



MONDAY MORNING

Looking sharp

Lamar Elementary School third-grader Bianca Ruedas checks out her new hairdo with her hairdresser, Lee High School senior Mandy Brandon. 1B



SPORTS

Cowboys out

The Carolina Panthers put an exclamation point on the NFL's changing of the guard. They beat Dallas 26-17 Sunday from the playoffs. 1C

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Daily 50¢, Sunday \$1.50

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1997

Vol. 69, No. 321

A.M. BRIEFING

**Secret summit**

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat wrangled from midnight to dawn Sunday in a secret summit, but fell short of agreement on the issues holding up an Israeli troop withdrawal from Hebron. U.S. mediator Dennis Ross brought the two leaders together at the Erez crossing linking Israel and the autonomous Gaza Strip.

Story page 3A

The man

He's 6-foot-6, telegenic and smooth. He made movies after surfacing as Republican counsel to the Senate Watergate Committee. It's no wonder GOP leaders turned to Sen. Fred Thompson to head the investigation of campaign fund-raising shenanigans. After participating in the investigation that led to Nixon's downfall, Thompson played himself in a movie, "Marie."

Story page 5A

'The Hill'

What had been, until the 1980s, the heart of this Southeast Texas town now lies almost deserted. A series of explosions, fires, gas leaks and other incidents convinced most residents in the town's oldest section that it wasn't healthy to live with a hydrocarbon-filled salt dome beneath their feet. Now, the mayor of the tiny Chambers County town is trying to ramrod an effort to relocate the 25 homeowners.

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Flood surge complicates disaster

More levees break in devastated Northern California

Associated Press

MODESTO, Calif. — Brilliant sunshine broke across Northern California on Sunday as the surge of water pouring out of the mountains breached more levees and turned additional people into refugees.

"It looks like everything is ruined," said Marie Ferriere of Modesto, who hadn't been home since rising water from a week's worth of storms forced her to flee on Thursday. "I try not to think about it. I want to go home, but I don't know if I have a home."

Many of the 125,000 people forced from their homes last week were returning as the state lifted older evacuation orders, said state emergency official Steve Maritano. In Marysville, 13,000 residents were told Sunday they could leave shelters and trek back home.

But many others got no such good news, and some were told they might not be able to return home for as long as two months.

And about 2,000 were ordered to evacuate during the night from the town of Meridian, along the Sacramen-

California rivers continued surging Sunday as upstream dams were opened to make room in reservoirs for still more runoff water.

to River near hard-hit Yuba City.

On Sunday, Meridian residents and contractors raced to save an elementary school by bulldozing up a 6-foot-high, 3,500-foot-long earthen wall near the building.

"I've never seen anything like this. I've never heard of anything like this," said Sergio Aceves, a Sutter County employee working on the "like."

Besides some 3,000 people already ordered to evacuate in the Central Valley city of Modesto, authorities on Sunday told residents to leave an additional 100 homes in the Weatherbee Lake area, emergency official Rex

Osborn said.

More farm land also disappeared beneath the muddy tide.

"We got a warning to evacuate last night," said John Fantazia, who farms near Newman, 80 miles east of San Francisco. "It just scared the heck out of us. We've gone through this before and they said it was going to be worse."

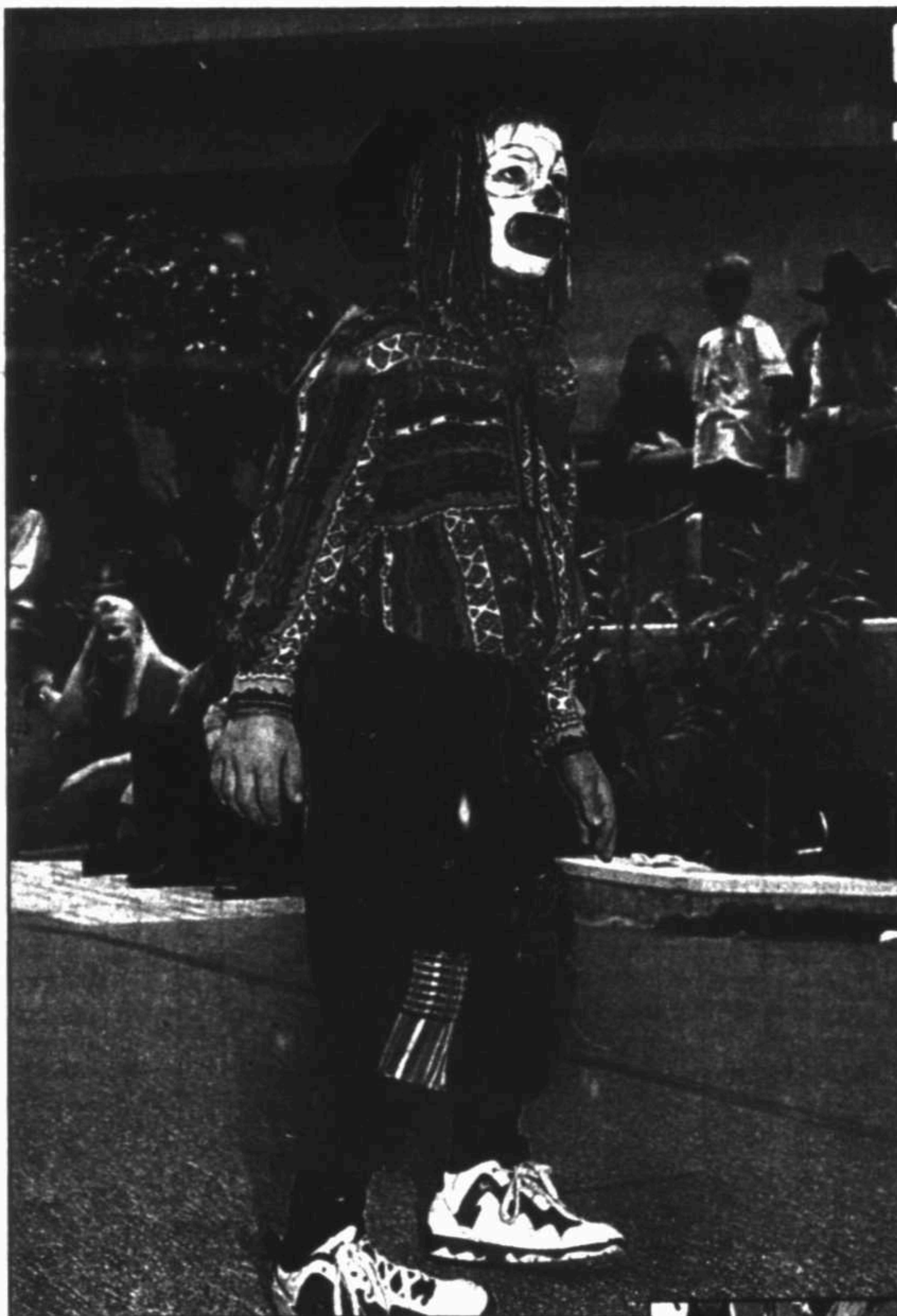
As much as 40 inches of rain fell on the region last week, while rising temperatures melted dense snow in the Sierra Nevada, and snow and rain also devastated areas of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and western Nevada.

California rivers continued surging Sunday as upstream dams were opened to make room in reservoirs for still more runoff water.

President Clinton had issued disaster declarations for large parts of California, Idaho and Nevada.

James Lee Witt, head of the Federal Emergency Man-

Please see FLOW/2A



Daniel Sinner, above, 6, of Midland dances to the beat as he shows off the rodeo clown outfit he wore this weekend for the Sand Hills Kids Rodeo at the Midland Park Mall. Brandi Clements, Miss Rodeo Sand Hills, above right, talks with seven-year-old Garrett Goldsmith before one of the contests Saturday afternoon. William Ritter Jr., of Odessa, right, grabs the ribbon off a goat's tail during one of the timed contests of the Kids Rodeo.

Photos by Tim Fischer

Youngsters show off skills in Kids Rodeo



Routier's trial begins today in Kerrville

■ Rowlett mother is accused of stabbing her two sons and blaming the incident on an intruder.

Associated Press

KERRVILLE — The stabbing deaths of two young Rowlett boys will be relived in a Kerr County courtroom starting Monday when their mother, Darlie Routier, goes on trial for capital murder.

Mrs. Routier, who turned 27 in jail on Saturday, maintains she is innocent of the killings of 5-year-old Damon and 6-year-old Devon, found slain in the family room of their comfortable suburban home near Dallas.

"I did not kill my children," she told The Associated Press in a jailhouse interview published last month. "That's ridiculous."

Mrs. Routier claims an intruder clad in dark clothing and a baseball cap entered the house the night of June 6 as she and the two boys slept downstairs. The man stabbed her sons and slashed her neck and shoulder before fleeing through a garage window, she claims.

Prosecutors contend she committed the killings with a kitchen butcher knife and wounded herself to try to fool police. Prosecutors did not offer a possible motive in advance of the trial.

"We're very much looking forward to trying the case. We feel very confident about our case," said Greg Davis, a Dallas County assistant district attorney.

A seven-woman, five-man jury has been selected to decide Mrs. Routier's fate. If convicted, she could face the death penalty.

The case was moved to this Hill Country town because of pre-trial publicity in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. And state District Judge Mark Tolle has issued a gag order banning both sides from commenting on the facts of the case outside of court.

Mrs. Routier's legal team is led by Doug Mulder, the prominent Dallas defense attorney who won an acquittal in 1993 for former minister Walker Bailey on charges that he tried to kill his wife.

Like the prosecutor, Mulder is confident as Mrs. Routier's trial begins.

"I think I'm going to win," Mulder told The Dallas Morning News last month. "But I always think that."

Davis has said about 40 prosecution

Please see CASE/2A

Former Midland police officer turns unruly complex into model property

By Joe Gaines
Staff writer

Crimes is down, residents love him and he has been honored by the Midland housing authority. The credit goes to Ed Ward, manager of Chaparral Apartments, an affordable housing project.

Calls to police for the 124-unit complex have dropped from tens to just five a month during his four years as manager, Ward said.

And the reduction in calls to the complex is because Ward gets to know residents and does not tolerate crime.

"He doesn't put up with that stuff," said Jackie Paxton, a resident. "If he sees a stranger, he finds out who they are and what they're doing here and runs them off if he has to."

Often, Ward said, he is on his scooter patrolling the complex, picking up trash and visiting residents ... days, nights and weekends.

"Some people may think I'm nosy, but I want to know what's going on out here," Ward said.

"He checks on me if I don't with him."

Please see HELP/2A

Ed Ward may be considered a tough apartment manager by some, but he gets results and most of his residents appreciate his no-nonsense approach.

Curt Wilcott
Reporter-TelegramJ
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Coming Tuesday

It has been 25 years since the dream of Midland College became a reality... and the college has a host of events slated throughout the year to commemorate the big event. Read more about the first one on the front page of Tuesday's Reporter-Telegram.

Changes at the newly remodeled Allison Cancer Center are not only cosmetic... but now "the very latest in cutting-edge cancer treatments" are available at the local facility, too. Pick up Tuesday's edition and learn what some of those improvements are.

Coming Sunday

OK, 1996 is history and now it is time to look ahead to what is going to be "hot" in '97. And that is exactly what our Lifestyle staff is doing right now. Check out what those "in" trends are going to be in Sunday's Lifestyle section.

WEATHER WATCH

Today's high to be around 33

Staff Report

Today's forecast calls for a 60 percent chance of snow with a high between 30-35 and northeast winds at 10-20 mph.

For tonight, there's a 70 percent chance of snow and an expected low between 20-25.

Tuesday will have a 50 percent chance of snow with a total accumulation of 2-5 inches possible and a high around 25-30.

Sunday's high was 46 and low was 39. The record high for that date was 80 in 1994 and the record low was 2 in 1971.

STATE

Snow fell Sunday in the Texas Panhandle and South Plains as an upper-level disturbance followed the advent of the latest cold front, threatening to bring flurries and sleet to northern and central parts of the state.

Winter storm watches were posted through Tuesday for the Permian Basin, Trans Pecos, Concho Valley, Edwards Plateau, Big Bend and far West Texas mountains.

Snow accumulations between 1 and 5 inches were expected from the Permian Basin southward through the Big Bend, Edwards Plateau, mountains and far west.

Rain was predicted for South Texas as Pacific moisture overrides cooler surface air.

High temperatures Sunday only rose to 80 degrees at Harlingen and 77 at Alice, but remained in the high 20s and 30s over the Panhandle. It was 29 at Amarillo.

The cold front stretched from New Orleans to near Brownsville and El Paso.

Winds were variable but mainly from the northeast to east at 5 to 15 mph, and easterly at 15 to 20 mph in extreme South Texas.

Overnight lows through Tuesday should range from the teens and 20s in the Panhandle to near 50 in the Presidio Valley.

Highs Tuesday were only expected to reach the 20s and 30s in North-west Texas and 60s in the far south.

NATION

Heavy snow fell across the upper Great Lakes on Sunday, with blowing snow shutting down parts of the northern Plains, while temperatures hit record highs from Michigan into upstate New York.

A strong low pressure system spread an additional foot of snow across northeastern Minnesota through Wisconsin onto Michigan's Upper Peninsula on Sunday. Some areas received weekend totals of up to 21 inches.

In the storm's wake, wind gusting to more than 40 mph piled the snow into drifts up to 10 feet high, closing major highways and stranding travelers. The wind also combined with temperatures near zero to produce wind chills as low as 50 below.

A cold front swinging around the low pressure area rolled across the eastern third of the nation, colliding with warm, moist air and kicking off thunderstorms.

A line of showers and thunderstorms extended from eastern Pennsylvania along the coasts of Virginia and the Carolinas, across south-eastern Georgia and into the western Florida panhandle.

HELP: Midland man works to keep complex in top shape

(From 1A)

He'll probably be the one to find me dead," Melba Rogers, a resident, said.

Ward is a former Midland police officer. He left the force in 1982, but uses his connections with department to help deter crime.

He allows local organizations to hold their meetings at the office and invites officers to attend. When they come in their patrol cars, their presence makes a difference, he said.

He also gets reports from the police on calls made to the complex. He either evicts or refuses to renew leases of residents who are arrested for drugs or violence, he said.

He may be strict, but he is fair, and is better than the stream of managers who preceded him, residents said.

"I've been here six years, and we don't have the trouble like we used to," Paxton said.

"He treats everyone equal," Rogers added.

Besides being tough on crime, Ward also takes interest in the lives of his residents.

He always encourages them to seek work or to go to school. And his prodding seems to work; of his residents, 53 percent are working, another 14 percent are in school and 24 percent are either elderly or handicapped, he said.

So proud of his residents is he,

Ward recalled a time when he chastised a police officer who came to the complex to search for a suspect after a report of indecency near the mall, he said.

"He just had the thought of a stereotypical 'housing project,' and came here," he said.

His residents are like everyone else. It's just they are temporarily down on their luck, he said.

"There are a lot of people who are only a few paychecks away from being in the same situation as people here," he said.

He remembers residents who came to the complex, then went to school and are now doing well.

"I had one resident go to school to become a nurse, now she has a job and is buying her own house," he said.

Along with attention to his residents, he has taken steps to improve the complex. He's added lighting, replaced refrigerators, stoves, carpeting and put fire extinguishers inside each unit.

"Before, the extinguishers were on the outside of the building and they would just get stolen. These are little things, but they help," he said.

His residents appreciate his efforts, sometimes bringing him gifts.

"I sometimes bring my cooking over to him," Rogers said. "You couldn't ask for a better manager. The world would be better if we had more like him."

CASE: Rowlett mother's capitol murder trial to get under way today in Kerrville

(From 1A)

witnesses are expected to testify and that he predicts the trial will last about two weeks.

Mrs. Routier's husband, Darin, has stood behind his wife's claim of innocence. The night of the killings, he said, he was asleep upstairs with their infant son, Drake.

As possible evidence of Mrs. Routier's innocence, family members have pointed to an adult white sock found near the Routier home containing the blood of Damon and Devon.

But court papers state the sock also contained fibers matching Darin Routier's shoes. A hair similar to the father's hair was found on the knife identified as the murder weapon, the court records state.

Darin Routier denies any wrong-

doing and has not been charged.

Despite Mrs. Routier's account that the intruder exited through the garage, police reported finding no blood in the garage, on the garage window or on a backyard gate.

The window sill was covered with dust, and much on flower beds between the garage and the gate were undisturbed, according to an arrest warrant.

Other evidence that may bolster Mrs. Routier's claim that she didn't stab her sons include DNA tests done on Mrs. Routier's nightshirt and pillow. Those items appear to contain only her blood, not that of Damon and Devon, court documents show.

Family members have called the nightshirt evidence crucial, but prosecutors reportedly have other test results showing the boys' blood on another portion of the shirt.

FLOW: Northern California braces for more water

(From 1A)

agement Agency, began a tour of the West's disaster areas on Sunday at Reno, Nev., where gamblers stranded by flooding were finally beginning to head home after being stranded by high water that closed roads and the airport.

Battered levees in Meridian and other areas were continuing to fail under the pressure of all that additional water, said Martarano of the state Office of Emergency Services.

"There's a massive amount of water coming in from the Sierra — there was so much snow, it was so warm and rainy and the ground

was already saturated from the December storms," he said.

Emergency officials also were worried about other threatened regions, including Meridian, the Sacramento River Delta area and the Sacramento airport.

Martarano said scattered reports indicated that at least 1,500 to 2,000 homes — "and probably upwards of that" — had been destroyed.

Four deaths had been blamed on the flooding and storms in California, in addition to 15 in Washington and three in Oregon. One man was missing and presumed dead in Nevada.

Near Sutter, about 200 families

sought an unusual refuge in a cemetery.

Richard Tapia had spent three days in the graveyard, where his stillborn daughter was buried in October.

"I'm comfortable with her being here with me," said Tapia. "She's my guardian angel. She keeps us out of trouble."

Crews were working to repair highways and railroads devastated by the flooding.

Highway U.S. 50, a major route across the Sierra Nevada, was cut in five places, with one mudslide covering 300 feet of road to a depth of five feet.

The main link between California and the Reno, Nev., area,

Interstate 80, was all but shut down by a cave-in.

And about 200 miles north of Sacramento, Union Pacific railroad tracks had been washed out in 40 places in a 30-mile stretch between Lakehead and Dunsmuir, said railroad spokesman Mike Furtney.

East of the Sierra Nevada, the town of Yerington, Nev., was isolated for a second day with only a 10-block area above water, said Nevada Assembly Speaker and Yerington resident Joe Dini.

In Idaho, thousands of people in small communities were still cut off because highways were blocked by wash-outs and landslides.

Snow, stranded cars clog roads for second day

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Blowing, drifting snow shut down major highways in the upper Midwest for a second day Sunday with drifts reported up to 10 feet high, stalling travelers wherever they could find shelter.

Snowbound motorists crowded motels and truck stops in Minnesota and eastern North and South Dakota, waiting out the storm that dumped as much as 23 inches of snow and piled it up with wind gusting past 40 mph.

The storm struck Saturday and began winding down on Sunday, allowing crews to reopen some major highways, but hundreds of miles of Interstates 90, 29 and 94 remained shut down in the three states.

Three traffic deaths were blamed on the storm in South Dakota, and one man fell to his death in Minnesota while clearing snow from his roof.

There was no estimate of how many cars and trucks were stuck. "We couldn't count that high," said Dayle Peterson, a Minnesota State Patrol dispatcher.

About 120 miles of east-west I-94 had been

closed since Saturday from Sauk Centre, Minn., to Fargo, N.D.

Much of the interstate system in the Dakotas had been reopened late Sunday, but about 150 miles of north-south I-29 remained closed between Fargo and Watertown, S.D.

Many other roads in the area were impassable or had one-lane traffic and Minnesota police said driving conditions in the west-central part of the state were "extremely dangerous."

That included the area of Breckenridge, where a tour bus with nine passengers was stranded for about 10 hours before another bus could reach it. Other motorists also had to be rescued.

"Then there was a gal and another guy... they were out there for a long time without gas," Peterson told WCCO in Minneapolis. "There's no farms, no nothing out there. You're out there by yourself."

A snowmobiler was stranded for about 11 hours overnight on Lake Winnibigoshish in north-central Minnesota when his machine

became stuck in slush. The 30-year-old man was hospitalized Sunday in serious condition with severe frostbite to his hands and feet.

Road crews in eastern North Dakota ran into a 10-foot-high snowdrift near Forman, about 65 miles southwest of Fargo, said Bruce Nord, a highway supervisor.

"We've got some 8-footers east of Enderlin that run probably 50, 60 yards in length," Nord said.

All 149 rooms were taken at a Holiday Inn in Alexandria, Minn., near I-94, and the motel turned its banquet room into a "mini suite" with sleeping accommodations on pool chairs, said manager Jamie Mortland. There was no charge for the five or six people who spent the night there.

"Everyone along the strip here was packed," Mortland said of other motels.

Non-emergency travel was banned in Aberdeen, S.D., after the city commission declared a snow emergency. Said 14-year police veteran Sgt. Kurt Smith: "I can't ever remember a time when they've done this."

Handful left behind on 'The Hill' may get help

MONT BELVIEU, Texas (AP)

— What had been, until the 1980s, the heart of this Southeast Texas town now lies almost deserted.

A series of explosions, fires, gas leaks and other incidents convinced most residents in the town's oldest section that it wasn't healthy to live with a hydrocarbon-filled salt dome beneath their feet.

Now, the mayor of the tiny Chambers County town is trying to ramrod an effort to relocate the 25 homeowners on "The Hill" who rejected previous buyout offers.

"Nobody should have to live on a powder keg," Mayor Bob Lee told the Houston Chronicle in Sunday editions.

But some of those 25 homeowners are no keener about moving than before.

Take Earl Smith, 66, a retired petrochemical operator whose family has lived on The Hill since his great-grandfather arrived

from Germany in 1850.

"I want to die here," he said. "My wife cried the other day just thinking about it."

The Hill is honeycombed with salt caverns that are the world's largest storage site for explosive hydrocarbons. Until the 1980s, it was the center of Mont Belvieu, site of downtown businesses, City Hall and most of the town's homes.

The initial push to relocate came after an underground gas leak in 1980 forced 72 families from their homes on The Hill for nearly five months.

So many leaks, explosions, fires and other accidents followed that residents lined up to sue the local petrochemical industries for making their properties worthless.

In response, an industrial consortium spent \$20 million in 1986 and 1987 to buy more than 220 homes and five churches within 800 feet of an underground storage

well. All but 25 accepted the offer.

"I think it's time to do something about it," said Lee.

In recent months, a committee devised a plan to send to the City Council that would cover 10 square miles, about 70 houses, 20 mobile homes, a shopping strip, a church, eight businesses and all vacant land on the dome.

Lee estimates the buyout would cost about \$50 million, to be paid for by a new urban development district to be created for the area, which would be limited to industrial uses.

The Legislature would have to authorize the district's creation, and district residents would have to approve it in a special election. But if both hurdles are cleared, the new district would finance the buyout with a bond issue.

Taxes paid by the 13 petrochemical plants in the new district would repay the bonds after the buyout, as would other property

owners who do not sell their land. They could retain ownership but not live there.

Lee estimates the buyout package would require a property tax increase of 30 to 35 cents per \$100 valuation within the district.

Lee hopes to submit his plan for council approval late this month.

Larry Hope, director of operations and facilities for Mont Belvieu's Barbers Hill school district and a landowner on The Hill, says he's trapped and the plan may provide his only way out.

"I bought a four-bedroom brick home on a half-acre that was just outside the first buyout area," he said. "My home's not worth anything now. I feel like I'm being kept a prisoner in my own house."

But Sissy Coon aims to stay on The Hill, where she has lived for 32 years.

"I don't want someone else deciding when or if I leave," said the 54-year-old homemaker.

DEAR ABBY

Mother's boyfriend may cause downsizing of family reunion

By Abigail VanBuren

DEAR ABBY: My mother married when she was 15. She had six children. When she was 36, she got a divorce and announced that it was time she lived her life as she saw fit.

Mom always kept herself in great physical condition. For the last two years she has been dating a man who is 33 years her junior. Mom's son is four years younger than her boyfriend! This repulses me. I do not want my younger children around such craziness.

This part I can handle, but my siblings are planning a family reunion this summer. I have not seen some of my brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews for six years. My mother plans to attend this reunion with her young lover. I believe it is totally inappropriate to flaunt her carefree lifestyle in the presence of these young people.

I don't know how to handle this. If Mom insists on bringing her boyfriend, my husband refuses to go. Please help me. — ASHAMED AND HEARTBROKEN

DEAR ASHAMED: If your husband refuses

to attend the family reunion because your mother and her young boyfriend will be there, tell him you'll miss him.

As adults, your mother and her boyfriend are entitled to make their own decisions. "Judge not, lest ye be judged."

DEAR ABBY: In reference to an article titled "Lawyer's Courtroom Goofs Are Good for a Laugh," which recently appeared in your column, I was reminded of a church bulletin that had our congregation in stitches one Sunday morning. I'm not sure where it originated. Our pastor announced at the beginning of the service to be sure to read the back of the bulletin before he began his sermon so that he would not think our laughter was directed at the sermon itself. — LISA SPRADLING, FULTONVILLE, ALA.

DEAR LISA: Thank you for the day-brightener. It's certainly worth sharing.

"Most people don't realize how much editing goes into producing a church bulletin or newsletter. Some announcements have to be completely rewritten because if they appeared the way they were submitted, it would lead to total confusion. Below are some examples:

"— Don't let worry kill you — let the church help."

— Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

"— For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs."

"— This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Martin to come forward and lay an egg on the altar."

— Next Sunday, a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet may come forward and do so.

— A "Bean Supper" will be held next Sunday evening in the fellowship hall. Special music will follow.

— At the evening service tonight, the topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

— The flower on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Hunter, the son of Rey and Mrs. Hunter.

— The United Methodist Women have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the church basement this Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m."

For Abby's favorite family recipes, send a long, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet No. 1, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Abigail VanBuren's column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

ISSN 0890-5932

A HEARST NEWSPAPER

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Published by The Hearst Corporation, Midland Reporter-Telegram Division, every morning, 201 E. Illinois Street, Midland, Texas 79701. Periodicals postage paid at Midland, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650 Midland, Texas 79702. Foreign and other rates furnished upon request.

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Organized crime takes advantage of turmoil in post-Communist Europe

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — The businessman walked the few steps from home to his Jeep Cherokee before he was cut down by a bullet through the temple, fired from a silencer-equipped, large-caliber pistol about three yards away.

No one saw the murder of Jozsef Priztas, who was allegedly linked to gangsters, on a residential Budapest street shortly before noon on Nov. 1. At least, no one was talking.

The slaying was emblematic of the Mafia-style crime wave that has taken hold across much of post-communist eastern Europe — where citizens were ready for just about everything democracy could bring except the terror of organized crime.

No week goes by without a message from the underworld: a bus or car bomb here, a grenade there. Robbery, murder, the smuggling

of drugs, arms and people, and money laundering are on the rise.

Huge caches of smuggled weapons have shown up in Slovenia, the former Yugoslav republic between the Alps and the Adriatic Sea. Bombs have ripped through currency exchange booths in Prague, capital of the Czech Republic. A former Bulgarian premier, Andrei Lukanov, was gunned down in a Sofia street in broad daylight and the country's underworld was blamed.

Across half a continent, gangland violence has spread fear — and left courts, police and politicians flailing.

"We say that Europe has to unite," said France Bucar, a veteran anti-Communist dissident who recently stepped down as head of Slovenia's parliamentary security committee. "But organized crime discovered this already before. And the victim of

all this is the security of our society."

Eastern Europe's gangs have grown rich on the divide between their countries and the West, supplying what legitimate businessmen couldn't: first pantyhose and jeans, then computer parts and drugs, finally "protection" for money, property and lives.

The current gangland wars among eastern Europe's underworld princes reflect just how big the stakes have grown.

In Hungary, bomb explosions, hand-grenade attacks and shootings killed three men and seriously wounded three in November and December.

The toll is not out of line with many Western nations — Budapest reported 60 murders among its 2 million residents in 1995, which compares with 72 in Berlin with nearly twice the population but 131 in Cleveland with

one-fourth the people. But the bloodshed shocked this normally placid society because the police seem helpless.

"Maybe it's a conflict of interest or a turf dispute, but we also think that someone made off with billions of forints, and that there's real estate speculation involved," said Laszlo Garamvoelgyi, spokesman for Hungary's national police.

