

# Hereford BRAND

99th Year, Vol. Number 184 • Deaf Smith County, Texas

TUESDAY, March 21, 2000

10 Pages 50 Cents

HUSTLIN' HEREFORD  
HOME OF  
Augustin Tarin

## Today's weather OUTLOOK

### Snow possible in Panhandle

With spring under way, a new cold front arrived today in the Texas Panhandle and forecasters expected it to begin bringing rainfall to the state's interior, according to The Associated Press.

The storm system from the Rocky Mountains is accompanied by an upper-level low pressure system which is pulling warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico and enhancing the chances of some severe storms.

The front stretched from between Lubbock and Midland to just north of Childress.

Light rain fell overnight in the Hill Country. Light snow was possible later today in the northwestern Panhandle.

Winds were mostly southerly and westerly at 10 to 20 mph ahead of the front, keeping the air warm and humid. Gusts reached 32 mph at Abilene.

North of the front, winds were northerly at 15 to 25 mph.

Early-morning temperatures ranged from the 30s in the Panhandle to 70s in the south. It was 55 degrees at Paris; 36 at Dalhart; 65 at San Angelo; 74 at McAllen; and 61 at Abilene, Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and Junction.

Winds through Thursday were expected to be southerly to southeasterly at 15 and 25 mph.

A dryline associated with the upper-level storm system along the Texas-New Mexico line will combine with gulf moisture to produce showers and thunderstorms over much of West Texas through Wednesday.

The first outbreak should be by early this afternoon over West Texas.

### Chance of showers

Tonight: Cloudy with a 60 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, some possibly severe this evening, rain mixed with snow late. Low in the mid 30s, northeast wind 10 to 20 mph, little snow accumulation.

Wednesday: Cloudy with rain mixed with snow likely in the morning, showers and thunderstorms likely in the afternoon, high 50 to 55, chance of precipitation is 60 percent, east wind 15 to 25 mph and gusty.

Wednesday night: Showers and thunderstorms, rain changing to snow after midnight, low 30 to 35.

### Extended forecast

Thursday: Mostly cloudy and windy with a chance of snow showers in the morning, becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon with a high 60 to 65.

Friday: Partly cloudy, low 40 to 45, high around 70.

Saturday: Mostly clear, low 40 to 45, high in the lower 70s.

### Hereford weather

Monday's high, 82; low, 38; no precipitation, according to KPAN Radio.

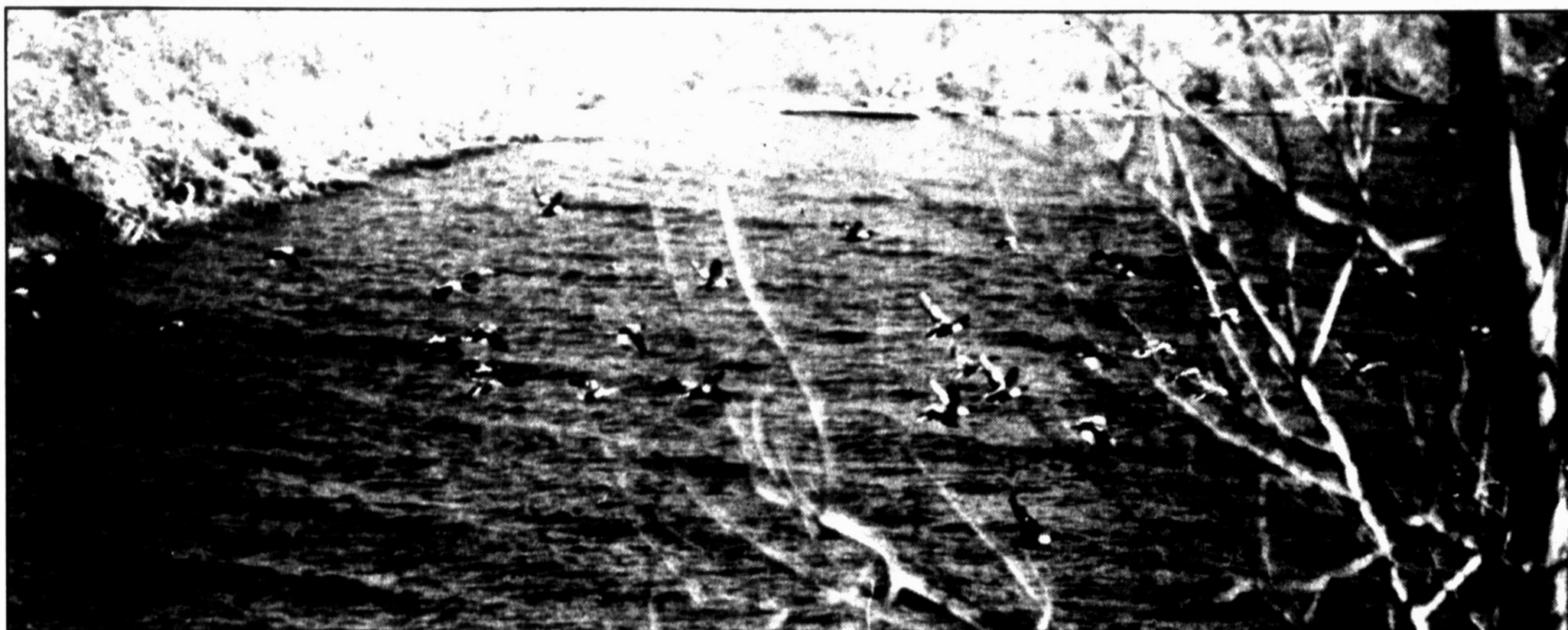
## Fed expected to boost rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve is prepared to keep boosting interest rates until the speeding economy slows to a more sustainable pace that's not likely to spark inflation, economists believe.

In recent speeches, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, has raised new worries that too-rapid growth could derail the record-breaking economy which entered 108 months of uninterrupted growth in March. Many economists took those remarks as a signal that higher interest rates would be forthcoming.

"Greenspan is behaving like a track coach," said Standard & Poor's DRI economist David Wyss. "By running a smooth and steady pace, you can keep going a lot longer faster."

The economy grew by a breakneck 6.9 percent annual rate in the final three months of 1999 and many economists believe growth in the current quarter will come in around 5 percent, far above the 3.5 percent rate the Fed would like to see at this stage of the economic expansion.



And, they're off! — A flight of ducks takes wing Sunday afternoon at Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge near Umbarger. The mild weather during the

winter, as well as the amount of water in the lake, has brought a wide variety of migrating birds into the region for the winter.

# Drought plan approved

## Just 2 residents appear to express their opinions

By Donald M. Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editor

If Hereford residents had anything to say about the city's drought contingency plan, they kept their ideas to themselves.

Only two residents took advantage of the Hereford City Commission's public hearing Monday night to address the drought plan, which was approved unanimously by the panel.

Darlene Walker wanted to know if the city intended to enforce the provisions of the plan in event of an emergency.

City Manager Chester Nolen assured her the enforcement provisions would be adhered to "across the board."

David Castillo, who operates a neighborhood swimming pool, asked



DAVID CASTILLO

Had a question about the proposed city drought contingency ordinance.

if the restrictions in the plan also would affect the Hereford Aquatic Center.

Nolen assured him the aquatic center falls under the same restrictions as commercial pools.

In discussing the plan, Nolen said in 28 years in city administration he has never had to implement such a water usage plan, although he noted it is a regular occurrence in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and the San Antonio area.

The city's water distribution system has the capacity of produce about 13 million gallons per day, although the pumping capacity is only about 9 million gallons, Nolen said.

The first stages of the plan would be initiated when daily water demand exceeds 7½ gallons for two consecutive days. Peak daily demand last year was just 6 million gallons.

The proposed ordinance, which was drafted by the city staff with the assistance of the Texas Water Development Board, is the result of Senate Bill 1, which was approved during the last session of the Texas Legislature. SB 1 mandates all communities and water districts serving more than 3,000 customers to have a drought contingency plan.

The ordinance authorizes the city manager to initiate or terminate the drought or other water supply emergency response measures established in the plan.

The city manager is directed to monitor the water supply on a daily basis to determine when conditions warrant initiation of the plan.

If the city manager implements

stages of the plan, the public will be notified by radio, cable television and newspaper.

The ordinance identifies five stages/conditions that will trigger the plan. It also carries penalties for violations of its provisions.

The contingency plan is intended to "conserve the available water supply and protect the integrity of water supply facilities, with particular regard for domestic water use, sanitation and fire protection, and to ... minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortage or other water supply emergency conditions."

The commissioners also gave final approval to a franchise agreement with Energas, the city's natural gas supplier.

The franchise agreement calls for Energas to pay a fee of 3 percent of its annual gross receipts. The city can raise the fee on a one-time basis by ½ of 1 percent of the gross receipts, with the total fee limited to the "lesser of 5 percent of gross receipts or the percentage of gross receipts paid by an electrical utility."

Please see CITY, Page A9

## Little interest demonstrated in May 6 vote

By Donald M. Cooper

Hereford Brand Managing Editor

Candidates for spots on the city commission or the school board have just one more day to file for spots on the May 6 ballots.

Voters will go to the polls May 6 to select members of the Hereford City Commission, Deaf Smith County Hospital District directors and Hereford Independent School District trustees.

Four positions will be on the ballot in the city commission and hospital district elections, while three school board seats are up for grabs.

Filing for spots on the city and school district ballots will end Wednesday, while the hospital district filing continues until April 6.

### CITY

In the city election, Places 1 and 4, as well as two at-large seats will be on the ballot. The incumbents are Angie Alonzo, Place 2; Wayne Winget, Place 4; and Roger Eades and Carey Black, at-large.

