



SPORTS

Midfielders

The Lee High School girls soccer team is in the regional semifinals in large part because of the play of their midfielders. 1C



COMING FRIDAY

'Farewell Tour'

From the "First Kiss" to the last, the foursome brought the audience "Alive!" Wednesday in Lubbock. Coverage of the Kiss concert will be in Friday's Reviews and Previews.

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Midland Reporter-Telegram

Daily 50¢, Sunday \$1.50

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2000

Vol. 73, No. 21

Crimes involving juveniles top MPD survey

■ Department's employees rank Midland's problems, attitudes, concerns.

By Rick McLaughlin
Staff Writer

Young people as perpetrators and as victims of crime weigh heavily on the minds of Midland Police Department officers and employees, according to an internal opinion survey released to the Reporter-Telegram Wednesday by the MPD Planning and Research Division.

Crimes committed by juveniles are the highest concern of the department, ranked at 4.4, the highest rating received on the five-point scale of police problems in Midland as seen by MPD employees. Vandalism, usually associated with the young, and drug violations, often associated with the young, ranked next highest, at 4.2.

Likewise, crimes against children also ranked high, finishing at 3.8.

The police survey was conducted last summer with 204 employees participating, 161 of them sworn officers, said Tina Jauz, Midland public information

officer.

"The purpose of the survey is to measure the pulse of the department ... and to help determine a base line of feelings, attitudes, interests and concerns of each employee," she added.

"This is a very strong tool which can be used to research problems and needs," added LeAnn Hadden, planning and research technician. "We will no longer need to rest all of our programs on speculation or unsubstantiated allegations. We can use this survey to provide hard data and make informed decisions about our department."

The survey is a first by the

MPD Planning and Research Bureau; however, a citizen survey has been conducted three times.

Of particular importance, said Ms. Jauz, were issues such as:

■ What is a police professional?
■ What do employees expect from their leaders?; and
■ How involved is the department in the community?

"The answers to those questions were measured on a scale of one to five, five being the highest. The answers were then analyzed, providing an average for each response," said Ms. Hadden.

Please see MPD/4A

Some results of MPD employee survey:

- Midland Police Department is 76 percent male, 32 percent are aged 40-49, 79 percent are Caucasian, 29 percent are military veterans, 74 percent are married, 51 percent are from the Permian Basin, have an average of 14 years in law enforcement and 11 years with the MPD.
- Employees rate management at 3.5 (of five points) at the line (sergeant) level, 3.3 at the middle (lieutenant) level and a straight 3.0 (average) at the upper (chiefs) level.
- Crimes by juveniles are rated the highest concern of problem areas in Midland.
- MPD employee morale could be raised by leadership, listening, fairness, money and self-motivation.

Deadly storms have spared Midland County

By Ed Todd
Staff Writer

Call it fate, luck or just a chance blessing from above.

But, so far, the deadly forces of tornadoes have spared Midland lives ... at least in recent history dating to mid-century.

Since at least 1962, only 26 tornadoes have occurred in Midland County and none, according to the National Weather Service, has caused deaths or injuries.

Still, tornado sightings and warnings can inflict terror in people — especially those who respect the forces of a twister's winds, which are the most violent on Earth.

"Once they strike, they (people at danger) have got to protect themselves through life-safety precautions," Dale Little, the Midland city-county Emergency Management coordinator, said on Wednesday a day after a tornado had ravaged downtown Fort Worth.

Midland's most recent tornado, accompanied by a hail storm, wreaked damage south of Midland almost a year ago — April 13, 1999. Before that, the last tornado in Midland was sighted five years earlier in May 1994.

Four twisters were recorded in Midland County in 1989, according to the NWS, and those were from May through early September in the early evening.

But across Texas, tornadoes have been prolific. And their notoriety has designated Texas the nation's tornado capital over the last 40 years.

The twisters' highest frequency is the Red River Valley, which would follow a line from before Wichita Falls to beyond Paris.

George Mathews, the NWS' warning-coordination meteorologist in Midland, said that about a thousand tornadoes each year strike in the continental United States.

Of those, an average of 139 tornadoes per year have pounced on Texas soil, according to the most recent Texas Almanac.

On April 10, 1979, in Wichita Falls in North Central Texas, a wide-sweeping tornado claimed the lives of 42 people.

Please see STORM/4A



Tracy-Lynn Clough-Rian, center, gets a hug from her neighbors, Theresa Smith and Preston Smith, 9, in front of Tracy-Lynn's tornado-destroyed home in Arlington.



Fierce winds in Tuesday's tornado in Fort Worth stripped the Calvary Cathedral tower's east wall of bricks, leaving only the steel beams and a cross atop the structure. About 100 people were in the church — which is west of downtown — including women on prayer vigil and 50 other people participating in Bible study. Two people were taken to hospitals with minor injuries.

Surveying the tornado damage



Arlington city workers clean up debris in a tornado-damaged neighborhood Wednesday. Four people were killed and more than 100 were injured when twin twisters struck the area shortly after the evening rush hour Tuesday.

AP Photo

Fort Worth looks like ghost town

■ Downtown workers were told to stay home until large pieces of glass were removed from tornado-ravaged office buildings.

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — The center of Fort Worth looked like a ghost town Wednesday, the day after a tornado tore a path through downtown and caused an estimated \$157 million in damage. Four people died and a fifth person was presumed drowned.

Fort Worth City Manager Bob Terrell said a preliminary survey showed as many as eight commercial buildings were destroyed, and 52 businesses and high-rises received either major or minor damage.

Officials had no dollar estimate on the damage to homes.

"You will have one building that looks almost unscathed, and next door to that you have a building that looks like it's downtown Beirut. It is obviously a disaster of the first class," said Lt. Gov. Rick Perry, acting governor while Gov. George W. Bush is on the presidential campaign in New Jersey.

Deputy Fire Chief Jim Tidwell said it's likely one building will be demolished.

Workers in the city's central business district were told to stay home until large pieces of glass hanging from window frames in high-rise buildings could be knocked down.

The National Weather Service said the tornado reached the intensity of an F-2. On a scale ranging from F-0 to F-5, an F-2 includes significant damage and wind speeds of 113-157 mph. An F-5 is the most damaging.

A second tornado struck Arlington and then moved to Grand Prairie, but as of Wednesday afternoon officials had not determined its strength, said National Weather Service meteorologist Skip Ely.

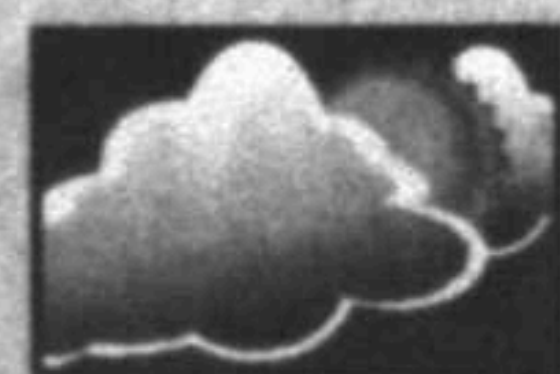
Police in downtown Fort Worth patrolled a tightly secured area where contractors and city workers tried to safeguard the damaged structures. Glass glimmered in the sunlight

Please see TOWN/4A

A look inside

INSIDE

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TODAY

Partly cloudy with high in mid-70s. Weather on 4A

Ed Todd

Gardening helps set the stage for appreciating life. 1B



Off the wire

■ Missing professors are feared dead in boating accident. 2A
■ Astronomers find two Saturn-sized planets. 10A

Richardson: Pump prices will drop gradually

WASHINGTON (AP) — Motorists coping with high gasoline prices might not see lower pump prices for months as a result of OPEC's increase oil production. Even then, cheaper gasoline might not come in time for the busy summer driving season.

But Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, in an interview Wednesday, said he is convinced the new production levels will offer gradual and modest reductions in prices during the summer.

He also dismissed as "flat wrong" assertions by some congressional Republicans that OPEC's decision Tuesday was too modest to seriously influence prices.

The department's own statistical agency estimates that gasoline, now averaging \$1.55 a gallon nationwide, likely will cost about \$1.42 per gallon by summer's end. Richardson believes those projections are conservative and he cited prices on the futures market that suggested wholesale gas prices would decline as much as 15 cents by July.

Whatever happens, drivers are feeling the

pinch now — and unhappy about it.

Cab drivers in Washington said the higher prices were eating into their income.

College student Aaron Druck, who drives a Jeep Grand Cherokee, complained that he now must spend \$40 to fill up. But he will not give up his vehicle.

President Clinton said OPEC's increase was "good news for our economy." At a news conference, he urged oil companies "to do everything they can to bring the savings to consumers as quickly as possible."

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries agreed to increase production by 1.7 million barrels a day and other producers were expected to expand production as well to fill a 2-million-barrel-a-day shortfall that has tripled crude prices over the last 14 months.

Spot prices for oil dropped 64 cents to \$26.45 a barrel Wednesday on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It has declined from a high of \$34 a few weeks ago in anticipation of the OPEC production increase. U.S. officials expected crude prices to continue declin-

ing, perhaps by as much as \$2.50 a barrel by August and said they expected gasoline prices to follow the price decline.

But industry officials and analysts said Wednesday it may take six to eight weeks for the additional oil to reach U.S. markets and it is not certain that the lower crude prices will be passed through immediately to consumers. Refiners still are using the more expensive oil.

"It's going to be hard to get an immediate assessment of how successful this is going to be," said Red Cavaney, president of the American Petroleum Institute. He said refiners are "ramping up" gasoline production, but he acknowledged that current inventories are at the lower end of the range where they are expected to be.

The full impact on prices probably will not be felt until gasoline from the lower-priced crude oil moves into the retail market, he said.

Airlines passengers, meantime, have seen ticket prices climb by as much as \$40 as car-

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Missing professors feared dead in Mexican boating accident

By Ben Fox
Associated Press

BAHIA DE LOS ANGELES, Mexico — As one of the world's foremost experts on scorpions and spiders, Gary Polis wanted to teach the world that the creatures should not be loathed or feared but appreciated for their integral place in the ecosystem.

This week, he and four other researchers apparently died in the rough waters off Baja California while returning from a expedition to study Polis' passion. Their 20-foot power boat was upended by wind-churned waves, and they were tossed into the thrashing Sea of Cortez.

The bodies of three team members were found Tuesday. Polis and another researcher were still missing Wednesday, but university officials said they were presumed dead.

Polis' enthusiasm for the kinds of creepy crawlies that send shivers up the spines of many people inspired scores of students to follow him to Mexico over the years to poke through the arid Mexican landscape and discover their virtues.

Polis, three Japanese researchers and five students from the University of California at Davis were headed for Bahia de los Angeles, a remote village 300 miles south of the Mexican border, just before noon Monday after a morning of studying spiders and scorpions on an island.

After being thrown into the rough water, the group spent two hours clinging to the boat, while the waves "just pounded us," said one of the four survivors, Gary Huxel, 38, a post-doctoral researcher in ecology.



Abe



Nakano

The 53-year-old Polis appeared to suffer a heart attack and die, UC Davis spokeswoman Sylvia Wright said, citing accounts from the survivors and U.S. officials.

Eventually, Huxel said, the group used life jackets and seat cushions to float away. After three more hours in the water, Huxel washed up on one deserted island; three students reached another.

The four of them were rescued Tuesday, sunburned and spent.

Mexican authorities recovered the bodies of three team members: UC Davis researcher Michael D.

Rose, 28; and two ecology professors from Japan's Kyoto University — Takuya Abe, 55, and Masahiko Higashi, 45.



Higashi



Polis

More than 100 soldiers scanned the coastline without success. The survivors and fellow UC Davis researchers — who avoided the disaster in a companion boat — quietly left Bahia de los Angeles on Wednesday, driving out on the dirt road in vans and cars sent in by the school.

Polis, married and the father of two children, had tried to spread his love of scorpions and spiders

to a wide audience — from top scholars to children.

"He was a tremendously likable person, intense and bright," said Laurence Pringle of West Nyack, N.Y., who wrote "Scorpion Man," a 1994 children's book that described Polis' work and featured his photos from the field.

Polis, the chairman of UC Davis' environmental sciences department and president of the American Society of Naturalists, said in "Scorpion Man" that he decided to study biology because he had fun outdoors. His fascination with scorpions began when he saw one on a 1972 camping trip and discovered little was known about the venomous creatures.

"When you talk about scorpions, you tend to use a lot of words like 'the only known example,' 'the first,' 'the largest,'" Polis said in the book. "It's just one gee-whiz fact after another."

Philip Brownell, a professor of zoology at Oregon State University, met Polis at the University of California at Riverside in 1971. Over the years, they teamed up on books, television projects and Smithsonian work.

"Gary was trying to understand the flow of nutrients and energy from the ocean onto land. Spiders and scorpions are a step in that movement. The material that floats onto shore is eaten by insects. Scorpions and spiders eat the insects. Birds and other reptiles eat the spiders and scorpions."



AP Photo
Mexican Army Gen. David Barcena Rios, center, looks over a map as soldiers launch a boat during the search for two missing Americans Wednesday, March 29, 2000, in the waters off Bahia de Los Angeles, Mexico.

Brownell got caught in the bay's rough seas.

"When you get beyond the headlands, it gets rough and suddenly winds come up," Brownell said.

World Bank, EU and 44 nations pledge money for southeast Europe

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Eager to bring the beleaguered countries of southeast Europe, into the political and economic mainstream, the European Union, the World Bank and 44 nations on Wednesday began pledging money and reform.

The two-day Balkan funding conference is trying to raise up to \$1.8 billion to launch a series of highly visible projects over the next few months that will have an immediate impact and start residents on the road to prosperity.

In return for help under the EU's Balkan Stability Pact, Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia and Romania have committed to democratic and economic reforms to create a stable environment attractive to private investment.

Special programs are also being developed for Montenegro, one of the two remaining republics in the Yugoslav federation. Though not a country, the EU is eager to encourage the republic's move toward democracy.

Money, however, is not everything.

"Money on its own cannot deliver peace and stability," said

Javier Solana, the 15-nation EU's chief of foreign and security policy. "Political and economic reforms are of course essential. The rule of law and the successful transition to the market economy go hand in hand."

The Brussels gathering is more than the usual pledging conference, EU officials said, because it will give particular support to projects that help the region as a whole and bring it closer to European integration.

The 44 participating countries are mostly European, but also include the United States, Canada, Japan and Korea. Thirty-six international organizations also are attending.

The Balkan countries proposed more than 400 projects, which included road and bridge-building as well as banking and tax reforms. The projects were studied and whittled down to a more manageable number.

"The real question for us is

how we actually spend the money," said James Wolfensohn, president of the World Bank. The United States is not funding any infrastructure projects, but instead is focusing on reform programs.

"The reform elements here are absolutely critical," said Daniel Hamilton, Stability Pact coordinator at the State Department.

Thirty-five "quick-start" infrastructure projects — to be implemented this year — are expected to cost about \$1.1 billion. The rest of the money will go to projects aimed at shoring up democracy, security and reforms.

Christopher Patten, the EU's commissioner for external affairs, pledged \$530 million on behalf of the EU Commission, the organization's executive body, and said he expected mem-

ber countries to come up with a similar figure.

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Witne

THE HAGUE (AP) — Eight tortured, raped, and killed in the Serb camp at night — so many count — a young woman sobbed Wednesday it all before.

In wrenching money at the Y. tribunal, the woman and other girls soldier to soldiers raped them for mer of 1992. litany of torture threats to cut into her flesh scenes of me.

She was 13. "There are world that can ing," she told it was the worst to me."

The woman witness No. behind a screen rape trial — enslavement international last week.

Former Bos Dragoljub Kovac and Zor defendants. T. running a net "rape camps" of Sarajevo in ina. All three cent.

Serb param Yugoslav lead sevic are accu violations dur war in Bosnia in Europe sin

Pragu

N.Y. Times

PRAGUE, The Czech Wednesday th preserve a med tery that was ground during Prague three y

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Witness in war crime tribunal recalls rape, torture as teen-ager in Serb camps

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—Eight years after she was tortured repeatedly at a Bosnian Serb camp and raped night after night — so many times she lost count — a young Muslim woman sobbed Wednesday as she relived it all before a U.N. court.

In wrenching, horrific testimony at the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal, the woman told how she and other girls were passed from soldier to soldier, each of whom raped them for weeks in the summer of 1992. She recounted a litany of torture — gang rapes, threats to cut the shape of a cross into her flesh — that conjured up scenes of medieval barbarity.

She was 15 years old at the time.

"There are no words in this world that can describe my feeling," she told the U.N. judges. "It was the worst that could happen to me."

The woman, identified only as witness No. 50, testified from behind a screen at the landmark rape trial — the first sexual enslavement prosecution in an international court — that began last week.

Former Bosnian Serb fighters Dragoljub Kunarac, Radomir Kovac and Zoran Vukovic are the defendants. They are accused of running a network of so-called "rape camps" in Foca, southeast of Sarajevo in Bosnia-Herzegovina. All three have pleaded innocent.

Serb paramilitaries backed by Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic are accused of war crimes violations during the 3 1/2-year war in Bosnia, the worst carnage in Europe since World War II.

Some 200,000 Bosnians died or are missing and an estimated 20,000 women were raped during the conflict, which formally ended with the 1995 Dayton peace accords.

Prosecutors say the widespread and organized rapes were intended to humiliate the women and their families and to terrorize Muslims into flight as part of a Serb "ethnic cleansing" campaign. In Foca, scores of women were herded into a high school, gymnasium and motel at the outset of the Bosnian war.

The defendants, flanked by blue-uniformed guards, sat unflinchingly Wednesday as the witness testified in full view of them, alternating between sobs and outrage.

But when she identified Vukovic as one of her attackers and pointed out he was old enough to be her father, he looked askance and shifted his posture. When she described the violence Kunarac allegedly used in raping her, he turned his gaze downward and scribbled on a notepad.

"I remember he was very forceful. He wanted to hurt me," she said. "But he could never hurt me as much as my soul was hurting me."

At the gymnasium, where some 50 women were detained, Serb soldiers would "pick and choose" their victims, she said.

"Every night, some girl would end up in some place with some soldier, many times with the same soldier. They would always do this by pointing their finger: 'You! You! You!'"

An anguished silence pervad-

ed the courtroom as the woman was gently questioned by U.S. prosecutor Peggy Kuo, who repeatedly apologized for requesting more detail.

"I'm sorry I have to ask for the specifics, but the court has to know," Kuo said.

The witness said she was raped so many times, she did not know the number. She also described how she was tortured while being raped.

One knife-wielding soldier threatened to cut the shape of a cross in her flesh as a way to convert her to Christianity, she said. He forced her to drink alcohol — a sacrilege against Islam — and then made her assume a female Serb name as he raped her.

"He was so terrible," she cried. "He did such horrible things that I cannot explain them. I had no place to take a bath."

Another Serb, whom she recognized as a married neighbor 20 years her senior, imprisoned her in an apartment for three days as his personal sex slave. In yet another case, about 10 soldiers took turns raping her and two other girls in the former home of the Muslim tailor.

Until last weekend, the witness said, she could not bring herself to discuss the details with anyone, not even family or tribunal investigators who approached her at the end of the Bosnia war.

But she mustered the nerve to testify "to let it be known that it really happened," she said. "It's not easy for me to speak today, but I want everyone to know."

The woman completed three generations of one family to take the witness stand in the Foca tri-

al. Her mother, who was also raped, and her grandmother, whose husband was mutilated and then murdered, testified earlier this week.

The Yugoslav tribunal was set up by the U.N. Security Council in 1993. It has sentenced 14 Serbs,

Croats and Muslims to prison terms of up to 45 years for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

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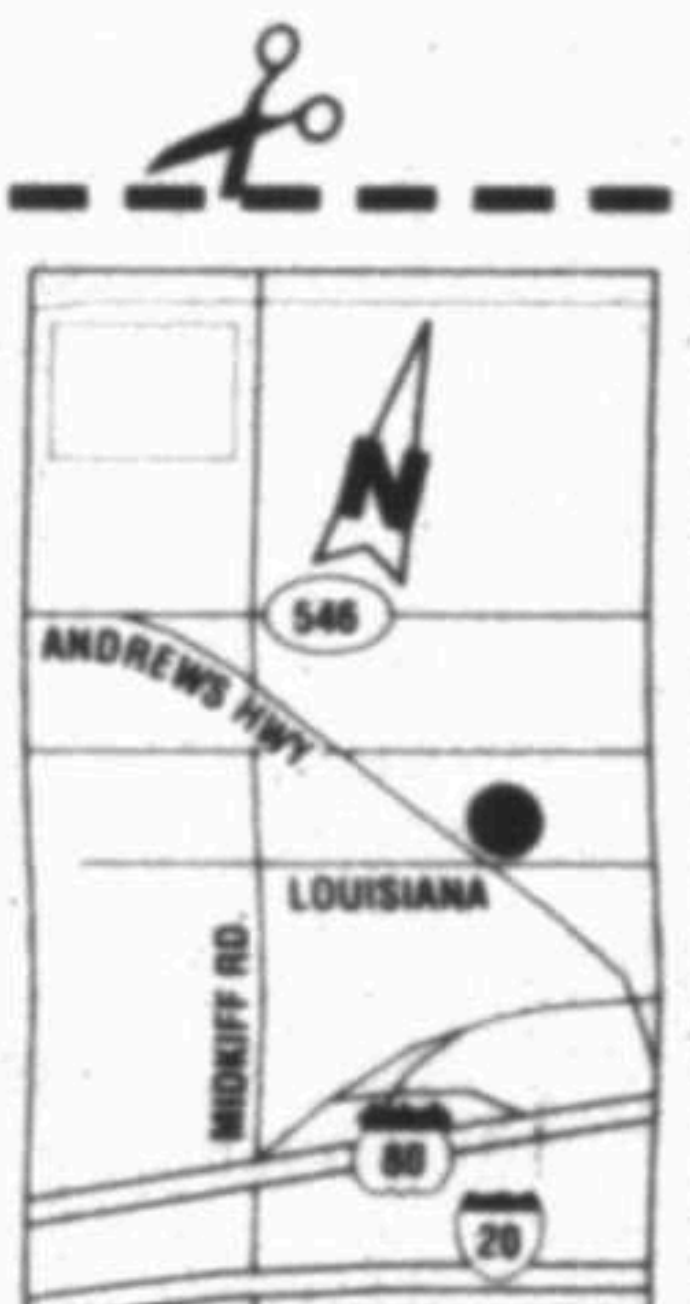
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Prague to preserve old Jewish cemetery

N.Y. Times News Service

PRAGUE, Czech Republic—The Czech government said Wednesday that it would pay to preserve a medieval Jewish cemetery that was discovered underground during construction in Prague three years ago.

In an attempt to accommodate the claims of Jewish groups in Prague and the insurance company that is building on the land, the government agreed to finance the rescue of several hundred graves, some of which may date back to 13th century.

The Czech minister of culture, Pavel Dostal, said he would declare the whole area surrounding the site a cultural landmark and promised to save undisturbed graves, and to rebury bones that were disturbed in the construction. The government will allocate \$1.2 million to cover the costs, and the company agreed to pay any additional costs.

The remains of some 130 skeletons, unearthed in the last two years, will be reburied at the site.

Jewish groups in Prague and abroad welcomed the decision. "We congratulate the Czech authorities and society for recognizing the sacred interest over economic interest," said Rabbi Marc Schneier, president of the North American Boards of Rabbis, who had been mediating the dispute.

"I would hope that certain elements of the Jewish community would accept the jurisdiction of the Prague Jewish community in this matter," he added, referring to groups abroad, including Orthodox Jews, who demanded that the construction be abandoned altogether.

According to historians, the cemetery officially operated into the 15th century. In its day, it served as a central burial site for all Bohemian Jews. The recent discovery of undisturbed graves in the deeper layers caused great

interest among archaeologists.

Ceska Pojistovna, the insurance company that owns the lot and several adjacent buildings, had hoped to carry out speedy construction of its new administration building.

DIABETES ALERT

If you have increased thirst and urination, weight loss, or have a family history of diabetes, you may be at increased risk of having diabetes.

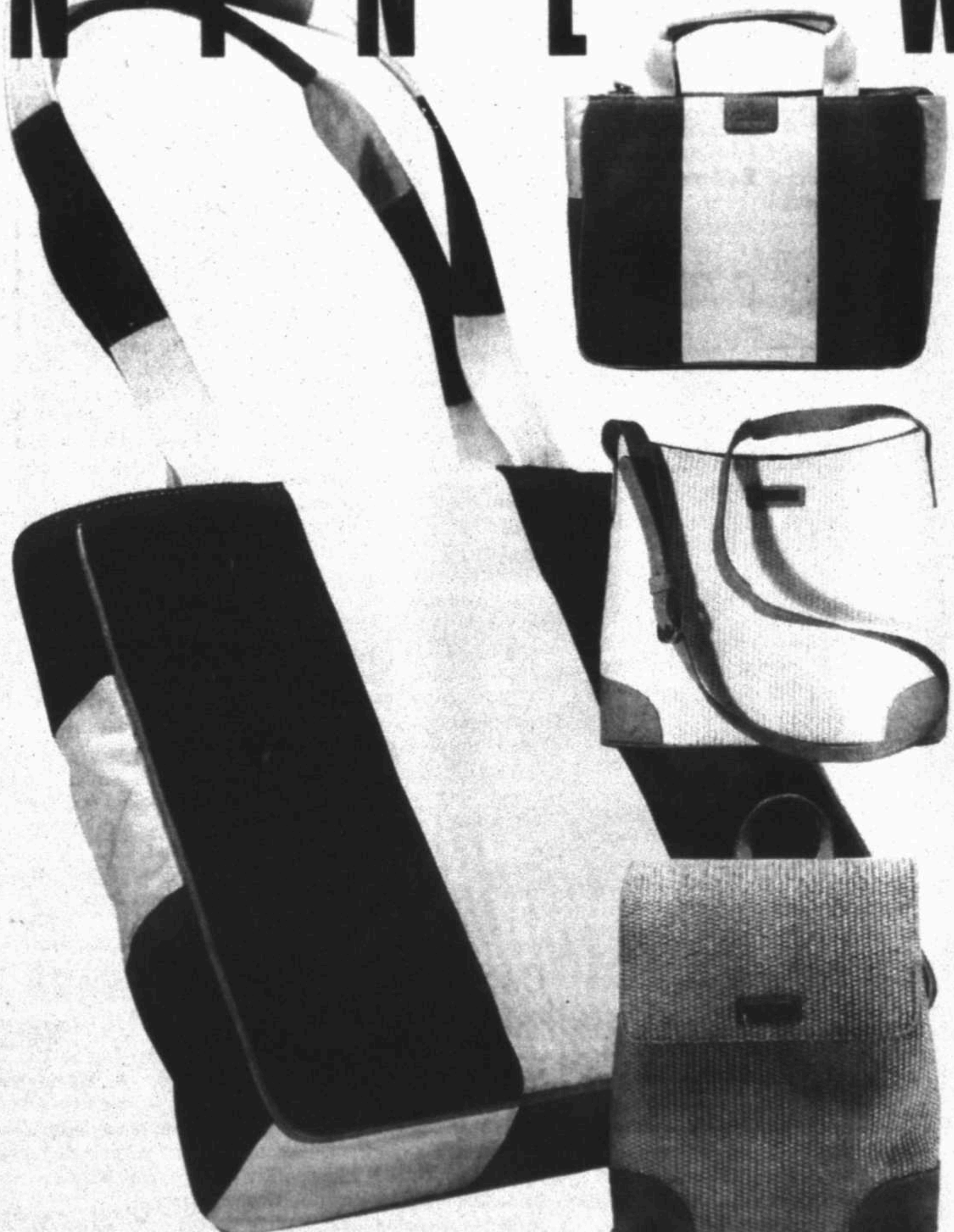
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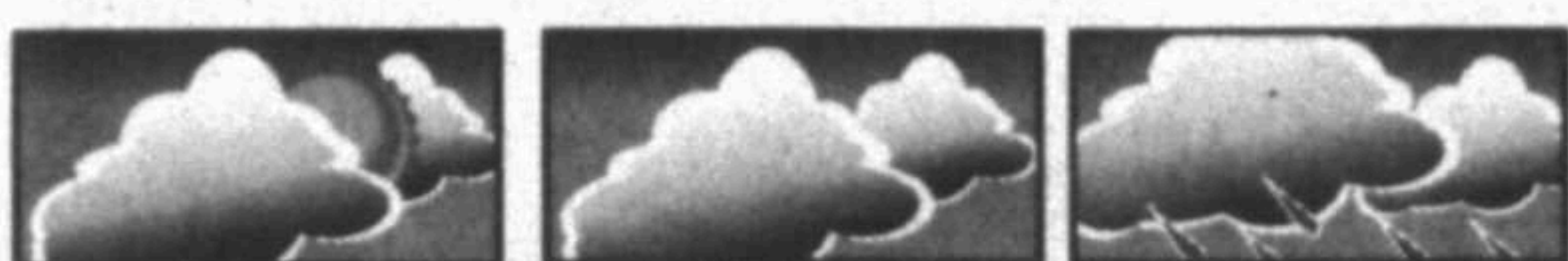
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WEATHER

Midland forecast

3-day forecast



Today
Partly cloudy
High mid-70s
Low mid-40s

Friday
Cloudy
High 70
Low mid-40s

Saturday
Showers
High near 70
Low near 50

Today's forecast calls for increasing cloudiness with the high around 70-75 and the wind from the east at 10-20 mph.

Tonight will be mostly cloudy with a low around 50.

Friday's forecast calls for mostly cloudy skies with a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms. The high will be around 70 with a chance of rain of less than 20 percent.

Friday night will be cloudy with a chance of showers or thunderstorms and a low of 45-50.

After an overnight low of 48, Wednesday's high was 80, compared to the record high for that date of 94, set in 1946. The record low of 17 was set in 1987.

Yesterday's precipitation

Rainfall Wednesday . . . 0.00 in.
Rainfall Tuesday . . . 0.00 in.
Total for month . . . 0.67 in.
Total for year . . . 1.28 in.
Normal total
(year to date) . . . 1.58 in.

Yesterday's temperatures

High . . . 80
Low . . . 48
Normal high . . . 75
Normal low . . . 44

Sunrise . . . 6:40 a.m.
Sunset . . . 7:07 p.m.

National forecast

United States temperatures

	HI	Lo	Prc	Off		HI	Lo	Prc	Off
Albany, N.Y.	48	36	10	cl	Norfolk, Va.	82	46	01	m
Albuquerque	63	40	02	cl	North Platte	51	25	01	cl
Allentown, Pa.	49	37	01	cl	Oklahoma City	54	48	38	cl
Baton Rouge	80	61	01	cl	Omaha	61	28	01	cl
Birmingham	50	34	56	cl	Orlando	87	51	01	cl
Bismarck	62	47	05	m	Paduac	53	33	01	cl
Boise	51	30	01	cl	Pendleton	52	38	01	cl
Boston	50	30	01	cl	Peoria	57	26	02	cl
Burlington, Vt.	57	44	16	cl	Philadelphia	56	42	01	cl
Carroll, Maine	46	39	06	sno	Phoenix	78	57	01	cl
Casper	53	35	05	cl	Pittsburgh	51	37	01	cl
Charleston, S.C.	73	53	01	cl	Pocahontas	48	31	01	cl
Charleston, W. Va.	57	38	01	cl	Portland, Me.	41	30	01	cl
Charlotte, N.C.	59	31	01	cl	Portland, Ore.	55	37	01	cl
Chattanooga	53	42	01	cl	Providence	58	44	12	cl
Cheyenne	53	33	02	sno	Pueblo	64	36	06	cl
Chicago	51	29	08	cl	Raleigh-Durham	62	41	01	cl
Cincinnati	55	31	01	cl	Rapid City	55	40	04	cl
Cleveland	48	38	01	cl	Reio	62	38	01	cl
Colorado Springs	56	35	05	cl	Richmond	62	45	01	cl
Columbia, S.C.	67	43	01	cl	Rio Grande	60	39	01	cl
Columbus, Ga.	72	50	01	cl	Rochester	41	36	08	cl
Columbus, Ohio	63	37	01	cl	Rockford	53	25	01	cl
Concord, N.H.	53	34	06	cl	Sacramento	70	43	01	cl
Denver	57	34	04	sno	Salt Lake City	57	33	01	cl
Des Moines	59	33	01	cl	Salem, Ore.	54	32	01	cl
Detroit	51	31	01	cl	Salt Lake City	51	30	sno	cl
Evansville	56	28	01	cl	San Diego	62	56	01	cl
Fairbanks	39	4	01	cl	San Francisco	64	47	01	cl
Fargo	53	25	02	cl	San Jose	65	43	01	cl
Flagstaff	52	32	02	cl	San Jose	61	36	01	cl
Flint	47	35	01	cl	Sierra Madre	38	32	01	cl
Fort Smith	59	50	05	cl	Savannah	82	52	01	cl
Fort Wayne	48	33	16	cl	Seattle	52	37	02	cl
Frisco	49	35	01	cl	Shreveport	75	60	123	cl
Greaf Falls	37	27	15	cl	Sioux City	61	21	01	cl
Green Bay	49	30	05	cl	Sioux Falls	59	18	01	cl
Greensboro, N.C.	58	38	01	cl	South Bend	43	34	26	cl
Harrisburg	52	42	01	cl	Spokane	47	32	02	cl
Hartford	55	43	03	cl	Springfield, Ill.	57	28	01	cl
Helena	48	33	01	cl	Springfield, Mo.	49	41	51	cl
Honolulu	81	70	01	cl	Syracuse	39	36	13	cl
Jacksonville	85	51	12	cl	Tallahassee	83	46	01	cl
Jessup	40	32	19	sno	Tampa-St. Petersburg	86	59	01	cl
Kansas City	57	35	01	cl	Toledo	48	35	01	cl
Knoxville	52	33	01	cl	Topeka	52	33	01	cl
Lake Charles	84	68	01	cl	Tucson	78	49	01	cl
Lansing	55	35	06	cl	Tulsa	52	49	09	cl
Las Vegas	74	54	01	cl	Tupelo	59	49	01	cl
Lexington	53	31	04	cl	Washington, D.C.	62	43	01	cl
Lincoln	61	24	01	cl	W Palm Beach	83	65	01	cl
Little Rock	51	31	01	cl	Wichita	45	41	70	cl
Los Angeles	65	54	01	cl	Wilmington, Del.	57	42	01	cl
Madison	52	30	01	cl	Yakima	58	29	01	cl
Medford	52	32	01	cl	Youngstown	45	38	03	cl
Memphis	63	48	02	cl	Yuma	77	54	01	cl
Mobile	79	57	01	cl					
Montgomery	71	49	01	cl					
Nashville	48	34	01	cl					
New Orleans	83	63	01	cl					
New York City	55	46	02	cl					
Newark	57	43	01	cl					

State forecast

Texas temperatures

	High	Low	Pcp
Abilene	81	60	0
Albino	93	74	0.00
Amarillo	57	35	0
Arlington	86	63	0.03
Austin	91	63	0.12
Beaumont	82	71	0.00
Brownsville	86	73	0.00
Burnet	86	59	0.34
Childress	81	47	0.00
College Station	87	63	0.41
Comroe	88	69	0.01
Corpus Christi	74	54	0.00
Corsicana	85	65	0.04
Dalhart	80	37	0.00
Dallas Love Field	79	65	0.89
Del Rio	82	65	0.00
Denton	74	63	0.05
DFW Airport	79	67	1.23E
Paso	74	54	0.00
Fort Stockton	82	74	0.00
Fort Worth Meacham	78	64	1.44
Galveston	79	71	0.00
Georgetown	88	63	0.22
Gustavus Pass	71	44	0.00
Hartgen	87	74	0.00
Hondo	95	67	0.00

PUMP: Analysts uncertain about additional barrels of oil

(From 1A)

riers struggle with more expensive jet fuel.

Industry experts said there remains uncertainty about exactly how much additional oil will be put into the market since OPEC producers for some time have been exceeding their official quotas by as much as 1.2 million barrels a day. That would mean the 10-core OPEC countries' decision reached late Tuesday actually would make available only an additional 500,000 barrels a day, analysts said.

This week, the Energy Information Administration said average gasoline prices nationwide had dipped by 2 cents from its peak during the past week to \$1.55 a gallon for all grades. The private Lundberg Survey showed a \$1.59 average at 10,000 service stations it monitors.

The EIA earlier this month had said gasoline prices could spike to \$1.80 — and even \$2 in some areas — this summer if additional oil is delayed getting into the market and perhaps even higher if refineries have problems.

Meanwhile, the high gasoline

prices continued to fuel heated political exchanges in Congress where GOP leaders in the Senate planned to consider, perhaps as early as Thursday, a rollback of the federal 18.4-cent gasoline tax by 4.3 cents.

Richardson called the tax rollback unnecessary in light of the OPEC production increases, although the administration has stopped short of saying the president would veto such legislation.

Highway interests, and some influential members of Congress, have warned the rollback would put highway construction projects at risk.

Yet Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., promised to seek a vote on the issue this week, and House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, said that if it comes over from the Senate, the House would bring it up for a floor vote. "Republicans are more than happy to repeal the tax," Armey said.

On the Net:
Energy Information Administration:
<http://www.eia.doe.gov>

STORM: People jammed roads during '57 tornado

(From 1A)

ple, left 1,740 people injured, destroyed 3,000 houses, and left 20,000 people homeless. Three years later, in April 1982, a tornado struck Paris in Northeast Texas and left 10 people dead, 170 injured, and 1,000 homeless.

Closer to Midland, the May 22, 1987, tornado at Saragosa near the Fort Davis foothills killed 30 people, mostly children, and injured 85 others.

On May 11, 1953, a Waco tornado killed 114 people and a tornado near San Angelo claimed 11 lives.

When a tornado is imminent, both Little and Mathews advise residents to seek reinforced shelter and not to panic.

"Don't get outside into the weather," said Little, who suggested the relative safety of "a doorway where you've got bracing."

If outside, "you want to get into a ditch or a culvert or a basement," Little said. "Storm cellars are pretty few and far between in West Texas."

"If you are in a car in town, just stop the car, get out, and try to get into a well-built structure," Mathews said. "If you are downtown, just bail out of the car and run into the closest building."

Mathews advises people not to panic and drive into the streets, which is what apparently happened in Midland in 1957.

"Don't try to leave your house, go get in your car, and jam the

highways," Mathews said. To the tornado, people in a traffic jam would be like "sitting ducks out there."

"Thank goodness, the (1957) tornado didn't come right through that area," Mathews said.

Of that May 1957 tornado, Midland Reporter-Telegram writer Cope Routh reported that "automobiles were jammed bumper-to-bumper on the Rankin Highway and West U.S. Highway 80 as residents fled the northern part of the city." The vehicles were "huddled like cattle in a storm" near drainage ditches and culverts where the motorists and their passengers would seek refuge should the funnel cloud descend toward them.

In-town damage was relatively slight, and no one in Midland was killed or injured by the storm.

"Some people see a tornado and get scared, and they just want to run," Mathews said. "They get in their car and just can't make much progress — too much traffic."

At home or office, people threatened by a tornado already should have a "predesignated shelter," which could be the lowest floor of a building, an interior room or closet.

"If a tornado is coming at you, you don't want to leave your house or get in your car to get away," Mathews said.

While a 3,000-pound or heavier car may seem heavy, Math-

ews noted that "the wind acting on every little square inch of the car has a lot of force." The wind could cause the car to "roll over and even throw the car fairly easily."

But if the tornado is "obviously a long, long ways away, you may have some time to evade it and get into some reinforced structure ... before you run out of time," Mathews said. "A culvert is even better because it is covered."

And "sometimes, you may see a tornado on the horizon many, many miles away. In that case, you may have time to drive to safety, getting completely out of the path of the storm or to a reinforced building," Mathews said. "You need to allow enough time to get away from the car, because the car is probably going to roll over. You don't want to be right beside it when it rolls over."

In 1938, a tornado damaged Stanton and Our Lady of Mercy Academy, which never reopened following the storm, recalled Stanton residents Bob and Dorothy Deavenport.

"My mother had me get under the bed," recalled Deavenport, who was age 10 at the time of the storm. He is a former Martin County judge.

"I remember the sight more than the sound," Mrs. Deavenport said. "It was roaring. I remember big, old trees bending over."

Nine years later north of Stanton, the 1947 Mother's Day tornado at Lenora left one person dead.

TOWN: Tornadoes also touch down in Arlington, Grand Prairie

(From 1A)

as it showered 30 stories to the streets from the Bank One building.

The downtown twister was a hit-and-miss affair, although it stayed on the ground for about 10 minutes.

"We dodged the bullet, really," said Ely. "It could've been a lot worse."

In Fort Worth, 83 people went to hospitals. Eight were admitted, mostly with minor injuries.

"It's somewhat of a miracle that there aren't more injuries than we've found out about so far," said Fort Worth Mayor Kenneth Barr.

Several buildings were riddled

with gaping holes where windows had been ripped out. Draperies and blinds flapped through the gaps. Other buildings appeared untouched.

"This building escaped unscathed," said Wendy Gosler, a resident of the historic Electric Building, an apartment complex near the center of downtown.

The first twister touched down at 6:15 p.m. and moved eastward into Fort Worth, hitting an area just west of downtown where two people were crushed to death — one by a falling wall and the other by a truck trailer that flipped on him. Several businesses and homes were destroyed. Much of a five-story church tower, where two women were praying, was

blown away.

Several skyscrapers sustained heavy damage as the tornado blew out windows and scattered debris onto city streets. An eyewitness told Ely that windows in one office building swayed in and out about 7 inches before the glass shattered.

Among the buildings most heavily damaged in Fort Worth were the Bank One building, Tandy Center, the corporate headquarters for Cash America International, Union Pacific Resources Building and a church.

Tandy CEO Leonard H. Roberts, estimated damage to his company's corporate headquarters at \$2 million.

Bush declared Tarrant County

"It was just like a roaring freight train," recalled Irene Springer, a retired schoolteacher who now lives in Big Spring and who was hospitalized at the time.

Her husband, Grover Springer, "went through the tornado, and when he got up, he still had his hat on," Mrs. Springer fondly recalled. He was hanging onto a fence post and closely enough at that to save his hat.

Destructive tornadoes spiraled into McCamey in 1990, in Sweetwater in 1986, and in Monahans in the late 1970s.

In case of tornadoes, other severe storms, and disasters, Midland and Midland County have emergency-management plans that would be enacted through the Emergency Operating Center in near downtown and backup sites, including Midland International Airport.

"Through the plan, we've got warnings going out over TV or radio," Little said.

Storm or other disasters would "bring in all (public-service) departments and agencies together," said Little, who cited the county judge, the mayor, city manager, the county commissioners, department heads, police chief, City Council, sheriff, fire chief, public works director and utilities director.

"Every agency would be represented" to handle the gravity of the situation and to call on outside help if needed, Little said.

A disaster area.

"Last night's tornado damage was a tragic reminder of the fierce power of nature. My thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families," Bush said.

On Wednesday afternoon, a 19-year-old Fort Worth man died at Harris Methodist Hospital from injuries he suffered during the storm, hospital spokeswoman Laura Van Hooser said.

Juan Carlos Oseguera had been hit in the head with a softball-sized hail stone downtown. He was in critical condition from the moment he arrived at the hospital until he died around 3 p.m. Wednesday.

Carl Spence, 65, was crushed inside a collapsed industrial building, and Howard Thornton, 52, from Arlington, was hit by flying debris, said Linda Anderson, a spokeswoman with the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office.

Midland-Reporter-Telegram

ISSN 0890-5932

A Hearst Newspaper
Published each morning by the Hearst Corporation, Midland Reporter-Telegram Division, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland TX 79701. Periodicals postage paid at Midland TX 79711. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland TX 79702.

Readers' guide

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AP Photo
A mother and her children walk Wednesday with Mount Usu in the background as they evacuate their home following powerful tremors in Abuta, which is about 475 miles north of Tokyo. The Meteorological agency issued a statement that an eruption was possible "within several days."

Dozens killed in Kenya bus crash

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — A speeding bus swerved to avoid a pothole and collided head on with another bus Wednesday, killing at least 101 people in western Kenya, police said.

The buses burst into flame in the afternoon accident, which injured 57 people, some seriously, about 140 miles northwest of Nairobi, near the tea-growing town of Kericho, said Officer Daniel Musau.

"It was one of the most horrible-looking sights I've ever seen," Debora Womble, an American missionary working in Kenya who happened on the

accident.

The westbound bus was traveling at very high speed and swerved to avoid a pothole, slamming into the eastbound bus, said Musau.

It wasn't immediately clear how many survivors there were, though dozens were pulled from both buses.

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Eruption of Japanese volcano seen as imminent

TOKYO (AP) — Authorities in northern Japan evacuated thousands of residents Wednesday and wheeled patients from hospitals after scientists warned the Mount Usu volcano could erupt within the next two days.

More than 8,000 people from three towns were evacuated as increasingly powerful tremors shook snow-covered Mount Usu, an active volcano on Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido that last erupted in 1978.

The sudden buildup in seismic activity prompted experts to warn late Wednesday that the 2,416-foot volcano may erupt at any time.

"The type of activity at Mount Usu, especially surface activity, is short-term critical," said Dr. Hiromu Okada of the Usu Volcano Observatory in a news conference broadcast by the semi-public NHK television.

A 4.2 magnitude quake jolted Mount Usu Wednesday evening. It was the most intense of the nearly 2,996 tremors that have been recorded in the area over the last three days.

Worried that an eruption would melt snow on the volcano's flanks and cause mudslides, authorities ordered the evacuation of 3,832 homes in the towns of Date, Sobetsu and Abuta, hot-spring resorts with a combined population of 51,300.

Hundreds of other residents had already left their homes voluntarily, frightened by the tremors and the smoke and steam

spewing out of the mountain. Many of the evacuees slept in school gymnasiums.

National news broadcasts showed hospital patients in wheelchairs being taken to ambulances and families preparing to spend the night in makeshift shelters organized in schools and other public facilities.

Police officer and town officials checked for stragglers, and 3,000 Ground Self-Defense Force units in Hokkaido were placed on standby, a prefectural official said.

"Making absolutely sure people are safe is our top priority," said Takashi Odajima of the Hokkaido government's disaster-prevention section.

In Tokyo, Japan's central government set up an emergency task force at Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's residence.

