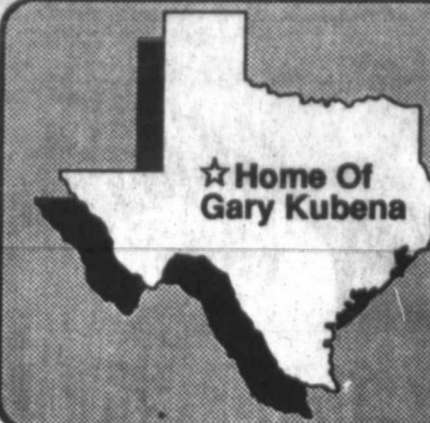


Nov. 30,
1994

Vol. 45 No. 180
Snyder, Texas 79549
10 Pages, 50¢

West Texas
Intermediate Crude
\$18.05



WEDNESDAY

Snyder Daily News

Ask Us

Q—Why do some water meters in town have blue markings on them while others do not?

A—City officials said the blue markings help meter readers to spot meters which are hard to see.

Local

Reservations

Scurry County Museum is still taking reservations for its annual Christmas dinner, set for 7 p.m. Friday. Call 573-6107.

Dinners

Snyder High School choir is taking reservations for its final Christmas Madrigal Dinner, which will be held Thursday. For reservations or more information call 573-6301.

Flu shots

Scurry County Health Unit will be giving flu shots Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m.

Mental Health

Scurry County Mental Health unit will be closed Thursday and Friday and will reopen Monday, Dec. 5, at its new location, 1911 40th St.

Model planes

Snyder Area Model Airplane Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at A-1 Air Conditioning, 712 College Ave. All visitors are welcome.

FFA

FFA alumni and parent support group will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the high school ag building.

Candlelight

The local July 4th Prayer Breakfast/Candlelight Service committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the chamber board room.

Parents

Parents of Snyder High School seniors are reminded that the deadline for senior dedication ads in the 1994-95 Tiger's Lair yearbook is Thursday.

Price is \$30, including a photo and message with a maximum of 30 words. This does not include the cost of the yearbook. The dedication may be mailed to SHS, Attn: Student Publications, 3801 Austin Ave. For more information, call Diane Arnold at 573-6301, ext. 35.

Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Tuesday, 52 degrees; low, 25 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Wednesday, 26 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1994 to date, 11.42 inches.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, fair. Low in the lower 30s. Light wind Thursday, mostly sunny. High near 70. Light wind early, becoming south 10-20 mph in the afternoon.

Almanac: Sunset today, 5:41. Sunrise Thursday, 7:24. Of 333 days in 1994, the sun has shone 326 days in Snyder.



Bogus toy fund prompts warning

Snyder police are urging local citizens to use caution before donating money.

Tuesday, a man who represented himself to be helping 37th St. Church of Christ collect money for a children's toy fund, was soliciting in a southeast Snyder neighborhood.

A resident called the church office and learned that no fundraising effort was being conducted by the church. Police later contacted a suspect who said he had gotten \$4 and had used it to buy food. No charges were filed since the persons who actually gave the money were not located.

Police Sgt. Trevlyn Pitner suggested that residents who are unfamiliar with the solicitor or the organization they represent should first check before donating money.

Sgt. Pitner said local law enforcement authorities receive similar reports throughout the year. "Although there are many good causes, unfortunately there are individuals out there who will take advantage," Pitner said persons doubtful of the validity of a fundraising effort may also contact local law enforcement agencies.



FINISHING TOUCHES — Burton Sandefur puts the finishing touches on the front of the new Radio Shack store while Alan Culp operates the lift. The store is located adjacent to Permian Communications at 2403 25th St. and will be opening Thursday. (SDN Staff Photo)

Fowler to direct Snyder chamber

Donna Fowler, who for years has promoted Snyder through her radio show "Coffee Break," the county fair, White Buffalo Days and other events, has been named manager of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce.

"This is such an honor," said an excited Fowler, shortly after learning the chamber board's decision Monday afternoon. "All of a sudden it's my job to do what I've wanted to do all my life."

Fowler was selected from a group of 18 people who had applied to fill the vacancy left by Ricky Fritz. In January, Fritz will be sworn in as county judge. Fowler will assume responsibilities at the chamber on Jan. 1.

Fowler said she believes her past experience makes her a natural for the position.

"I promote Snyder everyday of my life...I'll just be promoting it now as my job," she said. "I feel like my years in management and marketing will be very helpful. I



DONNA FOWLER

know a lot of people in the entertainment business, and if the chamber should wind up running the coliseum, I think that could be very helpful. I have an excellent board to work with, I've worked with the business community for 16 years and I know all of the businesses in Snyder.

"I think one thing that will help is that I don't have any ties with anyone. I work well with the city, the county, the BCD, DCOS — all groups," she added.

Fowler has worked in the broadcast industry for 16 years, including the past 10 as sales and operations manager at KSNV radio. She is a former recipient of the chamber's Vestal Award, and has been named an Outstanding Woman in Broadcasting.

She helped organize the White Buffalo Days; wrote, produced and performed in the "Whirligig;" helped organize and secure funding for the first women's division of the chamber; and has served on such boards as United Way, Cancer Society and county welfare.

She helped with the city-wide fund-raiser for the Price Daniel Unit and the committee for helping to promote the proposed Resource Center at the unit. She is a former Girl Scout leader, sponsor of Lucky 13, active in her church and a former PTA president.

She has also appeared in numerous plays and sung in a variety of events.

She and her husband, Joe, have three children: Jimmy Joe, Jeff and Lezli.

"I'm real excited about Donna coming on as chamber manager and bringing with her varied experiences. I feel she is going to be a wonderful asset to bring chamber member benefits and tourism to the forefront here in Snyder," said chamber board president Pearlene Stewart-Nolan. "I'm looking forward to working with her next year."

Directors fill vacancies on chamber board

Chamber board members, meeting in executive session Tuesday, named two persons to fill vacancies on the board.

Named were Gary Luft, family counselor, who will replace Pam West, and Howard Limmer, owner of Limmer's Ladies Apparel, who will replace Pat Cain. Last week, the board named Art Feinsod, owner of the Purple Sage Motel, to replace Tom Restifo.

The appointments do not include recent board nominations for three-year terms. Those nominations, to replace four out-going board members, are Keith Hackfeld, owner of Bar-H-Bar Family Outfitters; Rob Sanders, H&R Block; Julie Sentell, Law Office of Marvin Sentell; and Ronnie Shields, Farmers Group Insurance.

They will replace Travis Bunch, Donna Gray, Pearlene Stewart-Nolan and Limmer. Stewart-Nolan will continue to serve as past-president and Limmer will continue as an appointed board member to replace Cain.

Additional names of candidates for board members can be nominated by petition bearing the signatures of at least 10 qualified members of the chamber. If no petition is filed by Dec. 9, nominations will be closed and the four candidates will be declared elected during the next board of directors meeting.

Commissioners to consider coliseum management pact

Scurry County Commissioners Court will meet at 8 a.m. Thursday to again consider a proposal for the Snyder Chamber of Commerce to assume operations of Scurry County Coliseum.

On Monday, the court was presented with a draft of the proposed agreement by chamber board officers Daryl Thomas and Pearlene Stewart-Nolan.

Commissioners have budgeted \$150,000 for the operation of the complex for 1995, but Thomas said Monday that the chamber would need a subsidy of \$185,000.

"We have left no stones unturned in coming to you with these figures," said Thomas, who is local manager of TU Electric. "We feel some of the estimated expenditures — such as utilities — might have been a little low in the 1995 budget."

If the proposal is accepted by the commissioners court, the chamber would also receive all the revenue generated from events held at the coliseum during the year.

The court had previously eliminated some \$35,000 for 1995 which is equal to the salary of a secretary and a maintenance employee. On Nov. 7, the court posted a notice of job elimination for all the employees which Judge Bob Doolittle said was an effort to "let the employees out there know" (See COLISEUM, Page 8)

United Methodist Church and Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.

Others include Northeast Elementary, Hermligh Booster Club, the John Wallace Unit in Mitchell County, the G-20s, Cogdell Home Health Services, Girl Scouts, Scurry County employees, Y-Z Industries and Lawrence IGA.

Groups and individuals entering vehicles include the Wagon Wheel Ranch, Big Country GM, Crawford Real Estate Appraisal, C.D. Gray, Bobby Vega, Jamey Alvarado and Mobil.

Parade coordinator is Pat Cunningham.

The parade will begin at sunset Saturday.

There are separate divisions this year for floats entered by church groups, schools, businesses, community/clubs and vehicles. These floats will be judged on Friday evening. A separate division will also be held for vehicles, which will be judged before the parade on Saturday.

A \$200 first-place prize will be awarded in each of the divisions. There will also be a walker's division, with prizes set at \$50 for first place, \$30 for second and \$20 for third.

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All parade entries — including walkers — must be lighted.

Groups and businesses which plan to have floats in the parade include St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, First Baptist Church, Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, First

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The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Important words this holiday season are Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and No Payment 'til Next Year."

Monday morning's fire at Stanfield Elementary was a reminder that the holiday season often is a time for tragic fires which often can be avoided.

On our way to work Monday, we heard the sirens of the emergency vehicles and could see the flames from as far away as the hospital.

A slight wind out of the west helped keep the flames away from other campus structures, but the real heroes were members of the Snyder fire department.

Firemen, some of them summoned out of bed, were on the scene quickly. Not only did they fight the fire, but training to protect the spread to nearby buildings was evident.

Snyder Supt. Gayle Lomax was quick to credit and praise Snyder firemen for limiting the amount of damage sustained by the school district.

If a fire had to happen, it happened at the best possible time. It was too early for kids, and late enough for workers to be around to call in the alarm.

Fire Chief Terry McDowell is asking cooperation from local residents. The fire department urges citizens to refrain from placing hot ashes in dumpsters, to be careful with fireplaces and with Christmas lights, especially on natural trees that have a tendency to dry out during the yule season.

Holiday facts from somewhere, collected by somebody:

--Thirty-five percent of all homes in the U.S. have outdoor lights.

--The average monthly cost for operating a 100-bulb string of lights is \$6.00.

--Twenty million neckties will be sold.

--Hot gift for men — silk boxer shorts.

--Average family gift budget is \$400.

--90 million hams and 68 million turkeys will be eaten.

--Of all Christmas trees, 36.2 million are artificial.

--Best-selling holiday song is still White Christmas by Bing Crosby.

--Number of fruit cakes baked: 20 million.

--Number of fruit cakes eaten: 0.



PEGGY VERNON

Rabies vaccine airdrop sought

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — State health officials are seeking federal permission to airdrop bait laced with an experimental rabies vaccine in South Texas.

The federal government has pledged \$1.3 million for the project if it can be proved to work. The airdrop would cover a 40-mile-wide arc from Maverick County up to southern Bexar, and down to Calhoun County north of Corpus Christi.

So far, researchers have been unable to prove the experimental vaccine will successfully halt the spread of rabies among coyotes.

The vaccine, made by Rhone-Merieux Inc. of France, has been proven to work in raccoons and foxes in airdrops in Europe and Canada.

"Canine rabies is on its way to San Antonio, and we feel like there's a very narrow window of time where we can do anything about stopping that," said Dr. Keith Clark, director of veterinary public health with the Texas Department of Health.

Clark said if the airdrop isn't launched by February, it probably

will be impossible to halt the epidemic.

Problems with halting the epidemic were discussed Tuesday at a public health conference on rabies.

Rabies caused death Sunday of Rolando Bazan, 14, of Edinburg. It was the first human death from rabies in Texas since November 1993.

Officials are investigating how Bazan contracted the disease.

Collegiate Hotline slated Jan. 7-8

The Texas Association of College Admission Counselors (TACAC), a non-profit association of professional educators, and the Greater East Texas Higher Education Authority will co-sponsor a toll-free telephone College Information Hotline, available to all Texas residents, on Saturday, Jan. 7, 1995, and Sunday, Jan. 8, 1995, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Anyone in the state of Texas may telephone, toll-free, 1-800-829-4599 and receive free information about college selection, admission, testing, and financial aid. The most up-to-date information regarding the application process, college majors, entrance requirements, financial aid, and meeting deadlines will be available.

The hotline will be staffed by professionals from secondary guidance departments, colleges, and universities from across the state. Spanish-speaking counselors will be available.

Movie deal set

RED BANK, N.J. (AP) — Now that his low-budget movie "Clerks" has become a darling of the critics, Kevin Smith is being checked out by the major studios.

Universal Pictures has given Smith a \$5 million budget for his next project, "Mall Rats."



GIFT OF VIDEOS — The Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT) has pledged to place a complete video history of the American space program in all Texas schools. The \$2.5 million gift of videos was produced from the original films in the NASA archives. Presenting the collection to the Ira ISD are Shawn Ragland, West

Texas State Bank vice president, left, and Darryl Calley, vice president of Snyder National Bank, right. Others pictured are, from left, Kasey Calley, student council president; Jeremy Howard, National Honor Society president; and Tommy Hancock, principal. (SDN Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Parents fighting over custody of Dahmer's cremated remains

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Jeffrey Dahmer once said his parents' arguments drove him into a private fantasy world. Now his divorced parents have another dispute — over his remains.

Both parents want the body of their serial killer son cremated and want custody of the ashes, lawyers

say. Stephen Eisenberg, who represented Dahmer after his trial, said a judge may have to split the ashes between his mother, Joyce Flint of Fresno, Calif., and his father, Lionel Dahmer of Bath, Ohio.

