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WT-Int. Crude - $33.98
WTIC Posted - $30.75
Natural Gas - $6.83

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

FRIDAY
Jan. 9, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 218
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Kerrington Biggers

JAN 09 2004

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN



by Wade Warren

Remember last year's city council marathon discussions on the city-county interlocal agreement?

The city thought it was going to get $300,000 to $400,000 from the county for fire suppression services, but instead ended up paying the county $50,000 annually in support of EMS services.

Well, the 2004 version of such may be in the works, only this time it involves cats and dogs.

Over the last few months, the council and its animal shelter committee have discussed the city building or converting an existing structure for its own animal shelter.

Currently, it contracts with Dr. Charles Church at West Texas Animal Clinic for a monthly basic fee of $1,550.

No one on the council has said they are displeased with the services provided by Dr. Church, but it appears council members simply want more control of a city service.

After all, the city is ultimately responsible for the shelter at the clinic and must be the one that is following state guidelines.

Some changes in state rules and regulations have prompted some council members to seek a different approach for shelter services.

Cost is another factor.

Councilman Ron Shaw said if the city owned its own shelter, then the monthly cost to the clinic would be eliminated.

"We figure with what we're paying the clinic, we could pay for our own in three or four years," said Shaw. "It just would be better use of taxpayers' money."

Shaw also cited location as another factor in the council looking into a shelter.

"We need to have it conveniently located," the councilman said, adding he feels a more convenient location would result in more animals being adopted.

"There are several issues involved, I just feel like it is a good idea for the city to have its own shelter," said Shaw.

He also noted that the present arrangement does not meet Texas Department of Health standards.

"We have new guidelines coming on line that if they are not met, we'll be out of the animal shelter business," said Shaw.

He emphasized that the city cannot ignore the mandates from the state.

"If we just ignore this, the health department might go into an enforcement mode as opposed to working with us."

Councilman Terry Martin said he felt there is no question the city needed to make some changes. "We need a clean, sanitary dog pound, but no bells and whistles."

It is understandable for the city council to want to control of a city service in which it has the final say, but whether or not it would be cheaper in the long run, I'm not convinced.

But what do I know about animal shelters?

I can't even keep a little three-pound dog in my back yard without it getting out two or three times a week.

What I do know is that the city administration should take some leadership in this matter and not get the city in a bind as it did with the interlocal agreement with a lackadaisical attitude costing city taxpayers more.

Snyder ISD...

Trustees extend superintendent's contract one year

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Snyder ISD trustees met for almost three hours Thursday evening with most of the time spent in closed session on personnel matters.

Trustees unanimously agreed to extend Supt. Ronny Collins contract one year, now to expire June 30, 2007.

This action came after a 40-minute closed session.

The contract was extended at Collins' present salary of $92,000 annually.

In a one-hour closed session, the trustees met with Charity Wilson, a former school district bus driver.

Wilson had filed a grievance concerning her dismissal and meeting with the board as a whole is the final step in the grievance process.

Following the closed session, the board voted 4-0, with one trustee abstaining, to uphold Supt. Collins' action on the termination and previous appeals. Trustee Cathy Peoples abstained.

In action items, the board approved a resolution designating a portion of the district's fund balance to the on-going heating and cooling project at Snyder High School in the amount of $523,112.

Trustees also heard the monthly financial report, and the annual safe and drug-free report as given by resource officer Kenny Burns and Karen Waller, executive director of finance.

The contract of Snyder Junior High teacher and coach Fernando Baeza was approved. Baeza is a December graduate of Abilene Christian University.

Trustees also heard an update on the facilities study from Bill Branum of Total Program Management.

Branum said TPM's report on the district would be presented at the April board meeting.

Branum told the board that his company not only looks at bricks and mortar, but everything including grade level configuration.

"We'll be meeting with campus site-based committees over the next couple of weeks to determine what is needed to improve the education of Snyder's children," said Branum.

Board president Mark McCormick presided and board members present were Peoples, Lu Ann Burleson, Richard Chambers, Glenn Clarady and Mike Levens. Doug Neff was absent.



CUT TELEPHONE CABLE — Southwestern Bell telephone repairman Rick Wood puts the finishing touches on a line repair Thursday. City crews were repairing a water line break when the telephone line was severed at 30th St. and Ave. Y. The line was cut around 8:30 a.m. and was repaired by 3 p.m. City workers shown are Daniel Flores, left, and Wayne Kimery. (SDN Staff Photo)

Four sentenced to prison

Four persons were sentenced to serve time in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice following guilty pleas entered Thursday in 132nd District Court.

District Judge Ernie Armstrong assessed a 20-year prison sentence following a guilty plea by Milton Raymond Laughard for possession of a controlled substance on July 3.

The conviction for Laughard, 37, of 205 N. Ave. W was enhanced because of two prior convictions for burglary in Scurry County.

Joshua Dillard, a Price Daniel unit inmate, pleaded guilty on two counts of assault on two separate correctional officers.

Dillard, 29, was ordered to serve a pair of 15-year prison sentences to be served after he completes his current 15-year sentence for possession of a controlled substance out of Travis County.

Judge Armstrong also sentenced Alfredo Carrizales, 49, of 1500 27th Street, Apt.17, to serve five years in prison.

Carrizales pleaded guilty to failure to register as a sex offender.

Max Towner Aucutt, 43, of 11461 E. Hwy 180 in Hermleigh pleaded guilty to an Oct. 26 charge of forgery.

Aucutt must serve two years in a TDCJ state jail facility and make restitution totaling $1,937 to 12 merchants in Snyder.

Three other persons pleading guilty were given probated sentences, including 18-year-old Matthew Steele Russell, who was charged with evading arrest.

On Oct. 22, Snyder police received a report of two men pointing a gun in the McDonald's parking lot. Snyder police attempted a traffic stop on the vehicle and a high-speed pursuit ensued, ending with a collision with a police vehicle some 17 miles northeast of Snyder on Ennis Creek Road.

Russell, 5233 Meador Road, was given a two-year sentence in a state jail facility, probated for five years. He also was ordered to make $2,362 in restitution to the City of Snyder and $350 to Bill Sikes.

Trake Edward Lee, charged with criminal mischief, pleaded guilty and was given a two-year state jail sentence, probated for five years.

Lee, 19, of 2711 Ave. I also was fined $1,000 and ordered to pay $7,788.36 in restitution to Wilson Motors for damage to a vehicle's sunroof and windows on Sept. 6.

Faye Annette Pendleton, 58, of 1215 Lear pleaded guilty to burglary of a building owned by Jane Ramey on Dec. 7.

Judge Armstrong sentenced Pendleton to serve two years in a state jail facility, probated for five years.

Ashley resigns from Snyder city council

Snyder city councilman James Ashley, who will be leaving Snyder, has submitted his letter of resignation to the Snyder city council effective immediately.



Ashley

Ashley has held the position for Snyder's third district since he was appointed in 2001 to replace James Jenkins Jr. after his resignation. Ashley won the following election in an uncontested bid.

Ashley was notified that his employer, U.S. Food Service, is transferring him to Carlsbad, N.M.

"I have enjoyed working with you and I pray that God continues to bless the city of Snyder," Ashley said in his letter.

In addition to serving on the third district seat, Ashley won in 1999 running for the at-large position. He also made an unsuccessful bid for mayor in 2001, losing to Francene Noah.

Three people accused of trying to rob mail truck

DALLAS (AP) — A U.S. Postal Service worker and two other people have been arrested after authorities allege they tried to rob a mail truck driver in Dallas.

Adrian Jon Castro, 25, of Dallas was arrested Monday shortly after the attempted robbery. He has worked for the Postal Service since 1998. The U.S. attorney's office also said Thursday that Castro's wife, Shelly Irene Hernandez, 28, and Timothy Martin Casarez, 23, were arrested. All three are from Dallas.

Postal inspectors caught the suspects during a surveillance at the Parkdale Station in Dallas. The inspectors had been watching the station because of recent mail station robberies and attempted robberies in the Dallas area.

A mail truck driver was robbed Nov. 12 while collecting registered mail from the Joe Pool Station in Grand Prairie. Another driver said he was approached Dec. 22 by two men with guns after he had finished loading his truck and was driving out of the parking lot at the Juanita Craft station. He said one of the men shot at him.

Postal Inspectors said they were conducting surveillance Sunday when they saw a suspicious vehicle. They saw it again the next day and saw Hernandez drop off Castro and Casarez by the back station. The men then ran up the loading dock and approached a mail truck driver who was loading his truck.

Enron plea deal on hold

HOUSTON (AP) — A judge has reservations about a proposed five-month sentence for Enron executive Andrew Fastow's wife, Lea, delaying a deal that could lead to a guilty plea from her husband.

U.S. District Judge David Hittner set a noon deadline today for her attorneys to agree to his demand that she submit to a pre-sentencing report, which could recommend harsher punishment for her role in the collapse of the energy trading giant.

If the judge doesn't accept the five-month sentence agreed to by prosecutors and Lea Fastow — which the defense sought because of the couple's two young sons — the plea bargain could fall apart.

If approved, the deal could lead to a plea from Fastow, one of the few people who could give the government a detailed look at the inner workings of Enron and the roles of its former top executives in company's failure.

Sources close to the case have said Andrew Fastow, a central figure in what prosecutors say was a web of schemes to falsely inflate Enron's profits and hide debt, was negotiating a plea deal that could send him to prison for 10 years and force him to pay $20 million, but that his plea was contingent upon a deal for his wife, Lea.

Hittner said in court Thursday he would accept the plea from Lea Fastow, former assistant treasurer at Enron, but he had "preliminary concerns" and wanted a presentencing investigation.

Cogdell board meets tonight

Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of managers will meet at 6 p.m. today with one action item on the agenda.

The board will consider giving acting administrator Cheryl Chance permission to enter into a recruiting contract for a nurse practitioner.

This action is necessary as Christine Heady, present nurse practitioner at the hospital's rural health clinic, is resigning at the end of the month to work at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice units in Colorado City.

The meeting will be in the hospital boardroom.

ASK US

Q—When is the Gaither Concert scheduled for United Spirit Arena?
A—April 17.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Ruth Conard...

...has lived in Snyder for over 25 years. She is the wife of Van Conard. Their children are Scott Conard, Pam Camarata, Cindy Cannon, Dian Jones and Karen Martinez.

She has two grandchildren, Ross Jones, 11, and Kimberly Martinez, 2 months.

Ruth enjoys her grandchildren, gardening and playing bridge.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

This time, like all times, is a very good one, if we only know what to do with it.
—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Best Available Copy

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Country and gospel music

There will be country and gospel music played at the Senior Center beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday.

LCU chorus to perform

The Lubbock Christian University Chorus will perform at 1 p.m. Sunday at 37th Street Church of Christ.

Retired teachers meeting

Scurry County retired teachers will meet at noon Monday at The Shack. Volunteer hours will be turned in.

Snyder Chapter Council

Snyder Chapter Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Scurry Masonic Hall.

Hermleigh Masonic Lodge

The Hermleigh Masonic Lodge will hold its monthly stated meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday. A meal will follow and all Master Masons are welcome.

SHS band boosters

Snyder High School band boosters will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at the band hall.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "God Has Spoken Through the Prophets," followed by "God's Word Lost and Found."

United Way board meeting

The United Way Board meeting is set for noon Monday at 2311 Avenue T. Dutch treat lunch will be provided.

Ira School pictures

Spring portraits and friendship pictures for Ira Schools will be taken Tuesday. All students and class groups, K-12, will be photographed. Friendship pictures have a $2 fee for each person. Orders may be placed from proofs that will be sent to the school in a few days.

Central seminar

Central will host its fourth seminar, *Helping Kids Face Today's World*, at 1:30 p.m. Thursday in Room 5. Principal Pam Hart will present ways to help parents and educators understand and deal with pressures, frustrations and challenges children face. Door prizes, child care and refreshments will be provided. Call 573-8592 for more information.

United Way short of goal

United Way is selling tickets for a Superbowl Prizes project, one for $2 or six for $10. Items include black leather chair-and-a-half, 19-inch TV, two large topping Pizza Hut pizzas. To purchase tickets or for more information call 207-1929, 573-5311, 207-1385 or 574-1931.

