

Hereford BRAND

99th Year, Vol. Number 171 • Deaf Smith County, Texas

THURSDAY, March 2, 2000

10 Pages, 50 Cents

HUSTLIN' HEREFORD
HOME OF
Ernest Flood

Today's weather OUTLOOK

Partly cloudy skies

Tonight: Becoming partly cloudy with a low around 30, north wind 10 to 20 mph.

Friday: Partly sunny with a high around 55, northeast wind 10 to 15 mph.

Friday night: Partly cloudy with a low in the lower 30s.

Extended forecast

Saturday: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms, late, high 65 to 70.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms, low in the lower 40s, high in the upper 60s.

Monday: Partly cloudy, low around 40, high in the upper 60s.

Hereford weather

Wednesday's high, 65; low, 44; precipitation through 7 a.m. today, 0.33 inches, according to KPAN Radio.



Severe storms likely across North Texas

A severe weather outbreak was forecast today for parts of North Texas, with possible twisters, large hail and heavy rain, according to The Associated Press.

Thunderstorms that extended from the northern Panhandle southward to the Permian Basin and eastward to near Mineral Wells were moving eastward, the National Weather Service said.

The surface and upper-level low pressure systems were expected across the region by tonight.

Early-morning temperatures ranged from the mid-40s in the Panhandle to mid-60s from North Texas southward to the Gulf coast with lower 70s.

Some readings ranged from 64 degrees at Burnet and Port Arthur to 72 degrees at Laughlin Air Force Base, Del Rio, Alice and Laredo.

Winds across the state were generally southeasterly around 10 to 15 mph, but variable and with higher gusts in and near thunderstorm activity.

Inside Today



■ **DEMOCRATS:** Gore and Bradley tone down accusations during debate Wednesday night in Los Angeles.

■ **REPUBLICANS:** McCain warming up for tonight's debate; Bush enjoys big lead in California, but race is tight in New York.

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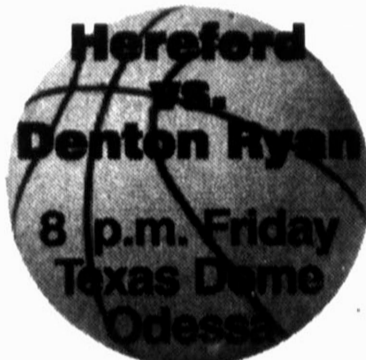
CORRECTION

Dyess Testing of Amarillo is conducting the review of soil samples from the Hereford landfill.

An article in the Wednesday edition of the *Hereford Brand* misidentified the entity conducting the review.

The newspaper regrets the error.

Class 4A Semifinals



Tickets: \$5 each.

No tournament passes, tickets are sold individually.

The Whitefaces will get a motorcycle escort out of town about 9 a.m. Friday. Anyone who wants to participate is invited to join in sending off the Herd.

Turney getting nod as city fire marshal

By Donald M. Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editor

A Hereford businessman is in line to be the next city fire marshal.

The appointment of Dean Turney, manager of Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co., will be considered by the Hereford city commissioners when they meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the commission chamber at City Hall, 224 N. Lee.

If the commissioners approve the city administration's recommendation, Turney will take over the position when long-time Fire Marshal Jay Spain retires. Spain is scheduled to retire May 1.

In his letter of recommendation, City Manager Chester Nolen said he and Hereford Volunteer Fire Department officers interviewed Turney and one other candidate, Dennis Gwyn.

Turney has been fire department treasurer for six years, fire captain for three years and holds an advanced firefighter certification from the State Fireman's and Fire Marshal's associations.

A native of Morton, Turney attended college at South Plains College in Levelland.

Spain has been city fire marshal since 1971. He

■ Recommendation to be considered at Hereford City Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. Monday, commission chamber at City Hall, 224 N. Lee.

holds numerous certificates in firefighting, from basic firefighter to arson investigator and licensed peace officer.

Spain is just one of two longtime city employees who are stepping down on May 1. The other, Cal Garrett, has been the head golf professional at John Pitman Municipal Golf Course.

Garrett has been head pro at the golf course since May 1997. He previously served as head pro during the 1980s.

Craig Nieman, who has been golf course superintendent since November 1997, has been named Garrett's successor.

Nieman, a former circulation manager for the *Hereford Brand*, has been employed in the golf business in a variety of positions for several years. He also has played professionally.

HPD to receive a \$20,000 grant

Hereford Police Department has been approved for a U.S. Department of Justice grant of more than \$20,000 to be used for the purchase of needed equipment.

According to information provided by U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm's office, more than 250 Texas cities and counties will receive funding in excess of \$30 million in an effort to reduce crime and improve public safety.

Grant funds were distributed using a formula based on violent crime data collected by the FBI from states and localities during the last three years.

The money can be used in a variety of ways, ranging from hiring additional officers, paying current officers for overtime to purchasing equipment directly related to law enforcement and improving school security.

The Community Police Advisory Board, headed by Hereford Police Capt. Pat Michael,

will over see the spending of the \$20,478.

Hereford Police Chief David Wagner said the department has been notified the grant has been approved, but does not know when the funds will arrive.

"We have a big wish list," Wagner said, "but topping the list, other than new cars, is a new communication base unit. When you start talking about radios and radio equipment, \$20,000 doesn't go very far."

Wagner explained this is an ongoing grant that stems from an application which was made several years ago.

"We were told we needed to apply for this money, because it was out there. Now every year, they just send us a renewal application and let us know later how much we will be getting," Wagner said.

Amarillo was the only other local agency approved for this grant. The Amarillo Police Department will receive \$347,954.

Clinton to seek meeting to break gun 'logjam'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton, lamenting that 13 children are killed by guns every day in America, said today he will seek a meeting with congressional leaders next week to "break the logjam" on legislation to require gun safety locks.

"We need the public aroused on this," Clinton said.

He said Congress has not passed the legislation because of "the heat the NRA (National Rifle Association) has put on them."

The president was interviewed on NBC's "Today" show in the wake of the fatal shooting Tuesday of a 6-year-old girl by a classmate in Michigan. A day later, a gunman killed two people and critically wounded three others in Wilkensburg, Pa.

The president said America's gun death rate has dropped to its lowest level in 30 years but still is the highest of any major country. He said 13 children die from guns every day in the United States.

U.S. jobless claims show gain

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits rose last week but still left claims at a level suggesting employers are having trouble finding workers.

The Labor Department reported today that 275,000 Americans filed new claims for jobless benefits for the week ending Feb. 26, up by 6,000 from the previous week. That was the highest level since Feb. 12, when claims were at 285,000.

The more stable four-week moving average of claims, which smooths out week-to-week volatility, fell slightly last week to 284,000 — the

lowest level since Feb. 12, when claims were at 283,500.

Economists consider jobless claims below 300,000 an indication of an extremely tight labor market, meaning it's difficult for employers to find qualified workers to fill job openings.

While that's good for workers, economists worry that employers will recruit workers with higher wages and benefits, increased costs that could trigger inflation down the road.

The red-hot economy pushed the nation's unemployment rate to a 30-year low of 4 percent in January. Many economists expect that rate to hold steady when the government

releases February's unemployment report Friday. Some analysts, however, believe the rate could dip below 4 percent.

The Federal Reserve has boosted interest rates four times since June to slow the sizzling economy and keep inflation under control. Given strong continuing growth, most analysts expect the central bank will raise rates again March 21.

Today's report said that for the week ending Feb. 19, 19 states and territories reported increases, while 34 reported decreases. The state data lag a week behind the national figures.

The state with the biggest increase was Missouri, up 2,041. Officials blamed the increase on layoffs in the transportation and food industries.

Other states with big increases were Washington, up 1,585; Illinois, up 1,317; Delaware, up 953; and Connecticut, up 526.

North Carolina had the biggest decline, 14,956. Officials attributed the decrease to fewer layoffs in the construction, textile, apparel and furniture industries.

Other states with big decreases were: New York, down 2,931; Pennsylvania, down 2,927; Georgia, down 1,962; and Tennessee, down 1,841.

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HEREFORD BRAND

Local roundup

Senior prom work days begin

Parents of Hereford High School seniors are invited to participate in work days in preparation for the annual senior prom. Work days will be 7 p.m. Thursdays in the old NAPA building, 1001 W. Park Ave.

STAR hosts seminar

The Amarillo College STAR (Student Training and Retraining) Program will host a "College Ready Seminar" 6-8 p.m. March 9 at the College Union Building on the Washington Street Campus. Prospective students will learn about enrollment, career options, financial aid, testing, advising, counseling and applying for college. The also will have an opportunity to tour the Washington Street Campus. For more information, contact Maury Bird at 371-8027.

