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WEDNESDAY

Snyder Daily News

Ask Us

Q.—Is it true that the Texas Department of Criminal Justice does not charge inmates sales tax on items purchased from the prison commissary?

A.—Tax is charged except on items exempted by law. Last year the TDCJ remitted \$879,000 in sales tax to the State Comptroller's office.

In Brief

Dole on GATT

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mending fences with the White House, incoming Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole today endorsed the 123-nation world trade agreement at a White House ceremony with President Clinton.

Dole's support removes a potential barrier and paves the way to expected Senate passage next week of the trade liberalization pact, a new General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, that Clinton has made a top priority.

"We have moved one step closer to gaining broad, bipartisan support for GATT," Clinton said.

Local

Pecans

The Industrial Technology Club at Snyder High School is selling pecans as a fund-raiser. Pecans may be ordered by calling 573-6301 and asking for Mr. Wright or Mr. Farley.

Dinners

Snyder High School choir is now taking reservations for its Christmas Madrigal Dinners, which will be held Nov. 28-29 and Dec. 1. For reservations or more information call 573-6301.

Extra day

Snyder ISD Supt. Gayle Lomax announced today that the Christmas holiday vacation for Snyder public schools will be extended one day. The second semester will officially begin Jan. 3 instead of Jan. 2, as previously scheduled.

Genealogy

Scurry County Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, in the county library. Rae Adams will present a program on family reflections. Visitors are welcome.

Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Tuesday, 68 degrees; low, 34 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Wednesday, 35 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1994 to date, 11.41 inches.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low in the upper 30s. Southeast wind 5-10 mph. Thanksgiving Day, mostly cloudy early, becoming partly cloudy by late afternoon. Warmer, high in the upper 50s. South to southwest wind 10-20 mph. Rest of the Thanksgiving weekend, partly cloudy. Lows mainly in the 30s. Highs from near 60 to 70.

Almanac: Sunset today, 5:42. Sunrise Thursday, 7:18. Of 326 days in 1994, the sun has shone 319 days in Snyder.

Westmoreland...

Fireman of Year is named

Perry Westmoreland was named Fireman of the Year for the Snyder Fire Department at its annual banquet Tuesday night.

He was presented the award by Fire Chief Terry Don McDowell. Westmoreland also serves as the vice-president of the department.

The prestigious Melvin Newton award was presented to Kenneth Wood while Todd Clark received the Officers Award.

Rodney Josey was presented the Workhorse Award while Clayton Riley was honored as the Most Improved Rookie. Albert "Snuffy" Canon received the Training Award.

Randy Davis was honored with a special award as was the Fluvanna Volunteer Fire Dept.

The Scurry County Commissioners Court and county employees were also recognized at the 65th annual banquet.

Perfect attendance awards were presented to Jack Callaway, Garry Kubena, Perry Westmoreland, Rick Wood, Walter Banks, Snuffy Canon, Chester Clark, Odell Cox, Rodney Josey, Jim Pollard and Kenneth Wood.

Roger Potts, Bobby Hataway and Ronnie Clawson were recognized for 15 years of service to the department while Walter Banks received a 10-year pin.

Mike Alexander, Terry Rumpff, Malcolm Crawford and Jim Pollard received 5-year awards.

J. D. Barham and Jackie Greene provided the entertainment for the large crowd.



FIREMAN HONORED — Perry Westmoreland, right, was honored as Snyder's Fireman of the Year and was presented a plaque by Fire Chief Terry Don McDowell at the 65th annual banquet Tuesday night. (SDN Staff Photo)

CMH considers major proposals

Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of managers this morning heard some costly news regarding the facility's heating and cooling system and a recommendation from the joint conference which will cost money, but could result in better all around services for hospital patients.

The board is looking at a \$200,000-plus cost to repair, upgrade and/or replace portions of the hospital's heating and cooling system, board members were told. Representatives from St. Mary of the Plains Hospital in Lubbock as well as engineers from Honeywell have done preliminary studies on the system, which dates back to the 1950s and 1960s.

This morning, the board agreed to CEO Jeff Reecer's request that "we get people in here assessing it" and will ask for a request for

proposals for a complete study of the system, along with recommendations. The board will stipulate that any plan have a budget cap, which could not be exceeded.

Reecer noted that some \$130,000 has been budgeted for heating and cooling maintenance over the next three years. Those funds could be applied to the project. He also said that the hospital should receive some \$225,000 in dispropo-share funds which could be used toward the project.

"This is one of those things I don't want to spend money on, but it is something we're going to have to spend money on. We really don't have any choice," Reecer said.

The board also heard a report from the hospital's joint conference regarding its OB area. The present OB is in need of extensive renovation, which because of various medical and architectural regulations, can be expected to cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. However, the joint conference has a proposal which would cut costs down to the tens of thousands, Reecer said.

The plan, still in "idea" stage, would be to move OB to Med 4, where long-term care is presently housed. Long-term care would be moved to the first floor where ICU is, and ICU would be moved to the third floor. Reecer noted that the moves would allow space for an activities and dining room for long-term care.

Another phase of the project could be to move the specialty clinic and heart gym into the area now served by the OB.

"The positive is that this would improve OB, improve long-term care...everybody gains something," said Reecer.

Board members appeared enthusiastic about the proposal, which will be discussed in more detail at a future board meeting.

In other business, the board was notified that Cogdell Hospital has received a full, three-year accreditation from the Joint Commission. JoBeth Hardegree, RN, said that the commission noted several deficiencies which pertain to documentation, but no deficiencies concerning patient care.

The board also received a report on a Home Health Medicare Survey which listed three deficiencies — all in documentation — but was "a great overall report," said Teresa Graves, RN, director of nursing.

Board members approved a one-year contract with Trim Healthcare, a firm which studies hospital services with regards to billing, and matches billing codes to insurance codes. The contract calls for Trim Healthcare to receive \$30,000 of any monies collected as a result of the study, up to \$80,000.

Also reviewed this morning was the October operating report, which indicated a net income loss of \$340 for the month. Hospital officials noted that a charity case (See COGDELL, Page 8)

Tobacco ban not expected to cause problems at PDU

Questions about the implementation has been the only reaction to a Texas Department of Criminal Justice decision last Friday to ban smoking at all state prisons.

T.J. Medart, Price Daniel unit senior warden, said there had been a lot of questions about how the policy will be put in place by March 1, and most of the questions have come from inmates.

Medart said both inmates and employees have been aware of the impending decision for several months, and it was not

unexpected.

Medart, who said he strongly agrees with the unanimous board decision, said he does not expect

any adverse reaction, and predicted that any problems would occur at units that house close-custody inmates.

Medart said probably 30 to 40 percent of inmates at the Daniel unit smoke. He estimated that 20 percent of staff use tobacco, the majority of them dip.

The ban is not only for cigarettes, but on all tobacco products.

The tobacco-free ban will be the stiffest in the nation. The ban includes all state prison property, including the parking lot.

At last Friday's board meeting, a series of medical experts testified concerning health hazards both to smokers and those subjected to second-hand smoke.

When told that the ban would likely result in a suit against the prison system, TDCJ board member Allan Polunsky of San Antonio said he was not concerned with what inmates think.

"We're not operating the Ritz Carlton," he said. "These people lost their privileges when they arrived in TDCJ. They'll have to abide by the rules, and that's it."

Polunsky said he is not concerned about any inmate revolt. "We're in control of our prison units."

Inmates caught violating the new policy will face loss of good time, and employees violating the tobacco ban face loss of employment.

Currently tobacco products are available for purchase in the commissary. TDCJ Executive Director Andy Collins said the department at one-time furnished cigarettes to inmates.

Collins said he was a warden when the free cigarette policy was changed, and that there was no adverse reaction.

Early paper

The Thanksgiving edition of the Snyder Daily News, containing the annual Two-Day Sale Christmas ads, will be delivered Thursday morning. Regular publication schedule will resume on Friday.