WTC adult basic education classes

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

LVN testing dates

LVN testing dates are Jan. 20 and Jan. 27. To reserve a time, you must contact the WTC counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313. Limited seating is available.

Concert at Word Is Life

"Moving into Worship," a concert in movement with Randall Bane, is set for 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, at the Word Is Life Church, 312 Coliseum Dr.

Doodle Bug writers club

Members of the Doodle Bug writers club invites all writers to meet at 1 p.m. every other Tuesday at the Golden Terrace Village community room. For more information call 574-1817, 573-7369, or 573-5819.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conversation District is taking orders through Jan. 31 for windbreak trees. Large trees available are Oaks, Pines, Desert Willows, Golden Raintree, Texas Redbud and Chinese Pistache and more. To place orders, call 573-6317.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

What's up guidelines

Effective Feb. 1, items for What's Up will be published twice at no charge, the day before and the day of the event. Events or activities requiring additional publicity will be referred to the advertising department where a special non-profit rate is available.

Three kidnapped children found unharmed

RANGER, Ga. (AP) — The frantic manhunt for a jealous ex-husband who allegedly killed his in-laws and infant daughter before fleeing with three girls ended near the Tennessee line when the suspect shot himself in the face during a police chase.

The girls were found unharmed late Thursday following the pursuit that began on Interstate 75, about 50 miles north of where the slayings occurred, said Georgia Bureau of Investigation spokesman John Bankhead.

The suspect, 31-year-old Jerry William Jones, was hospitalized in critical condition.

"I'm glad they have him on his stomach handcuffed. And I am glad those babies are safe," Kathy O'Donnell, daughter of the slain in-laws, told The Associated Press.

Jones is accused of shooting three former in-laws to death and strangling his infant daughter Wednesday, then driving off with the girls in a stolen sport utility vehicle. Two of the girls are his daughters, ages 3 and 4, and the other is a 10-year-old former stepdaughter.

Jones, who has a criminal history that includes convictions for burglary and auto theft, called his ex-wife, Melissa Peeler, late Wednesday and told her of the killings.

He said he would "start killing the kids one by one" if she alerted authorities, said his former brother-in-law, David O'Donnell.

Peeler had left the children with her parents and sister before leaving for Oregon to visit her boyfriend over the Christmas holidays. She notified police after getting the phone call.

After a public alert was issued, police in Whitfield County got a tip that Jones' vehicle had been spotted headed north on Interstate 75 toward Tennessee.

Deputies spotted the car and saw the children, but Jones refused to pull over. He drove a short way off the interstate when a state trooper bumped the back of the car, forcing it to spin and crash into a telephone pole.

The 10-year-old got out, and officers saw Jones slump in the front seat. They pulled the other children out, one of them covered in Jones' blood.

The girls were taken to a Chattanooga hospital for evaluation, but had no injuries and were released late Thursday.

Peeler's parents, Tom and Nola Blaylock, had been found shot to death in one home. In the other house, authorities found Jones' former sister-in-law, Georgia Bradley, shot to death, while Jones' 10-month-old daughter by Peeler, Harley, was apparently strangled.

Bankhead said the crime scenes indicated that the killer was "very methodical."

"This wasn't quick. He clearly took his time," Bankhead said.

Bankhead said investigators would compare the weapon found with Jones to determine if it was used in Wednesday's shootings.

Authorities said the motive appeared to be jealousy over his ex-wife visiting her new boyfriend.

David O'Donnell said that Jones was constantly threatening violence and that Peeler had been trying to get away from him.

"He says all the time, he'll kill you, he'll kill me or whoever," David O'Donnell said. "He's an idiot, just a crazy person."

The rescued girls are Peeler and Jones' children — Brandy Jones, 4, and Tammy Jones, 3 — and Peeler's daughter from a previous relationship, Brittany Phelps. Officials say Peeler and Jones were never legally married but had a common-law marriage.

Jones' mother and stepfather were killed in the 1996 ValuJet crash in the Florida Everglades, and David O'Donnell said Jones got a substantial settlement.

"He blew the money almost as fast as he got it, mostly on drugs," he said.

World Almanac

Friday, Jan. 9, 2004

Today is the ninth day of 2004 and the 19th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1788, Connecticut ratified the U.S. Constitution and became the fifth U.S. state.

In 1945, Gen. Douglas MacArthur and the U.S. Sixth Army invaded the island of Luzon in the Philippines.

In 1972, the ship Queen Elizabeth was destroyed by fire in Hong Kong harbor.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Chic Young (1901-1973), creator of "Blondie"; Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986), writer; Richard Nixon (1913-1994), 37th U.S. president; Bob Denver (1935-), actor, is 69; Joan Baez (1941-), singer, is 63; Dave Matthews (1967-), musician, is 37.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1972, the Milwaukee Bucks ended the record 33-game winning of the Los Angeles Lakers with a 120-104 win.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "My standard is not whether it's cool but whether it's good. It's all music." — Dave Matthews

TODAY'S FACT: The comic strip "Blondie," launched by Chic Young in 1930 during the Great Depression, was continued after his death by his son. "Blondie" eventually appeared in more than 2,000 newspapers around the world, and was the subject of a 1995 stamp commemorating the centennial of the American comic strip.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 684.81 — The number of points lost on the Dow Jones Industrial Average on Sept. 17, 2001, a one-day record up to that point.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Jan. 7) and last quarter (Jan. 15)

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573-8555

Mountain lion attacks two bikers in California; body found nearby

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A mountain lion was shot and killed after it attacked two bicyclists in an Orange County park, critically injuring one woman in what authorities said was the 13th such incident in California since 1890.

The 2-year-old male cat may also have mauled to death a man whose body was found nearby, said Steve Martarano, a spokesman for the California Fish and Game Department.

The mountain lion, which weighed about 110 pounds, was to be taken to a laboratory for testing.

"We are pretty confident that this lion was responsible for the attack (on the bikers)," Martarano said.

The attack occurred shortly after 4:30 p.m. Thursday in Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park when a mountain lion pounced on a woman who was riding a bicycle with her friend, said Orange County Fire Capt. Stephen Miller.

The lion grabbed Ann Hjelle, 30, by her head and began dragging her. Her friend, Debi Nichols, screamed for help and grabbed the victim's legs in a struggle to free her.

"This mountain lion jumped on her back and started dragging her," Nichols said. "He dragged us down ... about 100 yards into the brush and I just kept screaming. This guy would not let go. He had a hold of her face."

Other mountain bikers in the area threw rocks at the animal until it fled.

Hjelle was in critical condition early today at Mission Hospital, a nursing supervisor said.

After the attack, the body of an unidentified man in his 30s was found at the top of a trail near a bicycle. Authorities weren't sure how long he had been there and couldn't confirm if the man was killed by the mountain lion, but Miller said, "it's pretty obvious that an animal was involved." An autopsy was planned today.

Including Thursday's incident, there have been 13 mountain lion attacks on humans in California over the past 114 years, five of them fatal, said Doug Updike, a biologist with the state Fish and Game Department.

Last September, game wardens shot and wounded an aggressive mountain lion spotted near an equestrian center in San Juan Capistrano. The lion was later found and killed, state officials said.

In 1986, 5-year-old Laura Small was attacked while looking for tadpoles with her mother in Ronald W. Caspers Wilderness Park in Orange County. The girl's skull was partially crushed and she was left blind in one eye and paralyzed on her right side.

A 6-year-old boy was mauled in the same park a few months later. County supervisors closed most of the park to children for nearly a decade afterward.

Updike estimates there are between 4,000 and 6,000 adult lions roaming the Golden State, with usually five to seven mountain lions per 100 square miles. State law prohibits hunting or killing them.

Woo proposes film

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Hong Kong director John Woo, who's done plenty of police movies and Hollywood action-thrillers, wants to do a film that explains Chinese culture to movie-goers in the West.

"I hope to unite talent from China, Taiwan and Hong Kong who can really act out our personality, our culture and our characteristics in one movie," Woo said Thursday while promoting his new film, "Paycheck," starring Ben Affleck and Uma Thurman.

Woo, who got his start in Hong Kong and then moved to Hollywood, says there's a lack of understanding of Asian culture in the West.

"I've been living overseas for so long, and (I see) so many people misunderstand our Chinese culture," he said.

Today's chuckle

Friends foil everything in man's apartment



OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — Foiled again, and again, and again.

Chris Kirk returned to his apartment in Olympia and found everything in it covered with foil.

The walls, ceiling and cabinets were covered. Each CD was wrapped, as was all his spare change. Even Kirk's toilet paper was unrolled and wrapped in foil.

About the only thing that wasn't covered was a book: "Cruel Tricks for Dear Friends."

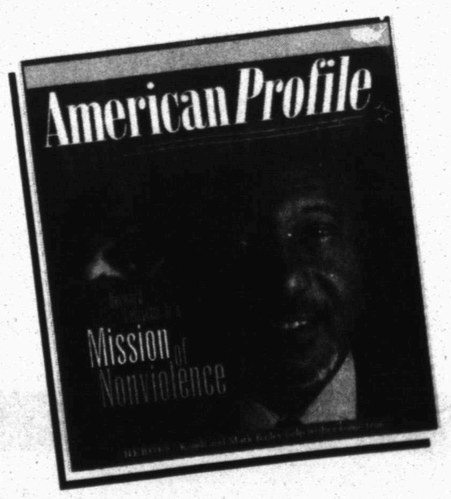
The practical joke was organized by Kirk's longtime friend, Luke Trerice, who was staying in the apartment while Kirk made a trip to Los Angeles.

Trerice says a small group of friends foiled the apartment with about 100 dollars worth of the kitchen wrap. He expects his buddy Kirk will soon find a way to get even.

In Next Week's American Profile...

His never-ending march for peace

As a 27-year-old, Bernard Lafayette, Jr. marched shoulder to shoulder with Martin Luther King, Jr. advocating civil rights and nonviolence. Today, at 63, Layfayette continues his mission.



In Addition...
- Meat Loaf
- Shopping for a mortgage

American Profile
Celebrating Hometown Life

events

LOTTO TEXAS
TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Thursday's Lottery Numbers
Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-7-12-21-34.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: $44,689.

Winning tickets sold in: Killeen.

Matching four of five: 167. Prize: $120.

Matching three of five: 5,298. Prize: $9.

Matching two of five: 50,829. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 0-5-7
(Night) 9-2-1

Mars rover remains parked

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — NASA engineers were working on a last-ditch shot at removing the obstacle keeping the Mars rover's travels across the Red Planet at a standstill.

Engineers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory said Thursday they would make one more effort at gathering up the deflated air bags that cradled the rover named Spirit during its landing on Saturday. If unsuccessful, they will look at sending Spirit off in a different direction.

Two sections of air bags are partially blocking the ramp Spirit would take if it rolled straight off its lander. Engineers consider it the safest route for the golf cart-sized robot to follow.

But they fear the puffed-up sections of the bags, woven of a polymer fiber stronger than steel, could snag on the rover's solar panels or robotic arm during its 10-foot roll to the ground.

If they can't get the bags out of the way they could have Spirit take a different route off the lander, either by pirouetting 120 degrees to the right or turning 60 degrees to the left, said Matt Wallace, mission manager for Spirit's sixth day of operations.

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Bush on verge of announcing plans to send astronauts back to moon

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — President Bush is said to be on the verge of announcing plans to build a permanent science base for men on the moon that could serve as a steppingstone for sending astronauts ultimately on to Mars.

Senior administration officials said Thursday night that Bush will announce his plans in a speech next week. The president wants to aggressively reinvigorate the space program, still reeling from the Columbia tragedy nearly one year ago, said the officials, speaking on condition of anonymity.

But a Nobel-winning physicist who investigated the shuttle accident is among those who would rather see more affordable robots — rather than astronauts — exploring the lunar and Martian surfaces. He points to NASA's Spirit rover newly arrived at Mars.

"The cost of a manned enclave on the moon, I think, is going to make the space station look cheap. That's the only good thing about it," said Stanford University's Douglas Osheroff.

