

Hereford BRAND

99th Year, Vol. Number 205 • Deaf Smith County, Texas

WEDNESDAY, April 19, 2000

10 Pages 50 Cents

HUSTLIN' HEREFORD HOME OF Mauri Montgomery

Today's weather OUTLOOK



Mostly clear skies

Tonight: Mostly clear with a low in the mid-40s, north to northwest wind 10 to 20 mph.

Thursday: Partly cloudy with a high in the upper 70s, north wind 10 to 20 mph.

Thursday night: Mostly clear with a low in the upper 40s.

Extended forecast

Friday: Mostly clear, high near 80.

Saturday: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms, low around 50, high in the lower 80s.

Sunday: Partly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms, low in the upper 40s, high in the upper 70s.

Hereford weather

Tuesday's high, 87; low, 46; no precipitation.

EASTER

Local churches plan extra services for the Holy Week

Local churches have planned extra services in observance of Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

Maundy Thursday services will be held at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Other Maundy Thursday services will be:

• San Jose Catholic Church, 7 p.m., Holy Thursday Liturgy with Lord's Last Supper and Washing of the Feet.

• First United Methodist Church, 7 p.m., Communion service.



• Dawn Baptist Church, 7 p.m., Service of Foot Washing and Observance of Lord's Supper.

• First Presbyterian Church, 7 p.m. Communion service.

• St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 7:15 p.m., Maundy Thursday service followed by Stripping of the Altar and All-Night Vigil.

• St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 7:30 p.m., Holy Thursday Liturgy.

Good Friday observances will include:

• Hereford Church of the Nazarene, noon-1 p.m., "Come and Go" prayer time and Communion.

• Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

• San Jose Catholic Church, 6 p.m.

• Dawn Baptist Church, 7-9 p.m., church open for time of personal meditation and prayer.

• St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 7:30 p.m.

The schedule also includes extra services on Easter Sunday.

• St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Easter Vigil at 5:30 a.m. followed by Sunrise Liturgy.

• Dawn Baptist Church, Sunrise Service at 7 p.m. at the Jerry Parker ranch, five miles south of Dawn on Road B.

• Avenue Baptist Church, 8 a.m. Resurrection Service in the sanctuary.



Courtesy Photo

A tour of existing Hereford High School facilities which could be used for a Junior ROTC program was conducted Tuesday for representatives of the U.S. Marines, Capt. John Mazzarella (at right) and Kenny Jones (second from right). Discussing the facilities with them are (from left) Joe D. Rogers, Kelli Moulton and Elizabeth Abernethy.

MARINES LAND

Hereford ISD advances closer to its goal of a JROTC program

Special to The Brand

The Marines landed Tuesday and Hereford High School moved a step closer toward the goal of establishing a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program.

Marine Capt. John Mazzarella and Kenny Jones of the JROTC program office visited the campus to inspect and evaluate facilities.

The JROTC program became a goal of the school district last year when the school board approved seeking approval for the unit after school officials began exploring the possibilities and received positive response from students.

Mazzarella and Jones, a civilian

who works to establish the programs, agreed that the facilities at the high school exceeded the requirements and were far more favorable than other schools which have been authorized establish similar programs.

Classroom and storage facilities would occupy the existing law enforcement and automotive areas on the main campus. Both of those programs will move to the new Career and Technology Buildings next year.

Established in 1964, the JROTC program is designed to develop leadership ability in high school students and also stresses the learning of

Please see JROTC, Page A9

FARM SAFETY

"We want to change the attitudes and behaviors that put children at risk. We want to install in them healthy behaviors which add to the rural lifestyle."

LANA SKARKE,
University of Texas at Tyler



BRAND/Dianna F. Dandridge

Fifth-grade students see the damage that can be caused by a turning shaft, such as a driveshaft on a piece of farm equipment (above) and how a person can be thrown from a vehicle (flying dummy at top) if they don't use their safety belts.

Farm safety day boosts kids' awareness of daily dangers

By Dianna F. Dandridge
Hereford Brand Staff Writer

Danger lurks around every corner. The gentlest creature or most unexpected mechanism can surprisingly turn into a killing machine. Even the most mundane items can become an accident waiting to happen, especially for the careless and unobservant rural participant or bystander.

This is the lesson that area fifth-grade students learned Tuesday at the 2nd Annual Progressive Farmer Farm Safety Day at the Deaf Smith County Bull Barn.

"We want to change the attitudes and behaviors that put children at risk," said Lana Skarke, Rural Research Coordinator for the Southwest Center for Agricultural Health Injury Prevention and Education, University of Texas at Tyler. "We want to install in them healthy behaviors which add to the rural lifestyle."

Skarke said that fifth-grade students, 11- and 12-year-olds, have been chosen to participate in this fun learning day due in part to a study conducted by the Texas Panhandle Farm and Ranch Family Health and Injury at West Texas A&M University.

"Our study shows that children at this age are increasing their activity on the farms. Their natural curiosity makes them a prime age to learn the safety principles we want to get through to them,"

Skarke said.

Throughout the day participants are made aware of dangers that exist, not only on the farm but also in town.

The demonstration set up by Southwestern Public Service provided a closeup look at what happens to someone who comes in contact with highline wires or underground cable.

Sparks flew as the SPS representative used safety gloves and poles to move miniature kites, sailboats, irrigation pipes, and cars directly in to the path of live wires.

Nursing students demonstrated the difference between arterial and venous blood loss and showed how something as simple as a gate can cause a life-changing injury.

Local paramedics discussed the effect of stress on a person and how often added stress increases the danger in a given situation. Paramedics encouraged participants to relieve stress through simple measures like exercise. They stressed the importance of being able to focus on what you are doing and not be distracted by "stress factors."

Students learned that even something that looks as fun as a pile of grain can be deadly. Entire class groups were unable to pull a board out of a 30-gallon drum of grain. They learned the force necessary to remove someone trapped in a grain bin can



West Texas A&M University nursing students Monica Grothers and Katy Carmody demonstrate the difference between arterial and venous blood loss.

Please see SAFETY, Page A9

Auditor says prepare for rule changes

By Donald M. Cooper
Hereford Brand Managing Editor

An independent auditor noted some collection problems at Hereford Regional Medical Center, but generally gave the hospital passing marks.

The audit for the year ending Sept. 30, 1999, was presented Tuesday night to the Deaf Smith County Hospital District by Brandon Durbin of Durbin & Co. of Lubbock.

The audit showed the hospital ended the fiscal year with a fund balance of \$4.62 million, down from \$4.87 million at the end of the previous year. However, the hospital received more than \$338,000 in tobacco settlement funds that went into the year ending Sept. 30, 1998 — funds that are not expected to be received until late this month.

According to the audit, the hospital's gross patient revenue in 1999 was \$14.4 million, up from \$13.1 million the previous year.

Allowances for charity care and third-party contractuals, however, accounted for \$4.2 million, giving the hospital a net patient revenue of \$10.2 million in 1999, up from just under \$9 million the previous fiscal year.

Although charity care was to \$320,500 in 1999, compared to \$288,800 the previous year, the third-party contractuals was up by slightly more than \$1,700 at \$3.82 million.

In the presentation, Durbin said anticipated changes in the Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement regulations could have a severe impact on the hospital's cash flow because the federal government is changing its reimbursement formula.

If hospitals do not get the new codes into their master charge system quickly, they could see significant downturns in their cash flow, he said.

He also suggested the hospital could increase its disproportionate share funding by reclassifying some of its bad debts as charity. Disproportionate funds are provided to hospitals with a high percentage of indigent or low-income patients.

Durbin also recommended the hospital enter into contracts with nursing homes to provide care, which would enable the hospital to handle the billing to Medicare.

He also noted a 13 percent increase in utilization and predicted the hospital industry is moving back to in-patient service instead of outpatient care. This is because of changes in the Medicare regulations, he said.

The board also voted to cancel the May 6 election. Four candidates — incumbents Mark Collier, Dean Crofford, Jesse Rincones and Karen Solomon — were the only individuals to file for the four terms that were expiring.

In a related issue, the directors decided to review options for board terms. HRMC administrator James Taylor said there are three options that could be considered: keeping the two-year terms, which most of the directors oppose, or seeking a change in the hospital district's enabling legislation to change the length of terms to three or four years.

Taylor said the three-year, staggered terms offer the greatest flexibility.

The directors will make a decision at the next meeting. If they do decide to seek a change in the enabling legislation, the board attorney will be directed to draft the measure and present it to the area legislators, Rep. John Smith and Sen. Teel Bivins, both R-Amarillo, for introduction in the 77th Legislature, which convenes in January 2001.

Also, Conny Martin was sworn in as director. Martin was appointed to the board to complete the term of Steve Lawlis, who resigned in March.

In other business, the board:

• Reviewed the March financial report for the Hereford Health Clinic. Taylor reported the clinic recorded a net loss of \$11,812 in

Please see AUDIT, Page A9

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HEREFORD BRAND

Local roundup

HHS talent show tryouts

The Hereford High School 4th Annual Student Council Talent Show will be 7 p.m. May 4 at the high school auditorium. Prizes of \$100, \$50, and \$25 will be awarded. Entries may be picked up at the HHS office.

Red Cross holds classes

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross will sponsor babysitter classes this week. Babysitter classes will be offered Thursday and Friday. Participants should register by Wednesday. All classes cost \$35 and early pre-enrollment is recommended. For more information or to register, contact the office at 364-3761.

Quail Appreciation Day scheduled

CANYON — Texas Agricultural Extension Service offices in Deaf Smith, Oldham, Randall, and Potter counties will hold a Quail Appreciation Day at 8:45 a.m. April 27 at the Norwest Bank building, 1401 Fourth Ave. Several wildlife specialists are scheduled to speak. Cost is \$5 for pre-registration or \$10 at the door. For more information, contact the county extension service agent.

