countdown 6685433	Countdown 6685433	TBA 6694181	Scarborough 6681617	Hardball 6684704	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181
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MSNBC	47	51		Hardball 8727810	Countdown 6685433	Countdown 6685433	Countdown 6685433	TBA 6694181	Scarborough 6681617	Hardball 6684704	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181	Countdown 8866181
ESPN	32	29	30	SportsCtr.	College GameDay (Live) 251810	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487	Figure Skating: World Championships 948487
ESPN2	34	28		MLB Baseball 4969094	PBA Bowling U.S. Open. 7622094	PBA Bowling 1031902	PBA Bowling 1031902	Astros 65617	Best Damn Sports Show Period (Live) 48029	SW Sports Rpt. 82568	Best Damn Sports Show Period 978182	Best Sports 457471	Best Sports 457471	Best Sports 457471	Best Sports 457471
FSSW	37	43	29	The Sports List 47097	HS Spotlight 98487	Mesquite Championship Rodeo (Taped) 46617	Iditarod 2005 8721029	Rescue	Outdoor	Skating: Freestyle 8647013	Iditarod 2005 8640100	Rescue	Outdoor	Outdoor	Outdoor
OUTDR	40	39		Killer Instinct 4998100	Crocodile Dundee II (PG) *** Paul Hogan. 134742	Volcano (PG-13) ** Tommy Lee Jones. 1234278	Crocodile 2								
AMC	63	21	31	G.I. Jane (4:15) 14920520	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 473471	The West Wing 460907	The West Wing 460907	The West Wing 460907	The West Wing 460907	The West Wing 460907	The West Wing 460907	The West Wing 460907	The West Wing 460907	The West Wing 460907
BRAV	65	63		The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723	The West Wing 464723
BET	70	26	33	106 & Park	BET	BET	BET	BET	BET	BET	BET	BET	BET	BET	BET
FOOD	74	59		Good Eats	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Unwrapped
FX	31	31		King of Hill	X-Men (PG-13, 00) *** Hugh Jackman. 2913891	The Shield 6683075	Fear Factor 6686162	King of Hill	King of Hill	King of Hill	King of Hill	King of Hill	King of Hill	King of Hill	King of Hill
LIFE	28	36	40	Painful Secrets (00) *** Sean Young, Kimberlee Peterson, Robert Wisden. 643742	Touched-Angel 941297	Judging Amy 927617	Judging Amy 930181	How Clean 354346	How Clean 363094	The Nanny 910926	The Nanny 607075	The Nanny 607075	The Nanny 607075	The Nanny 607075	The Nanny 607075
HALL	54	49		Texas Ranger 270346	Touched-Angel 941297	Judging Amy 927617	Judging Amy 930181	How Clean 354346	How Clean 363094	The Nanny 910926	The Nanny 607075	The Nanny 607075	The Nanny 607075	The Nanny 607075	The Nanny 607075
HGTV	73	50	42	Curb	House	Homes	Landscaper	Kitchen	Designed	Weekend	Design	Design	Design	Design	Design
KWWT	17	25		Will 6669	Will 4891	7th Heaven 40891	Summerland (N) 66839	Cops 19487	Cheaters	King 79452	Yes, Dear	Eliminate	Eliminate	Eliminate	Eliminate
SCI-FI	77	64		Stargate SG-1 6314926	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297	Stargate SG-1 8644297
SPIKE	30	22	35	CSI: Crime Scn 272704	CSI: Crime Scn 943655	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365	WWE Raw (Live) 8910365
TBS	25	11	11	Raymond 734333	Raymond 734333	Friends 349461	Friends 349461	Friends 349461	Friends 349461	Friends 349461	Friends 349461	Friends 349461	Friends 349461	Friends 349461	Friends 349461
TCM	64	61		Seven Years 87459742	The Kid Brother *** 9132162	Safety Last (NR) *** 2035988	The Freshman 5392159	Speedy (15) 1237617							
TELE	20	8		Anita No. Rajes 818520	Mujer en Esp. 459891	Los Plateados 475839	Ley, Silencio 455075	Noticiero	Laura 14 763926	AI Rojo					
TNT	24	23	28	Law & Order "Marathon" 14 (DVS) 298742	Law & Order "The Fire This Time" 14 936365	Law & Order "Sheltered" 14 (DVS) 945013	Law & Order "Justice" 14 (DVS) 932549	Without a Trace 935636	NYPD Blue "Tain't Msbe-havin" 14 534181						
TVL	59	48	24	All-Family	All-Family	Highway-Hvn. 4492549	Griffith	Leave	Sanford	All-Family	3's Co.	3's Co.	Cheers 1	Cheers 1	Cheers 1
USA	26	30	38	JAG "The Martin-Baker Fan Club" PG 443704	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit 190075	The Saint (PG-13, 97) ** Val Kilmer. Premiere. A master of disguise finds romance and danger in England. 299758	The Saint (PG-13, 97) ** Val Kilmer. Premiere. A master of disguise finds romance and danger in England. 299758	WGN News at Nine 457433	Becker 187162	Becker 196810	Home Delivery PG 189655				
WGN	19	18		MLB Baseball: Cubs at Diamondbacks 676013	Home Imp. 105433	Will-Grace 489907	Will-Grace 489907	WGN News at Nine 457433	Becker 187162	Becker 196810	Home Delivery PG 189655				
FLIX	340	65		Slow Dancing 26966407	Thieves Like Us (R) **** 71879758	Mississippi Burning (05) (R) **** 77097433	Patty Hearst 23297297								
HBO	300	68	15	So I Married 13283891	Curse/Bambino 932013	Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters 341487	Phone Booth (R) *** 5095758	Confess	In the Cut						
HBOP	302	69		And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself 7814549	Sylvia (R) *** Gwyneth Paltrow. 7805891	Marvin's Room *** 5660520	Ring	Bend It Like Beckham (PG-13) *** 7732742							
HBOS	304	70		The Medalion 786094	The Girl Next Door (R, 04) *** 336075	The Matrix Revolutions (R) *** 5151100	Identity (15) (R) 4434636								
MAX	380	71		Jennifer Eight (5:45) (R, 92) ** 45352742	Welcome to Mooseport (PG-13) ** 4116839	For Richer or Poorer (PG-13) ** 3216075	Quigley Down 75927100								
MAX2	382	72		Seasons of the Heart 7753094	Strictly Business (35) 27537618	The L Word (TV) 116013	Fat Actress Penn	Fat Actress	B. Monkey (R) ** 5022704						
PLEX	53			Cherry 2000	Legally Blonde 2 85236636	The Italian Job (PG-13, 03) *** 709433	Twilight (R, 98) ** 1692100	Kicking and Screaming (35) 42516742							
SHOW	320	66	20	According 76417100	The Italian Job (PG-13, 03) *** 709433	Twilight (R, 98) ** 1692100	Kicking and Screaming (35) 42516742								
TMC	336	67	16	According 76417100	The Italian Job (PG-13, 03) *** 709433	Twilight (R, 98) ** 1692100	Kicking and Screaming (35) 42516742								

servative Islamic policies for the new government.

In recent weeks, the main Shiite and Kurdish blocs, which together have more than two-thirds of the assembly seats, have said they want to ensure that prominent Sunni Arabs get significant roles in the new government. Al-Hassani's appointment was a nod in that direction. The Sunnis, who held the bulk of political power in Saddam Hussein's government, make up a fifth of the population and lead the insurgency.

"I think he's well accepted personally, and this acceptance will give him a broad base among the Sunnis, but this does not rule out that there will be opposition among some Sunnis," said Jawad al-Maliki, a deputy leader of the Dawaa Islamic Party, a powerful Shiite group whose leader, Ibrahim al-Jaafari, is the top candidate for prime minister.

Officials from the various parties said several issues still had to be worked out before the rest of the government would be appointed. The politicians have

yet to determine who will take the vice presidential post they intend to give to a Sunni Arab — al-Yawer, the interim president, or Sharif Ali bin al-Hussein, a member of the Hashemite dynasty. The parties also need to work out who will get the most coveted ministry jobs, such as minister of oil.

Assembly members said they would meet Wednesday to appoint the presidency council.

Raja al-Khuzai, an assembly member on the slate led by interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, said it was asking for the Interior Ministry, a deputy prime minister post and a vice presidency. During an intermission on Sunday, a mortar landed just outside the fortified Green Zone, where the assembly meeting was being held.

U.S. military officials updated the casualty count from a well-organized insurgent attack on Abu Ghraib prison on Saturday evening. At least 23 soldiers and Marines were wounded, most of them lightly, the officials said. Thirteen Iraqi prisoners were also wounded. Forty to 60 guerrillas took part in the assault.



HEALTH SEMINARS

Todd Nelson, N.D.

Dr. Nelson is a well known naturopathic doctor and holds an honorary Doctor of Science in Holistic Health from Brantridge Forrest School in England. He holds advanced certificates in the Rayid Method of Personality Assessment and Clinical Nutrition. He has been serving the Denver/Boulder Colorado area in clinical practice for 21 years and is the co-author of 3 books, Arthritis Survival, Asthma Survival and Headache Survival.

Tuesday April 5th • 7:30 pm

**Healthy Aging for Women of all Ages:
Natural Health options for Common Health Problems**

Aging doesn't have to be a steady decline into disease, suffering, and decrepitude. In fact, there are many natural health options that can prevent the common health problems associated to aging! Dr. Nelson will be presenting the latest research and information in self-care choices you can make in your nutrition and lifestyle that reduce the ravages of aging, leading to vitality, energy, strong immunity, and disease resistance. He will cover common health problems related to women: hormone imbalances, osteoporosis, fatigue, weight, blood sugar problems, heart disease and cancer prevention.

Thursday April 7th • 7:30 pm

Achieve Joint and Muscle Comfort and Flexibility Safely Without Drugs!

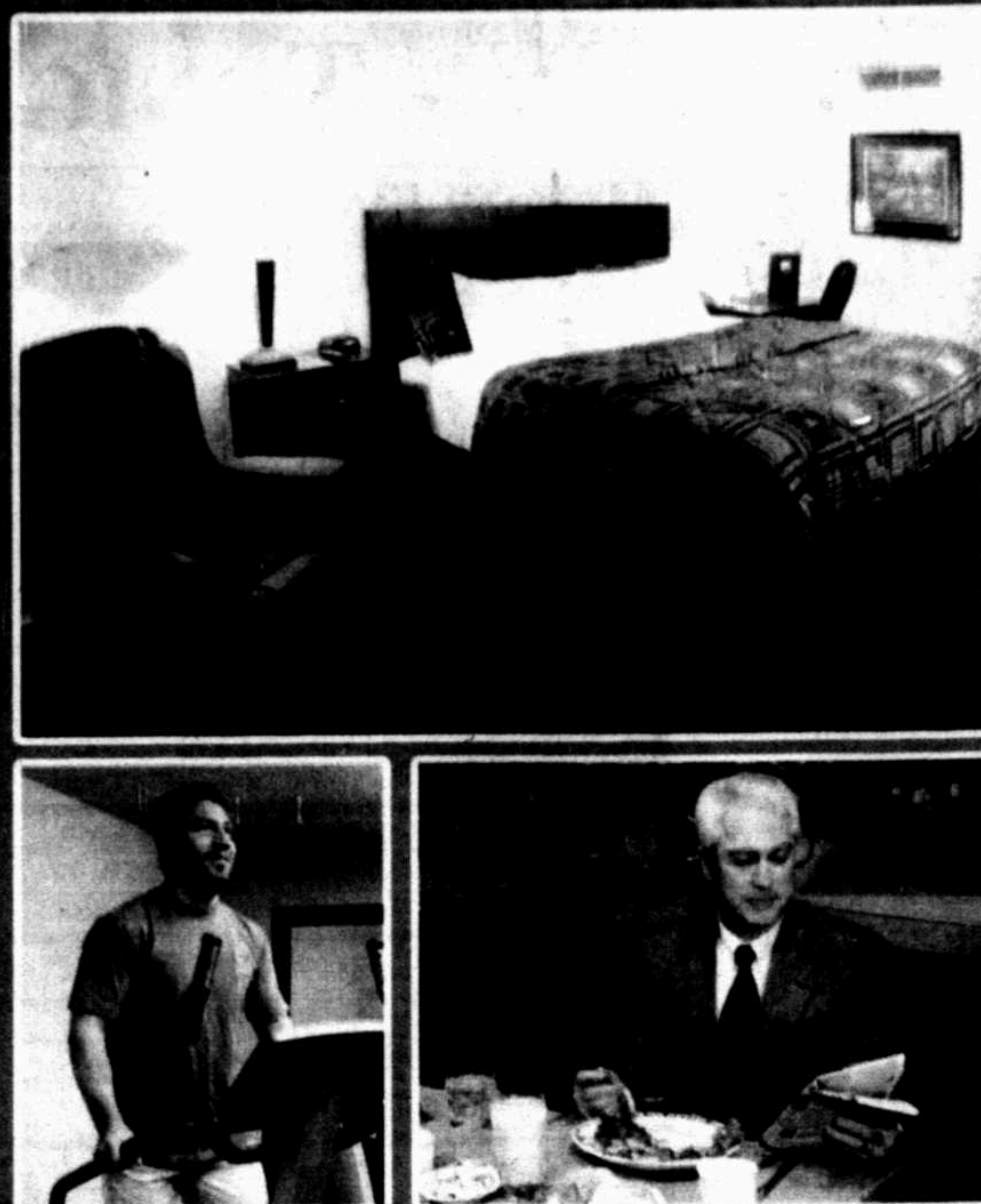
Suffering from pain and confused about what is safe and effective for relief and increasing comfort? Arthritis, back pain, muscle pain all have one thing in common: inflammation. In fact, TIME magazine in 2004 called inflammation the root cause of most common chronic illness, including heart disease and cancer. Yet the cure can be worse than the problem! Many pain relieving drugs are being questioned for their toxicity and potential serious side-effects. Dr. Nelson will present the latest in safe, natural alternatives and how you can create an Anti-Inflammatory Lifestyle.

Book signing to follow this seminar.

Both Seminars will be held at the Midland College Allison Fine Arts Building Wagner & Brown Auditorium 3600 N. Garfield

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SECTION B
Monday, April 4,



K

Beck
is pur

By Joan And
The Boston Glob

When he burst
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"Guero"
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2005
Skate School

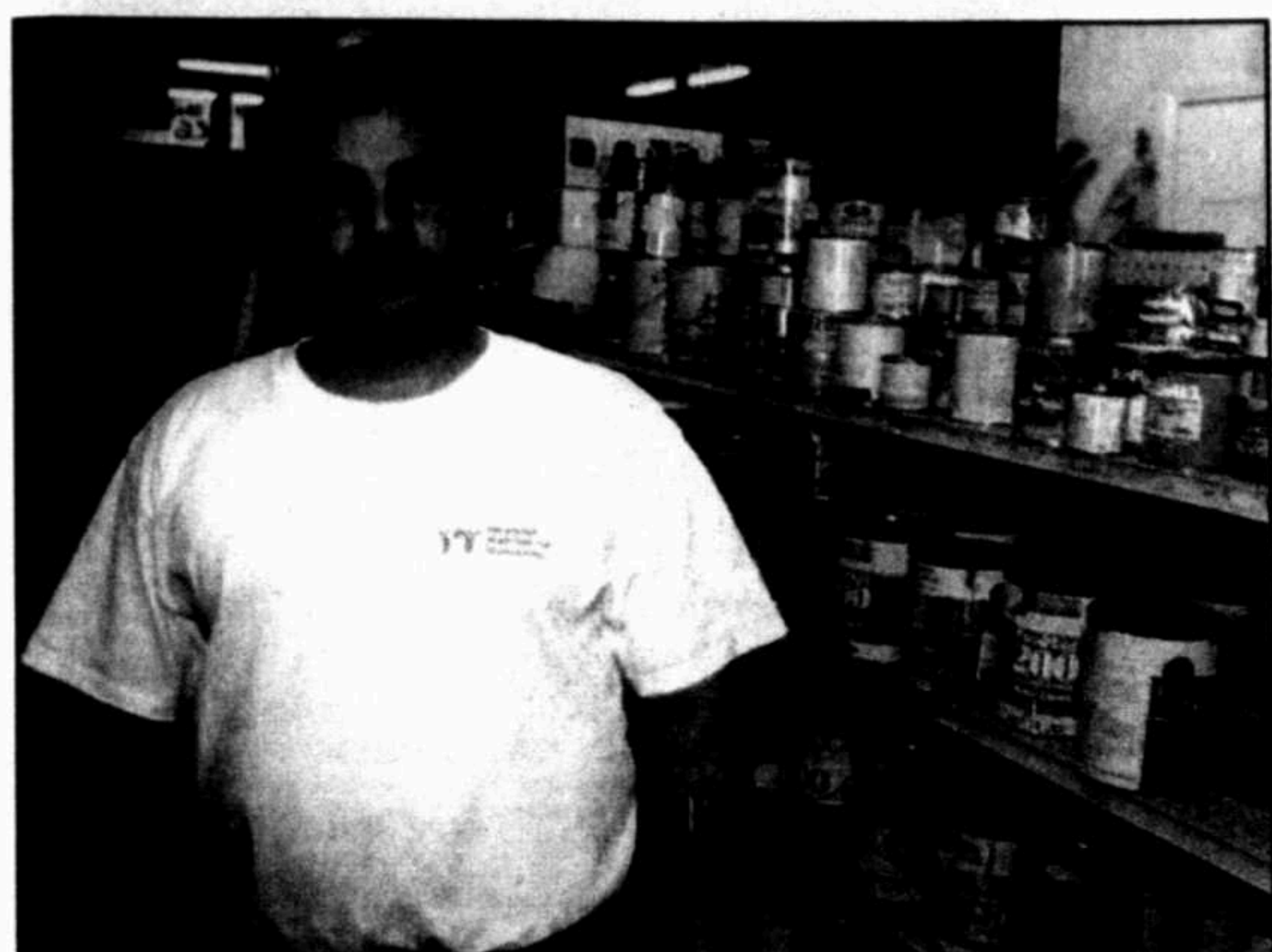
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Alec Richards/Reporter-Telegram

Jesse DeLeon: MHS graduate loves seeing dreams come true

He is a humble man. His riches come not from material goods, fancy cars or nights on the town, but from the simpler things in life. He draws his inspiration from those around him who set out and attain their goals, and his emotions are touched when homeowners move into the houses they have helped build and fund through their own "sweat equity."

Jesse DeLeon graduated from Midland High School in 1979. He has worked his whole life, missing college to begin a family in his earlier days. His son, Sergio, 21, is a college student in San Antonio; his daughter, Monica, attends Lee High School.

DeLeon is proof that it's not material possessions that make a person happy; it's about life, what they make of it, the love they share in it, and the dreams worked for and reached.

DeLeon runs the Habitat for Humanity Re-Store at 904 W. Florida Ave., a place he says wouldn't be possible were it not for the volunteers who have helped so much through the years.

"We've come a long way at the store," he said. "I told everyone within two years, we're going to be so big. We've had a lot of growth already."

Person to Person

with Jimmy Patterson



DeLeon said he has learned about life in part through the homeowners who have come through the Habitat program to build the home of their dreams.

"Those guys are great," DeLeon said of the people who complete the program. "The best part is when the homeowners get their house. They give me so much without getting anything back. I enjoy their attitudes, and it kinda chokes me up."

DeLeon said being a part of the Habitat process from ground up is satisfying. "Just getting to see people and how they are

Please see **DELEON/2B**

Beck in the saddle again

Beck's skewed synthesis is pure genius on 'Guero'

By Joan Anderman
The Boston Globe

When he burst out of the alternative rock underground 11 years ago with the slacker-anthem "Loser," Beck was the picture of postmodern chic. There weren't enough fingers to count his influences. Beck's genius was synthesis, an unfettered, uncanny gift for snatching and juxtaposing sounds — noise rock, samba, rap, psychedelia — that simply didn't belong in the same song. There was no guiding principle to his audacious pastiches and whacked-out wordplay, and that exhilarating rootlessness was the point.

It didn't take long for novelty to become identity. The smart-aleck ironist who cut and pasted his way through his 1994 major label debut, "Mellow Gold," proved himself an ingenious surrealist two years later on "Odelay," a masterful sonic collage produced by the Dust Brothers. Beck became alt-rock's poster boy by ignoring every rule in the book, and his recording career followed suit. His tropical meditation on decay ("Mutations") was a critical success but racked up disappointing sales; his funk-splattered party album ("Midnite Vultures") was widely regarded as a smug exercise; and "Sea Change," a soft and open-hearted collection of breakup ballads, was a departure from everything that came before.

Which brings us to "Guero," Beck's eighth album, in stores last Tuesday. He's reunited with the Dust Brothers, and the album's genius, once again, is an utterly skewed synthesis. But this time the 34-year-old musician forges in his own backyard. "Guero" — the Spanish slang term for "white boy" he often heard growing up in East L.A. — is an accumulation of musical ideas, life stages, and cultural references. The kaleidoscopic mash doesn't sound revolutionary. It sounds like Beck, who's now married to the actress Marissa Ribisi, father of 9-month-old Cosimo, and sole proprietor of his own genre: a dazzling, "Odelay"-grade patchwork stitched together with rejuvenated musical wit and a boatload of dread and despair.

Hipster irony and zany humor have largely been replaced with an abstract assortment of dark memories, current disappointments, and downright devilish prospects. The mood is bleak even as Beck rips out of the gate into a nostalgic scrapheap of rock guitars and salvaged beats on "E-Pro," the album's lead track and first single. "Que Onda Guera" is, quite literally, a walk through the barrio, where Beck — still on the outside looking in — plays geeky white boy over recorded traffic noises, the shouts of vegetable vendors, and snippets of Spanglish conversation. We get ambient bossa nova ("Missing"), narcotic R&B ("Earthquake Weather"), broken-down country blues ("Farewell Ride"), and itchy dance raps ("Black Tambourine" and "Hell Yes," featuring a kitschy uncredited cameo by Christina Ricci).

It's the new subversion, and Beck brings it into full bloom on "Girl," an irrepressible pop tune that turns the musings of a serial killer into a sunny So-Cal serenade. He's fixated on death — graves and lifeless bodies are generously scattered about these songs — but you'd never know it from the perky platoon of handclappers on "Rental Car." This is an impossibly vibrant collection of songs that, sonically at least, recall the wide-eyed wonder of Beck's early work. But it's not a case of an artist trying to replicate his landmark album.

There's a heaviness — a humanness — to "Guero" that the brash absurdist who made "Odelay" had no use for. And there's a jubilation that the lovelorn troubadour on "Sea Change" probably couldn't imagine finding again. People don't change; they become the sum of their experiences. It's no surprise that Beck's canvas continues to expand, folding back on itself and unfurling simultaneously, as if following the contours of warped space.