In any event, "I think we're still 30 years from going to Mars and if there's any reason to do that, I don't know," Osheroff said.

Bush does not intend to propose sending Americans to Mars anytime soon, but instead envisions preparing for a Mars expedition more than a decade from now, one administration official said.

The White House has been looking for a new revitalizing role for NASA for months, with Vice President Dick Cheney leading the interagency task force since summer. The speculation over a major space initiative began heating up in early December.

Many insiders expected Bush to use the 100th anniversary of the Wright brothers' first flight as the backdrop for the announcement. But he focused instead on aviation and said the United States would continue to lead the world in that field. Speculation then shifted to the State of the Union address in late January.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan declined to provide details of the president's plans, confirming only that Bush would unveil them next week. NASA officials did not return phone calls Thursday night.

Rep. Ralph Hall, R-Texas, a member of the House Science Committee, welcomed the news.

Hall said he has long been trying to get the president more interested in space exploration. The president never went to Johnson Space Center in Houston while serving as Texas governor; in fact, last February's memorial service for the seven Columbia astronauts was his first visit.

Bush's fresh interest in space happens to coincide with an election year. A new bold space initiative, it is thought, could excite Americans.

"I had the feeling the last 21/2 years people would rather make a trip to the grocery store than a trip to the moon because of the economy," Hall said. "As things are turning around, we need to stay in touch with space" and the science spinoffs it provides.

It was the Columbia accident that helped force a discussion of where NASA should venture beyond the three remaining space shuttles and the international space station. The panel that investigated the disaster called for a clearly defined long-term mission — a national vision for space that has been missing for three decades.

Astronauts last walked on the moon in 1972; in all, 12 men tread the lunar surface over a 31/2-year period. This time, the president favors a permanent station, administration officials said.

Bush's father, on the 20th anniversary of the first manned moon landing, made a similar call for lunar colonies and a Mars expedition. But the plan was prohibitively expensive — an estimated $400 billion to $500 billion — and went nowhere.

No one knows what the new venture might cost or how NASA would pay for it.

House Science Committee spokeswoman Heidi Tringe said lawmakers on the panel had yet to be briefed on the specifics.

Earlier this week, Bush put in a congratulatory call to officials in charge of NASA's latest Mars rover. He called the Spirit rover's successful landing a "reconfirmation of the American spirit of exploration." Another rover is due to arrive at the red planet in two weeks.

NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe said the robots represent an advance team charged with assessing the planet's conditions.

"Once we figure out how to deal with the human effects, we can then send humans to explore in real time," O'Keefe said Wednesday.

Interplanetary exploration depends on "what we learn and whether we can develop the power and ... propulsion capabilities necessary to get there faster and stay longer and potentially support humans in doing so," O'Keefe said in response to a question on the White House Web site this week.

Many space buffs see the moon as a necessary place to test the equipment and techniques that would be needed by astronauts on Mars. It's closer, just three days away versus six months away for the red planet.

Visionaries say observatories could be built on the moon and mining camps could gather helium-3 for conversion into fuel for use back on Earth.

Others, however, contend that astronauts should make a beeline to Mars.

Still others, including John Glenn, the first American to orbit the Earth, believes the nation should complete and fully maximize the international space station before dashing anywhere else.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

01-09-04

North
♠ A Q 10 4
♥ J 7 6 3
♦ A J 9
♣ 7 4

West
♠ 7 5
♥ 8 5
♦ 10 7 6 4 3 2
♣ 9 5 3

East
♠ 9 8 6 3 2
♥ A Q 10
♦ 5
♣ A Q J 2

South
♠ K J
♥ K 9 4 2
♦ K Q 8
♣ K 10 8 6

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ 4

Friday, Jan. 9, 2004

Clever defense again anonymous

By Phillip Alder

How would you react to reading about a clever play by an unnamed artiste? Two possibilities come to mind. Perhaps the modest author produced the coup. Or, maybe it was a post-mortem thought.

Look only at the North and East hands. You (East) are defending against four hearts. Your partner leads the diamond four. After winning in hand, declarer plays a heart to dummy's jack and your queen. What would you do now?

A 4-4 fit usually plays well, unless the trumps are weak. Here, though, if South were in three no-trump, he would not feel confident; but with the actual lie of the cards, he would succeed.

In four hearts, if declarer had won the first trick in the dummy and called for a trump (as he should have), he would have been all right.

After winning trick two, East could see three tricks: two hearts and the club ace. A diamond ruff would defeat the contract. But how could West, who clearly held no points, get on lead? Perhaps he had the club 10. Hoping so, East shifted to the club jack.

South, more in hope than expectation, put on his king. Then he overtook the spade jack with dummy's queen and asked for a heart. East went in with the ace and continued with the club two.

If declarer had been careful, he would have put up his 10, winning the trick and making his contract. But supposedly he resignedly shrugged his shoulders and played low. West won with his nine and returned a diamond for East to ruff: one down.

What do you think? I'm voting for a post-mortem thought.

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Saturday, Jan. 10, 2004

In the year ahead, you will be better off if you are willing to relinquish projects or ventures which have proven to be unproductive. Once you let them go and start over again, new and better things will replace them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Try to keep everybody out of your business today, whether it is commercial or personal. Although they may be eager to help, they could gum up the works and cost you a mint.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — A kind friend may try to cover for you today if she or he sees that you are in trouble. The problem is that this person could unintentionally make matters worse instead of bailing you out.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Instead of worrying about what has to be done today, lay out a solid game plan that you can live with, then roll up your sleeves and get started. Nothing will be gained by wringing your hands.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Even though you may take pride in the fact that you don't need anybody to hang out with today, you actually would fare far better by becoming involved socially with others. Don't be a loner.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Even though you may get off to a faulty start today with many disruptions and a lot of things going awry, once you finally get on a roll, you'll be remarkably productive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Do not be fickle with your friends today and leave good pals standing in surprise while you go off with someone new. Don't think they won't notice and resent your preferential treatment.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Easy come, easy go may have been your motto lately when it came to handling your funds. If you've been frivolous about your spending, today's activities with pals may never come off.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Do not take credit today for the idea of another, because it will only make you look foolish when someone in the crowd reveals the true author. Build upon your own bright conceptions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — It won't do any good to suppress reality simply to get out of having to do an unpleasant job today. It will eventually become the source of upsetting and sudden negative experiences.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — In order to get along with associates today you may have to make a few concessions that won't please you one bit. Try to come up with your own idea of a compromise that they'll accept.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Although you may be innovative and imaginative today, you're also apt to be rather impatient and you could put your boat in the water way before it's seaworthy enough to be launched.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) —Your luck has its limitations today, so don't press it to extremes believing you can get away with anything you want. Happiness can be realized only through logical procedures, not wild risks.

Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Visit www.bernice4u.com for more advice.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Wife's old diaries stun husband after her death

DEAR ABBY: My mother and dad had a full and happy 62 years together. She died last year.

While going through her things, we found several old diaries that Mother kept until a few months after marrying Dad (from ages 15 to 21).

Well, Dad read them and saw that Mom had dated a lot of men before they married, even one of his best friends. She wrote that there was also another man she wanted to marry, but he had a girlfriend in another town, and it was not to be. Apparently Dad had been unaware of it.

Dad was devastated. Now he's telling all his friends how wild Mom was. This, after 62 years of devotion, love and two children.

The purpose of my letter is to warn diarists to please destroy any writings not meant for others to read. Get rid of them! Dad is 85 and brokenhearted. — **SAD IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR SAD: Your point is well taken. However, someone needs to tell your father to stop feeling sorry for himself and to remember the good times.

If he's worried about his deceased wife's past, the truth is, she didn't have much time for one. It's time to end the pity party and dwell on the positive.

**

DEAR ABBY: My 13-year-old daughter, "Rose," has had a boyfriend, "Jason," for nearly a year. He is 12. I just found out they've been having sex, and I'm putting Rose on birth control.

Jason never spends much quality time with her. I try to tell her that he is young and not ready for a serious relationship, but she doesn't hear it. My heart aches when I hear Rose crying on the phone because they're arguing.

Rose revolves her life around Jason. She doesn't want to do anything with me or her friends anymore. Her attitude has changed tremendously, and she is losing interest in school. I have asked Rose to sign up for some kind of activity. She refuses. I don't know what to do. Please help. — **WORRIED MOM IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR MOM: It's time to assert yourself. Rose and Jason are both too young to be having sex or even an exclusive relationship. It is up to you to help your daughter understand that as much as she might wish it, Jason is unable to give her the attention and commitment she's craving. You didn't mention if there is a father in your daughter's life. If there isn't, perhaps another adult male in the family can help.

Family counseling for you and Rose could be helpful. It will help to reopen the avenue of communication between you. Her priorities are seriously out of whack, and you are not reaching her. At this age, she should be developing social and intellectual skills.

**

CONFIDENTIAL TO BETRAYED AND BROKEN IN BALTIMORE: Dry your tears and stop blaming yourself. What goes around, comes around. This quotation says it all: "When a man marries his mistress, he creates a job opening."

**

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

**

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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Happy Birthday Linda Sharrock

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Thurs. 7:00 Only

SOMETHINGS GOT TO GIVE PG13
Fri. 7:00, 9:30
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Thurs. 7:15 Only



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MOVIES

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The Fellowship's journey is coming to an end. Sauron's forces have attacked Gondor's capital of Minas Tirith in his final siege against mankind. Watched over by a fading steward, the once great kingdom has never been in more desperate need of its king. But will Aragorn find the strength to become what he was born to be and rise to meet his destiny? **Starring: Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, Ian McKellen, Viggo Mortensen, John Rhys-Davies**

SOMETHINGS GOT TO GIVE PG13
*Jack Nicholson

Harry Langer is a man of some age and experience who generally dates younger women. He has a heart attack while visiting the beach home of the divorced mother of his latest trophy girlfriend. With his girlfriend having gone back to the city, Harry is left in the care of the mother and his doctor, but the two men soon find themselves competing with each other. **Starring: Jack Nicholson, Diane Keaton**

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ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Fire residue
4 Train unit
7 Hack
10 Aussie jumper
11 Big pitcher
13 Napoleon's island
14 Coffee holder
15 Yield
16 Rangy
17 Go-between
19 Cram
20 Ziegfeld nickname
21 Show gratitude
23 Droop
26 Buttes
28 Zoologist's eggs
29 Conducted
30 Bakery purchases
34 Temple city of Japan
36 Nothing at all
38 Bulldog's cousin
39 Up, in baseball (2 wds.)
41 Didn't stay
42 Temporary failure
44 Brunched
46 Waterfront event
47 Blot
51 Khayyam or Sharif
52 Essay byline
53 — Wiedersehen
55 Drumsticks
56 Herbal soothers
57 Prefix for pod
58 Use henna
59 Crumb-toter
60 Fr. holy woman

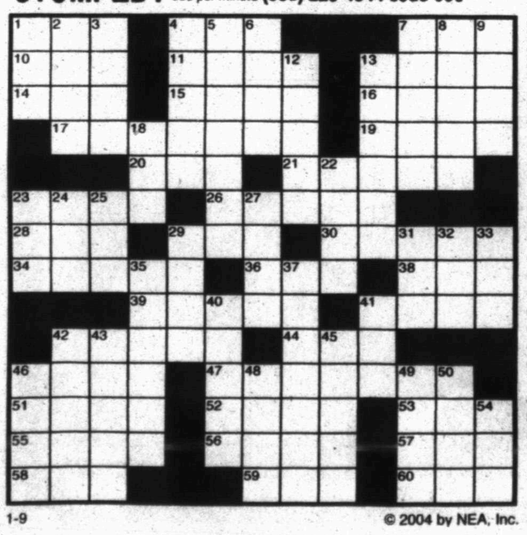
DOWN

1 Eyebrow or rainbow
2 Essence
3 Noted potters
4 "C" in C.S. Forester
5 Spectacular
6 Try again
7 Scrub
8 Taken — (startled)
9 Place to keep
10 Bakery purchases
11 Money
12 Signs a lease
13 Border town (2 wds.)
18 Rear, to Popeye
22 Campus building
23 Stir-fry pan
24 Leafy climber
25 Thai neighbor
27 Novelist — Ferber
29 House sites
31 Tailless monkey
32 Pleasure
33 Bilko or Snorkel (abbr.)
35 Candles
37 Kind of dressing
40 Assail
41 Damp
42 British sailor
43 Maxim
45 Breakfast item
46 Related
48 Court statement
49 Tabbies
50 Injured
54 "Rats!", old-style

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	E	L	O	W				W	E	I	R	D
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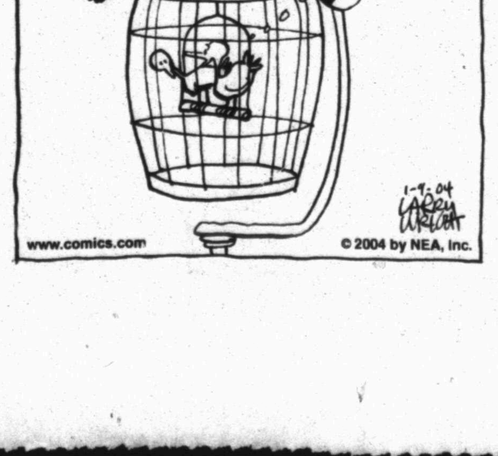
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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"We can't stand here all day. It must have jammed."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

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San Antonio
Minnesota
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SPORTS

Rockets roast Knicks in Van Gundy's return to the Garden

NEW YORK (AP) — The scoreboard read 23-2, and the buzz had already turned into boos. Soon after, the fans let Don Chaney have it.

