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WT-Int. Crude - $28.73
WTIC Posted - $25.75
Natural Gas - $7.537

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Dec. 14, 2000
Vol. 52 No. 195
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Amanda Midwell

George W. Bush ready to be 'uniter'

By the Associated Press

AUSTIN (AP) — Republican George W. Bush campaigned for two years as "a uniter, not a divider." Now, as president-elect by the slimmest of Electoral College margins and without having won the popular vote, Bush's pledge is being put to the ultimate test.

"Whether you voted for me or not, I will do my best to serve your interests, and I will work to earn your respect," Bush said in a nationally televised address to the nation Wednesday night. "I will give it my all."

In England, President Clinton complimented Bush today for the "generosity" of his remarks and urged the nation to "follow Vice President Gore's lead" and unify behind Bush and his new administration.

Clinton, who was up past 3 a.m. watching the concession and acceptance speeches from British Prime Minister Tony Blair's country retreat, invited Bush to the White House during a four-minute phone call.

Clinton "will see him some time next week," White House spokesman Jake Siewert said. As well, Bush and Gore are to meet Tuesday in Washington.

"I pledged to President-elect Bush my efforts and the best efforts of every member of our administration for a smooth and successful transition," Clinton said. The president also spoke with Vice President Al Gore, for six minutes.

Bush emerged the victor after an epic postelection battle that held the nation in suspense for more than five weeks — and bitterly divided it along partisan lines.

"I was not elected to serve one party, but to serve one nation," Bush said. "Our nation must rise above a house divided. Americans share hopes and goals and values far more important than any political disagreements."

Bush used as his setting the Texas House of Representatives, a chamber controlled by Democrats, underscoring his reputation for bipartisanship.

"The spirit of cooperation I have seen in this hall is what is needed in Washington," Bush said. "After a difficult election, we must put politics behind us and work together to make the promise of America available for every one of our citizens."

Bush attended a service of worship and music at an Austin church this morning — his first act as president-elect after his muted victory speech. "The governor decided that he wants to start this on a message of prayer and healing," said Bush adviser Karen Hughes.

And a ceremony was scheduled today opening the doors of a government-run transition office to the Bush transition team headed by Vice President-elect Dick Cheney.

The president-elect received what he said was "a gracious call" from Gore shortly before the vice president delivered his own speech. Bush said the two "agreed to do our best to heal our country after this hard-fought contest."

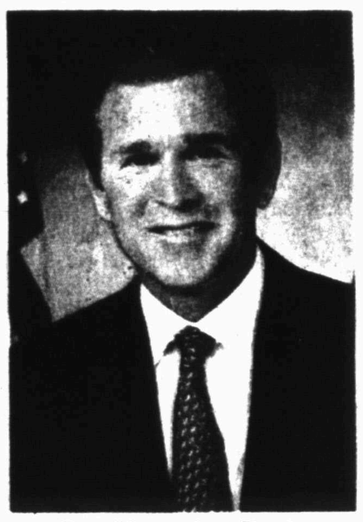
The House Democratic whip, Rep. David Bonior of Michigan, joined some other Democrats in praising the tone of Bush's speech. But he said today that Bush must address the voting problems that gave rise to the disputed Florida election if he wants the country to rally behind him.

"He has to dig a little deeper, I think, and understand the deep, bitter feelings some people still have with respect to the electoral problems that we have in this country," Bonior said on NBC's "Today" show. "I think he needs to do that soon."