Organized crime spread rapidly in the legal limbo that accompanied eastern Europe's transition from communism to a market economy. From restaurants and entertainment spots, gangs moved into protection rackets, loan-sharking and the drug trade — especially after the wars in former Yugoslavia shut down a key east-west narcotics route.

In Hungary, illegal oil-importing schemes have reportedly netted huge amounts of money for the

underworld. Priztas' killing marked a new, deadly turn in Budapest's gangland war.

Within three weeks, two of his associates were seriously wounded — jockey Csaba Lakatos, shot near the stables at Budapest's race track, and Pal Totka, a fish wholesaler and former boxer shot in the courtyard of his apartment building.

As organized crime has flourished, officialdom has all but admitted defeat.

In Maribor, a bucolic Slovenian town at the foot of the Alps, the mayor, Alojz Krizman, says the "mafia" rules in his nation.

Take local anti-hero Maksimilijan Vollmajer.

Before his death in a car crash this autumn, Vollmajer was as well known across the cozy Alpine country of just under 2 million people as its president or premier.

"His name had become a sym-

bol for the non-functioning of the rule of law," said Otmar Klepster, a Slovenian journalist.

Vollmajer spent time in prison in neighboring Austria before rising to notoriety in the post-Communist chaos of Yugoslavia's breakup. Police and locals say he built a profitable line in illegal drugs, insurance scams and violent retribution on any foe.

In 1994, he was even convicted for some of the 65 crimes police charged him with. But a liberal justice system — devised by those who wanted to break the heavy hand wielded by the police under communism — led an appeals court to overturn the sentence.

That was just one of 12 explosions that "poured fuel on the fire" in Maribor this past year, local police chief Milan Kus said. No one was killed.

"The aim of these explosions is not an attack on bodies or life, but to spread fear," Kus said.

Arafat and Netanyahu meet secretly, reach no agreement

JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat wrangled from midnight to dawn Sunday in a secret summit, but fell short of agreement on the issues holding up an Israeli troop withdrawal from Hebron.

U.S. mediator Dennis Ross brought the two leaders together at the Erez crossing linking Israel and the autonomous Gaza Strip. The two sides reported progress, but gave the talks mixed reviews. In an interview with The Associated Press at his Jerusalem office, Netanyahu said: "We had and still have differences, but I think we made progress."

The Palestinians, he charged, "are trying to add issues that weren't on the table before."

Palestinian negotiator Nabil Shaath termed the meeting "very important (and) positive." But Arafat spokesman Nabil Abou-deneh said issues remained unsettled. "We have not reached an agreement over the unresolved issues yet," he told The Associated Press.

With Egyptian backing, Arafat has held out for a fixed timetable for three further redeployments in the West Bank after the army withdraws from 80 percent of Hebron.

The original Israel-PLO accords foresaw Israel leaving rural areas of the West Bank by September 1997. But that was contingent on Israel leaving Hebron last March, and Israel now wants a further 18 months to carry out the three-stage redeployment.

Netanyahu stressed in the interview that he would not meet Arafat's demand for an extended timetable.

"I have said to Arafat that I am willing to give a starting date and a commitment to carry out the three redeployments provided, of course, that he carries out his own obligations," Netanyahu said.

Some reports have indicated Israel's next pullback after Hebron will be from the nearby town of Halhoul, but Netanyahu said the location was yet to be settled in negotiations.

Netanyahu also balked at giving

in to the demand to post a Palestinian guard at the Tomb of the Patriarchs, a shrine revered by both Muslims and Jews as the burial place of their common forefather Abraham.

Saeb Erekat, the chief Palestinian negotiator, said on Israel radio's Arabic service that the "problem does not lay in the negotiations but in a political decision by Netanyahu."

"U.S. efforts to get Israel to specify a detailed timetable for redeployment in Palestinian rural areas has not been fruitful," Erekat told the AP.

Israel army radio reported that Ross would consider ending his shuttle diplomacy if no agreement was reached soon. U.S. officials said they had no indication of any change in Ross' plans.

Netanyahu made clear that his key problem was political — a growing rebellion of right-wing and religious parties in his coalition. Getting approval from his 18-member Cabinet, he said, was "becoming difficult" and might be impossible if he gave in further.

This was affirmed by Arie Deri

of the religious Shas party, a partner in the ruling coalition government, who said his party would support a Hebron deal that prevented a Palestinian police presence in the Tomb of the Patriarchs and gave no fixed dates for further army pullbacks in the West Bank.

There were expectations that an agreement could be wrapped up within 48 hours, but Israeli officials were cautious, noting that there had been many reports of a pending agreement in the past three months. There were also reports that Netanyahu and Arafat might meet again, possibly on Monday.

Israeli officials blamed Egypt for urging Arafat to dig in his heels on regarding a timetable and the Tomb of the Patriarchs.

Hostages sing as standoff drags on

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Hostages sang religious songs Sunday in an apparent attempt to keep up their spirits after nearly three weeks of captivity in a diplomatic mansion seized by leftist rebels.

There was no sign of progress in the standoff Sunday even though intermediaries visited the Japanese ambassador's residence, where 74 men remain captive.

Archbishop Juan Luis Cipriani entered the residence Sunday, apparently to celebrate Mass as he had done late Saturday. A Red Cross official accompanied him.

Religious and traditional Peruvian songs could be heard coming from the second floor of the white-washed mansion, where the windows have been barricaded with chairs and tables.

Saturday night, a popular television comedy program broadcast an appeal by a young girl for the crisis to end. Former hostages have said the rebels have been watching TV, but it was not known whether they saw the broadcast.

Pope John Paul II, who initially appealed for the hostages' release last month, broadened his call on Sunday to ask that all hostages around the world be freed.

Such an action would bring joy to the victims' families and also "give peace to the kidnappers themselves," the pope said at the Vatican.

Bolivia's foreign minister, Antonio Aranibar, arrived in Lima for talks with Peruvian authorities. Bolivian Ambassador Jorge Gumucio — one of the captives — suffers from hypertension and diabetes and needs special care, Aranibar said.

A Japanese newspaper reported Sunday that the rebels have demanded \$100 million in ransom from Japanese companies with employees among the captives.

The Mainichi daily, quoting unidentified company officials, said the rebels later lowered the ransom demand to \$30 million. The companies have refused to make any payments, it said.

The report could not be confirmed independently.

Spokesmen from two Tokyo businesses — the Marubeni trading house and Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. — told The Associated Press they had not received any ransom demands. Each company has one employee held captive.

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Unusual weather kicked off 1997

If you thought 1996 was a highly unusual weather year, hang on. The first few days of 1997 seem to indicate that the weather this year will also be highly unusual — and disastrous — for different parts of the nation.

But what a difference! Last year's drought was devastating for much of the nation, but particularly for states such as Texas and Oklahoma. In fact, the drought is estimated to have cost the overall Texas economy a total of \$4.9 billion.

In recent days, however, massive snowfall in the northwestern United States, followed by last week's unusual spring-like temperatures and major rainfall, has swollen many rivers in the West and caused flooding and mud slides in California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon and

Washington.

Flooding in those states was spawned by a nonstop string of storms that caused extensive damage amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars and causing at least 15 deaths.

It's sobering to think that so much damage and death has already occurred with winter only two weeks underway. Does that portend more snowfall and flooding to come?

Even with weather forecasting as advanced as it is today, there remains more mystery and uncertainty than actual understanding about weather patterns and unusual weather occurrences.

What does the weather hold in store for the remainder of 1997? Who knows? Maybe the safest prediction would be to say it probably won't be exactly what you expect.

ANOTHER VIEW

Protection needed for software piracy

Copyright law, especially that which involves foreign countries, is almost a guaranteed snoozer; but it's a vital issue for the United States because it has a direct bearing on our trade with other nations.

Negotiators in Geneva have agreed to a copyright accord to bolster protection against software piracy and still protect the burgeoning trade in free information over the Internet, which could spawn new industries.

As such, though, this country is vulnerable to piracy of copyright materials, which not only rob the creator of the value of his or her

work, but also cut down the size of the export market of the United States. It's not quite like making cars or machine tools.

There is little choice but to press on with efforts to protect intellectual material from theft. Short of establishing a corps of copyright police, piracy cannot be easily prevented. The best — almost the only solution — at this point is to use trade sanctions to threaten nations that condone or even sponsor piracy.

— The Blade
 Toledo, Ohio

WHOM TO WRITE

Following is a list of the names and addresses of various state and federal officials Midlanders may wish to contact from time to time:

PRESIDENT: Bill Clinton (D), The White House, Washington, D.C. 20503, Fax (202) 456-1144, Fax (202) 456-2461.

Senators: Kay Bailey Hutchison (R), The Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510 or call (202) 224-5922, Fax (202) 224-0776; or write to Kay Bailey Hutchison, 1100 Commerce, Suite 7C14, Dallas, TX. 74204.

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

Representative: Larry Combest (R), District 19, 1511 Longworth Building, Washington D.C. 20515 or call 550-0743, Fax 550-0652.

Representative: Lamar Smith (R), District 21, 2443 Rayburn House Office Building, Washing-

ton, D.C. 20515 or call (202) 225-4236, Fax (202) 225-8628; or 201 W. Wall Suite 104, Midland, Texas 79701, or call 687-5232, Fax 687-5234.

Representative: Henry Bonilla (R), District 23, 1529 Longworth, Washington, D.C. 20515 or call (202) 225-4511, Fax (202) 225-2237; or 4400 N. Big Spring, Suite 211, Midland, Texas 79705, or call 686-8833, Fax 686-8819.

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

State Senator: Teel Bivins (R), District 31, P.O. Box 12068, Austin, Texas 78711 or call (512) 463-0131, Fax (512) 475-3733; or P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, Texas 79105 or call (806) 374-9933, Fax 806-374-4607; or P.O. Box 1673, Midland, Texas 79702, 682-0455, Fax (915) 684-7843.

State Representative: Tom Craddick (R), District 82, 408 W. Wall St., Midland, Texas 79701 or call 682-3000, Fax 684-4364.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Monday, Jan. 6, the sixth day of 1997. There are 359 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 6, 1412, according to tradition, Joan of Arc was born in Domremy.

On this date: In 1540, England's King Henry VIII married his fourth wife, Anne of Cleves. (The marriage lasted about six months.)

In 1912, New Mexico became the 47th state.

One year ago, President Clinton, bowing to months of Republican demands, offered a seven-year balanced-budget plan using Congressional Budget Office figures. Republican candidates kicked off the 1996 presidential campaign year by shadowboxing with absent front-runner Bob Dole at a televised debate in Columbia, S.C.

JACK ANDERSON

Forest Service actions gore Al's ox

WASHINGTON — Vice President Al Gore has apparently found a government agency even he can't reinvent: the U.S. Forest Service.

Sources close to Gore recall high-level meetings last year when he fumed at how the old guard at the Forest Service was allowing the timber industry to literally take a chain saw to the administration's environmental record.

Gore, who wanted heads to roll, wasn't alone. Some senior government officials darkly suspected that some of the agency's rogish career staff were trying to embarrass President Clinton in the Pacific Northwest, long a political battlefield pitting sawmills against spotted owls.

What perhaps stung the most for Clintonites was the knowledge that they had allowed themselves to be suckered into this buzz saw by signing off on a Republican-sponsored rider to a deficit-cutting appropriations bill in the summer of 1995. Clinton gave big timber and the pro-industry Forest Service a loophole big enough to drive a logging truck through.

Since the rider took effect, 3 billion board feet of lumber have been harvested from Forest Service land — much more than anyone had anticipated. The rider was sold as a means of salvaging dead and dying trees, but the implementation has spawned the clearcutting of healthy trees and old-growth national forest, and the silencing of dissent. Thus, the timber industry found a way to harvest trees protected by the administration's 1993 forest plan.

"The Forest Service refused to obey the spirit (of the rider)," said one senior administration official who worked closely with Gore on the issue. "There were demonstrations all over the Pacific Northwest, and the president got killed politically. Gore and others were sick and

tired of it. He said, 'We cannot allow the Forest Service to flaunt policy which has been established by this administration.'"

An interagency post-mortem of the salvage program last month criticized the Forest Service's enforcement of environmental safeguards that led to logging in areas of national forests with "virtually all live trees."

GETTING A PEACE — It's a dirty little secret that few people at the United Nations ever mention, yet it happens with regularity: U.N. peacekeeping soldiers using child prostitutes for their pleasure.

Perhaps no one is more aware of this problem than the newly selected secretary general of the United Nations, Kofi Annan. For nearly four years, Annan served as the under sec-

retary general of peacekeeping operations. During that time, he saw more than a few confidential reports about peacekeeping soldiers getting out of hand.

Yet the problem was ignored for years by Annan's boss — outgoing Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. That is, until early last month. Boutros-Ghali finally took action after reading a report on children in war written by Mozambique's former education minister. The report found that child prostitution is a common byproduct of military conflicts around the world. And, sometimes, the crimes also involve U.N. peacekeepers.

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



Anderson



MIKE ROYKO

Cats, dogs bring out truth about men, women

An old friend invited me over to see his new condo and meet his new significant other, with whom he was trying to establish a new and lasting relationship.

After he opened my wine to let it breathe, he and I sat in the living room listening to his new Bang & Olufsen stereo ("state of the art in miniaturization," he said) while she went into the kitchen to prepare a new recipe for pasta primavera.

They had met, he said, on adjoining Nautilus machines. She was working on her thighs while he was trying to improve his pecs. One exercise led to another and there they were.

I was congratulating him on his good fortune when it walked slowly into the room. It arched its back and started at me.

"You have a cat?" I said.

He nodded.

"But you have never been a cat person."

"Actually, it was hers. Now it is ours," he said.

"I thought you were allergic to cats."

"Yes, but I checked with an allergist. Turns out that I'm allergic to long-haired cats. This is a short-hair, so it's OK."

"You never liked cats. You always told me you hated them."

"Shhh," he said, nodding toward the kitchen. "She might hear."

"Don't you think you should be honest about such things? You can't build a lasting relationship on deceit."

"I am honest. I like cats now. I really do."



Royko

Look. We get along fine."

To prove his point, he scooped up the cat and rubbed it under the chin. It responded by digging its claws into his arm and biting his thumb.

"Feisty little thing," he said, dabbing the blood with a cocktail napkin.

Just then, she came in from the kitchen with yogurt and carrot sticks and said: "Oh, you've been playing with Yolanda."

He smiled and wiped away the rest of the blood.

"It attacked him," I said. "I think it was after an artery."

"Oh, it's just her way of playing."

"Really," I said. "Well, if that cat was as big as one of us, it would probably rip his throat out. And mine and probably yours. The only thing that prevents cats from killing us is that they're not big enough. But they'd love to."

She stared back at me the way the cat had. She might have arched her back, too, but I couldn't tell because her jogging suit was loose.

"I gather you're not a cat person," she said.

"Of course I'm not. I am a man. Or a male person, as they now say."

"What has that got to do with it?"

"Everything. Men don't like cats. Only women do. If you took an honest, scientific survey, you would find that 97.3 percent of all men dislike and distrust cats. Probably more, but you know how some people lie to pollsters."

"I don't believe that," she said. "I've known lots of men who like cats. Most of them do."

"No. What you have known are men who lie about their feelings towards cats."

"Why would they lie?"

"To please women. They all know that you like cats, so they pretend to like them, too. It is all part of the wimping of America."

"The what?"

"The conversion of normal males into wimps. This cat thing is just another facet of it. Movies like 'Tootsie.' Guys like Alan Alda.

And the proliferation of cats as America's most popular pets. Take my friend here."

"Leave me out of this," he said.

"No. We must be open and honest. Now, would you have had this new and hopefully lasting relationship if he had said: 'You have a cat? Hey, I hate cats. If that sneaky thing comes near me, I'll toss it out the window?'"

"Of course not," she said. "But he would never have said anything like that because he likes cats. You do, don't you?"

"Yes, yes, I love them," he said, patting the cat's head and yanking his hand away before it could shred his fingers.

"No," I said. "he likes dogs. Most men like dogs. It's an instinct going back beyond the dawn of history, when man lived in caves and his first four-legged friend, besides his significant other, was his dog. It was a faithful dog who helped him catch game and who guarded the entrance of the cave and drove away the fearful beasts that lurked out there in the darkness — including big man-eating cats. Throughout history, men have had their dogs. You never read stories about cats rescuing lost people or driving off bandits or wolves. And in the movies, the only men who like cats are the villains. Would movies lie?"

She looked at my friend and said menacingly: "Be honest, because our relationship depends on it. Do you prefer dogs?"

"Of course not," he yelped. "I hate dogs. Big, smelly, things. Barking all the time. Ruining the rugs. Cats, I love cats."

I decided to skip the pasta and let myself out. The last thing I saw was my friend trying to tickle the cat behind the ears.

And it was trying to pluck out his eye.

Mike Royko's column is distributed by Tribune Media Services, Inc.

CHARLEY REESE

United States must resist impending world government

One of the basic questions Americans ought to ask and answer is, Do we wish to remain an independent country, or do we wish to merge into some transnational entity?

The fact that some people want to end the independence of the United States and replace it with a world government is not a right-wing fantasy. It is, in fact, an old idea. There are a number of public organizations that advocate it, and it has been talked about and written about for years.

Richard Gardner, now the U.S. ambassador to Spain, proposed in an article in Foreign Affairs (spring 1988), "an end-run around national sovereignty, eroding it piece by piece."

The push for this comes, as it always has, from international finance and business. One top IBM executive said, "The world's political structures are completely obsolete. They have not changed in at least a hundred years and are woefully out of tune with technological progress... the critical issue of our time is the conceptual conflict between the search for globalization of resources and the independence of nation-states."

In the 1976 book "Global Reach" by Richard J. Barnett and Ronald E. Muller, the authors write, "A little more than a generation after the withering of the wartime dream of world brotherhood... a new breed of globalists have launched an attack on the nation-state more radical than anything proposed by world federalists."

So, the issue is a real one. Now what does it mean?

Simply put, to remain an independent nation-state is to govern ourselves. We adopt what constitutions we please, pass what laws we please. If some international organization, some foreign government or some cabal of foreign governments doesn't like it, then it can file its objections where only a proctologist will ever see them.

That, I believe, is the position of a majority of Americans.

To lose our independence simply means that someone else we don't elect outside our borders will govern us with laws and rules we don't adopt. To lose our independence would be the same as being conquered and occupied by a foreign power, the only difference being that we would have surrendered before the war even started.

This is clearly a question to be decided by the American people. Unfortunately, the ruling elite is doing just what Gardner proposed — making end-runs around sovereignty.

For example, let's look at the World Trade Organization. We passed a law that says we don't import tuna from countries that allow

their tuna fishermen to kill dolphins in the process of catching tuna. Mexico took it to the WTO. The WTO has ruled that our law is a barrier to trade and we must either repeal it or pay a penalty. If that isn't a loss of sovereignty, skunks don't stink.

Traditionally, treaties were nothing more than agreements between sovereign nation-states governing their relationship. For example, a defense treaty simply says one signer will come to the aid of the other, if the other is attacked.

More recently, treaties are being used as an end-run around sovereignty. The treaty on children's rights, for example, does not govern relationships between nations. Rather, it dictates to nations how they must govern their own citizens within their own borders.

No such treaty should ever be ratified by the U.S. Senate. Under no circumstances should we allow foreign or international control of domestic issues to be imposed on the American people by the subterfuge of a treaty.

Under no circumstances should we ever allow one single American citizen to be subject to anyone's jurisdiction except that of his own country based on his own country's laws.

Independence is an issue that should not be compromised.

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

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

Senat

WASHINGTON foot-6, telegraphic a made movies after Republican couns Watergate Comm wonder GOP leas Sen. Fred Thomp investigation of c raising shenanigan

A decade after the investigation t ident Richard M. N Thompson played movie, "Marie." Space as Thom Marie Ragghianti, Tennessee Parole licized a parole that helped bring Blanton.

Thompson subse his legal career wi in television show wood films, includ of Fire, "Die H barians at the Gate and "The Hunt for He generally playe ity figures.

When he returne in 1994 as the ne Tennessee, the Se can leadership w taking advantage already-familiar

Divorced father children, Thomps office only two v gave the televisio to President Clint

Parties

WASHINGTON before the Novem AFL-CIO Presiden was at a New Ham ly taunting Congre leaders in his spe headed to the bot

Yet, even thoug eration spent \$35 advertising camp GOP positions, Rep will be back in co 105th Congress cor albeit with a narrow the House.

Republicans w push to enact legis unions to obtain m permission each y money can be us purposes. Republi introducing such mid-1980s but in effort after the AF its advertising ca

"We believe v have greater cont of their union du serious about the John Boehner of the GOP caucus.

Boehner said R will continue to between organiz unions. Last sun Judiciary subco tioned the proprie ers International tlement with the avert a trial on ci allegations.

Peggy Taylor, A

Denver to ques parents beauty

BOULDER, C Police finished se home where a 6- queen was found day after Christ prepared to interv for the first time.

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Officers comp search of the hou McNeill said dete led to Georgia back in Boulder

Sgt. Larry Ma Boulder investig the Atlanta sub said investigators ness associates bers, including J parents.

Mason said the "wide open" and focused on any s

Both parents l neys, as well as a gator and a m When Mrs. Rama interview last we a killer on the loo cials quickly den to elaborate.

Senate GOP relies on Tennessee senator to head fund-raising probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — He's 6-foot-6, telegraphic and smooth. He made movies after surfacing as a Republican counsel to the Senate Watergate Committee. It's no wonder GOP leaders turned to Sen. Fred Thompson to head the investigation of campaign fund-raising shenanigans.

A decade after participating in the investigation that led to President Richard M. Nixon's downfall, Thompson played himself in a movie, "Marie." It starred Sissy Spacek as Thompson's client Marie Ragghianti, who chaired the Tennessee Parole Board and publicized a pardon-selling scandal that helped bring down Gov. Ray Blanton.

Thompson subsequently mixed his legal career with appearances in television shows and 18 Hollywood films, including "In the Line of Fire," "Die Hard II," "Barbarians at the Gate," "Cape Fear," and "The Hunt for Red October." He generally played gruff authority figures.

When he returned to Washington in 1994 as the new senator from Tennessee, the Senate's Republican leadership wasted no time taking advantage of Thompson's already-familiar face.

Divorced father of three grown children, Thompson had been in office only two weeks when he gave the televised GOP response to President Clinton's nationally

broadcast speech supporting middle-class tax cuts. And after just two years in Congress, his name is being mentioned as a possible GOP presidential nominee in 2000.

"It's not something that's on our agenda," said Paul Clark, a Thompson spokesman. "It's mostly stuff the press has talked about. We're not encouraging it by any means."

The political fortunes of the 54-year-old divorced father of three grown children could depend on how he handles the probe of alleged campaign finance improprieties as chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

Democrats are anxious that the investigation will target only Democratic failings and have argued that, to be fair and useful, it should focus on GOP problems as well.

Thompson's laconic, laid-back demeanor may help avoid pitfalls that plagued Republican Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, who led the Whitewater probe in the last Congress. The irascible New Yorker got plenty of television exposure, but his approval ratings among his constituents plummeted. Due to face those voters again in 1998, D'Amato does not plan to resume the hearings.

"Something like that is always potentially high risk for someone politically," said political science

professor Bruce Oppenheimer at Vanderbilt University, where Thompson earned his law degree in 1967 after graduation in 1964 from Memphis State University.

"It's a delicate balance of how to appear partisan yet evenhanded," he said. Thompson's goal should be to appeal to a broad national audience while endearing himself to Republicans choosing a nominee, Oppenheimer said.

One person who thinks Thompson will do splendidly is Sam Dash, the Watergate committee's chief Democratic counsel.

"I am delighted he ran for public office," Dash said. "He's not just a partisan. He has an overall view of what is good for America. I have a lot of confidence in his candor and integrity."

In politics, Thompson floated to easy Senate wins in 1994, to serve out the unexpired term of Vice President Al Gore, and again in 1996. He was helped first by the 1994 Republican tide across America, then last year by incumbency and an easygoing manner. He traveled the state in his red pickup truck, often appearing in shirt-sleeves, tieless.

"He's a made-to-order candidate in the sense of his appearance, his voice, his demeanor," said Will Cheek, the outgoing Tennessee Democratic Party chairman.

Thompson's personality helps. "He's very relaxed, laid-back,

low-key," said M. Lee Smith, publisher of the weekly political newsletter "The Tennessee Journal." "Unlike a lot of politicians, he doesn't give you a lot of BS. ... He's very blunt-spoken. That has played very well and served him very well."

Politically, Thompson is "a conservative, very conservative in some respects, but he's also a person of reason," said Smith, himself once active in GOP politics. "He's not an ideologue to the

point of turning off voters who might disagree with him on a number of issues."

Thompson is a fiscal conservative, but has tried to walk a middle ground on abortion.

Other problems could surface later, Oppenheimer said, because Thompson "has not yet undergone the level of public scrutiny that people who become presidential nomination contenders get." He would likely be asked about lobbying for such clients as the

Teamster pension fund; Oppenheimer said.

Then there's his personal life. Although his divorce apparently was amicable, and his ex-wife attended some campaign functions, Thompson is single and not long ago dated country singer Lorie Morgan, who married for the fourth time in November.

"It's a question of whether you can do the Republican family values number as easily," Oppenheimer said.

Parties seek common ground on labor issues

WASHINGTON (AP) — A week before the November election, AFL-CIO President John Sweeney was at a New Hampshire union rally taunting Congress' Republican leaders in his speech. "You are headed to the bottom!"

Yet, even though the labor federation spent \$35 million on an advertising campaign slamming GOP positions, Republican leaders will be back in control when the 105th Congress convenes Tuesday, albeit with a narrower majority in the House.

Republicans will renew their push to enact legislation requiring unions to obtain members' written permission each year before dues money can be used for political purposes. Republicans have been introducing such bills since the mid-1980s but intensified their effort after the AFL-CIO launched its advertising campaign.

"We believe workers should have greater control over the use of their union dues. We're very serious about the issue," said Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, chairman of the GOP caucus.

Boehner said Republicans also will continue to look for links between organized crime and unions. Last summer, a House Judiciary subcommittee questioned the propriety of the Laborers International Union's 1995 settlement with the government to avert a trial on civil racketeering allegations.

Peggy Taylor, AFL-CIO legisla-

tive director, dismissed organized crime hearings as "annoying but certainly not fruitful." GOP lawmakers, she said, have "no interest in being reasonable" on union dues legislation but won't be able to get it enacted.

Even when Republicans talk of bipartisanship, it sometimes means working with President Clinton to make an end run around unions and liberal Democrats.

Rep. Bill Goodling, R-Pa., chairman of the House Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee, said his first legislative priority will be a bill allowing

employers to give their employees an hour and a half off, in lieu of money, for every hour of overtime worked.

In an election-year appeal for support from so-called soccer moms, Clinton offered his own version. And Goodling said his willingness to work with the Congress on the issue will be an early test of how serious he is about bipartisanship.

"The president has finished running. Now where does he really stand on the issues?" Goodling said.

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- 520-TANS -

Denver police to question parents of slain beauty queen

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Police finished searching the posh home where a 6-year-old beauty queen was found strangled the day after Christmas, and they prepared to interview her parents for the first time.

John and Patricia Ramsey have not spoken with investigators since the body of their daughter, JonBenet, was found in the basement of their 15-room Tudor home, about eight hours after the discovery of a ransom note.

The Ramseys, who lived in Georgia until 1991, were in Atlanta last week for JonBenet's funeral. They dropped out of sight soon after returning to Boulder on Friday, while their lawyers negotiated their police interviews.

Police have released few details of the slaying, saying only that the former Little Miss Colorado died by asphyxiation.

However, Denver newspapers, citing unidentified sources, reported over the weekend that JonBenet's killer fractured her skull before tightening a cord around her neck, and that the paper used for the three-page ransom note appeared to have been torn from a tablet in the Ramsey home.

Officers completed a 10-day search of the house Saturday and McNeill said detectives who traveled to Georgia were expected back in Boulder by late Monday.

Sgt. Larry Mason, one of the Boulder investigators who went to the Atlanta suburb of Roswell, said investigators talked with business associates and family members, including JonBenet's grandparents.

Mason said the investigation is "wide open" and officers haven't focused on any suspects.

Both parents have hired attorneys, as well as a private investigator and a media consultant. When Mrs. Ramsey said in a CNN interview last week that "there is a killer on the loose," Boulder officials quickly denied it, but refused to elaborate.

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Jane Belazi
Dianne Narrell

Sharon Goodwin
Brent Madison

Thanks to everyone who submitted a picture and entry to "Ham It Up!"

