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WEDNESDAY

Snyder Daily News

Ask Us

Q—Have the commissioners made their board appointments for 1995? If not, when will they do this?

A—They have not made the appointments. The court generally takes care of this business in January. As yet, that has not been set as an agenda item.

In Brief

King returns

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — King Norodom Sihanouk, who has been ailing with prostate cancer, returned to his homeland today for the first time in more than seven months.

He was greeted on his arrival from Beijing by Premiers Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen and other officials.

Sihanouk, 72, left Cambodia in May to undergo chemotherapy in China.

"I am fine now ... but I am on a diet ... and I miss you very much," said Sihanouk.

As the leading political figure since before independence in 1953, Sihanouk is considered the country's most influential person. The FUNCINPEC party, led by Ranariddh, his son, finished first in a 1993 U.N.-supervised general election by closely identifying itself with Sihanouk and the monarchy, which had been abolished in 1970. Sihanouk took the throne again late last year.

Sihanouk is scheduled to stay about seven days in Phnom Penh before going to Siem Reap province, 160 miles northwest of the capital. Information Ministry spokesman Sieng Lapresse said.

Local

Model planes

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

FFA group

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

Sheriff's posse

Scurry County Sheriff's Posse is organizing. Anyone interested in horses, speed events, trail rides, parades and other similar activities is encouraged to call Marilyn Graves at 573-6031, Kathryn Hanks at 573-0718 or Laurie Graves at 573-6802 after 6 p.m.

Weather

Snyder temperatures: High Tuesday, 39 degrees; low, 24 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Wednesday, 24 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1995 to date, .06 of an inch.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, cloudy a 40 percent chance of light snow. Low in the lower 20s. East southeast wind 5-15 mph. Thursday, cloudy with a 20 percent chance of light snow. High in the lower 30s. Southeast south wind 10-15 mph.

Almanac: Sunset today, 5:54. Sunrise Thursday, 7:44. Of 3 days in 1995, the sun has shone 2 days in Snyder.



TWO INJURED — Two people were taken to Cogdell Memorial Hospital shortly after 1:30 p.m. Tuesday following a two-vehicle accident in the 100 block of Coliseum Drive. The driver of this 1981 Ford, H. A. Smith Jr. of 3006 38th St., remained in the hospital Wednesday morning in

satisfactory condition for treatment of head lacerations. Novis Campbell, 100 E. 37th St., was the driver of a 1989 Dodge involved in the accident. She was treated at the emergency room and released Tuesday afternoon. (SDN Staff Photo)

Eight indicted by grand jury

A Scurry County grand jury handed down eight indictments Tuesday, including ones for possession of a dangerous drug, burglary and forgery.

Among those indicted were Brett Allen Middlebrooks, 34, and Mary Colette Middlebrooks, 32, both of 3714 W. Pioneer Dr. in Irving. They were charged with possession of a dangerous drug, Methamphetamine, on Nov. 7. Both have been released from Scurry County Jail on \$5,000 bond.

Janie Mae McFall, 18, of 1626 CR 161 in Colorado City was indicted for a Dec. 15 offense of burglary of a habitation. She has been released on \$5,000 bond.

Joseph Estele Singleton, of 510 32nd St., was indicted for forgery by passing. Singleton, 37, is charged with passing a \$100 check forged in the name of Christine Singleton on Dec. 9. She is being held on \$3,000 bond.

The grand jury also indicted four people on felony driving

while intoxicated charges. They were:

—Eloy Gutierrez Jr., 44, of 505 Cyprus in Colorado City on a Dec. 23 charge. He has been released on \$2,000 bond.

—Mary Lou Chaves, 34, of 1718 Eckerd in San Angelo on a Dec. 24 charge. She is being held on \$2,000 bond.

—Macario Rocha Rivera, 35, of Rt. 2 Box 205 on a Dec. 4 charge. Rivera has been released on \$2,000 bond.

—Walter Lee Courtney, 31, of 1312 SW 12th Ave. in Mineral Wells on a Dec. 18 charge. Courtney has been released on \$2,000 bond.

Court OKs holidays for county

Meeting briefly this morning, Scurry County commissioners approved a short agenda which included setting county holidays for 1995.

Holidays to be observed by the county include President's Day, Feb. 20; Good Friday, April 14; Memorial Day, May 29; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, Sept. 4; Columbus Day, Oct. 9; Veteran's Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving, Nov. 23 and 24; and Christmas, Dec. 25 and 26.

The court also approved the bonds for all elected officials and county employees whose bonds were submitted. The court is expected to approve additional bonds at its next meeting. County Auditor Eddie McHaney said the county requires bonds on all elected officials and county employees whose duties require them to handle money.

The court also entered into the official minutes the hiring of Delwyn Davis as the DARE officer and Bobby Goodwin in charge of the community work program. Sheriff Keith Collier told the court last week that both jobs are paid through state grants and will not require county funds.

In a brief discussion about county employees, Commissioner C. D. Gray Jr. said that the sheriff had correctly followed county procedure in letting the court know about the staff changes in his office.

"We are still in a hiring freeze," said Gray, "and the court has to be notified even when an employee is hired to fill an approved position."

As a formality, the court also recorded in the official minutes the salaries of the county auditor, his assistants and the court reporter as required by local government code.

Newly-elected County Judge Ricky Fritz presided at this morning's meeting. Commissioners Gray, Ralph Trevey, Roy Idom and Jerry Gannaway were present.

Winter grips Scurry County

From local, wire reports

An arctic front solidified its bone-chilling grasp on Scurry County and much of the rest of Texas today.

Icy conditions delayed classes at public schools in the county and led to at least a half-dozen traffic accidents.

The National Weather Service warned motorists to use caution on slick roads and pet owners to protect their animals from the extreme cold.

Scurry County dispatchers advised there had been at least six weather-related accidents between midnight and 10 o'clock this morning. No major injuries were reported in any of the mishaps, most of which occurred along U.S. Highway 84.

The icy conditions led administrators at Snyder, Ira and Hermleigh public schools to delay classes this morning until 10 o'clock.

Forecasters called for chances of snow today, tonight and Thursday from the Panhandle to the South Plains, Concho Valley, Permian Basin and North Texas. Temperatures were expected to reach the freezing mark by Thursday morning north of a line from Columbus to Houston to Liberty.

Locally, the forecast calls for a 40 percent chance of light snow this evening, with a low in the mid 20s. There is a 20 percent chance of snowfall Thursday.

Abilene reported its heaviest snowfall in 10 years on Tuesday — 5 inches that started as sleet. The NWS recorded up to 8 inches of snow near Clyde and Baird, about 20 miles east of Abilene.

Thunder accompanied the thick precipitation, said NWS forecaster Dave Drummond.

"What surprised me was the depth of the cold," Drummond said. Temperatures dipped Tuesday to 15 degrees in Perryton, 17 degrees in Dalhart and 19 degrees in Amarillo.

"It's really slick out there," said Hemphill County dispatcher Pam Trimble, who was advising callers not to get out around icy Canadian, in the eastern Texas Panhandle, where 2 inches fell.

Ken Schneider, a forecaster for the weather service, said highs in Amarillo earlier this week were in the mid-40s. He predicted snow accumulations of 3-5 inches in Amarillo.

"It's just going to remain very cold," Schneider said. Meteorologists blamed the storm on a combination of cold Canadian air and an upper-air disturbance.

Snowfall totals included 1.1 inches in Midland and 1-2 inches along the Red River, from Gainesville east to Texarkana.

Icy conditions forced schools in Plains and the Ector County Independent School District in Odessa to cancel classes today.

Republican 'revolution' arrives

WASHINGTON (AP) — After 40 years in the minority, jubilant Republicans took charge of Congress today with ambitious plans to overhaul welfare, cut taxes and change the way lawmakers do business.

The opening of the 104th Congress marked the start of a Republican revolution voters set in motion last November. The new House and Senate leaders, claim-

ing a sweeping mandate for change, vowed today they would deliver on their midterm campaign promises.

The new Republican majorities are slim: 230-204 in the House, with one independent, and 53-47 in the Senate. The new GOP leaders were exuberant nevertheless.

"It's a different day," said Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., the incoming Senate majority leader, shortly be-

fore Vice President Al Gore, in his constitutional role of Senate president, administered the oath of office to new and re-elected senators.

"A lot of people didn't think it would happen in their lifetime," Rep. Newt Gingrich said of the new Republican House majority that was poised to elect him speaker. "We're very excited."

Rep. Richard Gephardt, D-Mo.,

the incoming minority leader, was convening the House today and handing over the gavel to Gingrich. Gingrich's oath as speaker was to be administered by another political antagonist, Michigan Democrat John Dingell, whose 39 years in the House make him its longest continuously serving member.

The new House team, rushing to exploit its long-awaited first day at the helm, put eight reform votes on the opening-day agenda and prepared for a noon-to-midnight marathon.

The votes were loaded with symbolism — votes to make Congress abide by the laws it passes, to cut committee staffs and abolish three committees altogether, to end absentee voting, to require a three-fifths vote to raise income tax rates.

Yeltsin declares...

Airstrikes to end at midnight

ARSHTY, Russia (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin ordered the airstrikes that have devastated Grozny, the capital of separatist Chechnya, to end at midnight tonight.

The order, announced by the presidential press service in Moscow, came as Russia sent crack units from around the country to the small republic in the Caucasus Mountains. The zealous but out-gunned rebels repulsed a Dec. 31 Russian attempt to capture Grozny.

It was not immediately clear whether Yeltsin intended to use the bombing halt to pursue peace talks or whether a new ground assault with the fresh troops was being planned.

Once before, on Dec. 27, Yeltsin had ordered a halt to airstrikes on Grozny, but they resumed the next day, including an attack that destroyed an orphanage.

Earlier today, a thick milky fog shrouded Grozny, slowing the heavy Russian shelling that has pounded the city for weeks. Gunfire erupted in the suburbs.

The Russian government's press service said the situation in Grozny "has started to change drastically. There were fewer clashes and they became less intensive."

About 40 miles west of Grozny, villagers in Arshty waded in grief and bewilderment in the wake of a Russian aerial attack that killed four residents and wounded seven.

The villagers said two fighter-bombers accompanied by three helicopters swooped over the settlement Tuesday and fired rockets without warning onto a muddy main street where a family was walking.

Killed instantly were a 42-year-old woman and her daughters, one 22 and the other 18. Another woman walking with them also was killed. Seven others were wounded.

"There was no reason for this at all. We're all peaceful people, not a single rebel, not a single fighter," said one witness, Malmkhan Tsatsiev.

There have been several incidents in which villagers and refugees were killed since President

Boris Yeltsin launched the attack on Chechnya on Dec. 11. A convoy of refugees was attacked in mid-December, and two other villages were hit in the last two days.

The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The best way to curb crime is not in the electric chair, but in the high chair."

Titled, "A Healthy Partnership," Snyder, Scurry County and Cogdell Memorial Hospital was the focus of positive publicity in a magazine published by the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

The six-page spread, complete with numerous colored photographs, told about the partnership between the Snyder community and the Price Daniel unit.

The article, naturally, focused on Cogdell Hospital's role in providing inmate health care inside the unit as well as other medical services to the TDCJ at the hospital.

The article's lead paragraph read, "Ironic as it may seem, urban crime is helping save rural health care in some Texas communities."

Some may remember that Cogdell Hospital went through a painful downsizing in 1987, just before Snyder was selected as a site for the Daniel unit.

The article said, "...the expansion of the state prison system has provided an opportunity to shore up rural hospitals and health care in communities throughout West Texas."

TDCJ contracts with Texas Tech to provide health services at prison sites and Tech then sub-contracts with local hospitals to staff the units and to provide inpatient and emergency care.

Technically Snyder has always been a sub-contractor to Texas Tech, but Cogdell Hospital was already providing services to TDCJ before Tech's agreement with the prison system had been finalized.

The article correctly states that Snyder was the first prison built in West Texas and the first to privatize health care inside the unit. "It remains today the model for how the program can and does work."

The extensive articles showed pictures of local landmarks, local civic workers, the prison, and of course, Cogdell Hospital.

If someone would like to see the article by Preston Lewis, we'll be happy to share our copy.

Drug council changes name following recent allegations

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A Corpus Christi organization that operates a drug rehabilitation center plans to change its name in the wake of allegations of financial wrongdoing.

Dan Sheffield, new executive director of the Corpus Christi Drug Abuse Council, said Tuesday he also is recruiting "prominent local people" to help recruit ethnically diverse board members to provide a fresh perspective for the council.

Last week, an audit by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse alleged financial wrongdoing by the council.

Sheffield said the council will change its name because too often it has been confused with the Coastal Bend Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse and the Coastal

Bend Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation Center.

The rehabilitation center is a detoxification agency for alcoholics and drug addicts. The Coastal Bend Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse is an education agency that informs schools and communities.

