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WT-Int. Crude - $10.88

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEEKEND

Dec. 26-27, 1998
Vol. 50 No. 202
34 Pages 75¢

Home Of Jack Elam

Consolidation almost complete...

Two area electric co-ops poised to become just one

Midwest Electric Cooperative and Stamford Electric have just a few details left to iron out before the consolidation of the two companies takes effect Jan. 4.

"There are some last minute things to complete, but most everything is in order to become Big Country Electric on Jan. 4," Jerry Stapp, general manager said.

Members of the two cooperatives voted in August to approve consolidation, which according to Stapp, will eventually save members almost $4 million.

"The financial forecast shows that we will save $3.8 million over the next 10 years."

Stapp said consolidation efforts have thus far gone very well, but there are a few minor things to do.

"We have to have a board meeting to adopt new bylaws and new employee policies. Then we must elect new officers."

Stapp also said vendors must be officially adopted and new bank accounts set up.

"We have to make sure all our vendors know who we are," he said. "Today, we have a lot in common, so many of our vendors will stay the same."

New uniforms have been issued and new Big Country decals for company trucks are in place. Other preparations are also being made, Stapp said.

"We have installed a new phone system at the Stamford and Midwest offices to get us ready for common communications."

A new computer system has also been set up.

"The Stamford office will transition to that computer in the first quarter of next year. Midwest is currently using it."

Stapp also said that the Public Utilities General Counsel recommended approval of the consolidation to the Public Utilities Commission of Texas.

Stapp said both boards and employees are excited about the consolidation and efforts are moving along well.

"Everything is looking good and I know of no difficulties. Both boards have worked diligently since the vote back in August."

Stapp said several meetings have been held since then to work out all the details, and most changes have gone smoothly.

"I feel we will be ready on the fourth to officially adopt the bylaws and policies that we have already pre-approved so that we will be ready to commence business the first working day of the year.

"We are looking forward to getting this one phase behind us, so we can start working efficiently and start saving our members some dollars," said Stapp."

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Have seen many deer crossing signs, but have never seen any cross at one."

As we approach that week between Christmas and the new year, cleaning the clutter from the desk seems like a worthwhile, but timely endeavor.

Dieting is also a good idea. We noticed that most of the stuff in the kitchen is now fat free — except us. The tube is already filled with ads on how to lose weight. It's a great time of year for new health club memberships — some that will rarely be used.

It reminds us of a headline we saw during the holidays. It declared, "Overeating, obesity linked."

Then just a couple of days later, we saw a similar classic. The headline read: "Study finds pregnancy, sex link."

Some things are just too obvious.

A Snyder woman called to tell us that she heard this on an early-morning TV news show.

It was suggested that a way to keep a tree healthy during the winter is to water in an aspirin or two.

Then came a second suggestion. "Instead of aspirin, use Viagra to keep it fresh and perky."

It reminded us of a comment we read in an Atlanta newspaper about a man who complained because his wife would rather spend $40 at the beauty shop than for Viagra.

Another wife responded, "If you are anything like my husband, your wife probably derives more pleasure from the perm."

Got a call the other day from Snyder resident Flo Joyce. Her optimistic outlook makes her one of our favorite people. She responded to some growing old comments made in a recent SDN column.

She offered some more. You know you're getting older when:

--You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions.

--You sit down in a rocking chair and can't get it started.

--Everything hurts and when it doesn't hurt, doesn't work.

Here's another senior citizen story, dedicated to Mrs. Joyce.

"That pain in your leg is merely caused by old age," the doctor told his patient.

"Can't be," said the man. "The other leg is the same age and it don't hurt a bit."

State warms up for Christmas

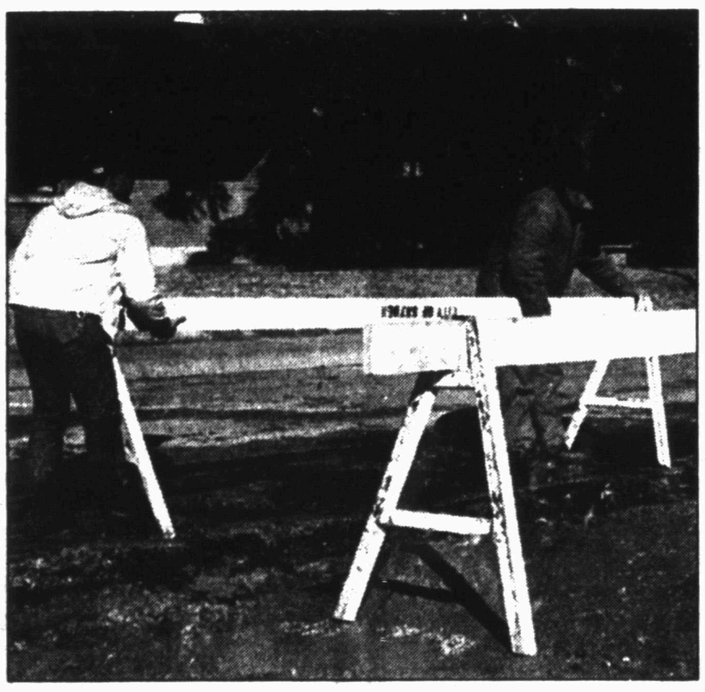
The below-freezing temperatures and icy conditions that paralyzed most of Texas this week cleared up in time for Christmas.

Afternoon temperatures Friday warmed to the 40s and 50s with sunny skies, helping dry the slick roads that caused hundreds of accidents and at least 17 deaths. More sunshine and warmer temperatures are forecast for the weekend.

Larry Nierenberg, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Fort Worth, said the arctic air that blew in from Canada on Tuesday and Wednesday gradually filtered out of Texas and made its way east.

"High pressure moved in behind it, so that's why it's warmer," Nierenberg said.

The freezing temperatures this week, coupled with a slight rainfall, produced a deadly, icy situation.



ONE OF MANY — City of Snyder employees Miguel Martinez, left, and Ron Wilson place barricades in front of city hall Thursday following a water leak repair. Some 13 water leaks were reported to dispatchers on Christmas Eve and Christmas day. The large number of pipes breaking were attributed to low mid-week temperatures. (SDN Staff Photo)

CHRISTMAS EVE FIRE — Snyder firemen responded to a mobile home on fire at 1800 Ave. R at 2:23 p.m. on Thursday. The home, occupied by Victor Rodriquez, sustained extensive damage in one portion of the structure. Firemen were also called to an accident on U.S. Highway 84 on Thursday, and also responded to a report of a dumpster on fire. (SDN Staff Photo)

Halliburton, WTC begin safety training program

Up to 500 Halliburton employees will begin receiving safety training Tuesday through the collaborative efforts of the company and Western Texas College.

Allen Hodges, assistant director of workforce education at WTC, and Darrel Canada, the college's safety training coordinator, have been working with Halliburton over the past several months to coordinate the training program.

The two-day course, developed by Jay Fitts and Bruce Hancock of Halliburton, includes topics such as hazardous communications, fire safety, H2S training, respiratory standards, blood-borne pathogens and first aid/CPR.

The training will take place at Pennzoil's training facility in Snyder, and in classrooms at Halliburton's Midland offices.

The training will get underway Tuesday, and will continue throughout the month of January.

The funding for the project is provided through the Texas Workforce Commission's Skills Development Fund.

Future training plans involving WTC and Halliburton will focus on distance learning.

"Halliburton wants to set the standards for their industry in utilizing distance learning," said John Gibson, WTC's director of workforce education. "They are aggressively pursuing this mode of instruction with the college."

The college has plans to have a new workforce distance learning conference room operational by late January or early February.

Earlier this month, the Board of County Development awarded the college funds to purchase the video-conference equipment.

Texas cities prepare to spend big bucks on private lobbyists

DALLAS (AP) — Dozens of Texas cities are planning to pay private lobbyists millions of dollars to present hometown concerns to their own state lawmakers next year.

In the last two years, nearly 50 cities have spent more than $7 million on lobbyists. Experts say lobbyists' fees are likely to be higher next year, but city officials believe hiring people who know the system and can follow changes in legislation is money well spent.

Suzy Woodford, state director of advocacy group Common Cause, told The Dallas Morning News that cities often think they need help from lobbyists to counter influential private interests.

"Clearly, the cities believe that if they are going to be able to compete in the legislative process, then they are going to have to have hired guns," she said.

Austin and Houston have already announced contracts with lobbyists for the 1999 Legislature. Austin is paying $1.5 million for an 11-member team, Houston is paying $975,000 for 15 and Dallas has one at $75,000.

Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, who used to serve as the city's lobbyist, said stakes are high during the legislative session and cities need to have people watching out for their interests.

"I don't think we should fear the Legislature, but I think we'd be naive to believe we can sit on the sidelines and say whatever happens, happens," he said.

Corpus Christi Mayor Loyd Neal said small and mid-sized cities in South Texas have a more difficult time getting their message to lawmakers.

"We're sort of at the end of the food chain down here," Neal said. "South Texas is an area that has traditionally been under-funded, under-served and under-educated."

He said Corpus Christi, which is spending $250,000 on three lobbyists, hopes to capture more state funding for higher education and highways. Neal said he knows his city will be competing with larger ones, such as Austin, Houston and Dallas.

This competition means cities will have to pay more for their power of persuasion. Woodford, of Common Cause, said the cost of lobbying teams is increasing each year.

"In addition to municipalities, you've now got school districts, universities, counties, utility districts using them," she said. "There's just more and more and more every year."

Villagers worry computers might hamper planting

ANGRA DOS REIS, Brazil (AP) — Tribal elders decreed a "day of joy" to welcome the village's new arrival. Guarani boys in face paint and loincloths danced to the music of a home-made fiddle played with a tree branch.

The celebration was for the long-awaited coming of the "ayu ryrurive," a Guarani term roughly meaning "box for accumulating language" — that is, a computer.

"We have been hearing about computers for a while," said Luiz Eusebio, an assistant chief at the Sapukai (sah-poo-kah-EE) village. "We thought we need to learn about them because we need to have more knowledge about non-Indians."

But it seemed unlikely computers would come to the 400 Guaranis of Sapukai, a 5,200-acre community tucked among lush green mountains along the coastal highway 100 miles west of Rio.

For one thing, the village had no electricity.

Besides, they can afford only enough gasoline to run the generator for a couple of hours twice a week. Baggio said he hopes to bring solar power to Sapukai, if he can raise the money.

But despite come concessions to Western culture — shorts, T-shirts, plastic sandals, metal pots and even a little Portuguese — the tribe's leaders are wary about the impact computers might have on their lives.

"If we use the computer more than twice a week, we won't have time to plant. And if we don't plant, we starve," said Eusebio, the assistant chief. "We also know if we turn them off they will just sit there. It's not like they can run around the village causing trouble."

ASK US

Q—What is the telephone number that is answered 24 hours a day for the Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse?

A—1-800-568-6722.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Friday, 51 degrees; low, 15; reading at 7 a.m. Saturday, 24; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1998 to date, 10.50 inches.

Area Forecast: Saturday night, partly cloudy. Low 30 35. South wind 5-10 mph. Sunday, partly cloudy. High in the upper 60s. Southwest wind 10-20 mph.

Lupe Lopez
Partly Cloudy

Sunset: 5:48 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:41 a.m.
Of 358 days in 1998, the sun has shone 352 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

"People may doubt what you say — but they will believe what you do."

Author unknown

DEC 27 1998

New York's Moynihan...

Top senator calls for censure

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lending an influential voice to the Senate Democrats' hopes for a censure, New York Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan says it would destabilize the presidency to end President Clinton's impeachment case by removing him from office.

Moynihan, who revealed his position in a published report Friday, holds particular credibility on the impeachment issue as one of the first Democratic senators to publicly criticize Clinton's conduct.

As a senior member of the Senate, one of its leading intellectuals and a sometimes critic of the president, Moynihan engenders considerable respect among his peers.

Administration officials quickly expressed new hope for a bipartisan alternative to a Senate trial on perjury and obstruction of justice charges.

"We've said all along a bipartisan solution that is prompt and fair is the best course and we welcome efforts by those who are trying to achieve that goal of finding a way of putting all this behind us," said James Kennedy, a spokesman for the White House counsel's office.

Other senators agreed there is increasing bipartisan support for a censure.

"I think you do have a significant group of senators who are trying to work across the aisle and find some bipartisan common ground that the House wasn't able to locate," said Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore.

Based on conversations with Democratic and Republican senators, Wyden said he believed there were 65 to 70 lawmakers interested in finding a bipartisan solution before the Senate returned Jan. 6.

The White House has been careful to stick with a deferential approach, adopted after several Senate Democrats indicated that the administration best not interfere with impeachment deliberations that are solely the prerogative of the Senate.

"It's a matter for the Senate and senators to decide," White House spokeswoman Amy Weiss said.

It would take a two-thirds vote — or 67 of 100 senators — to remove the president from office. With 45 Democrats and 55 Republicans, at least 12 senators from Clinton's party would have to vote against him to reach 67 — a scenario few see as realistic.

Amid the censure talk, there has been no indication that senators are heeding suggestions from House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Texas. DeLay said if senators spend time reading impeachment documents secured by the House, the two-thirds vote needed for conviction "may appear out of thin air."

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Poison pen book helps vent wrath

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — Other people might have cried, yelled or gone home defeated. Ellen Phillips wrote a letter.

Her husband was out of town, she was out of cash, and a grocer in Hattiesburg, Miss., that day in 1964 wouldn't let her write a check for diapers and food.

So Mrs. Phillips carted her infant daughter back to their house, two blocks away, scribbled out her plea, and returned to hand it to the manager.

The check was approved and a career was launched.

Ellen's Poison Pen Inc. now helps hundreds of others voice their wrath through ghostwritten letters of complaint. In January, Vintage Books will publish Mrs. Phillips' secrets in "Shocked, Appalled, and Dismayed! How to Write Letters of Complaint That Get Results."

She advises prospective complainers to write to the top official of the company in question and grab his or her attention in the first sentence. For example: "I am shocked and appalled by my most recent experience with your airline."

Next, explain the bad experience and back it up, using polite language, with receipts and documentation, she said. And send copies to several agencies that might help.

Then keep at it. Companies don't always buckle at the first sign of criticism, no matter how professionally it is tailored.

"I get vicarious enjoyment from writing the letters," Mrs. Phillips said during an interview at her home office in Alexandria. "I truly did not think people would pay me for this."

She charges $20 per 100 words and $50 per hour for preparation. It's money well spent, according to some of her clients.

Carol Guiles, a drama teacher in Fairfax County, is on her third go-around with Poison Pen.

The first time, Mrs. Phillips' letter persuaded college administrators to give Mrs. Guiles credit for courses taken at a different university, she said.

The second time, a doctor apologized for a five-day delay getting a call-in prescription to the drug store.

Now, Mrs. Guiles' husband is trying to convince a school district that he did, indeed, work there from 1969-71 so he can get retirement credit.

"I thought I could handle it by phone and I was wrong," Mrs. Guiles said. "It's nice to look at in writing. It makes you have faith in yourself."

Mrs. Phillips, who retired in December from teaching English to junior high school students, sees herself as a consumer crusader with no tolerance for poor quality.

"I figured somebody somewhere has to be accountable for things," Mrs. Phillips said. "I felt it was my responsibility as a consumer to let them know I was not a happy camper. It was their responsibility to rectify that."

Mrs. Phillips' life as a professional complainer developed gradually. At first, she just did it for herself.

Date Book

Dec. 26, 1998

Today is the 360th day of 1998 and the sixth day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1865, the coffee percolator was invented by James Nason of Franklin, Mass.

On this day in 1924, Judy Garland, age 2-1/2, made her stage debut in her family's vaudeville act.

On this day in 1968, the band Led Zeppelin began their first tour of the United States.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Henry Miller (1891-1980), writer; Mao Tse-Tung (1893-1976), Chinese communist leader; Steve Allen (1921-), humorist-composer, is 77; Alan King (1927-), comedian, is 71; Phil Spector (1940-), recording engineer-innovator, is 58; Ozzie Smith (1954-), baseball star, is 44.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1943, Sid Luckman threw five touchdown passes as the Bears beat the Redskins 41-21 in the NFL championship game.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "To go beyond is as wrong as to fall short." — Confucius

Dec. 27, 1998

Today is the 361st day of 1998 and the seventh day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1932, Radio City Music Hall in New York opened.

On this day in 1947, "Howdy Doody Time," hosted by "Buffalo" Bob Smith, premiered on television.

On this day in 1987, Gayle Sterens became the first woman to broadcast a play-by-play description of an NFL game.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Johannes Kepler (1571-1630), astronomer; Louis Pasteur (1822-1895), scientist; Sydney Greenstreet (1879-1954), actor; Marlene Dietrich (1901-1992), actress; Oscar Levant (1906-1972), musician, actor; William H. Masters (1915-), physician, is 83; Lee Salk (1926-), psychologist, is 72; Gerard Depardieu (1948-), actor, is 50.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1953, with just two minutes remaining on the clock, Jim Doran of the Lions caught a 33-yard touchdown pass from Bobby Layne, giving the Detroit Lions a 17-16 win over the Browns in the NFL championship game.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Stretch your foot to the length of your blanket" — Persian proverb

TODAY'S MOON: Day after first quarter (Dec. 26).

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Q&A
What is Xanthines?

(In response to a growing concern among parents, educators and other members of the community, Snyder Daily News, in cooperation with Al-Anon support groups and the Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, is devoting this column to your questions about the increasing threat of substance abuse. The current series is dedicated to supplying general information to our readers. Getting back to the basics, we are using the ABC's as a structured guideline. Each week, the column will concentrate on such topics as Understanding: An Emotional Food, Valium, Wassail Warning, etc. Readers may want to cut out the articles and save them as a resource for future reference.)

ABC's of Substance Abuse
(Article 24 of 26)

X ~ XANTHINES

If we had to identify the drug that has had the greatest impact on civilization, caffeine would be a top contender. *Xanthines*, the family of chemicals that includes caffeine, are the oldest stimulants known. Today caffeine is perhaps the most widely used drug, constituting a regular portion of the American diet.

Caffeine is one of the most widely used stimulant drugs in the United States. Americans consume approximately 45 million pounds of caffeine every year in such substances as coffee, tea, soft drinks, cocoa products, chocolate, and various over-the-counter and prescription drugs.

Caffeine is a socially acceptable drug. Each day over 80 percent of Americans consume beverages containing the equivalent of two to three cups of caffeinated coffee. Most people know that coffee, tea, and soft drinks contain caffeine, and they drink these beverages for their stimulating effects. These effects include an increase in alertness, motor performance, and the capacity for work and a decrease in fatigue. Users of caffeine may find that it helps in performing a repetitive task, and it may improve muscular endurance in a physically demanding job.

