



Sports

Carruth shooting

Wearing leg irons and handcuffs, Rae Carruth told a judge Thursday he would return to North Carolina to face a murder charge in the shooting of his pregnant girlfriend./1C

Online: www.mrt.com

14

countdown to 2000

Today: In 1999, an MTV article reported that Mexican registrants were subject to the second call for selective service draft. Only black registrants were excluded.



Midland Reporter-Telegram

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1999

Vol. 72, No. 283

Pokémon playing cards fascinate children, banned by local schools

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

As is often the case, adults are in the dark about the latest fads and fancies of their children.

A prime example is Pokémon, the cute fantasy playing-card game banned by Midland public and private schools.

It is so immensely popular among many of the younger set that its trading and playing could become distracting in the learning environment.

And it is the popular Pokémon, short for "pocket monsters," especially the sunshine yellow Pikachu, that is capturing the imagination of many grade-schoolers.

The trading cards are especially prized

and apparently are high on children's Christmas lists.

"They are the rage," said Laura Brown, head of Trinity School's Middle School. "Kids are trading them any chance they get."

Trinity, however, holds no special bias against the latest fad from Japan.

"We don't allow toys on campus of any kind," Ms. Brown said, citing a ban on CD players, for example.

"They can't bring laser lights — whatever the latest toy is — and right now it's Pokémon trading cards. We just don't allow kids to bring toys to school, period. Anything that distracts from academics, we discourage."

Midland Christian School Superintendent Eddie Lee said that students there

are forbidden from bringing Pokémon cards to school because of the distraction.

"They were selling them and trading them. And somebody would get upset about this or that."

Pokémon-smitten students are asked to leave the cards at home.

Likewise, Midland Independent School District spokesman Barney Welch noted that students are "not there to do that. They are there to learn."

At the campus level, principals may "disapprove of anything that's disruptive to the instruction," Welch said.

Rusk Elementary School Principal

Please see POKEMON/4A



'... anyone can give money.'

Sixth-graders get out, tackle Christmas in April project

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Out of class, dressed in jeans and sweatshirts, climbing stepladders and slinging paint. All with the approval of their adult chaperones.

It was a sixth-grader's dream.

But this sixth-grade class from Midland Christian School wasn't misbehaving. Rather, the students were participating in an annual service project.

"My sixth-graders always do some type of service project because it just feels so good," said teacher Jena McClaine as she watched the students carry ladders and painting supplies to the house on Marshall Street that they would paint for Christmas in April.

Christmas in April is a national non-profit organization that improves and renovates homes for poor, elderly and disabled homeowners. Started here in Midland in the spring of 1973, the project got its name from one of its early beneficiaries.

One elderly woman, when asked how she felt that someone cared enough to assist her, proclaimed, "Lordy, it was just like Christmas."

The group liked the sound of that and it stuck.

Bobby Trimble, founder and president of Christmas in April, said that when one of the classroom mothers called to arrange a project, "I said the kids always clean up yards all the time. How about doing something different and letting them paint. They have a legitimate excuse to get paint all over themselves."

Mrs. McClaine said she began the service projects "to help these kids



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram
Matt Phillips and Matthew Tiffin paint along the roof line of 209 North Marshall Thursday morning as they and other students from Midland Christian School participate in part of a Christmas in April project.

realize how blessed they've been. They have been so blessed and they need to know how good the heart feels when you give."

Besides, she added, "anyone can give money."

Sixth-grader Kyle Washburn said he liked doing something to help people

and thought painting the house would be fun.

His friend Cooper Schoolcraft said "It's exciting to do something I've never tried before and knowing I'm doing something for someone else."

Please see APRIL/4A

Former Unocal employees file age-bias lawsuit

By Rick McLaughlin
Staff Writer

After careers of 25 to 35 years with their company, earning salaries from \$57,000 to \$85,000, and at ages just a few years shy of retirement, six former Permian Basin oilmen found themselves out of careers last year — victims of corporate downsizing.

Charges of age discrimination and violations of the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act and violations of fair-labor standards laws have been leveled at Union Oil Co. of California (Unocal) by six older former employees, age 54 and older. Their case is being tried before federal District Judge Royal Furgeson in Midland.

Donald Ray Tyler, Donald R. Powers, Jessie G. Price, M. Leon Earles, Thomas L. Hough and David L. Burket, all of whom worked for Unocal in Midland, Ector, Crane and Andrews counties, are suing the oil company because, despite 25 to 35 years of experience with the company, they claim they were fired by Unocal or put in "circumstances amounting to constructive discharge."

They are claiming violations of the Older Worker Benefit Protection Act, claiming that a part of a 1998 reduction in force was "based on inaccurate and stigmatizing stereotypes relating to older workers carried out by Unocal which deprived the plaintiffs of their jobs," attorneys allege.

"The imbalance in the numbers of older workers who were reduced in force and the replacement of more capable, experienced workers with less experienced workers who were substantially younger, demonstrates a stark pattern of discrimination by Unocal unexplainable on grounds other than age," their complaint stated.

Of the 22 people caught up in the lay-off in the West Texas area, most were over 40 and about 14 were over the age

of 55, documents claim.

The men claimed that in order to see their files they had to agree not to sue Unocal, and that at meetings, Unocal managers announced that the reduction in force was made to turn the company into one that was more "young and vigorous."

One man, documents allege, was frequently referred to by his supervisor as "the old man." Another was advised by members of an "efficiency team" hired by the company that the company was expecting people in their 50s to retire and that if an employee in his 50s expressed the desire to work seven or eight more years until he was fully vested in the Unocal pension plan, "that the company did not look at the situation in the same way as the employees."

The complaint claims the men were forced to sign "so-called waivers and releases of all their rights regarding any claim they might have arising out of their employment or termination." But according to their complaint, such waivers do not conform to the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act.

"In effect," the complaint says, "the company coerced and manipulated these plaintiffs into signing documents which purported to waive their right to seek legal relief under federal and state statutes and common law claims."

The complaint goes on to say that "These plaintiffs were misled into believing that upon signing these so-called releases and waivers that they had no more rights to sue and no rights to legally redress the wrongs that had been committed against them by the company."

With the hundreds of years of experience among them, the six "had made many sacrifices for the benefit of the company, had accepted transfers, had learned new job skills and had 'reinvented' themselves by acquiring new job skills in order

Please see UNOCAL/4A

A look inside
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TODAY

Partly cloudy with a high in the 60s. Weather on 4A.

Cheer Fund



The Reporter-Telegram has launched the Midland Cheer Fund, an annual project where donations will be accepted to benefit the city's less fortunate. Donations can be sent to P.O. Box 1650, Midland, Texas, 79702.

Seasonal jobs push local unemployment down

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Holiday hiring gave a hand to Permian Basin unemployment as the Midland-Odessa jobless rate continues its trend downward.

The Texas Workforce Commission reported Thursday that the Odessa-Midland metropolitan statistical area (MSA) had an unemployment rate of 6.5 percent, down from 7 percent in October and slightly above the 6.1 percent reported last November.

Unemployment in the city of Midland fell to 5.6 percent from 6.1 percent in October. The city's unemployment rate was up one percent from the 4.6 percent rate posted last year.

Bob Crawley, labor analyst with the commission in Austin, said that from October to November, Odessa-Midland gained 500 non-agricultural jobs.

"Most of that was centered on industries experiencing temporary hiring for the holidays," he said. "There were 300 jobs in the trade sector and 100 in the services sector."

Randall Rodgers, operations director at Best Buy, said that his store hired 28 holiday workers, "as many as we were scheduled to. We had no problems finding associates."

Dawn Martin, manager of Mervyn's California, said she hired a total of 140 holiday workers, 15 more than previous years because she anticipated an increase in business, which has come to pass.

"We didn't have any problems finding team members. We started in October and went full force, ending in late November because we had enough people."

She added that she hoped some of the holiday workers would stay with the store, "but not all because we couldn't afford all 140. And some don't want to, they just wanted temporary jobs."

Crawley said there was good news for the Permian Basin in the fact that there was an increase in manufacturing employment.

"Manufacturers added 200 jobs from October to November, and the significance in that was it was a generalized spread across a lot

of various types of manufacturers but, manufacturers that have connections to the mining industry," he said.

Fran Hawke, a manager with Temporary Resources, said that while the business is putting people to work, she's not as busy as she expected to be "with oil prices where they are. Potential employers are cautious and planning on running lean, mean corporate machines."

With Texas unemployment at a 20-year low and at below 5 percent since December 1997, Fred Morache, a senior vice president with Snelling Personnel Services, said "Texas is a wonderful place to look for work."

The state rate dipped to 4.2 percent in November from 4.3 percent in October.

Like Crawley, Morache sees the state's manufacturing sector improving and gaining strength.

"It looks like the improvement in the oil industry is having an effect and those com-

Please see JOBS/4A

OBITUARIES



Artamyse Watts

Mrs. Allen J. (Artamyse) Watts was born October 3, 1900, in San Angelo, the daughter of D. K. and Temple Baughan McMullan, a prominent ranch couple of Sutton County, Texas. She was one of nine children.

She graduated from High School and then went to Washington, D.C. where she graduated from a Business College. She did secretarial work with a commercial company for four years after which she returned to San Angelo. She continued her secretarial work until she moved to Midland in 1937 to work for Moore Bros., Inc., and then for Sinclair Oil and Gas Company. In 1947, she moved to San Antonio and was employed for a time with an independent oil operator. In 1949, she married Allen Watts and moved back to Midland. Mrs. Watts was a member of First Presbyterian Church, the Woman's Club, Trinity Towers Auxiliary, and the Order of the Eastern Star. She was Worthy Matron of Midland Chapter No. 253, after previously serving several stations. She served several Grand Appointments in the Grand Chapter of Teas, Order of the Eastern Star, and in 1965-66, she served as Deputy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Texas. She was a life member of the Order.

Mr. Watts preceded her in death May 18, 1981. Mrs. Watts has been a resident of Mabey Center, Manor Park since March 1994. She died Wednesday, December 15, 1999.

She is survived by her two nieces, who cared for her in her later years, Mrs. Johnnie McMullan (Peggie) of Iraan and Mrs. James "Doc" Dodson (Gayle) of Midland; her other nieces formerly of Midland, Shirley Watts Brown of Edmond, Ok., Sharon Watts Carruso of Bolton, Co., Jean Ann Watts Wedmeyer of Kenai, Ak., as well as many other nieces and nephews; and a special caregiver of many years, Mrs. Heath Gardner (Carol) of Midland.

Services are to be at 4 p.m. Saturday at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Richard Braun officiating. Interment will follow in Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Serving as pallbearers will be

Johnnie McMullan, Kenny McMullan, James "Doc" Dodson, Todd Hullender, Cliff McMullan, Dean McMullan, David McMullan, Mike Kelly, Charlie Brown, Heath Gardner, and Joe McMullan. Honorary pallbearers are Dr. Jimmie McMullan, Ronnie McMullan, Chuck Guiditas, Noel Widmayer, and David Carruso.

Memorials may be directed to a favorite charity.

"Aunt Artamyse" will be remembered as a fun-loving Aunt filled with a great sense of humor. She loved her nieces and nephews as if they were her own.

Christmas season was her favorite time of year. This special season will hold warm memories of a Great Lady and a Great Aunt.



Dortha Ruple

Dortha Ruple was born August 14, 1911 in Richland Springs, Texas to J. B. and Addie Swails. She was reared in San Saba County until the family moved to the Glass Farm in 1927. She met Therman Ruple in Midland County and they were married in Midland on April 16, 1933. Mrs. Ruple worked as a cashier for Perry Brothers on Main Street and Palace Drug Store. They owned and operated Ruple's Laundry and Cleaners. In the 1960's she worked for MISD in food service. Mrs. Ruple was a member of Wilshire Park Baptist Church.

She died at a local hospital Wednesday, December 15, 1999.

Mrs. Ruple was preceded in

death by her husband, Therman Ruple in 1993.

She is survived by her son, James Ruple and his wife, Rosalie; her brother, Dayton Swails; her sisters, Aldis Wade and Ona Thomas, all of Midland; her grandchildren, James Ruple, Jr. and his wife, Debbie, Tim D. Ruple and his wife, Amy, all of Midland and Roger Dale Ruple of Dixfield, Me.; and 5 great-grandchildren, Elisha Ruple, Eric Ruple, Tim Ruple Jr., Christina Ruple, and Samantha Ruple, all of Midland; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services have been scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, December 18, 1999, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Bob Porterfield officiating. Interment will follow in Resthaven Memorial Park under

the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Gage Craft

Gage Michael Craft, 7 years old, formerly of Midland, died on Thursday, December 9, 1999, in Edmond, Oklahoma, in a house fire.

Gage was born on November 14, 1992 in Midland, Texas.

He is survived by his parents, Shawn and Laura Craft, and his 8-year old brother, Joshua. He is also survived by his paternal grandparents, Howard and Ginger Craft of Roswell, New Mexico; maternal grandparents, Denise Reed of Bethany, Oklahoma, and Tom Reed of Midland, Texas; and his maternal great-grandmother, Toni Powers, also

Continued on 8A

Obituary & Death Notice policy

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

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

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

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His sign read, "Homeless And Needy; WWJD." His ragged, dirty clothes seemed to confirm the story. About 35, he seemed able to walk briskly to a car that stopped with open windows and outstretched hand holding dollars. Yes, I know it's the season for giving but I'm still wondering. Just how "homeless and needy" is he? If impaired medically or father to a band of hungry children, then it's a different story indeed. If not, then it's deception.

He had added the "wwjd" to his sign for a reason. Followers of Jesus would recall Paul's word in Galatians 2:10 "that we should remember the poor", and David in Psalms 41:1 who says, "blessed is he who considers the poor." The marching orders of the Gospel in Luke 4:18 say that Jesus came to "preach the gospel to the poor."

But there are limits. Today's world brings fraud in the name of religion on every hand. When the woman anoints Jesus in Mark 14 and critics say it should have been given to the poor, the Master says, "for you have the poor with you always... Should we love them and help? Yes. But find the sick and afflicted, burdened mothers and children, someone you know is honest. That's what Jesus would do!"

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DEATH

Carol O

Carol Clair O'Connell, 78, died Thursday, December 16, 1999, in Houston.

Memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, December 22, at the Nicholas Episcopal Church, the direction of the Home of Hous-

She was born in Pawnee City, Neb.

She had lived in SD. She was a the U.S. Navy

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Ruth P

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DEATH NOTICES

Carol Orem

Carol Clair (Atkinson) Orem, 78, died Thursday, Dec. 9, in Houston.

Memorial services are to be 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29, at St. Nicholas Episcopal Church under the direction of Miller Funeral Home of Houston.

She was born Dec. 25, 1922 in Pawnee City, Neb.

She had lived in Rapid City, SD. She was a cryptographer in the U.S. Navy. She worked on some of the first generation computers. She was a member of the Midland Society of University Women and the United Way. She was on the Board of Directors of the Permian Basin Girl Scout Council. She was a member of St. Nicholas Episcopal Church.

Survivors include her husband, C. G. Orem of Midland; three daughters, Carol Landrum of Mt. Home, Ar., Margaret Schaible of Houston and Janet Attya of Rapid City, SD; four sisters, Margaret Kubler of Peoria, Az., Edith Baker of Pine, Az., Elizabeth Stephens of Annapolis, Md. and Janet Weston of Parker, Co.; and three grandsons.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Permian Basin Girl Scout Council, 5217 N. Dixie, Odessa, Texas 79762.

Ruth Party

BELLE, MO.—Ruth Marie Party, 63, mother of Midlander Mike Party, died Wednesday, Dec. 15.

Funeral services are to be held under the direction of Sassman's Funeral Service of Belle.

She was born July 20, 1936 in Maries County, Mo.

She lived in Washington before moving to Belle in 1956. She worked at the International Shoe Factory, then the Belle Counter Company until her death. She was president of Local 223 of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union-Shoe Division.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill Party; and her mother, Delcie Sieg Butler.

Other survivors include her father, Victor Butler; five brothers, William Butler, Robert Butler and Joey Butler, all of Belle, and Lonnie Butler of St. Louis and Jerry Butler of Arrowrock, Mo.; seven sisters, Mary Woemmel, Donna Buddemeyer, Delpha Jones and Linda Rodgers, all of Belle, and Doris Altemeyer of Beaufort, Mo., Norma J. Harris of Newberg, Mo. and Lorna Stogsdill of Rolla, Mo.; three grandchildren, and two adopted grandsons.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Midland Chapter of Hospice.

Emil Carminati

FORT WORTH—Emil E. Carminati, 91, brother of Midlander Joanna Lacy, died Thursday, Dec. 16, in Fort Worth.

Funeral mass with the Knights of Columbus forming a guard of honor is to be 10:30 a.m. Saturday at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church with the Rev. D. Timothy Thompson officiating. Burial is to follow at Mount Olivet Cemetery. Rosary will be said at 7 p.m. Friday at Thompson's Harveson & Cole Funeral Home, 817 336-0345.

He was born May 29, 1908 in Montague.

He moved to Fort Worth in 1944. He was an independent grocer, and after retiring he was an associate with Southland Corp. He was a charter member of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church; and a founder of St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Peter and its Food Bank. He was a member of General Worth Assembly 4th degree and Davis Lambright Council Knights of

Columbus #4101.

Memorials may be made to the Building Fund of St. Peter Catholic Church.

Joan Rowland

HOBBS, N.M.—Joan Ayers Rowland, 55, wife of Dick Rowland (President of the Better Business Bureau of the Permian Basin), died Tuesday, Dec. 14, in Hobbs.

Funeral services are to be 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, in the Chapel of Hope Funeral Home with Virgil Webb officiating. Visitation will be 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

She was born March 7, 1944 in Eufala, Okla.

She was a member of the Rose

Society, the Iris Club and the Llano Estacado Art Association. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Alta Ayers.

Survivors include her husband, Richard Rowland of Hobbs; a son, Richard K. Rowland of Fort Worth; and a daughter, Minnie L. Vickrey of Las Cruces, N.M.; her father, William Floyd Ayers of Hobbs; two brothers, William C. Ayers of the Virgin Islands and Cecil D. Ayers of Las Cruces; a sister, Nancy Baugh of Las Vegas, Nev.; two granddaughters, and numerous nieces and nephews.

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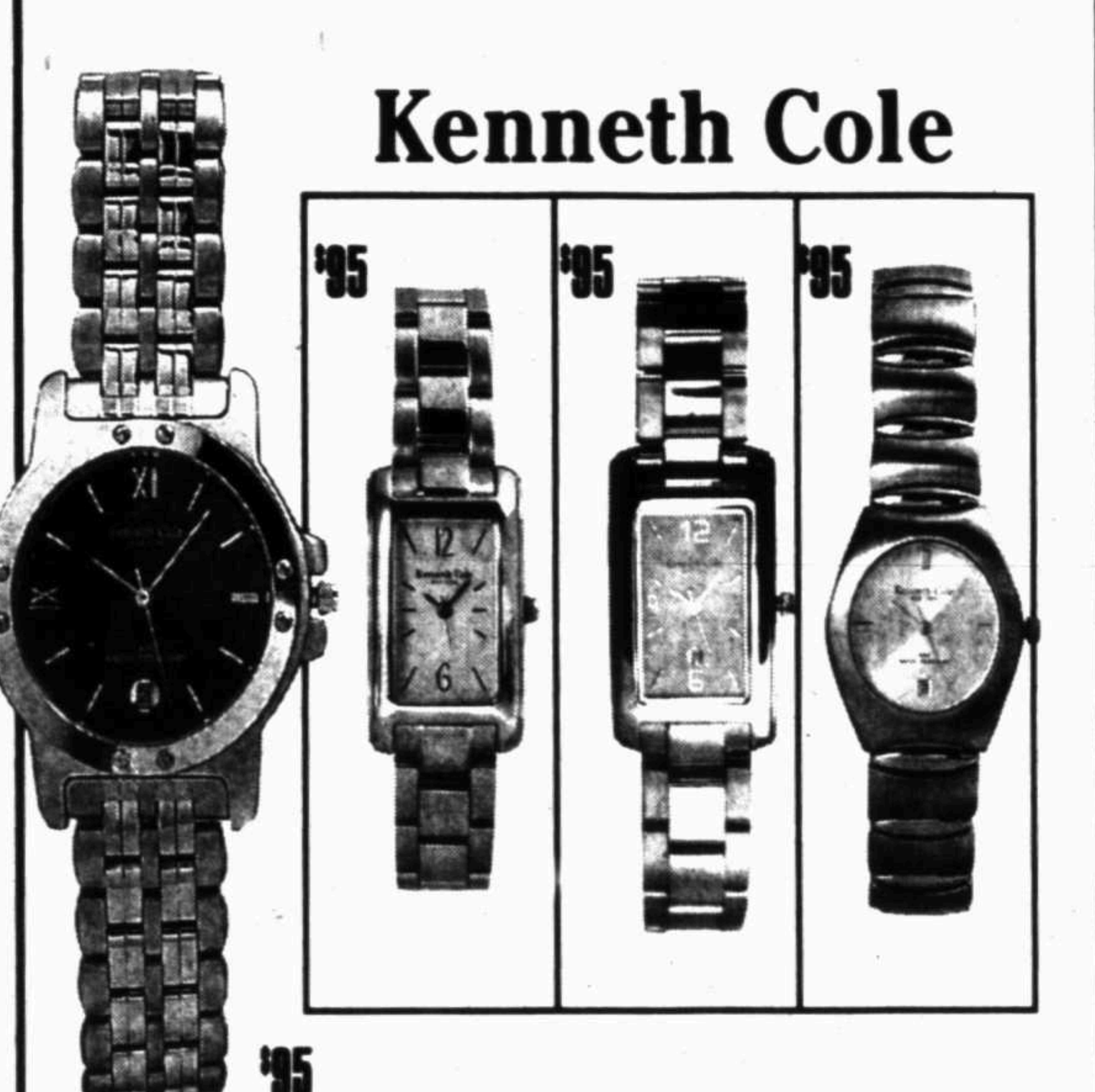
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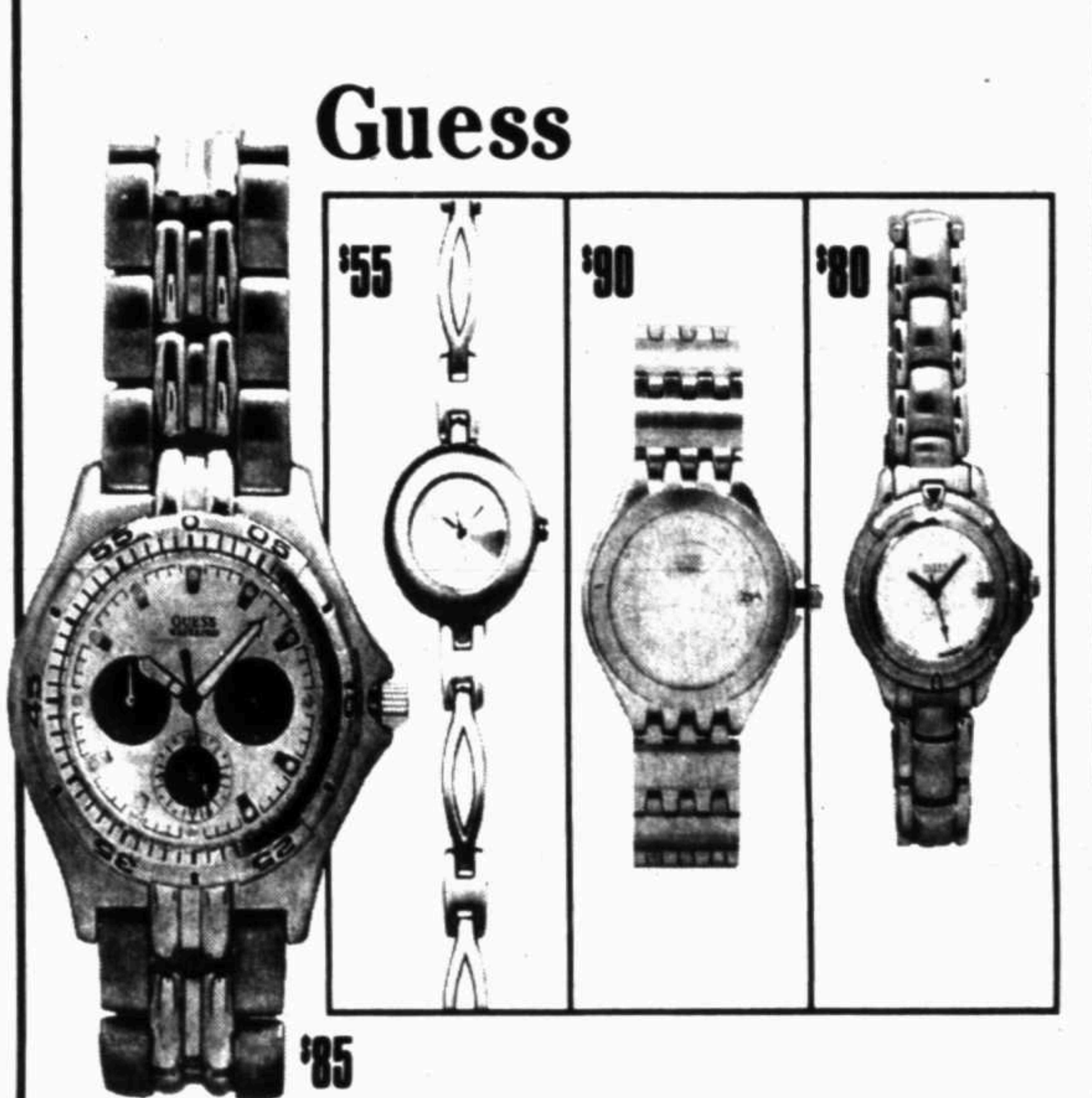
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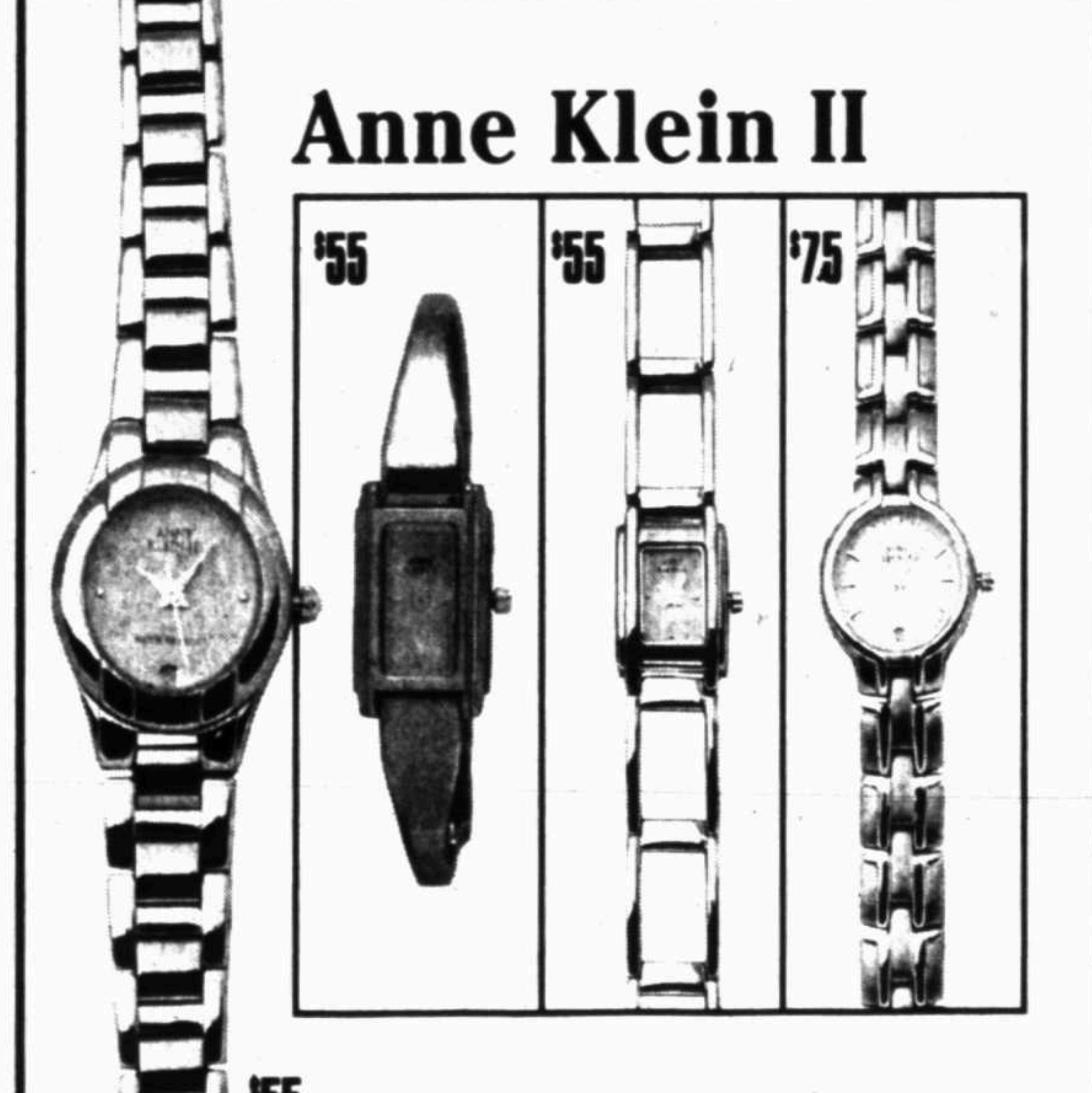


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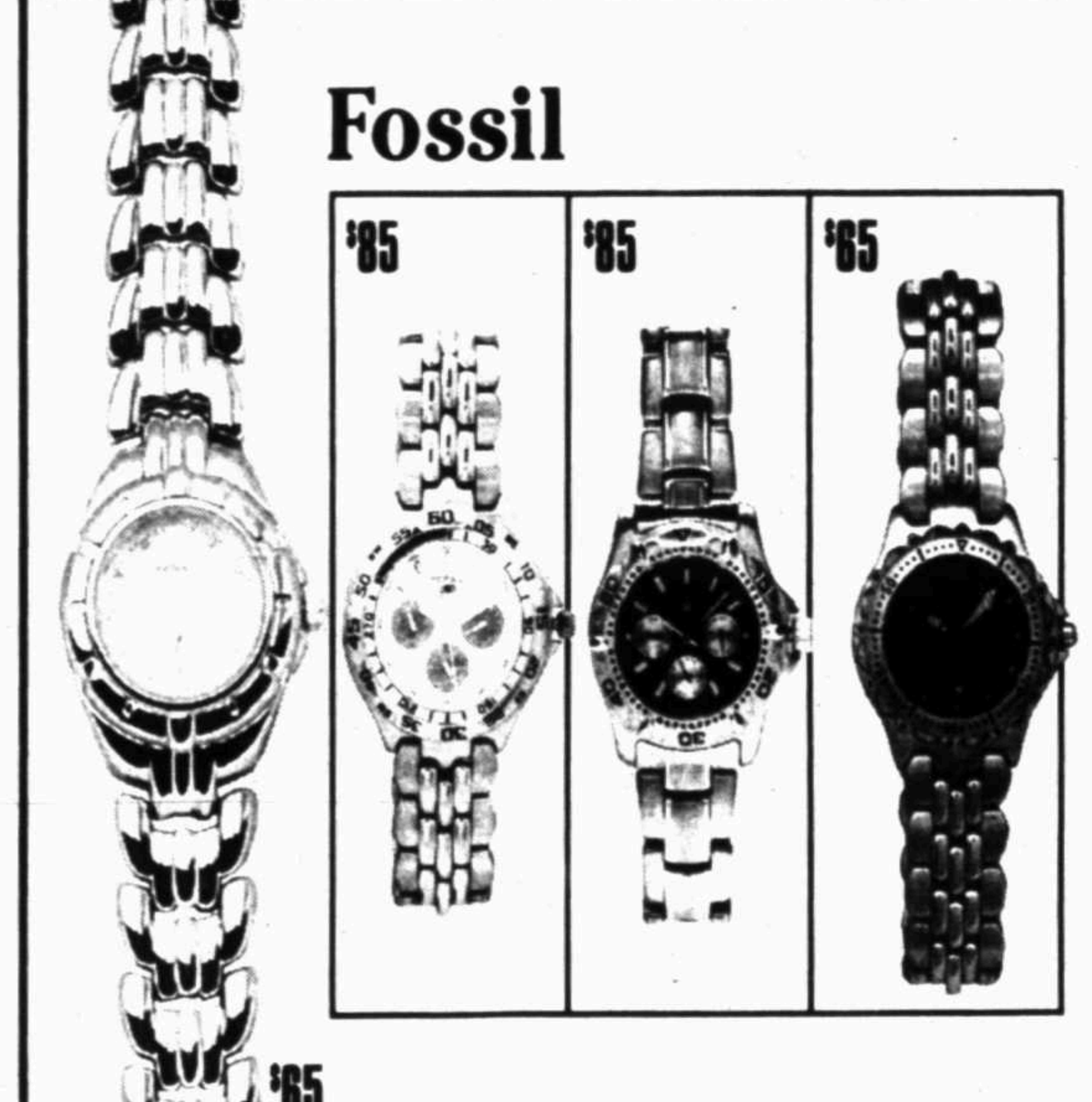
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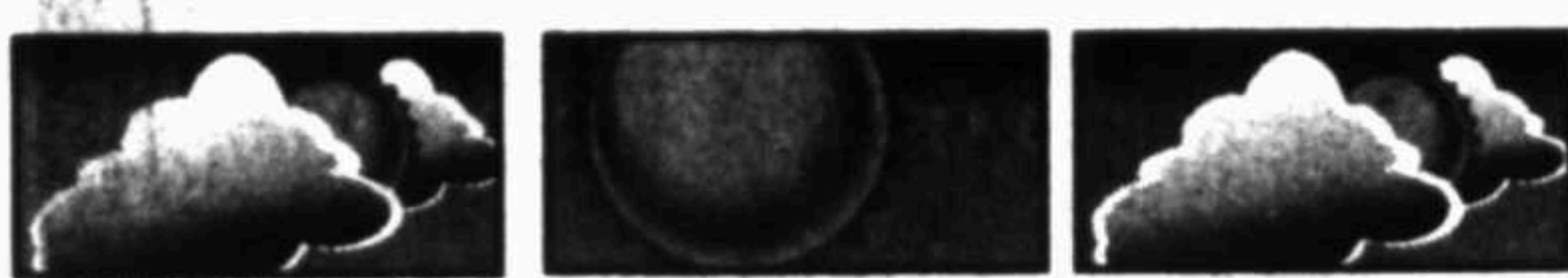
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WEATHER

Midland forecast

3-day forecast



Today
Partly cloudy
High 60
Low 29

Saturday
Sunny
High 64
Low 30

Sunday
Partly cloudy
High 62
Low 33

Today's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a high of 60-65. The wind will be from the north at 10-20 mph.

Friday night will be fair with a low in the mid-20s.

Saturday will be partly cloudy with a high in the mid-60s. Saturday night will be partly cloudy with the low around 30-35.

Sunday will be partly cloudy with a high in the 60s.

Monday will be mostly clear and cooler with a low in the 20s and a high in the 50-55 area.

After an overnight low of 25, Thursday's high reached 60, compared to the record high for that date of 80 set in 1966. The record low of 11 was set in 1989.

Yesterday's precipitation

Rainfall 0.00 in.
Rainfall 0.00 in.
Total for month 0.00 in.
Total for year 7.6 in.
Normal total (year to date) 14.66 in.

Yesterday's temperatures

High 60
Low 25
Normal high 58
Normal low 31

Pollen count

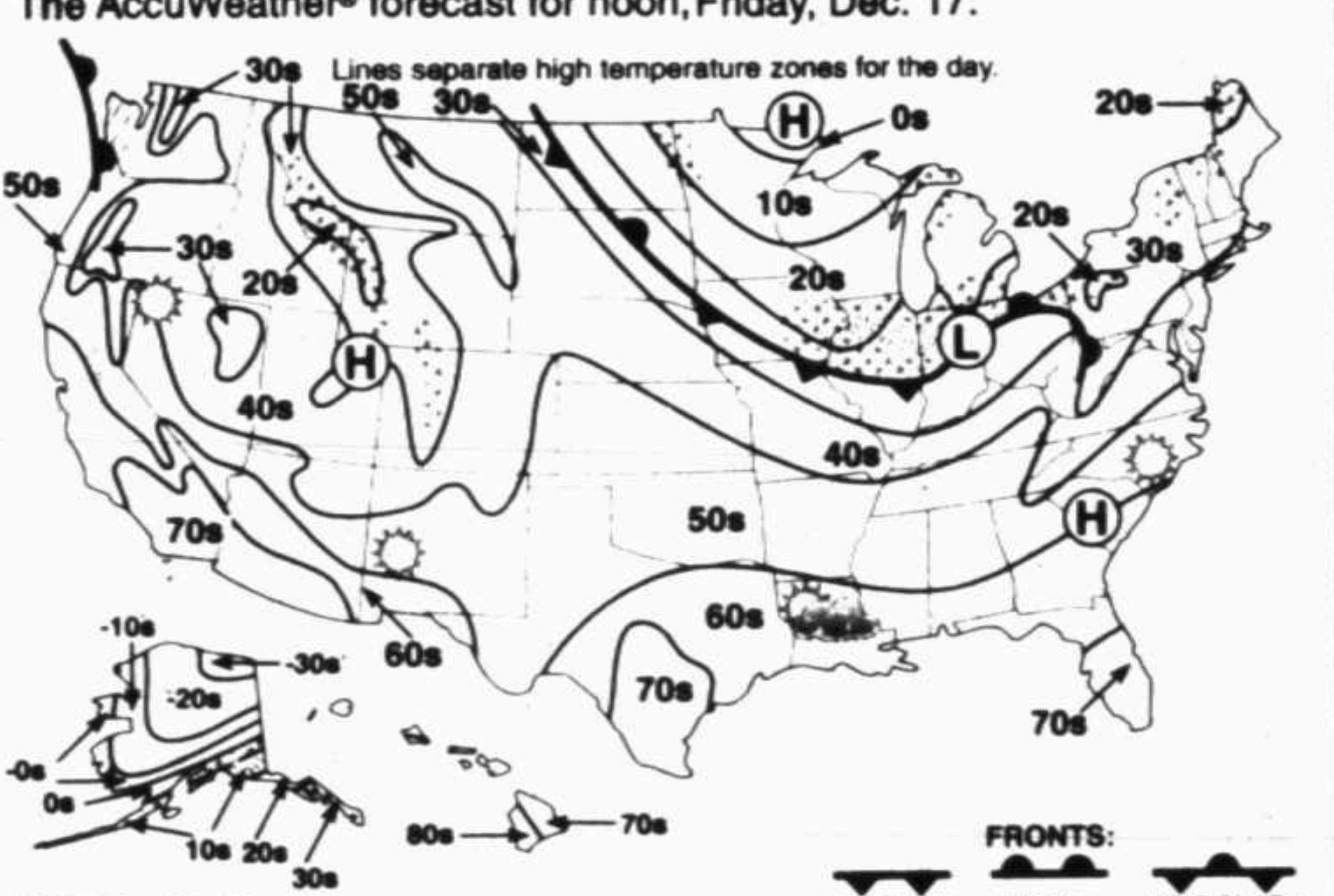
Trees: n/a Weeds: n/a
Grass: n/a Molds: n/a
Dust: n/a
Courtesy: John D. Bray, MD.

Sunrise ... 7:43 a.m.
Sunset ... 5:47 p.m.

National forecast

National weather

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Friday, Dec. 17.



