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WT-Int. Crude - $29.88
WTIC Posted - $25.50

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

Jan. 26, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 230
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Joel Nesmith

Winter storm

A surprise to forecasters

By the Associated Press

Thousands shivered today in stranded cars, waited at airports or dug themselves out from nearly 2 feet of snow as forecasters admitted that the deadly East Coast storm was a nasty surprise.

"We're really cursing those computer models," said Andrew Woodcock, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Sterling, Va. "They had the low (pressure system) way out to sea."

The storm, however, raced north along the coast Monday and Tuesday, dumping nearly 2 feet of snow in places. Flurries were expected today across parts of the Northeast as the storm system moves out to sea and more delays were expected at major Eastern airports, some of which were shut down Tuesday.

Many schools and businesses across the East also were closed again today, along with all Philadelphia city offices and courts and most Maryland state offices. And more than 150,000 people were still without power in the Southeast today.

Traffic deaths on snowy and icy roads were reported from the Carolinas to New York, and two people were found dead of exposure in South Carolina.

In Great Barrington, Mass., the search resumed today for a 5-year-old girl missing and feared dead after she and her 9-year-old brother tumbled into the icy Housatonic River while walking to school Tuesday. The boy was treated and released.

Hundreds of motorists waited for help today along Interstate 85 in North Carolina, which was virtually shut down by jackknifed trucks for a 20-mile stretch near the Virginia state line.

Hospital board meets Thursday

Terry Williams, owner of Independent Propane, will be sworn in for his first term on the Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of managers when the board meets at 8 a.m. Thursday.

Williams, 38, was appointed by the Scurry County Commissioners Court on Jan. 4.

Two board members – Jim Bob Cave and Stanley Martin – will be sworn in for their third term on the board. Cave is currently serving as president of the board.

Following the swearing-in of the three members by County Judge Ricky Fritz, the board will elect officers.

In other business, Dr. Bid Cooper is scheduled to give a medical staff report, while Sherma Barham will inform the board on what the hospital did to offset potential Y2K problems.

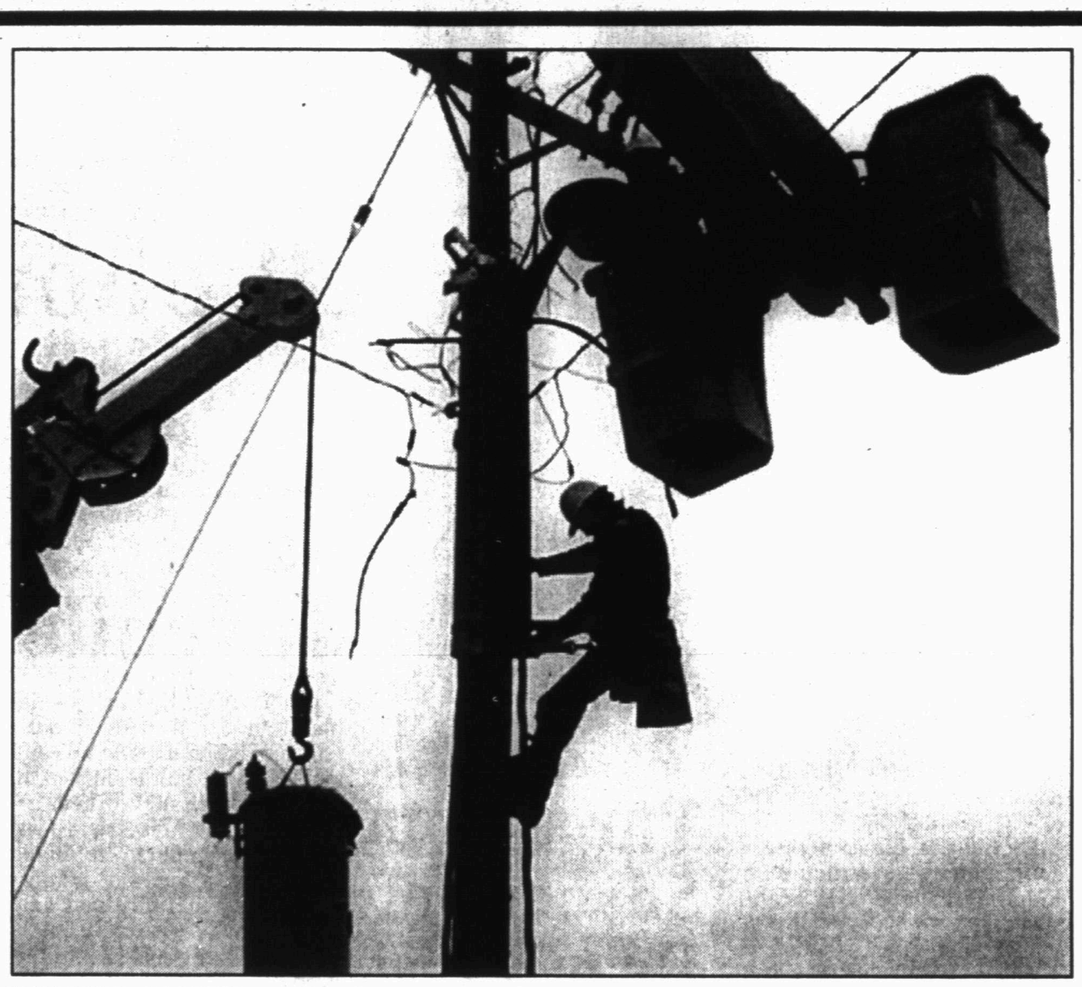
During the finance committee report, the board will consider a different pay schedule for emergency room physicians.

In the first meeting of 2000, Dr. Mark Weaver asked fellow board members to consider exempting the paychecks of the ER physicians from the process of the hospital financial committee having to certify their paychecks.

Dr. Weaver said the process causes a delay in the physicians receiving their paychecks.

Chief Executive Officer Jeff Reecer will also give his monthly information report.

The meeting will be in the hospital's board room.



HANGING AROUND — Big Country Electric Cooperative employees Jayson Steelman and Jimmy Reed (in the bucket) work on removing an old transformer on an electric pole at Cates Field. The company is donating labor for replacing the transformers and electrical equipment at the field and discounting some materials. Cain Electric is also assisting with discounted materials. (SDN Staff Photo)

Blood drive continues Thursday

Employees of the Price Daniel Unit and Cogdell Memorial Hospital will conduct a blood drive Thursday, sponsored by United Blood Services and the Snyder Blood Drive committee.

A community-wide drive was held Tuesday.

Employees of the Price Daniel Unit will hold their drive from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., and Cogdell Hospital employees will be able to donate blood from noon until 5 p.m.

United Blood Services spokesman Pam Harris said the service is experiencing a shortage of all blood types.

"The shortage is due to the decrease in volunteer blood donations and the use of blood by hospitals over the holiday season," said Harris, adding that the onslaught of the flu season has also slowed donations.

All blood donors receive a mini-physical to include temperature and blood pressure checks, plus an iron level check.

In addition to the health information a donor will receive from UBS, donors also have the opportunity to receive food coupons from local food vendors.

Participating restaurants and their coupons include: Dairy Queen, DQ Sunday; Whataburger, medium drink with the purchase of any dessert; Taco John; small soft drink and order of Potatoes Ole; Wal-Mart, medium drink with food purchase and every fifth donor will receive a six pack of cola; Long John Silvers, medium drink with any food purchase; Golden Corral, $1 coupon; Gill's Fried Chicken, every other donor will receive a coupon for a regular order; McDonald's, 20 assorted coupons; Burger King, 10 Whopper coupons and 12 coupons for a hamburger, small fry and small drink; Ken's Chicken, 50 coupons for a quick pack and small drink; The Shack, two "Sunday Dinner for Two" coupons; Jaramillo's, nine $5 gift certificates; Spanish Inn, nine $5 gift certificates; Pizza Hut, nine $5 gift certificates; Rudy's, nine $5 gift certificates; Subway, six coupons for your choice of one 6" or two 4" Subway sandwiches; Grandy's, 12 coupons for a "Sinnamon" roll; Lota'Burger, nine $5 gift certificates; Rusty Spur Café at Wagon Wheel Ranch, two $12.50 gift certificates; Tiger Health and Fitness Center, $20 gift certificate; Lulu's Beauty Shop, a coupon to every donor for a $2 discount.

The Scurry County Coliseum is donating sign space for the blood drive as well as Golden Corral, Hackfeld's, McWilliams Pharmacy, Pizza Hut and The Shack.

Says oil and gas association head...

Rural businesses must work together

The executive director of the West Central Texas Oil & Gas Association told members of the Snyder Noon Lions Club Tuesday that diverse West Texas industries must work together to continue to be successful.

"We are losing our political clout due to the decrease in population here, and the increase in the metropolitan areas," said Bill J. Stevens of Abilene. "There are more state representatives in Harris County than there are west of I-35."

Stevens said he favors rural coalitions between several different groups in rural West Texas in order to keep the area's representation strong.

"Our communities have common problems, whether they be agriculture-based or oil and gas-based," said Stevens.

"Most have medical delivery problems as the communities do not have enough doctors...we all have water problems," Stevens added.

"We need to forget the head-butting between industries and work together to solve our common problems. I think we can help solve problems for each other," Stevens said

Stevens, who is one of six lobbyists representing independent producers in Austin, said one of his goals is to eliminate the severance tax on a barrel of oil.

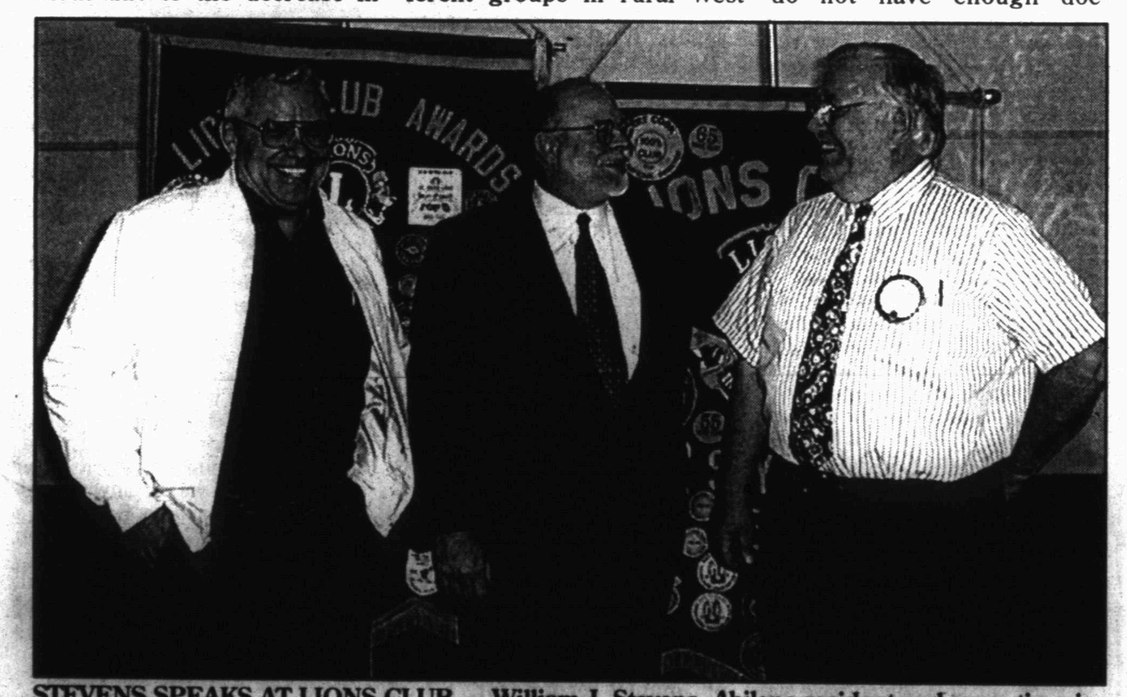
"We feel the 4.6 percent severance tax should be eliminated so that producers don't start off in the red right off," said Stevens. "You add the severance tax and other taxes to a $10 barrel of oil and most of it is already gone."

Stevens said the deregulation of the electric industry in 2002 concerns rural oil and gas producers, and especially those who use rural co-op power.

"We must work together to ensure their success, but also keep the price of electricity affordable," said Stevens.

"I feel there is a lot of oil and gas business left in the state of Texas and it will continue to be a meaningful industry if treated right," said Stevens.

"There is still a real future out there, but we can't let taxes and regulations kill it off."



STEVENS SPEAKS AT LIONS CLUB — William J. Stevens, Abilene resident and executive vice president of West Central Texas Oil & Gas Association, was guest speaker at Snyder Lions Club meeting Tuesday. From left are Dick Crill, program chairman; Stevens; and Bill Overhulser, Lions Club president. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Things could be worse. You could be like the couple in Houston, mid '50s and the new parents of triplets."

Odds and ends:

Up in Amarillo, there's a steak house out on the interstate that advertises a free dinner for anybody who can eat a 72-oz. steak in one sitting.

Now Amarillo's Big Texas Steak Ranch is teaming up with Ripley's Believe It or Not to audition women who can devour the restaurant's 72-oz. special.

Family viewing. You can just imagine the scene. It may make us click over to Jerry Springer.

Folks still are trying to dig up some dirt on Presidential hopeful George W. Bush.

He helped them out recently by admitting one terrible mistake. The Texas governor says his worst goof was trading soon-to-be home-run king Sammy Sosa for a veteran slugger when Bush was owner of the Texas Rangers in 1989.

Here's a novel clean-up deal that might be worth considering for Snyder – a trash amnesty day.

Open the landfill, free of charge, to anyone who would bring unsightly trash such as mattresses, sofas, refrigerators, etc., to the landfill.

In Corpus Christi, the city is even offering to pay cold cash to citizens who show up with stuff that otherwise would clutter city streets and alleys.

It might be cheaper than sending a crew to pick the stuff up.

And from the good grief department:

The San Francisco Chronicle reports on a failed attempt by a police officer to deal with the problem of some 10 to 15 homeless people in Washington Square Park who are regularly drunk.

Officers had issued hundreds of citations for public intoxication, with no effect.

So, after getting permission from his superior, officer Jim Gratz brought a camera to the square, photographed the most inebriated and put the pictures on flyers which he distributed to area liquor stores.

However, the Coalition on Homelessness sued and the city settled, giving each of the offended drunks $960.

A sobering thought: We feel certain those street folks used the funds to purchase something to help them stay warm.