The medical community is concerned with caffeine for various reasons. Caffeine can change the effectiveness of other drugs, it can cause or complicate health problems, it can help in the treatment of some diseases, and it is believed to be associated with some chronic illnesses.

Americans may have more of a physiological and/or psychological dependence on caffeine than on all other drugs combined. Some individuals experience a jittery feeling, a slight loss of motor coordination, and insomnia after consuming it. Even small amounts increase anxiety, irritate the stomach lining, and may be undesirable for certain cardiac patients. However, the morning cup of coffee is so much of a part of America that we seldom look upon its consumption as a drug habit.

Caffeine may not fit technical definitions of substances to which people may become addicted, but "withdrawal headache" from a decrease in caffeine consumption is well documented. A high dose of caffeine (over 600 milligrams, less for some), perhaps in the form of five cups of coffee or more, can cause anxiety, nervousness, and insomnia, and these have been recognized as symptoms of *caffeinism*.

Caffeine does act as an addictive drug in that it induces cravings, causes physical dependence, and leaves the consumer with withdrawal symptoms. It is possible to get hooked on as little as 100 milligrams of caffeine a day. Caffeinism includes automatic signs, diureses [increased production of urine], gastrointestinal disturbances, insomnia, and symptoms mimicking anxiety disorders (Schlaadt & Shannon, Drugs: Use, Misuse and Abuse, pp. 116-127).

Caffeine has had a long history of safe use by humans everywhere. However, if you feel you need to cut back, here are some suggestions:

- Select decaffeinated coffee, tea, or soft drinks;
- Mix caffeinated and decaffeinated coffee grounds together before making coffee;
- Limit your consumption of caffeinated beverages to a prescribed number and then gradually switch to decaffeinated beverages; and,
- Limit the amount of chocolate that you eat.

Enjoy the holiday season and remember ~ if you have, or someone you know has, a drug or alcohol problem, be a part of the solution. Seek, or urge your friend to get, help!

Please send your questions on drugs or addiction to P.O. Box 695, Snyder, Texas 79550. All questions and personal inquires may be submitted anonymously. Twenty-four-hour confidential information is available by calling (915) 573-1141 or 1-800-568-6722. Information on help groups and individual's phone numbers may be found in the SDN Community Calendar.

An idealistic Shakespearean lecturer named Jane Wirgman is attempting to sanitize the language of inmates at England's Norwich prison by teaching them epithets from the Bard. Prisoners there have reportedly begun calling one another "thou crusty botch of nature" and "thou odiferous stench."

Abandoned baby goes 'home'

HOUSTON (AP) — An abandoned baby who was cared for this week in the same nursery as the world's first octuplets spent Christmas in a foster home.

The 7-pound, 2-ounce infant dubbed Nicholas by nurses was released from Texas Children's Hospital on Friday morning into the custody of his foster parents, said Harris County Child Protective Services spokesman Mike Cutaia. The parents are not being publicly identified, Cutaia said.

Police, meanwhile, continue searching for the baby's mother.

"We haven't received any information on that yet," Cutaia said.

A volunteer at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital told authorities she heard a baby cry as she powdered her face in a lobby-area women's restroom around 8:15 a.m. Wednesday. She said she discovered the newborn wrapped in towels on the floor of the handicapped stall.

Doctors estimate the baby was born earlier that morning. Authorities believe he was born elsewhere and dropped off at St. Luke's. Doctors said the child appeared to be of black and Hispanic parentage.

Investigators from the juvenile division of the Houston Police Department have tape from surveillance cameras outside the restroom, but there was no word if it provides any clues about the infant's mother.

After being examined in the emergency room at neighboring Texas Children's Hospital, the healthy baby was moved to the same nursery where the octuplets were born Sunday to a Houston couple are being monitored.

Nurses named the baby after the saint most associated with Christmas. Nicholas also is the patron saint of children.

An attending physician later gave him the last name Garrett; officials offered no explanation for the significance of the surname.

Alcohol in blood is targeted

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton today urged Congress to lower the blood-alcohol level for drunken driving, saying new research shows millions of Americans take a drink or a drug just before taking the steering wheel.

In his weekly radio address, Clinton asked Congress to enact legislation next year to make a blood-alcohol content of .08 percent the national legal limit for driving while intoxicated. That level currently is used by 16 states and the District of Columbia.

The Senate earlier this year voted to penalize states that did not adopt the .08 standard, but the House refused to go along and the provision was left out of the six-year, $203 billion highway and mass transit spending bill that Congress passed in May.

The president said he felt compelled to issue his call during the Christmas holidays, when more alcohol is flowing at parties. He noted that 1,300 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes in December 1997 — during a year in which such deaths were at an all-time low — and urged Americans to be more cautious this year.

"Think before getting behind the wheel," Clinton said. "If you've had too much to drink, hand your keys to a designated driver. Together, we can make sure the new year is, indeed, a safe and happy one for all Americans."

Clinton noted a new survey that showed in 1996, 28 percent of American drivers — 46.5 million people — used drugs, alcohol or both within two hours of driving.

The majority of those, 38 million, drank alcohol, according to the survey by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The study was based on interviews with 12,000 drivers and data from the 1996 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse.

"The sight of a car weaving through traffic is an all-too-familiar and frightening one for many Americans," Clinton said. "Ask any parent, any family, anyone who has lost a loved one to an alcohol-related crash. One impaired driver is one too many."

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Radium girls had industrial disease

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: What are "radium girls?"

DEAR READER: Radium girls are part of the long-standing saga of occupational disease. During World War I, young women were hired to paint the luminous numbers on wristwatches designed for American soldiers. Then, in the 1920s, glow-in-the-dark wristwatch dials became a consumer fad. These women were taught to sharpen the tips of their paintbrushes between their lips. In so doing, they absorbed substantial quantities of radium. Of course, at this time in history, no one appreciated the disastrous consequences of radiation exposure. In fact, some radium girls even went so far as to paint their clothing, their fingernails and their teeth — for "a smile that glowed in the dark." Radium was considered to emit healing power.

Predictably, tragedy followed. The watch-dial painters developed hideous mouth and jaw cancers, anemia, bone fractures and a host of other symptoms directly attributed to their occupation. Only a few scientists and doctors were perceptive enough to sound a warning — and it was largely ignored, unfortunately, until the Hiroshima bombing, after which the public came to appreciate radiation danger.

It seems beyond belief, given today's knowledge, that the hazards of radium poisoning took so long to be recognized. Although many radium girls filed lawsuits, the watch-dial companies rejected the claims, and government regulators claimed that the evidence was insufficient to warrant further investigation. This whole experience was a travesty, a damning indictment of the politics of industrial disease.

For those interested readers, the whole issue has been reviewed and analyzed in a new book, "Radium Girls: Women and Industrial Health Reforms, 1910-1935," by Claudia Clark, University of North Carolina Press, 1997.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Viruses and Cancer." 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: Do you believe in body wisdom? I have developed a craving for carrots and eat a pound a day. What am I missing that the carrots provide?

DEAR READER: Our bodies often tell us, though cravings, that we are deficient in certain nutrients. I believe in body wisdom — to a degree. But a pound of carrots a day will probably cause you to develop carotenemia, the presence of too much carotene in the blood and tissues. This will give a yellow or orange cast to the skin, leading to toxicity: abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, dizziness and other symptoms. I suggest that you have a medical examination and let the doctor determine which, if any, vitamins and minerals you may be lacking.

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END OF GAME NOTICE

Three of the Texas Lottery's instant games are coming to a close: Double Roll, Lucky Frog and Lone Star Millionaire. Lone Star Millionaire closes on January 1, 1999, and you can redeem any winning tickets until June 30, 1999. Double Roll and Lucky Frog close on January 30, 1999, and you can redeem any winning tickets until July 29, 1999. You can win up to $5,000 playing Double Roll, up to $1,000 playing Lucky Frog and up to $5,000 playing Lone Star Millionaire. You can claim prizes of up to $599 at any Texas Lottery retailer. Prizes of $600 or more are redeemable at one of the 24 Texas Lottery claim centers or by mail. Questions? Just call the Texas Lottery Customer Service Line at 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).

Overall odds of winning Double Roll, 1 in 4.92.
Overall odds of winning Lucky Frog, 1 in 4.84.
Overall odds of winning Lone Star Millionaire, 1 in 4.76.

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Merry Christmas, friends.

Senior Center Menu

MONDAY

Steak fritter w/cream gravy, mashed potatoes, savory peas, lettuce & tomato salad, red applesauce

TUESDAY

Chili, cornbread, cheese sticks, sliced onion, mixed fruit, chocolate chip cookie

WEDNESDAY

Braised pork chop, whole kernel corn, fried okra, tomato wedges, strawberries & bananas

THURSDAY

Creole steak, wild rice, asparagus, cottage cheese & pears, spice cake w/cream cheese frosting.

FRIDAY

Closed for New Year's Holiday

Senior Center News

MONDAY

Bridge play begins at 9:30 a.m. and the domino tournament begins at 10.

TUESDAY

88 plays begins at 10 a.m. and the Golden K Kiwanis meet at noon.

WEDNESDAY

Birthday cake will be served at 10 a.m. and the Local Yokels will entertain at 11. Line dancing and clogging will be canceled. The classes will resume Jan. 6.

THURSDAY

Seniors are invited to the center for the New Year's party which begins at 11 a.m. The Kitchen Band will help welcome the new year in.

FRIDAY

The center will be closed for New Year's Day but will reopen on Jan. 4.

Don't put away the holiday recipes yet. The center is starting a new project with the new year. A cook book is being compiled for a fund-raising project. Beginning Jan. 4, forms may be picked up in the office to write recipes on. The more recipes compiled the better the book will be. Recipes are sought from all participants of the center, past and present.

Employees and past employees are encouraged to bring recipes. Help will be provided in copying recipes onto the form. Recipe books take a long time to organize, so recipes must be in by Feb. 5 so that the books can get ready to be sold on May Day.

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Beatles star added to Walk

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Beatles' long and winding road traveled again to Hollywood's Walk of Fame, where a star reappeared on Christmas morning.

"It was done in the spirit of giving," Johnny Grant, Hollywood's honorary mayor, said Friday. "Santa and I thought it was time to respond to the Beatles fans' request for a chance to honor the Fab Four."

Could be last quiet Christmas

HOUSTON (AP) — Christmas was yet another day for the parents of the world's only living octuplets to count their blessings. The best gifts of all — eight babies — had already come.

Doctors at Texas Children's Hospital said the octuplets remained in critical condition Friday and are expected to stay that way for several weeks.

The babies' parents quietly celebrated Christmas Day at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, where the mother, Nkem Chukwu, is recovering, said Chido Nwangwu, a family spokesman.

"It was a very quiet, beautiful day for them," said Nwangwu, editor of USAfrica newspaper and a prominent member of the local Nigerian community. Like the babies' parents, he is a member of Nigeria's Igbo ethnic group.

Gifts of the material kind continue to pour into Texas Children's Hospital, a hospital operator said Friday.

Since the babies were born, companies, individuals and members of Houston's sizable Nigerian community have stepped forward with offerings ranging from a lifetime supply of diapers, oil changes and tires to money and cribs.

The proud father, Iyke Louis Udobi, has referred to his children repeatedly as "gifts" and "blessings" from God since the birth of five girls and two boys on Sunday. The eighth, a girl, was born Dec. 8.

Oni Chukwu, the mother's brother, said he is "the proudest uncle and this is the most wonderful gift."

"How much more special can it get?" he said. "We have family coming in from all parts of the country. We have a large network of extended family. That's going to come in handy, as one could expect, as the kids leave the hospital."

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

CENTRAL COLLECTS — Central Elementary School collected more than 900 cans of food for the annual Goodfellows Food Drive. The top three classes were Debra Judah, 207 cans; Kathy Moore, 142; and Kathy Spoor, 111. Students shown are from left, Matthew Garcia, Jacob Scifres, Jordan Derryberry, Brandee Harbin, Michael Medrano and Brooks Gafford. Linda Hughes of American State Bank accepted the canned goods on behalf of Goodfellows. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Pressure on to put more money back in Medicare

WASHINGTON (AP) — A deal lawmakers struck to keep Medicare's finances under control for another decade is threatening to unravel as insurance companies, hospitals and medical professionals besiege Congress with complaints that payments for elderly health care are stretched too thin.

"Everybody who got a tuck and a trim in 1997 wants more money," said Ari Fleischer, spokesman for the House Ways and Means Committee, which oversees the nation's health care program for the elderly and disabled. "If everybody ... gets more money, Medicare will go broke even faster."

Congress was reluctant to tinker with Medicare in 1998 after politically sensitive negotiations to find $115 billion in savings just a year earlier.

Instead, lawmakers largely deferred to a commission of experts scheduled to make recommendations on Medicare's future in March.

But those recommendations may call for a fundamental overhaul that Congress likely will take its time considering. No action — only hearings — has been promised for next year.

In the meantime, pressure is growing on lawmakers to put back some Medicare money trimmed in the 1997 balanced budget act, which came out of the pockets of health care providers.

Medical groups are trying to grab lawmakers' attention by using the human face of elderly and disabled Americans. The American Association of Health Plans, the HMO trade group, is enlisting senior citizens in 50 cities in a lobbying campaign. And physical therapists are encouraging patients to write letters to Congress.

The Medicare belt-tightening was intended to buy lawmakers 10 years to make further changes to bolster the cash-poor program for the huge generation of aging baby boomers. Medicare gets much of its money from a tax deducted from workers' paychecks.

Health care providers say they support that goal, but "we think there are a lot of unintended consequences," said Richard J. Pollack of the American Hospital Association.

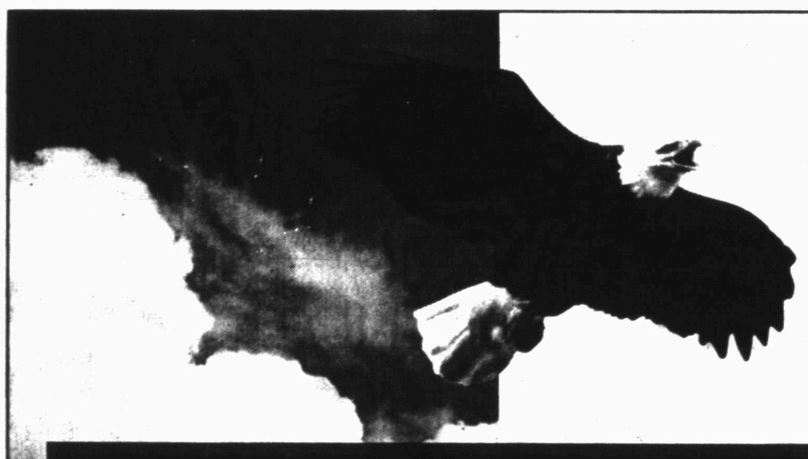
In January, the association will dispatch hundreds of hospital administrators to Capitol Hill to convey that message in vivid terms.

"We're discharging patients earlier, which is causing hardships for them in terms of transportation back and forth (for outpatient care). Some patients may not be getting the care they need," said Bob Main, president of Siskin Hospital for Physical Rehabilitation in Chattanooga, Tenn.

At the urging of therapists at the Parkinson Outreach Program in Overland Park, Kan., retired minister Dick Waltz wrote his members of Congress to complain about a new $1,500-a-year cap on Medicare payments for physical and speech therapy received in non-hospital settings, starting Jan. 1.

By contrast, Medicare picked up most of the $13,000 tab when Waltz, 72, needed eight weeks of similar physical and speech therapy last summer.

"I sure couldn't have afforded it," said Waltz, who expects to need more therapy as his disease continues its inexorable, degenerative progress.



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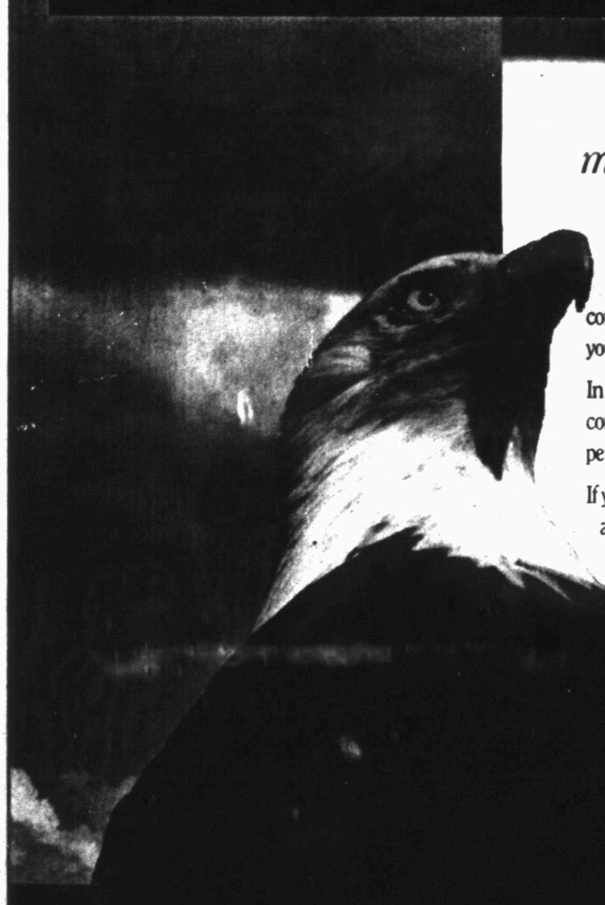

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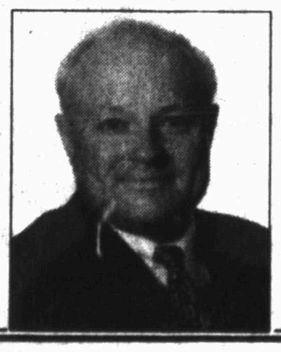

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Minding Your Own Business

By Don Taylor

Consistency: A business-building trait

I like to frequent businesses whose products and services are dependable. I look for brand names because I know I'll get the same quality with every purchase. I avoid businesses where there are wild fluctuations in service and sudden jumps from one fad to another.

I want what I want, the way I want it, every time. To some readers I may sound like an immature child. However, this attitude reflects the attitude of most consumers. We want consistent results with no surprises when we're spending our hard-earned money.

Therefore, one of the most frustrating problems in the world of business today is that of inconsistency. One day you patronize a business and receive fast, friendly and accurate service. The next time you return to the business it is as if you're in a different world.

Customers are creatures of habit. They take comfort in consistency. They want their newspaper delivered to the same location every day. They want their car to start every time they need to drive it. They expect the mail to come at about the same time, the store to open at the advertised hour and the next salad to be as fresh and tasty as the last one.

The consistency I'm talking about is positive, high quality and good. Unfortunately, you can have poor service, lousy products and a filthy business location and be consistent, too.