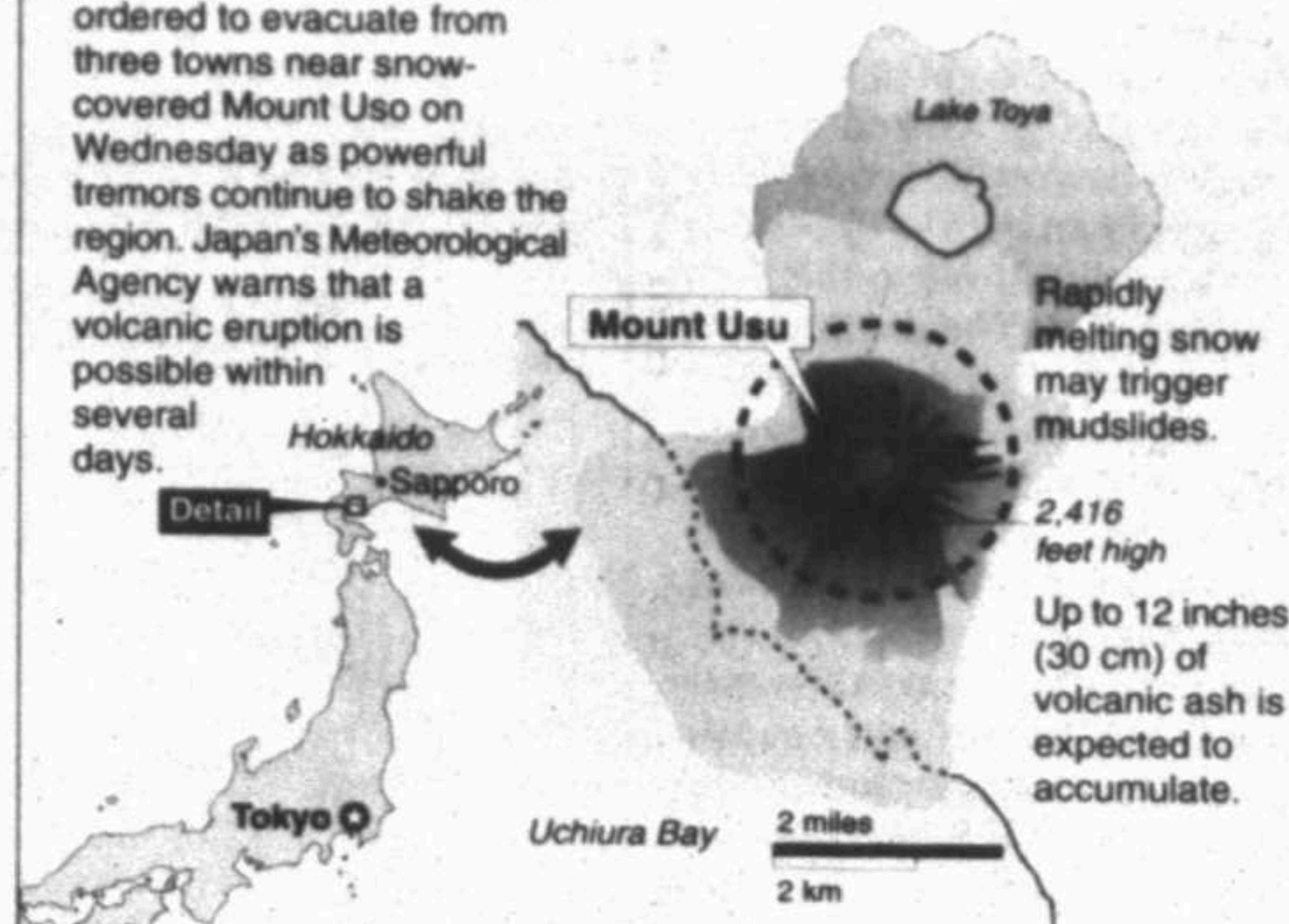
The threat of natural catastrophe is taken very seriously in Japan, an archipelago prone to seismic and volcanic activity.

The last eruption at Mount Usu, 475 miles north of Tokyo, killed two people and destroyed 106 homes in October 1978.

Yoshiaki Ida, chairman of the Meteorological Agency's Coordinating Committee for Prediction of Volcanic Eruption, was quoted as saying by Kyodo News that Mount Usu could be expected to eject a large amount of pyroclastic flow — a mixture of rocks, pumice, volcanic ash and gas.

Mount Usu threatens to erupt

Eight-thousand people were ordered to evacuate from three towns near snow-covered Mount Usu on Wednesday as powerful tremors continue to shake the region. Japan's Meteorological Agency warns that a volcanic eruption is possible within several days.



Volcanic activities of Mount Usu	Eruptions	Fatalities
1663	3 days	5
1700	Unknown	—
1822	3 days	59, many injured
1883	10 days	—
1910	6 days	1
1943-45	6 months	1
1977-78	32 hours	2
2000	More than 1,000 tremors recorded over the past 3 days, including a preliminary magnitude 4.2 quake Wednesday.	—

Source: Local government

AP

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Death toll linked to Christian doomsday sect in Uganda nears 650

RUGAZI, Uganda (AP) — The children and neighbors who had looked on in horrified wonder for two days drifted away Wednesday, accustomed by now to the gruesome sight of shirtless workers tugging twisted bodies through a narrow doorway onto the green lawn.

But that didn't mean the horror had ceased. The death count linked to a Christian doomsday sect climbed ever higher Wednesday — more than 640 — in what officials say is one of the largest mass murders in recent history.

The latest collection of twisted, decaying bodies was uncovered in the plain gray fieldstone house of Dominic Kataribabo, an excommunicated Roman Catholic priest and a sect leader.

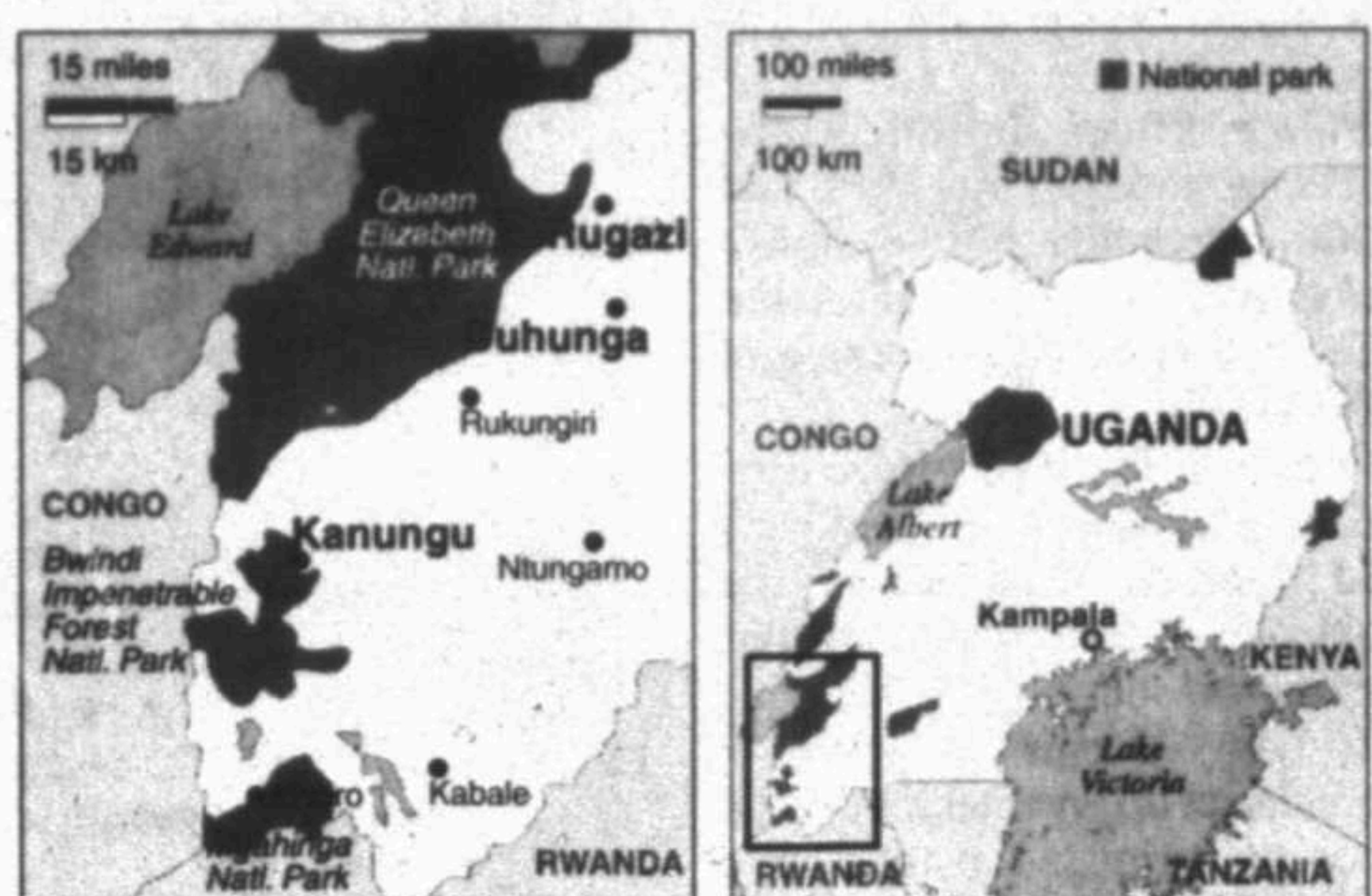
By mid-afternoon, the workers' two-day task was complete: 81 mostly naked bodies of nameless people were pulled from the brown earth beneath the floor of a 10-by-10 foot room in Kataribabo's home, examined briefly and reburied. Earlier this week, 74 mutilated and strangled bodies, many of them children, were unearthed from a mass grave in a small sugarcane field in Kataribabo's backyard.

By Wednesday, the gruesome task had sapped the swag of Ugandan investigators and forensic experts who arrived here Monday to figure out how so many people had died and who killed them. They had few answers, and police were looking for more graves.

"I want to know why these people were killed," said a mut-

Cult Deaths in Uganda

Authorities uncovered more bodies in one of the largest mass murders in recent history. The latest discoveries bring the total of dead to at least 673 in three compounds in southwestern Uganda that once belonged to the Movement for the Restoration of the Ten Commandments of God. Police are pursuing two main leaders of the movement, Cledonia Mwerinde and Joseph Kibwetere, who predicted the world would end Dec. 31.



Kanungu, March 17: Up to 330 charred bodies are found in a church hall fire. Originally ruled suicides, they are now investigated as murders.	Buhunga, March 24: More than 150 bodies are found hacked or strangled in mass graves. They are believed to have been buried six weeks earlier.	Rugazi, March 27: Seventy-four bodies are found at the edge of a sugarcane field knifed or strangled; they are believed to have been buried one month ago.	Rugazi, March 28: A total of 81 bodies are found over two days in a house belonging to a cult leader, Dominic Kataribabo. They are believed to have been dead one month.
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Source: Compiled from AP reports

Wm. J. Castello, S. Hoffmann/AP

ed Godfrey Bangirana, a senior criminal investigator from the distant capital, Kampala.

Wednesday's discoveries bring to at least 644 the number of dead found in three compounds in southwestern Uganda that once

belonged to the sect, which had up to 1,000 members. Officials believe most of the dead were sect members.

Scenes of horror linked to the apocalyptic sect have emerged repeatedly since March 17, when

fire engulfed the chapel of a compound in nearby Kanungu.

At least 330 people burned to death there. Kataribabo, 64, is believed to have been among the

dead — a body thought to be his was found in the ruins, still wearing a clerical collar.

Authorities initially called the conflagration a mass suicide.

But within days, investigators discovered six strangled, mutilated corpses in a pit latrine on the compound, triggering a murder investigation.



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International drug sting nets 2,300 arrests

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Police arrested more than 2,300 suspects and seized tons of drugs in U.S.-coordinated narcotics raids in 24 Caribbean and Latin American nations and territories, U.S. drug agents said Wednesday.

During the 17-day sweep this month, anti-drug forces from Ecuador to Haiti executed more than 7,300 search warrants against suspected traffickers.

The operation "was like a hurricane going through the Caribbean," Michael Vigil, director of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's Caribbean division, said at a news conference in Puerto Rico.

Authorities seized nearly 12,000 pounds of cocaine, 120 pounds of heroin and destroyed 94 cocaine laboratories, said Vigil, adding the operation forced the price of cocaine on the street to more than double.

"The objective was to send a message to the evildoers out there that we as Caribbean law enforcers are united," Tony Rogers, head of St. Maarten's narcotics division, said at a news conference in the Dutch Caribbean territory.

Police also seized 150 pounds of hashish oil, 30 pounds of morphine base, 172 vehicles, 13 boats and 83 weapons.

Officials said no major drug traffickers were among those arrested.

The operation included raids in Trinidad and Tobago, Montserrat, Dominica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, St. Maarten, the British Virgin Islands, Grenada, Barbados, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador, Suriname, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia, Aruba, Curacao, Jamaica, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico.

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Judge

WASHINGTON — Correcting an impropriety, a federal judge Wednesday said that a "committed" person should not be released from prison until the person has been found guilty of the crime.

Clinton immediately released the letter because "it was known to refute Kathleen Willey's sexual advances."

U.S. District Judge Lamberth, an appointee, concurred and three lawyers disagreed with the court ruling in the letters public in the Monica Lewinsky case.

"This court cannot condone this unbecoming conduct," Lamberth wrote, clearing the way for the conservative Watch to drop the issue.

Initially, Lamberth simply required lawyers to answer earlier rejected questions to release the letters. He then opened the door for a suit by Willey.

And the Justice Department, which is reviewing the case, has an open interest.

Rabbis

GREENSBORO — Reform Jews

Wednesday approved a resolution on the option of a commitment ceremony.

With the vote, the Conference of American Reform Jews became the most religious group to support sex unions.

The resolution, passed by 1,800 members of the Conference of American Reform Jews, says that the largest and most Jewish of the three major North American rabbinic groups should support the resolution.

CCAR's president, Rabbi Chaim Kanievsky, said the resolution shows a belief that "gay, lesbian, and transgender relationships they have with their partners, deserve and respect due to the image of Judaism in the public eye."

The resolution calls for a dialogue to develop guidelines for rabbis.

SP



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Judge rules Clinton violated Willey's privacy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Resurrecting an impeachment controversy, a federal judge ruled Wednesday that President Clinton "committed a criminal violation of the Privacy Act" by releasing personal letters to undermine the credibility of one of his accusers.

Clinton immediately disputed the decision, saying he reluctantly released the letters two years ago because "it was the only way I knew to refute allegations" by Kathleen Willey of an unwanted sexual advance.

U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth, a Republican appointee, concluded the president and three top White House lawyers disregarded an earlier court ruling in making Willey's letters public in the midst of the Monica Lewinsky scandal in 1998.

"This court cannot accept or condone this unlawful action," Lamberth wrote in a decision that clears the way for a lawsuit filed by the conservative group Judicial Watch to delve further into the issue.

Initially, Lamberth's ruling simply requires White House lawyers to answer questions they earlier rejected about the decision to release the letters. But it could open the door for an eventual lawsuit by Willey.

And the Justice Department, which is reviewing the decision, has an open investigation into

another impeachment-related release of damaging information about a critic — the Pentagon's release of data from Linda Tripp's personnel file.

Independent Counsel Robert Ray, who must decide whether to indict Clinton after he leaves office, cannot prosecute a Privacy Act case because it only is a misdemeanor.

Clinton disputed Lamberth's ruling and said at a news conference that his lawyers would proceed accordingly. He said he never even considered the Privacy Act when he made the decision to release the letters.

The president said he "decided to do it reluctantly only because it was the only way I knew to refute allegations that were made against me that were untrue."

He also took a swipe at Lamberth, noting the Republican appointee "somehow acquired a significant percentage of the cases involving the White House. That's an interesting story."

"We ... are confident it will be overturned on appeal," White House counsel Beth Nolan said of the ruling.

The judge, who has presided over several lawsuits filed against the Clinton administration by Judicial Watch, minced no words in his ruling, writing: "The president committed a criminal violation of the Privacy Act."

The judge said former White

House Counsel Charles F.C. Ruff, Deputy Counsel Bruce Lindsey and former Deputy Counsel Cheryl Mills engaged in discussions that led to the release of the letters. And he rejected White House arguments that the lawyers' conversations were protected by attorney-client confidentiality.

"The discussions regarding the release of the Willey letters, even if initially protected by the attorney-client privilege, fall squarely within the crime-fraud exception," Lamberth wrote.

He noted the lawyers recommended that the president release the letters, and juxtaposed that decision with a ruling he made nine months earlier that the White House needed to adhere to the Privacy Act.

"The White House and president were aware that they were subject to the Privacy Act, and yet chose to violate its provisions," Lamberth wrote.

Presidential aides used the letters to undercut Willey's allegations, saying the correspondence showed the Virginia woman remained friendly with the president after the alleged sexual encounter. Clinton steadfastly has denied making the advance.

Phone calls to Willey and her lawyer in Powhatan, Va., were not immediately returned Wednesday.

Appeals court: Families of Flight 800 victims can sue

■ Families of the victims have sought millions of dollars in damages from Boeing, TWA and Hydro-Aire Inc.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A federal appeals court ruled Wednesday that families of the TWA Flight 800 victims can seek millions of dollars in damages for pain and suffering because the crash was not in international waters.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in a 2-to-1 decision that the 1996 crash eight miles off the coast of Long Island was not governed by the Death on the High Seas Act, which limits lawsuit damages.

In its majority opinion, the

appeals court noted that President Reagan in 1988 extended the territorial sea of the United States from 3 miles to 12 miles offshore.

The Boeing 747 exploded minutes into a flight from New York to Paris, falling in pieces to the Atlantic Ocean. All 230 people aboard were killed. The exact cause of the crash remains a mystery.

Families of the victims have sought millions of dollars in damages from Boeing, TWA and Hydro-Aire Inc., which made the plane's fuel pumps. The plaintiffs claim the companies were negligent in the construction and operation of the plane. A trial in the case is set to begin next Feb. 1.

Steve Pounian, a lawyer for the families, said the ruling meant families would not be

limited to damage awards of as little as \$100,000 to \$200,000 for "pecuniary losses" or those calculated from an estimate of future earnings and other factors.

Instead, they may be able to seek damages for the loss of the care, comfort and companionship of loved ones as well as the pain and suffering their loved ones went through when the plane exploded.

Boeing spokesman Russell Young, said the company was studying the ruling and did not have an immediate comment.

Julia Bishop, a TWA spokeswoman, said the airline would leave it to Boeing to decide whether to appeal the ruling "because it's more Boeing's issue than ours."

A message left with a lawyer for Hydro-Aire was not immediately returned.

Rabbis now allowed to perform same-sex unions

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — Reform Jewish leaders on Wednesday overwhelmingly approved a resolution giving rabbis the option of presiding at gay commitment ceremonies.

With the vote, the Central Conference of American Rabbis became the most influential U.S. religious group to sanction same-sex unions.

The resolution applies to the 1,800 members of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, who serve at least 1.5 million Reform Jews. Reform Judaism is the largest and most liberal of Judaism's three major branches in North America.

Rabbi Charles Kroloff, CCAR's president, said the resolution shows the conference's belief that "gay and lesbian Jews, and the committed relationships they form with their partners, deserve the recognition and respect due to people created in the image of God."

The resolution calls for the rabbinate to develop sample ceremonies for rabbis who choose to

officiate at same-gender ceremonies. It also said the relationship between two same-gender Jewish people is worthy of affirmation through Jewish ritual.

"This is a call to all religious denominations to bring the same prophetic voice to lift our nation from the bonds of prejudice to embrace all members of the American family," said Rabbi Eric Weiss, executive director of the Bay Area Jewish Healing Center in San Francisco.

Because of the issue's volatility, sessions at the group's annual convention here this week were

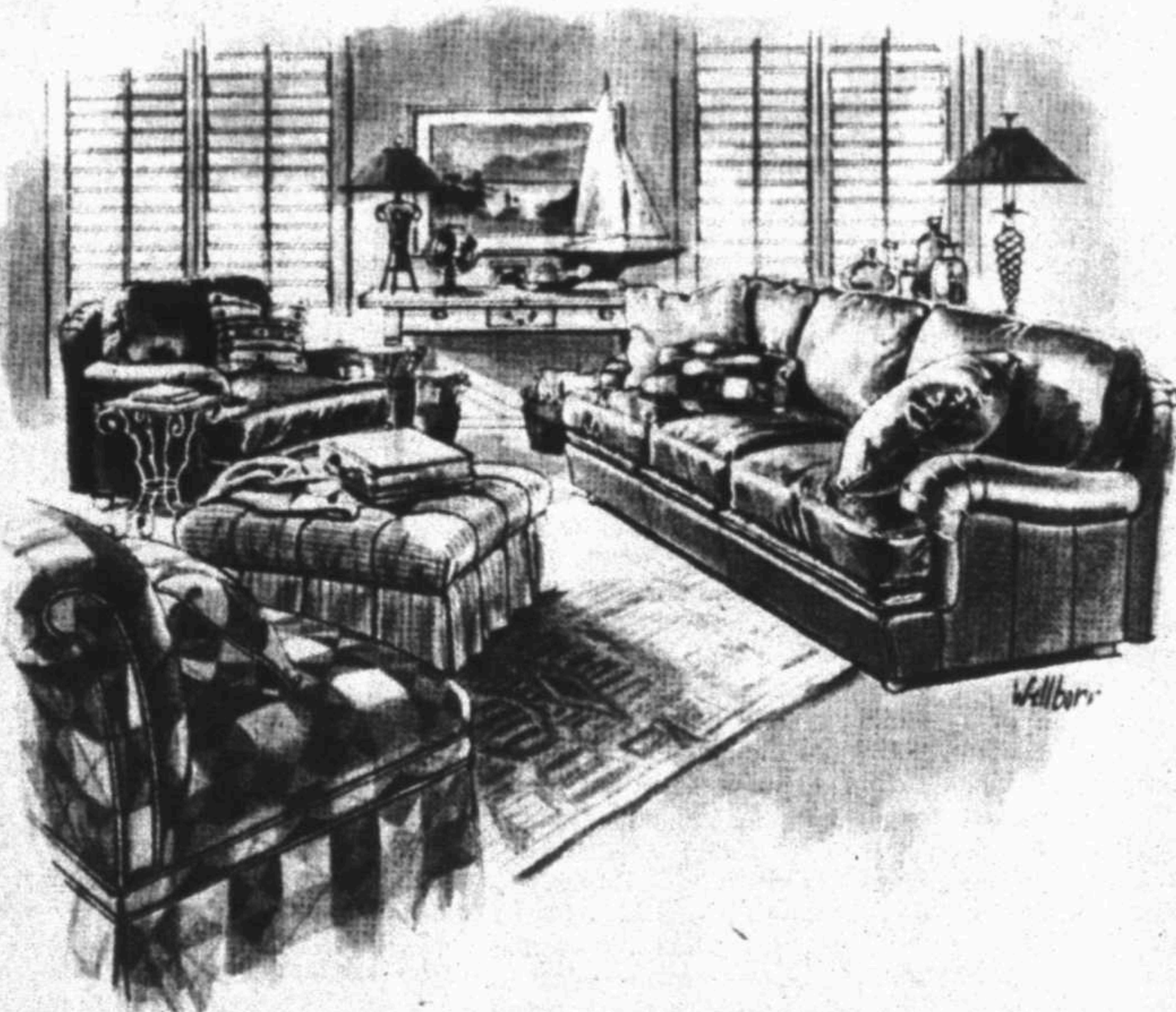
held privately. The resolution was approved overwhelmingly by a voice vote during Wednesday's plenary session.

Presbyterian, United Methodist and Episcopal church leaders are expected to take up the issue this year.

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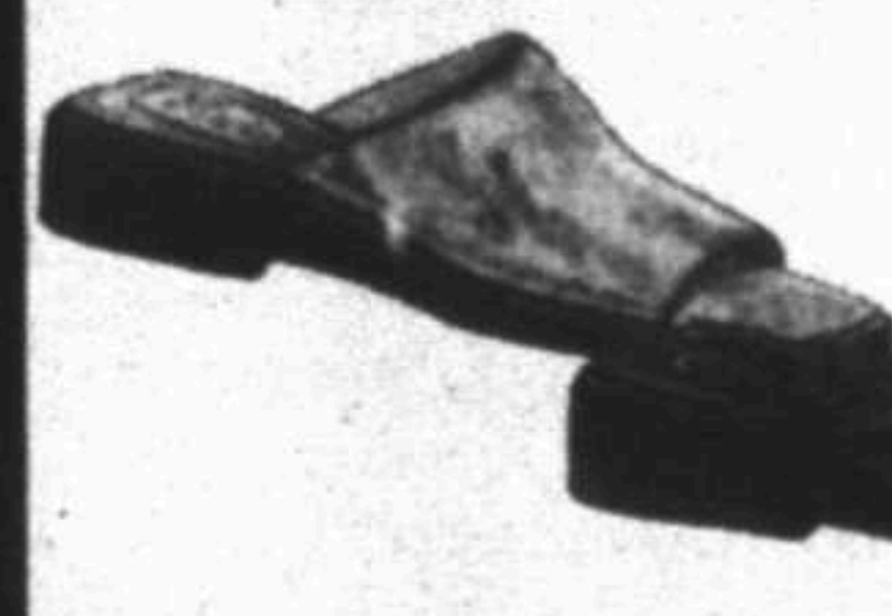


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Lack of action on major issues harmful to MISD

Midland School District trustees met Tuesday evening, but failed to take decisive action on two issues of prime concern for the Midland community — how to end the much-maligned cluster system or what to do about Midland High School Principal Neil Richmond.

The residents of this community have a major stake in both of those matters and expect the members of the school board to resolve the issues.

To say the least, those in attendance at the meeting and those anticipating action on one or both of the items had to be sorely disappointed.

School officials may rightfully contend that, due to the federal court's involvement in the settlement agreement worked out to end busing in Midland, any school plan must be carefully crafted to meet court mandates. That certainly is a factor.

But residents of the community have been crying out for the end of busing for months now to no avail. In fact, Midland Chamber of Commerce President Buddy Sipes and Director of Economic Development Dennis Clayton urged the board to end the cluster system for the benefit of the community's economic future. That is a point that certainly needed to be made.

And, yes, the Richmond case is a touchy one that urges caution on the part of the board, but there still should be action to put the matter behind the school district.

The problem appears to be a lack of leadership on the part of school officials in dealing with these matters with firmness and certainty. That definitely is what is needed.

It was indicated at the meeting that action on both of the issues could be taken at the April 11 board meeting. We hope so. It's time for these matters to be resolved so that the Midland community can move forward.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, March 30, the 90th day of 2000. There are 276 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
 On March 30, 1867, U.S. Secretary of State William H. Seward reached agreement with Russia to purchase the territory of Alaska for \$7.2 million, a deal roundly ridiculed as "Seward's Folly."

On this date:
 In 1822, Florida became a United States territory.
 In 1842, Dr. Crawford W. Long of Jefferson, Ga., first used ether as an anesthetic during a minor operation.
 In 1870, the 15th amendment to the Constitution, giving black men the right to vote, was declared in effect.
 In 1870, Texas was readmitted to the Union.
 In 1945, the Soviet Union invaded Austria during World War II.

In 1964, John Glenn withdrew from the Ohio race for U.S. Senate because of injuries suffered in a fall.
 In 1970, the musical "Applause" opened on Broadway.

In 1973, Ellsworth Bunker resigned as U.S. ambassador to South Vietnam, and was succeeded by Graham A. Martin.

In 1981, President Reagan was shot and seriously injured outside a Washington D.C. hotel by John W. Hinckley Jr. Also wounded were White House press secretary James Brady, a Secret Service agent and a District of Columbia police officer.

In 1998, Rolls-Royce was purchased by German automaker BMW in a \$570 million deal.

Ten years ago: Idaho Gov. Cecil Andrus vetoed a highly restrictive state abortion measure, saying the bill gave a woman and her family no flexibility in cases of rape and incest.

Five years ago: Tens of thousands of Rwandan refugees, fleeing violence in Burundi, began a two-day trek to sanctuary in Tanzania. Pope John Paul II issued the 11th encyclical of his papacy in which he condemned abortion and euthanasia as crimes that no human laws could legitimize.

One year ago: Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic insisted that NATO attacks stop before he moved toward peace, declaring his forces ready to fight "to the very end." NATO answered with new resolve to wreck his military with a relentless air assault. A jury in Portland, Ore., ordered Philip Morris to pay \$81 million to the family of a man who died of lung cancer after smoking Marlboros for four decades.

GEORGE F. WILL

New York voters — We already have one bad Clinton

WASHINGTON — Bill Clinton may not be the worst president America has had, but surely he is the worst person to be president. There is reason to believe that he is a rapist ("You better get some ice on that," Juanita Broadrick says he told her concerning her bit lip), and that he bombed a country to distract attention from legal difficulties arising from his glandular life, and that... Furthermore, the bargain that he and his wife call a marriage refutes the axiom that opposites attract. Rather, she, as much as he, perhaps even more so, incarnates Clintonism.

"To understand her you have to understand him" is the thesis of "The Case Against Hillary Clinton," Peggy Noonan's slender, scolding book — a broadside, as such polemics were called when Tom Paine and Emile Zola penned them. It answers with a resounding "No!" the question of whether the passions swirling around New York's Senate race are disproportionate.

Noonan, a speechwriter for President Reagan and now a Wall Street Journal columnist, calls Mrs. Clinton's candidacy an act of "mad boomer selfishness and narcissism" shocking even in a Clinton. Noonan concedes that there is something admirable in Mrs. Clinton's "toughness." But a Noonan compliment, like a scorpion, has a sting in its tail: "Never has the admirable been so fully wedded to the appalling, never in modern American political history has such tenacity and determination been marshaled to achieve such puny

purpose: the mere continuance of Them."

There is an almost magnificent banality to Mrs. Clinton's campaign. ("Our children are our future." "Governments must put children first." "Every time we pay tribute to art, particularly to art in a public place, we know it will cause a lot of thoughts to be thought and words to be spoken and ideas to be sparked.") But the banality echoes the utter emptiness of the record of what she calls her lifetime of "public service."

The service includes being a rainmaker for a remarkably dodgy Little Rock law firm, representing interests in front of regulators appointed by her husband. Her "public service" does not include any public accomplishment other than making a baroque (600 people in 38 subgroups, operating in illegal secrecy) debacle of health care reform.

Noonan's diagnosis of Mrs. Clinton's emptiness (of everything but staggering self-importance) accords with Elizabeth Kolbert's unenthralling report in The New Yorker ("Running on Empathy," Feb. 7) in which Kolbert says Mrs. Clinton's "listening tour" of New York state "tried to elevate nodding into a kind of political philosophy." Her candidacy, Kolbert writes, is based on "the quality of her concern, the heartfulness of her convictions, and the depth of her feelings." By basing her campaign on an attitude ("sincerity"), Mrs. Clinton reduces questions of policy to questions of her disposition.

Noonan's book is not "balanced" and does not contain fresh facts. But it is no more imbalanced than "Common Sense" or "I accuse," and her worthy purpose is to distill the meaning of the acid rain of facts about the Clintons' behavior with which we have been deluged.

"This highly credentialed rube," says Noonan

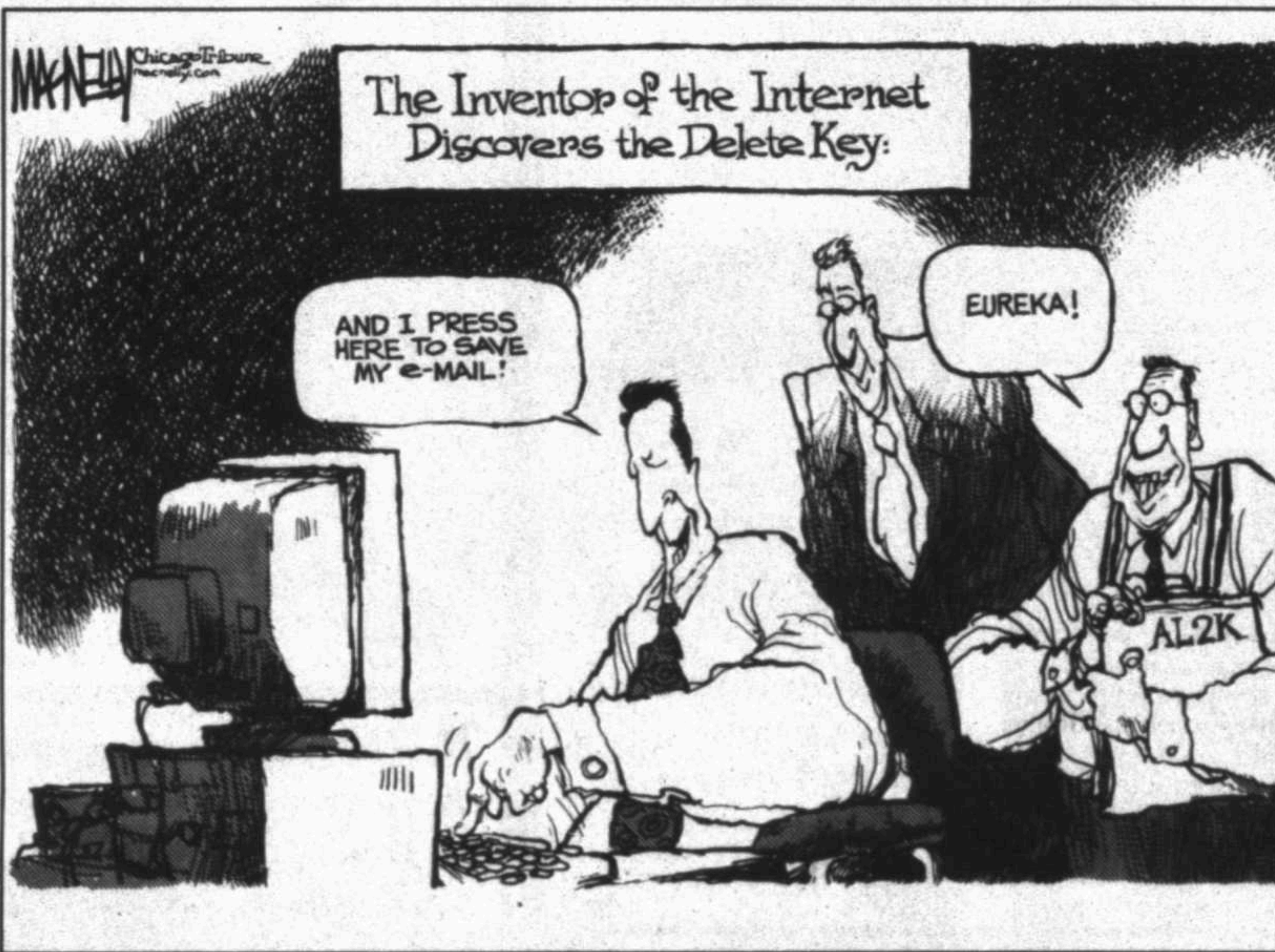
in summing up, is "too corrupt for New York; she is too cynical for the place that gave birth to Tammany Hall." Noonan is one angry New Yorker, and although anger can be, and in this case is, a whetstone for sharp writing, it can subvert judgment. Did Noonan's anger do so? Consider.

Mrs. Clinton (like her recently announced Jewish step-grandfather?) is a longtime Yankees fan. She did not even know who Craig Livingstone, keeper of the FBI files, was — although a White House intern told House investigators that he heard Mrs. Clinton address Livingstone by name, in a friendly manner. Never mind staff notes indicating otherwise, she had nothing to do with the travel office firings, smearings and groundless prosecutions. She says she talks to her husband about everything — but had no inkling of his offer of clemency, over the vehement objections of the FBI and Bureau of Prisons, to 16 Puerto Rican terrorists.

Like the photograph of two Clinton friends holding hands as they jump up and down on Lincoln's bed, images of Clintonian vulgarities are vivid, and more are being produced. Recently there was the sheer fakery of Mrs. Clinton's successful struggle to answer David Letterman's questions about New York — questions she had been told in advance. Today Mrs. Clinton, who put Chelsea's nanny on the Arkansas payroll as a security guard, is chiseling taxpayers by her use of government planes for campaigning.

Will it — Clintonism — ever end? As the song says, it's up to you, New York.

George Will's column is distributed by the Washington Post Writers Group.



CAL THOMAS

Republicans vs. Democrats — The weak vs. the strong

The Rev. Charles Wright, the chaplain-designate of the House, was forced to withdraw his name last week after one of the rawest displays of political power ever seen in Washington: Wright wrote Speaker Dennis Hastert, "I humbly ask that members put aside any misuse of religion for political advantage."

Democrats, who are determined to retake the House with little regard for God or their fellow man, sensed that they could use religion to gain political points by lobbying for a Catholic chaplain instead of settling for another Protestant.

The problem for Hastert, which has been the problem for Republicans for some time, is that he (and they) have bought the Democrats' "bipartisanship" pitch, only to discover for the umpteenth time that the Dems don't mean it.

As speaker, Hastert had the prerogative of naming anyone to be chaplain. Instead, he appointed a bipartisan committee to make the selection.

Every time the Republicans take this Democrat bait, they get hooked and cooked for dinner. During his 1988 inaugural address, George Bush extended his hand to then-Speaker Jim Wright, who cut

it off by pledging a deal on spending cuts if Bush would agree to tax increases. Wright knew his fellow Democrats wouldn't go for spending cuts, but would go for new taxes that would undermine public support for Bush who had asked voters to "read my lips" and believed him when he promised "no new taxes."

Republicans are naive when they believe polls and they believe Democrats. Hastert delivered a floor speech after selecting The Rev. Daniel Coughlin, a Catholic priest from Chicago, without consulting the "bipartisan committee," something he could and should have done with Rev. Wright and avoided controversy. Hastert lamented the "unseemly political game" played by Democrats and said never in all his years in Congress had he witnessed a "more cynical or destructive campaign."

Well, Mr. Speaker, you ain't seen nothin' yet. Democrats, who view political power as the only power there is and government as their exclusive domain, will stop at nothing to hold onto the White House and take back the House of Representatives. Republicans stupidly believe that good manners will be reciprocated. Apparently, they learned nothing during their 40 years in the minority. Politics is hardball, not badminton.

But perhaps Gov. George W. Bush has learned this lesson. After he clinched the GOP nomination, some Washington Post reporters journeyed to Austin to see if Bush might like to follow Jack Kemp's 1996 debate script with Al Gore in

which Kemp pledged that he would be nice to Gore if Gore would be nice to him. Gov. Bush charged that Gore is an "obstacle to reform" and said the vice president has "a major credibility problem."

Even though the Post reporters offered him "several opportunities to offer any kind words about his rival," Bush repeatedly said he neither believes, nor trusts Gore. And he said he intends to keep pounding away at him.

If that's the line Republicans take in this election, they will lose and will deserve to lose. They don't give congeniality awards to politicians. It's victory or nothing. Speaker Hastert wants to get along, and that's what Democrats will tell him to do should Richard Gephardt become speaker: Get along to your place and repent of your arrogance for thinking you could run the House.

If Republicans behave as they did for 40 years when they were happy with the few bones tossed to them by Sam Rayburn, Tom Foley and Jim Wright, Democrats might occasionally let the neutered GOP puppies come up on the porch to see how the big dogs live. But they'd better not ever think they're good enough to be the top dog again.

The chaplaincy debacle is the latest in many lessons of what "reaching out" to Democrats gets Republicans. It gets them nothing.

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

ART BUCHWALD

If you can't say (bleep), just turn on the TV set

One of my favorite TV shows is "The Sopranos," an HBO program which depicts a typical gangster family in New Jersey that makes its living knocking off other New Jersey families who would do them harm.

What fascinates me is the number of "bleeps" that they use in the show. Every other word in the program is a "bleep." It's "bleep" this and "bleep" that and "bleep" him and "bleep" her.

Now this is why I like the show. Those of us who toil in newsprint are not permitted to use "bleeps" in the paper. Editors are paid large amounts of money to spot a "bleep" and toss it out. For some reason this does not hold true for cable television.

Writers of TV scripts can put as many "bleeps" in their scripts as they want to, and in the case of "The Sopranos," producers can add a few extra "bleeps" as well.

Actors may also request "bleeps" to keep the action going.

Another thing that makes "The Sopranos" different from other dramatic programs is that it has a lady psychiatrist in the show who is treating the main character, Tony, for murderous dysfunction.

Since he is involved in homicide and other Family matters, the psychiatrist is very important to the plot, as she is trying to help him understand why he does bad things. The psychiatrist is also important because she is the only person in the show who doesn't use "bleep" — although she would like to.

What "The Sopranos" has done for this country is make "bleep" a generic word.

Other shows are now using it to beef up their programs. Thanks to HBO, "bleep" writers are very much in demand.

"Bleep" writers are now paid far more than non-"bleep" ones.

I have a friend who makes his living writing "bleep" dialogue. I asked him if it was difficult. He said once you get the hang of it, it flows naturally.

"Let's say Soprano is mad at a member of his gang. He immediately curses him with a half dozen 'bleeps.'"

"The gang member responds, 'If that is how you feel, 'bleep' you.'"

"Then Tony Soprano says, 'That does it,' and hits his gang member with a baseball bat. Afterward he goes to his lady psychiatrist who tells him he has an attitude problem."

"I said, 'That sounds like a 12-bleep scene.'"

"I give them whatever they ask for."

"Does your dialogue have any effect on children?"

"No, because most of them are in their rooms doing their homework."

To escape "The Sopranos" I decided to go see "American Beauty." Darned if the entire film wasn't full of "bleeps."

WHOM TO WRITE

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

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Doonesbury Flashbacks



Supre

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court local government dancing, the about 3,000 ad wide, ruling W performer's fre sion can be res her to wear past

Nude dancing an effort to co other harms tha ment clubs ofte tices said in a reinstating a pu nance in Erie,

Such dancing conduct" but it in the outer an stitution's First speech protectio Day O'Conno court's main p

The ban p "interest in com tive secondary e with adult ente lishments," suc was not aimed a ic message, O'

Although the was divided, th to have broad entertainment is 3,000 adult club justices were to was argued in

"We're de Valerie Sprenkle city solicitor. "V expression... V ulated is the m sion."

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WASHINGTON proposed const ment on flag des rowly defeated Wednesday, wit ing that the prote of free speech o outweigh the ne ban unsavory against the flag.

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"Flag-burning is conduct of the kind," said S Leader Trent Lo

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The House h desecration am times since 1995 a 305-124 vote tutional amendm ratified by three legislatures, a ne case because passed resolutio gress to send th ment.

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Supreme Court ruling makes it easier for cities to ban nude dancing clubs

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court made it easier for local governments to ban nude dancing, the entertainment in about 3,000 adult clubs nationwide, ruling Wednesday that a performer's freedom of expression can be restricted by forcing her to wear pasties and a G-string.

Nude dancing can be banned in an effort to combat crime and other harms that adult entertainment clubs often attract, the justices said in a splintered decision reinstating a public-nudity ordinance in Erie, Pa.

Such dancing is "expressive conduct" but it falls "only within the outer ambit" of the Constitution's First Amendment free-speech protection, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote in the court's main opinion.

The ban promotes Erie's "interest in combating the negative secondary effects associated with adult entertainment establishments," such as crime, and was not aimed at a dancer's erotic message, O'Connor said.

Although the court's rationale was divided, the decision is sure to have broad impact. Nude entertainment is featured in about 3,000 adult clubs nationwide, the justices were told when the case was argued in November.

"We're delighted," said Valerie Sprenkle, Erie's assistant city solicitor. "We didn't ban any expression.... What's being regulated is the means of expression."

Sprenkle said dancers at a nude dancing club in the city "will be required to cover up to the extent required by the ordinance."

Jim Waple, general manager of Archibald's nightclub, which offers nude dancing two blocks from the White House, said, "Everybody wants to put these businesses out of business.... What crime does it cause? We don't have any drug dealers out front. We don't have any prostitutes out front."

The ruling bolsters the effect of a 1991 Supreme Court ruling that let Indiana ban all barroom-style nude dancing under a state law generally prohibiting public nudity.

That decision was badly splintered, however, and when the Pennsylvania Supreme Court struck down Erie's ordinance, it said the 1991 ruling offered little guidance.

Wednesday's ruling was divided too. The court voted 7-2 to allow bans on nude dancing but voted 6-3 to reinstate the Erie ordinance.

O'Connor said that even if the ordinance "has some minimal effect on the erotic message by muting that portion of the expression that occurs when the last stitch is dropped, the dancers... are free to perform wearing pasties and G-strings."

She compared the nude-dancing ban to a prohibition on burning draft cards, which the

Supreme Court upheld in 1968. In that case, the government "sought to prevent the means of the expression and not the expression of antiwar sentiment itself," she said.

Most of O'Connor's opinion was joined by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justices Anthony M. Kennedy and Stephen G. Breyer.

Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, in a separate opinion by Scalia, voted to go further. They cited "the traditional power of government to foster good morals."

Justice David H. Souter wrote separately that he agreed with O'Connor's rationale, but that the city needed to provide more evidence that its ordinance was designed to deal with "real harms."

Justices John Paul Stevens and Ruth Bader Ginsburg dissented. Stevens wrote for the two that the court had decided for the first time that an effort to combat secondary effects such as crime "may justify the total suppression of protected speech."

While Souter was among the 7-2 majority in supporting a ban on nude dancing, he voted with the minority, along with Stevens and Ginsburg, against the 6-3 decision to reinstate Erie's specific ordinance.

The ordinance was "aimed directly at the dancers in establishments such as Kandyland" and should be held "patently

invalid," Stevens said.

Erie's 1994 ordinance was challenged by Nick Panos, who used to own the Kandyland nude-

dancing club. He later sold the club to a new owner, Joseph Cunningham, who closed it and opened a similar club, Kandy's

Dinner Theater, at a new location with a sign out front that proclaims: "First Amendment Rights Headquarters."



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Flag desecration amendment again defeated in Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) — A proposed constitutional amendment on flag desecration was narrowly defeated in the Senate Wednesday, with opponents arguing that the protection of free speech rights outweigh the need to ban unsavory acts against the flag.

The 63-37 vote, four short of the two-thirds majority needed, put to rest for another year an issue that has been a top agenda item since Republicans took control of Congress in 1995.

The amendment, proposed by Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, consisted of one sentence: "Congress shall have the power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States."

The flag is "not just a piece of cloth or a symbol," Hatch argued. "It is the embodiment of our heritage, our liberties, and indeed our sovereignty as a nation."

"Flag-burning is not speech, it is conduct of the most offensive kind," said Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss.

The amendment grew out of 5-4 Supreme Court decisions in 1989 and 1990 that struck down state and national flag desecration laws on the grounds they weakened First Amendment rights to free speech.

The House has approved flag desecration amendments three times since 1995, most recently by a 305-124 vote last year. Constitutional amendments also must be ratified by three-quarters of state legislatures, a near certainty in this case because 49 states have passed resolutions urging Congress to send them a flag amendment.

But supporters have failed to overcome free speech concerns in the Senate. The last vote, in 1995, proponents fell three short of the two-thirds majority.

Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va.,

who voted for the amendment in 1995, on Tuesday appeared before a convention of the American Legion, a major backer of the measure, to explain why he was changing his vote this time.

"We love that flag, it symbolizes the nation," said Byrd, the Senate's foremost constitutional scholar. "But we must love the Constitution more."

One other Democrat also changed his vote from 1995 — Sen. Richard Bryan of Nevada.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., said he is reassured that the nation does not blithely amend the Constitution.

"Of the 11,000 amendments that have been offered to our Constitution, not one has ever been ratified to change the Bill of Rights," Dodd said.

The Constitution has been amended 27 times, including the 10 articles of the Bill of Rights. The last to be ratified, in 1992, put limits on congressional pay raises.

Both sides turned to patriotic icons to present their case. Hatch was joined at a news conference Tuesday by dozens of veterans, seven Medal of Honor winners and Miss America Heather Renee French. They cited a letter from Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf saying that legally sanctioned flag desecration "can only serve to further undermine" national unity and identity.

Opponents quoted from Schwarzkopf's Gulf War contemporary Gen. Colin Powell, who wrote that it was mistake to

amend the Constitution, "that great shield of democracy, to hammer a few miscreants." They also pointed out that retired Sen. John Glenn, the former astronaut, and Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Nebr., another Medal of Honor winner, opposed the amendment.

On the Net:
Citizens Flag Alliance:
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Astronomers find two Saturn-sized planets beyond the solar system

WASHINGTON (AP) — Astronomers searching for planets orbiting distant stars have found the smallest planets yet beyond the solar system, an important step toward being able to detect Earth-sized worlds that would have the best chance of containing life.

More than 30 planets have been found in orbit of stars outside the solar system, but the two planets announced Wednesday are the first to be smaller than Jupiter, astronomers said at a news conference.

"We have discovered the first Saturn-sized planets outside of the solar system," said Geoffrey W. Marcy of the University of California, Berkeley.

The new planets are thought to be hot, gaseous giants, rapidly orbiting their stars and are probably devoid of life, he said.

"This is an important milestone" in the search for Earth-sized planets that orbit stars other than the sun, said R. Paul Butler, a staff scientist at the Carnegie Institute in Washington. "This suggests there will be many more small planets out there."

A team led by Marcy, Butler and Steve Vogt of the University of California, Santa Cruz, found the new, smaller planets in orbit of stars more than 100 light years away. Both of the new planets are slightly smaller than Saturn, a gas giant that is the second largest planet in the solar system after Jupiter, with 95 times the mass of Earth.

All previously discovered extrasolar planets, including 20 others found by the Marcy team, have been as big or bigger than Jupiter, which is 318 times more massive than Earth.

Butler said a new instrument attached to

the Keck Telescope in Hawaii enabled the team to detect the smaller planets. The team is five years into a survey of about 2,000 stars and Marcy said there are six to 10 other star systems that "look promising" for planets.