WTRT cooperative meeting

West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative will have their annual stockholders meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 21, at the Hereford Bull Barn. Three directors will be elected. Charles Myers, Jr., and Terry Copley have been nominated from the Hub exchange; Floyd Schueler from Parmer County; and Dick Fellers and Harold Sides from Dawn. A meal will be served and door prizes will be given away. The meal begins at 6 p.m. and the business meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

Kids Inc schedules sign-ups

The Deaf Smith County Kids Inc. will have a sign-up for all baseball and softball leagues on March 4 at the Hereford Community Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This sign-up is for all ages of boys and girls who are at least five years old by Aug. 1, and all leagues including Babe Ruth, who are interested in the program. League participation fees are: first child, \$35; second child \$30; third child, \$25; fourth child is free and all Babe Ruth players, \$45.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News digest

Death row inmate to be released

HOUSTON (AP) — A Texas death row inmate who could be freed after 16 years says he'd likely settle in with a fishing pole on an Oklahoma lake — promising law officials to stay "out of sight and out of mind." A federal judge on Wednesday ordered Calvin Jerold Burdine to be freed within five days because state lawyers missed a deadline in his case. Burdine, 46, has been behind bars since 1984. The inmate told The Associated Press in an interview last month that, if released, he would make his home at a lake north of Houston — or keep driving. "The state of Texas don't have to worry about Calvin Burdine," he said. "We've got 80 acres in Oklahoma and I can get out there and fish and relax — out of sight and out of mind." In his 16-page ruling Wednesday, U.S. District Judge David Hittner wrote that Burdine is being held unconstitutionally. The inmate was sent to death row for fatally stabbing his roommate. His conviction was thrown out last year by Hittner because his lawyer allegedly slept through long segments of his 1984 trial. In a CBS television interview with Burdine Wednesday, the inmate called Hittner's ruling the greatest day of his life. "I'm gonna get to hug my momma," he told the news crew. The judge gave the state 120 days to give Burdine a new trial or set him free. That time ran out in late January.

Dell, magazine E-wires family

AUSTIN (AP) — Dell Computer Corp. and a national computer magazine are looking for two regular, All-American families in desperate need of an "e-makeover." The Round Rock-based company today teamed with FamilyPC magazine to launch an essay contest that will reward the winners with high-tech prizes worth more than \$5,000. But the prizes come with a few strings attached. Dell will monitor the habits of the newly-wired families and provide an "e-coach" to help the winners through the assimilation process and correct any glitches. The magazine will follow the families for a year and report on their progress. Besides gaining insight into an American family's Web ways, including their potential spending practices, the "E-Makeover Contest" is an effort to emphasize the importance of technology in everyday life, said Robin Raskin, editor-in-chief of FamilyPC. "The new family culture has parents juggling dual careers, toddlers to teens, home responsibilities, financial commitments and geographically dispersed families," Raskin said. "We want to inspire families to make technology and the Internet work for them." Getting the Internet to work for families ultimately could pay off for Dell, which in recent months has focused heavily on homes and small businesses with a line of new products and services.

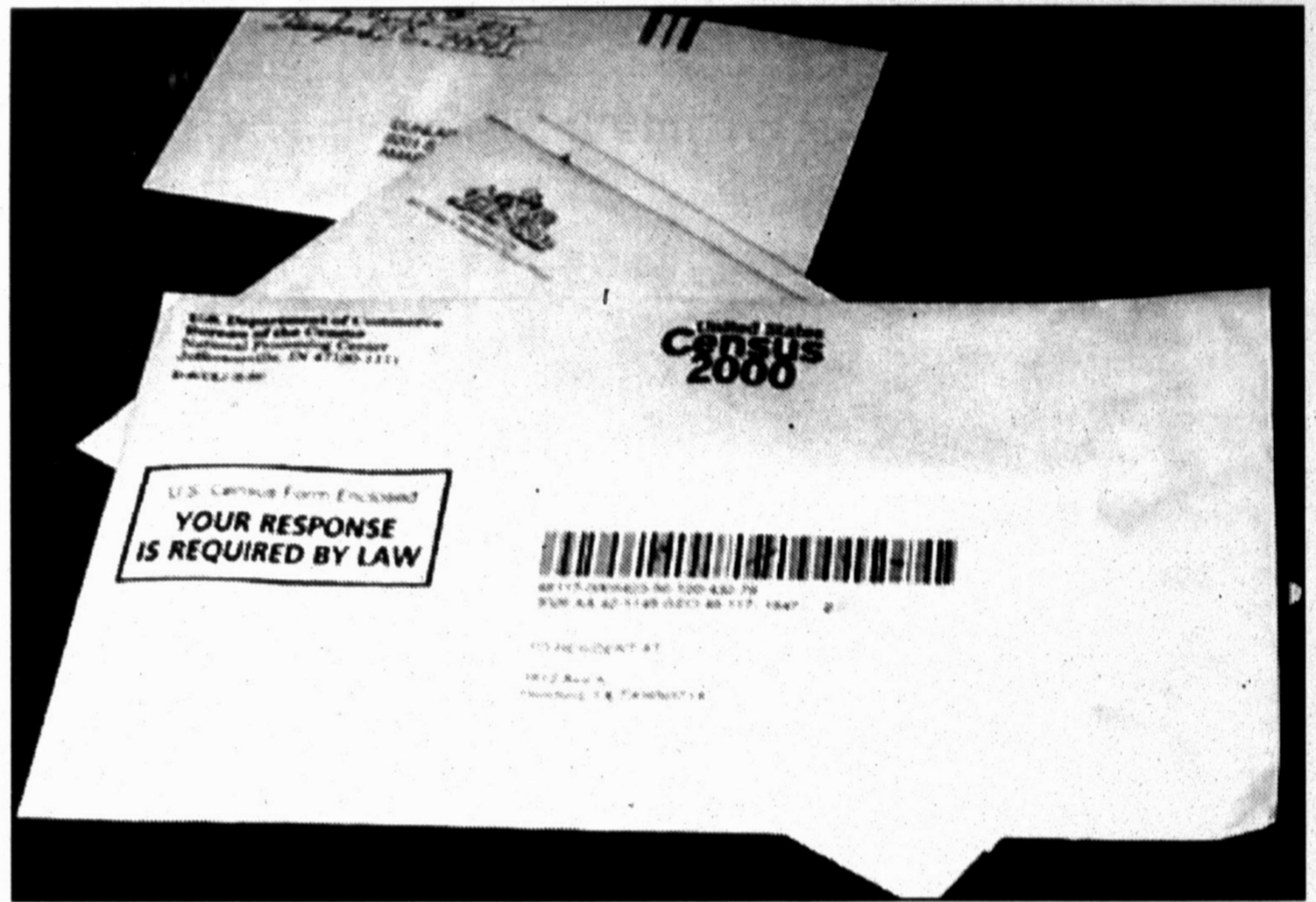
ELSEWHERE:

EXTRA VISAS: Weeks after a bipartisan Senate coalition introduced legislation that would boost a visa program popular with the high-tech industry by nearly 300,000 visas over three years, Rep. Lamar Smith of Texas is offering a trimmer version of his own. Smith, who chairs the House immigration subcommittee, on Wednesday proposed a one-time increase of 45,000 visas in the H-1B category. ... AIRLINE GROUNDED: Problems with custom in-flight kitchens means upstart Legend Airlines will not offer passenger flight service until mid-March, at the earliest. Company officials said ovens in their DC-9s will have to be replaced after failing crash tests.

Hereford Brand

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It's here.....



Census time -- Unlike tax time, which rolls around every year, the U.S. Census only comes knocking once every ten years -- and this is the year. The Census packets have begun arriving on area doorsteps in convenient plastic bags which get hung on the door or placed on front step. Rural residents can expect to see census representatives within the next few weeks. The law requires recipients to fill out and return the form. Information from the census helps determine needs of the community.

Communities buy homes for \$1

Government sells vacant properties to benefit low income residents

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal government is holding a clearance sale, but this is not the assortment of barrettes, plastic figurines and other items one might find in a discount store that sells everything for \$1. These are houses for a buck.

The government on Wednesday began selling vacant and foreclosed homes for \$1 to local communities that can put the properties to use. Under a new "Good Neighbor Policy," foreclosed single-family homes will go up for sale to local governments if the Federal Housing Administration is unable to sell them after six months. About 3,000 homes will initially be for sale. "The Good Neighbor Policy will build better futures for hundreds of communities and thousands of families across our nation," said Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo. "It will help reverse decades of decline in our cities by revitalizing neighborhoods, attracting new residents, and promoting homeownership." Communities that buy the vacant homes for \$1 could sell or rent them to low- and moderate-income families, to first-time home buyers, or to groups that use the homes to provide services like child care or job training. If a house is dilapidated beyond repair, HUD will demolish the building and sell the vacant lot to the local government for \$1. The program is the brainchild of Rep. John Kasich, R-Ohio, and as a result, the first home — a three-bedroom house — will be sold to Columbus, Ohio. Kasich said selling the homes for a nominal fee to local governments is a "great way to put power in the hands of local people." "The longer they stay vacant, the greater the chances they'll deteriorate and be more difficult to put to good use,"

Kasich said. "Placing them in the hands of local officials will help cut red tape and insure that they'll more quickly be used in a way that meets local needs." FHA ensures about 6.7 million mortgages. When homeowners fail to make their mortgage payments, FHA first attempts to help them stay in their homes. FHA forecloses if that attempt fails, however. The majority of FHA-owned homes sell within six months; the agency has sold about 39,000 homes in the past six months. Last year, FHA also sold about 6,500 homes to local governments and nonprofit organizations under a plan called the "Direct Sales Program," which offers homes in specified areas that have been targeted for revitalization. In those cases, the local government can buy the house at a 30 percent discount off the appraised value. That program, which sells houses as soon as they become available to FHA, will continue.