Six signs of consistency

•**Decisiveness.** Good business managers make good decisions. Automotive executive, Lee Iacocca, said, "If I had to sum up in one word what makes a good manager, I'd say decisiveness."

Consistent operations require consistent leadership. Consistent leaders analyze options and make firm decisions. The decisive will take into consideration the mission, direction and objectives of the company. Their goal is to strengthen customer relations, continually.

•Deliberation. Quality solutions to complex problems require careful analysis and deliberate action. Don't mistake careful consideration for indecisiveness. Remember the carpenter who encouraged his apprentice, "Measure twice and cut once."

Consistent companies don't jump the gun or overreact. They stress accuracy over speed. They know it takes less time to do a job correctly than to do it over.

Henry Ford said, "Paying attention to simple little things that most neglect, makes a few men rich." Details are still important in business today.

•**Determination.** This is the tool that common men and women use to achieve uncommon results. One cannot live a consistent life or run a consistent business without determination.

The best determination is seasoned with wisdom. The saying that "many strokes fell strong oaks" is true. Determination will win out. However, wisdom would first sharpen the ax or investigate the use of a chain saw.

Diligence. Benjamin Franklin said, "Diligence is the mother of good luck." In my mind diligence is the twin of consistency.

It is only through careful steady and directed effort that one achieves unchanging quality. Consistent quality in products and services is a certain sign of diligent effort.

•**Discipline.** It is not the threat of punishment that brings consistency, but rather the promise of prosperity. Disciplined companies do not consider painful those actions that bring improvement.

One of the best definitions I know for the word discipline is: "Training that develops self-control, character, orderliness and efficiency." Isn't that a great recipe for consistency.

Every business has three choices: "To be consistently good, to be consistently bad or to vacillate somewhere between. For successful ventures there is only one choice.

Don Taylor is the co-author of Up Against the Wal-Marts: You may write to him in care of Minding Your Own Business, P.O. Box 67, Amarillo, TX 79105.

Change in state rules is proposed

AUSTIN (AP) — If Gov. George W. Bush decides to run for president in 2000 and wins, one Texas lawmaker says he wants the state to be prepared to fill the governor's shoes.

Rep. Tom Ramsay has said he wants to rewrite rules in the state constitution concerning the succession process in case Bush, whose term as governor runs through 2002, decides to run for the White House.

The Texas Constitution says the lieutenant governor shall take over the governor's responsibilities if the elected governor is deposed, dies, departs or in some way becomes unavailable to serve.

These are the same rules that take effect when the governor is temporarily out of the state.

Ramsay, a Democrat from Mount Pleasant, said the problem is that a lieutenant governor who takes on the duties of governor can also retain the powers of lieutenant governor. State rules also say the new lieutenant governor, who is elected from the senate, can continue to serve as a senator.

"These offices all have different duties and responsibilities," Ramsay said. "It is absurd to suggest that any person could or should hold more than one of them."

The Austin American Statesman reported that Ramsay's plan calls for the lieutenant governor to serve only as governor in the case that the office is vacated. His proposal also calls for any senator elected as lieutenant governor give up all senate duties.

Ramsay said his plan, which was inspired by Bush's potential run for the presidency, will be offered as a proposed constitutional amendment during the 1999 Legislative session.

"The governor's national prominence shined a light on a dark corner of our constitution," he said.

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Enquirer sued

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A friend of Bill Cosby's son has sued the National Enquirer, alleging the tabloid defamed him in two articles that claimed he argued with Ennis the night he was murdered.

Phil Caputo played basketball with Ennis Cosby on Jan. 17, 1997, hours before the 27-year-old son of the entertainer was killed during a holdup along a highway.

News Briefs

Post-holiday shopping

NEW YORK (AP) — The after-Christmas sales blitz may be hard to miss as retailers try to make up for a disappointing holiday season by enticing shoppers with deep discounts. Merchants no longer look at the days following Christmas just as a time for returns or exchanges. Many storeowners — from giants like J.C. Penney and Macy's to small mom-and-pop shops — count on a burst of post-holiday buying to boost the bottom line, just as it did a year ago.

Japan's economy slides

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's troubled economy continued its downward spiral last month, with no indication of a rebound in sight, economic data released Friday shows. Industrial output is sliding, sales at department stores are slumping and unemployment has reached a new postwar high, according to government figures for November. Nothing in the latest batch of economic data supports recent predictions by government officials that Japan's worst postwar recession is nearing an end. To try to hasten recovery, Japan's Cabinet on Friday unveiled a draft budget for 1999 that will double the size of the annual deficit as it pays for efforts to kickstart the nation's moribund economy.

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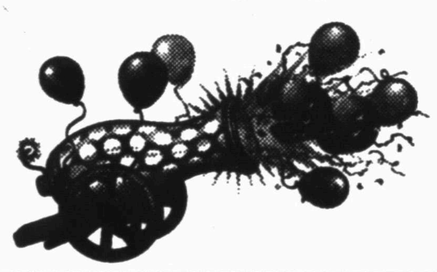

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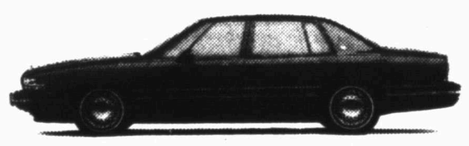

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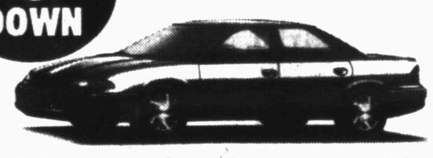

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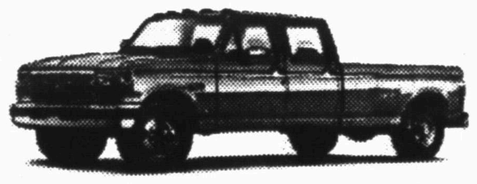

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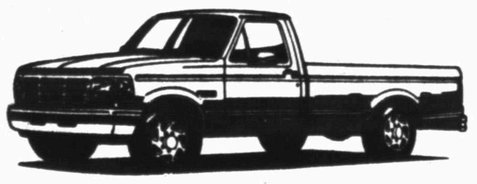

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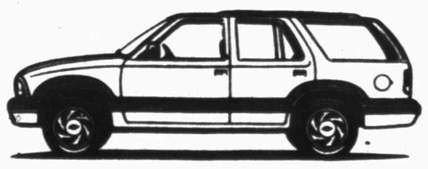

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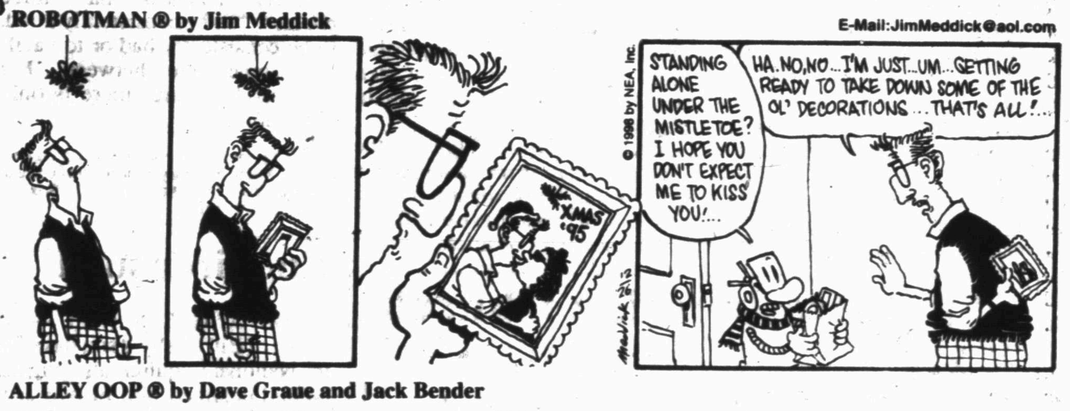

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Act properly
7 Decapitate
13 Like O. Henry's stories
14 Certain chemical compound
15 Chicken serving
16 Leave the work force
17 Medieval poem
18 Help
20 Fleur-de- —
21 Chemist's burner
23 — Miserables
24 Favoritism
25 Elderly
27 Refit a factory
29 Go bad
31 — de cologne
32 Tune
33 Women's patriotic soc.
34 Improved
37 Future LL.Bs.' exam
40 Trig term
41 Soviet plane
43 Selves
45 Ore. hours
46 Prohibit
47 Choose
48 Syria's neighbor
51 Fill
54 Sewing tool
55 Actor Zero —
56 Vapors
57 Whole

DOWN

1 The — Belt
2 Printed goofs
3 Cultivating
4 Collection of anecdotes
5 Force (Lat.)
6 Outer
7 Food for Robin
8 Language suffix
9 Spicy
10 Actor Estevez
11 Antenna
12 Clothe
19 Comparative ending
22 Make fizzy
24 Stock exchange
26 — — yourself
28 South African Dutch
30 Shakes involuntarily
34 Actress Jacqueline —
35 Menu item
36 Long inlet
38 Rodent
39 Woman's short coat
40 Twirls
42 Folklore creature
44 Mode
49 Susan Hayward movie
50 Shade tree
52 Cell occupant
53 Olde. time

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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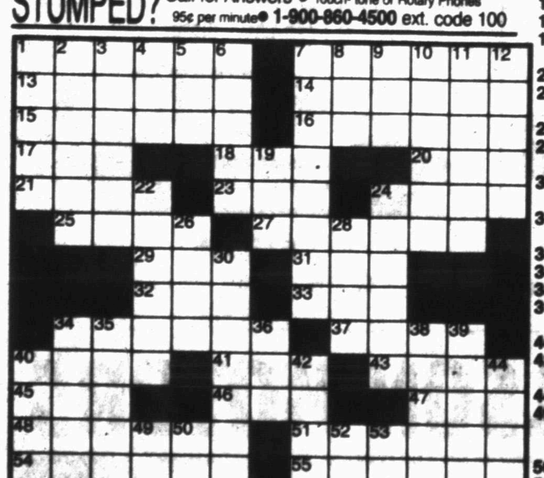

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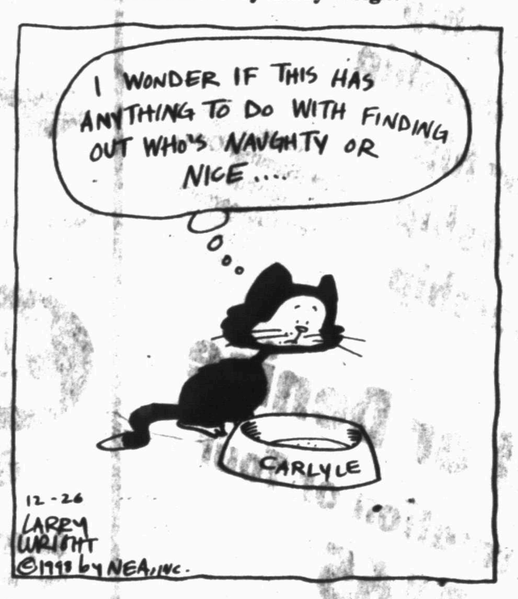

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Opinion

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Deanie Francis Mills

Drinking and Driving

This may be the most important column I've ever done, and I hope that parents will read it and hand it to their kids. It has to do with teenagers who drink and drive, and what we as parents can do to keep our kids not only safe over this holiday season and beyond, but alive.

Having raised two kids through their teens — one who drank beer like these were the final days of the Apocolypse, and one who never had any interest in drinking anything alcoholic — I think I'm in a fair position to comment on this in such a way that both teens and parents can see the sense of it.

First of all, we as parents have to understand that it really doesn't matter how we view drinking in our own homes as adults — kids are going to make their own decisions based on anything from trying to fit in with their peers, to trying to forget their problems for a while. I have known kids whose parents were alcoholics who consequently made it a point never to drink, and I have known kids from teetotalling church-going homes who were secret alcoholics.

When it comes to the subject of drinking, it is imperative that as parents, if we want to keep our kids alive, it is essential that we sit down together and discuss the issue openly, without anger. We have to trust the intelligence of our young people and present options to them that they can find reasonable.

Laying down some sort of iron-clad law like, "If I ever catch you drinking, I will ground you until you turn gray," is not only non-productive, but can even be deadly.

We have to remember that, insane though this may sound, it is absolutely true that teenagers will sometimes do something reckless, stupid — even illegal — if they think it will keep them from "getting into trouble" with their parents, By setting rigid standards for behavior from them, we may be condemning them to die rather that lie.

Some parents feel that if they offer any options other than "don't drink," that they are condoning it. This is absolutely not true, and kids understand this. They already know that we do not want them to drink or, God forbid, drink and drive. By discussing this issue openly and reasonably, we let them know that we respect their ability to make right judgments in wrong situations.

Other parents have the attitude that, "if they're going to drink anyway, I'd rather they drink at home than drink and drive." This is problematic for several reasons. For one, it is illegal for anyone to drink under the age of 21, and it is illegal for those over 21 to make liquor available — so by letting kids drink in our homes, we are already breaking the law and encouraging them to do so, too.

Another problem with this is that the sole reason kids want to drink is to party with their friends. If we allow their friends to drink in our home and then send them out to drive home, we may be contributing to their deaths or the deaths of others in drunk-driving accidents — and if such a tragedy occurs, we will certainly wind up in jail. At the very least, if this is our policy, then we must insist that the kids all spend the night and that no one leave, for any reason, once the booze starts to flow, and then supervise them closely.

Here are some other proven tips:

Assume, but don't accuse.

A person who stubbornly insists that THEIR kid doesn't drink very often looks the fool to everybody else who knows better. And yes, our kids will sometimes look us straight in the eye and deny it, they will lie right to our faces rather than run the risk of "getting into trouble" or disapointing us. It is far better, and more sensible, that we assume all kids are going to drink at some point in their lives.

Will they? Not necessarily. My daughter hates the taste and thinks drunks look ridiculous. She is more than happy to be the designated driver for her college friends who like to party. Even so, we treat the subject the same with her as we did with our son. But to ACCUSE our kids of drinking when they very well may not, only serves to anger them and may push them to prove us right. If they insist that they don't drink, we should take their word for it, but go on and present options to them anyway. Just in case.

Offer a fair out.

We must present options to our kids that enable them to save face but at the same time, understand that they must deal with the consequences later. With our kids, we had two options that we repeated over and over. If you've been drinking, DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, GET INTO A CAR AND HEAD HOME, no matter who from the party is driving.

Instead, if you have been drinking and you wish to come home, call us, your parents. It doesn't matter what time it is. You will not get into trouble at that time. We will discuss the drinking later, after you have sobered up. Another option is this, call us and tell us that you intend to stay right where you are and spend the night. There's no rush to hurry home the next day — not even for church, because alcoholic blood content INCREASES over time. Sleep it off and come home the next afternoon, at which time we will discuss it.

If our kids DO drink and drive anyway, in spite of all we've done to prevent it, and should find themselves arrested, we should not intervene or try to "fix" the situation for them. There is nothing quite like a night in jail to sober a kid right up and teach him a lesson he will never, ever forget. Make him face the consequences. Make him feel the fear and the shame. Sometimes, it's the best thing that can happen to him.

And it's a far better option than identifying his body at the morgue.

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Clinton's impeachment

Amarillo Globe-News

President Clinton need not worry about his legacy any longer.

The historic events of Saturday guaranteed William Jefferson Clinton will remembered throughout history as the first elected president to be impeached.

With that fact apparent to even the most partisan of our elected representatives in Congress — and perhaps even to the president himself — now is the time for the president to graciously step down and bring finality to the crisis running amok throughout this nation.

There is no understating the historical ramifications of Dec. 19, 1998.

There also is no understating the ramifications of the president's perjury and obstruction of justice that created the firestorm of partisanship, the second-guessing of military action and the "politics of personal destruction" that have rocked this nation to its core — all because of the president's inability to simply tell the truth.

We have to ask the question: Is it worth it?

Is the impending impeachment trial in the U.S. Senate — which could last weeks or months and produce even more embarrassing and troubling events than Saturday — worth it to our president?

The president has only two years left in office.

Are these two years so precious as to risk putting this country through more days like Saturday?

We think not.

The president's legacy he so cherishes has been scarred and tarnished.

Given the current political atmosphere, can the president work effectively toward such vital issues as Social Security and health care reform in the next two years?

That is not a chance we are willing to take.

The president's lies have mushroomed into a cloud of divisiveness and moral judgment that lay blame at the feet of Republicans as well as Democrats.

Political careers have been ruined, not to mention the untold damage to family members of our elected representatives.

The most powerful and effective government in the world has been reduced to verbal partisan mudslinging and tabloid-like dirt-digging.

The most powerful military force ever assembled has been characterized as merely a political tool to save its commander-in-chief.

Why?

Because the president of the United States cannot tell the truth.

Republicans and Democrats have been launching verbal volleys aimed at ending partisanship. We doubt the sincerity of both.

Only the president can set the example.

Take a long look in the mirror, Mr. President.

Look at what is left of your legacy, look at what has happened to this country and what could happen in the future.

Set the true example of bipartisanship and do the honorable thing. Resign.

President Clinton's impeachment

Denton Record-Chronicle

He's William Jefferson Clinton, spin master of the world.

He wasn't impeached by the United States House of Representatives Saturday, he was victimized by a right-wing conspiracy, by a rabidly partisan vote, and by the politics of personal destruction.

He isn't responsible for the current state of the nation, but is standing with the American people against the wicked members of Congress who want to destroy Social Security, Medicare, prosperity and peace, and, incidentally, drive him from office. He didn't inflict the ugly gash in our body politic, but he, wonderfully superior person that he is, will heal it. He may have made a mistake or two in the past, but he has accepted responsibility for his acts and is now entirely believable and worthy of the nation's trust.

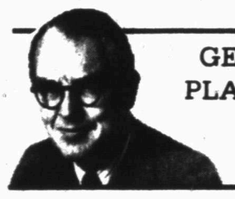
He has committed himself to doing whatever is necessary to bring the country together again. Well, of course he's not going to resign. The people need him. Resigning would deprive the country of his leadership God help us. We said a few months ago that Mr. Clinton would weather the impeachment crisis and prevail.

We said a few months ago that the only people who were going to lose anything over this including their jobs were some ranking Republicans.

We were right, and the country had better wake up to this fact: Bill Clinton is going to do whatever he wants to with Monica Lewinsky in the Oval Office, in the witness chair of a civil trial, before a grand jury and none of us can call him to any real accounting or bring him to any real consequences.

He has perfected his real talent — political spin — too well.

He will go down in history as the second president ever to have been impeached and the first to have convinced the American people that impeachment made him not less but more worthy of the nation's highest office.



GEORGE PLAGENZ

Quija Board

If you went into a toy store before Christmas to buy a Ouija board, the first thing the clerk probably did was to blow the dust off the box. The Ouijai board is no longer a big seller.