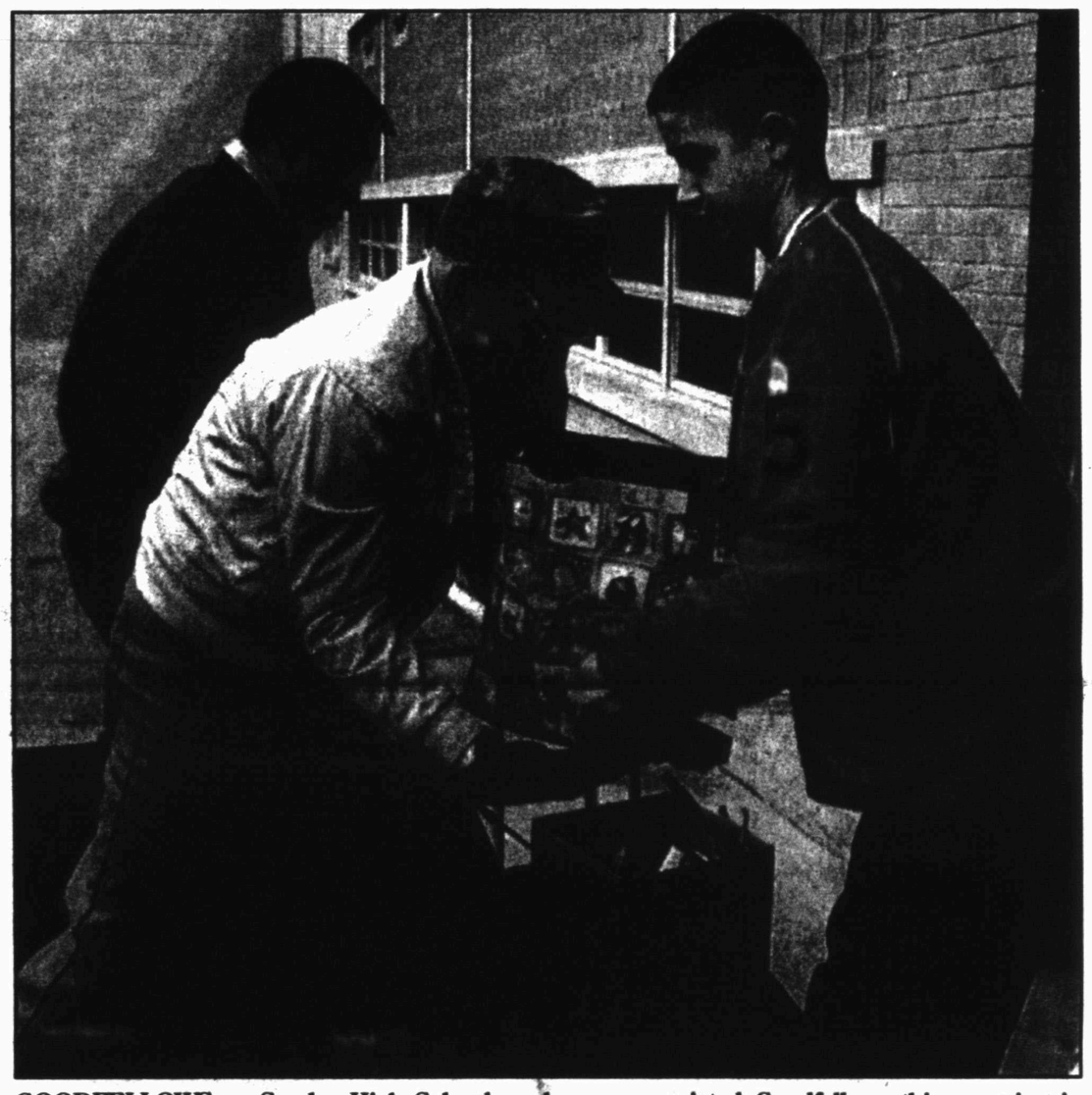
The victory of Bush, 54, sends the second father-son combination to the White House in American history, following John and John Quincy Adams in the early 1800s.

Bush's father, former President George Bush, was defeated in his re-election bid in 1992 by Democrat Bill Clinton and running mate Gore.

Bush's victory over Gore was thus relished by Bush family loyalists. But the younger Bush, called "W" (for Walker) by friends and foes alike, has said that revenge was never a factor.



President-elect Bush



GOODFELLOWS — Snyder High School sophomores assisted Goodfellows this morning in loading donated canned goods. Volunteers are needed at 6 this evening at the Scurry County Coliseum to help sort the food, which will be distributed Saturday . Joey Torres, right, hands a bag to Goodfellow Joe Ellington. Goodfellow Henry Valdez is in the background.

