



Sports

Spurs take series lead

The crowd was tardy for the tipoff at Target Center and quick to the exits. The Minnesota Timberwolves' offense was absent the whole night. The San Antonio Spurs held the Wolves to 28 first-half points on the way to an 85-71 rout Thursday night and a 2-1 lead in the best-of-5 NBA playoff series. 1C

231

countdown to 2000

Today: In 1993, prospects appeared brighter the Texas Legislature would establish separate district courts for Midland and Ector counties.



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FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1999

Vol. 72, No. 66

A.M. BRIEFING

TODAY
Partly cloudy
with high in
mid-90s.
Weather on 4A



Phantom photog

A former journalism student at Midland College, Chris Cypert was working in London when he was offered the position of still-image coordinator for George Lucas' film "Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace."

Reviews & Previews page 1B

Toddler in well

MULVANE, Kan. (AP) — A toddler who fell 16 feet into a narrow well Thursday night was pulled free about five hours later after firefighters dug a tunnel to rescue him.

The 17-month-old boy, Jesse, was brought out to cheers and applause from rescue workers shortly before midnight as his family waited above. He was strapped to a backboard and was awake, but quiet.

The boy was immediately taken away by ambulance to the hospital. During the rescue effort, Jesse was "very vocal, he's been talking to us and crying," Sedgwick County Fire Marshal Greg Thompson said.

About 50 emergency workers worked under emergency flood lights as Jesse's parents, whose names were not released, talked to their son.

Firefighters dug a tunnel about 25 feet deep near the well and tunneled toward it to reach the child. Rescuers worked in 15-minute shifts, digging by hand toward the well and taking dirt out in 5-gallon buckets.

"We know what happened in Midland, Texas. It's a very similar situation," he said.

In October 1987, 18-month-old Jessica McClure fell into an abandoned well in Midland and became trapped 22 feet down in a hole 8 inches wide.

It took emergency crews 2 1/2 days to reach the little girl. They rescued her after digging a shaft parallel to the one that trapped her and then breaking through the wall of the well.

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Reality of zero-tolerance policy hits local 11-year-old

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

An 11-year-old MISD student who yelled, apparently in teasing on a school bus — "I am going to blow up the school" or "I'll just bomb the school" — has spent the last two nights locked up in the Midland County Barbara Culver Juvenile Justice Center instead of at home with his parents.

Jacob Ramirez, a fourth-grader at Henderson Elementary School, was detained in conforming to MISD's zero-tolerance policy in regard to bomb and death threats in wake of the April 20 school slayings in Littleton, Colo.

"I understand the zero tolerance (policy)," his mother, Rose Mary Romeo, said Thursday night following her son's arrest on Wednesday afternoon. But her son was just "kidding around, nothing serious" in play-

ing with classmates in boarding the bus for home. "If you know my son, he is not a violent kid."

Jacob is about the 12th MISD student, 10 to 17 years old, to be detained in the juvenile justice center or the Midland County jail for making similar threats, according to MISD Police Chief Dan Walkenshaw.

"There will be zero tolerance," Walkenshaw said Thursday night. "In the aftermath of Colorado, we just have taken a very tough stance. There has been such a frenzy throughout the school of everyone just scared to death. We've had written bomb threats, death threats, all that kind of stuff."

Mrs. Romeo's outrage was fueled by the arrest and locking up of a young child who, she said, may not fully understand the seriousness of his words even if they were made in jest. Mrs. Romeo said that she could understand why an older child in junior high school or in high school would be more accountable. "They

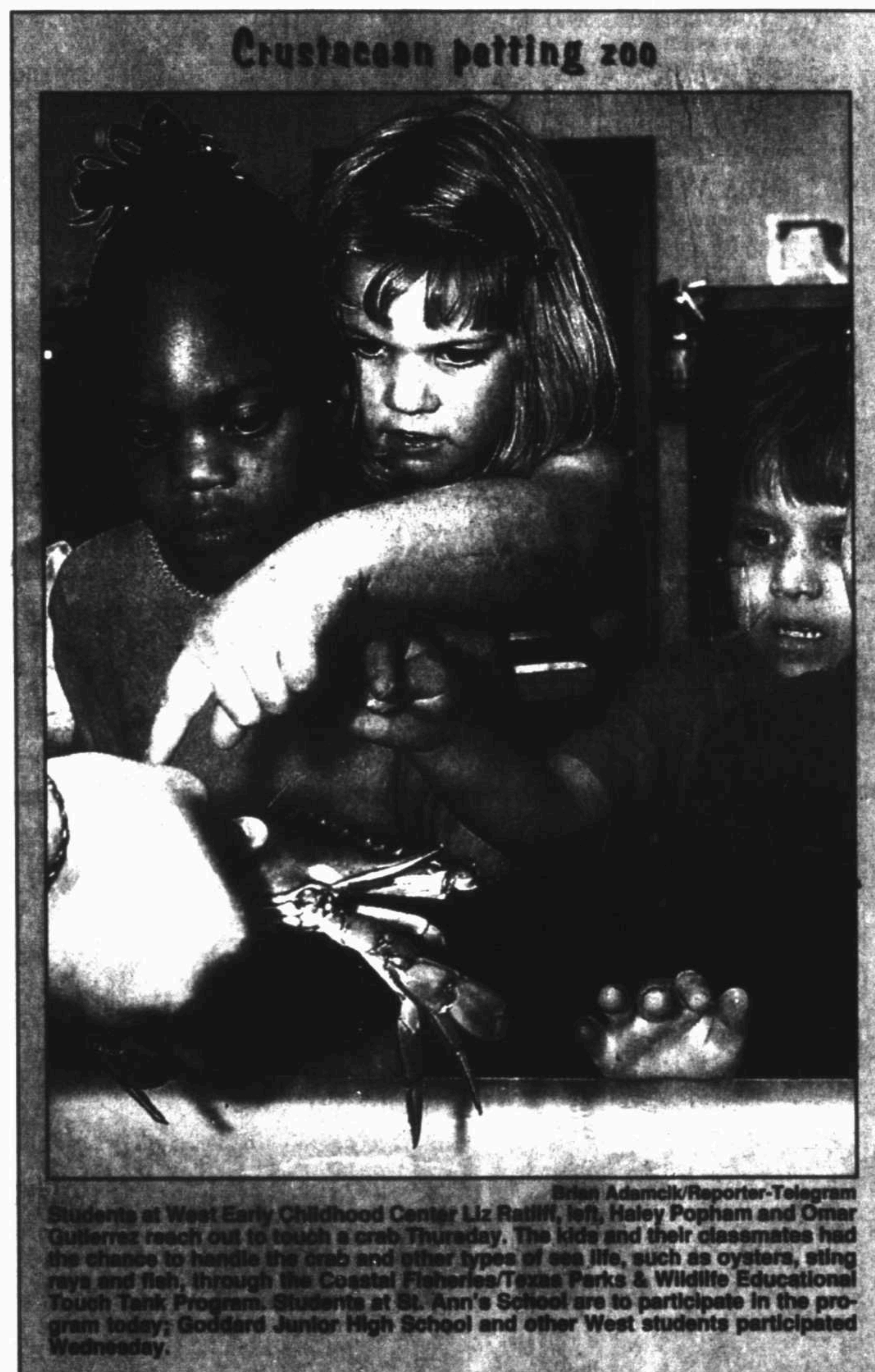
understand the severity of their words."

"My son is not a mean boy at all," Mrs. Romeo said. "He is not a bully." In his cell-like quarters in the juvenile justice center, Jacob "is crying and crying and crying. He doesn't want to eat."

She said that her son was "boarding the bus to come home" and was "horse-playing" when he kidded with playmates, "I'll just bomb the school."

She said her son is to appear, in shackles, before a judge for a detention hearing at 9 a.m. today in the center's courtroom. Walkenshaw said that judges there in the past have been Midland County Court-at-Law Judges Al Walvoord and Marvin Moore and County Judge Bill Morrow. Walvoord is the county's juvenile judge.

Mrs. Romero said that MISD is "going overboard." Please see **POLICY/4A**



Crustacean petting zoo

Students at West Early Childhood Center Liz Ratliff, left, Haley Popham and Omar Gutierrez reach out to touch a crab Thursday. The kids and their classmates had the chance to handle the crab and other types of sea life, such as oysters, sting rays and fish, through the Coastal Fisheries/Texas Parks & Wildlife Educational Touch Tank Program. Students at St. Ann's School are to participate in the program today; Goddard Junior High School and other West students participated Wednesday.

Brian Adamcik/Reporter-Telegram

Property values up nominally in Midland for 1999

■ Greenwood Independent School District 'hard hit' by drop in oil values.

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

In the main, real-estate property values in Midland and Midland County were on a slight increase.

But mineral — oil and gas — values as of Jan. 1, 1999, were in a decline and deeply cut into Greenwood Independent School District's tax base.

"Very few properties increased dramatically," noted Chief Appraiser Ron Stegall of the Midland Central Appraisal District. "Some of them did increase. A lot of property stayed the same" — flat.

But the decline in mineral values adversely impacted Greenwood ISD.

"It's not as good a picture for Greenwood," said Midland County Tax Assessor-Collector Kathy Reeves. "It's a little sadder. These guys out in Greenwood were really kind of hard hit" because of depressed oil and gas values as of Jan. 1 — the locked-in date for valuations in calculating taxes for the ensuing tax year.

The GISD tax based dropped 12 percent to \$163 million from \$185 million, Ms. Reeves noted.

Even so, GISD board member James Brooks said that coinciding with the drop in mineral values was Greenwood's bailing out of debt this year.

But what was gained by being out of debt may be offset by the slump in min-

eral values, he said.

By Texas law, a public school district's tax rate is limited to \$1.50 per \$100 valuation for maintenance and operation, including salary funding. Bonded indebtedness, however, may increase the rate. Greenwood's 1998 tax rate was set at \$1.77, including the tack-on rate to pay off debts.

Now out of debt, the rate cannot by law exceed \$1.50.

"We were real happy about that" — getting out of debt, said Brooks, who has been a Greenwood ISD trustee for more than 30 years. "We paid them off three or four years ahead of time ... refinanced, and saved a lot of money."

Still, the drop in mineral values "is going to hurt," Brooks figured. "We may have to cut back on a few things. I think we will be all right. And I think we will probably still see a slight decrease in property taxes."

Even so, "it doesn't help us when they (oil and gas companies) are hurting."

Meanwhile, Midlanders who wish to contest their property values, as deemed by MCAD appraisers — who are pledged to be true to fair-market values — may protest those values before the Midland County Appraisal Review Board. They may file a written request for a hearing by June 4, Stegall said.

The appraisal district sets values for taxes that are levied by six taxing entities: Midland County, the city of Midland, the Midland Independent School District, GISD, Midland College and Midland County Hospital District, which represents Memorial Hospital and Medical Center.

Please see **VALUES/4A**

Council's budget woes force triage situation for programs

By Jeff Stevens
Staff Writer

The city finds itself in a dilemma not unlike what many residents have experienced during the current economic crisis in Midland. There just doesn't seem to be enough money to purchase everything that's needed.

At least that's the case in regards to community development block grants (CDB grants).

The city has just \$1,314,000 — down \$300,000 from last year's \$1.6 million — to divide among 20 non-

■ Related story/4A

profit programs and eight city projects.

The city will use approximately \$450,000 for street paving and \$262,800 for CDB grant administration and planning.

That leaves just \$628,000 for 26 other projects requesting \$1,707,416.

"Now that we've dropped to \$1.3 million and lost Please see **WOES/4A**

Organ donation billboards

Officials hope ads prompt donations

By Melia McEwen
Staff Writer

For the second year, Southwest Transplant Alliance, courtesy of Chancellor Media Corp., is posting billboard-sized conversation starters about organ donation.

"The main purpose is to create awareness, but specifically it's to get people to talk with their families," said Pam Silvestri, community services manager with Southwest Transplant. "The one step people don't realize they need to

Please see **DONATIONS/4A**



Heart transplant recipient Larry Norman, 58, plays with one of his dogs, Chloe. He said that donation has allowed him to spend more time with his eight grandchildren.

Brian Adamcik/Reporter-Telegram



Briseida Martinez works with children in the YMCA's after-school program at Lamar Elementary. The day care program is requesting continued funding from the community development block grant. The City Council is in the process of deciding which agencies and programs will receive funds.

Tim Fletcher/Reporter-Telegram

Ex-CEO of company that owns Results faces 40-year sentence

By Rick López
Staff Writer

Gordon Hall, former CEO of HealthTech International, which owns Results Sports and Fitness in Midland, was convicted Wednesday of hiring stock promoters with mob connections to inflate the price of his company's stock.

Officials with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Manhattan, N.Y., said Hall, 45, was found guilty of 12 charges of racketeering, conspiracy and wire fraud.

The jury rendered their verdict after seven weeks of testimony. Hall will be sentenced on Sept. 8 and faces a prison term of 40 years on the racketeering charges alone.

Lead prosecutor Mary Jo White said that during the trial Hall was Please see **GUILTY/4A**

DEATH NOTICES

George Rowe

George Rowe died Wednesday, May 12, at his Midland home.

Services are to be 11 a.m. Saturday, May 15, at Thomas Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Ora Roberts officiating. Burial is to follow at Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Thomas Funeral Home.

He was born Nov. 17, 1938, in Ashdown, Ark.

He moved to Midland 40 years ago. He owned a Texaco service station.

Survivors include his wife, Thelma M. Rowe of Midland; a daughter, Vernita Rowe of Ashdown,

Ark.; two brothers, Columbus Rowe of Ashdown, Ark., and Henry Rowe of Lake Charles, La., and two grandchildren.

W.R. Bowlin

Midlander W. Rhea Bowlin, 98, died Tuesday, May 11, at his residence.

Services were Thursday, May 14, at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel in Snyder with the Rev. Ty Morris Jr. officiating. Burial followed at Hermleigh Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

He was born May 11, 1901, in Montague County.

He was a farmer and service station operator. He moved to Scurry County in 1919 and to Midland two years ago.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Lois Bowlin April 13, 1988; three sons; a granddaughter; and three brothers.

Survivors include two daughters, Fay Hamilton and Mary Blacketter, both of Midland; a son, Bill Bowlin of Snyder; 10 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth McCollister

Elizabeth Halbert McCollister

died Wednesday, May 12, at a local nursing home.

Memorial services are to be 11 a.m. today, May 14, at St. James Episcopal Church in Alpine with the Rev. Judith Burgess officiating. Graveside services are to be 11 a.m. Monday, May 17, at South Mission Park in San Antonio under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

She was born March 16, 1910, in Tyler.

She was a member of St. James Episcopal Church in Alpine.

Survivors include her brother, C.D. McCollister of Alpine; two nieces and two nephews.

Memorials may be made to St.

James Episcopal Church in Alpine or the charity of your choice.

Ophelia Price Cooks, 85, died Thursday, May 13, at a local nursing home.

Services are pending with Reyes-Garcia Funeral Home.

Ophelia Cooks

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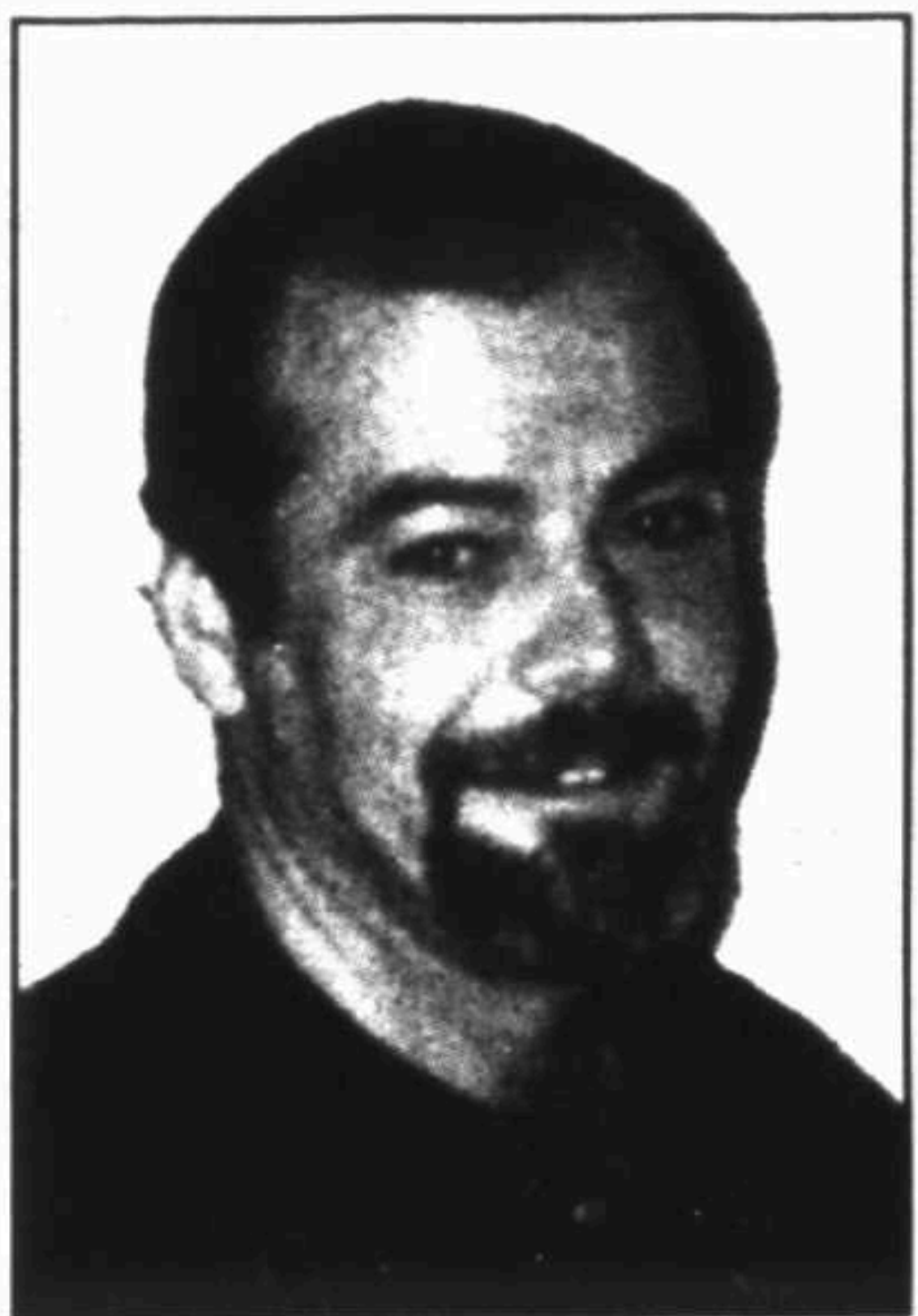
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OBITUARIES



Randall Roberts

Randall Wayne Roberts was born February 11, 1958, in San Angelo, Texas to Russell and Faye (Ford) Roberts. Randall came to Midland at an early age. He attended Midland High School and was employed with Tierra Dry Wall Co. for 18 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Ronnie Roberts.

He is survived by his brother, Richard Roberts and his wife, Rosa, of Big Spring; his sister, Brenda Sprague and her husband, Rick, of Midland; his aunts, Linda Buck and her husband, Roger, and their children of Virginia Beach, Va.; Sharon Sliger and her husband, Dean, of Brown-

wood, Texas; his uncle, James Wiggell of Midland; his niece, Misty Barbre and her husband, Zane, of Midland; and his nephew, Dusty Sprague of Midland.

Randall died at a local hospital Thursday, May 13, 1999.

Funeral services have been scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday at Memorial Christian Church with Dr. Jim Rudd officiating. Interment will follow in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Serving as pallbearers will be Elvin (Beaver) Brown, Richard Davis, David Canady, Bill Munser, Michel McKay, and Gary Brewster. Honorary pallbearers will be his many AA friends and other friends and loved ones, too numerous to list.

In lieu of flowers, donations, to help defer funeral costs, can be sent to Rick Sprague, 1707 S. Marshall, Midland, Texas 79711.

Neighborhood watch group raises \$2,000 for four bulletproof vests

From Staff Reports

Four Midland police officers are walking around safer, thanks to the work of a neighborhood watch program.

The neighborhood watch group in the 1900 block of West Washington Avenue raised \$2,000 for bulletproof vests for the officers who helped them start their neighborhood watch group and who helped patrol their street when a four-way stop sign was installed, according to Tina Jauz, public information officer for the city.

As a show of appreciation, the gang unit was invited to make a special presentation at a cookout hosted by the neighborhood watch group.

The officers did presentations on drugs and different types of weapons used by gang members.

"We want to educate our kids on drugs and want them to recognize the officers who patrol our neighborhood so they are comfortable in

approaching them," said Kathy Brumit, who hosted the meeting with her husband, Kenny, and their son Kyle. "We raised the money to get vests for Phillip Breeding, Dennis Pipes, Detective Ray Leible and Sgt. Ernest Wakefield. We want to help protect the officers who protect us."

Detective Mark Hinshaw with the gang unit said they were impressed with how much money the group raised on their own.

"These people basically went door to door to raise the money for the vests," Hinshaw said. "They are not a big company, they are just people. If this is not the most generous donation, it is certainly one of the most."

A neighborhood spokesman, Mark Myers, said it took four weeks to raise the money. Five of the residents knocked on doors and solicited businesses for contributions.

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SUNDAY
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"Was It God's Will For It To Happen?"

I can still recall the scene at the hospital in 1968. A young state trooper was fighting for his life after a car had fallen on him while he was working on it. A young mother with children and two aging parents are overcome with grief and fear as the Dr. approaches and said, "I'm sorry, we did all that was possible; He's gone."

Is this where the minister and friends say to them, "well, it was just God's will that he die; God needed him in heaven?" How can I believe in a loving God who urges me in 1 Peter 5:7 to "cast all my care upon Him, for He cares for you", and believe that this same Lord decided to "do it to me?" It's spiritual fatalism!

First of all, God didn't do it; human choices and circumstances caused it to happen. That's why God says about Job, in the midst of human devastation, "In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly." Job 1:22 "Second, when this young father and husband died, he did not go immediately to heaven. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. He is asleep in the grave, raised and judged when Jesus comes, and then eternity.

Study each Sunday with Mack Lyon "In Search of the Lord's Way" 7-30 a.m. KPEJ Ch 24, Cable Ch 5

Man convicted of killing firefighter gets death penalty

SAN ANGELO, Texas (AP) — A jury Thursday sentenced a man to death for the killing of a firefighter last year.

Prosecutors said 34-year-old Luis Ramirez targeted Nemecio Nandine, 26, in a murder-for-hire scheme.

Investigators say Ramirez believed his ex-wife and Nandine was having an affair.

Last week, the jury in Tom Green County found Ramirez guilty of capital murder. Prosecutors said he hired a man to help him kill Nandine.

Nandine disappeared in April 1998. His body was found a week later in a shallow grave.

The second suspect, Edward Bell, faces trial later.

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AREA

National observed Blakemore Events viewings by West T shows and tions. Half-price be availal information Southwest

The Wor Roping cor at the Croc and arena The ever with novice with the G June 19. Ot en's and se ing.

Competi buckles, s \$10,000 in Ball tick and \$20 at children 7 children 6 eight can through Ju For mo Ozona Cha 392-3737, www.ozon

Hasting uled for Sa 1-4 p.m. er Club wi coloring a 6-8 p.m. will sign

Refine injure

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Ten peo were adm ial Hospit woman Ri critical co satisfact afternoon could not mation on

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Midland

AREA IN BRIEF

National Astronomy Day is to be observed 10 a.m.-5 p.m. May 22 at Blakemore Planetarium.

Events include solar and lunar viewings with telescopes provided by West Texas Astronomers, sky shows and computer demonstrations.

Half-price admission prices will be available that day. For more information call the Museum of the Southwest at 683-2882.

The World Championship Goat Roping competition to be June 18-19 at the Crockett County fairgrounds and arena in Ozona.

The event begins 10 a.m. June 18 with novice roping and will conclude with the Goat Roper's Ball 8 p.m. June 19. Other events include women's and senior roping and open roping.

Competitors will be roping for buckles, saddles and more than \$10,000 in prize money.

Ball tickets are \$17.50 in advance and \$20 at the door for adults, \$10 for children 7 through 12 and free for children 6 and under. Tables for eight can be reserved for \$140 through June 15.

For more information call the Ozona Chamber of Commerce, 915-392-3737, or visit the Web site, www.ozona.com.

Hastings has three events scheduled for Saturday:

■ 1-4 p.m. - Kids Summer Reader Club will begin and will include coloring and activities contests.

■ 6-8 p.m. - author Warren New will sign copies of his book.

Refinery explosion injures at least 9

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — An explosion at a Coastal Corp. gasoline refinery Thursday injured at least nine people.

A reforming unit exploded at the plant about 10:40 a.m., according to fire and Coastal officials.

Ten people injured in the blast were admitted to Spohn Memorial Hospital, said hospital spokeswoman Rita Patrick. Five were in critical condition and five were in satisfactory condition Thursday afternoon. Ms. Patrick said she could not release any other information on the patients.

Coastal spokesman Greg Clock said five employees and four contractors were injured in the blast. Clock and Ms. Patrick said they couldn't explain the discrepancy regarding their injury numbers.

The series of explosions at the plant and the resulting fire sent thick plumes of smoke over the area. Fire and police officials told the Corpus Christi Caller-Times that the fire, fed by burning naphtha — a petroleum product and solvent — did not produce toxic smoke.

Firefighters extinguished the fire around 11:40 a.m. and sprayed foam and water on structures near the fire to prevent further explosions.

The explosions shook the walls of buildings in nearby neighborhoods. Although emergency management officials did not evacuate the area, they told local residents to shut their doors and windows and remain indoors.

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"Workin' Man," about the West Texas oil fields.

■ 6-10 p.m. - "Star Wars" costume and trivia contests.

Refreshments will be served during all events.

For more information call 694-1170.

Lubbock teacher and lecturer Lynn G. Jackson is to appear at Waldenbooks in Midland and Odessa Saturday to lead a discussion on the book, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures."

She will be at Waldenbooks at Midland Park Mall 3-5 p.m. and the store at Music City Mall noon-2 p.m.

The book by Mary Baker Eddy is about spirituality and its effect on relationships.

For more information call the Midland Waldenbooks at 697-7617 or the Odessa store at 366-3498.

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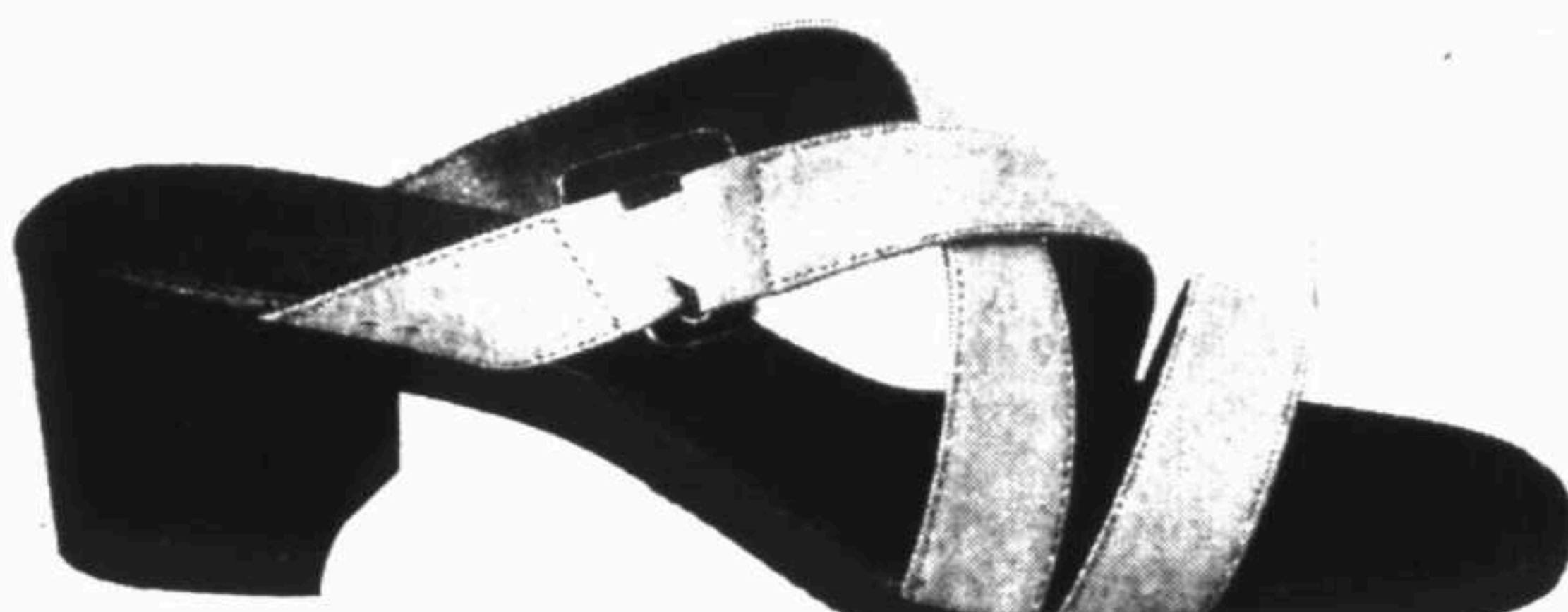
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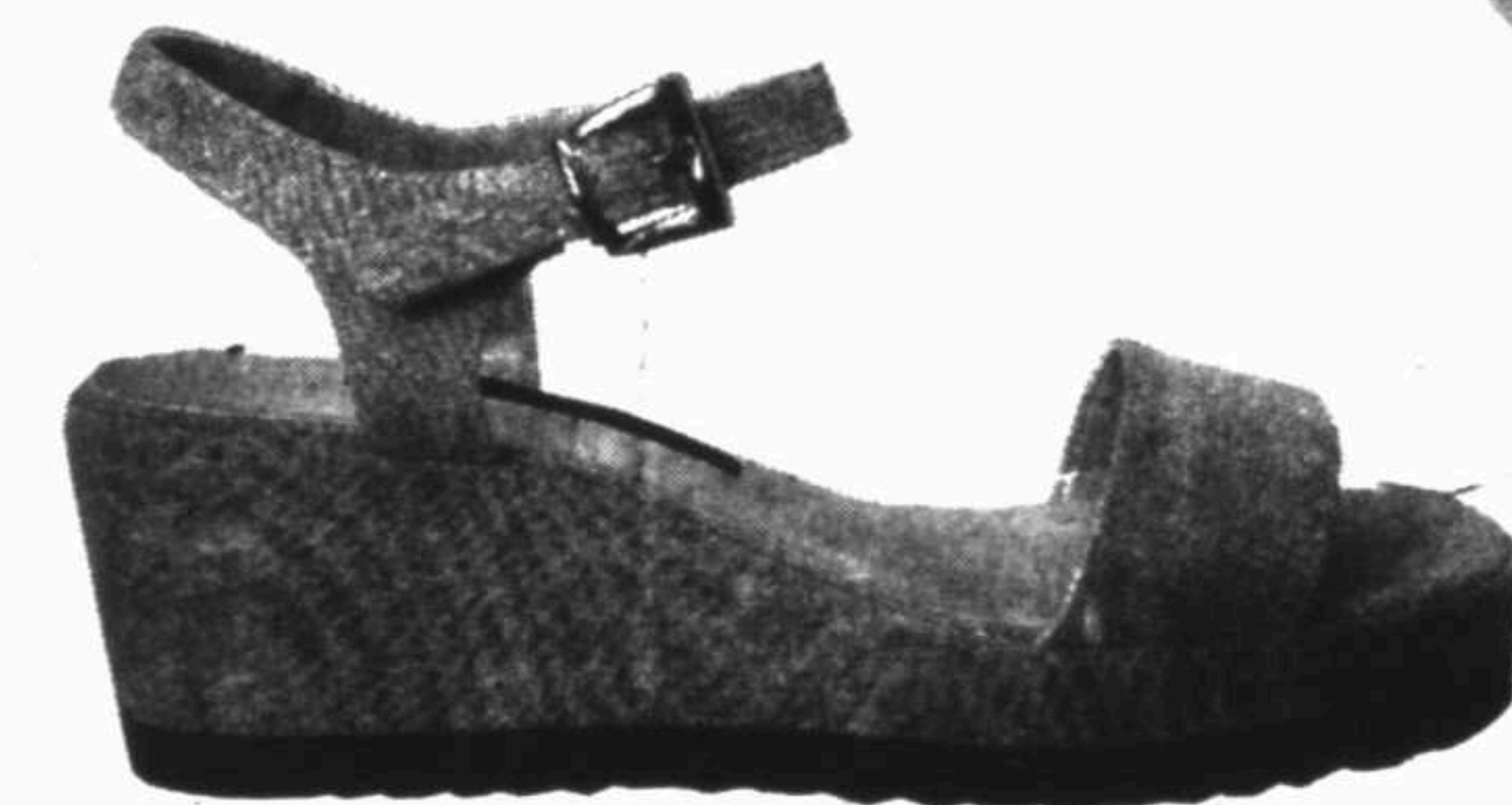
\$39 UNISA "Monsoon" banded leather slide with metal ornament.



\$49 NINE WEST "Sefa" woven leather sandal.



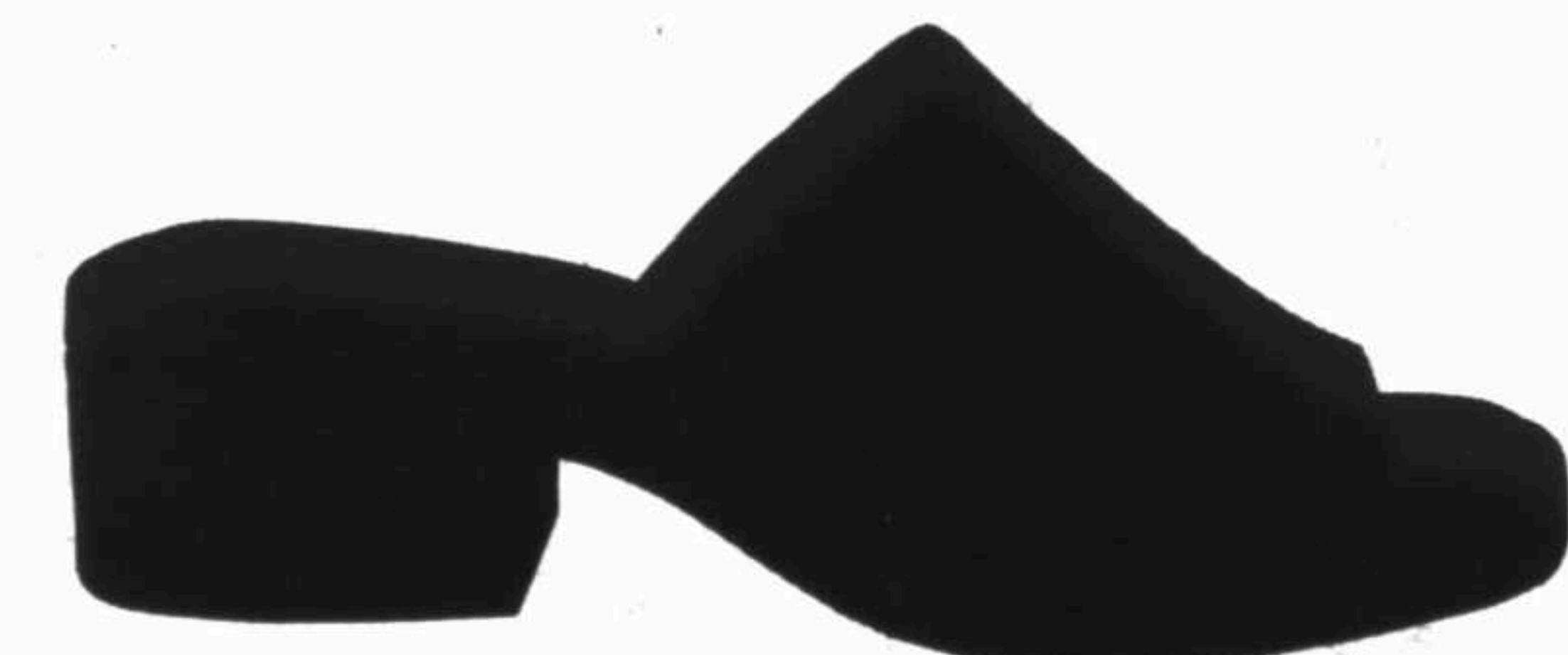
\$59 ROCKPORT "Chamomile" leather crossover sandal with comfort footbed.



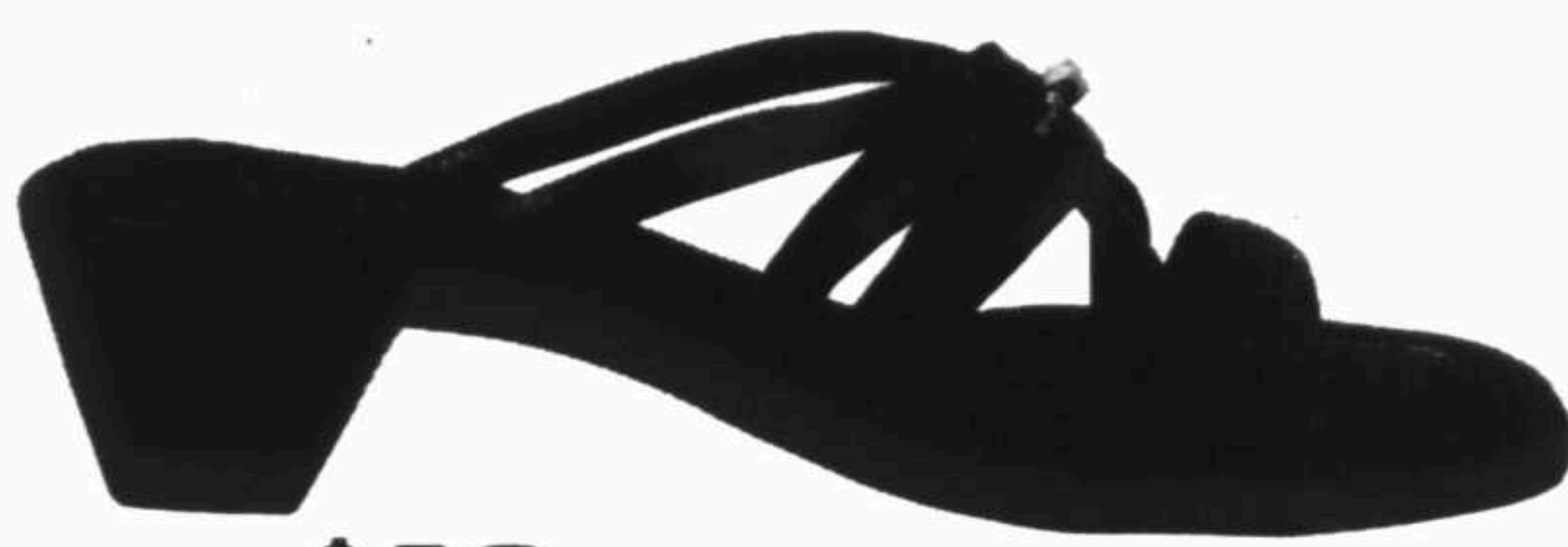
\$59 LIZ CLAIBORNE "Travis" quarter-strap fabric sandal with wedge heel.



\$59 ENZO "Gavrel" leather slide with woven detail.



\$59 BANDOLINO "Image" leather slide with low heel.



\$49 UNISA "Jumangi" banded leather slide with ornament detail.



\$49 BANDOLINO "Tia" strappy leather sandal with small heel.

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\$69 NICKELS "Visor" wide-banded straw slide.

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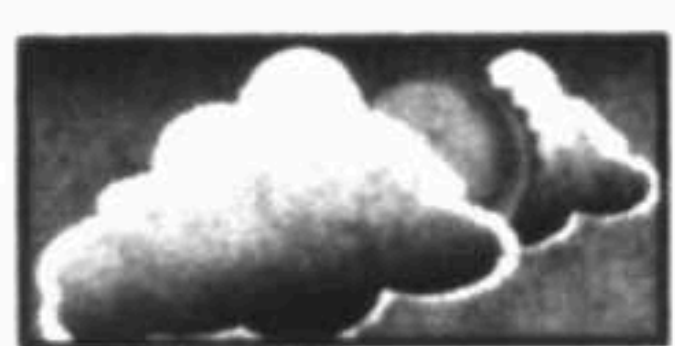
WEATHER

Midland forecast

3-day forecast



Today
Partly cloudy
High 94
Low 65



Saturday
Partly cloudy
High 96
Low 64



Sunday
Partly cloudy
High 92
Low 64

Today's forecast calls for morning low clouds, with otherwise partly cloudy skies and a 20 percent chance of afternoon thunderstorms. High will be in the mid-90s and southern gusty winds blowing at 10-20 mph.

Tonight's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a less than 20 percent chance of thunderstorms and a low near 65.

Saturday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a less than 20 percent chance of thunderstorms with a high in the mid-90s.

Sunday's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a slight chance of thunderstorms with highs in the lower to mid-90s.

After an overnight low of 62, Thursday's high reached 91, compared to the record high for that date of 102 set in 1960. The record low of 39 was set in 1971.

Yesterday's precipitation

Rainfall Thursday 0.00 in.
Rainfall Friday 0.00 in.
Total for month 0.02 in.
Total for year 1.76 in.
Normal total yr to date 2.99 in.

Yesterday's temperatures

High 91
Low 62
Normal high 87
Normal low 57

Pollen count

Trees: Moderate Weeds: Low
Grass: Moderate Molds: Low
Dust: High
Courtesy: John D. Bray, MD.

National forecast

United States temperatures

Temperatures indicate previous day's high and overnight low to 9:00 p.m. EDT.

	Hi	Lo	Prc	Outk
Abilene, Tex.	81	56	0	0
Atlanta	78	63	81	0
Atlantic City	63	55	0	0
Austin	84	66	0	0
Baltimore	70	62	0	0
Boston	62	48	0	0
Chicago	53	50	0	0
Cincinnati	73	60	55	0
Cleveland	58	51	0	0
Dallas-Ft. Worth	82	58	0	0
Dayton	64	49	0	0
Daytona Beach	90	65	0	0
Denver	81	42	0	0
Detroit	64	49	0	0
Fargo	55	41	0	0
Flint	64	44	0	0
Green Bay	59	46	0	0
Greensboro, N.C.	79	56	0	0
Honolulu	80	72	36	0
Houston	87	65	0	0
Kansas City	73	46	0	0
Las Vegas	91	73	0	0
Little Rock	78	55	0	0
Los Angeles	70	60	0	0
Memphis	75	63	0	0
Nashville	70	50	61	0

New Orleans	87	69	0	0
New York City	68	55	0	0
Oklahoma City	78	51	0	0
Philadelphia	62	56	27	0
Phoenix	97	72	0	0
Pittsburgh	55	55	58	0
Richmond	74	58	0	0
Sacramento	74	44	0	0
St. Louis	58	56	0	0
St. Thomas	86	78	0	0
Salem, Ore.	54	41	0	0
Salt Lake City	62	47	0	0
San Angelo	59	59	0	0
San Antonio	84	67	0	0
San Diego	61	57	0	0
San Francisco	60	46	0	0
San Jose	65	48	0	0
San Juan, P.R.	91	76	0	0
Santa Fe	82	43	0	0
St. Ste. Marie	59	38	0	0
Savannah	87	61	0	0
Seattle	54	41	0	0
Shreveport	79	61	0	0
Sioux City	74	38	0	0
Sioux Falls	68	35	0	0
South Bend	59	52	0	0
Spokane	52	36	0	0
Syracuse	63	34	0	0
Tallahassee	89	63	0	0

POLICY: MISD official says threats are not 'cute pranks'

(From 1A)

in effectively jailing her son who, she reasoned, could have been expelled from school and confined at home with his parents instead of being arrested and locked up.

Mrs. Romeo said that her son has "never been away from home. He has always been with me, my husband (Pedro Romero), my mom and dad, Anita Bennett and Reynaldo Bennett, who are church ministers."

Walkenshaw said that Jacob was arrested after he had gotten on the school bus Wednesday, "sat right behind the driver, and the driver overheard him say, 'I am going to blow up the school.'"

The apparently alarmed driver, asked the boy, "What did you say?"

"I'm going to blow up the school," Walkenshaw said in quoting the dialogue. "So, the driver got on the radio and had them call up the administrator out to the bus, and the administrator took the boy off the bus. He at first denied it, and then he said, 'Yeah,' he had said that."

Barney Welch, the MISD executive

director of communication services, said that the school district takes "all of these threats seriously."

"And we will continue to arrest students and investigate any verbal threat to bomb or to kill people ... even if the kids think they are cute pranks."