Alonzo filed Monday for another term on the commission. Eades and Winget filed two week ago for new terms.

Another candidate, Michael Kitten, a safety director with AzTx Cattle Co., filed for an at-large seat shortly after the filing period opened.

Alonzo is completing her first term on the commission. She is the manager of the Amistad Housing Development.

Eades, who also serves as mayor pro tem, is president of Plains Insurance Agency. He is completing his fourth full term. He was appointed to the commission in 1991.

Winget is manager of Winget Pump. He is completing his fourth full term. He was appointed to the commission in 1990.

### SCHOOL DISTRICT

Two incumbents have filed for new terms on the HISD board.

Lloyd Ames is seeking re-election to the District 6

Please see ELECTION, Page A9

## RECOUNT



Who said one vote doesn't count? — Alfred Ortiz (left) anxiously awaits the re-counting of Republican Party primary ballots Monday morning at the Courthouse. After the recount, which lasted a little over an hour, incumbent Precinct 1 Commissioner Wayne Betzen outpolled Ortiz, 171-170, to win the GOP nomination. On the Democratic side, Armando Gonzalez and Joe Henry will be in an April 11 runoff for the Precinct 1 nomination.

## Farmers rally for supports

WASHINGTON (AP) — Roger Winter lost \$28,000 on his wheat and dairy farm in Callaway, Minn., last year, and is in Washington this week trying to make sure that doesn't happen again.

"I'm here to be a voice for the rest of the United States," he said.

Winter is one of more than 1,000 farmers participating in the Rally for Rural America this week, aimed at increasing crop supports for struggling family farmers.

The main villain for the mostly Democratic gathering, dubbed "Rally for Rural America," was the 1996 Freedom to Farm law, which reduced crop subsidies.

"Family farmers have been the victim of bad public policy in this country, and it's time to straighten it out," said Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D.

Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman agreed. "It is time to rewrite that 1996 Freedom to Farm bill," he said.

The legislation called for price supports to be gradually scaled back over seven years. The law, pushed by Republicans, was intended to wean farmers from federal support, but since its passage Congress has passed several multibillion-dollar bailouts. Last year, the package totaled \$8.7 billion, with the bulk going to Midwestern Corn Belt farmers.

"It's made farmers more dependent on Congress," said Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D-N.D. "It's wrong — it's just dead wrong!"

Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., chairman of the Agriculture Committee,

Please see FARMERS, Page A9

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HEREFORD BRAND

**Local roundup**

**Prom workers wanted**

Senior parents will work on prom decorations Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-10 p.m. at 1001 W. Park. Parents feel free to come by and pick up work that can be taken home.

**Bucket-calf time**

It's bucket-calf time again. Bucket calves are newborn or orphan calves raised on a bottle or out of a bucket. The Bucket Calf program is open to children ages 5-12. Calves raised under this program will be exhibited during the Town and Country Jubilee in June. Calves need to be purchased by March 27.

Anyone interested in participating in the 2000 4-H Bucket Calf Project or needing help finding a calf should call the extension office at 364-3573 or come by the office.

**Hospital directors to meet**

Deaf Smith County Hospital District directors will consider a contract with James Taylor, newly appointed chief executive of Hereford Regional Medical Center, when they meet at 6:30 p.m. today in the HRMC board room.

The board also will review the hospital's January financial reports, discuss employee medical insurance, consider credentials for physicians, and review the January financial reports for the Hereford Health Clinic.

**Family Frameworks meeting**

Family Frameworks will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday at Tierra Blanca Primary School, 615 Columbia.

The theme for this session is "How Do I Get my Child to Listen to Me?"

Child care will be provided.

**School plans open house**

An open house will be 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday at Hereford Junior High School, 704 LaPlata Drive.

Following the open house, the HJHS Booster Club will meet from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

**Rivera benefit fund at HSB**

A benefit fund has been established at Hereford State Bank for Eliseo Rivera, a freshman at Hereford High School who was injured in an accident on Feb. 17. Rivera has had ongoing medical problems and was recently re-hospitalized.

**Police seek former employee**

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Police investigators are looking today into whether a disgruntled employee who was fired four days ago returned to a car wash and shot six people.

Officers said they were searching for Robert Wayne Harris, suspected of killing five people and critically wounding another Monday in an apparent robbery. Harris, 28, was fired Friday by Mi-T-Fine Car Wash after he was arrested for exposing himself to two women at the business.

It was the worst slaying in Irving since four people were gunned down execution-style in a fast-food restaurant freezer during a robbery nine years ago.

"We haven't seen anything this gruesome, this vicious in quite some time," police spokesman David Tull said.

Police identified three of the dead as car wash employees Dennis Lee, 48; Rhoda Wheeler, 45; and Augustin Villasenor, 36; all of Irving. Villasenor's brother, Benjamin, 32, and Roberto Jimenez Jr., 15, died at Parkland Memorial Hospital.

HEREFORD BRAND

**Obituaries**

**MERLE CATHERINE ELLISTON**  
March 19, 2000

Services for Merle Catherine Elliston, 97, of Hereford will be 10 a.m. Wednesday at West Park Cemetery with pastor Harold Bohr, retired Seventh Day Adventist Minister officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Gililand-Watson Funeral Home.

Miss Elliston died Sunday at Westgate Nursing Home.

She was born July 2, 1902, in Farmersville to Robert Elliston and Ellen Burkhard. She came to Deaf Smith County in 1911. She was an LVN and had worked in Amarillo, Oklahoma and Hereford. She had made at least 50 quilts for her church to give to needy individuals.

Survivors include one sister, Betty Oleta Chatfield of Crowell; several nieces and nephews.

**BILLIE JEAN RAY**  
March 20, 2000

Memorial services for Billie Jean Ray, 72, of Hereford will be 6 p.m. today at Rix Fu-

neral Chapel. The family will have a burial service at a later date.

Mrs. Ray died Monday at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

She was born Dec. 5, 1927, in Grand Saline to Eugene and Dora Mullican. She attended schools in Hereford and Amarillo. She married Verne E. Riggall and later married William Ray. She moved to Hereford in 1999. She was a member of the latter Day Saints of Belen, N.M.

Survivors include one daughter, Katherine Hall of Veguita, N.M.; four sons, Verne Riggall of Venice, Fla., David Riggall, of Belen, N.M., Joseph Riggall and Billy Riggall, both of Hereford; one step-daughter; one step-son; two sisters, Joyce Riddle of Hereford and Peggy Drummond of Thornton, Colo.; 16 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her second husband in 1998. The family suggests memorials be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Hereford Brand, March 21, 2000

Hereford Brand

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O.G. Nieman  
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Jay Guerrero

Publisher (1972-98)  
Publisher  
Managing Editor  
Circulation Manager

**Alley clean-up**



**Doing the dirty work** — The City of Hereford has diligently been working to remove grass clippings, weeds, and brush from the city alleys before the spring grass season gets under way. City employee, Chris Fangman, and an inmate who was helping the clean-up crews, were kept busy on the west side of town, in an alley off Bradley Street.

**Oilfield workers in short supply**

NEEDVILLE, Texas (AP) — James Vrana has been sinking steel into Texas soil his entire adult life, sweating over countless wells seeking oil and natural gas more than a mile below.

Vrana works for San Antonio-based South Texas Drilling Co. as a toolpusher, meaning he's in charge of every aspect of keeping an oil rig running.

These days Vrana, 40, finds himself among a dying breed. Thousands of colleagues abandoned the oil patch when crude

prices bottomed out in December 1998.

"A bunch of my friends, when it (oil prices) got low, they just found something else," Vrana, 40, said over the din of Rig No. 11, about 25 miles southwest of Houston.

Now that prices have nearly tripled, and operators try to seize upon \$30-a-barrel oil to mend their balance sheets, industry insiders fear any move to boost drilling will be stilted by the exodus of pros like Vrana.

"It's already happening," said Morris Burns, executive vice president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, an industry association in oil-rich western Texas and eastern New Mexico.

It's been nearly a full year since the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries cut production by 4.3 million barrels a day to gradually increase the per-barrel price from around \$10 — below break-even for just about any U.S. well — to above \$30.

**Ford, GM alter SUVs**

NEW YORK (AP) — Automakers plan to modify designs of their sport utility vehicles to make them less hazardous to other motorists, The New York Times reported today.

General Motors said it will manufacture the 2002 Oldsmobile Bravada, GMC Envoy and Chevrolet Blazer with underbody steel rails up to 2 inches lower than in current models to reduce the risk of their smashing over cars bumpers and doorsills.

Ford said it will do the same with its Explorer, Expedition and Lincoln Navigator. And DaimlerChrysler said it will make several changes to the 2002 Dodge Durango's front end so it is less likely to override cars in collisions.

Foreign automakers also plan to design their SUVs so they are less likely to injure or kill people in other vehicles during crashes, the Times said. The Toyota Sequoia will have impact-absorbing bars below the bumpers, a feature recently added to the Ford Excursion.

HEREFORD BRAND

**Emergency services**

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for March 17-20, 2000, include the following:

**POLICE DEPARTMENT Arrests**

- A 37-year-old man was arrested in the 300 block of Avenue F and charged with driving while intoxicated.
- An individual was arrested in the 300 block of North 25 Mile Avenue and charged with a violation of probation.
- A man was arrested in the 700 block of Park Avenue and charged with traffic violations and city warrants.
- A 30-year-old man was arrested in the 1000 block of Grand and charged with driving while intoxicated.
- An individual was arrested in the 300 block of Austin and charged with outstanding misdemeanor warrants.
- A 19-year-old man was arrested in the 100 block of Bennett and charged with driving while intoxicated and possession of marijuana under two ounces.
- A 47-year-old man was arrested on South Highway 385 and charged with exhibition of acceleration.
- A man was arrested in the 200 block of North Lee and charged with failing to register as a sex offender.