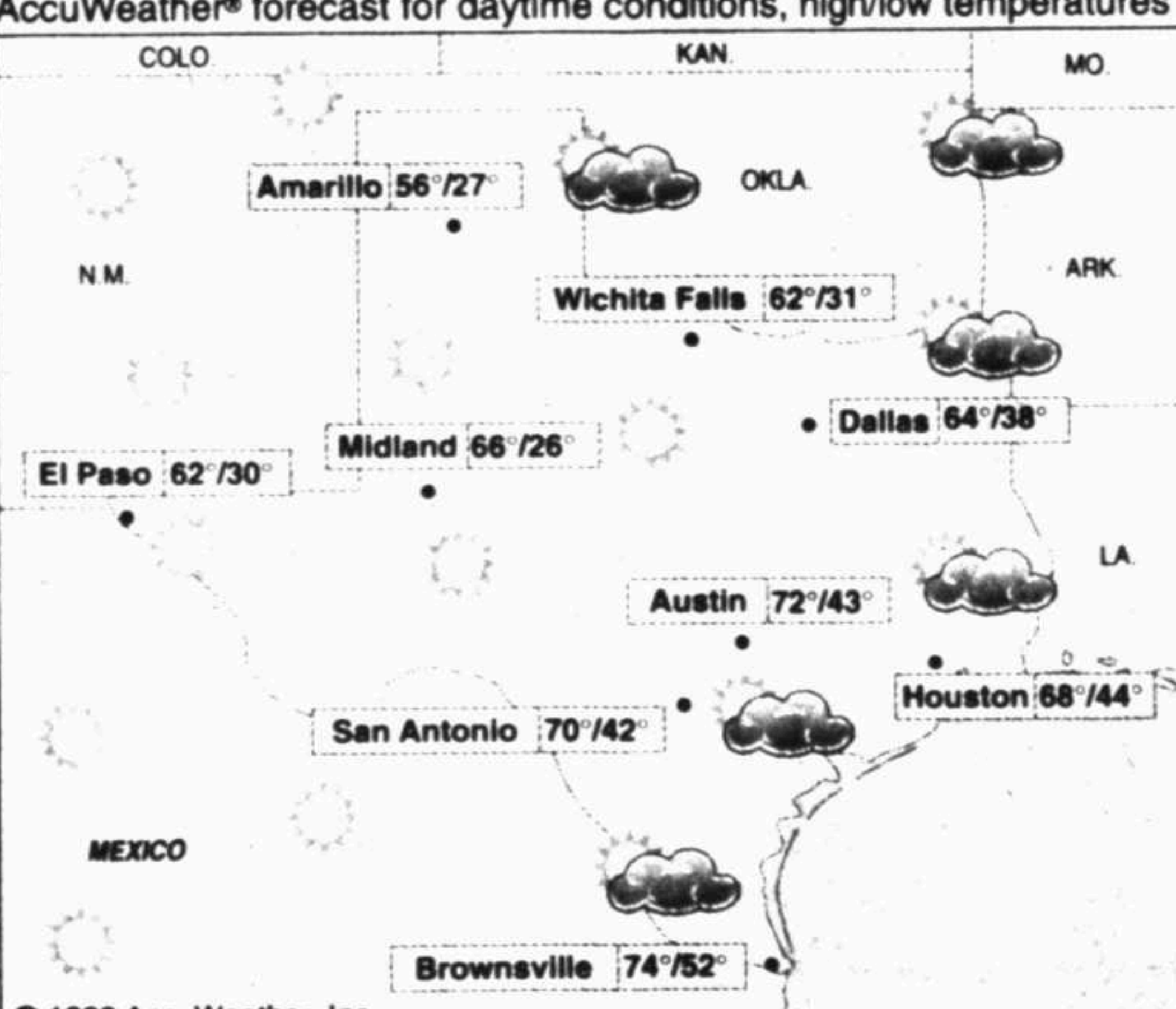
United States temperatures

	Hi	Lo	Prc	Okla		Hi	Lo	Prc	Okla
Albany, N.Y.	48	32	cdy	Little Rock	62	29	cdy		
Albuquerque	48	27	cdy	Los Angeles	76	47	cdy		
Anchorage	12	-4	sno	Louisville	44	34	01	cdy	
Asheville	51	34	cdy	Memphis	57	30	cdy		
Atlanta	52	33	cdy	Miami Beach	75	68	cdy		
Atlantic City	52	33	cdy	Milwaukee	28	28	cdy		
Baltimore	49	40	cdy	Minneapolis	17	2	cdy		
Bilings	55	34	cdy	Mpls-St Paul	17	2	cdy		
Birmingham	55	27	cdy	Nashville	51	30	cdy		
Bismarck	11	-3	10	New Orleans	59	44	cdy		
Boise	44	35	13	New York City	49	46	02	cdy	
Boston	50	43	cdy	Norfolk, Va.	53	48	cdy		
Buffalo	38	37	cdy	North Platte	56	20	cdy		
Burlington, Vt.	44	27	cdy	Oklahoma City	51	31	cdy		
Casper	44	27	cdy	Omaha	50	10	cdy		
Charleston, S.C.	57	45	cdy	Orlando	64	60	06	cdy	
Charleston, W. Va.	45	37	cdy	Pendleton	56	50	06	cdy	
Charlotte, N.C.	53	35	cdy	Philadelphia	50	44	cdy		
Cheyenne	47	29	cdy	Phoenix	67	36	cdy		
Chicago	28	28	01	Pittsburgh	36	32	02	cdy	
Cincinnati	40	33	cdy	Portland, Maine	47	33	02	cdy	
Cleveland	35	33	04	Portland, Ore.	54	50	42	cdy	
Columbia, S.C.	58	39	cdy	Providence	50	42	04	cdy	
Columbus, Ohio	36	34	01	Raleigh-Durham	54	41	cdy		
Concord, N.H.	44	33	06	Rapid City	54	22	02	cdy	
Dayton	35	30	09	Reno	56	24	cdy		
Denver	54	30	cdy	Richmond	51	40	cdy		
Des Moines	22	10	sno	Sacramento	58	30	cdy		
Detroit	33	33	03	St. Louis	40	28	cdy		
Duluth	3	10	cdy	Salt Lake City	42	31	cdy		
Evansville	43	31	cdy	San Diego	72	49	cdy		
Fairbanks	-9	-20	cdy	San Francisco	57	39	cdy		
Fargo	0	-10	sno	San Juan, P.R.	82	75	cdy		
Flagstaff	49	10	cdy	Santa Fe	45	19	cdy		
Grand Rapids	33	33	02	Seattle	51	25	09	sm	
Great Falls	51	41	cdy	Shreveport	61	28	cdy		
Greensboro, N.C.	51	35	cdy	Sioux Falls	14	-3	01	cdy	
Hartford Spgld	50	38	cdy	Spokane	50	43	cdy		
Helena	48	33	01	Syracuse	43	40	sno		
Honolulu	81	68	cdy	Tampa-St. Petersburg	67	62	04	cdy	
Indianapolis	37	32	06	Topeka	41	26	cdy		
Jackson, Miss.	59	27	cdy	Tucson	67	34	cdy		
Jacksonville	53	48	cdy	Tulsa	56	27	37	cdy	
Juneau	33	27	19	Washington, D.C.	51	43	cdy		
Kansas City	36	23	cdy	Wichita	43	22	cdy		
Las Vegas	62	28	cdy	Wilkes-Barre	40	38	02	cdy	
				Wilmington, Del.	49	43	cdy		

State forecast

Friday, Dec. 17

AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions, high/low temperatures



Texas temperatures

	High	Low	Pcp		High	Low	Pcp
Abilene	58	30		Houston Hobby	59	36	
Alice	62	38		Houston Intercontinental	59	28	
Amarillo	48	23		Huntsville	57	30	
Arlington	56	26		Junction	52	19	
Austin/Bergstrom	58	32		Kingsville	65	35	
Austin/Malby	57	37		Laredo	61	41	
Beaumont	59	32		Longview	56	25	
Brownsville	65	48		Lubbock	50	26	
Burnet	55	28		Lufkin	58	26	
Childress	55	29		Marfa	46	12	
College Station	58	28		McAllen	66	41	
Comroe	57	28		McKinney	55	25	
Corpus Christi	59	31		Midland	50	25	
Corrigan	57	28		Mineral Wells	60	29	
Cotulla	62	29		Navy Corps	63	50	
Dalhart	48	21		New Braunfels	60	29	
Dallas Love Field	55	36		Odessa	51	29	
Del Rio	59	34		Palacios	61	32	
Denton	54	26		Paris	54	30	
DFW Airport	57	30		Rockport	64	35	
Dryden	54	27		San Angelo	53	22	
El Paso	50	20		San Antonio	59	27	
Fort Stockton	51	28		San Marcos	59	27	
Fort Worth Alliance	56	29		Shreveport, La.	55	28	
Fort Worth Meacham	56	35		Terrell	54	26	
Georgetown	59	25		Texasarkia, Ar.	54	30	
Gladewater	55	28		Tyler	54	29	
Gladewater Pass	47	28		Victoria	63	29	
Haltom City	65	43		Waco	57	28	
Hendry	61	27		Whitita Falls	55	28	
				Wink	54	15	

UNOCAL: Claims have been filed with the EEOC

(From 1A)

to adjust to the company's changing needs and demands," according to their complaint in the federal district clerk's office.

"The men were supposedly placed in a pool of employees from which managers in Unocal could choose the employees for available jobs, but none of the 22 who were reduced in force were offered other jobs in the company so that the provision of inclusion in a pool was just a sham," documents say. "Unocal's actions constitute a pattern and

practice of age discrimination."

Their attorneys, of the Midland firm of Cotton, Bledsoe, Tighe and Dawson, claim the men "had performed their jobs satisfactorily and had received good evaluations, awards for outstanding performance and letters or messages of congratulations from high corporate officers on the outstanding job that they and the teams they were on had done for the company."

The six have filed claims of age discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, court records show.

"When Unocal included the plaintiffs in the reduction in force, they were either replaced directly by a younger worker or certain positions were consolidated and the remaining position was given to a substantially younger and less experienced worker," said attorneys.

Price, Powers, Earles and Hough have accused Unocal of violating Fair Labor Standards Act laws by falsely exempting them from the minimum wage and overtime requirements.

The men claim that for years, Unocal paid them for 40 hours a

week, knowing the men worked in excess of 40 hours regularly.

The four claim Unocal knowingly failed to compensate them for the time-and-a-half provision to which they were entitled.

The six men are seeking judgment against Unocal for back pay, damages, overtime pay where applicable, compensation for lost benefits including lost pension benefits, punitive damages, interest, compensatory damages and attorney's fees.

Today is the fifth day of the trial, which is expected to conclude next Tuesday.

POKEMON: Starter kit includes 12 cards for \$10

(From 1A)

Carl Pirkle noted that "any type of trading card is not to be brought to school and traded."

"If they are brought to school, they are taken up," he said. "Parents can pick them up or students can pick them up the last day of school. That's the way we handle them. They are not to be brought to school. It distracts."

Some students have big collections, Pirkle said. "There were books (of cards) ... three and four inches thick."

In addition to the card game, there is also the Pokémon video game for the hand-held Nintendo Game Boy, noted 10-year-old Rusk student Liz Robertson.

"It's fun because you have to catch all the Pokémon," she said. "I play the Pokémon game. The Pokémon faint, and they don't die."

Her classmate, 10-year-old Josh Measles who noted that there are 151 Pokémon characters, said that the game is "neat to play."

"You can win money," Josh said.

"Not real money," Liz pointed out.

"It's cyberspace money," said Rusk teacher Sharon Morgan, "because it's on the computer screen."

With that imagined money, Liz said, "You can buy potions" that carry Pokémon "to higher levels."

Pokémon games broaden the mind's horizons, Josh suggested. "You have to figure out your strategy," he said.

Rusk student Nathan Wennerlind, 10, noted that the Pokémon game has "something to do" with mathematics.

To the students, the card game is both fun and expensive, said Charlie Lewis, 9. "They are expensive cards. When you sell them, you get money for them."

A first-edition hologram card, such as Mew, may sell for \$100 in trading, noted Christopher Mullins, 9. "It's rare, too."

Classmate Amanda Matthews,

9, is somewhat of a Pokémon detractor. Amanda said that she does "not really collect Pokémon" cards. "But I think people spend too much money on them."

A Pokémon trading-card starter-set packet for two players may cost about \$10.

"And the reason I don't collect them is because all you are really doing is wasting money," Amanda said.

Charlie noted that for \$10 "you can get 12 cards, and you are guaranteed a hologram."

"I guarantee you we are not wasting money," said Charlie, who has fun playing with the cards.

From Liz's perspective, "I think you are wasting money with Pokémon cards but not with the Pokémon video games because you buy two things (the Game Boy and the game), and that's it."

Dale Morris of Dale's Comics in Midland noted the popularity of the Pokémon.

"Even if they don't play, they

collect trading cards just so they can play with each other and socialize with each other — just to be able to hang out with people and talk to other kids," said Morris, who deals in Pokémon cards and who is a Pokémon instructor.

Youngsters from ages 6 to 17 play the game and trade. "And sometimes you've got fathers that play with their sons, so you are looking at age 30. It's kind of like ages 6 to 106."

"As far as children, I would say it's educational," Morris said of the phenomenon. "They have to do math to play the game. They have to read the text to know what the cards do. Eventually, they have to learn strategy."

The players are "competitive," Morris said, "but not in the sense that they are sore losers. It teaches them how to be competitive."

Of her students' being caught up in the Pokémon craze, Ms. Morgan said, "Some are, some aren't. It's just another fad."

APRIL: 'This gives you a good feeling inside'

(From 1A)

Emily King appeared to find the project a bit overwhelming, noting that "I've never painted a house before. It's kind of a big job."

But, she said, "we're doing this for Christmas in April and to know how good it feels to help others."

Ms. McClaine's daughter Lindsay, a member of the sixth-grade class, said "I think service projects are fun, helping other people in need. It gives you a

good feeling. I think this is going to be fun."

This was the first service project for Rachel Booten, who said she had helped paint a guest bathroom before.

"This gives you a good feeling inside and teaches you how blessed you are," she said.

Blair Irving joked that the project was "a lot better than schoolwork."

She said she thought the service project was a good idea "and it makes you feel good to be doing something."



Lindsay McClaine helps paint as she and other students from Midland Christian School work on a house for the Christmas in April project

JOBS: The mining sector, which includes the oil and gas industry, lost 100 jobs

(From 1A)

panies that deferred purchases are now making them from manufacturers," he said.

He said the parts of Texas that are seeing employment weakness are those with ties to agriculture. The mining sector, which includes the oil and gas industry, lost 100 jobs for the month, but Crowley said he would consider that a minor concern.

"On a statewide basis, mining employment fell throughout the state. Though oil prices are high, this 100-job loss was a correction coming out of a tremendous hiring effort," he said.

Overall, Crowley said, the statistics for November were good

news.

"We're seeing normal hiring for the holiday season," he said, "and we see a stable employed sector, though the labor force is declining. It may seem mixed, but there are positive trends. With a stable mining and manufacturing sector, that's allowing the rest of the economy a chance to adjust. We don't have December figures yet, but if previous trends hold true, we should see more hiring in trade and service."

Morache said that where agriculture once drove the Texas economy now, "the Texas economy is being driven by what drives the rest of the nation, commercial retail and information technology."

The Odessa-Midland labor force dropped to 126,329 from 127,009 in October and is below the 128,635 of last year. Of the residents in the labor force, 118,131 were employed, up slightly from 118,104 in October and below the 120,753 a year ago. The number of unemployed residents dropped to 8,198 from 8,905 in October and above the 7,882 unemployed last year.

Ms. Hawke said "a lot of people are leaving the market, they're going to Dallas and Austin, where there are opportunities, because the job market just isn't there yet here in Midland. I'm hoping it will pick up after the first of the year."

Experimental vaccine said to block nicotine cravings

N.Y. Times News Service

Scientists say they have devised a vaccine that blocks nicotine from entering the brain, raising the prospect of a novel way to help smokers quit.

The experimental vaccine has been tested so far only in laboratory rats, but a government-sponsored study shows it reduced the amount of nicotine entering the animals' brains by almost two-thirds.

Most significant, scientists say, the vaccine blocked nicotine's effect in raising blood pressure and it prevented hyperactive behavior that researchers see when they inject the animals with nicotine, the addictive ingredient in tobacco.

This suggests that "vaccinated persons would not be able to get a 'kick' from the nicotine in tobacco smoke or chewing tobacco," Dr. Alan I. Leshner, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, which funded the research, said Thursday.

Human trials of the vaccine are planned within two years. Federal health officials hope nicotine immunization will be among the first of several vaccines against addiction. Also in early stages are vaccines against cocaine, methamphetamine, and PCP, an anesthetic drug called phencyclidine that is often abused. Leshner said the cocaine vaccine is closest to human trials.

The possibility of an anti-nicotine vaccine, Leshner said, is "tremendous" because smoking

remains "one of the biggest public health problems in this country, and we need to have as many treatment approaches as we can."

Although overall smoking rates have declined, an estimated 60 million Americans still smoke cigarettes, according to the drug abuse institute. Among adults between the ages of 18 and 25, the smoking rate has steadily crept upward in recent years.

Traditional vaccines are designed to stimulate the production of antibodies against infectious organisms, such as polio or hepatitis virus. The idea of immunizing against addictive substances represents "a very new and different use for a vaccine," said Dr. Paul Pentel of Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis.

Pentel is a coauthor of the new study on a nicotine vaccine, which appears in the journal Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior.

Although nicotine, like a virus, is foreign to the body, it is too small a molecule to be recognized by the immune system, Pentel said. To make a vaccine, researchers at a Florida-based company called Nabi Pharmaceuticals attached nicotine to a

protein derived from the outer coat of a bacterium. That enabled the immune system to make antibodies to the nicotine.

When researchers later injected regular nicotine into the lab rats, the vaccine-induced antibodies attached to

Area briefs

Thermal camera

Western National Bank of Odessa has made a \$5,000 donation to the Midland Fire Department and its efforts to purchase a thermal imaging camera which is used by firefighters to help locate victims trapped inside a burning building.

The check presentation was made Thursday.

In April of this year, Kay Sutton Century 21 Realtors launched a campaign to raise funds to purchase one thermal imaging camera by the end of the year. The cost of one camera is \$20,000.

The Midland Fire Department currently has two thermal imaging cameras: one was purchased in late 1996 with a grant from the Abell Hanger Foundation; the other was purchased this year with a donation by the Junior League of Midland.

The advanced thermal imaging technology allows firefighters to see objects clearly through smoke and darkness. When looking through the camera, firefighters can spot dangerous, unseen obstacles as well as detect the seat and spread of fire, even when hidden inside walls. It can also help locate people trapped inside a fire, sharply reducing the time

needed to find victims trapped in smoke-filled environments.

Hotchkiss serves

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) has appointed Shelia Hotchkiss of Midland to serve on the state's Waste Reduction Advisory Committee (WRAC). Ms. Hotchkiss, whose three-year term began on October 6, will be attending her first WRAC meeting in Austin on Jan. 13, 2000.

The Waste Reduction Advisory Committee was established by the Texas Legislature to advise the TNRCC on matters relating to pollution prevention input into the development of voluntary waste and reduction Clean Texas programs, including the new Clean Industries Plus program launched in early 1999.

Ms. Hotchkiss has been actively involved with environmental issues for several years, including serving as executive director and board member of Keep Midland Beautiful, president of Keep Texas Beautiful, and as a member of the Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission's Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

POLICE REPORTS

Midland Police Department Tuesday

Criminal Mischief: Criminal mischief over \$1,500 was reported at 3605 Oak Ridge at 12:39 a.m.

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

Judge sets bond for DEA agent accused in murder-for-hire scheme

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A federal magistrate granted bond Thursday to a Mexico-based U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent accused of trying to arrange the murder of a youth tried for killing his cousin.

U.S. Magistrate John William Black set bond at \$200,000 for Salvador Michael Martinez, 37, arrested Tuesday on federal murder-for-hire charges.

Martinez posted 10 percent bail, \$20,000, and was released Thursday afternoon. He was expected to live with his father-in-law, Municipal Court Judge Rudy Garza of Floresville and will be subject to electronic monitoring.

Jeff Wilde, Martinez's court-appointed defense lawyer, cited his Texas family ties and law enforce-

ment background in asking the judge to grant him bond. He also said he was concerned about Martinez's safety if he were held with other inmates.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Rick Lara said Martinez should be held without bond because he is accused of a violent offense and because he has lived and worked in Mexico. Lara said Martinez was isolated from the general jail population for his protection.

"I'm taking a chance on you, Mr. Martinez," Black said.

"Yes, sir, I won't let you down," Martinez replied.

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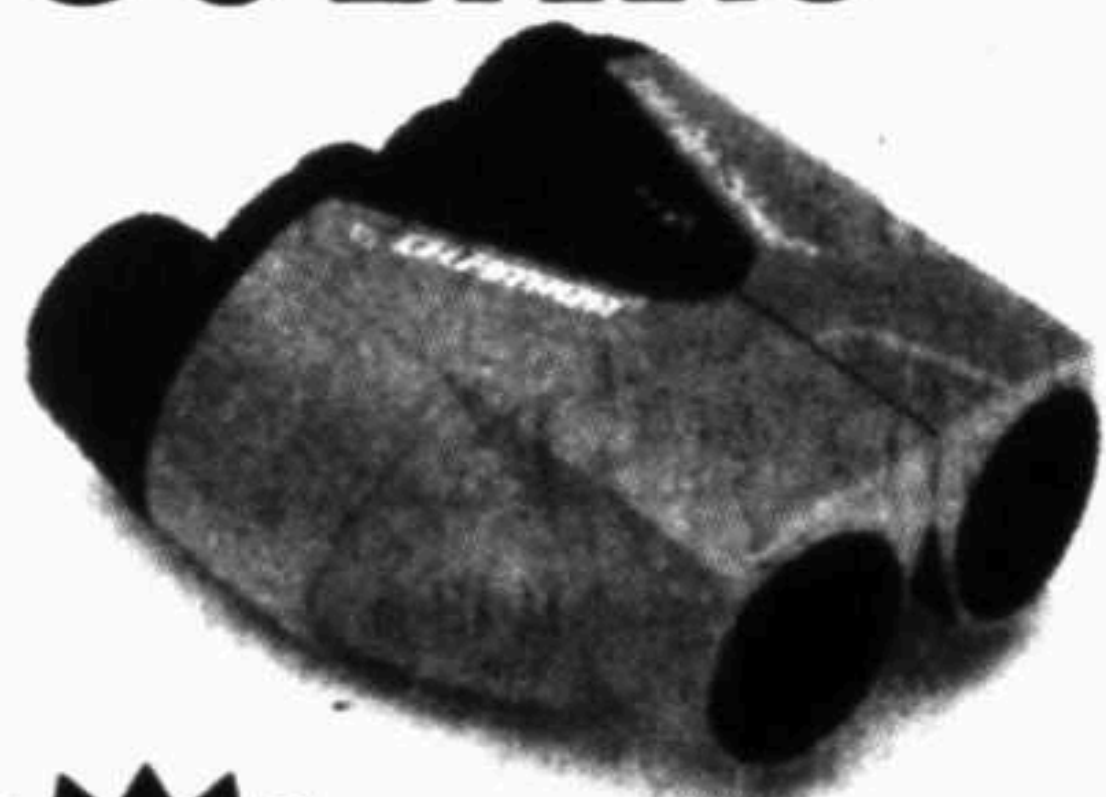
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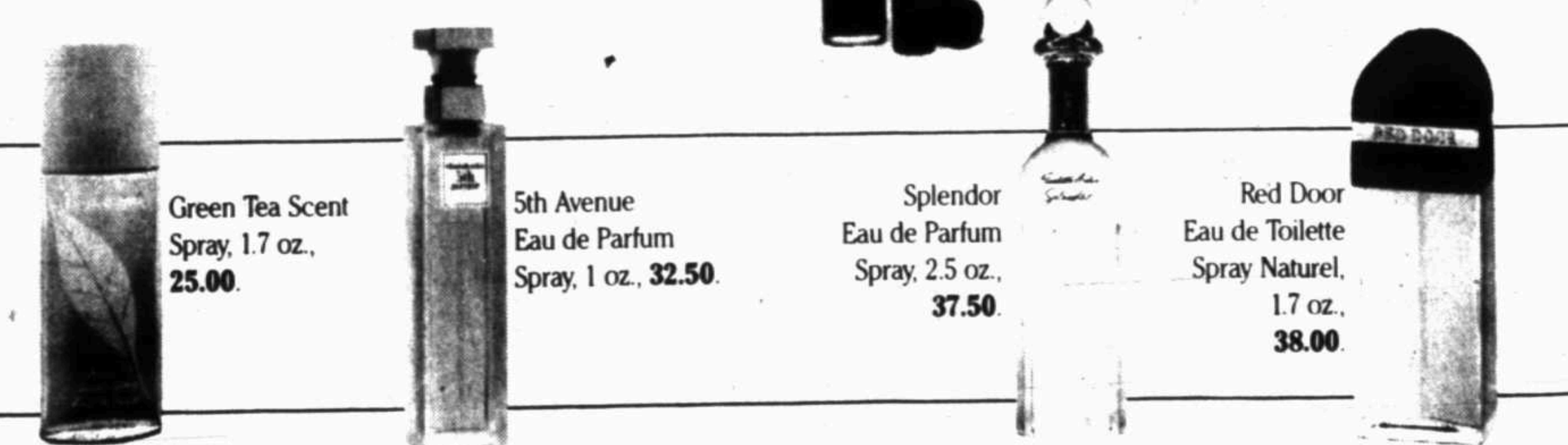
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DECEMBER 17, 1999

MIDLANDERS' Braggin' Rights



Mary L. Arana

SPECIAL AWARD

Mary L. Arana of Corpus Christi, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Arana of McCamey, has been awarded the Administrator's Award for Excellence by the U.S. Small Business Administration. In a recent ceremony in Washington, D.C., Ms. Arana's company was recognized "for outstanding contribution and service to the nation by a small business in satisfying the needs of the Federal government."

Ms. Arana, who is president of STC Constructors LLC in Corpus Christi, was also named 1999 Minority Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration Lower Rio Grande Valley District Office, and recognized at an awards banquet in McAllen.

BRAG ON!

ODESSA — Students at Elementary Magnet School at Blackshear had "Brag Day" on Dec. 14 and 15. Tuesday performances showcased students' talents in choir, hand chimes, Spanish dance, jump rope and twirling, while Wednesday the students' performances included drama, guitar and a demonstration by the jump rope team.

PEER TUTOR

Midlander Nicole Kuiper, a graduate of Midland High School and a student at Austin College, is a peer tutor for Austin College's Academic Skills Center for the 1999-2000 academic year. She helps teach Spanish, economics and writing. The program is designed to help students develop skills in writing, reading and general study.

RESIDENT ASSISTANT

Midlander Mark Wallace, another MHS graduate, has been chosen to be a residence hall assistant (RA) at Austin College. He is one of 26 RAs for 1999-2000.

RAs help supervise specific wings or halls of residence halls, provide transitional assistance to new students, perform routine security and maintenance checks, and be the first level of authority when problems arise. Each residence hall is also under the supervision of an area coordinator, a full-time student life professional.

HE'S WHO

Patrick Qualls of Midland is among 62 students at Texas A&M University Kingsville who have been selected to be included in the 1999 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Qualls is majoring in biology.

Students are nominated by faculty, administration and student body members. Selection is based on scholarship, participation and leadership in academic college and university, and potential for future achievement. Only juniors, seniors and graduate students are eligible.

Dr. Kay Clayton, senior vice president and provost, presented certificates to each student Nov. 15 at a program and reception in their honor.

CYCLE ON!

Midland mountain-bike cyclist Kim Gerard, team captain of the Petro Source Carbon Company bicycling team, recently presented a check for more than \$12,000 collected in a fund-raiser event to the West Texas Division of the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society.

Ms. Gerard, who raised almost \$6,400 of the \$12,000 collected by her 13-member team, was the top fund-raiser in the West Texas Coyote Classic MS Mountain Bike Tour and Race. The event was held in early November at Nottrees on the Flag Ranch under sponsorship of the Sewell Toyota of Odessa and Toyota of Midland.

"We are very pleased that Petro Source Carbon Company team has chosen the National MS Society to benefit from all of their hard work and determination," said Cami Andrews, special-events coordinator for the West Texas MS Division.

MS is a chronic degenerative disease of the central nervous system and leads to loss of coordination and to speech and visual

disturbances.

"They are held prisoner in their own bodies," Ms. Gerard said of MS sufferers. Witnessing effects of the disease makes one realize "how fortunate that you are everyday when you have your health," she said. "And we need to do something to help fine a cure — to champion the cause. There are a lot of excellent causes out there. You have to champion something."

Ms. Gerard presented the funds to Kevin Ferdinand, chairman of the MS Mountain Bike Committee for the Coyote Classic MS event.

The 13-member Petro Source Carbon Company bicycling team

was among more than 100 participants in the event.

Three team members raised

more than \$1,000 each: Ms. Gerard with almost \$6,400; Shelley

Continued on 7A

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Graham, \$2,000; Roys, \$1,000.

"It's a good ham said. "It's ing disease. It when you see at the Coyote "cheering the

Kristen Str Ms. Andrews, coordinator for said that the M thrilled that Pe so much money the effects of M

LOWE'S Lowe's Hen have safeguard senior citizens land. In honor of Midland organ named a regional tion winner in the program.

The team, Lowe's employ sentatives of Senior Services Police Depart awarded \$1,000 in promoting se area.

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The Lowe's was created in Home Safety profit organiza Lowe's Home Warehouse, wi American hom has been imple at more than 35 the country.

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Braggin' Rights

(From 6A)

Graham, \$2,500, and Nancy Roys, \$1,000.

"It's a good cause," Ms. Graham said. "It's a very devastating disease. It really hits (home) when you see people with MS" at the Coyote Classic event "cheering the cyclists."

Kristen Stubbs, who, like Ms. Andrews, is a special-events coordinator for MS functions, said that the MS Society is "just thrilled that Petro Source raised so much money to help combat the effects of MS."

LOWE'S HEROES

Lowe's Heroes in Midland have safeguarded 12 homes of senior citizens in southeast Midland. In honor of this success, the Midland organization has been named a regional honorable mention winner in the Lowe's Heroes program.

The team, consisting of Lowe's employees, and representatives of Community and Senior Services and the Midland Police Department, has been awarded \$1,000 for their efforts in promoting senior safety in the area.

At 10 a.m. Dec. 16, Lowe's of Midland donated their award to Midland County Child Welfare Board. Patricia Nelson, chairman elect, accepted the award on the organization's behalf. Midland County Child Welfare Board was established to help support Child Protective Services in Midland County.

The Lowe's Heroes program was created in 1996 by Lowe's Home Safety Council, a non-profit organization founded by Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse, with a goal of safer American homes. The program has been implemented this year at more than 350 Lowe's across the country.

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Sheriff unavailable for questions about military absence

FORT WORTH (AP) — A sheriff who has banked on his experience in the Army's military police to help get him elected is now facing questions about a service record that shows he was absent without leave and possibly demoted shortly before leaving the military.

David Williams, who is running for his third term in Tarrant County, did not return phone calls left at his office to answer questions about the marks on his record, which The Dallas Morning News first reported in Thursday's editions.

Williams has scheduled a news conference for Friday, said his spokesman, Capt. Herb Chambers. The records show he was listed as AWOL on April 2, 1976, and was "dropped from rolls (desertion)" on May 6, 1976. His rank apparently changed from "senior military policeman" to "military policeman" in the weeks follow-

ing the incident.

Williams, who was with the 546th Military Police Company at Fort Sill, Okla., left the service on July 13 of that year.

The documents do not indicate what kind of discharge he received, information that cannot be released to the public, officials said.

Williams supporters say it must have been honorable.

"He is a certified peace officer in the state of Texas, and you don't get that with a dishonorable discharge," said Capt. Herb Chambers, public information officer for the sheriff's department. "He would not be accepted if he had a cloud hanging over his head."

Army spokeswoman Elaine Kanelis said a person who has been absent without leave and dropped from the rolls could receive a range of sanctions from his local commander, including small administrative punishments, court martial or discharge. She said

it was possible for someone to receive an honorable discharge after going AWOL.

Some of Williams' critics said they aren't surprised by the revelations.

"He deserted the military. He's deserted the citizens of Tarrant County. I think it's consistent," said Jerry McGlasson, former chief of police in North Richland Hills and one of the three Republicans hoping to replace Williams as sheriff next year. A primary election is set for March 14.

Williams' adversarial relationship with the county commissioners is well-documented.

Williams sued the Commissioners Court last year, hoping to

block the county from enacting part of its \$240 million budget. Before eventually dropping the suit, Williams said he wanted a "fair and equitable" salary structure for his employees as "required by law."

Over the years, he also has battled county commissioners over his acquisition of military surplus helicopters, the purchase of sport utility vehicles for his department and differences over the department's budget.

He has asked the state attorney general for a legal opinion on how much authority the commissioners have over a sheriff.

Commissioner J.D. Johnson called on the sheriff to respond to reports about his military service.

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DEC 17

1999

Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Child reminds Midlanders of spirit of season

The story of 8-year-old Amber Cartmell of Midland is a wonderful example of what the Christmas spirit is all about. It is a spirit that many Midlanders could use an extra dose of at this hectic, demanding, nerve-wracking season of the year.

Amber was shopping at Midland Park Mall earlier this week with her mother, Lori Cartmell, when the little girl found a bank envelope on the floor containing \$101 cash and a driver's license for Sierra Ramos of Big Spring. According to Ms. Cartmell, Amber didn't want to use the money she had found. She wanted to find the owner.

Through calls to Ms. Ramos's bank, the woman was notified that her money had been located and was being returned. Tremendously relieved because the money that she lost was to be used to buy clothes for her own little girl for Christmas, Ms. Ramos said she was going to call Amber "my little Christmas angel. This is what Christmas is all about."

She is absolutely correct. In today's world there are abundant frustrations and stress that can make us forget the true meaning of Christmas — and that meaning is not overindulgence at the holiday dinner table nor selfishness when it comes to gift giving.

Rather, the meaning of this season revolves around the Christian tradition of caring for our fellow man, giving to relieve his burdens and bringing joy to those around us in the spirit of the holiday.

It means being forgiving, taking time to be considerate of others while shopping at the mall or driving through the busy city streets, calling out "Merry Christmas!" to those you meet just to brighten their day.

Little Amber reminded all Midlanders of the true spirit of this Christmas season embodied in the birth of Jesus Christ. We're glad that she did!

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, Dec. 17, the 351st day of 1999. There are 14 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright went on the first successful manned powered-airplane flights, near Kitty Hawk, N.C.

On this date:

In 1777, France recognized American independence.
 In 1830, South American patriot Simon Bolivar died in Colombia.

In 1925, Colonel William "Billy" Mitchell was convicted at his court-martial of insubordination.

In 1939, the German pocket battleship "Graf Spee" was scuttled by its crew, ending the World War II Battle of the River Plate off Uruguay.

In 1944, the U.S. Army announced it was ending its policy of excluding Japanese-Americans from the West Coast.

In 1957, the United States successfully test-fired the "Atlas" intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time.

In 1969, the U.S. Air Force closed its Project "Blue Book" by concluding there was no evidence of extraterrestrial spacecrafts behind thousands of UFO sightings.

In 1969, an estimated 50 million TV viewers watched singer Tiny Tim marry his fiancée, Miss Vicki, on NBC's "Tonight Show."

In 1975, Lynette Fromme was sentenced in federal court in Sacramento, Calif., to life in prison for her attempt on the life of President Ford.

In 1979, in a case that aggravated racial tensions, Arthur McDuffie, a black insurance executive, was fatally beaten after a police chase in Miami. Four white police officers were later acquitted of charges stemming from McDuffie's death.

Ten years ago: More than 100,000 Soviet citizens turned out to honor the late human rights advocate Andrei D. Sakharov, a day before he was buried in Moscow.

Five years ago: North Korea shot down a U.S. Army helicopter which had strayed north of the demilitarized zone — the co-pilot, Chief Warrant Officer David Hilemon, was killed; the pilot, Chief Warrant Officer Bob Hall, was captured and held for nearly two weeks. Six shots were fired at the White House by an unidentified gunman.

One year ago: The United States hit Iraq with a second wave of punishing airstrikes.

JACK ANDERSON

Panama Canal remains world marvel, but it's vulnerable

WASHINGTON — President Clinton stayed home. So did Vice President Gore and, at the last minute, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Nobody in the current administration wanted to be associated with the hand-over of the Panama Canal, one of the century's great architectural achievements and a symbol of U.S. power abroad. Former President Jimmy Carter was left to attend the Dec. 14 transfer ceremony virtually alone, testimony either to the continuing influence the canal has in American politics or to its obsolescence.

American conservatives equate turning over the canal to Panama as tantamount to giving away the Statue of Liberty. President Carter has said that getting a two-thirds majority in the U.S. Senate in 1977 to ratify the treaties for the canal's return was harder than getting elected president. They passed by one vote. The following year, 20 senators who supported the treaties were up for re-election. Fourteen lost. In 1980, several more senators lost their seats, and Ronald Reagan defeated Carter for president in part because of his rallying cry that the canal belonged to the United

States, and turning it over was a sign of weakness. Yet once Reagan was president, he affirmed the treaties and did not attempt to renegotiate them. Why?

Today, some Republicans are trying to rekindle the passion that was felt in Reagan's day by raising the specter of China filling the vacuum left by the exiting Americans. The Panamanians have contracted with a Hong Kong company to operate ports at both ends of the canal. The company, Hutchison Whampoa, is a large, publicly traded corporation that runs 17 other such facilities around the world, including Britain's three largest ports.

Some nervousness is understandable. Since Hong Kong has reverted to China, it is theoretically possible that Beijing could move to nationalize the company and use it as a vehicle to take over the canal, disrupt commercial traffic, and establish a strategic toehold.

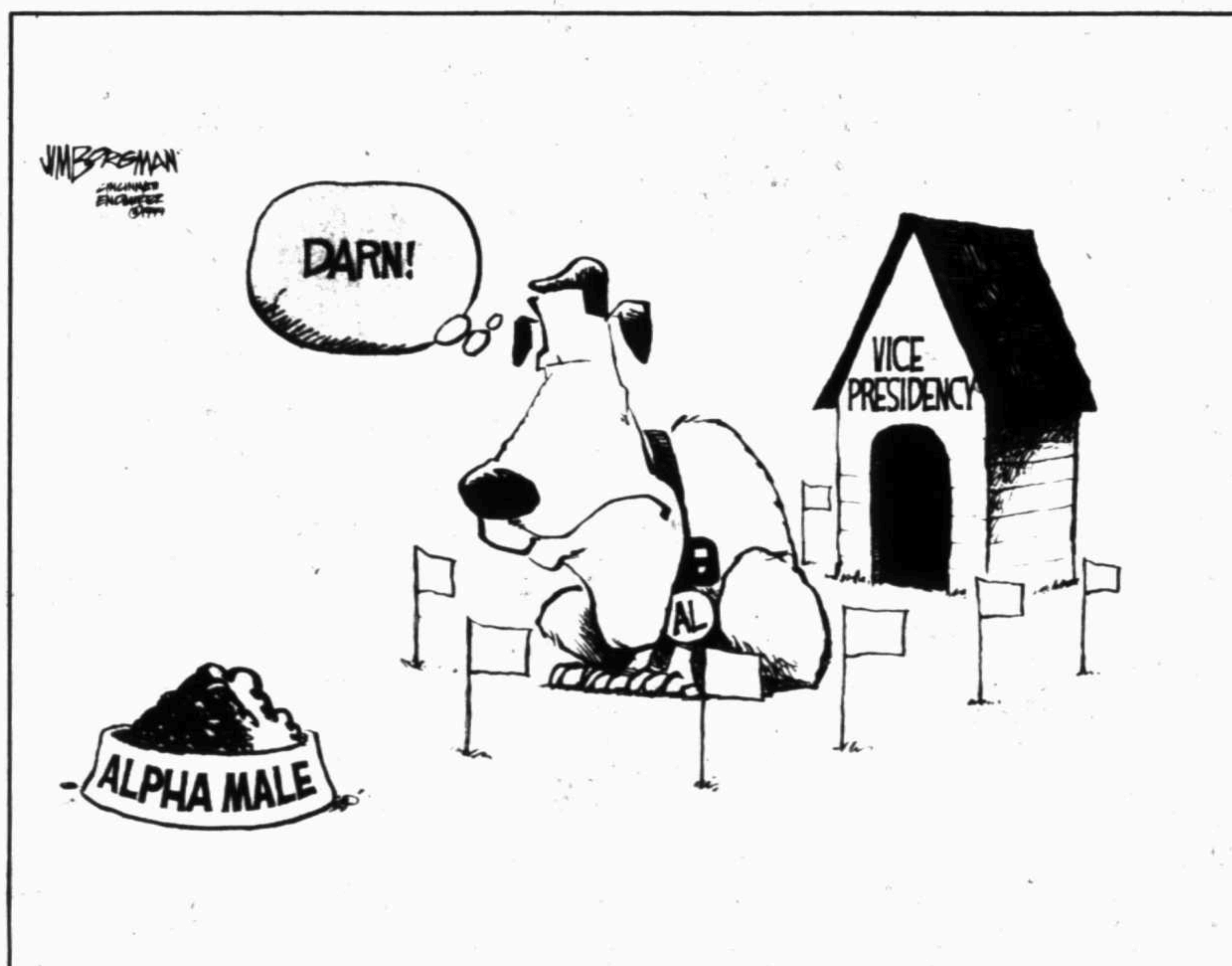
Defenders of the arrangement point out that Panama has a huge stake in maintaining the canal's economic viability. It's their lifeblood. The Hong Kong company has no authority over passageway through the canal, and handles only the loading and unloading of containers to and from ships. None of its employees in Panama are Chinese, and its manager there is British. Under the treaty arrangement, no Chinese soldiers are permitted, and only Panamanian pilots can shepherd

ships through the canal.

If the worst case scenario were to happen, the United States retains the unilateral right to defend the canal's neutrality. And if the canal were suddenly put out of commission, the impact on the United States would be minimal. The Wall Street Journal recently called the canal little more than a "commercial convenience," pointing out that only 12 percent (by weight) of U.S. sea-borne trade crosses the waterway each year. The last active-duty U.S. aircraft carrier that made its way through the canal was decommissioned more than 20 years ago.

The canal remains a world marvel, but it is 85 years old and vulnerable. President Carter has said that a primary reason that he negotiated its return was the anti-colonialist fervor that existed in Panama at the time, and the ease with which a single dissident with a suitcase of explosives could destroy the canal. Today, polls show that 60 percent of Panamanians don't want the United States to leave, and Carter is among those who had hoped a small American military force could have stayed behind, principally to control drugs. The threat today is not from China, but from neighboring countries like Colombia, and the lawlessness that results from the drug trade.

Jack Anderson's and Jan Moller's column is distributed by United Feature Syndicate.



CHARLEY REESE

Knowledge hinges on words, images from strangers

A fairly recent movie, "The Matrix," is an interesting science-fiction thriller. People believe they are living normal lives, but, in fact, it is all an illusion. In reality, their naked bodies are hooked up in vast rows of vats and are used by machines, which control the earth, to generate energy.

I would like to suggest to you that we, too, are living in an illusory world. Let's think this through. First, our only contact with the world outside of our bodies are our five senses — vision, hearing, smell, taste and touch. These senses send data to the brain, which processes it and stores it in a memory bank.

For most of the time man has been on Earth, if he wished to see something, he had to be physically present. Stories told around campfires would create imaginary images, but beyond that, ancient man was fairly firmly rooted to the reality as interpreted by his own senses.

As painting developed, but, most importantly, as photography developed — first still, then moving, then electronic — men could be exposed to images of things he had not actually seen. We are even exposed to images of things that are, in fact, deliberate fakes. The conscious part of our brain knows that when we see a movie, what we are seeing are actors on a set who are wearing costumes and being filmed. On the other hand, these images are stored in our brains without a label that says "false image."

This is important when you realize that, over a lifetime, literally millions of false images will be stored in our brains. The further we get from the moment we first saw the false image, the more difficult it is to sort out what is a true image and what is a false image. For example, if I say "Civil War," most of us will pull up images from the movie, "Gone with the Wind," or images from the Public Broadcasting Service special on the war. None of us experienced the actual event. Our only visual images of it are

from photographs, artwork and Hollywood sets. None of these, not even the photographs, captures the reality of the event in its wholeness.

Bear in mind, too, that we know nothing about the past except what we have been told in words, photographs and artwork produced by others. Suppose something that we have been told happened, in fact, did not happen. Suppose all the words we've read and heard and all the images we have seen in photographs were, in fact, deliberately chosen to deceive us. It's stunning, when you think about it, that 100 percent of our knowledge of the past is created in our own minds by words and images produced by other people, virtually all strangers. It's also a fact that most of what we call knowledge of the present is likewise created via images and words produced by strangers.

We can be in only one place at one time and directly experience what is within range of our senses. Beyond that, we rely on words and images transmitted to us by strangers. Whether these words and images are indeed accurate reflections of the real things is difficult for us to know.

Let me suggest to you that most Americans are living in a matrix created by a corporate elite that controls the media, the entertainment industry, book publishing, the government and most universities. Thus Americans, no matter where they turn, are bombarded with the same message: America is the most free, most prosperous country in the world. This is the longest-running boom in history. All the economic indicators show prosperity. Globalism is good and inevitable.

Now, certainly many Americans know that they are not prosperous, and it must be disconcerting constantly to be told that they are. The probable result is that they feel their failure must be their own fault. Wake up folks. Reality might be rough, but it's a lot better than illusions.

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

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

Doonesbury



LETTERS

If there's ceiling on price of oil, there has to be floor

The price of domestic crude oil and natural gas has finally reached a point that our drilling and workover rigs are beginning to go back to work. This puts a lot of people back to work.

Now our president and Mr. Richardson are putting out word that the federal government will step in and destroy this opportunity we have to get back what we lost when oil and gas fell to an all-time low of \$9 oil and \$1.50 gas. When oil dropped this low we could not produce at this price, but when it got to \$35 a barrel the government stepped in and put a ceiling, calling it a windfall profit tax. That was not a windfall tax, just another ad valorem tax and the bureaucracy that handled this cost more to run than they took in.

You can't build anything without starting with a floor. We don't mind a ceiling of \$25 posted price, but we have to have a floor of \$20 posted price. This will keep our oilfields working. People complain about \$1.50 gasoline, but Europe and the British Isles are paying \$3, \$4, and \$5 a liter for their gasoline. So let the government stay out of our business or start with the floor before messing with the oil industry. We are not oilfield trash, we are respectable people who supply the United States with all the oil and gas we can produce. We already are importing more than 50 percent. Now let's try to cut this down by leaving us alone.

Crude oil and natural gas should never have been put on the futures market. I don't know who they are, but someone is buying fictitious oil and gas one day and selling the next, taking profit when it goes up then selling short and making money both ways at our expense. If they want to buy a million barrels of oil they need storage for it. It makes no sense that the price of oil and gas should change up and down every day. If Richardson and Clinton want to do something right, take oil and gas off the futures market. No depletable product should be allowed on the futures market.

M.W. Branum

Midlanders should vote for man with oil experience

I am pleased to have been named treasurer for the Andy Draughn for Texas railroad commissioner campaign. Andy Draughn announced his Republican primary candidacy against Michael Williams Tuesday, Nov. 30.

I have known Andy, a Texas A&M graduate, for a number of years and I feel with his 19 years of experience as a landman and oil investor, he brings the knowledge we desperately need on the Texas Railroad Commission.

I have also known Michael Williams for many years and feel he is a fine fellow, but by his own admission he knows very little about the oil industry.