DCOS has short agenda

A brief agenda awaits the Development Corporation of Snyder when it meets at 4 p.m. Thursday.

The board will hear the monthly report from executive director John DeLille, and meet in executive session to complete the annual evaluation of the director.

The board will also consider the monthly financial statements, and consider a donation to the Arnold Lorber Memorial Scholarship at Western Texas College.

Hatch withdraws

WASHINGTON (AP) — Orrin Hatch today ended his longshot bid for the Republican nomination and endorsed George W. Bush as "the one who can unite the party and bring back the White House to us."

Hatch's decision to withdraw came after he finished sixth and last Monday night in the GOP's Iowa caucuses, behind even Sen. John McCain.

ASK US

Q—Is it a UIL rule or just a local rule that kids can't ride home with their parents after a game?

A—A local rule. However, kids can ride home with parents from out of town games if certain rules are followed.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 47 degrees; low, 32; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 33; no precipitation; total for 2000, .73 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy, 30% rain chance; low, 40-45; SE wind 10-15 mph; Thursday, cloudy, 40% rain chance; temps in 30s; E wind 10-20 mph, then NE.



Chelsea Young
Cloudy & Cold

Sunset: 6:14 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:40 a.m.
Of 25 days in 2000, the sun has shone 25 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

We are not here merely to make a living. We are here to enrich the world, and we impoverish ourselves if we forget this errand.

—Woodrow Wilson

JAN 26 2000

Amarillo jury couldn't identify with Lipscomb

AMARILLO (AP) — A jury that took three and a half hours to convict Dallas City Councilman Al Lipscomb simply couldn't identify with the 74-year-old civil rights leader, his supporters say.

"Unfortunately, I was right when I told Al he should plead while we were in Dallas, because he couldn't get a jury of his peers here in Amarillo," defense lawyer Billy Ravkind said.

"I had hoped I would be wrong," he said.

On Tuesday, an all-white jury convicted Lipscomb, who is black, on 65 federal counts of conspiracy and bribery, 32 of which were for acting as an accomplice to Yellow Checker Cab Co. owner Floyd Richards.

Richards pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy in exchange for his testimony. Lipscomb was accused of allowing $1,000 monthly payments from Richards to influence his voting on taxicab-related issues since his re-election to the council in 1995.

"You can't take 32 cash payments and not be guilty," prosecutor Michael Uhl said. "You have to answer to the law."

Lipscomb is free on bond until his sentencing, which will be scheduled later this week. He faces a possible prison term of 265 years and a fine of up to $16.2 million.

Lipscomb's daughter, Lavette, said the councilman's family is worried about him having to go to prison. She said if the verdict tarnishes anything, "it ought to tarnish the justice system's image."

Federal Judge Joe Kendall moved the trial 300 miles to Amarillo because of Lipscomb's prominence in Dallas, and many Lipscomb supporters said the verdict was a direct result of the move.

"Nobody knew it better than the judge," Joe Tabe said, as he and others discussed the racial makeup of the 26 counties surrounding Amarillo, from which the jury pool was drawn. Most Panhandle counties are predominately white; a few are largely Hispanic.

Most blacks in the Panhandle live within Amarillo's city limits. Potter County, where Amarillo is the county seat, is about 10 percent black and 61 percent white.

"I think there's a lot of evidence that suggests he's not guilty ... but we were very much in an uphill battle from the beginning," lawyer Tom Melsheimer said.

Despite the verdict, former Dallas City Councilwoman Diane Ragsdale said Lipscomb remains an important city leader.

"Nothing can tarnish his legacy," Regsdale said.

Lipscomb was the first black to run for Dallas mayor and helped end the city's at-large system of electing mostly white city council members.

Under the Texas Election Code, he may serve on the council until his appeals are final, Dallas city spokesman Jerome Davis said.

"I'm going to sit in my seat tomorrow," Lipscomb said Tuesday night after the verdict. "I was charged with bribery and conspiracy and they convicted me for nondisclosure. ... I have an appellate process. This is America."

1 graduates Marine basic training; two others enlist

DALLAS — One Snyder High School graduate has completed U.S. Marine basic training and another graduate recently enlisted in the U.S. Marines. Another new enlistee is currently attending SHS.

Pvt. Mike Martinez, Jr. officially earned the title "United States Marine," during Marine Corps Recruit Training graduation ceremonies held Jan. 14 at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif.

After a chance to return home for a few days, he will attend Marine Corps Combat Training at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Upon completion of this warrior training, this new Marine will report to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. for schooling in the motor transportation military occupational specialty field.

Martinez graduated from Snyder High School in 1999.

***

Phillip Broadwater enlisted on Dec. 20 and Juan Arizmendi enlisted on Jan. 11. Both are now in the Marine Corps Delayed Entry Program.

Broadwater, the son of Charles and Donna Broadwater, is continuing his education at SHS. He is scheduled to undergo Recruit Training at Marine Corps Recruit Deport in San Diego in August.

Arizmendi graduated from SHS in 1999 and is presently enrolled at Western Texas College. He is scheduled to undergo Recruit Training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in May.

He is the son of David and Guadalupe Arizmendi of Snyder.

Penalties for cell phone noise harsh

DENTON (AP) — Walking into Judge Philip Vick's courtroom dressed in shorts isn't such a good idea — but it might be worse to have a cell phone go off in your shirt pocket.

Vick, who presides over the 158th District Court, leads Denton County judges for the number of contempt charges slapped on people for pagers or cell phones ringing in his courtroom.

During the last two years, he has issued 25 contempt of court citations for the offense and recipients have to immediately pay the district court clerk $100 or be thrown in jail.

Six of the 25 contempt of court charges initiated by Judge Vick have been against lawyers.

Vick told The Dallas Morning News it's all about decorum — and not distracting from the focus of a case.

"It's the same as a lawyer putting his feet on the table or coming to court in a pair of shorts," the judge said.

How cell phones manage to make their way into Vick's courtroom have to do with security checks, which have been reduced. Federal courthouses protections are stringently upheld, but county and state courthouses have differing policies, sometimes leaving it up to the discretion of the judge, according to The News.

That means the problem isn't just confined to Vick's courtroom.

In Rockwall County, Judy Perser, the 382nd District Court administrator, said everyone is asked to turn off cell phones and set pagers to vibrate before entering court.

Dallas County officials say cell-phone use during jury orientation is a continual problem, but it hasn't drawn fines yet. Potential jurors are notified during the selection process of the need to silence their handsets and pagers in orientation films, by jury service personnel and by posted notices.

Public and governmental frustration with cell phones has been on the upswing since a 1997 study in the New England Journal of Medicine found that talking on a handset while driving quadrupled the risk of an accident and was almost as dangerous as being drunk behind the wheel.

Marcus Sparlin gets SMU degree

ALLAS — Marcus Lee Sparlin of Snyder was among almost 500 students at Southern Methodist University who received diplomas at the university's December graduation.

Sparlin received a bachelor of business administration degree with a major in general business.

Three from Snyder on Dean's List

LUBBOCK — Three from Snyder have been named to the Dean's List at Lubbock Christian University for the fall semester.

They include Monica Squires, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rosson; Allison Bowden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Bowden; and Jenise Judah, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Judah.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must be taking a minimum of 12 semester hours and achieve a 3.5 grade point average or better for the entire semester.

Juvenile offender executed

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — It's been almost a decade since Larry Wilkerson's wife was shot and left to die on the floor of the laundry where she worked.

Leta Ann Wilkerson was behind the counter in August 1990 when a teen-age gunman burst in, opened fire and emptied the cash register. He left the 30-year-old mother of two for dead.

On Tuesday night, Wilkerson traveled to Huntsville from Conroe with the oldest of his two daughters, Kristy. Standing silently in a witness room, Wilkerson watched his wife's killer die.

"Justice has been served," he said afterward.

Glen Alan McGinnis was 17 when he shot Mrs. Wilkerson to death for $140. Several groups asked Texas to spare McGinnis' life because he was a juvenile when he killed Mrs. Wilkerson.

On death row, McGinnis admitted to his crime.

He said in a recent interview that he doesn't want to use a tough childhood as an excuse for murder. Still, he said, he wondered how life could have been if he hadn't spent his youth on the streets.

"I mean, man, I'm young," McGinnis said last week. "I'm not crying, I'm not groping, but it's kinda sad that I got caught up so young."

In the summer of 1990, McGinnis already had logged time in juvenile lockups, lived out of cars and learned to live by his wits. His mother was serving a prison term for prostitution.

McGinnis grew up bouncing in and out of juvenile centers and relatives' homes, stealing cars and trespassing.

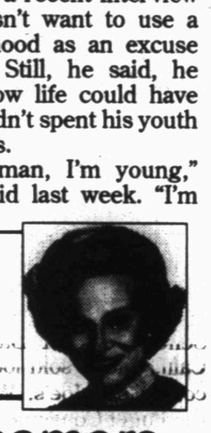
At his 1992 trial, former Montgomery County District Attorney Peter Speers told an all-white suburban Houston jury that McGinnis, who is black, was "bad to the bone.

"He has spit in the face of every chance he's had to go straight," Speers said.

But defense attorney William Hall described a deeply troubled teen whose race and homosexuality doomed him in the eyes of the jury.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Host confronts late-comers, and not a moment too soon

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing concerning a problem I deal with all the time. We have relatives who can never be on time for anything. This is not a big deal at a barbecue, but for a sit-down holiday dinner it's a real headache.

Some of the actual comments I have received: "How late can I be before I inconvenience everyone?" "We'll be late — hope your dinner won't be ruined." "Dinner at 4? We might make it by 4 or 5." "We can't make it that early. Back dinner off an hour, will you?"

I used to juggle the time around, trying to suit everyone, which is impossible. Or I would tell them that dinner was a half-hour earlier than it actually was. The late ones would STILL be late.

Finally, I had had it. I responded: "No, you won't ruin my dinner, because we are eating at 4." "Oh, you won't inconvenience anyone, because dinner is at 4, as planned." "You can't make it at that time? Sorry. We'll miss you."

Well, now I'm the villain! But only to the third of the family who is always late. The "late ones" were even late for their mother's surprise birthday party.

Abby, was I too rude, or were my assertive statements justified? — **IN THE DOGHOUSE**

DEAR IN: It was rude of your chronically late relatives to demand that you put your dinner party on hold to suit their schedules. You were overdue in asserting yourself and issuing your "Declaration of No More Co-Dependence."

Rather than laying a guilt trip on you, the late-niks should have simply agreed to join you and the rest of the family for dessert and coffee — and whatever was left of the leftovers.

**

DEAR ABBY: This is in reference to the item in your column that if the three wise men had been three wise women, they would have asked directions and arrived on time.

In the interest of historical accuracy, it should be pointed out that the three wise men DID ask directions — from King Herod. It's possible that a great number of babies might have been spared if they hadn't. — **WILLIAM ROBINSON, SOLON MILLS, ILL.**

DEAR WILLIAM: You are not the only person to point out that the feminist joke I printed was historically inaccurate. **Read on:**

DEAR ABBY: We had to write in response to the letter from the Burleson, Texas, reader. You need to study your Bible (Matthew, Chapter 2). The problem with the joke is that the three wise men DID ask for directions. As a result, Herod was tipped off to the birth of the Messiah, necessitating the flight of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus to Egypt. It also caused the deaths of thousands of innocent children.

Little wonder that men have been afraid to ask for directions ever since. — **LLOYD AND KATHY RAPPLEYE, MESA, ARIZ.**

**

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Date Book

Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2000

Today is the 26th day of 2000 and the 36th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1784, Benjamin Franklin, in a letter to his daughter, wrote that the turkey, rather than the eagle, ought to symbolize the United States.

On this day in 1950, India became a republic.

On this day in 1988, "The Phantom of the Opera," with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, opened on Broadway.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Douglas MacArthur (1880-1964), U.S. Army general; Paul Newman (1925-), actor, is 75; Jules Feiffer (1929-), cartoonist, is 71; Bob Uecker (1935-), baseball player-commentator, is 65; Eddie Van Halen (1957-), guitarist, is 43; Anita Baker (1958-), singer, is 42; Wayne Gretzky (1961-), hockey great, is 39.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1960, Pete Rozelle was elected commissioner of the National Football League.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I used to think I was poor. Then they told me I wasn't poor, I was needy. They told me it was self-defeating to think of myself as needy, I was deprived. Then they told me underprivileged was overused. I was disadvantaged. I still don't have a dime. But I have a great vocabulary." — Jules Feiffer, 1965 cartoon

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Jan. 20) and last quarter (Jan. 28).

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Published each Sunday morning and each evening, except Saturday, by Snyder Publishing Co., Inc., 3600 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79549.

Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Snyder, Texas, Publication Number USPS611-520.

POSTMASTER send change of address to P.O. Box 949, Snyder, Texas, 79550.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier in Snyder, $9.00 per month.

By mail in Scurry and adjoining counties, one year $85.80 balance of Texas and out of state $113.85.

Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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National

Com toxic

LOS ANGELE years of debates rallies, and const $170 million, a the nation's m high school has

The Los An school board de in a 5-2 vote not Belmont Learni its current site, that releases pot ous gases.

The board p alternate sites whether the Be — already half-co be used for any sold to recoup was ordered with

Board membe hearing hours pleas from comm both for and agai the high school.

"We are tire unmeaningful w promises," said senior at the crowded Belmon who urged boar complete the ne the next student

"I don't know just give us a ne 14-year-old Maria

The debate ov one of the bigge beleaguered di recently lost its

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By Phill

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Opening lea

A little no of the cap

To the north of N wonderful places to al, the Valley of Segovia. At the firs octagonal room con of all the kings Charles V. General at the second. And t turesque town incl aqueduct that is Unlike in Rome, in built the new citi medieval, so preser all to admire.

Spain did well on China in the 199 Olympiad, played island of Rhodes.

Both pairs reach by South. Agains declarer, Antonio F diamond ace, follow mond nine to his Correctly reading unnecessarily high heart return, Jose switched to the hea suit-preference sign diamond back). Fra led another diamon away dummy's que still had to lose a tr queen, he went one

In the other roo diamond ace. How read his partner's t cash the club ace Declarer, Federico drew trumps, and c ace to uncover Undaunted, he exit mond to East's ki return would hav dummy's K-Q-10, E the heart nine. Yet, beautiful seven and declarer was now a heart losers to one f

Copyright2000

Twenty-five perc can men are 6 feet 1910 4 percent were

Rhode Island is the Ocean State.

