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WT-Int. Crude - $26.53
WTIC Posted - $23.50
Natural Gas - $4.350

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY

Nov. 25, 2002
Vol. 54 No. 178
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Linda Holley

Bankruptcy hearing postponed...

County agrees on tax settlement with Lorber

Scurry County commissioners' court this morning unanimously accepted a settlement agreement with Lorber Industries for back taxes.

The $115,380 settlement was accepted with little discussion after a half-hour executive session to consult with attorneys regarding the matter.

Tax attorney Laura Monroe of the Lubbock law firm Purdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott was on hand to advise the court. County attorney Mike Hartman also was present.

The settlement, for taxes owed from 1999-2002, was called a "win-win situation" by Precinct 3 commissioner Howard Limmer.

"I think our tax attorney and our county attorney did a very good job in working with this," he said. "This is a good deal."

The motion to accept the settlement was made by Precinct 1 commissioner Ralph Trevey with the understanding that it must first be approved by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court handling Lorber's case.

"This is contingent on court approval," he said.

Hartman said the bankruptcy hearing has been rescheduled for Dec. 12.

In a related matter, the court voted unanimously to assign the tax abatement previously granted to Lorber over to UCO Textiles, a Belgian firm in negotiations to purchase the local mill.

County Judge Ricky Fritz said he is excited about having UCO in Scurry County.

"I think it's great to have those jobs here and to have that plant running again," he said.

Limmer said representatives from the Belgian firm also expressed excitement at a recent luncheon to welcome the company.

No other new or old business was included on the agenda.

Five line-item transfers were approved and no budget amendments were presented.

Bills payable were approved by a 3-0 vote with Precinct 2 commissioner Roy Idom abstaining.

Fritz presided and all members of the court were present to include Trevey, Idom, Limmer and Chloanne Lindsey.

Announcement expected Tuesday from W.T.S.B.

An expected announcement today on a management change at West Texas State Bank has been postponed one day.

Dan Cotton, acting chairman of the bank's board of directors, said a meeting on the matter is set for Tuesday morning.

Bill Parker has been the bank's president for the past 16 years.

Neither Parker, nor any of the bank's directors other than Cotton, would comment on the upcoming announcement.

WINTER DELIVERY — Postman Sam Crenshaw is bundled up as he loads his mail truck this morning. A cold front swept through the area early Monday morning, dropping temperatures below freezing. (SDN Staff Photo)

Space station residents...

Two-week delay was beneficial to astronauts

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — The three men who will move into the international space station for the winter say they benefited from all of space shuttle Endeavour's launch delays.

The extra time allowed them to get more sleep and hit the gym.

The two weeks of postponements also pushed the shuttle flight into normal daylight working hours and out of the deep graveyard shift.

"Physically, the delays helped us," said Kenneth Bowersox, the astronaut who will take over as the next space station commander.

Bowersox and the six others aboard Endeavour were expected to arrive at the space station this afternoon, ending a two-day chase. Astronaut Donald Pettit and Russian Nikolai Budarin will join Bowersox on the station.

After training for five years for a four-month space station stint, Bowersox said it was hard to believe he was finally on his way.

"I can't wait," he said in an interview with The Associated Press Sunday night. "I've seen two or three sunrises during the last couple days and I can't believe how many more I've got ahead of me. But I think every day is going to be precious up here."

Bowersox will replace Russian cosmonaut Valery Korzun as the space station's skipper.

Korzun and his crew, American Peggy Whitson and Russian Sergei Treschev, have been living on the space station for almost six months, although the mission was to have lasted just 41/2 months.

Endeavour should have flown in October, but was grounded because of cracked fuel lines found throughout the shuttle fleet. Then Endeavour ran into other trouble that delayed liftoff another two weeks.

Pettit took advantage of the last two weeks of delays to eat — and eat.

"It gave me an opportunity to try to put on a few pounds before flight," Pettit said. "So I did a lot of eating. And then I did a lot more sleep after that. And then, of course, we have to go to the gym."

Bowersox said being in orbit over the holidays may intensify the space station experience, at least for him.

NASA made sure turkey breasts were aboard Endeavour for Thanksgiving. As for Christmas, Bowersox noted: "I can't think of a whole lot better place to spend Christmas than up in Earth orbit looking down, trying to find Santa Claus." He has three young sons.

Pettit's twin sons will turn 2 this Friday. Because they are so young, "it's going to be kind of hard staying in touch with them," he said. "It's going to be sort of like I fell off the planet."

Budarin, their cosmonaut crewmate, also has two sons but they're both grown.

Earlier Sunday, the astronauts gave Endeavour's robot arm a workout. The job took on added significance because of the damage that workers inflicted two weeks ago during oxygen-leak repairs; they accidentally hit the arm with scaffolding.

School holidays fast approaching for Thanksgiving

Snyder and Ira schools will dismiss classes early Tuesday for the Thanksgiving holidays, while Hermleigh will have a full day of classes.

Snyder will dismiss at 2 p.m., while Ira will let out classes at noon.

Hermleigh will dismiss at their regular time of 3:35 p.m.

Western Texas College dorms will close at 2 p.m. Tuesday and classes will not be held Wednesday through Friday.

Normal class schedules will resume Monday on all campuses.

Deadline for Goodfellows is Saturday

Donations can be made for the annual Goodfellows food drive at any of the school campuses in the county.

In addition, monetary donations can be made at any of the local banks.

An application for Goodfellows' assistance is on Page 2.

The deadline for accepting applications is Saturday.

U.N. inspection team arrives in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The first team of U.N. inspectors landed in Iraq today to resume the hunt for chemical, biological or nuclear arms programs, a search whose outcome could help determine the future of peace in the Middle East.

A white C-130 transport plane, emblazoned with a simple "UN," touched down at Saddam International Airport carrying 17 international arms monitors and their cargo of high-tech sensors, computers and other gear. They had assembled earlier at a U.N. rear base on the Mediterranean island of Cyprus.

The team comprised six nuclear experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna and 11 inspectors from the New York-based U.N. commission charged with searching for other weapons of mass destruction. Meetings were scheduled tonight with liaisons from President Saddam Hussein's government.

After a four-year suspension, the crucial new round of surprise inspections will begin Wednesday, when they will likely revisit an unidentified Iraqi site previously inspected in the 1990s. Among other things, they may check on cameras and other monitoring equipment left behind by earlier inspectors.

Later, the inspectors will branch out to new or rebuilt sites — for example, suspected storage places for chemical weapons U.S. intelligence alleges are still held by Iraq.

"We come here with, let's say, hope that things will go well this time, and we will get what is required of Iraq," said Melissa Fleming, a nuclear agency spokeswoman who flew in with the inspectors.

"We're aware that we will be watched, every move. I think the Iraqis are also aware that the entire world is watching."

Hiro Ueki, Baghdad spokesman for the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, known as UNMOVIC, said the expert teams are empowered by the United Nations to inspect any site at any time, and secrecy in planning is paramount.

"If you were the head coach of an American football team, I don't think you'd reveal your strategy," Ueki said.

Fleming said some 35 additional inspectors will arrive Dec. 8.

The roster of U.N. inspectors includes some 300 chemists, biologists, missile and ordnance experts and other specialists of UNMOVIC, and a few dozen engineers and physicists of the U.N. nuclear agency. Between 80 and 100 will be working in Iraq at any one time.

As inspectors arrived, British Prime Minister Tony Blair warned Saddam against denying he has any weapons of mass destruction in the report Iraq must file to the United Nations by Dec. 8.

"We have no doubt he does have weapons of mass destruction. So let's wait and see what he actually says," Blair told reporters in London.

Retirees' health insurance on hospital agenda

Cogdell Memorial Hospital's board of managers will re-visit the subject of retirees' health insurance when they meet at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

At last month's board meeting, the minutes reflected the board had voted to terminate paying health insurance premium for the retirees.

Board member Dink Foree questioned the entry, so hospital CEO George Parsley added the item to Tuesday's agenda for possible action.

Three retirees will be affected by the board's decision.

Parsley also will present a request for proposal for updating the heating and air conditioning in portions of the hospital, and Joe Wright, chief financial officer, will present the monthly financial report.

Dr. James Burleson will give the medical staff report, and administrative assistant Christy Brown will present an in-service report on the rehab and wellness department.

The board also were hold an executive session regarding personnel matters.

ASK US

Q—Has anything come of the petitions seeking a curfew for Snyder youths?

A—The matter is expected to be an agenda item when the city council meets in December.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Betty Morgan...

...a lifetime resident of Snyder, has worked in the finance and accounts payable department at Snyder ISD for 16 years. She also works part-time at Wal-Mart. She has two daughters, Stephanie Weems who lives in Leeds, Ala., and Christy Rocha who lives in Japan. Betty said her four grandchildren are her hobby

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Time is the inexplicable raw material of everything.
—Arnold Bennett

NOV 25 2002

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Ira Masonic Lodge

Ira Masonic Lodge #934 will meet at 7:30 tonight at the lodge.

Support groups

Adult family violence support group and children's family violence support group meets at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at Gateway Family Service. For information call 573-1822.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Understanding the Miracles of the New Testament," followed by "What Have We Learned?"

Technology booster club

Technology Student Association Booster Club will meet at 7 tonight at the SHS shop classroom, followed by a work night as needed. Plans for Old Mills Trade Days sale will be made and fajita cookers and jalapeno roasters will be worked on. Call Jean Burn at 573-7446 for more information.

Snyder Lions

Members of the Snyder Lions Club who did not attend the last week's dinner will need to bring a Toys for Kids toy to the Tuesday noon meeting.

Junior high yearbook

The Snyder Junior High yearbook is on sale through Tuesday in room 110. Price is $16 with a deposit of $8 required when ordering. No extra copies will be available.

ACS board meeting

The Scurry County unit of the American Cancer Society will meet at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the Stanfield Elementary teachers' lounge. All board members and those interested in volunteering are invited.

Angel project

The angel project done for Carole Haynes is a continuing effort and anyone who has a decorated angel may drop it off at Stanfield Elementary.

Community Services raffle

Scurry County Community Services is holding a drawing for a $75 gift certificate to United and $75 to Wal-Mart. Tickets are $1 and all proceeds will be used to buy Christmas gifts for children.

Choir poinsettia sale

Snyder High choir members are taking orders for poinsettias available in red, white or in jingle bell variety. Cost is $10 each upon delivery next Monday. Call 573-6301 to place orders.

Washington, D.C. trip

Applications are due by the end of this week for persons wishing to participate in next June's trip to Washington, D. C. and surrounding areas. For an application booklet or for further information, contact Charlotte Clifton at 573-2430 or Darlene Robbins at 573-0795.

Tiger's Lair on sale

Orders for the 2003 Tiger's Lair are being taken. Cost is $45 with options available at an addition fee. The price will increase to $50 after Dec. 1. Also deadline for senior dedications is Dec. 1. Dedications are $45 per photo and message. Call 574-6138 for information.

Ira Bulldog annuals on sale

The 2003 Bulldog annuals are on sale. Reserve your copy from now until Tuesday. Cost is $26 with your name on the cover or $22 without. The supply is limited, so reserve your copy as soon as possible. To order, contact Becky Hudgins at Ira School.

Canned food drive

Snyder Oaks Care Center is having a canned food drive for Gateway Family Services that ends Dec. 10. Bring your canned goods to the care center.