I believe Midland has a perilous future with the instability of the oil industry; therefore I would hope that all Midlanders would vote for Andy Draughn, a person with a great deal of oil experience, for the important job of Texas railroad commissioner.

Frank Kell Cahoon

WHOM TO WRITE

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

Senators: Kay Bailey Hutchison (R), 284 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 or call (202) 224-5922, Fax (202) 224-0776; or write to Kay Bailey Hutchison, Suite 1160 Commerce, OB606, 10440 N. Central Expressway, Dallas, TX. 75231.

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

Governor: George W. Bush (R), State Capitol Building, Austin, Texas 78701 or call (512) 463-2000, Fax (512) 463-1849.

Torrential rains in Venezuela leave 50 dead

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—The streets of Caracas became raging rivers Thursday after torrential rains paralyzed much of Venezuela, triggering floods and landslides that killed at least 50 people and forced 120,000 to flee their homes.

"The river came like waves," said Marina de la Malave, 55, whose house, perched on a mountainside, was swept away.

At least 15,000 people lost their homes throughout northern Venezuela, many crushed by avalanches.

The death toll was expected to rise because rescue teams hadn't reached some of the hardest-hit areas. The dead were carried down streets atop sheets of metal or on doors torn loose by rushing mud and water.

Authorities declared nine northern states and Caracas disaster areas. Schools, banks and government offices were ordered closed and officials urged residents to stay home.

In a hillside slum area, people left homeless wandered aimlessly in the rain, covered by blankets or plastic garbage bags. Rain fell steadily much of Thursday and forecasters didn't expect it to let up.

"Most of my neighbors are dead," a weeping Marisabel Rodriguez, 42, said as she stared

at the narrow, muddy valley where shacks of clay block and tin were engulfed by an avalanche. One boy's body was found decapitated, she said, adding: "Without a head how can we know who he is?"

Rains that had been falling for several days intensified suddenly Wednesday night, a few hours after the closing of polls in a national referendum on a new constitution.

President Hugo Chavez, who had been expected to give a speech celebrating the new charter's passage, instead said, "Brothers, today there is no reason to celebrate."

The president was scheduled to tour disaster areas by helicopter as soon as weather permitted.

Caracas, a valley capital at an elevation of 3,000 feet, was a surreal scene with streets covered with mud and uprooted trees dragged downhill from the mountain that separates the city from the Caribbean Sea. Residents used shovels to dig cars from under piles of mud and debris, and in the upscale Los Chorrros neighborhood people were trapped inside their homes by water that roared down the streets.

Defense Minister Raul Salazar told reporters he was dispatching soldiers and civil defense workers to rescue people trapped in their

homes. "Whether by air or land or sea, we will reach every one of them," Salazar said.

Caracas' subway system, which normally carries about one million passengers a day, was flooded and largely shut down. A blocked tunnel closed the road linking the capital with its international airport.

On the city's fringes, in the mountainside slum of Blandin, residents pulled the dead out from houses buried in mud and carried them to the local police station, where they were laid out on the

sidewalk.

In downtown Caracas, rescue workers with shovels tried to extract three people trapped by a mudslide in an underground parking lot.

Some 1,000 victims left homeless, half of them children, gathered at the United Nations Park in Caracas. Officials there requested donations of medicine to treat stomach and eye ailments, and other authorities issued pleas for Venezuelans to donate diapers, shoes, mattresses, water and other items.

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Bodies of Russian soldiers lie in square; Russia denies attack

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Grim evidence of Russia's first foray into the Chechen capital lay all around Thursday: the bodies of at least 115 federal troops, many mangled and burned, strewn in a Grozny square near shattered tanks and charred personnel carriers.

An Associated Press reporter in the war-shattered city counted the dead from Wednesday's assault, which was met by fierce rebel resistance that handed the Russian military what appeared to be its worst defeat since it entered the breakaway republic in September to restore control.

He also counted seven wrecked Russian tanks and eight armored personnel carriers.

It was the first time Russian ground forces drove so deep into the capital, and the bloody result was a reminder of the 1994-96 Chechen conflict, when rebels

desperately defended Grozny and inflicted a heavy toll on the superior Russian forces.

It was not clear if the Russian armored group was the spearhead of what was to have been a major attack on Grozny or a reconnaissance mission to test the rebels' defenses. The Russians may also have penetrated farther into the city than they intended.

Russian officials on Thursday denied any attack had taken place.

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin called reports of the assault and heavy casualties "complete nonsense," and Defense Minister Igor Sergeev also denied a clash occurred.

"Reports about the defeat of a Russian armored column by the rebels in Grozny's Minutka Square are lies and misinformation," the Interfax news agency quoted Sergeev as saying. "No

Russian armored vehicles have entered the city."

Sergeev said government forces had not suffered any casualties. The Russian military said only two government soldiers had been killed in fighting during the past 24 hours.

Using Cold War-style language, the military claimed the reports of the battle were a provocation by Western news agencies, which they alleged were working on behalf of the Chechen forces.

Hundreds of Chechen fighters firing rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns surrounded the armored column Wednesday evening on the vast square, two miles from the city center.

The tanks, caught out in the open, were hit by rebel fire from all directions. Infantry in the lightly armored personnel carriers were mowed down as their vehicles burst into flames.

Rebel casualties appeared to have been light.

A rebel commander, Tsupyan Magomadov, told The Associated Press he could not confirm casualty figures from the Minutka Square fighting. The Russian news agency Interfax cited unspecified sources as saying 25 Russian soldiers were killed or wounded in the ambush.

According to Magomadov, Russian artillery rained down on the city and its outskirts on Thursday, with fighting focusing on a hill that is the highest spot in Grozny.

Russian warplanes and helicopter gunships flew every few minutes toward Grozny from a major airfield just outside Chechnya. A helicopter pilot, Capt. Oleg Ovinov, said the aircraft struck rebel positions in a wooded area on Grozny's edge but did not attack the city proper.

Russian generals have insisted for weeks that they will not mount a major ground attack on Grozny because they want to avoid the kind of heavy losses the army suffered in the city during the last war. While the army has a huge advantage in artillery and tanks, the Russian infantry is made up mostly by poorly trained conscripts facing experienced Chechen guerrillas, who excel at street fighting.

The Russian army maintained Thursday that it would take the city within days. But the military has made similar predictions repeatedly in recent weeks.

Chechen rebel leaders in Grozny said they were determined to hold out in the bomb-ravaged city. Several thousand militants are entrenched in the capital, where they have been preparing for a Russian assault.

Research: Brain scan could help diagnose ADHD

LONDON (AP) — For the first time, brain scans have revealed measurable biochemical differences in people with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, a discovery that could reduce the number of children mistakenly diagnosed and put on drug treatment, researchers say.

The diagnosis of ADHD, usually made in school-age children, is commonly based on observed behavior and some experts believe it is highly subjective — essentially just an educated judgment.

Some say the condition conducted at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and published in this week's issue of The Lancet medical journal, is the first to show a measurable biochemical abnormality in people with the disorder.

The method "is the most promising development I've seen in a long time in terms of our coming up with an actual physical test that could help us pin down the diagnosis of ADHD," said Dr. Edward Hallowell of Harvard Medical School, who was not connected with the research.

The Boston scientists have come up with the most direct indicator to date, measuring the biochemical balance in the brain by counting the number of dopamine transporters.

Dopamine is associated with movement, thought, motivation and pleasure. One brain cell signals another by squirting dopamine. Then the first cell mops up the released chemical with a structure called a dopamine transporter.

The researchers scanned the brains of six adults diagnosed with ADHD and 30 healthy people of the same age after injecting both groups with a chemical agent that attaches to the dopamine transporter.

The ADHD sufferers had 70 percent more dopamine transporters than their healthy counterparts.

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REVIEWS & PREVIEWS

Movies/3B



'The kids loved it. I didn't know if it was for little bitsy kids, or teen-agers, or what. Our oldest that we took was 13 down to two 5-year-olds, and everybody loved it.'

—Sheri Lowery, who took nine of her grandchildren

Films for the Family



At top, Andreas Michael Lamelas plays Keagan in Feature Films For Families "No More Baths," now showing at Midland Park Mall. Above, Keagan and his friends decide to go on a bath strike in hopes of saving their friend Jake's home and way of life. Jake is played by Jim Mapp, shown below.

By Georgia Temple

When 10-year-old Keagan finds his aging neighbor, Jake, is being mistreated by greedy land developers, he and his friends, being more practical than adults, don't go on a hunger strike. Instead, they refuse to bathe. In Glenwood Springs, "No More Baths" becomes a wake-up call for parents and may possibly save Jake's home and way of life.

"I loved it," Don Gatlin said of the G-rated Feature Films for Families release now showing on Saturday and Sundays at Midland Park Mall. "I wish we had more family movies like that."

Gatlin's desire for more films that are G-rated was echoed in the comments of other families who have seen "No More Baths," which is produced by a company from Murray, Utah, that only offers G-rated films and videos.

"It was just a neat story, a wholesome movie about making a difference in this world," said Gatlin. "I don't know if many parents appreciate kids not taking a bath as a way of taking a stand, but it didn't bother us."

The stand taken by the young people in "No More Baths" didn't disturb Sheri and Richard Lowery, who took nine of their 22 grandchildren to the movie.

"We loved it," Mrs. Lowery said. "The kids loved it. I didn't know if it was for little bitsy kids, or teen-agers, or what. Our oldest that we took was 13 down to two 5-year-olds, and everybody loved it. One 5-year-old granddaughter was sitting next to me. She said, 'I feel sorry for Jake.' So, it's a very good movie for children. I thought it might be above their heads, but they really enjoyed it."

Lowery called "No More Baths," an "excellent movie. The grandkids all enjoyed it. It was a good, wholesome movie. It had a good story to it."

For Rebecca Watts, who has previously purchased movies through Feature Films for Families, "No More Baths" presents childhood in a positive light.

"It's something that you don't hardly see around here anymore," said Mrs. Watts. "The way things should be, where it's fun to grow up without all that ugliness and cussing that nowadays you hear."

This film and others produced by Feature Films for Families are based upon the premise that families are looking for movies that all members can go to together. When the company brings a film into an area, it runs a poll first to see if there are enough families interested in participating in a program which includes purchasing tickets in advance.

Please see FAMILY/2B



Next up:
**'Who Gets
the House?'**

Now showing: **'No More Baths'**



Above, George Takei stars as Elliott in the upcoming film "Who Gets The House." Also pictured above is Sally Isherwood, who plays Amy Reese in the film. At left, Carl Marotte and Sophie Lorain play Don and Rebecca Reese.

FAMILY: Midlander says taking all her kids to film is neat experience

(From 1B)

"All we take our kids to see is G-rated films," said Melanie Milam. She recalled when Feature Films for Families called her. "They told us they basically needed the support of 1,600 families in the area, and, at any given time, there would be a G-rated movie."

"It would be there for 13 weeks running, and then it would change. This sounded really good to us. Our kids love to go to the movie. To know there would be a G-rated, good movie we could all go see, we're all for it. We bought the tickets over the phone, much more reasonable than at the theater, and we went as soon as we got the tickets."

Bridget Rodriguez also ordered her tickets by mail.

"Going to the average movie, we spend about \$40 because there are five of us," Mrs. Rodriguez said. "And I got about eight tickets for \$19 (the family pass, which is good for any number of kids in the

immediate family or eight tickets). We usually take the kids, and then they take a friend, so there ends up being eight of us."

When they saw "No More Baths," Mrs. Milam said, "It was wonderful. I was impressed. It was a great story line, and it taught good values. It was a really good little movie."

Mrs. Milam noticed certain glitches in the film which she chalked up to funding. "You could tell they don't get the funding of your major films. But it was such a good clean story. And it left you with such a good feeling. When you left the movie, you were happy."

The mother of six, Mrs. Milam was pleased that all of her children could go to see "No More Baths." "I even took my 4-year-old," Mrs. Milam said. "It was a great movie for him. He liked it. To be able to take all of them to a movie was a neat experience."

The goal of Feature Films for Families is "to have four

films a year in any given theater," said Jeff Straley, a staff writer for the company. "We actually review hundreds of scripts — screen plays — each year and just select the very best ones. And some years it might only be one film that we make. This year, we have made three because we are gearing up to do more in the theaters."

The company began around a decade ago with one film made to be released on video. "When we started out, we used to distribute films on video only," said Brett Payne, who is in charge of the theater department. "We started with one title that Forrest (S. Baker III) took because he liked the film and got distribution rights to it and cleaned it up a little bit."

The film had some elements that made it PG, Payne said. "And Forrest said, 'Wouldn't it be great if you could sit down to see a movie like this without the profanity added that made it a PG movie, so you could feel comfortable taking the

whole family?' And he realized there were a lot of families out there that felt that way, a lot of concerned parents and grandparents that felt the same way he did. He wanted to provide a resource like that of good entertainment, and that's how we started with just one film."

All of the Midlanders interviewed agreed that there are not enough G-rated films.

"The majority of films nowadays are PG-13," Mrs. Rodriguez said. "My kids are nowhere near 13. They are not even 6. Those movies don't fit into what I want to take them to."

There are, Mrs. Rodriguez said, "Too many movies with too much violence or negativity. There's enough of that in this world. My kids don't need to see it."

"I wish there was something we could do to clean up the drugs and profanity and sex in our movies," Gatlin said. "It's making it a norm, and it shouldn't be. It's kind of looking like it's getting to be a nor-

mal lifestyle for teenagers, the reported use of sex, the teenage pregnancies. I don't guess that has anything to do with the violence going on in schools, but I guess it could. If you don't have any respect for others, it makes it easier to shoot someone if you don't like their stand."

"I just won't take them if it's got bad words," said Mrs. Lowery. "I loved 'Titanic,' and I thought that would be a wonderful movie for children, but the language in a couple of scenes just ruled it out for kids."

"PG is not what it used to be," said Mrs. Milam. "In a PG movie, you're not sure what you're going to get. You may get some language you don't want your kids to hear, or some violence. I think, especially here in Midland, there's a lot of families that are very cautious about what they allow their children to watch."

After beginning with the video "On Our Own," Feature Films for Families now distrib-

utes more than 40 films, Payne said. "And the one that is in production now is our 17th film that we have produced ourselves."

In January or early February, Feature Films for Families will bring another movie to Midland Park Mall: "Who Gets the House?" Additional information on Feature Films for Families can be found online at www.familytv.com or by calling the company's toll-free theater line (877) 4-G-RATED.

"Our films are non-denominational, so we're not pushing any religion on anyone," said Straley. "And the reason we do that is because we don't want to exclude anybody. But our films do espouse good values like unity and courage, integrity, teamwork, honesty. Those sorts of things. So, it's not just that they don't have profanity and graphic violence. It's also they are films that are conveying a positive message, too."

Midland Reporter-Musicgram

By Max Howard-

From Howard's House of Music, I want to share a discussion that occurred in May of this year as I drove several musicians into the city from Midland International Airport for The West Texas Jazz Society's Collaborative Jazz Festival.



Howard

In my carrier were: Dan Barrett, Ed Polcer, and Canadian James Galloway. At that time, I was having problems with a "classification" on a newer album that I consider to be great jazz, an album that you can sing or hum the melody or it would not have been considered for discussion.

So I asked, "Where do you place the Mannheim Steamroller in our realm of music?" Do we call it "Chamber Jazz?" Do we call it "what the hell is that?" Do we call it "What?"

I had started this conversation with some of the most prominent authorities in jazz hoping that they could provide me with a "category" in which to place the Mannheim group, whose title identifies them for what they represent in today's music and still relate to jazz.

After 10 minutes of discussion, "Chamber Jazz" was ruled out because that was a term for the M-J-Q ("Milt Jackson Quartet" or "Modern Jazz Quartet" depending on who was telling the story) and they (the MJQ) did not parallel the sound or structure of Mannheim Steamroller.

And then James Galloway said, "It is creative contemporary jazz." Everyone in the caravan agreed that this was where we should place, if you need a musical category, Mannheim.

Dumb conversation? No way because you have heard the Mannheim Steamroller on four Christmas albums before (for the last decade) and may not

know who they were.

Yes, you have heard them!

But, "Mannheim Steamroller Meets The Mouse" breaks the Christmas trend and is in release. This contemporary album has all of the qualities of music for listening and appreciating you could want. The selections are familiar. They come from the Walt Disney Music Library, and all they lack is Paul Smith playing "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?" to go with them. But it will fly!

I spoke with Connie Evingson a few weeks ago about her second album — "Fever, A Tribute To Peggy Lee." If you heard Connie in Midland at her W.T.J.S. debut — which was also her West Texas debut — you will recall several selections that she sang were "try outs" with the audience that night. Some of them may have been adapted for mass appeal, and several on the new album come across with the same appeal that she displayed in Midland with our local musicians providing accompaniment.

The songs included are outstanding and have been polished to a grander (my word)

scale of listening. The album is worth having for the listening to Connie, even if the selections were from a magnificent Peggy Lee Songbook and not her own.

The 12 selections are good. They represent a "rounded" Peggy Lee remembrance, but up-dated to Connie's swinging 1990s approach to a song — and do not lose understanding of what the song meant or was supposed to mean to the listener. Connie Evingson is, again, very stable in her approach and is complimented even more with her pianist Sanford Moore and, this time, with orchestra.

The above mentioned albums are just samples of some of the greatest things we have to offer the world today. And do remember that good jazz is not played, it is felt — by the musician and the listener.

I am,
Max-

Max Howard hosts Saturday's "Breakfast in ... Jazz" from 7 to 10 a.m. on A.M. 1510, KMND, and Cox Cable, Channel 2. He also is co-host of "Daybreak" from 6 to 9 a.m. weekdays on the same stations.

The week that was...

Associated Press

Entertainment highlights during the week of Dec. 19-25:

70 years ago: Ginger Rogers made her Broadway debut in "Top Speed."

50 years ago: Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Judy Holliday and Tom Ewell starred in "Adam's Rib." The film was directed by George Cukor.

45 years ago: Kirk Douglas, James Mason and Peter Lorre starred in "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea."

And "Vera Cruz," the first film in SuperScope, starred Gary Cooper and Burt Lancaster.

40 years ago: Elizabeth Taylor, Katharine Hepburn and Montgomery Clift starred in "Suddenly, Last Summer," directed by Joseph Mankiewicz.

35 years ago: Sean Connery starred as Agent 007 in "Goldfinger." It was the third James Bond film in the series.

And "Ode to a High Flying Bird," a tribute to jazz great Charlie Parker, was published in the United States. The book was written by Rolling Stones drummer Charlie Watts.

25 years ago: James Caan and Alan Arkin starred in "Freebie and the Bean."

And "Rhoda," a spinoff from "The Mary Tyler Moore Show,"

topped the week's television ratings.

20 years ago: The first of four "Concerts for the People of Kampuchea" was held in London. Performers included the Clash, Paul McCartney, the Pretenders and the Who.

Roy Scheider, Jessica Lange, Ann Reinking and Ben Vereen starred in Bob Fosse's "All That Jazz."

And Peter Sellers, Shirley MacLaine and Melvyn Douglas starred in "Being There." Douglas won an Oscar for his performance.

15 years ago: Madonna's "Like a Virgin" topped the U.S. singles chart for the first of six weeks.

10 years ago: Singer Michael Jackson drew curious crowds as he shopped at a New York City toy store and then watched a performance at Radio City Music Hall. The Daily News reported that Jackson got to meet the animals from the Christmas show, and that he kissed the camels.

And Tom Cruise and Willem Dafoe starred in "Born on the Fourth of July." Director Oliver Stone won an Oscar.

Five years ago: Tom Hanks was named entertainer of the year by Entertainment Weekly magazine. "It's an embarrassment of riches," said Hanks, the star of

"Philadelphia" and "Forrest Gump."

One year ago: Elton John was the highest-grossing concert act of the year, taking in more than \$40.6 million during his 53-show tour of the United States, according to Performance magazine.

Spoken 10 years ago:

"I have never done a film for money. That's not what acting is for me. I love doing it, and I want to try different things." — Actor Tom Cruise, who co-starred with Dustin Hoffman in "Rain Man" and Paul Newman in "The Color of Money."

Spoken five years ago:

"I am most offended by what I read about my love life. I am 23 years old and I have had two significant relationships. Is that being a floozy?" — Actress Winona Ryder.

Spoken one year ago:

"I don't feel like a beautiful American woman, but I try to strike a blow for all the wide-nosed, bug-eyed, brown-skinned, grinning gum-chewing gals in West Virginia and Macon, Ga., and all across Ghana and South Africa." — Actress Alfre Woodard.

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Christmas at the Mansion

Southwest Express

Southwest Express: Model O Train Exhibit 4pm-7pm
Christmas Shop at the Mansion: Shop for unique gifts for everyone on your list! 10am-5pm

Southwest Express: Model O Train Exhibit 10am-7pm
Christmas Shop at the Mansion: Shop for unique gifts for everyone on your list! 10am-5pm
Santa Claus: Visit with Santa from 1pm-5pm. Bring your camera for pictures!
Carolers 11:30am-5pm

Southwest Express: Model O Train Exhibit 2pm-5pm
Christmas Shop at the Mansion: Shop for unique gifts for everyone on your list! 2pm-5pm
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Carolers 2pm-5pm

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PRIME TIME

PRIME TIME CALENDAR

CASA DE AMIGOS

Casa de Amigos is located at 1101 E. Garden Lane. Call 682-9701. Activities include:

- Monday: 9 a.m. billiards/bowling; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10:15 a.m. crafts; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 12:15 p.m. games.
- Tuesday: 9 a.m. billiards; 9:45 a.m. gem and mineral; 10:15 a.m. sing-a-long; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 12:15 p.m. bingo.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. billiards; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10:15 a.m. advisory meeting; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 12:15 p.m. table games.
- Thursday: Closed for Christmas holidays.
- Friday: Closed for Christmas holidays.

Casa de Amigos will re-open Jan. 3.

MIDLAND YMCA

Midland YMCA has many activities scheduled for Prime Time adults. Contact Central YMCA 682-2551. Scheduled activities are:

- Low impact aerobics: 8:15 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 6 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.
- YMCARDIAC (YCT) Therapy, call for appointment before beginning class.
- Senior water aerobics, 8-8:45 a.m. Monday through Friday.
- Water arthritis classes, 10:15 a.m., 2 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- Deep water aerobics, 6:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.
- Hydro-fit and water aerobics, 9 a.m. Monday through Saturday.
- Hydro-fit aerobics, 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.
- Lap swim/water walking, 5:30-8 a.m. and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday through Friday; 6-8:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday; 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; 10 a.m.-1:45 p.m. Saturday; and 1:15-4 p.m. Sunday. **Certified lifeguard is on duty during lap/open swim times and water classes.** Weights and exercise equipment available during hours of operation.

SOUTHEAST SENIOR CENTER

Southeast Senior Center, 1803 E. Indiana, is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call 685-7231. Activities include:

- Monday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. ceramics, needlework and billiards; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. quilting, crafts and billiards; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. ceramics, choir and billiards; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Thursday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. ceramics and table games; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Friday: Closed for Christmas holidays.

MIDLAND SENIOR CENTER

Midland Senior Center is located in Kingsway Mall, 3303 W. Illinois, Space #18. Call 681-7636. Activities for Dec. 20-24 include:

- Monday: 9 a.m. billiards, exercise, cards and dominoes; 9:30 a.m. art class; 10 a.m. Kitchennettes; 11:30 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. bridge, cards and dominoes.
- Tuesday: 9 a.m. billiards, exercise, cards, dominoes and ceramics; 9:30 a.m. line dancing for fun (cancelled until January); 11:30 a.m. lunch and nutrition talk; 12:30 p.m. art class; 1 p.m. bridge, dominoes and cards.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. billiards, cards, dominoes, ceramics class and exercise; 10 a.m. Gospel singing; 11:30 a.m. lunch and Christmas dinner; 1 p.m. bridge, dominoes and cards.
- Thursday: Christmas holiday.
- Friday: Christmas holiday.

AARP will no longer meet or collect aluminum cans after Dec. 20. Senior Recreation Group, comprised of former AARP members, will meet 5:30 p.m. the third Monday of each month for a potluck supper followed by a speaker and/or games. The first of these meetings is scheduled for Jan. 17.

MISSION ADULT DAY CARE CENTER

Mission Adult Day Care Center of Midland is open 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at 5212 Sinclair. The center is closed for major holidays. For more information call 522-1221. Weekday schedule includes:

- 8 a.m. light breakfast or snacks; 9 a.m. visitation, special events; 10 a.m. exercise, R.O.M., singing or live music; noon lunch; 12:30 p.m. rest period; 2:30 p.m. snacks.
- Activities include visits from Gospel groups, line dancers and country groups, and golfing.
- Skilled nursing services with registered nurse director and certified activity director. Medicaid licensed, with adequate, caring skilled staff and transportation available.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul assists Midland's poor with rent, utilities, food and clothing. Volunteers are needed to work one to four hours each week in the agency's Thrift Store, 701 N. Fort Worth. Store hours are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Call 687-2343. Meetings are 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at St. Ann's Catholic Church parish office, Texas at M Streets. Call 688-3999 for more information.

COM AQUATICS SENIORS AND THERAPEUTIC EXERCISE

City of Midland Aquatics has programs of water exercise for seniors. The schedule is:

- Monday: 7:30-11:30 a.m. water walking; 10:15-11 a.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); noon-12:45 p.m. and 1-1:45 p.m. arthritis exercise.
- Tuesday: 7:30-9:30 a.m. water walking; 9:30-10:30 a.m. arthritis plus; 12:15-1 p.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); 12:30-1:30 p.m. arthritis plus.
- Wednesday: 7:30-11:30 a.m. water walking; 10:15-11 a.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); noon-12:45 p.m. and 1-1:45 p.m. arthritis exercise.
- Thursday: 7:30-9:30 a.m. water walking; 9:30-10:30 a.m. arthritis plus; 12:15-1 p.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); 12:30-1:30 p.m. arthritis plus.
- Friday: 7:30-11:30 a.m. water walking; 10:15-11 a.m. therapeutic aerobics (deep pool); noon-12:45 p.m. and 1-1:45 p.m. arthritis exercise.
- Saturday: 10:30 a.m.-noon water walking.

CITY OF MIDLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY

Recreation and leisure activities at Hillcrest Manor, Langtry Village and Parker Place are managed by City of Midland Housing Authority and coordinated through Community and Senior Services. The schedule is:

- Tuesday: 10 a.m. exercise at Parker Place; 2 p.m. exercise at Hillcrest Manor; 2:30 p.m. exercise at Langtry Village; 3:30 p.m. senior update at Langtry Village.
- Wednesday: 11 a.m. senior update at Parker Place; 2 p.m. bingo at Hillcrest Manor.
- Thursday: Christmas holiday.
- Friday: Christmas holiday.

RSVP

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is recruiting persons 55 years and older to volunteer with non-profit agencies. RSVP will match volunteers' skills and interests to community agencies' needs. The program is sponsored by Community and Senior Services, 3301 Sinclair. Call 689-6693. Current opportunities include:

- Family Greeters are needed to work with abused children through the Children's Advocacy Center. Volunteers work with clients and their families by answering questions and providing support. Commitment is one week; 15-hour training provided.
- Volunteer "Handicapper" needed to patrol, inspect and enforce violations of handicap parking zones. Training on legal requirements of handicap parking and instructions on writing citations provided. Volunteers will also be asked to testify before the court.
- Pease Elementary School needs volunteers to work with third-graders in its after-school program. Volunteers will help students with math and reading assignments from 3:15-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Training will be provided as needed.

By Lana Cunningham

His name is on lists all over town — The Petroleum Museum, the City of Midland, Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, Midland County Public Library and the Downtown Lions Club.

Since retiring from Exxon in 1986, Harry Hugly has become a professional volunteer, spending almost every weekday at one organization or another.

"I try to stay busy," he said modestly.

"I enjoy helping people. I've been at these jobs long enough that I can handle most situations."

In fact, his nickname could be "Mr. Information," because that's what he does for many of the organizations — staff the information desk.

An early retirement at the age of 57 sent Hugly into the ranks of independent consultants. It was also at that time he began finding ways to volunteer. It wasn't long before his interest in the consulting business waned and his passion for volunteerism grew.

The Petroleum Museum came into the picture first. His wife, Elsie, was involved, and "they asked me to be a summer substitute at the Museum," Hugly explained. Then, he joined the Santa Rita Club, where he served as president one year and spent many hours at the Museum. He's reached the 1,200-hour mark, and still spends an afternoon each week working in the Gift Shop and ticket counter.

Soon thereafter Hugly heard about a need for volunteers at Midland Memorial Hospital. "They were looking for someone to handle a job that other women didn't want to do. The hospital used to have a volunteer work at a warehouse-type place to rent out infant car seats," Hugly took it.

"I got into the baby seat business," he said with a laugh. He would show a videotape about the car seats to young mothers coming to rent one of the safety devices, and then demonstrate how to place the seat in their vehicles and strap in the baby.

"I felt I was accomplishing some good over there," he said. After a year of spending two



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Harry Hugly is an active volunteer for several Midland agencies, including the Petroleum Museum, where he works at the gift shop.

afternoons a week renting infant seats, Hugly was moved over to the main hospital building where he now staffs the either the front lobby Information Desk or the one back near the emergency room, depending on where he is needed. "I take care of visitors coming in or people going to the lab. A lot of people need help on where to go to check in or how to find a patient's room. I also make a lot of popcorn," said the man who has 3,000 hours on his record.

Returning from a long trip in 1990, Hugly saw an advertisement that the city needed volunteers for its Information Desk at Midland International Airport. "I thought that might be interesting," he surmised, and that's where he

was placed for one afternoon a week.

Hugly sees a different group of people at the airport than he does at the other places — the hospital or the Museum. "Some people can't speak English. Some are deaf and no one showed up to pick them up. We have foreigners who have never been to West Texas. The most often-asked question is 'Where are the restrooms?'"

One volunteer job, however, has held his interest for more years than he's been retired — the Downtown Lions Club and its Eyeglass Recycling Center. Eyeglasses from donors throughout the United States are shipped to the center at 200 Plaza Street. These are processed by local

Lions and other volunteers and shipped to missionary, doctors' and Lions' groups all over the world.

A Lion himself, Hugly has traveled with other club members to El Salvador, Mexico and Guyana to set up clinics for citizens who can't afford eye care.

"We teach local Lions how to dispense eyeglasses and how to use the equipment we bring. I have learned how to use the lensometer to read prescriptions."

The Downtown Lions' Club project has served as a test program and now the concept is spreading to other groups throughout the country, he noted.

On an occasional basis, Hugly shows up at the Midland County Public Library to help with checking in books or assisting at the Information Desk. "You could call me 'Mr. Information,'" he laughed.

Hugly's name has appeared on the membership roster of other organizations since his retirement, including Crime Stoppers where he served as vice president and treasurer; Citizens Police Academy; Crime Prevention Commission; Midland County Republican Party and Community Concerts board.

A first-generation American, Hugly grew up in Houston where he attended Rice University and then the University of Texas. He later served in the military.

He met Elsie in Colorado when he was in the service and they married. Hugly went to work for Humble Oil in 1956, living in Tyler, Dallas and Corpus Christi before being transferred to Midland in 1976. It was here they raised four children.

The couple enjoy traveling and have toured 45 states and 25 foreign countries, including visiting Europe six times.

Already they are planning to take a boat trip up the Columbia Snake River out of Portland, Ore., next year.

But when Hugly's back in Midland, he'll continue his full-time volunteer work.

"I can't sit at home and hibernate and watch soap operas," he said. "There's a lot for anyone to do who has time on his hands."

DR. PAGE

Proper diet essential for good health

By Henry F. Page, M.D.

When Grandma comes over for dinner, what should we feed her. After all, we do not wish to kill her with kindness.

Proper dietary habits have concerned mankind for many years — namely, from 500,000 B.C. to date. Insects, snails, mollusks, various other sea fowls, lizards and birds constituted gourmet items then even as of today. As time sped by — to 18,000 B.C. — Middle Easterners domesticated and bred antelope, deer and sheep, and around 5,000 B.C. the Chinese, Romans and Greeks added pigs to the list. Although it was about that time the Egyptians ground grain and created flour, it took 10 millennia for the U.S.D.A. to erect the Food Guide Pyramid.

Progress has continued to the present day, so now we have high-fat, low-fat, high-carbohydrates, high-protein, high-salt, low-salt, liquid, non-liquid, multiple-feeding, one-feeding, high-roughage, low-roughage, grapefruit, cabbage soup, calories don't count diets, and on and on and on.

Since human being have both incising and grinding teeth, one can assume that they are designed to ingest all types of food. The fact that Eskimo's live on whale blubber, cows eat grain, some bacteria eat waxy oil, some Afro-Asians crave Betel nuts and Texans relish chili illustrates the body's ability to adjust to variables in food supply.

One explanation was shown in some studies 50 years ago, conducted by the Lankenau research Group tracing C 13, a heavy carbon isotope, as it traversed from one organ of the body to another. Consider the fact that a laboratory guinea pigs on a strict no-cholesterol regimen still manages to have the 125 mgm/cc in the blood so necessary for survival. Another basic fact is that foods metabolize into progressively simple chemical compounds, finally becoming simple sugars that in turn become CO 2 and H2O, thereby releasing energy. A food molecule does not do one specific thing, but migrates in response to metabolic demand.

The proper diet for older people should be all types of foods in moderation, remembering that fewer calories are required because of diminished metabol-

ic fires. Those over 80 years old can overlook banns on sugar, salt, spices, alcohol, fat and even cholesterol unless contraindicated by disease such as diabetes. Wobbly teeth, insensitive taste, lack of saliva, diminished gastric juices and reactive depression all may affect proper eating habits.

Appetite can be titillated by adding "pizzazz" with presentation, such as color for eye appeal and spices and wine for flavor appeal. Even those with peptic ulcers can partake of cinnamon, allspice, mace, thyme, sage and caraway. Simultaneous hot and cold menu items add interest.

As a wise old professor once stated: "The saving grace for most diets lies in the fact that people don't stay on them — otherwise they would die!"

Henry F. Page, M.D., F.A.C.P., is health and safety consultant to Manor Park Inc.

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AROUND TOWN

Trinity High School's choir will perform carols for holiday functions such as office parties and large public gatherings, or social groups and luncheon meetings.

These performances will be a fund-raiser for the choir. Funds raised from these performances will help pay for the choir's trip to London and Paris that is scheduled for March 2000.

Members of the choir will have a gift-wrapping fund-raiser 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 18, 21 and 22 at the commons/canteen at Trinity School, 3500 W. Wesley.

For more information and rules call 682-3370, 683-8587, 686-0771 or 694-0147.

EMPLOYEES OF Midland Society Security Administration will host a Christmas party for residents of Rockwood Manor at 6 p.m. today at the nursing home, located at 2000 N. Main St. For more information call 683-4904.

FRIENDS OF the Library will have a half-price book sale 9 a.m.-noon each Wednesday and Saturday during December at the Book Nook, 2305 W. Michigan. Proceeds will benefit Midland County Public Library. For more information call the Book Nook at 682-2999.

MIDLAND COUNTY Public Library will host a series of holiday musical programs at the downtown library, 301 W. Missouri. The public is invited to attend. Harriet Marc Benson will perform 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Dec. 21 and 22; and Desert Winds, woodwinds, will perform noon-1 p.m. Dec. 23.

YAN, Serving the Visually Impaired, has two weekly group meetings.

The men's support group will meet 10-11 a.m. Jan. 4 at the VAN House, 2908 W. Ohio. All men with visual impairment are invited to attend.

The women's group will meet for crafts 10 a.m.-noon Dec. 22 at the VAN House. Persons attending are invited to bring brown-bag lunches if they wish.

For more information about either group call 694-2648.

MIDLAND KAPPA Delta Alumnae Association will have its annual KD mother-daughter Christmas tea 2-4 p.m. Dec. 19 at 1004 Stanwood. All area KDs and their mothers and daughters are invited to attend.

PERMIAN BASIN Poetry Society will have a Christmas party 2-4 p.m. Dec. 18 at the Anne Hathaway Cottage, 2308 Shakespeare Road in Odessa. Persons attending are asked to bring gifts for exchange and food items for the refreshment table. For more information call 520-4679.

DELTA DELTA Delta will host its annual Mother-daughter Collegiate/Alumnae Christmas tea 3-5 p.m. Dec. 22 at 2009 Winfield. All area Tri Deltas and their mothers and daughters are invited to attend.

IVA BOZE/Spiritual Forces Community Choir will present its fourth annual Christmas musical, "Celebrate Jesus," 7 p.m. Dec. 18 at First United Methodist Church. Admission is free. Persons attending are asked to bring donations of pencils, pens, spiral notebooks, pocket folders, pocket dictionaries, wide-ruled notebook paper and map colors to be given to the After School Tutoring Programs at Casa de Amigos and Southeast Senior Center.

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL Extension Service will present Master Gardener Orientation Program at 10 a.m. Jan. 3, 2000, at Ector County Courthouse Administration Building, 1010 E. 8th St. in Odessa. This program trains volunteers in horticulture to work with the extension service in educational activities and projects. For more information call 498-4074.

FAMILY MATTERS

Gift-giving causes tension in family

By Jim May, Ph.D.

DEAR FAMILY: What can I do to get my husband to care enough about me to get me what I want for Christmas? Our first few years of marriage, he made the effort to find out what I wanted for my birthday, anniversary and Christmas. After our first child was born, he just stopped asking. Then after one really bad year (when I lost it), he just started giving me money to buy what I wanted.

That was all right for a while, but it's not anymore. I think that after 13 years of marriage, my husband should know me well enough to care about me enough to get me a Christmas gift that I want. For a while I spent way too much just to get him to maybe buy for me instead, but that didn't work either.

Do you think that I'm being unreasonable? He's a good husband and father, but other men get their wives presents. Whenever one of my girl friends talks about what she's hoping her husband is going to get her for Christmas, I am so jealous inside. I know that it's wrong but I'm really hurt about all of this. Can you help me? ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS



May

DEAR ALL: Gift giving is an art, a skill and — often — a family tradition. For example, in your husband's family of origin did his father shop for his mother? Was his mother pleased with the gifts that he got her? If his mother was critical and displeased about his father's gifts, your husband may have learned "you can never please a woman," so why try? If that is the case, discuss it with your husband — you are not his mother and you would be most pleased if he would get you a gift himself.

Your desire to have your husband shop and select an appropriate gift for you is reasonable. If his problem is that he doesn't know what to get you, make a "Santa list" for him to choose from. This may not be quite as romantic as him selecting your gift himself, but it works well.

Consider this more like "developing a skill" than any indication of his lack of love or concern for you. Give him some alternative ways to solve this problem. As Dr. Joel Waldfogel says, we must be careful to avoid the silent cry, "If you don't understand me well enough to get me the right gift, how well can you love me?" Merry Christmas!

DEAR FAMILY: Is there something you can do to control someone's spending?

My father was "retired" earlier this year when (an oil company) restructured. He wasn't old enough to get full retirement so they are living on a lot less than before. I think that he should try to get another job, but then that's another story.

What's happening now is that mom is buying gifts for everyone just like things are the way they were. Dad has been calling me almost every day, complaining about her spending money they don't have. He did get a nice package, but that has to last them almost three years before he gets full retirement.

I think that mom is just in denial and is refusing to admit anything about their situation. Is there anything that I can do to help dad with this? I think that he's depressed enough over having to quit work without adding mom's spending. LESS WOULD BE BETTER

DEAR LESS: Encourage your father to create a budget for the next three years, then show that budget to your mother. Perhaps that would help her curb her spending; however, it does depend somewhat on the reason for her continued spending. If it is to make herself feel better, then facts will not help; she would need to develop another coping mechanism.

If the budget idea does not work, encourage your father to take your mother and seek professional help from a minister or counselor. Research is full of tragic stories of the emotional carnage caused by families not adjusting to changes in economic circumstances.

You may also be able to help your mother by emphasizing to her the importance of the "reason for the season." A happy Christ-centered Christmas is worth much more than a tree full of mortgaged gifts!

THE FOLLOWING TIPS ON "AVOIDING THE HOLIDAY GIFT TOLL" ARE PRESENTED BY THE CENTERS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

- Set limits. Cap the number of gifts one person can give to another or the amount of money that can be spent per present.
- Give gifts only to the children in the family.
- Consider picking family names out of a hat; each member buys a gift only for the person on the slip.
- Prepare a list of what each family member wants, along with sizes.
- Pool money to purchase one big gift for each person.
- Shop early. Pick up a present when something catches your eye as right for a person and put it away in the closet until Christmas.
- Use your imagination. Arrange for theater tickets, a special day's outing, etc.

(From Psychology Today)

Jim May is the director of the Family Wellness Center.

Questions for this column should be addressed to Family Matters, P.O. Box 51638, Midland, 79710-1638.

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Company 'courts' senator's wife

By Glinia Bellsfante
N.Y. Times News Service

NEW YORK — Patricia Lott, the wife of the Senate majority leader, Trent Lott, is not known in Washington circles as an omnipresent social force. This seems of little concern to the new owners of Kleinfeld's, the Brooklyn wedding-gown emporium, which has asked her to become a paid consultant to the company. Kleinfeld's is seeking to expand to the nation's capital and wants Mrs. Lott to help them to better understand the city's evening-wear scene.

"She has a lot of knowledge of special-occasion dressing," said Mara Urshel, Kleinfeld's president and a partner in the KBC Operating Co., which owns the business. Mrs. Lott was introduced to Kleinfeld's by another member of the partnership, Clay Hamner, a North Carolina-based real estate developer. John Czwertacki, the senator's press secretary, said that Mrs. Lott is seriously considering the offer and that she may well begin her duties in January.

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Holiday rush ruins season's spirit

By Monica Frazier Anderson
N.Y. Times News Service

"Dashing through the snow, in a one-horse open sleigh, o'er the hills we go, laughing all the way — ha, ha, ha."

You know, I'm really not a cold-weather person, but that sleigh is sounding pretty good to me right now.

As a child, I thought that cute little Christmas song was about this happy family gliding along the snow-covered avenues in their gaily decorated sleigh. There would be a mom, a dad, and two adorable children snuggled together on the wooden seats with blankets on their laps and mittens on their hands. Smiles would adorn their faces as the stars twinkled in their eyes. The horse — a big, brown, happy horse — wore a Santa Cap atop his head, the silver bells on his harness making a lovely melody as he galloped along.

I always wondered where they were going with all that jingling and happiness. I'm sure it was a good place, like grandma's house, which may be part of the lyrics but I never knew the whole song, just that jingle bell part. Besides, we always drove to my grandma's house. I did ask my mom to roll down the windows one chilly day on the way to grandma's because I wanted to get that open-sleigh feeling. After a mile or two, we closed the windows because mama's eyes started tearing up and she couldn't see. I was cold by then anyway.

Well, time has passed and I've celebrated a few of these holidays as an adult with a growing family. I've acquired a whole new perspective on that song. All that dashing, ringing, and laughing is not about going to grandma's. Here's what really happened:

Some poor mother has just spent three weeks preparing for Christmas and it's now the night before Christmas. After a royal battle, the tree is up and decorated. It leans to one side and several ornaments are broken, but it's up. The side

of the tree facing the front window is beautiful and the rest of the tree looks terminal, but it's up. Half of the candy canes have mysteriously disappeared, but who cares?

The gifts still need to be wrapped, and she can't remember where she hid that video game but it's somewhere in the house. Her youngest son has just given her a new Christmas list because he changed his mind about that other stuff and he wants her to call Santa before he packs the sleigh. She couldn't find any chestnuts to roast so she has put some pecans in the microwave and realized, too late, that 10 minutes was a bit long.

Outside, there's an electrical short in the Christmas lights and half of the strand isn't blinking. The Santa cutout keeps falling over and someone has hung the wreath upside down again. And let's not even talk about the Christmas cards that still need to be addressed and mailed.