Completing high school at toxic site rejected by board

LOS ANGELES (AP) — After years of debates, hearings and rallies, and construction costs of $170 million, a project to build the nation's most expensive high school has been scrapped.

The Los Angeles Unified school board decided Tuesday in a 5-2 vote not to complete the Belmont Learning Complex at its current site, an old oil field that releases potentially dangerous gases.

The board plans to study alternate sites and look into whether the Belmont complex — already half-completed — can be used for anything else and sold to recoup costs. A report was ordered within 60 days.

Board members voted after hearing hours of impassioned pleas from community members both for and against completing the high school.

"We are tired of hearing unmeaningful words and false promises," said Stacy Torres, a senior at the current, overcrowded Belmont High School who urged board members to complete the new campus for the next student body.

"I don't know why they can't just give us a new school," said 14-year-old Maria Castro.

The debate over Belmont is one of the biggest issues in the beleaguered district, which recently lost its superintendent, in part, because of the debacle.

Ground was broken on Belmont in 1997, with an original budget of $200 million. It was supposed to open in September as the crown jewel of the nation's second-largest school district, giving a home to some 5,300 students in a desperately overcrowded part of downtown.

Construction was dramatically scaled back last year after high levels of explosive methane gas and lesser amounts of hydrogen sulfide, a highly toxic gas, were detected. Officials feared the gases could form explosive pockets under the foundation.

In October, an expert panel set up to decide what to do with the school voted 4-3 to recommend that it be completed, with provisions made to deal with possible environmental problems at a later date.

Commissioners who voted Tuesday for completing the project said starting over at a new site would cost far more, push back the opening of a new school by many years and force thousands of students to be bused from the area to other campuses.

In a written report, interim Superintendent Ramon Cortines urged abandoning the site, saying it was an idea "conceived in ignorance and nurtured by negligence."

He said completing Belmont would cost another $50 million, not including an additional, undetermined amount for cleanup costs.

Cortines last week suggested that the building be used for a new district administrative headquarters and warehouse, saying standards for adults were different from standards for children. District employees who would move to Belmont under that plan said they feared for their safety.

"If we can make it good enough for adults, I think we can make it good enough for kids," board member Mike Lansing said.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina said more study needs to be done on potential cleanup costs, and criticized the board for acting before the full costs were known.

"This is a community that has been waiting on empty promises for decades," she said. "This community is entitled to a high school."

Board members rejected a proposal by Cortines that they delay their vote for 60 days to give the district more time to study alternatives to scrapping the school.

Winter headache: Fuel costs are rising amid cold weather

STAMFORD, Conn. (AP) — It was heartwarming news for needy residents struggling through the winter in New England and Alaska.

President Clinton released $44 million in emergency heating fuel funds on Tuesday. Authorities estimate the aid will help tens of thousands of U.S. families in coming weeks.

A sharp and sudden increase in heating oil prices has stunned many consumers, including Alex Terentino of Stamford. He said he feels as if fuel suppliers have him over a barrel twice over.

Terentino has seen the amount he pays for home heating oil go from 99 cents per gallon to $1.89 in a matter of weeks, while his bill for natural gas at his Stamford butcher shop has doubled in the last month.

"You've got no choice," he said. "You've got to pay."

Clinton said he was releasing the funds after pleas for help from state officials. The money was to go to Alaska and Northeastern states "which have experienced the greatest hardship."

"These funds will help keep more American families safe and warm, and we'll get them out there just as quickly as we possibly can," he said.

With much of the Northeast gripped by frigid temperatures during the past week, heating oil usage is way up, leading to supply shortages. In East Hartford, fire officials urged residents to lower thermostats to conserve fuel after a major supplier warned of shortages by midweek.

With supplies decreasing, home heating oil prices have risen dramatically. In Connecticut, retail prices shot up at least 40 cents per gallon, to at least $1.70. In Massachusetts, the average retail price rose to $1.74 on Monday, up 57 cents from a week ago and more than double what it was this time last year. And in New Hampshire, retail prices jumped 49 cents in six days, from $1.22 per gallon to $1.71.

Truckers also are feeling the pinch. In New York, the retail price of diesel rose from a low of $1.35 per gallon to a high of $2.06 from Thursday to Monday, according to the New York State Motor Truck Association.

Even kerosene users were seeing steep increases. At French's Kwick Stop near Hedgesvillle, W.Va, kerosene prices have jumped from 99 cents per gallon a week ago to $1.69.

Industry analysts say the sudden price increases have been caused by several factors, including the recent cold snap, low petroleum supplies and a decision by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries to extend existing oil production cuts past an original March deadline.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 01-26-00
♠ 8 4
♥ 8 2
♦ Q 6 3
♣ K Q 10 8 7 2

West
♠ 9 6 2
♥ - - -
♦ A J 9 8 7 5
♣ A J 5 3

East
♠ 7 5
♥ Q 9 6 5 4 3
♦ K 2
♣ 9 6 4

South
♠ A K Q J 10 3
♥ A K J 10 7
♦ 10 4
♣ - - -

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		3 ♣	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ A

A little north of the capital

To the north of Madrid are three wonderful places to visit: El Escorial, the Valley of the Fallen and Segovia. At the first, inter alia, an octagonal room contains the graves of all the kings of Spain since Charles V. General Franco is buried at the second. And the third is a picturesque town including a Roman aqueduct that is still working. Unlike in Rome, in Spain they have built the new cities around the medieval, so preserving the old for all to admire.

Spain did well on this deal against China in the 1996 World Team Olympiad, played on the Greek island of Rhodes.

Both pairs reached four spades by South. Against the Chinese declarer, Antonio Frances led the diamond ace, followed by the diamond nine to his partner's king. Correctly reading the nine as an unnecessarily high card asking for a heart return, Jose Ignacio Torres switched to the heart nine (another suit-preference signal to request a diamond back). Frances ruffed and led another diamond, East ruffing away dummy's queen. As declarer still had to lose a trick to the heart queen, he went one down.

In the other room, West led the diamond ace. However, unable to read his partner's two, he tried to cash the club ace at trick two. Declarer, Federico Goded, ruffed, drew trumps, and cashed the heart ace to uncover the 6-0 split. Undaunted, he exited with a diamond to East's king. As a club return would have been into dummy's K-Q-10, East switched to the heart nine. Yet, because of the beautiful seven and eight of hearts, declarer was now able to hold his heart losers to one for plus 620.

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Twenty-five percent of American men are 6 feet tall or taller. In 1910 4 percent were.

—

Rhode Island is also known as the Ocean State.

Contaminated dip blamed for more than a dozen illnesses

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — The number of confirmed illnesses linked to a contaminated food dip has risen to 16, with another 14 people showing similar symptoms in Washington, the state Department of Health said.

The recalled dip is sold under the names Senor Felix 5 Layer Fiesta Dip, Trader Joe's 5 Layer Fiesta Dip and Delicioso 5 Layer Fiesta Dip. It is manufactured by Senor Felix of Baldwin Park, Calif., and is sold locally at Costco, Trader Joe's, Wal-Mart and the Puget Consumers Co-op.

The dips were distributed nationwide, primarily through Costco and Trader Joe's, according to the California Department of Health Services. The dips contain layers of black beans, salsa, guacamole, nacho cheese and sour cream.

Thirty cases of shigellosis have been reported in Washington, and at least 16 of the victims had recently consumed the dip, the Department of Health said.

Symptoms of shigellosis, caused by a bacteria, can include bloody diarrhea, cramps, fever, nausea and vomiting. Though serious and highly contagious, it can be treated with antibiotics.

"People who think they have been infected should pay close attention to hygiene. Carefully washing your hands could prevent getting a family member sick," Health Department spokeswoman Marcia Goldoft said.

The recall applies to products prepared without preservatives with an expiration date of Feb. 9 or earlier and products prepared with preservatives with an expiration date of March 4 or earlier, the California department said.

Businesses have removed the remaining product from stores and the manufacturer has issued a voluntary recall, state health officials said.

Eds: Consumers with questions can call Senor Felix's hotline number at 800-807-7335.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Some calories are emptier than others

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 15-year-old calorie-counter. My grandmother insists that the calories found in fruit and vegetables are "natural" and won't affect my weight. I disagree. If I eat half a watermelon in one setting, will it add calories or just go right through me?

DEAR READER: Calories are calories, regardless of source. We all need a certain number in our diets just to live, but in counting calories, it's vital to assess which foods are necessary for nutrition and which edibles contain only "empty" calories.

There are many advantages to consuming a nutritious and well-balanced diet that contains protein, fruit and vegetables. There are few advantages to sugary products and junk food. Therefore, while your grandmother is incorrect in her assessment, she is right that you need a diet that favors fruits and vegetables. Continue to count your calories if you wish, but be selective in which foods to avoid or to eat sparingly. By the way, moderation is the key. A half a watermelon seems to me to be excessive and unnecessary. Eat a slice or two, at the same time trying to balance your caloric intake among many calorie-containing foods that will meet your metabolic needs. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Weight Control Through Calorie Control." 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: My doctor told me that a blood test showed that I am low in sodium (131). He suggested that I limit my fluid intake, but that's hard to do, particularly in warmer climates. I am otherwise perfectly healthy. Do you have any suggestions?

DEAR READER: Sure. Disregard the reading.

The usual range for serum sodium is 135 to 145. Your level, although low, is nothing to worry about, assuming that you are in good health.

With all the complicated tests available to doctors, it's important to avoid becoming the unsuspecting victim of the Lab God. Perhaps the lab work is in error. Maybe you just happen to fall outside the normal range. In any case, I wouldn't make a federal case out of a single, slightly abnormal laboratory value. If your doctor agrees, continue your present lifestyle and have a repeat blood test in several months. Doctors have an obligation to look at the whole person, not at simply a lab value. In your case, the sodium of 131 is probably inconsequential.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Help! We have five tables of bridge. Because of the mathematics, the east-west partners have five scores, the north-south partners have four. How can we adjust the scores?

DEAR READER: For someone who is frequently criticized for delving into non-medical topics, I admit that I am completely at a loss to answer questions about bridge. For once, I'm over my head. But thanks for writing, I guess.

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Jan. 27, 2000

You might get the chance to become involved in some type of enterprise with another in the year ahead. It will prove to be mutually beneficial, provided both do their parts.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Be very careful that you don't dilute your position today just because you're overly anxious to make a deal. Carefully evaluate what you can offer before negotiating a commercial matter. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Seeking advice from colleagues today might have both advantages and disadvantages. An enterprising ally may help upgrade your initiative, but simultaneously steer you into a blind ally.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Chances are you'll do all right in situations that have material overtones today. You're not likely to do well where your personal relationships are concerned, without some an effort.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Don't make any type of agreement today on which you're uncertain about whether you can follow through or not. A broken promise will take a lot of luster off your reputation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) That energy of yours might be in full gear today, but unless you channel it in ways that are productive, you're apt to spin your wheels and not accomplish much of anything.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you want to take a foolish gamble on your resources today, that's your business. It is inexcusable, however, to take a chance on things that risk a loss for others.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Should you be facing a few hurdles or problems on the home front today, don't be so quick to point the finger of blame solely on your mate. You have some accountability as well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) It's only right to expect proper acknowledgment and praise for things you do well and go right. Conversely, you must also expect to take the blame for that which doesn't go well.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your financial affairs might be like the will of the wisp today. What you gain on one hand could quickly fly out the window on something frivolous or foolish.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) So long as your enthusiasm lasts, you will be a good producer today. However, once it starts to wane, which could happen all to quickly, little is apt to be accomplished.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Do not pass on any information as gospel today which you learned through the gossip line. If it turns out to be false, you could be the one who is the butt of everyone's talk.

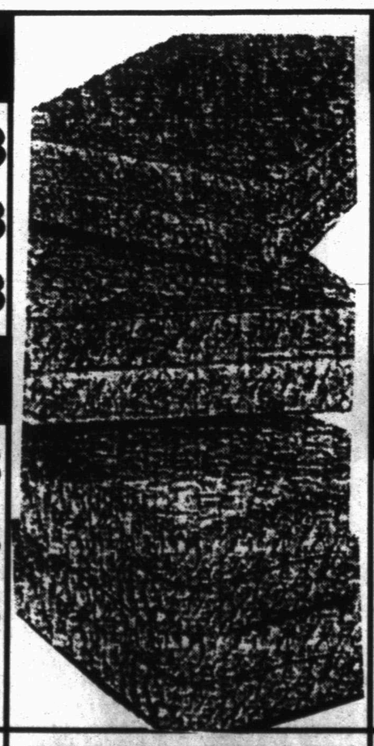
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Although many times it pays off to make deals while socializing, today there could be a fine line between business and pleasure. If you cross it, things may not go well for you.