Chants of "Fire Chaney" echoed through Madison Square Garden on a night that was supposed to be all about Stephon Marbury's home debut and Jeff Van Gundy's return.

In a game that quickly turned into a blowout, Van Gundy's Houston Rockets scored 23 of the game's first 25 points to humiliate the revamped New York Knicks 111-79 Thursday night.

"It's a good chant. We stunk," said Chaney, whose team dropped its fourth straight to fall further behind in the weak Atlantic Division.

In the night's only other game, Minnesota beat Portland 96-75.

Chaney's coaching record with the Knicks now stands at 71-111, and his job security figures to become more shaky if the Knicks can't turn things around quickly following several major changes by new team president Isiah Thomas.

The first "Fire Chaney" chant began with 6:49 remaining in the first quarter after the Knicks fell behind 19-2, and the chant was revived and got louder several times.

Marbury played poorly for the second straight game, scoring six points on 3-for-12 shooting. His lowlight came late in the third quarter when he went up softly on a two-on-one break and had his layup rejected on a spectacular leap by Steve Francis.

"I would never think it would happen this bad," Marbury said. "We cannot dwell on this. After a win, this all goes away."

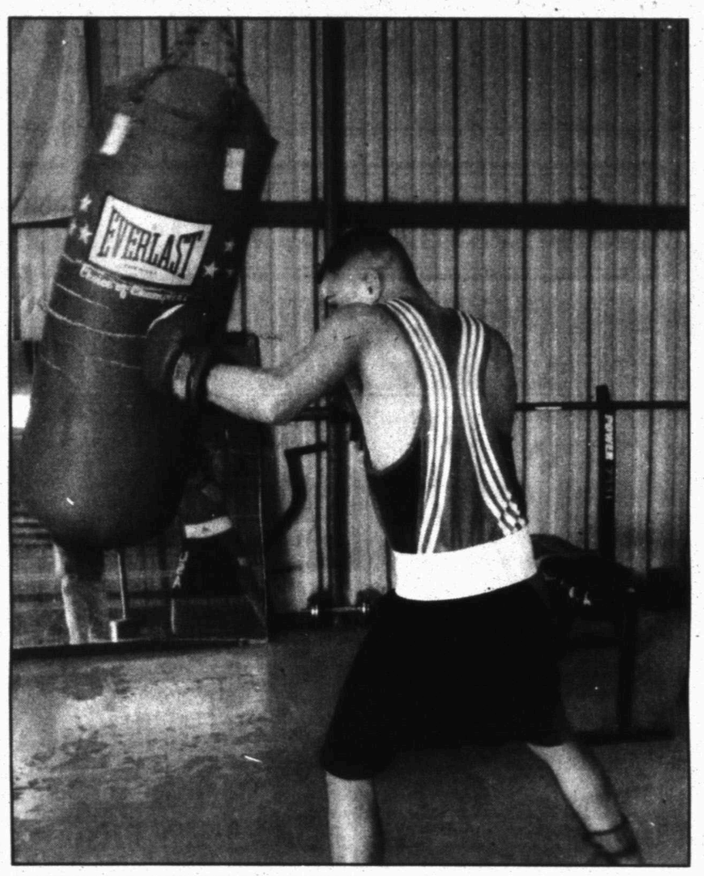
Francis dominated the point guard matchup, scoring 27 points with six assists and three steals. Every Houston starter reached double figures, with Jim Jackson getting 21, Yao Ming scoring 15, Cuttino Mobley adding 14 and Kelvin Cato 10. The victory margin matched Houston's largest of the season.

"Awful, awful," Chaney said. "We played like strangers at both ends of the floor."

The Rockets made their first seven shots and eventually went ahead 23-2 after Francis dribbled through three defenders for a virtually uncontested layup. Marbury did not have an assist in the first quarter, and he didn't make his first basket until converting a tip-in with 10 seconds left in a first quarter that ended with the Rockets ahead 31-14.

Van Gundy shook his head in disgust midway through the second quarter as the "Fire Chaney" chant broke out again. Van Gundy never endured that kind of treatment from the New York fans when he was the Knicks coach — even after he quit with two seasons remaining on his contract.

When he first returned to the Garden on the night the Knicks retired Patrick Ewing's number, Van Gundy got the second-loudest ovation.



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS — Snyder boxer Anthony Vasquez hits the heavy bag during training for the U.S. National Championships which get started this weekend in Colorado Springs, Colo. The championships are the last tournament before the Western Olympic Trials in February. (SDN Staff Photo)

Vasquez heading to U.S. national championships

Snyder pugilist Anthony Vasquez will compete in the U.S. National Championships Sunday through next Saturday in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Vasquez will fight at 132 lbs. in the final tune-up before the Olympic trials in February.

"I know all the ones I'm going to fight," Vasquez said of the championships. "I've been training hard and staying focused. Even though it's been cold, I've been running and training every day."

The bouts will be fought under amateur rules, with four two-minute rounds scored by computer.

Preliminary bouts will be held Tuesday and Wednesday. Those making it out of the preliminary bouts will fight in the quarterfinals Thursday.

The semifinals will be held Friday, and the championships will be fought Saturday.

After the national championships, Vasquez will compete in the Western Olympic Trials Feb. 2-7 in Bakersfield, Calif.

The Western Trials will be the last chance for boxers west of the Mississippi River to qualify for the 2004 Olympic Team Trials, Feb. 16-21 in Tunica, Miss.

Lady Tigers, Ira start district run

The Snyder Lady Tigers open the district schedule tonight when they host the Denver City Lady Stangs at 6:30 at Tiger Gym.

Snyder (17-2) is riding a 15-game winning streak into district after topping Midland Greenwood, 66-43, Tuesday. The team has not lost since Nov. 25 against Frenship.

The Lady Tigers currently are ranked 18th in the state in the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches poll.

The Ira clubs also begin district tonight, traveling to Grady to take on the Wildcats.

The Lady Bulldogs (6-8) will tip-off at 6:30.

The Bulldogs (5-6) will battle a Grady squad ranked second in the state in the TABC 1A Division II poll.

Hermleigh is idle tonight, and will resume the district schedule Tuesday.

The Tigers (6-12) host Clyde at 8 tonight, before closing out the pre-district schedule Tuesday at Midland against third-ranked Midland Greenwood. They open district Friday at Sweetwater.

Sports Briefs

Football banquet

The Snyder Tigers football awards banquet will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. Cost is $8 per person. Food will be served at 6, and the awards ceremony will begin at 7. Tickets are available at the high school office.

Volleyball tournament

There will be an indoor volleyball tournament Jan. 24 at the Scurry County Boys and Girls Club. Call 573-7321 for more information.

Mariners sign Aurilla, trade Guillen

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle Mariners agreed to terms with free agent shortstop Rich Aurilia, then traded Carlos Guillen to the Detroit Tigers for Ramon Santiago and minor league shortstop Juan Gonzalez.

Aurilia signed a one-year contract for $3.15 million.

Falcons name Mora head coach

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. (AP) — Jim Mora, San Francisco's defensive coordinator, agreed to become coach of the Atlanta Falcons.

A source close to the negotiations, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that Mora would become the Falcons coach.

Mora, the son of former New Orleans and Indianapolis coach Jim Mora, was a finalist for the San Francisco job last year before the 49ers hired Dennis Erickson.

Florida gives Zook extension

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Florida coach Ron Zook got a two-year contract extension despite recently completing his second straight 8-5 season with a loss in the Outback Bowl.

Zook, who took over for Steve Spurrier when he resigned after the 2001 season, has led the Gators to a pair of five-loss seasons, something the program hadn't faced since 1988-89.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	20	14	.588	—
Boston	18	19	.486	3½
Philadelphia	16	19	.457	4½
Miami	15	20	.429	5½
New York	14	23	.378	7½
Washington	9	24	.273	10½
Orlando	8	28	.222	13

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	27	10	.730	—
Detroit	23	13	.639	3½
New Orleans	22	13	.629	4
Toronto	18	15	.545	7
Milwaukee	19	16	.543	7
Chicago	11	24	.314	15
Cleveland	11	24	.314	15
Atlanta	10	26	.278	16½
Utah	18	16	.529	5½
Memphis	17	17	.500	6½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	24	11	.686	—
Minnesota	23	11	.676	½
Dallas	20	14	.588	3½
Denver	21	15	.583	3½
Houston	20	15	.571	4

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	24	9	.727	—
L.A. Lakers	21	11	.656	2½
Seattle	18	15	.545	6
Portland	15	18	.455	9
L.A. Clippers	14	18	.438	9½
Golden State	14	20	.412	10½
Phoenix	12	24	.333	13½

Thursday's Games

Houston 111, New York 79
Minnesota 96, Portland 75

Friday's Games

Washington at Orlando, 6 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Toronto, 6 p.m.
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 6:30 p.m.
Indiana at Dallas, 7 p.m.
San Antonio at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Miami at Milwaukee, 7:30 p.m.
Portland at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Denver, 8 p.m.
Memphis at Seattle, 9:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.
Atlanta at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

Report: Nebraska hires deposed Raiders coach

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Former Raiders coach Bill Callahan will reportedly be hired as Nebraska's new head football coach today, ending a long search to fill the vacancy at one of college football's premier programs.

ESPN and the Omaha World-Herald reported that Callahan accepted the job after meeting Thursday with Nebraska athletic director Steve Pederson.

Gary O'Hagan, Callahan's Minneapolis-based agent, did not immediately return a phone message left late Thursday by The Associated Press.

O'Hagan said earlier in the day that Callahan is "very interested" in the job.

Chris Anderson, a spokeswoman for Nebraska's athletic department, said she could not confirm any plans to hire Callahan and said she knew of no announcements scheduled for today.

The Huskers have been looking for a coach since Frank Solich was fired Nov. 29 — a day after wrapping up a 9-3 regular season.

Pederson has acknowledged interviewing Arkansas coach Houston Nutt and Dallas Cowboys defensive coordinator Mike Zimmer but neither was interested in the job.

Callahan was fired by the Raiders last week following a 4-12 season.

Callahan, who led the Raiders to the Super Bowl two years ago, was fired by Oakland shortly after quarterback Rich Gannon criticized Callahan for a bad offensive system.

SJHS girls sweep Sweetwater

The Snyder Junior High eighth-grade girls A team got 20 points and seven rebounds from Audrey Jones in a 45-7 win over Sweetwater Junior High.

Jones hit a three and connected on three of four free throw attempts in the lopsided victory.

Devin Davidson added seven and Jordan Derryberry hit for six points, while Caylea Rhodes and Allison Sharrock contributed four each.

The eighth-grade B team edged Sweetwater, 19-12.