Meanwhile, she's trying to cook a nice, big dinner for Christmas, but she can't find her meat thermometer for the turkey because her daughter is using it on her doll that has a fever. And the lingering odor from those burnt pecans is making her nauseated.

When she hears the sickening thud of her lovely tree hit the ground for the third time because the cat was climbing it, trying to escape from the dog, she just snaps. She loses it. She goes outside, hops in the family sleigh and takes off in a mad dash. She hasn't gone a mile when the cell phone in her apron starts ringing. She tosses the phone into a snowbank and laughs and laughs and laughs.

That's what I think happened.

I could be wrong, but if you hear a news story about a woman skateboarding on the freeway on Christmas Eve, don't say I didn't warn you.

Monica Frazier Anderson is a wife, mother and dentist in Arlington. Call her at (817) 548-5364, or write in care of the Arlington Star-Telegram at 1111 W. Abram St., Arlington 76013.

DEAR ABBY

Despite all evidence, some still drink themselves to death

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I am a medical student near graduation. In my admittedly brief experience in the local hospitals, I have already seen the damage alcohol and drugs can wreak on a life and the many relationships it poisons. Too often it takes a dramatic, life-threatening and socially costly event to provide a patient "insight" into his problem.

In June 2000, I will receive my medical license. I wrote the following in the selfish hope that it will keep me from having to deliver this bitter news, even for just one night. The words in quotes are my spoken words. The words in parentheses are what I'm really thinking. — HEALER IN SAN DIEGO



Van Buren

figured out why people do this to themselves.)

"As I understand it, the paramedics were called" (to a party where no one was sober enough to explain what happened) "and were required to administer CPR in order to revive your son's heart." (While his friends continued their drunken reveling, undisturbed.)

"He is currently on a machine to assist in his ventilation." (Because he drank so much he stopped breathing.)

"His brain suffered a significant period of anoxia." (And if he ever wakes up, he can never have his life back.)

"His condition is serious, but he is receiving expert care." (I wish I could tell you just how worried you should be!)

DEAR ABBY: I am a strict Catholic who does not believe in "kinky" activities. It was my second date with a seemingly conservative gentleman. Everything was going well, so I felt comfortable holding hands with him

— until he proceeded to stick my pointer-finger in his mouth. We had just come from dinner, so he couldn't possibly have been hungry!

What are your thoughts on this situation? — SHOCKED IN PITTSBURGH

DEAR SHOCKED: It could have been worse. At least he wasn't a thumb-sucker.

Never do anything you're not comfortable doing. There are men out there who will respect you just the way you are. If he's not for you, fix him up with a nail-biter. They'll think they died and went to heaven.

To order the booklet, "How to Be Popular," Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447.

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

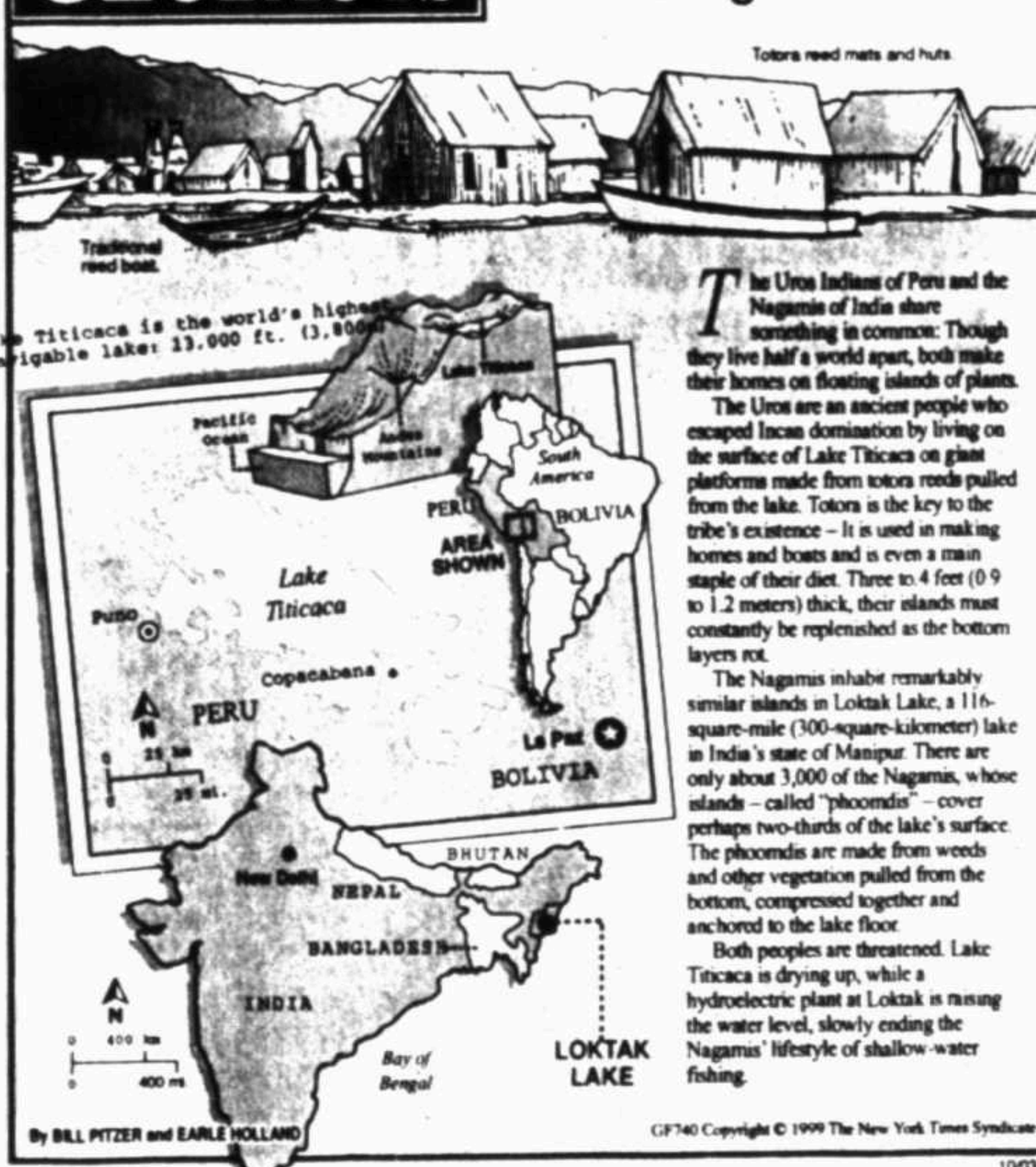
Ed Todd

Keep up with his antics in the Midland Reporter-Telegram



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Where are the "floating islands?"



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Midland Reporter-Telegram

ONE ON THE AISLE

Pamela C. Allen

All over this nation, in December, parents, grandparents and friends are sitting in crowded auditoriums, schools and churches watching their kids in pageants depicting the birth of Christ.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," written by Barbara Robinson, takes place in a small-town church, in a small Texas town. It is narrated by one of the teens of the town—Beth, played by Elizabeth Smith.

It is the kind of church function that the same people participate in every year, and they seem to have lost their pleasure in the whole process. Beth's unsuspecting mother, played by Junanne Mosley, gets stuck with the task of directing the production. Her husband is played by Keith Seanard. Both are the most Christian-like people in this church.

The churchgoers who participate each year openly shun a family of kids annually—the Herdmans. Six rambunctious, evil doing, nasty dressing and acting monsters. The other kids fear them, the adults dismiss them. They would have made great pirates.

The six Herdmans come to the auditions for the Christmas pageant and through intimidation manage to get the leads—Mary, Joseph and the main angel. They are ignorant of the story. They only came for the possibility of snacks. The young actors portraying the Herdmans—David Leon is Ralph, Michael Orr is Leroy, Stephanie Leach is Imogene, Belinda Bennett is Claudette, Evan Sauer is Ollie and arguably the wildest, Gladys, is played by Cami Leach. Whoever cast this family did right by the author's intent!

This pageant is every kid's nightmare and supposed to be a warm spot in every parent's heart. After these rotten kids are cast, pandemonium erupts, and the new director reminds them that "There are no small parts only small actors." As Maxine—Katie Coffin—aptly puts it, "...that means the small kids have to stand in the front."

'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever'

'Auntie Mame'

This play asks and answers the obvious question of who or what makes up good Christians? It is humorous with a touching ending. You can't expect anything different from something called "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever."

Can you?

This G-rated, Midland Community Theatre production runs until Dec. 18 at the Yucca Theatre. Call the box office at 682-4111. I'm sure you can still get a seat. Take the kids.

This production of "Auntie Mame," by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee, did not feel ready yet. I came to Permian Playhouse wanting to like this show, but I couldn't. Judging by the audience members who left during intermission, I wasn't alone.

Do not, however, take away from the actors. Saturday night, their energy level was down and the audience responded in kind. I was reminded of a bad stand-up comic saying, "I know you're there, I can hear you breathing."

Technically, lights came on

several times while the crew was trying to change the set. The scene changes were much too long, making the whole evening last close to three hours. The suits on the men were ill fitting, as were most of the costumes. The different interiors of Mame's apartment were interesting, but the outdoor scenes lacked an outdoors. The Playhouse has a fly system (set pieces stored in the ceiling and moved up and down) and they 'flew in' the four large columns of the Burnside plantation, Peckerwood. The columns did not look like they were even finished being painted, just white washed, the wires at the top showed, and it was one of the scenes that was badly in need of an out of doors! (Maybe a back wall screen projection?)

The sets and the costumes don't have anything to do with the actors, except maybe in attitude. Can you do your best work in a working situation that is not up to par? Most managed to overcome the technical liabilities. Paula Henry as Auntie Mame and Karan Young as Vera Charles were convincing and fun to watch.

Two cast members who were very good and really rose above the rest were Chris Leckbee as Norah Muldoon, the maid and Cherri Timms as Agnes Gooch. Both has a certain honesty of character that the audience responded to each time these people were on the stage. At one point, Norah was coming down the steep stairs carrying a tray and somehow mis-stepped half way and fell off the steps. Ms. Leckbee is a trooper, she got up, kept on speaking to Paul Rodriguez, who plays Ito, Mame's manservant. He obviously was flustered and a little shocked, but her calmness brought everyone back to focus.

Cherri Timms, playing Agnes Gooch, was incredible, worth the drive! She sounds a lot like the androgynous character Pat on Saturday Night Live, with her own twist. Her pregnancy scenes were hysterical. Kudos, Cherri. You stole the show!

"Auntie Mame," will be at PPH until Dec. 18. Call (915) 362-2329 or 550-5456 for ticket information.

Pamela C. Allen, a 14-year member of the Midland Reporter-Telegram staff, has been involved in all aspects of live theater since 1963 from finding props to producing. She has served in a number of volunteer capacities at Midland Community Theatre. Ms. Allen was not involved in either production: "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" or "Auntie Mame."

High five lists

Associated Press

FILMS

1. "Toy Story 2," Disney.
2. "The Green Mile," Warner Bros.
3. "Duce Bigelow: Male Gigolo," Disney.
4. "The World Is Not Enough," MGM.
5. "End of Days," Universal.

TELEVISION

1. "Frasier," NBC.
2. "CBS Sunday Movie: A Season for Miracles" CBS.
3. "NFL Monday Night Football: Minnesota at Tampa Bay," ABC.
4. "Touched by an Angel," CBS.
5. "NFL Monday Showcase," ABC. (From Nielsen Media Research)

HOT FIVE

1. "Smooth," Santana (feat. Rob

- Thomas), Arista. (Platinum)
2. "Back at One," Brian McKnight. Motown.
3. "I Wanna Love You Forever," Jessica Simpson. Columbia. (Gold)
4. "I Knew I Loved You," Savage Garden. Columbia.
5. "My Love Is Your Love," Whitney Houston. Arista. (Gold) (From Billboard magazine)

ALBUMS

1. "All the Way ... A Decade of Song," Celine Dion. 550 Music.
2. "Millennium," Backstreet Boys. Jive. (Platinum)
3. "... Baby One More Time," Britney Spears. Jive. (Platinum)
4. "Supernatural," Santana. Arista. (Platinum)
5. "Christina Aguilera," Christina Aguilera. RCA. (Platinum)

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CLAREMONT
traying themselves Democrat Bill B. John McCain please "genuine can in a rare bipartisan to undercut their

"We believe away at the core acid eating away voters gathered in a senior citizens"

On the same Clinton and then Gingrich had pl mission to reform panel never made

McCain and l increasingly stro parties' favorites Gore for the Dem George W. Bush They hoped Th draw valuable m vate the importa to both their cam

Severe disorder to antibi

ATLANTA (A mon antibiotic whooping cough caused a severe s in seven babies hospital, the go Thursday in a rep pediatricians.

Doctors said the Centers for l and Prevention time that erythr strongly linked t sis, an illness an that blocks diges projectile vomit must be treated

"Wow!" said Kanto, director o hospital at the M of Georgia in Au it's going to m pause whenever give erythromyc If I have to use it an alternative, I' tion the parents.

The CDC said ents need to be potentially serio the antibiotic. Bu that doesn't mea stop prescribing cough, which pu babies in the hos fatal.

A 1994-96 s average of abou whooping cough infants in the U "CDC is still for a newborn exposure to w that erythromy treatment of ch Margaret Honei demologist w report.

A hospital in K prescribed eryt babies born the after they we whooping coug worker, the CD Seven of the n ill with pyloric s a muscle at the stomach enlarg from passing to time. All of the b

It is rare for a infants to be thymycin at the time, but that's v CDC to make between the pyloric stenosis is apparently too to see the link i Erythromycin children and a stomach, but rarely affects in 3 months. All s Tennessee were old.

"This is a fa group we're t Honein said. "V ing about infan month old that v erned about."

Newborns are given erythr chlamydia infec from their moth An eye ointm blinding gonorr also contains s the antibiotic.

Erythromycin erred the safest e treating newbo whooping coug

Researchers parents of all babies who too help rule out o es of the stom

The last time to link the illne was 1976, when Illinois got sick antibiotic.

"Everybody as, 'Gee, we l before and we after,'" said Dr field, chairman Winthrop Univ Minocycl N.Y.

In town hall meeting, Bradley, McCain tout campaign finance reform

CLAREMONT, N.H. (AP) — Portraying themselves as political outsiders, Democrat Bill Bradley and Republican John McCain pledged Thursday to pursue "genuine campaign finance reform" in a rare bipartisan appearance designed to undercut their front-running rivals.

"We believe that money is eating away at the core of our democracy, like acid eating away at cloth," Bradley told voters gathered in bone-chilling cold at a senior citizens' center.

On the same site in 1995, President Clinton and then-House Speaker Newt Gingrich had pledged to form a commission to reform campaign laws. That panel never materialized.

McCain and Bradley are mounting increasingly strong challenges to their parties' favorites — Vice President Al Gore for the Democrats and Texas Gov. George W. Bush for the Republicans. They hoped Thursday's event would draw valuable media attention and elevate the importance of an issue central to both their campaigns.

In connection with the town hall meeting, taped for ABC's "Nightline," the pair signed a statement that said, "We pledge that as the nominees for the office of president of the United States we will not allow our political parties to spend soft money for our presidential campaigns, and we commit to working together toward genuine campaign finance reform."

"Soft money" refers to unlimited, unregulated donations that are supposed to be used for party-building activities. Increasingly, the money has been used to indirectly aid presidential and congressional campaigns.

McCain, an Arizona senator in his third term, swore off the funds outright. Bradley said his pledge applies only if McCain is the GOP nominee. Bradley, like Gore, has not ruled out such donations if Bush wins the nomination and taps GOP soft money sources.

Gore and Bush refuse to scrap their parties' soft money operations in the upcoming election, though they each sup-

port legislating bans for future campaigns. All four leading presidential candidates are vigorous fund-raisers who have benefited from soft money donations in their long political careers.

Some of the comments at the McCain-Bradley event were unusually blunt.

"I believe there have been times when I believe I have been influenced because the big donor buys access to my office and we all know that access buys influence," McCain said. "That taints all of us. It taints me."

Bradley, a former New Jersey senator, said he had never been influenced by a donation, but he also said there was no way for him to prove his innocence in a system that naturally breeds skepticism.

Both men took jabs at Gore and Bush. In his opening remarks, McCain reminded voters that Gore had said there was "no controlling legal authority" that forbade his widely criticized fund-raising activities during the 1996 presidential campaign — activities that included soliciting donations at a Buddhist tem-

ple. "I want to tell the vice president and everybody else that when I'm president there will be a controlling legal authority," McCain said.

In a reference to Bush's unwillingness to swear off soft money for the current campaign, McCain said, "I can understand why the vice president would oppose it, but I can't understand why Governor Bush would oppose such a thing."

"I think he has... snubbed his nose at the public finance laws," Bradley said of Bush. Familiar with polls showing voters are tired of political bickering, Bradley praised the session's "sense of bipartisanship" and let McCain do most of the Gore-bashing.

Still, he slipped in a few jabs. Told that Gore has supported banning soft money, Bradley said, "I'm glad he's finally come over."

Prodded by the Bradley campaign, former Republican Sen. David Boren of Oklahoma, an advocate of campaign

finance reform, telephoned reporters to say the former New Jersey lawmaker had helped him far more than Gore had on that issue.

In a full-page ad in a local newspaper, the vice president praised McCain for showing "real courage" in fighting for campaign finance reform and outlined his own record on the subject.

Asked later Thursday about McCain's criticism of his conduct at the Buddhist temple, Gore said, "I have acknowledged my mistake in attending that event. And the fact is a lot of candidates have found that the current system creates all kinds of problems. The question is what do we do about it. I strongly support campaign finance reform — not only the McCain-Feingold measure but full public financing of federal elections."

Bush issued a statement saying he supports a "soft money" ban that would include both labor unions and corporations. McCain would go beyond that, banning soft money donations from individuals, as well.

Severe stomach disorder linked to antibiotic

ATLANTA (AP) — A common antibiotic used to treat whooping cough in newborns caused a severe stomach disorder in seven babies at a Tennessee hospital, the government said Thursday in a report that stunned pediatricians.

Doctors said the report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention marks the first time that erythromycin has been strongly linked to pyloric stenosis, an illness among newborns that blocks digestion and causes projectile vomiting. The illness must be treated with surgery.

"Wow!" said Dr. William Kanto, director of the children's hospital at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. "I think it's going to make everybody pause whenever they decide to give erythromycin to a newborn. If I have to use it and don't have an alternative, I'm going to caution the parents."

The CDC said doctors and parents need to be aware of the potentially serious side effect of the antibiotic. But the agency said that doesn't mean doctors should stop prescribing it for whooping cough, which puts most infected babies in the hospital and can be fatal.

A 1994-96 study found an average of about 1,900 cases of whooping cough a year among infants in the United States.

"CDC is still recommending for a newborn who has a known exposure to whooping cough that erythromycin be given as treatment of choice," said Dr. Margaret Honein, the CDC epidemiologist who wrote the report.

A hospital in Knoxville, Tenn., prescribed erythromycin to 200 babies born there in February after they were exposed to whooping cough by a hospital worker, the CDC said.

Seven of the newborns became ill with pyloric stenosis, in which a muscle at the bottom of the stomach enlarges, blocking food from passing to the small intestine. All of the babies recovered.

It is rare for a large number of infants to be prescribed erythromycin at the same place and time, but that's what enabled the CDC to make the connection between the antibiotic and pyloric stenosis. The side effect is apparently too rare for doctors to see the link in isolated cases.

Erythromycin can give older children and adults an upset stomach, but pyloric stenosis rarely affects infants older than 3 months. All seven children in Tennessee were under 3 weeks old.

"This is a fairly narrow age group we're talking about," Honein said. "We're really talking about infants less than a month old that we're really concerned about."

Newborns are sometimes also given erythromycin to treat chlamydia infections transmitted from their mothers during birth. An eye ointment to prevent blinding gonorrhea infections also contains small amounts of the antibiotic.

Erythromycin is still considered the safest effective drug for treating newborns exposed to whooping cough, Honein said.

Researchers interviewed the parents of all the Tennessee babies who took erythromycin to help rule out other possible causes of the stomach illness.

The last time researchers tried to link the illness to erythromycin was 1976, when five newborns in Illinois got sick after taking the antibiotic.

"Everybody dismissed that as, 'Gee, we hadn't seen that before, and we haven't seen it after,'" said Dr. Warren Rosenfeld, chairman of pediatrics at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, N.Y.

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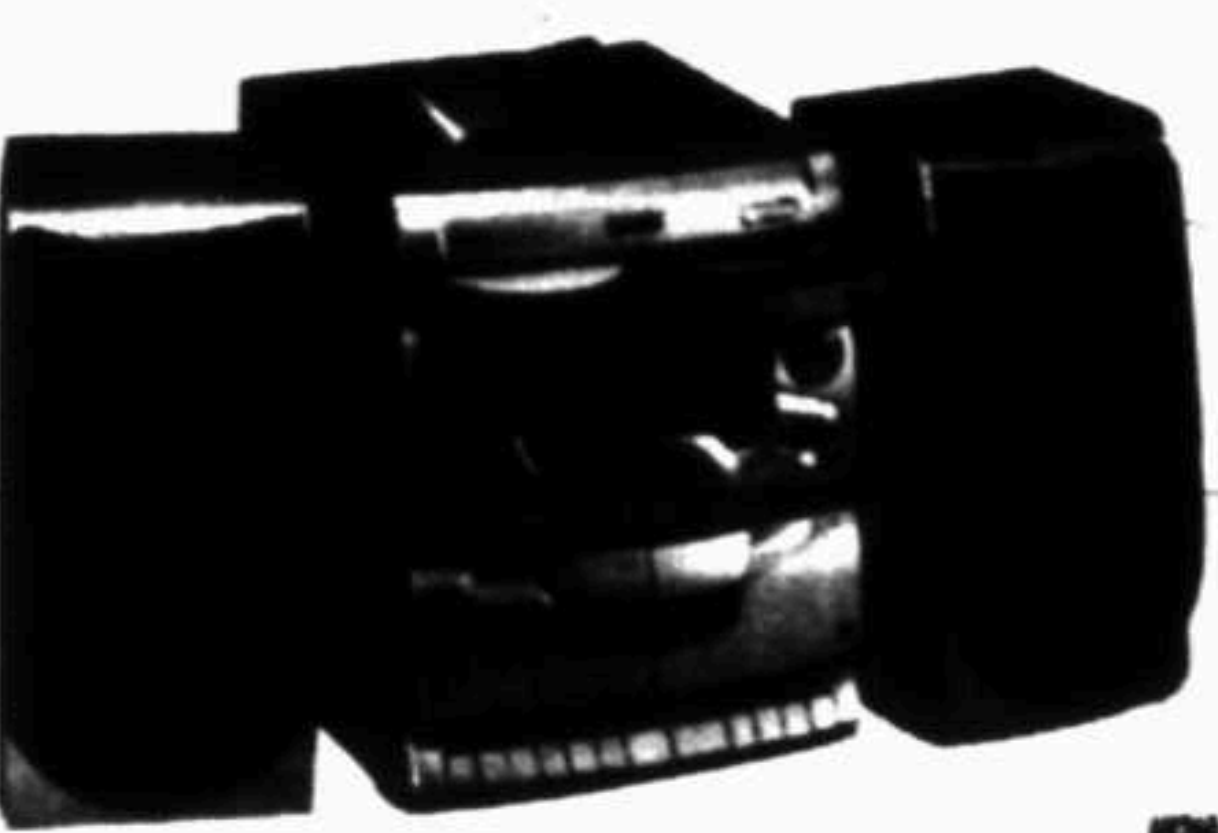
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Lewinsky helps prosecution against Tripp

ELLICOTT CITY, Md. (AP) — Monica Lewinsky on Thursday assisted the prosecution of the woman who thrust her into the national limelight, testifying that she felt violated to learn Linda Tripp had secretly recorded her intimate conversations about her affair with President Clinton.

"It terrified me," Ms. Lewinsky told the court. "I was concerned about the privacy of my relationship being revealed."

Taking the stand at a hearing that will determine whether Mrs. Tripp stands trial on illegal wiretapping charges brought by a Maryland grand jury, Ms. Lewinsky was confident about her memory as she helped prosecutors establish the date of the one tape recording being used as evidence to prosecute her former friend.

Although the tapes revealed Ms. Lewinsky's relationship with Clinton and led to his impeachment, the former White House intern never mentioned the president during 90 minutes on the stand.

Before a packed courtroom, she bantered with one of Mrs. Tripp's lawyers.

When she asked if she could check with her lawyer, defense attorney Joseph Murtha said, "You can ask me."

She tilted her head to one side, smiled and said, "You're not my lawyer," evoking a laugh from spectators.

At another point, she corrected Murtha when he got her birthday wrong.

"Nope, nope, nope," she said. Mrs. Tripp's lawyer threw up his hands and joked, "I was just testing your memory."

Mrs. Tripp was not at the courthouse, but her son, 24-year-old Ryan Tripp, sat in the audience and watched Ms. Lewinsky intently from near the front of the gallery of the packed Howard County courtroom.

"I hope it goes to trial so my Mom can be completely vindicated," Tripp said outside the courtroom. Asked why his mother didn't attend, he said, "She's

got to work for a living" at her Defense Department job. It was the first time Ms. Lewinsky has testified in public in the scandal that led to Clinton's impeachment. In the past, she had testified in secret to a grand jury and by videotape at the president's Senate impeachment trial, where he was acquitted.

In 1998, a tearful Ms. Lewinsky ended two days of federal grand jury testimony by declaring, "I hate Linda Tripp."

But on Thursday, she remained calm.

Asked by prosecutor Carmen Shepard what she thought when a portion of one of her conversations with Mrs. Tripp unexpectedly appeared in Newsweek magazine two years ago, Ms. Lewinsky said, "I was pretty upset."

She said the magazine had a transcript of portions of a conversation she had with Mrs. Tripp on Dec. 22, 1997.

The date is crucial to the case against Mrs. Tripp. Although she made more than 20 hours of tapes, she is charged only with illegally making the tape on that date and allowing it to be played a few weeks later for Newsweek.

Under cross examination, Ms. Lewinsky calmly rejected Murtha's suggestions that she relied on Mrs. Tripp's immunized testimony to Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr to recall the tape's date.

"It was etched in my mind because it was a pretty frightening time for me," Ms. Lewinsky said, calling the Dec. 22, 1997, conversation as "a real turning point" because Mrs. Tripp insisted she would tell the truth about the Clinton affair.

Ms. Lewinsky ticked off several other events around the time of the conversation that assured her she had the right date, including a meeting with Clinton friend Vernon Jordan the same day and a going-away party at the Pentagon the next.

Murtha confronted Ms. Lewinsky with a letter showing uncertainty by her lawyer over whether the tape was recorded on Dec. 22.

or the next day.

Ms. Lewinsky shrugged and said, "All I can tell you is" that she recalled the date as Dec. 22.

Murtha also noted that Starr's prosecutors had enlisted her help in confirming the dates, which Mrs. Tripp had supplied under court-ordered immunity.

The Maryland case cannot be based, even indirectly, on information Mrs. Tripp provided to Starr under her immunity deal.

Mrs. Tripp's lawyers later Thursday went on the attack against state prosecutor Stephen Montanarelli's office, showing the office arranged to have Mrs. Tripp's immunized testimony shipped to their office by the House Judiciary Committee's impeachment investigators.

Gavin Patashnick, a legal assistant for Montanarelli, testified he was the only one in the office who handled the books from Starr's investigation, which contained Mrs. Tripp's testimony.

However, David Irwin, another lawyer for Mrs. Tripp, repeatedly made Patashnick read a memo he wrote to his superiors, at Montanarelli's request, containing numerous references to Mrs. Tripp.

In earlier testimony, Montanarelli acknowledged receiving the memo but said he did not read it.

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Israel, Syria to resume peace talks early in new year

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israel and Syria ended two days of inconclusive peace talks Thursday and agreed to resume the chase early in the new year. President Clinton assured the longtime foes they could count on the United States to help "every step of the way."

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa stood alongside Clinton as he described their discussions as difficult but also said, "We are witnessing a new beginning" in the quest for peace in the Middle East.

Clinton said the two delegations would return to Washington on Jan. 3. Other officials said the talks may be held in either Maryland or Virginia.

"They agreed to take steps to ensure these negotiations will be conducted in

a productive and positive atmosphere," the president said. "... We can truly set our sights on a new and different Middle East."

Clinton stressed the peacemaking was based on U.N. Security Council resolutions that called on Israel to give up land it won in the 1967 Middle East war in exchange for secure borders.

Barak and al-Sharaa made no statements as Clinton spoke outside the West Wing entrance of the White House. Afterward, as they walked back inside, the president had a hand on each man's back.

The likelihood that Syria would achieve its dream of regaining the strategic border high ground increased as Secretary of State Madeleine Albright supervised negotiations over an Israeli pull-

back and its aftermath.

But how long this might take was problematic.

According to Israeli sources, three topics were on the table at Blair House, a presidential guest house across Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House: the withdrawal, mechanics of implementing it and confidence-building measures.

White House spokesman Joe Lockhart credited the two sides with a serious approach.

"We've brought them here to demonstrate they are serious about peace, and now we know this," he said.

Lockhart did not discount the tough bargaining involved, though, as Syria seeks land all the way to the Sea of

Galilee where Israel has its treasured water supplies, while Israel wants recognition from its longtime Arab foe.

"If these were easy issues to resolve, they would have been resolved a long time ago," Lockhart said.

Al-Sharaa said Syria wanted to reach some sort of agreement in the year 2000.

Across a long, highly polished table at Blair House, Barak and al-Sharaa negotiated under the guidance of Albright, U.S. mediator Dennis B. Ross and other U.S. officials. It was the highest-level negotiations between Israel and Syria in a long and unsuccessful process of peacemaking.

Clinton then invited Barak and al-Sharaa back to the White House for separate sessions, followed by a three-way

meeting.

The scene in the Mideast, meanwhile, sharply contrasted to the quiet diplomacy here.

Israeli artillery fired into southern Lebanon, wounding 20 children, after guerrillas attacked Israeli troops, Lebanese security officials said.

Barak hopes an accord with Syria would establish a basis for him to withdraw Israeli troops from a security zone inside the Lebanese border.

A few yards from the White House, a group of about a dozen Orthodox Jews called on Israel to hold on to the Golan Heights. Their leaflets said: "This is not a religious issue, but a matter of life and death; the safety and security of millions of Jews in Israel."

Columbine High closes because of chat-room threat

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — Classes and final exams at Columbine High School were canceled Thursday and Friday after a student received a threat in an Internet chat room.

Denver TV station KMGH reported that the anonymous threat read, in part: "I need to finish what was begun and if you go I don't want your blood on my hands. Just don't go to school and don't tell anyone. If anyone finds out, you'll be the first to go."

School district spokesman Rick Kaufman would not give specifics about the threat except to say it was about something that was to happen Thursday and that it was directed at the entire 1,980-student school.

"In the interest of the safety and emotional well-being of our community, we canceled classes," he said.

The students' holiday break started two days early, and final exams will be made up in January.

"It's a really bad joke," senior Dan Goin said. "Now we're going to have to study over the break. But you never know, they may have saved all our lives today."

Some parents have said that sheriff's officials ignored Internet threats that foreshadowed the April 20 shooting rampage at the suburban Denver school. Twelve students and a teacher were killed by teen-age gunmen Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, who then committed suicide.

The family of the student who received the threat Wednesday night immediately contacted the sheriff's department and school security, Kaufman said.

Authorities "swept the building inside and out" but found nothing, said district spokeswoman Marilyn Saltzman.

The district planned to go ahead with a Christmas concert Thursday night.

"Just when things were getting back to normal this happens," said Casey Cypher, a junior. "It's a good idea to take the threat seriously, though."

Many programs that serve poor still at Y2K risk

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eight states and the District of Columbia remain at risk for Y2K computer glitches in welfare, health care and other federally funded programs, possibly jeopardizing assistance for millions of needy Americans, federal officials say.

Some haven't fixed computer problems, and others rectified problems just days ago. The problems could complicate the states' ability to write welfare and child support checks, pay bills and enroll new applicants in January.

State benefit programs were among the last to begin fixing their computers to handle the Y2K computer problem, scrambling through 1999 to reprogram computers and test them. Most have certified that their systems are in good shape, but federal officials are concerned about stragglers.

"We're not interested in getting 95 percent of the work done or having 45 out of 50 states in good shape. We need to have every state prepared," Koskinen said.

Even states that just fixed problems are still at risk in correcting the computer glitch in which older machines that read only the last two digits of a date might mistake 2000 for 1900, experts warn.

The federal government's final report on Y2K readiness, issued this week, found seven states and the District of Columbia each had at least one of 10 benefit programs that had not been certified as Y2K ready as of Dec. 8.

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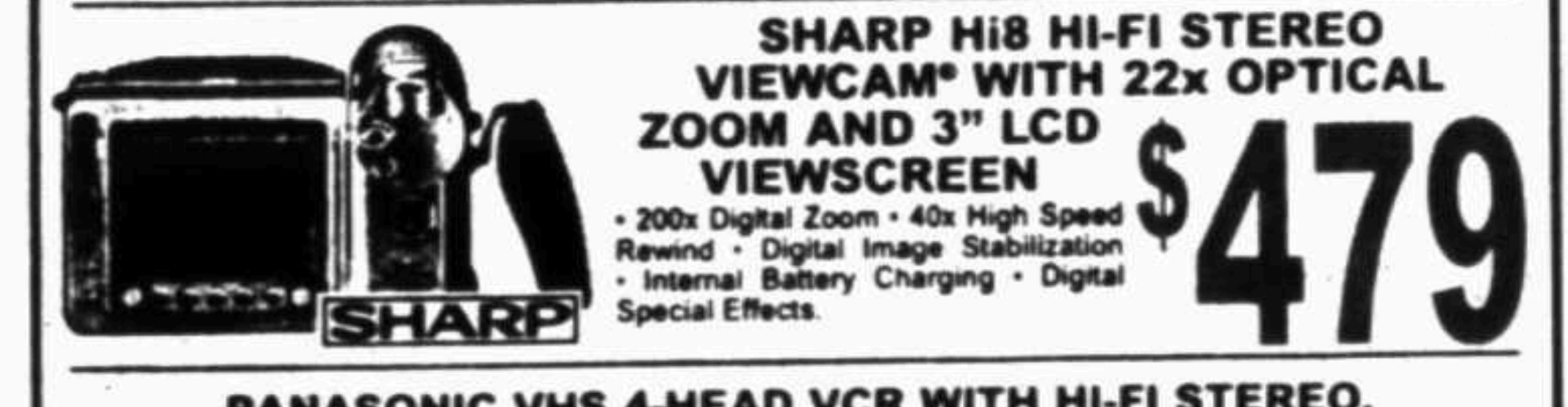
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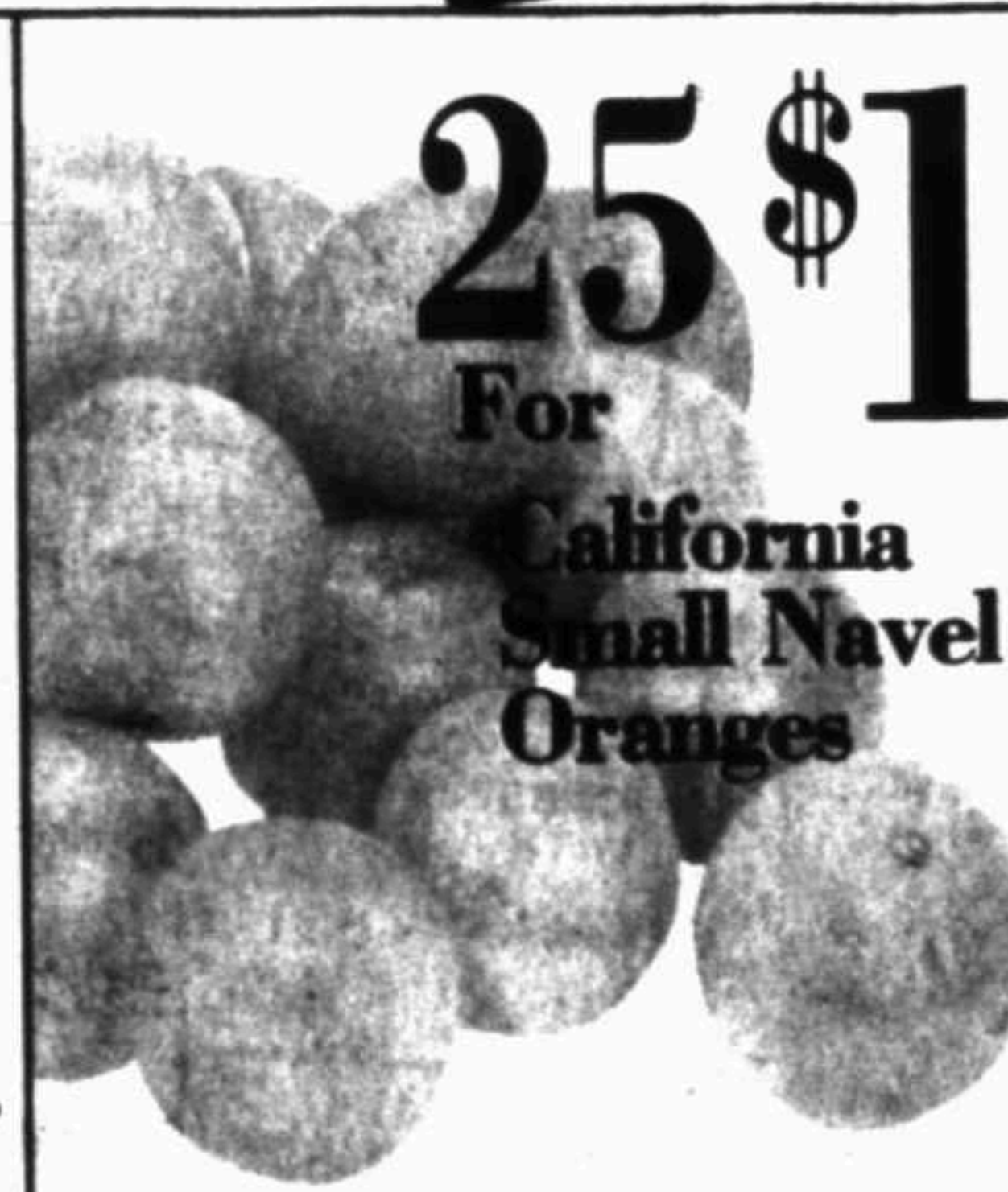
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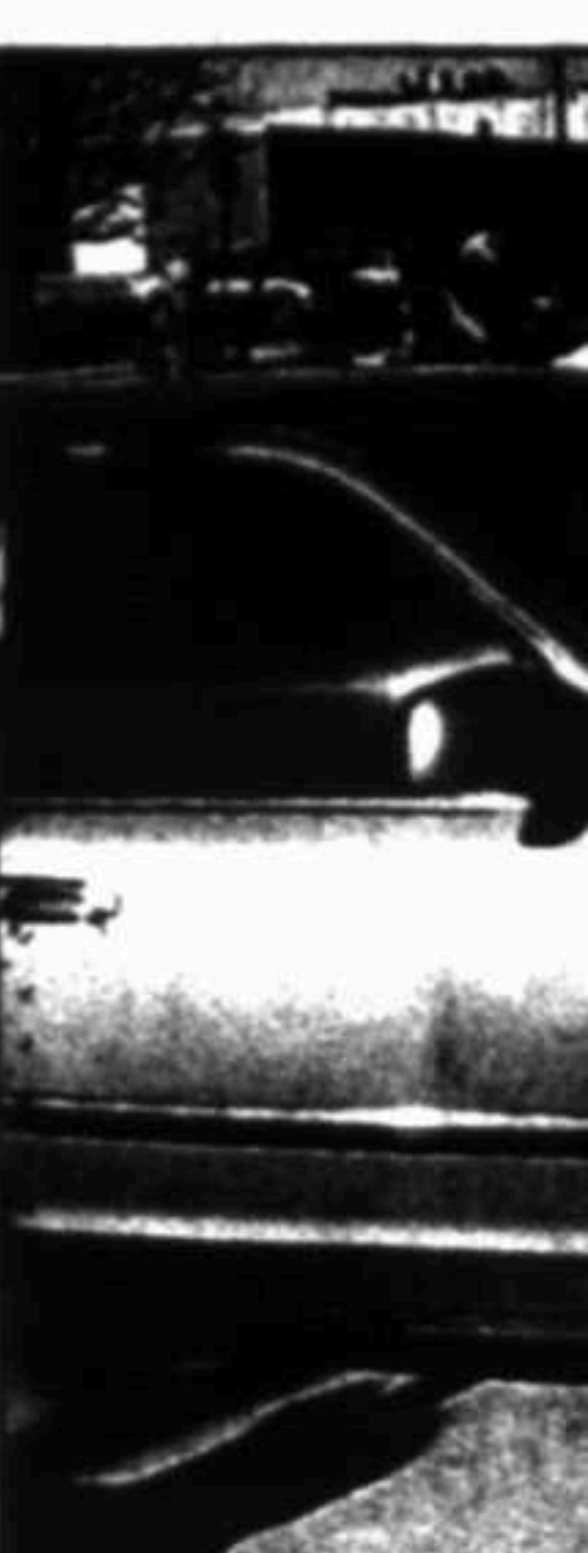
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By Jaime Ar

AP Sports Writ

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FBI agents drive Carolina receiver Rae Carruth to the federal courthouse in Jackson, Tenn., for a hearing on Thursday. Carruth told a judge he would return to North Carolina to face a murder charge.

Carruth heads back to Carolina

By Woody Baird
Associated Press Writer

JACKSON, Tenn. — Wearing leg irons and handcuffs, Rae Carruth told a judge Thursday he would return to North Carolina to face a murder charge in the shooting of his pregnant girlfriend.

Prosecutors said they intend to seek the death penalty against the Carolina Panthers wide receiver and the three other men charged in the killing of Cherica Adams.

Meantime, Carruth, a first-round draft choice in 1997, was waived by the team Thursday and suspended indefinitely by the NFL.

He was captured by the FBI on Wednesday evening, hiding in the

trunk of a car in a motel parking lot in Wildersville, about 100 miles northeast of Memphis. An affidavit filed with the arrest warrant said agents learned of his whereabouts from the bonding company responsible for Carruth's \$3 million bail.

Wearing a gray-and-black jacket and blue jeans, Carruth was brought into U.S. District Court for a brief hearing before Judge James Todd.

"I'm going to voluntarily go back," Carruth said softly.

Todd turned him over to U.S. marshals, but it was not immediately clear when Carruth would be returned to North Carolina.

Adams was 6 1/2 months' pregnant when she was shot Nov. 16. Doctors per-

formed an emergency delivery and her 4-week-old son is in fair condition.

When Adams died Tuesday, a first-degree murder warrant was issued against Carruth.

After he failed to surrender, his name was entered into the National Crime Information Center computer, which is linked to police across the United States.



Carruth

According to the affidavit by FBI Special Agent David Drew, a source with Please see CARRUTH/2C

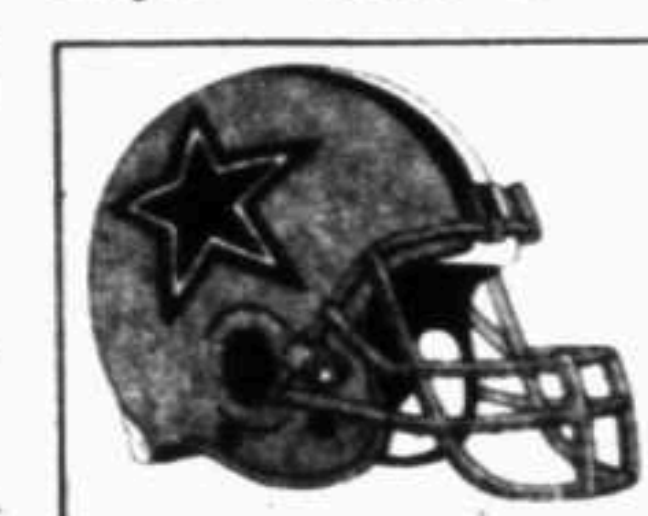
DALLAS COWBOYS FOOTBALL

Emmitt Insurance

Warren gives Dallas good backup at RB

By Jaime Aron
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — The Dallas Cowboys enjoy a rare luxury in the NFL these days. When Emmitt Smith, the leading active



rusher, needs a break, he's replaced by Chris Warren, the No. 6 active rusher.

