

# Hereford BRAND

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THURSDAY, April 20, 2000

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HOME OF  
J.B. Garnett

## Today's weather OUTLOOK

### Mostly clear skies

Tonight: Mostly clear with a low 40 to 45, north to northeast wind 5 to 15 mph.

Friday: Partly cloudy with a high around 80, south wind 10 to 20 mph.

Friday night: Partly cloudy with a low 45 to 50.



### Extended forecast

Saturday: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms. High in the lower 80s.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms, low 45 to 50, high 75 to 80.

Monday: Partly cloudy, low around 50, high around 80.

### Hereford weather

Thursday's high, 81; low, 35; no precipitation.

## City, county offices to be closed



All county and municipal offices will be closed Friday in observance of Good Friday.

Hereford Independent School District is on spring break until April 27.

The Deaf Smith County Public Library will be closed Friday and Saturday.

All banks and the post office will maintain normal business hours.

## Reno, staff reviewing Elian case

MIAMI (AP) — Faced with a court ruling criticizing the government's actions in the Elian Gonzalez case, Attorney General Janet Reno huddled with advisers today as the boy's relatives sparred through their lawyers over whether, and where, they might arrange a meeting.

In the latest victory for the Miami relatives of the 6-year-old boy, a three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta said Elian must remain in the United States until the court decides whether he should get an asylum hearing.

The order would not prevent the government from reuniting Elian with his father in the United States. The father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, has been waiting in Washington since April 6.

Reno, in Oklahoma City on Wednesday for the dedication of a memorial to the victims of the 1995 federal building bombing, said she would abide by Wednesday's court order.

"But it does not disagree with my determination, it does not say that the boy cannot be reunited with his father," she said. "I believe Elian should be reunited with his father and I said that all along."

Reno later returned to Washington, canceling a trip planned today to a Montana Indian reservation. She held one meeting with her advisers on the Elian case and others were anticipated, but there was no word on when she might decide her next step.

## SNUFFED: Some Texas hospitals link financial difficulties to reduced funds from the tobacco settlement

### Staff and wire reports

Financial woes at some Texas hospitals are stemming in part from less tobacco settlement money, meaning millions of dollars must be made up from other sources.

The state has announced that Dallas County's share of \$100 million in the annual funds will fall more than \$6 million short of county predictions.

"It's hard to depend on these kinds of revenue sources," Dr. Ron Anderson, president and chief executive officer of Parkland Health and Hospital System, told *The Dallas Morning News* in today's editions. "They usually don't bring in what you think they will over time. You need harder dollars, and right now we don't have those harder dollars."

A proposed split of \$100 million was announced by the Texas Department of Health for 288 providers of

indigent health care statewide.

Expected later this month, the payments are part of a \$2.28 billion settlement reached in 1998 between tobacco companies and hospital districts, counties and other indigent health care providers. The deal is separate from a \$15.3 billion settlement between the companies and the state.

The Deaf Smith County Hospital District received \$338,263 in its first allocation, but Hereford Regional Medical Center officials do not know how much the district will receive this year.

"All we know is the funds will be significantly less," HRMC administrator James Taylor said this morning.

If the state comptroller approves the figures, the Dallas County Hospital District will receive about \$17.9 million, compared with Anderson's

expectation of \$24 million.

The top recipient, Harris County, will get \$18.3 million, compared with a predicted \$20 million, a hospital official said.

"We're happy to get any money we can get, any way we can," Dinah Massie, a spokeswoman for the Harris district, said. "Federal dollars are shrinking. It's just very tough times right now for health care and particularly for charity health care."

The third largest payment in the state will be to Tarrant County, with \$11.6 million.

Health care providers' terms provided for \$450 million to be placed in a fund, with \$300 million of that distributed last year, \$100 million this year and \$50 million in 2001. The remaining \$1.8 billion was put in an inaccessible fund. Interest from it would be distributed to indigent health-care providers annually, be-

ginning next year.

The \$300 million distributed last year was according to the population of the hospital districts and counties. Parkland received \$32.7 million.

But this year, a new formula is being used for distributing the money. It is based on the amount spent during the previous year on unreimbursed indigent health care.

The change could spell hard times for Parkland, where officials announced two weeks ago a reduction in management staff by 200 people and other changes to stem a \$76 million budget shortfall caused by a drop in state and federal funding and a patient increase.

Anderson said that, with the lower-than-expected tobacco disbursement, the hospital's shortfall could grow to \$83 million.