Quad-county job fair set

The Texas Department of Human Services is planning a Quad-County Job Fair on May 10 at the Hereford Community Center. Deaf Smith, Castro, Oldham and Parmer counties will be included. Area employers are encouraged to have a booth at the fair to display what their companies have to offer and to sign up prospective employees. Community agencies are also encouraged to sign up for a booth to display what their organizations might have to offer the prospective employees to help in their job search. Texas Department of Human Services will be mailing out registration forms to employers this week. Registration is due by May 1. Phone registration is also available. Sponsors and door prize providers are needed. These items will be given to job seekers. There is no fee to employers who participate in the job fair and a lunch will be provided for their employees at the fair. Anyone interested in the job fair or wanting more information should contact Nora Pesina at 363-8612 or Bell Braddock at 647-4181.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News digest

New border signs go up

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A bi-national commission is following through on a Mexican ambassador's proposal to improve signs along the entire U.S.-Mexico border to precisely identify where the two countries meet. The new signs are 10 feet long and two feet tall and will be mounted on metal posts, according to today's editions of the El Paso Times. They are treated with reflective material to allow visibility at night to oncoming lights. The signs are in response to an incident involving Mexican soldiers who inadvertently crossed the boundary March 14 in the desert west of El Paso, where they chased and shot at Border Patrol agents, according to U.S. officials. To start, the commission is installing three signs that will state "Boundary of the United States of America" in English on the U.S. side and "Boundary of the United Mexican States" in Spanish on the Mexican side.

Cisco Systems partner SBC

DALLAS (AP) — Computer network equipment maker Cisco Systems Inc. will jointly develop and sell data services with Southwestern Bell's parent, SBC Communications Inc. in what the companies call a multibillion-dollar alliance. In the agreement, San Antonio-based SBC will also buy more of Cisco System's equipment for its telephone networks, according to The Dallas Morning News' editions today. The report said a close relationship with SBC, the nation's largest local telephone company, could raise San Jose, Calif.-based Cisco's profile as a vendor to such companies in its expansion bid in the network business against larger suppliers including Lucent Technologies and Nortel Networks. "Customers often say, 'I want the speed and innovation of the Internet and I want the scale and reliability of the telephone network,'" Larry Lang, vice president of Cisco's service provider business, told the newspaper. "Given the backgrounds of the two companies, we have a unique ability to provide that to customers."

ELSEWHERE:

LOCKHEED-FORT WORTH: Lockheed Martin has officially withdrawn its contract offer from striking machinists. The strike by about 2,500 members of Local 776 of the International Association of Machinists at the Fort Worth plant was in its ninth day Tuesday, and the two sides were no closer to an agreement. ... DRUG RING: Thirteen East Texas residents arrested as part of a two-year investigation pleaded guilty Tuesday to various drug charges, the U.S. Department of Justice said. U.S. Attorney Mike Bradford said the residents from Dallas, Longview and Marshall could receive between 40 years to life in prison, and fines of up to \$4 million. No sentencing dates were set.

HerefordBrand

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Ford donates one million car seats

NEW YORK (AP) — Ford Motor Co. plans to give away 500,000 child booster seats and issue coupons for 500,000 more as part of an effort to convince parents that just as infants and toddlers need safety seats, so do slightly older children. The automaker hopes to raise awareness of what safety experts say is a dangerously low level of booster seat usage for the nation's 20 million children between the ages of 4 and 8. Ford planned to announce its "Boost America!" campaign today at the New York International Auto Show. "We have made a lot of progress with infants and toddlers. We see child seat usage rates over 90 percent with

those ages," said Rosalyn Millman, acting administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. "But for children who are too big for child seats and too small for adult seat belts ... they are not getting as good as protection as they need." The federal safety agency recommends that children who weigh between 40 and 80 pounds use a booster seat instead of lap and shoulder seat belts alone. But less than 5 percent of these children are using booster seats, according to an ongoing study involving the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the University of Pennsylvania and State Farm Insurance. Booster seats properly position lap and shoulder belts

around a child's body. When riding without a booster seat, the lap and shoulder belts ride up too high, placing children at risk of liver, spleen, intestinal and spinal cord injuries during a crash. In 1998, NHTSA counted 527 children between 4 and 8 who died in automobile crashes. Of that group, 281 were unrestrained, while 110 were wearing seat belts without a booster. Only seven were in some kind of safety seat. Much of the problem was the fact that booster seats haven't been promoted as heavily as child seats, Millman said. Only one state, Washington, requires booster seats by law, and then only for children under 6. "Most state laws that require child restraints go up to age 4, or even 2 or 3. They're not telling people you have to use booster seats," Millman said. While the government has its own booster seat promotion campaign, Millman said it would likely be dwarfed by Ford's effort. Ford will spend about \$15 million on the first year of the program, and work with federal officials to provide 500,000 booster seats to low-income families. The company would also offer 500,000 coupons for booster seats, which usually cost between \$20 and \$100. The effort is the latest in a series of child safety initiatives from major automakers. DaimlerChrysler AG plans to

offer free child seat fitting clinics at all its dealerships. General Motors Corp. also has a campaign for child seat fitting clinics at its dealerships, and has given away 2,900 booster seats to low-income families. Ford officials said many details of its plan were still undetermined, including when it would start, how seat coupons would be distributed and what booster seats would be selected. About 2 million booster seats were sold last year, they said. The company also plans to work with NHTSA, the Automobile Association of America and several other organizations to urge parents to use booster seats. "At heart, parents want to do the right thing, and in most cases the reason they're not using booster seats is not because they don't want to, it's because they don't know there's this interim step for the child," said Helen Petruskas, Ford's vice president of environment and safety engineering. The program also will try to enhance the popularity of booster seats among children, especially older children who might have not used a seat for a year or two and don't want to go back. Ford has signed a three-year deal with Nickelodeon to use Blue, the animated puppy from the popular show "Blue's Clues," in safety ads. Ford also said it would expand training for people such as firefighters and police officers to serve as child restraint experts.

The federal safety agency recommends that children who weigh between 40 and 80 pounds use a booster seat instead of lap and shoulder seat belts alone.



Amstutz retires — For nearly 15 years Wayne Amstutz has been a part of the board of directors for the Hereford Texas Federal Credit Union, but at this year's annual meeting it was announced he had decided to step down. Amstutz was presented with a statue to commemorate his service to the credit union and the people of this community.

Pregnancy counseling stabilizes family life

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Intensive counseling during pregnancy and after birth helps lead young, low-income mothers to have fewer children and more stable family lives, according to a new study. Women taking part in a counseling program had 14 percent fewer pregnancies over a five-year period than did a control group of other mothers, according to the study published Tuesday in The Journal of the American Medical Association. Home visits by specially trained nurses helped teach

the first-time mothers how to better care for their children and also how to make personal choices that society can make at this critical stage in a woman's life pays off over the long run in many ways," Kitzman said. The JAMA article reported on a follow-up of program participants three years after the home visits ended. The study involved 1,139 young women, mostly unmarried, unemployed high school dropouts in inner-city Memphis. The women, most of them teen-agers, were split into two

groups. One received standard medical care while the other also got regular home visits from nurses during pregnancy and for two years after birth. In addition to medical instructions, nurses counseled the women on pregnancy planning, education, family relationships and preparing for employment. David Olds, a psychologist at the University of Colorado's Health Services Center who helped create the visiting nurse program, said nurses build close relationships with the young mothers, many of whom would otherwise have little support in their day-to-

day lives. "They get decent advice from someone they really trust," Olds said. "The nurses help the women establish small goals for themselves, things they can accomplish. They build up a reservoir of successes that increases their confidence they can take on even larger challenges." Olds runs a program that trains nurses for such work. His center has assisted 130 communities nationwide that have set up visiting nurse programs for low-income mothers. The home visits cost about \$2,800 a year per family.

HEREFORD BRAND

Obituaries

PEARL BROCK SCHAEFER April 18, 2000

Services for Pearl Brock Schaefer, 94, of Hereford will be 10 a.m. Friday in the Rose Chapel of Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home with Rev. J. Dean McNamara, Chaplain of Vista Care Family Hospice officiating. Burial will be in West Park Cemetery under the direction of Gilliland-Watson Funeral Home. Mrs. Schaefer died Tuesday at the Hereford Care Center. She was born Oct. 3, 1905, in Cameron, to James Monroe Whited and Mitilda Mathis. She married Arthur Brock on Nov. 19, 1921. He preceded her in death in 1982. She married Bill Schaefer on Sept. 1, 1985. He died in 1994. She came to Deaf Smith County in 1929 from Ralls. She was a homemaker and a member of the First Baptist Church in Hereford. Survivors include three daughters, Mary Parker, of Vega, Ida Davis of Hereford, Ginger Schmidt of Lubbock; three sons, Alton Brock of Blythe, Ga., Kenneth Brock of Canyon, Richard Brock of Arvada, Colo.; one sister, Hallie Price of Henderson; one brother, Bernice Whited of Cameron; 24 grandchildren; 45 great-grandchildren; 21-great-

great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her two husbands and two sons.

Hereford Brand, April 19, 2000

J.T. SHOFNER April 18, 2000

MULESHOE— Services for J.T. Shofner, 85, of Muleshoe were today at First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe with Rev. Brad Reeves officiating. Burial was in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery. Mr. Shofner died Tuesday at the Muleshoe Area Medical Center. He was born Aug. 12, 1914, in Paris, Texas. He married Ida Mae Kemp in Clovis, N.M. on Jan. 22, 1938. He had lived in Muleshoe since 1925. He was a farmer and rancher until his retirement in 1974 and a member of First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe. Survivors include his wife; one daughter, Alva Lee Peeler of Hereford; one sister, Ruth Wimberley of Columbia, Mo.; two grandchildren; and two great-grand children. The family suggests memorials be made to the First United Methodist Church of Muleshoe or the American Heart Association.

Hereford Brand, April 19, 2000

HEREFORD BRAND

Emergency services

Activities reported by emergency services personnel for April 18, 2000, include the following: POLICE DEPARTMENT Incidents - The theft of a livestock trailer worth \$19,000 was reported in the 1600 block of East First. - Two bicycles were reported stolen from the 300 block of Western. Bicycles were recovered and suspects have been named. - Criminal mischief to a vehicle was reported in the 400 block of Avenue G. The vehicle was reported to be scratched. Damage is estimated at \$1,000. - An incident between a 40-year-old man and a 39-year-old woman was reported in the 100 block of Avenue H. - A two-vehicle accident was reported in the 200 block of Avenue E. One driver was cited for turning when unsafe. - A two-vehicle accident was reported in the 200 block of Avenue H. One driver was cited for unsafe backing. - A two-vehicle accident was reported in the 200 block of North 25 Mile Avenue. One driver was cited for following too closely.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT Arrests

- A 24-year-old man was arrested and charged with violation of probation for engaging in organized criminal activity and a Potter County warrant for aggravated assault and serious bodily injury. - A 36-year-old man was arrested and charged with driving while his license was suspended.

