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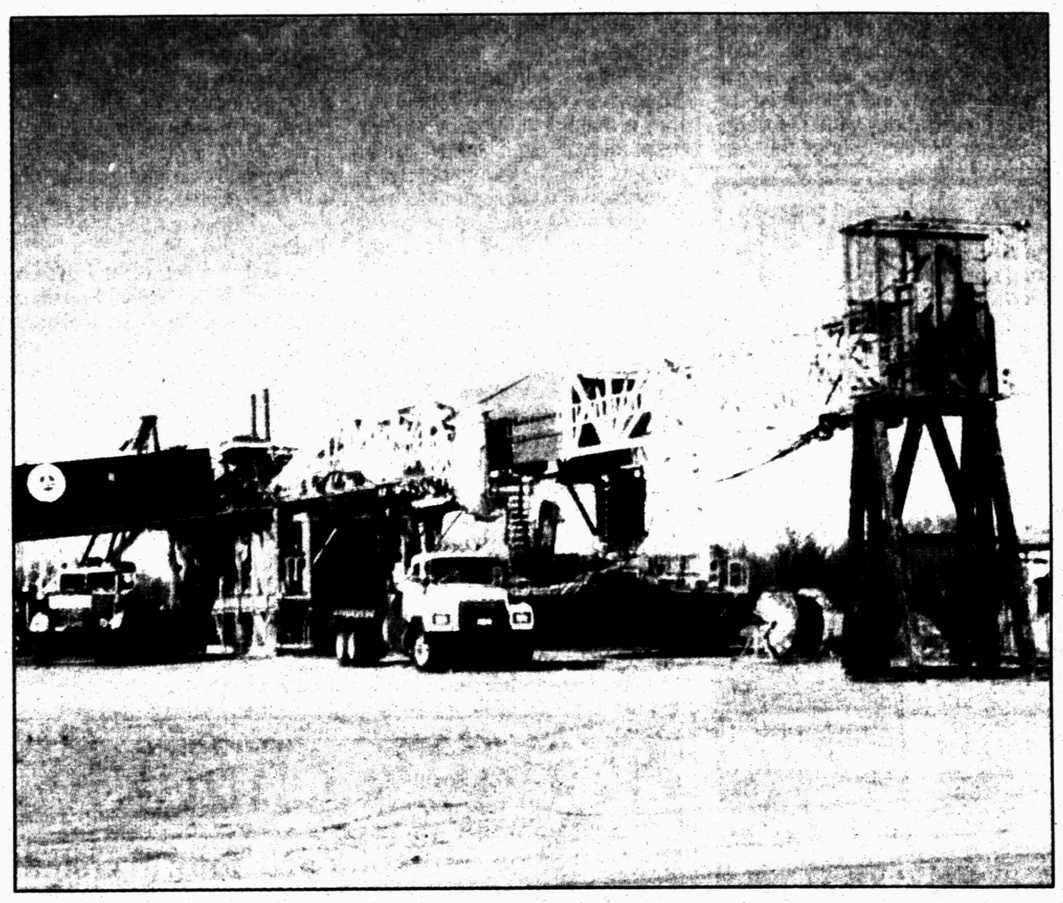
WT-Int. Crude - $33.18
WTIC Posted - $30.00
Natural Gas - $6.76

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

TUESDAY

Dec. 16, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 197
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Josh Kemp



DRILLING IN TOWN — A drilling rig, owned by Patterson-UTI, currently is rigged up at Ave. T and 28th in Snyder. The unit will be utilized to drill a CO2 injection well. Patterson-UTI is headquartered in Snyder.(SDN Staff Photo)

Hospital board will have two new directors

Williams, Voss ask not to be re-appointed

By Annie Rowe
SDN Staff Writer

Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of managers will have at least two new members next year as two current members have asked not to be re-appointed.

In a letter, read by County Judge Rod Waller to the commissioners court Monday afternoon, Williams, current board chairman, asked not to be re-appointed when his term expires in January.

Also, Bill Voss had made a verbal request earlier asking not to be re-appointed.

Terry Williams' second term also expires, but is eligible for re-appointment. Williams also is an announced candidate for precinct 1 county commissioner, subject to the Republican primary. Williams would have to resign from the hospital board post if elected in November.

In other business, the court approved a number of line-item transfers.

The court also authorized budget amendments, including one for the commissioners court for $33,250 for bidding notices, general legal services and general communications.

Others included $7,176.80 for the appraisal district for general appraisal district fees and the county court reporter for $5 for medical insurance.

Additionally, the district attorney's office amended $127 for retirement and medical insurance. Also approved for the auditor's office was $97 for medical insurance, $70 for the treasurer's office medical insurance. The county tax office requested an amendment for $850 for general payroll and retirement.

The health unit was given $80 for medical insurance while the county extension office requested $500 for maintenance, repairs and miscellaneous items. The county clerk's office was granted a $500 amendment for a maintenance agreement with a record management company for marriage licenses.

Judge Waller presided and commissioners present were Chloanne Lindsey, Howard Linmer, Ralph Trevey and Jerry House.

Charitable organizations busy this time of the year

By Annie Rowe
SDN Staff Writer

Christmas is the "season of giving and receiving," but there are those in Scurry County who may not have food for Christmas dinner.

Snyder Kiwanis and Goodfellows organizations have been gathering donations of food and money since Thanksgiving, and the demand for assistance has increased.

"The demand for items at Christmas has grown and grown," said Paula Bond, Snyder Kiwanis Club member. "I know that last year's requests were up from the year before, and I'm sure that the number has increased from last year to this.

"If you listen to TV, it's astounding how many people need just the basics for meeting their needs," Bond said. "But we have to keep in mind just how far-reaching this problem is. It's not just a problem in big cities; it's a problem here in Snyder too. It's sad how many kids won't really have a Christmas this year."

Numerous organizations in Snyder are doing as much as possible to help cover the food, clothing and toy shortfall.

The Food Cupboard, co-directed by Marie Armstrong and Mabel Covey, has found the demand to be a challenge this year.

"I think there is a much greater need," said Armstrong. "Last month we provided food to more than 300 families in Scurry County. That totaled more than 900 people who didn't have enough groceries. We have actually run completely out of food on one occasion."

The Food Cupboard, funded by the Scurry County Ministerial Alliance, has been forced to increase its inventory.

"When we started, we intended to supply enough food to serve as a back-up for families who needed it. But now it's necessary to supply even more. Sometimes up to a week."

Volunteers are working to provide aid to those who need it. Residents may have noticed a number of boxes placed at the Scurry County Library, churches and businesses for the collection of staple goods for the local Food Cupboard. Snyder schools, elementary through high school, also have participated in the collection of food. Once the food drive is over, the goods will be divided equally into boxes. Members of the Kiwanis Club will volunteer to distribute the boxes to qualified families.

On Saturday, volunteers will assemble to give out boxes to families who have applied to the Kiwanis and Goodfellows organizations.

Utility poles, trees take a hit Monday

Winds in excess of 60 miles per hour pounded West Texas Monday, toppling trees and utility poles at several Snyder locations.

"We had every available resource out yesterday," said Randy Ward, operations manager for Oncor Energy.

By noon Monday, about the time the wind was reaching its peak, dispatchers with Scurry County Law Enforcement Center had been inundated with a number of calls reporting damage.

"It's always easy to tell when there is a drastic change in the weather. Yesterday, when the winds hit, everything just seemed to fall apart," said Ellen Hall, dispatcher for the Scurry County sheriff's department.

Emergency calls reporting downed power lines, snapped power poles and fallen trees were the order of the afternoon, and many of those calls were just moments apart.

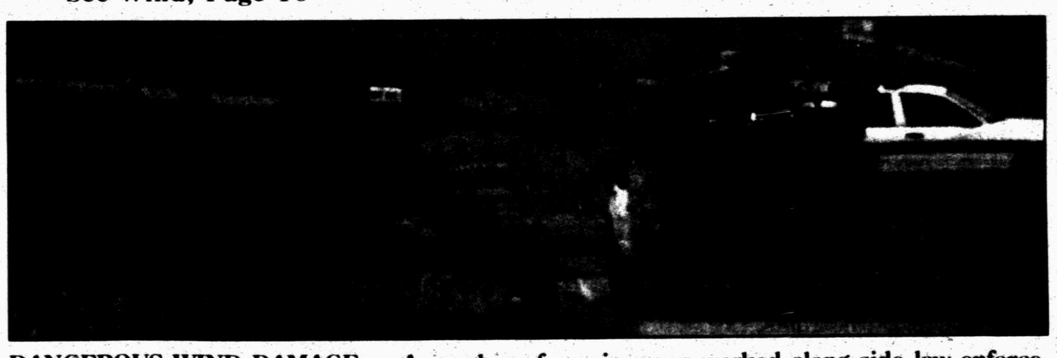
A caller reported on County Road 221 that a utility pole had snapped. Another pole had broken at 2006 26th and a utility pole that was leaning severely and was near the breaking point was reported on east Hwy. 180 at FM 644. Lines were down in various locations,. including electrical lines at 4002 Ave. R and a cable line down at 2805 Ave. V.

A person contacted law enforcement reporting that some tin had blown off of a roof and into power lines at Ave. R and Voss Lane.

A number of construction sign in and around the square also were blown over.

Additionally, a caller reported a sign had hit his car at the

See Wind, Page 10



DANGEROUS WIND DAMAGE — A number of repair crews worked along side law enforcement to repair and clean up wind damage Monday. A number of utility poles, trees and lines were down in the area due to the high winds. (SDN Staff Photo)

City council approves changes in retirement programs for employees

Snyder city council Monday night approved the second reading of three ordinances related to employee retirement benefits.

The ordinances allow Development Corporation of Snyder (DCOS) employees to participate in the Texas Municipal Retirement System. It also allows prior service credit, changing the employee vesting period from 10 to five years.

Also, an employees may retire at 20 years of service at any age. This is a change from 25 years of service at any age.

Councilman Terry Martin said he is in favor of allowing DCOS employees to participate in the retirement program, but questioned whether funding through sales tax rebates for the DCOS could be kept separate from ad valorem taxes paid by citizens.

"My concern is the mixing of ad valorem taxes and sales tax rebates," said Martin. "The public didn't vote to use ad valorem taxes for the DCOS, but they did for the sales tax (money)."

City Manager John Gayle told Martin that the tax money would be kept separate.

However, payment for prior service credit for DCOS employees will come out of what the city contributes as required by law.

This amount totals some $22,000 and will be spread over 25 years.

Councilman David Harrell questioned why this amount could not be picked up by the DCOS, and Vernest Tippens suggested the organization could pay so much per year.

This is when Johnson explained that the city is required to pay for prior service credits.

Mayor Francene Noah presided at the meeting that lasted less than a half-hour and all council members were present to include Martin, Harrell, Tippens, Stephanie Ducheneaux, Ron Shaw and James Ashley.

THE SDN COLUMN
By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "About the only thing free of charge is a rundown battery."

Monday's West Texas snow didn't do much to increase holiday cheer.

About the only thing yesterday's blowing dust was good for was to stay indoors. In other words, if you have to be in bed with the flu, make sure it was yesterday.

But we could think of a couple of things for which to be grateful. John DeLille didn't have to show the industrial park to anybody on Monday.

Also, sports editor Bobby Allen wasn't required to cover a baseball game, tennis match or golf tournament.

But it could have been worse. Lucky you, you could have been living in Lubbock. SDN veteran Joyce Smith had a "must" doctor's appointment in Lubbock. She was barely able to find the office. The good news: her trip back to Snyder was quick and her car still had a full tank of gas.

We talked to the newspaper guy in Lamesa where cotton harvest if in full gear. We told him we had seen Dawson County come by twice and that we were almost sure a cotton module had passed over Snyder.

And a word of praise for SDN carriers. Despite the elements, the paper was delivered.

And there was one call from a woman in abilene. She expressed appreciation for a sample copy of Monday's edition.

There were some good things talked about on Monday, despite the high winds and blowing dust.

The capture of Saddam Hussein was welcomed news across the nation.

We heard mixed comments on how to handle Saddam's trial, but we were glad he was taken alive. His scraggly appearance at capture compared to the arrogance portrayed eight months as a vicious dictator firing a shotgun into the air helped make many folks' weekend.