Authorities have performed an autopsy and won't release Dah-

mer's body until it's no longer needed as evidence.

Dahmer's head was bashed in Monday while he was cleaning toilets at the Columbia Correctional Institution in Portage. A bloody broom handle was found near his body, but authorities haven't determined if it was the murder weapon.

An inmate who had been working with Dahmer also was beaten and remained in critical condition today with head injuries. A prisoner who had been working with the two men, convicted murderer Christopher J. Scarver, was identified as the suspect.

It was the second attack this year on Dahmer, who killed and dismembered 17 men and boys and sometimes cannibalized or had sex with the corpses. But Eisenberg said Dahmer didn't want the restrictive living conditions that could have saved him.

"He wanted to be in with the general (prison) population. He didn't want to sit in a hole all day long," he said.



Woman Getting Older Is Proud to Be Getting Better

by Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: A recent column had several letters from women age 60 and over who had cute responses to questions regarding their age. I think these women are part of the problem.

Our culture extends neither status nor credit to its aging population. Today there are more of us than ever before, and we are striving to age with grace and dignity, but there seems to be a consistent, subtle and insidious message that it is not OK to get older. For example, try to buy a birthday card that doesn't refer to the loss of memory, sight, body functions or body parts that no longer work properly.

Let's fight back! Let's establish models for aging with grace and dignity, and change our own negative views on aging and the attitude of the younger generation. There are cultures that respect their older members for their wisdom and knowledge.

I worked hard to get where I am today. I had lessons to learn and many to relearn — and I am still learning. That's what life is all about, isn't it? I have much to share.

Tell your age. Be proud of it. Show others that you have earned the wisdom and balance to enjoy life even more.

JOAN BELSHIN,
62 YEARS OLD,
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

P.S. One of the cleverest birthday cards I have seen is by Seinfeld. It reads: "You are lucky to be growing older. Now, if you want a cookie, you can have a cookie!"

DEAR JOAN: Perhaps you tuned in late. When asked my age, I simply say, "I'm a 1918 model."

I vote with you — and Seinfeld!

DEAR ABBY: Last night my 14-year-old son amazed me by asking if our family could go Christmas caroling this year. He then said, "Let's give family members fewer gifts, and use the money to buy gifts for people who are in hospitals and nursing homes — and deliver them ourselves on Christmas Eve!"

Abby, I was somewhat stunned that a 14-year-old would think in such generous terms. We are going to use his suggestions and make this the most rewarding Christmas we have ever had.

Perhaps we need to listen to our children more.
TIM, JESSICA AND MICHAEL'S MOM IN TENINO, WASH.

DEAR TIM, JESSICA AND MICHAEL'S MOM: "Out of the mouths of babes..." (Psalms 8:2). Another truism: "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree." Take a bow, Mom.

DEAR ABBY: I agree with your reader, Earl W. Brown, who hates canned laughter on television.

To express my similar sentiments, I composed the following: "If they have TV in the great hereafter, I hope and pray there's no canned laughter."

CHARLES F. YARHAM,
ROCKY RIVER, OHIO

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61064-0447. (Postage is included.)

DATE BOOK

Nov. 30, 1994

Today is the 334th day of 1994 and the 69th day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 30 B.C. Cleopatra committed suicide.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Jonathan Swift (1667-1745), writer; Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens, 1835-1910), writer; Winston Churchill (1874-1965), English statesman; Efram Zimbalist Jr. (1923-), actor, is 71; Dick Clark (1929-), producer, is 65; G. Gordon Liddy (1930-), burglar-talk show host, is 64; Bill Walsh (1931-), football coach, is 63; Abbie Hoffman (1936-1989), revolutionary; David Mamet (1947-), dramatist, is 47; Bo Jackson (1962-), baseball player, is 32.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1911, New York Giant fireballer Christy Mathewson shut out the Havana Amadores on a Latin American trip, pitching against his Cuban counterpart, Jose "the Black Matty" Mendez. Later, umpire Cy Rigler and legendary Giant manager John McGraw got drunk and fought with Cuban fans, resulting in their arrest.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time." — Winston Churchill

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1985, more than half a foot of snow fell on parts of the Midwest. By the time the storm ended, Marquette, Mich., registered a total of more than three feet.

SOURCE: THE WEATHER CHANNEL © 1994 Weather Guide Calendar, Accord Publishing, Ltd.
TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Nov. 26) and new moon (Dec. 2).

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The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to use for republication all news dispatches in this newspaper and also local news published for republication of special dispatches.

WESTERN HERITAGE GIFTS

At The Scurry County Museum

"Cowboy" mugs, gift wrap, picture frames, book-ends, button-covers and bolos. Also, traditional Christmas gifts-embossed note cards, collector plates, ornaments, puzzles and books for children & adults.

The museum will have a SPECIAL SALE Thursday, December 1. All items 10% off (museum members add an extra 5%). The museum will stay open until 9:00 p.m. for your shopping pleasure. Call 573-6107.

Berry's World!

MENTAL NOTE:
EMPLOYEE MORALE IS EXCELLENT.

Jim Berry
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We've got that hometown spirit and we're passing it around!

How Some Financial Institutes Treat You.

How Snyder National Bank Treats You.

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THANKSGIVING TREASURES — Stanfield students presented "Thanksgiving Treasure" recently. Monette O'Day conducted the musical score. Melissa Rosson's students in the top photo are from left, back row, Ashley Brewer, Eric Torres, Emily Pinkston, Ricky Early, Tabitha Gomez, Casey Newby and Courtney Stanley; front row, Lorene Watkins, Darrell Cook, Israel Escamilla, Gabrielle Ivey, Chelsea Wood, Kendra Martinez and Seth Coffey. Justin Johnson is not pictured. Carolyn Martin's students in the bottom photo are from left, back row, Briana Burk, Lupe Arrellano, Kelsey Shaw, Brandon Bragg, Hope Cole, Matthew Morris, Jessica Hallford and Kevin Valdez; front row, Cassie Gordon, Tanner Bloom, Elizabeth Powell, Thomas Henderson, Kimberly Groves, Jody Costillo, Melissa White, Phil Rice and Carol Tavearez. (SDN Staff Photos)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

NORTH 11-30-94			
♠ 9 5			
♥ Q 10 7 2			
♦ A 9 8 5 3			
♣ Q 7			
WEST		EAST	
♠ 8 6	♥ A 9 5	♠ Q 10 7 3	♥ K 4 3
♦ J 10 4	♣ K J 10 5 2	♦ 7 6 2	♠ 8 6 4
SOUTH			
♠ A K J 4 2			
♥ J 8 6			
♦ K Q			
♣ A 9 3			
Vulnerable: Neither			
Dealer: South			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♠ 10			

A good hand is hard to find

Flannery O'Connor, the American author, wrote, "Time is very dangerous without a rigid routine. If you do the same thing every day at the same time for the same length of time, you'll save yourself from many a sink. Routine is a condition of survival."

Bridge experts routinely watch for the right time to win a trick. In today's deal, from the last World Championships, Linda Lewis, of Las Vegas, found the right moment for the key play and beat a contract that would otherwise have made.

South's one-club opening was strong and artificial. North's one-heart response showed at least seven high-card points, but denied an ace and a king or three kings.

West led the club 10, showing zero or two higher honors. After winning with dummy's queen, the declarer, Dutchman Max Rebatu, was faced with a tricky decision. He could take the spade finesse, hoping East had queen-third. Yet that was heavily against the odds. Or he could try to sneak a heart past East. Rebatu went for this option, calling for dummy's heart two.

If East plays low, West does best to duck South's jack. But South overtakes a diamond honor with dummy's ace, takes the spade finesse and concedes the fourth round of spades to East's queen. South's nine tricks are four spades, one heart, two diamonds and two clubs.

East was on the ball, however. She put in her heart king. When it held the trick, East returned a club. West's suit was established while he still had an entry in the heart ace. The contract was routinely dead.

Phillip Alder's new book, "Get Smarter at Bridge," is available, autographed upon request, for \$14.95 from P.O. Box 169, Roslyn Hts., NY 11577-0169.

1994 NEA

Benefit concert

DALLAS (AP) — What she is is what she was. A pregnant Edie Brickell reunited with her old band, the New Bohemians, for a pair of concerts to benefit the 4-year-old daughter of a murdered friend.

About 700 people gave \$25 donations to see the group perform songs such as their 1988 hit "What I Am" on Monday and Tuesday. The group broke up in 1991 after recording two albums.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for more information call 573-1141; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Snyder Garden Club; guest luncheon at Martha Ann Woman's Club; "Christmas Memories," program by Mindy O'Banion; hostesses, Mary Ann Key, LaVerne Hood and Sandra Browning; 11:30 a.m. Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; American Legion; 6:30-8 p.m. SOS (Singles of Snyder) volleyball and games; First Baptist Church Family Life Center; 7 p.m.

Scurry Lodge 706; AF and AM degree classes; 7 p.m. Codependents Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 37th & Ave. M; for more information call 573-7358; 7 p.m. New Horizons Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3308 or 573-2101. Bilingual Group of Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club Addition in Winston Park; for more information call 863-2349 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

Free blood pressure clinics; Senior Citizens Center, 9:30-11 a.m.; Cogdell Memorial Hospital emergency waiting room; 1-2 p.m. ACBL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 1:30 p.m.

Ritz Community Theatre presents "The Toys Take Over Christmas;" WTC Fine Arts Theatre; 8 p.m. Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment; 573-9742 or 573-2763.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 863-2349; (Last Friday of the month is the birthday, open meeting); 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for more information call 573-3956 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Celebrate Christmas Parade; College Ave. and courthouse square; 6 p.m.

People Without Partners; Inadale Community Center; games of 42 and dominos; 6:30 p.m.

"Christmas Around the Piano," piano recital by students of Barbara Tune, in addition, SHS Band Brass Choir will perform; MAWC; 7:30 p.m.

Ritz Community Theatre presents "The Toys Take Over Christmas;" WTC Fine Arts Theatre; 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for more information call 573-1141, 863-2349 or 573-8626; 10 a.m.

Christmas Happening in the Scurry County Museum; WTC campus; admissions free; 1-5 p.m.

Scurry County Museum; Western Texas College; open from 1 to 4 p.m.

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder County Club; 1:30 p.m.

Ritz Community Theatre presents "The Toys Take Over Christmas;" WTC Fine Arts Theatre; 2:30 p.m.

Beginners Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club at Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 7 p.m.

Daughter born in 7 minutes

QUINCY, Mass. (AP) — It may have taken Corrine Green less time to deliver her baby than it took to conceive her. Mrs. Green's husband, Chris, dropped her off at the hospital Monday for what they thought was a routine visit for indigestion. By the time he returned after filling up the car with gas and looking for a parking spot, he was the father of an 8-pound, 6-ounce girl. The delivery took just seven minutes.

Mrs. Green said she had mistaken her contractions for indigestion.

"If it's like this, I'll do it again," she said. "It was so quick. It was like, 'I have a baby. Wow, that's easy.'"

Scurry County Chapter Of American Business Women Association will sponsor the Concession Stand at Arts & Crafts Show December 3 & 4, 1994 At The Coliseum

Proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund.

Tupac Shakur, manager shot

NEW YORK (AP) — Tupac Shakur was shot five times during a robbery early today outside a Manhattan recording studio.

The 23-year-old rapper and actor was in guarded condition with wounds to the head, groin and hand, but was conscious and alert, Bellevue Hospital Center administrator Wesley Anglin said.

Shakur and three other men were walking into the Quad Recording Studio near Times Square when three robbers confronted them about 12:30 a.m., said Sgt. James Coleman.

The gunmen demanded that Shakur and his friends "Give it up," but Shakur apparently didn't move fast enough and the robbers opened fire, Coleman said.

Nurse's Aide course slated

The Continuing Education Division at Western Texas College will be offering a Nurse's Aide course to begin Wednesday, Dec. 7 and end with state certification testing scheduled for Dec. 21 and 22.

The course is a state-mandated curriculum for persons seeking employment as a Nurse's Aide in hospitals and long-term care facilities.

Mrs. Velma Clay, B.S.N., M.S., director of WTC's Nurse's Aide program and Assistant Professor of Nursing for Howard College, will serve as instructor.

The total price is \$246 which covers all expenses including tuition and fees, state testing fees, textbooks and liability insurance.

A \$25 deposit is required for pre-registration and will be applied toward the cost of the course. Deposits are refundable if cancellation notice is reported directly to the Continuing Education office by noon on Monday, Dec. 5.

With enrollment limited to 13 spaces and classes expected to fill quickly, interested individuals are asked to pre-register as soon as possible. For more information and/or to pre-register, call 573-8511, ext. 390.

Then, "Shakur lunged at one of the gunmen and fought over the gun. Shots were fired and he ran into the street after one of the gunmen," Coleman said.

The bandits vanished with jewelry. Coleman said Shakur apparently was unarmed.

Shakur's manager, 24-year-old Freddie Moore, was shot once in the stomach. His condition was not available.

The shooting was the latest misfortune for Shakur, whose troubles with the law have earned him more notoriety than his hard-edged raps or starring roles in "Poetic Justice," "Juice" and "Above the Rim."

On Tuesday, a Manhattan jury began deliberating sexual assault and weapons charges against Shakur and Charles Fuller, 24.

A woman says that four days after she had consensual sex with Shakur, he lured her to his hotel in November 1993 for a gang sex attack by four of his friends. Shakur's lawyer says she is lying because she is a "vengeful suitor."