**Incidents**

- A welfare concern was reported in the 400 block of North Ranger.
- An assault was reported in the 200 block of Avenue H.
- A civil matter was reported in the 200 block of East Third.
- Harassment was reported in the 100 block of South 25 Mile Avenue.
- Domestic assault was reported in the 300 block of East Sixth.
- An assault was reported in the 900 block of Union.
- An incident was reported in the 300 block of South 25 Mile Avenue.
- Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of

- North Lee.
- Custodial problems were reported in the 400 block of Avenue G.
- A dog bite was reported in the 600 block of Stanton.
- Criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of Union.
- An assault was reported in the 900 block of Union.
- An alarm was reported in the 100 block of Ironwood.
- Disorderly conduct was reported in the 100 block North Avenue K.
- Evading arrest was reported in the 1100 block of Grand.
- Theft was reported in the 2900 block of East First.
- Domestic assault was reported in the 400 block of Avenue C.
- A minor accident was reported in the 100 block of Blevins.
- Minor accident was reported in the 900 block of Avenue K.
- Burglary of a vehicle was reported in the 900 block of South McKinley.
- Minor accident was reported in the 300 block of North 25 Mile Avenue.
- Minor accident was reported in the 400 block of North Main.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 900 block of South McKinley.
- A burglary of a vehicle was reported in the 400 block of Avenue B.
- Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of Avenue K.
- Improper dumping in an alley was reported in the 900 block of East Third.
- A civil matter was reported in the 500 block of Irving.
- A 911 hang-up call was reported in the 800 block of South Main.
- Disorderly conduct was reported in the 200 block of Lake.
- Child abuse was reported in the 200 block of Beach.
- A gas meter leak was

reported in the 900 block of East 15<sup>th</sup>.

- Domestic assault was reported in the 600 block of Avenue F.

- Counterfeit U.S. Treasury notes were reported in the 500 block of North 25 Mile Avenue.

- Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 400 block of Avenue I. A car stereo valued at \$175 was taken.

- Criminal mischief was reported in the 1500 block of East First. A window, valued at \$250, was broken.

- A domestic assault was reported in the 500 block of Avenue H.

**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT Arrests**

- A 46-year-old woman was arrested and charged with violation of parole and possession of a controlled substance.
- A 25-year-old man was arrested and charged with failure to register as a sex offender on a warrant out of Tarrant County and a sexual assault of a child warrant out of Johnson County.
- A 29-year-old man was arrested and charged with a driving while intoxicated warrant out of Lamb County and a failure to appear on a possession of marijuana warrant out of Hudspeth County.
- A 40-year-old man was arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.
- A 19-year-old man was arrested and charged with failure to register as a sex offender.
- A 19-year-old man was sentenced to three counts of a burglary of a habitation.

**Incidents**

- Two cases of child abuse were reported.
- Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported.
- Juveniles were involved with an unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- Possession of narcotics was reported.
- Gas drive-off was reported out of Vega. Deputies stopped the suspect and determined the driver had paid with a credit card at the pump, but it did not register in the store. charges or restitution.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**March 19**

- 4:33 p.m. Firefighters responded to a structure fire 1/4 mile east on Road 1 from Highway 385. A resident was illegally burning trash and the fire got out of control and crossed the property line. A house and a barn were involved, but not totaled. A 68-year-old woman was transported to Hereford Regional Medical Center and treated for smoke inhalation. She was listed in good condition. Approximately 300 rabbits died in the fire.

The resident burning the fire was issued a citation for illegal burning during the burn ban. Fines will be levied by Deaf Smith county Justice of the Peace, Johnnie Turrentine and may reach \$1,000.

Turrentine said further charges may be filed in other courts that may apply other

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Texas lottery**

**Cash Five**

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery:  
15-21-24-33-34

**Pick 3**

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery, in order:  
1-4-0

**Lotto Texas**

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

The ticket would have been worth an estimated \$22 million.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 50 were:  
5-21-28-36-40-43.

Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$28 million.

**Pick 3**

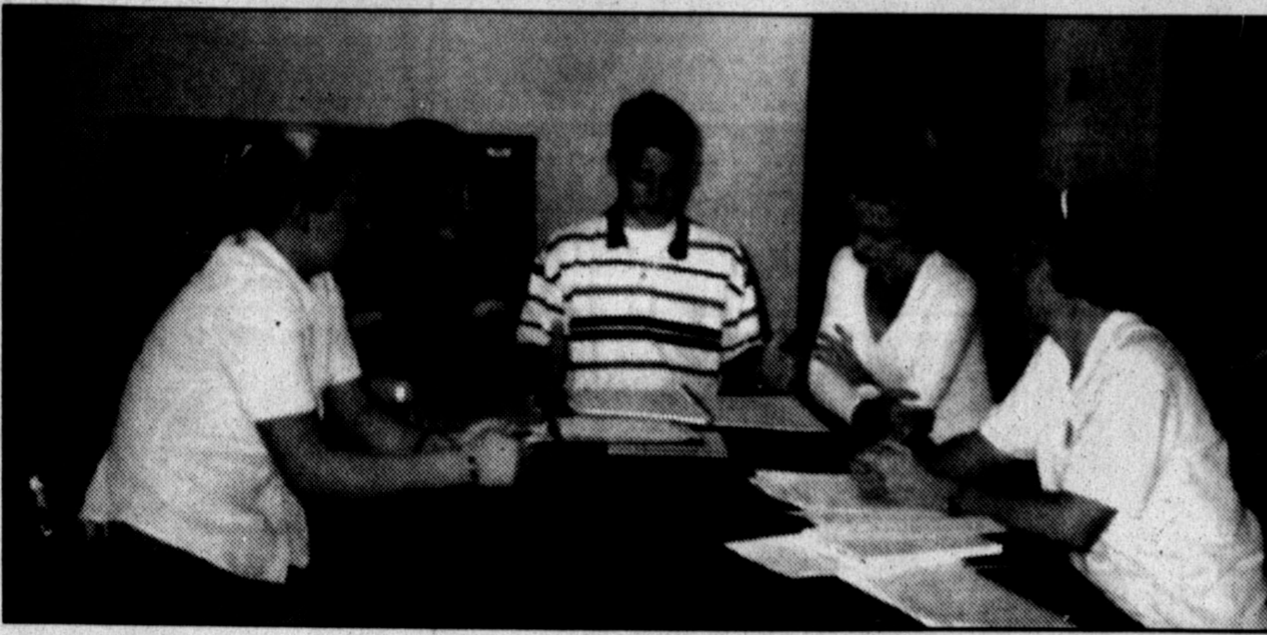
The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday by the Texas Lottery, in order:  
5-2-7

**Honesty, Professional Services, and Prices are Important...**

**Parkside Chapel Funeral Home**  
601 N. Main  
Hereford, Texas 79045  
363-2300

# LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Tuesday, March 21, 2000 • A3



**Concert teens** of the Hereford Community Concert Association prepare for the final presentation of the 1999-2000 concert season. The music and words of the Civil War era will be presented by Robert Trentham at 7:30 p.m. April 8 at the Hereford High School auditorium. Serving as Concerteen officers for this season are, from left, Holly Schilling, secretary; Kara Landrum, publicity and communications officer; Jay Crawford, president; and Lisa Coneway, vice president. Also pictured is Nancy Denison, concert association supporter.

## CREATORS SYNDICATE

### Ann Landers



**Ann Landers** met a woman online. He chatted with her every day, with his chat-room shenanigans, but I was mistaken. Last month, Archie met a 28-year-old woman online, and has been calling her and sending poems and gifts. He told me yesterday she is in a terrible marriage, and he is helping her "recover" her self-esteem. Archie thinks if he stops communicating with her, she may do something drastic. I have told him he is betraying our marriage, but he insists since nothing physical is going on, I should not complain.

Am I overreacting? Archie says this flirtation is meaningless, but it is very upsetting to me. What can I do? — **Need Advice Down South**

**Dear South:** You can accept the fact that Archie operates at an adolescent level, and he is not going to change. You can insist, however, that he stop calling and sending gifts to his online cutie, and be very firm about it. Some joint counseling might be helpful. I recommend it.

**Dear Ann Landers:** OK, so this isn't the most pressing issue of our age, but I feel my blood pressure go up every time I hear the terms "new century" and "new millennium." I don't think I can take it for another eight and a half months. It seems as though advertisers and the media are jumping on the bandwagon, celebrating this year as the start of the 21st century and the third millennium when it won't actually happen until 2001.

If you think I'm one of those "millennium purists" or another lunatic, fringe historian on a soapbox, simply pull out the "C" book of your home encyclopedia and look up "century." It will say that since there was no year zero, the first century started in 1 A.D. and ended in 100 A.D. Therefore, each century ends in the year zero, as in 2000, and the new one starts with the year one, as in 2001. This means that on Dec. 31, 2000, we will celebrate the end of the last century, and the beginning of a new one.

I won't win this debate, but I know you have many loyal readers (me included), and at least I will have given them something to think about. — **L.B. in Glendale Heights, Ill.**

**Dear L.B.:** You have also

given me something to think about. I see no reason to celebrate anything a year in advance. Why rush it? I'm still trying to get used to writing the year 2000 — and it's not easy.

Some people are happy to have any excuse for a party. Folks, the new century and the new millennium begin on Jan. 1, 2001. The worldwide extravaganza this past New Year's Eve was only a warm-up. The real celebration is yet to come. Batten down the hatches, and hang on to your hat!