"They are not cute pranks," Welch said. "We take them seriously because we are talking about the safety and security of our staff and our students and visitors to our campuses. You do not go into a theater and yell 'Fire!'"

"In an airplane, you don't yell, 'Hijack!' You don't make bomb threats on school buses or campuses or in any buildings. Nobody is going to take these lightly, especially those of us in the business of protecting others."

Even children 10 years old are "not so naive," Welch said, and certainly would be expected to understand "the impact of their words, and especially on a bus or on a campus."

GUILTY: Court records show Results has been subject of several lawsuits

(From 1A)

still chairman, but after his conviction he will now be a receptionist at the Mesa, Ariz., corporate office.

HealthTech purchased Results in 1995, when it was operating under the name of The Midlander, according to county court records.

Hall's case is the largest prosecution ever to involve members of organized crime manipulating the stock market, Ms. White said. Ten other people also had pleaded guilty. Four await their trials.

Also convicted this week was mobster Michael Motosyuklavili, who helped run two branch offices of Meyers Pollock & Robbins Inc., a brokerage firm in Long Island, N.Y.

Hall arranged to pay off stock promoters who then bribed stockbrokers to drive up the value of HealthTech's stock by aggressively promoting it to their customers, prosecutors said.

Prosecutors allege that Motosyuklavili and a rival crime family joined forces with unscrupulous stock promoters and HealthTech officers to infiltrate Meyers Pollock and then used bribes, threats, and violence as part of a scheme to manipulate stock prices.

The defendants joined in a plot beginning in 1996 to drive up HealthTech's stock price by scamming investors, prosecutors said.

Investors in California, Massachusetts, Michigan, Oklahoma, New York, Tennessee and West Virginia reported losing millions of dollars because of the conspiracy.

"Hundreds of investors lost substantial portions of their investments when the defendants stopped supporting the market with their secret payments to the brokers," Ms. White said.

Midland County court records indicate that Results, located at 225 Corporate Drive, has been the subject of civil litigation several times in recent years.

In December 1995, Hall and three other defendants were sued by Dallas-based Foster Commercial Inc. regarding the sale of Results, then known as The Midlander. After a jury trial, District Court Judge John Hyde ruled in favor of the defendants, according to court documents.

In subsequent years, HealthTech was sued in Midland County for debt and breach of contracts, though both cases were dismissed when an out-of-court agreement was reached, according to court documents.

Gary Walker, manager of Results, declined to comment Wednesday. Repeated calls made to Hall's attorney, James McGuire of Manhattan, and current HealthTech president, Bill Young, were not returned.

WOES: Some agencies won't receive any funds at all

(From 1A)

\$300,000, we have to have everybody else receive a reduction in their programs," said City Councilman Jose Cuevas.

Not only will some agencies get less than they've received last year, some won't get any funds at all.

"It's a very difficult decision, because a lot of people are doing a lot of good in our community," Cuevas said, adding that the council will have to decide where the dollars will be best spent.

"We have to see where we get the most bang for our buck."

YMCA Executive Director George Fierro hopes the city will see his programs as providing that bang.

The YMCA is requesting \$20,000 to fund its after-school day care program and another \$20,000 to fund its Summer Youth Program.

For the past several years, YMCA has provided child care from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. for school-aged children.

The program is operated at five different elementary schools: Washington, DeZavala, Lamar, Milam and Burnett.

When the children get out of class, they go straight to day care. Parents don't have to make arrangements for transportation

and the children get to stay in a safe environment in their neighborhood school, Fierro said.

"It's basically to provide after-school care to low- and moderate-income families," he said.

The summer program serves a similar purpose by providing child care when children are out of school. It helps low- and moderate-income families that might not be able to afford conventional child care programs.

The summer program serves about 75 kids and the after-school program 100.

The city has funded both programs for the past five years but if any of that funding should cease, some adjustments would have to be made to the program.

"CDB grant dollars are real important. If we didn't get it, we would have to consider consolidating and the programs at some of those schools would be in jeopardy."

He added that the grant money is used primarily for staff salaries and without that money the center would not be able to serve as many children.

Not quite in so dire circumstances is Midland Need To Read. The local literacy program is requesting \$5,075 for a computer database.

According to Patti Groce, executive

director, the database will help the program keep up with its clients.

"More and more funding sources are requiring better statistics in determining grants," Ms. Groce said. "This database program will help us with that."

She said the agency has a database but it's outdated and doesn't keep as detailed information as the one they're seeking. It's the group's original database, which was purchased when it only served 49 students. Last year, the agency assisted 312 students.

Basically, "We're applying for CDB grant money so we will be in good shape to ask for more money somewhere else."

In addition to offering adult reading classes, Need to Read has English as a second language classes, GED classes and job skills training classes.

Another program that would experience some pains if denied by the council is Midland Fair Havens.

Fair Havens helps single mothers become independent and self-sufficient, said Executive Director DiAnn Koehl.

Her group is requesting \$20,000 for administration.

"We teach life skills to single mothers with children. We're a bridge from homelessness and dependency to independence."

Women using the program spend up to 24 months in a house with other women in similar situations.

"The program includes training in budgeting, parenting, life management and direction in vocational and educational development," said Ms. Koehl.

Fair Havens also offers counseling and assistance in locating other community resources.

The council has supported the agency for the last two years — \$20,000 in 1997 and \$15,000 last year.

Ms. Koehl said that up to four families reside in the group home but that the agency serves many non-residential clients as well.

She said denial by the council also would be detrimental to her program.

"Because we are on a growth curve right now, it's very important for us to stay financially sound so that we can continue to better meet the needs of the community."

She said that Fair Havens is seeking other funding sources so as not to be so dependent on CDB grant funds.

"It's a very difficult decision," said Cuevas. "I don't think after you've made your decision you ever feel like you've done all you can."

Non-profit agencies put in requests for CDBG funds

By Jeff Stevens

Staff Writer

Hats in hand, palms outstretched, they filled City Council chambers Tuesday night looking to the city to help fund their projects.

Some came asking for money to help feed the elderly or indigent. Some wanted help in putting single mothers back on their feet. Others asked for assistance to care for foster children, low- and moderate-income children and families, the downtowned, the disadvantaged.

There wasn't a non-profit agency attending the community development block grant (CDBG grant) public hearing that didn't offer worthwhile services.

Given the choice, the city would probably give every one of them that which they seek. Unfortunately, the city doesn't have the choice.

Twenty agencies and eight city programs requesting \$2,393,416 are competing for \$1,314,000.

That means the city will have to turn down more than \$1 million in requests. Actually, they'll have to deny more than that.

CDBG grants are the only source to fund paving of city streets in older neighborhoods. Before the 1950s, developers weren't required to pave the streets in areas they developed, according to Deputy City Manager Rick Menchaca. That left Midland with several unpaved streets.

"We still have a quite a few streets out there that are not paved," Menchaca said.

The city is requesting \$450,000 to pave those streets and if past years are any indication, the grant will be close to that amount. Street paving got \$355,000 in 1998, \$405,712 in 1997 and \$637,437 in 1996.

"Historically, the council gives a lion's share every year to address street paving," said Councilman Jose Cuevas.

If the city gets its \$450,000, that only leaves \$629,416.

The city also has to take CDBG grant administration money (15 percent of the total) out of those funds. That comes to \$236,000, leaving just \$393,416 to be dispersed among almost \$2 million in requests.

So, how does the council decide which worthy program is the most worthy?

"Basically that's community-driven," said Cuevas.

Each year the city holds community hearings asking the public which programs they most want to see funded. Cuevas said that 56 percent of those attending request additional street paving.

"The next most requested is affordable housing, followed by day care or child services and senior services."

That would seem to make things easier, but

it might make things harder. The more funds that go toward priority issues, the fewer funds are available for other programs.

"That's when it becomes very difficult," said Cuevas. "We try to fund as many as we can, but we are also being cautious that there are other needs in the community."

Cuevas said the council looks at how well a program is managed and to what degree its services are needed. He said they also try to share the wealth by encouraging programs to apply for one-time funds.

"We tell them up front to give us a capital program — a bricks and mortar project. We want to be the one-time capital improvement source," the councilman said.

CDBG grants are federal dollars given to communities to assist programs benefiting low- to moderate-income residents in areas of housing, street paving, nutrition for the elderly and child care.

The objective of the program, according to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income.

The city has scheduled another public hearing June 8 and will make its decisions July 27.

DONATIONS: As many as 75 could benefit from one person's organs

(From 1A)

take is to talk with their families. You could literally be in a hospital setting with a signed organ donor card in your wallet, and if your family is approached and says "no," we won't take your organs," she said.

It was a discussion Odessa Linda Griffith had with her daughter Kasey just a few months before the 14-year-old was hit by a car and killed in front of Music City Mall on December 30, 1996. She had been across 42nd Street at Buffalo Wall and was attempting to cross the street to the mall.

Ms. Griffith, who has had a signed organ donor card for years, said she did not know what triggered the conversation, "but I remember her words were 'Cool.' So when she died, I didn't hesitate. I think organ donation is one of the greatest gifts, and it's one way to keep Kasey alive."

She said she has received heart-warming letters from some of the recipients. She doesn't know about all the recipients, other than they ranged from children — a 9-year-old boy who received a kidney — to a married man to a woman dying of heart disease.

"I hope the ones who received her organs are doing well," she said.

Odessa Larry Norman, 58, cannot fully express his gratitude to the

family of the 32-year-old man whose heart he received in October. That donation has allowed him to spend time with his eight grandchildren — time that he otherwise wouldn't have had. And it's brought his whole family closer together, he said, even his brothers and sisters.

"I'm very grateful to that family," he said. "It has to be a tough decision. You have to keep the person on life support until they're ready to harvest the organs and then turn off the life support."

Even so, he said, "I don't feel I'm a part of that man, but he's the reason I'm alive." He hasn't written to the donor's family, but his daughters have, he said.

His health problems began in 1995 when he underwent a triple bypass and a valve replacement and doctors told him it was a "patch job" and gave him only a couple of years without a transplant. He underwent transplant evaluation at the Baylor College of Medicine in Dallas and was on the waiting list eight months, the last two months in the hospital.

"Last July I had to be hospitalized two weeks just to get strong enough to travel to Dallas," he said. "I was a 225-pound man in 1995 and when I got my heart, I weighed 125 pounds. I got so bad because no donor was available. I lay there withering waiting on a donor and

there's no telling how many healthy hearts were buried during that time."

Ms. Silvestri said that nationwide 66,000 people — 4,000 Texans — are waiting for new organs.

"The issue is ... we know how to do transplants. And technology and medications have been developed to keep rejection down. The issue is, there aren't enough organs. It's not that there aren't enough people dying, but not enough of them have told their family they want to donate," she said.

Donations from one person, she said, could potentially impact 50 to 75 others through donation of seven organs — the heart, both lungs and kidneys, the liver and pancreas — plus the corneas, skin tissue, which could help up to 20 others, bone tissue, even ligaments and tendons.

Norman, who said that until his illness he hadn't really thought of organ donation, said his entire family has agreed to become organ donors.

Ms. Griffith said she has made sure her family knows she wants to become an organ donor, and her youngest daughter Holly also likes the idea.

"I think we should try to help anybody we can," she said. "If you can save lives, that's the important thing and in the process you won't

have died in vain. This is something that helps mankind, and he who helps mankind helps God," she said.

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Comptroller: \$807 million available for lawmakers

AUSTIN (AP) — Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander said Thursday that an extra \$807 million is available for the Legislature to spend during the next two years. Gov. George W. Bush said the extra cash makes him more confident he can deliver on his promise of tax cuts.

"We're in serious discussions with the legislative decision-makers. I'm very hopeful we'll be able to fund the schools, have a teacher pay raise that teachers will feel and a meaningful tax cut," Bush said.

"There will be property tax cuts, there will be sales tax cuts and there will be business tax cuts," he said.

Bush has proposed a \$2 billion property tax cut, plus about \$600 million in sales and business tax reductions.

The Senate had approved a bill that provided what sponsors described as about \$1.1 billion in property tax relief, with lawmakers saying there wasn't enough cash to do everything. A House plan proposed recently would have lowered property taxes by about \$500 million.

The House and Senate also had each approved a different two-year budget. Senators approved a \$98.36 billion plan, about \$1.36 billion more than the House OK'd.

But negotiations to resolve differences between the two versions had been on hold, awaiting the

"I'm very hopeful we'll be able to fund the schools, have a teacher pay raise that teachers will feel and a meaningful tax cut."

— Gov. Bush

updated revenue projections.

Ms. Rylander said several key indicators — including retail sales and motor vehicle sales taxes — are doing better.

"About half our leading economic indicators have turned up," she said. "The oil industry has not completely recovered but prices have rebounded. ... The state's economy will remain robust but we may not see the extraordinary growth of the last two years when the economy expanded at an unusually high rate."

Nonetheless, the comptroller said Texas lawmakers have a total of \$6.4 billion more to spend over the current budget. That's up from \$5.6 billion estimated when lawmakers convened in January.

"We have got adequate dollars to address basic needs, improve education, give teachers salary increases and have tax cuts," Ms. Rylander said.

The news comes as lawmakers

have less than three weeks to complete work before the May 31 end of their current session.

Bush said the extra cash arrived at a good time.

"Each session comes down to a moment of high tension, and that's where we are," he said.

But Bush declined to put a dollar figure on how much in tax cuts he expects lawmakers to pass.

Legislative leaders offered several views.

Republican Lt. Gov. Rick Perry said the new revenue figures mean "we can now get to \$2 billion in tax cuts this session."

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, said "virtually all (of the extra money) ought to go to public education and tax cuts."

Rep. Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, said there would be many demands for the money.

"To say that the governor's package is completely resurrected or anything, no. We've still got problems. But I think we can go a long way and provide the governor a package of meaningful tax relief that both sides of the aisle can support," he said.

"Everybody is going to want to grab this money, and I think that's one of our problems. We need to all work together now."

The budget bill is HB1.

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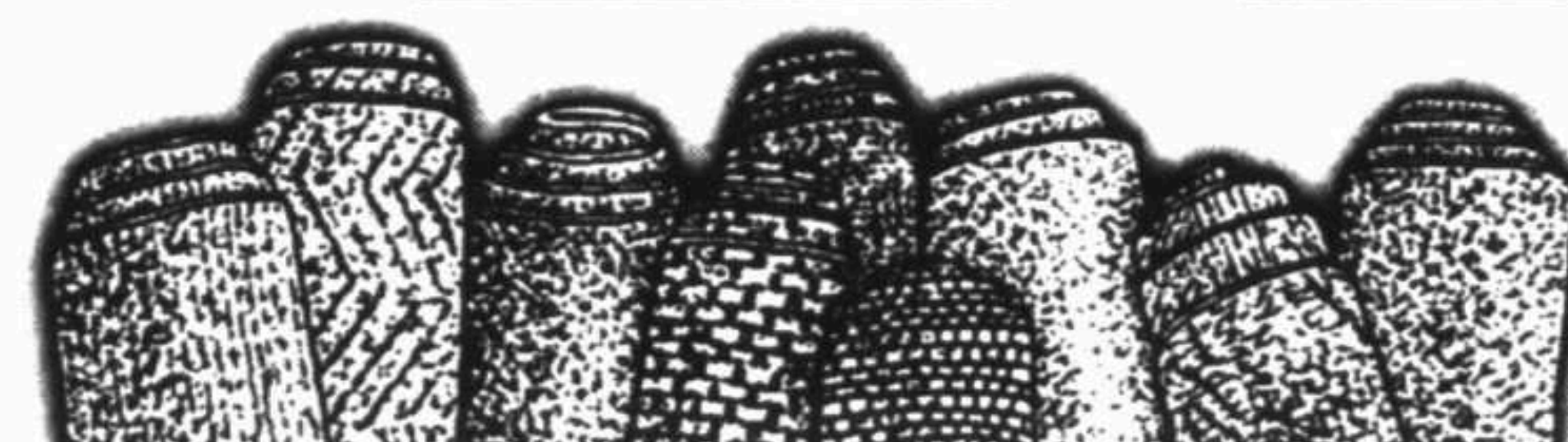
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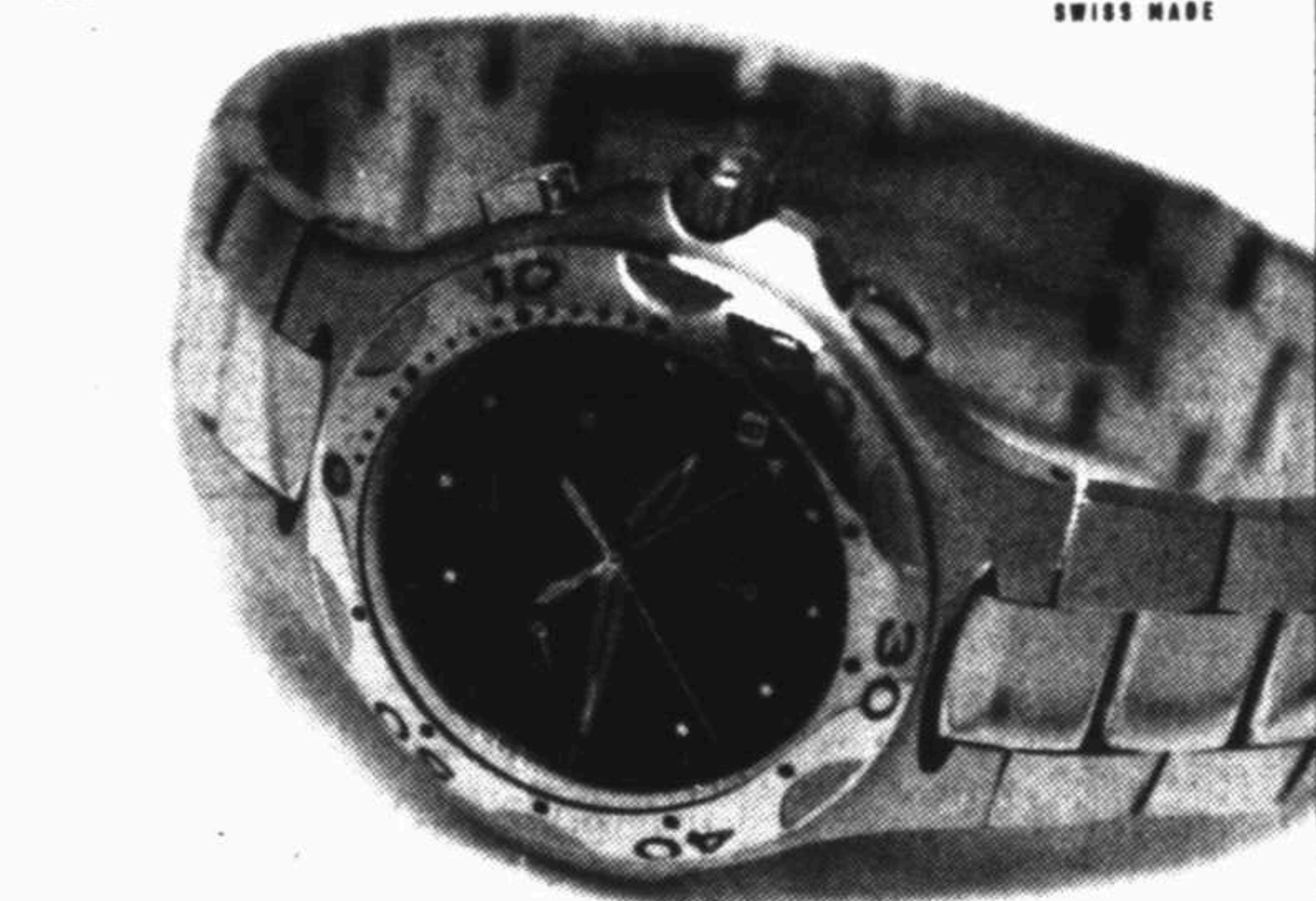
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POLICE REPORTS

Murder charges

A man was indicted on murder charges Wednesday in the choking death of his wife.

Oscar Rivera Jr., 21, was indicted by a grand jury in the 238th District Court.

Rivera is charged in connection with the choking death of his 17-year-old wife, Denise Belloc Rivera, according to the indictment. The panel claims that Rivera, a house painter, used a cord to choke his wife to death March 6.

Police said Rivera went to the Midland County jail the day after his wife's death and confessed to killing her. The jailer called

police, who searched their east-side mobile home and found her body in the bedroom.

Rivera was arrested on murder charges and taken to the jail, where he remained as of Thursday in lieu of a \$150,000 bond.

Rivera's attorney, Kyle Peeler, said he will decline to comment on his client's charges. He said he plans on filing a bond reduction in state court.

"His family has lived here for years, he has an 18-month-old son, he had a good job... he was not having any problems," Peeler said.

The child, he said, has been staying with both sets of his grandparents while his father is

detained, Peeler said.

"Both sets are taking care of the child," he said. "They have been very cooperative in that regard. From the child's eye, this (death) is a very tragic thing that happened — no matter which way you look at it."

A date for Rivera's bond hearing has not been set, Peeler said.

Midland Police Department

Tuesday

Criminal mischief: Vandalism was reported at 1201 E. Wadley Ave. It was reported at 2 p.m.

Midland County Sheriff's Office

Wednesday

Theft: A generator was reported stolen from the back of a pickup at 2801 Shanks Drive. It was reported at 4:11 p.m.

Thursday

Theft: A theft of \$11 was reported at 4001 S. FM 1788. It was reported at 12:32 p.m.

Theft: A gun was taken at 3302 E. County road 144. It was reported at 1:41 p.m.

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

Fen-phen maker, plaintiffs' lawyers negotiating settlement

HOUSTON (AP) — The manufacturer of the diet drug combination fen-phen is negotiating a national settlement of lawsuits filed on behalf of millions of people who used the product, lawyers involved in the litigation said Thursday.

Negotiations with pharmaceutical giant American Home Products Corp. began several weeks ago, but talks are still too preliminary to put a price tag on a possible settlement, said Houston lawyer Graham Hill.

"I don't see how any lawyer on the plaintiffs' side at this point could say what it would take to settle all the cases," said Hill, whose firm represents 100 people who claim they developed health problems after using fen-phen.

"There have been several meetings, and a number of different proposals and scenarios have been discussed, but there are some difficult issues that are going to have to be agreed upon before anything of this magnitude can be concluded," he added.

The talks come on the heels of last month's settlement in the first trial over heart-valve damage from fen-phen. American Home, the world's seventh-largest pharmaceutical company, reportedly agreed to pay \$500,000 to settle that case.

The Dallas Morning News, which first reported the possibility of a national agreement in a copyright story Thursday, said American

Home would pay billions of dollars to settle the rest of the cases.

American Home spokesman Lowell Weiner declined comment.

More than 2,600 lawsuits over the health effects of fen-phen are pending, American Home reported in a filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

At least nine cases, including four in Texas, have been settled for amounts ranging from \$500,000 to \$4.6 million. The Morning News reported.

Additionally, class-action lawsuits asking the company to pay for medical checkups and future treatments for people who don't know whether they have problems have been certified in several states, including Texas.

An estimated 6 million people in the United States took fen-phen. Trial lawyers contend thousands suffered problems such as leaky heart valves and primary pulmonary hypertension, an often-fatal lung disease.

American Home, through its Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories subsidiary, marketed fenfluramine — half of the fen-phen combination — and Redux, a similar product.

The Madison, N.J.-based drug maker pulled fenfluramine and Redux off the market in 1997 at the Food and Drug Administration's request after a Mayo Clinic study linked the drugs to potentially fatal heart valve damage. The lawsuit

frenzy ensued.

Plaintiffs' attorneys and lawyers for American Home met Wednesday in Houston to discuss a national settlement, according to Hill. Other meetings have occurred over the past two weeks in Philadelphia and New York.

West Virginia plaintiffs' lawyer James Peterson, who attended a meeting Tuesday in New York, said the drug company initiated the talks.

"American Home Products indicated a desire to see if a global resolution of this could take place. There was an agreement to meet again shortly," Peterson said, adding that a settlement could be reached by July, when a New Jersey medical monitoring case is set for trial.

One possible settlement of the class-action cases could involve American Home paying for medical examinations of fen-phen users who have not yet reported health problems, Hill said. It has not yet been decided whether those diagnosed with problems would be eligible for damages.

As for the personal injury cases, one possible scenario is to arrive at a range of damages depending on the type and severity of the health effects experienced.

Alex Zisson, a market analyst with Hambrecht & Quist, said a national settlement could benefit both the plaintiffs and the drug

maker because of the expense and risks involved with jury trials.

"Very few patients who took fen-phen actually have cardiac valve problems... so it's unclear how much blame American Home should get," he said. "On the other hand, you get these poor people in front of a jury and anything can happen — and that's bad publicity for the big company."

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Lynn G. Jackson

Big Spring program, if successful, will help reduce erosion on Texas roadways

T.E. Jenkins
Big Spring Correspondent

BIG SPRING — A group effort between the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission, the Texas Department of Transportation, and city and county governments has landed Big Spring a program to fight erosion.

The city, which has been the center of much attention because of its participation in the Renewable Energy Wind Project sponsored by York Research and TU Electric, was the pilot for a new program that if successful, will help reduce the nagging problem of erosion on Texas roadsides, as well as find a new use for much of the organic materials that land in landfills and compost facilities.

Representatives from TNRC, TxDOT, as well as various area government officials gathered Wednesday at the intersection of Interstate Highway 20 and Highway 87, to take a look at a new approach to an old problem.

"We use a mixture of compost materials, native seeding material and mulch to cover the slopes near the highway and interstate," said Hal Struckman, owner and operator of Eco-Mulch, a Louisiana-based company that donated the use of the mulch truck for the morning's demonstration.

"We start out with a blend of compost manure, which was brought in from Lubbock, and then we add the other compost materials and mulch from the local compost facility. Once we get them mixed up and ready to go, they go through the hose that blows them onto the slope's side."

Struckman said the resulting ground cover offers protection from both wind and rain erosion.

"You've probably seen the silk-type ground screens that some areas use to prevent erosion," Struckman said. "They are a lot more costly and time-consuming to put up and take down. With the mulch type ground cover, you not only prevent the erosion, but you put something back into the earth that it needs."

Barrie Cogburn, landscape

'When the soil around and next to our highways erodes, it destroys the pavement on top of it. The department spends an unbelievable amount of money each year just repairing the damage caused by wind and rain, and that money comes right out of the taxpayers' pockets.'

— Barrie Cogburn, landscape architect with TxDOT

architect with TxDOT, said the mulch-compost type ground cover offers her department an answer to a problem that has plagued them since the very first roadway was built in Texas.

"Erosion ... That is one of the mostly costly problems that we run into in maintaining Texas roadways," Ms. Cogburn said. "When the soil around and next to our highways erodes, it destroys the pavement on top of it. The department spends an unbelievable amount of money each year just repairing the damage caused by wind and rain, and that money comes right out of the taxpayers' pockets."

"If this program is successful, we can cut our costs tremendously, and at the same time, do it with something that we already have lying around."

Ms. Cogburn said the demonstration in Big Spring will be looked at closely by TxDOT, and if the results are favorable, begin programs that work with compost-mulch producers like Eco-Mulch, and local city and county governments all over Texas.

"Eco-Mulch provided us with the mulch truck today, and the city of Big Spring provided the compost and mulch," Ms. Cogburn said. "Everything has been donated, and we just hope to find a better working tool in our fight against erosion."

Struckman said the compost-mulch mixture stands up to heavy rains, as well as the West Texas winds that plague the Permian Basin.

"What happens is, the compost ends up under the wood chips in the

mulch. The mulch kind of acts as a blanket, and allows the compost to get into the soil, really giving it a lift."

"Once the compost and seeds get down in the earth, the seeds should be able to germinate, something they couldn't do in this soil without the compost, and you will actually see more grass growth in it's place. That grass will help establish a more permanent deterrent to erosion from both water and wind."

"This just gives people a chance to recycle materials that normally end up in the trash or compost facility. It's good for the soil, it's good for the taxpayers, and more importantly it's good for the environment."

Ms. Cogburn said she hopes to see a new, greener slope at the intersection in the near future, offering testament to a plan that may bring Texas highways that much closer to Mother Nature's healing touch.

"If this works right, there should be a green and grassy slope here soon. That's what TxDOT is looking for," she said.

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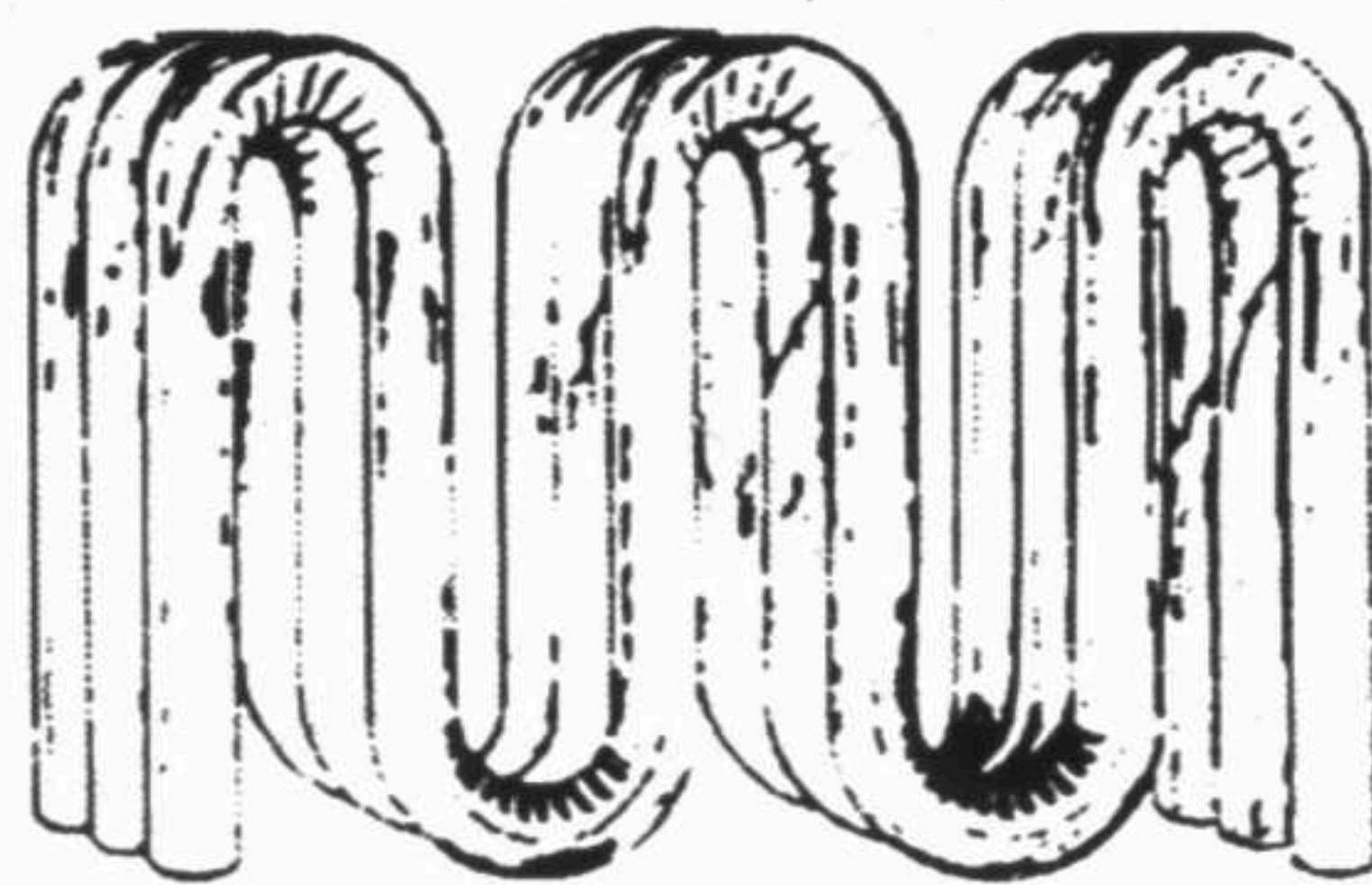
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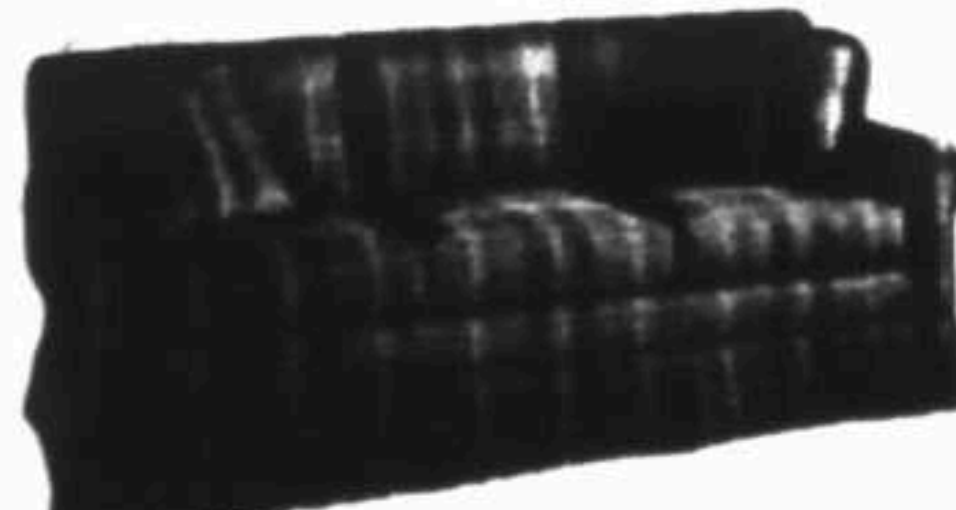
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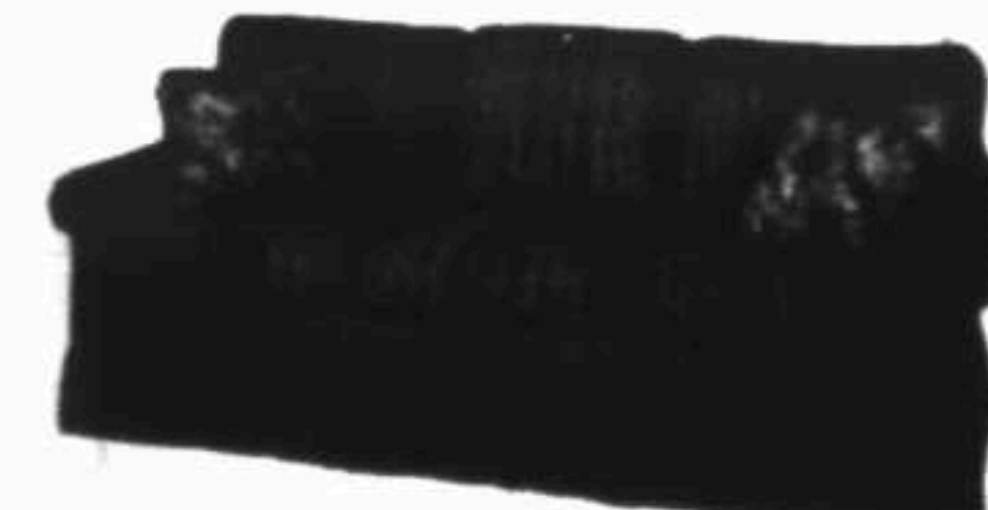
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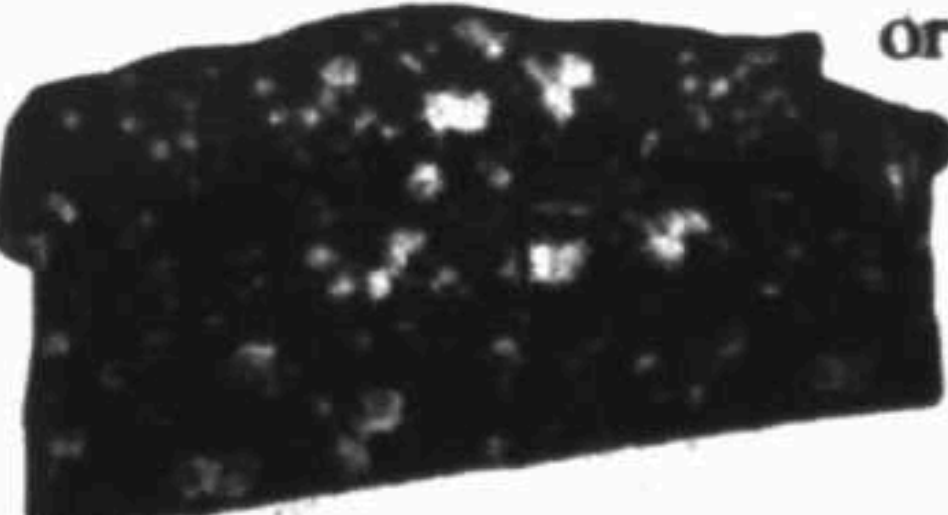


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Serb troops seen leaving Kosovo today

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Smiling and waving to the cameras, about 120 Yugoslav troops left Kosovo in a convoy of buses and trucks Thursday in what Western authorities said was an insignificant move and possibly a sham.

The soldiers broke into grins for foreign reporters who were driven to Merdare on the main road to Nis, a military stronghold in southern Serbia. The pullout was evidently a public bid to counter widespread disbelief of a Yugoslav withdrawal order last Sunday.

"It's the easiest thing in the world to put a few tanks on the border, invite a TV crew and say 'look I'm withdrawing,' and as soon as the TV crew goes back to Belgrade, the tanks just go back over the border," NATO spokesman Jamie Shea said in Brussels, Belgium.

Yugoslavia, meanwhile, said more than 1,200 people have been killed and 5,000 hurt by NATO airstrikes over the past seven weeks, the U.N.'s top human rights official reported after being snubbed by Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic.

There was no way to independently verify the numbers, though Yugoslav Foreign Minister Zivadin Jovanovic told the United Nations on April 24 that about 1,000 people had been killed and thousands hurt by NATO airstrikes.

U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson said Jovanovic reported the new toll during a meeting in Belgrade but that Milosevic refused to see her.

As foreign reporters saw the military convoy leave Kosovo, a Serb army officer there blamed constant NATO bombing for the "slow pace" of withdrawals since Yugoslavia announced a partial pullout.

The Pristina Army Corps commander, Gen. Vladimir Lazarevic, told reporters brought 130 miles south from Belgrade that "a certain amount of time" would be needed to bring the forces back to their barracks as ordered.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Army Col. Richard Bridges said "a withdrawal of 120 troops does not come close to meeting NATO's five conditions," which include a return of 780,000 ethnic Albanian refugees expelled from Kosovo since March.

Soon after the troop departure witnessed by reporters, NATO planes screamed over Nis, bombing main roads and the local TV building, the private Beta news agency reported. A security guard was injured.

Nis Mayor Zoran Zivkovic, a leader of the opposition Democratic Party, urged Milosevic to "proclaim what is our plan with Kosovo and to submit a list of costs in lives and time."

In London, British officials said there was heavy fighting between the KLA and Serb forces in Kosovo, and that rebels held small pockets of land throughout the province.

"In some cases, they've retaken ground from the Serbs," said Adm. Sir Ian Garnett, Britain's joint chief of operations.

The Yugoslav military had explained its initial troop withdrawal announcement by claiming the KLA was beaten.

Western officials were immediately skeptical about soldiers in berets and camouflage uniforms leaving Merdare, saying there was no evidence of a large-scale pullout with heavy weaponry and that Milosevic's forces often are rotated in and out of Kosovo.

White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said it fell far short of NATO's demands for a complete withdrawal, that the pullout was carefully staged, and "will not fool many."

President Clinton said Kosovo Albanians "must be able to return home and live in safety. For this to happen, the Serb forces must leave. Partial withdrawals can only mean continued civil war."

NATO has stepped up bombing raids on the some 40,000 Serb troops and military police deployed in Kosovo, part of Yugoslavia's dominant Serb republic.

The alliance said it is now able to concentrate fire on Milosevic's forces in Kosovo, where they began their crackdown in February 1998 — 13 months before NATO intervened after repeated reports of atrocities and mass killings.

Refugees arriving Thursday at Blace, on the Macedonia-Kosovo border, spoke of severe food shortages among the remaining ethnic Albanians. They also told of a heavy police presence, with Kosovo Serbs shopkeepers refusing to sell food to ethnic Albanians.

Yugoslav media reported fresh attacks on targets across Serbia, including one that sent huge plumes of smoke from the Serb TV building in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia's second-largest city.

In the Kosovo capital of Pristina, the Serb Media Center said missiles rained down near the train station at Prizren, Kosovo's second-biggest city, setting surrounding buildings ablaze.

NATO also targeted the Pristina airport at Slatina, which is used by the Yugoslav air force and is believed to include extensive underground storage facilities.

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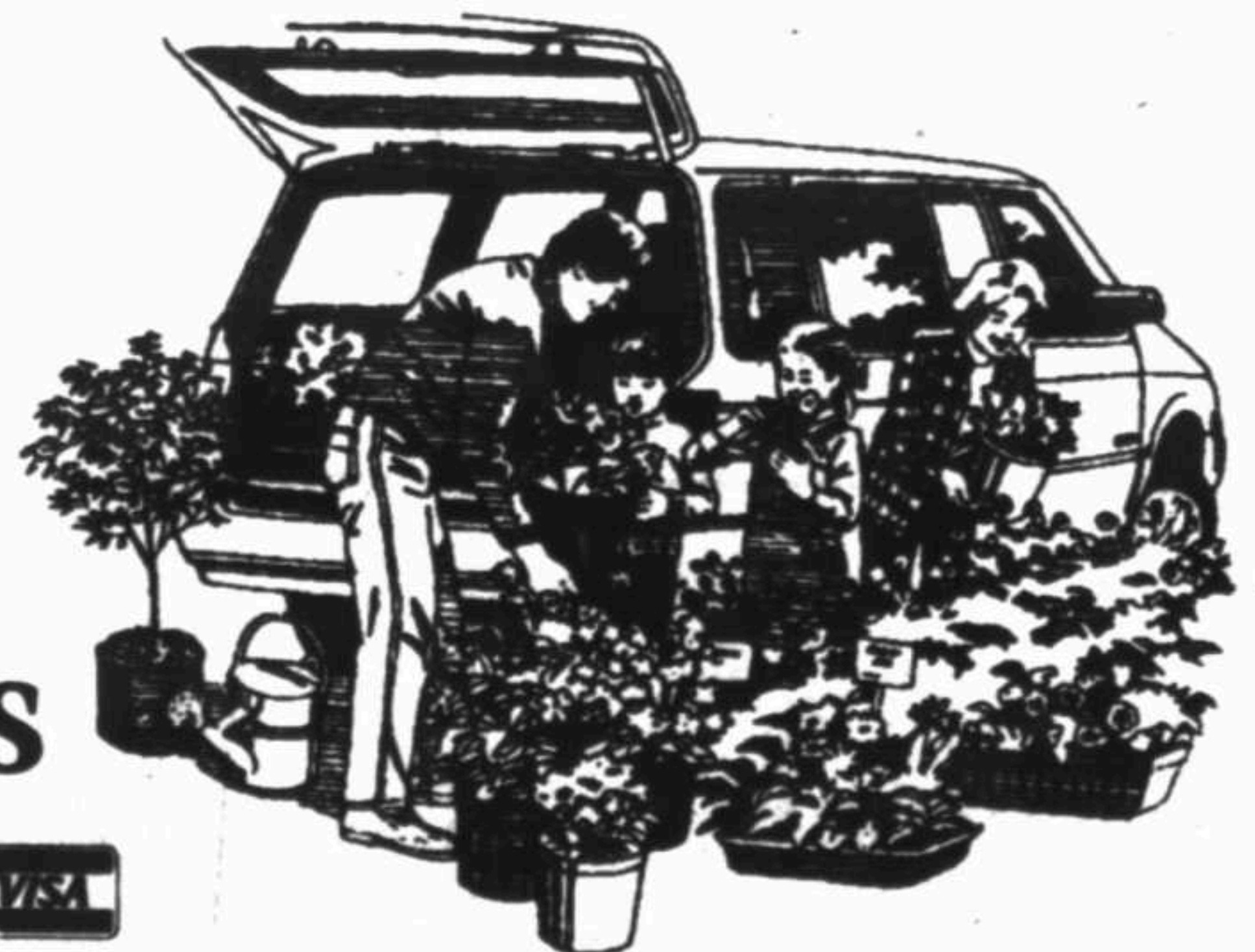
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Russian lawmakers accuse Yeltsin of taking millions of citizens' lives

MOSCOW (AP) — Lawmakers accused President Boris Yeltsin of carrying out economic and social policies that have claimed the lives of millions of Russians, as impeachment hearings opened Thursday that could test the strength of Russia's fragile democracy.