Midland Reporter-Telegram

JAN 06 1997

GOP leaders predict easy re-election for Gingrich; dissenters differ

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republican leaders confidently predicted Sunday that Newt Gingrich will be re-elected speaker despite his ethics committee problems. But one GOP dissenter said he doesn't think the election is all that certain, and another said Gingrich hasn't ruled out stepping down.

Rep. Matt Salmon, R-Ariz., who has urged Gingrich to step aside until the ethics matter is resolved, said the speaker told him in a Friday telephone conversation he has considered giving up the speakership.

"He said he was keeping his options open and that still might be a possibility," Salmon said on ABC's "This Week."

But because the speaker's election pits the Republican — undoubtedly Gingrich — against the Democratic nominee, House minority leader Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., Salmon said he would have to vote for Gingrich.

Gingrich's spokesman, Tony Blankley, later telephoned The Associated Press and said the Georgian will stand for re-election Tuesday and has "no plans to step aside."

Other House Republican leaders appearing on the Sunday television news programs insisted there would be no hitch in Gingrich's re-election when the 105th Congress convenes Tuesday.

"Most definitely he will be re-elected," Rep. Tom DeLay of Texas, the GOP whip, said on CNN's "Late Edition." "We have plenty of votes to re-elect Newt Gingrich."

Republicans will go into the new Congress with a narrow 19-vote advantage over the Democrats and the lone independent. So far only one Republican, Michael Forbes of New York, has said he will vote against Gingrich, but 16 others remain uncommitted.

Forbes said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that Gingrich would lose if a secret ballot were held. Even with the open floor vote, Forbes put Gingrich's chances at 50-50 because he said a "handful" of Republicans had told him they were leaning against supporting the speaker.

One of the uncommitted, Rep. Scott Klug of Wisconsin, said he will propose when House Republicans meet Monday that the speaker vote be delayed until the House

ethics committee rules on what sanctions, if any, to impose on Gingrich for violating House ethics rules. The committee is expected

to rule Jan. 21.

Gingrich conceded last month he broke House rules by not attaining proper legal advice on use of tax-exempt contributions for possibly political purposes and by giving inaccurate information to the ethics panel about the role of his political organization, GOPAC, in the tax-exempt projects.

Republican leaders, who waged an intensive campaign to prevent defections in GOP ranks, insist that Gingrich had no intention to mislead and has done nothing to merit losing the speakership.

"I don't think that Newt Gingrich being sloppy requires a re-

primand," Delay said. Republicans also defended a letter put out by two GOP members of the ethics committee, Porter

Goss of Florida and Steve Schiff of New Mexico, advising other Republicans they saw nothing in the investigation to make Gingrich ineligible to serve as speaker.

Time magazine, in its latest edition, said the outgoing and incoming chairmen of the House GOP campaign committee, Bill Paxton of New York and John Linder of Georgia, urged the two to get information out to Republican members before the speakership vote.

Paxon, appearing on ABC's "This Week," denied pressuring the pair. He said the letter was at

their initiative.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, said on CBS' "Face the Nation" that "it would not be improper for them to approach two members and say 'what is it you can do to clarify' Gingrich's situation."

Republicans also accused Democrats of delaying the final ethics panel ruling in their long-running campaign to undermine Gingrich.

The notion that Gingrich should temporarily step aside, said Paxton, "will create a situation where

the ethics committee and that process will be used as a tool of political terrorism, to drive out members of Congress."

Gingrich returns to Capitol Hill from his Georgia district Monday to address his Republican colleagues. He has kept a tight silence about the ethics charges, although the issue has continued to dog him.

Several dozen demonstrators gathered Saturday outside his Marietta, Ga., office to demand that he step down. A larger group of pro-Gingrich forces carried

signs in his support.

Democrats appearing on Sunday's news programs, demanding that Gingrich resign, accused the speaker of far more serious actions than those he has admitted. Allegations included lying to the ethics panel and knowingly manipulating funding for GOPAC.

"The speaker was running a giant laundering machine, taking charitable contributions, foundation money, putting it into his political empire," Rep. David Bonior, D-Mich., the Democratic whip, said on NBC.

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HUMOR ON THE SIDE

Dave's Top 10

- "Signs Your Kids Don't Like Their Christmas Presents"
10. There's something half-hearted about the way they say, "Oh wow — Q-Tips."
 9. They spend Christmas morning making up games involving wrapping paper.
 8. They hire a Gambino family hit man to break Santa's kneecaps.
 7. You see them trying to shove everything back up the chimney.
 6. Spelled out in Legos on the front lawn are the words "You Cheap Jerk."
 5. Moments after they unwrap gifts, you see them for sale on the Home Shopping Network.
 4. Your son simply refuses to understand why you couldn't get him two hours alone with Cindy Crawford.
 3. They cite your gifts as a major factor in their decision to convert to Islam.
 2. You wake up and find the head of Elmo in your bed.

Late Night Lines

"Today is December 26, the day after Christmas. Which means that all around the country people spent the day returning Michael Jordan's new cologne."

"It was reported today that two of the top fake names given when ordering Domino's Pizza this year were Dennis Rodman and Bob Dole. Apparently, the thousands of times the name Bill Clinton was used, it actually turned out to be him."

"Last year ABC's 'Monday Night Football' apparently had its lowest ratings ever. Next year, they're going to try and improve the ratings by having Frank Gifford file for divorce on the air."

"A county supervisor in Los Angeles wants to use a vacant lot next to a maximum security prison to build a golf course. Unfortunately, this is the closest we'll ever come to seeing O.J. in jail."

— Conan O'Brien

Football Humor

Need a good joke for a football party? The Star-Banner in Ocala, Fla., asked readers to share their favorite Florida State Seminole or Florida Gator jokes.

"There were many more that we couldn't print," said Assistant Managing Editor BRAD ROGERS. He said the jokes were originally gathered for the Nov. 30 UF-FSU matchup but are equally timely for the Sugar Bowl.

(Ed. Note: The following jokes can easily be re-worded to fit any number of Texas teams ...)

Here are the best of the printable contributions:

Q: What does a University of Florida graduate say to a Florida State graduate?

A: Welcome to McDonald's, can I help you?

Q: What is the difference between Steve Spurrier and God?

A: God doesn't think he's Steve Spurrier.

Q: What do you get when you go slow through Tallahassee?

A: A diploma.

Q: Why do Florida State graduates put their diplomas on the dashboards of their cars?

A: So they can park in the handicapped spots.

Steve Spurrier and Bobby and Terry Bowden went to Canada on a fishing trip. When they got to a nice lake, Steve said, "Well boys, I think I'll fish here." Bobby said, "Terry let's go over to the other side of the lake and fish."

After a while, Bobby and Terry noticed that Steve was catching a lot of fish, and they hadn't caught any. So Bobby told Terry to go over and see how Steve was catching all of those fish.

When Terry got back he said, "Daddy, he cut a whole in the ice."

Q: How do you get to Tallahassee?

A: You just go north until you smell it and west until you step in it.

Q: How do you beat the Florida Gators?

A: You put them in the Sugar Bowl.

Q: Know how FSU players get their morning exercise?

A: By fighting for the toy in the Fruit Loops.

MONDAY MORNING EDITOR
JIMMY PATTERSON

Step 1: Get stuck



Sticking his nose where it's not supposed to be ...

A wild skunk, hunting for a snack, got its head stuck in a small jar in Burton, Mich. Animal control experts were called to extricate the trapped skunk, which was later freed.

Step 2: Call 911



Step 3: Go free



READERS WRITE

Dusky Deluges

By Joanna Spicer

Walking along the old blacktop road ... left broken and crumbled from trucks ... carrying drilling equipment ... oil rigs ... hauling dog houses from one drilling site to the next, she kicked the loose gravel with an ivory coloured rope ... and studied the surroundings she calls home. Off to her left ... toward the west ... and looking into the setting sun, stuck in amongst the mesquite and tiny oak shrubbery, sits a relic of a pumpjack ... rusted and silent and still ... it's famous rhythmic clangs and groans ... a memory. The final cadenzas long past ... content to sit quietly and listen to the locust and coyote in the distance ... and weather the daily sandblasting of the West Texas winds in the spring.

Wheel ruts from trucks and caretakers past, circle the steel, grasshopper-like structure ... weeds springing up around the edges of oil spills. A jackrabbit stops to stare at her in a moment of curiosity and quickly bolts on down the little beaten rabbit path. A dead tumbleweed impaled on the pumpjack handle ... and vultures ... hanging from a clear, blue Texas sky, circle a greasy spot ahead.

To her right and as far as eyes can see ... hundreds of pumpjacks sit ... motionless, for the most part. A ruffling and swaying grass in the breeze ... a tattered rag lofting from the top of a Yucca plant ... and more mesquite ... brush mesquite ... here and there dry and brittle, ready for a campfire, crackling under pots of stew and fresh coffee ... with giant stars scattered across the mirrored canvas of the West Texas sky. A small clearing ... a sleeping bag ... two stainless steel army cups ... concupiscent intentions ... rivaled only by the magic of hearts intertwined. A cry in the distance of the coyote, as dusk slowly dints the barren horizon she loves. The sky cradles a tinge of orange ... copper ... nearest the earth ... graduating to paler shades of red and orange-blue ... and finally a soft, light layer of cloudlets wafting overhead ... the artist's final touch. God's final touch.

On a fence, nailed to the corner post, a weathered board landmark reads ... "Coyote Corner" and across a gravel road stands a little general store known as "Coyote Corner Cafe." Here, the essentials of life could always be found ... a bite to eat ... hot coffee ... chewing tobacco ... a beer for the trip home after a sweltering day spent shirtless in the unforgiving sun! The essentials are still there. The bustle is not. She thinks of an abandoned movie set ... "Giant" perhaps. The oilpatch ... the roughnecks ... the drillers ... big time investors ... a breed whose golden glory days are forever past! With the outflow of oil activity to off-shore sites and one big oil company after another moving out of the area, she had seen these men sacking groceries in grocery stores and waiting tables in restaurants ...

Turning her thoughts from the mundane and wrapping herself in the copper-clad sky, other dreams, far removed from the oil patch, burst into her bosom to swing like frenzied monkeys from bruised and battered heartstrings ... gibing her ... screeching in delight as she grimaced ... as the familiar waves reached high tide ... spilling over, rising into her throat ... glistening in her eyes at the sunset.

Joanna Spicer, a salesperson in Odessa, has three grown children and five grandchildren. Her writing has been previously published in two poetry anthologies.

"Readers Write" is an occasional feature of the Reporter-Telegram highlighting the writing of some of our readers. To submit an essay for consideration, please mail to Readers Write, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, Texas, 79702.

JIMMY PATTERSON

Nothin' fancy: Just 50 years without a spat

The party went well. The invited guests strolled through the processional shaking hands and congratulating the happy couple for what they had achieved.

Miraculously, the planning of the party came off without a hitch, too. Events such as this seldom do, but this particular family is not known for its big deals or its fuss and muss.

And for that, the credit is due the happy couple.

Oh sure, there were dashed hopes along the way. At first, Harold said he would very much like to take Betty on a Mexican cruise, something they had not yet done. That was ruled out after it was deemed too impractical for all concerned. Then, there was talk of a short trip to New Orleans for the celebration. Those plans, too, fell by the wayside.

And so it boiled down to this. The happy couple, married 50 years on January 3, would stand for three short hours and welcome friends and family in the reception hall of the church they have attended for 31 of their 50 years together. Invited guests would be encouraged to not bring gifts, but gifts were brought

nonetheless. Harold was never much on big deals, and he was a bit taken aback by all the attention. Betty loved every minute of it, though, which was exactly how Harold wanted it.

There was no Mexican coastline. No French Quarter. But there was a decorated assembly hall in the church basement, and when it all unfolded, it couldn't have been much more perfect. Betty was thrilled — beaming much like a newlywed — as people stood in line to pay their respects to the happy couple.

Family members came from as far away as Ohio and Colorado. The couple's three children, eight grandchildren and great-grandchild were there. Friends, including the maid of honor from 50 years back, wouldn't have missed it for the world.

Fancy? Not really. But who needs it when you're among family and friends? For 50 years, there hasn't been too much fancy about this family. It's greatest claim to fame was that it had licked a rare hereditary cancer, save for Harold's father, who lost his life to the disease in the '30s.

The family's only other claim to fame (aside from the fact that Betty bears a striking resemblance to Aunt Bea herself) was that Betty claims she and Harold have never had a spat in 50 years of marriage. It's a story Betty has told every few days or so for, oh, about 50 years. And anyone remotely associated with the happy couple would never once doubt

it. Not for a minute.

Harold and Betty raised three seemingly normal children and did so with unending love. Love, and faith that their children would do well no matter their life's endeavors. If you listen to Harold and Betty's version, one of those kids ended up as a top expert in the automotive business, another virtually runs the City of Irving, and the third writes for a newspaper 325 miles down the Interstate.

Andy Warhol once said that everyone would have his or her 15 minutes of fame. Until the reception line on Sunday, Harold and Betty had compiled 10 or 12 of those minutes, but are due more, if only for the fact that they have stayed together for half a century, something not just a whole lot of couples can lay claim to nowadays.

Most people fortunate enough to put their thoughts into a newspaper wait until it's too late to pay tribute to their parents. But I figure now is as good a time as it gets. Besides, they're due another five minutes or so of fame.

Jimmy Patterson is a staff writer for the Reporter-Telegram. He can be reached via email at jpatterson@basinlink.com.



Lamar Elementary School third-grader Blanca Ruedas checks out her new hair-do with her hairdresser, Lee High School senior and cosmetology student, Mandy Brandon.

Curt Wilcott
Reporter-Telegram

Lookin' sharp

Cosmetology program at Lee enables teens, younger students to build friendships.

By Myra Lee Salcedo
Staff Writer

Lamar Elementary School third-grader Arthur Hubbard, 9, was all smiles as he admired his new fluffy hairdo and fingernails shining from a coat of clear glossy polish. "I think I'll look pretty good when I go back to school," he said, as he held his fingers out to show off the first manicure of his life.

Arthur and a host of his peers spent half a day in Lee High School's cosmetology classroom being pampered. Being groomed by older stu-

dents is not the kind of item measured on a test, and it's hard to gauge the benefits, but Lamar school counselor F. Moss said rewards respect are tremendous.

"The older students get an opportunity to practice their skills on the younger students, and the younger students get to go back to school looking sharp, and feel good walking into class," Moss said. "Some of the Lamar students have probably never experienced anything like this. I could tell, because some of them were nervous. They asked: 'What's going to happen?'"

And sure enough, the youngsters tended to huddle together when they first walked into the high school salon, said LHS cosmetology and vocational teacher, Faye Petree.

The LHS teen-agers, however, soon had the younger students relaxed and chatting about families and school.

Having young clients to gussy up also tends to put the teen-agers at ease, Ms. Petree said.

"It's not so intimidating for the high school students to work with the young people as it is to work on adults when

Please see MANICURE/2B

Dallas cheerleader gives stereotypes the boot

By Michael Precker
Associated Press

DALLAS — Linda Badami, 37 and a mother of four, had pulled into the gas station when the attendant noticed the blue and white pompons in the back seat.

"Is your daughter a cheerleader?" he asked. Shame on us for our unfair stereotypes.

The Texas Rangers had Nolan Ryan, whizzing fastballs well into his 40s. The U.S. Senate has Strom Thurmond, legislating between naps at age 94.

And the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders have Linda Badami, making history of her own.

"I've never had an age barrier problem," says Ms. Badami, who's in her second year on the squad. "If someone can look at me and say, 'If she can

do that, I can do something, too,' that's great. But I just don't think about it. I just enjoy what I'm doing."

Besides, she adds with a laugh, "I'm the same age as (Cowboys backup quarterback) Wade Wilson."

True, but unless disaster strikes Troy Aikman, Wilson spends Sunday afternoons standing around with a headset on.

Linda Badami climbs into a skimpy outfit and performs three hours of grueling dance routines — picture a marathon aerobics class with lots of splits and high kicks tossed in — in front of 60,000 people and working with teammates literally half her age.

"One day Mom was dancing in the garage and I tried to do what she was doing," says Christopher, Linda's 13-year-old son. "It was real hard. I don't

Please see CHEERLEADER/2B

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DAVE BARRY

Sometimes the fan letters roll in faster than imaginable

Today, as part of my ongoing series entitled "Advancing Your Career," I'm going to address the often-asked question: Should you set fire to your supervisor's beard?

But first I need to formally apologize to the Harley-Davidson motorcycle riders for a column I wrote a couple of months ago in which I stated — without having done any research — that people who repeatedly rev their extremely loud Harley-Davidson engines in crowded public places are jerks.

Well, you talk about stirring up a hornet's nest. I have not received so much hate mail since the time I criticized Neil Diamond.

(NOTE TO NEIL DIAMOND FANS: Please don't write to me again! I now worship Neil as a god! I have a graven image of him to which I ritually sacrifice goats!)

(NOTE TO ANIMAL-RIGHTS



Barry

ACTIVISTS: I'm just kidding!)

(NOTE TO NEIL DIAMOND FANS: Not that I am saying Neil is not worthy of goat sacrifice!)

In their letters to me, the Harley-Davidson people made four basic points:

1. I am scum.
2. There are important mechanical and safety reasons why Harley-Davidson engines need to be extremely loud and revved a lot.
3. I am lower than scum.
4. Perhaps I would like to have my skull crushed like a ping-pong ball under a freight locomotive.

Here are some actual unretouched quotations from the letters I received:

"Dear Mr. Barry you are a looser and yes you are anal retentive."

"You are an idiot! You should be writing you're so called Journalism for National Inquirer."

"My loud Harley might catch your attention from concentrating on singing your favorite Barry Manilow song."

"I don't guess you know that lawyers, Doctors, country singers own Harley."

"You (bleeping) polyester buying, penny loafer sporting, polka-dot tie wearing, bus riding, no life having (bleep)."

So I just want to make this sincere statement of apology to those Harley riders whom I have offended: Don't you EVER accuse me of listening to Barry Manilow.

(NOTE TO BARRY MANILOW FANS: Just kidding! I love Barry's work! Especially the Dr. Pepper commercial!)

OK, now that we've cleared that up, I want to share with you an item from a newsletter published by the Utah Department of Employment Security, sent to me by alert reader John Balmforth. The newsletter has a feature entitled YOU BE THE JUDGE, which presents a case concerning whether a company was justified in discharging an employee (referred to as the "claimant"). Here, according to the newsletter are the facts, as determined at a hearing:

"During a disciplinary discussion with his supervisor, the claimant lit the supervisor's beard on fire with a cigarette lighter."

"Shortly thereafter, the claimant refused to follow instructions from his trainer and, when rebuked, the worker pressed a post-it note on the trainer's forehead."

OK! You be the judge! Was the

employer justified in firing this person? Think about it, while we play the "Jelpardy" music:

Doo doo doo doo, doo doo doo, doo doo doo doo Doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo ...

Time's up! The answer, according to the Utah Department of Employment Security is: Yes, the employer WAS justified. The newsletter points out that "not only is setting a person's beard on fire dangerous," but also the forehead post-it note indicates "an absence of professional behavior." The department apparently did not give the employee any credit for refraining from attaching the note with a stapler.

Speaking of assaults, I have here a chilling news item from the Sept. 3 edition of the Asbury Park Press, alertly sent in by John F. Coffey II Attorney At Law. The item, which was written by Sheri Tabachnik and which I am not making up, begins as follows:

"A Belmar man who was throwing uncooked pasta out the window was charged by police with stabbing a man who was hit by the rigatoni, police said."

The article states that the victim and some friends were walking on the street at about 2 a.m. when "some people in an apartment began throwing uncooked

pasta out the window at them." Words were exchanged, and the pasta-wielding perpetrator allegedly came out of the apartment and stabbed the victim.

According to a police spokesperson, "He must have hit him in an artery because he was gushing blood."

The victim survived, but this tragic incident serves as yet another reminder to us all that, when we feel stress or anger, we must NOT, in a rash moment, unthinkingly reach for the rigatoni.

Instead we should remember the words of the great pacifist Mohandas Gandhi, who in a famous 1949 speech, said, "Me, I prefer the number nine capellini." What is all the more amazing about this speech is that Gandhi actually died in 1948.

So in conclusion, let me just reiterate my main points, which are (1) it is unprofessional to set fire to our supervisors, at least in Utah; (2) when pasta is outlawed, only outlaws will have pasta; and (3) we should not be critical of people who make extremely loud motorcycle noises in public if we are sporting penny loafers. And now, if you'll excuse me, I'm going to go listen to "I Write the Songs."

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MANICURE: High school students, younger children build friendships

(From 1B)

they are just getting into the hair field," Ms. Petree said.

For Arthur, getting his hair and nails spiffed up meant making a new friend at Lee High School and having an opportunity to see what a high school building looks like.

LHS junior Natalie Rosson said Arthur was a pleasant client. "And he has naturally curly hair so there wasn't much I had to do to fix it," she said, noting she shampooed and styled his hair.

Although she enjoys fixing hair, Natalie said she is considering going to college. "But for now, we do a lot of hair on dolls (mannequin heads) and kids," she said.

Moss said letters are sent home to parents before their children visit LHS. "Parents send us a letter back telling us what they want done, and don't want done. Everyone gets their hair done and everyone gets their nails done, assuming we can talk the boys into it," Moss said, noting his recent group of students proved to be "pretty willing participants."

Fellow Lamar Counselor Linda Whitlow said the first time she came with students to the cosmetology room, "Our kids were real quiet and shy. But you just see them blossom."

To commemorate the event,

Ms. Whitlow said the counselors take pictures of students with their high school stylists and put the pictures up on a bulletin board back at the elementary school.

LHS junior Lisa Lubke said the youngsters are easy to work with, but tend to change their minds about the end results. "Sometimes you have to change their hair three or four times, and some kids are shy about telling you if they like it," she said.

Working toward her cosmetology license, Lisa said, "I have always wanted to do hair." She said mannequins were not her forte. "I shake too much doing nails."

Her young client, Lucretia Plaa, 9, disagreed, showing her neatly painted bright red fingernails. The soft-spoken third-grader said her hair, sporting a French braid and big bow, was a new style for her, but she liked it.

Ms. Petree said students from various elementary schools have been coming to LHS at a rate of once a week. "I enjoy watching the children come into the room. Sometimes they are a little scared, but they are happy when they leave. Then we feel like they did a good job."

CHEERLEADER: Woman busts stereotypes

(From 1B)

know how she does it." In the cheerleaders' silver anniversary season, Ms. Badami is rewriting the record book.

The squad takes pride in including women of different backgrounds and ages, not just perky teenagers. But never has one been so, uh, mature.

A number of cheerleaders have had their own children cheering them on. But no one ever had four (all boys; ages 13, 8, 5 and 3).

"Sometimes I get wisecracks from the other girls," she says. "They call me 'Mommy Badami.'"

This midlife comeback hasn't attracted the attention of, say, George Foreman's return to boxing or those new Beatles songs last year. On the job at the TWA ticket counter at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, she says, "I have my glasses on and my hair pulled back. I don't look like a cheerleader."

In the chunk of the world where people view Ms. Badami as wife or mother, a lot of people are either unaware or incredulous.

"When I told my friends that my mom's a Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader, they didn't believe me," says Christopher, an offensive lineman at Young Junior High in Arlington. "They said things like, 'Yeah, and my dad's the president.'"

"So I brought them an autographed picture. They were astonished."

Chris Badami, proud husband and account executive at Roadway Package System, uses the same strategy.

"Especially the women can't believe it," he says. "So I always carry a picture with me. Most people are pretty astounded to meet someone who's married to a Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader."

Linda credits her astounding, astonishing story to hard work and perseverance, proper diet and a lot of help from her family. But an unexpected move to Texas made it all possible.

Growing up in Kansas City, Linda Badami always danced and performed. At 17, she earned a spot on the Kansas City Chiefs cheerleader squad, which has the amazingly creative name of ... the Chieftesses.

She lasted five years, even while she attended the University of Kansas down the road in Lawrence. But then the usual grown-up pursuits intervened: marriage, career, children.

"We wanted a girl, and we kept trying," she says.

Three years ago, Chris Badami was transferred here from Kansas City. Once they settled in Arlington, Linda took a look at a photo of the Cowboys cheerleaders.

"They didn't all look 18," she says. "We were new here, and I wanted to feel more part of the community. What better way than being a Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader?"

"But I'd just had Michael (her fourth child) and it was just after the tryout deadline. So I thought, 'I've got a year to get myself back in shape.' I figured it was my last hurrah."

She worked at the gym and in the garage, on aerobics and flexibility, and she kept her plans to herself.

"I didn't even tell my husband," she says. "I was afraid I'd be embarrassed. And I didn't want any negativity."

One Friday in April 1995, Chris says, "She said, 'Guess what I'm going to do in the morning? I'm going to try out for the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders.'"

"I thought, 'She can't be serious,' and I really didn't think much more about it. Sure enough, the next morning, she was out the door."

Hundreds of women turn up annually for the open tryouts, hoping to impress the judges enough during a brief dance routine to be invited back for the second round.

Kelli McGonagill Finglass, a former cheerleader who is now the director, says age wasn't a factor.

"There were no special considerations for her whatsoever," she says. "Linda earned her stripes."

She survived two qualifying rounds to make the finals, "and that alone made me feel really good," she says. Then she performed well enough in training camp to take the field at Texas Stadium in the fall of 1995.

Cowboys fans, of course, want to hear that this is nothing like being a Chieftess. Of course, it's not.

"It's just an unbelievable experience," she says. "I'm so glad I got to do it. People here think a lot of the cheerleaders and all the things they do in the community, like charity events and visiting hospitals. To me, that part of it has been special."

And that tight-fitting, navel-baring outfit?

"I don't think it's anything more than you see in a swimsuit," she says. "It's a tradition. As soon as you put it on, you feel like you're part of history. And it's sure a motivation to keep in shape."

For her, that may be the easy part. Take a deep breath, then

imagine keeping this schedule:

During the season, cheerleader practice at Valley Ranch lasts from 7 till 10 p.m. at least three nights a week, followed by a long drive home. Her half-day shift at the airport starts at 5:30 a.m., which leaves afternoons free for four very active boys.

Factor in outside appearances, autograph sessions, game days, workouts and all the rest, and this starts to sound like one of those old Geritol commercials.

"You just make it work, if this is what you want to do," she says. "I have my mother role, I have my role at TWA and I have my cheerleader role. Instead of thinking how do I do it, I just kind of 'Nike' it. I just focus on what I'm doing at the time."

She hastens to add that this wouldn't be possible without a very supportive family.

"Chris has sacrificed a lot for me," she says. "It's kind of a tag-team parent situation. But I think the kids have gotten a lot closer to him because I'm so busy."

He agrees. "We all pick up the slack when she's gone," Chris says. "But I think it's great she's able to do this. People just assume cheerleaders are all blond and dumb and flaunt themselves around. There's a lot more to it, and she's gotten there through a lot of work and dedication."

Inspired by her example, he jokes, "Next year I'm going to try out for the Cowboys."

The younger Christopher is happy for Mom, but concedes, "We miss her. It's really kind of hard without her some nights."

Eight-year-old Anthony is more sanguine.

"I think it's really cool," he says. "Now I'm kind of famous."

Linda's first season ended at the Super Bowl, where she was briefly captured on TV.

"We were sitting at home watching the game, all of a sudden we all yelled, 'Hey, there's Mom!'" says Christopher.

The cheerleaders have to try out every spring, with no guarantees of reclaiming their spot. Bidding for a second year, Linda designed a routine poking fun at her "other" life.

She put on a housecoat, put up her hair and set up an ironing board in front of a screen.

"I came out and started ironing," she says. "Then I went behind the screen, took off the housecoat and came out ready to dance."

It worked. This season, she says, "it's not so stressful. Your rookie year is an education. Your veteran year, you enjoy it so much more."

Physically, she says, the only concession to, uh, maturity, "is that I need to warm up a lot more than the younger cheerleaders, and it takes me longer to recover. You have to be flexible and you have to be cardiovascular. I'm 37, but I'm probably in the best shape of my life."

For the record, the next most mature cheerleader is a mere 31.

"She really likes me to be on the squad," Linda says.

But not for long. Barring a last-minute change of heart, Linda's ready to hang up the pom-poms at the end of this season.

"I really wanted to come back for a veteran year, but now I want to concentrate on my children," she says. "I'm ready to move over and let another 37-year-old move in."

She pauses and laughs. "Or 47," she says.

