

EXPERTS SAY hospital stroke centers could save lives. See Page 8A.

CAPRIATI ENJOYING best Wimbledon since 1993. See Page 1B.

KEEP SAFETY in mind when on Caddo Lake over holiday weekend. See Page 7A.

Today's News Messenger



ELIAN RETURNS to Cuba with little fanfare. See Page 6B.

Caddo Country

KEEP SAFETY in mind when on Caddo Lake during holiday weekend. See Page 7A.

Pemberton reunion

PEMBERTON GOLDEN reunion set to begin today. See Page 6A.

Speak Out!

HATS OFF FOR Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison for trying to suspend the gas tax to help us out with our gas. She just won my vote. *This comment and more in today's Speak Out! column on Page 2A.*

Daily Special

Court OKs nudity in Wisconsin

Scripps-Howard News Service
MADISON, Wis. — A Waukesha man who climbed a tree to videotape his ex-girlfriend in the nude has convinced the Wisconsin Supreme Court that the law under which he was convicted is unconstitutional.

The high court, in a 5-2 decision, struck down a 4-year-old law making it a felony to depict nudity without the subject's consent because it interferes with First Amendment rights to other types of free expression.

"It chills the ability to include copies of masterpieces like Michelangelo's 'David' in a book devoted to famous sculptures and also prevents the dissemination that may portray nudity for health or educational purposes," Justice Ann Walsh Bradley wrote for the court.

The decision arose from a case in which Scott L. Stevenson was charged with two counts of videotaping his former girlfriend in various states of undress.

The court's ruling leaves prosecutors throughout the state with few options in charging video voyeurs, some of whom have hidden video cameras in bags or backpacks, taping up women's skirts or down their blouses.

Waukesha County District Attorney Paul Bucher said the ruling "opens the door for all the perverts to think they have a license to go ahead and peer and peek as long as they don't touch."

Corrections

The Marshall News Messenger makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information we report, and it is our policy to correct errors promptly. Readers may bring mistakes to our attention by telephone at 927-5961 or by fax at 927-6242.

No indictments returned in van wreck

By GAIL K BEIL
News Messenger

No indictments were returned by a Harrison County grand jury in connection with the tragic accident that killed four Prairie View A&M track team members in February.

The driver of the van, 21-year-old Houston Watson of Greenville was determined to have been at fault. He was killed in the accident with three others.

"Whenever there is a fatal accident, it is taken before the grand jury," said Harrison County District Attorney Rick Berry.

"But the Texas Department of Public Safety and this office both agreed that no charges were to be filed."

The DPS accident reconstruction determined that the van was traveling at 82 mph on Texas Hwy. 43 when it came upon a Jeep Cherokee lawfully turning left into the parking lot of a convenience store. The speed limit at that point is 65 mph.

Berry said records indicate that Watson tried to turn left to avoid the vehicle, over-corrected and tried to regain control, but overcorrected again, blowing out

the right rear tire. The van then flipped three and a half times.

Five of the ten passengers — nine students and coach Hoover Wright — were thrown from the van.

Watson was pinned inside the van after it came to rest upside down in a ditch, authorities said. He died at the scene along with Samuel Sturns, 21, of Jasper, and Vernon James II, 18, of Vallejo, Calif.

Jerome Jackson, 22, of Dallas died en route to a Shreveport hospital. Coach Wright, Lamar Adams, David Arterbery, Lewis Edmonson, Trenton Harris and

Rashad Shelton were taken to the hospital and treated for injuries.

Now that any possible criminal case is closed, civil action can proceed, said Berry.

In February, the parents of Jackson and Sturns filed a lawsuit in Marshall federal court against the fan's manufacturer, Ford Motor Co.

The families accused Ford of design and marketing defects in its 15-passenger van, as well as breach of warranty for selling an allegedly defective vehicle.

SAD FAREWELL



BIENVENIDO COMAS, left, is comforted by Malta Lara in front of the Miami home of Elian Gonzalez Wednesday upon hearing the Supreme Court's refusal to block the 6-year-old boy's return to Cuba.

Miami accepts Elian's departure

MIAMI (AP) — The neighborhood that once boiled with rage over Elian Gonzalez is finally quiet.

The 6-year-old Cuban boy returned to his homeland Wednesday, leaving from Washington with his father. He hadn't lived here for two months, not since federal agents whisked him away from the Little Havana house his Miami relatives wanted him to call home.

The relatives have moved, seeking privacy. And the crowd that gathered at the bungalow where Elian lived for five months was small, shouting and crying as the boy's plane left before dispersing.

"I was crying all day. I feel betrayed," said Ismary Sosa, a 40-year-old travel agent. "I've lived in this country since I was 3 years old, and I believe in the laws. But there's no justice in this case."

It was a stark contrast to the crowds of protesters that took to the streets after federal agents stormed the home and seized Elian in a pre-dawn raid on April 22. They halted traffic and set bonfires in the roads. Police in riot gear responded by using tear gas. More than 350 people were arrested.

Officials didn't want a similar scenario Wednesday and they didn't see one. Cuban-American leaders in Miami warned that violence would not be tolerated.

Elian was rescued from the Atlantic Ocean on Thanksgiving Day after a boat leaving Cuba for

Miami sank, killing his mother and 10 others. He stayed with his Miami relatives until the federal raid. The case finally wound up before the U.S. Supreme Court, which declined to allow the boy to stay.

Many in Little Havana seemed to accept the decision.

"He had his day in court. That's it," said Octavio Olinu, a 54-year-old Cuban-born engineer. "I would have been upset if he hadn't had his day in court. As a citizen of this country, that's all I can ask, that he have his day in court."

Still, some feel the saga isn't over.

"He came to complete a mission here and now he is going to complete it over there," said Delfin Gonzalez, Elian's great-uncle.

Ramon Saul Sanchez, leader of the Cuban group Democracy Movement, said community leaders and activists are planning a July 14 flotilla from Key West to the waters off Cuba.

"We can't stand by and do nothing," Sanchez said. "Today was a sad day for all of us and a day of frustration. When the boy landed in Cuba, Fidel Castro lost his only point of contention between the exiles."

"Now we'll bring the focus back on him. The most important weapon we have is the courage to stand up to a government as cruel as Cuba."

Alleged gang members indicted

By GAIL K BEIL
News Messenger

Three men reportedly trying to re-establish their Crips gang domination in town were indicted by a Harrison County grand jury Tuesday. The three were among 29 persons indicted for felony offenses ranging from murder to possession of child pornography.

Indicted on charges of deadly conduct, engaging in criminal activity and arson were Marvin Bonner, 24, of 1405 W. Meredith St., Eric Womack, 19, of 2401 W. Houston St., and Kelvin Brown, 23, of 405 Spruce St.

Harrison County District Attorney Rick Berry said the indictments stemmed from a gang-related shooting. The three fired several shots into a

house, set it on fire, then fled on foot the night of Jan. 13, 1999, Berry said.

"They had all been in jail or away from town, and decided to reestablish their power," Berry said. "Marvin Bonner is the self-confessed second in command of the local Crips."

The leader of the local gang, Berry said, is Marvin's brother J.C. Bonner, now wanted by the Texas Board of Pardons and Parole after absconding while on parole. A warrant has been issued for J.C. Bonner's arrest. The older man was apparently not involved in the January 13 incident.

Two other men were also indicted for their involvement in a gun fight at the Fina Service Station on West Grand March 28. William Nesbitt, 20, See INDICTMENTS, Page 3A

Ward Plaza to get new management

By MATT STIVER
News Messenger

The management of the 100-unit Ward Plaza Apartments was set to be auctioned at 1 p.m. today by American Management Inc. Law enforcement officials say they hope the new management company will continue to keep the security measures that have made the once crime-ridden property a safe place to live.

Property ownership will be retained by the Department of See AUCTION, Page 3A



SPEAK OUT!

You, too, can Speak Out! To join the discussion, call 938-7210 and leave a recorded message. You can leave your name or remain anonymous. Please spell out names. Not all messages will be printed and all will be edited. Remember, Speak Out! is a column of opinions.

CHECK 607 Enfield for yard beautiful of the month.

THE ACTIONS of the local NAACP are working against the potential success of the African-Americans in this area by agitating those who oppose their views and encouraging those sitting on the duffels watching local African-Americans on the way to the polls with their black vote. They have the potential power to seat their own commissioners. Walking gingerly and expanding your black vote gives you the chance to have a town. Leave the old courthouse alone and stop these things that encourage your opponents to beat you at the polls.

THANKS KENNY McFarland, who works for Charter Communications for working until 10 p.m. Tuesday to fix my cable.

I WAS WATCHING about Elian Gonzalez and they should have prosecuted that woman for endangering that woman. If she had lived they should have prosecuted her. He has no business here.

IF THE BOND issue passes, what percentage of the \$5 million will Conover Hunt get?

BRENT POWELL called in that Marshall is a terrible town to live in. For six years I served this country. I'm a veteran of the Bay of Pigs and the Berlin airlift. I did that so I could come and go as I please. Brent ought to exercise his option to go, maybe to Dallas or Houston.

IT IS TIME FOR the newspaper to report the news rather than making the news. Judge Gilstrap says the old courthouse will be closed if the bond issue fails. A recent editorial said the taxpayers will still be required to pay because the county will still spend money to restore the courthouse. Furthermore, it says the county has a moral obligation to restore the courthouse. I say to the writer of the editorial, we still live in a democracy and the voters will decide the fate of the old courthouse.

I HAD SOME men through a reputable company in Marshall who put down two rooms of carpet for me and when they were through, they had torn up everything in my house, including new furniture. It is a shame companies don't stand behind their workers.

FRANKLIN JONES JR. describes a scoundrel as someone who knowingly says something that is not true. Webster's Dictionary describes a scoundrel as a worthless fellow. Mr. Jones, my question is, how do you know your accusation is true? As a lawyer, do you have evidence, other than the opinion of your associates? Perhaps it takes one to know one.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Kahlib Barton.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Unique Turner.

DON'T THANK the police for sitting at U.S. 59 and Highway 43. You need to thank the dummies.

I DON'T THINK anybody should vote for Gov. George W. Bush because he keeps on executing people and I don't want him to be president.

THE PERSON who says he has smoke marijuana and is a successful businessman needs to stand up and tell us who he is. Being successful has nothing to do with it. If he said who he is there are plenty of people who wouldn't deal with him because that is illegal.

Editor's note: We assumed his successful business was selling dope.

OK, CONTINUE and make your snide remarks about the dummies in the police cars, but one day that dummy may be living, breathing police officer. Hope you aren't the one caught speeding or running a red light.

HATS OFF FOR Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison for trying to suspend the gas tax to help us out with our gas. She just won my vote.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LaTavia Perry.

WHY DID SAVE Our Courthouse

Twenty percent chance of rainfall tonight, Friday

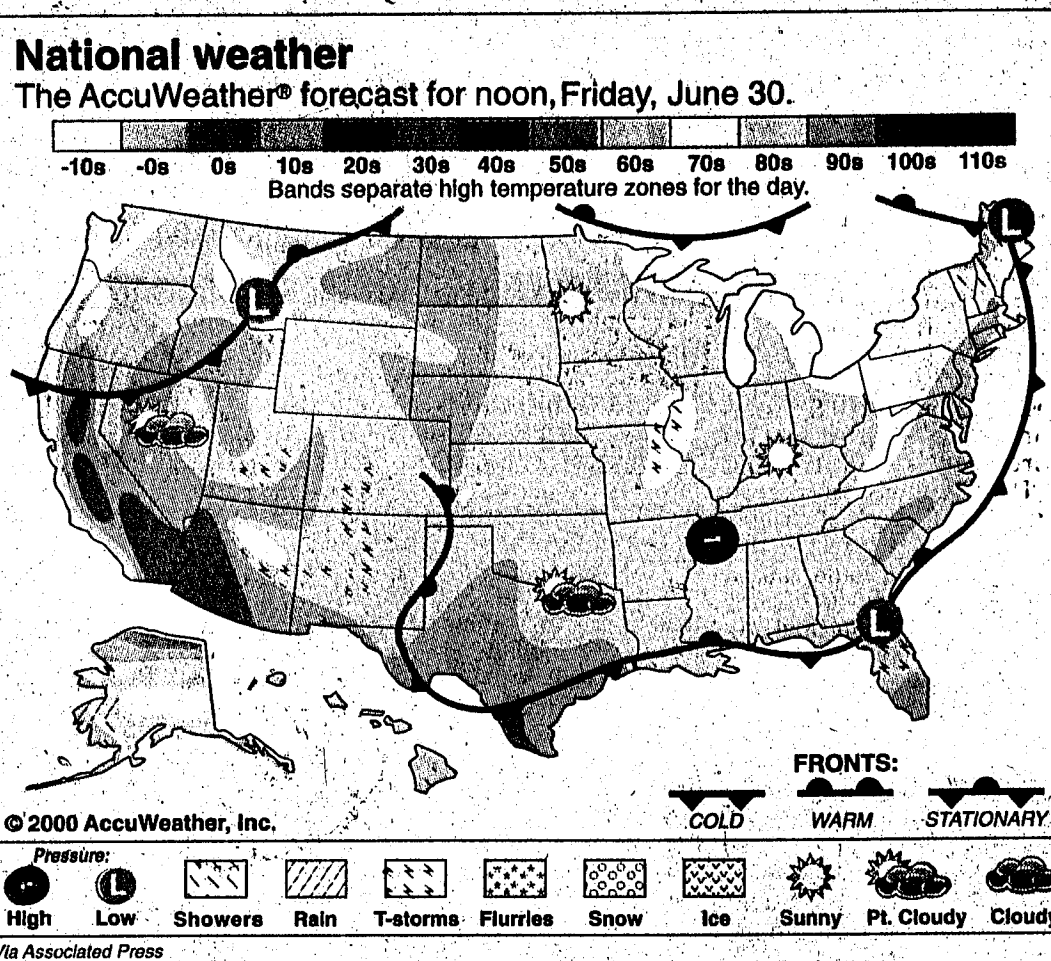
MARSHALL FORECAST: Tonight, a 20 percent chance of evening thunderstorms, otherwise partly cloudy. Low in the lower 70s. Light and variable wind. Friday, partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of afternoon showers and thunderstorms. High in the upper 80s. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

EXTENDED FORECAST: Saturday, partly cloudy with a chance of afternoon thunderstorms. Low in the lower 70s. High near 90. Sunday, partly cloudy. Low in the lower 70s. High near 90.

TEXAS WEATHER: Showers and thunderstorms will continue Thursday across portions of Central Texas, especially between Eastland and Killeen.

Only a chance of showers and thunderstorms were forecast for South Texas on Thursday, with partly sunny conditions in some parts during the afternoon. Highs will be in the lower to mid-80s.

LOCAL STATISTICS	
Temperatures	
June 28	
High	90
Low	73
June 29	
Average high	92.9
Record high	1952 103
Average low	70.3
Record low	1974 54
Record rainfall	1948 2.03
Precipitation	
8 a.m.-8 a.m.	.00
Total, month	7.66
Normal, month	5.23
Total, year	28.42
Normal, year	28.02
Normal Annual	51.91
Sunrise-Sunset	
Sunrise tonight	6:29
Sunrise tomorrow	6:12



Names in the news

Ryan, Quaid separate

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Meg Ryan and Dennis Quaid have announced their separation after about 10 years of marriage.

Their publicist, Lisa Kasteler, declined to say whether the two plan to divorce. She said the separation began about six weeks ago.

"The couple hope that the press will respect their privacy during this difficult time," Kasteler said Wednesday.

Ryan, 38, who began filming the kidnapping thriller "Proof of Life" in May, endeared herself to American movie audiences with such romantic comedies as "When Harry Met Sally," "Sleepless in Seattle," and "You've Got Mail."

Quaid, 46, starred in the sci-fi time traveling tale "Frequency" in May and is known for roles in "Breaking Away," "The Big Easy" and "Wyatt Earp."

The two met in 1987 on the set of "Innerspace." They married in 1991 and have an 8-year-old son. They appeared together in "Flesh and Bone" in 1993.

DMX busted

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — Earl Simmons, the rapper known as DMX, has been indicted for possession of marijuana and an unlicensed handgun following an incident in January in which his Jeep ran off a highway.

Simmons, 29, was driving on Interstate 684 when his car spun off the road, hit a guardrail and came to a stop, according to the indictment. He declined medical attention.

The indictment alleges that a loaded, unlicensed 9mm pistol was found inside and marijuana cigarettes were found in two suitcases.

Simmons is charged with two counts of third-degree weapon possession, a felony, and marijuana possession. He could be sentenced to up to seven years in prison if convicted, Westchester County District Attorney Jeanine Pirro said Tuesday.

FRANKLIN JONES JR. describes a scoundrel as someone who knowingly says something that is not true. Webster's Dictionary describes a scoundrel as a worthless fellow. Mr. Jones, my question is, how do you know your accusation is true? As a lawyer, do you have evidence, other than the opinion of your associates? Perhaps it takes one to know one.

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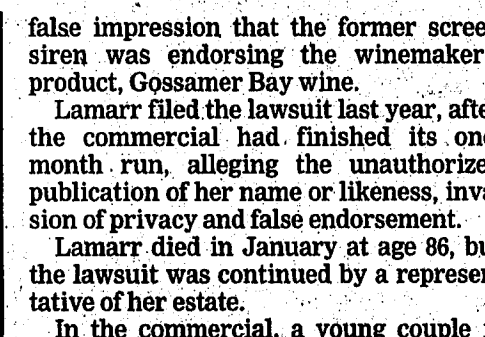
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY LaTavia Perry.

WHY DID SAVE Our Courthouse



RYAN



WINFREY

His attorney, Ian Niles, did not return a call seeking comment. Simmons is appealing a 15-day jail sentence in Buffalo for driving with a suspended permit and possessing marijuana.

Simmons, whose latest album is "And Then There Was X," has sold more than 10 million records.

Oprah donates millions

NEW YORK (AP) — Entertainment mogul Oprah Winfrey has donated \$10 million to an organization that places gifted minority students in some of the nation's top public and private high schools.

Winfrey made the donation to A Better Chance at an awards luncheon on Wednesday. She has been a national spokeswoman for the program and has donated more than \$12 million to it since 1997.

Lamarr suit dismissed

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A federal judge has dismissed a \$12 million lawsuit alleging that E&J Gallo Winery used an unauthorized image of the late Hedy Lamarr in a television commercial.

The judge on Wednesday granted a summary judgment to Gallo, agreeing that the commercial didn't invade Lamarr's privacy and didn't give viewers the false impression that the former screen siren was endorsing the winemaker's product, Gossamer Bay wine.

Lamarr filed the lawsuit last year, after the commercial had finished its one-month run, alleging the unauthorized publication of her name or likeness, invasion of privacy and false endorsement.

Lamarr died in January at age 86, but the lawsuit was continued by a representative of her estate.

In the commercial, a young couple is fighting over the television remote controls. The woman wants to watch a movie featuring Lamarr while the man wants to watch a football game. They compromise by turning off the TV, drinking some wine and getting romantic.

Busey, wife divorcing

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actor Gary Busey and his wife are divorcing after nearly four years of marriage, according to court records.

Busey's manager, Herb Nanas, said he was unaware a divorce petition had been filed. A message left for Busey's lawyer, Arthur Soll, wasn't immediately returned.

Court documents filed Wednesday say Busey and Tiani W. Busey separated June 18. Busey, 56, cited irreconcilable differences.

It marked the second time the couple was named in a divorce petition. Busey filed a similar one in June 1998 but it was later withdrawn.

The couple wed Sept. 23, 1996. A year earlier paramedics were called to Busey's Malibu home by his future wife, who said he had collapsed.

Authorities said Busey had been using cocaine when he was stricken. Drug charges were dropped after he enrolled in a drug-rehabilitation program.

Busey, who received an Oscar nomination for 1978's "The Buddy Holly Story," has also appeared in such films as "Under Siege" and "The Firm."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Calendar is a free public service which lists nonprofit or general interest events coming up in the News Messenger's circulation area. All calendar submissions may be made in writing and mailed, faxed, hand delivered, e-mailed, or telephoned. Fax number: 938-6242; telephone number: 938-5963; mailing address: P.O. Box 708, Marshall, Texas 75670; e-mail: newsmessenger@ccnews.com.

THURSDAY, June 29

The German Methodist Choir will perform at First United Methodist Church at 7 p.m.

The New Beginnings Single Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. at Homers Restaurant on the Square. Singles are tired of looking at four walls and urged to attend.

Overeaters Anonymous will meet from 7:30 p.m. in the executive boardroom of MRMC.

Knights of Columbus bingo will be at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph School.

Gamblers Anonymous will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Grove-Moore Center.

American Legion 267 dart tournament at 7:30 p.m. at 1904 Bonar St.

FRIDAY, June 30

1901 Harrison County Historic Courthouse will hold tours from 1-4 p.m. to see the needed repairs to the building. Just stop by. To arrange a tour at another time call 938-2680.

The H. B. Pemberton High School Class of 60 will host their reunion tonight and July 1 at the Marshall Civic Center Complex. Any classmate interested in attending, please call William Brown Flot at 938-6240 for information.

Elks/Optimist Club will host bingo from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at 411 East Austin. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Country Gospel Sing-a-Long will be from 7-10 p.m. at Lions Community Center. Featured will be the Country Christian Singers and other Christian singing groups. Live bands and live music. No admission charge.

Senior Dance will be held at Hall's Gold Hall this week from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Al Stracener and the boys will be on hand to entertain you. Cost is \$3 per person.

SUNDAY, July 2

American Legion Post 267 will host a pool tournament at 5 p.m. for members and guest. For information call 938-2655.

Elks/Optimist Club will host bingo from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at 411 East Austin. Doors open at 5 p.m.

MONDAY, July 3

Greater Marshall Chamber of Commerce will be closed today.

SMITH

Judge has discussion with Smith family after juror was confronted

Continued from Page 1A

Factors presented by Smith's defense attorneys, the judge said, if the jury decides the proven aggravating factors outweigh the proven mitigating factors, then Smith will receive the death penalty, Heartfield said.

In his opening statement Wednesday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Middleton listed the factors prosecutors will try and prove: That Smith had "a reckless disregard for the life" of Paddie, used lethal force to take her life, intentionally killed Paddie, caused "grave risk of death" to others, used substantial planning and premeditation in the crime, committed the crime for monetary gain and attempted to kill other individuals.

Prosecutors also will try to show that Smith attempted to obstruct justice by killing Paddie — and attempting to kill Flahie — so they couldn't testify against him, Middleton said. Prosecutors will argue Smith is a continuing danger to society and is likely to commit future acts of violence, he told jurors. The victims and their families will also testify about how Smith's actions have affected their lives, the prosecutor said.

Smith has displayed a lack of remorse for this offense," Middleton told jurors. Witnesses will testify that Smith has not been able to be rehabilitated, the prosecutor said.

From about the age of 14 on, Damon Smith has been in and out of trouble. People have reached out to touch him and to help. Efforts were made all through his life to get him turned around. His conduct was part of a pattern of continuous and escalating criminal behavior," Middleton said.