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Queen Size Set .. Sale $198

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King Size Set ..... Sale $348



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Full Size Set ..... Sale $178
Queen Size Set .... Sale $228
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15 YEAR WARRANTY
Twin Size Set ..... Sale $198
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Queen Size Set .... Sale $298
King Size Set ..... Sale $398

Decorator Daybed
Includes Back, Side Rails and Bedding
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Very Sturdy Built, Choice of Black, White, Red or Blue.
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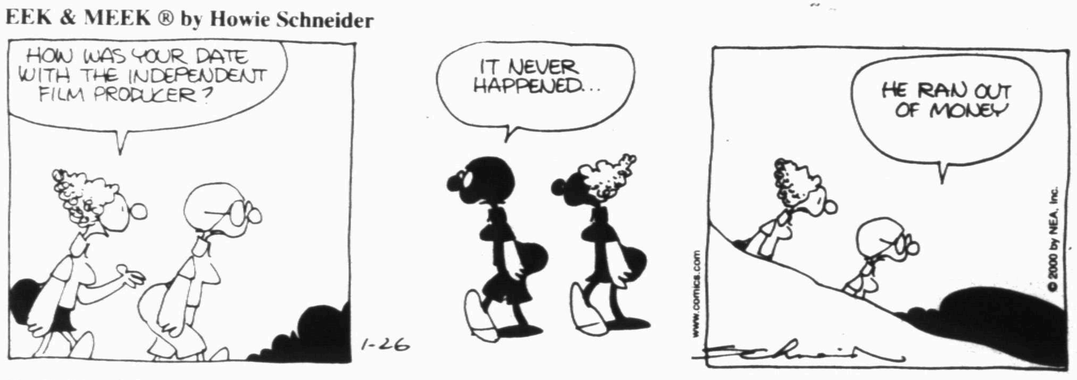
Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



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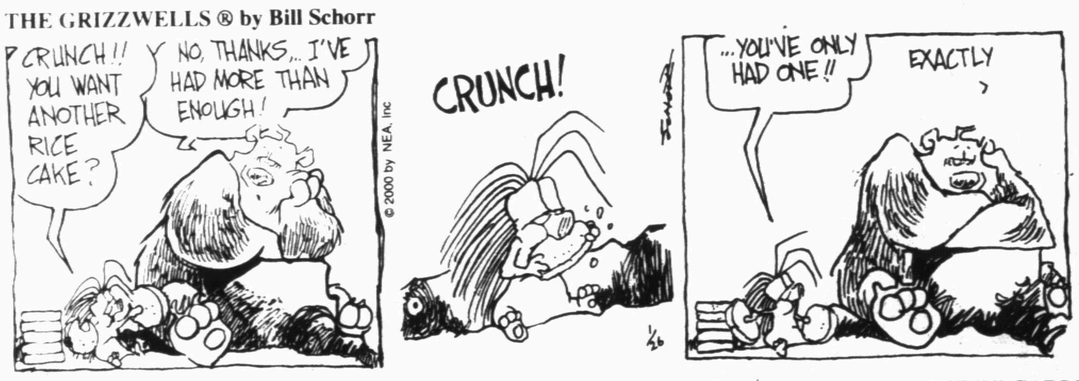
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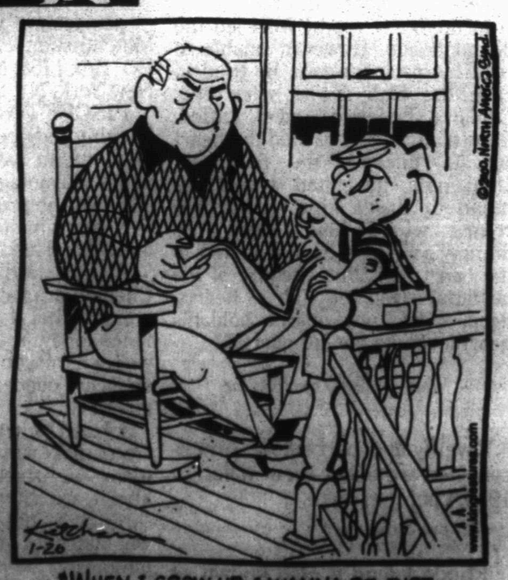




HERMAN® by Jim Unger



"That too tight?"



"WHEN I GROW UP, I WANNA BE JUST LIKE YOU... ONLY A LOT YOUNGER."

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Minnesota capital (2 wds.)
7 Thwart
13 Meager
14 A friend on "Friends"
15 Click beetle
16 Antenna
17 Cozy rooms
18 Business abbr.
20 Slips up
21 More frigid
23 "A Doll's House" author
27 Into separate parts
32 Highway to the Far North
33 Say four-letter words
34 Tropical fruit
35 Work dough
36 Jazz player Coleman
39 Unreasonable
40 Colorado park
42 Mohammedan prayer leader
46 Wide shoe size
47 — fixe (obsession)
51 Most sensible
53 Answer in a caustic manner
55 Wears away
56 Peaceful
57 Ancient Jewish ascetic
58 Catch in a net

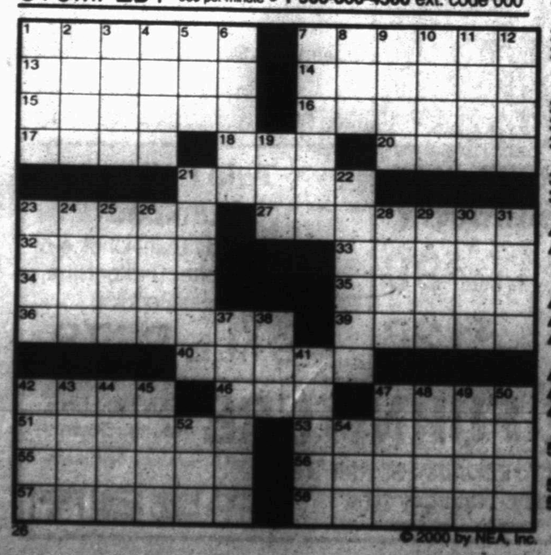
DOWN

1 Went 95 mph
2 Myth
3 Scheme
4 Units of Siamese currency
5 Yorkshire river
6 Type of poem
7 Blanks
8 Over — hill
9 Days of — (past)
10 Israel's Golda —
11 Construction beam (2 wds.)
12 Skinny fishes
19 TV's Peeples
21 Inherent
22 To-do
23 Villain in "Othello"
24 Make cloudy
25 Leaf through hastily
26 Roof edge
28 Georgia politician, Sam —
29 A Scott
30 Jacob's twin
31 Advise, old-style
37 Type of fly
38 Parisian season
41 Scary
42 Words of understanding
43 Red planet
44 Years (Sp.)
45 Ancient Persian
47 Short article
48 Over
49 Goddess of discord
50 Make designs on metal
52 D.C. bigshot
54 Seabird

Answer to Previous Puzzle

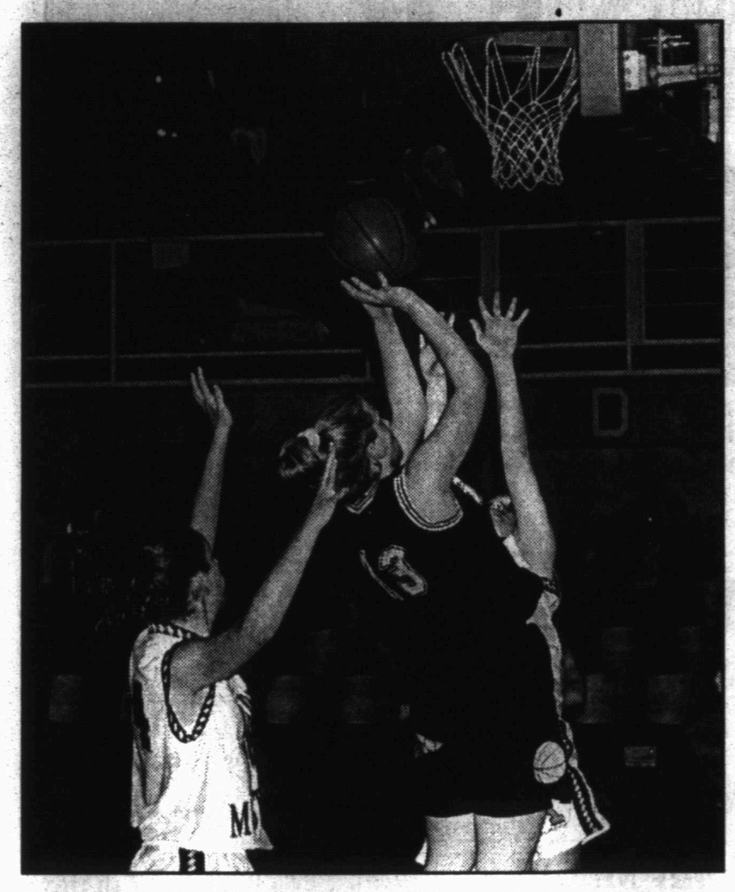
G	E	R	A	L	D		G	E	R	U	N	D
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T	O	M	A	T	O		H	A	N	D	L	E
S	E	A	M		O	A	R		T	O	L	D
			P	L	A	I	D					
O	V	A	T	E		A	G	E	L	E	S	S
O	A	T	E	R			P	U	T	O	N	
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S	E	S	S	I	O	N		S	E	T	E	E
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N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

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SPORTS



TWO MORE FOR THE LADY TIGERS — Kameron Kallemeyn puts up a shot during the third quarter of Snyder's 44-27 victory Tuesday night in Andrews. (SDN Staff Photo)

SHS girls pounce on Andrews

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

ANDREWS — The Snyder Lady Tigers have faced their share of adversity this season. So when another obstacle popped up on their path Tuesday night, the Lady Tigers were ready to hurdle it.

Faced with the news that starting post Ashley Delce was lost for the season, Snyder rallied to pick up a crucial 44-27 road win over Andrews.

The victory keeps the Lady Tigers in a tie for second place in the district standings with Big Spring. But when the Lady Steers pay a visit to the SHS gym Friday night, Delce won't be in the lineup.

Snyder learned late Monday that the junior post separated two bones in her hand during Friday's loss at San Angelo Lake View. Delce will undergo surgery later this week in Lubbock to repair bone and ligament damage.

"We were without Ashley for about 10 games earlier this season, and we struggled some," said Snyder coach Sam Tipton. "So our girls could have folded up tonight, but they didn't. We learned about the extent of her injury so late, that we didn't get a chance to work on anything new. But our girls stepped up, and found a way to get the job done."

Even with Delce's offensive presence missing on the inside, the Lady Tigers didn't lack for points in the paint.

Sophomore Katie Voss poured in a game-high 20 points, and junior Kameron Kallemeyn knocked down 14 points and hauled in 10 rebounds.

It was the play of Voss and Kallemeyn that allowed Snyder to pull away in the second half. But it was the outside shooting of T'Leah Eicke and Kristen Murray that jump-started the Lady Tigers' night.

Eicke drained a three-pointer on Snyder's first trip down the floor, and Murray nailed a long-range bucket on its next possession for an early six-point cushion.

Grabbing the early lead was key for the Lady Tigers, as Andrews' Katie Farris led her squad on an 8-3 run midway through the period.

"We had some kids really step up," said Tipton. "Those first two buckets of the game were really big. They gave us some confidence and the breathing room that we needed until we got our feet under us. Every kid that stepped on the court for us tonight contributed in a major way. And that's what it's going to take the rest of the way."

After surviving Andrews' first quarter spurt, the Lady Tigers shut down the Lady Mustangs in the second quarter. Kallemeyn posted all five of Snyder's points in the period for a 19-16 Lady Tiger lead at the break.

Snyder continued to clamp down on Andrews' shooters in the second half, surrendering only three points in the third quarter to stretch its advantage to 28-19.

"We were more focused tonight than I've ever seen us," Tipton remarked. "In the second half, the girls were making defensive adjustments on the court, without me calling them from the sideline. Everything seemed to be in rhythm, and every kid seemed to be on the same page."

Snyder buried any hopes of an Andrews comeback in the fourth quarter, by going inside to Voss. The sophomore poured in 10 of her 20 points in the final frame, recording the Lady Tigers' last five buckets.

Following the victory, Tipton turned his sights on Friday night's match-up with Big Spring. The Lady Tigers edged the Lady Steers, 40-39, in the first meeting, when Delce scored all seven of Snyder's fourth quarter points.

"We're going to make some adjustments, and do a few different things," said Tipton. "I think right now, we're probably playing the best of any team in the district, and Big Spring is right behind us. Sweetwater is still playing well, but they've struggled in their last couple of outings. I expect nothing but a battle on Friday night."

Snyder	14	05	09	16	— 44
Andrews	11	05	03	08	— 27

Snyder
Voss 9 2-4 20, Kallemeyn 6 2-4 14, Murray 2 0-0 5, Eicke 1 0-0 3, Bane 1 0-0 2. **Totals 19 4-8 44.**
Andrews
Farris 5 0-0 10, Roberts 2 2-2 7, Bane 1 2-4 4, Delhierro 1 0-2 2, Medina 1 0-1 2, Crawford 1 0-0 2. **Totals 11 4-9 27.**
Three-point goals: Snyder 2 (Murray, Eicke), Andrews 1 (Roberts). Rebounds: Snyder 24 (Kallemeyn 10), Andrews 22 (Bane 5). Total fouls: Snyder 13, Andrews 7. Fouled out — None.

District 5-4A Girls

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Sweetwater	6	0	24	2
Snyder	4	2	9	14
Lake View	4	2	11	14
Big Spring	3	3	13	11
Andrews	1	5	7	15
Fort Stockton	0	6	6	24

Tuesday's results: Snyder 44, Andrews 27; Sweetwater 34, Big Spring 22; Lake View 65, Fort Stockton 58.

Friday's games: Big Spring at Snyder; Andrews at Lake View; Fort Stockton at Sweetwater.

Tigers break Mustangs, 61-47

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

ANDREWS — With a target on their back as the defending district champion, and the top team in this year's race, the Snyder Tigers strolled into a frenzied corral of Mustangs Tuesday night.

Andrews stunned the Tigers early on, building as much as an eight-point lead, before Snyder showed the resolve that garnered it one league crown and put it on the path toward another.

The Tigers answered the Mustangs' early spurt with an 11-4 run in the second quarter, before pulling away in the second half for a 61-47 district victory at Mustang gym.

With the win, Snyder remains perched atop the 5-4A standings at 4-0, heading into Friday's meeting with the Big Spring Steers.

It looked early on, however, that the upset-minded Mustangs were going to have the upper hand.

"Andrews is a solid team, and they came out ready to play," said Snyder coach Bud Birks. "They favor an up-tempo game, and they had us playing their style early on. We made some mistakes that we shouldn't have made, before we settled down. But our kids listened to what we wanted done, and corrected their mistakes in the second quarter."

Andrews jumped on top, 6-0, when Drew Fields was fouled behind the arc. The three-pointer fell in, and Fields made the free throw for a four-point play.

Later in the first, Andrews' Greg Leach was fouled on a three-point attempt. The Mustang guard made good on all three shots from the stripe, increasing the deficit to eight points.

Snyder struggled offensively in the opening period, going 4-of-14 from the field and committing six turnovers.

"Andrews is extremely quick, so we had to slow down the pace of the game in the second quarter," Birks said. "We needed to be more patient on the offensive end, and tighten up our defensive play. Our kids did those things in the second quarter and it paid off."

The momentum started to shift in the opening minutes of the second quarter. The Tigers scored the first seven points of the period, which included a three-pointer from Sonny Cumbie that knotted the tally at 16-16.

Jamaal Wofford hit back-to-back buckets midway through the quarter, and Jared Thornhill's basket with 20 seconds left in the half gave Snyder a 27-25 lead at the break.

The Tigers' run continued in the third quarter. After the six turnovers to start the game, Snyder committed only two in the second quarter, and none in the third.

A three-pointer by Greg McAnaw got the Tigers rolling in the second half. Heath Pinkerton, who paced Snyder with 18 points and 16 rebounds, poured in 10 points in the third quarter to fuel a 23-12 Tiger run.

Leading, 50-37, entering the fourth quarter, Snyder limited Andrews to only 10 points in the final frame to preserve the 61-47 win.

