



SPORTS

Cowboys lose

Emmitt Smith becomes NFL's career leading rusher in the playoffs, but Dallas loses 27-10 to the Minnesota Vikings./1C



MONDAY MORNING

Person to Person

Rhonda McCarty, a mom, Sunday school teacher and director of COM's water therapy program, also finds time to visit the West Bank./1B

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City Council may pick city manager Tuesday

Bids for Airpark FBO are due Friday

By Ian Heald
Staff Writer

Proposals to run the fixed-base operations (FBO) at Midland Airpark are due Friday, said Deputy City Manager Glen Hackler.

An FBO operator provides fueling and other aircraft services at the airport, he said.

Director of Airports Ken Day met Thursday with prospective bidders. He said the meeting at Midland International Airport

was held to discuss the logistics of the Request For Proposal guidelines to run Airpark's FBO.

"You want to make sure that bidders have time to respond, which is ultimately to the city's advantage," said Hackler.

Day has instructed bidders to submit by Tuesday written questions or requests for clarification. Hackler said that if there is an overabundance of requests for change, Friday's date for bid sub-

Please see AIRPORT/2A

By Ian Heald
Staff Writer

The Midland City Council will convene at 8 a.m. Tuesday in executive session to discuss four candidates for city manager before beginning the regular council meeting at 10 a.m.

Four candidates interviewed for the position last Tuesday: Deputy City Manager Glen Hackler, Deputy City Manager Rick Menchaca, Hereford City Manager Chester Nolen and local attorney Hal Kempf. Councilman Julius Brooks has said Hackler and Menchaca are the best candidates of the four — "no comparison."

If, following executive session, council members are not ready to vote on the next city manager, the agenda item to do so will be deferred to the Jan. 25 City Council meeting.

Other agenda items:

■ The council will vote to begin accepting bids from private contractors to do begin Phase I of improvements on the northwest sewer line.

Director of Engineering and Development Marcus Johnston said the city has been planning this project for the past year. "They'll start as far north as A Street, go back to the northwest about 8,000 feet along Midland Draw," said Johnston.

The council will also hold a public hearing to establish a pro-rata fee for the development of the northwest sewer line. To build the sewer line it will cut through various undeveloped pieces of property. If one were to develop their property they would have to pay for a sewer line such as this. But, because the city sees it as essential, the city will build the line and once those properties with access to the line are developed, owners will have to pay the city the cost, per acre, for access to it.

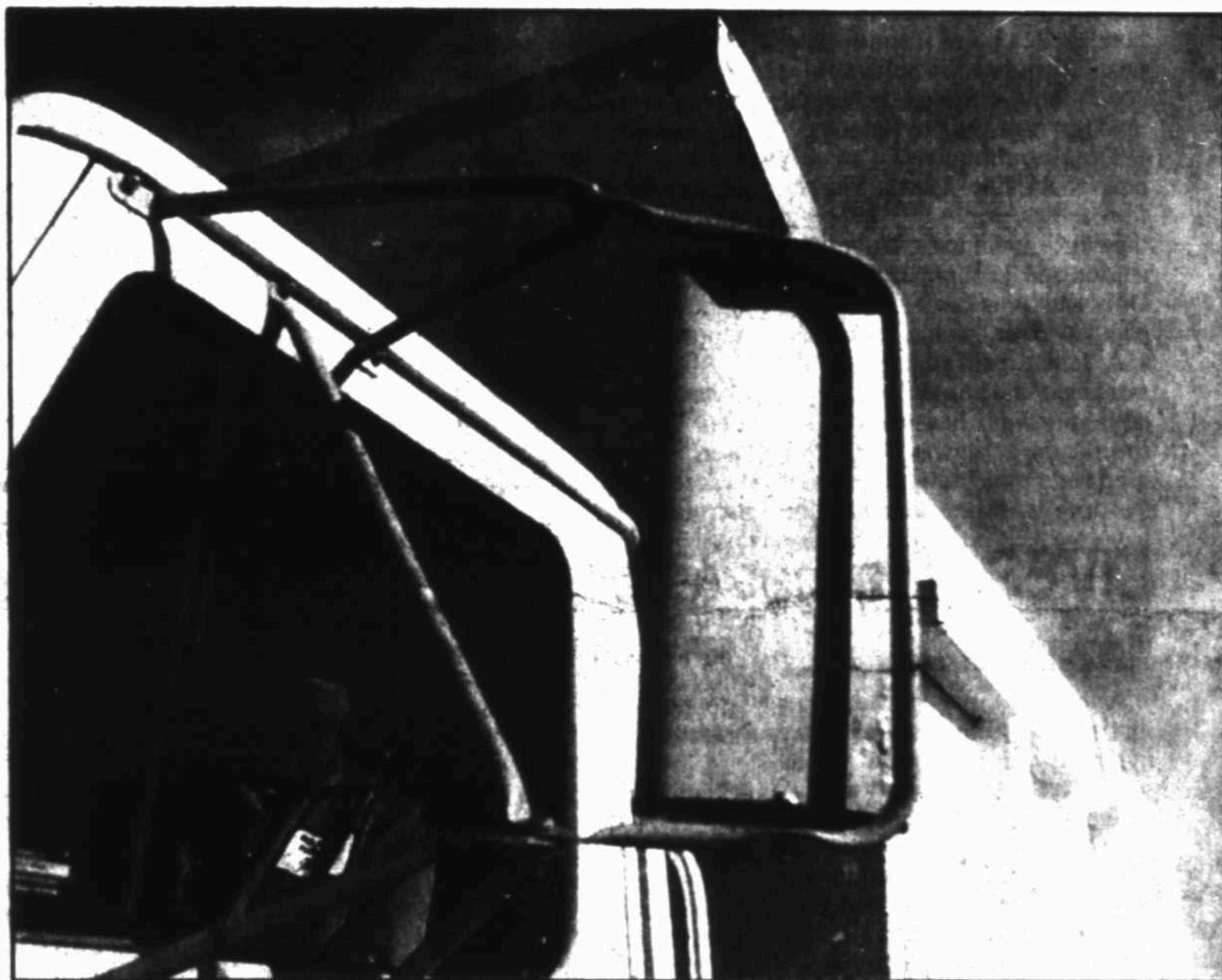
■ The council will have a second reading on a zoning change request by Peter Kok, who owns 17 acres on the northwest side of Midland, where he placed a manufactured home without the proper zoning change. Kok, whose property is in city limits, is being opposed by his neighbors, who live in the county. They said presence of a man-

Please see COUNCIL/2A

A new lease on life

Joe Atyla sits in his truck, which is being filled with dirt on County Road 146 south of Midland. Atyla, a Midland County employee, is back on the job after a kidney transplant.

U. Frank Williams Jr.
Reporter-Telegram



Organ donations help recipients lead normal lives

By Jennifer Cherry

Close to 1,000 Texans had kidney transplants in 1998; thousands more are on waiting lists, according to Enstage Renal Disease Network, the group that oversees dialysis and organ donation.

Although there is a high demand for organ transplants, there is little support for patients and their families.

"The biggest problem is finding someone to talk to," said Midlander Windell Hinsley, who received a kidney transplant on June 11, 1999.

Hinsley's nightmare started almost three years ago, just before his 50th birthday, when he was diagnosed as having a polycystic kidney. Cysts were growing on both of his kidneys and had to be removed. At the

time, Hinsley's only alternative was dialysis until he could get a kidney transplant.

The current waiting time for a transplant from a cadaver is two to 2 1/2 years, said Danyelle Hannum, transplant coordinator at Midland Dialysis Center.

In most cases, patients have a choice between hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis.

Hinsley, a father of three, decided to undergo hemodialysis, in which the patient's blood is taken from an artery and filtered through the dialysis machine. Hinsley had to endure three sessions a week, up to four hours at a time.

He did this for three years, until a compatible kidney could be found.

A patient waits two to three months before a board of medical professionals reviews the request for a transplant.

This board evaluates the patient's application and evaluates the likelihood of success.

High-risk patients have six months to lower the risk and are evaluated again.

Such evaluations include looking at the patient's past compliance with treatments, the person's distribution of weight and status of his heart.

Once a kidney is found, extensive tests are run to see if the other person's kidney is compatible, Ms. Hannum said. In most cases, a transplant is more successful if the organ is taken from a living blood relative. However, this was not the case for Hinsley.

Hinsley's wife, Sally, pleaded with her husband for three years to let her be tested. However, according to Ms. Hannum and Barbara Vaughn, administrator at Midland Dialysis Center, a

wife's blood and tissue types matching her husband's was almost unheard of.

"It was about as near perfect a match as you could get," Hinsley said.

Mrs. Hinsley said her husband was not prepared to hear that his wife was the perfect donor.

"He had it set in his mind that it would not work, and I think he even hoped that it would not work," Mrs. Hinsley said.

"I can't really describe why, but there was never any doubt," she said. "I just decided (Windell) had waited long enough. It never entered my mind that we were not compatible."

Hinsley was able to go home six weeks after the operation and his wife recovered fully after three months.

Please see LIVES/2A

Controversy over doctor may have fueled interest in Martin primaries

By Rick McLaughlin
Staff Writer

STANTON — Interest in local political races in Martin County seems to have heated up recently and some are saying that the controversy over a doctor whose contract with the local hospital was terminated has something to do with it.

Others, however, are not so sure.

The doctor is Pablo Teveni, who was fired Oct. 21 by the hospital district board, ostensibly for using "foul language" with a pharmacist over a prescription disagreement. Martin County Hospital is administered by a board of directors appointed by the Commissioners' Court.

"I think that's kind of quieting down," said Martin County Democratic Party Chairman George Costlow. "The hospital board asked for and got the contract (of Teveni) canceled and asked him to vacate the premises. He was supposed to be out by the end of the month and is planning to open offices on the Lamesa Highway," said Costlow.

Either way, there seems to be no shortage of people willing to serve in public office in Martin County, but the interest in the job of Martin County Commissioner Doyle Hale of Precinct 1 has drawn extra attention.

In addition, the Precinct 3 commissioner, Eldon Welch, is not running, but for reasons that seem unrelated to the controversy over Teveni's firing.

Precinct 1 of the Commissioners' Court has one incumbent and five challengers running for the March 14 primary — five Democrats are seeking that party's nod and one Republican is seeking the GOP nomination. The Democrats include incumbent Doyle Hale, Larry Simer, Nelda Snodgrass, Walter Taylor and Sonny Garza.

Republican Kyle Averitt is the lone Republican seeking the GOP nod for the Precinct 1 post.

Incumbent Hale will not talk about the Teveni affair, even though he apparently has strong feelings about it. "I just wouldn't comment on it at this time," he said Saturday. "I just wouldn't."

Hale says his main concern is what he calls "my No. 1 job," his position of county commissioner. Hale is finishing his first term and seeking his second four-year term.

Averitt is less circumspect about the breaking of

Please see RACES/2A

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TODAY

Sunny skies with
high 70-75.
Weather on 2A



A Chechen refugee walks away from a border checkpoint at Srebrenica after soldiers refused to let him cross into Chechnya. Russian forces encountered resistance in Grozny./2A

Off the wire

■ The Postal Service prepares to seek increased rates/4A
■ Israel-Syria negotiations near an end without even a tentative agreement/7A

Austin factory produces world-renowned guitars

By Connie Mabin
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Buzzing. Humming. Squealing. Sanding.

For Bill Collings, some of the sweetest music comes from the machines in his guitar factory.

The instruments are world-renowned — Paul Simon, Lyle Lovett, Joni Mitchell and Keith Richards are among those who own a Collings original at prices of \$14,500 or more.

But for Collings, as much of the magic is in the machines as in the music.

"Tools are artistic," he says, clenching the wooden shell of what soon will be a mandolin. Though smooth as silk and beautifully cut, he insists it's not good enough.

To Collings, a strict perfectionist, there is still a tool to be

designed, a program to be written, a machine to be found to make it even better.

"It's still art, but rather than brushes, you use iron," he says.

Covered in dust and wood shavings, Collings, 51, wearing rainbow frame glasses, blue jeans and a Department of Corrections T-shirt, shows off his artist's studio: a 9,600-square-foot factory in Austin's Oak Hill. He says a combination of recklessness, a love for motorcycles and a lack of interest in medical school led him to Texas from Cleveland in the mid-1970s.

"I just love good stuff," he says. "I don't care if it's a piece of sheet metal or a guitar. I love good, quality stuff."

Good, quality stuff is exactly what Collings Guitars are known for. Each instrument must pass rigorous inspections before being

sold. Those with the slightest imperfection are sold at a discount. Some are never sold at all.

Twenty-seven employees will use a combination of Collings' machines and old-fashioned craftsmanship to make 1,000 guitars this year. The business began as a repair shop in the late 1980s.

General Manager Steve McCreary, who along with Collings, inspects every inch of every instrument for perfection before its shipped, says it's the combination of heart and hard work that makes the guitars special.

"We have a good reputation," he says. "We work at it very, very hard. It's the heart that drives it. We're building guitars for people who have a lot of heart. We're in a building of people who have a lot of heart, too."



AP Photo
Guitars made by Bill Collings' Austin factory have belonged to, among others, Paul Simon, Lyle Lovett, Joni Mitchell and Keith Richards. A Collings original may sell for \$14,500 or more.

Russian forces encounter stiff resistance in Grozny

MOZDOK, Russia (AP) — Russian helicopter gunships rocketed rebel positions in Chechnya's capital on Sunday as heavy street fighting resumed after a brief lull during Orthodox Christmas.

Russian troops were continuing their push to take Grozny, the capital. But in yet another sign that Russia is still far from victory, rebel forces launched new attacks outside Grozny, assaulting federal troops in three towns and ambushing a Russian troop column.

After steadily retreating over the last few months, the rebels have gone on the offensive in the past week in Grozny and other parts of the breakaway republic.

The Defense Ministry said its forces encountered stiff resistance from well-armed Chechen fighters in Grozny but insisted that the rebels were suffering high casualties. Helicopter gunships supported ground attacks by rocketing rebel posi-

tions in the northwestern Staropromyslovsky district.

The fighting came a day after a relatively quiet Saturday, when the holiday and heavy fog kept hostilities to a minimum.

The military said Sunday that it was still refraining from bombardment of central Grozny, where many civilians are hiding — and where federal troops are trying to overrun rebel positions. But artillery continued to support ground units trying to advance deep into Grozny, and the ban on air bombardment did not appear to extend beyond the center of the city.

Commanders announced a pause in bombing in Grozny's center on Friday, saying it was meant to mark the Orthodox Christmas holiday and to allow the thousands of civilians trapped in Grozny to flee.

Only about 400 people left the capital on Friday and Saturday, the ITAR-Tass news agency quoted the Ministry for Emergency Situations as saying. Some 20,000 people are believed to still be in the city, the ministry said.

Acting Russian President Vladimir Putin will allow international aid into Chechnya to help civilians weathering the conflict, Finland's prime minister said Sunday.

Paavo Lipponen, speaking at a summit of northern European leaders in Kiel, Germany, said Putin wrote him to say he would take the action — fulfilling one of the West's key demands to ending the conflict.

A member of the Finnish delegation at the summit, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Putin named the United Nations, the European Union and the International Committee of the Red

Cross as organizations that would be allowed to provide the aid. The supplies would have to be delivered by Russians, Putin wrote, but the aid groups could observe.

Russia's drive to occupy Chechnya has stalled in the face of bitter rebel resistance in Grozny and the southern mountains. The top two Russian combat commanders were removed last week after repeated predictions that Grozny was about to fall did not prove accurate.

In the town of Argun, nine miles east of Grozny, a 300-strong rebel band attacked Russian forces Sunday. The militants blockaded several dozen Russian officers and soldiers inside the local military headquarters and an unknown number of servicemen in the railway station, said Lt. Col. Konstantin Kukhareenko, a military spokesman. Fighting there was continuing Sunday evening.

Rebels also launched a surprise attack on a Russian post between Argun and the town of Shali, Kukhareenko said. They pulled up to the checkpoint in a bus and opened fire on the troops, killing two and wounding another.

Russian helicopters and armored vehicles were rushed to the area, and the battle lasted for some two hours, Kukhareenko said. The Russians liberated the post. The rebels' fate was not known.

Chechen presidential spokesman Selim Abdulmuslimov told the Interfax news agency that about 500 rebels took over the center of Shali on Sunday, raising a green Chechen flag, and that federal troops were fleeing. But the military denied the claim, and an Associated Press reporter did not notice any unusual military movements outside the town on Sunday.

Most of Israeli-Syrian frontier remains tangle of lines

KIBBUTZ SNIR, Israel (AP) — The future of this communal farm at the foot of the Golan Heights is as blurred as the frontiers running through its backyard.

By Israel's measure, a 1923 colonial border, Snir is part of Israel proper. By Syria's yardstick — entitlement to all the land it controlled on the eve of the 1967 Mideast war — the community is in Syrian territory.

Even if Israel gives back all of the Golan — a likely, though not inevitable result of the current peace talks in West Virginia — negotiators will have to resolve many more land disputes, like the one over Snir, as they draw a new 47-mile border.

The conflicting claims, though rooted in history, are often based on something as fleeting as the range of a rifle or the duration of a planting season.

The ambiguities go back to the Mideast's colonial past when, after World War I, Britain took control of Palestine and France ruled what is now Syria.

In 1922-23 border negotiations, Britain's main motive was to provide sufficient water to Palestine. The new frontier gave French-ruled

Related story/7A

Syria the Golan Heights, but kept it away from the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan River.

The 1923 border only held until the 1948 Mideast war, during which time Syrian troops had seized 26 square miles in three areas west of the line from Israel. In 1949, Israel and Syria agreed to demilitarize the three enclaves. Sovereignty was to be determined in future peace talks.

Israel, however, quickly began asserting control over the disputed lands, establishing four new communal farms and encouraging the cultivation of land. In the demilitarized zone north of the Sea of Galilee, troops paved a patrol road near the 1923 border, reinforcing it with a tall wall of eucalyptus trees that provided cover from Syrian gunners.

In other areas, Syrians had the upper hand. El Hama, an Israeli enclave along the Yarmouk River, quickly proved indefensible. In 1951, an Israeli hotel at El Hama, today known as Hamat Gader, was taken over by Syrian troops who were only forced out in the 1967

war when Israel captured the Golan in a six-day blitz.

Until then, border skirmishes were frequent.

At Kibbutz Tel Katzir, perched on a hill in the southernmost of the disputed zones, bunkers dug into the earth and waist-deep trenches with rusted machine gun tripods still bear witness to the fighting.

Syrian gunners on the Golan cliffs would fire to chase away farmers who worked the land below, under armed guard or riding in armored tractors.

Syrian peace negotiators demand that Israel hand back every inch Syria controlled on June 4, 1967, the eve of the war.

However, the lines are murky, especially in the old demilitarized zones, said Amnon Kartin, a geographer at Tel Aviv University.

For example, before 1967, Syrian soldiers in the Golan would take potshots at Israeli fishermen on the Sea of Galilee and deny them access to half the eastern shore.

Syria now argues that by keeping the Israelis away, it controlled a large part of the shore, starting north of the fishing village of Ein Gev, even though its troops never left the Syrian side of the border

that runs 11 yards uphill from the waterline.

Anticipating Syrian demands to shift the new border closer to the shore, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak has said he will never give the Syrians access to the lake.

If Israel agrees to withdraw to the 1923 border, more than half of the new frontier would remain in dispute, with Syria seeking some lands to the west.

Guyana says Texas company can build rocket assembly plant, space port

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — Guyana's government says a Texas aerospace company obstructed by opposition in the U.S. Virgin Islands can build both a rocket assembly plant and a space port in the English-speaking South American country.

The invitation Sunday, made by the head of the government negotiating team, Edgar Heyliger, came despite widespread local opposition to a Guyana government proposal to sell the Frisco-based Beal Aerospace Technologies 26,000 acres of land and lease it 76,000 more acres as a buffer zone in the remote northwest near the border with Venezuela.

Beal has been negotiating to build a space port there. Heyliger told The Associated Press they could also build a rocket assembly plant.

"Guyana is open to the idea, I believe," Heyliger said. "The company has not come out and openly said it wants to do both, but maybe that is why they have been asking for such a large plot of land."

Beal announced last week it had canceled plans to build its assembly plant and headquarters on the U.S. Virgin Island of St. Croix, where a court ruled in December that a proposed land swap with the government was illegal.

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Post office preparing to launch process that would raise rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Postal Service is getting ready to kick off the complex process of raising rates, a step that could mean higher stamp prices early next year.

Major mailers have been on edge in recent months, anticipating the action many expect to be announced Tuesday at the monthly meeting of the Postal Service's board of governors.

"I think it's about 95 percent likely that the governors will approve a filing," said Neal Denton of the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers.

"They're going to do it," agreed Gene Del Polito, president of the American Association for Postal Commerce, formerly the Advertising Mail Marketing Association.

Officials of the Mailers Council and Direct Marketing Association also said they expected action soon.

Postal officials were not discussing how much of an increase would be sought — or even if a request would be filed — stressing that the decision is up to the governing board.

Two of the post office's main competitors — Federal Express and United Parcel Service — recently announced rate increases to take effect in February, citing rising costs.

Just last month, postal officials declared their rates would not be raised in 2000, noting the \$363 million profit for fiscal 1999.

Starting the complex process of raising rates now is not likely to break that promise.

When the post office wants to raise prices, it has to seek permission from the independent Postal Rate Commission and provide detailed supporting documents. The commission then holds hearings and issues its decision; the process takes 10 months.

Assuming commission approval, the matter would go before the postal governors in November or December.

They traditionally have been reluctant to impose higher rates before the Christmas mailing rush, so any rate rise is unlikely before early 2001.

The current 33-cent First Class rate took effect Jan. 10, 1999, a 1-cent increase. Speculation in the mailing industry has focused on a probable First Class increase of 1- or 2-cents this time.

Postmaster General William Henderson recently told The Denver Post he would not recommend a rate increase larger than inflation, which would suggest a 1-cent boost.

The Postal Service is a semi-independent federal agency. It does not receive tax money for operations and is expected to make enough money to break even over time. The agency still carries a \$3.5 billion accumulated deficit, built up over many years of operating in the red.

While the First Class rate for cards and letters is the most visible change for the public, rates also would rise for most other types of mail. "One of the things a rate case is, is civil war," Denton said of the hearing process before the Postal Rate Commission. "With each different mailing interest trying to carve up the pie as to who should pay what in increased rates."

Denton said he especially was concerned about the impact on small, community-based nonprofit organizations that need low rates to raise funds for their activities. He speculated that increases for some small nonprofits could reach 15 percent.

Del Polito said it is his "expectation that flat size mail is probably going to come in for a disproportionately larger increase, which means publications are going to be hurting."

"This is not a very propitious time for an increase," Del Polito said, citing the growth in on-line selling and development of the Internet, offering alternatives to the Postal Service.

GOP presidential candidates address youth forum

GOFFSTOWN, N.H. (AP) — Old-fashioned political energy hung in the air Sunday as some of the Republican candidates for president took turns speaking to politically interested youth about the country's future and the government they soon will inherit.

High school and college students gathered at the Dana Center on the campus of Saint Anselm College squealed upon seeing the contenders and rushed to grab bumper stickers and other campaign collectables. Free-wheeling debates also broke out in the auditorium's lobby as individuals argued over who was the better candidate.

"We've had a pretty good past. We have to give you a good future," Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah told the audience in remarks kicking off the event.

He said part of the way to guarantee that is by selecting judges who have "good health, high morals and good integrity."

Arizona Sen. John McCain stressed his signature issue — campaign finance reform. He also fielded questions on education, the economy, foreign policy and the environment.

Asked about the handover of the Panama Canal, McCain said it was a mistake. He also said he would be open to the option "to dig another canal somewhere," but acknowledged in a news conference afterward that costly effort "would be nearly impossible."

Sample 2000

Texas Gov. George W. Bush, asked how he would handle the ethical questions sure to arise from the mapping of the human genome, said he would convene a panel of top scientists, lawyers and ethicists.

"I worry about cloning. I worry about people taking the place of God," he said. "There are going to be some very thorny issues ahead."

Asked whether sex education should be federally funded, publisher Steve Forbes spoke of his larger approach to education.

"The best education is letting parents decide the best schools to send their children," he said. "I would trust parents not politics. Let them choose a school and a program that's right for you."

Each candidate was given 20 minutes to

speak and to answer questions on a stage sparsely adorned with a stool and an Oriental rug. The two other GOP contenders, radio talk show host Alan Keyes and conservative activist Gary Bauer, did not appear.

Meanwhile, plans for Democratic candidates Vice President Al Gore and former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley to appear via satellite were scrapped.

About 500 students attended the gathering organized by the Close Up Foundation, the National Association of Secretary of States, the Library and Archives of New Hampshire Political Tradition and the state Republican and Democratic parties.

Republicans capped their speeches with appearances at a GOP dinner at the University of New Hampshire in nearby Durham, as the candidates sharpened their focus on the state in advance of its Feb. 1 primaries some three weeks away.

Roughly 60 teens from this town just west of Manchester, N.H., volunteered to work as ushers. Some members of the Goffstown High School Youth and Government Club agreed that education was the most important issue for the next president to address.

"We are teaching the future leaders of our country," said 16-year-old Kristin Condon. "By investing in education, we're investing in the future of America."

Bradley lashes out at Gore's 'record of insensitivity'

JOHNSTON, Iowa (AP) — Under fire from Democratic rival Al Gore on farm issues, Bill Bradley lashed back Sunday at Gore's "record of insensitivity" toward rural America and said the Clinton-Gore administration "doesn't have a leg to stand on" on the subject.

Gabbing with reporters as his bus caravan rolled through southwestern Iowa, Bradley also agreed to nudge the privacy issue he'd long drawn in this campaign and answer "no" when asked if he'd ever suffered depression or another kind of mental illness.

"No. I can certainly tell you that," Bradley said. With two weeks remaining until the Iowa caucuses, Gore has tried to paint Bradley as urban-oriented and insensitive to the rural farm economy in the Midwest.

Bradley offered his most spirited defense on the issue Sunday during a round of talk-show and bus-stop appearances, and sought to turn the tables on Vice President Gore by arguing that the

farm economy went sour while Gore was in the White House.

"If you want to see people who haven't been sensitive to the needs of Iowa, you just look at this administration, look at what's happened to family farms in Iowa over the last seven years," Bradley said on Iowa Public Television's "Iowa Press." "Do you think that there's any credibility left with an administration that's failed to do anything?"

Gore hammered Bradley on farm issues in a debate Saturday, noting that the former New Jersey senator had voted against emergency aid to farmers suffering from flooding in the Midwest, and against subsidies for ethanol, a fuel derived from corn.

Bradley was still smarting Sunday from the charges.

"The fact of the matter is, they have disregarded family farms, it's ridiculous," he said of the administration. "The reality is if you're going to look at the past I think you find a record of insensitivity to the needs of family

farmers by Al Gore and the administration."

Gore aides quickly fired back, noting Gore has offered a debate specifically on farm issues. "If Senator Bradley is so interested in agriculture, why won't he debate Al Gore on agriculture?" asked spokesman Chris Lehane.

While conceding that he had voted against some farm programs like subsidies for ethanol, Bradley noted that the Freedom to Farm Act became law while Gore was in the White House and

that he's largely been silent about its shortcomings.

He said that leaves Gore partly responsible for the sour farm economy. What Bradley didn't say was that he voted for the Farm Act in 1996 before retiring from the Senate.

The 1996 farm law overhauled farm subsidy programs dating back to the Great Depression. The federal government still subsidizes farmers, but no longer guarantees a minimum price for their crops.

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Dr. Jeff Kapp is one of the leading aesthetic dentists in the country. He is a graduate and clinical instructor of the NY's University Rosenthal Institute of Aesthetic Dentistry, member of the academies of Cosmetic, Implant and General Dentistry. His office is located at 3000 North Garfield, Suite 250. The phone number is 570-7554.

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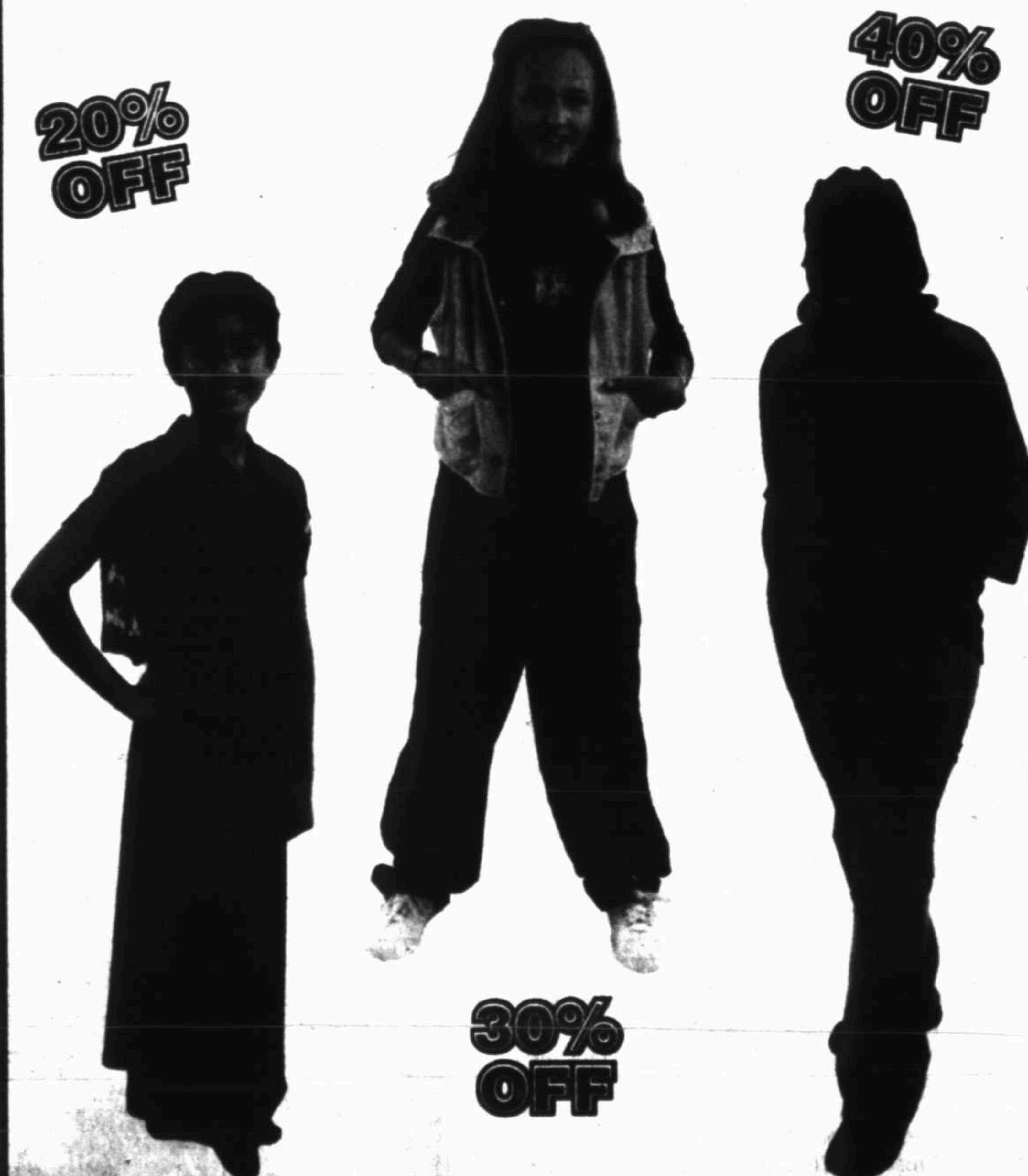
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Sins of the past keep strangling Bosnia's hope

The sins of the past can be difficult — and in some cases, impossible — to overcome. Take for example, the situation now existing in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The 1995 Dayton agreement that ended the bloody struggle specified that the United States and other major powers would provide \$5.1 billion over four years to rebuild the country and give Bosnia-Herzegovina a chance to develop a sustainable market economy.

But now Bosnian officials say that economic collapse is possible because there is no framework for foreign investment. Even more to its detriment is the country's history of rampant corruption and communist-style bureaucracies that slow progress.

Most economists say there is not enough capital inside the country to revive the economy without substantial foreign funds. What money there is, they say, is believed to be controlled by politically connected criminal syndicates that emerged during the 1992-1995 war.

The reality, of course, is that at the time Bosnia needs the massive support that private investment could provide for its quest for a market economy, there is no confidence in the private sector to bolster such investment. That's underscored by the fact that between 1996 and 1998, about \$2 billion flowed into the country but only 2.3 percent of that was in the form of private funds, and those were invested in the manufacturing industries — the only sector that could guarantee an almost certain return.

One indication of the fear that haunts Bosnia today was echoed in the words of an American businessman who, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said it took him nearly four months simply to register his private company. Change comes slowly to places such as Bosnia where Computer Age speed is mostly still a concept.

It is a tragedy and a reality of life. The sins of the past continue to control existence in Bosnia, quietly strangling its hope for a new day.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Monday, Jan. 10, the 10th day of 2000. There are 356 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history:

On Jan. 10, 1776, Thomas Paine published his influential pamphlet, "Common Sense."

On this date:

In 1861, Florida seceded from the Union.

In 1870, John D. Rockefeller incorporated Standard Oil.

In 1920, the League of Nations was established as the Treaty of Versailles went into effect.

In 1928, the Soviet Union ordered the exile of Leon Trotsky.

In 1946, the first General Assembly of the United Nations convened in London.

In 1957, Harold Macmillan became prime minister of Britain, following the resignation of Anthony Eden.

In 1967, Massachusetts Republican Edward W. Brooke, the first black elected to the U.S. Senate by popular vote, took his seat.

In 1980, former AFL-CIO president George Meany died in Washington, D.C., at age 85.

In 1984, the United States and the Vatican established full diplomatic relations for the first time in more than a century.

Ten years ago: Chinese Premier Li Peng lifted Beijing's 7-month-old martial law and said that by crushing pro-democracy protests the army had saved China from "the abyss of misery."

Five years ago: Russia announced a 48-hour truce in breakaway Chechnya, but the cease-fire fell apart after a few hours. President Clinton declared flood-stricken areas of California major disaster areas.

One year ago: Republicans and Democrats disagreed over whether to call witnesses in President Clinton's impeachment trial, with Republicans pressing to hear testimony from Monica Lewinsky and others, and Democrats saying such testimony could unnecessarily prolong the proceedings.

JACK ANDERSON & DOUGLAS COHN

What Americans really need is tax-limit law

WASHINGTON — We have had term limits for presidents for nearly 50 years. Term limits for state legislators have become law in several states. Term limits for members of Congress are not far off. But what America really needs is a different sort of limit. America needs a tax-limit law.

"No taxation without representation" was a battle cry of the American Revolution, but if those nation builders could see the taxation with representation Americans endure today, they would be singing out a different song. In 200 short years, Americans have managed to elect people to public office who thereafter contrived by every devious means imaginable to reward the public's confidence with ever-higher taxes, to the point that the average American today is paying 40 percent of his or her income in federal, state and local taxes.

Divide and conquer has been the favorite technique. Social Security was and remains a good idea, but instead of funding it from general revenues, our elected representatives dreamed up a truly imaginative charade: First, they split the

tax between employee and employer — apparently fooling only the employees in the process because every employer in America knows that money paid on behalf of an employee is the same as paying it to the employee. In short, the tax was not split; the employee pays it all.

Second, our public servants placed a cap on the amount of income that would be subject to Social Security taxes. In reality, it became the most regressive tax in our history, the graduated tax in reverse: The more you make, the less percentage you pay.

Whereas Social Security taxes divide employer and employee to conquer, other taxes are devised to split other groups. Tax restaurant food sales to raise revenue to pay teacher's salaries, we are told. Then there is the free-lunch tax: Tax the tourists — by taxing hotel income — to increase general revenues, even if such taxing decreases tourist business. In fact, this whole concept was given legitimacy by the budget agreement worked out between the Bush administration and Congress. They even made it sound reasonable: No new programs without new revenues to fund them. Yet, what this does is spawn a truly divisive environment in which we tax Peter to pay Paul.

A friend who is the supervisor of a county declared this whole concept. He said he utter-

ly opposes the idea of earmarked taxation. In his county, all revenues go into the general fund.

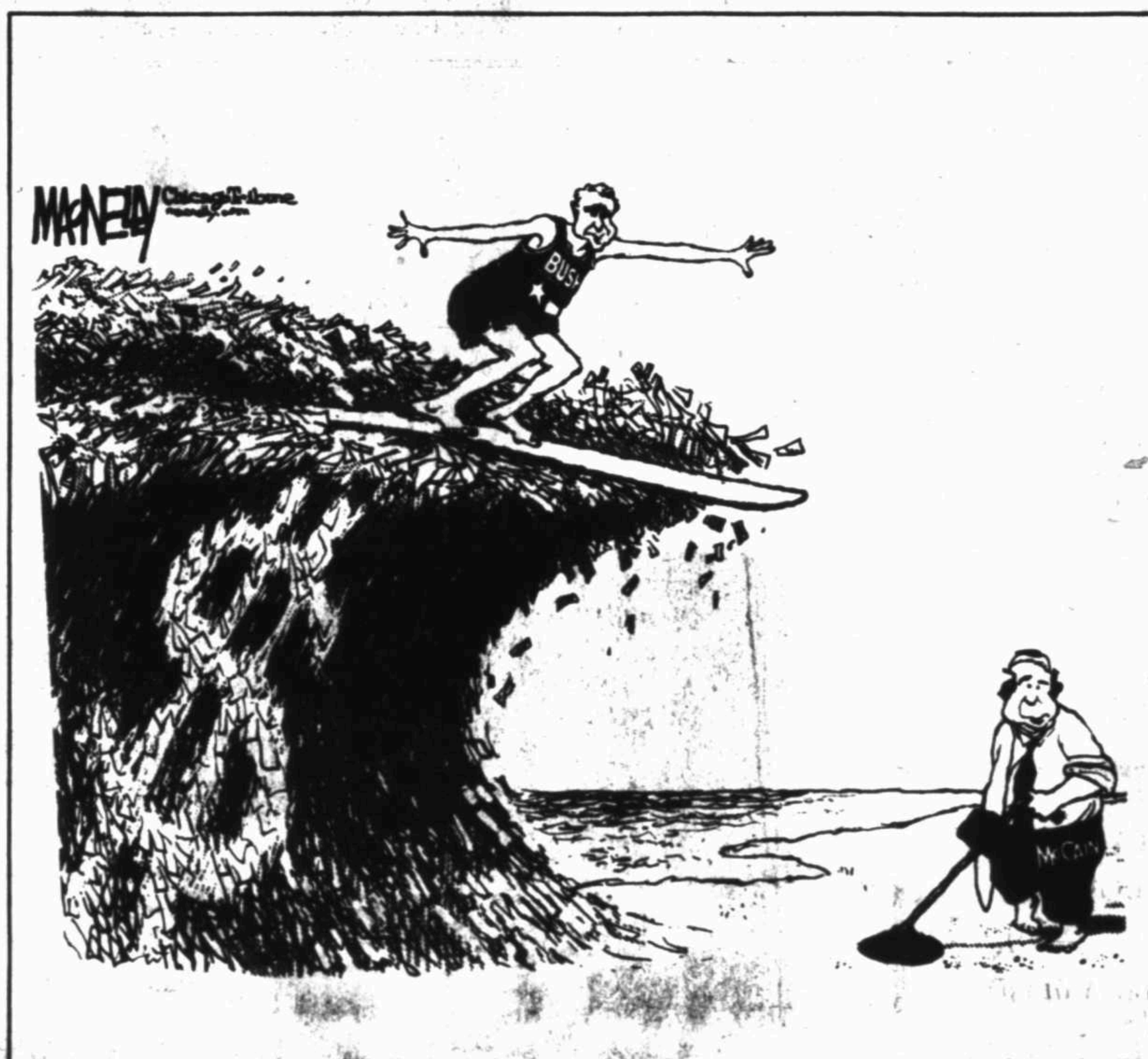
What is called for is a tax-limit law (it may require a tax-limit amendment to the Constitution). It could work something like this: Tax levels ranging from 15 percent to 35 percent of an individual's income would be set. Take the 25-percent level, for example. If the total federal take from this individual were set at 15 percent, then 10 percent would be the maximum tax that state and local authorities combined could take.