Silly Putty celebrates 50 years of silliness

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Now in middle age, Silly Putty isn't just for silly kiddies. The bouncy, pink-colored substance sold in the plastic egg has endured a half-century in the changing American toy scene. Yet adults also continue to find novel uses for the stuff. The failed rubber substitute is being used to clean ink off keyboards, to strengthen hand muscles in physical therapy and to relieve stress at the office. Geologists use it to model geographic events; doctors put it over the eyes of patients during CAT scans, and Silly Putty secured tools during the Apollo 8 moon launch. Not bad for something initially viewed as a failure. Although Silly Putty was born in 1950, it actually had its roots a decade earlier. During World War II, the Japanese invasion of rubber-producing countries forced Americans to find rubber substitutes. Combining boric acid and silicone oil in a test tube turned out to be of little use, but it did unexpected things — it bounces and, for a solid,

flows like a liquid. Peter Hodgson, an advertising copywriter, borrowed \$147 to buy a batch, packed wads of it in plastic eggs and included it in a toy store catalog. It soon outsold everything in the catalog except a 50-cent box of Crayola Crayons. Silly Putty would eventually make \$140 million over the next 50 years. "If you tried to tell somebody what it was, you'd be hard-pressed ... because it doesn't look like a toy," said Peter Hodgson Jr., son of its first marketer. "So Americans have seized on it, and it has maintained its fascination, precisely because it doesn't fit in any category." About 6 million containers of Silly Putty were sold last year, though perhaps its most famous use — transferring images from the Sunday comics — often doesn't work now because of new inks. The goofy goo has even gone high-tech, marking its birthday with a new Web site, a display of materials and artifacts in the Smithsonian, and a contest to find "The Silliest Uses" for Silly Putty.

UT boosts tuition fees

AUSTIN (AP) — The average University of Texas student will pay \$420 more a year in tuition and fees next year in a plan to hire more faculty, raise salaries and help needy students. The \$14 per credit hour increase will include regular tuition increases totaling \$4, plus a new \$10 fee to help finance 30 new faculty positions, \$3 million in grants to needy students and raises for university employees, including teaching assistants, said Steve Monti, the school's vice provost. UT President Larry

Faulkner had lobbied student groups during the past several weeks to promote the \$10 fee, and he approved it this week. The \$10 charge is being billed as a library and information-technology fee and will be used to support those services while freeing up money elsewhere in the budget to support the new initiatives, officials said. Undergraduates from Texas who take 15 hours of classes a semester currently pay \$3,167 for in-state tuition and mandatory fees for a full school year.

HEREFORD BRAND

Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for March 1, 2000, include the following:

POLICE DEPARTMENT Arrests

- A 19-year-old man was arrested in the 100 block of Norton and charged with a Castro County warrant for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Incidents

- Criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of Aspen. - Criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Ironwood. - Criminal trespass was reported in the 200 block of Avenue J.

- Burglary of a habitation was reported in the 500 block of Irving.

- An assault was reported in the 800 block of East 14th. No suspects and no witnesses were reported.

- A two-vehicle was reported in the 100 block of North 25 Mile Avenue.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT Arrests

- A 26-year-old man began serving time on an assault charge.

- A 39-year-old woman was arrested and charged with theft over \$50, under \$500.

- A 25-year-old man was arrested and charged with vio-

lation of probation for criminal non-support and violation of probation for engaging in organized criminal activity.

- A 25-year-old man began serving time on a delivery of marijuana conviction.

- A 29-year-old man began serving time on a driving while intoxicated conviction.

Incidents - An assault was reported. - Two criminal mischiefs were reported.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

-- 12:11 a.m. Firefighters responded to 704 La Plata, Hereford Junior High, new addition to an alarm malfunction.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas lottery

Lotto Texas

No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were:

29-37-41-42-45-50.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$7 million.

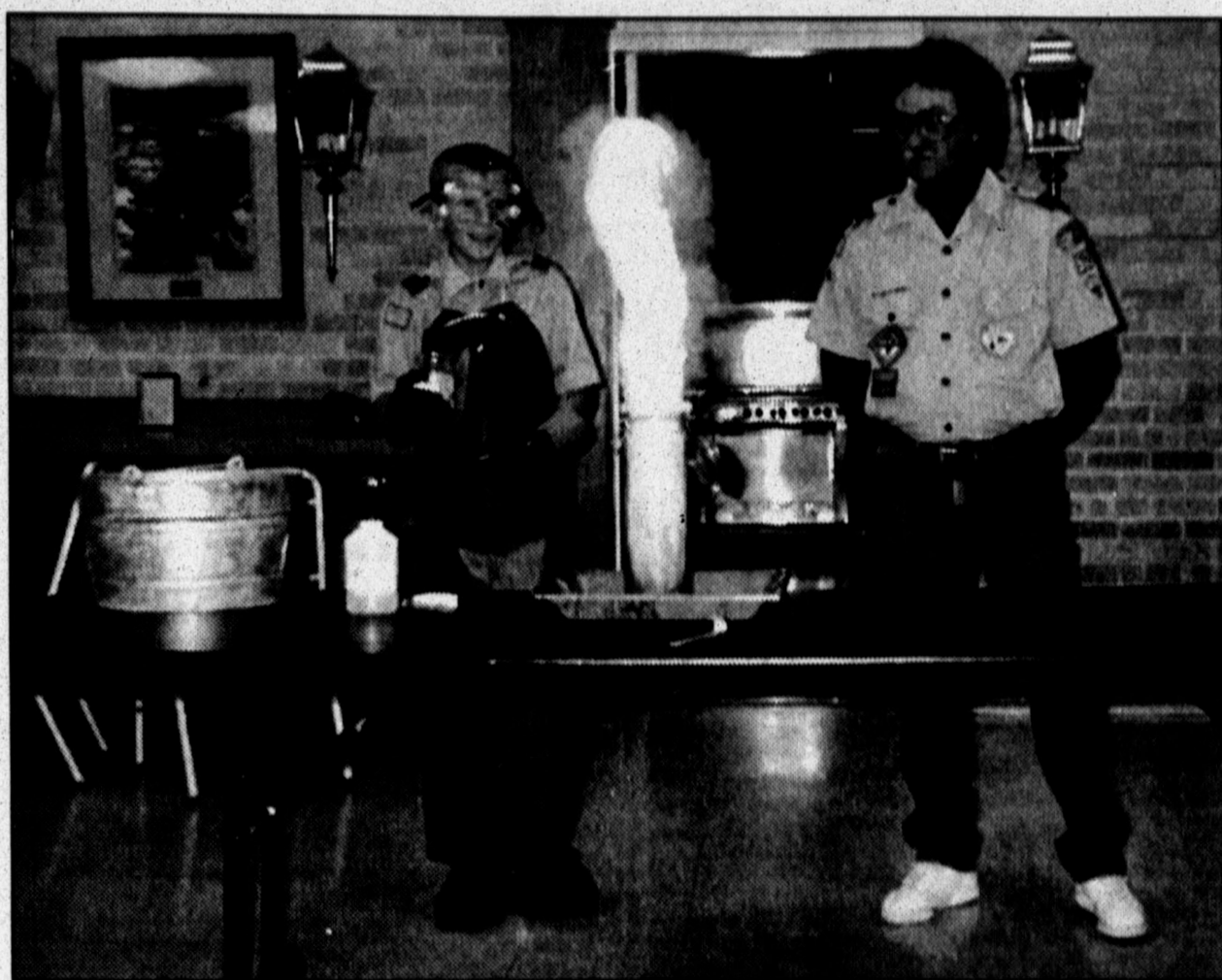
Pick 3

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

6-8-4

LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Thursday, March 2, 2000 • A3



Science project — Ryan Buchanan, a sixth grader at St. Anthony's School, demonstrated his science fair project for his Scout troop to earn his Chemistry badge. Observing was Scoutmaster Randy Laing. Buchanan was the chemical science division winner at St. Anthony's Science Fair in January and will compete this Saturday at the High Plains Regional Science Fair at Amarillo College. Other St. Anthony's students participating will be Jonathan and Nathan Paschal and Katie and Cindy Marnell.

Golden Spread Aggie Moms elect new officers, share 'brags'

The Golden Spread Aggie Moms elected new officers at their regular meeting Monday at K-Bob's Steakhouse in Hereford.

President Ginger Olson of Hereford welcomed members, and Beverly Bryant of Hereford led the club in prayer.

Secretary Carla Scott of Hereford passed around thank you notes received from area Texas A&M students for the fall finals care packages provided by the club. Thirty-one students received food and other helpful items.

Bryant, vice president for projects, reported that the Dec. 15 bake sale held at the First National Bank of Hereford was a huge success. Funds raised are applied to scholarships presented by the club.

Olson shared a thank you letter from the Bonfire Relief Fund for the club's donation to assist families with expenses associated with injury or death of a son or daughter relative to the 1999 Bonfire accident.