In an atmosphere of anger and foreboding, the lower house of parliament, the State Duma, accused Yeltsin of destroying the Soviet Union, selling out Russia to the West, starting war in the breakaway province of Chechnya, illegally dissolving parliament in 1993 and waging genocide against the Russian nation with policies that wrecked the economy.

Yeltsin himself "didn't kill anybody, of course," said Vadim Filimonov, the Communist head of the impeachment commission. "But he gave orders to kill people."

The hearings began one day after Yeltsin propelled the country into political turmoil by firing popular Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov and his Cabinet. The shake-up, the third in little more than a year, gave added impetus to the hearings.

However, it seems less likely that the upper house of parliament would vote to remove Yeltsin from office, in what would be Russia's first presidential impeachment. Yeltsin's ouster would also require two-thirds majorities of the supreme and constitutional courts — which is considered unlikely.

And the whole matter could be moot if Yeltsin dissolves parliament and calls for new elections, as many observers think he will do.

With 443 deputies in the Communist-dominated Duma, it will require 300 to impeach Yeltsin. So far, at least 125 have indicated that they oppose impeachment, suggesting the vote could be close.

Among those opposing impeachment and urging Yeltsin to dissolve parliament was flamboyant nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy. There were reports Thursday that Zhirinovskiy was being considered for a top Kremlin post.

Opening the impeachment commission read out its case on the five charges against Yeltsin in a lengthy report that put some deputies to sleep.

Yeltsin was accused of destroying the Soviet Union to enable NATO to dominate the world. "It was exactly because of the collapse of the USSR that NATO was able to advance to our borders and bomb Iraq and Yugoslavia," Filimonov said.

Yeltsin was also accused of ruining the military and causing the deaths of millions by destroying the country's economy, ruining the health system and lowering life expectancy.

Yeltsin's Duma envoy, Alexander Kotenkov, responded for the president, saying the impeachment charges were groundless. He gave a long, often emotional rebuttal of each of the five charges, and urged the deputies to allow Yeltsin to complete his term, which ends next year.

"We have a choice: either fight for power or hold the next election as scheduled and legally carry out the transfer of power in our state. The choice is yours, esteemed deputies," Kotenkov said.

About 500 Communists demonstrated outside the parliament building near Red Square, waving red flags demanding Yeltsin's removal. A smaller group of pro-Yeltsin supporters rallied across the street.

While Yeltsin's sacking of Primakov on Wednesday provided a backdrop of high drama and ten-

sion to the proceedings, lawmakers were typically irreverent and laconic, often looking bored and jeering Kotenkov when he asked for more time to speak. The catcalls and whistles increased during the afternoon session, when Kotenkov faced more than a dozen hostile questions.

There were no signs of tension in the streets of the capital, and no indication of any increased police presence.

Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov confidently predicted success of the impeachment inquiry, which he has been pressing for months.

"I've spoken to faction leaders, and even those who were wavering are now saying that Yeltsin must go," he said.

Deputies across the spectrum said they did not expect the Duma to approve Yeltsin's choice of former Interior Minister Sergei Stepashin to replace Primakov. Stepashin was named acting

prime minister while the Duma considers his confirmation.

The Duma will hold its first confirmation vote on Stepashin on

Wednesday, speaker Gennady Seleznyov said.

If the Duma votes down Yeltsin's choice for prime minister

three times, the president is bound by the constitution to dissolve parliament and call new elections. Yeltsin has no plans to dissolve the

Duma and still hopes to work with the chamber on forming a new government, his aides said Thursday.

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Yeltsin's impeachment hearings boring and orderly

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian ultranationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy stormed into the State Duma, parliament's lower house, on Thursday, pausing in a corridor to argue with a Communist opponent.

Outside the Duma, hundreds of hard-liners waved red Soviet flags and chanted slogans as they waited for parliament to open its first day of hearings on impeaching President Boris Yeltsin.

There was a sharp contrast Thursday between the scene outside the Duma chamber — where an odd assortment of party activists, cleaning ladies and lawmakers' aides milled around trading opinions on the proceedings — and in the chamber itself. There, the machinery of parliament ground steadily through the business of impeachment, the atmosphere all business and order.

The morning debate ranged from tedious legal talk to passionate phrases, but there wasn't much drama.

Vadim Filimonov, head of the Duma's impeachment commission, set the tone with a long, monotone reading of a list of charges against Yeltsin. However, he ended his 90-minute speech on a passionate note, mentioning the "blood of the dead and disfigured, the tears of the humiliated and offended beating into our hearts."

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Council's request to FAA will help MC, community

Midland City Council's decision Tuesday to seek the release from the Federal Aviation Administration of land that is now part of Midland Air Park for sale to Midland College was a sound move for the college and the community it serves.

The decision, city officials said, has nothing to do with the question of possibly closing Air Park, although it reasonably could be argued that it points in that direction. City officials have been pondering Air Park's fate for a number of years anyway. But this move, they note, has nothing to do with that possibility; rather, it has everything to do with the future of Midland College and the growth of the college necessarily translates into growth and vitality for the community of Midland.

Presently Midland College is landlocked and without this acreage for expansion of its physical facilities, dreams of future growth could be thwarted. During the past few years, enrollment at the college has been mushrooming with new records being set almost every year. For the spring semester of 1999, enrollment reached 4,878 and it is likely that during the fall semester, it will top the 5,000-student mark.

With the Physician's Assistant program that MC and Texas Tech teamed up to offer this fall, Midland College will probably experience even more growth than it has in the past. In fact, in late 1998 administrators and planners for the college envisioned a "Figure 8" expansion of the existing circle at MC that eventually would involve academic, residence and dining halls to accommodate growth for the next 25 years. That is exciting and if enrollment growth remains steady, it is entirely feasible.

Mayor Bobby Burns explained the City Council's action this week by saying, "I think the people of Midland want us to cooperate with the college as much as possible and that's what we're doing."

We think he's correct and we commend Mayor Burns and the members of the City Council for this progressive move for the future of Midland College and this community!

Mayor Bobby Burns explained the City Council's action this week by saying, 'I think the people of Midland want us to cooperate with the college as much as possible and that's what we're doing.'

JACK ANDERSON

DOE should keep closer eye on contractors

Energy Secretary Bill Richardson made news this week by promising to create a security "czar" at the agency who will report directly to the secretary. Good news, perhaps — but it will only work if the newly appointed czar has the power to crack down on the agency's contractors.

As we've reported recently, the security problems at our nuclear labs go far deeper than a few renegade scientists who shared critical information with the Chinese. At the root of the problem is a management structure that's woefully lacking in even the most basic safeguards. Until that gets fixed, it won't do much good to administer belated lie-detector tests to scientists suspected of feeding secrets to the enemy.

A major problem, we've learned, is a lack of basic oversight by the department over its many sub-contractors. The DOE doesn't actually perform most of the hands-on nuclear research; that work gets done by outside contractors. Congress essentially writes a blank check to the universities and companies that perform this top-secret weapons research, with little regard for delays or cost-overruns. It's corporate welfare, writ large.

Several years ago, for example, the General Accounting Office examined the contract between DOE and the University of California. The univer-

sity was getting about \$2.5 billion a year to run three weapons labs — Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory.

According to the GAO, the contracts contained many "nonstandard" clauses that contributed to "the loss of millions of dollars' worth of government property, excessive subcontracting costs, and the loss of classified documents" — 10,000 at Lawrence Livermore alone.

The evidence suggests that the inmates were running the asylum. In one instance, the university wanted permission to lease some additional vehicles for official use. But the DOE turned down the request, saying the university wasn't even using the cars it already had. But the university, using an obscure clause in the contract, ignored the protests and proceeded to lease 58 new cars, sending the bill to the government.

Time and again, the DOE tried to make the university more accountable. When a new contract was being negotiated in 1992, a negotiator for the university said he would only agree to "clauses (which) preserved the university's 'no-risk, no-reward' position, in which the university does not accept either financial risks or benefits." In other words, the school wanted its money without strings attached.

Apparently the university's negotiator managed to outsmart the government. The new contract was \$17 million a year richer than the old one — and included no new performance guarantees.

UNDER THE DOME — As we suspected — and reported — two weeks ago, Congress could not resist loading up the "emergency" relief bill in Kosovo with

pork-barrel spending for the folks back home.

Included in the \$13 billion lard-bucket of a bill is \$1 billion in special credit for financially strapped steel companies, at the request of Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va.; \$500 million in loans for oil and gas interests; and a measure to keep the Alabama sturgeon from being listed as an endangered species. There's also billions included for military needs that have nothing to do with Kosovo, such as construction projects and money for spare parts that otherwise wouldn't get included in the regular budget.

The new spending is especially unseemly because it comes on the heels of a vote in which Congress declined to support the NATO action in Kosovo. Lawmakers who don't have the guts to support the war against Slobodan Milosevic are finding nothing wrong with voting to line their own pockets while paying for the war.

There is a simple but unlikely solution to all this: Pass an amendment that would require all new, non-war-related spending to be offset by cuts in existing programs. This way, big-spending lawmakers would be forced to choose among competing priorities, like the rest of us do. What's more important — military housing, or federal aid to education? Steel-industry subsidies or highway construction? Sturgeon protection or price-supports for cotton farmers?

Don't expect such a measure to pass. The genius of "emergency" spending bills is that the money doesn't have to fit under any pre-arranged budget caps, which is why members can't resist adding their own pet projects. If anyone can recognize a free lunch, it's the members of the U.S. Congress.

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

CHARLIE REESE

The West bears responsibility for Yugoslavia's troubles

Here's a little quiz for you. Which Yugoslav leader said the following in a public speech:

"Serbia has never had only Serbs living in it. Today, more than in the past, members of other peoples and nationalities also live in it. This is not a disadvantage for Serbia. I am truly convinced that it is its advantage. National composition of almost all countries in the world today, particularly developed ones, has also been changing in this direction. Citizens of different nationalities, religions, and races have been living together more and more frequently and more and more successfully."

"Socialism in particular, being a progressive and just democratic society, should not allow people to be divided in the national and religious respect. The only differences one can and should allow in socialism are between hard-working people and idlers and between honest people and dishonest people...Yugoslavia is a multinational community and it can survive only under the conditions of full equality for all nations that live in it."

The answer is Slobodan Milosevic. This is from the text of his famous speech in 1989 before 1 million people celebrating the 600th anniversary of the battle of Kosovo. The source for the text is the U.S. government. The theme of the speech is unity and multinationalism. There is not one word in the text attacking Albanians.

While I recognize politicians frequently say in public things they don't mean, the fact is that it was the Serbs who tried vainly to keep the Yugoslav Federation intact, and it was the West — by encouraging the nationalist ambitions of the Croats, Slovenes and Bosnian Muslims — which bears a major responsibility for the breakup and the civil war that followed.

In true Orwellian fashion, the NATO countries, while working hand in hand with extreme nationalists in Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and now Albania, accused the Serbs of being nationalists. Even more paradoxically, while the West promoted Croatia for Croats and Slovenia for Slovenes, it opposed a Serbia for Serbians.

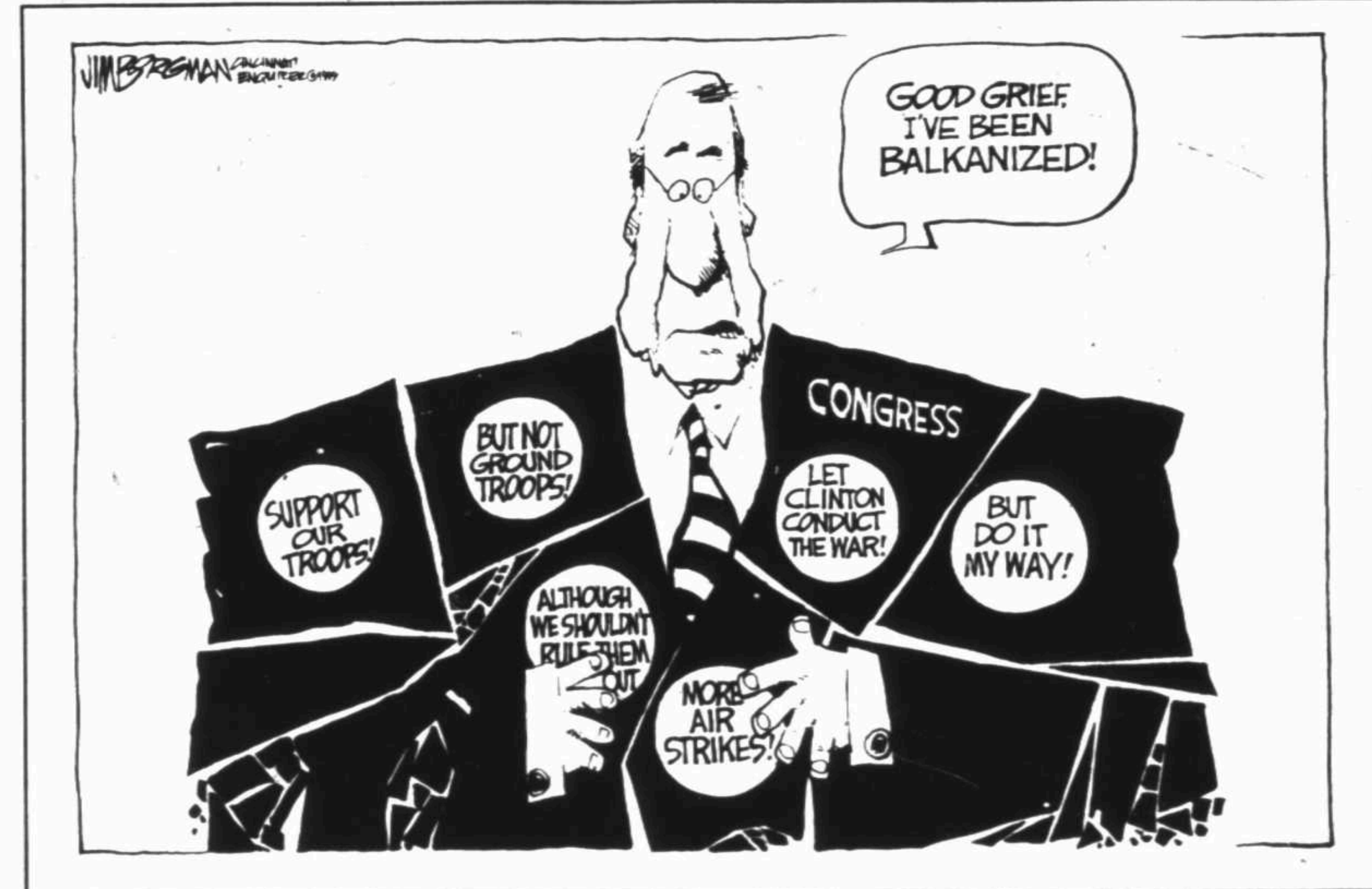
One has to also keep in mind that the United States and NATO did nothing to stop the ethnic cleansing of about a million Serbs but actually assisted by letting American rent-a-generals train the Croatian army.

As for Milosevic, I know some Serbs have a problem with him, and they are the best source of information about his faults. But this American propaganda blitz — calling him a racist, calling refugees from fighting a case of genocide and comparing him to Hitler — is just bunk, pure and simple. The American lie machine is certainly unoriginal. Every time the United States decides to bomb some small country, the previously unnoted leader of that country becomes the resurrection of Hitler and a threat to world peace. Pretty heady stuff for an elected leader of a little country of 10 million people.

It would be more comfortable for all of us if we could just click our heels, salute the commander in chief and shout approval. Unfortunately, neither the U.S. government nor NATO has any credibility. Truth may be the first casualty of war, but morality is always a close second.

What we Americans should keep in mind is that the United States has no tactical, strategic or economic interest in the Balkans. It is none of our business. Secondly, the attack is illegal, a violation of both the United Nations charter and the NATO treaty. Third, the attack does threaten one of our real national security interests, which is maintaining a good relationship with Russia and her 30,000 nuclear warheads. It's one thing to ask Americans to die for their country, if necessary, but the Kosovo Liberation Army is a terrorist and extremist organization financed in part by drug money. No American should be asked to die for its benefit.

Charley Reese's e-mail address is OSOREE@aol.com. Charley Reese's column is distributed by King Features Syndicate.



WILLIAM MURCHISON

America is living in 'Age of Apology'

We live in the Age of Apology, make no mistake about it. Americans are deeply sorry, and eager to show it, for a multitude of historical events, from slavery to environmental pollution. The demand for a formal apology for... whatever... is a staple of political and cultural discourse. And now the habit invades the war room.

We are deeply sorry for bombing the Chinese embassy in Belgrade. It was a "tragic accident," says Undersecretary of State Thomas Pickering. (When — to sound a grammatical note — will supposedly literate people get straight that "tragedy" isn't an automatic synonym for "disaster"?)

NATO's secretary general is similarly sickened. His apologies to China go on and on.

No doubt the grief level is elevated by the "anti-U.S." mobs raging through Peking — a demonstration of "orchestrated fury," says The Wall Street Journal.

That the United States would let a regrettable accident ruffle its determination shows what an odd war we are fighting. "Determination"? That's an overstatement on the order of calling potato chips a gustatory delicacy.

True, President Clinton pledges that the bombing will go on — but amid more of the ambiguity that has cloaked this odd operation from the start.

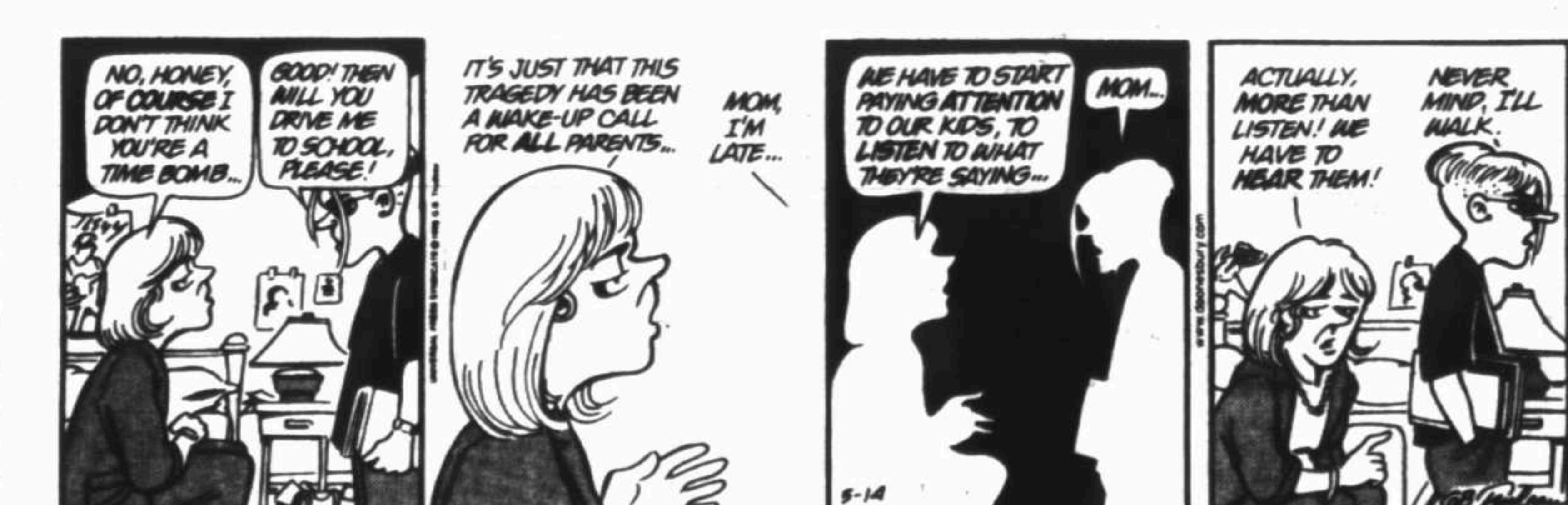
The decoration of three U.S. soldiers for getting captured; an army captain hugging, I said hugging, the three on their release; ongoing political stalemate over what to do; the stalemate replicated at every level of national life; third-party mediation while the bombing goes on; and of course apologies for the failure to aim accurately — this is not war. It is a new category: a trans-gendered fusion of incompatible purposes.

War-making requires a certainty and, yes, arrogance. Or at least it once did. Doubt, hesitation, nuance — military history tells us these attributes have no place in the waging of successful war. Unsuccessful war, now — that's a different matter.



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TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, May 14, the 134th day of 1999. There are 231 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
 On May 14, 1948, the independent state of Israel was proclaimed in Tel Aviv as British rule in Palestine came to an end.

On this date:
 In 1643, Louis the 14th became King of France at age 4 upon the death of his father, Louis the 13th.

In 1796, English physician Edward Jenner administered the first vaccination against smallpox to an 8-year-old boy.

In 1804, the Lewis and Clark expedition to explore the Louisiana Territory left St. Louis.

In 1904, the first Olympic games to be held in the United States opened in St. Louis.

In 1942, Aaron Copland's "Lincoln Portrait" was first performed by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

In 1942, the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps was established.

In 1955, representatives from eight Communist bloc countries, including the Soviet Union, signed the Warsaw Pact in Poland.

In 1973, the United States launched Skylab I, its first manned space station.

In 1975, U.S. forces raided the Cambodian island of Koh Tang and recaptured the American merchant ship Mayaguez. All 40 crew members were released safely by Cambodia, but some 40 U.S. servicemen were killed in the military operation.

In 1980, President Carter inaugurated the Department of Health and Human Services.



Graduation Celebration

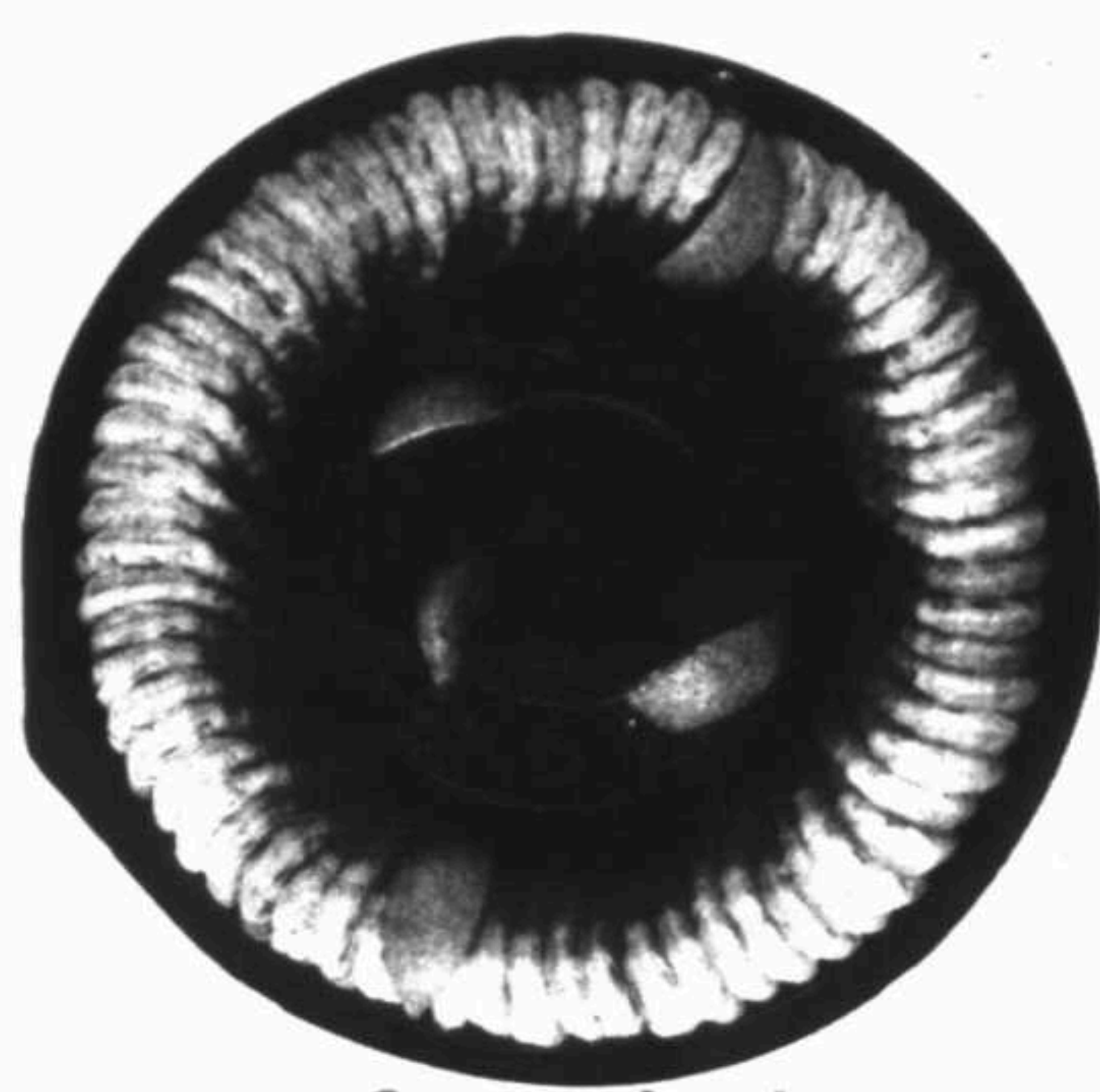
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Embassy bombing marks America's fall from grace for many Chinese

BEIJING (AP) — In 1989, Chinese students enamored of democracy erected a Statue of Liberty look-alike in protests on Tiananmen Square. This week, as they laid siege to the U.S. Embassy, they screamed "Down with the Yankees!"

For many Chinese, respect for America evaporated with the NATO bombing of China's embassy in Yugoslavia. To the disenchanted, the attack left the feeling that American talk of human rights and liberty for all is empty rhetoric.

"Through American films, we used to think of America as a just place," said one protester, an employee at an American-run Internet firm who gave his surname, Sun. "Now, we are full of doubts."

Protesters burned the Stars and Stripes, yelled profanities against President Clinton, rained rocks on U.S. Embassy buildings and burned a U.S. consul's home in southwest China. Like the students who protested on Tiananmen Square, they marched in ranks proudly waving their school flags, wore headbands scrawled with slogans and were cheered on by bystanders.

In 1989, the student protests were aimed at the government. By contrast, during the four days of protests that erupted Saturday, protesters marched with government support.

Yan Xuetong, a scholar of international relations, said many Chinese believe the air campaign in Yugoslavia has exposed American double-standards: The United States is attacking Yugoslavia with missiles while seeking to prevent missile proliferation, and promoting human rights while causing civilian casualties.

"Almost every issue makes people here feel America is so hypocritical. Look at what they are doing, it is totally opposite from what they are saying," said Yan of the China Institute for Contemporary International Relations.

Necessity will likely force the U.S. and Chinese governments to mend fences. China wants American investment, technology and know-how to develop its economy and help provide badly needed jobs. The United States looks to China's cooperation in preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction and missile technology, and its help in reducing tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Both countries are economically tied, as well. The United States is China's second-largest trade partner, while China is the United States' fourth-largest.

But the emotional damage could take longer to repair. Even before the embassy bombing, America's image was tarnished for some

Chinese.

While many recognize that Americans are freer than they are to say and do what they want, they have been bombarded for years by communist propaganda that says the price of such freedoms is school shootings, crime, drugs and other social ills. The Clinton-Monica Lewinsky scandal also was widely reported.

Tensions over Taiwan in 1995 and 1996, when the United States dispatched aircraft carriers to waters off the island China claims as its own, also raised nationalist hackles and made some Chinese suspicious of Washington. Others already resented U.S. concerns over Tibet and China's human rights record as unwarranted meddling.

The embassy bombing brought such emotions to a head. China's

government supported protests because it had to. Public anger could have turned inward, against police, had they enforced their usual ban on demonstrations.

But by giving protesters the green light and by fanning their anger with slanted state media

reports, the government may also have wanted to distract people from domestic problems: unemployment, corruption and the crushing of the Tiananmen Square demonstrations 10 years ago on June 4.

The bombing and nationally

broadcast TV images of relatives grieving over the cremated remains of three Chinese reporters killed in the attack has also given the government ammunition against critics of its human rights record.

"For years, the U.S. and other

Western powers have been lecturing us on human rights and other issues," reporter Xiong Lei wrote in the official China Daily newspaper. "But the NATO bombing has smashed the rosy picture that the U.S. is a guardian of human rights."

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Barak is using American style campaign plan

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — James Carville is exhausted but optimistic.

His candidate, Ehud Barak, is ahead by 10 points and looks like a winner. Five months ago, the U.S. campaign strategist couldn't find anyone who thought the sincere, but uncharismatic Labor Party leader had a chance to defeat Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Kicking his feet up onto a coffee table and leaning back in a lounge chair, the Louisiana native who helped get President Clinton elected smiles with satisfaction at the suggestion that American campaign techniques — simple slogans, endless repetition, up-to-the-minute polling of voter whims — travel well.

As Israel's '99 campaign heads into its final weekend before Monday's vote, American money and methods are reshaping Israeli politics.

Even Natan Sharansky, a former Soviet dissident who heads a Russian immigrants party, has an American pollster.

Netanyahu, whose reputation as a media king has been shaken in this contest, also has an American adviser — strategist Arthur Finkelstein, who has helped Republican politicians get elected.

During Netanyahu's 1996 campaign, Finkelstein peppered campaign ads with shocking images of terror attacks and painted Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat as the main beneficiary of the peace process in order to portray Netanyahu as tougher than Labor on security.

That assault crippled the opposition.

Three years later, Labor went American, hiring Carville, Washington pollster Stanley Greenberg and media specialist Robert Shrum.

"It took the loss of the 1996 election for (Labor) to understand they needed to change their way of thinking," Carville said in an interview with The Associated Press.

He has so successfully introduced his famous one-liner from the 1992 Clinton campaign — "It's the economy, stupid!" — that security, once the No. 1 issue in Israel, has virtually vanished from discourse.

Carville has turned Barak's image from that of a slow-talking, TV turnoff into a leader tough on everything from peace to unemployment.

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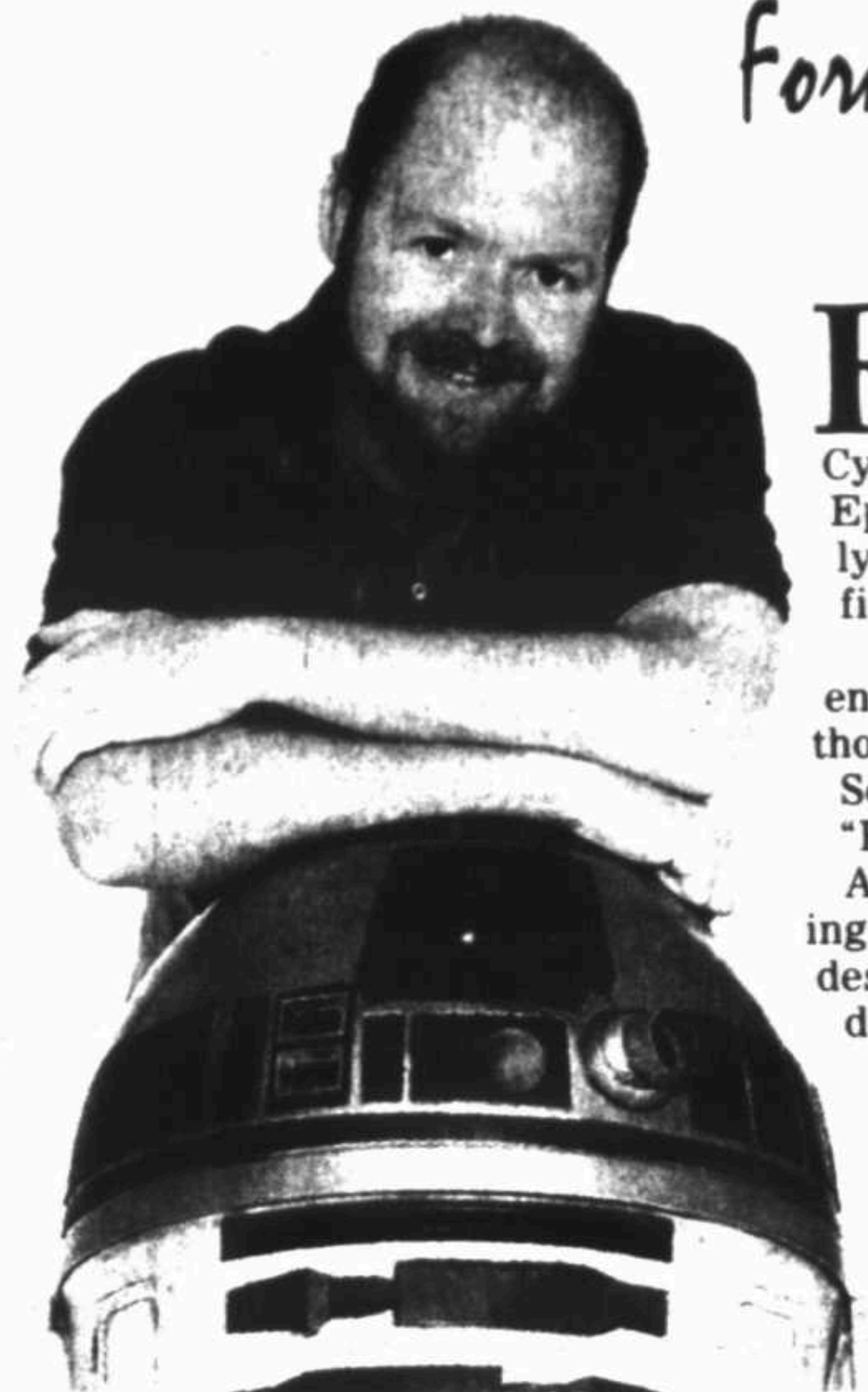


REVIEWS & PREVIEW

Movies/2B

Former Midlander took charge of more than 250,000 photos for 'The Phantom Menace'

By Georgia Temple



R2-D2's photographs troubled former Midlander Chris Cybert's team of photographers. "We thought R2-D2 looked older in this new film," said Cybert, who coordinated the still photography for "Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace," which opens Wednesday at Hollywood Theatres 10. "He had more dents and scars and stuff. This film takes place 33 years before the film that came out in 1977. "We also had images from all the original films to use as reference. We had to pull out the slides from 1977 so they could look at those to make sure he didn't look older." Scrutiny validated the photographers' concern. "He did look older," said Cybert. "And they had to change him." A former journalism student at Midland College, Cybert was working in London for the National Magazine Company assisting the designers with technical problems and training them on digital designing techniques when he was offered the position of still-image coordinator for George Lucas' film. "It was the old thing, a friend of a friend," Cybert said of his being hired by Lucas. "The art director on Esquire magazine was a friend of mine. His wife used to share an apartment with the person who is in charge of the British public relations for the film. "His wife happened to mention they were looking for some-

one who knew photography and computers. And he phoned me up to see if I knew anybody. At the time, he didn't know I knew anything about photography. I just told him I knew about those two things so have them call me." Cybert, the son of Midlanders Dennie and Dawn Cybert, had taken photography at MC before attending Le Sorbonne University and the Parson School of Design, where he studied photography under Henri Cartier-Bresson. He worked as a fashion photographer in Paris before returning to the United States. "I decided instead of finishing my degree there, which I could have done, to get a degree from an American liberal arts university," said Cybert. While attending Syracuse University in Syracuse, N.Y., he photographed sports events for United Press International. During his last semester at Syracuse, he was offered a job with Reuters News Agency and moved to London. When he tired of photography, he decided to become a free-lance designer for magazines and advertising agencies in London before working with the National Magazine Company. His position on the "Star Wars Episode I" film was "A new position that supposedly had never existed on any film in history, so we were all winging it," Cybert said. "But the basic idea was that there were three full-time photographers on the project, still photographers, and they needed someone to coordinate, to make sure everything was photographed, and all the images they took were

Please see CYPERT/3B

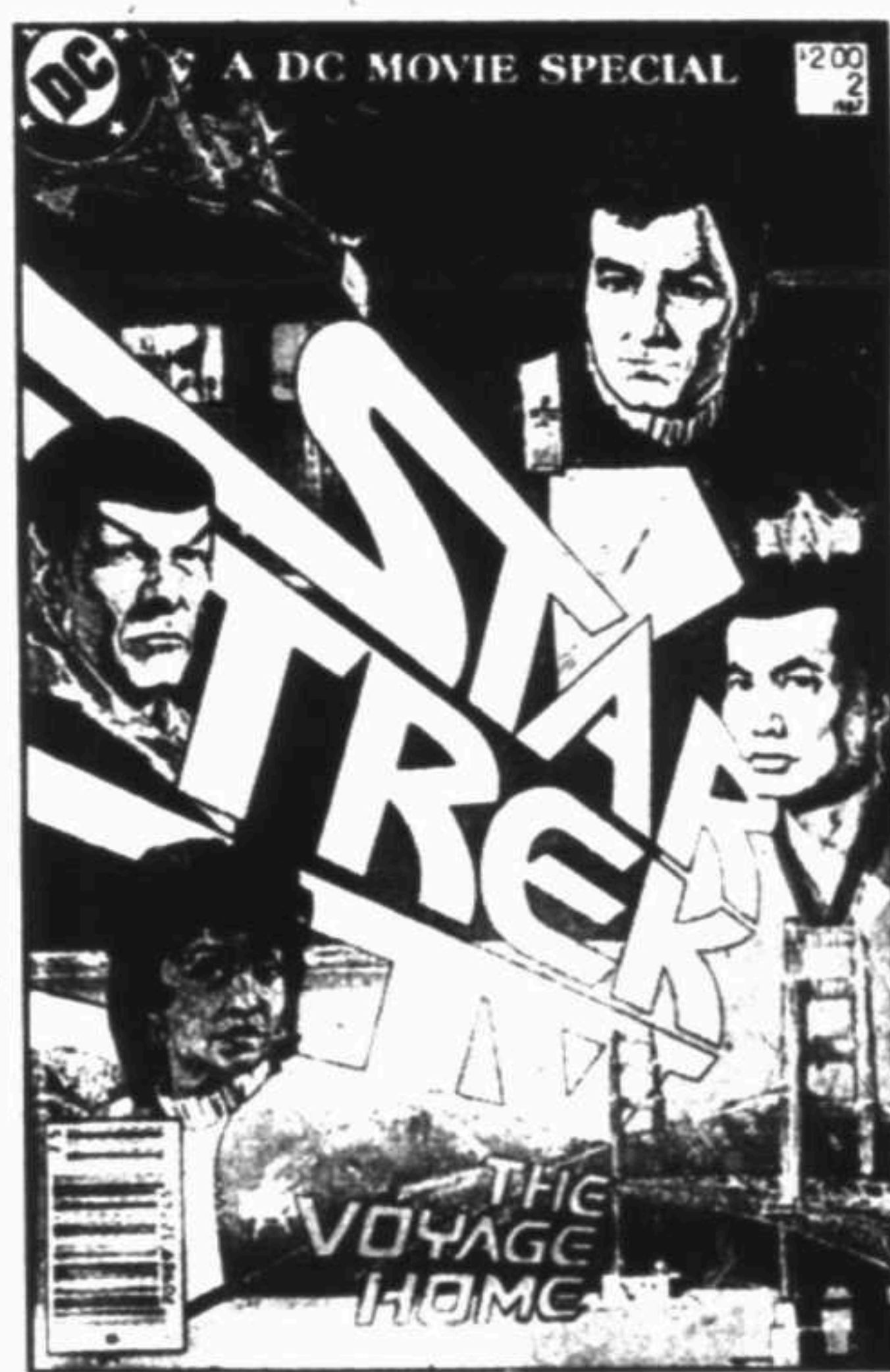
Movie marketing mania

How does movie marketing affect children?

by Georgia Temple

Toys, T-shirts, games, comics, trading cards and books tied to various movies speak to young and old alike from advertising's mecca on the television screen, in displays found in fast-food restaurants and promotions for soft drinks, from the shelves of toy departments, down the aisles of computer-game products and within the infinite space of the Internet. The words and packaging may be different, but the message remains the same. Buy me. Often the sales pitch is aimed at children, whose sense of immediacy may lead them to imagine they can't live without the latest whatever it is. Their pleas, at times aided by tears, bring out their parents' pocketbooks. Peace reigns until the next time the latest whatever it is hits the children's finely tuned airwaves. The latest heavy hitter to blast upon the marketing scene is "Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace," set to open at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday at Hollywood Theatres 10. "I've been hearing for three weeks how excited they are and how they can hardly wait for 'Star Wars,'" said Sam Guyton, a licensed professional counselor and a licensed family and marriage counselor. "There's that kind of excitement, that kind of electricity going on. Kids sit in my office and read the Time magazine that had that big spread on 'Star Wars.'" "They can't wait to get the new cards. There's just so much energy associated with this, and it probably is diverting them a little bit from coming up with their own imaginative games, but it's where we are today." Ms. Guyton pointed out, as did the other therapists, counselors and psychologists contacted for this story, that her comments on the impact of movie marketing on the young were based on observation and her own experiences as a parent and grandparent and not on clinical studies.