But how is this 10-percent-of-income limit established when state and local bodies primarily rely upon nonincome taxes such as property and sales taxes? The answer comes in a word: statistics. Statistics will show how much the average person in a given income bracket pays in non-income taxes, and that figure would be used to prevent state and local authorities from exceeding the tax limitations set by the tax-limit law.

No longer could we be fooled. If it looks like a tax and quacks like a tax, it is a tax — and comes under the limits of the tax-limit law.

Political correspondent Eleanor Clift contributed to this story.

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



DAN RATHER

If we can put a man on the moon ...

Don't know how it is where you are, but up here in the Big Cave — New York City — the flu is the talk of the town.

Every other person with whom you talk either has it or knows somebody who does. And this year's flu bug seems to be especially tough, hard-hitting and long-lasting.

Which raises the question: If the brilliant people in American medicine can repair brains, eyes and hearts, if they can transplant whole organs, if they can wipe out malaria and polio, why can't they come up with something to rid us of the flu? Or at least something that will effectively treat it?

We've just spent hundreds of billions of dollars whipping the Y2K bug. If anybody is spending anywhere near that kind of money or making anywhere near that kind of effort to beat the flu, it's a well-kept secret.

Think about it. How proud we are at this millennial juncture with all of our scientific and technological know-how. We can put men on the moon and create babies in petri dishes, but when it comes to simple, bad old flu, we are, for the most part, helpless.

Going to tell me about flu shots? Well, let's consider them for a second: Sometimes, with some people, they work. But let's face it, even the most so-called "advanced" ones are a hit-and-miss proposition.

First of all, they don't work on everybody. Not nearly. Second, even with people on whom they do work, they don't always work well — giving limited but not complete immunity, and for only a season. Third, they only protect against a specific strain. If you get a different flu bug, you're shot — shot or not shot.



Rather

Some shots. Don't get me wrong. I take the shots. And, best that I can figure out, they are to be recommended. They DO work some of the time on most people. For most, a shot tends to at least make the flu less severe than usual.

But since when are we satisfied with halfway measures? This is 21st-century America.

When our leadership mounts our national will, when we get determined to solve a problem, when we decide that no amount of effort or money is too much, we generally win.

Again, Y2K and the moonshots come to mind. So does the Gulf War.

So why haven't we done this when it comes to the flu? Don't big-time medical schools and research laboratories and the best of our hotshot doctors think it's important enough?

Maybe they need to be reminded that old Hippocrates himself, back in the fifth century B.C., knew the flu and knew it was big trouble. And that, as recently as 1918, a flu pandemic killed more than 20 million people around the world. Twenty million! More than half a million in the United States alone.

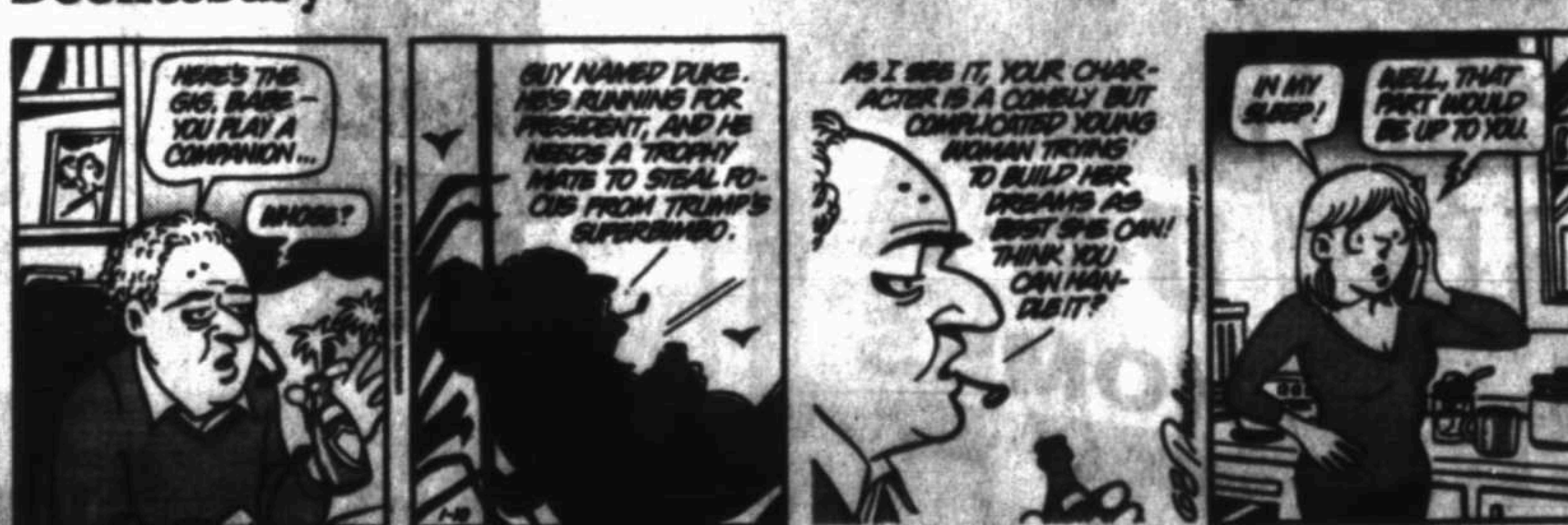
Can't happen again? Don't bet the trailer money on that. What we need is somebody to saddle up and get after the flu, make it the same kind of high priority that the computer bug was.

Anybody who does that successfully could get elected president. Or, in the case of a doctor or scientist, win the Nobel Prize and lead the pantheon of 21st-century heroes.

Now, does all this sound a bit desperate and bitter to you? Well, maybe it is. All the help in my office is currently out with the dagdum flu, and, darn it, I think I might be coming down with a case myself. So excuse my ranting if you must. And while you're at it, please don't sneeze in here.

Dan Rather's column is distributed by King Features Syndicate.

Doonesbury



BY GARRY TRUDEAU

CHARLEY REESE

'Choose life' plates help shine light on abortion supporters

In Florida, the Legislature authorized a specialty license tag that simply states "Choose Life." The pro-abortion folks went into orbit, filed suit and unloaded all of their politically correct venom.

Nothing tells the truth about the pro-abortion crowd more vividly than the malicious reaction to a license plate that states "Choose Life." It's exactly what one would expect from people who believe that children in the womb can be killed if the children are inconvenient. As someone said, the Legislature ought to be fair and allow them a special license plate that states "Choose Death."

Of all the obnoxious people who support abortion, none are more obnoxious than those who, while not personally involved, fervently support abortion so that there won't be a lot of what they obviously consider to be inferior people cluttering up the place and spoiling their "quality of life." Talk about a Nazi mentality.

The whole pro-abortion/birth-control movement was begun by white, elitist racists who wanted to limit the numbers of people of color. Nowhere is there greater evidence of the price of ignorance than the fact that some civil-rights organizations honor Margaret Sanger, one of pro-abortion/birth-control movement founders who was racist to the core.

The second-most obnoxious people on the pro-abortion side are those politicians who say, "I personally don't believe in abortion, but I think others should have the right to choose." That, of course, is the precise equivalent of a politician saying, "I personally don't approve of homicide, but I think others have a right to choose it."

You cannot say, with any logic or sanity, that it is wrong to kill people unless they are babies still in the womb. There is one, and only one, justification for taking a human life, and that is in defense of another human life. To kill people for the sake of convenience is the ultimate in human corruption, more vile even than killing people for money or for political reasons.

Who says that human beings must be convenient before they can claim their God-given right to life? Well, the pro-abortion crowd, of course. Now you might get the idea that I don't like the pro-abortion crowd. I don't. I despise them. They are immoral supporters of a killing industry. In my view, they are totally lacking in any redeeming qualities. I cannot imagine a man or woman sinking any lower in moral slime than to be an apologist for the abortion business.

If we had some political leaders with any backbone, they would simply outlaw abortion and ignore the Supreme Court ruling. Modern Americans have been brainwashed into believing that Supreme Court rulings are the law of the land. They are not. They are merely decisions related to particular disputes.

Moreover, no federal court, including the Supreme Court, has any power at all to enforce its decisions. If the decisions are to be enforced, they must be enforced by the executive branch. President Andrew Jackson ignored a Supreme Court ruling. He simply went ahead and enforced the law that the Supreme Court had said was unconstitutional. "It's Mr. Marshall's ruling, let him enforce it," Jackson said. He was referring to Chief Justice John Marshall. And, of course, Marshall was powerless.

Jackson was upholding the principle of separation of powers. The liberals' favorite president, Abraham Lincoln, said that if the Supreme Court can override the other branches of government, then the American people do not rule themselves but are instead ruled by an oligarchy appointed for life. Unfortunately, the modern politician is missing two key ingredients of statesmanship: knowledge of his or her country's own history and a backbone.

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

Older

WASHINGTON — There were 1.2 million violent crimes in 1997, the Department of Justice Statistics Center reported. That was less than the rate of violent crimes in 1996, when there were 1.3 million violent crimes. The 1997 rate was 1.2 million violent crimes per 100,000 residents, down from 1.3 million in 1996.

The data was released by the U.S. Department of Justice Statistics Center. The 1997 rate was 1.2 million violent crimes per 100,000 residents, down from 1.3 million in 1996.

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Older Americans avoid violent crime by staying in at night, study says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Violent criminals attack Americans age 65 or older far less often than younger men and women, probably because older people do not go out at night as much, the Justice Department reported Sunday.

There were an average of 5.3 violent crimes for every 1,000 U.S. residents age 65 or older each year from 1992 through 1997, the department's Bureau of Justice Statistics said.

That was less than one-tenth the rate of violent attacks on younger Americans. Those age 12 through 64 suffered an annual average of 56 violent attacks for every 1,000 residents during each of the same six years.

The data were based on Census Bureau interviews every six months during the period with 85,000 Americans age 12 and older. In 1997, the elderly, defined by the report as those age 65 or older, made up 12.7 percent of the U.S. population, but they

accounted for only 7 percent of the crime victims identified in the interviews.

The report's author, BJS statistician Patsy A. Klaus, wrote that differences in lifestyle appeared to play a major role in the incidence of violent crime.

"Elderly victims of nonlethal violence were less likely than younger victims to go out at night," she wrote. About 22 percent of elderly violence victims reported they never went out at night for entertainment, shopping or other activities. By comparison, only 3 percent of violence victims under age 50 stayed home at night.

Klaus also found the elderly were less likely than younger people to fight back when attacked. Only 49 percent of elderly violence victims reported arguing with the offender, running away, calling for help or attacking the offender. By comparison, more than 70 percent of those under age

50 took some self-protective step. Crimes against the elderly were more likely to occur in or near their homes and in the day rather than the night, compared with crimes against younger victims. Among elderly violent crime victims, 70 percent of the attacks occurred in daytime. For all younger victims, daylight attacks made up less than 60 percent of

the total, and for those age 25 to 49, less than 50 percent of the total.

Also, violent attacks near home represented 43 percent of those against the elderly and only 26 percent of those against younger people.

The elderly had lower victimization rates than younger people for every type of violent and prop-

erty crime measured by the victimization interviews: rape, robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, household burglary, auto theft and theft.

But the Census Bureau does not conduct victimization interviews in institutions, so crimes against people in nursing homes are not counted in the estimates, the Justice Department noted. In 1995,

4 percent of the elderly, or 1.4 million people 65 or older, were in nursing homes or long-term care institutions.

The interviews also do not cover fraud and thus do not measure the victimization of the elderly by telemarketers. Experts believe older people account for the overwhelming majority of telephone fraud victims.

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53	14.1	20.7	46.8%
51	13.0	18.8	44.6%
56	12.2	17.1	40.2%
64	9.6	13.3	38.5%
60	13.3	17.9	34.6%
55	9.8	13.1	33.7%
68	14.3	18.4	28.7%
50	10.8	13.9	28.7%
62	14.1	17.6	24.8%
66	15.8	17.5	10.8%
57	14.4	15.9	10.4%
54	13.1	14.0	6.9%
65	12.9	11.3	-12.4%
Average	12.7	16.3	28.3%

Israeli-Syrian talks seem to be near end without agreement

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. (AP) — Despite President Clinton's renewed intervention, Israel-Syria negotiations on a land-for-peace treaty appeared to be nearing a close Sunday without even a tentative agreement.

The Israeli foreign minister, David Levy, left for Morocco and a meeting there with King Mohamed VI.

The Israeli prime minister, Ehud Barak, describing the weeklong talks over territory, peace terms, water and security as complex and difficult, was making plans to depart for home today and diplomatic sources said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa was likely to follow on Tuesday.

On the sensitive issue of establishing a new border, once Israel pulls back on the Golan Heights, Levy said before departing that "nothing has been agreed upon."

Clinton, who had intervened in the negotiations four times before Sunday, returned to the site of the talks after nightfall Sunday.

He met with Barak and then held a three-way meeting with

Barak and al-Sharaa. "This is an ongoing process," White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said. "The issues are difficult and complex."

Committees met Sunday on all the key issues, and the State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said the two sides responded positively to a statement presented Friday by the United States.

The seven-page document, which is a summary of points of accord and discord, could become the basis for an eventual "core agreement," Rubin said.

But he said Israel and Syria still faced "enormous decisions" and "we don't expect those decisions to be made in a matter of days."

In Jerusalem, Israel Cabinet Minister Haim Ramon said Syria had refused to permit Israel to retain an early warning station on the Golan Heights once it is relinquished.

But, Ramon said, Syria was prepared to consider a station manned mostly by American and French personnel, with a Syrian presence and a symbolic Israeli presence.

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G. Lang, M.D.

*Board Certified in Bariatric Medicine

DEATH NOTICES

Debby Stegall

Deborah Jean Stegall, 45, died Saturday, Jan. 8, at her residence.

Memorial services will be at 4 p.m. today, Jan. 10, at First Baptist Church with the Rev. Bob Hopkins officiating. Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, at First Baptist Church in Crosbyton with the Rev. Les Griffin officiating. Burial will follow at Crosbyton County Cemetery under the direction of Adams Funeral Home.

She was born June 11, 1954 in Lubbock.

She lived in Crosbyton before moving to Midland. She was a teacher at Santa Rita Elementary in Midland ISD for 13 years. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Midland. She was a member of Texas Classroom Teachers Association.

Survivors include her husband, Ronald Stegall, of Midland; two daughters, Rhonda Stegall and Heather Stegall, both of Midland; her parents, Wayne and Emma Jean Moore Edinburg, of Crosbyton; a brother, Kirk Edinburg of Abilene; and her grandmother, Jeannie Moore of Lubbock.

Joseph Reese

Joseph M. Reese, 74, died Saturday, Jan. 8, at his residence.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday in St. Ann's Catholic Church with Monsignor Murphy officiating. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park. A wake will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel.

He moved to Midland in the mid-1950s. He worked for Petroleum Research and Development in San Antonio, Zapata Petroleum in Midland, and became an independent consulting geologist in 1959 and was active until his death. He was a member of St. Ann's Catholic Church. He was a member of West Texas Geological Society and AAPG.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Felix Reese and Robert B. Reese; and one sister, Mary Reese.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Nell Reese, of Midland; a son, Andrew T. Reese, of Austin; two daughters, Jeanne E. Cravens, of Dunedin, New Zealand and Jennifer L. Johnson, of Austin; two sisters, Elise Grady, of San Jose, Calif., and Jeanne Cason, of Cape Canaveral, Fla.; and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to St. Vincent De Paul or the charity of your choice.

Jose Machuca

Jose B. Machuca, 50, died Sunday, Jan. 9, at a Midland hospital.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12 at Reyes-Garcia Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Roy Langley officiating. Burial will follow at the Catholic Cemetery in Toyah. A wake will be at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, at the funeral home.

He was born Sept. 22, 1949 in Kent.

He lived in Toyah and Pecos, moving to Midland in 1972. He worked for Central Texas for 10 years, then Albertson's until 1988.

Survivors include a spouse, Daquina S. Machuca; two sons, Javier Machuca, of Midland and Jesse Machuca, of Midland; a daughter, Macrina Rodriguez, of Midland; five brothers, Guadalupe Machuca, of San Antonio; Dulces Machuca, of San Antonio; Roberto Machuca, of San Antonio; Dolores Machuca, of

Toyah; and Jesus Manuel Machuca, of Midland; two sisters, Virginia Gomez, of Midland and Elvira Garcia, of Monahans; three grandsons; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Pedro Porras

ODESSA — Pedro M. Porras, 60, formerly of Big Spring, died Saturday, Jan. 8, at an Odessa hospital.

Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Big Spring with the Rev. James Plagens officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park. Rosary will be said at 8 p.m. today at the Myers and Smith Funeral Home Chapel.

He was born Aug. 1, 1939 in Big Spring.

He lived most of his life in Big Spring, moving to Odessa 19 years ago.

He was a Catholic. He was head chef at the Officers Club at Webb Air Force Base for 15 years.

Survivors include two daughters, Melinda Marquez and Cynthia Porras, both of Big Spring; two sons, Peters Porras Jr., of Jacksonville, Fla., and Robert Porras, of Houston; his mother, Dolores Porras, of Big Spring; three stepsons, Ismael Carrillo, Isaisa Carrillo and Arnulfo Enriquez, all of Odessa; four brothers, Pascual Porras, of Big Spring; Antonio Porras, Jesus Porras Jr. and Benito Porras, all of Odessa; a sister, Elidora Guerrero, of Bossier City, La.; and seven grandchildren.

Eddie Shoemaker

BIG SPRING — Eddie Shoemaker, 84, died Saturday, Jan. 8, in a local hospital.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, at Nalley-Pick-

le & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Eddie Tubbs officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Aug. 2, 1915 in Prio County.

He moved from San Antonio to Big Spring in 1980. He was a bus driver for Big Spring ISD, St. Mary's Episcopal School, then for Greyhound Bus Lines for 42 years. He was a deacon and member of First Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Gladys Hicks, on Nov. 19, 1995.

Survivors include his wife, Oneita Sledge Shoemaker, of Big Spring; two sons, Weldon Shoemaker and Wayne Shoemaker, both of San Antonio; and four daughters, Ann Bowman, Laura Sticker, Bobbie Tracey and Vickie Wall, all of San Antonio; two stepsons, Harold Hicks, of Kermit and Jim Hicks, of Austin; two stepdaughters, Andre Clark, of Big Spring and Carla Beall, of Richardson; 19 grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Gideon's Memorial Bible Plan, P.O. Box 133, Big Spring 79721.

Grace McGlinton

BIG SPRING — Grace J. Lockhart McGlinton, 91, died Saturday, Jan. 8, at a local nursing home.

Funeral services will be at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Kenny Smith officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will be at 605 W. 17th Street.

She was born Aug. 10, 1908 in Ira.

She lived in the Luther Community and was a longtime Big

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.

Spring resident. She was a homemaker. She was a member of Central Baptist Church in Elbow and the Big Spring Art Association.

Survivors include her husband, Allen J. McClinton, of Big

Spring; a daughter, Nan Ivie, of Big Spring; a son, Allan D. McClinton, of Littleton, Colo.; a brother, Warren Lockhart, of Austin; two granddaughters; two great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

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Lubbock, El Paso report critical blood shortages

Associated Press

Blood bank officials blame the busy holiday season and a nasty flu epidemic for critical shortages of blood in El Paso and Lubbock.

Some surgeries have been canceled in El Paso hospitals because of the shortage, said Elizabeth Escobar, technical director for the United Blood Service of El Paso.

"The thing about blood is that it's like water. You don't miss it until it's gone," she told the El Paso Times. "It's not a commodity you can buy off a shelf."

Lisa Hults, blood bank supervisor for Columbia Medical West, said she has never seen the kind of shortage that El Paso is dealing with anywhere else.

"I've worked in Houston and we've had shortages, but nothing like this," she said. "Doctors are constantly asking for blood, and we don't have any. It's terrible and there's nothing I can do about this."

United Blood Services in Lubbock has to get blood from other blood banks to meet Lubbock's current needs, said spokeswoman Casey Carson.

"Lubbock needs an average of 150 units a day," she said. "Usually we collect 60 to 70 each day, but we're way below that right now."

"We're not self-sufficient," Ms. Carson told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. "It's tough because the other blood banks are going to fill their hospitals' needs first."

UBS needed more than 300 pints of blood in a three-day period last week to meet the requests of local hospitals. However, fewer than 20 pints were collected.

Leslie Searcey, manager of recruiting for the Texas Department of Health's blood bank, said

she has seen a steady decrease in donations to the agency that supplies blood for 10 Central Texas counties.

In 1997, the blood bank took in 45,911 units. The bank expected to draw only 42,000 in 1999.

Blood transfusions for cancer patients are on the rise, draining already limited supplies, said Ms. Searcey.

"And not enough people are donating to make up the difference," said Ms. Searcey.

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DAVE BARRY

Father, son are at odds over physics

Recently I received a phone call from my son, Rob. It was a phone call that every parent dreads.

That's right: My son told me that the universe does not exist. Or at least it does not in any way resemble my concept of it. According to Rob, I understand the universe about as well as a barnacle understands a nuclear aircraft carrier.

I blame college. That's where Rob is getting these ideas, which have to do with the theory of relativity and something called "quantum physics."



Barry

Rob and his roommate, Hal, stay up all night discussing deep questions and figuring out the universe, and when they have it nailed down — the Rob and Hal Theory of Everything — Rob calls me up, all excited, and starts talking about time travel, the fifth dimension, the big bang, etc.

I try to follow him, but I am hampered by a brain that for decades has firmly believed that the fifth dimension is the musical group that sang "Up, Up and Away." So I quickly become confused and testy, and Rob gets frustrated and says, "Don't you understand? There's no such thing as time!" And I'll say, "Yes, there is, and it's five o'clock in the morning!"

(At one point, we got into a bitter argument about whether people in Minneapolis age at the same rate as people in Miami.)

When I was in college during the '60s, there was no such thing as "quantum physics." Or, if there was, nobody told me about it. Back then, when we stayed up all night, we were not trying to figure out the universe. We were trying to figure out how to operate the phone, so we could order pizza. (Phones were more complicated then.)

I was an English major, and when we English majors thought about physics, we were trying to solve problems like: "You are required to turn in a 15-page paper on 'The Brothers Karamazov.' You have written a grand total of 311 words on this topic. How big do you have to make your margins to make these words stretch over 15 pages? Do you think the professor will notice that your 'paper' is a little anorexic worm of type running between margins wide enough to land an airplane on? Do you think that anybody in history has ever actually read all the way to the end of 'The Brothers Karamazov'? Why?"

This is not to say that I know nothing about physics. I studied physics for an entire year in Pleasantville High School under the legendary Mr. Heideman. We learned that there are five simple machines: the lever, the pulley, the doorbell, the hammer and the toaster. We learned that the most powerful force in the universe is static electricity, which Mr. Heideman demonstrated by getting a volunteer to place his or her hand on a generator, which caused the volunteer's hair to stand on end. Unless the volunteer was a girl with the popular early-'60s "beehive" hairstyle held rigidly in place by the other most powerful force in the universe: hair spray. Presumably, if Mr. Heideman had cranked the power up enough, the static electricity buildup would have caused the volunteer's head to explode, and we would finally have found out if — as widely rumored — many "beehive" hairstyles contained nests of baby spiders.

Thanks to my high-school training, I believed I had a solid grasp of physics. So when Rob was growing up, I was able to answer his questions about the universe, such as "What is a star?" (Answer: a big ball of static electricity that has caught on fire because of friction with comets) or "What is gravity?" (Answer: a powerful type of static electricity that sucks you toward the ground, especially after you eat Italian food).

These answers satisfied my son until he started reaching that know-it-all age when kids start losing all respect for authority (18 months). And now he's calling me from college and telling me that the universe is *nothing* like my concept of it. The stuff he talks about is pretty complex, but I will try to summarize the main points, as I understand them:

■ Point One: Whatever you think about anything is wrong.

■ Point Two: There is no such thing as Point One. You think there is a Point One, but that just shows what a physics moron you are.

■ Point Three: If there are two identical twins, and one of them gets on a spacecraft going at nearly the speed of light, then one of them will grow old much faster than the other one, and that one will retire to Miami.

■ Point Four: There are an infinite number of possible Point Threes, and they all are all equally true, and you will never understand any of them.

Dave Barry column is distributed by Tribune Media Services.

Person to Person

With Johnnye Montgomery



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram
Rhonda McCarty, a registered nurse, is director of the water therapy program at Mabee Aquatic Center. She is also involved in Volunteers in Mission and has visited the West Bank twice with that organization. On one of those trips she bought traditional dresses, above.

Water therapy program director, member of Volunteer in Mission

Rhonda McCarty

To the 200-plus members of the City of Midland water therapy program that she oversees, she's the May portion of a May/December romance that has lasted for five years and just keeps getting better.

To members of the Covenant Sunday school class at First United Methodist Church, she's a teacher who constantly catches and stretches their conscience as well as their collective intellect, but doing it nicely, making it fun, making it hard to even think of missing a class.

To a host of Midland teen-agers, she's Jay's and Drew's mom.

And to Palestinian Christians Rhonda McCarty is a friend, unafraid to look at both sides of the Israeli conflict, willing to speak out when it would be smarter to keep silent, paying the price for taking a stand that isn't always popular.

Rhonda came to Midland from Memphis on Christmas Day 1994. The family was lured here by Teraco head, Ron Schwisow, who is a friend of her husband, Jim. Schwisow had painted a picture of Midland that ignored the surrounding scenery and concentrated on its size and good schools.

"We loved Memphis, and to be absolutely truthful, it was probably best that we came here in the dead of winter, when Memphis was cold and rainy and the streets were full of slush," Rhonda said.

"But seriously, we had concerns about Memphis' rising crime rate, and the difficulty of getting around, and the schools. Especially the schools."

The McCartys plunged into life in Midland with enthusiasm. They moved their church membership to First United Methodist Church. Jim found fulfillment in his work; Jay and Drew made friends at school and Rhonda began taking water aerobics at the City of Midland Mabee Aquatic Center.

It wasn't long before Jim and Rhonda were teaching Sunday school, and Rhonda, a registered nurse, was filling in as substitute water therapy instructor at C.O.M.

When the aquatic therapy program director left, she was asked to assume the position.

From the outset, Rhonda and the water therapy participants — there were about 20 at that time — were a match made in heaven. They loved Rhonda, and she loved and admired them. She loves and admires them still.

"When I think of the effort it takes some of these people just to come down here, I'm just awe-struck," she said. "And their attitude, and the way they care for each other, is just incredible."

She said if there is a downside to a class like this: knowing that they won't always be with you.

"It's always hard losing a friend, and just because they've lived a long life doesn't make me miss them less. I think of them still."

"I had one man who absolutely wouldn't complain. People all around him would be complaining if the water temperature — which really is important — was down a degree or so, and he'd grin and say 'It's just right.'"

"Then one day when we came in after a holiday we found the water heater had been off for some reason. They had fixed it, but the water still wasn't warmed up. This man got in the water, and said, 'Yes, it's a little cool today,' and I knew it must really be cold, because I'd never heard him say that before."

Since taking over the program, Rhonda has seen it grow to more than 200 active members.

"That's very satisfying to me. Another great satisfaction I get is seeing someone come to the program with a very limited range of motion and being there as the improvement gradually becomes apparent," Rhonda said.

"We don't deal in instant miracles here.

Sometimes, the benefit is simply the pleasure of being able to move without pain. That's why some of our people look forward to getting in the water. This is a place where they can move."

"Just to see the enjoyment they get out of that is really satisfying. They're a daily inspiration to me. They are friends."

She also gains inspiration from, and counts as friends, the Palestinian Christians she first met in March 1998. She said that event has in many respects changed the way she looks at the world.

"It all started when my mother-in-law asked

me if I wanted to go on a Volunteers in Mission trip sponsored by United Methodist Church in Memphis in 1998," she said.

"I really wasn't too enthusiastic about it at first, but she persuaded me. After that, I've gone back twice — once as a part of a World Methodist Council Work Study team, and then again just last November with my friend, Rachel from Austin."

And she is planning yet another trip to the West Bank.

"I've been asked to be a leader of a team from Duke University next spring."

For most people, the word Palestine brings to mind Holy Land images — Bethlehem, Jerusalem, the Sea of Galilee, historic sites of the Bible.

The trips Rhonda has taken have not been tourist trips. Volunteers stay in the homes of Palestinian Christians, travel along with workers for peace who represent countries throughout the world, and experience life as they live it day to day.

Volunteers go to learn as much as to work.

Although Rhonda spent some time doing water therapy while in the West Bank, and has worked on school rehabilitation, her job as she sees it is to see the real picture, then to tell what she has seen.

The telling is not always easy. Particularly painful to Rhonda has been the continuing expansion of Israeli settlers into areas where Palestinians have lived for years, and the demolition of their homes.

In an e-mail home to her friends and family from abroad last November, she described it.

"Two representatives of Christian Peacemakers Team took us to see (Palestinian) Atta Jabber's homes which had been demolished. Atta happened to come over where we were there and we heard the story in his own words. At the time of the second demolition, his two girls were small; his son was 4 or 5 months old."

"I cannot tell you how it feels to stand there in the rubble of someone's home and hear this."

"When a Palestinian home is destroyed, a group of 60 soldiers with a bulldozer will show up for

Please see RHONDA/2B



There was a reporter driving down the road one day and noticed a farmer walking a pig with a wooden leg.

The reporter thought it would make a good story, so he pulled over and asked the farmer, "Why does your pig have a wooden leg?"

The farmer replied, "You see: that barn over there? Well, that barn caught fire a while back. This pig here ran in there and saved all my livestock."

"Well, that's quite amazing, but you didn't tell me why the pig has a wooden leg," the reporter said.

"You see that pond over there?" began the farmer. "Well, a month or so ago, my grandkids were swimming out there. One of them got too deep and started to drown. This pig here jumped in and rescued her."

"That is quite an extraordinary pig," the reporter said. "But you still haven't answered my question. Why does the pig have a wooden leg?"

The farmer replied, "Well, with a pig that special, you don't eat it all at one time."

— Contributed by Zachary Deck, 11

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

DEAR ABBY

Unemployed husband may be suffering, too

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: This letter is in response to "Totally Lost in North Carolina," whose husband cannot or will not keep a job. She said he didn't like to work and "somehow he always messes up and gets fired or quits."



Van Buren

I had similar problems with my husband. He would keep a job no more than six months maximum. He finally heard about a program called "Operation Improvement." The people there gave him an aptitude test, suggested a job he would never have considered on his own — truck driving — and paid for his training.

He's been driving a truck for six years now and loves his job. I'm not suggesting truck driving for this gal's husband, but he should take an aptitude test and find something he'll be happy doing. If he doesn't, he'll continue to go from job to job and create stress for the whole family. I wish them the best of luck, and as much happiness as my husband and I (and our kids) now have. — LISA IN WASHINGTON STATE

DEAR LISA: Thank you for caring enough to share your personal experience. When I read the letter from "Totally Lost" about her struggle to cope with her husband's unwillingness to hold a job ("He doesn't like to work") and her valiant efforts to keep the family from going under ("I work for two companies and do extra work on the side ... make good money, but not enough to pay all the bills"), I felt sympathy for her. She said she'd like to throw him out, but was afraid he wouldn't leave. I told her to draw the line: from my perspective, she'd have one less mouth to feed.

I see marriage as a partnership, with the division of labor agreed upon by both parties. I also thought she was being taken advantage of. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: My very intelligent, considerate husband has adult attention deficit disorder. One of the symptoms is difficulty holding certain jobs. He has finally found his "niche" as a talented photographer and an outstanding teacher. (Two jobs!)

Perhaps there's another choice for "Totally Lost" other than evicting her husband, and another reason for his problem other than irresponsibility. — FAITHFUL READER IN DELAWARE

DEAR FAITHFUL READER: You have insight, and I agree that the husband should be evaluated for adult attention deficit disorder before any decisions are made about ending the marriage. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: In response to the letter about the husband who "doesn't like to work" — there may be an underlying cause or causes for his occupational failures. I offer three possibilities:

1. He may be functionally illiterate. Many people work in low-level, nonskilled jobs that are unsatisfying because these are the only jobs that don't require reading skills. When confronted with work that is equal to their intelligence but beyond their level of literacy, they are unproductive and either get fired or quit.

2. He may have adult attention deficit disorder and not know it. Many adults carry this problem from childhood into adulthood and suffer because of it, not realizing the underlying reason for their lack of achievement.

3. There may be health problems underlying his apparent laziness. — HOPE THIS HELPS, GARLAND, TEXAS

DEAR HOPE THIS HELPS: It hadn't occurred to me that the husband might be suffering, too. Thank you for pointing it out in a helpful letter.

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

RHONDA: Women's dresses identify their home villages

(From 1B)

a small one-room block house, or 120 soldiers and two bulldozers for a larger home. If the family lives in a cave, even the cave will be destroyed. If they farm, their trees and terraces are bulldozed. There have been five more homes demolished since we arrived here, making at least 75 this year.

Displaced Palestinians go to refugee camps. Rhonda had taken photographs inside one.

The place is called Samoot, and it was just a shell of a building that was meant to be a school, which is now the home of 70 families who have put up walls of cardboard, fabric, anything they can use. Their homes had been destroyed and their identification cards confiscated. They have no water, and the smell is indescribable.

"This particular camp was a recent one. Some of them are quite old. I met women living in one camp who had been driven out of their homes 50 years ago. They still wore the dresses woven in the pattern of their village, and kept the keys to their destroyed houses around their necks."

She explained that in Palestinian villages still intact, the women wear dresses woven of

distinctive patterns, so that when they travel, people always recognize them as being inhabitants of that particular village.

On each of the three trips she's taken, Rhonda has stayed two weeks. In between times, she uses e-mail to keep in touch with Palestinian friends, peacemaking teams and others. She also does what she can to make people aware of the plight of the Palestinians. She said her message is not always well-received.

"A lot of people really don't want to hear this," she said. "But Jim has been wonderfully supportive of me, and the United Methodist Church has General Resolutions calling for support of Palestinian Christians and peace with justice in Palestine."

On the November trip, Rhonda took gifts of socks, hats, gloves and toys for the children of the D'Heisha refugee camp, sent with her by members of Midland's First United Methodist Church. She also took medical supplies for the clinic there.

But as well-appreciated as the gifts were, Rhonda says the real gift they need is yet to come.

"What they really need is peace with justice. That's what I'm praying for."

Pint-sized farmers



ABOVE: Atticus Valdez, 2, enjoys feeding a miniature horse on exhibit from the El Rancho Loco Ranch in Beeville more than seeing a huge monster tractor on display during the farm and ranch show at the Convention Center in Corpus Christi last week. He is the son of Cecilia Valdez who brought her children to tour the exhibits.

LEFT: Besides huge tractors and giant combines at the farm and ranch show, there were smaller tractors that attracted youngsters such as Taylor Kolodziej, who tries one out at the Corpus Christi show.

Associated Press photos

TALKIN' TEXAN

When you're hungry, fast food not always fast

By Tumbleweed Smith

I've just returned from an interview trip through East Texas. No two interview trips are alike. This time I got 25 interviews during five days on the road. That's typical, as far as the number goes.



Smith

I aim for five interviews a day and have no trouble doing that.

I spent three nights with family or friends and one night in a motel in Crockett. I arrived at the Crockett Inn around 5:30 p.m. and decided to do some work on my list of prospective interviewees. I usually do this around the first of the year. I got out my laptop and went to work.

I have divided the state into seven sections and when I'm traveling in a particular area I refer to my list for that part of the state and pick and choose who to interview. My list now contains more than 2,000 names, almost enough to carry me through nearly eight years of daily radio programs and weekly newspaper columns. Most of the suggested names have come from listeners or readers.

After working for a couple of hours at the motel in Crockett, I go hungry. My eating is erratic, to say the least, on interview trips. There is no real schedule and I never know where I'm going to be at any given time. A couple of nights on this trip I was interviewing at midnight.

I got in my car and drove to a place called Ames Chicken to go. I looked over the menu and noticed that the more chicken you bought the less you paid. I could get three pieces of chicken for \$2.09 or two pieces for \$3.19. I ordered the three pieces.

The lady taking my order said it would be four minutes before the chicken got through cooking. I told her I was going to the store next door for a candy bar and would return in about four minutes to pick up my order.

When I returned, the same customers who were there earlier were still there and some new ones had come in. They were all waited on and I still had not got my order. I noticed the stack of chicken on the rack diminishing. I also noticed large numbers of phone-in orders and window orders being picked up.

I left, drove around Crockett looking for a place to eat and ended up at Dairy Queen. I ordered a basket of steak fingers and an ice cream sandwich. The girl behind the register figured my bill and I got out a \$50 bill to pay for it.

"We don't take fifties," she said.

I told her I was really hungry and needed to eat something and the fifty was the smallest bill I

had. In fact, it was the only bill I had with me.

"Our manager told us not to take fifties," I asked if she took credit cards and she said no. I left and went to KFC. I told the lady there I wanted some dark pieces and she told me there was a special: eight pieces for \$4. I told her I'd take it. I paid for it with my fifty. When she gave me the order, she asked me if I was going to eat all of the chicken by myself. I said probably. I took the eight pieces to the motel and devoured six of them. After all, I had been trying to get something to eat for more than an hour. Fast food is not always fast. I was hungry. I had the other two pieces for breakfast the next morning.

