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WT-Int. Crude - $31.76
WTIC Posted - $28.50
Natural Gas - $6.75

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

Dec. 10, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 192
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Jim Shearer

DEC 10 2003

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Jo Ann Nunley

It's beginning to look more like Christmas, and each generation has its own story to tell about how they celebrated Christmas.

My Christmases during the believing in Santa years were much like today, I guess, if you take away a few of the luxurious items the children enjoy now. I probably believed in Santa longer than most children.

My grandfather always dressed in a big stuffed red Santa suit complete with a white beard and brought our toys to us on Christmas Eve. We always had prepared some goodies for him and thought that it really was Santa because he knew everything, even if we had been bad or good.

I was beginning to have my first doubts when some indubitable evidence appeared. I accidentally found a Santa suit and beard stored in a trunk upstairs in my grandparents' home.

This happened shortly after the whole second grade class had separated friendship over the question of Santa authenticity. As I remember we were split down the middle, exactly half of the class believed and half were at least doubters. This certainly put Mrs. Tudor, the teacher, on the spot. She had to break the tie.

She quickly settled the question by telling us, "If you want to believe that there is a Santa, then there is. Now, sit down boys and girls and get to work."

That quieted the debate.

I think my children, as well as their children, have just played along with everyone. It was too much excitement to give up readily.

Yes, my children led their father and mother on for a Christmas or two. They laugh and tell me now they thought they would get more gifts if they stayed on the Santa wagon.

The mythical old man will continue to bring gifts to children.

To save the let-down of those about to discover he is only a legend, we could tell them that our Santa today developed from a real person. Saint Nicholas, who lived in the 300s A.D., has persevered even though his appearance has gone through many changes.

Nevertheless, St. Nick, Santy or whatever he is called, remains a popular fellow in the minds of everyone during this time of the year as someone who brings presents and lots of cheer.

Friday is the deadline for Santa letters to be received at the Snyder Daily News that will be published in the Dec. 24 edition.

There is a Santa Claus, Ind., with a population of 514, located 10 miles north of the Ohio River. Every December, thousands of letters addressed to "Dear Santa Claus" are received in this town.

To insure publication in SDN, be sure to have your children address their letter to Santa Claus, Box 949, Snyder, TX 79550, or place them in the mailbox at SDN, 3600 College Ave.

Precinct 1 Commissioner...

Williams files for county post

A political newcomer, but a native of Scurry County, tossed his hat into the ring Tuesday for a seat on the Scurry County commissioners court.

Terry Williams, 42, filed in the Republican Primary for Precinct 1 county commissioner.

Terry Williams

Incumbent Ralph Trevey, a Democrat, had earlier filed for his fourth term on the court representing Precinct 1.

Williams has served four years on the Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of managers and is currently the president of Independence Propane.

Williams and his wife, Michelle, have two children. Brooke is 20 and Dustyn is 15.

Other GOP filings include incumbents — District Judge Ernie Armstrong, District Attorney Dana Cooley, County Attorney Mike Hartmand and Precinct 3 commissioner Howard Limmer.

The only other candidate to file for a spot on the Democratic ballot is Sheriff Darren Jackson.

The term of tax assessor-collector Diana Williamson, a Republican, also is expiring.

Williamson said this morning she is undecided about seeking her second term.

She has worked in the tax office since 1976.

The deadline for filing is Jan. 2 with the primaries set for March 9.

Bands to hold concert

Snyder ISD bands will present their annual Christmas concert at 7 p.m. Thursday in Worsham Auditorium.

The program will last about an hour and there is no admission charge.

Performers will include the sixth grade, junior high and high school bands.

Band directors are Donnie Reston and Kay Kennedy.

Authorities think missing student dead

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — The mother of missing college student Dru Sjodin said the family has not given up hope of finding her alive and is "outraged" by a sheriff's statement that her daughter is probably dead.

Comments anger girl's mother

Grand Forks County Sheriff Dan Hill said Tuesday that the investigation is more of a recovery mission than a rescue effort after DNA tests showed Sjodin's blood was in the car of a man suspected in her kidnapping.

Hill did not speak to the family directly, and they maintain faith that she is alive, Sjodin's brother Sven told CBS' "The Early Show" today.

Sjodin's mother, Linda Walker, said the family was "outraged" by Hill's assessment. "We firmly believe Dru's return is close at hand," she said Tuesday from her home in Pequot Lakes, Minn.

Sjodin was last heard from Nov. 22, when she called her boyfriend on a cell phone from the parking lot of a Grand Forks mall where she worked at a Victoria's Secret.

Searches of rivers, ditches and snow-covered fields in two states, sometimes employing hundreds of volunteers, have turned up few clues to the 22-year-old's whereabouts.

Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., a 50-year-old with a history of violent sexual assaults, has been charged with Sjodin's kidnapping and is jailed on $5 million bond. He has said through his attorney that he is innocent.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Hill said a small amount of blood was found in Rodriguez's car and tested against DNA from Sjodin's toothbrush. Hill said the trunk of Rodriguez's car had been extensively cleaned before his arrest.

Sven Sjodin said the amount of blood found was not conclusive.

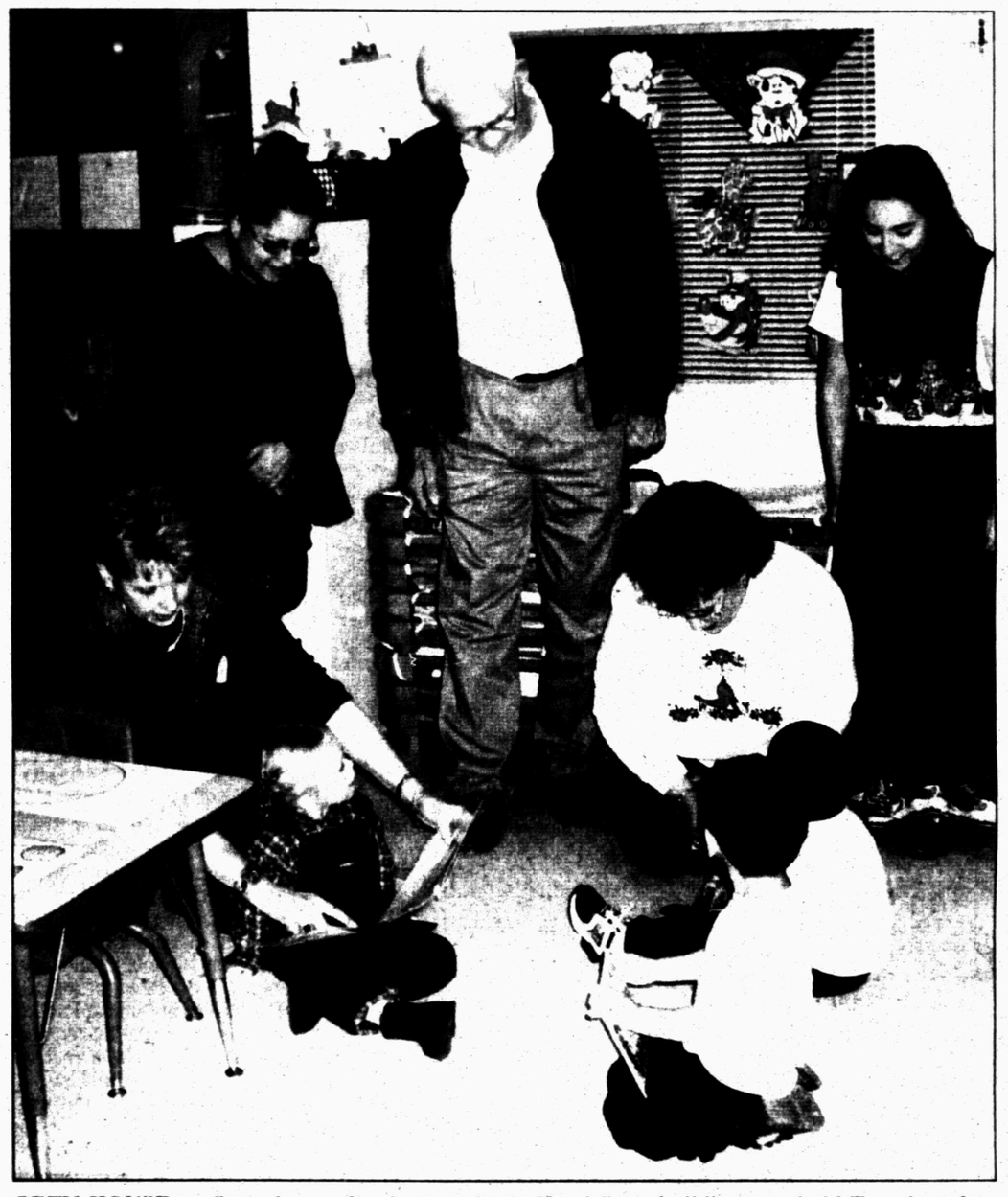
"You know, splatters of blood inside a car does not say to me that someone is not alive. You know, I can cut my finger and probably put more blood than what may have been inside that car," he said.

Hill told CBS on today that he understood Sjodin's family was upset by his statement.

"But after this much time, I think that we have to be realistic and know that we are probably searching for a body and not Dru herself," he said.

The DNA match would be the most significant break yet in authorities' attempts to tie Rodriguez, a convicted rapist, to Sjodin's disappearance.

Santa Claus reminds everyone that there are 15 days until Christmas



OPEN HOUSE — Open house for the new Early Head Start building was held Tuesday afternoon. Daphny Lope, far right, led the tour for (from left) Beth Dannheim, Elizabeth Gray, County Judge Rod Waller and county commissioner Chloanne Lindsey. Children pictured are Alexxus, Ali and Ehren. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Future of Scurry County Rodeo appears brighter

By Annie Rowe
SDN Staff Writer

The tradition of the 68th annual Scurry County rodeo was interrupted this past summer when it was discovered that funds were too limited to put on a rodeo.

However, through the efforts of 134 rodeo stockholders, led by Scurry County Rodeo Association President L.J. Mueller, that will most definitely change.

"We will have a rodeo next year," said Mueller. "There's no doubt about it."

Mueller and other board members have begun a campaign to raise funds for the association. One idea that has proved to be successful was the recent "Turkey Shoot" held at the Scurry County Rodeo Grounds on Gary Brewer Road.

The shoot, which attracted trap and skeet shooters from several towns in the area, cleared a profit of more than $200.

"We really had a lot of success with this fundraiser. Everybody seemed to enjoy it and we raised a decent amount of money. We sure hope it will grow," added Mueller.

The rodeo will be holding a second shoot on Jan. 1 and expectations are high that the results will be the same or better.

"This time of year, the weather has a lot to do with the turnout for this type of event. But we're hoping the weather will be good that day."

Rodeo association members are not the only ones who hope that the Scurry County rodeo tradition will continue. The rodeo also has an ally in Vicki Shroyer, Snyder Chamber of Commerce's new executive director.

"One of the things that I would love to see back in Snyder is the rodeo. Rodeo is very important in West Texas and obviously to Snyder with the success of the WTC rodeo team. I most definatly want to see the rodeo back and I want to have the rodeo parade become a tradition," Shroyer said.

Rodeo association directors have seen the savings account grow to the point that they now feel safe in making some concrete plans for next summer's rodeo. That has been set into motion with an agreement for a stock contract with Mitch Terrell, owner of T&T Rodeo Company, which should be finalized early in 2004.

"Things are shaping up pretty good at this point. We've used Mitch Terrell as a contractor before and he's done a good job."

While Mueller was pleased with the recent shoot, he has a number of other plans to raise funds.

"We're working on having a tournament-type of team roping where there are teams formed with captains. I think it would be a great thing to host out at the rodeo grounds."

RODEO SHOOTERS — Walter Cudd, Sweetwater, was one of many shooters who participated in the Scurry County Rodeo "Turkey Shoot" fundraiser.(SDN Staff Photo)

ASK US

Q—The Texas Tech Lady Raiders played Pacific on Monday. Where is that school located?

A—It's main campus is in Stockton, Calif.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Joe Wirshching...

...lives in Portland, Tex.,but he and his wife, Ruth, visit their children here quite often. Joe retired from Exxon and is now chairman of First Community Credit Union in Portland. He is the father of Snyder residents Joseph Wirshing and Jane Wirshing and the grandfather of two granddaughters Avery, 8, and Allie, 2. His favorite hobby is entertaining his grandchildren.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

When one is estranged from oneself, then one is estranged from others, too.
—Anne Lindbergh

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

First Baptist support group

First Baptist Church sponsors a support group for persons facing difficulties — including cancer, divorce, grief, etc. It meets on the first floor Adult 6 Department at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

Toy Drive

Snyder Wheels Club will host a toy drive from 2-4 p.m. Saturday at the Sonic to benefit Christmas for Kids.

THEE Place

Rodney Orsborn of Stand Firm World Ministries will be at THEE Place, 904 26th St., at 7 p.m. Friday and at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday. Music by Stand Firm Ministries. For more information, call 573-9799.

Central Elementary fundraiser

Pies purchased through the Central Elementary fundraiser will be available from 1-6 p.m. Friday.

