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INSIDE

Public Frustration May Hurt GOP 2
UT Wins Recruiting War 5
Midday Stocks 7
GOP Skeptical Of Base Closing 8
Airline Passenger Rights Growing 9

WT-Int. Crude - $12.38

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Feb. 4, 1999
Vol. 50 No. 236
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of Linda Key

TOWN AND COUNTRY — Construction is well underway on Snyder's second Town and Country location on the corner of 37th Street and Coliseum Drive. Workers with Boler Equipment of Midland, including from left Greg Boler, Criss Ward and Larry Boler, were busy this morning setting wind braces in place. (SDN Staff Photo)

Medart transferred...

New warden named

The Price Daniel Unit will have a new warden effective March 1 as Wilhelmenia Howard will be transferring from Amarillo to head the local unit.

T.J. Medart, who is serving as the unit's third warden presently, will be transferring to the Central Unit in Sugarland.

Mrs. Howard is presently the senior warden at the Neal Unit in Amarilo and she has been with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice since 1985 when she began work as a clinical psychologist.

A native of Kileen, she graduated from Mary Hardin Baylor University with a bachelor of science degree, and a master of science degree from the University of Central Texas in Kileen.

She has spent most of her career with TDCJ in the Gatesville area.

She transferred to Amarillo in 1993 to open that unit.

Her husband, Tony, is also with the TDCJ, serving as supervisor for internal affairs with offices in Abilene and Plainview.

They have two sons, Kasey, seven years old and Horatio, a fourth grader.

In Amarillo, Howard is active in the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, just finishing a term on its board of directors.

She also serves on the criminal justice board at Amarillo College.

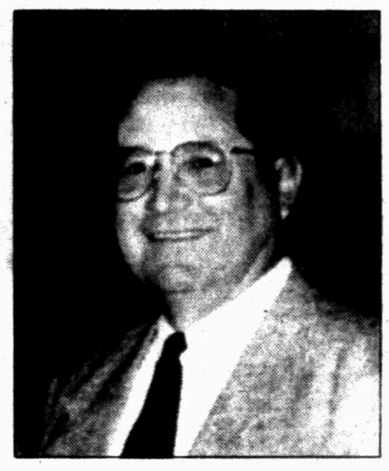
Medart has been warden of the local unit since June, 1994, having transferred from Tulia where he was warden of a 500-bed prison.

He has been with TDCJ for 15 years, first serving as chaplain for two years at the Ramsey III unit in Rosharon.

Medart is a native of Lometa and a graduate of Howard Payne University. He is also an ordained minister having served chuches in Moran, Mineral Wells and Albany before joing TDCJ.

Mrs. Howard will be the fourth warden at the Price Daniel Unit since it opened.

Les Woods was the warden when the unit opened, and he was followed by Bob White, then Medart.



T.J. Medart

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The reason they lock service station bathrooms is so nobody will sneak in and clean 'em."

Somebody sent us some more unusual actual signs seen in businesses:

--In a laundromat: Automatic washing machines. Please remove all your clothes when the lights go out.

--In an office: Would the person who took the step ladder yesterday please bring it back or further steps will be taken.

--Outside a farm in England: Horse manure, 50p per pre-packaged bag; 20p do-it-yourself.

--In an office: After coffee break, staff should empty pot and stand upside down on the draining board.

--On church door: This is the Gate of Heaven. Enter ye all by this door. This door is kept locked because of draft. Please use side door.

--Secondhand shop: We exchange anything. Why not bring your wife along and get a wonderful bargain.

--Warning sign: Quicksand. Any person passing this point will be drowned.

--Healthfood shop: Closed due to illness.

--Message on leaflet: If you cannot read, this leaflet will tell you how to get lessons.

--Repair shop: We can repair anything. Please knock hard on door - the bell doesn't work.

--On toilet: Out of order. Please use floor below.

--Non-smoking area: If we see you smoking, we'll assume you're on fire and take appropriate action.

--Optometrist's office: If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place.

--Diner window: Don't stand there and be hungry; come in and get fed up.

--Muffler shop: No appointment necessary. We'll hear you coming.

--In office: We shoot every third salesman, and the second one just left.

--Bowling alley: Please be quiet. We need to hear a pin drop.

--Sign on fence: Salesmen welcome. Dog food is expensive.

For investment opportunities, here are four new bond issues:

--The Gore bond. It has no interest.

--The Lewinski bond. It has no maturity.

--The Starr bond. It has no yield.

--The Clinton bond. It has no principle.

For distributors, food processors...

BCD gets look at alliance seeking industrial prospects

By Wade Warren
Managing Editor

Board of County Development members got a look at a proposal Wednesday that could possibly see new agricultural, industrial and transportation operations located in the Sweetwater and Snyder areas.

Dick Crill, director of economic development for Big Country Electric, and County Judge Ricky Fritz met with the board and told of a recent business recruiting trip to California.

Besides Crill and Fritz, others on the trip were Dale Martin, president of the Economic Development Commissiion of Sweetwater, Tom Isbell, Fisher County tax assessor/collector and Homer Taylor, development/technical specialist with Texas State Technological College, Sweetwater.

Crill said the purpose of the trip was to identify companies who might have an interest in expanding their freight or warehouse operations into West Texas.

"Basically, we're working to make this area a distribution corridor," said Crill.

Crill said he had four "letters of intent" signed by various companies who were interested in locating in this area.

"What we have is the same thing Lorber Industries signed back in 1994," said Crill. "These companies have sought information and we have given it to them."

"Basically we have an agreement to look at each other," said Crill.

Crill and Fritz also presented a letter of intent proposing the formation of an area-wide group of individuals from neighboring communities around Snyder to promote economic development.

Besides Crill and Fritz, 13 other people are on the organizational committee, including Mitchell County Judge Ray Mayo, Big Spring businessman Scott McLaughlin and Nolan County Judge Tim Fambrough.

Crill emphasized that others will be invited to join the group and that he was listed as a representative from Scurry County only because he was on the ground floor of the organization.

"Anyone here can serve," said Crill.

The governing board of the alliance will consist of the county judge of the six counties involved, and nine members of the board elected at large by the board of directors.

At least two members of the board will be from each county.

Crill said the board would be financed from private, local, state, national and international sources.

To get the group started, said Crill, a one-time assessment fee of $1 per capita will be sought from each county involved.

"That would be $19,000 from Scurry County, $32,000 from Howard County, and so on," said Crill.

In a question after Crill's presentation, BCD president David Kattes asked Crill exactly what the group was trying to accomplish.

"To make this area a distribution center and a center for food processing plants," said Crill.

The presentation, however, was not met with open arms from all BCD board members.

Tony Scott asked Fritz if the Fritz had invited on the early January trip.

Development Corporation of Snyder was involved, and if that group's executive director knew of the trip.

Fritz said the DCOS was not involved, but said DCOS executive director John DeLille was aware that the trip was to be made.

Scott said it looked like to him that the DCOS was being "left out of the loop."

Fritz said that was not right, as it was never more important than now that the BCD and DCOS work together.

"The reason I went to California was to talk to people about warehouses that need railroad acccess," said Fritz.

Fritz said it was his understanding that the industrial park could not be made railroad accessible.

DeLille agreed and said the industrial park would never be served directly by rail.

Fritz said Snyder and the area had everything the people on the California trip told them was needed.

Fritz mentioned the increased use of U.S. Highway 84 since the NAFTA agreement and the railroad that basically follows the highway.

"Sweetwater is on I-20 and two railroads cross there," added Fritz.

Board member Jerry Martin questioned how it would work with both Snyder and Sweetwater competing for industry.

"Would we be competing for just one facility," questioned Martin.

To this, Crill replied,"No."

"This alliance is to get prospects," said Crill.

"We are all in the same boat. If one county doesn't prosper, the other doesn't prosper," said Crill. "We have to play ball together."

During the regular business of the board, Kattes presented the bill

The board voted to pay the $616.64 bill on a split vote as Scott voted against it.

A $290.75 bill for Texas belt buckles given as gifts on the trip to businessmen in California was approved unanimously.

Scott said later that he voted against paying the bill for the trip because he had been told the county would pay for it.

In other action, the board elected officers for the coming year although the item was not an agenda item.

This year's officers were re-elected to include Kattes as president, Scott as vice president and Terry Hefner as secretary.

The trio were sworn-in with an impromptu oath of office by Fritz.

Kattes presided at the meeting and all board members were in attendance to include Hefner, Scott, Martin and David Koonce.

Oil tax cut endorsed by state Senate panel

AUSTIN (AP) — A bill to give a $45 million, temporary tax break to small oil producers won the endorsement of the Senate Finance Committee on Wednesday.

Approved without opposition, the bill now heads to the full Senate, where quick action also was expected.

Lt. Gov. Rick Perry said the measure could be voted on by senators early next week, sending it on to the House.

Gov. George W. Bush, who has declared the issue an emergency, said again Wednesday he thinks oilmen need the help.

"I've got a lot of friends in West Texas, small producers, who are really worried about their livelihood. I'm worried for them. Hopefully, this severance tax relief package we put out will make a difference and won't cause people to prematurely have to shut in wells," Bush said.

The Republican governor said Texas school districts that get property taxes from those wells also would benefit.

"The important thing here is it's not only to provide short-term cost relief for the energy sector, but it's also to maintain the property tax base for different schools around the state of Texas," he said.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. J.E. "Buster" Brown, R-Lake Jackson, would exempt small oil producers from the state's severance tax when the price for crude oil falls below $15 per barrel. Gas producers would be exempt when prices fall to less than $1.80 per thousand cubic feet.

The current severance tax on oil is 4.6 percent of the value at the wellhead and 7.5 percent [illegible] gas. Lawmakers said the exemption — for wells producing 15 barrels or less per day — will cover about 80 percent of the wells in Texas and about a third of oil output.

If approved, the tax exemption would apply from Feb. 1 until the end of the current budget year, Aug. 31.

Sen. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, who chairs the Finance Committee, said the unusual circumstances surrounding the oil business make the tax break necessary.

Oilmen say at the current low price, it costs many of them more money to keep pumping than they earn from the small wells. And at the end of last week, the number of rigs actively exploring for oil and natural gas in the United States had plummeted to an all-time low of 562.

Ratliff said that once closed, the small wells are too expensive to reopen.

Three-time DWI offender to prison

A third driving-while-intoxicated conviction resulted in a 26-year-old Snyder man being sentenced to serve five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Stevie Van Leatherwood of 947 North Avenue N pleaded guilty Tuesday in 132nd District Court to a Nov. 30 DWI offense.

Leatherwood was serving a five-year probated sentence for a Sept. 26, 1996 conviction. District Judge Ernie Armstrong revoked that probated sentence and the two five-year terms in prison will be served concurrently.

Leatherwood also was convicted of DWI in county court in March, 1993.

ASK US

Q—Are there any plans to plant a community garden this year?

A—Yes, planting is scheduled to begin in March. A community-wide meeting is set for 7 p.m. Feb. 23 in the First Presbyterian Church to finalize plans.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 71 degrees; low, 34; 7 a.m. Thursday, 37; no precipitation; total for 1999, .95 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, cloudy, breezy. Low near 50. SE-S wind 15-25 mph, gusty. Friday, cloudy, slight rain chance in AM, then partly cloudy, windy. High, upper 60s. SW-W wind 20-30 mph, gusty.

Anthony White
Slight Rain Chance

Sunset: 6:21 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:34 a.m.
Of 34 days in 1999, the sun has shone 33 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

"Let your heart soar as high as it will. Refuse to be average."

A.W. Tozer

Will public frustration over trial hurt GOP?

By The Associated Press

Some Republican governors are worried that the public frustration over President Clinton's impeachment trial is having a negative impact on the GOP. But at least one is optimistic the tide will eventually turn in their favor.

"I think President Clinton is fatally wounded and will limp through the rest of his presidency," said Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating. That outcome, Keating said, might help the GOP win the presidency in 2000.

Even if that scenario holds true, Keating, chairman of the Republican Governor's Association, agrees that the GOP is bearing the brunt of public disgust now. He believes there should be "a heads-up vote, yes or no" immediately on whether to continue the trial.

The Senate is set to vote today on whether to call witnesses to testify on the floor — a move that could prolong President Clinton's trial. A vote against testimony could mean the beginning of the end.

Massachusetts Gov. Paul Cellucci said he hopes the trial ends as soon as possible. He pointed to GOP losses in last fall's congressional elections as proof that many Americans believe Republicans are responsible for what they consider partisanship and foot-dragging.

"There appeared to be, here and in the rest of the country, support for Democrats and dissatisfaction with Republicans," he said.

Louisiana Gov. Mike Foster has been banging that drum for months, saying Republicans should end the trial speedily because they don't have the votes to convict Clinton.

"The sooner this is wound up the better off the country is going to be, and for sure, the Republican Party," he said. "People just don't like what's happening in Washington. They don't like the way it's been drawn out on totally partisan lines. You cannot impeach a president on partisan lines."

Other GOP governors, including Jim Gilmore of Virginia, Cecil Underwood of West Virginia and Mike Johanns of Nebraska, said voters will judge Republicans more by what they accomplish in the way of programs than by the impeachment proceedings.

Some in Hyde's district do not agree with impeachment trial

ELMHURST, Ill. (AP) — This is Henry Hyde territory. The affluent, overwhelmingly white, heavily Republican suburb of Chicago has helped make Hyde's seat in Congress a permanent fixture since 1972.

So it comes as something of a shock to hear some locals offer critical comments about the way their congressman has handled President Clinton's impeachment trial.

"I just think the process is taking too long. Nobody really cares anymore," said Matt Earls, 35.