"For whatever reason or reasons, he chose not to straighten out. This is not his juvenile probation officer's fault, not his principal's fault, not his family's fault.

It's a choice that he made," Middleton said.

Defense attorney Henry and his colleague Ralph Burgess declined to make an opening statement Wednesday, but they reserved their right to address jurors at a later time.

Twelve prosecution witnesses testified Wednesday about Smith's history. Henry told the judge he was unsure if the defense would have any witnesses this afternoon, though an expert witness for the defense is scheduled to testify Friday morning.

The punishment phase of the trial is set to resume at 10 a.m. today. Middleton said the prosecution would present five more witnesses and likely would wrap up its case by noon.

After Heartfield's charge to the jury and closing statements from both sides, the jury is likely to begin deliberating Smith's punishment Friday.

During Wednesday's testimony, Joe Martin, assistant principal of Marshall High School, described incidents from Smith's disciplinary file. These began on April 26, 1993, with Smith's disruption of an eighth-grade math class by shooting other students with a water pistol then refusing to give it to the teacher and ended on Jan. 25, 1995, with Smith's final expulsion from high school because of a gang-related incident on campus.

Included in Martin's testimony: Smith was expelled from the high school for the rest of the semester Nov. 4, 1993, for being stopped in a stolen vehicle by the Longview Police Department. Smith was expelled again Feb. 16, 1994, for the rest of the spring semester after bringing a gun to the high school. Smith was suspended for three days for gambling Nov. 9, 1994. Smith returned to school after that incident but then walked out of class Nov. 15, 1994, and never came back.

Smith's probation for the van theft was revoked April 25, 1997, after officials determined Smith had stolen a 1987 Oldsmobile on Nov. 19, 1996, and then fled from police officers trying to arrest him, witnesses told jurors. Again, Tatum was one of the three youths arrested with the stolen car, said Capt. Gary Pinkerton, Smith

earning him another suspension.

Martha Whisenhunt, a Harrison County juvenile probation officer, supervised Smith from December 1992 until April 1995, when his misconduct finally landed him in a Texas Youth Commission facility, she told jurors. His offenses included burglary of a building, several instances of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, possessing a gun on the high school campus, evading arrest and criminal mischief, she said.

"His life is based around his friends and their inappropriate activities. He doesn't seem to be affected by consequences," Whisenhunt wrote about Smith.

Several law enforcement officers testified Smith pleaded guilty to theft over \$1,500, on Aug. 20, 1990, for stealing a 1987 Chevrolet Astro van. Smith was sentenced to one year in state jail, but instead was allowed to serve three years' probation.

One of the two other youths arrested for stealing the van on Dec. 12, 1995, was Kenneth Tatum, Longview Police Sgt. Mike Bullock told jurors. Tatum is a co-defendant with Smith in the Longview bank holdup. His trial is scheduled for next month.

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INDICTMENTS

Alleged gang members indicted by grand jury

Continued from Page 1A

of 409 E. Francis St. and Jerry Burks, 27, of 1300-A Julie, were both indicted for deadly conduct. Additionally, Burks was indicted for possession of a firearm by a felon. No one was injured in the shoot-out, according to the district attorney.

Two men, both picked up during a drug sweep in March, were indicted for the New Year's Eve murder of Francisco Dean at the Studio 43 Nightclub on Texas Hwy. 43 North.

Boris Dawson, 28, of 1202 Bledsoe, and George Gray, 28, of Hyson Springs, were indicted for murder. Dawson was already under indictment for the murder of Lavonza Spears, shot during

the early morning hours in his girlfriend's driveway on Navajo Trail.

Billy Thomas, 40, of 299 County Road 3001, was indicted for aggravated assault after he put a gun to his wife's head, said Berry.

Alvin Zachery, 29, of Longview, was indicted for three counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child. Three children were involved.

"This was not a stranger-on-stranger situation," said Berry. "The children knew their attacker."

Curtis Danton, 43, of Keithville, La., was indicted in another sex-related case. Berry said he tried to solicit sex from a 15-year-old as she got off a school bus.

AUCTION

Ward Plaza to change management

Continued from Page 1A

Housing and Urban Development. AMI is auctioning the management contract of the apartments.

The complex, was once known as "Little Vietnam" due to the rampant drug crime and gang-related activity, received a new lease on life when the Dallas-based AMI took ownership in 1997.

"The company installed security cameras and hired 24-hour security guards with the assistance of a city of Marshall grant. As a result, the crime dropped."

"I think everyone in Marshall knows the state of the complex when we took over in 1997," said property manager Chanda Wills. "The complex was averaging 513 calls to (Marshall) Police Department per month. This month we had two, both placed my management."

Wills said the perspective owners she has spoken with have said they will maintain the current state of security.

"Everyone I have met with has said they are committed to keeping the apartment complex a clean and safe place to live," Ms. Wills said.

Marshall Police chief of detectives, Capt. Mark Maranto said the security additions made a difference.

"There has been a complete turn around since the current management company put up the fence and established the around

the clock security," he said. "I'll bet we haven't had a call in a year."

"That place — it was constant calls before," said Maranto. "We had everything from murders to misdemeanors. I would like to think that whoever the new owners are, they would keep it the way it is right now. It's functioning great."

For a bid to be accepted, bidders were required to deposit \$75,000 prior to bidding.

Final acceptance of the bid will be determined within 30 days by HUD officials in Washington. During the 30-day period, the bidder will be required to make payments of \$41 per day for each of Ward's 100 units.

HUD documents require what ever entity purchases the apartments to keep the rent "affordable" for both current and new tenants, according to MHA and HUD documents. HUD defines affordable as 30 percent of 50 percent of the median income as determined for a "very low income" family. For "low income" families, the rent will not exceed 50 percent of 50 percent of the median income as determined by HUD. The same percentage for low income families will apply to both new and turnover tenants.

The rent must be set according to the "affordable" guidelines for 20 years, according to HUD documents.

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The Retirement Specialist
MICHAEL A. VERHALEN
Investment Representative
Member NASD, SIPC 938-6333 205 W. Austin St. Marshall, TX 75670

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

4th of July at Marshall Mall

Bar-B-Que, Salads, Turkey, Sticks, Pickles, Eggs, Pickles, Cold Drinks, Water, Hot Hamburgers.

Activities begin 12 PM at Marshall Mall

Fireworks to 10 PM

- 10 AM - Kids Coloring Contest Entry and Winner Display (Pick up your entry from JCPenney)
- 12 PM - Live Remote - KCUL
- 12 PM-7 PM - Pictures on a Harley with the American Flag \$5.00. Bring your leather jacket! (Furnished by Presley Oil Company - Longview)
- 12 PM - Balloon Give Away - Sideline Shoes
- 12 PM - DARE - Crimestoppers Dunking Booth - AITel \$1.00 or donation
- 12 PM - Classic Car Show
- 12 PM - Wild Mustangs - Karma Farms
- 12 PM - Fish Penny Toss - P & S Merchandise
- 12 PM-1 PM - Music by Zane Jackson
- 12 PM-2 PM - Cake Walk - Hibernia Bank
- 1 PM-5 PM - Entertainment to be announced
- 2 PM-2:30 PM - Tae Kwan Do Demonstration - Marshall Tae Kwan Do
- 2 PM-7 PM - Face Painting by Mavettes - Teaching Treasures by donation to Mavettes
- 2 PM-3 PM - Homemade Ice Cream Contest - JCPenney's (Register in advance 938-0727)
- 3 PM-4 PM - Frog Jumping Contest - Bealls (Bring your own or use ours)
- 3 PM-5 PM - Stick Horse Races - Baskin's
- 3:30 PM-4 PM - Watermelon Eating Contest - Bealls
- 4 PM-6 PM - Pretty and Ugly Doll Contest - Factory Connection



SPEAK OUT!

You, too, can Speak Out! To join the discussion, call 935-7918 and leave a recorded message. You can leave your name or remain anonymous. Please spell out names. Not all messages will be printed and all will be edited. Remember, Speak Out! is a column of opinions.

CHECK 607 Enfield for yard beautiful of the month.

THE ACTIONS of the local NAACP are working against the potential success of the African-Americans in this area by agitating those who opposed their views and encouraging those sitting on their duffels watching local African-Americans on the way to the polls with their block vote. They have the potential power to set their own commissioners. Walking gingerly and expanding your block vote gives you the chance to have a town. Leave the old courthouse alone and stop these things that encourage your opponents to beat you at the polls.

THANKS KENNY McFarland, who works for Charter Communications for working until 10 p.m. Tuesday to fix my cable.

I WAS WATCHING about Eilan Gonzalez and they should have prosecuted that woman for endangering that woman. If she had lived they should have prosecuted her. He has no business here.

IF THE BOND issue passes, what percentage of the \$3 million will Conover Hunt get?

BRENT POWELL called in that Marshall is a terrible town to live in. For six years I served this country. I'm a veteran of the Bay of Pigs and the Berlin airlift. I did that so I could come and go as I please. Brent ought to exercise his option to go, maybe to Dallas or Houston.

— John Thomas

IT IS TIME for the newspaper to start reporting the news rather than making the news. Judge Gilstrap says the old courthouse will be closed if the bond issue fails. A recent editorial said the taxpayers will still be required to pay because the county will still spend money to restore the courthouse. Furthermore, it says the county has a moral obligation to restore the courthouse. I say to the writer of the editorial, we still live in a democracy and the voters will decide the fate of the old courthouse.

I HAD SOME men through a reputable company in Marshall who put down two rooms of carpet for me and when they were through, they had torn up everything in my house, including new furniture. It is a shame companies don't stand behind their workers.

FRANKLIN JONES JR. describes a scoundrel as someone who knowingly says something that is not true. Webster's Dictionary describes a scoundrel as a worthless fellow. Mr. Jones, my question is, how do you know your accusation is true? As a lawyer, do you have evidence, other than the opinion of your associates? Perhaps it takes one to know one.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Kahlib Barton.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Unique Turner.

DON'T THANK the police for sitting at U.S. 59 and Highway 43. You need to thank the dummies.

I DON'T THINK anybody should vote for Gov. George W. Bush because he keeps on executing people and I don't want him to be president.

THE PERSON who says he has smoke marijuana and is a successful businessman must stand up and tell us who he is. Being successful has nothing to do with it. If he said who he is there are plenty of people who wouldn't deal with him because he's illegal.

Editor's note: We assumed his successful business was selling dope.

OK, CONTINUE and make your snide remarks about the dummies in the police cars, but one day that dummy may be a living, breathing police officer. Hope you aren't the one caught speeding or running a red light.

HATS OFF For Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison for trying to suspend the gas tax to help us out with our gas. She just won my vote.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LaTavia Perry.

WHY DID SAVE Our Courthouse

Twenty percent chance of rainfall tonight, Friday

MARSHALL FORECAST: Tonight, a 20 percent chance of evening thunderstorms, otherwise partly cloudy. Low in the lower 70s. Light and variable wind. Friday, partly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of afternoon showers and thunderstorms. High in the upper 80s. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

EXTENDED FORECAST: Saturday, partly cloudy with a chance of afternoon thunderstorms. Low in the lower 70s. High near 90. Sunday, partly cloudy. Low in the lower 70s. High near 90.

TEXAS WEATHER: Showers and thunderstorms will continue Thursday across portions of Central Texas, especially between Eastland and Killeen.

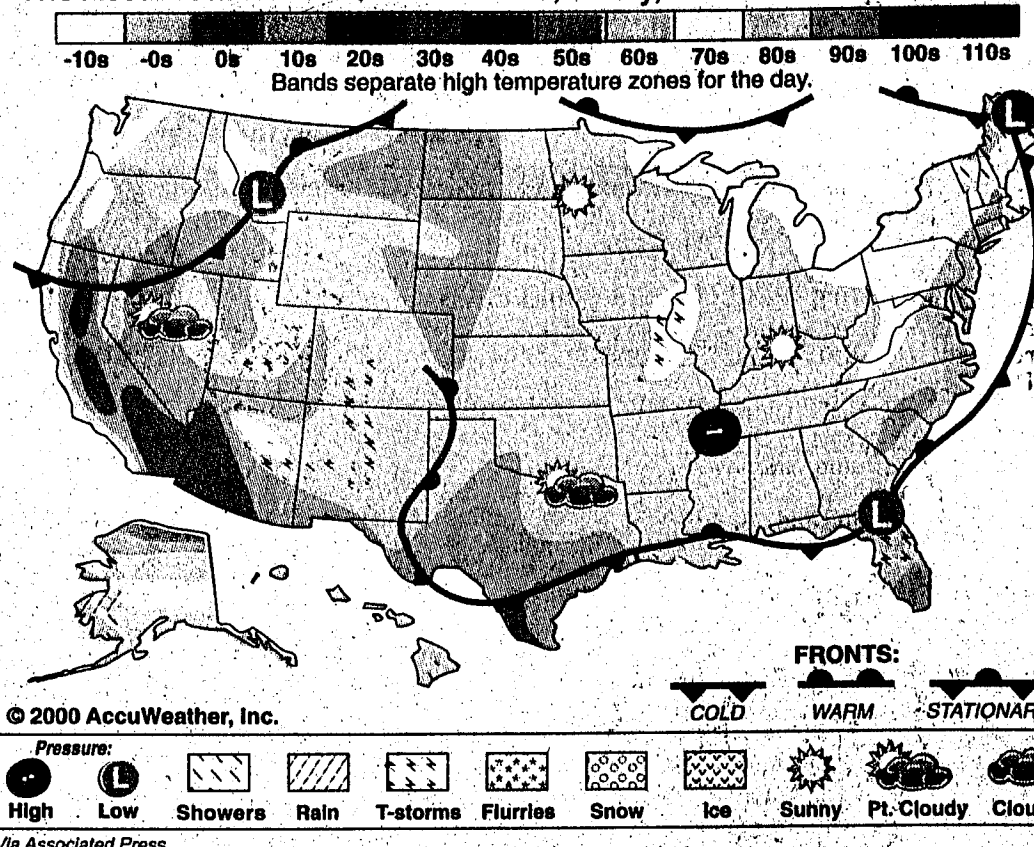
Only a chance of showers and thunderstorms were forecast for South Texas on Thursday, with partly sunny conditions in some parts during the afternoon. Highs will be in the lower to mid-80s.

LOCAL STATISTICS

Temperatures	
High	June 28 90
Low	June 28 73
Average high	June 29 92.9
Record high	1952 103
Average low	70.3
Record low	1974 54
Record rainfall	1948 2.03
Precipitation	
8 a.m.-8 a.m.	-.00
Total, month	7.66
Normal, month	5.23
Total, year	32.43
Normal, to date	28.02
Normal Annual	51.91
Sunrise-Sunset	
Sunrise tonight	6:29
Sunset tomorrow	6:12

National weather

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Friday, June 30.



© 2000 AccuWeather, Inc.

Via Associated Press

Names in the news

Ryan, Quid separate

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Meg Ryan and Dennis Quaid have announced their separation after about 10 years of marriage.

Their publicist, Lisa Kasteler, declined to say whether the two plan to divorce. She said the separation began about six weeks ago.

"The couple hope that the press will respect their privacy during this difficult time," Kasteler said Wednesday.

Ryan, 38, who began filming the kidnapping thriller "Proof of Life" in May, endeared herself to American movie audiences with such romantic comedies as "When Harry Met Sally," "Sleepless in Seattle," and "You've Got Mail."

Quaid, 46, starred in the sci-fi time traveling tale "Frequency" in May and is known for roles in "Breaking Away," "The Big Easy," and "Wyatt Earp."

"The two met in 1987 on the set of 'Innerspace.' They married in 1991 and have an 8-year-old son. They appeared together in 'Flesh and Bone' in 1993."

— John Thomas

DMX busted WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — Earl Simmons, the rapper known as DMX, has been indicted for possession of marijuana and an unlicensed handgun following an incident in January in which his Jeep ran off a highway.

Simmons, 29, was driving on Interstate 694 when his car spun off the road, hit a guardrail and came to a stop, according to the indictment. He declined medical attention.

The indictment alleges that a loaded, unlicensed 9mm pistol was found inside and marijuana cigarettes were found in two ashtrays.

Simmons is charged with two counts of third-degree weapon possession, a felony, and marijuana possession. He could be sentenced to up to seven years in prison if convicted, Westchester County District Attorney Jeanine Pirro said Tuesday.



RYAN

QUID

His attorney, Ian Niles, did not return a call seeking comment. Simmons is appealing a 15-day jail sentence in Buffalo for driving with a suspended permit and possessing marijuana.

Simmons, whose latest album is "And Then There Was X," has sold more than 10 million records.

Oprah donates millions

NEW YORK (AP) — Entertainment mogul Oprah Winfrey has donated \$10 million to an organization that places gifted minority students in some of the nation's top public and private high schools.

Winfrey made the donation to A Better Chance at an awards luncheon on Wednesday. She has been a national spokeswoman for the program and has donated more than \$12 million to it since 1997.

Lamarr suit dismissed

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A federal judge has thrown out a \$12 million lawsuit alleging that E&J Gallo Winery used an unauthorized image of the late Hedy Lamarr in a television commercial.

The judge on Wednesday granted a summary judgment to Gallo, agreeing that the commercial didn't invade Lamarr's privacy and didn't give viewers the

false impression that the former screen siren was endorsing the winemaker's product, Gossamer Bay wine.

Lamarr filed the lawsuit last year, after the commercial had finished its one-month run, alleging the unauthorized publication of her name or likeness, invasion of privacy and false endorsement.

Lamarr died in January at age 86, but the lawsuit was continued by a representative of her estate.

In the commercial, a young couple is fighting over the television remote controls. The woman wants to watch a movie featuring Lamarr while the man wants to watch a football game. They compromise by turning off the TV, drinking some wine and getting romantic.

Bussey, wife divorcing

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actor Gary Bussey and his wife are divorcing after nearly four years of marriage, according to court records.

Bussey's manager, Herb Nanas, said he was unaware a divorce petition had been filed. A message left for Bussey's lawyer, Arthur Soli, wasn't immediately returned.

Court documents filed Wednesday say Bussey and Tiani W. Bussey separated June 18. Bussey, 66, cited irreconcilable differences.

It marked the second time the couple was named in a divorce petition. Bussey filed a similar one in June 1998 but it was later withdrawn.

The couple wed Sept. 23, 1996. A year earlier paramedics were called to Bussey's Malibu home by his future wife, who said he had collapsed.

Authorities said Bussey had been using cocaine when he was stricken. Drug charges were dropped after he enrolled in a drug-rehabilitation program.

Bussey, who received an Oscar nomination for 1978's "The Buddy Holly Story," has also appeared in such films as "Under Siege" and "The Firm."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Calendar is a free public service which lists nonprofit or general interest events coming up in the News Messenger's circulation area. All calendar submissions may be made in writing and mailed, faxed, hand delivered, e-mailed, or telephoned. Fax number: 935-6242; telephone number: 935-5963; mailing address: P.O. Box 720, Marshall, Texas 75670; e-mail: newsmessenger@coxnews.com.

THURSDAY, June 29

The German Methodist Choir will perform at First United Methodist Church at 7 p.m.

The New Beginnings Single Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. at Homers Restaurant on the Square. Singles who are tired of looking at four walls are urged to attend.

Overeaters Anonymous will meet from 7:30-9 p.m. in the executive board room of MRMC.

Knights of Columbus bingo will be at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph School.

Gambler's Anonymous will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Grove-Moore Center.

American Legion 267 dart tournament at 7:30 p.m. at 1994 Bomar St.

FRIDAY, June 30

1901 Harrison County Historic Courthouse will hold tours from 1-4 p.m. to see the needed repairs to the building. Just stop by. To arrange a tour at another time call 938-2680.

The H. B. Pemberton High School Class of 60 will host their reunion tonight and July 1 at the Marshall Civic Center Complex. Any classmate interested in attending, please call William Brown Plot at 935-6240 for information.

Elks/Optimist Club will host bingo from 8:30 - 8:30 p.m. at 411 East Austin. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Country Gospel Sing-a-Long will be from 7-10 p.m. at Lions Community Center. Featured will be the Country Christian Singers and other Christian singing groups. Live bands and live music. No admission charge.

Senior Dance will be held at Hallsville's Gold Hall this week from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Al Stracener and the boys will be on hand to entertain you. Cost is \$3 per person.

SUNDAY, July 2

American Legion Post 267 will host a pool tournament at 3 p.m. for members and guest. For information call 935-6655.

Elks/Optimist Club will host bingo from 8:30 - 8:30 p.m. at 411 East Austin. Doors open at 5 p.m.

MONDAY, July 3

Greater Marshall Chamber of Commerce will be closed today.

SMITH

Judge has discussion with Smith family after juror was confronted

Continued from Page 1A

factors presented by Smith's defense attorneys, the judge said. If the jury decides the proven aggravating factors outweigh the proven mitigating factors, then Smith will receive the death penalty, Heartfield said.

In his opening statement Wednesday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Middleton listed the factors prosecutors will try and prove: That Smith had "a reckless disregard for the life" of Paddle, used lethal force to take her life, intentionally killed Paddle, caused "grave risk of death" to others, used substantial planning and premeditation in the crime, committed the crime for monetary gain and attempted to kill other individuals.

Prosecutors also will try to show that Smith attempted to obstruct justice by killing Paddle — and attempting to kill Flahie — so they couldn't testify against him, Middleton said. Prosecutors will argue Smith is a continuing danger to society and is likely to commit future acts of violence, he told jurors. The victims and their families will also testify about how Smith's actions have affected their lives, the prosecutor said.

Smith "has displayed a lack of remorse for this offense," Middleton told jurors. Witnesses will testify that Smith has not been able to be rehabilitated, the prosecutor said.

"From about the age of 14 on, Deymon Smith has been in trouble. People have reached out to touch him and to help. Efforts were made all through his life to get him turned around. His conduct was part of a pattern of continuous and escalating criminal behavior," Middleton said.

"For whatever reason or reasons, he chose not to straighten out. This is not his juvenile probation officer's fault, not his principal's fault, not his family's fault.

It's a choice that he made," Middleton said.

Defense attorney Henry and his colleague Ralph Burgess declined to make an opening statement Wednesday, but they reserved their right to address jurors at a later time.

Twelve prosecution witnesses testified Wednesday about Smith's history. Henry told the judge he was unsure if the defense would have any witnesses this afternoon, though an expert witness for the defense is scheduled to testify Friday morning.

The punishment phase of the trial is set to resume at 10 a.m. today, Middleton said the prosecution would present five more witnesses and likely would wrap up its case by noon.

After Heartfield's charge to the jury and closing statements from both sides, the jury is likely to begin deliberating Smith's punishment Friday.

During Wednesday's testimony, Joe Martino, assistant principal of Marshall High School, described incidents from Smith's disciplinary file. These began on April 26, 1993, with Smith's disruption of an eighth-grade math class by shooting other students with a water pistol then refusing to give it to the teacher and ended on Jan. 25, 1995, with Smith's final expulsion from high school because of a gang-related incident on campus.