### Child Injured

Victor Aguilar, 7, was injured Wednesday afternoon when he was struck by an automobile while riding his bicycle on Irving Street. Hereford Emergency Medical Service paramedics (at left) prepare to transport the boy to Hereford Regional Medical Center, while Hereford Police Officer Ron Taylor (below, left) and Lt. Ben Barrick investigate the accident. The child was struck by a 1996 Mitsubishi driven by Melissa Soliz, 31. He would later be transported by ambulance to an Amarillo hospital, where he is reported to be stable. Soliz was cited for failure to yield the right of way.

BRAND/Mauri Montgomery



## Jobless claims drop

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits plummeted last week to the lowest level in nearly 27 years, indicating that businesses are scrambling to find workers.

The Labor Department said today that 257,000 Americans filed new claims for jobless benefits for the week ending April 15, down by 9,000 from the previous week.

That was the lowest level since Dec. 1, 1973, when claims were at 256,000.

The decline was not expected. Many analysts had predicted that claims would actually rise slightly.

The more stable four-week moving average of claims, which smoothes out week-to-week volatility, fell to 262,500, the lowest level since Dec. 15, 1973, when such claims were at 256,750. The four-week moving average has been running below 300,000 since late October.

On Wall Street, stocks were mixed

*While that's good for workers, economists find it worrisome. They fear that employers will recruit workers with big increases in wages and benefits, increased costs that companies could pass along to consumers in the form of higher prices.*

today. After the first hour of trading, the Dow Jones average had gained 50 points and the Nasdaq was down 22. The yield on 30-year Treasury bonds dropped to 5.82 percent from 5.84 percent late Wednesday.

Economists consider claims below 300,000 an indication of a tight labor market, meaning employers are having trouble finding qualified workers to fill job openings.

While that's good for workers, economists find it worrisome. They fear that employers will recruit workers with big increases in wages and benefits, increased costs that compa-

nies could pass along to consumers in the form of higher prices.

The Federal Reserve has boosted interest rates five times since June 30 to slow the economy and to keep inflation under control.

Given the outlook for strong continuing growth, many economists expect the Fed will raise rates again on May 16.

Today's report said that for the week ending April 8, five states and territories reported decreases in new jobless claims applications, while 48 reported increases. The state data lag a week behind the national figures.

The state with the biggest decline was North Carolina, down 1,528. Officials attributed the decline to fewer layoffs in the construction and tobacco industries.

Other states with decreases were: Delaware, down 769; Maine, down 326; and Oklahoma, down 215.

## HRMC's assets decline

*"I was pleased where we wound up, but it's not where I want us to be for the long-term. I want to move forward and I do expect things to get more positive."*

James Taylor, CEO,  
Hereford Regional Medical Center

By Donald M. Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editor

Deaf Smith County Hospital District saw its assets decline slightly during the past year, according to the annual audit.

The independent audit, which was presented to the hospital district directors Tuesday night by Brandon Durbin of the Lubbock accounting firm Durbin & Co., showed the district's assets on Sept. 30, 1999, were \$8,078,290, down 89,007 from the previous year.

The audit put the current assets at \$3,275,817, down from \$3,959,852 at the end of the previous year.

The assets whose use is limited by the board, such as the bond sinking fund and bond reserve fund, were \$253,756, up from \$239,995.

The property, which includes Hereford Regional Medical Center and the Hereford Health Clinic, saw its value rise in 1999 to \$4,532,424 from \$3,940,092 the previous year.

HRMC chief executive officer James Taylor, who has been at the helm of the hospital in either an acting or permanent capacity since December, said he was satisfied with the auditors' findings.

"I was pleased where we wound up, but it's not where I want us to be for the long-term. I want to move forward and I do expect things to get more positive," Taylor said.

The hospital's fund balance at the end of Fiscal 1999 was \$4,618,845, a dropoff from the previous year when the final balance was \$4,872,797.

The total operating revenue in FY 1999 was \$12,715,519, an increase of nearly \$1.5 million.

The major sources of revenue during the year ending Sept. 30, 1999, were:

- Net patient service — \$10,235,425;
- Ad valorem taxes — \$1,198,160;
- Disproportionate share funds — \$1,152,513;
- Donations — \$64,129; and
- Miscellaneous — \$65,292.

Total operating expenses were \$13,060,735, up about \$1.2 million from the previous year.

The major operating expenses during the year were:

- Salaries/wages — \$5,560,042;
- Employee benefits — \$1,402,780;
- Professional/purchased services — \$1,621,114;
- Supplies/other — \$2,673,803;
- Provisions for bad debts — \$1,169,367;
- Interest — \$145,542; and
- Depreciation/amortization — \$488,087.

