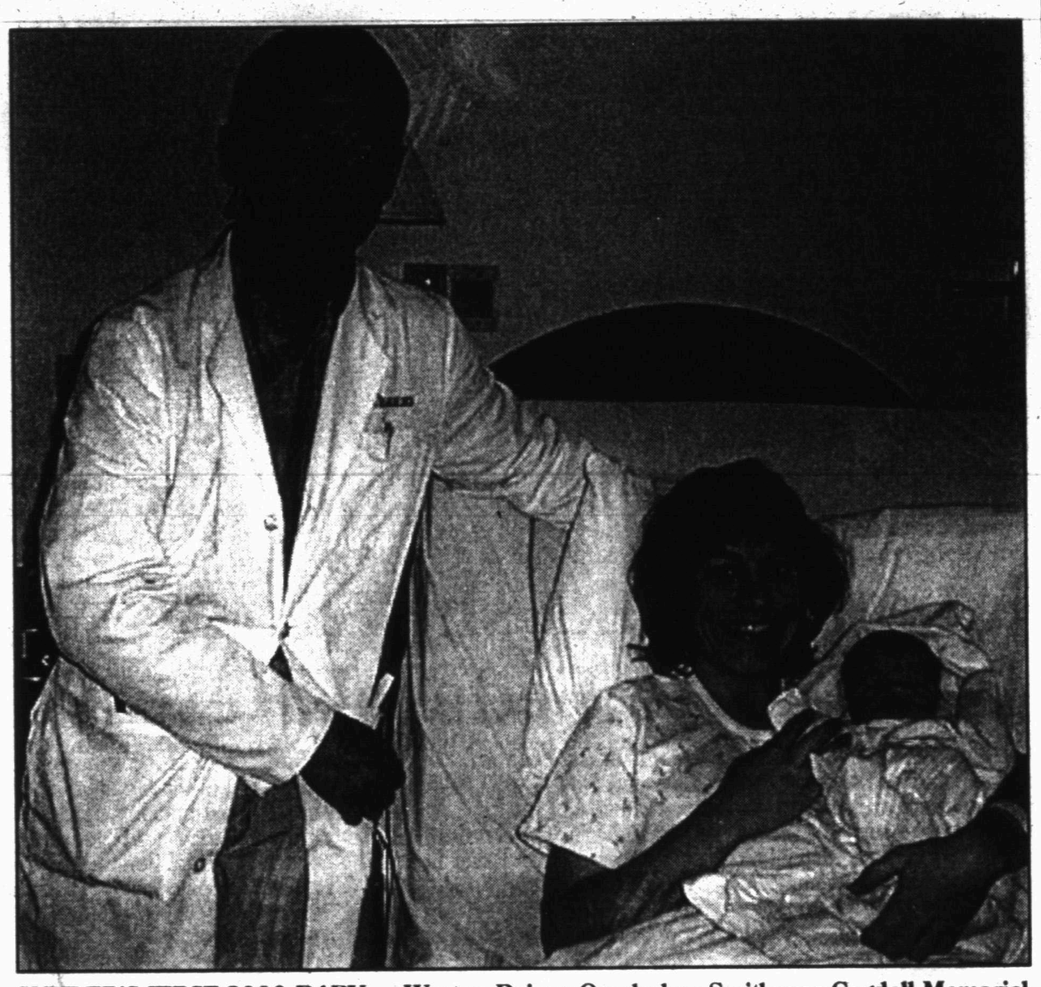
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WT-Int. Crude - $26.28
WTIC Posted - $22.75

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

TUESDAY
Jan. 4, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 211
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of Charles Darlin

Snyder welcomes its first baby of the new century



SNYDER'S FIRST 2000 BABY — Weston Rainer Overhulser-Smith was Cogdell Memorial Hospital's first baby born in 2000. He is being held by his mother, Melinda Overhulser. She is employed by CMH Prime Rehab Wellness & Development. Shown with the mother and baby is attending physician, Dr. Robert D. Rakov. (SDN Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Gifts presented century's first baby

The first baby of 2000 born at Cogdell Hospital is Weston Rainer Overhulser-Smith, born at 2:46 a.m. Monday, weighing seven pounds, eight ounces, and was 21 1/2 inches long.

Parents are Melinda L. Overhulser and Wesley Wayne Smith. Maternal grandparents are Bill and Anne Overhulser of Snyder and paternal grandparents are Oliver and Icie Stephens of Lubbock.

Assisting in the delivery were nurses Donna Mills, and LaVerne Kitchens, Deshonna Taylor, and Bill Harris, CRNA.

In celebration of the first baby, several gifts were presented by Countryplace, United Supermarket and Floral , United Pharmacy, Lawrence IGA, Hackfeld's, Amco Medical Supply, The Rest Stop, Wadleigh Studio, Kwik Kar, Video One, Taco John's, Golden Corral, Barbee Medical Supply, Bynum Photography, Friendly Flower Shop, Wal-Mart, Cinema I & II and The Pleasure's Mine.

Cogdell board target of county judge's ire

By Joyce May
Staff Writer

In a split vote - and with Judge Ricky Fritz expressing disapproval - Scurry County Commissioners Court reappointed Stanley Martin and Jim Bob Cave to their third term on the Cogdell Memorial Hospital board.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Chloanne Lindsey cast the opposing vote.

Fritz expressed disappointment with the hospital board prior to the motion and after the vote, saying the board had violated their oath of office, rejected legal advice and had ignored the state's constitution.

"I've been extremely disappointed with the hospital board on one thing. They voted 5-1 that they didn't care what the law said."

Fritz referred to the issue raised by hospital trustee Dink Foree about the way Cogdell pays its bills. Foree questioned whether the hospital's policy for paying the bills is legal.

Fritz said a meeting was held with County Attorney Michael Hartman, Cogdell attorney Mike Reed and a representative from the Attorney General's office.

A compromise was reached that the hospital's bills would go through a finance committee.

"We worked out a compromise that was acceptable to all the legal people, and despite a verbal agreement to revote this issue in an open meeting, they flat refused," Fritz said.

Fritz said several hospital board meetings have been held since and that Foree has again raised the issue of the re-vote, but the board has failed to take action.

"Three months have went by and they have never changed the policy. It is still on the books out there," Fritz said.

"I do not see how we in clear conscience can reappoint without sending the message that 'Yeah, some people are above the law.' They took an oath just like we did to obey the laws and the constitution of the State of Texas and with legal advice they totally disregarded that. It is my opinion that we need people on the hospital board who will uphold the law."

Precinct 2 Commissioner Roy Idom said he is unclear as to whether the hospital's actions are illegal. "There has been a lot of talk about what is legal and what is illegal. I still don't know."

Fritz then countered, "It is your job to know."

Idom replied, "There is no communication with this court. It may be my job to know, but I don't know if you don't tell me. There is a personality conflict and that makes for no communication."

Precinct 1 Commissioner Ralph Trevey added, "I would love to see more communication with the court and the board."

Trevey urged the court to take more diplomatic measures than to just chastise two men — Martin and Cave. "To chastise two men instead of the whole board would be an atrocity."

In a second split vote, the court voted 3-2 not to appoint former hospital board member Dr. Jim Palmer to the position on the Cogdell board previously held by J.B. Tate Jr.

Trevey made the motion and Roy Idom seconded it, but it failed with Howard Limmer and Chloanne Lindsey voting against. Fritz broke the tie with his negative vote.

Palmer, dean of instruction at Western Texas College, had previously served on the hospital board for six years.

Lindsey then made the motion to appoint Terry Williams. The motion was unanimously approved.

Williams, 38, has been the owner of Independence Propane for 18 years. He and his wife, Michelle, have two children Brooke, 17, and Dustyn, 11. He is a lifelong resident of Scurry County and lives in Precinct 1.

"I don't know that much about how the board operates, but I look forward to making Snyder a better place to live and to continue having a good community hospital," Williams said.

Other hospital board members include Dr. Mark Weaver, Foree and E.D. Walton.

In other board appointments, Trevlyn Pitner was appointed to his second term on the airport board.

Tony Wofford ended his term on the airport board and commissioners are looking for a replacement.

On the county welfare board, Kathy Hall was appointed to her second term and Marge Sealy was appointed to fill the spot previously held by Jonell Kight.

Three members of the library board were appointed to a second term, including Penny Perry, Sandra Graves and Jo Thrower.

There were no positions open on the Veteran's Land Board.

Commissioners also voted unanimously to reappoint Jerry Martin to his second term on the Board of County Development and David Kattes and David Koonce to their third term.

On the Child Welfare Board, Vic Miller and Ronnie Hines were appointed to a second term.

In other business, the court voted unanimously to accept the county's investment policy with the exception of a paragraph that would allow the county the option of investing with the Local Government Investment Cooperative of Dallas.

THE SDN COLUMN
By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Remember, people up in the air are not necessarily angels."

If your eyes are still blurry from watching all those bowl games on the tube (the final one is tonight), you may want to rest them by reading these bits of wisdom from sports figures.

An all-state gridder from Elgin, Harry Krenek was recruited to play at the University of Texas. Now president of Western Texas College, Dr. Krenek found the following in an academic publication that he regularly receives.

—George Rogers, then of the New Orleans Saints: "I want to rush for 1,000 or 1,500 yards, which ever comes first."

—Joe Theismann, the former Washington Redskins quarterback and now sport commentator: "Nobody in football should be called a genius. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein."

—Bill Peterson, a coach at Florida State: "You guys line up alphabetically by height."

—Bill Peterson again: "You guys pair up in groups of three, then line up in a circle."

—Dan Duva, a boxing promoter, on Mike Tyson's resuming his association with promoter Don King: "Why would anyone expect him to come out smarter? He went to prison for three years, not Princeton."

—Shaquille O'Neal, on whether he visited the Parthenon during a trip to Greece: "I can't really remember the names of the clubs we went to."

—Chuck Nevitt, a basketball player at North Carolina State, explaining to his coach why he appeared nervous: "My sister's expecting a baby and I don't know if I'm going to be an uncle or an aunt."

—Steve Spurrier, head coach at Florida, telling Gator fans that a fire at Auburn's football dormitory had destroyed 20 books: "The real tragedy was that 15 of them hadn't been colored yet."

—Torrin Polk, University of Houston receiver, on his coach: "He treats us like men. He lets us wear earrings."

—Shelby Metcalf, former basketball coach at Texas A&M, on recounting what he told a player who had received four Fs and one D: "Son, looks to me like you're spending too much time on one subject."

—Frank Layden, president of the Utah Jazz, speaking in 1991 about a former player: "I told him, 'Son, what is it with you? Is it ignorance or apathy?' He said, 'Coach, I don't know and I don't care.'"

As filing deadline closes...

Precinct 3 gains third hopeful

Monday was the last day to file for the March 14 primaries and Donna Gray filed with the Democratic Party for Precinct 3 commissioner shortly before the 6 p.m. deadline.

This ensures a contested race in the November general election as current Precinct 3 commissioner Howard Limmer is seeking another term. He is being challenged in the Republican primary by Joe Bass.

Earlier Monday, Travis Brackeen filed for both constable and for Justice of the Peace on the Republican ticket in Place 2.

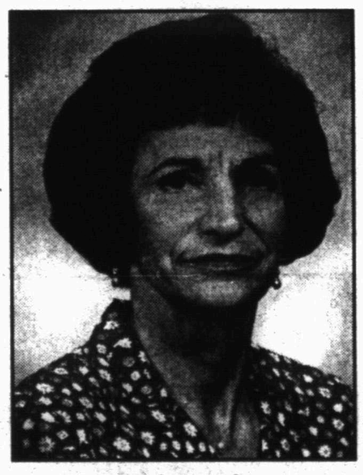
Gray has lived in Scurry County her entire life, and her husband, C.D., served as the Precinct 3 commissioner for 12 years.

"I am looking forward to working with the people of Scurry County and will always welcome their thoughts and ideas," said Mrs. Gray.

Gray has been active in community work, having served as president of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce and serving two terms on its board. She is an active Gold Coater, having received that organization's top award three years.

She owned and operated Snyder Bookstore and Gift Shop for 17 years.

She and her husband attend the First Baptist Church where she is the director and teacher in the kindergarten program.



Donna Gray

She has also taught youth and adult classes. They have two daughters and sons-in-law: Kyle and Donna Rosson of Odessa, and Brad and Sandee Ratliff of Rowlett.

Both commissioners' races will be contested in November, as Precinct 1 commissioner Ralph Trevey, a Democrat, is being challenged in his party's primary by Bill Baldwin and Cloyce Scarberry, and Carl Burleson has filed for the post on the Republican ticket.

The resignation of Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace Charlie Reynolds has prompted four people to file as Republican candidates.

Deborah Boyd, Ben Smith, Dwaine Merritt and Kirby McCravey are all seeking the spot currently held by Reynolds who will leave office Jan. 31.

Pat Alexander and Kirk Taylor are running on the Republican ticket for Precinct 1 constable.

Others who have filed, and who will be unopposed in the primaries are District Judge Ernie Armstrong, District Attorney Dana Cooley, County Attorney Mike Hartman – all on the Republican ticket.

Sheriff Darren Jackson is unopposed on the Demo ballot as is Diana Williamson who is running for the tax assessor-collector post.

In Precinct 2, which includes the Hermleigh area, Jeff Duck had filed earlier on the Democratic ticket for the constable post, and Pam Bryant had filed the necessary papers to run as an independent for the vacant JP post.

U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm is unopposed on the Demo ticket, but he has two Republican challengers.

Darrell Clements of Dallas has filed on the GOP ticket, and Shane Hunt of Granbury is seeking signatures in lieu of a filing fee to be included on the ballot.

ASK US

Q-I purchased a "buy one hamburger, get another free." I was charged tax on both hamburgers. Is that right?