White Buffalo Festival T-shirts

White Buffalo T-shirts featuring a train are on sale at the Whistle Stop or the coliseum office for $7 each.

WTC adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at Western Texas College will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. until noon, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include E.S.L., GED and refresher courses. Certified teachers and Spanish speaking aides teach the classes. Call 573-8511, ext. 322.

WTC pool, gym hours

The WTC pool and gym are now open Monday through Thursday. The gym is open from 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. The pool is available from 6:30 to 8 a.m., noon to 1 p.m. and 7 to 8:50 p.m. The gym closes at 4 p.m. on Friday and the pool is open only in the morning and at noon on Fridays. Memberships are $50 per semester or visits are $2. Contact Christy Cerecedes for information at 573-8511, ext. 290.

Sr. citizen swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens is held from 10-11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call the senior center at 573-4035 for more information.

WTC PE building to close

The PE building at Western Texas College will close at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, for the fall semester and will reopen for the spring semester on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 6:30 a.m.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland is available free of charge. Call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakey Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

FBC support groups

Support groups dealing with divorce, death, cancer or caring for elderly parents meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church educational building. A special group for students facing these problems is held at the same time.

Bush's twin daughters will turn 21 today

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's twin daughters, who have had brushes with the law for underage drinking, turn 21 today, marking their birthday in Texas and looking to stay clear of the spotlight.

Both Barbara Bush, who attends Yale University, and Jenna, a student at the University of Texas at Austin, were in their home state in advance of a Thanksgiving family celebration. The president and first lady planned to celebrate the twins' birthdays during the holiday weekend, a White House official said.

Laura Bush was returning to Texas today and heading to the family ranch in Crawford on Tuesday. The president is to follow on Wednesday.

The White House is fiercely protective of the twins' privacy, and several officials refused to provide details about the birthday observances.

Barbara and Jenna Bush have drawn unwelcome headlines over the past few years for alcohol-related episodes.

In May 2001, police in Austin cited both of them for violating state alcoholic beverage laws.

Police accused Barbara Bush of being a minor in possession of alcohol and Jenna Bush of misrepresenting her age for allegedly trying to use false identification to buy alcohol.

Jenna Bush allegedly ordered a margarita and was asked to produce identification proving she was 21. She showed a valid driver's license belonging to someone else, police said. She was not served.

Witnesses told police that Barbara Bush was served alcohol.

The charges were dismissed after the then-19-year-old twins performed community service, attended alcohol awareness classes and paid $100 in fines.

The month before that incident, Jenna Bush had pleaded no contest to charges of underage drinking. She was ordered to take alcohol counseling and perform community service. A judge fined her $500 and suspended her license.

Last summer, Jenna Bush reportedly tried to persuade a bartender to sell her a drink, but the bartender asked her to leave after consulting with the Secret Service agents who protect her. Jenna Bush berated her agents and complained to her father about the incident, according to an account in U.S. News and World Report.

Patti Davis, the youngest daughter of former President Reagan, said she empathized with the twins.

After their 21st birthday, "They will no longer be afforded any mercy or consideration for their age by the press. They will become fair game to the country's preoccupation with the private lives of public people," Davis wrote in the Los Angeles Times.

"When anyone turns 21, there are the obligatory words and phrases that come with the territory: 'responsibility,' 'appropriate behavior,' 'maturity,'" Davis said. "When you're a member of the first family, the words are said by a greater number of people and hurled at you with more velocity. "

She had some advice for the Bush twins.

"No matter what people say, there isn't anyone alive who really believes he or she could live under the first family spotlight and not blow it sometimes," Davis said. "Remember that there are no rules, no codes, for being a member of the first family — even the founding fathers didn't tackle that one. Remember, everyone is a work in progress."

MADD considering online class

DALLAS (AP) - A recent report by Mothers Against Drunk Driving gave Texas a D for its efforts to stop teenage drunken driving, but a new national program targeting high school students seeks to help Texas and other states improve those efforts.

MADD and a group called Outside the Classroom hope by next year to offer an online alcohol class to schools to supplement health or drivers education classes.

The groups want children throughout the nation, regardless of the quality of their schools or interaction with school resource officers, to receive the same information when it comes to alcohol. A similar program exists for college students.

"It's kind of hit or miss, depending on where you live," said Jana Nelson, national director of programs for MADD. "Some school resource officers are very engaged in the classroom, and some are so involved in enforcement they can't be in the classroom. We want to make it more standardized, so it will be the same if you live in Dallas or Houston or El Paso."

MADD estimates that 48 percent of the 3,724 traffic fatalities in Texas last year were alcohol-related. Those age 15 to 20 accounted for 296 of those deaths.

A similar program used by college students across the country presents information about the medical and social effects of drinking. Programs incorporate state-specific statistics, stories and legislation.

Dallas drivers education teacher Robert Peteet, who has instructed teen drivers for 27 years, said he welcomes any addition that will impact his students.

He dedicates at least five days of the semester to how alcohol and drugs impair driving, but he says another medium to educate his students could mean they will realize the danger of knocking back a few drinks and getting behind the wheel.

"We can never say enough about this. Teenagers need to be aware," said Peteet, a teacher at Carter High School.

Richardson police Sgt. David Glenn said any new education methods directed at students, especially high school students, need to depict the real danger of drinking and driving killing themselves or another person.

"You can tell children not to touch the burner because it's hot," said Glenn, a school resource officer. "But they will still touch the burner to find out for themselves. And they'll never touch it again."

Priest returns to congregation after being cleared of charges

NEWTON, Mass. (AP) — With applause breaking out across the church, a high-ranking member of the Roman Catholic clergy made an emotional return to his congregation for the first time since being cleared of sexual abuse charges.

Monsignor Michael Smith Foster received spontaneous applause as he walked toward the altar, shaking hands and greeting the Sacred Heart parishioners during Sunday Mass. He said it was their prayers and concern that soothed him when "I felt like I had been cast into prison."

"By your prayers you clothed my spirit. By your concern through letters and calls and action you welcomed me into your lives when I felt like I had been cast into prison," he said.

Foster was one of the highest-ranking clergy members accused of abuse since the crisis erupted in January, when court documents revealed the Boston archdiocese shuffled abusive priests between parishes. He is the presiding judge of the archdiocesan tribunal that handles annulments and canon law issues.

He was accused of sexual abuse and twice suspended before being reinstated last month.

"You stopped what was happening in your lives and gave your time and support to me. I am overwhelmed by your loving support," he told former youth group members and altar servers, who countered the abuse allegation from a former altar boy.

The archdiocese is "delighted" to have Foster back in full ministry, said spokeswoman Donna Morrissey. "We're going to work together to make sure we maintain and respect his good name," she said.

Date Book

Monday, Nov. 25, 2002

Today is the 329th day of 2002 and the 65th day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1944, 160 department store shoppers in England were killed by a German V-2 rocket.

On this day in 1952, "The Mousetrap," an Agatha Christie mystery, opened at the Ambassadors Theatre in London. More than 10 million people have since seen the production, which holds the record for the longest continuously running play in history.

On this day in 1963, John F. Kennedy was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919), tycoon and philanthropist; Virgil Thomson (1896-1989), composer and music critic; Joe DiMaggio (1914-1999), baseball great; John Larroquette (1947-), actor, is 55.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1950, the Michigan Wolverines and Ohio State Buckeyes played in the driving snow in a game that would later be dubbed "Snow Bowl."

TODAY'S QUOTE: "As I grow older, I pay less attention to what men say. I just watch what they do." — Andrew Carnegie

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Nov. 19) and last quarter (Nov. 27).

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events

LOTTO TEXAS™ TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Saturday
Lottery Numbers
Pick 3
(Day) 8-5-8
(Night) 3-7-3
Cash Five
1-2-7-12-35
Lotto Texas
1-17-38-41-47-48

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

Kiwanis/Goodfellows

Scurry County families may apply for Kiwanis/Goodfellow food donations by filling out this form. The deadline to apply is November 30th. Applications should be mailed to Kiwanis/Goodfellows, P.O. Drawer 112, Snyder, Texas, 79550

Home's Monthly Income $ _____

Do You Receive Food Stamps AFDC SS/SSI

Father of Home _____

Age _____

Last or Present Employer _____

Work Phone _____

Mother of Home _____

Age _____

Last or Present Employer _____

Work Phone _____

Home Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Another Telephone Where You Can Be Reached _____

List Ages of Children at Home

Boys: _____

Girls: _____

Total Number of People at Home _____

Acceptance Cards will be mailed to only qualified applicants at their address.

Oil Patch News

Garza County

Cholla Petroleum Inc. will drill the No. 3 Tasajillo in the Arlene field, eight miles east of Post. Planned for a depth of 8,499 feet, location is in Section 57, Block 5, GH&H survey.

Howard County

LCS Prodcution Co. will drill the No. 1-A Slater in the Varel field, five miles northwest of Big Spring. Planned for a depth of 3,500 feet, location is in Section 16, Block 33, T1N, T&P survey.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Evil done by two brings out kindness of thousands

DEAR ABBY: I live and work in the Maryland area where a majority of the sniper shootings took place. I want the world — and the murderers — to know that in the terrible days of fear and uncertainty before the arrests, the people of this area came closer together than I ever thought possible. Law enforcement worked countless hours overtime. Adults used their own bodies to shield children going into schools in the morning and out at the end of the day.

On the morning of the last shooting, I had to take my car to the garage. I was not prepared to leave it overnight and had not arranged for transportation home. No one I called for a ride was home. I was amazed when a total stranger offered to give me a lift. As we drove, we talked. We had a lot in common, including feelings of despair at the senseless loss of life and pain that had been forced on all of us during the shooting spree.

Abby, I offer this example of kindness to the families and friends of each victim, along with this message: The evil of two brought out the kindness and compassion of thousands. Our pain doesn't compare to yours, who tragically lost your loved ones, but please know you are in our hearts and prayers. — **KAREN GILLETTE, HYATTSVILLE, MD.**

DEAR KAREN: That's very well said. No one in any part of the country could watch the news without feeling empathy for the families of the victims and the fear experienced by those living in the areas that were affected.

**

DEAR ABBY: I was married last June. My husband and I are both 34. Last weekend, he got together with his buddies, went out drinking, and brought home two condoms he hid in his sock drawer. I found them yesterday. We do not use this method of contraception, and I went through the roof.

He swears he hasn't slept with anyone and does not intend to. He says his friends had them and he simply took a couple, not really thinking it was a big deal.

I feel that it IS a big deal. He must be contemplating something if he bothered to keep them. I feel that I made a huge mistake trusting him enough to marry him. He says he is sorry and didn't mean to hurt me. What should I do? — **HURT AND ANGRY IN BOSTON**

DEAR HURT AND ANGRY: If your husband hadn't thought it was any big deal, he wouldn't have hidden the condoms. What happened may have been innocent, but you're entitled to know exactly what was going on in reality and in your husband's head. Some sessions with a counselor may be able to help you two communicate with each other in a nonjudgmental environment. The sooner, the better.

**

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been married for 19 years. Our relationship has been going downhill for some time. We've been to three marriage counselors, but no one seems to be able to help. We have two wonderful sons, 9 and 5.

I am very unhappy with my marriage and want a divorce, but our elder son, "Jacob," was diagnosed with leukemia last summer. The guilt I feel because of my ill child is overwhelming. I love him more than life itself.