Police said when they arrived at the hotel room they found two pistols. Shakur faces up to 25 years in prison if convicted of the sex charges and up to seven years on the gun charges.

After the New York case is resolved, Shakur must serve a 10-day jail sentence in Michigan.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The Pick 3 winning numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-0-4 (five, zero, four)

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for swinging a bat at another rapper during a concert.

In April, police arrested Shakur after they said he was carrying a loaded pistol. And he served 15 days in a Los Angeles jail for beating up a music video director.

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators is a composite of 12 economic measurements that was developed to help forecast likely shifts in the U.S. economy as a whole. It is compiled by the Commerce Department.

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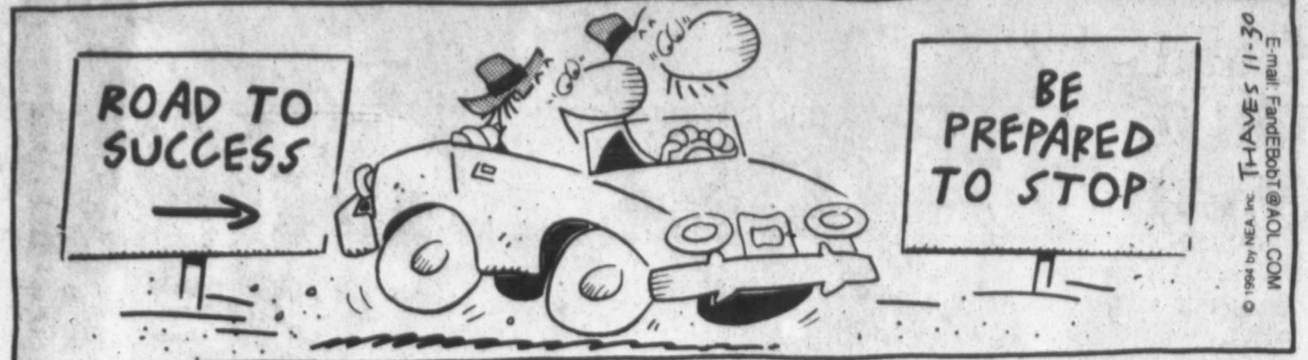
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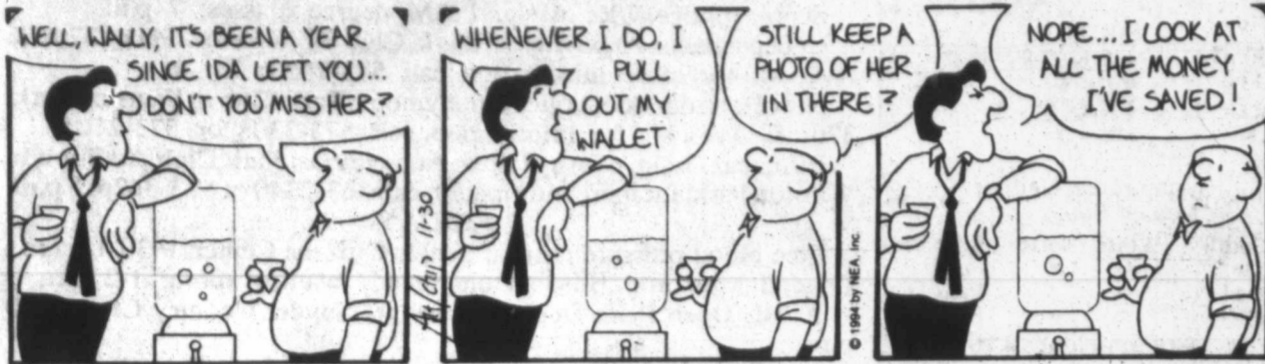
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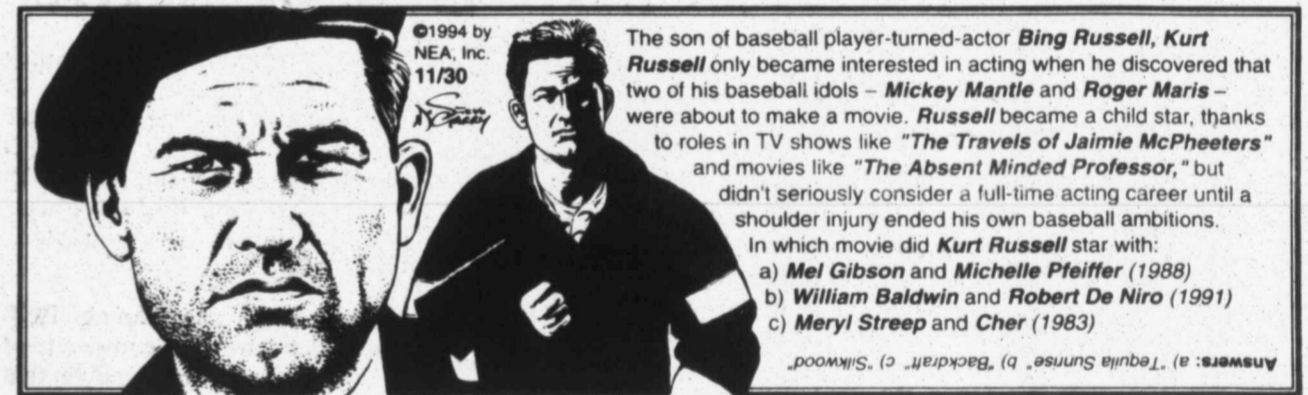
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

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- Equine command
- Entertainer — Sumac
- Type of cabbage
- Horse food
- Hockey great Bobby —
- Capital of Latvia
- and kin
- Tiny
- Architect
- Common ailments
- Writer — Fleming
- Sweet potato
- Bakery products
- Desiring (sl.)
- Possess
- At the drop of —
- Actor —

Novello

- Actor — Dullea
- Mixture
- Fuss
- Actress — Parsons
- Musical sounds
- Obscure
- Playing-card figure
- Theodore —
- White wine
- First number
- Dinesen: Out of Africa author
- Middy
- Econ. indicator
- Diminutive suffix
- Mild expletive
- Fast plane (abbr.)
- Sow
- Lairs

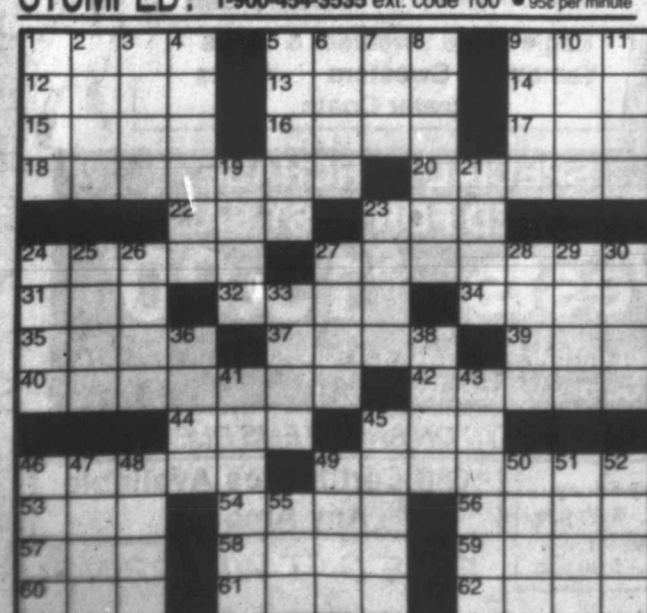
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P	H	O	N	I	E	R	M	A	S	O
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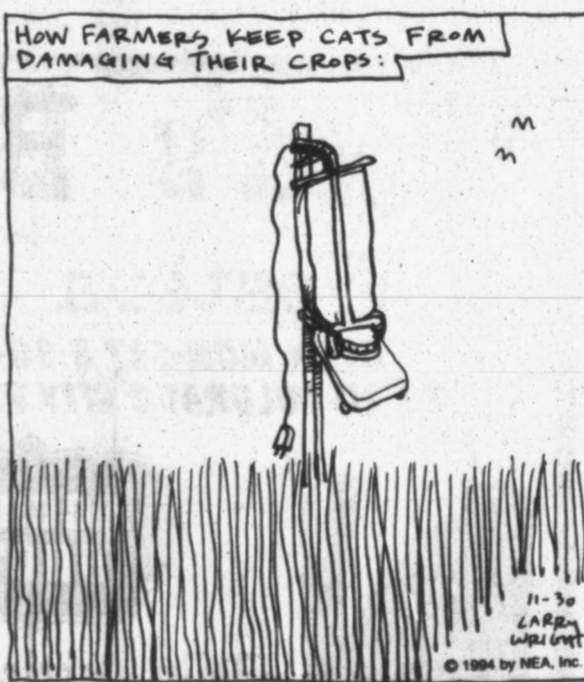
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- Aroused
- Filament
- Baseball player Mel —
- Trash
- Loud cry
- TV's talking horse (2 wds.)
- War god
- Space agcy.
- Atlanta arena
- Abominable snowman
- Pepsi's rival
- Dezess
- Interwine
- Ivy League university
- Tennis player — Lendl
- Rounded lump
- Silk fabric
- Actress Celeste —
- Advise
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Sports

Cards fall to A.C.H.S.

ABILENE — It was pure and simple. Hermleigh's Cardinals just couldn't drop the eggs in the basket.

Hermleigh's varsity boys hit just 20 percent from the field, including an 0-of-11 night from 3-point range, as they fell to Abilene Christian High School here Tuesday, 70-39.

The tough ACHS hoopsters swept the Cardinals, winning the girl's varsity game 49-43, and the boy's junior varsity game 58-32.

"We had a bad night shooting, but we hustled hard," said Coach Wayne Poehls of his varsity boys, who fell to 2-2 on the young season. Hermleigh shot 12 of 59 from the floor and 12 of 22 from the free throw stripe.

Ricky Sosa paced Hermleigh with 12 points, 7 rebounds, 7 steals and 5 assists. Joey Sanchez had 7 points and Billy Luna and Jimmy Digby scored 6 each. Digby also had 7 rebounds.

Abilene Christian got out to a 15-4 first-quarter lead and never looked back. The hosts led at halftime, 26-12.

Hermleigh's varsity girls lost a hard-fought contest in Abilene. The big difference came in the second quarter as the Lady Cardinals were outscored 22-11.

Kelly Gonzalez paced the visitors with 17 points. Michelle Roemisch bagged 13 and Bridget Moore added 10 for the Cards, now 1-3 on the season.

In JV action, T.J. Wood scored 10 points and John McHaney added 9 for Hermleigh.

JV Boys				
Hermleigh	3	18	6	5
ACHS	10	16	18	14
Hermleigh — Ricky Luna 7, Harve Smith 2, T.J. Wood 10, John McHaney 9, Alvin Koski 2, T.J. Leal 2.				
ACHS — David van Reenan 24.				

Girls Varsity				
Hermleigh	12	11	9	11
ACHS	9	22	9	9
Hermleigh — Ester Martinez 3, Michelle Roemisch 13, Bridget Moore 10, Kelly Gonzalez 17.				
ACHS — E. Huckabee 16.				
Records: Hermleigh 1-3.				

Boys Varsity				
Hermleigh	4	8	12	15
ACHS	15	11	19	26
Hermleigh — Ricky Sosa 12, Brendan Blair 1, Chris Roemisch 2, Larry Lamberson 3, Billy Luna 6, Michael Breitweiser 2, Joey Sanchez 7, Jimmy Digby 6; Rebounds — Sosa 7, Digby 7; Assists — Sosa 5; Steals — Sosa 7.				
ACHS — David Riox 25.				
Records: Hermleigh 2-2.				

