

Hereford BRAND

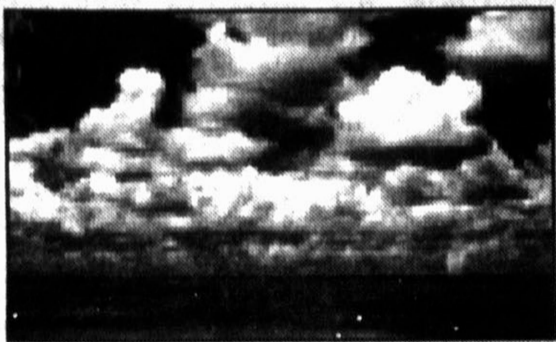
99th Year, Vol. Number 211 • Deaf Smith County, Texas

THURSDAY, April 27, 2000

8 Pages, 50 Cents

HUSTLIN' HEREFORD
HOME OF
Karen Solomon

Today's weather OUTLOOK



Partly cloudy skies

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a low in the upper 40s, southeast wind 5 to 15 mph.

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

Friday night: Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms, low 50 to 55.

Extended forecast

Saturday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms, high around 80.

Sunday and Monday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms, lows around 50, highs in the lower 70s.

Hereford weather

Wednesday's high, 83; low, 46; no precipitation.

DROUGHT

Wheat production drops across Texas

Staff and wire reports

Drought-caused declines in wheat production are forcing Texas farmers to find alternative uses for wheat fields, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service reports.

Extension economist Jose Pena of Uvalde said Texas wheat production is down 30 percent from last year. Pena said that most of the wheat did not come up or was never planted, due to this year's drought.

"When the farmers saw that the wheat crop was doubtful, they grazed it, insured it and diversified to other crops like corn and sorghum," he said.

Wheat acreage in the Deaf Smith County

area shows even more drastic effects of the enduring drought conditions.

Deaf Smith County Farm Service Agency executive director Ted Peabody said last year producers planted 62,000 acres of irrigated wheat and 100,000 acres of dryland.

"At this point we're almost two and a half weeks away from end reporting, but it looks like we will have only 50,000 irrigated acres and 50,000 dryland acres," Peabody said.

"Lots of acres that have been grazed out have already been appraised for insurance purposes. What the producers do with the land is going to depend on the moisture situation at planting."

Peabody expects to see a significant increase in the number of dry land sorghum acres, mainly due to the wide planting window allowed by dryland sorghums.

Pena said Southwest Texas has been hit the hardest by the drought, with a decrease in wheat production of 60 percent.

Extension agronomist Dr. Travis Miller of College Station said 92 percent of the Texas wheat crop has been rated poor to fair for the last couple of months. Miller said producers with cattle have reduced losses from wheat by grazing their fields or baling the wheat for

Please see CROPS, Page A8

Reno says the raid was necessary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Janet Reno said today that agents who seized 6-year-old Cuban boy Elian Gonzalez had to have a "show of force, not a use of force, to show we were in control."

Reno said the pre-dawn hours of Saturday were "the most appropriate time with the least crowd" for immigration agents to conduct the raid. "This appeared to be the safest time possible to effect the transfer," she told reporters.

Elian, she said, "has had a lot of bad luck along the way. He's still resilient, he's still strong, he's still a smiling little boy."

Reno sidestepped a question on whether the Justice Department would intervene to set up a meeting between Elian and the Miami relatives who cared for him after his rescue from the Atlantic Ocean on Thanksgiving Day. Elian's great-uncle Lazaro Gonzalez and cousin Marisleysis were the main caregivers.

"I can't imagine that Marisleysis will be out of his life," Reno said. "You could look at them and see a connection."

She was firm in defending the Justice Department's decision to seize Elian, saying the relatives gave officials no other choice. She said the relatives kept moving the "goal post" in negotiations aimed at achieving a peaceful transfer of custody of Elian to his father.

"They thought they could ignore us and we had tried to be very patient with them to effect a voluntary transfer, and then the time comes and the law must be enforced," she said.

Talking about the timing of the raid, Reno said there were very few people outside the house that morning and that if the government didn't act then, "People would be sure to find out that we were prepared to go."

As it was, she said, people outside the Miami home "tried to throw ropes around the agents as they came up to the house." One agent, Betty Mills, was grabbed as she carried Elian to a waiting van. "She, I am told, almost went down," the attorney general said.

Asked why the American public supports the Justice Department's actions, she said, "I think one of the things was that they had a chance to see it." She said officials knew cameras would be in the house during the raid.

Elian, his father, stepmother and baby half brother, Hianny, were at a secluded Eastern Shore retreat today, awaiting a visit from the boy's former kindergarten teacher and 10-year-old cousin.

Also expected to join the family as early as today were four of Elian's Cuban classmates, along with three of their mothers.



Cuby Club — Mayor Bob Josseland (seated, left) recently signed a proclamation designating April 29 as "Cuby Kitchens Day" in Hereford. Members of the 1958-59 Hereford High School basketball team, which reached the state playoffs, will honor Kitchens (seated, right) during a reception at 7 p.m. Saturday in First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Some of the long-time coach's biggest fans also were present for the signing ceremony. They were (standing, from left) veteran Hereford coach Larry Wartes, Shallowater coach Keith Kitchens, Bobbie Kitchens and Kitchens' daughter, Karen Marsh. Kitchens' younger son, Kelley, also a coach, was unable to attend.

U.S. economy surged in year's first quarter

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy, propelled by the biggest jump in consumer spending in nearly 17 years, grew at a 5.4 percent annual rate during the first three months of 2000, the Commerce Department said today.

And the Labor Department reported wages and benefits for American workers climbed by 4.3 percent during the 12 months ending in March, the sharpest advance in eight years.

The rise in the Employment Cost Index for just the January-March period was 1.4 percent, the biggest quarterly advance in 10 years.

The reports worsened fears of another round of interest-rate increases, and Wall Street acted predictably.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped more than 150 points at the opening and the Nasdaq fell more than 110. Bond prices, which had been rising, turned lower.

"It's pretty much a complete set of unfavorable readings on the economy from a policymaker's standpoint of wanting to keep inflation at low and stable levels and wanting to slow the economy's growth," said Ken Mayland of ClearView Economics. "This is probably going to cause some indigestion in the boardroom of the Federal Reserve."

The increase in the gross domestic product was weaker than the 6 percent rate many analysts were expecting.

Economic growth in the January-March quarter was slightly slower than the breakneck 7.3 percent rate posted in the last three months of 1999, the strongest showing in nearly 16 years.

The first-quarter performance was still faster than the rate of 3.5 percent to 4 percent that

the Federal Reserve regards as the pace that can be sustained without sparking inflation. The 5.4 percent first-quarter rate shows that the record-breaking economy, in its longest-ever streak of uninterrupted growth, lost little momentum at the beginning of the year.

First-quarter growth was led by a whopping 8.3 percent rate of increase in consumer spending — the largest gain since 8.6 percent in the second quarter of 1983.

The Fed has raised interest rates a quarter point five times since June 30 to slow the speeding economy. Given the outlook for continued strong growth, many economists believe the Fed will boost interest rates on May 16 and again in June.

Some say the next increase could be one-half point.

The central bank's rate increases are designed to raise borrowing costs for big-ticket items such as homes and cars and in that way cool off demand and keep inflation from getting out of hand.

Fears of inflation prompted the European Central Bank to raise interest rates by a quarter point today for the 11 countries using the euro. The main lending rate was increased to 3.75 percent.

An inflation gauge tied to the GDP that is closely watched by Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan rose at an annual rate of 3.2 percent in the first quarter, the largest increase since a 3.5 percent rate in the third quarter of 1994. The inflation measure rose at a 2.5 percent rate in the fourth quarter.

The government said the first-quarter inflation gauge reflected the impact of higher energy prices. Excluding volatile energy and food, the inflation index rose at a more modest 1.8 percent rate.

CUBA

"With regard to Cuba, we feel the embargo has failed in spectacular fashion. Texas farmers and ranchers could easily and profitably supply many of the products both used and needed here in Cuba."

DONALD PATMAN,
president, Texas Farm Bureau

■ Texas lawmaker joins farmers in urging nation to end the embargo on food, medicine to Havana

HAVANA (AP) — A delegation of Texas farmers, led by a congressman, ended a three-day visit to Cuba on Wednesday with a call for Congress to lift the embargo on food and medicine sales to the communist island.

"With regard to Cuba, we feel the embargo has failed in spectacular fashion," said Donald Patman, president of the Texas Farm Bureau, at a news conference. "Texas farmers and ranchers could easily and profitably supply many of the products both used and needed here in Cuba."

Rep. Charles Stenholm, the ranking Democrat on the House Agriculture Committee, repeated his endorsement of the Ashcroft amendment — a measure in Congress to lift restrictions on food and medical sales to Cuba. The amendment has also won the support of Sen. Jesse Helms, R-NC, one of Cuba's fiercest critics in the United States.

"Over 90 percent of our (U.S.) farmers and ranchers say that it is time to lift all unilaterally imposed sanctions on food and medicine," said Stenholm, a Texasan.

"It is in the interest of American farmers and the consumers of the world, including Cuba, that we do not use food for any other purpose other than feeding people, and the same goes for medicine," he said.

While Stenholm said he did not think the issue should be linked with the case of Elian Gonzalez, he said the agreement between the U.S. and Cuban governments that the Cuban boy belongs with his father had helped conditions for talks.

"The atmosphere is very good now for conducting these discussions," Stenholm said. He estimated that U.S. food sales to Cuba could reach \$1 billion a year.

U.S. suppliers would have an advantage over Europeans currently supplying the Cuban market because of lower transportation costs, he said. But other aspects of the U.S. embargo on Cuba block official export credits, complicating any sales.

An increasing number of U.S. delegations have visited Cuba since the start of last year, when the Clinton administration modified restrictions on Cuba to encourage more direct contacts between the two countries.

After leading a delegation of Massachusetts scholars to the country last week, Democratic Reps. James McGovern and Joseph Moakley urged President Clinton to ease the embargo.

CORRECTION

Information in a photo caption in the April 20 edition of the *Hereford Brand* incorrectly reported that Melissa Soliz, 30, received a citation for failure to yield the right of way in the April 19 accident at the intersection of 13th and Irving streets.

According to the police report, the bicyclist, 7-year-old Victor Aguilar, failed to stop at the stop sign and was struck by the car. Investigators determined Soliz could not avoid the accident.

The newspaper regrets the error.

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HEREFORD BRAND

Local roundup

Electric Cooperative names scholarship recipients

Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce the recipients of five DSEC scholarships: Jill Schulte, Nazareth High School, daughter of Robert and Beverly Schulte; Kayla Wyley, Friona High School, daughter of Criss and Karen Wyley; Seth Solomon, Vega High School, son of Craig and Judy Solomon; Clint Patterson, Farwell High School, son of Gary and Cindy Patterson; and Rachel Wall, Hart High School, daughter of Neoma Williams and the late Mike Wall.

Each \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000 per semester for two semesters. These scholarships are available to immediate families of active members and active employees of Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative.

Scholarships were made possible with the passage of Texas law, HB 3202. Prior to the passage of this bill, unclaimed funds from the DSEC capital credit checks were sent to and retained by the state. The law now allows the unclaimed funds to be used for scholarships and/or economic development.

HHS Car Club show

Hereford High School Car Club will hold a car show Saturday, April 29, at 10 a.m. in Dameron Park.

Participants may register the day of the show for \$10. The community is invited to come view the cars and enjoy the food and fun.

Retirement party scheduled

Members of the Hereford Fire Department cordially invites the public to a retirement reception in honor of Jay C. Spain on Saturday, May 6 from 1-5 p.m. at the Hereford Fire Department, 215 N. Miles.

Quad Counties Job Fair planned

Employers who need workers or unemployed and underemployed workers will have a chance to get together next month at the Quad Counties Job Fair.

The job fair for Castro, Deaf Smith, Oldham and Parmer counties will be 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 10 at the Hereford Community Center, 100 Ave. C. It will feature free registration and a meal. The deadline to register is May 1.

Booths will be provided and there will be door prizes and goody bags.

The fair is sponsored by the Texas Department of Human Services, chambers of commerce, Texas Workforce Commission and Catholic Family Services.

For registration forms, contact Nora Pesina, TDHS, 363-8612; Marin Rivas, TWC, 364-8600; or Belle Braddock, TDHS, 647-4181, extension 24.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News digest

Machinists return to work

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Lockheed Martin machinists began returning to work on the defense contractor's mile-long assembly line early today after voting to end their 17-day walkout.