Included in Martino's testimony, Smith was expelled from high school for the rest of the semester Nov. 4, 1993, for being stopped in a stolen vehicle by the Longview Police Department. Smith was expelled again Feb. 16, 1994, for the rest of the spring semester after bringing a gun to the high school. Smith was suspended for three days for gambling Nov. 9, 1994. Smith returned to school after that incident but then walked out of class Nov. 15, 1994, and never came back.

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VIEWPOINT

FOR STARTERS

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

"Sin... has been made not only ugly but base. People are no longer sinful, they are only immature or under privileged or frightened or, more particularly, sick."

— Phyllis McGinley

BIBLE VERSE

So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night.

— 1 Thessalonians 5:6-8

EDITORIALS

Finally, Elian goes home to Cuba with his father

The New York Times
Elian Gonzalez, the 6-year-old boy found off the Florida coast last Thanksgiving Day, returned home to Cuba on Wednesday night after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected an emergency request from the child's relatives in Miami to keep him in the United States. It was the proper legal conclusion to a bitter family dispute that dragged on for months and drew international attention. The high court was right not to take the case because there were no important issues of law that had not been resolved by lower courts.

The New York Times editorial page opposed the pre-dawn raid in April by federal immigration agents to remove Elian from the home of his Miami relatives as an unwarranted use of force against citizens who were behaving in a recalcitrant but not violent manner. But we have supported the father's right to regain custody of the child and to decide where he should live. The relatives had no business blocking the return of the boy to his father simply because they equated paternal custody with delivering him to Fidel Castro.

Despite pandering by politicians to the passions of Miami's Cuban-American community and despite intense community anger over the raid, there was no deadly violence. The legal system provided a rational process and has now produced a just outcome. All the parties were allowed to make their arguments in court, with the federal judges ruling that in this case only the parent could speak for the young boy in making an asylum decision.

Elian may yet find his way to a normal childhood in his country. The image of the Cuban-American community in Miami, however, has suffered because of its belligerence in disrupting family ties between father and son. The posturing by Miami's elected leaders in refusing to aid federal authorities was insupportable. Miami city politics have become more divisive than ever.

On the national scene, the anti-Castro lobby has hurt its message by seeming to use a child as a political prop. Perhaps most harmful to that cause is that many Americans came to sympathize with Elian's father and became more aware of America's outdated policy of isolation toward Cuba. It is perhaps not surprising that just one day before Elian's flight home, the House Republican leaders agreed to end four decades of sanctions on food sales to Cuba. The saga of this Cuban child helped to hasten that shift in policy.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, June 29, the 181st day of 2000. There are 185 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight:
On June 29, 1970, the United States ended a two-month military offensive into Cambodia.

On this date:
In 1767, the British Parliament approved the Townshend Revenue Acts, which imposed import duties on certain goods shipped to America. Colonists bitterly protested the Acts, which were repealed in 1770.

In 1776, the Virginia state constitution was adopted, and Patrick Henry made governor.

In 1941, Polish statesman, pianist and composer Ignace Jan Paderewski died in New York at age 80.

In 1949, the government of South Africa enacted a ban against racially-mixed marriages.

In 1966, the United States bombed fuel storage facilities near the North Vietnamese cities of Hanoi and Haiphong.

In 1967, Jerusalem was reunified as Israel removed barricades separating the Old City from the Israeli sector.

In 1972, the Supreme Court ruled that the death penalty, as it was being meted out, could constitute "cruel and unusual punishment."

In 1988, the Supreme Court upheld, 7-1, the independent counsel law.

Ten years ago: Fernando Valenzuela of the Los Angeles Dodgers and Dave Stewart of the Oakland A's became the first pitchers to hurl no-hitters in both the National and American Leagues on the same day. (Oakland shut out the Blue Jays 5-0, while Los Angeles blanked the St. Louis Cardinals, 6-0.)

Five years ago: The shuttle Atlantis and the space station Mir docked in orbit. A department store in Seoul, South Korea, collapsed, killing at least 500 people. Actress Lana Turner died in Century City, Calif., at age 74.

One year ago: Urging the biggest expansion in Medicare's history, President Clinton proposed that the government help older Americans pay for prescription drugs. About 10,000 demonstrators rallied in central Serbia, demanding the resignation of President Slobodan Milosevic. Abdullah Ocalan, leader of Turkey's rebel Kurds, was convicted of treason and sentenced to death.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Ruth Warrick is 85. Movie producer Robert Evans is 70. Songwriter L. Russell Brown is 60. Actor Gary Busey is 56. Singer Little Eva is 55. Comedian Richard Lewis is 52. Rock singer Colin Hay (Men At Work) is 47. Actress Maria Conchita Alonso is 43. Singer Evelyn "Champagne" King is 40. Actress Sharon Lawrence is 39. Actress Amanda Donohoe is 38. Rhythm-and-blues singer Steedman Pearson (Five Star) is 36. Musician Dale Baker (Stipence None the Richer) is 34.

"We, the Acme Insurance Company, have about 20 percent of the 'covered lives' in your area covered under our policies. If you want to be able to care for any of these people, you'll take 55 cents on the dollar for your fee. It's all



My love-hate relationship with this strange English language

STEVE SELLERS



COMMENTARY

In all honesty, I can tell you that it was Mrs. Weir's fault.

No question about it. She is the one who bears final responsibility for all of this.

Mrs. Weir was a kind woman about the age of my grandparents. She is with the Lord now, but during my ninth grade year, she was my English and journalism teacher.

She's the one who taught me to love the English language.

And also to hate it.

Simultaneously.

Let me explain. When I was a budding young scholar and journalist back in the mid-1960's, Mrs. Weir taught me how to use the English grammatical system.

In a humorous and slightly off-beat way, she made me learn the present perfect progressive tense — and all the other tenses, for that matter. She showed me how to diagram sentences, parse verbs, and memorize the basic rules of English grammar.

But she also taught me that English grammar makes no sense.

In other words, English is a beautiful language, and some of the greatest literature in history has been written in it. But it defies our ability to understand it.

It means you try to figure it out, the more it eludes you. It's beautiful, but it's slippery.

For example, I have a clear memory of Mrs. Weir writing the words "mouse" and "house" on the blackboard. And then she asked us to call out the plural forms of the two nouns.

One was "mice" and the other was NOT "hice," but "houses."

As she pointed out to us, that in itself — makes no sense.

"Ditto for the words 'tooth' and 'booth.' The plural forms are NOT 'teeth' and 'beeth,' but 'teeth' and 'booths.'"

"Ditto for 'goose' and 'moose.'"

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Polls say Gore needs to hunt for new house

By BILL THOMPSON

Fort Worth Star-Telegram
All Gore must be due for another political makeover. It's been days since the Democratic presidential candidate reinvented himself.

And look what happened: The Republicans' nominee-to-be, George W. Bush, surged ahead of Gore by 13 points in the latest USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll.

Bush racked up that lead among "likely voters," according to USA Today's report. Likely voters, the paper said, are those whose past voting behavior indicates they are most likely to go to the polls.

Bush was the choice of 52 percent of likely voters, while 39 percent preferred Gore. There was more good news for Bush: High-potential voters responding to the poll favored Bush over Gore by a margin of 57 percent to 31 percent.

Wasn't it just a few months ago John McCain was running around trying to convince Republicans they could lure independent voters to the Grand Old Party's cause and defeat Gore?

But look who's beating Gore like a drum these days. It's not John McCain. It's George W. Bush, making fools of McCain and others who insisted that Bush would be hopelessly overmatched by Gore in the battle for independents.

Let's look at the number again: Bush 57, Gore 31.

And here's another amazing number: The poll showed Bush with a 6-point lead over Gore "among female voters."

That's not a misprint. Bush is ahead of Gore in the all-important women's vote.

If this poll reflects anything resembling reality Bush has effectively erased the Democrats' cherished "gender gap" and created a gender gap of his own.

For Gore, that's even worse news than the recent headlines about his fund-raising shenanigans during the 1996 presidential campaign. If a Democratic presidential candidate can't carry the women's vote, he's in big trouble — especially considering that the poll gave Bush an eye-popping 20-point lead among male voters.

With every silver lining there's a cloud, of course, so it's only fair to stop drooling over the poll results for a moment and consider USA Today's suggestion that Gore might have fared better if not for the bad publicity about fund-raising. He also said the fund-raising problem was not expected to be a lasting one unless a special prosecutor is appointed, which is not expected.

The expert also downplayed the value of June polls in predicting the results of November elections, noting that voters aren't really paying attention yet. One of CNN's polling wizards made a similar observation, explaining that polls taken on or around Labor Day are more likely to reveal the eventual winner.

OK, I can wait.

It's entirely possible that the polls could fluctuate wildly between now and Nov. 7, leaving us in suspense until the very last vote is counted. That's not what usually happens, but it's possible.

A more probable scenario is that the polls will accurately predict the outcome of the election, and that the race will tighten during August and early September. Then one of the candidates will surge to a significant lead and hold that lead — or widen it — as the election approaches.

In the last few days before the voters go to the polls, the candidate who's behind will edge closer to the lead — and then fall back again as undecideds swing to the front-runner.

Being a Bush-bumper, I'm guessing that his summer lead will hold up and that Gore will be the one giving futile chase in the fall.

If Gore is ahead in the final days, of course, then my whole scenario is out the window, and Bush comes from behind to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

It's the one thing I'm sure about: Bush wins.

The plurals are NOT "geese" and "moose," but "geeses" and "mooses."

It's really very simple, she explained. The English language, or follows its own rules when it wants to, and then violates them repeatedly and with impunity.

Consider these other strange things about our beloved language:

• We ship things by truck, but we send cargo by ship.

• People recite at a play, but play at a recital.

• Our noses run, but our feet smell.

• We park on driveways, but drive on parkways.

• A slim chance and a fat chance mean the same thing.

• And the words "flammable" and "inflammable" mean the same thing.

• And not only that, but perfectly good words — with no change in spelling — can mean different things when they are pronounced differently.

• They're called heteronyms. And a few examples are: Bass (which is a fish and also a musical instrument); refuse (which is garbage and also a verb which means "to decline"); produce (which means vegetables and also "to bring forth"); project (which means a task to complete or "to cast away"); minute (which means

very nice that you want to charge \$100 for an office visit, and the cost of maintaining an office, liability insurance, receptionists to remind people of appointments and what-not costs you \$65 per visit. We'll pay you \$55, take it or leave it."

Most take it, because they need the business — even if they lose money on many patients.

Not every insurance contract is that extreme, of course, but it certainly is not in any sense a negotiation.

Pecuniary reimbursements are a big reason why many gifted people are leaving the health professions, and there are shortages of health care professionals of all kinds. Why go to school for as long as it takes if there is not reasonable payment available?

Rep. Tom Campbell, a moderate Republican from California, has proposed an idea to at least allow the possibility of two-way negotiations between insurers and health professionals: His legislation

would allow individual health professionals join together to negotiate with insurers.

Health professionals can't do that now without violating anti-trust laws.

Campbell's legislation, which now awaits a House vote, would change that. Insurers complain it would lead to high health care costs. Health care professionals point out they need to be able to actually negotiate with insurers not only for fees, but also for the practical ability to spend the time necessary to provide quality care.

Many conservative friends oppose Campbell's idea because it sounds like trade unionism. Yet it is a free-market idea for people to form business alliances.

There's nothing free-market about the perverse protections given insurers to bully health professionals into accepting ridiculously low fees.

Campbell's bill would merely begin to level the playing field.

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Justices won't force drug tests

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court refused to let a state require its elected officials to undergo random drug testing.

The court, acting without comment Thursday, rejected an appeal by Louisiana officials that said such random tests do not violate the Constitution's ban on unreasonable searches because the state has "special needs" to deter drug use.

In 1997, the justices ruled in a Georgia case that states cannot force political candidates to take drug

tests merely to demonstrate the government's commitment to the war on drugs.

That same year, Louisiana enacted a law requiring elected state officials, except for judges, to undergo random drug tests to ensure they "are persons of integrity, sound judgment, reliability and seriousness of purpose."

The officials are to be tested for illegal drugs including marijuana, opiates, cocaine and amphetamines.

Police investigating theft of computer parts

Marshall police are investigating the theft of computer components from Marshall High School.

Principal Nancy Fessler reported the matter to officers at 2 p.m. Tuesday, saying about 28 parts have been taken over the course of the past several weeks.

Arrests by Marshall Police Department

Jeffery Davidson, 27, 2202 Katherine St., MPD warrant, 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Gene Anthony Robertson, 46, 2924 Cooper St., MPD warrants, 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Alan Cherry, 47, 2513 Matthews St., family violence Class C, 11:15 a.m. Tuesday.

Incidents Reported to Marshall Police

Theft over \$50: 700 block of Circle Drive. A lawn mower was stolen off the front porch, reported at 9:35 a.m. Wednesday.

Burglary of a vehicle: 600 block of East End Blvd. South. A cellular telephone, valued at \$29.95, was reported stolen from a vehicle while parked at work, reported at 9:20 a.m. Wednesday.

Burglary of a building: 700 block of E. Pinercrest Drive. An insurance agent said the glass had been broken out of the back door and \$81 in cash and about 10 checks with a value of \$36 each stolen, reported at 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Aggravated assault: 1800 block of Woodrow Street. A man entered a residence and began arguing with the resident while he was lying in bed. The assailant followed the man to his front porch and pistol-whipped him on the left side of his face. After the pistol fell from the assailant's hand, he picked up a chair at hit the man with it until the man's wife said she would call 911, reported at 12:00 a.m. Thursday.

Burglary of a habitation: 1100 block of Lake Street. A video cassette recorder, valued at \$90, a skill saw, valued at \$71; a stereo system valued at \$120; a line trimmer, valued at \$70; and a grinder of unknown value were stolen, reported at 6:32 p.m. Wednesday.

Stalking: 1200 block of E. Grand Avenue. A woman told police she was being stalked, reported at 5:15 p.m. Wednesday.

Missing person, adult: 700 block of Allen Street. A woman said her son, has been missing for two days, reported at 6:57 a.m. Wednesday.

Burglary of a vehicle: 500 block of East End Boulevard. A woman said she gave a man a ride to a local motel then learned the man intended to break into a car there. The suspect took a cassette player, valued at \$200; a computer scanner, valued at \$165; and another piece of computer equipment, valued at \$130. The matter was reported to police at 4:10 a.m. Wednesday.

Assault, Class C: 1600 block of East End Boulevard North. A woman told police she was assaulted by a man who grabbed her arm and forced her to drop her cigarette. The man told her she didn't need to be smoking, reported at 9:41 p.m. Tuesday.

Unlawfully carrying a weapon: West Grand Avenue and Loop 390. Officers stopped a man for speeding and determined that he had two DPS warrants, one county warrant and one city warrant outstanding. Police arrested Gene Anthony Robertson and, during a subsequent search of the vehicle, they found a 9 mm handgun with eight rounds of ammunition in the clip. The gun was wrapped in a red cloth, reported at 5:54 a.m. Tuesday.

Family violence, Class C assault: 2500 block of Matthews Street. A woman said her husband struck her when she attempted to take her keys from him, reported at 11:10 a.m. Tuesday.

Criminal mischief: 100 block of E. Houston St. A secretary at a law office reported the glass had been broken out of the door on a storage area. Damage was estimated at \$350, reported at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday.

Criminal mischief, Class B: 500 block of N. Franklin St. The manager of a business said a window, valued at \$100, was broken, reported at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Burglary of a building: 1200

block of W. Houston St. A man said his truck had been broken into and a cellular telephone, valued at \$150; a camera, valued at \$350 and a lock box, valued at \$150, had been taken, reported at 12:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Incidents reported to Harrison County Sheriff's Office

Thief less than \$50: 6300 block of Whitehurst Street. A man said \$31 in cash had been taken from the office, reported at 9:07 a.m. Monday.

Burglary of a habitation: 2800 Lolo Drive. A man said the window had been broken out of a house which he was overseeing and a bottle of rum, valued at \$12, was taken, reported at 10:05 a.m. Monday.

Criminal mischief: Potter's Creek. A man said he heard gun shots from a passing vehicle while he was traveling west on U.S.

Highway 80, near Potter's Creek. As a result, the window on the driver's side of his vehicle was broken. Damage was estimated at \$100, reported at 3:40 p.m. Wednesday.

Criminal mischief: Old Lee Island Road. A man said several strands of wire on his property had been cut, reported at 4:50 p.m. Tuesday.

Arrests by Harrison County Sheriff's Office

Steven Lurie Gibson, 43, 2457 Dunn Botkin Road, assault family violence, 3:15 p.m. Wednesday.

James Earl Mizell Jr., 36, 515 Laurel Lane, Hallsville, driving while license suspended and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, 8 a.m. Tuesday.

As of 10 a.m. today, there were 137 inmates in the Harrison County Jail.

Obituaries



Willis B. Smith

Lewis Funeral Home

Services for Willis B. Smith, 44, of Marshall, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at St. John Baptist Church with the Rev. J.D. Harris officiating. Burial will be in Longview Cemetery.

Mr. Smith died June 22, 2000, at Marshall Manor Nursing Home. He was born Jan. 13, 1956.

A family hour will be 7-8 p.m. Friday.

Mamie Florence Wood
Haggard-Heaster Funeral Home

JEFFERSON — Funeral services for Mamie Florence Wood, 91, are pending with Haggard-Heaster Funeral Home.

Ms. Wood died June 28, 2000, in Marshall. She was born on Aug. 30, 1908.

HEALTHY LIVING

PAGE
8A

MUNCHAUSEN'S SYNDROME BY PROXY

A mother's deceit ... a child's torment

The condition is hard to spot, prove, prosecute and treat because perpetrators are often locked into denial

By DIANE LORE
Cox News Service

They're liars and deniers. That — after you boil it all down — is the basic profile of parents, mostly mothers, who are diagnosed with Munchausen's syndrome by proxy, a form of child abuse where a caretaker makes a child sick to gain sympathy and attention for themselves.

Scottish Rite physicians in Atlanta uncovered, through hidden cameras, 23 such mothers out of 41 suspected cases as part of a four-year study released last month in the medical journal Pediatrics.

The findings drew attention to this rare form of child abuse, a syndrome that affects about 1,000 children a year nationally. But experts say the cases spotlighted how hard the syndrome is to uncover, treat and prosecute.

"There are two types of child abuse that are — shall I say it? — simply vile," said Dr. Randolph Alexander, director of the Center for Child Abuse at Morehouse School of Medicine. "Pedophilia and Munchausen's syndrome by proxy. Why? Because these are the only two that you sit around the night before figuring out how you're going to hurt a child. And if I had to pick between those two, I would say Munchausen's syndrome is worse — because it actually results in deaths and disabilities."

And Munchausen's syndrome by proxy is difficult to treat successfully. That's because the perpetrators, overwhelmingly mothers, are intent on proving that they are good, concerned parents.

"The denial is amazingly high," he said. "They've been trying to convince the world that they are good mothers. They don't easily say, 'Oops, you caught me.' They fight and fight and fight. Even when confronted with video that shows them smothering a child or injecting an IV."

A pattern of denial

Bea Yorker, a national expert in the syndrome and the use of covert video surveillance, agrees. When she treats a woman with the syndrome, she uses the same techniques used to treat sexual predators.

"What strikes me the most is how good they look and how convincing they are," said Yorker, who is a professor of nursing at Georgia State University and holds a law degree. "It's very, very comparable to incest — where the perpetrators are pillars of the community. And when they're caught, they deny, they minimize and then they justify."

Yorker said she confronted with a videotape one mother who sneaked her child while breast-feeding. In the tape, the mother smothered the child, watched the baby go limp and ignored the alarm on the heart monitor. The child survived.

"The mother said after watching the tape: 'Big deal, my child just had a spell of apnea.'"

Often, their families back the mothers up when they are confronted, he said. "The fathers defend their wives," said Alexander, a national expert on the syndrome. "It's easier to blame the doctors than blame your wife."

Interestingly, the syndrome was highlighted in the movie "The Sixth Sense" with one plot line involving the ghost of a child poisoned by her mother. The ghost asks the main character to deliver a videotape to her father that incriminates the mother.

But even videotape does not guarantee a child's safety or even a successful criminal case. Experts say prosecuting such cases is difficult, unless they are also armed with eyewitnesses and toxicology reports. That's

partially because some mothers are astute at rationalizing what is shown on tape and the legal system does not understand the complexity of the deceit.

"They can deal with broken bones," Alexander said. "But this is too complex. They really don't know how to deal with this."

Often the cases go to family court and not criminal court. And most of the time, mothers are merely slapped on the wrist and given probation, Alexander said — even if there is videotaped evidence.

"The attention span of the courts is fairly short," Alexander said. Often the cases involve children too young to tell on their mothers, and sometimes the mothers abuse more than one child.

The Scottish Rite study was founded on such a phenomenon — rising from a case where the mother, whose first child had died at hospital, brought in a second child with similar symptoms. She had smothered both.

Alexander worked with a woman diagnosed with the syndrome, for example, who caused diarrhea in her first infant, medicated her second and finally killed her third by leaving him in a freezer. And yet, she was still trying to petition the judge for visitation rights of her remaining children.

Backlash to charges

David Hellwig, head of the state's child protective services unit, said Munchausen's cases are "unusual but very serious."

given the potential for serious injury or death."

He said that last year in Georgia, only five cases of Munchausen syndrome by proxy were confirmed among about 47,000 investigations into abuse and neglect.

"They are handled differently. In most cases, the parent is immediately confronted and told what's being alleged. But in these cases, covert video surveillance is needed, as well as a team approach to the investigation," he said. "That's what this is all about — trying to catch someone in the act," he said.

But such an approach has led to more parents fighting back.

"There is a backlash," Yorker said. "MAMA (www.msb.com), started by Julie Patrick who was accused of the syndrome. Her child, Philip, born with multiple birth defects, died at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital a month after he was separated from her."

Increasingly, families across America, Britain, Australia, Canada and New Zealand are being destroyed by doctors and other professionals making unwarranted allegations against desperate mothers of chronically or critically ill children.

Patrick wrote on her home page. "The motives of the accusers can be multifaceted. Often, allegations are used by a doctor or institution to evade a medical malpractice lawsuit, or to simply rid themselves of a troublesome mom when unable to diagnose a child's condition."

A term we use with caution

And parents aren't the only ones who question a diagnosis of Munchausen's syndrome by proxy. Dr. C.J. Morley of the University of Cambridge's School of Clinical Medicine wrote in a position paper he would prefer the syndrome be "a term we use with caution and preferably abandon in favor of giving an exact description of what has happened to the child."

"It has become a diagnosis with emotional overtones which do not help in the management of these difficult cases," he wrote. "It is important to protect a child who is being harmed by his mother. It is equally important not to harm the child by falsely accusing his mother of Munchausen's syndrome by proxy thereby breaking up the family."