CLASSIC DAVE BARRY

Trend geeks and their fancy coffees need to get out of way of true junkies

Originally published on Nov. 9, 1997

I have exciting news for anybody who would like to pay a lot of money for coffee that has passed all the way through an animal's digestive tract. And you just know there are plenty of people who would. Specialty coffees are very popular these days, attracting millions of consumers, every single one of whom is standing in line ahead of me whenever I go to the coffee place at the airport to grab a quick cup on my way to catch a plane.

These consumers are always ordering mutant beverages with names like "mocha-almond-honey-vanilla-galette lattespressacino," beverages that must be made one at a time via a lengthy and complex process involving approximately one coffee bean, three quarts of dairy products and what appears to be a small nuclear reactor.

Meanwhile, back in the line, there is growing impatience among those of us who just want a plain old cup of coffee so that our brains will start working and we can remember what our full names are and why we are catching an airplane. We want to strike the lattespressacino

Dave Barry is taking the year off. This best-of series will run while he's gone. His column is distributed by Tribune Media Services, Inc.



people with our carry-on baggage and scream, "GET OUT OF OUR WAY, YOU TREND GEEKS, AND LET US HAVE OUR COFFEE!" But of course we couldn't do anything that active until we've had our coffee.

It is inhumane, in my opinion, to force people who have a genuine medical need for coffee to wait in line behind people who apparently view it as some kind of recreational activity. I bet that when serious heroin addicts go to purchase their heroin, they do not tolerate waiting in line while some dilettante in front of them orders a hazelnut smack-a-cino with cinnamon sprin-

kles.

The reason some of us need coffee is that it contains caffeine, which makes us alert. Of course, it is very important to remember that caffeine is a drug, and, like any drug, it is a lot of fun.

No! Wait! What I meant to say is: Like any drug, caffeine can have serious side effects if we ingest too much. This fact was first noticed in ancient Egypt when a group of workers, who were supposed to be making a birdbath, began drinking Egyptian coffee, which is very strong, and wound up constructing the pyramids.

I myself developed the coffee habit in my early 20s, when, as a "cub" reporter for the Daily Local News in West Chester, Pa., I had to stay awake while writing phenomenally boring stories about municipal government. I got my coffee from a vending machine that also sold hot chocolate and chicken-noodle soup; all three liquids squirted out of a single tube, and they tasted pretty much the same. But I came to need that coffee, and even today I can do nothing useful before I've had several cups. (I can't do anything useful afterward, either; that's why I'm a colum-

nist.)

But here's my point: This specialty-coffee craze has gone too far. I say this in light of a letter I got recently from alert reader Bo Bishop. He sent me an invitation he received from a local company to a "private tasting of the highly prized Luwak coffee," which "at \$300 a pound ... is one of the most expensive drinks in the world."

The invitation states that this coffee is named for the luwak, a "member of the weasel family" that lives on the Island of Java and eats coffee berries; as the berries pass through the luwak, a "natural fermentation" takes place, and the berry seeds — the coffee beans — come out of the luwak intact. The beans are then gathered, washed, roasted and sold to coffee connoisseurs. The invitation states: "We wish to pass along this once in a lifetime opportunity to taste such a rarity."

Or, as Bo Bishop put it: "They're selling processed weasel doo-doo for \$300 a pound."

I first thought this was a clever hoax designed to ridicule the coffee craze. Tragically, it is not.

Please see **BARRY/2B**

TALKIN' TEXAS

Trinity project will transform Dallas into wild water mecca

Dallas is in the beginning stages of its largest public works project since the construction of the DFW airport. This time the city is looking at the Trinity River. The \$1.2 billion dollar investment by the citizens of Dallas along with state and federal governments will create one of the world's largest urban parks. It will contain downtown lakes with a whitewater run and the country's largest urban hardwood forest. The project will be ten times the size of Central Park in New York City.

Private individuals and city, state and federal governments are funding two futuristic bridges, designed by Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava. Work on one of the bridges starts in November of this year. The Trinity project, due for completion in 2011, encompasses seven miles of river and 6,000 acres of forest. The river will be able to accommodate small sailboats and paddle boats. A reverse-flow lake is planned with a 17 foot drop, creating rapids. In August, Fort Worth opened its whitewater course on the Trinity and it is already a big hit. The Fort Worth Park's popularity sets an example of how Dallas citizens will respond to recreational opportunities on the river.

The Trinity gives companies and people a reason to stop moving north. Eventually residential and commercial development will fill the space between downtown and the river. The most visible benefit will be Oak Cliff, which will have easy

Tumbleweed Smith is a Big Spring storyteller and folklorist.



access to downtown, great views and direct entry into the country's largest urban park, home to more than 1,300 species of plants and animals.

In May of 1998, the largest bond package in Dallas history passed and the Trinity River proposition won by a bare margin: 51.6 percent to 48.4 percent. It was in August of last year that the first work on the project began. It consisted of removing sheet metal from a long-abandoned shed.

The great Trinity Forest is mostly ash, oaks, elms and cottonwoods. The ten square mile tract was largely neglected and grew up over the past 45 years. It is home to raccoons and bobcats. Poachers sneak in to hunt deer.

An interpretive and equestrian center is planned in an area of southeast Dallas that used to be a trash dump. Antoine Predock, known for his "green" buildings, is designing it. Tourists from around the country and the world will go there to hike, watch birds and enjoy the outdoors.

For years the river was ignored in Dallas unless it threatened residents. That's not the case now.

Moby emerges from sound-effects, samples on new disc

By Nekesa Mumbi Moody
Associated Press

NEW YORK — People who view Moby as a techno artist might be startled upon hearing his new double-disc "Hotel." The crisp guitars, haunting piano and Moby's own warbling voice on emotive songs certainly don't fit his image, that of a cutting-edge disc jockey using electronic wizardry to make alluring dance music.

But they might be even more startled to hear that Moby — whose electronica-based grooves on "Play" established him as chart-topping artist and an unofficial spokesman for the genre — doesn't even consider techno music his milieu.

"I thought it was kind of interesting in that Eminem song 'Without Me,' when he said no one listens to techno," Moby said, recalling the rapper's infamous Moby dis. "(But) I haven't made a techno name under my name in about 13 years. I like techno music but I wouldn't call my music techno music."

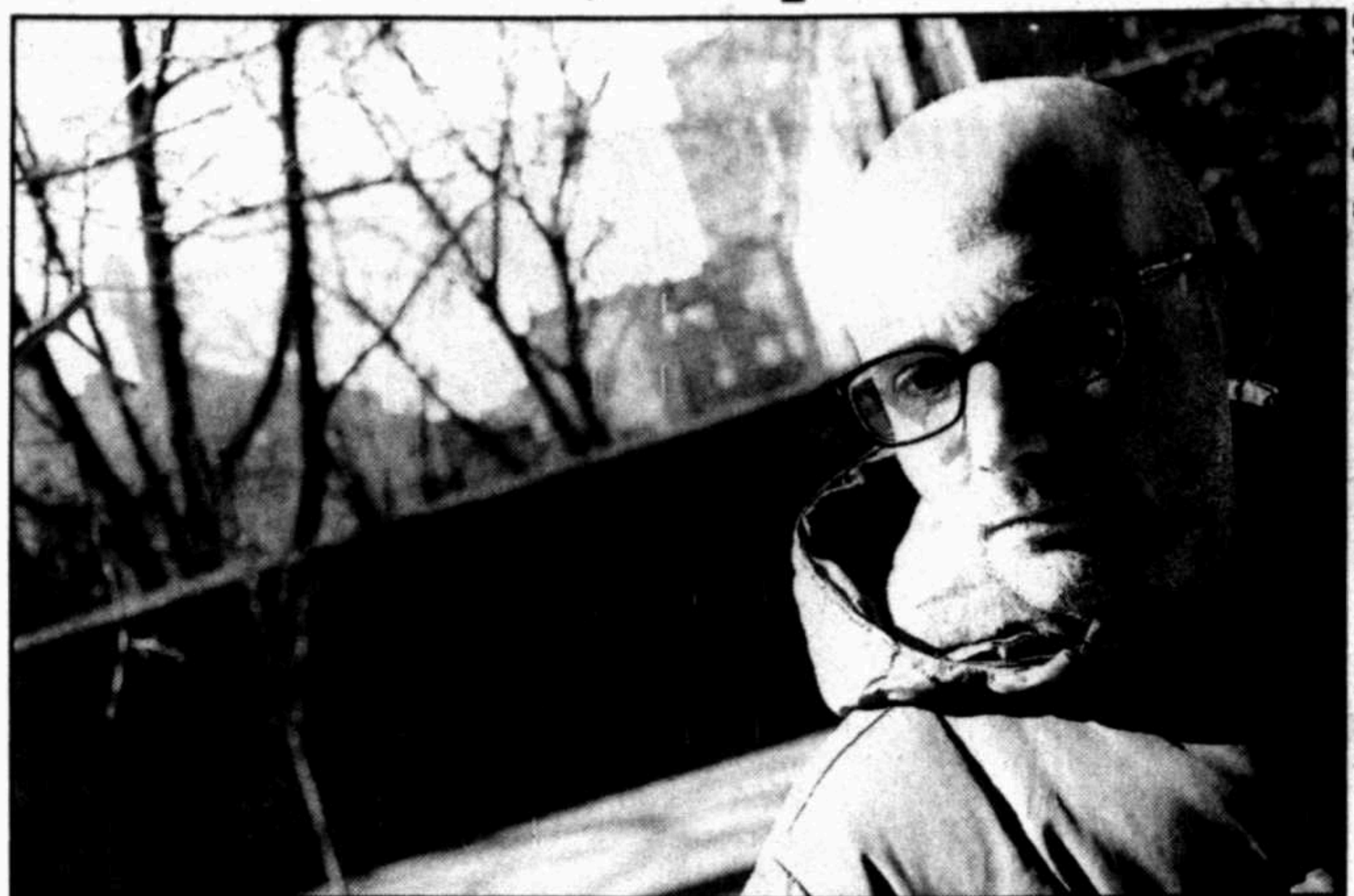
"Most musicians pick a genre, and stick with it. In the course of my life, I've written classical music for movies, I've made punk-rock music, I've made quiet ballads; I've done so many different types of music and had such an eclectic career, I think it confuses people, because most musicians are pretty easy to understand," he says.

"Hotel" may make it even harder to understand Moby, from a musical perspective. The sample-free album contains some of his most organic music to date, and he describes it as his most personal record, filled with lyrics about frayed relationships (the 39-year-old bachelor says he and his latest girlfriend are reassessing their union).

"The lyrics that he's written are very brilliant and personal," says Laura Dawn, the cultural director for the politically leftist group MoveOn.org and a close friend, who is the female voice heard on the album.

"You can really hear the emotion in his voice and in the lyrics. I think that's the biggest difference. 'Play' is brilliant production, but you don't have those personal lyrics. ... He's really pushing himself artistically into a new realm, and pretty successfully."

Still, fans of the outspoken, balding,



NOW SAMPLE-FREE Musician Moby poses in the Lower East Side neighborhood of New York, Feb. 18.

bespectacled star need not fret — he sound hasn't changed THAT much. The second part of the double-disc has its electronica side, a chill-out component that fans of his ambient music may be more comfortable with. And while he might not consider himself a techno artist, he still made an underground techno music album, "Voodoo Child," just last year (though he wasn't credited on the disc).

And, despite the mainstream success he enjoyed with "Play," and "18," he still relishes being very much out of the mainstream — from his ultraliberal politics ("I think that America collectively as a nation has its priorities so screwed up," he says adamantly) to his criticism of pop ("mainstream music is very much the domain of compromise").

Even his entree into the restaurant world is off-center; the tiny vegetarian eatery and tea shop called teany sits on an unassuming block in his neighborhood on New York's Lower East Side. The shop is also the subject of a new humorous recipe/essay/advice book he penned with Kelly Tisdale, his ex-girlfriend and co-creator of teany.

"The big difference of what I do with teany

and what a lot of celebrities do is teany is really small and humble," he says, sitting in teany. "I thought it would be a lot nicer to open a little restaurant in my neighborhood I could actually go to."

While Moby's disdain for the celebrity world is apparent now, back when he basked in the huge success of "Play" — the album that made him and his music ubiquitous — he wasn't quite so conflicted. It was pretty standard to see Moby on the red carpet, hobnobbing with other celebrities, going to the exclusive parties, with gossip page mentions.

Moby admits for a while, he thoroughly enjoyed it. "Fame, it can be kind of fun. It's nice to be able to call up and get a table at the last minute," he says. "But fame as an institution can be very corrosive and very corruptive, and it's not something I want to involve myself in too much."

"I had an epiphany a few years ago where I was out at a celebrity party and it suddenly dawned on me that I had yet to meet a

Please see MOBY/3B

Time stands still for Mötley Crüe

By Gerry Gittelsohn
Los Angeles Daily News

Once among the most popular rock bands, Mötley Crüe isn't officially on a comeback because the Los Angeles quartet never really went away ... completely.

That said, all the original members — most importantly, lead singer Vince Neil — have returned, so the group's sold-out concert at the Forum recently looked and felt like a homecoming celebration.

The band tore through an enthusiastic two-hour set consisting mostly of songs from the pre-grunge era, and the crowd stood on its feet and sang along to every chorus just like it was 1985.

Most amazing of all, Neil and

BARRY

(From 1B)

There really is a Luwak coffee. I know because I bought some from a specialty-coffee company in Atlanta. I paid \$37.50 for two ounces of beans. I was expecting the beans to look exotic, considering where they'd been, but they looked like regular coffee beans. In fact, for a moment I was afraid that they were just regular beans, and that I was being ripped off.

Then I thought: What kind of world is this when you worry that people might be ripping you off by selling you coffee that was NOT pooped out by a weasel?

So anyway, I ground the beans up and brewed the coffee and drank some. You know how sometimes, when you're

really skeptical about something, but then you finally try it, you discover that it's really good, way better than you would have thought possible?

This is not the case with Luwak coffee. Luwak coffee, in my opinion, tastes like somebody washed a dead cat in it.

But I predict it's going to be popular anyway, because it's expensive. One of these days, the people in front of me at the airport coffee place are going to be ordering decaf poopacino. I'm thinking of switching to heroin.



DELEON

(From 1B)

helps me feel good," he said.

As inspired as DeLeon is with the actions and courage of others, there are people with the Habitat program who feel the same way about him. Born in the Mexican village of Francisco I Madero in the state of Coahuila, DeLeon and his family came to Midland when he was in the fourth grade.

He learned English the hard way — by listening and using it until it was his primary language, something he said others in his situation should do.

"When we came here we had to learn the laws and the language of the United States," DeLeon said. "I think everyone should learn the language of the country they are in, but retain their culture. But just being thrown into the language ... that's the best way to learn it. I had a teacher, Mrs. Carmichael, and she took me under her wing. She knew a little Spanish and helped me out a whole lot. If you can't communicate and you want to ... you can pick it up pretty fast."

Had he voted last fall, DeLeon said he would have voted for President Bush, thinking it unwise to change presidents with a war going on; he would

also vote in favor of the Midland College bond issue in May, and, if it ever comes to it, he would vote on a smoking ban in Midland restaurants.

Not having a vote, DeLeon said, is difficult. But working toward his U.S. citizenship is one of the traits people admire in DeLeon. His paperwork has been in process for six months, but the wait could still be years.

"A lot of the volunteers here at work, I have listened to them talk and they have encouraged me to become a U.S. citizen, especially after all the terrorism that has happened."

DeLeon encourages all Mexican nationals living in Texas to apply for their U.S. citizenship, given the exploding growth of the Hispanic population and the importance of the people's vote.

"I've been very fortunate to have these opportunities," DeLeon said. "And I get to help other people; help provide items for homes for other people. That's pretty cool."

"It will be good to be able to vote, but otherwise, it won't be that big of a change when I get my citizenship. I've always been made to feel part of this country."

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LATIN N

Miami blends

So what happens when you mix the sensuous Dominican style with the hip-hop and pop of the Caribbean? You get Toque D'Keda.



"Picando Alante Toque D'Keda" Universal Music Latino Records \$13.98 CD list price

on the group's d "Picando Alante through a creative of ideas, says To singer Ariel Mar Dominican Repu "We were all sit the studio when Roy Tavare begg fusing bachata w and some pop." said. "As they ta Tavare remembe good rapper and doing one song, next thing you k turns into nine s had a great time Though it seem pairing, the mar hop and bachata ly, Marmolejos "Bachata and one thing in com are both from th the people. They about love or lif perfect sense, an perfect harmony

The single fro "Debo Pensar," with a skittering rides along on the beat, a kind of merengue rhyth Lyrical, the the pain that lin breakup. What r memorable is th smooth vocal ha In song mater cal approach, To brings to mind the young salsa group from Puer broke big in 200 smash "Puro De But instead of Toque D'Keda tunes spiced w rap rhythms. Or tet's impeccably harmonies evok or Nu Flavor. The rest of th sists of singe Acosta of Pue Perez, a Cuban from Miami; an Blazquez of the Republic. Each worked previou act or with vari Not surprisin influences have tive singers. "W many influence us came from d grounds," Marr was influence older bachata g and danced to One that every

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LATIN NOTES

Miami quartet Toque D'Keda blends bachata and hip-hop

So what happens when you mix the bachata, the sensuous Dominican ballad similar to the bolero, with hip-hop and pop rhythms? You get Toque D'Keda, a new Miami quartet whose vocal harmonies give it a distinct sound.



"Picando Alante"
Toque D'Keda
Universal Music
Latino Records
\$13.98 CD
list price

on the group's debut album, "Picando Alante," came about through a creative exchanging of ideas, says Toque D'Keda singer Ariel Marmolejos, a Dominican Republic native. "We were all sitting around the studio when (producer) Roy Tavare began the idea of fusing bachata with some rock and some pop," Marmolejos said. "As they talked about it, Tavare remembered I was a good rapper and so I ended up doing one song, 'Pecado,' and next thing you know, one song turns into nine songs and we had a great time."

Though it seems an unlikely pairing, the marriage of hip-hop and bachata came naturally, Marmolejos said.

"Bachata and hip-hop have one thing in common: They are both from the street, from the people. They are stories about love or life. It just made perfect sense, and it was the perfect harmony."

The single from the CD is "Debo Pensar," which starts with a skittering guitar and rides along on the bachata beat, a kind of mellower merengue rhythm.

Lyrical, the tune is about the pain that lingers after a breakup. What makes the song memorable is the group's smooth vocal harmonies.

In song material and musical approach, Toque D'Keda brings to mind Son by Four, the young salsa/R&B vocal group from Puerto Rico that broke big in 2000 with the smash "Puro Dolor."

But instead of salsa soneros, Toque D'Keda sings bachata tunes spiced with R&B and rap rhythms. On top, the quartet's impeccably smooth vocal harmonies evoke Boyz II Men or Nu Flavor.

The rest of the group consists of singers Jalen James Acosta of Puerto Rico; Elvis Perez, a Cuban-American from Miami; and Eddie Blazquez of the Dominican Republic. Each of the four had worked previously as a solo act or with various groups.

Not surprisingly, their main influences have been distinctive singers. "We have so many influences. Each one of us came from different backgrounds," Marmolejos said. "I was influenced by some of the older bachata guys that I loved and danced to my whole life. One that everyone knows is

Ramino Burr is a columnist with the San Antonio Express News.



Juan Luis Guerra.

"But then again, our influences vary from Juan Gabriel to Jay-Z. We would listen to Camilo Sesto as well as Alicia Keys. You can tell by the way we harmonize in the songs."

The group's vocal harmonies are highlighted on the dance ballad "Quiero Hacerte el Amor," where their voices start out together as one, then splinter off and rejoin seamlessly. They add a little blues and soul on "Lamento Boliviano," a remake of the classic by Argentine trio Enanitos Verdes.

"Our base sound is the bachata," Marmolejos said. "We either apply that sound to the songs, like on 'Lamento,' or take a bachata and add R&B or hip-hop or rock to it."

The group switches to pure slow dance-pop rhythms on "Contra La Pared" and "Pobre Mendigo," which wouldn't sound out of place on an All-4-One album.

Ultimately, though, the group aims to fill up dance floors with party music, a desire inspired by their name.

"Our producer got the idea after he went to the Dominican Republic. Sometimes the government puts in martial law, which means you can't go out at night," Marmolejos said. "So what happens is we have all-day or all-night parties and they call that the Toque D'Keda. So we were like great, that's gonna be the name."

Not everybody, though, has warmed up to the merging of bachata and hip-hop. Traditionalists decry what they see as the dilution of a folk music.

"Luckily, we haven't encountered a lot of that," he said. "This is a brand new generation and people are more open to changes. I'm a mix myself. I think that people are more open to the idea of fusions nowadays."

"We noticed that people were waiting for something new and fresh and different. We happen to be musicians who do different things, but at the same time we are communicating all our different emotions and music abilities in this genre called bachata."

"We noticed that people were waiting for something new and fresh and different. We happen to be musicians who do different things, but at the same time we are communicating all our different emotions and music abilities in this genre called bachata."

Classical pianist siblings look to draw new fans

By Nekesa Mumbi Moody
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The 5 Browns may be the closest classical music ever comes to a teen pop group.

A piano quintet of three sisters and two brothers, the fresh-faced Browns hope to appeal to young classical music enthusiasts with their self-titled recording debut. But they're hardly playing bubble-gum music. After all, each of the siblings, who range in age from 19 to 25, have been classically trained at the venerable Juilliard School.

"The music is strictly classical, mind you, but we have one foot in the classical music world and another in real life," says Deondra. "We watch our fair share of MTV, we have different kinds of music in our CD cases. We feel like we speak the language of regular people out there, where classical music isn't their whole world, and hopefully that will make a difference."

The album, which features classical-friendly tracks such as elements of Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story" and "Flight of the Bumble Bee," has already made a difference in the classical arena: It debuted at No. 1 on Billboard's classical charts, and has remained there for four weeks in a row. And the Browns — Desirae, 25; Deondra, 24; Gregory, 22; Melody, 20; and Ryan, 19 — are spending the next few months on tour, taking their group around the nation in hopes of cultivating and even wider fan base.

"These kids can really be the spokespeople for classical music for a new generation," says Deborah Sudri, senior director of A&R at Sony BMG Masterworks, who was instrumental in signing group to its RCA Red Seal label.



CLASSICAL'S FRESH FACES Classical music group The 5 Browns pose at the Phillips Club in New York, Jan. 12. From left are siblings Deondra, Ryan, Melody, Desirae and Gregory Brown. A piano quintet of three sisters and two brothers — all Juilliard-educated — the fresh-faced Browns hope to appeal to a new generation of classical music enthusiasts.

The Browns, who come across as typical college kids instead of musical whiz kids, are used to being representatives for the genre. They first got national media attention a few years ago, when all five of them were enrolled in Juilliard — a formidable feat for one person to accomplish, let alone five from the same family.

But raising piano prodigies wasn't the intention of their parents, Keith and Lisa Brown, when they were raising the children in Utah. They were just looking for ways to keep their toddlers occupied.