Having Warren around is sometimes more than a luxury, such as last Sunday when Smith strained a groin muscle on the game's first play and didn't return.

Warren went from being the third-down back to being the first- and second-down back, too.

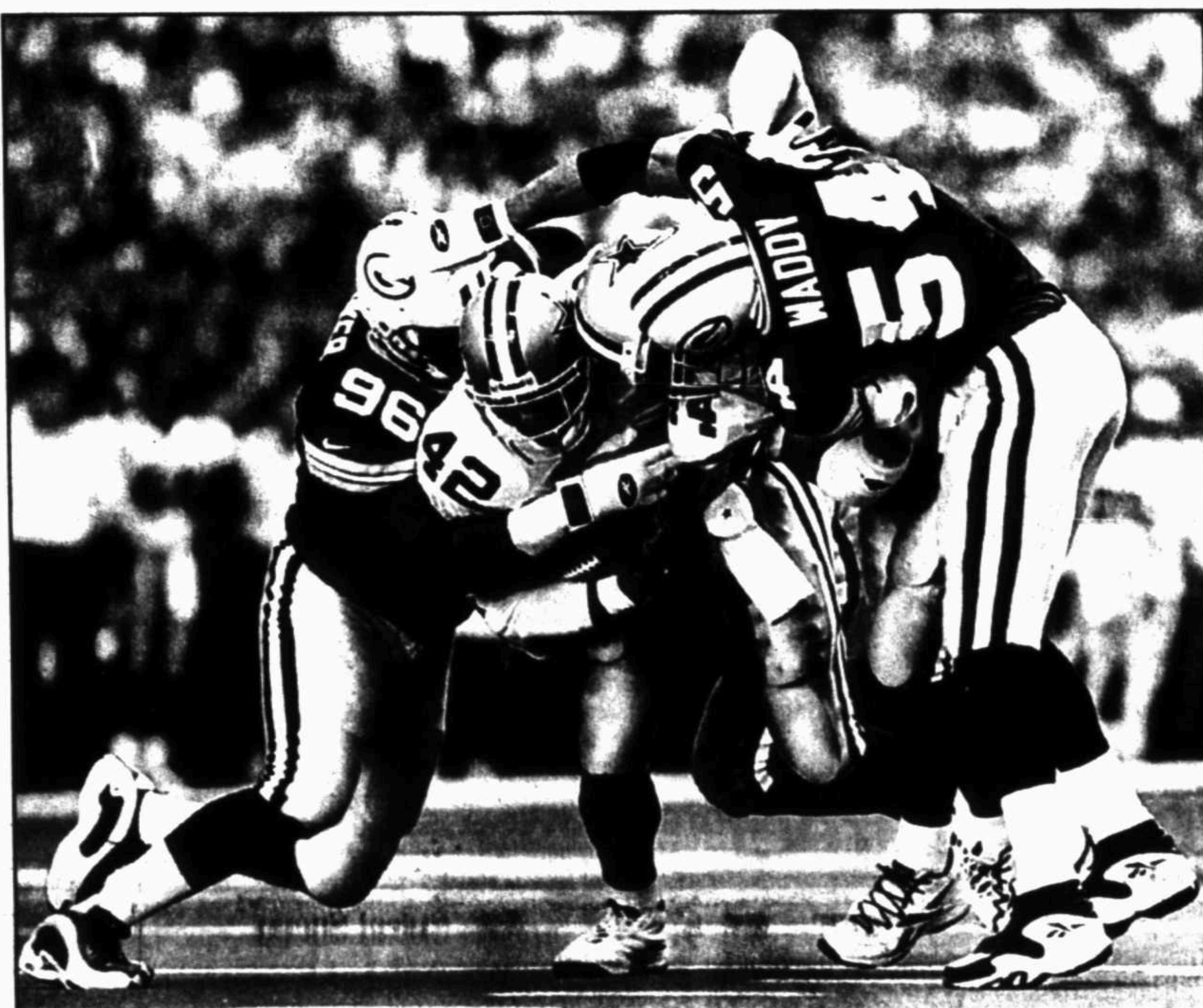
He responded with 92 yards on 25 carries, including a 4-yard touchdown, and a team-best four receptions for 46 yards as Dallas beat Philadelphia 20-10.

"Emmitt came over to me and said, 'Hey, I can't go,'" Warren said. "He couldn't push off. He didn't have any strength. I had that injury last year, so I knew how he felt."

On Thursday, Smith felt better, but far from great.

Electric stimulation, heat, ice and other treatment gave him hope of playing Sunday against the New York Jets. However, he wasn't strong enough to go through team drills Thursday.

"Emmitt went through some walk-through stuff, but really didn't do anything in practice," coach Chan Gailey said. "We'll have to see if he can get on the field tomorrow or not."



Dallas' Chris Warren, being tackled here by Green Bay's Vaughn Booker, left, and Jude Waddy in November, provides the Cowboys with insurance in case Emmitt Smith goes down with an injury.

If he has to, Smith is willing to wait until kickoff before deciding whether he can play.

"If I can be out there, I will," he said. "We're getting down to crunch time in the season and I definitely want to be out there."

Smith admits there is a comfort in knowing Warren would take his place.

"We've got some players who can step up and play the position," he said. "That makes the decision somewhat easier."

Warren left Seattle after 1997 as

the leading rusher in franchise history. His best years were '92-'95, when he had four straight 1,000-yard seasons, something just 13 other players have done.

Yet when Warren signed with Dallas, he understood it was to support Smith, not supplant him.

While some saw it as a challenge to Smith, there has never been any controversy over their 1-2 status.

"He's handled things very, very well," Gailey said.

Life as a backup can be tough.

In one five-game stretch, Warren

totaled 19 carries. Then Smith broke his hand against Minnesota and Warren had 19 carries the next game. He had only three carries over the next three games before the season-high load against the Eagles.

"That's the toughest part, not knowing how much you're going to get, but being ready to play the whole game," said Warren, who will be a free agent after this season.

Adjusting to such unpredictable playing time is one thing. Liking it

Please see WARREN/2C

Smith sits out; ailing Sanders practices

Associated Press

IRVING — Flu-ridden Deion Sanders arrived at Dallas Cowboys headquarters Thursday in time for practice.

Emmitt Smith was there all day, but his sore groin prevented him from going through team drills.

"Emmitt went through some walk-through stuff, but he really didn't do anything in practice," coach Chan Gailey said. "We'll have to see if he can get on the field tomorrow or not."

Gailey said it's too early to tell whether Smith will play Sunday against the New York Jets.

"I'm not thinking either way right now," Gailey said. "I'll wait and start thinking one way or the other after practice tomorrow."

Gailey said Sanders would be listed as probable.

"He's still sick," the coach said. "He practiced, but you could tell he was not all there. He was struggling through everything because he was a little weak."

Gailey hasn't decided whether he'll be able to play receiver Ernie Mills or offensive linemen Larry Allen and Mark Stepanoski. None worked out in team drills.

There was one newcomer in practice: receiver Bryan Still, who was signed Thursday to fill the roster spot opened when defensive end Greg Ellis went on injured reserve.

"He looked fast," Gailey said. "That's about all I can tell."

Still caught 81 passes for 1,167 yards over 3 1/2 seasons in San Diego. The Chargers released him earlier this year and he played briefly in Atlanta until being released there, too.

"He has a lot to learn," Gailey said. "Really, this is an opportunity for us to take a look at a guy. We, at one point, had him graded very high."

Please see SASSER/5C

Versatile Sasser leads Mustangs, day-dreams about football career

By Joel Anderson
Associated Press Writer

DALLAS — When SMU guard Jeryl Sasser daydreams, he sees himself trading in his hightops for cleats.

That's right, the 6-foot-6, 200-pounder who last season led the Mustangs in scoring, rebounding, assists and steals believes he could be a star in football, too.

"I'm looking at Randy Moss and thinking that could be me," Sasser said. "Just throw the ball up in the air and I could run under it and get it."

SMU coach Mike Dement said he doesn't expect his best player to risk life and limbs on the gridiron anytime soon.

But he does like Sasser's athletic ability and the junior's self-confidence.

"He's so dedicated to taking his game to the next level that I doubt he would do something like that," Dement said.

"But I bet he would be a pretty good football player."

Last season, Sasser joined former Utah star Keith Van Horn as the only sophomores to be named WAC player of the year. Yet he's still the last player practicing on the Moody Coliseum floor on most afternoons, shooting basket after basket by himself in hopes of improving last season's 41-percent shooting from the field.

"Man, I'm a gym rat," Sasser said. "I like hooping. There's no other feeling in the world like it. There's nothing about basketball I don't like. I mean, you would have thought Michael Jordan just kicked it all the time and didn't have to work that hard. But it turns out he worked harder than anybody, so why shouldn't I?"

Sasser has to work hard just to be the best player in his family.

His father, Jeryl Sr., played at North Texas; his grandfather, John, played with the Harlem Globetrotters and the one-time St. Louis NBA franchise; his old-

er brother, Jason, was the Southwest Conference player of the year in 1996-97 and has had several NBA stints.

"My daddy can shoot like Larry Bird and Jason is just a baller," Sasser said. "They're the best basketball players I've played against."

While Sasser admits he doesn't quite have the shot his father did, nor the strength of his brother, he said has more versatility than both.

"Jeryl works on his game all the time," Dement said. "He has a great desire to be in the NBA and he's definitely got the chance. He plays hard, he has some flamboyance to his game and he's the ultimate team player."

"I would like for his outside shot to get better, but sometimes when I concentrate on the shots he's missing, I look at the box score and notice he's got a triple-double."

Sasser notched his first career triple-



SMU's Jeryl Sasser grabs a teammate's rebound while shooting free throws during practice Thursday in Dallas. Sasser is the first SMU player to lead the team in scoring, rebounding, assists and steals in a single season.

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Free agent pitcher Chuck Finley, left, holds up his new jersey with Cleveland Indians general manager John Hart Thursday after Finley signed a three-year deal to pitch for the Indians.

Tribe signs Finley to \$27 million deal

By Ronald Blum
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Chuck Finley became the first of the front-line free-agent pitchers to sign, agreeing Thursday with the Cleveland Indians on a \$27 million, three-year contract that includes \$7 million in salary deferred without interest.

Finley, Cleveland's first left-handed starter since 1991, went 12-11 with a 4.43 ERA and one complete game in 33 starts last season for Anaheim, and for the eighth time in 14 years pitched more than 200 innings.

"I dream every night about pitching in the playoffs and getting a chance to go to the World Series," Finley said. "I couldn't have found a better situation than here in Cleveland. It's a perfect fit for me."

Also Thursday, infielder Jose Hernandez agreed to a \$10 million, three-year contract with the Milwaukee Brewers, and backup catcher Mike Matheny agreed to an \$800,000, one-year contract with the St. Louis Cardinals.

Among players eligible for salary arbitration, left-hander Jose Rosado agreed to a \$5.5 million, two-year contract with the Kansas City Royals.

Finley, 37, gets an \$11 million signing bonus, of which \$2 million is payable now, \$2 million on Jan. 15, 2002 and the rest in equal installments of \$2,333,333 on Jan. 15 in 2003, 2004 and 2005.

He gets annual salaries of \$5 million, \$6 million and \$5 million and — in a sign of hope — a \$500,000 bonus if he's MVP of the World Series.

"I think the match with the

Baseball Roundup

Indians and Chuck Finley is at the absolute right time," Indians general manager John Hart said. "This ballclub offers what Chuck Finley is looking for, and that's ability to pitch in the postseason. It's a mature club and we're adding a mature, quality pitcher."

With Finley off the market, teams will focus more on Aaron Sele, Andy Benes, Darren Oliver, Omar Olivares and Steve Trachsel.

Hernandez, 30, hit .266 with 19 homers and 62 RBIs in 508 at-bats last season. Milwaukee signed him after trading third baseman Jeff Cirillo, who batted .326 with 15 homers and 88 RBIs in 607 at-bats.

"We certainly feel he has the power to play the position and we feel his athleticism and work ethic will fit very well into Davey's style of play," Brewers general manager Dean Taylor said, referring to manager Davey Lopes.

Hernandez, who made \$2.4 million last season, gets a \$1 million signing bonus and \$3 million in each of the next three seasons. Matheny, 29, hit .215 for Toronto last season with three homers and 17 RBIs in 57 games. He had spent the previous five seasons with Milwaukee.

Matheny, who made \$600,000 last season, gets \$750,000 next year. St. Louis has an \$850,000 option for 2001 with a \$50,000 buyout.

"We feel that Matheny gives us solid depth behind the plate," Cardinals general manager Walt Jocketty said. "He is very good defensively, and he knows how to handle a pitching staff well."

NLRB calls hearing for next week

NEW YORK (AP) — Richie Phillips will get a chance to overturn the election that ousted him from head of an umpires union.

The National Labor Relations Board, responding to objections from Phillips' union, called a hearing for next Wednesday on last month's election.

Phillips' union, according to the NLRB, accused baseball owners of withholding bonus money last month and threatening to withhold termination pay. This, according to Phillips' side, occurred while umpires were voting whether to keep Phillips' union or replace it with an insurgent group.

Knicks beat Mavs as Houston has 31

Associated Press

DALLAS — Allan Houston's confidence soars with the ball in his hands and the game on the line.

The Knicks guard scored 10 of his season-high 31 points in the fourth quarter to help New York to its fifth straight victory, 100-93 over the Dallas Mavericks on Thursday night.

"I want the ball at that point in time," said Houston, who went 5-for-8 from the field in the final 12 minutes. "I want us to win. I was getting my legs into my shots, getting good balance. When I'm doing that, I've got a good chance to make shots. I felt good about it."

Marcus Camby added 17 points and 12 rebounds, and Latrell Sprewell had 15 points for New York, which has won seven of its last eight.

Patrick Ewing added 14 points and seven rebounds in 24 minutes for the Knicks in his fourth game back from an Achilles injury that sidelined him for the first 20 games.

"Pat is our good luck charm," Camby said. "We haven't lost

since he's been back."

Dirk Nowitzki scored 24 points and Michael Finley added 20 to lead the Mavericks, who have lost five of six.

The Knicks took a 10-point lead early in the fourth quarter, but the Mavericks closed to 86-82 with 4:10 left on Hubert Davis' two free throws.

Houston connected on jumpers on consecutive possessions to boost New York's advantage to 90-82 with three minutes left.

The Mavericks made one more charge, cutting the deficit to 90-89 on a 7-0 run capped by Nowitzki's 3-pointer and Finley's layup with 1:35 left.

But Houston hit two more jumpers on back-to-back possessions for a 94-89 lead, then Ewing converted two free throws with 35.6 seconds remaining to push the advantage to 96-89.

"He was unstoppable," Camby said of Houston. "With him and Latrell, if one of them isn't hot in the fourth quarter, the other one is."

Dallas closed to 75-74 early in the fourth quarter on baskets by Cedric Ceballos and Nowitzki.

Vancouver fires Hill after losses pile up

Associated Press

RICHMOND, British Columbia — Feeling the Vancouver Grizzlies were better than their 4-18 record, president and general manager Stu Jackson said Thursday he was left with no choice but to fire coach Brian Hill.

Lionel Hollins, the only remaining member of the coaching staff from the Grizzlies inaugural 1995 season, will take over on an interim basis the rest of the season.

Hollins, 46, takes over a club that has lost four straight games, has won only one of its last 15 and following last Monday's loss to the Los Angeles Clippers is back at the bottom of the NBA Western Conference standings.

"I believe this team has the talent level to play better and the capability to compete harder and I felt that a coaching change was necessary in order to facilitate improvement," Jackson said at a news conference at the team's suburban Vancouver training facility.

The coaching change was the second this season in the NBA as Danny Ainge resigned at Phoenix on Monday and was replaced by assistant Scott Skiles.

After making seven offseason changes to a team that finished with an NBA-low 8-42 record last year, Jackson felt the Grizzlies were not responding.

"This is a relatively new group for all intents and purposes and it's

my belief that (the chemistry) is there and it needs to be unleashed and unlocked. And we hope that by changing a small piece that we can at least make our way to accomplishing that," said Jackson, who called this the Grizzlies most experienced and talented team in the club's five-year history.

Jackson, who is in the final year of his contract, said he considered making the move last month but wanted to give Hill and the team an opportunity to turn things around.

"It didn't seem like it was going to go that way," Jackson said. "Fall guy's really the wrong term. We're in a really difficult business and decisions like these are part of our business. They're never easy but they have to be made. You can't rip down the whole house."

Hill, unavailable for comment, was informed of the firing Thursday morning, a day after the Grizzlies blew a three-point lead in the final minute and lost 109-106 to the Sacramento Kings.

Hill was in his third season with the Grizzlies, hired after he was let go in the middle of 1996-97 season by the Orlando Magic, who he led to the NBA Finals in 1995.

Hill had a 31-123 record with Vancouver, dropping his career mark to 222-227. Hill took over in Vancouver for Jackson, who served as interim coach after he dismissed Brian Winters in January 1997.

LOCAL SPORTS

Lubbock gets Region Tourney

Lubbock's United Spirit Arena will host the Region V National Junior College Athletic Association Basketball Tournament in the years 2000, 2001, 2002.

The Region V Tournament is a highly competitive tournament that involves eight men's and women's teams.

Half of the teams participating in the region tournament will come from the Western Junior College Athletic Conference, which hosts a number of schools including Midland College, Odessa College, South Plains College and Howard College.

The other half of the tournament draw comes from teams from the Northern Texas Junior College Athletic Conference.

Last year, the men and women both played their tournaments in Abilene.

The Region V Tournament is currently the only college basketball championship played in the state of Texas.

Trinity girls make semis

IRA — The Trinity girls basketball team advanced to the semifinals of the Ira Tournament with a 52-39 beating of Highland Thursday.

Trinity (5-6 overall) will play the winner of last night's game between Ira and Hermleigh at 6

p.m. tonight.

Renee Rougoux led the Lady Chargers with 18 points and 15 rebounds, four steals, three assists and two blocks. Susan Stasney added 13 points for Trinity, which had 23 steals as a team in the win.

Trinity blew the game open with a 17-2 first-quarter run.

Trinity 52 Highland 39
Trinity (5-6): Susan Stasney 6 1-2 13, Christa Luebeck 1 0-0 2, Kristen Stoltz 2 0-0 6, Catherine Durbin 2 0-2 4, Nicole Kinnery 2 1-2 5, Jana Floyd 1 2-2 4, Renee Rougoux 6 2-2 18. Totals 22 8-10 52.
Highland: Miller 0 1-2 1, Mitchell 1 0-0 2, Alison 1 0-0 2, Baister 1 2-2 4, Krupci 0 1-2 1, Barnett 9 6-7 26, Feaster 1 1-1 3. Totals 13 11-14 36.
Trinity 17 14 11 10 — 52
Highland 2 12 11 14 — 39
3-Point Goals: Trinity 2 (Stoltz 2), H 2 (Barnett 2). Fouls: T 18, H 13. Fouled Out: None.

Trinity boys beat Highland

IRA — The Trinity boys basketball team bounced Highland 62-30 Thursday night in action from the Ira Tournament.

Trinity (5-3) will play the winner of Ira and Hermleigh at 7:30 p.m. today.

The Chargers were led by a 22-point performance from Nick Whitley. Taborick Ephraim added 18 and Evan McLaughlin threw in 11.

Trinity 62 Highland 30
Trinity (5-3): Lane Rouse 1 0-0 3, Matt Home 1 0-0 2, Andrew Anderson 0 2-2 2, Taborick Ephraim 7 3-3 18, Evan McLaughlin 5 1-2 11, Nick Whitley 10 1-1 22, Dan Attanucci 2 0-0 4. Totals 26 7-4 62.
Highland: Rodriguez 1 1-2 3, Fullwood 2 1-4 5, Hendrix 0 0-2 0, Conway 1 1-2 4, Johnson 5 1-2 11, Cornett 2 2-2 6, Carson 0 0-3 0. Totals 11 6-17 30.
Trinity 18 15 11 18 — 62
Highland 2 10 8 9 — 30
3-Point Goals: T 3 (Rouse 1, Whitley 1, Ephraim 1), H 1 (Conway). Fouls: T 15, H 10. Fouled Out: None.

Texas gets Hulse back; Dierker gets extension

Associated Press

ARLINGTON — The Texas Rangers signed three minor league free agents Thursday to deals for 2000 with Triple-A Oklahoma.

Texas signed third baseman Tom Evans, outfielder David Hulse and catcher Reed Sechrist.

The 25-year-old Evans spent 1999 with Oklahoma batting .280 with 12 homers and 68 RBIs in 128 games.

Hulse, 32, spent 1999 with St. Louis' Triple-A Memphis affiliate where he hit .335 with four homers and 31 RBIs in 74 games. Hulse was also the Rangers' 1993 Rookie of the Year. Hulse and Evans have been invited to spring training in Florida as non-roster players.

Hunsicker, Dierker get extensions

HOUSTON — General manager Gerry Hunsicker and manager Larry Dierker, who have led the Houston Astros to three straight division titles, received contract extensions Thursday through the 2002 season.

"I think it was an important step not just for Larry and I personally, but for the franchise to ensure stability in our manage-

Texas Baseball

ment team for the next three years," Hunsicker said. "I feel like stability has played a role in our success and I feel it's important to continue that as we move forward."

Hunsicker and Dierker, together since 1997, had been signed through 2000. Terms of their new deals were not disclosed.

Astros AA team appoints manager

ROUND ROCK — Former Oakland Athletics manager Jackie Moore was named Thursday the manager of the Round Rock Express, the Nolan Ryan-owned Double-A affiliate for the Houston Astros.

The Express also hired former major leagueer Burt Hooton as pitching coach and named Mark Bailey, a former batterymate of Ryan's on the Astros, as another coach. Nathan Lucero was hired to be the trainer.

Moore went 163-190 as manager of the A's from 1984-1986. He was the bench coach for the Colorado Rockies from '96-98 and he's also coached Milwaukee, Texas, Toronto, Montreal and Cincinnati.

PINKIE'S

Wine • Beer • Spirits • Et Cetera

2701 N. Big Spring 608 Andrews Hwy. 3211 N. Midkiff
683-6261 682-7232 694-0529

Jim Beam
Bourbon
\$18.77

Coors
30-Packs
\$14.67

Bud Longnecks
Regular Light Beer
\$12.17

Southern Comfort
Bourbon Liqueur
\$8.97

Seagram's V.O. \$23.97
80° Canadian Whisky ~ 1.75 Ltr.

Penn Dutch Egg Nog \$6.77
29.5° Ready-to-Serve ~ 750 ml.

Stolichnaya Vodka \$16.97
80° Russian Import ~ 750 ml.

Bacardi Rum \$18.97
80° Dark or Light ~ 1.75 Ltr.

BAREFOOT
CHENIN BLANC
California Wine
\$8.97
1.5 Ltr.

HOLIDAY CHARDONNAYS SALE
15% OFF
ALL CALIFORNIA CHARDONNAYS
750 ml. cork finished wines
Subject to inventory on hand
All prices good thru Saturday, December 18th

BAREFOOT
CABERNET & MERLOT
California Wines
\$10.97
1.5 Ltr.

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LOCAL BASKETBALL TODAY

Girls

Midland High vs. Frenship

Opponent: Frenship is a District 4-4A team.

Where: MHS Gym.

When: 5 p.m.

Coaches: MHS — Terry Gray; Frenship — Terry Lowrey.

Records: MHS is 10-4 on the season; Frenship is 4-8.

Notes: Midland High is coming off a solid win, having beaten Odessa Permian 82-51 to open its District 4-5A season last Friday. This game is part of a nearly three-week span between district games for the Lady Dawgs, who could be especially well prepared for their next 4-5A outing, on New Year's Eve against cross-town rival Midland Lee. What might be in question is if MHS will be able to depend on its entire roster tonight, since an incident Monday afternoon in which several students returned to school after drinking alcohol during lunch. Some members of the basketball team might have been involved in the incident, although no team members were officially suspended.

Next: Midland High will be at home again Saturday when it hosts Lamesa at 6 p.m.

Midland Lee vs. San Angelo Central

Opponent: Central is a fellow District 4-5A opponent.

Where: Central gym.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Coaches: Lee — Elise Kail; Central — Jan Wakefield.

Records: Lee is 9-3 overall, 0-1 in district; Central is 5-7 and 0-1.

Notes: Lee was playing well prior to opening district against Odessa High last Friday, but ran into a buzzsaw with a 64-46 loss against the district favorites. The Lady Rebels got behind early in the game and had a hard time catching up. Only two players, Adrienne Ross and Shamara Bryson, scored in double figures for Lee, and they only had 10 apiece. Like the Lady Rebels, Central is also looking for its first district win after a tough first outing. The Lady Bobcats had far rougher than the Lady Rebels, losing to Abilene

High 79-37 last Friday. That extended the district misery which goes back to last season for Central, which went 0-12 in 4-5A.

Next: Lee will take a break from district play next Monday when it travels north to Amarillo for two games, the first of which will be 6 p.m. against Amarillo Tascosa.

Three-point Goals: Simmons 22, Smith 22, Packer 16, Shatzer 9, Simpson 3, Trout 1, Vinson 1, Hunt 1.

Midland Lee Girls Statistics (9-3)

Player	G	FG	FT	Pts.	Avg.
Adrienne Ross	12	85	37	224	18.7
Rochelle Warren	11	47	15	110	10.0
Shamara Bryson	12	33	24	101	8.4
Andria Long	12	28	8	72	6.0
Julie Jay	12	28	16	62	5.2
Danielle Dickey	12	20	13	55	4.6
Michelle Kennerly	11	15	10	40	3.6
Shandi Weatherlin	11	13	12	38	3.5
Michelle Byrd	11	7	0	17	1.5
Jade Jones	12	3	4	10	0.8
Kim Strambler	2	0	0	0	0.0

Three-Point Goals: Ross 17, Long 8, Byrd 3, Dickey 2, Bryson 1, Warren 1.

Boys

Midland Lee vs. El Paso Burgos

Opponent: Burgos is a District 1-5A school.

Where: Chaparral Center.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Coaches: Lee — Jon House.

Records: Lee is 6-6 on the season.

Notes: The Rebels finished fourth in their own Tall City Oilman's Tournament last weekend, but from day-to-day there wasn't much progress. In Saturday's third place game against District 4-5A rival Abilene Cooper, Lee stayed close most of the game, but went cold in the fourth quarter, as Cooper scored the final 27 points to run away with a 72-41 victory. Although three Rebels are averaging in double figures, only junior Wendell Smith was consistent throughout the Oilman's, and he was selected to the all-tournament team. It should definitely help the basketball team that six players from the state championship football team are now available to start their basketball season tonight.

Next: Lee will return to the Chap Center Saturday at 1 p.m. to face El Paso Burgos.

Midland Lee Boys Statistics (6-6)

Player	G	FG	FT	Pts.	Avg.
Chris Packer	12	64	32	176	14.7
Wendell Smith	12	63	20	168	14.0
Cory Simmons	12	43	15	123	10.3

Kyle Shatzer	12	38	22	107	8.9
Kevin Trout	12	25	15	66	5.5
Justin Simpson	12	13	5	35	2.9
Paul Logan	10	13	3	29	2.9
Ryan Wilson	12	6	6	19	1.6
Cornell Hunt	11	6	3	16	1.5
David Salgado	10	3	0	6	0.6

Three-point Goals: Simmons 22, Smith 22, Packer 16, Shatzer 9, Simpson 3, Trout 1, Vinson 1, Hunt 1.

Midland High vs. El Paso Burgos

Opponent: Burgos is a District 1-4A school.

Where: Chaparral Center.

When: 6 p.m.

Coaches: MHS — Jack Stephenson.

Records: MHS is 10-4 on the season.

Notes: The Bulldogs got something of a much needed break in their schedule for most of this week after having played eight games in an eight-day span. Last Saturday, Midland High won two games in the consolation bracket of the Tall City Oilman's Tournament at the Chap Center to finish the tournament with a 3-2 record. The Bulldogs notched a pair of wins over District 4-5A foe Odessa High in the tournament. Offensively, seniors Blake Johnston and Ronnie Brewster have been carrying the offense, averaging 25.6 and 16.1 points a game respectively. Sophomore Lucquette White started in Saturday's win over OHS and scored 11 points, and Stephenson says it's likely White will stay in the lineup.

Next: The Bulldogs will return to the Chap Saturday at 11 a.m. to face El Paso Burgos.

Midland High Boys Statistics (10-4)

Player	G	FG	FT	Pts.	Avg.
Blake Johnston	14	110	99	358	25.6
Ronnie Brewster	14	77	65	225	16.1
Randy Gardner	14	33	41	106	7.6
Chris Oldham	14	28	13	76	5.4
Lucquette White	14	22	11	67	4.9
Kalvin Poor	14	20	2	52	3.7
Alfonzo Franco	13	12	5	36	2.8
Tyler Shumake	12	14	3	31	2.6
Aaron Saddler	1	3	9	15	1.7
Brian Pond	11	6	1	16	1.5
Blake Huggins	14	7	7	21	1.5
Jarvis Brown	9	3	13	14	1.4
Jason South	9	2	5	9	1.0
Rogel King	8	2	1	6	0.8
Ryan Hightower	13	1	7	9	0.7
John Alcala	13	1	4	0	0.5
Ray Johnson	4	0	0	0	0.0
Scott Winter	4	0	0	0	0.0

Three-point Goals: Johnston 37, Poor 10, White 11, Franco 6, Oldham 7, Brewster 6, Pond 3, Oldham 1.

Longhorns going with small lineup for game vs. Wofford

By Jim Vertuno

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN — It's bye-bye big men for Texas.

Coach Rick Barnes is tinkering with his lineup.

Dissatisfied with the flow of the 15th-ranked Longhorns offense, Barnes plans to install a smaller, three-guard lineup Saturday when Texas (5-2) plays at home against Wofford (3-4).

That means forward Chris Owens, the 'Horns third-leading scorer with 12.9 points per game will be coming off the bench.

"I want to see if we can get quicker, get up and down the floor and get more in transition," Barnes said Thursday.

Texas could start 6-3 shooting guard Darren Kelly (10.3 ppg) or 6-1 Lawrence Williams. Kelly tied his career high with 18 points against San Diego. Williams has been cleared to play after missing the first seven games with a pulled groin.

They'll join starting guards Ivan Wagner, 6-1, and William Clay, 6-2.

"All year long we've had really more success with the smaller lineup," Barnes said.

With 7-foot center Chris Mihm and muscular 6-8 Gabe Muoneke and 6-7 Owens up front, the Longhorns were intimidating under the basket. But teams also were double- and triple-teaming whoever got the ball inside and Texas wasn't moving enough

to take advantage of open spaces.

The struggles became noticeable after a 4-0 start. Following a close loss to Arizona, Texas scored just 45 points in a loss at Wisconsin. Texas then looked frustrated and flat-footed against San Diego.

"We've been working a lot on running the floor, which is something we haven't done a lot this year. With the smaller lineup, we get more movement so our offense isn't so stagnant," said Mihm, who leads Texas with 17.4 points and 11.3 rebounds per game.

"With an offense that moves around more, we can get open for threes and make them work harder defensively," Mihm said.

A steady rotation of Texas' big three shouldn't change the amount of playing time for Mihm, Muoneke and Owens, Barnes said. All three currently average between 28 and 32 minutes, which Barnes said is ideal.

There are disadvantages to the smaller lineup, Muoneke said, including making it easier for opponents to post up against the smaller players.

A smaller lineup also isn't as intimidating, Muoneke said. But it can be quicker and exploit collapsing defenses.

"If you start reversing the ball quicker, all of a sudden you've got a one-on-one matchup on the inside," Muoneke said.

Lady Longhorns blow out Fordham

NEW YORK (AP) — Edwina

Brown scored 23 points and Texas celebrated its return to the Top 25 with an 83-57 victory over Fordham on Thursday night.

The 25th-ranked Longhorns (7-2) had not been ranked for 39 consecutive polls, a run dating to Nov. 18, 1997.

JoRuth Woods added 21 points

for Texas, which won its fourth straight, while Lindsey Ryan had 10.

The Longhorns, who finished with a 44-20 rebound advantage, visits No. 16 Rutgers on Saturday to complete their two-game trip to the New York City area.

Texas has 6-2 edge in the series

against Scarlet Knights.

Nailah Wallace was 5-for-8 from 3-point range and had 28 points for the Rams (1-8), while Beth Michuda, who was 5-for-8 on 3s, added 17. Fordham was coming off its only win of the season, over St. Francis, N.Y.

SASSER: Mustang dreams of NFL

(From 1C)

double, only the fourth in SMU history, on Nov. 23 against Lamar with 16 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists performance in SMU's 67-56 victory.

The Mustangs opened the season 7-1 and Sasser was a big reason for it. He led the team with 10.1 rebounds and 5.6 assists and his 15.9 points were second.

The hot start is what Sasser was accustomed to when he led Dallas Kimball High to consecutive Class 5A state titles and a four-year record of 121-9. Despite all those hours competing against only his shadow, Sasser could only get SMU to 33-25 over his first two years.

"I'm ready for us to take it to a new level," he said. "I feel like you have to have three people who can kill you. I think we have that this season in myself, (Stephen) Woods, and Willie (Davis)."

Woods said having Sasser makes SMU a contender for an NCAA tournament berth.

"His competitive mentality just rubs off on the team," Woods said. "If he's serious, then the whole team is serious. But if he starts joking around, then

the guys kind of loosen up."

Loosening up is no problem for Sasser. "I bring relaxation to the team," Sasser said. "I just go out and try to show my teammates that the other team is just a bunch of hoopsters like us. I've been playing basketball against older guys all my life, so playing against people my age really isn't a big deal."

For a guy who said the first time he played basketball "everything I shot went in, that's when I realized this game could be fun," you have to find challenges from within.

Hence, football fantasies.

"I could do it if I really wanted to," Sasser said. "I just don't like being hit in the knees. You know, being as tall as I am makes me a target."

"But if I put my mind to it, then I feel I can do anything."

For now, he'll settle for doing it all on a basketball court.

"I feel like I belong on the court with any player," Sasser said. "Any night I can go out and be the best player on the floor."

TCU to get needed spark with midseason arrival of Anthony

By Stephen Hawkins

AP Sports Writer

FORT WORTH — Myron Anthony is confident that he can provide a needed spark for Texas Christian.

When the Horned Frogs (5-4) return to the court Sunday after a week-long break, Anthony will finally be eligible to play after sitting out the required year following his transfer from Kentucky.

"I'm not holding back, I'm getting right in the flow of things," Anthony said. "This team follows me, the team goes as I go. I'm just anxious to lead these guys so we can get on a winning streak."

Maybe the 6-foot-7, 220-pound Anthony hasn't been playing in games for the Horned Frogs, but he has been making an impact at practice. Coach Billy Tubbs said Anthony is the best rebounder on the team, but has an even more important asset.

"He's not going to step in and get 35 points and 20 boards," Tubbs said. "He's a player that has some spark, some fire to him. That's something else we need."

For a team that is still trying to fit together the pieces after the departures of high-scoring Lee Nailon and career assists leader Prince Fowler, Anthony steps in at the right time.

"In practice, he brings so much energy. I think him bringing that to the game, it will help us out a whole lot," said junior guard Thomas McTyer.

The Horned Frogs have lost their last two games, including a 69-60 loss to Southwest Missouri State last Saturday in which they shot just 31 percent (20-of-64) in their second-lowest scoring output in Tubbs' five seasons.

After three straight 20-win seasons and postseason appearances — both firsts in TCU — Tubbs knew this could be some difficult times this season. But TCU still has six more games, all at home, before begin-

ning Western Athletic Conference play on Jan. 6.

"We have that time span to get our act together," Tubbs said. "It's reasonable to assume that we could be playing pretty good by then. I haven't given up on this team."

"We can go either way. But I think we have a realistic chance to win the conference championship and/or conference tournament. I'm a long way from saying let's write this year off and go to next year."

The Horned Frogs get the opportunity to do more than just blend Anthony into the lineup during this week without a game.

Marquise Gainous, the top returning scorer and rebounder and only senior on the team, and sharp-shooting junior guard Vladimir Jaksic both get some extra time to recover from sprained ankles. The 6-9, 230-pound Gainous (17.9 ppg, 7.0 rpg) has played in parts of every game this season, but Jaksic (1.5 ppg) just returned to the lineup for limited stints last week.

Ryan Carroll, again the WAC's top 3-point shooter, leads the Horned Frogs with 18.9 ppg, followed by Gainous. The next four top scorers are all first-year players — transfers Derrick Davenport, Estell Laster and Larry Alloway, and freshman Bingo Merriex.

Now add another newcomer, Anthony, who isn't lacking in confidence even though he had limited playing time and numbers (2.2 ppg, 1.1 rpg) with 1998 national champion Kentucky.

"I think we are a much better ball club with me in the lineup," Anthony said. "We're on the right track, nine games without me and 5-4. Now it's no excuses. Now it's time to get this thing done. Time is running out, we've got to make some statements."

He was one of Florida's top high school players before going to Kentucky. He averaged 28.1 points, 10.7 rebounds and 1.7 blocked shots per game as a senior at Fletcher High in Jacksonville, Fla.

Ed Todd

Keep up with his antics in the Midland Reporter-Telegram



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Jayhawks take care of Ohio St.

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — Kenny Gregory can happily head home for the holidays.

The native of Columbus, Ohio, who took plenty of grief for turning his back on Ohio State, scored 17 points and got a standing ovation from the huge crowd in Allen Fieldhouse on Thursday night after leading No. 8 Kansas to a fast-paced 80-67 victory over the 12th-ranked Buckeyes.

"This takes care of me as far as bragging rights, discussing who won and who played well," said the 6-foot-5 junior, who was one of the most highly recruited prep stars in the nation.

In the game within the game, Michael Redd, Gregory's buddy who did stay home to attend college, had 20 points and 10 rebounds in the first road game of the year for the Buckeyes (4-2).

"Kansas is a tough team," Redd said. "You've got to give them credit. It's no secret Kenny Gregory's a great player. But he's been playing well all year."

Eric Chenoweth had 12 points and 12 rebounds for Kansas (8-1), which avenged a 66-54 loss last week to then-No. 4 Michigan State, one of four Big 10 teams the Jayhawks will play this season.

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WEST TEXAS SPORTS

Booster Clubs...

The Midland Lee Basketball Booster Club meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Lee High School cafeteria. All boys' and girls' basketball fans are invited to attend...

The Midland High Softball Booster Club will meet the first Thursday of each month through May 4 in Conference Room A at MHS. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Contact Patti Heard at 686-9239 or David Askew at 686-7025 with questions...

The Midland Lee Lady Rebel Softball Booster Club will meet the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Lee cafeteria. Call Bryan Hargrove at 688-1537 for more information...

Golf...

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin is looking for a golf coach to assist in the development of its newest team. Coaching duties will begin in January 2000 and will pay (\$5,100 plus benefits). Any individual interested in applying for the position, or anyone who has questions about playing on the team should contact Steve Acinena at (915) 522-2675...

Baseball...

The University of Texas Winter Camp is scheduled for two sessions in late December. A Specialty Camp for pitchers, catchers, hitting and defense is scheduled for Dec. 20-22 for ages 7-18. An Advanced Specialty Camp for players 14-18 is scheduled for Dec. 27-29. For more information, call (512) 471-3309...

The 4th Rocket Baseball Academy Winter Baseball Camp is December 20-22 at Midland's Zachary Field. For those 12-under the camp is from 9 a.m. to noon, for 13-older the time for the camp is from 1-4 p.m. The cost is \$100 per player and each participant must register an hour before the morning session. All instructors are college and professional baseball players or local high school baseball coaches teaching the "Attack Offense." Contact Danny Jordan to pre-register at 915-520-2821.

A Winter Baseball Camp will be held Dec. 20-22 at Ernie Johnson Field. There will be two sessions, the first for players 12 years of age and under is at 9-11:30 a.m. and the second for players 13 and over is at 1-3:30 p.m. Instructors are Jesse Benavidez, Lee baseball coach; Eric Benavidez, Lubbock Christian assistant coach; Chris Connally, TCU undergraduate assis-

tant coach and Jay LaFlair of the Cleveland Indians organization. Cost is \$60 and instruction includes hitting, fielding and pitching. Registration is Dec. 20, one hour prior to the session you plan to attend...

The AAU Baseball and Softball Program will conduct an evaluation camp to aid and inform athletes on what they need to do to take a higher step in baseball. The camp will be conducted Dec. 18-19 in Brenham and will be conducted by college coaches and pro scouts with many years experience in evaluating the talent of athletes. Evaluations will be put into a catalog and sent to all college baseball and softball coaches along with all pro scouts in Texas and Louisiana. Please contact Frank Dorner at (281) 469-6721 for more information...

The Red Raider Holiday Baseball Camps are offering a pair of sessions for players six years and up starting in December. Sessions for players age 14 through high school seniors will be for pitchers and catchers on Dec. 18 and for hitters Dec. 19. Cost for the camp is \$80 per day and \$150 for two days with a \$50 deposit required. Players 6-13 can attend a Jan 23 session at \$80 per day with a \$50 deposit. For more information, call Greg Evans at (806) 742-3355...

Hill College is hosting a pro skills baseball camp Dec. 18. The camp is open to all athletes aged 12-19 with four pro scouts serving as instructors. Registration begins that day at 8 a.m. and the camp concludes at 5 p.m. Cost of the camp is \$80. For more information, call Trent Petrie at (254) 582-2555...

Soccer...

Registration for a spring youth league is being accepted through the Midland Soccer Association. Players can sign up during office hours at the MSA office, with a fee of \$40. New players must submit a copy of their birth certificate at registration. For more information, call the MSA office at 684-5425...

Job vacancy

There is an opening for the head girls soccer coach at Odessa High School. Must have experience in soccer and have a valid teacher's certificate to teach Social Studies. Salary is based on degree and experience, \$5,760 above teaching. Medical Benefits and Life Insurance. It is a 10 1/2 month contract and all other state and local benefits will apply. Interested individuals may immediately contact or send resume to: Don Ford, Ath-

letic Director, Ector County Independent School District (915) 334-7172. Fax: (915) 334-6711 or Jim Carson, Campus Athletic Coordinator, Odessa High School, (915) 337-6655. Fax: (915) 33-6014.

Basketball...

The Boys and Girls Club of Midland is offering an After-school Youth Basketball Program for third through sixth grades. Registration runs through Jan. 2. League play will begin the first week of January. The cost of the program will be \$10 per child and a \$3 membership is required. For more information, call the Huff Park Unit at 683-5297 or the Taylor Park Unit at 683-0500...

The Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp is accepting applications for boys and girls ages 7-19. Players for the camp are selected by invitation only, and many past attendees have included future NBA players. One of the camps is located in Commerce. To pick up an evaluation form, call (704) 372-8610 through March 20...

A 3-on-3 tournament for men 35 and over is scheduled for Jan. 5 from 6-9 p.m. in San Angelo. Entry fee is \$30 per team for a four-man team. For more information, call (915) 223-1309...