A contract proposal hammered out this week by union and company negotiators was approved 1,514-246 during a meeting of Local 776 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers on Wednesday afternoon.

Both sides said they're happy with the agreement. Union president Pat Lane said he was especially pleased that strikers behaved peacefully on the picket line. The last strike in 1984 was marred by bottle-throwing with police and other violence.

Prison cleanup begins

LAMESA, Texas (AP) — Cleanup begins today of the glass, blood, fire damage and tattered clothing left behind after a deadly West Texas prison riot.

"I saw a lot of destruction," Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokesman Larry Fitzgerald said after touring the Smith Unit Wednesday night.

"Unlike some other riots we've been in, they didn't destroy any expensive property, like computers. Probably the main thing is the glass breakage."

About 300 black and Hispanic inmates took part in a racially-motivated riot Tuesday night at the minimum-to-medium-security prison. One man died and 31 others were injured.

The prison, about 60 miles south of Lubbock, remained under lockdown today.

Mayors launch seat belt initiative

DALLAS (AP) — Hundreds of mayors from around the country planned to launch an initiative today to increase seat belt use among black youth.

The National Conference of Black Mayors, in Dallas for its annual convention, planned to meet with educators, high school students, law enforcement and community leaders to kick off a pilot program to boost public awareness about the issue.

Blacks fall below the national average on seat belt use, according to a study by Nashville-based Meharry Medical College.

The 1999 study, funded by General Motors Corp., shows blacks in their teens and 20s are half as likely to buckle up as whites and Hispanics in the same age group.

Increasing compliance to 100 percent could save as many as 1,300 lives a year and prevent 26,000 injuries a year.

HerefordBrand

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Publisher (1972-98)
Publisher
Managing Editor
Circulation Manager

Algebra texts fail reality rating

WASHINGTON (AP) — Algebra can help people balance checkbooks, calculate the best deal from competing phone companies and negotiate the most efficient route in a car trip. But a lot of pupils struggling to master the subject would never know that from their textbooks, an educators' group says.

After rating the nation's leading math texts and finding many of them wanting, a panel from the American Association for the Advancement of Science is asking teachers and textbook writers to instruct students in ways that connect algebra to everyday life.

"Just figuring out how to drive a truck route using the least amount of gas is a mathematical problem," said George

Nelson, leading a math and science education campaign for the association. "That's very important to companies now. They count every ounce."

But students, who are being increasingly required to take advanced math regardless of whether they go to college, are getting inch-thick textbooks peppered with equations, graphs and word problems that seem to have little bearing on practical needs, the group said Wednesday.

Displaying a dozen books reviewed by a panel of mathematicians and college and K-12 math teachers, the researchers called on schools choosing the materials to concentrate more on how algebra is taught.

The books studied by the

group are the most widely used of about two dozen algebra texts published for children in grades six through 12.

None was judged excellent. Seven of the 12 were deemed adequate. Five — including the three most widely used in American classrooms — were rated inadequate.

Book publishers defended their work. "It is the teachers and local school officials who decide which textbooks meet their needs," said Stephen Driesler, executive director of the school division of the Association of American Publishers Inc.

Schools, reviewers said, tend to choose books from the biggest publishers, the ones best able to produce and market the material that state law-

makers think pupils should know.

"Millions of dollars are spent on textbooks; we need more guidance," said Jacqueline Mitchell, Maine's state supervisor of math instruction. "School districts just don't have the expertise, time and money to do this type of analysis."

Newer programs address how algebra — which explains how different numbers relate to each other — helps people accomplish real-life tasks, said one textbook writer.

"We're not drilling kids," said Sherry Fraser, director of the Interactive Mathematics Program, a textbook deemed adequate by the group and used by 500 schools in 28 states. "If they are just mimicking the teacher, they do not see the usefulness of it."

Gerald Kulm, a Texas A&M University math professor who directed the evaluation, said the books do a poor job of helping teachers build on what children already understand.

For example, the lesson review section of one book simply asks students to list and define phrases such as "scatter plot" and "linear equation."

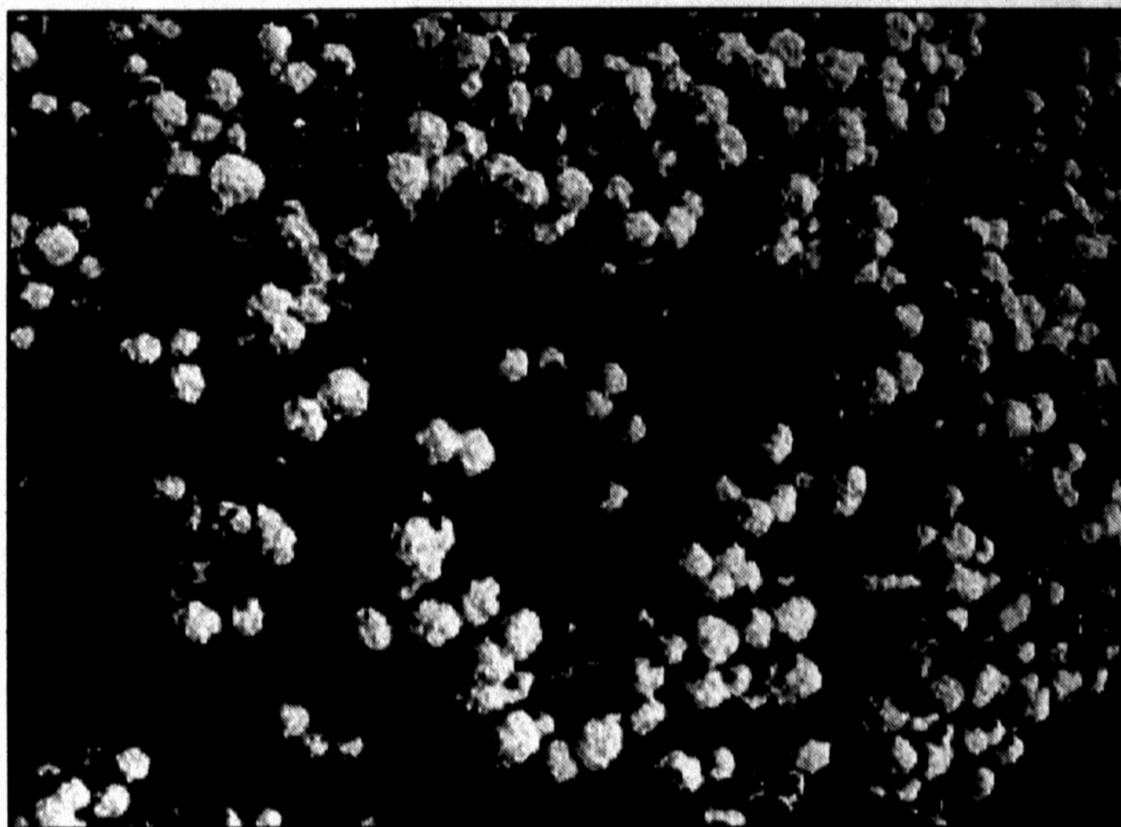
"That is clearly not a way to help a child understand what he just learned," Kulm said. "In algebra, we tend to jump in and say, 'OK kids, you're grown up, so now we're going to start throwing abstractions at you.'"

The college and K-12 teachers and mathematicians who reviewed the books had no relationship with the publishers. The project was financed by the Carnegie Foundation.

The increased scrutiny of algebra instruction comes as U.S. students struggle to keep up with other nations on math scores. More states are requiring algebra — long considered an advanced math class for college-bound students — to get a diploma or advance to the next grade.

Nelson said technical jobs are being lost to students from other nations whose lessons provide more depth and meaning.

Blooms and blooms



Springtime snowballs — Flowers of every size, shape and color always add to the beauty of springtime, but the bounty of a snowball bush in full bloom is probably one of the most striking as the blossoms begin with a tinge of green and gradually fade to a pure white. This single bush displays its blooming bounty on the corner of Avenue K and 13th.

Shelter spares adoptable pets' lives

City implements plans to end euthanasia of healthy, homeless animals

LAS VEGAS (AP) — In another city, the tabby cat in cage No. 10 would likely be on death row — she's been at the city shelter for days and no one has come to adopt her.

But in Las Vegas, the fate of homeless pets is better than in most places. The city is trying to become the first in the nation to stop killing healthy, abandoned pets.

"I know we're going to change history — change for-

ever how our city deals with homeless pets," said Mary Herro, president of the Animal Foundation, the city-run shelter.

Since 1988, the euthanasia rate has dropped from 55 percent to 33 percent at the shelter, Herro said. Adoptions have increased from 1,500 a year to more than 9,000 annually and more than 122,000 animals have been spayed and neutered.

Sparing the lives of adoptable pets — those without severe health or behavioral problems — is a realistic goal, Herro said.

While many private shelters across the country have a no-kill policy, Herro said the Animal Foundation would be the first locally run shelter in the United States to stop killing animals.

"It should be the goal of every humane society and animal control facility in the country," said Wayne Pacelle,

senior vice president of the Humane Society of the United States.

As the city shelter, the Animal Foundation must accept any animal.

Veterinarians spay and neuter dozens of homeless pets each day before they are placed in cages to await adoption. One veterinarian recently performed 57 operations in a single day, about average for the shelter.

The low-cost spay and neuter clinic has helped the city toward its no-kill goal by controlling the animal population. The shelter, open seven days a week, also holds adoptions with businesses and hotels.

Herro also enlists "foster families" to take in mother cats and dogs and their babies. After the animals are weaned, the families return the unwanted pets to the shelter for adoption.

A key element in reaching

the zero euthanasia goal is building a 32,000-square-foot city shelter, a project that is about \$300,000 short of needed funding. The current shelter is 7,000 square feet and overcrowded.

More space means the shelter can keep animals longer. Here each pet is kept 30 days; most shelters only keep animals a few days.

But even with the longer stay, healthy animals are euthanized because there is simply not enough room to keep them, Herro said. Last year, 1,594 adoptable pets were put to sleep.

"You have your days when you just want to go home and cry because you can't do anything for them," said Cyd Dutcher, 32, a shelter worker.

Animal Foundation <http://www.animalfoundation.com>
Humane Society of the United States: <http://www.hsus.org>

HEREFORD BRAND

Obituaries

KATHERINE FOX
April 27, 2000

AMARILLO — Graveside services for Katherine Fox, 88, of Amarillo, will be 2 p.m. Friday at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Amarillo with Dr. Jim Smith, senior pastor of St. Stephen United Methodist Church officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Schooler-Gordon Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Fox died Thursday in Hereford.

She was born Feb. 7, 1912, in Amity, Ark. She had been a Southwestern Bell Telephone operator and residential real estate agent.

Survivors include one daughter, Susan Fox of Amarillo; one son, Richard Price of Hereford; one sister, Clara De Lano of Amarillo; one brother, Karl Key of Amarillo; four grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred Fox in 1996.

Hereford Brand, April 26, 2000

HEREFORD BRAND

Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for April 26, 2000, include the following:

POLICE DEPARTMENT Incidents

— A civil matter involving grass clippings piled in the complainant's yard in the 300 block of North 25 Mile Avenue was reported.

— Two bicycles were reported as found property in the 400 block of Avenue E.

— A watch valued at \$60 was reported stolen in the 1000 block of Grand.

— Wood piled next to a dumpster in the 400 block of Avenue B was reported.

— Children were reported to be undressing at Dameron

Park. Officers found no evidence.

— A woman reported her son's small blue bicycle was stolen from the 200 block of West Third. The bicycle is valued at \$49.

— A domestic disturbance, involving child custody, was reported in the 200 block of Avenue D.

— An alarm at a residence in the 600 block of Blevins was reported.

— A 16-year-old boy attempted suicide in the 400 block of Avenue J by taking prescription drugs.

— A criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of Avenue E, where a screen door was cut.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Texas lottery

Lotto Texas

Two tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The tickets were worth an estimated \$4 million.

The tickets were sold in: Bronte and Edinburg.

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

3-12-13-28-31-44

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated \$4 million.

Pick 3

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

2-4-8

Quality Caskets at Fair Prices...

Caskets And Monuments

337 N. Miles

Hereford, Texas 79045

24 hr. Phone 363-2300 363-2700

LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Thursday, April 27, 2000 • A3

Breast cancer screenings set at local clinic

The Women's Center of the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and Baptist/St. Anthony's Health System will conduct a breast cancer screening at South Plains Health Care Providers, Inc., 603 East Park, on May 12.