"Since they started so little it became such a part of their lives," says Keith.

First there were the school recitals, then regional contests and performances. Little by little, the Browns started getting notice. Yet as the two eldest, Desirae and Deondra, started looking ahead to college, the pair was unsure as to whether they should attend a musical conservatory.

"When I brought it up, the girls said, 'Oh no way. We're not good enough,'" their father recalls.

Their parents disagreed, and with their

encouragement, both girls (Deondra graduated early so she could go away with her older sister) tried out for six prestigious music institutions around the nation, including Juilliard, with the hopes they'd perhaps get into one.

Instead, they got into all six, and chose Juilliard. Once they arrived, they became recruiters for Juilliard, enticing their younger siblings to join them; Melody and Gregory are still attending, while the youngest, Ryan, went to Juilliard's pre-college program (and is now studying at the Manhattan School of Music). Deondra and Desirae earned their master's degrees from the school. It was the first time in Juilliard's history that five siblings were attending at the same time.

"Suddenly we had five kids in Juilliard, and that's a little harder to get into than Harvard," Keith says.

The Browns' unique story made them a media magnet; everyone from The New York Times to "The Oprah Winfrey Show" told the story of the talented siblings. Despite the attention, the Browns didn't look at their classical education as a springboard for a lucrative career as a classical recording act or as concert performers.

However, manager Joel Diamond saw the potential and approached the Browns, suggesting they try to become a classical crossover group, in the vein of a bond, a Josh Groban or a Charlotte Church — all acts who blended pop sensibilities to appeal to a wider demographic.

The Browns were all for appealing to a new audience, but weren't willing to sacrifice their classical background to do it.

"It would have been hard for us because we were trained so intensely in classical music, and once you cross over that line, it's really hard to come back," explains Gregory.

They didn't have too. Their album doesn't have them trying to put a classical spin on a pop song or collaborating with a pop act.

On the Net:

<http://www.the5browns.com>

MOBY

(From 2B)

celebrity who is as smart and interesting as any of my friends."

Fame has also changed his views on the success of his albums. Now that he's had hit albums to his credit, he's not interested in trying to replicate those sales.

"I learned in the last few years that it's really unhappy and really unsustainable to try and base your well being on something as arbitrary as record sales, and critical acclaim, and the interests of the public," he says. "All of those things are so fickle. So my approach now to music is I want to make records that I love, and I hope that other people love them, then that's OK."

He's particularly critical of what he considers the manufactured pop stars, bemoaning that music no longer is the focal point of upcoming artists.

"It just seems like musicians want to sell a few records and put out a perfume line, and I think it's so sad that there are so many

musicians who don't want to change the world," he says, frustration clear in his voice. "Music has been so much more."

Even his former "South Side" duet partner, Gwen Stefani, doesn't escape scrutiny from Moby: "Her solo album, it's a good record. The truth is it probably would have been a much better record if she had written it and produced it herself."

Still, for all his criticisms, Moby hasn't extricated completely himself from mainstream pop. After all, didn't he help produce the last album from the artist considered one of pop's most manufactured — Britney Spears?

Though some might see that as an example of selling out, Moby sees his involvement as a way to improve pop's sorry state.

"There's a part of me that wants to just go off and make really obscure records," he says. "But if I make more acceptable records, it means I get to be a part of this dialogue, and try in my own small way to make the

world of popular music a little better — which sounds presumptuous, but, otherwise, if the U2s and the Coldplays and the Radioheads of the world stop making great records, then we're left to the generic, formulaic,

compromised crap that we all have to listen to on the radio."

On the Net:

<http://www.moby.com>
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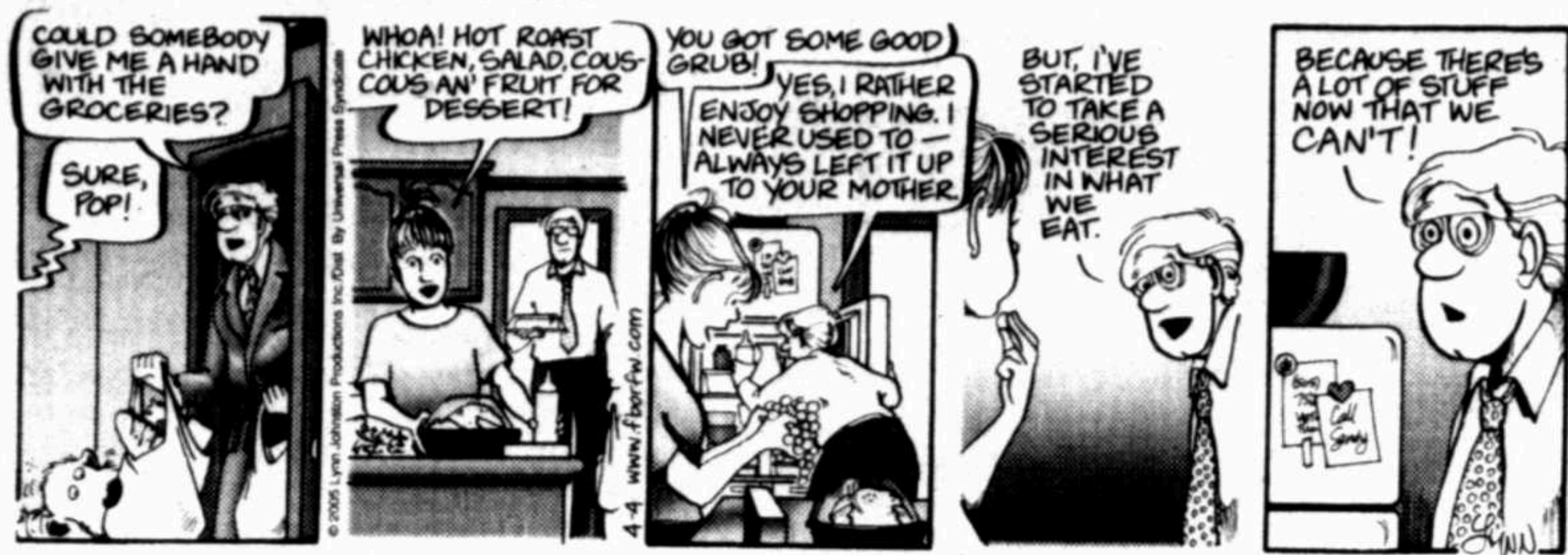
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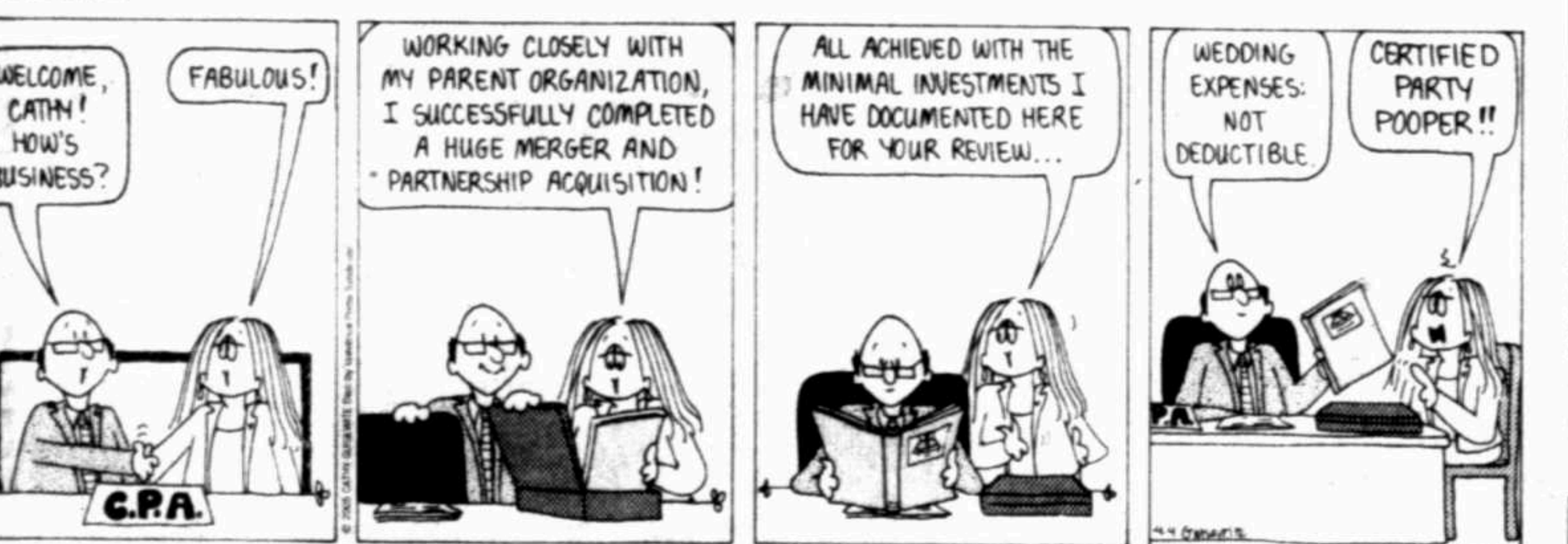
SHOE



GARFIELD



CATHY



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



LUANN



MARY WORTH



ZITS



BABY BLUES



MUTTS



CLOSE TO HOME



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



LOCKHORNS



Today's forecast and southwest wind for clear skies with 20 mph.

Tuesday's forecast low around 35 and Wednesday's a low around 30. The high Sunday for March 31.

Yesterday's precipitation: Rainfall Total for month Total for year Normal total (year to date)

AccuWeather
COLO.
N.M.
El Paso 81/55
MEXICO
© 2005 AccuWeather
Sunny Pt. Cloudy
Via Associated Press

DEAR A

Teacher battle
ill-mannered
stud

The star
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
2005:
Others might believe in magic wand. You want this year people in general encourage you Network with others expand your horizons choose to sign up to travel. Your mind you down no Foreigners might gle, someone very your door. Build romance. This boy you are attached, big role in your y tive. Work with y or her to play a m life. AQUARIUS

ARIES (March) You wake up know will work. Use you to tap into other anything can be resources. Adapt Tonight: Go back TAURUS (April) are all business, what your plans creative touch with to. Great ideas co if you team up w Share great ideas GEMINI (May) Understand that

Q 1 — Both v hold:
♦ K Q 6 ♠ A ♠ The bidding has SOUTH WEST 1♥ Pass ?
What do you bi

A — The hand die if you had a three-card excellent one, when you have major. Jump to

Q 2 — Both vu ♦ K ♠ 7 6 5 3 ♠ Your right-hand ding with one o take?

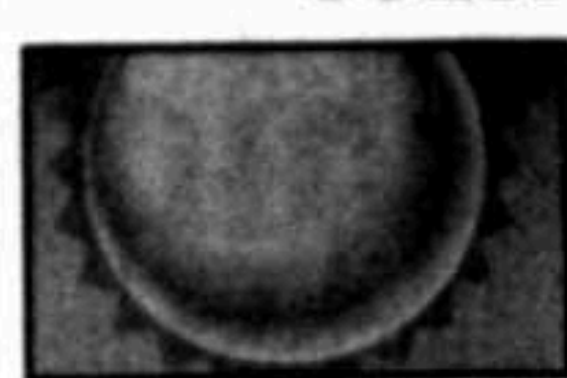
A — With tw would normally ranking one. H discrepancy betw would treat th carder and ove are not fans of but even if we v use it here sinc buy the hand.

LOCAL
FORECAST

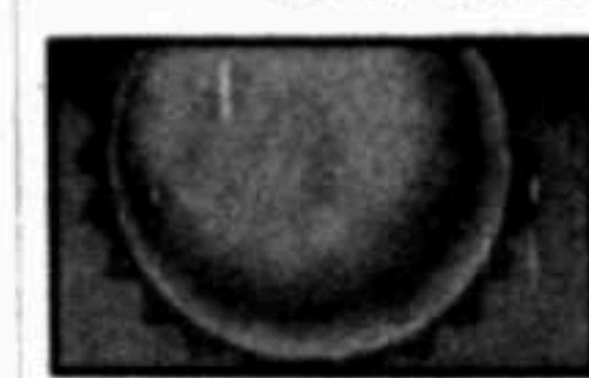
TODAY

Mostly sunny
high 87
low 52

TUESDAY

Sunny
high 77
low 42

WEDNESDAY

Sunny
high 73
low 41

Today's forecast calls for mostly sunny skies with a high around 87 and southwest winds between 10 and 15 mph. Tonight's forecast calls for clear skies with a low around 52 and south winds between 15 and 20 mph.

Tuesday's forecast calls for sunny skies with a high around 42, a low around 35 and north winds around 15 and 20 mph.

Wednesday's forecast calls for sunny skies with a high around 73 and a low around 41.

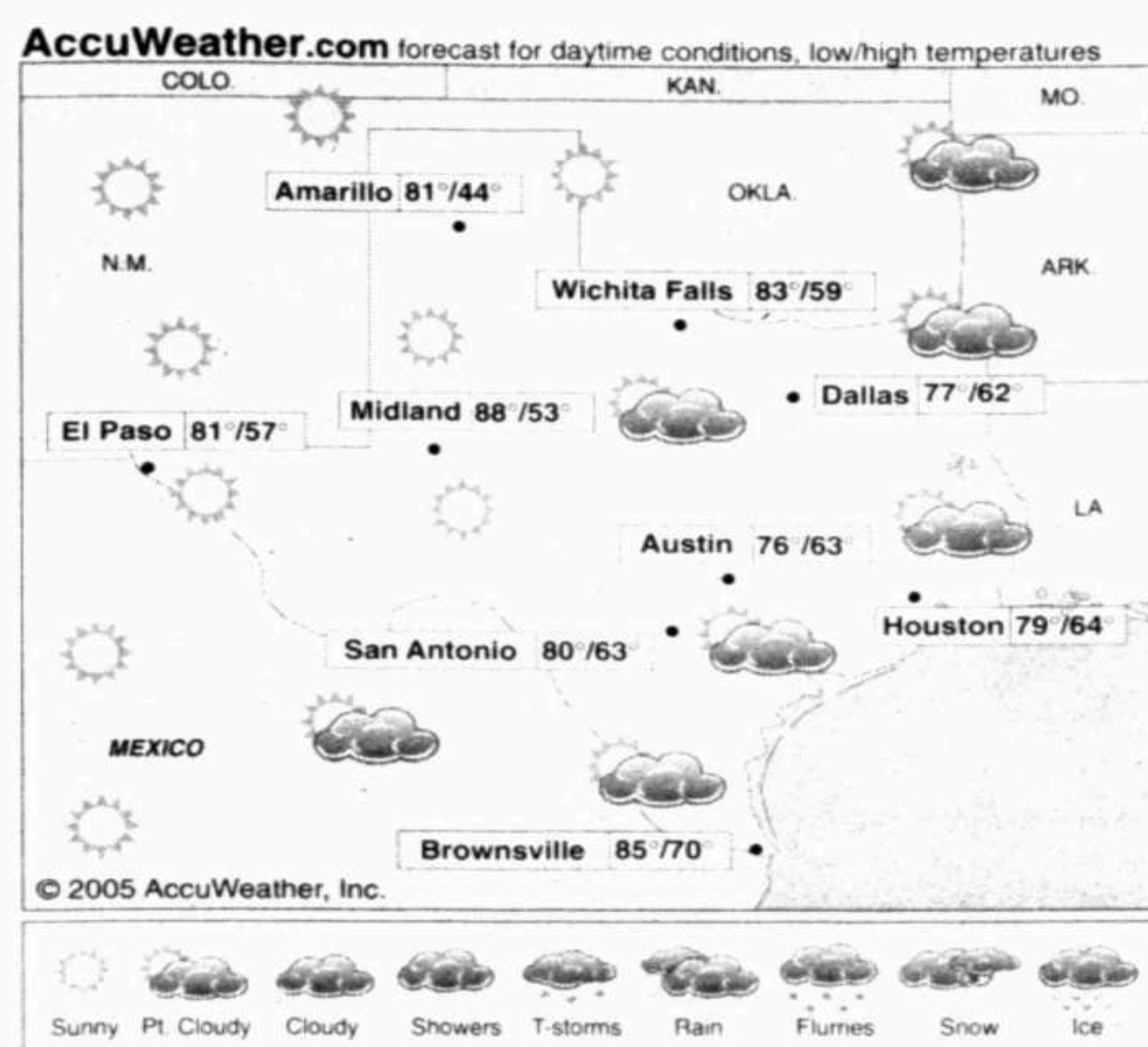
The high Sunday reached 79, while the low dropped to 47. The record high for March 3 is 94 set in 1946. The record low is 29 set in 1987.

Yesterday's precipitation

Rainfall 0.00 in.
Rainfall 0.00 in.
Total for month trace
Total for year 2.37 in.
Normal total
(year to date) 1.56 in.

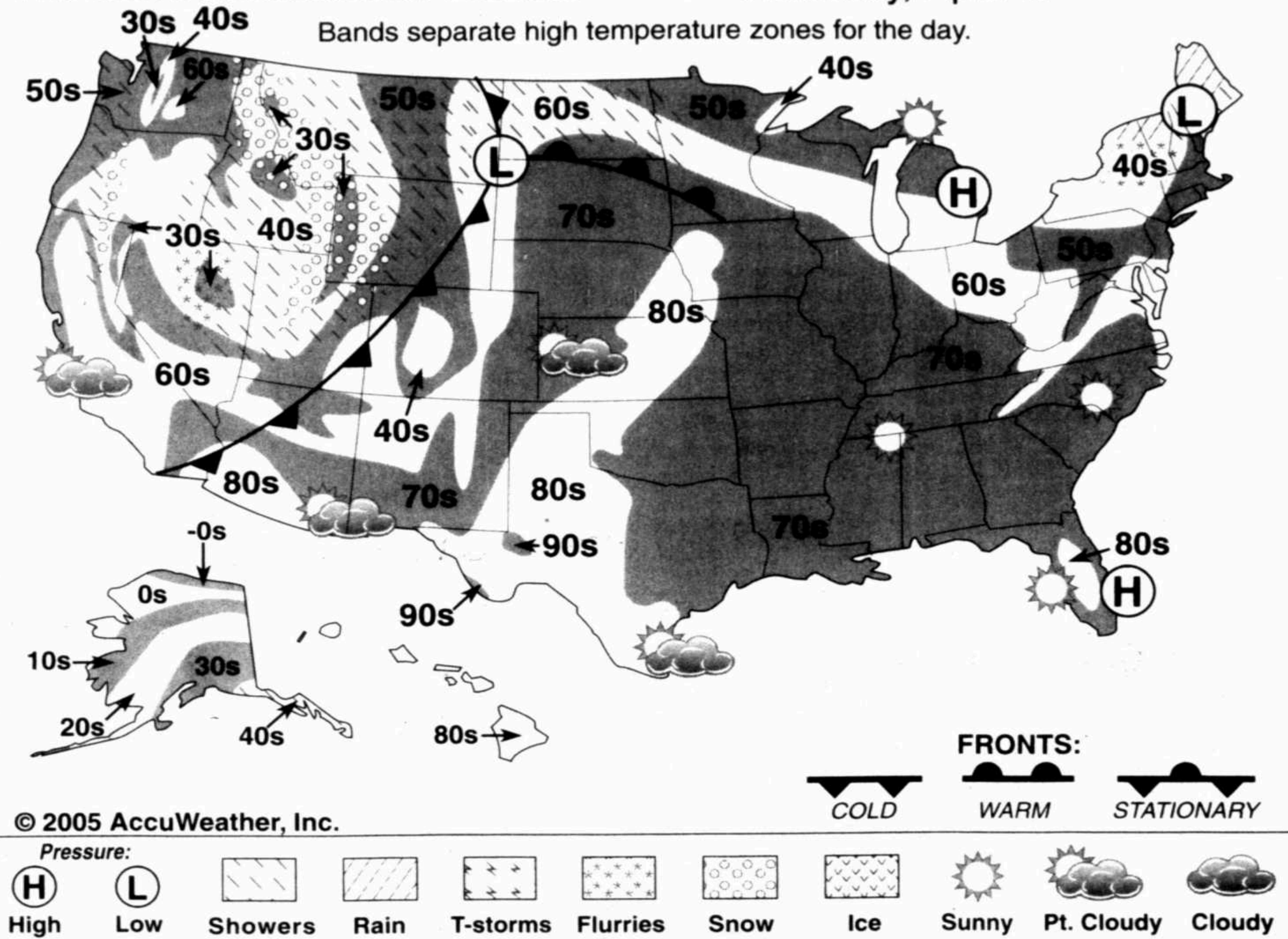
Yesterday's temperatures

High 79
Low 47
Normal high 76
Normal low 45
Sunrise ... 7:33 a.m.
Sunset ... 8:11 p.m.



National weather

The AccuWeather.com forecast for noon, Monday, April 4.



DEAR ABBY

Teacher fights
battle with
ill-mannered
students

DEAR ABBY: I work as a teacher's aide at a private religious elementary school. You would think the children here would be better mannered than most; however, I haven't found that to be true.

Rarely do I ever hear a "please" or "thank you." The other teachers and I politely remind the students to say both "please" and "thank you," but the lesson never seems to sink in. The children tell us their parents don't require such things at home, so they shouldn't have to say "please" and "thank you" or even "excuse me" at school. We have talked to these parents, and they side with their children. What else can we do? — STUNNED IN SACRAMENTO

DEAR STUNNED: What else can you do? Talk to the children in terms of their own self-interest. Tell them words like "please," "thank you" and "excuse me" are magic words with great power. People who hear them are far more inclined to accommodate the person who uses these words than someone who doesn't.

Parents who fail to teach their children basic good manners do their children a grave disservice because good manners and respect for others are essential for success.

DEAR ABBY: My sister and her family live in the Southwest. I live in North Carolina. Ever since their children were born, I have sent them money for birthdays and for the holidays. My husband and I were not blessed with

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Her column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.



children of our own. The adults in the family exchange cards, but not gifts.

We have decided that when the nieces and nephews reach the age of 18, we would like to stop sending them money. We are not terribly close, but I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. My nephew will soon be 18. Any suggestions? — AUNT MOLLY

DEAR AUNT MOLLY: It is not uncommon to stop sending gifts when younger relatives reach adulthood. Look at it this way: Gift-giving puts a burden on young people, too, because they often can't afford to reciprocate, or they aren't particularly close to the sender.

Send your nephew a nice card for his birthday. And at

holiday time, send one gift — such as fruit or flowers — for the entire family to enjoy.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 29-year-old woman who wants very much to get married. I have been dating a wonderful man who wants to marry me. I'll call him "Byron." Byron is intelligent, kind, generous, comes from the same background I do, and shares my values. In short, he is absolutely everything I have ever dreamed of in a husband. He's not bad-looking, either.

The only problem is I feel very little physical attraction to him. It is not Byron's fault; the chemistry just isn't really there.