Tour tickets are on sale

Tickets are now on sale for the Dec. 11 Tour of Homes and Christmas Open House sponsored by Historic Scurry County, Inc., and the Scurry County Historical Commission.

Homes on the tour are those of Ray and Betty Courtney, Ralph and Nance Lewis.

Open house will be held in the Cornelius Dodson house and the Dermott school on the Scurry County Coliseum grounds. Refreshments and entertainment are planned in the school.

Tickets are \$10 each, with proceeds going for the maintenance and upkeep of the Cornelius-Dodson house and the Dermott school.

Tickets can be purchased at Countryplace, The Pleasure's Mine, Li'l Rascals, Classic Interiors, Eddie Peterson Pharmacy, and Friendly Flowers.

Information about the event can be obtained by calling June McGlaun at 573-9742 or Jean Everett at 573-2763.



TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY — Western Texas College's annual courtyard tree lighting ceremony was held Tuesday evening, preceding a Christmas Concert featuring the Community Choir, Handbell Choir and guitar ensemble. Many visitors joined the chorus in carols and refreshments. (SDN Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "An old-timer is one who remembers counting blessings instead of calories."

This judge is anything but a turkey.

Give a second slice of pumpkin pie to a municipal court judge in Santa Fe. Nobody could complain about his creative sentencing, right? Wrong!

For several years, the city court judge in New Mexico's state capital has reduced fines for parking in exchange for turkeys, potatoes and pumpkin pies for the poor. In past years, he has reduced fines ranging from \$3 to \$10,000 for those donating traditional Thanksgiving fare.

The judge claims he is creating justice for the working man and is providing food for the hungry.

City officials obviously are not into the spirit of the holiday. For some 10 years, they have tried to persuade the judge to end his annual crusade. Critics say it costs the city government almost \$300,000 a year in revenue and undermines

enforcement.

Most of the downtown parking offenders are those who work in the area. The city has a policy of ticketing a vehicle in violation each hour.

Last year, one offender was a chef in a downtown restaurant and had \$3,300 in citations. In exchange, the cook agreed to drum up support for the judge's turkey drive with ads and letters to the editor. In return, the fines were reduced to \$350.

For the habitual offender, we have a suggestion for the judge. Make 'em sit next to their brother-in-law and eat all the cranberry sauce.

Heard about an elementary teacher who wanted to make sure her class understood the "real meaning" of their Thanksgiving pageant. "Now, boys and girls, can anyone tell us why the Pilgrims came to America?"

One hand shot up quickly. "So they could worship their own way and make other people do the same."

Gov. Richards exploring other options



DONATION — Scurry County Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) voted Monday to make a donation of \$150 to the Scurry County Area Foundation's Learning Resource Center fund. Eunice Milton, president of the local AARP, makes the presentation to Roy McQueen, chairman of the economic development committee. (SDN Staff Photo)

Sidney Poitier joins Disney board

BURBANK, Calif. (AP) — Guess who's coming to the board meeting? The Walt Disney Co. announced Tuesday that Sidney Poitier has been elected to its board of directors.

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Ann Richards is exploring her options after losing her re-election bid two weeks ago, but she knows what she doesn't want.

Despite the rumors that have been floating, she said Tuesday she has no plans to head the Democratic National Committee. She also says she won't become U.S. agriculture secretary, turn to an acting career or challenge Sen. Phil Gramm in 1996 either as president or senator.

"Whatever I do, it's going to be wonderful," she told reporters at her first public appearance since the Nov. 8 general election, an

early Thanksgiving dinner for the needy where she helped serve plates of turkey and trimmings. "All of the discussions that I'm having really have to do with how I might interface in business and how I might do some things that will help me make a living," she said. "I'm not going to go away."

Whatever she does, Richards says she expects it will be in her home state.

"There are a lot of family constraints and things that would keep me in Texas," she said. "I love Austin and I love Texas. My heart is here, so I'm sure I'll be here."

The 61-year-old Democratic

governor added that she feels "absolutely great" despite her loss to Republican Gov.-elect George W. Bush, who will be inaugurated Jan. 17.

"I get up and read the morning newspaper, and I used to, you know, I took those things so personally, that there ought to be something I could do about this or that," Richards said, "and knowing that I'm no longer responsible ... in a long-range way, it's really a great feeling."

Richards said she feels good about her term in office.

"I had a fabulous, fabulous four years."

Richards served plates of food, shook hands, shared hugs and held a baby at the annual "Feast of Sharing" at City Coliseum, where 6,000 people were expected for an early Thanksgiving dinner.

Sixteen-year-old Queta Lopez said after being served by Richards, "It was kind of scary, but then again, it was an honor."

The governor and hundreds of other volunteers were dishing up 100 baked turkeys, 7,000 dinner rolls, 1,200 pounds of combread dressing, 250 gallons of mashed potatoes, 80 gallons of gravy, 275 gallons of seasoned green beans and 60 gallons of cranberry sauce.

Dessert was the traditional pumpkin pie — 1,100 of them. Youngsters also could choose cotton candy.

The dinner "is obviously intended for those where this will be their only Thanksgiving," said Andy Welch, a spokesman for Comptroller John Sharp, who also volunteered at the dinner. But Welch added, "Anyone that shows up is invited."

Jurors saw no murderous intent in 'beauty's' crime

LEWISBURG, W.Va. (AP) — Jurors cleared a former beauty queen of felony charges because they did not believe she was intent on murder when she tried to attack a romantic rival, a juror and a prosecutor said.

Tracy Lippard drove 250 miles armed with a pistol, knife and hammer to the home of Rodney Weikle and Carlynn Weikle and their daughter Melissa, who was pregnant with the child of Lippard's former boyfriend.

Prosecutors said Lippard, 23, wanted to kill the whole family. She ended up whacking Weikle on the head with the hammer before being subdued by the former Secret Service agent, according to testimony.

After two days of deliberations, the jury convicted Lippard Tuesday of two counts of second-degree attempted murder and five other misdemeanors.

Juror Jane Metheny said the jury believed the hammer attack was "a heat of the moment thing."

Prosecutor Richard Lorensen said the jury believed the acts took place but they were "more impul-

sive than deliberate," which is how West Virginia law defines second-degree attempted murder.

Both Lippard and Melissa Weikle dated Todd Scott. Lippard said she went to the Weikle home on Feb. 27 to confront Scott, and became enraged after Rodney Weikle told her Scott and his daughter planned to marry. They did so in August.

Lippard denied pulling the pistol on Mrs. Weikle or using the hammer to hit Weikle, who said he put her in a headlock and disarmed her.

Lippard, of Newport News, Va., faces a maximum 61/2 years in jail when sentenced Jan. 4. She remained free on \$42,000 bond.

Her attorney, Paul Detch, said he doubted she would get prison time. He called the verdict a compromise and said he planned no appeal.

The jury returned guilty verdicts on misdemeanors including carrying concealed weapons, battery and brandishing a pistol.

It found Lippard innocent of a felony charge that she brought a stolen gun into West Virginia, although testimony established the gun was stolen. The jury also was apparently unswayed by testimony from Lippard's former cellmate that Lippard had vowed to slit open her pregnant rival and "flop her baby on a table."

"I think she was more apt to kill me than my parents," Mrs. Scott said. "I'm always going to have to look over my shoulder. Always. I'm sure I'll still have a few nightmares."

Lippard's family wept as the verdicts were read, but Lippard showed no emotion. Later, ap-

pearing on the verge of tears when she faced reporters, she apologized to the Weikles and said, "I really don't feel like this is a total victory for me."