The Corpus Christi Drug Abuse Council is different from the rehabilitation center in that the council provides methadone, a narcotic used in treatment programs to wean addicts off drugs.

The new executive director says another reason for the name change is the damage the council's reputation has suffered because of the audit and subsequent news reports.

"But it is not the main reason we are doing it," he said. "We

certainly don't want other agencies to get heat for us."

Sheffield did not say what the new name would be and he didn't have a timetable for when it would be announced.

He said he knew he was inheriting fiscal problems when he became the council's executive director on Nov. 13.

The problems included a \$200,000 deficit and allegations by the state that there had been financial wrongdoing.

The state commission began investigating the council in January 1994 after it was contacted by the Texas Rangers.

The investigation led to allegations concerning double billing, a forged check, personal use of the agency credit card, employment and supervision of immediate family members by upper management, unlicensed counselors, and financial contributions to political campaigns.

Two of the top items brought up in the audit were an unauthorized \$50,000 pay increase for former executive director Christine Beck Meadows that pushed her annual salary to about \$128,000, and the hiring of an uncertified personal weight trainer for \$25 an hour.

Ms. Meadows was fired in June and moved from Corpus Christi in April.

The Corpus Christi Caller-Times reported that it has been unable to reach her for comment.

Oscar Burriola, who earned \$25 an hour as weight trainer for the council, defended his salary Tuesday, saying, "It was no free ride, believe me."

"I'm worth high-paying jobs, I'm the best and I'm really good at what I do because I work the hardest. I get along with people," said Burriola, 40, who is now working as a musician in the Houston area.

Sheffield's annual salary is \$50,000.

Videoconferencing allows families to send greetings

KILLEEN (AP) — Thanks to technology, Panama didn't seem as far away this Christmas for several members of the 1st Cavalry Division and their families.

Through the magic of videoconferencing, soldiers and their relatives got to experience the next best thing to being there.

"Given the circumstances, this was the best Christmas present we could have received," said Kathleen Pratt, whose husband, Lt. Col. Michael W. Pratt is the task force commander.

One father was able to see his kids' faces as they opened his

Christmas presents, Mrs. Pratt said.

Another family celebrated the fourth birthday of a couple's daughter. "They brought a helium balloon and a cake and presents, and he had some buddies there (in Panama)," she said.

The program ran from Dec. 24 until Tuesday with an average of 35 families per day taking advantage of it. The troops were deployed Dec. 12.

The videoconferencing was made possible by PictureTel Corp. of Massachusetts. Data Products of New England Technology of Connecticut donated the videoconferencing equipment.

Lt. Col. William Clingempeel, commander of the division's 13th Signal Battalion, thought up the program after remembering how he missed the 1989 holiday season while taking part in Operation Just Cause in Panama.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The Pick 3 winning numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-7-4 (four, seven, four)

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Is Epstein-Barr virus contagious?

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: A teen-aged friend has been diagnosed with Epstein-Barr virus. Is it contagious and how can it be cured?

DEAR READER: Epstein-Barr virus causes mononucleosis, a disease of adolescents marked by fatigue, swollen glands, sore throat and an enlarged spleen. The disease is diagnosed by blood tests.

Mononucleosis, sometimes called the kissing disease, is not particularly contagious, although it can be spread by the saliva of infected individuals. The disorder is not curable with any known medicine. Youngsters improve gradually and are usually pretty much back to normal in about four weeks.

In the past few years, the Epstein-Barr virus has been implicated as a cause of chronic fatigue syndrome, a peculiar ailment marked by constant exhaustion, recurring sore throats and periodic glandular enlargement.

However, many experts doubt that "chronic mononucleosis" exists. As yet, the final word is not in.

In most cases, a single attack of mononucleosis grants lifelong immunity; nonetheless, second and even third attacks have been reported.

Patients with mononucleosis should eat well-balanced diets and obtain as much rest as they feel they need. If the sore throat is excruciating or if the liver is inflamed (an unusual complication), treatment with cortisone drugs will relieve symptoms and aid healing.

Such drugs are not, however, generally recommended for the average, uncomplicated case of mono.

To give you more information on chronic fatigue, I recommend you contact the Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome Foundation, 965 Mission St., Suite 425, San Francisco, CA 94103.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'd be most interested in your views on laser surgery for snoring. Is it safe and does it really work? I've undergone sleep studies and don't have sleep apnea; however, I'm contemplating laser surgery because my snoring has become a real problem for my husband.

DEAR READER: For many people, laser surgery is an appropriate treatment for snoring. As we age, the skin of the soft palate (at the back of the throat) sags and may partially block the airway during sleep. Snoring ensues.

During surgery, the laser is used to

cut away and trim this superfluous tissue, thereby opening up the airway. The technique is safe and really works.

To determine if you would be a candidate for this new therapy, seek a consultation with an ear-nose-and-throat specialist who is familiar with its use.

To give you more information, I am sending you a free copy of my Health Report "An Informed Approach to Surgery." 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.

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DR. GOTT

PETER GOTT, M.D.



Satellite-delivered radio signal proposals considered by FCC

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stuck in the car on a long road trip, you're scanning the dial as radio stations ebb and flow. But the day may be near when radio stations go where you go.

Federal regulators are considering a handful of proposals for a new radio service that would be available nationwide, transmitted by satellite. The radio industry opposes the proposals, arguing they would drive local stations out of business.

The Federal Communications Commission is expected to decide on Jan. 12 whether or not the new satellite-delivered service should move forward.

Under the proposals, whether you are driving through Pine Bluff, Ark., or Los Angeles, you could receive a package of channels — with the weather or sports or the opera — transmitted digitally for a sound more like a compact disc than radio. The signal also would be stronger and less susceptible to interference.

The satellite could even transmit stock quotes or other information to a mobile fax machine.

To get the service, you need a special radio and antenna. And, under most proposals you would

have to pay a monthly fee.

The FCC will decide whether to allocate a portion of the public's airwaves for the service — the first crucial step in bringing the service to consumers.

FCC officials would not discuss the proceeding.

If authorized, each new radio service would deliver dozens of channels, which radio stations fear will fragment their audiences — driving advertising rates down and shrinking funds for local programming.

"That's the biggest threat," said Lynn McReynolds, spokeswoman for the National Association of Broadcasters. "These new services can bring 30 or 60 channels into a market."

A loss of national advertising would be another threat to local stations, McReynolds said.

Richard Wiley, counsel to CD Radio Inc., the first company to ask the FCC to establish the new service, said the broadcasting industry has a history of trying to block new technology with predictions of financial doom.

Despite the growth in cassette players and compact disc players in cars, radio listenership in cars continues to grow, he said.

And, the existence of national advertiser-supported radio networks — CBS, NBC, ABC, Mutual, Unistar — and cable radio "has had little if any, measurable impact on stations' revenues," according to an economic study CD Radio has sent to the FCC.

The nation's 9,000-plus commercial radio stations were expected to produce about \$10 billion in 1994, a new industry high, said NAB's McReynolds.

Under a worst-case scenario, CD Radio said the new service could trim as much as 3.1 percent from local stations' total advertising revenue.

The broadcasters association says it would be much more than that, but didn't have an estimate.

CD Radio's study estimates that by 2004 subscribers to the new radio services could account for between 3 percent and 10 percent of all car owners.

Even if regulators clear the service this year, it will take CD Radio and other applicants at least three years to build and launch satellites, Wiley said.

CD Radio expects to charge between \$5 and \$10 a month for as many as 50 channels. Retail prices of the new radio receivers have yet to be determined.

Other companies that have applied to the FCC to provide the service, known as digital audio radio, are:

— American Mobile Satellite Corp., 22 national channels, supported by subscriptions and advertising.

— Digital Satellite Broadcast Corp., 16 national channels, 16 regional channels, supported by subscription.

— Primosphere, 23 national channels, advertiser supported.

Singer exhausted

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Rod Stewart had better not mix any more soccer with his singing.

Unable to perform an encore at a New Year's Day concert before 3.5 million people, Stewart was given oxygen to combat his exhaustion and taken away by ambulance.

The pop singer blamed his fatigue on strenuous soccer games that morning and a large lunch of traditional Brazilian dishes. At the concert, he also kicked 100 autographed soccer balls to the audience as a tribute to Brazil's 1994 World Cup victory.

"Brazilian audiences make working fun," Stewart said before the show.

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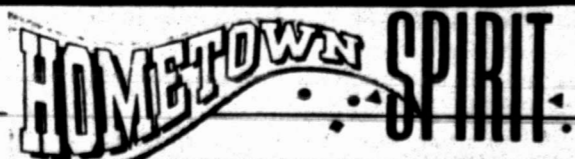
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Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for more information call 573-2101, 573-4158 or 573-1579; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Snyder Garden Club; MAWC; Education of officers, program Michael Quires on "Conserving Our Natural Resources;" hostesses, Mabel Covey and Jo Ann Nunley; 9:30 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.

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

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

Narcotics Anonymous; Winston Park Club; for more information call 573-2101, 573-4158 or 573-1579; 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.

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

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

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

Clinton detailed for prosecutors his last phone call to Foster

WASHINGTON (AP) — Worried about his old friend's state of mind, President Clinton called Vincent Foster and arranged to meet with him in two days, the president told Whitewater prosecutors. It was their final conversation: Foster shot himself to death the next day.

Presidential business kept him from getting together with Foster sooner, Clinton said in a sworn deposition to prosecutors. The document, released Tuesday by the Senate Banking Committee, detailed Clinton's awareness that Foster — whom Clinton had known "from the time I was 3 or 4 years old" — had been under heavy pressure as deputy White House counsel in 1993.

Whitewater prosecutors looked into Foster's death and continue to delve into White House aides' removal of Whitewater-related papers from Foster's office after his suicide. The Whitewater papers were kept in the White House family residence for several days.

In his June 12 deposition, Clinton told then-Whitewater prosecutor Robert Fiske he could not remember whether he had known Foster had handled tax returns for Whitewater, the Clintons' real estate venture now under scrutiny.

"I don't recall that I was aware of that, no," Clinton replied to a Fiske question. "I am just not sure I knew Vince had anything to do with that."

But later Clinton added: "I could have known ... I'm just not sure."

Clinton said he called Foster on July 19, 1993, the night before his death, to ask Foster over to the White House to watch a movie and set up a meeting to discuss White House matters.

He said he hadn't talked to Foster "in a few weeks," and made the call partly "because I knew he had been under a lot of stress" regarding an unfolding controversy at the White House travel office.

"I wanted to see how he was doing," Clinton said.

Foster "didn't seem unduly distressed" during the phone call, the president said, adding that his concerns had been tempered after hearing that Foster seemed more relaxed during a weekend vacation.

"I could not see him the next

day because we had the announcement of Mr. Freeh, the FBI director, and we have other things on my schedule and could we please meet on Wednesday and he said yes," Clinton said.

Foster, a former law partner of Hillary Rodham Clinton, was found dead July 20, 1993 at a suburban Washington park.

The banking committee, released part of Clinton's deposition, along with separate reports from panel Republicans and Democrats based on last summer's Whitewater hearings.

The Senate panel also released an FBI interview summary with former White House chief of staff Mack McLarty. McLarty disclosed that he discussed with the president the controversial appointment of former Republican U.S. Attorney Jay Stephens to oversee a federal civil inquiry into a savings and loan connected to Whitewater.

McLarty told FBI agents that Clinton expressed "concern" and "frustration" about Stephens' appointment. But "the president did not ask for any action to be taken in regard to the hiring," the FBI report of its interview with McLarty stated.

Testimony at congressional Whitewater hearings showed presidential aides obtained confidential information from a criminal investigation examining the collapse of the Whitewater-connected S&L owned by the Clintons' Whitewater business partners.

White House Counsel Abner Mikva said he issued "guidance" to White House staff restricting contacts with agencies conducting law enforcement probes, "so that mistakes in judgment ... will not be repeated."

Mikva said "careful consideration" would be given to incorporating the restrictions into a binding executive order.

The GOP report concluded White House and Treasury Department officials demonstrated "serious misconduct and malfeasance" by discussing contents of the criminal investigation into the S&L.

The Democratic report concluded that "no law or ethics standard" was violated by any administration official.

Slayings drop in several Texas cities

by The Associated Press
A 10-year low in Dallas homicides and decreases in other Texas cities have resulted from better law enforcement efforts and public education, authorities say.

Police were more uncertain about a 31-year low in Corpus Christi slayings for 1994. Homicide detectives there said 13 people were murdered last year, compared with 34 in 1993.

"We really don't have any rhyme or reason why the thing is so low, but we're pleased," Corpus Christi Police Chief Henry Garrett said Tuesday.

The homicide count compared with 1963, when the Coastal Bend city had 11 homicides.

Thirteen Brownsville homicides were also recorded in 1994, down from 17 the year before. Chief Victor Rodriguez said the 1994 mark fell right on the city's homicide average for the past 15 years. The record, set in 1982, is 20.