The Tigers close out the first half of the district schedule Friday when they host Big Spring. Snyder holds a one-game lead in the standings over Fort Stockton. The Tigers visit the Panthers in a battle for the district title on Tuesday.

Snyder	09	18	23	11	— 61
Andrews	16	09	12	10	— 47

Snyder
Pinkerton 8 2-4 18, Cumbie 4 1-1 10, Hester 2 3-4 8, Wofford 4 0-0 8, McAnaw 2 0-0 5, Thornhill 5 0-1 10, Scott 0 2-2 2. **Totals 25 8-12 61.**
Andrews
Fields 5 4-5 16, Jackson 3 0-1 6, Tharp 2 0-0 4, McCain 1 2-6 4, Sears 0 3-4 3, Humphries 2 2-2 6, Leach 0 4-5 4, Haygood 0 2-3 2, Van Zandt 1 0-1 2. **Totals 14 17-27 47.**
Three-point goals: Snyder 3 (Cumbie, Hester, McAnaw), Andrews 2 (Fields 2). Rebounds: Snyder 40 (Pinkerton 16), Andrews 31 (Sears 8). Total fouls: Snyder 23, Andrews 15. Fouled out — Thornhill, Wofford; Tharp.

District 5-4A Boys

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Snyder	4	0	17	9
Fort Stockton	3	1	13	12
Andrews	2	2	10	15
Big Spring	1	3	14	13
Lake View	1	3	9	14
Sweetwater	1	3	7	16

Tuesday's results: Snyder 61, Andrews 47; Fort Stockton 62, Lake View 45; Big Spring 64, Sweetwater 48.

Friday's games: Big Spring at Snyder; Fort Stockton at Sweetwater; Andrews at Lake View.

Local Schedule

THURSDAY
Western Texas at Midland, 6 p.m.
FRIDAY
Big Spring at Snyder JV and varsity boys, 6 and 7:30
Big Spring at Snyder varsity and JV girls, 6 and 7:30
Ira girls and boys at Grady, 6:30 and 8 p.m.
Hermleigh girls and boys at Blackwell, 6:30 and 8 p.m.
SATURDAY
Powerlifting: Snyder at Midland Greenwood meet.

Hermleigh squads soar past Loraine

HERMLEIGH — The Lady Cardinals poured it on late, and the Hermleigh boys held on tight, resulting in a pair of District 19-A victories over Loraine Tuesday night.

The Lady Cardinals scored 23 points in the fourth quarter to pull away for a 54-40 victory, while the Hermleigh boys withstood a 24-10 run by Loraine to register a 53-51 win.

The Lady Cardinals, now 3-2 in district action, fell behind early, before grabbing a 17-16 lead at the midway point.

Brandy Wood drained three buckets in the third quarter to build Hermleigh's advantage to five points entering the final period.

The Lady Cardinals found the range in the final eight minutes. Sheena Callaway tossed in eight points in the fourth, with Crystal Jackson adding six more to help bury the Lady Bulldogs.

Jackson finished with 19 points to lead all scorers. Wood tallied 17 points, and Callaway totaled 13. Randi Herrington chipped in five points to go along with seven rebounds and four steals.

In the boys' match-up, the Cardinals took control in the early going.

Hermleigh jumped on top, 17-4, in the opening quarter, before the Bulldogs closed the gap to five points in the second period.

The Cards used a pair of long-range buckets from Billy Lambaren in the third quarter to stretch their lead to 43-27.

But Loraine came charging back with 24 points in the final period. Hermleigh managed to hold off the Bulldogs with six free throws down the stretch.

The victory keeps the Cardinals in the thick of the playoff race at 4-1.

Lambaren led the Hermleigh effort with 22 points and 10 rebounds, while Joey Garza dropped in 13 points and grabbed eight boards.

Caleb Callaway tallied nine points, with Andy Luna adding five; and Jared Higgins chipping in four.

Both Hermleigh squads will continue the postseason chase Friday when they visit Blackwell.

Clements pours in 30...

Ira cagers register wins against 'Cats

IRA — The Ira Lady Bulldogs got back on the winning track Tuesday night, and Morgan Clements helped put them there.

Clements matched the Westbrook Wildcats' total output, pouring in 30 points in the Lady Bulldogs' 55-30 blowout victory at Bulldog gym.

The win lifts the Lady Bulldogs to 2-3 in district action, while the Ira boys improved to 5-0 and 23-2 on the year with a 63-46 whipping of the Wildcats.

Clements and the Lady Bulldogs got rolling early, building an 18-7 lead in the opening quarter.

Ira stretched its advantage to 27 points by halftime, thanks to a second quarter defensive stand that surrendered only two points.

Westbrook's largest outburst came in the third period when it tallied 13 points, before the Lady Bulldogs answered with a run in the final frame.

Korby Calley also finished in double figures, pouring in 16 points, while Celeigh Sterling added five. Jamie Goolsby finished with four points, and Davi Barnes chipped in one.

In the boys' match-up, Westbrook put up a fight early on, before the Bulldogs turned up the pressure on the defensive end.

After leading by only a point at halftime, Ira surrendered only six points in the third quarter to pull away from the Wildcats.

"A lot of people don't realize how good Westbrook is," said Ira coach Bubba Edwards. "They're talented and they came in here wanting to knock us off. But we had some kids step up, on the defensive end and on the boards, and that was the difference."

Logan Daves' 17 points paced the Bulldogs, while Jose Juarez added 13 more.

Nathan Smith tallied 12 points, with Richard Wilkins posting 11. Jerek Brown dropped in eight points, and Bryce Wilkins finished with two.

Both Ira squads will be in action again Friday when they visit Grady.

The Bulldogs can wrap up the District 18-A crown with a win over the Wildcats.

Sports Briefs

Pitching clinics scheduled
Fastpitch softball pitching clinics will be held every Wednesday. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

3-on-3 tourney scheduled
A girls' 3-on-3 basketball tournament for fourth, fifth and sixth graders will be held Feb. 5. Deadline to enter is Feb. 3 and entry fee is $30. For more information, call the Boys' and Girls' Club at 573-3344.

Sign-ups approaching for Little Dribblers
Girls' Little Dribblers sign-ups will be held Saturday and Sunday and Feb. 4-5 at the First Baptist Family Life Center. Players must bring a parent or guardian, birth certificate, and a registration fee of $25. For more information, call 573-5356.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

	W	L	Pct	GB
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
Miami	26	14	.650	—
New York	25	15	.625	1
Philadelphia	24	17	.585	2½
Boston	19	22	.463	7½
Orlando	18	24	.429	9
New Jersey	17	24	.415	9½
Washington	13	29	.310	14
Central Division				
Indiana	27	15	.643	—
Charlotte	22	18	.550	4
Milwaukee	22	19	.537	4½
Toronto	21	19	.525	5
Detroit	21	20	.512	5½
Cleveland	17	25	.405	10
Atlanta	15	25	.375	11
Chicago	8	31	.205	17½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
Utah	27	12	.692	—
San Antonio	27	15	.643	1½
Minnesota	23	16	.590	4
Denver	18	21	.462	9
Houston	16	25	.390	12
Dallas	15	26	.366	13
Vancouver	10	30	.250	17½
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	33	9	.786	—
Portland	31	10	.756	1½
Sacramento	26	13	.667	5½
Seattle	27	16	.628	6½
Phoenix	23	16	.590	8½
L.A. Clippers	10	31	.244	22½
Golden State	8	32	.200	24

Tuesday's Games
Indiana 93, Phoenix 87
New York at Washington, ppd., weather
Cleveland 116, Detroit 107, OT
Atlanta 96, Chicago 89
Miami 115, Boston 89
Sacramento 110, Charlotte 99
San Antonio 105, L.A. Clippers 82
Minnesota 92, Houston 84
Dallas 117, Golden State 103
Wednesday's Games
Phoenix at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Washington at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Boston at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Utah, 9 p.m.
New Jersey at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Orlando at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Golden State at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Utah at Portland, 10 p.m.

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Legal Notice

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting sealed bids for the purchase of polymer to be used at the water treatment plant. Bids will be received until February 8, 2000 at 3:00p.m. The bids will be opened at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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Transcript says pilots were off course

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — Their plane rocked by high winds on its approach to Little Rock, two American Airlines pilots realized their jet was "way off" course just moments before it crashed, broke up and caught fire.

A transcript of American Airlines Flight 1420's cockpit voice recorder was released today in advance of a National Transportation Safety Board hearing on the June 1 crash. Eleven people were killed in the accident and 89 were injured.

As ominous clouds rolled toward the airport from the northwest with heavy rain, wind and hail, the plane made a "bowling alley" approach from the southwest, according to previously released control tower tapes.

"We're going right into this crap," co-pilot Michael Origel said to Capt. Richard Buschmann as the plane approached the airport. Buschmann, who died in the crash, had complained seconds earlier about making a visual approach to the airport in bad weather at night.

Origel was to be the first witness called today at the NTSB hearing, which is expected to run through Friday.

About a minute before landing, Buschmann complained: "This is a can of worms" but continued toward the airport. When the plane was several hundred feet from the runway, the pilot uttered an expletive and said, "We're off course."

"We're way off," Origel replied.

The co-pilot told NTSB investigators the plane landed with its main landing gear to the right of the runway and the nose of the plane pointing to the left. The jet went into a slide and ran off the north end of the runway, down an embankment and nose-first into steel supports for the airport navigation system.

At its hearing, the NTSB will look at weather conditions, decision-making and the plane's mechanical operations, among other things.

The crash was deadliest on U.S. soil in 1999, although 217 were killed in the crash of an EgyptAir jet off the Massachusetts island of Nantucket on Oct. 31.

Last month, the Federal Aviation Administration released a transcript of conversations between the cockpit of Flight 1420 and the Little Rock air traffic control tower that included repeated warnings about a strong thunderstorm and high winds.

"We have heavy rain on the airport. ... The visibility is less than a mile," the tower informed the cockpit about three minutes before it was to have touched down shortly before midnight. A minute later the tower gave a wind shear alert. Wind shears — sudden, dangerous shifts in wind speed and direction — are considered major hazards to aircraft as they land or take off.

Passenger Arnold Bowden said he felt a strong northwest wind that moved the plane just seconds before it landed.

"When I first felt the wind and we got hit by rain simultaneously, I said, 'I don't think he's going to make the runway! Get down!'" Bowden recalled Tuesday. "We grabbed our knees and bent forward."

A summary of the NTSB's findings — but no theories — is to be released at the end of the hearing. A final report on the crash, and its cause, isn't expected until some time later.

More than 400 people were killed last year in aircraft accidents in the United States, its territories and international waters, according to the NTSB.

Flight 1420's cockpit voice recording picks up with the plane about 100 miles southwest of Little Rock and the pilots noticing lightning in the distance.

Previously released transcripts between the plane and the Little Rock control tower described a break in the storms as a "bowling alley" through which the pilots would try to reach the city.

Buschmann is heard on the cockpit recording saying "This is the bowling alley right here" shortly before beginning his descent.

But the pilots were still concerned about the storms. At several times, they make references to getting to the airport "as soon as we can," as Origel put it.

There was no discussion between the pilots in the last 100 miles of the flight about diverting to another airport.

Origel told an NTSB investigator that he "felt a sense of urgency to land at (Little Rock) because the weather was moving in."

"There was no discussion of delaying or diverting the landing," Origel said, according to an NTSB report also released this morning.

Less than 10 minutes before touching down, Buschmann said he could not see the airport, but then picked up a view of the runway later.

"I hate droning around visual at night in weather without ... having some clue where I am," Buschmann said about five minutes before touchdown.

Oil executive is kidnapped

SAN'A, Yemen (AP) — Yemeni tribesmen kidnapped an American oil company executive on Wednesday, an Oil Ministry official and a tribal source said.

The man, who has not been identified, was kidnapped in the eastern Marib province near oil fields operated by the U.S. company Hunt Oil Co., the tribesman said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The kidnappers, who belong to the al-Faheed tribe, have taken the American to a mountainous area in Marib, the tribal source said.

An Oil Ministry official said the man worked for a company called Halliburton which had been subcontracted by Dallas-based Hunt in Marib. Halliburton is Dallas-based oil-services company.

An official from Halliburton could not confirm the kidnapping, and calls to Hunt by The Associated Press were not immediately returned. The U.S. Embassy in the Yemeni capital San'a would not immediately comment.

Yemeni tribesmen often kidnap foreigners to pressure the government into providing money or better services, such as new roads, for their impoverished areas.

Government formally denies firing shots at Davidian site

WACO (AP) — Government lawyers on Tuesday formally denied that federal law enforcement agents or the U.S. military shot at the Branch Davidian compound at the end of the deadly April 1993 siege.

Their four-page federal court filing includes sworn statements by Defense Department and U.S. Treasury Department lawyers, The Dallas Morning News reported.

Treasury lawyers wrote on behalf of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms that no one under the agency's supervision or control shot at the sect's building on the last day of the 51-day standoff.

The Department of Defense, in a separate statement, said no one from the military or under its control fired that day "based on currently available information."

The response comes a week after lawyers for surviving Branch Davidians and their families, who have filed a wrongful-death lawsuit, complained to a federal judge in Waco about the government's refusal to answer that key question.

The deadly standoff began Feb. 28, 1993, when federal agents raided the rural compound of Branch Davidian leader David Koresh and his followers. On April 19, 1993, Koresh and more than 80 others died in an inferno, some from fire, others from gunshots.

Government arson investigators have said the Davidians set the blaze. Plaintiffs' lawyers have alleged that someone from the government fired repeatedly into the building in the final hours of the assault.

In a federal court filing Jan. 18, lead plaintiffs' attorney Michael Caddell complained of a "clear gap" between the broad scope of the plaintiffs' question and the "limited response" the government's lawyers provided — despite acknowledgment that the military's elite Delta Force was present during the siege.

Two Delta soldiers questioned last month in depositions swore they got no closer than a kilometer from the compound. But they acknowledged they did not know where a third Delta Force soldier was.

That soldier, a combat specialist, told his colleagues he got drunk the previous night, slept late and missed the FBI assault, one soldier testified. He is scheduled to be questioned later this week in Washington by lawyers for the sect.

Caddell said he is pleased the government responded more specifically, but said the issue remains in dispute. He noted that infrared FBI videotapes recorded that day contain what some experts say are flashes of government gunfire.

U.S. District Judge Walter Smith has ordered a field test using cameras like the one the FBI used that day and test-shots of weapons similar to those the government and the Davidians carried.

