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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

Jan. 7, 1999
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Home Of Zachary Deere

Impeachment articles taken to Senate today

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a solemn prelude to the first presidential impeachment trial in 130 years, House prosecutors delivered to the Senate today two articles of impeachment accusing President Clinton of perjury and obstruction of justice. The White House declared there wasn't "a compelling case" for ousting Clinton.

With an agreement on the framework for the trial still elusive, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott said he would gather all 100 senators in a rare, private session in the Old Senate Chamber after they were sworn in as jurors "to decide in a bipartisan fashion how to proceed."

Led by House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde, the 13 Republicans named as prosecutors for the trial walked silently across the Capitol — followed by cameras that broadcast the scene live to the nation — to deliver the papers.

"Senators will be in order," 96-year-old Strom Thurmond, the Senate president pro tempore, hollered as he called the session to order.

The Senate sergeant at arms, James W. Ziglar, escorted the House members to the well of the Senate. "Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye, all persons are commanded to keep silent on pain of imprisonment," he declared, reading a proclamation written by the Founding Fathers more than 200 years ago.

Clinton "has prevented, obstructed and impeded the administration of justice," the silver-haired Hyde intoned as he read from the articles to a stilled Senate chamber. Hyde's prosecution team stood at attention in a semicircle to his right. The senators sat silently, a few taking notes. About three-quarters of the seats in the galleries were empty.

The two articles stem from Clinton's effort to conceal his affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

When he had finished, Hyde said, "That concludes the exposition of the articles of impeachment against William Jefferson Clinton. The managers request that the Senate take order for the trial."

Three senators from each party were to leave later in the day and escort Chief Justice William Rehnquist from the Supreme Court to preside over the trial. Rehnquist was to be given an oath and then administer another oath to the 100 senators who will serve as jurors.

The president was out of public view, but the White House made a new bid to cut short the trial. Clinton would stipulate to "the five volumes, 7,000 or so pages" of grand jury testimony and other evidence that prosecutor Kenneth Starr sent to the House last fall so that witnesses would not have to be called, presidential spokesman Joe Lockhart said.



WORK IN PROGRESS — Production Builders workers David Webb (left) and Richard Rains measure the ceiling grid for a suspended ceiling they are installing in the Taco Bell building. Work on the restaurant is expected to be completed by the end of January. (SDN Staff Photo)

F-16 fighter attacks radar installation

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. Air Force F-16 fighter attacked an air-defense radar installation in northern Iraq today after the pilot determined he was about to be fired on by a surface-to-air missile, U.S. officials said.

The F-16 launched a high-speed anti-radar missile at the site at about 11:15 a.m., Iraq time, according to a statement issued by the U.S. European Command, headquarters for Air Force planes involved in enforcing a "no-fly" zone over northern Iraq. There was no immediate indication whether the missile damaged the radar.

The F-16 was not fired upon and returned safely to base, officials said.

"The no-fly zones are an important part of our containment policy. We'll continue to enforce them vigorously," White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said about two hours after the incident was reported.

The U.S. European Command statement, made available in Washington, said the F-16 pilot acted in self-defense.

The U.S. missile firing was intended to "prevent any offensive fire" from the Iraqi air-defense site, the statement said.

Low oil prices result in decrease of deposits

Sagging oil prices and reduced ag income were reflected in year-end reports of Snyder financial institutions.

Total deposits at four reporting financial firms totaled $223.3 million at the close of 1998, a decline of $22.3 million since the end of 1997 when combined deposits were listed at $245.6 million.

In addition, combined loans were $96.5 million compared to $100.6 million in loans at same time last year.

The reporting financial institutions included Snyder National Bank, West Texas State Bank and Snyder Savings and Loan Association. American State Bank data was included in deposit totals, but not in loans. First American Bank does not report individual branch figures.

Total deposits at Snyder National were $87.8 million, a drop of $13.6 million when compared to the close of 1997. SNB deposits, however, were up $4.4 million when compared to the third quarter of 1998.

Deposits at West Texas State Bank totaled $83.7 million, a decline of $10.7 million compared to the close of 1997, but up $900,000 when evaluated against the third quarter of 1998.

Snyder Savings' deposits were $34.7 million, a drop of only $200,000 compared to the end of the previous year, and an increase of $100,000 compared to the close of 1998's third quarter.

American State Bank's total deposits were $17.1 million, an increase of $2.2 million over the end of 1997 and an increase of $100,000 when compared to the third quarter of 1998.

Loans at SNB totaled $26.5 million, a drop of $3.5 million in the past 12 months, and a decline of $600,000 when compared to the end of 1998's third quarter.

Combined loans at WTSB were $38.7 million, a drop of $1.8 million since the end of 1997, and a reduction of $3.1 million when compared to the third quarter of 1998.

Snyder Savings reported loans of $31.3 million, an increase of $1.2 million compared to the close of the previous year, and an increase of $400,000 since the third quarter of 1998.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The average woman would rather have beauty than brains because she thinks the average man can see better than he can think."

Guess we're gonna have to learn to live with answering machines. There are so many folks screening calls by voice mail that a real person on the other line can leave the caller speechless.

Here are some actual answering machine recordings, verified by the International Institute of Answering Machine Answers.

"Hi. This is John. If you are the phone company, I already sent the money. If you are my parents, please send money. If you are my financial institution, you didn't lend me enough money. If you are my friends, you owe me money. If you are a female, don't worry, I have plenty of money."

"Hi. Now you say something."

"Hello, I am David's answering machine. What are you?"

"Hi! John's answering machine is broken. This is his refrigerator. Please speak very slowly, and I'll stick your message to myself with one of these magnets."

"Hello, you are talking to a machine. I am capable of receiving messages. My owners do not need siding, windows or a hot tub. And their carpets are clean. They give to charity through their office and do not need their picture taken. If you're still with me, leave your name and number and they will get back to you."

"Hi. I am probably home. I'm just avoiding someone I don't like. Leave me a message, and if I don't call back, it's you."

"If you are a burglar, then we're probably at home cleaning our weapons right now and can't come to the phone. Otherwise, we probably aren't home and it's safe to leave us a message."

And our favorite:

"This is not an answering machine. This is a telephathic thought-recording device. After the tone, think about your name, your reason for calling and a number where I can reach you, and I'll think about returning your call."

Saturday in Midland...

Five SHS choir members vie for state

Five Snyder High School Choir members will be competing for the all-state choir honors on Saturday at Lee High School in Midland.

Those competing include senior Kara Gowin, daughter of Bill and Barbara Gowin, who is competing as a Soprano I.

Sophomore Crissida Tyler will be competing as an Alto I. She is the daughter of Steve and Kathy Tyler.

Two other sophomores are also competing. They are Matt Coronado, Tenor I, son of Joe and Geneva Coronado, and Michael Comptom, Tenor II, son of Donald and Linda Compton.

Senior Brady Cobb is competing as a Bass II. He is the son of Paula and Donald Bond.

"This is the first time in a long while that Snyder High School has had the opportunity to advance five students to state," said Ronda Haire, choir director. "We are very excited at the possibilities.

"The students have been working on music for the audition for as long as six months. Some students began the music at various choir camps offered during the summer at Texas colleges.

"These students have really worked hard and given a lot of time to this music. We are very proud of their accomplishments thus far.

"This is a very talented group of young people, who have already represented Snyder very well in the audition process, and we are very anxious to see how they perform on Saturday," Haire said.

All five SHS students advanced in November during pre-area auditions in Lubbock. The sudents were selected in the top five from each voice part to represent the TMEA Region XVI at this audition. Region XVI is composed of Lubbock and surrounding counties.

Over 500 students began the audition process in September from this region. Students from the Lubbock region will compete on Saturday with the top five (in each voice part) from the El Paso-West Texas region, the Amarillo-Panhandle region and the Midland-Odessa region.

Judging panels of five directors from participating schools will hear 20 students on each voice part in three separate auditions during the day.

They will rate each student on their prepared pieces and a sight reading selection. The top five students selected will participate in the all-state choir performance in February during the Texas Music Educator's Convention in San Antonio.

This year, in addition to the all-state mixed choir, there will be an all-state girl's choir made up from the girls who rank 6-10 in this particular audition.



TO COMPETE AT STATE — These Snyder High School choir students will compete at state Saturday. From left are Kara Gowin, Crissida Tyler, Brady Cobb, Michael Compton, Matt Coronado. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

ASK US

Q—Are there plans to decorate Taco Bell in Snyder Tiger colors of black and gold?

A—Yes. Some black and gold tilework is already in place and other plans are in the works.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 65 degrees; low, 30; 7 a.m. Thursday, 31; no precipitation.

Area Forecast: Tonight, fair. Low, mid 30s. W-SW wind 10-15 mph. Friday, partly cloudy, cooler. High, lower 60s. Wind becoming N 15-20 mph, gusty.



Destinee Naegele
Cool & windy

Sunset: 5:56 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:44 a.m.
Of 6 days in 1999, the sun has shone 6 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

"Destiny is not a matter of chance, it's a matter of choice.

It is not a thing to be waited for; but is a thing to be achieved."

William Jennings Bryan

Sun-like stars have superflares powerful enough to fry planets

AUSTIN (AP) — Superflares powerful enough to fry nearby planets regularly erupt from distant stars that are just like the sun, but such death-dealing explosions are unlikely to occur in the solar system, astronomers say.

Two Yale University researchers said Wednesday that they have found nine solar-type stars that have erupted in flares up to 10 million times more powerful than anything ever recorded from the sun. There is preliminary evidence for at least seven others, they said.

If the sun were to have such an eruption, said Bradley E. Schaefer, it could possibly cause mass extinctions, plunge the Earth into brief heat wave, flood the planet with gamma and X-rays, melt electronics in orbiting satellites, cause global auroras and wipe out for up to two years all of the ozone that protects the Earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation.

"The loss of ozone could kill the food chain and probably cause mass extinctions," Schaefer said.

Even smaller bursts, he said, could burn out all of the electricity distribution systems on Earth, plunging the planet into a global power outage.

But the Yale professor said there is no evidence that such powerful "superflares" have ever erupted from the sun.

"It's not going to happen here," Schaefer said repeatedly in a presentation at the national meeting of the American Astronomical Society.

Schaefer said that an examination of astronomy archives uncovered proof that superflares erupt about once a century from G type, main sequence stars, the stellar type that is just like the Earth's own sun. The erupting stars are up to 100 light years away and pose no threat to the Earth.

"We found that superflares do occur on disturbingly normal solar-type stars," said Schaefer. "Superflares are 100 to 10 million times more energetic than the brightest solar flares."

He said the superflares last for one hour to one week and cause the stars to brighten by to 1,000 times their normal luminosity.

Schaefer said he believes the sun will never erupt with such powerful flares because there is no evidence that it has ever happened during the 4 billion year history of the sun.

The sun has been scientifically studied for more than 150 years and the most powerful solar flares detected have been only a fraction of energy in superflares, he said.

Additionally, astronomy records going back for 2,000 years have never recorded a superflare from the sun, said Schaefer. And, furthermore, such a superflare would have melted the ice on the moons of Jupiter and left smooth frozen plains. Recent spacecraft pictures of the moons show no such evidence, he said.

Eric P. Rubenstein, another Yale astronomer, said the eruptions probably occur because the distant stars have Jupiter-sized planets in a very close orbit.

Giant planets in orbit close to a star, he said, would cause a twisting and stretching of the magnetic fields that radiate out from stars and from most planets. The twisted magnetic field lines eventually would explode with a sudden release of energy.

He said his proposed superflare process is rather like what happens when rubber bands are twisted and twisted until they finally break and snap. The result is a sudden release of energy.

West Virginia is the 35th state.

The state bird of Maryland is the Baltimore Oriole.

Deputies raid 3 newsrooms seeking jailhouse interviews

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Executives of Reno's three television stations and its newspaper are baffled following office raids by sheriff's deputies seeking copies of jailhouse interviews with an alleged freeway sniper.

"Our feeling is that it's an illegal warrant. It violates the federal privacy protection act of 1980," KOLO-TV News Director Ed Pearce said.

Washoe County District Attorney Richard Gammick said he requested search warrants Wednesday after observing media interviews with Christopher Merritt, the suspect in the shootings along Interstate 80 earlier this week.

"Yesterday, I was told that he had no intention to kill people. Today, I opened up the newspaper and there it is, right there, 'I intended to kill people. I didn't care,'" Gammick said. "In my mind, this is evidence."

Gammick said he was not "declaring war on the media."

"We do not want to make the media our agents. But it's my belief that once a newsperson goes up and interviews a defendant in the jail about the crime, they become a witness," he said.

Merritt was arrested in Las Vegas late Monday, about 12 hours after allegedly shooting one man in the chest and hitting five other vehicles on the outskirts of Reno. No one was killed.

Merritt initially said he wanted to shoot people so he could rob them after they wrecked their cars. In the subsequent media interviews, he said the shootings were a dress rehearsal for a cross-country odyssey of carnage.

"The original purpose was just to maim, injure and kill people, because I wanted to, I guess," Merritt told The Associated Press in an interview at the Washoe County jail on Wednesday.