*That first kiss, that first embrace... Remember all those things that brought you and your loved one together? Ann Landers' new booklet, "How We Met," is now available. This collection of sentimental love stories will make a terrific gift for that special someone. For a copy, please send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$5.50 (this includes postage and handling) to: How We Met, c/o Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, IL 60611-0562 (in Canada, \$6.50).*

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.

## DAR to honor Korean vets

Beginning in June of 2000, the members of Los Ciboleros Chapter NSDAR will join our nation as it honors its Korean War veterans.

The purpose of the Korean War Commemorations is to:

- honor Korean War veterans,
- honor family members of Korean War veterans, especially families who lost loved ones,
- recognize the contributions and sacrifices made on the home front,
- provide Americans with a clear understanding and appreciation of the lessons and history of the Korean War, and
- educate every generation of Americans on the historical impact of the Korean War in saving a nation from enslavement and preserving peace, freedom and prosperity.

It is the desire of Los Ciboleros Chapter to know and honor every person in our community who was a soldier or patriot in this period of our history. But we have not found any list of these individuals," Jean Beene, chairman of the committee, said.

"If we know their names, we feel that we can better honor those who live or have lived in our community, or are related to families in our community. Certainly the roster should include those who have already passed away."

Anyone with information that will assist Los Ciboleros Chapter in compiling this roster is asked to contact Beene at 364-6117 or any other member of Los Ciboleros Chapter.

## Drivers needed for program

The Deaf Smith County chapter of the American Cancer Society is currently seeking drivers for its "Road to Recovery," which provides free transportation for local cancer patients. Volunteers will receive some training and can be reimbursed for their mileage. Information for cancer patients needing transportation or anyone interested in volunteering is available by calling 364-7200.

## TWC grants awards to help train eligible child care workers

AUSTIN—The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is granting \$1,000 awards to approximately 500 eligible child care workers as part of the Train Our Teachers (TOT) program.

The awards will be given to child care workers enrolling in summer sessions to earn national certification as a Child Development Associate (CDA) or Child Care Professional (CCP).

The child care workers may also be seeking a Level One Certificate or an associate's degree in child development or early childhood education from an institution of higher education.

Applicants must have a high school diploma or a GED.

They must also currently be employed in a child care facility that is licensed, registered or accredited by the Department of

Protective and Regulatory Services (DPRS); must obtain one of the aforementioned credentials; and, immediately after completion of award-subsidized course work.

The child care worker must also continue employment for at least 18 consecutive months in a DPRS licensed, registered or accredited child care facility.

Applications and guidelines for the 2000 summer sessions will be available Friday, March 17, on the TWC web site at [www.twc.state.tx.us](http://www.twc.state.tx.us) under Education/Training Opportunities. They also will be available at Texas Workforce Centers and community colleges with approved programs.

Completed application and supporting documents must be mailed to the TWC address on the application and postmarked by

Monday, April 17, 2000. Applications postmarked after that date will not be considered.

The Texas Workforce Commission promotes and supports a workforce system that offers individuals, employers and communities the opportunity to achieve and sustain economic prosperity. For more information about TWC and the programs it offers in unison with the local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8556 or visit the Commission web site at [www.twc.state.tx.us](http://www.twc.state.tx.us)

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## TSHL gives voice to senior citizens

Texans 60 years of age and older have an opportunity to become a representative from this region to the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature (TSHL).

These legislators work with the Texas Legislature on senior issues which may become law. If you are a person 60 or older and a registered voter, you may file as a candidate for election in the TSHL now through March 31, 2000. Terms are for two years.

The Panhandle will have four

senior citizen representatives elected to represent the elderly concerns of our region.

TSHL members pay their own expenses.

Even those who don't choose to run are encouraged to vote in the elections. Elections for your TSHL representative will be held May 26. For more information or to obtain forms for filing, call the Area Agency on Aging of the Panhandle at 1-800-642-6008.

## 'Petra' to perform in Plainview

**Special to The Brand**  
Petra, a Christian band that came to life in the 1970s, will be in concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 24 at Wayland Baptist University's Harral Auditorium in Plainview.

In its early years, Petra faced opposition because the rock music performed by the band was a different sound than gospel music listeners were accustomed to.

Bob Hartman is the founding member of Petra who writes most of the music and lyrics. Drummer is Louie Weaver who has been with the band since 1981 and lead singer John Schlitt has been with the band since 1986.

Newbies to Petra are Lonnie Chapin on bass, Trent Thomason on keyboard and Pete Orta, a Lubbock native, who is lead guitarist.

Petra has always been more than just a band. They are reaching out to people for Christ as they present the gospel and try to encourage, strengthen and challenge the believer through their songs.

Tickets to the "Petra in Concert" are \$10 and are available at Wayland Baptist University, Family Bookstore and High Plains Religious Bookstore in Amarillo, or Master's Books and Gifts in Clovis, N.M.

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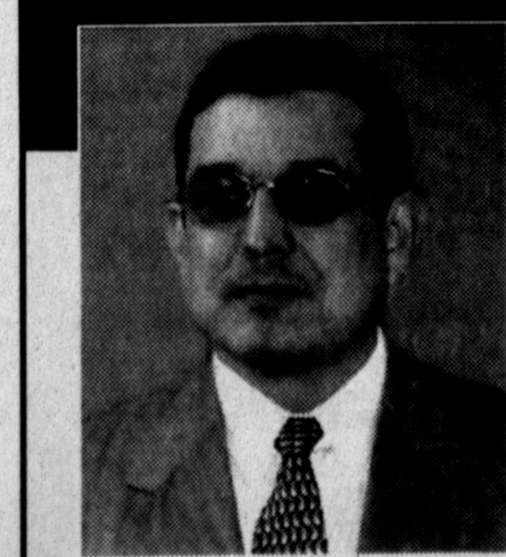
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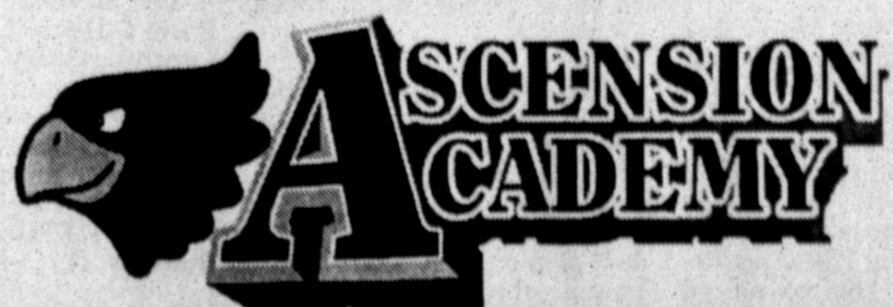
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## Ascension Academy, of Amarillo,

A College Preparatory School of Grades, 6-12, invites all interested parents and students to an Information Meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 7:30 P.M. First United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 501 N. Main, Hereford. Come to learn more about



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Fr. Nicolas Perez, OFM, and Fr. Adalberto Ramirez, OFM, were officially installed as Pastor of the Parish and Parochial Vicar of San Jose Catholic Church Sunday night. Bishop John Yanta and Fr. Frederico Hernandez presided over the ceremony. From left, Monsignor Joe E. Bixeman, Fr. Juan Carlos, Bishop John Walter Yanta, Fr. Frederico Hernandez, Fr. Nicolas Perez, Fr. Adalberto Ramirez and Deacon Jesse Guerrero.

**MARCH IS NUTRITION MONTH**

**Nutrition and health for older Americans**

By Charlotte R. Clark  
MS RD/LD

Human life expectancy has doubled from approximately 40 years to almost 80 years since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. It is possible that life expectancy will continue to increase and that by the end of the next century it will be close to 100 years. This prospect raises a variety of challenges for the health professionals to ensure that these additional years are enjoyable, productive and healthful. Keeping people healthy as they grow older is an important goal. In the current climate of shrinking health care dollars, diminishing services and decreasing benefits, the challenge that presents itself to professionals to keep people healthy through their life span, how to reduce their use of decreasing financial and health resources and at the same time how to improve quality of life for all older adults.

Persons over the age of 65 years use about 40 percent of all bed days in acute-care hospitals; 25 percent of all prescription medications and untold amounts of over-the-counter drugs; receive health care services that account for 30 percent of all health care dollars spent in the United States; and more than 50 percent of the federal health care budget (1). Older adults also have more health care problems than do younger adults, which is of concern because the number of health prob-

lems a person experiences is vital to his or her quality of life.

The most rapidly growing segment of the American population is the group of people who are over the age of 65. Within this population cohort, the oldest portion of this group - those over 85 years old - is increasing most rapidly. Health professionals, legislators, service providers, insurers, educators and others must recognize that changing demographics in the United States will affect many future issues. The changes that become more profound as the next generation of adults reaches the age of 65 years. The first wave of the baby boom generation just turned 50, so the actual numbers of older adults will grow incrementally; the baby boom generation accounts for 78 million people, almost 1/3 of the US population! Being prepared for this wave of the future requires that we have an understanding of human aging, knowledge of nutrient requirements for older people and information on the impact of disease on nutrition needs and quality of life.

This month, during The American Dietetic Association's 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, in San Antonio, Texas, a campaign called "Nutrition and Health for Older Americans" will be launched.

Goals of the campaign include the following:

- Enhance the health and nutritional status of older

Americans through member education;

- Build coalitions to spread the message;
- Explore behavior aspects of health and nutrition habits;
- Target minority populations who are at risk;
- Convene an expert advisory committee to provide advice on campaign tactics; and
- Educate older Americans and caretakers about nutrition and exercise and their role in health.

Slogan: "Investing in Your Health-Food, Fitness and Fun from Fifty Forward!"

A positive attitude is essential to encourage healthful, active later years for all Americans.