For the year, the hospital ended with an operating loss of \$345,216, a significant improvement over the pre-

Please see AUDIT, Page A9

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# LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Thursday, April 20, 2000 • A3



New DAR member Kathryn Horton Gurley, center, was welcomed to Los Ciboleros Chapter by regent Patricia Robinson. Also pictured is Gurley's mother, Lunell Horton.

## Friona Depot is site of luncheon, style show for Los Ciboleros DAR

Los Ciboleros Chapter, NSDAR, met in the Friona Depot, a restored historical building, for a luncheon with a style show by Ingram's Dress Shop of Friona.

A business meeting followed in the Friona Library. Regent Patricia Robinson presided and welcomed guests Kenneth Neill, Lunell Horton and Mildred Fuhrmann.

New member Kathryn Horton Gurley was also welcomed and presented with a

DAR Handbook by Robinson. Two additional new members, Tracy Bowden and Sunny Ratcliff, were unable to attend.

Members were reminded of the May 6 meeting of District I Regents Council and of Llano Estacado's 75th anniversary celebration on May 4.

Thirty-three Certificates of Merit were displayed with a blue ribbon on the yearbook.

Vice regent Jean Beene gave an updated report on the

commemoration planned in June to honor Korean veterans. A skit on how to interview veterans was given by Beene and Ruth Newsom. Beene also reminded members of the May 13th luncheon at Hereford Country Club.

Other members present were Linda Knowles, Charlotte Clark, Margaret Bell, Lois Gilliland, Lesta Lee Neill, Ruth Knox, Nell Norvell, Juanita Brown and Allo Reeve.

## Kingdom Seekers Class meets

The Kingdom Seekers Sunday School Class of Avenue Baptist Church had a spaghetti dinner at its regular monthly meeting Tuesday at the church.

Hostesses were Jessie Sumner and Marvine Mathis.

Prayer was led by the teacher, Pauline Landers. Dorothy Sargent presided over the business meeting. The devotional was given by Nell Saul.

Each member brought a craft

they had created for "Show and Tell." Bro. Jim Bulin and his wife Kim displayed a quilt that was pieced in 1920 and sold at an auction in Abilene, Kan., in later years.

The meeting closed with a Friendship Circle and a prayer led by Sargent.

Those present were Ruby Skelton, Madalena Hudson, Erma Bain, Lorene Newman, Betty Boggs, Billie Sims, Luella

Thomas, Rosie Wall, Laquita Norvell, Dorma Kirby, Inez Houston, Ruby Stevens, Bro. and Mrs. Bulin, Kim Bulin, Mathis, Sumner, Sargent, Saul and Landers.

## Bippus does quilting

The Bippus Family Community Education Club met in the home of Sue Thweatt with Alta Mae Higgins as hostess.

Members answered roll call by giving their favorite cleaning product.

Volunteer hours were reported, committee reports were given and Kate Bradley gave a report on the last Council meeting.

Mariellen Homfeld was selected as delegate to the state meeting to be held Sept. 12-14.

Homfeld gave the program titled "Fight 'BAC."

Following a noon luncheon, members spent the rest of the day in quilting.

Those present were visitor Mary Dorris of Clovis, N.M.,

and members Thweatt, Higgins, Bradley and Homfeld.

## Easter Special



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## Ann Landers



**Dear Ann Landers:** A while back, I read in the Arizona Republic about a cab driver who was found beaten to death. He was only 57 years

old. His co-workers described him as "a good guy, a good worker."

Ten years ago, a serial killer was attacking female college students in Florida. To protect herself, my niece rescued a homeless dog at the local animal pound, and kept him with her at all times. He provided love and companionship, as well as protection. Perhaps if cab drivers had a dog riding along, their chances of being brutally attacked would be considerably less. And if the dogs were selected from the local animal shelter, it would be a win-win situation. Saving a homeless pet could save a life. Please suggest it, Ann. — Merrill S. Chernov, M.D., People Saving Pets, Phoenix

**Dear Dr. Chernov:** My office contacted Jan Johns, corporate vice president of Yellow Cab Management here in Chicago. While she thought your idea was wonderful, she said it would not be practical. It would be cruel to the dogs to keep them confined to a taxi for the length of a working day, and many customers are afraid of dogs, and would be reluctant to enter the cab.

She appreciated your concern for the safety of cab drivers though, and wanted you to know that all new vehicles come equipped with safety shields and panic buttons to protect the drivers.

**Dear Ann Landers:** My husband, who at one time was a gifted and witty man, has been receiving treatment for Alzheimer's disease since 1993. Recently, one of our children handed him a book, and asked him to read to us. My husband rarely speaks, and has difficulty assembling words. He took the book, and began to read aloud in a flat, stumbling manner. It was a struggle. Soon, however, his interest in the story became apparent, and his reading smoother. We stared at one another in wonder as he continued to read with excellent inflection and expression. He read for an hour.