Maybe the Iraqi courts will credit him time for living in a hole — like the rat that he is.

And speaking of Christmas spirit — or lack of it — you may have seen this item on the wire.

The Labor Minister of Australia has signed an executive order that limits the playing of Christmas carols to only one hour per day in public places like shopping malls.

It seems that the repetition of such classics as "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," has caused undue stress on sales clerks and other holiday workers.

There has been a sharp increase in domestic disturbances, all blamed on stuff like, "Dashing Through the Snow," and "Jingle Bells."

Just think how tough things would have been if they had to endure "The Twelve Days of Christmas," coupled with hurricane-force winds laced with sand.

Just remember a Christmas certainty other than unpredictable West Texas weather:

"After you've spent all your money on Christmas gifts, the one thing you're sure to receive is a new wallet."



Only 9 more days until Christmas

ASK US

Q—When will Barry Tubbs' movie *Grand Champion* be released?

A—The movie, initially set for release in January, is now scheduled for release in May.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Kellye Jackson...

...has spent all but four years of her life in Snyder. She is married to Victor Jackson and they have two children, Alexxus, 7, and Zalei, 5. Her parents are W.D. and Linda Myers. When she's not shopping for Christmas, her favorite hobby is being involved in sports with her family.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

You must do the thing you think you cannot do.
—Eleanor Roosevelt

DEC 16 2003

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Retirement reception

A retirement reception for Kathye Parker and Barbara Shipp will be from 4-5 p.m. today at the Snyder High School library.

Emmaus community meeting

The Mesquite Country Emmaus Christmas community meeting will be held at 7 tonight at Colonial Hill Baptist Church. Bring desserts. Monetary donations will be accepted for the orphanage in Mexico.

Hospice caregivers dinner

An appreciation dinner for past and present Odyssey Hospice caregivers will be held at 5:30 this evening in the First Baptist Church fellowship hall. Harold and Zola Kornegy will furnish the fish.

Doodle Bug writers club

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

Coats to be distributed

Coats collected during a recent drive will be distributed to the needy from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Wednesday and from 9 a.m. until noon on Thursday at the SACADA office located at 1904 37th St. Coats can still be brought to the SACADA office as well.

Mike Holmes retirement reception

A retirement reception for Snyder Junior High teacher Mike Holmes will be from 4-5 p.m. Wednesday in the junior high library.

Christmas pageant

The Surprising Christmas Pageant will be performed by the children and youth departments of Trinity United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend.

House decorating contest

The house decorating contest will be judged from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Wednesday. To enter your home, contact the chamber at 573-3558.

SHS volleyball banquet

Snyder High School volleyball awards banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday in Towle Park Barn. Tickets for parents and family are $5 and are available at the athletic office. There is no charge for players.

Smokey Bear posters

Smokey Bear posters for a contest sponsored by Snyder Garden Club must be turned in by Thursday to classroom teachers or by calling Sandra Browning at 573-7277. Local winners will be announced in January and top posters will advance to the state contest.

Santa at Snyder Healthcare

Santa Claus will visit Snyder Healthcare at 6:30 p.m. Friday. Family and friends are invited to attend.

FBC to present Christmas musical

First Baptist Church will present *A Family Christmas* at 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, featuring more than 150 people. All are invited.

Holy Child

Holy Child, a celebration of the majesty, the mystery and the miracle of Christmas by Marty Parks, will be performed by the Trinity United Methodist praise and worship team at the 11 a.m. service Sunday.

Goodfellows drive underway

Canned goods may be brought to any school campus and monetary contributions can be made at any financial institution for the Goodfellows Food Drive.

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbook

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbooks can still be ordered for $50 for the book only with additional options available for an extra costs. For more information, call 574-6138.

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.

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.

Digital economy is improving

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. technology industry is showing healthy growth for the first time since parts of the Internet sector collapsed two years ago, but jobs and wages still are down, the Bush administration says in a new report on the digital economy.

"This isn't another train coming. This really is the light at the end of the tunnel," Phil Bond, undersecretary for technology at the Commerce Department, said Monday. "Technology is firmly on the comeback trail."

In the report, due for public release today, the government predicted steady but moderate growth among technology companies and said technology investments are helping fuel growth in other areas. Manufacturing plants with computer networks, for example, are more productive than those without, even taking other factors into account.

But the report also said technology employment is recovering slowly. It said the number of technology workers dropped by 11.2 percent since 2000 to 4.8 million employees — compared with a decline of less than 2 percent in all private industries.

Average annual wages among technology employees dropped in 2002 to $67,440 — down 1.3 percent from $68,330 the previous year — even though average wages for all private-sector workers increased by 1 percent to $36,520.

Powell has cancerous prostate removed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Colin Powell underwent surgery Monday to remove his cancerous prostate gland. "Everything went fine," his spokesman said.

"The doctors say he had a localized prostate cancer," spokesman Richard Boucher said. "The surgery took approximately two hours. They say he did extremely well."

Powell, 66, was aware of the problem for months, notified President Bush two weeks ago and scheduled the operation for the holiday season, when U.S. diplomacy generally moves into lower gear.

He will remain at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where as a retired Army general he was treated, and will then go home to McLean, Va., to recuperate further. But before long, Boucher said with a smile, Powell is certain to be sending out directives to his staff by e-mail.

In fact, Powell telephoned Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage on his way to Walter Reed and conferred by telephone Sunday with 23 foreign ministers, mostly about the capture of fallen Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"There are no complications, and a full recovery is expected," Boucher said.

Still, Powell will be on what the State Department described as a reduced schedule for some time.

While Powell had no foreign trips planned at least until the new year, the international scene continued to bubble with serious problems.

Despite Saddam's capture, American oversight of postwar Iraq remains troubled by violent resistance, limited international support and questionable Iraqi security. Talks designed to end North Korea's nuclear weapons program are delayed. Peacemaking in the Middle East remains at a standstill.

Also, America's relations with some of its closest allies have been shaken by a Pentagon decision to limit contracts for rebuilding Iraq to companies in countries that supported the U.S.-led war.

About 190,000 cases of prostate cancer are diagnosed in the United States every year, and about 30,000 men died of the disease in 2002, according to American Cancer Society statistics. It is the most common cancer in American men and their second-leading cause of cancer death after lung cancer.

Black men, such as Powell, have the highest rates of prostate cancer, and while death rates have been in decline for a decade, the rate is still twice as high for blacks as for whites.

Dr. Brantley Thrasher, professor of urology at the University of Kansas, said Powell appeared to have an "excellent chance for cure."

Thrasher, in an interview, said it was not clear why blacks have such high rates of prostate cancer. One reason, he said, could be that they generally do not have as much access as whites to health care.

"Hopefully, a high-profile person like Powell will raise awareness," Thrasher said by telephone.

Powell is a retired full general who held the top military position, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, from 1989 to 1993. He held that position during the Persian Gulf War.

He has been Bush's secretary of state from the outset but is considered unlikely to buck tradition and serve in a second term, should Bush win re-election.

On the Net:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention fact sheet on prostate cancer:
http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/prostate/prostate.htm

Pizza Inn EVENTS

TUESDAY NIGHT 5:30-8:30 p.m.
SENIOR BUFFET SPECIAL
$4.49 with coffee or tea
WEDNESDAY NIGHT 5:30-8:30 p.m.
KIDS 99¢ BUFFET
13 Years & Under with Adult Buffet at Reg. Price
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY NIGHT BUFFETS 5:30-9:00 p.m.
Featuring Our New White Sauce Pizzas & Pepperoni Wraps
We Accept Local Competitors Coupons And We Will Meet Or Beat Any Other Special
Fresh Dough • Great Pizza • Locally Owned
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•Gift Items •Ornaments
•Silk Poinsettia Bushes
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3-Pre-lit Christmas Trees - 30% Off
Friendly Flower Shop
3203 1/2 College Ave 915-573-5260, 915-573-3851

We will close
Wednesday, Dec. 17
at 6:00 p.m.
SONIC
America's Drive-In
4100 College Ave. 573-7620

Today's chuckle

Bad case of munchies gets four arrested

BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP) — A bad case of the munchies during finals week has landed four first-year students in handcuffs.



Four 18-year-old women at Florida Atlantic University had been studying into the early morning hours when they decided to take some cereal, fruit and other snacks worth about $25 from the University Center Marketplace kitchen, according to a police report.

Spotted by a maintenance worker who called campus police, the four were handcuffed and taken to the Palm Beach County Jail, where they were held for the rest of the night.

"Burglary is entering and remaining in a place with the intent to commit a crime," campus police spokesman Chuck Aurin said. "They broke the law."

Dean of Students Leslie Bates said the criminal charges for the Nov. 25 cafeteria raid is a first on campus. The state attorney's office has 30 days to decide whether to proceed with the case.

The university is making the four students spend 20 hours helping the food service employees as part of their punishment.

"It will be during the 'prime time' of the cafeteria," said Kaitlin Sjostedt, one of those arrested. "It's cruel and unusual punishment."

World Almanac

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2003

Today is the 350th day of 2003 and the 85th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1653, Oliver Cromwell became "Lord Protector" of England.

In 1773, patriots in Massachusetts held the famous "Boston Tea Party."

In 1835, a huge fire destroyed nearly 700 buildings in New York City.

In 1976, President Jimmy Carter appointed Andrew Young as ambassador to the United Nations.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), composer; Jane Austen (1775-1817), novelist; Sir Noel Coward (1899-1973), playwright; Steven Bochco (1943-), TV producer, is 60.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1973, in a game against the New York Jets, O.J. Simpson became the first NFL player to rush for more than 2,000 yards in a season.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Art demands of us that we shall not stand still." — Ludwig van Beethoven.

TODAY'S FACT: U.S. commemorative state quarters to be released in 2004 are for Michigan, Florida, Texas, Iowa and Wisconsin.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 3.5 million — approximate area in square miles of the Sahara, the world's largest desert.

TODAY'S MOON: Last quarter (Dec. 16)

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events

LOTTO TEXAS™ TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Monday's Lottery Numbers
Cash Five
2-11-16-23-33
Pick 3
(Day) 7-9-1
(Night) 6-3-6

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325-573-8296
Your Local Texas Cellular Agent
Your Choice
$25.00 Free Accessories
or
$10.00 Off Phone
Some Restrictions May Apply

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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

Lifestyle



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CMH AUXILIARY TEA — Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary members hosted a Christmas tea Thursday in the boardroom for those employed in the medical field. In the buffet line from left are Sally Alvarado, admissions; Deborah Ward, admissions manager; Laura Johnson, LVN; and Connie Stom, auxiliary member. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Cheese puffs make a good snack

CHEESE PUFFS
MAKES 15 SERVINGS

1 (12-ounce) can evaporated fat-free milk
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
¾-teaspoon dry mustard
¾-teaspoon salt
¼-teaspoon ground pepper
1-cup all-purpose flour
1/3 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon baking powder
3 egg whites
½-cup shredded reduced-fat cheddar cheese

1. Bring the milk, butter, mustard, salt, and pepper to a boil in a medium saucepan; reduce the heat to medium. Beat in the flour and Parmesan cheese with a wooden spoon, stirring vigorously, until the mixture leaves the side of the pan. Cool for 10 minutes.

2. Adjust the racks to divide the oven into thirds; preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Line two baking sheets with foil and lightly coat with nonstick spray.

3. With an electric mixer on medium speed, beat the eggs into the flour mixture until well blended. Sift in the baking powder, then add the egg whites and continue beating until the mixture is glossy and smooth. Beat in the cheddar cheese on low speed until just combined.

4. Spoon the mixture into a pastry bag or a plastic food-storage bag with a corner cut off. Pipe into 1-inch mounds, spacing 1 inch apart. (You can also pipe the mixture into 1½-inch-long "fingers," if you prefer.) You should have about 75 puffs or fingers. Bake until golden brown and firm to the touch, 22 minutes. Serve hot or warm.

Per serving (5 puffs): POINTS value 2, 96 Cal, 4 g Fat, 2 g Sat Fat, 37 mg Chol, 255 mg Sod, 9 g Carb, 0 g Fib, 6 g Prot, 147 mg Calc.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

Weight Watchers meeting; Colonial Hill Baptist Church; for more information call Kathy at 573-1289 during the evening; weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m.