This clinic is available only to women who need financial assistance. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance.

Call 806-356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information.

La Plata Club holds meeting

La Plata Study Club met recently in the home of Avis White with Lois Matchett as co-hostess.

The program was presented by Linda Coronado, program director of the Women's and Children's Crisis Center.

Eleven members and one guest were present.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 16.



Trixie the Clown surprised the K5 class at St. Anthony's School recently. Trixie and several of her clown friends will be making balloon animals at Carnival Krazy, St. Anthony's annual fund-raiser, from noon to 5:30 p.m. Sunday. The carnival will also include a wide variety of game and food booths and other fun activities.

Josserand is nominee for area service award

Nancy Josserand of Hereford is among nominees for the Amarillo Area Women's Forum Distinguished Service Awards. All nominees will be honored at a luncheon on May 6 at the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo.

Entertainment for the luncheon will be provided by the Amarillo Boy Choir.

Winners of the Distinguished Service Award are selected on the basis of an individual's significant impact on the Panhandle through their communities. The award recognizes and publicizes the visible examples set by women

who pave the way for others to follow.

Other nominees are Doris Alexander, Toni Banks, Bev Harris, Sally Manning, Dr. Deann Creighton Merchant, Sharon Miner, Harriet Nichols, Margaret Payton, all of Amarillo; Koma Jo Baker and Sue Bartolino of Canyon; Loralee Cooley, Pampa; Helen Estlack, Clarendon; Pauline Hammons Johnsey, Memphis; Helen Piehl, Bushland; and Margaret Reed, Stratford.

Reservations are required. Price is \$20 per person. For more information call Janie Noble at 358-7172.

College Report

Miriam Wilks of Hereford was recently inducted into the Hardin-Simmons University chapter of Alpha Mu Gamma.

Alpha Mu Gamma is an

honor society that promotes the study of foreign languages.

Wilks was inducted due to her excellence in the study of Spanish.

CREATORS SYNDICATE

Ann Landers



Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: I am writing in defense of "Dad in Ohio," who told his children not to believe everything their mother says.

You faulted him across the board for calling his ex-wife a liar in front of the kids. Obviously, you have never been in a relationship with a compulsive liar.

Have you ever had to console a child because a lying father promised to visit, and didn't show up for the umpteenth time? Or promised to take that child somewhere, and folded out? These children are horribly disappointed over and over, and they think it is their fault. What should I say when they ask, "Doesn't Daddy love me anymore?" What should I tell them the second time it happens — and the third?

I say, the only way to deal with this is to tell them the truth — that their father is a liar. It worked wonders for my children. They were no longer devastated when their father broke a promise, because they understood it wasn't their fault. Knowing he was a liar did not stop the children from loving him. It simply made them less hurt. You owe "Dad in Ohio" an apology, Ann. — Kathy in Fraser, Mich.

Dear Kathy: Sorry, but there will be no apology from me. Children need not be told

a parent is a liar. If the parent fails to keep his or her word, the children will get the message firsthand via broken promises and multiple disappointments. Divorced parents who love their kids don't use them as pawns to hurt one another. The children have been hurt enough. Here's more from those who agree with you:

From Topeka, Kan.: My mother told us our father never sent child support, and that is why we never had any money. It wasn't until I was an adult that I had the courage to ask my father to explain his rotten behavior. He showed me a stack of old bank statements that proved he never missed a payment. My mother always had enough money to buy herself nice clothes, but would tell us, "Your father didn't send your money again, so you will have to do without." We never questioned her word. Had I known earlier that she was incapable of telling the truth, I would not have been so shocked. I'm grateful to have a good relationship with my father now, but I spent too many years resenting him when he had done nothing wrong.

Des Moines, Iowa: When I was growing up, my mother adhered to your philosophy that she should keep her mouth shut and we would find out on our own that our father was a liar. We did, but for years we went through tremendous pain and disap-

pointment because of him. When I divorced my ex-husband, I told my son that he could not believe everything Daddy said. My son is now 12 years old, and understands that he can love his father without trusting him.

Rogersville, Mo.: My ex-wife had our kids lying for her to cover up whenever she did something wrong. At one point, she told our young daughter to be careful, because I might try to molest her. Both my children learned after a while that their mother lies constantly, but we lost a great deal of time waiting for them to figure it out. Now, I am sorry to say, my daughter, a teenager, has started to develop the same pattern of lying. She seems not to know the difference between right and wrong, and fails to understand that good relationships are built on honesty and trust. I believe what my ex-wife did was a form of child abuse. I wish I had handled the situation the way "Dad in Ohio" did. We would all be better off.

Dear Rogersville: You say you lost a great deal of time waiting for your children to "figure it out." That was not time wasted. The things they figure out for themselves are the lessons best learned, and far better than having had their father tear their mother down.

That first kiss, that first embrace ... Remember all those things that brought you and

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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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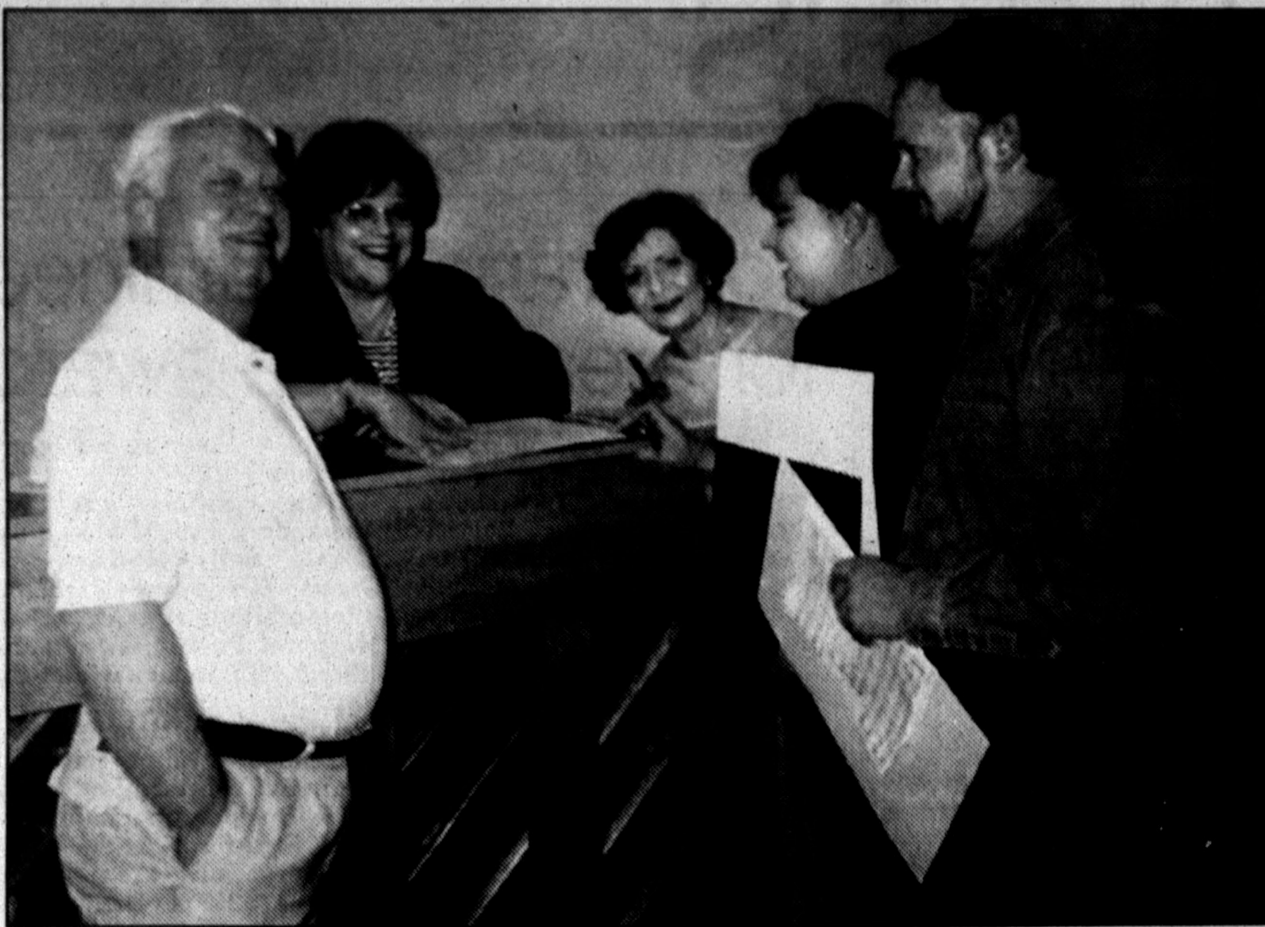
CITY OF HEREFORD PARK FACILITY RESERVATIONS

Week of April 27 - May 3, 2000

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Veteran's Pavilion Saturday, April 29 Still Available	Veteran's Pavilion Sunday, April 30 • 2:00- 11:00 Raymond Casteneda
NW Corner Dameron Park W/V-Ball Saturday, April 29 • 8:00-8:00 Hereford Car Club	NW Corner Dameron Park W/V-Ball Sunday, April 30 Still Available

Reservations are taken for a special park location on a first come, first served basis. Reservations must be made in person at the City Hall.

CITY OF HEREFORD



It's fun — Members of Hereford Chamber Singers have fun during a recent rehearsal for their upcoming public concert. The newly reorganized group will present a free concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 7 in St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Pictured above are tenor Duffy McBrayer, pianist Linda Gilbert, sopranos Claudia McBrayer and Christine Gregoris, and tenor Chad Beavers.

Reorganized singers will give first concert

The Hereford Chamber Singers will present a concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 7 in St. Thomas Episcopal Church. The public is invited to attend without charge for admission. A love offering will be taken. The concert will offer a variety of music both sacred and

secular. Favorites among the numbers will be "American Folk Trilogy," "Wind Beneath My Wings," "Moonglow," "In Dat Great Gittin' Up Mornin'," and "When I Fall in Love." Gene Streun is the president of the board of directors.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Area Events

TURKEY

The 29th Anniversary of Bob Wills Day will be celebrated in Turkey this Saturday.

A pancake breakfast will begin at 7 a.m. in the Bob Wills Center Cafeteria. A parade along downtown main street will be at 10 a.m. followed by barbecue lunch at 11 a.m.

An Old Fiddlers Contest will take place beginning at noon. The afternoon program will feature all the former Texas Playboys who are present in a free concert at the old football field.

The Saturday night dance will start at 7 featuring Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys.

Midnight breakfast will be served in the cafeteria. Festivities will conclude with a community worship service at 8:30 a.m. Sunday.

CANYON

The Harrington String Quartet will present the third and final subscription performance of its

1999-2000 season at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Northern Hall at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

They will perform three works - Haydn's "Lark" Quartet, Wolf's Italian Serenade and Beethoven's Quartet in E-flat major, Opus 74.

A free reception will follow the performance. For information, call the Symphony office at 376-8782.

The West Texas A&M University Alumni Association's 37th annual Phoenix Club Banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. on May 6 at the Alumni Banquet Facility.

The banquet is when the Alumni Association annually announces its Distinguished Alumnus Awards as well as the University Excellence Award. Additionally at this year's banquet, the much-anticipated WTAMU Man and Woman of the Century awards will be presented as selected by a commit-

tee representing each college, the Alumni Association, Student Services and Athletics.

Keynote speaker for the banquet will be Florene Miller Watson, a Borger resident who in 1943 commanded the Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) outfit at Dallas Love Field.

Tickets are \$17.50 for club and endowed members; \$20 for Alumni Association members; and \$25 for non-members. After April 28, all tickets are \$35. For tickets or more information, call the Alumni Association at 651-2311.

ERICK

The Erick, Okla., Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring its Spring City-Wide Garage Sale on May 6. A list of all garage sales can be obtained from C&K Quickstop and Puckett's Grocery.

The event has been highly successful in past years and this year should offer shoppers a little of everything.

WTAMU secures funding for another year of JASON Project

Special to the Brand

A trio of newly acquired grants, coupled with a little more than \$70,000 that remains in the Amarillo National Resource Center's (ANRC) education budget, means the JASON Project's run at West Texas A&M University will continue for at least another year.

WTAMU has been selected to receive a \$20,000 grant through the New Century Energies (NCE) Foundation on behalf of Southwestern Public Service (SPS) Company, a \$7,400 grant from the state of New Mexico's Regional Alliance for Mathematics, Engineering and Science for Disabled Students, and a \$6,500 grant from the Texas Rural Systemic Initiative headquartered at WTAMU. All three grants are intended to help fund the 2001 JASON Project which carries a price tag of approximately \$100,000 each year.