That interview was tape recorded and videotaped by deputies. Gammick said he did not know if deputies handled those duties during media interviews on Tuesday.

Reno Gazette-Journal Editor Ward Bushee was dismayed by the appearance of the authorities, which led to what he called a "senseless showdown between sheriff deputies and newspaper people." He and Publisher Sue Clark-Johnson agreed to lock up its reporter's notes until a subpoena was issued.

"We all wanted to avoid a confrontation no one wants to have," she told reporters. "We want to avoid deputies rummaging around the newsroom."

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Protest Against Co-Habitation Falls on Daughter's Deaf Ears

by Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: My daughter is contemplating moving in with her boyfriend next spring. She is 21, he is 22. They have been dating for nearly two years. They have both completed two years of college, but have not made plans to continue their education.

Both have been employed in good summer jobs, but they have no prospects for steady employment. She lives with us and he lives with his parents.

Her father and I don't want to see them live together for all the reasons that seem obvious to us. It seems like we have no good arguments against this plan. Could you give us any help?

CONCERNED MOM
IN WASHINGTON STATE

DEAR CONCERNED MOM: The old adage "two can live as cheaply as one" is baloney. Ask them how they plan to pay the rent, utilities, license fees, car insurance, doctor bills, buy groceries and clothing, and build a nest egg for retirement.

***

DEAR ABBY: Your response to "Furious," whose in-laws expect her and her family to stick to the in-laws' schedule when they come to visit, was understanding and appropriate. "Furious" is making a mountain out of a molehill. If her in-laws lived in Hawaii and she was in New York, or vice versa, the time difference would be as much as six hours, and *then* it would be worth getting upset about. However, since only one hour is involved, "Furious" should just grin and bear it. If this is the most serious in-law problem she has, she should count her blessings.

R.W. IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR R.W.: Thank you for the supportive letter. However, quite a few seniors chastised me for my reply. They told me people in their 60s are not too set in their routines to adapt, and old dogs *can* learn new tricks.

***

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing about "Furious," whose husband threatened to divorce her if she didn't keep quiet about his parents sticking to their own time schedules when they were visiting. What kind of husband would divorce his wife of 27 years for voicing her opinion and standing up for her rights — something he obviously can't do?

I've had a few run-ins with my in-laws, so I know where she's coming from. They started throwing insults my way, but I stood up for myself. They didn't speak to me for months. When my husband made excuses for them, I sat him down and helped him understand how upset and hurt I felt. He finally realized that our marriage was his No. 1 priority, and insisted his parents apologise to me.

Abby, his parents were stunned at first, but now they show me some respect.

A simple solution would be for "Furious" and her family to push up their schedule by half an hour, and for his parents to push theirs back by half an hour. This way everyone compromises and they all win. Sign me ...

WIVES SHOULD COME FIRST,
LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

DEAR WIVES: Compromise. That's a very good idea. A little give-and-take would make the in-laws' visit much more palatable.

***

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Pleads guilty

NEW YORK (AP) — A white man pleaded guilty to beating a black man into a coma during a nightclub parking lot melee.

A former police officer still awaits trial, accused of waving a gun to keep the victim's friends at bay while Austin Offen attacked him with a metal anti-car-theft device.

Offen, 28, of Queens, had been charged with attempted murder, but pleaded guilty Wednesday to assault and a weapons possession charge in the May 1996 beating that left Shane Daniels in a coma for two weeks.

In return, prosecutors said, he will be sentenced to 10 years in prison at a hearing Feb. 4. He could have gotten a 39-year sentence, defense lawyers said.

Prosecutors say Offen, who is white, shouted racial epithets while he beat Daniels, who is black, with the bar outside Club Marakesh in Westhampton.

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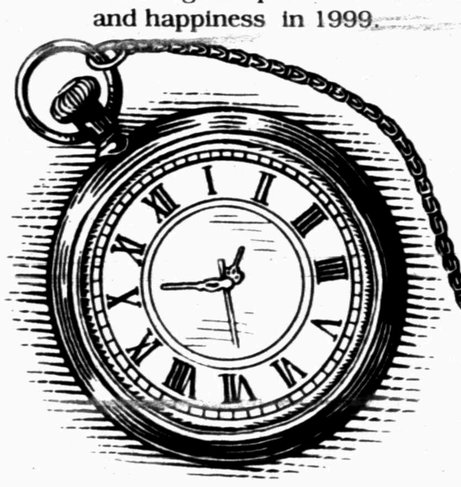
I buried my daughter, Rhonda Wadleigh, recently. Wright Colonial Funeral Home, 200 37th Street, did a beautiful job. They have a lovely home, chapel, good casket selection, excellent price, and near to both cemeteries.

Thelma Gardner

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

Time To Get A Move On!

The clock has ticked down on the old calendar. Now is the time to gear up for a fresh start and look ahead to success and happiness in 1999.



Many thanks for giving us so much to celebrate this past year. We've enjoyed every minute of serving you and look forward to your continued support.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As we begin the New Year with optimism and enthusiasm, Snyder National Bank renews its pledge for continued Leadership and Cooperation in all that is good for Snyder & Scurry County... and its Fine Folks!



Thanks for giving us good reason to celebrate!

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HONORS MOM — In a national contest through Bar H Bar, Haley Elkins, Snyder High School freshman (right), entered a search for Brighton's World's Greatest Mom '98, and won a third place. She wrote, "My Mom is the world's greatest because she is so completely devoted to me, 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. She shelters me from harsh words and heals me when I'm ill. She is beautiful both outside and inside. She has a magnificiant heart and soul. If I had my way, she would live forever on this earth... but she always will live in my soul." Jackie Hackfeld, (left) co-owner of Bar H Bar, presented Phyllis Elkins her prize, Brighton World's Greatest Mom denim jacket. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



PICTURES OF TANZANIA — Alpha Study Club members met Tuesday at the Martha Ann Woman's Club for a program by Miriam Cochran, standing. She told about her trip last summer to Tanzania where she taught Bible School to children of missionaries. She displayed pictures and handmade items from Africa. Following the program, hostesses Rae Adams (left) and Elizabeth McCloskey, served refreshments. Pictured right is longtime member Vera Hollsinger. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Travolta's new movie shines light on environment

BOSTON (AP) — John Travolta takes heart in knowing that his new movie, "A Civil Action," is shining a national spotlight on environmental issues.

"If people leave the theater more enlightened about the situation in our environment we're in good shape," Travolta said Wednesday. "They came out maybe wanting to check their own water out, maybe their neighbors, too."

Hundreds of fans braved the cold Wednesday to catch a glimpse of Travolta and co-star Robert Duvall, who attended a $250-a-ticket screening to benefit Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; Horseshoe Courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762; 7 p.m.

Just for Today NA; Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; American Legion; 6:30 to 8 p.m.

New Horizons AA; closed meeting; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

Free blood pressure clinics; Senior Citizens Center, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Blood pressures will be taken at Cogdell Hospital Home Health Services, 1800 Cogdell Blvd. Suite B; 1-2 p.m.

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointments; 573-9742.

Just for Today NA; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

Just for Today NA open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238 or 573-8018; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 10 a.m.

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

Just For Today closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238, or 573-8018; 5 p.m.

Newhart now has his star

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's no joke: Bob Newhart has a star in the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

More than 200 fans gathered on the Hollywood Boulevard sidewalk to witness Wednesday's unveiling of Newhart's star, the 2,127th to be dedicated in the famous walkway.

Newhart, 69, launched his career in 1959 with his famous comedy routine utilizing a one-man, two-way telephone conversation, delivered with his trademark deadpan grin. He became a household name with sitcoms "The Bob Newhart Show" and "Newhart."

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	
	♠ 7 3 2	01-07-99
	♥ K 7 2	
	♦ Q J 10 8 5	
	♣ A 10	
West		**East**
♠ Q 10 8		♠ J 9 6 5 4
♥ 9 5 4		♥ 8 6 3
♦ A 3		♦ 7 6 4
♣ K J 8 6 3		♣ Q 5
	South	
	♠ A K	
	♥ A Q J 10	
	♦ K 9 2	
	♣ 9 7 4 2	

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♣ 6

Another exception to the rule

By Phillip Alder

Yesterday, we looked at two situations in which it is usually better to ignore the Rule of Seven. Instead of holding up, as recommended by the rule, you win the first trick and immediately establish the tricks you need for your contract.

Well, is today's deal an example of the rule or an exception to it? You are in three no-trump. West leads the club six. What is your plan?

You have seven top tricks: two spades, four hearts and one club. There are more than enough tricks available in diamonds. But there is a danger that the opponents will get too many club tricks when in with the diamond ace.

The Rule of Seven tells you to hold up the club ace for one round. (You have six clubs between your hand and the dummy. Six from seven is one.) Yet if you do that with this layout, you go down, losing one diamond and four club tricks.

Think about the club layout for a moment. If the missing clubs are splitting 4-3, there is no danger; you will lose at most one diamond and three clubs. But what if they are 5-2? Then surely East has honor-doubleton. With a club suit headed by the K-Q-J, West would have led the king. Given that East has honor-doubleton, you must *win* the first trick with dummy's ace. This blocks the suit from the defenders' point of view. Follow with a low diamond. Here, you rake in at least one overtrick.

So, the third exception to the Rule of Seven occurs when you need to make a blocking play by winning trick one.

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MEN'S POOL
TOURNAMENT
January 9, 1999
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Having Problems With Your Water?



J.L. White of Snyder filling up his dispensers at the Water Shop.

Let the Water Experts at the Culligan Water Shop help correct that problem. The Water Shop offers crystal clear bottle water for only 25¢ a gallon everyday. They deliver water also bi-weekly. They offer dispenser rentals or purchases. If you're ready to enjoy a wonderful change in your water quality come by or give us a call today at The Water Shop, your Culligan Dealer.

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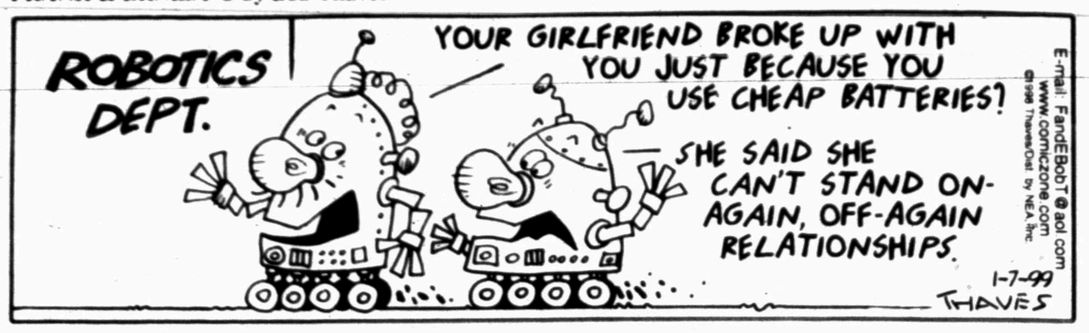
Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



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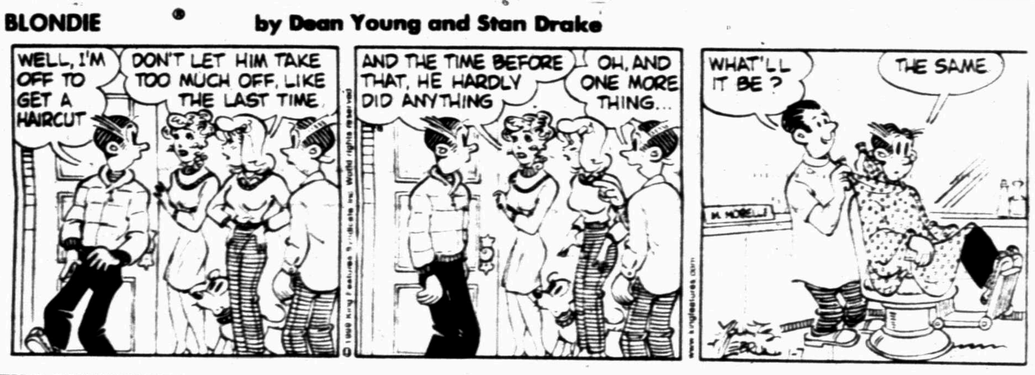


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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Optimistic
7 Make current
13 Iron grating
14 Car part (2 wds.)
15 Storage space in a gym
16 Unsealed
17 French thought
18 Have a meal
20 Idiot
21 Brown shade
23 Type of poem
27 Mark Twain's forte
32 Urbane
33 Veranda
34 E.T., for one
35 Bert's Sesame Street pal
36 Edgiest
39 Has to have
40 Strong upward movement
42 Sect
46 Deli bread
47 Restrain
51 Loan shark
53 Puzzling problem
55 Old and weak
56 Neighbor of Kenya
57 Appropriate
58 Thin silk fabric

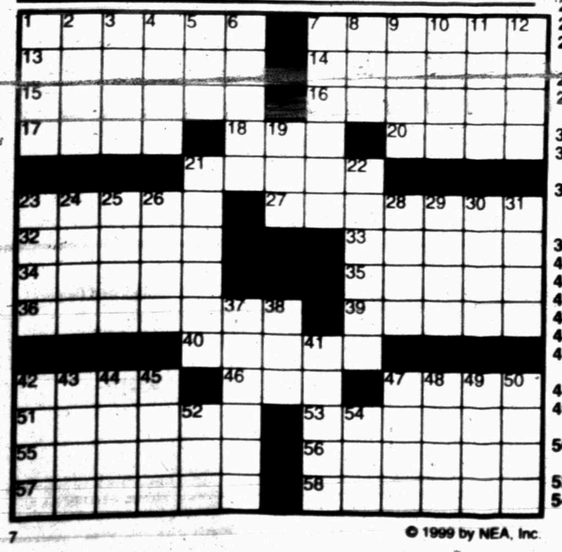
DOWN

1 Citrus fruit
2 Urge
3 Blue pigment
4 Actress Sommer
5 Saloon order
6 Concise
7 Ideal place
8 Card spot
9 Homeowner's document
10 River in Italy
11 Driven slantingly
12 Taro root
19 — and downs
21 Play segments
22 Actress Dahl
23 Future LL.Bs.' exam
24 Noel
25 Shower
26 Currier's partner
28 Be concerned
29 Actress Baxter
30 Spoke
31 Architect — van der Rohe
37 Carriage with the fringe on top
38 Test
41 Rise (2 wds.)
42 Swear
43 Plaintiff
44 Clair de —
45 Edging
47 Actor James —
48 Military abbr.
49 Advise, old-style
50 Hillside (Scot.)
52 House wing
54 Type of trip?