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

Beginners' AA open meeting; Snyder Park Club, 1212 37th Street; 573-8268, 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Trinity United Methodist Church. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

NA Just For Today, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 573-1438; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary; board room; all members are urged to attend; 10 a.m.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; at the coliseum annex; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

AA Big Book Study; closed meeting; contact numbers are 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Snyder Chapter 450 Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Hall, 1912 35th Street; 7:30 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 573-0538 or 573-0770.

Hermleigh Community Center Family Night; 6:30 p.m.

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

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

NA-Just For Today open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-1438; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

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

TWO FOR TUESDAY
Buy Any Regular 6" Sub And Med. Drink and Get A 6" Sub of Equal or Lesser Value
FREE
THE SUBWAY A SANDWICH SHOULD BE.
3903 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 573-9782
Good Only On Tuesdays
During The Month of December 2003

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 12-16-03
♠ 8 5 4
♥ Q 7 4 2
♦ 10 9 6
♣ J 7 3

West
♠ A K 9 7
♥ 10 8
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East
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South
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Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
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Opening lead: ♠ A

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2003

Will you give duplicate a try?

By Phillip Alder

I am confident that most of my readers do not play duplicate bridge. This is a pity, for several reasons. First, bridge becomes an even more social game; you will make many new friends at your local club. Also, everyone plays the same deals in an evening, so if you are, say, South and pick up a lousy hand, every other South will have it too.

If you have given duplicate a try, persuade your friends to go with you to the club.

If you are a duplicate player but wish to improve, a good book to read is "100 Winning Duplicate Tips" by Ron Klinger (Cassell, 2003). The Australian expert player, experienced teacher and prolific author covers all aspects of the game.

You have a 5-3-3-2 hand with a five-card major and the right count for a one-no-trump opening. Do you bid the major or no-trump?

Klinger agrees with me that starting with one no-trump is preferable. In particular, when you have five hearts, it can avoid an awkward rebid if partner responds one spade.

Look at this deal from a pair event. If South opens one no-trump, it begins and ends the auction. The contract can be held to six tricks: plus 100 for East-West. On a club lead, though, South gets home for plus 90 — a terrific score.

However, if South opens one heart, it will go pass - pass, then East will make a balancing takeout double. East-West will score plus 110 in spades or clubs for a great result. (Note that despite its being a nine-card fit, even two hearts is too high!)

The book is available from Baron Barclay Bridge Supplies. Call (800) 274-2221 to order.

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Only 20 percent of money transactions in the United States are made with U.S. currency. The rest are made by check, or credit card.



OPEN HOUSE — Those attending open house for the recently repaired Girl Scout Hut include back row from left, Carmen Timora, Brenda Davis, Evelyn Liccardi, Judi Martin and Karen Williams; middle row, Caedra Robbins, Meagan Robbins, Krista Jackson; and front row, Sarah Cearley, Kaitlyn Horton and Barbara Greer. Troops also celebrated Juliette Low's birthday, the founder of Girl Scouts and signed the GS wall located in the middle room. Girl Scouts is a participating agency of the United Way. (Contributed Photo)

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Hunter stuck in muck

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MEET OUR NEWEST EMPLOYEE
Teri Presley, LVN
• Lifetime resident of Snyder
• 2002 graduate of WTC Nursing Program
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AT•THE•HOLIDAYS

DEC 16 2003

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Retirement reception

A retirement reception for Kathye Parker and Barbara Shipp will be from 4-5 p.m. today at the Snyder High School library.

Emmaus community meeting

The Mesquite Country Emmaus Christmas community meeting will be held at 7 tonight at Colonial Hill Baptist Church. Bring desserts. Monetary donations will be accepted for the orphanage in Mexico.

Hospice caregivers dinner

An appreciation dinner for past and present Odyssey Hospice caregivers will be held at 5:30 this evening in the First Baptist Church fellowship hall. Harold and Zola Kornegy will furnish the fish.

Doodle Bug writers club

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

Coats to be distributed

Coats collected during a recent drive will be distributed to the needy from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Wednesday and from 9 a.m. until noon on Thursday at the SACADA office located at 1904 37th St. Coats can still be brought to the SACADA office as well.

Mike Holmes retirement reception

A retirement reception for Snyder Junior High teacher Mike Holmes will be from 4-5 p.m. Wednesday in the junior high library.

Christmas pageant

The Surprising Christmas Pageant will be performed by the children and youth departments of Trinity United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend.

House decorating contest

The house decorating contest will be judged from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Wednesday. To enter your home, contact the chamber at 573-3558.

SHS volleyball banquet

Snyder High School volleyball awards banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday in Towle Park Barn. Tickets for parents and family are $5 and are available at the athletic office. There is no charge for players.

Smokey Bear posters

Smokey Bear posters for a contest sponsored by Snyder Garden Club must be turned in by Thursday to classroom teachers or by calling Sandra Browning at 573-7277. Local winners will be announced in January and top posters will advance to the state contest.

Santa at Snyder Healthcare

Santa Claus will visit Snyder Healthcare at 6:30 p.m. Friday. Family and friends are invited to attend.

FBC to present Christmas musical

First Baptist Church will present *A Family Christmas* at 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, featuring more than 150 people. All are invited.

Holy Child

Holy Child, a celebration of the majesty, the mystery and the miracle of Christmas by Marty Parks, will be performed by the Trinity United Methodist praise and worship team at the 11 a.m. service Sunday.

Goodfellows drive underway

Canned goods may be brought to any school campus and monetary contributions can be made at any financial institution for the Goodfellows Food Drive.

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbook

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbooks can still be ordered for $50 for the book only with additional options available for an extra costs. For more information, call 574-6138.

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.

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.

Digital economy is improving

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. technology industry is showing healthy growth for the first time since parts of the Internet sector collapsed two years ago, but jobs and wages still are down, the Bush administration says in a new report on the digital economy.

"This isn't another train coming. This really is the light at the end of the tunnel," Phil Bond, undersecretary for technology at the Commerce Department, said Monday. "Technology is firmly on the comeback trail."

In the report, due for public release today, the government predicted steady but moderate growth among technology companies and said technology investments are helping fuel growth in other areas. Manufacturing plants with computer networks, for example, are more productive than those without, even taking other factors into account.

But the report also said technology employment is recovering slowly. It said the number of technology workers dropped by 11.2 percent since 2000 to 4.8 million employees — compared with a decline of less than 2 percent in all private industries.

Average annual wages among technology employees dropped in 2002 to $67,440 — down 1.3 percent from $68,330 the previous year — even though average wages for all private-sector workers increased by 1 percent to $36,520.

Powell has cancerous prostate removed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Colin Powell underwent surgery Monday to remove his cancerous prostate gland. "Everything went fine," his spokesman said.

"The doctors say he had a localized prostate cancer," spokesman Richard Boucher said. "The surgery took approximately two hours. They say he did extremely well."

Powell, 66, was aware of the problem for months, notified President Bush two weeks ago and scheduled the operation for the holiday season, when U.S. diplomacy generally moves into lower gear.

He will remain at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where as a retired Army general he was treated, and will then go home to McLean, Va., to recuperate further. But before long, Boucher said with a smile, Powell is certain to be sending out directives to his staff by e-mail.

In fact, Powell telephoned Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage on his way to Walter Reed and conferred by telephone Sunday with 23 foreign ministers, mostly about the capture of fallen Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"There are no complications, and a full recovery is expected," Boucher said.

Still, Powell will be on what the State Department described as a reduced schedule for some time.

While Powell had no foreign trips planned at least until the new year, the international scene continued to bubble with serious problems.

Despite Saddam's capture, American oversight of postwar Iraq remains troubled by violent resistance, limited international support and questionable Iraqi security. Talks designed to end North Korea's nuclear weapons program are delayed. Peacemaking in the Middle East remains at a standstill.

Also, America's relations with some of its closest allies have been shaken by a Pentagon decision to limit contracts for rebuilding Iraq to companies in countries that supported the U.S.-led war.

About 190,000 cases of prostate cancer are diagnosed in the United States every year, and about 30,000 men died of the disease in 2002, according to American Cancer Society statistics. It is the most common cancer in American men and their second-leading cause of cancer death after lung cancer.

Black men, such as Powell, have the highest rates of prostate cancer, and while death rates have been in decline for a decade, the rate is still twice as high for blacks as for whites.

Dr. Brantley Thrasher, professor of urology at the University of Kansas, said Powell appeared to have an "excellent chance for cure."

Thrasher, in an interview, said it was not clear why blacks have such high rates of prostate cancer. One reason, he said, could be that they generally do not have as much access as whites to health care.

"Hopefully, a high-profile person like Powell will raise awareness," Thrasher said by telephone.

Powell is a retired full general who held the top military position, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, from 1989 to 1993. He held that position during the Persian Gulf War.

He has been Bush's secretary of state from the outset but is considered unlikely to buck tradition and serve in a second term, should Bush win re-election.

On the Net:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention fact sheet on prostate cancer:
http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/prostate/prostate.htm

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TUESDAY NIGHT 5:30-8:30 p.m.
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Today's chuckle

Bad case of munchies gets four arrested

BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP) — A bad case of the munchies during finals week has landed four first-year students in handcuffs.



Four 18-year-old women at Florida Atlantic University had been studying into the early morning hours when they decided to take some cereal, fruit and other snacks worth about $25 from the University Center Marketplace kitchen, according to a police report.

Spotted by a maintenance worker who called campus police, the four were handcuffed and taken to the Palm Beach County Jail, where they were held for the rest of the night.

"Burglary is entering and remaining in a place with the intent to commit a crime," campus police spokesman Chuck Aurin said. "They broke the law."

Dean of Students Leslie Bates said the criminal charges for the Nov. 25 cafeteria raid is a first on campus. The state attorney's office has 30 days to decide whether to proceed with the case.

The university is making the four students spend 20 hours helping the food service employees as part of their punishment.

"It will be during the 'prime time' of the cafeteria," said Kaitlin Sjostedt, one of those arrested. "It's cruel and unusual punishment."

World Almanac

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2003

Today is the 350th day of 2003 and the 85th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1653, Oliver Cromwell became "Lord Protector" of England.

In 1773, patriots in Massachusetts held the famous "Boston Tea Party."

In 1835, a huge fire destroyed nearly 700 buildings in New York City.

In 1976, President Jimmy Carter appointed Andrew Young as ambassador to the United Nations.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), composer; Jane Austen (1775-1817), novelist; Sir Noel Coward (1899-1973), playwright; Steven Bochco (1943-), TV producer, is 60.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1973, in a game against the New York Jets, O.J. Simpson became the first NFL player to rush for more than 2,000 yards in a season.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Art demands of us that we shall not stand still." — Ludwig van Beethoven.

TODAY'S FACT: U.S. commemorative state quarters to be released in 2004 are for Michigan, Florida, Texas, Iowa and Wisconsin.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 3.5 million — approximate area in square miles of the Sahara, the world's largest desert.