Alexander said, however, such concerns are greatly overstated. "They're fitful arguments," he said. "What doctor wants to make this diagnosis? This is a physician's worst nightmare — a superficially it involves much more work, and fundamentally, who wants to accuse a sick child's mother of things that are beyond belief?"

HEALTH & MEDIA

Hospital stroke centers could save lives, experts say

By JEFF NESMITH
Cox News Service

Although more than 700,000 Americans will suffer "brain attacks" — or strokes — this year, most will be taken to hospitals that have not implemented relatively inexpensive procedures and facilities that could save their lives.

To correct that, all hospitals should establish stroke centers to quickly evaluate and treat stroke victims, according to experts.

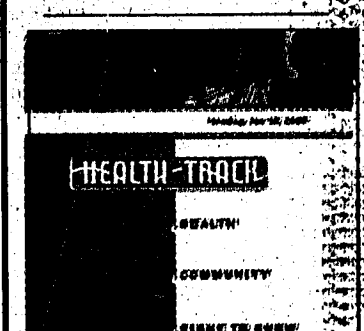
Although strokes are often painless and seldom as dramatic as heart attacks, they can result in devastating or fatal brain damage. An estimated 150,000 Americans die of stroke each year.

One of the deadliest aspects is the fact that a victim's associates often don't realize what is happening.

But a committee of the national Brain Attack Coalition says the story does not end there. Even when stroke victims reach a hospital, the dire circumstances surrounding their condition may not be fully understood.

Surveys show that as many as two-thirds of all American hospitals do not have established procedures for dealing with stroke victims and as many as 82 percent do not have the ability to rapidly identify patients experiencing a stroke.

"Primary stroke centers" could be organized around the trauma center model and operated in community and even rural hospitals, costs ranging from as little as \$50,000 to as much as \$250,000 a year, the committee says in an article published recently in the Journal of the American Medical Association.



Health Track attempts to monitor chronic diseases.

New Web effort helping monitor chronic diseases

By M.A.J. MCKENNA
Cox News Service

Quick quiz: true or false? One-third of the U.S. population suffers from some form of chronic disease: asthma, auto-immune problems, birth defects, cancer.

Exposure to chemical changes in the environment, industrial solvents, tobacco smoke, pesticides, smog — are believed to foster development of some chronic diseases.

There is no national system for tracking the occurrence of most chronic diseases, and the statistical means of comparing environmental problems with rates of chronic diseases.

Answers: True, true and true — and deeply problematic. Infectious diseases, from HIV/AIDS to tuberculosis to E. coli O157:H7, are monitored by local and state health departments, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Though the CDC tracks a number of chronic diseases such as asthma and cancer, there is no comparable local or state structure for tracking them in detail.

A Web-based effort has set up to change that. Health Track (healthtrack.org), a project of the Pew Charitable Trusts and Georgetown University, is a Web-based, easy-to-navigate site with a data entry form that chronic disease patients should be monitored nationally and locally, and that the Internet provides the means to do it. The effort links to organizations and scorecards on environmental conditions.

SPORTS

SECTION
B

Capriati advances to third round; Sampras questionable after injury

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Jennifer Capriati, having her best Wimbledon since 1993, advanced to the third round Thursday by overpowering fellow American Meghann Shaughnessy 7-6 (1), 6-2.

Capriati lost in the second round in 1998 and 1999. She didn't play at Wimbledon in 1994-97, when she struggled with drug and personal problems.

The 16th-ranked Capriati, who is unseeded, moved well and consistently belted strong groundstrokes to keep Shaughnessy pinned deep. Capriati played a deadly flawless tiebreaker to take the first set and hit more confidently as the match progressed.

Capriati's performance, tainted only by 10 double faults, left her in the round away from a potential matchup against second-seeded Lindsay Davenport. Capriati's best showing at Wimbledon came at age 15 in 1991, when she beat nine-time champion Martina Navratilova and reached the semifinals.

Word was expected Thursday on whether six-time champion Pete Sampras would continue in the tournament. Sampras limped past Karol Kucera 7-6 (9), 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 Wednesday, then was taken to a hospital for an MRI and treatment of an inflamed left foot.

The injury ended a day full of surprises at the All England Club, where Anna Kournikova and two former champions lost, Jeff Tarango again stirred up a fuss and Anna Smashnova beamed a spectator with a ball when she became angry at her opponent's husband.

Kournikova, unseeded but still the diva of the women's field, lost 6-3, 6-4 to France's Anne-Gaëlle Sidot. 1994 champion Conchita Martinez, seeded fourth, also was eliminated. Losers on the men's side included No. 3 Magnus Norman, No. 6 Cedric Pioline and No. 11 Richard Krajicek, the 1996 champion.

Four seeded players were eliminated Wednesday. After only three days of play, 14 seeded players — seven men and seven women — had been beaten. Just two seeds, Sampras and No. 9 Thomas Enqvist, remained in the top half of the men's draw.

Tarango, who stormed off the court in midmatch at Wimbledon five years ago and was banned from the tournament for a year, created another stir after a 3-6, 6-2, 6-7, 6-2, 12-10 loss to fellow Stanford alum Paul Goldstein.

Tarango drew boos when he refused to shake hands with his opponent, and he later accused Goldstein of faking an injury.

Tarango will likely escape punishment, but Smashnova will be fined for beating a fan, who was injured. The ball sailed over the fence, bounced and hit a woman in the stands.

A tearful Smashnova apologized after winning 6-2, 5-7, 6-2. "I had been upset by laughter and shouting from Katalin's husband," she said. "He kept cheering for her when I made mistakes."



AMERICAN PETE Sampras has his injured left foot examined during his second round match at Wimbledon Wednesday. Sampras limped to a win over Karol Kucera and is expected to play his third round match Friday.

Cincy's Martin is top choice in NBA draft

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Los Angeles Clippers made themselves a target of the Orlando Magic cleared space and the New Jersey Nets hung on to their No. 1 pick, a sharp-eyed Kenyon Martin.

It was a night of surprises at the NBA draft, with a total of nine trades, and a couple more expected to be completed Thursday.

The Clippers walked away with Darius Miles, Corey Maggette, Derek Strong, Keyon Dooling, Richard Jefferson and Sean Roldan in one of the most dramatic draft-day makeovers in league history.

"It was a wonderful day," general manager Elgin Baylor said. "We got a bunch of young, talented players and a few veterans. I think we're very talented and very athletic and pretty deep at every position. The good part is, we're going to have a lot of these players at least five years."

Orlando also has eight first-round picks stashed in the next four years. And if Hill and/or Duncan decide not to come, maximum salary deals can be offered to other free agents such as Eddie Jones, Tracy McGrady and Jalen Rose.

In our transactions, we not only secured some additional rosin, we also pushed some assets into future," general manager John Gabriel said. "The best we can do is prepare and take our best kick at the can when it comes."

The Nets took a look at all the trade offers they received and decided to reject them and select Martin, the consensus college player of the year from Cincinnati. Martin broke down in tears as he was selected.

"People deal with different situations in different ways," said the 6-foot-9 center-forward whose collegiate career was ended prematurely by a broken leg. "That was my way of dealing with it."

Strangle Swift of LSU went second to Vancouver, and Miles gave commissioner David Stern a hug and a pat on the back of the head after going third to the Clippers.

The Chicago Bulls had six of the first 34 picks and made one trade, sending the seventh pick, Texas center Chris Mihm, to Cleveland for the eighth pick, Michigan guard Jamal Crawford, and cash.

Dallas made four trades, including setting Fresno State's Courtney Alexander with Orlando's 13th pick. The Mavericks also acquired John Wallace and Florida forward Donnell Harvey from the Knicks and veteran guard Eric Murdock from the Clippers.

The selection of Swift started a string in which the next 10 picks were all underclassmen. A record 18 underclassmen were selected in the first round, and four foreign centers were picked consecutively late in the first round.

After Miles went third, Chicago took Iowa State forward Marcus Fizer fourth. Mike Miller of Florida went fifth to Orlando, and Cincinnati guard DerMarr Johnson went sixth to Atlanta.

Next came Mihm and Crawford, who were swapped for each other. "We thought Crawford would be taken as high as fourth — we liked him that much," Bulls coach Tim Floyd said. "We've always liked by the Houston Rockets with the 15th pick, Georgia Tech center Jason Collier, and a future No. 1."

The trade left the Bulls without a center, although they picked up 7-1 Croat Dalibor Bagaric at No. 24.



FORMER UNIVERSITY OF Texas center Chris Mihm is congratulated by NBA commissioner David Stern after being selected by the Chicago Bulls with the seventh pick in Wednesday's NBA draft. Mihm was later traded to the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Floyd said. "We've always liked by the Houston Rockets with the 15th pick, Georgia Tech center Jason Collier, and a future No. 1."

The trade left the Bulls without a center, although they picked up 7-1 Croat Dalibor Bagaric at No. 24.

The selection of Joel Pryzbilla by the Houston Rockets with the 19th pick brought boos from the crowd at the Target Center still upset that the 7-1 sophomore center who played locally at Minnesota quit the team late in the season.

Houston later traded Pryzbilla to Milwaukee for the 15th pick, Georgia Tech center Jason Collier, and a future No. 1.

Dooling went 10th and UCLA power forward Jerome Mousa went at No. 11 to Boston.

Helling snaps six-game losing skid

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Mike Venafro thought he was coming out of the bullpen for one batter, and he nearly earned his first major league save.

David Segui's two-run double highlighted a five-run fifth inning, and Rick Helling snapped a six-game losing streak as the Texas Rangers beat the Oakland Athletics 5-3 Wednesday night.

Helling (8-7) allowed three runs on five hits and six walks in 5 2/3 innings, winning for the first time since May 23 at Kansas City. John Wetteland got the final two outs for his 19th save in 23 opportunities.

Venafro pitched out of a bases-loaded jam to preserve the lead. With two outs in the sixth, the A's loaded the bases on a double by Tejada and consecutive walks to Sal Fasano and Terrence Long. Venafro replaced Helling and got

Tuesday.

Ivan Rodriguez, Rafael Palmeiro and Dave Martinez each had two hits and an RBI for the Rangers, who won for just the second time in 11 road games. Texas still has the second-worst road record in the AL at 13-22.

A's starter Kevin Appier (8-4) went seven innings, allowing five runs on eight hits.

"The Rangers batted around in the fifth, scoring five times, all with two outs, to turn a three-run deficit into a 5-3 advantage."

"Sometimes that third out is real difficult to get," Helling said. "It seemed like they fouled off good pitches and finally got something to hit. That was a quality at-bat by Segui. He fouled off a lot of tough pitches."

Miguel Tejada doubled twice and drove in a pair of runs for the A's.

Rocker not main focus for Mets

NEW YORK (AP) — Lot the rest of New York worry about the circus surrounding a certain Atlanta reliever. The Mets are more concerned about 24 other Braves.

"We can't control the coverage of an individual. We can't worry about that," Mets catcher Mike Piazza said Wednesday on the eve of Rocker's first trip to New York since his now infamous magazine interview.

"We have to face Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine, Andrew Jones and Chipper Jones. They have a pretty good ballclub. We can't worry about one guy who might or might not get into the game. If he does, we'll try to score runs off him."

This weekend's Braves-Mets series — their first since last year's thrilling NLCS — would still be big news with first place in the NL East on the line. It just wouldn't be a media circus.

But people are more concerned about whether Rocker will ride the No. 7 train to Shea Stadium — probably not — than about whether New York has closed the gap with Atlanta — it remains to be seen.

The Mets tried to maintain that this was a typical series. There was nothing typical about the preparations.

Without Rocker, there wouldn't be 600 media officers at Shea Stadium for a typical Atlanta-New York series — and about a dozen outside the Grand Hyatt hotel awaiting his arrival after Thursday.

There wouldn't be more than 300 media members in town tracking Rocker's every move. There wouldn't be a protective fence and awning over the visitor's bullpen and special rules limiting alcohol sales.

And there wouldn't be all these nagging questions for the players to answer.

"It's something that you just don't want to keep talking about," Atlanta manager Bobby Cox said. "This has been going on too long. I guess everybody's pointing toward New York, and I guess that's what it will end. I don't know. You'd think enough."

Commissioner Bud Selig, whose office has been working side-by-side with the Mets and the police to assure Rocker's safety, hopes New York fans feel the same way.

"Distractions never help us," he said at Coors Field in Denver. "You know the sport is doing well when we talk about stuff going on the field. I am comfortable where we are."

When the Braves arrived at their hotel at about 2 a.m., they were sneaked through a side entrance away from a handful of fans, police and media.

The Mets were preparing in their own way.

Mets reliever Turk Wendell has a police riot gear helmet — "It's safe from batteries" — and outfielder Benny Abgayani said he wouldn't feel safe if he was Rocker's teammate.

COMMENTARY

Despite evidence, many opposed to mental-health coverage

By KEVIN LAMB
Cox News Service

It's hard to imagine how companies without the sense to give mental health full parity in their insurance plans are smart enough to stay in business.

The evidence is overwhelming that money spent treating mental disorders winds up reducing other medical expenses and increasing workplace productivity. A Delta Airlines case five recently told a Senate committee that Delta actually saved money by expanding its mental-health coverage.

But any talk about making health

"I think that knowledge and information replace fear and misunderstanding."

Tipper Gore,
wife of Vice President Al Gore

The value of employer-provided health-care benefits declined by 55 percent from 1988 to 1998, according to the Hay Group, an actuarial and benefits consultant, while other health-care benefits dropped by only 11.5 percent. Providers' payments for mental-health care dropped 36 percent.

Although benefits were falling, the need for them was growing. The

National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems reported double-digit increases in hospital patients from 1996 to '97 alone, including a 69 percent rise in outpatient service.

The Mental Health Parity Act of 1996, passed as a first-step solution, was more a stumble of the curb. It required health plans funded directly by employers to use the same dollar limits for mental-health coverage as for other health coverage. But the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) says that one in seven companies breaks that law and most evade it by restricting numbers of days or visits.

Full mental health parity would add 1.4 percent to an employer's health costs, according to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), or 2 percent to 4 percent by GAO estimates. But those figures would be offset by the increased productivity of a healthier workforce. The NIMH estimates mental illnesses cost businesses \$148 billion annually.

Mental illness costs society about as much as cancer or heart disease," says Terry Russell, executive director of NAMI Ohio and another

arguing increased state mental-health funding.

Wells keeps on winning; Yankees keep on losing

The New York Yankees sure could use David Wells these days. At this rate, they could use almost any starting pitcher.

Wells became the first 13-game winner in the majors, throwing a five-hitter Wednesday night that led the Toronto Blue Jays over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, 5-2.

"When you're locked in, you're locked in," said Wells (13-2). "I just go out there and I'm in my own little world."

Wells matched Roger Clemens (1997), the other prime player in last year's trade between Toronto and the Yankees, for the most wins by a Blue Jays pitcher by the All-Star break.

The Yankees, meanwhile, were trounced 13-4 by the Detroit Tigers. The two-time World Series champions have lost three in a row and nine of 12.

Rookie Ben Ford, making a start while Clemens is on the disabled list, was tagged for seven runs in two-plus innings.

"We're struggling right now. There's no other way to put it," shortstop Derek Jeter said. "When it rains, it pours. It doesn't get much worse."

In other AL games, Chicago defeated Minnesota 7-3, Baltimore beat Boston 8-7 in 11 innings, Kansas City downed Cleveland 8-1, Anaheim edged Seattle 3-2 and Texas beat Oakland 5-3.

Wells won his sixth straight decision for the AL East-leading Blue Jays. And for the ninth time in 17 starts, he did not walk a batter.

"It was all David Wells tonight," Tampa Bay manager Larry Rothschild said. "He took over the game."

Jose Cruz Jr. hit a solo home run in the second inning. He also had an RBI double in a four-run fourth at Tropicana Field.

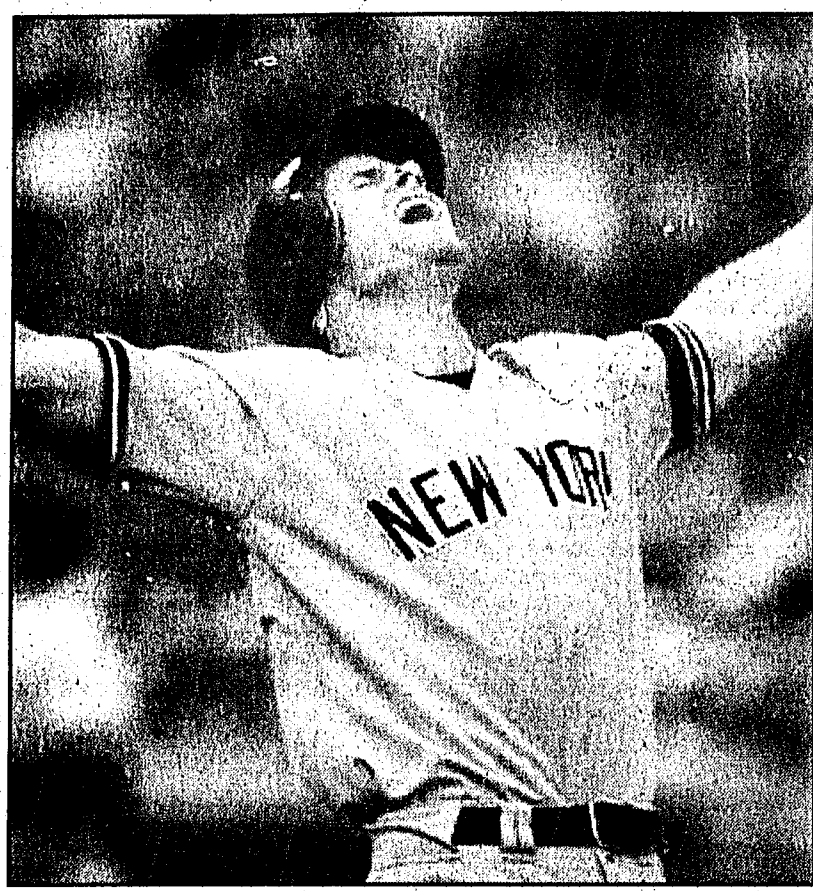
Tigers 10, Yankees 6
Juan Encarnacion homered and drove in four runs as Detroit improved to 5-0 against New York at Comerica Park this season.

Tony Clark, Luis Polonia and Deivi Cruz also homered as the Tigers won their third in a row.

Willie Blair moved to 3-0 in five starts since replacing C.J. Nitkowski in the rotation. Steve Sparks pitched three innings for his first major league start.

Ramiro Mendez, supposed to start Thursday's series finale for the Yankees, was put on the 15-day disabled list with weakness in the back of his right shoulder.

White Sox 7, Twins 3
Frank Thomas homered twice and Cal Eldred won his eighth



AP photo

NEW YORK'S Paul O'Neill shows his frustration after being called out on a close play at first base in the Yankees' loss to Detroit Wednesday.

straight decision as Chicago beat the ninth inning and scored the tying run on Will Clark's triple. In the 11th, Surhoff led off with a double and scored the go-ahead run on Harold Baines' one-out double.

The White Sox have won 12 of 16. Eldred (10-2) is 8-0 with a 3.04 ERA in his last nine starts.

Royals 8, Indians 1
Jay Witasick pitched a four-hitter as Kansas City routed Cleveland.

Witasick has thrown the Royals' only two complete games this season. He blanked the visiting Indians until the ninth inning.

Kane Davis, promoted from Triple-A Buffalo earlier in the day, was tagged for seven runs in 4 1/3 innings in his first major league start. He was the 11th pitcher to start for the injury-plagued Indians this year — they used just 10 last season.

Joe Randa drove in three runs and Jermaine Dye hit his 20th home run.

Orioles 8, Red Sox 7
B.J. Surhoff went 5-for-6 and extended his hitting streak to 21 games, leading Baltimore over eight off Stiget's hitless game.

Frank Thomas homered twice and Cal Eldred won his eighth

hit a three-run homer off Alan Banes (1-1).

Dennys Reyes (2-1) struck out four of the five batters he faced.

Cubs 5, Pirates 4
Chicago rallied from a three-run deficit behind Jon Lieber's pitching and Juan Nieves' two-run homer to win at Pittsburgh.

Lieber (6-5) ended the Cubs' season-long five-game losing streak and his own five-game streak of winless starts.

Diamondbacks 6, Astros 2
Brian Anderson had his second straight strong outing, and Jose Lima (1-12) set a Houston record with his 12th consecutive loss as the Astros.

Steve Finley drove in two runs with his 21st homer and a double. Anderson (6-2) ran his shutout string to 15 innings before giving up a run in the eighth.

Phillies 9, Brewers 7
Ron Gant's second homer of the game capped a three-run eighth inning, lifting Philadelphia over visiting Milwaukee.

Mickey Morandini opened the eighth with a triple against Juan Acedo (0-3) and Desi Relaford followed with another triple for a 7-6 lead. Two outs later, Relaford scored on a wild pitch and Gant followed with his 14th home run.

Chris Brock (4-4) got one out for the victory, and Jeff Brantley pitched the ninth for his 10th save.

Dodgers 5, Padres 4
Jim Leyritz singled home the winning run with two outs in the bottom of the ninth, and Todd Hollandsworth and Eric Karros hit two-run homers as Los Angeles beat San Diego.

Steve Montgomerie (0-1) took the loss in his season debut.

Santiago — in a 5-for-42 slump

Cirillo's three dingers pace Colorado past San Francisco

(AP) — Jeff Cirillo couldn't help but jump for joy.

Cirillo had his first three-homer game since he started playing the game as a child as the Colorado Rockies outslugged the San Francisco Giants 17-13 Wednesday night.

"I never had three home runs," Cirillo said. "Never, not even in Little League."

The third baseman, acquired in a trade with Milwaukee during the offseason, also doubled, drove in six runs and scored five more as the Rockies rallied from deficits of 8-1 and 11-5.

Cirillo couldn't help but show his excitement.

"I usually never show that kind of emotion out there," Cirillo said. "No disrespect to the Giants at all. I was excited and it was a big hit for us and because what we came back from."

Cirillo hit a two-run shot in the third, a solo drive in the fifth and another two-run homer in the seventh.

With a chance to tie the major league record for homers in a game, Cirillo had an RBI ground-out in the eighth inning.

Nefti Perez drove in four runs and Jeffrey Hammonds had four hits for the Rockies.

Mike DeJean (2-1) pitched the seventh for the Rockies, giving up Bill Mueller's home run that made it 12-12.

Cirillo broke the tie with a two-run homer in the seventh off John Johnstone (2-4) after Lansing opened the inning with a triple.

Giants pitcher Livan Hernandez hit his third career home run, but lasted only five innings in giving up eight runs and 10 hits. Jeff

Kent and Russ Davis also homered for San Francisco.

"Tonight was a combination of a lot of things," San Francisco manager Dusty Baker said. "We didn't get much relief from our bullpen and they got quite a bit, shutting us down in two of the last three innings."

Mets 6, Marlins 5
New York won its seventh straight game as Mark Johnson's two-run single capped a five-run sixth inning against visiting Florida.

Florida's Brad Penny (4-7) pitched through trouble in the first five innings, but lost his control in the sixth.