A-According to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, the "free hamburger" is not taxable.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Monday, 70 degrees; low, 25; 7 a.m. Tuesday, 26; no precipitation; total for 2000, .11 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear. Low, mid 20s. SW wind 5-15 mph. Wednesday, sunny, warmer. High, lower 60s. SW wind 10-20 mph.



Jordan Wright
Sunny

Sunset: 5:55 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:44 a.m.

Of 3 days in 2000, the sun has shone 3 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Good luck is another name for tenacity of purpose.

Executive session planned by WTC

Western Texas College trustees will meet in special session at 6:30 this evening in the college's board room.

The lone agenda item is for the board to go into executive session to consult with an attorney concerning possible litigation.

JAN 04 2000

Suspect says atheist plotted her, others disappearance

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Atheist leader Madalyn Murray O'Hair and her two children cooperated with the men suspected in their disappearances because they wanted help in leaving the country to flee the Internal Revenue Service, according to the San Antonio Express-News.

But an ex-convict accused of kidnapping and robbing the trio suggested that they picked the wrong benefactors and are now believed to have been slain, according to the newspaper's copyright report today.

Gary Karr, in statements given to IRS and FBI agents and a Dallas County sheriff's detective last year, said Ms. O'Hair persuaded her former office manager to help her leave the country to avoid mounting tax problems because "they were fed up with all of it, including their organization and the people in it."

Karr, who along with ex-manager David R. Waters are suspected in the 1995 disappearance of Ms. O'Hair and her two children, contradicted federal authorities' assertion that the trio were kidnapped at gunpoint and then murdered for a half-million dollars' worth of gold coins.

A convicted murderer, Waters has pleaded guilty to stealing more than $50,000 from atheist accounts and was assessed 10 years' probation along with a restitution order.

Ms. O'Hair, 77, son Jon Garth Murray and adopted daughter Robin Murray O'Hair have never been located. A massive search over several days last April involved more than three dozen FBI agents using dogs, a backhoe and a helicopter with night-vision equipment at a 5,000-acre ranch about 120 miles west of San Antonio. But the search was not fruitful.

"The O'Hairs were not kidnapped or abducted. They freely and voluntarily moved with Waters," said Karr, a Detroit-area handyman who was indicted last month on federal charges of kidnapping and robbing the trio.

"At times when Jon Murray left, David Waters went with him. At other times, Jon left and went his own way," Karr said in a statement.

Ms. O'Hair is best known for a case that led to a 1963 Supreme Court decision that, along with a decision the previous year, struck down organized prayer in public schools as unconstitutional.

Ms. O'Hair and her two adult children vanished from San Antonio along with $500,000 in gold coins. Authorities questioned whether they were victims of foul play or merely ran off with the money from United Secularists of America, the Parsippany, N.J.-group she founded in 1963.

Others suggested Ms. O'Hair, who was in bad health, had gone off to die quietly so Christians wouldn't pray over her.

Detroit FBI agent Bill O'Leary, in court testimony last spring, testified Karr admitted to being an accessory to four unsolved homicides in Texas, including one that involved a victim's decapitation.

"In October 1995, over the telephone, David told me that the O'Hairs were no longer alive. He told me that he killed them," Karr said in one statement.

But Karr now, through his attorney, contends that he was misquoted in the statement. He now says he told authorities that Waters — also an ex-con — only implied he had killed the O'Hairs, not admitted it.

Karr said he accepted an offer of $7,000 from Waters, an old prison buddy from Illinois, to "help guard and run errands," as the O'Hairs prepared to leave the country.

A spokesman for Assistant U.S. Attorney Gerald Carruth, who is overseeing the O'Hair case, did not return a telephone call for comment today.

Waters, the plot's suspected mastermind, has not been formally charged in the O'Hairs' disappearance. He has pleaded guilty to firearms charges and is serving an eight-year term. Karr also is charged with firearms violations but has not been tried. He is held without bond in Michigan awaiting trial.

Date Book

Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2000

Today is the fourth day of 2000 and the 14th day of winter

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1790, President Washington delivered the first annual presidential address to the nation.

On this day in 1887, Thomas Stevens completed the first bicycle trip around the world. The trip, which began and ended in San Francisco, took two years, eight months and 12 days.

On this day in 1982, Tom Brokaw was replaced by Bryant Gumbel and Chris Wallace on the "Today Show."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Jacob Grimm (1785-1863), folklorist; Louis Braille (1809-1852), inventor; Jane Wyman (1914-), actress, is 86; Don Shula (1930-), football coach, is 70; Floyd Patterson (1935-), boxer, is 65; Dyan Cannon (1937-), actress, is 63; Michael Stipe (1960-), singer, is 40.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1984, the Edmonton Oilers defeated the Minnesota North Stars 12-8.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Real liberty is neither found in despotism or the extremes of democracy, but in moderate governments." — Alexander Hamilton

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Dec. 29) and new moon (Jan. 6).

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Love of red-haired girl launched strip by Charles Schulz

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Dear Charlie Brown, the real little red-haired girl never forgot you.

Her hair now gray, Donna Wold remembers Peanuts' creator Charles Schulz with fondness more than 50 years after she declined his marriage proposal. She went on to become the inspiration for the unrequited love of his cartoon alter ego.

Schulz, born in Minneapolis and raised in St. Paul, borrowed characters' names from old Minnesota friends Charlie Brown, Linus Maurer and Frieda Rich.

The last new daily "Peanuts" strip chronicling their exploits ran in newspapers on Monday, and their final appearance in Sunday newspapers is set for Feb. 13. After nearly 50 years, Schulz, 77, is discontinuing "Peanuts" due to his health.

While Charlie Brown and pals became known worldwide, perhaps Shulz's most touching tribute to the real-life group went unnamed.

When he returned from World War II and became an instructor at an art school in downtown Minneapolis, he quickly fell for a red-haired member of the accounting department.

"When he proposed, it was agonizing because I did love him at the time," said Wold, now 70. "It's terrible to be in love with more than one guy."

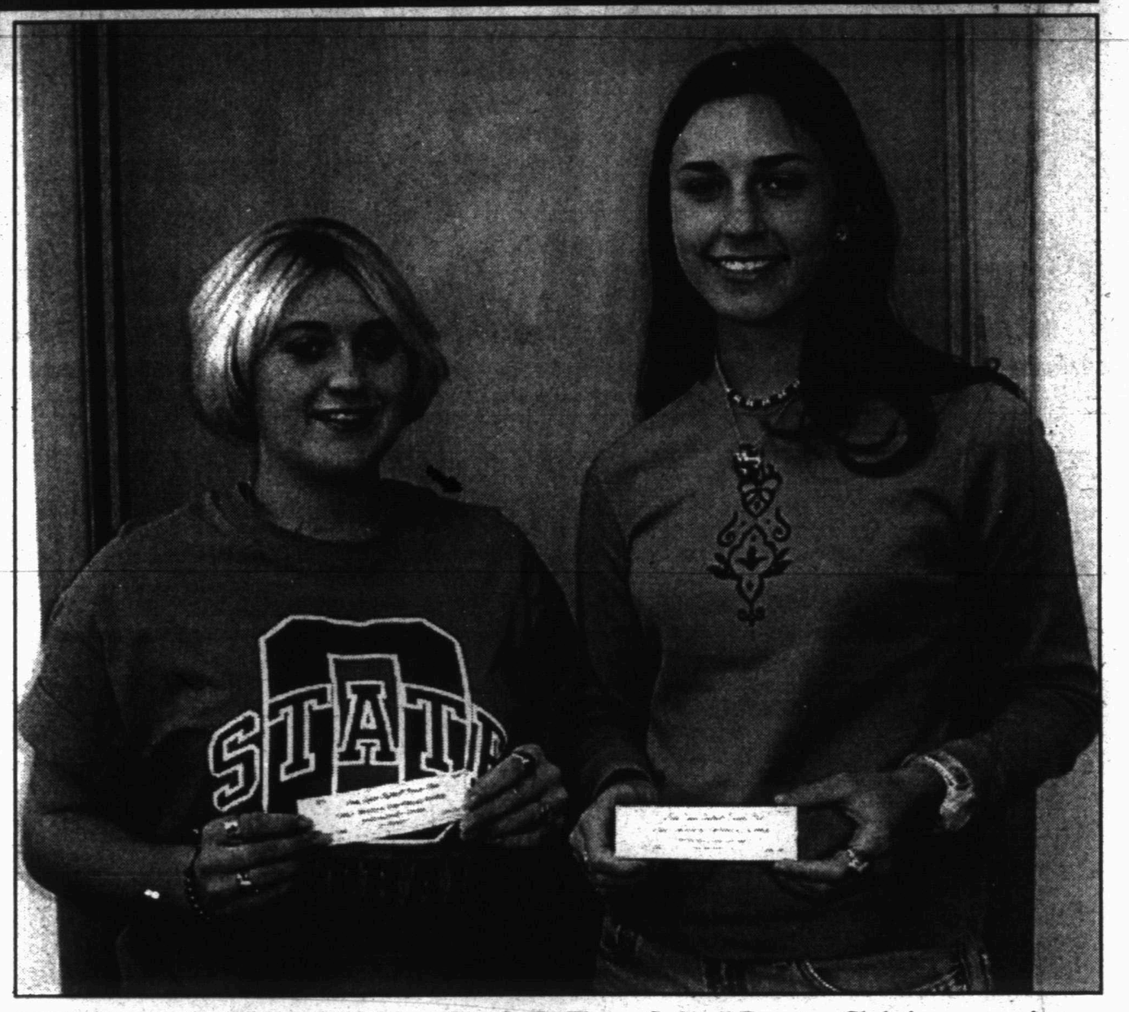
She turned Schulz down and instead married Allan Wold, an old friend she'd known since seventh grade and who had attended her family's church. He became a Minneapolis firefighter, and they raised four children.

In some ways, Schulz never got over her.

"I loved that little girl, but her mother convinced her I would never amount to anything," Schulz said in a 1997 Star Tribune interview. "You never get over your first love. More than having your cartoons rejected or three-putting the 18th green, the whole of you is rejected when a woman says: 'You're not worth it.'"

Wold thinks Schulz overestimated her mother's influence, but she has no regrets. She kept in contact with him over the years and has spoken with Schulz' wife, Jean, since the cartoonist's cancer diagnosis.

Wold has kept clippings over the years of strips that featured the little red-haired girl.



SOFTBALL TEAM FUND-RAISER — The Lady Tigers Softball Booster Club is sponsoring an "all you can eat" chili, beans and corn bread supper from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday at the SHS cafeteria. Tickets are $5 each and may be purchased from booster club members or softball players. Players holding tickets are Whitney Webb, left, and Courtney Rinehart. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Nation's banks ship extra cash back to Federal Reserve

WASHINGTON (AP) — Armored trucks around the country are carrying back to the Federal Reserve some of the billions of extra dollars distributed to banks in case of Y2K panic.

Economists said Monday the temporary displacement should have no significant impact on the economy.

Yields on Treasury bonds, meanwhile, hit two-year highs as some investors sold bonds they had been holding as insurance against Year 2000 disruptions. The selling wave pushed down bond prices, which move inversely to yields.

"It appears to be money going back home," said David Wyss, chief financial economist at Standard and Poor's DRI in Lexington, Mass.

In addition, government bond prices were driven lower by what Allen Sinai, chief global economist at Primark Decision Economics, called "the same old concern: inflation and the Fed" and whether the central bank would raise interest rates early next month.

The Federal Reserve distributed some $80 billion to banks, thrifts and credit unions during the fourth quarter of 1999, compared with $23 billion over the same period a year ago. But some of the extra currency could have been requested for reasons unrelated to Y2K, such as bank customers' holiday shopping needs, Fed officials say.

Now that 2000 has arrived without a run on banks, the banks and other financial institutions started packing up the surplus currency and sending it back to regional Federal Reserve banks, as previously planned. The process is expected to take several days.

"The funds were just there temporarily," Wyss said. "(The Fed is) going to take them right back."

Since most of the Y2K money stayed in bank vaults and didn't get into the public's hands, there shouldn't be any inflationary effect on the economy, he said.

Still, the Fed needed to provide the extra cushion of cash to reassure the public, banks and the financial markets, Sinai said from New York City.

"No responsible central bank could have done otherwise," he said.

Overall, the nation's banking system appeared to be operating largely free of Y2K glitches on the first business day of 2000 — when weekend transactions were first accounted for in massive computer databases.

ATMs continued to work, and bank balances and loan information appeared accurate throughout the system.

Researchers find answer for moon illusion in the sky

WASHINGTON (AP) — The illusion that the full moon seen near the horizon is bigger than the moon seen overhead is a trick the brain plays when it perceives distance to a far object, according to new research by a father-son team.

In a study appearing Tuesday in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Lloyd Kaufman and his son, James Kaufman, report that a test with artificial, indentically sized moons showed that viewers of a horizon moon perceived it as being farther away.

The researchers said that when the moon is on the horizon, the brain apparently picks up distance cues from the surrounding terrain and interprets the moon as being more distant. This, in turn, causes the brain to perceive the moon as larger, the researchers said.

When the moon is overhead in an empty sky, there are no distant cues and the moon is perceived as being closer and smaller, the researchers said.

Pizza slogan has to go, judge says

DALLAS (AP) — Papa John's must remove its "Better Ingredients, Better Pizza" slogan from storefronts and pizza boxes after a jury decided the pitch was false advertising.

The judge in the case also ordered Papa John's to pay $468,000 in damages to Pizza Hut, which filed the lawsuit claiming the slogan and advertising campaign unfairly maligned its product. In November, a jury ruled in Pizza Hut's favor.

In his ruling on Monday, Federal Magistrate William F. Sanderson Jr. ordered Louisville-based Papa John's International Inc. to stop using its slogan in ads by Jan. 24, to stop using pizza boxes and other printed material with the phrase by March 3 and remove it from restaurant signs by April 3.