This was not always so.

In 1967, the Ouija board took Monopoly's spot as the most popular American board game. Sales hit their all-time peak in 1970 and have been leveling off ever since.

While the manufacturers regard the Ouija board as a game, some people are not sure that it is all that harmless. Many religious people feel it is positively evil — a tool of the devil himself.

How could anything sold at toy and game counters along with Tinker Toys and Barbie dolls have anything to do with demons and devils and the world of the occult?

I'll get to that. First, for those who know nothing about the game, let me explain how to play.

The Ouija board is a piece of wood about 2 feet long and 1½ feet wide.

Printed on its surface are the letters of the alphabet and the 10 digits. In either corner are the words "yes" and "no," and underneath the numerals is the phrase "Good-bye."

To operate the board, two people sit facing each other with the board on their knees and their fingers resting lightly on a heart-shaped indicator which is mounted on the board.

As questions are asked to the Ouija baord, the indicator slides over the board and spells out messages in response to the questions, which may be about love and romance, the stock market, or where you are going on your vacation next year.

Sometimes the board answers in a foreign language. One board is said to have answered only in German, even though its owner couldn't speak a word of German.

Some boards are atrocious spellers, and it doesn't make any difference who is playing the game. Others cuss — to the extreme embarrassment of ministers and nice old ladies who may have the game on their lap.

What is the explanation for all of this? The common theory is that the answers come from the subconscious minds of those playing.

But Bible-beliving Christians have another explanation.

"There are two souces of hidden information and knowledge," says one Bible tract. "One is God and one is Satan. A person may seek such knowledge from God in prayer. But Satan and the powers of darkness can offer such information through the occult and thus gain access to our lives."

The best-known story about the strange power of the Ouija board concerns a St. Louis housewife who was using the board with a friend when she got this message.

"Many moons ago I lived. Again I come. Patience Worth is my name."

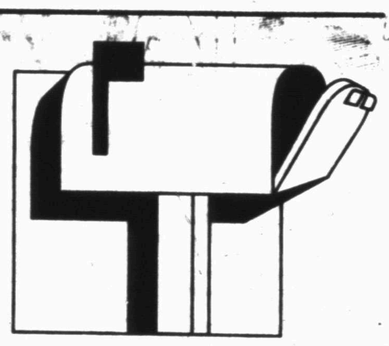
The housewife passed it off with a laugh. But for the next 25 years, "Patience Worth" dictated, via the Ouija board, a continuous flow of poetry, play and novels to the housewife who never before had written a line of literature.

The Ouija board as invented by William Fuld of Baltimore in the late 1890s. The name is a combination of "oui" and "ja," the French and German words for yes.

Fuld was as baffled as anybody by the Patience Worth story. As a matter of fact, he always seemed surprised when the board came up with correct answers to any questions.

"It's a mystery to me, he would say — on his way to the bank."

Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor:

Memories of driving overseas usually ring up near-nightmares. Now, I have one good memory. As van drivers for our local Senior Center, we were puzzled that the horn on one of the vans sounded only sporadically. Efforts to correct this — by excellent mechanics, incidentally — had been to no avail. A fog horn was installed, to no avail — now two horns, not one, were unpredictable. We would reach for the controls for both, hoping one would work — both might sound one time, next time neither.

Then, one day, a "click" suddenly "rang a note" with me — I must have been hearing it all along, subconsciously.

In Argentina, sounding of horns at night is unlawful. A switch changes the controls from "horn" to "flicker," so that the high bean of the headlights flicker instead of sounding the horn — that is, a flicker takes the place of the horn at night. A "click" is heard when the lights flicker. Suddenly becoming aware of this "click" set me to wondering — could that explain the problem with the horns?

I got one of my passengers to watch while I played with the controls to both horns. She confirmed that the lights were flickering off and on. Fortunately, several curious on-lookers did not have me committed. Reporting to my supervisors, they had me, nor one of the men, which was customary, take the van to the mechanics.

The mechanics — skeptical, at first — confirmed that this was really happening. They touched up some wires, showed me that both horns were working, and sent me on my way, explaining that a "click" is supposed to be heard when switching on the high beam. Who was I to suspect they had not solved the problem?

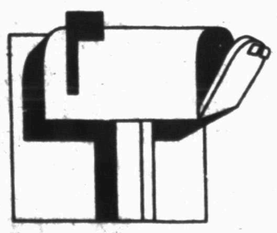
Next morning, the head mechanic called the Senior Center to have the van sent to him at once. It had suddenly registered with him, that the high beam lights were flickering when he tried to sound either horn.

After by-passing connections between the horns and headlights, both horns could be counted on to sound faithfully. The foghorn had been connected to replace the switch from "horn" to "flicker," thereby involving both horns in the same circuit.

I wrote this up soon after it happened, but we decided it could inspire distrust. We knew the mechanics were fully reliable, but the public — especially senior citizen passengers and their families — could not be expected to take our word for it. Now, more than a dozen years have passed, and none of the same personnel nor vans are involved.

I speculated that the van had been assembled overseas, or for overseas shipment, but was told it had been assembled in Dallas. I figured out where the problem lay. Someone else will have to figure out how the van got to be wired the way it was.

Helen Nixon
Van driver,
Senior Center, 1983-87
& retired missionary
to Argentina



Beautiful gifts

Dear Editor:

Thank you, Colonial Hill Baptist Church, for the beautiful gifts you offered by presenting the drive-through Christmas story! It was a real blessing! It was heartwarming to see so many people of all ages — children too — working together in the name of Jesus Christ, even as the weather turned cold.

My thanks to each one — you all did an excellent job ... from the hot chocolate ministry (delicious) to puppeteers, to each participant — Thank you! You have honored our Lord and you have encouraged the hearts of many in the community. God bless you.

And God bless each church in Scurry County for lifting the name of Jesus in loving outreach to others, as we are called. May Christ add to His Kingdom, and hear us pray and seek His forgiveness and His will for ourselves, our families, our friends, our churches, our communities, our state, our country and the world of His! To Father God be the glory.

And to each one who is not involved in a church ... there is only one that is perfect. Jesus Christ our Lord, so do not let imperfections keep you away. He will "finish the good work. He has begun" in each one of us! Get "plugged in" to the Living God and take part in His work! It's time. He loves you. He calls you, He has a plan for your life, and he is good all the time!

Denise Coonrod

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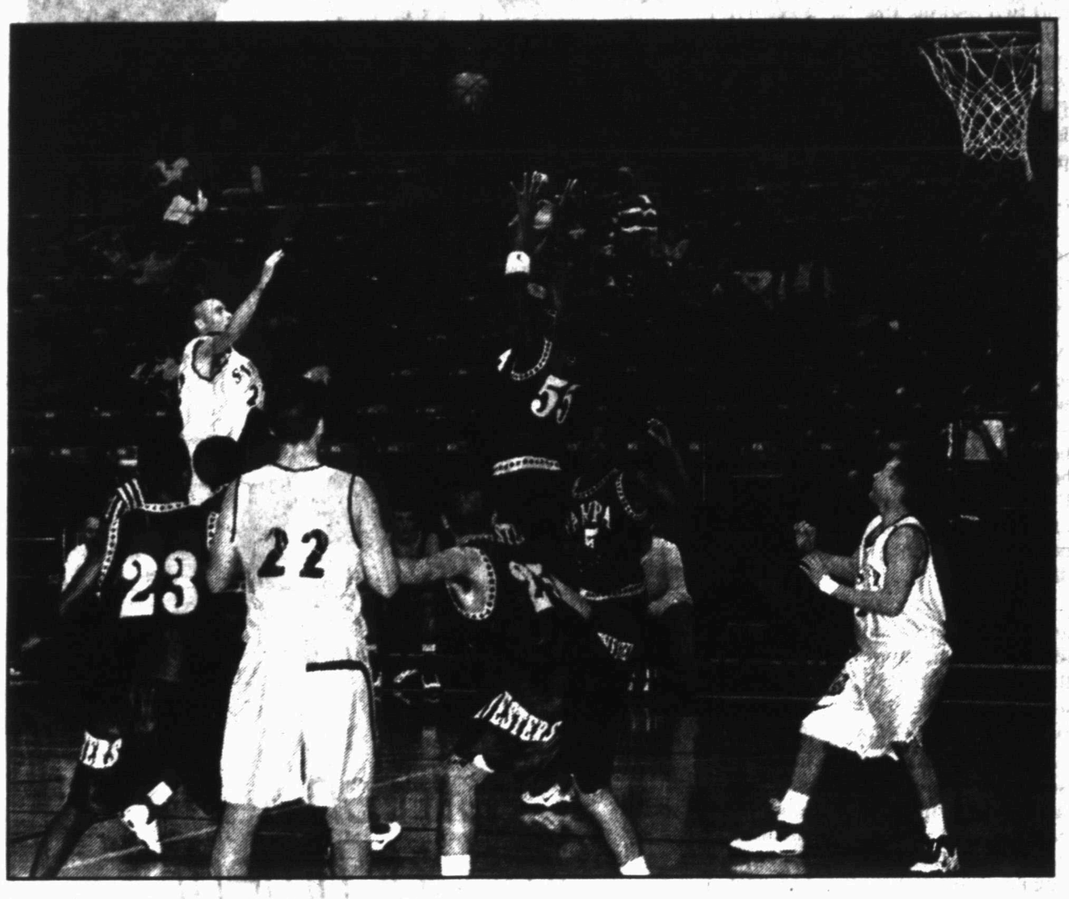
SPORTS



CHANGE OF HEART — Snyder point guard Jared Hester decides to pass the ball rather than shoot it during the Tigers' victory over Pampa earlier in the season. Tyler Warren awaits the pass, while Cory Mandrell (22) looks on. Snyder opens action in the Brownwood tournament at 11 a.m. Monday against Bangs. (SDN Staff Photo)

Missouri, West Virginia hope to end bowl game losing streak

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — A year ago, it was a big deal that Missouri even made it to a bowl game. This time, the Tigers are serious about winning one.

No. 23 Missouri's opponent in Saturday night's Insight.com Bowl, West Virginia, has plenty of motivation, too. The Mountaineers have lost seven consecutive bowl games. Their last postseason victory was in the 1984 Bluebonnet Bowl. No team has ever lost eight bowl games in a row.

Last year, coach Larry Smith directed Missouri to the Holiday Bowl, the Tigers' first bowl game in 13 years. But they lost to Colorado State 35-24.

"Last year, we were just so doggone glad to be in a bowl game," Smith said. "Guys really tried hard to focus and they practiced hard, but we didn't really have that click. This time around, we've got the click. We have not had a bad practice yet."

Missouri (7-4) is a three-point favorite agaisnt the Mountaineers (8-3).

But West Virginia's standout tailback Amos Zereoue says his team's confidence is high after finishing the season with four straight victories.

"We feel we can win this game," he said. "The four-game winning streak definitely helps. When you lose the last game of the season and then you go to a bowl game, it's like you're starting all over again."

Zereoue could be playing his last game for West Virginia. He's considering giving up his final year of eligibility to go to the NFL. His Missouri counterpart, Devin West, definitely is in his final college game.

West and quarterback Corby Jones, two players who led the Tigers out of the football wilderness, are seniors.

Although both teams are built around the talents of their tailbacks and quarterbacks, there is a clear difference in style.

'Our running back is a power guy who's going to keep slamming at you, and our quarterback is more of a run guy who can make a big play on you with the run first," Smith said.

"Their offense is more spread-them-out. They've got great receivers. They're going to make big plays with the passing game, and they've got Zereoue, whose more a skitterbug type who will make people miss him and has great speed."

West and Zereoue finished fifth and sixth in the nation in rushing. West gained 1,578 yards, or 143.5 per game. Zereoue, the Big East's career rushing record holder, gained 143 yards per game. West averaged 5.6 yards per carry, as did Zereoue.

Jones, meanwhile, rushed for 2,533 yards in his four seasons with the Tigers. He has 38 career touchdowns rushing and 26 career TDs passing.

"If their quarterback doesn't have it, you can bet your bottom dollar the tailback does," West Virginia coach Don Nehlen said. "Their passing game is not elaborate, but very fundamental. Their passing attack is very similar to ours when we had Major Harris."

West Virginia's Marc Bulger is the Mountaineers' career leading passer with 5,995 yards. This year, the junior passed for 3,178 yards and a school-record 27 touchdowns with only nine interceptions. He was a second-team All-Big East pick, behind Syracuse's Donovan McNabb.

Ricky Williams vs. James Johnson...

Runners highlight Cotton Bowl

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — In many ways, James Johnson and Ricky Williams are similar — big, bruising runners with breakaway speed and bright futures.

The leading rushers for No. 25 Mississippi State and No. 20 Texas, respectively, who play in the Cotton Bowl on New Year's Day, provide an intriguing matchup.

"They are two good backs. The difference they have over a lot of other backs is they are full-speed when they hit the line of scrimmage," said State coach Jackie Sherrill. "A lot of other backs go east and west and it takes them a little longer.

"Neither one runs a 4.4 (40-yard dash), but they are very powerful backs and accelerate very quickly. When they see an opening, they are gone."

Johnson and Williams, both seniors in the 225-pound range, get most of their yardage after initial contact.

While Johnson made his impact at Mississippi State in just two seasons, Williams won this year's Heisman Trophy while becoming the NCAA career rushing leader.

"He and Ricky have a lot of similarities. They are big and strong, and make so many yards after contact," said Texas coach Mack Brown. "It will be a special game for people across the country who like watching a running game."

Williams ran for 2,124 yards and 27 touchdowns this season. In his college career, he has set or tied 16 NCAA records and 44 school marks, including career records for yards (6,279), scoring (452 points), touchdowns (75) and all-purpose yards (7,206).

Every college football fan knows about Williams. But fewer are aware of Johnson, even though he was the 14th-leading rusher in Division I-A despite being hampered by injury the last three games.

Johnson, a former junior college transfer, is the only Mississippi State runner ever with two 1,000-yard seasons.

After a 209-yard rushing effort in a loss at Kentucky, Johnson set a school record with 237 yards rushing and 312 all-purpose yards against Alabama. That 26-14 victory on Nov. 14 started a three-game winning streak that gave State its first Southeastern Conference Western Division title.

But J.J. strained his groin against Alabama, apparently on a 58-yard run on the final drive of that game.

His rushing attempts have been limited since. After averaging 23 carries the first nine games, he was held to just 29 total carries the past three games while battling the groin injury and then a sore shoulder suffered on a touchdown dive against Ole Miss on Nov. 26.

"J.J.'s shoulder is still not 100 percent, but hopefully with rest and healing time, he will be okay. His groin is fine," Sherrill said before the Bulldogs departed for Dallas on Christmas Day.

Despite being held to just 106 yards the last three games (including 14 carries for 38 yards in the SEC Championship Game vs. No. 1 Tennessee), Johnson almost became the first Bulldog to win the SEC rushing title.

Johnson led the SEC with 1,383 rushing yards and 5.9 yards per carry, but his 115.3 yard-per-game average was just behind Kevin Faulk of LSU (116.3 ypg), who won his second straight league rushing title because Johnson's first postseason game counted in the league stats.

At inaugural Oahu Bowl...

Falcons fly past Huskies

HONOLULU (AP) — Take that, Bowl Championship Series committee!

Air Force, snubbed by the BCS in the national championship picture despite an 11-1 record, put an exclamation point on its season Christmas Day by pounding Washington 45-25 in the inaugural Oahu Bowl.

Earlier in the first-ever bowl doubleheader, Colorado outscored Oregon 51-43 to win the Aloha Bowl.

In beating the Pacific-10 Huskies, the Falcons lived up to their ground-conscious persona by ripping off 234 yards. And, for good measure, Blane Morgan, Air Force's triple-option wizard, outplayed heralded Washington quarterback Brock Huard. Morgan completed 12 of 16 passes for 267 yards and two touchdowns and rushed for 50 yards.

Huard, a junior who has announced he will skip his senior season to go into the NFL draft, also showcased his skills. He completed 23 of 32 passes for 267 yards. But that came up far short of making up the difference and three interceptions didn't help.

49ers should have no problem with St. Louis' running game

By R.B. FALLSTROM
AP Sports Writer

It took 15 weeks for the St. Louis Rams to come up with a running back who could top what Greg Hill did in two.

June Henley finally overtook Hill, out for the season since September with a broken ankle, as the team's rushing leader with a paltry 262 yards in last week's loss at Carolina. Henley gets his third start for the Rams (4-11) in Sunday's season finale at San Francisco.

"Right now, June is our starting running back," coach Dick Vermeil said. "When Hill comes back, (Henley) will be our No. 2 back. We won't punish Greg Hill for breaking his ankle, but it will be competitive."

Vermeil also indicated the Rams might draft a running back high again next season. They took Robert Holcombe of Illinois in the second round this year.

In any case, Henley isn't conceding the job next year.

"I'm going to come in here, work hard and fight for the No. 1 spot," Henley said. "I'm not going to give it up just to give it up."