With professionals addressing the older Americans lifestyle several topics must be carefully evaluated:

1. Recommended nutrient requirements for the older people;
  2. Exercise as a factor in health;
  3. Oral health as an issue in nutritional status; and,
  4. Health promotion activities for older adults.
- A positive image and the message that improving health and nutrition status, food, fitness and fun from 50 forward is essential to older American's lifestyle.

(1) Chernoff R. Demographics of aging. In: Cheroff R., ed, *Geriatric Nutrition: The Health Professional's Handbook*, Gaithersburg, Md: Aspen Publishers; 1991.

**Five sisters welcome baby boy into family**

Seth Ross Murphree, newborn of Jim and Rhonda Murphree of Friona, was born on his sister's 15 birthday at

Hereford Regional Medical Center, at 12:34 p.m. March 16. He weighed in at 8 pounds.

Seth joins his five sisters, who were also all born at HRMC. Dr. Howard Johnson delivered Seth.

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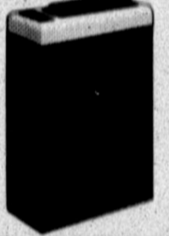
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**LOOKING BACK**

**Today in History**

**By the Associated Press**

Today is Tuesday, March 21, the 81st day of 2000. There are 285 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**

On March 21, 1965, more than 3,000 civil rights demonstrators led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. began their march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama.

**On this date:**

In 1685, composer Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Germany.

In 1790, Thomas Jefferson reported to President Washington in New York as the new secretary of state.

In 1804, the French civil code, the "Code Napoleon" was adopted.

In 1806, Mexican statesman Benito Juarez was born in Oaxaca.

In 1945, during World War II, Allied bombers began four days of raids over Germany.

In 1946, the United Nations set up temporary headquarters at Hunter College in New York.

In 1960, some 70 people were killed in Sharpeville, South Africa, when police fired on demonstrators.

In 1963, the Alcatraz federal prison island in San Francisco Bay was emptied of its

last inmates at the order of Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

In 1972, the Supreme Court ruled that states may not require at least a year's residency for voting eligibility.

In 1979, the Egyptian Parliament unanimously approved a peace treaty with Israel.

**Ten years ago:** Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev increased pressure on the breakaway republic of Lithuania, ordering its citizens to turn in their guns. Secretary of State James Baker met black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela in Namibia.

**Five years ago:** Thousands of Japanese police raided the offices of a secretive religious group, Aum Shinri Kyo, in connection with nerve-gas attacks on Tokyo subways that killed 12 people and sickened thousands.

**One year ago:** Israel's Supreme Court rejected a final effort to have American teenager Samuel Sheinbein returned to the United States to face murder charges. (Under a plea agreement with Israeli prosecutors, Sheinbein was later sentenced to 24 years in prison for the murder of Alfred Tello Jr.) At the Academy Awards,

"Shakespeare in Love" won seven Oscars, including best picture and best actress for Gwyneth Paltrow; Roberto Benigni won best actor for "Life is Beautiful," while Steven Spielberg won best director for "Saving Private Ryan."

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Al Freeman Jr. is 66. Actress Kathleen Widdoes ("As the World Turns") is 61. Actor Timothy Dalton is 56. Actress Marie-Christine Barrault is 56. Singer-musician Rose Stone (Sly and the Family Stone) is 55. Rock singer-musician Roger Hodgson (Supertramp) is 50. Rock musician Conrad Lozano (Los Lobos) is 49. Rhythm-and-blues singer Russell Thompkins Jr. (The Stylistics) is 49. Actress Sabrina LeBeauf is 42. Actor Gary Oldman is 42. Actor Matthew Broderick is 38. Comedian-talk show host Rosie O'Donnell is 38. Actress Cynthia Geary is 34. Rock musician Jonas "Joker" Berggren (Ace of Base) is 33. Rock MC Maxim (Prodigy) is 33. Rock musician Andrew Copeland (Sister Hazel) is 32. Hip-hop DJ DJ Premier (Gang Starr) is 31.

**Thought for Today:** "The heaviest baggage for a traveler is an empty purse." — German proverb.

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# SPORTS

HEREFORD BRAND • Tuesday, March 21, 2000 • A5

## Lady Whitefaces rule Hereford meet

By Jeff Blackmen  
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

On Friday, the weekend weather outlook wasn't promising for those participating in the Deaf Smith County Invitational.

After a cold and icy Thursday led to the events being postponed on Friday, the track meet was able to be finished in its entirety on Saturday.

The meet was a successful one for both Hereford teams. The girl's varsity track team placed first in the meet while the boy's varsity team placed fifth.

Head coach Ray Baca said he is happy about the way things are going.

"I've been really pleased," Baca said. "We are doing better this season than we have in the last year and a half."

Baca said he is proud of the leadership his girls are taking. He said the girls are participating in a lot more than they are used to, and they are excelling.

"The meet was indicative of our season," Baca said. "The kids are doing a lot of different things they are not used to."

Baca said two girls he is proud of are Toni Eicke and Audra Witkowski. He said Eicke and Witkowski are setting the tone for the team.

"They are helping the team gain confidence," Baca said.

On Saturday, Witkowski placed third in the women's long jump with a mark of 14 feet 2 inches. Eicke placed sixth in the long jump with a jump of 13 feet 9.5 inches.

In the triple jump, Witkowski placed third with a distance of 27 feet 9.75 inches, and she also placed second in the 400 meter dash with a time of 1:08.66.

Another athlete Baca said

he is proud of is Janet Blakely. He said Blakely leads by her performance on the track.

"Janet helps us, because she leads by action," Baca said.

Blakely finished second in the 3200 meter run behind Hereford's Audrey Cabezuela. Blakely also finished fourth in the 1600 meter run at 6:15.25.

Baca said the girl's track team wouldn't be complete without Brionne Yosten. He said Yosten proves to the rest of the team anything is possible.

"She is so unbelievably talented," Baca said. "In Levelland she wanted to compete in six different events, and she shows the team it is possible."

In Hereford, Yosten placed first in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:28.50. Yosten also placed second in the women's 600 meter run with a time of 5:40.61. She also placed third in the high jump with a mark of 4 feet 4 inches.

Yosten did not participate in the 3200 meter run because coach Baca wants to try something a little different this year.

"We've talked about running the 800 and the mile," Baca said. "We are experimenting to see if she can win two state titles."

Baca said in last year's state meet Yosten participated in two events that were almost back to back. Baca said rest was a factor in Yosten's second place finish in the 800 meter race.

"Rest is a factor, and we are trying to figure out how much recovery time she needs," Baca said.

On the boy's side, the Herd placed fifth, but only three points separated the third, fourth and fifth place winners.

One high point for the boy's team came in the pole vault



Toni Eicke takes the baton from Tiffany Koenig in a relay event during Saturday's Deaf Smith County Invitational.

where Luis Perez placed first with a vault of 11 feet six inches.

Javier Bravo also had a productive meet by placing fourth in the 3200 meter run

and sixth in the 800 meter run.

Rafael Ramirez also did well this weekend by placing fourth in the 200 meter dash and fifth in the 100 meter

dash.

Kurtis Flood placed fourth in the discus competition and Trey Madrigal placed third in shot put.

In the men's high jump,

basketball stand-outs Cody Marsh and Slade Hodges placed third and fourth re-

See TRACK, Page A6

## Whitefaces crush Palo Duro

■ Herd takes down Dons, 16-5.

By Jeff Blackmen  
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

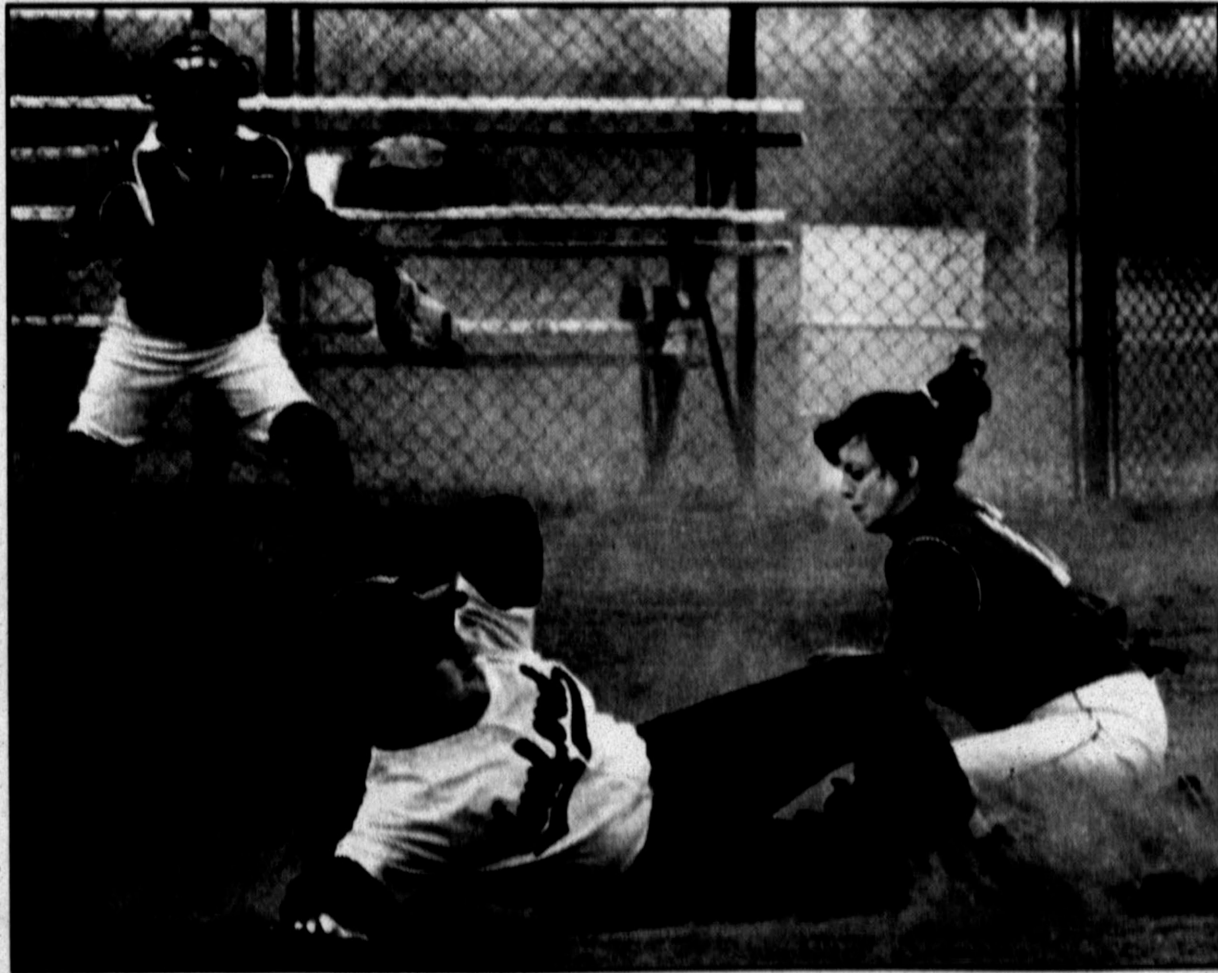
It was scary for a couple of innings, but then the Lady Whitefaces took control.