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

Tuesdays and Sundays in the Midland Reporter-Telegram
Gary Ott

A stroke can be a mind-blowing thing

American Heart Association

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Midland Call for appointment



New Dentist in Midland



Dr. Mike Connally has moved to Midland from Rockdale, TX. He earned his degree at Baylor College of Dentistry. After purchasing HealthFirst Dental in Midland, Dr. Connally will provide his patients with General Family Dentistry with a special focus on prevention, cosmetics, and dental implants. Originally from Midland, he and his wife, Jenny, have returned home to raise their family and build a practice. Dr. Connally invites you to stop by and say Hello!

Michael S. Connally, DDS

1806 W. Wall St.

(915) 684-8289

* Bring this ad with you to receive a free exam and consult when you have your teeth cleaned.

ChangeMakers:

ChangeMakers Seminar is coming to Midland

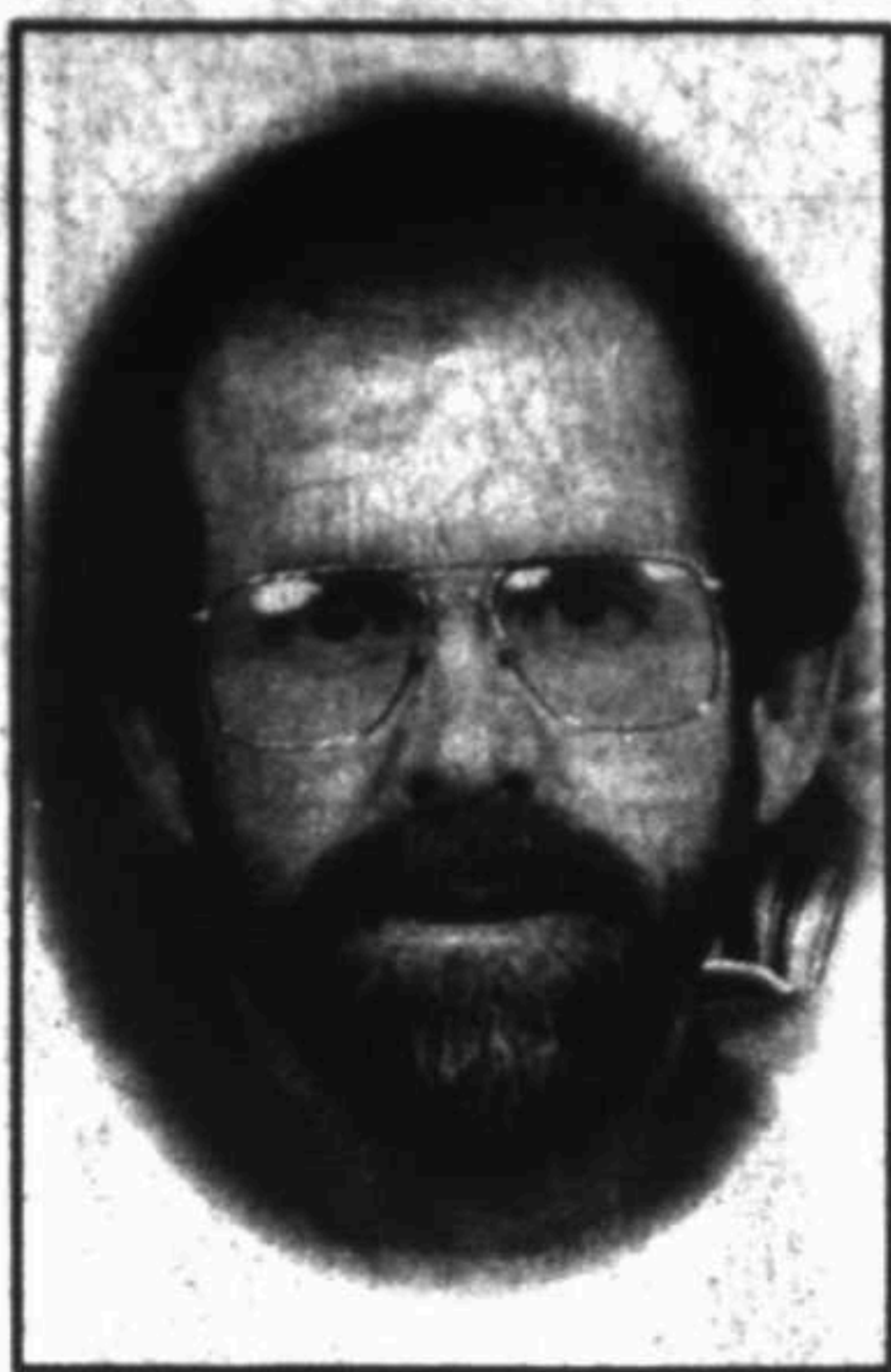
January 14-15, 2000 at the Midland Center

ChangeMakers: a powerful two-day interactive seminar developed by the Medical Institute of Sexual Health of Austin for educators, medical professionals, community leaders, parents, and policy makers. The Medical Institute's goal is to bring communities together to equip and empower our youth and promote health for tomorrow's future! The seminar will be led by two dynamic professionals from the Institute, Marcia Ball, Ed.D. and Jennie Canella, Ph.D.

Seating is limited. Registration may be made by calling 570-7745

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OBITUARIES



Guy Nelson

Guy Troy Nelson was born May 23, 1953 in Garza County, Texas to Troy Palmer Nelson and Joyce Marie Lofton Nelson. He was employed by Centriflo Pump and Machine Company in Odessa. He was an FIFA soccer referee.

Survivors include his wife, Brenda Nelson, of Midland; his son, Jay Nelson, of Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C.; and Jay's fiancée, Jacqueline Maldonado, of Midland; two daughters, Robin Nelson and Sandy Nelson, of Midland; his parents, Troy and Joyce Nelson, of Post, Texas; a sister, Melinda Morgan, of Justiceberg, Texas; a brother, Danny Nelson, of Post, Texas; in-laws, Gayle and Pat Graham; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Nelson died Saturday, January 8, 2000, at his Midland residence.

Memorial services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday in Ellis Funeral Home Chapel with David Joiner officiating. Wednesday at 4 p.m. a Memorial Service will be held in Graham Chapel in Graham Community. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Visitation will be Monday from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. in Ellis Funeral Home.

The family requests memorials be directed to the Midland High School Soccer Booster Club, Midland Soccer Association, 1901 West Wall, Midland, Texas 79701.



Abraham Gonzalez Sr.

Abraham V. Gonzalez Sr., 58, died Saturday, January 8, 2000, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Ozona, Texas. He was born to Raul and Isabel Gonzalez on October 17, 1941 in Edinburg, Texas, where he was raised and educated. He later met and married Evangelina Urias in 1963 in Ft. Stockton. He was a truck driver for Scurlock Permian Corporation for 25 years. Then he went to work for BML Trucking, where he was currently working. He was a member of Templo Jerusalem. He is preceded in death by a brother, Roberto Gonzales; and a sister, Delia G. Aguilar.

A prayer service is scheduled for Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Templo Jerusalem, 1205 S. Belmont. The funeral service will be held on Tuesday, January 11 at 10 a.m. at Templo Jerusalem with the Rev. Manuel J. Hernandez officiating. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery. The funeral arrangements are under the direction of Reyes-Garcia Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife, Evangelina "Eva" Gonzalez of Midland; two sons, Abraham Gonzales Jr. and wife, Marisa, of Midland, and Daniel Gonzalez and wife, Patricia, of Midland; his mother, Isabel Gonzalez, of Edinburg; a brother, Eladio Torres, of Edinburg; five sisters, Emma Gonzalez and Gabriela Hendrix, of Edinburg; Alicia Gomez, of Laredo; Anna Maria Vento, of Harlingen; and Romana Medina, of Big Spring; two grandsons, Emanuel Gonzalez and Patrick Gonzalez; and two granddaughters, Daisy Gonzalez and Bianca Gonzalez, all of Midland; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Pallbearers will be Johnny Medina, Gus Holgin, Jaime Sanchez, Mario Sanchez, Fred Lopez, Jesse Gonzales, Joe Marquez, and Samuel Marquez.



Encarnacion Duran

Encarnacion Chonita Duran, 78, died Friday, January 7, 2000, at Midland Memorial Hospital. She was born to Joaquin and Matias Franco on March 25, 1921 in Patro, Texas. She was raised and attended Santa Rosa Catholic School in Pecos. During her early teens she worked at the Brandon Hotel there in Pecos, Texas. She later met and married the late Santos H. Duran in the early 1940s. The couple moved to Midland in the 1960s. She was involved in various organizations such as a candy-striper at Midland Memorial Hospital, and a former President of Head Start, member of Ben Milam P.T.A., and Mrs. Lioness of the Eastside Lions Club. She was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church and a member of the Curullistas. She is preceded in death by her husband, Santos H. Duran.

A vigil service is scheduled for Monday at 8 p.m. at Reyes-Garcia Chapel. The funeral Mass will be held on Tuesday, January 11 at 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with Father Art Flores officiating. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery. The funeral arrangements are under the direction of Reyes-Garcia Funeral Home.

Survivors include six sons, Abel F. Duran, Torivio "T" Duran and Jose Luis Duran, all of Midland; Santos Duran Jr., of Indiana; Fred Duran, of Midland; and Moises Duran, of Dallas; eight daughters, Lupe D. Reyes, Dora F. Duran, Carmen Duran Paredes and Anita D. Galindo, all of Midland; Encarnacion D. Murray, of Salina, Kan.; Lourdes D. York, of Friendswood; MaryAnn Arredondo, of Duncanville; and Elena Duran, of Austin; a brother, Ambrosio Franco, of Merced, Calif.; a sister-in-law, Chepa Franco, of Dinuba, Calif.; 29 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and numerous nephews and nieces.

Pallbearers will be Arturo Reyes, Dondi Duran, Joseph Duran, Issac Paredes, Jeremy Duran, David Ray Galindo, Torivio "Boogie" Melendez, and Robert Rivera. Honorary pallbearers are Davian Duran, Dexter Duran, Jason Paredes, Joshua Galindo, Fred Duran Jr., Houston York, and Joel Martinez.



Marie Smith

Marie Friday Smith was born October 24, 1928 in Gorman, Texas to Jewell Snider and Maggie Hamilton Snider. She was raised in Gorman and graduated from Ranger Nursing Academy. She was a Registered Nurse, having worked in Gorman and Midland. She was also employed by Allied Van Lines, Salvation Army and, later in life, by Nurses Unlimited.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Jed Friday; her mother, Maggie Snider; brother, Tommy Snider; one daughter, Vickie Friday; and one granddaughter, Charlotte Friday.

Survivors include her husband, Bennie Smith of Alabama; twin sons, Bobby Friday of Midland, and Billy Friday of Beaumont; sons, Richard Friday of Texarkana, Texas and Jerry Friday of Lawrenceville, Georgia; her father, Jewell Snider of Gorman; two brothers, Kenneth Snider of Rosebud, Arkansas and Larry Snider of Gorman, Texas; sisters, Treva Green of Midland, Maude Isbell and Peggy Ingram of Cisco, Texas, and Diana Snider of Gorman; 9

grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, and numerous stepchildren and stepgrandchildren.

Mrs. Smith died Saturday, January 8, 2000, at her Midland residence.

Funeral services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 11, 2000 in Higginbotham Funeral Home in Gorman, Texas. Midland arrangements are with Ellis Funeral Home.



Lou Peters

Betty Lou Hand Shideler Peters passed away Friday, January 7, 2000 following a lengthy illness.

She was born October 15, 1929 on the 101 Ranch near Ponca City, Oklahoma. Her parents were Delmar Hand and Beulah Hand (both deceased). At the age of 9, she and her sister, Gladys, were placed in the foster home of Charlie and Lola Shideler (both deceased) in Newkirk, Oklahoma. She graduated from Newkirk High School in 1948, where she was a cheerleader, basketball queen and band queen.

On July 30, 1950, she married A. Wayne Peters in Arkansas City, Kansas.

From 1952 to 1953, she earned her PHT Degree (Putting Hubby Through) from The University of Tulsa. While living in Tulsa, in addition to working full time at Sun Oil Company and Douglas Aircraft, she taught American Red Cross water lifesaving.

In January 1956, they moved to Midland. From 1958 to 1962, she taught swimming and lifesaving at Porter Pools on the Andrews Highway in Midland. She taught in excess of 300 students each summer. In 1963, she co-founded the Midland YMCA Diving Team. From 1963 to 1969, she was the diving coach. Several of her team members received diving scholarships at college.

From August 1978 to August 1994, she owned and managed Lou's Dress Shop in San Miguel Square.

She was past president of the Permian Basin CPA Wives Club, Business and Professional Women's Association, and a local sorority.

She was a member of the Christian Church of Midland.

Survivors include her husband, A. Wayne Peters; a son, Douglas Peters; a daughter, Kelley, and her husband, Charlie Chappell; and a son, Ryman Peters, and his wife, Leslie, all of Midland; a foster son, Charles Alsheimer, of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina; two grandsons, Tanner Hayes and Landon Hayes, both of Midland; three sisters, Gladys Lake, of Parsons, Kansas; Eloise Ellis, of Peggs, Oklahoma; and Freida Hand, whom she has been unable to locate since she was 12 years old; one brother, Charles Hand, of Plano, Texas; eight nephews, three nieces, and several great-nephews and great-nieces.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 11, 2000 at the Christian Church of Midland, 2608 Neely, with the Rev. Bobby Duncan officiating. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Kevin Denney, Roland Unruh, Scott Unruh, Louis Barkley III, Chris Parsley and David Bennett.

Memorials may be made to the Christian Church of Midland, 2608 Neely, Midland, TX 79705; Hospice of Midland, 911 W. Texas, Midland, TX 79701; or the charity of your choice.

TODAY'S FUNERALS

June Sullivan
10 a.m. — Graveside, Resthaven

Helen Groce
1 p.m. — Graveside, Resthaven

Harry Lovejoy
1 p.m. — Graveside, Resthaven
2 p.m. — Memorial at Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity

Deborah Stogell
4 p.m. — First Baptist Church

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

Ellis Funeral Home
689-1094



Harry Lovejoy

Harry Clinton Lovejoy died Friday, January 7, 2000 at Midland Memorial Hospital.

He was born August 15, 1917 in Amsterdam, New York and served in the United States Army during World War II. He married Gretchen Alice Day at King's Chapel in Boston, Massachusetts on January 7, 1943 and passed away 57 years later on the same date.

The couple moved to Midland in 1948. He was employed as an auto mechanic at Elder Chevrolet and Berg Motor Company before opening his own business, H & C Automotive, in 1960. He retired in 1979.

Harry was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, a volunteer with the Texas Special Olympics, and a former member of the Tall City Sams Club.

He is survived by his wife, Gretchen, of Midland; his daughter, Sandra Pfeiffer, and husband, Ed, of Brownfield; his daughter, Donna Hewett and husband, Don, and son, Clint Lovejoy, and wife, Cathy, all of Midland; grandchildren Hollee Hewett Hannon, and husband, Dan; Heidi Hewett Arthur, and husband, D'Nard; Erik Hewett and Scott Lovejoy, all of Dallas; Lance Pfeiffer and wife, Ashley, of Lubbock; Heather Hewett Williams, and husband, Jon, of Boston, Massachusetts; the Reverend Ryan Pfeiffer, and wife, Keeli, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Amy Lovejoy and Brian Lovejoy, of Midland; and great-grandsons, Christian Marquez, of Midland and Jake Pfeiffer, of Lubbock. He is also survived by his sister, Nina Porath, and his sister, Doris Aldi, both of Amsterdam, New York; and his sister-in-law, Irma Day, of Midland; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Lovejoy and his family will be escorted to Resthaven Memorial Park at 1 p.m. Monday from the Chapel at Ellis Funeral Home for a public graveside service. Members of the Midland Police Department, in honor of his endless hours devoted to their involvement with Texas Special Olympics, will be escorting the procession to the cemetery. There will be a time of visitation at the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel prior to the procession to Resthaven. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, with the Reverend Jeff Fouts officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Victor Brennan, L.B. Garrett, Don Graham, Blackie Kidwell, Johnny Wise, John Young and Howard Madden. Members of the Mid-

land Police Department will serve as honorary pallbearers.

The family has requested that memorials be made to the Special Olympics, the Ronald McDonald House, the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, M.D. Anderson Cancer Institute, or the charity of one's choice.



Harold Williams

Harold L. Williams was born January 27, 1913 in Okemah, Oklahoma to Luther Stephen Williams and Mayne Ysobel Brown Williams. He was raised on a ranch in Wetaskin, Alberta, and educated at the University of Oklahoma where he received bachelor's and master's degrees in Geology. He taught geology at Classen High School in Oklahoma City and worked for the Kansas Geological Survey in Lawrence, Kansas before moving to Midland in 1944. He was employed by the Paleontological Laboratory until his retirement in 1980. He was a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the West Texas Geological Society. Harold will be remembered by many for his long years of involvement with the Midland Junior Baseball Association from 1954 to 1975.

Survivors include his wife, Frances Clopton Williams, of Midland; sons, Roy Stephen Williams, of Kaufman, Texas and Burr Harold Williams, of Midland, Texas.

Following cremation, in keeping with Harold's deep love of the natural world, his ashes will be scattered in a private ritual.

Memorials may be made in his honor to the Midland Junior Baseball Association.



Maxine Chapman

Maxine Chapman was born May 21, 1923 in Ft. Worth, Texas to Fred C. Hartin and Lena Belle Watson Arnold Hartin. She lived in Arlington and attended

North Texas Agricultural College and Arlington State College, both in Arlington. She has been a resident of Midland since 1960. She and her husband helped organize the local chapter of Association of Learning Disabilities and also served as officers in the Texas Association of Learning Disabilities. She was a member of Midland Faceters Guild, Texas Faceters Guild and Midland Gem and Mineral Society. She was a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Sharon Merrill of Arlington, Mary McMahon of Crowley, Susan Benton of Midland, Lisa Chapman of Midland; a son, Clifford J. "Chip" Chapman, Jr. of Midland; sisters, Bea Tyrrell of Florida, Ruth Sloan of Arlington, Ann King of Ft. Worth, Mary Strickland of League City; eight grandchildren, one great-grandchild, three nieces and four nephews.

Mrs. Chapman died Saturday, January 8, 2000, at a skilled nursing facility.

Funeral services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday in St. Paul United Methodist Church with Reverend Robert Kirk officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Pallbearers are Robert Chapman, Edward Chapman, Keith Copper, Johnny Rowbotham, Randy Bryant and Jerry Savage.

The family requests memorials be directed to Alzheimer's Association, P.O. Box 3389, Midland, Texas 79702.

June Sullivan

June Rose Boggs Sullivan was born April 3, 1923 in Port Arthur, Texas to Earl Leroy Gish and Alpha Irene McCranie Gish. She graduated from Nederland High School in Nederland, Texas and from Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. She taught first grade in McCamey, Texas, Hobbs, New Mexico, Houston, Texas and many years at Holy Trinity Episcopal School in Midland, Texas.

Survivors include a sister, Gloria, and her husband, John Ware, of Lincoln, Nebraska; and three nephews, Randy Ware, John R. Ware III and David Ware, all of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Mrs. Sullivan died Friday, January 7, 2000 in a Midland hospital.

Graveside services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Monday in Resthaven Memorial Park with the Reverend Stockton Williams, of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

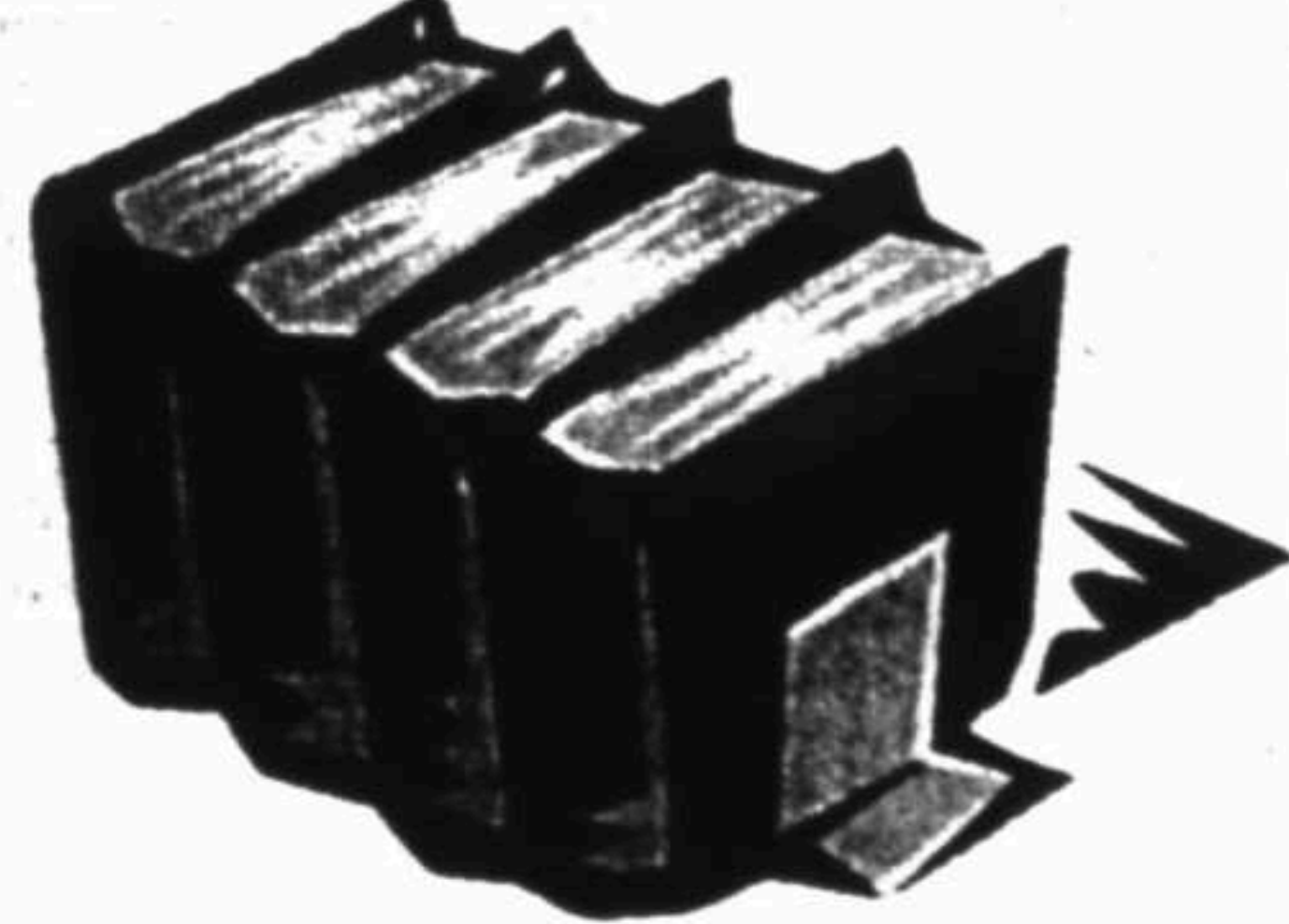
The family requests memorials be directed to Holy Trinity Episcopal School.

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Textbooks being considered for adoption by MISD to be on display January 10-14



MISD will have textbooks on display January 10-14 in Room 501 of the Administration Building from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. The books available for public viewing are those being considered for adoption for use in the following courses:

Reading, English Language Arts -- K-1

Reading -- Grades 2-3 (English/Spanish -- K-3)

Science -- Grades 1-5 (English/Spanish)

Literature -- Grades 9-12

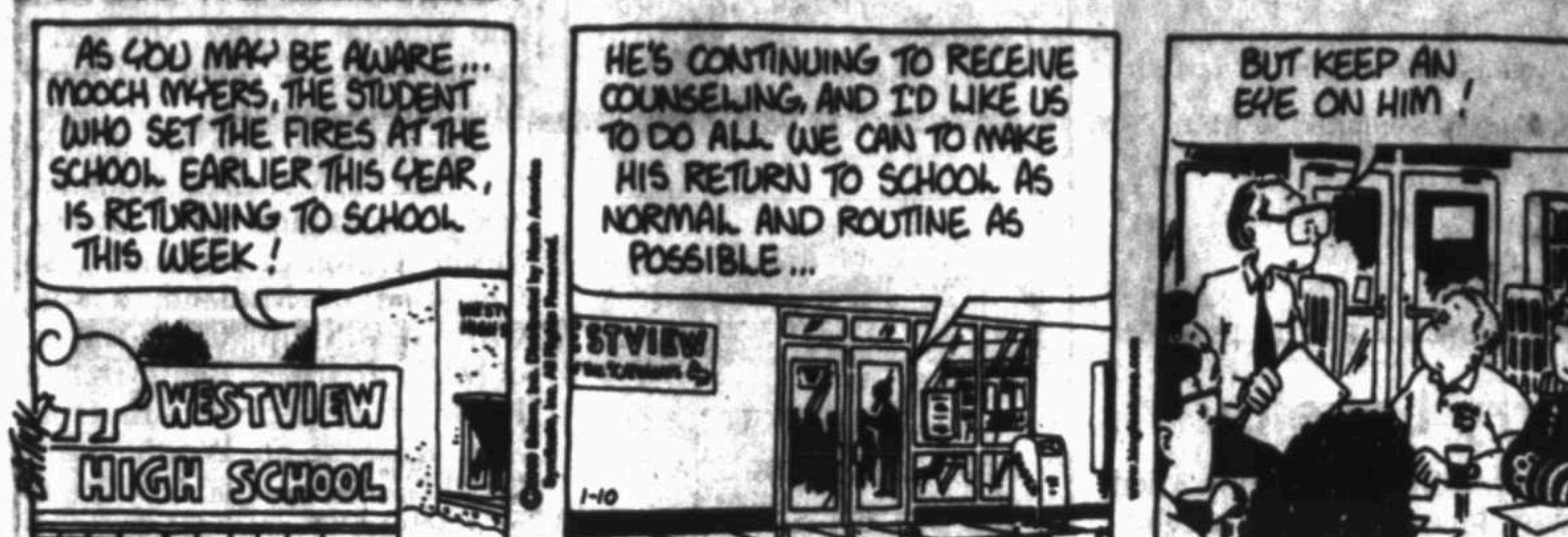
If a citizen or parent requests a public hearing by 5 p.m. January 24, 2000, the hearing will be conducted February 7, 2000, at 7 p.m. in the MISD Board Room.

For further information, call 689-1094

FOR BETTER OR WORSE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



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GARFIELD



CATHY



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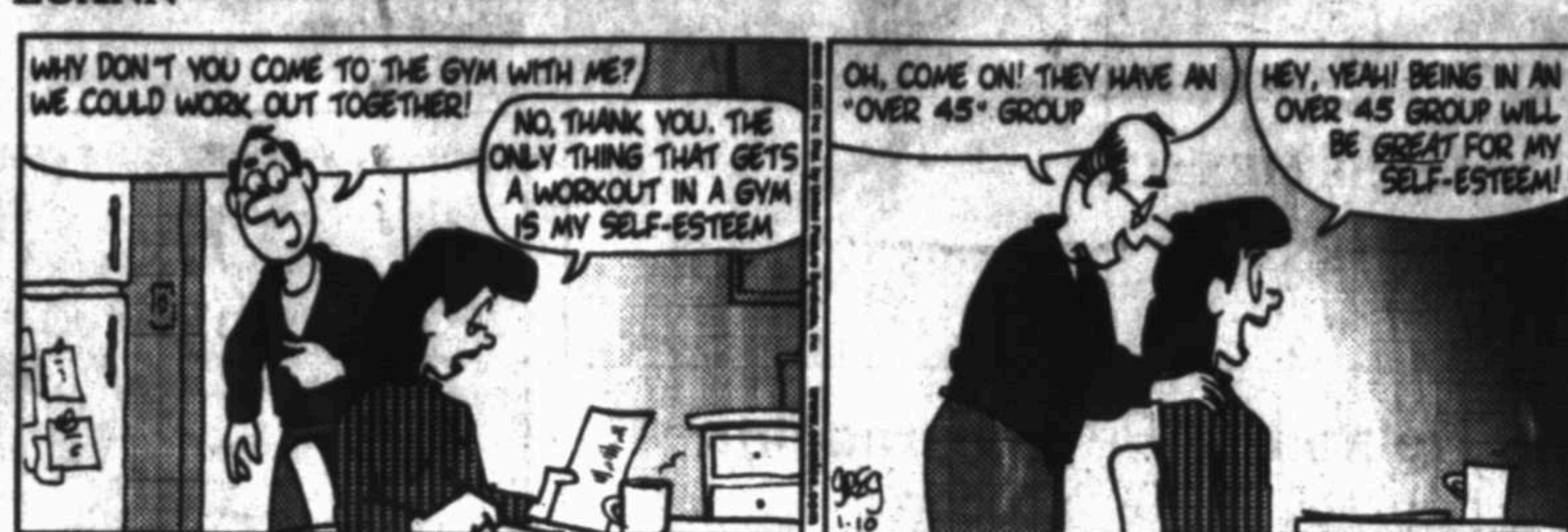
DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



LUANN



MARY WORTH



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Jan. 10, 2000:

Communication is where it's at for you this year. Be direct and verbal. You have high energy and can get anything you want done. You sometimes choose your words too quickly, which causes others to become reactive. Boppe up on your diplomatic skills, and you'll succeed beyond your wildest dreams. If you are single, you draw others like bees to honey. Sort through your possibilities before summer. If attached, add to the quality of your relationship through actively doing things together that you both love. Caring deepens, as does your commitment. PISCES provokes you to be more responsive.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Your mind is working overtime. Nevertheless, say little. Explore ideas with those you trust and understand. Do your research. Irritation over funds or a problem comes down to you, causing a situation to develop. Say no rather than getting angry. Tonight: Continue mulling over ideas.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Though you are generally gentle and laid-back, you could become a pit bull over an issue that's near and dear to your heart. You might not always agree with another. Step over obstacles to reach a chosen goal. You'll get there. Tonight: A success party.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Push comes to shove professionally. Know that you have to back up your words with actions. Evaluate existing obstacles, then clear them out. Demonstrate that you have what it takes to meet your responsibilities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You have a lot of ground to cover as you charge out the door. However, you could be like a dog chasing its tail if you aren't organized. Take time to think and cover your bases. You could easily skip over an important detail. Tonight: Work late.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Reach into your imagination. Use creativity to deal with a rebellious child or a touchy loved one. See past the immediate situation and take a needed risk. Take a brisk walk at

lunch or plan on some exercise later in the day to diffuse pressure. Tonight: Get physical.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You might be more angry about a problem than you think you are. Be smart and deal with it before it deals with you. Loosen up about domestic decisions. You can only exercise so much control over others. Build, rather than destroy. Tonight: Relax at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Actively seek out others. Your smile draws those you care about toward you. Be aware of your verbal expression. You could come off as being far more abrupt than you realize. Instead of choosing efficiency over diplomacy, try mixing them! Tonight: Visit with a pal.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Spending money comes all too easily right now. Think before you leap into action. Your ability to read between the lines carries you far. Understand that you might need to put in overtime or pay the piper to make up for any financial extravagance. Tonight: Order in.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Others might crane their necks to get a look at you. Your reactions and words might strike others as distinctly out of kilter. Use your high energy to get work done and finish off any lingering errands or correspondence. Tonight: Use your animal magnetism!

BORN TODAY

Singer Pat Benatar (1953), singer Gisele MacKenzie (1927), singer Rod Stewart (1945)

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

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Bidding Quiz

Q 1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ Void ♠ 10 6 5 2 ♠ Q 10 9 5 4

♣ J 7 3

The bidding has proceeded:

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♣ 2♣ Pass Pass

3♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A — Partner is showing a very powerful hand, and you could have nothing. However, your two five-card red suits, each headed by an honor, represent a good holding. Certainly, you cannot bid less than four hearts, but we prefer a cue-bid of four clubs, asking partner to choose the suit. Slam in diamonds could be a better proposition than game in hearts on some holdings.

Q 2 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ J 8 3 ♠ A Q 7 2 ♠ 6 5

Q 8 6 2

The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

Pass INT Dbl ?

What action do you take?

A — Your first task is to inform partner that the hand belongs to your side. The textbook way to accomplish that is to redouble. That leaves the way open to double the opponents for penalties or to buy the hand your way.

Q 3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 7 5 4 3 ♠ 9 7 6 5 ♠ A 6

♣ A K 8

North opens the bidding with five diamonds. What action do you take?

A — Partner's pre-empt should show nine tricks at this vulnerability, and your three brings the total up to 12. However, partner cannot have high-card control of both major suits, so there is the possibility of two quick losers in one of them. Pass.

Q 4 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ A K 9 7 2 ♠ A Q 7 ♠ K 4

10 9 7

What is your opening bid?

A — There are those who refuse to open one no-trump when holding a five-card major. But suppose you open one spade and partner responds one no-trump. What now? Two no-trump is an overbid, and anything else misrepresents your holding. Avoid the problem by opening one no-trump.

Q 5 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ Void ♠ K 10 6 4 ♠ Q 10 6 5

♣ A 8 7 5 2

Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

A — You have the makings of a powerful distributional hand — if partner has fillers for your suits. But there is the possibility of a misfit so, for the nonce, be content with a rebid of one spade.

A — You want to probe for a 4-4 fit in a major, but there is no reason why you should not bid your suits up the line. Respond one diamond. Partner will introduce hearts with a four-card holding. If partner bids anything else, raise clubs next.

Q 6 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ A K 8 6 2 ♠ Void ♠ 7 5

♣ A Q 9 6 5 2

The bidding has proceeded:

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♥ Pass

? What do you bid now?

CLOSE TO HOME



Yellowstone park employee Reggie Nordell pulls the practical joke of a lifetime.

ZITS



DENNIS

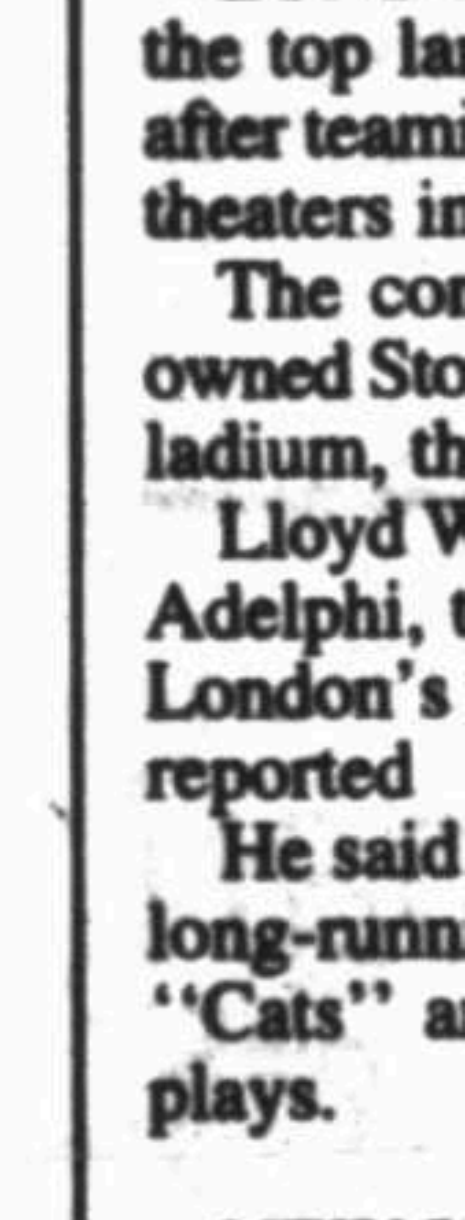
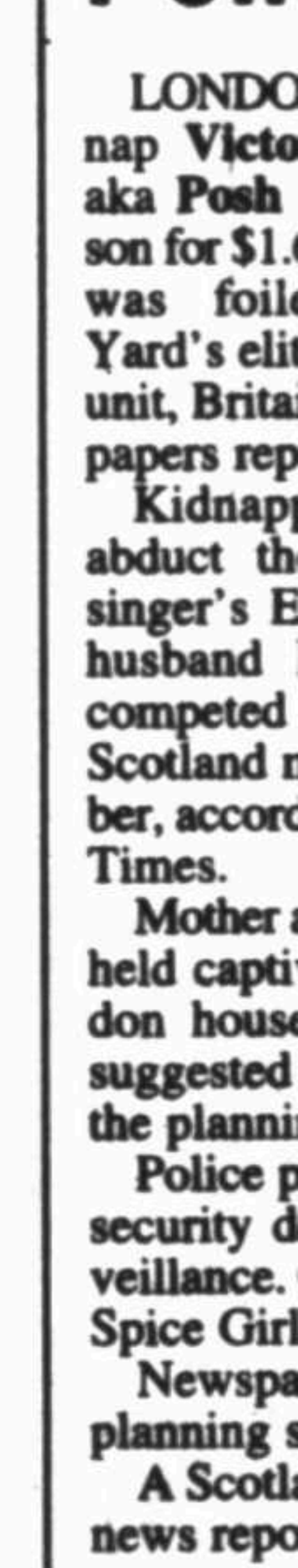


"I PICKED UP A COUPLE OF..."

FAMILY



PEA



ZITS



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



BABY BLUES



TV TONIGHT

MONDAY EVENING

January 10, 2000

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

Broadcast	C	B	6PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
31 KMD	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
32 KPEJ	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
33 KOSA	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
34 KWES	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
35 KMLN	4	12	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
36 KOCV	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
37 CNBC	8	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
38 WGN	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
39 WTBS	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
40 FAM	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
41 DISC	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
42 AMC	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
43 TNM	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
44 TNT	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
45 BRAV	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
46 BET	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
47 DISN	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
48 CNN	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
49 ESPN	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
50 USA	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
51 FX	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
52 A&E	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
53 TNC	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
54 NLC	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
55 LIFE	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
56 OUTDR	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
57 UNI	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
58 FSN	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43
59 COM	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
60 ANIM	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46
61 EI	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
62 TVL	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48
63 ODSY	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
64 HGTV	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
65 MSNBC	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
66 TELE	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52
67 TOON	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53
68 TCM	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54
69 HIST	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55
70 ESPN2	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
71 SFX	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57
72 FLIX	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58
73 SHOW	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
74 TMC	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
75 HBO	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61
76 HBO2	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62
77 HBO3	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
78 MAX	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64
79 MAX2	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65

PEOPLE TODAY

Police foil Spice kidnap plan, papers report

LONDON — A plot to kidnap Victoria Beckham — aka Posh Spice — and her son for \$1.6 million in ransom was foiled by Scotland Yard's elite organized crime unit, Britain's Sunday newspapers reported.

Kidnappers planned to abduct the pair while the singer's English soccer star husband David Beckham competed in a match against Scotland match last November, according to The Sunday Times.

Mother and child were to be held captive in a north London house. One newspaper suggested an underworld crime figure was involved in the planning.

Police placed an undercover officer with the couple's security detail and put their house under 24-hour surveillance. Other officers kept watch over the 25-year-old Spice Girl and her 9-month-old son, Brooklyn.