Tennis

A Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament is Jan. 15-16 at the Midland College Tennis Center. The deadline for signups is Jan. 13 at 6 p.m. at the Armstrong Racquet Club, Midland College Tennis Center. Fees are \$7 per person and \$14 per team. Call 687-4046 for more information.

There will be a Holiday Tennis Camp at Kimber-Lea Swim and Tennis club on Dec. 20-24 and Dec. 27-30 from 2-3:30 p.m. daily. Entry deadline is Dec. 19. For information call Luis Valdez at 689-2237 or 570-6245...

Softball...

Umpires are needed to work high school games in Alpine, Andrews, Big Spring, Brady, Coahoma, Colorado City, Eldorado, Fort Stockton, Greenwood, Hermleigh, Kermit, Lamesa, Midland, Monahans, Odessa, Pecos, San Angelo, Snyder, Sonora and Wall. For more information, call Mack at 520-5961 or Freddie at 694-5508...

Miscellaneous...

The Midland Wrestling Club offers adult, high school, Olympic and freestyle wrestling.

Call 685-0531 for information...

The Midland branch of the American Escrima Wing Tsum Organization is holding an adult self defense combat class in association with the Midland Wrestling Club. Classes will be held three times a week. For more information, call David Lesser at 687-6973 or 685-0531...

Swimming...

Pre-competitive swimming is being offered at the Mabec Aquatic Center. The program will teach elementary age swimmers techniques of competitive swimming while improving their strokes. It is open to swimmers who can swim at least 25 yards of freestyle and backstroke. The cost is \$40 per month on a year-round basis. For more information, call 684-7755...

COM Aquatics is holding water aerobics classes Monday through Saturday at Mabec Aquatic Center. Classes are at 6:15 a.m., 7:15 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. All classes are open to the public and swimming skills are not necessary. Cost is \$45 per month, \$65 for a couple. Deep and shallow water classes are offered. For information, call Rita Simmons at 684-7755...

COM Aquatics - Learn to Swim year round lessons for both children (3 years of age or older) and adults wishing to learn to swim or improve technique. Private or group lessons (limit four students per instructor) are available. Children are grouped by age and ability. A session normally consists of eight 30-minute lessons. Please call 684-7755 for more details...

The COM Masters Swim Team is open to anyone 20 and over. There are two Masters swim team workouts. You can choose from Monday-Wednesday-Friday or Tuesday-Thursday-Saturday at 6-7 a.m. at the COM pool. Call 684-7755 for more information...

COM Diving offers a full range of diving instruction from beginning lessons to elite team training and competition. All ages and ability levels are invited to participate. Diving lessons are offered at various times. For information, call 684-7755...

The Midland YMCA offers year-round 30-minute swim lessons for parents and children and 45-minute lessons for youth. Private lessons are available. For more information, call Leaf Faller at 682-2551...

Midland YMCA is offering water aerobics classes, including Hydro-fit and Deep Water aerobics. Classes are available both morning and evening. Call Leaf Faller or Deborah Posson at 682-2551 for more information...

Agassi, Sampras, Martin join U.S. Davis Cup team

NEW YORK (AP) — Top-ranked Andre Agassi and Wimbledon champion Pete Sampras will help John McEnroe begin his reign as Davis Cup captain when the United States travels to Zimbabwe for a first-round match in February.

With Todd Martin also on the four-man team announced Thursday, the American squad will boast three of the world's top seven singles players. The fourth member, Alex O'Brien, is ranked seventh in the world in doubles.

"I don't see them beating us, but having said that, we have got to go down and play the match," McEnroe, who as a player led the United States to five titles and two other Davis Cup finals, said in a telephone conference call.

Zimbabwe's top players are brothers Byron and Wayne Black, both All-Americans while at USC. In 1998, Zimbabwe shocked Australia in a first-round series, a result that was reversed this year as Australia went on to win its 27th Davis Cup title.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Fantasy Football Standings

MEDIA STANDINGS

		
Jeff Kush KMID TV BIG 2	Melissa Hendrix NEWSWEST 9	Tom Glasman KOSA CBS 7
35 407 POINTS TOTAL	35 470 POINTS TOTAL	32 405 POINTS TOTAL
		
John Moesch KNFM	Terry Williamson MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM	
36 455 POINTS TOTAL	39 492 POINTS TOTAL	

Rank	Name	Points	Total
93	Bill Holtzapple	57	359
94	Bruce G. Babb	61	359
95	Marty Cory	38	356
96	Catrinna Ledbetter	63	356
97	Tina Darr	24	355
98	Ashley Hutto	32	355
99	Susanna Reed	57	355
100	Rodolfo Corrales	60	355
101	Chris Wood	35	354
102	Mike Moylett	55	353
103	David Greene	35	352
104	Barbara Whatley	48	352
105	Tom Matchus	32	351
106	Chad Clark	40	351
107	Karen Fernandez	47	349
108	Davis Corley	28	348
119	Tommy Cooley	41	347
110	Ed Pierson	26	346
111	Stacie Quinn	22	344
112	Debbie Sanders	26	344
113	Shane McNamara	26	344
114	Adrienne Hedges	32	342
115	Jody Bain	41	342
116	Robert Bartsch	25	341
117	Clinton Smith	44	341
118	Frank Hernandez	57	341
119	Kerry Heerssen	29	340
120	Todd Smith	29	338
121	Michael Waymire	47	338
122	Robert Perez	51	338
123	Janey Cooley	54	338
124	Doyle Sanders	35	337
125	Kelly Ives	62	335
126	Eddie Portillo	35	334
127	Paul Scherzer	42	334
128	Brooks Stevens	35	333
129	Chris Maddy	42	333
130	Eddie Montanez, Jr.	38	331
131	Gene McGuire	18	330
132	Pam Pace	43	329
133	Kurt Corley	33	327
134	Ami McNamara	47	326
135	David Cooley	59	326
136	Cliff Hicks	32	325
137	Michelle Garvin	50	325
138	J.R. Castillo	34	324

NBC farms out Olympics to cable outlets

Associated Press

NEW YORK — NBC will use its CNBC and MSNBC cable networks to help beam Sydney Olympics coverage virtually round-the-clock to a U.S. television audience next September.

The network said Thursday it would air 273 hours of Olympics programming on the two cable networks, the first time Summer Games coverage will be available on cable. Add NBC's coverage and late-night cable repeats, and a staggering 435 hours of Olympics will be available on TV — with 170 hours of original programming on the cable channels.

Jim Lampley and Pat O'Brien will be hosts of the cable telecasts.

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 17, at least one gold medal event each day will be seen on cable.

"Last time, the only criticism the network got was not for what it did, it was for what didn't get done," Dennis Swanson, NBC Olympics co-chairman, said.

CBS and Turner Broadcasting shared Winter Olympics coverage at Nagano in 1998, but this is the first time the Summer Games have been supplemented in this way.

MSNBC will show Olympics coverage from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. ET on weekdays, then CNBC will pick up the games from 5 p.m.-9 p.m. MSNBC will replay its daytime coverage from midnight-7 a.m.

NBC, meanwhile, plans to show the Olympics each weekday from 10 a.m.-noon and 7 p.m.-midnight.

Theoretically, that makes 7 to 10 a.m. the only Olympics-free hours during next September's competition on a weekday, although the "Today" show also is expected to include Olympics news.

Despite all the time on the air, NBC does not plan to show any events live because of the time difference: Sydney is 15 hours ahead of New York time, and 18 hours ahead of Los Angeles.

Swanson said it doesn't make sense to show events live, even though the early-morning hours coincide with prime-time in Sydney.

The cable coverage will center

on secondary sports that wouldn't normally get airtime on NBC. Gold medal finals in baseball, soccer, tennis, equestrian, water polo, archery, sailing and weightlifting will be available on cable.

MSNBC is prepared to build its coverage around the U.S. women's soccer and softball teams that have been successful in the past.

The extra time won't necessarily give American viewers a greater chance of seeing athletes from other countries, Swanson said.

"An American telecast is going to feature sports that Amer-

icans do well in and will necessarily have an American look to it," he said, "just as in other parts of the world it will reflect athletes most popular in their countries."

One feature of CNBC's coverage will be daily boxing matches at 5 p.m. ET and PT. NBC has been criticized in the past for downplaying boxing to attract women viewers; Lampley in 1998 said boxing "was treated as if it were the measles" by NBC.

Lampley will be the host of MSNBC's coverage. It's his 10th Olympics television assignment, covering ABC, NBC,

CBS and Turner.

O'Brien, who covered Winter Olympic games for CBS, recently has been working as host of the syndicated entertainment show, "Access Hollywood." He will be the anchor of CNBC's coverage.

"I was surprised to get the call," O'Brien said. "It's a good way to get back into sports. In many ways, when you host an Olympics, it defines your career."

CNBC's weekend Olympics coverage will be on from 4 p.m.-9 p.m. MSNBC's time slots on the weekends haven't been set yet.

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BUSINESS BRIEFING

OIL PRICES	
Thursday	\$26.83
Previous	\$26.36

POSTED	
Thursday	\$24.00
Previous	\$23.50

NATURAL GAS

Thursday	\$2.636
Previous	\$2.486

Energy futures

NEW YORK (AP) — Natural gas futures prices surged on the New York Mercantile Exchange on Thursday as the market reacted to forecasts of cold temperatures and a larger-than-expected decline in gas stocks.

January natural gas was 15 cents higher at \$2.636 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Other energy futures also were higher as the market continues to be bolstered by the latest inventory data, which show larger-than-expected drawdowns on inventory.

January light sweet crude was 47 cents higher at \$26.83 a barrel; January heating oil was 1.45 cents higher at 68.75 cents a gallon; January unleaded gasoline was 2 cents higher at 73.30 cents a gallon.

In London, North Sea Brent crude for January delivery was 66 cents higher at \$26.09 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange.

Palladium futures

Palladium futures prices reached an all-time high in trading Thursday on the New York Mercantile Exchange as the market remains concerned about tight supplies in the face of strong demand.

The tight supply of palladium is largely due to a lack of Russian exports of the metal. Demand for the industrial metal in Asia has picked up as the region's economy improves.

Russia is the world's largest supplier of palladium, which is used in automobiles, electronics, dentistry and jewelry.

Palladium for March delivery was \$8.50 higher at \$439.25 a troy ounce.

Grain futures

Grain futures prices were higher and soybean futures prices slipped on the Chicago Board of Trade.

Corn futures prices rallied modestly as the market reacted to the latest export figures by the U.S. Agriculture Department. The USDA reported exports of corn totaled 1.09 million metric tons last week, which is more than was expected, according to analysts.

Wheat futures prices were boosted by the government's report showing export sales of wheat totaled a higher-than-expected 846,800 metric tons. Ideas that the recent low prices of wheat could lead to more export sales gave a boost to wheat prices.

Soybean futures prices fell in brisk commodity fund selling, but losses were limited by forecasts of a return of dry weather in South America. The lack of rain is expected to slow development of the soybean crops of Brazil and Argentina.

Wheat for March delivery was 2 1/2 cents higher at \$2.43 3/4 a bushel; March corn was 1 cent higher at \$2.00 a bushel; March oats were 1 3/4 cents lower at \$1.08 a bushel; January soybeans were 1 1/2 cents lower at \$4.51 1/4 a bushel.

Gold futures

Gold in London closed at \$280.30 bid per troy ounce, down from \$282.50 on Wednesday. In Zurich the bid price was \$280.30, up from \$279.20. Gold rose 30 U.S. cents in Hong Kong to close at \$280.65.

Silver closed in London at \$5.18 bid per troy ounce, unchanged from Wednesday.

American Airlines pleads guilty

By Terry Spencer
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI (AP) — American Airlines pleaded guilty Thursday to federal charges of illegally storing hazardous material at Miami International Airport between July 1996 and August 1998.

The airline agreed to pay an \$8 million fine after admitting it kept a 55-gallon drum of a flammable chemical in the airport's cargo storage area.

The airline kept the chemical even

after Miami-Dade County fire officials told them to dispose of it when some of the material spilled causing a small fire at the airport, said U.S. Attorney Thomas Scott. The material was flown here from Mexico City.

The airline will also serve three years probation as part of the plea agreement.

An investigation began in October 1997 when passengers at Miami International Airport evacuated an American plane after 500 pounds of pesticides being loaded as cargo released sickening fumes.

Three weeks later, 60 federal agents raided American's cargo terminal and offices, seizing documents.

The investigation came during a federal crackdown on dangerous cargo that followed the 1996 ValuJet crash into the Everglades, which was blamed on a fire caused by an illegal shipment of oxygen generators. Sabretech, the contractor that delivered the generators to the ill-fated flight, was convicted in federal court earlier this month of mishandling the car-

go.

The plea comes four months after 30 American Airline bag handlers and ground crew workers were arrested in Miami as part of a smuggling sting. In all, 59 people were indicted on federal drug and weapon smuggling conspiracy charges.

Authorities said the smugglers hid bogus cocaine in food carts, garbage bags and carry-on luggage and workers used their ID badges to access secured areas.



Continental Express began service at Midland International Airport Thursday morning.

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Continental Express takes over service to Midland

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

With the arrival of its Houston flight at 8:30 a.m., Continental Airlines handed over service to Midland International Airport to its Continental Express subsidiary.

Continental Express flies 50-seat Embraer regional jets.

On the first Continental Express regional jet arriving in Midland were Joy Binion and her husband James. They frequently fly to Midland from Houston, rent a car and drive to their son's home

in San Angelo.

"It was a very good flight," Mrs. Binion said. "The plane wasn't noticeably smaller. The service was good."

She noted that the plane "got here fast. We used to fly in here on a slower plane."

Airport Director Ken Day said that passengers would benefit from the change in service because Continental Express will offer five flights daily, up from the three offered by Continental.

"This will give clients more choice," he said, predicting that passengers would find the smaller jets as comfortable and

fast as a large jet. "We're a feeder system for the Houston hub and this will enable Continental to provide more aircraft."

Michele King, manager of public relations and corporate communications for the airline, said "this is a better way to allocate our equipment to better serve our communities."

The change was made "due to demand in Midland. We found we didn't need the large aircraft to serve Midland."

Since the airline began flying the regional jets in 1996, "they have allowed

us to look at our markets and how to utilize what we have."

The airline, she said, "is thrilled to be able to increase the frequency of our flights," something that was uneconomical with the large jets.

Ms. King emphasized that "We are very happy with the service in Midland, but we found the large jets were the wrong size for the Midland market."

And there is a chance, she added, that Continental could return the large jets to the market in the future, if demand changes.

Technology stocks soar, driving market higher

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks rose Thursday as a fresh round of optimism about Internet shares drove the technology sector higher and ultimately lifted the broad market out of an early slump.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up 19.57 at 11,244.89. The blue-chip index spent most of the day in negative territory, falling as much as 100 points early in the session.

Broader stock indicators closed higher. The Nasdaq composite index rose 93.11 to 3,715.06, setting its 24th new closing record since Oct. 29. The Nasdaq is now up 69 percent for the year.

The Standard & Poor's 500 rose 5.45 to 1,418.78.

Internet stocks rose sharply a day after CMGI Inc. announced a 2-for-1 stock split and reported fiscal first-quarter results that easily exceeded analysts' expectations. The company, which provides venture capital to young Internet businesses, lost \$117.4 million, or \$1.08 a share, in the quarter.

But analysts had expected CMGI to report a \$1.76 loss. The better-than-expected results, combined with the stock split and aggressive projections for future acquisitions, sent its shares soaring 21 13/16 to 221 9/16.

Trading activity was stimulated by the latest alliances between old-line retailers and high-flying technology companies. America Online and Wal-Mart announced a long-rumored deal that will create a new Internet service provider aimed at customers who don't currently have Internet access. The announcement came a day after Kmart disclosed a similar venture with Yahoo!

AOL shares fell 3 5/8 to 86 and Wal-Mart rose 2 39/64 to 68 5/8.

Microsoft and the electronics retailer Best Buy announced a deal of their own, which will allow Microsoft to sell its Internet service and products

in Best Buy stores. Microsoft rose 5 1/4 to 113 11/16 and Best Buy rose 2 1/8 to 49 3/8.

"Technology has taken the lead and left everything else behind," said Joe Sunderman, research analyst with Schaeffer's Investment Research Inc. "Individual investors are following the lead of money managers who've seen all year that tech is the best-performing sector."

While technology stocks raged, blue-chips were held back for most of the session by weakness in the bond market. The yield on the 30-year Treasury bond rose to 6.39 percent, the highest level in seven weeks, from 6.32 percent late Wednesday.

Bond prices fell on the news that the U.S. trade deficit widened to another record of \$25.9 billion in October due largely to rising crude oil prices. The Commerce Department said the deficit in trade in goods and services rose 7.4 percent from August.

"The bond market is a major hurdle, pushing down all the rate-sensitive stocks in the Dow," said Larry Wachtel, market analyst at Prudential Securities. American Express lost 5 9/16 to 152 5/8 and J.P. Morgan fell 1/2 to 128 7/8.

Financial stocks often fall when interest rates are rising. Higher rates reduce the value of existing holdings, and they can discourage customers from borrowing money.

The strength of technology stocks in the face of rising yields and weakness in many sectors extended the market's recent pattern, analysts noted.

"We have the same two-tier market that we've been seeing for a long time now," Wachtel said.

Traders said the market may have been rattled after influential market analyst Abby Joseph Cohen suggested the stock market's advance may slow in 2000. Cohen, the chief market strategist at Goldman Sachs & Co., told clients she expects the Dow to reach 12,300 by the end of next year.

Dollar falls across board

NEW YORK (AP) — The dollar fell across the board Thursday as the U.S. trade deficit widened to another record and German business sentiment surged above expectations.

In late New York trading, the euro was quoted at \$1.0166, up from \$1.0070 late Wednesday. The dollar was quoted at 103.12 Japanese yen, down from 103.70.

The dollar's fall came as the Commerce Department reported that the U.S. trade deficit widened to \$25.9 billion in October, up 7.4 percent from September. The deficits with Japan and China also hit record levels.

In Germany, the euro-zone's largest economy, the closely watched Ifo monthly business sentiment index jumped in November to a 20-month high. Economists saw this as signaling a broad-based upswing in the region's economy. The survey gave the euro an immediate bump.

"The euro-dollar relationship was the main focus of attention today with the euro rising in the wake of the Ifo report," said Lisa Finstrom, a senior currency futures analyst at Salomon Smith Barney Inc. Later, in U.S. trading, the dollar also was hampered by the trade figures, she said.

The yen was lifted up with the Europe's currencies, Finstrom added. The record deficit with Japan was a factor too, Finstrom said, "but honestly the response was quite muted."

In other trading, the dollar was quoted at 1.5757 Swiss francs, down from 1.5886, and 1.4760 Canadian dollars, down from 1.4830. The British pound rose to \$1.6100 from \$1.6054.

Currencies of the 11 countries participating in the euro are no longer traded separately and are tied to the euro by a fixed rate. Based on the euro's rate, the dollar was worth: 1.9331 German marks, down from 1.9423; 6.4832 French francs, down from 6.5143; and 1,913.73 Italian lire, down from 1,922.91.

INVESTORS' GUIDE

Funds that invest in stocks, bonds hold up better

By Eric Tyson

Q: What exactly is a balanced mutual fund? From what I have heard, it sounds safer than other types of funds. Why is that, and how do I determine if such a fund is right for me? What are your favorite balanced funds?



Tyson

A: Balanced and asset allocation mutual funds, also known as hybrid funds, invest in a mixture of different types of securities. Most commonly, they invest in both bonds and stocks. These funds are usually less risky and less volatile than funds that invest exclusively in stocks; in an economic downturn, bonds usually hold up better in value than stocks do.

Hybrid funds make it easier for investors who are skittish about investing in stocks to hold stocks while they avoid the high volatility that normally comes with pure stock funds. Because of their extensive diversification, hybrid funds are excellent choices for an investor who doesn't have much money to start with.

Balanced funds generally try to maintain a fairly constant percentage of investment in stocks and bonds. Asset allocation funds, in contrast, normally adjust the

mix of different investments according to the portfolio manager's expectations. Some asset allocation funds, however, tend to keep more of a fixed mix of stocks and bonds, whereas some balanced funds shift the mix around quite frequently. Although the concept of a manager trying to be in the right place at the right time and beating the market averages sounds good in theory, in reality most asset allocation funds fail to beat a buy-and-hold approach.

Because hybrid funds pay decent dividends from the bonds they hold, they are not appropriate for some investors who are purchasing funds outside tax-sheltered retirement accounts. If you're in a higher tax bracket (that is, a federal tax bracket of 31 percent and higher), bonds that you purchase outside a retirement account should be tax-free. Thus, you should avoid most hybrid funds if you're in this situation. You can create your own hybrid portfolio by buying separate tax-friendly stock funds and tax-free bond funds.

Among my short list of favorite balanced-type mutual funds are Dodge & Cox Balanced, Fidelity Asset Manager, Fidelity Puritan, T. Rowe Price Balanced, and several Vanguard funds including Wellesley Income, Wellington and the various LifeStrategy funds. Please note that an important criterion upon which these funds differ from one another is the portion of their assets that is invested in stocks — some have as little as 40 percent whereas others have as much as 80 percent.

Some also diversify into stocks overseas.

Q: I see reported the top gainers and losers on the stock market. How is this list determined, and how should I view it as an investor?

A: Top market gainers and losers refer to those stocks which experience the greatest percentage change (up or down) on a given day. This list indicates which companies' stocks may have been previously over- or undervalued.

So-called momentum investors like stocks that have been rising much faster than the overall stock market averages. These investors would, however, look at appreciation rates over a much longer period than one day.

I don't think that the list of top gainers and losers is of much use to you as a long-term investor in stocks. Buying into top gainers can be dangerous, as today's winners can become tomorrow's losers.

Write Eric Tyson, author of the best sellers "Investing for Dummies" and "Personal Finance for Dummies" (IDG Books), in care of King Features, 235 E. 45th St., New York, NY 10017 or e-mail: eric@eric-tyson.com.

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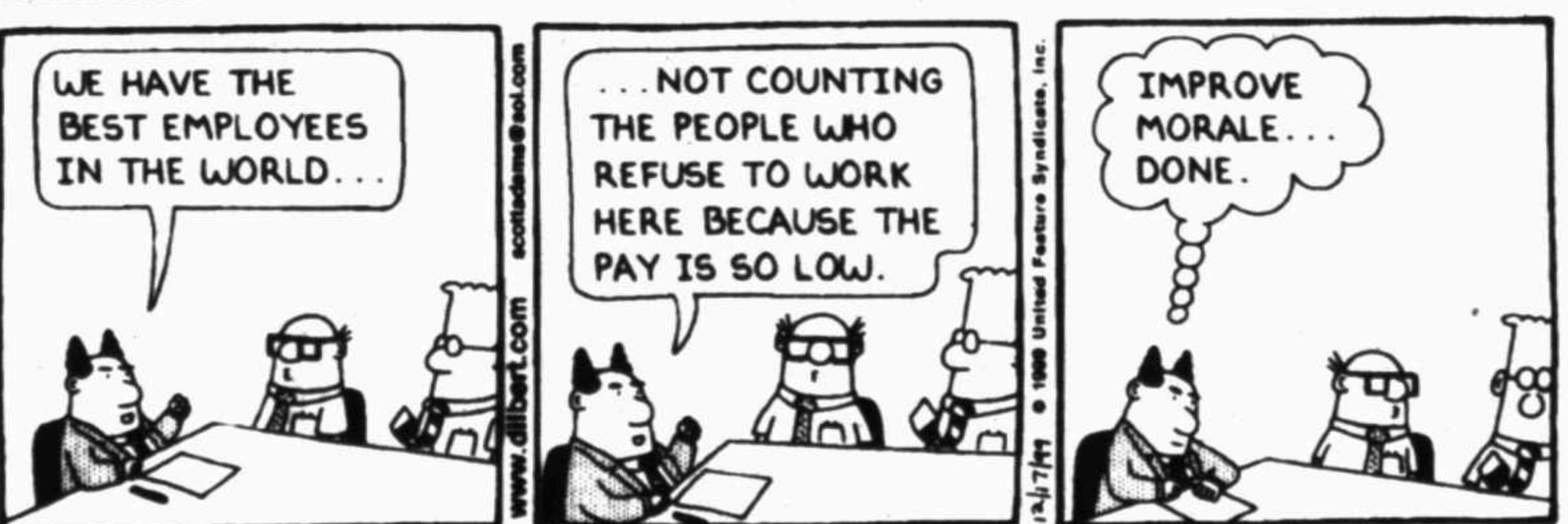
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The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Dec. 17, 1999:
You spread excitement and energy wherever you go, but you don't always comprehend the way you come across to your audience. The reactions you elicit from others could hurt your feelings at times. You are far more sensitive than you let on. Be creative, and express yourself in ways that can be easily understood. If you are single, romance blossoms easily, although you could end up in a volatile relationship. Some of the intense energy comes from you. If attached, express your vulnerability in a way your partner can hear. **ARIES** adores you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Unexpected developments touch you and others. You'll feel empowered and wonderful as a result of news you hear. Share what is going on with friends. Extremes mark the day; excitement punctuates a relationship. Remember, you like the highs! Tonight: It is your call.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Step back and think. Your instincts help you understand a partner and know exactly what is proper for him. A boss surprises you, and you need to respond from a gut level. Be careful about spending funds before they land in your wallet. Tonight: Plans change rapidly.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ A friend comes through for you in a completely unexpected manner. Be willing to walk through new doors and take risks. News from a distance changes your ideas of what you would like to do. A co-worker surprises you. Tonight:

Where your friends are.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Take the time to make a must appearance. A boss cares a lot and will go to the mat for you. You become quite aware of a partner and his needs. You are rewarded for your indulging and nurturing ways. Tonight: Start hitting the party circuit.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Take an overview when life takes some interesting twists and turns. Your sense of humor comes out when you're with a partner. Laugh rather than taking his comments personally. Another really does care, but he has an odd way of showing it. Tonight: Take off ASAP.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Build rather than tear down. Know what you want and expect, and convey it in a manner that a partner can hear. Sometimes being a role model is far more effective than words. Your actions speak. A pleasant surprise occurs. Tonight: Take time with a loved one.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Listen, and you'll learn a lot about a loved one as well as a partner. You might not understand exactly what is on a child's mind, but take a look at his actions. Sometimes you simply need to establish limits. Don't keep pouring money into a problem. Tonight: Out and about.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your gentle manner convinces others that there are problems. Let go of what isn't your cross to bear. Allow another to grapple with the real issue. Work provides challenges that energize you. Clear your desk. Tonight: Enjoy your co-

workers.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Your fiery side emerges with a loved one. What you say could surprise some and stun others. Your words might seem a bit brusque, but they do get to the bottom of an issue. Be careful, because you could be overly sensitive with someone. Tonight: Let the good times roll.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You find that your money has developed a life of its own. It almost seems to spend itself! You can put a halt to this process, but you really need to reverse a pattern quickly. A friendship or relationship is very important to you, but don't let it cost you. Tonight: Happy at home.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You have high-voltage energy, and you might not know which way to turn. You go into spontaneous mode and get moving. Get your messages; return your calls. A boss or someone you care a lot about wants to let you know how important you are to him. Tonight: Ever social and into the holidays.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Clear out work, as well as any pending holiday presents. You might feel a need to shake off the holiday doldrums. You might feel cranky. Make a call to a loved one at a distance and share your feelings. You'll feel renewed. Tonight: Do as much shopping as you can through catalogs or the Internet.
BORN TODAY
Actor Ernie Hudson (1945), actor Christopher Cazenove (1945), comedian Eugene Levy (1946)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Both vulnerable. South deals.

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

The bidding:			
SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
6♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
If there is one thing an expert hates worse than a finesse, it is a two-way finesse where there is no guide as to which defender holds the missing key card. But it is not always a guess.
South's two clubs was artificial and strong, and two diamonds was a waiting response. When North next showed reasonable values by raising South's suit, South opted to get to the small slam via the most direct route.
West led the king of clubs and, since there was a sure club loser, the fate of the hand hinged on not losing a heart trick. If you are going

When in Doubt, Claim

to rely on divine guidance as to which defender holds the missing queen, you would do better to claim your contract — the defenders might concede! A better approach is to learn what you can about the distribution.

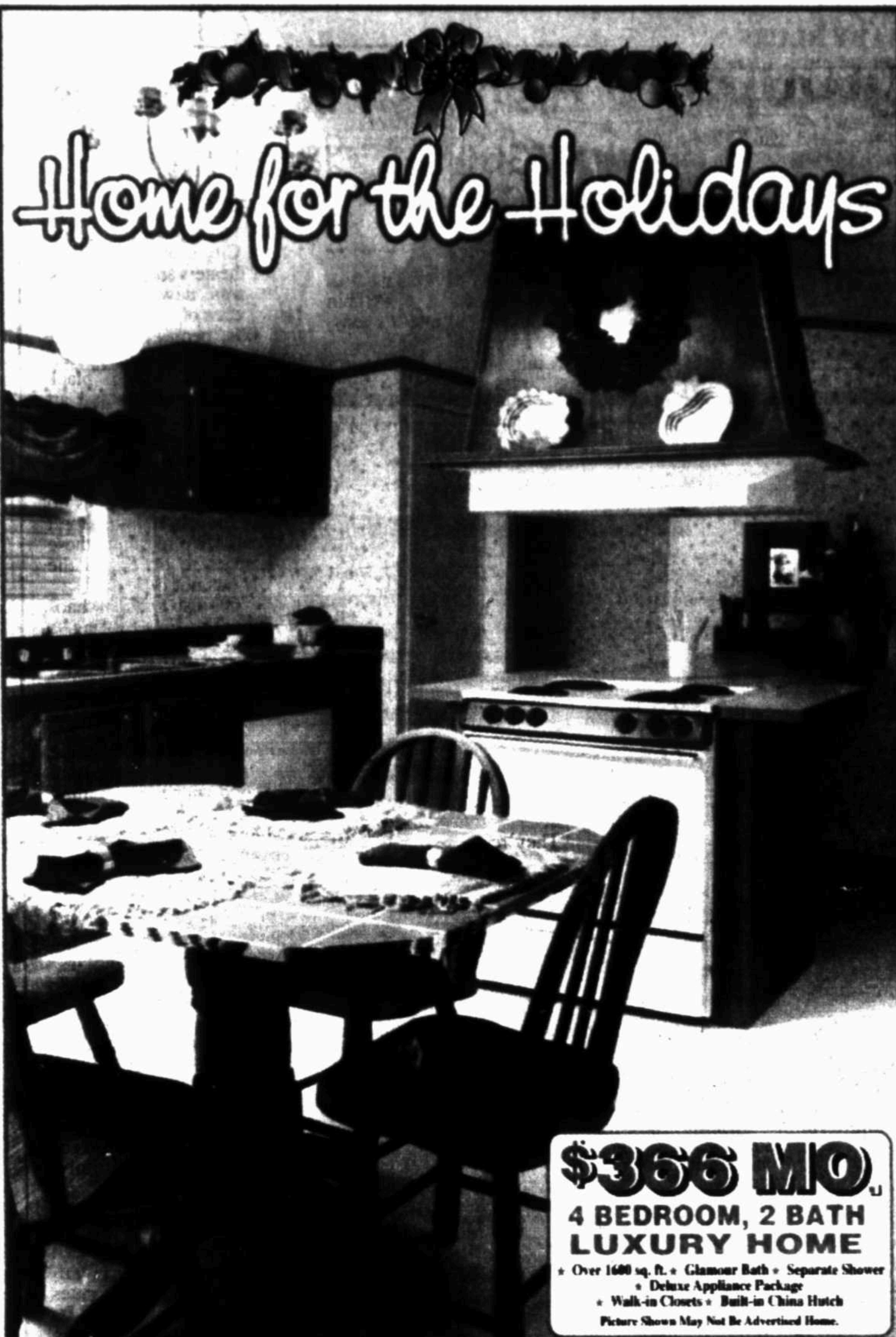
Declarer won in hand, drew trumps in three rounds, then cashed out three top diamonds, both defenders following, before

exiting with the jack of clubs. West won and continued with a club, East discarding a heart as declarer ruffed.

Declarer now had a perfect count of the hand. West had shown up with three spades, three diamonds and six clubs, so could hold at most one heart. When a heart to the king picked up that card, a heart back to the 10 landed the slam.



"Well folks, it's time once again for the office Christmas party. As in the past, we need a volunteer to play the part of Santa Claus..."



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99 Pontiac Trans Am



***\$24,995 \$447 mo**

73 @ 8.9% APR, 50 DOWN • TBA, WITH APPROVED CREDIT

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Active

HAYDEN LA... At the dawn of the millennium, members of the Nations say they are down on their knees to defend their world. The lead Church of the C...

too, will be ready. "We are urging them to load and kind of looters or ind kind who would said the Rev. Mat the East Peoria, supremacist group.

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Indeed, law o that millennial v groups is most from underground they do not eve These people ar "off the grid," m far from society without electricit "The lone wol est danger," said

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WASHINGTON... ping his lon friends, Pres throwing a m tion so glitzy might be eas NOT coming

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Active auld lang syne for hate groups?

HAYDEN LAKE, Idaho (AP) — At the dawn of the new millennium, members of the Aryan Nations say they will be hunkered down on their property, prepared to defend their whites-only compound. The leader of the World Church of the Creator says he, too, will be ready.

"We are urging our members, if they have firearms, to keep them loaded and available in case of looters or individuals of any kind who would do them harm," said the Rev. Matt Hale, leader of the East Peoria, Ill.-based white supremacist group.

Despite a recent FBI report warning of the potential for violence by hate groups, militia members and apocalyptic religious cults around Jan. 1, leaders of some of the better-known organizations say if there is any violence from them, it will be defensive only.

"If anyone needs to be on alert for terrorist acts, it's us," said Aryan Nations member Ray Redfein.

Indeed, law officers concede that millennial violence by hate groups is most likely to come from underground organizations they do not even know about. These people are referred to as "off the grid," meaning they live far from society, often in homes without electricity or telephones.

"The lone wolves are our greatest danger," said Roger Bragdon,



AP Photo
The Rev. Richard G. Butler, founder of the Aryan Nations, stands outside his church headquarters north of Hayden Lake, Idaho. At the dawn of the new millennium, members of the Aryan Nations say they will be hunkered down on their property, prepared to defend their whites-only compound.

acting police chief of Spokane, Wash.

Law officers are also worried that believers might mistake New Year's Eve power outages and civic disruptions as signs that the United States has been invaded by foreign armies or that a race war has erupted.

"If an electrical pole is taken down, they will perceive that the whole world has gone dark," said Sgt. Greg Harshman, the Spokane police expert on domestic terrorism.

Many acts of domestic terrorism — including the Oklahoma City bombing and the shootings at a Jewish community center in Los Angeles — involved people with ties to the inland Northwest.

As a result, Spokane on New Year's Eve will see "more police officers on the streets than have ever been on the streets in the city of Spokane," Bragdon said.

Not surprisingly, no hate groups contacted said they were planning violence.

Instead, Richard Butler, head of

the neo-Nazi Aryan Nations, said from the group's rural headquarters near Hayden Lake that Americans should be wary of a New Year's Eve assault by the government on their rights.

"They may use it as justification for illegal acts, like martial law," he said.

While Butler has long disavowed violence in creation of a white homeland in the West, many of his followers have not. Buford Furrow Jr., who confessed to the shootings at the Jewish Community Center in Los Angeles in August, had spent time at the Aryan Nations as a security guard.

The Southern Poverty Law Center, which tracks hate groups across the nation, said the release of the FBI report was a good idea.

"It sends the movement a message that 'we are aware that can happen and will be on guard.' That eliminates two-thirds of the problem right there," said Joe Roy, director of intelligence for the center. But that still leaves the "people who are unplugged from the system and, for all intents and purposes are at war with this country now."

"Good luck in trying to find out who those guys might be," said an e-mail from Vincent Bertolini, co-founder of a white supremacist group known as The 11th Hour Remnant Messenger, based in Sandpoint, Idaho.

Historically black schools straddle racial fault line

By Arlene Levinson
Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — There's a saying at Lincoln University: "White by day, black by night."

A hilly, picture-perfect campus with 3,343 students enrolled this fall, Lincoln was founded by black Civil War veterans. It was once revered as the black Harvard of the Midwest. Today the school is 70 percent white. Yet when night falls, many whites clear out.

Blacks dominate the dorms, the frat and sororities, most social activities and, after graduating, the alumni association. Whites, a presence since the 1950s, complain they feel unwelcome. Some, like Heather Rathel, prefer the unofficial white student union — a study hall in a building named for Martin Luther King.

There's little evidence of tension. It's more polite avoidance.

"They're over there, and we're over here," Miss Rathel, 21, an elementary education major, explained.

Decades after segregation was outlawed, it persists at Lincoln. Only now, it's not laws but a social wall that separates people. That wall, built by history, is buttressed indirectly by tax dollars.

Lincoln is among the nation's 105 historically black colleges and universities and endorsed as such by the federal government. HBCUs, as they're known, serve 280,000 students in 20 states, Washington and the U.S. Virgin Islands. A legacy of slavery and legal segregation, the schools are singled out for their continuing mission to educate African-Americans. About 70 percent of students are at state-supported HBCUs like Lincoln, though a majority of HBCUs are private.

The schools receive special funding — \$180 million in the federal budget just adopted. The money is provided under a law Congress enacted in 1965 to protect and promote HBCUs' "unique role of educating black, educationally disadvantaged, and low-income students."

Every president since Jimmy Carter has also helped HBCUs; President Clinton created an office to aid their access to federal programs.

Yet at least 15 HBCUs now educate a sizeable white enrollment.

Lincoln is one of three where blacks are the minority. But it reflects a trend that ranges from Bluefield State College in West Virginia, where blacks make up just 9 percent of 2,400 students, to Winston-Salem State University in North Carolina, at 80 percent black out of 2,800 students.

Reasons vary. Blacks have more choice. Geography plays a part. Stigmas fade. Civil rights lawsuits are pressing some HBCUs to raise white enrollment, just as traditionally white schools must bring in more blacks. Tennessee State University must produce 50 percent white enrollment under a 1984 court order. It's now less than 20 percent.

The U.S. government also pushes states to put their public black colleges and universities on equal footing with traditionally white ones — so that they're academically indistinguishable.

No racial quota is needed to maintain special federal funds. But officials in Washington notice the shift.

"That is a developing policy issue," said Claudio Prieto, acting assistant U.S. secretary of education for higher education. Speaking in a recent interview, he added that no funding change is planned.

What about places like Lincoln, divided over their identity?

"In a very general sense, if people wish to segregate themselves, should the government support it or fight it? The answer is I don't know," Prieto said. "It depends on who the people are, and the factors going on around them."

It was once a crime in Missouri to teach a black person to read and write. When black Union veterans donated more than \$5,000 to establish Lincoln in 1866, some could not sign their names.

Industrial skills were stressed then, along with study. But by early this century, as Missouri's only four-year public college open to blacks, Lincoln rose to prominence with faculty educated at Harvard, Columbia, Cornell.

Until 1954, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled segregated grade schools illegal, Lincoln was all-black. Within months, Lincoln's board of curators voted to admit whites.

In those years, Lincoln students mixed freely in social

activities. Whites joined black students trying to integrate Jefferson City's bowling alleys, movie theaters and restaurants.

"It was new," Adrienne Hoard, class of '70 recalled. "In the '60s, people were more open to do the uncomfortable."

Ms. Hoard, who is black and teaches fine art and art education at the vast and vastly richer University of Missouri 30 miles north, laments it didn't last. "Society is still segregated," she said. It's no wonder Lincoln students don't mix well. "We're asking these institutions to do things the society has not done."

The '60s also brought chaos to Lincoln. Fire during a protest in 1969 gutted the student union. "We shall overcome" dissolved into "You go your way, I'll go mine."

During homecoming this October, the student union at Lincoln served an Alumni Soul Food Dinner. The dining hall buzzed with students and returning grads, not a white face among them.

Audrey Ford, an 18-year-old freshman from Detroit, took small comfort in this friendly scene. Whites fill Miss Ford's classes; white faculty teach them. Just 22 percent of the 161 full-time faculty is black.

"I'm proud to have black founders," said Miss Ford, who chose Lincoln over the University of Michigan. "Proud to have something we founded and still, kind of have." She added glumly, "We're a minority now."

Today, amid Lincoln's modern towers, once-stately brick buildings stand shuttered in disrepair. Never well-endowed, the school operates on a \$37 million budget. Its biggest funding sources in fiscal 1999 were \$15.6 million from the state and \$9.8 million in federal funds. Student fees and tuition contributed \$7.2 million.

Yet more than ever Lincoln remains a magnet for whites in the area. Located in the state capital, a city of 35,000 in Missouri's rural middle, the school's \$92 per credit in-state tuition is a bargain. The typical undergraduate pays around \$1,500 a semester. Compare that to \$132.60 per credit and \$2,300 a semester at the University of Missouri-Columbia, with 22,500 students — the size of a city itself.

Add low cost to small classes, easy access to professors and open admissions and Lincoln easily attracts ambitious whites and blacks with modest grades and test scores, and little money.

Students take a required cultural diversity course. That spawned a group two years ago called Barrier Breakers, students and faculty who stage events like poetry coffeehouses that appeal to all students. There are plans to offer whites a scholarship to encourage more to live in the dorms; currently only 25 to 30 whites live among 579 dorm residents.

"We have to deal with the realities that, like it or not, we still have a largely segregated society," said Lincoln President David Henson, a 61-year-old biochemist who held administrative posts at Yale and Purdue. His priority is turning out well-educated people. "I would love for there to be the day when we didn't have race-specific anything."

Like single-sex and religious schools, HBCUs appeal to students more at ease and better able to learn among people like themselves.

More than that, educators say, many blacks still face exclusion from mainstream classrooms.

"We have developed other ways to keep persons out," said Henry Ponder, president of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, which represents historically and predominantly black schools.

"Before, it was just plain color," Ponder said. "Now we use test scores, essays, who their parents were."

Though a small segment of higher education, where 4,000 institutions educate 14.5 million people, historically black schools present an appealing option for the 12.8 percent of Americans who are black.

Studies show that while more blacks attend mainstream schools — only 16 percent of black students were enrolled at HBCUs in 1996, for example — blacks attending historically black schools are more likely to complete their degree, earn an advanced degree and make as much or more money than those at traditionally white schools.

U.S. Labor Secretary Alexis Herman, Nobel laureate Toni Morrison, filmmaker Spike Lee, the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, and Martin Luther King Jr. were HBCU graduates.

Insurers cover experimental cancer treatment

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Health insurers in New Jersey on Thursday voluntarily agreed to cover medical costs for cancer patients who undergo experimental treatments, a move advocates say could help to expand coverage nationwide.

Insurance companies for the most part don't provide coverage for clinical trials, because the treatments are unproven. But cancer researchers say the more patients involved in such trials, the better chance they have to find answers.

"If we continue to treat patients with the same standard therapies, we will get exactly the same results," said Mary Todd, deputy director of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey. "In the treatment of cancer, it is not acceptable to follow the cookbook. We must write new recipes."

New Jersey is not the first state where cancer patients have access to clinical trials. Virginia, Illinois, Maryland and Rhode Island have laws requiring insurers to cover

some level of clinical trials for cancer, and bills are pending in several other states, according to the American Society of Clinical Oncology, which represents 14,000 cancer specialists.

Advocates for cancer patients said New Jersey's agreement could be pivotal, however, because for the first time insurers came to the table without being forced by a law.

The agreement with a coalition of 10 insurance companies that represent about 98 percent of the state's health care market would provide an estimated 25,000 cancer patients access to federally approved clinical tests, said Gov. Christie Whitman.

Only 3 percent of the state's 275,000 residents who live with or have survived cancer participate in clinical trials. Many patients shy away from joining these clinical trials because they fear the cost.

The new program aims to increase the participation rate to 15 percent.