Dallas' 1994 total of 291 homicides — down from 321 in 1993 — was credited to task force efforts. They include the department's gang unit and narcotics street squads.

"That is our purpose. We take great pride in that — not so much

in a one-year reduction but on a trend since 1991," said Lt. Ron Waldrop, Dallas Police Department homicide unit commander.

Law officers in Austin, Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio also recorded drops last year.

"When you look at violent crime the numbers are down," said Waldrop. "Ironically, the perception among the public is that crime is up, but homicides are going down."

"Certainly, some of the initiatives on street crime and intervention in gangs and drugs, plus education in the schools, are factors," he said.

The police programs and community initiatives had targeted a record 500 homicides in 1991, said Waldrop. He said last year's figure was the first below 300 since 1984, when 292 homicides were reported.

Murders in Fort Worth dropped to 132 in 1994 from 135 the year

before, said police Detective David Sears.

Austin's 40 homicides in 1994 were one down from the previous year.

"Our number of homicides remains relatively low for our population," Mike Burgess, an Austin police department spokesman, said.

Over the past 10 years, homicides have averaged 42 per year in Austin, Burgess said.

Investigators attribute the relatively low total to the high education level and counseling services available in the capital, he said.

In San Antonio, there were 194 homicides last year, down from a record 229 in 1993, police there said.

"That's a drastic drop compared to 1993, and we're hoping that in 1995 it will continue to decrease," said San Antonio police Capt. Manuel Longoria, supervisor of all police units investigating violent crimes.

It was the first time in the 1990s the figure has dropped below 200 in San Antonio. There were 218 homicides in 1990, with 213 in 1991 and 220 in 1992.

Houston had 419 slayings in 1994, compared with 496 homicides the previous year, preliminary figures show.

Amarillo's 30 homicides last year set a record and far surpassed the city's 14 homicides of 1993. Last year's total included four fatal shootings Dec. 7 and the homicide ruling for a patient in a nursing home.

"I think a big part of it was we had so many double homicides," said Amarillo police Lt. Ed Smith, coordinator of the Potter-Randall Special Crimes Unit.

Police in Lubbock recorded 20 homicides in 1994, up from 17 the previous year.

Tyler law officers blamed 19 slayings in 1994 — up from nine in 1993 — in part to an increase in juvenile- and gang-related crime.

GOP field for 1996 narrows as Cheney decides not to run

WASHINGTON (AP) — The potential field of 1996 Republican challengers to President Clinton has narrowed with former Defense Secretary Dick Cheney's surprise decision not to run.

Cheney's terse, written announcement Tuesday contrasted with his active schedule of political fund raising and campaigning in recent months that gave all indications of laying the foundation for a White House bid.

Cheney gave no specific reason for his decision, saying only that it was made "after careful consideration." An aide said he made up his mind after consulting with his family over the holidays at his home in Jackson, Wyo.

A confidant, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Cheney did not want to put himself and his family through the lengthy ordeal of the campaign, and was not enthusiastic about campaigning on the social issue-dominated domestic agenda that he saw shaping up

With pressure mounting to sign up fund-raisers and consultants for the expensive and intense campaign, speculation mounted that other prospective candidates might also remove themselves from consideration very soon.

Others are expected to announce decisions to run. Sen. Phil Gramm R-Texas, said his announcement will come next month.

Among others considering the race are former Vice President Dan Quayle, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, former Education Secretary Lamar Alexander, former Secretary of State James A. Baker III and former Housing Secretary Jack Kemp.

"What's striking is how quickly the field is shaping up and narrowing. With Gramm and Alexander and presumably Dole already geared up to raise money and conduct serious campaigns, there's a lot of pressure on the others to decide," said Republi-

can strategist Bill Kristol, former top aide to Quayle.

Cheney campaigned for 160 Republicans in 47 states, his aides said.

His political action committee raised \$1.3 million by the end of November, according to Federal Election Commission records.

"He's been acting like a candidate," said GOP strategist Jim Ciccone, a former aide to President Bush. But he said that after a career in politics, including stints as chief of staff to President Ford, a member of Congress and defense secretary, Cheney "has no illusions about what it means to become a candidate. He knows what it involves and the sacrifices it entails."

Cheney, a moderate conservative, had been expected to draw support from mainstream Republicans and had been trying to shore up his support among conservative Christians.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

NORTH 1-4-95			
▲ 7 5			
♥ J 4			
♦ A Q J 10 2			
♠ 8 7 4 3			
WEST			
♠ A 4 2	▲ J 10 9 6		
♥ A Q 9 6 5 3	♥ 10 7		
♦ 8	♦ 9 7 6 4 3		
♠ A 9 2	♠ 10 5		
SOUTH			
♠ K Q 8 3			
♥ K 8 2			
♦ K 5			
♠ K Q J 6			
Vulnerable: East-West			
Dealer: South			
South	West	North	East
1NT	2♥	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ??			

Lead declarer into the valley of death

By Phillip Alder

Thomas Gray, the 18th-century English poet, wrote, "The paths of glory lead but to the grave." Rather depressing, but in bridge, when you are on opening lead, you are planning that that grave will be dug for the contract.

On lead against three no-trump, it is normal to start with the fourth-highest from your longest and strongest. However, today's deal highlights one time when a different approach will yield better dividends.

After South opened with a strong no-trump and West overcalled two hearts, North bid three diamonds. Is this forcing, invitational or a sign-off? A very good question! Do you and your partner agree? Unless you use the Lebensohl convention (which, following an overcall, employs an artificial two-no-trump to increase the possibilities), you cannot do more than select one interpretation. I suppose I would opt for invitational. With a game-force, you just have to jump to three no-trump or cue-bid and hope it all works out.

At the table, West led his fourth-highest heart. Declarer called for dummy's jack and, when it held the trick, played on clubs. The defense was dead.

Holding three aces, West should have led the heart ace. If the dummy has, say, three hearts, West will continue with a low heart, playing for declarer to hold king-doubleton. Here, though, West will lead the queen at trick two, pinning dummy's jack and hoping declarer doesn't have the 10. As you can see, this attack kills the contract.

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.

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Sports

Hermleigh squads frozen by Winters

WINTERS — As if it wasn't cold enough outside, all three Hermleigh High School basketball teams felt the wrath of the Winters Blizzards inside the gymnasium.

The Hermleigh boy's varsity fell 42-23, the girl's varsity lost by the score of 83-26 and the boy's junior varsity lost 34-14 to the Blizzards.

Despite the loss the varsity boy's head coach Wayne Poehls remained confident in his team's ability.

"We played just like we wanted to defensively," Poehls said. "We were able to hold them around forty points."

"The only problem was that we just couldn't score in the second half."

The Cardinals (6-9) trailed by only two points, 19-17, at halftime, but dug themselves a hole when they went scoreless in the third quarter.

Hermleigh shot just 28 percent from the field (9-32) and 31 percent from the free-throw line (4-13).

Ricky Sosa and Chris Roemisch each had five points for the Cardinals and Brendan Blair contributed four.

In varsity girl's action, the

Lady Cardinals got off to a good start, leading 11-8 at the end of the first quarter, but their lead vanished in the second quarter.

Thanks to 34 points by the Lady Blizzards, Winters erased the Hermleigh lead into a 42-18 halftime deficit.

The Lady Cardinals (3-10) scored only eight points in the third quarter and were unable to come up with any points in the final stanza.

Kelly Gonzalez was the leading scorer for Hermleigh with 10 points and Michelle Roemisch had eight.

In junior varsity boy's play, Winters held the Cardinals to just 14 points in their 34-14 win.

The Cardinals (2-8) got six points from Ricky Luna, who led the Hermleigh scoring, and four points from John McHoney.

All three Hermleigh teams will be in action again Friday night in Highland.

Play is scheduled to start at 5 p.m. for the junior varsity boys, while the varsity girls are scheduled to play at 6:30.

The varsity boys are scheduled to start at 8 p.m.

Second half debacle costs Snyder

Lady Tigers outscored 14-1 in third period in 52-29 loss to Andrews

ANDREWS — For Snyder head coach Steve Qualls it must have seemed as if someone flicked the on switch to off.

The Lady Tigers trailed by only six points, 25-19, going into halftime, thanks to a strong second quarter performance. However, when Snyder took the court to start the third quarter, Andrews went on a 14-1 scoring run which, ultimately, resulted in the Lady Tigers' 52-29 loss Tuesday in Andrews.

"We were able to effectively run our offense in the first half," Qualls said. "But in the second half, with their pressure, they took us completely out of what we wanted to do."

Snyder was able to get the looks at the basket that it wanted to in the first half, as evidenced by senior center Rachel Shipp's 12 points.

"She (Rachel) got her season

high (13 points) because we ran the offense well," Qualls said. "We got the ball to her and she did a good job of shooting and rebounding the ball."

As well as the Lady Tigers played in the first half, they played equally as poor in the second half, according to Coach Qualls.

"Each player was trying their hardest to get things going for us in the second half, but they weren't doing it within the framework of our offense," he said. "They were trying to do it all themselves."

Qualls also commented that the biggest thing that Andrews accomplished was their constant pressure on the ball.

"Their (Andrews) intensity was something we had a hard time with," he said. "We are not experienced enough, yet, to handle that type of pressure, and it showed."

"We will have to do a lot of growing up this week if we are going to be prepared for Levelland on Friday. Levelland is the best team we will play all year."

The Lady Tigers (6-14) are scheduled to face off against District 5-4A foe, Levelland, Friday at 8 p.m. in the Snyder High School gym.

In junior varsity action, the Lady Tigers, now 11-9, fell to host Andrews 47-43.

Despite a slow first half start, Snyder rallied back from 13 points down at halftime only to fall short in the fourth quarter.

Snyder trailed 29-16 at intermission, but outscored the Lady Mustangs 11-9 and 16-9 in the third and fourth quarter, respectively, to give Andrews a scare.

The Lady Tigers were paced by Jina Miller's 17 points, which included a perfect 4-4 from the charity stripe.

Tiffany Garza also scored in double figures, adding 12 points. Garza had trouble from the foul line, however, connecting on only two of 10.

On the whole, the Lady Tigers converted 10 of 24 from the free-throw line.

Andrews was led by Jamie Ramsey's 20 points.

The junior varsity girl's next game is Friday at 6:30 p.m. in the Snyder Junior High gym.

The freshmen Lady Tigers struggled against Andrews in the first half, as well, trailing 24-7 at intermission.

A valiant comeback attempt in the second half ended, however, as the Lady Mustangs pinned a 47-33 defeat on visiting Snyder.

Snyder, now 4-10, was led by Jamie Burleson's 11 points.

Halea Huestis scored 10 points for the Lady Tigers and Brooke McGuire had eight.

49ers' Young claims second MVP award

NEW YORK (AP) — Steve Young not only outdid Joe Montana in 1994, he even outdid himself.

Young was selected The Associated Press' NFL Most Valuable Player today by a nationwide panel of 98 sports writers and broadcasters. He won the honor after the best season of his 10-year career, breaking Montana's NFL passing record and team touchdown and completion percentage marks.

It is Young's second MVP award in three years; he also won in 1992. Montana was the MVP in 1989 and 1990.

"When we're talking about MVP in the league, that's supposed to be once in a lifetime. Twice in a lifetime, when they're both very special to me," said Young, who completed 324 of 461 passes (70.3 percent) for 3,969 yards, 35 touchdowns and only 10 interceptions. His rating was 112.8, 22.1 points better than Green Bay's Brett Favre, the next most efficient passer.

"What I felt like I've set as my standard of play, that's what I feel like people hold me to, and to me it's like, 'OK, now you have to exceed that.' So the expectation gets higher and higher, and that's why I think it's a great honor this year, because the expectations are so high."

Young led the 49ers to the league's best record, 13-3, and their power was evident in the balloting. While Young received

74 votes, two other 49ers also got one vote apiece. Wide receiver Jerry Rice and cornerback Deion Sanders finished behind Young and Detroit running back Barry Sanders, who got 22 votes.