Jacob's cancer is being treated successfully and the outlook is good, but I fear the effect that a divorce would have on him and our younger son. Any advice would be greatly appreciated. — **SAD DAD IN INDIANA**

DEAR SAD DAD: Get a referral from the medical center where your child is being treated and make an appointment with a child psychologist to find out how a separation at this time would affect your son in his recovery. After that, you'll know what to do, and when to do it.

**

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Texas, Arkansas use different strategies

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The two states battling for a Toyota assembly plant have adopted starkly different strategies, with Arkansas roaring ahead like a sports car and Texas creeping behind the scenes like a darkly tinted limo.

Texas officials remain hush-hush about their efforts to lure Toyota to San Antonio, dangling a package that could feature enterprise-zone tax breaks, fast-track state permits, job training and millions of dollars for roads and rail lines.

Arkansas has openly courted the Japanese automaker, with Gov. Mike Huckabee, who had been invited to visit Toyota headquarters in Japan, now saying he may bring executives to Arkansas, and former President Bill Clinton being enlisted to help lobby company officials.

Texas officials say they have not asked for help from their most prominent public official, President Bush.

"Arkansas-tough just doesn't sound as good as Texas-tough," state Rep. Robert Puente, D-San Antonio, quipped when asked about reports of Arkansas' public efforts.

Both states stand to gain thousands of jobs from the Toyota plant and officials estimate an annual payroll of $265 million if the plant goes to San Antonio.

"We have been advised to just keep our mouths shut and not talk about the project," said state Sen. Frank Madla, D-San Antonio. "I don't want to be the individual that jeopardizes this project, and so because of that, I would prefer to just not say anything."

Others have offered some details, albeit cautiously, including Transportation Commissioner Ric Williamson, who said the state will put "tens of millions of dollars" into building or improving roads as needed by Toyota if it decides to locate in Bexar County.

Toyota officials say their decision on building a sixth plant in North America, and its location, could come early next year.

"Whatever it takes to get those jobs to San Antonio is what we're going to do," he said.

In Arkansas, Huckabee has proposed a state sales tax increase to create a fund that would be used to finance various projects, as well as create a $20 million pool of funds for economic development.

The Arkansas Legislature will ponder that proposal when it meets next year.

A key Texas lawmaker, Senate Business and Commerce Committee Chairman Troy Fraser, R-Horseshoe Bay, said he has told Gov. Rick Perry and San Antonio officials to "give me my marching orders and what I need to do, and I'll do everything I can to make this project happen."

In addition to state transportation and job-training assistance, Puente said the potential plant area could be designated as an enterprise zone to allow for tax breaks.

Behind the scenes, San Antonio business leaders have asked Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, who sits on the Senate Commerce, Transportation & Science Committee, to help iron out a tangle that emerged last week when Union Pacific Railroad balked at allowing another rail carrier use of its South Texas lines.

Access to two rail carriers is a major issue for Toyota, which seeks to use competition to lower its shipping costs.

The Arkansas site has rail service by Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe, according to Jeff Moseley, executive director of the Texas Department of Economic Development.

Moseley said Texas is asking for the same arrangement.

As an alternative, San Antonio, through its county government, created a rail-financing district that would fund the building of new lines for long-distance carriers.

In a sign that Toyota may be closely watching Texas' power structure, company officials met with state Rep. Tom Craddick, R-Midland, soon after the Nov. 5 election. Craddick spokesman Bill Miller said the company contacted the Midland Republican, who is expected to be the next House speaker, to arrange the meeting.

"He put, quote, the hard sell on them about coming to Texas," Miller said. "He talked about how great the state was."

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2002

In the year ahead you may have to put out greater effort than what was required of you in the past in order to fulfill an ambitious requirement, but if you are diligent, the rewards you reap will be substantial.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — An additional responsibility may be piled on you today, but instead of it being a burden, it'll be one that will demonstrate your skills and abilities. The powers that be will be impressed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — It is determination and tenacity on your part that will be responsible for accomplishing something today that no one else has been able to pull off. You'll show them how it is done.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — The sage advice an associate offers you today might be a bitter pill to swallow at first, but once you digest it, you'll value its content. It's exactly what you have needed to hear.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Corrective measures may be finally taken today on an old situation that needs finalizing. It could have something to do with being compensated for something for which you never received proper remuneration.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Someone you've been dying to meet or know better may be observing you today and liking what s/he sees. You'll now have a chance to cultivate the relationship.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Remember that tedious task you've been sweeping under the rug? Today's the day to get it out of the way — once and for all. You'll discover it isn't as tough of a job as you thought it would be.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Work out a matter today that has been of serious concern for you with the person who is directly involved, but select a convivial environment in which to have your get-together. It'll help a lot.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — If you shop diligently and aren't afraid to haggle a bit over the prices, you stand a good chance of finding some excellent buys for the home today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — The type of resolve and determination you take on today is the kind that breathes success. Set your sights on objectives that are truly meaningful where your efforts can pay big dividends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Career or commercial arrangements look exceptionally promising for you today when you operate with those whom you've done favors for in the past. They'll find ways to reciprocate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — It behooves you to stand up and be counted should a friend of yours come under fire from an adversary today. Your loyalty will be admired by those you'd like to impress.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Strive for your objectives in an energetic and dedicated manner today, but do so in ways that won't announce your target and plans before you get a chance to play your hand.

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Miami lays claim to biggest Christmas tree

MIAMI (AP) — Sure, the towering 76-foot Christmas tree installed in New York's Rockefeller Center looks huge, but it's a dwarf next to Miami's 110-foot giant in Bayfront Park.

The company decorating Miami's waterfront park — a balmy patch dotted with un-Christmas-like palm trees — got its Norway Spruce through a Christmas tree merchant from a private residence in Yorktown Heights, N.Y., a suburb north of New York City.

Historic building damaged in explosion

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — One of four historic buildings slated for preservation near the site of a new $90 million performing arts center was severely damaged Sunday when a neighboring food plant was imploded.

Debris from the razing of the Pinnacle food plant smashed through the roof and caused the west wall to cave in at the Frankie Pane building in downtown Omaha.

"I'm sick, my stomach hurts, I'm shaking, I'm sick, I'm sick," said Frankie Pane, who uses the building as a private party and catering facility.

Officials with Dore & Associates Contracting, the contractor for the implosion, had no comment.

Omaha City Attorney Paul Kratz said insurance companies and the city would investigate the implosion. It will take time before it's learned what went wrong, he said.

The buildings to be preserved near the center are Pane's, the Christian Specht building, the Happy Hollow Coffee building and the T.H. Smith Co./Marshall Paper Co. building. They date from the 1880s to 1916.

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Holiday Portrait Specials
are underway now
Call for an appointment today
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Great Value
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Late Appointments Welcome
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The WR Whistle Stop
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ONE STOP SHOPPING FOR CHRISTMAS
NEW Horse Head Sculptures by Estevez
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ALL SIZES of Tigers
So Many Things ~ Come Check Us Out!

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Kerry's Pit & Grill
711 N. Ave. X 573-2783
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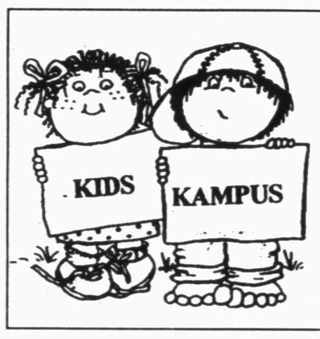

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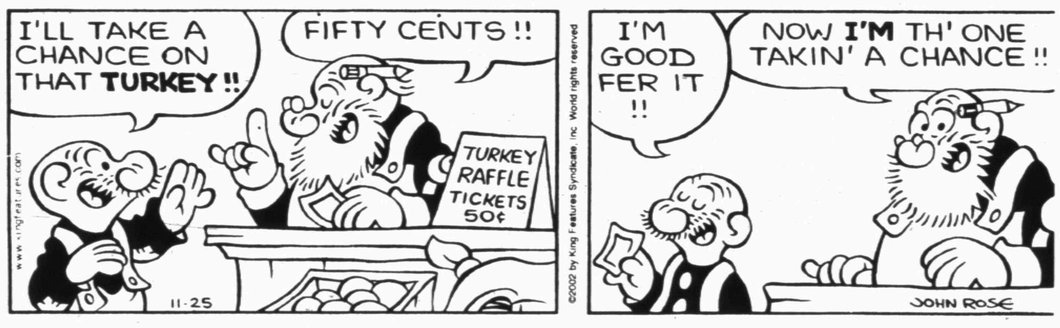

BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Spring
5 Tax pro
8 Loud noise
11 "Um-hmm" (2 wds.)
12 Gawk at
14 Tax shelter
15 Edible root
16 Self-centered
17 Teacup handle
18 Play hockey
20 Sharply
22 Chaney of horror movies
23 Purchases
24 Armored-car job
27 Pharaoh's river
29 Raises a bet
30 Abhorred
34 Card sharps
37 Like some humor
38 Lira successor
39 Odd job
41 Recline lazily
43 Lyric poem
44 Dixie pronoun (hyph.)
46 City near Kyoto
49 Type of vehicle
50 Apiece
52 Big shots
54 Handy abbr.
55 Trick
56 Kazan of filmdom
57 That lady
58 Flop
59 Toddler's warning

DOWN

1 Crane arm
2 Employs
3 Very mild
4 Flower parts
5 Group of witches
6 Tiger Woods' org.
7 Landed
8 Reverence
9 Face-to-face exams
10 Guarded
13 Make possible
19 Jigger of whiskey
21 Regrets deeply
24 Embrace
25 Acid rain watchdog
26 Dogma
27 Successor to Claudius
28 "— a date!"
30 "The," to Wolfgang
31 Couple
32 Foul up
33 Do batik
35 Actor — Lugosi
36 Soothed
39 LPs' successors
40 Flung
41 Reluctant
42 Weight unit
43 Exclaimed over
44 Actor — Montand
45 Speak highly of
47 About 2.2 pounds
48 Could hear — — drop
51 PC core
53 Practiced Zen

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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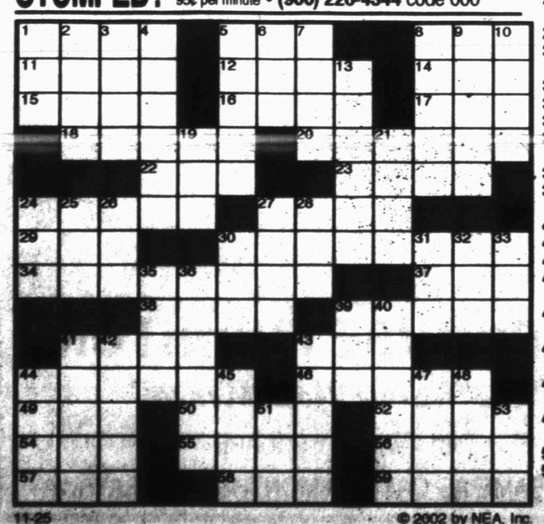

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HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

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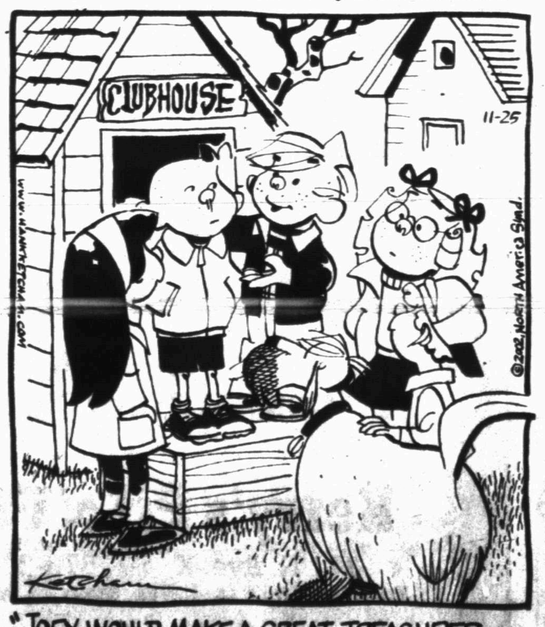
"I'm not hiding my money up here."

