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TUESDAY

Snyder Daily News

Ask Us

Q—What is the maximum interest rate you can be charged by a retail business if you purchase something on credit? What about a pawn shop?

A—According to the state treasurer's office, the maximum interest rate consumers may be charged by a retail business in Texas is 18 percent. Pawn shops are allowed to charge a higher rate, up to 240 percent, in fact.

In Brief

Joost case

SAN MARCOS, Texas (AP) — A state district judge says he will rule within 10 days on the release of evidence in the 1990 deaths of a Texas Racing Commission official and his family.

At a hearing Monday before Judge James Meyers, Texas Ranger Ron Stewart said the evidence shouldn't be released because it is part of a continuing investigation by the Rangers and Department of Public Safety.

Joost, his wife Susan, and their two children, were found shot to death in their home in Buda, south of Austin. Hays County Justice of the Peace Orlena Hehl ruled the deaths a murder-suicide, although she later called for an inquest into the deaths and doubted her own ruling because of uncertainties in the case.

Home alone

ST. CHARLES, Ill. (AP) — The case of a couple accused of leaving their two children home alone while they vacationed in Mexico probably will go to a grand jury soon, a prosecutor said today.

Kane County State's Attorney David R. Akemann also said David and Sharon Schoo had received at least one death threat, but was unclear about the specifics. The Kane County sheriff's department didn't immediately return a telephone call on the matter.

The Schoos, who are free on bail, did not appear at a hearing on the case in county court today. The next hearing is Jan. 26.

Local

NAACP

The local NAACP chapter will hold its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. this evening in Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

Canyon 4-H

Canyon Reef 4-H Club will meet at 7 this evening in the East Elementary cafeteria. For more information, call 573-5423.

Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Monday, 47 degrees; low, 30 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Tuesday, 32 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1993 to date, .23 of an inch.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low near 40. South wind 10-20 mph. Wednesday, mostly cloudy. High in the lower to mid 60s. South wind 10-20 mph.

Almanac: Sunset today, 5:55. Sunrise Wednesday, 7:44. Of four days in 1993, the sun has shone three days in Snyder.

High court considering challenge to sodomy law

AUSTIN (AP) — Gay and lesbian plaintiffs today demanded equality as a lawsuit challenging a 114-year-old state law banning homosexual sex was heard by the Texas Supreme Court.

Attorneys argued for about 11/2 hours before a standing room only crowd of about 150. The nine-member court asked numerous questions, but took no immediate action.

Patrick Wiseman, an attorney for five homosexual men and women, said the state sodomy law discriminates against gays and lesbians by making their sexuality illegal.

He said the "state has no business" making it illegal for homosexuals to engage in the same conduct as heterosexuals.

After the hearing ended, about a dozen members of the Women's Action Coalition rallied in protest of the law.

"The times have moved us all beyond many of the cruder bigotries of the past," said Tom Doyal, a gay man from Austin who is one of the plaintiffs in the case. "Let us hope that ... the Texas Supreme Court grants lesbians and gay men the right to exist in Texas without the unjust and unjustifiable curse of 'criminal' looming over them."

The plaintiffs and the Texas Human Rights Foundation, which is sponsoring the lawsuit, say the law violates their personal rights, encourages discrimination and "brands lesbians and gay men as criminals."

While gay activists have been vocal in their opposition to the law, supporters say the Supreme Court should uphold the measure.

Thirty state lawmakers signed a legal brief with the state that said homosexuality is a mental disorder that should be illegal.

The law makes it a misdemeanor, punishable by a $200 fine, for consenting adults of the same gender to have "deviant sexual intercourse."

It has been on the books in Texas in some form for 114 years, but has rarely been enforced, according to the Texas attorney general's office.

The controversial measure drew national attention in 1990 when Dallas city officials cited the law for refusing to hire police officers who are homosexual.

On March 11, the 3rd Court of Appeals in Austin upheld a judge's ruling in district court that the law was unconstitutional.



POOL TOURNAMENT — J.B. Tate Sr. lines up a shot this morning as he and Kenneth Gregory played nine-ball at Scurry County Senior Center. The game was part of a pool tournament being held at the center. (SDN Staff Photo)

By Gov. Richards...

Krueger is named to replace Bentsen

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Ann Richards today named Railroad Commissioner Bob Krueger, a former congressman and ambassador-at-large to Mexico, as her interim replacement for U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen.

Bentsen was chosen by President-elect Clinton to be the next Treasury secretary.

"I had many, many good people from which to chose. Many of them also happen to be good friends. But Bob Krueger is a man who will need no on-the-job training. He can hit the ground running in Washington ... Bob Krueger is right for this job and he is right for Texas," Richards said.

"I'll do the very best I know how, the very best I can," Krueger said.

Krueger's appointment also was praised by the man he will replace.

"She chose a person highly qualified to represent our state in the Senate and best equipped to carry the Democratic banner in the upcoming election campaign," Bentsen said in a written

(see KRUEGER, page 8)



BOB KRUEGER

DCOS oks grant, prison resolution

A $10,000 grant for business expansion was unanimously approved Monday night in a meeting of the Development Corporation of Snyder.

The board, meeting in the TU Electric Reddy Room, approved a request presented by Joe Kelley, president of Nathalie's.

Nathalie's, located on the north side of the Snyder square, is a manufacturer of ceramic costume jewelry.

Kelly described the business, which started in the family's home, as suffering "growing pains." It moved to its present 9,000-square foot location about two years ago.

The grant will be used to purchase two new kilns, rewiring the building to accommodate the additional electrical load, roof repair and interface of his computer system.

Kelley said when the expansion project is complete, he would be able to run all six kilns at one time, increasing productivity to keep up with growth of wholesale orders.

Kelley said the expansion would result in the addition of from three to four employees. The firm presently has 57 employees, 21 of those considered full-time. Kelley said the firm's annual payroll is about $400,000.

Members of the DCOS agreed to reimburse Nathalie's for expansion work done, up to $10,000.

Funds from the DCOS are generated from the three-eights percent city sales tax for economic development, approved by Snyder voters last January.

In other business, the board approved a resolution in support of Snyder's effort to secure a 500-bed private prison in Scurry County.

A proposal for location of a facility in Snyder will be submitted Jan. 29 following a 6 p.m. public hearing on Jan. 13 in the Fine Arts Theatre of Western Texas College.

The state has authorized the construction of four 500-bed prerelease facilities in Texas, all operated by private firms. Snyder has teamed up with Corrections Corporation of America to submit a proposal. CCA is headquartered in Nashville, Tenn., and currently operates two such facilities for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The TDCJ will determine the sites of the four units.

The DCOS went into a brief executive session to discuss real estate acquisition related to the prison bid, but no action was taken.

Paul Zeck presided at the meeting. Also present were board members Bill Seale and Miller Robinson. Absent were John Jarrell and Dan Cotton.

Present from the city were Mayor Troy Williamson and City Manager John Gayle.

Council approves resolution in support of private prison

Snyder City Council Monday approved a resolution of support for the location of a privately-owned prison and heard an update on construction at the city's $4.375 million wastewater treatment plant.

Roy Baze, a member of the local prison task force, told council members that it is mandatory to have community support if Snyder is to be considered as the location of a 500-bed privately-owned correctional facility.

He estimated that the prison, which would be managed under state guidelines by Corrections Corporation of America, would employ no fewer than 140 people and could provide as many as 175 jobs.

"On Dec. 21 a group of 11 persons from Snyder went to tour CCA's unit in Venus," said Baze. "The prison has had 140 persons on its payroll consistently since it began operation."

According to Baze, the state is taking applications for four private prisons to be located throughout the state. Applications are due in Huntsville no later than Jan. 29.

Baze estimated that six to eight companies will bid for the prisons and that Snyder would be one of 20 to 25 sites proposed for the units.

CCA currently operates units in Venus and Cleveland. They will apply for additional units in those locations and in Snyder, according to Baze.

Baze told council members that the prison would have an estimated construction time of one year at a cost of approximately $17 million.

"There would be no requirements on the Snyder community for construction costs," said Baze, explaining that bonds would be sold and the project financed through Texas Correctional Facilities Financing Corporation in Liberty County.

According to Baze, the second prison would be beneficial to Snyder due to the increased number of jobs, utility connections for the city, and the possibility of establishing agreements with Western Texas College and Cogdell Memorial Hospital similar to those with the Price Daniel Unit.

A public hearing will be held to gain input from residents on Jan. 13 in the Fine Arts Theatre at Western Texas College.

Councilman Jack Denman said that approximately 80 of the resolutions have been signed by various groups and individuals in support of the private prison. He said that copies of the resolution would be available at the chamber of commerce and Snyder Daily News office for those who would like to show their support prior to the public hearing.

Terry Bilderback and Randy West of Parkhill, Smith and Cooper gave a brief update on construction at the city's new wastewater treatment plant. They said construction is "on track," with an estimated 38 percent of the plant complete on a cost scale and the plant approximately 42 percent complete on the one-year time scale.

Bilderback gave a presentation showing how the new plant would operate once the project is complete. West reported it would take 45 to 60 days to get the plant completely on-line and the treatment process working effectively.

Council members were notified of significant dates for the upcom-

(see COUNCIL, page 8)

The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Prosperity makes friends, but adversity tries them."

If there is a more devout basketball fan in Snyder than Red Tefertiller, then we've failed to encounter him. Says Red, "If a ball has rolled or bounced in West Texas, I've been there."

Tefertiller is a regular fixture at each Western Texas College Dusters basketball game. He often is seen hawking tortillas for the halftime toss, used as a fundraiser by the WTC booster club.

At one recent game, Red was observed seated in a different spot. He and retired banker H.W. Cargile normally watch the games together.

Red had something to say about that also. "I refuse to sit next to him anymore. He's too rowdy."

At halftime, Tefertiller wanted to talk about all the social and political changes that are about to take place.

With some of the changes coming down the tube, we all agreed that it is hard to be politically correct.

Tefertiller said he noticed that some colleges have dropped the use of the term "freshman." The term was viewed as demeaning, and instead, the school is using "first-year student."

Tefertiller was philosophical, "If you think freshman is demeaning, some of those young folks will one day find out senior ain't so hot either."

But before halftime was over, we did run into another avid basketball fan, this one a grinnin' Democrat. Willard Gladson had to gloat a little about the recent presidential election.

Gladson says, however, he remains broad-minded about most things. However, if a blood transfusion is ever required, Willard does insist on the use of Democratic donors only.

Grand jury hands down indictments

Seven indictments, including one for aggravated assault of a police officer, were handed down by a Scurry County grand jury in 132nd District Court Monday.

Rosa Martinez Juarez, 28, of Rotan is being held in Scurry County Jail after she was indicted on two charges, one for felony driving while intoxicated and the other for aggravated assault of a police officer.

Juarez was arrested on both charges on Dec. 10. Bond is set at $2,000 for each charge.

Indicted on Dec. 28 charges of possession of marijuana was 33-year-old Simon Morin of 1919 21st St. He has been released on $5,000 bond.

Released on $15,000 bond was 19-year-old James Michael Bishop of 207 30th St., who was indicted on Dec. 15 charges of indecency with a child.

Gregario Guerra, 23, of 307 North Ave. Y was released on $2,000 bond following an indictment on Dec. 26 charges of felony driving while intoxicated.

Two other subjects were indicted, but have not been arrested at this time.

JAN 05 93

Former teacher probated

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) — A judge has sentenced a former Port Arthur teacher to five years deferred probation for owning a student-made videotape that showed some of the teen-agers having sex.

Kirk Crookshank, who formerly taught English at Stephen F. Austin Junior-Senior High School, must also pay a $1,000 fine, state District Judge Leonard Giblin ruled Monday.

Crookshank pleaded guilty in November to possessing a videotape depicting a minor having sex with other minors. If he successfully completes the probation he will have no felony record.

The four Stephen F. Austin Junior-Senior High School students who created the videotape face no disciplinary action because the school lacks jurisdiction in the case, Austin principal Eddie Fowler said.

Also, the students face no criminal charges, a prosecutor said.

Crookshank and his parents declined to comment on the case Monday.

Crookshank's attorney and the mother of a student criticized school officials for taking no action against the students.

"Mr. Crookshank is one of the best teachers that Austin has ever had," said the mother, who attended the sentencing but would identify herself only as a "concerned parent."

Crookshank's attorney, Douglas Sikes, says a student in September 1991 gave his client a tape depicting a female student engaged in sex with male students.

Crookshank had earlier told students they could receive extra credit if they videotaped a spoof of a television commercial, Sikes said.

Crookshank, who taught 11th-grade English, knew nothing of the contents of the videotape until the student gave it to him, Sikes said.

Crookshank copied the videotape and told Fowler, other teachers and several friends about the videotape.

"Had Mr. Crookshank used better judgment, he would never have been in this situation," Sikes said. School officials took no action about the tape until March.

The students claimed Crookshank promised to change their failing grades to passing if they gave him a copy, Fowler said.

Records show Crookshank did not change any student grades.

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★★★★
Aladdin
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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

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Horse Sense Makes No Sense When It Comes to Burning Barn

DEAR ABBY: In a recent column, you implied that horses lacked horse sense — then cited the fact that horses have been known to run *into* a burning barn.

As a horse breeder, I thought you might like to know what prompts this seemingly bizarre behavior, especially since the instinct to survive should tell the horse to flee.

The horse that runs into a burning barn does so because he has come to know that in his stall — in that barn — he is safe.

BETTY M., CALIFORNIA COWGIRL

DEAR BETTY: I wonder how long a living, warm-blooded creature should stay in a place that's on fire? If a horse does not flee from that suicidal environment, how intelligent can it be?

* * *

DEAR ABBY: In the *York Daily Record* in York, Pa., you recently perpetuated a common error regarding a woman's maiden name. You said, "Many professional women have retained their maiden names after marriage."

Abby, a woman does not have a maiden name until she takes a married name. What she has is a *surname*. "Maiden" refers to a former name that was given up in favor of her husband's name. Women who retain their own names (or their surnames) after marriage do not have a maiden name.

This may sound picky to some, but for women (and their husbands) who choose this option, the term "maiden name" is offensive; it implies that a woman should take her husband's name, and those who do not are "strange." What she has chosen to do was to keep her own name.

If you are interested in some trivia, Lucy Stone (1818-1893) was an early American woman who kept her own surname, and other women who followed suit were called "Stoners."