Online health spending to soar, but obstacles remain

NEW YORK (AP) — Consumers by the million are expected to turn to the Internet to buy health care goods and services in the next few years.

But a new study says the explosive growth will be tempered by online merchants' failure to convince people that selecting goods with the click of a mouse is less of a hassle than picking products off a store shelf and waiting in line.

Powered by demand for prescription drugs, consumer spending for online health goods and services will increase to $9.8 billion in 2004 from $200 million in 1999, according to a study prepared for release today by the Internet research firm Jupiter Communications.

The growth would be even faster, but most consumers still find buying in traditional stores more convenient, the report says.

"Consumers say it is easier to shop off line right now," said Claudine Singer, a Jupiter analyst.

A Jupiter survey of 1,667 shoppers last fall showed that nearly half said it is easier to shop in a traditional drug store, where they can get personal attention, low prices and convenience in returning goods.

Additionally, the largest health insurers contract with prescription drug benefit mangers, which restrict members to certain online drugs stores. For example, PCS Health Systems requires members to only shop at Drugstore.com and Merck-Medco requires members to use CVS.com.

Online health care spending will trail other industries, Singer said.

For example, online travel spending is expected to surpass $17 billion in 2003. Online spending for personal computers is expected to soon surpass $12 billion.

About 45 percent of the online health spending in 2002, or $4.4 billion, will be for prescription drugs, Jupiter found. That's up from less than $30 million last year.

To put the online prescription drug business in perspective, consumers spend about $175 billion on prescription drugs, according to Jupiter.

Singer said the report indicates that companies that combine online and traditional shopping venues will be most likely to thrive because they can offer consumers the best of both retail worlds.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	57⅞	56	56½	+ 9-16
AT&T Corp s	51 5-16	50¼	50 9-16	— 9-16
Albertsons	30¾	29⅞	30¼	+ ⅛
Alltel	78 15-16	76	76 15-16	— 2
AmerOnline s	63 3-16	59	60¼	— 1¼
AndarkPtr	35⅜	34 13-16	34 13-16	— 3-16
AtlRichfld	77¼	75 9-16	76 9-16	— ½
ATMOS Egy	17 15-16	17⅜	17½	— ¼
Aviall	7¾	7¾	7¾	
BP Amoco s	55 3-16	53¾	55	+ ⅛
BakerHughes	24	23¼	23⅜	+ ½
Bank of Amer	46⅞	45⅜	45¾	+ ⅝
BellAtl	58 15-16	58¼	58 7-16	— 1-16
BellSouth	44 5-16	43⅝	43 15-16	+ 3-16
Beth Steel	7 5-16	7 1-16	7 3-16	— ⅛
BurlNoSFe	23	22 9-16	22 9-16	—15-16
CBS Corp	60 15-16	59 9-16	60⅝	+ 13-16
Caterpillar	45⅛	43⅜	45⅛	+ 1½
CenSoWst	19¾	19 9-16	19⅝	+ 1-16
Chevron	89¾	88	88	— 9-16
Citigroup s	57 5-16	56 5-16	56¾	+ ⅞
Coastal	37 9-16	36⅝	37 5-16	+ 11-16
CocaCola	65½	64	64 5-16	— 1 9-16
ColgatePal s	60¼	58 15-16	59¾	+ ⅛
ComclMetals	33	32 15-16	32 15-16	
CooperIn	41 1-16	39⅞	41	+ 1
DaimlrChry	67 9-16	66⅞	67 5-16	—11-16
DallSemicn	72	70	70 9-16	+ ½
DeltaAirl	47 3-16	46	46¾	+ ⅜
Dillards Inc	19⅞	19½	19¾	— ⅛
DowChem	124 7-16	122	123¾	+ 1 11-16
DuPont	65⅛	61⅞	64	+ 2½
EastmanChem	42⅜	41 7-16	42 3-16	+ 1⅛
EstKodak	62 7-16	61 13-16	62 1-16	+ 5-16
EDS Corp	74	71⅛	74	+ 2½
Entergy	22½	22 5-16	22 7-16	+ 3-16
ExxonMobil	84 9-16	83 11-16	84⅛	+ 1-16
Flowers	12 9-16	12¼	12 7-16	
FordMotor	49¼	48⅜	48⅝	—1 7-16
GTE Cp	70½	68¼	68⅜	— ⅜
GenDynam	47⅜	46 1-16	46⅝	— 7-16
GenElec	142 3-16	138⅞	141 9-16	+ 3 1-16
GenMills s	31 9-16	30 9-16	30⅝	+ 7-16
GenMotors	78 7-16	77½	78	+ 1-16
GaPacGP s	41 15-16	39 15-16	41 11-16	+ 1 3-16
GlobalMar	19½	19	19⅛	+ ⅜
Goodrich	26 11-16	26 3-16	26⅜	— 3-16
Goodyear s	24⅞	24¼	24⅝	+ ½
GtAtlPac	27½	27⅛	27⅛	— ½
Halliburtn	41⅞	40⅜	40 7-16	+ 7-16
Hanson ADS	33 11-16	33 3-16	33⅜	+ 9-16
HarteHanks	24¼	23⅝	23 11-16	
HomeDepot s	56	55 1-16	55 13-16	+ 1-16
Honeywellntl	48½	47⅜	47 9-16	
IBM s	119 15-16	118⅛	118 7-16	—1 1-16
IntlPaper	49½	47½	49	+ 1¼
JohnsonJn	86¾	85½	86	+ ¾
K mart	9⅜	9⅛	9 5-16	+ 1-16
Kroger Co s	16⅜	16 1-16	16⅜	+ ¼
Litton	44¼	44	44 3-16	+ ⅜
LockheedM	19⅝	19 5-16	19 9-16	+ 5-16
Lowes Cos	45 13-16	45	45 1-16	—15-16
Lubys	10⅞	10 11-16	10¾	+ ⅛
LucentTech s	58	56¼	56¾	+ ¾
MayDeptStr s	32 11-16	32 3-16	32 11-16	+ 13-16
MediaOne	79	78⅜	78 7-16	— 7-16
Medtronic s	45 15-16	44½	45 15-16	+ 1⅜
Monsanto	35 1-16	34⅛	34 15-16	+ 9-16
MorganJP	120½	118½	120⅜	+ 4 3-16
Motorola	146	140	140	— 2⅛
NCR Corp	41	39⅛	39 7-16	+ 2 7-16
Navistar	41	40 1-16	40⅜	— ⅝
Penney JC	19⅛	19⅛	19½	— ⅛
PepBoys	7 13-16	7 9-16	7 9-16	— ⅛
PepsiCo	34 15-16	34 1-16	34 5-16	
PhelpDodge	60⅛	58 11-16	59¼	+ 1⅛
PhilipPet	42½	41 9-16	41 9-16	—11-16
PilgrmPrd B	7 13-16	7¾	7¾	
Polaroid	22⅛	20⅛	21 11-16	+ 1⅜
Praxair	44¾	43⅜	43⅜	— 9-16
ProctGamb	100½	98 13-16	99¾	+ 2⅛
PubS NwMx	15⅜	15⅜	15½	
ReliantEngy	21¾	21 7-16	21⅝	+ 3-16
RoyalDut	58½	57 11-16	57¾	— ½
SBC Comm	40½	39 11-16	40⅛	+ ¼
SaraLee	18 11-16	18⅛	18 5-16	+ ⅛
Scripps EW	48 5-16	47 1-16	48¼	+ 13-16
SearsRoeb	31⅜	30 7-16	31 3-16	+ 13-16
SherwinW	18⅜	17 13-16	18 3-16	+ 3-16
SmithkldBchm	57⅞	57⅛	57 5-16	—15-16
SouthernCo	25 9-16	25 5-16	25 5-16	— 1-16
SwstAirl s	15 11-16	15 7-16	15⅝	+ ¼
SprintFON s	62¼	61 9-16	61 15-16	+ 3-16
SprintPCS	108	106¾	107 11-16	— 9-16
SprintPCS wi	53⅞	53¼	53⅞	— 1-16
Sunoco Inc	23⅞	23⅛	23 11-16	+ 11-16
TNP Ent	41⅝	41 9-16	41 9-16	— 1-16
Tandy s	48 11-16	47 7-16	47⅞	+ 9-16
TempleInland	60⅛	58 1-16	60	+ 2½
Texaco	56¼	54¾	55¾	—15-16
TexInd	39⅛	38¾	39	+ ¼
TexasInst s	114	112	112⅜	— 1¼
Tex Util	35⅞	35 9-16	35¾	+ ⅛
Textron	60 13-16	59 15-16	60⅜	+ ⅛
TriconGlbR	30 7-16	30	30⅛	— ¼
TrinityInds	24 3-16	23 15-16	24 1-16	+ ¼
TritonEngy	25 5-16	25	25⅛	+ ⅛
TylerTech	5 7-16	5 1-16	5 1-16	— ¼
US West Inc	67 7-16	66 13-16	67⅜	+ ⅝
USX-Marathn	25 11-16	24	24 15-16	+ ⅛
USX-USS	26 5-16	25⅝	26 3-16	— 5-16
UnCarbde	57¾	56⅜	57 9-16	+ 1½
UnionPacif	41	40 5-16	40⅜	— 5-16
UnitedTech s	56⅞	55½	56¼	— ⅜
Unocal	30 3-16	29⅜	29⅜	— 1-16
Venator Grp	6¾	6⅛	6 11-16	+ 3-16
WalMart s	61⅛	60⅛	60 9-16	— 9-16
WellsFargo	37 11-16	37	37½	— ⅛
WstnGasRs	13 11-16	13½	13⅝	+ ¼
WinnDixie	20¾	20 1-16	20¾	— 1-16
Xerox Cp s	22 7-16	22 1-16	22⅜	+ 7-16

Local Interest STOCKS

Patterson	17 1/2	+1/2
Dell	41 1/16	-1 1/16
Wal Mart	60 5/8	-1/2
Compac	29 1/16	-1 15/16
Dol. Gen.	21 3/4	+1/4
GTE	68 3/8	-3/8
SBC Comm.	39 15/16	-1/16
Tx Instr.	112 1/2	-1 3/8
LU	56 3/4	+1 1/16
Cisco Sys.	109 7/16	-2 11/16

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Reduced Lg. Home 3-1¾-1-1cp+Den 2111 43rd	
Great Floor Plan 3-2-2 3509 Kerrville.	$60T
228 Acres 3-1 Brick	$80T
3-1¾-1 1901 29th Street	$27T
Reduced! Lovely 4-2-2 3303 Irving	$112T
3-1¾ 2107 43rd Covered Patio	$54.9T
3 Acres 3-1¾-2 Barnes & Stalls	$78T
Good Location! 3-2-2+deck & shop	$72T
Large 2 Bd 2 Stor. Bldg. Covered Patio	$54T
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Attractive! 4-2-2 2211 27th St.	$42T
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Scurry County Country

Town & Country Topics

By Kathryn Roberts, County Extension Agent

For 18 years, Snyder Daily News has allowed me the opportunity to write a weekly news column. For those of you who have taken the time to read my column, I say, Thank You.

I have had numerous individuals tell me they appreciate the comments I have made. As a final column, I would like o leave you with the following thoughts.

Families — you are the backbone of any community. Take the time and effort to be a good parent. Love your children with unconditional love.

Teach them how to love and respect others, give them opportunities to learn responsibility, help your children develop a sense of honesty, involve yourself and your family members in community projects, teach them how to work, and most importantly give them your time.

The time you spend with them will long be remembered. Teach your children how to resolve conflict in a calm, workable process. Remember above all, children learn from seeing. Be that positive role model not only for your children, but also, for other children.

Health and Fitness — you are responsible for your health. The following steps can keep you on the right track. 1) Eat a variety of foods using the Food Pyramid Guide to assist, 2) Exercise — walking is still one of the best exercises you can do. Include your family when you walk. This is a great time to visit and spend quality time with each other. 3) Rest — get the amount of rest your body needs daily. 4) Find ways to laugh and be happy. Life gives us a lot of undesirable stress. This can help manage stress.

Married Couples — strive to bring out the best in each other. If you find you have definite differences, first remember why you married each other, are your differences that important, find ways to compromise and share the benefit of those ideas, and work on a positive solution. Look at marriage as a lifetime commitment.

Career Exploration — help your children and yourself to view life as a process. What kind of skills, talent, abilities and interests do you have? Focus on those traits and look for ways to improve your life.

Goal setting is extremely important. Help your children learn about short-term goals and long-term goals. Then sit down with them and keep track of their accomplishments. This definitely helps their self-worth.

Other thoughts

Just for Today:

—I will seek the good in people.
—I will heed a wiser person's advice.
—I will be thankful for what I have.
—I will pray for peace within my home.
—I will take the first step in restoring a relationship.
—I will direct my thoughts toward others, not on myself.
—I will have confidence in myself.
—I will make Christ my role model.
—I will strive to reach the potential that God had in mind when He created me.

"I shall pass through this world but once, therefore any good that I can do, let me do it now for I shall not pass this way again."

C-City auction

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 1,576 head of cattle for the Saturday Jan. 22, sale. Compared to last week: Feeder steers and heifers were mostly steady to $1 lower. Slaughter cows were steady to $1 higher, and bulls were steady. Bred cows were $25 per head higher, pairs were steady. Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
200-300: 117-121
300-400: 109-120
400-500: 101-107
500-600: 89-94
600-700: 82.50-86
700-800: 78-84.50
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 91-100
400-500: 91-100
500-600: 81-85
600-700: 77.50-81
700-800: 74.50-80.50
Replacement cows
Bred cows: 540-690
Aged Bred cows: 410-535
Pairs: 600-720
Cow and calf pairs: 525-625
Slaughter cows: High yielding: 40-42
Slaughter bulls: High dressing: 50-53.50

Lubbock auction

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. had a run of 1,050 head of cattle for the Thursday, Jan. 20, sale. Cows were $2 cheaper. Yearlings and calves were $2 to $3 cheaper. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 34-40
Canner and low cutters: 29-33.25
Slaughter bulls: 42-51
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 100-130
400-500: 90-110
500-600: 87-95
600-700: 82-88
700-800: 77-84
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 90-105
400-500: 80-93
500-600: 80-85
600-700: 77-83
700-800: 70-77.50
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 77-90
700-800: 65-75
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 650-820
Grade: 500-650
Springers: 325-600
Baby calves: 75-150
Doodlers: 150-210

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Rose culture

Planting: If planting only a few roses, dig individual holes for them. Holes should be at least 12 inches deep and 18 inches wide. Mix about one-third organic material (peat, pine bark, or compost) with some of the soil from the hole, along with a gallon or two of well-rotted cow manure, if available. A half-cup of bone meal or super-phosphate, thoroughly mixed with the soil, is a good addition. A similar amount of agriculture gypsum is beneficial for heavy clay soils.