The agreement means insurers will pay for routine patient care costs such as physician fees, laboratory expenses, administration, and continuing evaluation of patients. Funding for other aspects of the clinical trials usually comes from other sources, including drug companies.

"I have sat in waiting rooms, watching other people sit in mental and physical pain all day because their carrier would not cover certain costs," said Louis J. Pennucci, 51, of Clinton, who was diagnosed with lung cancer 19 months ago. "When you're facing cancer, another session of stress is not what you need."

The costs to patients from clinical trials easily can reach into the tens of thousands of dollars.

Paul Langevin, a spokesman for the New Jersey Association of Health Plans, said the agreement shows that "health care progress can be achieved without legal and regulatory mandates that so often mushroom in the heat of debate."

From dishwashing to diamonds



AP Photo
Ricardo Zelaya helps secure a necklace worth more than \$100,000 on his wife, Susy Zelaya, during a ceremony at a San Francisco hotel on Wednesday. Susy Zelaya, who washes dishes at a Northern California restaurant, won the 43.3 karat diamond necklace from an internet site selling jewelry.

As the century turns, the White House will be jumping

WASHINGTON (AP) — Taping his long list of famous friends, President Clinton is throwing a millennium celebration so glitzy and large that it might be easier to guess who's NOT coming to dinner.

Roughly 1,000 people will descend upon the White House on New Year's Eve. The guests are not hangers-on either — they range from Muhammad Ali to Elizabeth Taylor.

"It's meant to reflect all that's best about America," said Marsha Berry, the first lady's spokeswoman. "These people have been invited because they achieved greatness."

The nation's capital will begin turn-of-the-millennium festivities on Dec. 31 with opening ceremonies on Constitution Avenue near the White House, featuring the Marine Corps band and the 100-member New Millennium Choir, a young people's choir created especially for the occasion.

The president and first lady will unveil a time capsule that will be filled with "artifacts, ideas or accomplishments" from the end of the 20th century. Then Clinton will speak to children from a variety of countries at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center.

That night, 500 people were invited as the president's guests to attend the splashy America's Millennium Gala at the Lincoln Memorial, where actor-rapper Will Smith will serve as host. Another 2,500 guests — diplomats, members of Congress and state politicians — also received invitations, and that's outside of the thousands of average folks expected to flock to the mall for one of the nation's largest millennium events.

But the most exclusive party — only 320 people — is a black-tie dinner inside the White House with the president and first lady. One hundred of their family

members were invited also, but they will dine outside in a heated tent in the Rose Garden.

Besides Ali and Taylor, the dinner guests include opera divas Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle, historian Arthur Schlesinger, poet Rita Dove, concert violinist Itzhak Perlman, playwright Neil Simon, and actors Robert De Niro, Jack Nicholson and Mary Tyler Moore.

After dinner, the Clintons will step out to the Lincoln Memorial gala, which is essentially a large outdoor concert produced by Quincy Jones and George Stevens Jr. The entertainment includes Robert Duvall, Diane Keaton, Don McLean, Bobby McFerrin, Mitchell, Kenny Rogers, Luther Vandross, Tricia Yearwood, Sam Waterston, BeBe Winans, and Luke Cresswell accompanied by the 25-member company of the Broadway production "Stomp."

In the year's last half-hour, large projection screens erected beside the Lincoln Memorial will show "The Unfinished Journey."

An 18-minute piece by Steven Spielberg featuring music, poetry and pictures celebrating the accomplishments of the 20th century. Dove and fellow poets Robert Pinsky and Maya Angelou contributed works, and an original score was composed by John Williams, who will also serve as conductor.

The president will speak in the final minutes of 1999 and, at the stroke of midnight, there will be fireworks and a light show.

Once the gala is finished, the first couple will return to the White House for another party, with dancing, with about 1,000 guests "that will go for quite a while, we think, into the new year," said White House spokeswoman Ann Lewis.

Breakfast is planned.

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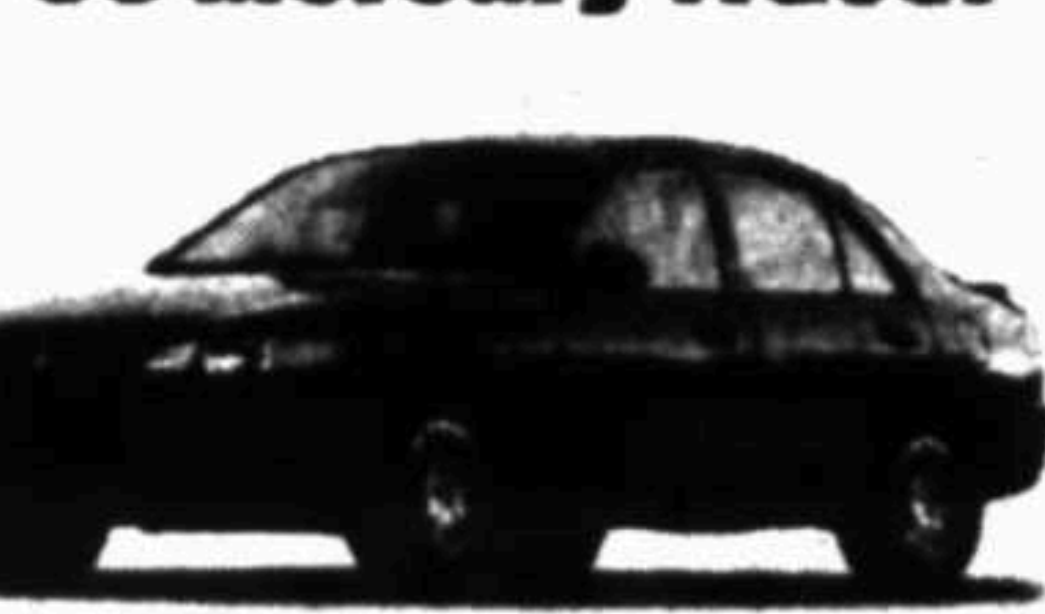
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NISSAN 1995 QUEST GXE- V6, 3.0 liter, automatic, power windows/locks, tinted, purple, 44K. 7 passenger. Excellent condition. \$13,500. 689-2200

FORD 1985 F250XLT- 480/4 speed, extended cab, long bed. \$4,500. Call 683-0957.

JEEP 1989 CHEROKEE- Laredo, 6 cylinder, 4.0 liter engine. One owner, CD player, good to excellent condition. \$5,800. Call 699-6320

JEEP 1992 Wrangler, \$7,000. Call 520-2447 for information.

PETERBILT 1996, walk in sleeper, 425 Cal engine, 10 speed. Nice truck, polished accessories. Must sell \$50,500. 522-1565.

GMC 1994 Safari Floral Delivery Van. Excellent condition. Wholesale \$8,800. 1991 Chevrolet Full size van, \$4,200. Both have good mileage/ service records. Call to inquire 682-8222.

CADILLAC 1980 FLEETWOOD- 75K original miles. One owner, garage kept. \$2,500. 694-1244

CHEVROLET, 1985 IMPALA- Runs good. 4 door, good tires. \$875

CHEVROLET 1999
CELEBRITY. Wagon.
Recent license and inspection.
high miles but good
dependable transportation.
\$1,200. Call after 9 a.m.
684-4465

CHEVROLET 1990
Cavalier, two door, sport
rims and tires. Great
school car. Maroon with
black interior. \$2,000. Call
686-8728.

ISUZU 1986 PICK-UP 5
speed, A/C, CD player,
new wheels/ tires, 75K
miles. Excellent mechanical
condition. \$2,650. Call
686-7973.

NISSAN 1989 STANZA
GXE, 4 door, automatic
transmission, sunroof,
power doors, 117K miles,
good condition. \$2,250.
Call 682-1322.

BUICK 1987 LA Sabre, T-
type, power steering,
power brakes. Loaded,
high mileage. Great starter
car, sporty. \$2,700. Please
call 520-5700.

CHEVROLET 1993
Cavalier 4 door RS, auto-
matic, air, new tires,
dependable school or work
car. \$2,800. 684-4525 or
684-1942.

GMC 1981 SIERRA
Classic, 1/2 ton, needs bat-
tery and work on power
steering. \$900 OBO. Call
915-270-0423 8 to 5.

OLDSMOBILE 1984
DELTA 88- Royale
Brougham, 79K miles,
excellent condition, lots of
new, see to appreciate.
\$2,500. 683-6414 or 638-
6498.

FORD 1970 Wench Truck
1 ton, dual tires, 390 V8,
chrome wheels, power
steering, headers, clean,
mechanically sound.
\$1,700. 682-7587.

BUICK 1989 SKYWALK 4
door sedan, runs good
89,225 miles. Blue Book
price \$2,600. Call Neil 686-
8881. days 687-3905
evenings.

CHEVROLET 1986
Impala, new tires. Runs
and looks great. \$2,000 or
best offer. Call 689-4381
See at: 2607 West Illinois.

FORD 1993 TEMPO GL
fresh motor, very clean
\$2,800. Can be seen at
2210 Northrup. Call Ross
520-0455/553-6877.

MAZDA 1981 626 One
owner, runs good, a great
second or school car.
\$895. Call 694-5200.

MERCEDES BENZ 1980
Body and interior in good
condition, motor needs
work. \$1,650 or best cash
offer. 586-5946.

FORD 1986 Escort Station
Wagon. Excellent condition,
great gas mileage.
\$1,475. Please call 522-
2805.

FORD 1978 Van: Only
55,000 miles, same owner
since 1978, great for family
outings, circulating pump,
oven, toilet, \$1,800. 694-
0798.

GMC 1986 Suburban 2-
wheel drive, all power, dual
air, towing package. Very
dependable. 75K on new
engine. \$2,850. 697-1575.

GROWING OPPORTUNITIES

First Convenience Bank is a fast growing financial institution with immediate openings for Teller and Customer Service Representatives at our Midland facility, located inside Wal-Mart Super Center at 4517 North Midland Drive, Midland, TX. The successful candidate must be sales oriented, have excellent communication skills, and strong customer service skills. We offer competitive compensation and an excellent benefit package!

Please call Human Resources (915) 699-1527 or fax resumes to (915) 699-9444.

EOE/MF/DV

OLDSMOBILE 1985 Delta
88 Royal- Loaded, low
miles, looks new inside
and out. Excellent condition.
\$2,995. Call 520-
2535.

OLDSMOBILE 1991 Delta
88 Royal Brougham (4
door) 100, 360 miles, good
condition. \$3,000. Call
684-8653 days. 694-3044
Evenings/weekends.

PONTIAC 1988 Parisienne
Brougham. 64K miles, new
engine 8,000, new vinyl
top, great dependable car.
See to appreciate. \$2,295.
682-9505.

CHEVROLET 1988 Astro,
V6, automatic, dual air,
electric. Solid van. \$2,500.
Call 522-2805.

FIAT X19 1987 26,000
Miles. \$2,250. Please call
694-0953.

SUBARU 1986 XT turbo,
silver, moon roof.
Incredible take off. \$1,495.
Please call 699-4646.

CHEVROLET 1986
Suburban. Original owner,
excellent maintenance,
dual air, 142K, unbeliev-
able condition. \$2,995
o.b.o. 697-7720.

EAGLE 1991 Talon TSi
Turbo, all wheel drive, 5
speed, loaded, drives
great, low mileage. NADA
\$6,900, asking \$2,500.
522-2805.

NISSAN 1987 Senta E
Sedan 4 door. Automatic.
good a/c, clean. Great
school car. \$1,175. Call 697-1575.

MERCUY 1977 Cougar
XR7. Adult owned,
mechanically excellent.
New: Keystones, tires,
Flowmasters, Pioneer, air.
\$2,500 or best offer. 697-
4204. 570-4949.

1995 POLARIS Magnum
425 2X4 Great condition,
\$2,800. Call 697-0194 or
686-0022 ask for Tony.

1996 HARLEY Davidson
Heritage Softail. Factory
custom color- mango/
champane, many extras.
14,000 miles. \$16,900. Call
570-9564.

HONDA 1997 CR 125, low
hours. Mint condition.
\$2,750. (915) 263-1311 or
(915)-270-7727.

HARLEY DAVIDSON 1992
Electra Glide Classic.
Showroom condition, 28K
miles. \$13,000. Call 915-
247-3142 leave message.

1991 CAJUN 20
Fish & ski bass boat. 200
Johnson motor, loaded.
\$9,000 call 683-7939 or
cell 664-8353.

1976 QUACHITA 18' fiber-
glass. Fish -N- Ski
board/outboard. 140 HP
trolling motor, tandem trailer.
\$1,850. Call 682-9007.

1995 20 SKEETER
2000Z Bass Boat. 200
Mercury, tandem trailer.
\$15,500. 915/570-6281
days. 915/699-4928
evenings.

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CLASSIFIED FAX #1 682-6999

Please include the following information:
★ Full name and address
★ Billing phone number
★ Phone number of person placing ad
★ Start date ★ Classification

Faxed ads are subject to normal deadlines. We reserve the right to edit, properly classify or decline any ad.

Pam, Jennifer, Nancy & Emily are available to help you with all of your advertising needs.

Now hiring to sales
associates who can show
enthusiasm & communicate
in a professional manner
Apply in person only!

Monday- Friday
9:00am- 12:00pm
or 1:00pm- 4:00pm

10601 W. County Rd. 127
(Behind Warfield)

1982 16' STARCRAFT
Outboard, 50 HP
Evening, good condition.
Must see to appreciate.
\$1,850. 570-5106. 500
West Front.

1990 SKEETER 18'05
Bass Boat. 150 HP
Yamaha Pro-V Motor.
Motor guide, trolling motor.
Excellent condition.
\$9,500. 570-4131. pager
620-3062.

CAJUN 1997 1700 ESPR
IT- 17 foot fish and ski,
112HP, 2 fish finders, 2
wells, keelguard, trolling.
\$9,500. 683-3071.

1998 VIPER 201D, 20
3", 225 HP Johnson, dual
console, lots of extras, like
new. \$22,500. 685-0979.

1987 Phathom Bass Boat
15' 4", 88 horse power.
Evinrude, trolling, fish find-
ers, two wet wells, lake
ready. \$4,000. 687-0744.

1997 SPRINT 286 Pro
Tournament. 150HP.
Johnson, dual console, lots
of extras, excellent condition.
\$14,500. 685-0979, after 6PM.

Christmas 1997 Kawasaki
900 ZXI Jet Ski. Bought
new in 1998, low hours.
Double shoreline trailer.
\$4,695. 520-4537.

1998 LARSON SKI. Wake
board boat, 6' wake board
pole, been to lake 6X, mint
condition. \$11,500. 689-
4113. 495-2638 pager.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PAY NO MONEY DOWN AND MAKE NO PAYMENTS TIL MARCH 2000

ON ANY NEW 1999 OR 2000 CHEVROLET IN STOCK AT
JACK SHERMAN CHEVROLET, W.A.C.

Jack Sherman

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NOTICE!

BERG MOTOR COMPANY ANNOUNCES THEY WILL HOLD THEIR FIRST NO HAGGLE HACKER SALE, AND WILL SELL CARS AS LOW AS \$59!

Midland, TX

Berg Motor Company has announced its plan to have a \$59 dollar new and used car Hacker Sale event this Saturday, December 18th. Rain or shine. Don't miss this one-day event.

Clark Duff, Kenny Green and Jerry Slaughter, Sales Managers of Berg Motor Company say, "we are ready to drop our current overstocked inventory levels and get ready for the new year. Record sales over the past three months have flooded Berg Motor Company with quality trade-ins. Late model year lease returns coupled with giant new car and truck shipments from General Motors and Mitsubishi has left us with a huge inventory problem. So due to the overwhelming response to the last two Slasher Sales and continued requests for another, we will hold our first Hacker Sale.

In order to participate in this event, come down to Berg Motor Company located at 3205 West Wall Street in Midland. Due to the large turnout expected, all those wishing to buy a vehicle at these fantastic low prices must be registered. Registration will begin sharply at 8:30a.m. this

Saturday and the gates will open at 10:00am so buyers may inspect the vehicles. The retail price will be posted on the windshield of each vehicle. When the sale begins, whoever is sitting in the vehicle when the event begins will have the first chance to purchase that vehicle at the low Hacker price. Prices will be cut one time to the rock bottom price, including vehicles for only \$59 dollars. When the sale is completed for the day, Berg Motor Company will resume business as usual. So don't miss this opportunity to save like never before.

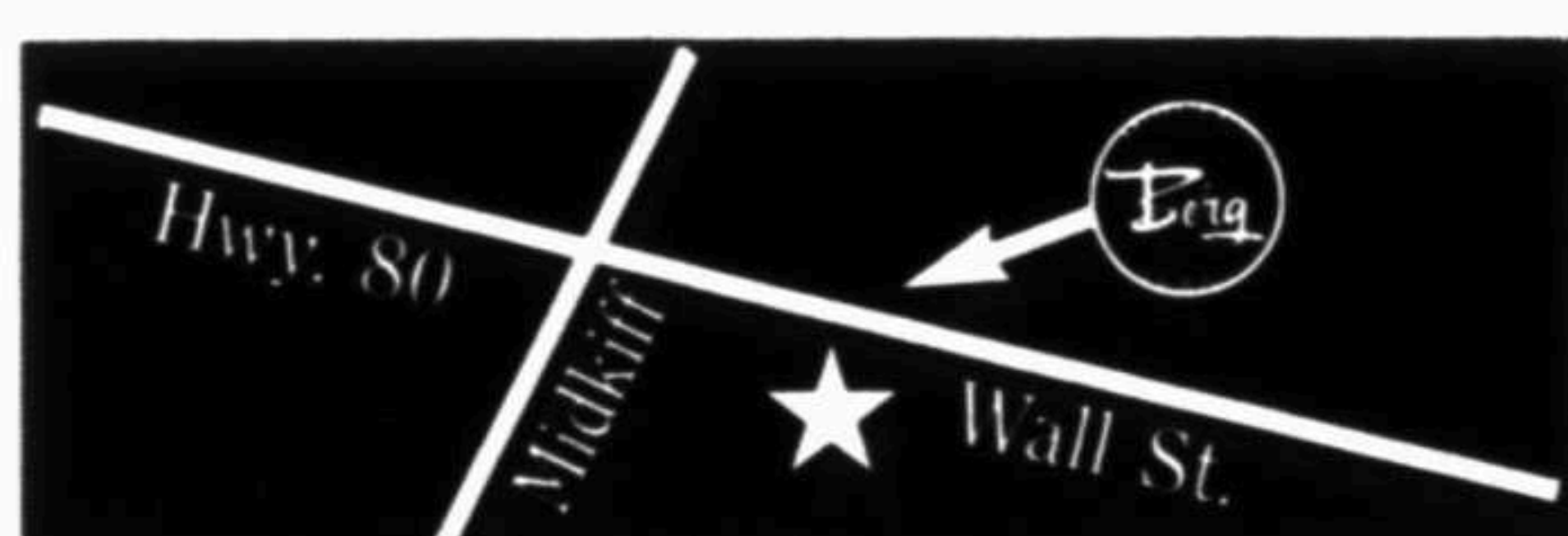
Clark said, "customers can expect the cut prices to be very close to public auction pricing, without the auction fee". Due to the response of this event, Clark has agreed to have all new car and truck trade-ins, lease returns and auction purchases available for the sale. The Hackers approach to selling vehicles is revolutionizing the way vehicles are being sold and allows everybody to get a great deal on a car or truck.

Berg Motor Company will have buyers on hand to take your trade-ins, as well as special finance and credit analysts to get you pre-qualified before the sale. Clark said, even Mitsubishi has come to

our aid with a no down payment, no accrued interest and no payment until February 1st, 2001 program. Even if you've had a problem obtaining auto financing before, we will have some of the most liberal lenders in the area at this event. Just bring in a current payroll stub and a valid driver's license.

We have a multi-million dollar inventory available for this event. Our total inventory will be close to 300 new and used cars and trucks for this event.

Clark further stated that he believes that this is the "absolute best opportunity for anyone seeking a new or used car, truck or SUV to get the best deal ever. Berg Motor Company has been a strong supporter of the community and the community has been a supporter of Berg Motor Company. This is our way of saying thanks." This event allows the dealer to reduce their inventory as well as the customer to get a car or truck for as low as \$59 dollars. Any questions can be directed to (915)694-7741 at Berg Motor Company. You're personally invited to our first no haggle, Hacker Sale. We'll see you there for a sale that won't be out done.



*Must be 18 years of age or older. All prices on a first-come, first-serve basis

311 Medical Help Wanted

TRINITY HAVEN HEALTHCARE of Midland has openings for **CNA's** FullTime & Part Time PRN weekend Good starting pay Family owned & Operated Apply in person 3203 Sage St. Midland, Texas 683-5403

BUSY DENTAL Office needs Receptionist. Also looking for Part-time Dental Assistant. Please send resumes to: Box J-5059, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

DENTAL ASSISTANT Needed, experience required. Please send resume to: Dr. Philip Warlick, 3001 W. Illinois, Ste 1B3, Midland, TX 79701.

ORTHODONTIC ASSISTANT: For fast paced, youth oriented practice. Must be friendly, a good communicator, and able to work as a team member. Non smoking environment. Knowledge of dental profession preferred. Send resumes to: N-4185, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

Let 'Sure Sell' Work For You! Call 682-6222

311 Medical Help Wanted

PERMANENT PART Time Exercise Instructor needed for 2, one half hour morning classes 9:00 (Midland Senior Center) and 9:45 (Southeast Community Center) Monday-Friday Range of motion and stretching. Ability to work with seniors. Experience Applications at Midland Senior Center, 3303 W. Illinois, 79703.

RN's STARTING at \$26 per hour. LVN's Starting at \$19 per hour. CNA's Starting at \$10 per hour. Quality Nursing Services 915-570-1021, 915-553-3581.

SERA- TEC Plasma Center now accepting applications for Physicians Sub. Must be EMT certified. Six months experience in a health care facility. Apply in person 712 West Scharbauer, Midland.

TERRACE WEST Nursing Center, has current openings for Week-end R.N. If interested, please apply in person at 2800 North Midland Drive., Midland, Texas 79707.

TERRACE WEST Nursing Center, has current openings for CNA's on ALL shifts. If interested, please apply in person at 2800 North Midland Drive., Midland, Texas 79707.

312 Professional Help Wanted

GROWTH ORIENTED CPA Firm. We need experienced, self-motivated professional accountants with income tax background to participate in our growth. Contact Teresa Nunley, Trotter & Company, L.L.P. 110. Marienfeld, Suite 500, Midland, TX 79701. nunleyt@trotterco.com

HIRING LICENSED Esthetician. Guaranteed Insurance and 401K. Please contact Ric @ 682-8299.

THE PEOPLES State Bank, Clyde, TX, a town just East of Abilene has an opening for a Loan Officer in various types of loans. This bank is over 50 Million in assets with three more branches, giving us total assets of around 110 Million. We are a growing town with a good future ahead. A college education is preferred, but not mandatory. A minimum of 5 years loan experience in real estate, consumer loans and commercial loans would be beneficial. Excellent salary and benefits for the qualified individual. Contact Doug Ford at 915-893-4211.

WEST TEXAS Access-The Permian Basin's Fastest Growing Internet Provider is seeking a qualified technical support specialist. Must have experience in network administration, website design and development. Call 524-7777 or visit our website at www.wtaccess.com.

TEXAS LICENSED Nursing Home Administrator needed with LTC and Medicare/Medicaid experience. For large 125 bed facility. Excellent salary and benefits with paid relocation to El Paso. Please send resume to 1071 Country Club Road, Suite M, El Paso Texas 79932. Or fax resume to (915) 587-0452.

Call Today! 682-6222

312 Professional Help Wanted

WESTERN NATIONAL Bank seeks New Accounts Manager. This officer level position is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of new account function at each of our four locations. Responsibilities include training and development of personal bankers, managing the deposit platform system, facilitating a sales culture, and ensuring compliance with federal laws and regulations relating to the deposit taking function. The ideal candidate will have a thorough knowledge of deposit operations, prior management experience, and an enthusiastic attitude. A college degree is preferred, but not required. Applicants should mail their resume to Human Resources, Western National Bank, P.O. Box 4597, Odessa, TX 79760 or Fax to (915)334-5525. EOE/AA

KELLY IS YOUR Job Connection... To Quality Jobs! Call Kelly Services 689-9801

Global Personnel Network Positions Local & Worldwide 686-8360

★ DP PERSONNEL ★ Temp & Perm Positions Benefits & Bonuses Available 682-0033 or 570-0197

314 Clerical Help Wanted

INDEPENDENT OIL Operator is seeking a responsible, dependable person to handle all office duties. This is a one person office. Experience needed would be answering phones, typing, filing, Word 97, Excel, oil and gas computer knowledge, joint interest billing, opening mail, various bookkeeping responsibilities and some lease and experience. Replies to Box P-6014, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

RECEPTIONIST: Answer telephone, perform multiple clerical tasks. Good people and math skills. Ability to lift boxes up to 25 lbs. Bilingual a plus. Salvation Army, 300 S. Baird.

SMALL ESTABLISHED Business needs dependable, industrious worker to handle office duties. Responsibilities include: clerical work, answering phones, office organization, sales and computer input. Tuesday-Friday. Send resume and have 10 key by touch. Duties include: Data entry, route settlement, taking and routing orders, answering phones, and more. Apply in person only. XXXXXX.

Let Classified Work For You! Call 682-6222

316 Sales Help Wanted

FULL TIME SALES experienced truck dealer. The Basin is looking for a parts salesperson for inside and/or outside position. Trucks parts experience preferred, but will consider resumes from all who demonstrate aggressive, positive attitude. Basic business knowledge and reasonably good mechanical knowledge are beneficial. But eagerness and enthusiasm in job performance are what we seek. Pay commensurate with experience. Excellent opportunities for advancement and relocation possible. Great benefits. This is a superb opportunity for the right candidate. Interview by appointment only. Call Ruben at 580-7571.

SALES PERSON: Experienced in the HVAC Trade a plus. Ask for Michael call 570-8105 or come by 2302 Garden City Highway.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE: Well established company looking for sales person for commercial dish washing and laundry accounts plus chemical sales. Extensive training, established territory, salary + commission, full company benefits. Not required to relocate. Send resume to P.O. Box 9005, Amarillo, TX 79105. For more information call 1-800-695-4098.

SERVICE TECHNICIAN needed with some plumbing and electrical knowledge. Truck preferred. Apply at Morgan Buildings & Spas. 1/4 mile east of Water Wonderland on Hwy. 80. Ask for Liz.

WAREHOUSE & SALESMAN: Expanding operations. Immediate openings in Odessa, for qualified individuals. High school graduate. Extra good driving record, well groomed, professional appearance & attitude required. Extensive benefit package. Computer skills a plus. Send resume to: Southwestern Electric Supply, P.O. Box 64300, Lubbock, Texas 79423.

316 Sales Help Wanted

TRUCK PARTS SALES. The Basin is looking for a parts salesperson for inside and/or outside position. Trucks parts experience preferred, but will consider resumes from all who demonstrate aggressive, positive attitude. Basic business knowledge and reasonably good mechanical knowledge are beneficial. But eagerness and enthusiasm in job performance are what we seek. Pay commensurate with experience. Excellent opportunities for advancement and relocation possible. Great benefits. This is a superb opportunity for the right candidate. Interview by appointment only. Call Ruben at 580-7571.

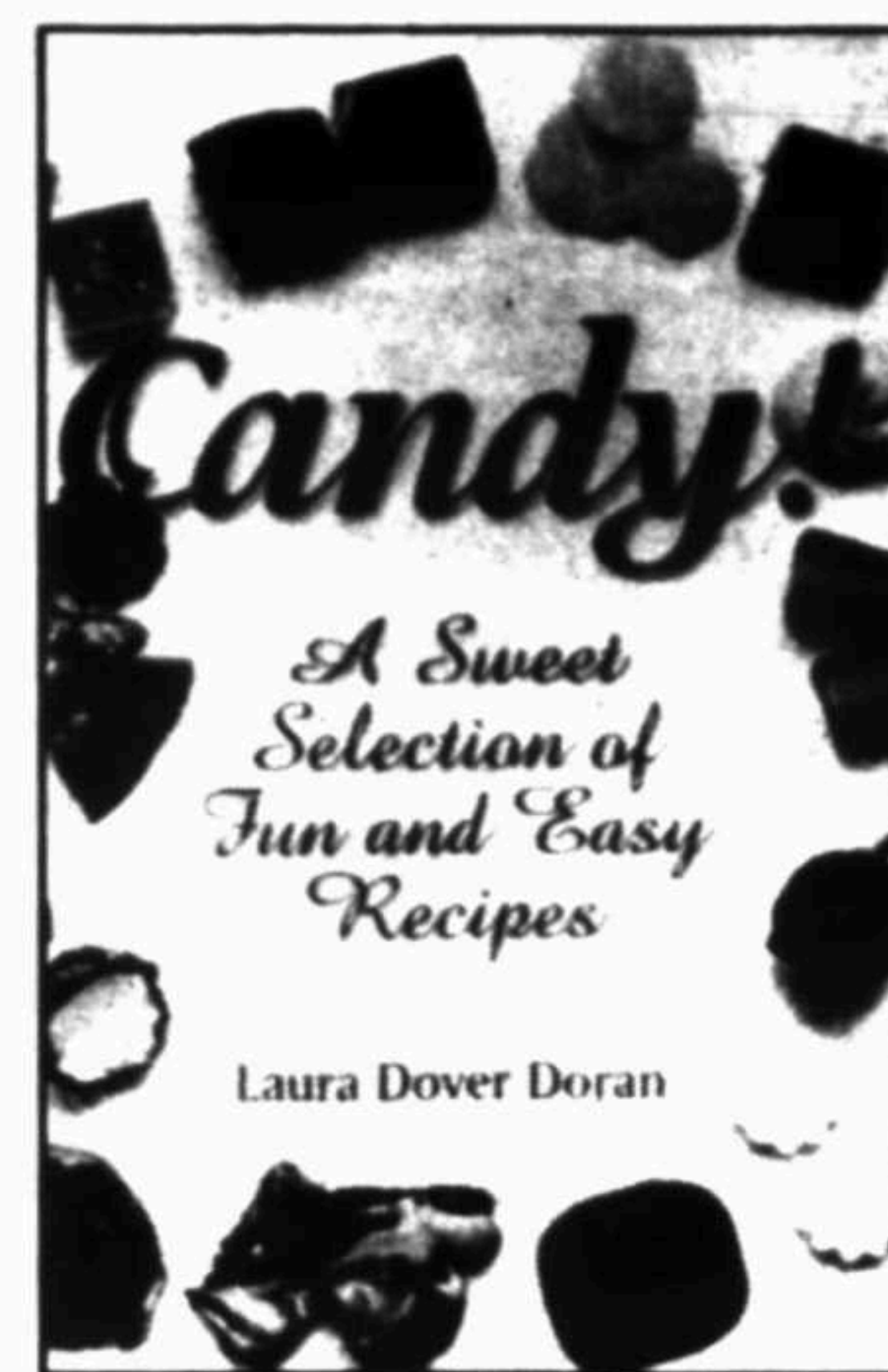
SALES REPRESENTATIVE: Well established company looking for sales person for commercial dish washing and laundry accounts plus chemical sales. Extensive training, established territory, salary + commission, full company benefits. Not required to relocate. Send resume to P.O. Box 9005, Amarillo, TX 79105. For more information call 1-800-695-4098.

SERVICE TECHNICIAN needed with some plumbing and electrical knowledge. Truck preferred. Apply at Morgan Buildings & Spas. 1/4 mile east of Water Wonderland on Hwy. 80. Ask for Liz.

WAREHOUSE & SALESMAN: Expanding operations. Immediate openings in Odessa, for qualified individuals. High school graduate. Extra good driving record, well groomed, professional appearance & attitude required. Extensive benefit package. Computer skills a plus. Send resume to: Southwestern Electric Supply, P.O. Box 64300, Lubbock, Texas 79423.

Super Seller II 15 words, 7 days, \$550 Advertise your household item (priced under \$150) with this Classified special! Call 682-6222 for details...

Do-It-Yourself Ideas



Candy Cookbook

Now there's an easy way to satisfy your craving for delicious homemade candy. A new, full-color, 128-page cookbook, "Candy: A Sweet Selection of Fun and Easy Recipes," will transform your kitchen into a virtual candy factory. The hardcover, spiral-bound book features five chapters of recipes—50 decadent selections in all—as well as general candymaking information, a guide to troubleshooting and more.

Candy Cookbook (No. LB1) ... \$19.95

Also available:

Rosie's Cookie Book (No. W6) ... \$16.95

To order, circle item(s), Include your name, clip & send w/ check to: address and the name of U-Bild Features this newspaper. Prices include postage. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

Or call (800) 82-U-BILD

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Money Back Guarantee

318 Oil Industry Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

TRUCK DRIVERS: Local Hauls: Experienced truck drivers needed to haul crude oil and salt water due to expanding operations. Must have good driving record and experience on tractor-trailer rigs. CDL required. Must be able to pass a DOT physical and drug screen. We have immediate opening in Midland, TX. With operations in 23 states, Plains All American Inc. is one of the largest crude oil gathering companies in the U.S. We have an outstanding benefit package and our pay is very competitive. To apply for this opportunity please call 1-915-686-1700 for further information. Plains All American, Inc. Equal Opportunity Employer.

320 Skilled Trades

BUSY OILFIELD SERVICE Company now hiring vacuum truck drivers. MUST be experienced, DOT qualified with Class A CDL, hazmat and tanker endorsements. Must be able to work and good pay. Come talk with us at 4601 S. Rankin Hwy. 682-0434.

CNC OPERATORS: Looking for a strong company with solid benefits and career opportunities? Consider CoorsTek, the nation's largest independent ceramic company and a world leader in development and manufacture of advanced technical ceramic components. We have immediate openings in Odessa for CNC Operators. Qualified applicants will have CNC and precision measuring skills and the ability to read blueprints. Must be able to work any shift. We offer a competitive compensation and benefits package including paid vacation and holidays, health insurance, fully funded retirement plan, 401k, and more. Apply in person Monday through Friday 8 am to 4 pm. at 3565 West 16th. Odessa, TX 79763 EOE affirmative action.

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3 Line Ad
1 Item Priced \$300 or Less
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*Private Party merchandise ads only. 1 item per ad. Price must be in ad to qualify. Other restrictions may apply, ask consultant for details.

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413 Jewelry & Furs
 ✓ LADIES 14K GOLD 66 Diamond 2 carat total weight tennis bracelet. Appraisal certificate available. \$2,250. Call 520-4423.

415 Miscellaneous Sales
 SOUTHWEST Company Club tickets or other airline mileage awards wanted. Will pay top dollar. 687-5039.

WANTING: Used motorized scooter (Moped), good condition. Call 682-1709.

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NEW TODAY
 FRESH PECANS: Unshelled, \$1.50 per pound. Outstanding quality. Bulk pricing available. While supplies last. 915-570-7786.

NEW TODAY
 DELICIOUS BAKLAVA Pastries. Great For Gifts/ Parties! Order through December 30th. Call Nancy (afternoons): 699-4747.

430 Household Goods
 GARDENDALE PECANS: Shelling, selling and buying pecans. Fresh baked goods, Candy, Pecan crackers and pickers. Cookbooks. Hwy 158 and Gardendale 550-7609.

430 Household Goods
 EXCELLENT CONDITION, 132 yards of beige plush carpeting, \$3.50 per yard. Call 684-5114.

432 Household Furniture
 KING WATERBED, 4 poster with under dresser. \$350. 685-3023, after 5.

432 Household Furniture
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432 Household Furniture
 BURLINGTON Floral sofa asking \$300. Cherry wood dinette table with 5 chairs, \$650. Or best offer on both. 699-4665.

432 Household Furniture
 SOLID OAK Twin bunk bed. Excellent condition! \$175 firm. Call 689-4381.

432 Household Furniture
 RUG for sale 3.5'x5.5'. Hand-hooked wool, floral design on ivory background. Like new, \$150. 694-2711.

435 Household Appliances
 REFRIGERATOR, Small size washer & dryer, 2 vacuum cleaners. Call between 8:00 am- 4:00 pm. 687-9030. After 5:00 pm. 694-8544.

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 ORIGINAL OIL Paintings at sacrifice prices. 24x36 G. Harvey, Larry Dykes (Golf Course), 24x36 Robert Woods (Waves of Laguna). Excellent Christmas gifts. See at Frontier Art Galleries, 1926 8th Street, Odessa, Texas.

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 EAGER BEAVER Firewood- Oak, Piñon, Mesquite. Delivery. Stacked. Small quantities available also. 685-3521, mobile 664-0577.

450 Sporting Goods
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450 Sporting Goods
 SHOCKERS FUND Raiser- Oak Firewood, \$180 per cord, delivered. Call Sid 697-0372 or Kevin 570-8775.

450 Sporting Goods
 DICK'S FIREWOOD: Oaks, Mesquite, Pecan & Cedar. We deliver. 1-(915)-453-2151, Fax 1-(915)-453-4322.

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 TURF SPECIALTIES Best in town. Oak, Mesquite, Open Juniper. Saturday Seasonally. CALL FIRST, 684-7166.

450 Sporting Goods
 ROCKY MOUNTAINS best seasoned and smelling Pinon. Fine firewood. Fence posts or rails. Call Skip at 915-684-8325. Call 915-425-3875, Midland, Texas. Deliveries surrounding towns all directions.

450 Sporting Goods
 ATOTCHA SHIPWRECK- Jewelry. Own a piece of history, made from genuine ancient silver. 694-9852. E-mail: julp724@cs.com.

450 Sporting Goods
 SHOP NOW AND save 10% to 50% off Anna Marie's Gifts, 3312 W. Illinois 522-2229.

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NEW TODAY
 POKEMON- ADVANCED Kits 204 cards approximately \$240 value 3 set, each arranged neatly. Asking \$150. o.b.o. Monday, Saturday 682-2651. Sunday 699-7428.

450 Sporting Goods
NEW TODAY
 TY BEANIES, Buddies, Attic Collectables, Pillow Pals and Plushes. 699-6196.

450 Sporting Goods
 TY BEANIES and Buddy Bears. Call and leave message. 694-1474, we will call you back.

450 Sporting Goods
 ST. LOUIS Chantilly Crystal- 6 glasses, colored. Originally \$1,800, asking \$900. Perfect of New Years. 561-8196.

450 Sporting Goods
470 Musical Instruments
 WURLITZER PLAY maker organ, model 470, one owner. \$1,250. Please call 682-3294.

450 Sporting Goods
 VANTAGE Electric Guitar, Case and amp. Excellent condition. \$200. Call 684-9077 leave message.

450 Sporting Goods
 BUY, SELL, Trade used and new pianos. Jones Piano 682-7533.

450 Sporting Goods
 PIANO- Story & Clark, perfect condition. \$1,200. Call 520-6972.

450 Sporting Goods
 CASIO Electronic Keyboard and stand. Like new. \$75. Call 684-9077 leave message.

450 Sporting Goods
 UPGRADE YOUR flute for Concert Season. Yamaha flute model 481 with B-flat key, in very good condition. \$1,250. 686-5318.

450 Sporting Goods
 YAMAHA CLAVINOVA Piano, an orchestra at your fingertips. \$1,900. Ask for 699-4509.

450 Sporting Goods
470 Musical Instruments
 DOUBLE DOOR- Amoire, carved with grapes and leaves pattern \$225. Oak beds? Don't settle for less! 907X36" \$300. XXX-XXXX.

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470 Musical Instruments
 HONDO VALLEY Firewood. Piñon and Juniper. Call 520-3091 or fax 694-2263. E-mail: Terry_garrett@yahoo.com

450 Sporting Goods
470 Musical Instruments
 WANTED: YOUR Collectibles and Antiques. Fair prices, no furniture please. Call 571-3222, work 694-7508.

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↓SOLD↓
 DOUBLE DOOR- Amoire, carved with grapes and leaves pattern \$225. Oak beds? Don't settle for less! 907X36" \$300. XXX-XXXX.

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 DOUBLE DOOR- Amoire, carved with grapes and leaves pattern \$225. Oak beds? Don't settle for less! 907X36" \$300. XXX-XXXX.

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470 Musical Instruments
 HONDO VALLEY Firewood. Piñon and Juniper. Call 520-3091 or fax 694-2263. E-mail: Terry_garrett@yahoo.com

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 YAMAHA CLAVINOVA Piano, an orchestra at your fingertips. \$1,900. Ask for 699-4509.

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 THE CATS MEOW- 4000 sq. ft. of fine merchandise- we buy & sell antiques. 408 Andrews Highway. (915)687-2004.

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 POKEMON- ADVANCED Kits 204 cards approximately \$240 value 3 set, each arranged neatly. Asking \$150. o.b.o. Monday, Saturday 682-2651. Sunday 699-7428.

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 TY BEANIES, Buddies, Attic Collectables, Pillow Pals and Plushes. 699-6196.

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 TY BEANIES and Buddy Bears. Call and leave message. 694-1474, we will call you back.

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 ST. LOUIS Chantilly Crystal- 6 glasses, colored. Originally \$1,800, asking \$900. Perfect of New Years. 561-8196.

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470 Musical Instruments
 WURLITZER PLAY maker organ, model 470, one owner. \$1,250. Please call 682-3294.

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 VANTAGE Electric Guitar, Case and amp. Excellent condition. \$200. Call 684-9077 leave message.

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 BUY, SELL, Trade used and new pianos. Jones Piano 682-7533.

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 CASIO Electronic Keyboard and stand. Like new. \$75. Call 684-9077 leave message.

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 UPGRADE YOUR flute for Concert Season. Yamaha flute model 481 with B-flat key, in very good condition. \$1,250. 686-5318.

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 YAMAHA CLAVINOVA Piano, an orchestra at your fingertips. \$1,900. Ask for 699-4509.

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 PIANOS- new and used- buy, sell trade. Financing available. Tuning, repair, moving. Caldwell Music. 697-0852.

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 COMPLETE DRUM Set, black, great condition, great Christmas present. \$225, 689-2519.

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 AS7/PENTIUM 90 Laptop, 600 Meg hard-drive, 8 Meg ram, \$250, 486/33 \$200. Compact 386 Laptop, \$50. 520-0152 after 6.

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 TOSHIBA LAP-TOP Pentium processor, 100 MHD, 24MB/RAM, CD ROM docking station case included. \$450. 697-2425.

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 Brittany Spaniel male dog, eight months. Not registered, full blood. 694-9510 evenings. 682-0033 days. Diane.

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 FREE BLACK Dog, Heeler/ Lab mix, male, 6 months old. Call 699-0594.

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 FREE CUTE Puppies. Call 685-1962.

450 Sporting Goods
 CUTE ADULT cat and kitten- for Christmas, both black, kitten 6 weeks old. Call 697-8535.

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 SIX MONTH- old kitten, very sweet, needs good home. Black male. Call 520-6515 leave message.

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 FREE MALE- Tabby kitten, real cute, no shots, not neutered. Call 697-1058 leave message.

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 KITTENS- 2- 3 mos. old, Male, litter trained, DSH, black or striped. 684-4205.

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 FREE LAWN/ RIVER rock and used bricks. Yours to haul away. Please call 697-0662.

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FOR FREE
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450 Sporting Goods
 CARLOT KENNEL & Training Center. Boarding, puppy, beginner, advanced classes. Board train service available. 683-4718.

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 HURRY! ONE pup left, Rottweiler female, born November 14th. Parents on premises. \$100. Call 570-5555.

450 Sporting Goods
 REGISTERED CORGI Puppies Ready Christmas Week. Great house pets, good with kids, very loving, sweet and loyal dogs. \$350. 687-4024.

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 IMPORTED ENGLISH Hunting Cocker Spaniels. Three males whelped November 15th. Bred for Phasant. The world's best dove dog. Great pets. \$500 each. Call (915)580-4786.