Now, my husband reads to us often. The mysteries, history books and current affairs he once enjoyed are too complicated, but simple action stories and classic tales written for young people are good. The language is easy, and the print is larger.

I have never heard of anyone else trying this with those who have Alzheimer's. I realize my husband may be an isolated case, but if you think reading aloud might be effective for others, please let them know. Since my husband began reading to us, his self-esteem has grown, and it has

brought joy to our lives. — His Wife in Montgomery, Ala.

**Dear Montgomery:** Alzheimer's patients need stimulation. They should be included and challenged. While I suspect your husband's reading ability may not translate to all victims of Alzheimer's, for anyone who wants to try it, I say, go ahead. It can't hurt, and it might bring tremendous rewards.

**Dear Ann Landers:** My grandson, "Garrett," recently called to tell me his ex-girlfriend is expecting their baby any day. He said they were not considering marriage because they are not compatible, but that he plans to be a responsible father.

Garrett went on to say he wants the family to give showers and send gifts — and added, "Family members who don't send gifts will not be permitted to see the child in the future."

Should I go along with this blackmail, or refuse, and risk

destroying my relationship with Garrett? — A Grandma in Virginia

**Dear Grandma:** Garrett's threat was most ungracious, to say the least. However, I'm sure you will send a gift, no matter what the circumstances, so there is no need to consider yourself blackmailed. Enjoy the new grandchild, and give no thought to the unfortunate circumstances.

*Do you have questions about sex, but no one to talk to? Ann Landers' booklet, "Sex and the Teenager," is frank and to the point. Send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$3.75 (this includes postage and handling) to: Teens, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562. (In Canada, send \$4.55.)*

To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). ANN LANDERS (R) COPYRIGHT 2000 CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

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# DAR honors students



Los Ciboleros Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution held its annual Honors Tea Sunday afternoon in the Lounge of Hereford Community Center. Numerous students were recognized during the tea. Among those honored were high school students selected as DAR Good Citizens and their parents. Pictured are, from right, Julie Merritt from Dimmitt High School and her mother Connie Merritt; Trae Blain from Community School and his parents Gail and Kent Blain; and Riley Hall from Hereford High School and his parents Lori and Scott Hall.



Sixth grade students who were winners in the American History Essay Contest were introduced during the Honors Tea. Pictured are, from left, Blain Urbanczyk, Amanda Moss, Kayli Wilson, Paula Spriggs, Aaron Franks, Sandi Navarette, Lydia Mendoza, Hayden West and Thomas George.



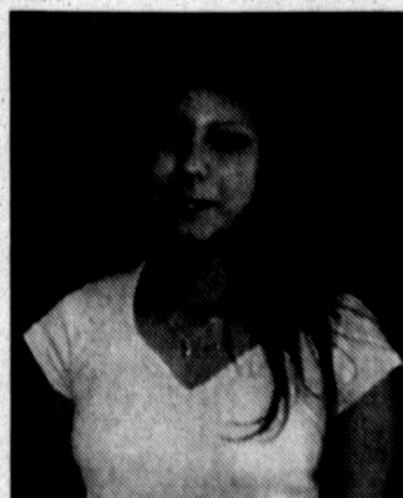
Fifth grade American History Essay Contest winners presented during the Honors Tea hosted by Los Ciboleros Chapter DAR are, from left, Kara Slaney, Katie Marnell, Jonathan Formby, Kayla Landers, Jessica Shelton and Brooke Bigham. Bigham's essay was judged the best overall of the American History essays. Not pictured was Michael Fangman.



Seventh grade winner in the essay contest recognized during the Honors Tea held Sunday was Lark Duncan. Not present for the ceremony was Nathan Louder.



Eighth grader Carissa Hicks was a winner in the American History Essay contest and was introduced during the tea Sunday afternoon.



Christopher Columbus Essay Contest winners were among local students introduced during the DAR Honors Tea Sunday afternoon. Amber Rangel, left, was a ninth grade winner. Ninth grader not pictured was Holley Edwards. Tenth grade winner, at right, was Brenda Brookhart.



## New Arrival

Shane and Kim Dyess are the proud parents of a daughter, Kathryn Emma Nieves Dyess, born March 23 in Fairfax, Va. She weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 inches long. The infant was welcomed home by older brothers, Daniel

Shane and Anthony Jacob. Grandparents are Bill and Glenda Dyess of Springfield, Va., and Gary Straub of Alexandria, Va. Great-grandmothers are Daisy Allison Steele of Hereford and Doris Dyess of Stratford.