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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"If a fool and his money are soon parted, who's got yours?"



"MR. WILSON SAYS, 'IF YOU WANNA MAKE GOD LAUGH, TELL HIM ABOUT YOUR FUTURE PLANS'."

SPORTS

NBA unlocked...

Owners, players salvage remains of season

NEW YORK (AP) — The lockout is settled, the season is saved and the NBA has survived.

The most divisive labor battle in league history finally ended at dawn Wednesday on the 191st day of the lockout when commissioner David Stern and union director Billy Hunter compromised on the remaining issues keeping them apart and shook hands on a collective bargaining agreement.

The deal still has to be reduced to writing, meaning the lockout hasn't yet officially been lifted.

But barring any unforeseen snags, the season will begin no earlier than Feb. 2, with each team playing no more than 52 games.

"We can exhale now, without a doubt," said Alonzo Mourning of the Miami Heat. "The deal is done and we can just focus our mind right now on starting back up again."

The agreement was reached just 29 hours before the NBA Board of Governors was to vote on canceling the remainder of the season. It came during an all-night bargaining session at NBA headquarters between Stern and Hunter. Union president Patrick Ewing was not present.

"Did we blink? I guess we both blinked," Hunter said.

Said Stern: "I will say that I am elated that we will be playing basketball this season."

Each side made significant compromises to close the deal, but the owners clearly walked away with a much better agreement than the old one. The players, for their part, came away with their dignity intact and with more money for the non-superstars.

Hours later, the deal was ratified by players in a 179-5 vote after being approved by both negotiating committees. It gives owners the unprecedented concession of a maximum limit on individual salaries and will be in place for six years, with owners having an option for a seventh year.

"Oh, I'm so relieved it's unbelievable," Milwaukee Bucks coach George Karl said. "It's like I let a balloon out of my stomach. The knots are already loosening up in my neck. I get to do what I love to do."

The Board of Governors scheduled a vote on the agreement for this morning, and the league said it would not comment until then. The process of putting the agreement on paper could take 10 days, meaning training camps would open around Jan. 17.

Once the deal is finalized, it will unleash a three-week frenzy of teams scrambling to fill rosters, make trades and sign some of the 200 free agents while running abbreviated training camps.

Among the free agents are Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen, Dennis Rodman, Charles Barkley, Antonio McDyess, Rod Strickland and Damon Stoudamire.

"We'll probably have eight months of NBA basketball squeezed into four months, with trades and signings," Karl said.

Under terms of the new agreement, a grandfather clause allows any player to re-sign with his team for 105 percent of his previous salary. That means Jordan, who made about $33 million last year, could get about $34.7 million from the Bulls.

No other team can offer him more than $14 million.

"Michael is going to analyze the deal, see what Chicago wants to do and then make an informed decision," agent David Falk said. "I'm not certain what his time frame is."

Once the games get started, players will be faced with an exhausting schedule until playoffs start in late April. Teams will be asked on occasion to play three games in three nights, something that hasn't happened in the last 10 years.

"It's going to be tough to play back-to-back-to-back games, but that's something we have to do as athletes," Jimmy Jackson, a free agent who last played for Golden State, told The New York Times. "But if you love the game, you'll do whatever it takes to be ready to play."

After the deal was ratified, Stern spoke to the almost 200 players who had flown in to vote on the owners' latest proposal — a vote that never came.

"He told us Billy was a tough guy, but a good guy, and how glad he was to get it over with and to start playing again," Aaron Williams of the Seattle SuperSonics said.

Witnesses said the players' response was polite, but not enthusiastic.

The players did, however, give Hunter and Ewing a standing ovation.

The union agreed to accept 55 percent of about $2 billion in annual revenue in the fourth, fifth and sixth years of the agreement, according to several sources involved in the talks who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Players would get 57 percent if the league exercises its option for the seventh year. In the first three years, there is no limit on the percentage of revenues players can receive.

Also, the agreement includes a ban on marijuana, with all players undergoing drug testing once per season, and tougher player discipline penalties and conduct rules.

The sides also agreed to form a joint committee of three owners and three players to discuss the growth of the league and improving the relations between players and management.

Among other compromises:

— The union agreed to a $14 million maximum salary for players with 10 years' experience. Players with one to five years' experience can get a maximum of $9 million, and players with six to nine years' experience can get $11 million.

— The union agreed to a three-year rookie scale with teams holding an option for the fourth year and the right of first refusal in the fifth year. First-round draft picks will be grouped into three categories by where they were selected — 1-9, 10-19 and 20-29 — with the highest picks eligible for higher percentage increases in their salaries from year to year.

— The league accepted the union's proposal for an "average" salary exception and "median" salary exception, with both being phased in during the next three years. As a result, every team will have the right to sign two additional players each season, even if they are over the salary cap.

— The league agreed to higher minimum salaries than it had been offering, but not quite as high as the union had been demanding.

No professional sports union had ever agreed to a maximum salary before, but the NBA pushed for one throughout the lockout. The union initially refused, then suggested a luxury tax be charged to any owner who signed a player for more than $15 million. The league kept holding out, and eventually the players relented.

NBA players have the highest average salary in professional sports, about $2.6 million annually, and the median salary is about $1.3 million. NFL players average about $900,000, and major league baseball pays an average of $1.45 million.

"Guys can still make $14 million, and that's a lot of money," said Kevin Willis of the Toronto Raptors. "If you can't live off that, something's wrong."

The league and the union had been fighting over how to divide the estimated $2 billion in annual revenue.

Since the 1980s and especially since Jordan arrived, the league has enjoyed unprecedented popularity here and abroad. On the labor front, Stern and the NBA lived a relatively charmed life, while baseball struggled through a strike that caused thousands of fans to turn away from the sport.

But then came the lockout that for the first time caused the NBA to miss games because of a labor dispute.

Kellner set to compete at playoff game

Ira sixth grader Wesley Kellner will be in action this weekend.

But instead of Bulldog Stadium, he'll be competing at the Meadowlands in East Rutherford, N.J.

Kellner, 11, will compete in the Gatorade National Punt, Pass & Kick Contest at halftime of the New York Jets-Jacksonville Jaguars playoff game on Sunday, which kicks off at 11:40 a.m.

The Ira student won qualifying events in Ira, Lubbock and Dallas to earn the trip to the national finals.

Sooners knock off Red Raiders

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Kelvin Sampson uses Tim Heskett and Alex Spaulding as examples of why Oklahoma's basketball team may not always look real good, but can still win.

Heskett and Spaulding, both guards, combined for 13 points and three assists against Texas Tech on Wednesday night. But they put the clamps on sharpshooter Stan Bonewitz and in doing so helped lead the Sooners to a 78-68 victory.

"You may want to evaluate what they can't do on offense, that's fine," Sampson said. "They're winners. They know how to play within a system and how to win games."

The Sooners (11-3, 2-0 Big 12) followed a familiar pattern to snap Texas Tech's three-game winning streak in Norman. They played shakily in the first half, but came through with a much better second half.

Eduardo Najera scored 23 points and Eric Martin had all 12 of his in the second half. Najera scored seven of Oklahoma's final 10 points while playing with four fouls.

"I made a vow to myself about a month ago that I'm not going to get into evaluating our basketball team," Sampson said. "The things we're deficient at are easy to detect. Evaluate this team on wins and losses."

After shooting 36 percent in the first 20 minutes, and scoring six points in the first nine, the Sooners shot 52 percent after halftime.

Texas Tech (9-6, 1-1) hit 58 percent of its shots, including a 13-of-20 performance in the second half, but was undone by 24 turnovers and an inability to get consistent perimeter scoring.

"It was because of their defense," coach James Dickey said. "They shadowed Bonewitz all night but we didn't pass the ball very well and we didn't handle the pressure well."

Bonewitz, who averages 13 points per game and scored 19 in a victory in Norman a year ago, was held to seven this time. He only got six shots, including three from 3-point range.

Rayford Young and freshman Andy Ellis scored 17 each for the Red Raiders. It was a career high for Ellis, who made all five of his field goals and didn't miss any of his seven free throws.

Najera and Ryan Humphrey had nine points each in the first half, when the Sooners shot poorly and were outrebounded 22-15 but led by one thanks to a 13-2 turnover edge.

A 7-0 run gave the Sooners a 48-40 lead with 13 minutes left in the game. A short time later, Martin made two 3-pointers while scoring 10 straight points to keep the Red Raiders at arm's length.

A drive through the lane by Bonewitz brought Tech to within 55-54 with 9:07 to play, but 3-pointers by Martin and Heskett padded the lead and the Red Raiders got no closer than four the rest of the way.

Martin missed all four of his shots in the first half but was 5-of-7 after that.

"At halftime I told Eric, 'Every time you get the ball, shoot it,' " Sampson said. "When Eric's open, I think every shot's going in."

Humphrey had 11 points and 11 rebounds. Michael Johnson had 14 points and four steals. Cliff Owens had 13 points and six rebounds for the Red Raiders.

Ira JV outlasts Klondike, 36-31

IRA — Ira's JV boys used a strong first quarter and a fourth period spurt to outlast Klondike, 36-31, Tuesday at Bulldog gym.

Ira raced to a 14-6 lead in the first quarter, before Klondike cut away at the margin in the second and third periods.

Leading by just a point, the Bulldogs finished the contest with a 9-5 run to preserve the victory.

Jase Olvera led Ira with nine points, while Blake White, Trey Shirley and Cade Tucker poured in five apiece.

Chet Stuart, Tyler Milhoan and Todd Wall finished with four points each.

The Bulldogs will be in action again Friday at 5 p.m at Grady.

Local Sports Schedule

TODAY

Basketball: Snyder JV boys vs. Andrews, Snyder tourney, 9 a.m.; Snyder JV boys vs. Wylie, noon.

FRIDAY

Basketball: Blinn at WTC, Scurry County Coliseum, 6 p.m.

Basketball: Snyder JV & varsity girls at Andrews, 4:30, 6 p.m.

Basketball: Lamesa at Snyder varsity boys, 7:30.

Basketball: Ira varsity girls & boys at Grady, 6:30, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Basketball: Snyder JV boys vs. Sweetwater, 9 a.m.; Snyder JV boys vs. Lamesa, noon.

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
NewJersey	22	10	5	49	112	97
Philadelphia	18	9	10	46	105	82
Pittsburgh	17	10	7	41	101	91
N.Y.Rangers	15	16	7	37	104	104
N.Y.Islanders	13	23	3	29	91	112
Northeast Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Buffalo	21	9	5	47	105	71
Toronto	22	14	2	46	122	109
Ottawa	19	13	5	43	111	87
Boston	18	13	6	42	99	82
Montreal	12	19	7	31	85	104
Southeast Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	18	14	7	43	104	95
Florida	13	14	9	35	94	100
Washington	12	20	3	27	80	91
TampaBay	9	25	3	21	79	128

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	19	17	2	40	116	104
St.Louis	14	12	9	37	97	89
Nashville	14	20	3	31	88	114
Chicago	11	22	5	27	82	122
Northwest Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	17	18	4	38	94	101
Edmonton	15	18	4	34	102	101
Vancouver	13	22	4	30	103	122
Calgary	12	24	3	27	100	125
Pacific Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	25	5	6	56	113	71
Phoenix	21	8	5	47	97	65
Anaheim	14	16	8	36	90	88
LosAngeles	14	21	3	31	91	101
SanJose	11	17	9	31	81	90

Wednesday's Games

Ottawa 2, Detroit 0
New Jersey 5, N.Y. Rangers 2
Dallas 6, Vancouver 4
Florida 2, Colorado 2, tie
Buffalo 3, Anaheim 2, OT

Thursday's Games

Toronto at Boston, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Montreal, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Washington, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Buffalo at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's Games

Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Florida at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Phoenix at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Nelson wins arbitration

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — An arbitrator ruled in favor of Dallas Mavericks coach Don Nelson in a $1.56 million dispute over his firing by the Golden State Warriors in 1995.