He further forbade Papa John's from ever using the word "better" to describe its pizza, and he barred the company from even comparing its pizza to that of Pizza Hut in future ads.

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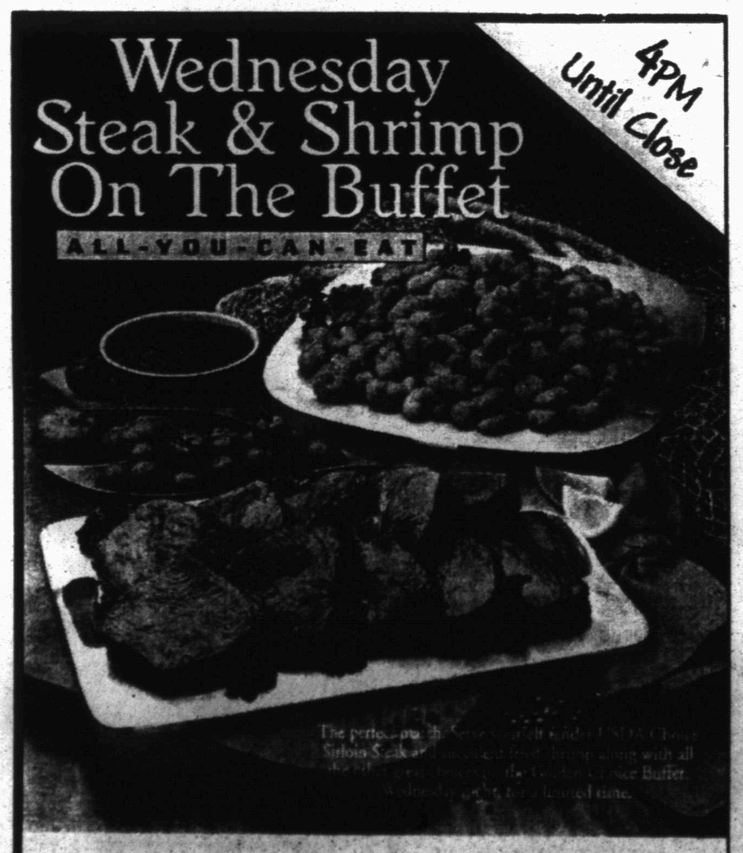
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SNIDER'S STUDENTS IN RECITAL — A Christmas piano recital was presented by students of Joann Snider at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. In the top photo, from left, are performers Megan McCormick, Cole McLeod, Erin Cooley and Jana Lewis. In the bottom photo are, back row, Meghan Cooley, Stacey Clifton, Ashton Smith, Jordan Smith; front row, Brodie Calley, Chloe Reecer and Taylor Freeman. (Contributed Photos)

Wasps used to fight eucalyptus pest

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Wasps the size of grains of pepper will be the front-line soldiers in an attack against the menacing red gum lerp psyllids, a pest that has been sucking the life out of California's eucalyptus trees since last year.

Authorities plan to release the miniscule, non-stinging wasps this spring in several invaded areas, including the Griffith Park, Woodland Hills and Valley Village sections of Los Angeles and the city of Torrance.

It is hoped they will take care of the rest, eradicating the psyllid infestation without forcing authorities to resort to insecticide.

"Spraying 60- to 150-foot-tall trees is not economical or safe," said Robert Donley, chief of the environmental protection bureau in Los Angeles County's Department of Agricultural Commissioner and Weights and Measures.

"Spraying insecticide that high can cause a hazard to surrounding people or houses or cars," Donley said. "It's not really feasible, and it's very costly."

Instead, officials hope the tiny Australian wasps will lay eggs inside the psyllids — officially called Glycaspis brimblecombei. The larvae kill the pests by growing inside them.

The gum-sucking psyllids invaded 30 California counties in June 1998, the worst such tree infestation since the ash whitefly of a decade ago.

"The ... parasitic wasps did such a wonderful job with the whitefly, so we'll try it again this time," he said.

The idea to import them was that of Donald Dahlsten, a professor at the Center for Biological Control in the College of Natural Resources at the University of California, Berkeley.

Dahlsten returned from Australia in September with 200 of the wasps. He's been studying them to ensure they won't sting humans and will only pick on the pesky psyllids, leaving other insects alone. Biologists don't want the introduction to upset nature's balance.

Monica Lewinsky has new role

WASHINGTON (AP) — Focusing on her new role as a weight-loss spokeswoman, Monica Lewinsky said she hopes her involvement in the scandal that led to President Clinton's impeachment trial becomes a shrinking historical footnote.

In an appearance Monday on CNN's "Larry King Live," the former White House intern said she bears some responsibility for what happened to Clinton, but now wants to put that part of her life behind her.

Lewinsky, 26, steered away from questions concerning her feelings about former friend Linda Tripp, but did mention first lady Hillary Clinton.

"I have a lot of personal remorse for what she's gone through and I'm sure what their daughter, what Chelsea has gone through," she said.

When asked about her lawyers and her remaining legal bills, Lewinsky became visibly uncomfortable, but said she was thankful for their work to obtain her immunity.

"I am terribly, terribly grateful for all of the hard work that everybody put into this and there isn't a feeling that people shouldn't be compensated," she said.

Garden club sets January meeting

Members of the Snyder Garden Club will hear a program, "Key to Native Plants and Zeroscaping," by Mark Sides with the USDA Soil Conservation local office.

During the business meeting, plans will be made for Arbor Day planting on Jan. 21.

Hostesses will Sandra Browning and Gussie Gray.

Gossett eyes Island

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Actor Lou Gossett Jr. has his sights on a lush, tropical island off Jamaica's northeast coast that once was the playground of the late Hollywood star Errol Flynn

Gossett and a group of Jamaican investors were expected to fork over about $3 million for Navy Island.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 01-04-00
♠ 10 8 6
♥ A 7 5 4
♦ Q J 6
♣ Q 8 3

West
♠ 7 5
♥ K 3 2
♦ A 9 8 7 5 2
♣ A 7

East
♠ K Q 2
♥ 10 8 6
♦ 4
♣ K J 10 6 5 2

South
♠ A J 9 4 3
♥ Q J 9
♦ K 10 3
♣ 9 4

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: West

South	West	North	East
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1 ♠	2 ♦	2 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♣ A

Quiet and effective

My second top woman player is someone I believe doesn't get the credit she deserves: Jacqui Mitchell. She is naturally reserved and appears difficult to get to know. Yet once you become a friend of hers, you discover a delightful, warm person. Away from the bridge table, she loves dogs and is an excellent cook. At the bridge table, she is quietly lethal, making very few mistakes and concentrating as well as anyone. Jacqui has won four world team titles, and the World Women's Pairs in 1986 with Amalya Kearse. Through 1993, she had the best lifetime record of any woman player in world championships.

In this deal from the '86 Women's Pairs in Bal Harbour, Fla., Jacqui and Amalya collected 109 matchpoints out of 110.

Against two spades, West started with two rounds of clubs, East winning and correctly switching to her singleton diamond. However, after a diamond to the ace and a diamond ruff, East erred. If she had returned a trump, the contract would have failed because declarer would have eventually lost a heart trick. Yet East understandably led the club king. Giving them no second chance, Jacqui ruffed with the spade jack, cashed the spade ace, and gave East her trump trick. As a club return would have conceded a ruff-and-discard, East tried the heart six.

West was marked with the heart king because East had produced nine points, yet hadn't opened the bidding. So, Jacqui put in the heart nine. (If she had played the jack or queen, West would have ducked her king.) When the nine forced out the king, Jacqui claimed.

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Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Jan. 3-Jacob Gonzales, Cameron Green, Allena Higgins, Kathleen Huddleston, Isaiah Martinez, Kristi Cox, Alexis McNeil, Royce Patterson and H.A. Smith Jr.

DISMISSALS: Rosalio Gutierrez, Mildred Hollis, Ester Tarin, Margie Pinkerton, Agnes Sorrells.

CENSUS: 57 (Med./Surg.24, Long-term Care-24, ICU-4, OB-3 and Nursery-2)



WINNER AT HIGGINBOTHAM-BARTLETT — Gary Penn of Higginbotham-Bartlett presented Susie Morin with a RCA Direct TV System during the holidays. Morin only entered her name one time in the drawing. (SDN Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

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

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

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

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

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5 to 6 p.m.; 2501 35th. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

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

Just For Today NA, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 573-4203, 573-8018 p.m.

THURSDAY

Snyder Garden Club; Martha Ann Woman's Club; Mark Sides to give program; hostesses, Sandra Browning, Gussie Gray; 9:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-9742.

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

—

Contrary to popular belief, there is little scientific evidence that the ages at which parents die have any correlation to the life span of the offspring.

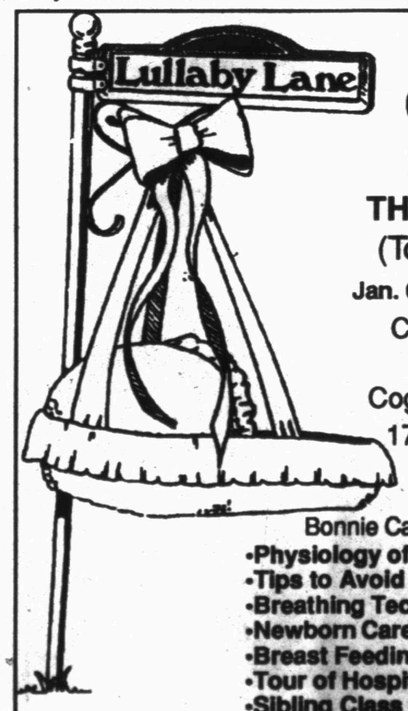
Dear Friends,

Words cannot express our gratitude for every kindness you've shown us in the past few weeks. Your cards, phone calls, visits, food and monetary gifts are appreciated more than you will ever know. It is wonderful to live in a community that loves and supports each other in times of trial as well as times of happiness. We are blessed to have so many of you as friends, neighbors and co-workers.

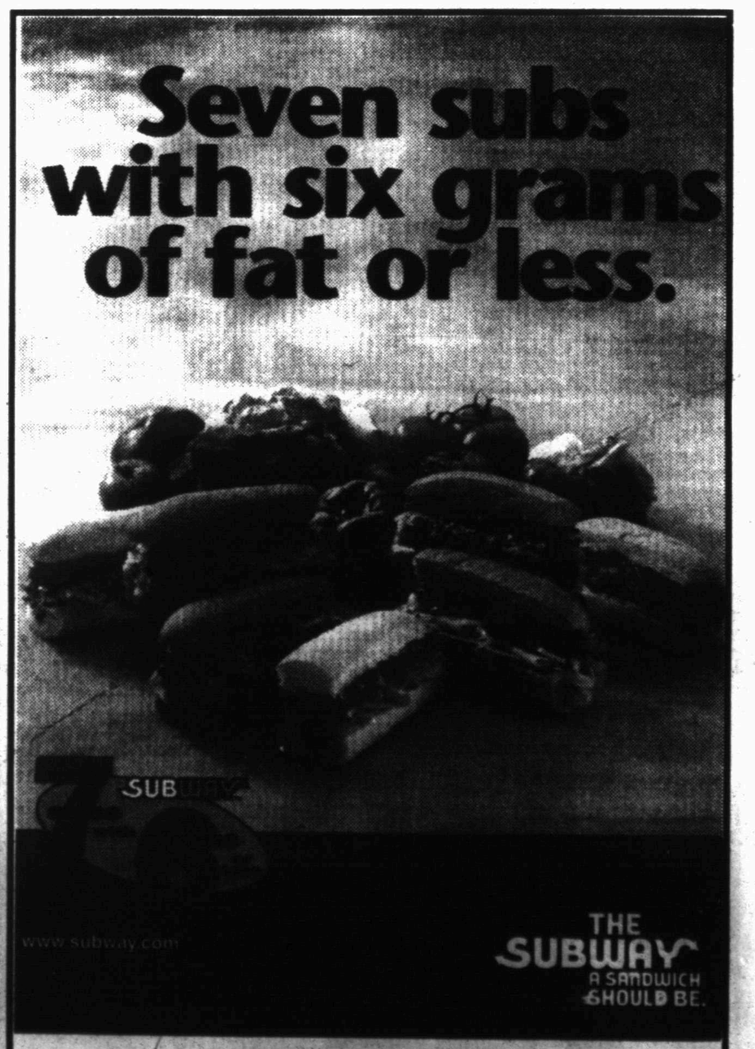
Please continue to call and/or come by anytime. We love seeing you and your visits brighten our days.