ZTV funding request denied

By Joyce May
Staff Writer

Board of County Development unanimously turned down a request from ZTV Productions for funding to upgrade the local television production business.

While the board expressed appreciation for ZTV's contribution to the community, the board's consensus was that the request did not fall under the guidelines for which funds can be granted.

"I realize you are a public service, but so is the radio and newspaper," Terry Hefner said. "They've all got to be a for-profit business as you have got to be. This is a private business as much as they are private businesses, just like any other business in town."

ZTV owner John Zalman contended that his is a "fledgling business."

"We are trying to develop, and we are hoping you will help us," he said.

He said that his coverage of governmental entities, including the BCD, "accelerated the wear and tear" on his cameras and equipment.

Board member Jerry Martin also expressed his apprehensions.

"As much as I appreciate ZTV, I think we would be opening up a can of worms," Martin said. "We are trying to stay within the scope of what we're supposed to be doing and this is not part of it."

While also expressing appreciation for the company, Bill Dryden, the newest board member, expressed similar concerns about the request. "I would have a problem funding this. This is not within the scope of our responsibility of this money."

Zalman's comment after the 5-0 vote against the request was, "I do not hold personal offense."

In other business, the board granted $3,900 to the Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District.

Jimmy McMillan presented the request, saying the funds would be matched dollar for dollar by the state.

The BCD has granted the Upper Colorado SWCD $1,000 a year for several years in the past and last year gave it $1,250.

The money is used for grant searches, salaries and to assist farmers and ranchers with upcoming opportunities in agriculture, McMillan said.

The $3,900 will be used to purchase three Global Positioning System units and a digital camera to assist Natural Resource Conservation Services and district employees with fieldwork.

The board also approved the minutes from its September board meeting, financial statements and one bill for payment.

Tony Scott presided and all members were present including Hefner, Martin, Dryden and David Koonce.

By Snyder ISD trustees ...

Campus improvement plans to be considered

Campus improvement plans for each individual Snyder ISD campus will highlight this evening's board of trustees meeting.

Yearly improvement plans are required by the state and it gives individual campuses, as well as the district as a whole, a target for making improvements, said Supt. Gayle Lomax.

The trustees will also consider a request by the administration to seek bids for roofing projects, and consider approval of 2000-01 budget amendments.

The total increase for the budget for this period is $23,328, with most of that amount coming from the cooling tower replacement at Snyder High School.

This item was $30,400 over the $52,500 the district had budgeted. Other increases in the budget include some $19,000 in salaries and $4,000 in health insurance payments, and $10,450 for attendance incentives.

The decrease in the budget is $50,000 that the district saved by not purchasing two Suburbans.

Trustees are also expected to formally act on the resignation of Stanfield teacher Patricia Cunningham, and the hiring of Liesel Lehrer as a science teacher at Snyder Junior High School.

Lehrer is a 1990 graduate of Texas A & M.

The board will also go into executive session to continue the annual evaluation of Lomax.

The meeting is at 6 o'clock at the school administration building.

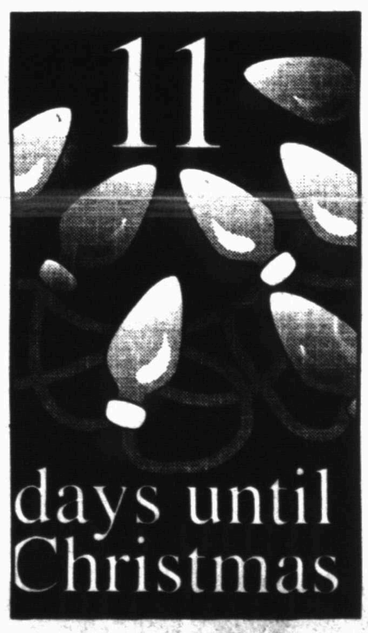
More flu shots set next week by health unit

The amount of flu vaccine being made available to the Scurry County Health Unit is increasing and the unit has scheduled two clinics for next week.

Shots will be given at the Snyder Senior Center on Monday from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., and again from 2-4 p.m.