NBA Glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE

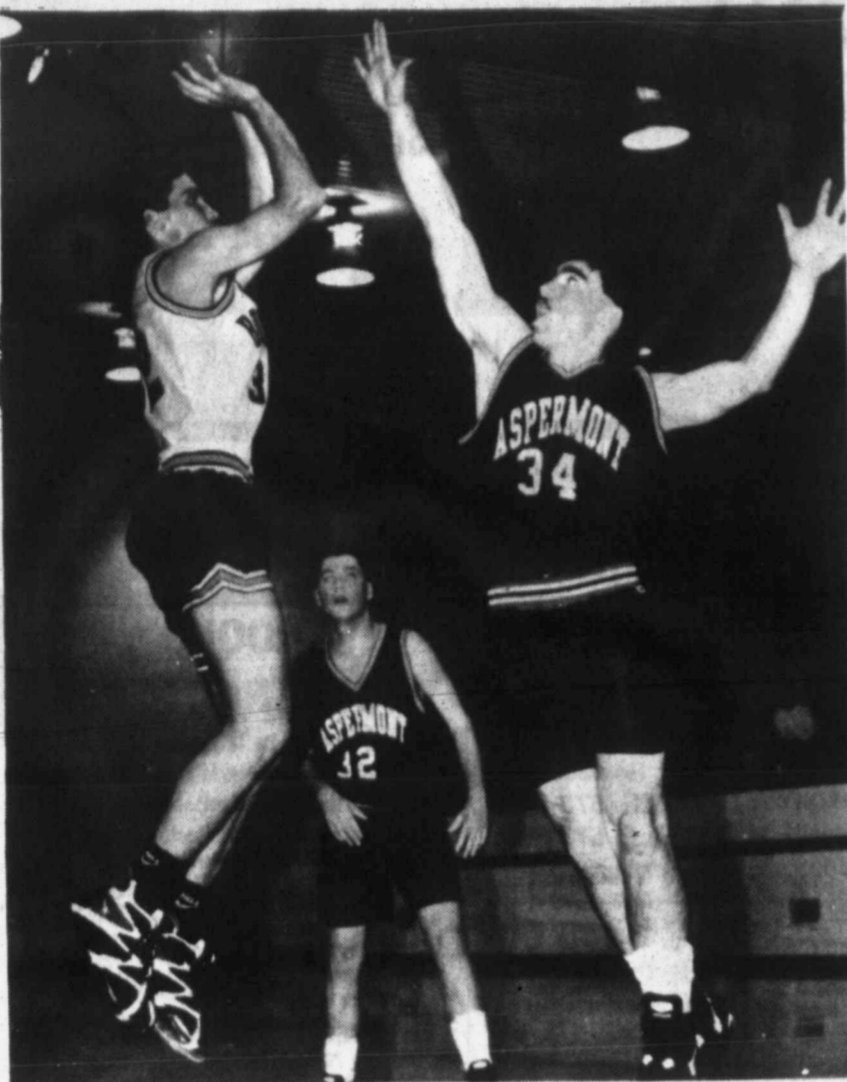
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Orlando	9	2	.818	-
New York	7	4	.636	2
Boston	6	6	.500	3 1/2
New Jersey	4	9	.400	5
Washington	4	7	.364	5
Philadelphia	4	8	.333	5 1/2
Miami	3	8	.273	6
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	7	5	.583	-
Detroit	7	5	.583	-
Indiana	7	5	.583	-
Charlotte	6	6	.500	1
Chicago	6	6	.500	1
Milwaukee	5	7	.417	2
Atlanta	4	9	.308	3 1/2
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	10	3	.769	1 1/2
Utah	9	5	.643	2
Dallas	7	4	.636	2
Denver	6	6	.500	3 1/2
San Antonio	6	6	.500	3 1/2
Minnesota	1	13	.071	9 1/2
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Phoenix	10	3	.769	-
Golden State	8	5	.615	2
L.A. Lakers	8	5	.615	2
Seattle	8	5	.615	2
Sacramento	6	5	.545	3
Portland	6	6	.500	3 1/2
L.A. Clippers	0	13	.000	10

Monday's Games
San Antonio 92, Minnesota 88
Seattle 118, Indiana 99

Tuesday's Games
L.A. Lakers 129, New Jersey 120, 2OT
New York 99, Washington 91
Sacramento 94, Miami 89
Charlotte 90, Atlanta 85
Phoenix 123, Milwaukee 106
Dallas 84, Minnesota 83
Houston 96, Denver 81
Utah 105, Portland 94
Golden State 127, L.A. Clippers 124, OT

Wednesday's Games
Detroit at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Chicago, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Seattle, 10 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Cleveland at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Utah, 9 p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.



HOOP IT UP — Ira's Todd Collom, left, shoots over Aspermont's Jason Gilley, right, while Matt Fraser, center, looks on Tuesday. The Bulldogs fell to Aspermont 88-34. (Photo by Todd Stanley)

Ira drops pair to Aspermont

IRA — Their are three ways to lose basketball games: in the closing seconds, by a couple of baskets, or in a blowout.

Ira was unfortunate enough to discover two of those ways Tuesday night against Aspermont.

The Lady Bulldogs started the night off with a gut-wrenching 56-55 loss to the Lady Hornets. Ira lead at halftime 35-23, but their inability to in-bound the ball in the second half proved costly.

The Lady Hornets cut into the Ira lead in the third quarter, but the fourth quarter spelled disaster for the Lady Bulldogs.

With 3:20 left in the game, Aspermont tied the game at 48-48.

The Lady Bulldogs had a cou-

ple of opportunities to go back on top late in the game, but missed layups and free throws were their downfall.

Jennifer Northcott and Jennifer Rankin combined for 12 points each to lead the Lady Bulldogs. Kasey Calley also hit for nine in the game.

In the boy's game, Ira was just overmatched. The strength and height on the low post, by Aspermont, was too much for the Bulldog defense.

The Bulldogs were outscored in every quarter, as they fell down 22-6 in the first and 41-16 at halftime.

The Hornets continued the pressure in the third quarter as they

outscored Ira 20-9 to take a 61-25 lead. In the fourth, Aspermont poured it on taking a 27-9 advantage to win the game 88-34.

Eddie Brasuel was the leading scorer for the Bulldogs, with 12 and Todd Collom chipped in for 11 points.

(Boys) Aspermont 88, Ira 34				
Aspermont	22	19	20	27-88
Ira	6	10	9	9-34

Ira leading scorers — Eddie Brasuel 12, Todd Collom 11, Keith Mathis 7, Jeremy Howard 2, Jared Rogers 2. Records — Ira 1-4.

(Girls) Aspermont 56, Ira 55				
Aspermont	9	14	11	22-56
Ira	17	18	10	10-55

Ira leading scorers — Jennifer Northcott 12, Jennifer Rankin 12, Kasey Calley 9, Misty Chance 8, Melissa Brasuel 6, Machea Chaney 4, Stacey Taylor 4. Records — Ira 4-2.

College Basketball

TOP 25 SCOREBOARD
No. 2 North Carolina 90, Pittsburgh 67
No. 16 Connecticut 90, No. 6 Duke 86
No. 8 Florida 91, Boston College 65
No. 11 Maryland 92, Loyola, Md. 62
No. 15 Minnesota 102, Sacramento St. 84
No. 21 Wake Forest 74, Davidson 62
No. 22 Syracuse 88, Colgate 53

SOUTHWEST
North Texas 99, Baylor 91
Texas 97, Lamar 54
Texas Tech 116, Houston Baptist 82
SW Missouri St. 88, Houston 62
Texas-Pan American 90, Fort Hood 69

Mavericks 84, T'Wolves 83

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks wrapped up their most successful month in four seasons Tuesday night, escaping with an ugly 84-83 decision over the Minnesota Timberwolves.

For veteran coach Dick Motta, however, progress isn't necessarily measured in victories even though the team's 7-4 record in November comes as a pleasant surprise.

"Even if we were 2-9 I'd still be satisfied," Motta said. "We've come a long way no matter what our record is. We're realistic. We know we still have a lot of work to do."

The Mavericks nearly gave the game away when Jim Jackson missed four free throws and had a turnover in the final 32 seconds. But Jackson also scored 26 points and Roy Tarpley added 19 points and 12 rebounds as the Mavericks completed their best month since going 7-5 in April of 1990.

The Mavericks overcame 19 turnovers and 39 percent shooting to extend their winning streak to three games, their longest since November of 1991. Dallas didn't win its seventh game last season until Feb. 21, its 52nd game.

Rockets 96, Nuggets 81

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets stopped being selfish and started winning again.

But they almost overdid it. Hakeem Olajuwon scored 27 points, blocked five shots and got 12 rebounds, leading the Rockets to a 96-81 victory over Denver on Tuesday night that ended a three-game losing streak.

The Rockets tightened up their defensive effort against the Nuggets, whose 81 points were a season low and equaled the all-time low against the Rockets.

The Rockets opened the game sizzling on offense with seven straight baskets. They were 11 of 17 from the field in the first quarter, never allowing the Nuggets to have the lead.

Houston led 46-36 at the half and broke open the game in the third quarter during a 15-6 run to start the period. Olajuwon's 8-point surge gave the Rockets a 61-42 lead with 6:26 to go in the period.

THANK YOU

The Rebels Soccer Team, coached by Frank Ortegon and Herman Martinez, who participated in the Turkey Shoot in Midland would like to thank the following businesses and individuals who helped them:

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- M.M. MAPES ELECTROLUX

Snyder varsity teams fall

By TODD STANLEY
SDN Sports Editor

Blame it on the turkey. After a couple of days off for the Thanksgiving holiday, the Snyder varsity boys and girls basketball teams hit the road to play Tuesday night.

The boys traveled to Seminole where they were tagged with a 57-51 loss to the Indians. Meanwhile, the Lady Tigers headed to Lubbock where they lost 43-28 to Lubbock High.

Head boys coach Bud Birks said it was a matter of not getting into gear.

"This is a young team," he said. "Because of that it is going to take a month or so more to become consistent."

"We were not prepared mentally to play this game. We came out flat in the first half and didn't get after them (Seminole) defensively."

After the layoff, the Tigers resorted back to some bad habits Birks said.

"We shot too many jump shots," he said. "They (Seminole) were taking the ball to us, instead of the other way around."

Because of their sluggish play, the Tigers were unable to come

away with one offensive rebound in the entire first half.

Snyder was led by Reagan Key's 13 points.

Meanwhile, up in Lubbock, the Lady Tigers got off to a slow start. Snyder shot just one of nine in the first quarter, as Lubbock jumped out to a 13-2 lead.

The Lady Tigers came back, however, as they trailed by only one point at halftime 19-18.

But the Lady Westerners forced too many turnovers and the Lady Tigers forced too many shots, as

(Boys) Seminole 57, Snyder 51				
Snyder	11	7	12	21-51
Seminole	17	5	17	18-57

Three-point goals — Snyder 3 (Byrum 1, Patterson 1, Key 1); Seminole 1 (Shane 1). Fouls — Seminole 7, Snyder 21. Records — Snyder 3-2, Seminole 4-0.

SNYDER (51) — Byrum 1 0-0 3, Huestis 1 0-0 2, Patterson 2 1-2 6, Key 5 2-3 13, Braziel 1 0-0 2, Post 4 0-0 8, Henderson 2 0-0 4, Cumble 1 0-0 2, McLeod 1 0-0 2, Gober 3 0-0 6, Hobbs 0 1-2 1. Totals 21 4-7 51.

SEMINOLE (57) — Shaia 3 0-0 6, Alvarado 2 1-3 5, Adam 0 1-2 1, Shane 6 1-3 14, Cherry 10 6-8 26, Hall 2 1-4 5. Totals 23 10-20 57.

(Girls) Snyder fell 43-28				
Snyder	2	16	6	4-28
Lubbock	13	6	12	12-43

Three-point goals — Snyder 0; Lubbock 1 (Cervantez 1). Fouled Out — Snyder (Shipp). Records — Snyder 1-4, Lubbock 2-4.

Tech volleyball coach resigns

LUBBOCK (AP) — Mike Jones, volleyball coach at Texas Tech for the past six years, resigned Tuesday.

Jones' teams were 128-62, but only 15-15 this season. His teams went to the NCAA tournament three times.

Texas Tech athletics director Bob Brockrath said a search would begin immediately for a successor.

Salaam wins Walter Camp Award

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Colorado's Rashaan Salaam, the fourth player in NCAA history to rush for 2,000 yards, won the Walter Camp Foundation Award as the nation's best college player.

Salaam said he wants to return for his senior year, saying Rick Neuheisel's appointment as coach Monday was the most important factor in his decision.

Neuheisel's appointment as coach Monday was the most important factor in his decision.

Fisher fined Slaughter one game check worth \$9,529 on Monday in response to his complaints about not being used in the new two-wide receiver offense.

Ira Dog Pound Classic

GIRLS		BOYS	
Thursday's games			
Game 1: Klondike vs. Westbrook, 11:30 a.m.	Game 2: Borden County vs. Blackwell, 2:30 p.m.	Game 3: Abilene Christian vs. Highland, 5:30 p.m.	Game 4: Loraine vs. Ira, 8:30 p.m.
Friday's games			
Game 5: Loser (game 3) vs. Loser (game 4), 11:30 a.m.	Game 6: Loser (game 1) vs. Loser (game 2), 2:30 p.m.	Game 7: Winner (game 3) vs. Winner (game 4), 5:30 p.m.	Game 8: Winner (game 1) vs. Winner (game 2), 8:30 p.m.
Saturday's games			
Third place game: Loser (game 7) vs. Loser (game 8), 3:30 p.m.	Consolation game: Winner (game 5) vs. Winner (game 6), 12:30 p.m.	Championship game: Winner (game 7) vs. Winner (game 8), 6:30 p.m.	

3414 College, Snyder 573-0459

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

<p>Ricky Post Snyder Basketball</p> <p>Ricky, a senior, posted 13 points against Brownfield and 16 versus San Angelo Central as the Tigers improved 3-1.</p>	<p>Jennifer Rankin Ira Basketball</p> <p>Jennifer scored 18 points against Throckmorton as the Lady Bulldogs improved to 4-1 on the season.</p>
Honor Roll	
<p>Todd Collom Ira Basketball</p> <p>Reagan Key Snyder Basketball</p>	<p>Marcus Byrum Snyder Basketball</p> <p>Heath Mathis Ira Basketball</p>
<p>Jennifer Northcott Ira Basketball</p> <p>Jody Rankin Ira Basketball</p>	<p>Rachel Shipp Snyder Basketball</p> <p>Erica Garvin Snyder Basketball</p>

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3-2-2, brick, 1 mile west, CH/A, \$50's. 573-2980 after 5 p.m.

FOR SALE OR LEASE: 3-2-2, brick w/fireplace, built-in appliances & more, 4109 Eastridge. 573-0021.

FOR SALE OR RENT: 2 bedroom, 1 bath, den w/fireplace, fenced yard, 3814 Ave. V. 573-4473.

4502 Galveston, mid. \$80's, very nice brick 3-2-2, den w/fireplace, formal liv./din., extras, additional parking. 573-0569.

HERMLEIGH: Lots For Sale on James St. Call 863-2342.

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Realtors

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2900 Westridge, 3-3/4-3, encl. patio, Mstr. bd. w/hot tub. Country, 3-2, shop, on 10 acres, \$60,000.

2601 Ave. W, 3-2-1, \$40T.

3003 40th, 4-2-1, \$28,500.