With much love and thanks,
Olton, Sandy
Shanna & Shane Smith

HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
1007 Old Lubbock Hwy. Snyder, Texas 79549
Phone: 915-573-3050 • Toll Free: 1-877-724-3661
WHEEL CHAIRS, WALKERS
HOSPITAL BEDS
~~~~~~
EQUIPMENT TO AID YOU IN YOUR HOME
~~~~~~
OXYGEN EQUIPMENT
IN HOME AND PORTABLE
~~~~
RHONDA VEBER, LVN/PARAMEDIC
SANDY COSTILLO, LVN
WALLY JONES, LVN
~~~~~
LET US HELP YOU WITH
YOUR MEDICAL NEEDS



Prepared Childbirth Classes
THURSDAYS 7-9 p.m.
(Total of Five Classes)
Jan. 6, 2000 through Feb. 3, 2000
Classes Will Be Held at
Board Room at
Cogdell Memorial Hospital;
1700 Cogdell Boulevard
(South Parking Lot)
Instructor:
Bonnie Carroll, RN - Linda Briseno, RN
•Physiology of Pregnancy and Delivery
•Tips to Avoid Complications
•Breathing Techniques
•Newborn Care
•Breast Feeding Techniques
•Tour of Hospital OB Department
•Sibling Class (for future big brothers and sisters - included in final class)
Please wear comfortable clothing; bring a coach, two pillows and a blanket.
Open To Any Expectant Parents
The fee is $40.00 per couple, payable prior to the first class, unless enrolled in the LULLABY LANE program.
Class Size is Limited
To Reserve 574-7467
Next Class Begins March 16, 2000
For more information, please contact COGDELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 915-573-6374 LINDA BRISENO, RN, OB Nurse Manager or WILMA DILLARD, Community/Patient Relations.
Cogdell Memorial Hospital



3903 College Ave.
Snyder, Texas
573-9782

Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

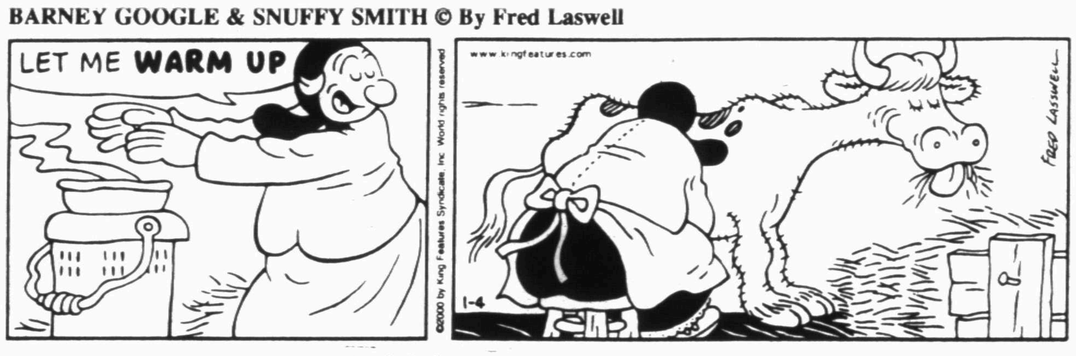
THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



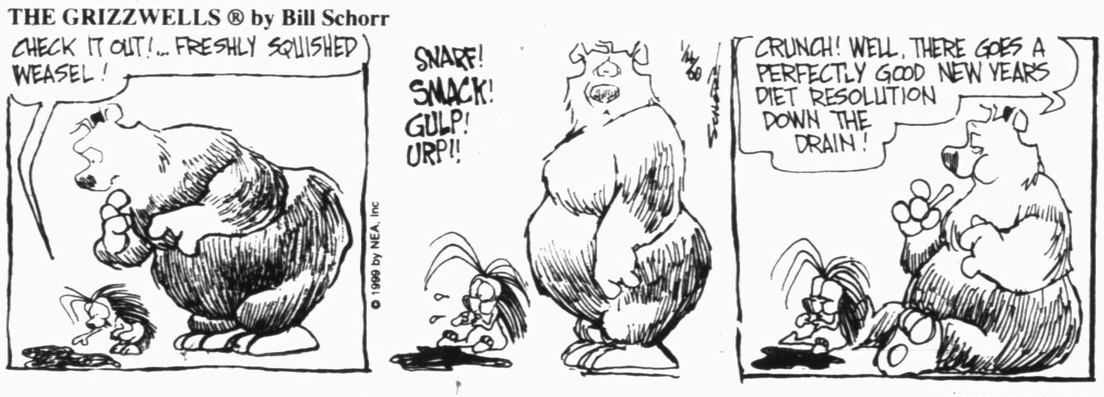
BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © By Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © By Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Equipped
7 Bush or Clooney
13 Texas city (2 wds.)
14 Think well of
15 Left out speech sounds
16 Impassive
17 Wedding-page word
18 Hood's gun
20 Vital statistic
21 Circle parts
23 Water for Pierre
24 Solar disk
25 Abominable Snowman
27 Showier
29 Fuss
31 Moray
32 Confederate soldier
33 Capuchin monkey
34 Welcomes
37 Cut
40 Surprise attack
41 Swiss river
43 Wildebeests
45 Ancient times
46 Actress Lupino
47 Actor Gulager
48 Child of a close friend, perhaps
51 Neat as a pin, e.g.
54 Actress Dahl
55 Chattered
56 Cast a side-long glance
57 Withdraw from the Union

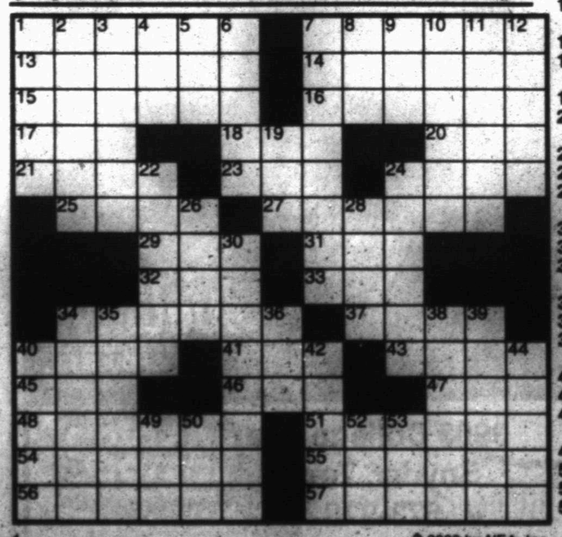
DOWN

1 Actress Davis
2 Detective Queen
3 For each person
4 "Way out!"
5 Compass pt.
6 Caravan maker
7 Hand motions
8 Superlative ending
9 Ear (comb. form)
10 Give an account of
11 — counter
12 German seaport
19 Drivers' org.
22 Looked at fixedly
24 Sick
26 — fixe
28 Pekoe and Earl Grey
30 Secured
34 In abundance
35 Puzzling question
36 Gloomy
38 Egg on
39 Extracted (a tooth)
40 Queenly
42 Grates
44 Jacket material
49 Sun. speech
50 Undivided
52 Rage
53 Fleetwood —

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

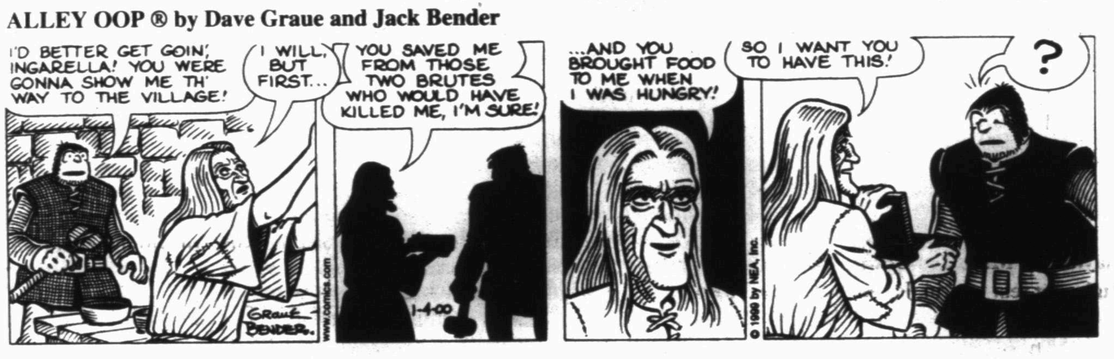


ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail:JimMeddick@aol.com



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



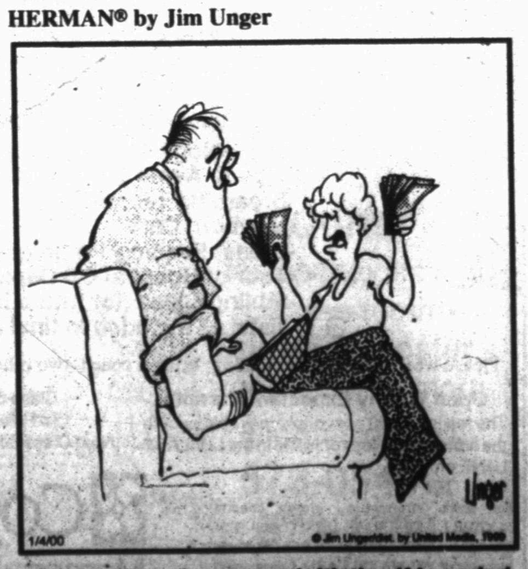
BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen



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"You told me to use my initiative if I needed money, so I sold your car."





"WOW! THIS IS THE BIGGEST WIND-UP TOY I EVER SAW!"

SPORTS

For Virginia Tech, Florida State...

Title game has finally arrived

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — At long last, four days into a new century, it's time to decide the 1999 national champion.

Florida State hasn't played in 45 days; Virginia Tech in 39 days. Players from both teams are sick of strolling down Bourbon Street, watching fans whoop it up while trying to keep themselves out of trouble.

"I know the kids can't wait to play, they've been here so long," Florida State coach Bobby Bowden said Monday, a week into the Seminoles' visit to the home of Mardi Gras. "This town has a lot of beautiful sites, but it don't do nothing. Nothing."

Something finally will be done to determine a national champion tonight when the top-ranked Seminoles (11-0) play the No. 2 Hokies (11-0) in the Sugar Bowl.

A win, and Florida State can rightly claim the title as Team of the Decade; a loss and the Seminoles might join the Atlanta Braves as consistent winners who could win the big one only once.

"You go back home and people are saying y'all always go to the big game but y'all never win them," Florida State cornerback Mario Edwards said. "I have a little brother that's telling me that. He's 10 years old. Oh, is he making it hard for me, too. Hopefully, I can come home this time and he'll pat me on the back and say 'It's about time y'all won it."

This will be the 32nd time — 13th in a bowl game — No. 1 plays No. 2. For the Seminoles, it will be their sixth 1-2 matchup — five in the 1990s, plus tonight's game. Florida State is 2-3, including last year's Fiesta Bowl loss to Tennessee in the title game.

While Virginia Tech is playing for its first national crown in 107 years of football, Florida State is in the title game for the third time in four years and fourth in seven years — the 'Noles won the 1993 championship.

"Yes, if we won this one, it would be better than the last," Bowden said. "The last time it was more of a relief. 'God, we finally got a national championship.' They can't say Bobby Bowden never won a national championship. Now, they're saying Bobby Bowden can't win another one."

If Virginia Tech wins?

"I ain't cutting my throat, I'm not slicing my wrists," Bowden said. "I'll come back and we'll try to do it the next year."

Adds Peter Warrick, the All-American receiver who had just one catch in the loss to Tennessee and also was around for '97 Sugar Bowl loss to Florida. "We've been so close. This is the last one, and I don't want to let this one go by like the other two."

Florida State won a record 108 games in the '90s and has a 12-year string of top-four finishes in The AP poll. Among this year's memorable wins — so far — was Bowden's 300th, a 17-14 decision over Clemson in college football's first father vs. son coaching matchup, and the 30-23 victory at Florida.

A win over the Hokies would also give Bowden the first perfect season in his 40 years as a head coach, and it would make Florida State the first team to go wire-to-wire in the AP poll since the preseason ratings began in 1950.

Thirteen seasons after folks in Blacksburg, Va., laughed at coach Frank Beamer for predicting he would produce a national champion, tens of thousands of Hokies fans are in town for the biggest game in school history.

"I don't think our world is going to start or end with us winning this football game," Beamer said. "It would be great if we won, it would be a new day at Virginia Tech. But if we lose, it's not the end of it. I would expect to come back next year and be in it again."

Led by the pinpoint passing and flashy footwork of quarterback Michael Vick, the Hokies have turned into one of the nation's most exciting teams.

Virginia Tech was already known for a relentless defense, led by 17-sack man Corey Moore and fellow defensive end John Engelberger, and the nation's best special teams — 63 blocked kicks in the '90s. But the 19-year-old Vick has taken the Hokies to new heights.

He threw for 1,840 yards and 12 TDs, ran for 585 yards and eight TDs and finished third in the Heisman Trophy voting, equaling the best showing by a freshman. Tech led the nation in scoring defense at 10.5 points a game and in scoring, 41.4 points a game.

So far, Vick hasn't flinched under pressure, and doesn't expect to in the biggest game of his life.

"Being calm is just the type of person I am," he said.

Six local squads in hoop action tonight

Six local squads return to the hardwood tonight for their first action of the new century.

Snyder High School hosts a pair of contests against Levelland, with Ira visiting Klondike, and Hermleigh traveling to Loraine.

Both Snyder squads closed out 1999 with wins. The Lady Tigers knocked off Breckenridge on Thursday, while the Tigers won three straight to claim the Brownwood tournament crown.

The Lady Tigers (5-11) dropped their first meeting with Levelland, 42-28, earlier this season. Tonight's tip-off is slated for 6 o'clock, with the JV girls getting underway at 7:30.

For the Snyder boys, the three wins in Brownwood improved their record to 11-8 heading into this evening's tilt. The Tigers downed the Lobos, 61-49, in the earlier meeting.

Tonight's action tips off at 7:30, with the junior varsity starting at 6.

While Snyder hosts its action, Ira and Hermleigh hit the road for their contests.

Ira pays a visit to Klondike, with the girls getting underway at 6:30, followed by the boys at 8 o'clock.

The Lady Bulldogs are coming off a victory, while the Ira boys will be looking to rebound from back-to-back losses at the Fort Worth tourney.

Hermleigh makes the short jaunt to Loraine for a pair of games.

The Cards and Lady Cardinals registered wins in their last outings, and will be looking to maintain the momentum when they tip-off tonight at 6:30.

Dallas looks to past for inspiration

IRVING (AP) — At 8-8, the Dallas Cowboys haven't given themselves many reasons to feel good about this season. Instead, they can look to the past for inspiration.

The Cowboys still have many of the same guys who carried them to Super Bowl championships in 1992, '93 and '95, which can only be a plus in a postseason filled with NFC newcomers.

"We have to count on that being an edge for us," Dallas coach Chan Gailey said Monday. "We need to get that type of leadership."