WTC spring pre-registration

Pre-registration at WTC continues through Friday. Students should call or go by the counseling center to make an appointment. The number is 573-8511, ext. 313. Students who have not passed THEA (formerly TASP) and are in DRE, DMT and DEN classes must wait until grades are posted.

Calvary Christmas programs

Calvary Baptist Church, 2405 35th St., will present Christmas programs Sunday. During the 10:50 a.m. service, the adult choir will present *I'll Be Home For Christmas*. The children's ministry will present *The First Leon* during the 6 p.m. service. For more information, call 573-2191.

TSA booster club

The TSA booster club will meet at 7:15 p.m. Monday in the high school shop building.

Coat drive underway

SISD, local businesses and organizations are sponsoring a coat drive through Monday to assist children and families in need. New or slightly used clean coats, hats, gloves and scarves of all sizes are needed. Collection sites are Humble Smith, Snyder CADA, chamber, WTSB, ASB, FAB, Texas Savings and SNB. If necessary, call 574-6012 or 573-1141 to schedule a collection. Coats will be distributed Dec. 17-18 at 1904 37th St. Schools will get coats prior to Christmas holidays. School principals may call above numbers to request a coat, etc.

Madrigal Christmas dinners

The annual Madrigal Christmas dinners presented by the SHS choral department will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Martha Ann Woman's Club. Tickets are $15 and can be obtained by calling 573-6301. Friday noon is the deadline. The choir also has a few poinsettias for sale.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception for Kathye Parker and Barbara Shipp will be from 4-5 p.m. Tuesday at the Snyder High School library.

SHS garage sale

SHS honors history and English students will have a garage sale from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday at the SHS girls gym, featuring a wide variety of items including baked goods and breakfast foods. Proceeds will go toward a cultural trip to Dallas and Fort Worth.

Food Cupboard donations

Snyder Ministerial Alliance seeks donations to the Food Cupboard, non-perishable items only. Contributions can be dropped off at the Food Cupboard on Tuesday between 8 to 11 a.m. Food may also be taken to your home church or to First United Methodist Church from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., where it will be picked up.

Hospice caregivers dinner

An appreciation dinner for past and present Odyssey Hospice caregivers will be held at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the First Baptist church fellowship hall. Harold and Zola Kornegy will furnish the fish.

Doodle Bug writers club

Members of the Doodle Bug writers club invite all writers to meet at 1 p.m. every other Tuesday at the Golden Village Terrace community room. For more information call 574-1817, 573-7369, or 573-5819.

Mike Holmes retirement reception

A retirement reception for Snyder Junior High teacher Mike Holmes will be from 4-5 p.m. next Wednesday in the junior high library.

House decorating contest

The house decorating contest will be judged from 6:30-10:30 p.m. next Wednesday. To enter your home, contact the chamber at 573-3558.

Smokey Bear posters

Smokey Bear posters for a contest sponsored by Snyder Garden Club must be turned in by Thursday, Dec. 18, to classroom teachers or by calling Sandra Browning at 573-7277. Local winners will be announced in January and top posters will advance to the state contest.

Goodfellows drive underway

Canned goods may be brought to any school campus and monetary contributions can be made at any financial institution for the Goodfellows Food Drive.

Extra cookbooks available

Extra Home for the Holidays cookbooks can be purchased at the Scurry County Extension Office for $5 each.

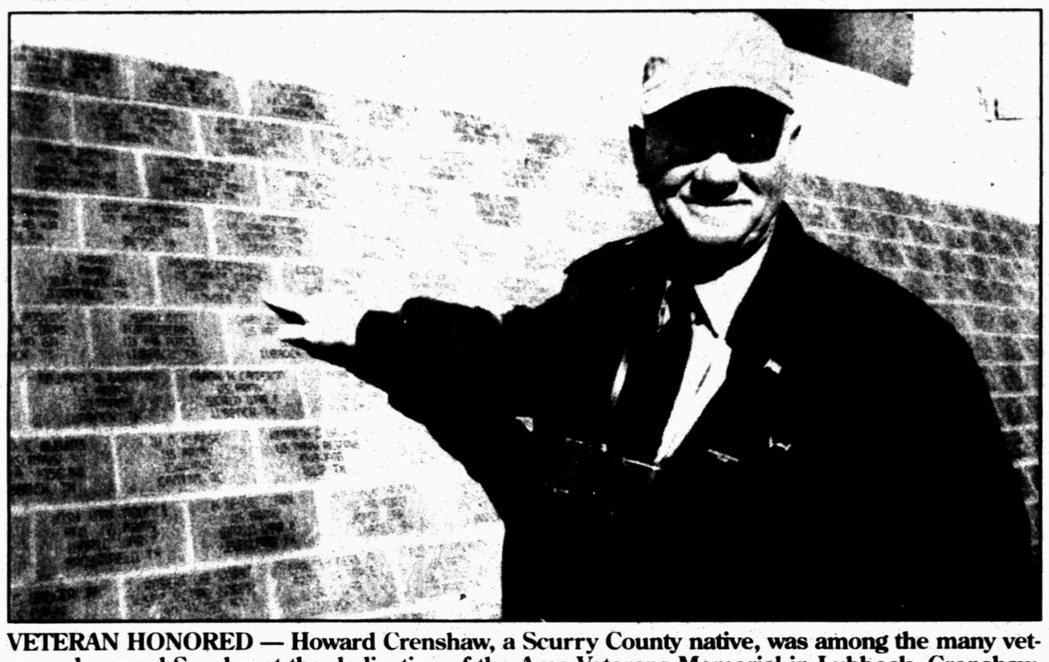
2004 Tiger's Lair yearbook

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbooks can still be ordered for $50 for the book only with additional options available for an extra costs. For more information, call 574-6138.

LVN testing dates

Jan. 20 and Jan. 27. To reserve a time, you must contact the WTC counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313. Limited seating is available.

A mall and the right visitor by Jef Mallett



VETERAN HONORED — Howard Crenshaw, a Scurry County native, was among the many veterans honored Sunday at the dedication of the Area Veterans Memorial in Lubbock. Crenshaw, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1943-45, attended, along with several family members, the dedication of the memorial Sunday afternoon. Crenshaw, now retired, points to his brick in the memorial wall. (Contributed Photo)

More young, pregnant woman getting the flu

DALLAS (AP) — Flu cases among young pregnant women surged at a large public hospital, calling attention to yet another group at serious risk of the flu.

About 80 expectant mothers have been diagnosed with the flu since early October, and more than 60 were treated for a time in the intensive care unit at Parkland Health and Hospital System, said Dr. Jeanne Sheffield, a maternal and fetal medicine specialist.

Pregnancy weakens a woman's immune system, making her more vulnerable to the virus. Only two of the women had the flu shot, and they had it just before they became ill, so they were not protected.

But Sheffield said it is rare to see so many pregnant women get sick. Most were in their teens and early 20s; all recovered and are out of the hospital.

"Maybe we may have admitted five or 10 a year in the past," Sheffield said. "This is much different than normal."

It isn't clear why Parkland had so many flu cases among pregnant women. Some health officials speculate that it's because Parkland — with 15,000 births annually among the leading hospitals for deliveries — is a large public hospital that treats many uninsured people. Its patients are less likely to see a doctor regularly or early in an illness, Sheffield said.

A Texas Department of Health survey found no other serious outbreaks among pregnant women in the state, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has not heard of any similar outbreaks in the nation.

Sheffield believes Parkland also is being more aggressive about testing for the flu than other hospitals.

HOLIDAY SALE!

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CARS...

1994 Nissan Sentra *2 DOOR, RED* $3,500
1990 Toyota Corolla *2 DOOR, WHITE, 46K MILES* $3,500
1994 Geo Prizm *4 DOOR, AUTO, 66K MILES* $5,500
1998 Olds Aurora *WHITE DIAMOND, LEATHER* $6,500
1999 Chevy Cavalier *4 CYL., AUTO, SEDAN* $3,850
2001 Chevy Cavalier *4 CYL, AUTO, 39K MILES* $6,500
1996 Cadillac Deville *NORTHSTAR SYSTEM* $6,850
2001 Ford Mustang *BLUE, SPORT PKG, 43K MILES* $9,900
1998 Cadillac Eldorado *ONE OWNER, WHITE DIAMOND* $9,500
2001 Chevy Impala LS *LIKE NEW, LOADED* $12,900
2001 Pontiac Grand Am GT *V6, BRIGHT RED, 26K MILES* $11,200
2001 Olds Alero GLS *WHITE, TAN LEATHER, SUNROOF, 19K MILES* $13,500
2003 Chevy Cavalier *2 DOOR, SPORT, BLACK, 24K MILES* $9,500
2003 Pontiac Sunfire *2 DOOR CD, SUNROOF, 12K MILES* $9,900

TRUCKS...

2001 Chevy 1500 Excab Z71 *WHITE* $18,500
2001 Ford F150 4X4 *LONG BED* $10,000
2000 Chevy C1500 Excab *53K MILES* $11,500
1999 Chevy Suburban LS *57K MILES* $13,000
2000 Chevy TxOk *PEWTER, 51K MILES* $10,500
2001 Chevy Suburban LS *5.3 V8* $18,850
1999 GMC 2500 4X4 *REGULAR CAB* $6,500
1989 Ford F250 *RED, LONG BED, SUPERCAB* $2,500
1983 Chevy C350 *DUALLY* $1,500
1997 Dodge D150 *XCAB, RED* $4,750
1997 Ford F150 XL *V8* $4,750

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Robber gets 17½ years

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A man described by prosecutors as one of the most prolific bank robbers in U.S. history has been sentenced to 17½ years in prison, three decades after he worked up the nerve to do his first stickup in North Carolina.

Carl Gugasian, 56, an engineer and statistician living in a well-to-do Philadelphia suburb, has robbed at least 50 banks up and down the East Coast since 1973, investigators said.

For years Gugasian frustrated FBI agents, who suspected that one person they called the "Friday Night Bank Robber" was responsible for the crimes but had no evidence pointing at a suspect.

Gugasian walked away with hundreds of thousands of dollars from banks in Connecticut, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, according to prosecutors.

In a one-page letter submitted Tuesday in federal court in Philadelphia, Gugasian said he was not proud of what he had done.

"While I always rationalized my conduct by believing that robbing banks had no victims, I have come to realize that everyone ... who was forced to endure the harrowing experience of a robbery suffered tremendous harm, even though they were not physically injured," he wrote.

events

LOTTO TEXAS™

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers
Mega Millions

ATLANTA (AP) — The jackpot in the multi-state Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to $61 million Tuesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's $54 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

There were four second-prize winners from Tuesday night's drawing, with each receiving $175,000. Twenty players matched four of the five lotto numbers, plus the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth $5,000.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 4, 14, 15, 24, and 48. The Mega Ball number was 41.

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 1-6-11-29. Bonus Ball: 33.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: $325,000.

Number matching four of four: 7. Prize: $1,787.

Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 27. Prize: $57.

Number matching three of four: 1,102. Prize: $19.

Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 614. Prize: $23.

Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 4,361. Prize: $7.

Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 7410. Prize: $5.

Estimated jackpot for Friday night drawing: $200,000.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-22-24-30-35.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: $42,344.

Winning tickets sold in: Abilene.

Matching four of five: 116. Prize: $165.

Matching three of five: 3,643. Prize: $12.

Matching two of five: 40,378. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 9-8-5
(Night) 3-2-7

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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

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DONATION — Wal-mart has donated canned goods to Snyder High School sophomores for the annual Kiwanis Goodfellows canned food drive. R.J. Youngclaus, Wal-Mart manager, is pictured with some of the cans presented to class officers Bryan Clifton, Teddi Crenwelge, Christi Williams and Temi Thompson. SHS classes are in a contest to bring in the most canned goods. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

ANNUAL COLLECTION — Snyder High School seniors are collecting cans for the annual Kiwanis Goodfellows food drive, which benefits the Food Cupboard. Class members are seeking donations of cans and/or money and will be at the senior parking lot from 6-9 tonight and Thursday night. Cans must not be dented. Seniors pictured are from left, Ashley Jenkins, Sara Thornhill, Beth Clements, Jeff Scott, Misha Wofford, Josh Payne and Ashlye Amox. The SHS class that brings in the most canned goods will get an extra 10 minutes for one lunch period. Friday is the last day to collect cans. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Flashing game goes too far when boys start playing rough

DEAR ABBY: I am 15 and I have two questions.

I was shopping with my friend "Crystal," and we saw some guys we know. They're a year or two younger, so I thought they were just being stupid kids when they not-so-subtly tried to get me to flash them.

I'm ashamed to say I played along and lifted my top a little and unintentionally gave them a glimpse of my bra. They kept pestering me for more. It was just annoying until one of them reached for my top and tried to pull it down twice. Then one of them said to grab my arms and hold me down, which two of them did, while another one held Crystal back. They nearly succeeded in removing my top and bra, and more than one of them got a hand down my bra.

Was I at fault for this incident because I encouraged them? Am I making a mountain out of a molehill, or is this kind of thing no big deal? — **HUMILIATED IN SAN BERNARDINO, CALIF.**

DEAR HUMILIATED: The answers to your questions are yes and no. Children who play with fire run the risk of being seriously burned. And girls who engage in sexual teasing run a similar risk. That's the lesson you should have learned from this embarrassing and, I'm sure, frightening incident. When you lifted your top, you sent a signal to the boys that you were willing to "play" — and things got out of hand.