The Palo Duro Dons took an early lead over the Whitefaces on Saturday 5-2. Starting the game for the Whitefaces was Emma Ozuna. Ozuna struggled on the mound allowing all five runs by Palo Duro. In the second inning, Ozuna was replaced by Teresa Zimmerman who sat down nine out of the ten batters she faced while not allowing another hit.

The big innings for the Whitefaces came in the second and third when the Lady Whitefaces smashed the Don's pitching for 14 runs off of nine hits.

Head coach Penny Summers said the team scared her at the beginning of the game, but said she feels the team has a hard time hitting a slow pitch.

"They really scared me in



Teresa Zimmerman slides in to third base during the Whitefaces' 16-5 victory over Palo Duro.

the first inning when we kind of got a slow start," Summers said. "It worried me that they had trouble hitting the slower pitch. It seems that they hit a faster pitch better."

Summers said she felt her team did a good job of adjusting to the different style of play.

"They woke up, and they finally took care of business," Summers said.

The Lady Whitefaces are now 1-1 in district play and will look to better that record

this afternoon when they face Pampa at home.

Summers said before Tuesday's game she hopes to work on the teams offense.

"I don't have a problem that much with our defense," Summers said. "They have just got to hit the ball."

The softball team has a strong defense and Summers likes that part of their game.

"I think we have one of the top defenses in district," Summers said.

Today's game at home will

begin at 5:30 p.m.

The Whitefaces will bring in an 8-6 record overall, and will try to bring their district record to 2-1.

Contact the sports desk at:  
hbnews@wrt.net

## Baseball team 6-6 after tournament

By Jeff Blackmen  
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

Traveling to Burkburnett wasn't such a bad idea for the Herd baseball.

The varsity baseball team went to the Burkburnett tournament Thursday and faced some tough teams from Abilene, Lubbock, Burkburnett and Vernon.

In their first game on Thursday, the Herd beat Abilene Wylie behind a strong pitching performance from George Castillo. Castillo led the team to victory while allowing seven hits and four runs. Castillo also helped offensively by knocking in a run. The rest of the offense was provided by Toby Torres and Juan Ayala.

In Thursday's second game, junior pitcher Eddie Lacey was able to limit Lubbock Cooper to seven hits, but Hereford's seven errors led to a dismal 8-0 loss. The Herd had seven hits but could not push any runs across the plate.

On Friday, the Herd played a great game against a tough Burkburnett team. Sophomore pitcher Michael Rhyne had three strikeouts and allowed four hits in the 4-3 Whiteface win. Rhyne pitched 6 1/2 innings for the win, and Castillo slammed the door on Burkburnett to seal the victory for Hereford.

The runs for Hereford were scored by Toby Torres, George Castillo, Richard Salinas and Andrew Villareal. Richard Salinas and Villareal also batted in runs for the Hostile Herd.

In game four, the Whi-

faces played an exhibition game against Vernon. Starting the game for Hereford was Juan Ayala. Ayala struck out two and walked one in the 4-5 loss to Vernon. Brady Daniel, L.J. Vallejo and J.P. Holman batted in the runs for Hereford.

The tournament evens the team's record to 6-6. The Herd will next take on the Levelland Lobos today at 4:30 p.m. at Whiteface Field.

## Junior golf tourney set

On June 6-8, the fifth Annual Trans-American Junior Golf Championships will be held in Austin.

The tournament is designed for male and female junior golfers. It is geared for all junior golfers between the ages of 8-18.

The tournament welcomes any youth to play regardless if they are a beginner or a master.

The tournament will take place at the Jimmy clay Golf Course in Austin. Anyone who is interested please contact Richard Arzola at (512) 440-8011.

Palo Duro	1	4	0	0	5	5	3
Hereford	2	4	9	1	16	13	1
Pitching - Hereford (W-Zimmerman) Palo Duro (L-Garcia)							

## Throwin' Hard



Kurtis Flood launches a disc in the discus throw on Saturday. Flood placed fourth in the event.

## Herd golf alive in Amarillo

By Jeff Blackmon  
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

The golf team headed out this past weekend to compete at the Amarillo Relays.

The tournament in Amarillo acted as a final tune-up for the Hereford High School golf teams. This afternoon, Hereford will travel to Borger to begin district play.

At Amarillo, the boy's team placed eighth out of 19 teams. Leading the way for the guys was Peyton Ward who led the team with a combined score of 161. On Friday, Ward shot an 82 and bettered that score Saturday with a round of 79.

Kevin Hoffman combined for a score of 170 and Tyler Keeling followed with a 171. Thomas Maldonado finished the tournament at 173 and Brad Reinart finished at 183.

The girl's team placed seventh out of 17 with a final round total of 811.

Leading the way for the Lady Whitefaces was Heather Stokes who combined for a score of 182. Jessica Weishaar finished at 200 while Erin Noland ended at 211.

Abigail Caperton finished the weekend at 219 and Hannah Williams finished at 221.

## Cowboys look at Hobert

### Boys look at ex-Saint

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Billy Joe Hobert, who spent the past three seasons with New Orleans, has worked out with the Dallas Cowboys amid its search for a backup quarterback.

The Cowboys, who have made signing a backup one of the team's priorities, did not

offer a contract to Hobert after Monday's practice.

Hobert, who played for offensive coordinator Jack Reilly at Oakland, had been one of the first three quarterbacks New Orleans coach Mike Ditka started last year.

Two weeks ago, the Cowboys tried to sign veteran Scott Mitchell. But he opted to join Cincinnati.

A five-year veteran, Hobert started nine games for the Saints last year before a nerve problem in his shoulder ended his season.

Hobert completed 85 of 159 passes for 970 yards, with six touchdowns and six interceptions.

## Golf association hosts scramble

### Local golfers celebrate a different kind of 'March Madness'

By Jeff Blackmon  
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

Even though the wind was blowing strong, the golfers were out in full force to participate in March Madness.

Most sports lovers associate the term March Madness to the popular NCAA tournament championship, but local golfers in Hereford celebrated March Madness by playing in a tournament sponsored by the John Pitman Municipal Golf Association. The tournament organizes the competitors in scrambles and lasts throughout the afternoon. This year,

30 players entered the tournament and were organized into seven teams.

This year's winning scramble combined for a score of 61. The team members were Paul Hebbard, Sam Metcalf, Conny Martin and Wade Johnson.

Second place ended in a tie and was decided on a scorecard playoff. Both teams scored a 63, but the playoff resulted in a win for the team made up of Bill Brown, N.D. Kelso, Pete Wilt, Sinky Scott and Shawn Malone.

The other second place team was made up of Kevin Kelso, Rhea Scott, L.V. Watts and Don Davison.

Within the scrambles tournament two other events took place. The Closes to the Pin contest was held at holes six and 14. Paul Hebbard won hole number six, and Steve Stevens was the closest to the pin on number 14.

The tournament also featured a skin game which was won by the scramble of Keith Kelso, Joe Sherman, Meredith Ireland, Dan Bornemier and Colby Fangman. The team won the skin on hole number 9 with a score of two.

If you missed your opportunity to compete in this year's event, there is always next March.

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## Track

From Page A5

with a jump of 5 feet 8 inches. Slade Hodges finished with a jump of 5 feet 6 inches.

In the junior varsity competition, the boys finished in first place, and the girls finished in second place.

In the JV discus competition,

Jerrod Horton placed first with a throw of 112 feet 8 inches. Horton said he was happy about winning first but knew he could have done better.

"I know I could have done better," Horton said. "I need to work on my spin."

The next competition for the teams will be this weekend. The girls will travel to Lubbock while the boys travel to Fritch.

Baca plans to gradually increase the difficulty of the workouts in order to strengthen the teams.

"Every week workouts get longer and tougher," Baca said. "That will get our times to be faster and better."



Slade Hodges tries his best to make a successful jump for his team at last weekend's track meet.