Please see CHILDREN/2B

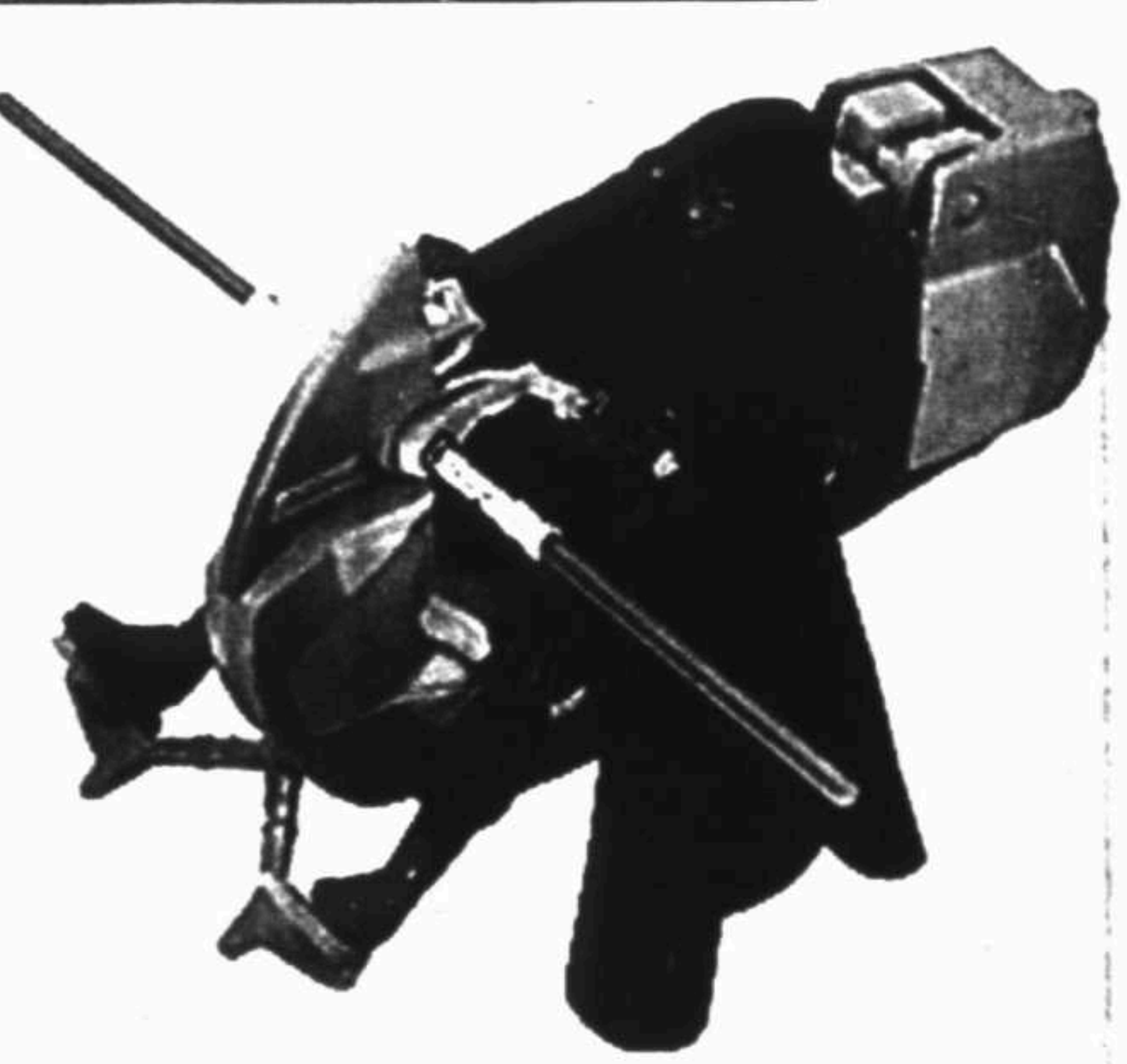
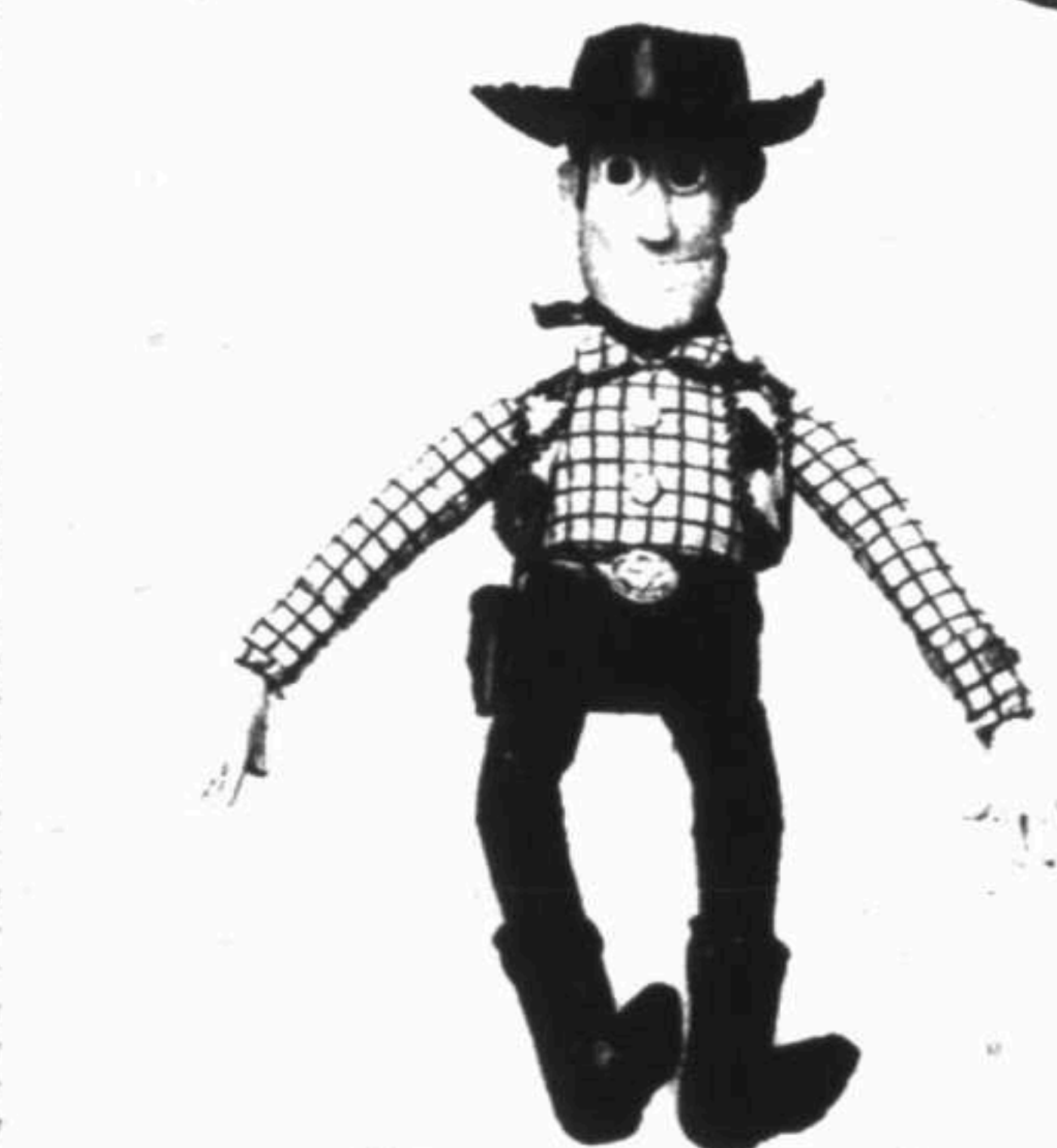


It's a package deal: movie, toys, sound track...

By Georgia Temple

When "Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace" opens across the country on Wednesday, the box-office take is projected to be staggering despite lukewarm reviews in the national press. Some estimates run over \$100 million for the first five days. "This particular release is capitalizing on the past success of the series," said Patty Smith, director of social studies for the Midland Independent School District. The posters "create desire," Ms. Smith said, and suggest, "In order to be informed today, you absolutely must be a viewer of the new 'Star Wars' series. You will be a little short changed if you don't see it." Actually, some folks will be short changed for months to come purchasing the memorabilia surrounding the latest release. "Now it's not a movie, it's a package where you have the movie, but then you have the toys that go with it or the drink cups with the icon or the sound track," said Hugh Franks, who teaches economics and philosophy at Midland High School. "Actually, in economic terms, what you call those things is complementary goods," Franks said. "Your consumption of the movie is not complete without your consumption of other goods. They tie them all together."

Please see PACKAGE/2B



PACKAGE: Movie is only beginning now

(From 1A)

The tie binding this package is director George Lucas, who invested around \$115 million making the film. Lucas already owns all merchandising rights for "Star Wars," which has delivered about \$4.5 billion in sales, and, of course, kept the same control over "Menace."

"The movie's only the beginning now," Franks said. "They can actually make more money off the things attached to the movie than the movie itself."

In this case those things include but are hardly limited to: 21 action figures and other toys, part of what toy industry analyst Sean McGowan, of Gerard Klausner Mattison, estimated was a \$600 million licensing deal between the Lucas-licensed Galoob Toys, which was later bought by Hasbro; multiple posters; trading cards; author Terry Brooks' 352-page "Phantom Menace" novel from Ballantine Books; an MTV "Menace" video for the soundtrack's first single "Duel of the Fates"; the soundtrack by John Williams, which does not present the complete score on the CD so fans will have to buy another at some future point just as they did with the earlier films in the series; Marvel and Dark Horse comics adaptations written by Henry Gilroy, with two cover options; and Pepsi, Frito-Lay, Taco Bell, Pizza Hut and KFC all involved in a promotional campaign that includes collector soft-drink cans, "Phantom Menace" contests and "Star Wars" toys in kids' meals. The latter combined deals have been valued in published reports at up to \$2 billion.

Analyst McGowan estimated that sales of "Star Wars" merchandise in 1999 — which includes the whole range of goods from backpacks to video games tied to the prequel and the other movies — will exceed \$2 billion. For the new toys alone, he estimated sales of \$1 billion.

"The whole idea that Lucas has put forth is one of vertical integration, where you don't just operate at one level, you operate at multiple levels on top of one another," said Franks, citing Exxon as an example. "Exxon looks for oil" and controls its product all the way "to putting it in your gas tank. One level on top of another."

"Lucas does that. He has all parts of it covered. The only thing he doesn't have is ownership in the theaters themselves."

Even there, Lucas has exerted control, dictating to the theaters what they can and cannot do in showing the film.

"Ultimately, George Lucas is all about control," Dale Pollock told The Associated Press. Pollock is the author of "Skywalking: The Life and Films of George Lucas," a new edition of which is timed to come out around the release of the movie.

"Lucas owns everything that he does outright and controls more rights than any other filmmaker has ever been able to control."

Lucas' ownership of the merchandising rights is the result of a deal he struck more than 20 years ago.

"To get 'Star Wars' made in 1977, Lucas turned down an extra \$500,000 up front from Fox in exchange for the right to make his own merchandising deals and the rights to the soundtrack, spin-off publications and any sequels," said Michael Fleeman, AP entertainment writer. "He also received a share of the movie profits. The studio won first chance at distribution (10 percent distribution fee on 'Menace') and a share of the toy profits."

Sometimes anticipation outruns the movie when it finally arrives in theaters.

"Hype can kill you, as 'Godzilla' found out," Dan Cox, film editor at the trade magazine Variety told Cox News Service. "I expect 'Phantom Menace' will make an enormous amount of money, but I don't know how it will hold up."

"It was a horrible film," Franks said of "Godzilla." "The potential profits of a successful film now are enormous, but that also increases potential losses. It takes more money to gamble now."

"Star Wars" heads the list of moneymakers in merchandising profits that includes "The Lion King," "Batman," "Jurassic Park," which also had a record \$92.73 million box office opening for the film in 1997, and "Star Trek."

"Until 'The Matrix' perked things up, the North American box office has been in a post-'Titanic' funk this year, with all



but two weekends down from the comparable weekends of 1998," Fleeman said. "Movie toy sales have also been flat. 'Godzilla' was a big disappointment, as were 'Babe: Pig in the City' and the Disney animated films 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame' and 'Mulan.' The only bright spot was toys linked to 'Small Soldiers.' The merchandise surprisingly did better than the movie."

At this time a year ago, the betting was "Godzilla," "Armageddon" and "X-Files" would be the top-grossing movies of the summer. Instead, "Saving Private Ryan," "Armageddon" and "Something About Mary," with combined grosses of \$590 million, moved into the top slots.

Some analysts have predicted that "Menace" will beat James Cameron's "Titanic" for domestic gross of \$600 million and worldwide gross of \$1.8 billion.

"I don't know where that 'Let's beat 'Titanic'' stuff came from," the 54-year-old Lucas said in a press conference in New York City on Sunday. "Anybody who knows the film business knows that the chances of this film beating the original ('Star Wars') are slim to none."

Lucas' 1977 classic currently stands at the second-highest grossing feature at a figure of \$461 million including reissues. The original grossed \$322 million, with the 1997 reissue topping \$140 million domestically.

Franks feels that the generations of fans that the trilogy has generated enhances the position of "Menace."

"By stringing out the films across the years and taking care of all ancillary markets, they've hooked the next generation, my students that I'm looking at right now," Franks said. "I bet a lot of these students are going to skip school next week to go see this film."

Franks called the prequel "brilliant" because it allows the older generations to own the original trilogy of films and the younger generation to own the ones to come.

"I personally am quite impressed with him not just as an artist but as somebody that understands enough about economics and marketing to create a set of conditions which almost guarantee his success," Franks said of Lucas. "I would say the same thing about him if I didn't like his films. It's like the artist formerly known as Prince. I didn't particularly care for his music, but he's brilliant at what he does."

Georgia Temple is the Reviews & Previews writer for the Reporter-Telegram.

CHILDREN: Passivity of certain toys concerns psychologist

(From 1B)

"I don't have statistical kind of information whether the marketing has an impact on the kids," she said. "Just from the kids I work with, and plus I'm a grandmother of eight kids, I think that marketing has a great impact on kiddoes."

"I think the kids today are just so fascinated with the technology of movies like 'Star Wars,' and kids have so much energy, I think it's almost an outlet for them."

The "gadgets" give children "some vent to their energy," Ms. Guyton said. She spoke of the difference in the way children expend energy today as opposed to her childhood days when they used more physical energy.

"Kids are expending energy differently now," she said. "They're in front of a Sega or in front of a computer. They are not out using their physical energy. The magic of all this technology and getting to see these little products feeds that adrenaline. And I'm not saying that's good or bad. I'm just saying that's the way our world is today."

Olga Campbell, PhD., a licensed psychologist, expressed concern that children "programmed by these marketing gadgets" may be deprived "of their own individualism. It does not encourage them to bring their own thinking and their own creativity to the movie."

Ms. Campbell spoke of children drawing, and said, "There was a time when you would ask children how they thought something might be, and every child would draw something different, and if they've all got the same little gadgets nowadays, they are all going to draw the same things."

Her concern was for young children up to the age of around 7 years old. About them Ms. Campbell said, "I think there's harm when they are not encouraged to have their own ideas and their own creativity."

Free style coloring is important, said Ms. Campbell, who suggested parents buy their children "things that allow them to include personal expression in what they are doing" and "encourage children to think for themselves, to have their own ideas, even small children."

Learning problem-solving skills early affects future growth, Ms. Campbell said. "It's going to carry over (into adulthood). It's important to grow up with some confidence in your own problem-solving skills and your own decision making."

Validation is also vital for children.

"Our society validates all these things that do have this consensual acceptance, but I'm not sure children are getting the validation that they need for their own individual ideas unless of course they have very astute parents who give them that validation."

Balance "is needed in everything," said Pam Priebe, a licensed professional counselor with the Centers for Children & Families. "And we can find a balance here, too, and say, 'Yes, the media, marketing does impact children's ability to explore their own imaginative powers, but it can also spark that same imaginative creativity.'"

When Ms. Priebe, who has raised four children, was growing up, "there weren't all these things going on. My play was very much reflective of my world, my parents, reflective of what I was exposed to. And there was a lot more interaction with other people."

Today's children, Ms. Priebe said, "Are so involved with TV and movies they have less opportuni-

ty to interact with other people, and I think their relationship skills are impacted. Sometimes it can be positive. Sometimes it can be negative. That's the individuality we all still have."

"Now their play is different if they were playing with Ken and Barbie as opposed to the action figures from Power Rangers or Star Wars. They have different kinds of play."

How they are affected by their play, Ms. Priebe said, "Depends on the parents and how they interact with the child, too, and what kind of values they have and transmit to their children. Is it OK to play with action figures like that? Is it OK to beat up each other? Or do they guide them to a gentler play?"

"Parents still have the most significant impact on a child's life. They are the most important people. I may work with a child one hour a week, but parents are with them 24/7. They're going to love and trust the parent far more and long before they will ever trust me."

The passivity of certain kinds of activities and toys concerned clinical psychologist Richard Stafford, PhD.

"Whether it is TV, video games or movies, the child isn't actively involved," said Stafford, who has two children in diapers as well as a 6, a 14 and a 30-year-old.

"Younger children really need the physical activity. That's how they start developing their self esteem — riding a tricycle, riding a bicycle, skating. Just see the joy on a child's face when they can walk or hop, that's what gives them real pleasure and is real helpful for them."

There is some data that, Stafford said, "Suggests that anything we hear, smell, see, taste, or think is locked into our brains at some level."

Sometimes a child's attention is heightened by a parent's overreaction, Stafford said. "Our reactions with our children are going to greatly influence how they see the advertisement, the movie."

"We will have the major impact on their attitude towards it. If we act shocked, we can get resistance. As children get to certain levels, that's what they will do — resist. We can give it the power of the forbidden, and that can actually make a child find it more attractive and pay more attention to it."

Stafford cited as an example of potentially harmful parental behavior a story he heard a minister tell about a couple who had a 2-year-old that wouldn't mind.

"They'd say stop, and the kid would go. Everybody thought it was cute this child was so strong-willed, and they were very proud of that. One day, the child ran out in the street between two parked cars. The minister said that was the first funeral he conducted in his career."

"The point here is boundaries. Children have to learn boundaries."

at an early age. When parents laugh at something that's unacceptable, whether it's an ad, a movie or a behavior, that's teaching the child that's good and it will make Mommy and Daddy happy."

"Those parents taught their child early on that he didn't have to mind. They thought it was cute. It cost the child his life."

It's important to remember, Stafford said, "Whatever we give attention to, we give power to. Then it's a judgment: Is that good stuff? Is it bad stuff?"

Ellen Dunn of the Samaritan Counseling Center suggested there are guidelines parents can use in making decisions about what products to buy, including considering, "Is this an idea or a cause that they want to support by purchasing these items. If it's something that's not a healthy influence on the child, then maybe the parents should not support it by buying all these items."

"If it's a positive thing the parents know about and felt it was a healthy positive story like 'Toy Story,' it makes sense to be excited about those things, and those things are fun."

"But if it's something along the lines of 'The Mummy,' or some scary, frightening story, maybe they should think about not supporting it. Even if the child wants it. If it's not consistent with their values and the standards they want to set with their family, they set the limit. The parents have the checkbook. They have the power to say yes or no because they have the money."

A lot of times the kids are disappointed by the actual toy; it doesn't do the things it did in the movie and that could be misleading," said Ms. Dunn, a licensed professional counselor supervisor who specializes in, among others, play therapy, sand play therapy and children's issues.

Passive play was among Ms. Dunn's concerns with today's children.

"A lot of these toys are very passive and don't inspire a child to be physically involved in their play," Ms. Dunn said. "Like video games just require you to sit there. That's not considered healthy, especially for a young child. They need to be very physically involved in their play, move around, experiment, and test their physical limits."

"That's been the complaint about TV for years. Just a passive entertainment, and that applies to

video games, too. The only thing moving is the finger, and that's just not healthy physical growth for children."

In her playroom at the Samaritan Counseling Center, Ms. Dunn said she has "maybe a couple of toys that represent something that the child is already familiar with like Mickey Mouse or a Barbie doll, so the child can make up their own story or play not based upon what they have been told about this toy."

With Barbie or Mickey Mouse or with any known doll like those from "Star Wars," Ms. Dunn said, "They already have a story in their mind about what a character from what they have already seen will do." She prefers to populate her playroom with "general animals or people."

Children are "resilient enough" to overcome playing with toys associated with movies and other specific characters, Ms. Dunn said. "Most children use creativity in their play when given the opportunity so I don't see it as a lifelong problem for a child. I would hope they would have lots of opportunity to be creative in their play and have lots of play. That's how they grow and learn."

As Art Linkletter and his audiences discovered decades ago, children often surprise and amaze adults. Such was the case for family therapist Jim May, who recalled an experience he had years ago with his son, who was then between 5 and 6 years old. He laughed as he recounted the story.

"He was an avid television fan but an even more avid advertisement fan, and he had watched the Prudential advertisement, which in those days was all about The Rock. He asked, 'What is insurance?' And I explained what life insurance was."

"And a few days later, we were watching television, and a Prudential ad came on, and he turned to me very seriously and said, 'Don't buy that from The Rock. You have to die to get your money back.'"

The experience taught May, who said he was speaking as a father, that children "will draw their own conclusions from advertising. I don't know if that's good or bad. As long as we're there to guide them, I guess it's OK. They may be a lot more discerning than we think."

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CYPERT: Of his work on new Star Wars film: 'From the word go, it was intense'

(From 1B)

put into a huge database while the filming was happening," said Cypert, who went to Alamo Junior High before attending and graduating from Midland High School.

The photographs would be used for several purposes including publicity; documentary evidence, especially for the books that would describe how the film was made; continuity, to ensure references for every shot filmed; and reference photographs to send to the manufacturers for the toys and other merchandise they would make.

Additionally, they created a "fairly intensive database full of every single bit of information about these images, what was going on in each scene and who the characters were," Cypert said. "I was the contact between both sides, the set and the database. It was very important that I was on the set."

Cypert enjoyed the experience, but his job left him little time to think of anything but work.

"From the word go, it was intense," Cypert said. "We're talking 18 hours a day. None of us really had a chance to think about what was going on. We all knew it was history. It would definitely be the biggest film of all time. It would definitely surpass 'Titanic.'"

"Most of the people in the film were so into it. They had grown up during the time the films had come out. I was 10 or 12 years old. That was our whole childhood."

"It was amazing to be on the set with these huge, big actors, Liam Neeson and Ewan McGregor, who is huge there in England because of 'Train Spotting.' Samuel Jackson — he was great, so laid back."

"That was the three big names. But there were a lot of big-name British actors in that. They were all really friendly."

Liam Neeson was a bit standoffish, a big Academy Award winner, but in the end he was nice. None of them had an attitude or anything."

The three photographers on the set shot an average of 1,000 images daily, Cypert said. "And over the three months of production, they shot over a quarter of a million images. They were shooting a bit before that as well. And I've seen every single one."

More than images filled the database.

"Because they were all sent to the toy companies, we had to know the name of every single prop that was used in the film," Cypert said. "Every single prop was photographed. Our department was the only one that knew the name of every single piece. We brought it all together in the database. No one else on the film knows that except my team, and that's because there were several different departments that made components of each."

Naming names occupied much of his waking and sleeping thoughts.

"Driving home I'd be thinking about how are we going to find out what this prop is called. And I'd be going through the names of aliens in my head and wake up thinking about it."

The project took between seven and eight months of Cypert's life. He doesn't think the position he held with George Lucas will become a standard job in film-dom.

"Star Wars" is so unique, they probably won't have that position on many films. It would

'Most of the people in the film were so into it. They had grown up during the time the films had come out. I was 10 or 12 years old. That was our whole childhood.'

— Chris Cypert,

still-image coordinator for "The Phantom Menace"

have to be a huge, massive historic production to require that. Maybe if there were a 'Titanic II,' but even that, I don't think, would be big enough."

Currently, Cypert is working as a fashion photographer based in Singapore and makes regular trips to London where his wife, Ann Wimbledon, lives. He enjoyed working on "The Phantom Menace" but wouldn't want a steady diet of photographing films.

"You might spend the same day shooting the same scene, and it doesn't change. You can shoot the same scene 100 times, and there's nothing different, which I find a bit mundane. Also, in fashion, it's the photographer doing the directing, so you've got the creative input telling the model what to do."

"On a film set, you've got a team of like, 500 people, making sure everything looks absolutely perfect. You have the hair and makeup department instead of a person, you've got 20 people doing the lights, an art department of 40 people, 20 carpenters building sets, so there's not that much challenge to it. Everything's just there perfect for you when you arrive."

Challenges appeal to Cypert. In December 1995, he secured a place on a two-woman, three-man team aboard a British ves-

sel, Christine, which competed in the Arc of the Atlantic Rally.

"It was absolutely incredible," Cypert said of the voyage.

"When we reached halfway, we were 1,000 miles from land east or west and the closest thing to the north was the North Pole and the closest thing to the south was the South Pole and the water below us was over a mile deep. And we took down the sails and went for a swim. It was amazing."

His most frightening moment on the voyage came when a

force 10 storm hit the Christine at 3 a.m. some 700 miles off the coast of Africa.

"Force 11 is considered hurricane strength," Cypert said. "Our main steering broke, and so we all had to come up on deck — 40-foot waves, pitch black — and get the sails down and get control of the boat again. If one of us had been washed overboard, we would have died."

Many boats were faster than theirs, and they didn't expect to come close to winning.

"We were not out to win, just out to do it," Cypert said. "You learn a lot about getting along with people. You have to get along. You have no choice."

But they didn't all get along. "We had one person no one else liked, and we had to deal with it," Cypert said. "In any other situation, you can leave

the room or go out for a walk or take a day off. We were all on a 50-foot boat and all depending on one another for each other's life. We had to deal with it."

Cypert is the grandson of Donnie Sisk of Odessa and Jonnie Cypert of Garden City. He has a sister, Keri, who lives in Dallas. When he thinks of home, he thinks of the debt he owes to his parents and his teachers at MC — Kent Moss in photography and Bob Templeton and Elise Coombes in journalism.

"I will be forever indebted to those guys, but most of all to Kent for always believing in me," said Cypert. "I feel his influence every time I take a photograph and still catch myself looking for his approval in my work. I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for him and my parents."

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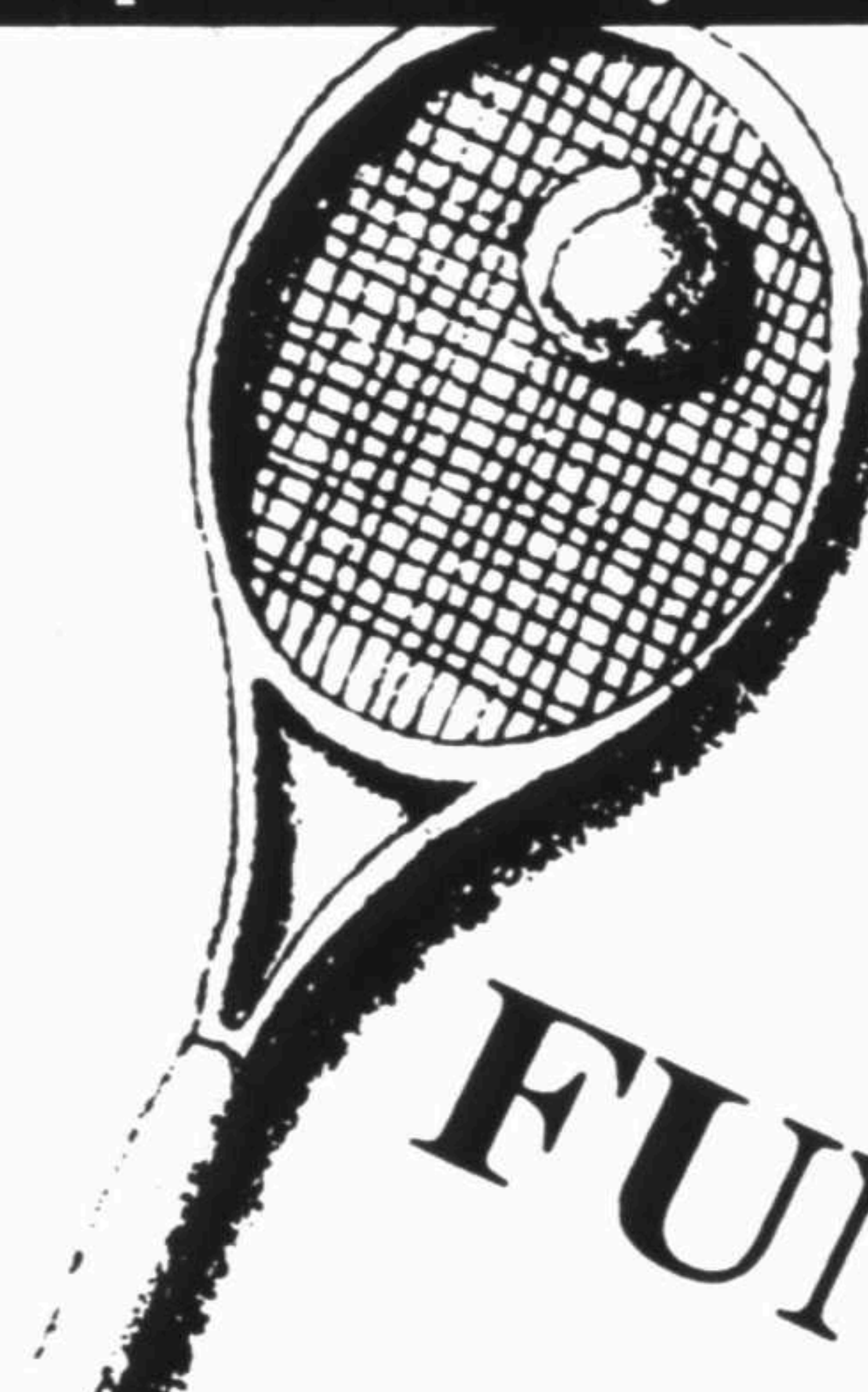
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AROUND TOWN

Midland County Public Library, 301 W. Missouri St., will host the first in a series of brown bag lunch programs at 11:45 a.m. May 19 in the library's meeting room.

Leila Seal, longtime Midland travel agent, will speak on "Ins and Outs of Vacation Travel," in a talk that will begin at noon.

The summer series, themed "It's a Mixed Bag," will continue each Wednesday through Aug. 4. Participants are invited to bring brown bag lunches; drinks will be provided. Talks will be 25-30 minutes in length and allow time for questions from the audience.

For more information call 688-8991...

...POP-UP TOASTMASTERS Club will sponsor two communication workshops designed to sharpen speaking and communication skills. The first workshop will be 5:30-7:30 p.m. each Tuesday from May 18 and 25, and June 8 and 15 at Midland County Public Library's meeting room. The second will be brown-bag lunch meetings 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesdays May 18-June 29 at Permian Basin Graduate Center, 105 W. Illinois.

Each course will be limited to 10 participants. Reference and study materials are included in the \$40 per person cost. To register call 694-1447 or 687-0732...

...UNITED OSTOMY Association, Midland-Odessa chapter #590, will meet 2:30 p.m. May 16 at Westwood Medical Center. Program will be on "Managing Your Ostomy: Colostomy."

The chapter will host a garage sale May 22 at 2517 Shell in Midland...

...KNIGHTS OF Columbus will host its eighth annual barbecue dinner to benefit charities. Plates-to-go will be available 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. May 23 at St. Ann's Catholic Church, and 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. May 23 at St. Stephen's Catholic Church. For more information call 699-5278...

...NATIVE PLANT Society of Texas, Midland chapter, will meet 6:30 p.m. May 18 at Sibley Learning Center, 1307 E. Wadley. Program meetings will resume in September. All members and guests are invited to take part in discussions of future plans. Garden tours are planned for May 15, June 8, June 19, July 24 and Aug. 14. For more information call 699-6248 or 687-2329...

...AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of Retired Persons, Midland chapter #256, will meet May 17 at Midland Senior Center in Kingsway Mall. Center opens at 6 p.m. Pot luck dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. John Commander, chairman of directors for the Shrine Children Burn Center in Galveston, will present the program. Visitors are welcome. For more information call 682-1700 or 694-1447...

...MIDLAND SOCIETY of University Women will present its annual scholarships at a luncheon planned for noon May 21 at Midland Woman's Club. Recipients from local high schools and their parents will be guests of honor...

...VAN, Serving the Visually Impaired, will meet for bingo 10 a.m. May 19 at the VAN House, 2906 W. Ohio. Persons attending are asked to bring sack lunches. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

VAN's support group for men who want to learn about living with visual impairment will meet 10 a.m. May 18 at the VAN House.

For information about either of these events, call 694-2648...

...ELEGANT ELEPHANT Sale, "The Last Sale of the Century," will be 10 a.m.-5 p.m. May 21 and 22 at Museum of the Southwest. A collection of "white elephant" items, donated by friends and patrons, will be sold. Admission will be \$1 per person.

The event will open with a preview party 6:30-9 p.m. May 20. In addition to items for sale, entertainment will include music by Sound Investment. Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails will be served. Tickets to the preview party are \$30 per person.

Proceeds from the sale will benefit the museum. For more information call 683-2882 or 570-7770...

FAMILY MATTERS

Childhood fears are common

By Jim May, Ph.D.

DEAR FAMILY: This is such a little problem that it might not even be worthy of your column, but I can't get my 7-year-old to stay in his bed at night.

He has slept in his room by himself since before he was 2, but now he's afraid. I've asked him all the questions about what he is afraid of, but he can't or won't say.

What could I do to get to the bottom of this? My husband hasn't had a full-night's sleep in weeks and he's not happy. SLEEPLESS IN MIDLAND



May

DEAR SLEEPLESS: Sometimes children suddenly develop night fears — that's fairly common. With all the scary news of late, lots of children are more afraid.

The first step is to find out what might be going on in his life. Since your asking him has not worked, you may want to check with his teachers, school counselor, caretakers, babysitters and parents of his friends. Be discrete, but try to find clues about specific fears your son might have. Sometimes children do things they were not allowed to do — for instance, watch a scary movie after telling the babysitter that it was OK with his parents — which leave the child afraid to tell the parent of his fears because he has violated a family rule.

Once you have identified what he is afraid of, acknowledge the fear. You may not think the fear is justified, but it is real to him, and he needs to have his feeling validated. Do NOT try to talk him out of being afraid of whatever it is, and do not make fun of him. Remember, you might experience fear and anxiety when you see a horror movie, and yet you know it is only a movie. Fear is real to the person having it.

Next, get as much detail about his fear as possible. For example, he may be afraid that a "robber" is going to break into your house at night and get him. Find out as much as you can about how that might happen — where the robber would come in, what he would be looking for, etc. Then help your son create a solution to destroy his fear. Keeping with the robber example, you might find out from him that the robber is afraid of a policeman and that the police always catch the robber and put him in jail. If that

is the case, give your son a flashlight, badge and toy gun to have by his bedside. Therefore, if a robber did come into your house, he would be afraid of the badge and gun. Your son could use his flashlight at any time to shine in his room to locate and shoot any robbers that might be there.

Give your son several weeks to address his fears. Encourage and praise his progress. Whatever the fear, it is amazing what a little boy with a flashlight can do to get rid of these fears.

If this simple approach does not solve the problem, consider professional help from his pediatrician, minister or a counselor.

Your question and his fears are both important issues. This problem offers you an opportunity to encourage, empower, validate and support your child while showing him an effective problem-solving approach.

THE FOLLOWING TIPS ON "LISTENING TO YOUR CHILD" ARE OFFERED BY THE CENTERS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

■ Communication begins by listening and indicating you hear the child's feelings and meanings.

■ Effective listening involves establishing eye contact and posture which clearly indicates that you are listening.

■ Avoid nagging, criticizing, threatening, lecturing, probing and ridiculing.

■ Treat your children the way you treat your best friend.

■ Mutual respect involves accepting the child's feelings.

■ Reflective listening involves hearing the child's feelings and meanings, and stating this so the child feels understood. It provides a mirror for the child to see himself or herself more clearly.

■ Learn to give open responses that accurately state what the other person feels and means.

■ Avoid closed responses which ignore the child's feelings, relaying that we have not heard or understood.

■ Let the child learn. Resist the impulse to impose your solutions.

Jim May is the director of the Family Wellness Center.

Questions for this column should be addressed to Family Matters, P.O. Box 10485, Midland, 79702.

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DEAR ABBY

Nudists at beach are not concerned with perfection

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I had to respond to the woman who was uncomfortable with the thought of visiting a nude beach after having a mastectomy. I run a travel agency specializing in nudist destinations, and have seen literally thousands of nude people. I feel qualified to tell "Survivor" she is not alone.



Van Buren

I have seen people of all ages, shapes and sizes, colors, heights and weights. Most of them look like the ordinary folks you see at church or the grocery store. However, I have also seen people with surgical scars, stretch marks, missing arms or legs, piercings, tattoos, wheelchairs — and lots of mastectomies.

I had spinal surgery as a child, which left me with a large scar on my back. If people don't like the scar, they don't have to look.

It's not a beauty contest. Nudists are among the friendliest, most accepting people in the world. They don't judge others by their looks.

Please tell "Survivor" to think of her mastectomy as a battle scar, the result of her war with cancer. It shows she won.

She should enjoy the freedom and the appreciation of her husband, who sounds like a real gem. — TRAVELING AU NATUREL, LAND O' LAKES, FLA.

DEAR AU NATUREL: Although some readers were shocked that I didn't take "Survivor's" husband to task for even suggesting a trip to a nude beach, I'm pleased that by far the majority of the comments have been positive. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Two years ago, I had to have one of my feet amputated. To have a body part voluntarily amputated is one of the hardest choices I have ever had to face. It left me depressed and with a horrible body image. My friends and family were supportive, but there was still a part of me that felt very damaged.

Fortunately, I went to Australia to visit relatives and decided to make a trip to a nude beach. I was apprehensive at first, as my prostheses was still in a transitional state and stuck out like a sore thumb. No one focused on my impairments, and I was welcomed as just another person at the beach, which meant more to me than any kind words or counseling had before.

to the beaches, and when you feel comfortable, join the crowd in nudity. Unlike here in the states, the "perfect body" is not important. The freedom of being yourself, and being free, will mean a lot to you.

Good luck, and congratulations on your continued good health. — FEELING BETTER ABOUT MYSELF IN MINNEAPOLIS

DEAR FEELING BETTER: I'm sure "Survivor" will appreciate your input. Thank you for a terrific letter. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: About 10 years ago, when I was in my early 30s, I went to a nude beach in Vancouver, Canada. It was a perfect, sultry summer Sunday, when one truly thanks the Lord for being alive. I was sunbathing in lazy bliss when out of the sun's glare a couple appeared. They were strolling along holding hands, laughing and talking, their love and happiness apparent.

As they drew closer, I realized

the woman had had a breast removed. She was probably in her mid-40s, a truly beautiful woman, glowing in the sun. I'll never forget her. Her femininity wasn't diminished in any way. Her head was held high and her carriage was mesmerizing. She seemed proud and strong as a warrior, who had merely cut off a breast to be a better archer. It made a lasting impression on me. She taught me a lot that day about being a woman, about life and love. I'll never forget the sun goddess with only one breast. — AN ADMIRER IN SAN FRANCISCO

To order "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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

Cool crafts made with duct tape

By Gail Robinson
N.Y. Times News Service

FORT WORTH — It was bound to happen — eventually someone would envision the possibilities of craft projects made entirely of duct tape. The world can thank Joe Wilson, 37, Canadian comic and resident of Guelph, Ontario. "It was a long winter, and I don't play hockey," he says by way of explanation, or apology, for inventing the duct-tape apron, tool belt, baseball cap, cellular phone holder and bachelor's toilet-roll cover, among other clever projects.

These are the things that made it into the book. Wilson's not-so-famous duct-tape quotes were cut:

"Veni, vidi, ducti" (I came, I saw, I taped.)

"Carpe ducti" (Seize the tape.)

"Tape it so, No. 1" — Capt. Jean-Luc Picard

He's still chapped about that, though his book is full of duct-tape minutiae such as the chapter titled "The Role of the Roll: A Ripping History." Invented by the military during WWII to keep ammunition boxes dry, it was a khaki-colored cloth mesh tape with a rubber-based waterproof adhesive. It was christened gun tape. Once in the field, soldiers found innumerable uses for the almost indestructible product. The postwar desire for central air-conditioning demanded the color change to gray to match sheet-metal ducts, and it became known as duct tape.

In his book's FAQ section, Wilson explains the difference in duct-tape prices. "If you rip off a piece of tape and look at it closely, you can actually count the number of threads. These threads are called the 'scrim.' The more threads per inch, the stronger the tape. The stronger the tape, the more costly it is to produce. 'Military tape' has a 40-pound rip strength. Less expensive tapes have only a 20-pound rip strength. Generally, the more you spend on tape, the less tape you have to use."

The glory of the book is the projects. Most of them are fashioned by using three basic duct-tape techniques: sheets, strips and loops.

The waterproof-flakproof apron uses both sheets and strips.

1. Create one sheet, 26x32 inches. (Sheets are made by overlapping layers of duct tape, working both the back and front sides to create a double-sided, thick sheet of duct fabric.)

2. Create three big strips: one 26 inches long for the neck strap, one 24 inches long and one 13 inches long; these will form the belt.

3. Positioning your sheet vertically, mark off and cut a 7-inch square from each side of the top of the sheet. You can attach these squares as pockets on the front of your apron. The top of your apron will now measure 12 inches.

4. Attach your 26-inch strip at each corner of the 12-inch bib. Tape the ends of the strip down firmly on the back of the apron using about 2 inches of tape for each end. This is the neck strap.

5. Take the 24- and 13-inch strips and attach them to the side corners, 24 inches from the bottom. This is your belt.

"Yes, the apron is waterproof," Wilson said. "And yes, real men do dishes. The 'flakproof' part works like this: If you put on the apron and do the dishes, you're going to get a whole lot less flak. Peace in our time. Once again, duct tape has a strategic military use."

Fellowship Community Church

invites you to attend a
Cult-Awareness Seminar

Presented by the Watchman Fellowship

this Sunday at:

9:45 am, 10:45 am, and 6:30 pm

Church located in the
Mesa Verde Shopping Center

2215 N. Midland Dr.

699-6068

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OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, May 16
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

You're invited to visit The Birthplace—Midland's newest labor and delivery facility at Westwood Medical Center. Nurses will be available to show you our home-like setting designed for a wonderful birth experience. Business office personnel will also be on hand to answer questions. Join us Sunday afternoon and see for yourself why expectant mothers are choosing The Birthplace.



4214 Andrews Highway
www.westwoodmed.com

PRIME TIME

PRIME TIME CALENDAR

CASA DE AMIGOS

Casa de Amigos is located at 1101 E. Garden Lane. For more information about services provided call 682-9701. Activities include:

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

MIDLAND YMCAs

The Midland YMCAs have many activities scheduled for Prime Time adults. For more information regarding available activities and classes contact Central YMCA, 800 N. Big Spring, 682-2551; Alamo YMCA, 901 N. Midland Drive, 684-2528; Northeast YMCA, 2301 Butternut, 682-8469.

Scheduled activities at the Central YMCA are:

- Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 8 a.m., 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Low impact aerobics; 7 a.m. YMCARDIAC (YCT) Therapy, call for appointment before beginning class.

- Call for information, Y's Way to a Healthy Back.
 - By appointment, Specialized Strength Training for Seniors.
- Scheduled activities for Alamo YMCA are:
- Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 10:15 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Arthritis Water Class.
 - Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 1-1:45 p.m. P.A.C.E. class, dry land class for people with arthritis (arthritis classes co-sponsored by Northwest Texas chapter of the Arthritis Foundation).
 - Monday-Friday 11 a.m.-1 p.m. lap swim, open swim and water walking.
 - Saturday: 1-4:30 p.m. lap swim, open swim and water walking.
 - Tuesday and Thursday: 9:30-10:30 a.m. aqua aerobics.
 - Friday: 9-10 a.m. aqua aerobics.

Water therapy by appointment.

SOUTHEAST SENIOR CENTER

The Southeast Senior Center, 1803 E. Indiana, is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information about services offered, call 685-7231. Activities include:

- Monday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. ceramics, needlework and billiards; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. quilting, crafts and billiards; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. ceramics, choir and billiards; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Thursday: 9:30 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. ceramics and table games; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. table games.
- Friday: 9 a.m. singing; 9:45 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. Bible class and table games; 11:15 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. movie and center bingo.

MIDLAND SENIOR CENTER

The Midland Senior Center is located in Kingsway Mall, 3303 W. Illinois, Space #18. For more information call 681-7636. Activities for May 17-21 include:

- Monday: 9 a.m. billiards, cards, dominoes and exercise; 9:30 a.m. art class and ping pong; 10 a.m. Kitchenettes; 11:30 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. bridge, dominoes and cards.
- Tuesday: 9 a.m. billiards, exercise, cards, dominoes and ceramics; 9:30 a.m. line dancing for fun; 11:30 a.m. lunch and nutrition talk; 12:30 p.m. art class; 1 p.m. bridge, dominoes and cards.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. billiards, cards, dominoes, ceramics class and exercise; 9:30 a.m. ping pong; 10 a.m. Gospel singing; 11:30 a.m. lunch and May birthday party; 1 p.m. bridge, dominoes and cards.
- Thursday: 9 a.m. prescription help, billiards, cards, dominoes and exercise; 9:30 a.m. county western dancing and line dancing; 10 a.m. craft class; 11:30 a.m. lunch; 12:30 p.m. art for fun; 1 p.m. bridge, dominoes and cards.
- Friday: 9 a.m. billiards, exercise, cards and dominoes; 9:30 a.m. ping pong; 11:30 a.m. lunch; 1 p.m. bridge, cards and dominoes.

MISSION ADULT DAY CARE CENTER

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

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

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

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

COM AQUATICS SENIORS AND THERAPEUTIC EXERCISE

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

- Monday: 7-11 a.m. water walking; noon-12:45 p.m. or 1-1:45 p.m. arthritis exercise.
- Tuesday: 7-10 a.m. water walking; 10-10:45 a.m. arthritis plus; 12:30-1:30 p.m. arthritis plus.
- Wednesday: 7-11 a.m. water walking; noon-12:45 p.m. or 1-1:45 p.m. arthritis exercise.
- Thursday: 7-10 a.m. water walking; 10-10:45 a.m. arthritis plus; 12:30-1:30 p.m. arthritis plus.
- Friday: 7-11 a.m. water walking; noon-12:45 p.m. or 1-1:45 p.m. arthritis exercise.
- Saturday: 10:30 a.m.-noon water walking.

CITY OF MIDLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY

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

- Tuesday: 9 a.m. wellness clinic at Hillcrest Manor; 10 a.m. exercise at Parker Place; 2 p.m. exercise at Hillcrest Manor; 2:30 p.m. exercise at Langtry Village; 3 p.m. senior update at Hillcrest Manor.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m. wellness clinic at Langtry Village; 10 a.m. bingo at Parker Place; 2 p.m. bingo at Hillcrest Manor; 3:30 p.m. crafts at Langtry Village.
- Thursday: 10 a.m. exercise at Parker Place; 2 p.m. exercise at Hillcrest Manor; 2:30 p.m. exercise at Langtry Village; 3 p.m. bingo at Langtry Village.

RSVP

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

- Midland Lion's Recycling Center needs project recyclers to wash and clean donated eyeglasses. Volunteers also may work the lensometer machine, reading and labeling prescriptions on glasses. Schedule is very flexible, two hours on one or two days weekly or monthly. Training and supervision provided.
- Mission Adult Day Care needs a creative hobby person to help instruct simple crafts twice a month, at 10 a.m. during the first and third weeks of the month. Staff will supervise and assist as needed.
- Area Mission Outreach Services needs volunteers to sort, store and display donated clothing. Shifts are 9 a.m.-noon one day, Monday through Friday. Volunteers are also needed to disperse groceries to the needy.

By William L. Hamilton
N.Y. Times News Service

Home furnishing design is having a senior moment.

Knitted afghan throws, crocheted pillows, chenille spreads and tufted pom-pom quilts are appearing like silver hairs in youthful catalogs like Garnet Hill, stores like Pottery Barn and Crate and Barrel and collections like Ralph Lauren Home and Nautica. There are also rag rugs, rocking chairs, gingham and gussied floral prints that are blooming on everything from bedding to china.