However, whether or not it was intended as horseplay, the boys went too far. Because of that, you should inform your mother and/or dad so they can discuss it with the parents of the boys involved. An authority figure — preferably a parent — needs to talk to those boys about the definition of sexual assault and battery, because that's what occurred. Unless they are warned, it will happen again. And next time, the police could be involved.

**

DEAR ABBY: Every year you discuss practical gifts for senior citizens. When my late second cousin, "Pat," turned 94, she was having serious problems with her vision. She loved corresponding with friends, but could no longer write in a straight line, so her envelopes could not be read correctly by the post office.

I asked a friend if she would create some stationery that my cousin could use; she removed the thread from her sewing machine, and on the back of each sheet of paper "stitched" parallel lines about 1/2 inch apart. I asked her to do the same with the envelopes, but to make only four lines where the address would go.

Cousin Pat loved her beautiful — and useful — stationery. Her friends were able to read her handwriting, and so could the U.S. Postal Service. It's easy to write in a straight line when your fingers can feel the tiny "bumps" that the needle makes.

I'm a retired former Braille teacher, and machine-stitching is one of the techniques I would use to make geometry drawings for blind students. (I wonder if banks would permit this on personal checks?)

I hope this idea will help more people with fading eyesight to keep in touch. — **NORMA L. SCHECTER, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIF.**

DEAR NORMA: Your idea is innovative, inexpensive and terrific. I hope that readers who use it will be sure to include stamps with the stationery.

**

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Former Sen. Paul Simon, a liberal among moderates, dies

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Paul Simon built a political career out of contradictions.

He was an unabashed liberal who almost never lost an election in a state that favors moderates. He maintained a spotless reputation and nice-guy image for 50 years while flourishing in the anything-goes world of Illinois and national politics, with its history of corruption.

Simon, 75, died Tuesday from complications of heart surgery. He had undergone heart bypass and valve surgery Monday at St. John's Prairie Heart Institute, where he also had heart surgery in 1999. The cause of death was extensive bowel ischemia, in which blood stopped flowing to the intestines and caused the release of toxic material into his body, said Dr. James Dove, president of the institute.

With his bowties, deep voice and practice of writing public policy books, he projected a scholarly image. Yet he never graduated from college and knew how to poke fun at himself, even appearing on "Saturday Night Live" during his run for president in 1988.

Through hard work and plain-spoken charm, Simon connected with people, from conservative farmers to the Democratic machine politicians of Chicago. A longtime resident of southern Illinois, he rose to national prominence in the Senate and as a presidential candidate.

"If you relied on a political image-maker to pick the candidate, he never would have picked Paul Simon. He wore those horn-rimmed glasses and bow ties," said Sen. Dick Durbin, a Simon protege, "but he captured the hearts of people."

Simon entered the public arena in 1948, when he bought a weekly newspaper and began crusading against crime and corruption. Six years later, he entered politics and was elected to the Illinois House. By the time he retired, in 1997, he had been a state senator, lieutenant governor, congressman, U.S. senator and presidential candidate.

Even after leaving the Senate, Simon remained active in public affairs, founding the Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University and writing books.

He served on commissions that recommended overhauls of the Illinois death penalty system and state ethics laws. The death penalty reforms were approved last month, and the ethics changes were signed into law on the day he died.

"His legacy is clean government, good government and concentration on what government ought to be doing and not on what it can do for me," said former Gov. Dan Walker.

Today's chuckle

Thief returns stolen money decades later

IOWA FALLS, Iowa (AP) — Dave and Sharon McCaulley say they knew someone had been stealing from their restaurant decades ago, but the thefts had been long forgotten.

That's until they received a letter containing five $100 bills.

The letter written on lined paper torn from a spiral notebook was postmarked Omaha, Neb.

"I'm a former employee that worked for you at the Villager Restaurant when I was a kid many years ago," it read. "I used to steal money from you. Never very much at a time, but I know it all adds up. I figure that the money, plus interest, might add up to $500, so that is what I have sent. Merry Christmas."

The letter is signed "former employee."

The McCaulleys have been out of the restaurant business since 1981.

Today, Dave McCaulley is a 64-year-old salesman for Iowa Veterinary Supply, and Sharon McCaulley, 63, works part time at the company's office in Iowa Falls.

The letter gave few clues about the identity of the former employee. It simply listed "F.E." as the return address, which the McCaulleys believe stands for "former employee."

The McCaulleys say they could use the money as much as anybody, but they're considering donating it to a charity.

"I'm not angry," Dave McCaulley said. "I really feel touched by this. With all the news in the world that's dark and gloomy, here's something good that happens."

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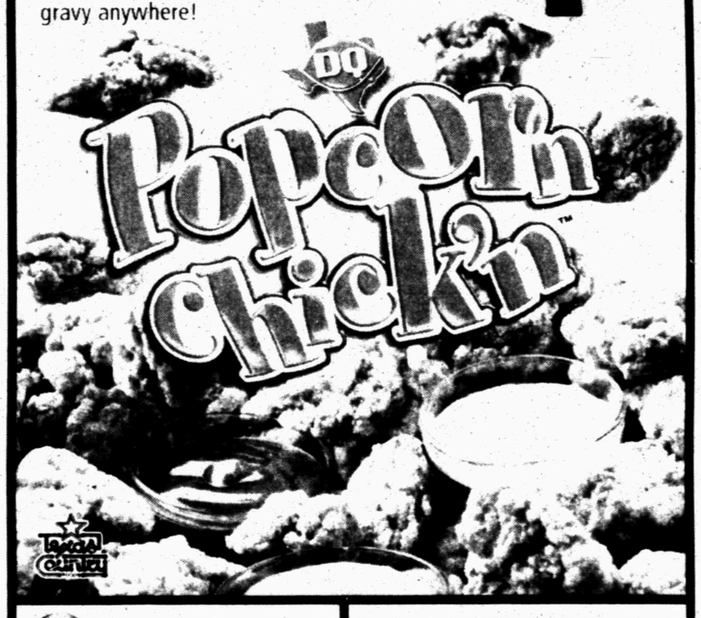

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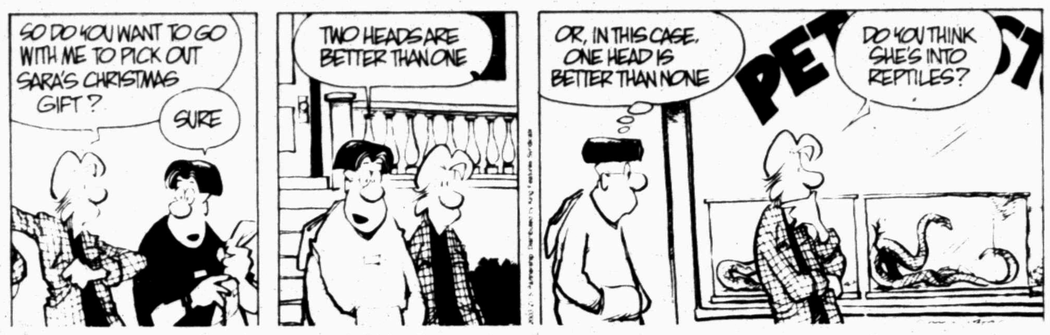

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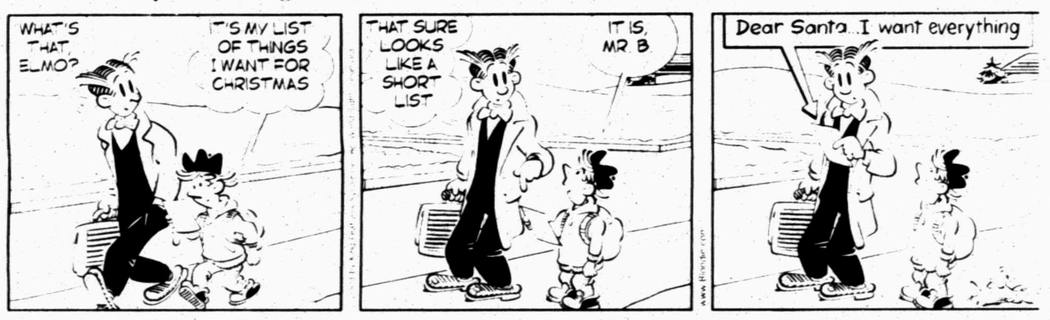

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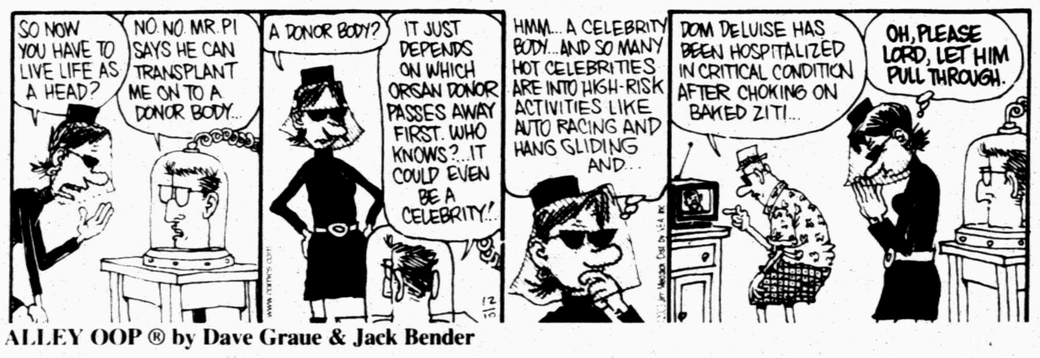
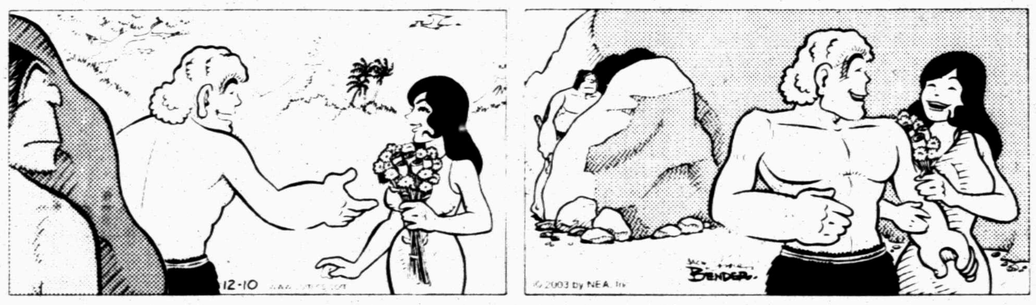


ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



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"The TV keeps switching back to 'Wild Kingdom'!"

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"MY PARENTS DON'T WANT ANY MORE CHILDREN. THEY KNOW THEY COULDN'T TOP ME."

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Reminders
6 Ship's officer
12 Ionized gas
14 Wake up
15 Diner's gaffe
16 Made a profit
17 "Give it — —!"
18 Annex
19 German article
21 Fleur-de- —
23 Like winter roads
26 Outlaw
27 Krueger's street
28 Bay
30 Formic acid producer
31 Caveman from Moo
32 Loose-limbed
33 Tornado warning
35 Writer — Rand
37 Audit ace
38 Takes advice
39 Part of UCLA
40 Skirt bottom
41 Luau welcome
42 Delivery truck
43 Danson or Kennedy
44 Casual wear
46 Forest grazer
48 Ocean dwellers
51 Make angry
55 Wooden container
56 Made it snappy
57 Orchid-like flowers
58 Pews, e.g.