FIRE DEPARTMENT April 18

- 3:35 p.m. Firefighters responded to a grassfire three miles west on Highway 60. - 7:09 p.m. Firefighters responded to a grassfire one mile north on FM 2943.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Texas lottery

Cash Five The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery: 4-14-26-33-39 Pick 3 The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

Honesty, Professional Services, and Prices are Important.. Parkside Chapel Funeral Home 601 N. Main Hereford, Texas 79045 363-2300

LIFESTYLES

HEREFORD BRAND • Wednesday, April 19, 2000 • A3

TEXAS FLAG BEARER



Erin Louder carries the Texas flag during the Parade of States at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association annual meeting.

Local teen represents Texas in parade

Hereford teen, Erin Louder, carried the Texas flag during the Parade of States before an estimated crowd of 12,000 in the opening ceremonies of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) annual meeting held in Orlando, Fla.

She and other Youth Leadership Council members also ushered and acted as hosts and guides during the annual convention of electric cooperatives.

Louder, a 1999 Youth Tour participant, was selected last June by the other Texas Youth Tour participants to represent Texas on the NRECA Youth Leadership Council. This prestigious honor was awarded to the person the Youth Tour members felt would best represent Texas at the national meeting.

The 17-year-old is the daughter of Hereford manager Steve Louder and his wife Pam.

Chamberlain at BIT

Karis Chamberlain, of Hereford, a senior theatre arts major at West Texas A&M will play the role of La Marquise at the West Texas A&M University Branding Iron Theatre's (BIT) production *Successful Strategies*. The production is written by Marivaux.

The show opens Wednesday, April 26 and continues through Sunday, April 30 at the BIT in the Fine Arts Building on the West Texas A&M campus. Performances are at 8 p.m. April 26-29 and 3 p.m. April 30.

Successful Strategies is a comedy based on two young couples that find themselves in a massive "love triangle"

complete with mind-games, jealousy, frustration and a secret love affair that threatens to lead to the altar.

Tickets are \$10 at the door and can be purchased in advance at the Department of Art, Communication and Theatre, Room 151 of the Fine Arts Building. Faculty and staff of West Texas A&M receive two free tickets with their WT gold card for each production.

For more information or to reserve tickets, contact the West Texas A&M Department of Art, Communication and Theatre at 806-651-2798 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. or 806-651-2804 the evening of the performances.

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Q&A
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CREATORS SYNDICATE

Ann Landers



Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: I appreciate your recent statement that abused men should receive the same help as abused women. For

years, my wife hit me, spit in my face, threw things at me, and controlled my choice of friends, my money, and my life. After she threatened me with a knife, I went to the police. They laughed, and that was the end of it. I saw psychologists and marriage counselors, talked to my wife's parents, and tried antidepressants. When she threatened me with a knife a second time, I went to court to get a restraining order. The judge, a female, refused my request. I gave up, and filed for divorce.

At the trial, my wife admitted to hitting me, threatening me with weapons, buying drugs, and having an affair. So, what happened? The court gave her full custody of our children, and ordered me to give her 60 percent of my monthly salary. When I tried to challenge the custody order, I was told I was jeopardiz-

ing my visitation rights, and that I had better stop.

I can deal with the fact that I was abused by a woman. But I cannot get over being abused by a court system that preaches justice and equality.

— David in Oregon
Dear David: If the facts are as you have presented them, I am shocked. Oregon is reputed to be one of the most sane and sensible states in the union, and their laws the most humane. You need to try again, and with a different lawyer — a woman this time. Good luck.

Dear Ann Landers: Hearing loss is rapidly becoming a major health issue, and not just among older people. One out of 10 Americans struggles with some form of hearing loss — and the majority are between the ages of 35 and 54.

May 6, 2000, is the National Day of Hearing Testing. There will be free screenings by hearing health professionals nationwide to increase awareness about this growing health crisis. Anyone who participates in the screening will be advised to obtain follow-up testing, if necessary.

Self Help for Hard of Hearing People Inc. (SHHH), the

largest consumer association for hard-of-hearing people, will be coordinating the efforts of more than 2,000 screening sites across the country. Please urge your readers to contact SHHH for a screening site near them. For more information, they can write to us at: SHHH, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Suite 1200, Bethesda, Md. 20814, or check our web site at www.shhh.org. Ann, please remind everyone to take care of their ears — they connect us to the world. — John L. Jaco, Executive Director, SHHH

Dear John L. Jaco: Thanks for alerting my readers to the National Day of Hearing Testing. Anyone who is concerned about hearing loss should write to SHHH immediately, or access their web site to find the location of a screening site nearby. Helen Keller, who was both blind and deaf, once said if given the choice, she would choose hearing over any of the other senses. Please contact SHHH today.

Dear Ann Landers: I hope you will print one more letter about the parakeets that died due to fumes from a new self-cleaning oven. As a veterinary technician, I would like to in-

form pet owners that toxic fumes can also be formed by other household items, including nonstick pans that are overheated, and chemicals in cleaning fluids.

These poor creatures have low body weight and little tolerance for fumes. This is why coal miners took birds into the mines to help warn them of gas fumes. They succumb much quicker than larger animals. — L.T. in Kentucky

Dear Kentucky: Thanks for helping to educate my readers about things out of the ordinary. You have educated me, as well.

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.

Holy Week Service
Thursday, April 20
Maundy Thursday
Communion Service
7:00 PM

Easter Sunday Morning Worship
Music Cantata 10:30 AM
Youth Choir Presents:
He's Alive
Adult Choir Presents:
"Because He Lives"

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
610 Lee Hereford, Tx. 364-2471

St. Anthony's Parish

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

We, at St. Anthony's, welcome the community to worship with us in our Holy Week and Easter Services.

HOLY THURSDAY * April 20, 2000 - 7:30 pm
GOOD FRIDAY * April 21, 2000 - 7:30 pm

EASTER VIGIL SUNRISE LITURGY

Sunday, April 23, 2000
5:30 am

EASTER LITURGIES
9:00 am & 11:00 am

May the joy and peace which those first Christians felt as they looked upon the Risen Christ be yours on Easter and in the months ahead.

115 N. 25 Mile Ave.
Hereford, TX

Msgr. O.R. Blum & Deacon Jonny E. Cloud

"... for he is risen!"

Mat. 27:6

Celebrate the HOPE of

Easter

as a family.

"Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen."
Matt. 28:5-6, R.S.V.

Holy Week Services

Thursday, April 20 • 7:00 p.m.
Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Easter Sunday
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

* Nursery provided Thurs. & Sun.

First United Methodist Church

Dr. Tom Fuller, Pastor • Alice Langehennig, Music Director

501 N. Main Street
Hereford, TX
364-0770



L'Allegra Study Club members, from left, Diana Griffin, Jana Trotter and Judy Wall, discuss plans for the annual Plant Sale which will be held May 4-5. Sale hours on Thursday, May 4 will be noon-6 p.m. and Friday, May 5 from 9 a.m. until all plants are sold. Geraniums and bedding plants, as well as hanging baskets, will be for sale. Proceeds from the fund-raiser will go to the E.B. Black House.

LOOKING BACK

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, April 19, the 110th day of 2000. There are 256 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Five years ago, on April 19, 1995, a truck bomb destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people and injuring hundreds. Timothy McVeigh was later convicted on federal murder charges and sentenced to death; Terry Nichols was sentenced to life in prison for conspiracy and involuntary manslaughter.

On this date:
In 1775, the American Revolutionary War began with the battles of Lexington and Concord.

In 1910, after weeks of being viewed through telescopes, Halley's Comet was reported visible to the naked eye in

Curacao.

In 1933, the United States went off the gold standard.

In 1943, during World War II, tens of thousands of Jews living in the Warsaw Ghetto began a valiant but futile battle against Nazi forces.

In 1951, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, relieved of his command by President Truman, bid farewell to Congress, quoting a line from a ballad: "Old soldiers never die; they just fade away."

In 1982, astronauts Sally K. Ride and Guion S. Bluford Jr. became the first woman and first African-American to be tapped for U.S. space missions.

In 1989, 47 sailors were killed when a gun turret exploded aboard the USS Iowa.

In 1993, the 51-day siege at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, ended as

fire destroyed the structure after federal agents began smashing their way in; dozens of people, including David Koresh, were killed.

Ten years ago: Nicaragua's nine-year-old civil war appeared near an end as Contra guerrillas, leftist Sandinistas and the incoming government agreed to a truce and a deadline for the rebels to disarm.

One year ago: The German parliament inaugurated its new home in the restored Reichstag in Berlin, its pre-war capital. The Supreme Court ruled that a federal law aimed at limiting e-mail smut does not violate free-speech rights. Joseph Chebet of Kenya won the Boston Marathon, in 2 hours, 9 minutes, 52 seconds; Fatuma Roba of Ethiopia won the women's race in 2:23:25.

Not checking SS earnings record could be big mistake

By Peter Gilbert

Social Security Manager in Amarillo

Have you received your Social Security Statement that show how much you've paid into Social Security and how much you can expect to receive in benefits? If so, and you haven't checked to see whether your earnings record is accurate, you could be making a big mistake.

The Social Security benefits you'll receive in the future will be based on the earnings your employer(s) or you, if you're self-employed, have reported to

Social Security. If you record isn't accurate or complete, you may not receive all the benefits you're entitled to.

Each year, about three months before your birthday, you'll receive your Social Security Statement if you're age 25 or older and not already receiving Social Security benefits on your own earnings record.

Take the time to check your Statement and call us at 1-800-772-1213 between 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday, if you find a mistake. Remember, you're the

only person who will know whether your earnings are correct and complete.

The Social Security Statement is intended to help you plan your financial future. In addition to showing you how much you've paid into Social Security retirement, disability and survivors benefits you and your family could be eligible to receive now and in the future.

If you have questions about your Social Security Statement, visit our web site at www.ssa.gov.

AT THE CENTER

Senior Citizens

MENUS

THURSDAY-Mexican stack, Spanish rice, pinto beans, salad fixings, tostados, pineapple; or sliced ham.

FRIDAY-Catfish with lemon wedge, scalloped potatoes, buttered mixed greens, coleslaw, sherbet with Easter cookie; or cook's choice, carrots.

MONDAY-Beef stew with potatoes, onions, celery, carrots and tomatoes, cheese sticks, fried okra, coleslaw, oatmeal cookies; or chicken and noodles, vanilla wafers.