"We are so very appreciative of these grants," Treasure Bracher, WTAMU JASON Project coordinator and physics instructor, said. "Even with the money we are getting from ANRC, we

would not have been able to participate in this year's JASON Project without these three grants."

Each year, the JASON Project takes millions of elementary and middle school students worldwide on scientific "expeditions" without taking them from the regions in which they live. The expedition annually culminates at approximately 40 Primary Interactive Network Sites (PINS) throughout the United States, Bermuda, Mexico and the United Kingdom, where students watch the expedition live and event control live-feed video cameras and communicate with on-site scientists.

Through funding from ANRC, which twice has paid WTAMU's \$68,000 annual PINS registration fees, the University has become established as one of only three PINS in Texas. Since 1999, more than 16,000 fourth-through ninth-graders have visited the campus to participate in the JASON Project.

However, WTAMU's participation in the project was

jeopardized last year when the U.S. Department of Energy cut funding from the ANRC budget, a portion of which had been used to underwrite the project on campus. Aside from PINS registration fees, about \$30,000 is needed each year to conduct teacher training.

"These three grants, along with residual money the ANRC has given us, assures us that we can go forward with the JASON Project for at least one more year," Frannie Nuttall, WTAMU grant writer, said. "Meanwhile, we will continue to work at obtaining funding for future JASON Projects."

Advanced you-are-there telecommunications technologies are the key to the JASON Project, which Dr. Robert Ballard, the discoverer of the *Titanic*, founded in 1989.

"The JASON Project is truly the best science program I've ever seen, and it would be a shame to see it end here," Brasher said. "This is a really exciting program, the kind of thing that can have an impact on kids."

In 1805, Marines captured Derna

By The Associated Press
Today is Thursday, April 27, the 118th day of 2000. There are 248 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 27, 1805, a force led by U.S. Marines captured the city of Derna, on the shores of Tripoli.

Ten years ago: The aperture door of the Hubble Space Telescope was opened by ground controllers as the space shuttle Discovery, which had carried the Hubble into orbit, prepared to return home.

Five years ago: Former Orange County, Calif., Treasurer Robert Citron pleaded guilty to six counts of defraud-

ing investors in the county investment pool.

One year ago: A week after the Columbine High School massacre, President Clinton called for new gun control measures, saying, "People's lives are at stake here." Jazz trumpeter Al Hirt died in New Orleans at age 76.

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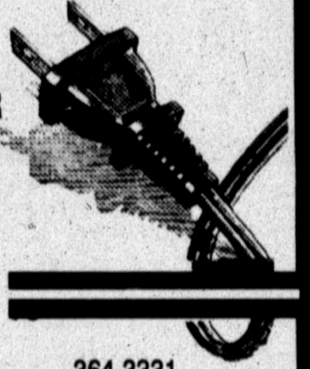
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SPORTS

A5 • HEREFORD BRAND • Thursday, April 27, 2000

Hereford JV keeps rolling

By Jeff Blackmon

Hereford Brand Sports Editor

The Hereford High School junior varsity baseball team continued its successful year by knocking off Canyon on Wednesday 8-4.

C.J. Berryman pitched a complete game en route to the Hereford victory. Berryman struck out ten Canyon High School batters while giving up four runs for the win.

Edward Villarreal single handedly shot down the Eagles by going 3-4 with five RBIs, and Russell Carr went 2-2 with a double during the Hereford win. Carr also crossed the plate three times in the game.

With the win, the JV team continued its roll since winning the consolation bracket at the Amarillo JV Baseball Tournament.

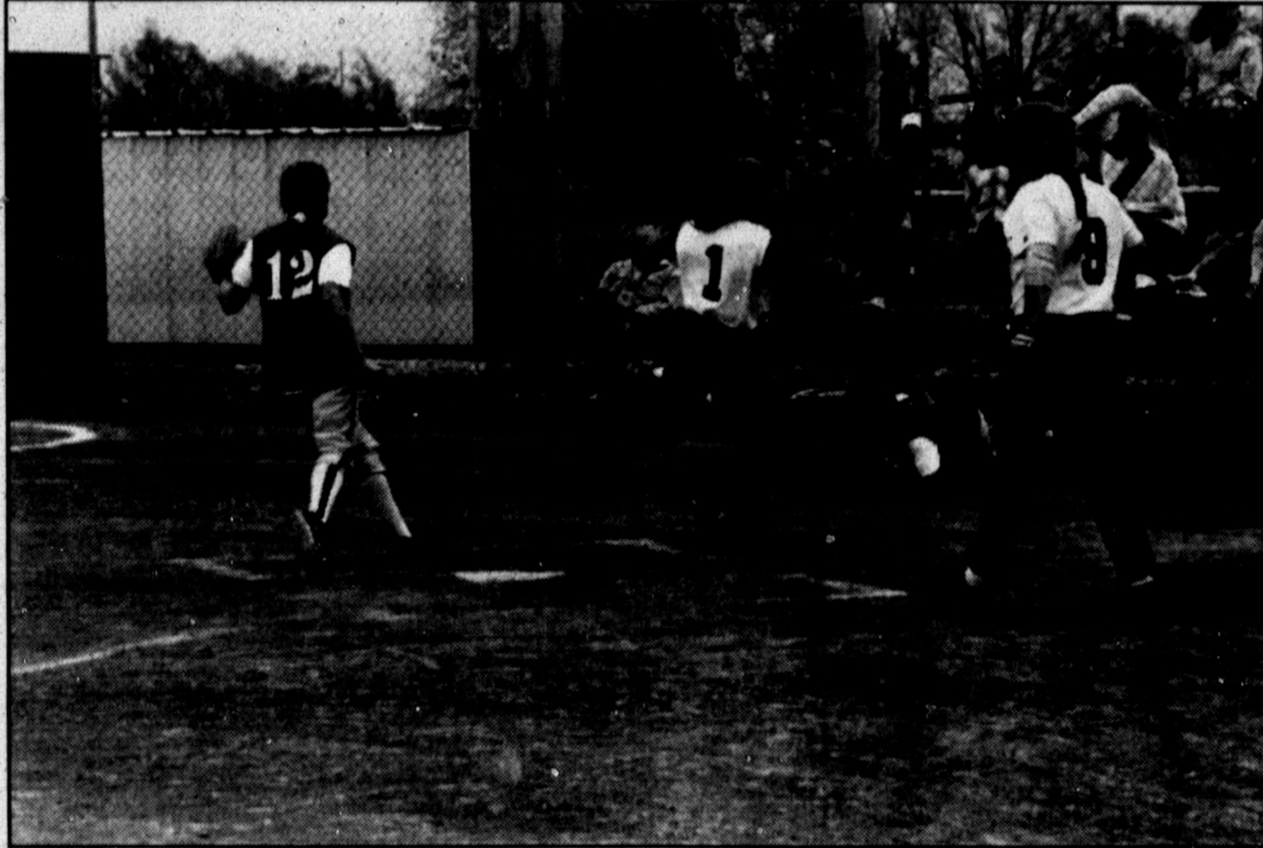
The team was blown out in their first game to the team they beat on Wednesday, Canyon High, by the final of 11-1.

After the loss, the Whitefaces regrouped to beat Borger 6-5. The Herd received a bye after their win against Borger and faced Palo Duro for the consolation championship. The Whitefaces won the match up 6-3.

The JV plays their final two games at home this week closing out their 2000 campaign. On Friday, the Whiteface JV takes on Levelland, and Saturday the team will face Caprock.

The games both start at 4:30 p.m. at Whiteface Field.

Lady Herd takes show to Midland

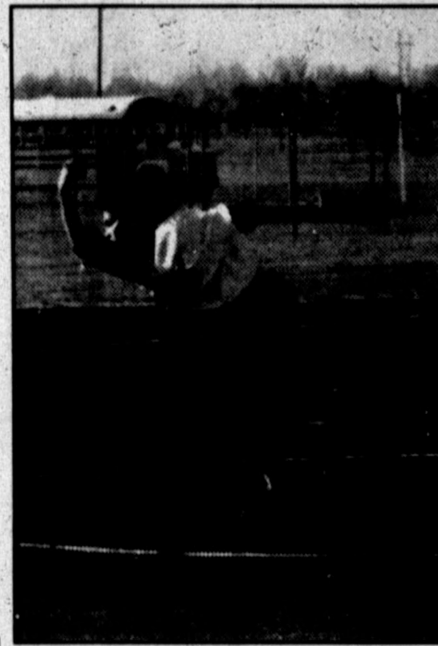


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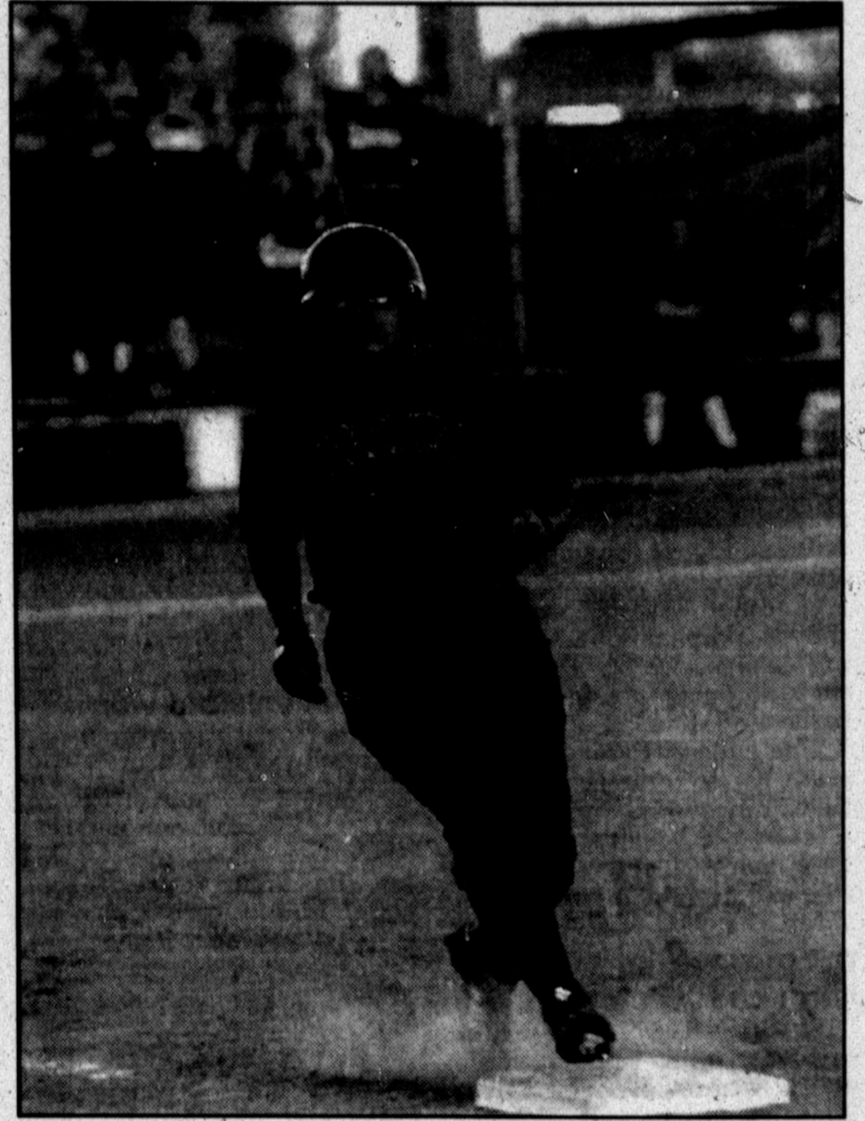
KEEPING IT GOING

The Hereford Lady Whitefaces (15-9) try to keep their streak going tonight when they face Pecos (14-5) in Midland. The Pecos Lady

Eagles received a first round bye last week when the Lady Herd beat Canyon High 4-2. Pecos lost in the playoffs last year to the Pampa Lady Harvesters in the area playoffs. This is Hereford's first year to be in the playoffs as a softball team and look to move on this evening. Victoria Perez (bottom) is the starting pitcher for the Herd. Dayanara Garcia (right) runs over first base in the team's victory last Thursday, and April Treviso (top) crosses home during Hereford's late season win against Palo Duro. The regional semi-final game is at Ulmer Field in Midland and begins at 7 p.m.



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Scrambles continue with close weekly competition

Weekly game of golf sees several ties

By Jeff Blackmon

Hereford Brand Sports Editor

Another Wednesday, another scramble.