Vladimir Guerrero hit his 22nd home run and also doubled and singled. Jose Vidro, who went 2-for-3, extended his hitting streak to 12 games.

Braves 7, Expos 4
Terry Mulholland kept up his mastery of Montreal, and Brian Jordan hit a pair of RBI singles to lead Atlanta to a road victory.

Mulholland (6-6) improved to 17-4 lifetime against the Expos. Kerry Ligtan saved for his fifth save.

Vladimir Guerrero hit his 22nd home run and also doubled and singled. Jose Vidro, who went 2-for-3, extended his hitting streak to 12 games.

Reds 7, Cardinals 3
Benito Santiago's first homer in nearly a month put Cincinnati ahead, and Sean Casey doubled with the bases loaded as Cincinnati beat St. Louis.

The Reds won for only the sixth time in 21 games and moved 7½ behind the visiting Cardinals in the NL Central.

Santiago — in a 5-for-42 slump

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Scoreboard

BASEBALL

American League
At A Glance
By The Associated Press
All Times EDT
East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Toronto	43	35	.551	
New York	37	35	.514	3
Boston	37	36	.507	3 1/2
Baltimore	32	43	.427	9 1/2
Tampa Bay	31	44	.413	10 1/2

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	49	28	.636	
Cleveland	40	36	.526	8 1/2
Kansas City	36	39	.480	12
Detroit	32	42	.432	15 1/2
Minnesota	24	45	.350	16

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oakland	45	31	.592	
Seattle	44	31	.587	1/2
Anaheim	35	40	.467	9 1/2
Texas	40	37	.519	9 1/2

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	44	31	.587	
San Diego	35	40	.467	9 1/2
San Francisco	31	44	.413	10 1/2

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Atlanta at N.Y. Mets, 1:15
Cincinnati at Arizona, 4:05
Los Angeles at San Francisco

Two killed during attack on U.N. building in effort to end embargo

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — An Iraqi who shot his way into a United Nations building in Baghdad on Wednesday said he wanted an end to the international embargo against his country, and denied shooting the two people killed during his takeover.

Two Food and Agriculture Organization staffers were killed and six people were seriously wounded, said Amir A. Khalil, director of FAO operations in Baghdad. He said the gunman held a U.N. consultant hostage at the FAO building's reception desk for over two hours.

Khalil said the other wounded included two U.N. staffers and four Iraqi government guards. A seventh casualty, a U.N. worker, was hurt trying to jump from a window of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization building, Khalil said in a statement.

"The dead and wounded remained in the corridor of the second floor for many hours," Khalil added. He identified the dead as Yusuf Abdilleh, an administrative officer from Somali and Marwan Mohamud Hassan, a data base operator from Iraq.

The gunman, Fowad Hussein Haydar, denied shooting anybody in an unusual press conference given in a Baghdad police station hours after the event.

"I haven't shot anyone. When I left the building they told me two people were dead," Haydar said. "True I fired at random. But the operation lasted more than two hours and there was heavy fire," he said, referring to the gunfire from Iraqi guards.

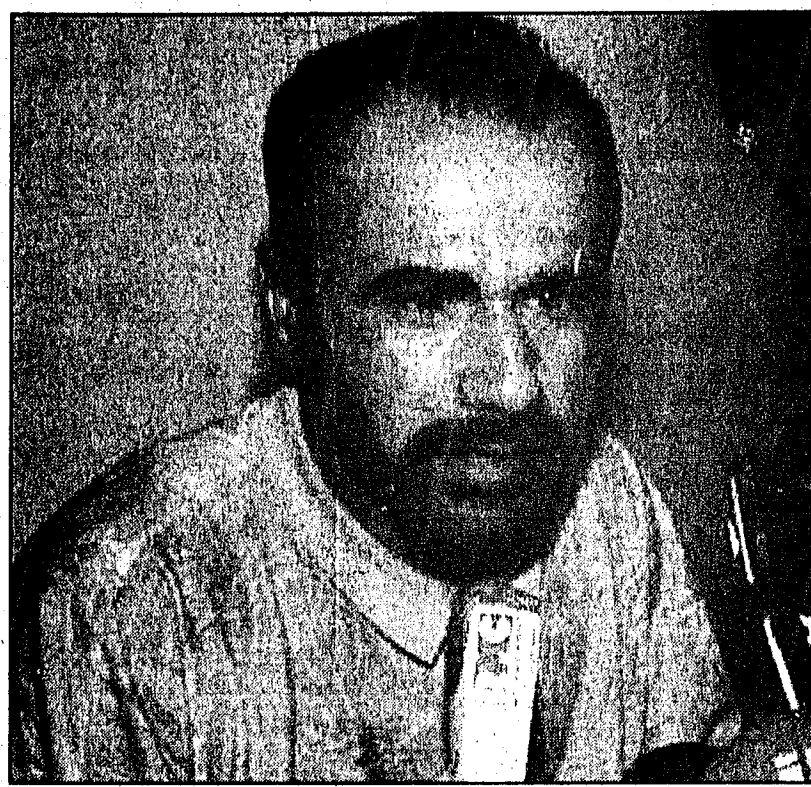
Haydar, 38, said his aim was to take Khalil hostage and then negotiate his demands.

"The reason is the embargo, the death and murder of thousands of Iraqi children and elderly. I wanted to relay a message, to explain the tragedy," he said.

Haydar said sanctions, which have impoverished millions of Iraqis, have driven him to the point of despair. He wanted that there are millions of people like him in the country ready to do the same.

The handcuffed Haydar appeared composed and peaceful. He stressed he was not recruited by any party to carry out his operation.

"I know I will be sentenced to



THE ALLEGED gunman, Fowad Hussein Haydar, who entered a U.N. building and opened fire, speaks during a news conference in Baghdad, Iraq Wednesday.

death, but I am not sorry," he said. "The secretary-general deeply deplores the senseless loss of life of two FAO colleagues in Baghdad," said U.N. deputy spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva.

The executive director of the U.N. Office of the Iraq Program, Renon Seván, said from New York that the gunman first tried to enter the U.N. compound at the Canal Hotel and was turned away by security guards.

"Then he managed to enter the FAO offices in Baghdad and he took hostage about 50 people. He had two machine guns and made some demands," Seván said.

"There were four demands, one being that the government should be regular," he said. "In addition, the U.N. weapons inspectors report Iraq has destroyed its banned weapons of mass destruction."

The United States has been the most active among sanctions committee members at blocking supplies to Iraq.

Sanctions imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait have crippled the Iraqi economy.

According to U.N. resolutions, the embargo cannot be lifted until U.N. weapons inspectors report Iraq has destroyed its banned weapons of mass destruction.

Seván said Iraqi forces "have been fully cooperative."

Khalil, the FAO representative, has been among the most

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death, but I am not sorry," he said.

"The secretary-general deeply deplores the senseless loss of life of two FAO colleagues in Baghdad," said U.N. deputy spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva.

The executive director of the U.N. Office of the Iraq Program, Renon Seván, said from New York that the gunman first tried to enter the U.N. compound at the Canal Hotel and was turned away by security guards.

"Then he managed to enter the FAO offices in Baghdad and he took hostage about 50 people. He had two machine guns and made some demands," Seván said.

"There were four demands, one being that the government should be regular," he said. "In addition, the U.N. weapons inspectors report Iraq has destroyed its banned weapons of mass destruction."

The United States has been the most active among sanctions committee members at blocking supplies to Iraq.

Sanctions imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait have crippled the Iraqi economy.

According to U.N. resolutions, the embargo cannot be lifted until U.N. weapons inspectors report Iraq has destroyed its banned weapons of mass destruction.

Seván said Iraqi forces "have been fully cooperative."

Khalil, the FAO representative, has been among the most

Putin suffers setback in effort to rein in regions' leaders

MOSCOW (AP) — In President Vladimir Putin's first major political setback, regional leaders on Wednesday voted down his proposal to strip them of their seats in parliament, part of his ambitious plan to curb the rights of the provinces.

The governors and heads of local legislatures who make up the upper house of parliament, the Federation Council, voted 129-13 to reject the bill, which would replace them with appointed legislators. The bill would also remove the regional leaders' immunity from prosecution.

The lower house, the State Duma, passed the bill by a wide margin and can likely overcome the upper house's veto with a

two-thirds majority. Putin did not comment publicly on Wednesday's vote.

The vote followed a raucous debate — strong criticism of Putin's plan that highlighted cracks in the widespread support he has enjoyed since his election in March.

Ryazan Governor Vyacheslav Lyubimov called Putin's bill a "state coup attempt," saying it violated the constitution.

Federation Council Chairman Yegor Stroyev said, "You cannot really throw out a body consisting of people elected by the entire country. That would be a big mistake."

Seven governors angrily said they had played an important role

in Putin's election victory by endorsing him despite his lack of political experience and public recognition.

"The president was elected with the governors' help," said Mikhail Fruskin, the governor of northwestern Novgorod region. "Now the president is catastrophically losing his popularity, which was earned thanks to those who are now under attack."

Fyodor Sazhinov, chairman of the Federation Council, said the bill had been a steady influence and should not be disbanded. Until the final months of Boris Yeltsin's term, the chamber often backed the president in his confrontations with the formerly

Communist-dominated Duma. "Thanks to the current Federation Council, we have been able to preserve the country and prevent it from sliding into chaos," Sazhinov said.

In addition to stripping Federation Council members of their legislative immunity from criminal prosecution, the plan would permit Putin to remove elected governors who are determined by courts to have violated the law.

Putin says strengthening central control over the regions is necessary to fix Russia's economic problems and keep the country from breaking apart.

Russia's regional leaders have gained power at the expense of the central government in the decade

since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Wealthier regions are reluctant to share revenues, and some governors suppress dissent and political opposition.

But liberal critics claim that Putin's plan would concentrate too many powers in the Kremlin and put Russia on the road to dictatorship.

"Russia can only be strong if its regions are strong," Tatarstan's president, Mintimer Shaimiyev said Wednesday.

The upper house refused to work with the Duma to consider modifications to the bill. Instead, it appealed to Putin to set up a panel that would consider amending the constitution, making the political reform more balanced.

German states agree to ban attack dogs as result of boy's death

BERLIN (AP) — Nadia Routhani is close to tears as she talks about the vicious killing of a 6-year-old boy mauled to death in a schoolyard by two attack dogs as his classmates watched in horror.

"We're shocked, stunned, full of sorrow and rage," said the mother of two at a protest by worried parents, holding flowers and pushing their own toys in carriages.

If the government can't keep such "attack machines" off the streets, she asked, "What are the conclusions? Should we arm ourselves?"

Months of mounting concern about dangerous dogs on the streets of German cities exploded into outraged cries for action after Monday's attack in Hamburg by a pit bull and a Staffordshire bull terrier.

"Away with these beasts!" the nation's most-read newspaper, Bild, screamed across its front page Wednesday after two more attacks sent an elderly man and a young jogger to hospitals this week.

On Wednesday, German officials announced nationwide bans on breeding and importing attack dogs and other measures, including possible jail time for violators.

Interior Minister Otto Schily, who had advocated a ban for months, said the measures would be drafted and presented to the Cabinet in two weeks.

"I believe that these steps are necessary in view of the immense danger that comes from such aggressive animals," he said. "It's unacceptable that children especially — are endangered because of the quirks of dog owners."

The action would bring Germany in line with some of its other European Union neighbors.

A law that took effect in January in France requires dangerous dogs to be sterilized — a move aimed at eliminating pit bulls from France within 10 years. Britain has had a similar law since 1991. Italy is planning to introduce one this year.

Germany is a country where dogs are coddled, even allowed to accompany their owners into

stores and sit under tables at fancy restaurants.

Attack dogs, though, tend to be favored by neo-Nazi and other young toughs, usually in low-income areas where the dogs are brandished like weapons.

Some breeders accused the government of going too far with a ban, saying irresponsible owners are to blame if a dog is trained to fight, not the animals.

Frank Weder raises pit bulls and Staffordshires as a hobby at his Top Gun Kennel in Atzendorf, about 90 miles southwest of Berlin. The three pit bulls he keeps in his apartment have never posed a danger to his children or anyone else, he said.

"They're totally normal dogs like any other — good with children," he said. "The greatest danger is from the people who raise them improperly."

While the attack in Hamburg was regrettable, he said, the government's action is "extremely excessive" and will hurt professional breeders.

On Wednesday, federal and state officials discussed curtailing ownership and breeding of attack dogs in May, no concerted action was taken.

Part of the problem is determining which breeds to classify as attack dogs.

The southern state of Baden-Wuerttemberg drew up a list of 11 banned breeds in 1992, but it was thrown out by a court that said it violated the rights of dog owners to equal treatment. Some breeds that weren't on the list — such as German shepherds or Rottweilers — had just as many biting incidents recorded as those listed, the judges said.

Schily said the Agriculture Ministry will prepare a breeding ban that will apply not only to pit bulls and Staffordshires but also to especially aggressive individual animals of other breeds or mixtures.

Berlin officials intend to require permits for existing pit bulls, American Staffordshires, and Staffordshire bull terriers. They would be granted only to

adults who can prove the dogs are needed for protection. The city says it has no estimates of how many exist, but a similar rule in Munich since 1992 has brought the number registered there down to four.

Owners of eight other breeds, from mastiffs to Rhodesian Ridgebacks, will have to get a certificate from a veterinarian attesting that the dog is not dangerous. Other measures include requirements that the animals be muzzled and on leashes when in public places.

The parents who gathered Wednesday outside the federal Interior Ministry in Berlin say they will continue their protests to make sure the government follows through on the laws — and enforces them.

They note the two dogs who attacked the first-grader in Hamburg, who was identified only as Volkan S., had bitten three dogs in April and were supposed to be kept muzzled and on leashes when in public. They had neither when they jumped over a school fence and went for the boy's throat.

The dogs' owner faces up to five years in prison if convicted of negligent homicide.

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Me, Myself & Irene
DAILY 1:00, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

CHICKEN RUN
DAILY 1:00, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

GLADIATOR
DAILY 1:00, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE
DAILY 1:00, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

60 SECONDS
DAILY 1:00, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

NICOLAS CAGE
DAILY 1:00, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

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Decision not to wear bra is more function than fashion

DEAR ABBY: Regarding the teen-age girl who is being called a lesbian because she finds wearing a bra uncomfortable — at age 66 I have grown weary of people whose only exercise is jumping to conclusions.

"I do not wear a bra because the straps hurt my pacemaker site. (My 'alien implant')."

I wear clothing with double chest pockets, or T-shirts with wonderful, happy designs so my braless state is not obvious. At my age, if I did wear a bra it would be a 34-long! — GLENNA MAHON, CONCORD, VA.

DEAR GLENNA: I agree; there may be mitigating circumstances for going braless. Your letter reminds me of this old joke: "When is a brassiere like the Salvation Army?" Answer: "When it uplifts the poorfallen."

DEAR ABBY: A close friend died unexpectedly. It was a shock to all of us who loved her. Attending the funeral helped me to say goodbye and eased the grief. The service was so beautiful that I commented later to my husband how I wished I could have videotaped it in order to remember the wonderful closure it gave me. He said he, too, would have liked a videotape, but that people would have thought it "lacky" if we showed up with a video camera.

My husband is 66 and I am 31. We know the odds are that he will die before me, and would like this question answered before that happens. Abby, is it awful to want a record of saying goodbye to a deeply loved human being in this manner? — GRIEVING IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR GRIEVING: Some churches provide

Dear Abby



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

audiotapes of funerals. If the family would like a video of the eulogy portion of the service, to record the tributes for later viewing or to share with those who could not attend, I see nothing wrong with it. However, some attendees might prefer that their grief not be recorded for posterity, and their wishes should be respected.

If the family makes the arrangements, I'm all for it. But for someone to simply show up with a video camera would be intrusive and insensitive.

P.S. Since none of us has a contract with God, there is a chance that you could predecease your husband. How would you feel about your funeral being videotaped?

DEAR ABBY: I am responding to Jim Isbell's letter about his experience with the Vietnamese man who was working in a restaurant on Mother's Day. Vietnam DOES have a Mother's Day. It takes place on the 15th day of July on the Vietnamese calendar, and is called Vu Lan.

On Vu Lan day we go to the temple and pray for our mothers to live long lives. If our mother is still alive, we wear a red rose. When people wear a white rose, it means their mother has died but they are at the temple to remember her.

Most Vietnamese Buddhist temples have a tradition of wearing roses. If you go to a temple on this day without wearing a rose, people in the temple will ask you about your mother and will pin a red or white rose on you. — D.N.K., ROSEMEAD, CALIF.

DEAR D.N.K.: What a lovely tradition. I'm struck by the fact that you have a similar one in your culture. A red carnation is worn on Mother's Day to signify that one's mother is living, a white carnation signifies that one's mother is deceased.

Emphysema medication aggravates man's tremors

DEAR DR. DOUMA: I've had the age of 60. They range from essential tremors for years (I am almost imperceptible to severe

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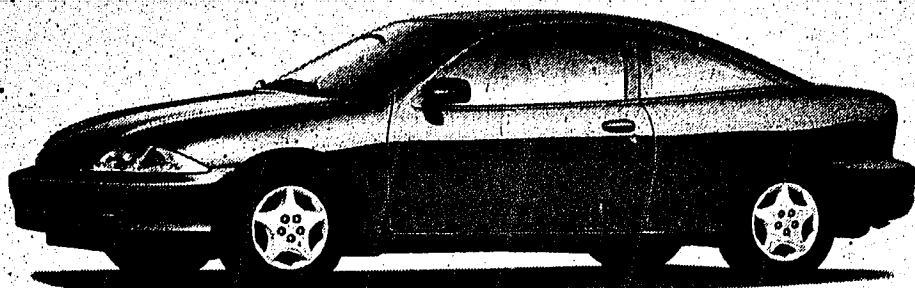
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Elian's homecoming an anticlimax that even Fidel missed

HAVANA (AP) — In the end, the seven-month battle over Elian Gonzalez that divided Americans and united Cubans concluded with a simple ceremony at Havana's international airport attended by the little boy's family and 800 schoolmates.

While the children cheered his arrival, there were no spontaneous celebrations along Havana's streets when his plane touched down at a remote terminal of Jose Marti International Airport.

There were no speeches, no car honkings that might have been expected somewhere else for such a momentous occasion. Cuban President Fidel Castro didn't even show up.

The anticlimactic end to the international custody battle was no accident: The Cuban government — intent on sparing Elian the "circus-like" atmosphere that surrounded his Miami stay — told Cubans not to take to the streets in celebration.

They dutifully obeyed.

Cubans watched the arrival of their 6-year-old "prince" on television, quietly thrilled they had won the latest round in the four-decade-old battle with the United States.

"I'm very happy," said Maguri Ortiz, who waited for a flight to Baracoa at the airport, where Elian's arrival was

broadcast live on TV monitors. "The never met him, but he is marvelous."

Elian's saga — launched by a failed crossing to the United States in November and decided by a 26-word Supreme Court decision Wednesday afternoon — concluded shortly before 8 p.m. Wednesday night.

A jet carrying him and his family pulled up on the tarmac to a group of 800 of his classmates — bused from Cardenas 90 miles to Havana in their school uniforms.

The children jumped up and down and waved plastic Cuban flags. As the boy emerged, smiling shyly and apparently overwhelmed as his father helped him down the steps, the children chanted "Elian! Elian! Elian!"

They then broke into a round of the Cuban national anthem.

Ricardo Alarcon, president of Cuba's National Assembly and Castro's point man on the Elian case, attended the welcoming, but made no official remarks.

After being embraced by his grandparents and other relatives, the family sped off in a motorcycle-led motorcade to an undisclosed location for a private reunion. They were expected to spend Wednesday night at a special boarding school in the capital's upscale Playa neighborhood. Official announcements on

Cuban state radio and television said the family and some of Elian's classmates and teachers would stay there for two or three weeks before returning to Cardenas.

The boy's teachers must "undertake the masterful work of making him a model child," said the statement, without elaborating.

Elian's father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, who took his wife and infant son to the United States in April to bring his boy home, told reporters before leaving Washington that he hoped the episode could improve relations between the Cold War rivals.

"I am extremely happy ... being able to go back to my homeland. I don't have words, really, to express what I feel," he said just before boarding the jet at Washington's Dulles International Airport.

Gonzalez grabbed his son's hand and led him up the steps of the chartered jet, where Elian said goodbye to America with a wave and a smile.

Elian seized the attention of America and Cuba from the moment he was found clinging to an inner tube on Nov. 25 by two men on a fishing trip off the Florida coast. The boat taking him on the 90-mile voyage from Cuba to the United States sank, drowning

his mother, her boyfriend and nine others.

For five months he stayed in Miami's Little Havana with his father's uncle, Lazaro Gonzalez, who was granted temporary custody and fought to keep him in a battle that rallied Florida's anti-Castro community.

But on April 22, federal agents knocked down the door of Lazaro Gonzalez's house and whisked Elian away to his father, waiting in the Washington area.

Lazaro Gonzalez and his daughter Marileysis Gonzalez had no immediate comment on Elian's return.

"How many more women and children must die before the world hears the cries of the Cuban people?" their spokesman Armando Gutierrez asked.

Castro has vowed that Elian's homecoming will not end the massive mobilizations, which will now be aimed at changing U.S. policies — trade sanctions and asylum rules, for example — that it says encourage the kind of illegal migration that led to Elian's plight.

"We're happy he's arrived — but it doesn't change anything," Rafael Saldaño Roque said Wednesday evening outside Copelia's, a popular ice cream parlor in Havana.



ELIAN GONZALEZ, in the arms of grandfather Juan Gonzalez, waves upon his arrival to Havana's Jose Marti airport, Wednesday.