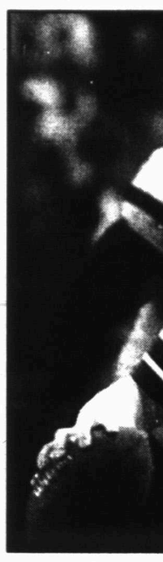
Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"JOEY WOULD MAKE A GREAT TREASURER, IF HE COULD COUNT."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



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SPORTS

COMING OF AGE — Dallas rookie quarterback Chad Hutchinson launches a pass during Sunday's win over Jacksonville. Hutchinson threw for 301 yards and two TDs. (AP Photo)

Hutchinson throws for 301 yards...

Emmitt happy with carries in victory

IRVING (AP) — Emmitt Smith had no complaints this week. Neither did Troy Hambrick.

Dallas found a way to utilize both the NFL career rushing leader and the brash youngster as the Cowboys (4-7) beat Jacksonville 21-19 Sunday to end a four-game losing streak.

They split series again against the Jaguars (5-6), but Smith had 20 carries for 73 yards and a touchdown and caught a pass for 12 yards. Hambrick ran for 38 yards on four carries and had three receptions for 33 yards.

"This is an ideal way of how it should work," Smith said. "He had some good runs and I had some good runs, so it worked out good for the team."

Hambrick said he had no regrets for his recent comments that Smith could only tarnish his image by continuing to play and had nothing left to prove. The third-year runner also said he was satisfied with how things went Sunday.

"That's how we want to come through the year, knowing that we have a good 1-2 punch," Hambrick said. "Some things come out of frustration. We got a bone today and both us are very happy."

The Cowboys offense also got a huge boost from 25-year-old rookie quarterback Chad Hutchinson, who threw for 301 yards and two touchdowns. He directed the Cowboys to a season-high three offensive TDs, including a 99-yard drive.

Hutchinson completed 16 of 24 passes, three of them at least 43 yards. His 301 yards were the most by a Dallas rookie since Troy Aikman set the club record with 379 in 1989.

Jacksonville ended a two-game winning streak that had buoyed its playoff hopes. To make it, coach Tom Coughlin said they had no margin for error.

But the Jaguars made plenty of mistakes against Dallas, the worst being a goal-line fumble by Fred Taylor midway through the fourth quarter that Coughlin called "a nightmare." They also saw Tim Seder miss a 40-yard field goal in the second quarter and had a season-high 11 penalties.

"We abandoned everything we've done well all season," Coughlin said.

"We know what happened out there," said Taylor, who finished with 100 yards on 20 carries. "There were a lot of blown opportunities."

Joey Galloway caught seven passes for 144 yards, two short of his career high. He also became the first Dallas receiver to have two TD catches in a game since Michael Irvin against Washington in the 1999 opener.

Galloway's 43-yard TD catch put the Cowboys ahead 7-2, the first first-half TD in six games. Seder kicked a field goal on the last play for Jacksonville, but the Cowboys had their first halftime lead this season.

The 99-yard drive came on the first Dallas possession of the second half. Hutchinson was 6-of-7 for 88 yards before Smith's 1-yard TD run capped it.

Jacksonville converted an interception by Hutchinson into Stacy Mack's 3-yard TD to get to 14-12. But Hutchinson bounced back with an 11-yard TD to Galloway with 11:09 left.

Lady Tigers move to 4-0; frosh win

The Lady Tigers claimed a big win Friday, beating Lubbock Cooper, 43-35, in a close defensive contest.

Serena Medrano scored 13 points off the bench, and Zipporah Peoples and Dara Chambers added eight points apiece, as the Lady Tigers improved to 3-0 on the season.

"We're seeing steady improvement," Head Coach Mike Martin said. "The girls are gaining confidence and feel like they are getting better."

Martin said both defenses played well, while the Snyder offense was executed precisely.

"We didn't shoot at a high percentage early on, but we got good looks."

Erin Burleson helped the cause with seven points, and Sequoia Powell and Anna Henson drained important baskets.

The Lady Tigers play tonight at Clyde, with varsity tip off slated for 6:30.

The junior varsity is set for a 5 o'clock start.

The lady freshmen squad improved to 4-0 with a 37-21 win over Lubbock Cooper.

"We ran the press pretty well, getting steals and scoring on easy layups," said coach Wendi Parks. "Everybody got to play, and everybody contributed. I was really pleased with the way we played."

Shaela Thompson had 14 points, six steals and four rebounds, while Glyn Wright grabbed two steals while scoring eight points.

Parks said the team still needs work on keeping the ball in pressure situations.

"We need to work on our turnovers when we get in sticky situations," she said.

The freshmen host Andrews at 4:30 today at the high school gym.

Texan defense wins the day with late picks

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans intercepted two of Kerry Collins' passes in the final minutes, including a one-handed grab by linebacker Jeff Posey with 1:19 left, and produced just enough offensively to beat the New York Giants 16-14 on Sunday.

"We just put it on our shoulders," said linebacker Jamie Sharper, whose hit on Collins forced the final interception. "We knew that our offense is struggling a little bit, but they put us in a position to have the lead. So, we had to go out there and control the downs and hopefully take us to a victory."

Houston (3-8) beat Dallas to open the season and later defeated Jacksonville on the road. This was Houston's first victory over a team that entered the weekend with a winning record.

The Giants (6-5) got a look at the expansion team in the Hall of Fame preseason game on Aug. 5 in Canton, Ohio, and New York won 34-17. But the Texans weren't such an easy mark this time.

Trailing 14-13 after Collins threw a 31-yard touchdown pass to Amani Toomer with 13:10 to play, the Texans drove 41 yards to the Giants 32, setting up Kris Brown's winning 50-yard field goal. Prior to the kick, the Giants were forced to burn a timeout because of personnel confusion.

The Giants had only two timeouts when they needed to stop the clock after Posey's interception. Instead of getting the ball back with nearly a minute to play when Houston punted moments later, New York had just 22 seconds, and the game ended on a failed desperation pass.

"It would have been nice to have had (the timeout)," Collins said. "But we fought to the end, I'll say that."

After a dull first half that ended with the Giants leading 7-5, the Texans invigorated the crowd with a 39-yard punt return by Jermaine Lewis to the Giants 34. The Texans, who are becoming known for a bag of trick plays, used one to set up a 1-yard TD run by Jonathan Wells.

With the Texans facing third-and-6 from the New York 30 after the punt return, Carr gave the ball to running back Allen, which he threw back to Carr across the field. Carr scooted down an open field to the 2-yard line to set up the touchdown.

Cards fall to Loop

The Hermleigh Cardinals ran into a buzz saw Saturday, as sharpshooter Chris Garza scored 41 points as the Loop Longhorns rolled past the Cards, 58-24.

"He is an exceptional athlete," Hermleigh Head Coach Don Jones said.

Garza drained 17 field goals — including five three-pointers — to help the Longhorns cruise to the victory.

The game was out of reach for Hermleigh at the end of the second quarter, as Loop took a 43-18 lead into the locker room at halftime.

The Cardinals got 10 points from Dustin Williamson and six points from Joe Yruegas and Terrel Culp in the loss.

Bucs closer to home-field advantage

By The Associated Press

The Buccaneers intercepted four of Brett Favre's passes and beat the Packers 21-7 in a meeting Sunday of the teams with the NFL's best records.

The superb effort was overshadowed by an obscenity-laced exchange between Packers coach Mike Sherman and Tampa Bay defensive lineman Warren Sapp as they walked off the field.

"I didn't clip him from behind or block him below the waist. I didn't hit him in the head. I didn't hit the quarterback. I didn't rough anybody," Sapp said.

Colts 23, Broncos 20, OT

Mike Vanderjagt kicked a 54-yard field goal through a heavy snowfall with 3 seconds left in regulation, then made a 51-yarder in overtime as Indianapolis (7-4) beat Denver (7-4).

Redskins 20, Rams 17

With a sure field goal in sight, Kurt Warner was stripped by LaVar Arrington and Daryl Gardener recovered as the Redskins (5-6) snapped the Rams' five-game winning streak.

Stephen Davis ran for three TDs and 88 yards for Washington.

Warner, starting for the first time since breaking his pinkie on Sept. 29, fell to 0-5 this season.

Dolphins 30, Chargers 3

Ricky Williams ran for 143 yards and two touchdowns against the NFL's third-ranked run defense, while the Dolphins limited NFL rushing leader LaDainian Tomlinson to a season-low 45 yards for the Chargers (7-4).

Raiders 41, Cardinals 20

Rich Gannon threw for 340 yards and three touchdowns and Charlie Garner ran for 100 yards and a score as Oakland beat Arizona.

Gannon topped 300 yards passing for the eighth time this season — one shy of the NFL record.

Browns 24, Saints 15

William Green ran for 110 yards and a touchdown as Cleveland (6-5) took advantage of Deuce McAllister's injury to win for the fourth time in five games.

Patriots 24, Vikings 17

Tom Brady's three touchdown passes in the first half helped New England (6-5) hand Minnesota its 16th straight road loss.

Jets 31, Bills 13

Curtis Martin ran for 120 yards and Chad Pennington juked his way to a 1-yard score that clinched New York's fourth straight victory.

Seahawks 39, Chiefs 32

Matt Hasselbeck threw for career highs with 362 yards and three touchdowns for the Seahawks.

Bears 20, Lions 17, OT

After the Lions (3-8) decided to take the wind instead of the ball to start overtime, Jim Miller drove Chicago to Paul Edinger's 40-yard field goal.

Falcons 41, Panthers 0

Michael Vick threw for 272 yards and a pair of touchdowns, Warrick Dunn scored twice, and Atlanta's defense used eight sacks and six turnovers to hand Carolina its eighth straight loss.

Steelers 29, Bengals 21

The Steelers frittered away a 17-point lead for the second straight home game, only to rally when Cincinnati fumbled away a punt and a late lead.

Ravens 13, Titans 12

Tennessee turned the ball over four times and allowed rookie Ed Reed's blocked punt for the game's only touchdown.

The Titans (6-5) have lost five straight to the Ravens (5-6).

Freshmen boys pummel Lubbock Cooper, 52-22

The Snyder freshmen had no trouble with Lubbock Cooper Friday, crushing their visitors, 52-22.

Blake Scott led all scorers with 15 points, Garrett Pinson chimed in with 13 and Dustin Williams added 12 points in the runaway win.

"Lubbock Cooper played a zone and our guys were patient and took good shots," freshmen coach Charles Bollinger said. "Our guys enjoy it and have fun playing."

Snyder played tough defense in stifling the Cooper offense, and got key contributions from Chris Smith, Jason Cave and Bryan Clifton.