Newspapers said the kidnappers did not get past the planning stage and no arrests were made.

A Scotland Yard spokeswoman refused to confirm the news reports.



Scotland Yard foils plan to kidnap Posh Spice and her son, British papers claim.

is learning that money doesn't buy happiness.

"When you come from a place with no money like I did, you think that's gonna solve your problems," Durst says in the Jan. 14-16 issue of USA Weekend magazine. "I still get the flu. I still get fat. I still have the same problems I had when I started."

"I thought not having money was the problem. But now I realize it's really about finding inner peace. I don't have it yet."

The rap-metal band's 1997 debut went double platinum while its second album earned a Grammy nomination as best rock album.

NEW YORK — Warren Zevon will soon be 53, so the rocker figured it was about time to write songs about growing old.

"It's an even more wretched human condition than being a misunderstood youth," Zevon says in Sunday's Daily News. "So that makes it perfect for rock 'n' roll kvetching."

The veteran singer-songwriter describes his new album, "Life'll Kill Ya," as a salute to "the grotesque charm of aging."

Known for 1970s hits including "Werewolf in London" and "Excitable Boy," Zevon found himself limited to a cult following after mainstream reviewers branded his quirky, introspective tunes morbid, a classification he still disputes.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The daughter of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. visited Birmingham to present a one-woman play about the civil rights era.

Yolande King co-wrote the play "Achieving the Dream," which features speeches from female characters from the 1950s to the present. Her performance Saturday before a crowd of about 1,000 people was part of activities planned in memory of her father.

In one scene, Ms. King was moved to tears when she played a 19-year-old student at Birmingham's Miles College, who was shocked by the 1963 bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church.

"Every time, that story just grabs my heart. It really does," she said. "To me, the thought of actually putting a bomb in a church where children are going to be ... I can't imagine what kind of animal that was."

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram wire services.

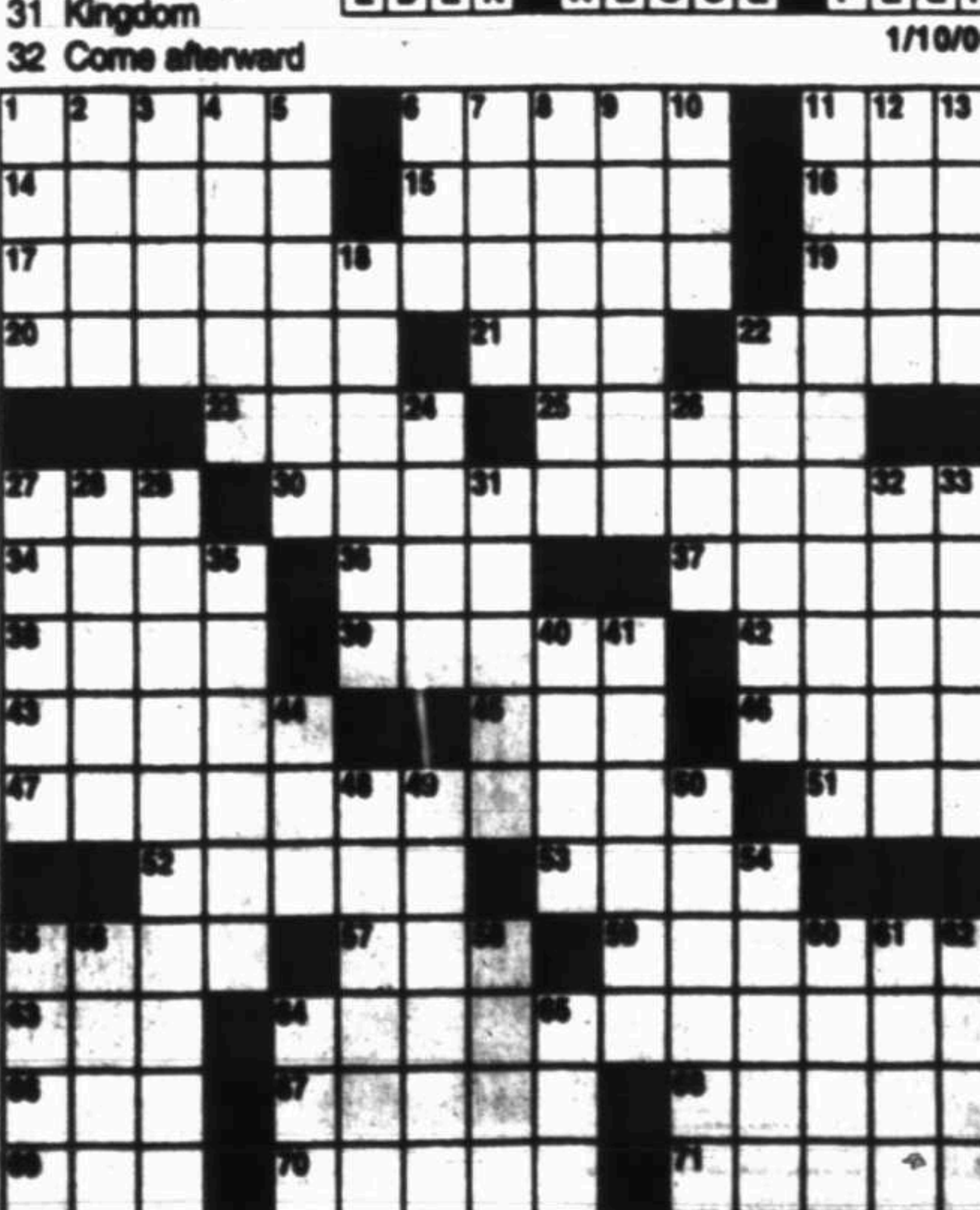
DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited by Fran & Lou Sabin

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43 Like some seals		32 Come afterward	
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57 Wanted poster letters			
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67 Weird			
68 Troubled			
69 Pitcher's stat			

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

PORT	BERRA	AJAR
EMIR	ALoud	ROBE
EAVE	SLUSH	EYED
WHEN	CHEESE	HAS
EARTH	ORE	TAP
ENS	IMAS	EXCISE
ALASKA	OCHO	
ITSPICTURE	TAKEN	
ROOS	ALLSET	
OFFEND	LOOM	BUG
NUT	BEA	PAESE
WHATDOESIT	SAY	
CLAY	ADDTO	RIDS
HARM	CLEAR	IDLE
EDEN	HESSE	PEER



By Randall Horvath
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1/10/00

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Listen Up!

Scouting teaches many lessons, is fun

By Cory Helms

Joining Boy Scouts is probably the best decision I made in my life. I have learned more in one year than my first and second-grade years together.

I have learned to be proud to be an American citizen. Every time I put up the flag, I hold it up with pride. When I retire the flag, I have to fold it just right and treat it with honor and respect.

I also learned how to respect others and my elders. I took a program called "God and Community" that talked a great deal about respect.

My scoutmaster, Mr. Vaughan, and the assistant scoutmasters are strict in order to teach us responsibility and respect. They teach us to complete our jobs and keep our promises. I had a board of review once, a test you have to take to get to a higher rank, and the scouts who gave it to me were not taking it seriously. One of the scoutmasters stepped in and disciplined the three boys. I learned from this to treat everyone the way that you want to be treated.

Along with learning, we also have a lot of fun by going camping every month. My first camp out was to a ranch to learn wilderness survival.

The troop also went to Austin and toured the state capital and went rappelling down a mountain.

After that I went to Boy Scout Summer Camp at the Scout Ranch near Fort Davis. We earned lots of advancements while we were there. We also went on a five-mile hike to the Notch, a deep swimming hole in a natural spring. We jumped off high rocks into the water. The rocks were so high it felt as if the water slapped you when you hit the surface. It was so much fun you couldn't help doing it over and over. The water was especially cool and refreshing after the long hike.

At the Scout Ranch, we worked on a service project. We wrapped a water pipeline used to get water to the tanks at the top of the mountain for horseback riders and mountaineers. We wrapped it with a fire hose and covered it with stones to protect it.

The best camp out of the year was when we went to Lake Brownwood. We rode a Jet Ski while learning safety tips for boats and other watercraft. We also went skiing and rode in canoes.

Another camp out was to a ranch near San Antonio. We learned about archery and how to shoot rifles and shotguns. We learned the correct safety procedures for shooting and had fun shooting targets and clay pigeons. We also learned to use a compass and a map in the wilderness in an orienteering course.

Cory Helms, 12, is a sixth-grader at Pease Elementary School. He is ranked a Second-Class Scout.

These stories are part of a continuing series about Boy Scouts of America in Midland



Jeffery Alexander is rappelling down a cliff at Cimmarron Cito Camp.

Photo courtesy of John Belden

A troop meeting, from start to finish

By Billy Boyd

As I entered the room, I greeted all of my friends and swapped a few jokes and tales as we began to put away all of the folding chairs that had been left out by another group who used the same room.

As the room was set up, Boy Scout Troop 175's colorful display boards were hung, the flags were brought out and other scouts began to arrive with laughter and chatter.

Then the senior patrol leader called out, "Line up for opening!" and the troop members formed two lines on either side of the room. The murmuring ceased. The opening flag ceremony started. We were called to attention for the ceremony, and I felt proud to be a Boy Scout, especially in this troop.

During the ceremony the Pledge of Allegiance, the Scout Oath and the Scout Law were recited. As I recited

Every day scouting helps me to learn more about myself and about living my life the way God wants me to.

them, I thought about how the virtues and principles of the oath and law make Boy Scouts such a great program.

After the flag ceremony, the members of each patrol in the troop met in their patrol corners, counted attendance and took up the 50 cent dues that are collected at every meeting.

Later, we each got a chair and formed a large semi-circle in the center of the room. It was time for our weekly demo. The week's demo was about the fingerprinting merit badge.

Our guest speaker was Mr. Peetz. Mr. Peetz would help some of us to earn the fingerprinting merit badge at a later date. I was glad that he would donate his time to us. When he had completed the demo, he answered our questions.

After the demo we went downstairs to the gym for a game of basketball. Then we climbed back up the stairs to conclude the meeting with announcements, a prayer and a closing flag ceremony. Finally, we returned everything to the little closet at the back of the room, exchanged farewells, and left for our homes.

I am glad that I discovered the Boy Scouting program three years ago. Every day scouting helps me to learn more about myself and about living my life the way God wants me to.

Billy Boyd is a Life Scout and a member of Troop 175.

Eagle Scout benefits from experiences

By Adam Vaughan

In today's world, the formality and discipline of Scouting can seem to be an anachronism. Why would someone choose to wear a faux military uniform and learn to tie a double half hitch? The answer to this question culminates in achieving Scouting's highest rank. At the time of earning my badge, I thought relatively little of it. However, as my life unfolds, I slowly realize the implications of those two words: Eagle Scout.

As an Eagle Scout, I realized people were suddenly looking upon me with more respect. They assumed I had leadership skills, discipline and a strong "American" moral fiber. In applying for college and, later, a job, I am still asked about my scouting career, even though it is 10 years distant.

Based on these questions, I have reflected on exactly what Scouting gave to me. I must confess that I never learned my knots or mastered the fine art of campfire cooking. However, there are more permanent skills that each Scout learns.

The first of these is a love for the outdoors, even a support for the environment. Scouting exposed me to some of the most beautiful places in America, from the Sangre de Cristo Mountains to Washington, D.C. In this way, I learned to respect and cherish the natural world. Being engulfed by the outdoors became a passion.

On a more personal level, Scouting taught me perseverance, discipline and leadership. These three characteristics are certainly identified with Eagle Scouts.

The Scouting career begins as a low-level endeavor, awaiting instruction from the older scouts. A 12-year-old quickly learns to push through the hard times, whether hiking up a mountain or trying to light a fire.

Slowly, discipline enters the picture. Each scout learns to follow a routine and become organized. Once this discipline is accepted, election to a leadership post is inevitable. Suddenly, the scout is forced to speak before crowds and control a troop having a membership of 50 boys. Through a gradual introduction, leadership comes naturally. The scout simply does what has been done before.

It is these traits that admissions counselors and employers find so attractive. They know success is almost guaranteed. When, at the age of 18, the scout is introduced to the foreign world of a university, he realizes that most of the situations he will face have been handled before. The perseverance required to conquer the Grand Canyon is the same as that required to finish the 20-page paper on aqueducts on Ancient Rome. The discipline required to attend Scouts every Tuesday night is the same as that required to juggle 18 hours of class, work and friends. The leadership tools gained in scouting build natural leaders for the group projects of university classes.

The lessons of Scouting certainly fortified the lessons my parents taught and strengthened my chances for success. As an Eagle Scout, I am instantly viewed by the world as a success, even if I never learned my knots.

Adam Vaughan, 1993 graduate of Midland High School, earned a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering from Vanderbilt University in 1997, and a master's degree in engineering from the University of Texas Southwest Medical Center in 1999. He is a biomedical engineer for Gene Burton and Associates in Nashville, Tenn.

Moving from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts takes some ability to adjust

By Grant Hawkins

There is a big difference between Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. To make this change a scout must be able to adjust immensely.

The main difference is that in Cub Scouts there are adult leaders who lead the Cubs, but in Boy Scouts the boys lead themselves. This is not to say that there are no adults around, but the adults stand back and supervise.

Boy Scouts must learn to get along and how to lead. For example, the den leader will tell a Cub Scout what is going to happen next and how to do it; in Boy Scouts, the kids lead among themselves according to their rank. To get to the next rank, a scout must pass a board of review that the older boys or higher-ranked scouts oversee.

Another big change is that Boy Scouts must move at their own pace to get to the next rank. In Cub Scouts, the den does things as a group so that no one is left behind.

There are also a lot more overnight camp outs at which the scouts have to look out for themselves. More manual labor and work are required in Boy Scouts instead of making crafts as in Cub Scouts. Boy Scouts even have camp outs that are dedicated to making the world a better place.

I have been excited about joining Boy

We got to do cool stuff like snow skiing and wilderness survival camping (where we learned to build our own shelter in the woods).

Scouts ever since my brother joined when he finished Webelos. I was still a Wolf at the time, but I knew that's where I wanted to be in four years.

I was used to being pampered by my den leader and having her do most of the work. Once I got to point where I passed over into Boy Scouts, I was anxious to go to the first meeting.

At my first meeting, I knew there were going to be lots of changes, especially after I saw the scout master lecture a couple of boys who had been goofing off during the flag ceremony. When the meeting was over, I discussed it with my buddies, who had just joined also. We all agreed that we were not sure we liked the strict nature of our new troop.

After about six months had passed and we had gone on a couple of camp outs, I knew that Boy Scouts was going to be a lot more fun. We got to do cool stuff like snow skiing and wilderness



A campsite set up at Boy Scout summer camp.

Photo courtesy of John Belden

survival camping (where we learned to build our own shelter in the woods).

Before long I wasn't anxious about my scoutmaster like I was at first. He even played gags on us. Once he pulled the stakes out of our tent so it would fall on us.

It took a while at first, but now I am very glad I made the decision to continue in scouting.

All in all, Boy Scouts involves doing things for others and learning life skills, while Cub Scouts is mostly just having fun. To go from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts a boy must be able to adjust to these changes.

Grant Hawkins, 11, is a student at Ben Milam Elementary School and a member of Troop No. 175.

JORDAN DAVIS

A simpler lifestyle can keep this complex world from falling apart

By Jordan Davis

I was sitting in my room one morning, bored out of my mind, so I grabbed an old children's book and sat there looking at the pictures, remembering the nights that this was read to me before I was tucked in.

I had a strange feeling that this simple thing was of major impact on my life.

My life has been one big fairy tale. Me, trying to be the hero, trying to rescue the damsel in distress, being a super hero, having my own kingdom named after me.

Then an idea popped into my head. The only way

The only way to a perfect life is to be simple. I know it sounds a bit banal; it's been said in many different ways. But have you ever thought about how much better life would be if it weren't so complex?

to a perfect life is to be simple. I know it sounds a bit banal; it's been said in many different ways. But have you ever thought about how much better life would be if it weren't so complex?

We try to answer life's mysteries. What if we didn't strive so hard to answer these? Yes, there are some that were justly needed, such as discovering the world was round. But in today's world we have been too busy making everything so complex that, well, we haven't really had time to stop and smell

the roses.

Just look at how we have made a wide-spread crisis — namely, the Y2K bug — out of something that wasn't even a problem. We base our world on computers so much that it has been called the end of the world bug. Maybe instead of relying on computers so much, we should use our minds. They are useful sometimes.

It's been said that we only use 10 percent of our mind's powers. I disagree; we rely on computers

so much now that I believe we only use about five percent.

Another problem I see with the complexity of the world is the steps taken to prevent things. For example, one of the new laws put into effect says you have to be 18 years old to buy duct tape because if you misuse the tape it can make you high.

Hmm... this concept seems a little odd. Last time I checked, I didn't see any teen-age drug addicts on the street asking me to spare some change for their insatiable desire to smoke duct tape.

What I am getting at is just like building a house out of a deck of cards, the more complex you make it, the more careful you have to be not to make it fall. So I leave you with a question — do we want to make this world so complex that it falls apart?

Jordan Davis is a junior at Midland High School.

MC hoop teams open WJCAC play at Frank Phillips

By Oscar LeRoy
Sports Writer

The real season for both Midland College basketball teams starts today when they open Western Junior College Athletic Conference play at Frank Phillips College.

The 11th ranked Lady Chaparrals and Lady Plainsmen (6-7) get started at 6 p.m., while the MC men tangle with the Plainsmen (4-8) at 8 p.m.

Going into conference play, both Midland College teams have impressive records as the Lady Chaps go to Borgerville with a 12-4 mark, while the Chaparrals head to FPC with a 13-3 record. But as we've all heard before, "Championships are not won in November or December."

The Midland College women under sixth-year head coach Ron Jones always have high expectations, and this year is no different. To prepare the Lady Chaps for conference, the team embarked on one of the toughest non-conference schedules ever at Midland College.

"The four games we did lose were against four very

good teams," said Jones about the losses to Trinity Valley, Tyler J.C., Weatherford and Independence (Kan.) C.C. — all nationally ranked teams. "I'm only disappointed that we had a chance to win each of those games, but we just didn't find a way to get it done."

You can bet the Lady Chaps will be in the thick of things again in the race for the WJCAC championship. Midland College has shared or won the conference title outright three years in a row.

Last year, the Lady Chaps were dominant in conference play with a record of 14-0, the first time a WJCAC women's team has gone undefeated under the 14-game schedule. Jones doesn't know if his team can duplicate what was done last year but the thinking around the Lady Chaps is taking one game at a time.

"It's tough to go 14-0 because it's a tough conference," Jones said. "What we do is approach it one week at a time. My main concern right now is to be in first place after Monday night."

There's no doubt that every team in the WJCAC will

be gunning for the preseason conference favorite Lady Chaps this season and that doesn't seem to bother the Lady Chaps one bit.

"I guess I want to be the hunted rather than the hunter because it means that your program is at the top," Jones said. "I think if we can play up to our potential we have as good a shot as anybody."

Up to this point of the season, Jones has stressed improvement, improvement, improvement. As far as the Lady Chaps mentor is concerned there are plenty of areas they can still work on in order to prepare for the Region V playoffs in March.

"We're still trying to get better in some areas," Jones said. "I think more than anything else, we need to work on our half-court defense because it tends to break down more than we like. Overall, I've been pleased with the direction we're going."

WJCAC WOMEN NOTES: Five of the eight

Please see WJCAC/2C

WJCAC Preseason Poll	
Women	
1.	Midland College
2.	Howard College
3.	South Plains College
4.	Western Texas College
5.	New Mexico J.C.
6.	Oleesa College
7.	Frank Phillips College
8.	Clarendon College
Men	
1.	Howard College
2.	South Plains College
3.	Midland College
4.	Oleesa College
5.	Frank Phillips College
6.	New Mexico J.C.
7.	New Mexico Military
8.	Clarendon College

Captain George sinks Cowboys, 27-10



Minnesota Vikings quarterback Jeff George (3) drops back to throw a 17-yard pass to Randy Moss in the second quarter before Dallas Cowboys defensive end Peppi Zellner (93) can stop him in Minneapolis on Sunday. George threw for three touchdowns as the Vikings beat the Cowboys 27-10.

AP Photo

George throws for 3 TDs as Vikings oust Cowboys

By Arnie Stapleton
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Jeff George waited a decade for postseason glory, and his first taste has him hooked.

"Long time coming for this and it's nice, but it's just one game," said the cantankerous quarterback with a powerful arm and checkered career who won his first playoff game Sunday.

"This team's ultimate goal, just like everyone else's, is to win a championship," said George, who guided the Minnesota Vikings and their talented receivers and runners past the Dallas Cowboys 27-10 in a wild-card matchup.

George threw TD passes of 26 yards to Robert Smith, 58 yards to Randy Moss and 5 yards to Cris Carter as the Vikings (11-6) advanced to face St. Louis in the divisional round.

"They're supposed to be the best. We think we're the best," Moss said of the top-seeded Rams.

"They could be the Vikings of '98," who lost at home in the conference championship, added Moss, who caught five passes for 127 yards. "I don't think the people down in St. Louis would like that comment."

Dallas (8-9) failed to become the first .500 team to win a playoff game following a full season. The Cowboys lost their eighth straight road game despite a record-breaking performance by tailback Emmitt Smith, who became the

NFL's career leading rusher in the playoffs.

"Eight-and-nine, mediocre, up and down, nothing consistent, consistently bad at times," Smith said of the Cowboys' roller coaster season. "Showing some signs of brilliance and being a very good ballclub, but a team that couldn't put it all together."

The Vikings have put it together with four straight victories.

George lost his only other playoff game, at Green Bay in 1995 when he was with the Atlanta Falcons, one of three teams that ran him out of town before he salvaged his career in Minnesota, where he is 9-2 as the starter.

"A smile goes a long way and that's something that I haven't been able to do in the last few years," George said. "And just being out there on the field, being around a great group of guys, a great supporting cast, a lot of smiling going on. That stuff's contagious."

"And whether it took me eight or nine years to figure it out, I finally figured it out. And it's a lot of fun."

George started slowly and didn't complete his first pass until the second quarter after Dallas had a 10-3 lead. But he threw a 26-yard screen to Smith for a TD to tie it, then found Moss for the score 28 seconds before halftime for a 17-10 lead.

George completed 12-of-25 passes for 212 yards and no interceptions. Robert Smith rushed 28 times for 140 yards, breaking his team playoff record of 124 yards set last year.

"It's really special to have a back of that caliber behind me," George said.

Deion Sanders said he couldn't believe the pass-happy Vikings torched the Cowboys on the ground.

Please see DALLAS/2C

Dallas' playoff slide continues with first-round loss to Vikings

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Mistakes, miscommunication and muffs. My, how the Dallas Cowboys have changed.

Dallas, the team that won three Super Bowls from 1992-1995, has now lost three straight playoff games after its 27-10 defeat at Minnesota on Sunday.

And, after a game in which they lost the ball four times and dropped countless passes, the Cowboys (8-9) were left wondering where their dynasty has gone.

"I think this was pretty reminiscent of the year we had," said quarterback Troy Aikman, who threw for 286 yards but no touchdowns. "You get in a game like this and it comes down to a few plays."

"Today's game symbolized the whole season," running back Emmitt Smith said. "It's like a roller coaster — up and down, up and down."

Smith, who rushed for 99 yards and became the NFL's career leading rusher in playoff history, said

the Cowboys, who lost four of their top five receivers since training camp, underachieved.

"I never would have dreamed how inconsistent we would be," Smith said.

"We had our chances and we let them get away," Aikman added.

Last year, Aikman threw three interceptions in a first-round 20-7 loss at home to Arizona in the first round. The Cowboys lost their previous playoff game 26-17 to Carolina in the 1996 season.

Taking advantage of opportunities is exactly what Dallas prided itself on in dominating the mid-90s, with a 49-15 regular-season record from 1992-1995. The last four years, however, the Cowboys have been a much different team at 34-30.

Missing this season with neck injuries were wide receiver Michael Irvin and fullback Daryl Johnston, and in their place were wide receivers Jason Tucker, Chris Brazzell and fullback Robert Thomas. Irvin

went down in the first game of the season and Johnston missed the entire year.

"I think we have a lot of inexperienced players and a lot of young players that may not understand truly what it means to be a professional athlete," Smith said.

"I'm trying to let the players know there are small things that go along with being a professional athlete to give you that mental edge," Smith said. "If you don't have that mental edge you're going to get defeated almost every time."

It was one of Dallas' veterans that made the first big mistake on Sunday.

Deion Sanders' muff at his own 30-yard line of Mitch Berger's punt in the first quarter led to Minnesota's first field goal. Thomas' fumble with 11:44 left in the second led to the Vikings' first touchdown.

"That's not acceptable in a game of this caliber," Sanders said of his drop.

Sanders, whose contract is up this season, said he was unsure if he would be back next season.

"I can't tell you if that was my last game in a Dallas Cowboys' uniform," Sanders said. "I would love to come back."

The Cowboys lost their final eight road games, even though they led in each of them.

During their glory years, Smith ran behind his behemoth offensive line and Aikman threw to Irvin to keep defenses from stacking up the line of scrimmage to stop Smith. The Cowboys would then turn to their quick defense to close out games.

On Sunday, they went ahead 10-3 but couldn't hold on, giving up the game's final 24 points.

"If you make that many mistakes, and there were different types — there were turnovers, there were dropped passes and mental mistakes — you don't give yourself a great chance to win," coach Chan Gailey said.

Marino, Dolphins live to see another playoff game after beating Seahawks

By Dave Goldberg
AP Football Writer

SEATTLE — There's some football left in Dan Marino after all. And a lot of rebound in the Miami defense.

The NFL's 38-year-old career passing leader, playing in the shadow of speculation he is about to retire, pulled off some of his old magic, keeping the Miami Dolphins in the playoffs Sunday with a 20-17 over the Seattle Seahawks in the final football game in the Kingdom.

The defense, which struggled down the stretch this season, never let the Seahawks move beyond their 29 in their last two possessions.

Most magical was an 11-play, 85-yard drive capped by J.J. Johnson's 2-yard run

for the winning score with 4:48 left. Marino was 4-for-7 for 84 yards on the drive, including completions of 23 yards to Tony Martin on third-and-12 from his 13, and a 24-yard third-down completion to Oronde Gadsden at the 5-yard line that set up Johnson's game-winner.

"Dan did a great job of executing the plan, he did a great job of throwing the ball," said coach Jimmy Johnson, who hasn't been on great terms with Marino for much of this year.

Marino's counterpart is now rooting for him, too.

"Now that it's over for us, maybe Dan will get the Super Bowl ring he deserves to cap off a great career," said Seattle quarterback Jon Kitna. "He did what he had to do, particularly in the fourth quarter. He made some great throws."

It was the 37th fourth-quarter comeback of Marino's career, second only to John Elway, and it sent the Dolphins (10-7) to Jacksonville for a second-round AFC playoff game with the Jaguars next Saturday. Tennessee will be at Indianapolis in the other AFC game Sunday.

Marino, who was 17-of-30 for 196

yards and had a 1-yard TD pass to Gadsden, didn't do it alone as Miami won on the road in the playoffs for the first time since a victory in Pittsburgh in 1972.

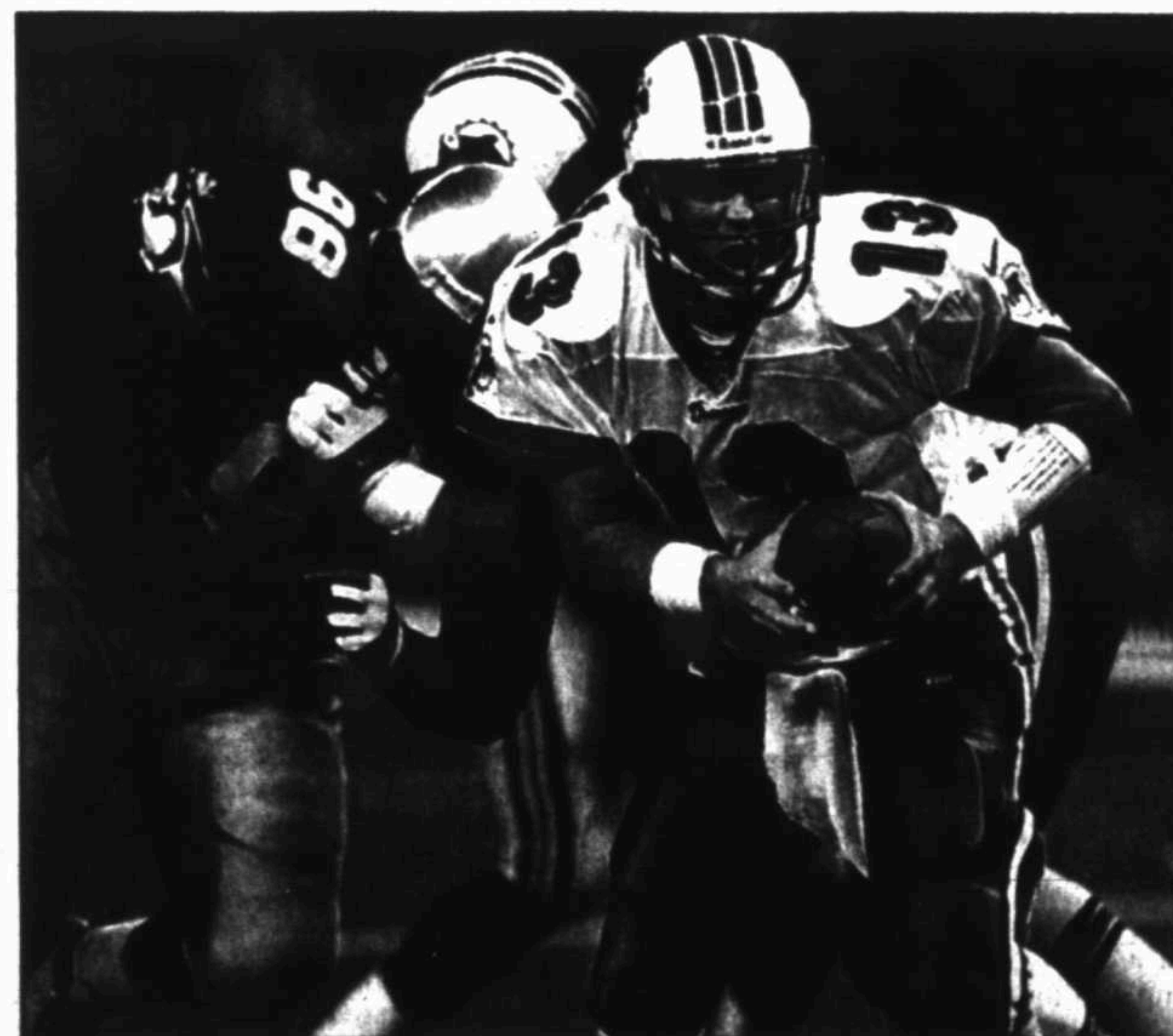
The defense, meanwhile, sacked Jon Kitna six times, three by Trace Armstrong, and held the Seahawks to just 171 yards, 32 in the second half. Two of Armstrong's sacks came on one series after the go-ahead TD, and Armstrong almost got a fourth — Kitna got a 1-yard gain, so it wasn't a sack.

"I've had a bunch of twos," the 34-year-old Armstrong said. "But not many like this."

This game was hard work for both struggling teams — like Miami, Seattle lost five of its last six regular-season games. It backed into the AFC West title and was struggling on offense coming in.

Seattle's biggest play was by the special teams, an 85-yard kickoff return by rookie Charlie Rogers after Marino's pass to Gadsden tied the game at 10 in the third quarter. Even that was flawed — Rogers bobbled the ball before picking it up and racing for the touchdown.

Johnson thought the aftermath of the



Miami Dolphins quarterback Dan Marino (13) drops back to hand off the ball as Seattle Seahawks Sam Adams (98) is blocked during the first quarter of their AFC wild card playoff game Sunday in Seattle. Miami won 20-17.

return was the key for the Dolphins.

"It's not the bad thing that get you beat, it's how you react to bad things,"

Johnson said. "We worked hard to tie the game and then they go right back up

Please see MIAMI/2C

JACKALOPES HOCKEY

Odessa closes out Cajun road trip with 7-4 victory

Staff Report

MONROE, La. — All things considered, the trip to the Sportsman's Paradise was quite successful for the Odessa Jackalopes. The Jacks won their second game in three nights on a Louisiana road trip, beating the Monroe Moccasins, 7-4, Sunday night to carry momentum into the all-star break. With a 10-5-3 record under new coach Don McKee, Odessa appears to be rolling in the right direction and can enjoy the break until facing New Mexico on Jan. 18.

The Jacks showed no ill effects from being shut out by Shreveport a night earlier. They never trailed and took a 1-0 lead on a goal less than five minutes into the game by John Bossio, who also had two assists.

In the second period, after Monroe tied the game 1-1, Paul

Vincent took over by scoring two goals which stretched Odessa's lead to 4-1, and the Jacks were able to cruise comfortably from there.

Vincent also had an assist, while Jason Heywood had three assists for Odessa.

Vincent and Jacques Rodrigue, who scored a shorthanded goal in the third period for the Jacks, will represent the Jacks at the all-star game.

JACKS NOTES: Odessa picked up defenseman Gregg Lalonde on waivers from Lubbock earlier Sunday. Roy Gray, another defenseman, was also activated off the injured list.

Odessa Jackalopes 7, Monroe Moccasins 4
 Odessa 1 4 2 — 7
 Monroe 0 1 3 — 4
 First period — 1. O Bossio (Heywood, Vincent), 4:36. 2. M McKay (Daimno), 17:57.
 Second period — 3. O Vincent (Bossio), 0:15. 4. O Doyle (unassisted), 2:29. 5. O Vincent (Hillman, Heywood), 14:16. 6. O Rodrigue (Heywood, Perricone), 16:03.
 Third period — 7. M McKay (Smith), 2:30. 8. M Smith (Parent, McKay), 13:45. 9. O Volkes (Bossio), 15:16. 10. O Rodrigue (unassisted), 17:47. 11. M Freeman (Carriere, Rowland), 18:05.

DALLAS: Vikes' Smith helps beat up Cowboys

(From 1C)

"If someone told us we'd hold them to 180 yards passing, we would have done cartwheels on the plane," Sanders said.

"Every time there wasn't a hole," fullback Leroy Hoard said, "we pushed the pile five yards."

Moss dropped what would have been a 60-yard TD catch just after halftime. But he did haul in a 24-yarder that helped set up Gary Anderson's 38-yard field goal that made it 20-10 and gave Anderson an NFL-record 127 points in the playoffs.

Carter, the Vikings' only All-Pro player, didn't catch a pass until 12:40 remained, but it was a 5-yard bullet for a touchdown that made it 27-10.

The Cowboys committed two costly turnovers deep in their territory that led to 10 Minnesota points in the first half.

A punt bounced off Sanders' chest at his 30, and Anderson followed with a 47-yard field goal. Dallas fullback Robert Thomas fumbled at his 23 and Anthony Bass recovered, leading to Robert Smith's TD that tied it at 10. Smith, who didn't play the last time these teams met, juiced George Teague to the ground at the 10-yard line and sauntered into the end zone behind a block from Carter.

In the first quarter, Emmitt Smith, who ripped through a porous Minnesota defense in November for 140 yards and two touchdowns in just 1 1/2 quarters before breaking a hand, broke free for a 65-yard run, a Cowboys playoff best. Kenny Wright chased him down at the 3, saving a touchdown that might have been devastating.

"I don't know if it would have changed things, but it would have set a nice tone," Smith said.

The Vikings stuffed Smith twice and Troy Aikman overthrew David LaFleur, so the Cowboys settled for Eddie Murray's 18-yard field goal and a 3-0 lead.

Sanders' muffed punt was recovered by Minnesota's Dwayne Rudd at the Dallas 30, and Anderson tied it at 3.

MIAMI: Dolphins next face Jacksonville Jags

(From 1C)

on the kickoff return. Our guys could have very well crumbled at that time. Instead, I think they showed what's inside them."

Seattle coach Mike Holmgren suggested the kickoff and an onside kick recovered by Miami cooled off the offense.

"We only had three offensive snaps in the third quarter," he said. "It was hard to get back momentum."

All this overshadowed the pregame speculation about Marino, 4-6 in 10 starts in the regular season.

This game also might have prolonged the coaching career of Johnson, who stepped down for 12 hours a year ago before reconsidering and reportedly is thinking of doing the same this year.

Seattle led 10-3 at halftime as its defense limited the Dolphins to 69 yards.

The Seahawks scored on their second possession on a 9-yard pass from Kitna to Sean Dawkins at the end of an eight-play, 47-yard drive.

Miami's only first-half scoring drive resulted in a 32-yard field goal by Olindo Mare after Johnson declined to go for a first down on fourth-and-1 at the Seattle 13.

Aikman completed passes of 45 and 25 yards to Raghib Ismail on a 79-yard drive. Smith capped with a 5-yard cutback run for a 10-3 lead. Smith's 21st playoff TD tied Thurman Thomas' NFL record. Smith also surpassed Franco Harris' playoff record of 1,556 yards rushing on the score.

He finished with 99 yards and 1,586 yards alltime.

Jason Tucker fumbled the ball out of the end zone with 8:47 remaining for a touchback and Robert Griffith picked off Aikman's pass with 3:37 left.

The Vikings, who had 40 turnovers in the regular season, the most of any playoff team, didn't have any Sunday, compared to Dallas' three.

"I think this was pretty reminiscent of the year we had," Aikman said. "You get in a game like this and it comes down to a few plays. We had our chances and we let them get away."

Notes: George's three TD passes tied a team playoff record. ... Carter wasn't on the field for the Vikings' last play of the first half, a desperation pass, because he had been waiting on the other side of the field so he could get through the tunnel and into the locker room first. ... Both Smiths rushed for 80 yards by halftime.

Todd Peterson's 50-yarder with 45 seconds before intermission was the other Seattle score.

But Miami opened the second half by almost doubling its yardage output, going 60 yards in 10 plays, capped by Marino's 1-yard TD pass to Gadsden. Marino, who was just 5-of-8 for 28 yards in the first half, was 6-of-6 for 55 yards on the drive.

Then came Rogers' return, which stood up until Marino demonstrated his old magic.

That was good enough for Johnson.

"One road win in the playoffs after you haven't done that for 28 years goes a long way," Johnson said.

So does one aged quarterback. "Dan is a legend in this game," Armstrong said. "No one is more respected or loved on this team than Dan. It was great for him to have a great day."

Notes: Rogers' TD on a kickoff return was the first of his career. He had a 94-yard touchdown return on a punt against Pittsburgh on Sept. 26. ... Marino's touchdown pass was his 31st in the playoffs, moving him into sole possession of second place on the career list ahead of Terry Bradshaw.