"The discovery of Saturn-sized object is an extremely critical step toward finding terrestrial-sized planets orbiting other stars," said Heidi B. Hammel, a scientist at the Space Science Institute in Boulder, Colo. The terrestrial planets are Earth, Venus, Mars and Mercury.

The Marcy team finds extrasolar planets by observing and measuring the gravitational wobble that orbiting planets impart to the host star.

Marcy said that once the team knows the size of the wobble, they use basic Newtonian formulae to calculate the mass of the planet and how near it is to the host star.

Using the new instrument on Keck, the team is able to detect a wobble motion speed as slight as 6.7 miles an hour across more than 100 light years. This is not fine enough to detect an Earth-sized planet orbiting distant stars, they said. The Earth imposes a wobble motion on the sun of only about 0.22 miles per hour.

One of the new planets is about 80 percent the mass of Saturn and orbits a star, called HD46375, that is 109 light years away. The other new planet is 70 percent the mass of Saturn and orbits 79 Ceti, a star in the constellation Cetus, 117 light years away. A light year is about 6 trillion miles.

Both of the new planets orbit very close to their host stars, with one, HD46375, making a complete orbit in just three days and the other in only 75 days. Marcy and

Butler said both planets are probably gas balls with temperatures well over 1,500 degrees Fahrenheit and unlikely to have life.

Marcy said that all planets found so far have wide-swinging eccentric orbits, in contrast to the nearly circular orbits of the Earth and its sister planets in the solar system.

He said the stable, circular orbit of the Earth "may have something to do with the fact that life flourished on our planet."

Planets in an eccentric orbits would have wide variation in temperature and be less able to hold liquid water, both factors that would make it more difficult for life to flourish, the scientists said.

Anne Kinney, a NASA scientist, said the discovery of the new planets, along with the earlier work by the Marcy team, advances a NASA project aimed at finding Earth-sized planets orbiting distant stars.

"We're at the birth of a new field (of study) here," she said. "When these guys started five years ago, people laughed at them. It was a joke."

Now, Kinney said, for the first time in history people can look at the sky and "know for certain that there are other planets out there."

Current technology will never be able to detect Earth-sized planets, but Kinney said that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is developing a program to eventually be able to visually detect worlds beyond the sun.

She said it may require orbiting fleets of telescopes that work together to make a single image.

Such projects are under study by NASA planners and may continue for decades, she said.

California lawmakers weigh several gay partnership bills

■ One bill allows a domestic partner to sue for emotional distress and wrongful death if their companion is killed.

By Robert Salladay
Hearst News Service

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The California Legislature is moving to grant gay and lesbian couples some of the same legal rights that automatically come with marriage, just three weeks after voters overwhelmingly approved a ballot measure defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

Gay and lesbian couples were given the right to register as domestic partners under legislation signed by Democratic Gov. Gray Davis last year. But pressure from Davis, Republicans and moderate Democrats from the Central Valley cut the scope of the law so that it only granted hospital visits to gay and lesbian partners and excluded all but state workers when it came to sharing state medical benefits.

This legislative session, which began in earnest this week, includes four bills that would grant homosexual couples the right to inherit property if one partner dies without a will, let a surviving partner make funeral and autopsy arrangements, and grant the partner the right to make medical decisions in dire circumstances.

One of the bills also allows a domestic partner to sue for emotional distress and wrongful death if their companion is killed, a legal right married couples are granted. A separate bill would grant gay and lesbian couples the right to make decisions over donating organs after death.

Lawmakers said the bills were designed to put weight and meaning behind the state's nascent domestic partnership registry, which was set up for gay and lesbian couples and any couple, gay or straight, older than age 62. As of Tuesday, 2,805 California couples have applied for the domestic partnership registry

with the secretary of state.

On March 7, voters approved Proposition 22, which codified traditional marriage as between only a man and a woman. Statewide polls, however, have shown voters agree with granting legal rights to domestic partners.

"Loving relationships must be honored," said Dr. Aaron Aronow, a neurologist at the University of Southern California School of Medicine who has treated patients with AIDS, the acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Aronow said he has seen parents and siblings of AIDS patients arrive at the last minute and deny a partner access to the hospital.

Some parents have demanded religious funeral services even though their child had requested secular services; others have taken possession of the body to hold separate funerals.

"I had a client who was barred from attending the funeral of his partner because his partner's parents obtained a restraining order to keep him away," said Jane Pearce, an estate attorney in Sacramento. "They had been together for seven years."

Tuesday, the Democrat-dominated Assembly Judiciary Committee approved three of the measures. The organ-donor bill, written by Assemblywoman Carole Migden, a Democrat from San Francisco, will be introduced later this week.

The bills faced opposition from conservative groups that normally oppose all gay-rights legislation. The groups see the new measures as a roundabout way to impose gay marriage even though California voters overwhelmingly rejected the concept with Proposition 22.

"Don't injure the definition of family," said Randy Thomasson of the Campaign for California Families, one of three opposition witnesses Tuesday who noted that gay and lesbian couples can simply write wills and sign over power of attorney to their partners.

Attorney asks for \$14 million in damages for three smokers with cancer

MIAMI (AP) — Three smokers with cancer deserve \$14.4 million from the five biggest tobacco companies for their decades of deceit about the dangers of cigarettes, the smokers' lawyer told a jury Wednesday.

"Let them now reap the consequences for the harm they have caused good, decent people," attorney Stanley Rosenblatt said in closing arguments in a landmark lawsuit that could be the gravest threat to the tobacco industry yet.

This is the nation's first class-action lawsuit by smokers to reach trial, covering an estimated 500,000 sick Floridians.

The jury already has ruled that the industry makes a dangerous product. In the current phase, it is deciding whether to award compensatory damages to three sick smokers. Later, there will have to be mini-trials for each smoker who signs on as part of the class.

If the jury awards any compensatory dam-

ages, it will then be asked to award punitive damages, which are intended to punish. The industry fears a ruinous verdict of \$300 billion.

Tobacco attorney Dan Webb gave 25 minutes of what he said would be a 13-hour industry response to the smokers' claims, promising what he called "reality checks" to Rosenblatt's three days of closing arguments.

The jury is expected to begin deliberating next week.

For now, the jury will be asked to assess the medical bills, lost income, pain and suffering for the three smokers — Mary Farnan, who has lung cancer; Angie Della Vecchia, who died of lung cancer; and Frank Amodio, who has throat cancer. Their doctors testified their cancer was caused by smoking.

Rosenblatt said the cigarette companies for years hid the dangers of smoking.

"You're lying to Mary, and Frank and Ang-

ie and millions of other American smokers who are buying your product, which you spend \$5 billion a year on glamorizing and promoting and advertising and hustling," Rosenblatt said.

"Get 'em hooked. You've got a customer for life," he said. "Or until they get cancer, until they get heart disease or until they can't smoke any more."

The industry has offered evidence that bronchioalveolar cancer — a form of lung cancer that the jury decided is not linked to smoking — caused the women's cancer. It blamed industrial wood dust as a possible cause of the throat cancer in the third.

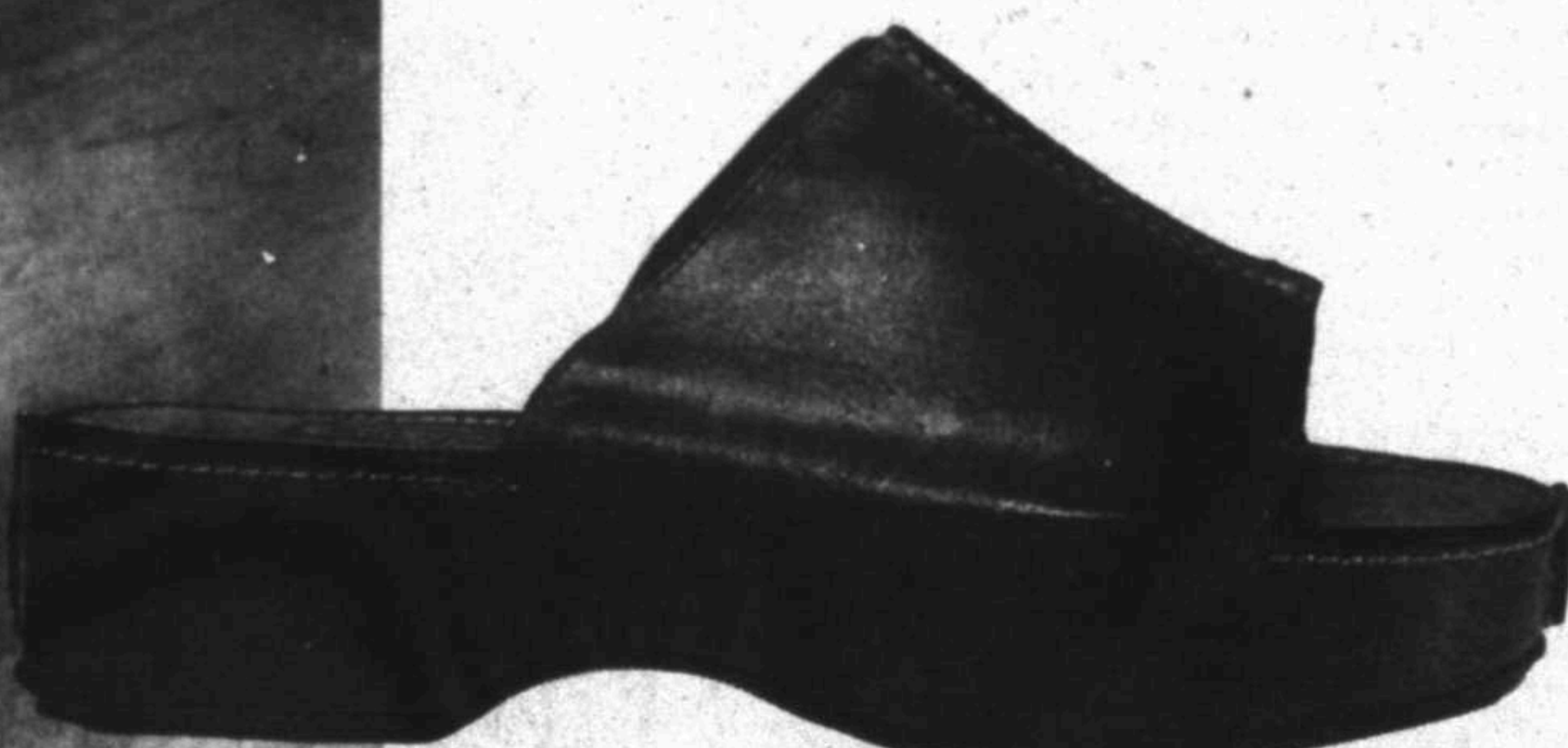
The defendants are Philip Morris Inc., R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp., Lorillard Tobacco Co., Liggett Group Inc. and the industry's Council for Tobacco Research and Tobacco Institute.

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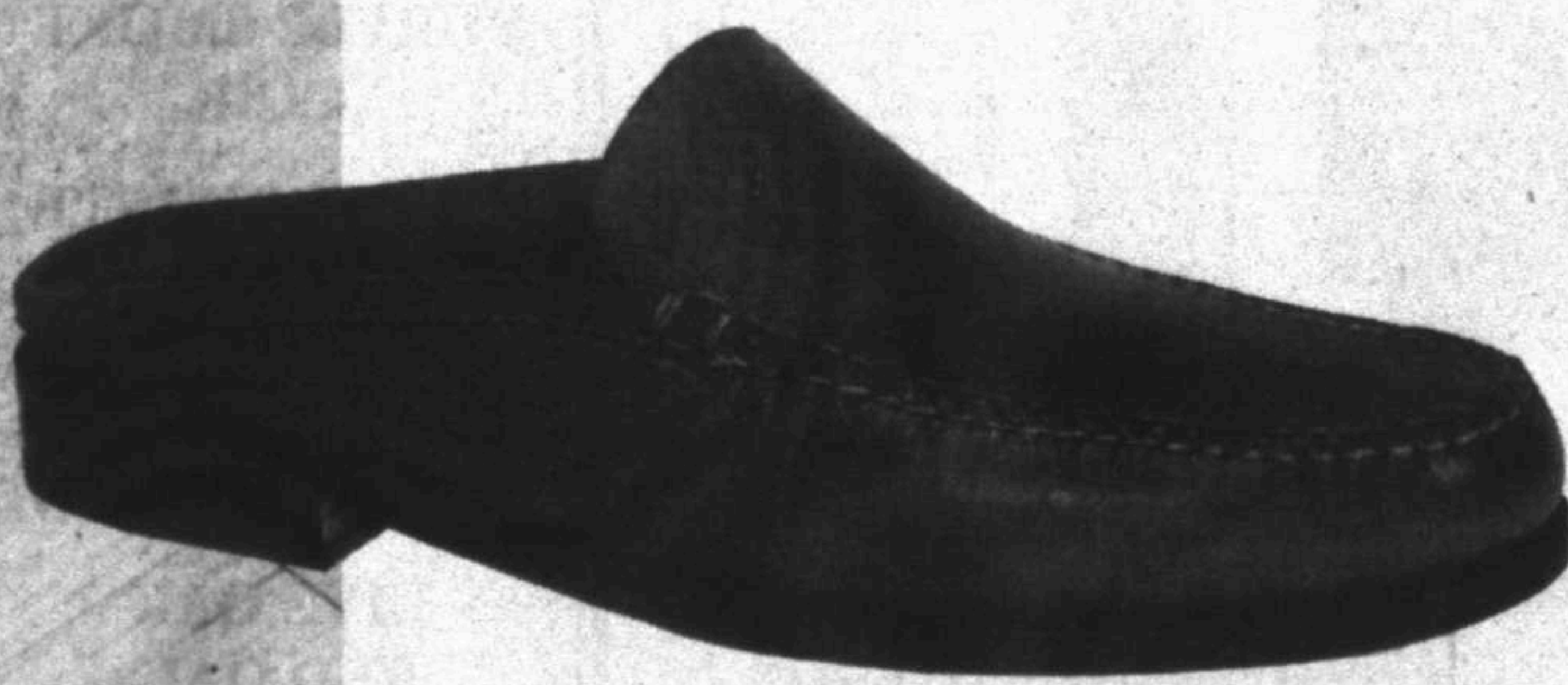
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By Mella Mc
Staff Writer

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By Rick McL
Staff Writer

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Hospital posts operating loss in February

By Mella McEwen
Staff Writer

Midland Memorial Hospital posted an operating loss of \$77,084 for the month of February, compared with an excess of some \$430,899 in February 1999.

For the first five months of the hospital's fiscal year, the hospital has recorded an excess of only \$51,629 in revenues over operating expenses.

"We're getting dangerously close to break-even or worse," said Bob Dimit, president of the board of directors of the Midland County Hospital District at Wednesday's monthly meeting.

Dimit attributed the loss "to revenue deductions," which amounted to 46 percent of the \$18 million in revenues received in February. A large part of

those deductions were contractual allowances, deductions the hospital is obligated to take under insurance contracts and contracts with the government for Medicare and Medicaid.

Still, he said, the hospital's balance sheet remains strong with a debt-to-fund ratio of 54 percent, which he said is very good.

Dimit noted that this year, the hospital's expenditures on construction is up 237 percent over last year as it continues to improve its services.

Margaret Robinson, director of patient services, said three major construction projects are currently under way.

In the first project, the first phase of expansion of the Surgi-Care outpatient surgery facility, has been completed, with the staff moved into new offices. The sec-

ond phase, adding a third operating suite, is just getting under way and is expected to be completed in May.

The second project, a Wound Care Center, began seeing patients in its new location on the first floor this week, Robinson reported. The Center, for patients with chronic wounds due to Diabetes or circulatory disorders, was located in the Abell Hanger Pavilion from November until this month.

Renovations of the oncology unit — the third project — began last week, she said, with preparations beginning on asbestos abatement. Renovations are expected to take about six months, with completion in October.

The renovations of the oncology unit are being funded by monies the state received in its settlement with the tobacco industry.

Directors voted to apply for a grant-loan from the Rural Health Facility Capital Improvement Fund, a new \$3 million state program also being funded by the tobacco settlement to benefit facilities in rural counties, which are those counties with a population of 150,000 or less.

Hospital President Dr. Harold Rubin explained that Midland County can apply for up to \$150,000 from the program. He told directors that the first \$50,000 of the program would be a grant, while the remaining \$100,000, broken into \$50,000 segments, would be paid back in percentages over a certain period of time.

The applications and rules will be available next week, he said, adding that

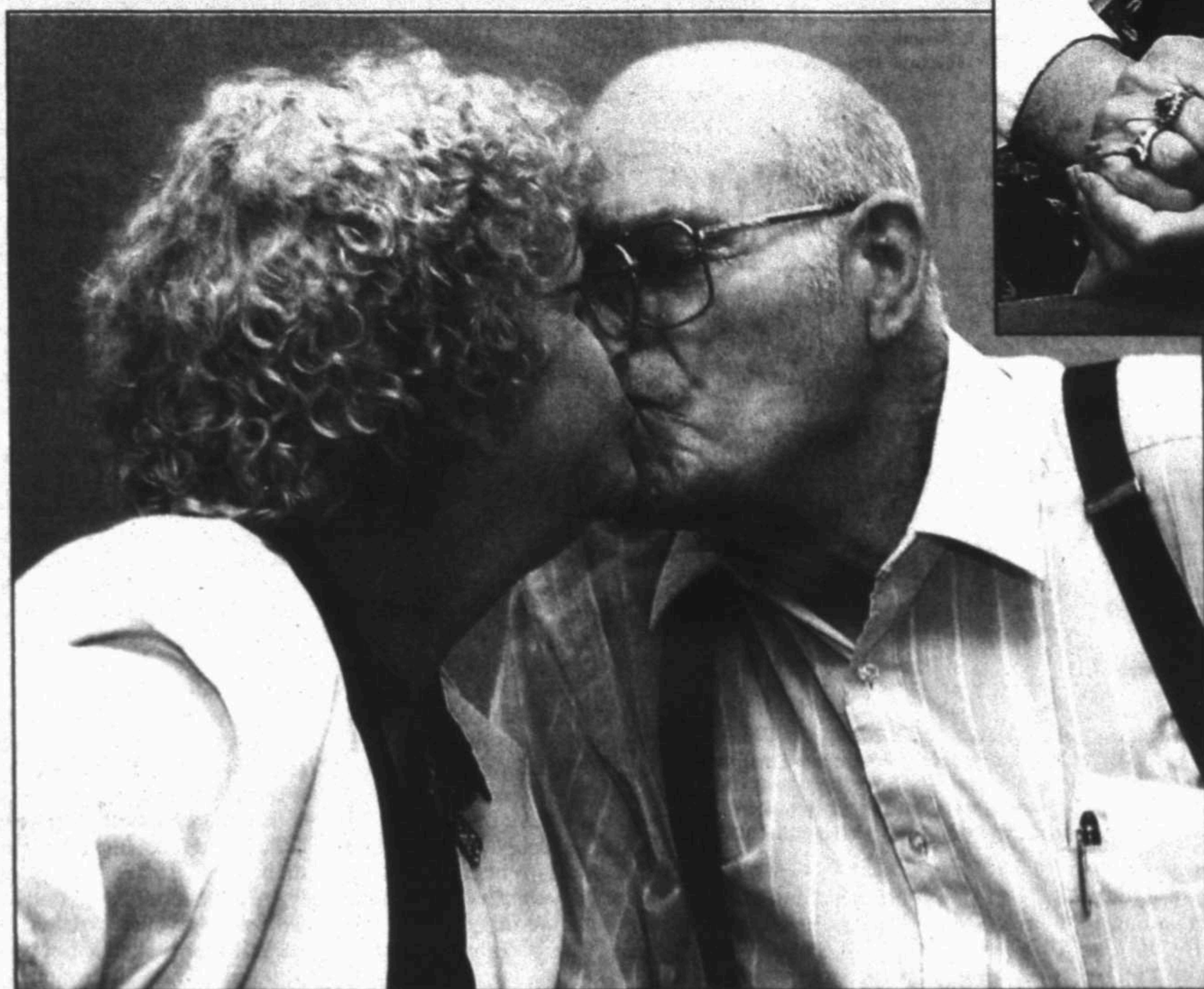
the funds would go toward the oncology unit renovations.

In other action:

■ Hospital Attorney Ted Kerr reported that the closure of the sale of West Texas Pathology Laboratories, the hospital's reference lab, to Dynacare for \$4.5 million was delayed a month at the request of Dynacare, and will close on Friday.

■ The deadline to file for election to the board has passed, with incumbents Ora Williams, District 1 and Dr. David Orr, District 2, filing for reelection. Pete Hulder has filed for District 6, the seat held by Jim Cosner. Only District 5, the position held by Steve Kuzmich, who moved out of the district, will be contested, with Chip Belzer and Jay Reynolds filing for the seat.

Love is alive



Becky Kreisler and Tommy Taylor take a moment to show each other a little affection Wednesday at the Midland Senior Center. They met three months ago and are engaged to be married this Saturday at the Senior Center in Kingsway mall. ABOVE: The couple holds hands as they tell the story of how they met.

Brian Adamcik/Reporter-Telegram

Couple finds love and starts new beginning at Senior Center

By Lana Cunningham

They hold hands, they kiss in front of strangers and they gaze adoringly into each other's eyes, smiles lighting up their faces. The wedding is Saturday, and this couple just can't wait. It's love in the fast lane for Becky Kreisler and Tommy Taylor, who met barely three months ago.

There's a twist to this story, Mrs. Kreisler is 65; Taylor is 79. And the

wedding will take place at the Midland Senior Center, 3303 W. Illinois Ave., where the couple met. Obviously, it's not the first marriage for either person, but it marks the first time a wedding will be held at the Center.

Both admit their lives were changed by the Center, even before meeting each other. That is where their love blossomed and where they want to share their union of marriage

with their friends and family as witnesses.

"I tell him three to four times a day that I love him," said Mrs. Kreisler with a smile. "It's just meant to be."

Both lost spouses to cancer; his seven years ago and hers four years ago. Taylor has been living with a son in Stanton; she has been living with a son in Midland since coming here after her husband's death. "I just stayed in my room all day and grieved."

"I didn't laugh and I didn't talk much."

About a year ago, she noticed a story in the Midland newspaper about some activities at Midland Senior Center and told her son she wanted to go. It didn't take long for Mrs. Kreisler to discover how to live again. "I do a lot of volunteering here; it makes my life young. Before I came here, I didn't laugh much. Now, they call me 'giggles'."

Please see LOVE/2B

MHS economics students capture district by storm

By Margaret Rendall
Staff Writer

A violent tornado is not the only phenomenon that has taken the Dallas-Fort Worth area by storm this week. Six Midland High School economics students, comprising the Federal Reserve Challenge team, combined their economic knowledge to win the district Federal Reserve Challenge competition held Wednesday in Dallas.

Team members are seniors Matt Josefy, Robin Nelson, Adam Martin, Ryan Myers, and Mason Manulik, and junior Kelly Beall. The competition, Fed Challenge, is intended to promote awareness of the Federal Reserve Board and monetary policy in the United States.

"It's hard to explain because normally if you say monetary policy, people don't know what you're talking about," Miss Nelson said.

The team must create a presentation that recommends how the Federal Reserve Board should use its monetary policy tools, focusing on the federal funds target rate enforced by the Open Markets Committee. Meanwhile, the team members take economics class to a new level.

"In my opinion this is the hardest team to be on because of the variety of skills required," said Hugh Franks, Fed Challenge advisor and Midland High economics teacher.

Each participant must have a working knowledge of microeconomic principles, economic theories, classical economics, history of monetary policy, and the duties of the Federal Reserve Board.

In order to advance to Dallas, the team previously won a smaller competition in El Paso. Team members will now be traveling to Washington April 28-30 with 11 other teams who also won their respective districts to advance to the national level.

While there, the students will meet Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors.

"It doesn't get any better than this," Franks said, adding that Midland "should be proud to be represented in Washington by such an

Please see MHS/2B

Cons call for kids to stop, look and listen

By Rick McLaughlin
Staff Writer

School children, church youth groups, and incarcerated juvenile delinquents heard dramatic straight talk Wednesday from young and enthusiastic Texas Department of Justice (TDCJ) prisoners about the consequences of drugs, alcohol, crime and gang involvement.

The inmates, accompanied by a security officer and prison official, presented a graphic image at local schools and a church youth rally of what wrong decisions can lead to and how those decisions can affect one's entire life.

"One of the greatest privileges we have is to be able to make decisions. Mark and I are here to remind you that your decisions can affect you for the rest of your life," said the first speaker, identified only as Jaime, at Alamo Junior High.

Jaime is 23 years old and had been in prison, this time around, since he was 17.

Jaime told the teenagers that he let alcoholic and drug-abusing parents and the resulting poverty, tempt him into one bad decision after another until he ended up receiving a long prison sentence for three armed robberies.

One such bad decision was leaving school. "I walked out saying I don't have to go to school no more, I thought I was so cool."

His mother said if he quit school he had to get a job "or get out." He left home thinking he was so grown. "But you know, what, I was still just a boy," he said of his big mistakes.

Running with the wrong crowd, daily smoking of marijuana and petty crimes were more bad decisions, leading up to armed robberies and his eventual arrest.

Please see KICK/2B



Kelli Aldridge, a seventh-grader from Alamo Junior High, listens intently while two inmates who are serving sentences for aggravated robbery, speak to her school Wednesday, during the Operation Kick-It presentation.

Brian Adamcik/Reporter-Telegram

Mary Mann to be honored as 'Golden Deeds' winner

By Bill Modisett
Staff Writer

Mary Mann, longtime Midlander and a tireless worker for the Friends of the Midland County Public Library, will receive the Exchange Club of Midland's Golden Deeds Award at 6:30 p.m. tonight in a ceremony at Midland Country Club.

Ms. Mann is being honored for her "many hours over the years" devoted to the Friends of the Library Book-Drop and for her instru-

mental role "in setting up the Friends of the Midland Library Book Nook where

donated books are sold throughout the year."

Asked about the selection of herself for the Golden Deeds Award, Ms. Mann said, "I was very honored that I was chosen."

It was noted that "under Mary Mann's supervision, the annual sale has gone from grossing about \$10,000 to a high of about \$38,000."

Please see MANN/2B

Ed Todd

Gardening helps set the stage for appreciating life

It's traditional planting time, a time of toil and a time to observe the wonders of nature.

The planting-reaping cycle is common, so common, in fact, that this extraordinary event becomes as ordinary as sunrises and sunsets or as common as dirt — the soil of the Earth.

But that doesn't take away from the splendor.

Fertile soil is teeming with life mostly out of range of unaided eyesight. It is alive nevertheless.

Seed properly nourished in soil and escaping threats of extreme weather, insects, and blight is transformed into a

vibrant infrastructure that seeks the light of the sun, plants self on a firm foundation, partakes of sustenance from above and below, flowers, and becomes seed again to repeat the cycle over and over.

It is thrilling and exciting to watch the growth of flowering plants designed for aesthetic reasons or for food both, in carrying out their role in the scheme of things — the bal-

ances in nature.

The observation is exhilarating and enlivening.

More and more, it is so convenient to hop over to the produce store or to the grocery store's produce aisle and hand pick the fruits of nature's care and the labor of those people, from the planters to the pickers, who bring food to families and, hence, to the masses.

In my childhood and grown-up years of planting and reaping, I have been amazed at the workings of nature and especially so as I get older and become less inclined to take anything, even gravity and the four seasons, for granted.

There have been years in both East Texas and West Texas where I have had bumper crops and, for example, had plenty of tomatoes to can, which I did in pint and quart jars.

Observing tomato, okra, squash and pepper blossoms turn into fruit or watching the leaves of the corn stalk curl and fold and wave tassels is soothing and a sheer wonderment.

It is a humbling experience especially if you allow time to reflect on the nature of things.

And then there is the song which the body and heart sing when they, the physical and spiritual, are nourished by liv-

ing foods grown in your very own garden.

There are times, too, when bountiful crops are not so generously endowed due to the quirks or weeds taking over the garden due to neglect of the caretaker.

The payoff of gardening is in the grand rewards of witnessing nature's amazing stages and, at the dinner table, partaking of the health-promoting effects of good foods and the sharing in those blessings with family.

It is to taste life.

Ed Todd is a staff writer for the Reporter-Telegram.

KICK: Students learn valuable lesson

(From 1B)

"There is nothing cool about this life," he told his young audience.

His speaking companion, Mark, elaborated on the harsh life behind bars, detailing daily awakening by guards around 3 a.m., quick trips through a mess hall with little time to eat and day after day of manual labor in the fields for those lucky enough to get out.

He described his small cell as being "the size of the top of a ping-pong table."

One young audience member was visibly moved. "I liked it," said Cody Hargrove, an Alamo 8th-grader. "I like what he said and I know it changes my life. Now I know for sure that I'll never get into trouble now that I know how bad their life is."

The inmates told their stories to the young local audiences through the sponsorship of the Permian Community Partnership Council (PCPC) and Operation Kick-it.

The program's purpose is to "educate, warn, and inform the public, specifically teenagers, about the negative consequences of drugs, alcohol, crime and gang involvement," according to John E. Miller, PCPC community information officer.

The program was presented Wednesday at Midland Christian School, grades 7-12; Culver Detention Center, in-house juveniles; Alamo Junior High, 7th and 8th graders; and the First Baptist Church City Wide Youth Rally.

Today, the program will be heard by Midland Freshman School, ninth graders; Goddard Junior High, 7th and 8th graders, and Juvenile probationers at the Midland County Courthouse.

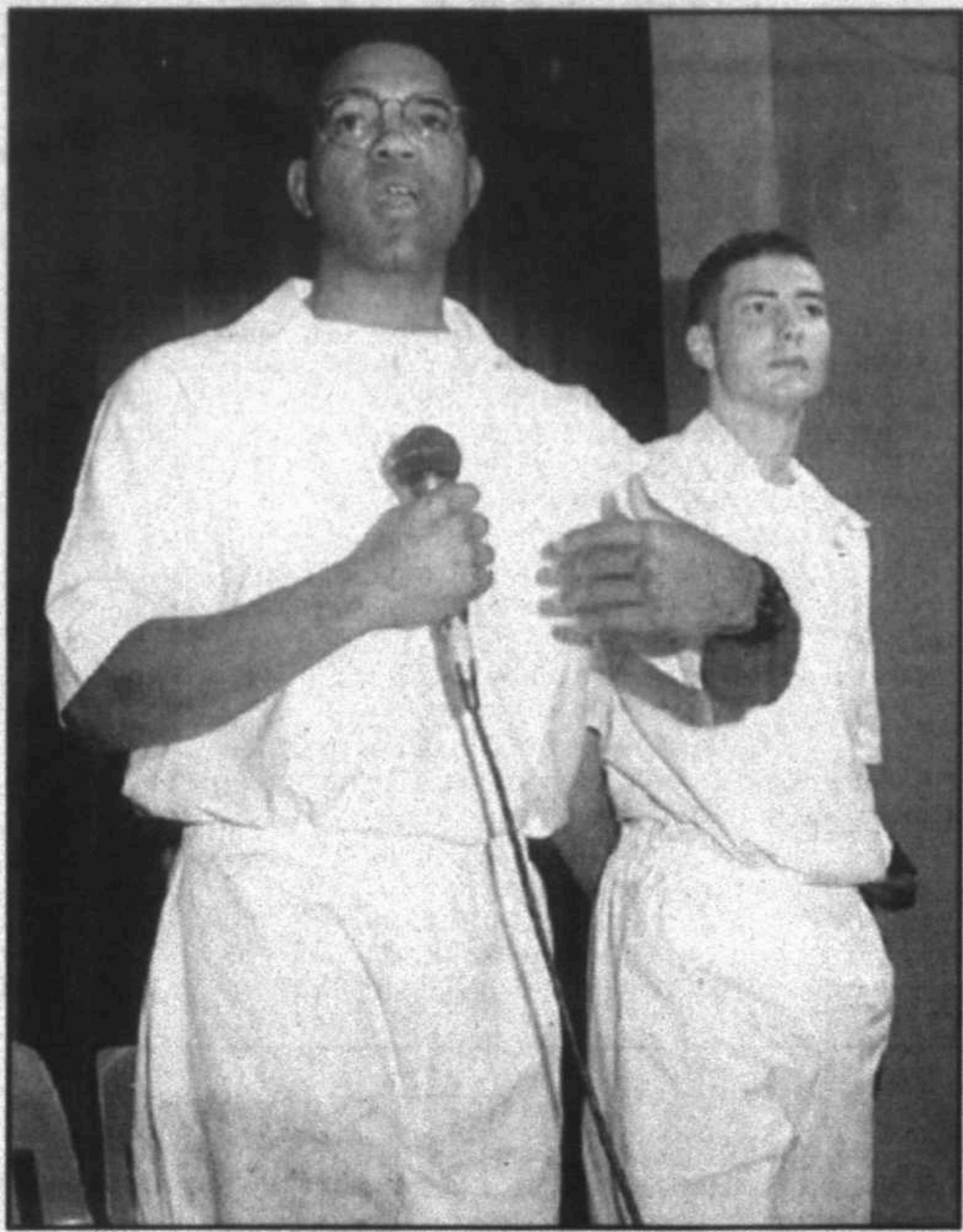
The program addressed annually approximately 250,000 people in 1,000 or more appearances.

The panelists are trustee-status inmates of the TDCJ Institutional Division. They are chosen for their good behavior, positive attitudes, and willingness to help others. When panelists are traveling, they spend their nights in city or county jails and on this trip will be housed by the Midland County Sheriff's Department, said Miller.

The inmates who participate in the program receive no special consideration in prison life or by the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles, he added.

The program was presented in Odessa Tuesday.

Operation Kick-It was established through the Governor's Criminal Justice Council in 1970.



Brian Adamcik/Reporter-Telegram
Mark answers a question, while Jaime listens behind him.

OBITUARIES

Anne LeSassier

Anne L. LeSassier was born October 8, 1921 in Washington D.C. to Edwin Russell and Helen (Gardner) LeSassier. She was reared and educated in Midland and attended college at the University of Texas. She was a medical receptionist for many years with Dr. Leikish and Dr. Thurston Dean. She was a member of the Audubon Society.

Survivors include two sons, William LeSassier of New York City and John Richard LeSassier of Austin, Texas; three grandsons, John Louis

LeSassier and James Russell LeSassier of Austin, and Alexander LeSassier of Cheyenne, Wyoming; and a granddaughter, Ona Marie LeSassier of California; and by her good friend, Lonie Mitchell of Midland.

Ann died Saturday, March 25, 2000, at the residence of Lonie Mitchell.

Graveside services are scheduled for 3:00 p.m. Friday, March 31, 2000, in Fairview Cemetery, with Father Vogel of St. Stephen's Catholic Church officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Area briefs

Craft show

BIG SPRING — The 11th annual Spring City Arts and Crafts Show will be held Saturday and Sunday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum here. Artists and crafters from

throughout the Southwest will be on hand with original art and handcrafted items.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. No admission is charged.

LOVE: Midland senior couple find true happiness, again

(From 1B)

gles," she said with a smile.

Taylor, a retired Methodist minister, came to the Center about three months ago with a cousin to find other people to play cards and dominoes. He returned the following two days and played dominoes with another woman. But, the next day changed his life. That's when Mrs. Kreisler walked in. "I thought, 'whoeee, he sure does look good,'" she recalled. The next day, Taylor asked for her telephone number and that Saturday he asked her to go walking at Midland Park Mall. At first, she declined, saying she had to babysit a granddaughter. A few minutes later, she called Taylor and said the situation had changed and she could go.

"When I picked her up, her son and granddaughter both said, 'take her and don't bring her back,'" Taylor recalled. Hours later, when he dropped her off at

the door, both knew their lives would never be the same.

"I told Tommy at the beginning that I was never going to remarry," she said. That was at the start of their mall walk. By the end of it they were holding hands and laughing. Then came dinner at Furr's. The chemistry was mixing just right. When Taylor took Mrs. Kreisler home, he asked for a kiss. "Well, she just kissed me on the cheek. I turned and kissed her on the mouth and her eyes got real big."

They got big, explained the bride-to-be, because she didn't think Taylor should be kissing her on the lips. By the second kiss, she didn't mind it.

They saw each other daily at the Center. Then the phone calls to each other began. "I have a cordless phone and it won't stay charged. I called him five times a day," she said, laughing.

Finally, Mrs. Kreisler (yes!) popped the question during one of the phone calls. "I had want-



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram
Becky Kreisler laughs as Tommy Taylor tells how their first date ended. She said he could give her a kiss on the cheek, but he planted one right on her lips and they say that's how it all started.

ed to ask her, but she had told me she didn't want a relationship," responded Taylor.

"I felt like it was the right time," she said. "It was time for

the grief to go away, and I love him, too." The two paused for another kiss.

Jokingly, the couple said they already have been on a honey-

moon when they spent two weeks in California visiting family and sightseeing, including a trip to Disneyland.

"My kids say I'm a fast worker," said the groom who has four children, nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. "But when you find what you want, why fool around?" Mrs. Kreisler has six living children, two stepchildren, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Marriage will bring some changes, they admit. For one thing, Mrs. Kreisler will have to cook a meal for Taylor, something she has yet to do. They usually eat meals at the Center or at Furr's. "We're going to spend our time at the Center," they said, "and we'll save on gasoline."

Once the couple agreed to marriage, the plans began to fall into place. They agreed the Center is where the wedding should take place. The Center's membership is sharing in the planning, said Director Kathy Gilhuly, "and

the excitement increases every day. The members are an extended family. They have a feeling of well-being for two people who met and things just clicked. Age doesn't matter when you fall in love."

A friend of Taylor's, Ken Northcutt, will perform the ceremony set for 2 p.m. Saturday. The Kitchenette Symphony will provide the music. Attendants for Mrs. Kreisler will be a daughter and granddaughter, a son and grandson will stand up for Taylor.

One of Taylor's daughters has told the couple to have a suitcase packed for that night. "I don't know what she has planned for this one-night stand," he joked.

Marriage, Mrs. Kreisler acknowledged, means sharing their lives. "I have told Tommy that we'll cook together and we'll do everything together," she said. Taylor looked at her with a smile on his face and wrapped his hand around hers.

MANN: Award winner has been responsible for saving thousands for library

(From 1B)

In addition to giving "over a thousand hours of time and arduous physical labor," Ms. Mann has maintained "a steady march of progress which has resulted in the opening of a shop which is open twice a week. The success of this venture added \$15,000 the first year to the Friends' annual income," wrote Monty J. Gist in proposing Ms. Mann for the Golden Gears Award.

He added, "As manager of the book drop and the annual book

sale, Mary has coordinated the efforts of the many volunteers in the community with tireless devotion."

Midland County Librarian Sandra Wegner said, "I don't know how it came about that Midland County Public Libraries got so lucky to have Mary Mann around. Whenever I walk in the library downtown and in Centennial Branch in the mall, I see the benefits of the labor of the Friends of the Library and, more specifically, Mary Mann. It takes money for the Friends of the

'As manager of the book drop and the annual book sale, Mary has coordinated the efforts of the many volunteers in the community with tireless devotion.'

— Monty J. Gist

Library to have an impact on the libraries. Mary Mann, more than any other single person, has provided those funds through her leadership, time, and labor."

Yet possibly Ms. Mann has

been as surprised as anyone of the success of the book sale and other ventures of the Friends of the Library. Once she noted, "Every year, people donate. Each year, I think we are not going to have

enough books, but we always get them in."

One of the primary reasons for that success has been Ms. Mann's involvement. Since the book sale started in the late 1960s she has been at the forefront of the effort, collecting and organizing the books for sale. That sale is the major event benefiting Midland County Public Library.

It will all pay off today when Ms. Mann is presented the Golden Deeds Award for her long years of work for the Friends of the Library and Midlanders in

general.

As Ms. Wegner noted, "One might think that the County Libraries' users have been the only people to profit from Mary's service, but even if a Midlander never stepped into the public libraries, he or she has profited from the work of Mary and the Friends. The taxpayer burden for the libraries is certainly less. Midland is a better place in which to live because of better library service. And folks do love to come to the book sale."

Air Force chooses Texas route to avoid harming New Mexico's environment

By The Associated Press

The Air Force is sending its heavy bombers over West Texas for training flights instead of northern New Mexico.

The Air Force on Wednesday announced it had chosen the West Texas route, which Sen. Jeff Bingaman said will spare northern New Mexico "from having to host noisy B-1 and B-

52 training exercises."

In an environmental impact statement released earlier, the Air Force leaned toward selecting West Texas. Bingaman, D-N.M., who opposed the northern New Mexico alternative route, said the impact statement backed up his contention that training flights would cause severe noise and threaten various forms of wildlife, including

bald eagles, in northern New Mexico.

"We have known all along that these training exercises were not a good fit for northern New Mexico," he said. "It was clear from the start that these low bomber routes would intrude upon the peace and quiet of the area, one of the main reasons people chose to live here."

Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., who also opposed the New Mexico route, praised the Air Force's decision.

"The Air Force has found a suitable route, and we've succeeded in showing that B-1 and B-52 training flights over Taos County and surrounding areas would have been overly intrusive on the people and the environment," said Domenici, who

said the process worked.

The planned training site is southeast of Lubbock, Texas, and covers parts of eight West Texas counties: Scurry, Kent, Fisher, Stonewall, Garza, Borden, Dawson and Lynn.

Bombers currently conduct low-altitude training in South Dakota, Utah and Nevada. But the Air Force wants the missions closer to Dyess Air Force Base

near Abilene, Texas, where B-1s are based, and Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana, home of B-52s.

Low-level training flights help pilots learn to avoid radar-guided and heat-seeking air defense systems, military officials said, with some runs below 5,000 feet. Air Force officials said nothing would be dropped from the bombers.

MHS: Team wins meet to advance to nationals in D.C.

(From 1B)

impressive and hard working group of students."

"We work; a lot," Martin said.

Dedicating four days a week to the cause, the members have renamed the event Food Challenge in light of the food closet and refrigerator they use to keep themselves nourished during their extensive

study sessions.

"The benefits cannot be quantified," Miss Beall said. "I have enjoyed every minute of it."

Manulik agreed, saying, "Fed Challenge is the coolest." However, Myers claimed to be in it for the money and the chics.

And for good reason. Team members have already received substantial scholarship money, and a combined

\$50,000 more could accompany a victory in Washington.

The championship presentation emphasized that the possible "new economy" dictates that interest rates should not be raised at the Fed next meeting. Team members did acknowledge, however, that foreign sector and wage inflation concerns could require future tightening actions.

Each member specialized in a certain area and took on a fit-

ting identity to enhance their presentation. Miss Nelson acted as an advocate of a cautious approach, while Miss Beall and Martin took on the role of an inflation hawk and foreign sector lobbyist respectively. Ryan advocated the "new economy" hypothesis, and Josefy endorsed increased productivity. Manulik, "the computer specialist," handled the technological aspect of the

presentation.

The Midland High Fed Challenge team has established a winning tradition, advancing to district from the El Paso competition the past three years. However, this is the first year that the team has won the district competition.

"Some day I'll look back and remember the camaraderie of the team and all that we learned," Miss Beall said.

DEATH NOTICES

R.W. Cherry

R.W. Cherry died Tuesday, March 28, at his home. Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

TODAY'S FUNERALS

DEBBIE CARRELL
1 p.m. Ellis Chapel

"We do not so much
as need the help
of our friends
as the confidence
of their help
in need."
-Epicurus

Ellis Funeral Home
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Armed man steals \$18 from convenience store

From Staff Reports

A 7-Eleven convenience store was robbed at gunpoint early Wednesday morning when a young male, described in his late 20s, grabbed \$18 from the cash

register, pulled a black handgun and ran eastbound from the store at 13920 W. Highway 80 in Midland about 1:13 a.m., according to a report from the Midland County Sheriff's Department.

The suspect was described as

a Hispanic male, approximately 29 years old, wearing glasses, about 5 feet seven inches tall, weighing about 135 pounds and wearing a blue multi-colored sweater with a hood and white tennis shoes.

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YOUNG
Shannon Koonce, daughter of the late Koonce of Midland, placed with a fine Young Artist petition in Voice.

As the first-p will perform Ma day Musical Club

Texas

WASHINGTON
Texas high school Ward, who defied last fall to offer before her school traveled to Washington to the Supreme Court Wednesday with subject of school.

The Santa Fe with her school themselves squabbling of a debate that administrators, dents alike through the nation: A prayers constitute a subject at extracurricular.

Standing on the plaza after arguments, Ward position to the that surrounded "I feel like founded on principle and individual said. "I think I freedoms even school campus."

Ward's family after the Santa School District.

San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO
computer hacker with the San Antonio Library's Internet access to the library's card catalog. The attack occurred on Tuesday.

The hacker, including an ad Socialist. It was spellings and content about the library. "I warn you part. The hacker's friends message, the "

Congratulations for 20 great the Midland

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Tennis is the fun
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YOUNG ARTIST

Shannon Koonce, graduate of Stanton High School and the daughter of **Thadd and Cindy Koonce** of Midland, won First Place with a financial reward in the Young Artists Awards Competition in Voice on March 11.

As the first-place winner, she will perform May 2 for the Tuesday Musical Club in San Antonio.

The judges — **Michael Best**, **John Kennedy Hanks** and **Claudia Kitka** — were all graduates of Juilliard School of Music. The 24 contestants, including Miss Koonce, were from universities all over Texas.

Miss Koonce attended Texas Tech University, where she majored in music education with a specialty in performance.

RODEO QUEEN

Dee Lynn Frazier, daughter of **Greg and Debbie Frazier** of Midland, was crowned ABC Rodeo Queen during competition Feb. 17-18 in Lubbock. She will represent the American Business Club this year as Rodeo Queen, which will include making a public appearances at the pro rodeo scheduled for March 30-April 1 at Lubbock Municipal Coliseum. Proceeds from the rodeo benefit Boys and Girls Club of Lubbock.

A sophomore special education major at Texas Tech University,



Miss Frazier graduated from Lee High School in 1999. At LHS she was student council president, Miss LHS, huddle leader for Fellowship of Christian Athletes and member of National Honor Society. At Texas Tech, she barrel races for the Rodeo Team and is a member of Texas Tech Rodeo Association and Pi Beta Phi sorority.

TWO HONORED

Former Midlander **Larry Wheeler**, assistant professor of theater and university theater technical director, and **Donna Seaton**, executive secretary to President **Lanny Hall**, were honored as Hardin-Simmons University's Faculty and Staff Members of the Year at the annual Faculty and Staff Appreciation Dinner sponsored by HSU Alumni Association.

Wheeler, a graduate of Midland High School a member of the HSU faculty since 1988, earned a bachelor of arts degree in speech from Austin College and a master's degree in biblical studies from Dallas Theological Seminary. He has worked on a doctorate degree at Texas Tech University. Before joining the faculty at HSU, he was a member of the faculty at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview.

Ms. Seaton has been executive secretary to HSU president since 1991. A graduate of Highland

High School in Roscoe, she previously was music and administrative secretary at Pioneer Drive Baptist Church in Abilene.

YOU GO GIRLS!

Six area high school volleyball players have committed to attend the University of Texas at the Permian Basin and to play for the Lady Falcon's Volleyball team.

Misty Stocks of Grandfalls-Royalty High School was the Volleyball District 3-A MVP, was named to the Odessa American All-Area Volleyball Team, San Angelo Standard Times All-West Texas 2nd team, Pecos Cantaloupe Classic and Best in the West All-Tournament teams. She is salutatorian of her graduating class.

Brandi Cornish of Permian High School was named to the Volleyball All-District 4-5A Second Team in 1999 and is listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students.

Veronica Dickerson of Lee High School was a key player in

the success of the LHS volleyball team in 1999. She was named Honorable Mention All-District 4-5A.

Amanda Chavira of Fort Stockton High School was named 1st team All District 5-4A, San Angelo Standard Times: All West Texas and Odessa American: All Permian Basin Volleyball Teams.

Missy Mitchell of Wichita Falls High School played middle blocker for WFHS and was named to the All District 7-4A 1st team. Based upon her SAT scores, she was National Honor Commended. She was in the top 10 of her graduating class and was named Academic All-State.