Lance Liebman, a Columbia law professor appointed by the NBA, ruled Tuesday that money Nelson was paid at the time of his firing was for work he had already done in the previous two years of his contract.

The Warriors contended the payments were for the next three years and that Nelson had to repay them out of his earnings from his next job as coach of the New York Knicks.

Reeves expects to be on sideline

SUWANEE, Ga. (AP) — Atlanta Falcons coach Dan Reeves expects to be on the sideline for the NFC divisional playoff game against San Francisco.

Reeves, who underwent heart bypass surgery Dec. 14, oversaw practice at the Georgia Dome for the second day in a row.

Oregon St. coach tops San Diego list

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Mike Riley's interview for the San Diego Chargers' coaching job dragged on into a second day, although it remained clear that the position is his if he feels comfortable inheriting several assistants.

General manager Bobby Beathard is insisting that Riley, the coach at Oregon State, retain defensive coordinator Joe Pascale and his staff, as well as offensive line coach Joe Bugel and running backs coach Ollie Wilson.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Wild Cards
Saturday, Jan. 2
Miami 24, Buffalo 17
Arizona 20, Dallas 7
Sunday, Jan. 3
Jacksonville 25, New England 10
San Francisco 30, Green Bay 27

Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 9
San Francisco at Atlanta, 12:35 p.m. (FOX)
Miami at Denver, 4:15 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 10
Jacksonville at New York Jets, 12:40 p.m. (CBS)
Arizona at Minnesota, 4:15 p.m. (FOX)

Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 17
AFC
TBA
NFC
TBA

Super Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 31
At Miami
AFC champion vs. NFC Champion, 6:18 p.m. (FOX)

NCAA Basketball Scores

EAST
Bowling Green 62, Buffalo 59
Colgate 72, Holy Cross 53
Connecticut 91, Boston College 78
Hofstra 67, Belmont 44
La Salle 85, Duquesne 73
Manhattan 84, Loyola, Md. 74
Navy 57, Bucknell 53
Niagara 92, Fairfield 82
Purdue 70, Penn St. 67
Temple 70, St. Bonaventure 54
SOUTH
Ala.-Birmingham 73, Marquette 66, OT
Auburn 83, Arkansas 66
Duke 99, Georgia Tech 58
East Carolina 71, Va. Commonwealth 66
Florida 90, Vanderbilt 59
Georgia 63, Mississippi St. 60
Louisville 93, Saint Louis 70
Miami 84, St. John's 79
Mississippi 78, Alabama 60
New Orleans 57, South Alabama 56
North Carolina 72, Florida St. 54
Old Dominion 60, James Madison 58
Radford 85, Norfolk St. 80
Tennessee 93, LSU 58
UNC-Greensboro 79, Coastal Carolina 62
Xavier 80, Virginia Tech 67
MIDWEST
Bradley 65, S. Illinois 59
Cincinnati 87, DePaul 64
Dayton 67, St. Joseph's 53
Kent 93, Akron 90
Missouri 78, Kansas St. 73
Northwestern 58, Minnesota 55
Ohio U. 96, W. Michigan 76
Toledo 72, Marshall 68
Wisconsin 66, Michigan St. 51
SOUTHWEST
Kansas 66, Baylor 62
Oklahoma 78, Texas Tech 68
Oklahoma St. 64, Texas A&M 59
Southern Meth. 108, Hardin-Simmons 77
Texas 71, Iowa St. 45
FAR WEST
Denver 103, Air Force 85

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010 LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF HEARING
CITY OF SNYDER
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held Thursday, January 14, 1999 at 5:00 P.M., at the City Hall, 1925 24th Street Snyder, Texas, to review and discuss the following item:

The proposed replat of Lot 6 and Tract A, of the SnTx Park I Subdivision submitted by the Development Corporation of Snyder.

After review by the Planning and Zoning Commission, the request will be forwarded it the City Council for their review at the earliest date available.

(s) Vick Chambers
Planning and Zoning Department



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NEEDED: Waitresses & Salad Prep Person. Both must be available for all shifts. Apply in person. No Phone Calls. Rudy's Restuarant; 4704 College Ave.

NIGHT CLERK NEEDED: Saturday & Sunday Only 11 p.m.-7 a.m. Computer skills helpful. Non-smoker. Apply in person Purple Sage Motel.

WILSON MOTORS is looking for enthusiastic, self-motivated office personnel. Accounting experience & computer skills a plus. Apply in person, 1101 E. Coliseum Drive.

180 INSTRUCTIONS

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of **Defensive Driving Course**. Mon. & Tue., January 11th & 12th, 6 p.m.-9 p.m:, Snyder Savings Loan, 2619 College Ave. For more information call 573-2850. No reservations needed. CO199-CP315.

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of **Defensive Driving Course**. Saturday, January 9th, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Snyder Savings & Loan, 2619 College Ave. For more information call 573-2850. No reservations needed. CO199-CP315.

PLAY IT SMART... GET INTO THE CLASSIFIEDS
573-5486

190 FINANCIAL

1000 NEW CUSTOMERS NEEDED! No Credit — No Problem! Loans $100 to $446. Apply by phone at 573-1761 or come by Security Finance, 511 Coliseum Dr., Snyder, Tx.

210 WOMAN'S COLUMN

BABYSITTING WANTED Will sit anytime! Call 573-1778.

GREAT PLACE TO BUY... SELL TRADE OR RENT
573-5486



A great place to call home.
TEAM MEMBER POSITIONS NOW AVAILABLE
Join the team at Double O, Inc. and be part of the success of the largest and best Mexican Food Concept in the Big Country.

For more information please contact your local Double O, Inc. owned and operated TACO BELL location, the local Texas Employment Commission office or call 1-888-806-TACO.

Or apply in person at:
Western Texas College
Learning Resource Center
Room 101 • 622 S. College Ave.
January 11-13 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

WE OFFER
•Regular Reviews
•Flexible Scheduling
•Retirement Benefits
•Free Uniforms
•Discounted Meals
•Vacation Benefits
•Advancement Opportunities

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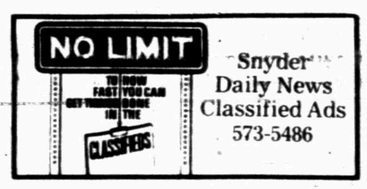
220 FARMER'S COLUMN

ALFALFA HAY. Small squares (65 lbs) Large squares (1500 lbs) 573-8911 or Pager 1-800-508-4212.

FOR SALE: Coastal hay. 1-915-728-5550 (Colorado City).

HAY FOR SALE! HEAVILY FERTILIZED. $50-$60 A ROLL DELIVERED. LIMITED QUANITY. 915-667-7470.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486



315 WANT TO BUY

WANTED FURS & RABBITS. Elmdale Fur Co., will be in town Jan. 14th & 28th, Feb. 4th & 11th @ Ezell Key & Feed 10:30-11:00. Questions call 915-677-6052.

MISS YOUR PAPER?
Your Snyder Daily News should be delivered to you by 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Your Carrier strives to give Prompt Service, but should your paper be missing...
PLEASE CALL 573-5486
Before 6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday

260 MERCHANDISE

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, Etc.
Sales & Rentals
3706 College 573-7582

DAVID YANDRICK Guarantees his work as an automobile mechanic, with 36 years experience. Former owner of Kwik Kar Lube. I would appreciate your business. 573-1011.

FOR SALE: Living Room Group * Couch * Love Seat * Chair w/ Ottoman * Coffee Table * 2 End Tables. Good Condition. Call after 5 or leave message 573-1503.

GUARANTEED USED APPLIANCES: Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Ranges & Freezers. WESTERN AUTO 2510 AVE. R.

PALLETS for sale. Call 573-5486 Snyder Daily News.

REMODELING SALE! Gas Wall Heaters * Gas Hot Water Heaters * Tub Faucets & Shower Massage * Priced To Sell! See at Purple Sage Motel.

290 DOGS, PETS, ETC.

FREE PUPPIES! Ready for a new home. Mother, Blueheeler/Austraian mix. 4 males/2 Females. Call 573-4729 or 573-1485.

FREE PUPPIES! Mixed Breed. 1 Female, 4 Male. 573-3227.

NEW SHIPMENT of Tropical Fish. Hamsters * (1) Sugar Glider * Iguanas * Hedge Hogs * Guineas * Rabbits * Snakes * Hermit Crabs * Supplies.
JKB PET SHOP 915-766-3101
109 Cypress Roscoe, Tx

DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!
Get Your Classified Ad in by 4:00 p.m. the Day BEFORE You Want It in the Paper!
(4:00 p.m. Friday for Sun. & Mon.)
ALL ADS ARE CASH in advance unless you have an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News. ALL GARAGE SALES must be paid in advance.

325 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Western Crest Apartments
3901 Ave. O
•1 or 2 Bedroom
•Washer/Dryer Connections
•Covered Parking • Sparkling Pool
•Playground •Satellite TV Available
•Corporate Housing Upon Request

Windridge Village Apartments
5400 College Ave.
•1 or 2 Bedroom
• Sparkling Pool • Clothes Care Facility
•Great Location •Satellite TV Available
•Corporate Housing Upon Request
Office Located At 3901 Ave. O
573-1488

Furnished & Unfurnished
Field Crest Apartments
Our Apartments Are As Big And Perhaps Nicer, Than The Best, And The Rent Is Much, Much Less.
700 E. 37th 573-3519

2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT: $275/MONTH. All Bills Paid, including cable. No Pets. Call 573-5773.

2 bedroom Apartment for rent. Good location. Reasonable. 573-0996.

3 Bedroom & 1 Bedroom Apartments. Bills & Cable T.V. Paid. Deposit Required. 806 23rd. For information 573-7081.

ONE BEDROOM furnished apartments, deposit required, no utilities paid. 573-9047 or 728-3929.

FOR RENT: 1 Bedroom furnished apartment in Hermleigh. 863-2700.

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

330 HOUSES FOR RENT

2404 28th: 2 Bedroom, Carport, completely remodeled. $350/month $200/deposit. References. 573-8739.

FOR RENT: 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. 3719 Ave. U. Contact: Glenn @ 806-353-8903. For Sale By Owner.

HOMES FOR RENT
313 32nd.....3-2-1.....$450
1913 30th.....2-1.....$350
2806 Ave. E. 3-2 Remodeled $350
Sarah Jamison 573-4028
Elizabeth Potts 573-8505

HOUSE FOR RENT! Recently Remodeled Unfurnished 2 bedroom, 1 bath w/fenced yard. $250/month $100/deposit. 573-2428.

RENT OR SALE: 3003 41st, 3-1-2 living areas, CH/A, Separate Laundry Room. $350/month $200/deposit. 338-8815.

Small 1 bedroom house, $175/month plus bills. $100/deposit. 2505 27th. (2) Small Duplexes, $250/month, bills paid. $150/deposit. 573-7008.

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

ALWAYS A WINNER

335 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

3 bedroom Mobile Home w/no bills paid. 573-3279, 573-5879, no answer 915-728-8482.

3 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME FOR RENT. $250/month. 573-1711.

PLAY IT SMART... GET INTO THE CLASSIFIEDS 573-5486

340 MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

$1000 PARK ALLOWANCE IN MIDLAND. Call Jay at A-1 Homes for information about Allowance with purchase of new home. Limited Time, Hurry! 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

$500 TOTAL MOVE IN COST on Special 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Homes. Hurry they won't last long! Call Jay at A-1 Homes 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000. (Example: S.P. $38,600, down payment $500, 11.5% A.P.R., 360 months, payment $377.30 W.A.C.

ABANDONED HOME! CALL 1-800-755-9133 or 563-9000.

LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME call Calvin, The Credit Doctor. Divorces, Bankruptcy, Bad Credit/ No Credit, 95% approval rate. 915-563-9000 A-1 Homes, Midland, Tx

LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME? Don't settle for second best. Call Billy at A-1 Homes, Midland, 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

HEY if you didn't need a New Home, you wouldn't be looking at this ad, Right!!! Lets skip the double talk & let me put you in a New Home, TODAY. I'll do whatever I can to put you in a new or used home! Call John at, 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

START THE NEW YEAR OFF with a new home! Call Billy at A-1 Homes 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

WE BUY USED MOBILE HOMES. A-1 Homes 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

TRADE IN YOUR USED HOME in any condition, for a new one at A-1 Homes Midland, ask for Jesse James, Credit Bandit. 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

NEED A NEW HOME? Looking for low payments. Call The Credit Doctor, Calvin. A-1 Homes 7206 W. Hwy. 80, Midland, Tx. 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

HEY GUYS I'VE MOVED!!! Come see the best selling homes on the market. Fleetwood has no competition at all. Whats the worst thing that can happen? I tell you to come get your new home. Ask for John at, 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

$1400 REBATE on 1999, 16X80, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Only at A-1 Homes, Midland. West Hwy. 80, 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

$1800 REBATE on 1999 Doublewide, 28X62, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with Study. Only at A-1 Homes, Midland. West Hwy. 80, 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

A-1 Homes Wants You to trade in your used home on a NEW home today. It is worth more than you think, at A-1 Homes, Midland. West Hwy. 80, 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

$500 DOWN on a NEW 3 bedroom. $193/month $240 months, 10% APR W.A.C. at A-1 Homes, Midland. West Hwy. 80, 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

BANKRUPTCY, REPO'S, DIVORCES! Does not mean you can't BUY A HOME! Call A-1 Homes, Midland. Ask for Jesse James, Credit Bandit. 1-800-755-9133 or 563-9000.