In his first start, Henley had 86 yards on 24 carries and two touchdowns in a victory over playoff-bound New England. Last week he had 69 yards on 17 carries against the Panthers, and he's looking for more production this week as the Rams seek to end a 16-game losing streak to the 49ers.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
NewJersey	19	8	4	42	94	78
Philadelphia	15	9	8	38	88	71
Pittsburgh	13	10	7	33	83	83
N.Y.Rangers	11	14	7	29	84	87
N.Y.Islanders	12	19	2	26	82	96
Northeast Division						
Buffalo	18	6	5	41	85	51
Toronto	19	12	2	40	106	95
Boston	15	10	6	36	83	63
Ottawa	15	12	3	33	89	74
Montreal	8	18	7	23	71	95
Southeast Division						
Carolina	16	13	5	37	86	78
Florida	11	12	6	28	73	80
Washington	10	17	3	23	64	78
TampaBay	8	22	3	19	68	116

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	17	14	1	35	99	87
St.Louis	11	11	8	30	79	76
Nashville	12	16	3	27	75	96
Chicago	10	19	4	24	75	110
Northwest Division						
Colorado	14	15	3	31	75	79
Edmonton	14	16	3	31	91	89
Vancouver	13	15	4	30	94	95
Calgary	12	18	3	27	92	100
Pacific Division						
Dallas	20	5	6	46	94	63
Phoenix	19	6	4	42	87	55
Anaheim	13	12	7	33	76	73
SanJose	9	15	7	25	67	74
LosAngeles	10	20	3	23	73	91

Saturday's Games

Montreal at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Boston at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Florida at Tampa Bay, 7:05 p.m.
Buffalo at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Detroit at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Washington at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Vancouver at San Jose, 10 p.m.
Phoenix at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BOWL GAMES

Friday, Dec. 25
Blue-Gray Classic
At Montgomery, Ala.
Gray 31, Blue 24
Aloha Bowl
At Honolulu
Colorado 51, Oregon 43
Oahu Classic
At Honolulu
Air Force 45, Washington 25
Saturday, Dec. 26
Insight.com Bowl
At Tucson, Ariz.
Missouri (7-4) vs. West Virginia (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Tuesday, Dec. 29
Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Alabama (7-4) vs. Virginia Tech (8-3), 5 p.m. (ESPN)
MICRON PC Bowl
At Miami
North Carolina State (7-4) vs. Miami (8-3), 7:30 p.m. (TBS)
Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Kansas State (11-1) vs. Purdue (8-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Wednesday, Dec. 30
Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Nebraska (9-3) vs. Arizona (11-1), 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Thursday, Dec. 31
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Brigham Young (9-4) vs. Tulane (11-0), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Sun Bowl
At El Paso, Texas
Southern Cal (8-4) vs. Texas Christian (6-5), 2 p.m. (CBS)
Peach Bowl
At Atlanta
Virginia (9-2) vs. Georgia (8-3), 5 p.m. (ESPN)
Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Mississippi (6-5) vs. Texas Tech (7-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Friday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Penn State (8-3) vs. Kentucky (7-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)
Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Georgia Tech (9-2) vs. Notre Dame (9-2), 12:30 p.m. (NBC)
Citrus Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Michigan (9-3) vs. Arkansas (9-2), 1 p.m. (ABC)
Cotton Bowl
At Dallas
Mississippi State (8-4) vs. Texas (8-3), 11 a.m. (FOX)
Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Wisconsin (10-1) vs. UCLA (10-1), 4:30 p.m. (ABC)
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Texas A&M (11-2) vs. Ohio State (10-1), 8:30 p.m. (ABC)
Saturday, Jan. 2
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Syracuse (8-3) vs. Florida (9-2), 8 p.m. (ABC)
Monday, Jan. 4
Fiesta Bowl
At Tempe Ariz.
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SNYDER COUNTRY CLUB

SPORTS

Snyder, Ira set to tip-off tournaments

It's an abbreviated holiday break for four local basketball teams as they begin tournament action on Monday.

Snyder's varsity boys and girls, along with both Ira squads, will get their final taste of tourney competition, with Hermleigh returning to the court next Saturday.

The Tigers will be looking to improve on their 5-8 mark when they take on Bangs in the opening round of the Brownwood tournament. Tip-off is slated for 11 a.m.

In their last outing on Dec. 18, the Tigers suffered a one-point setback to Abilene Wylie.

While Snyder's boys are in Brownwood, the Lady Tigers will try to extend their winning streak to four games when they begin play in the Abilene High tourney.

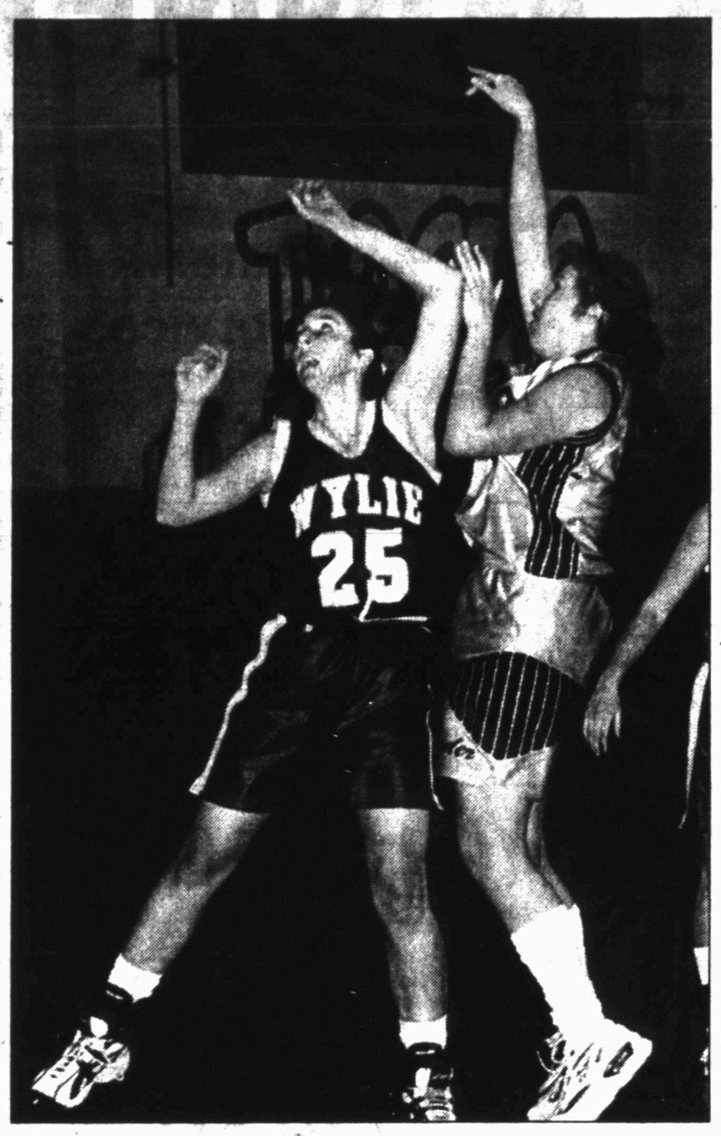
The Lady Tigers have won three straight, knocking off Eastland, Abilene Wylie and Lamesa to even their record at 7-7.

At the Klondike Cotton Classic, Ira's boys and girls carry matching 9-4 marks into Monday's first round.

The Lady Bulldogs, coming off a 48-43 victory over Roby in their last outing, will square off with Morton at 3 p.m.

Following girls' action, the Ira boys take to the court at 4:30 to face Loraine.

The Bulldogs will be looking to get back on track after falling to Roby, 57-50, last week.



WITH A FLICK OF THE WRIST — Snyder's Lexie Beard shoots over Abilene Wylie's Kendra Deberry during action last week at the SHS gym. The Lady Tigers carry a three-game winning streak into the Abilene High tourney, beginning Monday. (SDN Staff Photo)

Thanks to comeback victory...

Stewart becomes Aggie hero

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — After Texas A&M quarterback Branndon Stewart engineered a shocking comeback victory over No. 2 Kansas State, fans left 47 messages on his answering machine.

Finally, cheers for Stewart.

He went to Tennessee and got bumped by Peyton Manning. He transferred to Texas A&M and lost his job to Randy McCown.

Then, the very day he decided that he'd played his last down of college football, Stewart was reinstated as the starter for the biggest game of the season.

With the Aggies down 27-12 in the fourth quarter of the Dec. 5 matchup, Stewart drove them to a 36-33 double overtime victory and spoiled the Wildcats' chances to play for a national championship.

Now, Stewart is the hero who will lead the Aggies on New Year's Day against Ohio State in the Sugar Bowl.

Everyone is saying it couldn't have happened to a nicer guy.

"Throughout my career, I may have gotten some unjustified criticism," Stewart said. "I think a lot of people realized that a lot of times, the magnitude of that attention was a little more than was justified.

"I guess they wanted something good to happen for me and they are glad to see that happen."

It was better than good. Stewart threw three touchdown passes, including the game-winner in the second overtime. He completed 15 of 31 passes for 324 yards against the stunned Wildcats.

It was a small example of what was expected all along. After a sparkling high school career at Stephenville, Stewart transferred to Texas A&M and ignited the hopes of the Aggie faithful. But he and McCown shared the starting job, before coach R.C. Slocum finally settled on his rival.

"Branndon without a doubt went to college with high expectations. Going through the thing at Tennessee got more notoriety," Slocum said.

"Then he comes here and he never said, 'I'm a hotshot and I'm going to lead you to the promised land.' Others said that about him. Throughout the process he had good games and games he didn't do as well."

After losing his job, Stewart never moped or became a divisive force. Instead, he made the most of his reps in practice.

Then McCown broke his collarbone Nov. 27, scoring a touchdown late in the Aggies' 26-24 loss to Texas. The break wasn't diagnosed until the following Wednesday at practice.

"I told Shane (Lechler) before practice that Wednesday I didn't think I'd play again because Randy was playing so good," Stewart said. "He came back (after practice) and said, 'Man, you spoke too soon.'"

It was a break for Stewart as well, giving him one more chance to prove himself. Running back Dante Hall said he knew the quarterback was up to the task against Kansas State.

"He was so at ease with what he was doing, like he had nothing to lose," Hall said. "It was kind of the way he carried himself, his body language."

In Aloha Bowl...

Buffaloes outlast Ducks

HONOLULU (AP) — Ben Kelly ran 93 yards for a touchdown on the opening kickoff and Colorado scored on four of six Oregon turnovers, before withstanding a fourth-quarter rally to beat the No. 21 Ducks 51-43 Friday in the Aloha Bowl.

Quarterback Mike Moschetti threw touchdown passes of 72 yards to Darrin Chiaverini, 58 yards to Marcus Stiggers, 20 yards to Daniel Graham and 5 yards to Javon Green to set an Aloha Bowl record for most touchdown passes and lead the Buffaloes (8-4) to victory in the school's 1,000th game.

Damon Wheeler had a 52-yard interception return for a TD for Colorado and Jeremy Aldrich kicked field goals of 48, 41 and 23 yards to set a bowl record for most field goals as the teams combined for the most points in the 17-year history of the game.

Despite winning division title, Cowboys considered longshot

IRVING (AP) — The common perception is once the NFC playoffs begin the Dallas Cowboys will be sent packing in short order.

Although they were the best team in a bad NFC East division, Dallas showed less than Super Bowl caliber play and just eked past lowly Philadelphia 13-9 last Sunday to break a three-game losing streak.

Seven of the Cowboys' nine wins have come against NFC East foes. Carolina and Seattle were the only other Dallas victims. Dallas has lost to Minnesota, Denver, New Orleans, Chicago, Kansas City and Oakland.

Cornerback Kevin Smith, who has three Super Bowl rings, said the Cowboys are still capable of making a run to Miami, but they have to play well in the season finale against Washington on Sunday night in Texas Stadium.

Smith will start at right cornerback for the second week in place of Deion Sanders, whose big left toe is still sore.

"I think we have just as much a chance as anyone else," Smith said. "What's important now is that we play good against the Redskins. If we can go 10-6 it would be a complete reverse of the 6-10 that we had last year."

No team has ever swept the NFC East in a season. That is one incentive Dallas has going into Sunday's game. The game will have no bearing on the Cowboys' playoff position, which calls for them to host a wild-card team in Texas Stadium on either Jan. 2 or Jan. 3.

"If we play like we did against Philadelphia I don't see how we can go very far in the playoffs," safety Darren Woodson said. "We're not playing that great so resting guys against Washington probably won't happen. We need to get on a roll going into the playoffs."

Fullback Daryl Johnston said he is proud of what the Cowboys accomplished after what they went through last season.

"This is big for us to win the division," Johnston said. "There is still a lot of pride on this team. There are still some guys here who have been to three Super Bowls and won them."

The Cowboys know they have to kick up their play a notch, particularly on offense.

"If we keep playing like we're playing offense are we going to win another world championship?" quarterback Troy Aikman said. "It's highly unlikely unless our defense keeps holding people the way they have been."

Running back Emmitt Smith said no matter what happens coach Chan Gailey deserves kudos for turning the team around.

"Chan deserves a lot of credit," Smith said. "He has done just a tremendous job. He is a great leader. He has turned the ballclub around."

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x-NEngland	9	6	0	.600	327	298
x-Buffalo	9	6	0	.600	355	300
Indianapolis	3	12	0	.200	291	417
Central						
y-Jacksonville	10	5	0	.667	371	335
Tennessee	8	7	0	.533	314	294
Pittsburgh	7	8	0	.467	260	282
Baltimore	5	10	0	.333	250	325
Cincinnati	3	12	0	.200	268	417
West						
y-Denver	13	2	0	.867	473	288
Oakland	8	7	0	.533	264	325
Seattle	8	7	0	.533	351	282
KansasCity	6	9	0	.400	296	339
SanDiego	5	10	0	.333	228	326

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

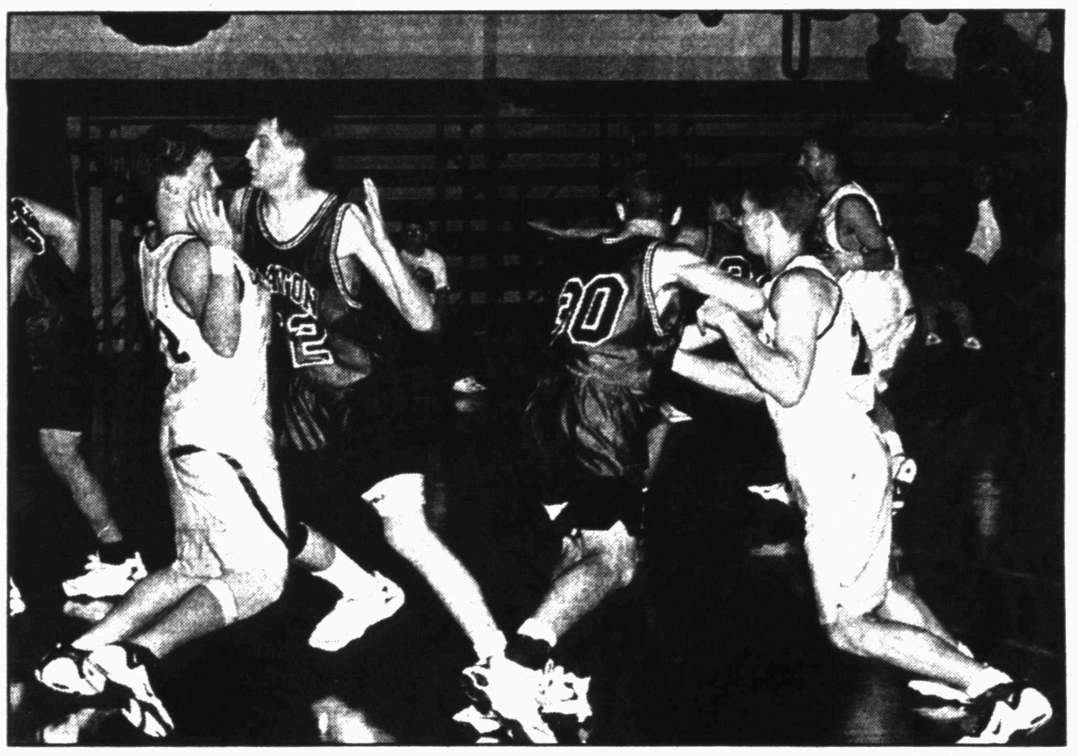
	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
East						
y-Dallas	9	6	0	.600	358	268
Arizona	8	7	0	.533	309	365
N.Y.Giants	7	8	0	.467	267	299
Washington	6	9	0	.400	312	398
Philadelphia	3	12	0	.200	151	324
Central						
y-Minnesota	14	1	0	.933	530	280
x-GreenBay	10	5	0	.667	392	306
TampaBay	7	8	0	.467	279	295
Detroit	5	10	0	.333	296	359
Chicago	4	11	0	.267	263	352
West						
y-Atlanta	13	2	0	.867	404	273
x-SanFran	11	4	0	.733	441	309
NewOrleans	6	9	0	.400	272	314
St.Louis	4	11	0	.267	266	340
Carolina	3	12	0	.200	309	394

x-clinched playoff berth
y-clinched division title

Saturday, Dec. 26
Minnesota at Tennessee, 12:35 p.m.
Kansas City at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 27
Buffalo at New Orleans, 1:01 p.m.
Carolina at Indianapolis, 1:01 p.m.
Detroit at Baltimore, 1:01 p.m.
Green Bay at Chicago, 1:01 p.m.
Miami at Atlanta, 1:01 p.m.
New England at New York Jets, 1:01 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Cincinnati, 1:01 p.m.
New York Giants at Philadelphia, 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
San Diego at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.
Seattle at Denver, 4:15 p.m.
Washington at Dallas, 8:20 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 28
Pittsburgh at Jacksonville, 8:20 p.m.



TIGER TANGO — Snyder's Cory Mandrell (22) sets a screen, while teammate Brock Durham attempts to elude his defender during action against Slaton earlier this season. The Tigers will be looking for their sixth win when they take on Bangs at 11 a.m. Monday in the Brownwood tournament. (SDN Staff Photo)

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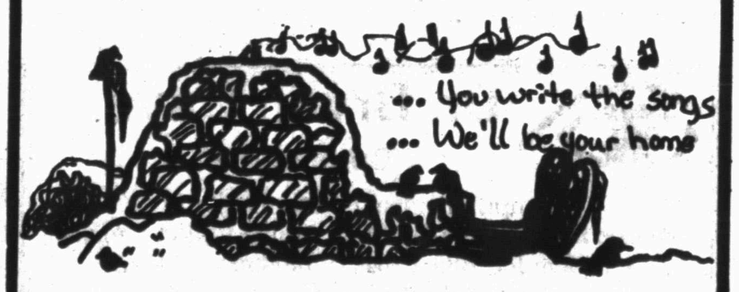

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3007 41st 3-1-2cp $30's
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3503 40th 3-1½-1 $41.5T
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Khmer Rouge leaders defect

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — Two top Khmer Rouge leaders considered architects of the group's genocidal reign of terror in the 1970s defected to the government today. Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea said they wished to become "ordinary citizens."

Prime Minister Hun Sen said he personally negotiated what amounts to the pair's surrender, and brushed aside questions of whether they would be brought to trial for crimes against humanity.

"We should not talk about any court," Hun Sen said. "This is a time when we should talk about reconciliation."

Hun Sen's language indicated that a deal had been struck letting Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea make peace with the government in exchange for avoiding trial, despite pressure from the United States and other countries to bring them to justice.

The deal involving Khieu Samphan, the nominal Khmer Rouge leader, and Nuon Chea, the rebel movement's political chief, appeared to finish off one of history's most brutal revolutionary groups. It leaves at large only one major Khmer Rouge figure, the one-legged general Ta Mok, and less than 100 loyalists.

Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea, who were in the former rebel town of Pailin in northwestern Cambodia, sent letters to Hun Sen announcing they had broken from Ta Mok.

"I have no other request except a request to be allowed to live as a simple citizen," Khieu Samphan wrote in a copy of the letter obtained by The Associated Press.

Nuon Chea wrote: "I am honored to submit my request to the Royal Government to return to society as an ordinary citizen to take part in the consolidation of peace and stability."

Hun Sen, in a letter to King Norodom Sihanouk read over national radio, said he "would like to warmly welcome the two personalities, and I hope this decision ... will become a mobilization of strength for national reconstruction and peace."

The two leaders were key figures in the Khmer Rouge's brutal 1975-79 rule, under which as many as 2 million people were killed.