I am very confused. Part of me reasons that physical passion tends to fade in the years anyway, and I would be crazy to pass up a man who has so much else to offer. Another part of me feels I'm not really in love with Byron, so it would be a mistake to marry him.

What should I do? Please hurry your reply — he is waiting for an answer. — CONFUSED IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

DEAR CONFUSED: Before you discard a man who has all of the attributes you describe, I suggest you ask him to wait just a little longer. You could benefit greatly by talking this out with a counselor who, in a nonjudgmental and unbiased way, can help you to organize your priorities.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, April 4, 2005:

Others might believe that you have a hidden magic wand. You visualize and create what you want this year. Friends, associates and people in general inevitably support and encourage you on your chosen path. Network with others. Don't hesitate to expand your horizons. You also might choose to sign up for a class or two, or opt to travel. Your mental curiosity will lead you down new intellectual paths. Foreigners might play a role. If you are single, someone very different could knock on your door. Build a friendship as well as a romance. This bond could last a lifetime. If you are attached, your in-laws could play a big role in your year. Renew your perspective. Work with your sweetheart, allowing him or her to play a more expansive role in your life. **AQUARIUS** is always a friend.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ You wake up knowing what to do and what will work. Use your keen sense of direction to tap into other creative minds — nearly anything can happen if you use your resources. Adapt your plans if necessary. Tonight: Go back to the source.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ You are all business, no matter where you go or what your plans are. Your imaginative and creative touch will come out if you allow it to. Great ideas could come forth, especially if you team up with someone else. Tonight: Share great ideas.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Understand that there is always a new way

of looking at a situation if you remain receptive and open. Your creativity soars as a result. You finally make headway on any plans or projects that have been on the back burner. Tonight: Listen to others.

CANCER (June 21-July 21) ★★★★★ Understand how a partnership can enhance your financial situation. Brainstorm away, allowing an associate to have more say. You could be surprised by what happens if you let your moods come and go. Your feelings are a unique resource. Tonight: Work as a team.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ You might think you can call another's behavior, but you really can't. If you take off your rose-colored glasses, you might see this person in a whole different light. Learn to use your imagination positively. Tonight: Go along with another's plans.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Achievement, rather than playfulness, scores high on your list. Still, if you aren't doing the kind of work that makes you happy, you will never feel accomplished or fulfilled. Emphasize health or service. Tonight: Don't forget the role of exercise in your life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ You can do no wrong — nearly. Taking risks could land you in trouble, but otherwise you are on cruise control. Knowing your limits can make or break you, especially right now. Curb any wildness. Tonight: Enjoy the here and now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Work with your imagination, using this gift positively. Stop denying certain facts, and

deal with realities. If you follow this recipe, you will be heading down the path to success. Check out a purchase. It just might be perfect. Tonight: An easy night at home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ What you have harbored as a long-term wish can happen right now if you are ready to jump in. A message from a relative might force you to revise your thinking. Do just that! Tonight: Flex with the moment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Expenses could go overboard unless you are the sane and wise Capricorn. Extremes mark your relationships. You might not be seeing things as clearly as you would like. Take a leap of faith, but test the waters before you hop in. Tonight: Your treat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ You might feel as if you are walking in a dream. In some sense, you are. Listen to feedback rather than make a mistake. You are walking down an amazing path; sometimes you need a reality check. Tonight: All smiles.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★ Your intuition guides you with those in charge. Use your imagination to zero in on what is important. Try walking in someone else's shoes. Your sensitivity will help you relate. You're not always right; listen to others too. Tonight: In the limelight.

BORN TODAY
Musician Muddy Waters (1915), actor Anthony Perkins (1932), actor Robert Downey Jr. (1965)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Bidding Quiz

Q 1 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K Q 6 ♥ A Q J 9 5 2 ♦ A 6 ♣ 8 6
The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
What do you bid now?

A — The hand would be easier to handle if you had a fourth spade. With only a three-card fragment, although an excellent one, you cannot raise spades when you have such a good six-card major. Jump to three hearts.

Q 2 — Both vulnerable, you hold:
♠ K ♥ 7 6 5 3 2 ♦ A K 9 8 5 ♣ 7 5
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one club. What action do you take?

A — With two five-card suits, you would normally overcall in the higher-ranking one. Here, there is such a discrepancy between the suits that we would treat the heart suit as a four-carder and overcall one diamond. We are not fans of the Unusual No-Trump, but even if we were we would hesitate to use it here since, should the opponents buy the hand, we would hate to have

partner lead a heart.

Q 3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A Q 10 7 6 ♥ A Q 4 ♦ 3 ♣ A K 8 2
The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♠ Pass 2♥ Pass
What do you bid now?

A — Your hand is too good for an immediate heart raise. You should complete the description, starting with your four-card suit then raising hearts later. To make a jump bid immediately could steal too much bidding space. Bid three clubs.

Q 4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J ♥ K Q J 10 8 5 4 ♦ A 10 7 5 4 ♣ Void
The bidding has proceeded:
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH
1♠ 4♥ 4♠ Pass
What action do you take?

A — You made your bed when you elected to bid four hearts, now lie in it.

If partner held a reasonable hand, he could have competed, but he chose to pass. He probably has some spade length, so the enemy contract might not be a gimme.

Q 5 — Neither vulnerable, you hold:
♠ J 7 6 ♥ Q 9 3 ♦ 9 7 ♣ 9 8 6 4 3
Partner opens the bidding with two no-trump (20-22). What action do you take?

A — You have a queen and a jack and one of the worst five-card minors we have seen in years. Where do you want to go? As it is, partner will have to play from hand all the time, so even eight tricks might be too much. Pass.

Q 6 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 10 9 7 ♥ Void ♦ K J 10 9 8 5 3 ♣ K 8 6
The bidding has proceeded:
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♥ Db1 4♥ ?
What action do you take?

A — This is not really the sort of hand with which you want to defend four hearts. We would bid five diamonds. On a good day, you could make it when the opponents are cold for 10 or 11 tricks at four hearts.

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Genesis victim
- 5 Geography reference book
- 10 Roman poet
- 14 Troubadour's instrument
- 15 Tiler's filler
- 16 Went by bus
- 17 Kentucky horse country
- 20 Bagpipe sound
- 21 Complete collection
- 22 One way to be in love
- 23 Frosh, next year
- 25 Ante-er's words
- 27 Central American isthmus area
- 34 Prepare for publication
- 35 Bronzed by the sun
- 36 Sparkling crowns
- 37 2004 World Series champs, briefly
- 38 Serenades
- 40 NFL six-pointers
- 41 Christmas display
- 43 Put frosting on
- 44 Queens stadium
- 45 Oklahoma section of the Old West
- 48 Mex. miss
- 49 Nick and Nora's pet
- 50 Join forces
- 53 Informal affirmative
- 55 Van Gogh painted here
- 59 Locale surrounding the Capitol
- 62 "the Rainbow"
- 63 Marie Osmond's brother
- 64 Poet Pound
- 65 Penn who gets a lot of ink
- 66 Progresses at a boring pace
- 67 Apply crudely

DOWN

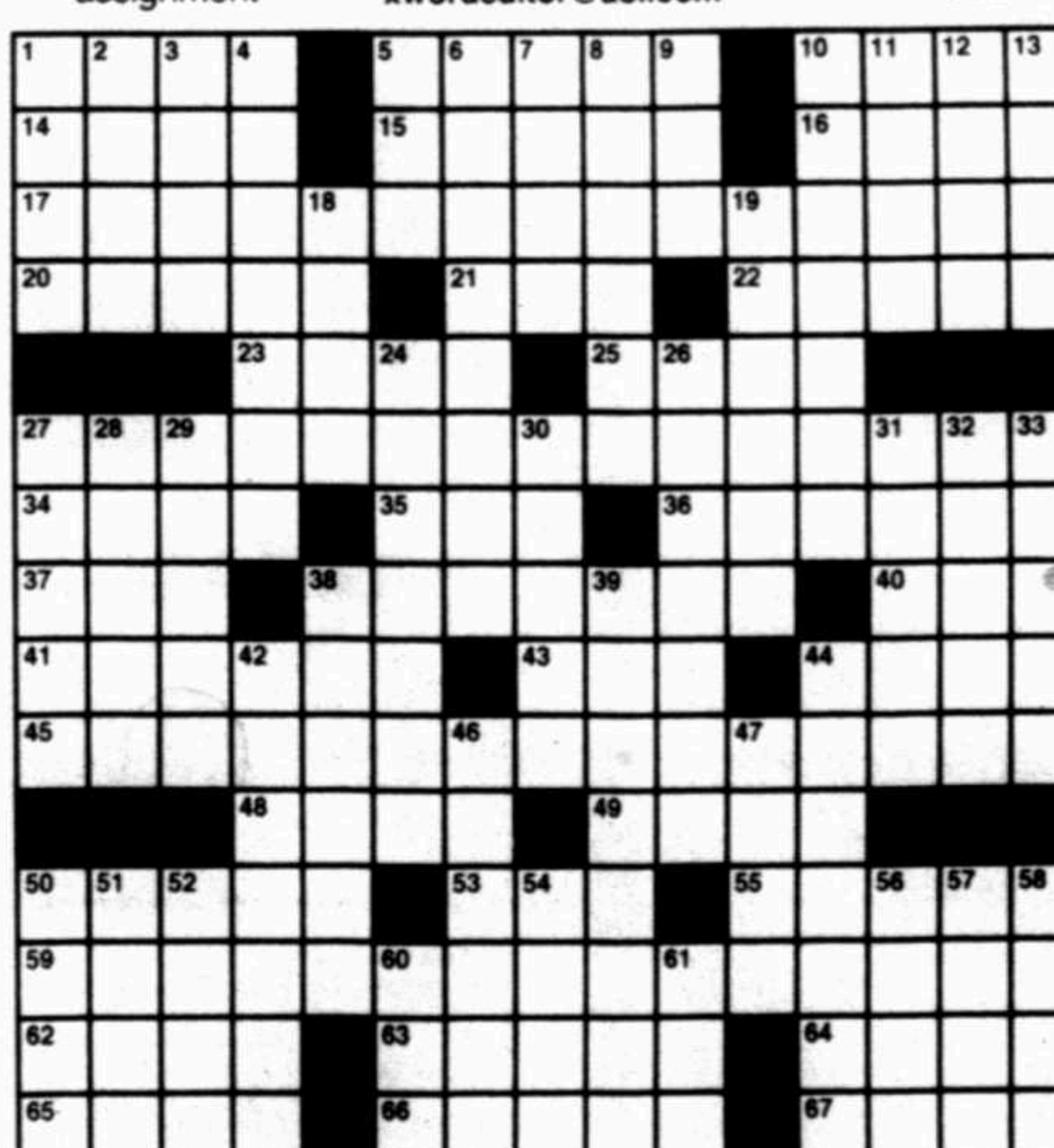
- 4 Ogles sideways
- 5 Cabinet dept. concerned with farming
- 6 Place for refuse
- 7 Diet successfully
- 8 Lone Star State capital
- 9 Orch. section
- 10 Evening dress material
- 11 Invalidate
- 12 Rolling Stone magazine subject
- 13 Refuse to admit
- 18 Steal, slangily
- 19 Actor Estevez
- 24 Doctor's customer
- 26 Is important
- 34 Prepare for publication
- 35 Bronzed by the sun
- 36 Sparkling crowns
- 37 2004 World Series champs, briefly
- 38 Serenades
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- 59 Locale surrounding the Capitol
- 62 "the Rainbow"
- 63 Marie Osmond's brother
- 64 Poet Pound
- 65 Penn who gets a lot of ink
- 66 Progresses at a boring pace
- 67 Apply crudely

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

HOPPERS RECITAL
ATISSUE INANELY
NICEONE VCRTAPE
GONUTS HEALER
ASIDE PATMORITA
RECORDER PAINED
YIELD NOTED
ESTA GREAT ROSS
REHAB SQUAD
STEROL UNZIPPED
THROWAFIT NEATO
ONEMAN JESTER
AVOIDED PASTORS
DESTINE EYELINE
EXTENTS GENESET

xwordeditor@aol.com

04/04/05



DOWN

- 1 Priestly vestments
- 2 Kind of mass mail
- 3 Needle case

By Merle Baker
(c)2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

04/04/05

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FOR GAMERS ONLY

'Gran Turismo 4' excellent vehicle simulator

By Matt Slagle
Associated Press

Ever seen the muscular profile of a Dodge Viper GTS and wondered what it would be like to slam on the gas pedal? Or are you more curious about the handling characteristics of a 1915 Ford Model T?

For answers to these and hundreds of other driving what-ifs, consider "Gran Turismo 4."

This \$50, E-rated PlayStation 2 exclusive is a car lover's dream, encyclopedic in content — and unforgivingly realistic.

There are hundreds of makes and models, from current street-legal BMW sedans to rare, historic marvels of artful engineering that would seem more at home in a museum than on the road.

The selection goes from Acura to Volvo, but there are notable exceptions: Lamborghini and Ferrari.

The physics are superb, and each vehicle handles uniquely, depending on weight, dimensions, tires and suspension.



"Gran Turismo 4"
Rated E (everyone)
Genre: driving simulator
for PlayStation 2 from Sony
\$50 list price

"Gran Turismo 4" is billed as a driving simulator, not a game. It's an important distinction.

I consider myself a good driver in real life (don't we all?) but just staying on the track was a challenge in the game.

I spent hours on individual courses (more than 50) memorizing each hill and every hairpin turn before I felt comfortable.

I tried it with Logitech's \$150 Driving Force Pro, a nifty system that includes a force-feedback steering wheel you clamp to your desk, and a separate gas and brake pedal.

While it adds to the immersion, I found the traditional controller,

though lacking in as much tactile feedback, easier to use at first.

The realism breaks down in crashes: No scratches, dents or lost hubcaps to be seen.

Before you can enjoy Gran Turismo mode — the game's true heart — you have to get a license by passing a series of tests. More advanced licenses open more cars and venues. Though rigorous, I highly recommend "taking" these exams.

The artificial intelligence remains rather dumb. They'll often ram or sideswipe you rather than braking or steering out of the way.

There's unfortunately no Internet play, but I'm willing to over-

look it because there's so much depth here. You can plug in another controller and compete head to head, and up to six players can compete on a local area network.

After races, you can watch a movie of your performance. It's a hallmark of the Gran Turismo series, and they're rendered with stunning clarity, the razor-sharp graphics showing my every bad decision.

If you have a racing ego and a USB thumb drive, you can use the new photo mode to save pictures of your performances for printing or e-mailing.

"Gran Turismo 4" has a level of difficulty and realism that will probably intimidate many casual gamers.

Car devotees, however, will find a deep, engaging game with plenty of challenge.



On the Net:
<http://gt4.playstation.com>



Healthy Living

Linking healthcare providers with clients who need them

Paid Advertising
Monday, April 4, 2005

To advertise call
Paul Wiseman at 697-7468
or your account executive.

Don't spend all your life savings paying for nursing home costs

If you are responsible for the management of the assets of someone who is currently in a nursing facility or about to enter into a nursing facility then the following information is vital to that person's financial health.

Today, one of the most stressful problems facing senior citizens who enter nursing homes is the loss of their life savings paying for their cost of care while in the nursing home.

An alternate source of funding for nursing home costs could possibly be the nursing home Medicaid program.

When entering a nursing home you have two options. The first option is a total spend-down of your life savings on nursing home costs. The second option is to be able to preserve a substantial amount of your life savings while at the same time qualifying for Medicaid benefits.

So, if you know the guidelines and how to apply them you will find that in most cases you are not required to spend all of your money, but in fact preserve a large part of it.

There is a large information gap for families on how to access long-term nursing care benefits under the Medicaid program and avoid unnecessary spend-down of resources.

At one end of the information spectrum are the social workers, discharge planners, and admission directors who focus on solutions to medical and nursing care treatment.

At the other end is the Texas Department of Human Services, with a dedicated group of Medicaid workers whose job is to process applications and to approve or

reject applicants for benefits.

As a result of this information gap, people are not able to get all of the information they need to make an informed decision about the issues concerning long-term care planning and the preservation of their estate as the guidelines might afford them.

There are many myths about Medicaid; such as Medicaid is a welfare or poverty program. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, when a stay-at-home spouse can keep up to \$2,377.50 of the total monthly income and up to \$95,100 of the total family assets (in some cases, the stay-at-home spouse is allowed to keep all of the total family assets) it's difficult to see it as a poverty program.

Spending all of your money on nursing facility costs when you don't have to is bad enough. Now in Texas an Estate Recovery Law enables the state to file a claim on

homesteads and other property to recover nursing facility costs incurred by the state (some exceptions do apply). Previously in the state of Texas, homesteads were considered an exempt asset and the Estate Recovery Law did not exist.

Proper planning to protect homesteads and other property from Estate Recovery is now an important part of nursing home financial planning. This type of planning requires someone with specialized knowledge of the ever changing long term care rules and regulations.

For more information and your free brochure, "You Do Not Have To Spend All Your Money Paying For Nursing Home Costs!" call Senior Information Services at 432-550-6800 or 866-304-6800. For more information on Senior Information Services go to: www.seniorinformationservicesmt.com

Senior Information Services is not affiliated with any state agency that determines Medicaid benefits.

This information is provided as a public service message. It is neither an advertisement nor a solicitation for the procurement of Medicaid benefits for any one to the Texas Department of Human Services.



Don Allen and his staff at Senior Information Services are ready to help you. Call them at 550-6800 today!



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Every healthcare provider has a story. Good ones include client success.

Healthcare providers offer much-needed services and products, but have unique challenges getting the word out about the help they can give. Several years ago I began partnering with the Midland Reporter-Telegram to link these providers with West Texans who need them. We call that enterprise "For Your Information: Healthy Living." Through this forum people have discovered new healthcare possibilities and healthcare businesses have found the clients they are equipped to help.

Here's how it has worked for Linda Phillips and Care Partners.

Care Partners provides home care for clients ranging from those recovering from surgery to new moms who need some rest.

People who need these services are looking for some real help.

Care Partners Administrator Linda Phillips says "Healthy Living" gets patients and family members connected

with the help they need.

"Every time we run an article on Healthy Living, we can count on our phone ringing for a week and a half," she says.

On their registration forms, Care Partners asks new clients where they learned about the company's services.

"The newspaper brings more people than anything else we do," Linda reports.



May I tell your story in Healthy Living?

Give Paul Wiseman a call at (432) 697-7468. Or, ask your Midland Reporter-Telegram advertising executive about:

Healthy Living

Linking healthcare providers with clients who need them

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• Rapid return to work and full function
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Orthopedic Surgeon

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Don't Spend All Your Life Savings Paying for Nursing Home Costs.

Fact: Little known or used Medicare provisions make it possible, in many cases, to preserve a significant amount of your life savings. For a free brochure on "HOW LONG WILL YOUR MONEY LAST" call Senior Information Services of the Permian Basin at 432-550-6800 or Toll Free 866-304-6800. This is not an insurance product.

SECTION C

Monday, April

Harv

By Jenna Fry
Associated Press

BRISTOL, Tenn. — was sulking at home coming to the track.

His car owner would listen that against Harvick's the committee of the unyielding.

Unable to win it vick and his Rich ing team scored t mattered on the r Harvick broke streak Sunday in t tol Motor Speedw and the entire te March 13 cheating "I think both o far at some point i to learn how to g "I think that is on really good at — than they were b "So this was a l

Lad top

By Chuc
Associated

INDIAN among the determined

The Lad end of their be told on champions

Baylor got tributions fr LSU 68-57 for a progr the worst i

"Wow!" just beat. Mulkey-R misty-eyed fists up to th

The Lad brought a scandal in a 19-game NCAA wor day night, game betw and Final I

LSU (33 nament, ju Lady Bears Lady Tiger then built wilt again.

"We hav don't alway LSU coach did enough beat in exe

Baylor f 2 zone that who held outscored largest in a rallied from

Mic

By Tom
Associated

INDIAN to national way over L

The Spa the second to upset T ting up a ti ly champi "This te State coac



SPORTS

Harvick triumphs at Bristol

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Kevin Harvick's crew chief was sulking at home, forbidden by NASCAR from coming to the track after he was caught cheating.

His car owner was complaining to anyone who would listen that the penalties NASCAR levied against Harvick's team were too severe, and the committee that denied his appeal was unyielding.

Unable to win its case in court, Harvick and his Richard Childress Racing team scored the only victory that mattered on the race track.

Harvick broke a 55-race winless streak Sunday in the Food City 500 at Bristol Motor Speedway, a victory that pulled Childress and the entire team out from the embarrassing March 13 cheating scandal.

"I think both of us have been beat down pretty far at some point in our racing careers and you have to learn how to get out of a hole," Harvick said. "I think that is one thing that RCR has always been really good at — they always come back stronger than they were before."

"So this was a huge statement made by our race

team, and you don't have to say anything else."

It's been a long three weeks for the RCR team since crew chief Todd Berrier got caught rigging Harvick's fuel tank to appear full when it actually wasn't during qualifying at Las Vegas.

NASCAR called it blatant cheating and suspended Berrier for four races and fined him \$25,000. Harvick was also docked 25 points in the standings and Childress immediately appealed.

Calling Berrier's suspension too long and Harvick's point reduction unjust, he went before an appeals committee earlier this week.