DOWN

1 Dashboard info
2 Yale athlete
3 Fleetwood —
4 Famed statuette
5 Complacent
6 Book parts
7 Caspian Sea feeder
8 Turbulent
9 Bask
10 Wind dir.
11 Fire-engine color
13 Moonshot mission
19 A Boone
20 Means of access
22 Reddish antelope
24 Trite phrase
25 Squealed
26 Clobber
27 Practically forever
28 Fleming and Smith
29 Bulls, e.g.
34 Manuscript fixers
36 Thataway
42 Face coverings
43 Concise
45 Fencer's blade
47 Disagreeable task
48 — -Wan Kenobi
49 Sedan
50 Numerical prefix
52 Detective's cry
53 Acquire
54 Koch and Wynn

Answer to Previous Puzzle

G	A	B		O	L	A	F			Y	A	K
U	N	E		R	A	R	E		T	E	R	I
T	A	I		W	I	F	E		A	W	E	D
S	I	G	H	E	D		T	U	X			
	S	E	A	L			P	I	C	A		
			L	L	A	M	A	S		H	U	D
G	N	A	T		M	A	L		R	U	D	E
S	E	T	S		E	R	A		A	M	I	E
A	C	T		A	N	Y	W	A	Y			
	K	N	I	T			P	O	D	S		
			M	A	N		S	A	N	I	T	Y
P	E	E	P		O	P	E	C		N	O	V
A	L	A	S		T	A	C	H		E	K	E
C	S	T			A	N	T	E		R	E	S

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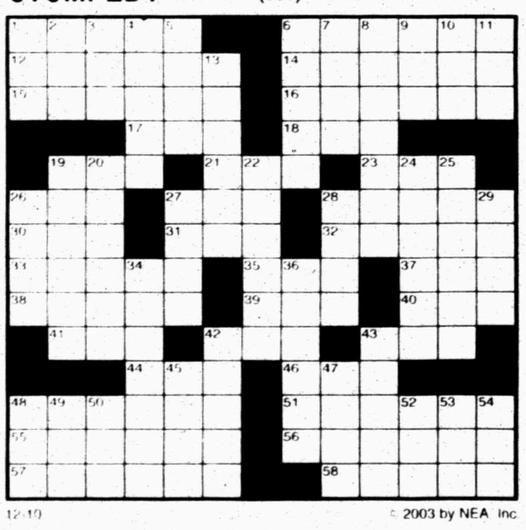

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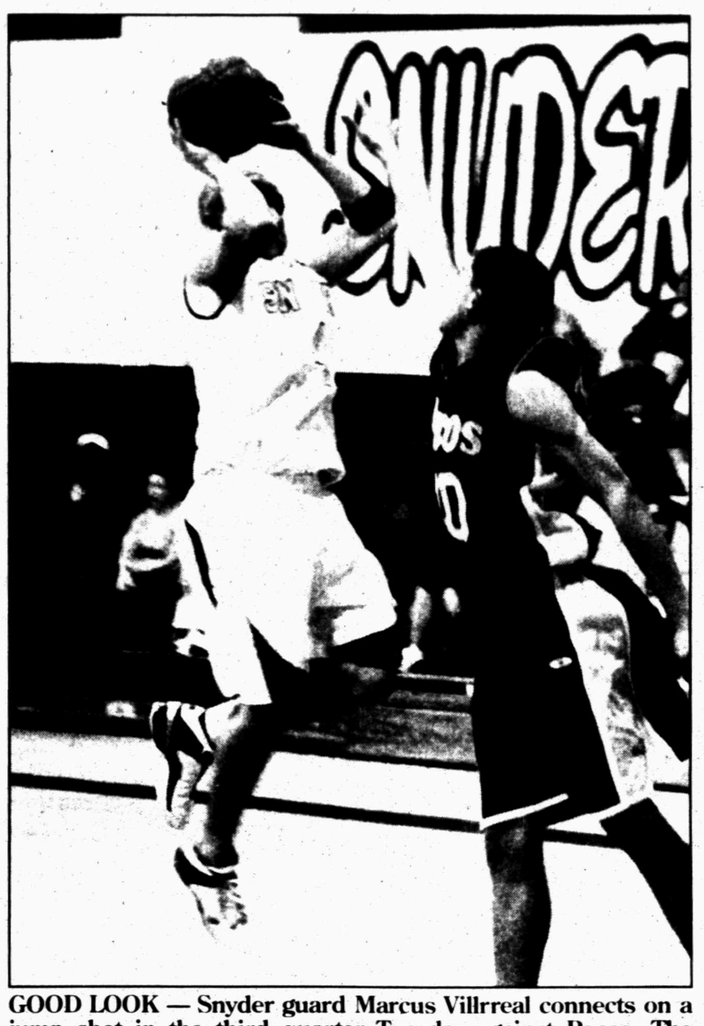

GOOD LOOK — Snyder guard Marcus Villrreal connects on a jump shot in the third quarter Tuesday against Pecos. The Tiger defense set the tempo as Snyder went on an 11-2 run to start the game. The Tigers won, 59-32. (Contributed Photo by Ronny Collins)

Tiger defense stifles Pecos

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

The Tigers jumped out to a big lead Tuesday, and this time they made it stick.

Using a stifling man-to-man defense, Snyder went on an 11-2 run to start the game, and outscored Pecos 35-18 in the second half of a 59-32 drubbing of the Eagles.

"The defense sets up everything we do," head coach Bud Birks said. "This is the type of game that you can build on."

The Tigers (3-6) started hot and stayed that way, especially on the defensive side, harassing the Eagles into poor shots and forcing them away from their post game.

"They wanted to post up and couldn't, and they had a hard time running their offense," Birks said.

Lee Scott scored 13 of his 17 points in the first half, and the Snyder defenders held Pecos to a mere four points in the second period.

The Tigers held a 10-point lead at halftime, but a 21-point third quarter helped push the margin to 21.

Lico Castillo scored 11 of the 21 third-quarter points, and led all scorers with 20 points.

The Tigers hit 7-of-9 from the charity stripe, and limited Pecos to just six free throws.

Birks said the team made some changes since the last game against Pecos — a 50-45 loss — and the players executed them well. He also said the various defensive sets shown by the Eagles would help the Tigers with the Wylie Catclaw Tournament on the horizon Thursday.

"Offensively, we can build on the fact that we attacked two or three different looks," he said. "We missed some shots, but we got shots and had good looks. Good shots and minimal turnovers — that's winning basketball."

Birks said he stressed to Scott, Isaac Ramon and Marcus Villarreal the need to protect the basketball, especially down the stretch.

Villarreal hit a three in the opening quarter, and added four in the explosive third quarter. He finished with eight points. Ramon tallied seven, and was the defensive catalyst, picking up a pair of late steals that killed any hope for Pecos to get back into the game.

Birks also said he was pleased with the work inside by Zach Garcia.

"It was really a great effort," Birks said. "This bunch has something."

The Tigers open the Catclaw Tournament at 11 a.m. Thursday against Breckenridge, and will match-up with either Wylie or Anson in the second round.

The Snyder junior varsity got points from every player on the roster Tuesday, holding Pecos to three first-half points in a 52-16 rout.

Chris Smith and Garrett Pinson led the Tigers with 10 points each. The JV will participate in the Sweetwater JV tourney from Thursday through Saturday.

Falcons abruptly dismiss Reeves

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. (AP) — Dan Reeves was fired abruptly by the Atlanta Falcons today with three games left in a disappointing season.

Defensive coordinator Wade Phillips will take over as head coach for the rest of the season.

Falcons owner Arthur Blank told Reeves — the sixth-winningest coach in NFL history — that he would be fired at the end of the season, but asked him to coach the final three games. Reeves asked to be let go immediately.

"When Arthur told me he had made the decision about the end of the year, I knew it had to come to a fullness today," Reeves said. "I'm an eternal optimist, so yeah, it was a surprise. But I'm also realistic enough about coaching to understand this is how it is in the NFL."

Reeves, 59, is in his 23rd consecutive season as an NFL head coach, by far the longest tenure in the league, and he had one year left on his contract. Reeves led the Denver Broncos to three Super Bowls, losing each time.

As Blank answered questions from reporters in one of the team's meeting rooms today, Reeves stood outside in the hall and exchanged handshakes and hugs with some of the players, including quarterback Michael Vick.

Afterward, Vick and the others quickly walked to the locker room to prepare for practice.

The Falcons fell from the playoffs a year ago to one of the worst teams in the league after Vick was hurt in the preseason.

Reeves was let go after the Falcons (3-10) defeated Carolina 20-14 in overtime in Vick's first start of the season.

"I want to be clear that this decision is not being made based on our performance this season — we're looking forward, not back," Blank said. "This is purely about the future of the organization."

Blank said he doesn't expect to hire a new coach until after the regular season. Phillips, a former head coach in Denver and Buffalo, isn't thought to be a serious candidate.

Among the possible candidates: former Minnesota coach Dennis Green and college coaches Bob Stoops of Oklahoma, Nick Saban of LSU, and Kirk Ferentz of Iowa.

Lady Tigers cruise past Andrews, 52-33

ANDREWS — The Snyder Lady Tigers held Andrews to one point in the second quarter Tuesday en route to a 52-33 pounding of the Lady Mustangs.

Snyder (7-2) had four players in double figures in the contest, while running up a 22-point halftime lead.

"We did a good job defensively. In the first half we shot well and played well," head coach Mike Martin said.

Sirena Medrano and Terann Ragland each connected for 11 points, with Medrano scoring seven in the first half.

Erin Burleson nailed a pair of treys in the first half, scoring all 10 of her points before the intermission. Jordan Stansell also had 10 points.

Martin said the team is improving as it gears up for the district schedule.

"We're making progress. We are shooting better and defensively we are pretty sound right now," he said.

Teddi Crenwelge drilled a pair of three-point shots in the first quarter, and Sequoya Powell added four for the Lady Tigers, who will open the Wylie tournament at 12:30 p.m. Thursday against Anson.

"They may be as good a team as we've played this year," Martin said.

The junior varsity Lady Tigers fell to Andrews, 49-38.

Hermleigh drops pair of close games to Southland

SOUTHLAND — The Hermleigh Cardinals and the Southland Eagles traded blows for four quarters Tuesday, with Hermleigh falling just short, 76-71.

The Cards trailed 32-31 at halftime, but Southland hit one more field goal than Hermleigh in each of the final two quarters to hang on for the five-point victory.

Jonathan McClure notched a season-high 31 points, and Shane Berry added 21 for the Cardinals.

Keenon Garcia added seven.

The Lady Cardinals also fell in a pitched battle with Southland, overcoming a 22-10 first quarter deficit in a 49-47 defeat.

The Lady Cards outgunned the host Lady Eagles 17-7 in the second quarter, outscoring them 37-27 over the final three periods.

Alana Culp knocked in a game-high 19, while sister Alicia added 12. Brittany Jones contributed 11.

Both Hermleigh clubs will play in the Rochester Tournament Friday and Saturday.

Arizona beats Longhorns, 91-83

NEW YORK (AP) — The ninth-ranked Arizona Wildcats beat No. 6 Texas 91-83 Tuesday night in the Jimmy V Classic to improve to 9-0 under Lute Olson at Madison Square Garden.

Hassan Adams had a career-high 30 points for Arizona (3-1), while Andre Iguodala had a triple-double with 13 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists.

It was another balanced offensive effort for the Wildcats, who entered the game with six players averaging between 14.0 and 9.7 points. It was also a solid performance on defense as Texas (4-1) shot 36 percent, a figure augmented by 25 offensive rebounds.

Adams, a 6-foot-4 sophomore forward whose previous-best 22 points came against Western Kentucky last season, didn't seem to have many problems all game, going 12-for-21 from the field, including 3-for-5 from 3-point range.

The Wildcats took command with a 20-3 run early in the second half that gave them a 61-43 lead with 12:50 to play.

Their biggest lead was 79-60 on a 3-pointer by Adams with 6:03 to play and it seemed as if it would be a matter of watching the clock run out.

SJHS boys take three of four from Merkel

The eighth-grade boys swept Merkel Monday, as the Gold team dismantled the junior high Badgers, 49-23, and the Black club claiming a 41-34 victory.

The Gold squad got double-digit scoring from three players, led by 18 points from Lance Day.

Blane Knipe and Ryan Claxton each cashed in with 10 points, while Brent Bollinger recorded five.

Dustin Murdock added four and Travis Hatfield contributed two points in the win.

The Black team got 12 points from James Simmons to slip past their Merkel counterparts.

Josh Ornales and Preston Munson pumped in nine each, and Tanner Lee scored five.

Luke Robertson, Jonathan Speegle and Wes Richardson each added two points, and the team got a solid contribution from Curry Lee.

The seventh-grade boys teams split with Merkel Monday, with the Gold team securing a 26-20 over the junior high Badgers to improve to 3-0 on the season.

Jesse Conner led the way for Snyder with nine points. Tony Perales and Gage West connected for six and five, respectively, while Clint McFatridge, Caleb Harrison and Jared Cave added two apiece.

The 7th grade black lost 41-14. Josh Sorrells and Gabriel Acosta each had five points, and Adrian Alvarez and Alex Escobedo added two each.

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	17	3	6	1	41	83	51
New Jersey	14	5	6	0	34	60	40
N.Y. Rangers	10	10	5	2	27	74	70
N.Y. Islanders	11	13	2	0	24	72	71
Pittsburgh	6	15	4	2	18	54	98

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	15	6	5	3	38	81	73
Boston	12	5	6	4	34	72	66
Ottawa	12	9	3	3	30	83	60
Montreal	12	12	3	1	28	61	65
Buffalo	12	13	2	1	27	63	73

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Atlanta	14	11	3	1	32	88	84
Tampa Bay	13	7	4	1	31	61	50
Carolina	8	11	8	1	25	55	68
Florida	9	14	4	1	23	60	78
Washington	8	18	1	1	18	70	89

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	16	6	2	1	35	70	55
Detroit	16	10	3	0	35	97	71
Nashville	14	11	1	0	29	67	66
Columbus	8	14	3	1	20	54	74
Chicago	6	14	5	3	20	53	81

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	16	7	3	1	36	86	63
Vancouver	15	7	4	2	36	87	66
Calgary	13	9	1	3	30	64	60
Edmonton	11	13	3	0	25	73	82
Minnesota	10	13	5	0	25	57	61

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	14	10	1	2	31	72	63
San Jose	9	7	9	2	29	65	65
Anaheim	9	10	4	5	27	62	77
Phoenix	9	10	7	1	26	68	81
Dallas	11	14	3	0	25	59	70

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.