Heather Garza swiped nine steals, collected five boards and scored four points for Snyder, while Amanda Sanchez and Kaycee Lovall each had two points.

Both seventh-grade clubs beat their Sweetwater counterparts in lopsided fashion, with the A team recording a 37-9 win and the B team coasting to a 23-6 triumph.

The A squad got points from eight players, led by Brittney Mitchell's 10.

Brittney Webb hit for six, Shaquita Sneed posted five, Briana Bryant, Jessica Sandoval and Jessica Bilderback each added four and Teryn Sullenger and Erma Rodriguez had two apiece.

The B team got seven points and three boards from Jordan Wright and six steals and four points from Ryanna Alexander.

The girls junior high teams will host Lamesa Monday, with games getting underway at 5 p.m.

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	20	7	10	5	55	117	93
New Jersey	20	9	9	1	50	95	70
N.Y. Islanders	20	17	3	1	44	118	104
N.Y. Rangers	16	16	5	3	40	109	108
Pittsburgh	10	24	5	3	28	83	149

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	23	9	8	3	57	123	106
Ottawa	22	10	5	3	52	131	81
Boston	17	11	10	4	48	103	102
Montreal	20	16	5	2	47	101	96
Buffalo	16	20	5	1	38	97	109

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Atlanta	19	18	3	2	43	122	128
Tampa Bay	17	15	6	1	41	91	86
Florida	14	17	9	2	39	90	110
Carolina	14	17	8	2	38	73	93
Washington	11	26	4	1	27	101	137

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	26	13	4	1	57	145	100
St. Louis	22	11	5	1	50	98	89
Nashville	19	16	4	2	44	99	108
Chicago	11	21	7	4	33	85	119
Columbus	11	23	4	3	29	79	112

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	23	11	6	2	54	120	95
Colorado	21	10	7	2	51	119	88
Calgary	21	13	3	3	48	93	80
Minnesota	15	16	11	0	41	93	90
Edmonton	15	18	7	1	38	104	115

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	17	10	11	4	49	102	92
Dallas	18	17	8	0	44	85	95
Phoenix	15	12	11	2	43	104	105
Los Angeles	16	14	7	4	43	108	108
Anaheim	13	17	6	5	37	86	106

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.

Thursday's Games

Boston 3, Pittsburgh 1
Carolina 3, N.Y. Rangers 2
Florida 4, Philadelphia 3, OT
N.Y. Islanders 3, Edmonton 2
Ottawa 7, Toronto 1
Tampa Bay 4, Montreal 1
Nashville 4, Colorado 3, OT
Chicago 3, Calgary 1
Dallas 2, Atlanta 1
Columbus 3, San Jose 2, OT
Vancouver 3, Los Angeles 1

Today's Games

Carolina at Washington, 6 p.m.
Tampa Bay at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Anaheim, 9:30 p.m.

Frosh girls whip Sweetwater

The Snyder freshmen girls routed Sweetwater Thursday, leaping out to a 17-5 lead in the first quarter of a 48-17 victory.

The five-point first quarter was the best offensive quarter for Sweetwater, which was held to four points in each of the next three periods.

Candace Chandler paced the frosh ladies with 17 points, and Amber Acosta and Courtney Tyrrell each contributed eight points.

Briana Bernal recorded seven points in the paint, and Kaitlyn Greenlee added six.

Desiree Cortez had two for the frosh, which are scheduled to play at 8 tonight against Denver City.

The freshmen boys fell in a close contest with Sweetwater, 50-46.

The team led 25-24 at halftime, and went into the final period trailing, 36-35.

Ryan Mitchell had a game-high 17 points, and Tagaba Kyei added 16 for Snyder, which will host Clyde at 6:30 tonight.

"We were a little rusty, but we played well," coach Tommy Doyle said.

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Dr. Gott By Peter Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am a podiatrist whose primary concern is the welfare of my patients. Thus, on your advice, I eagerly suggested Vicks VapoRub to several patients with toenail fungus. The results were very satisfactory.

However, I object to your comment that podiatrists aren't interested in effective, inexpensive remedies that could be a "direct threat to their businesses." Please don't paint us caring podiatrists with the same brush you justifiably use to criticize the profession as a whole.

DEAR DOCTOR: In contrast to the hundreds of letters I have received from satisfied readers who successfully used Vicks for toenail fungus, I have also received several complaints from podiatrists that my position is a "rip-off" and they would not demean themselves to suggest such "inane" therapy.

While my comments were certainly not intended to be a class-action indictment of all podiatrists, I perceived a consistent negative response from what I believed to be a reasonable treatment option for an exceedingly common condition.

So let me go on record, as you suggested, to emphasize that health professionals need to work together, not antagonistically, in this frustrating climate of managed care and rising health costs.

My final comment: to you podiatrists who disagree with my position, I urge you to try Vicks as a cure for nail fungus. Then, based on your experiences, you can either fry me or compliment me.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Why is red dye so ubiquitous? It can cause hives, insomnia and hyperactivity. Why are pills coated with it?

DEAR READER: Red dye is, for most people, harmless vegetable coloring. Although some people are allergic to it, the overwhelming majority of individuals are not. Those who are sensitive to the dye should include this in their medical histories and, for obvious reasons, avoid exposure to the dye.

I don't know why red dye and other dyes, for that matter, are so ubiquitous. The practice must have something to do with making food and medicine seem more attractive; the dye itself serves no useful purpose.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 91-year-old neighbor suffers from night sweats, a symptom that his doctor disregards. Any thoughts?

DEAR READER: In many cases, night sweats reflect occult cancers or hidden infection (such as tuberculosis) in the body. Therefore, I suggest that your neighbor's doctor should perform some basic tests — such as blood analysis and imaging studies — to identify such an infection. In my view, night sweats should not be ignored.

If readers would like to contact Dr. Gott, they may write him through your newspaper or send their mail directly to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.

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Markets Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	13.63	13.32	13.53	—.14
AT&T Corp	21.55	21.00	21.24	—.74
Albertsons	23.74	23.52	23.61	
Alltel	49.46	48.94	49.03	—.43
AmEl Pw	31.13	30.80	30.90	—.34
AndarkPtr	52.80	51.81	52.66	+.38
ATMOS Egy	24.75	24.52	24.70	+.03
Aviall	15.77	15.48	15.77	+.32
BP PLC	48.67	48.12	48.66	—.41
BakerHughes	33.44	32.20	33.41	+.81
Bank of Amer	79.05	78.75	78.90	—.15
BellSouth	29.21	28.89	29.21	—.59
BurlNoSFe	32.20	31.80	32.10	+.10
Caterpillar	81.53	80.89	81.10	—.75
CenterPoint	10.10	9.87	10.08	+.08
ChevronTex	85.90	84.33	84.60	—1.45
Citigroup	50.36	49.70	50.12	
CocaCola	50.81	50.03	50.47	+.35
ColgatePal	50.82	50.35	50.80	+.03
CmclMetals	31.37	30.82	31.33	+.31
ConocoPhill	65.75	65.00	65.60	—.20
Cooper Inds	58.13	57.53	58.01	—.31
DaimlrChry	46.44	45.95	46.37	—.72
DeltaAirLines	12.77	12.40	12.61	—.09
Dillards Inc	16.38	16.01	16.07	—.51
DowChem	42.06	41.60	41.60	—.79
DuPont	45.26	44.60	44.77	—.49
EastmanChem	40.58	40.05	40.12	—.44
EstKodak	27.00	26.69	26.89	+.11
EDS Corp	24.18	23.84	24.04	+.09
Entergy	57.19	56.85	56.94	—.34
ExxonMobil	40.51	40.02	40.28	—.62
FootLocker	23.48	23.10	23.31	+.05
GenDynam	92.27	91.57	92.10	—.44
GenlElec	32.25	31.65	32.01	—.24
GenMills	45.67	45.34	45.66	+.21
GenMotors	55.07	54.06	54.15	—.84
GaPacific	30.88	30.48	30.61	—.43
Goodrich	29.05	28.81	29.02	—.43
Goodyear	8.56	8.25	8.51	+.14
GtAtlPac	9.50	8.25	9.31	+1.77
Halliburtn	28.00	26.78	27.93	+.95
Hanson PLC	37.80	37.60	37.60	—.05
HarteHanks	21.61	21.49	21.54	—.21
HomeDepot	35.95	35.39	35.91	+.31
HoneywellIntl	35.13	34.90	35.02	—.33
IBM	92.35	91.75	92.14	—.90
IntlPaper	44.98	43.88	44.51	—.47
JohnsonJn	51.90	51.55	51.56	—.43
KinderMorg	60.22	59.40	59.75	—.47
Kroger Co	18.80	18.43	18.67	
LockheedM	51.63	51.00	51.47	+.22
Lowes Cos	54.40	53.65	53.97	+.11
Lubys	3.65	3.58	3.63	+.01
LucentTech	3.85	3.50	3.78	—.10
MarathonOil	34.25	33.72	34.22	+.12
MayDeptStr	29.73	29.02	29.65	+.18
Medtronic	48.49	48.02	48.31	—.04
Motorola	15.79	15.44	15.68	—.02
NCR Corp	40.61	39.76	40.50	+.18
Navistar	50.08	49.60	49.92	—.16
PNM Rescs	28.77	28.49	28.66	—.10
Penney JC	26.38	25.99	26.28	—.02
PepBoys	23.30	23.00	23.22	—.17
PepsiCo	45.93	45.40	45.73	—.28
PhelpDodge	79.15	77.90	78.06	—1.09
PilgrimsPride	17.30	16.95	17.06	—.19
Praxair s	38.55	37.85	37.85	—.91
ProctGamb	99.91	98.88	99.59	+.46
RadioShack	30.16	29.33	29.86	+.36
RoyalDut	49.35	48.58	49.14	—3.62
SBC Comm	27.49	26.50	26.63	—.96
SaraLee	21.55	21.40	21.52	—.03
Scripps EW	94.95	94.60	94.60	—.43
SearsRoeb	46.19	45.51	45.88	—.31
SherwinW	35.84	35.64	35.66	—.19
SouthernCo	30.05	29.86	29.91	—.09
SwstAirl	15.92	15.46	15.49	—.56
SprintFON	17.75	17.32	17.44	—.26
SprintPCS	6.12	5.85	6.07	—.04
Sunoco Inc	52.20	51.60	51.77	—.43
TXU Corp	23.92	23.63	23.69	—.21
TempleInland	62.90	62.24	62.28	—.68
TexInd	37.51	37.29	37.41	—.19
TexasInst	31.98	31.11	31.98	+.13
Textron	59.50	58.15	59.50	+1.22
TimeWarner	18.80	18.27	18.31	—.28
TrinityInds	31.76	31.47	31.61	—.18
TylerTech	9.89	9.76	9.87	
UnionPacif	67.03	66.65	66.77	—.31
USSteel	35.65	34.53	35.42	—.30
UnitedTech	95.00	94.27	94.84	—.05
Unocal	38.10	37.01	37.87	+.44
VerizonComm	37.35	36.31	36.43	—.69
WalMart	53.15	52.73	52.79	—.47
WellsFargo	58.35	57.35	57.89	+.24
WstnGasRs	48.15	47.42	48.10	+.59
WinnDixie	9.75	9.63	9.74	—.01
Xerox Cp	14.20	13.92	14.17	+.01
YumBrands	34.37	34.15	34.25	—.29