3002 Crockett, 3-2-2, formal din. & den, game room, \$70's.

4600 El Paso, Reduced 3-2-2, den, fp., formal living. Will also consider lease.

2201 43rd, brick, 3-1-2cp, \$40's.

16 acres w/shop, lg. 3-2-2/gameroom, basement.

Acres w/lovely home, landscaped yard.

3305 40th Pl., 3-2-cp, \$50's.

2503 37th, 4-1, den, \$50's.

2302 Sunset, 4-2-2, in \$40's.

3789 Avondale, 3-2-2cp, \$40's.

3749 Sunset, 3-2-cp & gar., \$63T.

Qual. Assumable, 313 32nd, 3-2-1, \$40's.

116 35th, 3-2-cp, fpl.

2 & 3 Bdrms., priced under \$20T.

Perfect starter home! 2-1-1, brick, \$31,500.

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2366 Sunset, 3-2-cp, 50T.

2900 Westridge, 3-3/4-2.

2513 31st, 3-2-1/2, \$112T.

2207 42nd, 3-2-1, \$39T

6A, Earth Shelter home in town.

3103 Ave. W, 3-2-cp, \$57T.

Brick, 3-2-2, acreage, NE.

East, Lg. 3-2, 5A, \$110T.

2366 Sunset, 3-2-cp, 50T.

Townhouse, 2-2-2, \$85T.

3001 Crockett, 4-2-1/2-cp.

3113 Ave. T, 3-2-3, Own. Fin.

405 32nd, 3-2-cp, \$34,900.

Country, 2-1-2, \$32,500.

3732 Austin, 3-2, \$38.5.

2200 21st, 2-1-1, \$30T.

2210 Sunset, 2-1, ref. ac, \$17.5.

403 30th, 2-1-1, \$15.5T.

400 29th, 3-1, \$23.5

2201 41st, 3-1/2-1, \$39.5

513 34th, 2-1, \$15T.

404 33rd, 3-2-1, \$45T.

402 33rd, 2-1-cp, \$16T.

Margaret Birdwell 573-6674

Annette Waller 573-9467

Jackie Buckland 573-8193

Elizabeth Potts 573-4245



3001 Crockett, 4-2-1/2-cp.

3707 Noble, 3-3-1, nice, 39,500.

3-2-2cp, Ira, 2 ac. Take a Look.

Earlier In, 3-2-2cp, nice custom.

2900 Westridge, large custom.

117 Scurry St., good house with 60 lots.

405 32nd, 3-2-cp, new paint, clean.

115 Ac., lg. 3-2-2cp, custom home. You must see this, nice, farm close in.

Starter Homes, Good Commercial property.

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WEEKDAYS

573-5612 or 573-1755

3001 Crockett, 4-2-1/2, large storage building. 90T

1200 19th, 3-1, 2 living areas, owner finance. 22.5T

2811 Ave. V; 3-2-2, ch/a. 57.5T

2900 Westridge, lg. 3-3/4-2.

Ira area homes.

Nursery, approx. 3 acres.

108 Canyon, 2-1, CH/A. 19.9T

106 Canyon, 2-1. 14.5T

New Listing, country south, 3-2-2cp, good water, strg. bldgs., aprx. 5A. 65T

1407 Scurry, 3-2-2, acr. 48T

304 20th, Own. Fin. 17.5T

3301 Ave. A, 2-1, den. 24T

2018 37th, 2 stry, 3-3-2, sep/apt. 40th Pl., 3-2, ws, lg. m/b. 57.5T

Lg. Country Home, 5 ac. 110T

218 36th Pl., 2-1, cnr. lot. 26.5T

2218 Sunset, 2-1 23T

2 comm. lots, 1500 College 5T

1401 Ave. K, 3-2-2 35T

3112 Ave. C, 4-1-2, red. 35T

E 3-2, ch/a, jac. & shop. 25.9T

Own. Fin., 1010 30th 13.5T

Claudia Sanchez 573-9615

Bill Dryden 573-9739

Frances Stevenson 573-2528



362 FARMS & RANCHES

430 acre dryland cotton farm, southwest Scurry County, small house and barns. Cash or terms available. Call 817-572-1611, Jann Holladay Jackson.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH — Snyder Junior High School students of the month for November are from left. Tommy Wilson, Leshia Derrick, Sally Barham and Justin Phillips. (SDN Staff Photo)

Group puts together new judicial selection proposal

AUSTIN (AP) — The combination of federal pressure and national ridicule may nudge Texas toward a new method of electing judges, officials say.

On Tuesday a judicial selection plan was proposed amid growing criticism that the current method prevents minorities from becoming judges, and encourages races fueled by special interest contributions.

Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Tom Phillips, a Republican, and state Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, are members of the group formed by Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock that is pushing to change the way Texans pick judges.

Ellis said the low number of minority district judges in a state that is 40 percent black and Hispanic is a "national embarrassment."

Earlier this month, Houston voters ousted all eight minority judges, leaving the state's largest county without a black judge.

Civil rights advocates say the current method of electing district judges countywide prevents minorities from winning elections by diluting their voting strength.

By forming smaller districts from minority communities, mi-

norities would be able to elect candidates they back to the bench. Phillips opposes partisan judicial campaigns.

"The unfortunate result of the partisan judicial elections was that judges were defeated in the last election and other elections based on events on the top of the ticket and not anything they did," he said.

And now the U.S. Justice Department, citing Texas' "discriminatory" way of electing judges, has prohibited the state from creating several new courts.

"The partisan sweeps, the extremely expensive judicial races and the Justice Department's insistence we change our system ... those three things combined together give us an unusual opportunity to reform our election system," Phillips said.

Under the plan unveiled Tuesday:

Judges on the Texas Supreme Court, Court of Criminal Appeals, and 14 regional courts of appeals would be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the state Senate.

Two years later, voters would decide whether the judge should

be allowed to continue to serve. It would be a "yes" or "no" vote, not one where the judge faced an opponent. If approved, the judge would face voters for reapproval every six years.

If an appellate judge were rejected by the voters, the governor would appoint a new judge for that seat and the process would start again.

District court judges would seek office in non-partisan elections with no runoffs.

The winner would face reapproval elections every four years. After two terms, they would have to run again with opponents in a non-partisan election.

In Harris, Dallas, Bexar and Tarrant counties, district judge candidates would run their first election in county commissioner precincts. Their reapproval elections would be countywide.

If a judge in one of these counties is rejected, a new judge would be selected in a contested election held in the county commissioner's precinct.

District judges in the remaining counties would continue to run countywide in all elections.

Survey shows most inmates battle drug, alcohol habits

AUSTIN (AP) — A new state study shows that Texas prison inmates addicted to alcohol or drugs before their incarceration would be willing to prolong their sentence to get help.

The report released Tuesday by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse is based on a random sample of 1,030 inmates at the Goree Unit in Huntsville, ranging in age from 18 to 67.

The survey found that almost half of Texas prison inmates were addicted to drugs or alcohol before going to jail and that 63 percent had one or more substance abuse problems in the year prior to their incarceration.

David Farabee, author of the survey, said the most significant revelation of the study is that a quarter of all inmates would be willing to extend their prison stay by three months to receive treatment.

"Not only do we see a high rate of inmates who have substance abuse problems, but we see a high number of people willing to get treatment. They know there is a problem and want to get rid of it," Farabee said.

The Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse released a statement saying, "The total number of drug offenses is increasing and the need to treat the addicted inmate population is more important than ever."

Glen Castlebury, spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, said the survey's findings aren't surprising. He said TDCJ screenings show that 76.2 percent of the inmates admitted to prison in November had substance abuse problems.

"It is more important than ever to treat and we are," Castlebury said. "Today, we have right at 9,000 inmates in one kind of substance abuse treatment program or another."

The current Texas prison population is roughly 100,000, according to Castlebury.

But Castlebury said it wouldn't be fair to conclude that only 10 percent of the inmates are receiving treatment. He said it's likely prisoners with longer sentences wouldn't be treated until closer to their release date.

"Our goal is to time the treatment so that it has its maximum benefit when the inmate leaves prison. Therefore, a large percentage of inmates who are enduring a long sentence would not be candidates for these programs yet," he said.

Of the inmates sampled, 39 percent claimed to have been drunk or high at the time of the offense that led to their incarceration. Seventy-three percent of that group said they wouldn't have committed the offense if they weren't drunk or high.

The crimes most committed by inmates who claimed to be drunk

or high at the time of their offense are: burglary (53.8 percent); assault (50.8 percent); carrying gun on person (47.4 percent); buying stolen goods (38.4 percent); shoplifting (37.3 percent); drug sales (34.1 percent); car theft (27 percent); and injuring or killing someone (21.8 percent).

According to the survey, marijuana was the most-used illicit drug, followed by powder cocaine. Eighty-five percent of the prisoners sampled reported using marijuana; 54.7 percent reported a lifetime use of cocaine; while 13 percent reported using cocaine in the month before they were incarcerated.

Almost 98 percent of the inmates sampled reported some level of lifetime alcohol use, and 53.6 percent reported use in the month before their incarceration.

Postal rate commission to rule on stamp prices

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's not a question of if or when: Stamp prices are going up in January. Only the amount remains to be decided.

The independent Postal Rate Commission is about to rule on the U.S. Postal Service request for a three-cent increase, bringing the price of a first-class stamp to 32 cents.

That would mean an extra 60 to 75 cents per month for the typical household.

The post would be part of a proposed 10.3 percent increase in mailing costs to be applied to all types of mail.

The rate commission's decision could take effect as soon as Jan. 1. The date will be set by the post office's governing board either at its Dec. 6 meeting in Tampa, Fla., or a special session a week later in Washington.

The price of a stamp has been 29 cents for four years — the longest period without an increase since the post office became a semi-independent agency in the early 1970s.

But the agency went some \$1.3 billion in the red in the last fiscal year and needs the increase to help balance its books. Indeed, some critics contend that the planned increase is too small, and the post office will require another price rise within a year or two.

The increase proposed by the Postal Service was supported by many large mailing organizations, which suggested the amount nearly a year ago, promising to go along if it were applied evenly to all classes of mail.

Cosmonaut is the occupational term for astronauts of the former Soviet Union.

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Hospital Notes

ADMISSIONS: Amanda Covington, 3611 Ave. A; Melanie Gray, P.O. Box 712; Toni Jackson, Hermleigh; Angela Steelman, Roby; Vanessa Stewart, Hermleigh; Whitney Stewart, Hermleigh; Benjamin Watson, 2101 43rd; Rebecca Barna, 3011 38th; Helen Dillaha, P.O. Box 450; Irene McDonald, Alvord.

DISMISSALS: John Covey, Kohiriy Green, Kristi Welsh. Census: 57 (Med.-19, Long-Term Care-34, OB-2, Nursery-2).

Older woman stranded two weeks in van

PHOENIX (AP) — After her husband left their stranded van to get gas, 77-year-old Annabelle Goodwin tucked a few blankets around her and listened to cars whistling by on an interstate about a mile away.

More than two weeks later, after freezing temperatures and occasional snow, she was still there — having lived off a day's worth of food, prayers and very little else. But her husband of more than 50 years, who suffers from the early stages of Alzheimer's disease, was missing.

The search for 76-year-old Vinson Goodwin resumed today. His cane and cap were found late Tuesday.

Speaking in a faint voice Tuesday from her hospital bed in Kingman, Mrs. Goodwin said she stayed alive by keeping busy.

Coliseum

Continued From Page 1
where they stand.

If the contract with the chamber is approved, all employees at the coliseum would become employees of the chamber, which would have the sole authority for hiring and firing of personnel.

Chamber directors would have complete authority over the buildings, exhibits and improvements at the facility. The income and revenue generated from the coliseum operation would go solely for the management, operation, maintenance, development and promotion of the exhibits, buildings and improvements.

The chamber would also pay, out of funds available to it, all operating costs of the coliseum complex.

Building and transportation repairs and improvements to the complex exceeding \$1,000 per occurrence would be paid by the county and total chamber of commerce repair expenses would not exceed \$8,000 per year. Also, all maintenance and repair costs to the Department of Public Safety offices located in the annex would be paid by Scurry County.

If approved as submitted, the proposal would allow the chamber to retain the use of all current equipment, and coliseum employees would have access to county equipment when needed for set-up or clean-up of an event. The chamber would also be able to use and control any new equipment purchased for use at the coliseum. If the contract is ever terminated, all equipment purchased by the county would remain the property of the county.

County employees from each precinct would continue to bring and operate equipment for installation and removal of dirt from inside of the coliseum for events that require it. These employees would also assist the coliseum employees in the set-up of equipment required for these events.

One of the first things the county would be expected to do would be to improve the quality of the sound system, chamber directors said Monday.

Thomas told the court that the present system needed to be replaced "regardless of who operates the coliseum."

"We need to look at bringing it (the sound system) to a higher standard," Thomas added.

Liability insurance and casualty insurance would also be provided by the county and the chamber would have the right to require users of the coliseum to have liability or other insurance coverage as needed for each event.

The chamber would also furnish a statement of income and expenses to the commissioners each quarter and would furnish by mid-year, a proposed operating budget for the next fiscal year.

Capitol Hill's new faces keep White House personnel going

By TOM RAUM
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — As the old Democratic gang that long has ruled Congress takes its final bows this week, another group of veteran Democrats is finding new stature in the changing political order: President Clinton's team of old-timers.

Clinton's chief of staff, Leon Panetta, once a Republican himself in the Nixon administration, has become the point man in the White House's efforts to reach out to Republicans who will be in charge of Congress come January.