The freshmen will be at Andrews tonight with tip off set for 6:30.

Lady Bulldogs get 1st victory of the season

The Lady Bulldogs got their first victory of the season Friday, beating Coahoma, 36-30.

"We needed that win," girls coach Brent Parr said. "It was big for us — now we know we can go out and win."

Ira senior Celeigh Sterling was dead-on, knocking down 16 points as the team raced out to a 33-22 lead after three quarters.

Lindsey Wilson pumped in 15 points for the girls, who next tackle Westbrook at home Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

"We're still learning," Parr said. "The girls are continuing to play hard and continuing to work on execution."

Sports Briefs

Bus rolls past O. J. on rushing list

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Jerome Bettis of the Pittsburgh Steelers moved past O.J. Simpson into 11th place among NFL career rushers with 79 yards against Cincinnati.

Johnson surpasses 2,000 yards rushing

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — Larry Johnson became the first Penn State back and just the ninth player in NCAA Division I-A to rush for more than 2,000 yards. The senior ran for 279 yards and four touchdowns in Penn State's drubbing of Michigan State, giving him 2,015 yards rushing for the season.

Packer coach confronts Sapp after game

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Green Bay coach Mike Sherman angrily confronted Tampa Bay's Warren Sapp after the Packers' loss to the Buccaneers, complaining that the All-Pro defensive tackle knocked offensive tackle Chad Clifton out of the game with a cheap shot.

Sapp denied the accusation and said he was stunned Sherman came up to him and initiated an obscenity-laced exchange after the player finished a television interview on the field.

Clifton injured his right hip and was taken to the hospital.

BoSox to hire youngest-ever GM

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Red Sox will hire Theo Epstein as their general manager, a team source told The Associated Press.

Epstein, 28, will be the youngest GM in baseball history when the team makes the announcement, which is expected to come today.

Bell signs with Philly

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Former San Francisco Giants third baseman David Bell agreed to a $17-million, four-year deal with the Philadelphia Phillies.

Sorenstam ends dominant LPGA season

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Dominant to the very end, Annika Sorenstam finished off the best LPGA Tour season in 38 years with a 4-under 68 to win the season-ending ADT Championship, her 11th victory of the year.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	10	4	.714	—
Philadelphia	10	4	.714	—
Boston	9	4	.692	½
Orlando	8	7	.533	2½
Washington	6	7	.462	3½
Miami	2	10	.167	7
New York	2	10	.167	7

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	10	2	.833	—
Detroit	11	3	.786	—
New Orleans	10	3	.769	½
Milwaukee	6	6	.500	4
Atlanta	6	7	.462	4½
Toronto	4	9	.308	6½
Chicago	4	10	.286	7
Cleveland	2	12	.143	9

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	13	0	1.000	—
San Antonio	9	5	.643	4½
Houston	7	5	.583	5½
Minnesota	8	7	.533	6
Utah	7	7	.500	6½
Denver	4	9	.308	9
Memphis	1	13	.071	12½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	11	4	.733	—
Seattle	9	5	.643	1½
Portland	6	7	.462	4
Phoenix	5	6	.455	4
L.A. Clippers	5	9	.357	5½
L.A. Lakers	5	9	.357	5½
Golden State	4	10	.286	6½

Sunday's Games

Philadelphia 94, Toronto 84
L.A. Clippers 90, Houston 89
Orlando 77, Miami 75
Seattle 91, San Antonio 90
Minnesota 106, New York 88
L.A. Lakers 111, Milwaukee 99

Monday's Games

New Orleans at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Indiana at Washington, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Seattle at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Denver, 9 p.m.
Houston at Portland, 10 p.m.
Utah at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

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Visa problems hinder academic research

DALLAS (AP) — Universities that rely on top foreign students to help with scientific research are experiencing a collective brain drain as post-Sept. 11 controls on student visas take their toll.

Professors, graduate school deans and officials from national science societies say hundreds of foreign students recruited to work on projects in such areas as physics, math and petroleum engineering were kept out this fall because they couldn't get visas.

"Basically, some research projects are dying," said George McMechan, a scientist at the University of Texas at Dallas who is missing eight Chinese researchers this fall — a third of doctoral students he admitted. "There aren't enough people to work on them."

In Texas, Rice University, Southern Methodist University, Texas A&M University and the University of Texas are among those feeling the effects.

Though university and science academy officials say they acknowledge the need for tightened national security, they are pleading with the State Department to find a speedier way to screen visa applicants.

"There has to be a balance between openness in the global scientific enterprise and protecting ourselves," Jordan Konisky, Rice University's vice provost for research and graduate studies, said in Sunday's editions of The Dallas Morning News.

A State Department spokesman said the denial rate for visas has gone up for all categories, not just for students.

During the 12 months ending Sept. 30, 27 percent of applicants were denied, up from 23 percent in the previous year, said Stuart Patt, spokesman for the U.S. Bureau of Consular Affairs.

"We've heard about the concerns from the scientific community, and we are looking at how we can accomplish our national security responsibilities, and at the same time, improve the visa process so there won't be undue delays," Patt said.

The affected students — mostly from China, Russia and the Middle East — were denied admittance to the United States or were stuck in the approval process when the fall semester began.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, all applicants from seven countries identified as state sponsors of terrorism have had to go through extra screening. Some applicants from 26 other nations also get additional scrutiny, Patt said.

The visa process that once took two or three weeks now takes three to five months.

The American Physical Society, a national group based in College Park, Md., surveyed 185 advanced-degree physics programs recently. The 79 universities that responded said 123 of 595 foreign students admitted for this fall had been denied visas.

A consortium of five universities — UT, Texas A&M, the University of Kansas, the University of Tulsa and Colorado School of Mines — say they lost about 70 Iranian students who were to have come to the United States in a partnership with an Iranian oil company.

UT lost all 11 recruits, and Texas A&M lost 11 of 14.

Some of UT's recruits told the university by e-mail that they would instead attend schools in Norway, England and France, said Kamy Sepehrnoori, a UT professor and graduate adviser in petroleum engineering.

In all, Texas A&M lost 22 of 66 petroleum engineering students admitted this year because of visa issues, officials said.

McMechan, director for the Center for Lithospheric Studies at UTD, said his missing Chinese researchers would have helped in the search for new oil reserves. The center also hunts for oil that was missed in existing fields.

Losing even a few international students can damage a program, said Fred Olness, chairman of the physics department at Southern Methodist University.

"This year, we got no foreign students," Olness said. "One or two more years of this could virtually devastate the program."

Patt said the State Department pays special attention to Chinese applications because of concerns about the transfer of technology.

Tentative contract in port labor dispute may be OK'd

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A tentative contract reached by longshoremen and shipping lines on the West Coast appears to be a harbinger of labor peace following a crippling lockout and weeks of bitter negotiations.

The pact comes nearly two months after the start of a lockout that caused cargo to pile up at West Coast ports and cost the fragile economy billions of dollars. The 10-day shutdown ended only after the president intervened, sending talks into mediation.

Late Saturday, officials hammered out a tentative agreement that many believe will win final approval from a majority of the 10,500 rank-and-file union members, who will probably vote in early January.

The six-year deal would provide substantial wage and benefit improvements for union members, plus technology and dispute-resolution improvements that the companies wanted, said Peter Hurtgen, head of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Hurtgen said he would be surprised if union members didn't approve the deal.

"I think once they see the magnitude of the pension increases, the wage increases — it would be phenomenal if they were to turn that down," he said.

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union agreed to lose about 400 positions as shipping companies and port terminal operators introduce more efficient cargo-tracking technology at 29 major Pacific ports.

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Richard Trumka, who joined the negotiations weeks ago and was credited by both sides as a crucial catalyst in reaching an agreement, said it was a milestone agreement because it showed organized labor can adapt to the electronic age.

"Workers can harness technology and make it work for them," Trumka said. "They can bridle it, saddle it and ride it to job, pension and economic security."

Many details of the contract were closely guarded Sunday, though Joseph Miniace, president of the Pacific Maritime Association, said the package was worth billions.

Miniace said pensions will cost shipping companies more than $1 billion and by the end of the deal, health care will cost $500 million. The current annual cost is $220 million.

Longshoreman average an $80,000 annual salary for full-time work.

Marine recruit in San Diego dies during basic training

ST. CLAIR, Mo. (AP) — A Marine recruit who told relatives he joined the military to do something more than "an Average Joe" died after he collapsed during basic training drills, officials said.

Pvt. Neal Edwards IV, 18, of St. Clair, collapsed after going through an obstacle course Saturday afternoon during physical training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, officials said.

Drill instructors administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation until paramedics arrived, and Edwards was pronounced dead early Sunday at a San Diego hospital, officials said.

Edwards was on his 11th day of training at the depot, where the more than 16,000 Marines who pass through each year undergo 63 days of training over 12 weeks, according to its Web site.

In a letter postmarked Nov. 19, Edwards wrote to his family that "it's kind of hard here but I make it day to day. It's hard work but my mind is set on being a Marine and not just an Average Joe that thinks the United States owes him something. And here I am giving my life to them."

Edwards wasn't supposed to go into basic training until January, but a recruiter found an earlier opening.

"It was something he had thought about for a while and he wanted to do," said Edwards' cousin Todd Mahaney, who believes the September 2001 terrorist attacks "may have sparked his interest, but the flame, the passion, was always there in him to serve his country."

Mahaney said the family was shocked at the circumstances of his death because Edwards, known to his cousin as "The Kid," always seemed fit and "the picture of perfect health."

"The Kid is the All-American boy, everything you can think of," Mahaney said. "He ran track, he played football, he was very active and never had any previous health problems."

Edwards had planned to become a combat engineer in the Marines. He had worked with his father, Neal Edwards III, as an ironworker for GF Contractors of Union, also practicing carpentry.

Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Oil doesn't age well

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I received several bottles of various types of oils for gifts. The bottles have been kept on a shelf for about three years. I believe that as long as they have not been opened, the lengthy storage time should present no problem. Am I correct? — **J.L., Nashua, N.H.**

Dear J.L.: Unlike wine, oils do not improve in the bottle. Extra-virgin olive oil, for example, is at its best when it's first bottled (or canned), and it's downhill from there. Oils should be covered tightly and stored away from heat and light. An unopened container of refined vegetable oil, stored properly, can maintain quality for about a year. Some oil manufacturers, including those who make extra-virgin olive oil, claim the oil can last up to two years. If stored properly after being opened, they have a shelf life of about six months

As a general rule, the more unsaturated the oil, the shorter the shelf life. Oils that have been sitting for questionable periods of time should get a sniff-and-taste test before being used. It's best to buy a container size that you'll use within a reasonable amount of time. To help you keep track, mark on the label the date of purchase and the date the container was first opened.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am trying to find out more about nucleic acids (DNA/RNA). I understand they are being taken as health food supplements to keep the body healthy. Do you know where I can find more information on the subject? Are these health food supplements safe to take, and are there any side effects? — **D.T., Portland, Ore.**

Dear D.T.: I will give you a little information about nucleic acids, but it's questionable if taking these compounds as a food supplement would be a boon to your health. Let me explain:

The principle nucleic acids are ribonucleic acid and deoxyribonucleic acid. RNA can be found in different parts of the cell, while DNA is found mainly in the nucleus of the cell. Both RNA and DNA are large, complex, biochemical compounds that contain particular sequences of substances known as purine and pyrimidine bases. Similar to how letters, words and sentences in morse code are made up of dots and dashes, the arrangement of these bases in the nucleic acids reveals a message, which, in this case, is the genetic blueprint for how we are made. Several years back the theory floated around that increasing one's intake of nucleic acids might help slow down the aging process. A popular book came out in 1979 titled "Dr. Frank's No-Aging Diet," by Dr. Benjamin Frank (Grijalbo Mondadori), in which the author stated that a decreasing level of nucleic acids in the body is one of the hallmarks of aging. He proposed that we could "de-age" the body by eating foods that are high in nucleic acids, or taking supplements of these compounds.