To grandmother's house we go — which is being stripped faster than a sample sale by home retailers looking for the next fresh thing. The next fresh thing was very recently musty — the attic outcasts and flea market-foraged handiwork of several generations ago.

THE LESS-IS-MORE of modern design may be making itself disappear, as consumers realize that it can be as unsympathetic to live with as it is stunning and spare.

"My guess is that we're at the peak of that look," said Warren Shoulberg, editor of Home Textiles Today, of the esthetic exemplified by the Calvin Klein home collections. (Maybe Klein's grandmother was a rock gardener.)

"Crafts is hot property right now — more color, more surface interest."

Your grandmother may never have threaded a needle, but the associations with her generation are sewing up the market for a kinder, comforting version of contemporary design.

The look is as personal as heirlooms, as handcrafted as folk Americana.

"I'm a lover of clean and modern," said Gregory Covell, the creative director of Garnet Hill, who helped bring Charles Eames tables and Arne Jacobsen chairs into the catalog.

"But when I'm sick and I want to wrap up in something, I want something else."

Covell, who lives in Vermont in the house his grandmother lived in, is now selling the hand on the brow — items like a sofa throw

'It's the completely groovy thing for an age group that didn't live through it.'

— Diane Brush,
director of merchandising, Garnet Hill

based on knitted mittens.

Fashion first spotted grandmother at shows by Anna Sui, Veronique Branquinho and Stella McCartney for Chloe that featured the crochets, embroideries and laces found in vintage clothing. Now it has its knitting hooks in home furnishings.

"It's gone full circle," Ms. Sui said. "I was inspired by the crocheted throws and pillows I found in flea markets. The only thing that was going to look radical and fresh was almost fussy, old-fashioned. Homey, like home cooking."

The interest from younger customers may stem from the revival of the fashions of the 1960s, the decade that last initiated the "granny" look.

"It's the completely groovy thing for an age group that didn't live through it," said Diane Brush, the director of merchandising for Garnet Hill. "They find it funny to mix nostalgic and sweet with new and modern."

Nancy Vignola, a senior vice president of home design for Ralph Lauren Polo, thinks that novelty more than quaint associations will drive Summer Porch, a new "vintage-inspired" collection of bedding knits, embroidery and needlework.

"We'd like to think of it as something new for young people," Ms. Vignola said of its counterpoint to the dry stylishness of modern design. "It was important to Ralph to do some pretty collections."

The home furnishings market is having a memory lapse about grandmother's taste, though. The bottom of the sewing basket didn't uniformly produce the most brilliant products. Reproducing it hasn't helped.

Lauren's white-on-white quilting, based on an American vernacular candlewick pattern, is as safe as the snow of a grandmother's head. Pottery Barn's pom-pom quilt, also a time-honored

technique, looks like a blanket with hives. Garnet Hill's crocheted pillow looks like a yarn Brillo. Ms. Brush was quick to say that the pillow's lack of suavity was the larger part of its appeal — a kind of outsider art in design.

"Good luck to them if they can sell it," Laura Fisher, an antique textiles dealer on Manhattan's Upper East Side, said of the pillows. "They're not so gorgeous."

Ms. Fisher, who showed original candlewick quilts to Ralph Lauren's team, is also doing a brisk trade in hooked rugs, to interior designers like Mariette Himes Gomez, and Naomi Leff, who used them in a house for Steven Spielberg.

The grandmother look could be the resurfacing of a deeper cultural mood that has had an underlying continuity through the century, despite modernism.

Robbie Sumberg, a design marketing consultant in Westport, Conn., said the heartland look of another era was at the root of what makes Americans feel most at home.

"Every season, 'retro country' is the big part of the trend report," Ms. Sumberg said. "Country is what America wants. It's an antidote to hustle and bustle and change."

THERE IS POETRY in handiwork's sense of tradition, as well as power in its sentiment.

"They're like folk stories," Ms. Sui said of the intricate throws and pillows she has collected to live with at home. "All these stitches and patterns, handed down, are something that one generation gives another."

Ms. Sui need not worry for now. Knitting is also enjoying a resurgence.

The National Needlework Association, which represents yarn manufacturers and knitting and needlepoint craft stores, reported a 25-percent increase in yarn sales over the last year, which Barry Klein, its president, attributes also to the fashion cross-over from Seventh Avenue.

"People are making heirloom stuff, but the image is not grandmother," Klein said. He mentioned high-profile knitters like Juliana Margulies and Monica Lewinsky.

Dr. John Buscaglia, a New York psychotherapist, has knitted the pillows for his office, after taking classes at Gotta Knit, a West Village knitting-supply store.

"My office is furnished like a living room, with Stickley mission," he said. "The pillows give that sense of being at home." Buscaglia knits between patients. "It's a great way to clear my mind," he said.

For their part, grandmothers may not want much to do with the home fashion that bears their signature, like the pot-holders photographed like prize roses for May's Martha Stewart Living magazine.

Ms. Sumberg said: "Both my grandmothers lived into their '90s. They looked at this stuff and threw it away. It was eating-in-the-kitchen — it was Depression."

"They wanted Belgian linens," she explained.

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COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

AARP reports on status of Social Security, Medicare

By Alexandria L. Rose

Good news from the Social Security Trustees' Report and Medicare Trustees' Report released in March:

According to Horace B. Deets, executive director of American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), both Social Security and Medicare continue to stand on solid ground into the next millennium. Medicare Trustees' projection that the Hospital Insurance (HI) Trust Fund will remain solvent until 2015 — seven years longer than last year's estimate — is very good news for the program and its beneficiaries. This strength is due primarily to a stronger economy and the 1997 Balanced Budget Act (BBA). The continued strength of the Social Security system is welcomed by all Americans.

The news about Medicare's solvency doesn't mean that the status quo is acceptable. We have to ensure the program's long-term solvency and prepare Medicare to handle the impending retirement of the baby boomers.

Perhaps what is meant by all of this is that we now have more time to consider our options for reform, and will be able to make adjustments gradually. The extended projections give us time to fully understand the impact of the change made by the BBA of 1997.

AARP believes that some fundamental principles which have made Medicare successful should guide all reform efforts. In particular: A defined, dependable package of benefits, including prescription drugs, with a government payment tied to the cost of the benefits; limits on beneficiary out-of-pocket spending; and a stable source of financing.

Helped by a vibrant economy and low inflation, the solvency of Social Security appears to have improved. The Trustees' report indicates that Social Security will be able to pay full benefits until 2034. Although this is good, now is still the time for action on Social Security's long-term solvency.

AARP agrees wholeheartedly with the statement that Congress and the Administration will protect Social Security Trust Funds.



Rose

AARP has played a major role in engaging the public in the debate over the future of Social Security and Medicare. It is hoped that every citizen has more information upon which to base questions and will understand more fully the different options that are being proposed. AARP does not plan to cease their action to achieve a bipartisan plan for Social Security's and Medicare's long-term solvency that will assure the retirement and health security of future generations.

Here in Midland we can expect an update this summer on these issues as AARP is preparing a teleconference that will originate from KAMU-TV Educational Broadcast Services at Texas A&M University in College Station and be broadcast on the Midland College campus. Issues to be covered will be Social Security, Medicare, anti-telemarketing fraud, assisted living and Texas Retired Teachers Association issues. Watch for announcements of this event.

Alexandria L. "Alex" Rose is district coordinator for the American Association of Retired Persons.

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Friday, May 14

The Bar: live entertainment, Liquid Gypsies, 9 p.m., 606 W. Missouri Ave. No cover. Call: 685-1757.

Jazz: live entertainment, Checkpoint, today and Saturday, 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., 2215 N. Midland Drive. No cover. Up charge on food and drinks. Call: 689-7777.

Midland Community Theatre: 1998 McLaren Comedy Playwriting Competition winner "Heaving Bosoms, Hairy Chests," 8 p.m. Mabey Theatre II, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. Tickets: \$10 Friday and Saturday; \$8 Thursday and Sunday. Rated PG-13, language and adult situations. Call for reservations: 682-4111.

Midland Hilton: comedy club live, today and Saturday, first comedian at 9:30 p.m., runs around two hours, 117 W. Wall Ave., downtown. \$5 cover. Call: 683-6131. Reservations recommended.

The Press Box Sports Cafe, 3303 N. Midland Road, live entertainment weekends and some weekdays. Show time is 8:30 weekdays and 9:30 p.m. weekends.

Your Place, live entertainment, Five Speed band, 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. 3704 W. Wall. No cover. Call: 689-3022. Also on Saturday.

ODESSA — Chelsea Street Pub: Live entertainment 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, Music City Mall. No cover charge. Use outside entrance after mail hours. Today and Saturday: Rocky Richardson.

Celebration of the Arts: Preview party at Midland Center, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tickets, which will be available at the door are \$35.

Movie: opening today in Midland: "Twin Dragons" at Hollywood Tall City 10.

Saturday, May 15

Celebration of the Arts: Westwood Medical Center Run for the Arts, 8:30 a.m. Cost: \$18 adults, \$15 children's fun run at 9:15 a.m. Registration: 7:30 to 8:15 a.m. Midland Center and Centennial Plaza.

Celebration of the Arts: 10 a.m.-6 p.m., over 70 visual artists, 5 stages of local and national performing artists, a children's activity tent, an Experience the Arts area, Theatre Experience area, the new Teen Scene area, food and drinks, demonstrations and activities. Cost: \$1-\$3.

Celebration of the Arts: street concert: Ricochet, 7:30 p.m. Midland Center and Centennial Plaza. Tickets: \$10 advance, \$12 at the gate. Sale: Lusk's Midland and Odessa and COA from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Gallery 1114: public reception, work of Esteban C. Apodaca, 7-9 p.m., 1114 N. Big Spring St. Free.

Cancelled: Presidential Museum, Odessa, brunch and program by authors Gary Wiles and Delores Brown, May 15. Reason: The authors' RV was destroyed by gale force winds in New Mexico. Wiles suffered a concussion.

Sunday, May 16

Celebration of the Arts: 12 noon-5 p.m. Special free performance of Bugs and Balloons at 4 p.m. Midland Center and Centennial Plaza, 687-1149. Admission, \$1-\$3, charged until 3:30 p.m.

Monday, May 17

ODESSA — Chelsea Street Pub: Live entertainment 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, Music City Mall. No cover charge. Use outside entrance after mail hours. Today-May 15: Luscious Funk.

Tuesday, May 18

45 Plus Dance Club: live country western band, Midland Downtown Lions Center, 200 Plaza, non-smoking/non-alcoholic, \$5 guest. Guest not required to be accompanied by member. Singles welcome. Call: 694-8442 or 694-1869.

Thursday, May 20

Museum of the Southwest: Fund-raiser: Elegant Elephant Sale, through May 22, 1705 W. Missouri. Call: 683-2882.

West Texas Jazz Society: JAZZ PARTY: 1999 West Texas Jazz Party, opening night, 19 world-famous jazz musicians, 8 p.m.-midnight, Midland Hilton, 117 W. Wall. Information: 915-362-1191, 333-1051 or 800-458-2878. Three nights: \$175 patron (includes brunch). WTJS members: \$150 patron. One night: \$35.

To be listed in this column, please send name of performers or show, location, date, time, admission price and contact number to Reviews & Previews, Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, Texas 79701. Fax: Reviews & Previews, 570-7650, or email: mhal@basinlink.com. The information must be in the Reporter-Telegram office on Monday to run in Friday's listing.

Playing young Vader isn't going to change his life, Lloyd says

By Bruce Westbrook
Hearst News Service

NEW YORK — Meet Darth Vader, the 10-year-old kid and budding comedian.

Jake Lloyd was thrilled when he won the part of Anakin Skywalker — Vader as a boy — in "Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace," which opens May 19.

"Vader's always been my favorite 'Star Wars' character," said an energetic and impish Jake, whose character is empowered by the "Force" found in creator George Lucas' universe and begins a spiritual journey from darkness to redemption.

"Vader's really a good guy," Jake insisted. "He's the only one who could destroy the emperor in the end (1983's 'Return of the Jedi')."

"When I got the part, I started yelling," he said. "Then I took a deep breath and thought, 'Oh my gosh — I got Star Wars!' Then I yelled some more. Then I started crying."

His friends at school in Los Angeles weren't as impressed. Jake recounted the conversation: "I'm going to be in the new 'Star Wars' film!"

"So?"
"But —"
"So?"
"How are you doing?"
"So-so."

In short, his schoolmates "are OK with it. I don't think my life will change that much."

Besides, he was a pro before "The Phantom Menace." Jake worked with Marisa Tomei in "Unhook the Stars," had a recurring role on "ER" and played Arnold Schwarzenegger's son in "Jingle All the Way."

For a kid, you'd think working with Ah-nuld would be the ultimate.

He got the part in "The Phantom Menace" after a two-year casting search.

"Jake was this wild little Tom

Sawyer kid, which was just what I was looking for," Lucas said.

A new actor will play the 16-year-old Anakin in "Episode II," which is expected to be shot next year. But "as long as it takes them to cast these films, I just might have a chance," Jake said wryly.

He loved his "Star Wars" work in England and Tunisia, and prefers any acting job to being in school.

Jake said he hung out with his co-stars "just like schoolmates. I'd tell them riddles and not give the answers."

Jake had done interviews for "Jingle All the Way," so he was prepared for a barrage of questions, not all of them smart.

The "stupidest" question this time, he said, was, "How do you feel about being Christ?" (Anakin is called "the chosen one," and his birth is likened to an immaculate conception.)

"You know, it's not a bad thing being Christ, but I'm not Christ, OK? Personally, there's Christ, Jesus, George (Lucas) and so on," he said, motioning downward with his hand.

The most hilarious question, he said, was, "What do you look for in women?"

"I'm 10!" Jake shouted. "I don't look for women."

Instead, when not working, he rides his bike, plays with friends, cares for his shih tzu ("You'll have to edit that part out") and tackles video games, especially a new "Star Wars Podracer" game he received before its May 20 release.

At home with his parents and sister — who's 7 and has a bit part in "Phantom" — life is more normal.

Sometimes he resists doing chores, and his mom has to remind him he's not a movie star so much as a kid.

"But that only comes up when we need to open both doors to put my head through," Jake said, then added with a sly smile, "Otherwise, I'm the perfect little angel."

THE MOVIE GUYS' Black Gold Review



By David Allen, MC drama instructor, and Tim Jensen, MCT executive director

"The Mummy," starring Brendan Fraser, Arnold Vosloo, Rachel Weisz, and John Hannah follows the exploits of a group of treasure seekers among the ruins of ancient Egypt. Written and directed by Stephen Sommers, this film retells the tale of the mummy. In the course of their search, the adventurers open a 3,000-year-old sarcophagus and release Imhotep (Vosloo), who was buried alive as punishment for killing the pharaoh.

Between the quick thinking of Rick O'Connell (Fraser), the knowledgeable use of ancient Egyptian lore and language by Evelyn Carnarvon (Weisz) and the good luck of her brother, Jonathan (Hannah), our heroes save the earth from the ancient Egyptian curse of the mummy.

TIM — Critics are often forced to make hard choices. Do you review movies on their artistic merits, or do you evaluate the fun of the experience? In other words, are you looking for art or entertainment? David and I hope that our reviews will balance these two elements to provide you with some insights before you decide to attend these movies. In my opinion, "The Mummy" officially opens the summer movie season, which means that most people will be looking for pure entertainment.

DAVID — And for sheer entertainment value, "The Mummy" delivers. Since the Indiana Jones franchise broke onto the scene in the early 1980s there have been many copycats. Most of them fell short of the highwater mark set by Stephen Spielberg and company. "The Mummy," however, rises to the mark and occasionally exceeds it.

TIM — I don't agree with you this time. Sommers never really decided what kind of movie that he's making. From the previews, it appears that "The Mummy" will attempt to be a high budget horror movie. In fact, it turns out to be more of an old-fashioned adventure movie combined with bad humor and a mixed bag of special effects — think "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" meets "Scooby Doo" with some "The Goonies" tossed in on the side. Unfortunately, the movie is never successful in any of these styles. The mummy is not scary, the overall adventure is predictable, and the characters'

comments are often misplaced. DAVID — Of course, the story is extremely silly, but what Sommers learned from others' mistakes is to accept the silliness and make it a central part of the production. The result is a wild and funny ride that delivers its thrills and chills at a break-neck speed while never taking itself too seriously. You are so caught up by the intensity of the action, the sheer fun of the performances, and the dazzling special effects (including a sandstorm that makes a West Texas spring look like a walk in the park), that the silliness of it all has little effect.

TIM — Unfortunately, David, this is one ride that never really builds any momentum. On a positive note, we must applaud the filmmakers for not forcing the romantic relationship between the male (Fraser) and female (Weisz) costars beyond what the action calls for in this script.

DAVID — Yes, they managed to miss that trap. I also think that Brendan Fraser's performance is central to the success of this movie. Over the last several years he gave us several good, if somewhat repetitive, portrayals infusing like, "George of the Jungle" and "Blast from the Past." In "The Mummy," he shows he can do more than play simple characters. Here he reveals his ability to portray a more believable action hero.

TIM — Well, I guess "The Mummy" will be one movie that we will have to agree to disagree on. In the end, it's difficult for me to recommend this movie. If you're dying for a summer movie adventure and simply looking for a little fun, I guess you could find a worse place to be than the cool Hollywood Ten theaters on a summer Texas afternoon. However, this does not save this movie from getting a Dry Well from me.

DAVID — If you are looking for a some great entertainment and are not too frightened by locusts, rats, flesh-eating bugs, or the walking dead, "The Mummy" is the film for you. Even though Tim thought this movie sphinx (sorry, I couldn't resist!), I think it's a Gusher!

"The Mummy" is now playing at the Hollywood Tall City Ten.

"The Mummy" gets one gusher and one dry well.

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Kosovar family leaves possessions behind to come to America

MANASSAS, Va. (AP) — On a sweltering spring day, Fatime Sylejmani wraps her frail, 61-year-old frame in a turtleneck and buttoned sweater, with wool tights beneath her ankle-length skirt.

"This is all I have. It's all I could take with me," she says, pulling at her sleeve.

Sylejmani has said little since she left Macedonia and landed in America less than a week ago. She roams the three-bedroom house she shares with seven other refugee relatives and recalls what she left behind at her home in Pristina in the Serbian province of Kosovo. Her house, her jewels, her photographs.

"Her teeth!" exclaims her brother-in-law, Ali Shala. The household explodes in laughter, a rare comic moment for a family forced to start over in a new country, all the while hoping to return to their old one.

"I forgot the teeth," Sylejmani says. "My head was not thinking. I had no time to grab them."

Serbian police didn't give her the chance, explains her 15-year-old niece, Shpresa Shala.

The girl, now her family's interpreter and link to understanding their new world, is undaunted by the new home and responsibilities.

She is simply grateful to have her family. When Serbian soldiers forced their way into the home of an aunt she was visiting, Shpresa never thought she'd see her parents again.

"They come into our house, and they said, 'What are you waiting for?' We didn't know what to say. We were just eating breakfast," she says, shaping her hands into rifles before continuing. "They said, 'Go out, go out! Leave the house! If you don't leave, we will kill you!'"

The girl joined columns of Kosovar Albanians walking toward the Pristina train station, where she headed by rail toward the Macedonian border. Once across, Shpresa was finally reunited with her parents in the town of Blace. The family was stuck there for

three days. They fought other refugees for bread and milk containers thrown to them by aid agencies.

Eventually, buses took the group to an area where they met an Albanian family and, Shpresa says, "For one month, they did everything to us, everything good."

When the United States agreed to take in up to 20,000 Kosovar residents who had been forced from their homes, Shala's brother in Springfield, Va., filed papers to sponsor their journey to America.

The family first arrived in New York on "American plane," Shpresa says, with wide eyes. "It was a nice plane, with a TV!"

Shpresa says she wanted to come "because it was safety — anywhere out of Kosovo I wanted."

But her father, Ali Shala, felt differently.

At 59, he soon would have started receiving pension benefits from his longtime office job in Pristina. Instead, he finds himself starting from scratch and, for the first time, unable to provide for his family.

Shala shrugs.

"What can I do?" he says. "I'm happy I come here, but I'm angry. Thirty-three years I worked. Why I have to leave 33 years work?"

Both Shala and his wife have applied for U.S. Social Security cards and hope to begin working again soon.

"Anything, anything just to work," says Shpresa's stepmother, Hasret Shala, who was a bank teller in Pristina.

Until then, they pass the time at

home. For now, it is a modestly furnished townhouse in this Washington suburb. They will live rent free for several months through an agreement between the landlord and a local refugee assistance agency, but Shala's brother in nearby Springfield hopes to move the family in with him sooner.

Others sharing the home include Shpresa's two cousins, the wife of one cousin and their 7-month-old son.

Shpresa picks up the boy during a tour of the house. In her bedroom, 22-year-old cousin, Besnik Sylejmani, lounges on the floor playing cards. He slips a cassette into a boombox and an Albanian rap song begins to play. The two begin joking about what they miss the most.

"His girlfriend!" Shpresa

squeals, finally acting like a teenager instead of a caretaker responsible for too many.

Downstairs, neighbor Mary Hammond has stopped by to welcome the family. Legal pad in hand, she is ready to write down anything her church might provide them. Glancing across the room, Hammond sees the family's matriarch, Sylejmani, who stands up to shake her hand.

The sight of Sylejmani's crinkly face and rail-thin body, wrapped in layers of clothing on an 85-degree day, drives Hammond to tears. She embraces her and sobs, "Know that I care."

"I know you'll return one day," Hammond says. "I just know you're going to go back."

Sylejmani just nods and begins wiping away her own tears.

At L.A. Zoo, monkey see, monkey do, but fathers are who?

LOS ANGELES (AP) — There's some real monkey business going on at the Los Angeles Zoo.

The chimpanzees keep getting pregnant, even though all the males thought capable of breeding have had vasectomies.

No one is quite sure why it's happening, but it's created the kind of excitement zoos lust for.

"The zoo has never had this much publicity about anything," zookeeper Vicki Bingham said.

In the past three months, two chimps have given birth and a third is pregnant. DNA tests to determine the father — or fathers — cannot be done for months, until the babies are old enough to be separated from their mothers.

The real mystery is this: Three of the four adult males had vasectomies in 1996. And Toto, who is 45, has never shown sexual interest in anyone but himself. As for 2-year-old Ripley and 4-year-old Glenn, they were considered too young to breed.

Ms. Bingham thinks the vasectomies may have failed. Vasectomies are known to have a 1 percent failure rate in humans.

"Chimps are very resilient. It wouldn't surprise me if they found some way around" their vasectomies, Ms. Bingham said.

Charles Sedgwick, the zoo's director of animal health sciences, thinks she's wrong.

"Vasectomies in chimps are the same as vasectomies in people, except that chimps are much more prodigiously endowed," Sedgwick said. In both humans and chimps, the tubes that carry semen are severed, and "there's not much chance that would spontaneously reattach."

Sedgwick thinks Toto or perhaps the youngsters are the fathers. He said there have been rare cases of young chimps impregnating a female.

The chimps at the Los Angeles Zoo have sex every day, Sedgwick said. The zoo started trying to curb its chimp population about eight years ago because the enclosure was getting too crowded and chimps aren't an endangered species.

First, zookeepers distributed birth control pills. But the females passed them around. Babies ate them. So did males. Then Ms. Bingham tried contraceptive implants. They weren't strong enough.

"So we vasectomized the males and we still had babies," she said.

The newest, a four-pound girl, was born last week and brings the chimp population to 15. The zoo and a radio station are sponsoring a name-the-chimp contest, to start Sunday.

Ms. Bingham thinks the problem is finally under control. A new, more naturalistic enclosure gives zookeepers more room to walk around and make sure only the adult females are swallowing birth control pills.

On Thursday, Susan Taj, a parent volunteer, helped lead a group of second-graders on a field trip. She had heard about the chimp hanky-panky and called it unbelievable. Would she explain it to the children?

"Not to second-graders, I don't think," she said.



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Justice charges American Airlines tried to monopolize air traffic

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department on Thursday charged that American Airlines, the nation's second largest carrier, cut fares and added flights temporarily to drive low-cost competitors out of its giant hub airport outside Dallas and Fort Worth.

The department's antitrust chief, Assistant Attorney General Joel I. Klein, said his staff is investigating whether other airlines engaged in the same tactics at other hub airports around the nation.

In a civil lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Wichita, Kan., the government accused American of monopolizing and attempting to monopolize passenger service to and from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, the nation's third largest airport.

"It is the public who loses out when major airlines succeed in driving low-cost competitors out," Attorney General Janet Reno told a news conference. "Consumers shouldn't have to pay sky-high prices because one airline drives out low-cost competitors."

American was charged with repeatedly trying to drive small, startup airlines out of the DFW airport by saturating their routes with additional flights and cutting fares. After the competitors withdrew or drastically reduced their service, American re-established high fares and reduced its service, the government alleged.

Reno said American increased its prices between Dallas-Fort Worth and Wichita by 50 percent after it forced Vanguard Airlines, a lower-cost competitor, out of that

'We believe these allegations of 'predatory practices' are unwarranted and go against the very essence of free market competition.'

— American Airlines

route. Klein said, "American adopted a predatory responsive policy. ... American knew this strategy would be costly and pursued it only in order to drive out the new carriers so it could return to its monopoly pricing."

American replied in a statement, "We believe these allegations of 'predatory practices' are unwarranted and go against the very essence of free market competition."

Klein said American's tactics were successfully employed against three new entrants into the Dallas-Fort Worth market: Vanguard, Sun Jet and Western Pacific. "The effect on the traveling public was devastating" in terms of higher prices and fewer flights, Klein said.

"The traveling public ends up paying much more to fly much less," Klein said, alleging that American deliberately endured short-term losses in order to drive out competition. The lawsuit quoted American's former chairman, Robert L. Crandall, as saying, "If you are not going to get them out, then no point to diminish profit."

Klein said the government sued after negotiations with American broke down. He declined to name the other airlines under investigation.

One private antitrust lawyer

and former antitrust division veteran, Marc Schechter, noted the government's lawsuit emphasizes that American dominates the DFW hub, with a 70 percent share of passenger traffic. Schechter predicted that antitrust division attorneys would be looking at hubs where one airline was overwhelmingly dominant and how such airlines responded to any

competition there.

This is the first predatory pricing case brought in the industry since airline deregulation in 1978. At that time, major carriers established hubs to concentrate their traffic through one or more airports. While hubs provide some conveniences for passengers, hub carriers frequently charge higher fares on hub routes with little competition. Low-cost carriers often can provide competitive alternatives to the hub carrier, generally offering fare cuts of 50 percent or more. A 1996 study by the Department of Transportation estimated that low-cost carriers were saving consumers \$6.3 bil-

lion a year.

In addition to targeting Vanguard's routes to Wichita, Kan., and Kansas City, Mo., American's actions were aimed at Sun Jet's routes to Long Beach, Calif., and Western Pacific's to Colorado Springs, Colo., the lawsuit said.

This is the second case the division has brought alleging monopoly tactics by American. In 1983, during the Reagan administra-

tion, the division charged that Crandall, then American's chief executive, called his major competitor at DFW, president Harold Putnam of Braniff, and proposed that they coordinate fare increases. Putnam was taping the conversation for Justice investigators, who ultimately got Crandall and American to agree to a court order barring such activity in the future.

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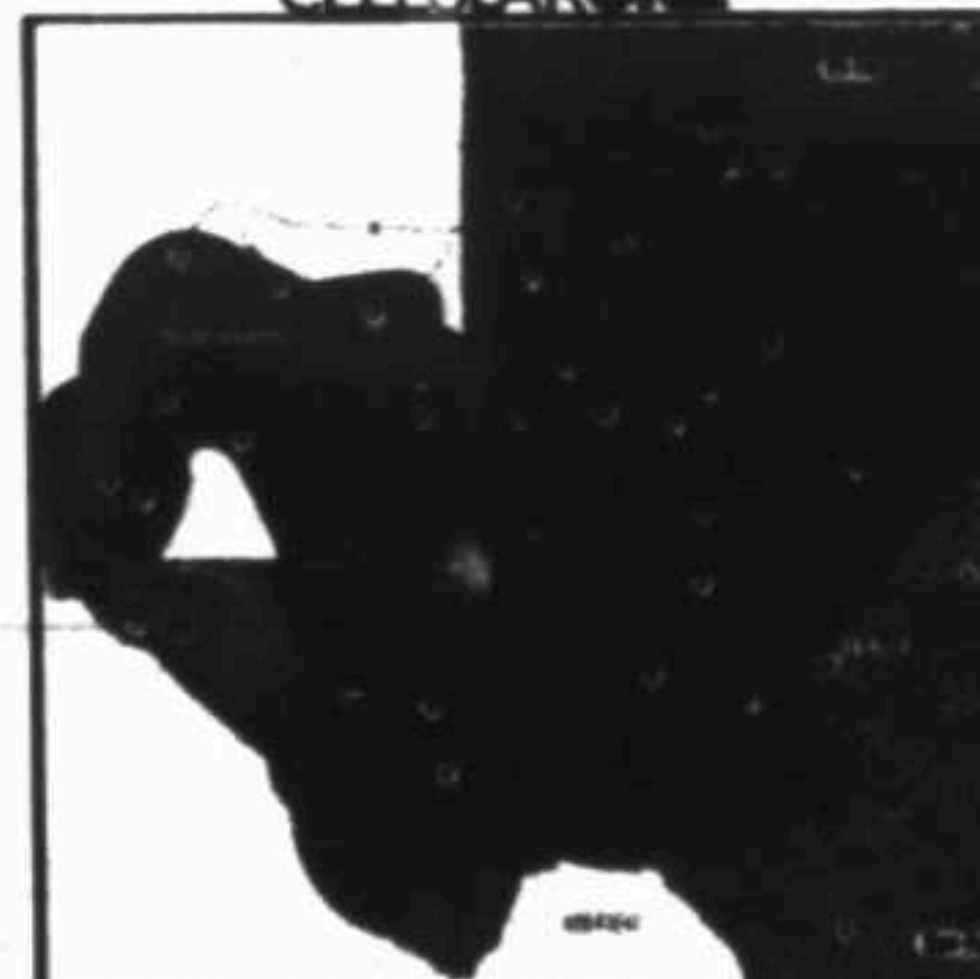
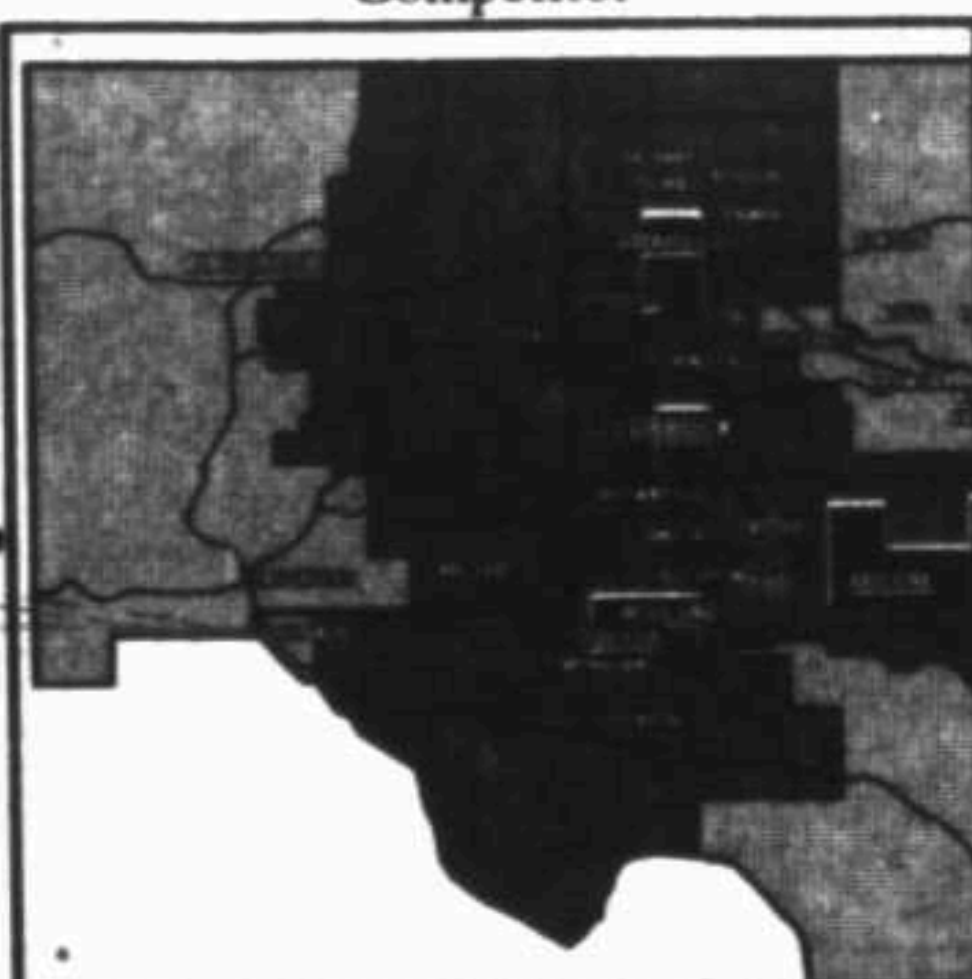
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Section C
Midland Reporter-Telegram
Friday, May 14, 1999

SPORTS & BUSINESS

Scoreboard/3C
Comics/8C
Stocks/10C
Business/12C

SPORTS BRIEFING

RockHounds

Hounds Watch

Thursday's Scores
First game
Midland RockHounds 4
Tulsa Drillers 3
Second game: Late
Today's Game
RockHounds at Tulsa
7:35 p.m.
Drillers Stadium
Records
RockHounds 16-17
Drillers 15-13
(through Thursday's 1st game)
Radio
KORS (AM 550)
Broadcast Time - 7:15
Starting Pitchers
Midland's Jason Anderson
vs. Tulsa's Corey Lee
Last Five Games
San Antonio 22, Midland 8
Tulsa 8, Midland 6
Tulsa 5, Midland 3
Midland 4, Tulsa 3
Midland at Tulsa, late.
Next 10 Games
Tonight at Tulsa 7:35
May 15 at Arkansas (2) 6:30
May 16 at Arkansas 2
May 17 at Arkansas 7:30
May 18 at Arkansas 7:30
May 21 Tulsa 7:11
May 22 Tulsa 7:11
May 23 Tulsa 6
May 24 Tulsa 7:11

TV Sports

TENNIS — Italian Open, quarter-final match (same-day tape), noon, ESPN.
GOLF — Senior PGA Las Vegas Classic, first round, 2 p.m., ESPN.
PGA Byron Nelson Classic, second round, 3 p.m., FSN.
BASEBALL — Atlanta Braves at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m., WGN.
Chicago White Sox at New York Yankees, 8:30 p.m., WGN.
San Francisco Giants at Houston Astros, 7 p.m., FSN.
HORSE RACING — The Gallotia, 2:30 p.m., ESPN2.
Black-Eyed Susan Stakes and Havre de Grace, 4 p.m., ESPN.
Special, Handicapping The Preakness (same-day tape), 11 p.m., ESPN2.
AUTO RACING — NASCAR, qualifying for Winston Cup Pontiac Excitement 400, 4:30 p.m., ESPN2.
NASCAR, Busch Grand National Series, Hardee's 250, 6:30 p.m., ESPN2.
NBA PLAYOFFS — First round: Atlanta Hawks at Detroit Pistons, game 4, 6 p.m., TBS.
Miami Heat at New York Knicks, game 4, 7 p.m., TNT.
Utah Jazz at Sacramento Kings, game 4, 9:30 p.m., TNT.
NHL PLAYOFFS — Conference semifinals: Boston Bruins at Buffalo Sabres, game 4, 6:30 p.m., ESPN.
BOXING — Super middleweights, Omar Sheika (16-1-0) vs. Demetrius Jenkins (12-3-0), 8:30 p.m., ESPN2.
Texas Scores
NBA PLAYOFFS — San Antonio Spurs 85, Minnesota Timberwolves 71. Spurs lead series, 2-1.
Houston Rockets 102, Los Angeles Lakers 88. Lakers lead series, 2-1.
BASEBALL — Texas Rangers 15, Baltimore Orioles 7.

Sports Today

TAPPS STATE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT — Semifinals: Midland Christian vs. Houston Lutheran North, noon, Temple.
PREP BASEBALL PLAYOFFS — Class 5A, Area round, El Paso Coronado vs. Midland Lee, first game of best-of-three series, 4 p.m. Ernie Johnson Field, Midland.
Class 5A, Area round, El Paso Socorro vs. Midland High, first game of best-of-three series, 4:30 p.m. (MDT), El Paso Community College.
Titans' Matthews
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — At 37, Bruce Matthews isn't thinking about retirement. Neither are the Tennessee Titans, who signed the 16-year veteran offensive lineman to a four-year contract Thursday.
Terms of the contract were not disclosed.
"If I finish this contract, I'd be very impressed," Matthews said. "I guess the natural thing is to think about retirement, because obviously it's going to happen. But I still enjoy it. I get excited for the games."

Rolling Rebels play host to Coronado

By Lee Passmore
Sports Writer

Everything seems to be perfectly in place for the Midland Lee baseball team this weekend. It's just a matter of the Rebels taking care of business.
Two weeks after clinching the outright District 4-5A title, the Rebels will finally play a game which counts when they open the best-of-three Region 1-5A area round series against El Paso Coronado today at 4 p.m. at Ernie Johnson Field. The second game will start at 11 a.m. Saturday with a third game, if necessary, to follow 30 minutes later.
Thanks to winning a coin flip with Coronado last weekend, the Rebels will enjoy the rare luxury of playing a playoff series at home, instead of trekking to a neutral

site, or worse yet, 300 miles to El Paso. The bye the Rebels got in last weekend's bi-district playoffs enabled them to fully scout the Coronado-El Paso Del Valle series, which Coronado won in three games.
"The coaches feel pretty good about it," said Lee coach Jesse Benavidez of reports he got from his assistants concerning Coronado. "We saw their pitching and we didn't think it was as strong as our district. I hope we're not too overconfident."
That would be understandable since Lee already has a track record with Coronado this season. The two teams met at the Tournament of

Champions in Midland and the Rebels won 6-2.
Lee went on to win the tournament and has posted a 23-5 mark on the season. But Benavidez doesn't think that his team's win over Coronado means much now.
"Being so early in the season you don't know how much a team's going to change," said Benavidez. "You can't tell if their (Coronado's) district was real weak or if they've improved that much, and that worries me a bit."
The Rebels, though, have been steady throughout the season, and like playoff teams should, it appears as if they might be peaking at the right time. Since squandering a big lead and losing to crosstown rival Midland High 11-10 to open the second half of district, the Rebels

Please see LEE/5C

NBA PLAYOFFS

Spurs destroy 'Wolves

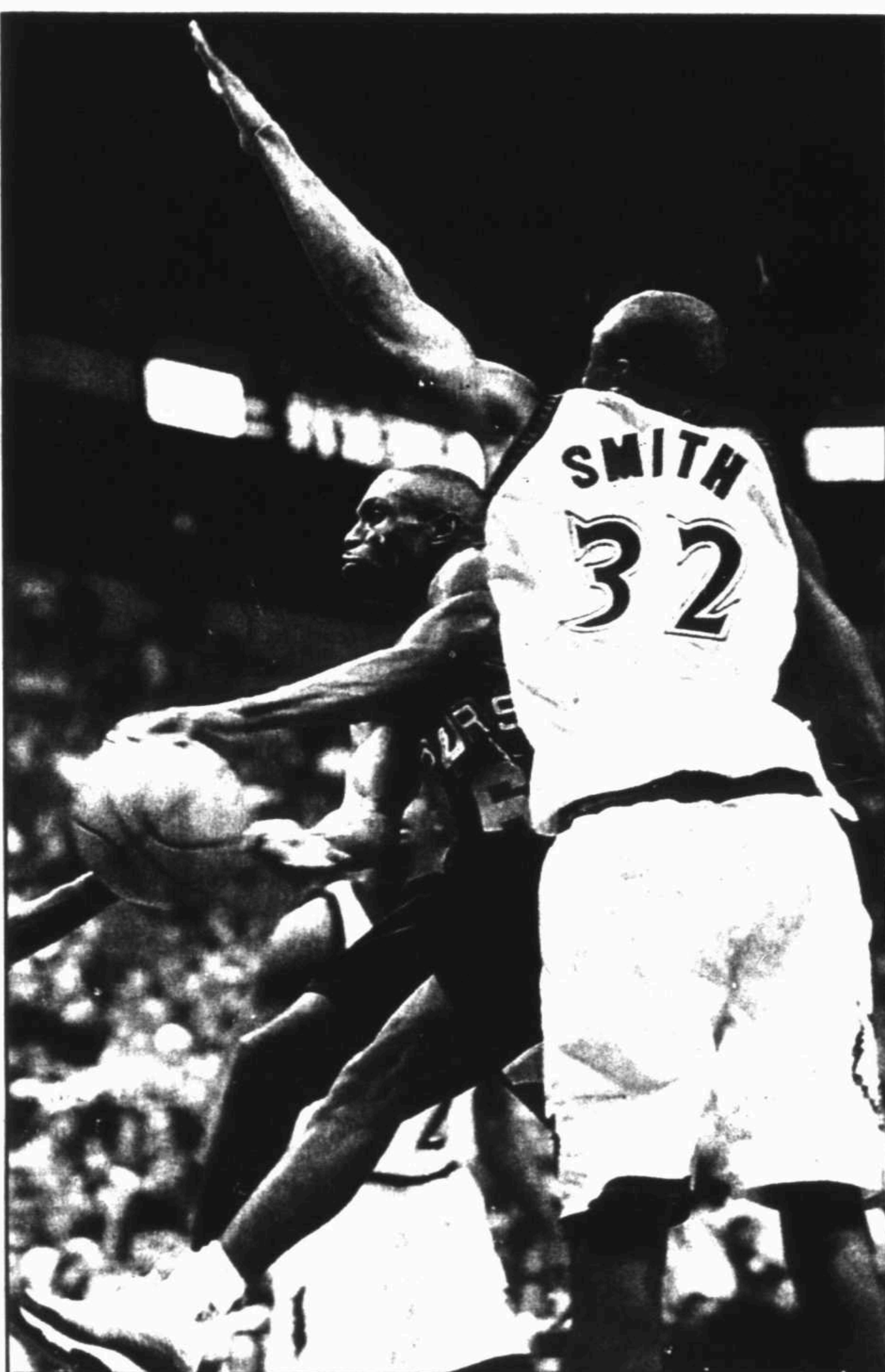
By Arnie Stapleton
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — The crowd was tardy for the early tipoff at the Target Center and quick to the exits. The Minnesota Timberwolves' offense was absent the whole night.

The San Antonio Spurs held the Wolves to 28 first-half points on the way to an 85-71 rout Thursday night and a 2-1 lead in the best-of-5 NBA playoff series.
It was one of the worst offensive performances in NBA playoff history and it marked the Timberwolves' lowest point production ever in a playoff game, set just Tuesday night in their 80-71 upset at San Antonio that had them dreaming of actually being able to fulfill Kevin Garnett's "shock the world" promise.

Avery Johnson continued to take advantage of double-teams on the big men by scoring 24 points, 15 above his average.
And San Antonio's twin towers did their part, too. David Robinson, held to six shots and 11 points Tuesday night, had 17 points and 18 rebounds. Tim Duncan added 15 points, seven rebounds and seven assists.
"Avery Johnson was the difference, period," Garnett said.
Johnson sank 12 of his 15 shots.
"Like I say, year after year, you've

Please see SPURS/2C



San Antonio guard Avery Johnson, left, makes a no-look pass around Minnesota forward Joe Smith (32) during the Spurs' 85-71 win Thursday in Minneapolis. Johnson led all scorers with 24 points as the Spurs took a 2-1 lead in the series.