TUESDAY-Pepper steak on seasoned rice, buttered carrots, fruit salad, vanilla pudding; or chicken breast on rice, Harvard beets, D'zerta pudding.

WEDNESDAY-Sliced ham, great northern beans, spinach, garden salad, Jello cubes with whipped topping; or chicken breast, seasoned carrots.

ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY-Pool classes, quilting 9 a.m.-3 p.m., oil painting 9-11 a.m., exercise class 10-10:45 a.m., Thrift Store open 9

a.m.-5 p.m.

FRIDAY-Pool classes, quilting 9 a.m.-3 p.m., line dance 10-11 a.m., Thrift Store open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

MONDAY-Pool classes, quilting 9 a.m.-3 p.m., line dance 10-11 a.m., doll class 1-4 p.m., Toastmasters noon.

TUESDAY-Pool classes, quilting 9 a.m.-3 p.m., exercise class

10-10:45 a.m., Beltone 10 a.m.-noon, Golden K Kiwanis noon.

WEDNESDAY-Pool classes, quilting 9 a.m.-3 p.m., ceramics noon-4 p.m., Education Seminar "Heart Health/Good News from the Heart" 12:30 p.m.

Contact the **BRAND**
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Volunteers honored — King's Manor Methodist Home held Volunteer Appreciation Day on April 13. Cindy Sublett, left, activity director, is shown presenting certificates to two of the many who volunteer. Pictured are Frances Suttle, center, and Helen Parsons.

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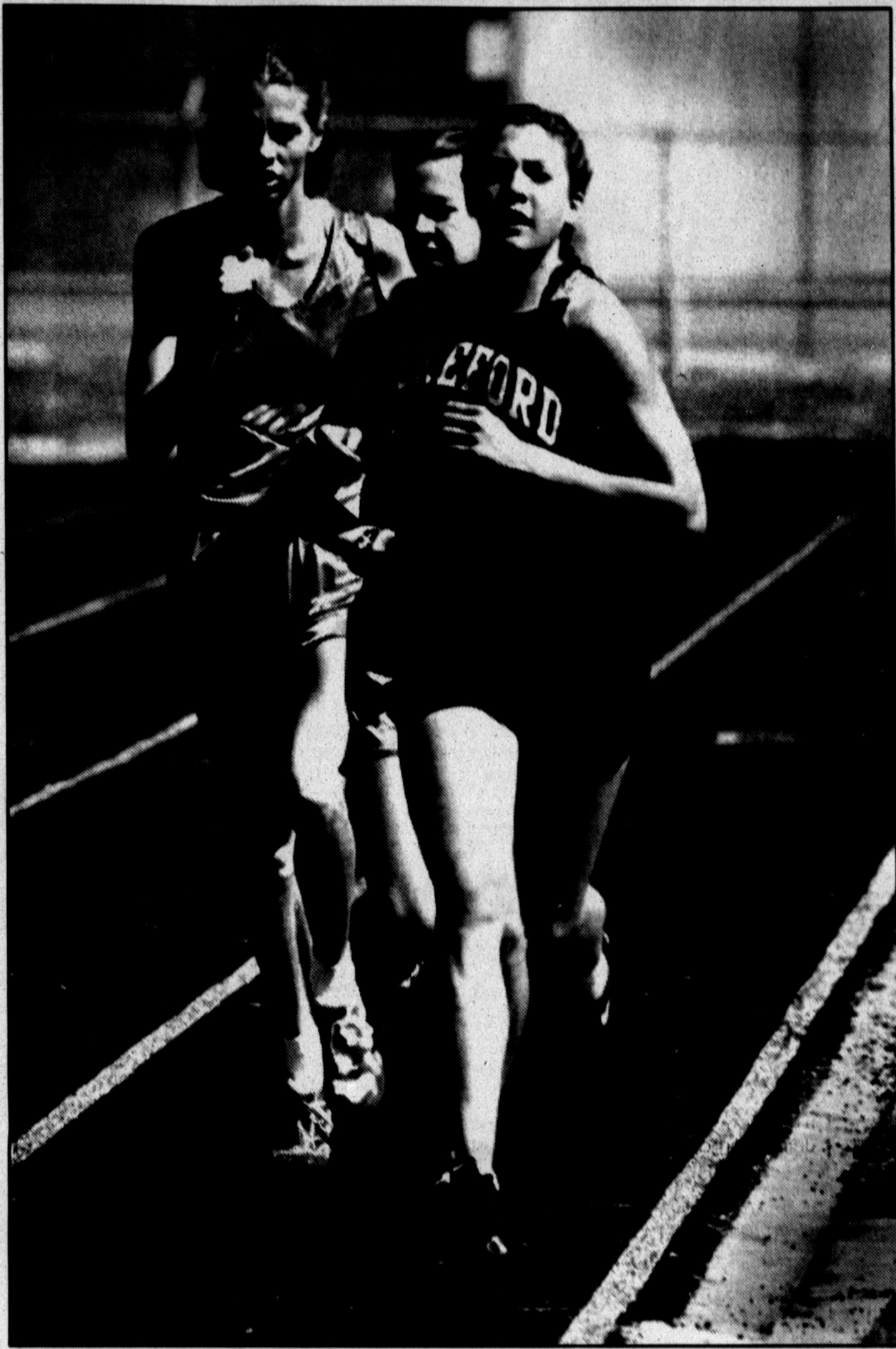
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SPORTS

A5 • HEREFORD BRAND • Wednesday, April 19, 2000

Track stars headed for San Angelo



BRAND/Mauri Montgomery
Brionne Yosten competed in the 3200-meter run at the district 3-4A track meet on Tuesday even with her sore ankle. Yosten placed second sending her to the regional meet that will be held on April 28-29 in San Angelo.

■ Kurtis Flood places first in discus competition

By Jeff Blackmon
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

On Tuesday, the District 3-4A track meet began in Hereford with each team taking in their dreams of making it to regionals.

For Hereford, several players looked to go to regionals with strong performances.

In the 3200-meter run junior Brionne Yosten extended her winning ways by legging out a second place finish.

Yosten injured her ankle almost two weeks ago before the Amarillo Relays and had to pull out of that competition.

Yosten spent the last week resting her ankle for yesterday's important 3200-meter race.

Anyone at the meet could tell Brionne favored her ankle during the race, but she stayed strong and crossed the finish line. Yosten will go to her third consecutive regional meet and try to continue to dominate the event.

Yosten crossed the finish line at 11 minutes 43.26 seconds. Yosten finished right behind Beth Lee from Pampa High School who had a time of 11 minutes and 26.88 seconds.

Audrey Cabezuela placed sixth in the 3200-meter event with a time of 13 minutes 11.81 seconds just in front of the

seconds.

Kurtis Flood took top honors in the men's discus throw blowing out his competition with a hurl of 160 feet even. The second place competitor, Brandon Vinson of Dumas, had a toss of 145 feet 9 inches, almost 15 feet shorter than Flood's throw. Hagen Henderson of Hereford came in seventh in the discus event with his toss of 125 feet 2 inches.

In the women's shot put competition, Mona Garcia placed third with a throw of 33 feet 7.25 inches. Garcia just missed passing second place finisher Lacy Huval of Borger who had a toss of 34 feet 5 inches.

In the men's pole vault competition Luis Perez placed fourth with his vault of 11 feet even. Barry Henry of Borger took top honors by vaulting 12 feet six inches.

In the men's 3200-meter race, Harvey Bravo of Hereford came in fourth place. Bravo crossed the line with a time of 10 feet 47.04 seconds. The race was a close one with Ruben Chaves of Palo Duro taking first with his run of 10 minutes 20.58 seconds.

The meet continues on Thursday at 10 a.m. The boys will begin with the triple jump and the shot put competitions.

See TRACK, Page A6

KURTIS FLOOD

placed seventh. Herd's Ruby Crox who placed seventh. Crox's time in the event was 13 minutes 57.09

seconds.

CLEARING THE BAR



BRAND/Mauri Montgomery
A team member of the Palo Duro junior varsity team competes in Tuesday's high jump competition. The district 3-4A track meet will conclude on Thursday. Events will begin at 10 a.m. and last throughout the afternoon ending with a ceremony at 5:20 p.m.

Whitefaces win second straight

■ The Herd is in tie for third with Dumas

By Jeff Blackmon
Hereford Brand Sports Editor

Three more wins. That is what the Hereford High School varsity baseball team needs to solidify a playoff birth.

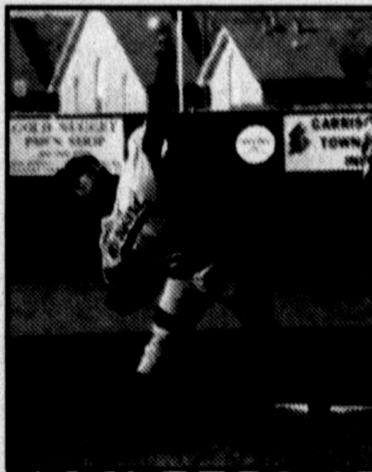
The Herd continued their winning ways on Tuesday dismantling Palo Duro 15-4. The win is the second consecutive district win for the Whitefaces and improves their ranking to a third place tie.

The Whitefaces are tied with Dumas at 3-4 in district.

The team lit up the Dons for 15 runs and 14 hits over five innings.

The loss drops last place Palo Duro to 7-13 on the year and 2-5 in district play.

Junior Hurler Eddie Lacey continued his dominance over Palo Duro pitching a complete game win for the Herd. Lacey gave up



EDDIE LACEY

one run in the bottom of the second and three in the bottom of the fourth.

Scoring came easy for the Whitefaces as they were only held scoreless in one inning. The Herd failed to score in the top of the first but went on to score in every other inning.

L.J. Vallejo was the only Whiteface with an extra base hit, hitting a double for Here-

ford in the win.

RBIs for the team were provided by Andrew Ramirez(3), J.P. Holman(1), Brady Daniel(3), Eddie Lacey(1) and George Castillo(6).

Hereford's overall record is now 11-10, but they are beginning to show signs of life

in district play.

The Whitefaces will try to make it three in a row when they face district 3-4A champion Pampa Saturday. The Herd travels to Pampa on Saturday with the game time at 1 p.m.

Caprock 24, Borger 16

Caprock continued its outpour of runs defeating the Bulldogs in Borger.

Kenny Baldwin(5-3) won his fifth game of the year for the Longhorns.