TODAY'S MOON: Last quarter (Dec. 16)

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events
LOTTO TEXAS™
TEXAS LOTTERY
RESULTS
Monday's Lottery Numbers
Cash Five
2-11-16-23-33
Pick 3
(Day) 7-9-1
(Night) 6-3-6

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

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Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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

Lifestyle



CMH AUXILL members hos for those emp left are Sally A manager; Lau member. (Sta

Cheese

CHEE
MAKES
1 (12-ounce fat-free milk
2 tablespoon
¾-teaspoon
¾-teaspoon
¼-teaspoon
1-cup all-pur
1/3 cup Parmesan che
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon b
3 egg whites
½-cup shred cheddar chees
1. Bring th mustard, salt, boil in a me reduce the h Beat in the flo cheese with a stirring vigor mixture leaves pan. Cool for 1
2. Adjust the the oven into the oven to 4

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Weight Watch nial Hill Baptist information call during the ever 5:30 p.m.
ABCL Open Bridge; Snyder p.m.
Beginners' A Snyder Park Clu 573-8268, 574-1 p.m.
Al-Anon ope Club in Winst Ave. M; for mo 573-3733, 573-2 p.m.
TOPS TX56 sensibly); weig 5:30 to 6:30 p Methodist Chu mation call Phi 573-6105.
WE
NA Just For ing; Park Club; 573-1438; 8 p.m
TH
Cogdell Mem iliary; board ro urged to attend
Deep Creek the coliseum p.m.
AA Big Book ing; contact nu or 573-1141; 7
Snyder Chap Eastern Star; 35th Street; 7:3
Free blood Senior Citizen a.m.
Blood press Cogdell Hospit vices, 1800 Co 1-2 p.m.
ABCL Ope Bridge; Snyde

TWO TUE
Buy Any R Med. Drink a Equal o
FF
S
3903 College Ave Good During The
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CMH AUXILIARY TEA — Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary members hosted a Christmas tea Thursday in the boardroom for those employed in the medical field. In the buffet line from left are Sally Alvarado, admissions; Deborah Ward, admissions manager; Laura Johnson, LVN; and Connie Stom, auxiliary member. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Cheese puffs make a good snack

CHEESE PUFFS
MAKES 15 SERVINGS

1 (12-ounce) can evaporated fat-free milk
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
¾-teaspoon dry mustard
¾-teaspoon salt
¼-teaspoon ground pepper
1-cup all-purpose flour
1/3 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon baking powder
3 egg whites
½-cup shredded reduced-fat cheddar cheese

1. Bring the milk, butter, mustard, salt, and pepper to a boil in a medium saucepan; reduce the heat to medium. Beat in the flour and Parmesan cheese with a wooden spoon, stirring vigorously, until the mixture leaves the side of the pan. Cool for 10 minutes.

2. Adjust the racks to divide the oven into thirds; preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Line two baking sheets with foil and lightly coat with nonstick spray.

3. With an electric mixer on medium speed, beat the eggs into the flour mixture until well blended. Sift in the baking powder, then add the egg whites and continue beating until the mixture is glossy and smooth. Beat in the cheddar cheese on low speed until just combined.

4. Spoon the mixture into a pastry bag or a plastic food-storage bag with a corner cut off. Pipe into 1-inch mounds, spacing 1 inch apart. (You can also pipe the mixture into 1½-inch-long "fingers," if you prefer.) You should have about 75 puffs or fingers. Bake until golden brown and firm to the touch, 22 minutes. Serve hot or warm.

Per serving (5 puffs): POINTS value 2, 96 Cal, 4 g Fat, 2 g Sat Fat, 37 mg Chol, 255 mg Sod, 9 g Carb, 0 g Fib, 6 g Prot, 147 mg Calc.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

Weight Watchers meeting; Colonial Hill Baptist Church; for more information call Kathy at 573-1289 during the evening; weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m.

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

Beginners' AA open meeting; Snyder Park Club, 1212 37th Street; 573-8268, 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Trinity United Methodist Church. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

NA Just For Today, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 573-1438; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary; board room; all members are urged to attend; 10 a.m.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; at the coliseum annex; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

AA Big Book Study; closed meeting; contact numbers are 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Snyder Chapter 450 Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Hall, 1912 35th Street; 7:30 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 573-0538 or 573-0770.

Hermleigh Community Center Family Night; 6:30 p.m.

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

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

NA-Just For Today open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-1438; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

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

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During The Month of December 2003

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 12-16-03
♠ 8 5 4
♥ Q 7 4 2
♦ 10 9 6
♣ J 7 3

West
♠ A K 9 7
♥ 10 8
♦ Q J 8
♣ 9 6 4 2

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

South
♠ 6 3 2
♥ A K J 6 3
♦ A 7 4
♣ K 8

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ A

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2003

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SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



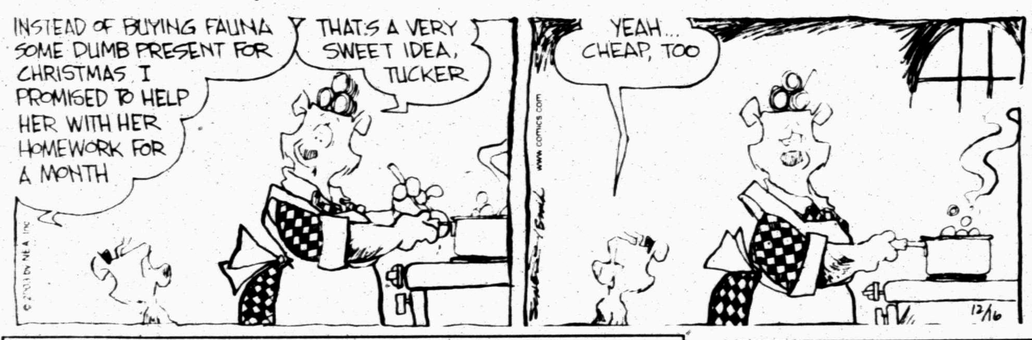
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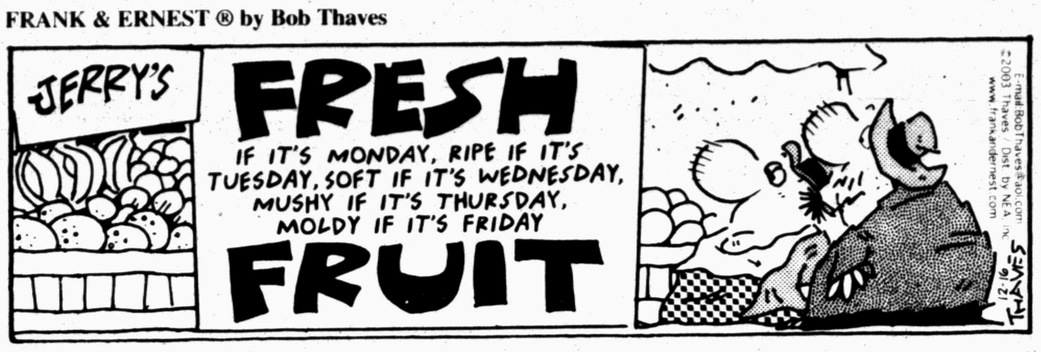
BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



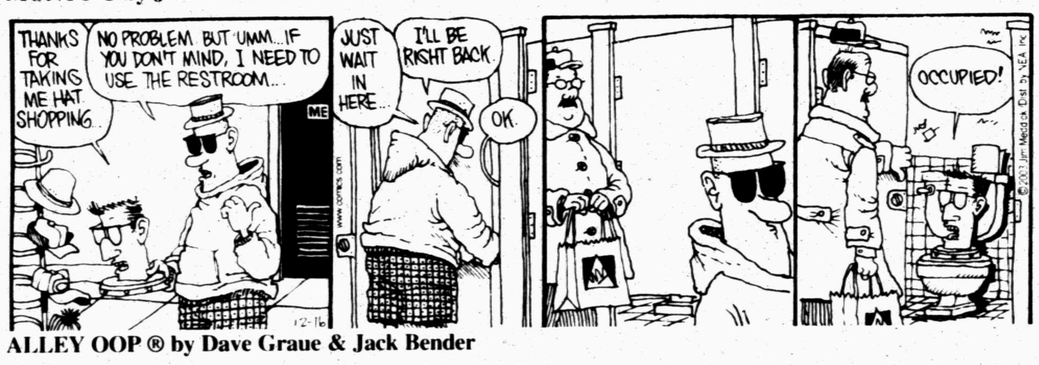
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



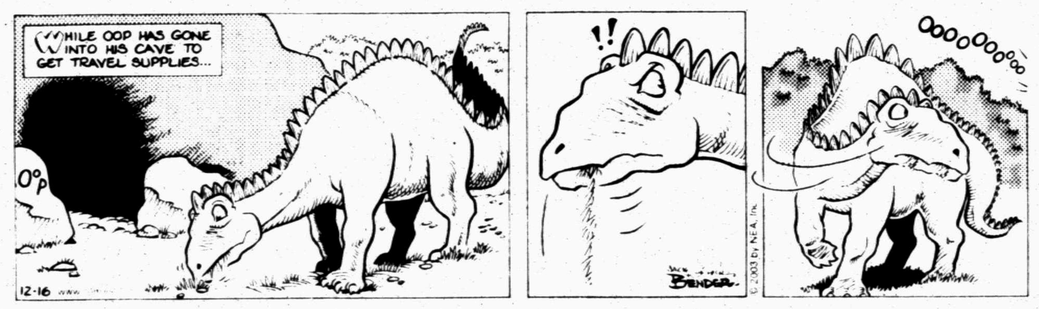
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MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Old horse
4 Boor
7 Smell awful
11 Gold, to Pedro
12 Purdue, e.g.
14 King Harald's capital
15 Confer knighthood
16 "Private Dancer" singer
17 Waist cincher
18 Takes a whiff
20 Joint
22 Woodland creature
23 Cheer
24 Stick on
27 Marilyn — of "Bus Stop"
30 — -a-brac
31 Travel document
32 Clear
34 Downcast
35 Pierre's head
36 Hindu princess
37 Health food
39 Movie parts
40 Museum contents
41 Baby fox
42 Zodiac sign
45 Family members
49 Tatum's dad
50 Traipses about
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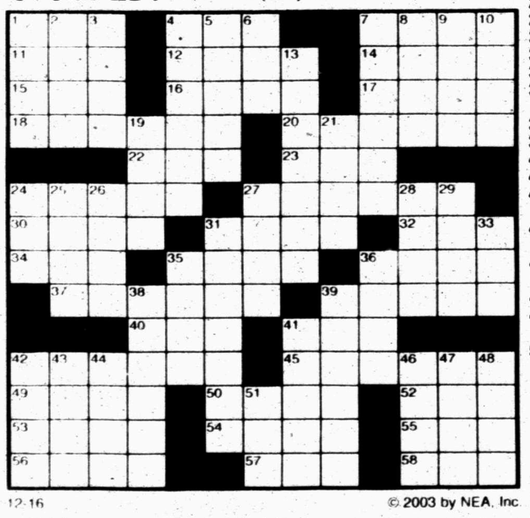
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6 Fish part
7 Roll-call list
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10 Germany's Helmut —
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21 Wrist-to-elbow bone
24 Stomach muscles
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33 Put down
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36 Campus mil. grp.
38 Got heavier
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48 Mach 1 breakers
51 Actor — Vigoda

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



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SPORTS

Eagles keep home-field hopes alive

MIAMI (AP) — The Philadelphia Eagles took advantage of a fast start, and now the Miami Dolphins are just about finished.

The Eagles gained 59 yards on the first play. They scored on the third. They kept a proud defense in retreat all night Monday to win 34-27, leaving Miami on the brink of elimination from the playoff race.

The victory extended the Eagles' winning streak to nine games, equaling the franchise record set in 1960, when they won the NFL title. Philadelphia (11-3) matched the St. Louis Rams for the NFC's best record.

"We're not near where we want to be," said Brian Westbrook, who gained 104 yards rushing and receiving. "We're a work in progress."

Donovan McNabb threw for 236 yards, including a long pass on the first play, and receiver Freddie Mitchell's first career completion went for a 25-yard touchdown to Westbrook.

"We're opening up some eyes," McNabb said. "We've gotten better and better each week. Guys are out here having fun."

The Dolphins (8-6) slipped into their traditional December swoon with a second consecutive loss. They could miss the playoffs for the second year in a row even if they win their final two games against Buffalo and the New York Jets.

"Do we need a little bit of help? Sure," coach Dave Wannstedt said. "Anything can happen."

Wannstedt fell to 7-9 with Miami in December. When asked if he's concerned about his job security, he said, "I'm just concerned about Buffalo, to be honest with you."

Philadelphia has averaged 32 points in the past five games, and McNabb and the Eagles continued to roll against a Miami defense that ranked third in the NFL in points allowed.

The 34 points and 401 yards given up by the Dolphins were season highs. The Eagles scored touchdowns on three of their first four possessions.

"They just whupped us all around," Miami linebacker Zach Thomas said. "I'd like to play them again, but they'd probably whup us again. They've got a great team. We're not a good team."