Leslie Bates of Crane High School was an All District 2-3A Selection as an Outside Hitter. She was also named to the San Angelo Standard Times All-West Texas 1st team and Honorable Mention Odessa American All Permian Basin Volleyball team.

The Lady Falcons will be losing five seniors from last year's 23-11 Red River Athletic Conference Championship team.

Texans at heart of Supreme Court debate over school prayer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas high school senior **Marian Ward**, who defied a federal court last fall to offer a public prayer before her school's football game, traveled to Washington to watch the Supreme Court grapple Wednesday with the contentious subject of school prayer.

The Santa Fe student, along with her school district, find themselves squarely in the thick of a debate that has vexed school administrators, parents and students alike throughout Texas and the nation: Are student-led prayers constitutionally permissible at extracurricular events?

Standing on the Supreme Court plaza after Wednesday's oral arguments, Ward made clear her position to the pack of reporters that surrounded her.

"I feel like this country is founded on principles of freedom and individual freedom," she said. "I think I'm entitled to my freedoms even though I'm on a school campus."

Ward's family filed suit last fall after the Santa Fe Independent School District, in response to a

federal appeals court ruling, crafted strict guidelines banning pre-game prayer. Administrators warned her that she would be disciplined if she prayed. The lawsuit argued that the guidelines violated her free speech rights — a position a federal judge agreed with, granting her protection to deliver a pre-game prayer for the remainder of the football season.

Santa Fe is about 35 miles southeast of Houston.

The school district has been whipsawed by lawsuits and court edicts since four students and their parents sued in 1995, challenging the constitutionality of a policy calling for election of a student "chaplain" to lead "prayers."

The policy then was changed to its current wording, allowing student-elected representatives to give a "message or invocation" at football games. The policy is suspended pending resolution by the clearly divided Supreme Court.

Texas Attorney General **John Cornyn**, who defended Santa Fe's policy, argued that student-led prayers are not a violation of the constitutionally required sep-

aration of church and state because the student — not the school — decides what message to deliver.

"We're saying that private speech is different than government speech," said Cornyn, making his second Supreme Court appearance since becoming attorney general.

"I think we made a very important point and that is school officials should not be forced to discriminate against religious speech and private speech as protected under the First Amendment," Cornyn told reporters afterwards. He said he was "guardedly optimistic" the Supreme Court would agree.

But **Anthony Griffin**, a Galveston lawyer representing the students and parents who challenged the policy, said football games, although extracurricular, are part of the school system.

"My clients are Catholic and Mormon and they are not against prayer," he said. "But what they are against is having prayer imposed upon their children."

Ward, the student, noted that no

one is obliged to attend football games.

"I'm not here to put down other people that don't believe the same way I do, but I still don't think that changes my right to exercise free speech," she said.

While the courts wrestle with the issue, Texans appear to have little doubt that football and a pre-game invocation go hand-in-hand. Earlier this month in Texas' Republican primary, 94 percent of voters approved a nonbinding resolution backing student-initiated prayer at school sporting events.

Cornyn, for one, said he wants resolution of the matter one way or another so that school systems can have clear guidance.

"It's the job of the courts to set some general guidelines, which hopefully will keep these school districts like Santa Fe and the

thousand or so more across the state of Texas alone from spending their scarce education dollars on defending litigation," he said.

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Kelly Services
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San Antonio library computer invaded

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A computer hacker played havoc with the San Antonio Public Library's Internet site, blocking access to the library's computerized card catalog.

The attack occurred late Monday or early Tuesday, officials said.

The hacker left a message including an admonition to vote Socialist. It was laced with misspellings and contained misgivings about the library's computer staff.

"I warn you before," it read in part. The hacker also left greetings for friends and signed the message, the "Great Magoo."

The hacker blamed President Clinton for the incident.

The library's computer staff eliminated the message from public view once it was discovered and began working to restore catalog access.

All in-library computers were working, and all patron information and internal information systems were protected, said spokeswoman **Beth Graham**.

"The only thing affected was access to the catalog information, and that was only on computers outside the library using the Internet," Graham said. "When

we discovered the hacking early Tuesday, we simply put up a notice that the catalog was temporarily unavailable. The other databases were unaffected."



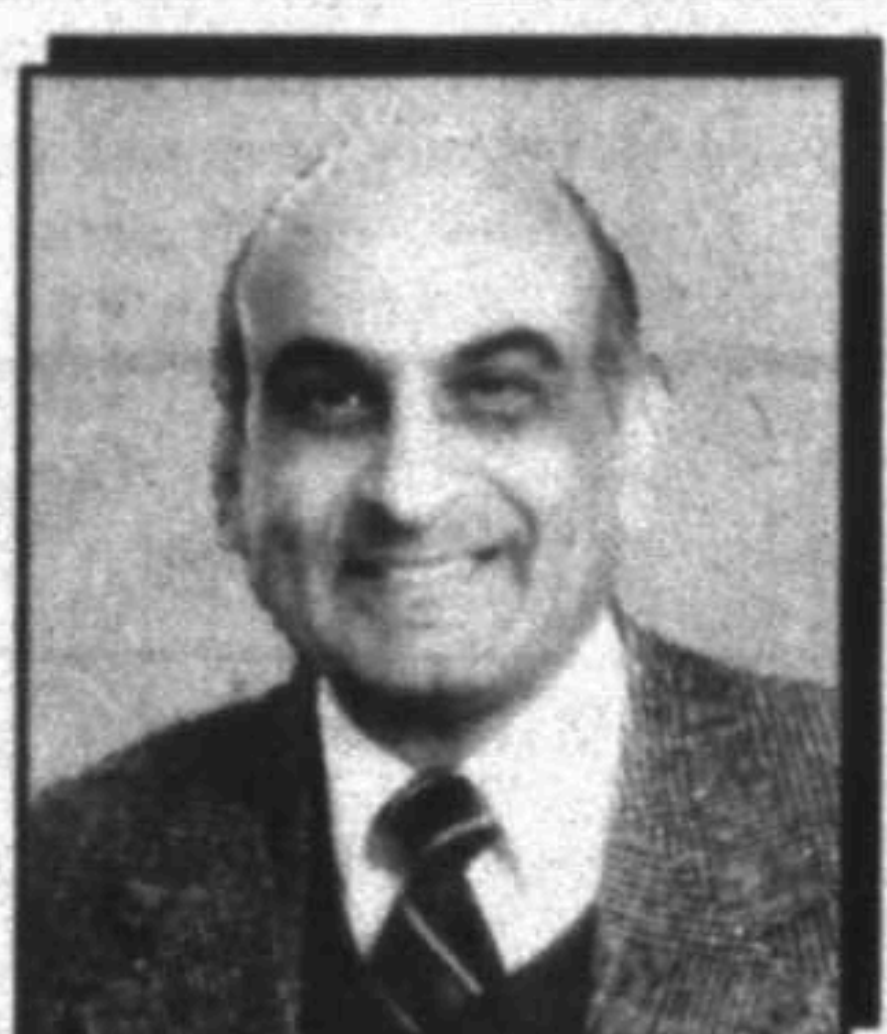
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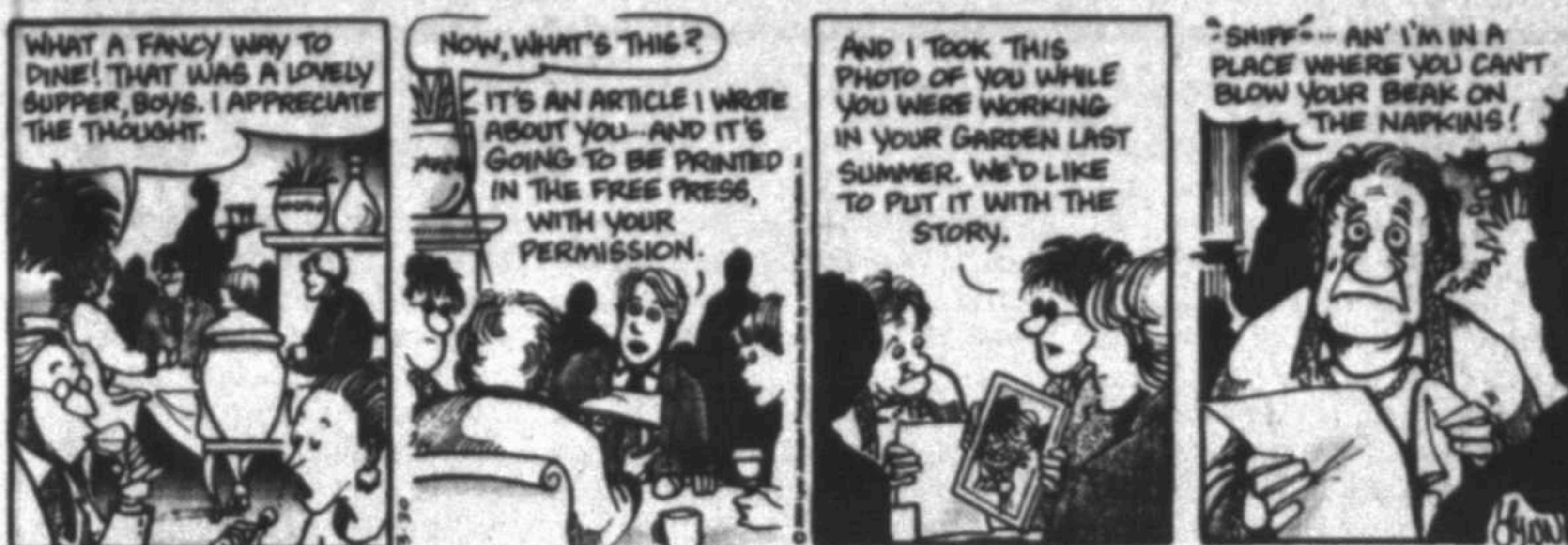
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*1999 Permian Basin Area-Wide Phone Book compared to 1999 Southwestern Bell Yellow Pages.
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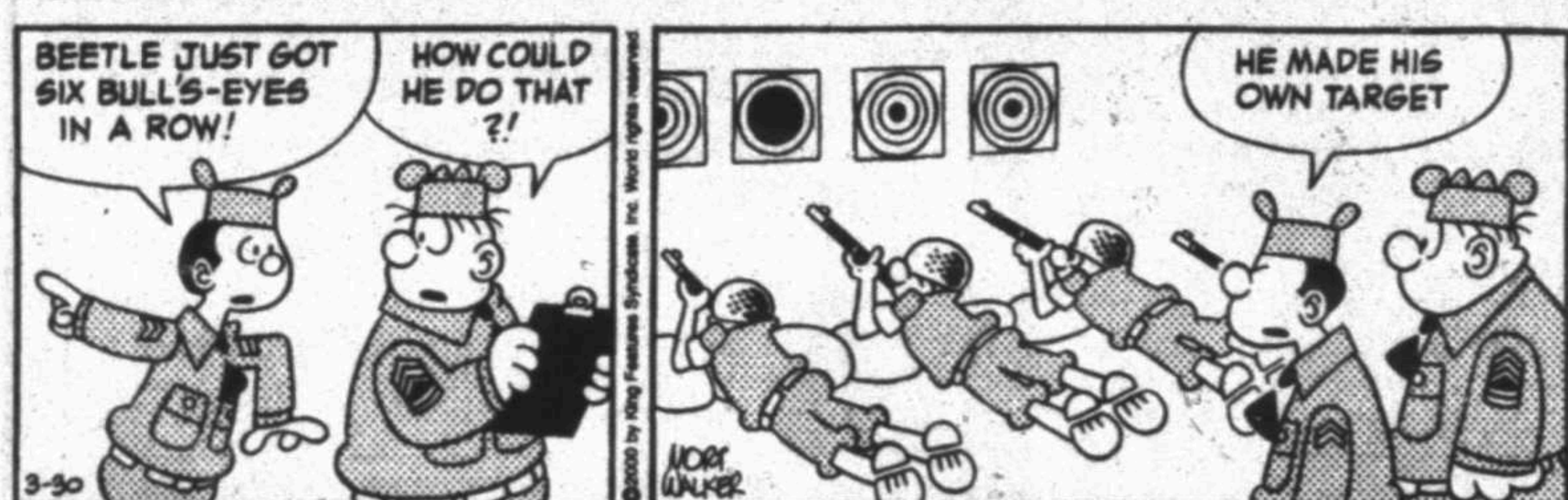
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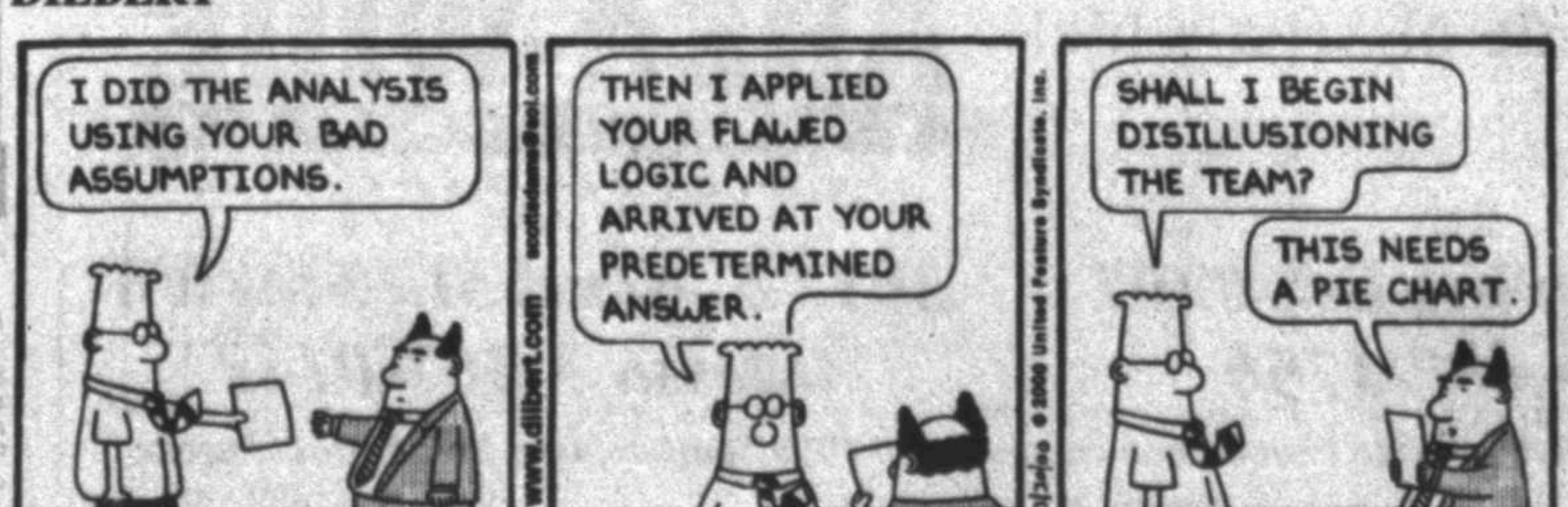
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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, March 30, 2000:

Make the most of the many opportunities that come your way this year. Your finances will fluctuate but, if handled well, you could gain considerably and reach a financial peak. Don't take unnecessary risks, especially when your inner voice warns against it. Avoid expressing your anger through self-destructive spending. If you are, single, romance knocks on your door from July on. You could find love through a friend or a group happening. If attached, your relationship develops much more to your liking after June. AQUARIUS is a buddy.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Opportunity strikes. Don't hesitate to plunge in and grab an offer. Another might be cynical or somewhat difficult. Listen, but don't take it personally. A boss could be very difficult as well. Use your interpersonal skills. Tonight: With friends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Others make demands, and you have mixed feelings about whether to meet them. Remember on which side your bread is buttered. Another's perspective makes you think twice. A parent cares about your well-being. Tonight: Reject negativity.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You are challenged to take an overview and to not get caught up in details. Your perspective of a work matter could change because of a partner. Refuse to be negative. Listen to others; open up to new ideas and solutions. Consider tak-

ing a risk. Tonight: Catch up on mail.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ A partner helps in ways you hadn't anticipated. Count on a friendship that can make a big difference for you. Revise work. Don't get stuck on unproven ideas. Ask for more support or help if needed. Recognize that you can't have everything you want instantly. Tonight: Express your appreciation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Defer to others and listen to feedback. Another might not agree with you, but he presents another side of the story. A partner plays devil's advocate, helping you see another way of thinking. Work with others. Expect the best. Tonight: Say yes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Work takes high priority. Good news that comes your way early on could be tempered later. Recognize the source of another's resistance, and deal with that, rather than getting into an ego struggle. A family member could change his tune. Tonight: Soak away stress in a hot tub.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Your ingenuity and appeal move a partner and opens new doors. Be realistic; another could reverse his opinion just as easily. Brainstorm about work with those who can give you strong feedback. Tonight: Do something you enjoyed as a kid.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Deal with your family and a domestic matter. You work well when everyone remains positive. However, negativity could cause

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

your enthusiasm to plummet. A child or new friend could challenge you, encouraging a risk. Tonight: Play it low-key.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You could be a lot harder on yourself than you are on anyone else. You have a strong reaction to another, and you need to relax and do some thinking. A family member clearly means well. Relax, and refuse to let day-to-day matters eat at you. Tonight: Change plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Deal with finances. Don't be surprised if what appears, this morning, to be a good risk changes. Flow with others' moods. Visit and socialize. Try not to react too strongly. Make a budget and stick to it. Use your good money sense. Tonight: Pay bills.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You are unusually robust and enthusiastic. Enter a project positively, knowing what you want and expect. Your sensitivity is enhanced. A friend could change his tune quite a few times. Don't take his decisions personally. Tonight: It is your call.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Say what you think, but don't be surprised by another's reactions. You can't always make the right call. Be more observant. You might need to play a boss differently. You simply don't see eye to eye with him today. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

BORN TODAY

Actor Warren Beatty (1937), musician Eric Clapton (1945), actor Paul Reiser (1957)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Flim-Flam

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH		
♠ AKJ		
♥ 84		
♦ AQ109		
♣ Q742		
WEST		
♠ 109852		
♥ 5		
♦ 742		
♣ K1063		
EAST		
♠ Q7		
♥ Q1093		
♦ 8653		
♣ J85		
SOUTH		
♠ 643		
♥ AKJ762		
♦ KJ		
♣ A9		

The bidding:			
SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠

Looking at all four hands, it is difficult to see how South could fail to make six hearts. All the contract requires is a simple finesse after first cashing one high trump honor. Yet go down a trick declarer did, and we would almost surely have done so as well.

South's jump to three hearts was perhaps a slight stretch because of suit quality, but it described the strength of the hand nicely. North was able to cue-bid the suits in which South lacked first-round control, so the latter elected to contract for 12 tricks.

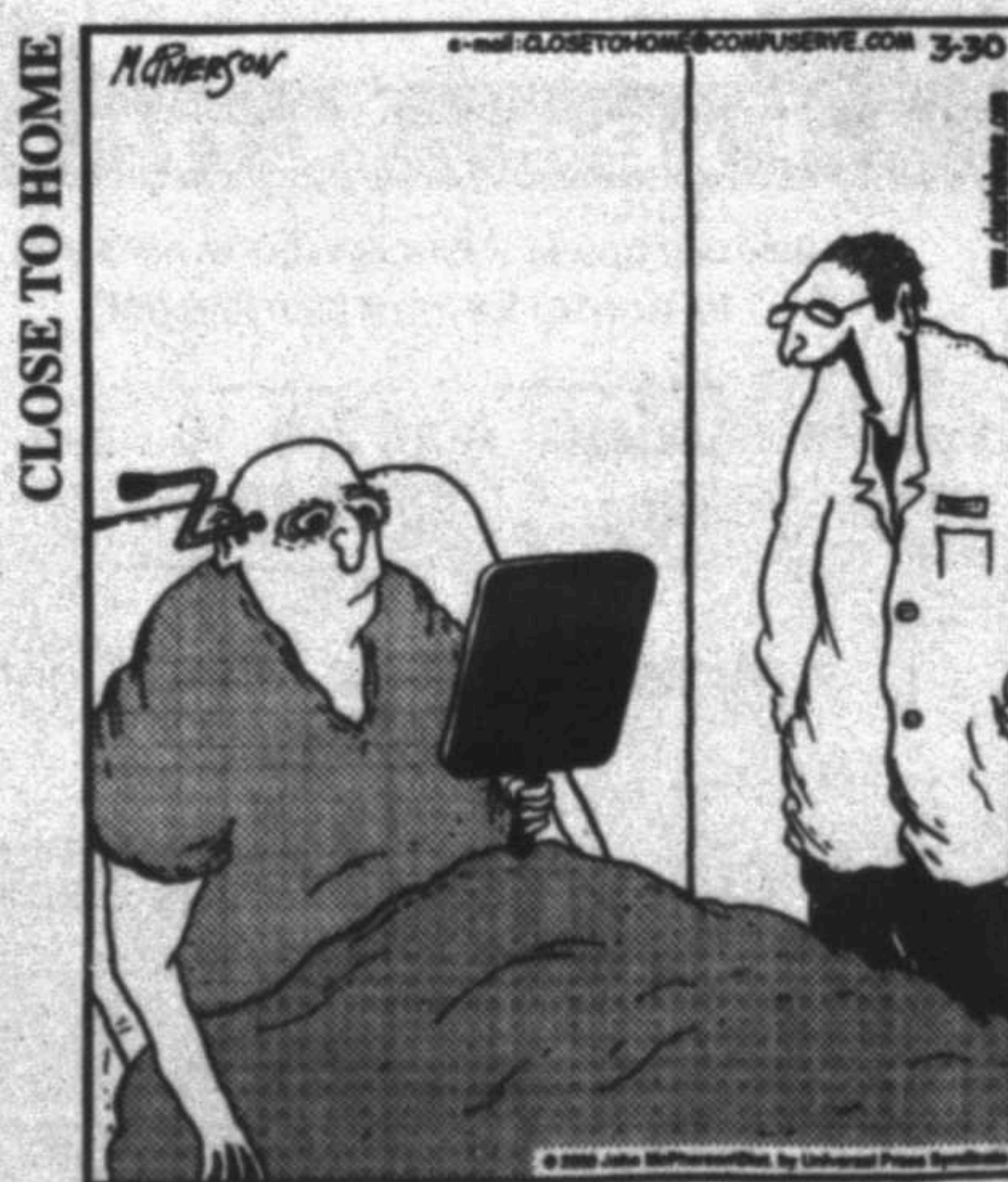
West led the 10 of spades, and it did not take East more

than a moment to see that declarer was unlikely to have any losers outside of trumps — dummy's diamonds, combined with whatever holding South held in the suit, would take care of any other side-suit losers. So when declarer played the king of spades from dummy, East was ready. The defender dropped the queen without any hesitation!

Look at the hand from South's point of view. With a normal 3-2 trump break, the

contract was cold. The only danger was that East held a singleton spade and West the queen of trumps. In that case, should South take a losing finesse, West might be able to give East a spade ruff to defeat the slam.

The way to combat that was obvious. Declarer spurned the heart finesse in favor of cashing the ace and king of trumps. When West showed out, dummy was an entry short for a trump coup



"When you notice yourself becoming forgetful, just give it 20 hard cranks and your memory should be sharp for a good two or three days."

ZITS



DENNIS THE



MAYBE H

FAMILY CIR



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"That's why"

PEOPLE

Hanson
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Plan will pay organ donors' families \$300

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Pennsylvania will move ahead with a novel plan to offer \$300 to the families of organ donors, but the money can only cover incidental costs such as food, housing and transportation, the state health secretary said Wednesday.

A governor's advisory committee last fall recommended offering the money for funeral costs in hopes of encouraging organ donations, because demand for transplants is surging. But amid concerns the plan amounted to an illegal cash payment for organs, Health Secretary Robert Zimmerman said he was modifying the program to cover only incidental costs.

"I try to look at this in terms of the end rather than the means," Zimmerman told members of the advisory committee. "The end is to promote and support and provide benefits to people who make difficult decisions."

A 1984 federal law prohibits payments or other considerations for organs and tissue. The law exempts "reasonable payments" for incidental costs associated with recovering and transporting the organ, but it does not specifically mention funeral expenses.

Pennsylvania's three-year pilot program, the first of its kind in the nation, could begin as early as September after the advisory committee works out details. Many states, including New York and Hawaii, have said they will be watching closely to see if it is worth pursuing on their own.

Some members of the Pennsylvania advisory committee said the program's attempts to comply with laws against organ buying made it confusing. And other skeptics wondered whether the modest payment offer would increase donations.

"It's probably legal but it doesn't make a lot of sense," said George Annas, who writes on health law for the New England Journal of Medicine. "I can't imagine that throwing in transportation costs would make a difference."

Scientists looking to take the ouch out of vaccines

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The days of being on pins and needles while you wait for your flu shot or insulin injection could soon be a thing of the past.

Devices that can deliver drugs into the skin at the speed of a supersonic jet, controlled-release microchips, and foods genetically modified to carry medicine were just a few of the approaches being discussed at a gathering of scientists as alternatives to the needle and syringe.

"Why don't people like needles? Very simply, it hurts — and people don't like what hurts," said Mark Prausnitz, a chemical engineering professor from the Georgia Institute of Technology. "The needle's been around for quite a while, but we believe there are ways of achieving better drug delivery and getting across the various barriers in the body."

Prausnitz worked five years with electrical engineer Mark Allen to develop a prototype device, which looks like a nicotine patch, of 400 silicon-based microscopic needles, each no wider than a human hair.

The tiny, hollow needles are so small, the researchers say, that medication can be delivered through the skin without reaching the nerve cells that register pain. Microelectronics within also could control the time and dosage of the medicine delivered.

Tests of the device in delivering insulin found it significantly reduced blood sugar levels in diabetic rats, Prausnitz said in a presentation this week at a meeting of the American Chemical Society.

The race to develop alternatives comes amid concern about the danger of used needles transmitting diseases to health care workers and their patients. The researchers also noted that youngsters can develop an aversion to needles after receiving 12 to 19 childhood vaccinations.

Many of the devices discussed at the three-day conference are undergoing human testing but are at least two years away from coming to market.

Taking a page from the hypodermis seen on television's "Star Trek" in the 1960s, Powderject Pharmaceuticals of Fremont, Calif., is testing a device that uses pressurized helium to launch dry powder medicines through the skin.

Another device is an electronic inhaler that would deliver dosages of tiny liquid particles to the bloodstream by way of the mouth and small airways.



Rep. Tom Lantos, D-Calif., second from left, joined by actresses, from left, Tippi Hedren, Bo Derek and Melanie Griffith, listen to an unidentified aide on Capitol Hill talk about the Animal Welfare Act Wednesday. Lantos introduced an amendment to that would allow current owners of exotic animals one year to obtain a permit.

Celebrities want exotic pet owners licensed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Owners of large cats, bears, apes and other exotic large mammals would have to be licensed by the federal government under a bill being promoted by three actresses and a puppet frog.

"Not everyone of us up here today is a celebrity or just another one of those talking frogs on Capitol Hill," Kermit the Frog said at a news conference Wednesday to promote the bill by Rep. Tom Lantos. "I'm a representative of the animal kingdom and we all need your help," the Sesame Street character said with the help of puppeteer Steve Whitmire.

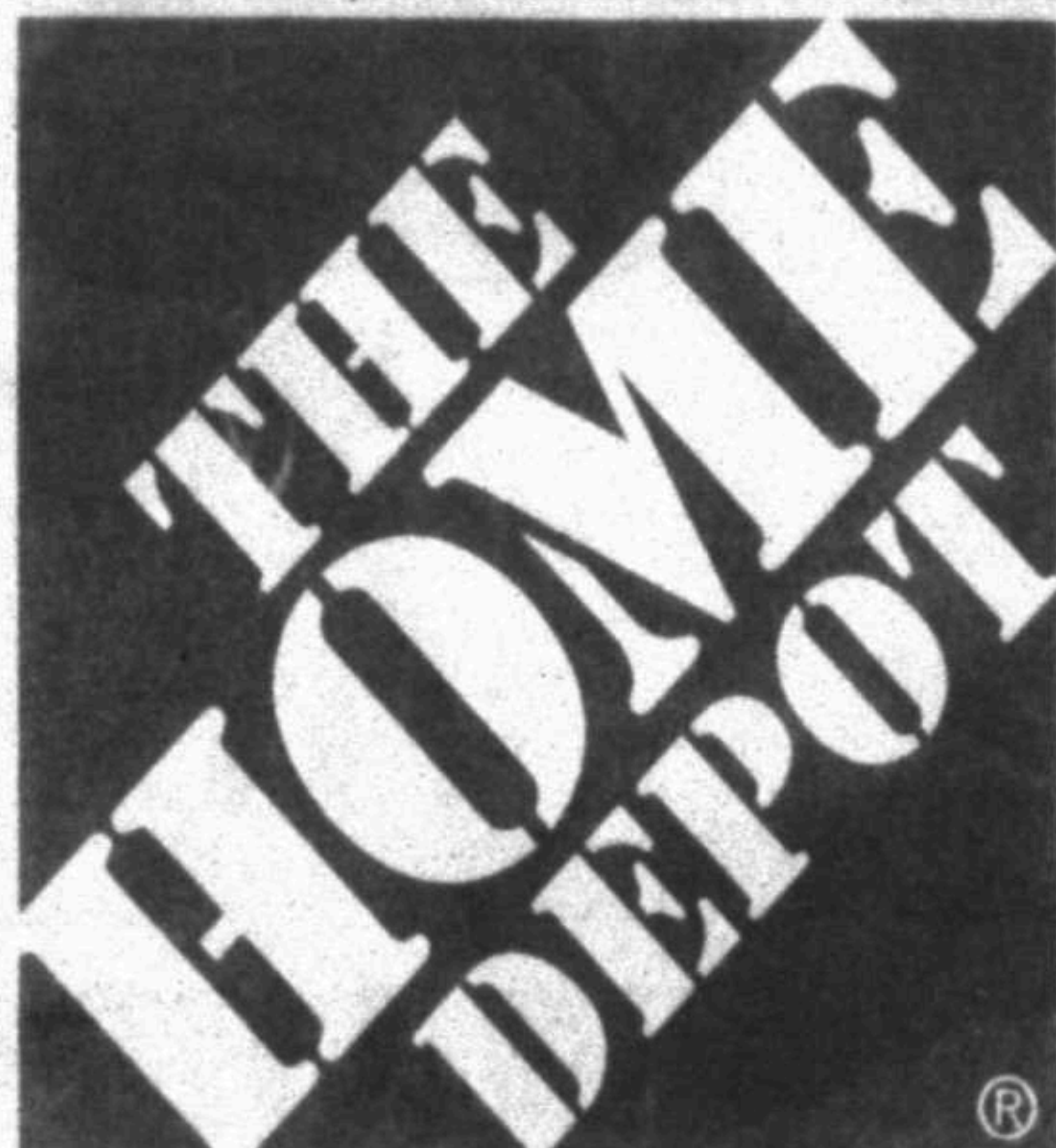
After exchanging flirtations with actresses Bo Derek, Melanie Griffith and Griffith's mother, Tippi Hedren, Kermit quipped, "I, too, am endangered. When I go home to Miss Piggy, I'm going to be in serious trouble."

Hedren, a long-time animal protection activist, went to Lantos, D-Calif., with the idea for the legislation because too many people are being mauled by ocelots, wolves and tigers that are adopted as pets when cubs but then outgrow the ability of owners to feed and control them.

Griffith said as many as 7,000 tigers alone are living in people's back yards as pets or, in the case of drug dealers, guard animals to ward off police.

Many are abandoned or euthanized once they become too much of a burden to their owners, Hedren said.

Lantos' bill would require the owners of exotic mammals to get a license from the Agriculture Department and show that they have the facilities and capability to keep the animals safely and humanely.



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HRB215SDA (686-299)

HONDA
Power Equipment



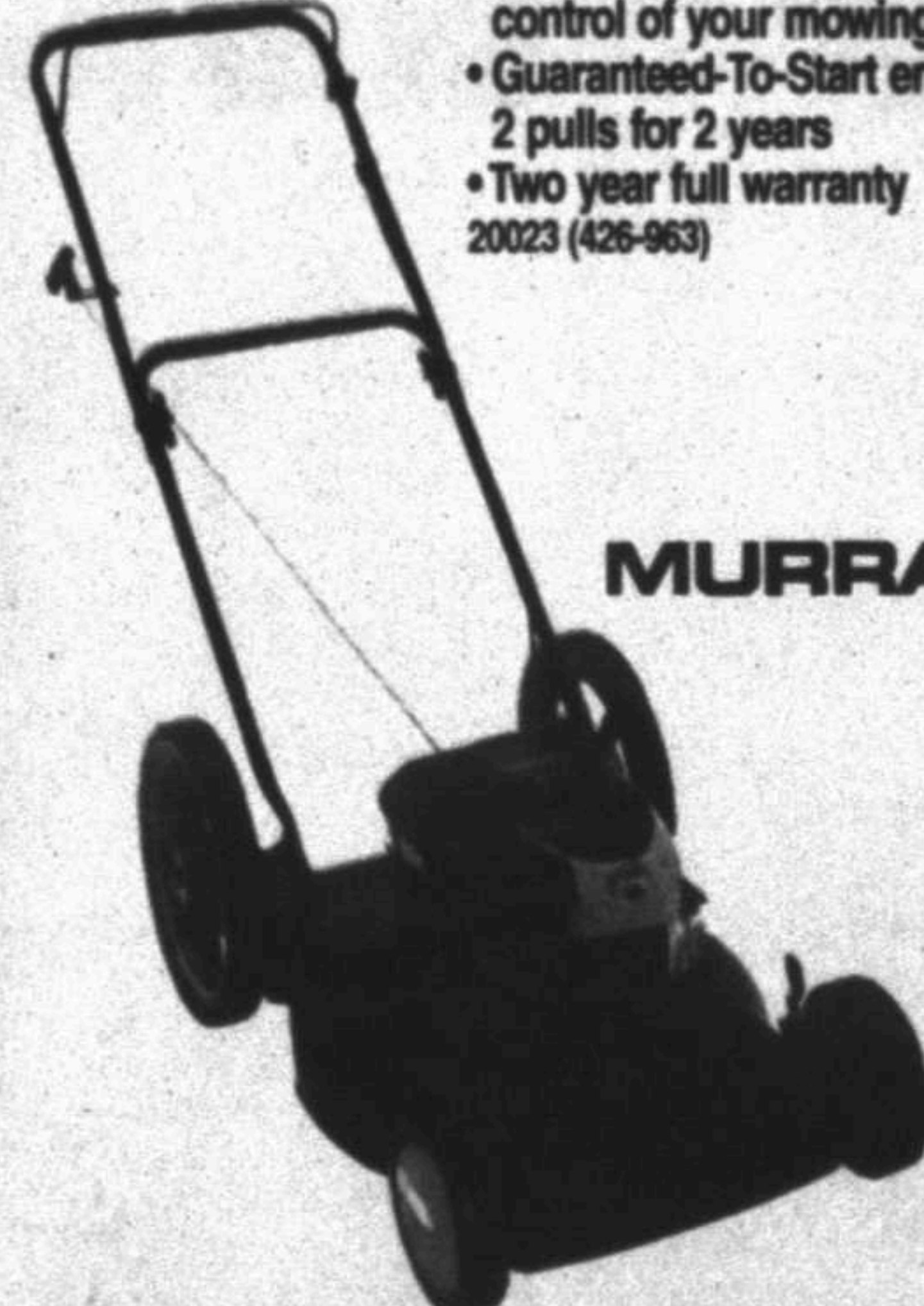
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6 HP 21" Personal Pace Self-Propelled 3-in-1 with Rear Bag

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6 HP 22" 2-n-1 High Wheel Mower

- Powered by Briggs & Stratton aero engine
- Converts easily from mulching or side discharge without the use of tools
- Easy-to-push high wheels
- Integrated mulch plug

22315X8 (597-805)

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21" Harmony II 3-n-1 Mower

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- 2 year warranty

HRT21653DA (229-543)

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Power Equipment



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6.5 HP 21" 3-n-1 Mower

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- Self-propelled rear wheel drive
- Converts to mulch/bag/side discharge with no tools

SP6211 (177-400)

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4 HP 20" Rear Bag Mulching Mower

- Powered by a 4 HP Briggs & Stratton Quattro engine
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By Terry
Sports Editor

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Stanton's Gordon takes over Rebels' basketball program

By Terry Williamson
Sports Editor

Midland Lee has a new head basketball coach, and he won't have to move far to take over the position.

Doug Gordon, the head basketball coach of the Class 2A Stanton Bulldogs, agreed Wednesday to become the head basketball coach at Midland Lee.

Gordon, 36, will replace Jon House, who announced that the 2000 season would be his last so he could work on a masters degree in the field of administration.

House coached the Rebels 10 seasons, gaining state playoff status five times and

winning one District 4-5A championship.

Gordon will be only the third head coach in basketball in Lee's school history. Paul Stueckler was Lee's first head coach from 1961 to 1990.

Lee principal George Cooper, who headed the search for the new coach, said there were around 40 applicants for the Lee position.

"There was a lot of interest in the job," Cooper said. "We had applications from Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas."

Cooper said the school narrowed the list

to seven and interviews were held this week.

"I don't think it's necessary to name the applicants," Cooper said. "The thought in the beginning was that we might have to go to another short list. We identified 14 of the top candidates."

In the end, the search ended only 20 miles away with Gordon getting the nod.

Since Gordon has been head coach in Stanton for the past nine seasons, he has kept up with the Lee and Midland High basketball programs.

"I think this is a tremendous opportunity for me," Gordon said. "Since I've been in Stanton, I've always felt that Lee is one Please see REBEL/8C

BULLDOG BASKETBALL

MHS' Johnston earns TABC all-state honors

Staff Report

Postseason awards keep rolling in for Midland High basketball star Blake Johnston.

The latest came this week when Johnston was named first team Class 5A All-State by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches.

Johnston was one of 10 players in the Class 5A ranks picked as a first team selection.

Johnston, a four-year player for the Bulldogs, has completed an amazing career at MHS. The Bulldogs won the school's first state championship in 1998 with Johnston starting.

His four-year career record is 127-16, averaging 32 wins a season. He averaged 23.3 points per game Please see TABC/8C



Midland High's Blake Johnston receives TABC All-State award.

LADY REBELS AT UIL SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Found in the middle of things but never middle of the road



Belizaire



Rankin



Prementine



Herr



Yonts

Lady Rebels' midfield serves up wins, postseason success

By Jay Peden
Sports Writer

Every soccer team needs an offense to score the goals and a defense to keep goals from being scored. But it's the link between the two ends of a team — the midfielders — that helps determine how well both ends play. Good midfield play makes both ends successful.

And how well have the midfielders on the Midland Lee girls' soccer team played this year?

"We're in the regional semifinals," Lee coach Mike Simpson put it simply.

The Lady Rebels will make their second straight trip to the Region I-5A Tournament, playing Flower Mound Marcus at 1 p.m. Friday at Pennington Field in Bedford.

"They're a major part of helping us get there," Simpson said. "Our offensive attack is probably the strongest part of our game, but if you don't have control in the midfield, that takes away severely from the offensive attack."

Basically, the midfielders move the ball from the back — where the other team might score — to the front, where their team might score.

"The midfield is where the game takes place, where you take the ball from the defenders and pass it to the offense," senior Allison Herr said. "And it's not easy. But if the midfield's not clicking, the game's going to be difficult."

The midfielders have to control the game.

"Midfield is the primary point where the game is played," senior Amy Rankin said. "If you control the midfield, you control most of the game."

And if not?

"If you lose control of the midfield, the game can change on you in a heartbeat," Simpson said.

■ Region I-5A Semifinals Lee vs. Flower Mound Marcus, 1 p.m., Friday, Pennington Field, Bedford.

This critical position requires as many skills as any spot on the field. A midfielder has to be physical, when taking the ball away from opposing players, and she has to have finesse, when passing the ball to the forwards.

"You not only have to play offense but defense as well," Raffi Belizaire said. "(Midfielders) pretty much have a hand in everything."

Simpson usually starts Rankin, Belizaire and Jamie Prementine in the midfield, and he brings Herr and Kylie Yonts off the bench. If needed, April Rankin (Amy's twin) moves up from defender. And Courtney Heineman was part of the mix before she suffered a season-ending knee injury last week.

Simpson needs lots of midfielders.

"We shuffle midfielders more than do any place else because of the fatigue factor," Simpson said. "Those girls run all the time, and it's typically a tough place to play."

While the defenders and forwards can usually catch their breath when the ball is on the other end of the field, the midfielders don't get that luxury. Midfielders are never out of the action.

"The midfielders play in the attacking third, and they play in the defending third," Simpson said. "They wear out."

Because of that, and confidence in their teammates, the starters don't mind getting a break.



U. Frank Williams Jr./Reporter-Telegram

Midland Lee's Amy Rankin, a midfielder, fights for the ball during the Lady Rebels' game with Odessa Permian much earlier in the season. Tuesday, Midland Lee defeated Odessa Permian to advance to the Region I-5A semifinals. A big reason for Lee's success this season has been Rankin and the rest of the midfielders, who will again be tested this weekend.

"There are girls on the sidelines as subs who can do just as well," Amy Rankin said. "That's a strong part (of the team). Midfielders always need subs. They're running everywhere."

Since passing is an important part of being a midfielder, Rankin and her teammates will have a special challenge on Friday. Pennington field has artificial turf. The last game the Lady Rebels played was on the lush, thick grass of Lee Soccer Field. The difference between a soccer ball rolling on thick grass and artificial turf is about the same as a marble rolling across tile and shag carpet.

The Lady Rebels don't get to play on artificial turf — plans to work out at Odessa's Ratliff Stadium on Wednesday fell through — so they'll need to adjust. Fortunately, some of the Lady Rebels, like Rankin and Herr, played at Pen-

nington last year.

"We're playing on turf, so the ball moves a lot quicker," Rankin said, adding that many of the players complained about it last year. "It's all about speed, and the goalkeeper has got to be ready."

"We're playing on turf, and the game is going to be fast," Herr said. "It's who can get to the ball quickly and who can get it under control that usually takes the game."

Finally, although midfielders often don't get much of the glory, Belizaire is the second-leading scorer on the team. Her midfield passing shows in her team-high 15 assists, but she can score too, totalling 18 goals.

"We've got Raffi coming out of the midfield," Herr said. "She pressures the goal, and she's gotten us some big goals in big games."

And Friday's game is definitely a big game.

Cope leaves MHS for Timpson football job

By Stewart Doreen
Assistant Sports Editor

Wes Cope — the last remaining football assistant from David Browning's original coaching staff at Midland High — is moving on after four seasons with the Bulldogs.

Cope, 31, is the new head football coach and athletic director at Class 2A Timpson (located 20 miles east of Nacogdoches on Highway 59).

Cope, the quarterbacks coach for Browning, is the third member of the Browning's staff to advance his career this off-season.

Earlier this month, Blake Feldt, an offensive line coach for MHS, became the new head football coach of the Class 3A Breckenridge Buckaroos. Also,

Browning said that Mike Adams, a defensive end coach last year, will also move to Breckenridge to become Feldt's defensive coordinator.

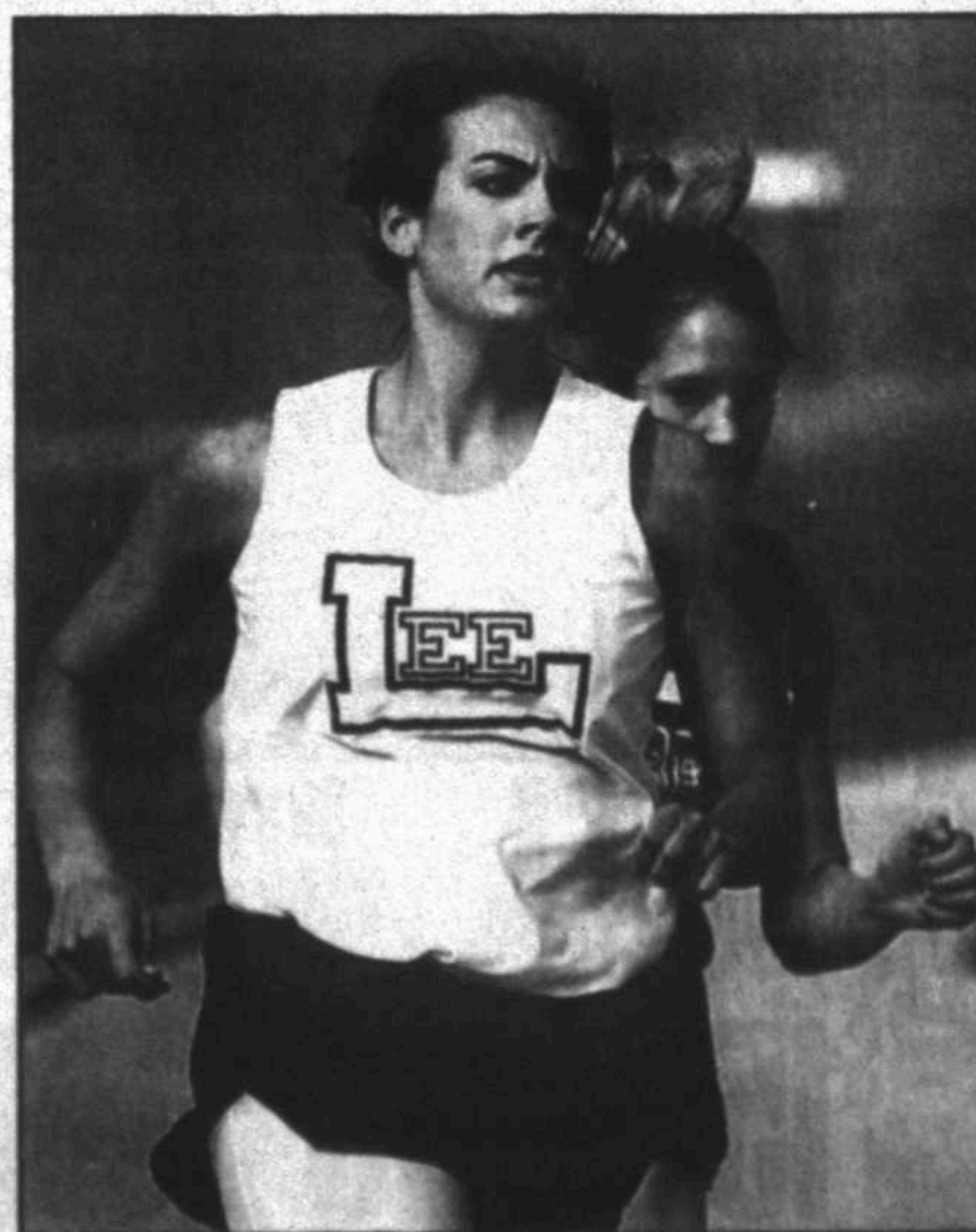
Last year, assistants Steve Gideon and Scott Tryon became head coaches at Class 4A Athens and 2A Lovelady, respectively.

"It is good for the program (to have coaches looking to advance)," Browning said. "We don't have to worry about getting the word out (to fill any vacancies). People want to be a part of it, and we have been able to get good replacements over the years. I anticipate we will again."

The young, ambitious coaches — those looking to move on — are the ones who Browning wants on his staff. Cope understands why.

"If your ambition is to be a sophomore coach all of your life, you are not ambitious," said Cope, who had been a final-

Please see COACH/4C



Brian Adams/Reporter-Telegram

Julie Jay, seen here during the Dale Curry Invitational track and field meet last week in Odessa, has the best chance of any the Lady Rebels to make it out of district.

Lee hurdler makes push for regionals

By Stewart Doreen
Assistant Sports Editor

On the Midland Lee track team, Julie Jay is in her own league.

Jay is the only senior runner, the only hurdler, and as it stands right now, the only Lady Rebel who can be considered a legitimate contender for a district championship and spot in the Region I-5A meet.

Part of her track life is tough. There is a reason that few kids do the 100 and 300-meter hurdles. They are not the glamour races, leaving many runners attempting to become a hurdler and only to opt for a less rigorous event.

"She is unique," Lee track coach Randy Smith said. "For the past two years, she has had someone to run with. This year, she doesn't. To me, that makes her more unique. It makes her a self-made person."