FACTORY REBATE $1400 TO $1800 ON SELECT FLEETWOOD HOMES. CALL J. HITE HOMES, ABILENE, 800-378-0998 OR 793-9999.

FOR SALE: Mobile Home, 2502 26th. Owner Finance. 915-949-9138.

360 REAL ESTATE

3309 Irving, "NEW", large 3-2-2 home w/large den, utility. Brick, CH/A, Fireplace & lots of built-ins. $112,000. 574-1410.

4 PLOTS in Garden of Christas, in Hillside Memorial Gardens. Reasonably Priced. Call 915-394-4691.

Special Financing Available! Easy Terms! 3 bedroom house at 1207 26th Street. Nice porch, permanent siding, new carpet, newly painted interior. Price $26,000, low down payment, $295 per month. Call toll free: (915) 425-9998 or 425-9994.

FOR SALE IN ROBY: Nice large home, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Basement, Large Wrap Around Porch, Fenced Back Yard. REDUCED to $37,500. Call 915-776-2464 or 817-645-8153.

FOR SALE: Large 2-1 Brick House w/detached garage. 2301 Ave. M 863-2750.

Nice 2-1-carport house. Also 3 bedroom house w/2 room house for storage, w/carport. Cheap! 573-6689.

TWO HOUSES For Sale, Rent or Trade. 316 35th and 317 34th. Will finance with down payment. 573-3639 or 574-1410.

HERITAGE HOMES REALTORS
3405 Snyder Shopping Center, Suite B
(915) 573-5056

SPACIOUS..2803 34th 3-2-2.
Beautiful! 4-2-2 3303 Irving.
ROOMY 3-2-1-1cp 3749 Sunset.
Comfortable 2-1-2cp 3201 Ave. U.
Red. to Sell! 3-1-Den $30's.
Estate Sale! 2112 33rd $20's.
3403 Irving Living/Dem/4 bdr.
Beautiful Setting...3-2-Study.
Needs Family! 5-3½-Pool.
3404 Jacksboro 3-2-2.
Bassridge Offers 4-2-nice!
OUTSIDE CITY! 27 Acres w/ Appealing Home.
Stone 3-2-lots of room! $60's.
3718 Sunset 3-1¾-cp $50's.
3105 Hill 3-1-cp $50's.
208 E. 23rd 3-2-2 Motivated Seller.
We Have Commercial, Building Sites, Also Ask About Our New Spec. Home on Midland Ave!

Debby Miller	573-2075
Dolores Jones	573-5308
Faye Blackledge	573-1223
Joan Tate	573-8773

Elizabeth Potts, Realtors
1707 30th Suite C
573-8505
Terri Matthies, Owner Broker

JACK & JACK
611 Coliseum Dr
Ford Spikes Owner Broker
573-8571 573-3452

4.45 A's 3-1¾ Barns/Arena
587 A's App 8 Mi. W. of Ira
3-2-2 Great Area $60T
5.60 Large Country 3-2-2cp.
W. Hwy. 180 2.13 A's 3-2-cp
2-1-1 CH/A 310 34th $22T
2-1-1cp Fenced 510 28th St.
3-1¾-2 Range & Refrigerator
3-1-1 2109 43rd St. $49T
20 Acres 3-1-2 Cp. Sheds
Small Starter Home 2-1½.
2025 Sq. Ft. 3-2-1cp $65T
107 Elm St. 4 Bdrm $23,320
MOBILE HOMES!
14.49 Ac. 3-2 Hot Tub Sp. Sys.
RED 2-1-1-Den Cor. Lot $30T
656 Acres with Older Home!
Rotan 8A 2-1-Bsmnt $39.9T
904 E. Johnson 2-1-Den.
108 N. Richards 3-1-1 S/Bldg

Shirley Drum	573-1550
Ford Spikes	573-6602

Plant a classified ad... reap a cash crop.
Call 573-5486

New postal prices take effect Sunday

WASHINGTON (AP) — Send your cards and letters now, before the price goes up.

Postal rates increase Sunday for the first time in four years, raising the cost of the basic first-class letter to 33 cents, up a penny.

"After four years, we needed a small increase that was just enough to continue our investments to maintain quality customer and delivery service," said Frank P. Brennan, postal vice president for corporate relations. "We have plenty of stamps and are ready to serve our customers."

The rate increase takes effect despite four straight, highly profitable years for the post office, which says it needs added cash to buy equipment, cover rising costs and reduce outstanding debt.

John F. Robinson of the National Minority Business Council, denounced the increase, charging that "there is not one good reason" advanced by the Postal Service to justify it.

Originally, the rate increase had been expected to take effect last summer, but it was postponed at the urging of the Postal Rate Commission and Congress, which noted the continuing strong profits being rung up by the Postal Service.

The post office made a profit of $550 million for the fiscal year that ended in September, following three years of profits of more than $1 billion.

Nonetheless, the post office says rising costs are eating into income and it still faces some $4 billion in losses accumulated since 1971.

The first 33-cent stamps went on sale Tuesday, with first-day ceremonies in Los Angeles. It's the Chinese New Year stamp commemorating the year of the hare. In addition, there are millions of undenominated "H" rate stamps available at post offices to cover the 33-cent rate, as well as 1-cent stamps that can be added to leftover 32-centers.

Mail without enough postage will be delivered postage due. If the recipient declines to pay the extra postage the item will be returned to the sender. Most businesses refuse postage-due items.

Postal officials like to point out that their domestic price is a bargain compared to some other countries. For example, Germany charges 66 cents for first-class postage, Switzerland 65 cents, France, 53 cents, Italy, 48 cents and Britain 44 cents. On the other hand, the rate is 30 cents in Canada and 23 cents in Mexico.

While the U.S. stamp price goes up for the basic one-ounce letter, for heavier letters there is a one-cent reduction — to 22 cents — in the charge for each additional ounce.

That means someone sending a two-ounce letter would pay 55 cents, the same as at present. And a three ounce missive, say a long letter with some photos, would cost 77 cents, a penny less than current rates. The current rates took effect Jan. 1, 1995.

The new rates cover most types of mail. In other typical price changes a priority mail package will rise from $3 to $3.20; sending a local newspaper will cost 15.7 cents, up from 14.5 cents; the price to mail a national magazine will rise from 27.1 cents to 29.1 cents and a basic parcel post package that cost $2.42 to send will rise to $2.74.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)

	High	Low	Last
AMR Corp s	68¾	66 9-16	68½+ ¾
AT&T Corp	83 9-16	81¼	83⅝+ ¼
AirTouch	82½	81 7-16	82 5-16+2 7-16
Albertsons	64¾	63½	63⅝— ½
AlldSignal	44¾	43 11-16	44⅛— 3-16
Alltel	64¼	62 11-16	63¼— ¾
AmOnline s	149⅝	145	149½+ ½
AmStores	37 5-16	37 3/16	— 1-16
Ameritech	64¼	61¾	63 9-16+2 1-16
AndarkPtr s	31 3-16	30⅝	31⅛—11-16
ArmcoInc	5⅛	5¼	5⅛— 5-16
AtlRichfld	66¼	65¼	65 15-16— 7-16
ATMOS Egy	31¼	31	31 — 5-16
Aviall	11½	11 7-16	11 7-16— 1-16
BP Amoco	91	90¾	90¾—1 13-16
BakerHughes	19 15-16	18⅝	19⅝+ 1-16
BankAmerica	64¾	63¼	64 1-16— 5-16
BellAtl s	57	56 5-16	56 11-16+13-16
BellSouth s	49 9-16	48¾	48 13-16— ⅛
BethSteel	10 5-16	9⅞	10 3-16— ⅛
BurlNoSFe s	34	33 9-16	33⅞— ¼
CBS Corp	32 13-16		32 3/16
Caterpillar	48½	48 4/8	48⅝— ½
CenSoWst	27 13-16	27⅜	27 11-16— 1-16
Chevron	83 9-16	82¾	83¼
Citigroup	55 7-16	53¾	54 15-16+ 9-16
Coastal s	35¼	35 1-16	35 5-16—13-16
CocaCola	70	69 1-16	69¾— ⅛
ColgatePalm	90¾	89 8/9	89¾— ⅛
ComclMetals	25¼	25¼	25⅛+ ¼
CooperIn	48	46¼	47 — 1
CyprusAmax	10 13-16	10⅝	10 9-16+ ⅛
DaimlrChry n	106½	105	106¼— 1¾
DallSemicn	41¼	40 5-16	40⅜— ⅛
DeltaAirl s	59 7-16	57⅞	59¾— ¾
Dillards Inc	29¾	28⅜	29 —11-16
DowChem	92¾	91½	91¾— 3-16
DuPont	58 3-16	57 1-16	57 15-16— 3-16
EastmanChem	47¾	46¾	47 1-16— 5-16
EstKodak	72¾	71¼	72⅛— 1¼
EDS Corp	50¼	49 13-16	49⅞— ½
Entergy	31¼	30 15-16	31 — ⅛
Exxon	74 15-16	73¾	74 7-16— 7-16
FstBksAm	20	19⅝	20 + ¼
Flowers	23 15-16	23½	23¾— 1-16
FordMotor s	63 1-16	61	63 + 1¼
GTE Cp	68 3-16	67⅞	67¾+ ⅛
GenDynam s	58 5-16	57 1-16	57 3-16—1 5-16
GenElec	103 15-16	102¾	103 15-16— ¾
GenMills	79 11-16	78⅜	79 1-16— 5-16
GenMotors	78 7-16	76 13-16	78 — 1-16
GaPacGP	67	65 6/8	66⅜+ 5-16
GlobalMar	10 1-16	9⅜	10 + ⅛
Goodrich	35 5-16	34⅜	35¼—11-16
Goodyear s	54	53¼	53⅜+ ⅛
GtAtlPac	29¾	29½	29¾— ⅛
Halliburtn	33 3-16	31½	32 15-16+ ½
Hanson ADS	38 11-16	38 9-16	38 11-16— ⅛
HarteHanks s	27¼	26¾	27 1-16— ¼
HomeDepot	58 13-16	57 13-16	58 9-16—13-16
HoustonInds	32¼	31 15-16	31 15-16— 5-16
IBM	189½	187	188 13-16+ 1-16
IntlPaper	43¾	42½	43¼— 1-16
JohnsonJn	83¼	82 3-16	82¾— 1⅜
K mart	16 7-16	15⅜	16¼
Kroger Co	57 9-16	57	57 9-16— ⅛
Litton	64	62¼	62 13-16—1 7-16
LockheedM s	40¼	39¾	40¼— ⅛
Lowes Cos s	54¼	53 3-16	54¼+ 2
Lubys	15½	15⅜	15⅜— 3-16
LucentTech s	116 9-16	114 5-16	116 7-16— ⅜
MayDeptStrs	64 1-16	62¾	63 15-16+13-16
MediaOne	49½	48¾	49¾— ½
Medtronic	71¾	71 5-16	71¾— ⅛
Mobil	89 15-16	88 13-16	89 5-16— ⅜
Monsanto	47 3-16	46⅜	46⅝—15-16
MorganJP	111¼	109¾	110 3-16—1 1-16
Motorola	67 9-16	66 9-16	67¾— ⅞
NCR Corp	44¼	43¼	44¼
Navistar	31 9-16	31	31 3-16—1 1-16
OryxEngy	13 11-16	13 5-16	13 9-16— 3-16
Penney JC	45 3-16	43¾	43¾—2 9-16
PennzEargy s	16 7-16	16¼	16⅜— ⅛
PepBoys	15¾	15¼	15¾— ⅛
PepsiCo	41¼	40 11-16	41 7-16— ⅜
PhelpDodge	53¼	51 15-16	52 13-16—13-16
PhilipPet	43¾	42½	42 13-16— 1
PilgrmPrd B	22¼	22 1-16	22⅛+ ¾
Polaroid	20 13-16	20¼	20 13-16— 3-16
Praxair	37¼	37	37 1-16+ 1-16
ProctGamb	92 3-16	91 1-16	91½— 1¼
PubSNwMx	20¼	20 3-32	20⅛— ⅛
RoyalDut	47⅜	46¾	47 5-16—1 5-16
SBC Comm s	57¼	56	56 1-16+2 1-16
SaraLee s	27¼	27¼	27 13-16— ⅛
Scripps EW	49¾	49¼	49½— ¾
SearsRoeb	45¼	44¼	44 15-16— 5-16
SherwinW	29 15-16	29¼	29 7-16— ⅛
SmithKlBchm	74¾	73¾	74¾— ⅜
SouthernCo	29¼	28¼	28 15-16— ⅛
SwstAirl s	24¾	23 13-16	24 5-16— ⅜
SprintFON n	82 7-16	81¼	82 5-16+ ⅜
SprintPCS n	21 9-16	20¼	21 5-16— ⅜
Sunoco Inc	36¾	36¼	36 5-16— ⅜
TNP Ent	37¾	37	37 — ⅛
Tandy	46¼	45 13-16	45 13-16—13-16
TempleInland	63¾	62¼	62⅜— ⅜
Tenneco	36¼	35¾	35¾
Texaco	54 13-16	54¼	54 11-16— ⅛
TexInd	27 3-16	26¾	26 15-16— ⅛
TexasInst	92¾	90¾	92 1-16+ ⅜
TexUtil	46 15-16	46¼	46⅜— 5-16
Texuron	77	76 7-16	77 + 1-16
TriconGlbR	49 11-16	49 3-16	49 7-16— ⅜
TrinityInds	39	38¾	39 + 1-16
TritonEngy	8 1-16	88	— ⅛
Tyler	6 5-16	66	— 5-16
US West Inc	64 15-16	63	64 13-16+15-16
USX-Marathn	29¼	28⅛	29⅛—11-16
USX-USS	27 5-16	26 9-16	26¾— 9-16
UnCarbde	45 5-16	44¼	45¼+ 3-16
UnionPacif	48 11-16	48 1-16	48 7-16— ⅜
UnitedTech	112¾	110¾	111¼— 1¼
Unocal	31¾	31¼	31⅜— 1-16
Venator Grp	7¾	7 3-16	7⅛+ 3-16
WalMart	84 3-16	83¼	84 + 1¾
WellsFargo	39¼	39 1-16	39 7-16— ⅜
WstnGasRs	6 11-16	6 9-16	6¾+ 1-16
WinnDixie	46¾	45¾	45 11-16— ⅜
Xerox Corp	122	121¼	121 15-16— ⅜