See BASEBALL, Page A6



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Rangers lose, 6-3

■ "El Duque" dominates Texas in win

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The New York Yankees didn't need a miracle finish with Orlando Hernandez in a groove. Hernandez pitched the first complete game by a Yankee pitcher this season, allowing just two base runners after a leadoff double in the fourth inning Tuesday night as New York kept up its dominance of Texas with a 6-3 victory.

Not only did "El Duque" beat the Rangers and Kenny Rogers for the second time in a week, he gave the Yankees bullpen a much-needed night off.

"He knows what the business is all about. He knew what we were trying to accomplish," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "He was a little tired out there in the ninth, but it was not something where he was throwing a lot of pitches."

Even though he said he was bothered by the warm and humid conditions, Hernandez (3-0) allowed just two singles the final five innings and got the Rangers to go down 1-2-3 in the ninth. He threw 119 pitches, 84 of them for strikes.

"He's the same thing every time, very deceptive," Texas manager Johnny Oates said. "This guy knows what he's doing, and he knows who he wants to pitch to before the game begins."

Yankees catcher Jorge Posada said Hernandez, who

threw his first complete game since a shutout victory over Tampa Bay last June 22, got stronger in the latter stages of the game.

"He was not feeling good early and had a little funny game when I went out there. After that, he was nails and he competed," said Posada.

Posada and Derek Jeter, both homered, Jeter's solo homer coming in a three-run first that pushed New York ahead to stay. The Yankees won their seventh straight game, matching their longest streak from last season.

New York (10-3), off to its best start since 1988, has won 35 of the last 46 games over the Rangers, including sweeps in the last two postseasons. The Yankees won 5-4 in 11 innings on Monday night, benefitting from a bizarre double play after Texas loaded the bases with no outs in the 11th.

New York got all of its runs off Rogers (1-3), who has lost two straight home starts after putting together a 19-game home winning streak that was the third-longest in major-league history. Rogers, who had a stiff back, left after 6 2-3 innings.

"As eventful as last night was, tonight was one of those methodical nights with nothing much exciting happening," Oates said.

Jeter's solo homer to center field got New York started. Posada, who had an RBI single in the first, added a two-run homer in the fourth.

Rogers had extended his home streak.

BRING ON CANYON



April Trevino runs across home plate as Teresa Zimmerman looks on during the playoff bound softball team's practice game against Fritch on Saturday. The Lady Herd won the game 17-8. The team will travel to Canyon on Thursday to take on Canyon High in a bi-district playoff match. The game begins at 7 p.m. in Canyon. The Lady Whitefaces ended their regular season with a 6-4 record in district play. The winner of Thursday's game will take on Pecos.

COURTESY/Bryan Hedrick

Purcella leaps forward in rodeo winnings

■ Herford native moves forward to eighth place among money leaders

Steve Purcella has begun to climb out of 11th place in the roping (heading) division.

Purcella recently improved to eighth in winnings with a total of \$14,569.

By The Associated Press

Parker, Wendell, Idaho, \$14,003. 15. Sean Mulligan-Laramie, Wyo., \$12,933. 16. Birch Negeard, Buffalo, S.D., \$12,778. 17. Vince Walker, Oakland, Calif., \$12,554. 18. Chad Biesemeyer, Stephenville, Texas, \$11,742. 19. Jeff Corbelli, Iowa, La., \$11,540. 20. Joe Walker, Springtown, Texas, \$11,492.

Saddle Bronc Riding
1. Billy Elbauer, Hee Heights, S.D., \$68,119. 2. Rod Hay, Wildwood, Alberta, \$39,667. 3. Dan Mortenson, Manhattan, Mont., \$35,377. 4. T.C. Holloway, Eagle Butte, S.D., \$19,600. 5. Bret Franks, Goodwell, Okla., \$19,468. 6. Tom Reeves, Eagle Butte, S.D., \$18,906. 7. Fred Lemmer, Mt. Butte, S.D., \$18,431. 8. Scott Johnson, De Leon, Texas, \$17,590. 9. Robert Elbauer, Goodwell, Okla., \$16,291. 10. Ryan Mapston, Geysert, Mont., \$16,257. 11. Guy Snapska, Aird, Alberta, \$15,351. 12. Todd Hipps, Firth, Neb., \$14,780. 13. Rod Warren, Valley View, Alberta, \$14,386. 14. Cliff Norris, Glazier, Texas, \$14,058. 15. Chance Dixon, Ellensburg, Wash., \$14,108. 16. Bobby Grewold, Moore, Okla., \$11,372. 17. Rose Kreuzer, Maple Creek, Saskatchewan, \$11,276. 18. Dan Erickson, La Junta, Colo., \$11,157. 19. Steve Dolarhide, Wilkieup, Ariz., \$11,055. 20. Brian Billings, Pecos, Utah, \$11,004.

Calf Roping
1. Fred Whitefield, Hockley, Texas, \$49,278. 2. Blair Burk, Durant, Okla., \$33,818. 3. Ty Hays, Weatherford, Okla., \$31,274. 4. Justin Maass, Giddings, Texas, \$27,072. 5. Brent Lewis, Ponon, N.M., \$22,161. 6. Clay Cerny, Eagle Lake, Texas, \$20,885. 7. Cody Ohi, Orchard, Texas, \$20,230. 8. Jeff Chapman, Athens, Texas, \$16,138. 9. Joe Beaver, Huntsville, Texas, \$17,023. 10. Justin Nulisch, Huntsville, Texas, \$6,849.

Team Roping (Heading)
1. Speed Williams, Jacksonville, Fla., \$35,647. 2. Matt Tyler, Weatherford, Texas, \$33,765. 3. Wade Wheatley, Hughson, Calif., \$26,607. 4. Kevin Stewart, Glen Rose, Texas, \$18,576. 5. Bobby Hurley, Ceres, Calif., \$17,699. 6. Daniel Garcia, Oskaloosa, Calif., \$14,993. 7. Charles Pogue, Ringing, Okla., \$14,791. 8. Steve Purcella, Herford, Texas, \$14,569. 9. Jason Stewart, Royal City, Wash., \$13,354. 10. Doyle Gellerman, Nampa, Idaho, \$13,002.

Steer Wrestling
1. Byron Walker, Erma, Texas, \$39,989. 2. Frank Thompson, Cheyenne, Wyo., \$22,985. 3. Bryan Fields, Conroe, Texas, \$22,837. 4. Marvin Dubose, Lampasas, Texas, \$21,428. 5. Rope Myers, Van, Texas, \$21,099. 6. Garrett Nokes, McCook, Neb., \$19,477. 7. Teddy Johnson, Checotah, Okla., \$18,320. 8. Marty Musil, Crescent, Okla., \$17,817. 9. Oie Berry, Checotah, Okla., \$16,076. 10. Cash Myers, Athens, Texas, \$16,012. 11. Luke Brancurto, Los Alamos, Calif., \$15,880. 12. Tommy Cook, Heber City, Utah, \$15,809. 13. Steve Duhan, Sonora, Texas, \$15,177. 14. T.W.

11. Nick Rowland, Antlers, Okla., \$11,966. 12. Kirt Jones, Lubbock, Texas, \$11,356. 13. Allen Bach, Villa Home, Calif., \$10,851. 14. John Paul Lucero, Villanueva, N.M., \$10,594. 15. Cory Petaka, Lexington, Okla., \$10,510. 16. Aries Pearce, Washington, Texas, \$10,326. 17. Cooter Flack Jr., Bryan, Texas, \$9,850. 18. Cody Gueas, Colorado Springs, Texas, \$9,324. 19. Bret Gould, Polok, Texas, \$8,087. 20. John Forner, Lubbock, Texas, \$8,040.

Barrel Racing
1. Sherry Cervi, Marana, Ariz., \$29,665. 2. Gloria Freeman, Calhoun, Ga., \$22,110. 3. Charmayne James, Gustine, Texas, \$22,042. 4. Kristie Peterson, Elbert, Colo., \$19,944. 5. Janet Stover, Jacksonville, Texas, \$18,499. 6. Kelly Yates, Pueblo, Colo., \$18,327. 7. Tami Fontenot, Ethel, La., \$13,969. 8. Darlene Kasper, Von Ormy, Texas, \$12,488. 9. Tona Wright, Moriarty, N.M., \$12,351. 10. Sharon Kobord, Big Horn, Wyo., \$12,101.

Bull Riding
1. Shane Drury, Weatherford, Okla., \$29,735. 2. Tyler Fowler, Theodore, Ala., \$26,110. 3. Jesse Ball, Goodwell, Okla., \$26,868. 4. Daniel Tipton, Spencer, Okla., \$25,100. 5. Dan Wolfe, Redmond, Ore., \$22,561. 6. Mike Moore, Wellington, Colo., \$18,266. 7. Ty Reeder, Corinne, Utah, \$17,636. 8. Kelly Armstrong, Big Valley, Alberta, \$16,335. 9. Kagan Siret, Bozeman, Mont., \$16,266. 10. Russ Kling, Killebrew, N.D., \$16,141.

Bull Riding
11. Mike Petty, Zephyr, Texas, \$15,792. 12. Fred Boettcher, Rice Lake, Wis., \$15,121. 13. Josh O'Byrne, Glen Rose, Texas, \$14,853. 14. Casey Baza, San Angelo, Texas, \$14,886. 15. Jason Legler, Loveland, Colo., \$14,670. 16. Justin Daugherty, College Station, Texas, \$14,101. 17. Gregory Potter, Whitt, Texas, \$13,887. 18. Robert Bowers, Brooks, Alberta, \$11,718. 19. Rocky McDonald, El Paso, Texas, \$11,608. 20. Lee Akin, Weatherford, Okla., \$10,983.

Steer Roping
1. Guy Allen, Lovington, N.M., \$11,633. 2. Rocky Patterson, Pratt, Kan., \$11,483. 3. J.B. Whalley, Gardendale, Texas, \$7,144. 4. Cody Ohi, Orchard, Texas, \$6,660. 5. Mike Beers, Powell Butte, Ore., \$5,870. 6. Trevor Brazier, Decatur, Texas, \$5,735. 7. Jim Davis, Abilene, Texas, \$5,628. 8. Buster Record Jr., Buffalo, Okla., \$5,574. 9. J.D. Yates, Pueblo, Colo., \$5,290. 10. Cash Myers, Athens, Texas, \$4,881.