This week's Wednesday night scramble tournament at the Pitman Municipal Golf Course resulted in several ties between competitors.

Two teams shot a combined round of 31 for the evening.

The score was good enough to place them in a tie for first place. The first team consisted of Keith Kelso, Gayle Cornelius, Leland Skelton and John Yocum. The other first

place scramble was made up of Conny Martin, Pete Wilt, Mark Brown and Lillie Shipman.

Three teams ended up in a tie for second place at 32. Bobby Baker, Mary Shelton, Don Davison and Lewis McDaniel were a part of one scramble while Joel Sturgeon, L.V. Watts, Armando Torres and Dewayne Robbins made up another. The other team tied for second place was made up of Wallace Hill, Ed Sanders, Joe Sherman and Art Clark.

Two scrambles were all tied up at 33 for third place on Wednesday. Bobby Weaver, N.D. Kelso, Freddie DeLeon and Doc Weaver combined to score a 33 for the evening.

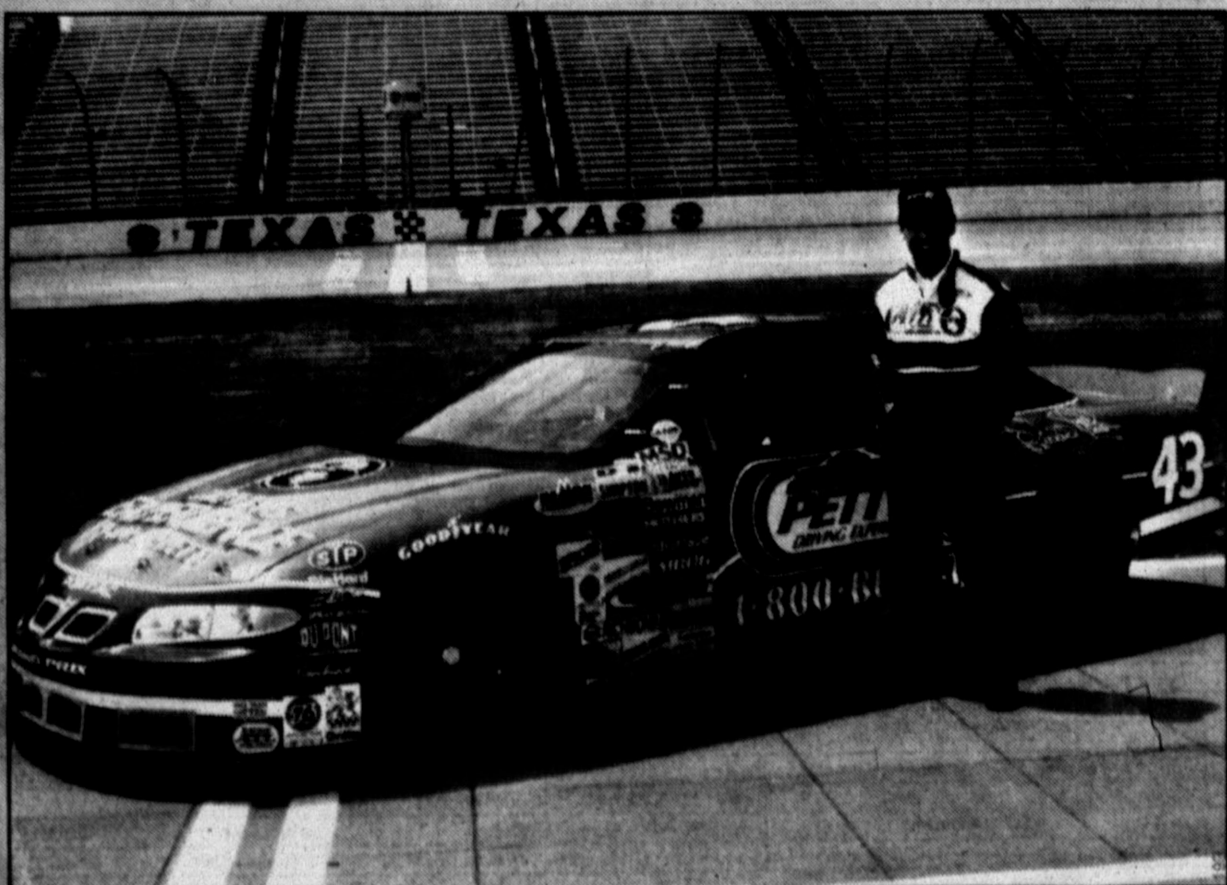
Tiffi West, Brett West, Doug Schilling and Jerry Shipman also finished their round with 33 strokes.

Steve Stevens, Bill Brown, Dennis Davison and Chrystal Kelso finished one stroke out of third with a round of 34. The other team at 34 was the scramble of John Robinson, Scott Holbert, Sam Metcalf and Dan Bornemeir.

Only one scramble finished with a score of 35. Golf course pro Craig Nieman, Wade Easley and Dave Hopper combined for the score.

Wednesday night scrambles take place every week at the Hereford course and all are welcome to participate in the competition.

PETTY'S PUPIL



COURTESY PHOTO

Petty's pupil—Hereford's Gary Blevins had a chance to participate in the Richard Petty Driving Experience at Texas Motor Speedway on April 22. Blevins had to attend a training class early in the morning and then got to drive around the Cracker Barrel NASCAR around the track for eight laps. Blevins top speed was on lap seven when he topped out at 145.8 miles per hour.

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Wages, benefits jump by largest amount in 8 years

News digest

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans' wages and benefits rose by 4.3 percent in the 12 months ending in March, the fastest growth in pay in eight years, the government said today.

The increase in the Labor Department's Employment Cost Index was up sharply from the 12 months ending in December, when wages and benefits rose by a more moderate 3.4 percent.

While higher wages and benefits are good news for workers, economists are concerned that if companies pass on rising labor costs to buyers of their products, it could trigger higher inflation.

The Federal Reserve has already raised interest rates five times since June in an effort to slow the booming economy to a more acceptable growth rate and keep inflationary pressures at bay.

Doctor sees no lasting harm on Elian from raid

WASHINGTON — A child psychiatrist for the government who watched Elian Gonzalez play happily with toy soldiers says it's likely he suffered no lasting harm from the armed raid that removed him, screaming, from his Miami relatives' home.

The 6-year-old Cuban boy,

who survived the drowning of his mother when their boat sank off Florida five months ago, displays a "sense of well-being and happiness with his father," wrote Dr. Paulina F. Kernberg of Cornell University Medical College.

"Whenever he made eye contact with his father, his face brightened."

Psychiatrists aligned with Elian's Miami relatives challenged Kernberg's conclusions and said the 21/2 hours she spent with him were not enough to judge his state of mind. They urged the government to permit Florida-based "medical professionals trusted by Elian" to evaluate him.

But for the moment, Elian was waiting to see his former kindergarten teacher and a 10-year-old cousin from Cuba. They arrived in Washington on Wednesday night and were expected to join him today at the wooded Maryland retreat where he is staying.

Buchanan's bid worries some party members

WASHINGTON — To Pat Buchanan, his tour of Reform Party state conventions is a legitimate, if aggressive, bid for the group's presidential nomination. But to supporters of party founder Ross Perot, Buchanan's march across the country looks more like a quiet coup.

"They want to elect their own chairmen, take over the party and make sure all of the delegates vote for Pat Buchanan," said Charles Dodge, who resigned as Wisconsin chairman amid a dustup between factions earlier this month. "We're a democratic

group; we don't work that way."

Buchanan's campaign manager and sister, Bay, readily admits the campaign is touring the party conventions — 23 so far — in a bid for enough delegates to secure her brother's nomination and the \$12.6 million in federal funding it brings.

Problems arise, she said, when state parties try to amend the rules to exclude Buchanan supporters from participating or running for party offices, which influence delegate selection.

Party leaders in Wisconsin recently tried to prevent members of less than six months from running for chairman or other offices. That would have affected most Buchanan supporters since they joined the Reform Party after he bolted the Republican Party in October.

Buchanan and the Reform Party also have clashed in New Hampshire and California.

Bay Buchanan said the majority of state parties have no problem with the campaign.

Census 2000: 42 million homes must be found

CHANTILLY, Va. — If you live in one of the 42 million households that haven't mailed back a census form yet, you can expect someone like

Charlie Owings to be knocking on your front door soon. Today, the Census Bureau begins its 10-week operation of sending out some 440,000 census-takers to visit those homes and gather information considered vital to getting an accurate snapshot of the

country's population.

What kind of greeting Owings will get at the doorstep remains to be seen. Census director Kenneth Prewitt says he isn't sure how recent criticism over the intrusiveness of the 53-question long form will affect what kind of cooperation enumerators get.

"I guess some people could feel like their privacy is being invaded," said Owings, who took the part-time job in sub-

urban Virginia to supplement his income. "If they didn't want to give the information, I guess I would just record it and move on."

About 78 million of the 120 million mailed forms were returned to the Census Bureau. Now, it's up to people like Owings to get information on the missing millions, and Census officials have been busy training them this week on how to go about it.

Prewitt knows it will be a tough task, but is optimistic.

"The enumerators are what this whole enterprise rests upon now — the quality of work they do," Prewitt said. "But it's hard to tell right now just how many households will not cooperate."

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Television

THURSDAY

APRIL 27

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
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FRIDAY

APRIL 28

	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	12 PM
2	Barney	Teletubbies	Sesame Street	Arthur	Dragon	Barney	Teletubbies	Noddy	Zoboo	Mr Rogers	Mr Rogers
3	S Club 7	Mary Kate	Itsy Bitsy	CBN Special	700 Club	Parenting	Itsy Bitsy	Itsy Bitsy	Storytime	Bobby	Bobby
4	Today	Today	Today	Today	Today	Today	Today	Today	Today	Today	Today
5	Timon	Pooh	PB & J Otter	Out of Box	Bear	Rolie Polie	Pooh	PB & J Otter	Out of Box	Bear	Rolie Polie
6	DiffWorld	DiffWorld	Little House on the Prairie	Little House on the Prairie	Mama	Mama	Matlock	Matlock	Matlock	Hunter	Hunter
7	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Good Morning America	Good Morning America
8	Early Show	Early Show	Early Show	Early Show	Early Show	Early Show	Early Show	Early Show	Early Show	Early Show	Early Show
9	Bus	Martha Stewart Living	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Benny Hinn	Life in Word	Kenneth C. Robison	Mathis	Mathis
10	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter
11	Movie: Breakout	Movie: Robert Carradine	Movie: Hanky Panky	Movie: Gene Wilder, Gilda Radner	Movie: Looking for Lola	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt
12	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt
13	Movie: Rudy	Movie: Family Business	Movie: Sean Connery	Movie: The Age of Innocence	Movie: Daniel Day-Lewis	Movie: The Age of Innocence	Movie: The Age of Innocence	Movie: The Age of Innocence	Movie: The Age of Innocence	Movie: The Age of Innocence	Movie: The Age of Innocence
14	Movie: The Opposite Sex	Movie: June Allyson	Movie: A Ticklish Affair	Movie: Viva Las Vegas	Movie: Viva Las Vegas	Movie: Viva Las Vegas	Movie: Viva Las Vegas	Movie: Viva Las Vegas	Movie: Viva Las Vegas	Movie: Viva Las Vegas	Movie: Viva Las Vegas
15	Paid Prog.	Guthy	Dukes of Hazzard	Bloopers-Jokes	Cagney & Lacey	Aleane's Creative Living	Waltons	Waltons	Waltons	Waltons	Waltons
16	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Assignment Discovery	Home Matters	Design	Design	Design	Design	Design	Design	Design
17	Northern Exposure	Night Court	Night Court	Murder, She Wrote	Magnum, P.I.	Magnum, P.I.	L.A. Law	L.A. Law	L.A. Law	L.A. Law	L.A. Law
18	Attitudes	Next Door	Designing	Designing	Chicago Hope	Chicago Hope	Lifetime Live	Lifetime Live	Lifetime Live	Lifetime Live	Lifetime Live
19	Sports	Last Word	Sports	Last Word	Geniuses	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Source	Source
20	CHiPs	Lois & Clark-Superman	Lois & Clark-Superman	In the Heat of the Night	Movie: The Man Who Wasn't There	Movie: The Man Who Wasn't There	Movie: The Man Who Wasn't There	Movie: The Man Who Wasn't There	Movie: The Man Who Wasn't There	Movie: The Man Who Wasn't There	Movie: The Man Who Wasn't There
21	Thornberrys	Rugrats	Little Bear	Blue's Clues	Maisy	Franklin	Gullah	Busy World	Little Bear	Blue's Clues	Franklin
22	Videos	Videos	Hearts Affire	Almost	Ned-Stacky	Fired Up	Wings	Wings	Working	Naked Truth	Foxworthy
23	(6:00) Despierta America	Despierta America	Despierta America	Despierta America	Despierta America	Despierta America	Despierta America	Despierta America	Despierta America	Despierta America	Despierta America
24	Year by Year	Real West	In Search Of	In Search Of	FBI-Story	Crimes	Weapons at War	Weapons at War	Weapons at War	Weapons at War	Weapons at War
25	Sharks	Monkeys	Incredible Hulk	Sightings	DarkShad	DarkShad	Highlander: The Series	Highlander: The Series	Highlander: The Series	Highlander: The Series	Highlander: The Series
26	Malibu, CA	Parent	Wayans	Cosby Show	Knight Rider	Matlock	Hawaii Five-0	Hawaii Five-0	Hawaii Five-0	Hawaii Five-0	Hawaii Five-0