THE REV. ROBERT L. ANDERSON, YORK, PA.

DEAR REV. ANDERSON: Sorry — no mea culpas from me. Webster's Ninth New Collegiate [illegible] surname of a woman before she married."

* * *

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I recently attended a very expensive, posh wedding. Everything was first class all the way. Those who attended it said they had never seen anything to equal it.

However, there was one flaw. We never did meet the bride or groom. There was no receiving line, and the bride and groom did not circulate to chat with the guests as is customary at most weddings. We were terribly disappointed, but we didn't feel it was our place to go around and introduce ourselves.

What do you make of this, Abby?

HURT IN BOSTON

DEAR HURT: The wedding may have been "posh" and very expensive, but somebody dropped the ball. Since there was no receiving line, it would have been entirely proper for you to have introduced yourselves to the bridal couple.

* * *

DEAR ABBY: You can count me among those people who are disgusted with filthy language they use in some movies and even on late-night television.

My husband rented a movie starring Tom Selleck, and we were shocked to hear him use the "F" word. I was embarrassed, and it really made me sick. I know it was in the script, but he could have told the director that he didn't want to use words like that.

Well, I guess I will just have to keep watching reruns of "Gunsmoke" with James Arness. I know that he would never use language like that.

I am 60 years old, and I could never get used to dirty language.

TEXAS GRANNY

* * *

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. (Postage is included.)

U.S. troops spared Somalian diseases

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Despite killer fleas, stray bullets, kids on speed, moody vipers, giant spiders and a deadly menu of 70 infectious diseases, U.S. troops are healthier in Somalia than they were in the Persian Gulf.

Medical experts credit one thing in particular: Pure terror.

"We told the troops if there's a disease in the world, it's in Somalia," said U.S. Navy Chief David Knapp, 40, a preventative medicine technician.

Doctors describe such a potentially horrible health scenario to U.S. troops that they diligently pop their weekly malaria pills, slap on repellent and avoid local food and water like the plague.

"I can't even finish a meal because I think — did I wash my hands well enough?" said Senior Airman Michelle Orosco, 26, of Marquette, Mich. "They sure scared me."

While 350,000 Somalis have died from disease, famine and bloodshed in the past year, U.S. troops have dug in with only minor health problems.

"Either we're lucky, or somebody did something right," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Allan Hammer, 39, head of the preventative medicine contingent in Somalia.

He said less than 1 percent of U.S. military personnel routinely suffer from diarrhea caused by bacteria, compared with 10 percent in Saudi Arabia.

The main health problem has been heat rash caused by side effects of malaria medicine, which makes many people more susceptible to the sun.

Two Marines have been bitten by venomous mole vipers, which bite only when harassed.

One person came down with what doctors believe is malaria — this in a nation filled with assassin mosquitos that also carry such exotic maladies as Rift Valley fever, Chikungunya fever and O'nyong-nyong fever.

Somebody else contracted dengue fever, another mosquito-borne disease. A couple of cases of Shegalli River fever and salmonella also have been recorded, Hammer said.

In Bela Dogle, a Marine got bitten on the foot by a bat that had set up house under his cot. He is getting rabies shots.

The hellish zoo of hyenas, feral dogs, 9-inch spiders, plague-carrying fleas, foot-long centipedes, disease-carrying snails and other creepy crawlers is kept at bay by repellents, pesticides, cleared brush, careful walking and pure luck.

More than any other American military mission, prevention was emphasized in Somalia. Before the mission began, the Defense Intelligence Agency issued a report of health risks more terrifying than a Stephen King novel.

Cheney: Clinton must be wary of diverting funds for defense

WASHINGTON (AP) — The new Congress will try to use the Pentagon budget for "domestic spending in defense clothing" at risk of imperiling military readiness, according to departing Defense Secretary Dick Cheney.

"This is clearly a challenge for President Clinton," Cheney said in a farewell interview with several reporters Monday.

The new president and his defense secretary-designate, Rep. Les Aspin, D-Wis., "are going to have to be prepared to confront their own Congress" if they want to keep the military sharp, Cheney said.

Cheney reiterated his opposition to Clinton's plan to pare the Bush administration's five-year, $1.42 trillion defense budget by $60 billion and to slash the uniformed services by 200,000 additional men and women.

Cheney cited moves by Congress in the last Pentagon budget to fund such things as breast cancer research and to pad the number of National Guard and reserve units to help protect local economies.

"You've got to resist the temptation ... to load up the defense budget with expenditure items that are really domestic spending in defense clothing," he said.

He said his Pentagon team was recommending a fiscal 1994 budget that adheres to past long-range spending plans, including a force of 1.6 million men and women five years from now.

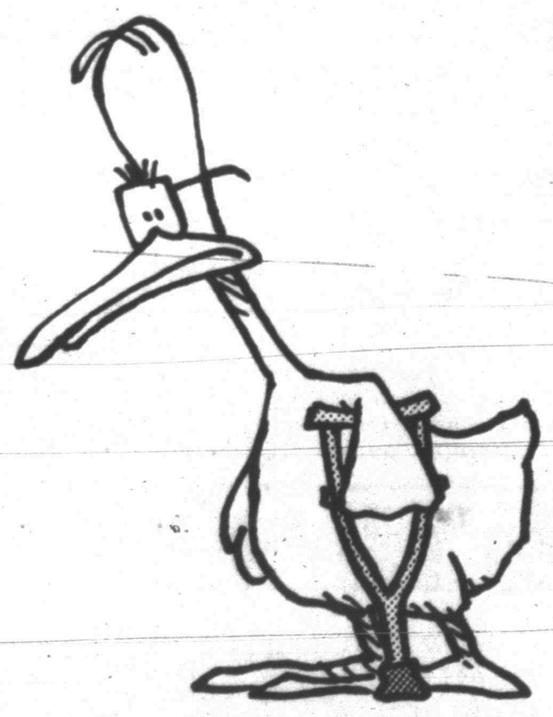
As for his own future, Cheney said he plans to join a conservative Washington think tank, the American Enterprise Institute; has lined up a number of speaking engagements through a New York agency; and intends to join a few corporate boards that aren't involved in Pentagon contracting.

He said he hasn't decided whether to seek the Republican presidential nomination in 1996, but the former Wyoming congressman conceded his departure from the Pentagon will allow him to pursue a political life "a little more aggressively."

On international issues confronting Clinton, Cheney said:

—Some U.S. troops will head home from Somalia by the end of this month, even though the starving African nation remains a "nasty, dangerous neighborhood." But most of the American forces will remain, and the continued violence and unrest in Somalia make it difficult to predict when the operation will be handed over to U.N. peacekeepers, he said.

Berry's World



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Woman pleads guilty

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — A woman who ran an adoption agency says she's sorry she bilked thousands of dollars from couples who never received children, but a federal prosecutor says she should have known better.

"At some point, the defendant should have realized that she would be unable to fulfill the obligation she was undertaking," Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas Secor said Monday.

Elinor Mast, 43, of Sarasota, Fla., pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court Monday to nine counts of mail fraud. The maximum sentence is 45 years in prison and more than $2.2 million in fines.

Judge John Potter ordered a presentence report. He did not set a sentencing date.

"I'm so sorry. I'm just sorry," Mrs. Mast said to a reporter as she was being led away by authorities after entering the plea.

Mrs. Mast will be sentenced Monday in Defiance County Common Pleas Court after pleading guilty to two state counts of grand theft. She could be sentenced to four years in prison and fined $10,000.

Secor said Mrs. Mast accepted $20,000 from nine couples in eight states between 1989 and 1991, after promising to provide them with adopted children. None of the couples received children.

Secor said Mrs. Mast, the mother of 10, has agreed to repay the money.

THE WORLD ALMANAC DATE BOOK

Jan. 5, 1993

Today is the fifth day of 1993 and the 16th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1925, Nellie Taylor Ross of Wyoming became the first woman governor in American history.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Zebulon Pike (1779-1813), U.S. Army officer-explorer; Konrad Adenauer (1876-1967), German statesman; Jean-Pierre Aumont (1911-), actor, is 82; Friedrich Durrenmatt (1921-) playwright-novelist, is 72; Walter Mondale (1928-), U.S. politician-lawyer, is 65; Robert Duvall (1931-), actor, is 62; Alvin Ailey (1931-1989), choreographer-dancer; Chuck Noll (1931-), football coach, is 62.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1957, Jackie Robinson announced his retirement from baseball.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "A life of frustration is inevitable for any coach whose main enjoyment is winning." — Chuck Noll

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1974, a heat wave that produced record high temperatures in the dry valley regions of Antarctica culminated with a reading of 59 degrees on the shore of Lake Vanda — Antarctica's highest temperature.

SOURCE: THE WEATHER CHANNEL® 1992 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

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

TODAY'S BARB
BY PHIL PASTORET

If folks reared their kids properly and stopped all this parenting, we'd have an entire generation of better-behaving kids.

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Our Sincere Thanks

Since 1920 our Stinson Drug family has served a multitude of good and faithful customers.

People have entrusted their health care needs to a business that has always been proud of a highly personal way of caring for these loyal patrons. We regret that we can no longer continue our business.

We have placed our prescription files and your personal records with **McWilliams' Pharmacy** in the belief that this will be a continuation of offering quality care for you. We hope that you will give them a chance to earn your trust.

We would like to express our wish that God bless each of you.

We truly appreciate your patronage and friendship.

Stinson Drug
Mrs. Lee T. Stinson
Dean and Mary Jimm Floyd

TU ELECTRIC
will be closed during lunch
from
12:00 - 1:00
beginning
Monday, January 4, 1993

We wish to thank everyone
who came by
to see our Holiday Decorations
The Wagner's
2301 Ave. T



NEW MEMBERS — Recently initiated into Beta Delta Phi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi were, from left, Diana Workman, Robin Morris, Julie Newberry, Diane Hogan, Donna Koonce and not pictured, Teri Partain. (Contributed Photo)

Sorority plans dance, initiates six new members

Beta Delta Phi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi recently initiated new members and made plans for its annual project.

An initiation ceremony held on Nov. 10, 1992, at Martha Ann Woman's Club welcomed Diana Workman, Robin Morris, Julie Newberry, Teri Partain, Diane Hogan and Donna Koonce.

The club's busy schedule continued with a Nov. 24 bi-monthly meeting, also held at MAWC.

On Dec. 8, the sorority's annual Christmas party was held. Members participated in a progressive cookie pick-up held in the homes of Carrie Cox, Lisa Rollins and Sandy Pollard. Each member brought her speciality and they were placed in baskets fashioned by Lyn Lancaster. The party ended with appetizers and gifts in the home of Mrs. Lancaster.

Plans continue for the club's Valentine Dance to be held on Feb. 13 at the Snyder Country Club. The band, Lonesome Dove, will provide music. Tickets may be purchased from any sorority member or by calling Tina Long at 573-8895.



RECEIVES CERTIFICATE — Elaine Steakley, right, was winner of $100 worth of groceries in a drawing sponsored by the Scurry Charter Chapter of ABWA. Making the presentation is the chapter's president, Genetha Payne. (SDN Staff Photo)

Meeting held by chapter

Scurry County Chapter of American Business Women's Association met on Dec. 8, 1992 for its Christmas meeting, including a gift exchange.

Following the invocation by Pat Faver, vocational chairman Carol Young introduced Barbara Scrivner who gave her job duties at Snyder Daily News and Kmart. At SDN she answers the phone, takes ads, phone messages, subscription payments, and posts inches and sends statements. At Kmart she works the service desk, answering the phone and helping other checkers.

President Genetha Payne announced the spring conference would be held in April and led discussion on the concession at the arts and crafts show held at the coliseum on Dec. 19-20, 1992, headed by Mae Cole and Vern Beasley.

A certificate for $100 worth of groceries at Everybody's Thriftway was presented to Elaine Steakley, winner of the chapter's drawing.

ABWA member Ruby Deavers celebrated a December birthday. Payne won the door prize, followed by the benediction by Deavers.

Inez Teaff was hostess to 12 members.

Truth helps child deal with emotions in grief

By SALLY WILLIAMS COOK
For AP Special Features

Often when a child experiences the death of a close relative or friend, parents are unable to provide much-needed emotional support.

Helen Fitzgerald's "The Grieving Child" (Simon & Schuster-Fireside, $9) is a primer for parents of preschoolers up to teenagers on dealing with grief.

Some of the subjects covered in the 194-page book include specifics about the emotional responses children may have, preparing a child for a possible death, adjusting to a new life, and suggestions for parents who feel they could have been more helpful at the time of a death.

Fitzgerald is the director of a grief program based in a Mount Vernon, Va., mental health center. She said that in the past, parents have been much too secretive and have tried to protect children from all aspects of death.

"Today's parents are beginning to be more open and honest," she said.

"If a parent is dying of cancer, it's important to use the word cancer." — Helen Fitzgerald, author of "The Grieving Child."

However, Fitzgerald acknowledges that adults often have difficulty using the correct terminology. "When a parent has a difficult time saying words liked dead, killed, or forever, I suggest practicing in front of the mirror."

When a child has difficulty expressing his or her feelings clearly, Fitzgerald finds that drawing, or using fantasy play and drama, can often be therapeutic for both child and parent. "But," she said, "the single most important tool a parent can use is love."

"Sharing feelings with each other is a wonderful way for parents and children to grow closer," she said. "If a child asks a question and a parent isn't sure of the answer, it's okay to say, 'I don't know but I'll try to find out.' If a question is just too difficult emotionally, it's fine to get some outside help."

She adds, "When parents and children can talk openly about the dark things that are troubling them, they begin to feel better."

In her book, Fitzgerald suggests that children be including in the planning of a funeral. She writes: "A funeral is a final parting, a farewell, the last loving thing we can do for a loved one. A sense of peace comes from planning a funeral, yet often children are left out of the planning."

She suggests a brief children's service that would involve children in all phases of the planning. A pastor or rabbi would lead the service and would be on hand to answer children's questions.

Education helps fight arthritis

ATLANTA (AP) — Doctors often overestimate patient knowledge and underestimate the desire for information about arthritis, notes a journal specializing in rheumatic diseases.

According to the Bulletin on the Rheumatic Diseases, published by the Arthritis Foundation, many chronic disease patients have inadequate information about their condition and treatments.