Tax Update

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — From stock investors to moms and dads to college students, millions of middle-class people will find the bottom lines on their tax returns affected by changes in the tax law.

Dozens of new rules deserve an extra-close look as American taxpayers brew their coffee and sharpen their pencils — or power up personal computers — to prepare for their annual encounter with the Internal Revenue Service.

"There may not be more changes than in a normal year, but a lot of tax breaks were geared toward the lower-income taxpayers, so it will affect a lot more people," said John Gardner, senior manager at the KPMG Peat Marwick accounting firm.

In addition, taxpayers have more options than ever to file their returns electronically with the IRS. They can even pay taxes with credit cards for the first time. And the reformed IRS with its new emphasis on "service" promises to be more helpful and less heavy-handed than in the past.

Some things haven't changed. The tax deadline remains April 15 unless an extension is requested, and the tax code is still huge, running just under 10,000 pages. Nearly half of all federal revenues continue to come from income taxes, projected at $768 billion for 1998.

But a handful of changes figure to have broad impact. Among them:

— A credit of $400 for each child under age 17 for middle-class parents. Even modest-income parents who pay no income taxes could qualify, meaning they would get a refund.

— Education credits of up to $1,500 per child for the first two years of college, subject to certain income limits, and deductions for interest payments on student loans.

— Assets such as stocks and bonds held for just over a year — instead of 18 months — now qualify for lower capital gains tax rates. All the details and a worksheet are found on the Schedule D form.

— People who converted savings from a traditional individual retirement arrangement, or IRA, to a Roth IRA may include the entire amount as taxable income on this year's returns instead of spreading it out over four years.

— Anyone under age 59½ who withdrew money from a traditional IRA is not subject to a normal 10 percent penalty if the funds are used for educational tuition, fees, books or room and board — or for the purchase of a first home.

This year, Congress took steps to ensure the child and education credits don't accidentally force some middle-class people to pay alternative minimum tax, which is intended to ensure higher-income people don't completely escape income taxes.

But that action is only temporary, meaning lawmakers will have to revisit it this year to avoid the problem in the 1999 tax year.

"It's not going to be a problem this year, but it hasn't gone away," said KPMG's Gardner.

Once all the calculations are done and the forms filled out, taxpayers will find there are several new ways to transmit their return to the IRS.

Last year, 24 million returns, or 20 percent, of all individual returns were filed electronically, usually by using any of the widely available personal computer software programs, over the telephone, or through a professional tax preparer.

"It's our goal to make e-file the preferred way to file with the IRS," said Bob Barr, chief of electronic filing at the agency.

New features could entice more taxpayers to file this way. By providing bank account information, taxpayers can direct when they want payments transferred to the IRS and get refunds deposited directly.

In addition, people who use Intuit's Turbotax or MacInTax software can pay with Discover or other Novus cards, and any taxpayer can use MasterCard, American Express or Novus cards to pay by calling a toll-free telephone number.

Some taxpayers with simple returns will be able to use TeleFile, which requires a person to fill out an uncomplicated booklet — sent by the IRS to people who appear to qualify — and then finish their returns with a 10-minute telephone call. About 6 million people filed this way last year.

The IRS reform law passed in 1998 by Congress makes some other major changes, particularly for people who get into a dispute with the agency.

The burden of proof now rests with the IRS, instead of the taxpayer, and the agency's enforcement activities will be overseen by a nine-member board that includes private citizens.

In addition, so-called "innocent" divorced or separated spouses can now avoid legal entanglements caused by their former partners — there's a new form coming for that — and the IRS must explain why it denies a refund.

Beyond the specific changes, the IRS is changing its focus to one that emphasizes service over punishment. As evidence, there are new 24-hour help telephone lines and problem-solving days at local IRS offices to help people resolve difficulties.

"What we're doing today is only the beginning of an IRS that is rededicated to high standards of customer satisfaction and efficiency," said IRS Commissioner Charles Rossotti.

Finally, one symbolic change might mean a lot to taxpayers who care where their money goes. People can now make checks payable to the U.S. Treasury, instead of the IRS — an acknowledgment that taxes fund the entire government, not just its tax collector.

IRS forms, regulations, advice and telephone numbers are available on the Internet at http://www.irs.ustreas.gov. A general help line is found at 1 (800) 829-1040.

Bottling company sues Conroe ISD

CONROE (AP) — Dr Pepper Bottling Co. is suing officials in the Conroe school system for granting exclusive vending rights to Coca-Cola after Dr Pepper helped finance a new marquee and three new scoreboards.

The bottling company says the school district's $7.8 million arrangement with Coca-Cola in September and an order that all Dr Pepper vending machines be removed amounts to a breach of contract.

The lawsuit, initially filed in Harris County, has been transferred to the district courts here at the request of attorneys for the Conroe Independent School District, the Courier of Conroe reported today in a copyright story.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Samuel Leiva, Rikki Mathis, Kenneth Rinehart, Kolby Burleson, Gaytan Girl, Ruby Hart, Shawn Raikes of Hermleigh.

DISMISSALS: Joyce Brown, Nancy Felan, E.L. Jones, Lisa Luera and daughter; Laura Stewart, Marilyn Chauncy, Donnie Kubala, Deonia Vasquez.

CENSUS: 46 (Med., Surg.-16, Long-term Care-25, OB-2, Nursery-3).

Births

Heath and Rikki Mathis of Snyder announce the birth of their five-pound, 10-ounce daughter. She was born at 10:22 p.m. on Jan. 6 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Alcohol-related charges send four to jail early today

Four subjects were arrested early this morning on alcohol-related charges.

At 12:42 a.m., a 35-year-old female and an 28-year-old male were taken into custody for public intoxication. A third subject, a 21-year-old female, was arrested for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

Officers took a 24-year-old male into custody at 2:57 a.m. in the 120 block of Peach for public intoxication.

At 6:10 p.m., Snyder Fire Department responded to a report of a kitchen fire at the Gilbert Merritt residence at 2200 Towle Park Road. According to fire officials, the blaze was contained to the stovetop area.

Officers also worked two minor accidents and filed a private property accident report.

A two-vehicle accident occurred at 12:12 p.m. in the 2600 block of College. Involved were a 1997 Ford Taurus driven by JoAnna Browning of 2501 28th Street and a 1993 Isuzu van driven by Robert Derr of 4917 36th Street in Lubbock.

At 12:26 p.m., officers worked a two-vehicle mishap in the 3600 block of College. Involved were a 1992 Lincoln Town Car driven by Linda Franklin of 2803 34th Street and a 1981 Chevrolet S10 pickup driven by Daniel Fish of 3110 Avenue U.

A private property accident report was filed at 10:31 a.m. at Humble Smith School in reference to a minor accident involving a 1996 Mazda driven by Cylathia Daniel of 700 East 37th Street and a 1996 Camero driven by Vonda York of 2805 Avenue U.

1998 ends with no U.S. airline passenger fatalities

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. airline and commuter carriers flew 615 million passengers in 1998, and for apparently the first time in the history of commercial aviation, they did so without a single passenger fatality.

In at least two other years no one died in the crash of a U.S. jetliner, most recently 1993. But since the National Transportation Safety Board began compiling statistics in 1967, such zeros have always been offset by deaths in smaller, generally propeller-driven, commuter airplanes.

In 1998, however, no passenger died in an accident involving a scheduled U.S. commercial flight. That silent achievement stands in contrast to the public outcry after the TWA and ValuJet crashes in 1996 killed a combined total of 340. The same year a United Express commuter accident in Quincy, Ill., killed all 12 aboard.

Government, aviation safety and airline officials were heartened by the latest news, but they were also quick to say that even in years when there are passenger deaths, the U.S. aviation system remains the safest in the world.

"When there is an accident, it's just by the grace of God whether there are a lot of people killed or not," Stuart Matthews, president of the Flight Safety Foundation, an industry trade group, said this week. "The truth is, these are very random things."

FAA spokesman Les Dorr said 1998's zero-fatality count "was the result of the things that we and our industry partners have been doing every day to make sure that flying remains the safest form of transportation."

In April, the FAA, the airlines and the aerospace industry announced a goal to cut the aviation accident rate by 80 percent by 2010.

Among the things they are targeting are crashes in which pilots become disoriented and fly perfectly workable planes into terrain around an airport.

Without that safety commitment, experts say, a coming boom in worldwide aviation could result in an airplane crash each week.

The safety drive came two years after ValuJet Flight 592 plunged into the Florida Everglades, killing 110, and TWA Flight 800 exploded off Long Island, killing 230. The crashes prompted criticism of the FAA and Federico Pena, then transportation secretary.

Investigators later traced the ValuJet crash to a cargo fire, prompting the FAA to order airlines to install systems that detect and fight cargo fires. Investigators still do not know what caused the TWA explosion, but they suspect sparks from wiring around the plane's center fuel tank. That has prompted a series of new inspection orders for U.S. aircraft.

The National Transportation Safety Board deferred comment on the lack of fatalities in 1998, waiting for official confirmation from the FAA. The airlines were pleased by the news, however.

"When the final numbers are in, we expect we will have carried 615 million passengers last year," said David Fuscus, spokesman for the Air Transport Association, which represents the major airlines. "Without a fatality, that's a wonderful statistic. Zero fatalities have to be our goal every year."

The 1998 numbers do not include the Sept. 2 crash of Swissair Flight 111 off Nova Scotia, which killed all 229 aboard. While that flight departed from New York bound for Geneva, it did not involve a U.S. carrier.

The figures also do not include a Nov. 4 incident in which a Northwest Airlines baggage handler was killed when she walked into the turning propeller blades of a commuter plane as it readied for takeoff in Memphis, Tenn.

Cooperation with U.N. weapons inspectors eyed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Intelligence cooperation between the United States and U.N. inspectors has blurred the line between gathering information to counter Iraq's secret weapons work and using it to target Saddam Hussein, intelligence experts say.

Part of the overlap rests with the Iraqi president's use of special Republican Guard troops both to protect himself and to conceal chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programs. Also a factor is the dual missions of the CIA: gathering information for the U.N. Special Commission, or UNSCOM, and looking for ways to undermine the Saddam regime, which President Clinton says should be replaced.

"The CIA is involved with supporting UNSCOM and on finding ways to get rid of the guy (Saddam), which is causing a blurring of boundaries," said Michael Eisenstadt, an expert on the Iraqi military with the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

"As a practical matter, the UNSCOM inspection regime could not have operated without intelligence provided by the United States and other countries," Cannistraro said. "But it's a symbiotic relationship. They're (U.N. inspectors) giving you feedback, too."

"Did the U.S. intentionally use UNSCOM for its own national intelligence gathering? I don't think that they did, but it's a close line, no question," he added.

The Clinton administration and U.N. chief weapons inspector Richard Butler on Wednesday denied using UNSCOM for U.S. spying purposes, but American officials acknowledged gaining valuable information about Iraq as a byproduct of cooperation. Even published reports by U.N. weapons teams provide plenty of detailed information about Iraq's weapons programs, military and internal security structure.

"Anybody who's shocked — shocked — that people who go into Iraq come out hopefully better understanding the Iraqi regime I think are naive in the extreme," State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said, noting that diplomats from other countries who visit the United States also file cables home about what they've learned.