WTC WINNERS — Western Texas College's meats judging team returned Monday from the Beef Empire Days Intercollegiate Meats Contest at Garden City, Kan. as the first place team in carcass selection and pricing and with the third place trophy in questions. Shown with their plaques are, seated left to right, Jayme Gladden and Jody Cook. Standing, left to right, are Brian Milford, Tommy Henderson, John Caddell, Alicia Kubena, Eric Romero and Jeff Hogue. (SDN Staff Photo)

WTC meats team rated tops

Western Texas College's meats judging team returned Monday from the Beef Empire Days Intercollegiate Meats Contest held at Garden City, Kansas where they were named the first place team in carcass selection and pricing. They also captured the third place plaque for questions.

Alicia Kubena, Snyder, won first place in beef carcass grading while Tommy Henderson, Snyder, placed fourth in carcass selection and pricing.

Jody Cook, Anson, came in fifth place in placings while John Caddell, Abilene, captured fifth place in carcass selection and pricing.

Brian Milford, Abilene, came in sixth in questions while Craig Leatherwood was sixth in yield grading.

Jeff Hogue, Abilene, placed eighth in yield grading and Jayme Gladden, Morton, was eighth in carcass load selection. Eric Romero, Snyder, is also a member of the team.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The Pick 3 winning numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

1-5-5
(one, five, five)

Out of tune with times?

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Joni Mitchell sometimes worries that she's out of tune with the times.

At 50, Mitchell released her 17th album, "Turbulent Indigo," to generally positive reviews — only to see it get no higher than No. 47 on the charts.

"It's more profitable for record companies to get a young band of pretty boys and have them make one or two albums and then fade away. And that bodes badly for music," she said.

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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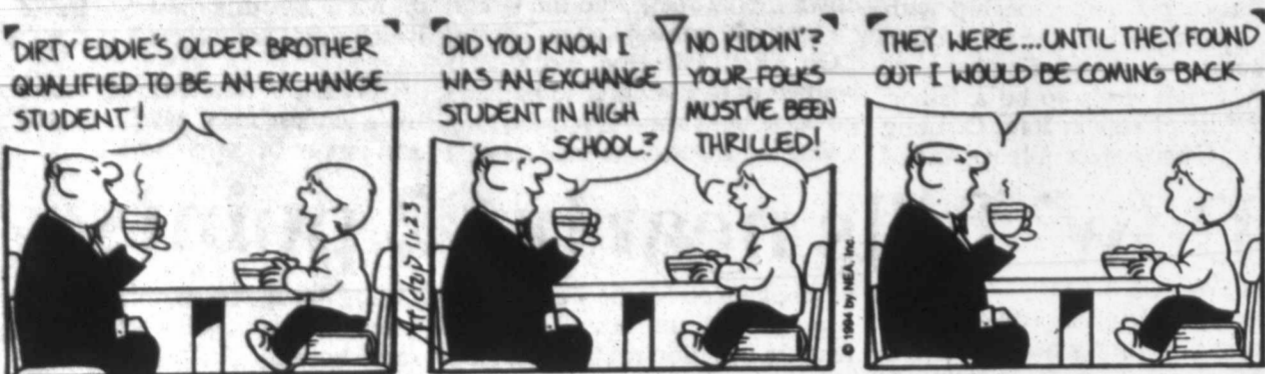
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Comics Page



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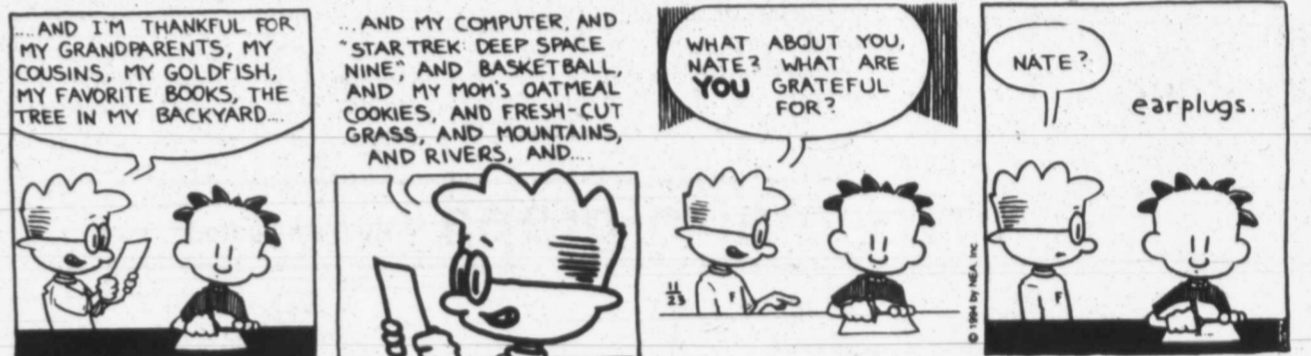
ARLO & JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson



ECK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



BIG NATE® by Lincoln Peirce



Barney Google and Snuffy Smith® By Fred Lasswell



ROBOTMAN® by Jim Meddick



BLONDIE® by Dean Young and Stan Drake



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr



POP CULTURE™ by Steve McGarry



NEA Crossword Puzzle

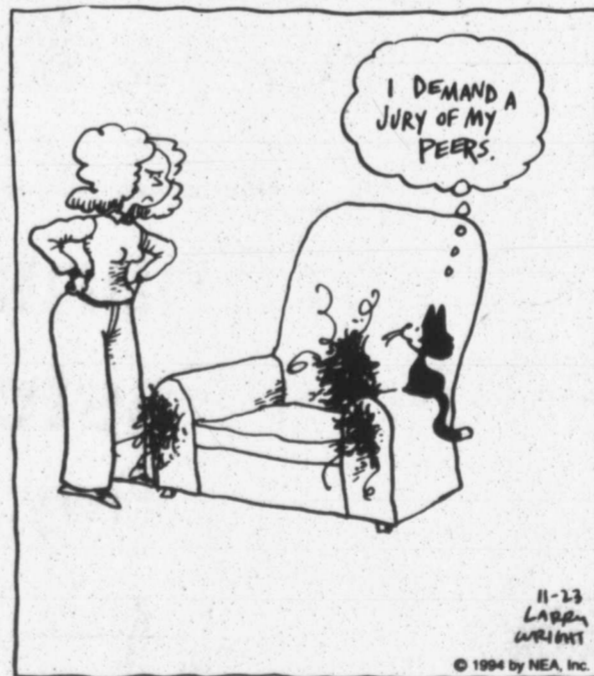
KIT 'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