People with arthritis need to know the basics about disease processes and treatment strategies as well as the specific treatments recommended, the publication reports, adding that they also may need to learn specific skills such as how to exercise, how to organize a medication calendar or how to enlist social support.

Christian women set Houston meet

HOUSTON — Texas' first interdenominational Christian retreat for women, modeled after the tremendously successful annual California Women's Retreat, will be held in Houston, Feb. 5-7.

Nearly 4,000 women attend four back-to-back weekend retreats in California. Although not affiliated with the California retreats, the Texas Women's Retreat is an event presented by Women's Retreat of Texas, Inc., a non-profit organization, and several leaders at this event have also been leader/speakers of the California events.

This interdenominational Christian retreat for women offers a time to escape the demands of daily life to listen and to learn how God has worked in the lives of the speakers. The event, from Friday evening through Sunday early afternoon, will be a time of encouragement, fun, fellowship, evaluation and rest as well as inspiration for living in the circumstances of our lives.

Activities include workshops, lectures and a play. The event will be held in the Westin Oaks in the Galleria. Free time activities Saturday will include shopping, couseling, spa and exercise.

Registrations are due by Jan. 15. For registration information, call 713-785-2725 or write to Texas Women's Retreat, P.O. Box 630154, Houston, 77263-0154.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

NORTH 1-5-93
♠ A J 5
♥ 6 2
♦ A Q J
♣ J 9 7 6 2

WEST
♠ ? 4
♥ Q J 10 7 3
♦ 8 7 2
♣ A K 10

EAST
♠ ? 8 3
♥ K 8 4
♦ K 9 3
♣ Q 8 4 3

SOUTH
♠ K 10 7 6 2
♥ A 9 5
♦ 10 6 5 4
♣ 5

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: West

South	West	North	East
	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

Ostentation may backfire

By Phillip Alder

Arguably the greatest-ever advertising coup occurred when person A, as I shall call him, persuaded person B to buy a T-shirt with person A's company logo on it. Person B had *paid* for the privilege of advertising person A's company.

In bridge, it usually doesn't pay to advertise your cards. But occasionally you reveal a particular honor-card in an effort to mislead an opponent about the location of another honor.

In today's deal, the bidding was bizarre. North might have made a takeout double over one heart. And South entered the auction with a skeletal two-spade overcall.

West led the heart queen and, when it held the trick, continued with a low heart to the king and ace. Declarer took a diamond finesse, but it lost. Back came a diamond to dummy's queen.

Now South had to find the spade queen, and all the indications pointed to West. As he hadn't led a top club at trick one, it was clear East had a club honor. Apparently that left West needing the spade queen for his opening bid.

However, South was Estee Griffin, a board member of the Greater New York Bridge Association for over 20 years, who died last November. She asked herself why East, an expert, had won trick three with the diamond king. The normal play would be to duck. Griffin concluded that he wanted her to know he had the king. Backing her judgment, Griffin immediately played a spade to her 10 — and it won! Declarer ruffed her heart loser with dummy's spade jack, cashed the spade ace and led a low club. The contract was safe.

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By some accounts, the ice cream cone was invented in 1904 by a Charles E. Menches during the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

Twentieth Century Club; MAWC; hostess, Mrs. J.T. Trice; 3 p.m.

Alpha Study Club; MAWC; hostesses, Velma Lunsford and Bea Treavey; DARE program; 3 p.m.

Weight Watchers; First Assembly of God; 5:30 p.m.

University Women; MAWC; 6:30 p.m.

Parenting Support Group; 2513 College Ave.; for more information, call Snyder Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse at 573-1141.

Hobbs Co-Dependent 12-Step group; Hobbs school gym; call Sharon or Jimmy Prayton at 735-3640 (Rotan); 7 p.m.

ACBL Open Pairs Duplicate Bride; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.

TOPS TX56; 5:30 p.m. weigh-in, and meeting from 6 to 7 p.m.; 2501 35th. For information, call Jean Yearwood at 573-9444.

Snyder Police Auxiliary; Snyder National Bank Community Room; 7:30 p.m.

Beta Sigma Phi regular meeting; Snyder Country Club; hostess, Dena Ellis; Crazy Bridge Night; 7:30 p.m.

Scurry Lodge 706; AF and AM degree classes; 7:30 p.m.

New Horizon Alcoholics Anonymous (closed); Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-9924, 573-5867.

Al-Anon; 8 p.m.; Park Club in Winston Park. For more information, call 573-3956, 573-2101, or 573-8626.

WEDNESDAY

Snyder Christian Women's Club prayer coffee; home of Doris Wilson, 202 36th Place; 10 a.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-3961 or 573-8885.

THURSDAY

Snyder Garden Club; Martha Ann Woman's Club; 9:30 a.m.

Rotary Club; Martha Ann Woman's Club; noon.

Advanced Duplicate Bridge; Colorado City bridge room; 1:30 p.m.

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

Deep Creek Chapter ABWA; Golden Corral; 6:30 p.m.

Snyder Fire Dept. Auxiliary; Central Fire Station; 7 p.m.

Volleyball for singles, divorced or widowed people; multipurpose building of First Baptist Church; 7 p.m.

Tumbleweed Toastmasters meeting; American State Bank conference room; 7 p.m.

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

New Horizons Alcoholics Anonymous (closed); in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For information, call 573-3308, 573-9924 or 573-5867.

FRIDAY

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

Snyder Jaycees; noon luncheon; Golden Corral.

Free blood pressure clinics; Senior Citizens Center, 9:45-11:45 a.m.; Cogdell Memorial Hospital emergency waiting room; 1-2:30 p.m.

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment; 573-9742 or 573-2763.

Al-Anon; 8 p.m.; Park Club in Winston Park. For more information call 573-2101, 573-8626, or 573-3956.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous (closed); Park Club in Wnston Park; For information, call 573-8626, 863-2348 or 573-9924. (Last Friday of the month is the birthday meeting); 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 10 a.m. For more information call 573-2349, 863-2348, 573-8110 or 573-6820.

Scurry County Museum; Western Texas College; open from 1-4 p.m.

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

The life of an edible marine crustacean

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — The lobster is a deep-sea survivor.

Though female lobsters lay from 5,000 to 100,000 eggs at a time, few survive the atttacks of sea birds, fish, squids and even other lobsters.

Growing lobsters periodically shed their hard green or red shells for a soft new one. The defenseless lobster then must hide in an undersea crevice until the protective shell hardens.

American lobsters are caught in the Atlantic Ocean from Canada to Delaware and are usually 1 or 2 feet long and average about 2 pounds in weight. They have five pairs of legs, with claws on the front pair.

Fishermen use lobster pots to catch the shellfish one at a time.

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41
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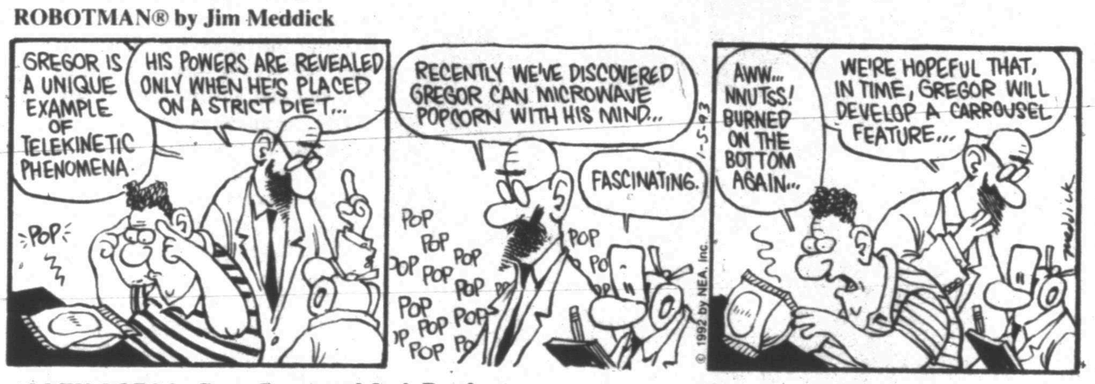
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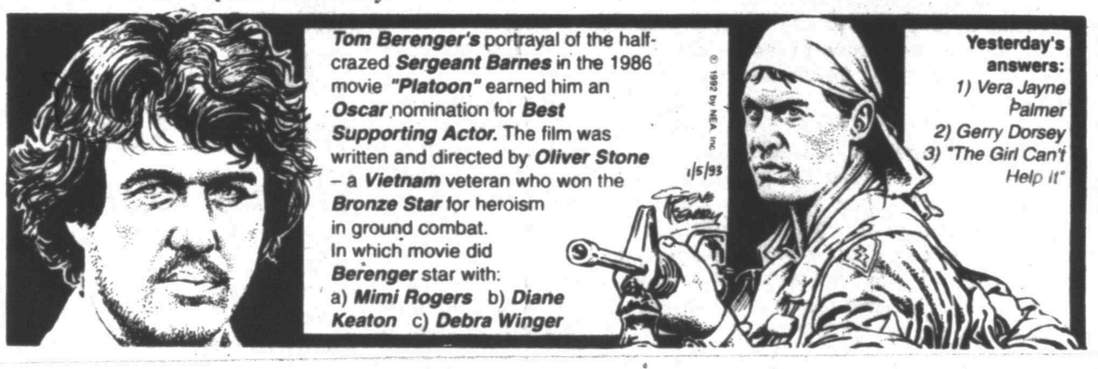
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NEA PUZZLES

ACROSS

1 Sinewy
5 Storage compartment
8 Metal strand
12 Iroquois Indian
13 Own (Scot.)
14 Employs
15 Symbol
17 Given to wandering
19 Artist Picasso
20 Stage whisper
21 Anglo-Saxon slave
23 Girl's name
24 Proposition
26 Cults
28 Ugly old woman
31 Neighbor of Ga.
32 Cheer
33 Per —
34 Help
36 Target seeker
38 Small amount
39 Sly trick
41 — hour
43 Kate Nelligan movie
45 Avoid
48 Sharp disk on a plow
50 Newspaper executive
51 Part in play
52 Large
54 Small stove
55 Soviet Union (abbr.)
56 Workers' assn.
57 Decays

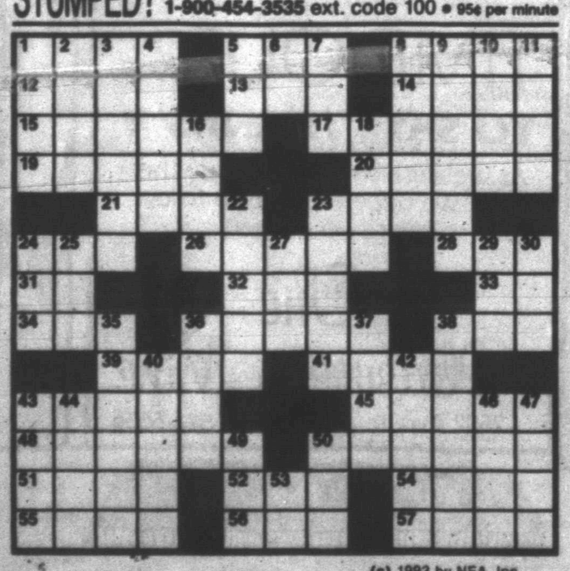
DOWN

1 Cry
2 — La Douce
3 Kidded
4 Shouts
5 Cheat
6 Two, Roman
7 Compass pt.
8 Sausage
9 Old Testament book
10 Tear
11 Princely Italian family
16 Vast ages
18 Rodents
22 Weird
23 Anesthetic
24 Youth org.
25 Here (Fr.)
27 Machine part
29 As far — — know
30 Obtain
35 Lives
36 I cannot tell — —
37 Regretted
38 Pakistan's Benazir —
40 Bury
42 Foxier
43 Beige
44 Writer Anita —
46 "— Walk"
47 Epochs
49 Baseball stat.
50 The self
53 Negative prefix

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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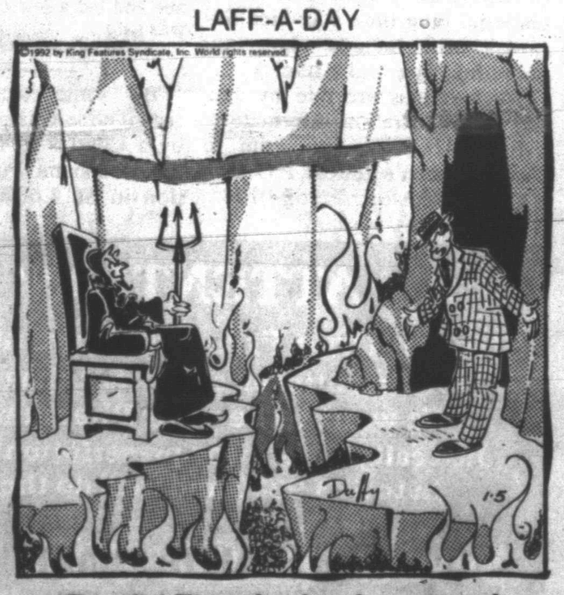


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Cards, 'Dogs open District 27-A slate

Scurry County's two Class A basketball teams will take to the court for District 27 play today.

Ira travels to Highland for boys' and girls' games and Hermleigh hosts Blackwell in league openers.

In the district's only other game today, Loraine entertains Westbrook.

Ira's Bulldogs, idle since a Dec. 15 meeting with Klondike, bring a 6-5 record into today's tilt. The Lady Bulldogs, also seeing their first action since the middle of December, are 2-7.

Ira is led by senior Justin Box, who is averaging about 13 points and 10 rebounds an outing.

The Lady 'Dogs count on junior Mauricia Rosas, who is good for about seven points a game.

Highland's boys enter play tonight with a 4-10 mark, while the Lady Hornets boast an 8-5 slate.

Hermleigh, 2-8 in boys' play, hopes to open the loop schedule with a victory over a 9-6 Blackwell club. The Lady Cardinals carry a 4-8 record against league favorite BHS, now 10-5.

Chris Velasco, Chris Lambaren and Bill Breitweiser each average in double figures for the Cards.

The Hermleigh girls are led by Jennifer Herl, who accounted for 11 points a game in the Lady Cardinals' appearance at the Dec. 29-31 Hawley tournament.