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Appliances MCCRARY APPLIANCE Washer & Dryer Repair 301 E. End Blvd. N. Next to Terminix 903-938-9749	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Buildings/Back Hoe Walton Hill Excavation, Inc. Bulldozer & Backhoe Services Over 30 years experience 955-5248 Digger # 527-0438	Carpet Cleaning ADVANCE CARPET CLEANING • Guaranteed Pot Odor Removal • Carpet Steam Cleaning • Upholstery Cleaning • 24 Hr. Emergency Water Extraction RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL 903-938-1950 INSURANCE CLAIMS WELCOME FREE ESTIMATES	Ceramic Tile Coranic Tile Installation • Floors • Showers • Tub Enclosures • Counters • Shower pans • Bathroom & Commercial Call Joe Hoyer 938-4369	Draperies KATHY FITCH DRAPERIES, ETC. Custom Tailored and Residential Drapes & Curtains Blinds & All Kinds Shutters, Wood & Bedspreads, Shams Pillows, Dust Ruffles Decorative Items & Decorative Fabrics 938-3485	Fencing/Screening Home Repairs • Decks • Patio & Carport Covers • Storage Buildings • Fences • Residential • Commercial • Chain Link • Wood • Privacy • Barbecue • Security "High Quality Materials & Workmanship" LEON HILL Contractor 33 Years Experience Assures You of the Very Best 903-938-7140	General Construction HUCKABY & COMPANY General Contractors • Free Estimates/Quality Work Guaranteed YOU NAME IT, WE DO IT! Over 30 years experience Home Repair References Furnished (903) 938-8776	Home Improvement HAYGOOD CONSTRUCTION Porches, Decks, Additions, Remodeling General and Mobile Home Repair References Furnished (903) 938-8776	Insurance AFFORDABLE INSURANCE AGENCY 610 East End Blvd North Marshall, TX 75671 Office (903) 938-0950 Fax (903) 938-5764	Party Rentals TENT & MOONWALK RENTALS Party Supplies • 100s Tented Food • Marshall, Texas 75672 Lee or Carolyn Curry 903-938-0950 or 903-938-5764	Roofing HAIL DAMAGE? ROOF REPAIR? • COMPOSITION ROOFS • VINYL SIDING Including Mobiles Licensed & Bonded 903-720-5229 903-757-6116 evenings	Stump Removal GRIND STUMPS BELOW GROUND LEVEL Landscaping, Backhoe Service, Tree Trimming, Hauling, Welding, Carpentry & Window Shutters Insured J. LONES 938-3788
Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	Auto Sales S. R. Walker Long Motor Company 631 N. Walker 903-938-2321 I am pleased to announce my association with Ray Alexander's Long Motor Company, a dealer in quality used cars. I have provided fast, courteous, and exceptional customer service for the past twenty-one years, and I hope you will give me the opportunity to continue to serve you.	

4th Annual

Hometown Best 2000

HOMETOWN Best

A Special Supplement
June 29, 2000

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2 Hometown Best 2000 Marshall News Messenger Thursday, June 29, 2000

Dentist
Winner: David Bates
Runner-Up: John Cayce**Pharmacist**
Winner: Ronnie Matthews
Runner-Up: Jim Easley, Gibsons**Auto Mechanic**
Winner: Danny Gregory
Runner-Up: Rodney**King**
Tied With: Robby Lunsford**Car Salesperson**
Winner: Tim Brown, Superior
Runner-Up: Eddie, Ford's Used Cars**Real Estate Salesperson**
Winner: Diane Seal, Century 21**Runner-Up: Dorothy Grant, Century 21**
Tied With: Ann Yappen, Action Realty**Waiter/Waitress**
Winner: Mary Post, Lupe's
Runner-Up: Shirley, Lupe's
Tied With: Faye, Porky's

More categories, Page 3.



Hometown Best Barber - Steve Chambers

For Voting Us

Hometown Best Roofer

Residential • Commercial

RIGHT KUT, INC.

Since 1962

East End Blvd. 938-1363

for choosing us

BEST HAMBURGER

WHATABURGER

Open 24 Hours!

938-4101 2100 E. End Blvd.
938-2044 2010 Victory Dr.

And The Winners Are....

Kathryn A. Brannon - '50
Mildred Thomas - '35
W. T. Hendry - '25

The winners were chosen at random from all the Hometown Best entries.

Thank You Marshall!

For Voting Us

Hometown Best Finance Company

E & F Finance

205 N. Wellington 935-8295

Hometown Best 2000 Marshall News Messenger Thursday, June 29, 2000 3

Doctor
Winner: Valerie Allman
Runner-Up: Lake**Littlejohn Nurse**
Winner: Glenda Fitch**Runner-Up: Sandy Gillespie**

Hometown Best Burger - Whataburger

I Appreciate Our Customers

Thanks For Your Vote

Runner-up Hometown Best Real Estate Salesperson

Anne Yappen 1002 E. Grand 935-6813

THANKS FOR YOUR TRUST

Cary M. (Mac) Abney,
CFP, PFS, CPA

Voted
Hometown Best C.P.A.

Voted
Runner-Up Hometown Best Financial Consultant

ASA Financial Group
Julie J. Simmons, CPA
Charles E. Armstrong
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Securities offered through H.D. Vest Investment Securities, Inc.
6333 North State Highway 161, Fourth Floor • Irving, Texas 75038 • (972) 670-0000
215 E. Austin St. 938-9255



Thank you Marshall,
for selecting us as your
Hometown Best!

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Bank One
101 E. Austin
Marshall, TX

903-938-7788

BANK ONEMember FDIC
www.bankone.com

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29

2000

C.P.A.
Winner: Mac Abney
Runner-Up: Ken Goolsby

Firefighter
Winner: Charles Mayo
Runner-Up: Mark Hampton
Tied With: Ronnie

Morton
Law Officer
Winner: Eddy Nichols
Runner-Up: Bob Green

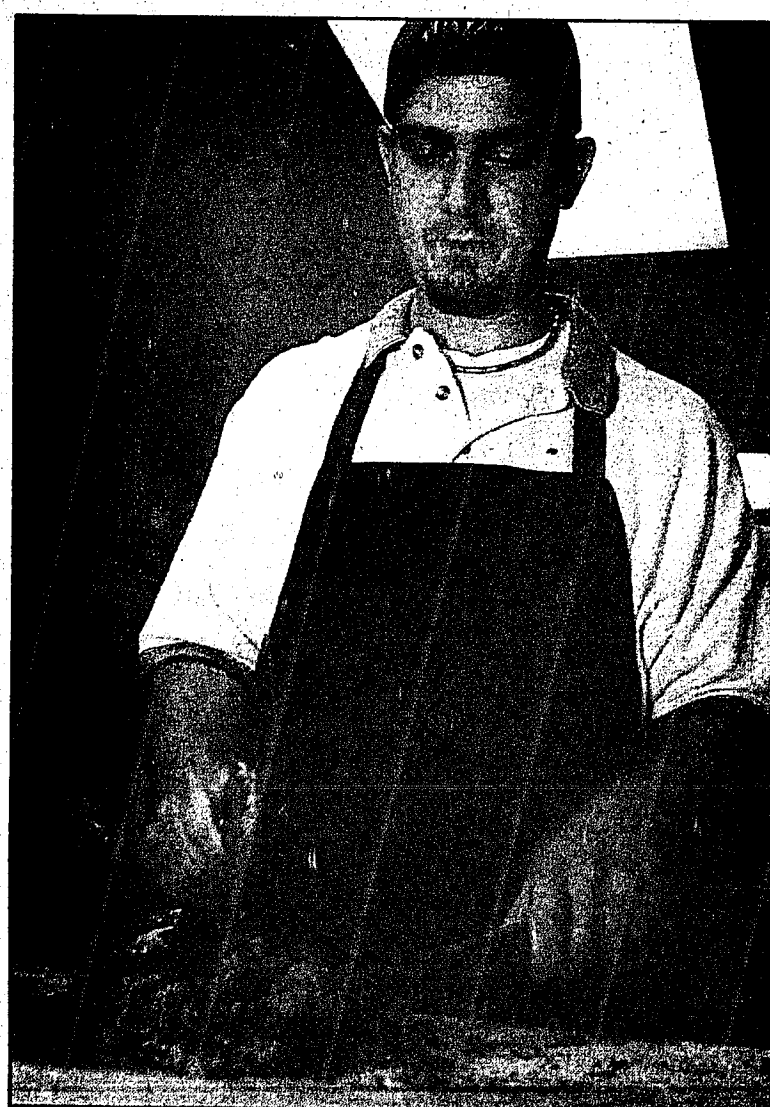
Mail Carrier
Winner: Allison Baker
Runner-Up: Brenda Gibbs

Teacher
Winner: Carla Jordan,
Travis Elementary
Runner-Up: Janet Wells, P.T. Young
Middle School

Barber
Winner: Steve Chambers, Cathy & Steve's
Runner-Up: Laura Dunham, Marshall Barber

Beautician
Winner: Stacy Wavelengths
Runner-Up: Freida Campbell, Front Porch

Florist
Winner: Marshall Floral
More categories, Page 5.



Hometown Best Barbecue - Bodacious
Also Best Ribs

Wow! What a welcome!
We're proud to make your hometown, our hometown.
Winner:
• **Best Restaurant**
• **Friendliest Service**
Runner-Up • Best Steak • Best Dessert

Applebee's
Neighborhood Grill & Bar
2305 East End Blvd. • 938-8180

WE WON
Best Ribs & Best Barbeque

THANKS MARSHALL
• Beef • Turkey
• Ribs • Sausage

Bodacious
2018 VICTORY DR. 938-4880

Our Family Thanks Your Family for selecting us



Runner-up

Hometown Best Nursing Home

Merritt Plaza Nursing Rehabilitation & Living Center

207 W. Merritt St. 938-3793

Congratulations
Carlton R. Burris
For being selected
HOMETOWN BEST MINISTER

IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH
2408 Pinocrest Dr., West
938-8275

Runner-Up: Rainbow Florist

Bank Teller
Winner: Edna Heap, Fredonia
Runner-Up: Anita, Hibernia

Retail Sales Clerk
Winner: Suzanne Planchard, Brass Trunk
Runner-Up: Erica, Jean Elaine's

Plumber
Winner: Wall to Wall
Runner-Up: AK Plumbing

Grocery Bagger
Winner: Leonard



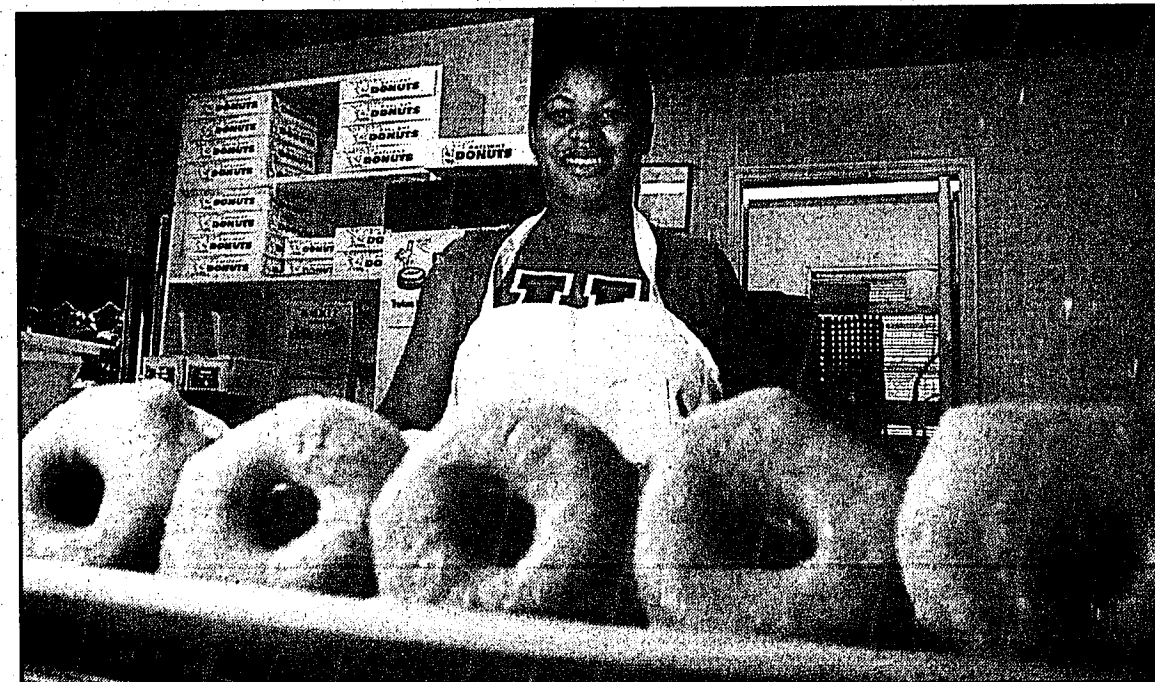
Hometown Best Cinema - Marshall Cinema

Eaves, Super 1
Runner-Up: Vergell Sloan, Winn Dixie

Grocery Checker
Winner: Dorothy,

Brookshire's
Tied With: Pat, Abraham's
Runner-Up: Johnny, Kroger

More categories, Page 6.



Hometown Best Donuts - Adkisson's

We've enjoyed our 16 years helping your pets. We look forward to helping with your pets needs in the future.
- Sam & Barbara Lundy, Owners

Winners - Best Pet Groomers
Patchwork Boarding Kennels

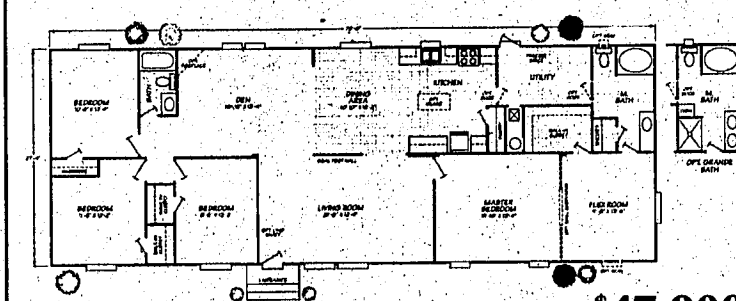
All Breed Boarding & Grooming Training & Handling
938-2152
In-house vet

All Clippers & Blades Serviced

TROPHIES • PLAQUES • AWARDS • MEDALS • CUPS
THE REAL WINNERS ARE YOU . . .
Thank You For Voting Us "Best Trophy & Plaque Company"
Awarding East Texas 21 Years
Bart & Kathy Robinson - Owners
Maverick Awards & Gifts
6 mi Hwy 43 N 938-0391
TROPHIES • PLAQUES • AWARDS • MEDALS • CUPS

Voted Best Place to buy a Mobile Home

Because customer service and satisfaction means so much to us after the sale, I, Larry Clevenger, and Sales Staff, would like to take this time to thank Fleetwood, American Homestar and Indies Homes, and most importantly God and my loyal customers. This is some of the things that make us #1 - such as the values below.
Larry Clevenger
Manager



only \$47,900 over 2000 sq. ft.

Delta Housing

4812 E. End Blvd. S. Marshall, TX 935-4242

Hong Kong Chinese Restaurant
Thank You for Voting Us
Hometown Best Oriental Food
All You Can Eat Buffet

Luncheon Daily from 11 AM till 3 PM
Dinner Daily from 5 PM till 9 PM

ONLY \$4.99 plus tax
ONLY \$6.99 plus tax

716 E. End Blvd. S. 938-8999 935-8999

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29

2000

6

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000

Tied With: Jennifer, Super One
Tied With: Anita Cipal, Kroger

Jeweler
Winner: Bert Jackson
Runner-Up: Tom Greene

Insurance Salesperson
Winner: Mike Brady
Runner-Up: Charles Armstrong, ASA Investment

School Principal
Winner: Nancy Fessler
Runner-Up: Shirley Jones

Veterinarian
Winner: Jason Anderson
Runner-Up: John Allred

Caterer
Winner: Reese Reed
Runner-Up: Mary Andrews

Massseuse
Winner: Elaine Palmer
Runner-Up: Cindy, Angel's Touch

Photographer
Winner: David Mauldin
Runner-Up: Shelly

Chandler
Tied With: Allen Adams

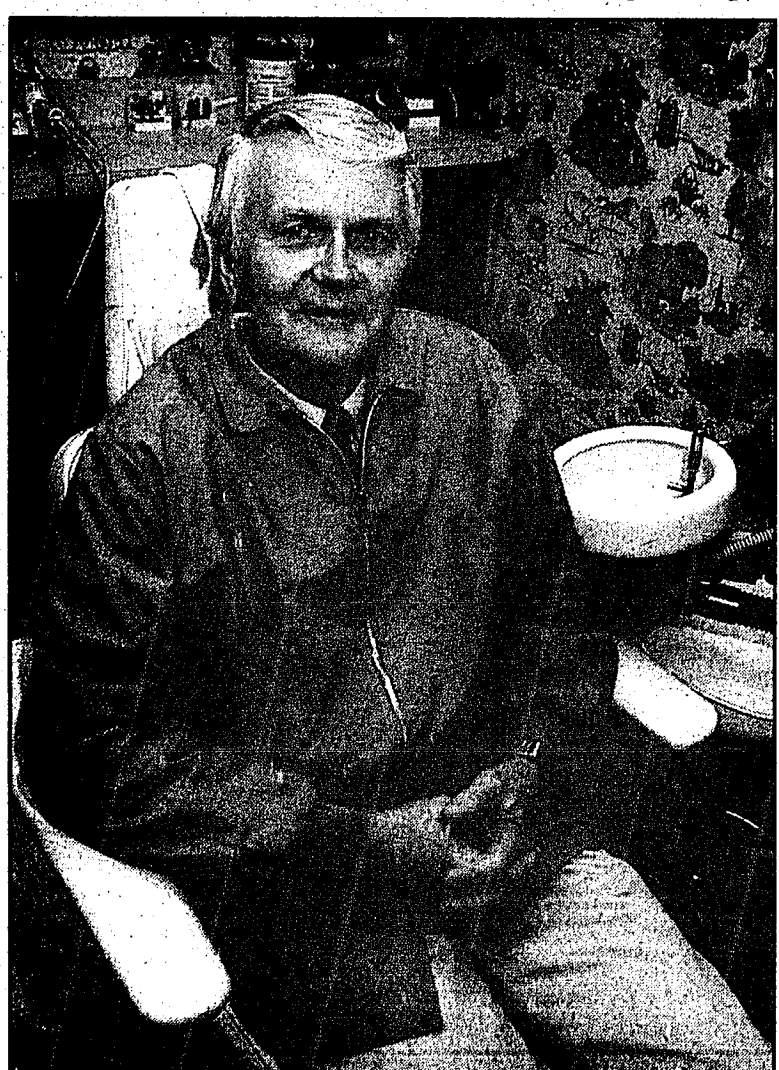
Attorney
Winner: Brad Morin
Runner-Up: Carl Roth

Locksmith
Winner: Jerry Lomax

Runner-Up: Craig Bronson

Manicurist
Winner: Paige Childers, Skinations
Runner-Up: Lynn, Top Nails

More categories, Page 7.



Hometown Best Dentist - David Bates

When it's this important...it can't be overlooked.



Thank you, Marshall, for recognizing that, everyday, we strive to make The Golden Years just that... Pure Gold!

We're proud to be Marshall's Hometown Best Retirement Home.

Reunion Inn
Assisted Living of Marshall

"Assisted Living With Class"
(903) 927-2242 • 2801 E. Travis • Marshall, TX

Hometown Best:
★ Bread/Rolls
★ Fast Service

Runner-Up: ★ Lunch Under \$5
★ Friendly Service
★ Chicken Fried Steak

Brown's Country Cookin'
2206 Victory Dr. 935-1964

The Print SHOP
DIGITAL SERVICES +

214 South Bolivar • Marshall, TX 75670 • (903) 938-7743 • FAX (903) 938-3241

"Thanks Harrison County for once again voting us as your pick for Hometown Best!"
Bill & Jan Whittis

Custom Forms
Color Copies
Fax Service
Full Color Brochures
Rubber Stamps
Laser Compatible Checks
Business Cards
and Much, Much More!

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000

7

Minister
Winner: Bob Bryant, Cypress Valley
Tied With: Carlton Burris
Runner-Up: Howdy Dawson

Tied With: Steven Sellers

Exterminator
Winner: Terminix
Runner-Up: Rushing Pest Control

Travel Agent
Winner: Cindy, Cindy's Travel
Runner-Up: Candy, Cindy's Travel

Investment Rep.
Winner: Bob Smith, Edward Jones
Runner-Up: Mac Abney

Home Builder
Winner: Larry Ford
Runner-Up: Gary Closkey

Chiropractor
Winner: Lance Cook
Runner-Up: Andy Glaze

Electrician
Winner: Don Woods
Runner-Up: B.Line

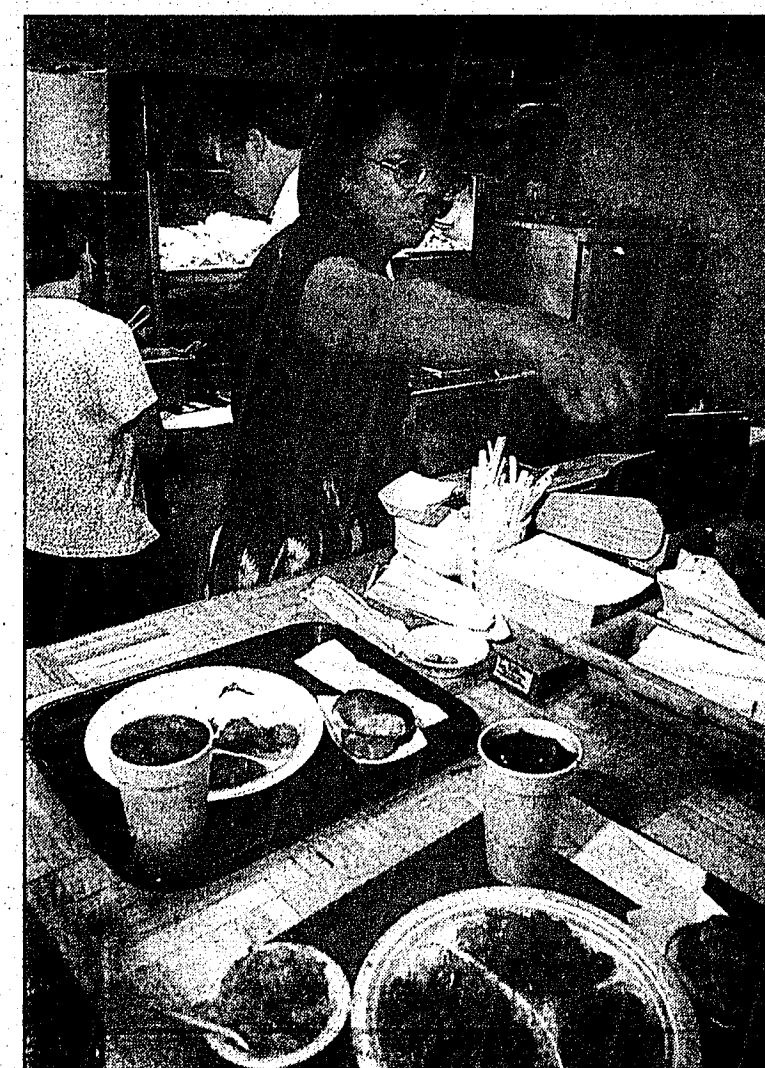
Hamburger
Winner: Whataburger
Runner-Up: Sonic

Barbecue
Winner: Bodacious
Runner-Up: GR's

Salad Bar
Winner: Golden Corral
Runner-Up: Gucci's

Catfish
Winner: Big Pines
Runner-Up: Catfish Express

More categories, Page 8.