Woods rides waves to Mercedes crown

By Doug Ferguson
AP Golf Writer

KAPALUA, Hawaii — Even by Maui's standards, Tiger Woods is riding an incredible wave. And there's no indication he's about to get knocked off.

Pushed into a heart-stopping playoff by two-time U.S. Open champion Ernie Els, Woods kept alive golf's longest winning streak in 46 years Sunday with a 40-foot birdie putt on the second sudden-death hole to win the Mercedes Championship.

It was his fifth consecutive victory, the most since Ben Hogan won five straight tournaments in 1953, and inched Woods a little closer to the record once thought untouchable — 11 straight by Byron Nelson in 1945.

"It feels a lot better when you can beat the best players," Woods said. "Fortunately, I got him this time."

With a spectacular finish to the first tournament of the year, Woods and Els matched eagles on the 18th hole to force the playoff, and Woods made a 6-foot birdie putt on the same hole 20 minutes later to keep the playoff going.

He ended it with his 40-footer on the first hole, stepping off to the side as it got closer and unleashing a fist pump as it fell. Els tried to keep the thriller alive, but his 35-footer stopped about a foot short of the hole.

"I think he's a legend in the making," Els said. "You guys have helped, but he's backed it up with his golf game. He's 24. He's probably going to be bigger than Elvis when he gets into his 40s."

Along with \$522,000 — enough to move him to No. 3 on career money list after fewer than four full seasons on the PGA Tour — Woods won a Mercedes SL500 Sport that sells for \$88,000 and a blazer made of cashmere and silk valued at \$3,300.

He also sent a scary message to the rest of the PGA Tour. It will likely take a superhuman effort to beat him.

"We were both out there grinding our butts off," Woods said. "To make a putt like this, that's all you can ask for."

Els outplayed Woods from tee to green, but missed two short putts on the back nine that might have sealed the victory before it reached the 18th hole.

"At least I pushed him to extra time," said the South African known as the "Big Easy."

Woods gave Els new hope when he missed the green on No. 17 and lipped out a par putt. What had been a great display of golf only soared to another level.

"When you're in competition that close, you don't realize what you're doing," Woods said.

"You're just trying to hit this shot, right here, right now."

That's what they did. Both players bombed their drives on the 663-yard closing hole, Els a few yards longer. Woods hit first, a 3-wood that hit softly on the right side of the green and caught the slope, rolling closer to the hole until it stopped 8 feet away.

As he had done all day, Els was up to the challenge. His 3-wood hit short, bounded onto the green and stopped 6 feet away. Both gave each other a thumbs-up and a smile as they walked to the green.

Woods again put on the heat by making his eagle putt, worthy of a trademark pump of the fist. The Big Easy didn't blink, and rolled his eagle putt on top of Woods to force a playoff.

Els again hit the 18th green in the playoff with a 3-wood from 323 yards, while Woods' approach stayed right of the green. His 60-foot effort came up 6 feet below the hole, and Els thought he had it won until his 30-foot eagle putt veered off to the right at the last turn.

Woods made his birdie, then clinched the 16th victory of his young career on the next hole with a putt that surprised everyone but Woods.

"If you believe in something so hard ... it will go in," he said. Believe it.

Dating to the NEC Invitation in August, Woods is the first player to win five straight PGA Tour events since 1948, the year Hogan went on to win six straight.

The tour does not recognize Hogan's streak in 1953 because it didn't count the British Open as official until 1995.

The list of Woods' victims is impressive — Phil Mickelson in the NEC, Els at Disney, Davis Love III in the Tour Championship, hometown favorite Miguel Angel Jimenez in Spain and Els again in Hawaii.

Woods and Els both finished with a 68 for 16-under 276. Defending champion David Duval had a 68 and was four strokes behind.

Woods now has won eight out of his last 11 PGA events, an astounding display of dominance. It also was the 14th time he has won worldwide when he has had at least a share of the lead after 54 holes.

Mike Weir made five straight birdies on the back nine and had a 67 to finish fourth at 285, along with Jim Furyk.

That Woods and Els were the only players to break par all four rounds was a testament to their play this week, considering the trade winds out of the northeast



AP Photo

Tiger Woods reacts after sinking a birdie putt on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff to beat Ernie Els at the Plantation Course during the final round of the Mercedes Championship.

were strong all four days. The winds were tolerable Sunday, and 18 players broke par. Carlos Franco had the best round, a bogey-free 67 that left him at 287 with Jesper Parnevik.

But everything gave way to a thrilling duel between Woods and Els, staged on the hilly terrain above the Pacific Ocean as humpback whales frolicked below.

Tied at 11-under to start the final round, Els drew first blood with a 5-iron on the 218-yard second hole that stopped 3 feet by the hole for a birdie. Woods stayed in the game with two crucial 6-footers, one to save par on No. 2 and another on the par-5 fifth for birdie after his approach found the bunker.

Woods pulled even with a 12-foot birdie on No. 6, but then he three-putted from 30 feet on the next hole to slip one back. Both missed birdie chances on No. 8, and both closed out the front nine with birdies.

Els said it would come down to the back nine Sunday, and he could have easily backed down

from the head-to-head challenge against the No. 1 player in the world. The South African made only his second score worse than par all week — a bogey on No. 10, and saw Woods take a one-stroke lead by making a 5-foot birdie putt.

But Els answered, hitting the flag with his tee shot on the par-3 11th and making the 2-foot-er to pull into a tie.

He also made a nice par save two holes later, but wasted a chance to take the lead when he missed a 4-foot birdie putt on No. 14, and missed another chance with a 6-foot birdie that lipped out on No. 16.

Woods is not interested in The Streak. By his account, it ended with his four straight to end the 1999 season in Valderrama — also won in a playoff against Miguel Angel Jimenez.

But it will follow him until he loses. The next stop is likely four weeks away in Pebble Beach, when he starts his West Coast swing that eventually will take him to the Masters.

WJCAC: Lady Chaps seek 4th straight title

(From 1C)

schools in the conference have first-year head coaches including Midland College rivals Odessa College (Trisha Floyd) and Howard College (Ron Mayberry).

Both of those teams may provide the biggest challenges in the Lady Chaps' hopes of a fourth consecutive title. "I haven't seen Odessa play but what I've seen in the scores and from what I've read, it seems that they may have improved some," Jones said.

"Howard has the same record as we do. The one thing that may be a little different this year is that they don't have as much depth as they've had in the past."

Chaps head into WJCAC play with momentum
 Going into the season, it was unknown how the Midland College Chaparrals were going to perform under first-year head coach Junsie Cotten.

So far so good as the Chaps have posted the best record among WJCAC teams so far. Cotten, however, doesn't want his team to get satisfied with what it's done up to this point.

"I think if we can go into conference with the mindset that we can defend and rebound we can win this conference," Cotten said.

Defending and rebounding have been two keys Cotten has placed on how well his team does this season. So far they've done both things rather well, although defending is still an area in which the Chaps can improve in.

The strengths on this team may lie at the guard position and experience which go hand in hand. Five sophomores return from

WJCAC STANDINGS

Women					Men				
	Conference		Season			Conference		Season	
	W	L	W	L		W	L	W	L
Midland College	0	0	12	4	Midland College	0	0	13	3
Howard College	0	0	12	4	New Mexico Military	0	0	9	5
Odessa College	0	0	10	6	Clarendon	0	0	8	5
South Plains	0	0	8	7	Howard College	0	0	8	7
Clarendon	0	0	6	6	South Plains	0	0	6	9
Frank Phillips	0	0	6	7	New Mexico JC	0	0	6	9
New Mexico JC	0	0	5	8	Frank Phillips	0	0	4	8
Western Texas	0	0	2	14					

Monday's Schedule
 Midland College at Frank Phillips;
 South Plains College at Odessa College;
 Western Texas at Howard College;
 Clarendon at New Mexico Junior College.

the 1998-99 squad which went through the WJCAC battles.

Last year, the Chaps had no one with experience in WJCAC play and the result was a 6-8 record and fourth place finish in conference. Many of those losses could've gone the other way but failed to go the Chaps' way in the final minutes of the game.

"I think it's going to help us out tremendously having guys that have played in this league," Cotten said. "Winning close games is what we have to do to win a championship. I expect every game this season to come down to the last five minutes. I hope that we have matured from last year and I hope we can win the close games. I think that will be the telling story of the conference this season — the teams that control the last five minutes of the game will win."

Returning sophomore guard Eugene Costello agrees that many of the games will come down to the final possessions. He said the team has learned from last year and may have a little extra incentive this season.

"This year I think we want it more than anybody," said Costello, who leads the team with a 23.9 points-per-game average. "Coming into last year a lot of us didn't know what to expect. A lot of us were coming from high school to college, that was a big transition."

Frank Phillips will tell if the Chaps learned their lesson from last season. Cotten said despite the Plainsmen's 4-8 record, they are very capable of beating the Chaps.

"It's always tough to play in Borger," Cotten said. "You never know how your kids are going to respond with the drive up there. But as long as we can defend and rebound we have a great chance."

WJCAC MEN NOTES: Midland College is one of two schools with new head coaches. The other is New Mexico Junior College, which for the first time in 22 years will be without Ron Black, who retired at the end of last season. Longtime assistant Jeff McCool took over as head coach of the Thunderbirds... Howard College is the preseason

pick to win the WJCAC as the Hawks went undefeated last season with 14-0 conference mark. The Hawks should be in contention again under seventh-year head coach Tommy Collins... Midland College was picked behind struggling South Plains in the preseason coaches poll... Dark horses to win the conference will be New Mexico Military and Clarendon — two teams which did well in non-conference play and have experienced coaches in Joe Mondragon (Clarendon) and Reggie Franklin (NMMI)... Odessa has struggled this season. That's to be expected since the Wranglers lost five key players early in the season because of school suspensions.

Midland College Stats

	Women					
Player	G	PG	FT	FT%	TAVG	
Fatime Ndaye	18	120	76	45	285 17.8	
Julie Rumpsey	16	64	38	28	173 10.8	
x-Nana Lobela	9	33	41	23	89 9.9	
Chanovia Rhodes	16	52	68	43	147 9.2	
Loren Mostaccia	16	45	59	32	122 7.6	
Kandria Wilson	16	44	30	22	122 7.6	
Heidi Lange	16	38	18	10	108 6.8	
Shelkhan Brazzle	16	31	45	32	99 6.2	
Nicole Villarreal	16	29	8	1	86 5.4	
Nikki Maloney	15	20	36	22	85 4.3	
Mia Bette	13	22	15	9	58 4.5	
Jennifer Roemisch	9	5	3	2	14 1.6	
Tynesha Gregory	13	7	2	2	17 1.3	
Melissa Bailey	11	5	7	3	13 1.2	
Totals	16	515	440	27.1	330 67.3	

3-point goals: Villarreal 27, Lange 22, Rumpsey 18, Wilson 12, Brazzle 5, Maloney 3, Bette 3, Roemisch 2, Gregory 1.
 x=too long with team

Men					
Player	G	PG	FT	FT%	TAVG
Eugene Costello	16	115	133	112	383 23.9
Ricky Duff	16	77	43	25	179 11.2
Teolin Conner	16	67	28	18	172 10.8
Alvin Brooks	16	44	31	21	136 8.5
Armon Tillman	16	47	19	9	111 6.9
Quanas White	15	28	28	20	77 5.1
Jason Williams	6	12	5	3	27 4.5
Armon Whitaker	16	16	32	28	66 4.1
Jerome Beasley	14	26	7	4	56 4.0
x-Jermaine Allen	2	2	2	2	8 4.0
Adrian Martin	16	15	31	9	59 2.4
C.J. Young	12	5	3	5	15 1.3
MacKinn Thornton	9	3	18	8	8 0.8
Totals	16	455	373	28.9	277 70.8
3-point goals: Costello 41, Brooks 27, Conner 18, Tillman 8, Whitaker 6, White 5, Allen 2					

3-point goals: Costello 41, Brooks 27, Conner 15, Tillman 8, Whitaker 8, White 5, Allen 2.
 x=academically ineligible

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TAD Rankings

WACO (AP) — The Texas Association of Football Coaches has released its 1999 season rankings with records through Jan. 7.

BOYS

1. Fort Bend Westridge (17-1)
2. The Colony (20-0)
3. San Antonio (19-2)
4. Allamogosa (21-2)
5. Rockwall (21-0)
6. Humble (17-4)
7. South Grand Prairie (19-3)
8. Dallas East (17-4)
9. Garland (17-4)
10. Corpus Christi Miller (17-3)

GIRLS

1. Fort Worth Lincoln (15-2)
2. Dallas Madison (19-1)
3. North Crowley (16-2)
4. Canyon Randall (16-2)
5. Austin LBJ (16-3)
6. Fort Worth Dunbar (16-5)
7. Wofford Frenship (20-1)
8. Dallas Lincoln (20-1)
9. Dallas (17-3)
10. Cedar Hill (16-4)

2A

1. Glen Rose (18-1)
2. Waco Valley (18-2)
3. Seminole (17-5)
4. Buna (16-3)
5. Stafford (16-3)
6. Hitchcock (16-7)
7. Kountze (16-7)
8. Canton (20-2)
9. Gainesville (14-7)
10. Meats (15-4)

2A

1. Nacogdoches Central Heights (16-4)
2. Van Vleet (15-4)
3. Krum (14-3)
4. Peasler (17-4)
5. Port Aransas (18-2)
6. Bogata Rivercrest (20-1)
7. Woden (17-2)
8. Farwell (15-2)
9. Reagan County (16-3)
10. Edgewood (16-3)

3A

1. Moulton (20-2)
2. Brookeland (20-0)
3. Laneville (16-3)
4. Lipan (20-1)
5. Lorenzo (15-6)
6. Boles (18-1)
7. Meadow (19-1)
8. Henrietta Midway (18-1)
9. Kennard (18-3)
10. Ira (18-2)

4A

1. Copperton Cove (16-1)
2. Allamogosa (24-1)
3. Marshall (21-2)
4. Lubbock Coronado (18-3)
5. Corpus Christi Carroll (22-0)
6. Flower Mound Marcus (18-5)
7. League City Clear Creek (20-3)
8. Georgetown (17-5)
9. DeSoto (19-4)
10. Canyon (20-1)

5A

1. Wynnboro (24-1)
2. Shawnee (16-2)
3. Crockett (16-4)
4. Seminole (18-2)
5. Canton (23-2)
6. Grandland (18-5)
7. Smithville (17-3)
8. Quinlan Ford (21-1)
9. Bowie (14-5)
10. Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill (15-5)

6A

1. Huges Springs (17-2)
2. Crawford (20-3)
3. Farwell (15-4)
4. Port Aransas (18-2)
5. Honey Grove (21-1)
6. Boyd (20-2)
7. Karnes (17-1)
8. West Sabine (17-3)
9. Godley (16-3)
10. Woden (17-4)

7A

1. Valley View (21-1)
2. Nazareth (18-3)
3. Sudan (17-1)
4. Borden County (17-2)
5. Vega (19-9)
6. Moulton (21-2)
7. Karnack (17-2)
8. Hockley (18-2)
9. Tanah (15-1)
10. Windthorst (17-2)

8A

1. Winnboro (24-1)
2. Shawnee (16-2)
3. Crockett (16-4)
4. Seminole (18-2)
5. Canton (23-2)
6. Grandland (18-5)
7. Smithville (17-3)
8. Quinlan Ford (21-1)
9. Bowie (14-5)
10. Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill (15-5)

9A

1. Huges Springs (17-2)
2. Crawford (20-3)
3. Farwell (15-4)
4. Port Aransas (18-2)
5. Honey Grove (21-1)
6. Boyd (20-2)
7. Karnes (17-1)
8. West Sabine (17-3)
9. Godley (16-3)
10. Woden (17-4)

10A

1. Valley View (21-1)
2. Nazareth (18-3)
3. Sudan (17-1)
4. Borden County (17-2)
5. Vega (19-9)
6. Moulton (21-2)
7. Karnack (17-2)
8. Hockley (18-2)
9. Tanah (15-1)
10. Windthorst (17-2)

11A

1. Winnboro (24-1)
2. Shawnee (16-2)
3. Crockett (16-4)
4. Seminole (18-2)
5. Canton (23-2)
6. Grandland (18-5)
7. Smithville (17-3)
8. Quinlan Ford (21-1)
9. Bowie (14-5)
10. Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill (15-5)

12A

1. Huges Springs (17-2)
2. Crawford (20-3)
3. Farwell (15-4)
4. Port Aransas (18-2)
5. Honey Grove (21-1)
6. Boyd (20-2)
7. Karnes (17-1)
8. West Sabine (17-3)
9. Godley (16-3)
10. Woden (17-4)

13A

1. Valley View (21-1)
2. Nazareth (18-3)
3. Sudan (17-1)
4. Borden County (17-2)
5. Vega (19-9)
6. Moulton (21-2)
7. Karnack (17-2)
8. Hockley (18-2)
9. Tanah (15-1)
10. Windthorst (17-2)

14A

1. Winnboro (24-1)
2. Shawnee (16-2)
3. Crockett (16-4)
4. Seminole (18-2)
5. Canton (23-2)
6. Grandland (18-5)
7. Smithville (17-3)
8. Quinlan Ford (21-1)
9. Bowie (14-5)
10. Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill (15-5)

15A

1. Huges Springs (17-2)
2. Crawford (20-3)
3. Farwell (15-4)
4. Port Aransas (18-2)
5. Honey Grove (21-1)
6. Boyd (20-2)
7. Karnes (17-1)
8. West Sabine (17-3)
9. Godley (16-3)
10. Woden (17-4)

16A

1. Valley View (21-1)
2. Nazareth (18-3)
3. Sudan (17-1)
4. Borden County (17-2)
5. Vega (19-9)
6. Moulton (21-2)
7. Karnack (17-2)
8. Hockley (18-2)
9. Tanah (15-1)
10. Windthorst (17-2)

17A

1. Winnboro (24-1)
2. Shawnee (16-2)
3. Crockett (16-4)
4. Seminole (18-2)
5. Canton (23-2)
6. Grandland (18-5)
7. Smithville (17-3)
8. Quinlan Ford (21-1)
9. Bowie (14-5)
10. Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill (15-5)

18A

1. Huges Springs (17-2)
2. Crawford (20-3)
3. Farwell (15-4)
4. Port Aransas (18-2)
5. Honey Grove (21-1)
6. Boyd (20-2)
7. Karnes (17-1)
8. West Sabine (17-3)
9. Godley (16-3)
10. Woden (17-4)

19A

1. Valley View (21-1)
2. Nazareth (18-3)
3. Sudan (17-1)
4. Borden County (17-2)
5. Vega (19-9)
6. Moulton (21-2)
7. Karnack (17-2)
8. Hockley (18-2)
9. Tanah (15-1)
10. Windthorst (17-2)

20A

1. Winnboro (24-1)
2. Shawnee (16-2)
3. Crockett (16-4)
4. Seminole (18-2)
5. Canton (23-2)
6. Grandland (18-5)
7. Smithville (17-3)
8. Quinlan Ford (21-1)
9. Bowie (14-5)
10. Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill (15-5)

21A

1. Huges Springs (17-2)
2. Crawford (20-3)
3. Farwell (15-4)
4. Port Aransas (18-2)
5. Honey Grove (21-1)
6. Boyd (20-2)
7. Karnes (17-1)
8. West Sabine (17-3)
9. Godley (16-3)
10. Woden (17-4)

22A

1. Valley View (21-1)
2. Nazareth (18-3)
3. Sudan (17-1)
4. Borden County (17-2)
5. Vega (19-9)
6. Moulton (21-2)
7. Karnack (17-2)
8. Hockley (18-2)
9. Tanah (15-1)
10. Windthorst (17-2)

23A

1. Winnboro (24-1)
2. Shawnee (16-2)
3. Crockett (16-4)
4. Seminole (18-2)
5. Canton (23-2)
6. Grandland (18-5)
7. Smithville (17-3)
8. Quinlan Ford (21-1)
9. Bowie (14-5)
10. Mont Belvieu Barbers Hill (15-5)

NBA Results

EASTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	21	11	.658
New York	20	12	.561
Philadelphia	19	13	.592
Orlando	18	14	.561
Boston	14	18	.438
New Jersey	12	20	.364
Washington	12	20	.364
Charlotte	11	21	.344
Indiana	10	22	.318
Atlanta	9	23	.286
Chicago	8	24	.250

CENTRAL DIVISION

W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	22	10	.688
Minnesota	21	11	.658
Dallas	20	12	.619
Phoenix	19	13	.592
Portland	18	14	.561
Seattle	17	15	.524
Utah	16	16	.490
Denver	15	17	.463
San Jose	14	18	.438
Los Angeles	13	19	.405
Golden State	12	20	.371

WESTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	22	10	.688
San Antonio	21	11	.658
Phoenix	20	12	.619
Portland	19	13	.592
Seattle	18	14	.561
Utah	17	15	.524
Denver	16	16	.490
San Jose	15	17	.463
Los Angeles	14	18	.438
Golden State	13	19	.405
San Diego	12	20	.371

PACIFIC DIVISION

W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	22	10	.688
Seattle	21	11	.658
Utah	20	12	.619
Phoenix	19	13	.592
San Antonio	18	14	.561
San Jose	17	15	.524
Los Angeles	16	16	.490
Golden State	15	17	.463
San Diego	14	18	.438
San Francisco	13	19	.405
San Jose	12	20	.371

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Team	Time	TV
San Antonio at Dallas	7 p.m.	ESPN
San Antonio at Dallas	8:30 p.m.	ESPN
San Antonio at Dallas	9:30 p.m.	ESPN
San Antonio at Dallas	10:30 p.m.	ESPN
San Antonio at Dallas	11:30 p.m.	ESPN

GRIZZLIES 107, RAPTORS 97

Vancouver 107, Toronto 97. The Vancouver Grizzlies defeated the Toronto Raptors 107-97 in a game that was mostly unremarkable. The Grizzlies were led by their star player, while the Raptors struggled throughout the game.

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NFL Playoffs

Wild Card Games

Team	Score
Tennessee at New York	16-15
Washington at Detroit	13-10
Minnesota at Dallas	10-7
San Francisco at Oakland	10-7

Divisional Games

Team	Score
San Francisco at Oakland	10-7
Washington at Detroit	13-10
Minnesota at Dallas	10-7
Tennessee at New York	16-15

Conference Championships

Team	Score
San Francisco at Oakland	10-7
Washington at Detroit	13-10
Minnesota at Dallas	10-7
Tennessee at New York	16-15

Super Bowl

Team	Score
San Francisco at Oakland	10-7
Washington at Detroit	13-10
Minnesota at Dallas	10-7
Tennessee at New York	16-15

Pro Bowl

Team	Score
San Francisco at Oakland	10-7
Washington at Detroit	13-10
Minnesota at Dallas	10-7
Tennessee at New York	16-15

Top 25 Men

Rank	Player	Team
1	Tommy L. Smith	San Francisco
2	Tommy L. Smith	San Francisco
3	Tommy L. Smith	San Francisco

No. 12 DUKE 80

Rank	Player	Team
1	Tommy L. Smith	San Francisco
2	Tommy L. Smith	San Francisco
3	Tommy L. Smith	San Francisco

DUKE (11-2)

Ricky Williams has tough rookie season

By Mary Foster
AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS — This isn't what Ricky Williams expected from the NFL: a string of injuries, a 3-13 season, \$175,000 in salary and his coach saying the Heisman Trophy winner should grow up.

"It's just part of the game," Williams said Sunday. "I never really said it was a bad year, just that I wish it had been a little better."

This, after all, was the running back who set 20 NCAA rushing records. He proved so formidable at Texas that New Orleans Saints coach Mike Ditka traded eight draft picks to get him.

Then came a rookie season rife with injuries, including two sprained ankles, a hyper-extended elbow and turf toe that sidelined him for four games.

"I never asked coach to draft me," Williams said after Ditka was fired. "I didn't want to come and play for a team that was 3-13. If the team in general would have played better, then maybe I would have felt guilty."

Late in the year, Ditka had a heart-to-heart talk with his star rookie. Ditka said Williams was immature and didn't work hard enough to stay in shape.

"Definitely, he was right. I should have done more," Williams said. "But it wasn't like I didn't want to play. I did."

Although Williams was reported to be unhappy with the contract he signed last spring, on Sunday he denied agreeing to a bad deal.

"If I hadn't been injured I think I could have reached a lot of the incentives," Williams said. "I didn't know I was going to be injured all year."

Williams signed a seven-year deal that could pay up to \$68.4 million, but only if he reached a string of incentives, including rushing for 1,600 yards in a season, scoring 24 touchdowns and catching 41 passes averaging 18.6 yards a catch.

Rushing for 1,601 yards

would have earned Williams \$1 million. That mark has been reached only nine times in the NFL in the 1990s by five players — Terrell Davis, Jamal Anderson, Barry Sanders, Emmitt Smith and Barry Foster.

Williams finished with 884 yards for an average of 3.5 yards per carry and two rushing touchdowns. He also had 28 receptions for 172 yards.

Last year only six NFL running backs averaged 4.5 yards and only four had more than nine touchdowns. This year Williams received \$3 million of his \$8.84 million signing bonus. Additionally, he made the league minimum of \$175,000 and hit one incentive when the Saints' offense played better statistically and Williams was on the field for 35 percent of the plays. That added \$50,000 to his paycheck.

"I never said I want to renegotiate," Williams said. "I'd like to fix a couple of things but I don't want to talk about that now. I still think I can reach most of the incentives if I stay healthy. There's nothing really wrong with it."

Williams worked with rapper Master P's agency and wanted to get a deal signed so he would not miss any practice. He sought a contract similar to that of Denver Broncos star Terrell Davis, said Terry O'Neil, who negotiated for the Saints.

"I fully understand Ricky's frustration with the season," O'Neil said. "He's been a model of self control, but I know it's been hard on him. But no one took advantage of Ricky in the negotiations. We tried to spell out everything at every step."

Williams said he had not talked to Ditka or Saints owner Tom Benson since Ditka was fired last week.

"I don't really care if my teammates or the fans blame me for the year," Williams said. "I'm not saying it was coach's fault, but some of it probably was. It was everybody's fault. We should have all done better."

Big night for Longhorns looming vs. Connecticut

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A big slice of prestige will be on the line tonight for the Big 12.

No. 7 Texas, the Big 12's defending champion featuring player-of-the-year candidate Chris Mihm, is at No. 2 Connecticut. If the Longhorns pull off the upset starting at 8 p.m. on ESPN, it would give the league's ranked teams a clean sweep of Saturday-Monday games.

Everybody but Texas and Baylor got their conference seasons under way on Saturday. No. 9 Kansas had a big second half to swamp Colorado 84-69 for its 1,700th all-time win.

No. 20 Oklahoma outshot Texas A&M and pounded the Aggies 78-53. And No. 17 Oklahoma State showed off its depth by whipping Texas Tech 55-47.

Elsewhere in the Big 12 Saturday, Kansas State had a hot hand and sailed past Nebraska 97-79 and Iowa State tied a school record with its 10th straight win while beating hapless Missouri 86-81.

Kansas beat Colorado for the 21st straight time and joined Kentucky and North Carolina as the only schools in major college basketball with 1,700 wins.

"That means there's been a lot of winning going on here," said forward Nick Bradford. "There's a lot of tradition. And it feels good to be a part of that."

The Jayhawks took by four at halftime, but took control quickly in the second half as Jeff Boschee scored all 13 points after intermission.

One of Kansas' primary defensive goals was to stop Colorado guard Jaquay Walls, who totaled 45 points in two meetings last year with the Jayhawks. Walls could hardly have had a more miserable shooting night, going 0-for-9 from the floor and finishing with nine points.

Colorado was led by Jamahl Mosley and Kyle Williams, each with 16 points.

Oklahoma State showed off what coach Eddie Sutton said may be its greatest asset — depth. The Cowboys got only three points from leading scorers Desmond Mason and Glendon Alexander, who has been averaging nearly 14 points off the bench. But Brian Montonati came through with 14 points and 14 rebounds, his sixth double-double of the season.

Alex Webber, who was in danger of losing his starting job because of recent poor play, had 11 points.

"They did what a great team will do," Tech coach James Dickey said. "They had four guys in double figures and when their stars were not scoring, they had other people step up."

Oklahoma forced 24 turnovers from the young Aggies, who start three freshmen. But one of those, Bernard King, had 18 points.

"Oklahoma's pressure really wore us down," A&M coach Melvin Watkins said. "They played a physical game. We had a hard time handling their pressure."

Iowa State's Stevie Johnson scored 20 points and Marcus Fizer added 18. But it was Jamaal Tinsley who stole the show, getting 12 points, 11 assists and 12 rebounds for the second triple-double in school history.

"I was just doing the things that I am supposed to do," he said. "Rebound, pass and make open shots."

The Cyclones raced to a 17-3 lead as Missouri — which lost early in the week to Winthrop — hit only two of its first 15 shots. The Tigers never got closer than four points but were led by Clarence Gilbert's 26 points.

In Manhattan, Galen Morrison saw his career-high 27-point performance against Nebraska coming.

"I was feeling it in warmups," Morrison said. "After the first shot fell, I knew. Tonight everything was falling. Every time I got the ball I felt like it would go in."

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TEXAS NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE OF WATER QUALITY APPLICATION

PERMIT NO. 10223-001

APPLICATION. City of Midland, P.O. Box 1152, Midland, Texas 79702, has applied to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) for a major amendment to Permit No. 10223-001 to authorize the land application of sewage sludge for beneficial use on 100 acres of agricultural land. The current permit authorizes the disposal of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 21,000,000 gallons per day via irrigation of approximately 6,000 acres of City-owned pasture and cultivated land. The draft permit authorizes the disposal of treated domestic wastewater at an annual average flow not to exceed 21,000,000 gallons per day via irrigation of approximately 6,000 acres of City-owned pasture and cultivated land. The sludge treatment works and sludge disposal site are located at the north-northwest portion of Irrigation Site #1, which is approximately 7,000 feet southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 20 and State Highway 307 in Midland County, Texas. This permit will not authorize a discharge of pollutants into waters in the State.

The non-public access irrigation facilities consist of two sites. Irrigation Site #1 consists of storage lagoons and 2,950 acres of land located approximately 7,000 feet southeast of the intersection of Interstate Highway 20 and State Highway 307 in Midland County, Texas. Irrigation Site #2 consists of irrigation storage lagoons and approximately 3,100 acres of land approximately 16 miles east of the City of Midland in Sections 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, Block 37, TWP-5-S of the T & P Railroad Company Survey. The public access irrigation lands are located at the Hogan Municipal Golf Course and the Midland County Club Golf Course in Midland County, Texas. The plant site and disposal area are located in the drainage basin of Colorado River Below Lake J. B. Thomas in Segment No. 1412 of the Colorado River Basin.

The Executive Director of the TNRCC has prepared a draft permit which, if approved, will authorize the conditions under which the facility must operate.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. Written public comments and requests for public meetings may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, at the address provided in the information section below, within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of this notice. A public meeting is intended for the taking of public comment, and is not a contested case hearing. A public meeting will be held if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application.

CONTESTED CASE HEARING. The TNRCC may grant a contested case hearing on this application if a written hearing request is filed 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice. The Executive Director may approve the application unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 30 days after newspaper publication of this notice.

To request a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement of the request for a contested case hearing; (4) a brief and specific description of how you would be affected by the application in a way not common to the general public and (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the proposed activity. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address provided in the information section below.

If a hearing request is filed, the Executive Director will not issue the permit and will forward the application and hearing request to the TNRCC Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a contested case hearing is held, it will be a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

INFORMATION. Written hearing requests, public comments or request for public meetings may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TNRCC, P.O. Box 13067, Austin, TX 78711-3067. For information concerning the hearing process, contact the Public Interest Section, MC 103, the same address. For additional information contact the Office of Public Assistance at 1-800-687-4040. General information regarding the TNRCC can be found at our web site at www.tnrc.state.tx.us.

Issued: DEC. 31, 1999

LaDonna Castañeda, Chief Clerk
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR OIL AND GAS WASTE DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT

McDonnell Operating, Inc., 505 N. Big Spring, Suite 204, Midland, TX 79701, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation which is not productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the San Andres-Clearfork, Block, West Number 1. The proposed disposal well is located 8 miles south of Garden City in the Three Ninios (Fusselman) Field, in Glasscock County. The waste water will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2,545 to 6,200 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, with fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

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2019 Trade Dr. - 689-7003 Reg. Meeting: 2nd Thurs. Hosp. 6:30 pm, dine 7 pm. Bus. meeting 8 pm. Keith Hughes, Pres. Marvin Wicher, Secty.

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FORD 1978 Explorer 1500 pickup, very clean, new carburetor, good exterior, green & white. \$950 or best offer. 683-8350	FORD 1988 F150 long cab, 7.3 powerstroke, 1 ton, new tires, long bed, well maintained. \$19,900. Call 606-872-8538 day-evening. 906-872-9503 night-weekends	GMC 1989 SUBURBAN 1 ton, silver and blue, \$5,800. 682-2827 after 6 pm	CHEVROLET 1980 G-20 Truck, looks/ runs good, good tires. \$4,000. Call 687-1824	FORD 1995 Windstar Loaded, power, tilt, cruise, and rear air. Great shape, clean well cared for. 90K miles. \$10,000. 570-7784	JEEP 1976 C-J-5 6 cylinder, 3 speed manual, 11 ft. new tires \$4,000. Call 699-6165
FORD 1989 Ranger XLT Supercab, 6 cylinder, automatic, a/c, \$4,450. 694-1087	FORD 1991 F150 Extended cab, long bed, dual fuel tanks, automatic, air, am/fm cassette, 61K miles, excellent condition. \$7,500. 686-8035/694-0508	CHEVROLET 1988 3/4 ton Suburban. Conversion, bucket seats front/back, very clean. \$12,500. 570-7810	CHEVROLET 1993 Suburban Conversion, bucket seats front/back, very clean. \$12,500. 570-7810	CHEVROLET 1998 Suburban Fuel injected, 180K, Excellent Michelin tires. \$3,200. 685-1283	JEEP 1980 C/J Good condition, clean. \$4,900. After 5:00-1903 or 583-2111 (work)
FORD 1997 F250 crew cab 4X4, shortbed, auto, 48K miles. Excellent condition. \$24,500. 686-634-9937	FORD 1993 F350XLT Diesel. Clean, well maintained, all power, automatic, am/fm cassette, external fuel tank. \$12,500. Call evenings 684-9862	CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban Conversion, bucket seats front/back, very clean. \$12,500. 570-7810	CHEVROLET 1998 Suburban Fuel injected, 180K, Excellent Michelin tires. \$3,200. 685-1283	CHEVROLET 1999 Suburban Extremely nice leather, custom wheels. NADA whole sale \$30,900. Must sacrifice for \$29,000. Louis at 681-3289/ 550-0200	JEEP 1992 CHEROKEE 2 door, high output V8, automatic, CD, tint, roof rack, towing. 121,821 miles. \$6,000 as is. 686-7870
CHEVROLET 1980 4 x 4 Short, wide. Custom paint, lifted, new interior, CD, amp, 35" tires, mag wheels. \$5,500. 522-2805	FORD 1997 F150 Extended cab, CD changer, electric lock/windows, 3rd door, 60K miles. Garage kept. Great truck! \$15,900. 697-8436	CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban Conversion, bucket seats front/back, very clean. \$12,500. 570-7810	CHEVROLET 1998 Suburban Fuel injected, 180K, Excellent Michelin tires. \$3,200. 685-1283	CHEVROLET 1999 Suburban Extremely nice leather, custom wheels. NADA whole sale \$30,900. Must sacrifice for \$29,000. Louis at 681-3289/ 550-0200	TOYOTA 1994 Land Cruiser Excellent condition, leather, CD changer, sun roof. \$20,995. 685-3227
CHEVROLET 1988 1/2 ton pickup, 305, long/ wide, rebuilt automatic transmission, 6-ply tires, tool box, runs good. \$4,995. 4509 Anetta. 520-4503	FORD 1998 F150XLT Extended cab, v6, excellent condition. \$19,500. Call 689-5243 Leave message	CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban Conversion, bucket seats front/back, very clean. \$12,500. 570-7810	CHEVROLET 1998 Suburban Fuel injected, 180K, Excellent Michelin tires. \$3,200. 685-1283	CHEVROLET 1999 Suburban Extremely nice leather, custom wheels. NADA whole sale \$30,900. Must sacrifice for \$29,000. Louis at 681-3289/ 550-0200	TOYOTA 1994 Land Cruiser Excellent condition, leather, CD changer, sun roof. \$20,995. 685-3227
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MERCUARY 1979 Capri. Runs well, \$800 cash or silver color guns for trade. 687-0624.

CHEVROLET 1985 Caprice Classic, one owner, 72K, new paint, drive good. \$1,400. 682-2254.

BUICK 1987 ELECTRA 4 door, very low mileage, new brakes, beige, good condition. Gasped apt. \$3,000. 685-1176.

DODGE 1985 CARGO Van. Great work vehicle, runs good, 4 speed. \$800. Call 570-8538.

FORD 1984 Tempo 2 door, automatic, 88, cruise, air in cassette, 65,000 miles. \$2,995. Call Keith at 563-1430, work 520-2106, home.

OLDSMOBILE 1980 CUTLASS Catala, 2 door, white, gray interior, good condition. \$2,300 or best offer. Call 689-7541.

CADILLAC 1983 Elegante 2 door, good gas mileage, mechanically sound, a/c, \$600. Call 684-5895 or see at 5203 Park Lane.

CHEVROLET 1989 Caprice, loaded. One owner. Good condition. 115,000 miles. \$2,950. 687-4948 after 6:00pm weekdays and on weekends.

VOLKSWAGEN 1987 Cabriolet, 2 door, convertible, five speed, new tires, \$2,950. Call 682-2485 days, 683-3800 evenings.

FORD 1970 Wench Truck 1 ton, dual tires, 390 V8, chrome wheels, power steering, headers, clean mechanically sound. \$1,700. 682-7587.

CHEVROLET 1993 Cavalier 4 door RS, auto, air, new tires, dependable school or work car. \$2,800. 684-4525 or 684-1942.

FORD 1986 Escort Station Wagon. Excellent condition, great gas mileage. \$1,475. Please call 522-2805.

BUICK 1987 Le Sabre T-type, power steering, power brakes. Loaded, high mileage. Great starter car, sporty. \$2,300. Please call 520-5700.

CHEVROLET 1985 S10 - Blazer, 172K miles, 4 WD, automatic, Cruise control, a/c, power windows, new radio, loaded. \$3,000. 682-0284.

MERCEDES BENZ 1980. Body and interior in good condition, motor needs work. \$1,550 or best cash offer. 586-5946.

CHEVROLET 1986 Impala, new tires. Runs and looks great. \$2,000 or best offer. Call 682-4381. See at: 2907 West Illinois.

GM 1986 SUBURBAN Sierra Classic, Blue with gray interior, good condition, high mileage. \$2,500. Or best offer. Call 570-7028.