Soil preparation can be done just prior to planting but is more effective if completed several weeks or months before planting.

Spacing of the plants will vary with varieties. Most Polyanthias can be planted as close as 18 to 24 inches, white Chinas, Bourbons, Teas, hybrid Perpetuals, hybrid Teas and hybrid Musks are best at a 3- to 5-foot spacing depending on the variety.

Climbers and ramblers need more space to develop their potential. Eight to 10 feet may be appropriate for most, but under good growing conditions, Banksias, Cherokee and certain others could be spaced at 15-foot intervals.

Bare-root plants should be set out as soon after receiving them as weather and time allow. If a delay of more than a few days is necessary, remove the plants from the shipping bat and 'heel them in' by covering the roots and part of the tops with loose soil. Container-grown plants may be set out at any time, but most rose growers avoid the hot summer months, when extra irrigation and care may be necessary to ensure success. Prune tops back an inch or two to just above a live and healthy bud on each cane. Cut back canes or roots damaged in shipping or handling to healthy tissue.

Dig the hole large enough to accommodate the natural spread of the roots, and fill with the soil mixture described earlier. Firm the soil well around the roots, and water thoroughly to remove air pockets and settle the soil firmly around the root system. Set plants at approximately the same level at which they had been growing or slightly deeper.

Fertility: Roses are heavy users of nutrients and require frequent application of fertilizers. To determine fertility of existing soil, contact your Scurry County Extension Agent, Greg Gruben, at 573-5423 for instructions on submitting a soil sample.

Do not apply fertilizers until the first set of flowers begins to fade for ever-bloom types or in the case of once-blooming roses, 8 to 10 weeks after planting. A heaping teaspoon per plant of a complete fertilizer, such as 6-10-4 or 8-8-8, may be applied every 4 to 6 weeks until about September 1. Application after that time can promote soft fall growth that may result in freeze damage. The time-honored fertilizer for roses is well-rotted cow manure. Since manure may not be available, commercial fertilizers have become popular.

Phosphorous is the material that helps plants develop strong, healthy roots and prolific flowering. Super-phosphate is usually available, and can be applied at the rate of 3 to 4 pounds per 100 square feet. Since phosphorous is not very mobile in the soil, it should be well mixture during preparation.

Nitrogen is easily and quickly depleted from the soil and needs to be applied periodically during the growing season. It is necessary for more and bigger canes, stems and leaves. Slow-release commercial fertilizer or natural materials, such as cottonseed meal, last longer and require fewer applications through the growing season.

Potassium is needed for promotion of new growth, disease resistance, and cold tolerance. All 3 nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) are included in balanced fertilizers. Many rose growers apply a balanced fertilizer every 4 to 6 weeks during growing season.

Texas officials and farmers offer drought suggestions

AUSTIN (AP) — The federal government should help states better prepare for droughts and more quickly give aid to devastated farmers, Texas officials told members of a national drought policy commission Tuesday.

"Many producers still have had not had a chance to recover from the last drought," Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs said.

The hearing at the Texas Capitol was the fifth of nine scheduled nationwide. The commission, composed of 15 agriculture-related officials from across the country, was ordered by Congress in 1998 to draft a multilevel plan for drought preparation and response.

Faces From The Past...

Do You Know These Faces? If You Do... ENTER!! You Don't Have To Know Them All..

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Sam Baugh
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Dan Jenkins - Texas College Football Legends
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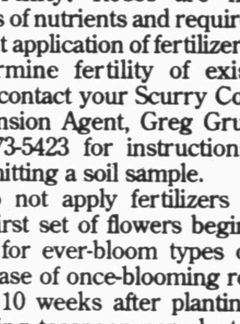
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Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

In each advertisement you will find a face from the past. Identify the faces on the entry blank opposite the name of the sponsoring business. **Bring or mail the entry blank to the Snyder Daily News, 3600 College, PO Box 949.** The deadline for entering is 5 p.m. Monday before the next contest appears on Wednesday. The weekly prize winner will be drawn from all the correct entries. The winner will be notified. This week's faces will be identified in next week's contest. Only one entry per person, and please do not make copies of the entry blank. Employees of the SDN are not eligible to enter.

Last Week's Photos: 1. Debby Ginbey 2. Surry Gilbum 3. Jerry Gothard 4.Danny Kelly 5. Clydine Hunter 6. Jean York Hataway 7. Brenda Marsh 8. Jimmy Don Lloyd 9. Linda Marsh 10. Connie Ellington

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Grandmothers ready to see Elian

WASHINGTON (AP) — The grandmothers of 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez are ready to head to Florida for a government-ordered session with the Cuban boy while political maneuvering intensifies over legislation to make him a U.S. citizen.

The two women made an impassioned appeal to Congress on Tuesday not to pass such a bill, saying Elian was a Cuban citizen and belonged with his father and them in Cuba.

"It's our right to see our grandson and take him back home," Mariela Quintana, the child's paternal grandmother, said during a visit to Capitol Hill.

They won't be able to do that at today's session with Elian in Miami Beach, however. The meeting, planned for 4 p.m. EST, was set as just a visit by the Immigration and Naturalization Service after efforts by the grandmothers to see their grandson in Miami on Monday fell through.

Cuban Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque demanded during a visit to Moscow today that the boy be returned, accusing the United States of violating his human rights. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov also has endorsed the idea of returning the boy.

Despite no prospect of taking Elian with them, his Cuban grandmothers still looked forward to the visit.

"I don't know if I'll cry or if I'll laugh" when seeing Elian for the first time in more than two months, Raquel Rodriquez, Elian's maternal grandmother, told CNN Tuesday after the INS ruling.

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Texas, said today the grandmothers recalled in their meeting with lawmakers that when Elian was rescued from the Atlantic on Nov. 25, "he was able to give his father's name and telephone number."

Surplus projections anger Democrats

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the Senate Budget Committee said today the huge projected budget surplus should be used for debt reduction, new spending and tax cuts. But he was cautious in describing just how far Republicans should go in cutting taxes in this election year.

"Whether we do it this year or reserve it for another year, it is inconceivable to me that the American taxpayer doesn't deserve some of this money," said the chairman, Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M.

Domenici's remarks came as Dan Crippen, director of the Congressional Budget Office, formally presented his agency's projections that federal surpluses could total more than $1.9 trillion over the next decade, without counting Social Security funds.

With Social Security's own surpluses, total budget surpluses for the 10 years ending in 2010 could total more than $4.2 trillion, the CBO said.

Congressional Republicans have not decided how large their tax cut will be this year, and some conservatives may want to make them as large as possible. But Domenici's comments echoed those of Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., who on Tuesday told reporters, regarding tax cuts, "maybe we should start on the conservative side and be prepared to come back and revisit it once again" next year.

Republicans are hoping that in 2001 they will be dealing with a GOP president.

Sen. Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey, top Democrat on the Senate Budget panel, said he supports using parts of budget surpluses for modest tax cuts and creating a prescription drug benefit under Medicare. But he said the surplus projection was overblown because it assumes spending cuts that will not occur, and added that debt reduction should be a priority when dividing any surplus.

"We have huge unfunded liabilities in the future, when the baby boomers will retire," said Lautenberg. "The best way to prepare for that future is to pay down our debt."

The new projections could boost lawmakers' hopes for election-year tax cuts and spending increases. The estimate virtually doubles the agency's last estimate in July.

Crippen said the estimates were based on "the mid-range of possible outcomes" for economic and budgetary performance, and conceded actual surpluses "could be considerably different from those projections."

At least for now, the impact of the new figures is chiefly political. The new figures are good news for leading GOP presidential candidate George W. Bush.

Obituaries

Oleta York

1915-2000

Oleta York, 84, died Monday, Jan. 24, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital following a brief illness.

A memorial service for Mrs. York is set for 4 p.m. today in the First Baptist Church Chapel with Dr. Marty Akins, pastor, officiating.

Funeral service for Mrs. York is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church in Jayton. The Rev. Irving Looney will officiate, assisted by Dr. Akins. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born June 29, 1915 in Bentonville, Ark., Mrs. York had moved to Snyder from Jayton in October, 1996. She was married to C.C. York who died in 1986. She also was preceded in death by a son, James Phillip York in April, 1977; two brothers, Alvin Hamilton and Gordon Hamilton; and three sisters, Era Green, Jewel Holabaugh and Cleo Patton.

Survivors include two daughters, Lesa Mayer of Snyder and Cindy Montgomery of Nigeria; two brothers, Johnnie Hamilton of Jayton and T. B. Hamilton of Wolfforth; and five grandchildren, Jennifer and Kristina Mayer, both of Snyder, and Kelly and Justin White of Flower Mound, and John York of Odessa.

Mrs. Huddleston

1906-2000

Kathleen "Jude" Huddleston, longtime Scurry County resident, died Monday, Jan. 24, in Lubbock's University Medical Center following a brief illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Huddleston, 93, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church Chapel. The Rev. Leroy Ochoa, pastor of Knapp Baptist Church, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Ira Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 26,1906 in Colorado City, Mrs. Huddleston moved from Colorado City to a farm southeast of Ira at a young age. After her marriage to Wright Huddleston in 1928 in Snyder, they lived in Ira and then moved to Snyder in 1956. He died May 20, 1985.

A homemaker, Mrs. Huddleston was a member of the Knapp Baptist Church.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Judy and John Shaw of Ruidoso, N.M.; a son and daughter-in-law, Ellis and Billie Huddleston of Las Cruces, N.M.; a foster daughter, Ruth Shannon of Capitan, N.M.; three grandchildren, Jim Huddleston of New York City, Kim Huddleston of Oakland, Calif., and Jason Shaw of Houston; three foster grandchildren, B.B. Berry and Eddie Davis, both of Capitan, and Beth Booher of Brooksmith, Tex; two great-grandchildren; and seven foster great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Knapp Baptist Church, 10201 Sterling Road, Ira, 79527.

Personal, Professional Service
BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Rellie Hammond

1899-2000

Funeral service is set for 3 p.m. Thursday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel for Rellie Ellerd Hammond, 100, of Ralls.

Tom Holcomb, minister at East Side Church of Christ, will officiate. Interment will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Mrs. Hammond, a former longtime resident of Dunn and Colorado City, died Tuesday, Jan. 25, in the Ralls Nursing Home. She had also resided in Lubbock and Plainview.

Born Nov. 5, 1899 in Stephenville, Mrs. Hammond was a homemaker. Her first husband, Henry Ellerd, died May 22, 1950. She later married Julian Hammond and he also preceded her in death on April 30, 1969. Mrs. Hammond was a member of the Church of Christ.

Mrs. Hammond also was preceded in death by two sons, Waymon and Arlon Ellerd; four brothers, Dildy, Arthur, Carl and Jessie Smith; two sisters, Zula Miller and Roxie Ellerd.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Walter and Lyndal Ellerd of Carrollton; a daughter, Leona Lawson of Ralls; two brothers, Graham Smith of Dunn and Olton Smith of Arizona; another daughter-in-law, Josephine Ellerd of Carrollton; three stepdaughters, Doris Hill of Abernathy, Mary Ellen Kennedy of Colorado City and Margie Dykster of Arlington; two stepsons, Romaine Hammond and E.W. Hammond, both of Colorado City; 10 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; 11 great-great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-great-grandchild.

Harold Wells

1932-2000

JONESBORO, Ark. – Harold Murl Wells, the father of Dee Wilson of Snyder, died Sunday, Jan. 23, in St. Bernards Regional Medical Center in Jonesboro.

Funeral service for Mr. Wells, 67, was set for 3 p.m. today in the Roller-Farmers Union Funeral Home Chapel.

A son, Michael Wells Sr. of Holliday, Tex., was to officiate, and burial was to follow in the Trinity Cemetery in Bono, Ark.

Born Aug. 21, 1932 in Leachville, Ark., Mr. Wells lived in the Jonesboro area all of his life. He retired from Singer Company after 32 years as a supervisor. Mr. Wells also taught furniture repair at Arkansas State University and he was co-owner of Wells Furniture in Jonesboro. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Survivors include his wife, Georgia Wells of the home; another son, Charles Winn of Lebanon, Tenn.; two other daughters, Kim Bobbitt of Cash, Ark., and Tabitha Jones of Jonesboro; two brothers, Bill Carter of Bono and Carl Carter of St. Louis, Mo.; 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Paul Asebedo

1914-2000

SAN SABA – Paul Asebedo, the brother of Josephine Cervantes of Snyder, died Tuesday, Jan. 25, in Brownwood.

Funeral service for Mr. Asebedo, 86, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Howell-Doran Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in the Richland Springs Cemetery.

Born Jan. 25, 1914 in Lampasas County, he was a longtime resident of Richland Springs. Mr. Asebedo was a farmer and a member of the Richland Springs First Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Dominga Asebedo of Richland Springs; a son, Daniel Asebedo of Richland Springs; a daughter, Carolyn McGraw of San Saba; three brothers, Frank Asebedo of Fort Worth, Raymond Asebedo of Plains and John Asebedo of Silverton; two other sisters, Justa Juarez of Silverton and Tamis Pesina of Plains; and seven grandchildren.

Woman arrested on IBC warrants

One subject was taken into custody Tuesday as law enforcement personnel had a relatively quiet day.

At 1:45 p.m., deputies arrested a 25-year-old female at the American Legion on nine warrants for issuance of bad checks.

City officers investigated two accidents Tuesday.

A two-vehicle mishap was reported at the Senior Citizens Center parking lot at 10:30 a.m. Involved were a Chevrolet Astro van owned by Western Texas College and driven by Dean Blankenship of 5513 Cedar Creek Drive, and a 1989 Mercury Topaz driven by Novella Benitez of 204 34th Street.

Officers responded to a minor accident in the Taco John's parking lot at 8:40 p.m. Involved were a 1999 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup driven by Brooks Nunley, 16, of 4504 Fredonia, and a 1995 Dodge Neon driven by Steven Guerrero, 20, of 3108½ Avenue V.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Jan. 25- Alicia Bowlin, Burnidean Callaway of Dunn, Ida Pinkerton, Weldon Buchanan of Hermleigh, John Cagle, Jackie Doucette, Leon Gutierrez, Bobby Scott, Trinidad Scott, Wernette Smith and John Sneed.