For all their past playoff success, the Cowboys barely made the playoffs despite ending the year against three teams that had no chance of getting in. Dallas lost the first two, then edged the New York Giants to set up a first-round game Sunday in Minnesota.

The Cowboys and Vikings (10-6) are the only NFC teams from last year's playoffs that are back again. The last team to win the Super Bowl after not making the playoff the previous season were the Washington Redskins in strike-shortened 1982.

That doesn't mean whoever wins the Dallas-Minnesota game has any special advantages in the second round. But it does prove that playoff experience helps.

"There's a lot of teams lumped together," Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman said. "Anybody can win this thing. People say it every year, but I think this year it's probably more true than in the previous seasons that I've been a part of.

"It's just a matter of who gets hot at the right time and if things go their way."

Aikman is 11-3 in postseason games. Minnesota quarterback Jeff George and Washington's Brad Johnson are each 0-1. The other three NFC playoff quarterbacks have never taken a postseason snap.

Dallas also has Emmitt Smith and several offensive linemen, plus defensive stars such as Deion Sanders and Darren Woodson who understand the difference between playoff games and regular-season games.

"Someone like Emmitt or Troy can go to a young guy and say, 'Hey, this is what it takes. We've got to crank it up a few notches and be more focused,' or whatever they need to say," Cowboys safety George Teague said.

Snyder Bowling Leagues

Men's Commercial League

Team	W	L
The Shack	129.5	80.5
Rose Barber Shop	120.5	89.5
Daylight Donuts	111.5	98.5
Headquarters	110	100
McLeod Jewelers	108	102
State Farm	105	105
Stephens' Office	93	117
Wal-Mart	78.5	131.5
G&W Trucking	71.5	54.5
Clayton & Mills	38.5	87.5

High series: Kevin Jones, scratch, 593; Mark Thompson, handicap, 688.
High game: Darrel Grant, scratch, 217; Manuel Garcia, handicap, 239.
Splits and special mentions: David Lyle, 5-10; Roger Pavlik, 2-7.

Roll N Hope

Team	W	L
Martin Herefords	43	17
KSNY	40.5	19.5
Baze Gun Repair	40	20
Spirit Energy	36	24
Lawrence IGA	33.5	24.5
Snyder Lanes	21.5	38.5
Gutter Dusters	17.5	42.5

High series: Michelle Ewing, scratch, 518; Wanda Johnson, handicap, 613.
High game: Rosemary Hernandez, scratch, 184; Carolyn Allen, handicap, 223.
Splits and special mentions: Alma Posey and Bernie Sealy, 5-7; Jenny Rainwater, 5-10; Betty Boatman, 3-10; Carolyn Allen, 5-6-9-7; Michelle Ewing, 518; Wanda Johnson, 505.

Jack N Jill

Team	W	L
Renegades	39.5	12.5
Countryplace	30.5	21.5
BCEC	27.5	24.5
Clayton & Mills	24	28
Alley Kats	22.5	29.5
Ratliff Ins.	12	40

High series: Scratch: Daphne Thompson, 543; Jeff Smith, 590. Handicap: Joanna Browning, 645; Mark Thompson, 703.
High game: Scratch: Daphne Thompson, 211; Jeff Smith, 236. Handicap: Ginger Walton, 249; Jeff Smith, 265.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	20	9	.690	—
New York	18	12	.600	2½
Philadelphia	18	15	.545	4
Orlando	15	16	.484	6
Boston	13	16	.448	7
New Jersey	12	18	.400	8½
Washington	11	20	.355	10

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	20	9	.690	—
Charlotte	18	11	.621	2
Toronto	17	12	.586	3
Milwaukee	17	14	.548	4
Detroit	16	14	.533	4½
Cleveland	12	18	.400	8½
Atlanta	11	18	.379	9
Chicago	2	26	.071	17½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	21	10	.677	—
Utah	19	10	.655	1
Denver	15	14	.517	5
Minnesota	13	14	.482	6
Houston	10	20	.333	10½
Dallas	9	21	.300	11½
Vancouver	6	23	.207	14

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	25	5	.833	—
Portland	23	7	.767	2
Sacramento	17	10	.630	6½
Phoenix	18	11	.621	6½
Seattle	18	12	.600	7
L.A. Clippers	9	20	.310	15½
Golden State	6	24	.200	19

Monday's Games
Boston 105, Cleveland 98
Washington 99, Golden State 87
Philadelphia 124, Milwaukee 120, OT
Detroit 118, Orlando 106
Portland 88, Chicago 63
Utah 109, Denver 89

Tuesday's Games
Portland at Toronto, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Boston at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver vs. Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Dallas at Denver, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

National Football League

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
x-Indianapolis	13	3	0	.813	423	333
y-Buffalo	11	5	0	.688	320	229
y-Miami	9	7	0	.563	326	336
N.Y. Jets	8	8	0	.500	308	309
New England	8	8	0	.500	299	284
Central						
x-Jacksonville	14	2	0	.875	396	217
y-Tennessee	13	3	0	.813	392	324
Baltimore	8	8	0	.500	324	277
Pittsburgh	6	10	0	.375	317	320
Cincinnati	4	12	0	.250	283	460
Cleveland	2	14	0	.125	217	437
West						
x-Seattle	9	7	0	.563	338	298
Kansas City	9	7	0	.563	390	322
San Diego	8	8	0	.500	269	316
Oakland	8	8	0	.500	390	329
Denver	6	10	0	.375	314	318

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
x-Washington	10	6	0	.625	443	377
y-Dallas	8	8	0	.500	352	276
N.Y. Giants	7	9	0	.438	299	358
Arizona	6	10	0	.375	245	382
Philadelphia	5	11	0	.313	272	357
Central						
x-Tampa Bay	11	5	0	.688	270	235
y-Minnesota	10	6	0	.625	399	335
y-Detroit	8	8	0	.500	322	323
Green Bay	8	8	0	.500	357	341
Chicago	6	10	0	.375	272	341
West						
x-St. Louis	13	3	0	.813	526	242
Carolina	8	8	0	.500	421	381
Atlanta	5	11	0	.313	285	380
San Francisco	4	12	0	.250	295	453
New Orleans	3	13	0	.188	260	434

Monday's Game
Atlanta 34, San Francisco 29
End Regular Season

Sports Briefs

Astrodome could have name change

HOUSTON (AP) — An energy company's bid would take the "Astro" out of the Astrodome.

Negotiations on the offer by Reliant Energy to pay $700,000 a year for the right to rename the Astrodome and its surrounding buildings after the company are scheduled to begin soon.

The offer was submitted to the Houston Sports and Convention Corp. It would not apply to the new football stadium scheduled to open on the site in 2002. Naming rights for that facility will be worked out with the National Football League.

Islander suspended for sucker-punch

NEW YORK (AP) — Islanders forward Gino Odjick was suspended eight games without pay by the NHL for sucker-punching Pittsburgh's Darius Kasparaitis last week.

Bonilla placed on waivers

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Mets outfielder Bobby Bonilla, owed $5.9 million in the final season of his contract, was placed on unconditional release waivers after agreeing to defer his salary for 12-36 years at an 8 percent annual interest rate.

Bonilla, 36, hit .160 last year with four homers and 18 RBIs in only 119 at-bats, due to a knee injury.

He argued with manager Bobby Valentine and was viewed as a troublemaker by the front office.

Batista signs for $16 million

TORONTO (AP) — Shortstop Tony Batista, acquired by Toronto from Arizona last June, agreed to a $16 million, four-year contract with the Blue Jays.

Batista, 26, hit .285 with 26 homers and 79 RBIs for Toronto, after batting .257 with five homers and 21 RBIs for Arizona.

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✓ We provide home oxygen concentrators, portable oxygen, free support and supplies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
✓ Our hospital beds are new, maintenance free, temporary or permanent additions to your home or apartment.
✓ We have customized manual wheelchairs, canes, and walkers as well as electrical wheelchairs and motorized scooters and lift chairs.
✓ We have genuinely caring, skilled staff who can assist you with most any problem you might have. We don't look you up, set you up, and never look back. We built our business on trust and service.
✓ Bring your prescription to us and we will do the rest. We have wonderful relationships with the local doctors and their staffs. We can get your claim filed promptly, efficiently and correctly with a "no hassle" guarantee to you.
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Real Estate

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2803 38th 3-1-CH/A	$31.5T
4004 Irving 3-2-2 Patio	$58.5T
3503 Jacksboro 3-2-2	$49.5T
3009 39th 3-13/4--CH/A	$18.5T
2101 43rd 3-13/4-1	$36.5T
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Cedar Creek 3-2-2 + Den, Lovely	$86T
PRETTY! Close In 4-2 5 A's or 36 A's	Opt
Co. Dream Home 4-1 3/4-2, Lots of storage, 20 Acres, Pool ,Several Out Bldgs	$185T
14.49 Acres 3-2 Hot Tub, Spk. Syst	$105T
3-1 3/4-1 3728 Austin HANDY	$36T
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3108 39th 2-1-cp	$25T
Investment Property 3 Houses	$25T
4608 Ave. R 3-1 1/2-1 One Acre	$40's
3012 Austin 2-1-Corner	$14.5T
300 36th Street 2-1-1	$13T
312 36th Street 2-1	$17.5T
709 North Ave. W	$11.5 T
3810 Noble Drive 2-1	$15T
2211 27th 4-2	$39.5T
118 Milburn 2-1-cp	$12.5T
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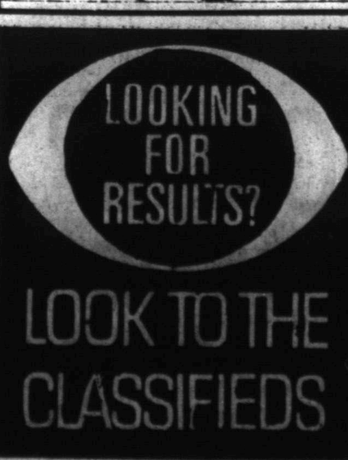
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Man released after serving 18 months

PRICE'S CORNER, Del. (AP) — With his arm around his mother, Brian Peterson walked out of prison today after serving 11/2 years of a two-year manslaughter sentence for the death of his newborn son in a motel room.

Peterson, 21, was released from the Webb Correctional Facility, state corrections spokeswoman Elizabeth Welch said.

Peterson and his parents walked out of the prison about 8:20 a.m. and got into a car without speaking to reporters.

In a typewritten statement handed out by corrections officials, Peterson said he was sorry "for my part in the tragic events that occurred three years ago" and was happy to be going home.

"I cannot adequately express my appreciation for the sympathy and support I received from so many people during these trying times," he said, promising to 'make them proud of me in the future."

Peterson and the child's mother, Amy Grossberg, pleaded guilty in 1998 for the November 1996 death of their newborn son in a Newark, Del., motel room.

Ms. Grossberg, who was sentenced to 21/2 years, is expected to be released from a different facility in May after serving nearly two years.

Prosecutors said the high school sweethearts from Wyckoff, N.J., tried to conceal her pregnancy and the birth. Ms. Grossberg collapsed in her University of Delaware dormitory, and doctors determined she was suffering from postnatal complications.

The baby's body was found wrapped in a plastic bag in a trash bin in a motel parking lot. The couple, both 18 at the time, had said they believed the child was stillborn when Peterson placed it there. The state medical examiner's office said the boy was born alive at full term and died of multiple skull fractures caused by blunt trauma and shaking.

Last month, a judge denied a request by Peterson's attorney to reduce his sentence by three weeks so he could spend Christmas with his family.

The judge said he considered Peterson's cooperation, lack of a previous criminal record and his anticipated good behavior when he imposed the two-year sentence.

The judge also said there was evidence Peterson had taken steps to try to persuade Ms. Grossberg to get prenatal care or end the pregnancy and "that Amy Grossberg flatly refused."

Peterson was released after 11/2 years because of time served before his guilty plea and good behavior, state corrections spokeswoman Elizabeth Welch said.

She described him as a model inmate who tutored other prisoners and worked in the commissary and kitchen.

Threatened CHS student will not return to Columbine High

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — The Columbine High junior who received an Internet threat last month will not return to the school when classes resume Wednesday.

Erin Walton will attend nearby Chatfield High School.

"No attention can be paid to their education with all this other stuff going on," said Jackie Walton, Erin's mother. "And in April, when the anniversary hits, it will all come back. It's just going to go on and on and on. We would never get past it if they went back."

Erin's sister Cassie, a freshman, also will transfer to Chatfield.

On Dec. 15, Erin received an online computer message from someone using the screen name Soup 81. The author threatened he would "finish what begun" on April 20.