And the jobs of Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen and Secretary of State Warren Christopher have never looked so secure.

Panetta, Bentsen and Christopher all have a history of working congenially with some of the Republicans who will be in command when the GOP takes control of both chambers.

And in Christopher's case the White House also might not be too keen on trying to get a new nominee through the Senate Foreign Relations Committee once it passes into the hands of arch-antagonist Jesse Helms, the Republican senator from North Carolina.

Panetta has been front and center all week, representing the White House's views, sounding conciliatory and centrist, as the 103rd Congress meets for the final time in a lame-duck session.

Panetta, a Democrat since he switched parties in the early 1970s and former chairman of the House Budget Committee, is signaling a present intention to continue to search for common ground and to avoid divisive clashes.

In listing Clinton's new legisla-

tive priorities, Panetta says the first is "to keep the economic recovery going and keep the deficit going downward." Second is welfare reform, which also has much GOP support.

Only after that does Panetta

AP analysis

mention health care reform, once Clinton's centerpiece initiative.

Clinton also has been seeking outside advice, turning to old friends, academics and other elected officials.

He summoned a handful of governors to a private dinner Monday night, for instance. Their guidance: Focus on a slimmed-down agenda and pursue bipartisanship.

"Democrats have to learn to be fiscally conservative and that means Democrats have to cut government and balance the budget," said Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, who was at the dinner. "The president and the Democratic Party need to have an understandable agenda — which means it is short."

"All Democrats" after Nov. 8 will be centrists," jokes Sen. John Breaux, D-La., reflecting on the GOP midterm landslide. "I think the message was very clear, it was very loud, very emphatic."

So it's no surprise that the centrists already in the administration — namely Panetta, Bentsen and Christopher — would find their credentials enhanced.

Expect to see more of Panetta and Bentsen and other old hands out front in the days ahead as the White House tries to work with the new GOP leadership and sort out its identity crisis.

That means less of the younger,

brasher faces, such as George Stephanopoulos and Democratic adviser Paul Begala, who have often spoken for the White House over the past two years.

"This concept of a youthful White House is not reassuring to anybody, at home or abroad," said Sheila Tate, former aide to Nancy Reagan and to George Bush and now a public relations executive. "I think that has finally sunk in."

EDITOR'S NOTE — Tom Raum has covered the White House for The Associated Press since 1989 and has reported on government and national politics since 1973.

FCC review sought of Fox owners

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC will file a petition today with the Federal Communications Commission arguing the television stations at the core of the Fox network are illegally foreign-owned, The New York Times reported.

The move represents a challenge to the Fox network's existence, with NBC asking the commission to rule that Fox must either sharply reduce its foreign-ownership level or that all other U.S. networks be allowed to seek unlimited foreign ownership, the Times said Wednesday.

Judy Smith, a spokeswoman for NBC, would not comment on the report when contacted Tuesday evening by The Associated Press. Calls to Fox went unanswered.

NBC, which is owned by General Electric Co., is arguing that if the FCC sanctions Fox's ownership arrangement, it would eradicate a 60-year policy of excluding foreigners from owning U.S. broadcast properties, the Times said.

More than 99 percent of Fox's equity is owned by Rupert Murdoch's Australia-based News Corp.

The NBC move would be another salvo in the ongoing battle between Fox and its competitors. In September, NBC asked the FCC to stop Fox from gaining control of a station in Wisconsin and last week it filed petitions seeking to deny licenses for stations Fox planned to buy in Philadelphia and Boston.

Fox's ownership structure is already before the FCC because of a complaint filed earlier this year by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The commission has said since May a ruling is imminent.

Clinton administration shoring up GATT support

WASHINGTON (AP) — With House approval of a sweeping 124-nation trade accord behind it, the Clinton administration today is turning its attention to shoring up support for the pact in the Senate.

"This is it. The end of the road. Tomorrow, the Senate will take the most important trade vote in this country in 60 years," Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen told business executives.

Bentsen called Tuesday's House vote "a great bipartisan boost" but, he said, "it isn't a slam dunk and I'm going to be working this every step of the way."

Earlier, Senate Republican leader Bob Dole said he was more optimistic today about passage. "I thought at first it might be close, but I'm now thinking it'll be a pretty substantial margin," he said on CBS' "This Morning."

The House concluded four hours of sometimes impassioned, sometimes perfunctory debate Tuesday by ratifying, 288-146, a vast expansion of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

"This vote demonstrates to the American people that Democrats

and Republicans can work together in the national interest," President Clinton said in a statement immediately afterward.

Favoring the accord were 167 Democrats and 121 Republicans. Eighty-nine Democrats, 56 Republicans and one independent opposed it.

The margin of victory represented a victory for Clinton, who had worked the telephones throughout the day talking to undecided lawmakers, and it was the first post-election test of whether the White House and Republicans who will control Capitol Hill in January can cooperate.

"The eyes of the world are now on the United States Senate," Clinton declared.

Inmate walks off on furlough

Scurry County Sheriff's Office was notified late Wednesday night of an escaped inmate from the Wallace Unit in Colorado City.

Joe Wayne Williams, 43, was on furlough to Levelland when he did not return to the work camp in Big Spring on Tuesday, said Asst. Warden Jackie Cooper of the Wallace Unit.

"Williams left on furlough on Nov. 23 and was supposed to report back no later than 5 p.m. on the 29th," said Edwards. "Since he did not report, TDCJ considers him an escapee."

Williams has been in the prison system since Dec. 1, 1987 and had received a furlough in 1989. He is serving a 25-year sentence out of Hockley County for burglary of a habitation.

As of noon today, authorities were still seeking Williams.

Births

Joe and Vanessa Stewart of Hermleigh announce the birth of their son, Jeffrey, born at 6:58 p.m. on Nov. 29 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. He weighed seven pounds, 14 ounces.

Obituaries



ROBERT SWINT

Robert Swint

1920-1994

Service is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church for Robert L. Swint, 74, who died Tuesday morning in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Officiating will be the Rev. Marty Akin, pastor of the church, assisted by the Rev. T.O. Upshaw, retired Baptist minister. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born and reared in Scurry County, Mr. Swint was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving with the 36th Division, Company G, in Europe.

He married Maurine Talley on July 3, 1941 in Texarkana, Ark. Following the war, Mr. Swint returned to Texas and worked as fleet supervisor for Mrs. Baird's Bread in Abilene from 1946 to 1950.

Mr. Swint returned to Scurry County in 1950 where he farmed and worked as a cowboy, retiring in 1993. He was a member of the First Baptist Church and the CITA Sunday School class.

He was preceded in death by his father, Robert Lee Swint, in 1931 and by his mother, Rebecca Ann Swint, in 1979.

Survivors include his wife, Maurine of the home; and several nieces and nephews, including Robert and Jackie Talley of Paint Rock, Marsha and Pete Thauwald of Forney, Ron and Belinda Talley of Burleson and Ronnie Swint and Janice Swint, both of Lubbock.

Goldie Jones

1908-1994

Goldie Jones, a long-time resident of Snyder, died at 12:58 p.m. Tuesday in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Officers note varied calls

Local law enforcement officers responded to various calls Tuesday.

At 8:45 a.m. Tuesday, Robert Freeman reported the theft of some property from the Southwest Chemical Plant. An offense report for burglary was filed.

Police were notified of a possible juvenile runaway carrying a backpack and a skateboard along East Coliseum Drive at 10:29 a.m. Officers arrested 22-year-old Christopher Scott Neidner on probation revocation and Bexar County warrants for criminal trespass-property crime and possession of marijuana.

A man advised police at 11:32 a.m. of a man wearing a tan jacket and riding a bicycle in the area of 29th Street and Avenue C who said he was soliciting money for a children's Christmas fund. Officers located the individual at 1:32 p.m. and he was advised of the complaint.

Officers investigated a minor accident at 35th Street and College at 5:09 p.m. involving a 1992 Chevrolet driven by Dorothy Hanks of 10635 Roadrunner Path and a 1986 Nissan driven by Ester Carrizalez of 4400 Ave. U.

At 5:15 p.m., police investigated an accident in the Lawrence IGA parking lot. Involved were a 1985 Ford driven by Lydia Gomez of 2801 Ave. U and a 1982 Lincoln driven by Jonnie Taylor of 3500 Austin Place.

At 5:39 a.m. today, police advised there was some graffiti written on the north side of the Cinema I & II. An offense report was pending.

Services for Mrs. Jones, 86, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born in Jacksonville, Tex., Mrs. Jones had lived in Snyder since 1955. She was married to Thurlow Selmon, Will Scott and Austin Jones, all of whom preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by a son, Buddy Mark Scott, in 1993.

Mrs. Jones was a housewife and a member of the Helm Heights Baptist Church.

Survivors include three sons, Billy Jack Scott of Snyder, Alvin Selmon of Snyder and A.L. Selmon of Snyder; four daughters, Rose Nell Walker of Snyder, Louise Burt of Mineral Wells, Lonnie M. Urdy of Phoenix and Pearl Jo Beverly of Waco; a sister, Jessie Dickerson of Los Angeles; a brother, Jack Stewart of Jacksonville; 20 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Delia McPherson

1904-1994

Services are set for 2 p.m. Friday in the Union United Methodist Church for former Snyder resident Delia McPherson, 90, of Mineral Wells. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery directed by Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. McPherson died at 2:15 a.m. Wednesday in Resort Lodge Nursing Home in Mineral Wells after a lengthy illness.

Born on Jan. 2, 1904, in Cooper, she married Paris W. McPherson on Aug. 24, 1928. He died Oct. 16, 1962. Mrs. McPherson was a first grade teacher in Snyder from 1949 until 1970. She moved to Grants, N.M., and taught three years. Mrs. McPherson was a member of the Union United Methodist Church and a lifetime member of Delta Kappa Gamma and the Art Guild Study Club. She was an active organizer of the Scurry County Library Board and enjoyed art and gardening.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Margaret B. and Jim Boyd of Mineral Wells; one brother, the Rev. Harvey E. Carroll of Odessa; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Three dead in ship fire

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Fire engulfed the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro today off Somalia. Three people were reported dead but most of the nearly 1,000 passengers and crew escaped in lifeboats.

The ship, which gained notoriety when Palestinian terrorists hijacked it in 1985 and killed an American passenger in a wheelchair, was listing badly about 15 miles off shore in the Indian Ocean and in danger of sinking.

Flames roared through the rear of the ship as the last of the passengers, including the captain, were preparing to board the Panamanian oil ship Hawaiian King, one of several merchant ships helping in the rescue.

"I just passed the Achille Lauro overhead and she is fully engulfed, almost, now, in flames. Flames have progressed far forward in the ship than last reported," said U.S. Navy pilot Lt. Paul Frost, who flew over the site in the afternoon.

Capt. Zacharias Kiladitis of the Hawaiian King said in a ship-to-shore radio call initially that one person died. He later radioed the shipping company to say two other people died, according to Italian news agencies.

Eight people were injured in the fire that began six hours before, apparently in the area of the passenger cabins. The cause was unknown.

Capt. Ferdinando Lolli, a port official in Rome, said the ship was carrying 581 passengers and 404 crew. Most of the crew was Italian, and the passengers mainly South African, German, Dutch and British. No Americans were reported on board.

The ships that rescued people from the Achille Lauro were reported to be heading either for Mombasa, Kenya, or for the Seychelles. Both are about 1,200 miles away.