A new scholarship committee was formed. Appointed to interview applicants were Diane Townsend and Becky

Book of Dimmitt and Eileen Alley and Susan Perrin of Hereford. Townsend is mailing information this week to area schools and encourages high school seniors attending Texas A&M University in the fall to contact their counselors for applications.

School districts eligible for the Golden Spread Aggie Moms scholarships are Hereford, Dimmitt, Nazareth, Friona, Vega, Adrian, Muleshoe and Farwell. The awarding of two scholarships will be announced in May.

Olson reported on attending the Federation of Aggie Moms meeting, Feb. 12, in Plainview. Parents' Weekend is scheduled April 15-16, at Texas A&M. All Aggie Moms are invited to attend a luncheon during the weekend at which a quilt will be presented to the outgoing Federation president. Aggie grandmother Katy Wright of Dimmitt created one of the quilt squares.

At the next Golden Spread Aggie Moms meeting, Monday, April 24, the club will plan their annual ice cream social. The event will be held in May to welcome incoming freshmen and their families, to recognize scholarship recipients, and to present six area Texas A&M seniors with commemorative paper weights. University seniors to be recognized are Aimee Alley, Brack Bryant, Brent Marnell, Justin Scott, and Jeb Skiles, all of Hereford, and Joel Townsend of Dimmitt.

The meeting concluded with election of officers. Aggie

Moms who will be installed in September for two-year terms are incumbent Townsend as historian, Rita Huckert of Nazareth as reporter, and Becky Book of Dimmitt as treasurer. Outgoing treasurer Eileen Alley of Hereford was recognized for serving her office since 1991.

Also in attendance and sharing "Aggie Brags" were Virginia Artho and Mariellen Homfeld, both of Hereford, and Janet McDaniel, Santos Fierro and Joyce Wright, all of Dimmitt.

PREMIERE CINEMA GROUP
MOOVIES 6

Sugarland Mall 400 N. 25 Mile Ave., Hereford, TX
BUSINESS OFFICE CALL: 364-0101
MOVIE HOTLINE CALL: 364-8000

Fri., March 3rd thru Wed., March 9th

DROWNING MONA 7:30 & 9:05 7:15 & 9:15
WHAT PLANET ARE YOU FROM 7:30 & 9:15 7:20 & 9:10
SNOW DAY 7:30 & 9:10 7:10 & 9:05
THE WHOLE NINE YARDS 7:30 & 9:05 7:10 & 9:10
TIGGER 7:30 & 9:05 7:00 & 9:00
SIXTH SENSE 7:45 & 9:00 7:05 & 9:15

Adults \$5.00 • Kids & Seniors \$3.00
Bargain Matinees on Weekends

CREATORS SYNDICATE

Ann Landers



Dear Ann Landers: I am having a big problem with my husband's mother, and hope you can help me, because I've had it up to here,

and can't take much more. I became pregnant while "Tom" and I were engaged and living together. A few days before the baby was due, I heard Tom arguing with his mother in the next room. She said some terrible things about me. For example, she said a respectable girl would never get pregnant before marriage, and suggested that I did it on purpose to trap him.

After she left, I told Tom I had heard what his mother said, and was very upset with her. Instead of taking my side, he just shrugged his shoulders

and mumbled, "Get over it." Well, Ann, I CAN'T get over it, and I don't think I will ever be able to forgive her.

This is creating a huge problem between Tom and me. The baby is now 2 weeks old, and I have not yet invited my mother-in-law over to see her first grandchild. I am not comfortable about discussing this with anyone, and would appreciate some advice. — No City, No State

Dear N.C.N.S.: I doubt that you and Tom's mother will ever be like the biblical Ruth and Naomi, but it would be a big plus for your marriage, and for the baby, if you would put aside your anger and be civil to Tom's mother. Invite her to your home, and be gracious about it. This will make life a lot easier for Tom, and down the road a bit, you will have a wonderful babysitter for free. Count on it.

Dear Ann Landers: I have

read your column for years, and have seen you address rude neighbors, noisy neighbors, nosy neighbors, and just about everything in between. Well, our neighbors across the street are neither rude nor noisy, but they are a little slow in catching on.

Here it is March, and we still see glowing candles and reindeer through our front windows. They put up their Christmas decorations before Halloween, and last year, they didn't take them down until Easter. (No nativity scene this year, and we are grateful for that.)

I realize it is their property, Ann, but it does seem odd to see Santa and his helpers, the sleigh and everything else in March. Enough is enough.

Another neighbor suggested we swipe the plastic reindeer, but we don't want to end up in court. Any ideas? — Irked but Civil in Virginia

Dear Irked: My advice is, fuggedaboutit. There is nothing illegal about an out-of-season display of religious devotion. Be cordial and pleasant. Say not a word about your irritation, or they might decide to keep the display in place until the Fourth of July.

Dear Ann Landers: What has happened to common sense and compassion? I am

enclosing a clipping about a woman who rushed to the aid of her friends, neighbors and strangers when a tropical storm struck by taking nearly 100 of their pets into her home. She used her home and lot as a clearinghouse for animals that had to be relocated due to the flooding from the storm.

For her trouble, the woman was issued a summons for violating the borough's zoning ordinance by operating a temporary animal shelter in a residential neighborhood. She could face a fine of up to \$1,000.

What do you think about this? — Pawnee, Okla.

Dear Pawnee: I think the people she befriended will now rush to HER aid, and that the tender-hearted woman will get off scot-free. At least, I hope so.

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

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WT Chorale, artist will perform at high school

West Texas A&M University's Chorale and artist-in-residence Mary Jane Johnson will tour the Panhandle in area schools and communities March 7-9.

The WT Chorale, the top performing vocal ensemble at WT, starts their journey at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 7 at Hereford High School, followed by a performance at 12:30 p.m. at Plainview High School.

Wednesday, March 8 the schedule begins with an 8 a.m. performance at Borger High School followed by two performances at 12:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in Pampa.

Starting at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 9 the choir will perform at Perryton, followed by a performance at 12:50 p.m. at Dumas High School.

The last performance, which is open to the community and WTAMU Alumni, will be at 7 p.m. in the Harned Sisters Fine Arts Building at Clarendon College.

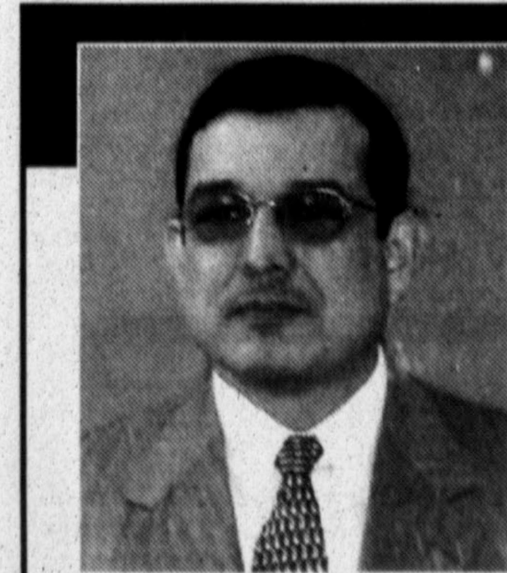
The WT Chorale's program will include sacred literature such as Tomas Vittoria's *Vere languores* with references from Isaiah 53:4 and Russell Woollen's *Improperium, Op. 35* from Psalm 69:21-22. Other choral pieces that will be performed include selections from John Paynter, John Rutter, Howard Hanson and Arthur Frackenpohl.

Johnson will perform one opera selection for chorus and soprano. Johnson, who earned her master's degree from WTAMU, is considered a great dramatic soprano and one of opera's premiere interpreters.

College Report

Forty-one students, including Lisa Chavez of Hereford, were inducted during the Spring 2000 induction of McMurry University's chapter of Alpha Chi, the national honor society for juniors and seniors.

McMurry University is a four-year liberal arts institution in Abilene.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Area Events

AMARILLO

The Amarillo Symphony will perform the sixth concert in the 1999-2000 season at the Civic Center Auditorium at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 11.

The concert features Samuel Jones' *Oil Well* from "Roundings," Debussy's *Rhapsody for Clarinet and Orchestra*, Weber's *Clarinet Concerto No. 2*, Duke Ellington's *Black, Brown and Beige Suite* and Aaron Copland's *Rodeo: Four Dance Episodes*.

The concert celebrates our American heritage with the music of the two preeminent American composers - Ellington in the field of jazz and Copland in the orchestra world.

The clarinet soloist in the Weber and Debussy work will be David Shifrin, artistic di-

rector of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and the music director of Chamber Music Northwest, the summer chamber music festival in Portland, Ore.

For ticket information, call



Anointed



Avalon

the symphony office at 376-8782.

Recording artists Avalon and Anointed are co-headlining the "A" Tour with Nichole Nordeman this spring with an Amarillo show scheduled at 7:30 p.m. March 6 in

the Amarillo Civic Center.

Anointed's four records have earned the group widespread acclaim. Their live performances feature gospel, rhythm and blues, and pop. The group has received three Grammy nominations, four Dove Awards and two Stellar Awards.