BEATTIE BLVD.™ by Bruce Beattie

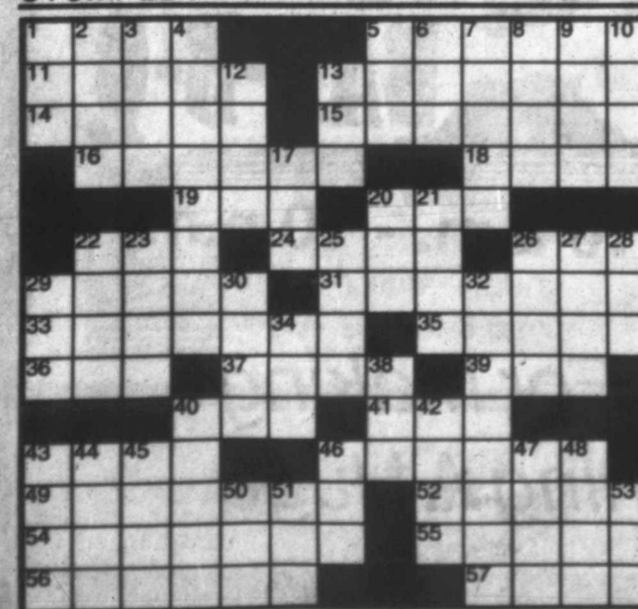
- ACROSS**
- 1 Ineffective
 - 5 Parent
 - 11 Yellow-brown shade
 - 13 City in Kansas
 - 14 Pasture grass
 - 15 Lower
 - 16 Peaceful
 - 18 Brittle
 - 19 Mellow
 - 20 Chemical suffix
 - 22 Vast age
 - 24 Arrivederci
 - 26 MD's chart
 - 29 Shoe part
 - 31 Dress part
 - 33 For each day (2 wds.)
 - 35 Uncanny
 - 36 Pollack fish
 - 37 Clamping device
 - 39 Southeast Asian holiday
 - 40 Even (post.)
 - 41 Dine
- DOWN**
- 1 Cavity in a rock
 - 2 Biblical king
 - 3 Construction beam (2 wds.)
 - 4 Degraded
 - 5 Wire measure
 - 8 Mil. school
 - 7 The ones there
 - 9 Lease
 - 9 Coup d' -
 - 10 Genus of frogs
 - 12 Sounded a bell
 - 13 Army female (abbr.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	U	D	S	N	E	D	B	U	B	O	
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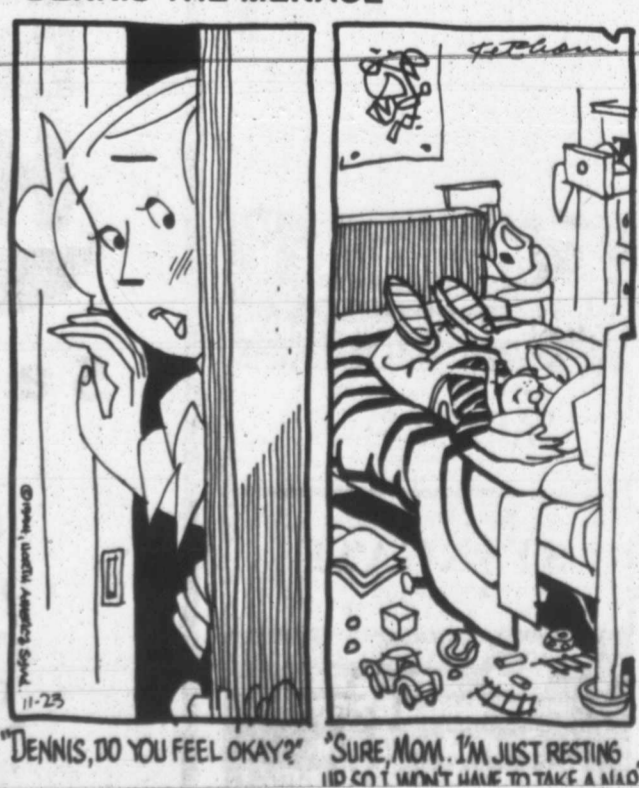
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LAFF-A-DAY



DENNIS THE MENACE



Sports

Cisco hammers WTC from free throw line

Lady Wranglers get 100-83 payback at home

CISCO — Western Texas College's Lady Westerners, who defeated Cisco by 30 points at home earlier this month, lost by 17 in Wranglerland Tuesday evening.

"Everytime we got in a groove, the whistle would blow," said WTC Coach Brenda Welch-Nichols, who was ejected from the game in the fourth quarter.

Cisco went to the line 57 times in the contest, and bagged points on 37 of them to help post the 100-83 victory.

Nine Lady Wranglers scored in the game — eight of them put in points from the charity stripe. Cisco was led by 6-1 sophomore Brandi Muirhead, who got 22 for the night, including 8 of 11 from the free throw line.

Harmony Rogers pitched in 21 points while Marissa Thomas had 13, Tonya Benton and Ann Hufstetter bagged 11 each and Allison Baze added 10.

Pagel dismissed, Pokes ink Hodson

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys have signed an emergency backup quarterback and found out their usual backup may be available for the Thanksgiving Day game against the Green Bay Packers.

The Cowboys signed Tommy Hodson as an emergency backup on Tuesday morning. Later that afternoon, injured backup Rodney Peete was well enough to throw some passes during practice.

"Peete threw the ball today," coach Barry Switzer said. "He wore a glove, and he looked like he might be our emergency third quarterback. He might be able to take some snaps on game day."

Free agents Hodson and Mike Pagel were brought in as a possible backup for third-stringer Jason Garrett, who will start against the Packers.

Garrett starts because starter Troy Aikman has a knee injury, and Peete has a thumb injury.

Hodson became the backup of choice when Pagel — who for-

merly played for Baltimore. Indianapolis, Cleveland and Los Angeles Rams — wasn't mobile enough in a workout to suit the coaches.

Pagel sustained a knee injury in an Arena Football League game three months ago, and coaches didn't feel he would be ready Thursday.

Hodson, 27, played for New England for three seasons after he was drafted out of Louisiana State. He was a non-roster player in Miami for a brief period last season, but hasn't played this year. He had a one-day tryout with Denver.

Hodson's career passing totals are 171 of 315 attempts for 1,809 yards. He has had seven touchdown passes and 11 interceptions.

Hodson's best game was 25-of-43 for 267 yards and two touchdowns against Miami in 1992.

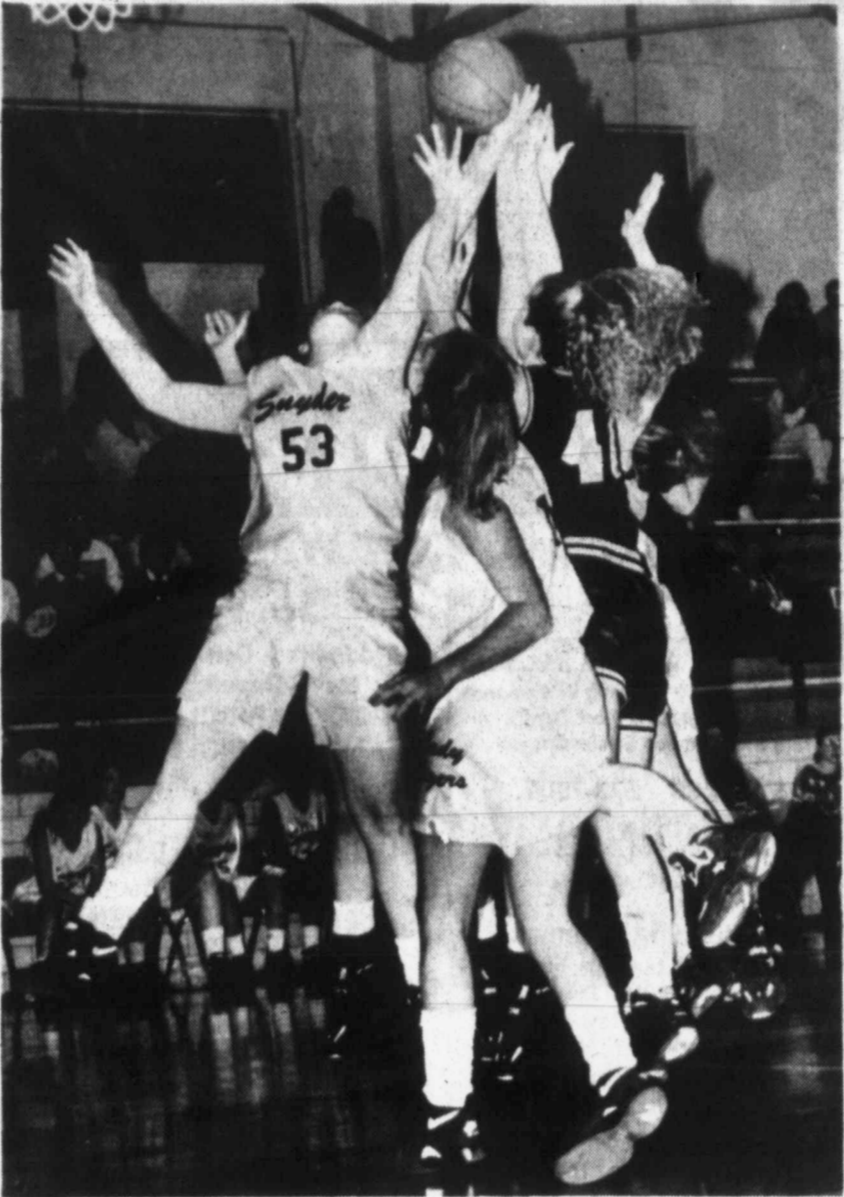
Cisco 100, WTC 83

CISCO (100) — Graham 02-22, Benton 3 5-8 11, Lee 1 0-0 3, Thomas 3 7-8 13, Rogers 9 3-3 21, Jinks 2 3-7 7, Hufstetter 4 3-5 11, Baze 2 6-7 10, Muirhead 7 8-11 22. Totals 31 37-51 70.

WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE (83) — Ezemack 2 0-0 6, Glenn 1 0-0 2, Moss 1 3-4 6, Ragland 2 1-2 5, Carrell 4 8-8 16, Thompson 1 0-0 2, Wilson 8 4-7 12, Cates 5 1-5 11, Wright 8 2-2 20, Reeves 1 0-0 3. Totals 29 19-28 83.

Cisco 42 58-10F Western Texas College 36 47-8E

Three-point goals—Cisco 1 (Lee 1); Western Texas 6 (Wright 2, Ezemack 2, Moss 1, Reeves 1). Rebounds—Cisco (unavailable), Western Texas 41 (Carrell 15). Assists—Cisco (unavailable), Western Texas 20 (Wright 6). Total Fouls—Cisco 20, Western Texas 38. Fouled out—Cisco (Rogers), Western Texas (Cates, Wilson, Thompson). Technical Fouls—Western Texas 2 (Nichols ejected). Record—Western Texas 4-5.



UP FOR GRABS — Snyder's Erica Garvin and Vanessa Williams fight with Odessa Permian's Shelly Reeves for a rebound. Permian outscored the Lady Tigers 18-4 in the fourth quarter on its way to a 59-35 victory Tuesday. (Photo by Todd Stanley)

No. 13 Huskies upset No. 6 Lady Raiders

LUBBOCK (AP) — Rhonda Smith scored 38 points, including 10 in the game's final minutes, as No. 13 Washington upset No. 6 Texas Tech 79-75 Tuesday to win the pre-season Women's National Invitation Tournament.

The Huskies (4-0) jumped to an 11-2 lead and didn't trail until just 5:05 remained, when Tabitha Truesdale made two of her 20 points and gave Tech a 69-67 edge.

But Washington regained the lead, 73-71, and kept it with under three minutes to go.

The Lady Raiders (3-1), looking rattled by Washington's full-

court pressure, made sloppy passes and missed shots outside. Poor free-throw shooting — 19-of-36 — also took a toll.

It was Tech's first loss to Washington and the first loss at home in 25 games.

Melinda White's layup brought Tech to within 30-27 with 5:20 to go in the half.

But Washington retaliated with eight consecutive points and built its biggest lead of the first period when Smith sank a shot and was fouled with 1.5 seconds remaining. Her free throw made it 45-34 at halftime.

Ira girls pull comeback win

TRENT — The Ira Lady Bulldogs posted a fourth quarter comeback against the Trent Lady Gorrillas Tuesday as they captured a 51-48 victory.

Ira (4-1) trailed Trent 28-23 at halftime, but kept it close in the third quarter as both teams scored 12 points to make the score 40-35.

In the fourth quarter, the Lady

Bulldogs outscored Trent 16-8 to pull out the win.

Ira was led by Jennifer Northcott's 16 points and Jennifer Rankin's 12. Melissa Brasuel and Misty Chance each scored seven in the win.

The Lady Bulldogs host Aspermont at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 29.

Lady Tigers fall to Permian 59-35

By TODD STANLEY SDN Sports Editor

SNYDER — Most coaches will agree that a game is won or lost in the fourth quarter.

That could not have been more true Tuesday night as the Snyder Lady Tigers and the Odessa Permian Lady Panthers battled at the Snyder High School gym.

After a third period where Snyder outscored their opponent 14-8, the Lady Panthers controlled the fourth quarter and went on to claim a 59-35 victory.

Permian took charge in the final quarter, capitalizing on poor shooting and turnovers by the Lady Tigers.

The Lady Panthers outscored Snyder 18-4 in the final frame.

"As bad as we played, we were able to hang tough and keep it close," Snyder head coach Steve Qualls said. "Except for a thirty second span in the fourth quarter where we had three turnovers which led to seven straight Permian points."

The Lady Panthers started off strong, as they were led by Angie Braziel's 15 points in the first quarter.

Braziel finished with 23 points, despite not playing half of the second quarter and all of the third.

Qualls, who felt that the Lady Tigers did a good job playing defense, was disappointed in their offensive performance.

"There is a lot of teaching going on right now," he said. "I'm still waiting to see if there is any learning going on."

"I can't seem to get the girls to run the offense on a consistent basis."

Qualls went on to further explain that when they run the offense it works, but that it isn't being run enough.

"When we run our offense cor-

rectly...it is great," he said. "I don't understand why the girls wouldn't come back down the floor the next time and run it again. They're not being consistent."

Snyder was led by Erica Garvin's 10 points, most of which came directly as a result of a good pass under the basket.

In fact, Qualls pointed out that the Lady Tigers were unable to convert one outside shot all night.

"The biggest part of the game was the fact that we just couldn't shoot," Qualls said. "This team has been good at coming back all season long."

"What we need to work on is not getting down in the first place. This team plays like a roller coaster...up and down, up and down."

Snyder senior Rachel Shipp played her best game defensively for the Lady Tigers, according to Qualls.

"Rachel did a good job of making her presence felt and staying out of foul trouble at the same time," he said. "When she came into the game, she was an immediate impact."

The Lady Tigers are scheduled to play again Dec. 1 at the Brownfield tournament.

In junior varsity action, the Lady Tigers fell to Odessa Permian 56-40.

(Girls) Permian 59, Snyder 35

PERMIAN (59) — Hester 1 0-0 2, Johnson 1 0-0 2, Champman 6 0-1 12, Harris 0 2-2 2, Ferguson 1 0-4 2, Reeves 1 2-3 4, Crawford 4 3-5 12, Braziel 10 3-6 23. Totals 24 10-21 59.

SNYDER (35) — Reed 0 1-2 1, Garza 1 0-0 2, Crow 1 0-0 2, Williams 2 0-0 4, Payne 1 2-4 4, Shipp 3 2-4 8, Garvin 5 0-0 10, White 2 0-0 4. Totals 15 5-10 35.

Permian 21 12 8 18-59 Snyder 8 9 14 4-35

Three-point goals—Permian 1 (Crawford 1). Records—Permian 4-2, Snyder 1-3.

Frosh girls fall to Permian

SNYDER — After taking a double-digit beating against Levelland Monday, the Snyder freshmen girls basketball team returned to home and played well against Odessa Permian Tuesday.

Despite outscoring the Lady Panther 12-8 in the first quarter,

the Lady Tigers lost 22-21.

Melanie Kidd led Snyder with 10 points on the night and Haley Huestis six.

The Lady Tigers next game is scheduled for Dec. 1 at the Brownfield Tournament.

7th "A" boys 43, Levelland 47

SNYDER — Josh Ward scored 17 points in a losing cause as the Levelland Lobos defeated the Snyder seventh grade "A" team 47-43 Monday.

The Tigers were able to come back from a first quarter 14-2 deficit, however, as Ward hit three 3-pointers in the third quarter to

cut into the Lobos lead.

Sonny Cumbie added eight points and Randy Green had six as the Tigers fell to 1-1 on the season.

The junior high boys' next game is also a rematch, as they host Levelland on Saturday Dec. 3.

NBA Glance

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct., GB. Includes Eastern Conference (Atlantic and Central Divisions) and Western Conference (Midwest and Pacific Divisions).

Table of Tuesday's Games, Wednesday's Games, and Thursday's Games with dates and times.

Howell resigns at Coleman

COLEMAN — Rick Howell, a former resident and coach in Snyder, resigned Monday night as head football coach and athletic director at Coleman High School.