There are signs that Hyde's role as chairman of the House Judiciary Committee and leader of the impeachment trial is not sitting well with the voters back home in DuPage County, where most of Hyde's district is located.

A recent Chicago Tribune poll showed 52 percent of registered voters in the county approved of the way Hyde has handled the impeachment process. While many politicians might consider that a ringing endorsement, DuPage is almost as solidly Republican as Chicago is Democratic — the county regularly produces one of the nation's largest GOP pluralities.

Bob Dole won DuPage in the 1996 election, and George Bush won it in 1992. In fact, the only Democrat to win the county in this decade was former Sen. Paul Simon, who accomplished the feat in 1990 — by a scant 1,052 votes.

The poll, with a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percentage points, also showed many DuPage voters — nearly 60 percent — approve of the job Clinton has done as president and 89 percent believe Democrats and Republicans should work together to resolve the issue. The telephone poll of 450 registered voters was conducted Jan. 26-28 by Market Shares Corp.

As Martin Blackwell waited for a train on York Road, he said he believed Hyde was "doing what his job is to do, which is to be partisan. I don't hold it against him personally."

But he also said Hyde's response to the revelation that he had an extramarital affair had lowered his opinion of the congressman. Hyde chalked it up to "youthful indiscretions" when an Internet magazine reported details of the affair, which took place when he was a 41-year-old state legislator.

"Personally, I think he's a tad bit hypocritical. I'm 30. Does that give me another 12 years to cheat on my wife?" Blackwell said.

Thomson recalls 424,000 radio cassette players

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Thomson Consumer Electronics announced Wednesday it is voluntarily recalling about 424,000 radio cassette players because of a fire hazard.

Thomson has received three reports of outlets on its GE Spacemaker units overheating and catching fire. No injuries have been reported.

"Our testing revealed that the product failure may occur with prolonged and repeated usage of the appliance outlet over a period of years," Thomson said in a statement.

The unit, sold under the General Electric Spacemaker brand name, is designed for under-the-cabinet use and includes an AM/FM stereo cassette player, a light and appliance outlet that is used to plug in additional items.

The voluntary recall covers units with model number 7-4285 that were sold from 1992-95.

Thomson, which has its North American corporate headquarters in suburban Indianapolis, said consumers should unplug the units immediately. They can call 800-464-7022 to receive a free replacement unit.

Industry, GM reports higher sales, but GM trucks struggle

DETROIT (AP) — U.S. sales for cars and light trucks increased by 12 percent over the start of 1998, as the sales momentum from the end of the year carried through to 1999.

General Motors Corp., the world's largest automaker, said Wednesday its sales were up 4 percent. The increase was mainly due to a rise in passenger car sales, as its light truck division saw nearly a 4 percent decline.

As a group, GM, Ford Motor Co. and DaimlerChrysler AG had a 9 percent increase in U.S. sales. Foreign automakers did even better: Asian companies had an 18 percent increase, while European companies were up 21 percent, based on the daily sales rate.

"The industry was amazingly strong," said analyst Maryann Keller of ING Baring Furman Selz. "With all the year-end clearance sales, I would have thought people who wanted to buy a car would have come in and bought a car last year."

Keller and GM officials said much of the increases came from good economic times — low interest rates, high employment, cheap new car prices — rather than sales incentives. As long as those factors didn't change, they said, the industry would do well.

Most automakers that offer pickups, minivans or sport utility vehicles reported surging sales on the highly profitable models, though GM did not.

GM officials said the company was still working through delays from labor strikes last summer that slowed the retooling needed to build new versions of the Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra pickups. They said GM would add enough capacity to build 250,000 more trucks this year.

Other parts of GM's truck lineup — such as the Chevy Tahoe, Jimmy SUVs and the Chevy Venture minivan — were also down.

Berry's World

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SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC

"The face is the mirror of the mind, and eyes without speaking confess the secrets of the heart."

Saint Jerome 342-420

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, Feb. 5, 1999

Your ability to successfully market your wares in the year ahead could be rather remarkable, especially in ventures or endeavors that require promotional and salesmanship skills. Put your thinking cap on!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Should your focus be solely on your own concepts instead of other contributions today, you'll only grasp the essence of their ideas, not thoughts in their entirety. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Desires for personal gratification could distort your value judgment today, so this may not be an especially good day to go shopping for expensive merchandise.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you feel uncertain about someone's ideas or plans, disengage yourself from involvement immediately. Otherwise, you could be complicating your life by speeding down a dead end street.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Toying with the unknown could create more problems for you instead of resolving any. Don't be tempted today to experiment with untested methods in attempt to expedite something.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Don't be stingy when cavorting with friends today, but be realistic, too! Split all costs equally. No one, including you, should pick up the lion's share.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Should you be subjected to more domestic tensions than usual today, treat events logically instead of emotionally. Excitability could contribute to everyone's discomfort.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Impulsive inclinations of any kind must be subdued today. Before your mouth starts moving, be sure your mind is in gear. Also, be very attentive when you get behind the wheel of your car.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you hope to capitalize on a financial development today, don't blink your eyes. Although the day may not be devoid of advantageous developments, they could be rather elusive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) By deliberately involving yourself with persons who are incapable of making effective contributions, you will severely limit your chances of success today in a commercial endeavor.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Watch your step today, because you're very susceptible to ignoring your better judgment and partaking in something that does not serve your best interests, especially with career matters.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Because you have a tendency today to say one thing and do another, your associates might find you a trifle difficult to deal with, so stick to your word.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You'll have a lot of beginnings today with no endings by doing things in fits and starts. Continuity of purpose is essential if you hope to fulfill meaningful objectives.

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BARGAIN OF THE MONTH

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PARTICIPATING AGENCIES — Representatives from participating agencies were on hand at the United Way recognition meeting Monday. The previous campaign reached 102 % of its goal, netting $65,366. Receiving their first allocation check from a UW were Kim Fritz, Snyder Child Day Care; Leslie Cooley, CADA; George Roberts, Boy Scouts; Jo Ann Cearley, Girl Scouts, and Rocio Flores, West Texas Girl Scout Council in Abilene; Emerson Armstrong, Food Cupboard; Jack McGlaun, Girls and Boys Club; and two other agencies not represented, Noah Project and the Red Cross. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

RIBBON CUTTING — Taco Bell, located at 4509 College Ave., was welcomed by the Gold Coats of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce Tuesday. Pictured in center front are David Ohre, president of Double O Inc.; Jay Smith, Mike Bazany, assistant manager; and approximately 30 employees. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; houseshoe courts, located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information, call 573-9762; 3 p.m.

"A Company of Women International" Prophetic Voice to the Nations, for mature Christian women; Union Community Center, Hwy 180; potluck supper, 6 p.m.

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SATURDAY

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

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

SUNDAY

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

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

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

Oregon keeps 'own wings' motto

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Oregon's new state motto could be: "Just keep the old one."

The state House voted Wednesday to keep the phrase "She flies with her own wings" as its official motto after several lawmakers considered an attempt to change it to "The Union" as a waste of time and money.

Democratic Rep. Ryan Deckert said he thinks the more lyrical motto is right for Oregon. Plus, he said, "I think there are many things that are more important that we should be doing."

The bill was introduced by Republican Rep. Kevin Mannix, who said he was just trying to clear up confusion over what the state's motto should be.

While "She flies with her own wings" was originally adopted by the Oregon territory, it wasn't incorporated into the state seal in 1859. "The Union" was used instead, referring to the state's decision to join the Union rather than the Confederacy.

The two-word slogan was officially adopted as the state motto in 1957, when Oregon was nearing it's centennial celebration. Lawmakers voted to return to "She flies with her own wings" in 1987.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

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North 02-04-99
♠ A Q 6 2
♥ A 8 5
♦ A 8 6
♣ 6 5 2

West
♠ 10 8
♥ Q 6
♦ K Q J 10 9
♣ J 8 7 3

East
♠ K 9 7 5 3
♥ K 4 3
♦ 5 4 3
♣ 10 4

South
♠ J 4
♥ J 10 9 7 2
♦ 7 2
♣ A K Q 9

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		1 ♣	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ K

In and out of the zone

The best tennis players often talk about the zone. When playing at their best, they see the ball as if it is the size of a basketball; they are in the zone. It is the same for top bridge players. There are days when they know where all the cards lie. They find the perfect plays and defenses almost without apparent thought. At other times, though, errors abound. Why is this?

In today's deal, which occurred during the 1998 Generali Individual tournament, West was a former world champion, and declarer was one of the world's top-rated players.

South's three-club rebid was invitational. With a game-forcing hand, he would have rebid two diamonds, fourth-suit forcing.

Declarer's approach should be to take two trump finesses, hoping to restrict his losses to one spade, one heart and one diamond. And if declarer had won trick one, crossed to hand with a club, and run the heart jack, that is how the deal would have panned out. However, South ducked at trick one, giving West a chance to defeat the contract by switching to a spade. Declarer will probably finesse, but East wins with the king and returns a spade. Then, when East wins with the heart king, a third spade allows West to score his heart queen to defeat the contract.

And that is clearly the best defense. Yet West woodenly continued with a second diamond. (Even if South has three diamonds, West doesn't have an entry to cash his second trick in the suit.) Why? Tiredness? Thoughtlessness? Out of the zone? What do you think?

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Paper work detains officers right to work

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Durham's newest police officers are missing a few key pieces of equipment.

Due to a glitch in paperwork, the 26 rookies, who graduated last week, cannot carry guns or badges or wear police uniforms.

"Raleigh didn't process it," said police Capt. Dwight Pettiford. He said he expected the problem to be resolved within the week.

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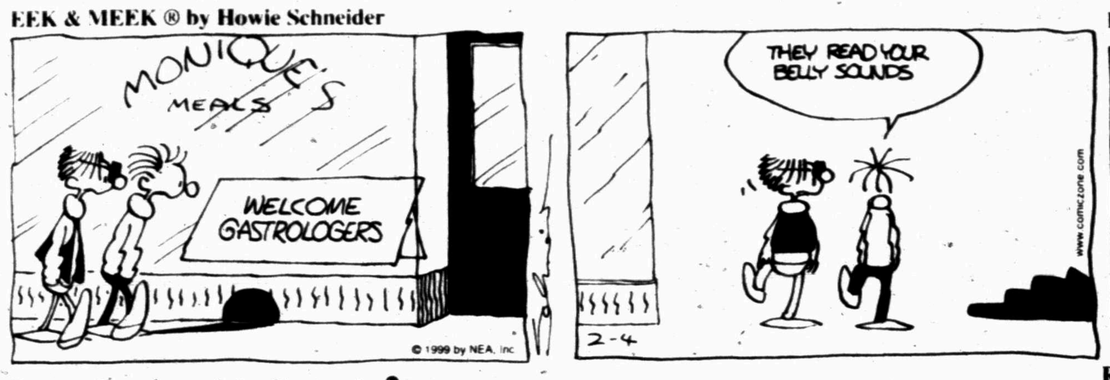

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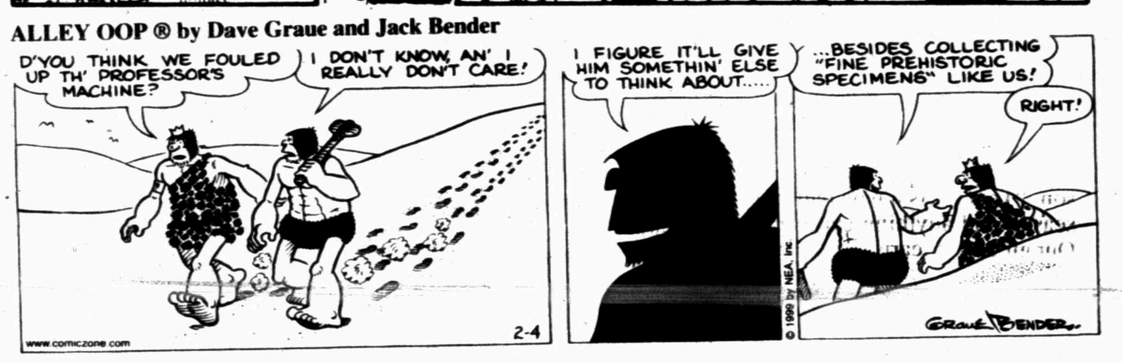

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Actress Gabor (2 wds.)
7 Conference site of 1945
12 City in Oregon
13 Type of membrane
14 Schoolroom item
15 — rating (gasoline number)
16 Mai — (cocktail)
17 — Kapital
18 Steal, in olden times
21 Destroyed (sl.)
23 Calligrapher's item
26 Esau's country
28 Actress Albright
29 Chemical suffix
30 Maine tree
31 Oliver — Holmes
33 Gland product
36 Person loved to excess
37 Author Umberto —
38 Uncommon
40 Golfer — Ballesteros
41 — River (recent conference site)
42 Orbital point
44 — Plaines, Ill.
45 650, in old Rome
46 Blarney Stone gift
48 Hot Mexican specialty
51 Cheer
55 Slurs over
56 Emotional shock
57 Inventor Howe
58 Church book

DOWN

1 Last letter
2 Big —, Calif.
3 Turkish title
4 Keen enjoyment
5 Move about furtively
6 Antenna
7 Mexican state
8 New Testament book
9 Mauna —
10 Large container
11 Chemical ending
13 Unit
18 Brother's son
19 Folly
20 Madison's successor
22 Influential nations
23 Required
24 Romantically involved (2 wds.)
25 Ladies at the ball
27 Hebrew letter
32 Berate, slangily
34 Mystical places in ancient Greece
35 Seaport in Italy
39 Half a quarter
43 Edible fish
45 Surrealism relative
47 Dracula author Stoker
48 Golf peg
49 The whole shebang
50 Year early in the second millennium
52 Stand for office
53 Physicians' org.
54 Actor Holbrook