The past four years have found Avalon performing live in front of nearly 1 million people. In 1998, Avalon was awarded the Dove Award for New Artist of the Year and they received two Dove Awards in 1999.

Nordeman toured in 1998 with Avalon and Anointed on the Christmas Celebration Tour. She earned a nomination for New Artist of the Year and performed at the 1999 Dove Awards

Telect.

For more information, call 806-353-4037.

Tickets for the "A" Tour are available at the Amarillo Civic Center Box Office, at Randy's Music Mart or call 378-3096.

LOOKING BACK

Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Thursday, March 2, the 62nd day of 2000. There are 304 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 2, 1877, Republican Rutherford B. Hayes was declared the winner of the 1876 presidential election over Democrat Samuel J. Tilden, even though Tilden had won the popular vote.

On this date:

In 1793, the first president of the Republic of Texas, Sam Houston, was born near Lexington, Va.

In 1836, Texas declared its independence from Mexico.

In 1899, President McKinley signed a measure creating the rank of Admiral of the Navy for Admiral George Dewey.

In 1899, Mount Rainier National Park in Washington state was established.

In 1917, Puerto Ricans were granted U.S. citizenship.

In 1923, Time magazine made its debut.

In 1939, Roman Catholic Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli was elected Pope; he took the name Pius XII.

In 1939, the Massachusetts

legislature voted to ratify the Bill of Rights, 147 years after the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution had gone into effect.

In 1949, an American B-50 Superfortress, the Lucky Lady II, landed at Fort Worth, Texas, after completing the first non-stop round-the-world flight.

In 1977, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted a strict code of ethics.

Ten years ago: More than 6,000 drivers went on strike against Greyhound Lines Inc. (the company, later declaring an impasse in negotiations, fired the strikers). A grenade attack on a discotheque in Panama killed a U.S. soldier and injured 28 other people.

Five years ago: The Senate rejected the balanced-budget amendment; the vote, 65-35, was two votes shy of the two-thirds majority needed for passage. The space shuttle Endeavour blasted off to study the far reaches of the universe. The last U.N. peacekeepers in Somalia were evacuated. British trader Nick Leeson, blamed for the collapse of Barings PLC, was detained in Germany.

One year ago: Conservative commentator Pat Buchanan launched a third presidential bid. Texas Governor George W. Bush announced he was forming a presidential exploratory committee. Singer Dusty Springfield died at her home west of London at age 59.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Jennifer Jones is 81. Bluegrass singer-musician Doc Watson is 77. Actor John Cullum is 70. Former Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev is 69. Author Tom Wolfe is 69. Actress Barbara Luna is 61. Actor Jon Finch is 59. Author John Irving is 58. Singer Lou Reed is 58. Singer Eddie Money is 51. Actress Cassie Yates is 49. Actress Laraine Newman is 48. Senator Russell Feingold (D-Wis.) is 47. Singer Jay Osmond is 45. Pop musician John Cowsill (The Cowsills) is 44. Tennis player Kevin Curren is 42. Rock singer Jon Bon Jovi is 38. Actress Heather McComb is 23.

Thought for Today: "Every one can master a grief but he that has it." — William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Women's Division of Chamber continues to seek new members

The membership drive for the Women's Division of the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce is entering its final month according to Donna Hathaway, chairman of this year's drive.

Current members have been placed on two teams and will compete to see which team can sign up the most new members.

Losers will fix dinner for the winners at the quarterly meeting in April. Team captains are Elvira Enriquez and Rita Bell. Members may call Hathaway at 363-2265 (days) or 364-6936 (evenings) to find out which team they are on.

Women's Division officers for 2000 are Shannon Redwine, president; Leslie Easley,

president elect; Donna Hathaway, vice president; Francie Farr, secretary-treasurer; Gail Richardson and Sheila Wagner, directors; and Kim Leonard, parliamentarian.

Memberships in the Women's Division are \$20. Additional information may be obtained by calling Hathaway at the numbers listed above.

Estate planning is topic for Toujours Amis Club

Vaavia Edwards presented a program titled "What A Woman Should Know" furnishing information on estate planning for members of Toujours Amis Study Club during a meeting Feb. 22 in the home of Amy Schueler.

President Marsha Winget conducted the business meeting and members were reminded that the next meeting will be March 14 at Yiota's.

Refreshments were served by hostesses Schueler, Brandy

Charlesworth and Donna West to Angela Baker, Kim Bigham, Sheri Blankenship, Melinda Bridge, Christi Conger, Sarah Lawson, Sally Nolen, Jill Savoini, Kamille Urbanczyk, and Winget.

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*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) interest cannot remain on deposit, periodic payout of interest is required. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Names of correct insurers are available on request. As of 3/1/2000.

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THE NEXT DANCE

Herd readies itself for the Denton Raiders

By Paul Mason
Special to the Hereford Brand

The Hereford Whitefaces travel to Odessa Friday night to continue their quest for a state basketball title in what is already being called a "Dream sports year" by some in Hereford.

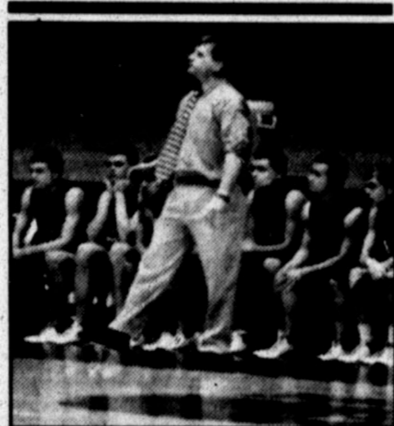
The next team the Herd will face is state-ranked Denton Ryan. The Ryan Raiders are seventh in the state and have a 26-5 record.

"It looks like they try to out-quick you and out-athlete you," said head coach Randy Dean. "They play full court pressure defense 100 percent of the time."

Coach Dean said that the team matches up with Hereford pretty well.

"Our size is very similar. They have an inside player that is 6'5" and another that is 6'3," said Dean. "We have two players that are 6'3", and our guards are relatively the same."

After looking at some game

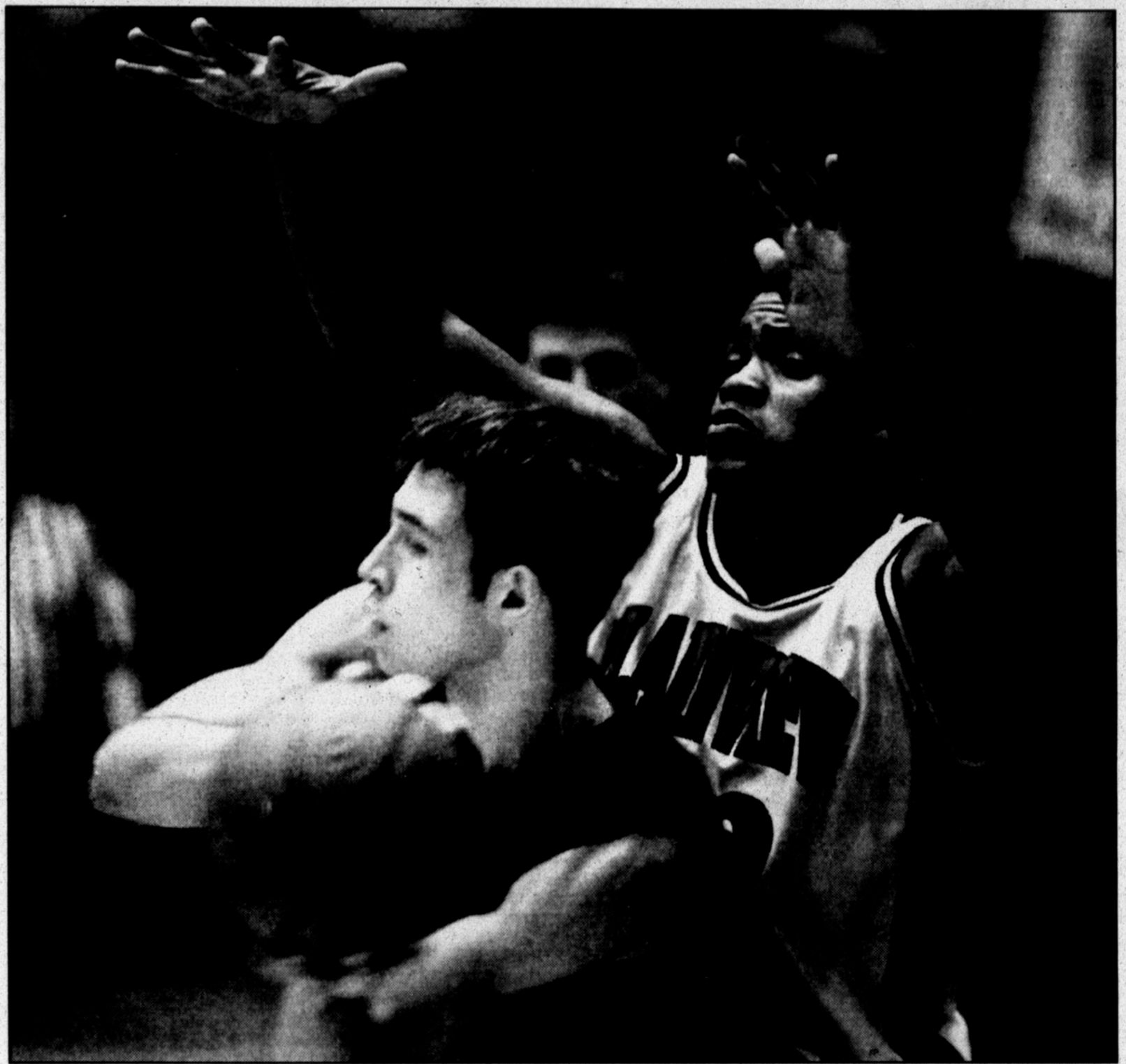


RANDY DEAN, head HHS basketball coach, watches his troops perform in the final critical moments of Tuesday's playoff against the Plainview Bulldogs.

film of Denton Ryan coach Dean said he found a couple of points the Herd will have to improve on to win Friday.