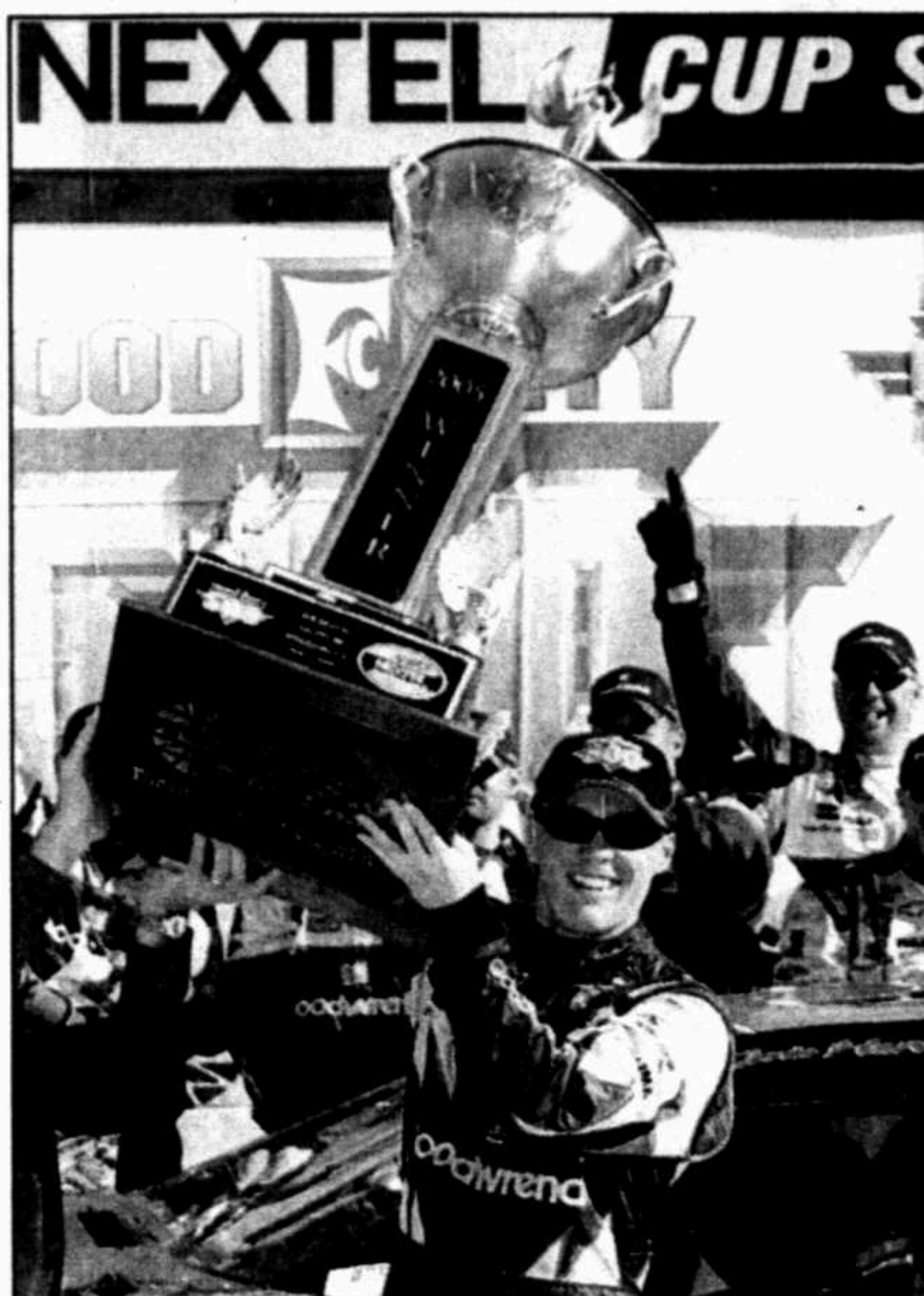
He was denied.

So Childress and the team moved on to Bristol with a chip on their shoulder.

Childress, who used to be a regular atop the late Dale Earnhardt's pit box, decided to climb back on this week to coach Harvick in a show of solidarity for the team. It was the owner's first time

Please see **BRISTOL/2C**

OVERCOMING A SCANDAL Kevin Harvick hoists the trophy in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Food City 500 race at Bristol Motor Speedway in Bristol, Tenn., on Sunday.
Chuck Burton/AP



Chaps first at WJCAC Tournament

From staff reports

RUIDOSO, N.M. — The Midland College men's golf team completed a successful weekend at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Golf Club by winning the WJCAC Tournament by 22 strokes.

Midland College finished with a 272-291-286-849 total to finish ahead of Odessa College, which shot a 299 in the final round for an 871 total. Scottsdale (Ariz.) Community College was third with an 874.

"This was an outstanding tournament for our team," said MC coach Delnor Poss.

Please see **CHAPS/2C**



NCAA Women's Final Four

Two for the Title

Lady Bears upset top-ranked LSU

By Chuck Schoffner
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Baylor's comeback ranked among the best in Final Four history. Its defense was determined and incredibly stingy.

The Lady Bears were simply better — and now the end of their remarkable, uplifting redemption story will be told on the final night of the season in the national championship game.

Baylor got 21 points from Sophia Young and major contributions from Emily Niemann and Abiola Wabara to beat LSU 68-57 Sunday night in an impressive Final Four debut for a program that not long ago was the worst in the Big 12.

"Wow! That's a good team we just beat," said coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson, who looked misty-eyed as she pumped two fists up to the roaring Baylor fans.

The Lady Bears (32-3) have brought a new feeling of pride to a campus stained by scandal in the men's basketball program. They'll take a 19-game winning streak — the longest one going in NCAA women's basketball — into the title game Tuesday night, when they meet the winner of Sunday's late game between six-time national champion Tennessee and Final Four newcomer Michigan State.

LSU (33-3), seeded No. 1 overall in the NCAA tournament, jumped out to an early 15-point lead but the Lady Bears came storming back to tie it at halftime. The Lady Tigers, who looked restless at times on offense, then built a six-point lead in the second half, only to wilt again.

"We have a quote in our locker room that says you don't always get what you want, you get what you earn," LSU coach Pokey Chatman said. "I don't think our kids did enough to earn it. We got beat in the paint, we got beat in execution and that right there was the ballgame."

Baylor frustrated LSU to such an extent with its 3-2 zone that only four players scored for the Lady Tigers, who held their own on the boards but still got outscored 32-24 inside. The comeback was the second-largest in a Final Four game. Only Notre Dame, which rallied from 16 down to beat Connecticut in the 2001

Please see **BAYLOR/2C**



MOVING ON Baylor's Abiola Wabara celebrates with Sophia Young (33) after Baylor defeated Louisiana State 68-57 in a national semifinal game at the NCAA Women's Final Four on Sunday in Indianapolis.

Michael Conroy/AP

Michigan State rallies from 16 down to beat Lady Vols

By Tom Withers
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Michigan State's climb to national prominence took the Spartans all the way over Rocky Top.

The Spartans rallied from a 16-point deficit in the second half — tying a Final Four record — to upset Tennessee 68-64 on Sunday night, setting up a title game with Baylor, another unlikely championship contender.

"This team has the heart of a lion," Michigan State coach Joanne P. McCallie said, her play-

ers bouncing and hugging with wide-eyed looks of disbelief on their faces.

Trailing 45-29 with 16:02 left, Michigan State wouldn't quit and finally caught the Lady Vols at 62-62 on two free throws by Victoria Lucas-Perry with 1:20 left. Moments later, Michigan State point guard Kristin Haynie made a steal and layup to put the Big Ten champions ahead.

Tennessee's Loree Moore then tied it with a runner in the lane, but Spartans senior center Kelli Roehrig scored underneath to make it 66-64 with 35 seconds to play.

The Lady Vols (30-5) then missed a 3-point-

er and two inside shots before the ball dropped in the hands of Roehrig, who fed Lucas-Perry for a layup with 2.7 seconds left to complete the remarkable comeback.

The Spartans' last two baskets were their only fast-break points of the night.

Michigan State's rally tied the largest in Final Four history. In 2001, Notre Dame came back from 16 down to beat Connecticut. But the Spartans didn't pull off the night's only jaw-dropping return to life: Baylor had to overcome a 15-point deficit in the game before to take out overall No. 1 seed LSU.



Yankees defeat Red Sox to open season

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The tallest Yankee ever began the big task of putting the Boston Red Sox back in their place.

Randy Johnson shut down Boston in his New York debut, dominating his new team's old rival. He outpitched David Wells, got help from Hideki Matsui and a rejuven-

OUT New York Yankees second baseman Tony Womack, top, turns a double play at second base as he forces out Boston Red Sox' Johnny Damon on Sunday in New York.
Frank Franklin II/AP

ated Jason Giambi and led the Yankees over the World Series champions 9-2 Sunday night in the major league opener.

Already, there were bad omens for the Red Sox: Matsui leaped in left to rob Kevin Millar of a two-run homer in the third, Giambi stretched to reel in two bad throws by shortstop Derek Jeter, Alex Rodriguez made a diving stop at third on Edgar Renteria, and Tino Martinez made a backhand dive at first to prevent an extra-base hit by Johnny Damon.

By the time Matsui hit a two-run homer off Matt Mantei for a 8-1 lead in the eighth, it was almost piling on.

With Boston taking the field as cham-

pions for the first time in 86 years, the Red Sox returned to the scene of their improbable triumph staring directly at the 6-foot-10 Big Unit, brought to the Bronx to help the Yankees win their first title since 2000.

Giambi, back at first base following injury, illness and a reported admission of steroid use, received a pair of standing ovations from the sellout crowd of 54,818 and went 1-for-2 with a single and two hit-by-pitches.

Gary Sheffield, back from offseason shoulder surgery, hit a go-ahead single in a three-run third inning against Wells, and Martinez received two huge ovations in his first game in pinstripes since 2001.

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LOOKING FOR A TITLE North Carolina head coach Roy Williams speaks during a press conference at the Final Four as players Raymond Felton, center, and Jackie Manuel, right, listen on Sunday in St. Louis. North Carolina beat Michigan State 87-71 Saturday in the semifinals and will face Illinois Monday for the national championship.

Title game not 'must-win' for Williams

By Jim Litke
AP Sports Columnist

ST. LOUIS — There is no such thing as a must-win game.

Keep that in mind when somebody carries on about how much Roy Williams needs to win the national championship when his North Carolina team faces Illinois. By the same token, nobody who's owned a television set the past 15 years should question how much Williams wants to win.

He would love to do it for the people of the state he grew up in, and for the program that gave him his first break. He'd love to win for the mother who took a second job ironing shirts in her home so Williams would have enough change in his pocket to join the rest of the kids in the neighborhood for a soda after playing basketball.

Williams would love to win it for all the young men who played their hearts out for him, all those assistants who worked long hours to prepare him, and for Dean Smith and everybody else who ever mentored him. He would love to win because he would finally have the "W" that would validate the 469 that came before it.

And he would love to win it most of all because, as Williams said Sunday for what seemed like the millionth time, "if we don't win, it puts a heck of a lot more pressure on old Roy."

No. Just remember what Marv Levy said after arriving at the Super Bowl for the fourth consecutive year, on the heels of three straight losses by his Buffalo Bills. When a reporter asked if those made No. 4 a must-win game, Levy replied calmly and with flawless logic.

"No," he said. "World War II was a must win."

The only problem with the line, as Williams' odyssey winds its way through a fifth Final Four, is that it's already been used.

BAYLOR

(From 1C)

semifinals, overcame a larger margin.

Mulkey-Robertson's message when faced with the huge deficit was simple and direct.

"Just put a little fire in your belly, have a little oomph and don't get embarrassed on national television," she said. "And take your time. We have plenty of time."

As it turned out, they did. Baylor went ahead to stay when Chelsea Whitaker, who had eight turnovers in the regional finals against North Carolina, sank two free throws for a 52-51 lead with 6:17 remaining.

Young then picked off an LSU pass into the post and Baylor capitalized with Wabara's three-point play for a 55-51 lead. When Young hit a jumper 30 seconds later, Baylor led 57-51 and the Lady Bears had the cushion they needed.

Not even national player of the year Seimone Augustus could save LSU, which got to within six in the final 90 seconds, then missed two shots, bricked a free throw and turned the ball over on its last four possessions.

"You can't ever be happy when you lose, especially on a stage like this," Augustus said.

Augustus scored 22 points but shot just 10-for-26 and took four three pointers — something she rarely does — only to miss them all. Sylvia Fowles, LSU's muscular 6-foot-5 freshman, added 13 points and 12 rebounds and Temeka Johnson had 14 points and seven assists.

But it just wasn't enough against Baylor's defense. The Lady Bears have won 76 games in a row when holding opponents under 59 points.

Niemann gave Baylor a big lift off the bench with 14 points on 5-for-7 shooting and Wabara was a difference-maker with 12 points on 4-for-6 shooting.

Commentary

Like Levy or baseball's Gene Mauch or former NBA coach Don Nelson, he's become the guy who hasn't won the big one, college basketball's version of the best player never to win a major. The label was slapped on him when Williams brought Kansas to a second Final Four in only his fifth season there, and the pressure has ramped up with every NCAA tournament appearance since.

As if that wasn't enough, he's matched against a coach, Illinois' Bruce Weber, who's here for the first time and who got his job in a chain-reaction hiring crash that began when Williams left Kansas for North Carolina. On top of that, Williams is leading a Tar Heel squad tabbed as the most talented team in the country, and that was even before the season began.

"The perception is, if we win, 'Gosh, you're supposed to win. Roy, if you couldn't win with that group, you ain't ever going to win,'" Williams said.

"I really think that's going to happen. You know, I hope it does. They can say anything they want to about me. If we win it, they're going to say, 'God, you had to have that good a team to win.'" That, he added, "is fine with me."

It's not, of course, but Williams doesn't dare say anything else. He learned that after trying to answer the question honestly the first few times. So Williams, now 55 and fast becoming a graying eminence in the profession, falls back on the same answers. Or he retells the story of how Dean Smith was 52 and in his seventh Final Four before he won it all.

"I had tears rolling down my face," Williams, who was Smith's assistant at the time, recalled Sunday. "I said, 'I'm so happy because it was those people up."

"And he said, 'I'm not that much better a coach now than I was two and a half hours ago.' You sit back and think about it, and he really wasn't."

Even without a title, Williams has Hall of Fame credentials and enough testimonials to paper the wall of his office. His reconstruction job at North Carolina has been nothing short of brilliant, taking over a team that was 8-20 in the final season of Matt Doherty's brief, turbulent tenure and putting it back in the Final Four.

"The program is here to stay as long as Roy Williams is in charge," Smith said earlier this week. "There's no NCAA violations, so he's done it the right way. He does work himself too hard. He flies out any open day he has to visit a prospect's home, during the time you can. But I'm just so happy for him and the team."

And Smith is not the only one. More than one of the coaches he's beat somewhere along the NCAA tournament road, from Lute Olson to Mike Krzyzewski, have made him their sentimental favorite. Three years ago, he played Syracuse and Jim Boeheim, another guy who hadn't won the big one, and still drew the short end of the straw.

To change his luck in tournaments past, Williams has ordered the team bus stopped to spit in the Mississippi River. He's stopped off, too, to pat the gravestone of basketball inventor Dr. James Naismith and even showed up at meetings with a stuffed monkey draped across his shoulders so his players could pull it off his back.

They get one more chance to do that Monday night.

"There's only so much a coach can do, even coach Williams. He can sweat and get nervous all he wants," Carolina guard Rashad McCants said, "but it's always going to be up to us."

They tied it at 28 at halftime, only to fall behind 47-41 when Johnson, LSU's supercharged 5-foot-3 point guard, drove for a basket midway through the second half. But the Lady Bears answered quickly.

"It's always good to take momentum into the locker room, especially when we had the kind of start we did," Niemann said.

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Lady Rebels take second in Abilene

From staff reports

ABILENE — The Lee girls took second at the All-American City Classic on Friday, scoring 79 points to finished six points ahead of third-place Odessa High.

The Lady Rebels received a pair of gold-medal performances. Christina Rountree was first in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.11 seconds, while Dale Wilson won the mile run with a time of 5:26.73.

CHAPS

(From 1C)

whose team shot a tournament course record 272 on Saturday. "(On Sunday) the wind got up a bit but we were still able to shoot a 2-under par 286 in the final round. We've been working a lot on our drivers tee shots and it really paid off in this tournament."

OC's Blake Parks was the medalist with a 212 total, two strokes behind teammate Ryan Valley and Chap golfers Honeck

Kristen Sydnor (800-meter run) and Lacy Hill (discus) each turned in third-place finishes for Lee, which placed second in both the 800-meter and mile relays.

Every team in District 3-5A was represented at the meet. The Lady Rebels finished ahead of all of them, including Midland High, which took sixth with 42 points.

Both teams head to Plainview on Friday before competing at the district meet April 14-15 at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa.

"There's still a lot of things changing in two weeks time," Lee girls track coach Randy Smith said. "We'll just keep working and see what happens when we go over there for district."

The Lady Bulldogs boasted two athletes who took home silver medals — pole vaulter Shannon Arnold and discus thrower Stephanie Fitts. Jenny Maynard finished third in the 300-meter hurdles, while Midland High was third in the mile relay.

WJCAC Tournament

Final results

Inn of the Mountain Gods Golf Club

Ruidoso, N.M.

Team scores — 1. Midland College 272-291-286-849; 2. Odessa College 283-289-299-871; 3. Scottsdale (Ariz.) C.C. 293-291-290-874; 4. New Mexico Junior College 299-302-311-912; 5. New Mexico Military Institute 316-306-320-942; 6. Midland College II 310-300-309-919; 7. Midland College III 310-300-309-919; 8. Midland College IV 310-300-309-919; 9. Midland College V 310-300-309-919; 10. Midland College VI 310-300-309-919; 11. Midland College VII 310-300-309-919; 12. Midland College VIII 310-300-309-919; 13. Midland College IX 310-300-309-919; 14. Midland College X 310-300-309-919; 15. Midland College XI 310-300-309-919; 16. Midland College XII 310-300-309-919; 17. Midland College XIII 310-300-309-919; 18. Midland College XIV 310-300-309-919; 19. Midland College XV 310-300-309-919; 20. Midland College XVI 310-300-309-919; 21. Midland College XVII 310-300-309-919; 22. Midland College XVIII 310-300-309-919; 23. Midland College XIX 310-300-309-919; 24. Midland College XX 310-300-309-919; 25. 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SPORTS SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Major Leagues

Standings

American League

East Division

W	L	Pct	GB
New York	1	0.000	0
Baltimore	0	0.000	1/2
Tampa Bay	0	0.000	1/2
Toronto	0	0.000	1/2
Boston	0	0.000	1

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	0	0.000	0
Cleveland	0	0.000	0
Detroit	0	0.000	0
Kansas City	0	0.000	0
Minnesota	0	0.000	0

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	0	0.000	0
Oakland	0	0.000	0
Seattle	0	0.000	0
San Diego	0	0.000	0
Texas	0	0.000	0

Sunday's scores

N.Y. Yankees 5, Boston 2

Monday's games

Kansas City (Lima 13-5) at Detroit (Bonderman 11-13), 12:05 p.m.

Oakland (Zito 11-11) at Baltimore (Lopez 14-9), 2:05 p.m.

Cleveland (Westbrook 14-9) at Tampa Bay (Brazelton 6-8), 3:15 p.m.

Minnesota (Radke 11-8) at Seattle (Moyer 7-13), 4:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Sunday's games

No games scheduled.

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N.Y. Mets (P. Martinez 16-9) at Cincinnati (P. Wilson 11-6), 1:10 p.m.

Washington (L. Hernandez 11-15) at Philadelphia (Lee 14-9), 2:05 p.m.

San Diego (W. Williams 11-8) at Colorado (Kennedy 9-7), 3:05 p.m.

Chicago Cubs (C. Zambrano 16-8) at Arizona (Vazquez 14-10), 4:10 p.m.

YANKEES 9, RED SOX 2

BOSTON

ab r h bi
Damon 4 0 0 0
Rienks 4 0 0 0
Mirmir 4 0 0 0
Ortiz 4 1 0 0
Muller 1 2 0 0
Varek 4 0 0 0
Payton 1 0 0 0
Nixon 0 0 0 0
Muller 3 0 0 0
Bilhorn 2 0 0 0

Totals 32 2 6 2 Totals 38 9 15 7
010 000 001 — 2
New York 002 003 — 9

Giambi (1) DP—Boston 7, New York 1. LOB—Boston 7, New York 14.

2B—Ortiz (1), Vaneek (1), Belhorn (1), Jeter (1), Sheffield (1), Sierra (1), Posada (1), HR—Matsu (1), SB—Jeter (1), Womack (1), SF—Nixon, BWilliams.

IP H R ER BB SO
Boston 4.0 10 9 2 3 4 1 4
Miyers 2.0 3 0 0 0 0 0
Neal 1.3 1 1 2 1 2 1
Embre 2.3 1 0 0 1 0 1
Timlin 1.1 0 0 0 0 0 0
Mante 1.0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Halama 1.3 1 0 0 0 0 0
New York 4.0 10 9 2 3 4 1 4
Johnson 4.0 10 9 2 3 4 1 4

PGA

BellSouth Classic

Sunday

At TPC at Sugarloaf

Purse: \$5 million
Yardage: 7,293; Par: 72 (36-36)

Partial Second Round

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GOLF

Paul Claxton

73-72—145
Onir Uresti 71-74—145
Glen Hnatuk 73-72—145
Mathias Gronberg 74-72—146
Rocco Mediate 74-72—146
John Badstuber 72-74—146
Brendan Jones 69-77—146
Casey Wittenberg 75-71—146
Franklin Langham 74-72—146
Heath Simons 73-73—146
Bil Andrus 75-72—146
Hidemichi Tanaka 71-76—147
Cameron Smith 72-75—147
Brendan Pappas 75-72—147
Doug Barron 74-73—147
John Carter 74-73—147
James Driscoll 74-73—147
Scott Gutschewski 78-69—147
Tjaart van der Walt 75-72—147
Craig Barlow 73-74—147
Brian Sabatini 75-72—147
Carl Paulson 75-72—147
Cameron Beckman 74-73—147
Kenny Perry 72-72—147
Duffy Waldorf 76-72—147
Charlie Wi 73-73—147
Roland Thaler 72-74—147
J.P. Hayes 74-73—147
Steve Hays 73-76—147
Michael Allen 76-73—147
Lee Janzen 78-72—147
Daniel Chopra 77-73—150
Steve Allan 77-73—150
Chris Fowler 73-70—150
Angel Cabrera 77-74—151
John Rollins 79-72—151
Matt Kuchar 77-74—151
David Hearn 72-71—151
Spike McNary 76-75—151
Kent Jones 79-72—151
Mark Wilson 75-76—151
Matt Davis 72-71—151
Dannys Briggs 78-73—151
Brendan Hughes 81-71—152
John Browne 79-73—152
Rob Rusk 79-73—152
Stephen Donaldson 75-78—152
Niclas Fasth 79-74—153
Ian Gault 79-74—153
Ignacio Garcia 77-76—153
Stephen Scallan 74-79—153
Glen Day 79-75—154
Hank Kuethne 78-76—154
Jeff Hart 77-77—154
Chris Fowler 80-78—154
Billy Jack 77-81—154

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BASEBALL

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New York	1	0.000	0
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Tampa Bay	0	0.000	1/2
Toronto	0	0.000	1/2
Boston	0	0.000	1

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	0	0.000	0
Cleveland	0	0.000	0
Detroit	0	0.000	0
Kansas City	0	0.000	0
Minnesota	0	0.000	0

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	0	0.000	0
Oakland	0	0.000	0
Seattle	0	0.000	0
San Diego	0	0.000	0
Texas	0	0.000	0

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NATIONAL LEAGUE

Sunday's games

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Today's games

Milwaukee (Sheets 12-14) at Pittsburgh (C. Perez 12-10), 12:35 p.m.

N.Y. Mets (P. Martinez 16-9) at Cincinnati (P. Wilson 11-6), 1:10 p.m.

Washington (L. Hernandez 11-15) at Philadelphia (Lee 14-9), 2:05 p.m.

Federer wins Nasdaq-100 title

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. (AP) — Roger Federer waited until late in the third set Sunday to unleash his most forceful forehand, raising the racket and slamming it to the hardcourt at his feet.

This was the winner of the ATP Tour sportsmanship award, on the ropes and pitching a fit in the final of the Nasdaq-100 Open.