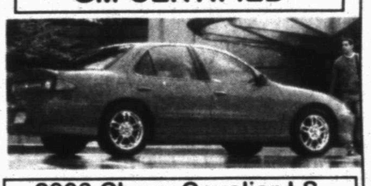
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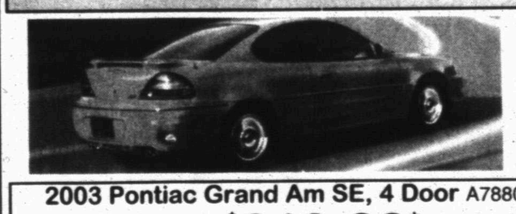
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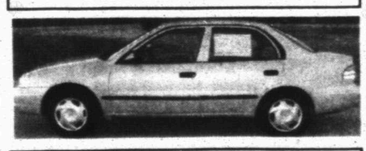
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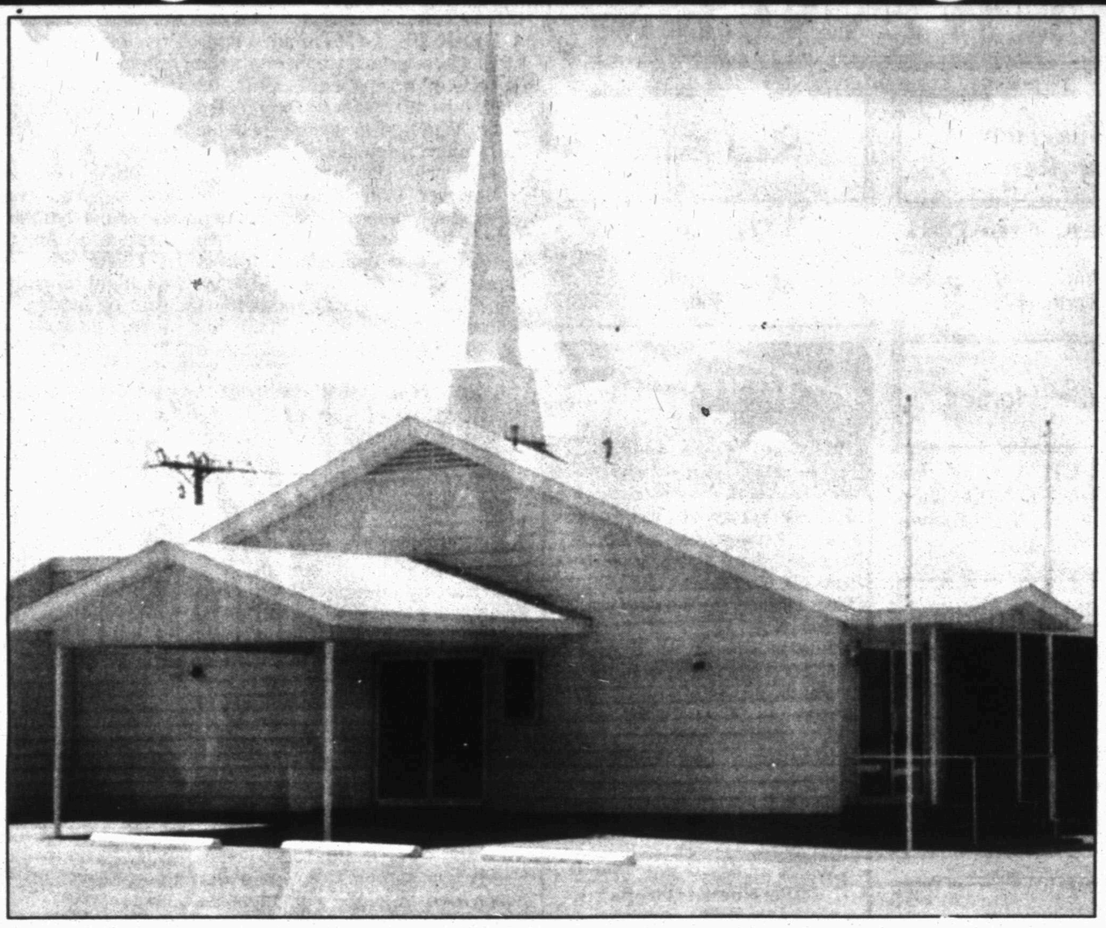
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Psalm 143:11

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Proverbs 3:24

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Proverbs 8:14

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Two killed, dozens wounded in explosion

BAQOUBA, Iraq (AP) — An explosion ripped through a busy street today as worshippers streamed out of a Shiite Muslim mosque after midday prayers in the central town of Baqouba, killing at least two people and wounding dozens of others, doctors and officials said.

In Saddam Hussein's hometown, Tikrit, some 300 U.S. soldiers swept through the city overnight, detaining 30 Iraqis in one of the biggest raids since the end of the American-led war to oust Saddam.

In Baghdad today, rockets struck a hotel used by Western contract workers, shattering windows but causing no casualties.

Attacks on Shiite and Sunni Muslim mosques have increased in recent weeks, raising tensions between the two communities as they compete for influence in post-Saddam Iraq. An upsurge in sectarian violence could undermine U.S. efforts to put together a democratic government in Iraq, where the Shiite majority was oppressed for decades under Saddam Hussein's mainly Sunni regime.

The blast today went off near the Sadiq Mohammed mosque in Baqouba, a religiously mixed city 35 miles northeast of Baghdad in an area dominated by Sunnis.

A police investigator said officers discovered a car bomb in front of another Shiite mosque 1½ miles away and that it appeared a coordinated attack. The investigator said the car was rigged with three artillery shells and 330 pounds of TNT but faulty wiring prevented it from going off.

The explosion outside the Sadiq Mohammed mosque was caused by a gas cylinder, an Iraqi police lieutenant and the mosque owner said. It was unclear if it was rigged as a bomb or exploded by accident.

Footage from Associated Press Television News showed men pulling sheets over two bodies lying in the street as women in black robes wailed. Wounded people wandered in a daze. One car was set ablaze and other blackened cars were covered with debris from the blast.

Dr. Ahmed Ali of the Baqouba General Hospital said five people were killed and 37 wounded. A police lieutenant said there were four dead and 36 wounded. A U.S. military spokeswoman, Maj. Josslyn Aberle, put the toll at two dead and two wounded.

Iraqi Lt. Yaqthen Othman said the gas cylinder, widely used here for cooking, was attached to a bicycle and exploded after the cyclist moved the bike across the street from the mosque.

Businessman Raad Sadek, who built and owns the mosque, said his brother saw the cylinder leaning against the door of the mosque and, after becoming suspicious, moved it to the middle of the street, where there was a large crater.

Under Saddam's authoritarian rule, ethnic and religious divisions in Iraq were largely kept under check. Since Saddam's fall in April, religious leaders on both sides have tried to prevent an outbreak of tensions.

On Dec. 9, a Sunni mosque was bombed in Baghdad, killing three, in an attack that mosque officials blamed on Shiite extremists.

China threatens to fine anyone hiding cats linked to SARS

GUANGZHOU, China (AP) — Authorities in southern China on today threatened fines of up to $12,000 for merchants who try to hide civet cats, a day ahead of the deadline to slaughter thousands of the animals because of fears they carry a virus linked to SARS.

Also today, the World Health Organization asked the Chinese government for more information about the country's second suspected SARS case of the season.

WHO also suggested in a statement that further tests would be appropriate for the 20-year-old waitress in Guangdong province.

"(It) seems to us that there is sufficient evidence to indicate that further laboratory tests should be performed and that this case should be taken seriously," a WHO statement said.

It urged the provincial government to send "a full set of samples from the patient" to both China's National Reference Laboratories in Beijing and one of WHO's International SARS Reference Laboratory Network facilities.

Meanwhile, Guangdong province intensified its campaign to clean streets and wipe out civets plus other potential carriers that have been labeled the "four dangers" — rats, roaches, flies and mosquitoes.

Civets, a local delicacy, were ordered seized from markets and slaughtered after tests suggested a link between them and China's first SARS case of the season, a 32-year-old television producer.

A five-member WHO team was in Guangzhou on today to help Chinese experts try to figure out how the man was exposed to the virus. WHO officials have urged caution with the civet slaughter, saying it could destroy medical clues or expose those involved in the cull to SARS.

The WHO experts haven't joined the investigation into the second suspected case, said team spokesman Roy Wadia, but the two sides were discussing how to continue.

Scientists say the virus might have begun in wild animals, then jumped to humans.

"What we're mostly interested in are the possibilities of animal-to-animal and then animal-to-human exposure, person-to-person exposure," team leader Robert Breiman said.

Chinese health workers have been drowning, electrocuting and incinerating civet cats by the thousands.

The order to kill civets set a deadline of Saturday and later was expanded to include badgers, racoon, dogs and some other wildlife eaten in Guangzhou.

After Saturday, "any business person caught hiding civets will be fined between 10,000 and 100,000 yuan ($1,200 to $12,000)," said the newspaper Guangzhou Daily.

Bush administration lowers the national terror alert level

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration lowered the national terror alert level today as Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said that an urgent threat had passed.

"I know we are all thankful that nothing happened," said Ridge, announcing the lowering of the threat level at a news conference. Airports and airlines will keep their high alert status, said a government official speaking on condition of anonymity.

During heightened alerts, airports are asked to restrict parking near terminals if necessary, increase law enforcement patrols of terminals and perimeters and conduct random checks of vehicles on airport roadways.

Certain locations, and sectors of the economy, will keep their security posture as though the threat level had not gone down, Ridge said, although he offered no specifics.

The alert level went from orange, signifying a high threat of terrorist attacks, to yellow, signifying an elevated threat. The conclusion of the holidays — and the large gatherings that go with them, played a role in the decision to lower the threat level, Ridge said.

"Although we've returned to yellow, we have not let our guard down," he said.

Homeland Security ranks threats by colors, starting with green at the bottom and followed by blue, yellow, orange and red as perceived dangers intensify. The warning level can be changed for the entire country or for specific regions and economic sectors.

The level was raised to orange, or the second-highest level, on Dec. 21. That marked the fifth time the national alert level was raised to orange since the system was announced in March 2002. It has never dipped below yellow, representing an "elevated" risk.

Some officials have worried that operatives of the al-Qaida terrorist network were deliberately trying to spoof U.S. and international intelligence networks aimed at uncovering terrorist threats, by planting misinformation on lines of communications they believed were monitored.

Other U.S. officials said the amount and energy level of the threatening intelligence were too widespread for this to entirely be a disinformation campaign.

During the orange alert period, U.S. officials said they were focused on possible threats to the aviation system, particularly the threat of overseas flights being hijacked and used in Sept. 11, 2001-style attacks on American targets.

Man arrested for PI, criminal trespass

• Arrest

A caller notified police at 1:21 a.m. today concerning a suspicious subject standing near a window on the north side of a building located at 24th and Beaumont. Officers made contact with a 43-year-old man who was taken into custody and charged with public intoxication and criminal trespass.

• Grass Fire

The Snyder Fire Department responded to a grass fire in the ditch on U.S. 84 and Hwy. 180.

• Theft

At 10:43 a.m. Thursday, two gumball machines were reported stolen from Kerry's Pit and Grill.

Thursday afternoon, a pit bull dog was reported stolen, but a family member later located the dog.

• Criminal mischief

A resident of the 2700 block of Ave. F contacted law enforcement at 9 p.m. Thursday to report someone banging on their air conditioning unit. Officers later located three boards missing from a backyard fence.

• Harassment

Officers were requested to the 2300 block of Ave. I at 9:24 p.m. Thursday. The caller said that some subjects who lived nearby were yelling and calling his wife names.

• Suspicious subjects

A caller reported at 10 p.m. Thursday seeing a flashlight in a vacant house in the 600 block of 33rd. Officers found everything to be in order.

• Suspicious vehicle

A suspicious vehicle parked at the entrance to the VFW, 1701 Ave. T was reported at 12:09 a.m. today. The vehicle was gone upon the officer's arrival.

Obituaries

Dick Browning

1935-2004

Ellis Mack "Dick" Browning, a life-long Scurry County resident, died Wednesday, Jan. 7, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock after a brief illness.

Graveside service for Mr. Browning, 68, is set for 10 a.m. Saturday in the Fluvanna Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Jan. 19, 1935 in Dermott, he married Jane Duncan on March 10, 1961 in Snyder.

Mr. Browning had spent most of his life in the grocery business, working for Furr's, IGA, Piggly Wiggly and Everybody's Thriftway. At the time of his death, he was employed at the Handi-Mart and was a member of First Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Jane Browning of Snyder; two sons, Dicky Wayne Browning of Abilene and Michael Lane Browning and his wife Goldie of Snyder; three brothers, Rusty Browning and Timp Browning, both of Post, and Billy Ray Browning of Snyder; two sisters, M. J. Merritt of Snyder and Pat Kelley of Rotan; and one granddaughter, Amanda Nicole Browning of Snyder.