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Ailing boy collects patches, dreams of being firefighter

Associated Press

MADISONVILLE, Texas — About twice a week, Jakob McCarver lovingly removes each patch from a cardboard box, admiring its shape, size and color.

With about 360 patches from all over the world, this ends up being almost a four-hour task.

When he is done, the 4-year-old tries to put each patch back into its alphabetical place with a little help. And he dreams of when he might be a firefighter himself, just like his dad, who helped him start his collection.

The Madisonville boy has been collecting patches for a while now, almost since his parents first learned of his heart condition.

He has collected the pieces from emergency services around the globe, including 42 U.S. states, in an effort to break the world record of about 4,200 patches.

Raymond "Bubba" McCarver helped Jakob start his collection about a year ago after the boy showed an interest.

Bubba McCarver is chaplain of the Madisonville Fire Department and Madison County vice president of the Leon-Madison Firefighters Association.

"This has always been kind of a hobby with me, and I decided it was something I'd see if Jakob was interested in," the boy's father said. "I gave him a couple of mine and his exact words were, 'Daddy, I want a lotta bunch of them.'"

McCarver, said she will make a quilt with the patches. Jakob said he wants to put his favorite, a large clover-shaped one from the Mobil Chemical Fire Brigade, on the back of a shirt.

Jakob suffers from a heart condition in which a leaky heart valve causes a kind of "backwash" of blood, McCarver said.

"The heart pumps blood and when it relaxes, some of it comes back through the valve," he said. The condition originated after Jakob's open-heart surgery when he was only 6 weeks old, an operation that doctors at first did not want to perform.

"They said there was no hope for him and they gave him two days (to live)," McCarver said. "And I went ballistic."

McCarver told doctors that if the operation was unsuccessful, it would still be better than trying nothing at all, and the doctors agreed.

The operation, performed at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn., saved Jakob's life but left scar tissue that led to his condition.

Jakob, who is now considered stable, still receives treatment at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston.

Rhonda said that on a recent visit doctors discovered that Jakob's liver pulsates, a problem that could spell future trouble. He also faces a heart valve replacement operation in his teen years.

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Compiled fro... News Service... Richard Salts...

HEALTH BRIEFING

Shovel carefully

If you're no longer young, but pride prompts you to dig yourself out of the heaviest snowfalls, give a thought to what might be going on inside your blood vessels. A New Jersey cardiologist who studied 19 people stricken with heart trouble while shoveling out from last winter's unexpected blizzard in that state says a majority of them had ruptured blood vessel plaques. That means deposits of fat and fibrous matter had built up inside their coronary arteries to the point of being "ripe" for rupturing under the stress of suddenly raised blood pressure — which happens when a sedentary person takes up a strenuous task.

Until now, said Dr. Jacob I. Haft, chief of cardiology at St. Michael's Medical Center in Newark, there have been few studies of the insides of the blood vessels of patients who had heart trouble while shoveling snow. Writing in the New England Journal of Medicine, Haft said that 16 of the patients underwent dye injections and X-rays of their coronary arteries. Of these, 13 had evidence of coronary plaque rupture, which he said spills fatty and fibrous material into the bloodstream, where it can cause a clot that clogs the artery.

Unlike other kinds of heart attacks, which occur following worsening angina pectoris as a vessel becomes progressively narrowed, the rupture of a plaque is often a sudden event with no warning. "That's why you have someone who runs up three flights of stairs one day" and is felled by a heart attack — say, while clearing the sidewalk — the next.

Findings reassuring

Reassuring results from a study of bicycle injuries show that wearing a helmet, regardless of the type, can cut the risk of head injuries by about 80 percent. A report in the Journal of the American Medical Society answered some questions that had remained following previous studies supporting the use of helmets. It hadn't been shown that helmet standards for children under age 6 were as effective as those for adults, nor had these studies evaluated newer helmets of the "no-shell" or "thin-shell" type.

In the new study, led by Diane C. Thompson of the University of Washington, the researchers said that helmets for young children were just as protective as for older riders. And it appeared that the protection afforded by the helmets didn't vary by type. In a companion study, also led by Thompson, an analysis showed that helmets protect the upper and middle parts of the face but don't prevent injury to the jaw and lower face. Given these results, the authors wrote, "consideration should be given to developing general cycling helmets that offer chin protection."

Warning reissued

At least three cases of mercury poisoning associated with beauty creams from Mexico have been documented by health officials, according to a federal warning republished in the December issue of the Archives of Dermatology. The American Medical Association, which publishes the dermatology journal, said that the poisoning cases have been reported in Texas, New Mexico and California and involve a product marketed as "Crema de Belleza." The cream has mercurous chloride as an ingredient, though in the United States mercury compounds are banned in cosmetics by the Food and Drug Administration. The warning was originally issued in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Stroke risk

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Blacks have twice the risk of strokes that whites do, says Dr. Daryl W. Thompson, assistant professor of neurology at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. Contributing factors are hypertension, diabetes, excessive alcohol intake, sickle cell disease, and higher use of tobacco, according to Thompson, who directs the Souers Stroke Institute at the university's hospital.

Researchers in the field think that improved control of high blood pressure is a key in reducing the number of strokes among blacks, he said, adding that funding and expansion of hypertension control programs is essential.

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram News Services and "Med Notes" by Richard Saltus.

'Persistent cold' may be sinus infection

By Jane E. Brody
N.Y. Times News Service

Is that cold you caught two weeks ago still hanging on? Chances are it is no longer a cold but a sinus infection, and chances are it will not go away on its own.

In fact, failing to get prompt and proper medical treatment could result in serious complications or a chronic sinus problem that requires prolonged therapy and even surgery to correct.

Each year 35 million Americans develop sinus infections, the most common reason to see a doctor. Proper treatment of sinusitis requires an antibiotic because at least half the infections are bacterial and not self-curing.

But a new survey of 1,002 people who reported having had a cold, allergy or sinus infection during the previous year showed that three-fourths of those who had sinusitis treated themselves with over-the-counter medications, and 39 percent never saw a doctor about their problem.

The survey, conducted by Yankelovich Partners for the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, also found that most people were ignorant of the signs and symptoms of sinusitis and could not tell the difference between it and a cold or allergy.

WINTER IS prime time for sinusitis, which most often occurs as the aftermath of a cold. Any cold that persists or worsens after seven to 10 days is most likely a sinus infection.

Other precipitating causes include nasal allergies and exposure to toxic fumes or air pollutants like tobacco smoke, both of which cause nasal tissues to swell, and obstructions resulting from a crooked nose, deviated septum, polyp, foreign body, tumor or even scar tissue from a previous sinus infection.

Sometimes an infection in an upper tooth can extend into the sinuses. People with immune deficiency diseases like AIDS and patients on immune-suppressing drugs are especially susceptible to sinusitis.

Normally, mucus that collects in the sinus cavities surrounding the eyes and nose is swept out into the nasal passages by millions of tiny hairs called cilia that cover the lining of the cavities and keep them sterile. But when the narrow passageways from the sinuses to the nose are blocked by swollen tissues from a cold or allergy or by physical obstructions, mucus collects in the sinuses and becomes a breeding ground for infectious organisms.

Increased pressure in blocked sinuses typically causes pain in the forehead, between and behind the eyes, or in the cheeks and upper teeth, depending upon which sinus cavities are involved.

Suspect an acute sinus infection if you have three or more of the following symptoms: facial pain or pressure; headache; congestion or stuffy nose; postnasal drip; thick, yellow-green nasal mucus; "cold" symptoms for more than 10 days; low-grade fever, bad breath or pain in your top teeth.

If what you have is "just a cold," the nasal discharge will be thin and watery or thick and whitish, you are unlikely to have tooth pain or bad breath, and you should feel better within 10 days.

If your problem is an allergy, the nasal discharge will be thin, clear and watery, you will have no fever, tooth pain or bad breath, and symptoms will last from hours to weeks or months, depending on the cause of your allergy.

UNTREATED OR inadequately treated sinus infections that persist for extended periods can develop into chronic sinusitis, in which the lining of the sinus cavities no longer can function properly. Headaches, facial pain and fever are less common in chronic sinusitis, but nasal congestion and unpleasant nasal secretions usually persist.

Infected mucus that drips from sinus cavities into the lower respiratory tract can cause or aggravate bronchitis, chronic cough and asthma. In rare cases, a sinus infection can spread to the eye or brain, a life-threatening complication that causes a severe headache and warrants immediate medical attention.

You can reduce the likelihood of sinusitis by practicing good nasal hygiene.

If you develop a cold or allergy, the academy of ear, nose and throat specialists suggests using an oral or nasal spray decongestant for a few days (no longer than a week); taking care when you blow your nose to block one nostril at a time and blow gently through the other; drinking plenty of fluids to keep nasal secretions thin and watery; avoiding air travel, or, if you must fly, using a long-acting nasal spray decongestant before takeoff, and controlling allergy attacks through avoidance of the cause (if possible), use of antihistamines when exposure is unavoidable or, if necessary, desensitization shots to increase your tolerance to the troublesome allergens.

The treatment of sinus infections has become an increasing challenge as more and more bacteria develop resistance to commonly used antibiotics. It takes a while for antibiotics to reach therapeutic levels in the sinus cavities, and failure to treat each infection with the full 10 or 14 days of the prescribed medication is a common cause of antibiotic resistance. Patients typically feel better after four or five days and nearly half stop taking the medication soon after.

Surviving bacteria may cause a recurrent acute infection or a low-grade chronic sinusitis. Furthermore, these surviving bacteria may evolve into "superbugs" that are difficult to treat.

YOUR DOCTOR will choose an antibiotic that is likely to kill off the most common causes of sinusitis. Be sure to tell the doctor if you have a known or suspected allergy to penicillin. If you do not experience significant relief within five days, report that to the doctor, since a different medication may be needed.

Be sure to take every dose of the medication for the full length of the prescription. If the usual treatments fail to clear up the problem, ask to be referred to an otolaryngologist, who may have to extract a sample of sinus mucus to determine the precise cause of your infection and its sensitivity to different antibiotics.

You can speed your recovery and increase your comfort by taking measures that reduce swelling in the nose and sinuses and improve drainage. For several days use an oral or nasal spray decongestant (but be sure it is not combined with an antihistamine, which will dry and thicken secretions); inhale heated mist from a facial sauna device, steam bath, hot shower or by breathing through a hot, moist towel, and use saline nose drops. You can also use an over-the-counter painkiller like aspirin, acetaminophen or ibuprofen.

Chronic sinusitis requires a month of treatment: three weeks of antibiotics plus a month of steam inhalation and use of a steroid nasal spray and saline nose drops.

If this fails to clear up the problem, see an otolaryngologist for tests that may reveal a hidden cause. You may need surgery to clear away damaged sinus tissue and allow healthy tissue to grow back. Sinus surgery can now be done under local anesthesia on an outpatient basis by means of a scope inserted through the nose.

The American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery has produced a new educational pamphlet, "Is It More Than Just a Cold or Allergy?" a guide to identifying and treating sinusitis. To obtain a free copy call (800) 546-9493.

Non-drowsy antihistamine may cause serious side effects

By Dr. Alex Sherman
Associated Press

Many non-sedating antihistamines available by prescription have made life considerably easier for the 25 million to 50 million Americans who suffer from seasonal allergies. But these products, which can relieve runny nose, itchy eyes and throat, and other allergy symptoms without causing drowsiness, may also have their down sides.

A recent article in the Annals of Internal Medicine reports that loratadine (Claritin) has caused liver failure in two patients, one of whom required a liver transplant. Although the public should be made aware of the risks, concerns must be put into perspective.

Unlike antihistamines sold over the counter, prescription drugs like loratadine, terfenadine (Seldane) and astemizole (Hismanal) do not cause drowsiness or interfere with work and other activities. Loratadine is also convenient, as it is taken only once a day, and has fewer adverse interactions with other medications than do Seldane and Hismanal.

Now questions are raised about loratadine. The article in the Annals of Internal Medicine discusses two patients who

suffered severe liver inflammation or hepatitis after taking the drug.

One patient, 42, took loratadine for 14 months, then developed jaundice (yellowing eyes or skin) and abdominal pain. Although the patient stopped taking the drug, progressive liver failure continued, and a liver transplant became necessary.

A second patient, 33 and in good health, developed jaundice, fatigue and other symptoms two weeks after beginning loratadine. Symptoms subsided after the patient stopped taking the medication; two months later, the patient recovered completely.

The report also mentions another loratadine user who required a liver transplant. However, the patient was also taking ketoconazole, a medication associated with liver damage.

How serious is the risk? Any medication has the potential to cause liver injury. However, loratadine has a remarkably good record and reactions to it have been rare. Yet there is reason for caution.

If you take Claritin and develop abdominal pain, nausea, lack of appetite or jaundice, seek medical attention immediately.

Commercial photo

Campbell's

CONDENSED



Get Well

SOUP

AP Wirephoto

Mom was right...

For generations mothers and grandmothers have stressed the medicinal value of chicken soup. Now Campbell Soup has launched its first-ever campaign touting its world-famous chicken noodle soup for people with cold and flu symptoms. The campaign began last month, the beginning of peak cold and flu season, which lasts through February and during which more than 100 million Americans are expected to have these kinds of symptoms each week.

Commercial photo

Cold Survival

When you're under the weather Nothing warms you up and makes you feel Min! Min! Better! like a hot, delicious mug of Campbell's Chicken Noodle Soup.

Chicken Noodle SOUP

Campbell's Makes Everything Min! Min! Better!

Reagan Behavioral Health Center

"Your Choice for Behavioral Health Care"

• DAY TREATMENT PROGRAM •

(an alternative to hospitalization, when appropriate)

FOR: Clinical Depression, Anxiety Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Alcohol / Chemical Dependency

FROM: Highly Qualified Staff, Board Certified Psychiatrist, Doctorate Level Therapist & Psychiatric Nurse

501 Andrews Highway ▲ Midland, Texas 79701

— Complimentary Initial Consultation —

915-620-6699

JAN 06 1997

Midland Reporter-Telegram Area Weather

Midland Reporter-Telegram

TODAY
Snow, possibly mixed with rain
High 34
Low 24

TUESDAY
Chance of rain and snow
High 38
Low 25

WEDNESDAY
Partly cloudy with warmer conditions
High 44
Low 28

Texas Yesterday

City	H/L/P
Arlene	48/34/0.00
Amarillo	38/32/0.00
Dallas/Ft. Worth	52/43/0.00
El Paso	57/48/0.00
Lubbock	40/33/0.00
San Angelo	52/40/0.00
San Antonio	68/54/0.00

YESTERDAY'S PRECIPITATION

Rainfall Saturday	0.02 in.
Rainfall Sunday	0.00 in.
Total for the month	0.02 in.
Total for the year	0.02 in.
Normal for the month	0.07 in.
Normal for the year	0.07 in.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

High	46
Low	39
Norm. High	56
Norm. Low	28

AVIATION
MVFR conditions due to 3000 foot ceilings. East wind at 10-20 knots.

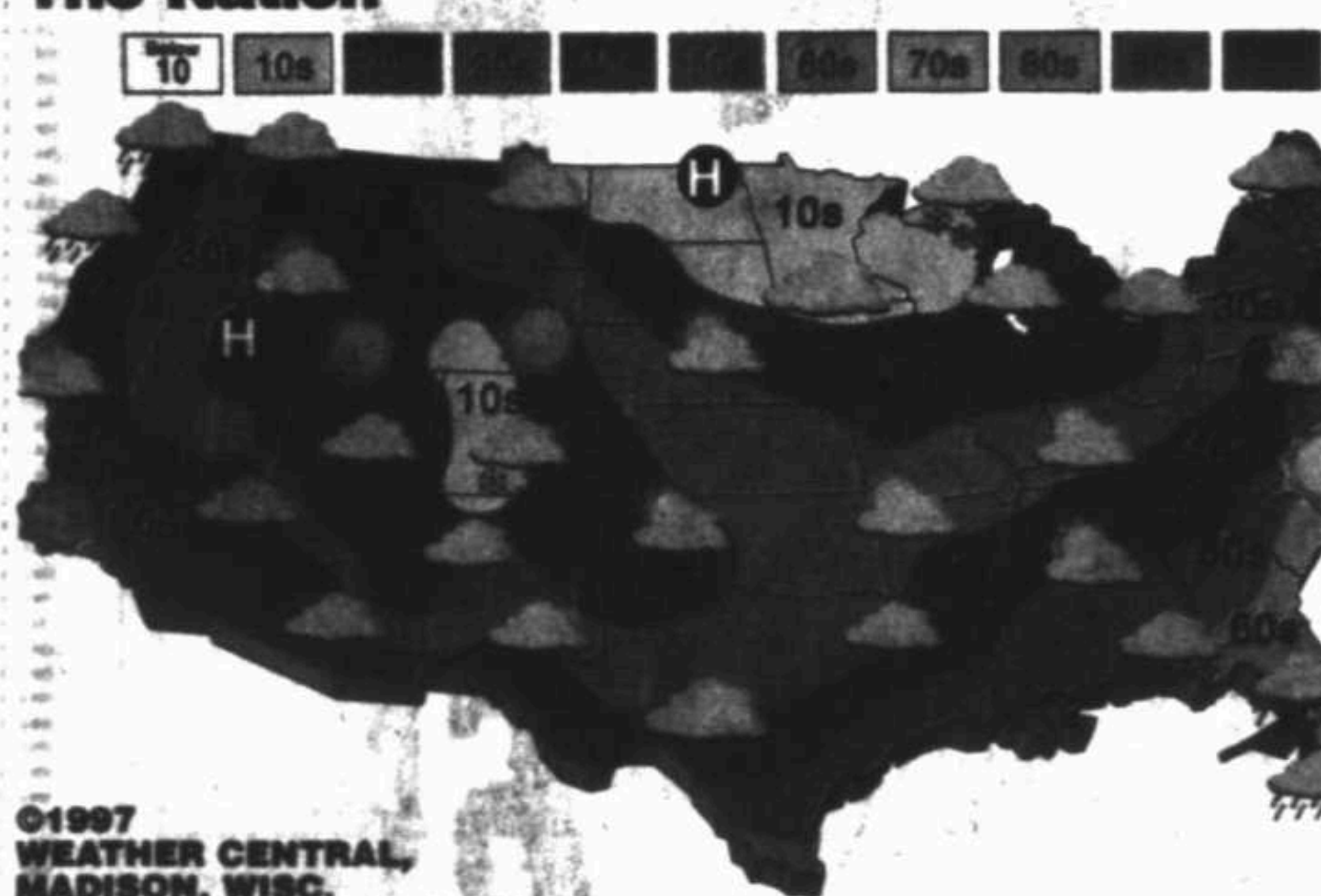
MOON PHASES



SUNRISE & SUNSET

Sunrise today	7:50 a.m.
Sunset tonight	6:00 p.m.
Sunrise Tuesday	7:50 a.m.
Sunset Tuesday	6:01 p.m.
Moonrise today	5:02 a.m.
Moonset today	3:55 p.m.

The Nation



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United States

City	H	L	W	City	H	L	W	City	H	L	W	City	H	L	W
Albany	35	22	sn	Colorado Spgs.	20	7	sn	Juneau	32	22	sn	Phoenix	55	43	sh
Albuquerque	34	22	sh	Columbia, SC	58	35	pc	Kansas City	31	14	pc	Pittsburgh	30	15	sn
Anchorage	7	-7	sn	Columbus, OH	31	17	pc	Las Vegas	49	34	sn	Portland, OR	44	39	r
Aspen	17	0	sn	Dayton	29	16	pc	Little Rock	42	30	c	Raleigh	55	33	pc
Atlanta	50	35	pc	Denver	22	5	s	Los Angeles	50	46	c	Reno	35	15	s
Austin	47	39	pc	Des Moines	25	9	pc	Louisville	35	21	pc	Richmond	52	29	pc
Baltimore	47	27	pc	Detroit	29	18	pc	Memphis	41	30	c	St. Louis	31	19	pc
Birmingham	50	35	c	Duluth	10	-4	c	Miami Beach	83	66	sh	Salt Lake City	29	10	s
Bismarck	20	-1	pc	Evansville	32	18	pc	Milwaukee	23	10	c	San Diego	58	44	c
Boise	29	19	sn	Grand Rapids	27	18	pc	Minneapolis	17	3	c	San Francisco	58	43	s
Boston	41	26	pc	Great Falls	33	13	c	Mobile, AL	58	43	c	Seattle	43	39	r
Buffalo	31	20	sn	Helena	32	9	sn	Nashville	40	26	pc	Sioux Falls	17	-4	pc
Charlotte	55	32	pc	Honolulu	80	68	pc	New Orleans	55	46	c	Spokane	29	25	c
Cheyenne	23	10	s	Houston	52	44	c	New York	40	27	pc	Tampa	80	61	c
Chicago	25	12	pc	Indianapolis	29	14	pc	Omaha	28	5	pc	Topeka	32	12	pc
Cincinnati	31	18	pc	Jackson, MS	51	38	c	Orlando	79	59	c	Washington	49	31	pc
Cleveland	31	18	pc	Jacksonville	67	49	c	Philadelphia	43	26	pc	Wichita	30	23	pc

KEY TO CONDITIONS: c-cloudy, dr-drizzle, f-fair, h-hazy, pc-partly cloudy, r-rain, s-sunny, sh-showers, sn-snow, ts-thunderstorms, w-windy.

Pan American

City	H	L	W	City	H	L	W
Acapulco	88	72	pc	Bangkok	88	67	t
Bermuda	70	61	pc	Beijing	12	5	s
Cabo San Lucas	75	60	pc	Bogota	67	48	pc
Chihuahua	52	32	sh	Johannesburg	81	56	pc
Guadalajara	72	40	pc	London	38	29	pc
Havana	83	74	pc	Montreal	30	15	sn
Kingston	83	73	c	Moscow	12	0	pc
Mazatlan	76	52	pc	Nairobi	77	57	w
Merida	86	68	pc	New Delhi	71	48	pc
Mexico City	68	46	pc	Paris	29	20	pc
Nassau	78	63	pc	Rio de Janeiro	77	68	t
San Jose	83	74	pc	Riyadh	68	43	s
San Juan	79	61	s	Rome	54	46	sh
San Juan, PR	82	73	pc	Stockholm	27	12	c
Torreon	86	46	pc	Sydney	72	66	w
Trinidad	86	71	t	Tokyo	47	38	pc
Vera Cruz	82	68	pc	Toronto	32	21	sn

STORM TRACKER FACTS

There is a winter storm watch in effect for tonight and Tuesday. A storm system approaching from the west will give us a very good chance of rain, freezing rain or snow today, tonight and Tuesday. Accumulations could reach 2 to 5 inches. Very cold air will be staying over the area for several days.



Meteorologist Tina Simpson 6 a.m.



Meteorologist Tina Simpson 6 a.m.



Darrell Ward Weekends

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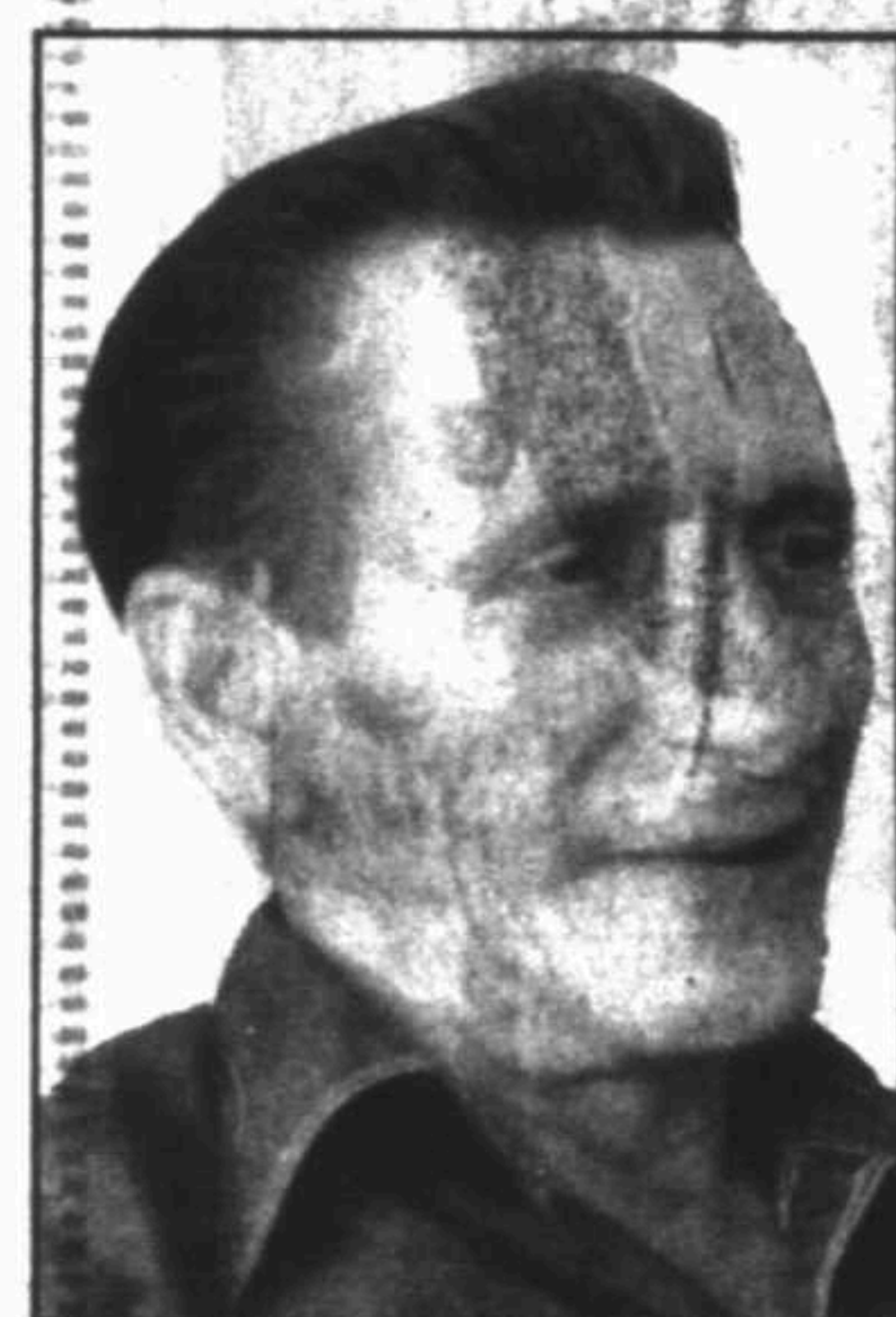
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OBITUARIES



Claude Strickland

Funeral services for Claude Delton Strickland, 66, of Midland, have been set for today, Jan. 6, 1997, at 1 p.m. at Wilshire Park Baptist Church with the Pastor Steve Tims and Pastor Jim Bradshaw officiating. Burial will be at Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Strickland died Saturday at a local hospital after a lengthy illness. He was born April 11, 1930, in Midland, and had lived in Midland since 1941. He worked at various oil

companies during the 1950's and retired from the U.S. Post Office in 1980. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and the Korean Conflict. He was a 32nd Degree Mason and member of the Midland Lodge No. 623 and Dallas and Midland Scottish Rite Associations. Strickland was also a member of the Wilshire Park Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Nugent and Flossie Strickland; brothers, Boyce Strickland and Gaylon Strickland; and sister, Ozell Harrison, all of Midland.

He married Dorothy Jean Roderick of Midland on April 8, 1950, and is survived by her and their two daughters, Delta Martin of San Angelo and Donna Smith of Midland. Other survivors include two brothers, William Burnson Strickland and Jimmy Strickland, both of Midland; sons-in-law, Mike Martin of San Angelo and Dallas Smith of Midland; five grandchildren, Christy McClure of Houston, Chris and Ashley Martin of San Angelo, and Slade and Chase Smith of Midland; mother-in-law, Dorothy Roderick of Midland; three brothers-in-law, Don Roderick of Midland, Larry Roderick of El Paso and Rodney Roderick of Azle; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be the deacons from Wilshire Park Baptist Church.

Honorary pallbearers will be from the U.S. Postal Service. The

family requests memorials be directed to the Midland Chapter of the American Lung Association or the charity of one's choice.

Karen Sorrel

Karen Sorrel was born November 20, 1943, to Bessie Rivers and Jimmy Gatlin in Turkey, Texas. She moved with her family to the Midland area where she was reared and educated. She was a member of South Memorial Baptist Church.