District 27-A

Boys

Team	Season		District	
Blackwell	9	6	0	0
Loraine	7	3	0	0
Ira	6	5	0	0
Westbrook	6	7	0	0
Hermleigh	3	8	0	0
Highland	4	10	0	0

Tuesday, Jan. 5
Blackwell at Hermleigh
Ira at Highland
Westbrook at Loraine

Girls

Team	Season		District	
Blackwell	10	5	0	0
Highland	8	5	0	0
Loraine	7	5	0	0
Hermleigh	5	8	0	0
Westbrook	4	9	0	0
Ira	2	7	0	0

Tuesday, Jan. 5
Blackwell at Hermleigh
Ira at Highland
Westbrook at Loraine

Collapse costs Eddy his job

Oilers' defensive coordinator fired after record loss

HOUSTON (AP) — Jim Eddy molded the Houston Oilers' defense from one of the worst in the NFL three years ago to one of the best this season — but one more inglorious collapse cost him his job.

Eddy was fired as defensive coordinator Monday along with secondary coach Pat Thomas after the Oilers blew a 35-3 third-quarter lead and allowed Buffalo's charge to a 41-38 playoff victory on Sunday.

The Oiler defense improved from No. 27 to No. 4 in total defense under Eddy's direction, but it had a bad habit of failing to hold onto leads. The latest one was too much for General Manager Mike Holovak to ignore.

"He (Eddy) is in charge of the defense and I wasn't very happy with what I saw yesterday," Holovak said Monday.

Holovak wasn't dazzled by the Oilers' defensive statistics this season.

"Statistics may mean something somewhere, but I'm not too sure they are all that valid," he said. "Sometimes this year we played clubs that had their second or third quarterback in the game.

"That helps stats, but it's wins and losses that count."

Backup quarterback Frank Reich riddled the Oilers' loose zone defense with three second-half touchdowns to Andre Reed, and Steve Christie kicked the winning field goal in overtime.

Eddy and Thomas had been a part of Pardee's staff with the USFL Houston Gamblers (1984-85) and for three years at the University of Houston (1986-89) before coming to the Oilers in 1990.

The firings were a difficult decision for Pardee, who took part in the decision-making process. He said he was uncomfortable with the timing.

"I probably wouldn't have done anything this quick," he said. "They wanted it done today, so we did it."

Holovak said Pardee, who has two years remaining on his contract, would return next season.

"That's fine with me, yes," he said. "If it wasn't, we'd probably have changed it."

After suffocating the Bills' offense in the first half of Sunday's wild card playoff, Eddy shifted the Oilers into a loose zone that brought criticism from cornerback Cris Dishman.

"We knew they were going to feature Andre Reed in the second half, but we stayed in the same zones," Dishman said. "When you play the same things all the time, teams are going to beat you. It was the same old coverage."

Pardee said he saw nothing wrong with the coverages.

"We knew they'd concentrate on Reed and he hurt us anyway," Pardee said. "We tried to blitz and that put us in some one-on-one coverages. They called timeout to stop a couple of blitzes."

Pardee noted that the Oilers "played them for six quarters and gave up two field goals. Then they changed their crossing routes to vertical routes and they were making throws and catches like we were in the first half."

Eddy pushed aside Dishman's comments about strategy.

"When it gets down to the nitty gritty, am I going to point the finger at myself and talk about my situation or am going to talk about the concept," Eddy said. "I never pay too much attention that that."

Eddy decided to stand on the record.

"This is the best defense that's ever been played by the Houston Oilers," he said.

Snyder cage squads host non-district tilts

It's been almost a month since Snyder's varsity and JV basketball teams have enjoyed the home-court advantage, but they'll be back in action at Scurry County Coliseum today when the Tigers host Lubbock High and the SHS girls entertain San Angelo Central.

Action begins at 5 p.m. when the Lady Tiger junior varsity tangles with the Lady Bobcats, followed at 6:30 p.m. by the varsity girls' contest.

The Snyder-Lubbock High boys' varsity matchup starts at 8 p.m. The boys' JV tilt tips off at 5 p.m. at SHS.

The 11-5 Tigers, last at home when they beat Greenwood, 58-32, at the county coliseum Dec. 8, are coming off a disappointing 59-51 loss to Sweetwater on Saturday.

Coach Bud Birks blamed the loss on a poor shooting performance from the free-throw line.

"We shot 14-of-40 free throws, and you can't beat people like that," he said. "We played pretty hard, but we have to be able to shoot better than that from the line."

Snyder is led by seniors Adrian Sneed, who had a team-best 16 against Sweetwater, Anthony Alvarez, who also wound up in double figures agaist the Ponies with 10, and Barretta Collins, who canned eight.

The Westerners come in at 8-8.

The Lady Tigers carry a 3-13 season mark into tonight's battle against 5A Central, their first home game since Dec. 8 when they fell to Coahoma, 34-29.

In its last outing, Snyder lost to Midland High, 55-33, after staying close to the Lady Bulldogs for the first half.

However, a 33-15 second-half burst dropped the Lady Tigers into the loss column.

Junior Annie Ragland slammed home nine points and Rachel Crawford scored eight to pace SHS.

Central, a member of District 4-5A, boasts a 10-8 overall record.

NBA glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	18	10	.643	—
New Jersey	16	13	.552	2½
Orlando	13	12	.520	3½
Boston	13	17	.433	6
Washington	9	20	.310	9½
Philadelphia	8	18	.308	9
Miami	8	19	.296	9½

Central Division

Chicago	22	7	.759	—
Cleveland	18	12	.600	4½
Detroit	15	12	.556	6
Charlotte	15	13	.536	6½
Milwaukee	13	15	.464	8½
Indiana	13	16	.448	9
Atlanta	12	16	.429	9½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Utah	19	8	.704	—
San Antonio	15	12	.556	4
Houston	14	13	.519	5
Denver	7	20	.259	12
Minnesota	6	19	.240	12
Dallas	2	23	.080	16

Pacific Division

Phoenix	21	5	.808	—
Seattle	19	8	.704	2½
Portland	18	9	.667	3½
Golden State	16	13	.552	6½
LA Clippers	16	13	.552	6½
LA Lakers	15	13	.536	7
Sacramento	11	16	.407	10½

Monday's Games
No games scheduled

Tuesday's Games
Cleveland at New York, 7:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
LA Clippers at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.
LA Lakers at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Portland at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Utah, 9 p.m.
Golden State at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Denver at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

College Hoops

SOUTHWEST
Arkansas 72, Southern Meth. 53
Houston 86, UC Irvine 78
Lamar 103, Texas-Pan American 64
North Texas 79, NE Louisiana 77
Texas-Arlington 89, NW Louisiana 75

SOUTH
Alabama 95, Tennessee St. 80
Appalachian St. 76, East Carolina 74
Arkansas St. 64, Louisiana Tech 51
Bradley 74, Florida Atlantic 54
Cent. Florida 72, N.C.-Greensboro 66
Coll. of Charleston 68, N. Carolina A&T 54
Duke 88, Oklahoma 84, OT
E. Tennessee St. 71, E. Kentucky 66
Holy Cross 83, William & Mary 78
Jackson St. 88, Belhaven 64
Memphis St. 97, Georgia St. 76
Murray St. 75, Mississippi 65
Nicholls St. 80, Texas-San Antonio 61
North Carolina 98, Cornell 60

"It's going to be a war..."

Pokes, Eagles set for playoffs

IRVING, Texas (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys won't spend a lot of time studying tape in preparation for Sunday's NFC Divisional playoff.

Nobody knows the Philadelphia Eagles better than the Cowboys.

"No research is needed on this one," said Dallas running back Emmitt Smith. "They know what we're going to do and we know what they are going to do. It's easy. Just line up and play."

The Eagles won the first game between NFC East rivals 31-7 on Monday Night Football last October. Dallas returned the favor in November at Texas Stadium, winning 20-10 in a game where quarterback Randall Cunningham was benched at halftime.

"You just knew it'd get down to this," said Dallas offensive guard Nate Newton. "You just knew it had to."

Quarterback Troy Aikman, who got his first victory over the Eagles in November, said "It's tough to beat a team like Philadelphia twice in one season. They know a lot about us. I guess the talk of the week will be that the last time we beat them was a fluke."

Added safety James Washington, "It's going to be another one of those bigger-than-life games."

Smith flew to Pensacola, Fla., for a round of golf on Sunday and saw only the fourth quarter of the Eagles 36-20 wild card victory over the New Orleans Saints.

"I saw all I needed to see," Smith said. "There are no surprises, no secrets, when we play the Eagles. They'll come here with a lot of emotion, with an attitude.

"There's be a bunch of talking in the newspapers, but the game will still be played on Sunday and you can't win it in the media."

The Cowboys were early six-point favorites for the 11:30 a.m., game at Texas Stadium. The winner plays the survivor of Saturday's Washington-San Francisco game in the NFC Championship.

Dallas has the second-best record in the NFL at 13-3, but coach Jimmy Johnson has struggled against the Eagles, going 2-6.

"Well, I guess that shows you how tough the NFC East is with three of the four teams in the final four," said defensive end Jim Jeffcoat. "It doesn't surprise us at all to be playing the Eagles. It makes it kind of fun. We're rested and we're ready. And we'll have the crowd on our side."

Then he added, "It's going to be a war."

Young claims AP's '92 offensive honor

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Steve Young is feeling at home in the San Francisco 49ers' offense, and he has a landmark season to show for it.

"We always have the ability to move and make plays," said Young, selected Monday as The Associated Press 1992 Offensive Player of the Year.

"And despite what some people felt last year, I've always felt this is the perfect offense for me. I think you're noticing now as I get more comfortable in it, I don't run at all. I mean, it's very minimal because that's how efficient I want to make this offense."

Young shook his outsider image and became a more disciplined passer this year. In the process, he led the 49ers to an NFL-best 14-2 record and a return to the playoffs while overseeing the league's most productive offense.

He emerged from Joe Montana's shadow to lead the NFL in passing with a 107 rating.

Young is the fourth 49er in the last six seasons to win the award. Jerry Rice got it in 1987, Roger Craig won in 1988 and Montana the next year.

Green Bay wide receiver Sterling Sharpe, who set an NFL record with 108 catches, finished fourth with six votes. Running back Thurman Thomas of Buffalo, the 1991 winner, was next with three votes, followed by San Francisco running back Rickey Watters and Buffalo quarterback Jim Kelly with one apiece.

HOF results to be released

NEW YORK (AP) — Today is the day Reggie Jackson has been waiting for since he first swung a baseball bat.

The results of voting for the Hall of Fame will be announced this afternoon, and Jackson is expected to be the 29th player to make it to Cooperstown on the first try, including the inaugural group of five.

The voting by the Baseball Writers Association of America will be announced at 6 p.m. EST and the newest Hall of Famers will be presented at a news conference Wednesday morning in New York. Phil Niekro, Tony Perez and Steve Garvey are among the other top players eligible. To get in, a player must appear on 75 percent of the ballots.

"Mr. October" figures to make it in easily. He hit 563 homers, sixth on the career list, played on five World Series champions and was chosen the American League's Most Valuable Player in 1973.

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HJHS splits with B'well

BLACKWELL — Hermleigh's junior high basketball teams split a pair of Monday games with Blackwell, winning the girls' battle, 36-33, and falling in the boys' matchup, 40-31.

Michelle Roemisch scored a team-high 15 points, including 3-of-5 from the free-throw line in the decisive fourth period, and notched three steals to lead the HJHS girls.

Brandi Bates added 11 points and 10 rebounds and Jennifer Roemisch chipped in 10 points and three boards.

The Lady Cardinals remain unbeaten, sporting a 9-0 mark.

Hermleigh's boys were led by Larry Lambaren's 15 points. Jason Hernandez contributed five and Ricky Luna and T.J. Wood each hit three.

The Cardinals are now 2-6 on the season.

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Ira JH girls nip Highland

ROSCOE — Mechea Chaney scored five points and Shayla Lee and Melissa Brasuel were each cited for outstanding defensive efforts as the Ira Lady Bulldogs handed Highland a 13-10 junior high basketball loss Monday.

Ira's boys wound up on the short end of a 42-27 score in Monday's late game. Todd Collum poured in 12 points and Adam Davis contributed 11 for the 'Dogs.

Phoenix to protest loss to Spurs

CHICAGO (AP) — The Phoenix Suns plan to protest their 114-113 overtime loss to the San Antonio Spurs that snapped the Suns' winning streak at 14 games, owner Jerry Colangelo said.

With 0.4 seconds left in regulation in Sunday's game and the score tied at 107, referee Lee Jones handed the ball to Spurs guard Avery Johnson to inbound. There were five other Spurs on the court. The ball was not thrown in before time expired.

"A technical foul should have been called," Colangelo told the Chicago Sun-Times. "(Suns guard) Dan Majerle turned to (referee) Joe Forte and said, 'They got six! They got six!' Forte waves and goes over to the scorer's table, but no technical is given.

"According to what we saw and what we read in the book, it calls for an official protest. We will file one (today)."

A technical foul would have given the Suns a chance to win the game in regulation.

The Suns' protest must be filed to NBA Commissioner David Stern, who must notify the Spurs and ask both teams to submit evidence for or against the protest within five days. After getting that evidence, Stern has five days to rule.

Report says Ditka will be fired

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP) — Only the mother of Chicago Bears president Michael McCaskey can save coach Mike Ditka's job, according to a report published today.

The Chicago Sun-Times reported in today's editions that Ditka will be fired unless Virginia McCaskey intervenes. The newspaper cited sources it did not identify.

Mrs. McCaskey is secretary of the Bears and wife of team chairman Edward W. McCaskey. The Sun-Times report did not say what might inspire her to intervene.

Michael McCaskey did not meet with Ditka on Monday, excluding him from personnel meetings for the first time in 11 seasons.

"I was led to believe clearly we would talk, and we didn't," Ditka said after leaving his office at 3:30 p.m. CST to broadcast his radio show.

McCaskey did not comment Monday on Ditka's future after a 5-11 season — the team's worst since 1975.

"We should have something shortly," said McCaskey, who said he had made progress with several of the assistant coaches whose contracts have expired.

McCaskey planned to leave town today for an NFL owners meeting Wednesday in Dallas, and Ditka plans to leave Thursday on vacation.

Ditka has one year remaining on his three-year contract. But recent news reports said the Bears would not have to pay him his full $900,000 salary if he were fired.

Ditka has said he wants to return for what would be his 12th year as head coach. But he said he wants more power in matters concerning player moves.

Linebacker coach David McGinnis said he and the other assistants met individually and together with McCaskey.