Tuesday's Games

N.Y. Islanders 5, Tampa Bay 2
St. Louis 3, Toronto 2, OT
Minnesota 2, Calgary 1
Carolina 3, Edmonton 2
Vancouver 4, Pittsburgh 3, OT

Today's Games

Philadelphia at Columbus, 6 p.m.
Montreal at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.
Boston at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.
Detroit at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Anaheim, 9:30 p.m.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	12	10	.545	—
New Jersey	10	11	.476	1½
Boston	9	12	.429	2½
Washington	7	13	.350	4
New York	7	15	.318	5
Miami	6	15	.286	5½
Orlando	2	19	.095	9½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	17	5	.773	—
New Orleans	15	7	.682	2
Detroit	14	8	.636	3
Toronto	13	8	.619	3½
Milwaukee	9	12	.429	7½
Atlanta	7	15	.318	10
Chicago	5	15	.250	11
Cleveland	5	16	.238	11½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	13	7	.650	—
Houston	13	7	.650	—
Denver	13	8	.619	½
Memphis	11	8	.579	1½
Minnesota	12	9	.571	1½
Utah	11	9	.550	2
San Antonio	12	10	.545	2

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	18	3	.857	—
Sacramento	14	5	.737	3
Golden State	10	9	.526	7
Portland	10	9	.526	7
Seattle	9	9	.500	7½
Phoenix	8	13	.381	10
L.A. Clippers	6	11	.353	10

Tuesday's Games

Toronto 100, Cleveland 93
Indiana 93, Washington 79
Atlanta 112, Denver 98
Miami 92, Phoenix 72
Philadelphia 78, Detroit 76
New Jersey 101, Seattle 88
Golden State 98, Minnesota 95
Houston 93, Portland 91
Sacramento 105, L.A. Clippers 95
L.A. Lakers 98, New York 90

Today's Games

Seattle at Boston, 6 p.m.
Orlando at Washington, 6 p.m.
Atlanta at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Golden State at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Portland at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Utah, 8 p.m.
Dallas at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Baseball/softball booster clubs

The SHS baseball and softball booster clubs will meet at 7 tonight in the film room.

Angles ink Colon to four-year pact

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — The Anaheim Angels took one of the top pitchers off the free-agent market, agreeing to a four-year, $51 million contract with Bartolo Colon.

Colon was only 15-13 with a 3.87 ERA this year, but he's coveted for his durability and consistency. He's a 20-game winner who has reached double-digit victories in six straight seasons.

He pitched a career-high nine complete games this year, and was second in the AL with 242 innings. His 173 strikeouts also ranked in the top 10. In seven seasons with Cleveland, Montreal and Chicago, the 30-year-old Colon is 100-62 with a 3.86 ERA.

Braves lure Thomson from Rangers

ATLANTA (AP) — John Thomson agreed to a $7 million, two-year contract with Atlanta, two days after the Braves parted with longtime ace Greg Maddux.

Thomson was 13-14 with a 4.85 ERA last season with the Texas Rangers, establishing career highs in wins, starts (35), innings pitched (217), strikeouts (136) and complete games (three). In his final 18 starts, he was 9-5 with a 3.89 ERA.

Army hires Bobby Ross

WEST POINT, N.Y. (AP) — Bobby Ross was hired as Army's coach, returning to football after resigning as the Detroit Lions' coach three years ago.

Ross takes over a team that became the first in NCAA history to finish 0-13 after losing to Navy 34-6 on Saturday. The academy fired coach Todd Berry in October with the team 5-35 in his four seasons. John Mumford acted as interim coach, going 0-7 after replacing Berry.

Ross, who turns 67 this month, hasn't coached since 2000, when he quit the Lions after nine games. He led the San Diego Chargers to their only Super Bowl appearance in 1995, a 49-26 loss to the San Francisco 49ers. His NFL record was 77-68.

Ross, a Virginia Military Institute graduate, spent 15 years as a college coach, including stints with The Citadel (1973-77), Maryland (1982-86) and Georgia Tech (1987-91). His 1990 Georgia Tech team went 11-0-1, sharing the national title with Colorado. His college record was 94-76-2.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

KINDER MORGAN SACROC LP, 4632 W. Hwy. 180, Snyder, Texas 79549, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject water, CO2 with H2S & hydrocarbon gas into the Canyon Reef formation, SACROC Unit Lease, Well No(s). 224-2, & 229-3. Proposed injection wells are located approximately 5.5 to 6.5 Miles NW from Snyder, Texas in the Kelly-Snyder Field, in Scurry County. Water, CO2 with H2S & Hydrocarbon gas will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth intervals from 6350' to 7250'.
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

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Full-time secretarial position.
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EOE Employer paid ad.

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First Baptist Church. Looking for a multi-tasked person with strong organizational skills and strong computer skills. Pick up application at 1701 27th St.

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Apply in person.

Housekeepers Needed
Western Crest & Windridge
573-1488

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OTR flatbed truck driver. Minimum 4 years experience, clean driving record. Come by 3707 College Ave. or call 573-3032, ask for Rudy.

Night clerk, Friday & Saturday, 11p.m.–7a.m. Smoke free office. Computer skills helpful but will train. Apply in person, **Purple Sage Motel**.

Personal Care Attendants
needed immediately in Snyder area. Call 325-677-2047 or 1-800-671-2369, ask for Tonya.

Spray technician needed with 2 years experience & resume.
Hinton C&S 325-573-0878

Weaver Pipeline Services
Roustabout Crewmen, & Welder's Helper
Requirements:
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Driving record must meet insurance requirements
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Applications will be accepted for 1 week only
(Apply In Person, NO CALLS)

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Sat. Dec. 13th 8a.m.–3p.m.
2619 College Ave. 573-2850

Woman's Column

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
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GARAGE SALE
Association for Retarded Citizens open each Tuesday and Thursday, 8a.m.-3:30p.m., 2504 Ave. W. Good used children's clothes. Donations of useable & sellable items accepted. For local pickup on items, call 573-4186, 573-5374 or 573-3729.

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Thursdays & Fridays
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References required.
1-888-596-6218 1-325-669-1501

***2-1-1, fenced** yard, no pets. 2807 38th
573-4454

Brick, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, single car garage, CH/A. Very nice! 2805 37th $400/mo., $200/dep. 573-9433

***Large** 2-1, brick, corner lot.
***2-1**, fenced.
***2-1-1**, corner lot.
*1 bedroom apartment.
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Commercial Buildings for Sale or Lease

Business building for rent.
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Real Estate

For Sale By Owner
4519 Fredonia 3-2, 2 living areas, FP, great kitchen, huge utility room, large fenced backyard, in Bassridge Addition. 254-855-3310

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Owner financing provided. Low down, low monthly. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 133 Milburn. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

For Sale By Owner
Owner financing available. Low down payment. 3725 Rose Circle
505-937-1195

For Sale By Owner
Owner financing provided.
Low down payment, low monthly. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 living areas, fenced backyard, close to schools. 418 29th St. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

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111 Peach 2 or 3-1 ....$9.5T
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Doris Spikes.....573-6602

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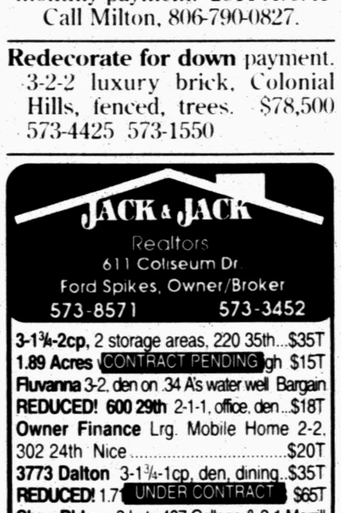

READ AND USE THE CLASSIFIEDS FOR ON-TARGET BARGAINS THAT ARE RIGHT IN SIGHT.

Snyder Daily News
Classified Ads
573-5486

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Low blood pressure may have consequences

DEAR DR. GOTT: What can you tell me about POTS — postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome?

DEAR READER: Sometimes, in the presence of heart disease and drug therapy for cardiovascular ailments, people experience a sudden and substantial drop in blood pressure when they quickly sit up or stand. This causes weakness, lightheadedness or fainting that is associated with tachycardia (rapid pulse, as the heart tries to compensate by pumping more blood, against gravity, to the brain).

The causes of this affliction are legion, but the end result is the same: postural low blood pressure with secondary tachycardia, causing far more pronounced symptoms than the mild lightheadedness we all may occasionally experience upon rapid standing.

In patients taking medicine to lower blood pressure, the drug may be to blame. Thus, the syndrome can be prevented with a simple reduction in the drug's dosage, under medical supervision. For those who are not medicated, the therapy is somewhat more complicated. Regular exercise will help by toning up the cardiovascular system. (POTS is much more frequent in sedentary individuals and is common in people who have been confined to bed.)

Also, doctors may encourage more dietary salt (to increase blood volume and blood pressure), or prescribe elastic support stockings (to stabilize the circulation and prevent pooling of blood in the lower extremities).

In my experience, however, patients with non-drug-induced POTS should be examined by cardiologists and have further evaluation, such as Holter monitors and stress tests.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I was recently hospitalized for IV antibiotic therapy because of pain and fever from diverticulitis. Now I'm concerned about a recurrence. My gastroenterologist indicated that there is no cure or method to prevent future infections. Can this be true?

DEAR READER: I'm afraid so.

As we age, tiny pockets may appear in the colonic lining. Called diverticulosis, these small pouches ordinarily cause no symptoms.

However, these diverticula can become inflamed and infected, leading to abdominal pain, gas, maldigestion, intestinal abscesses, or bleeding. Thus, diverticulosis may progress into diverticulitis, the acute treatment of which includes a soft diet and antibiotics. (If the bleeding is severe or the infection is extensive, surgery may be necessary to remove the diseased tissue.)

Unfortunately, there is no generally accepted method or diet to prevent diverticulitis. Although some experts prohibit roughage and fruit with small seeds (which are sometimes associated with diverticulitis), the relation of diet to the disorder is far from clear.

Therefore, your gastroenterologist is correct. While you may choose to limit your diet (to avoid foods that you've found by experience worsen your affliction), there is no consistent cure or preventive. Your acute attacks will simply have to be treated as they occur, unless you choose to have an operation to remove the part of your colon most affected.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Diverticular Disease." Other readers who would like a copy should send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

If readers would like to contact Dr. Gott, they may write him through your newspaper or send their mail directly to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.

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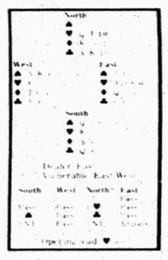
Bridge by Phillip Alder

Good books never die; they reappear



The phoenix is reborn by rising from its own ashes. Good bridge books never die either — they are republished. The old copies turn yellow, but are occasionally reread. The new edition catches another generation of players.

One of the most entertaining to rise from the ashes this year is "The Bridge Bum" by Alan Sontag (Master Point Press). The author is one of the best players around, is one of the most affable, and is certainly the quickest. He won two world championships, in 1983 and 2001. This book, which first appeared in 1977, primarily covers his early career. It contains the first 12 chapters of the original. A new 13th chapter, about the 1983 Bermuda Bowl, replaces the description of the Precision Club bidding system used by Sontag.

This deal highlights Sontag's great table presence.

Against three-no-trump, West did not fancy leading the unbid suit, instead, he selected a heart. East won with the ace and shifted to the spade jack. What should Sontag have done from there?

If East has J-x or J-x-x of spades, South must cover with his queen so that his nine will become a stopper. But if East has J-10-x or J-10-2, South must not cover. The former holdings are more likely, but declarer got it right, playing low. (Perhaps East switched quickly, which was more likely to be from J-10-x than J-x or J-x-x.) East continued with the spade 10. Now declarer covered. West won with the king and cashed the ace, but Sontag had the rest.