Mrs. Sorrel is survived by her companion, Joe C. Diaz of Midland; a son, Phillip Sorrel of Midland and a daughter-in-law, Lori Sorrel; one daughter, Stephanie Engbrock of Houston; five brothers, Leon Gatlin of El Paso, Dick Gatlin, Tommy Gatlin and Jimmy Gatlin of Midland, and Howard Gatlin of Odessa; two sisters, Christine Mansell and Peggy Ellison of Midland; five grandchildren, Tosha Sorrel, Jessica Sorrel, Tabitha Sorrel, Haley Sorrel and Zachary Engbrock; 30 nieces and nephews; 51 great nieces and nephews; and nine great-great-nieces and -nephews.

Mrs. Sorrel died Friday evening at a Midland hospital.

Funeral services are set for 11 a.m. today, Jan. 6, in South Memorial Baptist Church with the Rev. A.L. Hall officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

DEATH NOTICES

Bob Forrest

SHALLOWATER — Bob Forrest, 82, died Saturday, Jan. 4, in Lubbock.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, at the First Christian Church in Canadian with a grandson, Jim Forrest, minister of the First Christian Church of Watonga, Okla., officiating. Rocky Farrar and Mike Heatwole of Canadian will assist. Burial will be at Edith Ford Cemetery in Canadian under the direction of Stickley-Hill Funeral Directors of Canadian.

Forrest was born Jan. 20, 1914 in Mayfield, Okla. He married Erma Mae Gilbert on Feb. 25, 1935 in Canadian. He was a farmer and rancher in Hemphill County, a Hemphill County Commissioner for 12 years and served as public relations and general manager for Adcock and Prater in Canadian. Forrest moved to Lubbock County in 1991.

He was a member of the 12th Street Church of Christ in Shallowater.

Survivors include his wife, of Shallowater; a son, Gilbert Forrest of Oklahoma City, Okla.; three daughters, Gwenette Atkinson of New Deal, Marvella Free of Mid-

land and Jana Sanders of Shallowater; a brother, Walter Forrest of Canadian; 12 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

Lawrence Piper

Lawrence W. Piper, 74, died Thursday, Jan. 2, at a Midland hospital.

Services will be at 11 a.m. today, Jan. 6, at Pipkin Chapel Funeral Home with the Rev. Bill Palmer officiating. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Pipkin Funeral Home.

He was born March 3, 1922, in Marlin. He was a U.S. Army veteran and worked for the U.S. Post Office.

Survivors include his wife, Pearl Mae Piper of Midland; daughter, Vivian Piper of Arlington; brothers, Linton Piper of Dallas, and Clinton Piper and Eugene Piper, both of Marlin; sisters, Marilyn Piper and Betsy Coleman, both of Dallas; two grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

William Martin

Services for William Robert

Martin are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

Martin died Sunday at his residence.

Rufus Higdon

Services for Rufus L. Higdon are pending with Ellis Funeral Home. Higdon died Saturday at a Midland hospital.

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINEE
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
James Woods

"BRILLIANT AND COMPELLING!"
DESERVES MULTIPLE
OSCAR NOMINATIONS!
Pat Collins, WWOV-TV/NEW YORK

GHOSTS OF MISSISSIPPI
PG-13

Hollywood THEATERS
TALL CITY 10
11:05 1:45 4:25
7:05 9:40
NO PASSES/NO DISCOUNTS

HOLLYWOOD THEATERS

TALL CITY 10
4915 W. LOOP 250
522-2200

BARGAIN MATINEES EVERY DAY
ALL SHOWS STARTING BEFORE 6 P.M.
Senior Citizen Discounts At All Times
The photography proofs from our Grand Opening Celebration have arrived!

MICHAEL (PG)
11:00 1:25 4:45 7:25 9:55
ONE FINE DAY (PG)
11:15 1:40 4:20 7:05 9:30 DTS

101 DALMATIANS (G)
12:10 2:35 5:00 7:30 9:45

JERRY MAGUIRE (R)
12:30 4:10 7:10 10:00

EVENING STAR (PG-13)
12:00 3:20 7:00 9:45 Dolby Digital

THE PREACHER'S WIFE (PG)
11:10 1:40 4:30 7:05 9:50

JINGLE ALL THE WAY (PG)
12:20 2:20 4:30 7:35 9:40

MY FELLOW AMERICANS (PG-13)
11:30 1:55 4:45 7:15 9:35

GHOSTS OF MISSISSIPPI (PG-13)
11:05 1:45 4:25 7:05 9:40

EMMA (PG)
11:40 2:10 4:50 7:20 9:50

FEATURES WITH 2 ARE RESTRICTED
FOR PASSES AND DISCOUNT TICKETS

MIDLAND PARK MALL
LOOP 250 AT MIDLAND PARK MALL
697-7813

BARGAIN MATINEES EVERY DAY
ALL SHOWS STARTING BEFORE 6 P.M.
Senior Citizen Discounts At All Times

RANSOM (R)
2:00 4:40 7:15 9:50

MARS ATTACKS! (PG-13)
2:50 5:10 7:30 9:45

BEAVIS & BUTT-HEAD (PG-13)
1:40 3:30 5:20 7:30 9:25

SPACE JAM (PG)
1:40 3:35 5:25 7:20 9:20

Now Serving Coca-Cola

CINE 4
3207 WEST CUTHBERT
697-3204

BARGAIN MATINEES EVERY DAY
ALL SHOWS STARTING BEFORE 6 P.M.
Senior Citizen Discounts At All Times

SCREAM (R)
2:45 4:20 7:10 9:25

THE MIRROR HAS TWO
FACES (PG-13)
2:10 4:35 7:05 9:30

STAR TREK: FIRST
CONTACT (PG-13)
2:10 4:35 7:05 9:30

DAYLIGHT (PG-13)
2:15 4:40 7:15 9:40

ANNOUNCING THE NEW NORTH PARK

BILLINGSLEY BLVD. & LOOP 250
697-3243

ALL SEATS - ALL SHOWS

\$1.50

All Day Tuesday 50c Admission

FIRST WIVES CLUB (PG)
2:15 4:40 7:15 9:45

FLY AWAY HOME (PG)
2:00 4:30

LONG KISS GOODNIGHT (R)
7:20 9:55

MIGHTY DUCKS 3 (PG)
2:10 7:20

HIGH SCHOOL HIGH (PG)
5:00 9:50

SLEEPERS (R)
2:00 5:00 8:00

Now Serving Coca-Cola

TWO AUDITORIUMS WITH

DOLBY

POLICE REPORTS

Midland Police Department

Saturday

Vandalism: The windshield and side windows of a vehicle were broken out at 3801 Thomason Drive, reported Sylvia Zapata at 12:35 p.m.

Burglary of a residence: An edger and set of golf clubs were taken from an open garage at 1912 Sparks St., reported Martha Holton at 12:27 p.m.

Vandalism: A vehicle was "keyed" at 3329 W. Wadley Ave., reported Melissa Johnson at 12:45 p.m.

Burglary of a residence: Entry was gained through a bedroom window and nothing

taken at 508 Beckley St., reported Laura Singleton at 1:13 p.m.

Theft: \$320 was taken at 106 S. Madison Ave., reported J.B. Porter at 4:15 p.m.

Vandalism: A gate was broken at 106 Holly St., reported Priscilla Ray at 6:07 p.m.

Sunday

Burglary of a residence: A door was kicked in and a television taken at 1306 Keith St., reported Randy Roberts at 2:53 a.m.

Burglary of a business: A window was broken out at Holwell United Methodist Church, 400 S. Marshall Ave., it was reported at 8:16 a.m.

Vandalism: The top of a convertible was damaged at 2201 W. Golf Course Road, reported Danny White at 8:53 a.m.

Burglary of a business: Seven large radiators were taken from a storage building at 701 Carter St., reported Ernest Briggs at 9:39 a.m.

Theft: Almost everything in a room at the Midland Inn, 3302 W. Front St., was taken, it was reported at 12:33 p.m.

Anyone having information concerning these incidents should contact the Midland Police Department at 685-7108, the Midland County Sheriff's Office at 688-1228 or Crime Stoppers at 694-TIPS.

SPORTS BRIEF

TV Sports

COLLEGE BASKETBALL — Villanova at Penn State, 7 p.m., ESPN.
Southeastern League — Men, Texas at Kentucky, 7 p.m., FSN.
Men, UNLV at Tennessee, 7 p.m., ESPN.

Texas Soccer

NFL — NFC Division 1 Carolina Panthers at Tampa Bay Buccaneers, 1 p.m., ESPN.
NBA — Los Angeles Lakers at San Antonio Spurs, 8 p.m., ESPN.
COLLEGE BASKETBALL — Men, Oklahoma State at Texas Tech, 7 p.m., ESPN.

Hall of Fame

NEW YORK — Phil Niekro won most games piece and in career strikeouts hoping those stats avoid another Hall of Fame ballot, including Dwight Evans, who and who's not at 5 day when the results are announced. Last January, for the 1971, the voters of the Association of Professional Baseball Writers elect a single player.

Norman w

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — man, whose putter most of the day, for the 36th hole of the the Anderson Championship of foot birdie putt on No. 18 Sunday at Club's Talon

SPORTS BRIEFING

TV Sports

COLLEGE BASKETBALL — Men, Villanova at Providence, 6:30 p.m., ESPN.
Southeastern Louisiana at Centenary, 7 p.m., FSS.
Men, Texas at Kansas, 8:30 p.m., ESPN.
Men, UNLV at Texas Christian, 11 p.m., ESPN.

Texas Scores

NFL — NFC Divisional Playoff, Carolina Panthers 26, Dallas Cowboys 17.
NBA — Los Angeles Clippers 93, San Antonio Spurs 84.
COLLEGE BASKETBALL — Men, Oklahoma 78, Texas A&M 59.

Hall of Fame

NEW YORK — Don Sutton and Phil Niekro won more than 300 games apiece and rank in the top 10 in career strikeouts. They're both hoping those stats are enough to avoid another Hall of Fame shutout. Tony Perez and eight first-timers on the ballot, including Dave Parker and Dwight Evans, will find out who's in and who's not at 5 p.m. CST Monday when the results are announced. Last January, for the first time since 1971, the voters of the Baseball Writers' Association of America did not elect a single player.

Norman wins

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Greg Norman, whose putter deserted him most of the day, found it again on the 36th hole of the world finals at the Andersen Consulting World Championship of Golf. Norman's 15-foot birdie putt on his second visit to No. 18 Sunday at the Grayhawk Golf Club's Talon course earned him \$1 million in golf's richest tournament. He shot 3-under-par 69 in the first 18 holes and 1-over 73 in the second. Hooch, who never led, made up four strokes from the 15th through the 21st holes, but wasn't able to take advantage of opportunities created by Norman's erratic short game.

Courier wins

DOHA, Qatar — Jim Courier won his 20th career title and deprived Tim Henman of gaining his first ATP trophy, beating the Brit 7-5, 6-7 (5-7), 6-2 in Sunday's final of the Qatar Open. The match, which lasted 2 hours, 24 minutes, was played in bitterly cold wind. Henman, playing in his first final, started well, breaking Courier's serve in the opening game. But the more experienced Courier, winner of four Grand Slam titles, broke right back, before Henman broke again for a 2-1 lead.

Lions, Barnett

DETROIT — Gary Barnett — who transformed the Northwestern Wildcats into bowl contenders the past two seasons — will interview for the Detroit Lions head coaching position, two published reports say. The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press, citing unidentified team sources, reported on Monday's editions that Barnett has agreed to meet this week with Lions vice chairman William Clay Ford Jr. and Chuck Schmidt, the team's chief executive officer.

Senna trial

LONDON — Frank Williams said Sunday he will appear before Italian judges next month to face a manslaughter charge arising out of the death of Formula One world champion Ayrton Senna at the 1994 San Marino Grand Prix. Although the hearing could be held in his absence, the wheelchair-bound head of the Williams team said he would be present. He declined to talk about details of the case, which is expected to be heard in February at Imola. Williams and five other members of the team, including design director Adrian Newey and technical manager Patrick Head, have been charged with manslaughter in Senna's death which occurred at Imola when his Renault-Williams car hit a wall after failing to take a bend. The manslaughter charge arises out of allegations that the steering column on Senna's car may have been badly rewired after the driver had asked for it to be shortened so he could have a better view of his instrument panel.

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New England linebacker Dwayna Sabb (95) celebrates during the Patriots 28-3 win over the Pittsburgh Steelers in an AFC divisional playoff game on Sunday.

Patriots lose Steelers in the fog

■ Curtis Martin knifes through mist to lift New England into AFC title game.

By Howard Ullman
AP Sports Writer

FOXBORO, Mass. — The fog didn't bother Curtis Martin. Neither did the Pittsburgh Steelers, who were lost in it all day. With Martin knifing through a thick mist behind an offensive line aroused by pregame talk of the Pittsburgh blitz, the New England Patriots rolled to the AFC championship game with a 28-3 win Sunday. The Pittsburgh native slashed for a team playoff record 166 yards and three touchdowns, including a 78-yarder that gave more than 60,000 fans waving blue pom-poms a chance to see him at his best. "It just made it extra interesting to me to go out there and see all that fog," he said. "I wondered whether

they'll be able to see me when I'm running." The Steelers saw his heels a lot. "He's the type of runner that takes advantage of all of the opportunities that are given to him," Pittsburgh linebacker Jason Gildon said. The Patriots, in their first home playoff game in 18 years, will play host to their second in eight days next Sunday against Jacksonville, with a Super Bowl berth going to the winner. New England (12-5) beat the Jaguars here 28-25 in overtime in the fourth game of the year. The Steelers (11-7) ended their season sooner than the last two. They lost in the AFC title game to San Diego two years ago, then were beaten in last season's Super Bowl by Dallas. "Losses are always tough," Steelers cornerback Rod Woodson said. "It's tough when you lose like this. The last thing you want is to get blown out in a playoff game." The Steelers were coming off a

route of their own, a 42-14 wild-card win over Indianapolis. Jerome Bettis ran for 102 yards, and Pittsburgh's blitz produced four sacks in that game. Pittsburgh's defense was ranked second in the NFL, but was outplayed by a New England defense that now has allowed just four touchdowns in its last six games. One week after scoring a club playoff record 42 points, the Steelers' only points came after an interception, and they were outgained 346 yards to 213. "We'd heard a lot about their defense and, quite frankly, our players were a little tired of hearing that," Patriots coach Bill Parcells said. It bothered Pro Bowl offensive tackle Bruce Armstrong. "He wasn't too happy with the fact that everybody was giving Pittsburgh the ballgame, yet we were the ones with 11 wins and the bye and the

Please see AFC/2C

DETHRONED

Panthers eliminate defending champs

■ Second-year expansion team knocks off Cowboys, 26-17.

By Denne H. Freeman
AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Dallas Cowboys' chaotic season came to an inevitable conclusion.

They started and finished the season without Michael Irvin and proved in the process that they can't win without him.

A punchless offense, distractions and injuries finally caught up with the Cowboys in a 26-17 loss to the Carolina Panthers Sunday in the NFC divisional playoffs.

When Irvin, suspended for the season's first five games after pleading no contest to cocaine possession, went down in the first quarter with a broken collarbone, the Cowboys' Super Bowl defense sank out of sight.

Except for Charles Haley's usual tirade, there was little shouting, no banging of fists into lockers and few tears.

It was like the Cowboys knew they hadn't played well enough to win a record fourth Super Bowl in five years.

"We're ready to take our abuse from the media, and get down to work for the next year," said running back Emmitt Smith. "This season never clicked for us. We just never got it all together."

Dallas owner Jerry Jones said, "It's very disappointing that our season stopped here. There shouldn't be an excuse. We know what it feels like to win these kind of games."

"And we know what it feels like to lose these type of games. Everybody has injuries and we couldn't play through our injuries. But we still have a bright,

bright future. We'll go to work on that tomorrow."

The Panthers, meanwhile, join their expansion brethren from Jacksonville in the conference championships. The Cowboys, San Francisco, Denver and AFC champion Pittsburgh will have to be content to sit home and watch.

"I wouldn't count this team out. Every time we've had a challenge this year we've responded," said coach Dom Capers, whose team will probably be at least a touchdown underdog at Lambeau Field next week in the NFC title game.

John Kasay kicked four field goals. Kerry Collins threw two touchdown passes and Anthony Johnson ran for 104. Just as important was a defense, led by the venerable Sam Mills, that intercepted Troy Aikman three times, and three times held Dallas to a field goal after the Cowboys moved inside the 5.

The Cowboys also lost Deion Sanders late in the game with a head injury when he was tackled after getting a first down on a reverse. He was one of the players who tried to replace Irvin.

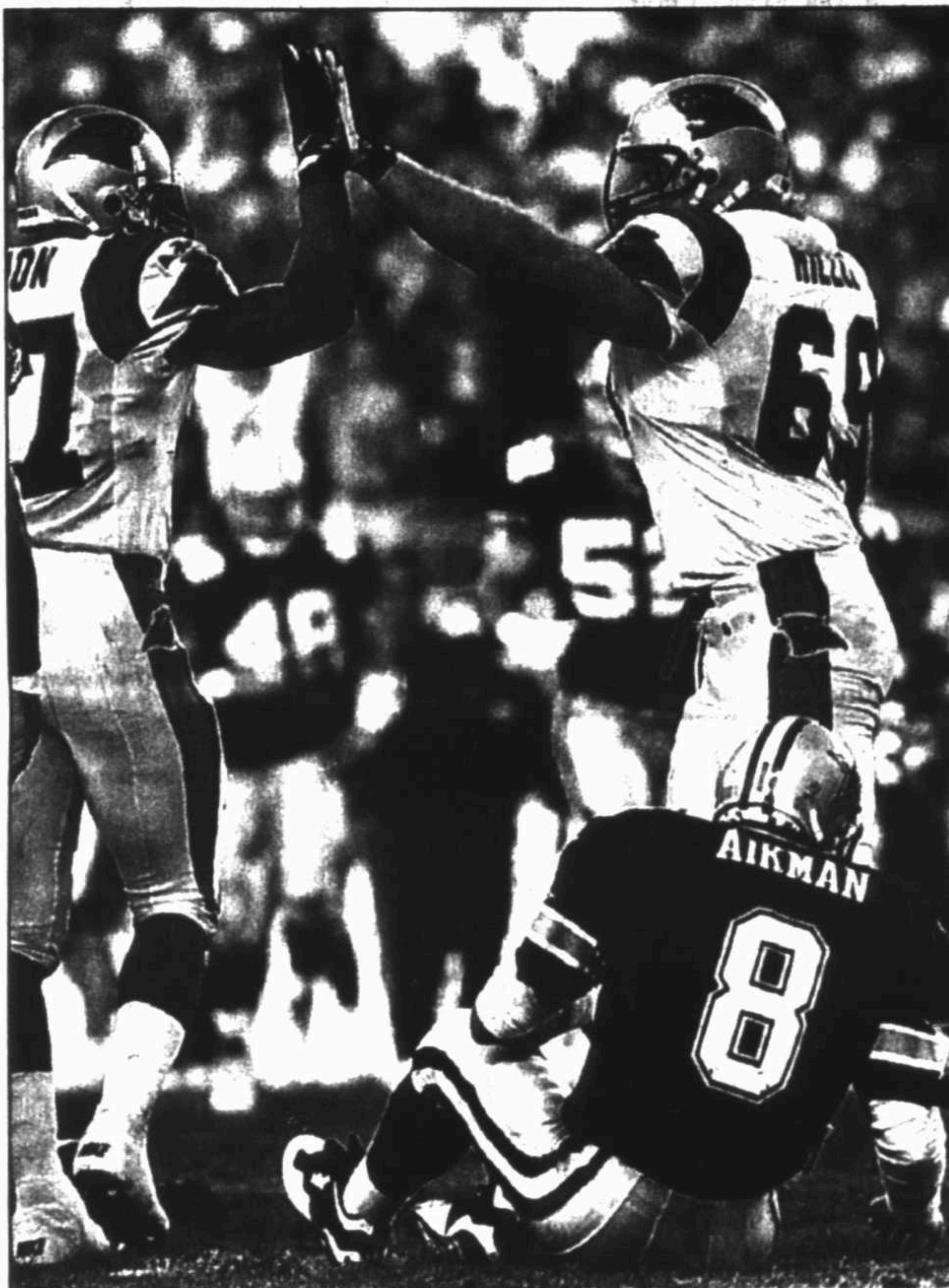
A CAT scan was negative, but Sanders was to spend Sunday night at Carolinas Medical Center before returning to Dallas today.

This game, which came after a week in which a 23-year-old woman accused Irvin and offensive tackle Erik Williams of sexual assault, was typical of Dallas' season, which ended 11-7. The offense just couldn't get a touchdown when it needed one, particularly without Irvin.

"You've got to get the ball in the end zone and we just haven't done it," Dallas coach Barry Switzer said.

The outcome means two of the final four teams are just two years old — the

Please see COWBOYS/2C



Carolina Panther defenders Lamar Lathon and Les Miller react to a sack of Dallas Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman (8). The Panthers beat the Cowboys 26-17 in an NFC divisional playoff game in Charlotte, N.C. on Sunday.

Irvin misses first, last of season

By Denne H. Freeman
AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Michael Irvin, a big tear streaming down his cheek, hugged Dallas owner Jerry Jones, and mumbled, "I'm sorry. ... I'm sorry."

A red-eyed Jones, the Cowboys' season of discontent now over, grabbed Irvin around the shoulders, saying, "I know. ... I know."

The Cowboys' season ended as it began, in disarray and without Irvin. The wide receiver who missed the first five games of the season on NFL suspension went out with a broken collarbone in the first quarter of the 26-17 loss to the Carolina Panthers.

Quarterback Troy Aikman said the loss of Irvin threw the offense for a big loss. Without him, the

Cowboys' scoring problems resurfaced.

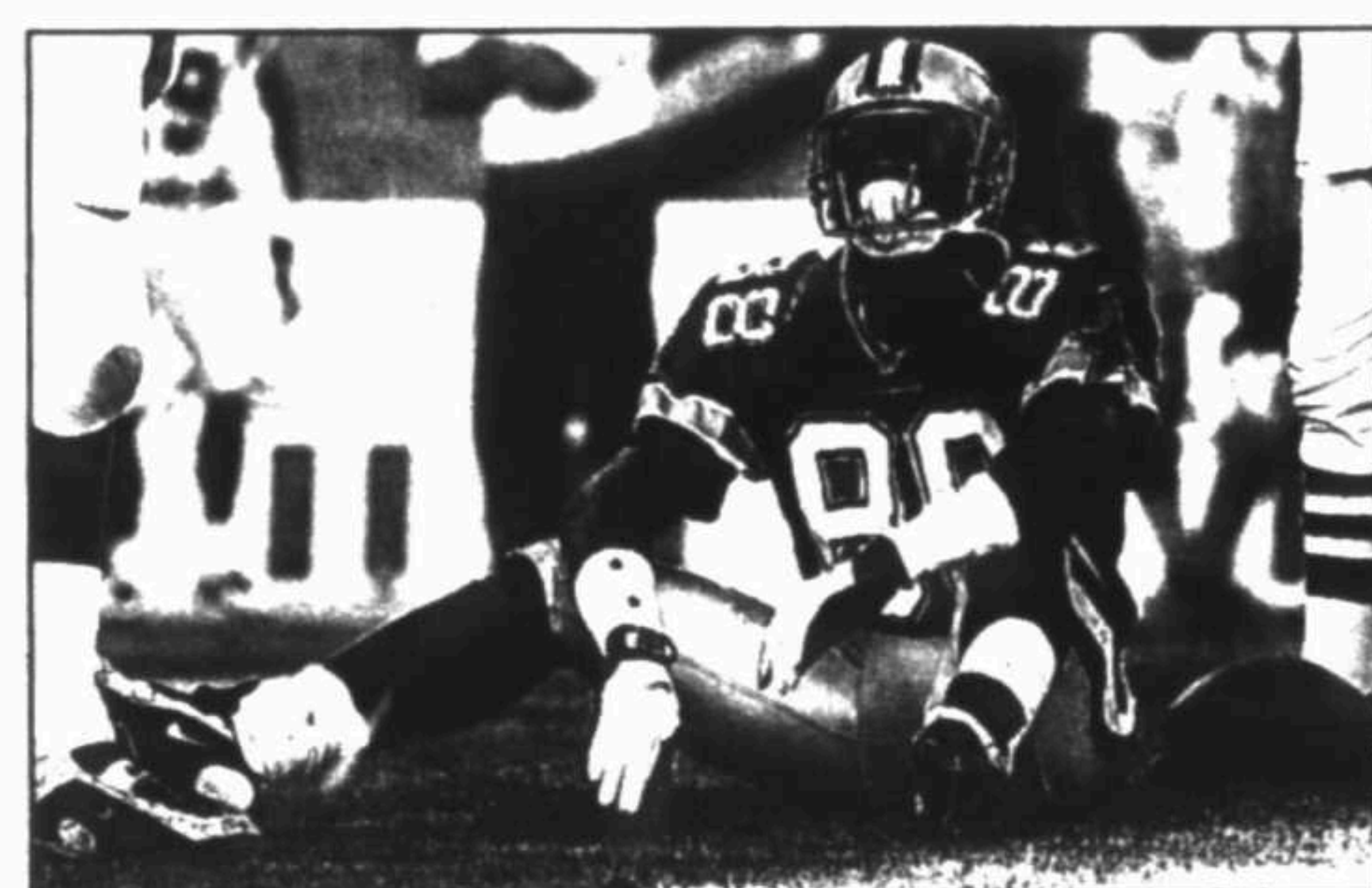
"The injury hurt, and then we lost Deion Sanders in the fourth quarter and that hurt some more," Aikman said. "Still, we had our opportunities. I missed some throws. We had some throws dropped. We couldn't score touchdowns and had to settle for field goals. It was that way all year."

Aikman said the Cowboys went about as far as they could go, despite the almost weekly distractions.

"Considering what we went through this year, we gave it a good battle," said Aikman, who was intercepted three times. "It was disappointing. It could have been a much better year."

As it is, there will be no fourth Super Bowl triumph in five years. Injuries, suspensions and dai-

Please see IRVIN/2C



Dallas Cowboys receiver Michael Irvin sits in pain after injuring his shoulder in the first quarter against the Panthers at Ericsson Stadium on Sunday.

Texas battles No. 1 Kansas

By Craig Horst
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Top-ranked Kansas and No. 4 Iowa State are used to the dogfights of the old Big Eight.

The Jayhawks and Cyclones found out Saturday, in the first weekend of Big 12 play, that nothing has changed going from eight to 12. Each struggled to win on the road in the first weekend of basketball in the new conference.

And nothing changes tonight, as Kansas hosts the No. 18 Texas Longhorns, coming off a 92-58 victory over Oklahoma State to open league play.

On Saturday, Kansas held on against rival Kansas State 62-59 in Manhattan and the Cyclones stopped Missouri 68-65 in Columbia.

Kansas turned in its worst effort of the year, shooting just 28 per-

cent and grateful for some powerful inside play by center Scot Pollard, who blocked a career-high seven shots while scoring 17 points.

"You can write anything negative about our play and our coaching and I'll agree with you," a fuming Kansas coach Roy Williams said. "We can't feel fat and happy coming into a game again."

In other Big 12 openers, No. 23 Texas Tech defeated Baylor 86-75 and Colorado downed Nebraska 79-73.

If Kansas manages to go undefeated this season, the game in Manhattan will be remembered as one the Jayhawks got away with.

"We stunk it up and we were very lucky to come away with a win," Williams said. "I feel bad for Kansas State — they deserved it."

Jacque Vaughn made two free

Please see BIG 12/2C



Texas guard Kris Clack (15) drives for a reverse layup attempt against Oklahoma State's Jason Skeer (43) and Chianti Roberts (23) in the first half Saturday in Austin.

Open letter: Henderson admits suicidal thoughts

DALLAS (AP) — Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson has apologized in an open letter in which the former Dallas Cowboys linebacker says he wanted to commit suicide after being charged with drug-related crimes.

Henderson, who played with Dallas from 1975-79, said it has taken since 1983 to find the courage to apologize and publicly acknowledge the crack cocaine addiction that led to a 28-month California prison stay.

"A little more than 13 years ago, I was hopelessly addicted to crack cocaine and the lifestyle," Henderson wrote in the letter published Sunday in The Dallas Morning News. "I had arrived in Dallas eight years before as a 21-year-old, wide-eyed big mouth rookie from Langston University as the Cowboys' No. 1 draft choice. 'I had a covert life in the fast lane of stardom, cocaine and sex.'"

Henderson moved to Long Beach, Calif., to pursue an acting career but said his "starring role as a crack addict would not allow me to audition for other parts."