"The only things discussed were player evaluations," said McGinnis. "Believe me. Not one thing was said about anything else."

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Killer executed in first U.S. hanging since 1965

WALLA WALLA, Wash. (AP) — A man who confessed to the grisly sex slayings of three boys and warned he would kill again was executed on the gallows early today in the nation's first hanging since 1965.

Westley Allan Dodd, 31, was pronounced dead at 12:09 a.m., four minutes after the hooded inmate dropped through the trap door and fell the full length of his 7-foot, 1-inch rope.

Given the option of hanging or lethal injection, Dodd had asked for hanging because, he said, he hung the body of one of his victims and wanted the same treatment. He had dropped all appeals and asked to be allowed to die, warning, "I will kill and rape again and enjoy every minute of it."

Late Monday, the state Supreme Court cleared the way for the execution when it issued a one-sentence ruling rejecting a bid by 26 Washington residents to halt the hanging as cruel and unusual punishment. The vote was 7-1.

It was Washington state's first execution since 1963.

The last hangings in the United States were in 1965 in Kansas, when four murderers were put to death. Among them were Richard Eugene Hickock and Perry Edward Smith, the subjects of Truman Capote's book "In Cold Blood."

"I was once asked by somebody, I don't remember who, if there was any way sex offenders could be stopped," Dodd said in his final statement. "I said no. I was wrong.

"I was wrong when I said there was no hope, no peace. There is hope. There is peace. I found both in the Lord, Jesus Christ. Look to the Lord and you will find peace."

After Dodd dropped through the trap door, there was little movement other than the gentle swinging of the body before a curtain was drawn across a window between witnesses and the death chamber.

Death penalty foes had held prayer meetings, vigils and demonstrations across the state in the hours before the execution. Prison officials arrested five death penalty opponents after they climbed a snowy embankment near a guard tower. They were in jail early today.

About 150 people in favor of Dodd's death gathered outside the prison and cheered his hanging. Some set off firecrackers and sparklers.

Dodd pleaded guilty to the 1989 murders of three boys in the Vancouver area and was sentenced to death in 1990. The crimes were so grisly that some of the jurors who sentenced him sought psychiatric help afterward.

Dodd admitted he stabbed to death brothers William Neer, 10, and Cole Neer, 11, in a park and strangled 4-year-old Lee Iseli the following month.

Dodd said he abducted Iseli from a Portland, Ore., school playground and took him to his apartment, where he molested and tortured the boy and finally killed him the next morning. Dodd hung the corpse in a closet before dumping the nude body in a lake.

Once described by a prosecutor as "predatory and uncontrollable," Dodd had been arrested several times for child molesting by his mid-20s. For years, his pattern was to molest, get caught, confess, serve a little time and undergo a little counseling.

Until the youngsters' slayings, he never served more than 10 months in prison.

Two earlier cases involving known sex offenders, a 1988 murder and a 1989 mutilation, coupled with the Dodd murders spurred the Legislature to pass a package of laws aimed at habitual offenders. The centerpiece is a law permitting the state to confine sex offenders indefinitely until they are deemed cured.

In prison, Dodd wrote a pamphlet titled "When You Meet a Stranger," warning youngsters to stay away from people like him.

Montana, Delaware and New Hampshire also allow hanging.

Witness: Dodd hanging quick, clinical

EDITOR'S NOTE — AP Correspondent John K. Wiley was one of 12 reporters who witnessed the execution of Westley Allan Dodd.

By John K. Wiley
Associated Press Writer

WALLA WALLA, Wash. (AP) — I expected it to be gruesome.

Death penalty opponents had gone to court Monday to argue that hanging is barbarous, cruel and unusual punishment. But the quick and clinical way the state put to death child killer Westley Allan Dodd today surprised me.

At 12:02 a.m., a screen in front of a second-floor window in the death chamber was raised and the 31-year-old Dodd spoke his final words, a hard-to-hear message of a last-minute religious conversion.

When Dodd finished, at 12:04 a.m., the screen was dropped and the silhouettes of two hangmen could be seen. One placed the black hood over Dodd's shoulders. The other chewed gum as he placed the noose around Dodd's neck and made it snug behind his left ear.

At 12:05 a.m., the chamber's stillness was broken by the crack of the trapdoor springing open. Dodd's bound body dropped into sight in a lower window.

There was no violent movement or noticeable twitching. I watched Dodd's hands, which were slightly crossed in front of his groin.

Corrections Department officials had said earlier that if they prepared correctly for the nation's first hanging since 1965, the 7-foot, 1-inch drop would snap Dodd's neck with very little suffering.

At 12:06 a.m., Prison Superintendent Tana Wood closed the blinds on the lower chamber.

Corrections Department spokesman Veltry Johnson picked up a white telephone and announced that a doctor had set the time of death at 12:09 a.m.

Tears welled up in the eyes of Darrell Lee, the lawyer who had helped Dodd cut through appeals so the execution could go quickly.

Jewell Cornell, the mother of one of the boys Dodd killed, patted Lee on the back. Clair Neer, father of Dodd's two other victims, shook Lee's hand. Both parents quickly left the chamber.

I tried to cover the hanging with a reporter's detachment and wasn't sure how it would affect me.

When I got back to my motel room, I threw up.

Teens pacify themselves in latest fad

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) — Yesterday's rebel without a cause wore a leather jacket and white T-shirt, James Dean-style. Today's sucks a pacifier.

In the tradition of bobby sox, madras shirts or "X" hats, pacifiers are becoming the latest teen craze in some places. The pacifiers are worn on a string or chain around the neck and are traded like class rings or friendship bracelets.

Some educators worry the baby accessory is really a way of advertising gang ties or drug use. Others see it as a harmless — and largely pointless — craze.

"These kids need to create symbols of a belongingness to a social ... group, and this is another one of those," said Jim Peters, principal of Greenfield Middle School. He said about 20 of the school's 590 students tote pacifiers.

Among them is sixth-grader Colin Drouin, who said the mouthpiece helped him kick a pack-a-day smoking habit.

"You have something in your mouth. It just does it," Drouin said.

Some are alarmed by the fad, which developed after the release of the movie "Boyz N the Hood." The film about Los Angeles-area gangs includes a character who sucks a pacifier.

Sage Valley Junior High School in Gillette, Wyo., banned the pacifiers last year and sent out a notice saying: "Pacifiers are associated with drugs, gangs and infants. None of these associations is appropriate for junior high school."

"It's just a distraction in class," said Principal Dan Espeland. "You're trying to get a question-and-answer session going, and you have students with pacifiers in their mouths."

Some aficionados say pacifiers help them relax. Jon Unaitis, an 11-year-old at North Parish Elementary School in Greenfield, was quoted in the Springfield Union-News as saying he just likes "how it goes 'cheet, cheet,'" when you suck it.

Daniela Alloro, a psychologist who counsels teen-agers in the Los Angeles suburb of Downey, said pacifiers among teen-agers are "a regression and a way to be cool" at the same time.

"The youngster ... needs to separate from the parents emotionally, but it's a transitional phase, so he still needs to go back to the parents for emotional support," she said.

"I think this fad of the pacifier reflects this ambivalence: When there is a problem of stress, the adolescent regresses to earlier behavior," she said. "But he can be cool."

Police make single arrest

Snyder police made one arrest during an otherwise quiet 24-hour period Monday and early this morning.

Police arrested a 38-year-old man on outstanding DPS warrants out of Laredo for speeding at 9:41 p.m. Monday near 35th Street and Avenue M.

At 4:41 p.m. Monday, a woman came to the police department to complain about problems she was having with a male. A report for disorderly conduct was filed.

Officers also handled several minor complaints and disputes without incident.

Obituaries

Mrs. Knollenberg

1905-1992

Graveside services have been set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Hillside Memorial Gardens for Ethel Knollenberg, 87, of Snyder. The Rev. Larry McAden, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, will officiate.

Mrs. Knollenberg died at 9 a.m. Monday in Lubbock's Methodist Hospital following a lengthy illness.

She was born on Aug. 21, 1905, in Cloud Chief, Okla., (Indian Territory). She married Kenneth Knollenberg on Jan. 31, 1934, in Shawnee, Okla. She was a housewife and had lived in the Snyder area since 1941.

She was preceded in death by one son, Bobby Marvin Knollenberg.

Survivors include her husband, Kenneth Knollenberg of the home; one son Kenneth Knollenberg Jr. of Los Angeles, Calif.; one daughter, Marie Huckaby of Wichita Falls; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Mary F. Eubanks

1898-1992

GATESVILLE — Services were held at 2 p.m. Monday at Scott's Funeral Home Chapel for Mary Fay Eubanks, 94, who died Sunday in a Gatesville hospital. Dr. Jay Riley and the Rev. Charles Conley officiated. Burial was in the Townsen Cemetery in Adamsville.

She was the grandmother of Jene Steakley of Snyder.

Born on July 29, 1898, in Rogers, Mrs. Eubanks was reared in Lampasas and graduated from Lampasas High School. She married Carl Eubanks on April 15, 1919, in Adamsville. He died on May 24, 1992.

Mrs. Eubanks had lived in Gatesville since 1942. A schoolteacher for 43 years, she began her career in Adamsville, later moving to the Asherton school system. She taught 10 years in Coryell County and the last 27 years of her career were spent with the Gatesville ISD as an English teacher. She retired in 1969.

Mrs. Eubanks was a 1944 graduate of Mary Hardin Baylor and received her master's degree from Baylor University in 1953. A member of the First Baptist Church in Gatesville for 50 years, she was past president of the Honeycutt Sunday school class. She was also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Retired Teachers Association, Morris Federation and Eastern Star.

Survivors include four daughters, Mrs. Mary Evelyn Voss of Gatesville, Mrs. Billie Margaret Short of Wimberly, Mrs. Bobbie Fern Steakley of Colorado City and Mrs. Martha Fay McCoy of Adamsville; a brother, Robert Shurtleff of Adamsville; eight grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Mary Fay Eubanks' Memorial Fund, Guaranty Bank and Trust, Gatesville.

Lillie Mae Clifton

1904-1992

BOWIE — Services were held at 2 p.m. today at Light House Assembly of God for Lillie Mae Clifton, 88, who died Sunday in a Bowie hospital. Burial was in the Oakwood Cemetery in Jacksboro.

She was the sister of Olive Smith of Snyder.

Mrs. Clifton, a homemaker, was born in Newport, Clay County. She was a member of the Pentecostal church.

Other survivors include three daughters, Alma Sparks and Juanita Ogle, both of Bowie, and Wysonda Stockard of Chico; a son, Jesse Clifton of Chico; 12 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

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Markets Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	667/8	663/8	663/4	-1/4
Albtsn	50	493/4	493/4	-1/2
AlliedSignal	603/8	60	60	-3/8
ALLTEL Cp	475/8	471/8	471/8	-1/2
AmStores	437/8	431/2	431/2	-3/8
Amer T&T	503/4	501/4	505/8	-1/8
Ameritech	701/2	70	70	-1/8
Amoco	495/8	491/4	493/8	-1/4
AndarkPtr	283/8	28	281/8	-1/2
Arkla	81/2	81/4	83/8	-1/8
ArmcoInc	65/8	61/2	65/8	
AtlRichfld	1143/4	1131/4	1131/2	—13/8
BakerHugh	191/4	191/8	191/4	-1/4
BancTexas	17/8	13/4	17/8	
BellAtl	503/4	50	501/8	-3/4
BellSouth	513/8	511/8	513/8	-1/8
Beth Steel	151/4	147/8	151/4	
Borden	283/4	283/8	281/2	-3/8
Caterpllr	543/8	541/8	543/8	
Centel	335/8	331/2	331/2	-1/8
CenSoWst s	291/4	29	291/4	+1/4
Chevron	695/8	69	69	-3/4
Chrysler	331/8	325/8	33	+3/8
Coastal	25	245/8	25	+3/8
CocaCola s	421/8	415/8	415/8	-3/8
ColgP	563/8	551/4	551/2	+1
CooperIn	48	477/8	48	+1/8
CyprusMn	321/8	32	321/8	
DallSemicn	131/8	123/4	13	-1/4
DeltaAirl	513/4	503/4	507/8	-1/2
DigitalEq	341/8	335/8	333/4	+3/8
Dillard s	483/8	477/8	48	-5/8
DowChem	571/4	567/8	57	-3/8
DresserInd	177/8	175/8	173/4	-1/4
DuPont	481/8	473/4	48	-1/4
EstKodak	413/8	407/8	411/4	+3/8
EljerInd	9	9	9	-1/8
Enserch	141/2	143/8	143/8	
Exxon	611/2	611/4	611/4	-1/8
FlowerInd	197/8	195/8	193/4	+1/8
FordMotor	447/8	437/8	445/8	+5/8
GTE Cp	345/8	343/8	341/2	
GnDynam	105	1043/8	1041/2	-1/2
GenElct	857/8	851/4	853/8	-1/8
GnMill	685/8	681/4	681/4	
GenMotors	333/4	331/8	331/2	+5/8
GenMotrE s	321/8	311/2	317/8	-1/8
GaPacif	613/4	611/8	611/8	-5/8
GlobalMar	21/4	21/8	21/4	
Goodrich	491/4	49	491/4	+3/8
Goodyear	685/8	68	681/2	+1/2
GtAtlPac	245/8	243/8	243/8	-1/8
Gulf StaUt	161/4	161/8	161/8	
Haliburtn	283/4	28	281/8	-5/8
Hanson	181/4	177/8	181/8	+1/8
HoustInd	461/4	461/8	461/8	-1/4
IBM	50	483/4	491/8	—1
IntlPaper	663/4	661/8	661/2	+1/4
JohnsnJns s	495/8	49	49	-1/2
K mart s	233/4	231/4	231/4	-3/4
Kroger	143/4	141/2	145/8	+1/8
vjLTV Cp	9-16	1/2	1/2	
Litton s	443/4	445/8	443/4	-1/8
vjLoneStar	27/8	27/8	27/8	+1/8
Lowes s	25	245/8	243/4	-1/8
Lubys	223/8	221/8	221/4	
Maxus	65/8	63/8	61/2	
MayDSt	691/2	691/8	691/4	
Medtronic	941/2	941/8	943/8	-3/8
Mobil	633/8	63	631/8	-1/8
Monsanto	571/2	57	57	-3/8
Motorola	1041/4	1031/8	1031/4	-1/8
Nationsbk	511/8	503/8	503/8	-3/4
Navistar	23/8	21/4	21/4	
Nynex	833/4	831/4	831/4	-1/2
OryxEngy	193/8	191/4	193/8	
PacTelesis	443/4	441/2	445/8	-1/8
PanhECp	171/8	167/8	17	
PenneyJC	771/2	771/4	771/4	-5/8
Pennzoil	501/2	501/4	501/4	+1/8
PepBoys	227/8	221/2	225/8	+3/8
PhelpD s	503/8	491/2	501/8	+1/4
PhilipPet	251/8	247/8	247/8	-3/8
PilgrmPrd	63/4	61/2	65/8	+1/4
Polaroid s	301/2	301/4	301/2	-3/8
Praxair n	161/2	161/4	163/8	
Primerica	49	483/8	483/8	-3/8
ProctGamb s	533/8	527/8	533/8	+1/8
PubS NwMx	123/8	121/4	121/4	-1/8
SFePacCp	131/8	123/4	127/8	-1/8
SaraLee s	291/4	281/2	285/8	-5/8
SearsRoeb	451/8	447/8	45	-1/8
SherwinW	307/8	305/8	305/8	-3/8
SmthBck s	375/8	371/8	371/8	-1/2
SmthBc eqt s	327/8	323/8	321/2	-1/4
Southern Co	381/4	38	381/8	-1/8
SwAirl s	297/8	293/8	293/8	-5/8
SwstBell	731/8	725/8	723/4	-1/4
Sprint	255/8	251/2	251/2	-1/8
SterlingChm	37/8	33/4	37/8	+1/8
SunCo	281/8	28	28	-1/4
TNP Ent	181/2	181/4	181/4	-1/4
Tandy	30	293/4	297/8	+1/8
TempleInl	513/8	505/8	503/4	—1
Tenneco	403/4	391/2	401/8	—1
Texaco	597/8	593/8	591/2	-3/8
TexasInd	221/2	223/8	221/2	+1/4
TexasInst	471/2	463/4	471/2	+11/2
Tex Util	427/8	425/8	423/4	+1/8
Textron	443/8	441/8	441/4	
US West	383/4	381/4	381/4	-3/8
USX-Marathn	173/4	171/2	173/4	+1/8
USX-USS	333/8	33	33	-1/8
UnCarbde	171/8	163/4	163/4	-1/8
UnPac	591/2	59	59	-3/8
UnitTech	487/8	483/4	487/8	
Unocal	251/8	25	25	
WalMart	631/4	621/2	623/4	-1/8
WstnGasRs	257/8	253/4	257/8	-1/8
WestghEl	141/2	14	141/4	+3/8
WinnDixie	763/4	757/8	757/8	-7/8
Woolwth	321/8	317/8	321/8	+1/8
Xerox Cp	831/2	823/4	831/2	+11/8
ZenithE	6	57/8	57/8	-1/8