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FOR FREE
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Tired Of Rent Increases Each Year?
Guaranteed No Rate Increase at The End Of 12 Months

GO TEAM! **\$99** **MOVES YOU IN**

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APARTMENT HOMES
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1 Bedroom starting at **\$260⁰⁰ mo.**

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\$99 Move-In Special on Selected Floor Plans

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POLO PARK
4700 Polo Parkway
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2 Bedroom Apartment starting at **\$390⁰⁰ mo.**

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625 Houses Unfurnished

GORGEOUS HOME newly carpeted, 4807 Ric. \$695 per month, \$400 deposit. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage. Owner agent contact Realty Unlimited 550-5609.

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1802 W. WASHINGTON, 2 bedroom, \$375 monthly, deposit required. 683-5161.

3 BEDROOM Double garage, storage. Ready March 1. 3413 Sinclair. \$750. No pets. 694-9838.

1, 2 & 3 BEDROOM Houses & Duplexes. \$325 to \$675 monthly. Call Williams & Assoc. 694-9663.

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SPACIOUS 2 BEDROOM, 2 bath, duplex, built-in, utility, den, fireplace, central heat, air conditioner. Carport, circle drive, yard. Lee High, no pets. \$550. 200 Deposit. 3521 West Wadley. 1-915-520-6741.

4054 SPRUCE Duplex, 2 bedrooms, living, kitchen, \$395 plus deposit. For information call 620-1500.

SEVERAL nice homes & apartments. \$250-\$725. Jeannie Prinz, Agent 684-8202.

BEAUTIFUL two bedroom, one bath, one car port duplex. All appliances, fireplace. No pets. \$400 monthly. 620-9222.

GREENWOOD, Nice three bedroom, two bath brick. Barns, corals, \$750 monthly. Extra fenced acreage available for lease. Call 694-9663.

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WESTPARK APARTMENTS
2928 WEST Louisiana
687-4514

- 1-2 & 3 Bedrooms
- Mini-Blinds Throughout
- 2 Pools
- 2 Laundry Facilities
- Covered Parking

Open (7) Days A Week

LAS COLINAS, Midland's premier townhomes, 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms, \$495 to \$695. Open 3-6 pm except Sunday. 697-8770.

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To All Come, move into Courtyard Townhomes for \$59 the month of December (approved applications). 682-3831

CEDAR ELM Apartments, 2 Bedroom Townhomes and studio apartments. All bills paid including basic cable. 570-4611.

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Apartments "Special" \$99.00 total move in. Come live with us in a casual life style and enjoy our unique neighborhood. 2438 Whitmore 687-0053.

1008 W. INDIANA, APT. 2 & 3. 1 Bedroom, 1 bath. No pets, water paid. \$175 monthly. \$100 deposit. 682-1608 leave message.

ABBEY COURT
Apartments, 4303 Andrews Hwy. All bills paid. 694-2549.

SAGEWOOD CONDO., \$199 Move In Special! 1 & 2 Bedrooms. 3300 Caldera Blvd. 699-1693.

THORNWOOD
Apartments Great prices. 1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms, Free Cable, Senior discounts. 682-5381.

ALL BILLS PAID: One and two bedroom apartments. 501 West Louisiana. Deposit required. Call 683-5161.

OVERSIZED 1 and 2 bedroom apartments with free cable. Move-in Specials. Penhurst Apartments. 681-3999.

FOR RENT, large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, washer/dryer connections. Close to downtown. Call 620-0740 after 4:00pm.

BENCHMARK Leasing, 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms. \$199 Move In Special! 522-2151.

LARGE TWO BEDROOM flat, one bath, new paint, walk in closets, dishwasher. Clean, quiet. 687-4855.

NO PETS, 3 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, new carpet, air bath, carpets, air. 4610 Comanche, \$360/ \$300 deposit. 684-0010.

3403 WEST LOUISIANA, Pretty, bright, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, nice neighborhood. \$650 monthly. Call 683-7057.

4313 (A) W. STOREY, 3 bedroom, 2 bath double garage. References required. \$650 monthly, \$600 security. No pets. Smoke free building. Water/sewer/trash paid. 686-9090/694-4702.

FOR LEASE 3 bedroom, 2 bath, rear carport, contemporary townhome, stove, refrigerator, fireplace, tile, mirrored dining room, outside storage close to MC and shopping. \$400 deposit, \$600 monthly. Consider selling. 620-0706.

WE HAVE THE PERFECT home for you - a Regency Townhome at 721 W. Denigar. 2,050 sq. ft. of luxurious space. Skylights, extra large two bedrooms, large laundry rooms, Quaker cabinets, trash compactors, and more! Call today 563-4550.

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DUPLEX, 217-B Circle Drive, 2 bedroom, 1 bath with stove and refrigerator, water, furnished. \$365 deposit. \$175 deposit. 684-8989.

ATTRACTIVE HOME, 4503 Versailles, \$595 per month, \$300 deposit, 3 bedrooms with fireplace. Will consider HUD. Contact Realty Unlimited. 550-5609.

NICE CLEAN, Two bedroom, one car port, fenced yard. \$375 monthly. 1923 English Drive, 694-9853.

DUPLEX for lease, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, fireplace. 3003 Mark Lane. \$625 Monthly. Call 697-4306.

LARGE ONE Bedroom, 1 bath duplex, living room, dining room, kitchen, stove and refrigerator furnished. \$95 plus deposit. 200 West Jax. Call 694-2811.

LUXURY PROPERTY, Spacious 2 bedrooms plus 2 bath, fireplace, 2 car garage, patio home. 4710-A Dentcrest. Contact Realty Unlimited. 550-5609.

RENT/SELL, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, nice renovated. \$675 monthly. Call 684-3843.

NEW IN TOWN? For your FREE "New Resident" Welcome Packet. Call Newcomers Unlimited. 570-8045.

EXECUTIVE TOWNHOUSE, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, fireplace, ceramic tile, Berber carpet, small yard, 2 car garage. \$750 monthly. 4504 Norwood. Call 697-2728.

FOR SALE or Lease 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$475 monthly plus deposit. 689-0776. Owner agent.

3300 PRINCETON, Three bedrooms, two baths, \$600 monthly. No pets. Deposit and references required. 694-4648, 570-1730.

TWO BEDROOM home available now - \$250 Monthly, call Al at 697-9798.

1 AND 2 AND 3 BEDROOM HOMES, Available now. Boon Properties, Ginger Andrews, Property Manager. 694-5389.

FAIRMONT PARK, Almost new, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, new carpet and paint. \$875 monthly. 1 year VERY NICE. Skeet Langston Realtors. 563-7300.

LOVELY TWO bedroom, two bath, two carport duplex. All appliances, fireplace, outside storage. \$450. No pets. Call 620-9222.

ONE & TWO Bedrooms, 1 bath, appliances, central air, heat, fenced yard, carport. 689-3053.

4707 RIC, \$200 deposit, \$500 monthly, 3 Bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, new paint and carpet, fenced yard. 683-3296. Monday-Friday 8:30-1:15.

4409 ST. ANDREWS, Exceptionally nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. \$900 monthly. 694-9853.

FOR SALE, or lease, 500 Devonian, 2 bedroom, 1 bath on corner lot, across from Jane Long Elementary. Lease \$400 monthly. \$400 deposit. Call 697-4362. No calls after 6 p.m.

ROOM AND BOARD, private bath, walking distance school, Greenwood area. \$400 monthly plus deposit. Call 915-270-0423, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

REGENCY TOWNHOMES, 721 W. Denigar. Prestigious Address for Luxurious Living. Spa, Heated pool, fireplaces, extra large 2 bedrooms, closed circuit entry, 2,050 sq. ft. for your comfort. 563-4550.

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath over 2,000 sq. ft. New tile, new berber carpet. Excellent location. 925-684-4945.

FAIRGATE Townhomes, northwest side, 6 and 12 month leases, 2 and 3 bedrooms, 1600 sq. ft. livable, all appliances, fans, fireplaces and garages. 697-9566.

LOVELY 1 BEDROOM, Condominium. Must see to appreciate! Skylight, mini washer and dryer. 570-6900/425-3507.

1/2 MONTH FREE rent, 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms, 950-1,661 square foot, double garage, washer dryer connections, fans, microwave. 697-9768.

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AIRLINE
MOBILE HOME Park, quiet country living. Grocery store, Beauty salon, laundry, and much more! 694-2534.

MOBILE HOME and/or RV spaces. Large shade trees, laundrymat, convenient location. 322-4976.

665 Bus. Prop./Office Rent

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OFFICE, RETAIL, Industrial properties available for sale or lease. Contact Bob House, 570-0705, or visit my site at <http://www.wbhouse.com>

OFFICE WAREHOUSE, 1,000 sq. ft. \$250 monthly. Includes delivery. A/C, 24 hr. security, 10% down. Call 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003.

RETIRED OR Starting Out? 2 bedroom mobile home, very affordable! 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003.

239/ MONTH! 1997 3 bedroom, 2 bath set up, skirting, and A/C. Call now. 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003. 5% down, 13.75% a.p.r., 8 pt buy down, 360 months. (w.a.c.)

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710 Open Houses
720 Homes for Sale
725 Condo/Townhouses
730 Suburban Prop
735 R.E. Wanted
740 Out of Town Prop
750 Lots and Acreage
760 Farms/Ranches
770 Resort Property
780 Business Prop
785 Warehouse/Storage
790 Investment Property

FOR LEASE, all sizes and types of properties, office, warehouse, retail, 800 to 40,000 sq. ft. Some with fenced yards. 683-9681.

LOCATION, Close to hospital! Office space for physicians and other Professionals. 2109 W. Texas. 682-0602.

667 Commercial Property

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LEASE 60X110 building, Terminal area. For information call 620-1500.

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670 Warehouse/Storage for Rent

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20' X 40' and 20' X 20' Electricity furnished. Near Community National Bank. \$150 and \$75 monthly. 685-3005 or 553-5482.

675 Recreation Resort

RUIDOSO Cabin's, Houses, Condos for rent nightly. Some with hot tubs, Don Harmon, Four Seasons Real Estate. 800-822-7854.

RUIDOSO Rentals nightly. Cabin, condos, some hot tubs. Century 21, Aspen Realty. 800-657-8980.

630 Houses Furnished

ROOM AND BOARD, private bath, walking distance school, Greenwood area. \$400 monthly plus deposit. Call 915-270-0423, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

REGENCY TOWNHOMES, 721 W. Denigar. Prestigious Address for Luxurious Living. Spa, Heated pool, fireplaces, extra large 2 bedrooms, closed circuit entry, 2,050 sq. ft. for your comfort. 563-4550.

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath over 2,000 sq. ft. New tile, new berber carpet. Excellent location. 925-684-4945.

FAIRGATE Townhomes, northwest side, 6 and 12 month leases, 2 and 3 bedrooms, 1600 sq. ft. livable, all appliances, fans, fireplaces and garages. 697-9566.

LOVELY 1 BEDROOM, Condominium. Must see to appreciate! Skylight, mini washer and dryer. 570-6900/425-3507.

1/2 MONTH FREE rent, 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms, 950-1,661 square foot, double garage, washer dryer connections, fans, microwave. 697-9768.

TOWNHOUSE FOR sale, 4308-A Glenaville, new, two story, 2,000 square feet, three bedroom three bath, two car garage, fireplace. \$1,050 monthly. Call 699-0158 or 699-6780.

WYDEWOOD AREA, 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths, two car garage. \$850. 684-4945.

NICE ONE Bedroom Condominium. Washer dryer connections, small pets welcome. Free basic cable and covered parking. Immediate Loop 250 access. Call for an appointment 520-0722.

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NICE TOWNHOUSE, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, 2 car garage. \$675 monthly plus deposit. \$125 deposit. 682-1608 leave message.

655 Mobile Homes Unfurnished

NO RENT Till January! \$200 Monthly on small two bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, no pets. \$100 deposit. 694-2047.

NICE 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, washer/dryer furnished, in Greenwood. \$475 monthly. \$350 deposit. 570-7465.

THREE BEDROOM, two bathroom mobile home for rent in Greenwood. Call 570-4769 evenings only.

2105 W. COUNTY ROAD, 2 Bedrooms, 1 bath. \$250 monthly, \$125 deposit. 682-1608 leave message.

SMALL 2 BEDROOM, semi furnished, fenced, oil and 1140 south, Greenwood School. 557-2432, 682-8787.

RENT 14'X60' mobile home 2 bedroom, 1 bath on 1 acre with shop. Call 520-8424 or page 495-8130.

NO RENT Till January! Large nice two bedroom, two bath with fireplace or double oven and carport. 2 car carport. \$400/200 deposit. No pets. 694-2047. No pets.

NOW AVAILABLE, 2/3 Bedroom mobile homes, all appliances, fenced yards, extra clean! Deposit required. No vicious dogs. 687-6324.

NO RENT Till January! Free Water, \$150 move-in. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, Cloverdale. No pets. 694-2047.

3415 COTTON FLAT ROAD, space "M". Two bedroom, two bath, washer dryer connections. No pets. \$300 monthly, \$125 deposit. 682-1608, leave message.

RENT 28'X60' double wide 3 bedroom, 2 bath with fireplace on 4 acres. Can rent acreage separate. Call 520-8424 or page 495-8130.

660 Mobile Home Space for Rent

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MOBILE HOME Park, quiet country living. Grocery store, Beauty salon, laundry, and much more! 694-2534.

MOBILE HOME and/or RV spaces. Large shade trees, laundrymat, convenient location. 322-4976.

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OFFICE WAREHOUSE, 1,000 sq. ft. \$250 monthly. Includes delivery. A/C, 24 hr. security, 10% down. Call 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003.

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239/ MONTH! 1997 3 bedroom, 2 bath set up, skirting, and A/C. Call now. 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003. 5% down, 13.75% a.p.r., 8 pt buy down, 360 months. (w.a.c.)

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700 Manufactured Homes
701 Real Estate
710 Open Houses
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725 Condo/Townhouses
730 Suburban Prop
735 R.E. Wanted
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750 Lots and Acreage
760 Farms/Ranches
770 Resort Property
780 Business Prop
785 Warehouse/Storage
790 Investment Property

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LOCATION, Close to hospital! Office space for physicians and other Professionals. 2109 W. Texas. 682-0602.

667 Commercial Property

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LEASE 60X110 building, Terminal area. For information call 620-1500.

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670 Warehouse/Storage for Rent

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20' X 40' and 20' X 20' Electricity furnished. Near Community National Bank. \$150 and \$75 monthly. 685-3005 or 553-5482.

675 Recreation Resort

RUIDOSO Cabin's, Houses, Condos for rent nightly. Some with hot tubs, Don Harmon, Four Seasons Real Estate. 800-822-7854.

RUIDOSO Rentals nightly. Cabin, condos, some hot tubs. Century 21, Aspen Realty. 800-657-8980.

1994 FLEETWOOD, New carpet. \$9,900. 520-8226.

BYE-BYE 1999
BUY-BUY 2000! Save over \$5,000 on a huge 4 bedroom, 2 bath luxury home. Was \$49,000. Clearance Price: \$43,999! USA Homes, 4608 West Wail, Midland, 520-2177 or (800)520-2177. Se Habla Espanol!

FREE CREDIT Approval Hotline. 563-9000.

CUTE 2 + 2, (915)520-2177.

\$16,000 FOR VERY nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath. We Finance You! 563-9000.

EXTENDED!! PACK RAT Special!! 42 cabinets and drawers just in kitchen. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with fireplace is a dream come true at \$399 per month. Call 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003 for appointment. 10% down, 360 months at 8.25 APR (WAC).

SI ESTA Cansado de pagar Renta? Pero su crédito esta mal, o no tiene crédito. Venga a verme en A-1 Homes, Midland, TX. O hableme al telefono 563-9000 o pregunte por el Arellano, para ayudarle en su casa mobil nueva o usada.

4 BEDROOM Redman. 3 Year old, new carpet. \$19,900. 520-8226.

SALE! SALE! Inventory Clearance Sale!! Largest sale and lowest prices of the year. New and used. All homes must go! A-1 Homes, 7206 W. Hwy 80, Midland, TX.

\$3,000! Holiday shopping spree!! With every new Pair of pants in December. Call for appointment 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003. (\$1,500 per selection).

BIG SCREEN TV, gourmet kitchen, sliding patio door, glamour bath. Only \$750 gets you in. 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003 (WAC).

A B A N D O N E D Doublewide. (915)520-4411.

NEWLY REMODELED, 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, mobile home in southwest Midland on 75 acre lot with large fireplace and carport. For sale or rent to qualified buyer, pay \$350 per month call 550-2025.

1999 MODEL
CLOSEOUT! 3 Bedroom home as low as \$1531/month! USA Homes, 4608 West Wail, Midland, 520-2177 or (800)520-2177. Se Habla Espanol! 10% down, 8.99%, 24 months, with approved credit.

CRESTRIDGE 1999, Double wide, 3 bedroom, 2 baths. Must see. Set at Airline Mobile Home Park. Call 522-1827.

GOOD CREDIT, Bad Credit, Bankruptcy, Divorces, Slow Pays. Call The Credit Doctor to own your new home. 800-755-9133.

USED BUT NOT USED UP! As low as \$999! Several to choose from! USA Homes, 4608 West Wail, Midland, 520-2177 or (800)520-2177. Se Habla Espanol!

MOBILE HOME Credit Hotline! E-Z Qualifying! Call 550-4033, (800) 725-0881.

****\$250 PER MONTH!** For beautiful 3 bedroom, includes delivery. A/C, and 5 year warranty!! 563-9000. 9.50% VAR. 360 months. 10% down. W.A.C.

1999 WINDSOR mobile home. 0% Down, just pay-off. 16X80. Three bedroom, two bath, with air conditioner, central air, heat, total electric. 685-3713 or 664-8278.

1996 SOLITAIRE Double wide, plywood floors, 6 inch exterior walls, fireplace. Nice condition. 520-8226.

FACTORY REPO!! Over 2,000 sq. ft., 4 bedroom, 2 living areas, retreat, fireplace much, more! Call 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003.

RETIRED OR Starting Out? 2 bedroom mobile home, very affordable! 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003.

239/ MONTH! 1997 3 bedroom, 2 bath set up, skirting, and A/C. Call now. 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003. 5% down, 13.75% a.p.r., 8 pt buy down, 360 months. (w.a.c.)

701 Real Estate

REAL ESTATE 700

700 Manufactured Homes
701 Real Estate
710 Open Houses
720 Homes for Sale
725 Condo/Townhouses
730 Suburban Prop
735 R.E. Wanted
740 Out of Town Prop
750 Lots and Acreage
760 Farms/Ranches
770 Resort Property
780 Business Prop
785 Warehouse/Storage
790 Investment Property

FOR LEASE, all sizes and types of properties, office, warehouse, retail, 800 to 40,000 sq. ft. Some with fenced yards. 683-9681.

LOCATION, Close to hospital! Office space for physicians and other Professionals. 2109 W. Texas. 682-0602.

667 Commercial Property

NEW TODAY

LEASE 60X110 building, Terminal area. For information call 620-1500.

FOR LEASE, all sizes and types of properties, office, warehouse, retail, 800 to 40,000 sq. ft. Some with fenced yards. 683-9681.

670 Warehouse/Storage for Rent

NEW TODAY

20' X 40' and 20' X 20' Electricity furnished. Near Community National Bank. \$150 and \$75 monthly. 685-3005 or 553-5482.

675 Recreation Resort

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660 Mobile Home Space for Rent

AIRLINE
MOBILE HOME Park, quiet country living. Grocery store, Beauty salon, laundry, and much more! 694-2534.

MOBILE HOME and/or RV spaces. Large shade trees, laundrymat, convenient location. 322-4976.

665 Bus. Prop./Office Rent

NEW TODAY

OFFICE, RETAIL, Industrial properties available for sale or lease. Contact Bob House, 570-0705, or visit my site at <http://www.wbhouse.com>

OFFICE WAREHOUSE, 1,000 sq. ft. \$250 monthly. Includes delivery. A/C, 24 hr. security, 10% down. Call 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003.

RETIRED OR Starting Out? 2 bedroom mobile home, very affordable! 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003.

239/ MONTH! 1997 3 bedroom, 2 bath set up, skirting, and A/C. Call now. 915-653-7800 or 1-800-698-8003. 5% down, 13.75% a.p.r., 8 pt buy down, 360 months. (w.a.c.)

701 Real Estate

REAL ESTATE 700

700 Manufactured Homes
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RUIDOSO Rentals nightly. Cabin, condos, some hot tubs. Century 21, Aspen Realty. 800-657-8980.

630 Houses Furnished

ROOM AND BOARD, private bath, walking distance school, Greenwood area. \$400 monthly plus deposit. Call 915-270-0423, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

REGENCY TOWNHOMES, 721 W. Denigar. Prestigious Address for Luxurious Living. Spa, Heated pool, fireplaces, extra large 2 bedrooms, closed circuit entry, 2,050 sq. ft. for your comfort. 563-4550.

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath over 2,000 sq. ft. New tile, new berber carpet. Excellent location. 925-684-4945.

FAIRGATE Townhomes, northwest side, 6 and 12 month leases, 2 and 3 bedrooms, 1600 sq. ft. livable, all appliances, fans, fireplaces and garages. 697-9566.

LOVELY 1 BEDROOM, Condominium. Must see to appreciate! Skylight, mini washer and dryer. 570-6900/425-3507.

1/2 MONTH FREE rent, 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms, 950-1,661 square foot, double garage, washer dryer connections, fans, microwave. 697-9768.

Have A Happy Holiday!

125 BAYVIEW, 4BR, 3BA, 2 1/2 car garage On 2 Acres. \$97,900

5102 KING RICHARD, 3BR, 2 1/2 BA, 2 1/2 car garage. \$129,900

3000 PRINCETON, Old Midland, 3BR, 2BA, 2 car garage. \$79,900

4000 PATNAKE, Northgate, 3BR, 2BA, 2 Car Garage. \$119,900

4522 ROOSEVELT, 3BR, 2BA, 1 Car Garage, Great Pical. \$47,900

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LASTING IMPRESSIONS

An open-minded animal lover who enjoys life in the country, this single white female, 33, 5'7", with brown hair and hazel eyes, seeks a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9774

COUNTRY LIVING

This humorous and intelligent single white male, 28, 5'7", red hair and blue eyes, who likes horseback riding and all outdoor activities and movies, is seeking a friendly single white female, 25-37, who loves children. Adf 9775

IT HAS TO BE YOU

Warm single white professional female, 33, 5'7", 115lbs., with blonde hair and green eyes, who enjoys walking, working out, and collecting art, seeks a loving, family-oriented, honest, college-educated, single white male, 45-55, who appreciates a lady. Adf 9776

THE TWO OF YOU FOREVER

Have some fun with this caring, self-employed single white female, 31, 115lbs., with brown hair and eyes, who loves horseback riding, swimming, and football. She seeks a single white male, 18-21, who is interested in a possible marriage and family. Adf 9777

HILARIOUS

Outgoing, intelligent and humorous single white female, 37, 5'5", 103lbs., with black hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, cooking, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 35-45, who is interested in a possible marriage and family. Adf 9778

HEY YOU LOOK OVER HERE!

You're an honest single white male, 40-50, who loves to have fun, then get in touch with this humorous single white female, 37, 5'5", 103lbs., with black hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, cooking, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 35-45, who is interested in a possible marriage and family. Adf 9779

WALK INTO MY LIFE

This attractive single white female, 21, 5'10", with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys the outdoors, movies, and music, is seeking a single white male, 30-50, to spend quality time with. Adf 9780

MINUTES AWAY

Honest, caring single white female, 18, 5'1", 125lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 21-24, for friendship. Adf 9781

NOT INTO BAR SCENES

Single white female, 23, 5'7", with blonde hair, who enjoys walking, working out, and dancing, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, for friendship. Adf 9782

INCREDIBLY CUTE

I'm a fun-loving, caring single white female, 20, 5'1", with dark brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys socializing and watching television, is seeking a single white male, 20-28, who likes kids. Adf 9783

GIVE A CALL

Outgoing, single white female, 28, 5'7", with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys meeting new people, living life to the fullest, and watching television, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, for friendship. Adf 9784

THE CHOSEN ONE

This sweet, disabled, full-time single white female, 35, 5'5", with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, for friendship. Adf 9785

FAITH & HOPE

Outgoing, single white female, 31, 5'4", with long brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys meeting new people, living life to the fullest, and watching television, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, for friendship. Adf 9786

BORED WITH TRADITION

Attractive single black professional female, 28, 5'5", 150lbs., who enjoys traveling and spending time with friends, is seeking a single white male, 21-36, who shares similar interests. Adf 9787

PROFESSIONAL

Fun-loving single white female, 40, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys walking, working out, and dancing, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, for friendship. Adf 9788

BE PART OF MY TOMORROW

Family-oriented single white female, 46, 5'4", 120lbs., with dark red hair and hazel eyes, is a non-smoker who enjoys family, movies, music, and astrology. She seeks a nice, out-going, single white male, 30-40, for friendship. Adf 9789

IT'S IN THE STARS

Sweet, fun single white female, 20, 5'5", with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, for friendship. Adf 9790

FULL OF ENERGY

A little outspoken, this educated single white female, 20, 5'3", with blonde hair and blue eyes, always has something to say. She's looking to meet a self-confident single white male, 21-27, who likes traveling and good times. Adf 9791

IT'S THE STARS

From Odessa comes this single white female, 20, 5'5", 135lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, for friendship. Adf 9792

NEED BETTER

Outgoing, single white female, 69, 5'8", 135lbs., with salt and pepper hair and brown eyes, who enjoys spending time with friends, animals, and gardening, is seeking a single white male, 65-75, to spend quality time with. Adf 9793

GOLDEN GIRL

From Odessa comes this single white female, 65, 5'3", 135lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, for friendship. Adf 9794

SAVING YOUR HEAT

The time is here for you, a single white male, 30, 5'7", with blonde hair, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9795

GET YOUR BEST

This attractive single white female, 65, 5'3", with blonde hair, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9796

TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL

Outgoing, single white female, 30, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9797

BEST THERE IS

Divorced, white Christian female, 31, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9798

BEST THERE IS

Divorced, white Christian female, 31, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9799

LET'S BE HONEST

To be more about this friendly and likeable single white female, 21, 4'11", with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9800

ON FIRST SIGHT

Self-employed single white female, 34, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9801

READY TO SETTLE DOWN

Outgoing, single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9802

LOVE ME FOR ME

Fun-loving, independent single white female, 45, 5'0", with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9803

JUST WHO I AM

Attractive, caring single black female, 28, 5'5", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9804

SEEKING A PARTNER

Charming, outgoing single white female, 40, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9805

CALL FOR MORE INFO

Single white female, 39, 5'2", with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9806

WEET THAT SUGAR

Single white female, 20, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9807

LOOKS ANEW

Outgoing, single white female, 20, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9808

LOOKS ANEW

Outgoing, single white female, 20, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9809

LOOKS ANEW

Outgoing, single white female, 20, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9810

LOOKS ANEW

Outgoing, single white female, 20, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9811

LOOKS ANEW

Outgoing, single white female, 20, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9812

LOOKS ANEW

Outgoing, single white female, 20, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9813

LOOKS ANEW

Outgoing, single white female, 20, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9814

LOOKS ANEW

Outgoing, single white female, 20, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9815

ALL IN TIME

A single white female, 38, 5'11", a blue-eyed brunette, who enjoys indoor music, swimming, working out, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9816

THE NEXT MOVE IS YOURS

Single white female, 19, 5'11", a blue-eyed brunette, who enjoys indoor music, swimming, working out, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9817

ONE FINE DAY

Single white female, 38, 5'11", a blue-eyed brunette, who enjoys indoor music, swimming, working out, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9818

VISION OF TWO

Single white female, 41, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9819

SUGAR & SPICE

Single black female, 19, 5'4", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9820

JUST LIKE YOU

Single white female, 40, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9821

TRUE AQUARIAN

Single white female, 48, 5'8", 130lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9822

WHAT'S YOUR SECRET

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9823

COMING TOGETHER

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9824

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9825

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9826

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9827

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9828

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9829

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9830

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9831

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9832

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9833

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9834

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9835

ON FIRST SIGHT

Single white female, 24, 5'7", 120lbs., with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white male, 30-40, who doesn't play games. Adf 9836

STUDENT

Single Hispanic male, 21, 6'1", 185lbs., who enjoys basketball, soccer, and more, is seeking a single Hispanic female, 18-28, who is a good person. Adf 9837

BE THE ONE

Humorous, good-looking single white male, 31, 6'1", 185lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9838

LOVEY-DOVEY

Single white male, 31, 6'1", 185lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9839

GREAT QUALITIES

Humorous single white male, 36, 5'9", 135lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9840

HEAVEN SENT

Single white male, 35, 6'0", 180lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9841

GO AHEAD AND CALL

Single white male, 25, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9842

ALL IN TIME

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9843

COMMON BOND

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9844

I DON'T BITE

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9845

THE GREATEST LOVE

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9846

TOGETHERNESS

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9847

IGNITE HIS HEART

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9848

DELIGHTFUL

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9849

FOR KIDS

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9850

NEW BEGINNINGS

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9851

ALL IN TIME

Single white male, 26, 5'9", 170lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9852

TAKE NOTE

Single white male, 39, 6'0", 200lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9853

SPORTS FAN

Single white male, 39, 6'0", 200lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25-35, who doesn't play games. Adf 9854

RESERVED

Single white male, 39, 6'0", 200lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and all outdoor activities, is seeking a single white female, 25

Who's Who For Service



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For Further Information

Air Cond. - Auto

WINTERIZES - Evaporative water coolers, cover, drains, drain waterlines. Work guaranteed. 30 year experience. 561-9539.

Air Cond./Heating

CALL PERMAN Basin Air Conditioning for new A/C & heating systems. Repairs on furnaces & heat pumps. 682-2204. TACLB00881E.

UNITED ENERGY

Systems - Complete Sales, Service, Repair, Air Duct Cleaning, Residential, Commercial, Mobile Homes, Free Estimates. Second Opinions. 561-4126. TACLB010538E.

THE BOSWORTH CO.

Service and Sales, all states. We've been in the service business for 40 years! (915) 683-5233. TACLA00884E.

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service

Service on all major brands. Call anytime. 682-2679. TACLB005482.

Appliance Repair

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING Appliance Service: Parts and service on all name brands of appliances. Used appliances with full warranty. 687-5113.

MIKE'S APPLIANCE

Repair. Same Day Service on all major brands. Call anytime. 689-8868 or 561-8809.

★ FREE REMOVAL OF

your unwanted appliances. Sales & Service 580-6540.

THAD'S APPLIANCE

Repair. All major brands. Same day/after hours. No extra charge. 520-2590.

CMS HOME

Maintenance. All major brands. 550-6648 any time.

Automotive Paint & Body

COMPLETE AUTOMOBILE Paint jobs starting at \$199.95 guaranteed. 20 years experience in collision repair. Call Allstar Refinishing at 915-682-9722.

Barbecue Pits

MIDLAND IRON WORKS Barbecue Pits, Outdoor Fire Pits, Cooking Wood. 684-4825. Accepting Major Credit Cards.

Bathtub Refinishing

PROFINISH REFINISHING specialist. Bathtubs, sinks, tile, formica, fiberglass, appliances, chip repairs, cultured marble. 570-8654.

★ DON'T REPLACE

Refinish. Bath tubs, sinks, ceramic tile, counter tops and appliances. Westex Resurfacing. 520-9996 or 1-800-774-9996.

Carpentry & Cabinets

JOURNEYMAN CARPENTER 20 year experience. Furniture, cabinet making, design, and consulting. Door and all repairs, painter available. Call Ray Thomas 682-9210.

CUSTOM Cabinets

Rustic furniture, formica tops. References, work guaranteed. Alpha wood-working 556-7074.

Carpet Cleaning

FIVE STAR Carpet Cleaning For all your holiday cleaning. Get any five rooms cleaned for \$69.95. Call 550-3130.

FOBBS CARPET

Cleaning Systems. Discount prices, phone quotes, same or next day services. Licensed technician. Bonded & insured. References. 580-0686.

Carpet Sales/Rpr & Inst.

DAVID - Install carpet, vinyl, tile. Also repairs. Free estimates. All work guaranteed. 570-8314. 684-0924.

Chimney Sweep

FOBBS CHIMNEY

Sweep. Prices start at \$59.95. 580-4037. Bonded & insured. Quick Response.

ALL SEASONS Chimney

Service, in business 7 years. Free estimate, cleaning, repairs. Call 634-3609. Thanks.

Christmas Lighting

LITE RITE LIGHTS. Professional Christmas light installation. Free estimates. Residential/ Business. Call 689-2395.

TIS The Season for

hanging Christmas lights! References available. Experienced, reasonable rates. Call 561-8802.

Computer Services

COLLEGE STUDENT - 4 Years experienced. Computer technician. Will repair and custom build computers. 683-1071.

SPEER Computer

Consulting. Trouble shooting, Y2K evaluations. Upgrades, Windows and Internet instruction. Member Better Business Bureau. Permian Basin. 689-2977.

Concrete Work

DAVID VALVERDE Concrete Work. Patios, Driveways, Sidewalks. Small jobs welcomed. 685-1300.

PAUL RIVAS VAL

VERDE. Patios, Driveways, Sidewalks. Small jobs welcome. Call 915-684-8437/ 425-7290 cellular.

BUILD-STORM

Shelters, cinder blocks, flowerbeds, driveways. Free estimates. Mike 570-5342 or 684-5527.

FOR YOUR needs,

please call Raymundo's Concrete & Remodeling. Additions, driveways, flowerbeds, & more. 570-8454.

TRANSIT MIX- Concrete

& Materials. Ready mix concrete. Immediate delivery. Residential/ commercial/ industrial. C.O.D. 561-8922.

Construction

JIM'S CONSTRUCTION: Building, remodeling, home repair, patio/ sun-room additions. Concrete, tile work, painting. 550-5195.

S.J. WELDING & CONSTRUCTION

Pipe Fencing, Privacy Fencing (New and rebuilt), custom fencing, patio covers, carports, metal buildings. Free estimates. Call 570-6636/ Pager 499-0792.

Dirtwork

B & L BACKHOE - Dump trucks, maintenance, dozer, grubbing, mesquite, driveways, caliche, dirt, lots cleaned. (915) 687-4876.

ADVANCE BACKHOE & Dump Truck Hauling

No job too small! Fertilize, topsoil, caliche, driveways, lot clearing, complete septic system installation. 570-1704, 834-3800.

Domestic/House Cleaning

WILL CLEAN - houses, apartments, storages and also move-outs. Call 570-8342.

GET READY for the

Holidays! One time or regular, moveouts. References available. Jennifer 694-5022, 495-5496.

Domestic/House Cleaning

OFFICE CLEANING - Trust worthy and reliable service. Bonded and insured. Call 694-9836 for quote.

NEED HOUSES to clean!

Honest and dependable, references available upon request. Please call 458-3245.

THE HOLIDAYS are here!

Let us help you get ready. House cleaning, Christian work ethics. 694-8292.

"KAREN'S CLEANING"

Cleaning done right! References available. Call 520-2046 or Page 567-5106.

Electric Service

RESIDENTIAL - Commercial, Electrical installations, ceiling fans, switches, plugs. Free estimates. Insured. License #10. Call 685-0859.

CROCKETT Electric

Residential and commercial. Repair service. Licensed and insured. Ceiling fans, telephone and TV outlets. Senior citizen discount. Call 570-9757.

Embroidery

STITCHES TO

REMEMBER: Computer embroidery, heat transfers, custom apparel. Credit Cards Accepted. 684-4242. www.shopmidlandtexas.com.

Flagstone

COMPANY STONE. Natural stone for your walkways, patios, fireplace, Buckskin, Gold, Oak, Sedona, Red, Chocolate, Peach, Rose. 687-4952.

Floor Services

BETTER PRICES than most stores! Floors, Counter Tops, Showers. Expert quality workmanship. Senior Discounts. Ask for Chuck, 689-5434.

WOOD FLOORS

Refinish/repair/ installation/ sales. Howard (915) 684-4044.

Fences

WOODLARD SERVICES - New fence installation and repairs. Wood, pipe, vinyl, decks, porches and remodeling. 570-0805.

CAPITAL SERVICE

Complete fencing needs. Repairs on all types. Free estimates. 694-5354/ Pager 561-1031.

R J FENCING - 30 years

experience. New and repair. Reasonable rates. Free estimates. 550-6714.

Handyman

FAMILY MAN

Providing: Honey do's, errands, lawn care, Christmas lights, free hauling furniture, etc. 684-2772.

MIDLAND FIREMEN

Metal buildings, general welding, wood fences, new & repair. Please call 620-0034/ 683-9367.

ECONOMY DOWN-

PRICES DOWN- K.C.'s Handyman Remodeling. Specializing in bathroom remodel. Ceramic tile, sheet rock, painting. Need a carport- fence? Also sidewalks, fireplaces. 687-5953 or 699-5308, pager 567-5253.

S & D SERVICES:

Home repairs and more. Reliable, clean work. Bonded. Call 561-9610/ 559-4827.

HANDY RANDY Home

repairs, painting, carpentry, construction, sheet rock, and much more! Free estimates. 699-0804.

ROCKY'S Custom

Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/ bonded. 684-0807/ 684-0888.

Hauling

FREE COMMUNITY

HAULING: Donation items, garage sales, furniture, lumber, computers. Available weekends or weekdays. 684-2772.

HAULING- Commercial/ Residential

Trash, tree limbs, moving household, storage item, etc. 520-4215/ 10 minute response.

HAULING tree limbs,

trash and also construction clean-up. 561-1206 digital beeper, 10 minute response.

B. JACKSON- Handyman

Service. Haul off trash, old furniture, appliances, carpet- padding, etc. Call (915) 682-2667.

Home Repairs/Remod.

HOME & Pool remodeling/ repair, K & J Construction, free estimates, 20 years experience. 520-3191.

✓ WE DO IT ALL FOR

YOU! Remodels, ceramic tile, carpentry, counter tops! Westex Resurfacing. 520-9898.

REBEL KING TILE

New installation and repairs. New construction/ remodel. Free estimates. Work guaranteed. 697-4518.

Home Repairs/Remod.

CONSTRUCTION ANY- Type Commercial, residential, add-ons, remodels, carports, patio covers. 20 years experience. 687-6445 office. 634-6445 cell.

KITCHEN CABINETS,

vanities, formica counter tops, beveled edges. Reasonable rates, references, work guaranteed. Luis, 682-4544.

CMS HOME

Maintenance. All types of home maintenance and repairs. Installation of Dish washers, ceiling fans, garage door openers and more. 550-6646.

ROCKY'S Custom

Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/ bonded. 684-0807/ 684-0888.

Ironing

NORTHWEST AREA - \$12 a dozen, non-smoking. Some pickup/ delivery available. Please call 520-3736.

Lawn & Garden Service

DON COBB - Lawn mower repairs. Engines from 2-30 horse power. Pick-up/ delivery. 20% Off. 682-3050.

SOUTHWEST LAWN-

MOWER. Repairs on all makes/ models of small engine equipment/ go-carts. Free pick-up/ delivery. Discover/ Amex/ Visa/ Mastercard accepted. 3414 Thomason. 520-0777.

Service. Mowing, edging,

pruning/ tree removal, flower beds, rake leaves, hauling. Free estimates. 570-8623.

MIDLAND FIREMAN With

19 year experience in tree and hedge trimming or removal. Deep feeding, alleys cleaned, light hauling. Free estimates. Call 697-2030.

★ 13 YEARS

Experience. Fall clean-ups, tree pruning. Professional Results. Free Estimates. Insured. Precision Landscaping. 699-7967.

ROSE'S Lawn Service

Professional tree pruning and complete lawn maintenance. Free estimates. Insured. 697-1912.

PROFESSIONAL LAWN

and Tree Service. Tree trimming and removal. Stump grinder, winterizing, flower beds, seasonal planting. Call 522-2276.

TIS The Season to be

planting shrubs. R&M Home Maintenance for your landscaping needs. 687-0878.

LONNIE BURCHAM,

expert tree service: pruning, removals, stump grinder, bucket truck, clean ups. 687-4876, 661-7028.

Lawn & Garden Service

LAWN GEMVITY

PRIDE By the yard. Priced right, fall clean-ups, tree trimming, total lawn care guaranteed. 570-8370.

PROFESSIONAL LAWN/

Landscaping maintenance; Tree trimming, winterizing, lots cleaned. Free estimates. Insured. Call Merlin 520-6118.

MURPHY'S LAWN-

CARE. Fall clean-ups, vacuuming, mowing, edging, trimming, aerating, fertilizing, hedges. Bill or Maryann 522-2228.

B & L LANDSCAPING

Trees removed or trimmed. Stump grinder. Bucket truck. Lots cleaned. Top soil. (915) 687-4876.

CURRIE'S YARD SERVICE

Mowing, flower beds, hauling, tilling, alleys, all yard work. Tree trimming. 682-9523.

Lawn Mower

Repair DON COBB - Lawn mower repairs. Engines from 2-30 horse power. Pick-up/ delivery. 20% Off. 682-3050.

SOUTHWEST LAWN-

MOWER. Repairs on all makes/ models of small engine equipment/ go-carts. Free pick-up/ delivery. Discover/ Amex/ Visa/ Mastercard accepted. 3414 Thomason. 520-0777.

Massage - Therapeutic

RESOLVE TO Pamper yourself in 2000. Relaxing therapeutic massage in your home. Gift Certificates 8:00- 8:00 Monday- Saturday, Grace Dana RMT 694-7285.

LAURA KLAUSS- RMT.

Relaxing massage- the perfect gift! Holiday special- \$25/55 minutes; \$30/75 minutes. 2670 ClayDesta Center. 682-6885.

Moving & Storage

A-1 MOVERS- Apartments, homes or offices. Affordable, Professional, and insured. 520-6088/ 631-6703. TX DOT #0005367298.

E-Z LOCAL Moving

Fifteen years experience. Homes, apartments, offices, load/ rental trucks. TXDOT0005213718. Please call 520-5501.

Painting & Paper Hanging

REPAIR WORK- tape bed texture, painting, paper hanging. Free estimates. Wayne & Mary Dugan, 561-4700.

K & J PAINTING-

Interior/ exterior painting, drywall repair, all work and lowest prices guaranteed. 563-3178.

CALL US for your interior

painting and make-ready. R&M Home Maintenance. 687-0878.

PAINTING, Remodeling,

drywall repair. Also repair mobile homes, general carpentry, fences. Call 563-0981.

BANKSTON PAINTING

"Professional perfection for your residence" Serving Midland and Austin for 20 years. 682-4065.

Pest Control

SOUTHWESTERN A-1 Pest Control- complete insect and termite control services, bare ground weed control. Since 1954. 686-9762, 800-346-0441. www.swa1pc.com

Piano Tuning

EXPERT PIANO TUNING and repair. Call Michael Sherrod, (915) 694-3161.

Plumbing

THE BOSWORTH CO. Call us for water heaters, disposals, sewer service and all plumbing repairs. Over 40 years in Midland. (915) 683-5233, #M4325.

ALVIN'S PLUMBING

Low rated water heaters, disposals, all your plumbing needs! 24 hours. M-10357, 699-9253/ 567-9667 beeper.

ECONOMICAL PLUMBING

Electric, Remodel, New Construction. Handyman & appliance repairs. References. Guarantee. 682-3542.

PLUMBING, Heating, Air

Conditioning. 35 Years of Service! 24 Hour EMERGENCY Service. Scooter's Plumbing. 682-6984.

CLINE PLUMBING-

M-20823, free estimates, bonded/ insured. Mention ad- get 10% off service call. 520-9133.

OMEGA SEWER & Drain