Wouldn't it be nice if things were that simple? Regardless of the lack of competent and reliable evidence to support this theory, supplements containing RNA and DNA began to appear on health-food store shelves. Although it was characterized by Dr. Frank as a "revolution in the making," there were a couple of problems with the logic. Everyone's nucleic acids are unique. Most nucleic acid supplements are made from yeast, and it's a bit of a stretch to think that they could stand in for our nucleic acids. Perhaps the most telling fact is that in the 23 years since the book was written, there has been little evidence to support the contention that nucleic acid supplements can influence the DNA or RNA in the body.

Those at risk for gout should stay away from RNA and DNA supplements. Gout is a painful condition caused by the accumulation of uric acid crystals in the joints. Upon digestion, one of the breakdown products of the nucleic acids found in RNA and DNA is uric acid.

Send questions to: "On Nutrition," Ed Blonz, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. For e-mail, address inquiries to: ed@blonz.com. Due to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Ed Blonz, Ph.D., is a nutrition scientist and the author of "Power Nutrition" (Signet, 1998) and the "Your Personal Nutritionist" book series (Signet, 1996).

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Today's chuckle

New Santas train for three days

MIDLAND, Mich. (AP) — It's not easy being Santa Claus.

Just ask the men and women who get a jump-start on the holiday season with three days of training at the Charles W. Howard Santa Claus School.

The session begins with classroom work on St. Nicholas traditions worldwide. Then comes instruction on makeup, wigs and beards, wardrobe, music, even sign language.

Santa students also learn a few dance steps and observe each other interacting with local students, Booth News Service reported Sunday. A special education teacher offers tips on communicating with special-needs children.

Annual field trips to toy stores and Bronner's Christmas Wonderland in Frankenmuth highlight what's new for each season.

Tuition is $260, or $130 for returning students, but that's just a fraction of a Santa's expenses. A good wool suit can cost $1,000 and a natural-looking wig and beard runs from $500 to $2,500.

"It's quite an investment to do it right," said Tom Valent, dean of the school, which also offers a presentation from a tax accountant.

Fifty men and women from 17 states attended the school this year. More than half were veterans who said they never stop learning.

"There's always new ideas floating around," said William Sadowski, who's been a Chicago-are Santa for seven Christmas seasons.

The school's founder, Charles W. Howard, was technical adviser for the Christmas classic "Miracle on 34th Street." After his death in 1968, longtime student Nate Doan moved the school moved from Albany, N.Y., to Bay City. Valent and his wife began assisting Doan in the 1970s and moved the school to Midland in 1987.

"The toys have changed," Valent said, "but the children are the same."

No Midday Stocks today due to Associated Press transmisstion failure in New York

NOV 25 2002

Harris DA against filming deliberations of jury

HOUSTON (AP) — Harris County District Attorney Chuck Rosenthal wants a state district judge to reconsider his decision to allow cameras to record a capital murder trial from jury selection through the jury's normally secret deliberations.

"We don't try these cases for the spectacle or for people's entertainment," Rosenthal said. "I think that filming jurors is really a bad idea because it puts pressure on the jurors to vote in a way the public might expect."

State District Judge Ted Poe has scheduled a hearing for today, the same day individual questioning of about 55 potential jurors in the capital murder trial of 17-year-old Cedric Harrison is set to begin. If Poe doesn't change his mind, Rosenthal has already filed a petition with the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

Poe issued an order Nov. 11 allowing PBS' public affairs series, "FRONTLINE," to film Harrison's trial. Harrison, who faces the death penalty if convicted, is accused of fatally shooting Felix G. Sabio II, 35, on June 2 outside Sabio's apartment. Harrison was arrested after a chase ended with a fiery crash.

If the filming takes place, it could be the nation's first video documentary made of a capital criminal trial and the deliberations which lead to the jury's verdict.

"The public has a right to know what goes on in a proceeding but there has been more of a custom than a law to keep the deliberations secret," South Texas College of Law professor T. Gerald Treece said. "The more the public's right of access increases, the better we all are."

Harrison signed a waiver allowing for the taping and later broadcast by "FRONTLINE," which produces documentaries exploring "critical issues of our times."

"He felt that it could only benefit him," Harrison's attorney, Ricardo Rodriguez said.

At first, the attorney said he was unsure of whether a remote camera installed in the ceiling of the jury room would help or hurt his client. Rodriguez said he talked with other defense attorneys and psychologists and later decided to support his client's desire.

"I believe I made the right decision because look at how the state of Texas has responded to all this," Rodriguez said. "I think for once the whole world is going to watch what goes on in a Texas courtroom, where the state seeks the death penalty quite frequently."

In its request to Poe, "FRONTLINE" attorney John Parras said the documentary will be two to three hours in length and the film's producers will be careful to make sure the filming is unobtrusive. He said interview with the case's participants will provide additional insight and understanding of the process.

"Although the American public feels strongly about the death penalty, most people stand far removed from the realities of how our capital justice system actually functions," Parras wrote. "The ambition of this film is to record a single capital case, through multiple perspectives."

Parras wouldn't comment on Rosenthal's opposition to the filming.

Treece said the case differs from others previously filmed because it is a death penalty case and not all of the participants agree with Poe's decision to allow the filming from start-to-finish.

"This has groundbreaking potential only because someone is challenging it," Treece said. "It is very unusual to have deliberations videotaped when someone objects."

Poe, whose name is well-known in Houston's legal circles, was appointed to the bench in 1981 after years in the district attorney's office, where he never lost a jury trial.

During his tenure, the judge has been both criticized and applauded for his sentences which have included forcing convicts to carry signs outside the downtown Houston courthouse proclaiming their crime and suggesting other law breakers should be prepared to walk with them.

Attorney Chip Babcock, who will represent Poe in the petition before the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, says the judge has put safeguards in place, such as making sure the videotape of jury's deliberations remains in the court's custody until after the verdict, to ensure "everyone involved has a fair trial."

Fans of late Ann Landers buy belongings at auction

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Fans of celebrated advice columnist Ann Landers paid nearly $250,000 to snag her desk, combat boots, antique furniture and letters at an auction of some of the late syndicated writer's belongings.

Margo Howard, daughter of Landers, said with no room to store all the treasures her mother collected over the years in her 16-room Chicago apartment, Sunday's auction was both a practical solution and a way to share history.

"Because of who she was I thought that people who wanted to have that kind of connection to her should have the chance," Howard said.

The auction, held by San Francisco auction house Butterfields, brought nearly $250,000, with many lots sold to Internet and phone bidders from across the country, according to the auction house.

Landers, whose real name was Esther "Eppie" Lederer, died of multiple myeloma on June 22 at age 83. For four decades she delivered snappy, timely advice on seemingly every topic from broken hearts to depression, financial woes to sexuality — a connection with readers that spanned generations and continents.

She also was an inveterate collector.

"She saved basically everything she has, not only files and copies of correspondence with presidents and luminaries but her responses and her notes photocopied as well," said Levi Morgan, a Butterfields spokesman.

Among the lots at auction were combat boots, fatigues and a notebook from Lederer's 1967 trip to Vietnam, where she visited soldiers and jotted pages of phone numbers of their loved ones. She later spent nearly four days phoning greetings upon returning home, Howard recalled.

Letters abound between Lederer and former Presidents Carter, Reagan, Bush and Kennedy, as well as personal correspondence from Oprah Winfrey, Norman Lear, Warren Buffett and Walter Annenberg.

One extensive archive of correspondence — documents, news clippings and photos collected by Lederer — fetched $5,875.

Also up for bid were some of her home furnishings, including a pair of Italian neoclassical armchairs, a late 18th century sideboard, art glass and her Steinway & Sons piano. And her collection of owl knickknacks, of which a rare print of the "Enchanted Owl" by Kenojuak Ashevak brought $29,125.

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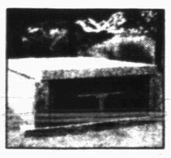
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Did El Paso grant fail to help poor people?

CLINT (AP) — Arturo Duran oversees an agency that supplies water and sewer services to a swath of desert, 10 miles southeast of El Paso, that is home to about 11,000 customers.

Many of the area's residents are immigrants who live in ramshackle settlements called colonias. And many of them lack basic services, like water and sewer, that people in other parts of Texas take for granted.

When El Paso Water Utilities sought a $15 million grant to expand a local water-treatment plant's capacity by 20 million gallons a day, Duran says, it was approved because it would help his impoverished district.

But, Duran said, his customers only need 5 million gallons and his district has enough water to meet the expected demand for the next 30 years — five years longer than the water treatment plant's life expectancy.

"We don't need the water ... we will not get one drop of the water they claim we will be using," said Duran, general manager of the Lower Valley Water District.

The water could end up supplying El Paso.

Duran accuses the El Paso Water Utilities of using his district's poverty as a tool to get federal money for projects that don't help his customers.

Ed Archuleta, general manager of El Paso Water Utilities, answers Duran's charge using a broad brush to describe the work of the water utility.

Archuleta said the utility is planning for all the people in El Paso and its surroundings _ 165,000 customers inside the city limits and 15,000 outside. He said the utility has successfully connected many of the low-income colonias to water service.

"We consider this whole colonia development system a success story," he said.

Further, the agency that gave El Paso Water Utilities the money to expand the Jonathan W. Rogers Water Treatment Plant doesn't seem troubled by Duran's accusations.

The North American Development Bank provided the grant to raise the plant's capacity from 40 million gallons to 60 million gallons per day, with the expectation that 20 million gallons would go to Duran's Lower Valley Water District.

NAD Bank officials say they haven't received any formal complaints about the grant process, although they are aware of Duran's displeasure.

"The covenants (of the grant) are all being complied with at this point," said Jose Ruiz, a NAD Bank project development officer. The utility "met all of the criteria for receiving the grant."

Duran said that if the NAD Bank really wanted to help the estimated 15,000 to 20,000 people in his district who live without running water, it could have used the $15 million to connect most of them to the system. He is looking for other grants to do the job.

"You see all these colonias?" Duran asked. "We need to improve economic prosperity for El Paso County. We need to provide basic services for this area."

El Paso County has about 205 colonias, settlements populated mainly by immigrants who bought barren land offered for dirt-cheap prices in areas with little or no regulation on development. Of those, 125 are in the Lower Valley Water District, and 80 have no water or sewer service, Duran said. The average income in the district is about $11,000, he added.

Archuleta, however, says Duran is overestimating the number of people without service. He said a recent study commissioned by the city indicates that in all of El Paso County, only about 3,500 people are without water service. All of those live outside the city limits.

The dispute over the number of unserved is more than an academic argument. The city's lower estimates hurt the Lower Valley Water District's ability to get federal grant money, Duran said.

Arguments about the best way to serve Lower Valley Water District customers extend to rates. Duran said that even though the district is a relatively small operation with limited resources it offers a rate that is only 15 percent above that of the El Paso utility.