DISMISSALS: James Campos, A.U. White of Ira, Caiaphas Cain, Amanda Daves and Alexander Lara.

DISMISSALS: 50 (Med./Surg.-25, Long-term Care-24 and ICU-1)

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Book fair

Scurry County Head Start book fair continues from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. daily through Friday on the stage at the Snyder Child Day Care Center at 2800 2nd Street.

10-week study

"The Blessing," a 10-week Bible study by James Smaulley and John Trent, is being taught at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Trinity United Methodist Church by the Rev. Lloyd Stice. For more information, call 573-3988.

Senior Citizens swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens is held from 2-3 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at the WTC pool. For more information, call 573-4035.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception in honor of Kathryn Roberts, Scurry County extension agent, will be held from 2-4 p.m. Thursday in the extension office, 2605 Ave. M.

Bible study

A 10-week study, "To Live As Christ," by Beth Moore is being held at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. each Thursday at the Trinity United Methodist Church. Shirley Stice is the teacher. For more information, call 573-3988.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception in honor of Ruby Neves will be held from 10 a.m. until noon Friday, on the third floor of the Scurry County courthouse.

Hosting Missionary Baptists

Northside Baptist Church will host the West Texas-New Mexico Missionary Baptist Association meeting start at 10 a.m. Saturday. Mike Rice from Arp will be guest speaker for the men and "A Godly Woman" workshop will be held for the women. The public is invited. For more information, call 573-7105.

Calvary Baptist 50th anniversary

Calvary Baptist Church will observe its 50th anniversary Sunday. Former pastors and staff will speak at the 9:45 a.m. service. Former pastor Glenn Border will speak at 10:50 a.m. A reunion from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. will be held in the fellowship hall.

Enchilada dinner

Colonial Hill Baptist Church youth will host an enchilada dinner from noon until 1:30 p.m. Sunday, in the church fellowship hall. Tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for children under 12 and are available at the church office. Tickets at the door will be $6 and $4. Funds will go toward summer youth activities.

Windbreak trees

Windbreak trees are available from the Soil and Water Conservation District, 5308 Big Spring Hwy. Deadline for orders is Monday.

SHS baseball boosters

The Snyder baseball will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the SHS student center. All booster members are urged to attend to see new uniforms and T-shirts on display. Also it is the last chance for parent ads.

Financial aid workshop

A financial aid workshop will be held in Snyder High School's student center at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Kathy Hall of WTC's financial aid office will conduct the workshop.

Amateur radio operators

Snyder area radio operators will conduct its weekly check in/ragchew net at 7:30 Tuesday. This net will operate on frequency 146.920 with PL tone 67. All licensed amateurs are welcome to check in. For more information call Mike @ KM5TC (573-2222), or David @ KC5GFM (573-8182).

Marriage course

A 13-week course, "Covenant Marriage: Communication and Intimacy Course" will be presented by the North College Ave. Baptist Church starting at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 3. The course is designed to strengthen a marriage and equip persons to assist others who are struggling in a relationship. For more information or pre-registration, call 573-9540 or 573-7930.

Scout food drive

Scouts will hand out bags on Thursday, Feb. 3, and collect them on Saturday, Feb. 5. No glass containers or perishables. If you need a bag picked up, call 338-1865.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception to honor Bill and Anne Overhulser will be held from 3-5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4, at Snyder Country Club.

Commissioning service

A commissioning service for ministry in Guatemala for Charlie and Pat Reynolds will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 6, in the First Baptist Church. A reception will follow.

WTC basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at Western Texas College are taught Tuesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m., and from 6-9 p.m. Classes include G.E.D. and E.S.L. refresher courses. For additional information, call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Road to Recovery program

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

Pick 3

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

0-6-3

(zero, six, three)

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:

1-9-12-32-35

(one, nine, twelve, thirty-two, thirty-five)

Not all states endorse breakup of Microsoft

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some states active in the Microsoft antitrust case don't necessarily favor the Justice Department's plan to break up one of the world's most successful companies, state attorneys say.

That signal of potential division within the government's ranks could complicate settlement talks and the next important phase of the trial.

Although debate continues in secret among the 19 state attorneys general deciding what to recommend about Microsoft Corp., there is risk the government might fail to bring a unified proposal on sanctions to U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson.

Illustrating the difficulties in achieving such consensus, Ohio's attorney general indicated she is leaning toward a ban on some of Microsoft's behavior toward others in the technology industry rather than a forced restructuring of the software giant.

Calling the dilemma "the most difficult professional decision I ever got involved with," Ohio Attorney General Betty Montgomery told The Associated Press that a breakup of Microsoft "has never been on my top list."

"I have to tell you that my bias is toward a conduct resolution, but again it's too early to be specific," said Montgomery. "Quite frankly, I indicated to my staff when we started this lawsuit that I was not looking out for a structural solution as much as a conduct solution."

An official in another of the 19 states, who spoke on condition of anonymity, also has hinted that a breakup — considered the "death penalty" among possible remedies — might be too disruptive for consumers.

Critics have suggested a court-ordered breakup could result in different — even incompatible — versions of Microsoft's dominant Windows software, which is entrenched as a de facto standard for running most of the world's personal computers.

Jackson, the trial judge, previously told government lawyers bluntly to agree among themselves before they present any plan for sanctions.

"I would not like to have to deal with divergent points of view," Jackson told them in a private meeting in November.

Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller, who is coordinating the effort by the states, acknowledged there was "no lock step" among them, but said it was inaccurate to suggest attorneys general were at loggerheads over what sanctions to recommend.

"To imply there is a lot of division among the states is an enormous leap, an enormous stretch," Miller said. He declined to discuss internal talks about remedies, saying they were too closely linked to secret settlement negotiations.

In the government's final legal filing before the next round of courtroom arguments, it rebutted claims made by Microsoft in earlier filings. The government on Tuesday said the company misapplied existing law, "addresses straw men and seeks to apply to this case out-of-context passages from decisions involving patently different market circumstances."

Montgomery, a Republican now in her second and final term as attorney general, indicated the states may eventually endorse a breakup, such as Justice's idea of splitting Microsoft into three parts. But she also suggested not all states may participate fully.

"I can't tell you at this point ... what the resolution will be, and ... what I will feel about it and whether Ohio will join in that solution," Montgomery said.

She also declined to discuss the ongoing settlement talks in Chicago with a federal mediator, U.S. Circuit Judge Richard Posner. Others close to the talks said Posner wrote a letter demanding renewed secrecy earlier this month after there were leaks about the Justice plan to dismantle Microsoft.

"It is a very hard negotiation, and it's very difficult to predict where it's going to end," Montgomery said.

One expert said arriving at a unified proposal without significant dissent will be difficult because attorneys general — many of whom aspire to higher elected office — are sensitive to polls showing strong opposition to government breakup plans.

"The states, because of this direct connection to the electorate, do pay more attention to the views of constituents," said antitrust expert William Kovacic of George Washington University. He also noted that the increasingly important role of the states "signifies the extent to which the power in this nationally important economic decision has seeped out of Washington."

Microsoft executives have dismissed discussion of sanctions as premature. However, the company's newly appointed chief executive officer, Steve Ballmer, wrote in a letter to the editor of The Washington Post this week that "breaking up Microsoft would be bad for the company, bad for the industry and, most important, bad for consumers."

Museum to get JFK assassination film

DALLAS (AP) — An amateur cameraman's now-famous home movies of President John F. Kennedy's assassination have made their way back to the Dallas plaza where the 1963 shooting took place.

The survivors of Abraham Zapruder have decided to give their last original duplicate of the his film and its copyright to the Sixth Floor Museum, named after the sixth-floor window where Lee Harvey Oswald fired the fatal shots.

The donation represents a potential windfall in licensing income and prestige for the 11-year-old Dallas museum, which stands next to the spot where the president met his demise. It is owned by the city and the county.

"This is a coup," Jeff West, the museum's executive director, told today's Dallas Morning News. "It's truly transformational for us, and it secures our future, not just financially but historically."

In a written statement about the museum gift, the Zapruder heirs said the decision keeps alive the family's desire to protect the film from exploitative tactics.

"The guiding principle for the use of the film, established by our father and grandfather at the outset in 1963, was the balance of respect for the sensitive nature of the images with appropriate access by the public," the statement read.

The family said it decided on the donation because it had confidence museum administrators "share our values." West pledged to meet the high standards set by the Zapruder family and historical researchers.

Zapruder, a dressmaker, was the only person to record the entire sequence of JFK's assassination with his 8mm camera.

The Zapruder family announced their intention to transfer the copyright's ownership to a public institution in August, after an arbitration panel ordered the U.S. government to pay the heirs $16 million plus interest for the original film.

The Assassination Records Review Board in 1997 declared the film the permanent possession of the people of the United States. The Constitution requires the government to pay owners of private property taken for the public good. The original has been stored at the National Archives since 1975.

Zapruder ordered three so-called first-generation copies of the film when it was processed the day of the assassination. The two he gave to the Secret Service also stored at the archives.

The Sixth Floor Museum donation involves the third copy, the only one still privately owned. The 26-second clip became the museum's property in a Dec. 30th agreement.

The museum was criticized last year by Sen. Edward Kennedy when it debuted the "Dealey Plaza Cam," which broadcasts live pictures from the perch where Oswald fired his shots on its Web site.

Son-in-law of Gotti arrested

NEW YORK (AP) — A prosecutor compared it to an episode of "The Sopranos," only this production was made with police audio and video equipment, and landed mob boss John Gotti's son-in-law in jail.

Reputed mobster Carmine Agnello, the husband of best-selling author and dapper daughter Victoria Gotti, was arrested Tuesday for allegedly using extortion and arson to frighten a Queens business competitor.

Unfortunately for Agnello, authorities said, the competition was a police sting operation set up as a bogus scrap metal business in the hope of catching car thieves.

"Thereupon began a saga worthy of an episode of 'The Sopranos,'" said Queens District Attorney Richard Brown, referring to the hit cable show about a mob family.

The recording equipment caught Agnello allegedly threatening undercover officers.

Agnello, 40, and three associates face up to 29 years in prison and the loss of millions of dollars in assets if convicted.

Company settles for $1.2 million

DALLAS (AP) — A company that removed waste from the U.S. Department of Energy's Pantex Plant in Amarillo settled a federal case Tuesday alleging the company defrauded the government.

Chemical Waste Management Inc. agreed to pay the government $1.2 million in damages and penalties stemming from 11 invoices the company gave the Energy Department for removing hazardous materials from the nuclear warhead plant. The invoices allegedly double-charged or inflated the costs of services.

The company subcontracted with the government from 1990-94.

Company officials could not be reached for comment Tuesday. A phone number listed in Chicago rang without being answered and a phone listing in Houston no longer was in service.

An Energy Department report released in 1994 showed Chemical Waste overcharged the government $2.2 million, including $231,046 in double-billings from 1990-92.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Donna Webb said the 11 invoices totaled $574,110. In the settlement, that amount was doubled and a $55,000 fine was added, she said.

The government began looking into the company's billing practices in 1993 after a December 1992 audit by Mason & Hanger Corp., which holds the management and operating contract for the Pantex plant, found $3.3 million in questionable charges.

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closeout 449.88
Sharp® 8mm camcorder, Save $50
4-in. LCD screen, image stabilization. Was 499.99. #58459 (Mfr. #VLE785U) While quantities last

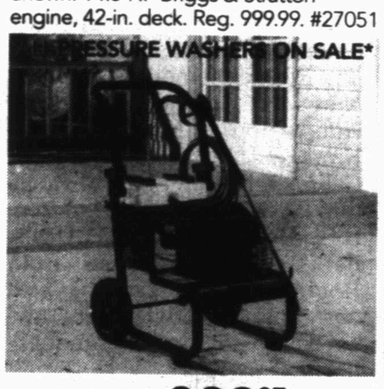
closeout 249.88
Toshiba® DVD player, Save $50
Component video output, Dolby digital and dts compatibility. Was 299.99. #44529 (Mfr. #SD-2109) While quantities last



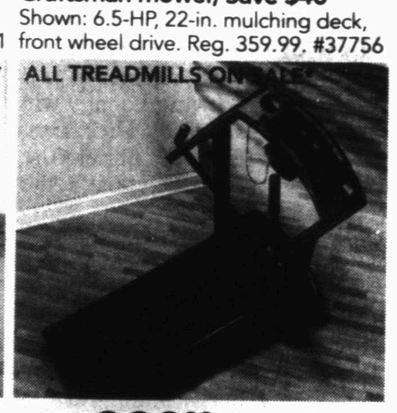
sale 949.99
Craftsman lawn tractor, Save $50
Shown: 14.5-HP Briggs & Stratton engine, 42-in. deck. Reg. 999.99. #27051



sale 319.99
Craftsman mower, Save $40
Shown: 6.5-HP, 22-in. mulching deck, front wheel drive. Reg. 359.99. #37756



closeout 399.87
Craftsman 6-HP pressure washer, Save $50 Shown: With Dial-A-Cleaner. Was 449.99. #76802 While quantities last



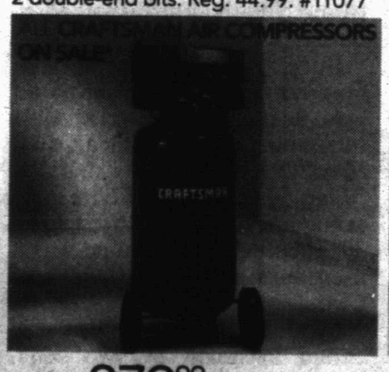
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Shown: 10-in. blade. Includes stand. Reg. $179. #24876/22196



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Shown: 5.5-HP, 25-gal. vertical tank. Portable. Reg. 329.99. #16523



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Craftsman tool storage, Save $50†
Shown: 13-drawer pro combo. #65904/65905 †Reg. sep. price 329.95.

SWEETWATER: 604 East Broadway Sweetwater, TX. Phone: 915-235-8099 Owner: Marilyn K. Fator Mon.-Sat. 9-8, Sun. 12-5
BIG SPRING: 1801 East FM 700-C8 Big Spring, TX Phone: 915-267-1127 Owner: Jody & Teri Swinney Mon.-Sat. 10-7, Sun. 1-6

Amana MAYTAG Whirlpool Kenmore RCA FRIGIDAIRE GE

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