Please see LETTER/2C

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Dark day for some Dallas fans, relief for others

DALLAS (AP) — Surrounded by Dallas Cowboys fans, Mike Komarek saw the end coming on the wide-screen television Sunday night with Michael Irvin's first reception.

To hear him describe the scene, you might have thought Komarek was talking not about a football game but a morality play in which the troubled but talented wide receiver and his teammates got what was coming to them.

"All week long, the latest inves-

tigation involving him had been unraveling and he was still able to play," said Komarek, 33. "But with his first catch of the night, it was like the wrath of God struck him down and he was out."

"It was like God saying, 'You're not gonna play anyway.'"

Irvin broke his right collarbone in the first quarter of Dallas' NFC playoff game, and the Cowboys' chances of winning a fourth Super Bowl in five years disappeared in a 26-17 loss to the Carolina Pan-

thers.

It's the first time since 1991 that neither the Cowboys nor the San Francisco 49ers will be in the Super Bowl, and the first time in five years that Dallas isn't in the NFC championship game.

Not many fans at Randy White's All American Grill & Bar were surprised.

"It's gonna be bad not to see the 'Boys in the Bowl,'" said lifelong fan Cynara Neighbors. "They've had a fifth straight division title,

but they did not play up to standards this year. Carolina wanted a victory more than we did."

Other fans, disappointed by Dallas' many off-the-field problems — drug suspensions, allegations of sexual misconduct chief among them — viewed the season much like Komarek does.

"The laundry will be done the first thing tomorrow morning — and some of it will come out," said Ramiro Martinez of Dallas. "Something needs to be done about

the whole situation — kids look up to these people."

Martinez said the police investigation of Irvin, who is serving a drug-related probation, and teammate Erik Williams are symptoms of a disease the Cowboys must treat.

A 23-year-old woman last week accused Williams and another man of raping her while Irvin allegedly videotaped the act.

None of the men has been charged with any crime, but the allegation was just another distraction in a season that also included the loss of Pro Bowl defensive lineman Leon Lett to a drug suspension.

"The problems are affecting the rest of the team," said Martinez. "It is very distressing to a fan... I've talked to a lot of others who had decided not to even watch the game."

Dallas resident Ronnie Whitworth, 24, said he was rooting for the Panthers.

"I've lived here all my life, and I enjoyed seeing Carolina beat the Cowboys' butts," Whitworth said. "Carolina did deserve this win today. Michael Irvin and Erik Williams, thank you very much."

To some fans, the Cowboys' demise this year is further proof that owner Jerry Jones' empire is crumbling and that Jones shouldn't have ousted former coach Jimmy Johnson.

"Jones made a bad decision once he got rid of Johnson," said Amy Baker, 28, of Plano. "The players had been winning, but on what Johnson taught them."

"I don't like Barry Switzer's approach," she said. "He's more of a college-style coach."

Komarek said he'll be interested to see what direction the Cowboys take next season.

"It will be interesting... to see if they decide whether to continue with the 'win, baby' attitude — or get more talent and morality," he said.

IRVIN: Cowboys lose star receiver on second play

(From 1C)

ly distractions finally took a toll.

"We didn't make things happen, and that's the bottom line," running back Emmitt Smith said. "We were down there three times and didn't score touchdowns. We had to settle for field goals. That was the story all year. We struggled all season and struggled today."

The Cowboys lost Irvin on their second offensive play when he was tackled by Lamar Lathon after catching a 22-yard pass from Aikman.

Irvin returned to the bench area in the second half, his arm in a sling under a gold jacket and bro-

cade vest, and watched the rest of the defeat.

However, upstart Carolina, which hadn't lost a game in its home stadium all year, would have been difficult to beat even with Irvin in the lineup.

Irvin had come into the game after a tumultuous week in which he and teammate Erik Williams came under police investigation for sexual assault. The accusation by a 23-year-old woman created a circus atmosphere at Valley Ranch, and Dallas officials decided to close the locker room to the press.

"We battled against tough odds," Cowboys coach Barry Switzer said. "It was the same old

story we had all year long, and it finally caught up with us. We got into scoring position, but had to kick field goals."

Switzer said he would be back to try to put everything together again next season.

"That's bad news for some of you, I know," Switzer said.

Aikman, however, refused to say he would definitely be back.

"As long as I enjoy myself and this team is committed to winning, I'll keep playing," Aikman said. "I'll have to evaluate these things."

Aikman said the image black-eye the Cowboys received could influence his decision.

"It could be a part of it," Aikman

said. "I'm ashamed about some of the things that happened this year from an image standpoint. I'll have a talk with Jerry at some point about it."

But Aikman added, "I don't really see any reason why I won't be back."

Although the Cowboys won their fifth consecutive NFC East title, they were never dominating like their Super Bowl teams of three of the previous four years.

"I guess what happened was inevitable," fullback Daryl Johnston said. "It was a long, hard season. Perhaps the hardest this franchise has ever been through."

COWBOYS: Dallas' scoring problems showed early

(From 1C)

Panthers and Jacksonville, which will play at New England in the AFC title game.

Dallas' scoring problems showed early.

After Irvin was hurt on a 22-yard reception when he was hit by Lamar Lathon, the Cowboys drove to a first down at the Carolina 3.

But as has happened so often this season, they couldn't get the ball in the end zone. Mills stopped Emmitt Smith on third down, and the Cowboys had to settle for Chris Boniol's 22-yard field goal and a 3-0 lead.

Carolina (13-4) scored on its next two possessions, Collins throwing a 1-yard TD pass to Wes-

ley Walls on a 68-yard, six-play drive, then capping a 42-yard, 11-play drive with 9-yard pass to Willie Green.

But the key might have come on the first series of the second half after the Cowboys' drive 17-11, recovered Winslow Oliver's fumbled punt return at the Carolina 17. Dallas reached the 5, but the 37-year-old Mills stopped Smith on second down when he appeared to have a hole, and Dallas settled again for a field goal by Boniol, from 21 yards.

Carolina retaliated with Kasay's 40-yard field goal, and then the defense took over — as it has so often in a season in which the Panthers have gone 9-0 at Ericsson Sta-

dium and allowed just one second-half touchdown at home.

Kasay added another 40-yarder three minutes into the fourth quarter.

Mills was all over the field — stuffing runs and batting down passes. Dallas had one other shot at a touchdown, reaching the Carolina 2 with just under six minutes left, but Daryl Johnston couldn't hold Aikman's pass, and the Cowboys again had to settle for Boniol again, making the score 23-17.

Then Stark dropped a 39-yard punt dead on the Dallas 2 with 3:44 remaining. A pass interference call on Tyrone Poole got the Cowboys in the 32, and a holding call on Poole put it at the 37.

But Pat Terrell sealed the game when he leaped in front of Kevin Williams and returned the interception 49 yards to the Dallas 19. Kasay added a field goal from 32 yards with 1:48 left.

Dallas' only touchdown came on a 2-yard TD pass from Aikman to Johnston at the end of a 74-yard second-period drive that cut the deficit to 14-9. The Cowboys tried a two-point conversion and failed, but got the two points anyway when punter Rohn Stark fell on a snap over his head in the end zone, making it 14-11.

Chad Cota's 49-yard return of an interception set up Kasay's 24-yard field goal that made it 17-11 at halftime.

BIG 12: Longhorns battle No. 1 Kansas in key matchup

(From 1C)

throws with 13.5 seconds left to save the game for Kansas (13-0 overall, 1-0 Big 12).

The free throws came after Billy Thomas tipped a missed free throw out to center court into Vaughn's hands.

"It's a designed play," Vaughn said. "Nobody was going to get that ball but me. I was going to keep it in my hands until somebody fouled me."

B.J. Williams had missed both free throws for Kansas after Shawn Rhodes, a freshman thrust into action at center because of starter Gerald Eaker's foul trouble, had missed a 3-pointer and Williams was fouled getting the rebound. Rhodes scored 15 points for Kansas State (7-4, 0-1).

"I am disappointed and that is all that matters," Kansas State coach Tom Asbury said. "We could have won that game. I don't care how damn good they are, and they are damn good. We could have won that game."

Reggie Freeman was once again the leading scorer for Texas, but it was two unlikely teammates who grabbed the spotlight Saturday night in the first Big 12 game for both teams.

Freeman scored 33 points, 18 on 3-pointers, while Al Coleman had 17 points and Ira Clark 14 — both career-highs. Coleman had seven rebounds and six assists, also career bests as the Longhorns (7-3) avoided their first three-game losing streak in three seasons.

"Ira stepped up, while other people stepped up and that's the way it's supposed to be," said Freeman, who was 12-for-24 from the field, including 6-for-11 on 3-pointers. said. "Now, (opponents) have to worry about Al and Kris (Clark) and some other guys. It was tough playing Providence when you have a couple of people in your face and (your teammates) aren't scoring. Now they can't do that."

Texas shot 46 percent from the field (33-of-72), including 15-of-27 (55 percent) from 3-point range.

"I didn't feel like we were playing race-horse basketball," Texas coach Tom Penders said. "I thought our defense created the tempo. We played great defense for 40 minutes and once we got a comfortable lead, Oklahoma State had to play a lot quicker. We determined at halftime not to play impatiently."

Iowa State's Kenny Pratt put aside his off-court problems to help the Cyclones beat Missouri in Columbia.

Pratt was academically ineligible the first semester, pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct charges in November and then was charged with drunken driving after a Dec. 28 traffic accident. Pratt reportedly kicked at officers as they placed him in a squad car.

Coach Tim Floyd suspended Pratt, but the decision was overturned by a school athletic committee pending completion of the legal process.

Pratt scored 18 of his 20 points in the second half as the Cyclones (10-0, 1-0) won their fifth straight over

Missouri (8-5, 0-1).

Jacy Holloway clinched it with two 3-pointers in the final 2:40 for Iowa State.

Kelly Thames had a season-high 22 points, hitting 10 of 12 shots, for Missouri. The Tigers have lost their last six games against ranked teams.

Cory Carr scored 25 points and Tony Battle had 24 as Tech battled through a late cold spell to beat Baylor.

The Red Raiders (9-2, 1-0) led 70-56 with 9:39 left in the game, but Baylor rallied with about two minutes left.

Tech made eight straight free throws in the final minute to beat the Bears, off to their best start in 51 years at 11-2, but disappointed in their first Big 12 game.

Chauncey Billups scored 20 points and had 10 assists to lead Colorado (10-3, 1-0), which had a precarious 66-63 lead with just under four minutes left.

Mikki Moore led Nebraska (7-5, 0-1) with 27 points.

AFC: Patriots advance to conference championship

(From 1C)

home game," quarterback Drew Bledsoe said. "There were a couple of guys on our line that played with a chip on their shoulder."

A heavy mist shrouded the field all game, and there was no sighting of the same Bettis who battered Indianapolis.

That performance earned him plenty of publicity, but the Patriots and a groin injury held him to just 43 yards rushing in 13 carries. Martin, the AFC rushing leader as a rookie, was ranked just fifth this season, and his presence was hardly noted in the pregame publicity.

But that didn't bother the soft-spoken runner.

"I'm not an envious type person," he said. "All the talk about him, he deserved."

Martin got the praise Sunday.

He scored on a 2-yard run in the first quarter, a 78-yarder in the second and a 23-yarder in the fourth. Martin matched his career high of 166 yards, but that came in a regular-season game against the New York Jets in 1995.

New England drew a bye and had an extra week to prepare. Pittsburgh, 9-1 at home, was just 3-6 on the road and 2-4 on real grass this season.

Mike Tomczak has had trouble throwing most of the season, and the fog made it tough to see receivers.

With the score 21-3, the Steelers had a chance to get back in the game with a first down at their 36-yard line, but Tomczak threw an interception to Lawyer Milloy. And with the ball at the New England 15, Willie Clay picked off another toss by Tomczak with 9:04 left in the game.

Not even the versatile Kordell Stewart could help when he replaced Tomczak periodically. He lost two yards on his first play and later suffered a sack and a pressure that put him on his back. All 10 of his passes were incomplete.

Here's how dominating the Patriots, the AFC's highest scoring team, were as they built a 21-0 halftime lead en route to the second AFC title game in their history and first in 11 years:

They scored two touchdowns on their first six plays, with gains of 34, 53 and 78 yards. They declined three Pittsburgh penalties because they gained more yardage on the plays they ran.

There was more: Martin had 109 rushing yards by halftime, seven more than Bettis

gained in Pittsburgh's victory over Indianapolis. By halftime, Martin had already surpassed Craig James' team playoff record of 105 yards set in their only AFC championship game appearance, at Miami in 1986.

Bledsoe completed his first seven passes for 123 yards.

"They had three big plays" for 150 yards in the first half. You couldn't overcome it," Pittsburgh coach Bill Cowher said.

With the Patriots controlling Bettis, the Steelers' run-oriented attack stalled and they punted on seven of their eight first-half possessions. They turned the ball over on downs on the eighth.

"Their defensive line did some stunts and caught our offensive line off guard," Bettis said. "I wasn't 100 percent, so it was a rough day out there."

The Steelers avoided their first playoff shutout since 1947 when Norm Johnson kicked a 29-yard field goal with 3:50 left in the third quarter.

On offense, the Patriots showed on their first play why they led the AFC in scoring. It was a 53-yard completion from Bledsoe to Terry Glenn that put the ball at the 2. Glenn, who set an NFL rookie record with 90 catches this season,

simply shot by All-Pro Woodson down the right sideline.

"They came in with the bully attitude," Patriots fullback Keith Byars said of the Steelers. "The way you treat a bully is you come in and throw the first punch, and that's what we did."

Martin, the AFC's touchdown leader with 17, scored on the next play.

New England needed just four plays to move 59 yards to its second touchdown on its second possession. Bledsoe completed passes of 12 yards to Glenn and 6 to Martin, who also gained 7 yards on a cutback play.

Bledsoe then threw a screen pass to Byars. Martin's block on Woodson sprung Byars for a 34-yard touchdown and a 14-0 lead.

The Steelers showed some life on their next series with a trick play as Fred McAfee took a short snap on a fake punt and ran 10 yards for a first down.

But the Patriots then did what Pittsburgh does so well, pressure the quarterback. They sacked Tomczak on consecutive plays for a loss of 15 yards, and Josh Miller had to punt, ending an 11-play march that covered just 27 yards.

On the next play, Martin ran 78 yards for a touchdown.

LETTER: Henderson writes about crack cocaine abuse

(From 1C)

He was arrested and charged on Nov. 2, 1983, with one count of sexual assault and two counts of false imprisonment after he said he had smoked crack with two teenage women in his apartment.

"I received a sexual favor from one for letting them smoke crack with me," he wrote. "Sex for crack. That is the way it was."

But he denied having sex with the second woman, who had been in an automobile accident and was recovering in a wheelchair from a back injury.

"Looking back now, I realize I was always on my way to prison," Henderson wrote. "Before coach (Tom) Landry fired me the Monday before Thanksgiving 1979, John Wooten of the Cowboys told me the team knew of my cocaine

use and underworld friends.

"I knew there was nothing I could possibly do about my cocaine use. I was addicted. I couldn't live without it."

Henderson, 43, now lives in Austin and works as a drug and alcohol counselor.

"I want to apologize to Dallas, the Cowboys, fans of football, fans of Thomas Henderson and the kids then and now for what I did 13

years ago, I take full responsibility and have paid the dues."

The recovering addict has been drug-free for the 13 years following the offense.

"I wanted to commit suicide on many, many occasions," Henderson wrote. "What you thought of me haunted me."

"Luckily, I found the answer to my troubles... stay sober and see what happens..."

LOCAL SPORTS

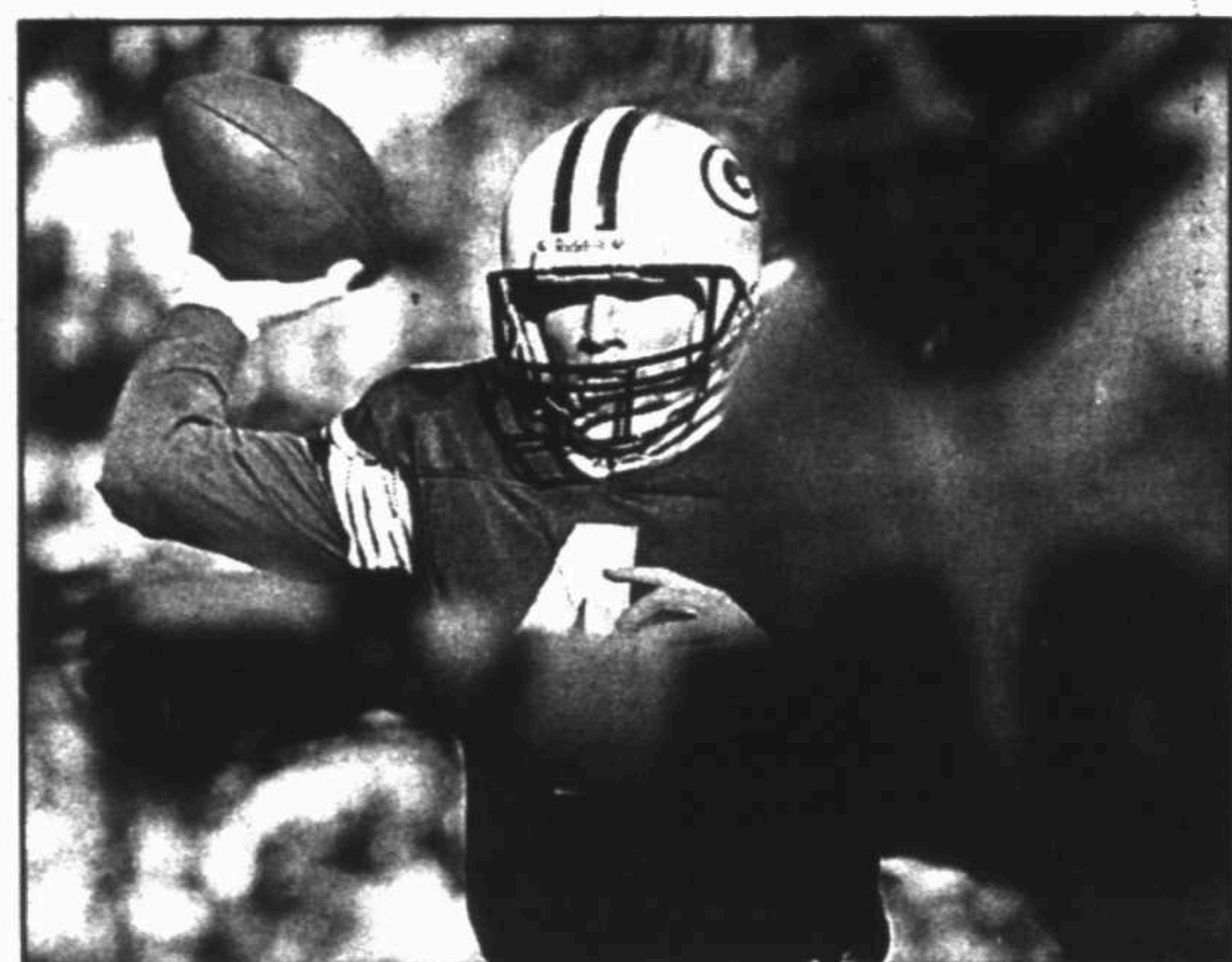
Tumblers have big 1st weekend

LUBBOCK — The West Texas Tumbling Stars had eight competitors record first-place finishes at their first meet of the season recently.

Miranda Bale won the Level 7

tumbling competition while Sawyer Stoltz, Karissa Pool and Mindy Mathis all took first in the Level 8 tumbling competition. In Level 9 tumbling, Matt Hill took first while in Level 10 tumbling Landry Hollifield had top honors.

In the trampoline, Lindsey Hollifield took first at Level 7 while Stoltz was first at Level 9.



The National Football League's Most Valuable Player Brett Favre and Lambeau Field await the Carolina Panthers in the NFC Championship game.

Titletown USA

Green Bay gets first title game since fabled 'Ice Bowl' in 1967

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Titletown USA is getting its first title game since the fabled "Ice Bowl" 29 years ago.

The Carolina Panthers, who eliminated the defending Super Bowl champion Dallas Cowboys 26-17 on Sunday, are next up for the top-seeded Packers.

"They looked good," Packers tight end Mark Chmura said. "They've been playing that way all year long. They beat San Francisco twice, like we did. And beating Dallas was a big game for them."

"This is going to be another tough game for us," Chmura said. "We're sure glad it's here."

But Green Bay's enthusiasm over its first NFC championship at Lambeau Field since Dec. 31, 1967, was tempered Sunday by word that middle linebacker George Koonce seriously injured his knee in the Packers' 35-14 rout of the San Francisco 49ers and will miss the rest of the playoffs.

Koonce, the Packers' leading tackler and defensive signal-caller, tore his right anterior cruciate ligament early in the fourth quarter. He'll be replaced by Ron Cox.

"George had a great year, really had a Pro Bowl year, I thought," Chmura said. "To lose him is tough because he is the leader of that defense. He's the one yelling out a lot of the calls. We're going to miss him."

"But we got Ron Cox, who would be starting on a lot of other teams," defensive end Reggie White agreed. "Koonce is very important to what we do. It's sad this happened to him. But I think Cox will come in and do a good job."

Koonce was injured trying to make a tackle on the second play of the fourth quarter when Elvis Grbac threw a 9-yard pass to William Floyd.

"He thought he got kicked, but it actually was his knee giving way on the play," said Ralph Vitolo, Koonce's agent. "He kept playing on it, but then he knew something was wrong and he came out."

A date for surgery hasn't been set, general manager Ron Wolf said. Vitolo said it will likely be this week.

Vitolo said there was no cartilage damage and team physicians expect a six- to seven-month healing process. Koonce just completed the second season of a four-year deal that averages \$1.3 million a year.

The Packers (14-3) were remarkably healthy on defense this season as they led the NFL in fewest yards allowed for the first time since 1967, the last time they won the Super Bowl.

Green Bay surrendered just 19 TDs this season, a record-low for a 16-game schedule, and the only starter who didn't play all 16 games was right defensive end Sean Jones, who was held out one game with a swollen

ankle.

Koonce's injury could hurt the Packers' run defense, but if there's a spot where they could afford an injury, it's at middle linebacker.

Cox signed a three-year, \$3.9 million deal last summer to be Green Bay's middle linebacker. But a toe injury slowed his progress in training camp and he was sent to the bench by the emergence of second-year sensation Brian Williams, who made \$298,000.

To make room for Williams, Koonce went from the weak side to middle linebacker and responded with a team-high 97 tackles, 69 of them solo, and a career-best three interceptions — after getting just one in his first four NFL seasons.

Cox played in all 16 games, mostly on special teams and in 3-4 alignments.

He started 13 games for the Chicago Bears in 1995, recording 84 tackles, and wasn't pleased at being a high-priced special teams player and insurance policy in case the Packers lose left outside linebacker Wayne Simmons to free agency this offseason.

But Cox didn't gripe publicly, insisting instead that his time to contribute would come.

And it has. Besides Koonce's injury, the Packers came out of their NFC divisional playoff in good shape. They rested Sunday and will again face an opponent coming off a short week punctuated by a trip to frigid Green Bay.

The Packers' 10-0 home playoff record is the best in the NFL, and they've won 17 straight games at Lambeau and 27 of their last 28.

The Packers have watched their season end at Dallas three straight years, so they're relishing the home-field advantage. They talked all year about getting teams in Green Bay in January, and the forecast calls for bitter cold all week. It snowed Sunday.

The average temperature in Green Bay on Jan. 12 is 22 degrees, but with coils heating the field, it could be just as slushy and sloppy as it was Saturday, or, as Chmura put it, "like a cow pasture."

Never were the conditions worse than the "Ice Bowl" in the NFL championship game in 1967 when the temperatures were well below zero and the field was frozen. Green Bay won 21-17 in the final minutes on a quarterback sneak by Bart Starr, and the Packers went on to win the second Super Bowl.

The league is expected to send a consultant on Monday to see what portions of the field need to be re-soaked.

"The only way it is going to be better is if they drop the Superdome on here," Jones said. "It is going to be ugly next week, probably worse."

NFL Results

NFL Playoffs

By The Numbers

Wild Cards

Saturday, Dec. 28

Jacksonville 30, Buffalo 14

Dallas 26, San Francisco 17

Sunday, Dec. 29

Pittsburgh 42, Indianapolis 14

San Francisco 16, Philadelphia 10

Divisional Playoffs

Saturday's Games

Green Bay 35, San Francisco 14

Jacksonville 20, Denver 17

Sunday's Games

Limping Spurs lose to Clippers, 93-84

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Pooh Richardson scored all 11 of his points in the fourth quarter Sunday night to lead the Los Angeles Clippers to a 93-84 victory over the San Antonio Spurs.

The Clippers, who won their third straight game, were led by Lorenzen Wright with 16 points, while Malik Sealy added 15 and Loy Vaught 14.

The injury-riddled Spurs were led by Vernon Maxwell, who scored 21 of his 23 points in the second half. Sean Elliott added 17 points for San Antonio, which saw its three-game winning streak end.

Trailing 62-61 entering the fourth quarter, Los Angeles started a 3-point binge. The Clippers' fifth of the quarter was by Richardson and gave them a 78-70 lead with 5:56 to play. Richardson and Eric Piatkowski each had two 3s during the stretch, while Brent Barry had the other.

Richardson tied a Spurs opponent record with the Clippers' sixth 3-pointer of the quarter and it gave Los Angeles an 85-76 lead with 2:18 to play. Coming into the fourth quarter, Los Angeles was 0-for-9 from 3-point range.

The Spurs played once again without injured regulars David Robinson, Chuck Person, Dominique Wilkins, Vinny Del Negro and Charles Smith.

Knicks 97, Bucks 92
NEW YORK — Patrick Ewing scored 32 points, one short of his season-high, and New York won its 10th straight home game.

The victory ended a string of nine straight victories by the road team in the Bucks-Knicks series. New York hadn't beaten Milwaukee at home since March 17, 1994. Ewing also had 11 rebounds and six blocked shots, and his turnaround jumper from the baseline with 53 seconds left ended the Bucks' final rally.

The loss was Milwaukee's season-high fifth straight and dropped them below .500 (15-16) for the first time this season.

Celtics 109, Suns 102
BOSTON — Todd Day scored 13 of his season-high 25 points in the fourth quarter to lead Boston to a victory, spoiling Suns coach Danny Ainge's first game as a goal-tender.

Duke boosts ACC record to 2-0

Associated Press

The Duke Blue Devils rallied twice Sunday for their sixth straight victory and a running start on what is expected to be an extra tough season in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

The 13th-ranked Blue Devils (11-2, 2-0 ACC) beat Georgia Tech 66-56, but only after Trajan Langdon and Jeff Capel hit key 3-pointers to complete the second comeback.

Langdon, a sophomore, missed most of last season with knee injuries.

Florida 75, No. 22 Arkansas 62
GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Greg Stolt scored 21 points and Dan Williams' two 3-pointers keyed a late surge that led Florida to a victory over Arkansas.

The Gators (8-5, 1-0 Southeastern Conference) used a 12-0 run at the start to take the lead for good, and a 12-0 run late in the game for a 66-50 lead with 4:11 left.

The Razorbacks (6-4, 0-2), who had never lost to Florida since joining the league six years ago, are off to their worst start ever in the SEC.

No. 6 Cincinnati 64, Saint Louis 52
ST. LOUIS — Danny Fortson had 24 points and 10 rebounds and Cincinnati beat Saint Louis in the

Oklahoma dumps Aggies, 78-59

Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Corey Brewer had 17 points and 10 rebounds Sunday as Oklahoma beat Texas A&M 78-59 in both schools' Big 12 Conference opener.

The Sooners (9-2) took a 7-5 lead on Nate Erdmann's 3-pointer in the opening minutes and never again trailed.

Texas A&M (6-5) trailed 40-23 at halftime, and Oklahoma stretched

NBA Roundup

The win was Boston's seventh in 30 games this season and was the Suns' sixth loss in eight games. Phoenix is 3-14 on the road this season.

Neither team held more than a four-point lead in the second half before Boston opened the final quarter with a 15-6 run for a 91-84 lead with just under seven minutes to play. Day ignited the run with three 3-pointers over a 2:47 span.

David Wesley added 22 points and eight assists for Boston. Mark Bryant paced the Suns with a season-high 24 points, 18 in the first quarter, and Wesley Person had 15.

Kings 107, 76ers 106
SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Mitch Richmond's jumper with 4.5 seconds to play gave Sacramento the dramatic victory.