## Evangelist at Iglesia de Cristo

Iglesia de Cristo, 103 Alamo, is holding services with evangelist Jesse Carbrebra at 6 p.m. nightly through April 29. All are welcome to come and hear Carbrebra as he is guided by our Lord in healing.

# FCE Spring Luncheon is Monday in county library

The Deaf Smith County Family Community Education Clubs will hold their Spring Luncheon Monday, April 24 in the Heritage Room of the county library.

A covered dish luncheon will begin at noon and will be followed by reports of the delegates to the Spring Convention.

Following the reports, the FCE Council will hold its regular meeting.



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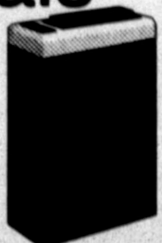
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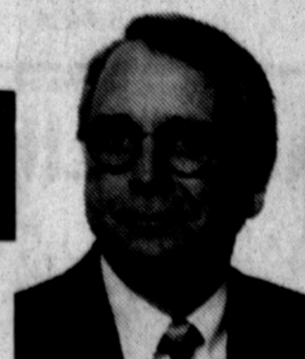
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# SPORTS

A5 • HEREFORD BRAND • Thursday, April 20, 2000

## Lady Whitefaces take bus to Canyon



**Teaming Up**—Head softball coach Penny Summers fires up her troops during a practice earlier in the year. The Lady Whitefaces begin their playoff run tonight when they face Canyon High in Canyon at 7 p.m.

■ The Herd travels to Canyon for a playoff duel with the Eagles

By Jeff Blackmen  
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

Tonight they make history. The Hereford High School softball team is the first ever softball team to compete in a district 3-4A playoff game.

The girls travel to Canyon this afternoon to take on the Lady Eagles at 7 p.m. The Lady Whitefaces beat Canyon High earlier this year, but head softball coach Penny Summers said the girls must play their best to win.

"The girls can't take this game lightly," Summers said. "Our girls are excited, and we have beaten them before."

While the Lady Whitefaces hammered Fritch last weekend 17-8, the Canyon team lost to Frenship 17-0. Summers believes the Herd can rumble in to Canyon and leave with the win.

"We played them in the Borger tournament earlier this year," Summers said. "They have a good center fielder."

Summers said one thing she is worried about is Canyon's pitching. Summers said Canyon pitching is relatively slower compared to that of Fritch's, but the change of speed can throw a team used to a faster pitch.

"Their pitching is slower," Summers said. "This week we slowed the pitching machine down, because we have to hit."

Summers said district 3-4A is known for its tougher competition when it comes to softball, and she thinks that will come into play tonight.

"We have a very strong district, and we have been exposed to stronger teams," Summers said.

Summers said the one part of the Lady Whitefaces' game she has no worries about is the team's defense. Summers said all year long their defense has been tough and should continue to stay that way.

"We have to capitalize on our defense," Summers said. "We like to keep games close and try to win every inning. We don't like to play catch up."

See **SOFTBALL**, Page A6

## EYE ON THE BALL

■ Peyton Ward sets his sights on regional tournament

By Jeff Blackmen  
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

He is Hereford High School golf's last hope.

He is the last man standing.

He represents the whole town of Hereford.

One would think with all of these pressures Hereford High School junior Peyton Ward would be a nervous wreck, but he is not.

"This is the first time in a while for a Hereford guy to go to regionals," Ward said. "It is a good feeling."

Ward qualified to move on to the regional tournament for his outstanding play in district. Only the top six golfers in the district get to move on, and Ward placed sixth. Ward said he was disappointed the team couldn't continue on to regionals, but he is glad someone will represent Hereford at the regional tournament.

"It felt good that somebody got out," Ward said. "This is my first time to go down there, and it has been a long time since a Hereford guy has done this."

As if the pressures listed above were not enough, the field Ward will compete in at San Angelo consists of around one hundred golfers. Only the top two will go on to state.

"The competition is going to be real tough down there,"



**Eye on the ball**—Peyton Ward focuses on the ball during golf practice on Tuesday afternoon. Ward placed fifth in district 3-4A qualifying him for a regional berth. Ward will compete for a slot to go to state in San Angelo on Monday.

Ward said. "I'd have to play two great rounds to compete with those guys, but I guess I'll give it a shot."

Ward said the pressure to

excel in the tournament doesn't bother him too much. He said he just wants to go to San Angelo and play some good golf.

"I kind of feel a lot pressure, because I'm representing the whole town," Ward said. "It really doesn't bother me though because it is about

the fun."