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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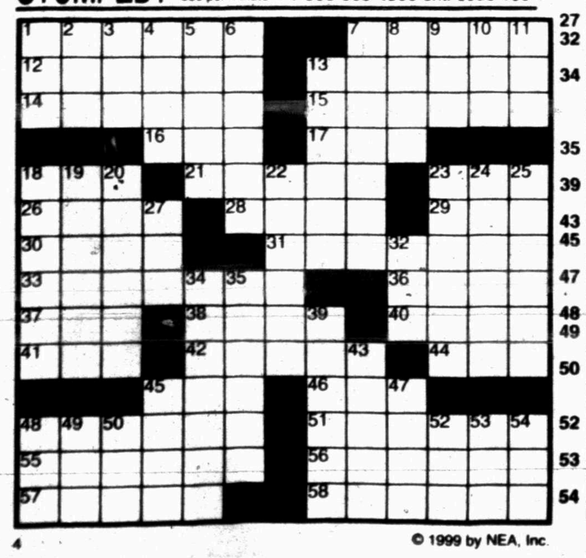

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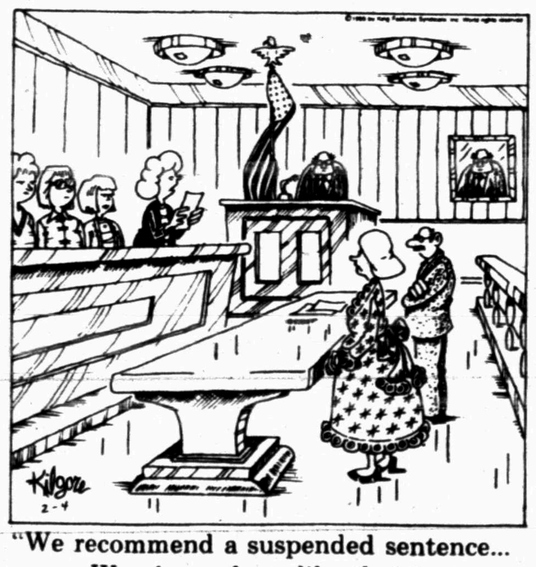

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SPORTS

WTC looks to run past Lady 'Birds

With 16 wins under its belt, Western Texas has already gained the respect of its opponents.

But if the Lady Dusters want to gain a postseason berth, they need to take the thunder out of the Lady Thunderbirds tonight.

Coming off back-to-back losses, it could be do or die for Western Texas tonight when it hosts New Mexico at 7:30 at Scurry County Coliseum.

The Lady Dusters, 3-4 in conference play, are one game behind the Lady Thunderbirds who currently hold the fourth and final playoff spot.

Tonight's contest marks the second meeting of the squads this year. New Mexico took the conference opener over WTC in Hobbs.

"It was the first conference game for a lot of our girls and they were so nervous that they couldn't perform like they are capable of," Lady Duster coach Valery Jackson said. "Tonight we are going to concentrate on coming out focused and ready to play."

A victory over NMJC would be key for Western Texas, which still has visits to nationally-ranked Howard and Midland on its schedule.

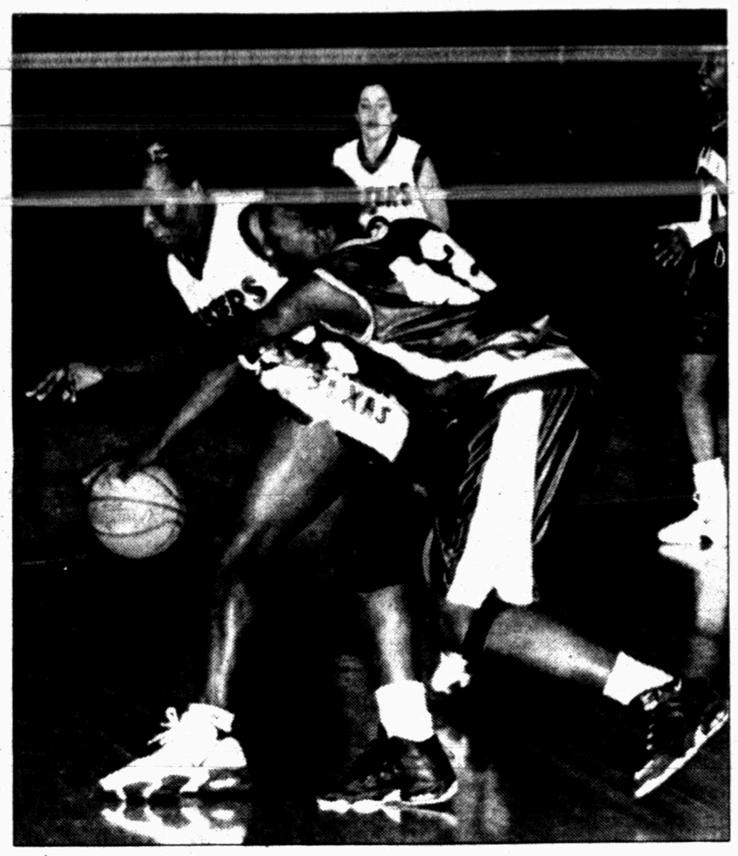
Only the top four WJCAC teams will advance to the regional tournament in March, and a win tonight would give the Lady Dusters a share of fourth place with six games remaining.

"If we can win tonight, then match the number of wins we got in the first half of conference, then we'll be in good shape," said Jackson. "This starts a new half of the season and anything can happen. Our girls have learned some things and matured since the last time we played New Mexico. Now we just have to use what we've learned and benefit from our experiences."

Western Texas will look to use its pressure defense to fuel a fast-paced offense.

In their last two outings, the Lady Dusters have turned in strong performances on the defensive end, but have struggled shooting the ball.

"We need to shoot the ball better," Jackson stated. "If we can get some shots to fall early, it will help a lot."



BACK OFF — Western Texas post Pam Odhuong'o handles the ball Monday against Midland. The Lady Dusters host a key WJCAC match-up tonight at 7:30 against New Mexico. (SDN Staff Photo)

Snyder High School ready to open spring season on the links

It's only four days into February, but it's time to dust off the clubs and hit the links.

Snyder High School opens it spring golf schedule Friday as the SHS boys host a 20-team tourney, while the Lady Tigers compete in San Angelo.

The local tourney will be played at Snyder County Club and Western Texas College, with the 20 schools divided into two 10-team divisions.

The Tigers will field a pair of squads, headed up by returning district runner-up Landon Day.

Among the teams Snyder will battle are Abilene Cooper, Wylie, Andrews, Bastrop and San Angelo Central.

In the pre-season poll, the Snyder boys were ranked fourth in District 5-4A, an indication of the Tigers' youth, according to coach Matt Glenn.

"We're really young again this year," Glenn said. "We line up with four sophomores and a freshman. But they'll learn a lot this season and they work hard. They can accomplish some things, if they'll play like they're capable of."

The Tigers open the event at Snyder CC on Friday, before playing at WTC on Saturday.

As for the Lady Tigers, they enter the spring as the district and regional favorite, while holding the No. 2 spot in the state.

Defending state champion Dallas Highland Park garnered the state's top spot, grabbing eight first-place votes to Snyder's three.

"Highland Park probably deserves the ranking, since they won it last year and have everybody back this year," said Glenn. "That doesn't mean they are going to finish there. I think this puts some pressure on them and should motivate our girls to play even better."

In their event this weekend, the Lady Tigers will play the opening round at San Angelo Country Club, before competing at Riverside GC on Saturday.

Lining-up for the Lady Tigers will be Keisha Gafford, Lacy Kidd, Sally Barham, Randi Reed and Stephanie Aldrete.

In recruiting battle...

UT signs top grid players

By RICHARD ROSENBLATT
AP Football Writer

Texas has waited a long time to start braggin' on its football team again, so pardon a few million Longhorns followers for celebrating in February.

"Hook 'em horns! Texas simply has the best group from top to bottom," Bobby Burton of the Austin, Texas-based The National Recruiting Advisor said Wednesday after he and two other national recruiting gurus declared the Longhorns winners of Recruiting Wars '99.

Texas coach Mack Brown brought in 28 players on national signing day, and the Longhorns' haul included USA Today's offensive and defensive players of the year, 11 players the newspaper ranked among the nation's best and four Parade All-Americans.

Atop the list are quarterback Chris Simms, son of New York Giants quarterback Phil Simms, and linebacker Cory Redding, USA Today's top two players.

"This class sends a message nationally that we're really serious about being a top program again," Brown said. "It's a class that can jumpstart us back to where we want to be — the elite of college football."

Tom Lemming of Schaumburg, Ill.-based Prep Football Report, said Texas had the top-rated class for the first time since he began his rankings 20 years ago.

"They had a combination of a new coach, a Heisman Trophy winner in Ricky Williams and a winning season," Lemming said. "They kept kids at home while going out and signing the nation's top talent. That's tough to beat."

The 6-foot-5, 218-pound Simms, from Franklin Lakes, N.J., made a verbal commitment to Tennessee, but changed his mind last week. Simms threw for 2,239 yards and 18 touchdowns in his senior season at Ramapo H.S., and is expected to challenge immediately for the backup spot behind Major Applewhite.

Redding, 6-5 and 240 pounds from North Shore H.S. near Houston, had 123 solo tackles, including 22 for losses, and 112 assists. He also caused six fumbles and recovered five.

In addition to Simms and Redding, the two other Parade All-Americans to go for Texas were Bo Sciafe, a 6-4, 225-pound wide receiver from Denver, and Alfio Randall, a 6-6, 270-pound offensive lineman from Houston.

The biggest shocker came at the expense of Notre Dame. C.J. Leak, a highly touted quarterback from Charlotte, N.C., chose Wake Forest over the Irish, who for months expected the 6-4, 210-pounder in the mold of Randall Cunningham to sign on with coach Bob Davie.

The Irish, who did not sign a quarterback Wednesday, were still rated third by Burton and Lemming, but eighth by Allen Wallace of Laguna Beach, Calif.-based SuperPrep magazine.

"This was a stunner," said Wallace, who dropped the Irish from second to eighth after he heard the news. "Nobody could have predicted Leak. He gave no indication he was going to Wake Forest. This was the biggest surprise of the day, no question."

The Irish, though, signed a few standouts, including three USA Today All-Americans in defensive back Gerome Sapp from Houston, defensive lineman Cedric Hilliard from Arlington, Texas, and offensive lineman Jeff Faine from Sanford, Fla.

Ohio State, with a haul that included USA Today All-American offensive lineman Bryce Bishop, defensive lineman Tim Anderson, defensive back Michael Doss and defensive back-wide receiver Kelton Lindsay, was ranked second by Burton and Wallace and fourth by Lemming.

National champion Tennessee was a three-time loser. First, they lost Simms; then Derek Watson, South Carolina's Mr. Football who also verbally committed to the Vols, changed his mind and signed with the Gamecocks; and finally Santonio Beard, a top-rated running back from Nashville, went for Alabama.

Tennessee was ranked eighth by Burton, but was not in the top 10s of Lemming or Wallace.

Georgia got the nod from Lemming as the second-best class. Among the Bulldogs' signees were wide receivers Michael Johnson from Tulsa, Okla., Reggie Brown of Carrollton, Ga., and Durrell Robinson of Duncan, S.C. Also, the Bulldogs signed running backs Bruce Thornton from LaGrange, Ga., and DeJuan Green from Jacksonville, Fla., the state's top tailback.

"Most athletic class in the country," Lemming said of the Bulldogs.

Also checking in with top-rated classes were Texas A&M and UCLA. Aggies coach R.C. Slocum, trying to keep pace with Brown and the Longhorns, did just fine. Texas A&M signed a bunch of top prospects, including defensive linemen Ty Warren of Bryan, Texas; Brian West of West Monroe, La.; linebacker Jason LeDoux of West Monroe, La.; and running back Joe Weber of San Bernardino, Calif., one of the top runners on the West coast.

Among UCLA's top recruits were five Parade All-Americans — tight end Mike Seidman of Westlake, Calif., linebacker Marcus Reese of San Jose, Calif., quarterback J.P. Losman of Venice, Calif., and offensive linemen Bryce Bohlander of Salem, Ore., and Shane Lehmann of Corona, Calif.

Florida State, a mainstay among the top recruiting classes, was able to sign only a dozen players because 73 were already on scholarship.

But coach Bobby Bowden's Seminoles made a splash by signing several highly rated stars, including quarterback Anquan Boldin of Pahokee, Fla. — Wallace's No. 1-rated player — USA Today All-American running back Nick Maddox of Kannapolis, N.C., defensive back Rufus Brown of El Paso, Texas; and Parade All-American defensive linemen Darnell Dockett of Burtonsville, Md.

Alabama had a nice haul, too. Among the top signees were Beard, wide receiver Antonio Carter of Tallahassee, Fla., and a pair of Parade All-Americans — linebacker Saleem Rasheed of Birmingham, Ala., and defensive lineman Kenny King of Daphne, Ala.

Among the schools with surprisingly good classes were Boston College — Parade All-American running back William Green picked the Eagles over Ohio State — Illinois and South Carolina, even though new coach Lou Holtz got a late recruiting start.

8th grade boys top Steers

With balanced scoring efforts, a pair of Snyder eighth grade squads notched convincing wins over Big Spring in boys' basketball action.

Snyder Black took control early, then rolled to a 45-28 win.