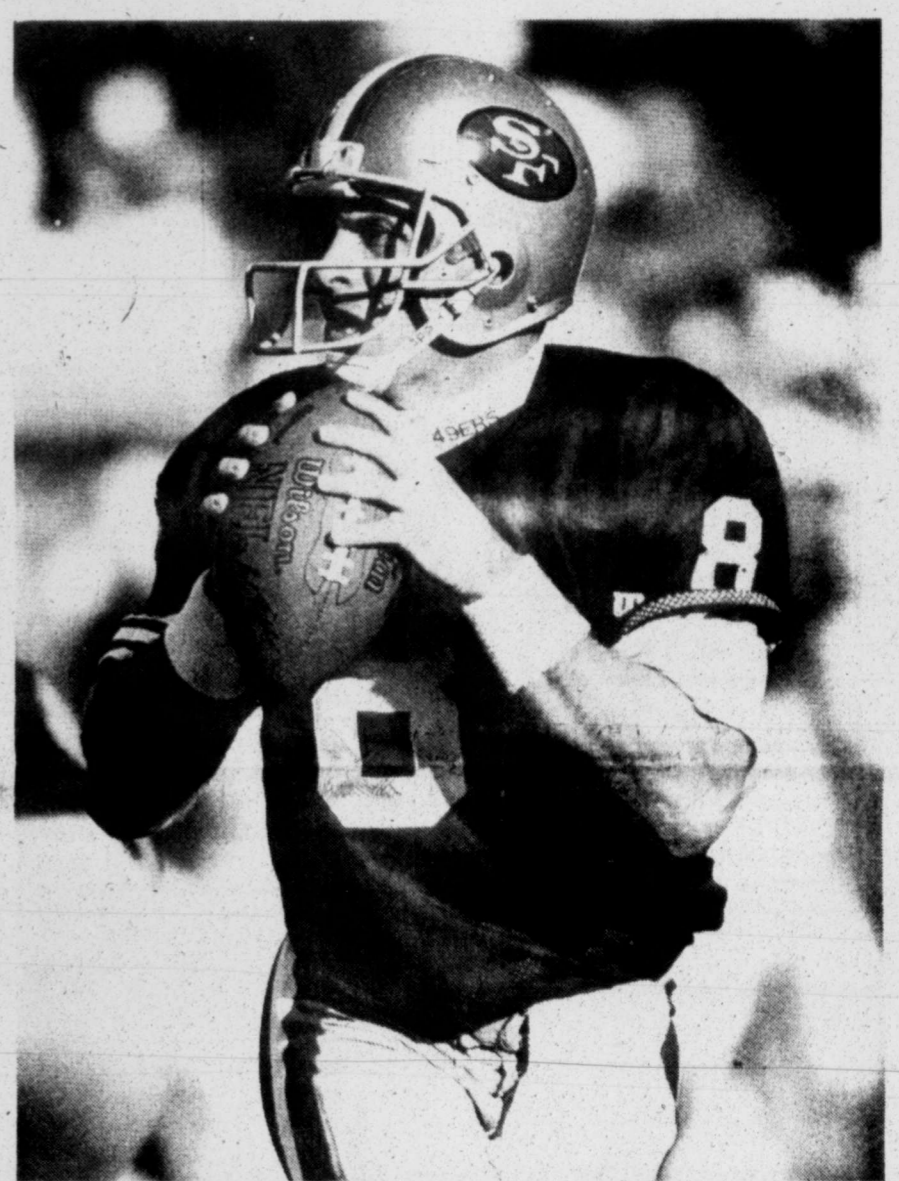
Last week, Barry Sanders was named the league's Offensive Player of the Year, while Deion Sanders won defensive honors. Detroit's Sanders also was the only unanimous pick for the All-Pro team after leading the NFL with 1,883 yards rushing.

The only other 49er to win the award besides Young and Montana was John Brodie in 1970. Last year's winner was Emmitt Smith of Dallas.

For years, critics have said Young simply inherited a great team that runs the perfect offense, and that he was benefitting from what Montana and Bill Walsh put into place. But his numbers have improved in each of his four seasons as San Francisco's quarterback, particularly in the last two years, with Montana playing in Kansas City.

"I used to think it was just a great offense, just a great scheme," Young said. "But it's changed so much over the years."

"I think you have basically people that are possessed on this team to succeed and be the best in the league, Jerry Rice being the epitome. There's a heart of this team that to me everyone is just 100 percent committed. That's all we think about, being the best in the game. I think that's the difference."



OUT OF THE SHADOWS — San Francisco quarterback Steve Young won his second Most Valuable Player award in three years Tuesday. Young, who broke the all-time passing efficiency rating this year, will lead the 13-3 49ers against the Chicago Bears Saturday.

College players declare plans to leave for NFL

By The Associated Press

The Heisman Trophy winner is all set to play in the NFL next season.

The Heisman Trophy runner-up would be wise to join him, his coach says.

"It will be very difficult for me to recommend that he do anything but start on a professional career," Penn State coach Joe Paterno said of his star running back, Ki-Jana Carter, who finished second in the voting for college football's most prestigious individual award last month.

The winner of that award, Rashaan Salaam, already has decided to skip his senior season at Colorado. He is the fifth of the last six Heisman winners to skip his senior season.

Carter is a senior who has one year of eligibility remaining. He was unavailable for comment Tuesday night in Costa Mesa, Calif.

Other players declaring their pro eligibility Tuesday were Miami defensive tackle Warren Sapp, winner of the Lombardi award; teammate James Stewart, a running back; Florida wide receiver Jack Jackson; Pitt running back Curtis Martin; and BYU quarterback John Walsh.

Texas offensive tackle Blake Brockermeyer was expected to announce his plans to turn pro today. Longhorns teammate Lovell

Pinkney, a wide receiver, said Tuesday he was turning pro, but his high school coach said he is wavering.

The NFL has a committee that undergrads can use to assess their draft prospects. Players can request evaluations as late as Jan. 6, with the committee advising them whether they can expect to be drafted in the first two rounds or beyond.

Fifty-three players took advantage of the service last year and 33, including Georgia quarterback Eric Zeier, returned to school.

Players face a Jan. 11 deadline for declaring.

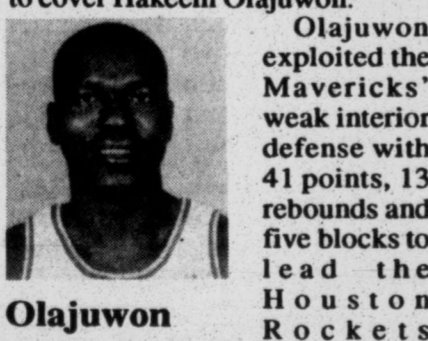
Jackson caught six passes for 128 yards in Florida's 23-17 Sugar Bowl loss to Florida State and then announced his decision to leave school.

Pinkney, a 6-foot-5 junior wide receiver, set a school record with 15 career touchdown receptions. In three seasons, Pinkney caught 102 passes for 1,609 yards for the Longhorns.

Rockets extinguish Mavericks

Olajuwon scores 41 points, has 13 rebounds in 110-98 win

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks found out the hard way that it takes more than one person to cover Hakeem Olajuwon.



Olajuwon

Olajuwon exploited the Mavericks' weak interior defense with 41 points, 13 rebounds and five blocks to lead the Houston Rockets

to their fifth consecutive victory, 110-98 Tuesday night.

The Rockets' perimeter offense set up the single coverage by hitting nine of 13 3-pointers. Olajuwon had room to operate down the stretch as the Mavericks were forced to respect the Rockets' long-range threat.

"I was surprised they weren't double-teaming him," Rockets guard Vernon Maxwell said. "If you don't want to help, he'll take over the game."

Spurs stun Golden State

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Chuck Person hit a 3-pointer with 52 seconds left, his only points of the game, breaking a tie and leading the San Antonio Spurs to a 91-86 win Tuesday night over the struggling Golden State Warriors.

With the score 86-86 and time running down on the 24-second clock, Person hit a shot from the left side of the arc. Former Warrior Avery Johnson added two free throws with 4 seconds left to secure the win.

That's exactly what Olajuwon did, scoring 18 of his team's 25 points in the fourth quarter.

"Hakeem is just amazing," Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "It's got to frustrate people. We go to him so much. It's not a real tough coaching decision to get the ball to him."

"We have a strong post game and we have to exploit it," said Olajuwon, who was 16-for-28 on the day he was named the NBA's player of the week for his effort in the four previous Houston victories.

Jim Jackson scored 27 points and Roy Tarpley had 20 points and 12 rebounds for the Mavericks.

Robert Horry and Sam Cassell scored 18 points each for the Rockets, who were without starting forward Otis Thorpe (strained shoulder) for the fifth straight game.

The Mavericks trailed 95-75 with 9:29 to play, but had a 17-2 run capped by Jackson's two free

throws with 5:18 remaining to reduce the deficit to 97-92.

Olajuwon then scored Houston's next six points to push the Rockets' advantage to 103-94 with 3:23 to play.

"This is the first time he's seen single coverage since Houston-Georgetown," Rockets guard Kenny Smith said. "He did a great job one-on-one."

"We didn't know what to do with Hakeem," Mavericks coach Dick Motta said. "We trapped him in the first half and they hit all their 3-point shots. We went one-on-one with him in the second half and he scored every time he got it."

The teams have a rematch Thursday night in Houston. Mavericks center Terry Davis isn't looking forward to contending with Olajuwon again in such a short time.

"Olajuwon is just too good," Davis said. "There is nothing you can do. I can't sit here and say that I can stop him. The only thing we can do is double-team him."

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NBA Glance

By The Associated Press

All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct. GB	
Orlando	23	6	.793	
New York	15	12	.556	7
New Jersey	13	19	.406	11 1/2
Boston	11	17	.393	11 1/2
Philadelphia	10	18	.357	12 1/2
Miami	9	18	.333	13
Washington	7	20	.259	15

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct. GB	
Cleveland	20	8	.714	
Indiana	17	10	.630	2 1/2
Charlotte	16	12	.571	4
Chicago	15	13	.536	5
Atlanta	12	18	.400	9
Detroit	9	18	.333	10 1/2
Milwaukee	9	19	.321	11

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct. GB	
Utah	20	9	.690	
Houston	19	9	.679	1/2
San Antonio	16	10	.615	2 1/2
Denver	15	13	.536	4 1/2
Dallas	13	13	.500	5 1/2
Minnesota	6	21	.222	13

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct. GB	
Phoenix	22	7	.759	
Seattle	19	9	.679	2 1/2
L.A. Lakers	18	9	.667	3
Sacramento	15	13	.536	6 1/2
Portland	14	13	.519	7
Golden State	10	18	.357	11 1/2
L.A. Clippers	4	25	.138	18

Tuesday's Games
New Jersey 114, Indiana 103
Seattle 121, Washington 107
Portland 103, Atlanta 98
Phoenix 108, Sacramento 100
Houston 110, Dallas 98
Denver 108, Minnesota 99, 2OT
Utah 123, Milwaukee 91
L.A. Lakers 105, Detroit 96
San Antonio 91, Golden State 86
Wednesday's Games
Miami at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at New York, 7:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Portland at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

College Basketball

By The Associated Press
TOP 25 SCOREBOARD

No. 4 Massachusetts 95, West Virginia 65
No. 5 Kansas 106, E. Tennessee 73
No. 6 Connecticut 77, Villanova 62
No. 10 Syracuse 81, Boston College 72
No. 12 Georgetown 55, Pittsburgh 46
No. 16 Iowa St. 74, Loyola, NO 44
LSU 70, No. 13 Florida 66
UCSB 75, No. 20 New Mexico St. 65

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Stakes high as Republicans step up to bat

By TOM RAUM
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — As Republicans step up to bat today, the stakes are enormously high for three major players in the contest to govern: Rep. Newt Gingrich, Sen. Bob Dole and, of course, President Clinton.

The dynamic among the Democratic president and the two GOP leaders in the weeks ahead could have major consequences for the 1996 presidential election and beyond.

It also could have significant policy implications as Republicans test their assertion that they can change things for the better with an agenda of lower taxes and less government.

For now, all eyes are on Gingrich, taking over as House speaker, as the GOP takes control of both chambers of Congress for the first time in 40 years.

Not since Henry Clay in the early 1800s has a new House speaker been able to grab so much attention. Clay wielded power

largely through political skillfulness and fiery oratory, successfully challenging the old guard. Gingrich's assumption of power today has all the trappings of an inauguration: He flew from Georgia with supporters Tuesday aboard a special plane for an evening gala resembling an inaugural ball.

It's part of a bold move by the former history teacher from Georgia to seize and try to hold the initiative and to assert leadership beyond the normal powers of the

speakership.

"House Republicans see Newt as their Moses," said Norman Ornstein, a scholar at the American Enterprise Institute. "He brought them out of 40 years of enslavement. But people fail to remember that Moses's followers turned on him afterwards. ...

"It's fair to say that you run into some potential pitfalls if you so personalize the institution and so raise expectations," Ornstein added.

But there is no doubt that major showdowns loom — particularly if Gingrich stumbles.

"I think that for congressional Democrats or the White House to get in the way now would be a mistake," said Thomas Mann, a political scientist with the Brookings Institution. "That would be merely annoying to the public and counterproductive."

Questions of national leadership will sort themselves out in the days ahead as Gingrich, Dole and Clinton all maneuver for the highest ground.

While Gingrich clearly gets the attention as the curtain rises, the drama eventually will move to the more deliberative Senate. "The Democrats have discovered they only need 41 votes to hold things up," Dole said, impishly recalling delaying tactics used by Republicans.

As promised in their "Contract With America" manifesto, Gingrich and his House GOP colleagues today will begin a 100-day push for major initiatives that include welfare cuts, a balanced federal budget and a \$500-per-child tax break for most Americans. That's a big order for 100 days.