Rockets survive to play another day

By Michael A. Lutz
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — The Houston Rockets finally got to see the Scottie Pippen they expected all along.
Pippen broke out of a playoff slump with a career playoff-high 37 points and 13 rebounds, and Charles Barkley added 30 points and 23 rebounds as the Rockets fought off elimination with a 102-88 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers on Thursday night.
The Lakers still lead the best-of-5 series 2-1, with Game 4 on Saturday at the Compaq Center.
Pippen was only 5-for-20 from the field in the first two games of the series, but he was there every time the Rockets needed him in Game 3.
Shaquille O'Neal led the Lakers with 26 points and 10 rebounds. Kobe Bryant and Glen Rice each had 13 points.
The Rockets started slow, just as they did in Game 2, but

this time Pippen wouldn't let them stay down. He scored 10 points over the final 2:16 of the second quarter, rallying the Rockets to a 54-44 halftime lead.
The Lakers came back in the third quarter with a 20-9 run that gave them a 64-63 lead with 4:59 left in the period. O'Neal led the way with eight points in the quarter.
The Lakers took a 68-67 lead with 3:11 left in the quarter, but Pippen scored seven points over the final 2:01 of the period to give the Rockets a 78-69 lead.
Houston built the lead to 89-76 with 7:01 to play. Los Angeles got it down to 89-82 with 4:53 to go but then the Rockets pulled away again, starting with a 3-point basket by Pippen.
The Lakers jumped to a 15-4 lead as the Rockets missed 10 of their first 13 shots from the field. Houston closed to 27-20 at the end of the quarter and then outscored the Lakers 34-17 in the second period.
Othella Harrington came off the bench to help the charge with seven second-quarter points. It was Harrington's basket with 5:29 left in the half that tied it for the first time at 36-36.

Golf legend Sarazen dies at 97

By Doug Ferguson
AP Golf Writer

Like the sand wedge he invented, the major championships he won and the elegant sportsmanship he displayed, Gene Sarazen was the very essence of golf.
"When you discuss or research the history of golf, the name Gene Sarazen is unavoidable," Jack Nicklaus said. "He was the cornerstone of the game we all enjoy today."
Sarazen died Thursday at age 97 from complications of pneumonia at Naples (Fla.) Community Hospital, said his lawyer, John Cardillo. He had been hospitalized for several days.
Not only was Sarazen the first to win all four major championships, he put the Masters on the map with his "shot heard 'round the world."
"He will be remembered for as long as golf is played," Byron Nelson said.
With his signature knickers and quick wit, the "Squire" played everyone from Harry Vardon to Bobby Jones to Nicklaus.
A former caddie, Sarazen was inspired by watching Francis Ouimet

win the 1913 U.S. Open. Nine years later, Sarazen won the U.S. Open with a final-round 68 to defeat Jones and Walter Hagen, then won the PGA Championship later that season at Oakmont. He beat Hagen in the PGA in 1923 and won seven major championships in all.
But Sarazen's career was defined in 1935 at a new course in Georgia where Jones invited his friends to compete in the Augusta National Invitation Tournament — later known as the Masters.
Trailing Craig Wood by three strokes with four holes remaining, Sarazen holed a 235-yarder with a 4-wood on No. 15 for a double-eagle 2, the rarest shot in golf. He tied Wood in regulation and beat him in a playoff.
The victory made Sarazen the first of only four players to win the career Grand Slam. And with one shot, he made the Masters perhaps the most famous tournament in the world.
"It was a spectacular shot, the one everybody talks about, but I take my greatest pride in having won the U.S. and British Opens in the same year, 1932," Sarazen once said.
"Nowadays, wherever I go, people say, 'That's the man who got the dou-

ble eagle.' Actually, it was just a piece of luck. They forget the championships I won."
Asked what he thought about Tiger Woods winning the Masters at age 21, Sarazen quipped, "I won two majors when I was 20."
He stopped playing golf in 1973, but went out in fashion with a hole-in-one at the famous Postage Stamp hole at Royal Troon.
"The game has lost one of its great heroes," PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem said. "Gene Sarazen dedicated his life to golf and became one of the game's legendary figures."
Since 1981, Sarazen has joined Nelson and Sam Snead in hitting a ceremonial tee shot to officially start the Masters. He hit his drive this year.
Please see SARAZEN/4C

Gene Sarazen, right, hits the ceremonial first shot of the 1999 Masters as fellow golf legend Sam Snead, left, looks on. Sarazen, one of only four men to win all four of golf's major professional championships, died Thursday in Naples, Fla. He was 97.



AP Photo

Bulldogs head west for playoff

By Lee Passmore
Sports Writer

If this is the area round of the Region 1-5A baseball playoffs, then the Midland High Bulldogs are packing their bags and heading west.
Making the playoffs last season following a seven-year drought, Midland High swept its bi-district round with Amarillo Tascosa but had to go to El Paso to face El Paso Jefferson in the area round. This year, after making the playoffs and sweeping Tascosa in the bi-district round, the Bulldogs are going to El Paso to face El Paso Socorro beginning today at 4:30 p.m. MDT at El Paso Community College.

Midland High hasn't been able to escape the 300 mile trip west. In 1991, the Bulldogs faced Socorro in the area round and got swept. While this going-to-El-Paso playoff routine might seem like a broken record for MHS faithful, Midland High might have some mixed emotions on whether it wants to repeat or erase the ritual.
"I think we're a pretty good traveling team," said Midland High coach Barry Russell. "I don't think the kids were into the neutral deal. They either wanted to play here or (in El Paso). I don't think it's going to bother us."
It didn't look like either team would have to worry about traveling the full distance for the series last Saturday. Shortly after MHS dispatched Tascosa with a dramatic 7-6 win in the second game, coaches for Midland High and Socorro agreed to play on a neutral field in either Monahans or Alpine.

The two teams reserved Alpine's Kokernot Field. However, with graduation scheduled for this weekend at Alpine's Sul Ross State University, motel rooms weren't available in town, with the nearest lodging available in Fort Stockton.
So the two schools agreed to test their luck with zip codes. Socorro's athletic director guessed correctly, thereby winning the right to claim the home field advantage.
Socorro chose to use EPCC's field for the best-of-three series, which continues Saturday at noon MDT, with a third game if necessary to follow 30 minutes later. The field is 355 feet down both the right and left field lines, making it tougher for Midland High's power hitters to send it out of the yard.
"I'm sure (Socorro) wanted to put us on a big field," said Russell.
Such a field will increase the margin for error for the Socorro pitching staff, which certainly has to be aware of what Midland High did in its second game against Tascosa at Lubbock's relatively spacious O'Banion Field. The Bulldogs trailed 6-3 headed into the bottom of the seventh inning, but when Laynce Nix hit a monster three-run home run to right

Please see MHS/7C

Associated Press

■ NBA Playoffs

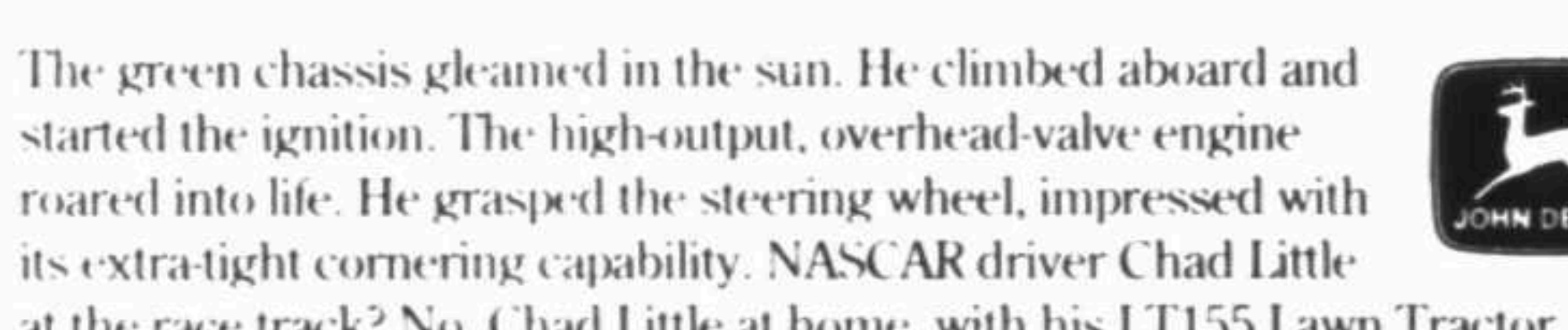
The 37-year-old left-hander hit two big 3-pointers in the second half when the Pacers were struggling

Staff Report

Chad Harville pitched two perfect innings to earn the save for the 'Hounds, his seventh of the season.



Reggie Miller led Indiana with 33 points, including five of the Pacers' playoff-record 13 3-pointers. The team's old mark had been 11 against Atlanta on May 15, 1994.



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(From 1C)

Notes: Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura, in a Garnett jersey, took the microphone before tipoff and hollered: "If I can beat the House and the Senate, we sure as heck are going to beat the Spurs tonight."

[illegible]



AP Photo
Gene Sarazen poses with trophies after winning the U.S. Open in 1932. Sarazen died Thursday in Naples, Fla. He was 97.

SARAZEN: Legend dies at age of 97

(From 1C)

about 140 yards down the left side of the fairway.

"Gene was a pioneer participant in the Masters tournament and held a special relationship with Augusta National," club chairman Hootie Johnson said. "We will miss him very much next year on the first tee. He was a great champion and ambassador for golf."

When Mark O'Meara returned to Augusta National this spring as the defending champion, he saw his name on the same locker with Sarazen in the Champions Room.

"I thought that was the greatest thing," O'Meara said. "He was class personified."

Sarazen won the PGA Championship three times, the U.S. Open twice and the Masters and British Open once each. Only Sarazen, Ben Hogan, Nicklaus and Gary Player won all four majors at least once in their careers.

Sarazen's best year was 1932, when he won the British Open with a then-record 283 and captured the U.S. Open by shooting a final-round 66. Jones called Sarazen's late charge, "the finest competitive round ever played."

His victory in the 1932 British Open at the Prince's course in England was made possible by another Sarazen legacy — the sand wedge.

"I invented it in 1931 and I showed it at the British Open in 1932," Sarazen said in a 1997 interview. "I had it hidden because I was afraid they were going to ban it."

Now it's found in every player's bag.

"It probably should have been called the Sarazen wedge," Arnold Palmer said.

Eugenio Saraceni was born Feb. 27, 1902, in Harrison, N.Y., near New York City, the son of an Italian immigrant carpenter who never understood golf and saw his son play only once — at the PGA Championship in Pelham, N.Y.

Sarazen said his father watched from a highway while he played the 10th hole.

"I had a 40-foot putt and missed it," Sarazen recalled in an interview last year. "That night he said, 'You mean to say they pay you fellows to play that game and you couldn't put that thing in the hole?' I said, 'Did you ever try it?'"

Sarazen starting caddying as an 8-year-old, walking four miles to the nearest club and playing whenever he could. He set his sights on becoming a professional, against all odds.

"In those days, only brokers and bankers played golf," he said.

He won his first tournament and \$20. He made a hole-in-one, and the next day his name was in the papers. He hated it.

"It looked too much like a violin player. I changed it to Gene Sarazen," he said.

Sarazen nearly died during a flu epidemic in 1918. After recovering, he bought a \$15 steamship ticket from New York to Florida and settled in Sebring, where he unloaded brick in a freight yard while polishing his game.

Sarazen said there was an easy explanation for why he remained a good player for so long.

"Good golf is simply a matter of hitting good shots consistently," he said. "And a player can do this for many years after he has passed his physical peak if his swing is fundamentally correct."

When the PGA Tour established its Lifetime Achievement Award in 1996, Sarazen was its first recipient.

Sarazen lived the last years of his life on Marco Island, Fla. His wife of 62 years — Mary Catherine — died in 1986. He is survived by two children, Mary Ann, of Marco Island, and Gene Jr., of Delray Beach, Fla.

A funeral Mass will be held at the San Marco Roman Catholic Church in Marco Island at 10 a.m. Monday.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Gene & Mary Sarazen Foundation, P.O. Box 977, Marco Island, Fla., 34146, or The Gene & Mary Sarazen Scholarship Fund, Siena College, 515 Landon Rd., Loudville, N.Y., 12211.

Woods' 61 leads assault on Nelson Classic

Associated Press

IRVING — Tiger Woods found it strange that he could shoot a 29 after nine holes and not even be the best in his own threesome. It was even more remarkable that no one was terribly surprised with his 61 on Thursday in the GTE Byron Nelson Classic.

The pins looked like they belonged on the senior tour and young guns like Woods and 19-year-old Sergio Garcia took aim.

Woods assaulted the Cottonwood Valley with nine birdies and no bogeys. It was his lowest score as a professional and the lowest first round on the PGA Tour in eight years — but it was only good enough for a one-stroke lead.

Garcia, playing only his second tournament as a professional and first in America, had a chance to match Woods until a

bogey on the 18th hole on the TPC at Las Colinas dropped him to 62, tied with Paul Goydos and Steve Lowery.

Golf Roundup

Corey Pavin, continuing to show signs of getting back to his U.S. Open championship form, was at 63, along with Justin Leonard and Nick Price.

Woods' 61 tied the tournament and course record set by Ernie Els when he won in 1995.

"It's always fun when you can really get it going like this," Woods said.

He wasn't alone, and he didn't have to look far to find how easy the conditions were Thursday — mild temperatures, sunny skies, barely a breath of wind, soft greens and pins that were generously cut away from the fringe.

Woods played with Goydos, who had a 28

at the turn.

"I hit it in the water on one hole," Goydos said.

Nick Price had the worst score in the group. He had a 30.

"Granted, par is 34 (on the front)," Woods said. "But it still was kind of strange when you shoot 29 and you're not leading in your own group."

Garcia caused one of the biggest stirrs of the day with eight birdies on his first 15 holes, and was in the middle of the fairway with a 4-iron in his hand on the par-5 16th. A 59 crossed his mind, but slipped away when he hit into a bunker and had to settle for par.

"A 62 is OK," he said.

It was his lowest round in a tournament and must have made the 23-year-old Woods feel like an aging veteran.

Garcia is hailed as the next great amateur to turn pro early, and has drawn comparisons to his Spanish mentor, Seve Ballesteros. They also talk the same game — Garcia isn't in Texas to gain experience, but to win.

Isao Aoki leads after first round

LAS VEGAS — Isao Aoki shot a 7-under 65 to lead after the first round Thursday of the \$1.4 million Las Vegas Senior Classic at the Tournament Players Club at Summerlin.

"The conditions were very good," Aoki said. "There was no wind. I enjoyed today. This course is in great condition."

Aoki leads Dave Stockton, who shot a 6-under 66. Leonard Thompson, Mike McCullough and Dewitt Weaver were 4-under.

"I'm having a nice feeling and nice touch with my putter," Aoki said. "I've enjoyed playing the senior tour for the last six years."



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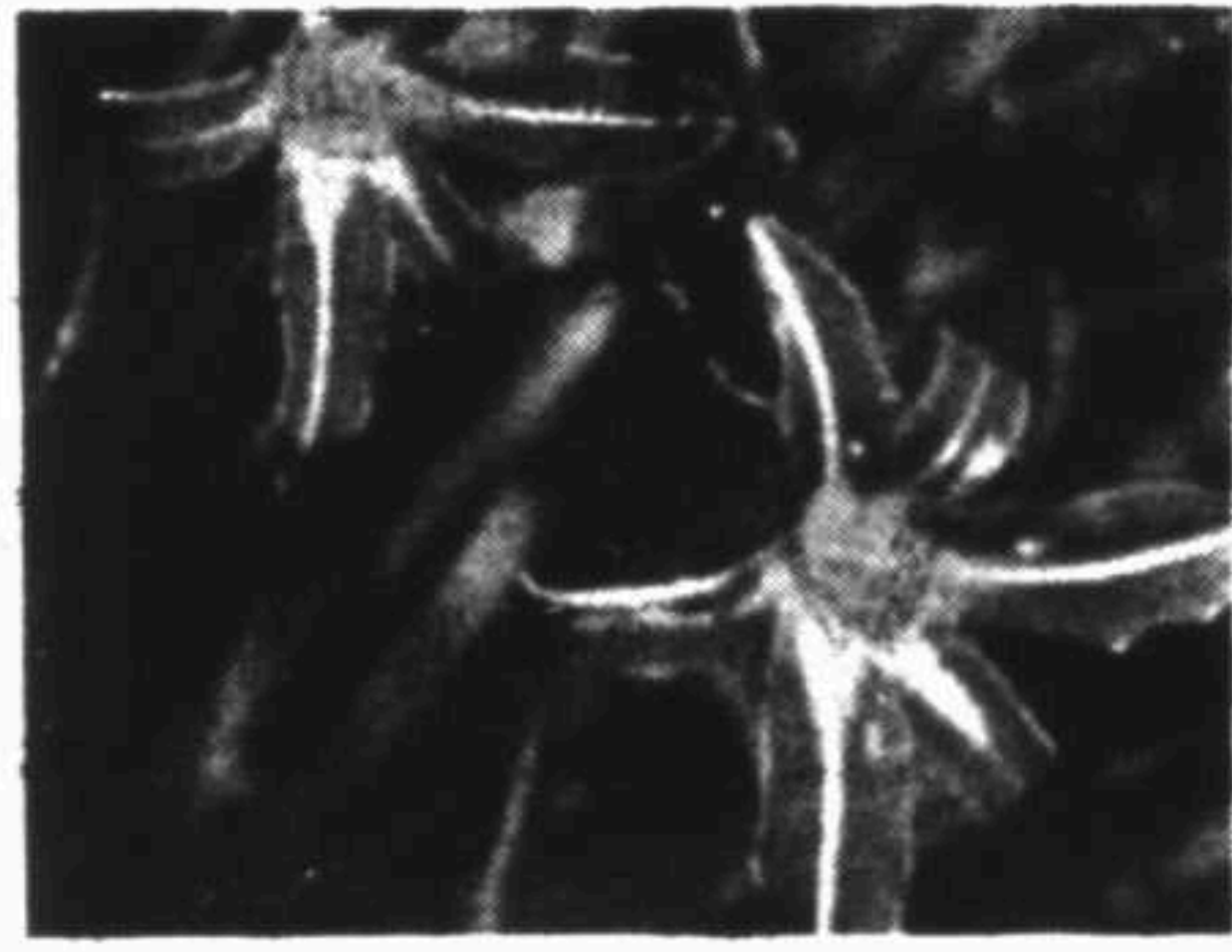


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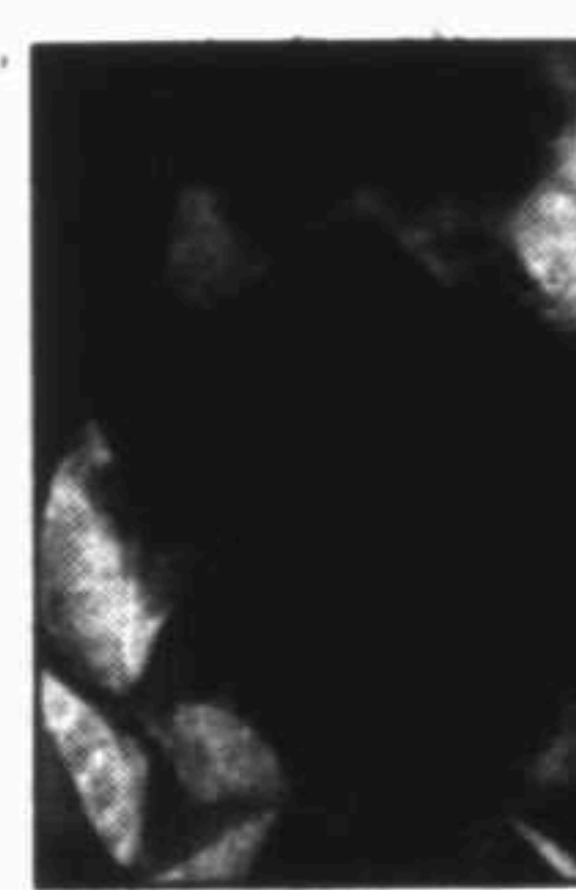
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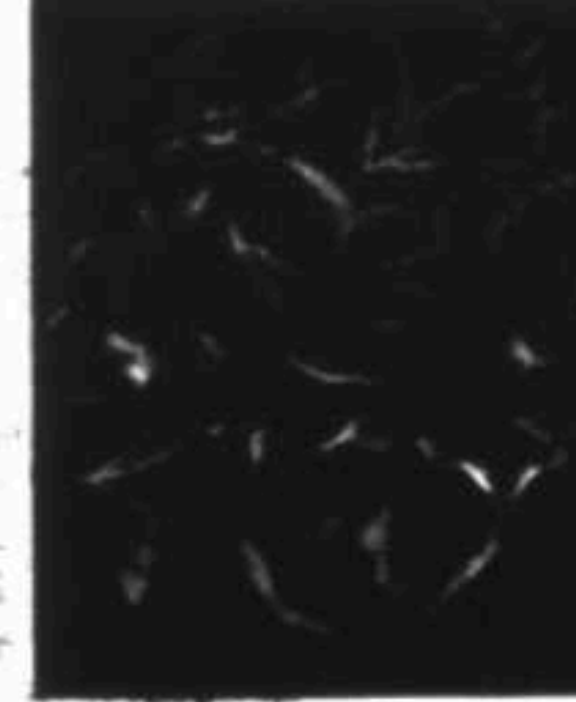
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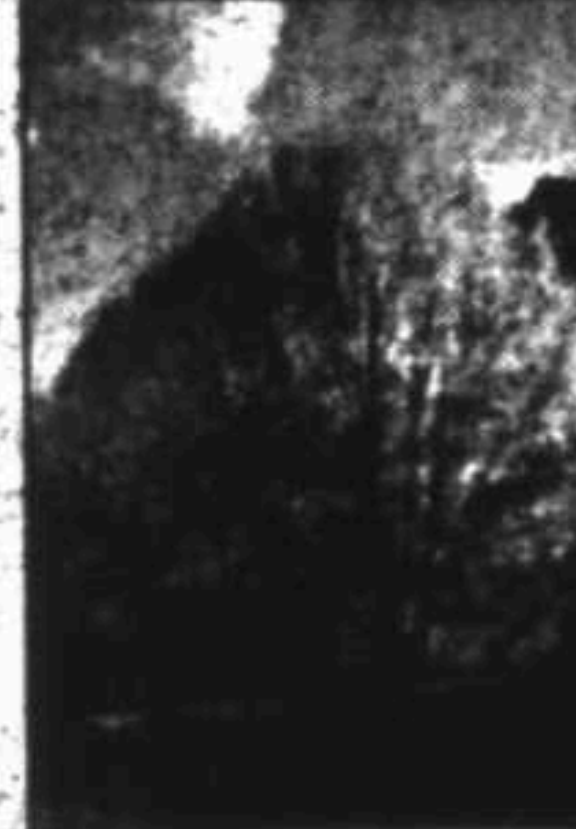
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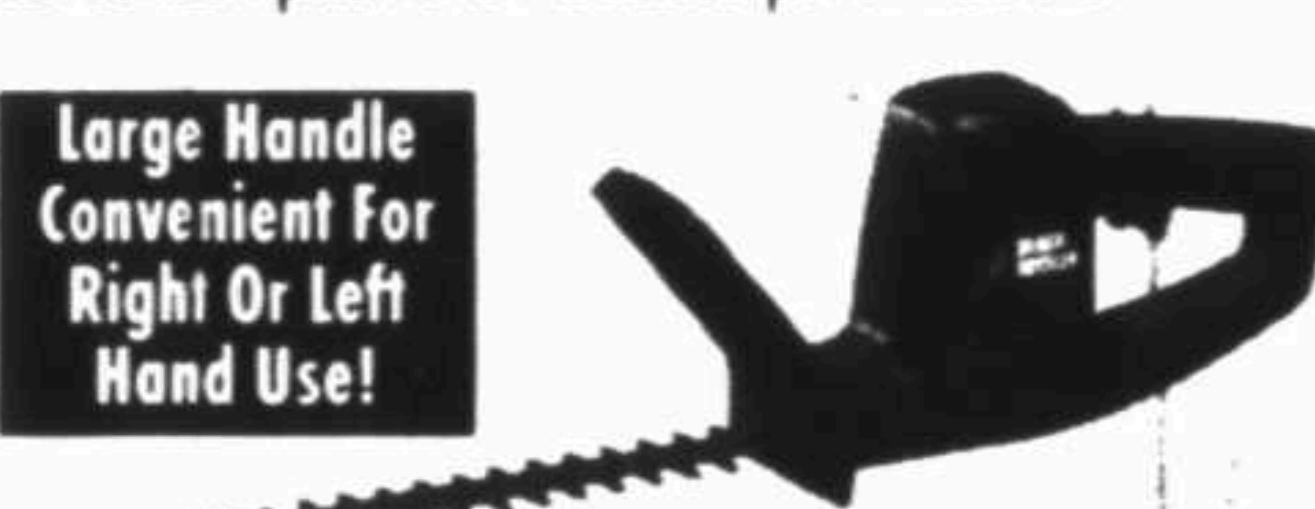
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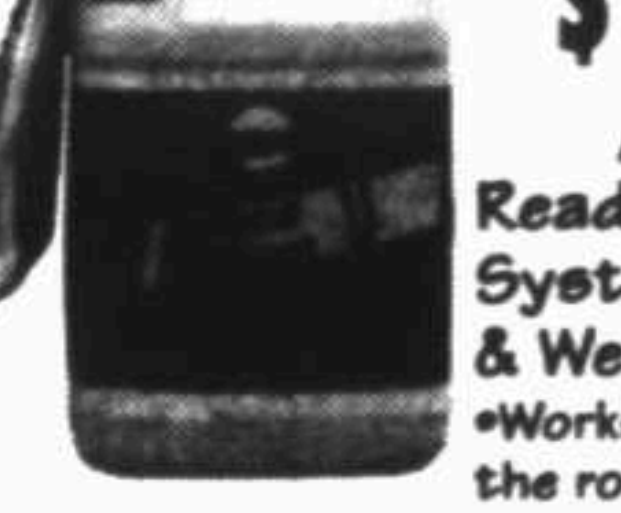


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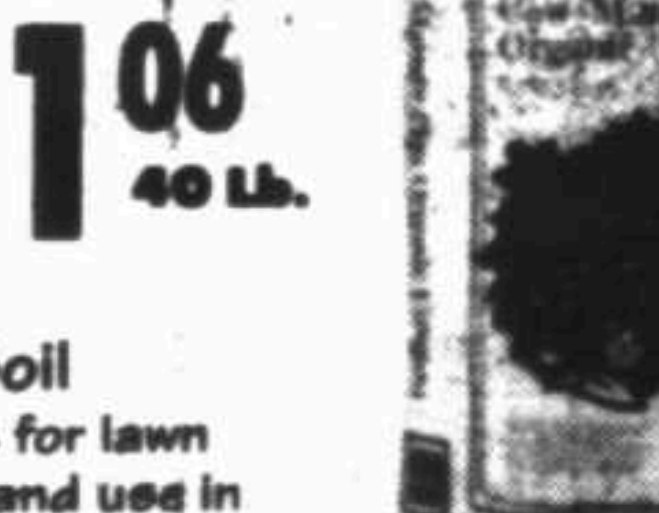
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Baffert yanks Silverbulletday from Preakness

By Ed Schuyler Jr.
AP Racing Writer

BALTIMORE — Silverbulletday will stick with the fillies, taking some sizzle out of the Preakness Saturday at Pimlico.

"We're out," owner Mike Pegram said. "Silverbulletday will run Friday in the Black-Eyed Susan." "She will be the odds-on favorite to beat seven other fillies for her 11th win in 12 career starts.

The sensational filly's debut against males, including Kentucky Derby winner Charismatic, was highly anticipated, and, Pegram said, "We came up here (from Churchill Downs) thinking we were going to run in the Preakness."

That changed when the Kentucky Oaks winner drew the outside post in a field of 14 3-year-olds on Wednesday. That field could be further reduced if Vicar is scratched, and trainer Carl Nafzger indicated strongly that the colt would be declared from the 124th Preakness.

Trainer Bob Baffert felt that the outside post reduced the filly's victory chances to an unacceptable level.

"I have to take care of her," Baffert said. "With the good ones you got to be so careful. This was a hard decision."

When a reporter told Baffert early Thursday that he hoped Silverbulletday would run in the Preakness, the trainer replied, "You guys just want something to write about."

"I think Bob will be well represented by Excellent Meeting," Pegram said.

Excellent Meeting, fifth in the 19-horse Kentucky Derby after all kinds of traffic problems, will be the 52nd filly to start in the Preakness and the first since 1988 Kentucky Derby winner Winning Colors, who finished third. Four fillies have won, but none since Nellie Morse in 1924.

Excellent Meeting, owned by John and Betty Mabey and ridden by Kent Desormeaux, will break from the No. 7 post in quest of her eighth win in 13 starts.

Gary Stevens, who would have ridden Silverbulletday, now will ride Stephen Got Even, the Gallery Furniture.com winner and 14th in the Derby. He replaces Chris McCarron, who sustained a hairline fracture near the left heel when he was unseated while working a horse Monday at Hollywood Park.

Nafzger said Vicar's won't run from post 13. He, however, said he wouldn't scratch the colt until Saturday in the unlikely event of three or four other scratches.

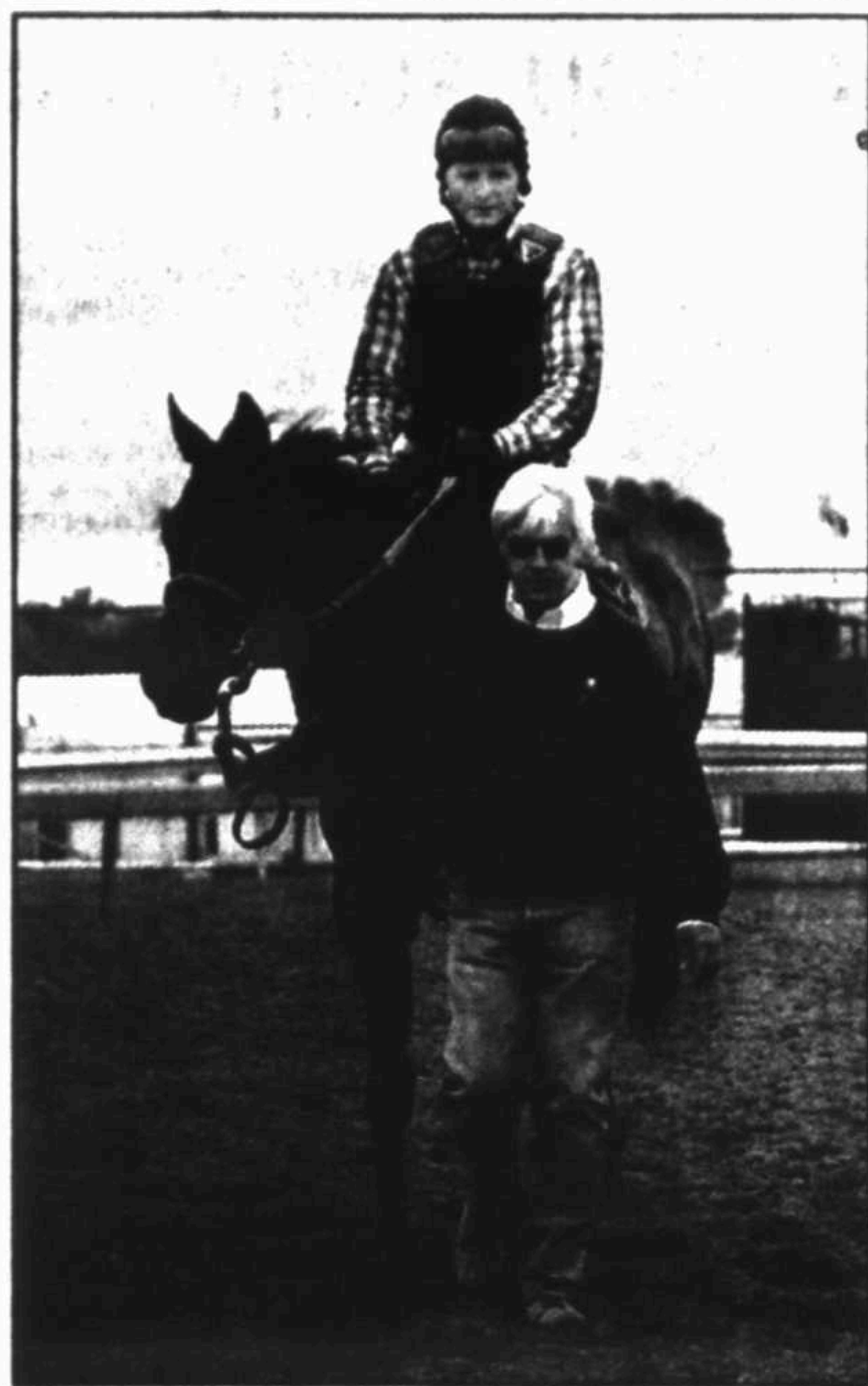
"I'm definitely not scratching until the parties are over," Nafzger said.

Interestingly, Charismatic, who will start from the No. 6 post, won the 1 1/4-mile Derby from No. 16, and Menifee, who will start from No. 4, finished second from the No. 18 post.

"If he runs that race back, he'll be very hard to beat," said Menifee's trainer, Elliott Walden.

Walden also trained Victory Gallop, second in the Derby and Preakness and winner of the Belmont Stakes last year.

Menifee was the 5-2 early favorite. Silverbulletday had been the 7-2 second choice. The morning line will not be changed because the program already had been printed with those odds. Pimlico oddsmaker Clem Florio, however, said he would have made some changes.



AP Photo
Trainer Bob Baffert leads Silverbulletday, with exercise rider Larry Demore up, off the Pimlico track Thursday in Baltimore. Baffert withdrew the horse from Saturday's Preakness Stakes.

He would have changed Excellent Meeting from 5-1 to 9-2 and Charismatic from 6-1 to 5-1. Other changes would have been Cat Thief, Charismatic's D. Wayne Lukas-trained stablemate, 8-1 to 6-1; Stephen Got Even, 10-1 to 8-1; Worldly Manner, 12-1 to 10-1, and Vicar, 30-1 to 20-1.

"I feel good about this horse; I think he's peaked at the right time," Lukas said of Charismatic, who paid a winning mutual of \$64.60, third-highest in the 125-year history of the Derby. The last Derby winner to be favored in the Preakness was Go for Gin, second in 1994.

Cat Thief finished third in the Derby, and Worldly Manner was seventh.

Other Derby starters in the field are Kimberlite Pipe, the Louisiana Derby winner, sixth in the Derby; Valhol, the controversial Arkansas Derby winner, 15th at Kentucky, and Adonis, the Nick Zito-trained stablemate of Stephen Got Even, who won the Wood Memorial and was 17th in the Derby.

Making their debuts in Triple Crown competition will be Patience Game, winner of the Derby Trial; Torrid Sand, third in the Arkansas Derby, and Badge, fourth in the Wood Memorial.

Spill at Belmont injures rider

NEW YORK (AP) — Jockey Vladimir Diaz was injured and his mount, Hugh Eff Oh, was destroyed Thursday when they fell during Belmont's ninth race.

Hugh Eff Oh was racing just off the rail in mid-pack as the field neared the half-mile pole when he broke his left front ankle and fell to the track. Diaz was unseated and appeared to be kicked by a following horse, Thunder Search, ridden by Richard Migliore.

LEE: Rebs boast 7-game win-streak

(From 1C)

haven't lost, winning their final five district games and beating Andrews 13-2 and 5-3 in a pair of practice games last week.

Those games might not have counted for much, but they at least allowed Lee to keep a competitive edge and give several pitchers some work.

"We played Andrews two games and they're probably one of the better teams in our area," said Benavidez of the Mustangs, ranked No. 3 in the state's Class 4A poll. "They could probably be good in our district so it's not like we had a bye. They've got two real quality pitchers."

Pitching is one area where the Rebels looked to be strongest entering the season, and while there were some slight stumbles on the mound early in district play, it might be Lee's top strength right now. Senior right-handers Josh Ramos and Eric Neatherlin both threw complete game victories in their most-recent district outings, and junior right-hander Collin Gilliam is 7-1 with a 1.63 ERA.

Gilliam will probably start the first game and Ramos will likely start the second game, although Benavidez said the assignments

could be flip-flopped. Neatherlin would appear the likely starter for the third game if the series comes to that.

"We've just got to get the pitching we've been getting," said Benavidez. "I'll look at the pitcher, and if I feel he's doing a good job, I'll feel good about leaving him in the game."

The main concern for whoever pitches for the Rebels will be how to get out Coronado's Coppinger brothers, Joe and Paul. Their older brother, Rocky, pitches for the Baltimore Orioles, so the Thunderbirds at least have a baseball pedigree on their side. Paul hit .449 with nine home runs in the regular season.

Other than the Coppingers, though, Coronado's lineup consists mainly of singles hitters who try to move runners up a base at a time.

"They'll move the ball around, but they don't seem to try to run much," said Benavidez of the Thunderbirds.

Coronado (17-11-1) had to fight just to make it to the area round. The Thunderbirds defeated Del Valle 10-7 in the first game and lost the second one 5-3 before winning the finale 11-5.

While the Rebels avoided col-

lecting too much rust in their games with Andrews, what might be difficult to maintain after two weeks off from the 4-5A battles is a postseason edge. Benavidez doesn't think too much is going to change for his team.

"We've got to go up and not be too overconfident and work on the same routine we've established," Benavidez said. "Every team is in a playoff mode and there are no easy teams out there. You've got to stay focused."

At least two of Lee's seniors know what playoff pressure is like in another sport. Neatherlin and left fielder Eric Clodfelter were both starters for Lee's state championship football team which played a pair of playoff games in Texas Stadium.

Neatherlin, for one, is actually carrying a piece or two onto the baseball field from football season, wearing the same wristbands he wore as a starting free safety. Winning a state championship can keep such superstitions alive.

"After winning state in football it inspired every other sport," Neatherlin said. "Anything can happen in the playoffs. Having experience in front of an audience with a lot of people helps you no matter what the circumstances."

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From Left To Right: Tyler Strickland, Lin Turner - Nurse Manager, Marty at Memorial Hospital Pediatric Unit.

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LOCAL SPORTS

Womack-Brown lead MCC Invite

The Midland duo of Gary Womack and Chris Brown were leading after the first round of the Midland Invitational Golf Tournament Thursday afternoon at Midland Country Club. Womack and Brown combined to shoot a 66, taking a one shot lead over the duos of Pat Weaver and Mac McGee and Dennis Sledge and Phillip Karper.

The tournament, which is 54 holes, concludes Saturday. Here are the scores from each flight.

Championship Flight: 1. Gary Womack-Chris Brown 66, 2. (tie) Pat Weaver-Mac McGee and Dennis Sledge-Phillip Karper 67, 4. Larry Snyder-Jim Hill 68, 5. (tie) Rick Gasser-Tim Kohn, Alan White-Bill Baker and Tim Thompson-Eric Griffin 69, 6. (tie) Chip Stewart-Buch Berry and Layne Nutt-Dan Desilets 70, 10. (tie) Jeff Moses-Jon Christian, Bob Fedro-Trey Womack and Reece Boudreau-Kelly Cox 71, 13. (tie) Steve Whiteside-Holly Sullivan, David Jackson-Conway Jordan, Mike Stone-Cory Stone and Raymond Eaves-Ron Moran 72, 17. (tie) Burt Fuller-Chris Hale and Dent Offutt-Mike Davis 73, 19. (tie) Randy Gessman-William H. Munn 74, 20. (tie) Mark Wilson-Cole Mitchell, Dan Pender-David Pender and Mark Hardwick-Jimmy Burke 75, 23. (tie) Jimmy Goetz-Daniel Justis and Glen Ellis Jr. Robert Canon 76, 25. (tie) Mike Johnson-Jeff Morton, Steve Cole-Everett Coon, Lynn Coburn-Trey Fouché and Gary Jones-Greg Gray 77, 29. Blaine Murray-Rex Pollard 78, 30. John Young-John Staub 79.

Second Flight: 1. Herschel O'Kelley-David Griffin 69, 2. (tie) Collie Pennington-Bill Pennington, John Philbeck-Jack Wood and Dana Englestad-Barry Levin 71, 5. Van Peary-Jim Bob McNeill 73, 6. (tie) Charles Ray-Charlie Chambers and Scott Petersen-Bennett Robb 74, 8. (tie) Mike Canon-Ken Burgess, Bill Granberry-Bruce Robinson and James Gilbert-Johnny Mills 76, 11. Tom Newman-Mike Roys 77, 12. Dan Leonard-James Reed 79.

Third Flight: 1. Mark Thomas-Frosty Gilliam Jr. 69, 2. Miss Nelson-Stacy Trotter 70, 3. Franz Wee-Stan Lopez 71, 4. (tie) Bill Kerr-David Logan and Ron King-Frank Powell 74, 6. (tie) Don Hembree-Bobby Hill, Ted Collins Jr. John L. Thompson and Ron Ainsworth-David Barton 76, 9. Gary Wallace-Dan Robinson 77, 10. Ken Sewell-Bill Worley 80, 11. Richard Minnie-John Herbig 81, 12. Wade Clay-Mike Stevens 86.

Fourth Flight: 1. (tie) Manuel Olivas-Charles Green and Rose Patterson-Brent Beck 75, 3. (tie) Hal Rasmussen-Mark McDonald Jr. and Paul L. Morris-Joe Neal 78, 5. (tie) Jim Crowder-Joe Mays and Craig McDonnell-Scott Smith 79, 7. (tie) Ben Hanks-Bill Awwit, John Bates-Jeff Eubank and Jim Bremer-Stephen McKellar 80, 10. Ken Deane-Ray Miller 82, 11. Bob Glast-Paul Wagner 86.

Fifth Flight: 1. (tie) Ken Carter-Tom Albrecht and Charles Gamas-Mike Locker 73, 3. Rodney Sattenwhite-Bill Franklin 74, 4. (tie) Thomas Hill-William Hill Jr. and Curtis Guss-Les Opperman 77, 6. (tie) Jim Masie-Dan O'Neill and David Essex-Bill Celand 78, 8. (tie) Paul Davis-Arthur Yeager and Scott Dufford-Jon Morgan 79, 10. (tie) Bobby Hericks-Dan Michel and Rob Porter-Paul Lucas 80, 12. Ken Dixon-Tommy Hill 85.

Sixth Flight: 1. (tie) John L. Kennedy-Mark Philby and Doug Rogers-Chuck Sledge 75, 3. Evan Matlock-Bill Garber 76, 4. (tie) James Davis-Gary Veazy and John Milles-Walt Kroi 80, 6. Robert Bennett-Allen McGuire 81, 7. (tie) Perry Bolger-Brian Bolger and Al Langford-Al Langford Jr. 82, 9. (tie) Chuck Finley-Bob Tonkin, Brett Smith-Mike Grimm and Bill Wilson-Gary Shumskie 83, 12. Scott Northern-Craig Aldridge 86.

Seventh Flight: 1. (tie) Roger Letz-Buddy Gieb and Gary Bally-John Bates Jr. 77, 3. Gene Hodge-Jack Huff 79, 4. (tie) Robert Gotovac-Stevie Wilbanks, Rob Riek-Gene Howard and Bo Embrey-Chris Embrey, 7. Glen Elie-Parker Humes 84, 8. (tie) Paul Speight-Herb Ware and Hal Brockett-Mike O'Brien 85, 10. (tie) Matt Parsley-David Byrd and Frank Qualla-Mark Martin 86, 12. Charles Perry-Tommy E. Thomason 96.

Dearsley wins GTCC Ladies

Dawn Dearsley shot a low net score of 193 over three rounds to win the Green Tree Country Club Ladies Championship Handicap tournament Thursday afternoon. Dearsley's score was nine strokes better than that of second place finisher Bobi Lloyd.

1. Dawn Dearsley 193, 2. Bobi Lloyd 202, 3. Julie Green 204, 4. Mary Brown 207, 5. Kathy Thompson 207, 6. Jan Tomor 208.

Low Putts: Bobi Lloyd 91, Trina Albright 91, Doris Schultz 93.

Hauss scores hole-in-one

Tim Hauss scored a hole-in-one Thursday at Green Tree Country Club. Hauss scored his ace with a seven-iron on Green Tree's 165-yard No. 7 east hole. Malcolm Rainwater was the witness.

Farris wins at Ranchland

Marty Farris won the Ranchland Hills Country Ladies Handicap with a net score of 200 Thursday. Farris finished 13-under par for the tournament, beating second place Jane Gill by eight strokes.

1. Marty Farris 200, 2. Jane Gill 208, 3. Stacy Quinn 209, 4. Hazel Pierce 210, 5. Emily Goodfellow 211, 6. Audrey Foster 212, 7. Peabie Corbell 213, 8. Ella Heath 215.

Low Gross: Becky Hakes 246.

Mangum sweeps diving titles

Midland's Jennifer Mangum, who coaches diving for both the Midland High and Midland Lee swim teams, is good at teaching by example.

Mangum recently showed her swimmers how to do it in the heat of competition with a huge sweep in the United States Masters Diving Championships in Minneapolis, Minn.

Mangum competed in six events and brought home gold in all four. She won the 3-meter springboard, the 1-meter springboard, the platform event and took the coveted Grand Masters title.