The book is available from C&J Bridge Supplies. Call (800) 525-4718 to order.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	11.72	11.47	11.49	+ .04
AT&T Corp	19.99	19.69	19.90	+ .04
Albertsons	19.92	19.78	19.89	+ .12
Alltel	45.21	44.63	45.09	+ .31
AmEl Pw	28.16	27.70	28.12	+ .42
AndarkPtr	48.97	48.12	48.51	— .23
ATMOS Egy	24.62	24.49	24.49	— .09
Aviall	15.87	15.71	15.73	— .12
BP PLC	45.38	44.73	45.33	+ .26
BakerHughes	30.63	30.26	30.56	+ .19
Bank of Amer	76.40	75.25	75.28	— .13
BellSouth	26.84	26.35	26.74	— .47
BurlNoSFe	31.10	30.67	31.04	+ .34
Caterpillar	76.57	76.00	76.15	— .33
CenterPoint	9.50	9.35	9.36	— .04
ChevronTex	79.03	78.67	78.85	— .03
Citigroup	47.44	47.10	47.18	+ .09
CocaCola	47.99	47.66	47.92	+ .16
ColgatePal	53.00	52.60	52.62	— .31
CmclMetals	27.36	27.04	27.24	— .04
ConocoPhill	60.35	59.96	60.06	— .19
Cooper Inds	55.19	54.76	54.76	— .31
DaimlrChry	42.72	42.06	42.31	+ .87
DeltaAirl	11.55	11.35	11.37	+ .05
Dillards Inc	15.48	15.22	15.30	+ .07
DowChem	40.00	39.53	39.68	— .17
DuPont	44.08	43.77	43.96	
EastmanChem	38.98	38.60	38.77	+ .02
EstKodak	23.99	23.75	23.84	+ .07
EDS Corp	22.84	22.62	22.78	+ .08
Entergy	54.35	53.98	54.12	— .02
ExxonMobil	37.83	37.64	37.71	+ .07
FootLocker	22.13	21.50	21.76	— .24
GenDynam	85.30	84.66	84.77	— .27
GenElec	29.71	29.46	29.64	+ .08
GenMills	46.04	45.80	45.88	— .02
GenMotors	48.82	48.34	48.48	+ .07
GaPacific	29.14	28.78	28.82	— .06
Goodrich	27.73	27.37	27.37	— .23
Goodyear	7.40	7.15	7.15	— .25
GtAtlPac	7.60	7.35	7.37	— .11
Halliburtn	24.86	24.20	24.85	+ .30
Hanson PLC	36.03	35.90	35.90	— .31
HarteHanks	21.81	21.63	21.70	— .12
HomeDepot	34.11	32.45	33.28	— .76
HoneywellIntl	30.65	30.30	30.36	— .12
IBM	91.92	90.66	91.78	+ 1.15
IntlPaper	40.85	40.54	40.59	— .02
JohnsonJn	50.14	49.90	50.01	
KinderMorg	55.94	55.52	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kroger Co	17.36	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
LockheedM	48.88	48.26	48.[illegible]	[illegible]
Lowes Cos	55.86	54.[illegible]	54.[illegible]	[illegible]
Lubys	3.30	3.27	3.[illegible]	[illegible]
LucentTech	2.95	2.85	2.[illegible]	[illegible]
MarathonOil	30.43	30.[illegible]	30.[illegible]	[illegible]
MayDeptStr	28.68	28.[illegible]	28.[illegible]	[illegible]
Medtronic	47.47	47.[illegible]	47.[illegible]	[illegible]
Motorola	12.85	12.62	12.62	[illegible]
NCR Corp	35.48	35.[illegible]	35.42	[illegible]
Navistar	42.97	42.42	42.[illegible]	[illegible]
PNM Rescs	27.50	27.08	27.[illegible]	[illegible]
Penney JC	24.32	23.[illegible]	24.[illegible]	[illegible]
PepBoys	14.55	14.[illegible]	14.[illegible]	[illegible]
PepsiCo	47.39	47.[illegible]	47.[illegible]	[illegible]
PhelpDodge	68.65	67.44	67.[illegible]	[illegible]
PilgrimsPride	14.39	14.14	14.14	[illegible]
Praxair	74.20	73.35	73.[illegible]	[illegible]
ProctGamb	96.95	96.42	96.[illegible]	[illegible]
RadioShack	28.83	28.27	28.[illegible]	[illegible]
RoyalDut	47.64	47.38	47.[illegible]	[illegible]
SBC Comm	24.38	23.92	24.[illegible]	[illegible]
SaraLee	21.05	20.68	20.[illegible]	[illegible]
Scripps EW	94.64	47.[illegible]	47.[illegible]	[illegible]
SearsRoeb	47.74	46.54	46.[illegible]	[illegible]
SherwinW	34.15	33.47	33.[illegible]	[illegible]
SouthernCo	29.63	29.43	29.44	[illegible]
SwstAirl	16.40	15.83	15.84	[illegible]
SprintFON	15.30	15.[illegible]	15.[illegible]	[illegible]
SprintPCS	4.59	4.50	4.57	[illegible]
Sunoco Inc	48.93	48.55	48.65	[illegible]
TXU Corp	22.56	22.35	22.43	[illegible]
TempleInland	61.65	60.81	60.81	[illegible]
TexInd	29.99	29.60	29.74	[illegible]
TexasInst	27.90	27.56	27.[illegible]	[illegible]
Textron	53.26	52.55	52.[illegible]	[illegible]
TimeWarner	16.50	16.35	16.36	[illegible]
TrinityInds	28.19	27.96	28.00	[illegible]
TylerTech	8.64	8.51	8.55	[illegible]
UnionPacif	66.49	66.09	66.2[illegible]	[illegible]
USSteel	28.72	28.45	28.52	[illegible]
UnitedTech	88.90	88.28	88.29	[illegible]
Unocal	34.74	34.50	34.69	[illegible]
VerizonComm	33.29	32.30	33.19	[illegible]
WalMart	53.25	52.57	52.57	[illegible]
WellsFargo	56.58	55.77	55.77	[illegible]
WstnGasRs	46.44	46.08	46.19	[illegible]
WinnDixie	9.40	9.16	9.20	[illegible]
Xerox Cp	11.79	11.55	11.55	[illegible]
YumBrands	34.40	34.15	34.25	[illegible]

TexSCAN

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TexSCAN Week of December 7, 2003

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DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT. Teams and Solos check out our new pay plan. Owner/Operators, Experienced Drivers, Solos, Teams and Graduate Students. Call 1-888-MORE PAY (1-888-667-3729).

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Scurry County Country

Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Dannheim, CEA—Family and Consumer Sciences, 2605 Avenue M, Snyder, Texas 79549

Tips for Facing the Cold and Flu Season

Texans are always grateful for the cooler weather that comes during the winter months. However, with this welcome weather comes the dreaded cold and flu season. Each year, 10-20 percent of Americans will contract the influenza virus, better known as "the flu." The common cold takes an even greater toll on people — affecting around 25 percent of the population annually.

While there are no proven methods to prevent these maladies, there are simple precautions that may help reduce your risk of feeling under the weather.

Wash Your Hands: Most cold and flu germs are spread by direct contact. If you were to sneeze into your hand and then touch a doorknob, the germs may stay on that doorknob for hours — even days.

Wash your hands frequently at work because you share many public spaces with co-workers. So many people in the office are sick or have sick children and may or may not wash their hands during the day. Keep your hands clean to reduce the risk of being sick and protect yourself from the germs of others.

This will also reduce the risk of spreading any germs you may carry to co-workers. So wash your hands often — you will be taking a big step toward preventing illness.

Sneezes and Coughs: Many people have the initial reaction to cover their nose or mouth with their hands when they sneeze or cough. A better practice would be to cover the nose and mouth with a tissue or handkerchief.

Germs cling to your bare hands — muffling coughs and sneezes with your hands results in passing along your germs to others. If you don't have a tissue, turn your head away from people near you and cough into the air. If you do cover a sneeze or cough with your hands, remember to wash your hands immediately.

Drink Plenty of Fluids: Your body cannot function properly without fluids — especially water. Water flushes your system, washing out the poisons as it rehydrates you.

In addition to water, natural fruit juices give you the hydration that your body needs in addition to vitamins and minerals that may be lacking. On average, an adult needs around 8-eight ounce glasses of water each day. Dehydration is a common occurrence with any illness so remember to keep your fluid intake up.

Relax and Be Happy: Stress may have a very negative effect on your health. Recent studies have shown that people with a positive attitude — energetic, happy and relaxed — are less likely to catch colds than people who are depressed, nervous or angry. People with a positive attitude may show fewer signs and symptoms of illness because healthy attitudes tend to promote healthy lifestyle habits.

Sleep: Remember that sleep plays a very important role in your body's ability to heal itself. For many a good night's rest is often all you need when you start feeling ill. If you usually don't get sick, it can be caused by not getting enough rest.

So, start drinking more fluids and try to get as much rest as possible. Sleep is very important for so many of the functions of the body, but especially in the role of illness prevention.

Vaccinate: Though there is really nothing to be done about the common cold, a vaccine for the flu is available each year. Studies have shown that the flu shot reduces the number of people who contract pneumonia as a result of the flu, upper respiratory infections, missed days at work and visits to a doctor for respiratory infections.

Even if a flu shot does not prevent the flu, the vaccine can reduce the severity of flu symptoms and decrease the risk of complications. In addition, the flu shot is now covered by most health insurance plans. Ask your healthcare provider about whether or not you should have the flu shot this year.

Since there are no known cures for colds and flu, prevention must be your goal. The winter months that bring the Lone Star State its cooler weather do not necessarily have to bring colds and flu to you and your family.

Markets

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc had a run of 842 head of livestock for the Thursday Dec. 4, sale. Cows were $2 to $3 better. Calves and yearlings were $2 better. Trading and demand were good

Slaughter cows:
(High dressing, cutters, utility) 48-56
Canners and low cutters: 35-46
Slaughter bulls: 52-70

Feeder steers:
300-400: 105-135
400-500: 100-115
500-600: 90-106
600-700: 90-102
700-800: 90-100

Feeder heifers:
300-400: 100-115
400-500: 90-107
500-600: 90-102
600-700: 85-93
700-800: 80-90

Feeder bulls - Good and choice
500-600: 85-101
700-800: 80-90

Cow and Calf Pairs
Good: 700-900
Grade: 600-750
Springers: 450-850
Baby Calves: 125-190
Doodlers: 150-250

Woman hit while talking on cell phone

MIDDLE ISLAND, N.Y. (AP) — A woman who was on her cell phone discussing the Michael Jackson case on a radio call-in show was hurt when her sport utility vehicle was hit from behind.

Cheryl Picker was talking to WABC 770 morning show hosts Curtis Sliwa and Ron Kuby just before 9 a.m. Tuesday when the crash was heard on the radio. Kuby was heard saying, "Cheryl, are you OK? Cheryl? Cheryl?"

Picker, 44, was taken to a hospital, where she was listed in stable condition Tuesday. The hospital would not comment on her condition early Wednesday.

"I never call in to shows," Picker said. She said she stopped on the side of the William Floyd Parkway when her SUV was hit.

"There have been a lot of strange incidences in 12 years on the radio, but this takes the cake," Sliwa said. "The only thing that came close was two hours I spent on the air talking a jumper down from the George Washington Bridge."

?Weather Whys?

Topic: Blizzards:

How strong does a snowstorm have to be before it's called a blizzard?

A: There are some specifics regarding blizzards, says Andrew Odins of Texas A&M University. "In meteorological terms, a blizzard is a severe storm that has below freezing temperatures, winds of at least 35 miles per hour and heavy snowfall, with visibility reduced to just 1/4 of a mile and all of these conditions have to last at least three hours," he explains.

"So just a heavy snowfall is not always a blizzard. Blizzard conditions occur most often in the Great Plains, North Central United States and parts of the Northeast."

Q: What are some of the country's worst blizzards?

A: In recent years, Buffalo had a blizzard that paralyzed the city for days in 1999. Colorado had a similar situation in 1997 and Boston suffered terrible blizzard conditions in 1978, Odins says.

"Chicago had devastating blizzards in 1979 and one in 1967," Odins adds.

"The '67 blizzard totaled 23 inches of snow with drifts up to 9 feet and the city was virtually shut down for days, with the Department of Streets and Sanitation estimating that at about 75 million tons of snow fell. At least 60 people died, many of them from heart attacks while shoveling snow.

Although records tend to be sketchy, perhaps the country's worst blizzard occurred in 1888. In parts of the Midwest, the temperature fell from 74 degrees to minus 28 within hours, and the Colorado River froze solid throughout much of Texas. That blizzard claimed 235 lives."

ABOUT WEATHER WHYS

"Weather Whys" is a service of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences. Past and current topics can be viewed via the web at http://rev.tamu.edu/weather-whys/.

For more information, contact Keith Randall at (979) 845-4644 or kr@univrel.tamu.edu. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to news@univrel.tamu.edu.

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

LIVE CHRISTMAS TREES

Live choices include: Leyland cypress and rosemary.

The boughs of holly have been used to deck the halls, and sprigs of mistletoe hang over every door, but the one plant that Christmas would not be complete without has yet to be brought in — the Christmas tree. The kids are anxious; they want to decorate the tree NOW! But this year, for something new and longer-lasting, a living tree was what you wanted. Now what?

The first thing to do is pick out a tree. Consider the following: Aleppo Pine, Japanese Black Pine, Japanese Yew, Loblolly Pine, Deodar Cedar, Juniper, or other coniferous evergreens. Perhaps you prefer a broad-leafed tree; possibilities in-clude: American Holly, Burford Holly, Compact Cherry Laurel, or Yaupon. Or you might decide on a tubbed plant to remain inside after the Christmas season? The Norfolk Island Pine, kumquats, calamondins, or Yews would be good choices.

Once the tree is chosen (if it isn't tubbed), a container must be chosen as well. If the tree roots are balled and burlapped, a container must be used that will allow at least an inch of peat moss, potting soil, or compost around the ball to prevent drying out. If the plant has been grown in a container, it can be made much more attractive by placing it in a redwood tub, ceramic or clay pot, or even a wooden box lined with a polyethylene film liner. All containers should be well drained to prevent damage to the roots caused by excess moisture.

A pan underneath the container will also prevent floor damage. Now that the tree is in the container and in the house, you can start to give the kids a little leeway. All you have to do now is find a good place for the tree that is not in the stream of heat or near a stove or radiator.