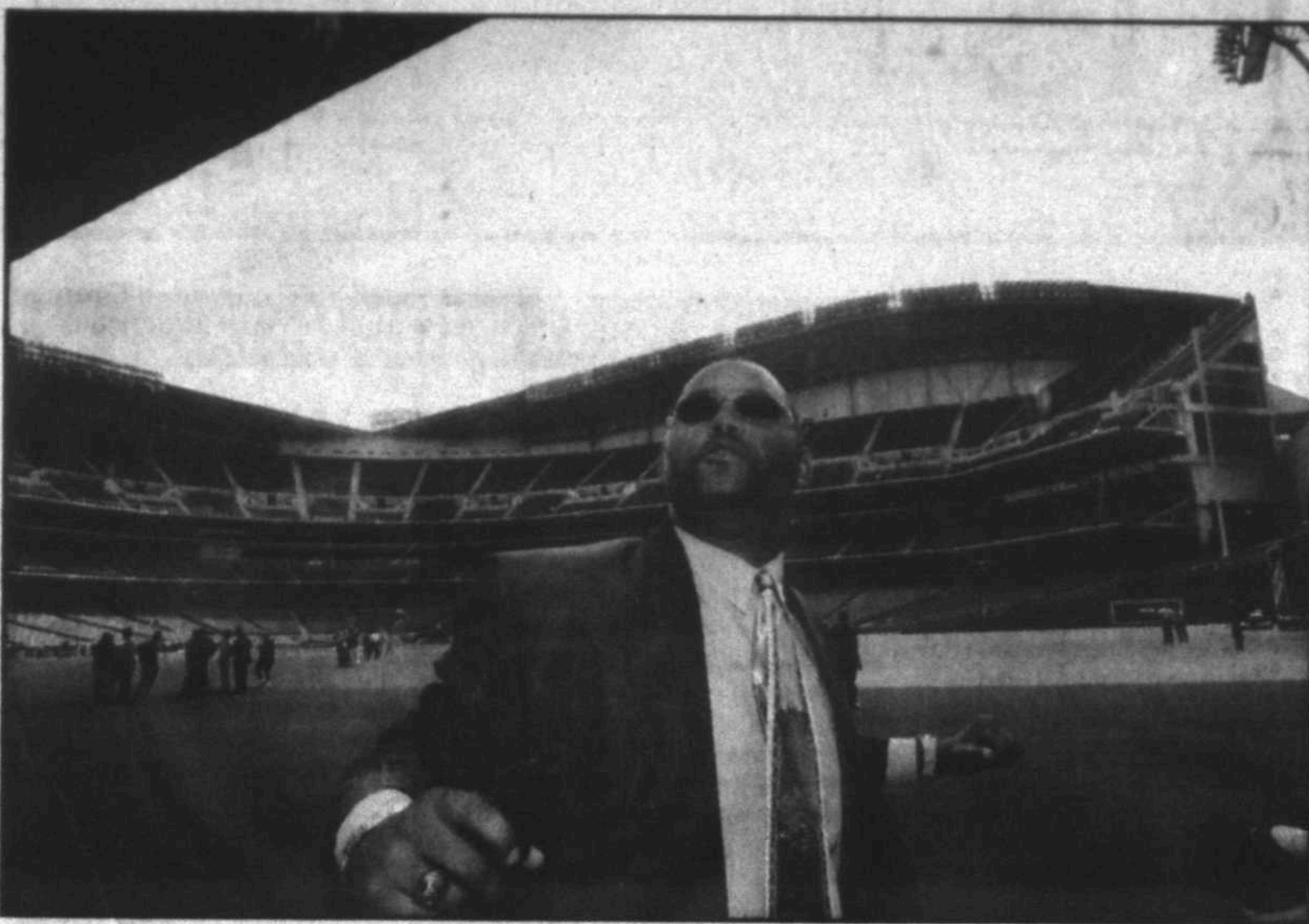
"I don't have to watch her and worry about her skipping out of what she has to do."

Also, this has not been the best season for Lady Rebel track team — a far cry from two seasons ago when Randy Smith's girls captured the District 4-5A title. The numbers crunch, how-

Please see TRACK/4C

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Houston Astros pitcher Jose Lima looks over Enron Field Wednesday in Houston after the team returned from spring training in Florida. The new baseball stadium will open today when the Houston Astros host the New York Yankees in the inaugural exhibition game at the new ballpark.

Yanks, Astros repeat history during today's Enron opener

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Astros moved into their new home at Enron Field and prepared to welcome the New York Yankees as their first guests Thursday night, the same team they hosted 35 years ago when they played the first game in the Astrodome.

History and the future will mix freely in the 42,000-seat downtown stadium that is a blend of the city's past and its future with an 1850s-era locomotive ready to steam across its elevated left field wall track and a three-piece retractable roof poised to close at the slightest hint of rain.

Former Yankee Dwight Gooden made his first career start in the Astrodome against the Astros and he'll pitch the first game in Enron Field for the Astros. Home-grown Roger Clemens will pitch for the Yankees.

If that's not enough excitement, Hall of Fame pitcher Nolan Ryan will throw out the first pitch and Lyle Lovett will sing the national anthem.

"It's almost surreal when you see it for the first time, it's like: 'Is this really happening?'" Astros general manager Gerry Hunsicker said Wednesday. "It's step by step, admiring all the new things in the stadium. It's going to take awhile to appreciate all the facets of the stadium."

The Yankees haven't returned to Houston since 1965 when they helped the Astros open the futuristic Astrodome. Mickey Mantle hit the first homer and the Astros won the game, 2-1.

They'll find a completely different ball park. It's built adjacent to Union Station, once the boarding point for Houstonians visiting other parts of the state and beyond.

The cozy downtown stadium has a 315-foot left field line — the shortest in baseball. Pitcher Jose Lima walked on the field Wednesday and immediately pointed to the short left field line.

"It's really nice but left field is so short, it's scary," said Lima, who allowed 30 home runs last season. "It's not going to matter that much if I pitch the way I can pitch and keep the ball down. If I give up 30 homers and win one more game than last year, I'm happy."

Lima will oppose David Cone in Friday night's second game against the Yankees. Octavio Dotel will start for Houston in Saturday's exhibition against Esteban Loaiza and the Texas Rangers.

While Lima was examining the short left field, center fielder Roger Cedeno measured the wide spaces of his position that include a 30-degree incline up to the fence and a flagpole in the playing field. The center field wall is 435-feet from home plate.

"I don't think it's going to be a disadvantage, I don't see too many guys hitting the ball out there," Cedeno said. "It's a beautiful stadium but you've got that hill over there to contend with but I don't expect to go there often."

The Astros left their spring training site in Kissimmee, Fla., a day early just to get a look at their new home before Thursday's game.

It will be a good day for Gooden, the Astros No. 5 starter going into the season at least until Scott Elarton is ready to pitch after undergoing off season shoulder surgery.

"I pitched my first game in the Dome so I guess I'm just in the right place at the right time," Gooden said. "I'm fortunate to come back to a team like this that has a chance to play in October. That's what it's all about at this stage of my career. I feel like I've come full circle."

Rangers' Evans wins third base job
PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. — The Texas Rangers sent prospect Mike Lamb to Triple-A Oklahoma on Wednesday, clearing the way for Tom Evans to be their starting third baseman.

Lamb, who hit .324 with 21 homers and 100 RBIs in the minors last season, came into spring training as the favorite to replace Todd Zeile.

But Evans, a non-roster invitee to camp who spent all last season at Triple-A, beat him out by hitting .310 and tying for second on the club with four homers, including a grand slam.

Evans played 12 games for Toronto in 1997 and seven more in 1998. The Rangers claimed him off waivers from the Blue Jays last spring.

To make room for Evans on the 40-man roster, first baseman Mike Simms cleared waivers and was designated for assignment to Oklahoma. Simms, who missed last year with an injury, can accept the assignment or become a free agent.

Baseball, Bud appear in good shape as 2000 season begins

By Jim Litke
AP Sports Writer

This must be the first time since he took over baseball that Bud Selig is not lusting after some other commissioner's job.

His counterpart at the NFL, Paul Tagliabue, spends more time than Batman talking about crime. David Stern and the NBA are experiencing technical difficulties — still too many microphones and not enough Mike. Hockey's Gary Bettman? Don't even ask.

But baseball and Bud are on a roll.

The season opened today in a new and exotic place: Tokyo, where the Chicago Cubs beat the New York Mets 5-3. Sammy Sosa, who commanded the biggest cheers, earned an audience with Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako afterward.

The reception stateside looks almost as promising. There will be two marquee names — Ken Griffey Jr. and Juan Gonzalez — in new towns, three whimsical new ballparks in San Francisco, Detroit and Houston, seven new managers, 25 new umpires, and every new baseball will bear Selig's signature, and his alone.

The only high-profile criminal case in his game at the moment is a possible bigamist named Al Martin. Selig's two biggest public-relations nightmares, John Rocker and Darryl Strawberry, are suspended for 12 games and who-knows-how-long, respectively.

Three of his most appealing players, shortstops Derek Jeter, Nomar Garciaparra and Alex Rodriguez, grace this month's GQ cover. His only microphone-on-a-manager problem came and went during the 1996 World Series, when some network genius cut live to skipper Bobby

Cox in the Atlanta dugout barking instructions using language salty enough to shrivel the seams on a baseball.

Judging by Selig's remarks, meanwhile, exporting baseball couldn't be going much better. The principal reason is Sosa, who has turned out to be a more-than-capable stand-in for Mark McGwire. The big redhead wanted no part of playing actual baseball there, but the ban apparently didn't extend to hawking products on Japanese TV.

Sosa, too, smiles back at viewers from TV ads, but by showing up, he got his mug on subway posters and billboards, too. In the days leading to the game, elderly men bowed in his direction wherever Sosa went; female fans in kimonos followed him in processions down the streets. All the while, Selig beamed.

"We hope this is only the first of many such ventures," he said the other day. "It is our hope and dream that the World Series will be what the word connotes — a true World Series. Mark McGwire and I have talked about this, and I know his feelings on the subject. I look at this much differently."

"If this were sheer greed, if this was done just for the money, this wouldn't be worth it," he added.

It might not be quite as noble a cause as Selig would have us believe. But if he got a little carried away, who can blame him?

He could still be celebrating the removal of former umpires union boss Richie Phillips. Or maybe Selig still can't believe his luck at having Griffey, McGwire, Sosa and ZZ Top impersonator Jeff Bagwell of Houston wind up in the same division. He might be giddy because a home run race won't necessarily be the most stirring story line this season; comebacks by some very big names could be.

After missing all of 1999, Atlanta's Andres Gallaraga is coming back from cancer. Chicago's strikeout sensation Kerry Wood and Braves closer Kerry Ligtenberg are coming back from arm surgery. Houston's Moises Alou is coming back from knee surgery, which became necessary after he fell off a treadmill.

All of this doesn't mean Selig is home free — yet. He closed both the American and National League offices, which explains why his name and not those of the league presidents will appear on baseballs. And by shuffling responsibilities at the top and chasing off NL president Len Coleman, the highest-ranking black in baseball, Selig left an already dubious record on minority employment open to more criticism.

Last spring, he sent a letter to all the clubs threatening severe penalties to teams that failed to even interview minority candidates for managing jobs. Yet the Tigers did just that when they hired Phil Garner, and Selig has yet to carry out his threat.

But then, he isn't the only one. Fans have complained nonstop about ticket prices, all the while reaching deeper and deeper into their pockets. The Yankees' top ticket price when they began this latest run of World Series dominance was \$25; this season it's \$55. Not to be outdone, the crosstown Mets, who almost turned 1999 into a subway series, rewarded themselves by hiking tickets from \$45 to \$57.

Still, there's labor peace and the prospect that the national TV rights fees, up for renewal, could double. And with so much going right, can Selig's demand for a raise be far behind?

Jim Litke is the national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitkeap.org

Pirates, Reds send veteran throwers looking for work

Associated Press

The Cincinnati Reds and Pittsburgh Pirates found their fifth starters, forcing Mark Portugal and Pete Schourek to look for new jobs.

Three days after announcing that Portugal was their fifth starter, the Reds changed their minds and released him Wednesday.

The Pirates did the same to Pete Schourek, who thought he had earned the No. 5 spot in Pittsburgh's rotation with a strong outing a day before.

The about-face stunned Portugal, rotation replacement Rob Bell and a clubhouse full of teammates who thought the pitching staff was set. Portugal's rough outing on Tuesday prompted general manager Jim Bowden to change his mind.

"Bewildered is probably the best word I can come up with," right-hander Pete Harnisch said. "Shocked is probably another one."

Portugal had a 4.50 ERA when Bowden announced that he'd won the fifth starter's job. His Tuesday outing raised it to 6.00, still the second-lowest in a rotation that has struggled this spring. "They didn't really get into some of the reasons, but I just think the timing of it's kind of weird," Portugal said.

Convinced that Schourek was no longer the pitcher who won 18 games for Cincinnati in 1995, the Pirates released Schourek and gave rookie left-hander Jimmy Anderson the job.

Only one day earlier, Schourek — who is guaranteed \$2 million — seemed to have secured a spot

in the rotation by limiting a Minnesota split squad to two runs in six innings, his best start this spring.

"I'm confident I can pitch," said Schourek, 4-7 with a 5.34 ERA last season. "They told me it was a numbers game. The \$2 million apparently didn't mean anything."

Owner Kevin McClatchy gave general manager Cam Bonifay permission to eat Schourek's contract if he and manager Gene Lamont felt the Pirates were better with Anderson in the rotation.

Their spring numbers were nearly identical. Schourek was 2-1 with a 5.40 ERA and eight strikeouts in 20 innings and Anderson was 3-1 with a 5.17 ERA and nine strikeouts in 15 2-3 innings.

"I'm not real worried about the baseball side of it," Schourek said. "I thought I threw well this spring and worked out some things I had problems with last season. I think I'll have a productive season for somebody."

At Jupiter, Fla., Mark McGwire was removed with stiffness in his back in the third inning of the St. Louis Cardinals' 3-1 win over the Montreal Expos.

McGwire was replaced by a pinch-runner after drawing a walk in the third inning.

"He just said he felt achy all over and couldn't get loose," manager Tony La Russa said. "He could have scored in the first inning, but he said he just couldn't run well enough."

Outfielder J.D. Drew was hit on his right pinkie by a pitch from Scott Strickland in the sixth inning. His status was uncertain.

Agassi edges Henman in thriller

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. (AP) — Andre Agassi overcame four match points in a sloppy but thrilling tiebreaker Wednesday to edge Tim Henman 7-5, 1-6, 7-6 (10) in the quarterfinals of the Ericsson Open.

The grueling victory in hot, humid weather was the second in as many days for Agassi, who outlasted Patrick Rafter on Tuesday.

Henman, charging to the net at every opportunity, was one point from an upset at 6-5, 8-7, 9-8 and

10-9 in the tiebreaker. He squandered one chance by double-faulting into the bottom of the net.

Agassi had a match point at 7-6 but punched an easy return into the net. He then shanked a forehand at 7-7.

But the top-seeded Agassi won the final three points, passing Henman with a crosscourt backhand for the victory.

Agassi said his right leg bothered him during the 2-hour, 33-minute match.

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CLASS 5A Region I BI-DISTRICT

1. El Paso Socorro 4, El Paso Andres

2. Abilene High, bye. Midland High 4, Lubbock Monterey

3. El Paso Del Valle, bye. Flower Mound Marcus 5, Irving High

4. Temple, bye. Arlington Martin 2, Killeen 0. Hurst L.D. Bell, bye. El Paso Hanks 6, El Paso Coronado

5. Amarillo High, bye. Amarillo Tascosa 1, Odessa Permian 0. El Paso Franklin, bye. Fort Worth Richland 3, Carrollton Smith 2. Duncanville, bye. Mansfield 3, Copperas Cove 2. McKinney, bye.

AREA ROUND

Abilene High (18-4-1) 7, El Paso Socorro 1. El Paso Del Valle (20-3) 4, Midland High 1. Temple (17-1-5) 3, Flower Mound Marcus 2. Arlington Martin (20-4) 2, Hurst L.D. Bell 1. El Paso Hanks (21-4) 2, Amarillo High 0. Amarillo Tascosa (11-7-1) 2, El Paso Franklin 1. Richland (18-3-3) 1, Duncanville 0. McKinney (17-2) 4, Mansfield 1.

REGIONAL QUARTERFINALS

Abilene High (19-4-1) 1, El Paso Del Valle 0. Arlington Martin (21-4) 3, Temple 2. 2OT. El Paso Hanks (22-4) 4, Amarillo Tascosa 0. McKinney (20-2) 2, Richland 1. OT.

REGION I-5A TOURNAMENT at Pennington Field, Bedford Friday's Semifinals

Abilene High (19-4-1) vs. Arlington Martin (21-4), 5 p.m. El Paso Hanks (22-4) vs. McKinney (20-2), 7 p.m.

Saturday's Finals

Semifinals winners, 3 p.m.

Girls

CLASS 5A Region I BI-DISTRICT

1. El Paso Bel Air 1, El Paso Irvin 0. Odessa Permian, bye. Midland Lee 8, Lubbock Coronado 1. El Paso Del Valle, bye. Flower Mound Marcus 4, Euless Trinity 0. Temple, bye. Arlington Martin 12, Copperas Cove 0. Fort Worth Richland, bye. El Paso Franklin 2, El Paso Eastwood 0. Amarillo High, bye. San Angelo Central 4, Lubbock Monterey 0. El Paso Coronado, bye. The Colony 1, Fort Worth Paschal 0. Mansfield, bye. Duncanville 8, Leander 1. Lewisville, bye.

AREA ROUND

Odessa Permian (20-3) 3, El Paso Bel Air 1. Midland Lee (16-5) 8, El Paso Del Valle 0. Flower Mound Marcus (15-3-3) 5, Temple 2. Arlington Martin (17-5) 5, Richland 1. Amarillo High (18-2-1) 1, El Paso Franklin 0. San Angelo Central (16-8) 1, El Paso Coronado 0. Mansfield (17-3-1) 3, The Colony 2, OT. Lewisville (19-1-2) 4, Duncanville 0.

REGIONAL QUARTERFINALS

Midland Lee (17-5) 4, Odessa Permian 3. Flower Mound Marcus (16-3-3) 3, Arlington Martin 1. San Angelo Central (17-8) 1, Amarillo High 0. Lewisville (20-2-2) 2, Mansfield 1.

REGION I-5A TOURNAMENT at Pennington Field, Bedford Friday's Semifinals

Midland Lee (17-5) vs. Flower Mound Marcus (16-3-3), 1 p.m. San Angelo Central (17-8) vs. Lewisville (20-2-2), 3 p.m.

Saturday's Finals

Semifinals winners, 1 p.m.



Raffi Bellzair fights Permian's Megan Hudman during the teams' Region I-5A quarterfinal Tuesday at Lee Soccer Field. Lee won the game, 4-3, to advance to the region tournament, which is being held this weekend at Pennington Field in Bedford.

More Sports/8C

Midlander makes Martial Arts Hall

By Terry Williamson
Sports Editor

Midland's Chris Martin will be inducted into the Texas Martial Arts Hall of Fame on May 20 in Waco.

Martin recently received the induction news from Danny Passmore of the Hall in Waco. Passmore said that Martin's name will go into the Hall with a permanent display that could soon be housed in the new wing of the Texas Sports Hall of Fame, which is also in Waco.

Martin, 26, has been a Midland police officer since August of 1998, but he teaches classes at the Ta Ch'u Academy at 3402 Thomason. Martin teaches the White Tiger Martial Arts (Baek Ho Kwan), and it is in the teaching area where he received his nomination for the Hall honors.

"Persons selected for the Texas Martial Arts Hall of Fame are nominated by Black Belts statewide," Martin said. "I didn't even know I was nominated. I was nominated by Master William McDonald, who was inducted into the Hall in 1998. He is a close friend of mine and shares some of the things I'm trying to do in the teaching area."

Martin has been involved with the martial arts for 12 years, starting in 1988 while living in Oklahoma City, Okla. He moved to Midland in February of 1997.

"I got interested in the martial arts like a lot of people — by see-

ing Bruce Lee movies," Martin said. "I watched him and said, 'I want to do that.' Everyone has their own agenda when they start. Some want weight training, some want the fighting and some are seeking self discipline. That's what's great about this sport. There are so many levels of interest. It has something for just about anyone."

The reason Martin will earn Hall recognition, however, comes from his new methods of teaching martial arts.

"The methods of teaching the martial arts are from the stone age," Martin said. "We're trying to change the way it is taught and not what it teaches."

"We've tried to apply training techniques to the martial arts to the way law enforcement and the military teach. They are light years ahead because they have the focus of going into combat. What we do goes with the ancient and tested techniques of martial arts. Our techniques are for any age, any sex and any size. Our training is not size specific but person specific. We keep it on an individual level. We don't expect the same results from each individual."

Martin has been teaching since 1993, and obviously, his teaching has been noticed across the state.

"My style is freestyle submission fighting," Martin said. "It's a no hold barred way to train our students."

Martin teaches classes from the seventh grade and up during his off time from duty at the Midland Police Department. That limits the number of classes he can teach, but he seems to have gotten the most out of his spare time. He will soon be a Hall of Famer.



Martin

Instant replay returns to NFL

Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. — Instant replay is getting so popular among NFL owners that they may want to keep it for good.

Teams voted 28-3 to continue the system reinstated last season. Replay, which returned after a seven-year absence, will be exactly the same: Coaches will get two challenges per game, and a replay official can stop play on his own for a challenge in the last two minutes of each half.

The vote emboldened its proponents, particularly among the coaches.

"Next year is the pivotal year," said Minnesota's Dennis Green, the new co-chairman of the competition committee. "If things go

smoothly next season, it may be time to put it on a permanent basis."

That may be hard.

Replay, first instituted for the 1986 season, has always been renewed on a yearly basis, both from 1987-91 and the past two years. That has meant it needs three-fourths of the teams, currently 24 of 31, for approval. If it goes in permanently, it would take three-fourths of the teams to repeal it, a step many may not be willing to take given some of the controversial calls last season.

Cincinnati and Arizona also voted against it for the second straight year. Kansas City replaced the New York Jets as the third dissenter.

"Human nature doesn't change, and it's

humans who run these machines," said Cincinnati's Mike Brown, who has voted against replay every time it has been proposed.

Commissioner Paul Tagliabue was non-committal.

Owners also passed a new rule mandating fines for celebrations by two or more players. The vote on that was 30-0 with one abstention — the St. Louis Rams, whose players pioneered the "bob and weave" celebration en route to their Super Bowl victory.

In additional action, the NFL voted to consolidate its Internet presence into NFL.com. Internet revenue will be equally divided among the 31 teams, just as television revenues are, for the next two years, then the issue will be reviewed.

'HOUNDS REPORT

'Hounds get ready to howl

The Midland RockHounds open their minor league baseball season April 6 by hosting the San Antonio Missions at Christensen Stadium, and tickets are now on sale for all home games.

The RockHounds go into their second season as Double-A affiliates of the Oakland Athletics. Their first season was successful enough, as the team posted the

fourth-highest win total in the Midland Double-A team's 28-year history.

The Texas League has a new look for 2000. The Jackson Generals have moved to Round Rock — just north of Austin — and since Nolan Ryan owns the team, it is naturally called the Express. The Round Rock team is still an affiliate of the Houston Astros, and it makes its Midland debut April 12, starting a four-game series.

The Texas League's Western Division is now an all-Texas division, with Midland, Round Rock,

El Paso and San Antonio. The Eastern Division includes the Texas Rangers-affiliated Tulsa Drillers, as well as Wichita, Shreveport and Arkansas. The Drillers make their first visit to Midland on June 6, starting a four-game series.

Each Eastern team will make two visits to Midland instead of one (as in 1999), allowing for shorter series and more variety of opponents through the 140-game season — 70 of which are at home. The 'Hounds play only two six-game series all year, including the season-

opening set with San Antonio. All other series are four-gamers.

Ticket prices are unchanged from 1999: \$7 for box seats; \$6 for reserved seats; and \$5 for general admission. Seniors and children aged 6-12 can sit in general admission for \$2.50, while kids 5-under get in free (with a ticket-buying adult).

Tickets are available at Christensen Stadium at Loop 250 and Lamesa Road in Midland. Ticket office hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, plus all day on days of home games.

Staff Report

TULSA, Okla. — The Midland College women's golf team finished third at the Oral Roberts University Women's Invitational, which was completed Tuesday at Broken Arrow Golf and Athletic Club.

The Lady Chaps compiled a 326 on Tuesday for a two-day total of 651. That was 33 strokes behind tournament winner Arkansas-Little Rock but only one shot behind Oral Roberts in second place. North Texas finished fourth, two shots behind Midland College, which was the only two-year college at the tournament.

MC's Linzi Morton tied for first in the medalist standings 153. She tied with two Arkansas-Little Rock players, Maria Jose Hurtado and Lauri Vescevo. Coincidentally, all three of them shot 75 on Monday and 78 on Tuesday.

MC's Pam Mackay tied for sixth place at 79-79-158. Vanessa Cody was 27th at 89-83-172. Krystal Mehaffey (88-86-174) and Renee Gonzales (83-91-174) tied for 30th.

Team scores: 1. Arkansas-Little Rock, 302-316-618; 2. Oral Roberts, 325-325-650; 3. Midland College, 325-326-651; 4. North Texas, 320-333-653; 5. Northeastern Oklahoma State, 320-337-657; 6. Texas-Pan American, 355-343-698; 7. Missouri-Kansas City, 344-356-700; 8. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, 356-347-703; 9. Centenary College, 355-363-718; 10. Truman State, 369-360-729.

Cowboys bring QB Justin in as backup

Associated Press

IRVING — The Dallas Cowboys have nailed down their highest-remaining offseason priority by signing Paul Justin to a one-year deal to back up Troy Aikman.

Justin, 31, and Mike Quinn will fight for the backup quarterback spot vacated when Jason Garrett signed with the New York Giants. Justin agreed Tuesday for the \$440,000 veteran minimum, but will get \$500,000 if he makes the team.

Justin is a six-year veteran who spent last season with the Super Bowl champion St. Louis Rams. The system used there is similar to the one being installed by new offensive coordinator Jack Reilly. Justin is the third player added to the offense in recent months,

joining receiver Joey Galloway and tight end Jackie Harris. On defense, the Cowboys have signed cornerback Ryan McNeil and end Dimitris Underwood, plus resigned tackle Alonzo Spellman and safety George Teague.

Broncos release Brister, former Elway heir-apparent
DENVER — Quarterback Bubba Brister, once the heir-apparent to John Elway, was waived by the Denver Broncos.

Brister led the Broncos to a 4-0 record as a replacement for Elway during the 1998 Super Bowl-winning season.

The Broncos, rumored to be interested in San Francisco 49er quarterback Steve Young, signed former-Detroit Lion Gus Frerotte in early March.

COACH: Cope leaves MHS for Timpson

(From 1C)

ist for head coaching jobs at Fort Stockton, Tahoka and Clyde. "Coaching is an ambitious job."

"Midland is lucky that it has the high school coaches that it does. People from around the state know you are in a district like 4-5A and know you can coach."

"I have learned a lot of good things about being a head football coach from Coach Browning," Cope added. "It has been my advantage to work with him."

It could be said that Cope, the son of a football coach, was destined to move on. Since graduating from the University of Houston (where he was a student assistant at age 19), he has coached at Ranger Junior College, West Alabama and the Birmingham team of the Canadian Football League. As he says, "this is not my first rodeo." It won't even be his first one in that part of the state. Cope's father was a football coach

in Center (15 miles from Timpson).

It should be a fun rodeo, though.

Timpson, like Midland High, finished the 1999 regular season with a 7-3 record and missed the postseason. Unlike the Bulldogs, the Bears did make the playoffs this season before, after recording a 3-7 record. It is an area with talent to work with and much more. Timpson returns nine total starters, and the school district is building new facilities. Cope says the top three teams (varsity, junior varsity and eighth grade) combined for a 22-6 record.

"They expect to win and win with class," Cope said. "Those are things that people around here have seen with what we have done at Midland High."

"I have the ability to change the attitude of the program. The town wants to have discipline and direction, because they have the talent."

Cope's record with talent is pretty good. As MHS' head track coach, he took the program from the basement to the penthouse, winning

the school's first district title in 44 years and first-ever region championship. The year before Cope arrived, MHS scored single-digits at the district meet.

"Anytime you go somewhere, you want to leave it better than when you got there," Cope said. "It will be in good shape for years to come."

"Since Mr. (principal Neil) Richmond and Coach Browning have come to Midland High, its entire athletic program is better."

Cope has a wife (Kristi). They have one daughter of seven months (Kelci).

Coaching Notes: Browning said that Todd Peterman, the receivers coach, will become the new quarterbacks coach. A new wide receivers coach is expected to be announced soon... Byron West, a head coach from Blanchard, Okla., will fill the vacancy left by Adams. That leaves one opening left. Browning again said that would be filled soon... MHS starts spring practice April 26...

TRACK: AHS shows its speed in San Angelo

(From 1C)

ever, has taken its toll on the team. Lee has fewer kids, and therefore, is scoring fewer points.

"That was a good group," Jay said. "But part of having fewer girls is that we are closer. We are friends."

Is it different for Jay? No doubt about it. Two seasons ago, Lee won the Dale Curry Invitational and 4-5A Championships at Ratliff Stadium. Last Friday, they scored 28 points at this past weekend's Dale Curry meet. Jay had 15 of those. There is an adjustment.

"I am trying to concentrate on individual events because we don't have the number of people to win a meet," Jay said. "It is a lot more personal."

Not to say that Jay will not sacrifice herself for the good of the team. After running preliminaries and finals of the hurdles races last week in the one day meet in Odessa, Jay grabbed a baton and ran a leg of the 1,600-meter relay. That is five of the tougher track

races in a span of six hours.

"I thought she would not be worth killing on the mile relay," Smith said. "But she ran just one second slower than she normally does. She is one tough girl."

However, it is in the 100 hurdles that Jay is expected to be a factor when district comes around. Friday, she won the event in a time of 16.17 seconds, a personal best. In doing so, she put herself with the top hurdlers in the district. She went from fifth to third on the 4-5A list, and by slaying almost a second off her previous best, she now is .31 of a second behind the second-ranked runner.

"I am trying to get out (of district). My time keeps improving every week," Jay said.

Jay only has one more meet to get that time even further down before the district meet. That will be next Friday at the Tall City Invitational.

Abilene High makes big statement: After last weekend's San Angelo Relays, it is quite

clear that the Abilene High boys will join Permian as the teams to beat in District 4-5A.

Despite finishing third in the meet, which Permian won, AHS took third in the 400-meter relay (the highest 4-5A finisher) and won the 1,600-meter relay with a blistering time of 3 minutes, 15.47 second (a meet record).

The Eagles are soaring, especially Jonathan Johnson, who

along with Roy Williams, might be one of the most dominant athletes in the district, no matter the sport. The scary thing about Johnson, who set a meet record in the 800 (1:54.32) and won the 400 meters (47.38) by almost two seconds, is that he is a junior.

Midland teams take a break: The Midland teams are off this weekend. They will run next Friday at the Tall City Invitational.

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BUSINESS & OIL

Stocks/6C

BUSINESS BRIEFING

OIL PRICES	
Wednesday	\$26.36
Previous	\$27.09
POSTED	
Wednesday	\$23.75
Previous	\$24.50

NATURAL GAS	
Wednesday	\$2.950
Previous	\$2.963

Crude falls

Crude oil and other energy futures prices fell sharply Wednesday on the New York Mercantile Exchange as the market continued to react to OPEC's decision to increase production and Iran's decision to go along with the other members of the cartel.

Mexico, one of the leading oil producers not in the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, also plans to increase output. The expectation is that Norway on Thursday will also announce a production increase.

Iran, OPEC's second-largest producer after Saudi Arabia, had refused to join in the cartel's latest production increase, a decision made after a two-day meeting in Vienna, Austria. However, Iran's OPEC representative said Wednesday his country would not give up market share to other members, prompting a reversal of its stance.

Gold decline

Gold futures declined as bullion sales in Europe increased as investors moved to the dollar.

April gold was \$4 lower at \$275.50 a troy ounce, May silver was 12.4 cents lower at \$4.98 a troy ounce.

Dollar gains

NEW YORK — The dollar gained further against the euro but slipped against the Japanese yen on Wednesday, hurt by news of a stronger-than-expected rise in industrial production in Japan last month.

The dollar was mixed against other major European currencies.

In late New York trading, the euro was quoted at 95.17 cents, down from 96.13 cents late Tuesday, falling against the dollar for a second day in a row.

But the dollar fell to 105.81 Japanese yen from 105.88 yen Tuesday. Yen buyers were encouraged by the industrial output data, which suggested that parts of Japan's ailing economy may be moving toward recovery.

Stocks tumble

NEW YORK — Technology stocks tumbled for a third consecutive session Wednesday, dragging the Nasdaq composite lower and providing the only blemish on a broad-based advance by the Dow Jones industrials.

The technology-dominated Nasdaq composite index fell 189.22 to close at 4,644.67. Seven Nasdaq stocks fell for every three that rose.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 82.61 to close at 11,018.72.

Broader stock indicators were mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 rose 0.79 to 1,508.52. The Russell 2000 index, which measures the performance of smaller companies, dropped 16.61 to 543.00.

Cattle up

April live cattle were up .03 cent to 73.05 cents a pound; May feeder cattle rose .20 cent to 84.57 cents a pound; June lean hogs rose 1.40 cents to 71.92 cents a pound; and May pork bellies were up the limit 3 cents to 91.85 cents a pound.

Wrong Social Security numbers top tax errors

WASHINGTON (AP) — As Americans enter the stretch run of the dreaded tax filing season, it is easy in the last-minute rush to make mistakes or misunderstand the law. The most common mistake: putting down the wrong Social Security number. The top myth: believing that tax law is an exact science with yes-or-no answers to every question.

"Tax law is subject to interpretation based on factual situations," said Sanford Warren, a tax accounting instructor at Millsaps College in Jackson, Miss. "Always establish the facts first and then ask the questions."

Warren and Richard Davis, an accounting professor at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pa., are both former Internal Revenue Service officials who have compiled lists of the top mistakes and myths encountered year in and year out by taxpayers. This year's filing deadline of midnight April 17 is fast approaching, and millions of people have yet to file.

To the IRS, Social Security numbers are the coin of the realm — they establish a taxpayer's identity and those of any dependents. Taxpayers often transpose numbers or forget to let the Social Security Administration know when a woman

marries and changes her name, which can lead to a computer mismatch that raises a red flag at the IRS.

People also frequently fail to put a child's Social Security number on the forms, which is needed to claim a dependent exemption, a child care credit or the earned income tax credit.

Last year, out of roughly 125 million returns, the IRS got nearly 1.7 million with a Social Security mistake. "That's the top math error we see," agency spokesman Don Roberts said. The IRS will notify taxpayers about the mistake and allow it to be corrected over the phone, but it can slow down a refund.

Other frequent tax errors:

— Making math miscalculations, particularly among lower-income people who claim the complicated earned income tax credit. For taxpayers who are not using a computer or a tax professional, Davis and Warren say careful double-checking of the math is essential.

— Forgetting to sign and date the tax return. If a joint return is being filed, both spouses must sign even if one had no

income to report.

■ Failing to attach all the proper paperwork, such as a W-2 form.

■ Reporting income in the wrong place. For example, many people report earnings from money market funds as interest when the IRS can consider them a dividend. "The IRS computer will think that you underreported your income in the amount of the missing dividends — and you will be receiving unwanted mail," Davis said.

■ Unnecessarily declaring a state tax refund from last year as income. It is not.

People also believe a number of myths about tax law and what happens when they file their tax returns.

For instance, people frequently delay filing a tax return past the April deadline because they believe they must have all the money in hand before the paperwork can go to the IRS. In fact, a taxpayer should always file the return as soon as possible to avoid penalties, although interest will be charged on the amount due.

"Willful failure to file a return is a federal crime," Davis warned.

The IRS also has a number of options now for people who cannot pay, such as payment over the telephone by credit card and easily approved installment agree-

ments. Sometimes taking out a loan is better than paying IRS interest rates.

Some other tax myths:

■ "People who owe zero taxes don't need to file." Not necessarily, because workers who had taxes withheld from their paychecks may be due a refund.

■ "The IRS can go back many years to audit my returns." The statute of limitations is three years, unless fraud is involved.

■ "I must do whatever the IRS tells me, even if I disagree." Taxpayers can request a meeting with IRS managers to contest an agent's conclusion, take their case to the Taxpayer Advocate or the agency's appeals process. The U.S. Tax Court is another avenue for taxpayers to bring disputes with the IRS.

■ "I got a refund, so I know the IRS won't audit me." A refund is not a sign that the IRS agrees with a tax return, only that the math is correct. An audit can still occur within three years.

■ "Child support payments are tax deductible." Not so. Alimony payments are, however, and the recipient has to declare them as income.

A frosty split?



AP Photos
Jerry Greenfield, left, and Ben Cohen scoop ice cream cones during their 20th anniversary party in Burlington, Vt., in this May 5, 1998 photo. LEFT: The business duo stands in front of their "Scoopmobile" in 1986.

Ben & Jerry's stock soars as company considers going private, reports claim

By Ross Snyed
Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vt. — Denying reports of frosty relations that might add a Ben & Jerry's Split to their quirky ice cream lineup, Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield say they are better friends than ever amid talk that Cohen is taking the company private without Greenfield.

Shares of the company that makes flavors like Cherry Garcia, Phish Food and Chunky Monkey soared almost 15 percent Wednesday as Ben & Jerry's Homemade Inc. confirmed it has received a takeover offer but denied its board had approved a deal.

The company's statement followed a report Wednesday in The New York Times that Ben & Jerry's would go private in a \$260 million deal that could pay stockholders \$38 a share.

Ben & Jerry's stock surged \$4.40 to close at \$34.37 1/2 a share on the Nasdaq Stock Market, almost \$3 above its previous 52-week high.

Ben & Jerry's stock has traded as low as \$15 a share in the past year.

"If I were a shareholder, I would jump at it," said financial analyst Lewis H. Alton of L.H. Alton & Co. in San Francisco.

The report said Cohen, who currently controls about 1 million shares of Ben & Jerry's, would take a 36 percent stake in

the company. It said Meadowbrook Lane Capital, an investors group describing itself as socially responsible, would get a similar share and Unilever, a British-Dutch company that owns Breyer's ice cream and Good Humor bars, would take 28 percent.

None of the principals in the reported deal would discuss it Wednesday. Ben & Jerry's confirmed that a proposed deal involving Cohen, Meadowbrook and Unilever had been presented to its board last Thursday.

"There are a number of unresolved issues that would need to be agreed upon before such a transaction could be presented for its definitive approval," the company's statement said. "There can be no assurance that these issues will be resolved or that such a transaction will, in fact, be approved by the board."

The deal reportedly would leave Greenfield out of the reorganized company. The New York Times reported that had created a rift between Cohen and Greenfield, the irreverent ex-hippies who founded the company in a converted gasoline station in Burlington 22 years ago, but Ben & Jerry's officials denied it.

"Recent rumors of a rift? We have been friends since we met over 35 years ago in junior high school, where we were the two slowest, fattest kids in our gym class. Today we are slower and fatter and better friends than ever. We expect that trend to continue," said a joint statement issued by Cohen and Greenfield.

Commerce Department: Sales of new homes robust despite higher interest rates

By Jeannine Aversa
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Americans bought fewer new homes in February as mortgage rates rose, yet the level of sales remained robust overall, leaving economists to marvel at the housing sector's resilience.

The Commerce Department reported Wednesday that sales of new homes fell by an unexpected 0.5 percent last month but the seasonally adjusted annual rate was 919,000, a level was higher than expectations.

"Builders must be in heaven as new home sales remained incredibly robust in February," said economist Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisors. "So far there has yet to be any major pullback in new home demand."

Even with the decrease, February's sales were 2.9 percent higher than the

total in February 1999.

With plentiful jobs, rising incomes, the strong stock markets and low inflation, Americans are feeling well-off and in a position to buy even though mortgage rates have gone up, National Association of Home Builders economist Michael Carliner said.

Prospective home buyers also have many financing options, including adjustable rate mortgages, which carry a lower interest rate than traditional 30-year and 15-year fixed-rate mortgages and which consumers easily can refinance if rates fall.

Ken Mayland, president of ClearView Economics, cited those options in explaining why he believes higher mortgage rates have not significantly dampened demand.

Last week, the Federal Reserve raised interest rates for the fifth time since June

30 to slow the supercharged economy and keep inflation from becoming a problem. Those actions raised borrowing costs for millions of consumers and businesses.

Given the outlook for strong continuing growth, many analysts expect the central bank will raise rates again May 16.

"Confident or maybe overconfident homebuyers are pressing forward even in the face of steadily rising rates — much like they did in the early 1980s before the real estate boom busted," said Oscar Gonzalez, economist with John Hancock. "It seems (Federal Reserve Chairman Alan) Greenspan and the Fed will have to ratchet up the pain before homebuyers back off."

The average rate on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage in February was 8.33 percent, up from 8.21 percent the month

before. In February 1999, the average rate on a 30-year mortgage was 6.81 percent.

Sales of new homes rose a revised 0.3 percent in January to a rate of 924,000, the highest level since July. That was much stronger showing than the 4.2 percent decline the government previously reported. Economists blamed the big revision on on volatility in the data.

In February, sales rose a strong 15.6 percent in the Midwest to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 170,000. Sales in the Northeast grew by 1.2 percent to a rate of 86,000. But sales in the West fell by 10.7 percent to a rate of 234,000 and sales in the South fell by 0.2 percent to a rate of 429,000.

Meanwhile, the median price of a new home — meaning half sold for more and half sold for less — rose to \$162,000, up 2.5 percent from January's price of \$158,000.

THE ECONOMIST

While growth in agriculture industry is expected, it could be minimal

By M. Ray Perryman

A business associate came to my offices from his hometown of Baltimore last month and could not wait to get his hands on a pair of boots — real, Texas cowboy boots. He asked me what kind of boots I wore, and I had to admit my closet boasted plenty of loafers and running shoes, but a mere single pair of Ropers. It amazes me that some of those from outside the state still think the Texas' economy is based solely on cattle ranching and cotton farming.

I don't mean to say that the agriculture sector isn't important to the state; it is. In fact, the agriculture sector is setting records with its skyrocketing productivity. (Put simply, productivity is a measure of the amount of output per employee in an industry.) In 1979, each employee in the ag sector generated about \$28,700 dollars in real (inflation adjusted) output. In 1999, that figure rose to an estimated \$62,900. That increase is one of the fastest productivity gains you'll find anywhere. Furthermore, it's expected to continue



Perryman

well into the future.

The bottom line is today's farmers can do more with less labor. The equipment is better, and the level of knowledge is growing. Employment in the sector has fluctuated over the past decades, reaching an estimated 139,400 in 1999 (less than 1.5 percent of total Texas wage and salary employment). While ag employment is expected to grow slightly over the coming years, the growth is likely to be modest (particularly in light of the thousands of jobs generated in other sectors). Much of this work force actually earns its bread in agricultural services. Only about 50,000 or so are actually farm workers (there are also 800,000 or so farm proprietors).

Another trend is rising costs. While some farmers and ranchers are making decent (to very good) incomes, a number of variables are involved in the equation. The costs of land and equipment have risen, often at a pace outstripping the hikes in the prices of crops and livestock sold. It now takes more cattle sold, for example, to buy a pickup truck than it did in years past.

Moreover, starting up in farming can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, even for a relatively small operation. Many of the farmers and ranchers now making money are using land bought and paid for by prior generations, equipment shared with other family members, capital earned in other occupations, and/or

know-how gained from an early age. Federal subsidies and crop insurance programs also contribute to the incomes of many farmers.

The current drought situation is alarming, and its potential effects extend to virtually every Texan. Almost all parts of the state are experiencing drought conditions as we go to press; it will take more than a few inches of rain to recharge water supplies. The Texas Agricultural Extension Service estimates that \$319 million in losses have already been experienced (last fall through mid-March). Rain over the coming months is crucial to stemming the losses; unfortunately, the La Nina situation (a key factor in the current dry weather) may persist through the summer.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) estimates farm incomes nationwide will drop in 2000 by almost \$8 billion from 1999 levels; the drop stems from both drought problems and low commodity prices. To survive and prosper in the decades to come, several potential solutions have been offered. (It remains to be seen whether these can actually become workable answers.)

One suggestion calls for farmers and ranchers to diversify, protecting them to some extent from the vagaries of the markets for specific crops or livestock. Other recommendations include growing specialty crops (such as cut flowers) and offering land for recreational uses (such as hunting, and nature tourism). Also,

farmers and ranchers have been encouraged to work toward increasing the value of what they produce through advanced farm management techniques.

Today's ag sector is changing in ways that will ultimately bring greater economic efficiencies.

The current drought may quicken the pace of change, as the less economically viable farms and ranches are swallowed up into larger operations or sold for various purposes.

Some farmers and ranchers who have been barely hanging on are leaving the industry, often to find lower stress and higher incomes.

The trend toward larger firms has been seen in dozens of industries; it just makes sense from an economic perspective to go with the lowest-cost producer. Take retail, for example. The days of the mom-and-pop grocery store are long gone.

Now, small specialty shops are replaced by mammoth discount superstores. The change isn't always easy — and can be devastating for the individuals involved — but it is inevitable and, from the perspective of the overall economy, beneficial.

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Tkr	Name	Last Chg	MWHS	BayCompt	20 -2%	CVR	OnPivot	21%	+1%	EZR	Easyridr	1%	-1%	IGVE	GrovePip	12%	+1%	IVX	IvaxCp	5	-1%	RPW	MSM001	6%	PN	Pennaco	13%	+1	SBI	SmbBin	8%	-1%	TP	TtanPm	36%	-2%		
AEN	ARC	5%	-1%	AW	Bellind	3%	-1%	CID	Chaf	17%	+1%	EVY	EVYMU	10%	+1%	SM	GrSmac	4%	+1%	JWG	JWGanes	15%	+1%	RPW <th>MSM001</th> <th>6%</th> <th>PN</th> <th>Pennaco</th> <th>13%</th> <th>+1</th> <th>SBI</th> <th>SmbBin</th> <th>8%</th> <th>-1%</th> <th>TP</th> <th>TtanPm</th> <th>36%</th> <th>-2%</th>	MSM001	6%	PN	Pennaco	13%	+1	SBI	SmbBin	8%	-1%	TP	TtanPm	36%	-2%
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NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

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Bracket busters, favorite Spartans share spotlight

By Steve Herman
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Thank parity for making a mockery of those NCAA office pools.

Just more than two weeks ago, Arizona, Stanford, Michigan State and Duke were the top seeds. Yet look what's happened.

Three of those teams are gone, and two teams that barely made it into the tournament are one victory from a shot at the national title.

The four teams that will play in the RCA Dome on Saturday have combined for 40 losses, the most since the NCAA tournament expanded to 64 teams in 1985.

"I think this will bother the NCAA a little bit, but you can throw the seedings right out the window anymore," Michigan State coach Tom Izzo said Wednesday.

Only the Spartans (30-7) have survived the March mayhem. In one semifinal, they face Big Ten rival Wisconsin, a No. 8 seed and a team they have beaten three times this year. In the other game, North Carolina, no stranger to the Final Four but unaccustomed to its lowly No. 8 seed, plays fifth-seeded Florida.

"I said all along I was never concerned about having the No. 1 seed because I knew the road there would be very difficult," Izzo said during a conference call of Final Four coaches. "I just think this is going to become the norm, not the exception, because there are so many good teams. It's so difficult to play."

Wisconsin, in the Final Four for the first time since it won the championship in 1941, finished sixth in

the Big Ten and made the tournament as at-large team. Same for North Carolina, whose 13 losses did not sit well with Tar Heels fans.

North Carolina and Wisconsin are the lowest seeds to reach the Final Four since No. 11 LSU in 1986.

"There's a lot of parity in college basketball, a lot of very good coaches and players, and consequently a lot of very good teams," North Carolina's Bill Guthridge said. "On a given day, when it's one game and you're out, a lot of top seeds are going to lose, and that's happened this year."