School officials canceled the last two days of final exams. They said since student gunmen Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold killed 13 before committing suicide, all threats are taken seriouly.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	68 5-16	66⅝	68 5-16	+ 15-16
AT&T Corp s	53¼	52½	52 11-16	— 9-16
Albertsons	31⅞	31	31¼	— 9-16
Alltel	79 7-16	78⅞	79 1-16	—11-16
AmerOnline s	82	79	80½	— 2½
AndarkPtr	33	31⅞	33	+ 5-16
AtlRichfld	83½	82¼	82⅞	— 1¼
ATMOS Egy	20	19¾	19¾	— 5-16
Aviall	8 5-16	8⅛	8¼	
BP Amoco s	59 7-16	58⅜	58¾	— 1-16
BakerHughes	21⅜	19⅝	21 3-16	+ 15-16
Bank of Amer	47 15-16	46 5-16	46⅝	—1 13-16
BellAtl	60 7-16	59⅝	60	+ 1-16
BellSouth s	46 1-16	45⅛	45¼	— ¾
Beth Steel	8⅝	8⅜	8⅝	+ ¼
BurlNoSFe	23 5-16	22⅝	22 15-16	— ⅝
CBS Corp	59¼	58¾	59 1-16	— 9-16
Caterpillar	48⅞	48	48 13-16	+ 3-16
CenSoWst	19¾	19 7-16	19 11-16	+ 3-16
Chevron	84⅛	82 15-16	83⅜	— ¼
Citigroup s	52 3-16	51 7-16	51 15-16	— ¾
Coastal	33 11-16	33¼	33 5-16	— 1
CocaCola	56 13-16	55⅝	56½	+ ⅛
ColgatePal s	61⅝	60 9-16	60 11-16	—1 9-16
ComclMetals	33⅛	33⅛	33⅛	— ⅛
Cooperin	40	39¼	39 5-16	— ¼
DaimlrChry	75 9-16	74⅞	75¼	—11-16
DallSemicn	62⅜	61 9-16	61 9-16	—1 3-16
DeltaAirl	50½	49 3-16	50½	+ ½
Dillards Inc	20 7-16	20	20 7-16	+ 7-16
DowChem	131½	129⅝	130⅞	— 1¾
DuPont	65 11-16	64½	65⅝	+ ⅜
EastmanChem	47 1-16	46	46 1-16	— ⅜
EstKodak	65⅛	63 13-16	64 9-16	
EDS Corp	64 3-16	62¾	63⅛	—1 15-16
Entergy	25 7-16	25⅛	25 7-16	+ 3-16
ExxonMobil	78 3-16	77	77½	—11-16
Flowers	15⅜	15¼	15¼	— ⅛
FordMotor	52¼	51 11-16	51 13-16	— 9-16
GTE Cp	69	68	68¾	+ 7-16
GenDynam	51 13-16	50⅜	50⅞	+ 1 13-16
GenElec	148	146	146 7-16	—3 9-16
GenMills s	34 7-16	34 1-16	34¼	— 3-16
GenMotors	74¼	73 5-16	73¾	— ⅞
GaPacGP s	50	48	48⅛	— 2
GlobalMar	15 13-16	14⅞	15¾	+ 1-16
Goodrich	26 11-16	25 15-16	26⅛	— 1-16
Goodyear s	27 7-16	27 1-16	27 3-16	
GtAtlPac	28 3-16	27⅞	28 1-16	— 3-16
Halliburtn	38 15-16	37 9-16	38 15-16	+ ⅝
Hanson ADS	42 9-16	42 3-16	42½	+ 2⅛
HarteHanks	20 11-16	20 9-16	20¾	— 1-16
HmeDepot s	64 5-16	63 1-16	63 11-16	—1 13-16
Honeywellntl	56 7-16	54 11-16	54 13-16	— 1⅞
IBM s	114½	113¼	113 11-16	— 1⅞
IntlPaper	56 3-16	54 11-16	55	— ½
JohnsonJn	91 9-16	90⅜	90 7-16	— 1¾
K mart	10 5-16	10	10 1-16	
Kroger Co s	19	18¾	18 15-16	
Litton	49¾	49⅛	49 7-16	+ ¼
LockheedM	20⅞	20	20⅞	+ ⅛
Lowes Cos	55 1-16	53¾	53⅞	— 2
Lubys	11⅛	11 5-16	11⅜	— ⅛
LucentTech s	76⅛	74½	75½	— 1¾
MayDeptStr s	31 9-16	31⅛	31¼	— 1-16
MediaOne	78⅛	77⅜	78 1-16	— 5-16
Medtronic s	35½	34¼	34 13-16	+ 9-16
Monsanto	34⅞	34 3-16	34 11-16	— 7-16
MorganJP	120⅜	117	117 3-16	— 4¼
Motorola	145¾	142⅛	142⅞	— 7⅛
NCR Corp	38⅞	38 1-16	38⅛	+ ⅛
Navistar	46 3-16	45 9-16	45 15-16	— 3-16
Penney JC	20 13-16	19½	20 1-16	+ ⅜
PepBoys	8¾	8 7-16	8¾	+ ⅛
PepsiCo	37 9-16	36¼	36½	— ⅜
PhelpDodge	66 13-16	65 13-16	66⅛	— ¼
PhilipPet	45¼	44 11-16	44 15-16	— ⅜
PilgrmPrd B	8 1-16	8 1-16	8 1-16	— 1-16
Polaroid	19 11-16	19¼	19¼	— 7-16
Praxair	49 9-16	49	49 1-16	— ¾
ProctGamb	106⅜	106 3-16	107½	+ 5-16
PubS NwMx	16¼	15⅝	16⅛	+ ½
ReliantEngy	22⅜	22⅛	22⅜	+ ⅛
RoyalDut	59 5-16	58 15-16	59 3-16	— 3-16
SBC Comm	47¾	46 1-16	46⅛	—1 1-16
SaraLee	21 5-16	21	21 1-16	— 3-16
Scripps EW	45 5-16	44 13-16	45 3-16	+ 1-16
SearsRoeb	33¼	31 3-16	32 15-16	+ 2⅞
SherwinW	20 1-16	19 7-16	19 7-16	—11-16
SmithKlBchm	62½	61¼	61 11-16	—13-16
SouthernCo	23⅛	22⅝	23 1-16	+ 5-16
SwstAirl s	16⅛	15⅞	16	+ ⅛
SprintFON s	65¼	64⅛	64⅜	—1 9-16
SprintPCS	100½	99	99 15-16	— 9-16
Sunoco Inc	22½	21 15-16	22⅜	— ⅜
TNP Ent	40⅞	40 11-16	40 13-16	
Tandy s	53⅜	52 1-16	52½	—1 11-16
TempleInland	65⅜	64⅛	64 7-16	— 3-16
Texaco	53¼	52½	52 9-16	— ½
TexInd	40 13-16	40⅛	40⅛	— ⅞
TexasInst s	101⅝	99 1-16	100⅛	— 2⅜
Tex Util	34⅞	34 7-16	34⅞	+ 5-16
Textron	76¼	74 15-16	75½	+ 9-16
TriconGlbR	37	36 5-16	36⅜	—11-16
TrinityInds	27½	27¼	27¼	— ¼
TritonEngy	20⅛	19 7-16	20 1-16	
TylerTech	6 3-16	5 15-16	6	+ ⅛
US West Inc	69⅜	69	69 1-16	—15-16
USX-Marathn	23 15-16	23½	23⅝	— ⅝
USX-USS	31 9-16	30 13-16	30⅞	—15-16
UnCarbde	65⅛	63⅞	64 7-16	—1 1-16
UnionPacif	43⅜	42 11-16	42⅞	— 3-16
UnitedTech s	62 7-16	61 1-16	62 5-16	— 3/16
Unocal	32 15-16	32½	32 15-16	— 1-16
Venator Grp	6⅞	6⅝	6⅞	— ⅛
WalMart s	65 13-16	65⅛	65½	— 1⅜
WellsFargo	37 11-16	37 1-16	37½	— 1⅝
WstnGasRs	12⅞	12¾	12⅞	— ⅛
WinnDixie	24¼	23¼	23 7-16	— ⅜
Xerox Cp s	24 3-16	23 5-16	23½	— 1⅜

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GTE	68 7/16	+1/8
SBC Comm.	46 1/16	-15/16
Tx Instr.	100 3/8	-2 1/2
LU	75 11/16	-1 7/16
Cisco Sys.	104 11/16	-3 3/8

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Possibility for Y2K trouble isn't going away

By FRANK BAJAK
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Y2K bug's biggest risk was never to power grids, missile systems or telephone exchanges but rather to the complicated backroom systems on which the world's corporations and governments run.

And that's why the vast majority of Year 2000 computer problems won't turn up for days, weeks or even months, information technology experts say.

So forget the somehow widely disseminated misconception that if planet Earth got past Jan. 1 without any info-disasters we'd be home free.

Think not of Y2K as an information age earthquake avoided but rather as a steady stream of gradually more damaging tremors to come.

For early examples, consider a few of the failures from Monday, the first U.S. business day of the new millennium:

—Driver's licenses could not be issued in nearly half of New Mexico's motor vehicle offices.

—A vital payroll computer died at an Alabama company.

—Doppler weather systems shut down for a few minutes in Chicago.

—A small part of a Danish bank's payment system was erased.

Millions of small- and medium-sized businesses worldwide have done little or nothing about Y2K and will fix on failure.

"Now is the tough time. The next few months are going to be the toughest Y2K time," said Dale W. Way, bug point man at the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

At greatest risk in the private sector are the accounting, inventory, invoicing, billing and other systems integral to survival — a crazy quilt of interconnected programs often cobbled together over decades.

Such "custom applications," also common in government agencies, are nothing like the control systems at power and water plants, which are typically spare, easy to maintain and fortified by built-in redundancy.

Instead, they tend to be a mishmash of different software languages riddled with updates and patches applied over decades like digital duct tape that experts say make them especially susceptible to Y2K errors.

"Every large company says they have some software that they run routinely without even knowing what it does," Way said. "They are afraid not to run it — because they're afraid of screwing up if they don't."

That's why tampering with such code to try to purge it of Y2K bugs can often introduce new unrelated errors. Programming is an art, not a science, and not all programmers are Picassos.

The more complex a system, the more difficult to repair it safely without introducing new errors.

In administrative and accounting software, errors can show up in many ways. Systems can simply crash computers; fail to process certain data and lose it; make an incorrect assumption and corrupt data; or destroy data completely.

Errors also may not occur until triggered by a particular event.

"A program whose job is to track the pressure in a chemical plant's boiler ... may not activate until a certain temperature is reached," said Norman Dean, director of the Center for Y2K and Society, a Washington public interest group. "And that may not happen until next week and it may not happen until next year."

Bug-infected systems are apt not to blow up but rather degrade over time — linked in many cases to monthly report generation or billing cycles — and often not even be easily identifiable as Y2K-induced.

Robert X. Cringely, a Silicon Valley commentator, predicts "Y2K effects will linger far past January as a patina of rust" on information systems.

Or, as the IEEE's Way puts it, the threat has now passed "from systems with low intrinsic risk and high repairability to ones with high risk and low repairability."

For an idea of the complexity of Y2K fixes in business, consider the challenge to Mastercard International, which had to scour 7 million lines of code in at least 10 different programming languages ranging in age from one to 25 years. Or AT&T, which examined 385 million lines in 3,500 systems and applications.

Neither company has so far reported any Y2K-related failures.

Yet while U.S. states and foreign governments dismantled Y2K bunkers Monday and a World Bank-funded international Y2K clearinghouse in Washington canceled all further press briefings, overjoyed that glitch damage has so far been minimal, big companies remained vigilant.

"Our feeling here at AT&T is that we won't close the book on Y2K until Feb. 29," said company spokesman Dave Johnson. "First of all, we need all our billing systems to run a full cycle and then we want to take a close look at the leap year."

Leap year? This year has 366 days, while 1900 did not.

The Y2K computer problem will not simply go away.

Due to the extra day issue, it will even nag us on Dec. 31.

As programmer Lane Core likes to say in Internet columns that harangue what he considers mainstream media's simplistic coverage of the issue: "Y2K is not a one-time event. It's a chronic condition."

EDITOR'S NOTE — Frank Bajak has covered international technology issues for The Associated Press since 1993.

AP Analysis

Alleged rail-riding transient accused of murder

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — An alleged rail-riding transient in custody in Texas is accused of murdering 13-year-old girls in Kentucky and Texas and trying to kill a 10-year-old girl.

Tommy Lynn Sells, 35, of Del Rio, Texas, was booked into the Val Verde County jail Sunday for the Dec. 31 slaying of Kaylene Harris, Val Verde Sheriff D'Wayne Jernigan said.

Jernigan said Sells is suspected of breaking into Kaylene Harris' mother's home west of Del Rio and attacking the girl with a knife as she slept. Ten-year-old Cristal Surles, who was sleeping in the same room as Kaylene Harris on New Year's Eve, had her neck slashed, severing her vocal cords.

Jernigan said Surles is in stable condition but remains in intensive care at a San Antonio hospital.

Sells, who police say has held odd jobs including working for a circus, also is suspected in the May slaying of Haley McHone, 13, of Lexington. On Monday, police obtained warrants charging Sells with murder, rape and kidnapping in the teen's death.

In a telephone interview Monday evening, Lexington police Sgt. Mark Barnard described Sells as a transient who rode the rails as he passed through Lexington in May and allegedly abducted, assaulted and killed Haley McHone.

The Lexington Herald-Leader reported Tuesday that law enforcement officials suspect Sells has committed other crimes in Kentucky and at least five other states.

Haley McHone was reported missing on May 13 and her body was found 10 days later in some bushes by railroad tracks near her house.

Jernigan said Sells' bail had been set at $800,000 and he likely would face the death penalty if convicted of the Texas crimes before being turned over to Kentucky police. A hearing in the Del Rio case had not been set by late Monday.

Barnard said police briefly booked Sells on a charge of public drunkenness on the night of May 13 before releasing him the next morning.

The sheriff's department in Val Verde County tracked Sells down from the description given by Cristal Surles, who walked about a quarter of a mile to her nearest neighbor after she was stabbed. Unable to speak, she wrote an account of what happened for police, said Lt. Larry Pope of the sheriff's department.

While interviewing Sells about the Texas case, Pope said Sells asked, "I guess you want to know about both of them."

Pope says he did not know what Sells meant until he told the officer about McHone.

Reba McHone reported her daughter missing from the family's home on the afternoon of May 13, a day Haley had stayed home from school for a doctor's appointment.

Mrs. McHone said Haley never returned home after going to eat breakfast at her grandmother's house, located near railroad tracks east of the University of Kentucky campus.

Haley McHone had a history of emotional problems and was on medication for depression when she disappeared. Police said someone saw her later with an older man.

Her parents and five siblings spent 10 days searching and distributing fliers around town before Haley's body was found May 23.

Twenty-one months earlier, the same set of tracks had been the site of another killing, that of UK student Christopher Maier. At the time of McHone's death, the Maier case was still unsolved.