When not occupied, the room should be kept as cool as possible, and the plant should be watered when dry. A simple way to tell when the plant needs water is to push a sharpened pencil into the soil. If the pencil comes out dry and clean, the plant needs water; otherwise, wait until the next day.

After Christmas, it is best to plant the tree in the landscape as soon as possible. The selected site for the tree should fit into the landscape design, and allow sufficient room for growth and development. The pit dug for the tree should be large enough to allow three to four inches of soil on all sides of the soil ball. It should be planted at the same depth it was planted at the nursery or in the container.

For the backfill, add one part peat moss, pine bark, or compost to two parts soil, and pack this mixture firmly around the ball. When the pit is three-fourths full, the tree should be watered thoroughly, and then filled the rest of the way. If the plant was balled and burlapped, the burlap should be loosened before completely filling the hole.

The tree is now a permanent part of your landscape. To keep it healthy while it is adapting to its new environment, here are some tips: Water it regularly, but allow the soil to dry a little between waterings.

Mulch the surface with some kind of organic matter, to reduce weeds and conserve moisture.

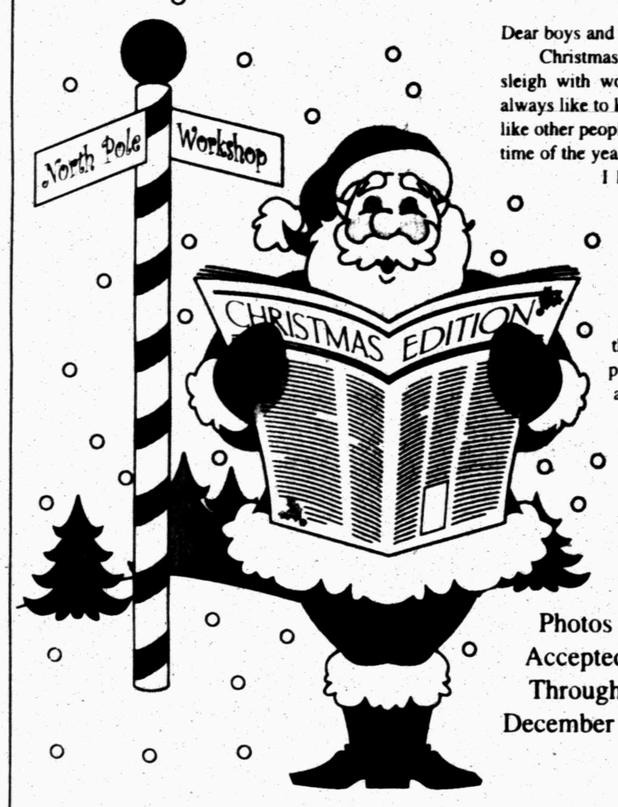
Avoid fertilization until June or July following planting.

Keep weeds and grass down, to prevent competition.

The tree can be used to serve another purpose — the beautification of your yard.

Planted into your landscape, these trees can add a nice touch in the spring, summer, and fall, and can even serve as an outdoor Christmas tree next time Christmas rolls around.

Santa Photos



Dear boys and girls,

Christmas is only a few days away. I am already loading my sleigh with wonderful toys and many good things for you. I always like to know what good children want for Christmas, and like other people I enjoy seeing pictures of children at this happy time of the year.

I have made arrangements with the Snyder Daily News to publish photos of children in your area. Just have your mom or dad bring a photo of you to the Snyder Daily News office and make arrangements to have it published in the Christmas Edition.

You will need to provide your own photo for this special edition. After the photo has been processed your mom or dad can pick up the photo at the Snyder Daily News.

I hope to see your photo in the Snyder Daily News and wish you a very Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas
Santa

Photos Accepted Through December 13

Trent and Trevor, 3-year-old twins of Bobby and Kone Allen, wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Trent would like Santa to bring him a new tricycle while Trevor is asking for a riding tractor.

Bring your favorite photograph of your child, grandchild or other children to the Snyder Daily News so that it may be included in the special "Christmas Edition". The photo will appear in the special edition along with the child's message to Santa for only $12.50. The Snyder Daily News reserves the right to reject photos not suitable for reproduction in the newspaper.

HAVE YOUR CHILD'S PHOTO AND MESSAGE TO SANTA PUBLISHED IN THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CHRISTMAS EDITION, DECEMBER 24.

QUALITY PHOTOS:
Due to reproduction requirements, photos submitted should be glossy prints. Pre-scanned, digital reproductions or digital discs cannot be accepted.

PHOTO RETURN:
For your convenience you may want to provide the Snyder Daily News with a self-addressed, stamped envelope so that your Santa Photo can be returned. Or you may wish to stop back by the Snyder Daily News office after Christmas and pick up your photo. Photos not claimed by March 1, will be discarded.

For Only $12.50
$3.50 extra for each additional person in the same photo

SNYDER DAILY NEWS
3600 College Ave. 573-5486

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT

LAKE J. B. THOMAS (200,604 ACRE FEET AT ELEVATION 2258.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO 12-8-02	LAST WEEK 12-1-03	THIS WEEK 12-8-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	17.46	17.73	17.73
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	18,621	19,164	19,164
PERCENT FULL	9.28	9.55	9.55
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00
IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0
SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

E.V. SPENCE RESERVOIR (517,262 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1898.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO 12-8-02	LAST WEEK 12-1-03	THIS WEEK 12-8-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	38.04	39.83	39.63
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	36,202	41,221	40,635
PERCENT FULL	7.00	7.97	7.86
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.20	0.00

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION

O.H. IVIE RESERVOIR (554,340 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1551.50 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO 12-8-02	LAST WEEK 12-1-03	THIS WEEK 12-8-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	27.98	26.43	26.33
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	215,893	200,849	199,900
PERCENT FULL	38.95	36.23	36.06
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

	LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 12-1-02 11-25-03	THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 12-8-03 12-2-03	THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY 12-8-03 12-2-03
BIG SPRING	3,596,571	3,273,429	4,010,000
ODESSA	14,055,457	12,674,400	15,591,000
SNYDER	1,677,714	1,637,143	1,847,000
MIDLAND	16,982,243	16,508,243	17,869,800
SAN ANGELO	11,926,429	11,774,000	12,230,000
STANTON	243,714	243,571	445,000

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, Dec. 11, 2003

In the year ahead, exceptional qualities you already possess can be further enhanced and taken to new heights if you're so inclined to put your mind to it. One of your strongest suits will be your leadership skills.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — It's possible that you've been dodging it for some time, but conditions today are likely to cause you to take a commanding position in a situation where you'd rather play a subordinate role.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Your chances of getting something for which you've been secretly longing for a long time are getting better and better. Today may give you cause to be more hopeful than you thought possible.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Getting your head together with an entirely new group of associates may be the best thing you've done in a long time. Fresh blood and new thoughts can allow progressive programs to develop.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — It behooves you to devote as much time and skill as you can to your career ambitions today. If you give those in high places reasons to admire your work, something astounding could occur.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Others might not think you know what you're talking about today, but you'll back up your words with actions and show them. It'll please both you and those with whom you're involved.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Today could be a propitious day to refresh your memory on a project and make the necessary revisions to update it. What worked well before can do wonders again in the future.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Explore all options if it becomes necessary to change your level of operation today, even the radical ones, which it might take to get things rolling once again on an even keel.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Should you experience fresh ambitions being awakened in you today, don't take them lightly. You're now in a cycle where you can accomplish that which you thought was impossible.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Take a second look today at someone who you might have recently met through a social involvement to discern whether or not you want him or her to play an important role in your affairs.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Stop finding excuses for delays regarding changes that you know would make a difference in the welfare of your family. There is never a better time than the present to begin.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Your uneasiness can be appeased today if you address what is disturbing you with those involved or, at least, with an older or wiser head. Answers can be found if you seek them out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Conditions are developing today in a manner that could prove to be advantageous to you where your material interests are at stake. This new building period is just beginning.

Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Visit www.bernice4u.com for more advice.

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Date Book

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2003

Today is the 344th day of 2003 and the 79th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1817, Mississippi was admitted as the 20th U.S. state.

In 1869, the governor of the Wyoming Territory approved the first law in U.S. history giving women the right to vote.

In 1936, King Edward VIII of Great Britain abdicated to marry an American divorcee, Wallis Simpson.

In 1950, U.S. diplomat Ralph Bunche was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Cesar Franck, (1822-1890), composer; Emily Dickinson (1830-1886), poet; Dorothy Lamour (1914-1996), actress; Kenneth Branagh (1960-), actor and director, is 43.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1935, Jay Berwanger of the University of Chicago won the first Downtown Athletic Club Trophy. The next year, the prize was renamed the Heisman Trophy.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Success is counted sweetest by those who ne'er succeed." — Emily Dickinson

TODAY'S FACT: The Labrador retriever is by far the most popular dog breed in the United States.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 700 — approximate number of islands in the Bahamas. Only about 40 of them are inhabited.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Dec. 8) and last quarter (Dec. 16).

All information from The World Almanac.

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Girl is born to star

NEW YORK (AP) — Liz McCartney, who appears with Boy George in the Broadway musical "Taboo," has a new daughter — Megan Elizabeth Moynahan, who was born Friday in a New York hospital.

The baby weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces. Her father is Tom Moynahan, who works in the creative services department of the Shubert Organization.

McCartney, who portrays the best friend of performance artist Leigh Bowery (George's role), left the musical Nov. 25. She'll return Jan. 6, Bill Coyle, a spokesman for "Taboo" said Tuesday. Her understudy, Brooke Elliott, will play the role until then.

Three dead in airplane crashes

HOUSTON (AP) — Three men were killed in plane crashes that occurred when two small planes attempted to land at Southeast Texas airports in windy conditions, authorities said.

Two men were killed Tuesday when the single-engine plane they were in struck power lines on Texas 6 near a runway at the Sugar Land Municipal Airport about 7 p.m.

The other plane crashed about an hour earlier near Livingston, killing one of two men aboard. The commuter plane missed the runway at the municipal airport, about six miles southeast of Livingston, and crashed between three homes in a subdivision, Polk County Sheriff's officials said.

The names of the victims were not released, pending notification of family members.

High winds might have played a role in the accidents, but officials are uncertain.

The National Transportation Safety Board and the Federal Aviation Administration are investigating, officials said.

"The winds were higher (at the time of the crashes) than what they were this afternoon," said. Brian Kyle, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service at League City.

In Lufkin, near Livingston, winds were 22 mph and gusting to 33 mph when the crash occurred there, Kyle said, and winds were 18 mph gusting to 27 mph in Sugar Land at about 7 p.m.

The single-engine plane crashed near the southern end of runaway at the Sugar Land airport and killed both men upon impact, police Sgt. Mark Grothaus said in the Houston Chronicle.

Bob Downing, a flight instructor who also was attempting to land his aircraft, said he was about five miles behind the plane. He said he saw the plane approaching the airport and noticed a bright flash.

"I saw the flash and then the runway lights went black," he told the newspaper.

He said moments later he heard air traffic controllers trying to contact the downed plane's pilot, and directed Downing to land at the West Houston Airport near Katy.

Phillip Savko, Sugar Land airport aviation director, said the accident is the first fatal crash at airport since the city took it over in 1991.

The accident left 258 residents in a subdivision without power when it took out power lines, said Lena Stout, a CenterPoint Energy spokeswoman.

Stout said CenterPoint officials were still trying to restore electrical power to the subdivision late Tuesday night.

"The FAA won't let us in until their investigation is complete," Stout said. "We're not sure when the power will be restored."

Books Make Great Christmas Gifts

Come by the SDN office to see our book selection

Growin' Up A Cowboy

By Frank Miller, Jr.

Frank Miller, Jr. grew up a cowboy on ranches owned and leased by his father and his Uncle Clyde. He spent many years in the saddle and still ranches.

This book is a tribute to his father, Frank Miller and his Uncle Clyde, and to all the good cowboys and cowgirls in his family — and there are many.

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2003 F-250 SuperCab/4X2 XLT (gas)	$26,765	$3,000	0%	$300	**$26,765**
2003 F-350 Crew Cab/4X4 8' Dual Rear Wheels/XLT	$38,735	$3,000	0%	$300	**$38,735**
2003 F-450 Chassis/4X4 Super Duty Reg Cab	$43,840	$3,000	0%	N/A	**$43,840**
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2003 E-250 Cargo Van Commercial	$27,040	$3,000	0%	$300	**$27,040**
2003 E-250 Extended Cargo Van Commercial	$28,845	$3,000	0%	$300	**$28,845**
2003 E-350 Super Duty Cargo Van Commercial	$28,440	$3,000	0%	$300	**$28,440**
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2003 E-350 Cutaway SD Chassis 138" WB Strd.	$25,115	$3,000	0%	$300	**$25,115**

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Key portion of finance law is upheld

WASHINGTON (AP) — A sharply divided Supreme Court upheld key features of the nation's new law intended to lessen the influence of money in politics, ruling today that the government may ban unlimited donations to political parties.

Those donations, called "soft money," had become a mainstay of modern political campaigns, used to rally voters to the polls and to pay for sharply worded television ads.

Congress may regulate campaign money to prevent the real or perceived corruption of political candidates, a 5-4 majority of the court ruled. That goal and most of the rules Congress drafted to meet it outweigh limitations on the free speech of candidates and others in politics, the majority said.