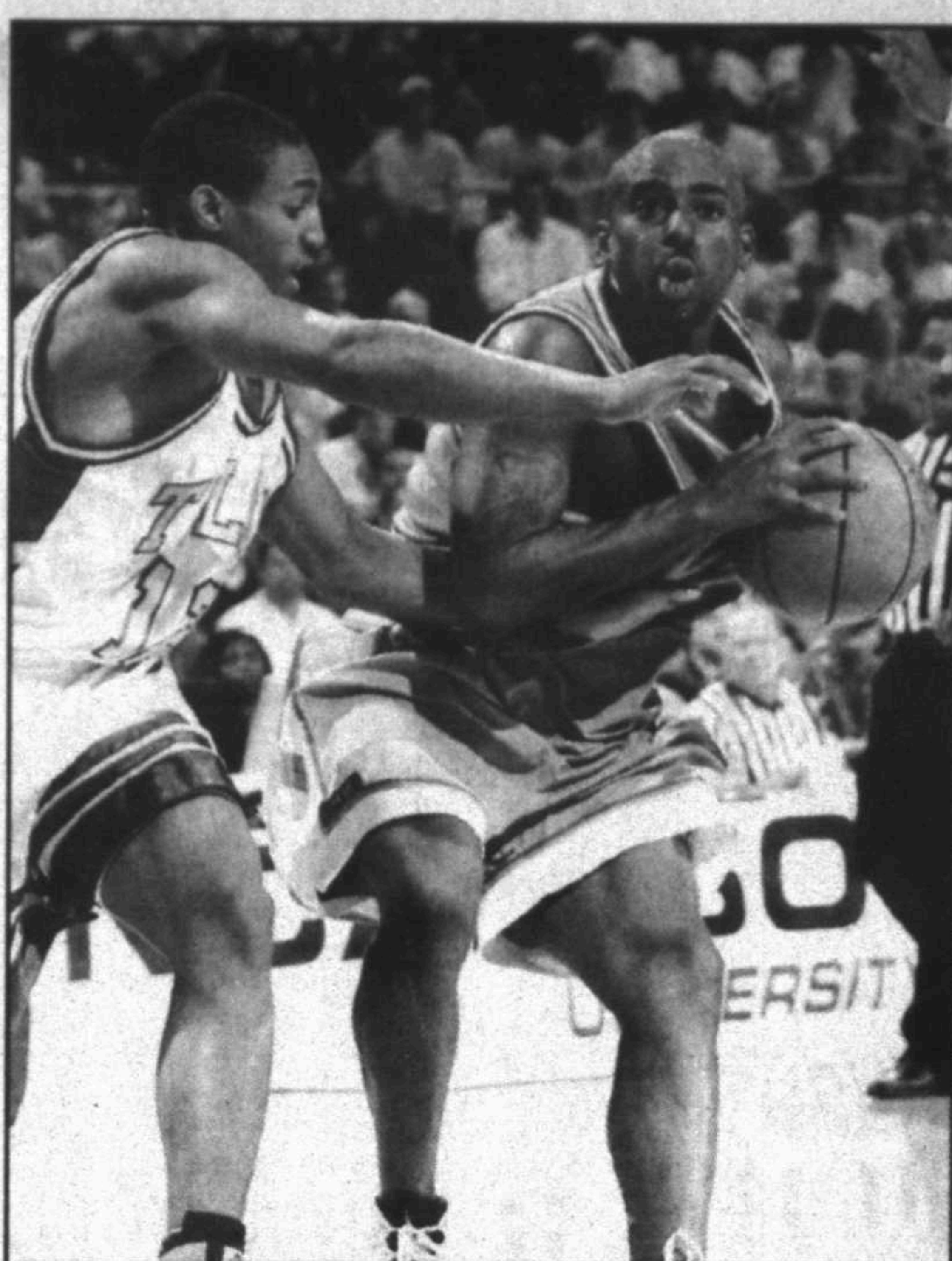
"I think it's good for college basketball. It's good for the game and good for interest in the tournament."

North Carolina (22-13), which lost to Duke in the final game of the regular season and then to Wake Forest in the Atlantic Coast Conference, took out Missouri, Stanford, Tennessee and Tulsa to reach the Final Four.

Florida (28-7) lost to Auburn in the second round of the Southeastern Conference tournament and barely got past Butler in overtime in its NCAA opener. The Gators then beat Illinois, stunned Duke and outlasted Oklahoma State.

Florida coach Billy Donovan, who played on the Providence team that lost to Syracuse in the 1987 semifinals, dismisses North Carolina's No. 8 seeding.

"What's so impressive to me about Carolina is that their team has gotten better and better and he (Guthridge) has gotten them to play their best basketball at the time of the year you want them



North Carolina's Ed Cota (right) is one of only three players in NCAA history with 1,000 career assists. The Tar Heel, however, realizes the semifinal against Florida on Saturday night might be his biggest challenge. "I definitely need help. I can't do it by myself," he said.

to do that," he said.

"We realize we're going against one of most storied and tradition-rich programs in college basketball. And in looking at Carolina, one thing you realize is they're a great team regardless of seeding."

The last champion with more than 10 losses was Kansas, which was beaten 11 times in 1988.

This year, Wisconsin (22-13) lost to Michigan State twice in the regular season and again in the Big Ten tournament. The Badgers then beat Fresno State, Arizona, LSU and Purdue, using their trademark pressing defense to hold each of them to no more than 60 points.

"The perception of us playing

ugly has been kind of a buzzword for a few years," Wisconsin coach Dick Bennett said. "When we lose, I guess it's really ugly. But I always felt working for good shots and playing team defense and taking care of the ball is the way you play."

Bennett said the basketball world is shrinking and teams are beginning to resemble each other.

"Kids from small towns are doing the things kids in the city do," he said. The East and West coasts are much closer now. Parity really has come about. There are certain teams that are better than others, but the top has moved closer to the bottom, or vice versa."

More Sports/1D

GORDON COMES TO LEE

Doug Gordon's Basketball Career

■ Played his high school basketball at Class 5A R.L. Turner High School, graduating in 1982.

■ Played his college basketball at McMurry in Abilene, the same alma mater as Jon House, graduating in 1986.

■ Did his student teaching in the Abilene Independent School District.

■ Became an assistant basketball coach at Breckenridge under Tommy Miller in 1988. Miller went on to take Tulsa to state twice. Miller and Gordon made the playoffs in the second year.

■ Got his first head basketball coaching position at Stanton nine years ago.

■ Became the head basketball coach at Midland Lee on March 29, 2000.

Gordon Notables

■ Owns a 174-78 (.691) overall record as a head basketball

coach.

■ Owns six district titles, five bi-district titles, four area titles, three region appearances, one region finals.

■ Has been named Coach of the Year 10 times.

■ Has coached five postseason first team All-State players (Kyle Herm, Kenneth McCallister, Leo McCallister, Marcus Washington and Jason Hopper. Jeremy Hull was also a preseason All-State pick. He has also coached six TABC Academic All-State players.

■ Gordon is also proud of Stanton's football success, noting that the Buffs under head football coach Mark Cotton is 57-9. Gordon coached offensive line and linebackers. Gordon also had a 46-5 record in junior varsity football where he called the plays and three undefeated seasons.

■ Gordon and his wife, Melissa, have two children, a daughter, Shelby, 4; and a son, Colby, 1.

REBEL: Lee hires 3rd head basketball coach

(From 1C)

of the premier jobs in the state. They do well in all sports.

"And that's what I'm about. I think success breeds success."

Gordon will probably begin his duties at Lee on April 10 and that's when he will go eye-to-eye with the current Lee basketball players.

"I have to be released from Stanton, but I don't think that is going to be a problem. So, I'll probably start on April 10," Gordon said. "This will be a time when I familiarize myself with the players and them with me. We'll spend some time on what we need to establish for the rest of this off-season and what they have to do this summer."

The highly likable Gordon has had a lot of success in Stanton. His teams have been state play-off bound in seven of nine seasons and has won or shared the district championship six times.

His teams have gained Region I status three times and was just one step away from gaining a Final Four berth in 1999 when his Buffaloes lost to Wellington, 68-62, in the Region 1-3A finals in Abilene.

This past season, Gordon's Buffs carried a 21-7 record, advancing to the region quarterfinals before losing to a tough Hale Center team, 65-45. Stanton didn't win a district title this year. That honor went to Tahoka, but the Buffs still made a strong showing despite being in somewhat of a rebuilding year.

"Gordon's our man," said Midland athletic director Tim Whalen. "He'll do a good job and we are excited to have him aboard."

One thing Gordon will be used to at Lee is an extended football season. There were several seasons where Stanton had to cancel early season games while the Buffs were on the state play-off trail in football. Consistently his basketball season didn't start until just before Christmas.

He won't have that problem at Lee. He will always have enough players to start a season, but he will be used to getting a few football players late.

In 1997, the year Stanton won the Class 2A state championship

in football which went up to Christmas, Gordon had only one player that didn't play football. It wouldn't have mattered anyway. Gordon was an assistant football coach at Stanton, another factor he won't have to worry about at Lee. By the way, he won a district title that season, rolling into the state playoffs once again.

"I understand late," Gordon said. "There were two years (1997 and 1998) when Stanton won the state football title and went to the semifinals the following year and we didn't start playing until after Christmas."

"Lee is much the same way in football, but I still want the best athletes I can put on the floor. I've gotten players late, and in many respects, I think it helps. I know that when the basketball playoffs came around for us at Stanton, the kids were used to the playoff pressure and it just didn't bother them. I won't be coaching football at Lee, but I want to see all programs do well. I'll be a football fan."

Gordon is also not intimidated by the move from Class 2A competition to Class 5A.

"My background is in 5A," Gordon noted. "I played my high school basketball at (Carrollton) R.L. Turner against the Planos and Richardsons. That's how I went through school."

"I know there will be a period of adjustment, but I don't really see a problem."

Even though Gordon is excited about his move to Lee, he has already encountered some sad moments in Stanton.

"I talked with three of my seniors today (Wednesday) and I'm trying to reach a couple of others," Gordon said. "I can tell you that this is an emotional time. We've been through a lot of play-off games together and that part is tough. I will have a meeting with all the players tomorrow (Thursday) morning."

Gordon says that filling his post in Stanton shouldn't be a difficult task.

"Stanton has five kids back who can play the game," Gordon said. "I'm sure Stanton will get a lot of great resumes because of the program we have built here."

Injured French skater wins bronze

Associated Press

NICE, France — Overcoming the shock of a razor attack, France's Stephane Bernadis and Sarah Abitbol won the bronze Wednesday at the World Figure Skating Championships, where Michelle Kwan struggled on her jumps and finished second in qualifying.

Bernadis, given a pain reliever before he skated, showed no obvious difficulty from the eight-inch cut down his left forearm inflicted a day earlier by an unknown assailant.

The French couple's medal brought to a grateful close a star-crossed pairs competition that started with the defending champions' forced doping withdrawal.

The problem-plagued championships finally focused purely on sport, with Kwan holding back on a triple-triple combination. She

wound up behind her main rival, Irina Slutskaya, in their qualifying group.

Both she and Slutskaya performed six triple jumps, and neither fell. But after Kwan's rather flat program to "Red Violin," and scaled down triple-double and double salchow, Slutskaya didn't even bother to put in either of her triple jump combinations.

No one could afford to hold back too much — not with top contenders Kwan and Slutskaya skating back-to-back in the talent-packed first group. Though she admitted being driven by the rivalry, Kwan tried to play it down.

"As I've always said, when you're out there it's just you and a big ice surface," Kwan said. "It does help knowing I've got to be my best. You can only think of yourself."

Americans Sarah Hughes and Angela Nikodinov finished third and fifth, respec-

tively, in the Kwan-Slutskaya group.

Defending champion Maria Butyrskaya easily led the second qualifying group with six triples, but she put her hand down on a double axel.

The uneventful women's qualifying round was a welcome, if brief, respite from the office intrigue and distractions that have overshadowed the pairs event.

Backed by a raucous French crowd, the pair had just one mistake: Abitbol two-footed a triple throw landing when Bernadis' grip was slightly off. He emphasized it was his hand — not arm — that missed the mark.

The pairs title went to Maria Petrova and Alexei Tikhonov, who skated nearly perfectly to Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" — except his double toe-loop when she tripled. China's Shen Xue and Zhao Hongbo finished second.

TABC: Johnston makes all-state squad

(From 1C)

for MHS his senior season as the Bulldogs advanced to the Region I-5A quarterfinals.

Recently Johnston was invited to play in the TABC All-Star game and the Texas High School Coaches Association All-Star game. Both are regarded as two of the premier all-star games in the state for graduating seniors.

The 6-foot-1 guard was also selected as District 4-5A's Most Valuable Player for the 2000

season.

Johnston is the first player to make the MHS varsity as a freshman since the 1950s. He started three of those years after seeing limited action as a freshman.

For two seasons, Johnston played somewhat under the shadows of Kirby Lemons, Charles Tatum and Jay Christian. But as a senior, he had to step up as the go-to guy on the court and responded with big numbers as his 23-point average would show.

His amazing feeds, stunning dribbling and accurate shooting easily made him the best player in the district.

Johnston has committed to play his college ball and Oklahoma University and will officially sign with OU in April.

Johnston has been coached all four years by MHS head basketball coach Jack Stephenson.

The only other area player mentioned on the list of all-stars is Seminole's Eric Sheets, a

junior, was a second team pick in Class 3A.

TABC Class 5A All-State First Team

Alton Ford, Sr., Houston Milby; Brian Bodderick, Sr., Duncanville; Jason Klotz, Sr., Klein Forest; Justin Harbert, Sr., San Antonio Tart; Ivan McFarlin, Sr., Willowridge; Garrett Richardson, Sr., El Paso Hanks; Blake Johnston, Sr., Midland High; Brandon Crump, Sr., Klein; Derrick Obasohan, Sr., Alief Elsik; Andre Emmett, Sr., Dallas Carter.

Second Team

Logan Kosmoleki, Sr., Eules Trinity; Corey Lamkin, Sr., San Antonio East Central; Eneke Okator, Jr., Houston Bellaire; Matt Sayman, Sr., The Colony; J.J. Montgomery, Sr., Lufkin; Nathan Doudney, Jr., Rockwall; Tim Burnette, Sr., Converse; Daniel Ewing, Jr., Willowridge; Adrian Hayes, Sr., Austin Crockett; Matt Williams, Jr., Temple.

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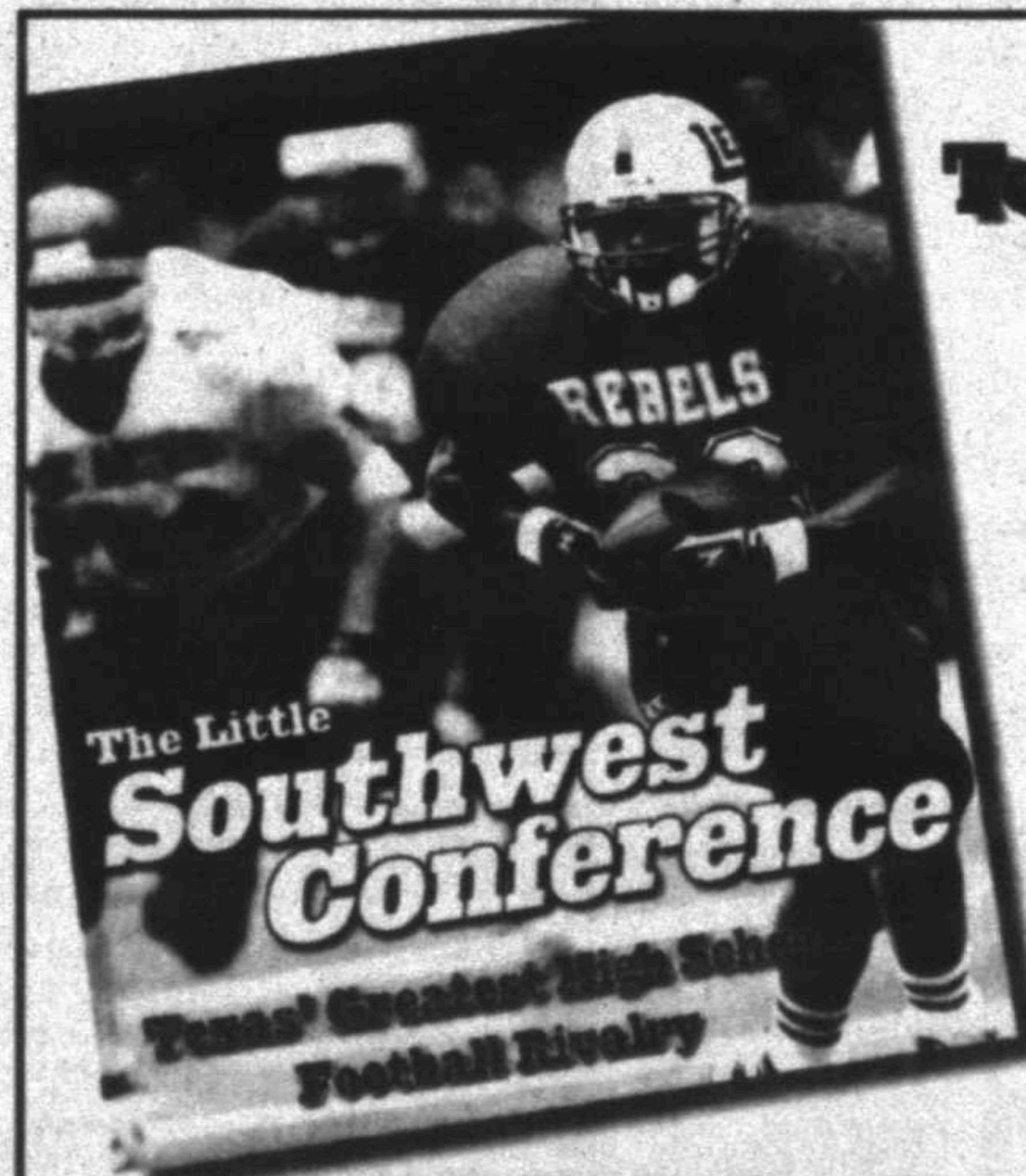
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Making feelings churn is the specialty of Spanish flamenco singer Martirio

By Lydia Martin
Knight Ridder Newspapers

MIAMI — It's stark afternoon, and Martirio, the flamenco singer with punk attitude, is knocking back a couple at the Sheraton Biscayne Bay with her band and hot Spanish director Fernando Trueba.

You have to wait forever while she says goodbye to Trueba, who's heading back home after premiering his latest film, "The Girl of Your Dreams," at the Miami Film Festival. Finally, Trueba leaves, and you have Martirio to yourself. By way of lunch, she asks for "un ronzo — y que sea viejo." A shot of rum — and make sure it's old. She can't find an ashtray, but no matter, the bread plate does the trick.

You consider asking her to take off her sunglasses, her trademark for years. She wears them on stage, on every CD cover, any time of day and night, inside and outside. Before you can get out your request, she pulls the glasses off with a throaty, "Now I can see you better."

Her eyes are dark green. Intense. She does this direct gaze thing to punctuate the moment. You never thought she'd take the

glasses off, you say. "I know," responds Martirio, as dramatic off stage as she is on. "I wear the sunglasses for the sake of the theatrical, for the sake of mystery. But also because they permit me to be Maribel Quinones (her real name) when I walk down the street. All I have to do is take them off and nobody knows it's me. People have talked about me while I've been standing right there. They have no idea it's me without the glasses."

Leave it to Martirio to twist the celebrity conceit. "I'd much rather wear disguises on stage. Because then when I'm just being me, I can take all the disguises off." Martirio, "martyrdom" in English, is still reeling from the night before, when she packed the house — twice — at the makeshift cabaret set up by the film festival in a hotel ballroom. It was her first time performing in Miami. In fact, she had never set foot in the United States before now. The audiences at both shows frothed.

"It was so exciting I couldn't sleep last night. I could not believe the response. I may be big in Spain, but this is my first time here. It seems audiences in Mia-

mi are hungry. Hungry for music that is real. For a singer who can break herself in two singing, for somebody who can make all of their feelings churn."

Making feelings churn is Martirio's specialty. As modern and edgy as she has been — she has blended traditional Spanish music with everything from rock to rap — her big thing is invoking that time-honored, scratch-to-the-core flamenco pathos. She's a singer's singer, the type who can deliver lyrics with the subtlety and impact of a master stage actor.

"One must give all of the weight to language that language deserves," says Martirio. "I have never cut myself off when it's come to feeling. That's why I call myself 'Martirio.' It means witness in Greek. I consider myself a witness in my lifetime. When music is truthful, experiencing it is like a spiritual cleansing. You listen to someone as authentic as Compay Segundo, or Chavela, great trees like those, and you walk out brand new, having run through every emotion, because they know how to take you there. That's what I always strive for."

You ask her to explain flamenco. She gives it to you as ode.

"It comes from the most profound happiness, the most profound sadness, the most profound pain. Flamenco is the type of music that can change your life, if you have the fortune to hear it at the right place, being sung to you by the right person. When it's happy, you are capable of dancing without knowing it. When it is painful, it is capable of making you feel like you are participating in a Mass. Above all else, it is a cry from deep, deep inside."

She takes that vibe into all of her music, infusing jazz, bolero and anything else with that over-the-top flamenco intensity. Not that she doesn't have a keen sense of humor. As dead serious as flamenco can be, she's not beyond camping it up. Catch her in her shades and her red flamenco dress with the silhouette of a bull across her chest and you'll get her punk side. Her latest record, "Flor de Piel," blends that flamenco emotion with some of Latin America's biggest songs. For her, it was an experiment in roots to redo Maria Grever's "Jurame," Bola de Nieve's "Si me Pudieras Querer." Carlos Gardel's "Volver" and Marta Valdes' "Hacia Donde."

"I wanted to blend Latin America with Spain, to find the place where the cultures meet. When you start to sing these great songs you realize that we are more united by the Atlantic than we are separated by it."

She went through 400 songs before she found the right ones. "They had to be songs where something happened. I have to believe every word of everything that I sing. To communicate as a singer, you have to be able to conjure all of your personal stuff. You have to be able to search yourself, and find yourself."

Right now, her big thing is Cuban music. She recently toured with Compay Segundo and others of "Buena Vista Social Club" fame. She's still breathless about having performed at Havana's Teatro Nacional.

"Imagine. I got to sing with Pio Leyva, Compay, Omara Portuondo. I got on my knees before Elena Burke and sang her 'Ojos Verdes.' There is a woman who can break herself in two singing, like any authentic flamenco artist."

So what is it about Cuban music?

"That is the island of music. I

have never seen greater humility, greater expertise, greater soul, greater heart in any music." But it is Cuba's old stuff, the kind of stuff dusted off by Buena Vista Social Club, that rocks Martirio.

"The ancient songs are the ones with the heart, anywhere. Now you have a lot of computers, and just about anybody can make a song. But very few can conjure the romanticism of the '20s, '30s, '40s. Now music is made for the sake of business. In the old days, people would get together and play for no good reason. They didn't need to be signing a contract or making a lot of money to play their instruments or to open their mouths. It's only when you do something for no good reason that you wind up with something that's for all time. That's why the music of the past can transcend so much."

Martirio finishes her cigarette and her rum, puts her glasses back on and bids you a dramatic goodbye.

"I have an altar at home, and I keep a plane and a ship can it. I'm going to go back and pray at my altar so that I can travel back here. You'll see me again very soon. Miami and I need each other."

'Reality TV' Peru style: Trashy shows entertain, distract during election year

LIMA, Peru (AP) — For \$20, two women stripped to their underwear in front of television cameras, then had buckets of slime-covered toads poured over their bodies to the hoots and whistles of the studio audience.

For \$20, three men raced to gobble down bowls of large, twitching, maggot-like tree grubs from the Amazon jungle.

For \$30, a woman licked the armpits and toes of a sweaty body builder who had not bathed for two days.

And some people think 50 women vying for a rich husband is a sick idea for a TV show.

The gross antics were part of "Laura en America," a talk show that gets great ratings in Peru but enrages critics.

This episode, "Anything for Money," aired late last year and has galvanized an alliance of feminist groups and human rights organizations in a drive to pull the plug on the program.

Host Laura Bozzo is Peru's highest rated TV talk-show host, known by fans as "Dr. Laura." She reigns as the most visible celebrity in a growing lineup of seamy "reality-based" tabloid TV shows that are becoming the norm for Peruvian programming. U.S. television also is experimenting with more "reality-based" shows, including Fox's recent "Who Wants to Marry a Multimillionaire," which the network said later had gone over the line.

Wilfredo Ardito, an attorney with Peru's Legal Defense Institute, a human rights group, says Bozzo's show exploits poor Peruvians who appear on it and are her biggest fans. Critics say the show's "real life" depictions of incest, infidelity, teen pregnancy and prostitution are staged — charges that Bozzo denies.

Bozzo, a lawyer, insists her show portrays real people's real problems. She says guests leave with concrete solutions, and are provided legal, medical and psychological assistance long after revealing the tragedy of their personal lives to the television audience.

Spanish-speakers in the United States can judge for themselves. "Laura en America" (Laura on the America Channel) has been picked up by the Miami-based Telemundo Spanish-language network. Since mid-January, it has aired Monday through Friday at 2 p.m. EST and, according to Telemundo,

can be seen in 63 cities by an estimated 85 percent of U.S. Hispanic viewers.

Peru's official human rights advocate has urged President Alberto Fujimori's government to stop bankrolling Bozzo's show with public service ads, which account for about a fifth of its advertising revenue.

The advocate also targeted a Bozzo rival, Maria Teresa Braschi, who has a less popular talk show, "Maritere."

Bozzo offers no apology — although she says she does regret the "Anything for Money" episode — saying her critics are politically motivated to destroy her because of her strong pro-Fujimori stand. "There is a political campaign to undermine me," Bozzo says.

"The segment of the Peruvian press that is opposed to the government wants to put me on the cross because I support the president."

Fujimori's foes say the government is happy to support Bozzo's show because it has a direct line to the poor majority considered critical to his bid for an unprecedented — many say illegal — third term in an election next month.

Performing humiliating, dehumanizing tasks for a few dollars loses its entertainment value when the participants desperately need the cash, Ardito says. Moreover, Bozzo regularly berates, lectures and insults her panelists for their moral lapses, and frequently threatens to pursue legal charges against them.

"There are people who, because of their poverty and lack of opportunities, believe she can help," Ardito says.

"In my home we have a maid whose sister-in-law went with her son who has epilepsy. They were told, 'That is not the theme of the day. You have to say you hate your father, and that guy over there will be your father.'"

Rumors abound that the show's producers will pay for a compelling, albeit fabricated, story of sleazy woe.

Bozzo defiantly rejects such accusations.

"If the public has an immense affectionate love for me, it is because they know I do not lie and that my job would not require me to," she says between puffs of a cigarette. Then she instructs the photographer: "Please, no photos while I'm smoking."

DEAR ABBY

Here's one grandmother who won't baby-proof her house

by Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I'll bet you get plenty of letters from grannies responding to "Bent Out of Shape in Bend, Ore." Here is MY response. You may use it if you choose:

To "Bent Out of Shape": I laughed myself silly when I read how exhausted you were after visiting Granny with your 18-month-old son. Granny doesn't have to read a "current baby/toddler book" to get the "new information" on baby-proofing a house. Granny raised YOU without all the modern gadgets. She used a tool you may not have heard of — a firm and gentle "NO."

She also used a useful device called a playpen to get an hour or so of rest a day from following a toddler around. I'm sorry to inform you that you'll be exhausted for the next 18 years. The entire world is a hazardous place, and it is YOUR job to protect your own child.

When my grandchildren come to visit, I provide everything: food, cribs, toys, baby gates, entertainment, bibs, diapers, etc., and I watch them as closely as I can. I give the parents a break by baby sitting a night or so during their stay. I also tuck a little extra cash in their pockets to help out when I can.

If you want Granny's house baby-proofed for your visit, I suggest YOU bring all the gadgets and baby-proof the house yourself. Please remember to put all the gadgets, litter boxes, detergents, chemicals, coins, photos, candles and other things back where they belong before you leave.

I laughed myself silly because if you think YOU are exhausted when you leave Granny's house, think how exhausted Granny is. We Grannies did our jobs 20 years ago, and trust me, babies were the same then as they are now. It's just YOUR turn to do the work. We Grannies have a golf game. — LAUGHING GRANNY

DEAR LAUGHING GRANNY: I have taken some lumps for my answer to that letter. And while I agree that it is the parent's job to watch the toddler, the writer of that letter had a point. Anyone who is going to regularly have small children in the house would be well advised to make sure that chemicals, medications and breakables are placed out of reach. You would never forgive yourself if your and your daughter's attention were diverted for a few minutes and the child was seriously hurt, or worse. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: "Bent Out of Shape" may be dealing with a difference in parenting styles. My mother also complained about my brother's request that she baby-proof the house before the visit of her first grandchild.

Mother believed that correcting

a toddler when it reached for a low-lying table was the way to introduce limits and teach respect for other people's things. While she accepted the need to remove dangerous items, she wanted to keep her "nice" things in place. She felt it was the parents' responsibility to watch the child and was annoyed when their attention wandered and her grandchild got into something.

Happily it didn't take long for her to have a change of heart. Mom got tired of worrying about her prized breakables and eventually moved the most precious out of reach. She also got tired of trying to converse with adults who were constantly on the alert.

Child-proofing my house made my job easier and far more pleasant. As my children grew, I gradually returned the breakables to their places, teaching them not to touch. By the time my youngest was 3, everything was back in place and we hadn't lost a thing.

"Bent" may want to have a talk with her mother about this. — ALL INTACT IN ATLANTA

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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

CENSUS: It is in your hands now

(From 10C)

Got problems in your neighborhood? Ever said, "Gosh, it seems like it takes forever for anyone to get anything done here?"

Well, answer me this, how is the government supposed to allocate enough funding for a community if those in power don't know how many people live in your community.

2. Get Help in Times of Need.

Many 911 systems are based on maps developed by the last Census; and it also is the information used to help health providers predict the spread of disease in a community; AND tells rescuers how many people need help when a flood, tornadoes or earthquakes strike.

3. Make Government work for you.

The numbers are used to help determine the distribution of hundreds of billions of dollars in federal and state funds not to mention funding for hospitals, highways, stadiums and school lunch program.

4. Reduce Risk for American Business.

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5. Help Yourself and Your Family.

Individual records are held confidential for 72 years, but you can request a certificate from past

Censuses that can be used as proof to establish your age, residence or relationship, information that could help you qualify for a pension, establish citizenship or obtain an inheritance.

Still want to throw it out?

I tell you what. While you are at it throw away your child's education, any hopes to get the pot-hole in front of your house fixed and in the case of an emergency the chance that there will be enough emergency vehicles to help your loved ones. It took me all of one minute to fill out my Census.

If you are scared you'll make a mistake — there are people around to help you. If you have any questions — there are people to help you. If you need a form in Spanish — there are people to help you.

Bottom line ...

THERE ARE PEOPLE TO HELP YOU!

Quite frankly, there is no excuse not to send it in, no reason not to send it in, no way you can come up with a justification for not to sending it in.

So, do it. Sit down right now and be counted.

For more information about Census call Charlene Romero Wurtz, local Census official at 915-

687-2846.

Richard Acosta is a staff reporter for the Midland Reporter-Telegram



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The photograph above is of actors portraying clients.



Area television market gets new Spanish-only neighbor

By Richard Acosta
Staff Writer

International Spanish-language station Univision will soon establish a local presence in the Midland-Odessa television market.

KUPB-TV, Channel 18, a brand-new station in the area, will begin broadcasting Midland-Odessa's first-ever Spanish-only television programming, complete with local news, in late 2000.

The new station will be located in the former Midland-Odessa Dialysis Center near the KMID-TV facilities at Midland International Airport.

Once on the air, viewers in Midland, Odessa and the surrounding area will be able to watch Univision on cable or via antenna. Univision carries programs such as the novelas "Enséñame a Querer," "Luz María," "El País de las Mujeres," "La Mujer de mi Vida," and talk show "Cristina" among other programs.

Judy Querio, general manager for Entravision, the company that will broadcast Univision, said this station will be just like the others that transmit in this area.

"Right now you can get Telemundo (a competing Spanish-language network) here from a

low-powered tower," Ms. Querio said. "This will be a full-power UHF that will provide Spanish programming to the Hispanic population for Midland, Odessa and the surrounding areas."

One familiar name on the executive board for Univision is Henry Cisneros, 52, who has been the company's president and chief operating officer since January 1997.

Cisneros, the former head of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, began his political career as city councilman and later as mayor of San Antonio from 1978 until 1989. Ms. Querio said the Midland-Odessa area is a key target market in television, particularly for Hispanic programming.

"The idea is to cover as much area as possible," Ms. Querio said.

"That way when we go to a major advertiser we can say, 'Hey, we cover all of Texas.' It is an important place to be for us."

The Univision Television Network is the leading Spanish-language television broadcaster in the United States, covering more than 92 percent of all Hispanic households and having an approximate 82 percent share of the U.S. Spanish language viewership, said Patricia Ramos,

spokeswoman for Univision.

The company's network delivers all of the top 20 programs (rank includes English or Spanish language programs) among all Hispanic households. The network provides Univision's affiliates 24 hours a day of programming with a prime-time schedule of substantially all first-run programming throughout the year.

One hurdle the local Univision will have to clear is with the FCC.

"We have stuff to clean up with the FCC and FAA," Ms. Querio said. "We have to find a location for the 990-foot tower, clear the paperwork, remodel the office. I mean we are building a new station from the ground up."

Entravision has stations in McAllen, El Paso, Corpus Christi and San Antonio.

"We hope to become the eyes, ears and voice of the Hispanic community," Ms. Querio said. "We have to take care of some things, but soon we will be on air, then have local news in Spanish and then have our own local shows."

KUPB-TV is licensed to Entravision Communication of Midland, LLC, a subsidiary of Entravision Communication LLC, in Los Angeles, Calif.



Talk show host Cristina will be one of the many Univision stars that will be broadcast from the new local station KUPB-TV 18. The new station is scheduled to go on air later this year and will feature an all Spanish local news show.

Tom Jones not surrendering to the Ricky Martin craze

By Gerg Hayes

Alt. Times Union

ALBANY, N.Y. — He's a hip-swivelin' superstar singer. He's ridin' high at the top of the charts. He's roarin' into New York's state capital Monday night, where he's sure to deliver an explosive, high-energy show that's guaranteed to have his female fans swooning in the aisles.

His name is Ricky Martin ... and Tom Jones.

While sexy, Latin, la-vida-locu-livin' Man of the Moment Ricky Martin is wowing fans at the Pepsi Arena on Monday, his counterpart from a generation ago, Tom Jones, will be knocking out his followers at Proctor's Theatre.

To most, it might seem to be the passing of the torch from a once-glorious, high-wattage crooner to the next generation's musical sex symbol.

And while there's no denying that Martin, 28, is hot, hot, hot right now, Jones isn't ready to relinquish his crown just yet.

Although he launched his career way back in 1965 with the smash hit "It's Not Unusual," the 59-year-old Jones isn't just a sex symbol for grandmothers.

Jones hasn't released an album of new material in the United States since his underrated "The Lead and How to Swing It," was released in 1994. And his last bona-fide hit was in 1988, when he scored with a remake of Prince's "Kiss," backed by the electro-dance combo Art of Noise.

Although it's hard to tell here in America, Tom Jones' career is hotter than it's ever been in Europe.

His latest single, "Sex Bomb," is a super-smash hit. It's currently No. 7 on the charts in Germany, No. 4 in Spain and Austria, No. 3 in Belgium, No. 2 in Italy and No. 1 in France and Switzerland.

What's more, his current European album, "Reload," is also in the Top 10 in every one of those countries.

The album — which unfortunately is not yet scheduled for a U.S. release — finds Jones in a collaborative mode, as he shares the microphone with such partners as Van Morrison, the Pretenders' Chrissie Hynde (on a razor-sharp rendition of Iggy Pop's "Lust For Life"), Barenaked Ladies, Stereophonics (on Randy Newman's "Mama Told Me Not to Come") and Simply Red's Mick Hucknall, to name a few.

The first single from the album, a hot-wired remake of the Talking Heads' "Burning Down the House" recorded with the Cardigans, was a smash all across Europe, too.

Meanwhile, after almost a year on the charts, Martin's self-titled English-language debut album is still securely in the Top 50 of Billboard's best-selling album chart. So far, the album has sold more than 7 million copies.

And while the inescapable "Livin' La Vida Loca" was one of the best-selling records of last year, Martin's follow-up single, "Shake Your Bon-Bon," was only a modest hit, failing to crack the Top 20.

Martin's spectacular live performances have turned more than a few non-believers into fans, however.

His electrifying performance last year at the Grammy Awards show was an absolute career-making moment, winning him the adoration of millions of TV viewers as well as superstar Madonna, who immediately concocted a duet with the Latin sensation.

Although Martin didn't take a trophy home with him at last month's Grammy Awards ceremonies, his performance was something of a three-ring circus, complete with aerial acrobats, slinky, barely-clad dancers and even an actual ring of fire.

The charismatic Martin also wowed television viewers with his first-ever television special, "One Night Only," which aired on CBS in November. The concert, recently released as a home video, was filmed outdoors in New Jersey's Liberty State Park with the New York City skyline as a backdrop, and while the spectacle was undeniably dazzling, Martin's considerable singing talents often seemed overshadowed by his nonstop gyrations and the everything-to-excess production values of the performance.

As successful as both singers have been, their careers have been dominated by their sexy, larger-than-life images rather than their musical talent. And Jones' experience in combating the public's perception of him could serve as a cautionary tale to the up-and-coming sex symbol Martin, who is igniting quite a combustible reaction among his fevered fans these days.

Back in the early days of Jones' career, when he was churning out his initial string of hit records — including "What's New, Pussycat?," "The Green, Green Grass of Home" and "Delilah" — Jones worked his primarily female, underwear-tossing fans into a frenzy.

"I think that in my case, the image overshadowed the talent in a lot of people's eyes. I've had to get over the whole panties thing," explained Jones during an interview a few years ago.

"At one time in the '70s, I'd read reviews of my shows where the writers wrote about how many pairs of underwear were thrown. Sometimes, the writers were so busy documenting the crowd's frenzy that my voice would not even be mentioned in the review. They'd be reviewing the audience's reaction instead of my performance."

"The whole panties thing really got out of hand. I used to not exactly encourage it, but go along with it," Jones admitted. "Pick them up, wipe the brow and do the business, you know?"

"But if people throw things at me now, I don't pick them up. They just stay where they land. And believe me," he adds with a resounding laugh, "sometimes the stage is quite littered."

Selena musical promising but unpolished

By Mark Lowry

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

In the past year in the Metroplex, musical biographies have immortalized Al Jolson, Elvis Presley, Hank Williams, Buddy Holly and Dinah Washington. The problem is that these musical bios typically take a "... and-then-this-happened" approach, loosely stringing together the artist's greatest hits with bits of dialogue in a straightforward chronology. The result is usually less than the sum of its subject.

Now it's Selena's turn — and the creators of her stage biography, opening this week in Dallas, are taking a slightly different approach, combining elements of a revue with those of traditional musical theater. As an ambitious hybrid, "Selena Forever" earnestly tries to bring as much personality to the stage as did the late Tejano superstar. The good news is that, given the material seen at the world premiere in San Antonio last week and the quality of the performances, it could achieve that — and more.

The bad news is that it's not there yet. It could use a little more workshopping and a lot more rehearsal, from the staging and technical ends, before it makes its hoped-for run at Broadway.

Composer Fernando Rivas and playwright Edward Gallardo have written 20 songs that tell the events of Selena's life and are linked with several of her hits. Few, however, live up to Selena's magic onstage. The mother, Marcela, has the best songs with "Living on a Bus" and "To Him She's a Woman," beautifully sung by Margo Reymundo. In fact, the most memorable numbers are performed by everyone other than Selena: the brother, A.B. (Maxx) sings "You're Gonna Die Today, Brother" and the sister, Suzette (Liza Ybarra) does a lovely job with "Amame, Quiereme."

Part of the problem is that the voices of these performers are stronger than that of Veronica Vazquez in the title role. Reymundo, Maxx and David Casanova, who plays Selena's



Selena

File Photo

husband, Chris Perez, all have powerful, textured voices. Vazquez's voice is pretty and precise, but she simply doesn't match the magnitude of the others.

Acting-wise, the performances are fine. Daniel Valdez, who plays Selena's father, Abraham, is a better actor than singer and does a nice job of conveying compassion and love for his family. However, he also plays the part more sternly and crankily than did Edward James Olmos in the movie about Selena's life. Maxx gets several chances to overact and comes

away being the comic relief, and Reymundo's performance shows her pathos well. Eleven-year-old Denise Gonzalez plays the young Selena and is perfectly charming.

There's much that's promising, but there's also much work to do to get the show where it enthalls the entire time.

As it is, those moments are few and far between, and technical problems experienced opening night, mostly with sound, didn't help. As it is now, "Selena Forever" often feels like it lasts that long.

FACE Stand up and be counted

Everyone wants a voice.
Everyone wants a say.
Everyone wants to be heard.
Everyone got a Census form.
So why is there a fear that they won't come back?

By now you probably received a little something in the mail from the U.S. Department of the Census.

So, what are you going to do with it? If your answer is anything other than fill it out and send it back in, then let me just say one thing.

You are about to do the dumbest thing you could possibly do with any single piece of paper.

Why fill it out?

The Census has offered five big reasons —

1. Help your community thrive.



Acosta

Please see CENSUS/9C

TOP 20

Tejano

MS

1. Intocable - Contigo	11. Stampede - Aqui Estoy Yo
2. Kumbia Kings - Se Fue Mi Amor	12. Ram Herrera - Casa Vacía
3. Shelly Lares - No Me Olvides	13. Elida Y Avante - Tiki Tac
4. Jay Perez - No Quiero Estar Solo	14. Atrapado - Oh! Que Gusto
5. David Lee Garza - Para Ti	15. Intocable - Es Tan Bello
6. Masizzo - Solamente Mia	16. Los Tigritillos - Se Baila Asi
7. Control - Tu No Me Lo Das	17. Ramiro Y Juan - Coronandote
8. Rodeo - Si Tu Te Vas	18. Los Palominos - Por Eso Te Amo
9. Michael Salgado - Otra Vez A La Cantina	19. Kumbia Kings - Fuiste Mala
10. Mazz - Basura	20. Ram Herrera - Tu Pecado

From KMRK Tejano 96.1 for the past week

The Midland Booster Club will hold a school information session on Thursday, March 30, at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. All interested parties are invited to attend.

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WEST TEXAS SPORTS

Booster Clubs...

The Midland Lee Volleyball Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. April 4 in the Lee High School cafeteria. For more information, call Craig Holly at 697-6924.

The Midland Lee Basketball Booster Club meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Lee High School cafeteria. All boys' and girls' basketball fans are invited to attend.

The Midland High Softball Booster Club will meet the first Thursday of each month through May 4 in Conference Room A at MHS. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Contact Patti Heard at 686-9239 or David Askew at 686-7025 with questions.

The Midland Lee Lady Rebel Softball Booster Club meets the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Lee cafeteria. Call Bryan Hargrove at 688-1537 for more information.

The Midland High Soccer Booster Club meets the first Monday of every month at 7 p.m. in Conference Room A.

The Midland Lee Baseball Booster Club meets every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the school library throughout the season.

Golf...

A four-person scramble is set for April 7 at Nueva Vista Golf Course to benefit the Midland team for the Texas Special Olympics. Lunch at 11:30 a.m. will proceed the tournament, and a shotgun start goes off at 1:30 p.m. Prizes include two \$5,000 hole-in-one contests. The entry fee is \$100 per person, and the deadline is March 31. For more information, call Weldon Claxton at 687-3106, Nita Ashmore at 563-4302 or Tom Newman at 683-4851.

The Wildflower Two-Lady Scramble is scheduled for April 13 at Ranchland Hills Country Club, starting at 9 a.m. The fee is \$80 per team. For more information, call 685-1055.

McCahey Country Club will host an 18 hole scramble on April 8 with 11 a.m. shotgun start. \$25 per person.

The West Texas Longhorn Golf Tournament will be held at The Club at Mission Dorado in Odessa on May 8 at 11 a.m. Local Longhorn fans will be paired with members of the Longhorn Foundation and athletics staff from UT. Football coach Mack Brown and basketball coach Rick Barnes will attend as well as athletic directors Deloss Dodds and Jody Conradt. Dinner will follow. Call Frank Kasman at 520-0220 or Phill Robertson at 697-0723 for information.

The Nueva Vista Classic, a 2-person, best ball event will be April 1. \$60 per player. Call 520-0500 for information.

Masters Golf is having a Ladies Golf Clinic on April 4-5 from 8:15-7:30 p.m. Cost is \$30. The clinic is for beginners or advanced players. Clubs can be provided. Call 570-4499 for details.

Basketball...

The West Texas Pro/Am Men's Basketball League will start May 13 and continue until July 2. The team entry fee is \$500 for a 10-man roster, and the deadline is April 28. For more information, call league coordinator Chris Cardenas at (915) 223-1309.

Mid America Youth Basketball will host more than 60 youth basketball tournaments this summer, including the 2000 Denton Shootout, to be held July 14-16. Tournaments are open to boys and girls basketball teams, grades 4-12. For more information, contact Stephen Martin, MAYB area director at 1-800-316-6148, ext. 228 or see the tournament website at <http://infosports.net/ysp/2894.htm>.

The 2000 Big Time Midwest Basketball Shootout is Saturday, April 8 in Wichita, Kan. These events are for high school (grades 8-12) and junior college men and women that wish to be seen by college coaches and scouts who attend these events. Space is limited for this prestigious recruiting event, so for more information check out the Midwest Basketball website at www.midwestbasketball.com or call (405) 377-4667 before the available slots are filled.

Final applications are now being evaluated for the Ten All Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys and girls ages 7-19 can apply. Players are selected by invitation only. NBA players have participated in the past. Camp locations include: Commerce; Riverside, Calif.; Bascom Park, Fla.; Atlanta; Champaign, Ill.; Fort Wayne, Ind.; Atchison, Kan.; Georgetown, Ky.; Northfield, Md.; Raleigh, N.C.; Boiling Springs, Ky.; Rochester, N.Y.; North Canton, Ohio; and Farmville, Va. College basketball scholarships are possible for players named to the All-American team. For an evaluation form call (704) 372-8610 any time.

The third annual Gym Bice 5-on-5 basketball tournament is set for April 7-9 in Andrews. Entry fee is \$110. All proceeds go to the Gym Bice Memorial Scholarship Fund. Call 1-915-213-6540

or 522-7857 for more information.

Baseball...

The USSSA will host a baseball tournament May 27-29 in Ruidoso, N.M. Several age divisions will be offered for boys aged 8-16. For more information, call Phil Latham at (915) 689-8718 or E-mail him at latham4@att.net.

Little League...

The Little League of Midland Challenger Division is beginning its season. This division includes all children ages 6 through 18 with physical or mental disabilities that prevent them from playing in a regular division. Players are assisted by buddies who help as needed. Buddies can use this activity as community service hours. Play will begin Saturday, April 1 at 10 a.m. at the North Central Little League's Kelly Field off Loop 250 behind Putt-Putt Golf. Play will be every Saturday at 10 a.m. through May 20. Anyone interested in playing, coaching or being a buddy, please call 697-6536.

Summer Camps...

The Lee Rebel Football camp is set for June 5-9. The camp is open to any student going into grades 5-9. The camp fee is \$50, which includes a T-shirt and 3 1/2 hours of instruction in the mornings, starting at 8:30 a.m. each day. For more information, call coach Scott Hicks at the Lee fieldhouse at 689-1602 or at home at 520-8919.

Two sessions of the Lee Rebel Summer Weight Training camp are available from June 19-30: one from 8:30-11 a.m. and one from 10-11:30 a.m. Training is aimed at developing individuals physically, aiding them in participation in all sports and protecting them from injuries. Students entering grades 5-9 are eligible, and the fee of \$50 is non-refundable after June 13. Instructors are coaches Scott Hicks and Danny Neighbors; for more information, call the Lee fieldhouse at 689-1602 or call Hicks at home at 520-8919.