But Rubin disputed reports published Wednesday in The Washington Post and the Boston Globe suggesting U.S. intelligence directly used UNSCOM to penetrate Iraq's security forces and undermine the Iraqi regime. "Our support was specifically tailored to facilitate the U.N. Special Commission's mission and for no other purpose," he said.

Rubin noted that U.N. Security Council resolutions call for member nations to assist the United Nations in carrying out its work in Iraq and that UNSCOM requested intelligence help after Iraq tried to "obstruct and deceive" weapons inspectors.

U.S. intelligence provided technical and logistical support to U.N. teams, said Rubin, who would not confirm published reports that the assistance included eavesdropping on sensitive Iraqi communications among Saddam's Republican Guards.

The CIA refused to comment.

At the United Nations, Butler told a news conference that none of the U.S. intelligence equipment used to help U.N. weapons inspectors included eavesdropping devices.

UNSCOM first sought intelligence help from other countries in 1995 because U.N. inspectors "had been flagrantly deceived by Iraq," Butler said.

Some 40 countries, including the United States, have provided information to UNSCOM with the sole purpose of uncovering weapons, Butler insisted.

"We have never accepted or used any of that assistance for any other purpose, not for any member state's national purposes," Butler said, denying persistent Iraqi accusations that U.N. weapons inspectors, especially Americans, are spies.

Datebook

Jan. 7, 1999

Today is the seventh day of 1999 and the 18th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1714, the world's first typewriter was patented by Henry Mill, an Englishman.

On this day in 1789, the first U.S. presidential election was held.

On this day in 1927, the Harlem Globetrotters played their first game, in Hinckley, Ill.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Millard Fillmore (1800-1874), U.S. president; Charles Peguy (1873-1914), writer; Charles Addams (1912-1988), cartoonist; Jean-Pierre Rampal (1922-), flutist, is 77; Jann Wenner (1947-), publisher, is 53; Kenny Loggins (1948-), musician, is 51; Nicolas Cage (1964-), actor, is 35.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1992, Rollie Fingers and Tom Seaver were elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "In modern America, anyone who attempts to write satirically about the events of the day finds it difficult to concoct a situation so bizarre that it may not actually come to pass while his article is still on the presses." — Calvin Trillin

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Jan. 1) and last quarter (Jan. 9).

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Explorers reach legendary waterfalls

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly 75 years after explorers seeking a legendary waterfall in a misty Tibetan gorge gave up and concluded that it didn't exist, a team from the National Geographic Society became the first Westerners to reach it.

Word of the great falls on Tibet's Tsangpo River first spread to outsiders in the 19th century and the search became the subject of myth and folklore.

Over and over Western teams sought out the falls, known to local hunters and Buddhist monks. Time and again they failed. Finally, on Nov. 8, Western explorers speaking the local language and schooled in Buddhism succeeded.

Tucked tightly between the rising cliffs of the Tsangpo gorge, the 100- to 115-foot falls are in shadow most of the time and hidden from view in a hairpin turn.

Finding the falls was "an enchanting moment," said Ken Storm Jr., one of the group that found the cataract and named it Hidden Falls. "We were all stunned and excited."

"The fact that we're here, in the late 20th century, and a large waterfall on a major river of the world has yet to be recorded is a wonder in itself," Storm said in a telephone interview from his Minneapolis office.

Romantic tales of the great falls sparked several unsuccessful expeditions. The last effort, in 1924, came within a quarter-mile before the explorers gave up and concluded the falls didn't exist.

The Tsangpo gorge in southeastern Tibet is a rugged wilderness unlike the high desert of the rest of the region. It is called Pemako, one of the hidden lands held sacred in Tibetan Buddhism.

When the Chinese began allowing Westerners to visit Tibet in 1993, Storm said, explorations were begun by members of the group that finally located the falls, including himself; Ian Baker, who lives in New York and Nepal; and Hamid Sarder of Cambridge, Mass.

Hidden Falls is "in a dramatic spot, deep in this gorge, beyond the point where earlier explorers were able to reach," Storm said.

After the 1924 expedition, a gap of about five miles was left unexplored because the men couldn't work their way into the area through steep cliffs where the river disappears into a knot of mountains. The river reappears, 100 miles farther on and 8,000 feet lower, as the Brahmaputra. The ruggedness of the gorge prevented explorers from determining what became of the Tsangpo.

"We believed their accounts that there probably wasn't a great waterfall in there," Storm said. "Only in the last year were we able to realize from monks and hunters" that the falls were there.

Baker and Sarder are Buddhist scholars fluent in Tibetan, Storm said. They were able to develop an understanding with local people, who had always known about the falls.

"As we came down into the gorge we could look upstream and see Rainbow Falls," which was found by the 1924 explorers, Storm said. They determined it was almost 70 feet high, nearly twice what had been previously reported.

"We also realized as we were going down the gorge that in a narrow, tight hairpin turn, hidden ... was another waterfall," he said.

"The thrill was amazing. The river of 100 yards narrowed to 60 to 70 feet and the water poured over this, thundering, the full volume of the Tsangpo, which collects water from the whole Himalayan region."

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AP analysis: Clinton's business as usual, but more so

By WALTER R. MEARS
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton once found it necessary to deny that he had been rendered irrelevant by the Republican Congress, a point he seeks to prove now with business as usual despite his impeachment.

He was at that task as Congress convened, with his Senate trial a first order of business: Clinton announced a record $76 billion budget surplus.

"The era of big deficits is over," Clinton said, and reeled off a 1999 agenda of Social Security changes and programs in education, health care and more.

"Some say that this task will be too complicated for the Congress and the administration to achieve, that the will is too weak, the political system too divided," he said. "I do not agree with that."

But the party lines that hardened in angry struggles over impeachment will not be bridged easily, despite Congress-opening vows of bipartisan cooperation.

In 1995, a time of political defeat with Republicans dominating the congressional stage, Clinton declared that he was relevant to what happened, that his performance and proposals guaranteed it.

These times are worse. His comeback strategy is essentially the same.

So as the Senate begins his trial, Clinton promotes his agenda for action in Congress this year and next.

It is a selective preview of proposals to come in the State of the Union address he is due to deliver Jan. 19 to a joint session of Congress.

There have been suggestions in Congress that he ought to delay it because of the trial, but waiting is not to the advantage of a president determined to show that he is on the job, doing "the work of the American people."

A year ago, under the gathering cloud of the Monica Lewinsky case, Republicans speculated that he would have to postpone the 1998 State of the Union address or deliver it in writing. The idea was repeated this year and rebuffed by the White House.

Clinton did neither last year, nor did he mention the Lewinsky case, which he had just denied but would have to confess eight months later. In the speech, his performance eclipsed the scandal, and his job approval ratings soared in the polls and have stayed up through it all.

Now the annual cycle repeats, with the president's nationally televised address on where he sees things and what he wants Congress to do, and then, on Feb. 1, the budget that fills in the blanks with numbers.

As always, the White House is staging a series of events at which the president puts items of his agenda on display, among them a $6.2 billion, five-year plan to help Americans pay for long-term health care of their elders and disabled dependents and a $12 billion increase in defense spending next year.

Republicans say help for long-term care was their idea first, and they want Pentagon spending increased more substantially than Clinton recommends.

That sounds like regular business, too. They've often said that the Democratic president claims their ideas as his and bristled at his success in taking credit for achievements like the budget surplus.

Clinton also wants increased federal aid for the homeless, a stringent national standard against drunken drivers and action to curb drug abuse among prisoners and parolees, with more proposals to come.

"I hope we will save Medicare for the 21st century," he said. "I hope we will use the surplus to save Social Security for the 21st century."

He'll need new appropriations toward the goal of hiring 100,000 new elementary school teachers, the one major piece of his 1998 package that actually got through the Republican Congress.

Every president has the early advantage in framing an agenda and putting his proposals at the top of it, but keeping them there is another matter, especially in a politically divided government.

This president is doing it in circumstances like none before him, impeached, in the second half of a second term he vows to serve until the last hour. Only a two-thirds Senate vote to convict him would bar that.

But short of conviction, he's still the second president ever impeached, and he could face the censure he had invited.

Compromise, especially on sensitive issues like Social Security reform, takes mutual trust, and that is not the mood now.

After the Republicans won control of Congress in 1994, and pressed their proposals in a theatrical 100-day House drive, Clinton insisted he was still a player, an improbably plaintive claim for a president.

"The president is relevant here," Clinton said. "Especially an activist president."

That remains to be tested for an impeached president on Senate trial.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Walter R. Mears, vice president and columnist for The Associated Press, has reported on Washington and national politics for more than 30 years.

As candles rise in popularity, so do candle fires, deaths

BOSTON (AP) — Once reserved for special dinners and holidays, candles are seemingly everywhere these days — in specialty stores and supermarkets that sell everything from pumpkin-scented sticks to colorful votives.

The popularity may have a price. Statistics show a significant rise in fires, damage and death caused by candles, according to the Quincy-based National Fire Protection Association, which began compiling statistics on such blazes in 1980.

"Most people think you just light them and blow them out," said Jenny Manuche, owner of the Candlewood shop in Swampscott. "People don't seem to realize they're dealing with fire."

Candles were blamed for 9,930 fires, 126 civilian deaths and $170.6 million in property damage nationwide in 1996, the most recent year for which statistics are available, the association said.

That represents an 82 percent increase from the 5,460 candle-caused fires in 1990, when numbers were at their lowest. That year there were 89 deaths and $62.5 million in damage.

There is no conclusive evidence explaining the rise in candle blazes, but fire experts and those in the candle industry say the potential for misuse has grown.

"We have candles everywhere — pillar candles, votive candles, candles in glass jars, candles to disguise bad odors. It's become part of our way of life," said Jennifer Mieth of the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services. "Aromatherapy — who ever heard about that in the '70s?"

In the past five years, the candle industry has seen sales grow at a rate of 10 percent to 15 percent annually, and is now a $2 billion a year business.

"Over the last 10 years or so, there's been a shift toward people using scented candles as part of everyday home life," said Tim O'Brien, spokesman for the Deerfield-based Yankee Candle Company, which had sales exceeding $175 million last year. "They're not just for special occasions anymore."

Candles now come in nearly every imaginable shape and scent, with fragrances like "Spiced Pumpkin" and "Storm Watch" filling more and more homes. Candle fires most often start when flames are left unattended.

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Lowering cholesterol in the elderly

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Please discuss the use of cholesterol-lowering drugs in people over 75. My reading was 240. I was placed on Lipitor, which lowered it to 135. When I stopped the medicine, the level rose to 230. I am 83 and wonder if my cholesterol is a problem, because I am thin, exercise regularly and have no family history of heart disease.

DEAR READER: You raise two important questions that concern the appropriate level of cholesterol in the elderly and the advisability of older patients taking cholesterol-lowering drugs.

Based on research, primarily the Framingham study, authorities are now back-pedaling about treating high-cholesterol levels in the elderly. The consensus is that elevated cholesterol, within reason, in patients over 65 is probably not significant. That is, levels above 300 milligrams per deciliter perhaps should be treated (inconsistent recommendations), whereas levels below 250 mg/dl probably can be ignored. At 83, you don't have to worry about your cholesterol, unless it shoots up above 300 mg/dl. If, on the other hand, you have had a heart attack, a cholesterol-lowering strategy should be considered, because in this instance, lower is better.

All drugs that lower cholesterol levels have side effects, most notably liver inflammation. Therefore, I seldom use such medicines for the elderly unless cholesterol levels are astronomical (above 300 mg/dl) and I believe that such high levels constitute a risk. Even so, one must still assess the risk/benefit ratio. Do the expense, inconvenience and threat of liver disease justify using such drugs? In most instances, no.

Your primary care physician must have had a reason for prescribing Lipitor; your situation may be more complicated than you indicated. You should question him or her intensely about whether the medication is indicated and why. If your doctor is simply "treating the numbers," you can probably omit the medicine.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Cholesterol." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: As an old-time physician, I discovered a cure for canker sores that was regularly used in my community by the dentists: Kenalog in Orabase. When topically applied to the sores, the material sticks like peanut butter and the steroid usually takes the pain away in about two days.

DEAR DOCTOR: Thank you for the tip. Readers are constantly searching for an antidote to canker sores and I am pleased to pass this along.