Howell grew up in Snyder and attended both Western Texas College and Hardin-Simmons University.

He was a coach in Snyder for

five years before moving to Coleman.

The Coleman Bluecats posted a 4-6 record this season and Howell was 31-38-1 overall.

He stated that one reason for the resignation was the fact that he is interested in going into school administration.

Rockets' win streak ends

HOUSTON (AP) — The Rockets' 23-game November winning streak ended when Clyde Drexler returned to the Portland lineup and led the Trail Blazers to a 102-94 victory Tuesday night.

Drexler, who missed two games with a right ankle injury, scored 30 points. Cliff Robinson added 29 points for the Trail Blazers, who lost all four games to the Rockets last season.

Houston, 9-1 this season, got 27 points from Hakeem Olajuwon and 20 from Vernon Maxwell. The loss was the first for the Rockets in the month of November since a 108-99 setback to the Utah Jazz on Nov. 28, 1992.

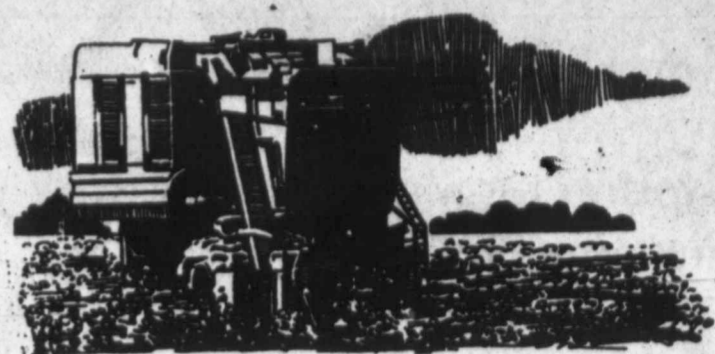
Last season, the Rockets were 14-0 in November and won their first game in December before experiencing defeat.

PUBLIC REMINDER: It is in violation of Fire Code Section 501.2 to dispose of hot ashes in the dumpsters. This is for your safety, as improper disposal of hot ashes is dangerous and can cause fires. City of Snyder Fire Chief

McDonald's advertisement for Athletes of the Week. Features portraits and stats for Reagan Key (Snyder Basketball) and Shayna Crow (Snyder Basketball). Includes an Honor Roll list with names like Patrick Cumble, Jeff Hobbs, Erica Garvin, Jodi White, Wayne Braziel, Marcus Byrum, Jamie Brown, and Devon Reed.



Scurry County Country



Producers are urged to return their ballots

Farmers and producers growing cotton in Scurry County and the eastern part of Borden County, along with their respective landlords who receive a share of the crop, are receiving ballots which will allow them to vote in a referendum to establish a boll weevil eradication program in the Central Rolling Plains.

These ballots will allow producers to vote on the following three things: 1) establishing the Central Rolling Plains Boll Weevil Eradication Zone as an official zone in the statewide eradication effort; 2) electing a representative from the zone to serve on the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation board of directors; and 3) establishing the maximum assessment farmers are willing to pay to have an eradication program in this area.

"This is a great opportunity for the cotton producers in this area," a spokesman with the Rolling Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., said. "Eradication programs in other cotton growing areas have resulted in tremendous economic and environmental benefits, including increased yields, lower production costs, and increased land values.

"And because eradication programs have helped both farmers and the environment, rural economies have also been revitalized. The National Cotton Council estimates that every dollar in eradication costs returns \$12 to the economy.

"But because this program is run by and initiated by farmers, it will not happen unless cotton farmers vote positively to take advantage of this opportunity," the spokesman said. "No one will do this for the farmer, not the federal government, not the state government, or anyone else.

"Without eradication, it will become more and more difficult for farmers in the Rolling Plains to compete with farmers growing cotton in weevil-free areas."

Ballots have been mailed to

producers by the Scurry and Borden County ASCS offices and should be returned to the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Office in Abilene. Ballots must be post-marked before midnight on Dec. 1.

All producers that planted cotton in 1994 or landlords receiving a share of the 1994 crop are eligible to vote. Anyone eligible who does not receive a ballot may vote at the office of the Scurry County Extension Agent, prior to Dec. 1.

"All cotton farmers and landlords receiving a share of the crop are encouraged to get out and vote on this important program. A positive vote will allow farmers to help themselves by working to eliminate this devastating cotton pest," said the RPCG spokesman.

Proven technology...

Propane flame cultivation revived

Many people have an old flame from years ago still burning in their hearts. Now some Texas agricultural producers are rekindling one old flame in particular: propane flame cultivation to clear fields of cotton, vineyards and row crops.

"We see this new interest in a proven technology as a key growth market for propane sales," said James E. (Jim) Nugent, chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission. The Railroad Commission regulates the Texas oil and gas industry.

Before chemical weed-killers were in widespread use, many farmers relied on propane-powered flame machines to control weeds in row crops. Harry Garretson, a propane dealer in Hale Center, said that in 1964, 21 farmers around town used high-clearance tractors equipped with flame cultivators. "They kept us running from sunup to sundown supplying propane and service," he said.

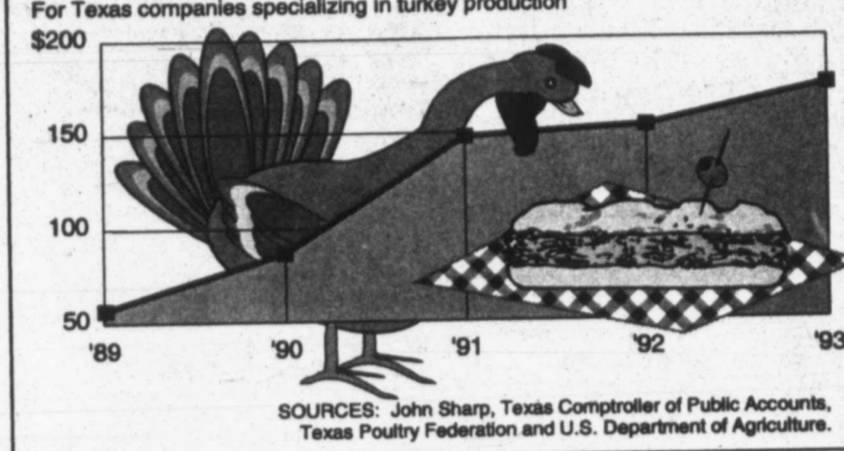
But competition from inexpensive chemical weeding agents that

Keeping an eye on Texas

Texans gobble up turkey

Turkey isn't just for Thanksgiving anymore. More than 9 million turkeys are raised in Texas, and gross sales for companies that specialize in turkey production have tripled since 1989—reaching \$174 million in 1993. Other Texas companies, including producers of chicken and other meat products, also process turkeys. In addition to smoked turkey and turkey breasts, turkey is produced as ham, bacon, sausage, cold cuts and "turkey jerky."

Gross sales, in millions
For Texas companies specializing in turkey production



SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Poultry Federation and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Town & Country Topics



By Kathryn Roberts
County Extension Agent

In Aladdin's time, it took "five and forty" days for a camel to plod from Cairo to Baghdad. Obviously, people in those days didn't travel such distances carrying a cooked turkey for a holiday celebration.

Today, in airplanes, cars and trains, however, people do go over the mountains or through the desert with a turkey destined for Grandmother's house. Is it any safer to carry a cooked turkey now than it was on a camel train?

"Many callers to the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline ask whether traveling with a turkey is safe to do," says Susan Conley, director of the nationwide toll free hotline. "Yes, it's alright—if some safe handling rules are followed to avoid foodborne illness."

These are some of the questions callers frequently ask the hotline concerning safe transportation of the holiday turkey:

Q. Can the turkey be cooked a day ahead of time and then taken to someone's house the next day?

A. Yes, but for safety's sake, you won't be able to travel with the whole bird intact. Be sure to cook the turkey in an oven set no lower than 325 degrees Fahrenheit. Check to be sure the turkey has cooked completely to an internal temperature of 180 degrees as measured in several places with a meat thermometer. Then let the turkey stand 20 minutes.