Clinton proposed rival but smaller middle-class tax breaks and offsetting spending cuts before Christmas and will outline more items in his State of Union address late this month.

While standing back a little this week, the White House and its allies are getting in some gentle digs at the new leadership.

Former Clinton presidential counsel Lloyd Cutler took exception to one Gingrich item up today — a rule change to require three-fifths majorities to boost income taxes.

Not only is such a move unconstitutional, Cutler suggested in an essay in Tuesday's Washington Post, but "The biggest question of all is why a majority party with 230 of the 435 seats would want to adopt a supermajority rule requiring 261 vote to pass a tax bill."

"One is tempted to conclude that the present majority party does not expect to keep its majority for very long," he chided.

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.

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3001 Crockett, 4-2-1/2 -2cp.
3113 Ave. T, Own. Fin 3-2-3,
405 32nd, 3-2-cp, \$34,900.
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3732 Austin, 3-2, \$38.5.
2200 21st, 2-1-1, \$30T.
403 30th, 2-1-1, \$15.5T.
2201 41st, 3-1-1/2 -1, \$39.5
513 34th, 2-1, \$15T.
404 33rd, 3-2-1, \$45T.
402 33rd, 2-1-cp, \$16T.
2906 42nd, 3-2, \$42T.
3798 Sunset, 3-2-1, \$48.5
Jackie Buckland 573-8193
Margaret Birdwell 573-6674
Annette Waller 573-9467
Elizabeth Potts 573-4245

Shell-shocked Democrats, still reeling from the Nov. 8 GOP landslide, are letting Gingrich and his troops have their day in the spotlight and giving them a wide berth. "We offer our hand in partnership," incoming Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., said Tuesday.

While Gingrich clearly gets the attention as the curtain rises, the drama eventually will move to the more deliberative Senate. "The Democrats have discovered they only need 41 votes to hold things up," Dole said, impishly recalling delaying tactics used by Republicans.

As promised in their "Contract With America" manifesto, Gingrich and his House GOP colleagues today will begin a 100-day push for major initiatives that include welfare cuts, a balanced federal budget and a \$500-per-child tax break for most Americans. That's a big order for 100 days.

Clinton proposed rival but

family has experienced the last 20 years.

For the family of Urdiales, Malcolm offered words of comfort and advice.

"About the only thing I can tell them is that they have to have faith

Mom of other victim surprised that Jacobs had been paroled

CONROE — The family of Etta Ann Urdiales of Conroe is not the only one left grieving because of the brutal acts of executed killer Jesse DeWayne Jacobs.

Although Urdiales' mother would not comment on today's execution in Texas of the man who killed her daughter, another woman whose son was killed by Jacobs 20 years ago did.

Georgia Malcolm, 65, of Springfield, Ill., said Tuesday she had no idea her son's killer was scheduled to die in Huntsville for the 1986 murder of Urdiales, a mother of two from Conroe.

"I didn't even know (Jacobs) had been released from prison," Malcolm said.

Jacobs was convicted of brutally beating Malcolm's son to death with an iron fence pole in Decatur, Ill., in 1974.

According to stories in the Decatur Herald & Review, Jacobs and another Illinois man swung an iron fence pole like a baseball bat into Dale L. Anderson's skull, then left his body wrapped in plastic and buried in a shallow grave.

"(Dale) was slightly mentally retarded, and when they killed him it was for a joke," said Anderson's sister, Gayle Taylor of Springfield.

Jacobs pled guilty to Anderson's murder in January 1975 and was sentenced to 32 years in prison.

"It has been a nightmare right out of Hell — day after day and night after night, holidays, birthdays — and all the time knowing they were sitting in a nice warm

and somewhere it will get better," she said. "The pain won't go away, but it will get better."

"And if they can forgive him, God bless them, because I can't. I hope God can forgive him, because I can't."

prison and my son was in a cold grave someplace," Malcolm said.

"They killed him July 1 and his body wasn't discovered until October. You can't imagine the nightmares."

Malcolm was angered to learn that Jacobs served only eight and a half years of his sentence and was paroled to Texas in 1983.

"No one notified me he had been released or even said a word," she said. "If they didn't execute him at the time, they should have given him life."

Instead, Jacobs moved to Houston, where his sister, Bobbie Jean Hogan, also lived.

In 1986, Jacobs and his sister concocted a plot to "scare" Urdiales, who was seeking child support from her ex-husband, who was then Hogan's boyfriend.

In his confession, Jacobs said he abducted the Conroe paramedic from her apartment, drove her to a wooded area and shot her once in the head. He said he wrapped her body in a sleeping bag and buried her in a pre-dug grave.

Although he later recanted his story and fingered his sister as the killer, his conviction was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. He was executed early Wednesday.

"As far as if I'm glad he's being executed, I don't know," Malcolm said. "I'm glad he's off the streets and he can't hurt anyone else."

Malcolm said Jacobs' execution will not erase the pain her

family has experienced the last 20 years.

For the family of Urdiales, Malcolm offered words of comfort and advice.

"About the only thing I can tell them is that they have to have faith

Memorial service held for victim of shooting

BOSTON (AP) — Shannon Lowney's friends remembered her bouncy walk, energetic gestures and Irish lilt. Her fiancé tearfully recalled her commitment to people and decision to seek a master's degree in social work.

Lowney's face, eyes and smile "were beacons of goodness in a darkening world," her fiancé, David Keene, said Tuesday at a memorial service for the 25-year-old receptionist killed in last week's abortion clinic shootings.

"Shannon did not die as a hero," he said. "She lived as a hero for all who knew her."

A receptionist at another suburban Boston clinic also was killed in Friday's shootings, and five others were wounded.

More than 1,200 people — many who did not know Lowney — filled the sanctuary of the Arlington Street Church. A lone oil lamp flickered at the base of the pulpit, backed by an arrangement of daffodils and orange and pink roses. An anthem was played by a French horn and piano; Lowney had played both instruments.

Lowney's family did not attend because they were at a funeral for one of her grandfathers, who died shortly after receiving the news of her death.

One of Lowney's co-workers, Kate McNichols, drew laughter from the crowd when she recalled Lowney's walk, gestures and accent. "Every day she made us laugh," McNichols said.

Alice Verhoeven, director of the Planned Parenthood clinic where Lowney worked, said she was the perfect receptionist to help women who were often confused and anxious.

"Shannon made sure they were met with a smile," Verhoeven said.

But it was a mourner leaving the service who may have best captured Lowney's essence. Herb Guttell recalled an argument that Lowney had with his wife, a co-worker, after two people were killed outside a Pensacola, Fla., abortion clinic in July.

Guttell's wife, who does not believe in the death penalty, said Hill

should be executed for the crimes.

"Shannon was very disturbed," Guttell said. "She said, 'No, no, no. We should never fight violence with violence.'"

Technical Oscars are announced

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Makers of a new movie film stock and a process used in special effects photography have been awarded Oscars for technical achievement.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences also awarded certificates of achievement Tuesday to makers of a "safe" gun blank, a biodegradable snowflake and a miniature camera mounted on a toy-sized helicopter.

The technical Oscars were announced Tuesday and will be presented March 4. The regular Oscars will be handed out March 27.

The Eastman Kodak Co. won a technical achievement Oscar for its development of the new stock, while Petro and Paul Vlahos won the gold statuette for developing a process used in special effects photography.

Plaques were awarded to a group of computer programmers for optical effects software; three separate developers of a system converting film into digital data; the makers of a new zoom lens; two teams behind computerized film editing machines; and designers of a synchronizing device.

According to the academy, the safe blank involves a gun that produces the effect of a gunshot in a motion picture but is extremely safe, even when fired at an actor from very close range.

The snowflakes are environmentally safe and the small camera has been used to film unmanned free-flying helicopter scenes for movies.

Also awarded certificates were the developers of a sound editing tool; the makers of a new film time code; the developers of a portable audio mixer; the developers of the computer equivalent of a three-dimensional camera; the makers of a digital system; the team behind computerized movie budgeting; the programmers of screenplay software; the designers of movie set lights; two teams that invented a sound recording tool; and the makers of a quiet wind machine.

Date with Fabio

NEW YORK (AP) — What's it worth to Fabio-droolers to spend time with their fantasy man?

Twenty women have paid \$2,500 for a date with him — and a group date, at that. But it's all for a good cause: the money goes to the Inter-Religious Fellowship for the Homeless.

Obituaries

Allie G. Ammons

1897-1995
Services are set for 2 p.m. Friday in the Hermleigh First United Methodist Church for Allie G. Ammons, 97, of Snyder. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens. The Rev. Bill Scott of Merkel and the Rev. Carlton Thomson, pastor of the church, will officiate.

Mrs. Ammons died Tuesday in Snyder Oaks Care Center after a lengthy illness.

Born on Dec. 3, 1897, in Farmersville, she married David P. Ammons Sr. on Feb. 1, 1917. He died in November of 1967.

Survivors include a son, David Ammons Jr. of Lubbock; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

The family suggests memorials to the Hermleigh First United Methodist Church or a favorite charity.

Francisco Mijares

1898-1995
ROTAN — Funeral service was held at 10 a.m. today in the St. Joseph Catholic Church for Francisco Mijares, 96, who died Monday in a Rotan nursing center. Burial followed in the Hobbs Cemetery.

Born in Tom Green County, Mr. Mijares was a retired farmer and had lived in the Hobbs Community since 1919. He was a

Major mishap, arrest recorded

Area peace officers investigated a major traffic accident and made one unrelated arrest Tuesday.

A major accident was reported at 100 Coliseum Drive at 1:39 p.m. Involved were a 1989 Dodge driven by Knovis Ila Campbell, 100 E. 37th St., and a 1981 Ford driven by H. A. Smith Jr. of 3006 38th St. Both drivers were taken to Cogdell Memorial Hospital by EMS ambulance. Campbell was treated and released while Smith was reported in satisfactory condition this morning after suffering head lacerations in the accident.

Scurry County sheriff's deputies arrested 36-year-old Darwin Lee Garvin at the sheriff's office on a parole violation warrant at 3:30 p.m.

Officers also investigated a report of an attempted suicide at 7:22 p.m. from the 900 block of 27th Street in reference to a male subject cutting his wrist. The subject was transported to the police department where personnel from the Mental Health/Mental Retardation office were notified.

Officers investigated a report of criminal mischief at Snyder High School at 7:32 a.m. Tuesday as the tires on a 1995 van had been cut.

Officers also investigated a complaint of a house being "egged" in the 4000 block of Eastridge. The calling party requested that no report be made at this time.

A report of a male juvenile runaway was made at 4:13 p.m. from the 2000 block of Avenue Z.

Officers investigated a report of a prowler in the 2700 block of Avenue Q at 10:16 p.m.

Other reports of possible prowlers came in at 2:35 this morning from an Ira residence and at 3:06 a.m. from the 2200 block of 41st Street.

Garden club cancels meeting

Snyder Garden Club has cancelled its regular meeting Thursday due to bad weather.

The next scheduled meeting will be held Feb. 3 at Martha Ann Woman's Club with Sandra Browning presenting the program, "Identification and Care of House Plants." Hostesses will be Geleska Baze and Gertrude League.

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Government, Tamil rebels approve truce

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Government forces and Tamil rebels will put down their weapons within 10 days, before new talks begin on ending Sri Lanka's 11-year civil war, the government said today.

President Chandrika Kumartunga briefed her Cabinet today on the negotiations Tuesday that produced a truce agreement.

No date was announced for the truce, but Media Minister Dharma Siri Senanayake said more talks were scheduled for Jan. 14, and the "cessation of hostilities will be much prior to that date."

Mrs. Kumartunga is expected to announce the date on Friday. The truce will include demilitarization zones between govern-

ment and rebel lines in the north and will be monitored by a committee of government officials, Tamil Tiger rebels and foreign representatives, according to a statement released by the president's office. It did not say who the foreigners would be.

The truce will take effect before the visit of Pope John Paul II to Colombo on Jan. 20.

The mostly Hindu Tamils want an independent homeland in the north and the east of the island. The rebels say the Tamil minority is discriminated against by the dominant Buddhist Sinhalese who control the government and the military.

The war has killed 34,000 people.

Israelis, Palestinians exchange gunfire

EREZ JUNCTION, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israelis and Palestinians exchanged gunfire at the main Gaza border crossing today, the army said. As many as four Palesti-

nians, including two PLO policemen, were reported wounded.

The clashes broke out at the Erez crossing point two days after

Israeli soldiers killed three PLO policemen during a nighttime shoot-out in the same area.

The deaths Monday have further strained relations between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization government which administers Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho. Israeli security forces have been bracing for possible revenge attacks.

Palestinian police officials said one taxi driver was wounded today when Israeli troops opened fire on a vehicle at the Erez crossing, and a policeman was wounded in a second Israeli shooting just south of the crossing.