Hometown Best Fast Service - Brown's
Also Best Fast Service, Runner-Up for Lunch Under \$5, Friendly Service and Chicken Fried Steak

Thank You Marshall
For Voting
Brad Morin

Hometown Best Attorney

201 W. Houston 935-0797

THANK YOU!
for voting us
Best Place to Buy Floor Coverings

We Appreciate Your Business and Trust In Us

BEST CARPET ONE

1206 W. 59th Marshall, TX 75670 • 935-6014 • www.bestcarpetone.com

Congratulations Bobby Lunsford
for being selected
Runner-Up Best Mechanic
Brock's Body Shop
1503 E. Grand 938-4736

You Are A Gem Marshall
Thanks For Voting Us Runner-Up
BEST JEWELER
Designer Jewelry By
T.J. Greene Manufacturing
Downtown (Weisman Center) 938-6122

Congratulations Tim Brown
on being selected
Hometown Best Car Salesperson
SUPERIOR LINCOLN - MERCURY

JUN

29

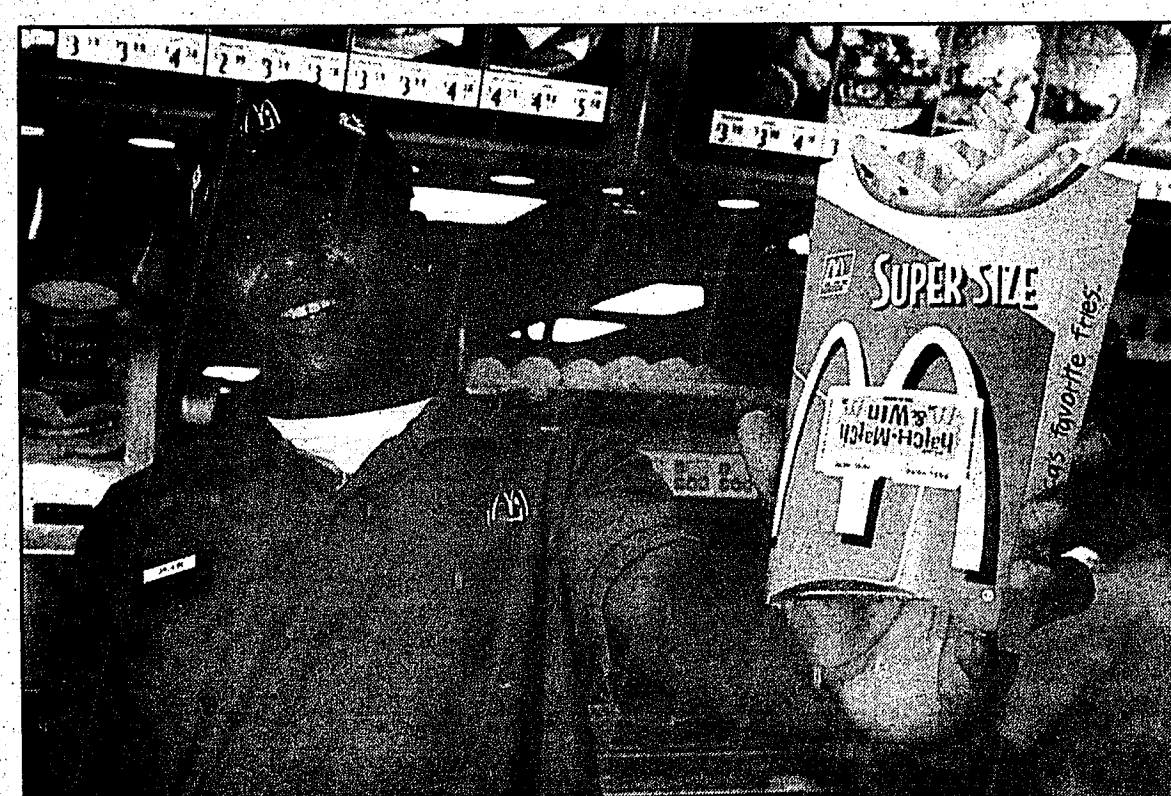
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8

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000



Hometown Best Fries—McDonald's
Also Best Coffee and Runner-Up for Best Breakfast, Fountain Drinks

Pizza
Winner: Pizza Hut
Runner-Up: Gucci's

Lunch Under \$5
Winner: Stottford House
Runner-Up: Brown's

French Fries
Winner: McDonalds
Runner-Up: Toddy's

Steak
Winner: Golden Corral
Runner-Up: Applebees

Oriental Food
Winner: Hong Kong
Runner-Up: China Garden

Iced Tea
Winner: Sonic
Runner-Up: El Chico

Donuts
Winner: Adkissons
Runner-Up: Southern Maid

Ice Cream
Winner: Sonic

Runner-Up: The Creamery

Cup of Coffee
Winner: McDonalds
Runner-Up: Circle A Chevron

Bread/Rolls
Winner: Brown's
Runner-Up: Golden Corral

Fast Service
Winner: Brown's

More categories, Page 9.

Hometown Best Real Estate Salesperson

Congratulations Diane Seal
on being voted Hometown Best for the fourth year in a row!

Century 21
FUGLER & FUGLER, INC.
1202 E. Pinecrest Drive
Marshall, TX 75670
(903) 938-6723

Email: fugler@aol.com • www.century21fugler.com • Walter Fugler, Broker

Simply The Best
For Your Special Day!
Thank You Marshall For Choosing Us
Hometown Best Place To Buy Bridal Clothing
Willie Long Bridals
100-A Pinecrest E. 935-9322

Thank You Marshall for your votes!
Hometown Best Runner-up for Best Dry Cleaners
Denney's
CLEANERS AND LAUNDRY
RANDY & GEORGEANN TAPLEY
315 N. Wellington 903-938-4187

Thanks Again!
for seeing us as
Hometown Best Optical Business
'97, '98, '99, '00

Dr. David Nelson,
Optometrist

Call for an appointment today!
1-800-396-2015 or 938-2555

TSO
U.S. 59 Across from Marshall Mall
www.drdauidnelson.com

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000

9

Runner-Up: Homero
Friendly Service
Winner: Applebees
Runner-Up: Brown's

Dessert
Winner: Stottford House
Runner-Up: Applebees

Food Delivery Service
Winner: Dominos
Runner-Up: Pizza Hut

Ribs
Winner: Bodacious
Runner-Up: GR's

Chicken Fried Steak
Winner: Garden Grill

Runner-Up: Brown's
Drive-Thru
Winner: Sonic
Runner-Up: Wendys

Fountain Drinks
Winner: Sonic
Runner-Up: McDonalds

More categories, Page 10.



Hometown Best Golf Course—Lakeside Country Club

Congratulations
DAVID MAULDIN PHOTOGRAPHY
For Being Voted
Hometown Best Photographer
1201 S. Washington 935-1481

Thanks Marshall!
For Selecting Us
Hometown Best Italian Food
and Runner-Up
Hometown Best Salad Bar
Hometown Best Pizza
Hometown Best Buffet or Food Bar
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE GUCCI FAMILY

GUCCI'S
Italian Restaurant and Club
Marshall Mall
903-938-3841
Private Club with Memberships Available

StoneCreek
APARTMENTS •
• APARTMENTS •
LUXURIOUS LIVING
POOL • CLUB ROOM • FIREPLACES
Thank you for voting us #1 Hometown Best WINNER
Best Apartment Complex
935-3832
100 STONE CREEK DR., MARSHALL

Thanks Marshall!
For Selecting
DR. LANCE COOK
Hometown Best Chiropractor

Thanks for sharing our commitment to quality healthcare.

Cook Chiropractic Clinic
201 Pinecrest Dr. W. 938-5454



Hometown Best Motel - Hampton Inn

Deli
Winner: Subway
Runner-Up: Winn Dixie

Breakfast
Winner: Stottford House
Runner-Up: McDonalds

Italian Food
Winner: Gucci's
Runner-Up: Pizza Hut

Sandwiches
Winner: Subway
Runner-Up: Schlotzky's

Seafood
Winner: Bayou Landing
Runner-Up: Big Pines

Soup
Winner: Golden Corral
Runner-Up: Pic-N-Pay

Cajun Food
Winner: Bayou Landing

Runner-Up: Taylor House

Mexican Food
Winner: El Chico
Runner-Up: Jalapeno Tree

Hot Dog
Winner: Sonic
Runner-Up: Pic-N-Pay
Tied With: Toddy's

Baked Potato
Winner: Wendys
Runner-Up: Garden Grill

Buffet or Food Bar
Winner: Golden Corral
Runner-Up: Gucci's

Bakery
Winner: Brookshire's
Tied With: Winn Dixie
Runner-Up: Golden Corral

Restaurant
Winner: Applebees
Runner-Up: Garden Grill

Chili
Winner: Wendys
Runner-Up: Pic-N-Pay

Golf Course
Winner: Lakeside
More categories, Page 11.

WINNER

- Best Chili
- Best Baked Potato
- Runner-up Best Drive-Thru

Wendy's Hamburger
1511 E. End Blvd. N. 927-1229

Thank You For Voting Us Hometown Best Pizza

Runner-Up Hometown Best Food Delivery Service Italian Food

Pizza Hut
1601 East End Blvd. S. 935-9306

Thank You for Voting Us Runner-Up for "Best Place to Buy Childrens Clothes"

ROCK-A-BYE

Clothing & Accessories
(903) 935-9430

1101 E. Burtonson
Saturday 10 AM-2 PM (Behind Stereo & Record)

Porky's Smokehouse & Grill

Party Trays Catering Banquet Room Available
Homemade Fried Pies Smoked Meats Fried Catfish & Much More...

Runner-Up: Hometown Best Waiter/Waitress Faye Friesz

504 E. Carolanne • Marshall • 927-2144

Country Club
Runner-Up: Oak Lawn Country Club

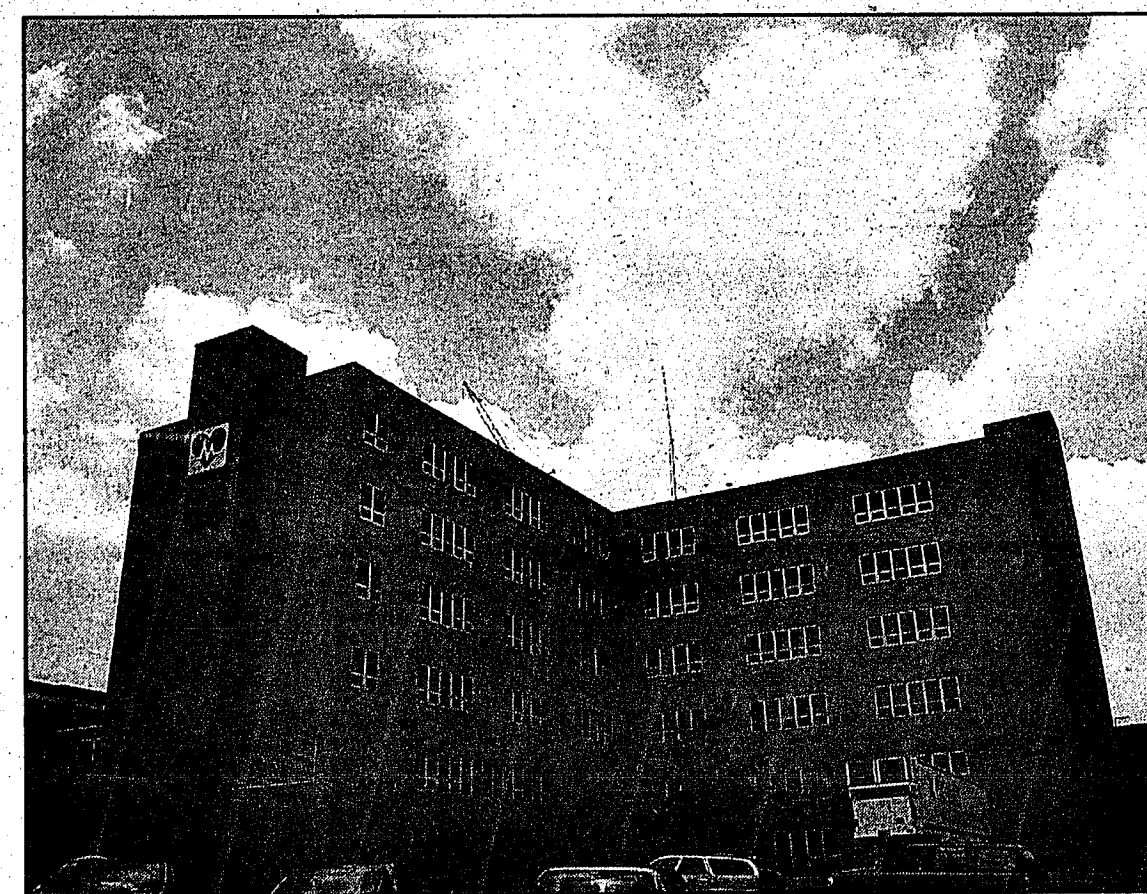
Floor Coverings
Winner: Best Carpet One

Tied With: Holloways
Runner-Up: Cassidy Jones

Insurance Company
Winner: Mike Brady
Runner-Up: Brownrigg

To Buy Pottery
Winner: Marshall Pottery
Runner-Up: Pottery Tent

More categories, Page 14.



Hometown Best Place to Have a Baby - Marshal Regional Medical Center

THANKS, MARSHALL
for Voting Us Runner-Up
Hometown Best Floor Covering Store

Cassidy Jones
LUMBER & HOME IMPROVEMENT CENTER

3105 E. End Blvd. S. 938-6752

We are proud to have been selected
Runner-up Best Retirement Home
Oakwood House

2907 Victory Dr. 935-6263

TERMINIX
Service Is Our Strength

We would like to express our appreciation to our wonderful customers of Marshall and surrounding areas for voting us winner **BEST EXTERMINATOR**.
Thank you for your confidence

CALL FOR A FREE INSPECTION
935-1412
The Nation's Leader...because our customers are Number One.

Marshall Floral & Gifts

Come and see what the "buzz" is all about?

Let our talented designer's create beautiful, fresh, arrangements for all your special needs and occasions. We offer custom designing for your wedding. Don't forget what a special touch flowers can add for parties and holidays.

Thank You for voting us Hometown Best Florist and Runner-up Hometown Best Unique Gift Shop

Thanks East Texas for selecting us...

WINNER: BEST Home Health Agency

QualiCare Medicaid/Medicare Insurance • Private Pay Of East Texas, Inc.

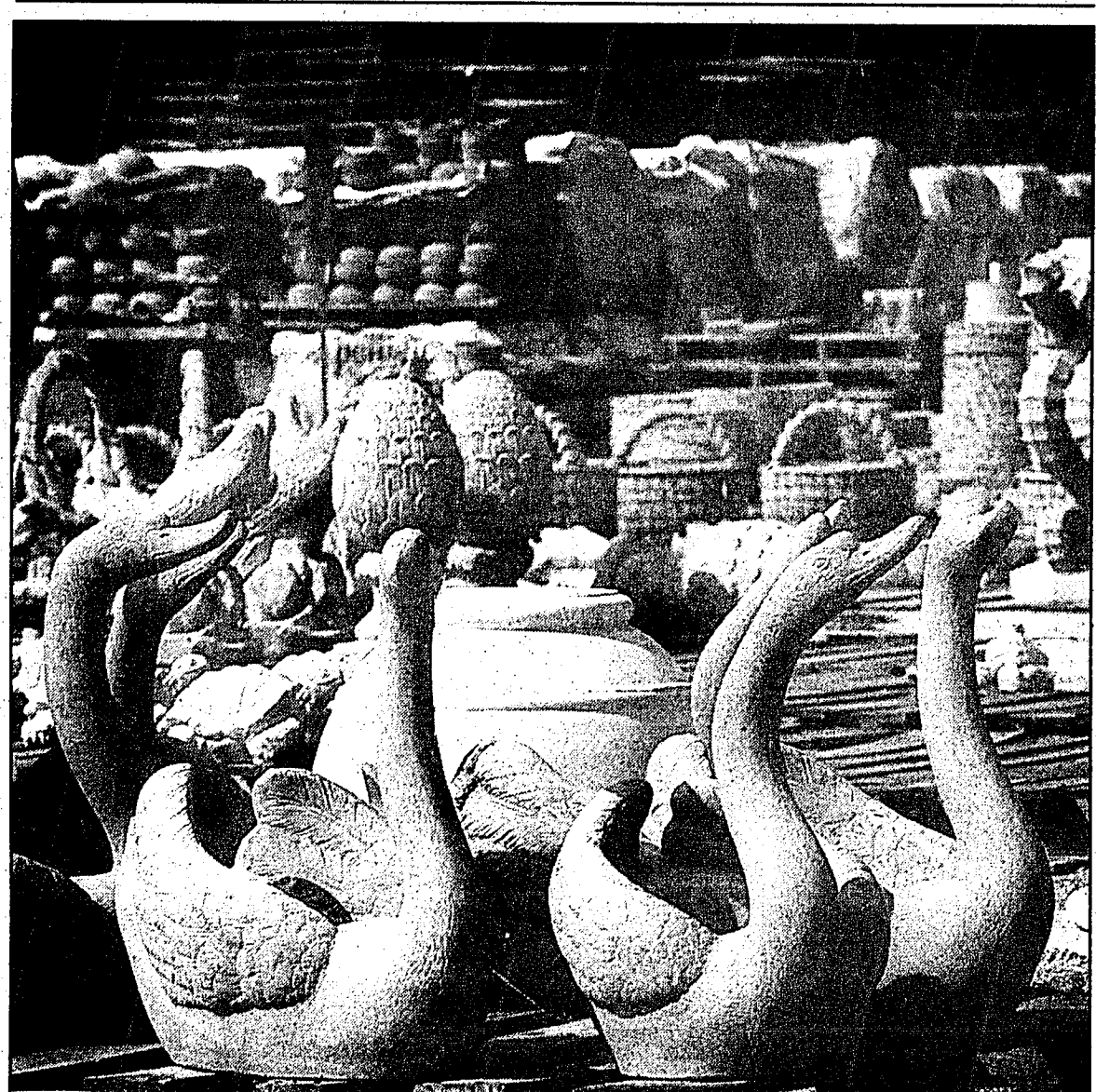
- Professional Nursing Care
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938-6789
or 1-800-256-4223
Marshall, TX

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Hometown Best Place to Buy Pottery - Marshall Pottery

Subscribe today!

Thanks for selecting
Holloway's Carpet
Hometown Best Place To Buy Flooring and
The Carpet Cleaner
Hometown Best Carpet Cleaner
 213 E. Austin 938-7911

Thank you for voting us
#1 - Winner
Best Hotel

Hampton Inn

LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS
 LOCALLY OWNED
 Managed by
 MARTEX HOSPITALITY INC.

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEE
 We guarantee high quality accommodations, friendly and efficient service, and clean, comfortable surroundings. If you're not completely satisfied, we don't expect you to pay.

927-0079
FAX 927-0080

5100 S. East End Blvd
 U.S. HWY 59 & I-20, Marshall, Texas 75670
 For Nationwide Reservation Call 1-800-426-7866

IN ROOM JACUZZI, ALL KING & DBL QUEEN BEDS, ALL ROOMS - 25" Remote TV
 • Refrigerator/Microwave
 • In room coffee maker
 • Iron & Ironing board
 • Hairdryer
 • Cable channels including HBO
 • Outdoor Pool Spa & Gazebo
 • Meeting Rooms
 • Business Center - Fax Copy Service
 • Children 18 & under stay Free with Parents
 75% Non-Smoking Rooms

Interior Corridor
 Free Deluxe Extended Breakfast & Local Calls

Opened February 2000
MARSHALL'S NEWEST HOTEL

Thank You MARSHALL

for 23 Successful Years

VOTED
HOMETOWN BEST
Air Conditioning & Heating Service



TACLA015470E

Visit us on the internet at www.kayac.com

Owners: Chris & Lisa Poulan

Key Air Conditioning & Heating Inc.
 4610 Karmack Highway 938-9141

Congratulations Hometown Best Winners!

We are honored to receive the award for
Hometown Best Nursing Home



Physical, Occupational, Respiratory & Speech Therapists • Complete I.V. Service • Recreation & Activities Programs

Marshall Manor

HEALTHCARE & REHAB CENTER
 COMPLETE NURSING AND REHAB CENTER

1007 S. Washington

935-7971



Hometown Best Lunch Under \$5 - Stottford House Also Best Dessert, Breakfast

Congratulations
Steven Sellers
Runner-Up Hometown Best Minister
Trinity Episcopal Church
 106 N. Grove 938-4246

Come see for yourself

50¢ OFF!
 Any Small Sandwich

SCHLOTZSKY'S DELI
 Funny Name. Serious Sandwich!

Home of the Original Sandwich!

Schlotsky's Deli
 1913 East End Blvd. So. • 927-0077

JUN

29

2000

14

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000



Hometown Best Oriental Food - Hong Kong

Video Rental
Winner: Blockbuster
Video

To Buy a Tractor
Winner: Marshall Farm
& Ranch
Runner-Up: Tractor
Supply Co.

**To Buy Women's
Clothing**
Winner: Bealls
Runner-Up: J.C.
Penneys

To Buy Furniture
Winner: Clarks
Runner-Up: Ivan Smith

**To Buy Men's
Clothing**
Winner: Ernie's
Runner-Up: Bealls

**To Buy Children's
Clothing**
Winner: Bealls
Tied With: Wal-Mart
Runner-Up: Rock-A-Bye

**To Buy Bridal
Clothing**
Winner: Willie Long
Bridal
Runner-Up: Bealls

More categories, Page 15.

**Thank You
Marshall!**
For Selecting Us
**Hometown Best Pool
& Spa Business**

KENCO
Your Family Fun Center
2501 Victory Dr. (Hwy. 80E)
903-938-1983

**I am PROUD to
Have Been Voted
Hometown Best
Beautician
Freida Campbell**

**Thank You Marshall
for your support!**
**We sold 366 cars
since January**
Voted # 1
Hometown Best Place to Buy A Used Car
&
Runner-up Best Car Salesperson - Eddie Waugh

Pre-Owned Cars/Trucks Call Today For A Great Deal!
We Offer:
• Financing • Warranty • Service to the Fullest • Portable Bldgs.

FORD'S
USED CARS & TRUCKS
935-6877 610 E. End Blvd. N.
Marshall, TX 76672
Intersection of Hwy 58N & Karnack Hwy 935-0959

Thank You For Your Votes
**Runner-up
Hometown Best Hotel/Motel**

**Holiday
Inn
EXPRESS**

• Free Continental Breakfast • Luxury Rooms • Jacuzzi Suites
• Special Packages

ETEX Hotel Management Company, Inc.