"We have to try to turn them into a perimeter team," said Dean. "We also have to handle

See **HERD**, Page **A6**



Working it inside — Cody Marsh feeds a pass while being pressured by a Plainview defender in Tuesday's regional quarterfinal game at South Plains College in Levelland.

BRAND/Julius Bodner

Rocker suspension halved

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — The Atlanta Braves are willing to forgive John Rocker. Can they forget?

Rocker rejoined his teammates at spring training today after an independent arbitrator cut the reliever's suspension in half, ruling he should sit out the first 14 days of the regular season for his offensive statements regarding gays, minorities and foreigners.

Rocker's \$20,000 fine was cut to \$500.

While the decision by baseball's new arbitrator, Shyam Das, brought finality to the disciplinary part of the process, Rocker's toughest task is mending relationships in the clubhouse.

Teammates have grumbled privately that his bombastic, self-centered persona was annoying even before his

comments in Sports Illustrated.

"He has to be more mature dealing with certain situations and dealing with his teammates," said outfielder Brian Jordan. "He's got to learn to control his anger."

Commissioner Bud Selig, who imposed the harsher penalty on Jan. 31, said the ruling by Das "completely ignores the sensibilities of those groups of people maligned by Mr. Rocker and disregards the player's position as a role model for children."

Selig banned Rocker from all 45 days of spring training and the first 28 days of the season for his comments in Sports Illustrated. Rocker and the players' association asked the arbitrator to overturn the decision, saying it was out of line with past sanctions.

Rocker arrived at the

Braves' training complex, just south of Orlando, for a private meeting with his teammates prior to Atlanta's first exhibition game today.

More than 100 reporters gathered at fieldhouse next door to the Braves' ballpark for a news conference by Rocker and general manager John Schuerholz, although it wasn't clear if the reliever planned to take questions or simply make a statement.

"He can issue all the apologies he wants. That's the easy thing to do," teammate Tom Glavine said. "But we'll see if he means it by how he acts every day after that."

Schuerholz conceded Wednesday there was interest in Rocker from other teams, not surprising for a 25-year-old left-hander who had 38 saves a year ago and will make only \$290,000 this

season.

Schuerholz implied several times that a deal could be made if the reliever continues to threaten clubhouse harmony.

"This gives us an opportunity to see if he and his teammates can become a cohesive unit again," the GM said.

Rocker's first order of business likely will be a one-on-one meeting with first baseman Randall Simon, who believes Rocker was speaking about him when he referred to a teammate as a "fat monkey."

"I deserve an apology," Simon said. "I hope he's mature enough in his mind to treat people better so we can move on."

In an exclusive editorial for today's editions of The Atlanta Constitution, Rocker

apologized to those he offended and said comments about his teammates were "totally unprofessional and out of line."

"I hope in this coming year to somehow redeem myself," he wrote.

Rocker joins a long list of players whose suspensions have been overturned or reduced by arbitrators, a group that includes Steve Howe (twice), LaMarr Hoyt, Ferguson Jenkins, Pascual Perez, Tony Phillips and Willie Wilson.

Selig said the latest ruling "does not reflect any understanding or sensitivity to the important social responsibility that baseball ... has to the public." Some lawyers who work for baseball were pleased Selig established a precedent that speech can be punished.

Kids Inc. slates baseball sign-ups

The Deaf Smith County Kids Inc. will have a sign-up for all baseball and softball leagues on March 4 at the Hereford Community Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This sign-up is for all ages of boys and girls who are at least five years old by August 1, and all leagues including Babe Ruth, who are interested in participating in the program.

League participation fees are: first child, \$35; second child, \$30; third child, \$25; fourth child, free and all Babe Ruth players, \$45.

CORRECTION:

The headline over regional quarterfinal game story in Tuesday's edition was incorrect.

The headline should have indicated the score of the game was 40-34.

We regret the error.

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Los Angeles Lakers triumph again

By The Associated Press

Add another reel to the Vince Carter highlight archive, and add another victory to the Los Angeles Lakers' winning streak, now at 13 following a defeat of Vancouver.

Carter hit a game-winning 3-pointer while he was falling out of bounds at the buzzer, giving the Toronto Raptors a 96-94 victory over the Boston Celtics on Wednesday night.

The Lakers, meanwhile, used a flurry of 3-pointers at the end of the third quarter to lead them to their 13th straight win, 103-91 over the Grizzlies.

The moment of the night, however, belonged to Carter.

"I've never played with anyone who puts on a show like Vince. He gets the job done,"

said Raptors guard Tracy McGrady, who had 18 points and 11 rebounds and found Carter on an inbounds pass with 3.2 seconds left to set up the game-winner.

"I'm used to it," McGrady said. "After seeing the 51-point performance (on Sunday), nothing is going to surprise me about him. Nothing."

In other NBA games, Utah trounced Detroit 107-94, Washington defeated Atlanta 102-83 and New Jersey downed Denver 94-81.

Carter scored 16 of his 28 points in the first half, but then struggled, shooting just 3-of-12 in the second half before the final shot. He took the pass from McGrady on the right side of the basket, dribbled once with his left hand, went between his legs

and dribbled once more with his right before shooting while falling backward.

The game-winner sent his teammates into a frenzied celebration and even drew cheers from the Boston fans.

"When I caught the ball, I looked at the clock and just tried to get the best shot," Carter said. "The only thing I realized was the time on the clock and what I needed to do to get the ball in the basket."

Carter won the NBA slam-dunk contest on All-Star weekend, and on Sunday scored 51 points in a 103-102 victory over Phoenix — the most in the NBA this season.

"This is sweeter," he said. "It's fine to accomplish new things, but this feels good."
Lakers 103, Grizzlies 91

At Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant had 27 points and Shaquille O'Neal added 25. O'Neal, who fouled out with 2:43 left and the Lakers ahead 95-86, also had 17 rebounds, five assists and five blocks.

The Grizzlies, who have beaten the Lakers only once in the 18 games the teams have played, were up 66-65 when O'Neal drew his fifth foul late in the third quarter.

But consecutive 3-pointers by Brian Shaw, Robert Horry, Rick Fox and Bryant put Los Angeles up 77-69 heading into the final quarter, and the Lakers remained comfortably in front.

"I wouldn't say it was a letdown, but we're probably never going to get up for Vancouver like we get up for Portland, New York and

Indiana," O'Neal said. "That's just human nature."

Jazz 107, Pistons 94

Karl Malone scored 31 points, including 14 in the third quarter, in Utah's victory at Detroit.

Malone, who left the game for good with the Jazz ahead by 18 in the opening seconds of the fourth, added 13 rebounds and six assists.

"It's not like we are the only team he scores against," Pistons coach Alvin Gentry said. "He's been doing that to the whole league for 15 years now. When he's shooting like that, it's impossible to stop him."

Armen Gilliam added 19 points and nine rebounds for Utah, while John Stockton had 11 points and seven assists.

Grant Hill led Detroit with 26 points, and Jerry Stackhouse added 17.

Wizards 102, Hawks 83

Washington broke a 15-game road losing streak.

Mitch Richmond scored 18 points and Gerard King 17, and Rod Strickland had 11 assists and 10 points for the Bullets, who had not won on the road since Dec. 21 at

Houston.

"Right now we're just trying to get a win," Strickland said. "We're trying to turn this thing around. I thought the flow we had was pretty good. We hope it'll carry over."

Atlanta had only 33 points in the second half as leading scorer Isaiah Rider had only five points to match a personal season low. Rider, who shot 2-for-7, also committed five turnovers.

Nets 94, Nuggets 81

Keith Van Horn had 25 points and 11 rebounds and Stephon Marbury added 20 points and eight assists as New Jersey won at Denver for only the fourth time in 27 tries.

Nick Van Exel managed only two points on 1-for-9 shooting in the featured matchup with Marbury.

Longhorns fall, 79-66

AUSTIN (AP) — When Bill Fennelly took over at Iowa State, the Cyclones couldn't win a conference road game.

Five years later, Iowa State (22-5, 13-3) has come full circle, winning a share of the Big 12 title and the top seed in the conference tournament by coming from behind for 79-66 win at Texas Wednesday night.

"To see where we were five years ago to be the champions of the Big 12 is amazing," Fennelly said.

"We showed that we're a championship team."