Double-teamed with the clock running down, Richmond, who finished with 24 points, hit the fall-away jumper to rescue the Kings, who snapped a three-game losing streak.

Rookie Allen Iverson missed a running shot with one second left in the game for the 76ers, who have lost 15 of their last 16.

Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf scored 25 points for the Kings, while both Billy Owens and Corliss Williamson each had 15 points.

Derrick Coleman scored 35 points and had 16 rebounds for Philadelphia. Coleman had put the 76ers ahead 106-105 with a free throw with 13 seconds remaining.

Lakers 95, Grizzlies 82
VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Shaquille O'Neal scored 31 points, including 10 straight in the fourth quarter, and Nick Van Exel had a career-high 23 assists for Los Angeles.

O'Neal, who sprained his ankle against Sacramento on Friday, made two critical fourth-quarter free throws as Los Angeles won its sixth straight and 12th in 14 games.

The Grizzlies, who have lost five straight, tied the game 75-75 on Anthony Peeler's 3-pointer with 7:19 remaining. O'Neal put the Lakers ahead for good by draining two foul shots and then made it a four-point lead when he was credited with two points on a goal-tending call.

Top 25 Basketball

Conference USA opened last night. Playing its first road game, Cincinnati (9-2) won its seventh in a row and beat Saint Louis for the fifth straight time. True to the series, Saint Louis kept it somewhat close at home despite shooting only 27.8 percent. Last season, the defending conference champions beat the Billikens (5-7) by 32 points at home and by five on the road.

Women
No. 1 Connecticut 72, No. 8 Tennessee 57.

HARTFORD, Conn. — Nykesha Sales scored 22 points and Shea Ralph kept a crucial first-half run as Connecticut beat Tennessee in the most lopsided game of the teams.

Ralph scored the first eight of her 14 points in a 12-0 run that brought the Huskies (11-0) from behind and sent them on to their 24th straight regular season win.

Carla Berube added 15 points for UConn before a nationally televised audience and a sellout crowd of 16,294, the largest to watch a women's college game this season.

NFL Results

By The Associated Press

Wild Cards

Saturday, Dec. 28

Jacksonville 16, Philadelphia 14

San Francisco 16, Philadelphia 14

Divisional Playoffs

Saturday's Games

Green Bay 35, San Francisco 14

Jacksonville 32, Denver 27

Sunday's Games

New England 28, Pittsburgh 3

Carolina 28, Dallas 17

Conference Championships

Sunday, Jan. 12

Carolina at Green Bay, 11:30 a.m.

(FOX)

Jacksonville at New England, 3 p.m. (NBC)

Super Bowl

Sunday, Jan. 26

At New Orleans

Carolina-Green Bay winner vs. Jacksonville-New England winner, 5:18 p.m. (FOX)

Pro Bowl

Sunday, Feb. 2

At Wembley, London

AFC vs. NFC, 7 p.m. (ABC)

Second Quarter

Car-Green 10 pass from Collins (Kasey kick), 2:11

Car-Green 2 pass from Almon (pass failed), 10:41

Car-Safety ball snapped out of end zone, 11:49

Car-Green 24, 14:57

Third Quarter

Car-FG Boniol 21, 4:53

Car-FG Boniol 21, 8:27

Car-Green 40, 10:02

Car-Green 40, 13:19

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NBA Results

By The Associated Press

All Times CST

Eastern Conference

Atlanta Division

W L Pct GB

Miami 24 8 730 —

New York 23 9 719 1

Washington 18 15 545 7 1/2

Orlando 11 27 393 11

New Jersey 8 21 276 14 1/2

Philadelphia 6 27 268 18 1/2

Boston 7 23 239 18

Central Division

W L Pct GB

Chicago 28 4 875 3/2

Cleveland 21 10 677 10

Atlanta 18 11 621 12 1/2

Charlotte 17 12 548 10 1/2

Milwaukee 15 18 484 12 1/2

Indiana 14 18 467 13

Toronto 22 11 527 12 1/2

Western Conference

W L Pct GB

Houston 23 8 742 1/2

Utah 23 8 742 1/2

Minnesota 14 18 438 10

Portland 20 10 645 12 1/2

San Antonio 9 21 300 14

Denver 23 25 512 1/2

Vancouver 6 27 162 18 1/2

Pacific Division

W L Pct GB

LA Lakers 25 9 735 —

Seattle 23 11 676 2

Phoenix 23 11 676 2

Sacramento 14 20 412 11

LA Clippers 13 19 406 11

Golden State 12 18 390 11

Phoenix 23 11 676 2

Sunday's Games

LA Clippers 83, San Antonio 84

Detroit 97, New York 85

Boston 108, Phoenix 102

Sacramento 107, Philadelphia 108

LA Lakers 95, Vancouver 82

Monday's Games

Utah at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.

LA Lakers at Portland, 9 p.m.

Charlotte at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

Clippers 83, Spurs 84

LA Clippers 83, Spurs 84

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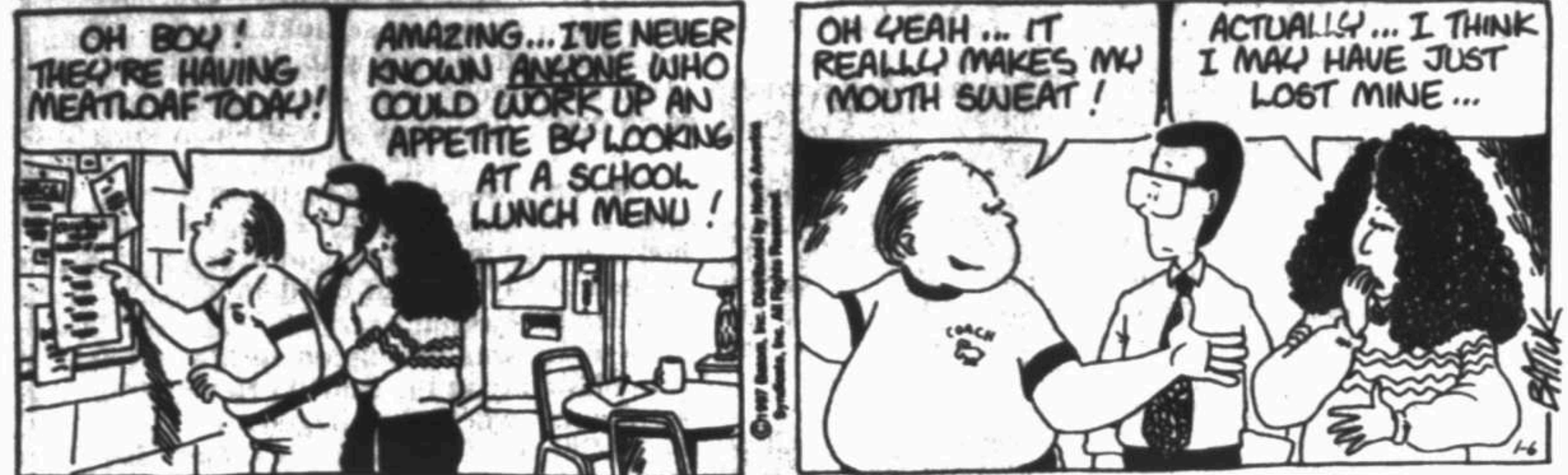
LA Clippers 83, Spurs 84

LA Clippers 83, Spurs 84

FOR BETTER OR WORSE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



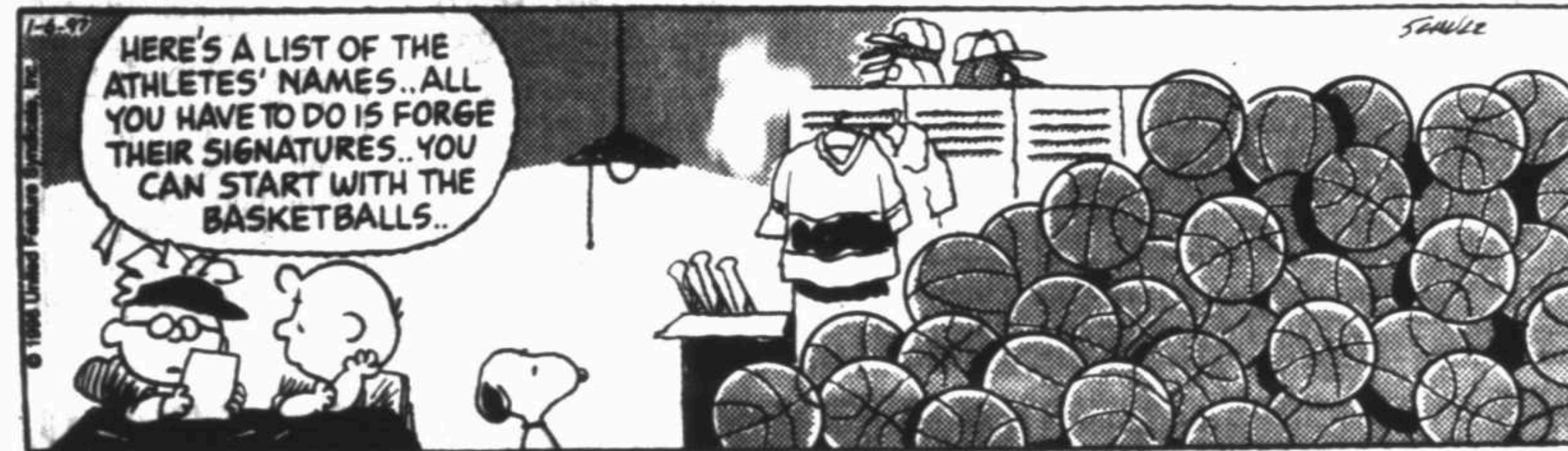
BLONDIE



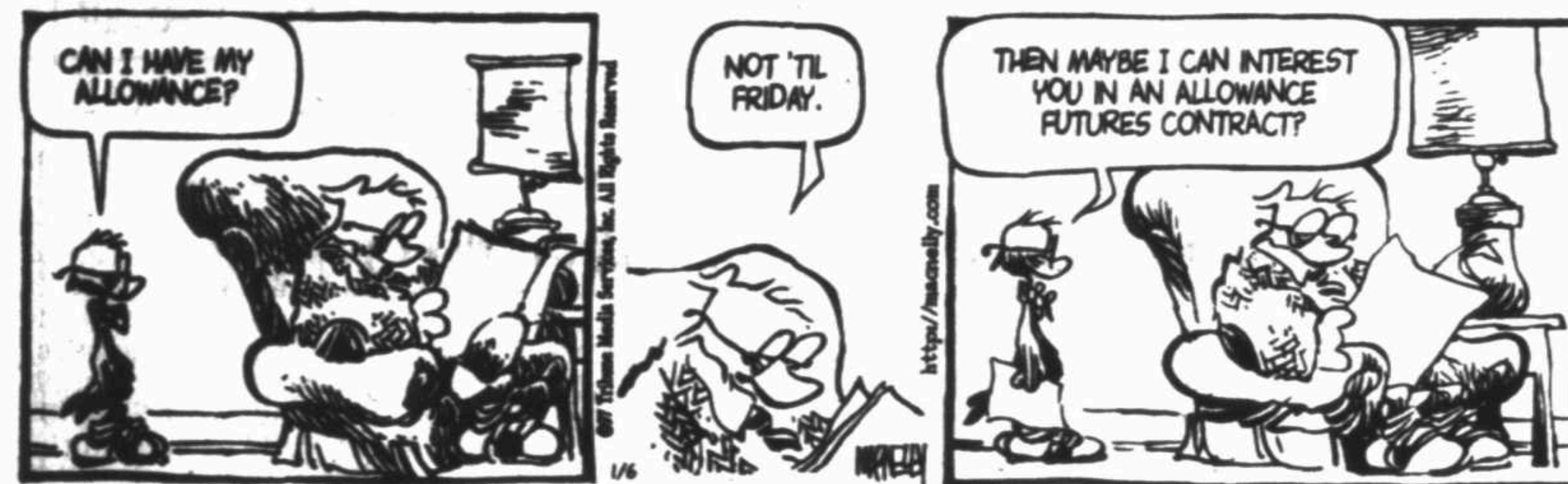
BEETLE BAILEY



PEANUTS



SHOE



ANDY CAPP



CATHY



WIZARD OF ID



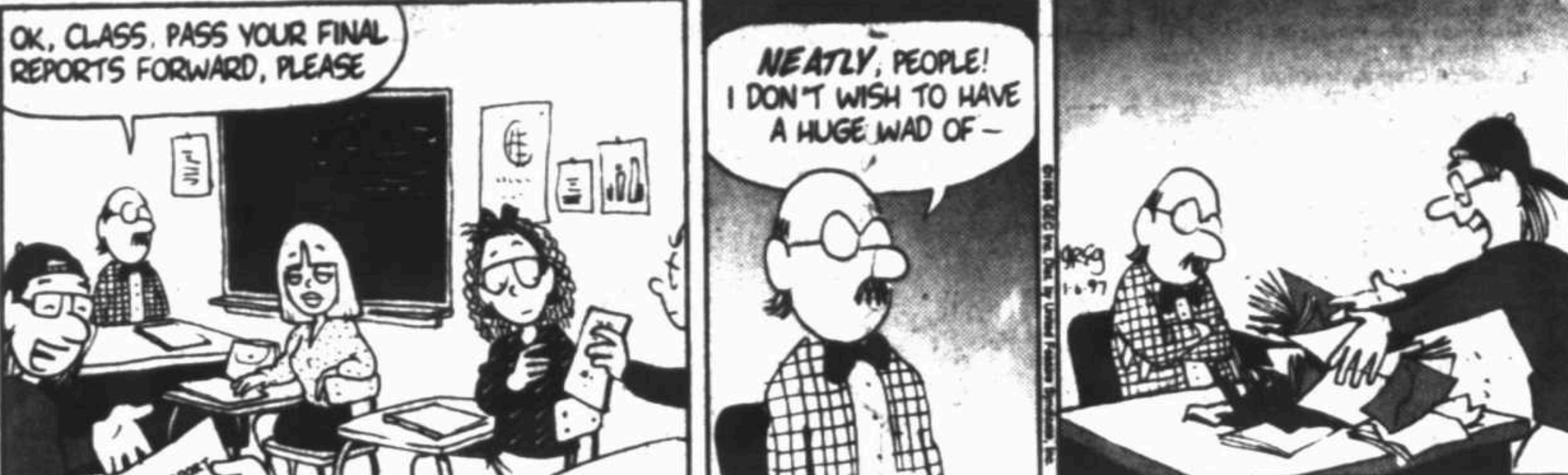
DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



LUANN



MARY WORTH



YOUR HOROSCOPE

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1997

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! IN THE NEXT YEAR OF YOUR LIFE: Financial progress depends on your ability to focus on work matters. Consolidate recent gains, then devise a comprehensive plan for furthering your career. Lightening a monetary burden will help a relationship stay on track. A deserving student obtains a scholarship or grant. You learn the difference between infatuation and true love. A partner who respects your goals and interests will have a special claim on your heart. Be supportive of family members.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: movie director John Singleton, golfer Nancy Lopez, actress Bonnie Franklin, blue grass legend Earl Scruggs.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Concentrate on long-range professional and financial aims while dealing with your loved ones' problems in a practical way. Diplomacy helps you overcome unexpected resistance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Proceed with caution where travel and finance are concerned. Do not invest your hard-earned money without seeking an expert's advice. Love thrives on consideration.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Although partnerships of all types enjoy favorable influences, you would be smart to tackle a special project alone. Keep your professional and personal lives separate.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Clever merchandising is a must. Advertise a bargain in an imaginative way. Good health is a terrific gift. Do not abuse it. A spirit of give-and-take results in greater marital happiness. Show tolerance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Community work is the answer for retirees who feel bored or unneeded. Share your expertise with those eager to turn their lives around. Young people need positive role models.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Certain people may give you the false impression that they are wealthy. Be skeptical if presented with a too-good-to-be-true offer. Trust your intuition when deciding how to use your resources.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Balance work with play today but make every hour count. An unexpected visitor or new client adds interest to the work scene. Avoid appearing overly aggressive when dealing with authority figures.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):

The purchase of a computer or sports-related item may be a top priority. Bargains abound for comparison shoppers. Some fence-mending is needed on the home front. Apologize for something said in anger.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Finance, romance and family life all enjoy beneficial influences. Your ability to please difficult customers helps you make your mark in the business world.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Now is the time to discard old emotional baggage and focus on attainable goals. Do not be timid about expressing yourself. Children who make ridiculous demands should be calmly told that they are out of line.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Face a difficult task head-on; you will be surprised at the rapid progress you make! Someone influential offers wholehearted support. Be realistic if there are strings attached.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): New beginnings are featured. Develop a creative idea more fully before approaching higher-ups. Working in concert with intellectual types broadens your horizons. Go slow where romance is concerned. Avoid revealing too much too soon.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q. 1 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ Void ♥ AKQ84 ♦ KJ964 ♣ J84

The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♥ Pass 4♥ 4♠

What action do you take?

A - You can expect partner to hold long hearts, a singleton and possibly an ace. Therefore, you don't want to give partner the option of doubling the opponents. Bid five hearts, a two-way action. The contract could easily be makeable but, if not, it should be a cheap sacrifice against a vulnerable game by the opposition.

Q. 2 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ A9742 ♥ Void ♦ AK974 ♣ J62

The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♠ Pass 1♠ Pass
2♦ Pass 2♥ Pass

What do you bid now?

A - It depends on style. In modern methods a raise of the suit in which partner has reversed is a game force, so bid three diamonds to leave the maximum room for slam investigation. If you play that a raise to three diamonds can be passed, you must jump to four diamonds.

Q. 3 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ KQJ10986 ♥ AK63 ♦ Q ♣ 3

The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♠ Pass 2♠ Pass

What do you bid now?

A - You have one story to tell, and just one - you want to play the hand at spades. Jump to four spades to tell partner that your suit does not need support, allowing him to move forward should he have prime side-suit controls.

Q. 4 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 42 ♥ Void ♦ Q972 ♣ AKQJ1083

The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♥ Pass 2♠ Pass
4♥ Pass 7

What action do you take?

A - There is a possibility that partner is void in clubs, in which case your hand could be useless in support of hearts. But North must have a side entry, so partner's hand will produce tricks for you. Bid five clubs.

Q. 5 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ 765 ♥ 6 ♦ AK954 ♣ AJ83

The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass
2♠ Pass 2♥ Pass

What do you bid now?

A - Don't let fear that North opened a three-card minor deter you from your appointed duty. Your unbalanced hand will play better at a suit contract, so correct to two clubs.

A - Partner's heart bid might or might not show a suit, but that is immaterial. Regardless of your methods, your job is to complete the description of your holding and, with three-card support for partner's first-bid suit, a preference to two spades is the only option.

Q. 6 - As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ AQ107 ♥ 7 ♦ 10654 ♣ 9762

The bidding has proceeded:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♠ Pass 1♠ Pass
1NT Pass 7

What action do you take?

CLOSE TO HOME



"Thank you, Erik, for that vivid presentation on meteor showers."

DOONESBURY



GARFIELD



FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy! Dolly keeps touching me!"

DENNIS THE MENACE



PEOPLE

Minnelli takes over for vacationing Julie Andrews in Broadway show

NEW YORK — Liza Minnelli returns to Broadway this month for the first time in 12 years, starring in "Victor/Victoria" while Julie Andrews takes a month off.

"That is what the theater is all about, that you help each other," the 50-year-old Minnelli says in the Jan. 13 New York magazine.

She dropped out of her last Broadway show, "The Rink," to check into the Betty Ford Center for drug and alcohol abuse problems.

"It was the best day of my life," Minnelli said of her decision to seek treatment. "It was horrible up until then. Because you make a decision that you are not going to feel like that."

Proud of her pedigree as the offspring of an legend Judy Garland and director Vincent Minnelli, she called her parents "Hollywood royalty" and refuses to feel sorry about her sometimes rocky personal history.

"My life hasn't been half as troubled as they say," Minnelli said. "I have had a really terrific time — I have. I have known so many swell people, in and out of show business, and my parents were famous, so they got to know swell people and then I got to know them."

NEW YORK — Former model Christa Miller is just one of the boys as Kate on "The Drew Carey Show," a role she trained for in real life.

"At my school, you could do theater or sports," she says in the latest People magazine. "I chose sports."

Tapping her background as an avid schoolgirl athlete, Miller plays a dressed-down, beer-guzzling tomboy on the ABC sitcom.

"Christa is a lot like Kate," said Bonnie Trompeter, the actress' mother. "She's always wisecracking and knows how to get her own way."

After high school, the former child model returned to modeling, switching to acting in 1990. Roles in TV's "Kate & Allie," "Seinfeld" and "Northern Exposure" led to her success on the glamorous "Drew Carey."

Still, she wouldn't mind dressing up for the show now and then.

"Yesterday I saw Jennifer (Aniston, near the set of 'Friends')," Miller said. "I

had nine huge rollers in my hair, no makeup and a flannel shirt. She looked so-o-o cute, and I looked like a homeless person."

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Clarence Clemons, a saxophonist nicknamed "The Big Man" who played with Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band, faces a court hearing Monday for allegedly beating his girlfriend.

Clemons, 54, was arrested by Palm Beach County deputies Friday at his home in Riviera Beach and remained jailed Sunday without bond on a domestic battery warrant.

Clemons was scheduled to appear in court Monday in the Florida Keys' Monroe County, where the alleged attack took place Dec. 6.

Sharlene Smalley, 50, said she and Clemons were arguing while visiting a friend in Islamorada when he allegedly pushed her to the ground, and later that night threw her into a wall, kicked her and punched her repeatedly.

Authorities said she suffered a cut below one eye that required stitches, bruises around both eyes, and other various bruises and scratches.

Clemons played for most of the 1970s and '80s with Springsteen. The E Street Band split in the late 1980s, reuniting briefly in 1995 for a greatest-hits album.

PRAGUE, Czech Republic — Cancer made playwright-turned-president Vaclav Havel quit two of his favorite pastimes: cigarettes and alcohol.

"I have not only become a non-smoker, I even had to become a teetotaler," Havel said Sunday. "I hope it's not forever."

Havel, 60, a former chain-smoker, had a malignant tumor and half his right lung removed in surgery Dec. 2. He was released from the hospital Dec. 27.

The former political dissident who opposed communist leaders during the Cold War, Havel has not yet returned to his presidential duties but did get married on Saturday, exchanging vows with actress Dagmar Veskrova.

Compiled from Reporter-Telegram wire services



Liza Minnelli will perform in Victor/Victoria on Broadway.



Playwright-president Vaclav Havel quit smoking and drinking.

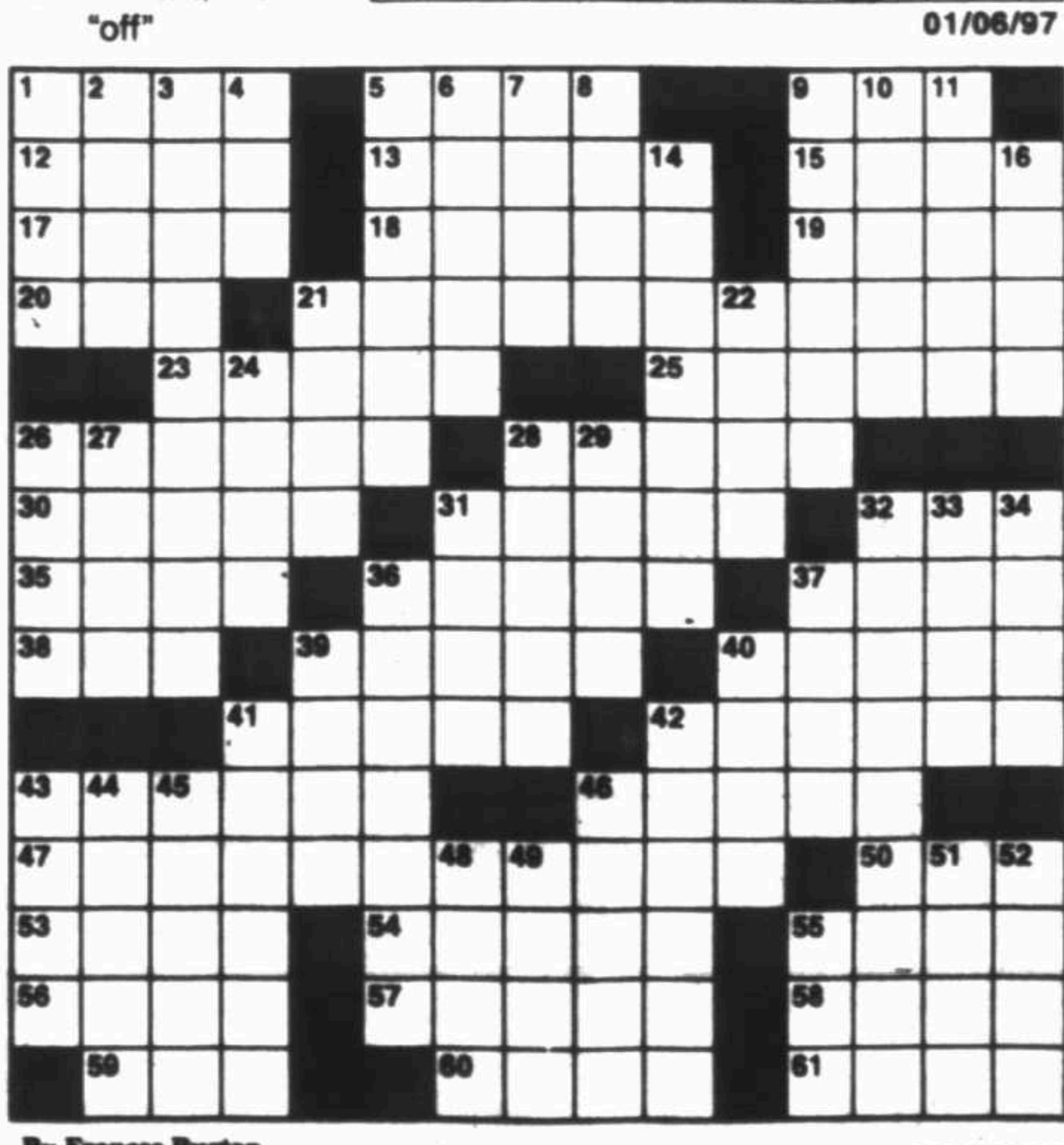
TODAY'S TV SCHEDULE

MONDAY EVENING January 6, 1997											
Broadcast	Channel	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	11:00
3	KMD	News 341	Wheel of Fortune	Dangerous Minds 4055						News 12786	News 12786
5	KPEJ	The Simpsons	Home Improvement	Malcolm in the Middle	The Accidental Detective 2222	Heel and Hoed 2222	Married Children 2222	Tarzan: The Epic Adventures 2222	Mad About You 2222	In the Heat of the Night 210916	Married Children 2222
7	KOB	News 2548	Entertainment Tonight	Cosby 1438	Int 2065	Murphy Brown 2065	Cybill 2065	Charles Grodin 152015	Charles Grodin 152015	Charles Grodin 152015	Charles Grodin 152015
11	KWB	News 2577	Samurai 2547	Jeff Foxworthy 2547	Rhodes 2547	Rhodes 2547	Rhodes 2547	News 2547	News 2547	News 2547	News 2547
12	KMLM	The Light of the Soul 2555	The Morning News 2555	Day's Best Friend 2555	Day's Best Friend 2555	Day's Best Friend 2555	Day's Best Friend 2555	Day's Best Friend 2555	Day's Best Friend 2555	Day's Best Friend 2555	Day's Best Friend 2555
13	KOCV	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
14	CHBC	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
15	WGN	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
16	WTBS	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
17	BRV	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
18	BET	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
19	DSN	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
20	FAM	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
21	CNN	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
22	ESPN	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
23	USA	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
24	FX	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
25	A&E	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
26	TLC	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
27	NICK	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
28	LIFE	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
29	OUTDR	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
30	UNI	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
31	HSE	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
32	COM	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
33	PREMIUM	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
34	DBC	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
35	AMC	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
36	THN	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
37	TNT	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
38	MAX	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
39	VCI	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
40	CHT82	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
41	CHT81	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
42	THC	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
43	SHOW	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
44	HBO	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555
45	HC	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555	News 2555

DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Edited by Trude Michel Jaffe

ACROSS											
1	— Raton, Fla.	3	Camera + recorder =								
5	Guff	4	Affirmative vote								
9	Atlas entry	5	Delved into								
12	"An apple — ..."	6	Historian								
13	Less well	7	Nevins								
15	Got down	8	Cinders								
17	Nobody has enough	9	Toiler of yore								
18	Outburst of light	10	Soda fountain treat								
19	Refrain in songs	11	Airline employee								
20	Like dry wine	12	Divulges								
21	Stagnation + inflation =	13	Browns								
23	Frequently	14	British gun								
25	Performers' emissaries	22	Timeworn								
26	Refused entry	24	Astaire								
28	Old hat	25	Uncovered								
30	Name in cosmetics	27	District								
31	Shot off	28	Clint Eastwood is — Harry								
32	Cut the grass	29	Composer of "Rule Britannia"								
35	Clarinet feature	31	Garden party								
36	Feathery plants	32	Motor + cavalcade =								
37	— Linda, Calif.	33	Sign of the future								
38	Pitcher part	34	Thwart, with								
39	Midler or Davis										
40	Etonian's father										
41	Jack of "The Wizard of Oz"										
42	Jiffy										
43	Relishes										
46	Muslim prince										
47	Transmitter + responder =										
50	Beret										
53	In addition										
54	"That's — shame!"										
55	Markdown event										
56	Driving places										
57	Give back										
58	Run in neutral										
59	Fast plane										
60	Sculer's equipment										
61	Diamond or Armstrong										
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE											
E	L	A	L	M	O	A	T	A	D	E	P
W	O	R	E	E	L	L	E	D	O	L	L
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COME JOIN OUR TEAM!!!