If stuffed, remove the stuffing and let it cool in small, shallow dishes. Carve all the meat from the turkey, leaving legs, thighs and wings intact if desired. Divide the carved turkey meat and turkey parts into small, shallow containers or packages. This ensures rapid, even cooling and quick reheating after getting to your destination.

Refrigerate the turkey and stuffing within two hours of cooking or freeze foods if you don't plan to eat them within three to four days.

When preparing to travel, pack the turkey and other perishable foods in an insulated cooler with a cold source such as ice or frozen gel packs. At your destination, transfer the foods to a refrigerator. Reheat at 235 degrees in an oven

or microwave oven until the foods reach an internal temperature of 165 degrees or are steaming hot.

Q. How long will a raw or cooked turkey keep unrefrigerated for transporting to someone's house?

A. No longer than two hours. For either a raw or cooked turkey, it's still a good idea to use an insulated cooler as a carrier (use two coolers if carrying both types). To transport a raw turkey, take it out of the refrigerator and place it in the cooler immediately before leaving. Put it where it will be coldest in the car. Upon arrival, immediately refrigerate the turkey.

To transport an unstuffed cooked turkey, take it out of the oven immediately wrap it in foil and put it directly into the cooler before putting it into the warmest spot in the car. Don't try to transport a stuffed turkey.

A hot turkey must be put directly into a warm oven (set at 200 degrees or higher) until serving time. Set the oven high enough to maintain the internal of the turkey at 140 degrees or higher.

Q. Can I slow-cook the turkey at 200 degrees overnight so it's ready to go in the morning?

A. No! It's not safe to cook a turkey (or any other meat for that matter) in an oven set lower than 325 degrees. That's because it takes too long for the turkey to reach a temperature high enough to kill foodborne bacteria.

Q. Can turkey be partially cooked ahead of time and then finished later?

A. No again! Partial cooking of meat or poultry is very unsafe. Cooking must be done in one continuous operation to assure the destruction of bacteria that cause foodborne illness. It is safe, however, to partially cook turkey in a microwave or other oven immediately before transferring the turkey to a heated grill or to a preheated conventional oven for finishing.

Other advice? Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold at all times. And sometimes it's just safer to give up on the idea of taking your feast somewhere else. The risks may outweigh the benefits.

FmHA has new name under reorganization: will now be the RECD

TEMPLE — Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) has a new name under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) reorganization; however, the same work continues, according to George Ellis, FmHA state director.

Ellis is now named the Acting State Director for Rural Economic Community Development (RECD).

Congress passed a bill authorizing the reorganization late in September, and Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy issued orders making the changes on Oct. 20.

"The entire USDA was reorganized in an effort to provide better service to the public while reducing the number of agencies required to do the same work," Ellis said. "Over the next five years, savings to the taxpayers will total \$3.6 billion through the elimination of 14 separate USDA agencies and staff reductions of up to 11,000 nationwide."

Ellis said the FmHA and the Rural Development Administration (RDA) have been abolished. Most of the loan and grant programs of these two agencies are being taken over under the RECD title.

The farm lending, rural housing, water and waste disposal, community facility, and business and industry programs formerly administered by FmHA or RDA will still be available at the newly named RECD offices. The farm loan programs will eventually become part of the new Consolidated Farm Service Agency, which was created under reorganization.

"For the time being, people wanting these important services

should go to the local office that probably will still have a Farmers Home Administration sign out front," Ellis said. "As additional changes are made, we will be letting the communities know about them."

Sweetwater cattle auction

The market was steady and active on a run of 970 head of cattle for the Nov. 16 sale. Stocker and feeder cattle steady with packer cows and bulls 2 to 3 cwt higher. Pairs and bred cows \$50 higher.

- No sale next week.
- STEERS
 - 300-400: 87-103.
 - 400-500: 84-96.
 - 500-600: 73-81.
 - 600-700: 70-75.
 - HEIFERS
 - 300-400: 84-90.
 - 400-500: 76-82.
 - 500-600: 67-73.
 - 600-700: 64-71.
 - BRED COWS
 - Good: 550-650.
 - Older and plainer: 400-550.
 - Pairs
 - Good: 650-800.
 - Older and plainer: 550-650.
 - PACKER COWS
 - Good: 38-45.
 - Low yielding: 30-38.
 - PACKER BULLS
 - Good: 53-56.
 - Low yielding: 48-53.

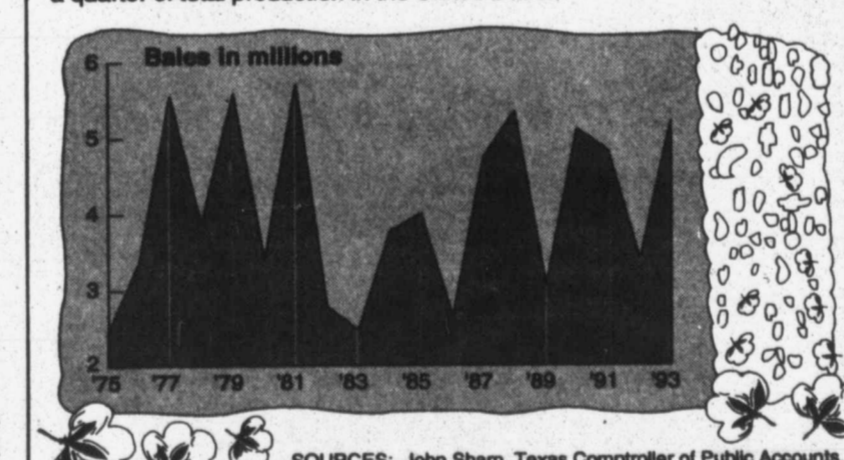
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Keeping an eye on Texas

Texas is knee-high in cotton

Cotton has been a major crop in Texas for more than a century. Despite dramatic ups and downs, Texas continues to lead all states in cotton production. Today the annual Texas cotton harvest amounts to more than a quarter of total production in the United States.



SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Agricultural Statistics Service and the 1992-93 Texas Almanac.

Colorado City livestock auction

COLORADO CITY — All classes of cattle were slightly higher on 800 head of cattle sold at the Colorado City Livestock Auction on Saturday, Nov. 19.

Heifers: 200-400, 87-110; 400-600, 75-87; 600-800, 68-75.

Steers: 200-400, 95-118; 400-600, 82-95; 600-800, 70-82.

Good springer cows: 600-700; older springer cows: 425-500.

Good cows and calves: 725-800; older cows and calves: 450-500. Good packer cows: 42-47. Fat packer cows: 38-42. Old shelly cows: 25-33. Packer Bulls: High yielding, 52-56; low yielding, 45-50.

Because of Thanksgiving, there will be no sale on Nov. 26.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

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With John Robison and Len Gillard

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Dear
Abby



It's Time to Count Blessings As Well as Count Calories

by Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR READERS: By popular demand, here is my traditional Thanksgiving column:

Tomorrow is Thanksgiving Day, so take a few minutes to think about what you have to be thankful for.

How's your health? Not so good? Well, thank God you've lived this long. A lot of people haven't. You're hurting? Thousands — maybe millions — are hurting more. (Have you ever visited a veterans hospital? Or a rehabilitation clinic for crippled children?)

If you awakened this morning and were able to hear the birds sing, use your vocal cords to utter human sounds, walk to the breakfast table on two good legs and read the newspaper with two good eyes, praise the Lord! A lot of people couldn't.

How's your pocketbook? Thin? Well, most of the world is a lot poorer. No pensions. No welfare. No food stamps. No Social Security. In fact, one-third of the people in the world will go to bed hungry tonight.

Are you lonely? The way to have a friend is to be one. If nobody calls you, call someone. Go out of your way to do something nice for somebody. It's a sure cure for the blues.