Iowa State gets the top seed in next week's Big 12 tournament because it beat co-champions Texas Tech and Oklahoma during the regular season.

When Fennelly arrived at Iowa State before the 1995-96 season, the program had just five winning seasons and hadn't posted back-to-back seasons above .500 since 1977. The Cyclones had won just

two conference road games in four years.

Since Fennelly's arrival, the Cyclones have posted five winning seasons and advanced to the 1999 NCAA regional finals last season with a stunning win over top-seeded Connecticut.

Iowa State started its climb to the Big 12 title with a 62-37 thrashing of Texas Tech back in January and never looked back.

But making that last step to the top seed in the Big 12 tournament wasn't easy. The Cyclones watched Texas take the lead in the second half with a 15-2 run. The Longhorns led 62-53 with 6:12 to play.

That's when Iowa State, the top 3-point shooting team in the league, finally starting hitting shots from long range.

"We didn't want them to kill us from the perimeter but they have and they will and they did," said Texas coach Jody Conradt.

The Cyclones erased the deficit with four consecutive 3-pointers in a 16-3 run that gave Iowa State a 69-65 lead with just under three minutes left.

"You have to believe you have a chance. We didn't work our butts off the whole game to lose," said Angie Welle, who continued her hot scoring streak with 22 points on 6-of-8 shooting from the floor and 10-of-12 from the foul line.

Welle is 26-of-28 shooting from the floor in the Cyclones last three games.

Iowa State closed the game with a 26-4 run over the final six minutes to win going away. The Cyclones survived 21 turnovers with 54 percent shooting and hitting 21-of-29 from the foul line.

"We didn't come here to lose, we didn't come here to play close," Fennelly said. "I'm so proud of our team. We were down nine points on the road to a very good team."

For Texas, the Longhorns (18-11, 9-7) will enter the Big 12 tournament hoping to better their position for an invitation to the NCAA tournament.

Conradt believes her team

deserves an NCAA bid. The Longhorns are 3-8 against ranked opponents.

"It really depends on how many teams they take from our conference," Conradt said. "Our tough schedule should help us."

Edwina Brown led Texas with 15 points.

Golfer scores an ace

Congratulations to Eliseo Saucedo for scoring a hole-in-one at the John Pitman Municipal Golf Course on Wednesday.

The shot was made at the par three third hole with a seven iron from the senior tee.

Witnesses included J.E. Saucedo, Joe Saucedo, Richard Saucedo, Marin Rivas and Joel Sturgeon.

hbnews@wrt.net

Herd

From Page A5

the press and control turnovers."

After Wednesday's workout back in Hereford coach Dean said he feels good about the way his team is playing.

"We worked out yesterday, and our players looked like they were ready to go, they looked good," said Dean.

The match-up pitches two teams with perfect 10-0 records in their district.

Both teams come from strong districts. District 7, Ryan's district, featured third place team Wichita Falls Hirschi eliminating sixth-ranked Weatherford 64-48 before falling to Snyder 51-49. District 7 runner-up

Burkburnett will be Randall's opponent in a game played before the Hereford-Ryan match. The Raiders advanced by virtue of a 87-77 win over Fort Worth Brewer, a 69-60 win over Cleburne, and a 68-65 win over a strong Granbury team.

Ryan's path to the regional semi-finals was an area win over Stephenville, 73-45 and a regional quarter-final win over Snyder, 81-56. Hereford comes into Friday night's game with victories over San Elizario 53-39 and a win over Plainview, 40-34.

Looking at Region III, Texas City is still in the fray with wins over Houston Waltrip, 78-77, and over Houston Smiley, 72-71.



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INSIDE

Ad executives worrying about too many TV ads

No need to rush those trips to the bathroom.

Commercial breaks on television are becoming longer and more frequent, according to a study released Wednesday. In fact, the number of commercials on prime-time TV are at an all-time high — something that's even starting to worry some of the advertisers.

Each hour of prime-time network television contained an average of 16 minutes, 43 seconds of advertising last November, a jump of 59 seconds in just a year, according to the American Association of Advertising Agencies.

Advertising "clutter" was already at an all-time high in 1998. The amount of ad time has gone up by nearly a minute and a half in two years.

The dramatic increase has some advertisers concerned that their messages are being lost in the flood of commercials, in-house promotions and public service announcements. "I would suggest there is a direct correlation between the increase in clutter and a diminishment in the effectiveness of our creative campaigns," said Steve Grubbs of the ad firm BBDO Worldwide.

Added John Mandel of Grey Advertising: "If the television industry doesn't recognize soon



David Bauder Associated Press

that they are killing the golden goose, they will lose the battle for the attention of consumers to their content and the attention of advertisers as the major advertising vehicle."

A strong economy has increased the number of advertisers wanting to get on TV. There's been a particular flood of ads by dot-com companies trying to create an image.

At the same time, TV networks are being squeezed by increased programming costs

— so the extra ad time is a temptation too hard to resist.

An ABC executive criticized the study, saying it didn't take into account fluctuations since it measures only one week. Alex Wallau, ABC's president of network administration and operations, said the network has kept ad time steady for the past two years, although more commercials were added in some of the lower-rated shows.

"We have to be sensitive to the viewers and we also have to be sensitive to our buyers," Wallau said. "We cannot create an environment that becomes too cluttered."

None of the four major networks stand out as a particular culprit. ABC had the greatest average ad time, at 16:57 per hour, and CBS was the least at 16:32. Yet CBS had the most dramatic increase; it was up 1:47 from the year before.

Compared with November 1991, there are now three minutes more of commercial time on average in prime-time, the ad agencies said in a report released Wednesday.

Except for local news, prime-time is actually the least cluttered time of day. ABC, CBS and NBC all carry at least 20 minutes of ad time per hour during daylight hours — over 22 minutes on average for NBC.

An extra 30 seconds of ad time was also crammed into the half-hour network evening news programs, the report said. Late-night and early morning also saw increases.

ABC's "Good Morning America" averaged 15 minutes, 36 seconds of commercials last November, roughly a minute more than its competitors on NBC and CBS.

2 leap babies born at HRMC

A Leap Year like Tuesday's won't come around for another 400 years. So, any baby born Tuesday officially will be one year old on Feb. 29, 2400.

Two such babies were born at Hereford Regional Medical Center Tuesday morning.

Haven Rodriguez, son of Jessica Cano, was born at 12:57 a.m., weighing 8 pounds 7 ounces.

Emily Najely Frausto, daughter of Gabriela Calderon and Alberto Frausto, was born at 8:02 a.m., weighing 6 pounds 5 ounces.

Keep watching the Brand for our new food guide section with some really GREAT COUPON SAVINGS! COMING Saturday, March 4th, 2000 in the Hereford Brand's Weekend Edition ENTERTAINMENT SECTION local restaurants are offering you some INCREDIBLE DISCOUNTS! CLIP & SAVE ON SATURDAY! HURRY BEFORE OFFERS EXPIRE!

TELEVISION

Table with columns for FRIDAY MARCH 3 and 12 PM, listing various TV shows and their times.

COMICS

The Wizard of Id comic strip panels showing a wizard and a man talking about magic balls.

Marvin comic strip featuring Bitsy Definitions and Dirty Dog.

Blondie comic strip panels showing Blondie and Dagwood talking.

Beetle Bailey comic strip panels showing Beetle Bailey and his friends.

Barney Google & Snuffy Smith comic strip panels showing Barney and Snuffy.

Table with columns for FRIDAY MARCH 3 and 12:30, listing various TV shows and their times.

Table with columns for FRIDAY MARCH 3 and 6 PM, listing various TV shows and their times.

CLASSIFIEDS

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR OTTAWA COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Guardianship of ELIZABETH B. ROGERS, an incapacitated person. Case No. PG-93-17

Notice of Hearing

Return of Sale of Real Property

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The First National Bank and Trust Company of Miami, Miami, Oklahoma, Guardian of the Estate of Elizabeth B. Rogers, an incapacitated person, did file herein its Return of Sale of Real Property to the following described real property, said real property being situated in Deaf Smith County, Texas, to-wit:

Section 9, Block K-6, GB & CNG Ry Co. Survey, Deaf Smith County, Texas, containing 640 acres more or less;

This Return shows the sale of this real property to William Carter, or his nominees, for the sum of \$230,400.00.

NOTICE IF FURTHER GIVEN that the hearing on this Return of Sale of Real Property has been set for the 15 day of March, 2000, at 11:30 o'clock A.M., in District Courtroom Number 2 in the Ottawa County Court House in the city of Miami, Oklahoma, at which time and place any person interested in this guardianship estate may appear and file his exceptions in writing to this Return and contest the same, and is hereby referred to this Return for further particulars.

DATED this 29th day of February, 2000.

Bill Culver Judge of the District Court

Martha Sue Thompson, OBA #8975 Thompson & Thompson First National Bank Building 2 N. Main, Ste. 509 Miami, Oklahoma 74354-6335 PH: (918)642-3362 Attorney for Guardian

CLASSIFIEDS CALL 364-2030 DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it: AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-2 CRYPTOQUOTE

B J V M Q M J M D B U B F A I H S F H A D Q I T A B L R G Q J B F F H Q E V M O T Q I T J B V .