The Cambodian government and the United States have said they wanted them captured and tried for genocide and crimes against humanity. It was unclear whether the defections meant the Cambodian government would not pursue charges against them.

An aide to Hun Sen, Om Yentieng, said the prime minister supports a tribunal for ex-leaders involved in genocide but that justice should be left to local courts — which are woefully unequipped for such a task.

Youk Chhang, director of a Cambodian research center devoted to gathering evidence against the Khmer Rouge, said Hun Sen would risk losing support from Cambodians if he prevents a trial.

"With Nuon Chea, it is very clear he was involved in dealing with security, prisoners and torture," Youk Chhang said. "Khieu Samphan, however, was more involved in making government policy."

The U.S. Embassy did not immediately take calls from reporters seeking comment.

The defections come just weeks after Khmer Rouge chief of staff Khem Ngun and seven other generals surrendered and returned to the Cambodian capital, Phnom Penh, for the first time in 19 years. That surrender dealt a death blow to the guerrilla group.

Khem Ngun told The Associated Press that Khieu Samphan and Nuon Chea had not attached any conditions to the surrender.

Church head scolds priests.

MOSCOW (AP) — The head of the Russian Orthodox Church has rebuked some priests for owning expensive cars and mobile phones at a time when many parishioners are struggling to afford the basics, a newspaper reported Friday.

Patriarch Alexy II told a church meeting Wednesday that at a time when Russia is going through its worst crisis since the Soviet collapse, some priests had assumed the lifestyle of "new Russians" — newly rich people notorious for ostentatious displays of wealth, the Moscow Times reported.

The remarks were unusual since the church rarely makes public its internal problems.

The patriarch also complained that some priests were forming ties with dubious, possibly illegal businesses to obtain money.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

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Funeral Speakers Should Share Their Names as Well as Stories

by Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: I recently attended yet another funeral where several speakers shared reminiscences of the deceased. As charming and comforting as the stories were, it was very frustrating to listen to even the most heartfelt comments when I had no idea who the speakers were or their relationship to the deceased.

Relatives and friends came from hundreds of miles away. The church was packed with schoolmates, neighbors and friends. My family were not the only mourners who had no clue about who these speakers were. A simple, "My name is Bill Smith. Tom and I played football at Granite College together," would have been so considerate. Even the clergy remained anonymous.

One notable exception was a service that Cardinal O'Connor conducted for a longtime friend in Washington, D.C. He didn't presume that everyone knew who he was, and introduced himself and his relationship to the deceased. It made his participation poignant and personal.

MIFFED MOURNER IN DELAWARE

DEAR MIFFED: Your suggestion is one of the ABCs of public speaking that should be remembered by anyone stepping before a microphone. However, most speakers at funerals and memorials are amateurs who are unaccustomed to speaking before an audience (most are emotionally stressed as well). I'm sure the people you heard were speaking from their hearts, so attribute their omissions to inexperience.

DEAR ABBY: This is for "Paying the Price in Phoenix," the woman who was arrested for DUI:

The reason you were locked in jail like a common criminal is because you *were* a common criminal. It makes no difference whether you are a "professional" or not. Astute officers also arrest doctors, ministers, judges and the like.

Be grateful you lost your license for only 30 days, and you didn't kill anyone! The money you had to pay as a result of your drunken actions is only money. You are alive! Get over your parents being disgusted with you. Would they have their daughter D.O.A. instead of DUI?

The stress you are experiencing will pass, once you get on with the business of living. Mine did. I also called my arresting officers after my hangover cleared to thank them for keeping one more drunk off the streets — permanently. I learned after two DUIs, and I'm recovering from alcoholism by the grace of God and the 12 steps of AA.

RECOVERING IN ROME, N.Y.

DEAR RECOVERING: You have written a powerful and sobering letter. Thank you for it — and continued success in your sobriety.

***

DEAR ABBY: I believe your suggestion to the guy who has his name on his ex-girlfriend's posterior could be improved upon. Since everybody in their small town knows about it, why not declare her caboose a public billboard and let other names be tattooed on her backside as they qualify?

I had a shipmate during World War II who had his girl's name tattooed on his thigh. After he got the proverbial "Dear John" letter, a short trip to the tattoo artist resulted in "Patty" becoming "Batty" — which he said he was, to have done it in the first place.

NO NAME IN TEXAS

DEAR NO NAME: Your letter is a hoot. Fortunately, for tattooed ladies and gentlemen who've had a change of heart — or circumstances — laser surgery is an efficient way of erasing the evidence with a minimum of pain.

***

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.)

Reception Deception Leaves Father Doubting Son's Word

by Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: My son was married last month. Before the wedding, he asked me if I would contribute financially to the reception. I offered to pay for the drinks, and he and his fiancee seemed appreciative. The bride's parents are divorced, but they, too, have each contributed several thousand dollars to the reception.

A few days before the wedding, my son informed me that the total cost of the beverage bill came to nearly $3,000. I wrote a check for that amount.

My son's bride told my wife that there would be some extra charges, so I telephoned the accountant at the hotel to get the exact amount. The accountant informed me that there were no extra charges, and the total bar bill was less than half the amount I had contributed. My son refused to discuss the matter, so I sent the invoice from the hotel to him and his wife two weeks ago. Since then, there has been total silence on their end, and it looks like a cold relationship is developing. My wife says I should forget about the extra $1,700, since they probably needed the money for other expenses. I maintain there's an ethical issue here that shouldn't be swept under the rug. What do you think?

CHEATED FATHER/ FATHER-IN-LAW IN WISCONSIN

DEAR CHEATED: I agree with you. There is the ethical issue of honesty. You were right to let your son and his bride know they couldn't "pull the wool" over your eyes. Their silence indicates their embarrassment and probably an inability to repay the money.

Write a note telling them you'll accept payments on the installment plan. Then bill them every month until they have paid off the debt.

***

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 18 years and have three children. Last spring, my husband moved out to "find himself" and promised he would be back. Well, he found a lady "friend" with whom he's been spending a lot of time, drinking and partying. He never did this before.

When he went camping alone with this woman, it was more than I could take. He said nothing happened. I didn't believe him and filed for divorce. He has nothing to do with me now, and not much to do with the kids. I know it's probably over, and I'm having a hard time accepting it. I have very little self-esteem. Do you think I should try to get him back or accept the situation and get on with my life? He has changed so much that I don't really like him anymore, but I want to do the right thing for the kids' sake. He refuses to give up this woman — she even comes before the kids.

Abby, what do you think?

HURTING IN FARGO, N.D.

DEAR HURTING: After 18 years, you know your husband very well. Since he refuses to give up the woman and try to revive the marriage, you have no choice but to go on with your life.

During a long marriage, sometimes it's hard to distinguish between where you leave off and your spouse begins. It's important that you now allow time for yourself. The better you become reacquainted with yourself, and the more independent you become, the more your self-esteem — and your life — will improve.

If the going gets rough, talk to your friends, your minister or a counselor. Although it's hard to start over, and it will take some time, you will get over this unhappiness and emerge stronger for it. Trust me.

***

Everybody has a problem. What's yours? Get it off your chest by writing to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069. For a personal reply, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Couple shares Christmas with nursing home

John and Dollie Shults decorate Snyder Healthcare Center

By Shirley A. Gorman
News Editor

For the second year in a row, Christmas at Snyder Healthcare Center has been a little brighter for the residents and staff, thanks to the generosity and creative ability of a couple who work there.

John and Dollie Shults have filled the main lobby with miniature buildings, Santa Clause scenes, a manger and several Christmas trees, each elaborately decorated.

Perhaps the most eye-catching is the miniature German village, built in two parts, where each building is an exact replica of an authentic building in Germany.

Each building is made of hundreds of parts, all minutely fashioned together.

All have been constructed by John, who has enjoyed building things all of his life. Dollie sews and likes to make crafts.

While they purchased the Santas and Mrs. Clauses, John built the scenes which surrounds them. One has the Christmas couple sitting on a couch while a fireplace "warms" the room. A light gives the illusion that the fire place is burning.

John has also built a manager scene complete with lights.

Several brightly decorated Christmas trees add a festive touch to the lobby. One is pink and all are brightly decorated.

John said they had to add a bigger circuit breaker to one side of the lobby to accommodate the extra lights.

The Shults have given the Christmas trees to the Snyder Healthcare.

Even though the lobby is filled with Christmas scenes, John said they aren't through yet. He is rebuilding an ice skating scene which had been displayed last year at the center.

He is replacing the Ludwig Castle with a Frankenstein Castle. He has a replica of the latter castle at home. Next year, they will probably have new ideas, John said. They already have a box of tree decorations left over.

They said they find things in hobby shops, catalogs and other stores. John ordered the praying doll from a catalog and placed it on top of a tree they purchased and decorated in pink. He said they had always wanted a solid blue tree and a solid pink tree.

The Shultses began setting up the Christmas display on Dec. 1. They enjoyed watching the faces of the residents and staff as they put everything in place. To them, that's the greatest pleasure.

Three years ago, the couple had everything displayed in their living room. John said they didn't need a fireplace or heater because all of the Christmas lights kept the room warm. Staff members liked to come and see it so two years ago, they brought everything to the nursing home instead.

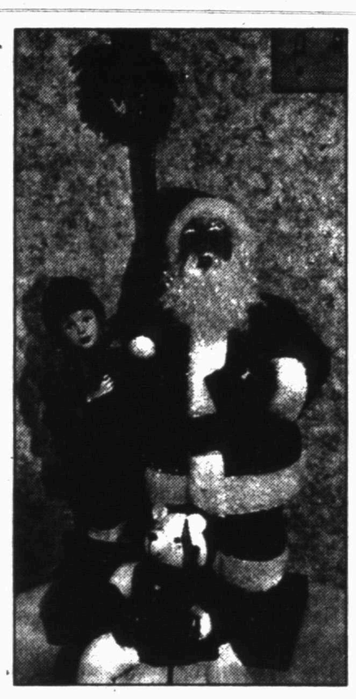
John said they decided to share their vision of Christmas with the people at Snyder Healthcare "because we are all family."

See Display, Page 17

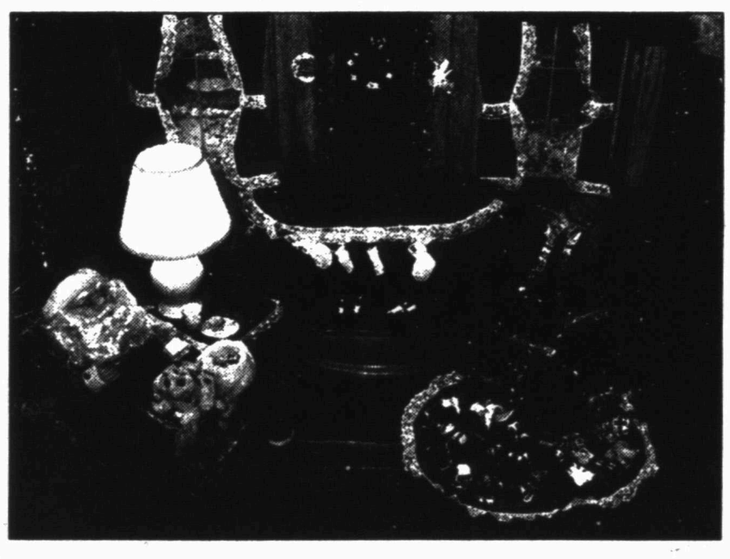
AROUND THE WORLD — Santa and Mrs. Claus consulted a globe before Santa delivered presents on Christmas Eve. This scene is on display at Snyder Healthcare Center. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

MR. AND MRS. CLAUS — This Santa and Mrs. Claus are part of the festive decorations that John and Dollie Shults have set up at Snyder Healthcare Center. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

GERMAN VILLAGE — John and Dollie Shults are shown looking at part of an authentic miniature German village which they have set up at Snyder Healthcare Center where they both work as LVNs. The village, complete with a miniature train, is just part of the festive Christmas decorations the couple have set up at the nursing home. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

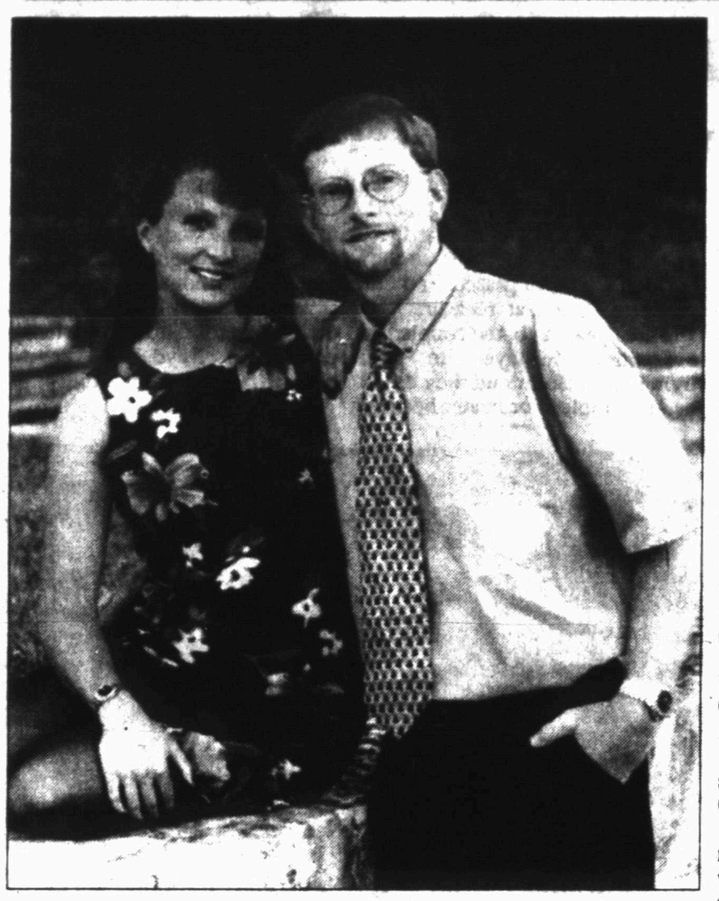


SANTA AND FRIENDS — Santa Claus and his friends, a little girl and a teddy bear, are on display at Snyder Healthcare Center. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)



REST TIME — In this Christmas scene at Snyder Healthcare Center, Santa is taking a well-deserved nap. It is part of the display set up by John and Dollie Shults. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Ornaments
And Selected Christmas Items
1/2 Price
Hallmark
GOLD CROWN
The Pleasure's Mine
2502 Ave. R Snyder, Texas 915 / 573-6536 Layaways
Virginia Bloom
Owner



JUNE WEDDING SET — Dora Jean Rumpff and Scott Roberson, both of San Antonio, are planning a 5 p.m. wedding ceremony on June 5 at Calvary Hills Baptist Church in San Antonio. Dora is the daughter of Terry and Ellen Rumpff of Abilene. A 1990 graduate of Snyder High School and 1994 graduate of Texas Tech University, Dora teaches band, 6th—12th grades, at Medina Valley ISD. Scott is the son of Helen Roberson of Abilene and Paul Roberson of Arlington. He is a candidate for May graduation at St. Philip's College as a radiology technician. Scott works in radiology at Advanced Imaging Clinic, and for R&R Trap Sales and Service as a skeet mechanic. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Think twice about dumping trash illegally

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — If you're dumping trash illegally — surprise! — you might be caught on the city's candid garbage cameras.

Over the next six months, the city's solid waste department plans to hide dozens of cameras in trees, bushes or atop buildings to catch dumpers in the act.

"I'm hoping that people will think twice about dumping stuff from now on," Joe New, Corpus Christi's solid waste compliance officer, said Tuesday. "We're just trying to clean up this city."

City officials estimate illegal dumpers toss out about 70,000 tons of furniture a year — mostly sofas and mattresses — as well as construction materials, bags of household trash, yard waste and other garbage.

In December ceremony...

Miss Daniell, Rinehart united

Leslie Nicole Daniell and Kevin Curtis Rinehart were married at 7 p.m. on Dec. 5 in the First Christian Church. Dr. Tim Griffin, pastor of the church, officiated the double-ring ceremony.

Rickey and Paula Daniell are the bride's parents, and Neil and Mary Rinehart are parents of the groom. All are of Snyder.

Two candelabra, holding white candles, were placed in the windows. The altar area was decorated with a large white flower arrangement with gardenias and candles on each side. The unity candle was held by a brass stand.

Jordan Daniell, cousin of the bride from Crane, and Sherie Canada, niece of the bride from Abilene, were candlelighters.

Mary Hollis and Brady Cobb sang "From This Moment On." Organist was Marie Clark.

The bride's father gave her in marriage as she wore a full-length, white satin gown with an off-the-shoulder sweetheart neckline and cathedral train. Embroidered lace and pearls graced the front neckline, hemline and train. A series of embroidered satin roses graced the waist back.

Matron of honor was Lindsay Canada of Big Spring, the bride's sister. Bridesmaids were Taylor Daniell, sister of the bride, Amy Ricks and Erin Kirk, all of Snyder. They wore blue dresses and carried a bouquet of mixed colored flowers.

Taylor Freeman of Snyder and Samantha Daniell, cousin of the bride from Crane, were flower girls. They carried baskets of blue flowers and blue potpourri.

Ring bearers were Logan and Robbie Rinehart, sons of Les and Shay Rinehart. They carried a white satin heart-shaped pillow.

Best man was the groom's father, Neil Rinehart. Groomsmen were Les Rinehart, his brother; Jym Rinehart, his cousin from Borden County; and Lee Idom.

Male attendants wore black tuxedos with black and royal blue swirls on their ties and vests, and multi-colored boutonnieres. The groom wore a black tux with a black tie and vest, and a white rose boutonniere.

Jane Canada of Abilene registered guests at a table that was centered by six roses, a gift from Les and Sha Rinehart, and a picture of the bride and groom.

The reception held at the church featured the bride's white cloth-covered table holding a three-tiered cake decorated with fresh flowers. Mauve punch was also served from a crystal bowl, and nuts and mints. Serving were Mendy Blake, cousin of the bride from Midland, and Cindy Blake, her aunt from Midland.

From the groom's table, a red velvet cake with white icing and strawberries decorated as a bride and groom was served by Amy Rinehart, cousin of the groom from Borden County. Nuts and mints were also offered.

Following their honeymoon trip, snow skiing in Winterpark, Colo., they have made their home in Snyder where the groom farms. A Snyder High School graduate, the groom attended New Mexico Junior College. He played baseball in high school and college. The bride, a high school graduate, is a Mary Kay Consultant.