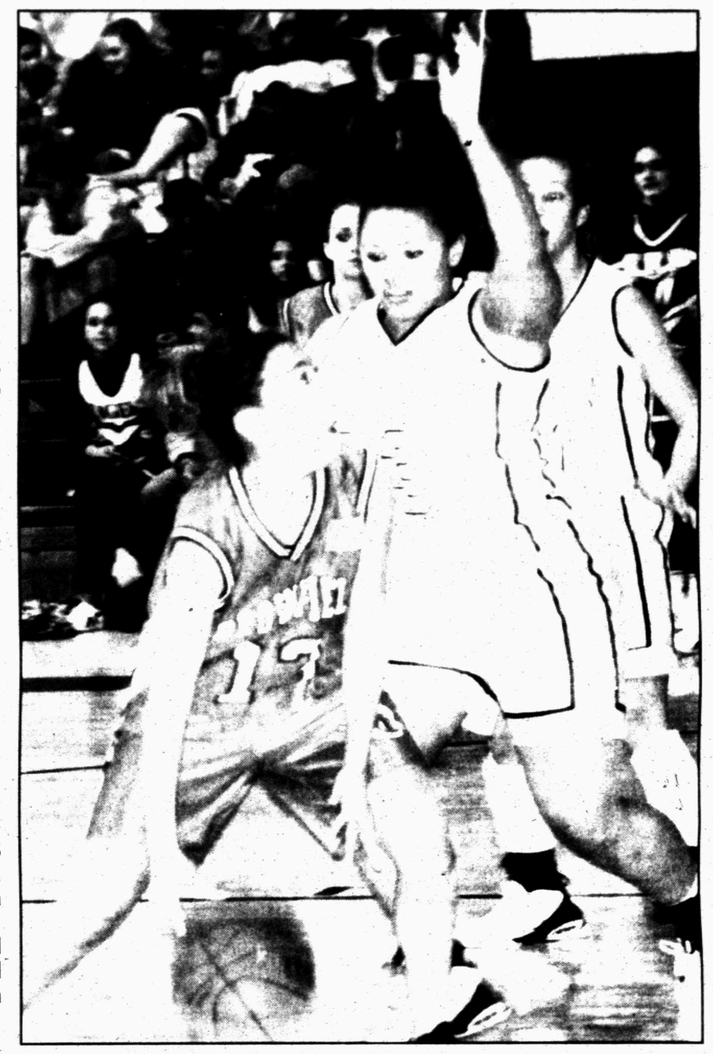
Three times, the Dolphins came from behind, but they couldn't rally after Correll Buckhalter scored on a 2-yard run with 14:53 left to break a 24-all tie.

Buckhalter reached over the goal line with the ball extended as he leaped across the corner pylon. A replay review determined the play was a touchdown after the officials originally ruled Buckhalter out of bounds short of the end zone.

David Akers' second field goal gave Philadelphia a 10-point lead. Olindo Mare kicked a 50-yard for Miami with 14 seconds left, but Miami's bid to recover the ensuing onside kick failed.

Ricky Williams ran for 107 yards and a touchdown for the Dolphins. But he carried only 18 times, while Jay Fiedler threw 40 passes — a ratio sure to be questioned by Wannstedt's critics.

The Eagles needed just three plays to take the lead. Todd Pinkston beat Sam Madison deep for the Eagles' longest pass of the season, a 59-yard gain.



LANE CLOSED — Snyder post player Anna Henson blocks the lane against Brownfield Monday. The Lady Tigers handled the Lady Cubs, 60-26, to improve to 9-2 on the season. (SDN Staff Photo)

Weary Lady Tigers dispatch Brownfield

The Lady Tigers had one more task before getting a much-needed break.

After facing three tough teams in winning the Catclaw Tournament over the weekend, Snyder (9-2) dispatched an overmatched Brownfield squad Monday, 60-26, behind a 22-0 run that lasted until 3:57 of the second quarter.

"It was a low-intensity game," head coach Mike Martin said. "It's not like what we have been used to."

The Lady Tigers allowed Brownfield to take a 2-0 lead at the outset, then blew past the Lady Cubs, as six Lady Tigers scored in the opening period.

Erin Burleson led all players with 16 points in the game, going 5 of 6 from the charity stripe, while Sirena Medrano knocked in 11, including four in the first stanza.

Both Burleson and Medrano did all of their scoring in the first three quarters before taking a breather late when the outcome was decided.

Martin said it is a challenge getting a team mentally prepared after a trio of hard-fought, emotional tournament wins.

"It's difficult, but we try and keep the intensity up as much as possible," he said. "We are physically and emotionally drained. We played okay, but not great."

The Lady Tigers pushed a 19-point halftime advantage to 28 after the third, aided by seven from Burleson and six from Sara Henson in the quarter.

The Snyder defense harassed Brownfield into poor shots, and the Cubs' inaccuracy hurt them when they did get open looks.

Brownfield connected on just 11 field goals in the game, and only scored in double-digits (10) in one quarter.

Terann Ragland contributed eight points and tenacious defense, while Jordan Stansell put in six from the post.

Sequoya Powell added five, Teddi Crenwelge scored three and Glyn Wright hit a field goal.

The junior varsity also clobbered Brownfield, 49-28.

The Lady Tigers get a few days to recover before hosting a rematch of the Catclaw championship game against Wylie at 6:30 p.m. Friday.

Bryant defense files to quash physical evidence

DENVER (AP) — Kobe Bryant's accuser is a troubled young woman who was seeking attention from her ex-boyfriend by accusing the Los Angeles Lakers star of rape, defense lawyers said in new court filings.

In motions released Monday, Bryant's lawyers also asked a judge to throw out much of the evidence against him and to disregard the state's rape shield law, which limits what defense lawyers can ask about an alleged rape victim.

Evidence the defense seeks to bar includes an interview of Bryant secretly taped by investigators and a T-shirt he was wearing the night he allegedly assaulted the 19-year-old concierge at an exclusive resort. Investigators say the woman's blood was found on the shirt.

Bryant is charged with sexual assault. He has said he and the woman had consensual sex.

Seventeen motions filed by the defense and prosecutors were released Monday. It wasn't immediately clear whether the judge would consider any of them at a hearing scheduled Friday. Another hearing is scheduled Jan. 23.

The defense also asked the judge for permission to introduce as evidence reports that the woman twice attempted suicide, and statements that she was taking a drug to treat schizophrenia.

Rodriguez trade still in flux as meetings conclude

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The winter meetings wrapped up with Alex Rodriguez still on the Texas Rangers. Soon, it should be clear whether he's going to stay there.

While Carl Everett, Scott Spiezio and Jeff Suppan changed teams in a late flurry of activity, a potential trade for Rodriguez remained in flux Monday.

No move for Vladimir Guerrero, Ivan Rodriguez and Javy Lopez, either. But the Baltimore Orioles would like to have them after already signing Miguel Tejada.

"We're not ready to step up and meet their demands, but we'll continue the conversations," Orioles vice president Jim Beattie said.

Texas and Boston stepped up their talks about A-Rod. Rangers owner Tom Hicks said negotiations on a trade to send the AL MVP to Boston for Manny Ramirez were "at a sensitive time."

"We'll know in the next few days how this is going to come out," he told The Dallas Morning News on Monday. "Both teams were concerned a week ago as this thing got way too much momentum in the media for where we were all at. We agreed we'd renew conversations after the winter meetings, and we started that process today."

Late Monday night, Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras said, "The owners are talking, that's all I know. We just know that they're talking."

Roger Clemens remained on Houston's radar screen, too. A stunt by a Houston radio station couldn't drive the Rocket back into baseball — he turned down an offer for an SUV if he'd announce by Monday that he'd pitch for the Astros.

"You guys are going to have to hang onto your Hummer because nothing's changed," Clemens told KKRW-FM. "I'm retired right now."

Even so, it was a busy-enough session. There were 11 trades, with a few coming on the final day: Montreal sent catcher Michael Barrett to Oakland, Arizona shipped outfielder Quinton McCracken to Seattle for Greg Colbrunn and Minnesota dealt outfielder Dustan Mohr to San Francisco.

Sports Briefs

Varsity boys in Big Spring

The Snyder Tigers travel to Big Spring tonight to take on the Steers in a rematch from Nov. 25.

Snyder got its first victory of the season in a 47-46 victory. Tip-off is slated for 7:30 p.m.

Cavs send Davis to Boston

CLEVELAND (AP) — Cavaliers guard Ricky Davis was traded to the Celtics in a six-player deal after failing to work out his differences with coach Paul Silas.

The Cavs sent Davis, Chris Mihm, Michael Stewart and a draft pick to the Celtics for Eric Williams, Tony Battie and Kedrick Brown.

The swap also includes Cleveland giving the Celtics back a second-round pick it received from Boston in a trade last summer.

Falcons name McKay president, GM

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. (AP) — Rich McKay officially joined the Atlanta Falcons as president and general manager, less than a week after leaving Tampa Bay because of a rift with coach Jon Gruden.

McKay said his relationship with Gruden had deteriorated so much that he had to ask Tampa Bay executive vice president Joel Glazer to release him from his contract.

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CLASSIFIEDS

A mall and the right visitor by Jef Mallett



7 retired judges to hear appeal

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Seven retired judges, including a former governor, were selected randomly in a lottery Monday to hear Roy Moore's appeal of his ouster as chief justice in his Ten Commandments monument case.

The drawing came just hours after all eight Supreme Court justices disqualified themselves from hearing the appeal because of their earlier involvement in the monument case.

Moore was ousted by the Court of the Judiciary on Nov. 13 for refusing to obey a federal judge's order to remove his 5,300-pound Ten Commandments monument from the rotunda of the state judicial building. The eight justices had the monument moved to a storage room in August after Moore refused to do so.

To pick a replacement court for Moore's appeal, the names of all of the state's retired circuit, district and appeals court judges were placed in a box and the seven names were drawn by Supreme Court Clerk Bob Esdale.

The seven chosen include former Gov. John Patterson, who is also a retired criminal appeals court judge, and retired Supreme Court Justice Janie Shores.

Troy King, legal adviser to Gov. Bob Riley, said the governor had agreed to certify the seven judges.

Acting Chief Justice Gorman Houston called the proceeding "absolutely historic" — and "a tragedy."