OLDSMOBILE 1985 Delta '88 Royal. Loaded, low miles, looks new inside and out. Excellent condition. \$2,995. Call 520-2535.

SUBARU 1986 XT turbo, silver, moon roof. Incredible take off. \$1,495. Please call 689-4646.

CHEVROLET 1988 Astro, V6, automatic, dual air, air electric. Solid van. \$2,500. Call 522-2805.

EAGLE 1991 Talon TSI. Turbo, all wheel drive, 5 speed, loaded, drives great, low mileage. \$5,900, asking \$2,500. 522-2805.

NISSAN 1987 Sentra E Sedan 4 door. Automatic, 122,000 miles. Great school car. \$1,175. Call 697-1575.

MERCUARY 1977 Cougar XR7. Adult owned, mechanically excellent. New: Keystones, tires, Flowmasters, Pioneer, air. \$2,200 or best offer. 697-4204, 570-4949.

1998 HARLEY DAVIDSON Sportster, custom paint (black with flames), 10K miles, fully chromed, beautiful bike. \$12,000 o.b.o. Call 689-3180.

1991 HARLEY DAVIDSON SON FLHTCUL. Blue, real nice, will sell for \$12,900. Please call 915-883-8468 between 11:00 a.m. to 6 p.m.

1997 HARLEY Davidson Ultra Classic Electra Glide, two tone paint, dark mystic green and black, lots of chrome/orange/new tires. \$19,000 obo. 689-0038 after 6:00pm.

GET READY for spring early - 1996 Red Suzuki Bandit 600, 2,700 miles, garaged, excellent condition. \$3,800. Also - 2000 Harley Davidson Sportster. 985, yellow, lots of accessories, \$9,900. Call before 9:00pm, leave message. 267-4968 or 267-6550.

KAWASAKI 1995 ZX6R-FI NINJA, 9,365 miles, new rear tire, 2 matching helmets, tank bag. \$5,300. 686-7670. After 5 pm.

MAX IV, four person amphibious 6 wheel drive. ATV. Like new condition. \$3,500. 689-6892. Serious inquiries only.

1996 HARLEY DAVIDSON Heritage Softail. Factory custom color, mango/champagne, many extras. 14,000 miles. \$16,900. Call 570-9524.

HARLEY DAVIDSON 1992 Electra Glide Classic. Mileage 13,000. Call 915-247-3142 leave message.

1979 DIPLOMAT 25. Travel ready! \$7,995 or best offer for car or truck of equal value. Call 553-8581.

HI-LO CAMPER - 28' motor home. Excellent condition. \$6,750. Call 697-5603 if no answer leave message.

CASITA 1985 FREEDOM Deluxe 16', fully contained, recreational vehicle, good condition, has air conditioning, 38,500. Call Dan Spalding 915-684-7049.

1985 35' FIFTH WHEEL Road Ranger, excel slide Washer, dryer, stereo, microwave, excellent condition. Asking wholesale price \$18,200. 570-5767.

1987 SPRINT 286 Pro Tournament, 150HP. Johnson, dual console, lots of extras, excellent condition. \$14,500. 685-0979, after 6PM.

1987 Phathom Bass Boat 15' 4", 88 horse power, Evinrude, trolling, fish finder, two wet wells, lake ready. \$4,000. 687-0744.

1994 CAJUN 18 11' fish ski combination, loaded, 120 Johnson, one owner, well cared for and maintained. \$9,200. Call 689-2451.

1998 VIPER 201D, 203, 225 HP Johnson, dual console, lots of extras, like new, \$22,500. 685-0979.

1976 QUACHITA, 18' fiberglass, Fish -N- Ski, inboard/outboard, 140 HP, trolling motor, tandem trailer. \$1,850. Call 682-9007.

1986 CHRIS CRAFT, 17 foot Sportsman, inboard. Beautiful mahogany boat in perfect condition. \$15,000 or trade for Suburban. 682-1704.

CREST III 29' Pontoon Boat. New carpet, stainless chairs/stand, 85 horsepower Force motor, custom 3 axle trailer. \$12,500. 683-8350.

1990 SKEETER 18.05' Bass Boat. 150 HP Yamaha Pro-V Motor. Motor guide, trolling motor. Excellent condition. \$9,500. 570-4131, pager 820-3062.

CAJUN 1987 1700 ESPRIMO. 17 foot fish and ski, 112HP, 2 fish finders, 2 wells, keelguard, trolling. \$9,500. 683-3071.

1995 20' SKEETER 2002XD Bass Boat. 200 Mercury, tandem trailer. \$15,500. 915/599-6281 days, 915/699-4928 evenings.

1998 LARSON SKI-Wake Board boat, 6' wake board, been to lake 6X, mint condition. \$11,500. 689-4113, 485-2636 pager.

CESSNA 150 1973. Pretty and out. Leaseback available. Fly and make money at the same time. Find at 915-682-5724.

BUMPER GUARD and tailgate fits 1987 Chevrolet. All chrome. \$300 for both. 689-3336.

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MEDICAL EQUIPMENT Repair Technician, experience preferred. Call after 1 pm. 650-8500.

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NOW HIRING honest, dependable, responsible individual with good math skills for single person office work. 5 1/2 days per week. Salary DOE. Collection experience plus. Bring resume to: 119 E. University, Odessa. 9:00am-5:00pm or call 680-7558.

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Career Opportunities
Caterers Servers, Cooks, Bakers and Stewards.

The Tody Cafe is opening its first Restaurant February 1, 2000 in Midland, Texas. The Tody Cafe is a new concept combining a California style cafe with a coffee bar/bakery. Fritz F. Glatzner, one of 50 Certified Master Chefs in the world, has created a menu that he calls "fast global cuisine". The menu combines various indigenous ingredients from around the world to create unique and flavorful dishes. Since 1964, Tody Products has been developing coffee and tea products for major retail chains such as Wal-Mart, TCBY, Yogurt, Caribou Coffee, and Godiva. Combining Master Chef Glatzner's cuisine with Tody's beverages will be the start of America's most exciting concept.

Accepting Applications:
at 2101 West Wadley,
Space #45 from 1:00-4:00pm
on the following
Thursday, Friday & Monday
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Now hiring to sales associates who can show enthusiasm & communicate in a professional manner
Apply in person only!
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- ★ Start date
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Pam, Jennifer, Nancy, Emily & Rick are available to help you with all of your advertising needs.

ACCOUNTING PERSONNEL needed with 5 years experience. Analytical skills and experience in all areas of accounting including accounts payable, accounts receivable, and general ledger required. Required computer data entry experience, MS-Excel and tax key. Payroll and sales tax experience and some college helpful. A non-smoking environment. Send resume and references to: Box J-5002, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

CLINICAL TEAM LEADER. Master's degree in Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy. Licensed by ACP, LPC or LMFT is required. Must be credentialed as a Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Arts and maintain this credentialing throughout the employment period. Prefer experience in mental health services. Must possess a current Texas driver's license and qualify for Center insurance coverage. Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm. \$2,400 - \$2,816/month depending on experience. TWC Job #0858890. Information and application materials available at TWC. Ad paid for by employer. EOE.

PHYSICIAN NEEDING Medical Assistant and secretary with experience in all medical insurance billing, bilingual, references required. Non-smoking environment. Fax resume to: 694-0825 or call 694-4077.

RECEPTIONIST Wanted - heavy phone, experience preferred, bilingual a plus. Send resume to P.O. Box 4186, Midland, Texas 79704.

REHAB CARE GROUP, a leader in rehabilitation, is currently hiring for the following positions: Full time OTR, full time COTA, part time Speech Pathologist and PRN: OTR, COTA, PT, PTA, SP. Please fax resumes to: 915-570-8373.

TAKING APPLICATIONS for Certified Pharmacy Technician. Well-Met Supercenter, Midland. Apply in Layaway.

TERRACE WEST Nursing Center has current openings for CNA's on all shifts. If interested, please apply in person at 2900 North Midland Drive, Midland, Texas 79707.

SHOPPERS' HOTLINE has a part time position available. Requirements include: must be 18 years of age, great communication skills, a real people person, independent worker, creative thinker, dependable transportation, valid drivers license and proof of insurance. Must be able to work days, evenings, and weekends. This job will require you to work in our participating stores to recruit new members into the Shopper's Hotline Program. Come by 15 Byron Rd., or call 694-8240 Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

ST. LUKE'S Child development program is seeking a part time position available. Requirements include: must be 18 years of age, great communication skills, a real people person, independent worker, creative thinker, dependable transportation, valid drivers license and proof of insurance. Must be able to work days, evenings, and weekends. This job will require you to work in our participating stores to recruit new members into the Shopper's Hotline Program. Come by 15 Byron Rd., or call 694-8240 Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

DENTAL FRONT DESK coordinator needed in San Antonio. Must have experience with filing dental insurance, and scheduling patients. Excellent benefits, hours and compensation. Long term employment in a growing practice. Fax resume to: 915-944-0424 or mail to 3812 Arden Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78201.

DENTAL - Experienced chairside assistant needed to add to our growing practice. Must have radiation certification and ability to assist with all phases of restorative and cosmetic dentistry. Requires self-starter, great communication skills, positive and caring attitude and ability to work as a team player in a fast-paced, quality oriented practice with a great working atmosphere. Four day work week. Confidential inquiries accepted. We know you are out there! Please bring resume by Dr. Lou Ann Gray's office at 3000 N. Garland, Suite 220, Midland.

DIETARY SUPERVISOR and full time RN with some nursing home experience needed at Sky Gating Center. 915/653-7633.

LON MORRIS College is Association with Local Dentist is offering a course called at Sky Gating Center. Enrolling limited. Call 683-5042.

LVN NEEDED for Doctor's office. Mail resume to: P.O. Box 4935, Midland, TX 79704.

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ENTRY LEVEL SECRETARIAL Position. Need some typewriting, word processing, and good customer relations. Call 570-9995.

FULL TIME BOOKKEEPER needed. Easy sale, great income. Full or part time. 915/651-6875.

MANAGER TRAINEE. Excellent opportunity with a growing company must be willing to relocate and have reliable transportation. Experience in finance, retail or sales preferred. Competitive salary plus bonus. Mail or fax resume to Capital Loans Inc., P.O. Box 2330, Wichita Falls, TX 76707 or fax 940-725-5552.

SALES PROFESSIONAL needed. Easy sale, great income. Full or part time. 915/651-6875.

MANAGER TRAINEE. Excellent opportunity with a growing company must be willing to relocate and have reliable transportation. Experience in finance, retail or sales preferred. Competitive salary plus bonus. Mail or fax resume to Capital Loans Inc., P.O. Box 2330, Wichita Falls, TX 76707 or fax 940-725-5552.

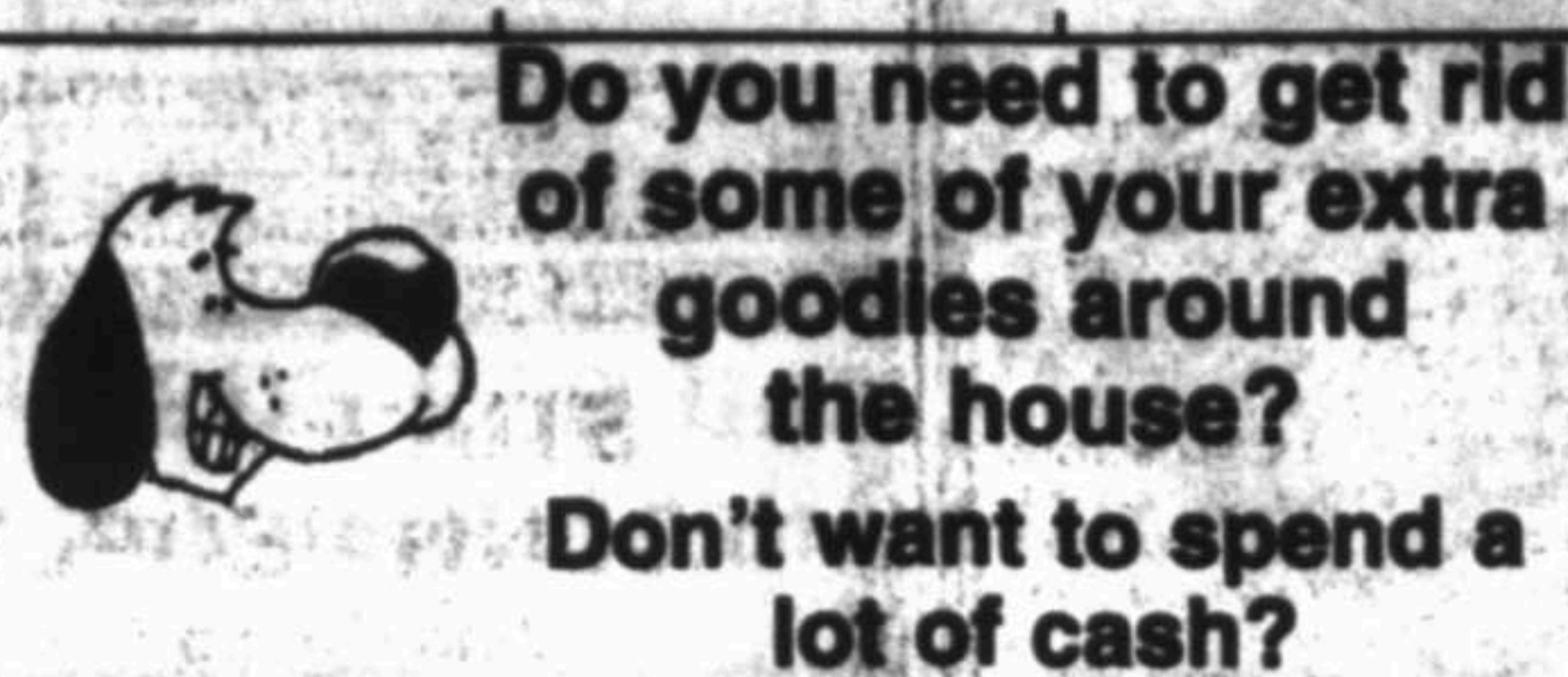
RECEPTIONIST - Answer telephones, proficiency in Windows, MS Works, Payroll, Accounts Payable. Must have at least 5 years verifiable work history. Apply in person: Rockwood Manor, 2000 N. Main.

SECRETARY / Receptionist needed for Physicians office. Apply between 8 and 10 a.m. at 1802 West Wall.

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BILL'S FIREPLACE used wood insert for sale. New wood stove, gas logs, chimney sweeping. 682-5157.

HOME OFFICE 10'x20' insulation/painting \$100 a month. Financing/delivery available. 682-3108.

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BINGO, American Legion, 501 Alpark Road, Friday nights, games start at 8. Food, refreshments. 682-5511.

MOVING SALE: Howard Upright piano, \$600. 4 piece Manor House King bed room set, \$700. Westinghouse upright freezer, \$200. Cage type pea sheller, \$250. Honda centrifugal pump, \$300. 2 1985 Nissan Maximas, \$1,950. 682-5760/687-0877.

WHY PAY Rent for storage? 10'x12' buildings \$300 a month. Delivery and financing. 682-563-3108.

FRAMED PRINT of Winberg's Camel by the Sea, \$100. Autumn Fall blank slate, appraisable, \$300. 682-4781.

AIRLINE TICKETS (2). 1 West round trip anywhere in the US. \$129 each way. 877-359-1929.

ONE-ALMOST New air conditioner, IBM Typewriter, Pet Carrier, Antique & collectible women's watches (non working). Best offers. Please call 367-7093.

RCA 52" Big Screen Television. Like new. Picture in picture, \$800 or best offer. 125 gal. aquarium with wooden stand, loaded with fish. \$500 or best offer. 682-1120, call 352-8900.

FULL SIZE BED with headboard, \$100. Please call 570-7078 for more information.

WHITE METAL Bunk bed, 4 tier, with metal coils, bottom. \$150. Call 822-2292.

VACUUM CLEANERS, \$20 and up. New, used and rebuilt. Large selection, all brands. Kirby, Rainbow, Hoover, Oreck-you name it! Repair all makes. 1005 North Midland, 520-8484.

ANTIQUE WHITE Cotton king bedspread. Centennial with center medallion & fringe. Excellent condition. \$40. 684-7380.

SPECTACULAR 1977 cant diamond, GIA certified, registered and laser inscribed. Priced for quick sale by private owner. 394-6002.

I WOULD LIKE to purchase a working profitable business in the Midland/Odessa area. Call 694-0712.

SOUTHWEST Company. Truck tickets or other airline mileage awards wanted. Will pay top dollar. 687-5039.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, well built up in 52' TV, \$40. Please call 682-6192 for more information.

BUNK BED Sturdy, excellent condition. \$175. 689-7876.

TWIN SOFT-SIDE Waterbed, \$125. King soft-side waterbed, no frame \$175. Electric dryer \$35. Call 520-8311.

ADJUSTABLE BED for sale. Just under two years old. Call 683-2755 days, 634-8329 evenings.

REFRIGERATOR, side-by-side. Good condition, \$100. Please call 570-7078 for more information.

4 BEAUTIFUL Dark Wood cane back dining room chairs. Refreshed with new upholstery. \$80. 520-2214.

FULL SIZE ELECTRIC Bed. Good condition, \$100. Please call 570-7078 for more information.

THOMASVILLE King Size bedroom suite. Down sofa, Maple dining room furniture. 570-1822.

QUEEN SIZE Water bed with sheets and accessories. \$75. Call 686-7334.

KING SIZE Headboard. Very nice, contemporary medium brown wood. \$175. 687-9786 or 688-1051.

BLACK SECTIONAL with turnable coffee table. \$500. Dining room table \$400. 684-4388.

4 FOOT Glass kitchen table with glass legs and 4 saddleback chair chairs. \$35. 684-5126.

WASHER & DRYER, stacking set of portable converted for permanent mount. \$100. 687-1878 leave message.

REFRIGERATOR, \$150. Works good. Delivery available. Call after noon 683-7040.

AMANA 20' refrigerator/bottom mount freezer. Excellent condition. \$300. 520-6040, after 5 p.m. Days 634-0972.

GENERAL ELECTRIC Heavy duty electric dryer, 4 temperatures, 5 dry cycles, works great. \$50. 684-0757.

FREE REMOVAL of unwanted appliances and T.V.s. Will pick-up in 45 minutes or less. 631-3920.

WASHER & DRYER, \$150 for set. Works good. Delivery available. Call after noon 683-7040.

FREE REMOVAL of your unwanted appliances. Sales & Service 550-6540.

EAGER BEAVER Firewood-Oak, Pine, Mesquite. Delivery. Stacked. Small quantities available also. 685-3521, mobile 684-0577.

DICK'S FIREWOOD, Oaks, Mesquite, Pecan & Cedar. We deliver. 1-(915)-453-2151, Fax 1-(915)-453-4322.

ROCKY MOUNTAINS best seasonal and annual Pinon. Firewood. Fence posts or rails. Call Skip at 915-684-8325. Call 915-425-3675, Midland, Texas. Deliveries surrounding towns all directions.

SEASONED FIREWOOD, Oak or mesquite delivered or picked up. Call Larry Tucker. 685-7151.

HONDO VALLEY Firewood. Pine, Oak, Juniper. Call 520-3091 or fax 684-2263. E-mail: Terry.garrett@yahoo.com.

ONLY THREE Remaining. Full size spa/hot tub \$59 a month. Delivery/financing. 683-3108.

EXERCISE WALKER with digital readout. \$50. 684-6911.

WEIDER 4 STATION Weight machine. \$250. Call 689-2451.

GOLF CLUBS complete set bag/accessories \$125 negotiable. Nordic Track ski machine. \$100 negotiable. 520-8810.

SEARS HEALTHTRIDER LX Tread mill, excellent condition. \$200. Call 687-4125 after 5 p.m.

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ESTATE Sales by JOSEPH'S. Let our experienced team liquidate your estate. 687-6400, 687-2868, 684-5034.

THE CATS MEOW 4000 sq. ft. of low maintenance. We buy & sell antiques. 408 Andrews Highway. (915)687-2004.

INDIVIDUAL will pay top prices for your antiques and collectibles. No furniture please. 571-3222/684-7508.

PIANOS new and used. Buy, sell trade. Financing available. Tuning, repair, moving. Caldwell Music. 687-0853.

RCA FULL SIZE Camcorder with hard case and two hour battery. Excellent condition. \$250. Call 688-6192.

SERVICE AFTER THE SALE Computers. New and used, upgrade and repair. Night Owl Computers. 10am-8pm. 1015-B N Midland. 520-5917, 686-8835.

286 COMPUTER, 8 Mb ram, 14" color monitor, tractor lead printer, software/games. \$80. 520-2214.

MINI AUSSIE mix, 10 weeks old. Playful male. First shots. 687-3235.

AKC BASSETT Hound, Male 7 weeks old, has shots. Needs loving home. Call 687-6870.

FREE TO Good home! Australian Red Heeler and Dalmatian. Both male. Call 561-5363.

DASCHUNDS, INSIDE 3 house slant load interior. Male and Female 7 & 8 year old. Call 684-1484.

1/2 AUSTRALIAN Shepherd, 1/2 handsome stranger. 682-2788, after 6 pm.

FEMALE MIXED Golden retriever puppy. Good with kids, needs good home. For information call 684-4180.

TO Good homes 2 female puppies, part Lab/ part Pit. Have shots. 570-1618.

8 PUPPIES 1/2 New Foundlander & 1/2 Chow. 687-2205.

2-CATS, Calico female; yellow male (neutered/declawed) 683-9797, 631-3808.

CAROLAT KENNEL & Training Center. Boarding. Puppy, beginner, advanced classes. Board/train service available. 683-4718.

1 YEAR Old male Rhodesian Ridgeback, good, playful, current shots, needs room. \$75. 520-6551 after 1:00pm.

TWO AKC male Rottweilers, \$300 each, parents on premises 1301 South Tilden, (Off Garden City Hwy).

3 GIRLS 2 BOYS Sittin in Rose. Ready to go! Registered Chihuahua. Deceased. 684-6149.

12 YEAR Old Guelia Dun Gelling. Also 8 year old Borzoi Mare. \$1,500 each. 570-5588.

1991 BRITON Goose-neck 3 house slant load interior. \$3,900 or best offer. Excellent condition. (\$12,000 new). 398-5478/263-8498 leave message.

STEEL SPAN Building Kit 25W x25L x13H delivered \$3,500. 687-3042.

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MORGAN (915) 563-1860

1 YEAR Old Morgan Building 8'x12' with metal cabinet inside. You move it! Paid \$1,300. Asking \$1,000. 689-4077.

20' x 30' x 10' Metal Building. Call 682-6222.

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1008 W. INDIANA, APT. #2 & 3 1 Bedroom, 1 bath. No pets, water paid. \$175/monthly. \$100/ deposit. 682-1808 leave message.

SILVER CREEK 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.

OVERSIZED 1 and 2 bedroom apartments with free cable. Move-in Special. Pinehurst Apartments, 681-3999.

GREAT MOVE-IN Special on 1 & 2 bedrooms. Senior Citizens and College Student discounts. Renaissance, 4315 Neely, 520-3238.

SAGEWOOD CONDOS, 1 bedroom apartment available, covered parking, pool and club house. Call 570-4884.

THORNWOOD Apartments Great prices, 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms, Free Cable, Senior discounts. 682-5381.

Enjoy your New Home at Hillside Ridge with affordable rent, Free Rent-1st Month, 1 Bedroom. Call about our new specials Today!!! **520-0023** 4291 Andrews Hwy Midland, TX

SAGEWOOD CONDO, \$199 Move in Special 1 & 2 Bedrooms, 3300 Caldera Blvd. 689-1893.

COME HOME TO "VILLA CHATEAU" Luxurious 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartment Homes

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GREAT MOVE-IN SPECIALS GIVE US A CALL!

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2 Bedroom Townhomes:

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3212 W. Wadley 687-0177

4802 HARVARD, quiet cul-de-sac, 1 bedroom duplex in nice neighborhood, appliances furnished, washer/dryer connections, fireplace, private backyard, garage. \$350 per month plus deposit. Call 694-2811.

NICEST DUPLEXES in town. 2400-2600 West Wadley 2 and 3 Bedroom 1,530 square feet and up. Washer/dryer connections, fireplace, covered parking or garage. \$500 (water paid) to \$725/month. Call 688-8126.

1 AND 2 BEDROOM HOMES, Available now. Boern Properties. Ginger Andrews, Property Manager. 684-5389.

FOR SALE OR RENT in Greenwood 3 Bedroom, 2 baths, 2 car garage, behind school. 682-3459. Call 683-3425.

FREE WATER, Two bedroom, one bath, off Cottonflat. \$250/100 deposit. No pets, call 684-2047.

FOR LEASE 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, rear carport, contemporary townhouse, stove, refrigerator, fireplace, tile, mirrored dining room, outside storage close to MC and shopping. 4249 Sierra Lane. \$400/ deposit, \$600/ month. Consider selling. 620-0708.

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WEST SIDE, Refrigerated, one bedroom, 1 3/4 bath brick home/ fireplace. Dishwasher, ceiling fans, built-in and carpeting throughout. Large covered patio, shade trees. Very clean. References. one year lease. \$650 monthly/ \$500 deposit. 687-4808 evenings.

802 STANOLIND 2 Story, 3 bedroom, 3 bath colonial. With all the extras. \$900 monthly. 684-8687.

3616 MONCLAVE 2 bedroom, 2 baths, computer, double garage. \$575 monthly. Agent 684-7788.

SPACIOUS 2 BEDROOM, 2 Bath, duplex, built-in, utility, den, fireplace, central heat, air conditioner. Carpet, circle drive, yard. Low High, no pets! \$550. 3521 West Wadley. 1-915-520-6741.

ATTRACTIVE 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, good location. For more information call 683-9270.

SEVERAL nice homes & apartments. \$250-\$725. Jeannie Printz, Agent. 684-8202.

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 1 car garage, new everything, central heat/ air, very clean, great location, 2609 Storey, \$725 monthly, 570-8606-688-0158.

2407 COLLEGE 2 bedroom, 1 bath house \$275 monthly. \$100/ deposit. Call 682-0302 if interested.

2413 NORTHTOWN COURT, 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, Spanish style with courtyard. \$800 monthly. 684-6887.

4 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 Living areas, double garage and water well. \$850/ \$800. 2002 North 7th. Call 634-9484.

GREENWOOD, 3 Bedrooms, 2 bath, mobile home, washer/ dryer furnished. \$475 monthly/ \$350 deposit. 570-7485.

704 LANHAM, Exceptionally nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath, one car garage, no smoking, no pets. \$700 per month. \$700 deposit. 570-7178.

NEW CONSTRUCTION 3 Bedroom, 2 bath in Crestgate Addition. Neutral decor. Lots of amenities. Low maintenance yard. 559-5479 or 520-5096.

AIRLINE MOBILE Home Park, quiet country living! Grocery store, Beauty salon, laundry, and much more! 684-2534.

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath duplex, \$650/ month. Western 522-5256.

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath over 2,000 sq. ft. New tile, new berber carpet. Excellent location. \$925. 684-4945.

BILLS PAID large 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhome. Secured area. Pool. \$500 monthly. 686-788-1592.

FAIRGATE Townhomes, northwest side, 6 and 12 month leases. 2 and 3 bedrooms 1600 sq. ft. livable, all appliances, fans, fireplaces and garages. 687-9568.

REGENCY TOWNHOMES, 721 W. Wadley. Prestigious Address for Luxurious Living: Spacious, large 2 bedrooms, heated pool, fireplaces, extra large 2 bedrooms, closed circuit entry, 2,050 sq. ft. for your comfort. 563-4550.

4311 DENGAR NICE 2 bedroom, 1 bath, washer/dryer connections, one car garage, yard maintained, water paid. \$525 monthly/ \$500 deposit. Call 570-1994.

1/2 MONTH FREE rent, 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms, 950-1,651 square foot, double garage, washer/dryer connections, fans, microwave. 687-9788.

LAFAYETTE PLACE, West Texas most elegant townhouse complex. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. \$1,400. 684-0996.

NOW AVAILABLE, 2/3 Bedroom mobile homes, all appliances, fenced yards, extra clean! Deposit required. No vicious dogs. 687-6324.

GREENWOOD AREA 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, stove/ refrigerator, utilities included. No pets! \$200 deposit/ \$275 monthly. 687-5334.

NICE 3 bedroom, 2 bath, refrigerator, air appliances, fenced yard, \$350/ \$150. 550-7505. No pets.

3415 COTTON FLAT Road, space "L". 3 Bedrooms, 1 bath, fenced yard. No pets. \$275 monthly. \$125/ deposit. 682-1808 leave message.

NICE 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, Double-wide, in the country. \$500 monthly/ \$300 deposit. Call 682-8410.

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Trash, water and yard work supplied by owner. \$475 monthly. 300 deposit. House pets only. 689-4042.

SMALL 2 BEDROOM, semi furnished, fenced, off 158 and 1140 south Greenwood School. 557-2432, 682-8787.

3415 COTTON FLAT ROAD, space "E1". Three bedrooms, two bath, fenced yard, central heat/ air. \$375 monthly. \$125 deposit. 682-1808, leave message.

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 18'x27' mobile home. Quiet Country Living, trees, yard, nice covered porch, water well, new carpet, neat and clean. \$550 monthly, 570-8806.

RUIDOSO Rentals nightly. Cabins, condos, some hot tubs. Century 21, Aspen Realty. 800-957-8890.

PROFESSIONAL COUPLE seeks full or part time care giver for infant in our home. Some light house-keeping. References required. All employment laws will be complied with. 684-6485.

PART TIME Gardendale area. Monday through Friday. 11:30 to 5:30. Call 561-9148.

CHILD CARE in my home. Opening for all ages. Please call Kim 689-9987.

CARING MOTHER willing to take care of your children. After school pickup available. Monday through Friday 7 until 5:30 pm. Maybe some Saturdays. Call 694-1970 for details.

Get your Real Estate license quickly, short, dry, weekend, evening classes. Southwest College 687-7277.

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 ***

3331 DENGAR, Lovely four bedroom, two bath. Nice large kitchen and eating area. Available now. \$775 with \$775 deposit. Call Lee Denney, 684-4637 or Langston Realtors 685-0400.

LOVELY TWO bedroom, two bath, two carport duplex. All appliances, fireplace, outside storage. \$450. No pets. Call 620-9222.

3312 CLAREMONT 3/2/2895 1107 Mogford 3/2/2 \$850 4013A Illinois 3/2/2 \$950

Call For Deposits

American Realty 520-7577 Anytime

4008 LEHIGH three bedrooms, two baths, one living room, \$750/ month. \$750/ deposit. Call 684-8640. Owner/ Agent.

4078 SPRUCE, Duplex, 2 bedrooms, living, kitchen, \$395 plus deposit. For information call 620-1500.

3 BEDROOMS, 2 baths, 3 living areas, fireplace, open kitchen, utility room, storage room, carport. 889-2022, 687-1797.

HOUSE for rent, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$295/ month, \$100/ deposit. Call 682-0155.

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WE HAVE THE PERFECT home for you-a Regency Townhome at 721 W. Denney, 2,050 sq. ft. of luxurious space. Skylights, extra large two bedrooms, large laundry rooms, Quaker cabinets, trash compactors, and more! Call today 683-4582.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 car garage, Lee district, \$750 monthly/ \$700 deposit. 685-1829/ 684-9538.

3331 DENGAR, Lovely four bedroom, two bath. Nice large kitchen and eating area. Available now. \$775 with \$775 deposit. Call Lee Denney, 684-4637 or Langston Realtors 685-0400.

LOVELY TWO bedroom, two bath, two carport duplex. All appliances, fireplace, outside storage. \$450. No pets. Call 620-9222.

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HOUSE for rent, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$295/ month, \$100/ deposit. Call 682-0155.

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3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 car garage, Lee district, \$750 monthly/ \$700 deposit. 685-1829/ 684-9538.

3331 DENGAR, Lovely four bedroom, two bath. Nice large kitchen and eating area. Available now. \$775 with \$775 deposit. Call Lee Denney, 684-4637 or Langston Realtors 685-0400.

LOVELY TWO bedroom, two bath, two carport duplex. All appliances, fireplace, outside storage. \$450. No pets. Call 620-9222.

3312 CLAREMONT 3/2/2895 1107 Mogford 3/2/2 \$850 4013A Illinois 3/2/2 \$950

Call For Deposits

American Realty 520-7577 Anytime

4008 LEHIGH three bedrooms, two baths, one living room, \$750/ month. \$750/ deposit. Call 684-8640. Owner/ Agent.

4078 SPRUCE, Duplex, 2 bedrooms, living, kitchen, \$395 plus deposit. For information call 620-1500.

3 BEDROOMS, 2 baths, 3 living areas, fireplace, open kitchen, utility room, storage room, carport. 889-2022, 687-1797.

HOUSE for rent, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$295/ month, \$100/ deposit. Call 682-0155.

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LOVELY TWO bedroom, two bath, two carport duplex. All appliances, fireplace, outside storage. \$450. No pets. Call 620-9222.

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Call For Deposits

American Realty 520-7577 Anytime

4008 LEHIGH three bedrooms, two baths, one living room, \$750/ month. \$750/ deposit. Call 684-8640. Owner/ Agent.

4078 SPRUCE, Duplex, 2 bedrooms, living, kitchen, \$395 plus deposit. For information call 620-1500.

3 BEDROOMS, 2 baths, 3 living areas, fireplace, open kitchen, utility room, storage room, carport. 889-2022, 687-1797.

HOUSE for rent, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$295/ month, \$100/ deposit. Call 682-0155.

★ NEW IN TOWN? For your FREE "New Resident" Welcome Packet. Call Newcomer's Unlimited, 670-0405.

WE HAVE THE PERFECT home for you-a Regency Townhome at 721 W. Denney, 2,050 sq. ft. of luxurious space. Skylights, extra large two bedrooms, large laundry rooms, Quaker cabinets, trash compactors, and more! Call today 683-4582.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 car garage, Lee district, \$750 monthly/ \$700 deposit. 685-1829/ 684-9538.

ATTENTION READERS Occasionally, ads found in this section come from distant parts of the Midland Reporter-Telegram cannot always know the merits of the offers. We suggest when you are doubtful that you call the Better Business Bureau before signing any contract/ or giving out your credit card or bank information.

HOME BASED Screen Printing business for sale. Established customer base. Growth opportunities. Serious inquiries only. 689-0547.

ESTABLISHED CONVENIENCE Store for sale. All building upgrades are done. Pumps are state of Texas compliant. Serious inquiries. Call 915-268-1315 or 661-8888, ask for Luis or Yvette.

"THE BEST KEPT Secret in Midland"- Regency Townhomes, 721 Dengar. Extra large 2 bedrooms, fireplaces, trash compactors. 563-4550.

UNFURNISHED APARTMENT Good condition. 501 West Scarborough Drive Unit 8 687-6325.

TWO BEDROOMS duplexes in Memorial Hospital, \$225 to \$275 monthly, deposit \$150. Call for address, 687-2724 or 684-7535.

2009 "B" HAYNES, Extra large 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath duplex, range, dishwasher, washer/dryer connections, central heat/ air, ceiling fans, 2 car carport, storage, rd. pets. \$750 monthly plus utilities. \$500 deposit. Call 687-0878 or 689-9255.

PATIO, TOWNHOUSES, 1710 N. "A". Ask about a free monthly rent. 2 bedroom apartments & 2 bedroom townhomes. Gas & Water paid. 682-4783.

GOLDEN PARK Duplexes-3100 Kansas. 2 Bedrooms \$195 Move in Special. 520-0133.

WINDSOR PLACE APARTMENTS QUIET-SEATLY

ONE WITH FIREPLACE YOU ASKED FOR OUR COURT

1801 N. Midland Dr. 694-6696

Professionally Managed By P.M.C.

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TWO BEDROOM

Who's Who For Service

Call 682-6222

For Further Information

You can advertise your business in Who's Who For Service for as little as \$48.55 monthly

Air Cond./Heating

CALL PERMAN Basins 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. 561-4128. TACLB01038E.

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Service. All brands. 563-2579. TACLB00548E.

THE BOSWORTH CO. Service and Sales, all makes. We've been in the service business for 40 years! (915) 683-5233. #TACLB00844E.

Appliance Repair

THAD'S APPLIANCE Repair. All major brands. Same day/after hours. No extra charge. 520-2590.

FREE REMOVAL OF

your unwanted appliances. Sales & Service. 550-8540.

CMS HOME Maintenance. All major brands. 550-8548 anytime.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING Appliance Service: Parts and service on all brand appliances. Used appliances with full warranty. 687-5113.

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COMPLETE AUTOMOBILE Paint jobs starting at \$199.95 guaranteed. 20 years experience in collision repair. Call Alterra Refinishing at 915-682-9722.

BARBECUE PITTS MIDLAND IRON WORKS. Barbecue Pits, Outdoor Fire Pits, Crocking Wood. 684-4825. Accepting Major Credit Cards.

Bathtub Refinishing Refinish. Bath tubs, sinks, ceramic tile, counter tops and appliances. Westex Refinishing. 520-9998 or 1-800-774-9998.

DON'T REPLACE

Refinish. Bath tubs, sinks, ceramic tile, counter tops and appliances. Westex Refinishing. 520-9998 or 1-800-774-9998.



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 Kitchen Remodeling, formica tops. References available. Work guaranteed. Alpha woodworking 556-7074.

Carpet Cleaning

FOBBS CARPET Cleaning Systems. Discount prices, phone quotes, same or next day service. Licensed technicians. Bonded & insured. References. 560-0988.

ADVANCED Hydrotech Carpet & upholstery, Scotchgard. Quality cleaning at affordable prices. 570-0034.

Carpet Sales/Rep & Inst.

DAVID Install carpet, vinyl, V.C. tile. Also repairs. Free estimates, all work guaranteed. 570-8314, 684-0924.

Chimney Sweep

ALL SEASONS Chimney Service. In business 7 years. Free estimate, cleaning, repairs. Call 634-3608. Thanks.

FOBBS CHIMNEY

Sweep. Prices start at \$59.95. 590-4037. Bonded & insured. Quick Response.

Computer Services

COMPUTERS Should be an asset, not a mystery. Y2K? Call Dark Waters at 687-2874.

SPEER Computer Consulting. Trouble shooting, Y2K evaluations. Upgrades. Windows and Internet instruction. Member Better Business Bureau, Periman Basin. 689-2577.

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of Midland. Upgrades, diagnostics and custom built systems. Call Jim 683-1071/236-0331.

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PAUL RIVAS VAL VERDE Patios, Driveways, Sidewalks. Small jobs welcome. Call 915-684-8437/425-7290 cellular.

Concrete Work

AGUIRRE'S CONCRETE Driveways, patios, sidewalks, block fences, wood fences & stucco. Free estimates. Call 682-5623.

ITURNKEY WORK Quatro Construction does work the right way. Concrete, brick, block, remodeling. 683-5504, 570-1074.