However, in June, police linked the Maier slaying to a string of murders along the nation's rail lines allegedly committed by Angel Maturino Resendiz, the so-called "Railway Killer."

Police said from the start, however, they did not believe Resendiz was responsible for Haley McHone's death.

Barnard noted Monday that Sells and Resendiz both are believed to have been drifters who moved around by riding the rails, adding that a number of different rail lines intersect in Lexington.

"There are in-and-out tracks, access goes east and west, north and south," he said.

Barnard said a Lexington detective was in Del Rio interviewing Sells Monday. He said he had spoken with Haley's parents.

"It's tough for them, being excited about the capture and the closure, but also the fact that they feel real sympathy for the family down in Texas," Barnard said.

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Home offices protected under workplace rules

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Labor Department has concluded that companies who let employees work at home are responsible for federal health and safety violations at the homes, The Washington Post reports.

An Occupational Safety and Health Administration advisory makes employers responsible for ensuring an employee's home office has ergonomically correct furniture, proper lighting, ventilation systems and emergency medical plans and equipment, the newspaper said in today's editions.

The OSHA letter says that when an employee works at home "the employer is responsible for correcting hazards of which it is aware, or should be aware," the Post reported.

The advisory — two years in the making — is not a new rule, but rather lays out the agency's position that the work-at-home policy is already in effect. The decision potentially applies to nearly 20 million adults who regularly work from home for an employer, as well as to those who work at home occasionally.

While OSHA officials said they will not be inspecting private homes, employers are responsible for any illnesses or injuries that occur in the home workplace, the Post reported. These injuries must be reported as if they had occurred at the employer's work site.

The policy applies specifically to home work areas and not the entire home.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



More on Graves' disease

DEAR DR. GOTT: Our 40-year-old daughter has Graves' disease. Please tell us more about it.

DEAR READER: When the thyroid gland over-produces thyroid hormone, certain predictable consequences result, because the body's metabolism is accelerated. Thus, the symptoms of hyperthyroidism include enlargement of the thyroid gland in the neck, warm and moist skin (that often has a silky texture), increased appetite, weight loss, nervousness, tremulous hands, intolerance to environmental heat, palpitations, insomnia, diarrhea and weakness.

In a few patients, two other key symptoms may be prominent: exophthalmos (bugging-out of the eyes) and dermopathy (thickening of the skin over the shins). In the presence of these signs, doctors diagnose Graves' disease (named after the Englishman who first described it), which is a special form of hyperthyroidism.

For practical purposes, Graves' disease and hyperthyroidism are treated identically, with either antithyroid pills, radioactive iodine or surgery.

There is one caveat, however. Because the eye problems associated with Graves' disease may worsen during therapy and lead to serious visual consequences, most experts recommend drug treatment as the first choice. If the exophthalmos progresses, the medicine can be reduced or modified to prevent further damage. In fact, some endocrinologists routinely administer thyroid supplements, which are believed to stabilize the eyes during anti-thyroid therapy.

Radioactive iodine (which destroys part of the thyroid gland) and surgery (which removes part of it) are permanent solutions — but may make the eye symptoms more of a problem. However, either of these two treatments can be used in Graves' patients whose eyes do not worsen on drug therapy.

Hyperthyroidism is believed to reflect an autoimmune phenomenon, in which the body becomes allergic to its own normal tissues. Fortunately, treatment to reduce the formation and output of thyroid hormone is almost always successful.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am a 17-year-old female with a rather personal problem for which my mother suggests regular douching. Is this old therapy appropriate?

DEAR READER: Douching is a treatment for various vaginal disorders. Most authorities discourage its use because, according to a recent article in the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine (1999; vol. 153), it can often lead to pelvic inflammatory disease, vaginal infection and ectopic pregnancy. With all respect to your mother, I urge you to see a gynecologist and forego douching. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Vaginal Infections and Disorders." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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Gun's discovery could be break in case

SEATTLE (AP) — Police were investigating whether a handgun and camouflage jacket found last weekend in a park are linked to two execution-style slayings at a nearby shipyard.

No arrests have been made in the Nov. 3 killings in which a man wearing an overcoat over camouflage opened fire at Northlake Shipyard with a 9 mm semiautomatic handgun.

Marine engineer Russell James Brisendine, 43, and bookkeeper Peter Giles, 26, died in the attack, and two other men were wounded. Police have said the killings were deliberate but the motive remains a mystery.



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Money spent on Y2K bugs was not wasted

WASHINGTON (AP) — For anyone who believes the $100 billion spent in the United States immunizing technology from Y2K bugs was wasted, consider this: Three minor computers known to have problems and deliberately left running crashed completely at the century's dawn.

"All three of the systems failed following the Y2K rollover and could not be used," said John Koskinen, President Clinton's top Y2K adviser. "The systems simply stopped and became unusable."

Koskinen said all three computers had been replaced before the date rollover, but he described the unscientific experiment by one of the states "an interesting example of what happens with systems that have failures." He declined to identify which state let the computers fail.

Across the nation, Americans killed the Y2K computer bug the best way they knew how: drowning the problem in money by spending an awesome $100 billion on repairs and preparations.

But days into the new century, the well-cheered victory over a potential technological nightmare also raised questions about whether the government and corporate America threw too much at the problem, especially considering apparent victories overseas where far less was spent.

The United States, easily the most technology-dependent nation on the planet, spent roughly half the world's total repair costs, or about $365 in America for each citizen.

Koskinen allowed Monday that as much as $10 billion may have been wasted in the United States since 1995 as "somebody may have bought something they didn't need or figured it was a great way to get a replacement system."

Another early estimate was even higher. International Data Corp., an analyst firm, put the amount wasted in the United States as high as $41 billion, including $2.7 billion on extra staff who spent the holiday weekend twiddling their thumbs after Y2K failures failed to materialize.

"The hype generated over Y2K came at a price, in terms of both the costs of contingency planning and overspending on fixing computer systems," said John Gantz, a chief research officer at the firm.

But Koskinen and other experts defended the overall effort as "a marvelous accomplishment" and crucial to keeping the nation's most important computers healthy.

To those who suggest money was frittered away, he said: "Corporations don't naively spent hundreds of millions of dollars."

Where did that money go?

The government, which began its Y2K efforts in earnest in 1995, spent $8.5 billion to update and repair its computers while setting up an elaborate monitoring system for each major industry at risk, from nuclear power plants to hospitals. It also aided other countries that were behind in repairs to help insulate the U.S. economy from global problems — and to ensure that foreign nuclear weapons and nuclear power plants were safe.

Americans also got a healthy dose of forewarning, thanks to commercial campaigns that highlighted problems and sold repairs. Computer manufacturers set up help lines and gave away small fixes, known as patches, to repair programs or chips that had the glitch in which some computers might misread the year "00" as 1900 instead of 2000.

"There were very few pockets of people in this country who were not aware and prepared for the Y2K," White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said.

Software makers flooded stores with software that promised to catch hidden problems and fix them. And consultants offered pricey new Y2K services to detect, fix and double-check Y2K problems in corporate computers.

After the fixes were deployed, confidence-building became key. New computers contained stickers declaring they were "Y2K compliant."

The phone industry, which spent a whopping $3.6 billion to make sure phone systems were Y2K-compliant, ran advertisements aimed at calming the jitters. US West declared in its newspaper ads, which featured the sun rising over trees, that "on Jan. 1 the sun will rise and the phones will ring."

Banks, which fixed computer systems early, kept extra money on reserve in case Americans made a run for cash.

Cuba's communist government said the lack of problems worldwide "brings suspicions that the enormous investments in computers obeyed an audacious market maneuver."

Harris Miller, president of the Information Technology Association of America, said questions of excessive spending were inevitable given the remarkably few reports of problems.

"I don't believe it was hype," Miller said. "It was a real problem. So many people worked so hard to solve the problem, we should see this as a sign of success, not cynicism."

Bruce McConnell, head of the United Nations group monitoring Y2K failures overseas, agreed. He called the estimated $200 billion costs worldwide a "responsible and measured approach."

Koskinen said the great Y2K battle will pay dividends for years to come.

The government discovered that one in every five of its computer systems was outdated or redundant and could be scrapped. Other computers were exchanged ahead of schedule with faster, more productive ones.

"History will show that the glitches that continue to come out will continue to remind people that those are glitches today that would have made major system failures," Koskinen said.

Berry's World



"Carry-on luggage!"

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Brother Looking for Handout Is Told to Look Somewhere Else

by Abigail Van Buren

© 2000 Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: Recently my brother-in-law called my husband at work to ask for $1,500 because he had fallen behind on his rent for three consecutive months. My husband, growing wiser each year, told him that he would have to speak with me because we make financial decisions together.

"David," we'll call him, is nearing 40 and is an attorney. He has led an interesting life, moving from place to place and trying his hand at a number of vocations, from bartending to medic work to tennis instructor — all the while exploring any and all professional opportunities. We receive regular e-mails from him regarding all sorts of fun weekends, rafting trips and tennis tournaments. However, his law practice is limping along. He has never been married and has no dependents, nor is he disabled in any way.

For as long as my husband can remember, David has always gotten himself into financial trouble and someone in the family has had to bail him out. Even in his 30s, David has received thousands from one sibling or another or his parents. This is the first time David has approached us for money, as my husband is the youngest in the family.

Though it was a difficult decision to make, we determined that we were not doing David any favors by sending him money. With David's history of poor financial management, we feel we would just be perpetuating the problem. Without lecturing, my husband explained our position to his brother. He became obviously upset and ended the phone conversation quickly. We no longer receive e-mails from him, and he hasn't spoken to us since. Furthermore, the rest of the family is furious with us.

Abby, were we wrong to not send money?

ANNABELLE

DEAR ANNABELLE: No, you were not wrong. Given the amount of money David has borrowed from family members, I wouldn't have chipped in any more than I could afford to lose.

Although your brother-in-law is no longer sending you e-mails, perhaps you should e-mail him the telephone number for the nearest Consumer Credit Counseling office. You'd be doing him a favor.

***

DEAR ABBY: "Wiser in North Texas" made a good suggestion for interacting with the 10-year-old boy who didn't listen to his father. I would like to share a lesson I learned from my mother 50 years ago.

My son was a very active toddler, and I didn't realize I was yelling at him until the day my mom was visiting me. She quietly said to me: "Honey, if you yell at children, they stop hearing you. If you speak very softly but firmly, they will stop to listen to you."

My son was my first child. I later had four daughters, and Mom's advice worked with all of them. It is still working for my grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

My own advice to mothers is this: When you are the most frazzled and frustrated, take the time to imagine yourself as your child — on the receiving end of your words, and looking up at your angry face. Then ask yourself, "Is this what my child needs from me?"

GRANDMA IN OREGON

DEAR GRANDMA: That's good advice for the parents of children of all ages.

***

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2000

If you are ready to put to profitable uses that which you have learned, do so in the year ahead. Knowledge you've acquired academically, or from personal experiences, could turn out to be of real value.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If you find yourself in the presence of a profound thinker today, be a good listener. This person might say something you could use to your advantage in furthering your aims. Capricorn, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and self-addressed stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Especially where someone else has already laid the foundation, a joint venture could hold more promise than usual for you today. This is true even if you end up playing a minor role.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) The lesson of today may be that real friendship works. From your efforts to help a pal you like achieve his/her aspirations, something beneficial could happen for you in the process.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) What may be the toughest part of your job today could be to clarify your objectives and goals properly, especially where your career is concerned. Once they're defined, the rest comes easy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) The spotlight could be turned on you today regardless of your involvement or whether you seek attention or not. It'll be your appealing mannerism that will cause others to take notice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You're always an adaptable individual, but today you might be more malleable than usual to changes initiated by others. However, these alteration will end up benefiting you the most.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If your common sense tells you today that something can be done more effectively with teammates, forego any independent tendencies you might harbor. Partners are lucky for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You will be rewarded in proportion to the efforts you expend today, so take pride in your tasks and assignments. Your compensation will reflect it if you truly do a good job.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) When you take charge today, it won't ruffle anybody's features. In fact, any commanding presence you take will be recognized as a plus for others, rather than a liability.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) It won't be that you'll be relegated to operating as the power behind the throne today, but because you'll choose it yourself. This is where you'll be the most comfortable.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Use your influence over your intimate friends today in ways that does the greatest good for the largest number and you'll not only be more effective than usual, but the most popular.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Devote your maximum effort today to something in which you're presently involved that could be meaningful to you financially. Your possibilities for success look extremely good.

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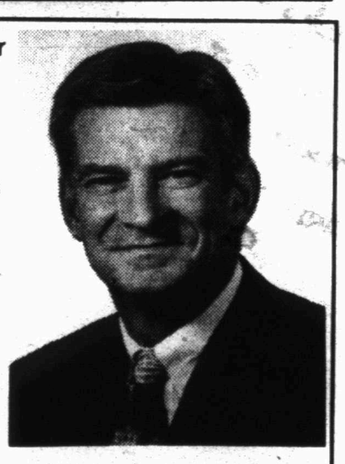
Los Alamos case prosecutor resigning

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — The federal prosecutor leading the case against a fired Los Alamos scientist accused of national security breaches is resigning, possibly to enter politics.

U.S. Attorney John Kelly announced his resignation Monday.

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6:00 p.m. "Love-Its Necessity"
Monday
7:00 p.m. "Love-Its Reward"
Tuesday
7:00 p.m. "Love-Its Who We Are"



* Dr. Ken Jones grew up in Cordell, Oklahoma. He married Susan Cox of Cordell in 1971. They have two children, Jennifer and Mitch. He holds B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. Degrees in Engineering from Oklahoma State University, where he taught in the Agricultural Engineering Department from 1978-1982. He preached for the North Garland Church of Christ, Enid, Oklahoma, 1982-1988, where they moved into a new facility while he was there. He preached for the Sunset Church of Christ, Lubbock from 1988 to 1993. Sunset is among the 10 largest churches of Christ in America. He has served as President of Lubbock Christian University since 1993. He conducts leadership seminars and retreats for businesses and churches across the United States. He published his first book in 1999 on the subject of leadership, *Leadership: After God's Own Heart*.