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	13.18	12.91	13.01	+ .37
AT&T Corp	19.42	18.52	18.82	— .16
Albertsons	20.25	20.11	20.19	+ .02
Alltel	46.00	45.50	45.73	+ .44
AmElPw	28.74	28.37	28.37	+ .07
AndarkPtr	48.38	47.65	48.26	+ .18
ATMOS Egy	24.85	24.53	24.69	+ .11
Aviall	15.95	15.81	15.89	— .03
BP PLC	46.25	45.80	45.80	— .55
BakerHughes	31.03	30.67	30.74	— .24
Bank of Amer	76.75	76.29	76.47	+ .62
BellSouth	27.50	27.36	27.41	+ .01
BurlNoSFe	32.00	31.50	31.77	+ .08
Caterpillar	79.61	78.50	79.19	+ 1.17
CenterPoint	9.37	9.29	9.29	— .06
ChevronTex	80.75	79.55	79.63	— .62
Citigroup	48.49	47.88	48.18	+ .63
CocaCola	50.00	49.54	49.61	+ .24
ColgatePal	53.80	53.33	53.52	— .09
CmclMetals	27.54	27.30	27.31	— .07
ConocoPhill	61.10	60.54	60.80	— .18
Cooper Inds	56.24	55.87	56.05	+ .44
DaimlrChry	43.83	43.42	43.43	— .18
DeltaAirl	12.26	11.97	12.05	+ .30
Dillards Inc	15.71	15.20	15.34	— .10
DowChem	40.74	39.70	39.94	+ .08
DuPont	45.41	44.20	44.26	— .17
EastmanChem	39.20	38.58	38.69	— .07
EstKodak	23.95	23.75	23.89	+ .23
EDS Corp	22.97	22.70	22.70	— .06
Entergy	55.35	54.73	54.92	+ .12
ExxonMobil	38.39	37.60	37.82	— .24
FootLocker	22.50	22.01	22.04	+ .26
GenDynam	85.65	84.74	85.44	+ .91
GenElec	31.00	30.16	30.16	+ .05
GenMills	46.20	45.76	46.05	+ .25
GenMotors	51.00	49.55	49.64	— .15
GaPacific	29.80	29.08	29.06	— .25
Goodrich	29.99	29.73	29.95	+ .39
Goodyear	7.05	6.86	6.92	+ .05
GtAtlPac	7.75	7.45	7.54	— .10
Halliburtn	25.75	25.00	25.00	— .46
Hanson PLC	34.90	34.60	34.61	— .29
HarteHanks	21.91	21.63	21.72	+ .02
HomeDepot	35.79	34.72	34.78	+ .13
HoneywellIntl	31.58	31.33	31.40	+ .11
IBM	93.90	93.11	93.49	+ .78
IntlPaper	42.04	40.81	41.11	+ .01
JohnsonJn	50.20	49.25	49.44	+ .05
KinderMorg	55.92	55.35	55.43	+ .43
Kroger Co	17.40	17.26	17.36	+ .03
LockheedM	49.18	48.61	48.81	— .09
Lowes Cos	56.40	55.30	55.57	+ .52
Lubys	3.70	3.60	3.67	+ .05
LucentTech	3.12	2.94	2.95	+ .04
MarathonOil	31.00	30.27	30.72	— .17
MayDeptStr	28.88	27.94	28.05	— .15
Medtronic	48.39	48.10	48.22	+ .17
Motorola	13.52	12.92	12.93	— .15
NCR Corp	36.20	35.75	36.03	+ .57
Navistar	45.94	45.00	45.62	+ 1.84
PNM Rescs	28.04	27.69	27.82	— .16
Penney JC	24.51	23.95	24.00	— .05
PepBoys	21.42	21.16	21.19	+ .17
PepsiCo	47.20	46.94	47.07	+ .19
PhelpDodge	70.10	68.60	69.03	+ .43
PilgrimsPride	15.14	14.87	14.98	— .01
Praxair	75.10	74.60	74.82	+ .42
ProctGamb	97.97	97.12	97.85	+ 1.03
RadioShack	29.94	29.50	29.87	+ .86
RoyalDut	48.50	48.05	48.05	— .40
SBC Comm	24.83	24.51	24.65	+ .09
SaraLee	21.49	21.13	21.32	+ .37
Scripps EW	94.10	93.73	93.97	+ .60
SearsRoeb	46.86	45.36	45.36	— .69
SherwinW	34.27	33.98	33.98	— .06
SouthernCo	29.93	29.70	29.75	+ .10
SwstAirl	16.59	16.06	16.14	+ .25
SprintFON	15.12	14.95	15.00	+ .07
SprintPCS	4.81	4.61	4.63	— .04
Sunoco Inc	49.00	48.66	48.91	+ .08
TXU Corp	22.86	22.61	22.73	+ .12
TempleInland	61.61	60.88	60.89	— .04
TexInd	31.75	31.35	31.35	— .19
TexasInst	29.85	29.30	29.43	+ .71
Textron	55.22	54.42	54.88	+ .79
TimeWarner	18.00	17.57	17.77	+ .30
TrinityInds	32.00	30.80	30.96	— .40
TylerTech	9.36	9.06	9.29	+ .25
UnionPacif	67.55	67.10	67.10	— .21
USSteel	31.68	30.75	31.44	+ 1.02
UnitedTech	92.75	91.83	92.35	+ .75
Unocal	35.01	34.51	34.70	— .30
VerizonComm	33.73	33.26	33.34	— .09
WalMart	53.25	51.80	51.81	— .69
WellsFargo	57.25	56.55	56.58	— .43
WstnGasRs	46.21	45.65	45.72	— .48
WinnDixie	9.05	8.92	9.03	+ .16
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Thurmond's family says black woman is late senator's daughter

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — The late Sen. Strom Thurmond's family has accepted a California woman's claim that she is the illegitimate mixed-race daughter of the one-time segregationist.

"We have no reason to believe Ms. Williams was not telling the truth," Strom Thurmond Jr. told The (Columbia) State.

Essie Mae Washington-Williams, 78, broke a decades-long silence this weekend to claim she was the daughter of Strom Thurmond and a 16-year-old maid working in his father's home.

Thurmond Jr. said he would like to meet the retired Los Angeles schoolteacher sometime, preferably in private, to establish a relationship.

The Thurmond clan found out that Williams had broken her silence after they attended a family wedding Saturday night, Thurmond Jr. said. They know little about her, he added.

"I had a conversation with my dad about it about 10 years ago. I asked about this, and he didn't tell me whether she was or whether she wasn't (his daughter)," he said. "I did not ask again."

Earlier Monday, Thurmond's family released a statement acknowledging Williams' claims.

"As J. Strom Thurmond has passed away and cannot speak for himself, the Thurmond family acknowledges Ms. Essie Mae Washington-Williams' claim to her heritage. We hope this acknowledgment will bring closure for Ms. Williams," the family's lawyer, J. Mark Taylor, said.

Thurmond Jr., the U.S. attorney for South Carolina, and other family members didn't return several phone calls Monday from The Associated Press.

Williams was to discuss her story at a news conference Wednesday in Columbia, but one of her sons, Dr. Ronald Williams of Onalaska, Wash., told The State he will advise her it would be better to meet privately with the Thurmond family than talk to the media.

Williams is glad to see the matter resolved, said her lawyer, Glenn Walters.

"Mrs. Essie Mae Washington-Williams can now take a place in history as a daughter of U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond," Walters said.

Thurmond died in June at age 100.

Williams had long been rumored to be Thurmond's child, though she previously denied it. She finally came forward at the urging and encouragement of her children.

Williams said Thurmond privately acknowledged her as his daughter and had provided financial support since 1941. She said she waited to go public because she didn't want to embarrass herself or hurt Thurmond's career. The Washington Post first reported her claims on its Web site Saturday.

"There was an agreement between the parties that she would never discuss the fact that Sen. Thurmond was her father," Walters said. He said Williams was not seeking money and did not want to challenge Thurmond's will.

In seven decades of politics, Thurmond gained notoriety as an arch-segregationist before tempering his views. Eventually, he even came to support a holiday for slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King.



ADOPTS WEST ELEMENTARY — Auto Clinic has adopted West Elementary School. Present for the signing ceremony are (in front) Robbie and Sarah Jamison, Eric Trammel, who presented the plaque; and Principal Thomas Fogleman. Also present (in back) are Supt. Dr. Ronny Collins; and Rod Cottrell, executive director of curriculum and instruction. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Scott Peterson's lawyer files motion to move trial

MODESTO, Calif. (AP) — Scott Peterson's lawyer filed a motion Monday to move his double-murder trial out of the county, saying that news coverage of the case has vilified the former fertilizer salesman.

"The lynch mob atmosphere that has been created in this case has become so poisonous that the nature of the news coverage has in many instances been reduced to nothing more than vilification," defense lawyer Mark Geragos said in the motion filed in Stanislaus County Superior Court.

Peterson, 31, has pleaded innocent to charges of murdering his wife, Laci Peterson, and unborn son nearly a year ago. If convicted, he could face the death penalty.

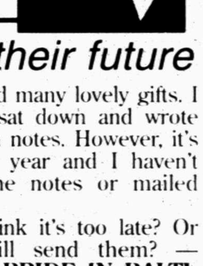
He claims he was fishing in San Francisco Bay on Christmas Eve when his wife vanished from their home. The remains of the 27-year-old substitute teacher and the unborn child washed ashore in April about two miles from where Peterson said he was fishing.

The defense said Peterson cannot get a fair trial in Stanislaus County because widespread and negative reports have made it impossible to seat an unbiased jury in the region.

It also cites the county's small size and the characterization of Laci Peterson as a "posthumous celebrity, loved and cherished by the community" while Peterson has been "demonized as an evil outsider."

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Deceitful husband destroys wife's hopes for their future

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Peter" for almost four years, and we have three children under the age of 4. It is a second marriage for both of us, and I assumed it would be for a lifetime.

About a year ago, I discovered Peter was picking up prostitutes two to three times a week. When I confronted him, he accused me of making it up. He continued to cheat and has become physically abusive as well.

Peter expects me to behave as though nothing happened! My hopes and dreams have been destroyed by this man. I don't know if our marriage can survive the trauma. Can you shed some light on this for me? — **TIRED OF BEING A DOORMAT IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR TIRED: Gladly, because it's time for you to SEE the light. Your husband is a sexually addicted abuser. Is this the kind of person you want to spend the rest of your life with? How do you think it will affect your children to see you being brutalized?

I urge you to make an appointment with your doctor to be sure your husband hasn't given you an STD — or to be treated in case he has. Then call the domestic violence toll-free hotline: (800) 799-7233, and contact an attorney who specializes in family law.

**

DEAR ABBY: My husband took his own life nearly 30 years ago. I have been in individual and group therapy for 20 years and in 12-step recovery for 15. Not surprisingly, my problems affected my kids when they were young.

They both live far away now. My daughter, "Margie," is in therapy and recovery. My son is in denial.

Five years ago, Margie asked her brother and me not to contact her for a while. She said she needed time and space to work on specific issues independently. I have friends who have done this with good long-term results, so it made sense to me.

Recently a few friends have urged me to write Margie and tell her I miss her. Others, including my AA friends, praise my respect for her process and say they wish they had received similar support from their families.

I regard contacting her as disrespectful, if not abusive. The door is not closed. Margie said she would resume contact when she is ready.

What do you think? — **WILLING TO QUESTION**

DEAR WILLING: Since you're gathering advice, I'll put in my 2 cents' worth. Five years of silence is enough. Write Margie and tell her that while you respect her "process," you miss her. If she ignores your letter, it's her prerogative. At least you will have made the gesture of trying to bridge the gap, and that is what is important.

**

DEAR ABBY: I was married a little over a year ago. My husband and I received many lovely gifts. I immediately sat down and wrote my thank-you notes. However, it's been a busy year and I haven't addressed the notes or mailed them yet.

Do you think it's too late? Or should I still send them? — **BLUSHING BRIDE IN BALTIMORE**

DEAR BLUSHING BRIDE: It's never too late to do the gracious thing. Send 'em out!

**

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**

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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Foreign doctors graduate from Florida program for nurses

MIAMI (AP) — Marceliano Marcias, a Colombian trained doctor, set aside his pride and his medical education when he arrived in the United States, taking a series of odd jobs that included cleaning floors behind a supermarket meat counter to support his five children.

The lure of medicine, though, remained — and American patients could soon be reaping the benefit.

Marcias, 49, is one of 32 people who graduated Monday from a pilot program at Florida International University designed to train foreign-educated doctors to be nurses.

For the health care industry, the program is a creative solution to a state and national nursing shortage. For many of the graduates, it is a way of re-entering a field they were forced to leave behind with their homelands.

When he came to the United States four years ago, Marcias said his biggest concern was providing for his large family. So he took any job, refusing to let his pride to get in the way of delivering pizza or working as a landscaper.

"The knowledge was there, just waiting to be used in a more appropriate way," said Marcias, who plans to work at Miami's Mercy Hospital.

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Snyder, Texas 79549

Dale Huff, Minister

Great Hope

The holiday season rolls around with great hope in many hearts. In young children, there may be a single-minded hope for a certain toy. There is light in their eyes and a happy expectation in their heart. In those who are older in years, the hope is different. It is hope for time with family, and it is especially hope that it is a good time with family. We look forward to being with those we love and to enjoying each other. But it is not always easy to make it a good time. We can build up our expectations to the point that we are always disappointed.

There are certain spiritual truths that become clear at this time of the year. One is the simple truth that this world is full of a lot of trouble. Jesus said in John 16: 33:

> *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

In this world, we have trouble. There are good times, noble and loving deeds and there can be joy and peace, but it is always in a mixture with the things that are not what they should be or could be. This is life. Jesus Christ has overcome the world and he offers something different. In the vision of the city of God in Revelation 21 and 22 the character of that life becomes clear. There is nothing that causes sadness, grief or pain. There are no tears in heaven because God makes everything new. Revelation 21: 3-5. The presence of God with His people changes everything.

It is helpful to keep our heart and hope focused there. Here on this earth we make things the best we can, but our hope lies elsewhere. Keeping our hope fixed in heaven helps us to make those times with family and others the best that they can be.