TRANSIT MIX Concrete & Materials. Ready mix concrete. Residential/commercial/Industrial. C.O.D. 561-8622.

BUILD-STORM Shelters, other blocks, flowerbeds, driveways. Free estimates. Mike 570-5342 or 684-5527.

JIM'S CONSTRUCTION Building, remodeling, home repair, patio/sunroom additions. Concrete, tile work, painting. 550-5185.

S.J. WELDING & CONSTRUCTION Pipe Fencing, Privacy Fencing (New and rebuilt), custom welding, patio covers, carports, metal buildings. Free estimates. Call 570-6835/684-0782.

Dirtwork B & L BACKHOE. Dump trucks, maintainers, dozers, 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, 634-3800.

Domestic House Cleaning SPRING CLEANING for 2000. One time, regular or move-outs. References available. Jennifer 694-5022 or 495-5496.

"KAREN'S CLEANING" Cleaning done right. References available. Call 620-2046 or Page 567-5108.

CHRISTIAN LADY In Midland 20 years. References available. Call 563-4035 or 553-4842.

THE HOLIDAYS Are over. Let us help you get things back in order. Christian work ethics. 684-8292.

Handyman

CALL KELLY 689-8048. Carpentry, painting, installation, all home repairs.

ECONOMY DOWN PRICES DOWN. K.C.'s Handyman Remodeling. Specializing in bathroom remodel. Ceramic tile, sheet rock, painting. Need a carport-fence? Also sidewalks, freestaps. 687-5853 or 699-5306, pager 687-6253.

SUPER PRICE Great Location. Old Midland, large shade trees, patio courtyard, garage/double carport, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. \$600 monthly, deposit or for sale. 2307 W. Cuthbert. 686-5032.

OWNER Financing 10% down. Updated. Motivated seller. 2707 Barclay 683-5649/561-1199 pager after 5PM.

ASSUME 7% FHA Loan with \$5,500, \$686 monthly. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace. Northgate. 683-7456.

We Specialize In HUD VA, MLS Have Mobile Homes With Large Lots DENNIS REALTY 682-6222

LEASE OPTION: 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, good location, great condition. Owner will finance. For details call 550-7653. 4510 St. Andrews.

704 LANHAM Completely updated. 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, double garage. Old Midland Home. Beautiful wood floors and ceramic tile. \$65,000. 570-7178.

WHY RENT? Several three bedroom homes which can be moved into and have payments less than rent for qualified buyers. Artec Realty. 520-7553.

1ST TIME HOMEBUYERS Free updated list of FHA, VA, MLS-HUD Homes. All Areas - All Prices. Pictures & Details. AMERICAN REALTY 4500 W. Illinois #114 Call 520-7577

Electric Service

RESIDENTIAL Commercial. Electrical installations, ceiling fans, switches, plugs. Free estimates. Insured. License #10. Call 685-0859.

RESIDENTIAL Commercial. Electrical installations, ceiling fans, switches, plugs. Free estimates. Insured. License #10. Call 685-0859.

CROCKETT Electric. Residential and commercial. Licensed and insured. Ceiling fans, telephone and TV outlets. Best of the best. Call 570-9797.

Embroidery REMEMBER. Computer embroidery, heat transfers, custom apparel. Credit Cards Accepted. 684-4842. www.embroidland.com

Flagstone COMPANY. STONE. Natural stone for your walkways, patios, fireplace. Buckskin, Gold, Oak, Sedona Red, Chocolate, Peach, Rose. 687-4952.

Floor Services HARDWOOD FLOORS. By Jim Castberry. Installation, refinishing or repair. Never wax. Call 530-3508.

WOOD FLOORS Refinish/repair/Installation/sales. Howard (915) 684-4044.

Fences R J FENCING - 30 years experience. New and repair. Reasonable rates. Free estimates. 560-6714.

WOOLARD SERVICES New fence installation and repairs. Wood, pipe, vinyl, decks, porches and remodeling. 570-0805.

K&S Fencing & Construction New fence, repairs on all types, free estimates. 682-0114, 561-1031 pager.

Handyman CALL KELLY. 689-8048. Carpentry, painting, installation, all home repairs.

ECONOMY DOWN PRICES DOWN. K.C.'s Handyman Remodeling. Specializing in bathroom remodel. Ceramic tile, sheet rock, painting. Need a carport-fence? Also sidewalks, freestaps. 687-5853 or 699-5306, pager 687-6253.

HAULING: Donation items, garage sales, furniture, lumber, computers. Available weekends & weekdays. 684-2772.

Home Repairs/Remod. A.D. CONSTRUCTION. Remodeling, painting, tape & bed, drywall, storage sheds, etc. 689-0569, Beeper 560-1230.

CONSTRUCTION ANY- Type Commercial, residential, add-ons, remodels, carports, patio covers. 20 years experience. 687-6445 office. 634-6445 cell.

Handyman

S & D SERVICES: Home repairs and more. Reliable, clean work. Bonded. Call 561-8610/558-4827.

FAMILY MAN Providing: Honey do's, errands, lawn care, free hauling furniture, etc. 684-2772.

CUT COST OF remodeling. Ceramic tile. I specialize in total bathroom remodels, floors and counter tops. No job too small. Call K.C. 684-5013 or 687-5953.

MIDLAND FIREMEN Metal buildings, general welding, wood fences, new & repair. Please call 620-0034/683-8367.

HANDY RANDY Home repairs, painting, carpentry, construction, sheet rock, and much more! Free estimates. 689-0804.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/ bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

HAULING B. JACKSON. Handyman Service. Haul off trash, old furniture, appliances, carpet-paddings, etc. Call (915) 682-2687.

HAULING tree limbs, trash and also construction clean-up. 561-1206 digital beeper. 10 minute response.

JHL TRUCKING and hot-shot service. Intrastate and interstate hauling weight up to 15000 pounds. Reasonable rates. Call 915-520-6982 or fax 915-520-4193

FREE COMMUNITY HAULING: Donation items, garage sales, furniture, lumber, computers. Available weekends & weekdays. 684-2772.

Home Repairs/Remod. A.D. CONSTRUCTION. Remodeling, painting, tape & bed, drywall, storage sheds, etc. 689-0569, Beeper 560-1230.

CONSTRUCTION ANY- Type Commercial, residential, add-ons, remodels, carports, patio covers. 20 years experience. 687-6445 office. 634-6445 cell.

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Home Repairs/Remod.

ROCKY'S Custom Remodeling. No job too large or small. We do them all. Senior Citizen discounts. Guaranteed/ bonded. 684-0807/684-0888.

CMS HOME Maintenance. All types of home maintenance and repairs. Installation of Dish washers, ceiling fans, garage door openers and more. 550-8648.

CEILING REPAIRS: Tape, bed, texture, acoustic ceilings. Carpentry, formica tops, ceramic tile 682-7711.

WE DO IT ALL FOR YOU! Remodels, ceramic tile, carpentry, counter tops, Westex Refinishing. 520-0808.

KITCHEN CABINETS, vanities, formica counter tops, beveled edges. Reasonable rates, references, work guaranteed. Luis. 682-4544.

ITURNKEY WORK! Quatro Construction does work the right way! Concrete, brick, block, remodeling. 683-5504, 570-1074.

PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AQUARIUM Set-ups for lobbies and waiting rooms (residential/commercial). You provide materials, I'll do the work. \$60-\$150/hour. Jeremy. 552-0208.

Ironing WILL DO Ironing \$12 per dozen. Non-smoker. Illinois and Midland areas. Please call 520-4959.

Lawn & Garden Service TREE TRIMMING, and complete lawn maintenance. Call Clements Lawn Service for free estimates. 520-4857.

B & L LANDSCAPING - Trees removed or trimmed. Stump grinder. Buckle truck. Lots cleaned. Top soil. (915) 687-4876.

EL JARDIN Expert lawn and garden care. 20 years experience. Mowing and trimming, landscape design and installation. Professional tree trimming. Sprinkler systems (License number 6550.) Restoration of lawns and beds. Bruce or Karen Pridgen. 689-3838.

WILL MOW and maintain your lawn, at a reasonable price. For estimates call 742-3315.

13 YEARS Experience. Fall clean-ups, tree pruning. Professional Results. Free Estimates. Insured. Precision Landscape. 699-7987.

Lawn Mower Repair SOUTHWEST LAWN-MOWER. Repairs on all makes/ models of small engine equipment/ go-carts. Free pick-up/ delivery. Discover/Amex/Visa/Mastercard accepted. 5144 Thomason. 520-0777.

DON COBB Small Engines Service. Repairs on chain saws, mowers, edgers, roadkillers, 2 & 4 cycle, etc. 1511 East Florida 682-3050.

LAWN MOWERS LOW DOWN PAYMENTS 2009 Whitley 4/2 690's 3306 Canonmont 3/2 587's 1107 Mogford 3/2/2 585's 4506 Lanham 2/2/2 571's 1602 McDonald 3/2 589's 1902 Ward 3/2/2 568's 4503 Brookdale 3/2 585's 325 Tanglewood 582's 3503 Princeton 542's 3307 Sycamore 520's 302 Jax

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO SEE THESE HOMES ALWAYS ASK FOR CLEMENTS SORGE AT REMAX 682-6222 EXTENSION 142

3111 THOMAS - 3 bedroom, financing available. 4607 Blc. across from park. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Only \$37,500. Call Mary 684-2920/ 689-0021 Century 21 Midland.

LIST Your House With Us! The Prudential Estate Realtors Call (915) 683-9548

THREE BEDROOM, TWO bath with study, walk-in closets, fireplace, two car garage, sprinkler system, 4505 Concho. Call 520-4048 or 498-3681.

3211 DELANO Brick 2 bedroom, 1 bath, central air/ heat, \$28,000. Call 520-8387 for appointment.

GORGEOUS DOLL House. Must see interior. 4607 Blc. across from park. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. \$55,000. Reduced. Contact Cindy Brown owner agent with Realty Unlimited. 550-5509.

FOR SALE by owner: Mission Corredo. Immaculate three bedroom patio home. Large kitchen and master bedroom, jacuzzi, alarms, RO water, sprinklers, and more. 915-553-2190.

ATTRACTIVE 4 bedroom, picture frame painting, formal dining. LOW EQUITY. Northgate. Phoenix Realty. 550-2882-362-2882.

PATIO HOME - Totally remodeled, good location, 3 large bedrooms, 2.5 baths, plantation shutters, double garage, extra parking, low maintenance, no grass to mow. \$134,500. 682-4479.

REMODEL JUST Completed on the lovely two bedroom in Old Midland. New central heater, tile floors, refinished hardwood floors. 722 Kansas. \$52,500. 686-0734, 687-6408.

3214 W. LOUISIANA 3 Bedroom, tile bath brick on 1/4 acre. Concrete block fence, water well. \$40,000. 689-3001, 688-6026.

BY OWNER 2505 Belcher, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, two car double garage. On cul-de-sac, a/c, lots of wood paneling. \$99,500. 682-0702.

3 BEDROOMS, 2 baths, 3 living fireplace, open kitchen, storage plus large utility. Carport. 4409 Parkdale. 683-2022. 7-1767.

2 bedrooms, 1 bath townhome. Good investment property. 606-736-1592.

LAWN MOWERS LOW DOWN PAYMENTS 2009 Whitley 4/2 690's 3306 Canonmont 3/2 587's 1107 Mogford 3/2/2 585's 4506 Lanham 2/2/2 571's 1602 McDonald 3/2 589's 1902 Ward 3/2/2 568's 4503 Brookdale 3/2 585's 325 Tanglewood 582's 3503 Princeton 542's 3307 Sycamore 520's 302 Jax

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BUSINESS *Journal*

PUBLISHED BY THE MIDLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

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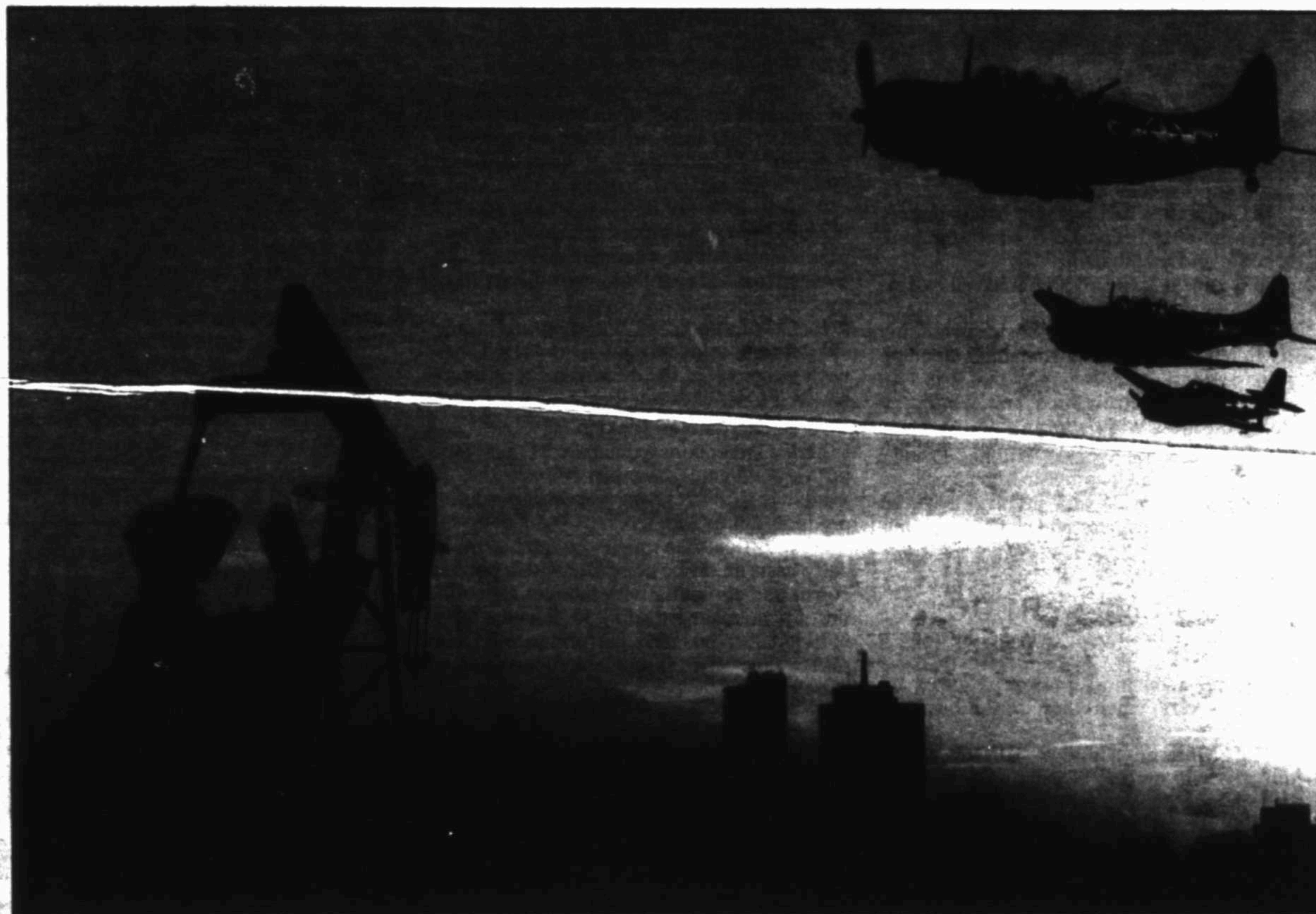


Photo illustration by Bruce Partain and Mark Warren

The economy of the Permian Basin has benefitted by the efforts of companies large and small.

Organizations help small businesses in Midland

By Bruce Partain
Business Journal Editor

With all the attention on recent mega-mergers, it seems appropriate to also remember "the little guy."

Most businesses in the Permian Basin, and across the country, started small.

The path is not easy for the small business person.

But with some luck — and some help — the "little guy" can still grow and prosper. Fortunately, several groups in Midland

help business people who are just getting started, and those who simply want to learn more, earn more and achieve greater success.

These organizations include the Midland Chamber of Commerce, The Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, The Midland Black Chamber of Entrepreneurs, Midland College Business and Economic Development Center (BEDC), UTPB Small Business Development Center (SBDC), the Citizen's Coalition and the Better Business Bureau.

On January 18, these groups will host a joint information session during the monthly networking breakfast, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. at the Midland College Student Center. Cost is only \$5 for breakfast.

Call Ralph Smith at Midland College, 684-4100, for more information, or to set up a display.

Following is a sampling of the services offered by the sponsoring organizations of the breakfast.

Continued on page 2

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BEST AVAILABLE CBPP SBDC

Midland Chamber of Commerce

"Since 1924, we've represented the business community's interests in Midland," said Marvin Wynn, Midland Chamber president and CEO.

The Chamber maintains several databases of information about Midland's economy, available to the public and at discounts to members.

"Besides the long-range efforts we have in economic development that benefit all businesses and citizens of Midland, we also have specific programs for helping the small business person," he said.

These include:

- Networking events, such as mixers and receptions

- Events that teach how to run a more successful business, such as quarterly luncheons and seminars.

- Small Business Roundtables, providing a forum for contacts and information

- Publicity for new members and those celebrating special anniversaries

- Committee involvement in community development, economic development, tourism and membership

- Business Expo 2000, a trade show featuring local businesses

"We also believe that a business holding a Midland Chamber membership is sending a message to the community that it is successful, customer-oriented and worthy of doing business with," Wynn said.

"Our theme this year is Midland Proud." When you are a Chamber member, you are reflecting the pride and involvement you have in your business and your community."

Midland College BEDC

To start a business, you should have a plan.

In fact, a business plan is required by most bankers when they make business loans.

The Midland College BEDC works directly with owners of existing businesses and people who want to run their idea through the business plan process to see if it will fly.

Counselors Ralph Smith and Glen Yeary work one-on-one with clients.

"The best thing about this is it is all free," Smith said.

While many people start their business after completing the plan, others come to a different conclusion.

"Sometimes the result is negative," Smith said. "But it is so much better to find out now that the idea won't make money, than to go ahead and fail in the real world. Or the pitfalls are revealed to the business person and they can adjust their idea and goals to make it work."

Yeary said that most businesses they assist need help with "financing, marketing and human resources. We see about three to six clients a week."

In addition to business plans, the BEDC offers several seminars for small businesses, as well as a Spring and a Fall Small Business Series.

The SBDC's director Art Connor and counselor Jame Heuman also work with businesses in one-on-one counseling sessions.

They are also able to help businesses become certified as an "historically-underutilized business" (HUB) with the State of Texas. This certification increases opportunities to bid on and win state contracts.

"The UTPB-SBDC presents approximately 50 business-related seminars per year as well as providing assistance to entrepreneurs on international trade issues, both importing and exporting," said Connor.

Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

The Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, (MHCC), provides guidance, counseling, seminars and serves as an information base for small and micro businesses so that they are better equipped to compete with the many nationally affiliated retailers and service providers.

"Our bi-monthly newsletters and weekly faxes keep our members informed of business opportunities, chamber activities and events," said David Diaz, executive director.

As a promoter of international trade exhibits and trade missions, the MHCC has been a catalyst in the development of international trade between local businesses and their counterparts in Mexico.

MHCC maintains a database of manufacturing companies based in Mexico that is available to businesses wanting to source products out of Mexico.

"Our office also makes available on a daily basis an office complete with a phone, copier and computer with internet capabilities, for members needing to enhance their individual or business performance," Diaz said. "The office is available upon request at no charge."

Midland Black Chamber of Entrepreneurs, Inc.

MBCE, Inc. provides membership, information and education for prospective small business persons as well as for experienced business persons. MBCE, Inc. has web pages on the Internet under TAAACC.com (Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce).

MBCE, Inc.'s goals are to monitor, promote, assist and provide services to prospective and existing businesses, to build new entrepreneurship among African American, other minorities and women, and to create a resource facility to educate minority entrepreneurs.

"Kidpreneurship" continues as a part of MBCE's development for the X-CEL youth program, according to Robbyne (Hocker) Fuller, CEO/Founder.

For the year 2000 MBCE, Inc. will host the Becoming Bankable Seminar provided by the Texas Association of Minority Business Enterprises. Also, MBCE will host several Mini Business Expos in the African American Community.

MBCE, Inc. showcases the African

American community through several special events each year.

Past events have included Co-sponsorship of the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, Tom Braxton jazz concerts, Alvin Ailey Dance Company Dance performances, Martin Luther King Celebrations, Fashion Shows, Art Shows, and Kwanzaa presentations and celebrations.

Citizens Coalition

The Citizens Coalition assists small businesses by providing a business incubator site, with office services provided at minimal cost. Five businesses currently use the facility.

The coalition also assists workers improve their skills, through programs such as a carpentry class.

Graduates of the class are able to enter the construction trade, or to improve their own homes.

"We're assisting Midland Neighborhood Housing by providing trained workers," said executive director Carolyn Palmer. "If we can find funding, we plan to expand into electrical and plumbing training this summer," she said. "The carpentry class has been one of our best programs."

Last summer, the Citizens Coalition summer youth program hired MISD teachers who helped kids who were potential dropouts to study for the TAAS tests.

Funded by an Abell-Hanger grant, the six-week classes assisted 12 to 18-year-olds.

"We included dance classes, etiquette classes and how to look for a job. This kept

a lot of kids off the streets who might have been involved in gangs instead," Palmer said.

Better Business Bureau

The Better Business Bureau of the Permian Basin is dedicated to helping consumers avoid the problems associated with questionable business practices and unwarranted claims in advertising.

The BBB helps businesses and consumers reach agreements through mediation and arbitration.

Businesses joining the BBB agree to a code of ethics that assures consumers that they will be dealt with fairly. Memberships are available for commercial businesses, and also for consumers.

Small Business Resources Midland Chamber of Commerce

Bruce Partain

Membership/Communications Manager

109 N. Main Street, 79701

915-683-3381

915-682-9205 fax

bruce@midlandtxchamber.com

www.midlandtxchamber.com

UTPB Small Business Development Center

Art Connor, Director

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Continued on page 3

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Photo by Bruce Partain

CVB Director of Sales Cynthia Button, left, and CVB Vice Chair Jane Phares compare calendars to set the Breakfast Club schedule.

CVB and hoteliers gear up for 2000

Midland CVB staff plans to expand cooperative efforts with local hoteliers to attract increased outside visitor dollars in the new millennium. Successfully attracting conventions, sporting events, reunions and individuals to visit Midland is a goal shared by both groups.

One means to this end is a monthly meeting, Breakfast Club, which enables hotel representatives and CVB staff to share information and capitalize on their combined resources. Breakfast Club, hosted by rotating hotel properties, provides an open forum to discuss upcoming events expected to generate room nights, issues facing the hospitality industry and new ideas to enable both the CVB and hoteliers to more effectively serve visitor needs. CVB staff provides a status update on

events they are attempting to secure in Midland, industry information and a summary of current activities to attract visitors to the city. Speakers are frequently invited to address attendees on various topics from publicizing upcoming events to new ideas on attracting visitors to spend outside dollars in Midland businesses.

"By sharing information and working together to attract groups to Midland, we can generate more room nights and entice visitors to spend more time and money in our city," said Cynthia Button, CVB Director of Sales. If you are involved in the local hospitality industry or interested in addressing Breakfast Club attendees, please contact Cynthia at 915/683-3381.

Employee Anniversary

Nancy Swallow recently celebrated her third anniversary with the Midland Convention and Visitors Bureau.

"As a long-time Midlander, Nancy's familiarity with our community helps her market and serve visitors to the Tall City," said Shura Lindgren, Director of Convention & Visitor Development for the Midland Chamber. "Her professionalism and her knowledge of visitors' needs also make her a very valuable asset to the CVB."

Swallow began her Chamber career as Sports and Special Events Manager for the CVB. She was recently named Director of Servicing.



Swallow

(From page 2)

Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
David Diaz, Executive Director
1410 N. Lamesa Road, Midland 79701
915-682-2960 • 915-687-3972 fax
davidd@midlandhcc.com
www.midlandhcc.com

Midland Black Chamber of Entrepreneurs
Robbyne Hocker Fuller, Junior Brown
P.O. Box 50473, Midland 79710
915 682-2864 • 915 684-6422 fax
mbce@swbell.net

Midland College SBDC

Mozella Garcia, Director
201 E. Florida, Midland, 79701
915-684-4100 • 915-684-4821 fax
rsmith@midland.cc.tx.us

Citizens Coalition
Carolyn Palmer, Director
711 W. Indiana, Midland 79701
915-570-0072 • 915-682-6211 fax

Better Business Bureau
Dick Rowland, President
P.O. Box 60206, Midland 79711
915-563-1880 • 915-561-9435 fax
info@bbbpb.org
www.permianbasinbbb.org

Breakfasts offer businesses chance to buy or sell

The Networking Breakfasts provide a special way for business people to meet and learn about one another's products and services.

Cost is only \$5, and the breakfasts are held from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Roadrunner Room of the Midland College Student Center.

The breakfast includes time for business people to identify themselves, meet purchasers and talk about their business. Each participant is given 30 seconds to introduce his or herself. Attendees can also distribute business cards, brochures or flyers or set up a display.

The Networking Breakfasts are a joint project of the Midland Chamber of Commerce, the Midland Black Chamber of Entrepreneurs, the Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Citizens Coalition, the Better Business Bureau, the Midland College Business and Economic Development Center and the UTPB Small Business Development Center.

To reserve a display table, call Ralph Smith, 684-4100 by the Thursday before the meeting for last-minute updates. E-mail Mr. Smith at rsmith@Midland.cc.tx.us.

Here's the 2000 schedule:

- Jan. 18 **Help for Small Businesses**
Panelists/exhibits
- Feb. 15 **Health & Fitness**
Speakers
- Mar. 21 **Spotlight on Hispanic Businesses**
Exhibits
- April 18 **Doing Business with the City**
Speaker
- May 16 **Spotlight on African-American Businesses**
Exhibits
- June 20 **How to Sell to Large Oil and Gas Companies**
Speaker
- July 18 **Doing Business with the State of Texas**
Speaker
- Aug. 15 **Successful E-Commerce Strategies**
Speaker
- Sept. 19 **Spotlight on Woman-owned Businesses**
Exhibits
- Oct. 17 **Financing Your Business**
Panel Discussion
- Nov. 21 **International Trade**
Speaker

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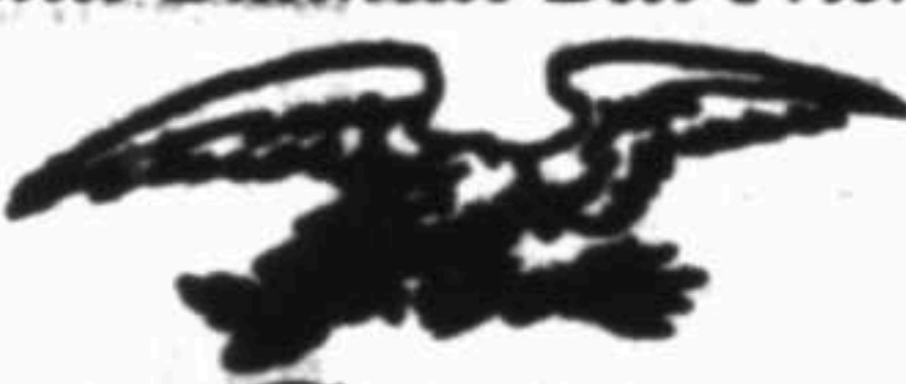
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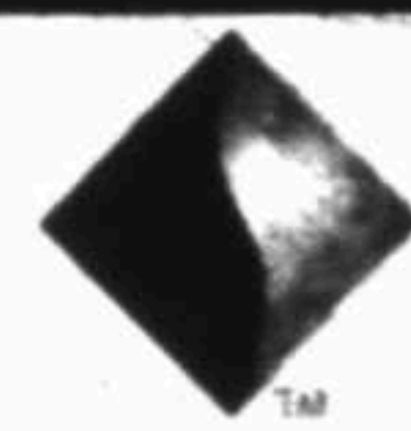
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The M-Squad will conduct ribbon cuttings this month at the following Chamber-member locations.
Contact Dawn Webster for further information.

Wednesday, January 12 • 11:30 am
Paper Werks - 2 year member
2500 N. Big Spring #162
Kay, 685-0029

Wednesday, January 19 • 4 pm
KTXC
#6 Dista Drive #4425 • 570-6670

Midland Chamber sets membership events

The Midland Chamber offers businesses many opportunities to network and to also learn successful techniques from other business people.

■ Business After Hours Mixers are casual opportunities to pass out business cards and meet new contacts.

■ Small Business Council Luncheons provide information and education on relevant business topics.

■ Small Business Roundtables are informal discussions between business people on topics of mutual interest.

Here are some of the business after hours and other special events taking place this year:

Business After Hours & Special Events

- Feb. 3 Membership Drive Kick-off Lunch 11:30 a.m.
- Feb. 3 - 17 Membership Drive
- March 2 New Member Reception
- March 9 Joint mixer with Midland Hispanic Chamber, 5 - 7 p.m.
- April 10, 11, 12 Pack the Park Nights
- May 10 Business Expo 2000 :
Expo: 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Mixer: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- June 1 New Member Reception
- June 29 Business at the Ballpark Family Picnic & Mixer, Christensen Stadium, 6-8 p.m. picnic, 7 p.m. game
- Aug. 28 Mixer with Odessa Chamber, 5:30 - 7:30 pm, Mission Dorado
- Sept. 7 New Member Reception

- Sept. 4-5 pm, boardroom
Annual Meeting
6:30 - 8:30 pm,
Midland Center
- Nov. 2 **Sneak Preview Night & Mixer at MCT**
- Dec. 7 **New Member Reception,**
Chamber boardroom, 3 - 4 pm
- Dec. 7 **World's Largest Christmas Party,** Midland Center,
4 - 8 p.m.

Small Business Luncheons

These are held quarterly, generally on the fourth Thursday of a month.

A special seminar - "Awesome Customer Service" will take the place of the January 27 luncheon. The seminar is available for either a morning or afternoon session. Call the Chamber, 683-3381, for details.

Other luncheons were scheduled for April 27, July 27 and October 26.

All luncheons are 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Midland Center. Luncheon Forum cost is \$15 for lunch paid at the door, \$13 in advance.

Small Business Council Roundtables

The roundtables are scheduled quarterly from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the Chamber boardroom.

Dates include Feb. 24, May 18, Aug. 24 and Nov. 16.

These meetings are free. Coffee and light refreshments are served.

Chamber meetings

(All meetings held in Chamber boardroom unless otherwise noted)

January

- 11 Executive Committee 11:30 am
- 14 M-Squad Guidelines noon
Downstairs conference room
- 18 Sports Commission 4 pm
- 19 Retention/Expansion 11:30 am
- 20 M-Squad Luncheon 11:30 am
- 25 Leadership Midland Alumni noon
- 25 Membership Services 4 pm
- 26 Board of Directors 3:30 pm
- 31 Leadership Midland Curriculum Committee 11:45 am

February

- 1 Midland Manufacturers Association 11:30 am
- 11 M-Squad Guidelines noon
Downstairs conference room
- 16 Retention/Expansion 11:30 am
location to be announced
- 17 M-Squad luncheon 11:30 am
location to be announced
- 22 Leadership Midland Alumni Committee noon
- 22 Membership Services 4 pm
- 23 Board of Directors 3:30 pm
- 28 Leadership Midland Curriculum Committee 11:45 am

President's Club

Renee Pickard of Cellular One was the Top Achiever for the Chamber's President's Club in November.

Renee assisted a current member with renewing their membership. Also active were Kathy Churchill of Kathy Churchill Insurance and Phil Tytanic of First National Bank of O'Donnell. Each also assisted a current member with renewal.



Pickard

Chamber staff sold nine new memberships in November.

President's Club volunteers spend several hours a month calling on new member prospects as well as visiting with current members who are 60 days or more past due. The Chamber invites these volunteers to a monthly luncheon where they share information on new businesses opening in Midland. Top Achievers are invited to Chamber board meetings to receive awards.

You are invited to take part in this business networking committee.

For more information, call Jane Inskeep or Bruce Partain, 683-3381.



Midland Economic Update

Economic index drops Petroleum indicator climbs during November

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

After remaining stable from September to October, the November Midland-Odesa Regional Economic Index took a 0.6 percent drop in November.

And while some expressed disappointment at that latest development, "it's not overly surprising," said Karr Ingham, the Amarillo economist who prepares the index for the Reporter-Telegram, First American Bank and Midland Chamber of Commerce. "I was more surprised the index stayed unchanged in October. I suspected (at that time) that we hadn't seen the end of the decline."

He does suspect, he said, "we're seeing the beginning of the end. It's inevitable the economy would bottom out soon and begin improving."

Marvin Wynn, president and chief executive officer of the chamber, said that "for all practical purposes, the index is flat and that's what we've been saying all along, that it had to flatten and then begin turning higher. This puts us in a good position to start the new year."

At the same time the regional index dipped lower, the Permian Basin Petroleum Index that Ingham prepares jumped to 84.4 from 80.5 in October.

The stability of the petroleum index, noted Bobby Norman, president of First American Bank, will continue to help the

regional index. The petroleum index, he said, is being driven by the high energy prices and rising production values.

The regional index is impacted by continued softness in retail sales, Norman said, which is highlighted by the fact that 1,200 fewer Midland and Odessa residents were employed in November than in November 1998.

"I see signs that the year has been difficult but the economy is trying to come back. Year-to-date figures are down, but monthly figures are up over year-ago," Norman said. "If you look at the annual numbers compared to monthly numbers, it's apparent the economy is trying to turn around."

Of the components of the regional index, Ingham said, the two most important are employment and retail sales. He said that though November employment was down compared to a year ago, the margin is shrinking and as employment improves, retail sales will improve.

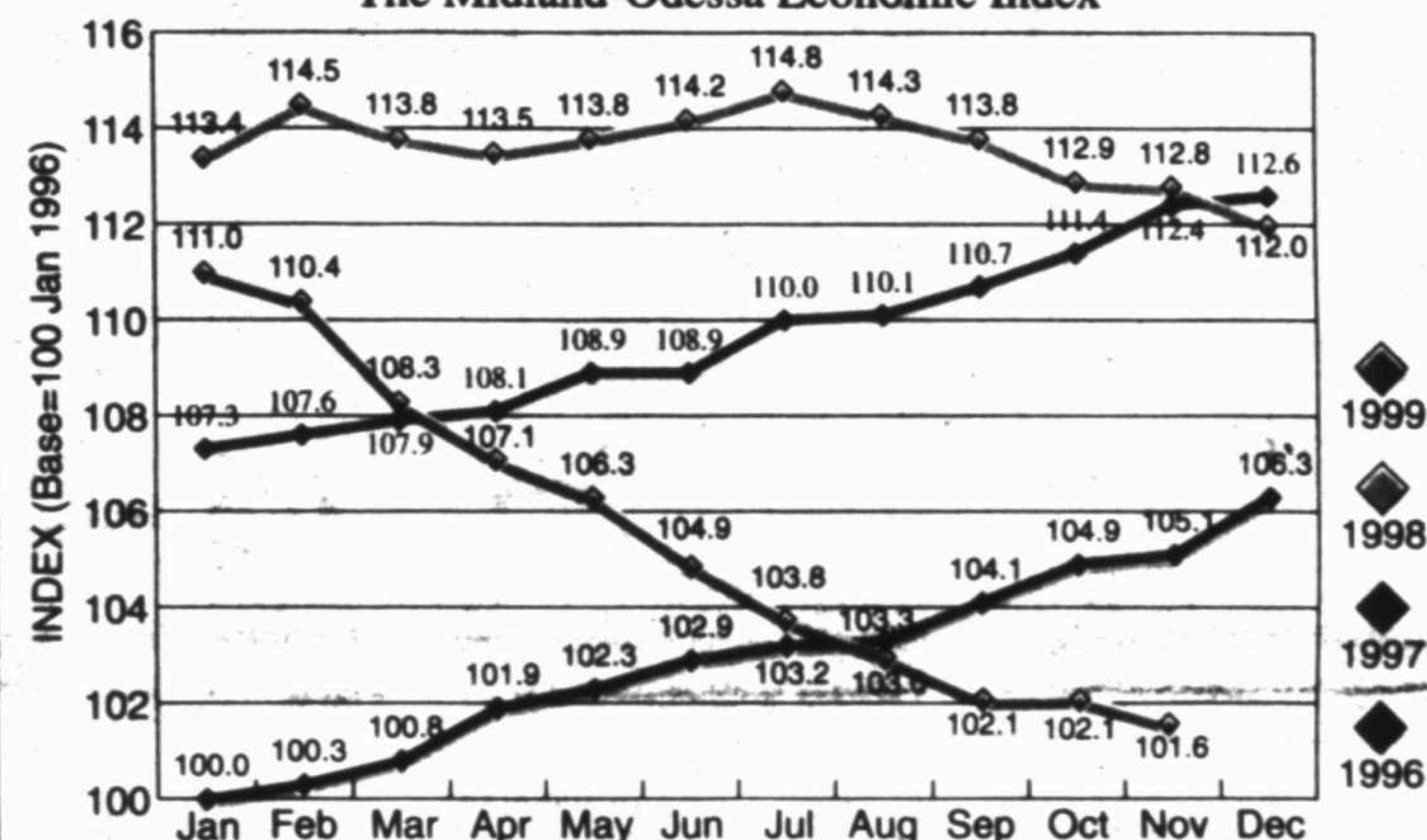
"The employment contribution to the index improved in November and that's a very positive sign. It leads me to believe we are seeing the beginning of the end of the downturn," Ingham said. "As consumer confidence improves, as it will with the oil index rising, people will turn loose of their dollars, and they'll have more dollars to turn loose of," Ingham said.