In order to make this a fun weekend, Ward said he just wants to go to San Angelo and experience the joy of play-

ing in a regional tournament. Ward said he wants to enjoy himself and get to know more golfers.

"I am just going to go down there and try to have a good round, enjoy myself and meet some new people," Ward said. "That is my goal with the tournament."

If there is one trait that makes Ward different and helps his game it is his poise and focus. Head coach James Salinas said he always admires how Ward can keep his head in the game.

"He has a great pace of play," Salinas said. "His demeanor really stands out. I have had opposing coaches tell me they like the way he handles himself on the golf course."

Salinas said he also likes the way Ward keeps up his game and manages his play.

"He is good at course management, and I think that also makes him stand out on our team," Salinas said.

Salinas said he does think Ward has a good chance this weekend to compete with the top players in the region, but it will be extremely tough.

"He is going to have to play really well to get out," Salinas said. "At the same time he is very capable."

Salinas said Ward has a good all-around game. Salinas said his game makes him a contender.

"I you know Peyton's game he's down the middle, he's a

See **GOLF**, Page A6

# Classifieds

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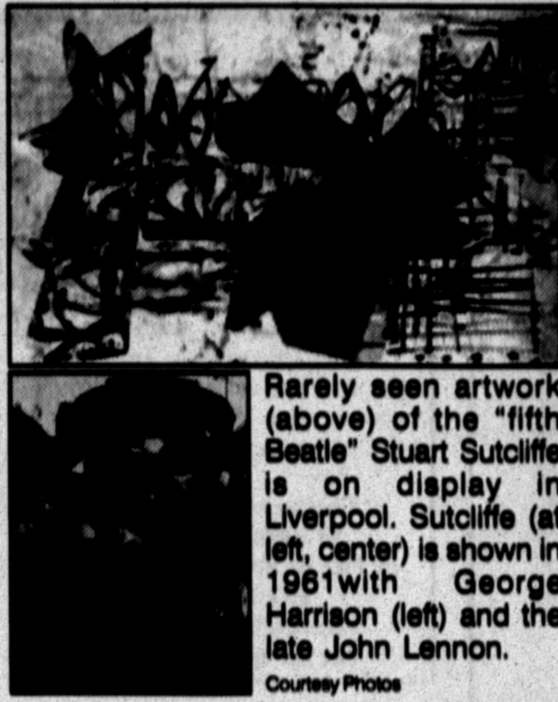


INSIDE

'Fifth Beatle' art displayed

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS People

LIVERPOOL, England — Rarely seen artwork and letters of "fifth Beatle" Stuart Sutcliffe go on display in England this week...



Rarely seen artwork (above) of the "fifth Beatle" Stuart Sutcliffe is on display in Liverpool...

who have worked to outlaw capital punishment have been honored by an anti-death penalty group. Writer-producer David E. Kelley...

Sutcliffe, a Liverpool Art School friend of John Lennon, was 21 when he died in April 1962 from a brain hemorrhage...

The pair had met three years earlier and Sutcliffe, a talented artist, was persuaded to join Lennon's band...

Museum curator Shelagh Johnston said Sutcliffe's work and letters should be of great interest to Beatles' fans.

The late 1950s "was so important in the formation of the band and was a potent period in developing their style," she said.

Lynch, winner of the 1996 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, has ap-

peared with opera companies including La Scala in Milan, Italy, and the New York City Opera.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has led the boycott of South Carolina in an effort to get the Confederate flag removed from the Statehouse.

Seamus Heaney CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Nobel Prize-winning poet Seamus Heaney will deliver a poetry reading at Harvard University's commencement on June 8...

Heaney, whose recent translation of "Beowulf" became a bestseller in Great Britain, is a native of Northern Ireland.

Amartya K. Sen, awarded the Nobel prize for economics in 1998, also will speak.

Death Penalty Focus LOS ANGELES — The cast of "The Practice" and others

Focus shouldn't be giving awards; they should be getting them," Manheim said.

Death Penalty Focus also presented awards to actor Ossie Davis, Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., Los Angeles Rabbi Leonard I. Beerman and Chicago Tribune reporters...

Jason Robert Brown NEW YORK — Composer Jason Robert Brown and conductor Roberto Minczuk were honored as this year's recipients of the \$5,000 Martin E. Segal Awards from Lincoln Center.

The awards, presented Wednesday, celebrate rising artists and their outstanding achievements in the arts.

Holy Week activities scheduled

Local churches have planned extra services in observance of Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Holy Thursday Liturgy with the Lord's Last Supper and Washing of the Feet will be held at 7 tonight at San Jose Catholic Church.