Tyler Pollard and Josh McGaha both finished in double digits for the Tigers, with Pollard pouring in 12 points and McGaha netting 10.

Jason Guynes recorded six points, while Josh Green, Patrick Alderete and Tanner Beard dropped in four apiece. Taylor Cotton posted three points, while Matt McCormick added two.

For Snyder Gold, 10 players put points on the board to help push the Tigers to a 45-25 victory over the Steers.

Will Davis led the Snyder effort with eight points, while Colby Driggers registered six.

Stafford Gray, Clay Williams and Chris Sorrells drained five points apiece, with Logan Hill, Zach Starnes and Trey Roland dropping in four each. Chance Greenwood and T.J. Jones added two points.

Both Snyder squads will be back on the floor Monday when they visit Andrews.

WJCAC Women

Team	Conference W	Conference L	Season W	Season L
Midland	7	0	20	2
Howard	6	1	21	2
South Plains	5	2	14	9
New Mexico	4	3	16	6
WTC	3	4	16	8
Odessa	2	5	13	7
Clarendon	1	6	7	8
FPC	0	7	5	17

Thursday's games: New Mexico at Western Texas; South Plains at Midland; Howard at Odessa; Frank Phillips at Clarendon.

Missouri tramples Tech, 88-63

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Albert White scored all but six of his 24 points in the second half and added six assists as No. 24 Missouri pulled away for an 88-63 victory over Texas Tech Wednesday night.

White rebounded from one of his lesser games, an eight-point effort against Baylor on Saturday in which he appeared content to watch freshman point guard Keyon Dooling run up a career-high 22 points. White was so keyed-up in the second half that coach Norm Stewart sat him for a few seconds to calm him down.

Missouri shot 76.9 percent (20-for-26) in the second half to pull away after Texas Tech rallied to tied it 45-45 just after the break.

Rayford Young scored 13 points and James Ware added 10 for Texas Tech (10-12, 2-7), which has lost five in a row and seven of eight since winning its conference opener against Baylor Jan. 2. Texas Tech has lost seven straight to ranked opponents.

Cliff Owens had the last six points in an 11-2 run to start the second half as Texas Tech pulled even at 45 with 16:50 to go. Missouri regained control on successive dunks by Dooling and White and a reverse layup by White that made it 53-46 with 14:02 left. The Tigers later had a 12-0 run to put the game away.

NCAA BASKETBALL SCORES

EAST
Army 73, Colgate 66
Bucknell 65, Holy Cross 51
Miami 73, St. John's 70
Providence 77, West Virginia 68
St. Peter's 64, Manhattan 39
Va. Commonwealth 59, American U. 52
Villanova 84, Rutgers 78
Virginia Tech 59, Duquesne 58
SOUTH
Appalachian St. 55, Wis.-Green Bay 53
Auburn 76, South Carolina 48
Coll. of Charleston 75, Coastal Carolina 65
Davidson 92, Furman 70
Duke 95, Maryland 77
Georgia 82, Vanderbilt 67
James Madison 64, East Carolina 61
Marshall 73, Ball St. 66
Mississippi 82, LSU 66
Mississippi St. 79, Alabama 50
N.C.-Wilmington 56, William & Mary 48
Virginia 64, Wake Forest 54
MIDWEST
Akron 80, W. Michigan 59
Bowling Green 64, N. Illinois 55
Bradley 76, N. Iowa 73, OT
Cincinnati 82, Tulane 63
Illinois St. 62, SW Missouri St. 54
Indiana 71, Wisconsin 60
Kent 67, Cent. Michigan 57
Miami, Ohio 69, Ohio U. 54
Minnesota 75, Illinois 63
Missouri 88, Texas Tech 63
N.C. Charlotte 66, DePaul 61
Saint Louis 68, Southern Miss. 60
W. Illinois 71, Wis.-Milwaukee 58
SOUTHWEST
Oklahoma 59, Baylor 58
Texas 71, Texas A&M 59

Sports Briefs

Wagner gets raise from Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — Billy Wagner received one of the largest raises in baseball history when he avoided arbitration with the Houston Astros by agreeing to a $10.3 million, three-year contract.

The 27-year-old reliever, who has just two years, 139 days of major league service, made $280,000 last year. His new contract calls for salaries of $2.1 million this year, $3.2 million in 2000 and $5 million in 2001.

He was seventh in the NL with 30 saves last season.

Rockets ink 290-pound center

HOUSTON (AP) — Stanley Roberts, the 7-foot, 290-pound center who spent last season with Minnesota, signed with the Houston Rockets. Roberts averaged 6.2 points and 4.9 rebounds last season.

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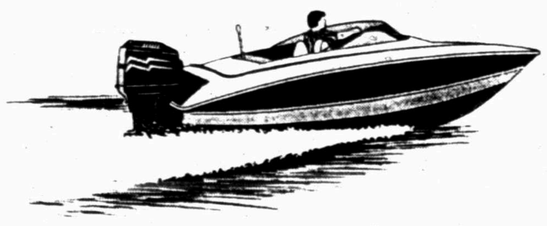
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150 BUSINESS SERVICES

CHIMNEY CLEANING SERVICE: CALL Walter Banks 573-4736 or Darrell Craig 573-2472. Leave Message.

FLOOR COVERING SERVICE
* Carpet * Ceramic Tile *
* Wood * Vinyl *
Installation ** Repairs
Restretching
I Didn't Retire!!! 573-2324

THE CARPET STORE & MORE, 1105 E. Broadway, Sweetwater. We will be in Snyder every Thursday to measure your home. Call 915-235-8180 for an appointment.

FOR YARD SERVICE & ODD JOBS PLEASE CALL 573-8207.

160 EMPLOYMENT

CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR position open at First United Methodist Church, 15 hours per week (including Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings). Mail resumes to P.O. Box 949 X, Snyder, TX 79550.

Computer Users Needed. Work Own hours. $20k to $75k/yr. 1-800-348-7186 x 1601. www.amp-inc.com

HELP WANTED
Seeking a dynamic individual to manage the Colorado City Chamber of Commerce. Must possess excellent communication, organizational and management skills including computer literacy. Send Resume to: Search Committee, P.O. Box 242, Colorado City, TX 79512.

OPENINGS FOR FULL-TIME Certified Nurses Aides. Paid Insurance, vacation, holiday & sick time. Contact Elia Gonzales D.O.N., Valley Fair Lodge, Colorado City, 915-728-2634.

STYLIST WANTED at the Cutting Edge, 2109 College Ave. 574-3343 (after 7:00 573-2148).

You can make a bale of money selling through classified! Gather together your no-longer-used items and advertise them for sale. With classified, as you sow, so will you reap!
Advertise in classified and watch your money stack up!
Call 573-5486

BEELINE IT TO THE CLASSIFIEDS
THEY'RE BUZZIN' WITH ACTION 573-5486

180 INSTRUCTIONS

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of **Defensive Driving Course**. Mon. & Tue., February 8th & 9th, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., Snyder Savings Loan, 2619 College Ave. For more information call 573-2850. No reservations needed. CO199-CP315.

190 FINANCIAL

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

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

210 WOMAN'S COLUMN

19 PEOPLE NEEDED to lose 5 to 100 lbs. All Natural, Doctor Recommended, Guaranteed Results. Call 303-840-5886.

220 FARMER'S COLUMN

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

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

FOR SALE HAY HIBRED SUDAN — Large Round Bales. 806-983-2969 or 806-983-2724.

FOR SALE: Small Horse w/ Buggy-$300, w/out-$200. F/B Boer Goats. Free Puppies. 573-5229.

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

250 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

1987 Prowler Regal 29 ft. long, sleeps six, has lots of storage, stereo, microwave & twin beds. 5½ X 8 enclosed utility trailer. 915-573-4095.

THE CLASSIFIEDS 573-5486

251 BOATS

1994 SS-90 SKEETER BASS BOAT. 88hp Evinrude, 12V Trolling Motor. Lake Ready! 573-5170 after 5:30.

DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!
Get Your Classified Ad in by 4 p.m. the Day BEFORE You Want It in the Paper! (4 p.m. Friday for Sun. & Mon.)
ALL ADS ARE CASH in advance unless you have an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News.
ALL GARAGE SALES must be paid in advance.
Call 573-5486

260 MERCHANDISE

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

FIREWOOD!! Oak & Mesquite! Local Cutter! Part Seasoned. 24", 22", 20" & 18" Some Split, DELIVERED. 573-1216.

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

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

REFRIGERATOR * WASHER * DRYER. CALL 573-5170 after 5:30 p.m.

290 DOGS, PETS, ETC.

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

310 GARAGE SALES

2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE
1713 8th Street
Friday 8-5
Levis * Blue Jeans * 2 Wheel Trailer * 16 ft. Flat Bed Trailer * Firewood!

CECIL BOREN ESTATE SALE
3774 Avondale-Snyder, TX.
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
February 4th, 5th, 6th—8 a.m.
Preview Sale Wednesday 5-7 pm
Furniture * Appliances * Household Furnishings * Kitchens Items * Crystal * Pottery * Tools * Linens * Clothes * Snow Skis * VCRs * Hunting Bows * Collectibles * Much More!

320 RENT OR LEASE

24 X 60 OFFICE, SHOP W/ STORAGE. For Rent or Lease. Other options available. Day 573-0859 Night 573-9830.

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

325 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

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

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

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

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

FOR RENT: One bedroom, 1½ bath Furnished Batchelor Apartment. Nice Area & Covered Parking. Bills Paid. 573-7891.

FURNISHED 1 Bedroom Apartment for rent in Hermleigh. 863-2700.

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

330 HOUSES FOR RENT

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

(2) HOUSES FOR RENT: Brick 2-1-Den-1, CH/A, Nice Location. Must See to Appreciate! 573-8823 after 4:00.

3 Bedroom 1 Bath Unfurnished House, 4019 Eastridge. $400/month. Must have very good credit. Call 573-2649.

AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 1ST — 2709 38TH, 2-1-1, nice neighborhood. $275/month $150/deposit. 1 year lease. 573-9001.

BUNKHOUSE — 1 bedroom furnished, w/all appliances & all bills paid. Approximately 10 miles East of Snyder, CR 1121. $400/month. 573-7977.

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom house w/ carport. 100 35th Street & Ave. A. $325/month plus deposit. 573-9812.

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

HOUSE FOR RENT: 2908 Ave. U, 3-2-2, fenced yard & CH/A. Available February 1st. 573-5312.

HOUSES FOR RENT
3733 Sunset....3-1-1....$400
2608 Ave. E....3-2.....$350
Sarah Jamison/Agent 573-4028
Elizabeth Potts Realtors 573-8505

SMALL HOUSE FOR RENT. 2-1, CH/A, Large fenced yard. New paint & siding. 573-7984.

335 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

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

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

ALWAYS A WINNER

340 MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

1999 FLEETWOOD 3 bedroom, 2 bath. $500 Down, $227.06 month, 240 months. 11% APR. Only 1 left. A-1 Homes 915-563-9000.

TAX REFUNDS for Down Payment. Bring us your tax return & we'll help you get into a new home. Only at A-1 Homes Midland. 1-915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

$1000 Down on a 1999 Doublewide. 3 bedroom, 2 bath only 303.58a month @ 11% APR. 360 months W.A.C. only at A-1 Homes Midland. 1-915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

TAX SEASON is here! Invest that hard earned return on a new or used home. Ask me how! Call John at A-1 Homes Midland. 1-915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

GOOD CREDIT, BAD CREDIT, SLOW PAYS, DIVORCES, BANKRUPTCY! Need a new home? Let me show you how to own a new home today! FREE Consultation. Call Calvin the Credit Doctor A-1 Homes Midland. 1-915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

BEEN TURNED DOWN? Call to see if you qualify for a Government Mobile Home Loan. Good * Bad * No Credit! Call-Toll Free 1-888-539-7780.

'99 MODELS: 16' wide, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, just $1000 down, $171.95 per month. Save thousands. 1-800-830-3515. $18,900 to finance, 9.5 APR, 240 months W.A.C.

ABANDONED MOBILE HOMES! E-Z FINANCING. Call 1-800-830-3515.

HAVE A JOB? NEED A HOME? We can help! Call 1-800-830-3515.

1ST TIME HOME BUYER OR SINGLE PARENT PROGRAM. E-Z FINANCING. Call 1-888-539-7780

NEW DOUBLEWIDES! JUST $1600 Down & $263.09 Per Month. $31,300 to finance, 9.5 APR, 360 months, W.A.C. Call 1-888-539-7780.

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

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

USE YOUR INCOME TAX CHECK to get a home! Let me show you how! Jesse James Credit Bandit. 1-800-755-9133 or 1-915-563-9000.

1999 FLEETWOOD 16 X 80 — 3 bedroom, 2 bath, $500 down $284.73 month for 360 months. 11% APR. Only 3 left. A-1 Homes. 915-563-9000.

CREDIT PROBLEMS? You pick out the home and I will take care of the credit. Call Billy @ A-1 Homes Midland. 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

Do People really read the classifieds?

Yes. In fact, you're reading them right now!

360 REAL ESTATE

BUILDING FOR SALE BY OWNER. 3407 Snyder Shopping Center. Days 573-3403 or 573-2781 after 6 p.m.

CEMETERY PLOTS—5. Hillside Memorial Gardens, Section 2 "In Garden of Everlasting Life". $600 each. 1-214-564-8006.

COUNTRY LIVING 3 bedroom, about ½ acre, $12,500. 11898 Hwy. 208, South Dunn. Call 573-5067.