On Thursday, another clinic is scheduled at the senior center from 9-11:30 a.m.

Those wanting the flu shots must bring their Medicare cards or make a $5 payment.



THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The most important thing about holiday treats is not cooking, but eating 'em."

Why worry about cooking when you can focus on eating. At least that was the philosophy of kindergarten students who gave tips on how to cook a turkey:

—Go outside your house and shoot a turkey. Cook it outside in a BBQ pit for a long, long time. Bring it in the house and eat it.

—Go out into a pasture and shoot a turkey. Take it back to the barn and cut it up. Barbecue it on the pit. Take it in the house and eat it.

—First, you have to find a turkey and shoot it. Cook it on a fire in the front yard for two minutes. Wait a little bit because it will be hot, then take it in the house and eat it.

—Find a turkey in the field and shoot it. Take it home, cut the head off. Cook it outside on the barbeque pit for 10 minutes. Eat it with potatoes.

—Find a turkey at Wal-Mart. Bring it home. Cook it on the stove for five minutes. Eat it.

—Go hunt for a turkey in the wild. Kill it with a gun. Bring it home. Cook it in the oven until it is hot. Cut it up into a bunch of pieces. Eat it with other food.

—Find a turkey in the barn. Shoot it. Cook it in the oven for 10 minutes. If it is hot, eat it. If it is not hot, cook it some more. Then eat it.

—Go to United and get a turkey. Bring it home. Cook it. Cut it. Eat it.

—Turkeys live out in the wild. Go find one and shoot it. Put it in the back of the pickup and carry it home. Cook it in the hot oven for two minutes. Put it on the table. Eat it.

—Go to the woods and find a turkey. Put a trap out to catch the turkey. Let a turkey find the trap. Trick the turkey into a sack and carry it home. Cook it on the warm stove in a big pot for five minutes. Cut it up into little bites. Eat it.

—Go to IGA and find a big turkey. Bring it home with the other food and cook it on the stove in a big pot until it is warm. Cut it up and eat it.

—Go to the farm and find a turkey. Shoot it with a gun. Pull out the feathers. Cook it with the sun. Eat it.

And this is our favorite:

—Killing and cooking a turkey can be messy. It's easier to go to the cafeteria and pick what you want for dinner. If you don't like turkey, they have other stuff to eat. And you don't have to clean up the kitchen.

ASK US

Q—What kind of work is being done at the Golden Corral building?

A—Workers are renovating the inside of the building to house A Taste of China restaurant to open in approximately two months.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 56 degrees; low, 23; 7 a.m. Thursday, 30; .01 of an inch precipitation; total for 2000, 21.25.

Area Forecast: Tonight, cloudy, low upper 30s, SE wind 5-10 mph. Friday, some clouds. High mid 60s, SW wind 10-20 mph.



Dana VanWinkle
Warm

Sunset:
5:44 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:36 a.m.

Of 348 days in 2000, the sun has shone 341 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Almost every man wastes part of his life in attempts to display qualities which he does not possess.
—Samuel Johnson

Americans listen to Gore and Bush

By The Associated Press

They watched in front of a gas-log fire at home in Wake Forest, N.C. They watched in airports, in bars, in firehouses, everywhere there was a television.

They watched Al Gore concede the presidency and George W. Bush claim it. They watched even though many said they were sick of a presidential election that would not go away, and though nobody expected surprises from either speech.

They watched because this was the end, because history was bring made, and because all of America had played a part in this amazing saga.

"It was time to put an end to it. We need closure," said Chip Martin, 38, of Waco, Texas, who watched the speeches at a Philadelphia hotel bar.

Did we get that closure? Opinions varied. Split nearly in two by the election, America remained divided even as their candidates pledged to bring them together.

At Fire Department Station No. 810 in Scottsdale, Ariz., seven firefighters kicked back in velvet recliners to watch Gore.

Gore was being conciliatory "because he wants a job," said Bret Underhill, 35.

"He's so fake," jeered Destry Lunt, 26. "Can't he just walk out and make this short and sweet? It's not like he won."