Mr. and Mrs. Curt Rinehart
(Photo by Mr. Geez Photography)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

	North 12-26-98 ♠ A 6 5 4 2 ♥ 9 7 3 ♦ K 10 4 ♣ A 8	
West ♠ Q J 9 7 ♥ 10 5 4 2 ♦ 9 ♣ J 9 4 3		East ♠ K 10 3 ♥ 8 6 ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ 10 7 6 5 2
	South ♠ 8 ♥ A K Q J ♦ A J 8 6 5 3 ♣ K Q	

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
7 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 3

The declarer was Tom Townsend, one of Britain's most promising young players. Having only nine top tricks (one spade, four hearts, two diamonds and two clubs), he had to bring in the diamond suit.

The percentage play is to cash the ace and king. However, delaying the evil moment, Townsend took his four heart tricks. When East showed up with a doubleton, Townsend decided this increased the chance that East would have three diamonds. He led a diamond to dummy's king, then ran the diamond 10.

It is hard to argue with success, but if the club cards were honest, East had five to his partner's four. Was that enough to swing the percentages? Definitely not, according to my sources. The diamond finesse was still against the odds.

A key point, though, is what happened at the other table. South was in seven diamonds. Having to make an immediate decision about the trump suit, he cashed the ace and king: one down.

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The prize is everything

This is Boxing Day in Canada and other countries in the former British Commonwealth. Lords of the manor took gifts in boxes to their serfs. Well, my gift to you is a contract of seven no-trump. How should South plan the play after a club lead?

South's two-heart reverse showed maximum values with diamonds longer than hearts. North's jump to four diamonds announced an excellent hand for play in that suit, normally with four-card support. Now South used Roman Key Card Blackwood, learning that his partner had two aces and the diamond king.

Duplicate Bridge Scoreboard

Jane Hinton directed bridge games at the Snyder Country Club.

FRIDAY
Dec. 18
North-South

1. Mary Bast, Johnye Van Dever.
2. Margaret Birdwell, Barbara Yorgesen.
3. Ann Davis, Anita Talbott.

East-West

1. Gracie Craig, Ann Spitler.
2. Nona Morrison, Frances Stevenson.
3. Doyle Fowler, Johnnie Taylor.

SUNDAY
Dec. 20

1. Margaret Birdwell, Jane Hinton.
2. Dot Casey, Louise Thompson.
3. Rube McKinley, Frances Stevenson.

Scurry County Library News and Views

The Scurry County Library receives shipments of large type books from the Big Country Library system. These books will remain from six to 10 months. They are available for a two-week checkout, on you current library card. All books received now are large type. The library is receiving westerns, biographies, mysteries and regular fiction books, many of which are new editions.

BOOK FEATURE

"Get a Life: You Don't Need a Million to Retire," by Ralph Warner.

Although few people in mid-life want to hear it, the chances of enjoying an active, fulfilling retirement have almost nothing to do with money.

The life choices you make during your 40s and 50s will largely determine whether you will retire happily or end your life bored, depressed and sick. Spending all your time working to save money isn't the path to contentment. Neglecting friends, family and your own health is not the way to retirement success.

Ralph Warner offers sound advice for achieving both financial success and a fulfilling retirement.

NEW NON-FICTION

"The Breast Cancer Prevention Guide," by Robert B. Arnot.

"Best Home Hints From the Super Handyman," by Al Carrell.

"How to Talk to Your Child About Sex," by Linda Eyre.

"Virtual Archaelogy," by Maurizio Forte.

NEW FICTION

"Crossroad Blues," by Ace Atkins.

"Christmas Candle," by Richard Evans.

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We Will Be Closed Monday, Dec. 28 To Prepare For Sale

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A'Lise Lloyd and Joel Kern
Carolyn Atkinson and Chad Grimmett
Leslie Daniell and Curt Rinehart
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TO MARRY JAN. 1 — Judy Smallwood and Gary Hubbard announce their engagement and upcoming marriage. The wedding has been set for 3 p.m. on Jan. 1 at Trinity United Methodist Church in Snyder. They invite friends to attend. They will make their home in Ralls. (Photo by Wadleigh Studio)

Tips for the well-dressed bride

NEW YORK (AP) — Details, details. You've found the guy, you've found the gown.

There's more. To look well dressed on your wedding day, carefully survey accessories from your fine-net veil down to your peau de soie pumps.

Averaging more than $800 (according to readers of Bride's magazine), a bridal gown may be the most expensive garment you ever purchase. But don't forget the go-withs. "Accessories are the framework," says New York bridal salon owner Michelle Roth, who deals in everything from handmade porcelain headpieces to lingerie.

Here are a few tips:

— No accessory should overwhelm you.

"The veil has to be very gossamer, hardly noticeable, so when the bride is walking down the aisle, you can see right through, and it creates the aura," says Roth. "The highlight is not the veil; the highlight is the bride."

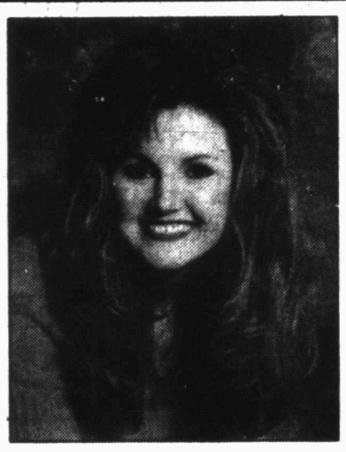
— Likewise, shoes "are a very important part of the gown," says Roth. "Even though you may only see the tips of them, they still create the entire look."

— When it comes to accessories, let tradition take over. Do you have a pearl necklace passed down from your grandmother? Or a special pair of earrings? "I encourage brides to bring in heirlooms," says Roth. "They reflect a sense of continuity. I believe in bringing the past into the future and creating a sense of family."

***

The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science.

—Albert Einstein



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Ask Anne & Nan

By Anne B. Adams and Nancy Nash-Cummings

DEAR ANNE AND NAN: A few weeks ago, I was treated to a lovely luncheon at the Middleton Restaurant on the Ashley River in Charleston, S.C. Our dessert was Huguenot Torte... delicious!

There was no one there to ask for the recipe, but maybe you could work your magic — or maybe one of your readers might be of help.

I would love to surprise my family with this treat. — **SUSAN RICHARDS, Milwaukee**

DEAR SUSAN: No problem, and no magic necessary. It just so happens that Anne's brother is president of the Middleton Place Foundation, which owns and operates the beautiful Middleton Gardens Inn, restaurant, plantation house and stableyards at Middleton Place, 14 miles northwest of the city of Charleston. She phoned him right up, and within the hour — thanks to the efficiency of the Middleton Place staff and the miracles of modern technology — she had the recipe for Huguenot Torte in hand.

When we made the Torte that evening for our family, we used four cups of apples and cut the sugar to two cups for a "tarter" version.

Huguenot Torte
(serves eight)

4 eggs
3 cups sugar
8 tablespoons flour
5 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons vanilla
2 cups tart apples, peeled, cored and chopped (Granny Smith preferred)
2 cups pecans, chopped

Beat whole eggs and sugar in an electric mixer until very frothy and lemon-colored. Mix in remaining ingredients. Pour into two well-greased 8-by-12 baking dishes. Bake in a 325-degree oven for about 45 minutes, or until crusty and brown. To serve, scoop up with a pancake turner, keeping the crusty part on top. Garnish with whipped cream and additional chopped nuts.

DEAR ANNE AND NAN: Can you tell me where to find the gadget you insert on the end of a toothpaste tube to roll the tube up as it is used? I like these little gizmos — they're not only neater, I'm also able to get more toothpaste out than I can by hand. The one I have is made from plastic, and is about to break. — **LINDA WNUKOWSKI, Doylestown, Pa.**

DEAR LINDA: You'll find this handy little item in the Harriet Carter Catalog, Dept. 38, North Wales, PA 19455 (800-377-7878). The "Tube Squeezer" is item number B2769; a set of two reusable squeezers is $3.98, plus shipping.

UPDATE FOR OUR READERS: A while ago, we wrote that we were unable to find a source for a "carpet rake" — a great tool for removing furniture indents from carpeting and rugs. Harriet Carter (address above) carries them. The Carpet Rake is catalog item number E3868 and costs $6.50, plus shipping; the pole/handle is not included, but the rake head fits all standard broom handles.

STUMPED: Bob Boe of Des Plaines, Ill., would like the words to an (interminable) song that begins: "There's a hole in the bucket, dear Liza, dear Liza/There's a hole in the bucket, dear Liza, a hole." We remember singing this song at summer camp, and ever since we received Bob's letter, it's been going (again, interminably) through our heads. Thanks a lot, Bob. However, we don't remember all the verses either. Readers?

Write to "Ask Anne & Nan" at P.O. Box 240, Hartland, VT 05048. Questions of general interest will appear in the column. Due to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

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For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

Laura Mae Williams

Mrs. Williams notes 90th birthday

Mrs. Laura Mae Williams, will be honored with a reception on her 90th birthday, Dec. 30, in the garden room of First Baptist Church from 2 to 3 p.m.

Born in Royston in Fisher County, Laura Mae and her family lived in the Sardis Community. Her parents are the late Ottis and Ider Mae Smauley. Laura has one sister and two brothers who are also deceased.

She never traveled outside Fisher County until adulthood. Laura married Grady Williams on April 18, 1930 in Fisher County. They had three children, Johnnie, Carl and Dwaine. They moved to Scurry County in 1938 where Mr. and Mrs. Williams farmed until he died in February of 1975 and where Laura Mae continues to reside. Their daughter taught high school English at Vega, Tex., until her death in 1971.

Johnnie and Carl started to school in Hobbs, but all three children graduated from Hermleigh High School.

Mr. Williams, Carl and Dwaine have been engaged in livestock farming in Fisher and Scurry counties. Laura Mae has been active in school and church activities at Central Baptist Church in Hermleigh since 1945.

When asked about her special memories, she shared a few events. She loved school, she remembered, but the children were not allowed to go until all the cotton had been pulled, which was usually in January. At that time, children only went to school for six months, usually from November until the end of April. She and her brothers and sisters walked four miles to school at Hobbs. Later, she attended school at Sardis and at Center. In all of her school days, she never rode a bus or vehicle to school.

Getting electricity on the farm made the biggest change in her lifestyle. Until that time, they only had two kerosene lamps which were moved from room to room as needed.

She said the depression in 1932 was a bad time in her life. "Couldn't get a dime out of anything, cows, hogs, chickens or anything else," she stated. "Nobody had money, the government came out and shot the cows. We were paid $7 a head for cows and $4 for calves — it was not a good time."

Laura Mae contributes her good health and long life to hard work.

Her children, Carl and Nona Williams, Dwaine and Jo Ann Williams, her eight grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren invite her friends and family to her birthday celebration.

Community Calendar

MONDAY

Storytime for 4- and 5-year-olds; Scurry County Library; 10 a.m.

Al-Anon, Snyder Park Club; noon.

Scurry County Museum's hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

Manic Depression (Bipolar) support group; Family Life Community Church, 904 26th Street; 7 p.m.

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

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

Weight Watchers; Trinity United Methodist Church, 5200 Trinity Blvd.; 5 p.m.

Just for Today NA, closed meeting; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

ACBL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.

New Horizons 12 & 12, closed meeting; Park Club; 7 p.m.

New Horizons 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.

TOPS TX56, (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5 to 6 p.m.; 2501 35th. For information call Peggy Vernon at 573-3122.

WEDNESDAY

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

Just for Today NA; open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Al-Anon brown bag; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; noon to 1 p.m.

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.

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.

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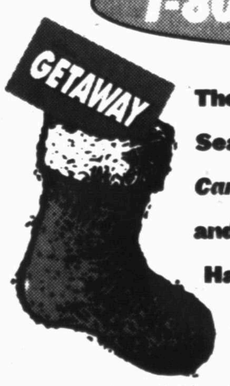

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Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6

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Facts About The BIBLE

BY JOHN LEHTI

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Philippians 4:13

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Public Records

New Vehicle Registrations

Joseph D. Hudnall, 1999 Chevrolet from Big Country Autoland.

Joe Ashley, 1999 Buick from Big Country Autoland.

Louis McAfee, dba LKM Services, 1999 Ford from Wilson Motors.

Dow A. Jones, 1999 Ford from Wilson Motors.

Mary Williams Watt, dba Anitina Cattle Co., 1999 Ford from Wilson Motors.

Anthony S. Fiore, 1998 Dodge from Snyder Chrysler.

Frank W. Bassham, 1999 Dodge from Snyder Chrysler.

Ysabel and Peggy Arellano, 1998 Ford from Wilson Motors.

Stewart and Rebeca Watley, 1999 Ford from Wilson Motors.

Daniel and Rebecca Johnson, 1999 Chevrolet from Big Country Autoland.

Rex Pylant, 1999 Ford from Wilson Motors.

Eldon A. Welch, 1998 GMC from Big Country Autoland.

Christopher B. and Katie Henson, 1999 Chevrolet from Big Country Autoland.

RWW Farms Inc., 1999 GMC from Big Country Autoland.

Christopher and Lucy Wright, 1999 Dodge from Snyder Chrysler.

Marriage License

Emiterio Villanue Martinez and Alice Davila Barrera.

Filed in District Court

United Companies Funding Inc. vs. Tommy J. Smith, suit on contract.

Action in District Court

In the marriage of Vanessa McGinty and Wesley Thomas McGinty, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Sylvia Pesina and Rogelio Pesina, divorce granted.

Sears, Roebuck and Co. vs. Stacey A. Browning, default judgment for plaintiff.

Richard Hernandez and Mary Hernandez, individually and as next friend of Ricardo Hernandez, vs. Virginia A. Rodriquez, order to release custodial funds.

John's Pump and Supply Inc. vs. Cotton Valley Energy Corp., judgment for plaintiff.

Jackie Susan Bass vs. Marshall Early and Jerry Don Early, order of dismissal with prejudice.

Deed Records

Vera Lou McSpadden, individually and as independent executrix of the estate of W.B. McSpadden, to Vera Lou McSpadden, tract one being .94-acre tract in Section 182, Block 3, H&GN survey; tract two being 24.07 acres out of Section 182, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Jerald Smith, trustee of the Jerald and Ione C. Smith Family Trust, to Snyder Builders Inc., all of Lot 10 in Block 2 of the Wall Addition.

Shirley K. Jones, independent executrix of the estate of William A. Jones, to Shirley K. Jones, tract one being the south one-half of Section 460, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract two being the south one-half of Section 459, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract three being 137.9 acres in Section 484, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract four being 117.38 acres in Section 536, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract five being Lots 1-12 in Block 105 of the Town of Fluvanna.

Wayne Cornelius to Robert Lomax, the west 50 feet of Lot 11 in Block 3 of the Noble Heights Addition.

Robert Lomax to Reatha Jean Richardson, the west 50 feet of Lot 11 in Block 3 of the Noble Heights Addition.

Snyder Savings and Loan Association to Ricky Lynn and Terri Diane Beights, all of the northeast 6.0386 acres out of Lot 1 of the Round Top Acres Subdivision of Sections 185 and 186 in Block 3, H&GN survey.

Display

Continued From Page 13

John said that the residents have their favorite tree that they like to sit beside.

Last Christmas, their display at the nursing home won a chamber of commerce prize for having the best display of Christmas traditions.

John is retired from the military, and though he has always liked to build things, he never built miniature buildings until he was recovering from a heart attack and heart surgery while stationed in Germany in 1982.

During his convalescence, he said he began building miniature trains and buildings. He said the kits in Germany come with many more parts than the ones in the U.S.

John has been an LVN at Snyder Healthcare for the past six years. Dollie has been an LVN for two years. Previously, she was a nurse's aide for two years.

John and Dollie live between Lorraine and Colorado City. They have a baby daughter, Lora Michelle, who has been "adopted" by the residents and staff at Snyder Healthcare.

Ruling may lead to more sunbathing in nude on beaches

By The Associated Press

State prosecutors say a man who had very little on poses a very large threat to public decency on Texas beaches.

David Lacour, a 41-year-old state highway department worker from Kountze, was ticketed on a Gulf Coast beach in 1995 after a passerby complained to Jefferson County deputies that he was sunbathing nude.

Lacour said he was sitting in a lawn chair with a towel on his lap and reading a canoeing magazine when the witness drove by on the beach, which was off a closed road five miles from High Island.

Lacour was convicted in a justice-of-the-peace court in Port Arthur. It took a while to seat a jury — the judge disqualified four women who had sunbathed nude on the same beach, the Texas Journal of the Wall Street Journal reported.

But last month a state appeals court in Beaumont overturned his conviction 2-1. The court majority said Lacour wasn't breaking state decency laws because the beach is isolated and he wasn't "reckless" in exposing himself.

Prosecutors. as well as the dissenting judge on the appeals court, say the ruling is an invitation to nudists to take over public beaches. Prosecutors say they plan to appeal.

"The law shouldn't be that I can go to the steps of the Capitol and take my pants down and it's OK as long as I warned people I was going to do it," said Matthew Paul, the state prosecutor in the case.

But others doubt the result will be so stark.

Nudists still "have to be aware of the risk of someone being offended," said George Dix, a criminal-law professor at the University of Texas in Austin.

Texas law doesn't explicitly ban public nudity, but nudists can be ticketed for disorderly conduct when they expose their genitals with reckless disregard for who else might be "offended and alarmed," the Journal reported.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Sunday, Dec. 27, 1998

In the year ahead, you will have many opportunities to shore up the base from which you operate, both financially and personally. This could have a beneficial affect not only on you, but your family as well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If you apply yourself today, your rewards could be larger than usual. However, you must not take your opportunities for granted. Do what you can to make things happen. Capricorn, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and self-addressed stamped envelope 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) Ideas you conceive have excellent chances of fulfilling themselves and living up to your best expectations today. You could even do well with several simultaneous endeavors.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Because of considerate associates who have your best interest at heart today, this could be one of those days when good things will happen for you. If you need a favor, make your request known.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The only way an endeavor can get off the ground today is if you're willing to roll up your sleeves and apply a little elbow grease to the idea. That's what makes things happen.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Challenges are what will awaken your sleepy spirit today. Otherwise, you could have a tendency to coast along; contending with introspective thoughts.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Unusual circumstances might initiate some kind of involvement with several close friends or business associates today. Whatever transpires, it could be beneficial for all involved.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Don't let circumstances control your options today. If you are anxious to alter or change a situation, see what you can do to manipulate things to your satisfaction.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Starting today, things could begin to look up for you, but first you must have faith that there is a feasible solution to every problem. You may have a lot to contend with for some time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Conditions that affect your material well-being are starting to shift in your favor today. If you've been looking for ways to supplement your income, capitalize on what transpires.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You could be fortunate in all partnership arrangements today. Several one-on-one relationships that you deem to be significant may take on greater importances during this cycle.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Follow through to completion endeavors or projects you've been hoping to make some money from today. Profit is in the picture if these pursuits are taken to the marketplace.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Because circumstances are extremely favorable for you today, key people could be more interested in you than usual. Put your best foot forward in areas that mean the most to you.