	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
2	Body Elec.	Painting	House	Lions	Reading	Arthur	Wishbone	Zoom	Arthur	Creatures	Wishbone
3	Donkey	Monster	Candy	S Club 7	S Club 7	Angela	Big Wolf	World's Greatest Magic	World's Greatest Magic	World's Greatest Magic	World's Greatest Magic
4	Days-Lives	Passions	Donny & Marie	Maury	Maury	Maury	Maury	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey
5	Madeline	Mermald	Ducktales	Baby-Sitters	Flash	GrowPains	Bug Juice	Smart Guy	Smart Guy	Famous	Jersey
6	Hunter	Movie: Matlock	Movie: The Heist	Movie: 1995 Andy Griffith	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Full House	Full House	Full House	Roseanne	Roseanne
7	Jeopardy!	One Life to Live	General Hospital	Rosie O'Donnell	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	News	ABC News	ABC News	ABC News	ABC News
8	Bold & B.	As the World Turns	Guiding Light	Sally	Hollywood	Texas	News	CBS News	CBS News	CBS News	CBS News
9	Mathis	Forgive or Forget	Divorce	Nanny	Magie Bus	Rangers	Beast Wars	Digimon	Roseanne	Grace Under	Grace Under
10	Cheerlead	Equestrian	Senior PGA Golf Bruno's Memorial Classic	First Round	Golf	Up Close	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter	Sportscenter
11	Movie: Young Frank.	Movie: A Merry War	Movie: Richard E. Grant	Movie: PG-13	Movie: The Price of Kissing	Movie: Leon	Movie: Benny & Joon	Movie: Benny & Joon	Movie: Benny & Joon	Movie: Benny & Joon	Movie: Benny & Joon
12	Movie: Home Fries	Movie: Drew Barrymore	Movie: Lifestories	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: The Prince of Egypt	Movie: Karate Kid II	Movie: Karate Kid II	Movie: Karate Kid II	Movie: Karate Kid II	Movie: Karate Kid II
13	(11:45) Movie: In Dreams	Movie: The Naked Gun	Movie: Leslie Nielsen	Movie: The Verdict	Movie: Paul Newman	Movie: Ruthless People	Movie: Ruthless People	Movie: Ruthless People	Movie: Ruthless People	Movie: Ruthless People	Movie: Ruthless People
14	Movie: Once a Thief	Movie: Ann-Margret	Movie: Ann-Margret	Movie: Ann-Margret	Movie: Ann-Margret	Movie: Ann-Margret	Movie: Ann-Margret	Movie: Ann-Margret	Movie: Ann-Margret	Movie: Ann-Margret	Movie: Ann-Margret
15	Waltons	Dukes of Hazzard	McCoys	Alice	Waltons	Cagney & Lacey	Waltons	Waltons	Waltons	Waltons	Waltons
16	Home	Design	Christopher Lowell	Epicurious	Epicurious	Gimme Shelter	Your New House	Your New House	Your New House	Your New House	Your New House
17	Law & Order	Northern Exposure	Night Court	Night Court	Murder, She Wrote	Magnum, P.I.	L.A. Law	L.A. Law	L.A. Law	L.A. Law	L.A. Law
18	(12:00) Movie: Without Consent	Movie: Without Consent	Movie: Never Say Never	Movie: The Deirdre Hall Story	Movie: The Deirdre Hall Story	Movie: The Deirdre Hall Story	Designing	Designing	Designing	Designing	Designing
19	Source	Inside Winston Cup	NBA Action	Big 12 Show	PGA Golf Houston Open	Second Round	Baseball	Baseball	Baseball	Baseball	Baseball
20	(12:05) Movie: Mr. Nanny	Movie: Nanny	Movie: Kung Fu: Legend	Movie: Kung Fu: Legend	Movie: Kung Fu: Legend	Movie: Kung Fu: Legend	Dark Justice	Dark Justice	Dark Justice	Dark Justice	Dark Justice
21	Kipper	Doug	Hey Arnold!	Garfield	Rocko's Life	Rugrats	Double Dare	Kenan & Kel	All That	Catdog	Catdog
22	Something	Movie: Fakin' Da Funk	Movie: Ernie Hudson	Movie: Pacific Blue	Movie: Pacific Blue	Movie: Pacific Blue	Baywatch	Baywatch	Baywatch	Baywatch	Baywatch
23	Inferno-Par	El Nino que vino del Mar	El Gordo y la Flaca	Cristina	Cristina	Cristina	Primer Impacto	Primer Impacto	Primer Impacto	Primer Impacto	Primer Impacto
24	Okinawa	20th Century	In Search Of	In Search Of	FBI-Story	Crimes	Weapons at War	Weapons at War	Weapons at War	Weapons at War	Weapons at War
25	Twilight Z.	Star Trek	Quantum Leap	Sentinel	DarkShad	DarkShad	Hercules-Jrmys	Hercules-Jrmys	Hercules-Jrmys	Hercules-Jrmys	Hercules-Jrmys
26	News	MacGyver	Caroline	Caroline	Bzzz!	Fam. Mat.	Cosby Show	Parent	Wayans	Fresh Pr.	Fresh Pr.

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
2	News	Ent. Tonight	Friends	Just Shoot	Frasier	Frasier	ER	News	News	(35) Tonight Show	News
3	News	Ent. Tonight	Friends	Just Shoot	Frasier	Frasier	ER	News	News	(35) Tonight Show	News
4	News	Ent. Tonight	Friends	Just Shoot	Frasier	Frasier	ER	News	News	(35) Tonight Show	News
5	News	Ent. Tonight	Friends	Just Shoot	Frasier	Frasier	ER	News	News	(35) Tonight Show	News

CLASSIFIED ADS
Classified advertising rates are based on 20 cents a word for first insertion (\$4.00 minimum), and 11 cents for second publication and thereafter. Rates below are based on consecutive issues, no copy change, straight word ads.

Times	Rate	Min
1 day per word	.20	\$4.00
2 days per word	.31	\$6.20
3 days per word	.42	\$8.40
4 days per word	.53	\$10.60
5 days per word	.64	\$12.80

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY
Classified display rates apply to all other ads not set in solid-word lines -- those with captions, bold or larger type, special paragraphs, all capital letters. Rates are \$5.30 per column inch.

LEGALS
Ad rates for legal notices are \$5.30 per column inch.

ERRORS
Every effort is made to avoid errors in word ads and legal notices. Advertisers should call attention to any errors immediately after the first insertion. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. In case of errors by the publishers, an additional insertion will be published.

1. ARTICLES FOR SALE

From Plains Ave. CHEAP CHEAP CHEAP

Call **364-8825**

Shackelford Agency

INSURANCE

REBUILT KIRBYS 1/2 price with warranty. Other name brands. \$39 & up. Sales and repairs in your home, on all makes and models. Call 364-4288.

THE ROADS Of Texas and The Roads of New Mexico are on sale at The Hereford Brand in book form. Both maps are \$14.95 each plus tax. Discover roads you never knew were there. Hereford Brand, 313 N. Lee.

FOR SALE: Black Entertainment Center. Good condition. \$100.00. See at 306 Avenue H or call 363-1900.

Merle Norman Cosmetics & The Gift Garden
220 N. Main 364-0323
Remember your secretary or assistant with a gift during Secretary's Week.
We gift wrap. Gift certificates available.

ELECTRIC BICYCLE, Chest of drawers, refrigerated deep freeze. Call 364-2134.

FOR SALE: Compaq computer with color printer. Warranty. \$900.00 firm. Call for more information 363-6992.

Watkins Products
Herbal Supplements, Vitamins, Spices, Personal Care, Candles & Household Cleaners.
For information call 276-5695

1a. GARAGE SALES

KING'S MANOR Activities Garage Sale: Friday ONLY 9:00-3:00. Camping and exercise equipment, decorating items, clothes, etc.

GARAGE SALE: 526 Willow Lane (in rear). Friday ONLY 4:30-8:30. Quilting pieces, yarn, patterns, material, recliners, stereo, kitchen misc., and lots more!

BACKYARD Sale: 914 Brevard. Thursday, Friday, Saturday 8:00-4:00. Little bit of everything.

316 CHEROKEE Drive. Friday, Saturday 8:00-?? Mountain bikes, vacuums, 15" wide truck tires, 15" tires w/rims, super Nintendo/games, toys, clothes.

GARAGE SALE: 108 Avenue J (Backyard). Friday, Saturday 8:00-4:00. Lots of men, women, & children clothing & Lots of stuff! 1

YARD SALE: 1519 E. 1st (L&R Burrito). Thursday, Friday, Saturday 7:00-5:00. Lots of stuff!

YARD SALE: 509 Grand. Friday and Saturday 8:00-?? Tools and lots of stuff!

GARAGE SALE: 507 Lawton. Friday and Saturday 8:00-?? Furniture, appliances, bed, TV's, linen, dishes, toddlers, boys, girls, women clothing sizes 1-22 & much more.

GARAGE SALE: 714 Stanton. Friday and Saturday 8:00-??

2. FARM & RANCH

CUSTOM GRASS Seeding and Field Preparation. Includes: Working new ground, plowing out grasses for new stands, or overseeding current grasses. **JOE WARD** 364-2021 (day) or 289-5394 (night).

SEED MILO Contract growers needed for 2000 season. Call Gayland Ward Seed Co, 806-258-7394.

3. AUTOMOBILES

FOR SALE: 1994 Pontiac Bonneville. 131,000 miles, \$4,500. Call 647-5378 (Dimmitt).

1996 FORD XL F-150 4X4 Pickup. P/S, P/B, A/C - Priced below wholesale. Call 578-4318.

1995 FORD F350 4X4 Crew Cab w/shell. Only 38,000 miles. Very clean. \$18,995.00. Call 364-1188.

See Us Before You Buy
Marcum Motors Co.
Clean Used Cars & Trucks

1986 FORD Crew Cab. For sale as is. Runs but needs minor work. \$2,000 OBO. Call 364-6623.

FOR SALE: 1984 White Corvette. Sharp, \$9,000 OBO. Call 364-4503, Mornings 8:00-1:30.

4. REAL ESTATE

HOME BUYERS! 1999 Government Assistance Program is available to first-time home buyers with low to moderate income. You could receive up to \$7,500 in assistance. Call Kyle Michaels at 356-9444 to apply.

FSBO! 831 Irving. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage. New roof & paint. \$3,000 down, \$297/month. Call Robbie 364-3955.

HOUSE FOR Sale by owner: 700 E. 3rd. \$32,500, \$3,250 down, \$322/month. 3 bedroom. Call 364-7953.

HOUSE FOR Sale by owner: 405 Lawton. \$32,500, \$3,250 down, \$322/month. 4 bedrooms and basement. Call 364-7953

5. RENTAL PROPERTY

NEED EXTRA Storage space? Need a place to have a garage sale? Rent a mini storage. Two sizes available. Call 364-4370.