The outburst seemed to help. Twice two points from defeat, the top-ranked Federer rallied for his fifth tournament title this year, beating 18-year-old Rafael Nadal 2-6, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (5), 6-3, 6-1.

"I was missing one opportunity after the other," Federer said. "I really felt like I was climbing uphill all the time, and I just had enough. So I threw my racket hard. Maybe it did me good and I kind of woke up. Who knows?"

Facing the stylish Federer, Nadal showed up with a flashy outfit and game to match. He led 4-1 in the third set and 5-3 in the ensuing tiebreaker, but Federer's shots became more accurate and aggressive as he overtook a tiring Nadal in the 3-hour, 43-minute marathon.

The performance by Nadal, the youngest men's finalist in tournament history, was no fluke. The left-hander was a Davis Cup hero in Spain's victory over the United States last December, and he'll be among the favorites at this year's French Open — and future major events as well.

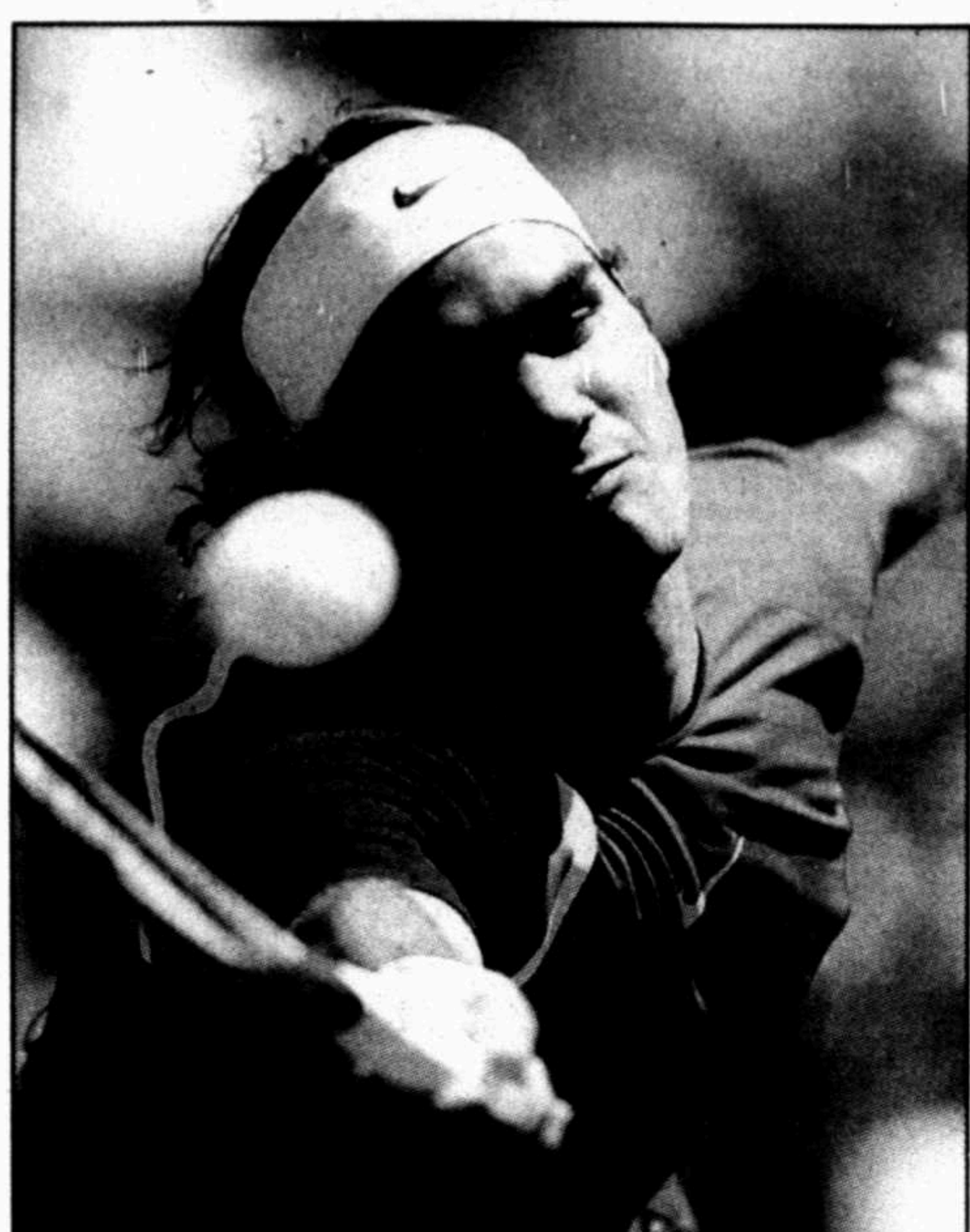
"For me this was a big match," Federer said, "because I know what a great player he will be one day."

An upset would have been a streak-snapper: Federer has won 22 consecutive matches this year, and 18 consecutive finals since July 2003. Like Kim Clijsters, who beat Maria Sharapova in the women's final Saturday, he earned his first Key Biscayne title.

"It was extremely close," he said. "I consider myself lucky to get through."

Wearing white clamdiggers, an orange sleeveless shirt and a white bandanna, the No. 29-seeded Nadal appeared ready for a day at the beach. And he made the match look like one at first.

The Spaniard's deep groundstrokes with heavy topspin left Federer hitting balls chest high behind the baseline, and the result was a rash of mistakes by the four-time Grand Slam champion. He finished with 74



Steve Mitchell/AP

LUNGING ATTEMPT Roger Federer of Switzerland hits a return to Rafael Nadal of Spain during the Men's Singles Final at the Nasdaq 100 Open, Sunday at Key Biscayne, Fla.

unforced errors, but only 18 in the final two sets.

Nadal passed Federer repeatedly, kept him off balance with high-kicking 110 mph serves and showed jaw-dropping athleticism as he yanked winners crosscourt or down the line from either corner. The capacity crowd loved it, especially when Nadal punctuated his best shots with a leap and an uppercut.

Federer was less enchanted. When he shanked an overhead to fall behind 5-4 in the third set, he slammed his racket to the concrete — a routine display for many players, but a rarity for the serene Swiss.

"Of course it's surprising to see Federer throw his racket," Nadal said. "It makes you think you're closer to victory, because he's frustrated."

Nadal was two points from the championship in the next game, and again in the third-set tiebreaker before Federer won four consecutive points, the first on an 18-stroke rally, to save the set.

From there, Federer settled into his characteristic groove.

"I just started to relax and took a freer swing at it," he said. "Somehow the points turned out differently."

He won the last six games. When a weary Nadal dumped his final shot in the net, Federer threw a roundhouse punch in jubilation.

Nadal was annoyed afterward about a line call that kept him from taking a love-40 lead with Federer serving at 3-4 in the third set. TV replays showed the ruling should have gone Nadal's way, but instead the score went to 15-30 and Federer won the next three points to hold.

Still, Nadal said Federer deserved credit for the comeback.

"He is the No. 1, no?" Nadal said. Federer overcame a two-set deficit for the third time in his career. The five-setter was the tournament's first since 1985, the year it began.

Federer improved to 32-1 this year, the best start on the men's tour since John McEnroe was 39-0 in 1984. He's 48-1 since the start of the U.S. Open, with his lone loss to Marat Safin in the Australian Open semifinals.

He earned \$533,350 for this title and became the first seeded man to win the Key Biscayne championship since Pete Sampras in 1994. Nadal made \$266,675.

Mickelson in contention after three rounds

DULUTH, Ga. (AP) — Tiger Woods, Vijay Singh and Ernie Els skipped the BellSouth Classic to focus on the Masters. Not Phil Mickelson.

Tuning up for his Masters defense, Mickelson shot a 7-under 65 on Sunday to move within a stroke of leader Scott McCarron with one round to play in the rain-delayed BellSouth Classic.

McCarron, the 1997 and 2001 winner at the TPC at Sugarloaf, shot his second straight 69 for a 6-under 138 total on the Greg Norman-designed course.

Mickelson, the No. 4 player in the world and a two-time winner this season, had the best round of the tournament as conditions improved with sun, temperatures in the low 60s and wind of 15-20 mph. He holed a 26-yard pitch for eagle on the 310-yard, par-4 13th, and had six birdies and a bogey in the round.

"I love playing the week before a major and I love how this tournament has set the course up as close as Augusta as possible," Mickelson said.

"The greens are the same, the areas around the greens are the same. I think that it's a great place to start hitting the shots that I will need to hit at the Masters." Mickelson opened the day tied for 61st after a 74 on Saturday in the opening round that was plagued by rain, sleet, snow and 40 mph wind. Rain washed out play on Thursday and Friday, forcing PGA Tour officials to shorten the tournament to 54 holes and push the finish back to Monday.

"I knew I needed to do something. I was fortunate to be able to do it and at least have a chance going into tomorrow," Mickelson said. "Being within one of the lead heading into tomorrow should be a fun opportunity to try to win this tournament."

Jose Maria Olazabal (69) and first-round co-leader Billy Mayfair (69) matched Mickelson at 5 under, and Aron Oberholser (68), Tag Ridings (68), Brian Bateman (68), Joey Snyder III (69) and Rich Beem (70) were 4 under.

Two-time U.S. Open champion Retief Goosen (69) was 3 under in a group that included defending champion Zach Johnson (66).

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305 Job Services
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312 Professional Help
314 Clerical Help
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318 Oil Industry Help
319 Skilled Trades
320 Employment Wanted
325 Adult Care Needed
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AIRLINE MOBILE HOME
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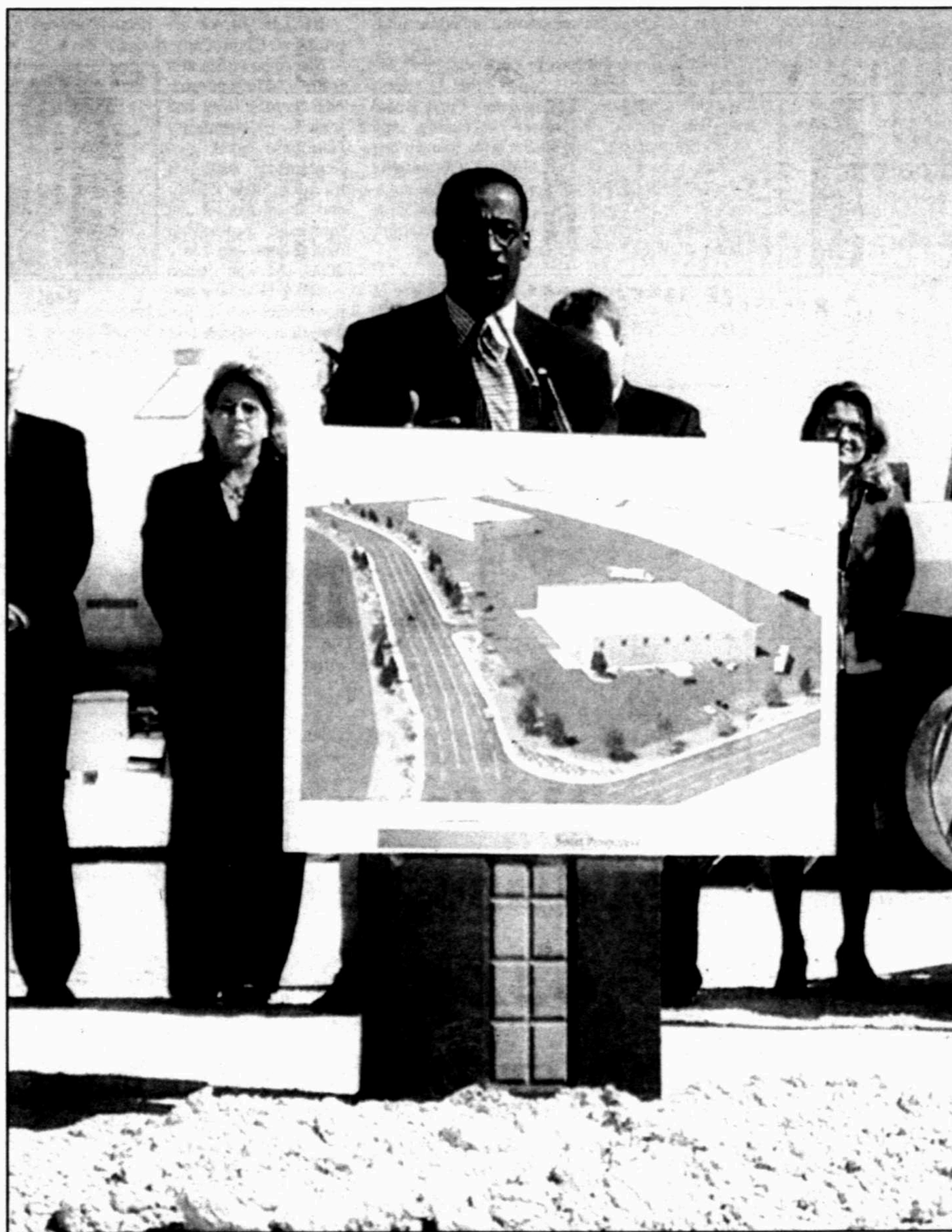
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Your Business

A Publication of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and the Midland Chamber of Commerce



APRIL 2005



John James, president of the Midland Development Corporation, gives remarks at last month's groundbreaking for Building A at Entrada Enterprise Park near Midland International Airport.

courtesy/Midland Chamber of Commerce

Officials say new building at Entrada Enterprise Park is good investment

By Mella McEwen

Taxpayers may wonder about the wisdom of spending approximately \$2.88 million on land, construction and utilities for a building at Midland International Airport that does not yet have a tenant.

Economic development officials say the new 40,000 square foot building now under construction in the new Entrada Enterprise Park is indeed a wise move.

John James, president of the Midland Development Corporation, said the building, financed by the three-year-old economic development tax, is just as much a part of economic development as creating new jobs.

The ED tax, he said, enabled the MDC to learn what was needed to get ready for economic development.

"We need to understand where properties are, where the infrastructure is. We have to have buildings ready without a company set to move in," he said, adding that he sees the investment in the building as generating a return from the ED tax just as much as bringing in new businesses or helping existing businesses expand.

Being ready to accommodate a new business is just one reason for proceeding with the building, said Blake Wallace, vice president for economic development with the Midland Chamber of Commerce.

"Business issues in place today aren't the same as in the past," he observed. "Today, to be competitive, you have to move so quickly that if you don't have a facility in place with all that a company wants, you miss that opportunity."

Secondly, he said, the new Building A at Entrada Enterprise park represents an opportunity to market Midland.

"If we make this investment and have this in place, we can market it to prospects. If the building doesn't have all that they need, they may go across the street and build their own building, or they may expand and renovate this building. It gets more people in the community to look at doing business here," he said.

Thirdly, he said, the building has been designed to be flexible, able to accommodate either a warehouse and distribution center or manufacturing.

"It has a variety of uses," he said.

When ground was broken on the building in mid-March, officials said there was already interest in occupying the facility, which is expected to be completed by early fall. It is located near the Commemorative Air Force Hanger and the new Midland-Odessa National Guard readiness center with access to both Midland International Airport and Interstate 20.

N.C. Sturgeon is general contractor.

"We're very excited to have the construction under way," said Wallace.

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INSIDE:

Porter BBQ

- Best BBQ found in a box (trailer!!!)./3

McCoy's

- Five month remodeling project arrives at completion. /4

Tax Beware

- Updates in 2004-2005 taxlaw will provide a break for small businesses. /5

Economic indicators

- The Midland-Odessa economy began 2005 on strong footing, powered by a regional oil and gas economy that continues to hover in record high territory. Oil patch activity is flowing into the general economy, as illustrated by growing consumer activity. Retail sales are at or near historic highs and the housing and construction markets remain very strong. /7

Bragging rights

Have you promoted employees? Have any employees won industry awards or professional designations? Have new employees joined your company? Let Midland know by sending announcements to publicrelations@midlandtxchamber.com. Photographs are welcome as well.

"Your Business" is a monthly publication of the Midland Chamber of Commerce and the Midland Reporter-Telegram.

BUSINESS IN THE NEWS

NAME DROPPING

Patrick H. Cordero, owner of Strategic Abstract & Title in Midland and chairman of the Texas Residential Construction Commission, said for the first time ever in Texas, consumers and builders alike now have a set of standards detailing how the components of a newly built home or remodeled home should perform while under warranty.

Cordero was appointed commission chairman by Governor Rick Perry in October 2003 and leads the nine-member body in forging the rules and guidelines which must be balanced, fair and workable for both consumers and the homebuilding industry.

Cordero is not new to state leadership posts. He previously served on the state's Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund Board and the Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board. Locally, he is the founder and current president of the Midland Community Development Corp., a nonprofit affordable housing and micro loan program; board member of the Children's Community Council and operations chairman of Casa de Amigos.

The Permian Basin chapter, Texas Society of Professional Engineers, has named **STEVE DENNIS** 2004 Engineer of the Year. Dennis, a

native of Borden County, is with GSWW Inc. and holds a masters of agricultural engineering with a minor in civil engineering from Texas Tech University. Before beginning his engineering career, he volunteered for two years with the Peace Corps in Panama and served two years as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army, serving one year in South Vietnam.

He was recognized at the annual Engineer's Week banquet, where former Lieutenant Gov. Bill Ratliff addressed the chapter.

BILLIE BEAL has been promoted to vice president, Community National Bank.

She came to Stanton from Albuquerque, NM in July 1999 and joined Community National Bank in September 2001 as mortgage loan officer and supervisor of the mortgage processing department. In July 2002, she was named compliance officer and now serves as vice president, compliance officer and CRA officer.



Cordero



Dennis



Beal



A massage

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Shirley Stephenson RMT

Formerly at

Associated Massage

From brokerage to barbecue, hard work pays off for Porter

By Paul Wiseman

Your Business Correspondent

David Porter is the guy who sells barbecue from that red trailer on Andrews Highway in front of Raindance Car Wash. In May of 2003, his barbecue was mentioned in Texas Monthly magazine, which called his fare, "The best brisket in a barbecue-rich city."

Operating a barbecue business from a trailer has not been without challenges, but winning a positive mention from a statewide publication was great for Porter.

"I've always loved to cook," Porter relates, saying he was known to his high school and college friends at the cook of the group.

After putting in 13 years with a brokerage company and dealing with a number of clients who owned their own businesses, Porter decided to merge his love for cooking barbecue with the opportunity of opening his own business.

In January of 1999, he began planning how to do that. Concerned about the cost factor of opening a restaurant in a building, he decided to begin with a trailer. "That way I could go to racetracks, fairs and special events and sell barbecue wherever there was a large crowd."

The trailer was specially designed from the ground up. Porter said he started with plans for a 20-foot trailer, and it was 28 feet when he finished.

He took delivery of the trailer he is still using in January of 2000.

To finance his start up, he decided to go against conventional wisdom. "I did something I would not have advised my brokerage clients to do: I took money out of my retirement fund to start this business."

Rather than spending much time trailing the racing circuit, Porter first set up the trailer in northwest Midland, then moved to Highway 80 before landing at his current location on Andrews Highway — after working out a few issues with the city zoning department. He has been at this location about three years.

Though the trailer stays put, Porter estimates that 40 to 50 percent of his business currently comes from catering. Porter leaves the trailer in the hands of an employee and hauls the catering food and equipment to the site in his truck. He notes that some oilfield locations are so remote that he couldn't get the trailer in and out of them anyway.

The biggest challenge of selling barbecue from a trailer is the varying West Texas weather. That said, Porter says even predicting customers' response to the weather is impossible.

Sometimes everyone decides they're going to brave a rainy or windy day and get some barbecue to take back to the office or to the house. Other bad weather days are much slower.

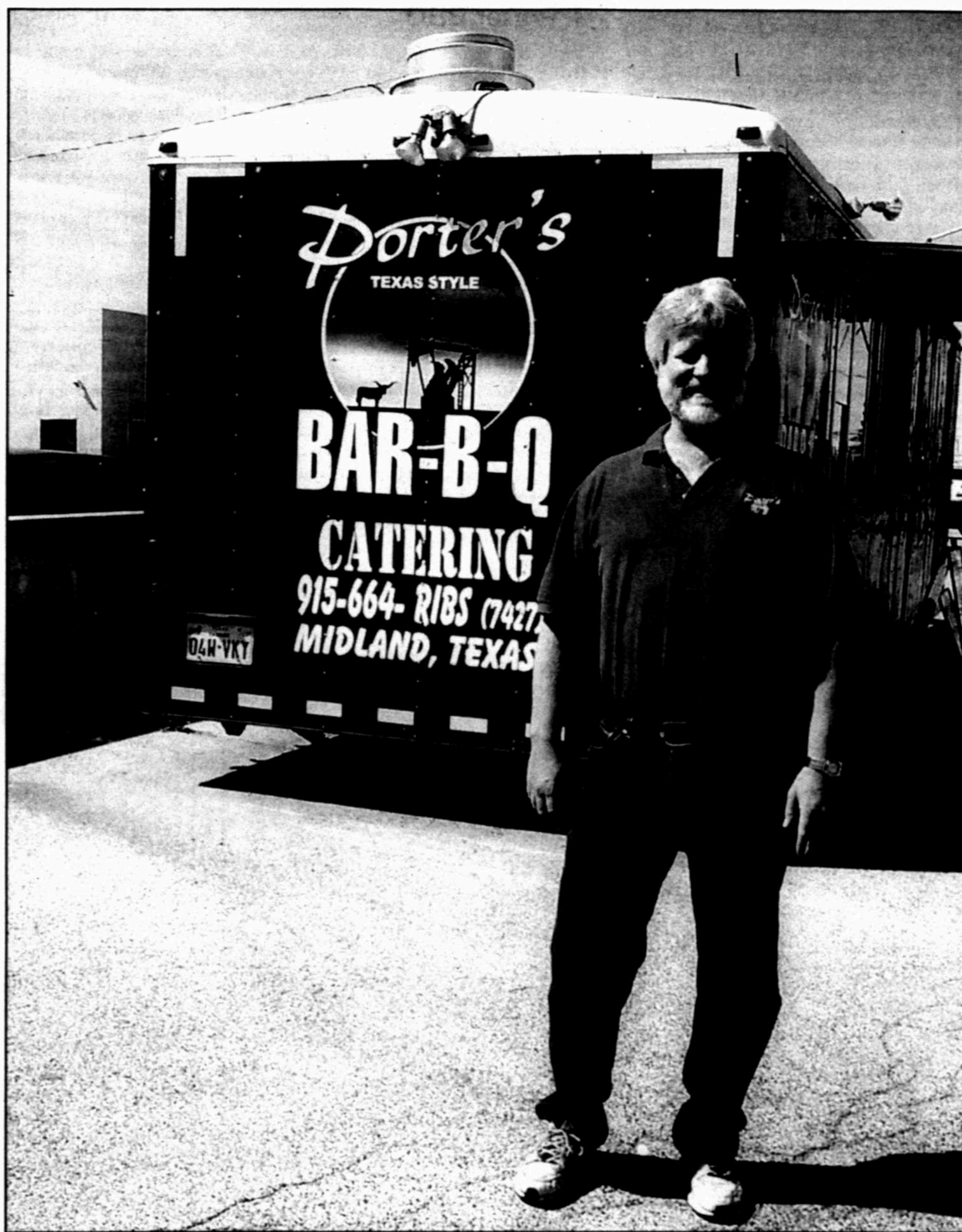
However, good weather is no better a predictor. Some sunny days are good, some aren't, Porter relates. Good days do bring a number of moms toting children — and barbecue — to the park. Other days see customers picking up brisket or ribs to take home for dinner.