FOR SALE BY OWNER! Parkplace Addition, 3-2-2, corner lot, split bedrooms, 2 eating areas, fireplace w/insert, deck, nice landscape. $60's. Call 573-8193 after 5:00. Owner/Agent.

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

OWNER FINANCE! Sharp 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage, CH/A, Cedar Fenced Yard, 15x10 Work Shop. $49,000 * $4,000/down * $475/month * For 20 years. Includes taxes & insurance. You can use your current house as a down payment. 3600 Irving. 573-3304, Carolyn.

STOP THROWING AWAY MONEY ON RENT! SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE! Easy Terms! 3 bedroom house, nice porch, permanent siding, new carpet, newly painted interior. Price $26,000. Low down payment, $295 per month. Call toll free 915-425-9998.

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

Reduced! New Home 35 A's!
Reduced! 3-1-Den Clean.
Exclusive! 3-1 CH/A.
Outside City! 27 A's w/Home.
Spacious! 3-2-2 Colonial Hill.
Near Schools! 5-3½!
Cozy! 2-1-2cp 3201 Ave. U.
Country! 1+A's w/3-2-2cp.
3403 Irving 4 bd-living/den!
3105 Hill 4-1-1cp $40's.
Starter! 4-2-CH/A $30's.
Must Sell!! 3-2-1 $30's.
Estate Sale! 2112 33rd $20's.
Equip Beauty Salon 1008 24th.
Bulldog Corner, Ira.

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

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

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

New! 3-2-2 3309 Irving $115T.
New! 4-2-2 2700 47th $138.5T.
Transferred! Great Area! $122T.
3-1¼-1cp 3718 Sunset $58T.
2803 47th.....$84.5T.
Ex Nice 3-2-2 4106 Midland.
3-2-2 4113 Eastridge Fr.Pl.
4.45 A's 3-1¾ Barns/Arena.
587 A's App 8 Mi. W. of Ira.
3-2-2 Great Area $60T.
W. Hwy. 180 2.13 A's 3-2-cp.
2-1-1 CH/A 310 34th $22T.
2-1-1cp Fenced 510 28th St.
3-1¼-2 Range & Refrigerator.
20 Acres 3-1-2 Cp. Sheds.
Small Starter Home 2-1½.
2025 Sq. Ft. 3-2-1cp $65T.
107 Elm St. 4 Bdrm $23,320.
MOBILE HOMES!
14.49 Ac. 3-2 Hot Tub Sp. Sys.
RED 2-1-1-Den Cor. Lot $30T.
656 Acres with Older Home!

Shirley Drum	**573-1550**
Ford Spikes	**573-6602**

SNYDER Classified Ads Call 573-5486

Planning crucial to saving family farms

CENTERVILLE, Pa. (AP) — Doctors, lawyers, teachers, secretaries, even plumbers have pensions and retirement savings. Farmers often have only the farm.

They and their children may spend their lives working the land — raising barns, silos and fencing; buying livestock and machinery; planting crops; improving the soil; and perhaps leasing other property.

They don't make much money. In 1995, the average farm family net income in Pennsylvania was $13,000. As the saying goes, they end up land rich and cash poor.

So how do they retire without selling everything? How can they ease into retirement and still pass on the land to their children? And how do their children get the money to buy a farm?

"We're trying to find the most cost-effective way to do that," said Pam Wolfe, 37, who with her sister eventually wants to take over her father's dairy farm in Dunbar, Pa.

"Everything we've done on that farm, I didn't do myself: The whole family did it," said her father, Albert Ferens, 61. "I want to learn about transferring the farm to the younger generation."

Mrs. Wolfe and her father were among farmers at a workshop this week sponsored by Farm Link, a nonprofit organization that wants to save Pennsylvania's family farms.

The farmers learned about business and estate planning, financing, farm management and farmland preservation. They heard a few success stories and some tales about families who didn't transfer the farm properly.

"We're having fewer and fewer people assume farms from their families. If it gets serious enough, we won't have people with on-farm experience. And eventually, that leads to more industrialization of agriculture," said Marion Bowlan, director of Harrisburg-based Farm Link. "We have a real crisis in the making if we don't get some more people into farming."

About 90 percent of Pennsylvania's farms still are family owned, but the numbers are declining precipitously, Mrs. Bowlan said.

In 1987, the state had about 51,500 farms; in 1992, that number dropped to 44,870. When the 1997 census statistics are released, Mrs. Bowlan expects the numbers to reveal even more declines.

Just as troubling are statistics that show twice as many farmers are over the age of 55 as under 35 and that a quarter of the state's farms will change hands in the next decade, she said.

Mrs. Bowlan and other experts worry that farmers aren't making provisions to hand over control to their sons and daughters early enough for the next generation to build equity to repay their parents and continue to make improvements.

"I tell farmers that if your son is 40 years old and he still doesn't own any of the business, it's unlikely he'll stick around," she said.

Part of the problem is that farmers either don't want or don't know how to pass on the farm so parents receive enough to live on and children aren't saddled with unreasonably harsh debt.

"Getting started in the planning process is the No. 1 issue. We all know it's going to happen someday, but it's so easy to put it off," said John Becker, a Penn State professor of agricultural economics who gave a workshop on estate planning.

Ed Nehrig, a fourth-generation farmer who works with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, said his father formed a limited partnership with him years ago. Now Nehrig is doing the same so his son can take over their 1,200-acre dairy and grain farm in Indiana County.

"You don't have to put it together and do it all at once. You can do a little as you go," Nehrig said. "The hardest part was just sitting down and doing it."

Mandatory bunk bed standards proposed by U.S. safety panel

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lynn Starks-Williams grew up assuming bunk beds were safe. She slept and played in them as a child. As a parent, she bought a set for her little girl.

She never could have imagined the popular double-deckers as death traps until she walked into her daughter's bedroom one morning and found the 3-year-old hanging from one.

Her daughter, Whitney, is among the 57 children who have died since 1990 in bunk bed accidents, usually after getting their heads stuck in guard rail gaps or the space between the frame and headboard, said the Consumer Product Safety Commission. At least 59 others have been in "near-misses" since then.

The accidents prompted the commission Wednesday to propose mandatory guidelines to help reduce the number of children who die from getting trapped in bunk beds.

"I believe a mandatory rule offers the best opportunity we have to solve the tragic problem before us," said Commission Chairwoman Ann Brown. "These deaths can be prevented, if only the companies who make these beds would follow the safety standard."

The proposed rules would mirror voluntary standards that have existed for nearly a decade. They call for any gap to be less than 3½ inches and guardrails on both sides of the top bunk.

"It would put teeth into our effort to bring the rest of the industry into conformance, ... imposing little, if any, new costs on manufacturers who already are conforming to the voluntary standard," Brown said.

The commission has recalled more than a half-million bunk beds since November 1994, but Brown said most manufacturers adhere to the guidelines. Her concerns stem from the importers and small manufacturers who "make 40 or 50 bunk beds in their garage and then go out of business."

The proposed standards were approved by two of the three panel members. Commissioner Mary Sheila Gall abstained, saying agency investigators have "not produced sufficient evidence to conclude that a mandatory rule would significantly reduce the risk of serious injury." She said she decided to abstain rather than oppose the proposal because she wanted an open discussion.

The commission is expected to make a final recommendation in four to six months after receiving public comment.

Mrs. Starks-Williams, who lives in Oklahoma City, said she learned through the Internet about the numerous bunk bed-related deaths and recalls only after her daughter died.

"That really just made me mad, that this had gone on so long and nothing had ever been done about it," she said.

Births

Sarah Jade Iglehart was born at 7:45 a.m. on Feb. 1 in Odessa Regional Hospital. Her parents are Jody and Tracey Iglehart of Snyder, and she was welcomed home by a brother, Justin, and a sister, Jacey.

Paternal grandparents are Marvin and Carol Iglehart of Snyder. Maternal grandparents are Benny and Darlene Bollinger, also of Snyder.

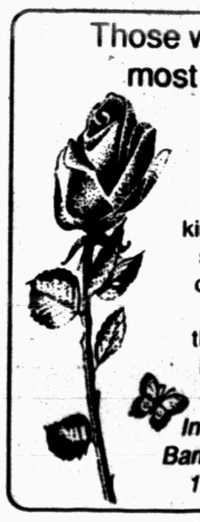
Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Vada Burleson, Murlene Goswick, Jean Howell.

DISMISSALS: H.L. Thompson.

CENSUS: 48 (Med., Surg.-19, Long-term Care-24, CCU-1, OB-2, Nursery-2).

Those we hold most dear



never truly leave us. They live on in the kindness they showed, the comfort they shared and the love they brought into our lives.

In memory of Barbara Scrivner 1941 - 1999

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)

High	Low	Last		
AMR Corp s			60½	59¾ 59¾+ ¼
AT&T Corp	'94 15-16	52 15-16	92 1-16	—2 15-16
AirTouch			92½	91¾ 92¾— ¼
Albertsons			58¾	57¾ 58 + ¾
AlldSignal			39¾	38¾ 39 — ¼
Alltel			63¾	62¾ 62 11-16— 5-16
AmOnline s			173¾	169¾ 170 5-16— 3¾
AmStores			34 3-16	33¾ 34 + 7-16
Ameritech			62½	61¾ 62 — 7-16
AndarkPtr s			29¾	28 11-16 28¾+ 3-16
Armcolnc			4¾	4 11-16 4 11-16— ¼
AtlRichfld			60¾	59½ 59 15-16— 3-16
ATMOS Egy			28	27 13-16 27 13-16— 5-16
Aviall			11¼	11¼ 11 7-16— ¼
BP Amoco			88	87¾ 87¾+1 1-16
BakerHughes			18 3-16	17½ 17 11-16— ¼
BankAmerica			64	61 11-16 62⅝— 1⅛
BellAtl s			60 7-16	59 59 3-16— ¾
BellSouth s			45	44½ 44 11-16— ¼
BethSteel			8 1-16	7¾ 7 13-16— 1-16
BurlNoSFe s			34¾	33 13-16 34⅛— 3-16
CBS Corp			37	35¾ 35½— 1¼
Caterpillar			43 15-16	42¾ 43 5-16+ 3-16
CenSoWst			25 11-16	25¼ 25 5-16— ⅜
Chevron			77½	76¼ 76½+ ¼
Citigroup			54 3-16	53 53 1-16—1 5-16
Coastal s			30 7-16	30 30 3-16
CocaCola			64 3-16	62 15-16 62 15-16—1 9-16
ColgatePalm			83½	82 82 13-16+ ⅜
ComclMetals			24 9-16	24¾ 24¾+ 1-16
CooperIn			42¾	41 15-16 41 15-16— 3-16
CyprusAmax			11½	10½ 11 1-16+1 5-16
DaimlrChry n			101¼	99 9-16 99 9-16— 3½
DallSemicn			36¼	36¼ 36¼— ¼
DeltaAirl s			58	56 11-16 57 — 5-16
Dillards Inc			25 5-16	24¾ 25¼+ 5-16
DowChem			90¾	88¾ 88¾—13-16
DuPont			53 11-16	52 1-16 52 7-16—11-16
EastmanChem			42¾	42¼ 42 5-16— 1-16
EstKodak			68 3-16	66¾ 67 13-16+1 1-16
EDS Corp			52 3-16	51 7-16 51 11-16+ 1-16
Entergy			29 5-16	29¼ 29 3-16— ¼
Exxon			70 9-16	69¾ 69 9-16—13-16
FstBksAm			20¾	20¾ 20¾— 1-16
Flowers			24 11-16	23 13-16 24¼— ¼
FordMotor s			60¾	59¾ 59 7-16—15-16
GTE Cp			67¾	65 13-16 66 —13-16
GenDynam s			61 3-16	60¾ 61 3-16+ 1-16
GenElec			103⅜	101 101 1-16—1 13-16
GenMills			82 7-16	81¾ 81¾— 7-16
GenMotors			90¼	88 15-16 89 1-16— ¾
GaPacGP			67 7-16	66¾ 66 13-16+ 1-16
GlobalMar			8 7-16	8¼ 8 5-16— 3-16
Goodrich			34	33¾ 33¾+ 5-16
Goodyear s			52¼	51 7-16 51⅛— ½
GtAtlPac			32 5-16	31 9-16 31 9-16— ½
Halliburtn			30¾	30 30 3-16— 9-16
Hanson ADS			37½	36¾ 36¾— ¼
HarteHanks s			25½	25 3-16 25¼— 3-16
HomeDepot			58¾	5858 — ¾
HoustonInds			29½	29 1-16 29 1-16— ¼
IBM			176½	171¾ 171½— 3¾
IntlPaper			42 11-16	41¾ 42 7-16+ ¼
JohnsonJn			84 5-16	82¾ 82¾— 1¾
K mart			18¾	17¾ 18 1-16+ 3-16
Kroger Co			65 5-16	64¾ 65 5-16+ ½
Litton			59 1-16	5858¼— 5-16
LockheedM s			40	39¾ 39¾— 1-16
Lowes Cos s			56¼	55¼ 56 1-16— 5-16
Lubys			15¼	14 13-16 15 + 1-16
LucentTech s			110	105 105 — 5
MayDeptStrs			61¼	60¾ 60¾— 1
MediaOne			56	54½ 54¾— ⅛
Medtronic			87¾	86½ 86 11-16—1 7-16
Mobil			86 3-16	85 5-16 85½— ¼
Monsanto			4948	48 5-16—1 1-16
MorganJP			104¾	102 7-16 102½— 1¾
Motorola			69¾	68 1-16 68¼—1 11-16
NCR Corp			46½	45 9-16 45¾— ¼
Navistar			34¼	33¾ 33¾— ½
OryxEngy			11¾	11½ 11½— ¾
Penney JC			41¼	40¾ 40 15-16+ ¾
PennzEnrgy s			11 15-16	11 11-16 11¼— 1-16
PepBoys			15 13-16	15½ 15¾+ ¼
PepsiCo			38¾	38¼ 38 3-16— ¼
PhelpDodge			47 7-16	45 5-16 46¼+ 3¼
PhilipPet			39 9-16	38¾ 38 15-16— ¾
PilgrmPrd B			23	22 5-16 22 15-16+13-16
Polaroid			19	18¾ 18 9-16+ ¼
Praxair			34 5-16	33 11-16 34 5-16+ ¾
ProctGamb			89¾	87 9-16 87 9-16—1 5-16
PubSNwMx			18¼	17¾ 17¾— 3-16
RoyalDut			42 13-16	42 5-16 42¾— 1-16
SBC Comm s			51 7-16	50¾ 50 7-16— 1
SaraLee s			24¾	24¼ 24 7-16— ¼
Scripps EW			44 5-16	4444¼— 3-16
SearsRoeb			41¼	40 3-16 40 7-16— 1-16
SherwinW			26¾	25¾ 26 1-16+11-16
SmithklBchm			68¾	67¾ 68 5-16+1 5-16
SouthernCo			26¼	25¾ 25 13-16— 9-16
SwstAirl s			27¼	2727¼— 3-16
SprintFON n			82¼	8181 — 2
SprintPCS n			38¼	28 1-16 28¼— ¾
Sunoco Inc			34 5-16	33½ 33½— 1
TNP Ent			33½	33 7-16 33 7-16
Tandy			55 13-16	54½ 55¼+ 2¼
TempleInland			59¾	58 11-16 59 3-16+ 7-16
Tenneco			30 9-16	30¼ 30½+ ¾
Texaco			48¾	47½ 47¾— ¼
TexInd			26 7-16	25 11-16 25 11-16— ¾
TexasInst			100¾	97¼ 97¾— 4
TexUtil			43¾	43 1-16 43¼—15-16
Textron			75¾	74¼ 75¼+ 1-16
TriconGlbR			49 9-16	48 11-16 48 11-16—11-16
TrinityInds			35¼	35 5-16 35¼+ ¾
TritonEngy			7 3-16	7 1-16 7 1-16+ 1-16
Tyler			6¼	5¾ 5¾— ¾
US West Inc			61¼	60¼ 60¼+ ¾
USX-Marathn			23 9-16	22 15-16 23 — ¾
USX-USS			26¼	25¼ 25½+ ¼
UnCarbde			38½	37¾ 37¾—13-16
UnionPacif			52 5-16	51 15-16 52 3-16+ 1-16
UnitedTech			124¾	121¼ 124¼+ 2¼
Unocal			29 15-16	29 7-16 29 7-16— 1-16
Venator Grp			5¼	4 15-16 5 + 1-16
WalMart			87 5-16	85 11-16 85 13-16+ 1-16
WellsFargo			34¼	33 9-16 34 + ½
WstnGasRs			4 15-16	4¾ 4 13-16— ¼
WinnDixie			43 3-16	42¾ 42¾—15-16
Xerox Corp			122¾	118 13-16 119 5-16— 3¼
Xerox Cp wi			61¼	60½ 60½— ¼