Israel radio said four Palestinians were wounded — two policemen and two civilians.

Officials at Shifa Hospital in Gaza City said they treated a civilian for a bullet injury in the hand.

There were conflicting accounts of how the shoot-out began.

The Israeli army said soldiers at the Erez crossing came under fire from within the self-rule area and returned fire. Soldiers at another post further south heard the gunshots and open fire at men running from an orchard, it said in a statement.

It said the men commandeered a car and fled in the direction of Gaza City. The army said none of its troops were injured in the hour-long incident.

Rashid Abu Shbak, a member of the liaison committee that oversees implementation of security aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian accord, said the Israelis opened fire first.

"They were not provoked," said Abu Shbak.

Ex-Garland mayor, developer Faulkner reporting to prison

DALLAS (AP) — Former Garland Mayor James L. Toler and developer D.L. "Danny" Faulkner, convicted in the largest thrift fraud in Texas history, have reported to federal prisons to begin serving 20-year terms.

After 11 years of investigations, indictments and trials, both surrendered voluntarily Tuesday. Toler entered the Federal Correctional Institution in Texarkana and Faulkner reported to a federal facility at Fort Worth.

Toler, 59, and Faulkner, 62, are expected to serve at least seven years before becoming eligible for early release.

Two other associates surrendered Tuesday to officials at prisons in Texas and Arizona.

"I'd like to say I think we've heard the last of these people, but we haven't," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph Revez.

"I'll expect they'll file motions to reduce their sentences. If they want their sentences reduced, they should pay the government that money. They owe the federal government \$100 million."

Toler and Faulkner were convicted in 1991 of leading a racketeering conspiracy in the early 1980s to steal more than \$100 million from 5 failed thrifts.

The FBI conducted an investigation in 1983 into the use of inflated land appraisals to obtain money from loans granted by the thrifts for the construction of thousands of condominium units along a portion of Interstate 30 in northeast Dallas County.

Taxpayers will foot the \$1 billion bailout bill of the failed Empire Savings and Loan Association of Mesquite and four other thrifts that collapsed in Texas and Arkansas.

More than 100 other people were convicted after the investigation.

In 1991, convictions were obtained in Midland, Texas, against Toler, Faulkner, Hondo appraiser Arthur Formann and former Empire Chairman Spencer H. Blain

Jr. Formann, 65, began his 10-year prison term Tuesday at the Federal Prison Camp at Three Rivers, Texas. Blain, 58, began a 20-year term at the Federal Correctional Institution at Safford, Ariz.

After the 1991 trial, a U.S. district judge ordered Faulkner to pay restitution of \$40 million.

Gun training doesn't assure proper storage of weapons

CHICAGO (AP) — Training gun owners in firearms use is unlikely to get them to keep their weapons unloaded and locked up, which most experts agree is the safest way to store them, researchers say.

A survey of 800 gun owners found that those with training were more likely to have a loaded gun handy in the house than those who hadn't been trained.

Fifty-six percent of the nationally representative sample had received formal firearms training, usually in the military. Twenty-seven percent of those with training kept a loaded, unlocked gun. Only 14 percent of people without training did so.

Trained gun owners may keep loaded guns accessible because they have a keener interest in firearms or believe they are most in need of protection, the researchers said. Training also may increase owners' confidence that they can handle a weapon, the researchers said.

The survey, which had a margin of error of 4 percentage points, was commissioned by the Harvard School of Public Health. Results were published in today's issue of The Journal of the American Medical Association.

"Some individuals advocate mandatory training as a way to improve gun storage practices," said the researchers, led by David Hemenway, deputy director of the

Harvard Injury Control Center. "Our study casts doubt on whether firearms training will substantially reduce the inappropriate storage of firearms."

The authors suggested trying to change the way guns are stored through education, changes in liability laws and the addition of safety mechanisms to guns, such as childproof devices and a mechanism to indicate if a gun is loaded.

The National Rifle Association, the Gun Owners of America and the head of a "doctors" group that reviews research on firearm safety complained that the survey is based on a wrong assumption: that a loaded, unlocked gun is always dangerous.

Medical researchers "only look at the downside of guns," said Dr. Edgar A. Suter, a family physician and head of Doctors for Integrity in Research & Public Safety. "They do not look honestly at the lives saved, injuries prevented, medical costs saved and how much property is protected."

Suter said no good studies have been done to quantify those things.

According to the Harvard researchers, studies document that many firearm deaths occur when children handle loaded guns at home, during drunken domestic arguments, or from suicides by people going through what otherwise would be temporary crises.

"All firearms experts urge that guns generally be stored unloaded and locked, and many experts urge that guns in the home always be stored unloaded and locked," the researchers said.

An exception is an NRA guideline that says a gun kept in the home for protection "is always in use," and may be loaded and stored where it is inaccessible to children and unauthorized adults, the researchers noted.

The study found that 21 percent of gun owners keep a firearm both loaded and unlocked in the home. Researchers estimated that one of every 10 American households has such a weapon.

Markets Middy Stocks

High	Low	Last	Change
AMR Corp	547/8	541/2	541/2 -3/8
AT&T Corp	501/8	493/4	493/4 -1/4
AirTouch	281/2	281/8	281/8 -1/4
Albersons	291/8	285/8	29 -1/8
Allstate	333/4	333/8	335/8 -3/8
AmStores	303/4	303/8	305/8 +1/8
Ameritech	265/8	263/8	261/2 +1/8
Amoco	403/8	40	401/8 -3/8
AndarkPir	591/2	59	591/4 +1/8
ArcoInc	391/2	39	391/4 +1/8
ArmcoInc	63/8	63/8	63/8
AirRichd	1033/8	1021/2	1021/2 +1/2
Aviall	73/4	75/8	75/8 -1/8
BancBynch	181/8	177/8	181/8 +1/8
BancTexas	7/8	7/8	7/8
BellAtl	501/8	491/2	495/8
BellSouth	543/8	54	54 -1/4
BethSteel	18	177/8	177/8 -1/8
Borden	125/8	123/8	121/2
BritPet	793/8	791/8	793/8 -1/8
Caterpillar	541/2	54	543/8 -5/8
CenSoWst	227/8	225/8	227/8 +1/8
Chevron	45	443/8	45 +1/2
Chrysler	501/4	493/4	501/8 -1/8
CocaCola	26	253/4	253/4 -1/4
ColgatePalm	513/4	511/4	511/4 -1/2
Comcast	623/4	62	62 -7/8
CopperInc	265/8	261/2	261/2 -1/4
CyprusAmax	351/8	343/4	35
DalSemin	253/4	251/2	251/2 +3/8
DeltaAir	157/8	151/2	153/4 -1/8
DigitalEq	513/8	511/8	511/4
Dillard	333/8	327/8	331/4 +3/8
DowChem	255/8	243/4	251/8 -1/2
DressInd	671/2	67	671/2 -11/8
DuPont	191/4	191/8	191/4 +1/4
EastmanChem	561/4	56	56
EstKodak	507/8	503/8	507/8 +1/8
Eljerd	485/8	481/4	481/2 +1/2
Enserch	61/8	61/8	61/8
Energy	131/2	131/4	131/4 +1/4
Exxon	223/4	221/2	221/2 +1/8
FluorInd	61	605/8	607/8 +1/8
FordMotor	181/8	181/8	181/8
GenCorp	283/8	28	283/8 +1/2
GTE Corp	305/8	303/8	301/2 +1/4
GenElec	44	433/8	437/8 +3/8
GenMills	511/2	51	511/4 +1/4
GenMotors	563/4	561/4	563/4 +1/4
GenPac	425/8	421/4	423/8 +5/8
GenMotors E	383/4	383/8	381/2 +1/8
GlobalMar	723/4	723/8	723/8 -3/8
Goodyear	35/8	35/8	35/8 +1/8
Goodyear	441/8	44	441/8 +3/8
Goodyear	345/8	34	341/2 +5/8
GlobalMar	183/8	181/4	181/4 -1/8
Halliburton	34	331/4	337/8 +3/8
Hanson ADS	181/2	181/4	181/2 +3/8
HoussInd	353/4	351/2	353/4 +1/8
IBM	745/8	737/8	745/8 +5/8
InstPaper	733/8	731/4	731/4 +1/8
JohannaJas	543/4	54	543/8 -1/8
Kmart	135/8	131/8	131/2 +3/8
Kroger	241/2	241/8	241/4 -1/8
Litton	367/8	365/8	367/8
Lowes	341/4	335/8	333/4 -1/2
Lubys	221/2	223/8	221/2 +1/8
Maxus	31/2	33/8	33/8 -1/8
MayDeptSts	341/8	331/2	331/2 +3/8
Medtronic	541/8	533/4	54 +3/8
Mobil	85	837/8	843/4 +5/8
Monsanto	701/4	693/4	70
Motorola	571/2	561/4	561/4 -3/4
Nationsbk	461/8	455/8	461/8 +3/8
Navistar	16	157/8	16 +1/8
NoramEngy	55/8	51/2	55/8
Nynex	371/4	37	371/8 +1/4
OryxEngy	117/8	113/4	117/8 +1/8
PacTelesis	285/8	81/4	281/4 -1/8
PanECP	201/8	197/8	20
PennacJC	431/2	431/8	431/4 -3/8
Pennzoil	443/8	441/4	443/8 +1/8
PepBoys	301/8	295/8	30 -1/2
PepsiCo	351/8	341/2	35 -1/4
PhilDodge	603/8	593/4	601/8 -1/4
PhillipPet	323/4	323/8	323/8 -1/4
PilgramPrd	93/4	93/4	93/4
Poloid	331/2	33	33 -3/8
Praxair	203/8	197/8	197/8 -3/8
ProctGamble	625/8	617/8	617/8 -1/2
PubSNMx	131/8	127/8	131/8 +1/8
RoyalDutch	1081/4	1077/8	108 -1/8
SFPacCp	175/8	173/8	171/2 -1/8
SearsLee	255/8	251/2	251/2
SearsRoeb	475/8	471/8	471/2 -1/8
SherwinW	327/8	325/8	323/4 -1/4
SmithBchADS	361/4	36	361/4 +3/8
SmithBc	343/8	341/8	341/4 +1/8
SouthCo s	197/8	195/8	197/8
SweetAirline	173/4	173/8	171/2 -1/8
SwBell	401/8	393/4	397/8 -1/4
Sprint	271/8	267/8	267/8 -3/8
SunCo	127/8	127/8	127/8 -1/8
SunG	283/4	285/8	285/8 -1/8
Tandy	523/8	521/8	521/8 -1/2
Tempil	47	461/4	463/4 +1/4
Tennaco	43	423/4	427/8
TexasCo	605/8	601/4	605/8 +1/8
TexasInd	327/8	323/4	327/8 +1/8
TexasInt	74	723/4	723/4 -3/4
TexUtil	323/4	323/8	325/8 +1/4
Textron	497/8	491/2	497/8 +3/8
Travelers	335/8	33	335/8 +5/8
TrinityInds	32	317/8	32 +1/4
TritionEngy	337/8	335/8	337/8
Tyler	31/4	31/4	31/4
US West	36	353/4	357/8 +1/8
USX Delhi	10	10	10
USX-Mexico	165/8	163/8	165/8
USX-USS	353/4	355/8	355/8
UnCarbide	291/2	287/8	291/2 +1/2
UnPac	463/4	461/4	461/4 -5/8
UnitedTech	631/4	623/4	63 +1/8
Unocal	271/4	271/8	271/8 -1/8
WalMart	207/8	205/8	203/4 -1/8
WataGasR	191/4	19	191/8 +1/8
WestHil	123/4	125/8	125/8
WinnDixie	525/8	523/8	525/8 +1/8
Worlworth	16	151/2	157/8 +1/2
XeroxCp	975/8	971/8	971/4 +1/4
ZenithE	117/8	115/8	115/8 -1/8

Judge blocks use of 'Megan's Law'

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Publicizing a rapist's release from prison would amount to additional punishment and could prevent him from getting a fresh start, a judge ruled in a challenge to a community notification law.

U.S. District Judge John W. Bissell issued a preliminary injunction Tuesday granting Carlos Diaz a reprieve from "Megan's Law," which was passed by state lawmakers after an outcry over the rape and killing of 7-year-old Megan Kanka.

A released sex offender who lived across the street from her has been charged with her murder.

Bissell's ruling applies only to Diaz, who was the first to challenge the law. The judge did not set a date for further hearings on whether the law is constitutional.