Then she moved on to the synchronized diving events which requires the aid of a partner, and she won two more first place finishes, winning the women's event with partner Marnie Young of California and the mixed pairs with Eric Bomberger of Pennsylvania.

Mangum was competing in the 30-34 age group, but the Grand Masters title is open to all age divisions, making it the key win of the meet. She dove from the 3-meter springboard in that competition.

This marks the 10th year that Mangum has competed in the Masters diving competition. In 1998, she also pulled off a sweep in the Indoor Nationals in Orlando, Fla. Also in the 1998 World Games in Portland, Ore., Mangum was first in both springboard events and second in platform performance.

Mangum hopes to compete in the Outdoor Nationals in Hawaii in August.

Zubov gets blame for giving away game

Associated Press

DALLAS — Sergei Zubov might as well strap on the goat's horns. In spite of strong, reliable play throughout the playoffs, the Dallas defenseman's giveaway pass up the middle of the ice in overtime cost the Stars the game Wednesday night. That and the Stars' lead in the best-of-7 playoff series.

The heavily favored Stars are now tied 2-2 in their best-of-7 series with the St. Louis Blues. Game 5 is Saturday in Dallas.

Zubov's pass landed right on the stick of Pierre Turgeon, who broke in on Ed Belfour and scored his second overtime game-winner of the playoffs from 25 feet out. The goal, Turgeon's fourth and 12th point of the playoffs, gave the Blues a 3-2 victory.

"Bad giveaway. You can't have that. He

knows it. We all know it," said Dallas coach Ken Hitchcock. "There was nobody there. The lane was up the wall. It was wide open.

As a matter of fact, if we get it up the wall, it would have been a 3-on-2."

But even as Zubov's poor puck decision earned the scorn of his coach, his teammates backed him and chalked the goal up to a night of bad luck.

Consider Geoff Courtnall's goal at the 7:41 mark, which bounced off Mike Modano's stick and right past Belfour to give the Blues a 2-1 lead.

"I don't know how many times you hear people say it's a game of inches and bounces, but tonight was a perfect exam-

ple," said Stars captain Derian Hatcher. "If you look at the second goal, there's a pass out of the corner, and it hits Modano and goes in. There's nothing you can do about that."

Such was the case with Pat Verbeek's apparent game-winning goal with 5:36 left to play. It was disallowed because half of Jamie Langenbrunner's skate was in the crease. It was 2-2 and off to overtime, advantage Blues.

"It was a huge play and we got a little bit of an adrenaline boost from that," Blues coach Joel Quenneville said of the disallowed goal. "We wouldn't have had much time to get back into it."

The series has been surprisingly even, with the fifth-seeded Blues showing themselves to be on par with top-seeded Dallas — in the good and bad.



NHL PLAYOFFS

Maple Leafs 3, Penguins 2, OT
PITTSBURGH (AP) — Sergei Berezin stuffed a rebound into an open net at 2:18 of overtime, giving the Toronto Maple Leafs a 3-2 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Thursday night.

The victory tied the series, with each team winning once at home and once on the road. The Penguins, in position to put a 3-1 stranglehold on the Eastern Conference semifinal series, couldn't hold a 1-0 lead and then lost because of a defensive error after tying the game on Brad Werenka's third-period goal.

Avalanche 6, Red Wings 2
DETROIT (AP) — The Colorado Avalanche continued to make themselves at home on the road and, suddenly, Detroit's shot at a three-peat appears in some danger.

Colorado got another strong game from goaltender Patrick Roy and Adam Deadmarsh scored twice as the Avs defeated the Red Wings 6-2 Thursday night to even their second-round series at two games each.

Roy, who made 44 saves in the third game, turned away 27 shots in Game 4.

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Ibara

A performance artist from France, Ibara works his mastery in paint on a 30-foot wall of black panels—a blur of color attuned to the pulsating beat of music. His show is mesmerizing, as he transforms the still wet paint into something even more spectacular. Ibara performs at the Preview Party and during the Celebration on Saturday and Sunday.

Art Cole, Distinguished Artist

The founder of Midland Community Theatre, Art Cole now resides in Santa Fe where he works full-time on his watercolors, oils and portraits. Many are on display in private and corporate collections around the world. His watercolor, "Apache Canyon Church," is featured in COA's limited edition poster.

Bugs & Balloons

Featuring Annie Hickman and Allyn Gooen, Bugs & Balloons combines intricately sculpted costumes, whimsical original songs, and graceful multi-cultural dances that thrill their audiences. Watch Allyn blow up three balloons with one breath, twist them while talking non-stop, inviting audience volunteers to join in enacting familiar stories on a stage inflated with colors. Bugs & Balloons will be featured during Sunday's Celebration.

Ricochet-Street Concert

This six-member country band was named Country Weekly's Top New Vocal Group of the Year and boasts a #1 hit, "Daddy's Money." Their Top 10 hits include "What Do I Know" and "Love Is Stronger Than Pride." Ricochet will perform a street concert Saturday night, 7:30 p.m. - midnight. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the concert, and are available at Luskey's Western Stores in Midland and Odessa. The Street Concert with Ricochet is sponsored by NewsWest 9. Opening Bands: Checkpoint and Black Gold

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Ripken's return doesn't help O's in Texas

Associated Press

ARLINGTON — Cal Ripken's return from his first-ever stay on the disabled list was spoiled as Texas got a grand slam from Roberto Kelly and a three-run homer from Rusty Greer, leading the Rangers past the Baltimore Orioles 15-7 Thursday night.

Ripken, out since April 18 because of a nerve problem in his lower back, went 1-for-4 with an RBI single and a run scored. He also failed a stop a hard-hit grounder between his legs for his sixth error in nine games this season.

At times, Ripken must have thought he was still on a rehabilitation assignment at Sarasota, Fla., considering how bizarre this game was.

Texas scored eight runs in the fourth inning to take a 9-1 lead, but Baltimore got within 9-7 in the top of the sixth and had the go-ahead run at the plate when the rally ended.

The Orioles climbed back into the game despite hitting into double plays in the first four innings, but then took themselves out of it again by committing four errors in the bottom of the sixth, letting the Rangers score three more runs.

Texas added three more in the eighth to send Baltimore to its fourth straight loss.

Even though the Rangers were without Juan Gonzalez for the first time this year, they still had 13 hits and tied a season high for runs.

The eight-run fourth inning was their second such outburst in a span of five innings and Kelly's grand slam gave Texas bases-loaded homers in consecutive games for the first time in franchise history.

Greer, whose grand slam highlighted an eight-run ninth inning in Chicago on Tuesday, drove in four runs for the second straight game with a first-inning double and his three-run shot in the fourth.

Rafael Palmeiro, playing his first game against Baltimore after five seasons with the Orioles, was 2-for-2 with three walks and a solo homer, his seventh.

Gonzalez sat because of a right hamstring that was strained when he homered in the fourth inning Tuesday. He's expected to miss the weekend series against Baltimore and could go on the disabled list. It was a light night in baseball, with only three

games played Thursday in the American League and none in the National League.

Angels 2, Yankees 0

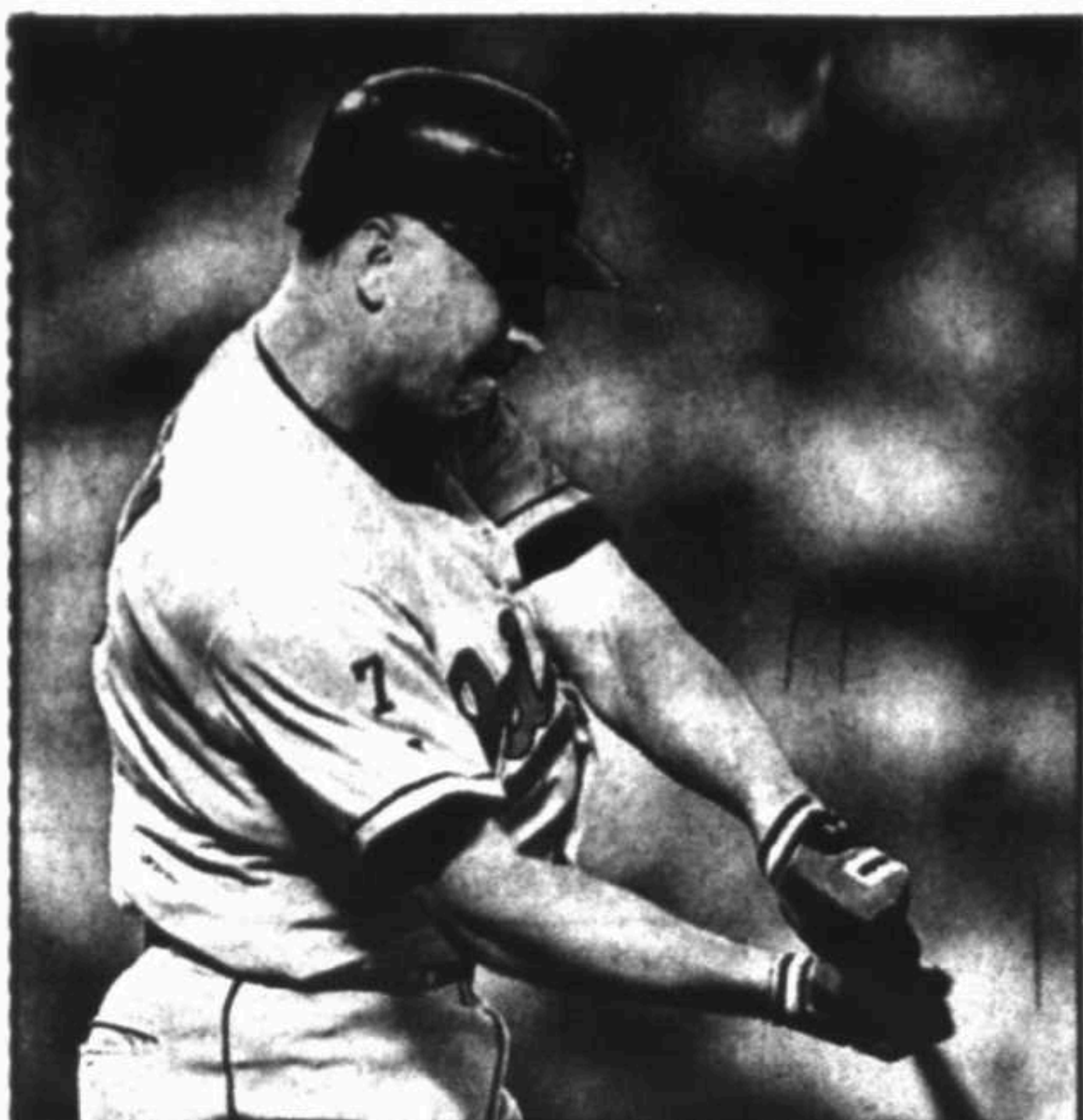
NEW YORK — Even a team meeting couldn't snap the New York Yankees out of their recent slump. Omar Olivares allowed five hits in 6-2-3 innings and Mo Vaughn hit a solo homer as the Anaheim Angels capped their first three-game sweep at Yankee Stadium in 15 years.

The Yankees, who hadn't been shut out twice at home in a season since 1997, were blanked in consecutive home games for the first time since 1991.

Blue Jays 8, Royals 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Carlos Delgado had two hits and two RBIs in Toronto's six-run second inning. Delgado, who wound up 4-for-5, added a run-scoring single in the ninth.

Pat Hentgen, 0-5 in his previous seven starts against the Royals, took a two-hitter into the seventh after retiring 14 in a row. But he needed relief help from Dan Plesac, who came in with the bases loaded and one out to retire Carlos Beltran on strikes and Joe Randa on a short fly.



Baltimore's Cal Ripken swings during his first game back from the disabled list. His return didn't help, as the Rangers beat the O's, 15-7, Thursday in Arlington.

MHS: Dawgs make another trip to El Paso

(From 1C)

center and Cotey-Joe Cswaykus followed by crushing one to left, Midland High had rallied for a 7-6 win in a matter of 10 pitches.

That the Bulldogs (26-7) were in a position where they needed late inning thunder from Nix and Cswaykus was largely their own doing. They committed four errors which helped Tascosa take that three-run lead, something they can't afford to repeat.

"I really didn't think we played that well against Tascosa and I told the kids that," Russell said. "All the games we've lost this season we've had at least one thing fall apart. (In the second game against Tascosa) we had an inning and a half where we just fell asleep."

If the Bulldogs have any such lulls against Socorro, they'll likely have until next season to wake up. Socorro won District 2-5A and is ranked No. 9 in the state with a 21-5 record. Last season, Socorro made the regional finals and this year's squad returns four three-year lettermen.

Leading the hitting attack for Socorro are junior shortstop Omar Quintanilla, who won the El Paso triple crown with a .635 average, 13 homers and 50 RBIs, and catcher Alonzo Ruelas (.450, 5 HR, 42 RBI).

"Everybody tells me they're as good as you can find," said Russell of Quintanilla and Ruelas. "They're a good ball club. Hitting wise they're not quite as good as (Midland) Lee, but they run the bases very well."

In Nix and Cswaykus, the Bulldogs have a 3-4 duo at least the equal of Quintanilla and Ruelas on paper. Nix and Cswaykus have combined for 20 homers and 97 RBIs this season.

"They hit the ball real well," said Socorro coach Chris Forbes of the Bulldogs. "I was real impressed with the way they swung the bats (against Tascosa). They showed what kind of team they had when they came back in that last game."

Socorro has a pair of pitchers who appear up to the task of shutting down the Bulldogs. Senior right-hander Bernie Minjares is the ace of the staff with a 9-0 mark and a 1.35 ERA, and he figures to start one of the first two games. The other one will likely be started by left-hander Adrian Soto, who is 5-2 with a 1.70 ERA and 70 strikeouts in 45.2 innings.

Russell said that either junior right-hander Mark Avila or left-hander Nix will start the first game, with the latter a consideration since Socorro has a strong left-handed lineup. Senior right-hander Aaron Pullin, who saved the first game against Tascosa and won the second, will start the second game.

Some of the Bulldogs might consider the playoffs old hat by now, but they've all gotten their feet wet. "We're playing an excellent ball team and we're going to have to respect them," said Cswaykus of Socorro. "We do know what the atmosphere is like after one series."

Jacobs puts Indians up for purchase

CLEVELAND (AP) — For sale: The best team in baseball. Makes profit. Comes with friendly confines, pennant flags. Quality of buyer as important as price.

In a move that stunned the city, Richard Jacobs put his Cleveland Indians on the market Thursday, hoping to find someone willing to keep the team in town and its reputation intact as one of baseball's hottest properties.

"Let's put it this way: I want to have a say in passing the torch," the 73-year-old Jacobs said. "I don't want an executor of mine to say, 'Well, Jacobs, he has no hand from the grave, he can't do anything on this. Let's make up our decision, who should be the owner of this team.'"

Jacobs, the Indians' chairman, president, CEO and controlling stockholder since buying the laughingstock team for \$45 million in 1986, said he decided a few weeks ago it was the right time to sell.

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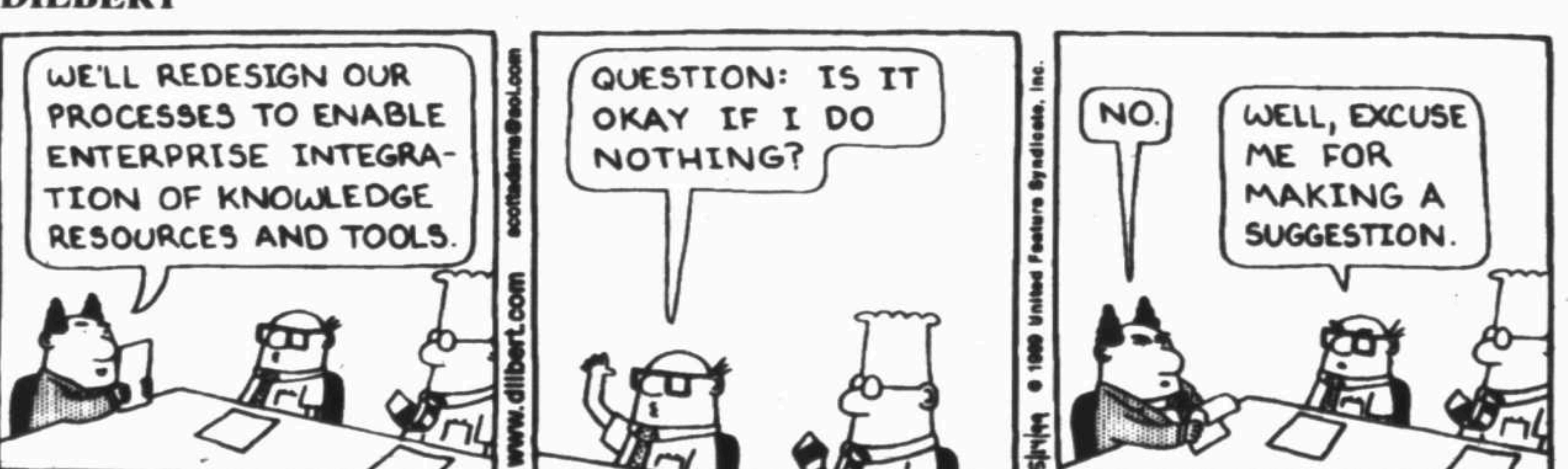
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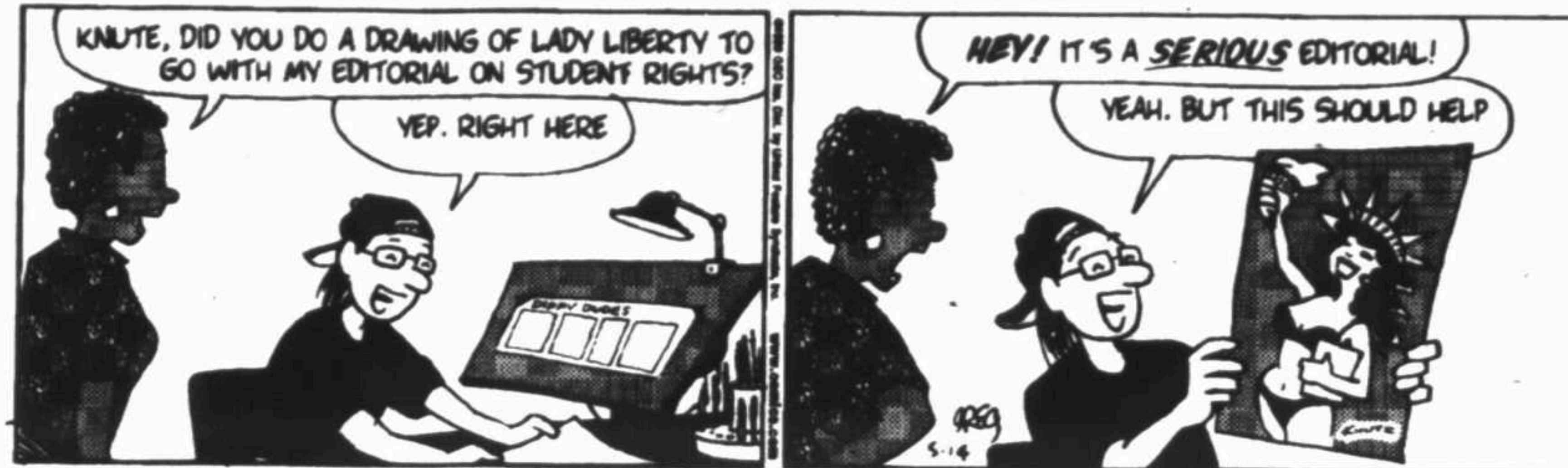
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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, May 14, 1999:

You are serious, iron-willed and determined this year. Very little will stop you, once you choose your course. Make what you want a reality. Uproar occurs frequently at work; a boss is cantankerous and difficult to relate to. You might need more freedom and independence. If you are single, you could be hard on potential suitors, as you are often overly stern. Learn to relax and lighten up if possible. If attached, communicate and be willing to give in sometimes. Give and take is important to the success of your relationship. TAURUS can test your patience — you are so much alike!

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Your possessive, demanding side comes out. Clearly, you will not tolerate any confusion. Establish expectations and limitations. Realize that enough is enough. You might shock another who doesn't understand that you have been mulling this over for a while. Tonight: Indulge.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ A stern conversation and humor set the tone for your interactions. You mean business, and others get your message. Someone in charge is unusually reactive, though by now you are used to this behavior. Seriously consider a change if it bothers you. Tonight: Your night to howl!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Pressure forces you to express what is on your mind. By saying nothing, nothing can change. Take responsibility; don't allow an upset to fester. A discussion can help you understand another and can resolve a problem. Tonight: Maintain a low profile.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You aren't always sure about what you want and expect from others. Asking is very important. Make time for a meeting, even if you have been putting it off. A partner is quirky, but this is not new. Take charge of joint financial matters, move forward on a decision. Tonight: TGIF with friends!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Take a deep breath and handle what you must, even if you would prefer not to! Evaluations lead you in a new direction, once you get the needed information. Your perky, upbeat side helps you win with problematic people. Others look to you as a role model. Tonight: A force to behold.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Detach and think about the long term. You might be hard pressed to find the right solutions. Determine what is important, then follow through accordingly. Note that your energy wanes, then returns. Recognize your limits. Be willing to say "no," if need be. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Others often rain on your parade, but frequency has nothing to do with acceptance. Stand your ground, be willing to turn and go in another direction. Creativity and ingenuity soar, given enough freedom. Others simply need to see your limits in order to honor them. Tonight: Be frisky and flirtatious.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Others can be difficult, but you can handle it. Don't let yourself be pushed. A pattern change proves to be positive. Family seems to take you for granted. You can stop this trend. What's stopping you? Maintain a sense of humor, if possible.

Tonight: An old-fashioned date.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Pace yourself and be direct. You might feel that others are dumping on you. Listen carefully and make sure another understands where you are coming from. Still, you could be blown away by others' behavior. Establish boundaries. Tonight: Make it easy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ A child or new love interest challenges you. Single Capricorns could feel very lonely, or could feel that others simply don't understand. Communication feels stilted. However, if you can lighten up and take a risk emotionally, much opens up. Establish ground rules. Tonight: Fun and games.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ A family member can be tough on you. Though you don't always understand others' views, a light, easy attitude works. You still might feel rebellious about an important situation. Others are constantly surprised by your actions. Tonight: Be whimsical — can you help it?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Communication isn't always easy, but it presents different points of view. After a talk, you might opt to go back to the drawing board. Your vision of what works could change substantially because of an insight about someone in your day-to-day life. Tonight: Hang out.

BORN TODAY

Singer David Byrne (1952), actress Meg Foster (1948), filmmaker George Lucas (1944)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Both vulnerable. North deals.

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

The bidding:			
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♥	3♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: Two of ♠

If this deal looks familiar, that is indeed the case. The bidding, North and East hands and the opening lead are identical to yesterday's column. However, the minor suits in the West and South hands have been altered to illustrate another facet of declarer

play. When an average player follows to a lead, more often than not it is with an honest card. That is not the case with an expert declarer.

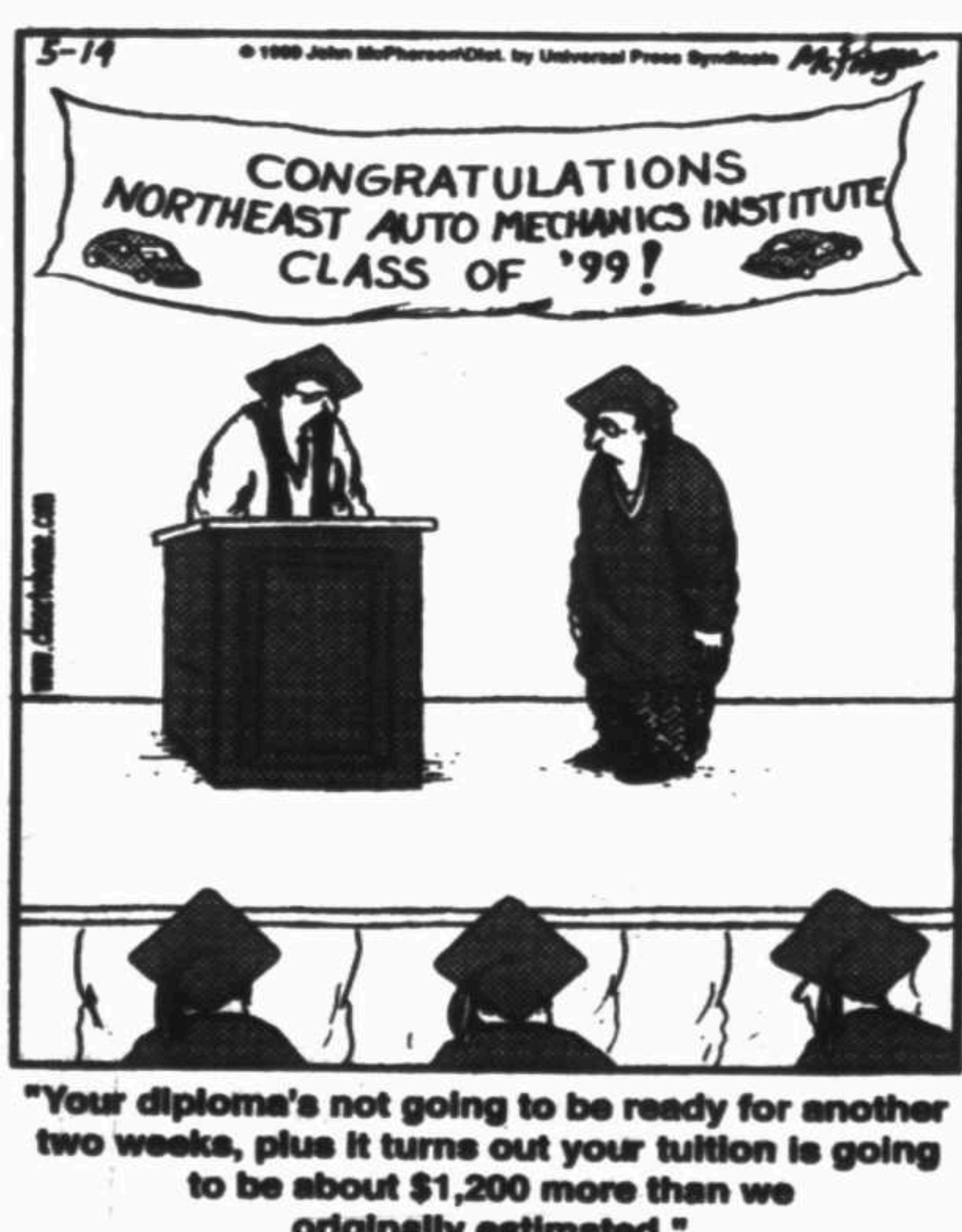
East's jump to three diamonds was preemptive. South's four spades is normal and closed the auction.

It was obvious to South that West's lead of the two of diamonds was a singleton. When East rose with the ace, declarer knew that a diamond continuation would prove fatal to the contract since West would surely ruff. To divert East from the winning defense, declarer made the unusual play of dropping the king of dia-

monds under the ace!

East knew that South was an expert technician and fully capable of making a deceptive play in perfect tempo. After much thought, East decided to take the play of the king of diamonds at face value and hope for club ruff as the means of defeating the contract. At trick two East shifted to the ace of clubs and despite partner's deuce, continued the suit. Declarer was happy to discard a losing diamond, force out the ace of spades and, after drawing the remaining trumps, fall back on the heart finesse for 10 tricks.

CLOSE TO HOME



FAMILY CIRCUS



"Two slices of cheese on mine."
"I'll just have one chee."

ZITS



ANDY CAPP



DENNIS THE MENACE



"THIS IS A RECORDING, MR. WILSON. WHEN YOU HEAR THE CRASH, LEAVE YOUR MESSAGE."

PEOPLE TODAY

NBC kills 'Homicide: Life on the Street'

NEW YORK — NBC has rubbed out the critically acclaimed but low-rated "Homicide: Life on the Street."

The show won't be on the network's fall schedule, a source close to "Homicide" who requested anonymity said Thursday.

Its seventh-season finale, airing May 21, will be the series' last new episode.

Representatives for the network and the show had no comment.

From its premiere in January 1993, the series, about a squad of Baltimore homicide detectives, was never a ratings winner and fought for its life year after year. Airing Friday at 10 p.m. EDT, it has clung in recent seasons to third place behind ABC's "20/20" and CBS' cop drama "Nash Bridges."

It won numerous honors, including three Peabody Awards, the most recent of them last year for an episode about a commuter pushed beneath a subway train.

Its evolving cast has featured Ned Beatty, Andre Braugher and Daniel Baldwin and currently includes Richard Belzer, Clark Johnson and Kyle Secor.

Filed on location in Baltimore, the series wrapped for the season in March with cast and crew uncertain about their future.

Official word of the cancellation is expected Monday, when NBC announces its fall schedule.

CASTRIES, St. Lucia — Natalie Cole will not appear at the St. Lucia Jazzfest because of damaged vocal cords.

She'll be replaced by Eryka Badu, the St. Lucia Tourist Board said Wednesday.

Miss Cole, the daughter of the late Nat King Cole, had been warned by doctors to rest her voice for seven to 10 days after a series of performances in Las Vegas.

She was to have led the lineup Saturday at an open-air concert on Pigeon Island in the Caribbean. Kool and the Gang, David Sanborn and Nestor Torres are scheduled to perform.

Ray Charles, Lionel Richie, Patti LaBelle and Deborah Cox have also canceled, some because of scheduling conflicts.

NEW YORK — You can't tell what Ahmed Best looks like from watching the computer-generated character he plays in the latest "Star Wars" movie. But you'll get to know him

just the same.

"All the sound effects, all the voices, it's all me," the 25-year-old Best said in a recent interview. "My face won't be in it. But my face will be in something else. I've come to terms with it."

Best plays Jar Jar Binks, a floppy-eared, two-legged creature in "Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace."

Best spoke all of Jar Jar's lines, invented his reptilian noises and physically acted out the scenes, but he was ultimately replaced with a computer image.

ATLANTA — Playwright Alfred Uhry has a new honor — his own high school theater.

"It's amazing — like an out-of-body experience," said the Oscar-winning author of "Driving Miss Daisy."

His alma mater, Druid Hills High School, is renaming its 470-seat auditorium the Alfred Uhry Theater.

"It's as if there's this other fellow, Alfred Uhry, who gets all this praise, and then there's me, the lucky stiff who gets to come along and enjoy the ride," Uhry said.

NEW YORK — There's a soft side of Mike Tyson reserved for family, his wife says.

"He's human, he has a family, he's sweet, he's real loving and kindhearted," Dr. Monica Turner Tyson said in the latest Esquire. "In the ring, he's a warrior, but at home he's a big teddy bear."

At 32, the former heavyweight champion has two children — a 1 1/2-year-old son, Amir, and a 3-year-old daughter, Rayna.

Tyson is serving a one-year jail sentence for assaulting two motorists in Maryland.

LOS ANGELES — Paralyzed star Christopher Reeve believes he will someday walk again, but a video of him in a walking motion in an experimental therapy session shouldn't be misconstrued.

The "Superman" star was videotaped recently suspended in a harness while researchers moved his feet and legs in a walking motion on a treadmill. He's participated in research at the University of California, Los Angeles, aimed at regenerating nerves in the spinal cord.

Reeve has been paralyzed since 1995 when he was thrown from a horse. The video was shared with TV stations on Wednesday, and UCLA researchers have been besieged with requests for interviews ever since.

"It's experimental and researchers don't want to give the impression Christopher Reeve is going to be walking anytime soon," said UCLA spokesman Warren Robak.

Compiled from Associated Press wire reports.



Damaged vocal cords have forced Natalie Cole to cancel a concert.

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DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited by Trude Michel Jaffe

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- 1 Sub shop
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- 5 — America
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- 8 Cyclotron bits
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- 10 Lamp fuel
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- 12 Mother-of-pearl
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- 18 —-eyed jack
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- 26 "Not with — but a whimper"
- 27 Beat, as wings
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36

"— life!"

37 Correct proofs

38 Cereal grasses

40 Mixed, like

48 Circle dance

60 Nut used by soda makers

61 — go brag!

62 Touched up hair

65 Playback device

51 Duck out of

52 Get together

53 Acclaim

55 Guitarist Paul

58 Circle dance

60 Nut used by soda makers

61 — go brag!

62 Touched up hair

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62 Touched up hair

65 Playback device

51 Duck out of

52 Get together

53 Acclaim

55 Guitarist Paul

58 Circle dance

60 Nut used by soda makers

61 — go brag!

62 Touched up hair

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OIL PRICES FUTURES

Thursday \$18.03
Previous \$17.57

POSTED

Thursday \$15.50
Previous \$15.00

NATURAL GAS

Thursday \$2.373

Lane heads Chase

Richard Andrew "Andy" Lane Jr. has been named chairman and chief executive officer of Chase Bank of Texas, Permian Basin region, by the bank's local board of directors. His appointment is effective immediately.

He succeeds Ed Jones, Chase Permian Basin's chairman and chief executive since 1984. Jones has been named executive vice president with responsibility for commercial banking in Houston. "Ed has built a great staff with an extensive knowledge of what customers in the Midland-Odessa area need," Lane said. "My job will be to keep building on their great work and to attract even more new relationships for the bank."

"Andy Lane has a great track record of taking care of existing customers while building new relationships," said Alan Buckwalter, chairman and chief executive officer of Chase Bank of Texas. "I know that Andy is excited about joining Chase in the Permian Basin. He will manage a great banking team in a market that is extremely important for Chase Texas due to the strength of its commercial and consumer sectors."

Lane plans to be an active participant in the community. In Houston, he served as chairman of the board of the Post Oak YMCA and was a director of Briar Grove School.

He and his wife, Christine Bell Lane, have two sons, 5 and 6 months old.

Dollar falls

NEW YORK (AP) — The dollar fell against the euro and other major Western currencies Thursday as a faint possibility of peace in Kosovo emerged with the partial withdrawal of Yugoslav troops.

The dollar's lone increase against major currencies occurred against the yen as an International Monetary Fund official discounted Japan's ability to quickly recover from its recession.

The euro was quoted at \$1.0660 in late trading in New York, up from \$1.0653 late Wednesday. Also, the dollar was quoted at 1.5027 Swiss francs, down from 1.5056, and 1.4583 Canadian dollars, down from 1.4592. The British pound rose to \$1.6205 from \$1.6176.

Stocks end mixed

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks were mostly higher Thursday on reports showing moderate inflation, with the Dow Jones industrial average and the Standard & Poor's 500 pushing to new records.

But weakness in some technology shares pulled the Nasdaq Stock Market lower.

The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 106.82 to 11,107.19, breezing past its previous closing record of 11,031.59 posted last Friday. The Dow is up nearly 21 percent so far this year.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 3.56 to 1,367.56, topping its previous closing high of 1,364.00 set Wednesday. But the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index declined 24.54 to 2,582.00.

Crude rises

Crude oil futures posted their first gains in three days Thursday on the New York Mercantile Exchange amid renewed optimism of producer cuts will boost cash prices and on reports of a Texas refinery problem.

Crude gained after Saudi Arabia said it was in continued consultations with other world oil producers in an effort to boost cash crude prices to about \$20 a barrel by year's end.

What to do with your 401K plan

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

More and more Midlanders are looking for the best ways to handle lump sum distributions from their retirement plans.

The Texas Workforce Center of Midland hosted a seminar Thursday on the subject, presented by Kenneth Dresel of Salomon Smith Barney. He said people are faced with these challenges because of job layoffs or by taking early retirement packages — and not just in the energy industry — or because mergers between com-

panies have altered retirement plans.

Retirees Lloyd and Dian Whittington said they attended the seminar because they are looking for better ways to take distributions from their 401(K) retirement plans and Individual Retirement Accounts.

Neta Smith, who had been laid off from her job, said she had a cash balance in her 401(K) plan with her former employer and wanted to find out if she should leave it there or move it somewhere else.

Another attendee, who recently took an early-retirement package, said he was

interested in rolling over that distribution into another instrument. He's not old enough to retire, but is close enough to need planning and is beginning a new career. He was also interested in planning to financially care for his two small children, aged 2 and 4, and to help his wife get her professional life back on track.

Financial experts said that taking possession of a lump sum distribution before age 59 1/2 subjects the investor to a 10 percent early withdrawal penalty and to a tax bill on the tax-deferred funds.

That penalty and tax can be avoided or

reduced in four ways:

■ By directly rolling the distribution into an IRA.

■ Taking possession of the funds for 60 days and then rolling them into an IRA. A 20 percent tax is withheld before the distribution is given to the investor, who must then make up the 20 percent before rolling it into an IRA.

■ Rolling over a portion of the distribution into an IRA and taking possession of the remainder.

■ No rollover — leaving the money where it is.

Texas bank first to put money in your hands in blink of an eye

HOUSTON (AP) — If you can't tell identical twins Michael and Richard Swartz apart, do what Bank United of Texas does: Look them in the eye.

On Thursday, Bank United became the first in the United States to offer iris recognition technology at automatic teller machines, providing the Swartzes and other customers in three Texas cities a cardless, password-free way to get their money.

Relying on 266 unique characteristics found in a person's iris, a Bank United ATM camera "reads" or scans a customer's right eye and determines if the person requesting a transaction is the account holder. By comparison, a fingerprint carries about 35 measurable characteristics.

"It knows you just by looking at you," said Ron Coben, Bank United's executive vice president. "There's no card to show, there's no fingers to ink, no customer inconvenience or discomfort. It's just a photograph of a Bank United customer's eyes."

To demonstrate the technology for reporters, Richard Swartz, a 25-year-old Rice University graduate student, had his iris photographed by a bank employee. The image was cataloged into a database for later recall by the ATM camera.

Minutes later, Swartz withdrew \$40 from his account — without inserting a card or first punching in an identification code.

Michael Swartz then walked up to the machine and tried to access his brother's

account. He was immediately denied access.

Analysts say iris identification — already used by at 11 banks outside the United States — is expected to eliminate the use of cards and passwords, not only at the cash machine but eventually in all financial transactions.

Bank United's iris project is the result of a three-way partnership with Sensor and ATM maker Diebold Inc.

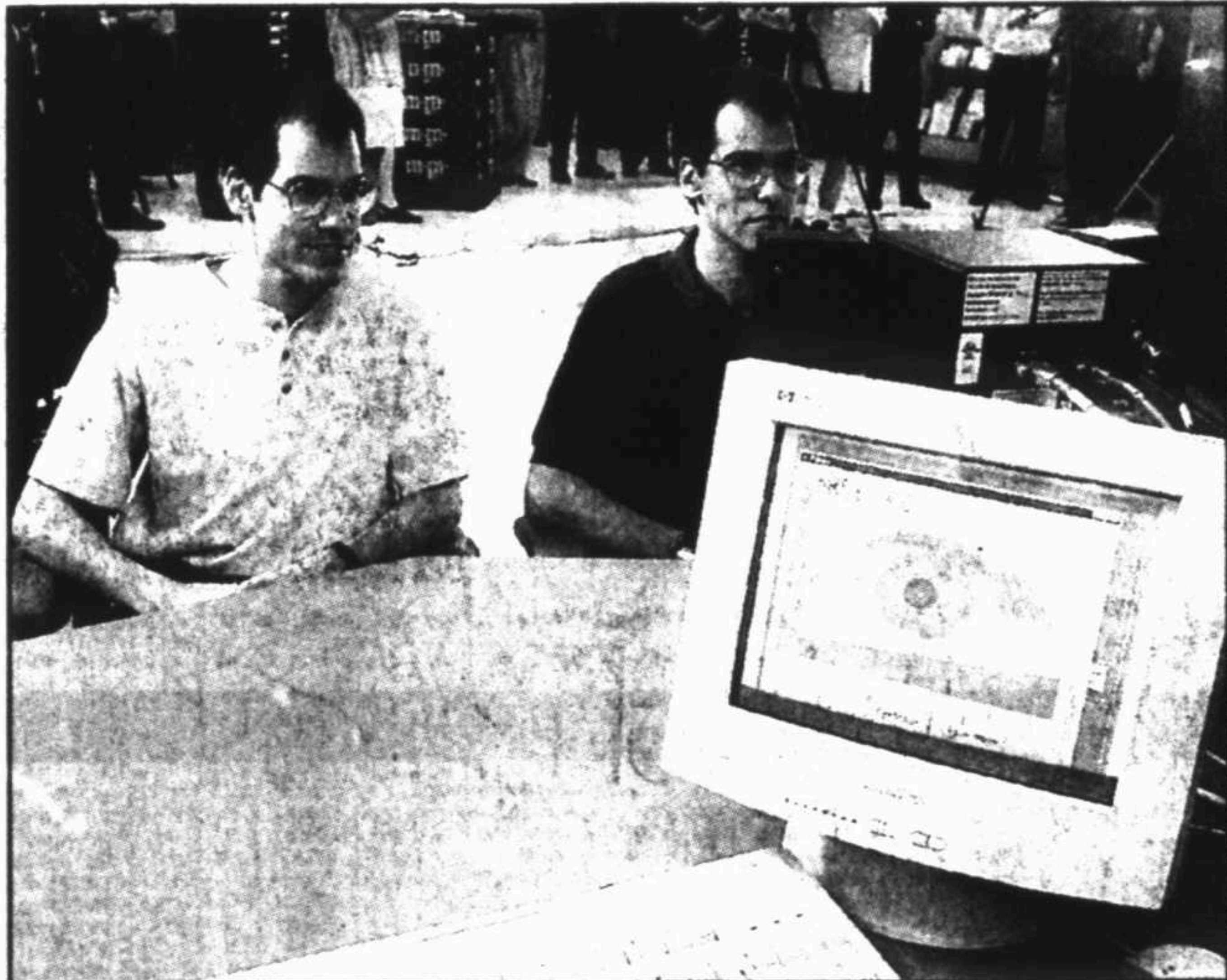
Currently Bank United offers the technology in Fort Worth, Houston and Dallas, but officials hope to have more eye-scanning ATMs up and running within the next year.

The iris is the best part of the eye to use as an identifier because there are no known diseases of the iris and surgery is not performed on the iris, officials said.

"This event clearly establishes iris identification as the emerging standard in personal electronic identification," said Robert Van Naarden, Sensor's vice president of marketing and customer service. "Iris identification is the most secure, robust and stable form of identification known to man. It is far safer, faster, more secure and accurate than DNA testing."

And for the techno-junkie, there's one more attribute.

"It has a very high cool factor," says Coben. "We think of it as James Bond meets stocks and bonds."



Richard Swartz, right, has his eye scanned as his identical twin Michael looks on during a demonstration of an Iris Recognition ATM machine in Houston Thursday

Health insurance industry has become proactive in lowering costs to insured

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

In his 30th year at Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Texas, Bill Worley, chief operating officer of the non-profit health insurer's West Texas geographic business unit, has seen the industry become more proactive in an effort to lower costs.

By lowering costs to the insurer, employer and consumer, perhaps a dent can be made in the estimated 25 percent of Texans who have no health insurance, he said.

Noting that an estimated 30 percent of health costs are duplicative, "if we can squeeze that waste out of the system and improve the quality of service, fewer will be uninsured. We have a challenge to reach that 25 percent of the population who

are uninsured. I'm not proud of that as a Texan."

Debbie Kane, director of community health services for Memorial Hospital and Medical Center, said the volume of visits has been steady to the three clinics MHMC operates: women's health clinic, a pediatric clinic and a family medicine clinic. The clinics are funded by two grants from the Texas Department of Health.

She said the new Texas Healthy Kids program, which the Texas Legislature set up to provide low insurance premiums to low-income families, will help her clients. She is also very interested in the Children's Health Insurance Program, a similar program using federal funds that she said could be even more affordable than Texas

Healthy Kids.

Texas Healthy Kids coverage will be coordinated by Blue Cross/Blue Shield, which was formed by the Texas Legislature and began operations in 1939.

Worley, who has been with the insurer 30 years, has seen his industry become more proactive, as evidenced by the growth of managed care.

The insurer entered the Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) field in 1996, forming HMO Blue of West Texas, which serves from Gaines County north to the Oklahoma border and HMO Blue of Southwest Texas, which serves from Andrews County south to the Mexican border. The two combined have approximately 65,000 members.

"We try to catch problems before they require hospitalization," such as implementing asthma and diabetes management programs, Worley said.

A congestive heart failure management program is being planned.

He acknowledged that HMOs have received negative publicity because of lawsuits claiming the organizations denied proper care to family members who were either permanently disabled or died as a result.

"There have been some ugly cases, but I think if you reported both sides of the coin for every two or three bad cases, there are 200 to 300 good stories," he said. "I feel in my heart we want to do good. Taking care of customers is our top goal."