Visitation will be held from 7 to 8 this evening at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mark Barnett

1966-2004

WICHITA FALLS — Mark Anthony Barnett, the brother of Michael Barnett of Snyder, died Monday, Jan. 5, in Wichita Falls.

Funeral service for Mr. Barnett, 37, is set for 1 p.m. Saturday at 1209 33rd Street in Wichita Falls. Arrangements are under the direction of Hampton Vaughn Crestview Funeral Home.

Survivors also include his mother, Carmen Valadez of Wichita Falls; a sister, Maria Theresa of Wichita Falls; four other brothers, Felix Valadez of Beaverton, Mich., Joaquin Valadez and Steven Barnett, both of Wichita Falls, and Daniel Barnett of Beaumont.

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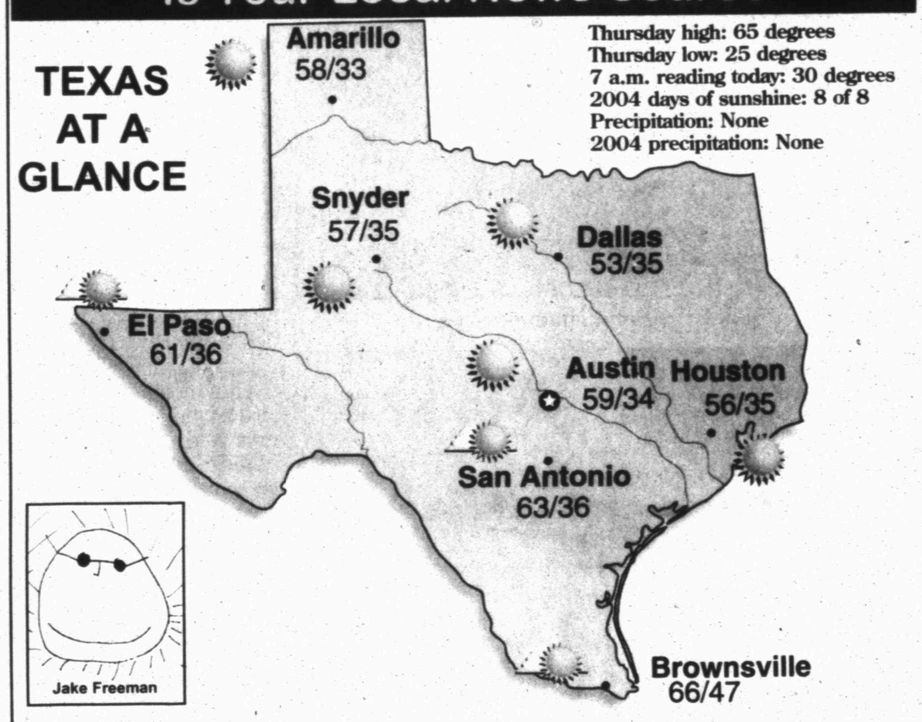
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Sat 1/10	Sun 1/11	Mon 1/12
57/35	62/36	55/35
Mainly sunny. High 57F. Winds SSE at 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly sunny. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise 7:47 AM Sunset 5:56 PM	Sunrise 7:47 AM Sunset 5:57 PM	Sunrise 7:47 AM Sunset 5:57 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–
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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Thursday high: 65 degrees
Thursday low: 25 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 30 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 8 of 8
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: None

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	57	38	sunny	El Paso	61	36	mst sunny	Midland	61	35	sunny
Amarillo	58	33	sunny	Fort Stockton	62	36	sunny	Raymondville	65	43	sunny
Austin	59	34	sunny	Gainesville	51	31	sunny	Rosenberg	56	35	sunny
Beaumont	56	34	sunny	Greenville	51	31	sunny	San Antonio	63	36	mst sunny
Brownsville	66	47	mst sunny	Houston	56	35	sunny	San Marcos	60	34	sunny
Brownwood	58	35	sunny	Kingsville	64	42	sunny	Sulphur Springs	52	31	sunny
Corpus Christi	61	42	sunny	Livingston	55	29	sunny	Sweetwater	59	37	sunny
Corsicana	53	33	sunny	Longview	53	30	sunny	Tyler	53	30	sunny
Dallas	53	35	sunny	Lubbock	60	32	sunny	Weatherford	53	31	sunny
Del Rio	63	37	sunny	Lufkin	56	29	sunny	Wichita Falls	55	34	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	41	20	mst sunny	Houston	56	35	sunny	Phoenix	78	51	mst sunny
Boston	12	2	mst sunny	Los Angeles	76	53	pt sunny	San Francisco	59	51	cloudy
Chicago	26	20	pt sunny	Miami	69	54	rain	Seattle	48	39	rain
Dallas	53	35	sunny	Minneapolis	25	23	cloudy	St. Louis	35	27	sunny
Denver	52	32	mst sunny	New York	19	9	sunny	Washington, DC	25	13	sunny

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Jan 7	Jan 15	Jan 21	Jan 29

UV Index

Sat 1/10	Sun 1/11	Mon 1/12
3	3	4
Low	Low	Low

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

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JAN 09 2004

Best Available Copy

Ira FFA hosts 2004 stock show

The 2004 Ira School stock show was held Jan. 3 Scott Doss was the judge.

STEERS

Grand Champion Steer — Laramie Gilbert.

Reserve Grand Champion Steer — Laramie Gilbert, shown by Kaci Waller. Other steer exhibitors were Tyrelle Gilbert, A'Lex Koonce and Chase Peterson.

GOATS

Class One

1. Baily Nickerson; 2.Chad Nickerson; 3. Jordan Smith; 4. and 5. Joel Lollar; 6. Kellner Odom.

Class Two

1. Rance Dunn, 2. Jordan Lollar; 3. Cody Lomax; 4. Jordan Lollar; 5. Wesley Kellner; 6. Bailey Minor.

Class Three

1. Baily Nickerson; 2. Joel Lollar; 3. Joel Lollar; 4. Seth Cotton; 5. Jordan Lollar; 6. Wesley Kellner; 7. Sarah Kellner.

Class Four

1. and 2. Chad Nickerson; 3. Ashton Smith; 4. Laramie Gilbert.

Class Five

1. and 2. Baily Nickerson; 3. Ashton Smith; 4. Tyrelle Gilbert; 5. Wesley Kellner; 6. Sarah Kellner; 7. Tyrelle Gilbert.

Class Six

1. Chad Nickerson; 2. Ashton Smith; 3. Jessica Odom; 4. Cody Lomax; 5. Laramie Gilbert; 6. Shelbi Meador.

Grand Champion Goat — Baily Nickerson.

Reserve Grand Champion Goat — Chad Nickerson.

LAMBS

Southdowns

1. Bailey Minor; 2. Kellner Odom; 3. Chad Nickerson; 4. Jake Riley; 5. Baily Nickerson.

Champion Southdown — Bailey Minor; **Reserve Champion Southdown** — Kellner Odom.

FINEWOOL

Class One

1. Kelbi Pitner; 2. Amber Sanchez; 3. Brandon Lunsford; 4. Seth Sanchez.

Class Two

1. Lacie Thompson; 2. Brandon Lunsford; 3. Kelbi Pitner; 4. Seth Cotton.

Champion Finewool — Lacie Thompson; **Reserve Champion finewool** — Kelbi Pitner.

FINEWOOL CROSSES

Class One

1. Lacie Thompson; 2. Sarah McCown; 3. Bailey Minor; 4. Seth Sanchez; 5. Sarah McCown; 6. Sarah Gunset; 7. Bailey Minor.

Class Two

1. Brandon Lunsford; 2. Kaci Waller; 3. Bailey Minor; 4. Amanda Elam; 5. Jessica Odom; 6. Brandon Lunsford; 7. Jake Riley.

Class Three

1. Kaci Waller; 2. Jessica Odom; 3. Lacie Thompson; 4. Jessica Odom; 5. Amber Sanchez; 6. Amber Baker.

Champion Finewool Cross — Kaci Waller; **Reserve Champion Finewool** — Jessica Odom.

MEDIUM WOOL

Class One

1. Tanya Elam; 2. Lacie Thompson; 3. Amber Sanchez; 4. Amber Baker; 5. Kellner Odom; 6. Sarah Gunset.

Class Two

1. Lacie Thompson; 2. Seth Cotton; 3. Bailey Minor; 4. Brandon Lunsford; 5. Amanda Elam; 6. Jake Riley.

Champion Medium Wool — Lacie Thompson; **Reserve Champion Medium Wool** — Seth Cotton.

Grand Champion Lamb — Kacie Waller; **Reserve Grand Champion Lamb** — Lacie Thompson.

HOGS

BERKSHIRE

1. Sarah Gunset; 2. Jessica Odom; 3. Tanner Martin; 4. Sarah Kellner.

Champion Berkshire — Sarah Gunset; **Reserve Champion Berkshire** — Jessica Odom.

DUROC

Class One

1. Cody Lomax; 2. Tanya Elam; 3. Amanda Elam.

Class Two

1. Seth Sanchez; 2. Kellner Odom; 3. Dale Cink; 4. Sarah Gunset.

Champion Duroc — Seth Sanchez; **Reserve Champion Duroc** — Cody Lomax.

HAMPSHIRE

Class One

1. Seth Cotton; 2. Sarah Gunset; 3. Cody Lomax; 4. Tanner Martin.

Class Two

1. Taylor Hollingsworth; 2. Jacob Elam; 3. Chris Dobbs; 4. Jamie Dobbs.

Class Three

1. Ashton Smith; 2. Rance Dunn; 3. Brandon Lunsford.

Champion Hampshire — Taylor Hollingsworth; **Reserve Champion Hampshire** — Ashton Smith.

SPOT/POLAND/CHESTER

1. Sarah McCown; 2. Lacie Thompson; 3. Whitney Payne; 4. Jonathon Devitt.

Champion Spot/Poland/Chester — Sarah McCown; **Reserve Champion Spot/Poland/Chester** — Lacie Thompson.

YORKSHIRE

Class One

1. Cody Lomax; 2. Lacie Thompson; 3. Wes Kellner; 4. Chris Dobbs.

Class Two

1. Amber Sanchez; 2. Jon Beaird; 3. Seth Cotton.

Champion Yorkshire — Amber Sanchez; **Reserve Champion Yorkshire** — Cody Lomax.

CROSSES

Class One

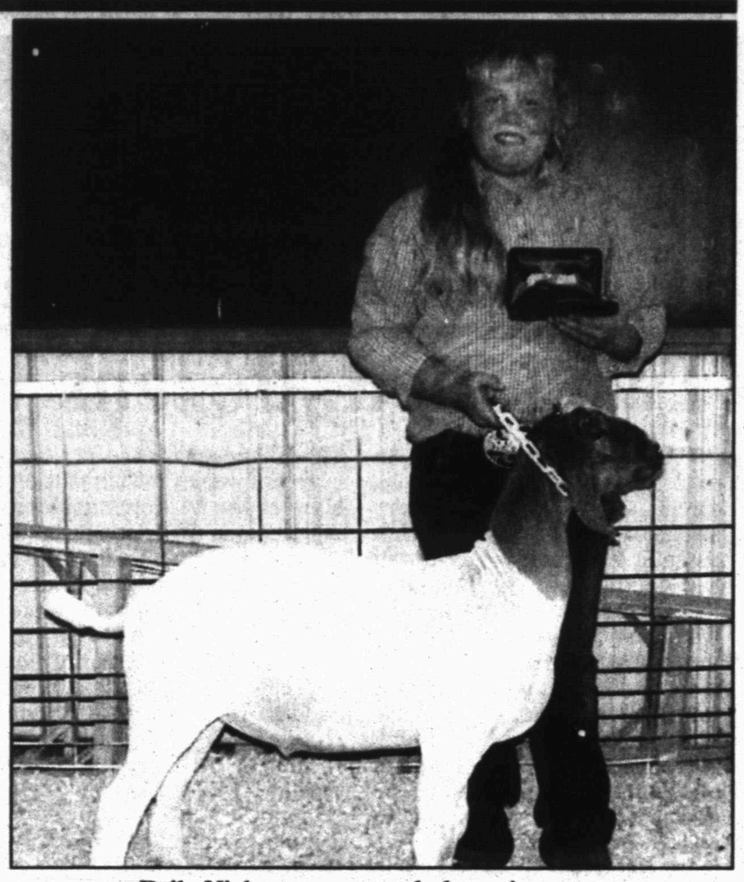
1. Seth Sanchez; 2. Jessica Odom; 3. Bailey Minor.