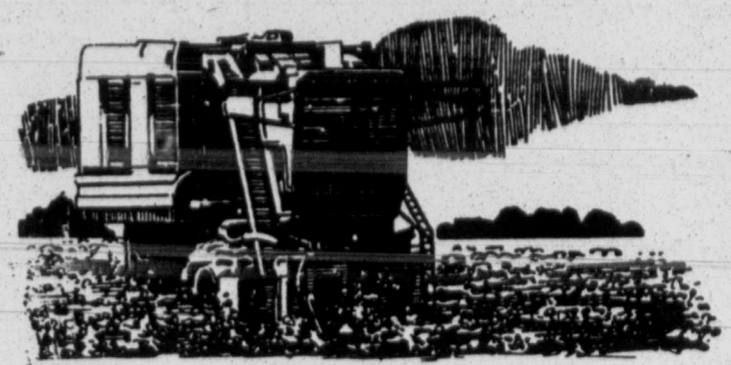
A spokesman for Attorney General Deborah Poritz said the law would continue to be enforced for other sex offenders.

Diaz was released from prison Sunday — the same day the law went into effect — after serving 12 years of a 20-year sentence for kidnapping and raping a woman.

Diaz, 46, was considered a



Scurry County Country



Town & Country Topics

By Kathryn Roberts
County Extension Agent

Berry to address cotton conference



The Emu Report

By Shirley Pate, Pate Emu Farm

SAFE OR NOT? BRASS, COPPER AND CERAMIC COOKWARE
What cookware is not safe? Questions about safety often accompany the purchase of more decorative and sometimes imported cookware. Brass and copper are two metals used for cookware that can be dangerous.

Brass is an alloy of copper and zinc and a mixture in varying amounts of other metals such as lead. Zinc is too toxic to be used for cooking utensils or pans. And, since there is no easy way to know if lead is in a piece of brassware, cooking and serving food in brassware is not recommended. Brass corrodes if uncoated, so tarnishing of brass would indicate that the metals are reactive.

Copper cookware is an excellent conductor of heat, especially good for top-of-range cooking. It is often preferred for cooking delicate sauces and foods that must be cooked at precisely controlled temperatures. Copper cookware is safe if it is lined with tin or steel. The inside of these lined pieces of

cookware will be silver, rather than copper-colored.

Unlined copper cookware should not be used because the metal is relatively easily dissolved by some foods, causing the release of copper into food in amounts great enough to cause nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

Ceramic ware is another type of cookware that has raised safety question concerns. Consumers should look for a label on decorative ceramic ware stating that the item is not for food use and that it may poison food. Earlier concerns were expressed by FDA about lead leaching from ceramic ware, particularly with mugs used for hot beverages. Hot acidic beverages such as coffee and tea cause the greatest leaching. This leaching of lead can be especially dangerous to pregnant women.

While most responsible manufacturers produce safe ceramic ware, consumers may want to avoid storing acidic beverages such as fruit juices and tea in lead-glazed pitchers.

FLOYDADA — President Clinton's special assistant for agricultural trade and food, Marion Berry, (not the mayor of Washington, D.C.) will speak here Tuesday, Jan. 17 at the 1995 Caprock Cotton Conference. Berry will have some definite insights on the Farm Bill, Secretary of Agricultural GATT, NAFTA, etc. Also on the program is Nicholas J. Hahn, president and CEO of Cotton Incorporated, New York. Mr. Hahn will present information on Cotton Incorporated activities and the cotton industry.

The Caprock Cotton Conference has been located in Crosbyton the past few years, but will be at the Plains Baptist Assembly in Blanco Canyon this year to accommodate more people.

Other speakers on Tuesday, include Adam Ballinger, publisher of "Fiber" news magazine, Memphis, Tenn.; Mark Lange the director of economic services with the National Cotton Council (NCC) in Memphis; and Marshall Kuykendall with "Take Back Texas" a property rights organization.

Dr. John Gannaway, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station cotton breeder will lead a panel discussion with three leading biotechnology company leaders. They will discuss the future of biotech in cotton, costs and availability. The day will wrap up with the "Grown and Made" program from the NCC.

On Wednesday, Jan. 18, several production technology presentations will be given. These will include Dr. Tom Fuchs — IPM in Texas; Frank Meyers — boll weevil eradication; Kater Hake — '94 Cotton, What We Learned; Dr. Bill Blyle — moisture management; Dr. Wayne Keeling — system approach; Dr. Norman — seed quality; Dr. Jim Leser — '94-'95 insects; Dr. Carl Anderson — '95 cotton marketing; result demonstrations reports by Kerry Siders — Venice mallow control and BXN buctril resistant

cotton; David Kostroun — cotton pest monitoring; and Greg Jones — cotton variety tests.

Ten continuing education units (CEU's) will be given for both days or 5 for one day. Many exhibitors in farm equipment, crop protection chemicals, seed dealers, irrigation equipment, etc. will be present. Many door prizes, a free conference cap, and good meals both days will be provided.

Preregistration is due Jan. 6. Contact Siders at the Floyd County office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, telephone 806-983-2806, for more information or registration forms.

Lubbock cattle auction

Trading was good, on a run of 457 head for the Dec. 29 sale, at Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. All classes of cattle were steady demand and trading were good.

Slaughter cows, (high dressing - cutters - utility) 40 to 49.50; canners and low cutters 35.50 to 40; slaughter bulls 50 to 58.50.
Feeder steers choice: 300 to 400 — 90 to 118; 400 to 500 — 85 to 92; 500 to 600 — 73.50 to 83.50; 600 to 700 — 71.50 to 76.50; 700 to 800 — 68.50 to 73.50.
Feeder heifers choice: 300 to 400 75 to 110; 400 to 500 — 72.50 to 80; 500 to 600 — 65 to 73.50; 600 to 700 — 65 to 72.50; 700 to 800 — 61.50 to 68.50.
Feeder bulls good and choice: 500 to 600 — 70 to 77.50; 700 to 800 65 to 72.
Cow and calf pairs — good 600 to 750, grade 500 to 595.
Springers 350 to 660; baby calves 100 to 185; doodlers 125 to 200.

From the desk of "Emu Marketing Unlimited." Has your bird changed in the last 10 months?

It has been brought to the industry's attention that ranches are being visited by people proclaiming gloom and doom in the emu industry. With this story they are attempting to purchase birds at an unrealistically low price. Are we in a gloom and doom situation? No.

Just the contrary. This industry is about to take off. We will be receiving the all important voluntary USDA inspection stamp in the very near future. EMU is soon to be launching a nation-wide processing operation, and there are private organizations who are willing to put up major money to establish processing operations. There have been major breakthroughs in uses for the oil. The products have gotten better through research, with new products coming on line everyday.

If somebody visits your ranch offering you a low price because the industry is in a gloom and doom situation, stop and ask yourself why that person wants to buy birds if the industry is in trouble. Use common sense. Ask yourself, "Are the industry leaders selling out?" No. Commercialization is just around the corner and these birds are valuable to this industry and to you.

If you have questions about this industry call Emu Marketing Unlimited or your state affiliate president for the real status.

Please get the facts. The bird

won't let you down. For further information call Pate Emu Farm, 573-5340.

Farm & ranch show planned on Feb. 15-16

ABILENE — Burnsville, Minn., KTAB TV, KEAN Radio, the Abilene Reporter News and Champion Farm Shows are pleased to announce the Third Annual Big Country Farm and Ranch Show will be held on Feb. 15 and 16 at the Taylor County Fairgrounds in Abilene.

Agri-business companies from throughout the United States will be displaying their products and services to farmers and ranchers from the entire Big Country region. Tractors, combines, tillage equipment, livestock equipment, seed and computers are among the many products and services that will be on display in over 400 booths at the show.

For the third consecutive year the Rolling Plains Cotton Growers will hold their annual meeting at the show.

There is ample parking for attendees and admission is free!

For further information, contact Carl Weinmann at 612-894-8007.

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Food prices expected to see moderate hike

WASHINGTON (AP) — Food prices are expected to rise modestly this year, although large supplies should mean lower prices for meat and poultry, Agriculture Department economists say.

The largest increases are forecast for nonalcoholic beverages, notably coffee, as well as for cereals and bakery products and fresh vegetables, according to USDA's Economic Research Service.

The Consumer Price Index for food is forecast to rise this year in the range of 2 percent to 4 percent, which is slightly ahead of the past two years. Overall inflation is expected to be 3.4 percent, up from 2.6 percent in 1994.

Food processing and distribution costs will likely rise, but expected slow growth in consumer demand and aggressive competition among retailers may mean that some of these increases won't be passed on to consumers, said the research service's Agricultural Outlook for January-February.

Higher coffee prices — due mainly to frosts in Brazil in June and August and a subsequent drought in the country's coffee-producing areas — were the major factor behind the 1994 food-price increase. Retail coffee prices were up 22 percent in August, stabilized in September and then rose 1 percent in October and .03 percent in November.

Though Brazil's coffee production — accounting for 25 percent

of worldwide production — is expected to be off this year, worldwide production is forecast to be up 1 percent, USDA said.

Coffee comprises 27 percent of the CPI's nonalcoholic beverage category, and the price increase for this group is forecast to be 3 percent to 5 percent in 1995, compared with a preliminary 7.5 percent last year.

Prices of cereal and bakery products are forecast to increase in the same 3 percent to 5 percent range, while prices for fresh vegetables are expected to rise 3 percent to 6 percent.

In contrast, fresh fruit prices are forecast to drop by 1 percent to 3 percent, down sharply from a preliminary increase of 6.5 percent last year, the outlook report said. The reason, it said, is record or near-record crops of oranges for juice and fresh grapefruit, apples and pears.

With record supplies on hand, meat prices are expected to drop this year by 1 percent to 3 percent, with pork forecast for the largest drop — as much as 5 percent, the report said. Meat prices advanced about 0.6 percent in 1994.

Poultry prices are forecast to drop in the same range as meats, while fish prices are expected to increase 2 percent to 4 percent. Poultry increased 3.4 percent last year, and fish 4.5 percent, the report said.

Winter care for canines

Winter's cold air brings lots of concerns for responsible dog owners:

•Don't leave your dog outside in the cold for long periods of time. Windchill makes days colder than actual temperature readings. Be attentive to your dog's body temperature and limit time outdoors.

•Adequate shelter is a necessity. Keep your dog warm, dry and away from drafts. Tiles and uncarpeted areas may become extremely cold, so make sure to place blankets and pads on floors in these areas.

•Be extra careful when walking or playing with your dog near frozen lakes, rivers or ponds. Your dog could slip or jump in and get seriously injured.

•Groom your dog regularly. Your dog needs a well-groomed coat to keep him properly insulated. Short- or coarse-haired dogs may get extra cold so consider a sweater or coat. Long-haired dogs should have their paw hair clipped to ease snow removal and the cleaning of their feet.

•Feed your dog additional calories if he spends a lot of time outdoors or is a working animal. It takes more energy in the winter to keep body temperature regulated, so additional calories are necessary.

•Towel or blow-dry your dog if he gets wet from rain or snow. It is important to dry and clean his paws, too. This helps avoid tiny cuts and cracked pads. (A little petroleum jelly may soften the pads and prevent further cracking.)

•Don't leave your dog alone in a car. It gets too cold and carbon monoxide from an engine left running is dangerous.

Money-saving tips for '95 consumers

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE CONSUMERS:

Plan to keep more of your money in your pockets in 1995. Here are a few resolutions to get you started.

•Shop for the best interest rate for credit cards. The credit card market is very competitive now. You can pay less interest on your credit card balance if you shop around. Your own financial institution may offer lower rates but may not be publicizing that fact. Ask your credit union or alumni association if it offers a credit card. Look not only for lower interest rates, but also check for low or no annual fees.

•Move unpaid balances to a less costly card. When you get a new lower interest rate, move any balance you have to the lowest rate card. Most issuers allow the transfer to be made at no charge. Hundreds of dollars could be saved next year on large balances. When the transfer is made, cancel the old card and destroy it. About two weeks after canceling the old card, call to be sure the account was closed.

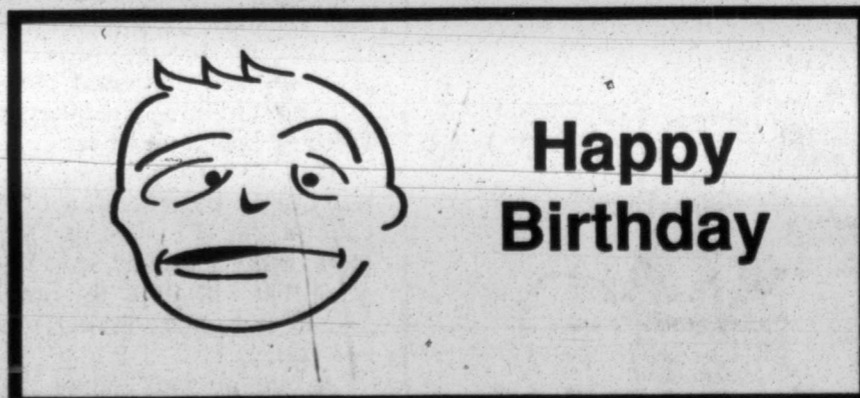
•Avoid fees for late payment and exceeding the account limit. Creditors may allow you to exceed your limit and gladly charge an extra fee for the privilege. The card holder is responsible for making payments on time and knowing the account balance at all times.