Things You AuTO KNOW!
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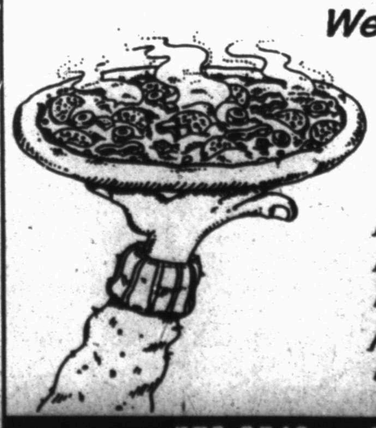
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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Elizabeth Dole endorses Bush

BEDFORD, N.H. (AP) — Elizabeth Dole endorsed George W. Bush today for the Republican presidential nomination, invoking Ronald Reagan and asserting that the Texas governor would restore trust to the White House.

Dole, whose own campaign floundered in October due to lack of campaign cash, told a cheering crowd of about 350 people at a restaurant that the GOP should rally to "another western governor" in Bush, just as the party did in 1980 for Reagan, the former California chief executive.

Bush, she said, would be "just as bold at challenging the status quo. Just as resolved to restore pride in our institutions. Just as determined to be himself."

"In a word, he would innovate, not regulate," Dole added. "That's my kind of conservative."

Although she did not mention President Clinton's impeachment drama of last year, Dole said that "trust is the coin of the realm" in a democracy and added: "Lately, that trust has been tarnished."

Bush, who is frequently asked if he might choose Dole as a running mate, called her an "articulate and capable woman" and also invoked Reagan, whom she served as transportation secretary.

"Elizabeth, you have always said that you have been a lieutenant in Ronald Reagan's army. I am proud to have you as a general in mine," Bush said.

After picking up Dole's endorsement four weeks before the New Hampshire primary, Bush headed to Iowa to stump for votes in advance of the Jan. 24 presidential caucuses there.

Meanwhile, Bush's chief rival for the 2000 GOP nomination, Sen. John McCain of Arizona, maintained his focus on New Hampshire with a nonstop schedule of town hall meetings. Today he was visiting Concord, Salem and Franklin.

Recent polls have shown McCain leading Bush in the state, although Bush maintains a sizable lead in national surveys.

"I'm excited to be here," Bush said Monday as he arrived at Manchester Airport, despite being greeted by a steady rain. "I thought I'd rather be fishing, but now that I'm on the ground, I'd rather be campaigning."

The governor pledged to focus on two issues: tax cuts and education reform, areas where he feels McCain has laid out inferior plans.

The endorsement by Dole was aimed at strengthening ties with female voters.

Santana leads Grammy nominees

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Veteran rocker Carlos Santana led the Grammy Award nominees today, picking up 10 nods including song, record and album of the year on the strength of his "Supernatural."

Santana, generally overlooked by the Grammys, had previously received just five nominations during his three-decade career. He won the Grammy for best rock instrumental in 1988.

Santana's collaboration with singer Rob Thomas from the band Matchbox 20, "Smooth," was nominated for record of the year and best pop collaboration with vocals.

His collaboration with the band Everlast, "Put Your Lights On," was nominated for best rock performance by a duo or group with vocal.

Santana's guitar collaboration with Eric Clapton, "The Calling," was nominated for best rock instrumental performance.

The album itself was nominated for best rock album and album of the year.

The pop group TLC received six nominations, including album of the year for "Fanmail" and best pop performance by a duo or group with vocal for the song "Unpretty."

Conductor Pierre Boulez also received six nominations for classical works.

Other nominees for record of the year were "I Want it That Way" by the Backstreet Boys, "Believe" by Cher, "Livin' La Vida Loca" by Ricky Martin and "No Scrubs" by TLC.

The other album of the year nominees were "Millennium" by Backstreet Boys, "Fly" by the Dixie Chicks and "When I Look in Your Eyes" by Diana Krall.

"Smooth" also was nominated for song of the year, a writing award, for Itaal Shur and Thomas. The other nominees were Andreas Carlsson and Max Martin for "I Want It That Way," Desmond Child and Robi Rosa for "Livin' La Vida Loca," Dallas Austin and Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins for "Unpretty," and Robert John "Mutt" Lange and Shania Twain for "You've Got a Way."

Best new artist nominees were Christina Aguilera, Macy Gray, Kid Rock, Britney Spears and Susan Tedeschi.

Nominees for best pop album were "Millennium" by the Backstreet Boys, "Believe" by Cher, "Ricky Martin" by Martin, "Mirrorball" by Sarah McLachlan and "Brand New Day" by Sting.

Besides Santana's "Supernatural," rock album nominees were "Breakdown" by Melissa Etheridge, "Significant Other" by Limp Bizkit, "Echo" by Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers and "Californication" by Red Hot Chili Peppers.

Other multiple nominees included Asleep at the Wheel with five, the Backstreet Boys, Dixie Chicks, Emmylous Harris, Lauryn Hill and Whitney Houston, all with four. Martin and Cher each had three nominations.

The 42nd annual Grammys will air live on CBS Feb. 23 from Los Angeles.

Awards will be presented in 98 categories. A new category this year is best soundtrack album, given for a soundtrack record that creatively compiles existing music. The award was added to complement the category for original movie scores.

Also this year, the academy updated its movie or television song and instrumental composition categories to include music composed for other media such as video games or the Internet.

Mischief reported, three are arrested in Monday activity

Local law enforcement officers investigated a report of criminal mischief and took three subjects into custody Monday.

Glen Clarady requested an officer at G&G Glass at 7:36 a.m. Monday in reference to someone damaging his door. An offense report for Class B criminal mischief was filed.

A 19-year-old male was taken into custody at 8:13 p.m. in the 1800 block of Avenue E. Officers arrested him on capias pro fine warrants for speeding and failure to appear.

At 7:08 p.m., officers arrested a 28-year-old female on a Taylor County warrant for theft by check.

Ruben Garza, 25, of 905 27th Street was jailed Monday for parole violation/unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. He was booked into custody at 10:18 p.m.

Officers also worked a hit and run accident at 2:24 p.m. Monday on the parking lot of Eckerd's Drug. Involved was a parked 1985 Cadillac Fleetwood owned by Ira D. Pruitt, 60, of 507 35th Street, and a 1995 GMC pickup driven by H.T. Stanaland of Jayton. Stanaland told officers that he did not realize the vehicle that was hit was damaged.

Tornado ravages W. Kentucky city

OWENSBORO, Ky. (AP) — A spring-like storm on an unusually warm winter's day sent a tornado through this western Kentucky city, damaging hundreds of homes but causing no deaths. Some people dashed to safety inside a bank vault.

The tornado cut a wide path of destruction through residential and business districts near Kentucky Wesleyan University late Monday afternoon.

"Every road leading on or off the campus is blocked by downed trees or power lines, so there is no getting in or out," said Wesley Poling, the school's president.

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Obituaries

W.T. Whitehead

1911-2000

W.T. "Tom" Whitehead, a native of Scurry County, died Monday, Jan. 3, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital following a brief illness.


W.T. Whitehead

Cremation is planned and no services are scheduled. Arrangements were under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Born Jan. 5, 1911 on his grandfather's O H Bar Ranch, six miles south of Snyder, he was the oldest of six children of N.B. "Billy" and Lavina Catherine Whitehead.

He moved to Shawnee, Okla., in 1927 where he was in the auto repair business. He returned to Snyder in 1983.

Survivors include a stepgranddaughter, Laura Willingham of Snyder; and a close friend, Ralph Johnston Jr. of Snyder.

Tempe McHaney

1916-2000

Tempe McHaney, a former resident of Snyder, died Sunday, Jan. 2, in Stonegate Nursing Center in Fort Worth following a lengthy illness.

Mrs. McHaney, 83, will be cremated, and no services are planned at his time.

Born in Oklahoma, she was married to Billy McHaney. They moved from Snyder to Fort Worth in 1999. She was a longtime member of the 37th Street Church of Christ.

Survivors include her husband, Billy McHaney of Fort Worth; two sons, Jimmy McHaney of Fort Worth and Randy McHaney of New Jersey; two granddaughters, Ceci Brown of Fort Worth and Cenee Herrman of Colorado; and three great-grandchildren.

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Loyce Thompson

1927-2000

Funeral service for Loyce Frances Thompson, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the 37th Street Church of Christ. Homer Anderson, minister, will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.


Loyce Thompson

Mrs. Thompson, 72, died Sunday, Jan. 2, in Covenant Hospital in Lubbock following a long illness.

Born July 5, 1927 in Snyder, she married Eldon W. Thompson on Oct. 30, 1947 in Snyder. He died on May 29, 1985.

A homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ, Mrs. Thompson and her husband formerly operated Thompson Dry Cleaners in Snyder. After moving to Chandler, she returned to Snyder in 1991.

She also was preceded in death by a brother, Lloyd McCowen; and her parents, S.E. and Edna McCowen.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Jo Ann and Jimmy Ashley of Slaton and Linda and Joe Dan Jones of Snyder; a son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth and Sharon Thompson of Bossier City, La.; three sisters, Shirley Bratton of Victoria, LaRue Haney of Lubbock and Marie Schell of McKinney; five brothers, Allon McCowen of Slaton, Roy McCowen of Abilene, Glenn McCowen of Corpus Christi, Clint McCowen of Snyder and Don McCowen of Midland; and eight grandchildren.

Visitation is set from 6:30 to 8:30 this evening at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Raymond Kellner

1932-2000

Funeral service for Raymond Ervin Kellner of Ira is set for 9 a.m. Thursday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Miller Robinson, retired Baptist minister, will officiate.

Graveside service for Mr. Kellner will follow at 4 p.m. in Leaky.

Mr. Kellner, 67, died Sunday, Jan. 2, in Covenant Lakeside Hospital in Lubbock following a lengthy illness.

Born June 16, 1932, he married Mary Helen Bradham on Dec. 23, 1967 in Snyder. He was a rancher.

He was preceded in death by one sister and two brothers.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Helen Kellner of Ira; two daughters, Debra Lynn Walker of Placerville, Calif., and Mary Katheryn Beckham of Odessa; two sons, Raymond Doyle Kellner of Snyder and Joe Harold Breeden of Austin; five sisters, Nelda Patterson of La Porte, Bertie Turpin of Sweetwater, Tenn., Edna Crowder of Eldorado, Joyce Dodson of Pearland and Margie Marsh of Lohn; two brothers, Kenneth Kellner and Melvin "Andy" Kellner, both of Ira; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Cancer Society to meet

The Scurry County unit of the American Cancer Society will meet at 5 p.m. today in the Cogdell Hospital board room to make plans for the Relay for Life.

Masonic stated meeting

Scurry Masonic Lodge #706 will have a stated meeting this evening. A meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed by open lodge at 7:30. All master masons are invited.

Children's Day Out

Children's Day Out at First United Methodist Church resumed today. The program has been expanded to include infants and now receives children 6 months through 4 years of age. A limited number of partial scholarships are also available. To reserve a space for the spring semester, call Barbara at 573-4770.

Amateur radio operators

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

Softball booster club

The Snyder Lady Tigers softball booster club will meet at 8 p.m. Wednesday in the West Elementary cafeteria.

Chili, beans, cornbread supper

The Lady Tigers Softball Booster Club will sponsor an "all-you-can-eat" chili, beans and cornbread supper from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday in the SHS cafeteria. Tickets are $5 each.

New Century dance

The Boys and Girls Club will host a New Century Dance from 8 p.m. until midnight Saturday. The dance is for students in grades 9-12 only.

Fund established

Employees of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Price Daniel unit have established an account at West Texas State Bank to benefit the wife and three young children of correctional officer Daniel Nagle, killed while on duty at the McConnell unit at Beeville. Donations may be made in his name at West Texas State Bank.

TSA selling pecans

The Technology Student Association of Snyder High School is selling an assortment of pecans and peanuts as a fundraiser to help finance a trip to the state contest. Call 573-8961 for further information.

Gospel meeting

Dr. Ken Jones, president of Lubbock Christian College will be guest speaker during a gospel meeting starting Sunday at 37th Street Church of Christ. Sunday Bible class is 9:30 a.m. followed by worship services at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Services Monday and Tuesday are at 7 p.m.

Word is Life Church

Jean Krisle will be at Word is Life Deliverance Church at 7 p.m. Saturday and 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

Organ dedication

First Christian Church will dedicate its new organ with a recital by Reba Bailey, church organist, at 3 p.m. Sunday.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "The Human Conscience," followed by "Getting to Know God's Pardon."

Retired teachers

Scurry County Retired Teachers will meet at noon Monday at The Shack. Mary Lou and Troy Scott will present the program.

Private applicator certification meeting

There will be a private applicator certification meeting next Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. in the agriculture room at Western Texas College.

Social security reps

Representatives of the Social Security Administration will be at the Senior Citizens Center in Snyder next Tuesday.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception in honor of Dan Cotton and Vesta Orr will be hosted by Big Country Electric Cooperative from 3-5 p.m. next Tuesday at Snyder Country Club. Cotton has been the cooperative's attorney for 32 years, and Orr is former general manager of the coop.

TAAS tests

TAAS tests will be administered Feb. 22-24. Out-of-school examinees must register by Jan. 12 at Snyder High School. Anyone with questions should call Charlene Light at 574-6050, or Dr. Melissa Jones at 573-5401.

Windbreak trees

Windbreak trees are available from the Soil and Water Conservation District, 5308 Big Spring Hwy. Deadline for orders is Jan. 31.

Road to Recovery program

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

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
6-3-1

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery:
16-36-2-17-29