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Your Birthday

Monday, Dec. 28, 1998

Several situations you've worked hard for in the past could now be in the making for you in they year ahead. Expect satisfactory and fruitful conclusions. It'll involve things you've always wanted.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) The warm, vivacious manner in which you comingle with others today will make you an asset to any gathering. Be it social or business, the results will be rather pleasant for you. Major changes are ahead for Capricorn in the coming year. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 and self-addressed stamped envelope 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) If you make several matters that you've failed at satisfactorily concluding a priority today, they will be finalized at this time. Do so and get them out of your way.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Find ways today to use your marvelous faculty for bringing people together and drawing out their finer qualities. It's what you do best and that's why people love you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you have something profitable on the back burner, turn up the gas today and get it cooking. To procrastinate any further could devalue its worth.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Don't stand back just out of politeness when involved with others on a mutual project. If you possess the know-how and means to accomplish a collective goal, take control of the situation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) From behind the scenes comes a person who has your best interest at heart. He or she can to help you today. This person's input could turn things around in your favor.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you need a little psyche healing, spend your time today with enthusiastic individuals. Chances are they'll stimulate you both emotionally and intellectually, and get you feeling good again.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't be afraid to elevate your goals today. Shoot for tougher targets because you're in a pretty good achievement cycle. If you have the will to win, you will.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Don't be surprised if associates start hanging around you today in hopes that some of the optimistic good luck you're generating will rub off on them. We attract what we are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Because your analytical faculties are keener than usual today, favorable end results are quite likely, especially when working on any type of investigative or fact-finding projects.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) A more effective collaboration could forge stronger links with individuals pertinent to your present plans if you take the initiative to instigate the bonding. It'll benefit all who's involved.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) The ability to infuse determination with optimism is what will make it possible to achieve any objectives you establish for yourself today. This is your strongest attribute.

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Elvis bar loses suit; will close

HOUSTON (AP) — It's heartbreak hotel for patrons of the Velvet Elvis bar.

After fighting — and losing — a trademark battle with Elvis Presley's estate, the little Houston saloon is closing for good on Dec. 30.

"This really doesn't have anything to do with the lawsuit," insisted the bar's founder, Barry Capece. "That was an expensive ordeal, but we got through it."

But the lawsuit had the bar all shook up. It cost the owners thousands of dollars and their cherished name.

In 1995, Elvis Presley Enterprises sued the bar for trademark infringement.

AARP Corner

By Horace B. Deets
AARP Executive Director

This month Medicare beneficiaries will begin to hear from the Health Care Financing Administration about the new Medicare+Choice program that will offer Medicare beneficiaries up to six different coverage options including traditional Medicare and Medicare HMOs. (Health Maintenance Organizations). Traditional Medicare (fee-for-service) is the only option that will be available to everyone on Medicare. The other options may not be available in every area.

The new options are Medicare provider-sponsored organizations (PSOs) which are like HMOs except they are run by doctors and hospitals, Medicare preferred-provider organizations (PPOs), which are similar to HMOs but allow you to see providers outside the network and do not require that you choose a primary care physician — you can go directly to any doctor associated with the plan.

Medicare private fee-for-service which are more like traditional Medicare except you may pay more out-of-pocket expenses; and Medicare medical savings accounts (MSAs), which have two parts, an insurance policy and a savings account Medicare will pay your insurance premiums and deposit a set amount in your MSA each year to pay for your health care.

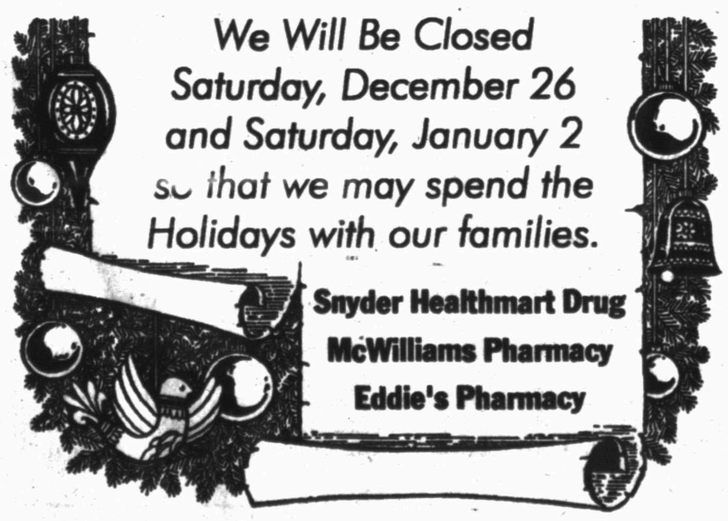
Navigating your way through this Medicare maze can be challenging. That's especially true now that some managed-care groups are unexpectedly dropping out of the Medicare program. But it can also be rewarding if you ask the right questions along the way.

First and foremost, keep in mind that you do not have to change plans. It's like the old adage, not to choose is to choose. By doing nothing you are choosing to stay in traditional Medicare. Your coverage will continue.

Depending on your personal needs, however, another option may offer advantages over your current coverage. If you want to explore other plans, take your time and think about what is important to you. Learn everything you can about the options available in your area and compare their costs and benefits.

The most important point is to choose the plan that will make Medicare work best for you, even if the choice is to stay in traditional Medicare or in your current HMO. That means you need to ask yourself some questions: Will the plan you choose meet your needs? How much will you have to pay for your health care? Are there any hidden costs? If you make a change and decide later to go back to traditional Medicare, will you still be able to get the same medigap coverage?

Whether you keep your current Medicare coverage or decide to change to one of the new options, remember that you have the right to keep your existing coverage. You also have the right to switch to a new Medicare option (except an MSA plan) whenever you want until Jan. 1, 2002. After Jan. 1, 2002, you will be able to choose only once a year (with certain exceptions), but you may not be able to get the same supplemental coverage. Finally, you have the right to challenge a denial of care or coverage through an appeals process. Which Medicare option is best for you? It's your call.



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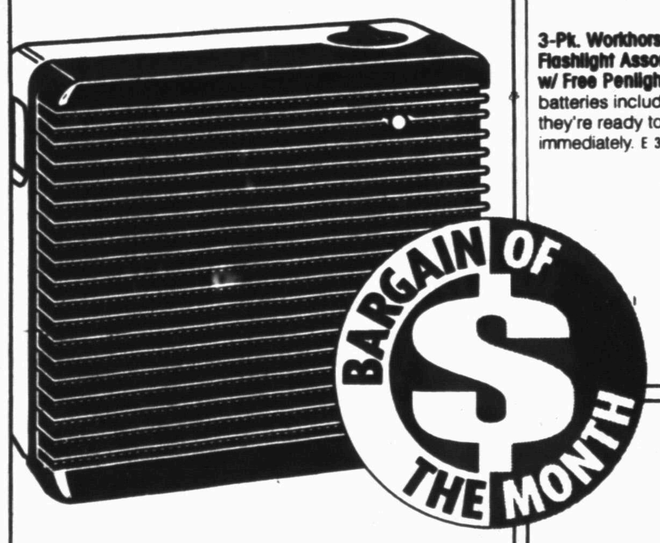

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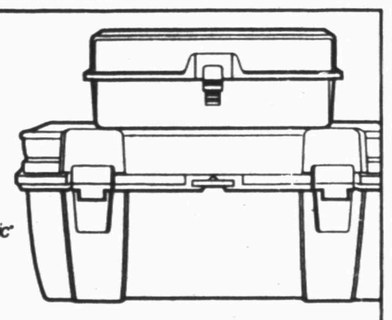

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Eight are killed in bus wreck

SAYREVILLE, N.J. (AP) — The driver of a bus that ran off a highway during a gambling junket to Atlantic City, killing eight passengers, told investigators the vehicle went into a spin when he tried to avoid an icy patch in the road.

The driver, 52-year-old Valerie Viner, had a checkered driving record, and his license had twice been suspended before the accident Thursday on the Garden State Parkway.

Viner told investigators he saw an icy patch and was blocked from changing lanes, so he braked. The bus spun around to face oncoming traffic, George Black of the National Transportation Safety Board said Friday.

The bus, carrying 23 passengers, most of them from a Russian Jewish community in Brooklyn, skidded across two lanes, crashed through a guardrail and tumbled down a slushy embankment. Some victims were thrown from the bus.

About a dozen survivors remained hospitalized Friday, with at least one in critical condition. Viner suffered minor injuries.

Lt. Daniel Cosgrove of the State Police said Viner's account is consistent with those given by witnesses.

Viner drove the route daily from New York City to Atlantic City, and investigators are trying to determine whether he was fatigued, Black said. Tests for drugs and alcohol were also being performed on the driver.

Investigators interviewed him at the hospital with the help of Russian translators.

About 2 inches of snow had fallen earlier, and snowplows had cleared two of three lanes. Black did not know if the bus' lane had been cleared.

Eddie Ginzburg, part owner of Bruins Transportation of Brooklyn, which owned the bus, had said on Thursday that Viner had never had an accident.

Townhouse fire takes six lives

DALE CITY, Va. (AP) — An early-morning town house fire killed six people Christmas morning — including three children, authorities said.

In Santa Clara, Calif., a blaze killed a father and two of his children when their home was engulfed Friday morning.

Authorities identified the Virginia victims as: Carlos Vera Denicia, 29; Martha Ortiz Barranco, 28; their sons, Carlos Ivan Denicia Ortiz, 9; Jeremy Christian Denicia Ortiz, 8; Ruben Denicia Ortiz, 4; and Denicia's niece, Maria Antonia Serrano Hernandez, 17.

Authorities have not determined the cause of the fire, which appears to have started in the basement.

Relatives said the dead were immigrants from Mexico and had lived in the town house for about two years.

A seventh person was flown to a Washington hospital for emergency treatment. Two others in the town house were not seriously injured.

Obituaries

Milton Winter

1913-1998

William Milton Winter, a farmer in the Hermleigh community, died at 5:20 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Graveside service for Mr. Winter, 85, is set for 3 p.m. Sunday in the Dunn Cemetery. The Rev. Carl Nunn, Methodist minister, will officiate. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born July 30, 1913 in Trent, he was married to Evlyn Hanson who died in 1969. He married Helen Bowen on June 27, 1975.

A resident of the Hermleigh community since 1975, Mr. Winter was a member of the First Methodist Church in Hermleigh.

Survivors include his wife, Helen Winter of Hermleigh; three sons, Ted Winter of Snyder, Mickey Winter of Tomball and Tom Winter of San Angelo; a stepson, Gary Bowen of Dunn; two brothers, F.M. Winter of Snyder and Tommy Winter of Las Vegas, Nev.; and seven grandchildren.

Eril Sandefur

1921-1998

Eril "Ducks" Sandefur of Hermleigh died Friday, Dec. 25, in Midland Memorial Hospital following a lengthy illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Sandefur, 77, is set for 4 p.m. Monday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Dr. Rex Reynolds, pastor of Hermleigh's First Baptist Church, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Pyron Cemetery.

Born March 6, 1921 in Dunn, she married James Patrick Sandefur Jr. on July 22, 1939 in Buford. He died on July 12, 1997. A housewife, she was also preceded in death by one brother.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Burton and Debbie Sandefur of Roscoe; a daughter and son-in-law, Denise and Clark Compton of Colleyville; three brothers, Harley Bolding of San Angelo, Dennis Bolding of Lampasas and Reggie Bolding of Midland; a sister, Wanda Nelson of Miami, Fla.; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

The family will greet friends at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral home from 7-8:30 p.m. Sunday.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Joe K. Lopour

1908-1998

Joe K. Lopour, a farmer and longtime resident of Scurry County, died Thursday, Dec. 24, in Windcrest Medical Center in Abilene after a lengthy illness.

Graveside service for Mr. Lopour, 89, was set for 2 p.m. Saturday in Hillside Memorial Gardens. Homer Anderson, minister of the 37th Street Church of Christ, was to officiate. Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Born Dec. 25, 1908 in Stamford, he married Ava J. Sorrells on June 5, 1960 in Borden County. She died on Oct. 26, 1998.

Mr. Lopour was a U.S. Army Air Corp veteran of World War II and he had lived most of his life in Scurry County. He was a member of the Ira Church of Christ.

Survivors include a son, Joe Earl Lopour of Chicago; a stepdaughter and her husband, Gloria and T. L. Griffin of Borden County; two stepsons and their spouses, B.R. and Dee Watson of Monahans and Weldon and Faye Watson of Roswell, N.M.; a foster son and his wife, Jimmy and Evelyn Woosley of Cortez, Colo.; a sister, Frances Gordon of Lubbock; eight grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; three foster grandchildren; and seven great-foster grandchildren.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the Ira Church of Christ.

Bill Cypert

1933-1998

GAINESVILLE — Bill Cypert, the brother of Jack Cypert of Snyder, died Tuesday, Dec. 22.

Funeral service for Mr. Cypert, 65, was set for 3 p.m. Saturday in the First Baptist Church. Dr. Bennie Slack was to officiate and burial was to follow in the Fairview Cemetery under the Direction of Clement-Keel Funeral Home.

Born in Ardmore, Okla., Mr. Cypert was the owner of Watts Brothers Pharmacy and had been a resident of Gainesville for 42 years.

He married Connie Scott in 1956 and was a former city councilman and mayor of Gainesville. He was a past director of the Gainesville Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Foundation, Development Authority and Downtown Merchants Association.

Mr. Cypert was a charter member of the Gainesville Jaycees, former president of the Fairview Cemetery Association, a former member of the Texas Regional Planning Commission and a member of First Baptist Church.

Survivors also include his wife, Connie Cypert of Gainesville; two sons, Greg Cypert of Hockley and Chris Cypert of Gainesville; two daughters, Cindy Rowley of Amarillo and Teri Cypert of Pensacola, Fla.; a sister, Novella Hollimon of Oklahoma City; and five grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to Missions at the First Baptist Church, Camp Sweeney or Hockley Boys and Girls Country of Houston.

James Perkins

1930-1998

DE LEON — James Perkins, brother of Louise Lynch of Snyder, died Wednesday, Dec. 23, in Abilene.

Funeral service for Mr. Perkins, 68, is set for 2 p.m. Sunday in the First Baptist Church in De Leon. Bodie Weaver and the Revs. Tom Satterwhite and Charles McClure will officiate. Burial will follow in Brownwood's Eastlawn Memorial Park.

Born in Brownwood, Mr. Perkins was a former school teacher and principal and he served as superintendent of schools in De Leon for 21 years. He was active in Boy Scout work, was a member of the De Leon Lions Club and First Baptist Church.

Survivors include two brothers, Willard Perkins and David Perkins, both of Brownwood; and three other sisters, Lena Mae Willett and Laverne Barker, both of Brownwood, and Betty Roark of Fort Worth.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Dec. 23: Joe Briseno, John Thomas, Kevin Ward, Carl Ashley, Vernest Tippens; Dec. 24: Laura Stewart, Matthew Molinar; Dec. 25: Charles Cain, Bonnie Ervin of Cisco, Melissa Garcia, Delfina Gonzalez, Ronnie Morris.

DISMISSALS: Dec. 23: John Thomas, Helen Wortham; Dec. 24: Joe Briseno, Milton Hollis, Vivian Kyle, Vernest Tippens; Dec. 25: Amilia Anguiano, Kevin Ward, Matthew Molina.

CENSUS: 33 (Med., Surg.-8, Long-term Care-25).

Officers work variety of calls over the holiday

No arrests were made over the Christmas holiday, but officers handled numerous complaints, ranging from thefts to disorderly conduct.

At 2:48 p.m. Wednesday, Huey Lee Jackson requested to speak to an officer in reference to the theft of a ring from 3005 Avenue T. An offense report for state jail felony theft was submitted.

Karen Bollinger requested an officer at 3:55 p.m. in the 3600 block of 44th Street in reference to someone taking elves from her front yard. An offense report for theft was filed.

An officer was called to Rudy's Restaurant at 10:22 a.m. Thursday in reference to a theft. An offense report for Class A theft was submitted.

At 7 p.m. Thursday, officers were requested at The Movie Stop in reference to a juvenile shoplifter. An offense report for Class C theft was filed and a criminal trespass warning was issued to the juvenile, who was transported home and released to his parents.

A woman requested to speak to a deputy at 9:04 p.m. in reference to being harassed by another subject. An offense report for disorderly conduct was filed.

Independently Owned & Operated

WCFH

WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

200 East 37th Street
Snyder, Texas
915-573-6200

December Resident of the Month

Mrs. Geraldine Armstrong has been selected as resident of the month by her fellow residents at Snyder Healthcare Center. Mrs. Armstrong has resided at Snyder Healthcare Center since 5-25-92. Prior to residing at Snyder Healthcare Center she worked in the cafeteria of a local school for 15 years. Mrs. Armstrong is highly thought of by the staff and fellow residents. She always has a kind word for others. Congratulations on being selected as Resident of the Month.

Snyder Healthcare Center

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

First Christian change

Due to an outside gas leak, First Christian Church will hold its Sunday morning service at Snyder Junior High. There will be no Sunday school and the service begins at 10:50 a.m.

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 "The Church as Part of God's Eternal Plan," followed by "Teaching Your Child to Pray."

Joint retirement reception

A joint retirement reception honoring District Clerk Elois Pruitt and County Commissioner Jerry Gannaway will be held from 2-4 p.m. Tuesday in the county courtroom.

Lions Club meeting set

The Snyder Lions Club will not meet Tuesday. The next meeting will be Jan. 5 at the regular time.

Blood pressure checks

Cogdell Home Health blood pressure checks will be held Wednesday, replacing the regular Friday clinic.

No Rotary meeting

The Snyder Rotary Club will not meet Thursday. The next regular meeting will be Jan. 7.

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, Jan. 12. 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.

Road to Recovery program

Volunteers are needed to take patients to Abilene or Lubbock one day a week for cancer treatment. Following approval by the American Cancer Society, drivers will be provided liability insurance and can be reimbursed for fuel expenses incurred for the trip. For more information, contact ACS Road to Recovery volunteer coordinator Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 and leave a message, or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993.

Store owner charged

FORT WORTH — A grocery store owner has been charged with murder in the shooting death of a 45-year-old man. Police said Darren Minor was arrested at his grocery store this week after confessing to the crime.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
3-0-6

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:
7-19-21-27-29

Texas Million

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Million numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
39-3-8-23

Texas Lottery

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 13-18-21-25-38-45. Estimated jackpot: $10 million.

Number matching six of six: Zero. Matching five of six: 118. Prize: $1,234. Matching four of six: 5,619. Prize: $93. Matching three of six: 97,678. Prize: $3. Next Lotto Game Saturday night. Estimated jackpot: $14 million.