Nearly daily airstrikes more damaging than 4-day effort

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hit by hit, U.S. and British airstrikes against Iraqi targets in the past five weeks have done more damage to Saddam Hussein's defenses than December's four-day bombing campaign, Pentagon officials say.

In response, Saddam has pulled back anti-aircraft missile batteries from "no-fly" zones in southern and northern Iraq in recent days after a near daily onslaught by U.S. and British warplane patrols that launched missiles and bombs to defend themselves from attack.

The question remains whether it's a temporary retreat by Iraq, which has challenged no-fly zones more than 80 times since Dec. 28 by trying to shoot down allied warplanes or by targeting them with radar. An unknown number of anti-missile batteries remain in the no-fly zones.

"We have seen a pattern of him moving what he considers high-value assets around before," Air Force Major Joe LaMarca, spokesman for U.S. Central Command, said Wednesday. "We believe that we're having an impact. Now, to what degree, that assessment is an ongoing thing."

Meanwhile, the Clinton administration appears to be using the no-fly clashes to expand from self-defensive strikes against anti-aircraft sites to more offensive attacks like Tuesday's U.S. strike against three Iraqi anti-ship missile launchers near the Persian Gulf.

Last month, President Clinton authorized more robust rules of engagement, and recent targets have included defense-associated command and control sites.

One key U.S. ally already has complained. Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said the U.S.-attacks "seem to have gone too far."

The U.S. military uses the Incirlik Air Base in Turkey as a base of operations for enforcing the northern no-fly zone. As a precaution against a possible retaliatory Iraqi missile attack, the United States — at Turkey's request — deployed a Patriot anti-missile battery at Incirlik last week.

U.S. and British fighter jets have destroyed or hit about 40 anti-missile batteries since Dec. 28, when the Iraqi military began to target Western warplanes in the no-fly zones, according to Pentagon estimates. That compares to Western warplanes taking out about two-thirds of the 34 Iraqi air defense sites targeted in the Dec. 16-19 airstrikes.

Overall, the Pentagon estimates it has reduced Iraq's air defense system by 20 percent since the beginning of the December airstrikes, which were launched after Iraq refused to cooperate with U.N. weapons inspections.

In the latest clashes, Air Force and Marine Corps aircraft patrolling the northern zone on Tuesday attacked several Iraqi anti-aircraft artillery sites and an air defense radar installation in self defense. And in the southern zone, Navy jets bombed an Iraqi anti-ship missile site deemed a potential threat to oil shipping off coastal Kuwait.

Two Navy F/A-18s and two F-14s flying from the USS Carl Vinson in the Persian Gulf dropped precision-guided bombs on the battery of shore-to-ship missile launchers and an associated radar, U.S. officials said.

The anti-ship cruise missiles, CSSC-3s, are an older Russian-designed weapon with a range of about 60 miles. Iraq deployed them in recent weeks on the al-Faw peninsula, which juts into the Gulf.

Estimates put the number of Iraqi surface-to-air missile batteries at several hundred. Iraq also has thousands of anti-aircraft guns, including radar fire-control systems that can hit large targets at night.

A key U.S. goal in the series of recent attacks, in addition to making it safer for no-fly patrols to operate, is to shake Saddam's hold on power by degrading his military and sowing seeds of dissent, analysts say.

GOP skeptical of Clinton on base closings

By WALTER R. MEARS
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eventually, Congress is going to have to agree to close unneeded military bases — but Republicans may not trust President Clinton with the keys.

AP news analysis

That, and the built-in political resistance to shutdowns that hurt back home, loom as obstacles to his effort to start two new sets of base closings, targets to be selected later, in 2001 and 2005. He wants legislation to renew the commission system that has produced nearly 100 base closings in the past decade under a sort of no-fault plan that provides insurance against a political backlash and avoids the congressional pressures that once prevented shutdowns.

The Republican grudge is over a loophole Clinton used to advantage in deflecting two politically-sensitive shutdown decisions in 1995, as he prepared for his re-election campaign.

It is supposed to be an all-or-nothing process. A commission lists the bases to be closed or cut back, for Congress and the president to accept or reject, but not to change. Clinton signed off on closing them, but then kept operations going at bases near Sacramento, Calif., and San Antonio, Texas, by ordering a shift from the military to civilian contractors.

There were Republican reminders of that when Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen took the administration case for base closings to Congress.

Sen. John Warner of Virginia, new chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, told Cohen on Wednesday that he recognizes the need, but isn't ready to commit to the new rounds the Pentagon wants.

"I'm not going to revisit what happened, that's history," he said. "But we really have to determine whether or not we can make a politically bulletproof bill to avoid what happened — and you know what I'm talking about."

"The issue has been politicized," said Sen. Pat Roberts of Kansas.

"There's not a lot of trust in the last go-around," GOP Rep. James Hansen of Utah told Cohen the day before.

Both said they agreed with the process. The skepticism is about Clinton's handling of it.

Clinton's budget seeks new base closing rounds in 2001 and 2005. It does not say how many bases, or which ones.

That would be left to a new Base Realignment and Closure Commission, BRACE in the Pentagon and congressional acronym. The Pentagon recommends bases for closing or curtailment, and the bipartisan commission makes the choices — taking the political heat off Congress and the administration.

But Congress still is coping with the impact of prior rounds. The 1995 dispute aside, there is built-in resistance to yielding the economic benefits of military bases back home, among Democrats as well as Republicans.

Cohen said prior closings and cuts, affecting nearly 250 bases, will save $14 billion, and avoid spending of about $5.6 billion a year after 2003.

By administration estimate, it will take further cuts of about 10 percent in U.S. bases in the United States to fit trimmed, post-Cold War military forces and budgets.

Cohen said the money is essential, and while Congress could delay base cutbacks, "at some point in time they're going to be faced with a real, critical choice" because old bases are taking funds needed for new weapons.

With the new rounds he seeks, Cohen said, the Pentagon would save $20 billion on bases, plus $3 billion a year. "That will come into play in the year 2008 to 2015, that's when all of those systems we're buying now have to be paid for," he said.

But it is a politically sensitive issue, a tough vote, even with the commission as a buffer, choosing the bases to shut. And the lingering resentment of Clinton's intercession last time will make this time more difficult.

For Congress, it also is a blind draw, because there is no list of the bases that might be marked for closings or cuts. Roberts said there ought to be at least a general description so that everybody wouldn't be left in "BRAC purgatory."

Cohen said he knows of no lists, and that if there were any, he'd be accused of politicizing it in choosing which bases to recommend closing and which to spare.

He said that is the kind of political complaint the commission system was designed to eliminate.

"And I know very well that there are questions about whether it has been carried out to the full extent of the letter and the spirit of the law," Cohen added.

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

Capitol Briefs

Schizophrenia relief advocated

AUSTIN (AP) — Theresa Wolfe was diagnosed with severe depression when she was 8, after an early childhood scarred by physical and sexual abuse.

"If I could have gotten help back then, I could have become a college graduate instead of doing five-and-dime sorts of work," said Ms. Wolfe, 54, who makes and sells ceramics in San Angelo.

Ms. Wolfe was one of some 200 health-care advocates, many of whom suffer from mental illness, who rallied at the Capitol Wednesday for increased state funding for a new generation of drugs to treat schizoates called on the Texas Legislature to provide $150 million over the next two years to fund new medications and community support services.

According to the Mental Health Association in Texas, some 2.8 million people suffer statewide from a mental illness, including 200,000 who have schizophrenia, also known as multiple personality disorder.

Bush will support independent TSU

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. George W. Bush says he supports keeping Texas Southern University an independent public school despite recent criticism of some of its operations.

"I know it's an institution that's educated a lot of people in the past and can do so in the future," Bush said Wednesday. "It's an important part of the Harris County area. I think it provides a very important symbol for Houston."

Bush met with leaders of the legislative black caucus in private a day earlier. His support is a boost for the historically black university in Houston at a time when lawmakers are considering whether to force the school into a state university system.

Lawmakers fighting that move say the school's unique mission of educating black students is as critical as ever. A 1996 federal court ruling and a state attorney general's opinion eliminated affirmative action in admissions, recruitment and financial aid programs at Texas colleges and universities.

Lawmakers eye bill for safer roads

AUSTIN (AP) — For the fifth time in his 10-year tenure in the House, state Rep. Fred Hill, R-Richardson, has filed a bill that would strengthen Texas' open container law and increase penalties for repeat drunken driving violations.

Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, has filed similar legislation in the Senate.

"Texans feel they have the right to finish up a day of working out in the hot sun and drive down the highway in their pick-up truck, down a bottle and toss it empty in the back," Hill said Wednesday.

His legislation has failed in previous sessions to emerge from committee scrutiny.

"Each time this bill fails to pass, more people die," Hill said. "We not only lead the US in alcohol-related fatalities, we probably lead the world."

Hill cited national statistics that 1,748 people perished in alcohol-related crashes in Texas in 1997, although the Texas Department of Public Safety, which has strict standards, said 1,066 people were killed. DPS officials said their statistic represented 30.4 percent of all traffic deaths in Texas that year.

Edgewood parents protest vouchers

AUSTIN (AP) — With legislation already filed to start a state-funded pilot voucher program, parents from a poor district involved in a similar private initiative are warning lawmakers of possible negative effects.

"Edgewood is a pilot voucher program, not by choice, but we are one," said Dolores Munoz, superintendent of schools for the Edgewood Independent School District, which led poor school districts in the landmark fight over Texas public school finance system.

"We have the first experience that vouchers hurt," she said.

Last year, the district was picked by a private foundation to participate in a 10-year, $50 million plan to provide poor children money to attend private schools.

So far, 700 students have left, taking with them $4 million in state funding, Ms. Munoz said.

"That $4 million could have gone to teacher training, material, supplies," she said.

Parents, teachers and school officials from the district met with several lawmakers Wednesday to discuss their experience with the program.

Many of the private schools won't consider children with special needs, said Margarita James, whose 10-year-old daughter is a student in the district.

"My child is dyslexic and the money that's being taken away from the school should be used to help her," she said.

Under one bill being considered by lawmakers up to 20,000 Texas public school students who are low-income and have failed the state academic skills test could get taxpayer-funded vouchers to attend private school.

Voucher proponents argue that parents should have the option of moving their children from low-performing schools into private ones.

Clintons decry magazine's feature on their daughter

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton and his wife say they are "profoundly saddened" by People magazine's decision to do a cover story on daughter Chelsea.