Bull Riding
11. Rod Hartness, Pawhuska, Okla., \$4,643. 12. Leo Campbell, Amarillo, Texas, \$4,238. 13. Tee Woolman, Llano, Texas, \$4,162. 14. Marty Jones, Hobbs, N.M., \$3,648. 15. Roy Cooper, Childress, Texas, \$3,438. 16. J.R. Wickett, Sallisaw, Okla., \$3,280. 17. Harold Burquardner, Burns, Wyo., \$3,209. 18. David Felton, Weatherford, Texas, \$2,694. 19. Don Ed Eddleman, Santa Anna, Texas, \$2,506. 20. Jason Evans, Huntsville, Texas, \$2,472.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED INCREASE IN ENVIRONS GAS RATES AND SERVICE CHARGES

On March 8, 2000 Energas Company filed a statement of intent with the Railroad Commission of Texas to increase its gas rates in the unincorporated areas ("Enviros") surrounding the sixty-seven West Texas Cities listed below. The proposed increase would affect all classes of enviros tariff customers including Residential, Commercial, Public Authority, Small Industrial and Air Conditioning customers and would be identical in relative magnitude to those proposed by the Company for the sixty-seven West Texas cities in the Company's pending Appeal at the Railroad Commission. The proposed effective date for the increase is April 27, 2000. The Railroad Commission may delay the proposed effective date for up to 150 days. However, the enviros rates will not be changed until the rates inside the sixty-seven West Texas Cities are changed. There are approximately 22,275 Enviros customers in the unincorporated areas surrounding the sixty-seven West Texas Cities from which the Company has appealed to the Railroad Commission. The proposed changes in enviros rates are expected to increase the Company's annual revenues by approximately \$1.0 million or 8.5%, adjusted for normal weather. The change is a "major change" under state law only in the enviros of Lubbock and Odessa.

Energas proposes to restructure its gas rates to moderate bill variability during the heating season, to increase its revenues from gas service by increasing the customer charges and lower pricing blocks, and to increase its charges for miscellaneous services such as reconnecting gas services following nonpayment. The Company also proposes changes to its Gas Cost Adjustment ("GCA") Clause to collect all of the gas cost and related taxes instead of just the difference between actual gas cost and a base cost of gas in the base rates. Copies of the proposal may be obtained at the Energas Office at 5110 80th, Lubbock, Texas, 79424.

Customers who are affected by the proposed enviros rate changes may, within 30 days following the proposed effective date, file written comments or a protest with:

Docket Services Section
Legal Division (Re: Docket No. 9002-9068)
Railroad Commission of Texas
P.O. Box 12967
Austin Texas 78711-2967

Any such protest must be received by the Commission no later than May 27, 2000. The deadline to file a petition to intervene in the case as a party is May 27, 2000.

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
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| Crosbyton | Muleshoe | Smyer |
| Dimmitt | Nazareth | Springlake |
| Earth | New Deal | Stanton |
| Edmonson | New Home | Sudan |
| Floydada | Odessa* | Tahoka |
| Forsan | O'Donnell | Timbercreek Canyon |
| Frona | Oilton | Tulia |
| Hale Center | Opdyke West | Turkey |
| Happy | Pallsades | Vega |
| Hart | Pampa | Wellman |
| Herford | Panhandle | Wilson |
| Idalou | Petersburg | Wofforth |
| Kress | Plainview | |
| Lake Tanglewood | Post | |

Baseball

From Page A5

Caprock will try to keep their run support strong as they face Palo Duro on Friday. Pampa 20, Dumas 13

Pampa remained unbeaten in district 3-4A play demolishing the Demons in Dumas.

With the win, Pampa clinched the district title and a playoff spot. The Harvesters are 17-5-1 overall and 7-0 in district 3-4A.

The Harvesters host Herford on Saturday while Dumas travels to Borger.

Track

From Page A5

The girls begin at the same time with the discus and high jump competitions.

The finals of the running events begin at 2 p.m. on Thursday.

Keeping an Eye on Texas

Texans are flocking to college baseball games

College baseball in Texas is on the rise in popularity. In fact, Texas schools make up three of the nation's top five teams in attendance.

Texas Christian University and the University of Texas hold the record for largest crowd at a regular season game. In 1996 the two teams played at the Ballpark in Arlington in front of a crowd of 21,043.

Colleges With Highest Baseball Home Game Average Attendance

| School | 1999 Total Attendance | 1999 Average Attendance | % Change From 1998 |
|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| LSU | 271,888 | 7,155 | +8% |
| Texas | 150,255 | 4,847 | +2% |
| Texas A&M | 179,636 | 4,727 | +27% |
| Texas Tech | 130,233 | 4,341 | +13% |
| Alabama | 168,155 | 4,204 | +15% |

SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us); the Big 12 Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

NON-STOP CHARTER JET SERVICE SCHEDULED TO

LAUGHLIN, NEVADA

AMARILLO, TEXAS

MAY 7-11-\$210*

Garrara's LAUGHLIN

GIFT CERTIFICATES NOW AVAILABLE

*PRICED INCLUDES ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE, HOTEL, BAGGAGE HANDLING, AIRPORT TRANSFERS TO AND FROM HOTEL, AIRPORT FEES AND TAX. CANCEL AT LEAST 15 DAYS PRIOR TO FLIGHT FOR 100% REFUND. (CANCELS 3 TO 6 DAYS FOR PAYMENT TO BE TRANSFERRED TO FUTURE FLIGHT.)

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL DONA COOPER AT (580) 338-3165

OFFICE HOURS - 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. • MONDAY-FRIDAY

TERRY'S AUTOMOTIVE

600 N 25 Mile Avenue • 364-7650

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS:
Major Engine Repairs • Computer Work • Air Conditioning & Heating • Electrical • Transmission Service • Brakes, Shocks & Struts • State Inspection • Tune-ups • Carburetors • Alignments • Mufflers • Tire & Tire Repairs • Oil Changes • Car Wash

PREMIER CINEMA GROUP

MOOVIES 6

Supermarket Mall 400 N. 25 Mile Ave., Herford, TX
BUSINESS OFFICE CALL: 364-0101
MONTHLY HOTLINE CALL: 364-8000

Fri. April 14th thru Thurs. April 20th

28 DAYS

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT
1:30 & 4:05 7:05 & 9:25

READY TO RUMBLE
1:30 & 4:05 7:05 & 9:25

ROAD TO EL DORADO
1:30 & 4:05 7:05 & 9:25

THE SKULLS
1:30 & 4:05 7:05 & 9:25

ERIN BROCHOVICH
1:30 & 4:05 7:05 & 9:25

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

HEREFORD BRAND • Wednesday, April 19, 2000 • A8

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

TASCOSA BEEF
100% Genuine Hereford Beef
Locally grown and fattened in Hereford, Texas
No implants—No hormones
"Just Pure Beef!"
Fed whole corn, red top cane and supplement

TASCOSA INDUSTRIES
P.O. Box 871
212 E. New York St.
Hereford, Texas 79045
806-364-3109

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! 3020 John Deere Propane Tractor. New rear tires. \$5,500 firm. Call 258-7720.

From Plains Ave. CHEAP CHEAP CHEAP

Call **364-8825**

Shackelford Agency

INSURANCE

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

BIG SCREEN TV for sale. Take on small payments. Good credit required. 1-800-398-3970.

FOR SALE: 1-17 shank siney plow, make by Namy, \$400; 1-4 row drag type planter, 4 John Deere planter attachments, \$150; 1 John Deere wheat drill 16 disc, model DRA, packer wheat, \$150; 1 Disc type Bedding Machine, 6 row, made by Tye, real good shape, \$550. Call 364-1303 or can be seen at Oglesby Equipment Company.

Merle Norman Cosmetics
&
The Gift Garden
220 N. Main 364-0323

Easter cards and inspirational gifts. Still celebrating - mention this ad for 10% off regularly priced merchandise.
Many in-store specials

1a. GARAGE SALES

ESTATE SALE And 3 family garage sale. 308 Douglas. Friday 7:00-5:00, Saturday 7:00-11:00. Furniture, clothes, lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE: 317 Centre. Friday 4:00-6:00p.m. ONLY. Glider exercise machine, lots of Noah's Ark things.

HUGE 2-FAMILY Garage Sale! #24 Yucca Hills. Friday 8:00-4:00.

BIG YARD Sale! 813 Schley. Friday and Saturday 8:00-?? Water cooler, sofa.

2. FARM & RANCH

CUSTOM GRASS Seeding and Field Preparation. Includes: Working new ground, plowing out grasses for new stands, or over seeding 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.

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!!

3. AUTOMOBILES

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

FOR SALE: 1993 white Dodge Grand Caravan, 98,000 miles, been well cared for. \$5,000. 364-1303.

FOR SALE: 1983, 28ft., Southwind Eagle motor home, 454 engine, 48,000 miles. Nice! \$4,500. 364-1303.

See Us Before You Buy
Marcum Motors Co.
2000 S. Lee

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.

FOR SALE! Beautiful brick home. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Approximately 1,800 square feet, 1 1/2 car garage, good size back yard and garden area. See at 429 Miles. Call 363-6592.

FOR SALE By owner! Price Reduced!! House near Hereford City limits. Call (505)868-2934.

FOR SALE To be Moved! '84 Oak Creek, 28'X64' mobile home. 3 bedroom/2 bath with fireplace. Call 344-2426 or 344-5531.

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

FOR SALE! 3-2-2. Central Air, nice condition. Priced to sell. 211 Beach. Call 364-4295.

REFURBISHED! 4 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home. Also one bedroom house. 308 and 310 West 5th. \$38,900. Call 364-0599.

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

HOUSE FOR Sale by owner: 215 Avenue E. \$35,000, \$3,500 down, \$347/month. 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, 2 carport. Big Lot! Call 364-7953.