103rd Congress begins amid high turnover

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gavels banged the 103rd Congress into session today, as record numbers of female, black and Hispanic lawmakers gathered amid pledges of action and change.

Both the House and Senate convened at precisely noon, as required by the Constitution. The proceedings began under the gaze of visitors' galleries packed with lawmakers' families, friends and constituents.

"The Senate will come to order," Vice President Dan Quayle shouted four times over the din in the Senate chamber as he banged the gavel. The vice president has the authority to preside over the chamber.

The House was gaveled to business by House Clerk Donnald Anderson.

Just hours before being sworn into office, some of the House's 110-freshmen — the chamber's biggest group of newcomers in 44 years — agreed that the country's economic problems had to be addressed. But like their veteran colleagues, they clashed over priorities.

Appearing on "CBS This Morning," Democrats emphasized the need to help the poor and strengthen education and job training programs. They also supported tax increases, especially on the rich.

"I don't think we ought to shy away from taxes," said Rep. Eva Clayton, D-N.C.

Republicans focused on the need to reduce record federal deficits but stood firm against new tax increases.

"The economy is on the right track," said Rep.-elect Jay Kim, R-Calif. "This is not the time to raise taxes."

In keeping with tradition, the first day of the new Congress was largely one of ceremony and celebration — with the tone ranging from solemn swearing-in proceedings in both the House and Senate to receptions galore.

But the real work was to start almost immediately. Lawmakers prepared to do everything from holding early hearings on President-elect Clinton's new Cabinet to considering the new chief executive's still-evolving plans for revitalizing the languid economy.

"It's of critical importance to Congress and the new administration that we move fast on addressing our economic problems," Sen. James Sasser, D-Tenn., chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, said Monday. "The American people are expecting that."

The need for congressional speed was inspired by voters' frustration with an institution widely perceived as hidebound and unresponsive.

In one attempt at change, Democrats were hoping today to grant delegates from Washington, D.C., and four territories the right to vote on the House floor. But Democratic leaders Monday endorsed a watered down version of the plan that, in effect, would deny the five delegates power to play a deciding role in close votes.

The compromise plan would mandate a new vote whenever the votes cast by the delegates could determine passage or rejection of any issue on the House floor.

All five delegates are Democrats. Besides the capital, they represent Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and Puerto Rico.

Somalia meeting in disarray

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — A meeting of Somalia's factions fell into disarray today, with shouted arguments and insults punctuating their failure to agree on a procedure for a national reconciliation conference.

The U.N.-sponsored meeting was the largest gathering of Somali groups since the country disintegrated, leading to the deaths of more than 350,000 people from war and drought last year. More than 2 million people are thought to be still at risk of starvation.

One of the two major clans that control the Somali capital, Mogadishu, launched a bitter attack on the United Nations, saying the world body was extraordinarily ignorant. The clan, led by Mohamed Farah Aidid, has accused the United Nations of siding with Aidid's rival, Ali Mahdi Mohamed.

The criticism, which came in a statement circulated by Aidid's Somali National Alliance, was among the matters exciting heated debate in a closed-door meeting among the 14 factions invited, conference sources said.

The three-hour session initially bogged down over the question of chairmanship of the current meeting, and failed to move on to questions surrounding the proposed national reconciliation conference, said the sources. The sources spoke on condition of anonymity.

There was no discussion of whether to hold the more comprehensive conference, or when or where it might be held.

U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had said earlier the present conference was convened to resolve such matters.

His leadership came under harsh attack from Aidid's group, which said U.N. bureaucrats, from the secretary-general down, have failed to demonstrate an understanding of Somalia's political problems.

Tanker runs aground in Shetland Islands

ABERDEEN, Scotland (AP) — A disabled tanker ran aground in near hurricane force winds today in the Shetland Islands, leaking some of its 24 million gallons of crude oil and endangering an important bird sanctuary, officials said.

"She's on the rocks to the west of Sumburgh Head which is the extreme south of the Shetland Islands," said Aberdeen coast guard spokesman Nick Bryant. The area is about 180 miles north of Aberdeen.

High winds and heavy seas hampered efforts to save the ship and contain the spilled oil.

"The weather is of such severity that no containment or cleanup action can be contemplated at present. The council's emergency cleanup team are ready to begin to clean up as soon as the weather improves," the Shetland Islands Council said in a statement.

Bill Gault, a Royal Air Force squadron leader, said winds were blowing 70 to 74 mph — nearly hurricane-force — when the ship smashed aground after losing power.

David Deas, spokesman for the Marine Pollution Control Unit, a division of the Department of Transport, said the type of oil in the ship's tanks could help minimize environmental damage.

"It is a light crude which evaporates more quickly and this process is helped by the bad weather," Deas said.

Tony Brewster, a helicopter pilot who airlifted crew members from the grounded tanker said there was "quite a considerable amount" of oil leaking.

"She's holed in the sterns and in the bows...you could see the oil beginning to spill out across the sea," he told Sky Television News.

Bryant said four members of the Liberian-registered tanker's 34-member crew, which was evacuated after the ship's engine went dead, had been put back on board in an attempt to connect a tow line to the 89,700-ton ship.

"But this was unsuccessful and before the tow could be connected the vessel was aground. We have since taken the four crew members off the tanker and now she has been left and has been abandoned," Bryant said.

He described the coastline as rugged: "It is a rocky shore, a sandy bay and it is quite difficult to get to."

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said the area was internationally important for sea birds.

Nancy Harrison, marine policy officer for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, said thousands of sea birds including guillemots, eider ducks, long-tailed ducks, great northern divers and shags were at risk.

Council

Continued From Page 1

ing election for the position of mayor, the two at-large council seats and a council member for District 4, in which Dayton Robertson was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Jackie Greene.

According to Mayor Troy Williamson, election orders will be issued on Monday, Feb. 1, with Tuesday, Feb. 16 the first day to file for election.

The final day to file will be Wednesday, March 17, and the election will be held on Saturday, May 1.

Williamson told council members about the upcoming Texas Municipal League Legislative briefing and luncheon, set for Feb. 8 in Austin.

Approval of minutes from the council's Dec. 1 meeting was the only other item of business.

Present were Williamson and council members Mike Thornton, Vernest Tippens, Mike Post, J.D. Smith, Robertson and Denman. Also present were City Manager John Gayle and attorney Ernie Armstrong.

Krueger

Continued From Page 1

statement.

A special election will be held, probably this spring, for the two years of Bentsen's unexpired term.

Krueger, 57, is a former two-term congressman from New Braunfels who was President Jimmy Carter's ambassador-at-large to Mexico.

He narrowly lost a 1978 race against then-incumbent Republican Sen. John Tower. In 1984, he ran third in a tight Democratic primary race for the nomination to run against now-Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas.

He was elected to the Railroad Commission in 1990, receiving more votes than Richards. The commission regulates the state's oil, gas and transportation industries.

"The Republicans know that he would be a formidable opponent," Richards' deputy press secretary Chuck McDonald said of Krueger.

But state GOP Chairman Fred Meyer called Krueger a "two-time loser."

"Even the Democrat voters of Texas rejected Krueger resoundingly in 1984, when he came in third among three major candidates," Meyer said.

Jim Mattox, a fellow-Democrat, but past political foe of Richards, said Krueger is out of step with the Democratic Party. Mattox, the former state attorney general, said he would run in the special election.

He said Krueger has opposed many of the kinds of programs Clinton and Richards say they stand for. He said Krueger, when a congressman, voted for reductions in food stamps and terminating some veterans benefits.

Indicted man dead of natural causes

HOUSTON (AP) — An autopsy report shows a Houston real estate developer, indicted in a savings and loan case, died of natural causes, not suicide as suspected.

Robert Louis Corson died of cardiac arrest brought about by coronary atherosclerosis, according to an autopsy report by El Paso medical examiner Juan U. Contin.

Corson, 45, was found dead in an El Paso motel Nov. 4. Suicide was suspected because an empty bottle of a prescription drug, Cephalexin, was found near his body. Cephalexin is an antibiotic used to treat urinary and respiratory infections.

However, the autopsy report said Corson, who weighed about 325 pounds, had no significant amount of Cephalexin in his system. Laboratory results were negative for other kinds of drugs.

Corson was awaiting trial on fraud charges stemming from his 1986 purchase of Vision Banc Savings Association of Kingsville.

After Corson's body was discovered, his son told authorities his father had been despondent about the federal indictment and had talked about killing himself.

Man accidentally fed marijuana to rabbits

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A man found out he had accidentally fed his pet rabbits marijuana this weekend after flagging down a police officer to say the animals were sick.

The man, whom police refused to identify, on Sunday asked police Sgt. Andres Yslas to help the rabbits he keeps in his backyard.

"The rabbits were behaving unusually, jumping around a lot, and he was worried about it," Yslas said.

"I asked him what he had been giving them, and he said he had fed them some grass he found in the trash. It was grass, all right — the smoking kind."

The officer said the man often peruses a nearby trash bin for lettuce and other discarded vegetables to feed the rabbits. On Saturday, he unwittingly discovered a 50-pound stash of marijuana left in the trash bin, Yslas said.

Police speculated the pot, with an estimated street value of $50,000, was left by drug dealers to be picked up for distribution.

The cache "was right there in the yard next to the rabbits, about seven big bricks," Yslas said.

The man had fed his animals "a significant amount of marijuana," the officer said.

The man was not charged with drug possession because he didn't realize what he had.

"He didn't know what marijuana looked like, he'd never been in contact with it," Yslas said.

As for the rabbits, Yslas told the bewildered pet owner not to worry.

"I just said the rabbits will be doing OK, as long as they drink a lot of water," he said.

Father left son alone in motel

AUSTIN (AP) — A father accused of violating a custodial agreement by keeping his son from his mother for four months left the 8-year-old alone in a motel during the Christmas holidays, Austin police say.

Michael Shelly-Moody, 38, told the Austin American-Statesman from jail in Bellingham, Wash., on Monday that he left his son at the Austin motel because he wanted to return the child to his mother but didn't want to be arrested in the city.

Shelly-Moody said he called 911 dispatchers in Austin on Dec. 23 and told them to pick up the boy. But police said they didn't discover the child until Christmas Day.

The boy had been left with a jar of peanut butter, bread, soda, cereal and a note dated Dec. 23 that told police to call his mother, said Sgt. Ronald McMillion.

The boy's mother came to Austin from Bellingham on Christmas Day to pick up the child, police said.

Births

Rosana Thurmond of Snyder announces the birth of her six-pound, 4½ ounce son born at 4:06 p.m. on Jan. 4 at Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Jacob and Stephanie Archeleta announce the birth of their seven-pound, 7½ -ounce daughter born Jan. 2 at 8:17 p.m. at Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Hal and Regina Guinn announce the birth of their daughter, Mary Lila, born on Dec. 21 in St. Joseph, Mo. She weighed seven pounds and was welcomed by a brother, Will.

Grandparents are Grace Burke of Buffalo, N.Y., and Carl and Lila Guinn of Camp Springs.

Glenn and Gina Pherigo of Baytown are parents of a daughter, Peyton Virginia, born at 7:57 a.m. on Dec. 30 at Baycoast Medical Center in Baytown. He is welcomed by a brother, Ethan.

Grandparents are Tommy and Mary Pherigo of Snyder and Troy and Jan Heffernan of Baytown. Great-grandmothers are Mrs. T.M. Pherigo of Snyder, Mrs. Robert Rand of Monahans and Lorena Wells of Santa Anna.