"For over six years, the media has understood and respected the unique situation facing Chelsea as she grows up in the spotlight focused on her parents," the Clintons said Wednesday in a prepared statement. "We have been very grateful for the media's restraint in allowing Chelsea the privacy that any young person needs and deserves."

The Clintons said People chose to run the story "despite personal appeals with respect to her privacy and her security from her parents."

The magazine is to hit the street Friday with a cover photo of Chelsea with her mother and the headline: "Hillary & Chelsea — Grace Under Fire."

People bills the eight-page story inside as "an intimate look at the deep bond of love that sustains the Clinton women through their painful family ordeal" in the Monica Lewinsky scandal and the impeachment of the president.

"There is a great deal of admiration for this mother-daughter relationship," People's managing editor, Carol Wallace, said in response to the White House statement. "Chelsea is nearly 19 years old and a poised young adult. We feel that because she is an eyewitness to the family drama and historical events unfolding around her she is a valid journalistic subject."

Administration officials said they didn't believe there were any startling revelations in the magazine's upcoming issue, but that the Clintons were chagrined to see their daughter, who will turn 19 on Feb. 27, the subject of a cover story.

White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said the Clintons found fault with "more the concept than the detail" of the story.

Datebook

Feb. 4, 1999

Today is the 35th day of 1999 and the 46th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1789, George Washington was elected president by a unanimous vote of the Electoral College.

On this day in 1912, movie stuntman Frederick Law parachuted from the torch of the Statue of Liberty.

On this day in 1945, President Franklin Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet General Secretary Joseph Stalin met for discussions at Yalta.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Thaddeus Kosciusko (1746-1817), Polish patriot; Charles Lindbergh (1902-1974), aviator; Rosa Parks (1913-), civil rights leader, is 86; Ida Lupino (1918-1995), actress-director; Betty Friedan (1921-), feminist-writer, is 78; Dan Quayle (1947-), politician, is 52; Alice Cooper (1948-), singer, is 51; Lawrence Taylor (1959-), football player, is 40.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1951, Sugar Ray Robinson defeated Jake LaMotta, winning the world middleweight boxing championship.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of times, the pessimist fears this is true." — James Branch Cabell

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Jan. 31) and last quarter (Feb. 8).

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Boss's Wandering Hands Are Pushing Teen Out the Door

by Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: I am a 16-year-old girl and have a part-time job after school. From the look of things, I seem like a perfectly normal, happy teen-ager with everything going for me. My grades are honor roll. I have a loving family and caring friends.

However, things are not as they appear to be. My boss, a married man with three kids, is hugging, kissing and touching me in places he shouldn't be. I feel really uncomfortable at work and very intimidated. He does it in such a smooth way there is no way of stopping him. (It's hard to explain.) I don't want it to continue, and I'd like to quit this job.

The problem is, my family thinks this is the "dream job." I'm allowed to bring my homework and do it there. I work for only a few hours, and the work is easy. His family is nice to me, and his wife loves me like a sister.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. It has been a big burden keeping these feelings bottled up inside. I feel really frustrated, confused and used. Please help.

INTIMIDATED IN TORONTO

DEAR INTIMIDATED: I don't blame you for feeling frustrated and confused. Your feelings are valid: You are being used. It makes me wonder how many of his other female employees are being subjected to his unwanted advances.

This man knows exactly what he's doing; he's taking advantage of your youth and inexperience. The name for it is sexual harassment. Do not help him by remaining passive and silent. Your parents should be told immediately. If you want to quit this job, you have my permission. But your parents should be told exactly why you chose to quit.

***

DEAR ABBY: We live next door to a military man and his wife. We like them both very much, and help each other with little things. His wife is older than he and has health problems.

My husband and I know positively that he's having an affair with a married woman he met several months ago when he was going through some additional training.

Knowing about his affair makes it difficult to be in their company. We certainly do not condone his behavior. We are very uncomfortable when certain things are said. We feel caught in the middle because we learned about his affair accidentally.

We would never butt into their business, but they are both friendly with us. We purposely avoid them at times. We know the affair is continuing, and that he's thinking of leaving his wife, but he doesn't want to be ruined financially.

If we suddenly distance ourselves from them, they'll wonder why. We feel trapped in our home because they always talk to us when we are in the yard.

Have you any suggestions about how to handle this situation? We're old enough to be his parents.

MARY IN BREMERTON

DEAR MARY: A good neighbor is there to help, not judge. The way to handle this situation is to mind your own business. You are "trapped" in your home only if you choose to be. Unless they seek your advice, stay on your own side of the fence.

***

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

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Airline passenger rights movement growing

WASHINGTON (AP) — Oversold flights, frequent flier miles that are hard to redeem and horror stories about passengers being trapped on planes are fueling a wave of complaints about the airline industry.

They've also triggered a congressional response and some sharp criticism.

"The real point is to make sure that the airlines bring some of their creativity and extraordinary entrepreneurial skill into making sure that the passengers who use their service get through it without feeling like a dish rag," said Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore.

He and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., have written a bill that would give passengers 48 hours to cancel tickets that are currently nonrefundable. Among other things, the bill would require airlines to explain why flights are delayed and tell frequent fliers how many seats are available if they want to cash in their miles.

"Airlines got freedom with deregulation, and frankly a lot of them exploited that freedom unfairly," Wyden explained. "It seems to me you have a situation where airline profits are going through the roof and passenger service is being left at the gate."

Airlines, and even some pro-traveler groups, beg to differ.

"We as airline passengers keep telling airlines what we want is low fares, low fares, low fares," said David Stempler, president of the Air Travelers Association, a group that serves passengers and tries to expand air service.

"If you start mucking around with that system that has a very delicate balance, it's possible fares will go up for everybody."

While there are signs that airline profits may have peaked, the numbers still show that this is a gold-plated era for the industry.

Major U.S. carriers posted net profits of $5.1 billion last year, down just slightly from their all-time record of $5.2 billion in 1997. Alone, United Airlines, the nation's largest carrier, had net earnings of $1.34 billion.

Collectively, U.S. airlines also carried an estimated 615 million passengers in 1998, with planes filled to near capacity.

US Airways ended the year with a record average of 72.7 percent of its seats filled. With load factors so high, there are few seats between passengers, little extra room for standbys and almost no margin for relief when a flight is canceled and passengers have to be rebooked.

The effects are being felt across the system. The Transportation Department reported Tuesday that passengers filed 9,606 service complaints with the department in 1998, not a huge number in itself but 25 percent more than in 1997.

At the same time, airlines posted a mishandled-baggage rate of 5.16 complaints per 1,000 passengers, compared with 4.96 per 1,000 in 1997.

Robert Jarvis, a law professor and author of "Travel Law: Cases and Materials," a textbook on passenger problems, said airlines can afford to be rough with passengers because competition has fallen since the industry was deregulated in 1978.

He said that's partly to blame for the increase in stories about unruly passengers.

Lawmaker backs bill to block new bank reporting proposal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Amid an avalanche of public complaints that proposed federal rules could turn every bank teller into a spy for Big Brother, a Texas lawmaker is pushing legislation aimed at protecting Americans' financial privacy.

The far-reaching legislative package unveiled Wednesday by Republican Rep. Ron Paul would, among other things, block proposed anti-money laundering rules that would track the habits of bank customers.

At least two of the federal banking agencies that are proposing the "Know Your Customer" rules are reconsidering in response to the public outcry that started in December. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., for example, had received more than 14,000 e-mail messages and letters opposing the proposal as the end of last week.

Privacy advocates, conservative groups, ordinary people and the nation's bankers themselves have complained that the rules would impinge on privacy rights.

"We proclaim that American citizens have the right to be free of the snooping, spying, prying eyes of government bureaucrats," Paul told reporters. He said his legislation would "give Americans the peace of mind that comes from knowing that their every financial step is not being filed away and viewed as potentially criminal."

Paul said about a dozen lawmakers, including House Republican Whip Tom DeLay of Texas, had agreed to join him as co-sponsors of the bill to stop the "Know Your Customer" rules.

But the other two measures in his package — to repeal the Bank Secrecy Act and to let people see the files on them created by the federal Financial Crimes Enforcement Network — hadn't attracted any co-sponsors yet and legislative prospects were clouded.

The Bank Secrecy Act of 1974 obligates banks to report customers' cash transactions of $10,000 or more to law enforcement authorities. Paul said the law has failed to help catch drug dealers, who "are smarter than most bankers."

Paul, a physician who is on the House Banking Committee, once ran for president as the Libertarian Party's nominee. His strict constitutionalist beliefs often put him at odds with his fellow Republicans.

Paul maintains that the "Know Your Customer" rules violate the Fourth Amendment prohibition against unreasonable search and seizure.

The proposed regulations would require banks to verify their customers' identities, know where their money comes from and determine their normal pattern of transactions. The current requirements for banks to report any "suspicious" transactions to law enforcement authorities would be expanded.

The proposal is designed to combat money laundering techniques used by drug traffickers and other criminals to hide illegal profits. Money laundering is a major concern of law enforcement officials; it reached an estimated $30 billion in this country last year.

Laundering includes the use of wire transfers and bank drafts as well as "smurfing," the practice of breaking down transactions into smaller amounts that do not have to be reported under the Bank Secrecy Act.

Although Paul's bill regarding files kept by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network would not abolish the Treasury Department agency, he said he does not see any need for it. Most law enforcement activity should be done by states rather than federal "bureaucrats carrying guns," he said.

Spokesmen for the agency said they hadn't seen Paul's legislation yet and had no immediate comment on it.

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Facial pain is treatable

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have tic douloureux. My doctor says it's rare and has no known cause or cure. All I know is that it's very, very painful. I'd be interested in getting a second opinion.

DEAR READER: As well you should. Tic douloureux (trigeminal neuralgia) causes spasms of stabbing facial pain. The affliction is both common and treatable. See a neurologist.

DEAR DR. GOTT: One night at dinner, my 15-year-old granddaughter entertained us by placing one hand on her chin, the other on top of her head and giving a twist. You could hear her neck crack from across the room. Aside from making her family wince, will this practice harm her?

DEAR READER: Your granddaughter is basically giving you a home-style demonstration of chiropractic manipulation. As she twists her head, the articulating surfaces of the spinal vertebrae snap on each other. Aside from the fact that this performance is not suitable dinner-table behavior, I think that it should be discouraged because, over time, she may tend to develop small but painful areas of arthritis in the neck bones. Ask your granddaughter to knock it off and to develop some other adolescent trick to put the grown-ups' teeth on edge.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have thrombophlebitis, for which my doctor prescribed Lanoxin, Isordil and Coumadin. She says that while my arteries are open, the valves in my leg veins are defective. Will I ever get over this? Do I have other options?

DEAR READER: You are taking three drugs and, as far as I can see, only one — Coumadin — is for thrombophlebitis (blood clots in the veins). Coumadin slows blood coagulation and helps prevent clots from forming. Sometimes, when veins swell and dilate in the legs or pelvis, blood circulation through them is markedly slowed. If there are irregular, rough areas in the lining of the veins, or if — as your doctor believes — the normal venous valves are defective, blood clots can readily develop. Once pieces of these clots break off, they can be carried to the lungs and cause a life-threatening breathing problem called pulmonary embolism.

Coumadin is effective in preventing this condition. However, there are also surgical procedures available: The defective veins can be removed, or surgeons can perform a caval interruption, during which a filter is placed in the major abdominal vein to prevent clots from migrating from the legs.

In your case, the Lanoxin and Isordil seem to indicate that you have a heart problem, too. In such an instance, surgery may not be a consideration because of the risks. Therefore, long-term Coumadin therapy may be your best choice. Your doctor can advise you.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Blood — Donations & 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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DR. GOTT

PETER GOTT, M.D.