Texas Tech is holding tennis camps in three separate sessions this summer, June 26-29 for day campers and July 2-6 and 23-27 for overnight campers. Tech men's coach Tim Siegel and assistant Randy Rowley will be the featured instructors. Camps will feature individualized instruction, competition and a video analyzed by the instructors. For more information, call Siegel at (806) 742-3355.

Swimming...

Pre-competitive swimming is being offered at the Mabee Aquatic Center. The program will teach elementary age swimmers techniques of competitive swimming while improving their strokes. It is open to swimmers who can swim at least 25 yards of freestyle and backstroke. The cost is \$40 per month on a year-round basis. For more information, call 684-7755.

COM Aquatics is holding water aerobics classes Monday through Saturday at Mabee Aquatic Center. Classes are at 6:15 a.m., 7:15 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. All classes are open to the public and swimming skills are not necessary. Cost is \$45 per month, \$65 for a couple. Deep and shallow water classes are offered. For information, call Rita Simmons at 684-7755.

COM Aquatics - Learn to Swim year round lessons for both children (3 years of age or older) and adults wishing to learn to swim or improve technique. Private or group lessons (limit four students per instructor) are available. Children are grouped by age and ability. A session normally consists of eight 30-minute lessons. Please call 684-7755 for more details.

The COM Masters Swim Team is open to anyone 20 and over. There are two Masters swim team workouts. You can choose from Monday-Wednesday-Friday or Tuesday-Thursday-Saturday at 6-7 a.m. at the COM pool. Call 684-7755 for more information.

COM Diving offers a full range of diving instruction from beginning lessons to elite team training and competition. All ages and ability levels are invited to participate. Diving lessons are offered at various times. For information, call 684-7755.

The Midland YMCA offers year-round 30-minute swim lessons for parents and children and 45-minute lessons for youth. Private lessons are available. For more information, call Leaf Falter at 682-2551.

Midland YMCA is offering water aerobics classes, including Hydro-fit and Deep Water aerobics. Classes are available both morning and evening. Call Leaf Falter or Deborah Posson at 682-2551 for more information.

Tennis...

The Third Samaritan Spring Swing, an open men's and women's doubles tournament, is set for April 8 at the The Racquet Club

and Midland Country Club. The entry fee of \$50 includes lunch at MCC and a happy hour reception at The Racquet Club. Proceeds benefit the Samaritan Counseling Center, which offers faith-based outpatient therapy. Invitations will be mailed in mid-March. To request an invitation, call 563-4144.

The Kimber-Lea Swim & Tennis Club is holding Ladies Clinics for: Beginners 10 a.m. Mondays or Thursdays; Intermediates at 9 a.m. Mondays or Thursdays; or 7 p.m. Mondays for Beginners or 7 p.m. Thursdays for Intermediates. Mens league 3.5-4.0 is Tuesdays from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. For information call Luis Valdez, Shane or Roddy at 689-2237 or 580-8929.

The Midland Tennis Club will have the following tournaments: April 1-2, Men's Doubles/Women's Singles; April 15-16, Men's Singles/Women's Doubles; May 6-7, Mixed Doubles; May 13-14, Men's Doubles/Women's Singles; May 20-21, Men's Singles/Women's Singles.

The USTA is holding adult tennis leagues beginning the last week of April. For more information, call Juanell Fort at 686-0277.

Softball...

The Bash for Cash Tournament is set for April 14-16 at Hogan Park. The entry fee is \$120 per team, and the entry deadline is April 13. For more information, call Len Garza at 570-0303 or 570-4038 or call Jeff Holtzclaw at 683-6357.

The Oregon University Ducks Softball Clinic will come to Midland June 12-15, thanks to MUGS. Oregon coach Rick Gamez leads a clinic teaching staff that also includes former Midland High coach Ricci Woodard. The cost of camp is \$200, but that covers six hours of instruction each day. A \$100 deposit is due by April 1. For more information, call Freddie Ezell at 694-5508.

The Krush 14-under girls fastpitch softball team is looking for one player, who must be dedicated to the sport. Parents must have the same dedication and must be willing to travel. For more information, call Tracey Stewart at (915) 267-1381, Mike Jennette at 550-0784 or Edwin Dickson at 943-5107 after 6 p.m.

Umpires are needed to work high school games in Alpine, Andrews, Big Spring, Brady, Coahoma, Colorado City, Eldorado, Fort Stockton, Greenwood, Hermleigh, Kermit, Lamesa, Midland, Monahans, Odessa, Pecos, San Angelo, Snyder, Sonora and Wall. For more information, call Mack at 520-5961 or Freddie at 694-5508.

The Midland Softball Association is seeking slowpitch umpires for the 2000 season. Umpires will be paid \$12 per game. For more information, call Marcelino Armendarez at 684-8481, Al Enriquez at 684-8481 or the MSA at 683-8741.

Signups for YMCA Youth Softball are underway. The league is for boys and girls in elementary school. Deadline to register is April 1, with a \$25 fee for YMCA members and \$38 for nonmembers. For information, call 682-2551.

Miller Lite Softball Tournament will be held April 8-9 at the Bill Williams Sports Complex. The tournament will benefit the Texas Adelante Scholarship Fund. U.S.S.S.A. sanctioned, division of play: Men's A/B, C, D, E. Entry fee is \$175 and deadline entry is Thursday April 6 at 5 p.m. Winners also qualify for a final price package that includes \$1,500 cash and \$3,000 in merchandise. This is one of the 20 Miller Lite Super Series Tournaments in Texas and the only one in our region this year. For information, contact Tommy Hawkins at 915-699-5559, Lucy Espinoza at 956-618-4266 or Doug Duff at 956-428-2600.

Miscellaneous...

The Midland branch of the American Escrima Wing Tsun Organization is holding adult self defense combat classes in association with the Midland Wrestling Club. Classes will be held three times a week. For more information, call David Lesser at 687-6973 or 685-0531.

Volleyball...

There will be a co-ed volleyball tournament April 15 at the First Presbyterian Church in Midland. The entry fee is \$120 per team. For more information, call Ann Carrillo at 520-6206.

The "Dig this!" Co-ed Volleyball Tournament is Saturday April 8 at the U.T. Permian Basin gym. It is sponsored by the U.T.P.B. Kinesiology Majors Club. It is one division, pool play with championship bracket, four-match minimum. Entry fee is \$80 per team, with a roster limit of nine. T-shirts will be awarded for first- and second-place teams. Teams will referee each other's matches in pool play. Call Kelly McMahan at 552-2335 for more details. Entry deadline is Wednesday, April 5.

Classified 682-6222

Toll Free: 1-800-881-8164 • Fax: 682-6999 • Email: mrtclassified@mrt.com • Search: www.texas4u.com • Mail: P.O. Box 1650, 79702

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- 105 Happy Ads
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- 165 Invest. Oppitys.
- 170 Schools/Instruc.

TRANSPORTATION 200

- 200 Autos/Domestic
- 205 Classic Cars
- 210 Autos/Foreign
- 215 Sport/Utility Vehicle
- 220 Trucks & Vans
- 230 Commercial Vehicles
- 235 Vehicles Under \$3,000
- 240 Motorcycles
- 245 Trailers
- 250 Rec. Vehicles
- 260 Boats & Motors
- 270 Airplanes
- 280 Auto Services
- 290 Parts/Accessories

EMPLOYMENT 300

- 305 Job Services
- 310 General Help
- 311 Medical Help
- 312 Professional Help
- 314 Clerical Help
- 316 Sales Help
- 318 Mgmt. Help
- 319 Oil Industry Help
- 320 Skilled Trade
- 330 Employment Wanted
- 335 Adult Care Needed
- 340 Child Care Needed
- 341 Child Care Prev.
- 350 Bus. Oppitys.
- 400 Auctions

MERCHANDISE 400

- 402 Garage Sale Svcs.
- 404 Garage Sales (78706)
- 405 Garage Sales (78701)
- 406 Garage Sales (78703)
- 407 Garage Sales (78705)
- 408 Garage Sales (78707)
- 409 Area Sales
- 410 Misc. Sales
- 413 Jewelry
- 415 Misc. Wanted
- 420 Things to Eat
- 426 Trade/Swap
- 430 Household Goods
- 432 Household Furniture
- 435 Household Appliances
- 440 Firewood

SPORTING GOODS 450

- 450 Sporting Goods
- 460 Antiques & Art
- 470 Musical Instr.
- 475 Crafts & Supplies
- 480 Camera & Supplies
- 485 Electronics
- 490 Computers/Access.
- 495 FOR FREE

MERCHANDISE 500

- 500 Pets & Supplies
- 505 Livestock/Poultry
- 510 Office Supplies
- 520 Store/Cafe Equip.
- 525 Bus./Shop Equip.
- 530 A/C - Heating
- 540 Bldg. Materials
- 550 Portable Bldgs.
- 560 Machinery/Tools
- 570 Oilfield Supplies
- 580 Farm Equipment

RENTALS 600

- 600 Rooms For Rent
- 601 Hotel Rm. - Rent
- 603 Roommate Wanted
- 604 Wanted to Rent
- 605 Apts. Furnished
- 610 Apts. Unfurnished
- 615 Apts. Furn./Unfurn.
- 620 Houses Furnished
- 625 Houses Unfurnished
- 630 Houses Furn./Unfurn.
- 635 Condos/Townhouses Furn.
- 640 Condos/Townhouses Unf.
- 650 Mobile Homes Furn.
- 655 Mobile Homes Unf.
- 660 Mobile Home Lots
- 665 Bus. Prop./Offices
- 670 Warehouse/Storage
- 675 Rec./Resort
- 680 Out of Town
- 685 Hunting Leases
- 690 Oil/Gas Leases

REAL ESTATE 700

- 700 Migr. Homes
- 701 Real Estate
- 710 Open Houses
- 720 Homes For Sale
- 725 Condo/Townhome
- 730 Suburban Prop.
- 735 R.E. Wanted
- 740 Out of Town Prop.
- 750 Lots & Acreage
- 760 Farms/Ranches
- 770 Resort Property
- 780 Business Property
- 785 Warehouse/Star.
- 790 Investment Prop.

WHO'S WHO 800

- 800 Who's Who

100 Notices

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- 162 Mortgages Wanted
- 163 Money To Loan
- 165 Investment Oppor.
- 170 Schools/Instruc.

110 Lodge Notices

Midland Masonic Lodge #623
1500 W. Wall
Reg. stated meetings 2nd & 4th
Thurs. 7:30 p.m.
John P. Cox, W/M
Robert G. Kiker, Sec.

Centennial Lodge #1448

1600 W. Wall
Reg. meeting, 1st & 3rd Sat. 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast 7:30 a.m.
Tom Burns, W.M.
Bob Elwood, Sec.

Midland Chapter #253

Order of Eastern Star
1600 W. Wall
Stated Mtgs. 2nd & 4th
Tues. 7:30 p.m.
WMPWP Betty & Bill Stark

Midland Shrine Club

2019 Trade
Dr. 689-7003
Reg. Meeting
3rd. Thurs. 8:30 p.m.
Hosp. 6:30 p.m., dine 7 p.m.
Copper Daugherty, Pres.
Gary Anderson, Secty.

Acacia Masonic Lodge #1414

1000 Upland
Stated Communication, 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7:30 P.M.
Mike Pipes, W.M.
Al Talbot, Sec.

130 Personals

EASTER BUNNY.
Easter Chicken, Biblical Characters & Roman Warriors costume rental. Reserve now. Costumes by Dorothy, 694-7687.

BEAUTYCONTROL PRODUCTS Shirley Whitehead, Senior Consultant 520-0416, Lisa McNeil 915-756-6250. Consultant 570-1611. All products on sale.

OLD BOY Scout Uniforms needed to outfit new At-Risk Scouts. Please deposit your old uniforms at the Scout Office, 1101 W. Texas, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. or call 570-7601. Please respond by April 14, 2000.

150 Lost & Found

FOUND in Walmart parking lot jewelry chain with pendant, call to identify, 694-0844.

REWARD: LOST brown and tan Chihuahua, 3/23/2000. Vicinity of Saddle Creek Estates, male, no collar, no tags. Call 683-2441.

LOST small Blue Heeler and a black & white Border collie/Airedale Mix, at Walgreens and Illinois. 683-5732.

\$300 REWARD! For the return of my missing Boxer puppy named "Buddy". Buddy is 4 months old and recently had his ears trimmed, so he is in need of immediate medical attention. Buddy's ears are taped, has a short tail, has a brown body with a white chest. If found or if you know his location, please call or take him to Dr. Alan Alderson. Dr. Alderson's phone and address is 697-0290/3212 N. Midland Drive, Suite 105 or after 6 call 689-0821 or 637-2377.

LOST near Wadley Barron Park, small brown Carni Terrier. Tags, answers to "CoCo". Reward, 683-5998.

FOUND- Young female puppy, black/ brown. Looks like part Sheppard. Knifed estates- 685-3542.

LOST- Sunday Evening Miniature Pomeranian Male, no tags, vicinity of 6600 block of Neely & Gulf. Answers to Wee Duffy, 697-8226.

FOUND- Male Blue Heeler, extremely friendly. Greenwood School area. Call 682-1723 to claim.

FOUND corner of Midland & Ohio- apricot colored poodle (7) 694-5103.

LOST close family member, black female toy poodle, untrained. Family is broken hearted. Reward. 620-8844.

160 Loans Wanted

NEED TO BORROW \$50K. Will pay above average interest rate for short term secured loan. 888-575-6132.

*LOANS \$40-\$400 CALL TODAY 683-7613 NOBLE FINANCE

162 Mortgage Wanted

COLONIAL Financial Services pays cash for residential and commercial real estate notes, business notes and structured settlements. Prompt, professional service since 1984. Call 550-2025 or 1-800-283-2025.

Fax It! 682-6999

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Type out your Classified ad, let us know when you want it published, and how to contact you with a confirmation of the details. (We prefer to confirm by phone, so please give us the number where you can be reached.) If the ad is for you personally, we'll need your home phone number, address, etc. If the ad is for your business, we'll need your main office phone number, address, etc.

As always, you can contact us by phone at 682-6222, or by fax at 682-6999.

(Please allow 1-2 days for e-mailed ads. Text only please, no photos or logos accepted. If you want your ad to start tomorrow please contact us by phone or fax. Thank you...)

130 Personals

130 Personals

Personally Speaking

The Fun & Convenient Way to meet Midland Singles!

Look for it on Fri., Sat., Sun., & Wed. in The Midland Reporter-Telegram Classified.

Call 1-800-834-5294 to place your personal ad. Or 1-900-656-2300 to respond or browse.

\$2.19 Per minute. You must be at least 18 years of age or older to use this service.

NOTICE OF SALE

Alamo South Mini-Storage wishes to avail themselves of the Texas provision of Chapter 59, Texas Property Code. This sale is being held to satisfy a landlord's lien on the following unit(s) contents:

The company reserves the right to reject any bid and withdraw any items from sale.

Debbie Valdez Unit #26, Darrell Brewster Unit #66, Richard Williamson Unit #68, Rich Hargrove Units 67, 68, John Crumwell Unit 51

Location: Alamo South Mini-Storage 1301 South Connell Midland, TX
Sale: April 21, 2000 @ 10:00 a.m.

Let Classified Work For You! Call 682-6222

Super Seller I
15 words, 7 days, \$1050
Advertise your household item (priced under \$350) with this Classified special! Call 682-6222 for details...

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Short Bed, A/C, AM/FM/Cassette

2000 Dodge Dakota



\$244/mo
35 mos @ \$244, 1 @ \$1298, 5.55% APR, 30 down plus TT&L

SOLID

On ALL Vehicles in Inventory

2000 Dodge Ram 1500



\$1,000 Rebate
All Full Size Trucks

2000 Dodge Durango



\$399/mo
36 mos Gold Key Plus, 35 mos @ \$399, 1 @ \$1087.80, 8.9% apr, 30 down plus TT&L

2000 Dodge Caravan



\$285/mo
35 mos @ \$285, 1 @ \$1038, 4.05% APR, 30 down plus TT&L

2001 Dodge 1500



\$259/mo
36 mos @ \$259, 1 @ \$1186, 9.15% APR, 30 down plus TT&L

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2000 Lincoln Town Car \$31,999	99 Mercury Cougar \$17,999	98 Chrysler LBS \$11,999	97 Ford T-Bird Sport \$13,999	94 Chevy Caprice Classic \$11,999	95 Ford Crown Victoria \$12,999	96 Lincoln Mark VII \$17,999		

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220 Trucks

FORD 1999 POWER STROKE, quad cab, 21K miles, six speed, Ranch Hand all around, \$27,000 or best offer. 682-7018.

FORD 1998 RANGER, new engine, tires, wheels, muffler, body, paint, \$3,000. Will consider \$1,500 cash plus trade-in or owner finance. 915-699-1084.

FORD 1997 F150 super cab, Lariat, leather, CD changer, 48K, excellent condition, \$16,900. Call 684-6800.

CHEVROLET 1994 4 door, 12 ton, excellent condition, 80,000 miles, \$12,900. 687-2717.

FORD 1991 Extended cab 12 ton, extra nice, \$27,000. Please call 687-2717 for information.

GMC 1982 3/4 Ton Pickup, Automatic, Good dependable truck, \$4,050. 683-6365.

CHEVROLET 1992 Silverado, 3/4 ton, new engine with under 1,000 miles. Take over payments of \$277.85/19 months remaining. 915-837-3731.

FORD 1995 F150 Super Cab XLT, Automatic, power, tilt, premium sound system, 48K miles. Excellent condition. \$13,900. 682-7476 or pager 561-1202.

FORD 1999 F250 4X4, Crew cab, 7.3L, power stroke turbo, automatic, loaded, including bed cover! 15,200 Miles. \$37,500. 682-5779

GMC 1988 3/4 ton, 6.2 liter diesel, regular cab, long, wide, \$2,750. Charlie, 684-6561/5204348.

GMC 1990 1500 Sport side, short bed, V6, automatic, \$3,800. 912 N. Midkiff, 520-7502.

GMC 1997 271, Leather, electric shift 4X4, 55K, CD, Rhino liner. \$18,995 O.b.o. 354-2675/570-3911

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FORD 1998 F150 XLT SuperCab, 21,000 miles, \$19,000 includes custom top and towing package. XXX-XXXX.

CHEVROLET 1981 Silverado Pickup. New paint, new air conditioning, CD Player and much, much more! Super clean. 96K. \$3,500. 570-1437.

DODGE 1997 1500 Magnum V8 Club, short bed, chrome rails, bed liner, 71K, am/fm cassette, cruise, tilt, power windows, remote entry. Color - dark brown excellent condition, \$17,000. 684-8866.

DODGE 1995 1500 4x4, single cab, 28K, fully loaded, new tires, excellent condition. \$15,000 or make offer. Call 263-2189.

FORD 1997 F150 XLT-Extended cab, CD, power windows/locks, step-side, great condition, 60K miles. \$14,950. Call 697-6436

CHEVROLET 1999 S10 V6, automatic, extended cab, original owner, looks new, non-smoker, garage kept, loaded, chrome, 3rd door, 16K. \$16,495. 520-3263.

FORD 1990 Bronco XLT Loaded, 4 door, 21,000 miles, around \$6,500. 1976 CJ5 V8 rigged out for quail hunting \$4,000. O.B.O. 685-1488.

FORD 1996 Pickup F150 V8 Super Cab, Long wide bed, 58,500 miles. \$14,500. 687-9005 or leave message.

GMC 1996 Sierra 1/2 ton, 3rd door, 35K, tan, great condition. 305 V6, electric windows, door locks, interior, \$16,900. 683-9544.

NISSAN 1996 XE 4 Wheel Drive Pickup, Green 5 speed, 4 cylinder, 53,000 miles. Asking \$9,825. Call 688-5283, nights 550-6263. Mobile-770-2418.

TOYOTA 1997 TACOMA LX-4X4, 5 speed, all power, CD cassette, Leer topper, brush guard. \$15,500. Call 699-1025 or 528-2061.

CHEVROLET 1997 Silverado, 3 door, white, 52K miles, extended 75,000 mile warranty. \$18,500. 741-8000, 570-5577.

CHEVROLET 1998 S10 4 Cylinder, 5 speed, am/fm cassette, Air, cruise, tilt, Forest green with tan interior, 3.8K. \$10,900. 694-2042

FORD 1998 F-150 XLT, 24K miles, light blue denim with dark navy stripes. Excellent condition. Call 682-2809.

CHEVROLET 1976 ElCamino V8, am, new tires, clean, runs great. \$3,500. O.B.O. Retired, need to sell Call 683-6222 or 520-4400

CHEVROLET 1990 454 S12 1/2 ton pickup. Bow tie heads, cam, headers, MSD 6AL, 4V-BT. Flowmaster, more! Fast! \$11,500. 520-6620.

CHEVROLET 1991 CHEYENNE C-1500. Extended Cab, gray, red, interior. Long bed, towing package, Bedliner, factory vinyl wheels. Michelin's. \$7,250. 915-684-8824

CHEVROLET 1994 271, 4x4, short bed, stereo, grillguard, Nerf bars, bed liner, ranchhand bumper, 11,500 firm. 238-2423.

DODGE 1998 3.9L 1500, Quad cab, 5.9 engine, Infinity sound CD, tape. Forest green, 22K miles. \$20,000. 697-0511 after 6.

GMC 1994 Sierra SL6, pull apart, blue and gold two tone. New tires, headache rack, tool box, bedliner, phone hook-up. 113K miles. \$12,000. 697-4128.

CHEVROLET 1998 Silverado, extended cab, fully loaded, 12 CD, sprayed in bed liner, 45K. \$19,800. Owner, 570-1099.

FORD 1998 RANGER XLT- Super Cab, Forest green, excellent condition. Tonneau cover, 35K miles. \$13,900. Call 689-0440 leave message.

1999 NISSAN ALTIMA GXE 4-DR
Power windows and locks, Cruise, AM/FM/CD, Stk. #199006
\$11,995

1999 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS 4-DR
Fully Equipped including Leather Interior, Stk. #181875
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Power Windows and Locks, Cruise, AM/FM Cassette, Stk. #911350
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220 Trucks

1999 POWER Cab, 21K speed, Ranch, 73K miles, maintenance to a tee. \$13,500. 488-3157.

222 Suburbans & Vans

GMC 1999 Suburban, 4x4, great vehicle, will negotiate price. Call 559-0744.

CHEVROLET 1998 Conversion Van, TV, 68K, very clean, one owner. \$5,500. Call 520-7450/352-0902.

GMC 1991 Suburban, Good condition. \$10,000. Call 686-9627/ 661-5985 for information.

CHEVROLET 1984 Suburban, 60K miles, good condition. \$5,500. Call 697-1477.

CHEVROLET 1990 Suburban, Trailmaster, 130K, new tires. Good shape. \$7,000. 683-6365.

GMC 1990 Suburban, really clean and nice, red, gray, \$4,600. Please call 687-2717.

DODGE 1983 Van, Automatic, 318 V8, 3 seats. Runs good. \$1,500. 699-6621 or 694-5036.

CHEVROLET 1993 Suburban 1500, 4x4, white, running boards, garaged, very well maintained. Low miles, non-smoker. A steal at \$14,500. 697-4454.

CHEVROLET 1994 SUBURBAN-Loaded, very clean, 72K miles, running boards. \$15,900 O.B.O. Call 694-9974.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban. Fully loaded, leather seats, one owner, excellent condition. 88,000 miles (mostly highway). \$22,000. 683-3919 or 684-4296, ask for Ryan.

CHEVROLET 1998 SUBURBAN- 28K Miles. Loaded, excellent condition, selling for pay off. \$25,800 Call 520-2712.

GMC 1990 Suburban, 4 wheel drive, excellent condition. Books 9K-11K, will take \$8,500 or best offer. 689-321, 631-1714.

GMC 1994 Suburban, beautiful silver, running boards, loaded, 70K miles, must see. \$14,995. 689-3913.

GMC 1994 SUBURBAN- C-1500/SLE. Excellent condition, white with blue interior, one owner, non-smoker. 54,200 miles. \$18,500. See to appreciate. 694-3594.

PLYMOUTH 1991 Voyager- Quad seats, newer transmission, complete record, no AC. Runs great. One owner. 682-6637 leave message.

PLYMOUTH 1995 Grand Voyager. 77K miles, excellent condition, fully loaded. \$9,500. Call 686-0481.

FORD 1997 ECONOLINE 150 van, Legend conversion, Triton V8, silver exterior, gray interior, 40,600 miles. \$22,000. 686-3990.

GMC 1984 SUBURBAN- good condition! New paint, windshield, dash and battery. \$2,750. 685-1327.

GMC 1998 SUBURBAN SLE. Copper Tan interior, CD, Towing package, 75K, well maintained mechanical & appearance. \$23,000. Days 683-3307.

NISSAN 1994 QUEST GXE. Quad sets, dual air, towing package, seven passenger, diamond blue. \$8,800. Call 685-7024.

OLDSMOBILE 1991 Van Silhouette. Air, cruise, excellent condition. \$4,500. 522-2874.

CHEVROLET 1998 SUBURBAN LT- 37K, white/ tan leather seats, CD stereo, immaculate condition, towing package. \$26,900. Days/ 686-5321, evenings/ 689-3949.

CHEVROLET 1991 Lumina Van. Excellent maintenance record, runs like new, drive to appreciate. \$4,200, or best offer. 686-0732 after 6PM.

CHEVROLET 1981 3/4 Ton Suburban. Rebuilt 35 with 70K. Runs good, power everything, new AM FM Cassette. Good work truck. \$2,500/ obo. Call 520-9527.

CHEVROLET 1987 Suburban. Very good condition. New air and rear, new transmission. \$4,000 or best offer. 563-0720, 634-4000.

CHEVROLET 1991 Lumina mini-van. Excellent running condition. Very clean, individual removable seats. New tires and battery. AM/ FM cassette. \$4,000. 694-8599.

DODGE 1996 Van with raised roof, Regency conversion, white with blue pinstripes, leather interior, TV, VCR, rear stereo, electric rear seats, lots of storage. Excellent condition. \$15,950. 689-8284.

GMC 1995 Suburban. 4 wheel drive. Excellent condition, chrome grill and step bars, luggage rack. \$17,950 or best offer. 689-8284.

MERCURY 1999 VILLAGER- Low mileage, one owner. Fully loaded, like new, excellent condition. \$18,000. Call 684-7007 leave message.

CHEVROLET 1999 EXPRESS. Agency conversion. 8 months old, paid \$31,000 will sell for \$25,000. 522-2644.

CHEVROLET 1999 Suburban LT, 3/4 ton, 454, 4X4, white/ tan leather, fully loaded, Mickey Thompson tires and wheels. 20K miles. \$34,875. Call 366-9322.

GMC 1992 Suburban SLE. custom conversion, 4X4, new GM motor with 3 year 50,000 warranty, new transmission and tires, fully loaded, green. \$13,800. Call 366-9322.

CHEVROLET 1995 SUBURBAN, green/ silver. Excellent condition, new tires, rear air, all power, towing package. \$16,500 or best offer. 683-7285.

222 Suburbans & Vans

NISSAN 1995 QUEST GXE- V6, 3.0 liter, automatic, power windows/ locks, tinted, purple, 44K miles, maintenance to a tee. \$12,800. 689-2200.

CHEVROLET 1998 SUBURBAN- 350, A/C, with rear air, good tires, very dependable, runs great. \$3,200 O.B.O. Call 697-7312. Pager 498-1449.

FORD 1993 CONVERSION Ready for vacation! Family van, very roomy & comfy. VCR, TV, \$7,900. 699-2166. Please leave message.

FORD 1994 E150 Conversion van. Excellent condition. 69K miles, captains chairs, rear air, towing package, cassette CD, white, \$9,000. 689-0722.

GMC 1993 SUBURBAN- Excellent condition, low mileage, good tires, loaded, teal & champagne towing pack, cargo doors. \$13,250. Call 699-6711.

CHEVROLET 1986 Suburban. Mag wheels, tan, excellent condition, clean, runs good. \$3,000. Please call 694-8426.

225 4x4 Vehicles

CHEVROLET 1995 271. Step side, low miles, loaded, custom wheel package. \$17,500. 697-8507.

JEEP 1995 WRANGLER. 26K miles, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, 3 tops. Many extras. adult driven. Excellent! \$10,500. 682-3806 evenings. 686-0223 days.

CHEVROLET 1996 Silverado, 1 ton, crew cab, 4x4 diesel, chrome accessories, 90K miles, excellent condition. \$19,000. 699-1780.

FORD 1993 F150 XL V8 auto, air conditioning, good tires, new pearl white paint. High miles. \$6,950. 520-6222, Pager 499-6383.

JEEP 1997 WRANGLER Sahara, white, hardtop, air conditioner, 6 cylinder, hitch, 44K miles. \$15,900 or best offer. Call 697-0740, 520-3812.

FORD 1988 Bronco. Garaged, one owner, all records. Great condition. Off road tires, towing package. Navy/ Tan. \$5,750. 687-2082.

JEEP 1982 C-J-7 Laredo. 6 cyl., 4 speed, power steering/ brakes. Tilt, air. 1m CD. 33x12.5 tires, wench, 3 tops. \$5,500. 699-6643.

FORD 1988 BRONCO XLT, full size, power locks/ windows, cruise, CD, off road tires, grill guard, 137K, \$5,200, negotiable. 915-699-5221, 915-699-4245.

FORD 1985 F250 XLT- 460Z 4 speed, red and grey, extended cab, long bed. \$4,200. Call 683-0957.

225 Vehicles \$3,000 & under

CHEVROLET 1985 Caprice Classic. Runs good, looks good, cold air. \$1,500. Call 570-8776.

CHEVROLET 1988 Suburban. High mileage but runs great. \$2,500. 563-2690 ask for Rene.

MGB 1969 Convertible. Does not run, good body. \$700. 520-6479 or 561-5213.

OLDSMOBILE 1990 Cutlass Calais. air conditioned, automatic. \$1,400. 697-558, 520-3678.

CHEVROLET 1982 full size 3/4 ton van, new engine. \$1,475. Call 684-1145.

FORD 1985 King Cab. Good condition. \$1,800. Please call 520-7226 for more information.

CHEVROLET 1984 Caprice Classic. 2 Door, clean, cold air, nice car! \$2,500. 570-8447.

CHEVROLET 1984 Conversion Van. Overall good condition, needs few minor things. \$2,995. 526-2580.

DODGE 1983 RAM van, \$1,200. Can be seen at 306 Waverly, Midland, Texas. 699-1016.

FORD 1983 F150 XLT Supercab, short bed, auto, air conditioner, power, 351W, headcase rack, toolbox. \$2,300. Call 699-4706.

FORD 1985 THUNDERBIRD- 94K miles, rebuilt engine and transmission. \$2,000. Call 684-9909.

FORD 1986 TAURUS, 75K original miles, new paint, interior like new, runs great. \$2,000 or best offer. Call 522-1552, call 556-4477.

CHEVROLET 1984 Camaro. Runs but needs a little work. \$800 or best offer. 699-6662 after 1 pm.

NEW TODAY

FORD 1986 Mustang LX, red, \$1,500. Call 697-2363 for information.

SOLD

FORD 1988 Tempo- One owner, 4 door, auto/ air. 96K miles, good condition. \$1,500. Call xxx-xxxx.

NEW TODAY

FORD 1993 TEMPO. Red, 4 door, auto, air. 103K miles. Excellent condition. \$2,750. 570-6307.

NEW TODAY

LINCOLN 1983 Town car. Maroon, leather, cold A/C. Runs great! Nice car! \$1,750. o.b.o. 520-3252.

MERCURY 1979 Marquis. 2 door, 60K miles, \$1,200 o.b.o. New tags and pads. 684-8362- Dawn or Dee.

SOLD

PONTIAC 1991 Sunbird, air, new tires, great work/ first school car. \$1,700 obo. Call XXX-XXXX.

235 Vehicles \$3,000 & under

GMC 1984 SUBURBAN- good condition! New paint, windshield, dash and battery. \$2,750. 685-1327.

PLYMOUTH 1979 Sapporo. Classic, little work needed, excellent tires, \$300 or make offer, trade guns. 685-0709 days, evenings 689-9547.

CHEVROLET 1988 Conversion Van: New transmission with 4 year warranty, power windows/ locks, cruise, air, runs great. 143K, 683-8136. \$2,850.

FORD 1970 Winch Truck- 1 ton, dual tires, 390 V8, chrome wheels, power steering, headers, clean, mechanically sound. \$1,700. 682-7587.

OLDSMOBILE 1982 NINETY Eight- Diesel, 4 door, excellent condition. Prior/ exterior, complete engine overhaul. \$2,500 negotiable. Call (806) 497-6421.

OLDSMOBILE 1983 NINETY Eight. Fully loaded, excellent condition. \$2,000 firm. Call 570-0449 after 5 p.m. or 684-7875.

CHEVROLET 1985 CONVERSION- Van, Dual a/c, power locks/ windows, runs good, new shocks, good tires. \$3,000. Firm Call 699-5712.

240 Motorcycles

1980 HARLEY DAVIDSON XLS 1000. Fat Bob tanks, custom paint, CV Carb, hypercharger, PB, cams, 10:1 pistons, shotgun baloney cut pipes, new o-ring chain and tires, all low miles. \$6,500. Call 557-2914.

NEW TODAY

1982 YAMAHA 650 Seca needs battery and some work. Motor runs good. \$350. Call 697-3611 form 6:00pm-9:00pm.

SOLD

1999 Harley Davidson Sportster, custom paint (black with candy flames), 5,800 miles, \$7,500 obo. Call XXX-XXXX.

1982 BMW R-100. Silver, aftermarket Windjammer fender & windshield, luggage, 88K. New valves, rings & rubber. Runs good. \$2,900. 570-8313.

1994 MAGNA 750. Red. \$4,400 Extra nice, 19,000 miles. Please call, 687-2717.

1998 VALKYRIE. Black, new tires. \$4,000 in extras. Priced at \$11,300. Please call 687-2717.

1999 HONDA 400EX four wheeler, ridden very few days, asking \$4,700. Call 687-2621 after 5:30 pm. 682-0448 days.

HARLEY DAVIDSON 1999 Sportster. Yellow/ black, 6K miles. \$10,000 payout. 915/756-3767 after 6 pm.

KAWASAKI 1986 KX80 Dirt Bike. Good condition. Needs minor repairs. \$400. Call 697-7269.

HONDA 1998 Valkyrie Tourer, black, 5,600 Excellent condition. \$10,900. Call 664-6800.

HONDA 1998 American Classic Edition Tourer. 4,500 highway miles. Garage kept and covered. With helmets/ leathers. All for \$7,500. 520-5121.

HARLEY DAVIDSON 1981 FH- Rare, first special edition, green/ orange, 9,500. One owner, accessories, seats, bags, leather jacket, \$16,500. 687-3349.

HONDA 1998 Valkyrie Tourer, black, 5,600 Excellent condition. \$10,900. Call 664-6800.

1998 HARLEY DAVIDSON- Sportster, custom paint (black with flames), 10K miles, fully chromed, beautiful bike. \$9,500 o.b.o. Call 689-3180.

1991 HARLEY DAVIDSON/ FLHTCUL. Blue, real nice, will sell for \$12,900. Please call 915-683-8466 between 11:00 a.m. to 6 p.m.

245 Trailers Utility

20' CAR HAULER flatbed, steel floor, red, D rings and stakes. one electric brake axle. Very nice. \$2,400. 697-1786.

DIRT BIKE trailer, hauls 3, \$250. Please call 687-2717 for information on this.

FOR SALE: Gooseneck 19' tandem axle utility trailer, electric brakes, new rubber, \$1,450. See at: 707 East County Road 130. Call 696-9015 evenings, 563-0261 days.

MERITT ALUMINUM Tool box for spread axle trailer, measures 2x2x4, \$400.79.

Aztec flatbed 45' trailer with sliding tandem. New brakes and drums, new lights and wiring \$3,000. 915-638-7492.

22' FLATBED Gooseneck, 10,000 lb. GVWT, new axles, brakes, loading ramps, chain basket. Consider part trade for 16' car hauler or medium size enclosed trailer. \$2,800. 683-2121 days, 682-6780 weekends/ nights.

250 Recreational Vehicles

1983 TRAVEL CRAFT motor home. 43K, fiberglass shell. Excellent condition. \$6,250. See at: 707 East County Road 130. 563-0261 days, 686-9015 evenings.

1995 STARCRAFT Starmaster XL Pop up camper. Excellent condition. 697-0957 and 638-7442.

DUNE BUGGY/ Sand Rail 1935cc VW engine with racing heads/ cams, blue with white rally stripes, professional built with trailer. \$4,000. 570-5442.

EXECUTIVE 1975- Good condition! New tires. \$6,500 or best reasonable offer. Call 661-5643 Cell phone or 570-7752 Leave message.

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2000 BLAZER

\$264⁰⁰ mo.

AM/FM Cassette/C.D., LT 300 Vortec Engine, Automatic Transmission, Power Windows, Power Locks & More!

36 Month SmartBuy, \$500.00 Down + TT&L, 5.9% APR, W.A.C., Residual \$13,152.00.

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\$455⁰⁰ mo.

Rear Sofa, Central A/C, TV/VCR, And More!

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2000 TRACKER

\$210⁰⁰ mo.

A/C, Automatic, Tilt Wheel, Cruise, AM/FM Cassette.

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BEWARE OF Anyone who tries to sell you information about Government & Postal Job Vacancies. This info. is free... call 210-805-2402 (24 Hours) or 210-805-2406. (To request application forms). A public service message from the Midland Reporter-Telegram & the F.T.C.

310 General Help Wanted

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Telemarketers Needed Day Shift Local Business Apply in person only

10601 W. County Rd. 127 (off 1788)

Temporary Full Time Days For Special Sports Ticket Promotion (Approximately 3 months work).

Apply in person only 10601 W. County Road 127 (off 1788)

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95% OR MORE OF ALL SHIFTS HAVE TWO PEOPLE OR MORE ON DUTY, APPLY AT ANY TOWN & COUNTRY FOOD STORE LOCATION OR AT 7100 W. HWY. 80, MIDLAND OR FAX AT 915/563-2706

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310 General Help Wanted

THIRED

NEED: Experienced Packers for the used household goods industry. Verifiable experience a must. xxx-xxxx

310 General Help Wanted

MAP DRAFTER Entry Level- some knowledge of lease revision and well spotting beneficial. Excellent free hand ink lettering essential. For appointment call 683-2777, ext. 18. Fax 682-1633.

310 General Help Wanted

LOCAL TRUCK Driver needed. Competitive hourly wage plus benefits. Must have CDL Class A with good driving record. Apply in person at 100 St. Peter, Stanton or call 756-2888.

310 General Help Wanted

BEST TIPS IN TOWN The Bar, downtown Midland, accepting applications for Waitstaff. Apply in person only. 606 W. Missouri between 8-10 am/ 2-4pm Monday thru Thursday. No phone calls please.

310 General Help Wanted

FULL TIME with overtime. Catholic. Protection company. Driving and backhoe experience a plus. Out of town work with expenses paid. CDL Class A required. Pre-employment drug test. benefits. 915-653-5057.

310 General Help Wanted

EMPLOYMENT 300

305 Job Services
310 General Help
311 Medical Help
312 Professional Help
314 Clerical Help
316 Sales Help Wanted
318 Management Help

319 Oil Industry Help Wanted
320 Skilled Trades
330 Employment Wanted
335 Adult Care Needed
336 Adult Care Providers
340 Child Care Needed
341 Child Care Providers
360 Business Opportunities

Attention Readers:

See other opportunities under Classification 170, Schools and Instruction.

Berg
TEXAS

BERG OLDSMOBILE

2000 OLDS INTRIQUE
Stock No. 9468



3.5 Liter Twin Cam 215 H.P. V-6 Engine, Automatic Transmission, Power Driver Seat, Power Windows, Keyless Entry, 6 Speaker Dimensional Sound System.

\$269⁰⁰* mo.

1,500 Down + T.T.L. 36 Mo. GMAC SmartBuy, 5.9% APR, WAC, 12,000 Miles Per Year. Residual \$13,200.75.

2000 OLDS SILHOUETTE GLS
Stock No. 9424



Leather Interior, Gold Package, Alloy Wheels, Deep Tint Glass, Power Windows, Power Locks, TR, Cruise, CD, Cassette, Power Sliding Door, Rear Seat Audio Controls.

\$329⁰⁰* mo.

1,500 Down + T.T.L. 36 Mo. GMAC SmartBuy, 5.9% APR, WAC, 12,000 Miles Per Year. Residual \$18,715.

Berg
TEXAS

BERG CADILLAC

2000 CADILLAC DEVILLE
North Star System, Leather Interior, Chrome Wheels, AM/FM/CASS, Ultra Sonic Rear Parking, White Diamond Paint.

SALE PRICE \$42,988 +T&L

2000 CADILLAC ELDERADO ESC
North Star System, Chrome Wheels, Leather Interior, Stabilizer, Comfort/Convenience Package, Crimson Pearl Paint.

SALE PRICE \$39,783 +T&L

Berg
TEXAS

BERG BUICK

2000 BUICK PARK AVENUE
Stock No. 9191



Prestige Package, Power Windows, Power Locks, Dual Power Seats, TR, Cruise, AM/FM/CASS, Driver Information Center, Concept Sound.

SALE PRICE \$29,880 +T&L

2000 BUICK REGAL LS
Stock No. 9344



3.9 Liter V-6, Automatic Transmission, Power Windows, Power Locks, TR, Cruise.

SALE PRICE \$19,999 +T&L

THE POWER OF & THE FUSION OF DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

"If you haven't shopped Berg Oldsmobile... You haven't made your BEST DEAL!"

"If you haven't shopped Berg Cadillac... You haven't made your BEST DEAL!"

"If you haven't shopped Berg Buick... You haven't made your BEST DEAL!"

3403 W. WALL • MIDLAND • 694-8432 or 1-800-922-2374

Berg
TEXAS

New Expanded Pre-Owned Super Center

On Every Car Financed

ZERO DOWN!

\$49⁰⁰ PER MONTH

'TIL JUNE 2000

NEW TODAY

CIRCLE ME!!!

12 POSITIONS AVAILABLE

HAVE FUN MAKE MONEY \$250-\$450 WEEKLY!!

WE TRAIN

CALL MONICA @ 682-2335

*Berg Motors will subsidize your payment down to \$49.00 on June 2000 W.A.C. Advertised Prices firm or Additional discount in lieu of \$49.00 Payment

'97 GMC JIMMY 2 DOOR White, 34K Miles, #0043 \$14,820	'99 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE SEDAN 6K Miles, Loaded, #0113 \$14,560	'99 NISSAN ECLIPSE CONVERTIBLE #0163 \$17,945
'99 PONTIAC TRANS AM T-Tops, Leather, 6 Speed, #0170 \$23,995	'99 PONTIAC SUNFIRE COUPE 11K Miles, #0335 \$11,960	'99 FORD MUSTANG WOVN #0295 \$18,345
'98 GMC EXT. CAB V-8, Green, 31K Miles, #0436 \$17,920	2000 CADILLAC SEVILLE Diamond White Pearl, #2534 \$39,460	'99 JEEP WRANGLER Black, #1222 \$19,345
'97 CADILLAC CATERA Black, Leather, #2546 \$18,920	'99 OLDS SILHOUETTE VAN Loaded, #2810 \$20,720	'95 CHRYSLER CIRRUS LX #2827 \$9,930
'99 BUICK CENTURY #2988 \$14,960	'97 CHEVROLET CAMARO Z-28 #3201 \$16,545	'98 CADILLAC DEVILLE Carriage Top, Nice!, #3523 \$22,520
'98 DODGE DAKOTA Sunroof, Red, #3987 \$15,045	'99 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX SE SEDAN #4001 \$15,960	'92 TOYOTA PASEO Blue, Clean, #4858 \$3,950
'94 CHEVROLET CAMARO Z-28 T-Tops, Chrome Wheels, #4277 \$12,920	'99 GMC YUKON DENALI Gold, #4359 \$36,810	2000 BUICK LESABRE New Body Style, Silver, #5124 \$22,860
'98 DODGE SS REG. CAB Red, W/Racing Stripes, #5454 \$17,940	'99 MERCURY COUGAR New Body Style, 6K Miles, #5951 \$17,995	'99 BUICK PARK AVENUE ULTRA Leather, #6060 \$23,920
'97 TOYOTA CAMRY White, #6177 \$12,960	'98 PONTIAC T/A RAM AIR Black, 6 Speed, Loaded, #6608 \$25,960	'94 CHEVROLET ASTRO VAN Dual A/C, #6706 \$5,960
'93 LINCOLN TOWN CAR #6731 \$3,460	'99 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO #7364 \$13,320	'99 DODGE DURANGO SLT 2WD #1111 \$22,900

Special Of The Week!

'96 PONTIAC TRANSPORT
One Owner!, #5383
\$10,960

OWN A CAR OR TRUCK TODAY
All Applications Accepted
Call for confidential pre-approval at
1-888-888-AUTO or
www.bergmotors.com
Good Credit - Bad Credit
No Credit - Slow Credit

Berg
TEXAS

BERG'S PRE-OWNED CENTER

The Home Of One-Owner Trade-Ins!

3403 W. WALL • MIDLAND • 694-8432 or 1-800-922-2374

SONIC DRIVE INN.
1109 N. Midkiff, is now hiring Carhops, cooks, fountain help for day or evening shifts. Please apply in person. Personality is a plus. Be a part of our winning team!

REPRESENTATIVES
Needed: sell Avon part time - full time. Great earnings. Call Verna 520-0119. Independent Rep.

DRIVER NEEDED with economical vehicle to deliver tickets and pickup donations. Apply in person 2019 Trade Drive.

KENT KWIK
24 Hour * Job Hotline 520-4053 ext. 371

SEEKING AUDITOR must have 10 key experience and be willing to travel. Mail resume to: 3004 South County Road 1225, Midland, TX 79706.

GYMNASTICS COACH needed for evening hours. Must work well with children. Call 682-4113 for appointment.

SHOPHAND Maintain shop, building, grounds. Repair and clean equipment. Pick up and deliver equipment. Apply at Plunger Lift Systems Inc., #14 East Industrial Loop, 699-1200

CLASSIFIED CAN!

310 General Help Wanted

CAR SALES Person for special finance department. Credit Resources at Music City Mall. 915/552-5363.

DRIVER WANTED - Must have clean driving record. 24 hour call, be over 21. Apply in person 1607 W. Florida, Monday through Friday.

DRY CLEANING Presser and counter positions available. Apply in person Iron Press Cleaners, 3323 N. Midland Dr.

EXPERIENCED AUTO Glass Technician. Excellent pay and benefits. Call 550-3464 between 8 and 5:30 Monday through Friday.

EXPERIENCED Window Cleaners needed for rapidly growing local business. Guaranteed hours to start. Then it's up to you. Call Aerdynt Janitorial, 694-1448.

FINANCE MANAGERS Cars and homes. Credit Resources at Music City Mall. 915/552-5363.

NEW TODAY

FRONT DESK and Night Auditor needed at the Comfort Inn, 902 West I-20, Midland.

FURNITURE MOVERS with experience. Heavy lifting and drivers license required. Leave name number (915)553-1464.

NEW IN TOWN? For your FREE "New Resident" Welcome Packet. Call Newcomers Unlimited, 570-8045.

LOGANS ROADHOUSE now hiring for friendly, enthusiastic service staff members. Apply in person.

MAINTENANCE PERSON Needed full time. Apply in person at Super 8 Motel, 1000 West I-20, Midland. No phone calls.

NEW TODAY

MERCHANDISER TASC

The Service Division of Bush Furniture is seeking Part-Time furniture Merchandising specialist for the greater Midland and surrounding areas. Must have strong communication skills and detail oriented. Reliable transportation, ability to lift 50+ pounds and assemble displays. Must pass drug screen and drivers records checks. Day hours only. Up to \$10.00 hourly DOE. Fax resume to:

636-447-7116
or call
1-800-491-2874
ext #170. E.O.E.