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CLASSIFIEDS

City

From Page A1

In other business, the commissioners: Approved an increase in the payment for materials delivered to the city landfill. The city has been paying residents to deliver large or bulky items to the landfill rather than discarding them in alleys. The payment was \$1 per item or \$1 per cubic yard, based on the size of the vehicle. The commissioners approved a one-time payment of \$4 per item or \$4 per cubic yard for the third weekend of April. The landfill will be open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, April 15 and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, April 16;

Received a report from Don Cumpton, executive director of the Hereford Economic Development Corp. Cumpton said HEDC has been concentrating its efforts recently on the dairy industry. He said he has responded to contacts from dairies indicating an interest in this area. He also will attend some agriculture trade shows and expositions to promote Hereford and Deaf Smith County. Also, Cumpton said the HEDC website and promotional brochures are being brought up to date.

Farmers

From Page A1

has resisted holding hearings on overhauling the law, which expires in 2002.

"We'll rewrite the farm policy in 2002 — we have a seven-year contract with American farmers, and it was something they wanted," Lugar spokesman Andy Fisher said.

Farm income dropped from \$53 billion in 1996 to \$46 billion last year, but Fisher said that was due to cyclical changes, not federal farm policies.

The farmers, many wearing baseball caps and a few sporting cowboy hats, were organized by the National Farmers Union and a coalition of other organizations. They were bused in from all over the country, with the largest contingents from Minnesota and North Dakota.

Farmers also complained about agribusiness mergers. The resulting mega-companies dominate the marketplace, making it harder for family farmers to get a good price for their crops, they said.

Sen. Paul Wellstone, D-Minn., promised to re-introduce legislation calling for a moratorium on agriculture mergers, after polling the crowd in a tent on the Capitol Mall.

"We'll bring it back!" he yelled. "We'll do it!"

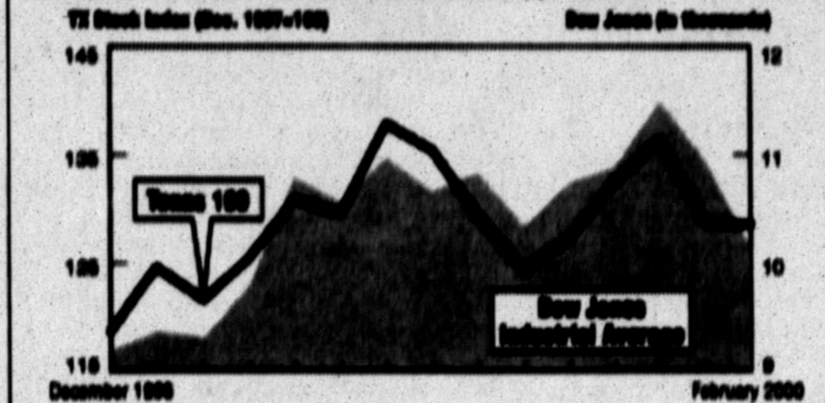
Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D., used the rally to pitch legislation calling for the U.S. government to match what European nations pay their farmers in subsidies.

"I say don't blame them, let's match them," Conrad said.

100 STOCK INDEX

Texas 100 Stock Index

The Texas 100 Stock Index fell 0.1% in January to a level of 128.5. Over the last 12 months, the index has risen 5.7% while the Dow Jones 30 Industrials gained 8.9%.



Up & down by sector

Sector	Change
Energy	+8.1%
Other Manufacturing	+5.8%
High Tech	+2.8%
Service & Financial	+2.7%
Entertainment & Travel	+4.5%
Retail	+3.5%
Softmberger	+21.0%
Holliburn	+6.7
Baker Hughes	+4.8
Pilgrim's Pride	+5.8%
Tempo	-8.8%
American Standard	-7.3
PopSci	-6.9
Southwest Airlines	+15.7%
East	+6.7
Office Depot	+21.9%
Best Buy	+14.4
Gap	+8.1
Winn-Dixie	-20.4%
Albertson's	-18.7
J.C. Penney	-18.7
Texas Instruments	+24.2%
Motorola	+24.9
Noriel	+21.2
Chen	+18.8%
Schlumberger	+6.5
Xerox	+4.3
QTE	-18.8%
Raytheon	-18.8
Boeing	-17.0
Columbia HCA	-20.3%
West TeleServices	-22.2
Wells Fargo	-17.3

NOTE: The index reflects how much an investment of one dollar in each company made in December 1987 would be worth today (\$139.67). SOURCE: Commodity Research Bureau, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Clinton urges end to the bloodshed in disputed region

NEW DELHI, India— President Clinton joined Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee today in decrying new bloodshed in disputed Kashmir. "The violence must end," Clinton asserted, calling for peace talks between nuclear rivals India and Pakistan.

News digest

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
Vajpayee decried the massacre of 36 villagers in Kashmir as "a premeditated act of barbarism" and cautioned, ominously: "We have the will and the means to eliminate this menace."

India blames Pakistan for the conflict. The meeting between Clinton and Vajpayee failed to produce any breakthroughs on either the Indian-Pakistani standoff or on India's nuclear ambitions.

But the two leaders signed a "vision statement" promising warmer relations between the world's two largest democracies and closer economic ties. Both the United States and India are seeking a closer relationship after years of Cold War estrangement — when India aligned itself with the Soviet Union and the United States tilted toward Pakistan.

Pope John Paul II says Mass in Jordan  
AMMAN, Jordan — More than 40,000 cheering Catholics packed a sports stadium today for a Mass led by Pope John Paul II, who is making a special plea for interfaith harmony on his Middle East pilgrimage.

The frail pope has been warmly received by Jordan's small Christian community, as well as the country's Muslim political and religious leaders. At the Amman International Stadium, many in the crowd wore T-shirts that featured both the pope and King Abdullah II, and read, "Jordan welcomes John Paul II." Muslim members of the royal family, including the king's mother, were among those present.

The pontiff, dressed in a red robe, called for "the strengthening of the bond ... between the Christians and the other great religions which flourish here."

Former Black Panther arrested in Alabama  
MONTGOMERY, Ala. — H. Rap Brown, the former Black Panther leader who once declared that violence was as American as "cherry pie," was arrested after a shootout with U.S. marshals in connection with last week's fatal shooting of a deputy.

Now known as Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin, he was arrested Monday night in Alabama's Lowndes County, west of Montgomery, FBI agent Theodore Jackson said. Authorities spotted him hiding in a shed, three days after he allegedly killed one sheriff's deputy and seriously wounded another while they tried to serve him with an arrest warrant in Atlanta, 160 miles northeast of Montgomery, Ala.

Jackson said Al-Amin immediately began firing shots at the team of U.S. marshals who found him in the shed, then ran into nearby woods. Federal and state agents circled him, then released dogs into the area, Jackson said. Within moments, Al-Amin was arrested, uninjured. No officers were injured.

Changes urged in primary system  
WASHINGTON — The earliest end ever to a presidential primary season has opened a debate on whether elections should be coordinated to give more voters more of a say. Leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties recently met to discuss this very topic after the presidential nominees became clear just six weeks into an 18-week season.

"We have a crazy quilt system that makes no sense whatsoever," said Sen. Max Cleland, D-Ga. "All of a sudden Iowa's the Holy Grail, then New Hampshire, then Washington (state). And the entire universe follows like a pack of puppies from minute constituencies."

Voters in about half of the states won't get to help choose the nominees because Texas Gov. George W. Bush and Vice President Al Gore locked up the Republican and Democratic nominations last week during a slate of Southern primaries dubbed "Stupor Tuesday."

Election

From Page A1

seat he has held for one term, while Mark Landrum is seeking his second term as District 3 trustee.

The other seat on the ballot is held by board president Dave Charest, who has been serving on the board since 1996.

Filing for seats on the board ends Wednesday.

HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
The four seats on the hospital district board are all at-large and are now held by Mark Collier, Dean Crofford, Jesse Rincones and Karen Solomon. While Collier, Crofford and Solomon are completing full terms, Rincones is filling out the unexpired term of Jeremy Grant. Grant resigned last fall.

Collier has been a director since 1996; Crofford, since 1994; and Solomon since 1997. Solomon was appointed to complete an unexpired term, then won a full term in 1998.

Candidates for seats on the hospital district board must submit a petition with 25 signatures of registered county voters by 5 p.m. April 6. Petitions are available in the Hereford Regional Medical Center administration office during regular office hours. Completed petitions must be authenticated as signed by registered voters by the candidate in the County Clerk's Office before being submitted to HRMC administrative assistant Carolan Garza.

The deadline to register to vote in these elections is April 6. Voters who want to vote by mail-in ballot must apply before April 28. Early voting in-person will be April 19-May 2.

Spending, taxes dividing Republicans

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reflecting a struggle within the Republican Party over its election-year message, conservatives are pressuring GOP colleagues in Congress for spending cuts to make room for deeper tax reductions.

These conservatives, insisting that the party romance its core conservative voters, have forced delays on both an overall budget for next year and a \$9 billion bill to pay for U.S. operations in Kosovo and combating cocaine kingpins in Colombia.

"I view this spending as a betrayal of what I believe in," said Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas. But others argue that the dozen or so states — largely in the Midwest — considered decisive battlegrounds in this fall's elections are moderate political bastions where big tax and spending cuts have little appeal.

And these centrists believe the party would fare better letting its presumptive presidential candidate, George W. Bush, set the campaign tone by focusing on education and other themes aimed at moderate voters.

"I'd like to do that," Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., said of the conservatives' desires for deeper spending and tax cuts in the proposed \$1.8 trillion budget put forth by Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici, R-N.M., for fiscal

2001. But if Republicans followed that course, he said, "We couldn't possibly do what we want to do" and also provide more money for defense, education, health care and other issues that many GOP lawmakers are hearing about from their constituents.

Lott and other party leaders in Congress would prefer sending President Clinton several small, popular tax bills, complete the rest of their work quickly, and leave the Capitol early for autumn campaigning.