CROSSWORD

CROSSWORD
By **THOMAS JOSEPH**

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Savory jelly | 1 Poise |
| 6 "I didn't hear you" | 2 Shipping stop |
| 10 Arctic explorer | 3 Shoulder-length hairdo |
| 11 African capital | 4 Press |
| 12 Former African capital | 5 Young and others |
| 13 Take, as advice | 6 Baylor setting |
| 14 Ajar | 7 Approach for a loan |
| 15 Boutique buy | 8 Stood |
| 16 Unruly group | 9 Copier need |
| 17 Actor Mineo | 11 Visited |
| 18 Apiece | 15 Scrooge cry |
| 19 Pins | 17 Stinging arachnid |
| 22 Beginner | 20 Sphere |
| 23 Editor's base | 21 Jifty |
| 26 Soft rolls | |
| 29 Crow cry | |
| 32 Bad review | |
| 33 Needle part | |
| 34 Source | |
| 36 Innuendo | |
| 37 Copycat's cry | |
| 38 Airline worker | |
| 39 Writer Chukhov | |
| 40 Packing box | |
| 41 Utters | |
| 42 Take the wheel | |

GOETS EAST
OPTIC APART
MEESE RULER
IRA PIY IMA
CAME TO AHEAD
REN ERIE
POLAR GRIND
IRIS PRO
CAME TO AN END
ATE OWN MAR
RIATA TEASE
DODOS ELIAS
NEW T DILLS

Yesterday's answer

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 24 The Glamorous Life singer | 29 Deep sleeps? |
| 25 Conventional speech | 30 Sports setting |
| 27 Writer Fleming | 31 Clever |
| 28 Hunting dog | 35 Sticky stuffs |
| | 36 Trumpeter AI |
| | 38 Network needs |

Our Lead Has EXTENDED

Leader in Miles 7 years in a Row!
COVENANT TRANSPORT
Our Largest Pay Increase EVER!
Teams Start at **42c-46c**
Plus, 6c for all miles over 15,000 in a month

Owner Operators
Sole 83¢ Teams 88¢

Lease Purchase Program

Experienced Drivers
1-800-441-4394
Owner Operators
1-877-848-6615
Graduate Students
1-800-338-6428

\$1,000 Sign-on Bonus for Exp. Company Drivers

CFL.
Now Hiring!
OTR Drivers
Company • Owner Operators • Students
1-800-CFI-DRIVE
www.cfldrive.com

BUSINESS IS BOOMING Are You?

Aggressive? Talented? Going Nowhere?

We offer a Complete Training Program, competitive starting salary. Meal discounts and lots of potential for growth

NOW HIRING:
Assistant Managers
Team Leader
Crew Members

Dairy Queen

Contact Maggie Salazar @ 364-4578 or come on in and fill out an application at 801 Park Ave.; Hereford, Texas 79045

5. RENTAL PROPERTY

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom, 2 full baths, big back yard, AC/Heat. \$200 deposit, \$450/month. 276-5390 between 10:00-3:00pm. References required.

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

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

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

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.

FURNISHED APARTMENT For rent. Bills paid. \$275/month. Call 364-4912.

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom, W/D hookups, A/C, water paid. \$350/month, \$200 deposit. Call 276-5823 after 6:00p.m.

FOR RENT: 1 bedroom, water paid. \$200/month, \$150 deposit. Call 276-5823 after 6:00p.m.

APARTMENTS:

Blue Water Gardens
HEAT, A/C
LIGHTS } INCLUDED

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

DRIVERS NEEDED To pull containers on a weekly, dedicated, drop and hook run from the Texas Panhandle area to the West Coast and return. We provide late model equipment, weekly pay, benefits package, and steady work. Applicants must be at least 25 years of age, have a Class A CDL with a good driving record, three years verifiable over-the-road experience, current DOT physical and pass a drug test. For details call (806)569-4633, ext. 300 Monday-Friday, 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.

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 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.

OLDHAM COUNTY Country Club needs Club Manager/Green's Keeper. For more information call 267-2910 or 267-2288.

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

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 90 days, vacation after 1 year, retirement paid by Company.

Contact Odell Ward at **1-800-523-5164** or Fax or Send Resume to: P.O. Box 129 Cactus, Texas 79018 fax no. 806-966-5532

DEAF SMITH County Agricultural Extension Service needs Assistant to work with County Extension Office summer programming. Requires out-of-town travel. Vehicle necessary. Must be energetic, possess clerical skills, willing to work varied hours. Ability to supervise youth, participate and work with people of all ages a must, good public relations skills needed. Prefer ex-4-H member, college age or older. This position will require overnight supervision of female 4-H members in a dormitory setting; therefore only females need apply. Pick up and return application between the hours of 8:30a.m. and 4:30p.m., April 19-28, 2000 to Nan Rogers, Room 206, County Treasurer's Office, Deaf Smith County Courthouse. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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.

CLASSIFIEDS

11. BUSINESS SERVICES

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

9. CHILD CARE

HEREFORD DAY CARE

Offering an excellent program of learning and care for your children 6-12! State Licensed

Also - SPECIAL AFTER-HOURS pick-up for Kindergarten Children! 364-5062

KING'S MANOR METHODIST CHILD CARE. State Licensed. Qualified Staff. Monday thru Friday 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Drop-ins Welcome. MARILYN BELL / DIRECTOR 364-3978 • 690 RANGER

Classifieds Work! Call 364-2030

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

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.

Computer Services - Service, Supplies, Upgrades. CCS 319 N. Main • 364-6067

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.

STOP Domestic Violence or Sexual Assault Call 363-6727

Hereford RIGHT TO LIFE. Alternative to Abortion. 24-Hour Hot-Line 364-2027. PRECIOUS FEET unborn baby's feet at 10 weeks. Educational programs, materials, emotional support for those suffering from unplanned pregnancy, post abortion trauma, miscarriage/still birth. For more information contact Alice Hund at 364-3218, Krista Detten at 364-7563 or Kim Leonard at 364-8760.

CREDIT UNION



Members of the Hereford Texas Federal Credit Union board of directors are (from left, rear) John David Bryant, Jerry Heller and Tom Betzen, and (front) Ralph Smith, Joe Kerr and Nick Yosten. Not shown is Dan Warrick.

Credit union members meet, elect directors

Members of the Hereford Texas Federal Credit Union met Tuesday evening and elected, by voice vote, John David Bryant to take the position vacated by the retiring Wayne Amstutz. Ralph Smith and Nick Yosten were unchallenged in their bids for new terms. Joe Kerr announced he will step down as board chairman, although he will retain his seat on the board. Amstutz has been involved with the HTFCU since 1986. He has served on the board since 1989 and as secretary/

Miranda warning reviewed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court today considered the future of Miranda warnings given by police — words Justice Stephen G. Breyer said "probably 2 billion people throughout the world know."

Ideological differences among the justices were on display as they worked toward deciding whether police must continue warning criminal suspects about their right against self-incrimination before questioning them.

Such warnings have been required ever since the Supreme Court's landmark 1966 decision in Miranda vs. Arizona, but a federal appeals court ruling last year threw Miranda's future into doubt.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said Congress effectively overturned Miranda when it enacted a 1988 law.

During today's hour-long argument session, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justice Antonin Scalia repeatedly challenged the idea that Miranda warnings are constitutionally required. If not, failure to give them would not require automatic exclusion of incriminating statements as trial evidence.

Breyer and Justices David H. Souter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and John Paul Stevens resisted attempts to disparage the 34-year-old ruling, which Breyer called "a hallmark of American justice."

131 feared dead in crash

DAVAO, Philippines — An Air Philippines plane crashed into a foggy coconut grove today while trying to land in the southern Philippines. Officials said all 131 people aboard were believed killed.

The Boeing 737-200 was unable to land on its first approach to Davao city because another plane was on the runway, air traffic controllers said. It crashed on nearby Samal Island as it prepared to make another approach from the opposite direction, they said.

Visibility was intermittent at the time, air traffic controllers said. The Davao airport does not have all the equipment for instrument landings needed for low visibility conditions, and landings had been briefly suspended for several minutes before the plane's initial approach, officials said.

Smoke from the crash could be seen from Davao, a thriving commercial center 625 miles southeast of Manila. The plane was completely destroyed except for a small portion of its tail section. Hours after the early morning crash, the wreckage was still smoldering, rescuers said.

A priest sprinkled water over charred bodies as he delivered last rites. "It looks like there are really no survivors," Defense Secretary Orlando Mercado said. If the death toll is confirmed, the crash would be the worst in Philippine history.

Planes, buses and ferries throughout the predominantly Catholic country were jammed today because of the start of Easter holidays, in which many Filipinos return to their hometowns.

Schools nationwide mark shooting anniversary and brace for impact

WASHINGTON — Like many other schools preparing for this week's anniversary of the Columbine High School shootings, Rich East High School in Park Forest, Ill., will have extra police officers on hand.

But Cmdr. Patrick Fitzgerald, a city police officer who coordinates school safety, said he's heard more from reporters writing about Thursday's anniversary than from parents and students who fear it may precipitate copycat violence.

"Things have been very quiet out here," he said. "When we take attendance on Thursday, we'll find out."

On April 20, 1999, two students at Columbine High in Littleton, Colo., fatally shot 12 students and a teacher before killing themselves. This year, education officials nationwide are taking steps to prevent their schools from suffering the same fate.

They've suspended students caught making threats, hired more officers and volunteers for the day, canceled classes or major school events and held meetings with parents and community members.

"The date has them worried about a lot of copycats or kids who may try to send a very, very strong message," said Curt Lavarello, executive director of the National Association of School Resource Officers, a group of K-12 school officers that has nearly doubled to 5,500 members in the last year. "Let's face it, it's been absolutely clear in the tragedies we see on school campuses that these incidents can occur at any time, at any school."

On Thursday, Colorado Gov. Bill Owens will lead thousands in a moment of silence at 11:21 a.m., the time the attack began. But the school itself is on alert, with 24-hour police patrols and special badges for anyone wanting to get in.

Federal grant allows schools to focus on building character

FAIR OAKS, Calif. — The Will Rogers Intermediate School starts off each day with the same lesson — one about character.

Commercials appear on closed-circuit television in the classrooms, extolling the importance of virtue. On one recent day, the ad featured a girl trying to convince her friends to help her cheat on a test.

After she's talked out of the dishonest act, a message appears on the screen: "Remember, Cheaters Never Prosper."

The ad is the latest created by the junior high students through a federal grant aimed at seeing whether character education improves student behavior. The school also uses its grant to reward children who do good deeds.

"It's not a panacea, but it does have some real potential," said Joseph Maloney, director of the Sacramento County Office of Education agency overseeing the experiment at Will Rogers and nine other schools.

Nationwide, 28 states, including California, have been awarded federal grants to develop character education initiatives, according to the Character Education Partnership in Washington, D.C., a nonpartisan advocacy group.

Now state Assemblyman Lou Correa has introduced a bill that would require state education officials to develop a list of character-building programs that districts could use. Correa says he doesn't want to force the curriculum on schools, but wants to give them guidance if they choose to add such classes.