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY Experienced linemen for outfield work. Must be able to pass drug testing and have a valid driver's license. Company benefits include paid insurance and paid vacation. Salary DOE. Apply at EM & C, 6501 S. FM 1788, Midland or send resume to P.O. Box 60446, Midland, 79711 or fax resume to: 915/561-5218.

PART TIME Merchandiser for greeting cards and related products. Flexible hours. Must be available on holidays. Call 800/543-4110, ext. 11965, E.O.E.

NEW TODAY

PHONE HELP, will train in phone sales. Full time, year round. 697-1168.

PINOCCHIOS PIZZA now is hiring for all positions. Great work environment. Flexible hours. Be 18 or older. Please apply in person 3303 N. Midkiff.

ROUTE DRIVER/FRONT COUNTER ASSISTANT
Adcock's Ideal Cleaners, is accepting applications for the position of Route Driver/ Front Counter Assistant. Applicant must have an excellent driving record, work well with the public and be a high school graduate. Persons desiring to join the Adcock's team should come by 315 Dodson and complete an application.

RV DEALERSHIP looking for full time Shop Hand. Will train- carpentry and mechanical experience a plus. Call 561-9551.

SHOGUN'S STEAKHOUSE will train. Friendly dependable cooks. Earn \$10 plus. Loop 250 & Garfield. 570-8888.

WHIREDY
SMALL MIDLAND based Technology Company needs a "Field Electronic Instrument Technician". Must have basic electronic skills, wiring ability and possess basic PC knowledge. Oilfield experience a plus. Salary DOE. xxx-xxxx.

Apprentice Technician: Must have some technical background and/or technical training school background. Must be interested in customer satisfaction as well as personal growth. On hand training with factory trained master technician provided on a daily basis, as well as factory training for the right individuals. Must have clean driving record.

All applications treated in a confidential manner. Your current employer will not be contacted without your permission. Apply in the following manner:

Mail resume to:
Thad Tucker,
1004 S. Midkiff,
Midland, TX 79703

Fax resume to:
Thad Tucker,
915-699-0003

Apply in person:
contact Thad Tucker,
800-698-7993.

CAB DRIVER. Must be courteous, dependable, good driving record. Retired or students welcome, male or female. Call 685-7070.

V.I.P. Employment
Services 686-9722
Industrial Workers needed. Long/ short term assignments.

310 General Help Wanted

NEW TODAY

THE SAN ANGELO Standard Times is seeking a carrier for the Stanton area starting May 1st. Call 1-800-586-1984, ask for Jeremy.

TRAVEL AGENT needed immediately. Professional with solid client base. Sign on Bonus of \$500 plus \$10 per hour. Must have experience with Sabre and be well traveled. Send resume to: Travel Agent, Box P-6026, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

WANTED PIZZA Drivers. Top pay flexible hours. Good economy car needed. 685-5032.

311 Medical Help Wanted

\$300 SIGN ON BONUS! Now Hiring PRN RN's: up to \$37.50. LVN's up to \$30.00. NURSEFINDERS, 550-9399.

NEW TODAY

ARE YOU A 100% Type person? Your dream job may be right here. Do you like to help people feel better and get well? Do you have a background in therapy or medicine? Do you enjoy the water and appreciate it's therapeutic benefits? Do you like to pitch in as well as supervising and training others? Do you want to be instrumental in the continued rapid growth of our large water therapy/rehab program? Would you like working through administrative details and paperwork and still smile when you greet our clients? Do you have a minimum of outside commitments? Are you patient and helpful when people have special needs? Can you juggle schedules and appreciate the value you provide in helping others? If this describes you and you have reliable transportation and an available phone, we really want to meet you! No Whiners. Bring resume by mail to 3003 N. V. Street, 9705. Salary plus commission on growth.

WHIREDY
CNAs LVNs and RNs wanted to come join our newly managed nursing facility. Excellent starting pay and benefits. Wonderful atmosphere and employees. xxxxxxx

DOCTORS OFFICE with experience in a doctors office and insurance billing clerk with experience in Medical Manager. Good benefits. Please send CV to: Box J-5030, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for EMT's, Basic, intermediate and paramedic. Full, part time or PRN. Day, evening or night shifts. Texas West Ambulance, 689-0531.

NEW TODAY

IMMEDIATE POSITION for full time nurse, RN or LVN. Medical office experience necessary. Excellent salary and benefit package. Must be self starter and team player. Send resume to: Box J-5038, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

MD NEEDED immediately for part-time, on call position, nights/weekends in Midland, TX. Guaranteed income. Call 1-800-493-7222 or fax CV to 713-953-1925.

NEW TODAY

MED TECH AMBULANCE is currently accepting applications for Midland Office, EMT, EMTI, Paramedics. Full, Part time and PRN. Great pay, flexible hours, friendly working environment. Must have Texas certification, good driving record, and be at least 21 years of age. 580-5262.

NURSE WANTED for cardiac cath lab. Cath lab experience preferred. Please send resume to: PO Box 4186, Midland, TX 79704

PEDIATRIC R.N. An R.N. who is experienced with pediatric patients is needed to work evenings, nights, weekends, and be able to take on-call if needed. LVN's will be considered. Please contact Deldra, at Infusion Plus before 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday at 570-7587.

PHYSICAL THERAPY Outpatient clinic is looking for P.T. Aide, to work Part-time (flexible hours) Apply in person. Seal Physical Therapy, 4500 West Illinois, Suite 308, from 9:00 to 12:00 p.m. Monday Through Friday.

QUALITY NURSING Services: RN's starting out at \$26.00 per hour, LVN's starting out at \$19.00 per hour. 3106 North 6th Street, Suite #103. Call 682-7122 or 570-1021.

SOCIAL WORKER. Andrews Healthcare Center currently has position open for a licensed social worker. Must have experience working with the geriatric population in a long term care setting. Strong customer service and excellent communication skills a must. Qualified applicants please mail or fax resume to: Administrator, Andrews Healthcare Center, 620 Hospital Drive, Andrews, TX 79714. 915/523-4986. Fax 915/523-4980.

TERRACE WEST Nursing Center, has current openings for CNAs, if interested, please apply in person at 2800 North Midland Drive, Midland, Texas.

THE RANCH HOUSE is seeking part time help, lunch time. \$5.75 per hour. Apply in person at 3001 W. Loop 250 North, (by Meryna).

Find It! Buy It! Sell It!
682-6222

311 Medical Help Wanted

TRINITY HAVEN HEALTHCARE
Needs Qualified Dependable

Full-Time CNA's & LVN's

Good starting pay New Pay Incentive LSW

Part-Time Family Owned & Operated Pleasant clean work environment Apply in person 3263 Sage St. 683-5403.

312 Professional Help Wanted

Account Executives
Team Up With The World's Leader In Computer Training. New Horizons Computer Learning Centers

Earning potential unlimited. Send resume to:
P.O. Box 4786,
Midland, TX 79704
or email janes.roye@newhorizons.com

DATA ENTRY Clerk for small office. Duties to include: answering the telephone, A/R, A/P, and G/L. Experience in Peachtree Please contact John Henry at 915-694-9988.

EXPERIENCED Custom Frammer needed. Full or part time. Salary negotiable. Apply in person at 3102 W. Culberty.

FAMILIES TOGETHER
Consultant- Two positions Available. On Bilingual Required. Bachelor's Degree in a related field working with children and families required. Reimbursement travel within a 17 county area serving families in their home. Salary \$1,908 monthly. E.O.E. Call for application or pick up at High Sky Children's Ranch, Families Together, 6701 W. County Road 60, Midland 79707. (915)520-8370.

HAIR STYLIST & NAIL TECH positions now open. Hair Stylist must know back combing and able to do mens haircuts. Must be dependable, friendly. Send resumes to: Box H-4205, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

LEGAL ASSISTANT/ SECRETARY: seeking person who has Civil Litigation experience, primarily in the area of personal injury, who can handle a heavy workload for fast growing firm. Computer skills, organized, bilingual and communication skills a must. Non-smoking environment. Salary DOE. Send resumes to 2403 N. Big Spring St., Suite C, Midland, TX 79705.

LEGAL SECRETARY. Midland law firm seeks experienced secretary to assist attorneys in commercial, oil and gas, corporate and litigation practice. Must be proficient with WordPerfect. Legal secretarial experience is preferred. Send resume, including list of computer software experience, to: Box P-6023, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

New Horizons Computer Learning Centers.
the fastest growing computer software & network training company in the world, is looking for additional full-time instructors to teach Windows-based software classes. If you are a dedicated, enthusiastic individual who would like to have a career in the computer industry, then you must come and see what our instructor position offers. Candidates must possess excellent presentation skills, eagerness to learn and willingness to work. We will train you. Mail applications to: Instructor, New Horizons, P.O. Box 4786, Midland, TX 79704-4786 or email janes.roye@newhorizons.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT. Excellent phone skills, multi-tasking, professional, proficient with Excel/Word. Some experience accounting software. Send resume to: Box J-5033, c/o MRT, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

OIL/ GAS Bookkeeper: Full charge oil/ gas bookkeeper/ accountant for independent operator. General ledger, payroll and interest billing, accounts payable. Experienced only need apply. Quetsa oil/ gas software. Call 333-5081 or fax resume to 333-5083. Salary DOE.

OUTREACH VICTIM'S Advocate: The Odessa office of Safe Place has a full-time opening for an Outreach Advocate. Requires a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology, Criminal Justice, Social Work or one of the Behavioral Sciences or equivalent experience in a related work field. Extensive same day travel, bilingual preferred. Must possess excellent interpersonal skills, ability to work independently and an understanding of and willingness to work with legal systems. Fax to 915-552-7470 or mail to: P.O. Box 2942, Midland, Texas 79702. (Attn: Anna Martin) by April 25, 2000.

WELL- SITE GEOLOGISTS and Mudloggers needed. Call 830-460-8471 or 210-413-9185 (cell).

906 BEDF
mirrors, la
ances, toy
Friday- Sat

2900 WES
Sale! Furni
6:00! Turn
door with k

2215

Cottonflat/
University
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8:00am-2:
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Famous Front Pages

These replicas of Famous Front Pages of the Midland Reporter-Telegram are reproduced on Aluminum plates, framed and matted for displaying in your home or office. They also make great gifts!



Only \$50 each



OTHER FRONT PAGES:
Midland High Bulldog
Championship
Selena
VE Day
and More!

To reserve your framed front page, call Tami at 687-8802

Garage Sales
Hidden treasures? Junk?
Recycle your unwanted items!
Call 682-6222 today. A friendly Classified Consultant will help you create an ad that gets results!

79701

906 BEDFORD. Antiques, furniture, beds, mirrors, lamps, brand name kitchen appliances, toys, 1985 Honda Accord, 4 door. Friday-Saturday 8 am & Sunday 1 pm.

79707

4808 RUSTIC TRAIL (Greentree): Friday 9:00am, Saturday 7:30am. Multifamily! Furniture, toys, bikes, clothes, electronics, Christmas tree, Healthrider, golf clubs.

2900 WEST KENTUCKY (Unit 109). Big Sale! Thursday-Friday-Saturday 9:00 until 6:00! Furniture, books, glassware, 36' solid door with key, miscellaneous!

2215 WEST FLORIDA (between Cottonflat/ Garfield). Lubbock Christian University Association Fund Raiser. Clothing, toys, games, books, fax machine, dishes, glassware, kitchen appliances, golf clubs, baby items, vacuums, boat, fishing stuff, antiques, tools, computers, TV, MORE! Homemade baked goods too! Friday: 8:00am-2:00pm Saturday 8am-3:00pm. No early sales.

300 EAST WALCOTT. Clothes, children's clothes, tools, tires, 2 battery chargers, Trucks, miscellaneous. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00am-5:00pm.

714 NORTH LINCOLN (Look for the signs). Thursday and Friday 8:00 am! Furniture, decorator items, designer clothing and handbags, toys, household items, miscellaneous items!

79703

310 OXFORD (in alley). Driveway Sale. Clothes, toys, furniture, galvanized guttering, PVC pipe. Saturday-Sunday 8-? Bring your best offer!

401 SWEETBRIAR. Moving Sale. Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Opening at 9 am. Everything Must Go! 697-1449.

350 NORTH MIDLAND DRIVE, Suite "B". Tots 2 Teens is now accepting Spring & Summer consignments!

607 BROOKS. Friday-Saturday. Queen bed, dresser, sofa, antique piano, lawn mower, clothes, etc. 689-0260.

79705

The Deadline to place an Ad in our Saturday Garage Sale Section is Noon Friday. Call 682-6222 to place your ad today.

3612 JORDAN. 7th Semi-Annual Children's Consignment Sale! Finer clothing-gently worn. Spring/Summer clothing sizes newborn-14. Brand name include Baby Gap, Gymboree, Old Navy. Baby items galore! Strollers, carseats, swings, playpen, changing table, etc! Lots of toys-Little Tikes. Saturday, 7:30-1:00. Discounts Sunday 1:00-4:00.

4006 LEHIGH. Friday only- 8:00 UNTIL 3:00! Clothes, toys, motorcycle, knick-knacks, and more!

AREA SALES

209 WASHINGTON BLVD; Estate sale! Big Spring, Crystal, Silver, paintings, piano, furniture, appliances, collectibles. Friday-Saturday-Sunday, March 31-April 2, 10:00 am-5:00 pm! (915)263-0569. No Checks!

GARAGE SALE SERVICES

DON'T MISS OUT!

The deadline for a Saturday Garage Sale ad is Friday at Noon. Please be sure to call 682-6222, before noon, to ensure your ad will be in Saturday's paper.

\$20.50 \$20.50 \$20.50 \$20.50
GARAGE SALE AD PACKAGE \$20.50

★ 7 Lines (approx. 28-35 words)
★ 2 Days
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Stand Out Emblem
★ Garage Sale Kit (Includes Signs, Stakes, Marker, Balloons, Helpful Hints, \$6 Value)
★ Package of Flavored Drink Mix (for the Kids to Open a Drink Stand)
★ \$3 Off Classified Coupon (Place an ad to sell those left-over garage sale items & get \$3 off!)
Or Get 3 Days for Only \$24.50!
Call 682-6222 Today!
\$20.50 \$20.50 \$20.50 \$20.50

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONSULTANT

The person we are looking for will love working with computers & learning new skills; love (even more) talking to people on the phone, have excellent spelling & typing skills; have the ability to learn quickly & retain information learned; be committed to quality & be able to pay attention to fine details; possess the ability to care about & respect our customers; and be able to constructively handle stress on a daily basis.

In return, you'll be given... all the training you need to be successful; skills that you can take with you for your future, lots of hard work sprinkled with fun & laughter; an opportunity to grow in a professional environment where your skills & dedication to quality are valued; a chance to go home each day knowing that you've made a difference in someone's life.

We would prefer applicants with at least 3+ years experience in an office setting but "go-getters" of all experience levels are encouraged to apply. This position is for 40 hours per week, with a varied schedule (most days are from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday-Friday, but you will be scheduled to work 10:30 am to 7:30 pm approximately 2 times per week, also 1 or 2 Saturdays per month, from 7:30 am to approximately 2 pm.) Pay is based on an hourly wage of \$6.25 plus a generous commission plan that rewards you for your speed, productivity & accuracy.

If you possess the skills listed above and are looking for a challenge, fax your resume to: **Brandt at 682-6999 or Stop by 201 E. Illinois or E-mail us at mriclassified@mrt.com**

Only selected applicants will be called for an interview. No phone calls please.

A dynamic and rapidly expanding public oil and gas company located in Midland, Texas is seeking a

DIVISION ORDER ANALYST

Candidates should have a minimum of 5 years of land administration experience and be proficient in all phases of division order work (preparing and processing division orders, reviewing title opinions and curative documents, analyzing conveyance documents, splitting burdens, managing ownership records, etc.). Applicants must have effective communication skills, excellent PC skills, strong analytical and organizational skills, be a self-starter and work with minimal supervision. We offer competitive compensation, an excellent benefit package and a smoke free environment.

Please send resume to:
**Attention: Land Department
P.O. Box 10629
Midland, TX 79702**

NEW TODAY
PERSONAL LINES Customer Service Representative. Need experience in Alster or Echo rating systems. Benefits offered. Send resume to: Box R-1022, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

RESERVOIR ENGINEER. Yates Petroleum Corporation, a very active oil and gas producer, is seeking a reservoir engineer for a position in Artesia, New Mexico. The successful candidate will have a B.S. degree in Engineering, and three or more years experience in the oil and gas industry. We offer competitive salaries and benefits, challenging work, and an opportunity to be a part of a growing oil and gas company. Send resumes to: Yates Petroleum Corporation, Attn: Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 97, Artesia, New Mexico 88211-0097.

NEW TODAY
HELP WANTED
by a small independent oil and gas producing company!

A valuable employee is moving and must be replaced by an equally able person who is knowledgeable in bookkeeping skills and is computer literate. If you are interested in working with nice people in a pleasant environment, please send your resume to:

**Box Holder,
P.O. Box 10689
Midland, TX 79702**

We will arrange an interview. It is important that we are both happy with the opportunity to work together.

NEW TODAY
CLERICAL Help Wanted

Spring Into a New Job with TEMPORARY RESOURCES
Clerical Experience needed now! 684-8527

OFFICE MANAGER/ Receptionist. Answers phones, general office duties, manages computer data bases, record keeping, monthly statistics and reports. Bilingual a plus. Monday through Friday 9 to 5. Submit resume to: Alzheimer's Association, P.O. Box 3389, Midland, Texas 79702.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE Assistant. Safe Place has an opening for Program Administrative Assistant with at least three years experience and proven skills and computer knowledge (Windows '95/'98, database and spreadsheet). very organized, reliable, self starter, maintaining strict confidentiality. Fax resume to: 570-5315 or mail to: Box 2942, Midland, Texas 79702, to be received by April 10, 2000.

318 Oil Industry Help Wanted 318 Oil Industry Help Wanted 318 Oil Industry Help Wanted

UTI DRILLING
The leading contract drilling company in the Permian Basin is seeking experienced candidates for the following positions:
Drillers • Derrickmen • Motormen • Floormen
Complete benefit package including:
Health Insurance, Paid Vacation & 401K plan.
Qualified applicants should apply in person at:
640 N. Loop 250 West, Midland, TX 79702
Pre-employment drug screen required
Equal Opportunity Employer

DP PERSONNEL
Temp & Perm Positions
Benefits & Bonuses Available
682-0033 or 570-0197

Global Personnel Network
Positions Local & Worldwide 686-8360

318 Sales Help Wanted

\$ LOOK \$ My Resume
2 Years with a national bank. 5 Years with a Fortune 500 company.
I made \$75,000 last year selling manufactured homes. Two positions open. Bi-lingual plus.
Call 520-2177

\$100K PLUS potential for Sales Person for the world's largest manufactured home corporation. Excellent opportunity for advancement. Must be highly motivated, self starter with a strong desire to succeed. Apply in person Monday thru Friday only at A-1 Homes, 7206 W. Hwy 80, Midland, TX.

Are You Motivated to Make \$\$\$?
Team Up With The World's Leader.
New Horizons Computer Learning Centers.

Send resume to: AE's, P.O. Box 4786, Midland, TX 79704-4786 or email james.roye@newhorizons.com

SALES REP Needed \$75,000 + per year. 915-522-1218.

318 Mgmt Help Wanted

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT Company seeking Experienced manager for North Midland Apartment Community. Pre-employment testing required. Call 684-5550

318 Oil Industry Help Wanted

NEW TODAY
EXPERIENCED Oilfield truck drivers, road truck drivers familiar with hauling pipe, swamps and equipment construction operators needed. Apply in person at 1612 ECR 115 or call 570-7355 for directions.

FIELD SERVICE Technician- install and service plungerlift systems. production experience preferred. Apply at Plunger Lift Systems Inc., #14 East Industrial Loop, 699-1200

MUDLOGGING- Experienced- top pay and benefits. (281)920-0221.

WANTED: EXPERIENCED Roustabout Pushers. Apply at Rusty's Oil Field Service Co. Inc., Stanton, 915-756-2821

320 Skilled Trades
ALL AROUND Maintenance Apartment complex. Heating & Air Conditioning experience needed. Call between 8:30 am-5:30 pm, 694-2466.

EXPERIENCED Painters and mud hands Needed. Non experienced need not apply. 620-0159, 553-0122.

INDUSTRIAL Electrician, Pipeliner. Millwright needed now for out of state work. Earn up to \$2,000 weekly with OT. Hotel paid. Call now (877)377-8649.

JOIN A GROWING team. Now taking applications for **EXPERIENCED VALVE TECHNICIANS.** Salary, Bonus, Company Incentives. (915)689-6341.

LICENSED JOURNEYMAN Electricians. Competitive wage rate. EOE. Please contact Tati City Electric Inc., at 901 Airport Road, Building #3, Midland, Texas. Or call 684-7705, fax-684-7791.

LICENSED PLUMBER wanted for residential and commercial work. Good wages. Must pass drug screen. Call 683-3224 or apply at 1005 West Industrial.

MECHANIC WANTED: Engine and Compressor mechanic needed for local and out of town work. Must be experienced in High Speed and Low Speed Integral machines, also regrout. Pay D. O. E. Mail resume to: P.O. Box 98239, Odessa, Texas 79769-0239.

NEW TODAY
ROTO ROOTER is accepting applications for a drain cleaner. Apply in person, 1410 Carter, Good driving record a must.

WANTED: Licensed Service Plumbers & HVAC Service Technicians. If you are interested in working for a growing and stable company that has been in business for over 65 years, offers good benefits, excellent training, 401K retirement, paid vacation, continuing education, guaranteed 40 hours work week and top wages, please apply at: Armstrong Mechanical, 710 East 40th, Lubbock, TX or mail your resume to P.O. Box 3430, Lubbock, TX 79452. EOE

NEW TODAY
THE GIFT shop- "To Warm Your Heart." Great client list and growth potential. Priced to sell. Owner has other interests. Call 520-3181.

NEW TODAY
Wanted: Licensed Service Plumbers & HVAC Service Technicians. If you are interested in working for a growing and stable company that has been in business for over 65 years, offers good benefits, excellent training, 401K retirement, paid vacation, continuing education, guaranteed 40 hours work week and top wages, please apply at: Armstrong Mechanical, 710 East 40th, Lubbock, TX or mail your resume to P.O. Box 3430, Lubbock, TX 79452. EOE

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318 Sales Help Wanted

STUDENTS/ YOUNG PEOPLE And Others Ages 16 and Up

NEED CASH?
Guys & Gals
Take This Job And Love It!!!

You can earn \$25- \$150 commission per week working some evenings & weekends getting new subscribers for the Midland Reporter-Telegram. We have exciting programs for neat & dependable, High School students & other interested persons to earn good money. No newspaper delivery is involved. No experience necessary. Immediate openings. Parents welcome at interview.

Apply in person at
Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois
Tuesday at 6:00 pm
Meeting will last 1 hour.

NEW TODAY

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SALESPERSON

Needed for electrical wholesaler distributor Position requires good knowledge of telecommunications materials, electrical materials, and previous sales experience. Must have ability to develop customer relations, increase sale value and develop new accounts. Good communications skills, good origination skills, and excellent work ethics are required. Must have high school diploma or GED. Applications taken between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday at Zimco Electric, 850 West University, Odessa, TX. Equal Opportunity employer, M/F.

318 Mgmt Help Wanted

318 Mgmt Help Wanted

BarnDoor
STEAKHOUSE

MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS IN ODESSA, TEXAS

Now Accepting Resumes For Assistant Manager. Must Have Restaurant Management Experience. Fax Resume To 915/570-8965 or Email To RTGILLEAN@MSN.COM

NEW TODAY

WELDER NEEDED with 3-5 years oil field experience. Salary DOE. Reply to: Box J-5039, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

336 Adult Care Providers
IN HOME CARE provides care for almost any situation at affordable rates. For more information or questions, call (915)570-4475.

340 Child Care Needed
NANNY NEEDED: Starting part time moving to full time. Must have references and previous work history: 684-7007, leave message.

NEEDED: One care giver for day care. Penney's Early Learning Center. Call 699-1313.

341 Child Care Providers
CHILD CARE in my home a lot of one on one attention and TLC. Six Years experience. References available. 522-2921.

REGISTERED/ CPR Certified Child care in my home. One opening available. Clean environment. Loop 250 & Hwy 80 area. 563-1910.

350 Business Opportunities
FOR SALE: Sign Engraving company, equipment, inventory, accounts. \$5,000. 697-3719 before 5 pm.

Attention Readers
Occasionally, ads found in this section come from distant points & the Midland Reporter-Telegram cannot always know the merits of the offers. We suggest when you are in doubt that you call the Better Business Bureau before signing any contract or giving out your credit card or bank information.

Get your Real Estate license quickly, short, day, weekend, evening classes. Southwest College 697-7277

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THE GIFT shop- "To Warm Your Heart." Great client list and growth potential. Priced to sell. Owner has other interests. Call 520-3181.

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Wanted: Licensed Service Plumbers & HVAC Service Technicians. If you are interested in working for a growing and stable company that has been in business for over 65 years, offers good benefits, excellent training, 401K retirement, paid vacation, continuing education, guaranteed 40 hours work week and top wages, please apply at: Armstrong Mechanical, 710 East 40th, Lubbock, TX or mail your resume to P.O. Box 3430, Lubbock, TX 79452. EOE

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Fax It! 682-6999

MARTY'S MARKETPLACE

Leading you to the best bargains in Midland and the area!



Do you need to get rid of some of your extra goodies around the house?

Don't want to spend a lot of cash?

*Marty's Weekday Special

3 Line Ad
1 Item Priced \$300 or Less
Monday through Thursday ONLY
\$4.00

Call or Fax Classifieds today to schedule your special Marketplace ad!

682-6222

Fax 682-6999

*Private Party merchandise ads only. 1 item per ad. Price must be in ad to qualify. Other restrictions may apply, ask consultant for details.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

NEW TODAY

Y2K GENERATOR- diesel powered, 7.5 KW, Onan and expensibles, skid mounted. \$7,000. New, less than 25 hours. \$6,000. Call 694-1839.

BINGO, American Legion, 501 Airport Road, Friday nights, games start at 8. Food, refreshments. 682-5511.

TIRED OF... Being out of energy? Feeling stressed? We got what it takes! 2000 samples. 915/580-1349.

NEW TODAY

LADIES CLOTHES, sizes 14 and 16. Blue, white, red. \$60. Thursday 10-5. 3312 Camarie.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

NEW TODAY

INVENTORY REDUCTION- Bargain! Full-sized spa/ hot tubs \$550.00 a month. Delivery/financing available. 915-563-3108.

MUST SELL: riding mower, with trailer, edger, tool box. Exerbike, dishwasher, Kirby vacuum cleaner, cell phones and tiller. 520-6621.

8 POUND OREK vacuum cleaner- Like new- one year guarantee, \$129.95. Call 520-6464.

NEW TODAY

WHY PAY rent? 10x16 storage buildings \$42.00 a month. Most colors remaining. 915-563-3108.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

NEW TODAY

OLD BOY Scout Uniforms needed to outfit new At-Risk Scouts. Please deposit your old uniforms at the Scout Office, 1101 W. Texas, Monday-Friday, 9:00 am until 5:00 pm or call 570-7601. Please respond by April 14, 2000.

BY OWNER: "Garden of Devotion" Lot 467, 4 spaces. \$1,400 each. Reshawn Cemetery. Call 806-794-5024.

WHY PAY rent? 10x16 storage buildings \$42.00 a month. Most colors remaining. 915-563-3108.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

NEW TODAY

BRAND NEW leather sofa & love seat set, tan color, great value. \$1,300 or best offer. 683-3078.

KING SIZE bed frame for double box spring. \$35. Please call 687-4209 for more information.

ANTIQUE BEDROOM Suite, Full size bed, dresser, mirror, hutch. \$800. Call 520-7151 leave message.

NEW TODAY

SIMMONS SOFA for sale, navy with pastel stitching, very good condition, \$200. 699-1303.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

NEW TODAY

DINING ROOM SET, 6 chairs, beautiful southwest print, hutch. \$1,200. Call 520-7151 leave message.

BRASS TRUNDLE daybed complete with bedding-asking \$200. Please call 683-5758 for information.

FLEXSTEEL Sofa and love seat, good condition, \$550. 1814 Castelford (Polo Park) 686-8042.

NEW TODAY

MULTICOLORED- Tan, cream & blue sofa for sale. Great condition. \$250. Call 570-5267.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

NEW TODAY

JIM'S GOLF CLUBS. Adams "Tight Lie" woods \$60. Callaway Steelhead X-14 irons. \$184 set. (clones) Reshaft. Regrip. lowest prices. 3115 Haynes. 694-1334.

INDIVIDUAL WILL pay fair prices for your antiques and collectibles. No furniture please. 571-3222/694-7508.

THE CATS MEOW- 4000 sq. ft. of fine merchandise- we buy & sell antiques. 608 Highway. (915)687-2004.

NEW TODAY

ESTATE Sales by JOSEPH'S. Let our experienced team liquidate your estate. 687-3040, 687-2868, 694-5034.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

NEW TODAY

HOME THEATER active speaker system, Sony SA-VA3, center speaker output, excellent condition. \$200. 520-0403 afternoons.

25" COLOR TV with swivel stand, remote. \$250. 687-2702.

APPLE IIe working Computer, set up for trial. \$300. 697-2545.

NEW TODAY

SERVICE AFTER THE SALE Computers- New and used, upgrade and repair. Night Owl Computers, 10am-8pm. 1015-B N Midkiff. 520-5917, 686-8835.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

NEW TODAY

HOUSEBROKEN Puppy, Dachshund mix, 6 month old male. \$100. 5342 after 5:00 pm.

8 WEEK Old male, mixed breed puppy to good home. 684-0534.

MALE PIT Bull, 7 months, brindle, shots, friendly, to good home only. 694-5518.

NEW TODAY

SPRINGSPANIEL free to good home. High spirited. Call 697-1053 between 5-9 pm.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

NEW TODAY

LOVABLE 7 WEEK old female puppy, Part Chow & Pit Bull. Call 520-2828.

(2) Kitties black white, tan/white, 6 month old very gentle, house trained. 570-6866/687-2374.

BEAUTIFUL SMALL part Collie male good looking, good home. Call 699-5815 for more information.

NEW TODAY

REGISTERED APALLOOSA (Gelding), coming 3 year old. Good bloodline, great Dressage prospect at 16 hands. Current Coggins and basic immunizations. Asking \$2,500. 620-4124 days, 563-8041 evenings.

410 Miscellaneous Sales

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WIDE OPEN SPACES

Oversized Floorplans
Spacious Kitchens
Huge Closets

Treemont Apartments

(915) 520-0705
5216 Treemont
Midland, Texas 79707

Ahhh...Room To Breathe
\$99 Total Move In!!

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT GREYSTAR MANAGEMENT SERVICES, L.P.

Our March Special Is "In Like A Lion!"

@ Garden Court Apts.!

\$79 Total Move-In, W.A.C.

Spacious 1 & 2 BR Apts., 1g. Walk-In Closets, Washer/Dryer Connections. Fireplaces, Tennis Court, Senior, Student, Some City & County Discounts.

2301 N. Pecos
(Corner of Neely & Pecos)
915/683-9270

Spring into a Fabulous Apartment Home

1 Month Free - W.A.C.

On our Spacious 2bedroom/2bath 3bedroom/2bath

- Covered Parking available
- Washer/Dryer
- Quiet - Stately & Elegant

WINDUP PLAZA
1801 N. Midland Dr.
694-6696
Professionally Managed by PMC

\$99 MOVE-IN OR 1 MONTH FREE

We'll pay your moving cost by (Vision Transfer, Inc.)

TRELLIS APARTMENTS

PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED BY PRINGLE MGMT. CO.

3212 W. Wadley 697-0177

ALL BILLS PAID

FREE BASIC CABLE

VILLA CHATEAU

1 MONTH FREE W.A.C.
COVERED PARKING
SENIOR DISCOUNT

1603 N. MIDKIFF 694-1112
PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED P.M.C.

610 Apartments Unfurnished

1210 COLLEGE: Efficiency bills paid, \$275/monthly, \$50 deposit. Inquire near apartment "D".

ALL BILLS Paid, Furnished, 1 & 2 Bedroom, downtown, quiet complex. To see apartments call 682-3589.

REDUCED RATES- 1 or 2 bedrooms, pool, laundry, carpets, all utilities paid. Imperial Apartments, 405 Sunset. 694-9978/ 694-6542.

610 Apartments Unfurnished

TWO BEDROOM Townhouse, almost new carpet, huge closets, 1 3/4 bath, two covered parking. 687-4855.

GOLDEN PARK Duplexes- 3100 Kansas. 2 Bedrooms \$199 Move In Special. 520-0133.

VILLA TRIESTE Apartments. \$100 Off 1st months rent. 4331 Denger. Quiet living in pleasant atmosphere. 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms available. \$100 Deposit. \$20 application fee, refundable if applicant qualified. No deposit/ application fee for Senior Citizens. For appointment call 694-9311.

ASK ABOUT OUR 7 MONTH SPECIAL! WE CARE! US OUT THE ARCHES 694-2466

THE LUCK OF THE Irish is... finding a comfortable and spacious home at Silver Creek Apartments. 1, 2, & 3 bedrooms. Ask about our \$99.00 MOVE IN SPECIAL on our 1 & 2 bedrooms. 1st month rent free. 2438 Whitmore. 687-0053.

ALL BILLS PAID: One and two bedroom apartments. 501 West Louisiana. Deposit required. Call 683-5161.

SAGEWOOD, 1/2 OFF 1st month rent. Quiet and clean. Full amenities. All appliances, a pool. 570-4884.

BENCHMARK Leasing. 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms. \$199 Move In Special! 522-2151.

PATIO TOWNHOUSES. 1710 N. A. Ask about a free months rent. 1 Bedroom apartments & 2 bedroom townhomes. Gas & Water paid. Now open Saturdays. 10:00am-4:00pm 682-4783.

CANYON CREEK APARTMENTS

Best location and the most apt. for your money starting at:

1 Bedroom- \$219.00
2 Bedroom- \$339.00

Great Move-in Specials- \$99

5244 W. Loop 250 N.
699-7246

Not a HUD Property

NEW TODAY: STUCK ON 20 until April 20th. \$120 deposit, \$20 application fee, 1 bedroom- \$220/ month, 2 bedroom, \$320/ month. First come- first served. 520-3238.

SAGEWOOD CONDO, \$199 Move In Special! 1 & 2 Bedrooms. 3300 Caldera Blvd. 699-1693.

LARGE TWO BEDROOM, one bath, washer/dryer connections, exceptionally large closets. Newly redecorated. \$295. 3012 West Michigan. 620-8588.

BARCELONA APARTMENTS: \$100 Off 1st months rent! 4303 Lockheed, 1 and 2 bedroom apartments available. Small complex, very quiet. \$150 Deposit/ \$20 application fee, refundable if applicant qualified. No application fee for Senior Citizens. For appointment call 694-9311.

LARGE Two bedroom, one bath, washer-dryer connections, \$295 monthly. 4409 "C" Crockett. Call 699-4182.

THORNWOOD Apartments Great prices, 1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms, Free Cable. Senior discounts. 682-5681.

LARGE ONE Bedroom, large kitchen and dining with appliances, large closets. \$260/ monthly on Midland Dr. 699-0550.

WHISPERING OAKS: Exceptionally nice two bedroom, two bath, patio, free basic cable, covered parking. Large closets. \$260/ monthly on Midland Dr. 699-0550.

PINEHURST: OVERSIZED 1 & 2 bedroom, free cable, blinds, laundry on premises. \$200/ \$260. 661-3999.

TWO BEDROOM Duplex, fireplace, car port, storage. All appliances. Excellent condition. No pets. \$450 monthly. 520-3969.

LAS COLINAS, Midland's foremost townhouses, 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms, \$495 to \$695. Open 3-6 pm except Sunday, 697-8770.

2401 Andrews Hwy Midland, TX 79703 520-0023

Enjoy your New Home at Hunter's Ridge with affordable rent, 1 Bedroom- \$99 Move-In Special.

Call about our New Specials Today!! 520-0023

LIFE THAT'S AFFORDABLE

Sports Court • Patio/Balconies • Swimming Pool • Multiple Floor Plans

\$99 TOTAL MOVE-IN! NO APPLICATION FEE

Coventry Pointe
3329 W. Wadley • 697-4149

TWO BEDROOM, one bath apartment, large parking and patio area, water and gas paid, \$319 monthly. See at 3200 Sage, apartment #7. Call 550-3245 after 5 pm.

ONE BEDROOM, one bath, 616 square feet, washer, dryer, fireplace, ceiling fans. \$250 up. Call for Special. 689-8115.

EXCELLENT LOCATION: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, double garage, fireplace. \$950 monthly, water paid, \$800 deposit, 2611 Ward. 697-6881.

NEW IN TOWN? For your FREE "New Resident" Welcome Packet. Call Newcomers Unlimited. 570-8045.

NEW CONSTRUCTION! 3 Bedroom, 2 bath in Crestgate Addition. Neutral decor. Lots of amenities. Low maintenance yard. 559-5479 or 520-5096.

ONE BEDROOM, one bath Triplex, 2 units available. Near hospital. 2615 Delano. \$275 monthly. 699-0569.

LUXURY DUPLEX- 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, fireplace, sprinkler, fireplace. 3101 B Delcrest. \$845 per month 682-7815 or 638-6978.

TWO BEDROOM, two bath duplex, 4410 "B" St. Andrews, fireplace, single garage. Excellent location, \$650 monthly. Call Danny at Langston Realtors. 682-9495.

REMODELED- 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. New central air and carpet. Freshly painted. \$575 monthly. 694-9853.

DUPLEX- 2605-A Haynes, near Goddard and Emerson, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, car port, \$750 monthly, no pets, available immediately. 682-8453.

5115 RIC DRIVE- 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1 car garage, new throughout. \$650 monthly, \$400 deposit, \$100 per pet. 699-4042.

Westpark Apts.

Extra Large Courtyard Patios • 1-2-3 Bedroom Floorplans • Townhomes • 2 1/2 • 2 Pool & Laundromats • Covered Parking • Calling Fans • 5% Preferred Employer Discount • 10% Senior Citizens Discount

MARCH MOVE-IN SPECIAL
No Security Deposit - No Application Fee - UPON APPROVAL
A Community Living Environment Under New Management
2928 W. Louisiana • 915-687-4514 • Fax 620-0013

Done Kelly Realtors
No Charge To Tenant
Save Time & Money!

Willa Dean Cecil
689-4557
682-5177 Evenings
Open 7 Days A Week
1215 N. Midkiff

2705 BARKLEY- Very cute three bedroom, one bath, one carport house, central a/c and heat, large storage building, fenced, \$475/200 deposit. 620-0210.

NICE 3 BEDROOM Duplexes. Central Heat/ Air. Fireplaces. Water paid. \$525- \$650/ month. Call Williams & Assoc., 694-9663.

FOUR BEDROOM, three living, two dining, three car garage in Greenview South. Recent updates make this a comfortable home. Owner is willing to lease or lease purchase. \$1,300 monthly, \$1,300 deposit. Available immediately. Please contact Betty Hicks at 570-8200, Century 21 Kay Sutton Realtors.

EXTRA CLEAN Newly remodeled 1 bedroom duplex in quiet neighborhood at 4803 Country Club. 697-3484.

FOR LEASE available April 1st. Three Bedrooms, two baths, two car garage. \$350 deposit, \$650 per month. No pets. 699-7920. 5200 Storey.

804 E. COUNTY ROAD 129. 2 Bedrooms, 1 bath \$400 monthly, \$200 deposit. 682-9477.

3323 WEST OHIO- 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, dining room, newly redecorated, patio. \$500. Call after 5:00pm. M. Jones 520-7496.

NICE Two bedroom house. Fenced backyard near school & Duck pond. \$370 Month, \$300 Deposit. For more information, call 683-0064 or 684-4647.

NEW TODAY: NICE Two bedroom house. Fenced backyard near school & Duck pond. \$370 Month, \$300 Deposit. For more information, call 683-0064 or 684-4647.

625 Houses Unfurnished

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 2 living area, fenced backyard, new kitchen tile and sewer line. \$600. 4802 Shady Lane. 687-1302.

GORGEOUS HOME newly carpeted/ tiled, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplace, double garage, 4807 Ric. \$750 per month. \$400 deposit. Contact Cindy Brown, owner/broker with, Realty Unlimited. 550-5609.

TWO BEDROOM Duplex, fireplace, car port, storage. All appliances. Excellent condition. No pets. \$450 monthly. 520-3969.

3303 CIMMARON 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, double garage, one block from Lee High School off Midkiff Street. \$750/ month/ \$350 deposit. Call 570-5749 or 661-2281.

NICE THREE bedroom, two bath, two car garage. 5007 San Antonio (Northgate subdivision). \$750 monthly. \$750 deposit. 915-689-7700. Prudential Cooper Realty.

ATTRACTION: PROPERTIES for lease. 3201 Elma. \$695 per month, \$350 deposit, large luxury 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage with fireplace. 4710 B Dentcrest. \$695/ month, \$350 deposit, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, double garage with fireplace. Contact owner/ agent- Realty Unlimited, 550-5609.

NICE 3 bedroom, 2 bath. New paint/ carpet. \$675/ deposit. Emerson area. 682-8818 Tierra Realtors.

3 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH. Remodeled, fantastic neighborhood, lots of character! 206 Ridgela, \$750. 634-7695/ 684-8950.

1510 PUEBLO. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage, across from Midland Country Club. \$650/ month. 694-7065.

SEVERAL nice homes & apartments. \$250-\$725. Jeannie Printz, Agent 684-8202.

SCHARBAUER TOWNHOMES: Large two bedroom overlooking pool. Built stove, dishwasher, disposal, breakfast bar. 661-3999.

REGENCY TOWNHOMES, 721 W. Denger. Prestigious Address for Luxurious Living: Spa, Heated pool, fireplace, skylight and storage. \$545 monthly. 570-7557.

FAIRGATE Townhomes, northwest side, 6 and 12 month leases, 2 and 3 bedrooms 1600 sq. ft. livable, all appliances, fans, fireplaces and garages. 65/-9566.

NEAR MIDLAND College 2 bedroom, duplex with lot, all appliances, fireplace, skylight and storage. \$545 monthly. 570-7557.

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NEAR MIDLAND College 2 bedroom, duplex with lot, all appliances, fireplace, skylight and storage. \$545

Who's Who For Service

You can advertise your business in Who's Who For Service for as little as \$48.55 monthly

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While Daewoo may not yet be a household name over here, it certainly is everywhere

else. Our vehicles are sold in 180 countries. And in several, we're the best sellers. As Korea's number one carmaker - based on the 1999 Automotive News Databook - our annual production capacity will grow to 2.5 million units in the year 2000. All of our vehicles have been carefully developed with the help of the best automotive minds at our technical centers in the United Kingdom and Germany, and in cooperation with other automotive experts around the world.

3 Year, Scheduled Maintenance Program at NO EXTRA COST

In addition to our basic warranties, we provide you with a 3-year/36,000mile, no extra charge, scheduled maintenance program which provides:

- Prescribed maintenance items (engine oil, oil filter and air filter changes; tire rotation; etc.) which are needed every 6,000 miles, for up to 36,000 miles.
- A way to minimize your maintenance costs by providing replacement coverage for items such as brake pads, hoses, belts, wiper blades, etc., if they're needed during your first 3 years or 36,000 miles of ownership.

3 Year, 24 Hour Priority Assistance Program at NO EXTRA COST

Emergencies happen, and when they do, we'll be there to help - 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. This program is offered at no extra charge for the full term of the basic 3-year/36,000-mile limited warranty and includes:

Roadside Assistance Toll-Free Telephone Access Anytime Sign & Drive (In most instances, it's possible to simply sign a receipt. The provider of the service will be paid by us) Emergency Lockout Service, Lost Key Retrieval and Message Service Custom Trip-Routing and Map Service.

3 Year, Factory Limited Warranty NO EXTRA COST

Not only does every Daewoo come with a 3-year/36,000-miles warranty, but also 5-year/60,000-mile coverage on the powertrain. As a result, if warranty work is needed, you'll end up paying less - and we'll end up paying more.

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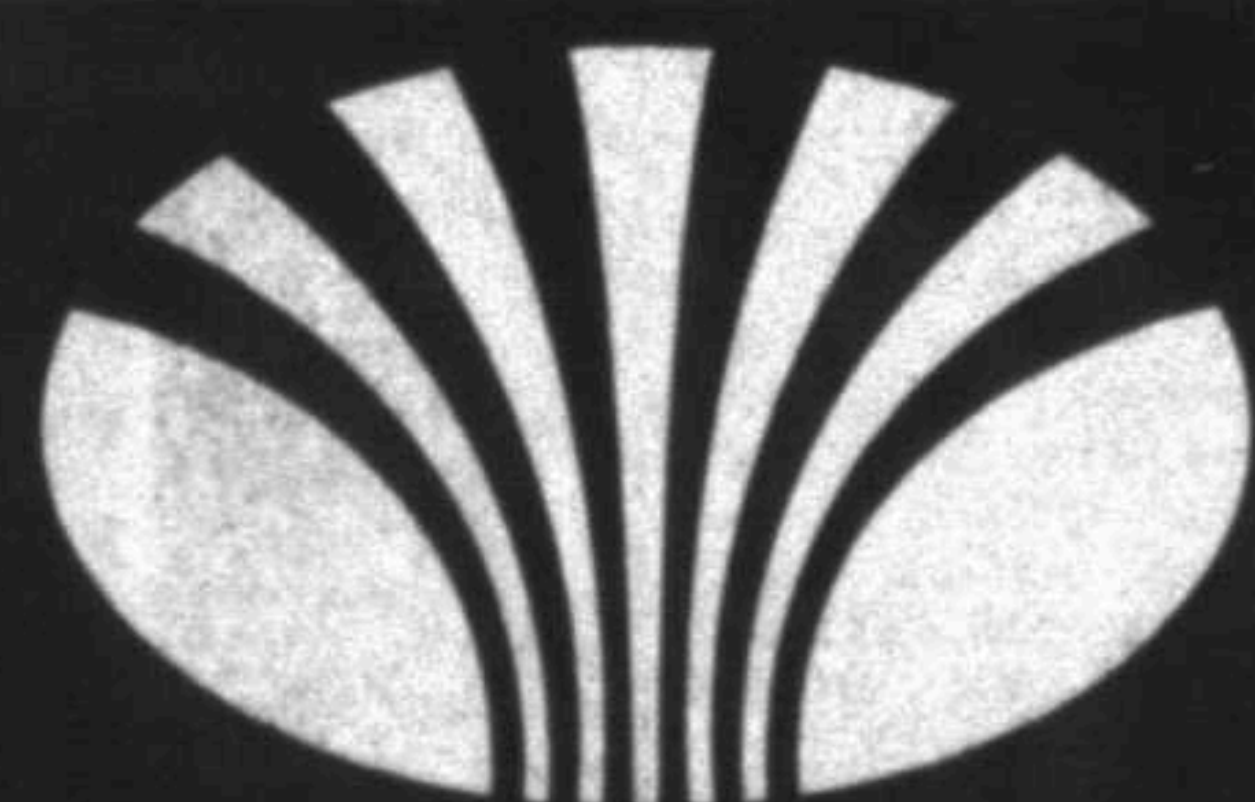
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ONLY 11 Lots Left!! There are only 11 lucky families left in the whole world that will get to have their new home built in FAIRMONT PARK, on the west side. Great location, inside the loop, you pick plans and colors!! Call now to make sure that you are one of the LUCKY 11. Key Homes, Inc. 520-9848.

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RANCH LAND for sale, 7 miles south of Odessa. 665 acres minimum or 1,353 acres total; 1 or 2 sections, no improvements, no minerals. \$250 per acre. (915) 683-0990.

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BRADY - 175 acres great hunting, early Texas home, 3 years old, mobile, barn, wells, tanks, good cover. No price James Long Real Estate 597-1581.

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780 Business Property

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785 Warehouse/ Storage for Sale

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