Circulation District Manager

The Midland Reporter-Telegram has a position available, beginning immediately, for a motivated, service-oriented person to begin a career in the newspaper business. This position is responsible for recruiting, training and managing adult newspaper carriers.

Qualified applicants must have a good driving record and be willing to work a flexible schedule which includes many night hours. Previous circulation experience or college is a plus, but not required. We will train the right individual. You need dependable transportation as this job requires use of personal car with company reimbursement for mileage.

Apply in person or send resume to:

Gilbert Silva
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois Ave.
Midland, TX 79701
Equal Opportunity Employer

BLIND BOX REPLIES

When replying to a blind box number listed in an advertisement, address your reply to: (this is an example)

BOX Z-01
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
P.O. Box 1650
Midland, TX 79702

The information for a blind box is confidential, therefore, The Midland Reporter-Telegram cannot disclose the identity of the advertiser to anyone for any reason. However, readers who are interested in a position offered, but do not want their resume to go to certain companies, can simply address the reply to the specific box number and place it in another envelope addressed to: Classified Supervisor and the address above. Include a list of the companies that you do not want your resume to reach. If the advertiser is anyone on your list, we will shred your resume without opening it. If you have any questions please call 682-6222 and a friendly Classified Consultant will explain the procedure to you. Thank you for using the Midland Reporter-Telegram Classified.

INSERTERS NEEDED

The Midland Reporter - Telegram has part time positions available now for Inserters.

Hours are varied and some early morning hours required.

Please complete application at:

Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois
Midland, TX 79701
682-5311

310 General Help Wanted

TRUCK SALES - Heavy Duty Opening for Salesman in Permian Basin area. Must be aggressive with a good personality. Knowledge of trucks a must. Growing company with benefits. Send resume to Box A-22, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, PO Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

WAITSTAFF & Cashier positions: Now Hiring. Apply in person, Cafe China, 2800 N. Big Spring, 11:00-9:00.

311 Medical Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATOR for Licensed Nursing Home Facility. Please submit resumes to Monahan's Senior Health Center, Attn: Richard Dissmore, 1200 W. 15th, Monahan's, TX 79756.

AUDITING: Nurses with experience in medical bill auditing. Can work out of own home. Interested applicants please call. 694-3443.

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS

Two positions open for 2pm to 10pm. New Higher Salary Scale. Applicants must be dedicated to the elderly and their care. Apply in person: Rockwood Manor 2000 N. Main.

CRIT OR RRT: If you are tired of a busy work and the hospital environment, looking for a rewarding career, willing to relocate and enjoy a challenge, contact: Amco Medical Service & Supply, Snyder, Texas. 1-800-687-8116 for appointment.

INHOME CARE INC.

Data Input Specialist needed. Must be familiar with LGS Prompt program, have a positive attitude and the ability to work with a team. Salary and benefits. Please call 570-4475, ask for Michael.

DENTAL ASSISTANT for energetic, fast paced youth oriented office. Good people skills and self-motivating. Non smoking environment. Please send resume and salary history to: Box E-29, C/O Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

DENTAL ASSISTING: Local dentist now accepting applications for dental assisting training. Call 683-5042.

DENTAL OFFICE MANAGER: Experienced, energetic, caring, detail oriented, computer friendly, dependable team worker with a winning smile and personality you can hear on the phone is retiring after 8 years of service. Please bring your resume by: Dr. Low Ann Gray, 3000 N. Garfield, Suite 220, Midland, TX 79705 if you have the above qualifications.

FULL-TIME Dental Assistant needed for fast paced dental office. Experience preferred. Please bring resume by 3001 W. Illinois, Suite 1B3.

PROVIDER needed for weekends, southeast area. Tasks to include: bathing & toileting. Please call Interim Health Care, 550-7593.

MEDICAL: Interim Healthcare now hiring an RN for Branch Manager position. Experience preferred, but not required. Please call 1-800-791-7007.

LVN NEEDED for very busy medical clinic. Experience preferred. Send resume to: Box F-18, Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, Texas 79702.

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION

"America's Job Bank" There are thousands of jobs posted here by employment offices all across the country. You can search these nationwide job openings, including Federal Government Jobs listed by the Office of Personnel Management, by occupation and/or geographic region. Use your own computer at home, or use ours-FREE. For more information, call Scott Stafford, Local Veterans's Rep., 682-9421, Ext. 201.

LEASING CONSULTANT Needed immediately. Experience required. Apply in person at The Park at Caldera, 3100 Caldera Blvd. 79702.

Enterprise 1-800-rent-a-car

Enterprise is the largest privately owned automotive rental and leasing company in the U.S. with more than 2500 branch offices nationally. Enterprise ranks no. 1 in the industry. Over the last eight years Enterprise has had an outstanding average annual growth of 25%. Established in 1956 with headquarters in St. Louis, Enterprise is a stable, diversified, and decentralized company, which offers exceptional career opportunities.

THE ENTERPRISE CAREER PATH OFFERS:

- A structural career ladder with performance-based promotions, 100% from within.
- A multi-faceted on-the-job management training program which includes marketing and sales functions.
- A corporate culture devoted to positive, progressive, and innovative management practices.
- A comprehensive compensation package which includes salary, full benefits, profit-sharing and 401k plan.

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE QUALIFICATIONS:

- High motivated
- Enjoys working in a fast paced environment
- Good communication and leadership skills
- Management trainee positions are entry level

To explore career opportunities with Enterprise Rent A Car, Please come by or send resume to: BRETT SCHACKMAN 3900 West Wall Midland, TX 79763

Enterprise 1-800-rent-a-car

312 Professional Help Wanted

BANKING: Community National Bank has a position available for New Account/ CD Clerk. Requirements include prior teller experience, a minimum 3 years experience in New Account/CD/TRA area, PC skills and must type 50 wpm. Salary DOE, EOE. Qualified candidates may call 694-3333.

ENGINEERING: Project and Staff Engineering positions available. Growing West Texas firm, serving the oil, gas and process industries for 30 years, needs Civil, Mechanical and Chemical Engineers. Salary DOE, Insurance, 401K. Respond in confidence to Engineering, P.O. Box 5198, Odessa, TX 79763.

GEOTECHNICAL wanted for exploration company. Duties to include: Familiarity with PCs in a Windows environment. The candidate will use GeoGraphic to digitize maps, contours, or logs. Neuralog to scan and digitize logs, and will load seismic velocity, well, cultural or other data into computer databases. The candidate may be required to transfer data from the database into Kingdom or GeoGraphic to create the necessary layers, and prepare computer maps. The candidate will pull logs, seismic data from files, prepare copies and hang cross-sections. Send resume to Kate Cox at P.O. Box 1798, Roswell, NM, 88202-1798.

"INSTRUCTOR" needed - Business School - must be proficient in current business software, typing and other business courses. Bachelors degree a must. Business Education major a plus. call 684-6960

LANDMEN

Field Landmen needed, 5-years experience, computer literate a must. Immediate openings, long-term jobs. Please fax resume to: 713-464-6470

MLS ADMINISTRATOR - W T R MLS is looking for a team player with skills with computers relating attention to detail with creative and flexible work habits, logic deductive reasoning, knowledge of Dos, Windows 3.x, Windows 95, Windows Networks, Word processing, Database, Spreadsheet, and other office software. Knowledge of the REALTORS MLS database for Midland, Odessa, & Big Spring, backups, scanning pictures, maintaining Fax Back Forms & Systems, monthly Billing. Supervise a photographer. Some travel and overtime. The position will also include working & developing pages through digital connection to the Internet plus working as the secondary customer support person. We are looking for someone that wants to learn and grow in a healthy environment. Salaried 15k-17k. Drug test may be required. Send Resume/ include detail of computer knowledge; last three years' employment and salary history, handwritten on plain paper why we should hire you. TO: W T R MLS, Attn.: Job Search- Mail to P.O. Box 60075, Midland, TX 79711-0075, Fax: 915-661-8060, Hand deliver 2910 LaFlore Blvd., Suite W T R.

OPERATIONS/ AREA Engineer: Midland-based aggressive independent of company is seeking an engineer with 10+ years experience. Requires well rounded experience in drilling, production & reservoir engineering. Strong waterflood knowledge. SE NM experience with understanding of state & federal regulatory requirements. Submit resume to Box F-28, C/O Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

PROFESSIONAL: Agency Therapeutic Foster Group Parents for High Risk Children's Ranch needed. Opportunity to work with children of all ages in a home-like environment. Extensive training and support provided. Call 694-7728 for more information.

TRAVEL AGENT

Midland Travel needs full time Agent. Sabre experience required. Top Pay. Full Benefits. 684-7428.

314 Clerical Help Wanted

Global Personnel Network Temp & Perm positions. Locally & around the globe! 686-8300.

Need An Office Job? Call Us! TEMPORARY RESOURCES

684-0527

V.I.P. EMPLOYMENT

Call us today for information regarding temporary and permanent jobs. (915) 686-9722.

ACCOUNTANT/ CPA

Growth oriented locally owned 95 person CPA firm has the following vacancies:

AUDIT MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR with 5 years experience including public accounting in manufacturing, wholesale, and/or construction.

AUDIT SENIOR with 2-3 years experience in public accounting. Excellent opportunity for advancement. Send resume and salary history to: Padgett, Stratemann & Co., ATTN: Director of Human Resources, 1895 NE Loop 410, Ste 700, San Antonio, TX 78209.

ADMINISTRATIVE Assistant-Area non-profit seeking Administrative Assistant. Must be knowledgeable in Microsoft Word and have excellent telephone, organizational, and people skills. 10 to 5, Monday-Friday. Non-smoking environment. Send resume to: P.O. Box 3113, Midland, TX 79702.

314 Clerical Help Wanted

OP PERSONNEL Temp & Permanent positions available 682-0033.

BOOKKEEPER

Outstanding opportunity for an aggressive individual to join the nation's largest wholesale distributor of building products. Must have two years bookkeeping experience. Competitive salary with incentive and full benefits.

Excellent advancement opportunity available to the successful candidate. No phone calls please.

Applications take at: ABC Supply Co., Inc. 3000 W. Kentucky Midland, TX 79701

An equal opportunity employer.

ENGINEER TECH

Experience in drilling, production, state & federal regulatory reporting. Knowledge of NM reporting. Excel spreadsheets required. Send resume to: Box E-24, C/O Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland, TX 79702.

FULL TIME Receptionist needed for busy accounting office. Job requirements include: excellent telephone, organizational and people skills, professional attitude and ability to work under pressure a must. Send resume and salary requirements to: P.O. Box 3487, Midland, Texas 79702.

CLERICAL- small independent oil company needs secretary/bookkeeper. Must have accounting and computer experience. Please send resume to: P.O. Box 1737, Midland, TX 79702.

OFFICE MANAGER- a take charge, goal oriented person responsible for 3 person staff to function harmoniously. Need to know A/P, A/R, order entry and computer skills. References. Send resume to: P.O. Box 12282, Midland, TX 79702.

"OFFICE MANAGER/ RECEPTIONIST

..... permanent position for intelligent, dependable, extroverted... career minded individual... must be as dependable as sunshine, have the patience of Mother Teresa, the logistic capability of General Patton and adapt with our company... must be able to "do it all" and more... join our team of phenomenal achievers and enjoy having more work to do than any human is capable of... income far below your value... bonuses, benefits and the satisfaction of being able to profoundly affect the lives of our patients and their families... for the ride of a lifetime. Send resume to Michael L. Shobe, President, Hearing Technologies, Inc., 5009 University, Ste. C, Lubbock, Texas 79413 or fax to 806-795-3561.

JOBS AVAILABLE SELECT STAFF

915-687-1545

CLERICAL- Openings for exp.

Oil & Gas office personnel. Call OLSTEN today, 683-5677.

316 Sales Help Wanted

SALES REPS- Four needed. Highest commission paid in Permian Basin. Vacation and free insurance. Experience preferred, but not necessary. Apply in person at: Village Lincoln Mercury Dodge Hyundai, 3515 West Wall, Midland, Texas.

Join a team of top sales professionals!

If you're been looking for the right place to practice your marketing talents, look no further. IOF Foresters is currently expanding and seeking sales professionals to join our team in marketing membership and financial services. One of the world's largest, most respected fraternal benefit societies, IOF Foresters has over a million members throughout the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom and over three billion dollars in assets. We offer the right person an opportunity to experience an ideal sales environment. If you possess a strong sales background, high level of motivation and want to advance your selling career, contact us to find out more about our:

- Exceptional training program
- Training allowance
- Commissions & bonuses
- Trips
- Comprehensive benefits
- Management career path potential

For a confidential interview, contact: Johnnie Lee Qualls, (915) 570-7588 or fax (915) 570-7583 before Wednesday January 8, 1997.

AD#95-833

INSURANCE AGENTS' DREAM!

Selling final expense life plans to the elderly. Top Commissions. Daytime leads available, exotic trips. Call 915-570-1930.

MARKETING REPRESENTATIVE

Growing Southwestern Property/Casualty insurance company seeking experienced Marketing Representative for the Midland-Odessa Area. Should have LRA and Group Life license and have three or more years of experience in marketing property/casualty insurance coverages. Completion of some industry designation courses a plus. Compensation commensurate with experience. Please forward Resume to: Box D-46, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, P.O. Box 1650, Midland,

GARAGE SALES
Hidden treasures? Junk?
Recycle your unwanted items!
Call 682-4222 today. A friendly classified advertiser
will help you make an ad that gets results!

79701 GARAGE SALE SERVICES
NEW FURNITURE SALE- Large selection,
Low-Prices, Rainbow Trade Center, 1503
W. Industrial Ave., 570-4408.

GOOD USED VACUUM cleaners \$25 and
up. Repair all makes. 520-6464.

79707
SALE! SALE! SALE!
We've closed our seasonal store at Midland
Park Mall and now we have to find room
for it, plus a new shipment at our Mission
Square store!

ANTIQUITIES
4400 N. Big Spring, B-19
682-2177
Call 682-2222 Today!

AD PACKAGE \$20
*7 Lines (approx. 25-35 words)
*2 Days
*100% ETC. Stand Out Emblem
*Garage Sale Kit
(Includes Signs, Stakes, Markers, Balloons, Helium
Hints, 65 Values)
*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!!

Oilfield
Experienced Drilling Hands
and Tool Pushers
needed due to rig
expansion.
**TransTexas
Gas Corp**
1-800-572-1966

AIR CONDITIONING Technicians,
Plumbers, Electricians wanted.
Part or full-time. Terms, incentives,
bonuses available. 682-3542.

OFFSET PRINTER Must be
experienced. Will run 2 color AB
Dick equipment. Apply: 315 N.
Colorado St., Midland.

COMPUTER GRAPHIC Artist
needed immediately for small
manufacturing business. Send
resume to P.O. Box 2636, Midland,
TX 79702.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT
Mechanic. MAC Trucks, Triplex
pumps. Mostly in shop work. Own
tools, references and relocation
required. Uniforms, 401(k)
retirement, insurance, credit union,
vacation, paid holidays available.
Mail resume to: 418 S. Grimes,
Hobbs, NM 88240.

**INDUSTRIAL
ENGINE
MECHANIC**
Must have own tools, good driving
record. Company benefits. Apply
in person or call 915-385-2900.
8510 W. 1-20
Odessa, Texas
General Machine & Supply Inc.

**PAINT ESTIMATOR/Project
Manager.** Local construction
company looking for experienced
Paint Estimator/Project Manager
for paint division. Must be self
motivated, self starter with ability
to handle multiple projects
simultaneously. Minimum
experience requirement is three
years. Starting salary based on
experience. Must have own vehicle.
Send resume to: Paint Estimator,
P.O. Box 50653, Midland, TX
79710-0653.

SKILLED- Mr. Rooter Plumbing
now hiring professional plumbers.
Benefits and good pay. 570-7473.

WEST TEXAS Microbrewery
(Midland, TX) Fully licensed and
operating since September 1995.
Need capital to support recent
expansion. Will sell controlling
interest. 915-686-0484.

GET REAL Estate Loans quickly.
Short state course. Day, weekend
or evening. Southwest College,
697-7277.

DOG Houses. New. \$35-\$45.
Porch Swings. \$35. Glider Swings
\$65. Bookcases. \$35. Call
563-0452.

GLASS SHELVING. (10) 16" x
48", (8) 16" x 44", stripping
brackets. \$165. 699-8061.

SPRING BREAK in Cabo San
Lucas- condo at luxury resort,
steps 4. March 8th- 15th 1997.
\$800. 699-4410.

FREE REMOVAL of your
unwanted appliances. Fast pickup.
567-5221.

CRAFTSMAN 1/2 bed. original
cost \$2,000, hardly used, asking
\$800. Call 694-0578 or 683-8031.

STEREO. 20" 2 twin beds. \$50
each. Glass top dining table. \$75.
Cushion style blue sectional. \$200.
Washer/dryer. \$75. Mueve chair.
\$20. Books and miscellaneous
items. 682-5332, after 5:30.

OAK BAR with 4 bar stools with
backs, camel velvet color, \$600.
Call 694-8969.

SLEEPER SOFA and matching
loveseat \$175, black metal bunk
bed, twin full/full bottom \$225. Call
520-8219.

SOFA & LOVESEAT. Very good
condition, matching window
treatment. \$2,000- new, will sell
\$600. 685-1202.

5 SPEED boys bike \$30; bunk
beds with bottom as a waterbed,
excellent condition. \$200.
699-7379.

GE LARGE CAPACITY Washer &
dryer. \$200. Call 520-2401.

APPLIANCES reconditioned with
6 month plus warranty. Wood &
Son Appliances. 2811 W. Wall
699-1224.

RADIO & RECORD Player in
maple cabinet. Excellent condition.
\$45. Call 699-8081.

QUEEN SIZE Hide a Bed for sale.
Call 570-9211 for more information.

STOREWIDE Sale Everything
discounted up to 50% off BEST
HOME BARGAINS. 3326 N.
Midland. 699-5524.

KING SIZE waterbed complete
with bladder, heater, rail covers,
head and foot boards. \$100.
683-6148, evenings.

OAK DOUBLE dresser, \$100;
king size oak waterbed with 6
drawer underdressed, \$275, glass
and brass dining room table with
4 chairs, \$75. 520-8410.

MATTRESS sets, dinette sets,
bunk beds, daybeds and Futon
couches. Reasonable prices. Also
catalog orders available. Credit
Cards- Layaways welcome. Wood
& Son Appliances. 2811 W. Wall
699-1224.

BRAND NEW, still in plastic, any
size mattress and box set. Free
frame or delivery. 550-5123.

WHITE WESTINGHOUSE stove,
only 1 year old, excellent condition,
clean, like new. \$175. Call
686-1870.

FOR SALE: Dining room table
with 6 chairs. 1 year old. \$800.
China cabinet, excellent condition.
\$600. 699-6258.

BIBLE TALK: "Was the Early
Church Ever Divided into Bible
Classes for the Purpose of
Teaching?" 520-6381. Free
recorded message.

WILL THE WITNESSES in the white
pickup who saw the wreck
Thursday, December 26th at 3:45
pm on the Rankin Hwy 349 &
County Road 118 please call
520-6200.

12" ALUMINUM Ladder, extends
to 24". Like new. \$45. Call
688-9247.

GAS HEATERS, mowers,
refrigerators, freezers, stoves,
washers, dryers, furniture, couches,
recliners, dining/suites. TVs.
570-4851.

RESTHAVEN MEMORIAL Park,
Midland. 2 Spaces, prime location-
Garden of Hope. Call (817)
872-4415.

BICYCLE. Girls 10 speed. \$25.
Call 685-1202.

GOOD USED VACUUM cleaners
\$25 and up. Repair all makes.
520-6464.

KING WALL unit headboard,
mattress, chest, \$700; king white
wrought iron headboard \$300,
684-1247.

DRESSER MIRROR. Chest of
drawers, double bed, \$300 for
set. Call 694-6322.

GE REFRIGERATOR. 23.5 Side
by Side. Almond color. Custom
dispenser. Good condition. \$400.
Titan 300 Low pressure spray
gun. Under warranty. Paid \$900.
Asking \$450. 684-5155.

KENMORE WASHER, heavy duty,
good condition. \$150. Kenmore
microwave. \$40; antique floor
lamp. \$50. 5 Seater Hot Tub with
deck. \$2,700. 682-2929.

GENERAL ELECTRIC self
cleaning stove, almond color, 2
years old, asking \$360. 520-7364,
520-5570.

APRACHAIR By Brooklyn. Blue &
Greens Floral pattern. Good
at \$25. Call 694-9491 afternoon/
evenings.

BUNK BED- white contemporary
style. 3 drawers, looks new. \$200.
Call 682-3315.

MOVING! Need to sell sofa and
dresser. Both in good condition.
Call 694-0995.

LARGE China Hutch, table with
3 leaves and eight chairs. \$975.
Sofa love seat, like new- white/
blues floral print. Must see to
appreciate \$500. Please call
570-8596.

FREE 6 WEEK Old kittens. Call
683-7853.

RECYCLE LOVE! Adopt a Golden
Retriever. Call 683-3863.

START THE New Year off right with
obedience training for your puppy
or adult dog. Group and private
lessons. Waggin' Tails Dog Training.
550-9876.

HELLO! My name is Rebel Lee.
I am a white Male Miniature
Schnauzer, 3 years old and I'm
looking for a wife to raise a family
with. Call 682-7077.

DESPERATELY Need Foster
Home for Golden Retrievers. Call
683-3863.

GORGEOUS Golden Retriever
puppies. AKC registered, champion
bloodline, parents on premises.
520-0810.

2 DOGS NEEDING Good Homes!
1 Dalmatian male, 1 Lab male. \$25
each. Call 694-3877 evenings.

AKC RED SIBERIAN Husky pups,
6 weeks old, shots. \$250- \$275.
Days. 550-9200. Evenings. 332-
9000.

PUPPY HOUSEHOLD and
competitive obedience classes
starting January 15th. Classes
offered for dogs of all ages. 570-
HHEEL.

AKC SCHIPPERKE Puppies.
Perfect indoor family pet! Great
with children. 3 adorable black
males. Parents on premises.
Available 12/16/96. \$300. Call
694-1967.

PUPPIES FREE to good homes-
need yard. Call 520-2788.

AKC ENGLISH Bulldogs. Call for
information telephone 520-0011,
leave message.

AKC ENGLISH Bulldogs. Call for
information, 520-0011, leave
message.

LONE STAR ANTIQUES. Unit
#3, Advantage Storage, 5000 N.
Lamesa and Solomon Lane.
570-9243.

EARLY 1900's Couch, Duncan
File style, \$700 o.b.o. Call
687-5610.

ESTATE SALE SERVICES by
Joseph. 24 Years Experience
buying and selling. 687-3040,
687-2868. 694-5034.

MIDLAND ESTATE SALES AND
AUCTION SERVICE. Call Judy
Jackson 689-3536 or Dawna Keith
683-9234.

THE CATS MEOW Antique Mall.
408 Andrews Highway, Mon.
Sat. 10 - 6. We buy and sell
antiques. (915) 687-2004.

WURLITZER PIANO. Beautiful
condition. \$800. Call 367-4650.

2 KING CORNETS. Good shape.
One, \$175, the other \$190 or best
offer. Call 697-4597.

DRUM SET for sale. \$300. Call
694-4891. A. T. or Catherine.

KINCAID SPINET Upright piano,
beautiful tone, good condition,
\$700 o.b.o. Portable spa with
cover, runs well, skirt needs little
work. \$400 o.b.o. 367-1643.

VHS CAMCORDER. 2 Batteries &
charger, hard carrying case, \$150
for set. Call 520-5030.

PROFESSIONAL 35MM Cameras.
Excellent. Yashica FX-D Quartz.
body only, \$100. Contax RTS,
body only, \$125. Canon T50
programmed auto 35mm with
50mm and 35-70 zoom lenses
plus Canon autofocus instruction
book. \$200. 687-3721.

IBM PC with keyboard, Princeton
monitor, hard drive, 4 million bytes.
PC shell installed, Microsoft Word
5.5 installed. \$350. 366-2479.

COMPUTERS. New and used,
upgrade and repair. Night Owl
Computers, etc. 8am to 10pm
686-8835.

**Make Your New Year's
Resolution Count at
Coventry Points
Apartment Homes**
5225 W. Wall
687-4149
\$97** Deposit and
\$97** Off Your First Full
Month's Rent.

Done Kelly Realtors
No Charge to Tenant
Save Time & Money!
APT. LOCATOR
Willie Dean Berry-Cecil
687-3284 • 682-9177 Evenings
Open 7 days a week • 2502 W. Wall

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New Trend is the "Smart Lifestyle"
Stop the Yummy Days (Paying a
Fortune for apartment rent is out)
-Live a great apartment that
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some
-Lofts, Townhomes or Flats
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-January Rent \$19.97
694-5950
The Oasis Apartments

5205 BELLAIRE. 3 Bedroom, 2
bath, double garage, \$725 monthly
or will sell. Call 694-8818.

113 HOWARD. 3 Bedroom, 1
bath. \$475 monthly, deposit
required. Call 683-5161 or 687-
3413.

1612 NEELY. 3 Bedrooms, 2
baths, 3 living areas, \$1,000
month, Deposit. Fannin Elementary.
699-3252.

1 & 2 Bedroom houses for rent.
Unfurnished. Call 683-5574 for
more information.

1710 SQ. FEET Brick veneer, 3
bedroom, 2 bath with office, some
carpet, electric range and oven,
central heat, refrigerated air. No
pets please. Call 682-0706.

FOR LEASE: 3906 Placid Court,
3/2/2, fireplace. \$800 month.
Available now! Call Kay Pederson,
RealMax of Midland, 682-9820, or
residence 682-4922.

3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 bath. \$425
monthly. \$250 deposit. 5 Bedroom,
2 bath \$650 monthly. \$350 deposit.
697-0000.

CLEAN, SHARP 3 bedroom, 1
1/2 bath, 1 car garage. Available
immediately. 16 X 20 shop in
backyard. \$600 month plus deposit.
105 N. Glenwood- Lee District. Call
689-9979 to see.

LARGE MEADOWPARK Pk.
Townhome; 3 bedroom, 2 1/2
bath, pool, tennis. Available now.
\$1,100. 694-7863.

2 BEDROOM, 1 Bath Duplex.
1111 North Carizo. \$375 monthly.
\$375 deposit. Owner/ Agent,
685-3380.

3 BEDROOM, 2 Bath Homes.
Fenced back yard, carpet. Nice!
Call for appointment. 520-0968.

3 BEDROOM, 2 Bath, cathedral
ceilings, fireplace, sequestered
master suite, double garage,
fenced yard. Lee District. \$750
month plus deposit. 915-366-1891.

3 BEDROOM, 2 Bath 2 car garage
for rent. No pets, non smoking
environment. \$500 deposit. 695-
0278.

3 BEDROOMS, 4 baths.
Temporary home. \$675 monthly,
\$325 deposit. Available now. 4322
Sentinel. (505) 527-2687.

VERY CLEAN 3 Bedroom 2 bath,
2 car garage, duplex. 421 W.
Spruce, Apt. B. \$525. 520-2643.

COUNTRY- 2 bedroom, 1 bath,
washer & dryer. \$250 monthly
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