"We've offered to them to provide services and they've refused," Archuleta said. "The real way to help them, if you are trying to get lower rates for their customers, is for us to take them over."

But Archuleta said the district decided more than a year ago it was no longer interested in that venture.

Duran said the utility would have raised rates to 150 percent of those in El Paso, without paying for flood control, parks maintenance and about $105 million worth of existing water lines.

Archuleta said the district's rates would be higher initially because its customers would have to pay off its multimillion-dollar debt. And he said the utility considered the water mains a liability because they must be replaced and repaired.

Duran sees the need for finding new water supplies, but questions whether the El Paso Water Utilities really has his district's best interests at heart.

Off-campus bonfire proves successful

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — As sparks and ash from an unsanctioned Texas A&M bonfire flew into the dark like fireflies, Luke Cheatham found it hard to believe his university's revered tradition — on hold since 1999's deadly collapse — was back, albeit in an altered form.

"I feel amazed because I know it's back to stay. It's not going out again," said Cheatham, spokesman for Unity Project, the group of current and former students behind the off-campus bonfire effort.

Cheatham, a 21-year-old A&M senior, was one of several thousand people Sunday night who raucously watched the bonfire's flames dance for the first time since the Nov. 18, 1999 collapse that killed 12 Aggies and injured 27 others while the logstack was under construction.

The crowd, amid the anticipation and the smell of diesel fuel that filled the cool night air, gathered in a darkened field on a ranch about 10 minutes east of College Station. At one point, the line of cars and buses waiting to get there stretched eight miles.

The elaborate lighting ceremony began when a group of about 50 students carried a torch down the sloping field toward the 10-to-15-foot pile of logs, a far cry from the 59-foot stack of past years. They passed the torch off to Cheatham and 15 other student leaders in charge of the event.

The crowd reverentially watched as the student leaders circled the log pile three times and then used the torch to light flares. As the flares and the torch were tossed into the pile and the flames ignited, thousands of voices in unison roared their approval.

"Burn bonfire burn" was a familiar refrain — sometimes shouted by the student leaders who knelt in front of the pile, sometimes by lone individuals or groups in the crowd.

As the flames intensified, the crowd burst into the Aggie fight song, swaying as it sang. Students also practiced the cheers they'll yell during Friday's football game against Texas.

Bonfire has traditionally has been held on the eve of A&M's game against its archrival.

The bonfire was expected to burn until sometime today.

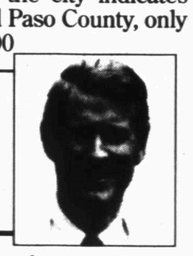
"It's an honor to be here, to support my school," said McKinley Todd, a 23-year-old A&M senior. "It's my last year here. I just wanted to see it."

The students of Unity Project spent almost $15,000 — mostly from loans, credit cards or personal savings — to prove to A&M's administration and others that bonfire can be done safely and that the gathering of needed trees — known as cut — should not be eliminated.

After the wedding cake-style stack of more than 5,000 logs collapsed, bonfire was revamped, including the elimination of cut because of injuries it caused over the years.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Asthma is often related to emphysema

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have bullous emphysema as a result of cigarettes and years of exposure to air pollution in my profession. Because of increased difficulty breathing, I recently went to the emergency room, where I was treated with prednisone. Later, my primary care physician replaced the pills with a steroid inhaler to avoid serious complications. Should asthma and emphysema be treated with these medications?

DEAR READER: Emphysema, a chronic pulmonary disorder marked by excessive trapping of stale air, is an end-stage consequence of chronic exposure to tobacco smoke and polluted air. It is incurable because the lungs undergo deterioration that is permanent. It is, therefore, not ordinarily treated with prednisone or other steroid medications.

However, emphysema is often the result of asthma, for which intermittent steroid therapy is beneficial. Therefore, I assume that you had the symptoms of asthma (tight, difficult breathing and wheezing) when you visited the ER. These symptoms were in addition to the symptoms of emphysema (exercise intolerance and poor pulmonary air exchange) - all of which prompted the emergency room physician to prescribe steroids.

Once you returned to your family doctor, he quite properly changed the pills to an inhaler, thereby avoiding the serious side effects of prednisone, including cataracts, diabetes, osteoporosis and others.

Your doctors apparently believed that asthma plays a role in your pulmonary problem. And they prescribed therapy to relieve the bronchial spasms of asthma. If they are correct, appropriate treatment for this affliction could make an enormous difference in your independence and quality of life. Asthma is, with modern drugs, curable; emphysema is treatable (using oxygen and breathing exercises) — but not curable.

Follow the instructions you have been given and, if improvement is not evident, request a consultation with a pulmonologist.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Living With Chronic Lung Disease." Other readers who would like a copy should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have a painless growth that fills my entire vagina. I'm post-menopausal. What sort of specialist should I see?

DEAR READER: Well, you don't really need a cardiologist, I guess. Seriously, this question's answer seems to me to be self-evident. You need a gynecologist. Although your "growth" could, in theory, be a tumor, it's more likely to be an innocuous condition, such as a uterine prolapse. Many years after having borne children, a woman may experience a "dropped uterus." Deprived of its supporting tissue, the womb may sag into the lower pelvis and, in advanced cases, actually begin to protrude through the vagina. This is more a nuisance than a serious health matter and can be easily repaired surgically.

Because your problem involves your reproductive tract and you need a diagnosis (and treatment), I believe that a gynecologist is your best resource.

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Former 'Bond' stars attend world premiere

LONDON (AP) — Three former James Bond actors showed up at the world premiere of the 20th Bond adventure, "Die Another Day," starring Pierce Brosnan.

"So you're the modern James Bond are you?" said Queen Elizabeth II, as she was introduced to Brosnan. "I've met the other three downstairs."

She was referring to George Lazenby, Timothy Dalton and Roger Moore. Sean Connery, the very first of the Bonds, was the only one who wasn't at Monday night's event at Royal Albert Hall.

Brosnan, 49 — on his fourth outing as the secret agent — said he loves playing the part. "He's confident, he has style, he has a license to kill, and he has a wonderful way with women. From a male perspective you can't beat him," he said.

Large crowds gathered outside the London landmark to watch the "Die Another Day" actors show up, including Brosnan, Oscar winner Halle Berry and Madonna, who sings the movie's theme song and has a cameo role as a fencing instructor.

Berry's World

"I THINK IT WAS THE COMBINATION OF THE JUNK MAIL AND E-MAIL SPAMMING THAT FINALLY MADE HIM SNAP."

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 11-25-02
♠ A K 4 3
♥ Q 4
♦ 7 2
♣ 9 8 6 5 2

West
♠ 10 7 6
♥ J 9 7 6 2
♦ Q
♣ Q 10 7 3

East
♠ J 9 8 5
♥ A 10 8 5
♦ 10 9 8 6 3
♣ —

South
♠ Q 2
♥ K 3
♦ A K J 5 4
♣ A K J 4

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ 6

Monday, Nov. 25, 2002

Is there any logic in that?

By Phillip Alder

Last September, someone was jailed in Florida for swindling "investors" out of millions of dollars. He was given 25 years and instructed to pay back nearly 19 million dollars at the rate of $100 per month. That means he will have repaid the cash in the year 17,835! What is the point of that ruling?

Now for something unjustifiable at the bridge table. Look at the North-South hands. You plow into three no-trump via Stayman. West leads a fourth-highest heart six. Hoping he has led away from the ace and won't be aware that your king will drop on the second round, you call for dummy's queen. However, East wins with the ace and returns the heart five: king, two, four. You cash a top club, but East unexpectedly discards a heart. How would you continue?

You might not like that two-no-trump opening, yet it is the best choice. To open one diamond, planning to rebid three clubs, could work better, but partner will have difficulty visualizing a prime 21 points with so many aces and kings.

That 4-0 club break is annoying, but you are not behind bars yet. It seems that West started with five hearts and four clubs, so the diamond finesse is much better than a 50-50 shot. And if the diamond finesse is working, you can win nine tricks via three spades, one heart, three diamonds and two clubs.

So, do you cash your three spade tricks, then take the diamond finesse? I hope not! That would be careless. Instead, play off the diamond ace first, just in case West has a singleton queen. Admittedly it is unlikely, but it cannot cost.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Bush signing homeland security bill today

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Department of Homeland Security, being created today with the stroke of President Bush's pen, will suffer through the normal "growing pains" and will not be fully operational for at least a year, the White House said.

"Wrinkles will have to be ironed out," presidential spokesman Ari Fleischer said.

Bush was naming current homeland security chief Tom Ridge to head the department and Navy Secretary Gordon England to be his deputy at the bill-signing ceremony today.

The new Cabinet department will swallow 22 existing agencies with combined budgets of about $40 billion and employ 170,000 workers, the most sweeping federal reorganization since the Defense Department's birth in 1947.

The bill gives Bush 60 days to give Congress his organizational plan, Fleischer said. The administration has been working on the transition for months, thus the White House may not need the full two months.

Officers respond to several accidents over weekend

Accidents

Snyder officers responded to several accidents around town over the weekend.

The first was reported at 11:30 a.m. Monday in the 1700 block of College Ave. Involved in that mishap were a 2000 Chevrolet pickup driven by Michael Flowers, 39, of San Antonio and a 1999 Dodge pickup driven by Kimberly Lane, 30, of 11922 CR 4109. No injuries were sustained.

At 3:15 p.m. Saturday, dispatchers were notified of a major accident at the intersection of College Ave. and 25th Street.

Involved were a 1997 Dodge pickup driven by Nicholas Larkin, 23; of Ft. Madison, Ind. and a 2003 Chevrolet Tahoe driven by Jose Rios, 48, of 907 24th Street. Both drivers sustained minor injuries and were transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Hospital. Both were treated and released.

A woman on Browning reported a car in her yard at 3:15 a.m. Sunday. A 1996 Ford Explorer driven by Charlie Richardson, 31, of 118 Browning ran into the yard and struck a chain-link fence. No injuries were reported.

Arrests

Officers arrested a 22-year-old man in the 3600 block of College Ave. just before 5 p.m. Saturday on several local warrants.

At 3 a.m. Sunday, officers arrested a 24-year-old man in the 2500 block of Ave. F for Class A assault.

Criminal mischief

An employee at Western Texas College reported criminal mischief at the college golf course Saturday morning and an offense report was submitted.

A woman reported a man broke into her residence Sunday night then left in a red Pontiac Grand Prix. Officers responded to the residence in the 3000 block of Ave. M and advised a report for criminal mischief would be filed.

Fire report

Firefighters responded to the Western Texas College Golf Course at 11:20 a.m. Saturday after a transformer blew and ignited a grass fire on the driving range.

Theft

Brenda Hindshaw reported a theft that occurred in Lubbock Saturday. She advised her vehicle was broken into and her purse was stolen, but she did not request a report.

Gas drive off

A clerk at Town and Country North reported a drive off worth $5.01 Saturday afternoon.

Another drive off was reported from that location at 9:10 p.m. in the amount of $10.

Trespassers

A man requested a deputy near Fluvanna Saturday afternoon to report several subjects trespassing on his land. The subjects were contacted and issued criminal trespass warnings.

A man contacted officers Sunday morning to request a criminal trespass warning be issued to a subject causing problems at the College Park apartments. Officers responded and the warning was served.