"The party's trapped in a big argument: Is it a political party or a movement?" said GOP consultant Doug Thompson. "Do we do what's necessary to win, versus always standing up for what we believe in, Thompson said. "Movements make statements, but don't always win elections."

The spending cuts conservatives want would leave more room for another part of Bush's agenda: a proposed five-year, \$483 billion tax cut.

Neither Domenici's budget nor a similar spending plan approved last week by the



"I view this spending as a betrayal of what I believe in." — Sen. Phil Gramm

House Budget Committee would cut taxes as deeply, and Democrats say the Bush tax plan offers them a juicy target in the fall.

Domenici hopes his committee will begin working on his spending plan on Wednesday. The House plans to debate its version the following day.

The House debate has been complicated by language from conservative freshman Rep. Patrick Toomey, R-Pa., included in the budget committee's proposal. It would forbid any new spending that would reduce the size of this year's expected \$26 billion federal surplus — in effect, killing the \$9 billion spending bill for Kosovo, Colombia, Hurricane Floyd recovery efforts and higher Pentagon fuel costs.

In search of compromise, conservatives have been talking to House leaders about instead devoting a still-undecided part of the surplus to debt reduction. Even so, the episode spotlights how internal GOP battles have proven a distraction for the party.

The schism between conservatives and pragmatists has haunted the party ever since the GOP gained control of Con-

gress in the 1994 elections. And some Republicans say it could harm their prospects this fall, particularly considering the narrow margins by which the party holds the House and Senate.

"It could end up with a big fight that hurts the party overall," said Thompson. "It takes the focus away from the issues they should be building in a presidential election year."

Republicans also find themselves divided on other high-profile items on Congress' agenda in which moderates have strayed from the leadership's preferences. These issues include gun control, expanding the rights of patients of managed health care plans and raising the \$5.15 hourly minimum wage. Those splits underline that, with the polls indicating a tight election ahead, lawmakers are taking whatever positions they think they must to get re-elected.

"Incumbent protection is the rule of the day," said Marshall Wittmann, congressional affairs director for the conservative Heritage Foundation.

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTES — Here's how to work it: AXDYDLBAAXR 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.  
3-21 CRYPTOQUOTE  
PEHZR IYAN EZ RJN  
QEVG YP ATWWEVTREYV  
BJEWJ ZTANZ T LTV PHYL  
WTRWJEVC RJN WYLKITEVR  
T ZNWYVG RELN — STIDTW  
Saturday's Cryptoquote: THE WRITER WHO DRAWS HIS MATERIAL FROM A BOOK IS LIKE ONE WHO BORROWS MONEY ONLY TO LEND IT. — KAHLIL GIBRAN

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**Scorecard**

**Texas makes the grade**

Governing magazine's state Management Report Card is out, and Texas has earned a respectable "B" average. The Lone Star State "has good revenue and expenditure estimates, solid cash management and contract oversight, and impressive flexibility for agencies to manage their budgets," according to the report. Check out governing.com for report cards on each of the 50 states.

**Performance Report Card**

	Texas	California	Texas	Florida
Fiscal Management	B	C-	B+	B
Capital Management	C	C-	C	C
Human Resources	B	C-	C	C+
Managing for Results	B+	C-	B+	B
Information Technology	B	C+	C	C-
Average Grade	B	C-	C-	C+

SOURCES: Carol Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us) and governing.com.

**El bienestar de Texas**

**Texas entre los primeros lugares**

Governing Magazine On Line acaba de emitir su Boleta de Calificaciones, y Texas ha recibido un loable promedio de "B." Según el reporte, el estado "tiene buena estimación de ingresos y egresos, manejo sólido de efectivo y fiscalización de contratos, y una flexibilidad impresionante para que las agencias administren sus presupuestos." Enlázese a governing.com para ver las notas de los 50 estados.

**Boleta de Calificaciones**

	Texas	California	Texas	Florida
Administración Fiscal	B	C-	B+	B
Administración de Capital	C	C-	C	C
Recursos Humanos	B	C-	C	C+
Administración Orientada a Resultados	B+	C-	B+	B
Tecnología de la Información	B	C+	C	C-
Promedio	B	C-	C-	C+

FUENTES: Carol Keeton Rylander, Contralora de Texas para Cuentas Publicas (www.window.state.tx.us) y governing.com.

**IG finds problems with payments to outpatient facilities**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Well over half the Medicare payments made to outpatient rehabilitation facilities over a one-year period were questionable in nature, according to a six-state review released today.

The inspector general of the Department of Health and Human Services inspector general said that of \$263 million paid out for outpatient rehab in the six states in the year ending June 30, 1998, \$173 million was for "unallowable or highly questionable" services.

"Outpatient rehabilitation services are vitally important for countless people," said Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa, ranking Democrat on the Appropriations subcommittee that funds the Medicare program. "That's why we can't undermine support for them due to fraud, waste and abuse."

Harkin, whose office released the report, noted that one facility submitted a claim for payments to a credit card for boating-related expenses and trips to the Caribbean.

The six states surveyed — Florida, Louisiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Texas — represent nearly half the \$572 million that the Health Care Financing Administration, the agency that

runs Medicare, paid for outpatient rehab services nationwide in 1997.

The report found that of 192 claims medically reviewed, 66 claims were not reasonable and necessary for the patient's condition and 36 claims were inadequately documented.

It said the problem stemmed in part from an inadequate review process for new outpatient rehabilitation facility providers, the failure of HCFA to survey satellite facilities of providers and lack of recertification requirements. "Essentially, once an ORF (outpatient rehabilitation facility) is granted participation in the Medicare program, there is minimal accountability," it said.

The inspector general said HCFA, in response to the draft report, had developed an action plan that included an intensified medical review strategy.

HCFA Administrator Nancy Ann Min DeParle, in recent testimony to Congress, said her agency is making progress in cracking down on fraud. Auditors estimated that of the nearly \$170 billion Medicare paid directly to medical providers in 1999, the program lost \$13.5 billion, or about 8 percent, due to fraud, waste and mistakes.

**Supreme Court blocks regulation of tobacco**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court ruled today the government lacks authority to regulate tobacco as an addictive drug, rejecting the Clinton administration's main anti-smoking initiative.

Ruling 5-4, the justices said the Food and Drug Administration overreached when it reversed a decades-old policy in 1996 and sought to crack down on cigarette sales to minors.

"We believe that Congress has clearly precluded the FDA from asserting jurisdiction to regulate tobacco products," Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote for the court.

"By no means do we question the seriousness of the problem that the FDA has sought to address," O'Connor said. "The agency has amply demonstrated that tobacco use, particularly among children and adolescents, poses perhaps the single most significant threat to public health in the United States."

**Trade deficit sets new mark**

**Oil imports at an all-time high; exports slump**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. trade deficit shot up to a record \$28 billion in January as Americans' demand for foreign oil hit an all-time high while sales of exports slipped.

The Commerce Department said today that the deficit widened by 13.8 percent in January compared to a \$24.6 billion December deficit, stark evidence that the country began the year with the same weakness in trade that was exhibited throughout 1999.

For all of last year, the deficit soared to an all-time high of \$267.6 billion, 62.9 percent above the previous record, an imbalance of \$164.3 billion in 1998.

The widening trade deficit has been the biggest adverse effect on the U.S. economy from the 1997-98 Asian currency crisis, which cut sharply into American exports because of widespread economic weakness overseas.

While many crisis countries are now enjoying strong eco-

nomie rebounds, the U.S. trade deficit is expected to worsen further this year, reflecting continued strong consumer demand in this country and a rising foreign oil bill.

"Our spending continues to outpace our production," said William Cheney, chief economist at John Hancock in Boston. "This could result in inflation, but instead we simply make up the difference by importing even more from overseas."

For January, imports of foreign petroleum climbed to a record high of \$7.87 billion, more than double the level of a year ago, when the country was enjoying a big slide in petroleum prices.

The price of crude oil hit \$23.18 per barrel in January, the highest level since a \$25.75 price in December 1990 on the eve of the Persian Gulf War.

The Clinton administration, concerned about the political fallout of steeply rising prices for gasoline and home-heating oil, has been lobbying the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to step up production.

The widening trade deficit is presenting the administration with political problems as it tries to sell Congress with

a landmark trade agreement with China.

As part of the process of gaining admission to the World Trade Organization, the Chinese government agreed to lower its barriers to American manufactured goods and farm products. To get these trade concessions, Congress must end the annual reviews of China's trade privileges with the United States and grant the country permanent normal trade relations.

Opponents of the effort say that China has failed to live up to many of its past trade commitments and the United States needs to retain the annual review in order to keep pressure on the Chinese government to improve its human rights record.

For January, America's deficit with China shot up 7.6 percent to \$6 billion as imports from China rose while U.S. sales into the Chinese market fell.

The deficit with China far surpassed the imbalance with the longtime front-runner in this category, Japan. America's deficit with Japan shrank by nearly 20 percent to \$5.58 billion.

Some experts believe 2000 will be the year when China's surplus permanently surpasses

Japan's trade surplus with this country. The administration argues that the market-opening deal China is offering U.S. exporters will mean billions of dollars in increased sales for American companies and farmers.

In January, total U.S. exports dipped 1.8 percent to \$84.06 billion, still the second-highest level on record, following a record \$85.56 billion in sales in December.

The export decline reflected a drop of \$347 million in sales of chemicals and other industrial supplies, a decrease of \$355 million in sales of U.S. semiconductors and a decline of \$231 million in exports of consumer goods such as stereo equipment and household appliances.

Imports hit another monthly record of \$112.07 billion in January, up 1.7 percent from the December record.

The increase was paced by the \$919 million increase in oil imports. Other big import increases were in foreign autos, which rose by \$677 million and imports of capital goods, including computers and telecommunications equipment, which climbed by \$207 million.

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