Good Friday observances will include: Herford Church of the Nazarene, noon 1 p.m., "Come and Go" prayer time. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Television

THURSDAY APRIL 20

Table listing television programs for Thursday, April 20, including Newshour, Boss 7, News, and various movies.

FRIDAY APRIL 21

Table listing television programs for Friday, April 21, including Barney, Sesame Street, Arthur, and various movies.

Table listing television programs for Friday, April 21, continuing from the previous table.

Table listing television programs for Friday, April 21, continuing from the previous table.

Comics

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart. A comic strip panel showing a character with a howitzer and another with a tail.

Marvin By Tom Armstrong. A comic strip panel showing a dog talking to a cat.

Blondie® By Dean Young & Stan Drake. A comic strip panel showing Blondie and Dagwood in bed.

Beetle Bailey® By Dean Young & Stan Drake. A comic strip panel showing Beetle Bailey and his dog Snuffy.

Barney Google and Snuffy Smith® By Fred Lasswell. A comic strip panel showing Barney Google and Snuffy Smith.







# Gun locks favored

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
**News digest**

WASHINGTON — Three-fourths of Americans, including a majority of gun owners, favor requiring guns to be sold with trigger locks, an Associated Press poll found. People had mixed feelings about whether tougher gun laws or stricter enforcement was the most effective way to cut violence.

The poll found that 43 percent thought stricter enforcement was more likely to cut gun violence, while 33 percent said enacting tougher gun laws was a better approach. A fifth of those polled said neither option was best.

"We need more enforcement of existing laws," said Donna Mesa, a reservation agent from Honolulu who was roaming the National Mall on a sunny Wednesday afternoon. "We need more law enforcement at the local level."

The poll was conducted for the AP by ICR of Media, Pa.

An AP poll taken immediately after the Columbine High School shootings, which occurred a year ago today, showed that more people at that time thought tougher laws were the answer.

The argument for better enforcement of current gun laws often is used by gun control opponents to fight more laws.

The poll taken immediately after the shootings a year ago at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., showed just over half of Americans said more gun laws were more effective, while four in 10 picked tougher enforcement. But by late August, people had shifted to thinking stricter enforcement was a better way to reduce violence.

In the new poll, six in 10 said they supported stricter gun control laws, a number that has remained relatively constant in most polls before and after the Columbine shooting on April 20, 1999, that left 15 dead, including two student gunmen.

Seven in 10 women favor tougher gun control laws, while half the men said they felt that way in the AP poll of 829 people taken Friday

through Tuesday. It had an error margin of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

## One year later, fear and sadness endure

LITTLETON, Colo. — Kim Blair, a Columbine High School senior, was not injured in last year's deadly shooting spree. But the tragedy still left her deeply scarred, so much so that she's developed a fear of balloons.

During one visit to Craig Hospital to see a friend wounded in the attack, Kim remembered seeing some balloons behind her. When one popped, the two young women jumped.

"I was so frightened by that silly balloon. I cannot stand any popping sound. It reminds me too much of the gunshots last year," Kim, an associate editor of the school newspaper, wrote in the latest issue.

Some survivors of the Columbine massacre planned to mark today's one-year anniversary by facing the tragedy together in a private assembly. Others like Kim are staying far from the school — and the horrible memories.

Kim planned to spend today with her family in a hotel.

"Most of the people I've talked to are trying to get as far away from this place as possible — the ones who were actually there," said Karen Nielsen, who was working in the cafeteria when the first shots rang out.

One year ago today, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold stormed through the school, killing 12 students and a teacher before committing suicide in the worst school shooting in U.S. history.

## Lieberman, Feinstein in the running for veep

WASHINGTON — For two centuries, a classified ad for vice president could have read like this: Wanted, white male, Christian.

This year could be different, and not just because several women are being considered.

Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, who is Jewish, is among the potential candidates to share the Democratic ticket with Al Gore. Another is California Sen. Dianne Feinstein, also Jewish.

That's worth noting. The closest a Jewish American ever got to living in the White House may have been when Kitty Dukakis had a chance at becoming first lady in 1988. Lieberman won't speculate

on his chances.

"I'm definitely not thinking about it," he said. "Believe it or not, my dream in life was to be a senator."

Feinstein did not return calls to her office.

## Census response rate reached 1990 level

WASHINGTON — The Census Bureau is turning its attention to a massive door-to-door effort to reach uncounted Americans now that the mail response has tied its 1990 return rate.

Census Director Kenneth Prewitt proclaimed the 65 percent mailback rate "a serious achievement," on Wednesday, and noted that forms are still coming in.