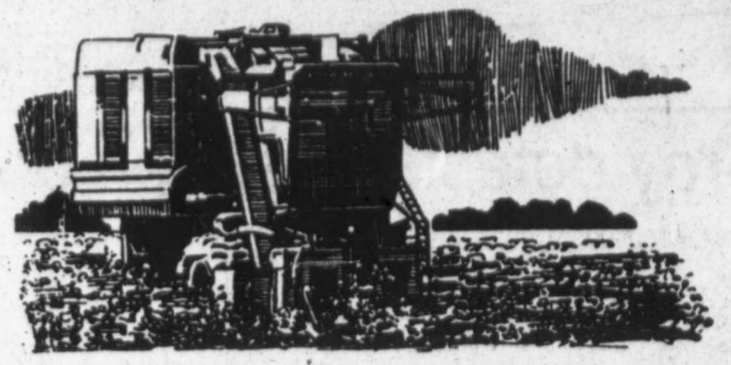
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Markets Middy Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)	High	Low	Last	Lowes	381/2	373/4	377/8	-1/2		
AMR Corp	511/8	505/8	51	+1/2	Luby's	221/2	223/8	223/8	+1/4	
AT&T Corp	493/8	487/8	491/8		Maxus	4	3 7/8	4	+1/8	
AirTouch	273/8	27	273/8	+1/8	MayDeptSts	37	36 1/8	36 3/4	+1/8	
Albertsons	295/8	291/4	291/4	-1/8	Medtronic S	531/2	527/8	533/8	+1/2	
Alliedgas	327/8	323/8	323/4	+3/8	Mobil	853/4	85	85 1/2	+1/8	
Alltel	283/4	283/8	283/8	-1/8	Mossanto	713/4	703/4	713/4	+7/8	
AmStores	263/8	26	263/8	+1/4	Motorola S	577/8	571/8	577/8	+7/8	
Ameritech	395/8	393/8	395/8	+1/4	Nationsbk	451/4	447/8	451/4	+1/4	
Amoco	607/8	605/8	607/8	-1/8	Navistar	131/8	13	131/8	+1/8	
AndarkPtr	411/4	401/2	405/8		NoramEngy	53/4	51/2	55/8	+1/8	
ArmoColc	63/8	61/4	63/8	+1/8	Nyax	383/8	38	38 1/8	-1/8	
AtlRichfd	1055/8	1033/8	1031/2	-1/4	121/4	121/8	121/8	-1/8		
ATMOS Egy	171/2	171/2	171/2	-1/8	OryxEnrgy	293/8	29	291/8		
Aviall	91/8	9	91/8	-1/8	PacTelesis	207/8	205/8	207/8	+1/8	
BakerHughes	185/8	18	18	-1/2	PenBEC	463/4	461/4	461/2	+3/8	
BancTexas	1	1	1		Pennsey JC	485/8	481/8	485/8	+1/2	
BellAtl	501/2	50	501/4		PepBoys	33	323/4	327/8	+1/8	
BellSouth	521/4	51	515/8	+1/4	PepsiCo	357/8	355/8	355/8	-1/4	
BethSteel	175/8	171/2	175/8	+1/8	PhelDodge	571/4	563/4	57	+3/8	
Borden	14	133/4	137/8		PhilIPet	335/8	333/8	331/2	+1/8	
BritPet	795/8	791/4	793/8	+3/8	PilgrmPrd	10	10	10		
Caterpillar	541/8	533/4	54	+3/4	PolaroId	313/8	311/8	313/8	+3/8	
CeaSoWst	211/4	21	21		Praxair	201/8	191/2	193/4	+1/4	
Chevron S	443/8	437/8	44	+1/4	ProctGamble	631/2	623/4	631/2	+1/2	
Chrysler	48	473/4	48	+1/2	PubSWWmx	127/8	127/8	127/8		
Coast	261/8	257/8	257/8		RoyalDutch	1083/4	108	1083/4	+5/8	
CocaCola	521/8	511/2	511/2	-3/8	SFEpacCp S	167/8	153/4	163/4	-1/8	
ColgatePalm	60	597/8	60	+1/8	SaraLee	243/4	241/2	241/2	-1/8	
Cooperia	351/8	343/4	347/8		SearsRoeb	483/8	475/8	48	-1/4	
CyprusAmax	243/4	245/8	243/4		Shorlows	31	303/4	307/8	+1/8	
DallasEmisn	141/4	141/8	141/4	+1/8	SmithSchADS	331/8	327/8	33	-1/4	
DeltaAirt	501/4	497/8	497/8	-3/8	SmithBc eq	31	301/2	31	+1/4	
DigitalEq	35	343/8	341/2	-1/2	SouthCo S	203/4	205/8	205/8	+1/8	
Dillard	281/2	28	28	-1/2	SwtAirlines	217/8	215/8	213/4	+1/8	
DowChem	637/8	623/4	627/8	+7/8	SwtBell	415/8	411/4	411/2		
DresserInd	203/8	201/4	201/4	-1/8	Sprint	303/8	29	15-16	301/4	+1/4
DuPont	543/4	54	545/8	+1	SterlingChm	103/4	10	103/4	+5/8	
EastmanCh	471/8	463/8	471/8	+5/8	SunCo	291/4	283/8	291/8	+7/8	
Eljerlad	453/4	453/8	453/4	+1/2	TNP Bat	141/4	141/8	141/4	+1/8	
Enserch	61/2	63/8	61/2		Tandy	433/4	43	435/8	+1/2	
Entergy	123/4	121/2	125/8	+1/4	Tempilal	453/4	451/4	451/2	+3/4	
Exxon	221/2	221/4	223/8	-1/8	Tenneco	391/4	387/8	39		
Flowerlad	61	601/2	605/8	+1/8	Texas	625/8	621/8	625/8	+5/8	
FordMotor S	173/4	171/2	175/8	+1/8	TexasInd	327/8	327/8	327/8	+1/8	
GTE Cp	271/4	267/8	271/8	+1/8	TexasInst	78	77 1/2	77 1/2	+3/4	
GenDynam S	303/4	301/2	303/4	+1/8	TexUtl	327/8	325/8	327/8	+1/4	
GenElec S	40	395/8	393/4	-1/4	Travelers	473/4	475/8	473/4		
GenMills	471/4	461/2	463/4	+1/8	TrinityInds	321/2	321/4	321/4		
GenMotors	547/8	541/4	541/4	-3/8	TritonEngy	325/8	323/8	321/2		
GenMotors B	381/2	38	381/8	-1/4	Tyler	363/8	361/8	361/4		
GlobalMar	371/8	367/8	371/8	+1/8	US West	311/2	333/8	312	-1/8	
Goodyear	711/4	701/4	701/2	+5/8	USX-Marathn	353/4	351/8	353/8	-1/8	
Goodrich	4	4	4		USX-USS	183				



Scurry County Country



ASCS Report

By Joe Hefner
County Executive Director

There's a new kid on the block — and it's the Farm Service Agency (FSA).

It came into being last month, when President Clinton signed into law a restructuring plan for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that will improve the way USDA agencies do business in Scurry County, said Joe B. Hefner, acting County Executive Director of the Scurry County FSA office.

The FSA will administer commodity price and income support programs, farm ownership and operating loans and the federal crop insurance program. The new agency combines all or part of three agencies familiar to farmers and ranchers — the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Farmer's Home Administration and the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. Other loans offered by the former FmHA will be assigned to a new rural development agency.

In addition, the FSA will offer conservation cost-share assistance under the Agricultural Conservation Program, as well as cost-sharing and land rental payments for the Conservation Reserve Program.

"We want producers to know that the reorganization did not eliminate any programs," Hefner said. "What will change is that these services soon will be available to producers on a 'one-step' basis. The whole purpose of the new FSA is to be able to provide better, more efficient service and to make it easier for farmers to use our programs."

At the local level, farmer-elected committee members will continue to oversee farm program administration and will take on additional duties in overseeing other FSA programs.

"The agencies are merging at headquarters first," Hefner said. "The combination of staffs and functions at the county level will come in time. In the meantime, farmers can receive service as usual at their county offices."

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communications at (202) 720-5881 (Voice) or (202) 720-7808 (TDD).

Good pheasant numbers in Northern Panhandle

By CALVIN RICHARDSON
Wildlife Biologist, TPWD

As West Texas prepares for the opening of the 16-day pheasant season beginning Saturday, hunters can expect a "boom or bust" kind of hunting season, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials. In areas where pheasant numbers are down, they are way down; and on the few survey routes that counted high, they were very high. In other words, the population distribution is "spotty" this year, but find the right place and the birds could be flushing like coveys of quail.

Across the Panhandle District as a whole, the number of pheasants sighted along the 44 survey routes decreased by 32% compared to last year, but bird numbers are down by only 12% compared to the 5-year average.

As TPWD conducted the population surveys in late October and early November, some of the highest numbers were recorded in the northern and western portions of the Panhandle. In the counties of Dallas, Hartley, Deaf Smith, Sherman, Hansford, and Ochiltree, the pheasant survey resulted in more than 44 birds per route, with a couple of routes counting more than 100 pheasants.

Just south of those counties, the

population shows a significant drop. Moore, Hutchinson, Roberts, Gray, Carson, Randall and Armstrong counties averaged less than five pheasants per route.

In the South Plains region (from Parmer county, south to Cochran, east to Crosby and north to Briscoe county), it has been another good year for cotton and a less than average year for pheasants. Based on 24 survey routes conducted in 12 South Plains counties, the 1994 census resulted in 3.2 birds/route. This represents a 72% decline compared to the 1993 figure (11.3 birds/route), and the 1994 count was 70% less than the 5-year average.

Generally, the more acres that are in cotton, the less acres that are in grain crops which are beneficial to pheasants as food and cover. However, the decrease in pheasant numbers in the South Plains this year can be attributed to the drought conditions this summer, compounded by extremely high temperatures that reached 118 degrees F in some areas. A drought affects pheasant reproduction and survival in a number of ways, especially in areas with few irrigated crops. It may result in a shortage of green plants which provide carotenes and Vitamin A that are important to the hen in the egg-laying process. A drought can also reduce the amount of weed seeds that are available, which can be important before grain crops become available in the fall. But more importantly, a drought can limit insect production. Insects are an excellent source of protein and calcium for the nesting hen and are the primary dietary component for pheasant chicks during the first 8-10 weeks of life. Temperatures in excess of 100 degrees, especially for extended periods, reduce the hens ability to keep adequate moisture around the eggs during incubation. As a result, the eggs may be lost due to dehydration or nest abandonment by the hen.

The highest concentrations of pheasants in the northern Panhandle this year are probably associated with a combination of rank cover (ie., playa lake) and irrigated grain crops. Not only does this situation provide a good mix of food and cover, but it provides adequate ground-level humidity that is crucial for nest success under drought conditions.

The pheasant season begins Saturday, Dec. 10 and continues for 16 days concluding Dec. 25. The bag limit is 3 cocks per day with a possession limit of 6 birds.



Town & Country Topics

By Kathryn Roberts
County Extension Agent

An understanding of the following terms which often appear on labels of various birds may help make your choice of a turkey easier. Before use, all labels must be approved by USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).

As you can see, some of these terms describe methods of slaughter, the addition of a solution to the bird or the internal temperature of the bird. They aren't indicators of quality or nutritional value, which is about the same for all turkeys.

Here is a list to help you understand some of the terms found on turkey labels:

•**KOSHER** — may be used only on the labels of meat and poultry products slaughtered and processed under rabbinical supervision.

•**NATURAL** — may be used on label if products contain no artificial ingredients or added color and are only minimally processed. Examples of minimal processing are cutting, grinding, canning, drying

and freezing. The label itself must explain the use of the term "natural" (such as: "no added colorings or artificial ingredients" and "minimally processed").

•**FREE RANGE** — means the birds are permitted free access to an outdoor yard or other outdoor facilities. The company must submit written documentation substantiating the claim. USDA will use this documentation to decide at the time of label approval, if the term "free range" may be used.

•**FRESH** — never stored at or below 0 degrees Fahrenheit. Raw products never frozen can be labeled "fresh" even though they may feel slightly crusty when you touch the surface.

•**FROZEN** — temperature of poultry is 0 degrees or below.

•**BASTED or SELF BASTED** — solution may be a butter or other edible fat, broth, stock or water plus spices, flavor enhancers and other approved substances. It is injected into the breast and legs of ready-to-cook poultry. Added weight of approximately 3 percent solution is included in the net weight on the label. The product must be labeled with a descriptive name and the ingredients in the solution (such as, "Injected with approximately 3 percent of a solution of...").

What's not on the label of turkeys is "organic." To date, the Food Safety Inspection Service has not allowed the use of the term "organic" on meat and poultry product labels because of the lack of consensus on what the term means as applied to animal products. For example, production standards are needed to ensure that medications, which are used on non-organically raised livestock, are not used in raising "organic" animals. Also, the "organic" animals must be kept separated from non-organically raised animals throughout production from the farm and up to and including slaughter, processing and packaging of meat products.

"Chemical free" may not be used on a label either because it is too general. In fact, everything is made of chemicals. By its very nature, muscle tissue is made of chemicals (such as amino acids — the building blocks of protein — and fatty acids).

If you have other questions about meat and poultry safety, call a turkey genie-us at the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-800-535-4555.

Hotline home economists and registered dietitians will answer calls from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays.

Election rescheduled

This year's election for positions on the Scurry County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) Committee, which were to be held in December, are being rescheduled to accommodate changes brought on with last month's enactment of the law to reorganize the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

According to Lance Autry, chairperson of the Scurry County ASC Committee, the change in the election schedule is nationwide and is authorized under regulations issued by USDA. Current members of ASC committees will continue in their posts until the new election is held next fall.

The law, which reorganized USDA, created a new agency — the Farm Service Agency — which encompasses all of the commodity support and basic conservation programs of the former Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), all of the risk management programs of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), and the farm lending activities of the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA).

Autry said the new committee system, when fully implemented, will exercise increased responsibilities in its enlarged role. "Rescheduling the elections on a nationwide basis avoids confusion which could occur from hastily drawn rules and regulations," Autry said.



The Emu Report

By Shirley Pate, Pate Emu Farm

Sooner or later an emu producer will have the misfortune to lose an emu to an accident. Through this tragedy, we can take the skin and make something positive out of it if we just know what to do. The skin must be preserved properly until it arrives at the tanners. The following is a reprint from the CEA News.

"These guidelines apply to ostrich, emu and rhea. When you lose a bird, time is of the essence both to save the meat and ensure a quality hide. It is very important to pluck the feathers as soon as the bird goes down. You may have to pull some with pliers. Do not cut them off! There is an enzyme in the hide that will close the quill when it is pulled from the bird. If the feathers are not plucked soon after the bird is dead, the enzyme will not work. If the feathers are cut off or not removed, when they are eventually pulled by the tanner, the skin will have lost its elasticity and the quill will not close. Thus, the tanned hide will have holes throughout and lose its dollar value.

Now the bird is ready to be skinned. Start by placing the bird on its back. Try not to make your cuts too deep. This will save meat and make it easier to skin. This may take the beginner up to four hours so be prepared and take your time.

1. (Optional) Make a small incision at one of the knee joints and insert an air hose. Use common sense on how much air you should "blow" the bird up with. This will separate the fat from the hide.

2. Cut around both knees. Then start an incision up one leg to the rectum and then down the other leg to the knee.

3. Cut around the rectum. Next, take your cut down the middle of the belly, along the sternum, and continuing down the neck.