Dale Huff

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First Baptist Church, Snyder

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U.S.-Israeli company has gun that can shoot around corners

SHOHAM FIRING RANGE, Israel (AP) — Veterans of Israeli anti-terror units on Monday demonstrated a new gun that can fire at a target from around the corner, making it particularly effective in urban combat.

Israel plans to start using the weapon next week, U.S. forces have already begun training with it and U.S. SWAT and police teams have expressed interest in purchasing it, Amos Golan, the device's developer, said at a demonstration Monday at a firing range near Tel Aviv.

"The Americans are very interested in this," Golan said. "I believe from what I have seen and heard that it can be a big success in Iraq because the Americans are dealing with an urban area there."

The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv had no immediate comment.

Golan thought of the idea for the weapon after years of pondering a failed Israeli army operation in the West Bank during the first Palestinian uprising in the late 1980s. Several Israeli soldiers were wounded when they stormed a house through the door and were hit by automatic fire shot from inside, Golan said.

An Israeli-American company, Coral Gables, Fla.-based Corner Shot Holdings, showed how it can be fired through an exploded doorway around the corner into a house, or from a hall into a room. A soldier sees the target on a small TV screen mounted on the barrel of the gun.

Armies from 15 countries are testing the system, said Golan, a former deputy commander of Israel's anti-terror unit.

The system is the only weapon that allows the user to stay safe around a corner and away from a target, Golan said.

The device swivels at the middle, 63 degrees to the left or right, with the stock, trigger and the small screen at the hand-held end. The entire firing mechanism, fitted with a pistol that sits over a mini-camera with a zoom lens, is located at the front end.

A lever positioned under the stock allows the user to quickly move the firing end to another position to better focus on the target.

The development of the idea took three years, and sales began three months ago. The weapon system costs between $3,000 and $5,000, depending on the components.

The device can be fitted with different kinds of pistols, including the Baretta 92, which is used by the American army, the Glock and the Colt. It can also be adapted to fit an M-16 rifle or tear gas launcher.

The camera can view between 200 and 400 yards, depending on the model. Accessories include an infrared laser illuminator, rubber bullet launcher, various lenses and a silencer. A video-out socket allows the shooter to film action in a room around the corner and transmit the images to commanders far away.

The mechanism has been patented in the United States and will be sold only to official government agencies, Golan said.

Limbaugh wants records kept private

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Rush Limbaugh asked a court Monday to hear his claim that investigators violated his privacy by seizing his medical records and asked that the records not be released.

The conservative radio host cannot be treated for his medical conditions because the state seized his charts and files last month and intimidated his doctors, the court petition said.

Prosecutors have said they are investigating whether Limbaugh obtained and used prescription painkillers illegally. Typically, such records would not be released until a criminal investigation ends and charges are filed.

Limbaugh's rights have been scrupulously protected during the investigation, Palm Beach State Attorney spokesman Mike Edmondson said Monday.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Exercise and arthritis

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 75-year-old man in excellent shape. I eat prudently and exercise regularly. But I suffer from joint pains that are worsened by physical activity. I also feel a clicking of my joints when I move. Is my exercise program counterproductive? Am I sacrificing my joints for fitness?

DEAR READER: Probably not, but your body may be trying to tell you to change or moderate your activity.

Osteoarthritis, the age-related wearing-down of joint linings, happens to all of us, sooner or later. When minor cartilage injuries occur, the body is less able to correct them and pain results. As we age, the healing process becomes less effective, so post-exercise discomfort becomes a problem, depending on the intensity and length of the workout.

You have several options about how to proceed.

First, you could see an orthopedic surgeon who will test and advise you, and may suggest that you:

— Obtain some physical therapy from a trainer or sports specialist. An individualized workout may provide the answer you are seeking.

— Stop exercising. This would be OK for a week or two to allow healing, but, in my opinion, it is not a suitable answer to your difficulty.

— Reduce your workout. Exercise only in a manner that does not cause pain.

— Finally, consider medication.

As someone who has experienced your pattern of exercise-induced discomfort, I can testify to the enormous advantage of this last choice. Over-the-counter ibuprofen often leads to dramatic improvement; if not, prescription anti-inflammatory drugs (Celebrex, Vioxx and others) can make a real difference.

So, let me give you a distillation of options. My recommendation is that you alter or reduce the intensity of your workouts, find a level that is appropriate, use ibuprofen, and give it four weeks — if, at that point, you're not improved, see a specialist or your primary care physician.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Osteoarthritis." 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: I read your excellent column on "rolling veins" that make blood-drawing such an unpleasant procedure.

I have been a certified phlebotomist for five years and have discovered a trick that works for me. I slightly hyper-extend the patient's elbow by placing a rolled up towel under the elbow. Then I anchor the vein with my fingers to prevent it from rolling. This enables me to draw blood easily because the vein is stabilized.

DEAR READER: Thank you for sharing your technique, which is standard practice for many skilled technicians.

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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Top API films named

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The animated fish tale "Finding Nemo" and the fantasy epic "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" are among the American Film Institute's top 10 movie picks for 2003.

The group's top 10 list announced Sunday ranged from such historical spectacles as Tom Cruise's "The Last Samurai" and Russell Crowe's "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World" to the intimate character studies "Lost in Translation" and "In America."

The list, which did not rank the 10 films, also included "American Splendor," "The Human Stain," "Mystic River" and "Monster."

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2003

Your potential for steadily growing your material base is quite promising for the year ahead. However, stick-to-itiveness may become necessary should you suffer a couple of setbacks before you hit pay dirt.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — In order for joint ventures to click smoothly today, everyone involved must be ready and willing to produce that which is expected of them. Slackers will spoil the endeavor for everybody.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Don't wait for an associate or companion to establish the winning pace today or you may never get off the starting block. Be prepared to rely on your own initiative to win the race.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Should you experience some urgency where your work or career is concerned today, don't panic, because that will only add pressure to the situation. Keep your cool so you can act assuredly.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Do what it takes to not allow yourself to be put in a position today where the control of an important matter is taken out of your hands and delegated to someone else who doesn't care like you do.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Tempers are still flaring, so if you're smart, you'll go out of your way to show a willingness to compromise or make concessions today for the sake of peace with all those you encounter.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — A "what's in it for me" attitude could put you at odds with co-workers today. Don't let it be said of you that you will not do anything for others unless they have something to offer in return.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Study carefully any proposals brought to you today that appear to be exceptional bargains. When the packaging is off, you could find that the contents contain a lot of sizzle but no steak.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — If the day isn't going to your liking in situations where you normally are quite tolerant and understanding, you could start to take it out on others by being a harsh disciplinarian.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — The worst effect of a bad attitude is that one usually paints oneself into a corner, so if restrictions are placed on you today, check to see if you're the one imposing them on yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Your possibilities for fulfilling a personal ambition are excellent today, so don't use any tactics that might cause others to think your methods are distasteful. It'll be a hollow victory.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Sometimes in order to reach your goals you have to be a bit thick-skinned and able to cope with setbacks. Should you miss your mark today, it'll help to be philosophical about things.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — It may become necessary today for you to find ways to work around some roadblocks you encounter. If the first plan doesn't work, be ready to try, try again. You'll find a new route.

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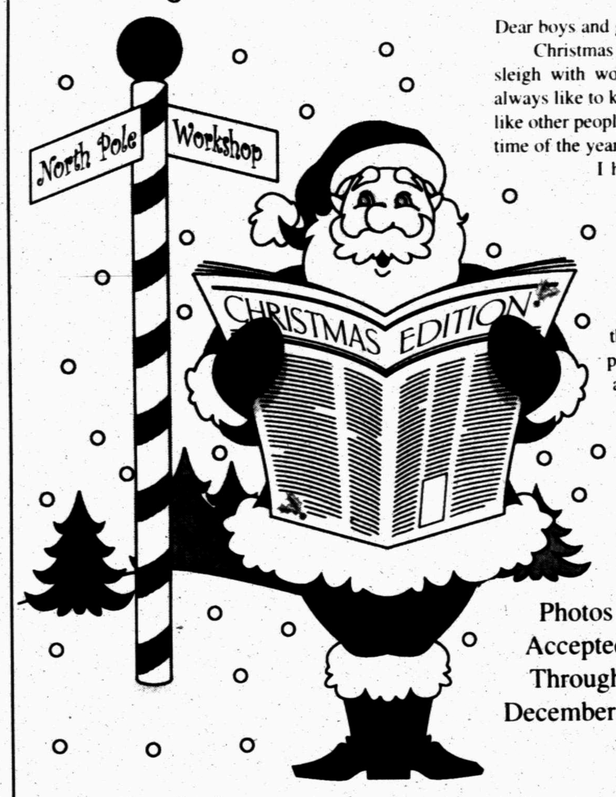


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•DEFENSIVE DRIVING TAPES•

Santa Photos



Dear boys and girls,

Christmas is only a few days away. I am already loading my sleigh with wonderful toys and many good things for you. I always like to know what good children want for Christmas, and like other people I enjoy seeing pictures of children at this happy time of the year.

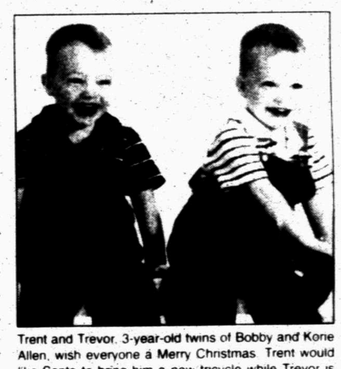
I have made arrangements with the Snyder Daily News to publish photos of children in your area. Just have your mom or dad bring a photo of you to the Snyder Daily News office and make arrangements to have it published in the Christmas Edition.

You will need to provide your own photo for this special edition. After the photo has been processed your mom or dad can pick up the photo at the Snyder Daily News.

I hope to see your photo in the Snyder Daily News and wish you a very Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas
Santa

Photos Accepted Through December 17



Trent and Trevor, 3-year-old twins of Bobby and Korie Allen, wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Trent would like Santa to bring him a new tricycle while Trevor is asking for a riding tractor.

Bring your favorite photograph of your child, grandchild or other children to the Snyder Daily News so that it may be included in the special "Christmas Edition". The photo will appear in the special edition along with the child's message to Santa for only $12.50. The Snyder Daily News reserves the right to reject photos not suitable for reproduction in the newspaper.

HAVE YOUR CHILD'S PHOTO AND MESSAGE TO SANTA PUBLISHED IN THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CHRISTMAS EDITION , DECEMBER 24.

QUALITY PHOTOS:

Due to reproduction requirements, photos submitted should be glossy prints. Pre-scanned, digital reproductions or digital discs cannot be accepted.

PHOTO RETURN:

For your convenience you may want to provide the Snyder Daily News with a self-addressed, stamped envelope so that your Santa Photo can be returned. Or you may wish to stop back by the Snyder Daily News office after Christmas and pick-up your photo. Photos not claimed by March 1, will be discarded.



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DEC 16 2003

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Bush signs legislation against spam

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush signed legislation today meant to stem the flood of unwanted e-mail pitches, a problem he believes is hurting the economy.

"Spam, or unsolicited e-mails are annoying to consumers and costly to our economy," White House spokesman Scott McClellan said after Bush signed the bill. "This will help address the problems associated with the rapid growth and abuse of spam by establishing a framework of technological, administrative civil and criminal tools, and by providing consumers with options to reduce the volume of unwanted e-mail."

The bill was among seven Bush was signing during the day, measures that will also help needy families buy their first homes and give flight attendants lessons in self-defense.

In the Oval Office today morning, Bush signed the so-called "can spam" legislation. Passed by Congress earlier this month, the measure outlaws the persistent techniques used by e-mailers who send tens of millions of messages each day to peddle their products and services.

The bill supplants anti-spam laws already passed in some states, including California. It also encourages the Federal Trade Commission to create a do-not-spam list of e-mail addresses and includes penalties for spammers of up to five years in prison in rare circumstances.

"Spam and unsolicited e-mails are annoying to consumers and are costly to U.S. business," Claire Buchan, deputy White House press secretary said. "This legislation will help address the problems associated with the growth and abuse of spam."

In the afternoon, the president was to go to the Department of Housing and Urban Development to sign the American Dream Downpayment Act. It is aimed at helping families that can afford monthly mortgage payments but not the initial costs associated with buying a house.