John and JaneAnn Berta of Lubbock announce the birth of a daughter, Jacy Ann, at 6:08 p.m. on Dec. 18 at St. Mary of the Plains Hospital in Lubbock. She weighed six pounds, seven ounces.

Grandparents are Ted and Fretta Billingsley of Snyder, John Berta Sr. of Reno, Nev., and Linda Newton of Lompac, Calif.

Great-grandmothers are Stella Billingsley of Dunn, Neva Harmon of Colorado City and Gurrina Mowry of Santa Barbara, Calif.

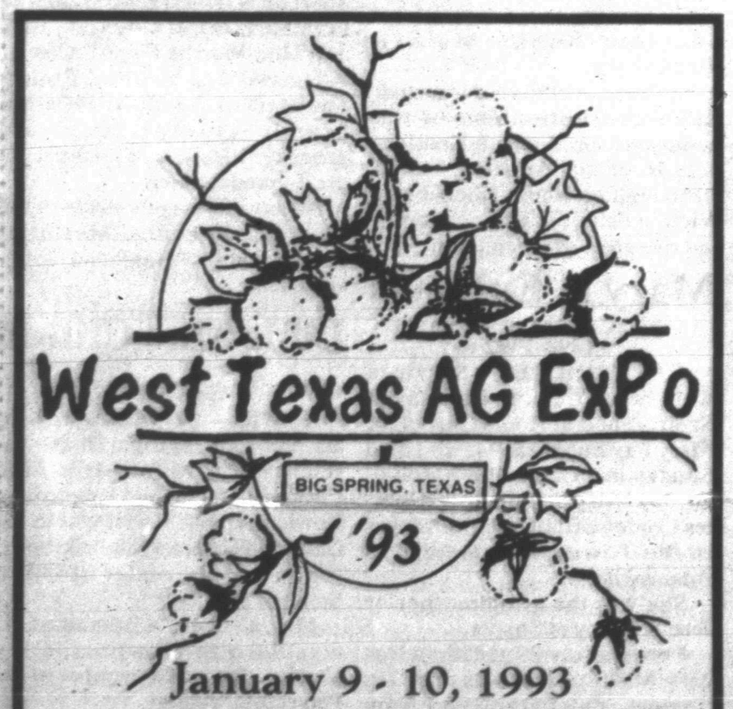
Hospital Notes

ADMISSIONS: Murry Bell, 2900 El Paso; Donald Gardner, P.O. Box 32; Stella Pate, HCR 68 Box 61; Rosana Thurmond, 2903 Ave. X; Iva Wells, Snyder Oaks Care Center.

DISMISSALS: Dee Dee Alarcon and baby, Mary Rogers.

Census: 60 (Med.-15, Long-Term Care-35, CCU-2, OB-4, Nursery-4).

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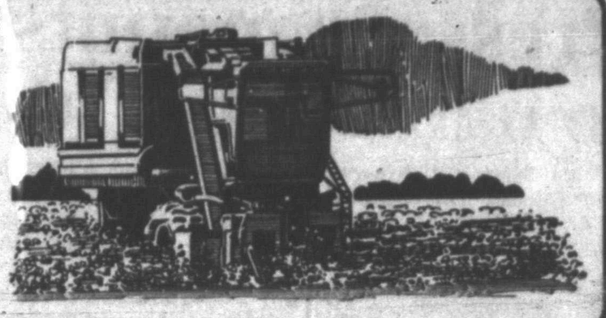


You Are Invited To Attend A
Re-Open House
Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1993
from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
Whitmire Chiropractic Center
3413 Snyder Shopping Center
The Center Will Re-Open Monday, Jan. 11
For Appointment Call: 573-3521
Dr. Whitmire had open heart surgery and is now able to re-open his Snyder office. He invites everyone to drop by during the Re-open House and visit with him.





Scurry County Country





Diversified

By Mike Morrow,
County Extension Agent

Farmers and ranchers across the nation will be receiving a report form for the 1992 consensus of agriculture. This important census takes place only once every 5 years. It serves as the nation's only uniform, comprehensive information source on agricultural production, inventories, sales, and expenses for all counties, states, and the U.S.

The Bureau of the Census takes the census for a variety of purposes.

—Congress uses the information to develop or change farm legislation.

—U.S. Department of Agriculture uses the information to establish programs and determine eligibility for those programs.

—Farm organizations use the results to develop farm programs and policies.

—Agribusinesses use census data to determine sales territories and the most effective locations for retail outlets.

—Farmers and ranchers use the data to spot trends that will help them decide what crops to grow or livestock to raise.

For those with a stake in agriculture, the census is the best source of information on farmland use, kinds and acreages of crops produced, value of products sold, acres applied with fertilizers and pesticides, number and types of livestock raised, and cost of fuels and energy consumed.

Financial data generated by the census included interest expenses, value of machinery and equipment, and farm-related income. The 1992 census of agriculture also asks questions about direct sales, number of hired workers, and the number of injuries and deaths that occurred on the farm.

The Census Bureau went to great lengths to determine the right questions to ask on the report form. The agency sought the advice of farmer organizations, farm suppliers, farmer cooperatives, land-grant universities, Congress, state departments of agriculture, governors, and other federal agencies. Forms were also tested by over 40,000 farmers who determined the best wording.

Because of its importance to our nation, Title 13 of the U.S. Code requires farmers and ranchers to answer the census. This same law protects the privacy of the individual responses. Completed census forms are confidential. They may be seen only by sworn Census Bureau employees and may be used only for statistical purposes. Other government agencies, such as the Internal Revenue Service, cannot obtain the individual reports. Even the copy retained by the individual agriculture producer is immune from legal processes.

In the fall of 1993, the Census Bureau will begin publishing final results of the census.

Questions about the report forms can be answered by local agricultural extension agents and Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Executive directors. You may also call the Census Bureau at 1 (800) 233-6132 starting January through June 1993.

Completed census forms are due by February 1993.

***

The annual Sand Hills Hereford Steer and Finewool Lamb Show was held at the Ector County Coliseum and Fairgounds, Dec. 31-Jan. 2.

Scurry County 4-H members participating in the show were: Jackie Beck, Jamie Beck, Rad Eicke, T'Leah Eicke, Elyse Merritt and Katie Voss.

Approximately 200 Hereford steers were exhibited during the show. The steers were divided into four classes according to height.

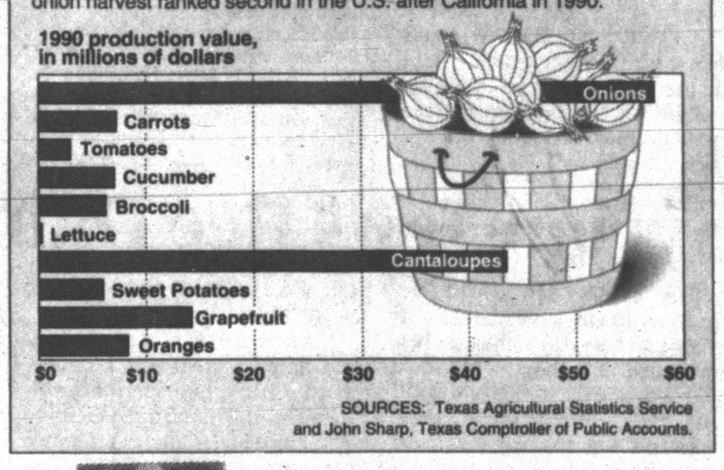
Placing in the steer show were: Rad Eicke - 3rd place - Class 2; Elyse Merritt - 12th place - Class 2; and Katie Voss - 18 plae - Class 2.

Over 250 Finewool lambs were exhibited in four weight classes during the show. Jackie placed in 18th in Class 1 and Jamie Beck placed 3rd in Class 4. Jamie Beck was selected to receive the 3rd place Showmanship Award.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Bountiful harvest

Farmers in Texas produced $153.3 million in selected vegetables and fruits in 1990, with onions and cantalopes bringing in top sales. Texas' onion harvest ranked second in the U.S. after California in 1990.



SOURCES: Texas Agricultural Statistics Service and John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.



ASCS Report

By Joe Hefner, County Executive Director

The U.S. Department of Agriculture expects farm exports to dip $800 million in fiscal 1993 to $41,5 billion, largely due to lower prices for corn and soybeans, and reduced cotton exports.

Little change is expected in export volume, but increased world production of grains and oilseeds could result in lower prices.

According to USDA, the total export value for grains and products, oilseeds and products, and cotton, is expected to fall by $1.3 billion.

Exports of high-value products will rise for the eighth consecutive year in fiscal 1993, especially livestock and horticultural products, helped by growing world demand, falling trade barriers and mostly plentiful U.S. supplies.

Agricultural imports are expected to be slightly lower in fiscal 1993, projected at $24 billion. USDA expects tobacco imports to more than offset slight gains in other products. With exports falling more than imports, the U.S. agricultural trade surplus is projected to drop $500 million to $17.5 billion.



Town & Country Topics

By Kathryn Roberts
County Extension Agent

Diabetes is by no means a "rare" disease. More than 11 million Americans have it. Now that the "baby boomers" are growing old, thus, adding more older people each year, diabetes is expected to be even more common since the risk of developing diabetes increases with age.

In diabetes, the body either does not respond to insulin properly or the pancreas fails to make any or enough insulin. So glucose can not enter the cell and accumulates in the blood causing high blood sugar.

That's why diet is so important for people with diabetes. One of the reasons is the effect of different types of foods on blood sugar levels.

Sugar and sugar-containing foods, such as fruit, candy or ice cream are a major concern. That's because sugar is absorbed quickly into the bloodstream and this speed is difficult for a diabetic system to cope with.

Sugar can be called a simple carbohydrate. It contains just a few saccharides or building blocks. Starch (found in such foods as breads, pasta, rice, cereal and starch vegetables) is a complex carbohydrate made of chains of many saccharides. These chains must be separated — first into dextrins, then into sugars — before absorption into the bloodstream can begin. That's why complex carbohydrates produce a more gradual rise in blood sugar than simple carbohydrates such as sugars do.

Some studies show fiber also helps make the rise in blood sugar more gradual. People with diabetes have much the same protein requirements as everyone else. Intake must be reduced because persons with diabetes are prone to high-fat levels in the blood. That's why persons with diabetes are at greater risk of developing coronary artery disease.

Farm/ranch show slated in Abilene

The first annual Big Country Farm and Ranch Show is scheduled Feb. 17-18 at the Taylor County Fairgrounds in Abilene.

Sponsoring the event, which is free to the public, is Champion Farm Shows. Show hours will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Agri-business companies from throughout the United States and Canada will be displaying their products and services during the show. Tractors, combines, shortline equipment, livestock equipment and seed are among the products and services which will be on display.

The show is expected to be a duplicate of the Amarillo Farm & Ranch Show, currently the largest of its kind in Texas.

Anyone needing more information may contact Carl Weinmann at (612) 894-8007.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

National Roundup

WASHINGTON (AP) — Honey bees imported from Yugoslavia resist the mites that otherwise threaten the supply of bees needed to pollinate U.S. crops, the government says.

When the Agricultural Research Service releases the Yugoslav bees this spring it will be the first time the agency has ever released an insect as breeding stock, says Ralph Bram, national program leader for veterinary and medical entomology.

The Yugoslavian bees "have reliable resistance to varroa and tracheal mites," Bram said.

Domestic bees lack this defense against the two mites that have caused extensive losses since they were discovered in the United States in the mid-1980s.

The Honey Bee Breeding, Genetics and Physiology Laboratory in Baton Rouge, La., will release a stock of the Yugoslavian subspecies, Apis mellifera carnica, to several bee breeders.

They will produce queens that will be distributed to beekeepers. Bram said a Stock Release Panel, made up of ARS and industry representatives, will choose specific breeders to maintain supplies of the bees.

Bees pollinate billions of dollars worth of crops each year as they move among plants searching for nectar and pollen.

Tracheal mites were discovered in Texas in 1984 and have spread across the country. Since 1988, an estimated 50,000 or more bee colonies have been lost each year due to the tracheal mite.

The resistance of the Yugoslav bees is so high for tracheal mites that chemical controls for that pest probably would not be needed, said Thomas E. Rinderer, research leader of the Baton Rouge lab.

Rinderer estimated the resistant stock could save beekeepers $2 per colony, or hive, in tracheal mite treatments.

The Yugoslav bees are twice as resistant to varroa mites as susceptible domestic bees, he said, but would still require some chemicals to control severe outbreaks.

"Insect varieties have genetic traits that can benefit agriculture in the same way that different plant varieties that helped create crops with disease and insect resistance and other improvements," Bram said.

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. production of fall potatoes in 1992 totaled 366 million hundredweight (100 pounds), the Agriculture Department says.

That was down 2 percent from last year but 4 percent above two years ago, the department said in a recent report.

WASHINGTON (AP) — World coffee production for 1992-93 is estimated to fall 7 percent below the previous year, which would make it the smallest crop since 1988-89.

"Low world prices have discouraged new plantings and the use of good cultural practices in many producing countries," the Foreign Agricultural Service said in predicting production at 95.9 million 60-kilogram bags.

Most of the drop in production this season is attributed to a small Brazilian crop, the report said. However, lower production also is expected for Colombia, India and most of Central America.

Grants awarded

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Department of Agriculture has awarded two $30,000 grants to projects examining the mushroom as an arthritis treatment and one that uses horticulture to train disabled students.

Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry announced the grants Monday.

The Texas Agricultural Diversification Matching Grants Program, which assists projects that market newly developed agricultural crops and technologies, will provide money for the grants.

One award went to the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio to produce an anti-inflammatory compound based on ingredients found in the mushroom, Ganoderma lucidum.

The second grant was awarded to the National Center for Employment of the Disabled to produce a horticulture operation that trains and employs disabled youth and adults. The center will work with the El Paso and Socorro school districts.

Livestock report

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Monday livestock auction report. Receipts: 425. Compared to last, closed 2.00-4.00 higher. Slaughter cows fully 2.00-3.00 higher, slaughter bulls not well tested, according to the federal-state livestock market news service. Demand very good for the light supply. Slaughter cows 12, yearling feeder cattle 20.

Feeder steers and calves:
Medium & large frame no. 1: 300-400 lbs. 97.00-111.00; 400-500 lbs. 86.00-96.00; 500-550 lbs. 84.00-85.50.
Medium & large frame no. 2: 400-500 lbs. 80.00-87.50, few thin 91.50.