4911 S. East End Blvd (59-S)

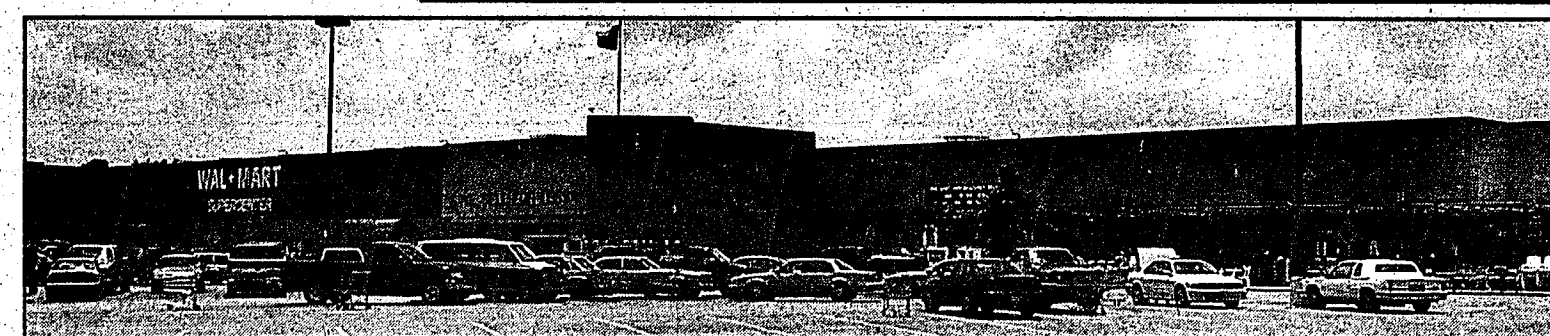
903-935-7923

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000

15

Hometown Best Place to Find a Bargain - Wal-Mart Supercenter
Also Best Children's Clothing, Music and Toy Store

Unique Gift Shop
Winner: Temptations
Runner-Up: Marshall
Floral

To Buy Music
Winner: Wal-Mart
Runner-Up: CDs and
More

Dry Cleaner
Winner: B&C Cleaners
Runner-Up: Denneys

Day Care
Winner: Good Neighbor

Runner-Up: Sandy's
Child Care

Movie Theater
Winner: Marshall
Cinema

Hotel/Motel
Winner: Hampton Inn
Runner-Up: Holiday Inn
Express

Shoe Store
Winner: Payless Shoe
Source
Runner-Up: Hub

Western Wear Store
Winner: Baskins

Nursing Home
Winner: Marshall
Manor
Runner-Up: Merrit
Plaza

To Find a Bargain
Winner: Wal-Mart
Runner-Up: Just a \$1

To Have a Baby
Winner: Marshall
Regional

Toy Store
Winner: Wal-Mart
Runner-Up: Teaching
Treasures
More categories, Page 16.

**BEST Hometown Best
Chicken Fried Steak**

Runner-Up:
Best Restaurant
Best Baked Potato
(903) 927-2771

**GARDEN GRILL
COUNTRY CAFE**

Hwy 80 @ Hwy 59 • Marshall

**Thank You For Voting Us
Hometown Best Place
to Buy a New Car**

ELDER RANDALL
AUTOPLEX
Our dealerships are located in:
MARSHALL

**NEW & USED
VEHICLE
HEADQUARTERS!**

Hwy. 59
1 mile N. of I-20
Marshall, TX
MON.-FRI. 8-6
SUN. 12:30-5:30
(closed Saturday)

903-935-9355 • 1-800-945-1344 • www.elderrandall.com



**Thank You For Voting Us
Hometown Best Place
to Buy a New Car**

ELDER RANDALL
AUTOPLEX
Our dealerships are located in:
MARSHALL

**NEW & USED
VEHICLE
HEADQUARTERS!**

Hwy. 59
1 mile N. of I-20
Marshall, TX
MON.-FRI. 8-6
SUN. 12:30-5:30
(closed Saturday)

903-935-9355 • 1-800-945-1344 • www.elderrandall.com

**Thank You For
Voting Us...
Hometown
Best Dry
Cleaner**

B-C CLEANERS
935-2461
201 S. Washington
Hours: Monday-Friday 7am-5pm
Saturday 9am-12pm

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Hometown Best Pizza - Pizza Hut
Also Runner-Up for Best Food Delivery, Italian Food

Home Health Agency
Winner: Qualicare of
East Texas
Runner-Up: Marshall
Regional

Optical Store
Winner: Texas State
Optical
Runner-Up: Classic
Eyewear

Pawn Shop
Winner: Cash America
Tied With: Cherokee

Pawn
Runner-Up: Great
American Pawn
Cellular Phone
Dealer

Winner: Alltel
Runner-Up: California
Communications

Bookstore
Winner: Promise
Christian Bookstore
Runner-Up: Marshall
Book & Bible

Nursery (Landscape)
Business
Winner: JD's Plant
Farm
Runner-Up: Cooper's

More categories, Page 18.

Thank You Marshall
For Selecting
Dr. Jason Anderson



Hometown Best
VETERINARIAN

Marshall Animal Hospital
4510 Elysian Fields Rd. 935-3082

Walk-ins Welcome • Late Appointments
**Wave Lengths
Hair Styling**
Thank You for Voting Us #1
Winner: Best Beautician - Stacy Cochran
Manicures & Pedicures
Hair Styles for Men & Women
The Marshall Mall 935-HAIR 938-4261

Thank You
Marshall
For Voting Us
Hometown Best
Movie Theater
&
Hometown Best
Place to Go on a
First Date
**Marshall
Cinema**
1901 E. Travis 935-5662

Thanks, Marshall, for selecting us...

Winner:
**Best Home
Builder**

We're thrilled by your
votes of confidence.

**LARRY FORD
CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

• Custom Homes • Remodeling • Commercial Building •
1002 E. Grand • Marshall, TX

SHOP: 903-935-7374 • OFFICE: 903-935-7333
FAX: 903-935-3482

Larry Ford, Owner



Hometown Best Florist - Marshall Floral
Also Runner Up for Best Unique Gift Shop

“Aren’t You Sweet!”
Thanks For
Your Vote
Hometown Best
Donuts
**ADKISSON'S DONUT
SHOP INC.**
707 Pinecrest Dr. 935-7781

**THANKS
MARSHALL**
for selecting us
Runner-up
Hometown Best
Computer Store

Office DEPOT
Taking Care of Business
109 E. End Blvd. 934-9916

Thank You Marshall
For selecting us
Hometown Best Place
to Buy a Tractor



Come by and see the new
John Deere Lawn Tractors

**Marshall Farm
& Ranch Center**

Your Farm, Ranch and Lawn Headquarters
Hwy 59 S. just past I-20 938-8891

Thank you to all the voters for voting us
#1 WINNER - BEST JEWELER



Serving Marshall
Jewelry Needs
Since 1951

Bert Jackson Jewelers
106 E. Austin

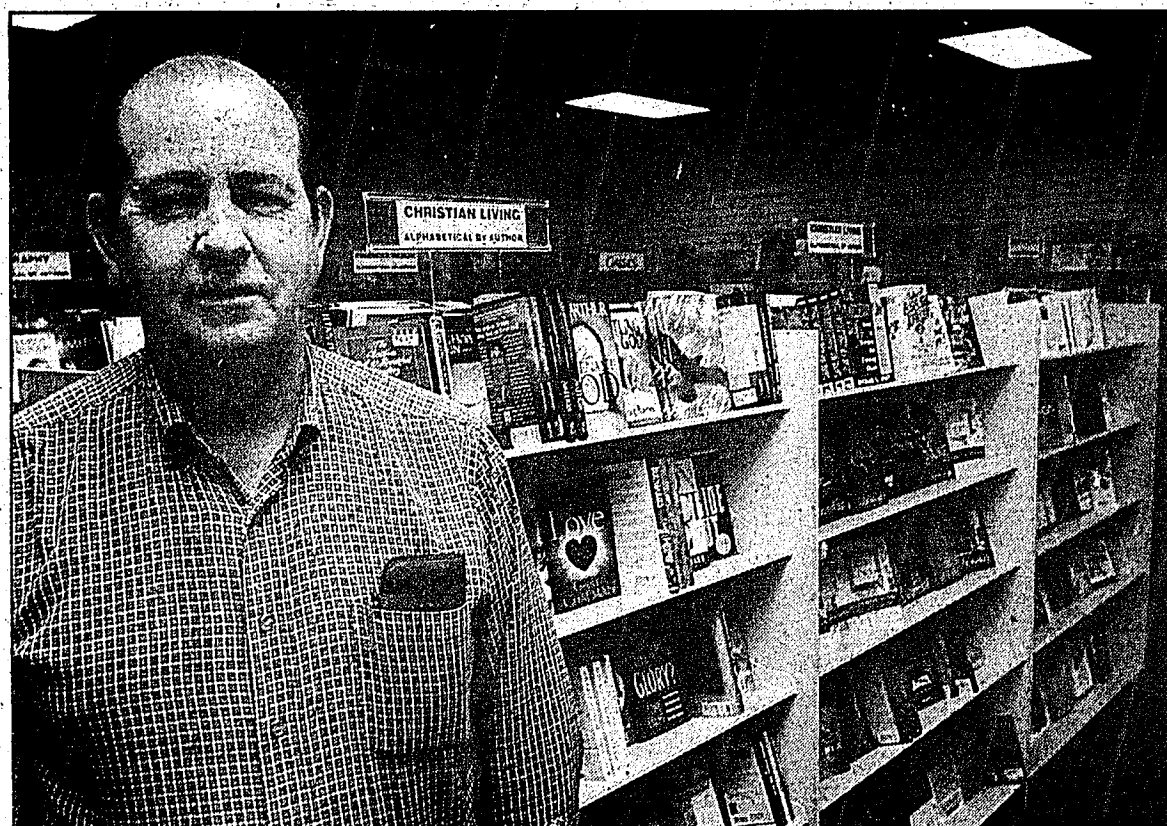
Fine Jewelry
Gold & Precious
Stones and Diamonds
Seiko and Pulsar
Watches
Jewelry Repair
Gifts for all your needs

Pictured Left to Right: Bert Jackson, Susan Jackson,
Carla Nolan and Wanda Brevard
We Appreciate Your Business 935-2034

JUN

29

2000



Hometown Best Bookstore - Promise Christian Bookstore

Convenience Store
Winner: Total
Runner-Up: Circle A
Chevron
Tied With: Save-A-Lot

Grocery Store
Winner: Kroger
Runner-Up: Brookshire's

Appliance Store
Winner: Roden's
Runner-Up: Sears

Hardware Store
Winner: Marshall
Hardware
Runner-Up: Cashways

Lumber Store
Winner: Cashways
Runner-Up: Cassity
Jones

TV/VCR Repair Service
Winner: Channel One

Air Condition/Heat Service
Winner: Keys AC
Runner-Up: Fyffe

Apartment Complex
Winner: Stone Creek
Runner-Up: Country Club

Wrecker Service
Winner: Armstrong
Wrecker
Runner-Up: Jason's

Pet Groomer
Winner: Patchwork
Kennels
Runner-Up: Marcy
Rutledge

Travel Agency
Winner: Cindy's Travel
Runner-Up: Pro Travel
More categories, Page 19.

**Congratulations
Bob Bryant**

for being selected
Best Minister.

You're Welcome Here

**CYPRESS VALLEY
BIBLE CHURCH**

4189 W. Pinecrest Dr.

Thank You
For Voting For Us
#1
**Hometown Best
Appliance Store**

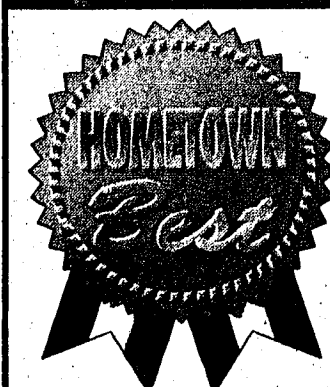
RODEN'S
APPLIANCES, SALES, SERVICE & PARTS 506 E. End Blvd. N. 935-9545

Thanks
for Voting Us
**Hometown
Best Place to
Buy Tires!**

**Marshall Tire
Center**

1807 Victory Dr.
935-9353

THANK YOU MARSHALL



BOB SMITH

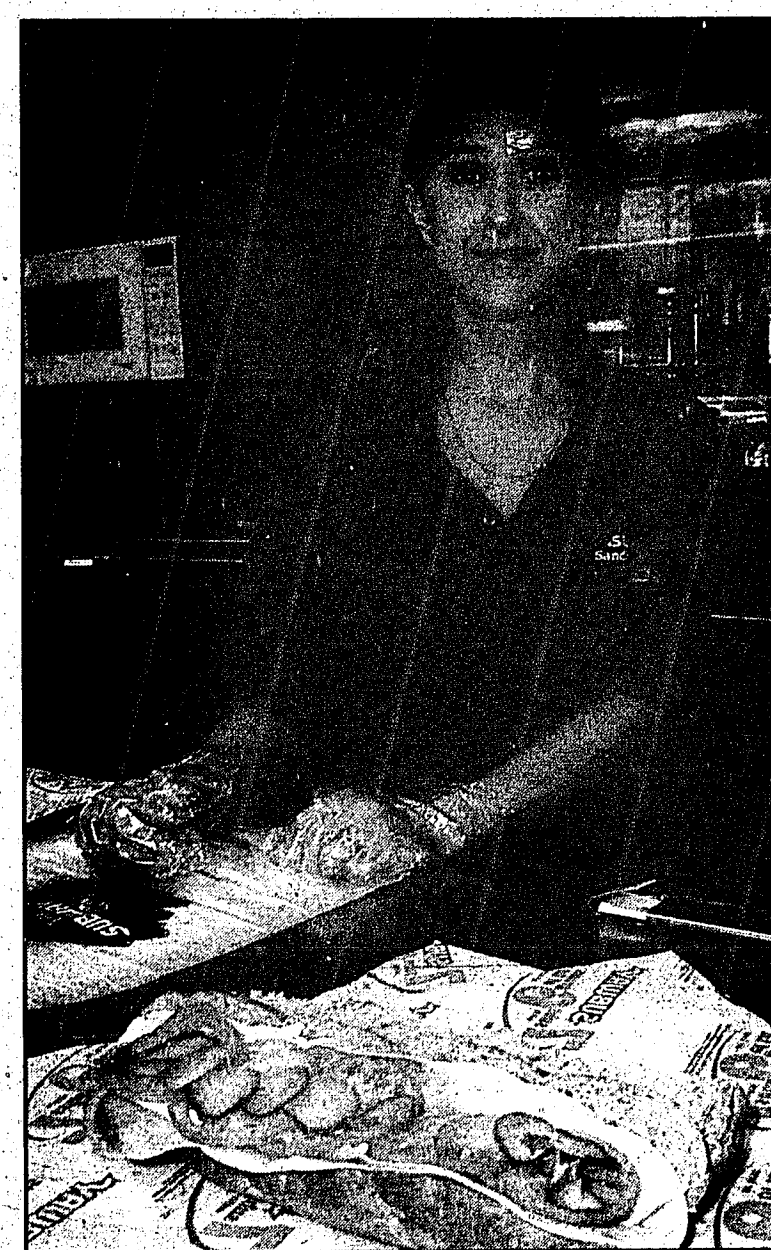
for Being Voted
Hometown Best Investment Representative

Edward Jones

Serving Individual Investors Since 1871

114 East Austin, Marshall

938-7501 or 1-800-441-1205

Hometown Best Sandwich - Subway
Also Best Deli

Second-Hand Shop
Winner: Bare
Necessities
Runner-Up: Good As
New

Bed & Breakfast
Winner: Solomon
House
Runner-Up: Heart's Hill

Historical Home
Winner: Starr Home
Runner-Up: Weisman &
Hirsch

Art Gallery
Winner: Michelson
Museum
Runner-Up: Marshall
Visual Art Center

Marina
Winner: Bullfrog
Marina
Runner-Up: Johnson's
Creek Marina

**Wonderland of Lights
Display**
Winner: Courthouse
Runner-Up: Homeros
More categories, Page 21.

Thanks for selecting us

**Runner-up
Best Florist**

**RAINBOW
FLORAL**
314 E. Travis
935-7816

**Hey
Muchacho's...**
Come see what we've been
keeping under our hat!

Thank You Marshall
for voting us

**HOMETOWN
BEST
MEXICAN
FOOD**

and
**Runner-Up
HOMETOWN BEST
ICED TEA**

THANKS MARSHALL

For Recognizing our Great Tellers



HIBERNIA

Where service matters.SM



Anita Stanfield
Runner-up

HOMETOWN BEST BANK TELLER

**Thanks
Marshall**
For Voting Us
**Hometown
Best Place To
Buy Furniture**

"90 Days Same As Cash"

**Clark's Furniture &
Appliances**
203-213 E. Austin 938-1161

JUN

29

2000

20

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000



Hometown Best Art Gallery - Michelson Museum

Sell it today in classifieds!

Winner
1 Best Deli
1 Best Sandwich

Thank you for voting us # 1

SUBWAY

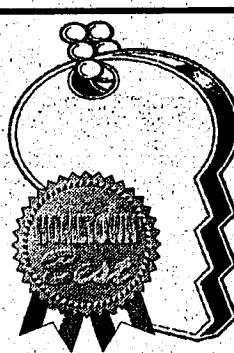
1209 E. Grand 927-1551
1503 E. End Blvd. 938-3336

Thank You Marshall
for selecting us
Hometown Best Day Care

- Pre-School Curriculum
- Christian Music Program
- After School Care
- Large Rooms with Learning Center
- T.V. Monitors in all rooms
- 18 mo. to 4th grade 6:00 AM-6:15 PM
- Summer Program with daily activities

"Where Learning is Fun"

Good Neighbor Day Care
2701 Victory Dr. 935-1543



The Key To Success . . .
• Good Service
• Loyal Customers
Thanks For Voting Me
"Best Locksmith"

ABC Lock Co.
Jerry Lomax
935-9916

Thank You Marshall!!

For Selecting
Mike Brady
Hometown Best
Insurance Salesperson

and

Mike Brady
Insurance
Hometown Best
Insurance Agency



215 E. Travis 935-2015

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000

21



Hometown Best Waitress - Mary Post

Weight Loss Center
Winner: MRMC Life Center
Runner-Up: Weight Watchers

Oil & Lube Center
Winner: Lubemaster
Runner-Up: Wray's Auto Lube

Financial Institution
Winner: Bank One
Runner-Up: Fredonia State Bank

Place To Get A Tan
Winner: Ultra Tan
Runner-Up: Endless Summer

Mobile Home Sales
Winner: Delta
Runner-Up: Tilley's

Trophy & Plaque Company
Winner: Maverick Awards & Gifts
Runner-Up: East Texas Sports

Auto Parts Store
Winner: Auto Zone
Runner-Up: ABC Auto Parts

More categories, Page 22



Hometown Best Ice Cream - Sonic
Also Best Iced Tea, Fountain Drinks and Hot Dog and Runner-Up for Best Burger

Thank You Marshall!

Hometown Best
★ Ice Cream ★ Fountain Drinks
★ Iced Tea ★ Hot Dog
★ Drive-Thru

Runner-Up
★ Hamburger

no place hops like
SONIC

901 E. Grand
935-2951

Thanks for Voting Us
Hometown Best Catfish
and
Runner-up Hometown Best Seafood

BIG PINES LODGE
Owners: George & Betty Williamson
679-3466 Karnack, TX

Thank You

We, at B&J Collision, would like to thank all of our loyal customers, friends and family for selecting us **Hometown Best Collision Repair**. We will do our BEST to continue to provide the highest quality repair service with our professionally trained employees.



We're Here To
Serve You...

B&J Collision, Inc.

U.S. 59, 9 miles North of Marshall
938-2341



JUN

29

2000

22

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000



Hometown Best Historic Home - Starr Home

Place To Go On A First Date
Winner: Marshall Cinema
Runner-Up: Taylor House

Moving Service
Winner: Marshall Transfer

Pool & Spa Business
Winner: Kenco

Muffler Shop
Winner: Dick's Muffler
Runner-Up: Marshall Muffler

Printer
Winner: The Print Shop
Runner-Up: Bradley's

Finance Company
Winner: E&F Finance
Runner-Up: Personal Finance

Retirement Center
Winner: Reunion Inn
Runner-Up: Oakwood House

Internet Provider
Winner: Shrevenet
Runner-Up: Ccape.net

More categories, Page 24.

WE'RE CELEBRATING!!!
Thank You Marshall for voting us Runner-Up Hometown Best Place to Buy Pottery

THE POTTERY TENT

3.5 Miles North of Marshall on Hwy. 59
903-927-1041
Open: 9 till 6 Sun. 11-6

THANKS MARSHALL

for voting us
BEST TRAVEL AGENCY



Cindy's TRAVEL
CORPORATION, INC.

Cindy Bagley
Best Travel Agent
Candy Moser
Runner-Up Best Travel Agent

1200 E. Grand 938-9699

Thank You
For Selecting Us
Hometown Best Lumber Store
Runner-Up
Hometown Best Hardware Store
Cash-Way Discount Inc.
502 Pinecrest Dr. 935-2522

Thank You Marshall!
We Appreciate All Your Votes

Hometown Best Breakfast
Hometown Best Dessert
Hometown Best Lunch Under \$5

The Stottford House
202 E. End Blvd., Marshall 935-7818

23

Hometown Best 2000

Marshall News Messenger

Thursday, June 29, 2000



Hometown Best Apartment Complex - Stone Creek Apartments

Congratulations Hometown Best Winners!

THANKS MARSHALL
for choosing us
BEST SECOND-HAND SHOP
Peggy Cranberry, Owner
BARE NECESSITIES
212 N. Washington 927-1852

Thank You
For Voting For Me
Suzanne Planchard
Hometown Best Retail Sales Clerk
111 E. Travis 935-3645

Simply thank-you...

It's the simple things like "thank you" that are so important. From everyone at Fredonia State Bank, thank you for voting us best bank, runner-up and Edna Heath, best teller.

Fredonia STATE BANK
Member FDIC

Roofer

Winner: Right Kut
 Runner-Up: Hart to Hart

Place To Buy A New Car

Winner: Elder Randall
 Runner-Up: Alford

Place To Buy A Used Car

Winner: Ford's
 Runner-Up: Simmons

Carpet Cleaner

Winner: The Carpet
 Cleaner

Runner-Up: Wayne's
 Carpet Cleaner

Computer Store

Winner: Computers &
 More
 Runner-Up: Office
 Depot

Collision Repair

Winner: BJ Collision
 Runner-Up: Marshall
 Collision

Place To Buy Tires

Winner: Marshall Tire
 Runner-Up: Hesser Tire

**You Name It
 Window Tinting:**
 Custom Tint & Design
 Best Recognized
 Person: Homero
 Hernandez

We Appreciate Our Customers.*Thanks for Your Vote!*

**Winner: Steve Chambers
 BEST BARBER**

Cathy & Steve's Hairstyling

300 Pinecrest Dr.

938-1712



Hometown Best Wonderland Display – Harrison County
 Historical Courthouse

**THANKS**

**East Texas
 for selecting us**

**BEST
 Seafood**

**BEST
 Cajun Food**

"located on beautiful Caddo Lake"

BAYOU LANDING
RESTAURANT & LAKE TOURS

Cypress Dr., Uncertain, TX

789-3394

*Thank
 You*

for choosing

**MARSHALL
 REGIONAL
 MEDICAL CENTER**

Best Place To Have A Baby

**MARSHALL
 LIFE CENTER**

Best Weight Loss Center

Runner-Up

Best Home Health Agency

Congratulations

**Best Doctor
 Dr. Valerie Allman**

Runner-Up
Dr. Lake Littlejohn

Runner-Up
**Best Nurse
 Sandy Gillespie**

www.mrmc.net