Three-fourths of non-minority Americans own their own homes, but less than half of blacks, Hispanics and other minorities are homeowners.

Israel will coordinate unilateral moves with Bush administration

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel will coordinate any unilateral moves in the West Bank and Gaza Strip with the United States, the Israeli foreign minister said today, after meeting with Bush administration officials who oppose any actions that will make it harder to create a Palestinian state.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is to announce in a major policy speech later this week that he will take unilateral steps if there is no progress on the U.S.-led "road map" peace plan within six months, Israeli media reported today.

Israeli troops shot a 15-year-old boy in the head, critically wounding him, in the Balata refugee camp in the West Bank, Palestinian hospital officials said.

Soldiers opened fire after a group of youths began throwing rocks at them, the sources said, adding that the boy, Noor-Eddine Emran, had been on his way to visit an aunt. Four other youths, including Emran's twin brother, were lightly wounded, they said. The army was investigating.

Today, Israel said it would bar Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat from visiting Bethlehem on Christmas for the third straight year. Arafat said in Ramallah that he hopes to visit Jesus' traditional birthplace for the holiday.

Israel's policy is that "Arafat stays where he is," said an Israeli official on condition of anonymity. "He's free to go, but it's not guaranteed that he'll be able to return."

Israel has only let Arafat leave his Ramallah headquarters once in the past two years to visit the West Bank cities of Jenin and Nablus.

Egyptian mediators arrived in Gaza to restart talks among Palestinian factions about a halt to attacks against Israelis, a crucial first step toward restarting peace negotiations.

Sharon has talked of unilateral moves in recent weeks if peace efforts fail. Those moves would include the completion of a West Bank separation barrier that swallows up large chunks of the land the Palestinians seek for their state, as well as the dismantling of some Jewish settlements, said Israeli reports, citing legislators whom Sharon briefed on his plans in recent days.

Two arrested Tuesday in Snyder

• Arrests

Two arrests were made at 12:01 a.m. Tuesday in the 1800 block of 27th. A 39-year-old man was taken into custody for public intoxication. Additionally, a 21-year-old man was arrested for driving while license suspended and unlawfully carrying a weapon. Both subjects were booked into Scurry County Jail.

• Minor Accident

A minor accident was reported at 3:01 p.m. Monday in the Wal-Mart parking lot. The mishap involved a 1988 Dodge Daytona driven by Janet Marie Porter, 22, of 3002 28th and 1998 Dodge Stratus, driven by Sarah Beth Henson, 16, 2607 34th. There were no injuries.

• Theft

It was reported at 4:17 p.m. Monday that a flag had been stolen from the front porch of a home at 2309 40th. An offense report for Class C theft was submitted.

• Criminal Mischief

A representative of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication office, 711 25th, reported at noon Monday that three windows had been broken out on the south side of the office.

A caller reported at 12:37 p.m. Monday that a window into his home at 2112 25th had been shot out by a BB gun.

A resident at 1212 N. Ave. N made a report at 2 p.m. Monday of several subjects who were spotted coming out of a barn. The homeowner would contact police of anything missing once an assessment is made.

• Gas drive off

A clerk from Allsup's in Snyder reported at 11:34 p.m. Monday a person had driven away without paying for $15 worth of gas.

Obituaries

Blackie Clawson

1925-2003

ROTAN — B.F. "Blackie" Clawson, died Saturday, Dec. 13, in Snyder Oaks Care Center.

Funeral service for Mr. Clawson, 78, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the First Baptist Church with the Revs. James and Dale Clawson officiating. A private burial will follow in the Belvieu Cemetery under the direction of Weathersbee-Ray Funeral Home.

Born March 31, 1925 in Comanche, County, he married Ellen Irene Gruben on Jan. 18, 1944 in Gustine. She preceded him in death as did his parents, Louie Edgar and Ruby Susie Harris Clawson; a grandson, Donnie Clawson; and a brother, L.E. Clawson.

A resident of Hobbs the past 25 years, Mr. Clawson was a maintenance supervisor for the Hobbs School and was a member of the Crossroads Baptist Church.

Survivors include six sons, Dale Clawson of Wheeler, Ronnie Clawson of Snyder, Jerry Clawson and Danny Clawson of Rotan, Gary Clawson and James Clawson of Hamlin; four daughters, Linda Wright of Snyder, Cindy Porter of Hobbs, Sandy Williams of Abilene and Shelia Anderson of Bennington, Okla.; 34 grandchildren; and 34 great-grandchildren.

Family visitation will be held from 5 to 7 this evening at the funeral home.

Linda Morris

1940-2003

HAMLIN — Linda Morris, a native of Scurry County, died Sunday, Dec. 14, at her home in Plainview.

Funeral service for Mrs. Morris, 64, is set for 1 p.m. Thursday in the First United Methodist Church in Hamlin with the Revs. Jerry Huggins and Jeff Sedberry officiating. Foster-Adams Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Born Aug. 24, 1940 in Snyder, she was a 1957 graduate of Lamesa High School. She attended Eastern New Mexico State University and earned her degree from Texas Tech. She received her master's degree from Abilene Christian University.

She married Dennis Lamphere on March 25, 1951 in Lamesa and moved to Hamlin in 1977. He died in 1996.

She taught in Hamlin from 1978-87 and then owned the Friends Flower Shop. She moved to Dallas in 1996 and she married Dean Morris on April 18, 1998 and moved to Plainview.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, Roland and Blanche Bennett Hamilton.

Survivors include her husband, Dean Morris of Plainview; two sons, Scott Lamphere of Atlanta, Ga., and Jesse Lamphere of Sulphur Springs; a brother Elwood Hamilton of Lamesa; and three granddaughters.

Willis Ratliff

1928-2003

Services for Willis Ratliff, 75, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Ratliff was pronounced dead at his home, 3706 Muriel, at 2:48 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15. Death was ruled natural causes, according to Peace Justice Deborah Boyd.

Survivors include one son, Chester Ratliff of Spur.

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Wind damage

Continued From Page 1

intersection of 25th and Ave. N.

"People call wondering what to do. They just want to stay safe and that's what we're concerned with, the safety of the public," said Hall.

Big Country Electric Co-operative crews also were busy, but were able to stay on top of the situation according to David Boyd, Snyder district manager.

"It could have been a lot worse," he said. "There were not that many people who were without power."

Boyd reported that crews were called out to repair downed power lines north of Ira, east of Snyder and north of Hermleigh.

"I think the worst that people had to put up with was just some lights flickering. Not any full outages," said Boyd.

Emergency repairs calls increased to the point that Ward was forced to contact the Oncor offices in Sweetwater to request additional help.

"A second crew from Sweetwater came over here to help us. We finally finished up around 8 p.m."

HISD meets with WindTex

Representatives of WindTex Energy met with the Hermleigh school board Monday evening to discuss plans for the wind farm to be built in the area of Highway 180 and Camp Springs Road.

Supt. Marvin Beaty said WindTex president, Stephen DeWolf, and attorney Rod Wetsel discussed plans for the $80 million wind farm that will be located in the Hermleigh school district.

Beaty said the board discussed several options as to tax payments for the school and he noted that if the wind farm is required to pay its full share of proposed taxes to Hermleigh, most of it will have to be sent to Austin to be redistributed,

"We would benefit only by about $130,000 with the rest going to Austin," said Beaty.

Beaty said Texas House Bill 1200 allows districts to cap tax values to better help local school districts in exchange for payments in cash or services.

"We've contracted with the Austin law firm of Moak and Casey to walk us through this process," said Beaty. "We'll get a plan that will be good for our taxpayers."

Flight 93 memorial gets $298,000

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Congress has appropriated $298,000 toward the creation of a memorial to the people killed when hijacked Flight 93 crashed in western Pennsylvania on Sept. 11, 2001.

All 40 passengers and crew aboard the San Francisco-bound United flight were killed. The passengers apparently fought the hijackers for control of the aircraft after learning of the attacks at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

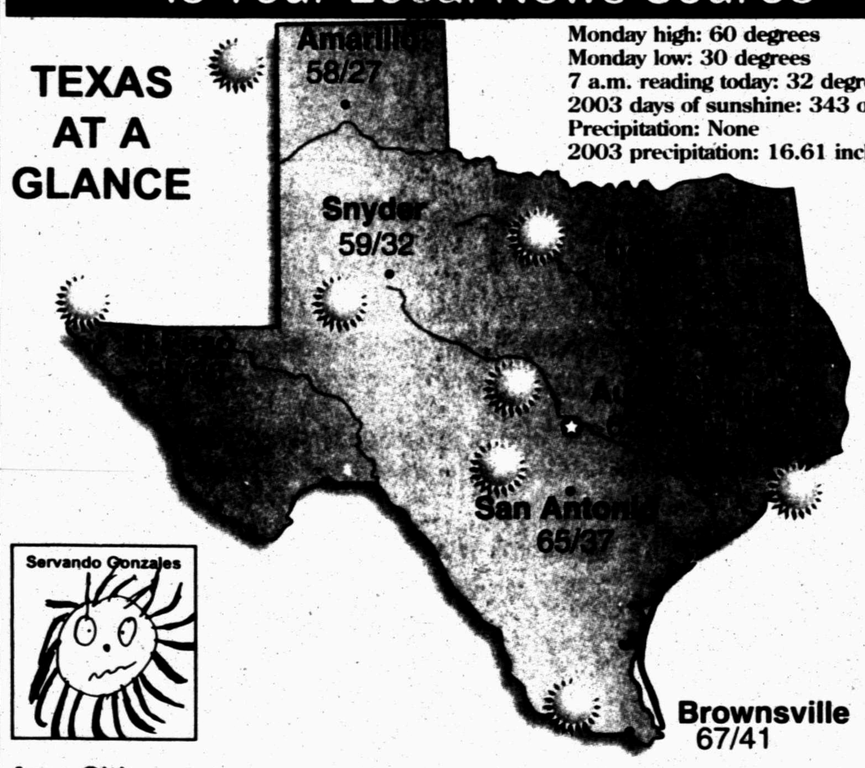
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Wed 12/17	Thu 12/18	Fri 12/19
59/32	56/31	60/34
Sunny skies. High 59F. Winds WSW at 10 to 20 mph.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise 7:39 AM / Sunset 5:40 PM	Sunrise 7:40 AM / Sunset 5:40 PM	Sunrise 7:41 AM / Sunset 5:41 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–
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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Monday high: 60 degrees
Monday low: 30 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 32 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 343 of 349
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 16.61 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Abilene	59	36	sunny	El Paso	55	30	sunny	Midland	60	31	sunny
Amarillo	58	27	sunny	Fort Stockton	62	33	sunny	Raymondville	67	38	sunny
Austin	62	35	sunny	Gainesville	56	35	sunny	Rosenberg	60	37	sunny
Beaumont	58	37	sunny	Greenville	55	35	sunny	San Antonio	65	37	sunny
Brownsville	67	41	sunny	Houston	60	37	sunny	San Marcos	63	35	sunny
Brownwood	61	35	sunny	Kingsville	66	39	sunny	Sulphur Springs	56	36	sunny
Corpus Christi	64	40	sunny	Livingston	57	33	sunny	Sweetwater	60	35	sunny
Corsicana	58	37	sunny	Longview	57	36	sunny	Tyler	56	36	sunny
Dallas	58	39	sunny	Lubbock	60	28	sunny	Weatherford	58	34	sunny
Del Rio	64	37	sunny	Lufkin	58	35	sunny	Wichita Falls	59	35	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Atlanta	41	26	mixed	Houston	60	37	sunny	Phoenix	70	44	sunny
Boston	48	36	rain	Los Angeles	75	52	mst sunny	San Francisco	59	46	pt sunny
Chicago	32	26	pt sunny	Miami	74	47	t-storm	Seattle	48	43	cloudy
Dallas	58	39	sunny	Minneapolis	26	24	sn shower	St. Louis	37	32	sunny
Denver	50	22	pt sunny	New York	52	35	rain	Washington, DC	49	31	rain

Moon Phases

Last	New	First	New
Dec 16	Dec 23	Dec 30	Jan 21

UV Index

Wed 12/17	Thu 12/18	Fri 12/19
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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