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DR. GOTT



PETER GOTT, M.D.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, Jan. 8, 1999

Just when it looks like everything is grinding down to a halt, you're likely to make your greatest gains in the year ahead. Never give up on your endeavors, regardless of outward projections.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) The two most fortuitous areas for you today are your financial or career venues. To advance your interest in either sphere, use your resourcefulness and ingenuity to the fullest. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Regardless of how unusual your methods appear to others today, use them. Your special, unique techniques for handling things should work out to be quite productive for you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A commercial arrangement that isn't being conducted along conventional lines could be offered you today. Don't turn your back on it, it's the uniqueness that could make it successful.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) There's a good chance today that you could be united with an associate you might not normally align yourself with. Some unusual benefits may develop from this partnership.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you're being stymied on the job by delays today, discard your present procedures and try to implement fresh approaches. Your resourcefulness can help you circumvent the roadblocks.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Even if you have a previous engagement, consider a spur-of-the-moment invitation that may be extended to you today. It could turn into something rather interesting.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Move swiftly today if you spot an opening concerning a situation you've been unable to finalize. This unexpected change in conditions could be fleeting.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Chances are your mind will be in better working order today than you're muscles. So if possible, limit your involvements to as few physical involvements as possible.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Because your financial trends look rather encouraging today, you have a chance to do something noteworthy that could make or save you money. Examine all possibilities carefully.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Should a pleasant surprise pop up today concerning a social issue, take advantage of it immediately. This particular type of opportunity does not present itself often.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) It'll be when you're off in some quiet place alone and free from all distractions that your best ideas will come to you today. Try this technique if you need fresh thoughts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Maintain an optimistic outlook today, even if it appears you are temporarily in a rut, because conditions in general look extremely hopeful for you at this time.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

On December 30, 1998, Texas Utilities Electric Company ("TU Electric"), in accordance with Substantive Rule 23.23(b) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission"), filed a Petition with the Commission seeking final reconciliation of all eligible fuel and purchased power expenses incurred during the reconciliation period of July 1, 1995, through June 30, 1998. TU Electric is also seeking an accounting order from the Commission that will allow certain costs incurred to facilitate the use of coal as a supplemental fuel at its Monticello lignite-fueled generating plant and costs relating to the internal rail transportation systems at its Monticello and Martin Lake lignite-fueled generating plants to be treated as eligible fuel costs and billed pursuant to TU Electric's Rider FC – Fuel Cost Factor. All of TU Electric's customers and classes of customers and all territories served by TU Electric are affected by the Petition. Persons who wish to intervene in the proceeding or comment upon the action sought should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the Commission's Office of Consumer Affairs at (512) 936-7120. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136.

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Iraq targets land mine clearing groups

Foreign minister charges they are covers for 'spies and saboteurs'

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — After challenging U.N. weapons inspectors, oil-for-food monitors and "no-fly" zones, Iraq is targeting another international program — the clearing of land mines in the north.

Iraqi newspapers said today that Foreign Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf has complained to the Security Council about U.N. cooperation with international groups clearing land mines from Kurdish areas.

In a letter to the council, al-Sahhaf said the groups were an "illegitimate presence" because they did not have permission from the government of Saddam Hussein to work. It charged that the activity was a cover for "spies and saboteurs."

The letter also compared the international mine-clearing effort to the no-fly zones. The United States and Britain set up the first zone in 1991 to protect Kurds in the north. A second one was established in 1992 to protect Shiite Muslims in the south after failed uprisings against Saddam.

The Kurdish north is littered with what the United Nations estimates is at least 10 million land mines left from the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war and Iraqi government campaigns against the Kurds.

The United Nations has been training Kurds to remove them, and non-governmental organizations also are working to help clear mines.

"Such methods are part of the hostile conspiratorial scheme by the United States and Britain to threaten Iraq's security and territorial integrity," al-Sahhaf said in his letter, according to Al-Thawra, published by Saddam's ruling Baath Party.

George Somerwill of the U.N. humanitarian programs in Baghdad said its land mine operation was separate from that carried out by non-governmental organizations, and that only 10 of its international staff with the U.N. Office of Programs and Services were engaged in de-mining northern Iraq.

Al-Sahhaf repeated Iraq's threat to attack American and British jets in the no-fly zones, saying: "Iraq reserves its full right to retaliate against any action that may harm its national sovereignty or its territory and airspace."

declared that it would no longer allow U.N. weapons inspectors in the country.

In recent days, it has told the United Nations to remove British and American nationals from the oil-for-food teams because their safety could not be guaranteed.

The U.N.-approved oil-for-food program allows Iraq to sell limited quantities of oil to buy needed food and medicine for its people. Some of the funds are used for the land mine training program.

Meanwhile, Babil, which is published by Saddam's son Odai, charged today that the Americans were planning "a new aggression" against Iraq, possibly in connivance with Egypt and other pro-Western Arab countries.

President proposes tripling popular after-school sessions

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton wants to triple to $600 million the budget for after-school programs, seizing on an initiative popular both with working parents and with Republicans who hold the government's purse strings.

At the same time, Clinton proposes tying the funds to his campaign against "social promotion" in schools, the practice of moving children to the next grade with their age group but without regard to whether they've mastered the material.

The president, his wife Hillary and Vice President Al Gore were unveiling the proposal — the latest in a series of advance peeks at Clinton's Jan. 19 State of the Union address and fiscal 2000 budget — in an East Room ceremony today.

When Clinton submits his budget to Congress in February, he will call for tripling the $200 million that the federal government is spending this year on educational and recreational programs meant to occupy the children of working parents after school and during summer recess.

The Clinton administration estimates that more than 28 million school-age children have both parents or their only parent in the work force, and at least 5 million of those children are left home alone after school. Studies show that half of violent juvenile crime occurs between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., when children are unsupervised and more likely to experiment with drugs, alcohol and sex.

Bruce Reed, the president's chief domestic policy adviser, called the programs "most successful and most popular" among congressional Republicans who control the appropriations process and who have rejected other Clinton spending proposals in favor of their own ideas on increased local control, better teachers and education savings accounts that promote family choice.

After-school funds have jumped from $1 million in fiscal 1997, to $40 million in 1998, to $200 million in this budget year, which ends Sept. 30, Reed said.

"It has attracted broad bipartisan support and there are enormous demands for it by school districts around the country and by parents," Reed said. "It addresses one of parents' greatest worries — a safe place for the kids when their parents are at work."

The Education Department's last grant competition for the "21st Century Learning Center" funds yielded 10 applicants for every award, Reed said. "And even with the tripling of the program, we're not going to be able to meet the full demand because there are so many working parents and so many unsupervised kids."

Under Clinton's new budget proposal, the Education Department would give priority to those districts with concrete policies to stop social promotion.

For example, Reed said, to get extra points in the grant-making competition, a district would have to show it requires students to demonstrate they have met each grade's academic standards before being promoted; or that it has after-school tutoring and mandatory summer school to ensure kids are actually learning.

The $400 million increase is paltry compared to the billions more Clinton is seeking for military and long-term care initiatives.

"It isn't that much in the scheme of the whole budget, but it is a priority," Reed said, noting that Clinton's after-school initiative is one of the fastest growing domestic programs and is slated for the biggest percentage funding increase of any federal education project.

Carotid artery thickness may mean possible heart trouble

By The Associated Press

Thickening of the carotid artery walls in the neck is a more powerful predictor of a heart attack or stroke in elderly people than high cholesterol or high blood pressure, researchers reported today.

The study in the New England Journal of Medicine used ultrasound measurements of the two carotid arteries in people over 65 with no history of heart disease or stroke-related illness.

Ultrasound can detect cumulative damage to the blood vessels before the patient experiences any symptoms, said the study's lead author, Dr. Daniel O'Leary, chairman of radiology at Tufts-New England Medical Center in Boston.

"We've clearly shown in the older age group that this is the single most powerful predictor of future heart attack or stroke," O'Leary said. "It's clearly a screening test that ought to be done once" at 65, or possibly earlier.

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer in the United States, claiming about 500,000 lives each year. Stroke kills an additional 160,000.

Dr. Claude Lenfant, director of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, which financed the study, said ultrasound has great potential to prevent heart attacks and strokes in seemingly healthy people.

"By identifying high-risk patients, ultrasound would allow doctors to provide aggressive treatment early," he said.

Dr. Harlan Krumholz, a Yale University cardiologist, said ultrasounds probably should not be given to everyone.

Cholesterol tests and blood pressure readings are cheaper and also tell doctors what they should treat, Krumholz said. Obesity, lack of exercise and smoking are other major risk factors for which treatment is straightforward, he said.

"It's not clear to me in most cases (ultrasound) would change the way patients are treated," he said. "The tests are probably most useful in patients who might have one risk factor, such as moderately high cholesterol, when doctors are trying to decide how aggressively to treat them."

The two carotid arteries carry blood from the heart to the brain. An ultrasound to measure them in the neck costs about $250, O'Leary said. The tests are not done routinely now.

The study looked at 4,476 Medicare recipients with an average age of 72.

None had a history of heart attacks, angina, bypass surgery, angioplasty, stroke, or surgery to widen a carotid artery.

An average of six years later, the 20 percent with the thickest artery walls had more than three times the risk of suffering a heart attack or stroke as the 20 percent with the thinnest artery walls, even after other risk factors such as high cholesterol, diabetes and smoking were taken into account.

More cars, light trucks sold

DETROIT (AP) — Americans snapped up more cars and light trucks in 1998 than they had in 12 years, capping a surprisingly strong year for U.S. automakers.

Americans bought 15.6 million cars and light trucks last year, the second-highest total ever and a 3 percent improvement over 1997. Figures released Wednesday also show December sales were up 7 percent compared with the year-ago period.

Among the last major automakers who reported their results, No. 1 General Motors Corp., which is still dealing with the effect of last summer's strikes, managed a 3 percent improvement last month. Toyota Motor Corp. and Honda Motor Co. both posted double-digit gains.

For the year, foreign automakers made the biggest gains.

Asian companies were up 4 percent while the Europeans, which have the smallest share of the U.S. market, improved 29 percent thanks to a wide array of new models.

GM, Ford Motor Co. and the American products of Daimler-Chrysler AG combined for just a 1 percent increase.

Demand for light trucks, the classification that includes sport utility vehicles, pickups and minivans, surged at the expense of cars. For the year, truck sales were up 8 percent while car sales fell 2 percent.

Trucks represented a record 48 percent of the market; buyers chose more trucks than cars in November — the first month that has happened.

The totals were better than anyone anticipated a year ago. The 15.6 million vehicles sold trailed only the 16.3 million in 1986.

Obituaries

Raymond Hughes

1913-1999

AVOCA — Raymond E. "Red" Hughes of Abilene, brother of Susie Collom of Snyder, died Wednesday, Jan. 6, in an Abilene care center.

Funeral service for Mr. Hughes, 85, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in Tankersley Funeral Home Chapel in Stamford. The Rev. Terry Davis will officiate. Burial will be in Springcreek Cemetery.

Born in Tolar County, Mr. Hughes moved to the Avoca area as a child. He married Evelyn Smith in 1936 and was a farmer and rancher. He was a member of Broadview Baptist Church in Abilene.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn Hughes of Abilene; two sons, Gene Hughes of Granbury and Raymond Hughes of Avoca; one brother, Alton Hughes of Ranger; another sister, Clelie Thompson of Abilene; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Historical commission

The Scurry County Historical Commission will meet at 5 this evening in the Scurry County Library.

Snyder Bible Institute

Bible History I will be taught for 24 weeks beginning tonight in the Christian Student Center on the WTC campus. Richard Rogers of Sunset International Bible Institute Satellite School will be the instructor. Classes meet from 7-9 p.m. All Bible students are welcome and tuition is free.

Community singing

Join in singing praise and worship songs and enjoy special music at a community worship set from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday in the Scurry County Coliseum. The public is invited and there is no admission charge. Bring lawn chairs to sit on floor level, or seating in stands is also available.

Y2K preparedness workshop

The FamilyLife Community Church will hold a Y2K workshop from 8 a.m. until noon Saturday at the church, 904 26th St. Admission is free.

Retired teachers meeting

The Scurry County Retired Teachers Association will meet at noon Monday at The Shack Restaurant. Mrs. Sherma Barham will bring a program on home health care.

WTC booster club

The WTC Booster Club will meet at noon Monday at Golden Corral.

Weigh Down Workshop

A new weight-loss class with a spiritual emphasis will be over 12 weeks in the 37th Street Church of Christ Family Center. The class will meet from 5:30 to 7 p.m. each Monday starting Jan. 25. There will be an orientation at 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 11. For more information call 573-9688 or 573-5774.

Bible study tapes

Bible study video tapes air weekly on cable TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "Don't Worry, Be Happy," followed by "A Child's Heaven."

Library storytime change

Beginning this month, Storytime for 4-5-year-olds at the Scurry County Library will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Ira Bulldog annual

Ira's 1999 Bulldog annuals are on sale until Jan. 26, the last time they will be offered this school year. The cost is $26 with name on cover or $22 without. Contact Becky Hudgins at the school. There are only a few left.

1998 First Methodist cookbook

The First United Methodist Church's 1998 cookbook, compiled by the Angel Seekers Sunday School Class and dedicated to the memory of Ruby Anderson, can be purchased at the church or Classic Interiors. The cost is $10 and all proceeds benefit the Lord's Acre projects.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District is selling windbreak trees. Both evergreens and hardwoods are available. Call 573-6317, or come by the office at 5309 Big Spring Highway.

Social Security visits

Representatives of the Big Spring Social Security office will be at the Snyder Senior Center on Tuesday. For additional information, call 1-800-772-1213.

Adult education classes

Adult basic education classes that can lead to a GED are underway at Western Texas College. Students may enroll at any time in Room 209 of the WTC library. Both day and evening sessions are held Tuesday and Thursday. Call 573-8511, Ext. 322, for more information.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
3-2-0

Lotto Texas

By The Associated Press

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 4-19-21-26-27-45.