Class Two

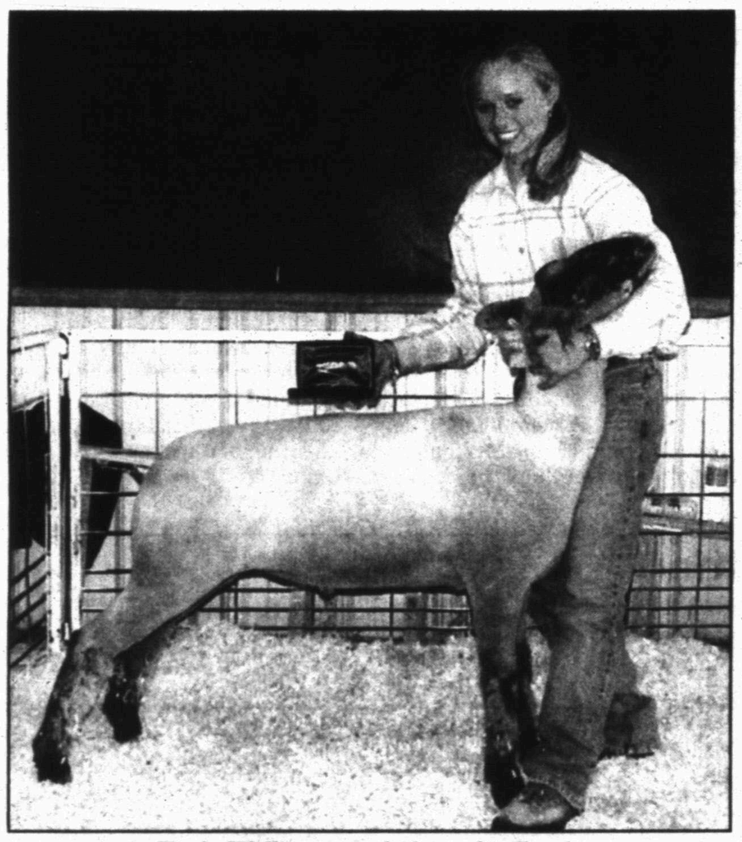
1. Brandon Lunsford; 2. Kellner Odom; 3. Rance Dunn; 4. Ashton Smith.

Champion Cross — Brandon Lunsford; **Reserve Champion Cross** — Seth Sanchez.

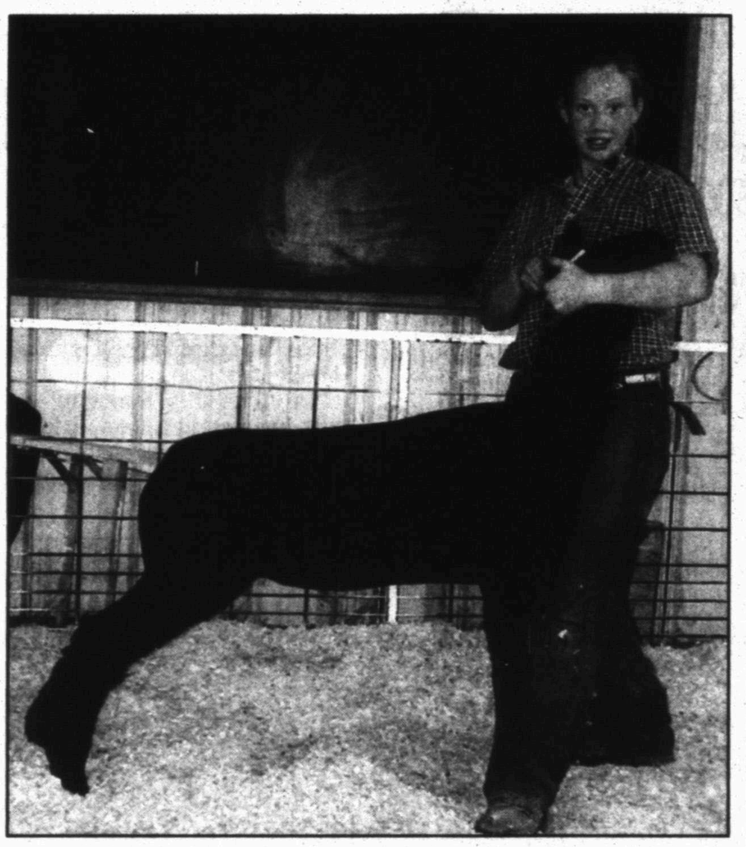
Grand Champion Hog — Amber Sanchez; **Reserve Grand Champion Hog** — Brandon Lunsford.



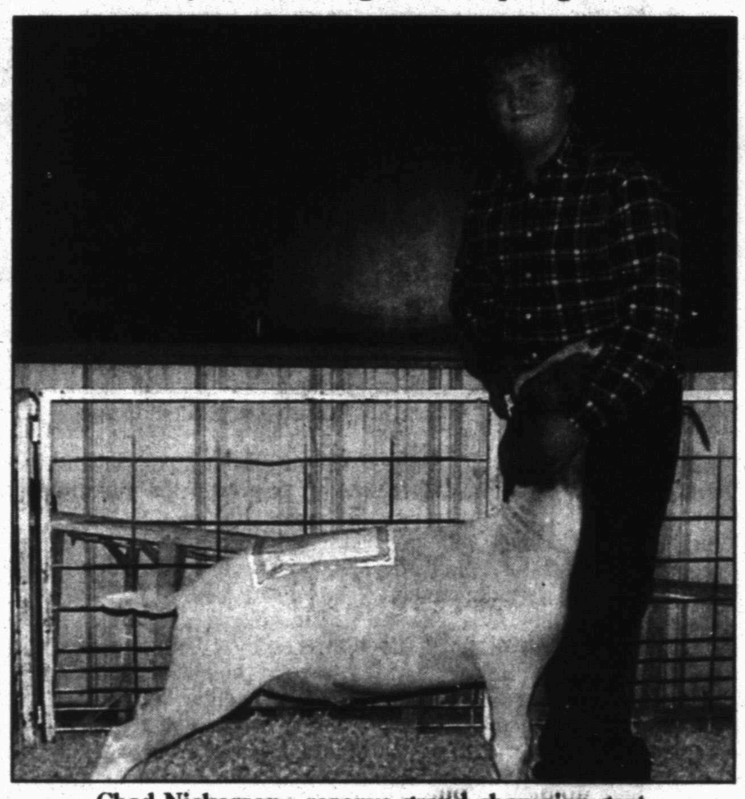
Baily Nickerson ...grand champion goat



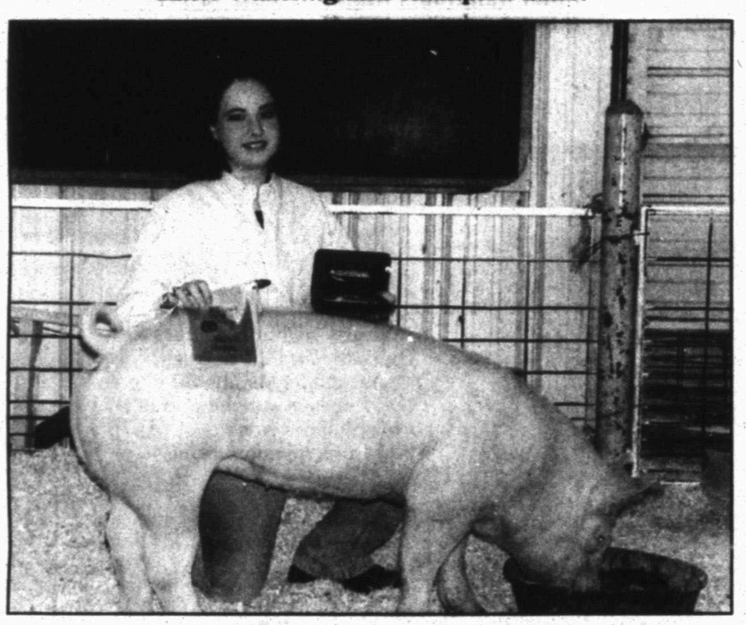
Kacie Waller...grand champion lamb.



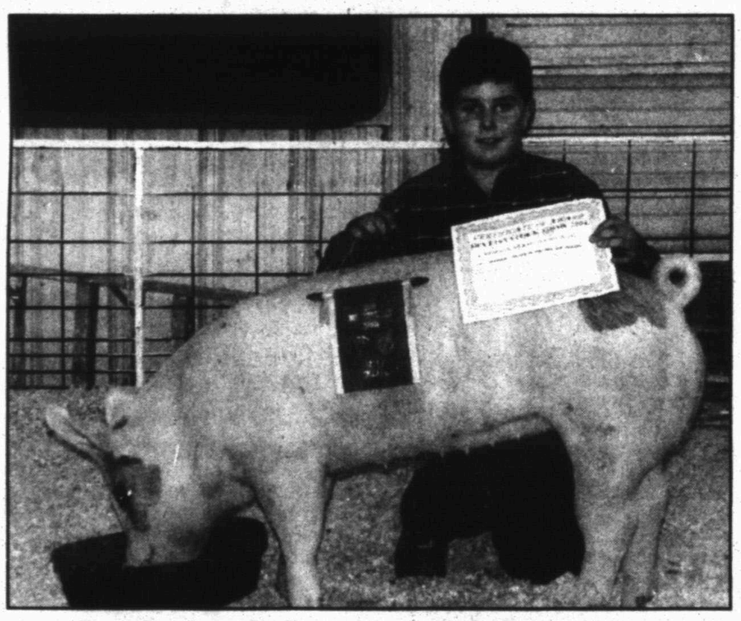
Lacie Thompson...reserve grand champion lamb.



Chad Nickerson...reserve grand champion goat.



Amber Sanchez...grand champion hog.



Brandon Lunsford...reserve grand champion hog.

Pictures of the grand champion steer, the reserve champion steer and showmanship winners will be published in the weekend edition of the Snyder Daily News.

Budget cuts target health programs

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger promised to fix California's budget problems without raising taxes, a daunting task in the face of a mounting $14 billion shortfall next year.

He will unveil a budget plan Friday that aims to do just that, by cutting billions of dollars from public health and welfare programs while calling for a sweeping reevaluation of how state tax money is spent. Still, there are expectations that some fees will be increased for state services.

The budget, expected to come in close to $100 billion, is the first major test for the former Hollywood movie actor who was elected governor only three months ago in the recall election.

Virus-spreading mosquitos show resistance to some pesticides

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — One of the most common mosquitos found in North America, the same type that is capable of spreading the West Nile Virus, has showed signs of resistance to common pesticides, researchers say.

University of California, Davis researchers found mosquitos under a Marin County apartment that had developed a tolerance to pyrethroids, a common agricultural pesticide. Mosquitos have shown resistance to the chemical in Africa and Asia, but this is the first instance in North America, experts said.

The mosquitos, called culex pipiens, are one of the most common house mosquitos in North America and are the same species as those that spread West Nile across the country last year.

Entomologists say the increased resistance may allow mosquitos to spread diseases like West Nile virus more easily. And as resistance increases, even the strongest, most toxic pesticides may prove useless.

"If we find resistance building and are able to switch to other control strategies, we can nip it in the bud," said Bruce Hammock, one of the authors of the report recently published on the Internet by Pest Management Science. "If we continue to use the same insecticides and not use them very carefully, the product then becomes useless."

California is better equipped than many states to fight pesticide resistant mosquitoes, said Roger Nasci, an entomologist with a branch of the Centers for Disease Control in Fort Collins, Colo.

"The situation in California is quite good because of a network of very integrated mosquito control systems," he said. "A lot of states are now playing catch-up."

On the other hand, the state's dependence on pyrethroids has curbed the development of alternatives, said John Edman, a professor of medical entomology at UC Davis and an authority on the spread of diseases like West Nile in California.

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