Feeder bulls and calves:
Medium & large frame no. 1: 550-600 lbs. 82.00-91.50.
Medium & large frame no. 2: 500-600 lbs. 82.00-85.00.

Feeder heifers and calves:
Medium & large frame no. 1: 300-400 lbs. 83.00-93.00; 400-500 lbs. 75.00-85.50; 500-600 lbs. 75.00-78.25.
Medium & large frame no. 2:400-500 lbs. 75.00-77.50; 500-600 lbs. 74.00-77.00.

Bred cows (4-8 months):
Medium & large frame no. 1-2 young-middle aged 67.00-74.00; middle aged-old 50.25-56.00.

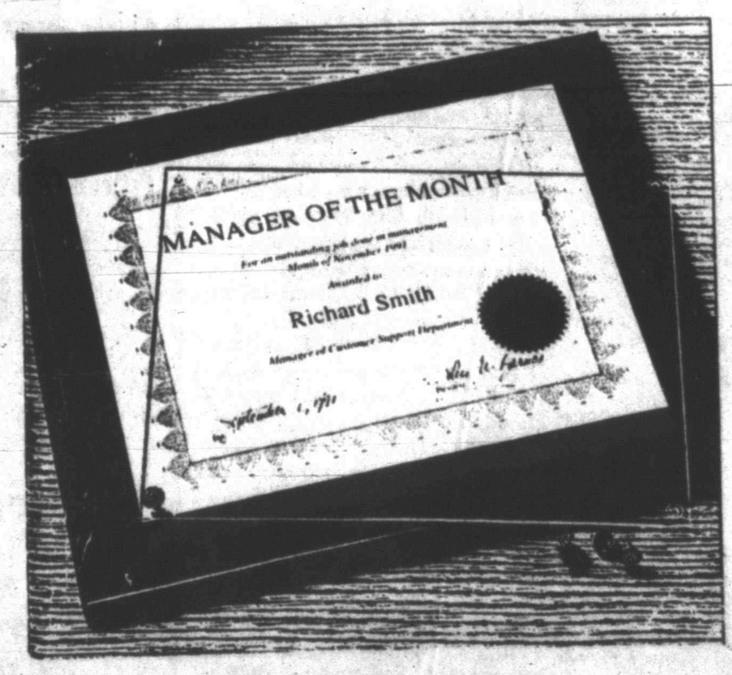
Slaughter cows:
Boning utility 2-3 48.00-53.00, few high dressing 53.00-56.25.

Hogs: 350
Barrows and gilts: .50-1.00 lower
U.S. 1-3 220-270 lbs. 38.00-38.50

Sows: not compared
U.S. 1-3 300-475 lbs. 26.00
U.S. 1-3 rs: not compared. All weights 24.00-26.00, mostly 25.00

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Snyder Daily News
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Pressure mounts for Clinton to name sub-Cabinet posts

By Walter R. Mears
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — While the marquee names of the new administration go before Senate confirmation hearings, there's a supporting cast still to be chosen for the sub-Cabinet jobs

AP analysis

that make the government go.

They're neither so visible nor so celebrated as the 14 Cabinet officers, but they will be no less crucial to the Clinton administration. They are the officials who manage the programs, handle the details, write proposals to be sent to Congress, do the daily work of running the federal bureaucracy.

There are deputy, assistant and undersecretaries to be named, along with scores — ultimately hundreds — of other officials to complete the Democrats' return to power after 12 years of Republican administration.

That process is on President-elect Clinton's Little Rock transition desk now, along with the selection of his full White House staff and the drafting of his initial policy proposals. On Thursday, he is meeting with his economic team, to look at policy options and at the handling of the federal budget.

Clinton will need to be ready within weeks of taking office with revisions of both the current-year budget and the outlines that will be proposed by the outgoing Republican administration for the year beginning next Oct. 1.

It is inside work, without the televised performances at which Clinton named his Cabinet or listened to two days of advice at the Little Rock economic conference. But it is vital.

Soon after the Jan. 20 inauguration, according to one veteran of the transition process, Clinton will need 500 to 600 key people in place in order to get the swift start he's promised.

Arnie Miller, director of presidential personnel for Jimmy Carter, said in a paper for the Citizens Transition Project, that Clinton will have to have those officials on the job quickly "in order to move his policy agenda during the first 100 days."

Given the numbers, an incoming president has to delegate that part of the appointment process. When Carter set up shop in 1977, he gave Cabinet appointees the authority to choose their own deputies and other sub-Cabinet officials, and may have paid for it later in diminished control and loyalty. Ronald Reagan's transition operation centralized authority over sub-Cabinet selections, screening and listing prospects for appointment.

The Clinton operation is closer to Reagan's model than to Carter's.

At the same time, Clinton's Cabinet choices are appearing before Senate confirmation committees beginning on Wednesday. They can't be nominated, let alone confirmed, until Clinton is inaugurated in two weeks.

But with hearings and preliminary approvals completed in advance, most or all of the Clinton Cabinet could be confirmed that day or the next.

It's been done that way even in divided governments; 11 of Richard Nixon's 12 Cabinet nominees were confirmed by a Democratic Senate on his inauguration day.

But there's usually at least one exception to the swift, smooth confirmation process as if to show the Senate is not a rubber stamp.

Even in those delayed cases, confirmation almost invariably follows within days, but Republicans have not forgotten one exception four years ago, when the Senate rejected President Bush's nomination of John Tower to be secretary of defense. No newly inaugurated president had been denied a Cabinet nominee before.

Senate Democratic Leader George Mitchell said he doesn't know whether there will be controversy over any of the Clinton nominees, and hopes for prompt confirmation.

Republicans don't have the votes to block a nomination even if they had the inclination. Still, party lines don't necessarily guarantee outcomes. Carter's nominee for CIA director withdrew amid Senate controversy over his qualifications and record, and Democratic resistance delayed the confirmation of his arms negotiator.

Clinton spokesman George Stephanopoulos said Monday he doesn't think there is any dirt to be dug up about any of the nominees. "We expect healthy questioning, but nothing out of the ordinary, and we expect all of our nominees to get confirmed spe dily," he said.

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

Astrograph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Jan. 5, 1993

In the year ahead don't quit if the objectives you're striving for aren't achieved on your initial try. Adversity is a character builder and you will eventually succeed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) In order to arouse the spirit of cooperation in your companions today, you must first set the proper example. If you're self-serving, don't be surprised if they are as well. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If it is your lot to provide others with instructions today, be certain they are explicit and detailed. If your commands are fuzzy, undesirable end results are likely.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Although you are likely to be in a gregarious, sociable mood today, you still might not feel comfortable around certain groups. Be very selective regarding companions.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) There is a possibility today that you might use poor judgment in a career matter that calls for boldness and imagination. Don't be impulsive; be thoughtful and deliberate.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you have to deal with an individual who is rude and petty today, don't respond to his or her infractions in a like manner. It will make you look as bad as the offender.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) In business dealings today, strive to bargain from strength, not insecurity. If you believe yourself to be strong, the other guy will perceive you as such.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Don't behave in an unbecoming manner toward someone today just because you think he or she might treat you similarly. Prejudging people could get you in trouble.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Performance, not appearance, is what will impress your peers today. Conversely, if you are all show and no go, you won't have much of a fan club.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A conniving antagonist might try to embarrass you in front of mutual friends today. Take the target away from this individual by not responding to what he or she says.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Upon occasion we can bluff our way through situations to our advantage, but, unfortunately, this might not be one of those days. Be prepared to back up your position with facts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Sincerity serves a constructive purpose today while evasion offers no benefits. Say what you mean and mean what you say or, if you can't do this, say nothing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Be careful in joint ventures today, especially where there is money involved. The odds may not be tilted in your favor and carelessness could be costly.

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Houston shops say designer copy-cats sell

HOUSTON (AP) — Knock-offs of designer purses, jewelry and perfume are selling well at small stores catering to well-heeled shoppers, but designers aren't happy about the prices.

Over the past few years, several knock-off stores have opened in Houston offering upscale shoppers as well as those unable to afford the expensive designer items copies for 10 to 30 cents on the dollar.

At J. Tiras Classic Handbags, customers can come away with a Judith Leiber look-alike purse or David Yurman-looking jewelry.

Jerome Tiras, who owns the shop with his wife, Jeannie, said he uses many of the same materials Judith Leiber uses, such as karung snakeskin and Austrian crystals. The copies aren't exactly cheap — they range from $69 to $595 — but that's less than Ms. Leiber's originals, which can run into several thousands of dollars.

Instead of spending $2,500 on a David Yurman bracelet, Tiras has gold-plated lookalikes that go for $50.

"Quality is absolutely essential," Tiras said, who prefers the term "look-alike" to the cheaper sounding "knock-off."

He said his customers know what the original looks and feels like, but are tired of paying several hundred dollars for an original when they can buy a look-alike for several times less.

According to federal law, copycat merchandise cannot infringe on another company's trademark or copyright. That means the Chanel look-alikes can't have the famous intertwining C's.

"Everyone has had lawyers looking at us," Tiras said. But he said his employees go out of their way to tell customers they aren't buying originals.

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Prednisone treats lupoid hepatitis

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Please print information about lupoid hepatitis that has caused cirrhosis of the liver.

DEAR READER: Systemic lupus erythematosis is a chronic disease of unknown cause, marked by inflammation of connective tissue — the tissue that holds organs together. Because connective tissue is present in almost all body organs, SLE can affect them all.

The disease most commonly attacks skin (rash), joints (pain), heart (inflammation of the heart covering), lymph glands (swelling), brain (personality changes, headache, seizures), and kidneys (nephritis).

Involvement of the liver (lupoid hepatitis) is rare.

In such cases, the chronic connective tissue inflammation in the liver eventually leads to scarring (cirrhosis). There is no cure for this complication, but prednisone therapy often prevents scarring by reducing inflammation. Patients with moderate/severe SLE should be under the care of specialists in internal medicine.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 74-year-old male. Two years ago my doctor discovered lung cancer and removed 40 percent of my right lung. A year and a half later, another doctor diagnosed me with multiple myeloma. He indicated it is not related to my lung cancer. I've always lived very carefully. How, therefore, could I have gotten myeloma?

DEAR READER: No one knows the cause of multiple myeloma, a form of cancer that affects plasma cells, a type of blood cell. Presumably, nothing you did (or didn't do) caused this cancer, which affects blood proteins and leads to anemia and kidney failure, among other consequences.

The good news: Chemotherapy is usually effective, with patients living many years in remission.

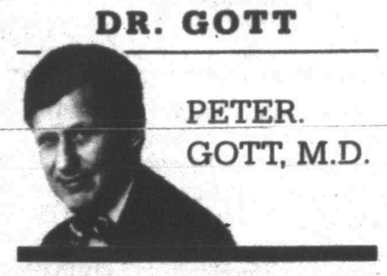
The fact that you have had two apparently unrelated cancers suggests an underlying abnormality in your immune system. Some experts believe that cancer cells grow when the body fails to identify such abnormal tissue and, therefore, cannot destroy it.

You must elosely follow your doctor's instructions about how to monitor your myeloma (with blood tests) and what treatment is appropriate.

To give you more information, I am sending you a free copy of my Health Report "Viruses and Cancer." Other readers who would like a copy should send $1.25 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 91369, Cleveland, OH 44101-3369. Be sure to mention the title.

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DR. GOTT



PETER. GOTT, M.D.

Syrian Jews flee Damascus homes, jobs

NEW YORK (AP) — The Syrian government gave the Jewish doctor and his wife a choice: they could leave, but they would have to abandon everything — good jobs, their home, even their daughter's big toy car.

They didn't hesitate.

With just $2,000 in their pockets, the family fled to Brooklyn, joining a modern day exodus from Syria, whose harsh anti-Israeli stance has produced a climate of fear for its own Jews.

"We lost our home and our money and I don't know when we will be able to work again," the doctor's wife said. "But we have our lives and the life of our daughter."

The family, which spoke on condition it not be identified, benefitted along with more than 2,500 other Syrian Jews from President Hafez el-Assad's attempt to polish his harsh reputation by easing travel restrictions on Jews.

State Department officials, including former Secretary of State James A. Baker III, had joined Jewish leaders in urging Syria to ease restrictions on Jews, said Malcolm Hoenlein, an American Jewish leader.

"I think the U.S. has made it clear they consider this a critical test of Syria's human rights policy," said Hoenlin, executive vice-chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Officially, there is no emigration. Jews, like all Syrians wishing to leave, must purchase a round-trip flight ticket and have a tourist visa issued by another country. Travel to Israel is forbidden and as tourists the Jews may only take $2,000 per person out of the country.

Life in the United States hasn't been easy for the doctor and his wife.

They traded their spacious Damascus house for a cramped one-bedroom apartment above a noisy street. They speak little English. It could take the doctor two years to qualify for a U.S. medical license so that he can again support his family. The family must also apply for permanent residence, although most Syrian Jews have had few problems gaining such status.

Nevertheless, the doctor grinned as he recalled the day he learned his family was free to go.

It was the seventh day of Passover, the celebration of the biblical exodus from Egypt. The doctor had just left the morning prayer service at synagogue when state-controlled radio announced that Jews traveling abroad no longer had to leave behind a family member.

"People began to congratulate each other," the doctor said. "We were so excited in our hearts, but we couldn't really show it. After all, we were in Syria."

As soon as the holiday ended the doctor applied for passports to travel abroad. He used the ficticious excuse that his wife was sick and needed foreign medical treatment.

"Everyone wanted to leave that day, not to wait," the doctor said. "The security people thought most people wouldn't leave. I think they were surprised."

In the eight months following the April announcement, more than half of Syria's 4,000 Jews left the country, Hoenlein said. Most of the Jews have settled in Brookyln, home to one of the world's largest Syrian Jewish communities with 35,000 members.

But since October no new exit visas have been granted to Jews, Hoenlein said. "We have assurances fromn Syrian officials that there has been no change of policy, but we are very concerned," he added.

'Hoffa' critiqued

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Jack Nicholson's portrayal of Jimmy Hoffa doesn't do justice to the tough Teamsters boss, says a union official.

"Hoffa wasn't that dumb," said John Morris, secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 115. "He was a helluva lot smarter than that picture."

Morris and other union leaders recently attended a showing of "Hoffa," the epic film that depicts the career of the Teamsters boss from his days as an organizer in the mid-1930s through his disappearance in 1975.

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