The best days are Fridays, when paychecks come in. Porter does have a substantial number of regular customers, many of whom order exactly the same thing every time.

For a barbecue establishment, unpredictable business means planning for how much meat to cook is particularly hard. He tries very hard not to have any ribs left over but, "Some days my family gets a whole lot of barbecue," Porter says. "They can get tired of it."

It helps that Porter's mother was one of 11 children, meaning there are a lot of cousins among whom he can spread the gleanings. Most of the cousins help him at least cover his costs when they receive the extra food.

Having never been in business for himself before, Porter admits that it has been a learning experience for him.



Paul Wiseman

BBQ ON THE GO Proud business owner David Porter, stands in front of his "Texas Style" BBQ trailer which houses both his restaurant and catering company.

Lesson number one is the "hard work" factor.

"I never worked so hard in my life as I have since I've been working for myself," he said. The food business in particular can tie a person down quite a bit.

Also, he understands the importance of maintaining quality. "You can't drop the ball there."

Keeping the books balanced is also a key to business. "You've got to have the foresight to anticipate cash flow needs," he pointed out.

This business really can't be done alone, either, especially when catering jobs arise. "Good help always helps, too. You've got to maintain good help."

Even with the vagaries of the weather, Porter has seen

business increase every year he's been in this location. "I know that because I just finished doing my income taxes," he said.

Still, he would like to move into a building at some point. While opening up in a trailer was a solid, conservative move, Porter wonders if he would be in better position today if he had taken the bigger plunge into a building from the beginning.

A building would not only allow people to sit down, it would allow Porter to expand his menu. When asked what is the number one menu request he gets that he can't currently fulfill, he doesn't hesitate. "Iced tea," is the answer. Midland is, indeed, south of the Mason-Dixon line.

McCoy's expects to finish remodeling this month

By Paul Wiseman

Your Business Correspondent

The remodeling project at McCoy's Building Supply Center, which began in November of last year, is expected to be finished in mid-April according to store manager Jack Fisher.

"We're upgrading the store," Fisher said, adding, "This is part of a company-wide, store-by-store effort. It was our year for a complete facelift."

The facelift has included new merchandising and a new office for Fisher inside the store, as well as the addition of a 12,500 square foot drive-through warehouse in back that will house an expanded line of Priefert ranch equipment. They are also adding a tractor-trailer delivery truck with a forklift, to

deliver larger loads around the area.

Because McCoy's uses its own crew of remodelers, Fisher says the interruptions to sales traffic have been kept to a minimum. "They understand how important it is to leave the store shoppable while they're moving merchandise around." Not only that, but because they know how typical McCoy's stores are laid out, the work crews can actually help customers if needed.

Once the work crews finish the remodeling part, another crew comes in to redo the merchandising of the store. The crews work their way around the 85 stores in the McCoy's chain, which is headquartered in San Marcos, Texas. Fisher notes that the Odessa McCoy's is also getting a facelift that started about two months after his store's effort did.

While the remodeling involves some

re-merchandising and the addition of some additional lines, Fisher says the corporate bosses don't necessarily dictate what he has to carry. "They go store by store as to what each one needs. We make selections from each buying group based on what we know sells here in Midland."

When asked if this project is intended to keep up with the store's bigger competitors, Fisher replied that it was not, that McCoy's believes itself to be in a different niche than its crosstown rivals.

"We try to differentiate ourselves by giving better service and with a faster in-and-out (than competitors). At our lumber yard, you can load up out back without having to carry lumber through the front door. And, since we don't carry any lawn and garden items, we can cater more to contractors and the 'born to

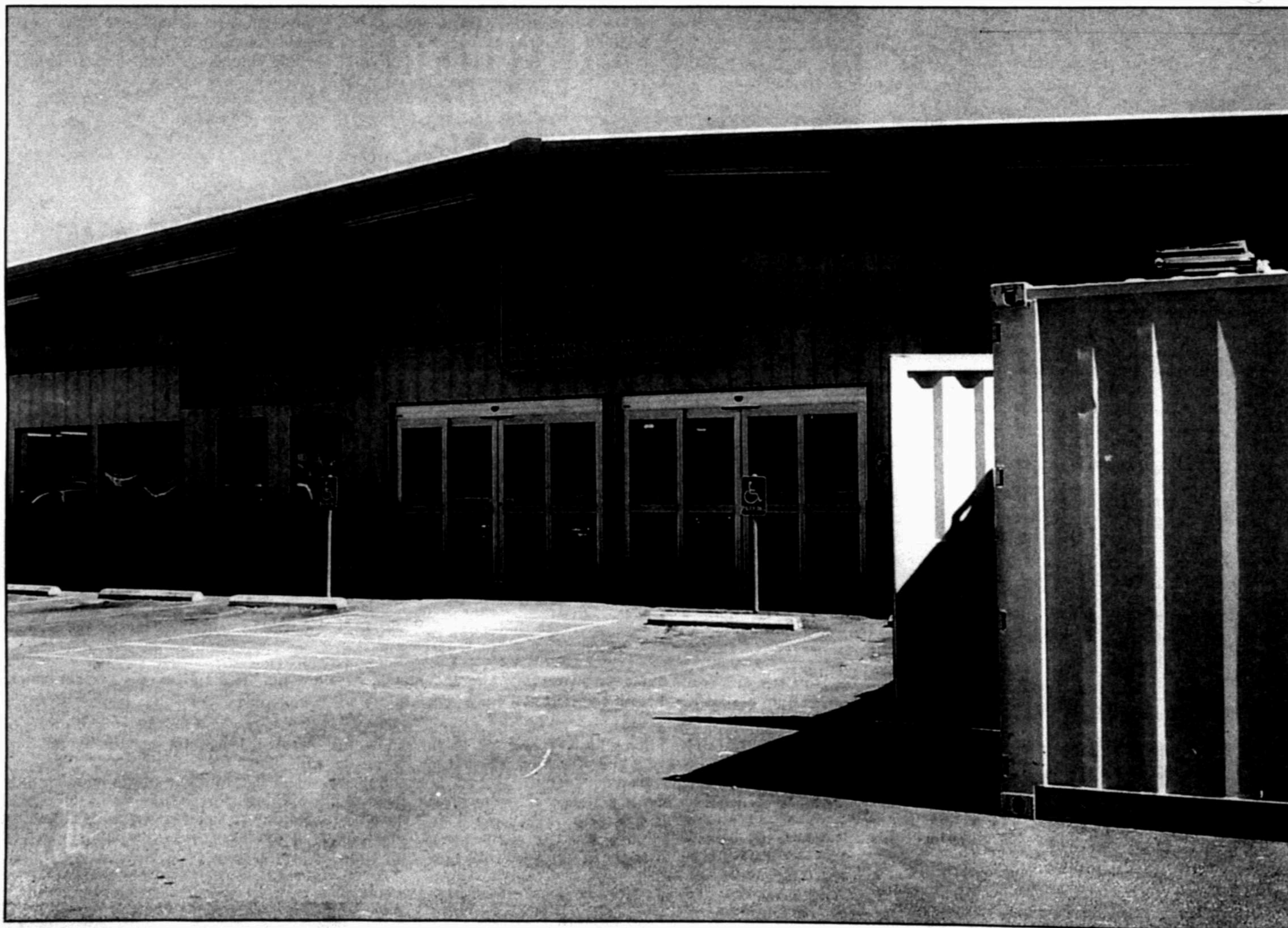
build' homeowner."

The opening of those larger competitors did create a dip in business for awhile, but Fisher says they've regained any lost business since then. He has seen the remodeling process actually bring in some customers who wanted to see the changes in the store.

McCoy's plans a grand re-opening, probably in June, Fisher related. That will give them time to make sure everything is in place and running smoothly after all the changes are finished.

"Instead of a 'ribbon cutting,' we call this a 'board cutting,'" he said.

Brian McCoy, company president and one of three sons of founder Emmett McCoy, is expected to attend the festivities, along with the Chamber of Commerce.



Paul Wiseman

NEW AND IMPROVED McCoy's Building Supply Center brings remodeling project to a close, complete with drive through warehouse, delivery truck, forklift, and expanded ranch equipment line.

Beware...the ides of April? Tips to avoid tax pain

By: John M. Wojtkun

John M. Wojtkun is the owner of Liberty Tax Service, 1000 N. Midkiff, in the Town & Country Shopping Center. He can be reached for comments or questions at (432) 694-1990.

As the 2004-2005 income tax season winds down to the April 15th deadline, here are a few observations on approaching that ominous event.

First of all, don't panic! The IRS' "Ten Ways to Avoid Problems at Tax Time" begins with "1: Don't Procrastinate..." Well, if you haven't filed your individual tax return by now, that suggestion rings pretty hollow. On the bright side, there's still sufficient time to file if you can and some viable alternatives if you can't.

One of the primary reasons taxpayers wait until the last minute to file is that there's a good chance that they'll end up owing money. Sometimes, withholding from one's paycheck may not catch up with lifestyle changes (marriage, new children, etc.) or some unforeseen financial event may occur that can have unexpected tax consequences. This category includes such things as windfall lottery winnings, retirement account distributions with inadequate back-up withhold-

ing or any change to income not accounted for with an offsetting reserve for payment of taxes. Events such as these will bring taxpayers to the "eleventh hour" with a strong reluctance to file a return.

First and foremost, the proper route to follow is to file that return, whether you feel you can pay the balance due or not. The reason to file is that the IRS assesses a much more severe penalty for failure to file than it does for failure to pay. Normally, failure to pay is assessed at about 1/2 percent per month, whereas a failure to file can result in a fairly punitive 5 percent per month, up to a maximum of 25 percent of the tax due amount. So, filing the return on time will alleviate most of the penalty burden and, perhaps, allow the taxpayer to explore other options for payment.

Even with recent rise in interest rates, conventional borrowing should provide a lower cost alternative to paying penalties. If the unexpected tax burden is sub-

stantial, and the taxpayer is a homeowner, consideration might be given to obtaining a line of credit on the home. This type of loan can be secured at a very preferential rate. If personal resources are not available to the taxpayer, the IRS has developed an increased number of payment options for "balance due" accounts.

One common option that can be utilized either when filing one's return or submitting it separately is a Form 9465, Installment Agreement Request. This option is open to taxpayers who will owe up to \$25,000 in taxes and who do not have an outstanding installment agreement currently in effect. The IRS does charge a nominal fee for setting up the payment plan (about \$43) and interest will still accrue on the outstanding balance. The interest rate, however, is a modest 3 percent over the short term Fed rate, adjusted monthly. The Form 9465 is simple to fill out and the taxpayer can specify the payment date during the month and even can suggest the monthly amount to be paid. The IRS will usually try to negotiate the agreement so that the debt is paid off within 12 months.

Another way of postponing the inevitable is to apply for an extension of time to file the return. Now, this exten-

sion will not extend the time to pay but will alleviate the failure to file penalty (as long as the return is filed by the requested extension date). Again, interest charges will continue to accrue until the entire balance due is paid. The additional time may allow other payment alternatives to be evaluated. These may include utilizing one of the IRS-approved processing agents, either by phone or online. All of the 1040 Instruction booklets have a listing of these companies and they are listed on the IRS website, www.irs.gov. They will accept charges to debit or credit cards and some will do a withdrawal from a checking account.

Paying one's taxes in itself can prove to be a "taxing" proposition but recent changes in IRS policy have been instituted to make the process more taxpayer-friendly. Some of these changes seem to be working in favor of the taxpayer, as they were intended. However, there are quite a few of us who are waiting to see some true reform of a monumentally inefficient tax code and a streamlining of a bloated bureaucracy. Oh well, as taxpayers, we can only hope. But then, I'd be out of a job!

Happy April 15th everybody!



Wojtkun

Pass up flash for cash when picking long term stocks

By John Waggoner

USA TODAY

You really wanted that Wombat 5000 handheld computer. It could handle your e-mail, order your groceries and put a razor-sharp crease in your trousers. Naturally, it came with a big price. But a year later, everyone else has a Wombat 5000 — and theirs not only cost less, but shined their shoes to a high gloss, too.

That, in brief, is the growth trap. Wharton professor Jeremy Siegel, author of "Stocks for the Long Run," argues that your best bet for long-term stock performance doesn't lie with flashy growth stocks but with relatively stodgy, dividend-paying companies. He makes a convincing case. And if he's right, then perhaps you should be thinking less flash and more cash with your portfolio.

"Stocks for the Long Run" made the basic case that if you're investing for the long term, the bulk of your assets should be in stocks. This is well accepted now but was far less so in 1994. In the course of his lectures, however, he was struck by a recurring question. "People would ask, 'Which' stocks for the long run?" he says. Siegel, a longtime proponent of index funds, has been pondering that question for some time. His answer: dividend-paying stocks, preferably those with low prices, relative to earnings.

Siegel's first finding is that many companies with exciting new products and hot

growth prospects are the investment equivalent of Roach Motels. Investors put their money in, but they rarely get it all out. Think of it this way: The allure of a company with soaring earnings is, well, soaring earnings. Rapid earnings growth, usually triggered by innovation, have investors checking into the stock in huge numbers.

Unfortunately, those stocks are usually too expensive, relative to earnings. And when the inevitable earnings disappointment comes, investors are left with an overpriced stock that may never return to its former heights. Anyone who invested in technology stocks in the 1990s knows the story.

For example, suppose you had bought Microsoft in March 2000. Unlike many technology companies of the day, Microsoft had real products, real earnings and genuinely bright prospects. You'd be sitting on a loss of more than 50 percent, even taking stock splits into account. You bought a good company, but you paid too much for it. That's the growth trap. (Microsoft now pays a dividend, which makes it a better long-term bet.)

Siegel uses a longer-term example in his latest book, "The Future for Investors". It's 1950, and you have the choice between two stocks: IBM and Standard Oil of New Jersey. Which was the better investment? As it turns out, boring old Standard Oil. Computers were the future, but an investor in the 1950s paid

more than twice as much for the stock, relative to its earnings, as they did for Standard Oil.

More important, Standard Oil paid better dividends. Those dividends, reinvested in the stock over time, were enough to give Standard Oil the edge. A \$1,000 investment in Standard Oil in 1950 would have been worth \$1.3 million at the end of 2003, compared with \$961,000 for IBM. "High-dividend yielders are better performers in the long run," Siegel says. Want more proof? The Standard & Poor's 500-stock index has gained 1,375 percent the past 30 years without dividends — and 3,854 percent with reinvested dividends.

In a similar vein, emerging markets can also be a growth trap. True, somewhere out there is the next economic superpower. But there's no rush. Emerging markets have an unfortunate tendency to submerge, either because of government mismanagement, civil strife or wildly fluctuating economies.

China, for example, is one of the fastest-growing economies on Earth. But its stock market has lagged behind the

U.S. market for the past decade, says Morgan Stanley Capital International. If you do buy an emerging markets fund, Siegel says, look for a broadly based one — preferably one that looks for bargains.

So what stocks should you buy? Siegel says about half his assets are indexed. He prefers broad-based global indexes, rather than just U.S. indexes. But one way to look for undervalued, dividend-paying stocks is the Dogs of the Dow system. In a nutshell: Buy the 10 stocks in the Dow Jones industrial average with the highest yields. Repeat the process each year.

They're called Dow Dogs not because their dividends are generous, but because their prices have fallen. (Dividend yield is a company's cash payout, divided by its price.) Another approach, which Siegel favors, is using the Dogs of the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index. "Why stick to the Dow 30?" he says.

And what about that innovative new technology company you've heard so much about? You might want to wait. You might be able to get it cheaper later. And it might even offer new features — like dividends.

Many companies with exciting new products and hot growth prospects are the investment equivalent of Roach Motels'

Jeremy Siegel, author of "Stocks for the Long Run"

Hitchcock-Hall named to post at Texas Association of Business



Susie Hitchcock-Hall has been named to a board position with the Texas Association of Business.

Susie Hitchcock-Hall, owner of Susie's South Forty Confections, has been named to the Board of Directors of the Texas Association of Business. Hitchcock-Hall's election is as the TAB's West Texas representative.

While Hitchcock-Hall's business success has indeed been sweet, she believes in being vigilant in voicing her concerns to Texas legislators. Like all business owners, she faces obstacles such as health care costs and workers compensation insurance. She believes being active in the TAB is the best way she can help create change on the state level.

"I was flattered and honored that they would consider me since I'm new to the TAB," Hitchcock-Hall said. "Usually they don't invite someone to be on the board after this short amount of time. It's really interesting to go and listen to what they are covering and what they

'As small business owners, we're all dealing with the same things: insurance, workers compensation issues.'

-- Susie Hitchcock-Hall
Owner, Susie's South Forty Confections

lobby for. I told Art Roberts (executive director of the TAB) that I felt like they had called me and said what do you want us to lobby for. What I also found out was not only is this good for dealing with problems in my business, but everyone's dealing with the same problems. It's been a big eye opener with respect to what the TAB does. Because we're all dealing with the same situations: insurance, workers' compensation."

Hitchcock-Hall says the TAB can make a significant difference in the lives of small business owners in Texas.

Hitchcock-Hall is also incoming board chair of the Midland Chamber of Commerce, and will take office in September at the completion of the 2004-2005 tenure of current chair Steve Castle.

"Where do you start?" Hitchcock-Hall said of what she's most looking forward to as chamber board chair. "It's so exciting to be chair because so many neat things are happening in Midland. In the next five years, there'll be a significant difference in tourism with all the new things we have coming with the new visitors center, the Horseshoe, the Bush Childhood Home. We have groups working on all those projects and so many coming into being in the next five years."

The other higher education option

Southeastern Career Institute offers certifications in medical, dental, computers

By Jimmy Patterson
Director of Public Relations
Midland Chamber of Commerce

With expansion in both physical size and curricula in site, Midland's Southeastern Career Institute continues its burgeoning growth to students who opt for a post-graduation certification as opposed to a degree offered at a multi-year college or university.

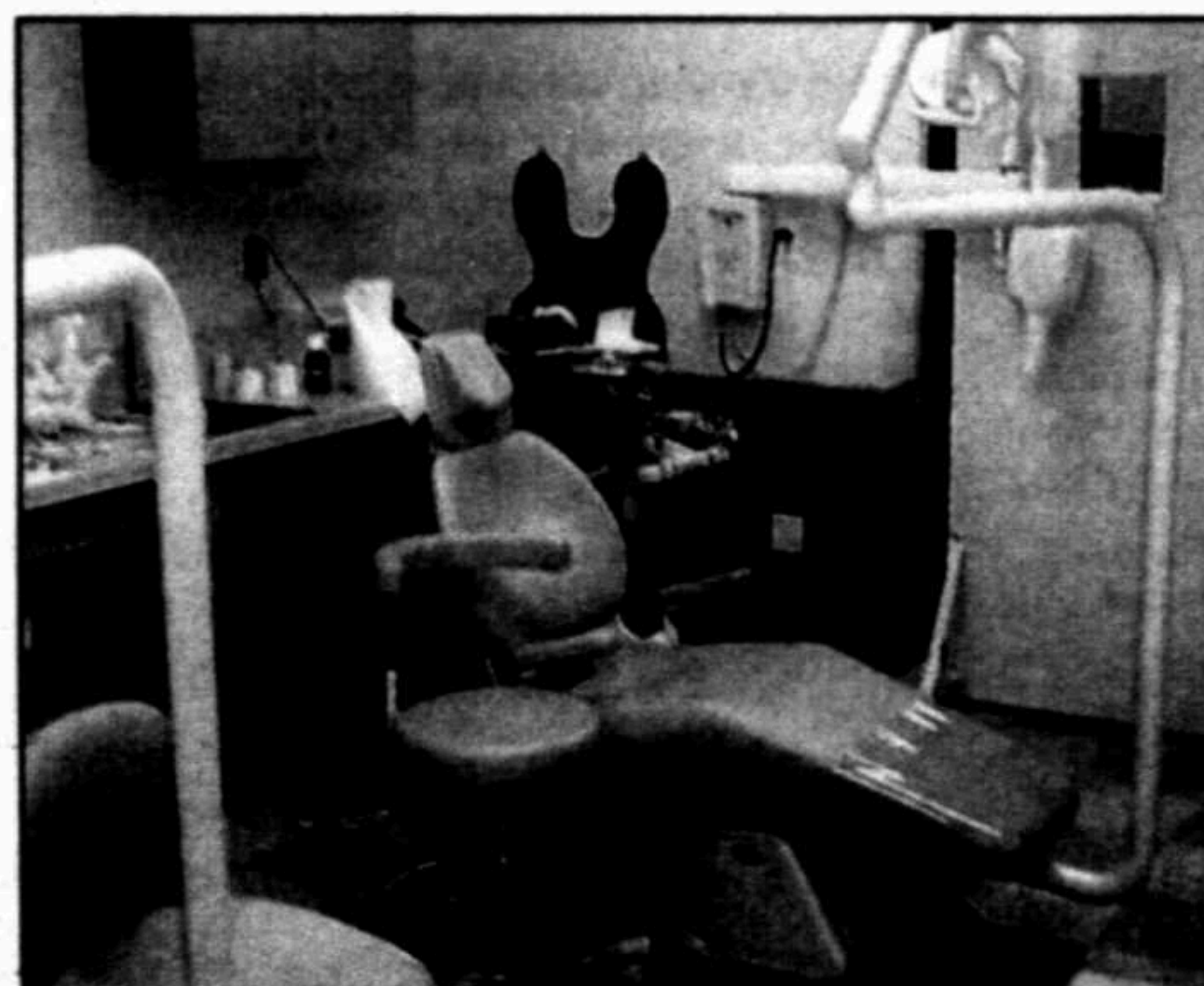
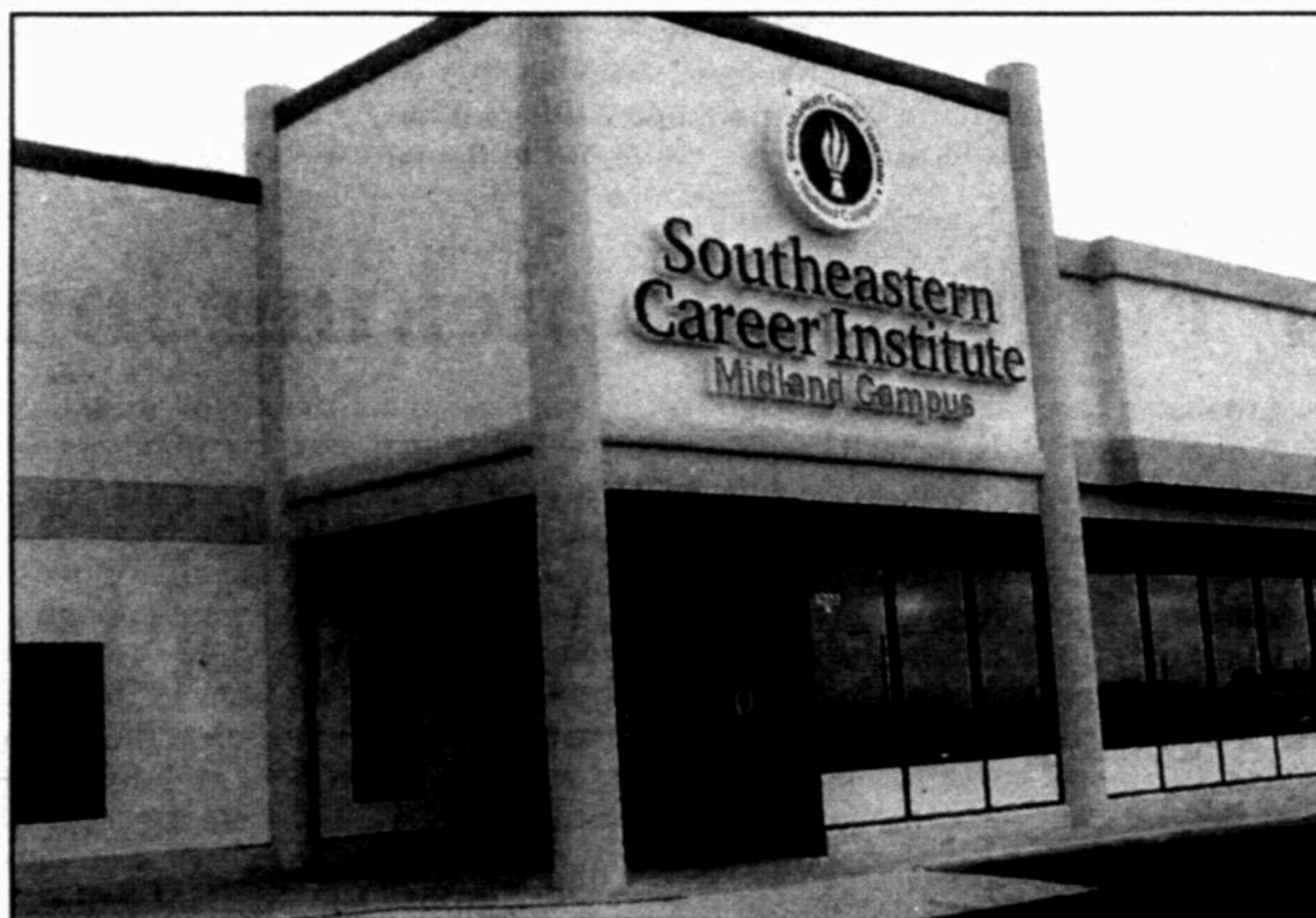
SCI students can work toward three certifications: dental assistant, medical assistant and computer business systems. Beginning this summer, according to director Burt Stringer, SCI will begin offering courses and certification in Heating-Ventilation-Air Conditioning technician, or H-VAC.