At the same time, the court acknowledged the 2002 law will not stop the flow of money in politics.

"We are under no illusion that (the law) will be the last congressional statement on the matter. Money, like water, will always find an outlet. What problems will arise, and how Congress will respond, are concerns for another day," Justices John Paul Stevens and Sandra Day O'Connor wrote for the majority.

The law hasn't stopped the flow of big money, but it has changed its course.

In the months since the law took effect, several partisan interest groups have popped up to collect corporate, union and unlimited individual donations to try to influence next year's elections, including several on the Democratic side focused on the presidential race.

Supporters of the new law said the donations from corporations, unions and wealthy individuals capitalized on a loophole in the existing, Watergate-era campaign money system.

The court also upheld restrictions on political ads in the weeks before an election. The television and radio ads often feature harsh attacks by one politician against another or by groups running commercials against candidates.

No court ruling, no execution carried out Tuesday in Texas

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A federal appeals court's inability to decide whether a condemned killer in Texas should be executed left a second inmate's scheduled punishment today in doubt.

Billy Frank Vickers, 58, avoided the death chamber late Tuesday when a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of one of the chemicals used in a lethal injection in Texas was not resolved in time to execute him.

Kevin Lee Zimmerman, 42, from Lafayette Parish, La., also a plaintiff in the suit, was set to die today night for the 1987 fatal stabbing and robbery of a California man at a Beaumont motel. His execution remained on the schedule, pending the possible outcome of the suit later in the day.

"From here, we'll wait to see how the court proceeds," Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokeswoman Michelle Lyons said.

Tuesday night's outcome marked the first time since lethal injection became the method of capital punishment in Texas in 1982 that a death warrant expired. Previously, either the inmate was executed — and 313 have been — or a court or the governor halted the punishment.

Vickers had been scheduled to die for fatally shooting a North Texas grocery store owner during a botched robbery attempt almost 11 years ago.

An appeal to stop Vickers' execution and review his case was rejected earlier Tuesday by the U.S. Supreme Court.

But in another legal action, a lawsuit filed on behalf of Vickers and the two other Texas inmates who were facing execution this week — including one on today — sought a permanent injunction against use of pancuronium bromide, a drug that paralyzes muscles and is one of the three chemicals used in the procedure. According to the suit filed on behalf of the three inmates, the drug allows pain that causes an unconstitutional cruel and unusual punishment.

The suit was dismissed Monday by a federal judge in Houston but went to the federal appeals courts. The combination of lethal drugs, including pancuronium bromide, has been used in executions in Texas since the state in 1982 became the first to employ lethal injection as the method of execution.

An appeal to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was not resolved, and when the death warrant expired at midnight, six hours after he was set to die, Vickers continued to live.

"It's our common practice to wait until a court rules before proceeding with an execution," Lyons said just after midnight.

Minor mishaps, but no serious injuries

• Minor accidents

A number of minor accidents were reported in Snyder on Tuesday, but no serious injuries occurred.

At 10:29 a.m. at 709 32nd, a 1998 Mercury Grand Marquis driven by Doris Oliver Defreese, 66, of Snyder was in collision with a 2001 Chevrolet Blazer driven by Jeremy Shannon Hagedus, 24, of Snyder.

At 12:09 p.m. at 25th and College Ave., a mishap involved a 2003 Honda Odyssey van driven by Sunarlal A. Modi, 61, of Hobbs, N.M. and a 1995 Oldsmobile 88 driven by Oscar Calderon, 32, of Snyder.

A mishap occurred at 1:56 p.m. in the 3600 block of College Ave. involving a 1995 Ford F-150 pickup driven by Belinda Dozier Wortham, 54, of Snyder and a 1999 Chevrolet Tahoe driven by Janis Lockhart Goebel, 48, of Hermleigh.

The final accident was reported at 3:47 p.m. at the intersection of 37th and Ave. V. Involved were a 1999 Chevrolet 1500 pickup driven by Brandon Joe Claxton, 32, of Snyder and a 2003 Chevrolet 2500 pickup driven by Jo Beth Hardegree, 43, of Snyder.

• Arrest

A 26-year-old man was arrested in the 1300 block of 26th at 11:17 a.m. Tuesday. The man was charged on a county warrant for motion to revoke probation. He was transported and booked into Scurry County Jail.

• 9-1-1 call

Police dispatchers received a 9-1-1 hang up call at 8:08 p.m. Tuesday. Officers checked the home and found a 22 year-old woman at that location who was then transported to the Law Enforcement Center to meet with a representative from MHMR. Officers later took the woman to Rivercrest Hospital in San Angelo.

• Criminal mischief

A caller reported at 12:48 a.m. Wednesday that someone driving a red extended cab pickup had thrown pumpkins, traffic cones and a "For Sale" sign into his yard at 34th and Beaumont. Aside from the debris being left in the yard, there was no property damage reported.

• Gas drive off

A clerk at Allsup's, on College Ave. reported at 8:11 p.m. Tuesday that someone had driven away without paying for $10 worth of gas.

Obituaries

Fred Wilkinson Jr.

1952-2003

Fred James Wilkinson Jr. of Eunice, N.M., and a native of Snyder, died Thursday, Dec. 4, in Eunice.

Graveside service for Mr. Wilkinson, 51, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home. The Rev. Michael Pigg, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene, will officiate.

Born on April 27, 1952 in Snyder, Mr. Wilkinson served in both the U.S. Navy and the Marine Corps.

A daughter, Kelly Wilkinson, and one grandson preceded him in death.

Survivors include a son, Fred Wilkinson III of Missouri; one daughter, Shellie Delice Wilkinson of Louisiana; and one granddaughter.

Rev. Metzger

1925-2003

CARROLLTON — The Rev. Robert T. Metzger, former minister of the First United Methodist Church in Snyder, died Sunday, Dec. 7, in a Levelland hospital.

Rev. Metzger

Funeral service for Rev. Metzger, 78, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the Carrollton Church of the Nazarene. Burial will follow in the Grove Hill Cemetery in Dallas.

Born May 1, 1925 in Dallas, he graduated from Highland Park High School in 1942 and entered the U.S. Navy's officer training program.

He graduated from Southern Methodist University with a degree in physics and then attended the Perkins School of Theology at SMU.

He married Betty Jo Green on March 15, 1946 in Dallas. Rev. Metzger served as a Methodist minister for 44 years, pastoring churches in Dallas, Blossom, Tulia, Amarillo, Abilene, Brownfield, Lamesa and Ralls. He served in Snyder from 1983 to 1988.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Metzger of Levelland; two sons, Robert Metzger of Seattle and Tim Metzger of Levelland; a daughter, Elizabeth Andres of Carrollton; and seven grandchildren.

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Iranian activist wins peace prize

OSLO, Norway (AP) — Iranian democracy activist Shirin Ebadi received the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize today, saying it would inspire Iranians and women around the Muslim world to seek their rights and denouncing leaders who use Islam as a pretext for dictatorship.

Ebadi, the first Iranian and Muslim woman to win the Peace Prize, appeared at the award ceremony without the headscarf that Iran requires women to wear in public, in what many viewed as a silent expression of her battle for freedom.

An audience of hundreds, including members of the Norwegian royal family, rose to give the laureate a standing ovation after she was given the coveted Nobel gold medal and diploma.

The award "inspires me and millions of Iranians and nationals of Islamic states with the hope that our efforts, endeavors and struggles toward the realization of human rights and the establishment of democracy ... enjoy the support, backing and solidarity of international civil society," Ebadi said a speech after receiving the $1.4 million award.

"Undoubtedly, my selection will be an inspiration to the masses of women striving to realize their rights, not only in Iran but throughout the region," she said, speaking in Farsi.

Ebadi also criticized the United States for using the war on terror as a pretext for violating human rights, pointing to the detention of hundreds of Muslim men at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, without access to lawyers.

The 56-year-old lawyer, author and activist, Iran's first female judge, was named the 2003 Nobel peace laureate for her work in fighting for democracy and the rights of women and children. In 2000, she was jailed for three weeks on charges of slandering government officials and banned from working as a lawyer after riling her nation's theocratic rulers.

Since winning the Nobel, Iranian reformers have looked to Ebadi to rally opposition to unelected hard-liners who oppose any change to the conservative Islamic system of running the country. Hard-liners have denounced her as a "Western mercenary" and she recently was given police bodyguards after receiving numerous death threats.

Last week, about 60 female hard-liners prevented Ebadi from making a speech at a women's university in Tehran.

Ahead of the ceremony outside Oslo City Hall, thousands of children sang for the laureate, with snow surrounding the building.

Ebadi, wearing a light-colored skirt and blouse, spoke during a solemn one-hour ceremony before an audience that included members of Ebadi's own family and Academy Award winning actors Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones.

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 12/11	Fri 12/12	Sat 12/13
62/31	49/37	47/25
Mainly sunny. High 62F. Winds SSW at 10 to 15 mph.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the upper 30s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the mid 20s.
Sunrise 7:36 AM, Sunset 5:38 PM	Sunrise 7:36 AM, Sunset 5:38 PM	Sunrise 7:37 AM, Sunset 5:38 PM

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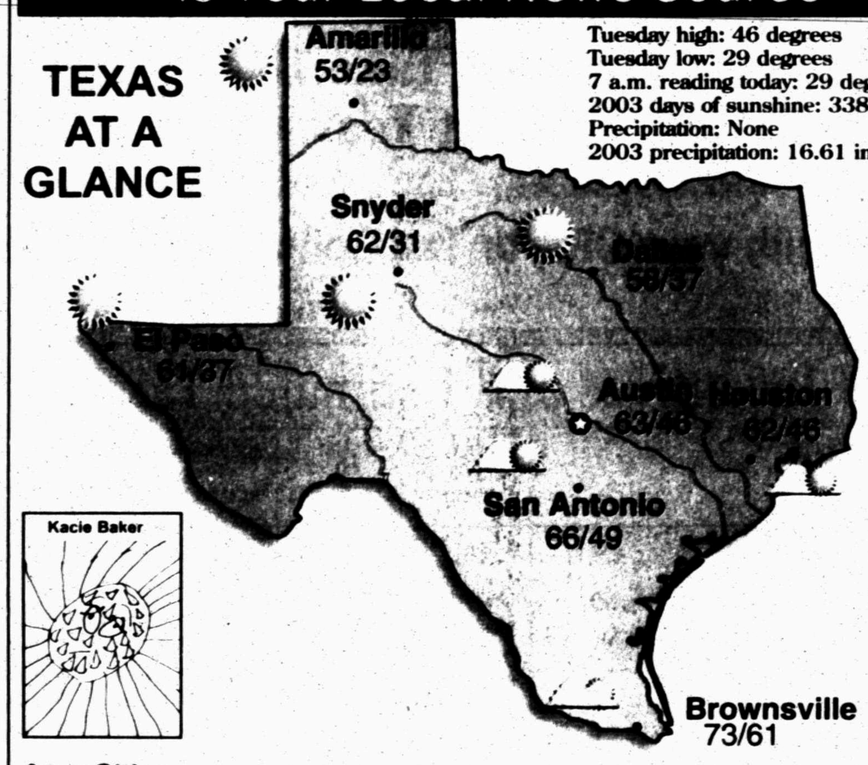
TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Tuesday high: 46 degrees
Tuesday low: 29 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 29 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 338 of 344
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 16.61 inches

Kacie Baker

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	63	37	sunny	El Paso	61	37	sunny	Midland	64	34	sunny
Amarillo	53	23	sunny	Fort Stockton	67	39	sunny	Raymondville	73	57	pt sunny
Austin	63	46	pt sunny	Gainesville	56	32	sunny	Rosenberg	62	46	pt sunny
Beaumont	60	43	mst sunny	Greenville	56	33	sunny	San Antonio	66	49	pt sunny
Brownsville	73	61	cloudy	Houston	62	46	pt sunny	San Marcos	64	46	pt sunny
Brownwood	63	38	sunny	Kingsville	71	57	cloudy	Sulphur Springs	56	33	sunny
Corpus Christi	69	57	pt sunny	Livingston	58	38	mst sunny	Sweetwater	63	35	sunny
Corsicana	59	37	sunny	Longview	56	34	sunny	Tyler	57	34	sunny
Dallas	58	37	sunny	Lubbock	60	28	sunny	Weatherford	58	33	sunny
Del Rio	64	47	mst sunny	Lufkin	59	37	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	59	30	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	50	29	mst sunny	Houston	62	46	pt sunny	Phoenix	66	46	pt sunny
Boston	47	34	rain	Los Angeles	58	48	rain	San Francisco	56	45	rain
Chicago	30	19	pt sunny	Miami	72	53	pt sunny	Seattle	48	40	pt sunny
Dallas	58	37	sunny	Minneapolis	16	3	cloudy	St. Louis	35	25	mst sunny
Denver	38	19	pt sunny	New York	51	31	rain	Washington, DC	50	32	pt sunny

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Dec 8	Dec 16	Dec 23	Dec 30

UV Index

Thu 12/11	Fri 12/12	Sat 12/13
Low	Low	Low

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 — 11

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