Evolving two-war doctrine may get put to the test

WASHINGTON (AP) — Early on, the Bush administration argued against the military strategy that U.S. troops should be able to win two major wars in different regions at the same time. The doctrine was not necessary and had outlived its usefulness in a post-Cold War era, it said.

But as President Bush inches toward a new confrontation with Iraq while continuing the American-led anti-terror war, it's conceivable the United States could end up doing just that — fighting two wars simultaneously, although hardly in the same way.

As much as Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld criticized the two-war doctrine he inherited, the administration did not outright abandon it.

Instead, the notion of victory was somewhat redefined. Under the revised doctrine, America is deemed capable of putting down aggression in one major theater while achieving complete victory — occupation of another country or overthrow of its leadership — in another. All this while conducting a limited number of smaller-scale operations.

Some experts categorize the terror war and the possible fight with Iraq as small-scale operations. This, in their view, means the U.S. military would not be embroiled in simultaneous wars should Bush decide to lead the charge to disarm Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

A major conflict is considered to be one rivaling the scale of the 1991 Persian Gulf War, when a U.S.-led international coalition forced Iraq from neighboring Kuwait. The war lasted six weeks and involved about 500,000 American troops.

"You could certainly do two operations or more than two at a time, provided they weren't all of that large size," said Michael O'Hanlon, a defense analyst at the Brookings Institution.

Others note that the anti-terror effort in Afghanistan is not a war in the traditional sense.

Except for reconnaissance and surveillance, the air campaign has ended. There has been no ground operation since early March and the Navy has left. The hunt for remnants of Osama bin Laden's terrorist network, blamed for the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks that killed more than 3,000 people in New York and Washington, is basically being carried out by CIA operatives and special forces soldiers.

"It's become more of an elixir of police and anti-guerrilla war, which doesn't require huge numbers of troops," said Anatol Lieven, a scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

The Pentagon adopted the two-war requirement after the Gulf War. It was designed in part to discourage a potential aggressor, such as North Korea, from making trouble for U.S. forces in the region when this country is caught up in a major war elsewhere.

Obituaries

Barbara Allen

1926-2002

Barbara June Allen, a resident of Fluvanna, died Sunday, Nov. 24, in Golden Plains Nursing Center in Post after a lengthy illness.

Service for Mrs. Allen, 76, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in the Fluvanna Cemetery.

Born June 20, 1926 in Los Angeles, she married Wyman Allen on Dec. 2, 1945 in Yuma, Ariz.

A homemaker, Mrs. Allen had moved to Fluvanna from Norman, Okla., in 1988. She was a member of the Jehovah's Witness Church.

She was preceded in death by a son, James Macy Allen, on March 9, 1989; two sisters, Shryley VonPooen, Patricia Wiro; and one brother, David Atkinson.

Survivors include her husband, Wyman Allen of Fluvanna; a daughter, Katherine Diana Harless of Norman; a brother, Warren Atkinson of Shelan, Wash.; a sister, Dores Bosnyck of California; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Manuel Prado

1923-2002

BIG SPRING — Manuel Prado Sr., father of Martha Noyola of Snyder, died Sunday, Nov. 24, at his home following a lengthy illness.

A vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Funeral service is set for 11 a.m. Wednesday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with the Rev. Richard Regan officiating. Burial will follow in Trinity Memorial Park with military honors.

Born on Jan. 19, 1923 in Laferia, he married Consuelo Fernandez in 1950 in Laferia. He had served in the U.S. Army during World War II. A Catholic, he had been a resident of the Lomax Community for 36 years. Mr. Prado had farmed, working for Hall Ranch, Everett Lomax & Neil Fryar.

Survivors also include four sons, Mario Prado of Laferia, Morie Prado of Corpus Christi, Jorge Prado of Big Spring, Carlos Prado of Odessa; 12 grandchildren, Michael, David, Robert, Iliana, Christopher, James, Eric and Danielle Nicole Prado, Adrian, Joey, David Noyola and Christopher Longoria; and six great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be James Prado, David Prado, Robert Prado, David Noyola, Adrian Noyola, Joey Noyola, Michael Prado and Christopher Longoria.

Tex Worley

1910-2002

CARLSBAD, N.M. — L.B. "Tex" Worley, a native of Scurry County, died Friday, Nov. 22, in Landsun Health Service Center.

L.B. Worley

Service for Mr. Worley, 92, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday in the First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Craig Cockrell officiating. Burial will follow in Sunset Memorial Gardens under the direction of Denton-Funchess Funeral Home.

Born May 9, 1910 in Camp Springs to Thornton Sidney and Etta Mae Shaw Worley, he graduated from Snyder High School and from Texas Tech in 1931.

A geologist, he went to work for the National Park Service and married Tennye Maye Jeffress on June 12, 1935 in the Union community. She died Dec. 30, 1999.

Mr. Worley worked at Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon and the Carlsbad Caverns. He left the park service in 1953 to become a geologist for IMCC. In 1970 he became the first superintendent for the Living Desert State Park, retiring in 1971.

A member of the First United Methodist Church, he was also member of the Eddy Masonic Lodge No. 21.

He also was preceded in death by two brothers and three sisters.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law, Morris and Sue Worley of Carlsbad and Kemble and Marvene Worley of Tucson, Ariz.; a sister, Evelyn Duff of Garland; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Clifton Woodall

1932-2002

LUBBOCK — Clifton Elwyn Woodall, a former resident of Snyder, died Sunday, Nov. 24.

Clifton Woodall

Funeral service for Mr. Woodall, 70, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Resthaven's Abbey Chapel. Burial will follow in the Resthaven Memorial Park.

Born Feb. 9, 1932 in Plainview, he attended school in Plainview, Snyder and Levelland. He married Arletha Townsend on Nov. 7, 1950.

He was retired from the U.S. Air Force and worked as a mail carrier until his retirement in 1981. He was a Baptist and a 32nd Degree Mason.

Survivors include his wife, Arletha Woodall of Lubbock; two sons, David Woodall of Amarillo and Joel Woodall of Lubbock; a sister, Jannelle Rupe of Gallup, N.M.; and four grandchildren.

We Offer Competitive CD Rates...

Annual Percentage Yield	CD	Min Deposit
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2.88%	3 Yr.	$1,000
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3.55%	5 Yr.	$1,000

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 11/26	Wed 11/27	Thu 11/28
43/30	37/27	35/24
Cloudy skies early, then partly cloudy in the afternoon. High 43F.	Light snow, sleet and freezing rain.	Light wintry mix. Highs in the mid 30s and lows in the mid 20s.
Sunrise 7:23 AM, Sunset 5:38 PM	Sunrise 7:24 AM, Sunset 5:38 PM	Sunrise 7:24 AM, Sunset 5:38 PM

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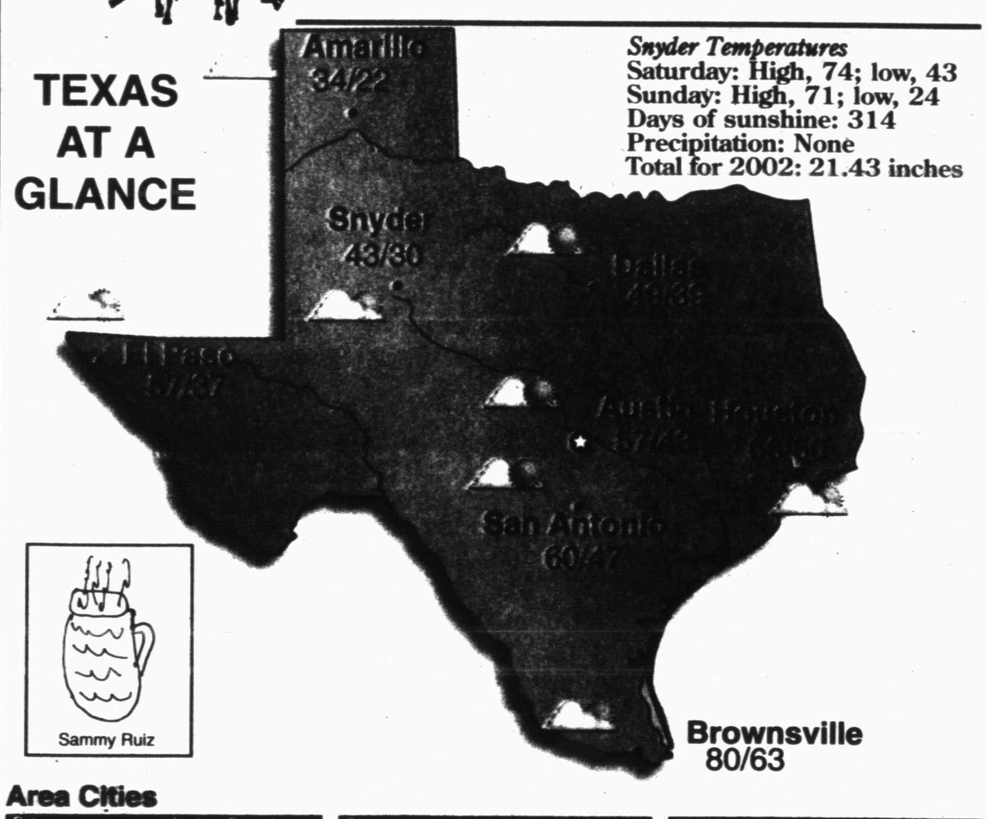
TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Snyder Temperatures
Saturday: High, 74; low, 43
Sunday: High, 71; low, 24
Days of sunshine: 314
Precipitation: None
Total for 2002: 21.43 inches



Sammy Ruiz

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Abilene	46	35	pt sunny	El Paso	57	37	pt sunny	Midland	46	35	pt sunny
Amarillo	34	22	cloudy	Fort Stockton	51	38	pt sunny	Raymondville	77	57	pt sunny
Austin	57	43	cloudy	Gainesville	46	32	pt sunny	Rosenberg	66	50	pt sunny
Beaumont	67	49	pt sunny	Greenville	47	34	cloudy	San Antonio	60	47	cloudy
Brownsville	80	63	pt sunny	Houston	66	50	pt sunny	San Marcos	58	44	cloudy
Brownwood	50	36	cloudy	Kingsville	73	54	cloudy	Sulphur Springs	48	35	rain
Corpus Christi	70	55	cloudy	Livingston	62	44	cloudy	Sweetwater	46	33	cloudy
Corsicana	51	37	rain	Longview	52	37	rain	Tyler	54	41	rain
Dallas	49	39	cloudy	Lubbock	39	28	pt sunny	Weatherford	47	33	pt sunny
Del Rio	62	49	pt sunny	Lufkin	59	45	rain	Wichita Falls	44	29	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Atlanta	62	41	pt sunny	Houston	66	50	pt sunny	Phoenix	75	55	cloudy
Boston	48	37	pt sunny	Los Angeles	64	52	pt sunny	San Francisco	63	47	pt sunny
Chicago	33	25	pt sunny	Miami	81	67	pt sunny	Seattle	52	31	mst sunny
Dallas	49	39	cloudy	Minneapolis	23	10	cloudy	St. Louis	31	19	pt sunny
Denver	27	10	sn shower	New York	50	38	cloudy	Washington, DC	56	41	cloudy

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Nov 20	Nov 27	Dec 4	Dec 11

UV Index

Tue 11/26	Wed 11/27	Thu 11/28
Low	Minimal	Minimal

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

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