"We're trying to position ourselves at the forefront by offering these certifications," said Stringer, an Odessa native who's been with the school since its September 2003 opening. "And we're always looking for people to tell us what they need and ways that we might be able to react a little faster than a public institution."

Courses offered by SCI are the result of targeted studies conducted by the Permian Basin Workforce Development Board that show the training-employment needs locally.

SCI is accredited by the Department of Education as an institute of higher learning. Its main campus is in Dallas.

SCI's current facility, located at Illinois and Midland Dr., has a square footage of 14,700. That area will expand to almost 27,000 this summer when footage is added to house primarily the new H-VAC classrooms.



The Midland campus of the Southeastern Career Institute is located at 4320 W. Illinois, and offers certification in dental assistance (left), medical assistance and computer business systems, and will soon begin offering H-VAC certification as well.

Business leaders study early child development issue

Successful businesses that have thrived in a changing, competitive marketplace cite foresight and long-term planning as keys to success when making investments. You may ask, "How do these principles apply to early education for three and four year olds?"

Changing demographics in Texas are resulting in more children in Texas born into poverty, which poses significant challenges to the Texas educational system and economy. Long-term this means major issues for workforce development and readiness, which impacts businesses and the prosperity of the Texas economy.

These topics comprised the prime focal points for discussion at a forum hosted by the United Way of Texas in partnership with the United Way chapters and chambers of commerce in Midland and Odessa on March 4 at the Region 18 Education Service Center. Over 200 business leaders, community advocates, and educators listened as Jason Sabo, vice president for public policy for United Ways of Texas, shared that the Texas State Data Center projects a 274 percent increase in the number of families living in poverty in Texas between 2000 and 2040.

Currently, Texas schools are seeing more children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds entering kindergarten programs an average eight to 12 months behind in development of basic skills, according to Dr. Susan Landry, director of the State Center for Early Childhood Development at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center. The good news is that in 2003, the Texas Legislature approved a bi-partisan pilot program, the Texas Early Education Model (TEEM) for 11 communities. This program was designed to give teachers the tools and professional development necessary to serve more effectively in assessing and monitoring students in early education.

Dr. Landry shared that studies reveal a dramatic improvement in effective teaching prac-

See LANDRY/8

Midland-Odessa economy begins 2005 on strong footing

By Mella McEwen
Oil Editor

Fueled by a regional oil and gas economy that continues to enter record territory and led by a strong retail sector, the Midland-Odessa economy began 2005 on strong footing.

"The year is starting off on a very good note," said Karr Ingham, the Amarillo economist who prepares the Midland-Odessa Regional Economic Index for West Texas State Bank and the Reporter-Telegram.

Economic growth is coming from exploration and production activity and the increased cash flow from existing oil and gas wells, Ingham said, adding that even if oil and gas activity stabilizes in coming months, it should stabilize "at a high level of activity which will provide stimulus to the general economy," he said.

More of that cash flow is remaining in Midland-Odessa as assets have been transferred to local ownership and is finding its way into the retail sector, which posted a 12 percent gain in January. Ingham noted the retail sales that generated the January sales tax rebate — in excess of \$166 million — is the highest in the history of the economic index and perhaps further back. Retail

sales were joined by a 1.9 percent increase in auto sales, a sector Ingham predicted will improve this year.

Officials at West Texas State Bank, said Julie Faulkner, Midland manager, "have been watching the retail sales led the way in our rising economic index. It was a welcome surprise to see airline and hotel-motel tax numbers come roaring in after a long period in the doldrums. These numbers, which indicate an increase in business and leisure travelers into our area, are among the keys to keeping our retail activity strong. There seem to be few cracks in the foundation that is being laid for another good year in the Midland-Odessa area."

This week's grand opening of Midland's new Kohl's Department Store at Wadley Avenue and Loop 250, scheduled for Thursday, March 3 at 8 a.m., will add to the city's retail offerings while creating 150 new jobs.

"This is an exciting day for Kohl's and for Midland-area shoppers who will now have a new, convenient location at which to enjoy the Kohl's shopping experience," said John Worthington, Kohl's regional manager, in a statement. "We look forward to serving families in Midland by delivering well-known brands, value and convenience."

Kohl's, through its Kohl's Cares for

Kids program, has formed a partnership with Cook Children's Medical Center, which will benefit from local Kohl's Cares for Kids fund-raising efforts through the sale of specially selected items in its store four times a year. During the spring, summer, back to school and holiday seasons, Kohl's features special items, priced at \$5 each, with 100 percent of the net profits going to Cook Children's Medical Center.

Retail figures, Ingham said, indicate "even in real terms — adjusted for inflation — the aggregate level of activity is the highest it has ever been, which would suggest complete recovery, at least in the consumer sector, from the ups and downs of the local economy in recent years."

As mentioned by Faulkner, airline boardings posted a 14 percent increase in January while hotel-motel tax collections jumped 25.4 percent.

Those visitors to Midland are, no doubt, spending money at local hotels, restaurants and retail stores, said Ingham, citing the long-held statistic that a dollar spent by a visitor turns over in the local economy seven times.

Midland-Odessa also saw a strong housing market, with existing home sales rising 15.5 percent in January and sales prices jumping 10.4 percent for what Ingham said is a 28 percent surge in total

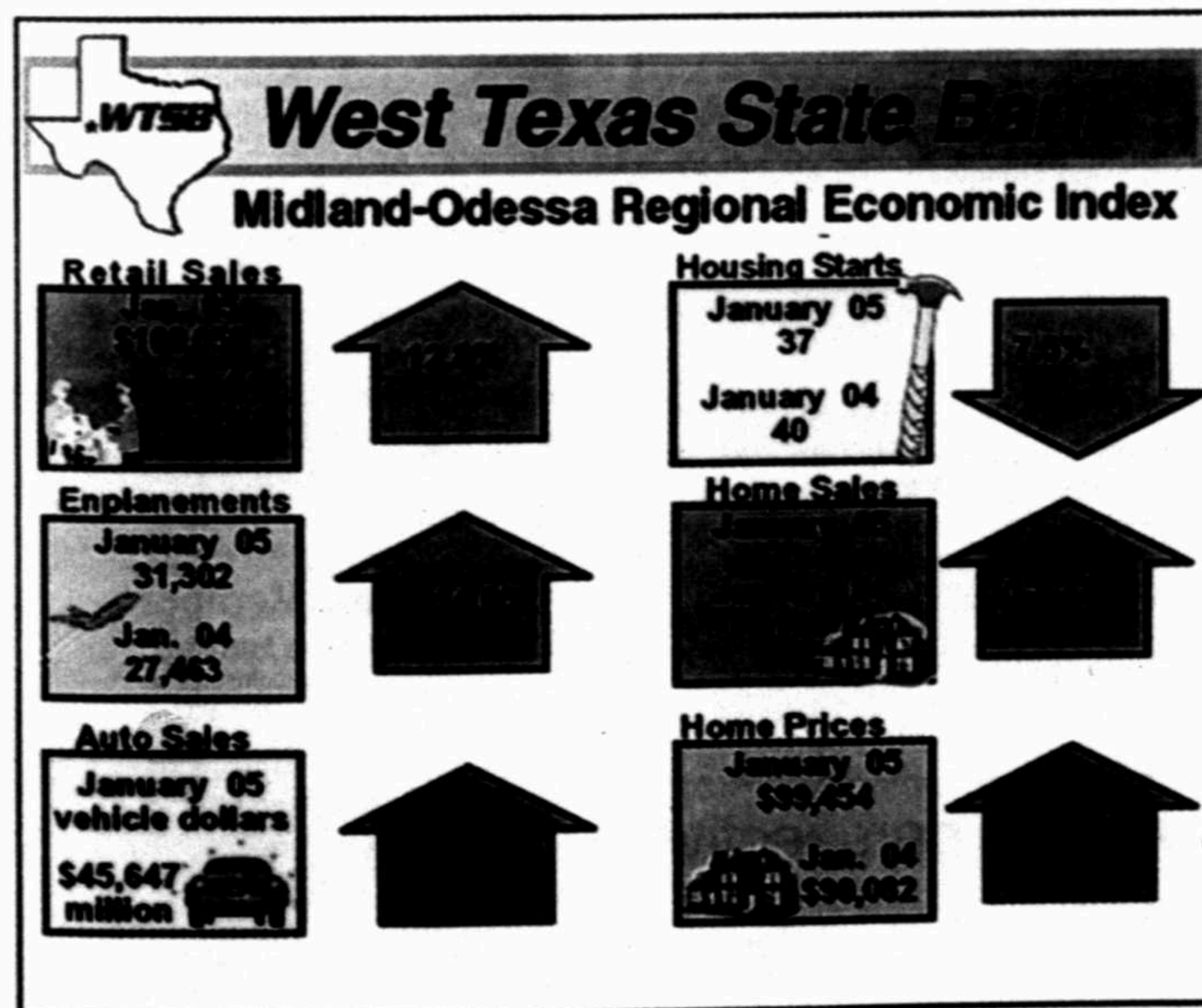
dollar volume for residential sales.

The only negatives in the January index, Ingham said, was in construction, where the value of all building permits sank 33.5 percent compared to January 2004 while the number of permits for new homes fell 7.5 percent compared to last year.

Yet even those negatives aren't all that negative, he said, pointing out January 2005 numbers are being compared to a set of January 2004 numbers that were very high. He noted the January 2004 housing permits were the highest numbers in the life of the index and were, in fact, 60 percent better than January 2003 permits.

"January 2005 building permit valuations are behind only January 2004 as the second highest total in the history of the index," he said.

Although the January Midland-Odessa Regional Economic Index was unchanged from December 2004, Ingham said the index had gained 5 percent from January 2004 and said the December-January stability means the economy "is playing 'catch-up' with itself at the moment. The undeniable trend is still growth and corresponding upward movement in the Midland-Odessa Regional Economic Index."



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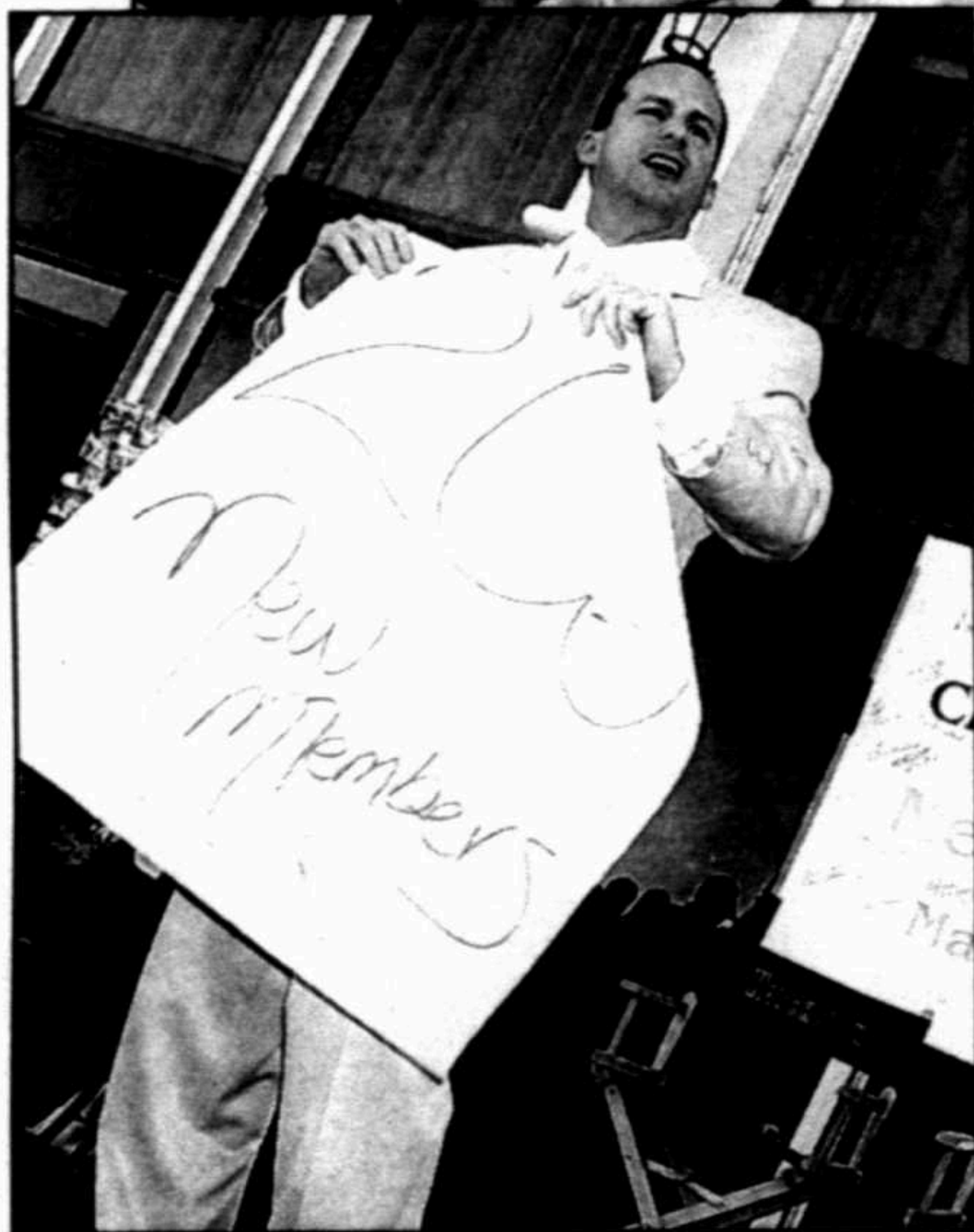


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Chamber Membership Event



In top photo, John Land, Vice President of Community Development for the Midland Chamber; Jimmy Cosano, of "Your Chamber Connection," and Midland Chamber Board Chairman Steve Castle mug for the camera at a post-party marking the successes of the membership event; above, Cosano announces the event total to the volunteers who attended the event's post-party.

Chamber exceeds membership event goals, announces boost of over 200 following biennial event

With the help of an energetic motivator like Jimmy Cosano, of the Fort Worth-based "Your Chamber Connection," almost 150 city leaders and volunteers worked together March 22-24 to meet and exceed the Midland Chamber of Commerce's goals for obtaining new memberships in its biennial membership event. The effort was conducted at the Midland Chamber with a celebration post-party held at the Hilton Midland Plaza.

"We are ecstatic with the results these great volunteers

and leaders have provided us with," said John Land, the Chamber's Vice President of Community Development, which oversees the membership division. "This kind of boost to our membership is good not only for the individual members, but also for Midland as a whole."

With more than 200 new members signed up during the event, the chamber's total membership tops the 1,500 mark, an important benchmark when having a voice for businesses in Austin.

LANDRY: Business community given opportunity to share perspective

(From 6)

tices, which resulted in gains of school readiness skills in three and four year olds. Research on the "cascading effects" of early enhanced childhood education has shown that a solid foundation in pre-kindergarten will most likely lead to a more successful path for learning, less behavioral issues, and a higher proba-

bility for high school and collegial graduation, resulting in economic benefits for the state.

With the current school finance debate, the business community has the opportunity to share their perspectives on making sure the investment in early education (made through taxes) yields results. At the forum, House Speaker Tom Craddick, business leaders, and educators from Midland and Odessa shared their perspectives and insights on the informa-

tion presented.

Time will tell if the state's investment in the future of three and four year olds will reveal the foresight and long-term planning needed given the changing demographics in Texas.

For more information on the forum, please visit www.uwtexas.org.

-- By Nicole Lancto
Education Committee, Midland Chamber

VOLUNTEER NEWS

Daniels named top achiever



Amy Daniels, left, of Tiffany Blakely Farmers Insurance, is February's Top Achiever. Kathy Churchill, Kathy Churchill Insurance, came in a close 2nd with one new member. Esther

Hastings, Midland Creative Mortgage, and Roy Nelson, State Farm Insurance, complete the top achievers for February. This was a great month for the President's Club, bringing in over \$1,000 in overdue accounts.

President's Club volunteers spend several hours a month calling on new member prospects, as well as contacting current members who are 60 days past due. The Chamber invites these volunteers to a monthly luncheon where they share information on new businesses opening in Midland. Top Achievers are invited to Chamber board meetings to receive awards. For more information, call Jane Inskeep at 683-3381.

Thanks to NTS Communications for sponsoring and to Hog Pit Pub & Grub for catering March's President's Club Luncheon.

Sherrod top ambassador



Your Ambassadors attended 19 events (ribbon cuttings, ground breakings, mixers, etc.) in February making the YTD total 87. Mike Sherrod, at left, Sherrod's Piano Service won the title of

February's Ambassador of the Month. Other Top Ambassadors for February are Bryan Brownfield, Allegiance HR Solutions; Carol Kreidel, Lamar Advertising; Shirley Hansen, La Bodega; Bill Stella and Barb Peacock, Meet Midland! Welcome Service. Another great month from the M-Squad! Thanks to Cotton Patch Café for hosting our M-Squad luncheon in February.

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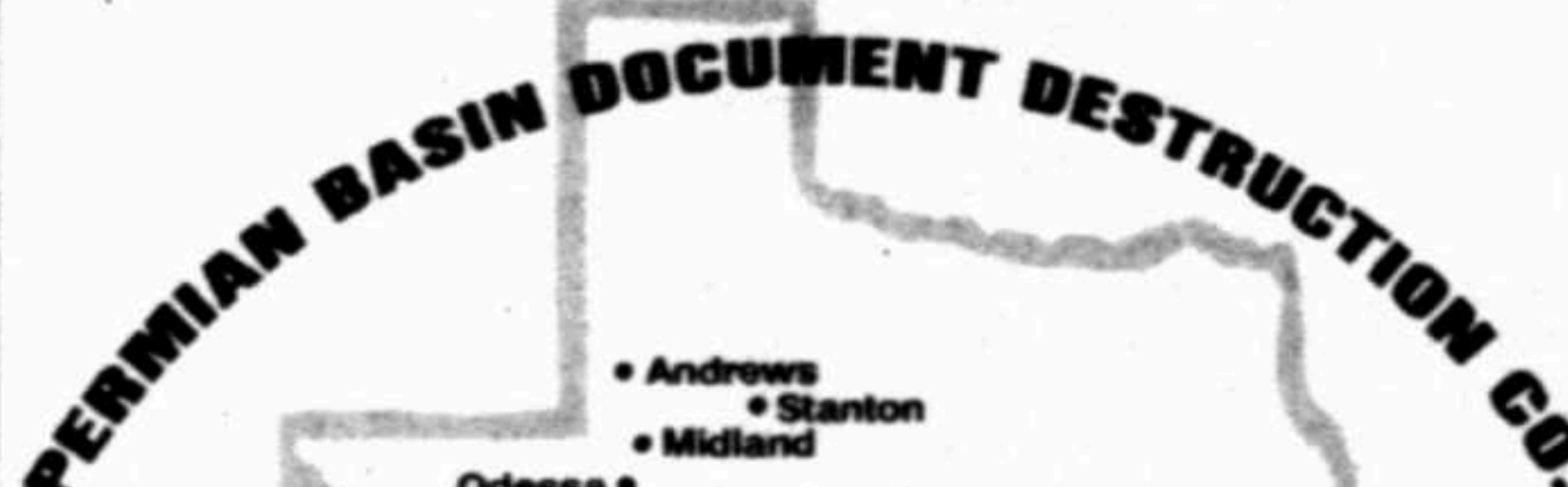
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From supporting local charities and activities to being a partner in education and economic development, it's our way of saying "thanks" to the people who trust us with their service. Alone, it's difficult to make things happen. But together, there's no limit to what we can achieve.

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