"Now our job is cut out for us: We will make every effort, beginning on April 27, to contact all those who did not return their forms so we can achieve a 100 percent count of our nation's population," Prewitt said at a briefing.

He said equaling the 1990 return rate reverses a "decades-long decline in meeting our civic responsibility."

The 1990 rate was matched despite controversy in recent weeks about questions on the long form which some people felt were intrusive. Prewitt said he believed that has hurt the overall response.

Returns of the short form have are better than 1990, 66.8 percent compared with 66 percent, he said. But the long form is lagging with just 54.1 percent returned so far, compared with 60 percent a decade ago.

"Federal statistics are not about individuals, therefore they are not about privacy," Prewitt said.



Structure fire — A Hereford volunteer firefighter works at the site of a Tuesday afternoon fire. Workers had been using a grinder at the structure in the 1200 block of West 5th and a spark ignited wood. Damage was estimated at \$5,000.

## State environmental officials plan to meet

WASHINGTON (AP) — State environmental officials disgruntled with the Clinton administration's tough air quality standards for industry plan to meet next week to plot strategy for dealing with the next president.

The gathering of regulators struggling with current Environmental Protection

Agency air pollution standards was arranged by Michigan Gov. John Engler's top environmental official, Russ Harding.

Engler is a top supporter of Republican George W. Bush's presidential bid. But Ken Silfven, spokesman for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, said

the meeting is not connected to any campaign.

He characterized the planned gathering as a policy discussion among officials who believe the EPA's air quality standards are too cumbersome for industries to comply with or for states to implement.

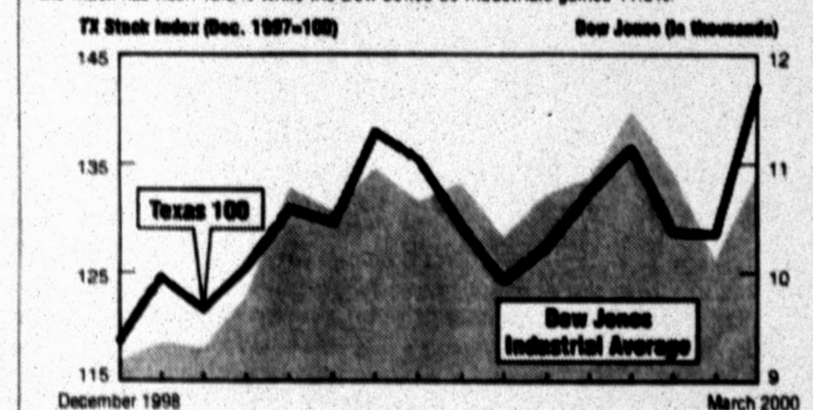
"It isn't a G.W. or an Al Gore meeting," Silfven said.

## 100 STOCK INDEX

The Largest Publicly Traded Companies in Texas

### Texas 100 Stock Index

The Texas 100 Stock Index rose 10.5% in March to a level of 142.0. Over the last 12 months, the index has risen 13.2% while the Dow Jones 30 Industrials gained 11.6%.



### Ups & downs by sector

Largest percentage changes in company stock prices

Sector	Change
<b>Energy</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Lyondell Chemical	+72.3%
Conoco	+28.3
Chevron	+23.8
Texas Utilities	-9.0%
<b>Other Manufacturing</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
GM	+8.9%
Pepsico	+8.6
Trinity Industries	+7.1
Pilgrim's Pride	-21.1%
Temple Inland	-2.6
VF Corp.	-2.5
<b>Entertainment &amp; Travel</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Darden Restaurants	+37.3%
Brinker International	+35.1
Continental Airlines	+29.2
Phoenix Restaurants	-45.5%
American Airlines*	-39.7
Luby's Cafeterias	-9.6
<b>Retail</b>	<b>17.7%</b>
Best Buy	+57.4%
7-Eleven	+44.6
Tandy	+33.6
Stamps Stores	-30.0%
J.C. Penney	-5.6
Dillard's	-5.4
<b>High Tech</b>	<b>7.3%</b>
AMD	+45.8%
Dell Computers	+32.2
GTE	+20.3
Motorola	-14.4%
Alcatel	-8.7
Raytheon	-4.1
<b>Service &amp; Financial</b>	<b>4.8%</b>
Bank One	+32.9%
Columbia HCA	+31.1
West TeleServices	+30.4
Interim	-25.6%
Sitel	-20.3
Osten	-16.2

\* stock no longer reflects value of Sabre Group, spun off on March 15.  
NOTE: The index reflects how much an investment of one dollar in each company made in December 1997 would be worth today (\$142.03).  
SOURCE: Compu Share Systems, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

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Joseph Addison

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