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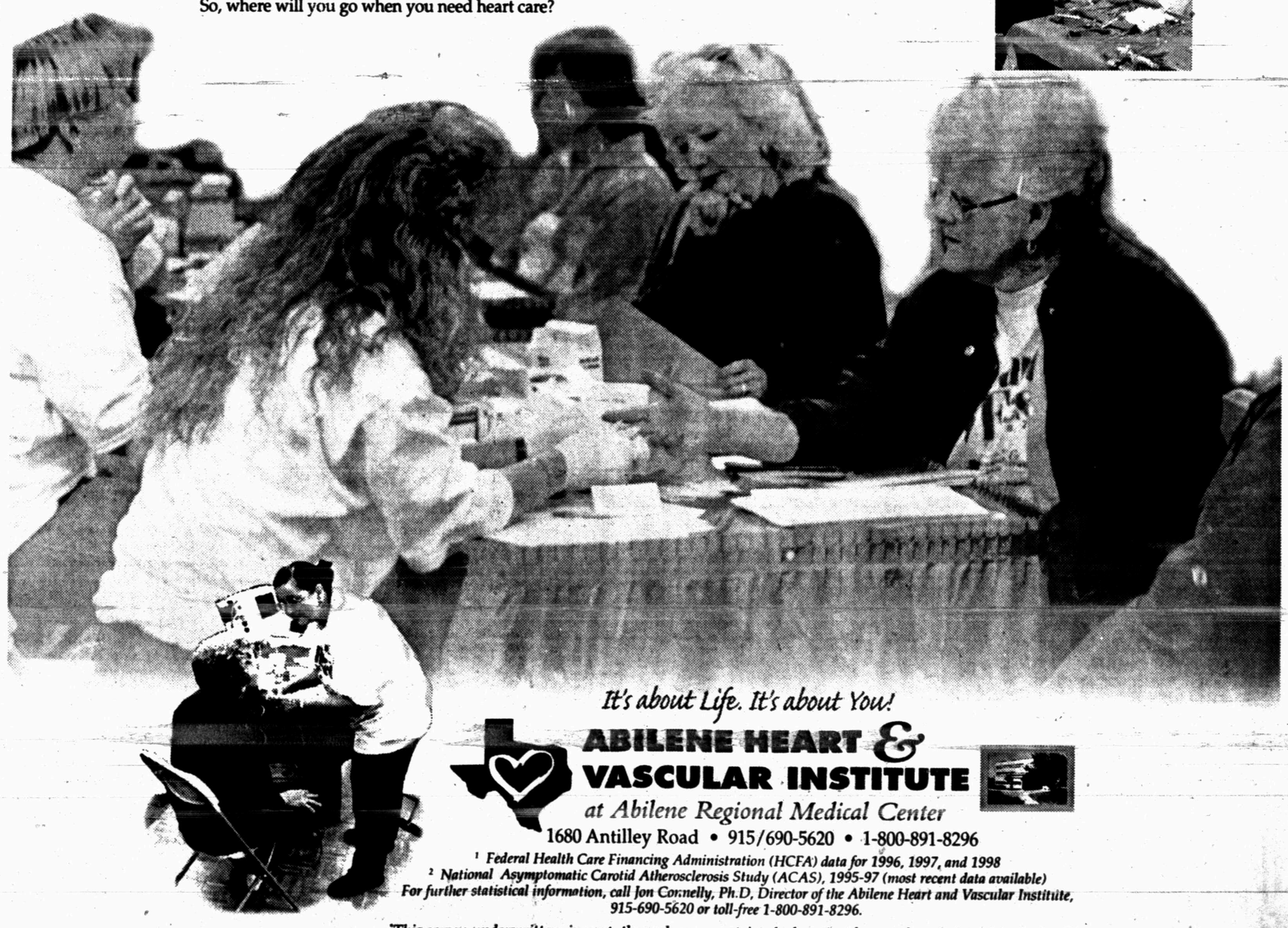

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[1] Federal Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) data for 1996, 1997, and 1998

[2] National Asymptomatic Carotid Atherosclerosis Study (ACAS), 1995-97 (most recent data available)

For further statistical information, call Jon Connelly, Ph.D, Director of the Abilene Heart and Vascular Institute, 915-690-5620 or toll-free 1-800-891-8296.

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Congress skeptical...

U.S. troops needed in Kosovo?

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Bosnia-weary Congress is reacting skeptically to the Clinton administration's suggestion that U.S. troops may be needed to help enforce a peace plan in war-scarred Kosovo.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, in a policy speech today, is saying the administration is seriously considering U.S. participation in a peacekeeping force.

Albright is offering assurances any American ground troops sent to Kosovo would be part of an international force and would not be sent in until there is a settlement and cease-fire.

There remains no such plan, despite NATO's efforts to force the warring parties to the bargaining table this weekend. But the administration's national security team has been making the rounds on Capitol Hill laying groundwork for such a deployment in case a peace plan is adopted.

"I do not at this time support ground troops in Kosovo, because I do not know what the game plan is," said Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, after a briefing by Albright and Defense Secretary William Cohen. "I do not know what the exit strategy is, and I don't know how many of our forces would be involved."

Her comments echoed those of many lawmakers.

Later, Albright made a hastily arranged decision to deliver a major policy address on Kosovo to a foreign policy group today. A senior official, asking not to be identified, said Albright planned to explain why Kosovo was important to the national interest. The official declined to say whether Albright planned any major disclosures in the speech.

Testifying Wednesday before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Cohen said the promise of some U.S. peacekeeping presence might be crucial for nailing down a support for a peace plan from Kosovo's ethnic Albanians.

Cohen predicted a three- to five-year stay if troops are introduced but said the U.S. ground presence would be "relatively small," and that Europeans should comprise the bulk of the force. The United States would retain the lead responsibility for any airstrikes, he said.

Any U.S. ground force would be sent into the southern Serbian province only after a viable peace accord is agreed to by the warring factions, Cohen said.

Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the committee he envisions a U.S. contingent of 2,000 to 4,000 troops, but he said that was just a guess as NATO hadn't yet decided on the size of the overall force.

Sen. John Warner, R-Va., chairman of the Armed Services Committee, said he supports U.S. participation in a ground force once a peace pact is in place.

Warner said: "Many of my colleagues quite properly are concerned that we're moving into another Bosnia — open-ended situation, when (the) administration in years past has set deadlines, and those deadlines have not been met."

Local officers make 2 arrests

Two arrests were made early this morning.

At 12:30 a.m., officers took a 47-year-old female into custody in the 1800 block of 14th Street for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

A 36-year-old male was taken into custody at 1:32 a.m. in the 1800 block of College on outstanding Department of Public Safety warrants out of Del Rio for speeding and failure to appear.

In activity Wednesday, officers filed two offense reports and worked three motor vehicle accidents.

An offense report for Class B theft was filed at 2:51 p.m. at the Coin Laundry in reference to the theft of a jacket belonging to Charles Brooks.

Officers filed an offense report for Class C assault at 10:02 p.m.

At 8:01 a.m., officers worked a two-vehicle mishap in the 2600 block of 36th Place. Involved were a 1994 Geo Prism driven by Carla Alexander of 3409 Apple Street and a 1998 Chevrolet Camara driven by Kristi Cox of 2902 37th Street.

Officers worked an accident in the 2200 block of 43rd Street at 10 a.m. Involved were a 1988 Oldsmobile Tornado driven by Paulette Holladay of 2210 44th Street and a parked, unoccupied 1986 Ford Bronco II owned by Preston Wilson of 2205 43rd Street.

A two-vehicle mishap occurred at 2:04 p.m. in the 4200 block of College involving a 1996 Chevrolet Lumina driven by Neilda Reese Word of 3106 37th Place and a 1994 Cheverolet C-1500 pickup driven by Charles Gallaway of 1365 North Business Hwy. 84.

Gallaway was transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Memorial Hospital where he was admitted for observation. He was listed in good condition this morning.

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Senate poised to reject having live testimony

WASHINGTON (AP) — A majority of senators now oppose live testimony in President Clinton's impeachment trial, Senate Republicans' comments indicated today.

As GOP senators continued to struggle with proposals that would conclude Clinton committed wrongdoing without removing him from office, the Senate's Democratic leader said there could be a censure motion instead.

As for live testimony, the Senate's 45 Democrats are united against bringing Monica Lewinsky and other witnesses into the Senate chamber, according to Minority Leader Tom Daschle, and more than six Republicans now have said in interviews they also oppose live testimony.

A majority of 51 votes would prevent the further testimony.

"I don't think there's anything to add by calling them in," said Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska. Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan. added, "Don't want it, don't need it."

Sens. Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado and Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas added their voices against witnesses, a position taken by at least three GOP senators Wednesday.

Daschle, meanwhile, said any "findings of fact" resolution by the Republicans on Clinton's transgressions "is unconstitutional. Our hope is that we can move to the articles very quickly and then move to a censure, perhaps as early as tomorrow."

Before the political arguments began, Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., urged lawmakers and others at a prayer breakfast to help Clinton, who participated in the event. Lieberman asked "at this time of difficulty for the president, that you hear his prayer, that you help him with the work he is doing with his family and his clergy, that you accept his atonement."

Republicans held a party meeting to search for a solution to the "findings of fact" dilemma, unhappy to have the trial end with a straight acquittal.

The Constitution requires a two-thirds vote to convict a president and remove him from office but a so-called finding of fact would only need a majority. Critics argue there is no constitutional alternative to conviction and removal in a trial that could be completed by Feb. 12.

With the trial resuming today, the issue was not on the agenda. Senators have had a week-long break during which House trial managers took depositions from Monica Lewinsky, presidential friend Vernon Jordan and White House aide Sidney Blumenthal.

The Senate today was considering whether to make public the videotaped depositions and whether any or all of the witnesses should appear in person on the Senate floor.

House prosecutors want to show portions of the videotapes as part of further evidence presentation, but only as a fallback position if they can't get live witnesses. Democrats have been united in opposition to live testimony, and even Republicans who viewed the videotapes of Ms. Lewinsky and Jordan appeared unenthusiastic about calling them.

GOP Senate officials conceded it would be difficult to secure enough votes to prevail on a call for live testimony, particularly with public opinion in favor of a swift end to the proceedings.

The lead House prosecutor, Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., said he was "not particularly interested" in showing all the videotapes if live witnesses were rejected, but would instead show excerpts. The White House then could use portions of the video for its defense, he said.

Hyde said there were "no bombshells or anything like that" in the depositions, but added the managers who questioned the three witnesses believed their responses would be useful to the prosecution's case.

"I am not going to support appearances of witnesses before the U.S. Senate," said Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine.

Gephardt says he will stay in House, win it back for Demos

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional Democrats say House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt's decision to forgo a presidential race next year boosts their chances for capturing control of the chamber in the 2000 elections.

"I'm glad," said Rep. Charles Stenholm, D-Texas, a leader of his party's conservatives. "2000 looks even better now."

Gephardt, D-Mo., used an 11-minute speech Wednesday to formally tell his colleagues that he would remain in Congress and focus on winning Democratic control of the House.

His audience was more than 200 House Democrats and aides, who turned a gathering in a Capitol basement room into a noisy campaign-style rally, complete with white-on-blue hand-held signs reading, "Speaker Gephardt."

"I've handed that gavel over for the last time," Gephardt told the crowd. "When the 107th Congress convenes in January of 2001, I want to take that gavel back on your behalf."

Since 1995, the 58-year-old Missourian has presided at the opening of three successive Congresses that Republicans have controlled, giving the gavel to GOP speakers Newt Gingrich and Dennis Hastert.

"I want to help rebuild the trust between the people and their government," Gephardt said. He said Democrats would create a Congress "that reflects the hopes and dreams of the people, rather than the unending drumbeat of a small minority, bent on imposing their will on an entire nation."

In his remarks, he never mentioned that he had considered seeking his party's presidential nomination next year, nor did he mention the front-runner for that post, Vice President Al Gore.

The vice president, campaigning in New Hampshire, refused to say whether Gephardt promised to endorse him or whether Gore requested his endorsement. "I have pledged to do everything in my power to help Democrats win back the House and make Dick Gephardt speaker," the vice president said.

Questioned later by reporters, Gephardt said his prospects for winning that nomination or raising the millions of dollars needed had nothing to do with his decision.

"I made this a personal decision for what in my heart and my mind ... would make the best contribution I could make for public service," he said.

President Clinton called Gephardt's decision not to run in 2000 "the right thing for him and the House of Representatives."

"He and I discussed his decision and I feel he made the choice for the right reasons," Clinton said in a statement.

Gephardt supporters, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he decided that winning back the House was as important to Democratic initiatives as retaining the White House. He also believed he had a better chance to become speaker than president, they said.

Asked if he would endorse Gore — with whom he had breakfast Wednesday — Gephardt said, "I haven't made any decision on any of that."

By not challenging Gore, Gephardt has avoided a bitter fight that could have divided and distracted congressional Democrats next year.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Senior class parents

Parents of 1999 seniors at Snyder High School will meet at 7 p.m. today in the high school student center. Plans will be made for the end-of-school activities. Everyone is urged to attend.

Food Drive

Boy, Cub and Girl Scouts will conduct a food drive starting today to benefit the Food Cupboard. Bags will be left on doors around town and Scouts will return Saturday to pick up donated canned goods.

Girls Lil' Dribblers signup

Signup for Girls Little Dribblers will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m. until noon Saturday in the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. A parent or guardian is required along with a birth certificate and registration fee of $25

Computer swap meet

The Scurry-Mitchell Computer Club will hold a swap meet from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Saturday at Towle Park barn. Call Ken Andrews at 573-1663 to reserve a table for $10.

Retired teachers

The Scurry County retired teachers will meet Monday at noon at The Shack. Mrs. Dorothy Duncan will present the program.

Bible study tapes

Bible study video tapes air weekly on cable TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "I Have a Feeling Someting Bad is About to Happen," followed by "Rekindling the Marriage Flame."

WTC sets open house

WTC will observe the dedication of its training center and have a campus-wide open house on Thursday, Feb. 11. The dedication is at 1:30 p.m. and the open house continues until 4 p.m. For additional information call 573-8511, Ext. 200.

PTK Valentine fundraiser

Phi Theta Kappa, WTC honor society, is selling chances for Valentine gifts to help fund their trip to California for the international conference. The raffle will be held Thursday, Feb. 11, in the Student Center during the activity period. Gifts have been donated by various local merchants. Tickets are available from PTK members or by calling 573-8511, Ext. 313.

Hermleigh photos wanted

The Scurry County Museum is seeking photographs of buildings in Hermleigh. The photos may be donated or loaned and one will be used on the 1999 Christmas ornament. Call 573-6107 or come by the museum on the WTC campus.

1998 First Methodist cookbook

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

Windbreak trees

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

Planetarium shows

The refurbished planetarium at Western Texas College is available for group shows Thursday evenings and all day on Fridays. The shows are by reservation only and there is no charge. There are three presentations available in the 59-seat auditorium, one for pre-K, another for K through 4, and one for general audiences. For reservations contact Sharon Gill at WTC, 573-8511, ext. 312.

Adult education classes

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

Road to Recovery program

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

Support groups

Four different support groups meet at 6:30 the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church. The groups include divorce recovery, cancer-grief support group, a group for parents of teens and a group for adult-children caring for elderly parents.

Pick 3

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

5-5-2
(five, five, two)

Lotto Texas

By The Associated Press

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

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 10-25-33-46-48-49.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $10 million.