Now Leasing
Guardian Self Storage
1409 E. Park Avenue
364-5778

CROSSWORD

CROSSWORD
By **THOMAS JOSEPH**

ACROSS

- 1 Con's place
- 2 Buffalo's lake
- 3 Atom bomb code name
- 4 California volcano
- 5 Costa — Singer
- 6 Embarcadero
- 7 Arthurian isle
- 8 Morse unit
- 9 Island strings
- 10 Apiece
- 11 Mariner's millieu
- 12 Common title start
- 13 Period of history
- 14 Supply the food for
- 15 Fashion
- 16 Evil
- 17 Neighbor-
- 18 Safe haven
- 19 Cracked
- 20 Van Gogh painting
- 21 Do some modeling
- 22 Least covered
- 23 Rose of baseball

DOWN

- 1 Truck parts
- 2 Visionary
- 3 Pub
- 4 Enthralled brews
- 5 Sentence piece
- 6 Yard sur-
- 7 Rounders
- 8 OSS's successor
- 9 Abner's creator
- 10 Joke
- 11 Cartoonist
- 12 Thomas
- 13 Forest unit
- 14 Umbrella
- 15 Part
- 16 Period of history
- 17 Needle source

INFO JEWELS
REEF AMELIA
MOAT PELLET
ANT HAND
HOUND WAD
CREPT SCENE
HARE HATE
EVENT WATER
FED HEATH
SEXY EIR
DEPORT ARIA
ERASER CENT
CANADIA EDGE

Yesterday's answer

21 Visionary 35 Joke
22 Pub 36 Cartoonist
23 Enthralled brews
24 Sentence piece
25 Yard sur-
26 Rounders
27 OSS's successor
28 Abner's creator

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
32 33 34 35 36 37
38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45

4-27

APARTMENTS:

Blue Water Gardens
HEAT, A/C LIGHTS INCLUDED

Rent based on income. Accepting applications for 1,2,3,4 bdms. CALL Debra or Janis TODAY for information & directions. 1-5pm (806)364-6661. Equal Opportunity.

BEST DEAL In Town! 1 bedroom efficiency apartments. Bills paid, red brick apartments. 300 block West 2nd. 364-3566.

NICE, LARGE, Unfurnished apartments. Refrigerated air, two bedrooms. You pay only electric — we pay the rest. \$335/month. 364-8421.

ALONZO APARTMENTS, 1-2-3 and 4 bedrooms available \$175.00 and up. Call 364-8805 or 364-2106.

2 BEDROOM House. Will accommodate couple and infant. Clean! Call 364-2733.

STORAGE BLDG For sale 8'X12' with wood floor and metal siding. Call 364-7718.

FOR RENT! 2 bedroom duplex & 2 bedroom house. HUD welcome. \$350/month. Call 364-4113.

FOR RENT! Apartment: 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Call 364-4267.

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom house. Stove furnished. Garage, air conditioner. \$275/month. 578-4476.

6. WANTED

SPRING CLEANING TIME \$\$\$\$Refrigerator/Freezer Roundup. Sponsored by SPS & Planergy. Receive \$25.00 for any spare/extra working refrigerator/freezer. We'll even come pick it up. 800-422-2851. \$\$\$\$

8. EMPLOYMENT

HVAC SERVICE Technician needed call 806-364-3867.

Best Opportunity!!
www.homebusiness .to/Income-4-u

RENT-A-CENTER THE Largest rent to own company with over 2,000 locations is proud to add ShowCase Rent-To-Own to RAC Family. Which brings new employment opportunity to your area. RAC is looking for people with great communication skills and a desire to better their life. A good driving record is essential and must be able to pick up 75lbs without assistance. Starting pay \$13.00/hour Account Manager and Assistant Manager makes \$32,000/year. RAC offers major medical and dental and insurance, 401K and 2 weeks paid vacation after 1 year of employment. Apply in person at the RAC location near you. All candidates will receive a reply within 24 hours. 519 N. 25 Mile Avenue.

TITAN TRUCKS Needs Owner Operators to haul feed commodities in Southwest U.S. in hopper bottom trailers. Drivers must be: 25-65 years old, have Class A CDL, and have 2 years experience. We offer excellent compensation, fuel card, apportioned tags, and year round work. Call John for more information at 800-827-2304.

CNA's Full-time Positions available on all shifts. Check out our benefits package and shift differentials.
Please call Jeanette or Sandra at 364-7113 at Hereford Care Center

NEEDED: 29 People to lose 5-29 lbs. in the next 30 days. No hunger! Call Lea toll free at 877-732-1643.

LOCAL AIRPORTS Now hiring for ticket agents, customer service & baggage handlers. No experience needed. Call 1-800-380-0073.

OVER THE Road Truck Driver. Must have CDL and good driving record. Send resumes to: P.O. Box 1179, Dalhart, Texas 79022.

DIETARY SERVICE Manager. Career Opportunity for the right individual with strong organizational skills. Dietary manager certification desired. Please send resume in confidence to: Administrator, Hereford Care Center, 231 Kingwood, Hereford, Texas 79045.

I am looking for a sharp individual to learn my business. I will train the right person. Call for details 1-800-550-4704. Code #44

Commitment Caring Compassion

Hereford Care Center is now accepting applications for RN's, LVN's, or CMA's. If you possess the 3 C's we may have the right position for you. For a personal interview please call Jeanette or Sandra at 364-7113.

PART-TIME JOB For Hereford, Texas. Great for honest, dependable retired person or homemaker. Please call 1-800-747-5384 or 1-800-687-3731.

NEEDED COSMETOLOGY Instructor. Call Galleria Beauty College. 806-293-5139.

EXPERIENCED RN Needed for D.O.N. at King's Manor Methodist Home. Strong support team in a facility with emphasis on quality care. Call Lynn Watkins, Administrator, 806/364-0661 or Fax resume to 364-0675.

BRADFORD TRUCKING
An E.S.O.P. Company
Now Taking Applications

Hiring for cattle haul. Must have 3 years experience and be acceptable by insurance company, pass DOT drug screen and physical. Benefits Include: insurance and raise after 60 days, vacation after 1 year, retirement paid by Company.

Contact Odell Ward at 1-800-522-5164 or Fax or Send Resume to: P.O. Box 129 Cactus, Texas 79018 fax no. 806-906-5532

9. CHILD CARE

HEREFORD DAY CARE
Offering an excellent program of learning and care for your children 0-12! State Licensed
Also - SPECIAL AFTER-HOURS pick-up for Kindergarten Children!
364-5062

11. BUSINESS SERVICES

GARAGE DOOR And Opener Repair and Replacement. Call Robert Betzen, 289-5500. If no answer call mobile, 344-2960.

Tick Bath & Dip
Special Every Friday at
Hutto Veterinary Hospital
Call 364-5541 for appointment



All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination. State laws forbid discrimination in the sale, rental or advertising of real estate based advertising for real estate which is violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Writing Want Ads that really sell!

Unsure how to write a Classified Ad that will get results? Follow these pointers and you'll soon have an empty space in your storage room and cash in your pocket.
For starters, look at ads which offer the same item/products. Get a sense of going rates and ideas for how to make your ad stand out. Once you're ready to write, begin with exactly what you're selling: "Dining room set, maple, six chairs." Then remember these hints:
• Give the price. A newspaper consultant says 70 percent of classified readers won't respond to an ad with no price.
• Use key words to describe what you're selling. The key words for a car are make, model, year, body style, color, mileage and price. If it's a house, key words are location, type of construction, number of bedrooms and baths, and condition.
• Don't use abbreviations. It's tempting to abbreviate and save money if ads are billed by the line. Brand ads are billed by the words, so spell them out so readers won't be confused trying to figure out abbreviations.
• Don't be misleading. Think accurate and factual when you write. Be sure to include a phone number and the best times to reach you.

STOP
Domestic Violence or Sexual Assault
Call 363-6727

DEFENSIVE DRIVING Course is now being offered at the Ranch House, 10:00AM the 3rd Saturday of every month. Will include ticket dismissal and insurance discount. For more information, call 1-800-454-6051 or 505-763-5628. #C0023-C0733, McKibben ADS.

WE BUY Scrap iron, metal, aluminum cans, all batteries, tin, copper & brass. Call 364-3350.

TREE & Shrub trimming and removal. Leaf raking and assorted lawn work, rotary tilling and seeding of new lawns. 364-3356.

HARVEY'S LAWN Mower Repair and Service, tune-ups, overhaul, oil changes, blade sharpening, etc. Pick-up and delivery. 705 S. Main. Call 364-8413.

ROOFING, SMALL Hot ROOFS and general roofing repairs. Call Weldon Toews at 364-5643.

F&G ROOFING And Construction. 15 years experience in all types of roofing needs. Free estimates. Good references. Insurance Bonded. Call 364-4770 or 344-4770.

APPLIANCE REPAIR. Repair on washers, dryers, and refrigerators. Call 364-8805.

NEED YOUR Windows cleaned? Call Irene, 363-1900 or Juanita, 363-6509 anytime.

Affordable Computers
• Service
• Supplies
• Upgrades
CICS
319 N. Main • 364-6067

CLASSIFIEDS

Crops

From Page A1

Miller said this year's drought, greenbug infestations and a fungal disease called stripe rust have contributed to the decrease in wheat production.

Pena and Miller said the decreased wheat production in Texas will not affect the prices in the wheat market.

District Extension director Galen Chandler of Vernon said one inch of rain was recorded in the Rolling Plains.

"Ranges and pastures are responding to the moisture," he said. "While many stock tank levels have improved, some areas still need additional runoff to fill tanks."

Chandler said the wheat crop remains in fair condition. "Many acres are being either grazed out or cut down and baled for hay," he said.

Chandler said field preparations are continuing at a fast pace. "Cotton producers are applying herbicides and making final tillage passes prior to planting," he said.

District Extension director Charles Neeb of Fort Stockton said livestock and pastures are suffering from drought conditions in Far West Texas.

"Forage supplies are very limited," he said. "Most cattle are being culled and sold."

Neeb said land for cotton is being prepared and pre-irrigated.

"Yet, most producers are waiting for more moisture to plant," he said.

Neeb said irrigated grains are in fair condition, but dryland crops continue to decline.

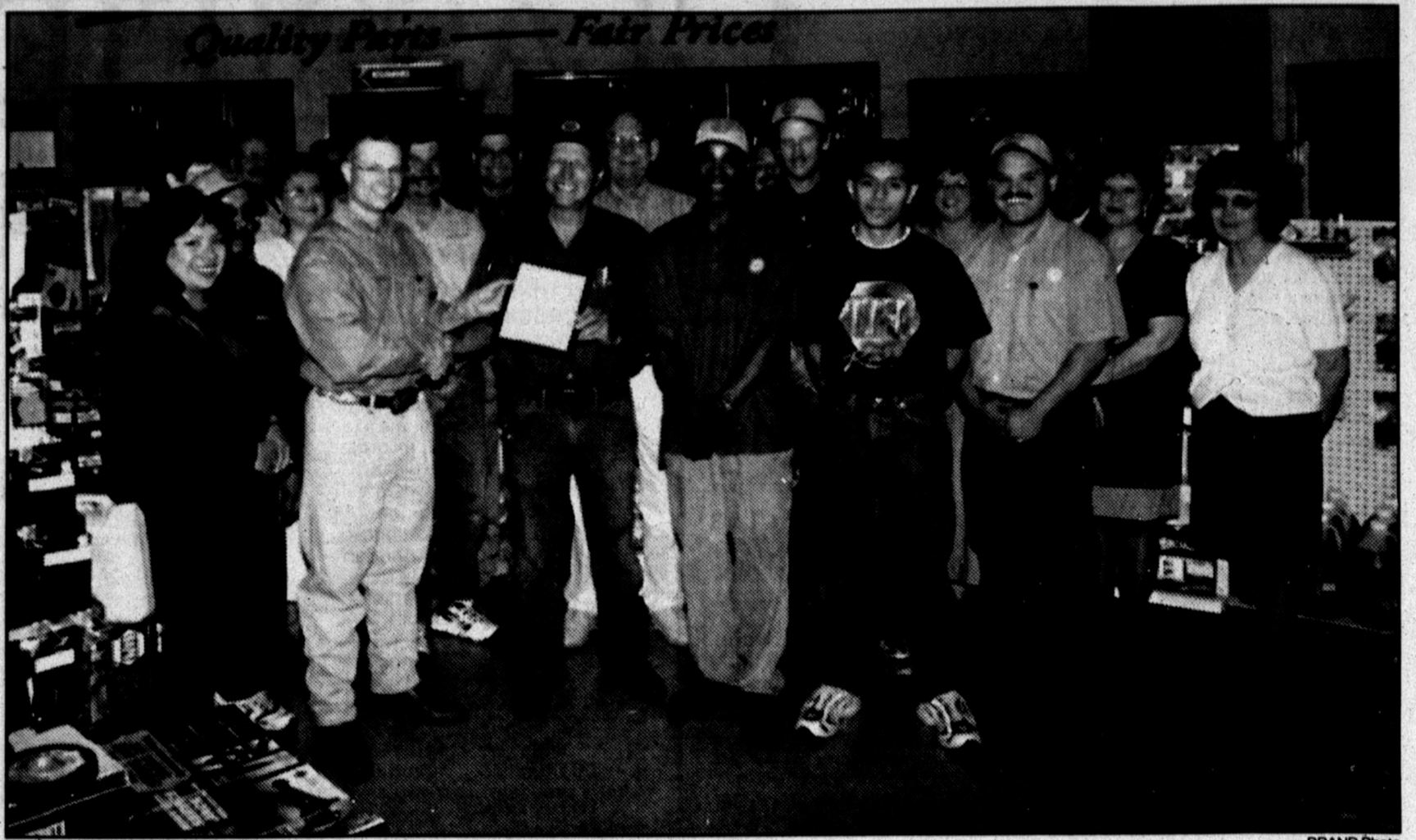
"Most of the dryland wheat is being grazed or plowed under," he said.