Are you concerned about your country's future? Hooray! Our system has been saved by such concern. Concern for fair play under the law. Your country may not be a rose garden, but it also is not a patch of weeds.

Freedom rings! Look and listen. You can still worship at the church of your choice, cast a secret ballot, and even criticize your government without fearing a knock on the head or a knock on the door at midnight. And if you want to live under a different system, you are free to go. There are no walls or fences — nothing to keep you here.

As a final thought, I'll repeat my Thanksgiving prayer; perhaps you will want to use it at your table tomorrow:

O, heavenly Father:
We thank thee for food and remember the hungry.
We thank thee for health and remember the sick.
We thank thee for friends and remember the friendless.
We thank thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.
May these remembrances stir us to service.
That thy gifts to us may be used for others. Amen.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving, and may God bless you and yours.

LOVE, ABBY

An afterthought: Want an instant high? The surest cure for the post-holiday blues is to do something nice for someone. Why not call someone who lives alone and invite him (or her) over for dinner?

Better yet, call and say, "I'm coming to get you, and I'll see that you get home." (Many older people don't drive, and those who do don't like to go out alone after dark.)

Try it. And let me know the results.

P.S. Special greetings to those of you in the military who wrote from remote corners of the world to tell me that you are using my Thanksgiving prayer on this Thanksgiving Day.

For Abby's favorite family recipes, send a long, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet No. 1, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Vaccine showing promise

WASHINGTON (AP) — A whooping cough vaccine that has caused 250 deaths and cost the U.S. government almost a half-billion dollars in damages for injuries to young children may soon be replaced by a new and safer vaccine.

Officials at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development announced Tuesday that the new vaccine has been tested in Sweden and shown to be effective in preventing whooping cough while causing no serious side effects.

A whooping cough, or pertussis, vaccine used in the United States since the 1940s is effective in preventing the disease, but it contains a toxin that in some infants can cause serious reactions, including swelling, fever and crying. Some doctors have claimed that the vaccine can cause brain damage and even death.

Because of this, the pertussis vaccine became controversial in the 1980s and many parents avoided the inoculations.

"Many parents are afraid of the side effects and haven't been getting their kids immunized," said Michaela Richardson, a spokeswoman at the institute.

In some European countries, the vaccine has been banned or its use discouraged.

Concerned that liability claims would drive American vaccine makers out of the business, Congress in 1988 established a fund to compensate children injured by vaccines. The fund is financed by an annual \$110 million appropriation and by an excise tax on all doses of vaccines for seven childhood diseases, including pertussis.

In a program costing \$16 million, scientists at the National Institutes of Health developed a new pertussis vaccine and then monitored the vaccine testing in Sweden.

The new vaccine is based on a protein made by the pertussis bacteria that usually causes the classic coughing and fever symptoms of whooping cough. The NIH experts changed the protein slightly so it produces fewer side effects but causes the body to produce antibodies that protect against the disease.

In the Swedish tests, 1,692 infants, aged 3 months, 5 months and 12 months, were given shots of the new vaccine, along with diphtheria and tetanus shots, starting in September 1991. An additional 1,687 infants received only the diphtheria and tetanus shots.

Over 20 months, 240 of those who received only diphtheria and tetanus shots developed whooping cough. Among those getting the new pertussis vaccine, 72 developed whooping cough.

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Negotiating sex in a marriage

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a middle-aged male. My wife and I have raised a wonderful family and I still have a strong desire for sex, even though she has no desire at all. Would a device or procedure be available for me to use for ejaculation? Masturbation doesn't seem to be the answer.

DEAR READER: Many men (and women) whose partners are unable or unwilling to have sexual relations find that a vibrator will provide sexual release. Of course, you have other options, too.

If you are involved in a loving relation and your wife wants to be attentive to your needs, she may be willing to pleasure you in other ways that do not involve intercourse.

In addition, your wife might choose to address her lack of libido (sexual interest) with her gynecologist. Perhaps your spouse is deeply affected by a hormone deficiency, a physical disorder (such as lack of vaginal lubrication), or an emotional problem that affects her sexuality and can be corrected by medication or counseling.

To give you more information, I am sending you a free copy of my Health Report "Where to Find Sex Information." Other readers who

would like a copy should send \$2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2433, New York, NY 10163. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: With all the recent information regarding the dangers of lead ingestion, can you explain if using full lead crystal glassware is dangerous? We've been drinking from crystal for a long period and wonder if our concerns are well founded.

DEAR READER: Lead is, indeed, toxic to the body and will lead to headache, personality changes, loss of appetite, abdominal discomfort, and progressive renal disease.

The most common sources of lead poisoning are lead paint, retention of metallic lead objects (such as shot or weights), contaminated foods (that have been improperly stored in lead-glazed ceramic ware), inhalation of lead fumes (from burning lead-painted wood), contamination from a cottage industry (leaded glass and so forth) and illicit lead-containing whiskey or wine.

(As an aside, you might be interested in learning that the ancient Romans clarified their red wines with lead, which produced lead poisoning and a form of arthritis called "saturnine gout." This was the basis of the misconception that modern wines

cause gout. Present-day commercial wines do not contain lead and, therefore, do not cause lead poisoning or "gout.")

Where was I? Oh, yes. Acidic foods, when stored in lead-glazed containers, can leach the mineral from the vessels and cause lead poisoning. Although crystal glassware is made with lead, there are no reported instances of lead poisoning from drinking out of such containers. Rather, workers who make the crystal are at risk, because of exposure to lead dust and fumes.

Therefore, I believe that you are safe to continue to use your good crystal. For reasons that I mentioned, you should not store food — especially acidic edibles, such as juices — in lead crystal.

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DR. GOTT

PETER GOTT, M.D.



Medical-examiner policies reduce donations of organs

CHICAGO (AP) — A study says the shortage of transplant organs could be significantly eased if medical examiners would release about 1,000 organs a year that they currently withhold, most for no good reason.

Thousands of Americans die each year waiting for transplants, and many more linger on waiting lists, hoping organs will become available, the researchers said. The study did not try to estimate the number of lives lost, but most transplants are reserved for people with terminal or potentially deadly conditions.

Some medical examiners believe they might lose evidence needed for legal cases if they release organs, the researchers said in today's issue of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.

But in areas of the country where medical examiners routinely release all organs, apparently no legal case has ever suffered, they said.

"There's no reason for this loss of human life to protect the judicial system," said Teresa Shafer, lead author of the study and regional director of the LifeGift Organ Donation Center of North Texas in Fort Worth.

Seventy percent of all potential organ donors are cases that fall under the jurisdiction of medical examiners and coroners, Shafer's team reported.

Medical examiners determine

the cause and manner of death in certain situations, such as accidents, homicides and sudden infant death syndrome.

The study collectively referred to medical examiners and coroners as medical examiners. Medical examiners usually are doctors; coroners usually are not.

The rate at which medical examiners denied organ releases increased 65 percent from 1990 to 1992, the study found.

In 561 cases during that period, medical examiners refused to release organs to the 39 organ procurement organizations who answered the researchers' survey. The surveyed organizations represent two-thirds of U.S. procurement agencies.

Extrapolating to all such organizations, the researchers said as many as 884 denials may have occurred. Since U.S. donors give an average of 3.37 organs each, 2,979 people may have been denied transplants over the three-year period, or about 1,000 a year, researchers said.

Medical examiners may be growing more cautious, or they may have merely appeared to deny more organs because of better reporting, researchers said.

Dr. Thomas F. Hegert, chairman of the Tissue and Organ Committee for the National Association of Medical Examiners, agreed that concerns about preserving evidence are behind many denials.

In child abuse cases, which represented 29.3 percent of denials in the study, subtle injuries to organs may be the only evidence of what really happened, said Hegert, chief medical examiner in Orlando, Fla.

Procurement agencies and medical examiners are cooperating better since the study was completed, he said.

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