— STFFTQI QLFBF

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: A DOG IS THE ONLY THING THAT LOVES YOU MORE THAN YOU LOVE YOURSELF. — JOSH BILLINGS

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CATTLE FUTURES and GRAIN FUTURES tables with columns for contract, price, and change.

METAL FUTURES table with columns for metal type, price, and change.

FUTURES OPTIONS table with columns for contract, price, and change.

Gore, Bradley tone it down

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The aggressive, accusatory tone Bill Bradley has adopted in the Democratic presidential contest against Al Gore is missing from their latest debate. Aides said it was done to show leadership, but it also played into Gore's strategy of appearing presidential.



The debate between Al Gore (left) and Bill Bradley in Los Angeles did not have the fireworks of their previous encounters.

Rhode Island. His campaign has virtually given up on California, where polls show Gore with a massive lead. Bradley also will lay out his case in an unusual 5-minute ad airing nationwide tonight.

"Tonight on a national stage we wanted to show leadership — authentic, dignified, spontaneous, unprogrammed," Bradley spokesman Eric Hauser said after Wednesday's debate. "When voters are making final decisions, that's what they look for. Bill Bradley's virtues came through."

debate was Bradley's finale in California, the most critical of those states. "Clearly, I have to win several," Bradley told CNN. After a post-debate party, Gore boarded an overnight flight to New York, to be followed by visits to Maryland, Florida, Georgia and Massachusetts.

Throughout much of the 90-minute debate, the Democratic rivals reacted in striking contrast to their earlier sharp encounters. Bradley was remarkably subdued after months spent accusing Gore of lying about his own record as well as Bradley's proposals.

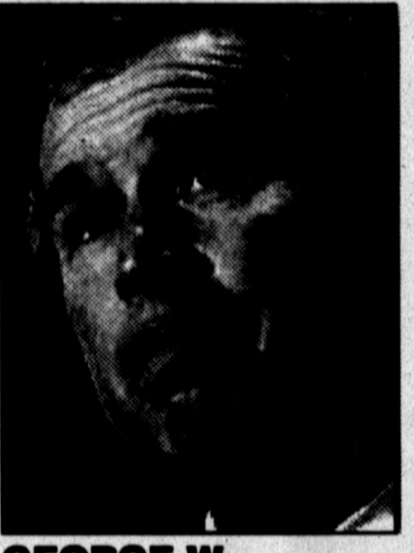
In one point of disagreement, however, Bradley said the Clinton administration's failure to act to release oil reserves led to soaring gasoline prices. Gore said using the reserves hasn't been ruled out, but advocated quiet pressure to get more OPEC oil flowing.

GOP rivals set for debate

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Warming up for tonight's debate, John McCain vowed to get past discord over religion and turn to issues. Picking one such issue, George W. Bush needed him for not having much of an education plan.

McCain faced criticism Wednesday from social conservative Gary Bauer, who had endorsed him shortly after ending his own Republican presidential candidacy.

rather than respond to continued assaults on my character," he said. "The people of this country deserve a campaign that's based on the issues."



GEORGE W. BUSH Enjoys lead over GOP rival John McCain in California, but race is very tight in New York.

McCain said Wednesday from social conservative Gary Bauer, who had endorsed him shortly after ending his own Republican presidential candidacy. Bauer said McCain should apologize for an "ill-advised and divisive" speech that compared religious right leaders Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell to activists Louis Farakhan and Al Sharpton, divisive figures on the left.

McCain dismissed predictions of almost any sort in this wild and woolly primary campaign — including his own. "Every prediction so far has been wrong, including mine," he said. "My predictions are not totally worthless, but next to it."

Bush has a detailed plan to use federal education aid to reward and penalize states according to how students perform on standardized tests, including a national sampling exam. He hasn't been too keen lately to emphasize the strong federal role his plan provides for, insisting he's for local control of schools.

Research done at a dozen packing plants last fall found the bacteria on 3.56 percent of the carcasses. All the bacteria in the sample carcasses were eventually removed through steam pasteurization, hot water or organic acid rinses, the treatments typically used in packing plants, such as the Excel plant in Friona.

News digest

Clinton to sign bill lifting cap on retirees' earnings

TAMPA, Fla. — It was welcome news to 68-year-old Harold Henderson — the thought of being able to work longer hours, earn more money and — best of all — keep it. "I might go get me a real job now," said Henderson, who works at a Winn-Dixie grocery store.

Panel OKs one brand of saline breast implants

GAITHERSBURG, Md. — A brand of saline-filled breast implants breaks and leaks much too often — and many patients must undergo repeated operations — but the devices should be allowed to be sold as long women are properly warned of the risks, a federal advisory panel says.

USDA reports half of feedyard cattle infected with E.coli

WASHINGTON (AP) — Up to half the cattle in the nation's feedlots, far more than previously thought, are infected with deadly bacteria, the government reported Wednesday. Researchers using new testing methods found E. coli O157:H7 present in rates varying from 1 percent in the winter months to as much as 50 percent in the summer.

Some these numbers and figures can be misleading.

"Many hides are contaminated, but E. coli O157 is strictly a surface bacterium. Many plants use steam suction process, much like a steam cleaner to remove contaminants before it leaves the hide-out area," Klein said. "It's not like these cattle are sick when they are slaughtered. This only means hide has come in contact with the germ."

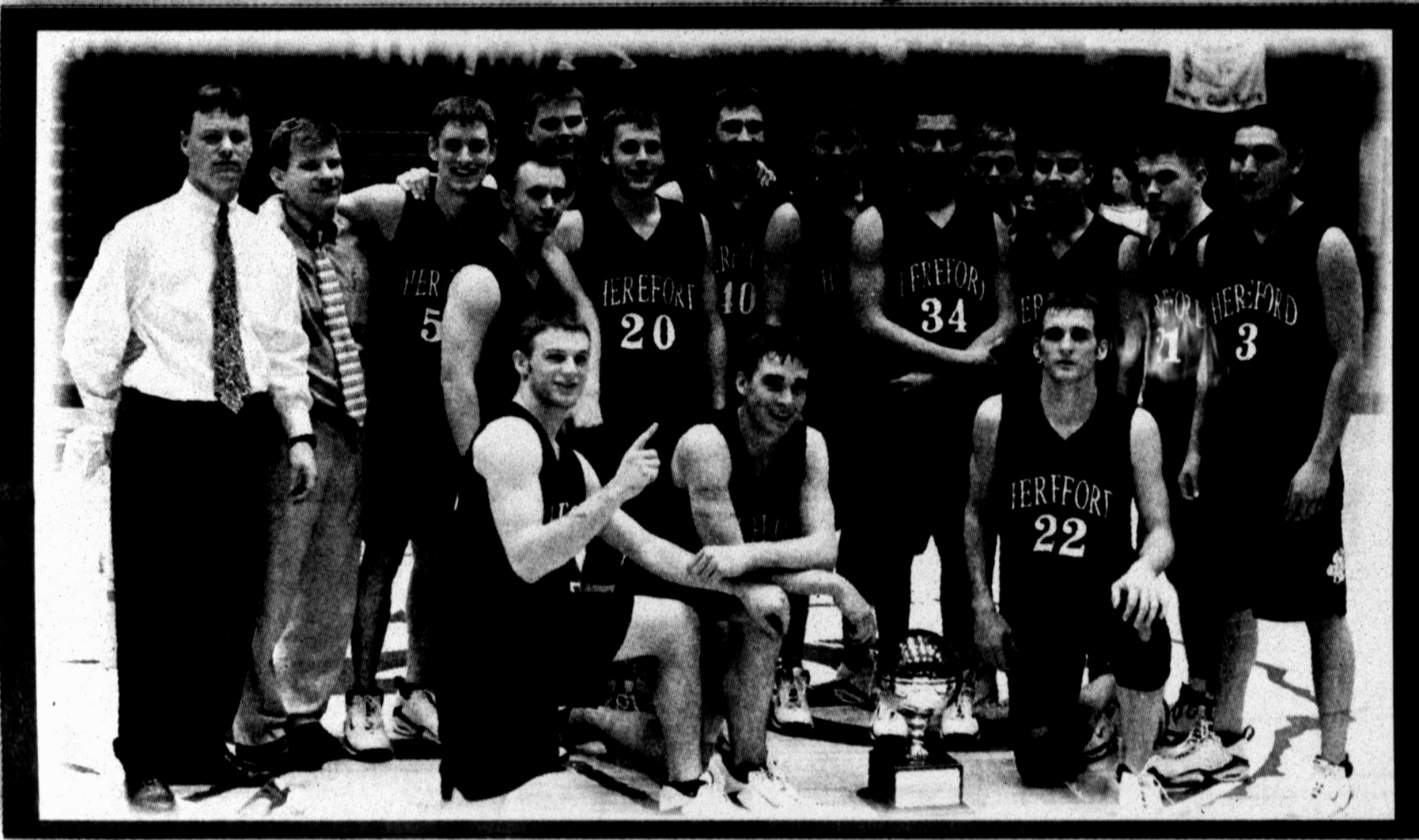
WHITEFACE

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