Big Spring man to market in-home tornado shelter as alternative to underground shelters

By T.E. Jenkins
Big Spring Correspondent

BIG SPRING — With the recent rash of tornadoes and tornado warnings throughout the central and southwest part of the country, many people are looking for exactly the type of product a Big Spring entrepreneur is preparing to provide — shelter.

Mark Silen, a second-generation inventor, will soon be marketing the in-home tornado shelter designed by his father. He hopes the blueprints that were drawn up for the steel shelter more than 20 years ago will eliminate at least a small portion of the fear that many tornado victims live with.

"Tornadoes are definitely a concern if you live as close to the tornado alley as we do," Silen said. "By having a shelter actually in your home, you eliminate the dangerous process of trying to get to shelter before it's too late."

"This shelter is designed to be used as a bathroom, pantry, or storage room in the home," Silen said. "This shelter actually sits

above ground, and can be made into an integral part of the home."

He said the design is perfect for families that are building a home, and don't want all of the trouble and expense associated with underground storm shelters.

"You actually put the shelter in when you are building the house. If you already have a home, you can add the shelter on just like you would any other addition, and you build the walls and other amenities around it."

"When you are through, you can't even tell that it is there. It just looks like another part of the house."

"If I were in an area where I didn't have easy access to a shelter, I would certainly consider some other type of in-home shelter," said Brian Smith, meteorologist with the National Weather Service. "Most rural areas have shelter available, but regardless of where you are when the storm hits, you need to put as many walls between you and the storm as possible."

"If you don't have a storm shelter, try to get to the most interior room in the house, preferably a bathroom. Bathrooms have a lot of plumbing and pipes in the walls, which

make them that much stronger."

Silen said the shelter was designed by his father, Almer Silen.

"After my father passed away, the prototype that he built just kind of sat there," Silen said. "Then, in 1982, I decided to try my hand at it, and built the second prototype, making a few improvements to the original design. I have every confidence in this shelter."

The Texas Tech University's Department of Civil Engineering analyzed the shelter in the 1970s. The materials and method of fabrication should be sufficient to withstand winds of at least 260 mph, according to the department's 1976 report.

Silen said the shelter provides more than ample protection from the projectiles that a tornado sends flying.

"The walls of the shelter are constructed out of quarter-inch steel. They are reinforced by the quarter-inch angle iron where they come together, as well. This thing is practically impregnable."

How does the above-ground shelter hold its footing through winds that represent less than 1 percent of all tornadoes in the United

States?

"The shelter is actually part of the foundation, I guess you would say," Silen said. "The shelter has steel beams attached to the bottom, and when the foundation is poured over them, they become part of it."

"The concrete will actually cover the anchoring beams on the bottom, as well as come several inches up the sides of the shelter's walls. It's definitely not going anywhere."

The cost of these shelters is well worth the safety they provide, he said.

"You can have one of these built for roughly between \$1,500 and \$2,500. Price comes down basically to how fancy you want to get with it."

Silen said he plans to begin marketing the blueprints for the storm shelter soon and will offer the plans for the tank-like structure to anyone in need of protection from Mother Nature's harshest elements.

"After seeing what happened in Oklahoma City, I think it's more important than ever for people to make sure they adequate shelter," he said.

INVESTOR'S GUIDE

Understanding differences among bonds is easier than one may think

By Eric Tyson

Q: A broker recently solicited me to buy some bonds from him. He started rattling off the names of the different bonds and other statistics, and I found myself confused. Can you please explain how bonds differ from each other?

A: Bonds aren't as complicated and unique as people, but they're certainly more complex than a bank savings account. And, thanks to some shady marketing practices by some investing companies and salespeople who sell bonds, you have your work cut out for you in getting a handle on what many bonds really are and how they differ from their peers.

The first major way that bonds differ from one another is in what type of organization is issuing them — in other words, what kind of organization you're lending your money to. For example, many different types of corporations issue bonds, as well as the federal and state governments.

In addition to who issues them, bonds differ from one another in terms of the creditworthiness of the issuer. Every year, billions of dollars worth of bonds default. You can minimize investing in bonds that default by purchasing high-credit quality bonds. Credit rating agencies, such as Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Duff & Phelps, rate the credit quality and likelihood of default of bonds.

The credit rating of a bond depends on the issuer's (com-

pany or government) ability to pay back its debt. Bond credit ratings are usually done on some sort of a letter-grade scale where AAA is the highest rating, with ratings descending through AA and A, followed by BBB, BB, B, CCC, CC, C and so on. AAA and AA rated bonds are considered "high-grade" or "high-credit quality." Such bonds have little chance (a fraction of 1 percent) of default.

Bonds rated A and BBB are considered "general" grade or quality. Junk bonds (known more by their marketed name, high yield) are rated BB or lower. These bonds are more likely to default — perhaps as many as a couple of percent per year actually default.

You may be asking yourself why any right-minded investor would buy a bond with a low credit rating. Companies with lower-quality bonds attract bond investors by paying them a higher interest rate. The lower a bond's credit rating and quality, the higher the yield you can and should expect from such a bond. Poorer quality bonds, though, are not for the faint of heart.

In addition to paying attention to the credit quality of the bonds you're buying, make sure to diversify. Don't put all your money earmarked for corporate bonds into just one or two corporate bonds. Bond mutual funds are a great way to invest in bonds because they typically invest in dozens of bonds.

The final important dimension upon which bonds differ from one another is maturity, which simply means the time at which the bond pays you back — next year, in five years, in 30 years and so on. A bond's maturity gives you a good (although far from perfect) sense of how volatile a bond will be if interest rates change.

Suppose that you are considering investing in two bonds that are issued by the same organization and both yield 7 percent. The bonds differ from one another only in when they will mature: One is a two-year bond, and the other a 20-year bond. If interest rates were to rise just 1 percent (from 7 percent to 8 percent), the two-year bond would fall about 2 percent in value, whereas the 20-year bond would fall about 10 percent.

If you hold a bond until it matures, you get your principal back unless the issuer defaults. In the meantime, however, if interest rates fall, bond prices rise. The reason is simple. If the bond you hold is issued at, say, 7 percent, and interest rates on similar bonds rise to 8 percent, no one (unless they don't know any better) will want to purchase your 7 percent bond. The value of your bond has to decrease enough so that it effectively yields 8 percent.

Most of the time, longer-term bonds pay higher yields than short-term bonds. You can look at a chart of the current yield of bonds plotted against when they mature — such a chart is known as a yield curve. At most times, this curve slopes upward. Investors generally demand a higher rate of interest for taking the risk of holding longer-term bonds. Most financial newspapers and magazines carry a current chart of the yield curve.

Write Eric Tyson, author of the best sellers "Investing for Dummies" and "Personal Finance for Dummies" (IDG Books), in care of King Features, 235 E. 45th St., New York, NY 10017, or e-mail: eric@erictyson.com.

Eric Tyson's column is distributed by King Features Syndicate Inc.



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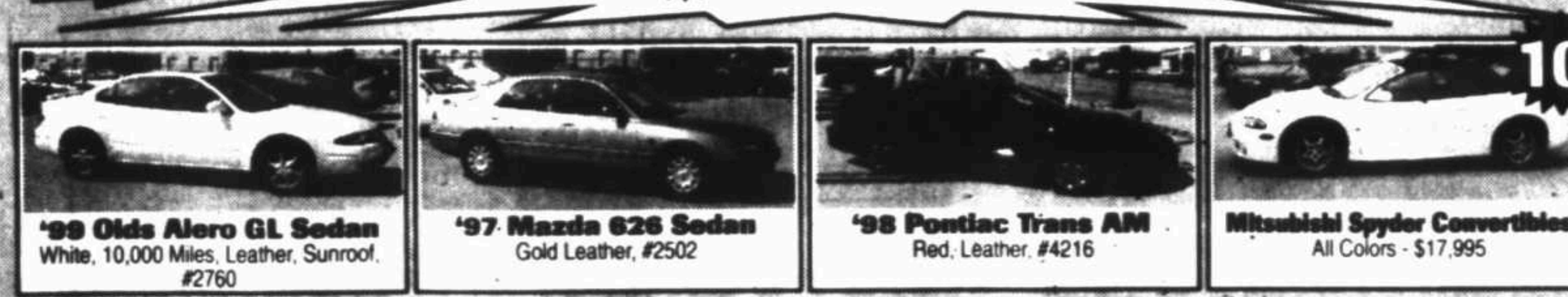
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CHEVROLET 1994 Lumina, gray with red pinstripe, tinted windows, power windows, locks, Low miles. Excellent condition. \$6,900, negotiable. 520-8850.

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FORD 1990 F-150 XL Lariat. Excellent condition, towing package, bed liner, headcage rack, custom wheels, 350 V-8, \$5,995. 699-4501.
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CUSTOMER SERVICE Representatives: Pleasant telephone voice, enthusiastic, ambitious. We will train. Hourly plus incentives. Flexible hours. Call for appointment. 687-2333.

DRIVER WANTED Clean driving record, must be 25 or older and pass drug test. apply in person, B & W Recruiters, 1607 W. Florida, Midland.

DRIVER Immediate opening for OTR Driver. Clean CDL, Hazmat, Midwest area. Experience necessary. 915-523-9678.

EXPERIENCED DRIVER CDL license required, clean record, \$2,000 per hour. Apply in person at Viking Pools, 10600 W. Interstate 20.

EXPERIENCED POOL INSTALLERS Experienced in all aspects of pool installations. Apply in person at Viking Pools, 10600 West I-20, Midland, 561-9933.

EXPERIENCED VETERINARY TECHNICIAN needed full time for busy small and large animal practice. Please send resumes to Box C-1105 c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

NOW HIRING Crude Oil Drivers. Must live in Big Lake Area. Experienced only. No new drivers. Excellent wages and benefits. 915-561-5823.

Midland Sun Seeking Quality
Medical Sec...
Requirements include communication skills, and insurance, PPO's and HMO's.
Insurance an...
Requirements include familiarity with all insurance, Compensation, Medicare and Medicaid.
Both positions Monday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm. Please contact Gayle at 915-553-6444.
FOR RESUMES call 699-2444. Professional, fast, courteous service.

FRONT COUNTER Help
Season Cleaners, full time. Apply at 905 North Highway.

FULL-TIME LEAD consultant. Would be affordable housing experience but not necessary. resume by 1902 North Midland Drive.

FURNITURE MOVERS experience. Heavy lifting drivers license required. name (number) 915/553-1331.

KENT KWIK
24 Hour * Job Hotline 520-4053 ext. 371

LIFEGUARDS Needed! Alamo YMCA. Must be currently certified. Please call 694-2528.

MECHANIC TECH needed. 5 years experience. Call Johnny at 682-1335.

NEW TODAY
MIDLAND GYMNASIUM is seeking coach to work preschool and development classes. Must work with children. Call or come by 4113, 3501 North Lamesa.

MOTORCYCLE SALES be knowledgeable motorcycles, have ver retail sales experience. Applications may be filed from 9 am to 12 pm. Friday at Golden State Honda Kawasaki Yamaha. E. 2nd, Odessa.

NEED EXPERIENCED Vacuum truck drivers an operator. Must have clean driving record and CDL. DOT physical card. Apply person at Permian Petroleum Services, 4601 R Highway.

NEED HEAVY EQUIP mechanic. Must have tools, excellent benefits. SDOE. Applications take 1401 South Grandview Odessa, EOE.

NIGHT CLERK NEEDED 10PM. Call Larry at 682-1071 for an appointment.

★LUGI'S★
Accepting applications for waitperson position. Must be able to work splits & week. Apply in person only. 111 N. Big Spring. EOE/M/F/D/V.

POSITIONS OPEN FOR THE FOLLOWING
GENERAL LABORER PRODUCTION WORK
PLEASE APPLY IN PERSON AT: 4000 BIG SPRING, STE 11

RELIEF CASHIER needed full time shift. Apply in person. No phone calls. 2210 N. Spring.

SMALL CHURCH Pianist. For more information call 682-8160 or 683-9240.

SONIC Needs one person for Day and Night. All shifts available. Apply person: 4201 Midland Drive.

Experienced Daytime Food Server/Bartender
No phone calls. Apply in person between 2 and 5. La Bodega 2700 N. Big Spring.

SUMMER WORK for students/9th High Grads. \$9.85 per hour. Entry customer sales and scholarships available. Conditions exist. Part time. Call 9AM-5PM, 8500.

TAKING APPLICATION part time position at Christian Tanning. 4400 N. Big Spring, Suite 18.

NEW TODAY
TEMPORARY EMPLOY Help needed to do special event brochures have valid drivers license liability insurance. Please call 570-8248, Monday-Friday.

V.I.P. Employment Services 686-9722 Light Industrial Placement

WANTED: Couple prefer work on a ranch south of Garden City, Texas. Excellent conditions. One house work. One to do ranch, farm, and yard. Please call 915-354-2381 appointment for an interview.

RN LVN: CNA's Please apply in person Midland Skilled Nursing Sage, Midland, EOE.

Midland Surgical Associates is Seeking Qualified Applicants For:

Medical Secretary/Transcriptionist:
Requirements include typing proficiency, computer and communication skills, and medical terminology. Familiarity with insurance, PPO's and HMO's.

Insurance and Collection Specialist:
Requirements include communication and computer skills, familiarity with all insurance types: HMO's, PPO's, Workman's Compensation, Medicare and Medicaid.

Both positions Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:30. Excellent benefits which include health insurance, vacation, and sick pay, retirement plan. Send resume to: Box J-1005, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

310 General Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED WINDOW TINTER. Salary based on experience. Immediate employment opportunity. Please contact Gayle Jones, Auto Glass Manager at Odessa Glass and Mirror, 915-332-6444.

FRONT COUNTER HELP: All Season Cleaners, full and part time. Apply at 905 Andrews Highway.

FULL-TIME LEASING CONSULTANT. Would prefer affordable housing experience, but not necessary. Bring resume by 1902 North Midland Drive.

FURNITURE MOVERS with experience. Heavy lifting and drivers license required. Leave name/number (915)553-1464.

311 Medical Help Wanted

Looking For Team Players
Terra Gardens is accepting applications for:

All Shifts CNA's
\$6.60/hour shift differential
Insurance Available
Apply in person
2901 West Ohio
Midland, TX., 79701
No phone calls, please.
EOE

312 Professional Help Wanted

Looking For Team Players
Terra Gardens needs immediately:
Director of Nursing
for a 50 bed facility
Long term care
experience preferred.
Apply in person
2901 West Ohio
Midland, TX., 79701
No phone calls, please.
EOE

313 Medical Help Wanted

ATTENTION:
LVNs, RNs, RTs & Paramedics! Become an RN or BSN graduate and increase your income without going back to school! To schedule your interview in Midland, call Robert Tallman by May 19th.
1-800-737-2222.

BUSY MEDICAL practice seeks LVN for office work. Duties include telephone triage, assisting with office procedures, and working smoothly with front office and other medical staff. Ideal candidate would be LVN (experience preferred) who enjoys fast pace and works effectively as a team member. Good salary and benefits. Send resume to: Box J-5013, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

314 Clerical Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Extensive knowledge of Office 97, Word Perfect, Data Base, Customer Support software and hardware. Salary \$18K DOE. Send resume and cover letter with salary requirements to: WTR, P.O. Box 6000, Midland, TX., 79711. Fax 915-561-8060, wtr@wtr.net.

ASSISTANT WITH Real Estate License: Needs to be familiar with computers. Call 697-1217 or 682-7884. Leave message.

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING/Admissions: Comanche Trail Nursing & Rehabilitation Center is seeking a marketing professional with excellent relationship-building, organizational and analytical skills. The ideal candidate will have healthcare marketing experience, familiarity with the Big Spring and surrounding area's medical communities, an interest in the geriatric healthcare market and computer skills. RN or LVN a plus. Competitive salary and benefits including health insurance, 401K, paid vacation and holidays. Please send resume and salary requirements to: Administrator, Comanche Trail Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 3200 Parkway, Big Spring, Texas 79702 or Fax 915-263-4067.

315 Medical Help Wanted

Full Charge Bookkeeper: familiar with all phases of accounting, good communication skills, Peachtree 10 and Excel a must. Account and bank reconciliations, payroll, AP, AR and GL entries. Must be detail oriented. Full-time position in a fun and exciting business. Please fax resume to (281)486-6155. Will call for interviews. Salary open.

INVESTMENT BROKERAGE: Firm seeks individual with financial experience. NASD Financial Operations Officer (Series 27 or 28) preferred. Computer experience necessary. Quickbooks & Excel preferred. Salary DOE. Interested candidates may fax resume to 683-1097, or call Cheryl at 683-1090 for appointment.

316 Medical Help Wanted

Medication Instructors: Needed. Send resume to 3305 Andrews Hwy, Midland, 79703 or fax to 915/684-7592.

NOW HIRING: Hair stylist, full or part time. Please apply in person at 4324-A Andrews Hwy.

MEDICAL INSURANCE: Immediate opening for doctor's office. Medical Insurance clerk/manager. Knowledge of medical manager experience necessary. Computer knowledge with Unix, Word Processing, Quicken preferred. Monday-Friday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Please fax resume plus salary requirements to: 683-6161.

317 Medical Help Wanted

PHYSICAL THERAPY: Outpatient Clinic is looking for P.T. Aide. To work on part-time basis (flexible hours). Experience preferred. Apply in person. Seal Physical Therapy, 4500 West Illinois, Suite 110. From 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, Monday-Friday.

Small Rural hospital is in need of an
X-ray Tech
(RT) (ARRT) R.
Radiography experience preferred but willing to train. This is a full-time position with some call included. We offer an extensive benefit package and very competitive salary. Send resume/inquiries to: Medical Arts Hospital, 1600 N. Bryan, Lamesa, TX 79331. 806-872-2183. 806-872-5184 Fax. Attn: Human Resources

318 Medical Help Wanted

PROGRAMMER/Software Developer: Seeking experienced programmers with Microsoft Visual FoxPro and/or related Windows Development language skills. Applicants should be self motivated individuals with good communication skills. Oil and Gas Industry knowledge helpful. Competitive salary and benefits. Send resumes to: Questa Software Systems, Inc. Attn: Personnel Department, 500 West Illinois, Suite 650, Midland, TX 79701. www.questasoft.com

319 Medical Help Wanted

MECHANIC FOR Small Engines: Two or three years experience, must have tools. Apply in person 2700 South Hwy 349. 685-1271.

MOORE DOCUMENTS: Solutions is the Midland Xerox sales agency. Now accepting applications for immediate sales representative position in Midland county selling high quality office equipment. Must have thorough experience in sales, be self motivated and outgoing. Applicants may inquire at 915-570-1400 or 8-5.

320 Medical Help Wanted

RECEPTIONIST: Full time. Benefits eligible. Responsible for answering multi-phone lines, scheduling appointments, greeting clients, accepting payments and other clerical duties. Experience required. Computer skills helpful. Send resume to: Centers For Children and Families, 800 N. Marfendine, # 253, Midland, Texas 79701. Attn: Young, EOE. United Way Agency.

321 Medical Help Wanted

ACQUISITIONS ENGINEER: Aggressive company seeks experienced reservoir engineer to handle acquisitions ranging from \$1 million to \$100 million. Will consider consulting or employee arrangement. Send resume to: Box P-6179, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

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RECEPTIONIST: Full time. Benefits eligible. Responsible for answering multi-phone lines, scheduling appointments, greeting clients, accepting payments and other clerical duties. Experience required. Computer skills helpful. Send resume to: Centers For Children and Families, 800 N. Marfendine, # 253, Midland, Texas 79701. Attn: Young, EOE. United Way Agency.

375 Medical Help Wanted

MECHANIC FOR Small Engines: Two or three years experience, must have tools. Apply in person 2700 South Hwy 349. 685-1271.

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MOORE DOCUMENTS: Solutions is the Midland Xerox sales agency. Now accepting applications for immediate sales representative

GARAGE SALES !!!

79701

2900 W. KENTUCKY, Unit 109. Thursday-Friday 9-6. Big Sale! Furniture, glassware, books, toys, and miscellaneous.

2613 ROOSEVELT. Saturday 8-7 hard made birchwood, stools, benches, doors, baby stuff, women's jeans, twin queen bed frames, dryer, and lots of miscellaneous.

1407 PRINCETON: Moving sale!

Refrigerator, washer/dryer, 27" TV, file cabinets, book shelves, nice area rug, antique pump organ, oak chair, new computer desk, golf clubs, wine cart, edger, housewares, firewood, Webber grill, flower pots, suitcases, clothes, tent, misc. Much, much more! Fri.-Sat. 9-3.

2202 WEST CUTHBERT: Moving Sale! Friday-Saturday 8:30-5:00. Antique dining table, claw feet, 6 chairs - 5 leaves, entertainment center, old wicker loveseat, decorator table, old school desk, lots of old things, ceiling fan and lamp still in box, children's table and chairs, shelves, small lamp table, prints, jewelry, Little Tikes log cabin playhouse, jungle gym, swing set, Jenny Lind baby bed, lamps, chandeliers, Granite ware, yard tools. Too much to list. Handled by Floy Mabery.

LIQUIDATING SCHOOL, 1700 N. BIG SPRING. Harrison Montessori. Educational materials, PE/ play equipment, furniture, musical instruments, art supplies, complete kitchen. Saturday 8-5.

1300 LYNN AVENUE: Friday and Saturday, 7:00 am until ?

205 NORTH EISENHOWER. Friday-Saturday 8-7. Lots of goods, 3 bicycles, piano, household items.

1409 E. OAK. Spring Cleaning Sale. Furniture, household items, fishing/ camping gear. Lots of Miscellaneous. Saturday only 8-1. No early sales.

1021 WARD. Tools, Toys, Tack, Trampoline TVs, furniture, refrigerator, clothes and etc, etc. Friday 10-6, Saturday 8-4.

VACUUM CLEANERS: New and reconditioned. All makes including Kirby and Rainbow. Repairs, parts and supplies. 1005 North Midkiff at Cuthbert. 520-6464.

2607 STOREY: Saturday 8:00 am! Four family sale! Appliances, baby items, sofa, loveseat, dresser, girls clothes - sizes 4-16, boys clothes - sizes 10-14, lots of miscellaneous! No early sales!

ESTATE SALE OF JEAN KELLOGG 2401 Camarie by Joseph Sale starts Friday 1 pm Late 1950's and early 1960's furnishings and knick knacks, wonderful Birdseye maple bed and dresser, chrome table and chairs, oil paintings, washer dryer, refrigerator, pastel Franciscan dishes, oak lamp table, outside glider, books, tools old and new.

79703

3406 Storey. Saturday, 8AM. Bunk bed, microwave, ceiling fans, mini-blinds, Fasttrack exerciser, lots of miscellaneous.

4318 Country Club: Friday/ Saturday. Mens/ boys jeans, baseball equipment, Power Wheels, basketball goal, typewriter.

4713 THOMASON DRIVE: Thursday-Sunday 8:30 am - ?

Couch, grandfather clock, chest drawer, lots of children's and adult's clothes, etc.

1500 DELMAR. Saturday 9 am. Furniture, dishwasher, karaoke, clothes, linens, books, tapes and more. 699-5981.

350 NORTH MIDLAND DRIVE, Suite "B". Now Open: Tots 2 Teens, taking consignments on Spring and Summer clothing.

79703

1223 BURCHILL: Friday & Saturday, 8-7. Electric cook stove, dining table, bedroom furniture, wedding gown, garden tiller, lawn mower, word processor, - clothes, and lots of miscellaneous.

3414 Tanner: Little Tikes toys, mens-womens - childrens clothes, stair stepper, sport rider, exercise bike, breast pump, craft items, books, home baked goods, and miscellaneous. Saturday 7-7 Sunday 1-5.

4513 ERIE: Friday 9:00 am until 5:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 until ? Computer desk, saddle, toys, car seats, clothes/ all sizes!

4500 COMANCHE: Friday & Saturday 9-5. Mens, ladies, childrens clothes. Toys, kitchen and miscellaneous.

301 ALPINE: Baby clothing, Newborn-12 months, swing, bouncer, mens-womens - childrens clothing. Saturday 7:30-?

4319 HARVARD: Friday 7:30 am! Little Tikes toys, designer clothes - infant-adult, king comforter set, exercise bike, miscellaneous!

407 IDLEWILDE DRIVE: Saturday-8:00 until ? Speakers, TV, lawn furniture, housewares, clothing, lots of miscellaneous!

4800 BROOKDALE: Saturday only. Fishing/ Camping equipment, clothes, furniture. Lots of stuff!

103 S. DEWBERRY. Clothes, shoes, purses, toys, household misc. items. Saturday only 8-4.

4801 PLEASANT DRIVE. Construction tools, boys clothing, miscellaneous. Friday and Saturday 8 to 2 pm.

702 UPLAND: Color TV, vacuum, sewing machine, furniture, exercise equipment, pots and pans, women's clothes 6 and 18. Great bargains. Saturday 8-2.

4716 Country Club Moving sale: baby items, clothes, furniture, dishes, toys, microwave. Friday 8-2, Saturday 8-1.

1504 MANOR COURT: Saturday-7:30 until 3:30! Two family sale! Bicycles, clothes, household items, miscellaneous!

317 Rocky Lane. 7AM, Saturday only. Girls clothes, infant to 4T, 25" TV, sectional, Hot Wheels, Harley motorcycle, lots of toys.

3800 Thomason. Back yard sale, Friday and Saturday, 10-6. hot water heater, saddle, washer/ dryer, window refrigerated air unit, lots of small items.

4635 PRINCETON & Woodcrest. Saturday 8-3. Children's clothing, pickup seats, jacks and other odds and ends.

119 NORTH DEWBERRY: Friday-8:30-11:00! Moving sale: Wooden swing set, washer-dryer, daybed, trundle, bedding, stereo, exercise equipment, Little Tikes, Barbies, kids clothes, much more!

4510 STOREY. Multi family sale, furniture, wedding dress, car seats, toys galore, new high chair, toddler bed, Little Tike's, baked goods. Much More! Friday-Saturday 8:00.

79705

The Deadline to place an Ad in our Saturday Garage Sale Section is Noon Friday. Call 682-6222 to place your ad today.

1931 Morgan Way: Saturday only, 8-? Clothing, odds and ends.

2602 FRONTIER. Furniture, baby items, stroller, bouncer, swing, etc. Miscellaneous and collectible items. Saturday 8-1.

2816 HAYNES: Big yard sale! Saturday only 8-1. Clothes - adult size, stereo, cabinet, Beanie Babies, coke bottles, cloth chair, miscellaneous

3209 W SHANDON: Moving! Furniture, appliances, uniforms, children's clothes, lots more. Saturday 8-12.

1205 Shirley Lane (North of Neely and D) Saturday only, 8AM. Multi-family sale - Office furniture, lawn chairs, golf equipment, decorative items, artificial flowers, quilts, clothing, antique phone, airless painter, kitchen items, lots more.

79705

Deluxe Garage Sale 5001 Chapel Hill Dr. Friday-Sunday, 8 am until 7 pm.

Thousands of items including outdoor furniture, yard decorations, Colorado black slate for fish pond trim or step stones, river boulders, some antiques, primitives and collectibles, costume jewelry, old foreign coin collection, a few prints, paintings, lamps, afghans, beautiful Christmas decor new and old, 33 RPMs of 40's-60's, small appliances, many decorator items (a few of estate quality), plush rugs for bedrooms and bath, clothing of larger sizes, shoes, three types of live doves, Southwest decorative items, novelties, dishes and kitchen items galore, exerciser, power blower, tools, picture frames and more plus a table for the men.

We're reducing our library by 400 volumes including 100 books on Texana. Other categories: humor, art, archaeology, gardening, World War II, oil, historical, travel, self-improvement, inspirational, Hispanic topics, cooking, bios, health, old reference sets. Most hard cover and many larger, high quality books on varied topics. All are in mint condition.

Our authentic American Indian relics are a result of condensing a collection found over 30 years. Items include arrowpoints, hide, scrapers, knives, bone tools, choppers, hammerstones, metates and manos. Most are in imperfect condition but of value to beginners and for study.

Price range goes from boxes of small items for him/ her and the home for 10¢, 25¢ and 50¢ to a large bolo - pendant of turquoise and silver for \$200 and a large framed original illustration (circa 1930's) for \$350. Much may be priced too low for this market but we want to downsize possessions.

We're South of Bluebird and West of Garfield, just past the loop.

79705

2504 CANDLE TREE COVE:

(between Garfield and Midkiff - off Bluebird). Saturday-7:00 until 1:00! Antique round Oak table, dresser, several antique iron beds including baby and matching twin. Lots of stuff! Pots, pans, sheets, clothing. Absolutely no early parking!

2613 WHITNEY: Saturday-7:00 until 11:00! 1990 Nissan Sentra, washer/ dryer, computer desk, toys, TV, household and craft stuff!

2502 LEARMONT. Dishes, lawn mower, microwaves, miscellaneous. Saturday only 8:30-3.

5005 STONELEIGH- Polo Park-Alley. Saturday 8-12. Baby accessories, toys, Little Tikes, books, cookbooks, clothing, signed Larry Bird Basketball with COA, mahogany end table, antique wood/ cane/ cushioned couch- \$375, miscellaneous.

2803 CIMMARON. Saturday, May 15. 8-7. Biggest sale of this millennium!! Everything priced to sell! Trampoline frame, loveseat, microwave, TV antenna, washing machine, mini blinds, bedding, children's & ladies clothes, and toys. You name it we have it!!

2908 GORDARD. Saturday 9-1. Lawn furniture, treadmill, computer, game table, furnishings, small appliances, BBQ grills.

4609 BISHOPS CASTLE. Moving Sale Saturday only 9-12. Dining room table and hutch, large dog travel cage, decorator items, misc.

800 SINCLAIR MOVING SALE SATURDAY ONLY, 8-2. Plus size clothing, videos, kitchen items, Christmas decorations, arts/crafts supplies, linens, furniture, ladies western clothing, bell collection, Avon, Cape Cod Collection, 87 pieces - service for 4, cookbooks, drapes, costume jewelry.

1919 Jacotte Circle. Saturday only, 8-3PM. Clothes, home decorations, nick-nacks.

714 W. Dornard: Saturday 8AM-7 Wrought iron patio table, bench, bakers rack, silk trees, corner shelf, Southwest pottery, pictures, lots of household miscellaneous.

1321 TERRA COURT: (rear entry). Saturday only: 8:00 until ? Womens clothes - sizes 8 to 2X, kids clothes - girls and boys, baby items, toys and books, furniture, kitchen ware, exercise equipment. We cleaned out the craft closet!

2614 EMERSON: Household goods, small appliances, lots of kitchen stuff, microwave, holiday decorations, games, miscellaneous items. Friday and Saturday, 9AM.

79705

1320 NORTH LOOP 250 WEST: Falcon Storage by Travis Boating Center. Friday-May 14th, Saturday May 15th. No sales before 9 am!

4504 BELTON PLACE: Lots of great stuff! Friday 5:30 pm- 8:30 pm. Saturday 8:30 am- 2:00 pm. Golf equipment, baby clothes and items, fishing equipment. Men's and women's clothing.

3206 HIGHSKY (alley). Saturday 8 am-noon. Odds and ends of good stuff! No early sales!

#3 TATTENHAM, YARD SALE: Friday & Saturday- Opens at 9AM. Baldwin Fun Machine, antique primitive baby cradle, furniture, toys, lots of miscellaneous.

4506 ST. Andrews: Friday 9-12:30, Saturday 8:30-12:30. Boys and girls - sizes 0-4T, complete crib bedding, double stroller, walker, chandelier, storm door, complete queen bedding, swing set, X-mas decorations. Please do not block alley! No early birds! Cash only!

3303 DENTCREST. Saturday 8-7. Multi family sale! Baby clothes, adult clothes, household items, kitchen ware, miscellaneous items.

4200 Gleanegale. Saturday 8-7. Dishes, miscellaneous, clothes, microwave, some antiques. Three families.

3612 PINEMONT: Saturday, 15th, 8-7. Women's clothes all sizes, boy's clothes 4 & 5, Avon, Tupperware, miscellaneous household, craft supplies & new crafts, bloomers, chairs, toys, Y2K ready computer/ parts & software. Off Wadley to Sagamore to Pinemont.

4509 MERIDITH PLACE. Various baby items and miscellaneous. Saturday and Sunday, 8AM-7.

BLOCK SALE Aurora Lane- 4 blocks north of Neely off McDonald St. Saturday 9 am. Satellite dish, kiln, new Singer sewing machine, new Total Gym, large screen TV (needs repair), dryer, built in stove top, oven, great maternity, children's clothes, toys and more.

3605 DENTCREST: Saturday 8-2, sleaser sofa, lawn spreader, Nintendo, clothes, baked goods, Christmas tree. 1/2 price at 1:00!

3622 BOYD. Friday 8 am. Saw, bulletin board, games. Lots of miscellaneous items for everyone!

4417 GULF. Friday-Saturday 9 am. Recliner rocker and ottoman, toys, stuffed animals, Barbie house, dishes. Women's extra large, children's, and adult clothes. Miscellaneous.

3313 Maxwell: Saturday, May 15, 8-1. Sewing machine, bookcase, boom box, hanging lamp, bike, TV table, books, old magazines, twin comforter/ sheets, complete set for nursery, draperies, arts and crafts, tools. Priced To Sell!!

4302 CRESTWOOD. Saturday 8 am. Electric smoker, hedger, golf clubs, TV stand, lamps, comforter, dishes, luggage and lots more.

#2 DUNBLANE: (Saddleclub Ranch Estates- follow signs behind Wal- Mart). Three families! Friday- Saturday and Sunday- 9:00 am until ? Furniture, kitchen appliances, toys, clothes, lots of miscellaneous!

5612 HEARTLAND: (Grasslands), Friday- 8:00 until 11:00! Cookbooks, Super Nintendo, Cooktop, Little Tikes, records, remote motorcycle, toys, clothes!

4504 Meridith: Cut glass, women's clothing sizes 14- 24, Schwinn bike, Flexsteel recliner, collectible items. Thursday & Friday, 7:30AM.

3213 High Sky. Moving sale- Saturday 8-2. Washer and dryer, dining room table, etc.

5306 SHADY BEND COURT: Friday- 5-7, Saturday 8- Noon! Some furniture, lots of linens!

4423 STANOLIND, Friday 4:30- 7PM, Saturday 9-7. Washer/ dryer, bedroom furniture, furniture, some children items. Come check us out!

4308 CRESTWOOD. (Alley entrance) Saturday- Sunday 10-4. Moving Sale! Tools, clothing, golf cart, lawn tools, lots of miscellaneous.

79706

LARGE GARAGE SALE! Kids/ adults clothes, toys, household items, tools/ toolboxes, computer desk, too many items to list. In-stock Mary Kay cosmetics- 30% off. Take 30% towards Greenwood 2.5 miles from I-20 to Stoneridge edition on left, look for signs. Saturday 7:30- 2:00.

3601 S. COUNTY RD. 1185 (mile from I20 S. on Rankin Hwy, left on ECR 120, right on 1185). Saturday 9-5; Sunday 12-4. 1981 Honda XR500, 1982 Honda ATV, rear glass from 1993. Chevy truck, grill guard- '81- '87 Chevy. Sony stereo, riding lawn mower, 5 hp lawn aerator, clothes and Misc.

496 FOR FREE

MOVING: Must find home for Black Lab, female. Good with kids, about 3 years old. 682-5033.

500 Merchandise

500 Pets and Supplies

505 Livestock/Poultry

510 Office Furniture & Misc.

520 Store Cafe Equip

530 Bus/Shop Equip

540 A/C- Heating

550 Building Materials

560 Machinery/Tools

570 Oil Field Equip. & Supplies

580 Farm Equipment

500 Pets and Supplies

505 Livestock/Poultry

510 Office Furniture & Misc.

520 Store Cafe Equip

530 Bus/Shop Equip

540 A/C- Heating

550 Building Materials

560 Machinery/Tools

570 Oil Field Equip. & Supplies

580 Farm Equipment

500 Pets and Supplies

7 WEEK OLD. Australian Shepherd puppies. \$75. Full blooded but no papers. Call 570-8178.

500 Merchandise

ADORABLE 1/2 Persian kittens. Litterbox trained. \$25. Call 682-1165 for information.

GREAT DANE puppies, 5 weeks old. Two blacks, one merle \$100 each. Please call 685-3487.

CUTE CHIHUAHUA. White, 2 females, 3 males, 5 weeks old, full blooded. 570-4307.

AKC REGISTERED West Highland White Terriers. \$400. Call 520-4354.

AKC REGISTERED German Shepherd puppies, seven weeks old. Please call 915-381-2309.

CARLOT KENNEL & Training Center. Boarding, Puppy, beginner, advanced classes. Board/ train service available. 683-4718.

AKC AKITA Puppies- 4 females. Parents on premises \$250. 520-7348, 620-8855.

FOR SALE: 3 1/2 year old Blue and Gold McCaw. Tame and talking with 2 large beautiful cages. \$1,500. Good home only. 682-1950 or 685-4176.

AKC GERMAN Shepherd 2 female puppies, 8 weeks. 3 months old. 694-0278, leave message.

FLUFFY AND adorable part Persian kittens, \$25 each. Please call 682-8586.

NOW TAKING DEPOSITS on AKC Miniature Pinscher puppies. Born 4/17/92. Parents on premises. 943-2116/ 556-4940.

16 YEAR Quarter Horse, Dun gelding. Roping experienced. \$2,500. 686-0022 or 687-0194.

KID HORSE 19 year old Palomino. Very gentle, excellent work horse. Make offer, call 425-2320.

MORNING STAR FARM- June 18th, 19th, 20th. Patti Haddon teaching the Ray Hunt method of horsemanship. All disciplines. Info: 719-686-1470 or 719-590-1133.

FOR SALE: Structural rods and pipe of all sizes at bargain prices. Call 682-1548.

500 Pets and Supplies

NEW TODAY! ADOBE WELLS: Rat Terriers, Jack Russell Terriers, Dachshunds, Schnauzers, Shetlie, Lab mix \$50, Poodles and much more. Come see our playground equipment. 4613 Rankin Hwy 687-6388.

GREAT DANE puppies, 5 weeks old. Two blacks, one merle \$100 each. Please call 685-3487.

CUTE CHIHUAHUA. White, 2 females, 3 males, 5 weeks old, full blooded. 570-4307.

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FOR SALE: Structural rods and pipe of all sizes at bargain prices. Call 682-1548.

510 Furniture & Home

CANNON PC- GRE copier- \$250. Sharp UX- 175 fax machine- \$75. Call 570-9571. 7 am-5pm.

STORE CLOSING: 75 Feet of counters, stat wall, flat floor units, plastic shelving, office furniture. Everything Must Go! Call 697-8506.

ONIX PHONE system, 32 phones, console only 4 years old, voice mail computer and power supply only one year old. Can be installed by several local vendors. \$5,000. Equipment only. Call 684-5881.

We move, buy, sell and rent portable buildings. MORGAN (915) 563-1860

ALL real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

Residential rental locations are required to be licensed by the Texas Real Estate Commission (P.O. Box 12188 Austin, TX 78711. 1-800-250-8732 or 512-465-3900).

DEEP ROOT Tree feeding trailer- 5.5 hp Honda engine. Positive displacement pump. 150' high pressure hose, sprayer, needle. \$1,495. 684-4675.

FORD 1950 8N Tractor. New paint, front tires and more. Runs great! \$4,295. Please call 684-8054 or 686-8759.

NEW & USED Compact diesel tractors, with and without attachments. 686-7368.

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 For Rent

500 Farm Equipment

DEEP ROOT Tree feeding trailer- 5.5

Win Me!

Let SunRidge DRIVE you home!

Turn the Key to your future with...
 The Fountains at WinRidge
 Ashton Way
 Country Pointe
 Hunters Glen
 4400 J hundred

SUNRIDGE MANAGEMENT

See a SunRidge Representative for Entry Form and Official Rules

OFFICIAL ENTRY LOCATIONS

Ashton Way
2613 N. MIDLAND DR.
MIDLAND
694-1646

Country Pointe
3329 W. WADLEY
MIDLAND
697-4149

HUNTERS GLEN
Apartment Homes
1902 N. MIDLAND DR.
MIDLAND
699-5168

4400 J hundred
Apartment Homes
4400 ANDREWS HWY.
MIDLAND
697-7973

Arbor Pointe Apartments
3843 PENBROOK
ODESSA
367-8626

Southgate Apartments
2735 EAST 8TH STREET
ODESSA
332-8186

Sunchase
2201 ROCKY LANE
ODESSA
367-2727

Sunset
9100 ANDREWS HWY
ODESSA
362-6295

Westwood Square
2950 PLEASANT
ODESSA
333-2021

Woodview
4330 N. GRANDVIEW
ODESSA
368-0896

EXCEPTIONAL PRICE - 1
bedroom duplex. Handicap
equipped, assisted living
available. \$350/ month.
deposit, references. 682-2398.

655 Townhome Units
SAGEWOOD - 1 bedroom
twin, washer, dryer, \$550
monthly. No pets. Call 694-
0595.

640 Townhome Units
LAFAYETTE PLACE: West
Texas most elegant townhome
complex. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2
baths. \$1,400. 684-0996.

1/2 MONTH FREE rent. 1, 2 &
3 Bedrooms, 1 & 2 baths
1,000-1,651 Ft. garage
connections, fans, microwave
\$460/ up. 689-8116, 687-9768.

ONE BEDROOM Condo. \$350
monthly. \$200 Deposit. Extra
nice. Beautiful patio. Washer
dryer. 570-8900/ 570-0511.

2-3 BEDROOMS, each with 2
1/2 baths and double garage
\$700 and \$750. 915-684-4945.

1, 2 BEDROOMS, 1 1/2 bath,
950-1,186 ft. Pool, washer,
dryer, fans, fireplace, \$575/ up.
689-8115.

FAIRGATE Townhomes,
northwest side, 6 and 12 month
leases. 2 and 3 bedrooms 1600
sq. ft. livable. all appliances,
fans, fireplaces and garages.
687-9566.

2 BEDROOM, Sagewood
Townhome. \$575 monthly. Call
for Move In Special. 520-0998.
Nights: 694-3809, for
appointment.

655 Mobile Homes
NICE 2 bedroom, 1 bath
of Cottontail. Fireplace. large
yard. \$325/ \$150 deposit. No
pets. 694-2047.

TWO BEDROOM, one bath.
Fenced yard, washer, dryer
connections. 3415 Cottontail
Road, Space A. \$275 monthly.
\$125/ deposit. 682-1608, leave
message.

NOW AVAILABLE: 2/3
Bedroom mobile homes, all
appliances, fenced yards, extra
clean! Deposit required. No
vicious dogs. 687-8324.

NICE, LARGE 2 bedroom, 2
bath on Belmont. 4 car carport.
\$400/ \$200 deposit. No pets.
694-2047.

RENTED
TWO BEDROOMS \$215
monthly, \$150 deposit, new
carpet, carport, water furnished.
No pets. Call XXX-XXXX.

FOR rent, two bedrooms, one
bath, kitchen. \$195 rent, \$100
deposit. Call 686-8067.

660 Mobile Home
Space for Rent
MOVE IN special, \$59 monthly,
regularly \$100. Security fence
around park. Paved roads. Call
570-7505.

AIRLINE MOBILE HOME
Park. The trees and the flowers
are in bloom. Come by to visit
and stay a life time! 694-2534.

MOBILE HOME and/or RV
home. 2/3 shade trees, central
laundry, convenient location.
332-4976.

665 Business Prop./
Office Rentals
BRAND NEW - North Midland
retail/ office/ warehouse park
now open. 1 unit still available.
683-7281 or 620-9900.

THREE ROOM office - new
carpet, front door parking. \$300
monthly. 3106 N. Big Spring.
686-2008.

SINGLE OFFICES, entire
suites, free parking, secretarial
services, copiers, faxes,
phones provided at very
reasonable rates. 4500 W.
Illinois. 201 E. Michigan. 602 N.
Baird. Call Midland, 620-1500.

REDUCED! Bills paid.
Downtown. 2-5 Room Suites.
Park at door. Don Roderick.
Langston Realtors. 682-9495.

FOR LEASE: OFFICE or retail
spaces at 2215 and 2217-B
North Big Spring Street and
1706 West Texas. Call Shan
Hamilton. Chaparral Realtors.
686-7000.

OFFICE/ WAREHOUSE space
for lease. 500 square foot
office. 2,000 square foot
warehouse. 2130 South Loop
250 West. Call Gene Abbott.
683-2422.

FOUR ROOM OFFICE/ Retail.
2 baths, coffee area, carpeted.
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