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by district Extension directors:

PANHANDLE: Soil moisture is very short. Corn stands are rated poor to excellent, with 25 percent planted.

SOUTH PLAINS: Soil moisture is short to adequate. Dryland wheat is being grazed. Irrigated wheat is fair; limited acreage will be harvested.

ROLLING PLAINS: Soil moisture is adequate. An inch of rainfall recorded. Wheat in fair condition; many acres being grazed or cut for hay.



Business recognized - NAPA Auto Parts owner Chuck Danley was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by Brent Gibbs, chairman of the Deaf Smith County Chamber of Commerce Business Retention Committee.

Also attending the presentation were NAPA employees, family members and friends, and members of Hereford Hustlers.

Bush catches criticism

Civil rights groups demanding ouster of health commissioner

AUSTIN (AP) - Gov. George W. Bush, who was on the campaign trail Wednesday, got a double dose of criticism in his home state.

Civil rights groups demanded that Bush seek the resignation of the state health commissioner over his comments about teen pregnancy and Hispanics, while some Republican women urged Bush to block new pollution permits in Houston.

Members of several advocacy and minority groups, meanwhile, called on the Republican presidential nominee-in-waiting to demand the resignation of Texas Health Commissioner Reyn Archer.

Archer has been under fire since saying earlier this month that Hispanics are culturally resistant to the idea that "getting pregnant is a bad thing."

"If I were to go to a Hispanic

community and say, 'Well, we need to get you into family planning,' they say, 'No, I want to be pregnant,'" he told The New York Times. Archer issued a written apology and followed up with an in-person apology to state lawmakers.

But on Wednesday, the Texas Freedom Network, League of United Latin American Citizens, Mexican-American Legal Defense & Educational Fund and Rainbow Coalition said apologies weren't enough.

"The irresponsible and bigoted statements issued by Texas State Health Commissioner Dr. William R. Archer III have caused great harm to all Texans," said Gil Gamez, of Texas LULAC.

"We're putting Governor

Bush on notice: as his appointee to the post of commissioner of health, Archer's comments only fuel questions about Governor Bush's tolerance of racism and sexism," said Samantha Smoot, director of the Texas Freedom Network.

"These questions will persist until Commissioner Archer resigns," said Smoot, whose group was founded in 1995 to counter the political power of religious conservatives.

Archer "has no plans to resign," said his spokesman, Doug McBride.

"Again, he regrets the wrong impressions. He's apologized. He's looking forward to working with all Texans to address the public health issues of all Texans," McBride said.

Bush spokesman Mike Jones said the governor is satisfied with Archer's apology and wouldn't seek his resignation.

"Dr. Archer has explained and apologized for his awkward and inarticulate language and explained his true positions. Teen pregnancy is a serious problem in every segment in society and

that's why the governor has addressed it as a priority in Texas," Jones said. "Governor Bush does not tolerate racism."

On the pollution issue, several Republican women from Clear Lake voiced opposition to a new state emissions permit for a chemical plant in Bayport, which is near Clear Lake and Houston.

"Let us clean up our air first before we add additional pollution," said Arlene Polewarczyk. The city is about 30 miles southeast of Houston, which last year topped Los Angeles in ozone pollution.

"It's inconceivable to me that George Bush is allowing more air permits to be issued when the Clear Lake-Houston area cannot comply with the Clean Air Act now," said Lucille Griffith. "Bush needs to be concerned about the health and welfare of Texans."

Houston's ozone levels have surpassed federal requirements three times so far this year, including April 17, when it had the highest one-hour ozone level in the nation.

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.

4-27 CRYPTOQUOTE

NYZM YG QOSKM
NYDM O SYXLZ
GOQCYXMG - UM'QM
ONN NLLDYXF ZLQ SKM
DMB - ONOX RMXXMSS
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: TELEVISION? NO GOOD WILL COME OF THIS DEVICE. THE WORLD IS HALF GREEK AND HALF LATIN. - C.P. SCOTT

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

METAL FUTURES table with columns for month, price, and change.

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

Elian's misfortunes feeding our voyeuristic pop culture

Frazier Moore Associated Press

Hey, isn't that Elian Gonzalez ringing the bell at the New York Stock Exchange? Oops! My mistake. I was also wrong when I said that little Elian has been signed as celebrity spokesman for the brand of swing-set equipment we saw him playing on day after day.

Now, after weeks on view in the yard of his Miami relatives, Cuban-refugee-turned-child-star Elian has been reclaimed by his father and, more to the point, snatched offstage in that dramatic raid last Saturday.

But, despite his current quarantine, Elian can't be kept out of sight.

Already, CBS has announced a film about him to air this fall. (There is no truth to the rumor that young Frankie Muniz will star and that the title will be "Elian in the Middle.")

Five months into the custody fight between Elian's father (who wants to take him back to Cuba) and his anti-Castro relatives (who mean to block his return), how else will this little boy be exposed?

We need only unleash our imagination. That's what the people who intend to use him are doing. Elian Gonzalez 7/8 is a celebrity. He's a household

name. He's a platform for political grandstanding. He's big business.

He's entertainment. For us, his compound misfortune translates into a spectator sport. Then we justify our voyeurism by pretending that how this "game" turns out has some bearing on our own lives, and that staying glued to the tube demonstrates our support.

The fact is, we are a nation of buttinskies. The sad, delicate case of Elian Gonzalez may be our latest breach of privacy. But it's hardly the only one.

Consider another 6-year-old, JonBenet Ramsey, whose story resurged only last month. Promoting a book in which they plead innocent to murdering their daughter, John and Patsy Ramsey appeared five mornings on the "Today" show, two nights with Larry King and on "20/20" with Barbara Walters.

Countering with his theory that Patsy Ramsey accidentally killed her daughter and then tried to make the death look like a failed kidnapping, former lead investigator Steve Thomas also made the TV rounds.

Of course, this sensational case has remained a TV favorite, ever since JonBenet's body was found in the Ramseys' Boulder, Colo., home on Dec. 26, 1996. It was the second most-covered newsmagazine story in 1997 and even last year ranked third, according to a firm that monitors news programs.

No wonder! The JonBenet whodunit dwells on a beautiful little girl who was gruesomely slain. Yet — how convenient for viewers! — JonBenet, dolled up in her beauty-pageant videotape, is alive forever on video.

"It's sometimes easy to forget the little girl behind the headlines and the makeup," Fox News Channel's Jon Scott said during the network's recent interview with the Ramseys.

Mawkishly put, but he's right: It's very easy. To her audience, JonBenet appears to have been a TV star waiting to be born. Then, with her death, she was.

Aired and re-aired, her painted-lady footage has largely sustained a story that has hardly budged in terms of real developments.

The case retains the promise of a simple, satisfying solution, the moment of truth for which we know we must stay tuned. It's as if, by our bingeing on JonBenet coverage (another report, another interview, another "exclusive" signifying nothing), the answer to this mystery will one day reveal itself. We wouldn't want to miss that.

Now, Elian has joined JonBenet as an instant TV icon. Besides our glimpses of him on that yellow slide, we saw him share star billing with ABC News diva Diane Sawyer. And he was showcased two weeks ago in the "home video" directed to his father but broadcast to everyone.

Though very much alive, he, like JonBenet at her death, is an appealing 6-year-old in a cruel world.

The story of Elian Gonzalez almost certainly will play out in a manner that proves messy, inconclusive, and painful for all.

Including his TV audience, always eager for a tidy resolution. Will we forgive him for denying us a happy ending with easy-to-digest moral lessons? When he lets us down, should we still treat him like a star?

BAN Park service restricts use of snowmobiles

WASHINGTON (AP) - The National Park Service today issued a broad ban on recreational use of snowmobiles at nearly all of the national parks, recreational areas and monuments.

The only exceptions to the ban were parks in Alaska and the Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota, where Congress specifically allowed use of snowmobiles, and in cases where the vehicles are considered necessary for access to adjacent private lands or inholdings, the agency said.

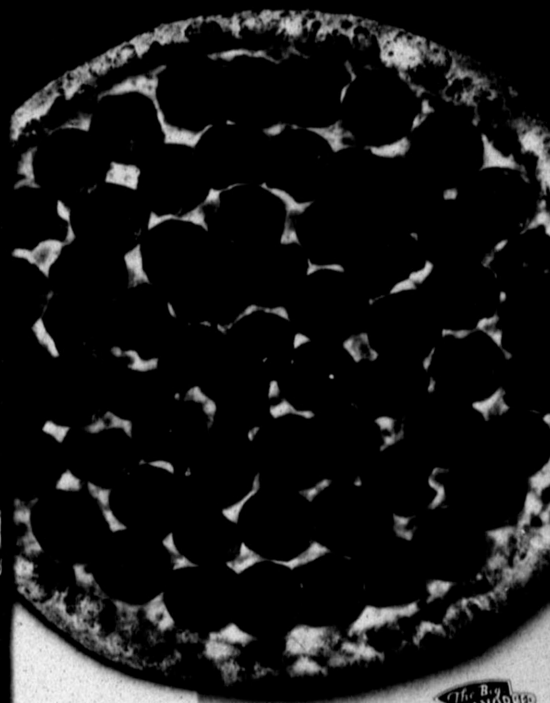
The ban applies to 12 national parks from Acadia in Maine to Sequoia and Kings Canyon in California, including Yellowstone in Wyoming, where snowmobiling has been the focus of intense controversy. Snowmobiling also no longer will be allowed in 15 national seashores, monuments, parkways, historic sites, recreational areas and scenic trails.

"The time has come for the National Park Service to pull in its welcome mat for recreational snowmobiling," Assistant Interior Secretary Donald J. Barry said.

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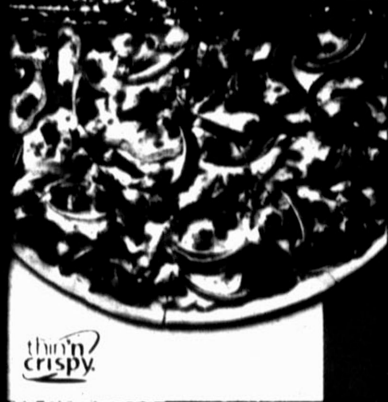
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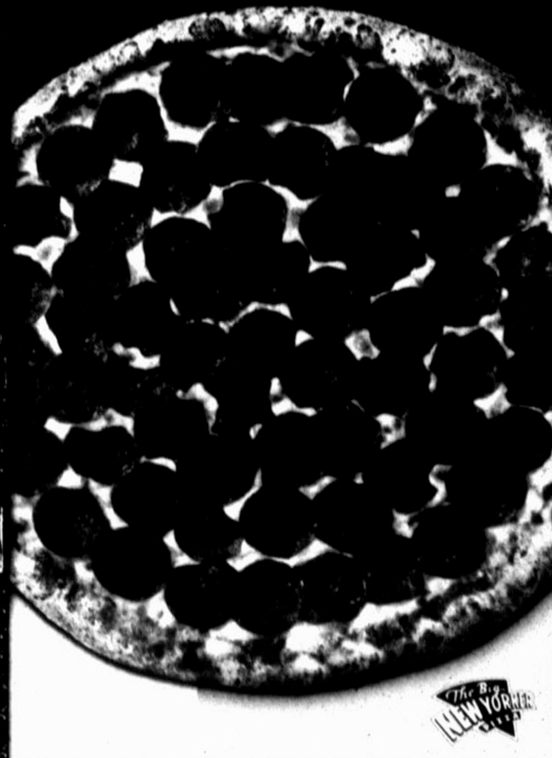
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