•Pay more than the minimum payment. Search your budget and find as much money as possible to pay on credit card balances. The interest saved will be much higher than interest earned on passbook savings accounts. Some credit cards are offering lower minimum payments. Don't fall for it. Paying a few dollars less means paying more interest.

add a little surprise and a whole lot of fun to all your special occasions!!!

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Total Cost \$20.00

The Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave. 573-5486



Bratty Toddler Gets a Kick Out of Irritating His Neighbor

by Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for seven years. No children yet, but we're "working on it."

We live in an apartment building. A young woman (I'll call her Nellie) lives across the hall. Nellie is five months pregnant and has a 4-year-old stepson, "Roger," who is a handful. Roger gets whatever he wants by screaming and kicking. He kicks the furniture, his mother, and he has kicked me a couple of times.

Nellie had a doctor's appointment yesterday, and she asked me if I would keep Roger for a couple of hours. What could I say?

Well, Nellie was gone for 4 1/2 hours, and Roger tore up my apartment and did everything he could think of to irritate me. When his mother came back, she asked me how Roger behaved, and I told her, "Just fine."

Abby, I never want to keep this child again — even for an hour. I know Nellie, being pregnant and all, will ask me to keep him again. She has no family in this city.

How can I get out of it?
HAD IT IN BALTIMORE

DEAR HAD IT: Tell her the truth — Roger is too much for you to handle, and you do not want the responsibility of looking after him.

You did her no favor by telling her he was well-behaved in her absence. She needs to know — not only for her sake, but for Roger's — that the boy needs to be disciplined. It would be a kindness to her, and Roger.

DEAR ABBY: I read the letter signed "St. Petersburg, Fla.," written by someone who said his neighbors, who had children in high school and college, acted like a couple of teen-agers. (When the husband came home from work, his wife would run out in the street to

meet him, and he carried her into the house piggyback.)

If I had read that letter seven years ago, I would have said, "Those people are nuts," but after my wife and I experienced Marriage Encounter, we acted just like that couple.

We don't care what other people say; after 27 years of marriage, we couldn't be happier.

If all married couples experienced a weekend of Marriage Encounter, the divorce rate would be much lower. You may use our names.

JORGE AND CARMEN FERNANDEZ, LONG BRANCH, N.J.

DEAR JORGE AND CARMEN: What a well-deserved plug for Marriage Encounter. I am well aware of its success rate. For at least 25 years, I have been singing its praises. For information and a list of chapters in your area, write to: Worldwide Marriage Encounter, 1908 East Highland Ave., Suite A, San Bernardino, Calif. 92404; or, National Marriage Encounter, 4704 Jamerison Place, Orlando, Fla. 32807-1024. (Please include a self-addressed, stamped (32 cents) envelope.)

DEAR ABBY: I got a chuckle out of the "significant udder" joke in your column. Here's an original that had my children rolling their eyes back in their heads:

Q: How do you define a cow's condition when she does not give milk?
A: Udder failure.
JOSEPH PARADISO, PHOENIX

Abby shares more of her favorite, easy-to-prepare recipes. To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, More Favorite Recipes, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Released teen slaying suspect ordered to remain in custody

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A 16-year-old rape and murder suspect allowed to go free last month has been ordered to remain in custody indefinitely.

District Judge Andy Mireles on Tuesday ordered the teen to remain in the juvenile detention center on capital murder charges. A different judge released him because she had said prosecutors lacked evidence to hold him.

Mireles also ruled that a 17-year-old who was 16 at the time of the alleged crime should be held in the juvenile facility on capital murder charges because he and the other teen were too dangerous to go free.

The two and an adult, 20-year-old Nabor Ramos, are accused in the July 1993 rape and murder of

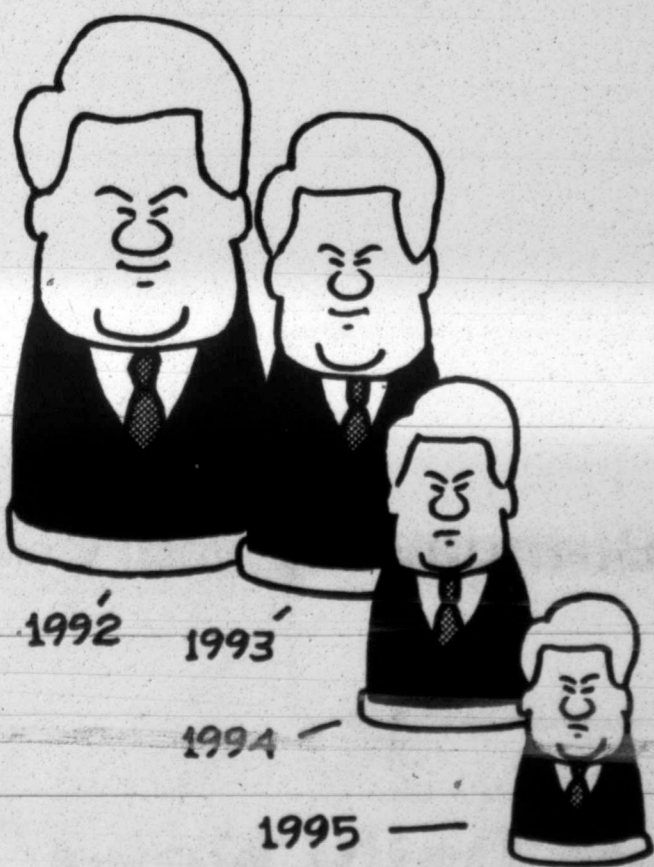
Rebecca Martinez, who was 15 when she was shot in the back of the head. Prosecutors believe she was gang raped before being shot.

After the girl's body lay decomposing in the tall grass on the side of a road in South San Antonio, her killers returned to show their friends and kick the corpse, according to witness statements shown in court.

Under juvenile-law, juveniles aren't entitled to bond but can be held if a judge decides the charges are serious enough or if the child would be a danger to himself or others.

The 16-year-old went into the detention center in October, then was released Dec. 16 by state District Judge Carmen Kelsey.

Berry's World



NESTING DOLLS

Impact of clinic shootings...

Poor women could lose vital services

BROOKLINE, Mass. (AP) — There's more than abortions going on behind the doors of most abortion clinics.

Like the two clinics in this Boston suburb that were the target of a deadly shooting spree last week, many also provide gynecological services, birth control, AIDS testing, prenatal care and other services.

The clientele is largely poor. Abortion rights activists fear these women will bear the biggest burden from escalating violence at clinics: being scared away from the only health care they can afford.

"These clinics are the point of

entry into the health-care system for poor women," said Kate Michelman, director of the National Abortion Rights Action League. "These people don't have any other place to go."

Anti-abortion groups, however, are a smokescreen.

"There are myriads of family health centers, doctors and so on that provide those services without providing abortions," said Joseph M. Scheidler, director of the Pro-Life Action League. "The point is, abortions are done there. It's like saying Hitler did a lot of good things for Germany."

Of the nation's 889 abortion clinics, 75 percent offer general gynecological care, according to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, which researches reproductive health issues.

Eighty-three percent provide contraceptive services, 67 percent treat sexually transmitted diseases and 30 percent provide non-gynecological surgery, obstetric care, sterilization and AIDS test-

ing, the institute says.

At the Planned Parenthood and Preterm Health Services clinics in Brookline, a gunman killed two women and wounded five on Friday. John Salvi III, 22, of Hampton, N.H., is charged in the shootings and of shooting out the windows of a clinic in Norfolk, Va.

On Tuesday, several women who depend on low-cost clinics for health services other than abortion said the shootings had left them anxious.

"I was real nervous about it," said Maria Bonill, 35, who visited a clinic that does not provide abortions.

Lawanda Maryland, 21, was treated at a public health center. "I'd be afraid to go to an abortion clinic," she said.

Sylvia Stengle, director of the National Abortion Federation, said women from every social and economic group get abortions, "but women of means certainly have more choices than women who are uninsured or underinsured."

"If this kind of violence causes people to think twice about going to a clinic," she added, "wealthy women will have more choices than the poor."

In addition to abortions, the Brookline clinics — both of which remained closed Tuesday — furnish birth control, vasectomies, AIDS and pregnancy testing, prenatal care and adoption referrals. The clinics are less costly than most private hospitals or doctors. A first-trimester abortion at Planned Parenthood costs \$200 to \$300, depending on the type of anesthesia used. At a gynecological office, the price is \$900 to \$1,000.

Officials at the Preterm and Planned Parenthood clinics estimated that abortions comprise 30 percent and 40 percent of their work, respectively.

"Just because someone is going into our clinic doesn't mean they're getting an abortion," said Susan Newsom, spokeswoman for Planned Parenthood of Massachusetts.

Astrograph

By Bernice Bøde Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Jan. 5, 1995

There are strong indications that your self-interests will be powerful in the year ahead; this does not necessarily mean you will be selfish. As you progress, you'll carry those worthy of reward with you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Conceptually changing a plan you've been considering will create the desired effect. The important thing is not to compromise your ideals. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you to understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail \$2 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 4465, New York, NY 10163.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Your achievements will be substantial today if you do something that others benefit from as much as you do.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You possess the ability to make the best of any situation today. Use this valuable asset for the sake of many.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You will be able to ingeniously remold the vague, frail ideas of others today. Mutual benefits can be garnered.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Candor is essential today in your one-to-one relationships. Do not pull your punches, but there's no reason to present your comments unkindly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Use your organizational abilities constructively today. Develop a clear system for dealing with a situation confusing to everybody.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Today will be fun if you are willing to devote some time to people you like and activities you truly enjoy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Your family members will be more receptive to your ideas and plans if you first set a good example today. Be a good listener and step out front early.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Endeavors requiring artistic and imaginative touches will go well for you today. You can draw readily from both of these resources.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your luck is likely to focus on material concerns today. Your opportunities will be due, in part, to the efforts of others on your behalf.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Eliminate the word "can't" from your vocabulary today. Positive thinking will prove successful if you give it half a chance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Open your heart and your purse when dealing with those less fortunate than yourself today. Giving generously creates good feelings in you and the recipient.

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Program hailed

FORT WORTH (AP) — Three months into an anti-gang program, officials are crediting "Comin' Up" with preventing violence by negotiating ceasefires that have allowed gang members to cross enemy lines.

Officials with the city and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth, the joint sponsors of the project, say nearly 500 people have taken advantage of the program.

In a report to city council members Tuesday, the program touted its success through recreational activities and discussed plans to offer jobs, training and other assistance to gang members.

The \$586,000 program already has caught the attention of officials at the U.S. Justice Department, who approved a \$168,000 grant that will allow the program to add two sites, giving it nine centers.

An anonymous donor reportedly also gave \$100,000, and Mayor Kay Granger said she is confident that the private sector will step up for future funding "once they see that it's a success and that it's cutting down on crime."

Palate is the roof of the mouth; a palette is an artist's paint board; a pallet is a bed.

Gingrich's mother interviewed on CBS' 'Eye To Eye' program

NEW YORK (AP) — One of the only things Newt Gingrich ever told his mother about Hillary Rodham Clinton is that "she's a bitch," Mrs. Gingrich told CBS News.

Kathleen Gingrich revealed the comment during Connie Chung's interview with the incoming House speaker's family at their home in Dauphin, Pa.

A CBS transcript released Tuesday includes the following exchange:

Chung: Mrs. Gingrich, what has Newt told you about President Clinton?

Kathleen Gingrich: Nothing and I can't tell you what he said about Hillary.

Chung: You can't.

Kathleen Gingrich: I can't.

Chung: Why don't you just whisper it to me, just between you

and me.

Kathleen Gingrich: 'She's a bitch.' About the only thing he ever said about her. I think they had some meeting, you know, and she takes over.

Chung: She does?

Kathleen Gingrich: Oh, yeah, but with Newt there, she can't.

A White House spokeswoman, Ginny Terzano, said: "We find that offensive. We absolutely expect more from the new Republican Congress and the speaker."

Gingrich, who will be sworn in today as House speaker, could not be reached for comment Tuesday night.

His spokesman, Tony Blankley, said he has heard Gingrich describe Mrs. Clinton "as an extraordinarily able and talented woman" well-suited to be a senior policy adviser to the president.

"I think for a very sharp repor-

ter to exploit an older woman to extract a comment made in private is despicable journalism," Blankley said.

The interview is to be broadcast Thursday on "Eye To Eye With Connie Chung."

Gingrich, one of Capitol Hill's best-known provocateurs, has specialized in headline-grabbing rhetoric.

In 1992, the Georgia Republican said Democrats had a "Woody Allen" platform, implying they approved of Allen's affair with his adopted daughter.

He recently called both Clintons "counter-culture McGovernicks" and claimed that a quarter of the White House staff had trouble getting security clearances because they had used drugs in the past five years. He later said he regretted that comment.

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