4. Cut both wing tips off. Now, make an incision from wing tip to wing tip, crossing over the sternum and your last cut.

5. To remove skin, start at the sternum area and work your way to the back of the bird. (Note: The area around the sternum is the toughest. Pull a little at a time and take your time.)

6. Remove the skin around the legs and rectum. The last step is getting the hide to turn loose of the back which is sometimes tricky. The skin comes off the neck fairly easy but gets thinner as you move toward the head.

7. You have just properly skinned a big bird! You need to put the hide in a bag for now and take the bird to a butcher (or process it yourself) and save that precious meat and fat (oil).

8. Take the skin out of the bag and remove all excess fat. Next, wash it off with cold water and with the hide laying flat, liberally spread non-iodized salt over the entire flesh side of the hide. This will prevent bacteria from growing as well as starting the first step of tanning.

9. Fold the neck and wings to the center and roll the hide up like

a jelly roll. Wrap the hide in an old towel or shirt to hold the moisture in the skin. Now, place the hide in three sealed trash bags.

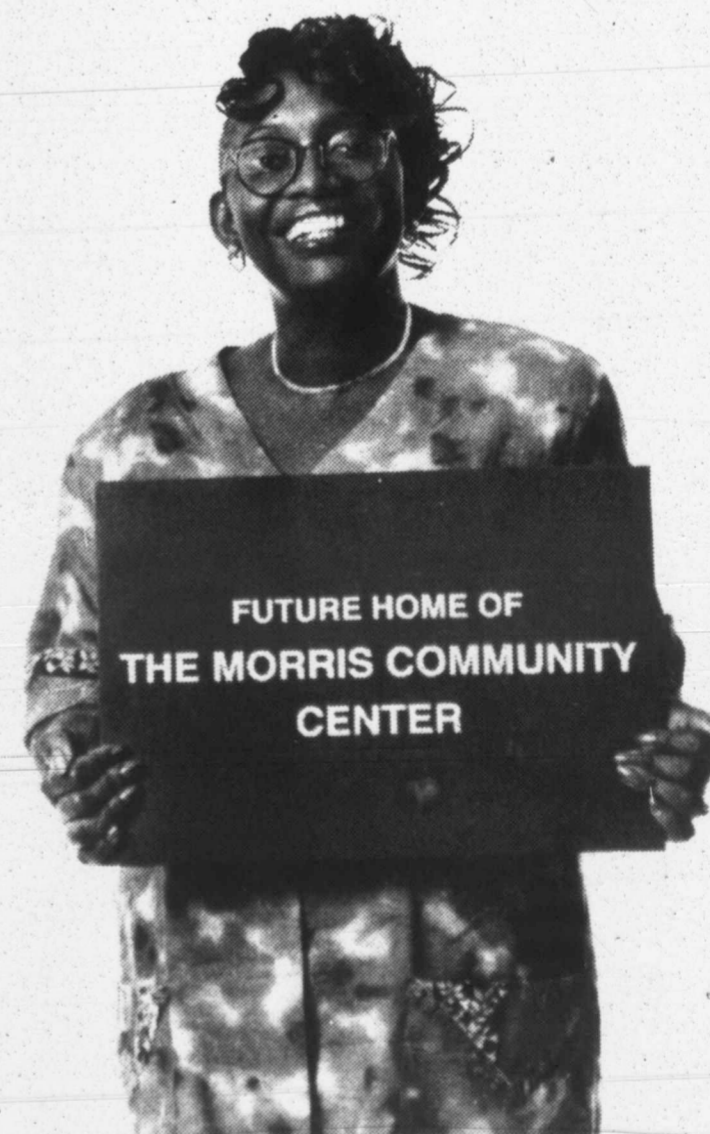
10. Keep the hide cool (refrigerated) until you are ready to ship. Never freeze a hide, as it will freezer burn easily. If you will follow these proven steps it will ensure that a high quality hide will be sent to the tanner. If shipping UPS, ship early in the week so the hide will not be left on the dock over the weekend."

I had the privilege to see and handle a beautiful vest made from emu hide. Certainly should we lose one I already have plans for the hide. I was speaking to a lady from Oklahoma last week and she said she had just purchased a complete suit made from the emu hide. She also said, "I bought a new car last month but I am more excited about my emu suit." Hopefully none of us will have the opportunity to use this formula soon.

For further information contact, Pate Emu Farm, 573-3340.

WHEN ARJUST'CE MORRIS BECAME A LOTTO TEXAS MILLIONAIRE, HER WHOLE COMMUNITY WON.

ARJUSTICE MORRIS TOOK A CHANCE ON LOTTO TEXAS. NOW SHE'S GIVING HER NEIGHBORHOOD'S KIDS A CHANCE. WITH \$17.6 MILLION IN WINNINGS, SHE'S BUILDING A COMMUNITY CENTER WHERE KIDS CAN LEARN, PLAY AND GROW. NO WONDER THE FOLKS IN HER COMMUNITY ARE HAPPY THAT ARJUSTICE IS ONE OF OVER 150 MILLIONAIRES AND STILL COUNTING.



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SHE JUST
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RANDOMLY

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FIRST THING
SHE BOUGHT:
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FOR HER MOM

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Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

X-ray detects common bone disorder

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My husband suffers from Paget's disease. Can you provide information on this condition?

DEAR READER: This common disease, of unknown cause, is marked by patches of abnormal bone, usually in the skull but sometimes in other bones as well. The patches are abnormal; they consist of areas where the bone is being rapidly depleted and replenished. This leads to weak spots because the new bone doesn't have time to calcify and strengthen.

Thus, although Paget's disease of the skull will not affect health (except by causing the head to enlarge somewhat), Paget's disease of the hip or leg bones frequently results in fractures and pain.

The diagnosis is made by X-rays of the involved bones and by a bone scan, which will show the areas of rapid bone turnover.

In most cases, Paget's disease is discovered by accident (during routine X-ray examinations) and needs no treatment. However, in the presence of pain, Didronel (a prescription drug that stabilizes bone growth) is helpful.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 25 and suffer from panic/anxiety attacks. I'm on

Xanax, but have numerous unanswered questions. I'm overcome with uncontrollable mood swings and rages for no reason. Why? At these times I feel like my whole body is taken over with pain that affects every area of my life — especially eating. I can't read. Studying is impossible. My blood tests are all normal and I feel like a hypochondriac, but I believe my problems are all the result of one illness. Can you advise me?

DEAR READER: High levels of anxiety and feelings of panic are not merely manifestations of a tense emotional state; such feelings will actually cause marked physical changes — such as rapid heart rate and breathing, distractibility, uneasiness, sweating, nausea, diarrhea, and many other symptoms.

These physical alterations appear because the body releases large quantities of epinephrine (adrenaline) and other compounds that prepare the victim for fight or flight. You are not a hypochondriac; these reactions are real, not imagined.

Xanax, an anti-anxiety prescription drug, often helps people with anxiety panic attacks but should be used in conjunction with other psychotherapy, such as counseling, and only for short periods because, over time, the

medicine may cause memory problems and cognitive disorders in some patients.

Mood swings and rages are not, however, ordinary consequences of anxiety/panic attacks. You should address these particular symptoms with your therapist. If, for example, you are suffering from bipolar mood disorder (manic-depression), medicine (such as lithium) would be appropriate therapy.

To give you more information, I am sending you a free copy of my Health Report "Mental and Emotional Illness." 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.

1994 NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

DR. GOTT



PETER GOTT, M.D.

Astrograph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Dec. 1, 1994

In the year ahead, your good luck will probably come in a streak. Keep this in mind when fortuitous things start to happen.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Usually you're an adventurous person, but today you might feel intimidated by the scope of a plan. You may look for reasons to evade it instead of attempt it. Sagittarius, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$1.25 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 4465, New York, NY 10163. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You could be lucky today if teamed up with others who maintain high standards. Conversely, the opposite could be true if you're a poor judge of character.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) When making important decisions today, use logic and unbiased information as a guide. Rose colored glasses distort reality.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) The only thing stopping you today is your own apathy. If you can get past that, you might be in for a very pleasant surprise.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You will be lucky today, but only in your own concerns. Interact with others, but let them maintain control over their own resources.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Do not bank too heavily on the advice of others today. You might be better off figuring things out for yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Yesterday you may have been more confident than you are today. Keep this in mind if you wrestle with your ideas. Think positively.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you are feeling rich today, it might just be an illusion. Avoid stores that carry frivolous, expensive merchandise.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Self-doubt could decrease your chances of achieving anything valuable today. Be optimistic and flexible in case opportunity knocks.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You might confuse your supporters if you're lax about details today. Unless you start being more specific, they might reject your plea for assistance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Do not allow someone else to control your finances today. This could be critical.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) In the interest of security, keep your success to yourself today. A jealous listener might try to undermine or reverse your good fortune.

1994 NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

Pleads innocent

LOS ANGELES (AP) — O.J. Simpson's oldest son has pleaded innocent to a hit-and-run driving charge.

Jason Simpson remained free on his own recognizance following his arraignment Tuesday in Beverly Hills Municipal Court. A hearing was scheduled for Jan. 13.

Authorities said Simpson's Jeep rear-ended a pickup truck Oct. 5 on a West Hollywood street. No one was hurt.



STANFIELD 'INDIANS' — Mrs. Robin Downing's pre-kindergarten students at Stanfield painted the teepee in their classroom and colored their vests and drums. Morning students in the top photo are from left, back row, Kayla Pitman, Nikki Jarrett, Ashlei Lopez, Kendra Tidwell, Brandon Jones, Vanessa Reyna and Cord Welsh; front row, Ashley Casas, Taylor Groat, Blake Land, Cassie Cazarez, Daniel Ramirez, Megan Fouts and Virginia Rivera. Megan Velasquez and Kohirry Green are not pictured. Afternoon students are back row from left, Alex Urias, Jerek Anderson, Ashley Pace, Claudia Puente, D'Andrew Davis, B.J. Witte, Ashley Maldonado and Joe Tarango; front row, Chase Peterson, Caylea Wood, Shal Jackson, Heath Green, Daniel Fisk, Angel Ervin, Cassi Hernandez, Brittany Leatherwood and Guy Baldwin. Amanda Sanchez is not pictured. (Contributed Photos)

Three African lions 'mane' attraction

BOYD (AP) — Three African lions are at home at the Texas Exotic Feline Foundation sanctuary after being airlifted from a Mexico zoo that no longer had the money to keep them.

Rocky, El Negro and El Canelo are making themselves at home after a 21/2-hour flight from Mexico City on Tuesday and an hour's drive from the airport.

The lions, ranging in age from 4 to 8 and weighing about 500 pounds each, were at the San Juan de Aragon Zoo in Mexico City. Their existence became imperiled because the zoo was running out of money and space. Zoo officials

said in February that the animals might have to be put to death.

Officials from the Dallas Zoo, the Dallas Zoological Society and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals stepped in after a story about the lions' plight appeared in The Dallas Morning News.

More than 800 contributors — most of them from Texas — sent \$38,400 in donations and \$15,000 in materials to build enclosures for the big cats at the refuge.

"I feel glad for them. I really do," said Robert Reitnauer, vice president and owner of the sanctuary. "There were times when I thought this wouldn't happen. You hear so many hard-luck stories that you think people would not respond, but they did."

The three cats join 50 other felines in this Wise County community, including leopards, cougars and bobcats. Many of the animals were given sanctuary after they were abandoned or given up by their owners because they became too big to keep.

Reitnauer's wife, Gene, said employees worked almost non-stop for two months to build five cages for the lions. It normally takes three to five weeks to build just one cage, she said.

"These three lions," Mrs. Reitnauer said, "are some of the luckiest lions in the world."

The task of transporting the lions to Texas began last weekend when officials with the Dallas Zoo and SPCA traveled to Mexico City.

The situation was tense Monday at the Mexico City zoo because of uncertainty over whether Mexican authorities would sign the final documents needed to transport the lions.

More uncertainty — about how the lions would react to tranquilizers used to knock them out temporarily so they could be loaded into metal crates — also caused concern.

Tuesday morning, American Airlines transported the lions to Dallas for free.

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From 1991-1993...

Check fraud said doubled

WASHINGTON (AP) — Check fraud, often involving organized thieves using high-tech equipment, more than doubled from 1991 through 1993, a banking trade organization reported today.

The American Bankers Association said a survey revealed 1.3 million fraudulent checks were passed last year, compared with 536,000 in 1991. That cost banks \$815 million, \$247 million more than in 1991.

Although a majority of banks across the country reported experiencing fraud in 1993, financial in-

stitutions in the Northeast and West were the hardest hit, the report said.

"Given the increases over the past two years, the only plausible explanation is that we're facing an organized, sustained effort to pass fraudulent checks," said Bruce Brett, chairman of the ABA Check Fraud Task Force.

The task force attributed the increase in part to the proliferation of desktop publishing, which has made computer equipment and software used in check forgery more affordable, and to the availability of laser products to duplicate

and print fraudulent checks.

In addition, it said consumers are more likely to reveal information about their accounts. And because of competition among financial institutions, banks tend to avoid inconveniencing customers by verifying their checks.

The ABA said individuals and corporations wrote 61.1 billion checks in 1993, an average of 244 checks for every man, woman and child in America.

The survey found that on average, a fraudulent check was written for less than \$1,000. That relatively small amount, together with the volume of checks, made fraud more difficult to detect.

"Our attempts to spot a fraudulent check is like looking for a needle in a haystack," Brett said. "Banks have improved the ability to spot check kiting activity, but counterfeit checks and forgeries are still on the rise."

The task force found a much higher proportion of fraud losses among mid-size and large banks than smaller community banks.



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