Democrats woo high-tech sector

WASHINGTON — In the hunt for campaign cash, the Democratic Party is looking to the high-technology sector, an industry at odds with traditional party allies such as labor unions and trial lawyers on some key issues.

Republicans hope to use the split to hinder Democratic fund raising from companies in the technology focused, northern California region known as Silicon Valley, which, unlike most business groups, has divided its loyalties between the two parties.

JROTC

From Page A1 leadership skills which will enhance to lives of the young adults who participate.

This will not be a combat training or recruiting program but is established as an academic course of instruction which combines the advantages of military leadership training with those of secondary education.

The curriculum is designed to develop pride, confidence, self-discipline, and to instill a desire of achievement and self-improvement in the cadets.

Conducting the tour with the Marine representatives were Superintendent Elizabeth Abernethy, Assistant Superintendent Terry Russell, Director of Secondary Curriculum Kelli Moulton, HHS principal Linda Lowe, counselor Sara Pesina, teacher Joe D. Rogers and Law Enforcement instructor Bryan Hedrick.

Audit

From Page A1 March a 42.4 percent improvement over the \$20,489 loss the previous year. For the year, the clinic's red ink has amounted to \$99,204, a 36.9 percent improvement over the \$157,252 loss for the same period last year.

Reviewed the March financial report for the hospital. The hospital showed a net loss of \$34,432 for the month. Total operating revenue was \$806,330, but total operating expenses was \$951,445, leaving a negative balance of \$145,115. Non-operating revenue was \$110,683;

Approved credentials for three physicians, Drs. Quayhan u, Judith Graves and Asem Souman; and Approved payment of bills.

Safety

From Page A1 actually pull that person apart.

"I've heard kids say 'we learned that during a safety day,' so we know our message is getting through," Hereford paramedic Terry Hazlett said. "Kids get desensitized to what is around them," Skarke said. "These demonstrations give them a good wake-up call."

Each student participant seemed to learn something different from the safety sessions. A group of West Central Elementary students all gained a different perspective of the

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News digest

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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.

4-19 CRYPTOQUOTE

EXIOLTO XE VE KDII JK BJAOLAXVI HXECJN VE AYO DLYOHL NVGZIO JK UGOVA

ETDIBADGO. — VICJDE YDQIOP Yesterday's Cryptoquote: A GOOD LAUGH AND A LONG SLEEP ARE THE BEST CURES IN THE DOCTOR'S BOOK. — IRISH PROVERB

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Financial table with columns for CATTLE FUTURES, GRAIN FUTURES, METAL FUTURES, and FUTURES OPTIONS, including various commodity prices and market data.

McCain expected to say Confederate banner should go

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — After tap-dancing around the issue during his presidential campaign, Sen. John McCain is expected to tell South Carolinians he favors removing the Confederate flag from atop the Statehouse dome.

McCain planned to speak to the South Carolina Policy Council today and say his decision to sidestep the flag issue is one of the biggest regrets from his failed campaign, according to Republican officials, who declined to be identified by name.



John McCain

Upon leaving a town hall meeting in Galesburg, Ill., Tuesday night, McCain said he planned to address several issues during the visit, including the flag controversy. He refused to say what position he would take.

"I will make those remarks tomorrow," McCain said.

His spokesman, Todd Harris, also refused all comment.

House Majority Leader Rick Warren, a Columbia Republican who helped lead McCain's South Carolina campaign, said, "I think he's going to say he supports mov-

ing (the flag) to the soldier monument."

Quinn, in the past has said he wants the flag to remain where it is, but now supports moving it to the monument in front of the Statehouse.

South Carolina Gov. Jim Hodges called McCain on Tuesday after he heard reports that McCain would talk about the flag during his visit was.

Hodges spokesman Morton Brilliant said the governor wants to talk to "anyone who can help end the flag debate."

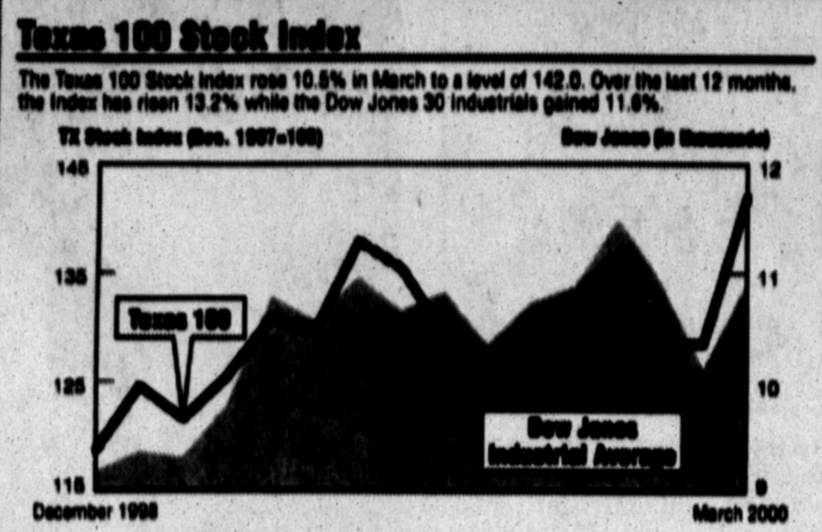
Brilliant said he did not know what was said in the telephone conversation.

The Democrat-controlled state Senate voted last week to move a square version of the rectangular flag that now flies atop the dome to the monument. However, the proposal will face opposition from both sides in the House.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, saying the flag is a hateful symbol of slavery, has started a tourism boycott of the state. Flag supporters say it is a symbol of the state's heritage. The NAACP has rejected the compromise saying it moves the flag to a more visible spot on the Statehouse grounds.

The flag was an issue that dogged McCain and George W. Bush as they campaigned here in February.

STOCK INDEX



Ups & downs by sector

Largest percentage changes in company stock prices

| | |
|---|--|
| Energy 18.1% | Other Manufacturing 2.1% |
| Lyondell Chemical +72.3% | GM +8.9% |
| Conoco +28.3% | PepsiCo +8.5% |
| Chevron +23.8% | Trinity Industries +7.1% |
| Texas Utilities -9.0% | Pilgrim's Pride -21.1% |
| | Temple Inland -2.8% |
| | VF Corp. -2.5% |
| Entertainment & Travel 0.3% | Retail 17.7% |
| Darden Restaurants +37.3% | Best Buy +67.4% |
| Brinker International +35.1% | 7-Eleven +44.8% |
| Continental Airlines +29.2% | Tandy +33.8% |
| Phoenix Restaurants -45.5% | Stage Stores -30.0% |
| American Airlines* -39.7% | J.C. Penney -8.9% |
| Luby's Cafeterias -8.6% | Dillard's -6.4% |
| High Tech 7.3% | Service & Financial 4.0% |
| AMD +45.8% | Bank One +32.9% |
| Dell Computers +32.2% | Columbia HCA +31.1% |
| GTE +20.3% | West TeleServices +30.4% |
| Motorola -14.4% | Interim -25.0% |
| Alcatel -8.7% | Sitel -20.3% |
| Raytheon -4.1% | Citien -18.2% |

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

ECONOMY

U.S. trade deficit hits monthly high

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. trade deficit shot up to a record \$29.2 billion in February as Americans' demand for foreign oil hit an all-time monthly high while sales of exports dipped.

The Commerce Department said today that the deficit widened by 6.5 percent in February compared to a \$27.4 billion January deficit. February's deficit was bigger than the \$28.9 billion imbalance many analysts were forecasting.

Total imports climbed 1.5 percent to a record \$113.4 billion as sales of chemicals and other industrial supplies and of capital goods including computers and telecommunications equipment rose to records.

Imports of foreign petroleum climbed to \$9.6 billion in February, pushing the oil trade deficit to a record \$8.8 billion. The price of crude oil hit \$25.01 per barrel in February, the highest since \$25.75 in December 1990 on the eve of the Persian Gulf War.

Production limits by oil-producing nations pushed crude-oil prices to a nine-year high in early March of \$34 a barrel, but prices have fallen since then. A decision by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to boost production should provide additional relief.

Economists said the trade report isn't as bad as it ap-

pears. "The headline appears frightening — another record deficit — but the substance of the report isn't," said Northern Trust Co.'s chief economist, Paul Kasriel. "That's because most of the increase in imports came from oil and higher oil prices. When you adjust for that and for other revisions, trade is less of a drag on the economy than previously thought."

Total U.S. exports slipped by 0.2 percent to \$84.2 billion. Sales of food such as fish, corn and fruits fell, as did sales of cars and capital goods, including airplanes and industrial machines. Demand for U.S. products from overseas economies, which has showed signs of picking up, had been severely depressed from an Asian financial crisis that struck in 1997.

"The American economy has continued to grow this year at an extraordinarily strong pace and much more rapidly than the economies of most of our major trading partners," said Commerce Secretary William Daley. "Today's data on trade reflect this gap between growth here and abroad, along with the impact of sharply higher oil prices."

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.

Microsoft to unveil new handheld computers

SEATTLE (AP) — Look out, Palm. There's a new organizer in town.

Software giant Microsoft Corp. and three computer manufacturers are betting millions that their handheld organizer can become a direct challenge to Palm Computing Inc.

The Pocket PC, set to debut today, represents Microsoft's third try at building a successful handheld device, a market the company has failed to win over.

This time, Microsoft be-

lieves it and its partners have a device that will give market leader Palm a run for its money. The new handheld organizers will not only keep appointments but will play music, record sound, balance checkbooks and surf the Internet.

"People joke that it takes Microsoft until Version 3 to get something right," said Ben Waldman, Microsoft's vice president in charge of mobile services. "Well, this is Version 3 and we got it right."

In addition to a datebook,

calendar, calculator and memo pad, the Pocket PC will include a slimmed-down but useable version of Internet Explorer, an e-book reader that uses ClearType technology, a digital voice recorder, and a Windows Media Player for music and video files.

With additional plug-in hardware, the various models — built by Compaq Computer Corp., Hewlett-Packard Co. and Casio Computer Co. — also will support wireless Internet connections and have additional memory storage.

Priced between \$499 and \$599, the Pocket PCs are at the high end of the market for handhelds that synchronize with personal computers.

"We're still a little high, but we give a little extra functionality," said Steve Ballmer, Microsoft's president and chief executive. "I feel very good about where we are with this."

Microsoft executives said the biggest plus for the Pocket PC is that it can run a number of programs simultaneously.

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