Continued on page 8



THE MIDLAND-ODESSA REGIONAL ECONOMY

The Midland-Odesa Economic Index



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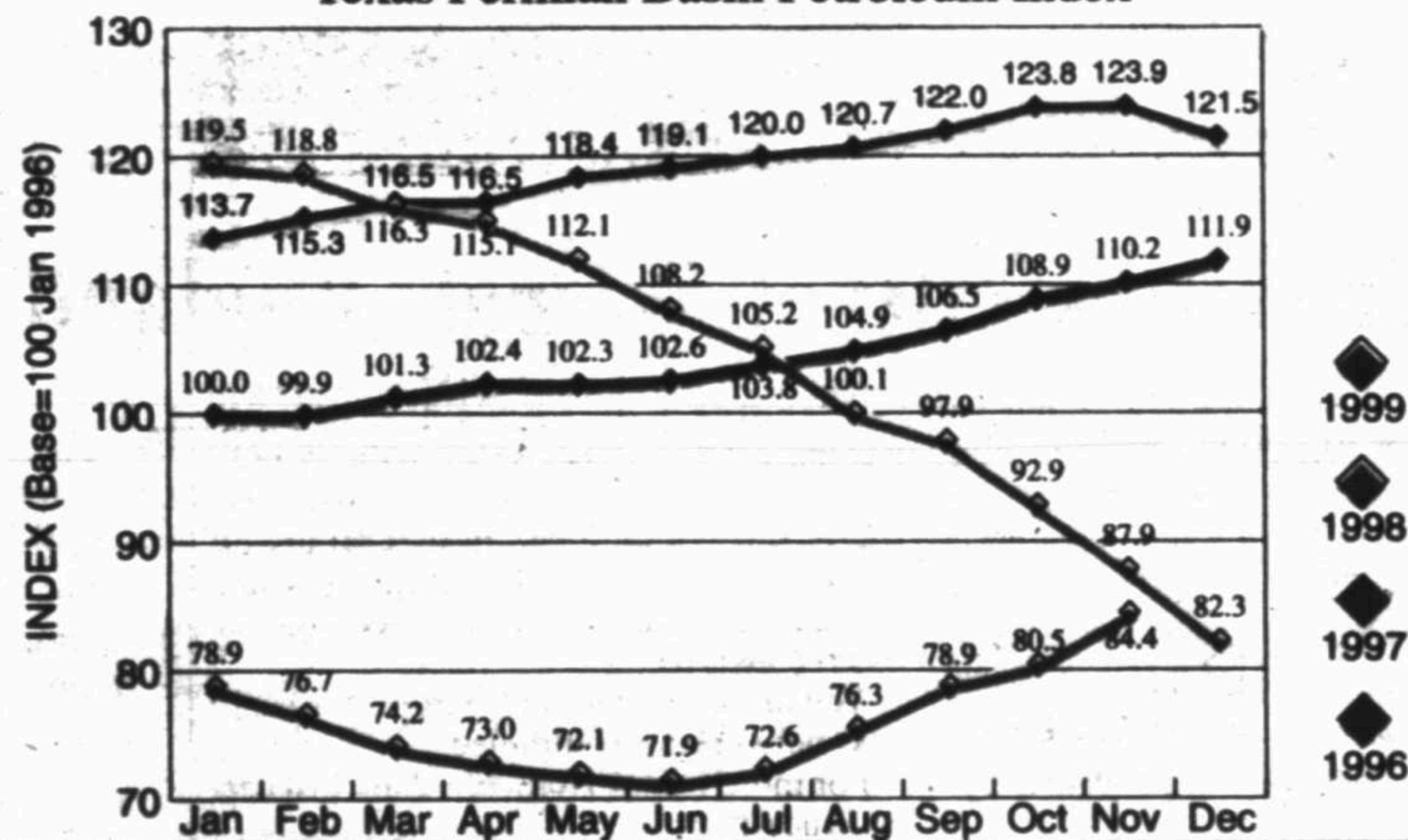


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THE PERMIAN BASIN OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY

Texas Permian Basin Petroleum Index



(From page 7)

Wynn said he was pleased to see the petroleum index continuing to climb, and he saw positive signs in improvements in, among other components, airline boardings and sales tax refunds to the cities.

Nancy Bowlin, marketing director at Midland Park Mall, said that traffic at the mall in November was 35.2 percent higher than November 1998.

"Last year, Old Navy opened and drew huge crowds, so this 35.2 percent gain is something," she said, attributing the traffic increase to new stores, including Old Navy, opening in the mall during the last year.

The traffic growth, she said, "also reflects a slightly more positive attitude about the economy. Whether it's real or perceived, attitude counts for a lot. I think people are feeling more upbeat and confident in general about the future and the economy of Midland. Whether or not all the additional visitors are spending money, they're looking and that's the first step."

Motor vehicle sales taxes for the year totaled \$23.9 million through November, down 7.3 percent. But November collections totaled \$2.08 million, up 9 percent from \$1.9 million a year earlier.

According to Laveda McNeill, who tracks sales of new cars and pick-ups from area dealers, dealers in Midland County sold 2,477 new cars and 2,594 new trucks through November. In 1998, dealers sold 2,645 cars and 3,119 trucks. Dealers in Ector County sold 2,483 new cars and 2,399 new trucks through November of this year and in 1998 sold 3,049 new cars and 2,886 new trucks.

Don James of Toyota of Midland, president of the New Car Dealers Association, said he believes car sales have held up well this year.

"We're in a micro-economy here, and things haven't improved for us as they have in other parts of Texas or the nation," he said, because of the area's dependence on the energy industry.

Still, he said, car sales held steady with last year, which pleases dealers.

"With the higher energy prices, we thought sales would grow more, but I think we'll see the economy rebound more in 2000. I think consumer confidence is back and it's going to be a good year."

Midland-Odessa Regional Economic Index

ECONOMIC INDICATORS	THIS YEAR November 1999	LAST YEAR November 1998	% Change 11/98-11/99
Retail Sales (000's - Month)	\$206,959	\$232,949	-11.2%
Retail Sales (000's - YTD)	\$1,969,069	\$2,166,880	-9.1%
Hotel Motel Tax (Qtr)	\$402,224	\$469,141	-14.3%
Hotel Motel Tax (YTD)	\$1,761,674	\$1,900,700	-7.3%
Motor Vehicle Sales Tax (Month)	\$2,082,902	\$1,911,504	9.0%
Motor Vehicle Sales Tax (YTD)	\$23,892,902	\$25,775,542	-7.3%
Airline Boardings (Month)	41,205	40,523	1.7%
Airline Boardings (YTD)	442,333	473,760	-6.6%
Value All Building Permits (Month)	\$11,427,438	\$11,065,623	3.3%
Value All Building Permits (YTD)	\$125,023,090	\$117,005,014	6.9%
Permits for New Homes (Month)	16	32	-50.0%
Permits for New Homes (YTD)	218	367	-40.6%
Sales of Existing Homes (Month)	170	172	-1.2%
Sales of Existing Homes (YTD)	1,940	2,257	-14.0%
Average Home Sale Price (Month)	\$81,608	\$79,845	2.2%
Average Home Sale Price (YTD)	\$86,550	\$83,046	4.2%
Electric Utility Customers (Month)	105,320	105,629	-.03%
Manpower Employer Survey (Qtr) *	24%	23%	N/A
EMPLOYMENT			
Wage and Salary Employment (Month)	105,800	107,000	-1.1%
Wage and Salary Employment (Avg YTD)	104,400	107,100	-2.5%
Unemployment Rate (Month)	6.5	6.1	N/A
Unemployment Rate (Avg YTD)	8.5	5.2	N/A
TEXAS PBPI **	84.4	87.9	-4.0%
INDEX (Base = 100 January 1996)	101.6	112.8	-9.9%

* Percent of Employers Surveyed Expecting to Increase Staff in Coming Quarter

** Texas Permian Basin Petroleum Index (Base=100 Jan 1996)

Texas Permian Basin Petroleum Index

OIL AND GAS INDICATORS	THIS YEAR October 1999	LAST YEAR October 1998	% Change 10/98-10/99
Oil Price/bbl (Mo Avg WTI Crude)	\$22.27	\$10.37	114.8%
Oil Price/bbl (YTD Avg.)	\$15.96	\$12.27	30.1%
Gas Price (Waha Hub Mo Avg)*	\$2.90	\$1.94	49.5%
Gas Price (YTD Avg)	\$2.18	\$2.00	9.0%
Rig Count (Month)	76	38	100.0%
Rig Count (YTD Avg)	49	68	-27.9%
Drilling Permits (Month)	248	146	69.9%
Drilling Permits YTD	2,267	2,653	-14.5%
Oil Completions (Month)	84	80	5.0%
Oil Completions YTD	938	2,719	-65.5%
Gas Completions (Month)	42	65	-35.4%
Gas Completions YTD	365	884	-58.7%
Oil Production Volume (000's bbls/month)	23,755	26,473	-10.3%
Oil Production Volume YTD	267,000	296,966	-10.1%
Oil Production Value (000's Month)	\$529,024	\$274,525	92.7%
Oil Production Value YTD	\$4,230,836	\$3,647,672	16.0%
Gas Production Volume (000's MCF/month)	116,305	122,861	-5.3%
Gas Production Volume YTD	1,254,259	1,333,225	-5.9%
Gas Production Value (000's Month)	\$337,285	238,350	41.5%
Gas Production Value YTD	\$2,729,446	\$2,669,353	2.3%
Oil and Gas Employment (Month)	12,100	13,300	-9.0%
Oil and Gas Employment (Avg YTD)	12,100	14,000	-13.6%
Oil and Gas Regional Stock Index	126.2	101.9	23.8%
INDEX (Base = 100 January 1996)	84.4	87.9	-4.0%

*Courtesy Robert K. Anderson Co.

Get ready for awesome customer service

The Midland Chamber is hosting customer service and telephone communications expert Bill Drury as he presents a seminar entitled "How to Win Customers and Reduce Lost Sales" Thursday, Jan. 27 at the Hilton Midland.

From 1985 to 1990, Drury was the National Training Consultant for the Zig Ziglar Corporation. He speaks, trains, and travels extensively, and has proven to be one of the most effective and entertaining trainers in the industry.

Bill's lively presentations and video tapes instruct over 50,000 each year.

Subjects Bill will cover include:

- Who really signs your paycheck
- Stay motivated
- Make a great first impression
- Create a vision for service
- Communicate respect to every customer
- Personalize your service
- Listen
- Handle the irate customer
- Overcome stress and burnout
- Handle the ten most difficult customers

Some Customer Service Facts: 7 out of ten customers who stop doing business with a company do so because of the way they were treated on the first contact; 96 percent of unhappy customers never complain about discourtesy, but 91 percent of them will not buy again from a business that offended them; 97 percent of all companies never formally train employees in the simple art of customer retention.

On January 27, there will be two identical presentations, allowing employers to send half their people in the morning, and half in the afternoon. The seminars will be held at the Hilton Midland & Towers. The morning session is 8:30 a.m. to noon, and the afternoon session from 1:30 to 5 p.m.

To see your employees improve their skills, your investment is only \$59 per person for Chamber members and \$89 for non-members. Group discounts are available. Call the Chamber, 683-3381 to receive a registration form.

"Bill Drury knows what he is talking about," said Zig Ziglar. "He has an excellent style of delivery. Your people and your company will be better off after hearing Bill Drury."



Drury

Business opportunities open overseas in sister city of Wirral, England

Leaders in Wirral, England invited Midlanders to formalize a sister city relationship this March.

Midland organizers are searching for local business and civic volunteers to join the delegation.

Similar to Midland, Wirral has actively pursued economic diversification after struggling with a downturn in its major

industry, shipbuilding and stevedoring. Midland and Wirral leaders believe a sister city relationship will present new opportunities for a variety of businesses in both countries.

Initially, Midland-based Tomcat U.S.A. established a facility in Wirral after searching for a European operations base. In 1998, Midland Mayor Bobby Burns,

Robert Rendall, Jr., and others visited Wirral to pursue a relationship with the city. Ten Wirral delegates reciprocated by traveling to the Permian Basin last March. Last fall, Midland CVB Director Shura Lindgren visited Wirral to further investigate opportunities to enhance business activity and tourism between the two communities. "Establishing a formal

relationship with Wirral will help promote West Texas tourism to the European market. The economic possibilities for Midland businesses taking an active role in this relationship are endless," stated Lindgren. If you are interested in joining the delegation, please immediately contact Shura Lindgren at 683-3381 or Robert Rendall, Jr. at 682-1616.

The Economy

Population growth rate in Permian Basin has slowed

By Kevin Skipper

The accompanying table shows total population levels for the city of Midland, Midland County, the Odessa-Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (or MSA, which includes Ector and Midland counties), and the state of Texas. The time period covers 1980 and 1990-99.

The city and county experienced robust population growth between 1980-90 (Figure 1). During this portion of the study period, the city's population expanded 26.8% to 89,443 (38.1% faster than Texas as a whole). Midland County's growth rate (29.0%) exceeded Texas' by one-half.

This growth rate brought our population to 106,611 in 1990. The MSA's growth rate during the 1980s appears sluggish (13.9%) compared to Texas' (19.4%).

Midland's population growth rate slowed markedly during the 1990s. Figure 2 depicts growth patterns for the city and county during the decade. The city's population expanded 11.7%, while the county's and MSA's increased 12.2% and 9.0%, respectively. At 17.3%, Texas' population rose about one-half faster than the city's and county's and almost twice as fast as the MSA's.

Figure 3 displays annual percentage changes in the city's and county's populations between

1990-99. The downward sloping lines indicate slowing growth rates as the 1990s progressed. Between 1998-99, growth rates approached zero.

The city's annual population growth rates exceeded Texas' rates twice during the 1990s (1991 & 1993). Midland County's rates surmounted those in Texas only once

(1991). The MSA's growth rates did not surpass Texas' rates during the period. Short-term slowing growth rate patterns (i.e., two or three consecutive years of diminishing growth) appear for the city, county, and MSA during 1994-96. Texas' growth rates declined each year between 1996-98.

Total population growth rates usually correspond directly to economic fluctuations. One may ascribe much of our weakening local growth rates to declining energy revenue, languid employment growth, and sluggish earnings growth by our work force.

The Texas Comptroller's Office and Texas Railroad Commission track oil and gas (O&G) prices and production, respectively. Between Q1/1990 and Q2/1999 (the latest data available), real (inflation-adjusted) quarterly aggregate West Texas (Districts 8 and 8A) oil and gas revenue (defined as the product of price and production) fell 61.1% to \$1 billion. Real quarterly revenue dropped 39.7% during the Q4/1997 (when employment peaked in Midland) to Q2/1999 time period.

Texas Work force Commission (TWC) data indicate that Midland County's employment growth pattern mirrored Texas' during Q1/1990 to Q4/1997 (Midland County=27.0%; Texas=27.2%). However, as O&G revenue declined, employment fell as well. Between Q4/1997 and Q1/1999 (the latest data available), Midland County experienced a 9.0% drop in employment; Texas added 2.2% to its work force.

According to TWC statistics, Midland

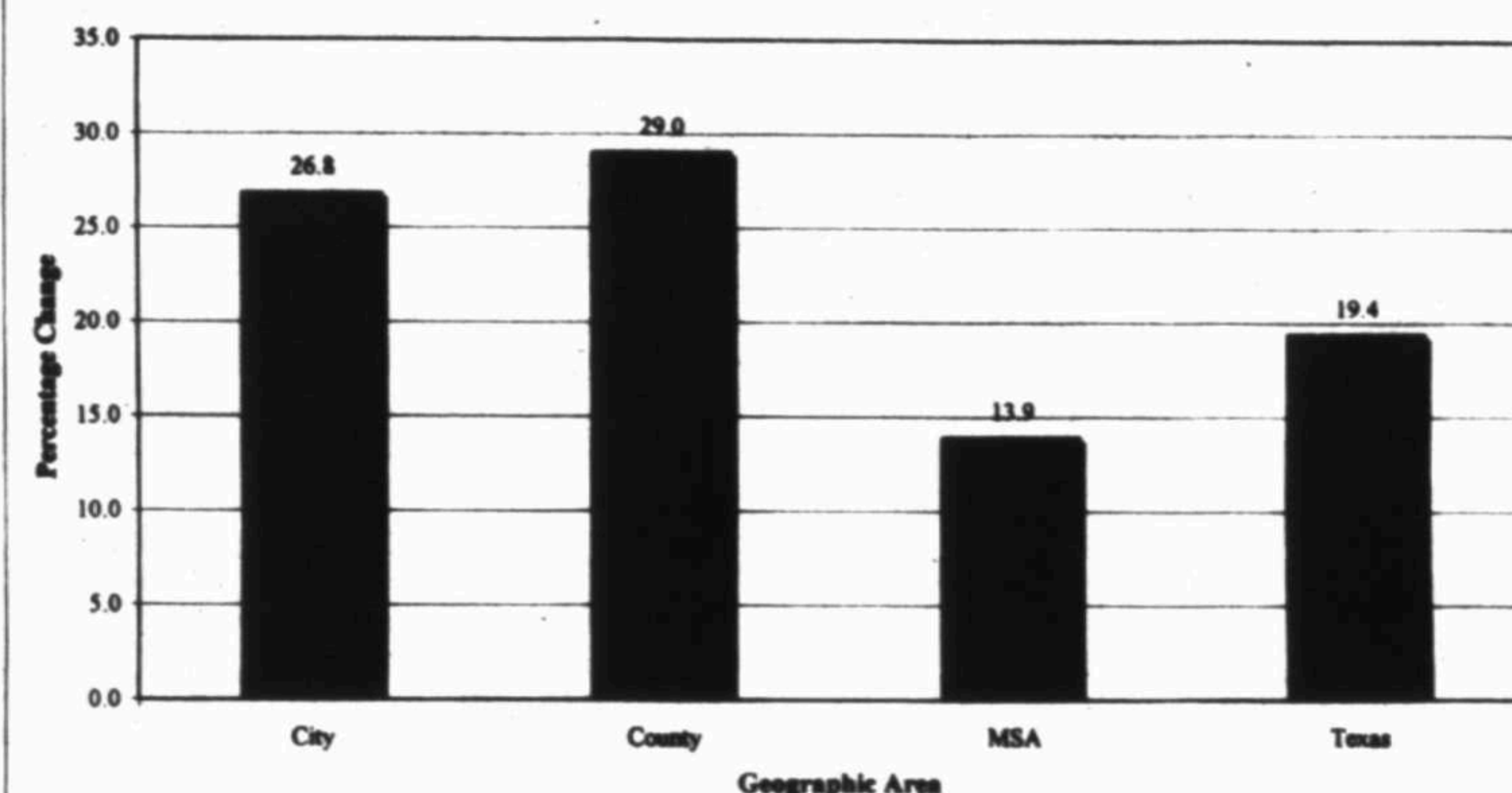
Continued on page 10

**Total Population
Selected Geographic Areas
1980 & 1990-99**

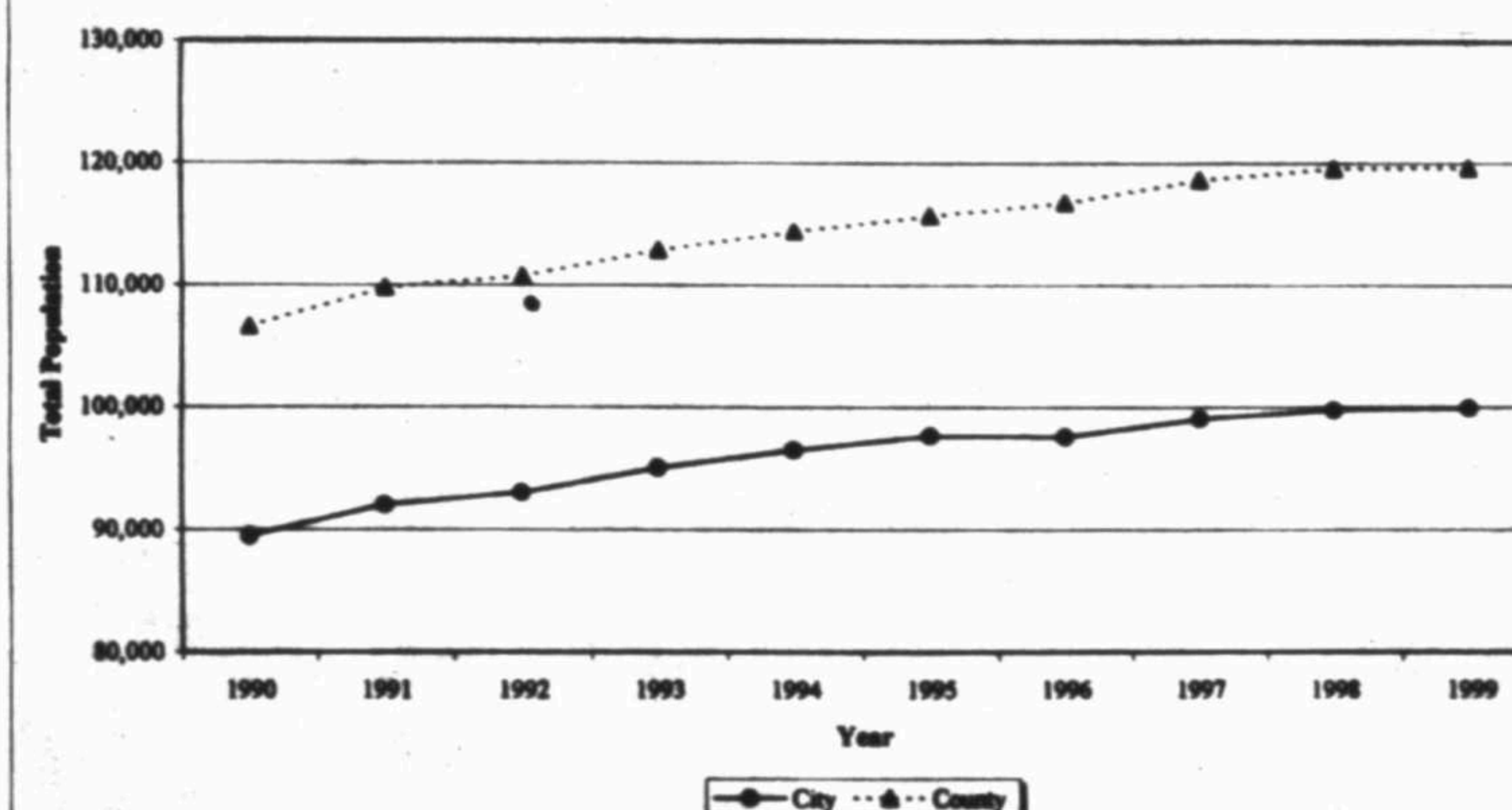
Year	Geographic Area			
	City of Midland	Midland County	MSA	Texas
1980	70,525	82,638	198,012	14,229,189
1990	89,443	106,611	225,545	16,986,335
1991	92,005	109,761	230,261	17,349,000
1992	92,994	110,729	232,182	17,655,650
1993	95,003	112,855	234,906	18,031,484
1994	96,462	114,382	237,040	18,378,185
1995	97,623	115,657	238,423	18,723,991
1996	97,549	116,767	239,978	19,128,261
1997	99,013	118,634	242,429	19,439,337
1998	99,734	119,576	243,715	19,598,471
1999	99,941	119,615	245,938	19,925,577
Change, 1980-90	18,918	23,973	27,533	2,757,146
% Change, 1980-90	26.8	29.0	13.9	19.4
ACPC, 1980-90	2.4	2.6	1.3	1.8
Change, 1990-99	10,498	13,004	20,393	2,939,242
% Change, 1990-99	11.7	12.2	9.0	17.3
ACPC, 1990-99	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.8

Source: Desert Analytics, Texas State Data Center & U.S. Census Bureau.
ACPC=Annual compound percentage change.

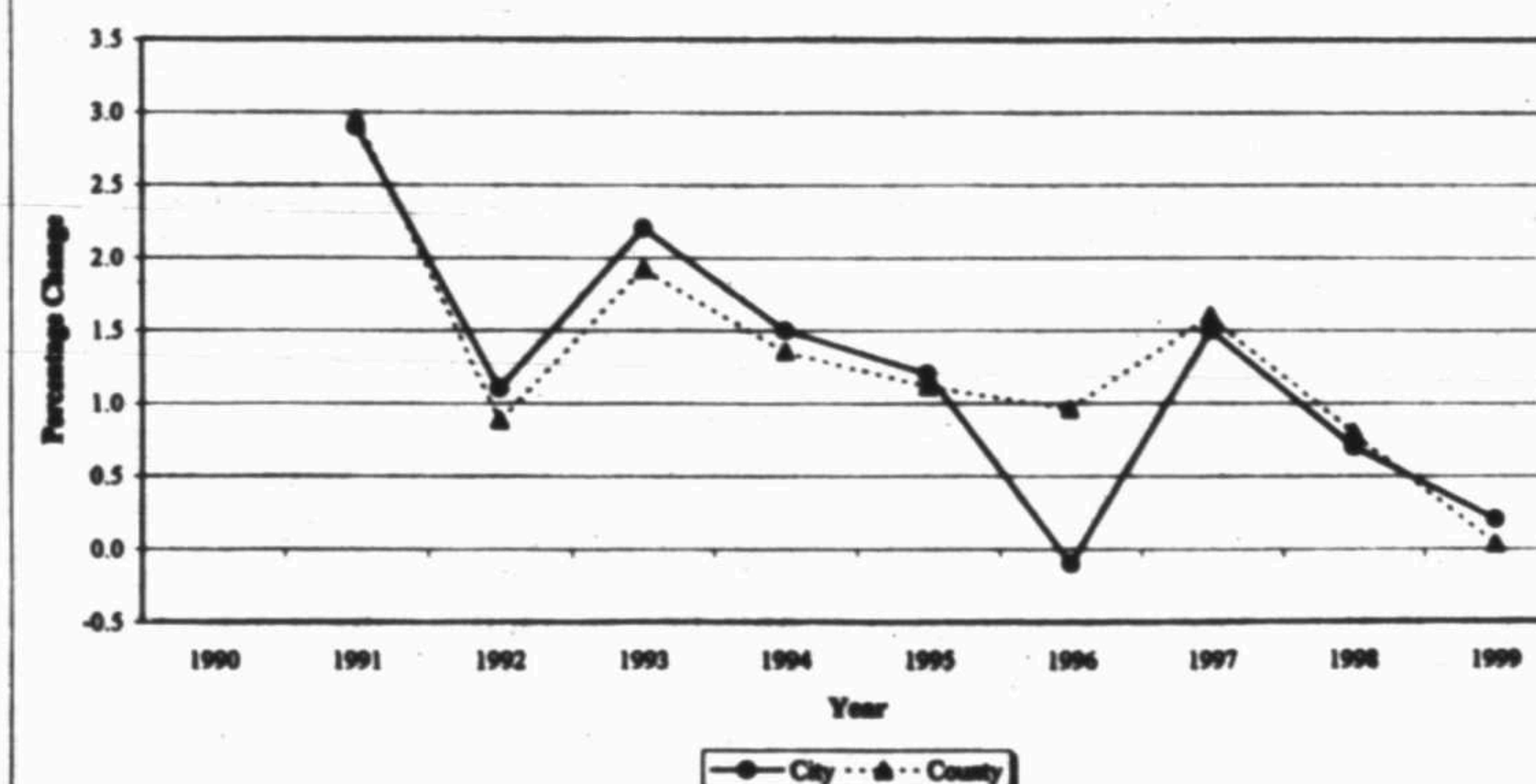
**Figure 1
Percentage Change in Total Population
Selected Geographic Areas
1980-90**



**Figure 2
Total Population
City of Midland & Midland County
1990-99**



**Figure 3
Total Population
Percentage Change from Previous Year
City of Midland & Midland County
1990-99**



(From page 9)

County's real aggregate earnings (RAE) rose 33.0% between Q1/1990-Q1/1999 (the latest data available). That growth rate compares poorly to Texas' (50.3%). Midland County's RAE peaked along with employment during Q4/1997. Midland's quarterly RAE then contracted 18.7% (to \$360 million) through Q1/1999. By comparison Texas' RAE dropped only 3.6% during the same five quarter time period.

Two factors influence population growth rates. These include net migration (difference between the number of persons moving in and moving out) and natural increase (difference between the number of births and deaths). The former component influences rates much more than the latter. Economic cycles affect both factors. As an economy slows, net migration flattens or turns negative; more persons leave a community than move in. The number of births and birth rates (births per 1,000 population) tend to decrease as economic conditions deteriorate.

The data above suggest that slowing economic growth contributed to Midland's declining population growth rates during the 1990s, especially since 1997. No data exist which delineate precise net migration patterns in Midland County during the entire study period. However, one can

deduce that net migration flattened or turned negative during the latter portion of the 90s. Further, according to the Texas Department of Health, the number of births in Midland County dropped 10.0% between 1990 (2,136) to 1997 (1,922, the latest data available). The county's birth rates declined 19.0% (1990=20.0; 1997=16.2) during this period.

Although economic activity in Midland tumbled during the past three years, recent energy price rises (and the maintenance of those prices at their current relatively high levels) provide the prospect that our population growth rates will strengthen. Real aggregate West Texas oil and gas revenue increased 40.2% during the first two quarters of 1999. Earnings will likely expand as well. Heightened economic activity will result in positive future net migration into Midland. A concomitant expansion in the number of births and birth rates should also transpire.

Potential economic expansion in Midland translates into invigorated future population growth rates. However, I do not expect our rates to match those in Texas (with its more diversified economy) anytime soon.

Kevin Skipper is Chief Economist at Desert analytic, a Midland-based economics and statistical services consulting firm.

Ambassador of the Month



Photo by Bruce Partain

From left, Pat Wornell, Peggy Thorsen, Jay Norris, Rose Harvell and Dell Hoover were honored as "Top Five" for event participation at the December M-Squad Luncheon. Hoover was named Ambassador of the Month.

Dell Hoover has been recognized by the Chamber as the Ambassador of the Month for December.

She earned this distinction by attending events such as ribbon cuttings and ground breakings.

Dell has been a member of M-Squad for more than eight years. She has served as Team Captain several times, held the office of Vice Chair and is the current Chair for 1999-2000.

"I have been able to be very active because of the support of my employer, HMH Operators, owned by Sam E.

Hilburn and Robert B. Morris," says Hoover. "Being a part of the ambassadors is a great way to be the first to know what is going on in Midland; it affords frequent networking opportunities and we're a fun group!"

Dell encourages anyone interested in joining M-Squad to contact her to discuss the benefits being an ambassador can bring to your business.

For more information on how to become an ambassador, call Dawn Webster at 683-3381.

Anniversaries

The Chamber thanks the following members for their long-term commitment to Midland.

Congratulations to these businesses for their years of service as Chamber members (indicated beside company name):

Albertson's - 27
Firestone Stores dba American Tire - 24
W.D. Anderson & Sons - 24
Ernest Angelo, Jr. - 29
ARCO Pipe Line Company - 24
Bank One - 29
Basin Business Computing - 27
Bass Enterprises Production Co. - 24
Better Business Bureau of the Permian Basin - 29
Bill Williams Tire Center - 30
Bob's Rental Center, Inc. - 30
Builders & Homeowners Supply Co. - 24
The Bulletin Board - 29
J. Terry Carpenter, D.D.S. - 26
City of Midland - 27
Compressor Systems, Inc. - 28
Cotton, Bledsoe, Tighe & Dawson, P.C. - 25
D-Jax Corp. - 27

Arlen L. Edgar - 26
Henry Petroleum Corp. - 28
Hilton Midland & Towers - 24
Ken's Rent It Center - 29
Lario Oil & Gas Co. - 29
Leasing Associates, Inc. - 30
McClatchy Bros., Inc. - 24
Midland Lock & Safe - 24
Mildred's Flowers - 26
Moffatt Carpets - 25
Felipe M. Morales Insurance - 29
The Paper Clip Office Supply - 27
Petroleum Museum - 29
Petroleum Technical Services Co. - 24
Clarence Scharbauer, III - 25
Sproles Woodard L.L.P. - 29
Teraco, Inc. - 29
Carroll M. Thomas - 24
Toyota of Midland - 26
United Way of Midland - 26
Unruh, Williams & Jimenez - 27
Village Lincoln Mercury Dodge - 25
VisionHealth Center - 29
Williamson Petroleum Consultants - 30

CVB Calendar

CVB Sporting Events

The Midland Chamber Convention and Visitors Bureau assists with the booking and servicing of many sporting events held in Midland each month.

January

6-8 Lady Rebels 2000 Soccer Classic Tournament
Hogan Park Soccer Complex
520-6777

14-16 COM Winer Invitational Swim Meet
Mabee Memorial Aquatics Center
684-7755

February

18-20 West Texas Swimming Championships
Mabee Memorial Aquatics Center
684-7755

24-26 West Texas Classic Fast Pitch Softball Tournament
Ulmer Park Softball Complex/MUGS Field
694-5508

25-26 Region I - 5A Girls Basketball Playoffs
Chaparral Center-Midland College
684-4584

25-26 Tall City Boys Invitational Golf Tournament
Country Clubs: Midland, Ranchland Hills, Green Tree; Hogan Park Golf Course

Convention Calendar

The Midland Chamber Convention and Visitors Bureau assists with booking and servicing many conventions held in Midland each month. The number indicated refers to the approximate number of individuals attending the convention.

February

4-6 Stream in the Desert (2100)

18-19 Texas Assn. of Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows (100)

25-26 FHA - Future Homemakers of America (1000)

26-29 American Assn. of Petroleum Geologists - S.W. Section (400)

March

17-21 International Order of Odd Fellows (900)

22-24 West Texas County Judges & Commissioners Conference (600)



Photo by Bruce Partain
Kathy Jones and her brother Michael Norris spend long days in their shop. Norris also takes time to build his small business by attending networking events held by local chambers and other organizations.

Small businesses benefit from SBA loans

By Tom W. Dowell

SBA Lubbock District Director

Are you excited about starting, building or expanding your business? Then the U.S. Small Business Administration wants to assist you. SBA guarantees give small business owners access to the same kinds of reasonably priced, long-term financing available to large businesses.

SBA loans are made by private lenders and are guaranteed up to 80 percent. There are three principal players in a SBA-guaranteed loan. First, the private lender determines whether a borrower's application is acceptable and then forwards the to the SBA. After SBA approves, the lender makes the loan and disburses the funds to the borrower.

Here are some of SBA's loan programs: for more detailed information call the Lubbock District Office at 806-472-7462 or 1-800-676-1005. You can also access SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/financing.

- The 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program
- Low Documentation Loan (SBA LowDoc)
- CAPLines
- Export Working Capital Program (EWCP)
- SBA Express
- 504 Loans

Lubbock SBA Chief of the Finance Division is Armando Garcia. He has twenty-three years experience in financing and has been with SBA for thirteen years. Mr. Garcia is a graduate of Texas Tech University with a degree in Finance.

Economic Indicators

♦ NOVEMBER 1999 ♦

CITY OF MIDLAND	NOV 1999	OCT 1999	NOV 1998
Residential Permits	12	11	17
Residential Valuations	\$1,293,085	\$1,139,985	\$1,850,409
Commercial Permits	8	5	5
Commercial Valuations	\$6,083,350	\$1,352,000	\$3,246,200
MIDLAND COUNTY			
Labor Force	63,699	63,843	64,386
Employed	60,084	59,931	61,427
Unemployment Rate	5.7%	6.1%	4.6%
ODESSA/MIDLAND MSA			
Labor Force	126,329	126,760	129,198
Employed	118,131	117,831	121,479
Unemployment Rate	6.5%	7.0%	6%
OTHER			
MAF Enplanements	41,205	42,745	40,523
	City of Midland	Midland County	Odessa/Midland MSA
POPULATION	99,186*	117,300**	240,500**
	(Estimate 1-1-99)	(1-1-98)	(1-1-98)
COMPOSITE CRIME INDEX	71 (U.S. =100)	76 (U.S. =100)	110 (U.S. =100)

Sources: Claritas, Inc.; U.S. Census Bureau; Texas Workforce Commission

*City of Midland; **Demographics USA County Edition; ♦ Revised data

Prepared by: Midland Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Department

New members

New members joining from 11-19-99 through 12-31-99

Air Flow Equipment Sales & Service

James E. Key
700 E 1ST STREET 725-C
ALAMOGORDO, NM 88310
(505) 439-1099 Air Purification

America West Airlines

Myrtle Blackwell, Jr.
9506 LA FORCE BLVD 79711
(800) 2FLY-AWA
Airline-Tickets & Reservations

JMW Petroleum

Jimmy R. White
3106 N BIG SPRING SUITE 108 79705
686-0745 Oil & Gas-Production

Jonny's Mobil Wash

Jonny Thorp
5809 ECR 60 79705
570-1179 Car Wash

Patrick J. Kennedy, Jr.

112 E PECAN STREET SUITE 2550
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78205
(210) 228-9500 Individual Members

Logan's Roadhouse

Stephanie Dorris
Erin Visser
4609 WEST LOOP 250 NORTH 79707
689-6464 Restaurants-Steaks

Midland Shell Federal Credit Union

Sharon Bodnar
3100 SUNBURST DRIVE
PO BOX 9609 79708
520-3443 Credit Unions

Park Glen Apartments

2300 CAMP DRIVE 79701
682-0709 Apartments

Sherrod's Piano Service

Mike Sherrod
1208 DELMAR 79703
694-3161 Piano Tuner

Texas Back Institute

Debbie Bruce
9930 W. HWY. 80, SUITE A 79706
561-5549 Physicians-Orthopedic

Wok China

Gabriel Ibarra
2800 W BIG SPRING 79705
682-9888 Restaurants-Chinese

Above and Beyond Members

In an effort to recognize members who are investing above the minimum dues schedule and/or are cash sponsors of Chamber events, the Midland Chamber's board of directors have adopted the following annual recognition levels:

DIAMOND: \$10,000 & up
Southwestern Bell

EMERALD: \$5,000 minimum
Bank of America
Midland Reporter-Telegram
Norwest Bank Texas
TXU Electric & Gas

PLATINUM PLUS: \$2,500 minimum
ARCO Permian
The Bosworth Company
Chase Bank of Texas
Compressor Systems, Inc.
Cox Communications
Energas Company
First American Bank, SSB
Ignition Systems & Controls, Inc.
Permian Distributing, Inc.
Wagner & Brown, Ltd.
West Texas Cat
West Texas Rentals

PLATINUM: \$1,500 minimum
Bank United
Cotton, Bledsoe, Tighe, Dawson, P.C.
First National Bank of Midland
HEB
Lynch, Chappell & Alsup, P.C.
Southwestern Bell Wireless
Southwestern Bell Yellow Pages, Inc.
Texaco Exploration and Production, Inc.
Westwood Medical Center

GOLD PLUS: \$750 minimum

Bank One
Berg Motor Company
Burlington Resources Oil & Gas
Chevron Permian Basin
Conoco, Inc.
Dawson Geophysical Company
Desert Springs Medical Center
Desert Springs Outpatient Services
Duncan Disposal Midland-Odessa
Executone Telecom Solutions of Texas, Inc.
Family MedCenter Pediatrics
First National Bank of O'Donnell
First Service
GPM Gas Corp.
Hilton Midland & Towers
Integrated Physician Partners
Jacobs Electronics, Inc.
Key Energy Drilling
Key Energy Services
Yale E. Key, Inc.
KPMG, LLP
Mobil Expl. & Prod. U.S., Inc.
MRO Management, Inc.
Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc.
Permian Basin Area Wide Phonebook
Phillips Petroleum Company
Pioneer Natural Resources
Qualified Printers, Inc.
Clarence Scharbauer, III
Sprint PCS
The Subsurface Library
Titan Resources, L.P.
Tom Brown, Inc.
Transit Mix Concrete & Material
United Parcel Service
Weidner Investments

Gold Members are to be listed in February's issue.



**Dad.
Coach.
Energy Lender.
Community Leader.**

Bobby Norman
President - First American Bank, Midland
687-1000



Member FDIC

www.fabtexas.com