Meanwhile, at the Abbey Pub in New York, the jukebox was turned down during both speeches. But the crowd, which was heavily sympathetic to Gore, paid little attention during Bush's address.

"The man stole the election," architect Nikolas Dando-Haenisch said.

"We're moving to Belize," his wife Karin chimed in.

Many praised Gore's concession. "He comes from a political pedigree and he knows what ought to be done," said Meredith Lisagor, a hospital chaplain.

But elsewhere, the response was more subdued. Don Coan and his wife Barbara Jodry watched Gore's speech at the Sea-Tac International Airport in Washington, as they waited for their flight home to Sacramento.

"Gracious," said Coan, a retired welfare worker.

"Statesmanlike," Jodry said. "It was his best speech of the entire campaign. He didn't look teary-eyed. He didn't scold the American people for making a mistake in how they voted. He kind of blazed a new path in speech making."

At another gate, Lloyd Perrigo, 48, a construction worker from Elim, Alaska, thought Bush sounded a cautious, upbeat note — with no smirk, which he thought was a good sign. He voted for Bush. He liked Bush's promise to look beyond partisan differences and to represent all Americans.

"It will help. It will take a lot more for some people, but it's a good start, anyway," he said.

They did not watch, however, at the Penny Lane Pub in Richmond, Va. They opted instead to watch women boxing.

"I think everyone's just so tired of politics that anything you can do to avoid it is welcome," waiter Caleb Graham said. "Either someone really wants to watch boxing or someone really wants to avoid the politics."

Americans embrace Gore as he exits political stage

WASHINGTON (AP) — As he stepped off the political stage, Al Gore managed to achieve what had often eluded him during his presidential campaign: He won Americans over by persuading them of his sincerity and likability.

"He's a good sportsman. He looked you in the eye. He took it like a man," said Richard Poirier, who raised a glass to Gore at Terry's Bar and Grill in Topeka, Kan., after watching Gore's concession speech.

Catherine Carlisle of Salt Lake City said she saw a more "personable" vice president Wednesday night. "That was a side I'd never seen," she said.

Across the nation, Americans gathered around televisions to hear Gore end his White House quest, and to take measure of how he did so. Many had blamed the vice president for dragging the nation through a five-week postelection stalemate by waging legal challenges to the Florida results.

But almost without exception, those interviewed embraced Gore, or at least the message of unity he delivered as he bowed out.

"I thought it was an extraordinarily gracious speech," said Massachusetts Secretary of State William Galvin, a Democrat. "If he made more speeches like that, I think he would be president. I think we saw the real Al Gore tonight. His sincerity found a place."

Gore, appearing relaxed and upbeat, betrayed no bitterness in the speech. He made no mention of the fact that he won the popular vote. His voice never cracked, though his office, filled with family members and glum aides, swirled with emotion as he abandoned his life's dream.

"Now the political struggle is over and we turn again to the unending struggle for the common good of all Americans and for those multitudes around the world who look to us for leadership in the cause of freedom," Gore said.

"I also accept my responsibility, which I will discharge unconditionally, to honor the new president-elect and do everything possible to help him bring Americans together in fulfillment of the great vision that our Declaration of Independence defines and that our Constitution affirms and defends," he said.

They were welcome words to those who feared the nation was being damaged by the electoral deadlock.

"He said the right things," said Gary Jones of Minot, N.D. "Let bygones be bygones. Everybody should pull together. He did it as a gentleman or a warrior — you graciously accept defeat and step down."



SAFETY PROGRAM — Mike Molter, area engineer for TxDot, recently presented a program on safety for students at East Side Church of Christ's Joy School. In back are Ashlyn Kildow and Mike Molter. In front are Wyatt Cole, Malory Hunter, Kyki Allison, Baylee Ritchey, Josh Molter. Molter explained why signs are different shapes and colors and glow at night. The students also got to try on safety gear and played a game to obey the signs. (Contributed Photo)

TXU provides tips for winter weather

While cold weather has already arrived, it is not too late to take stock around your home to determine ways to be comfortable and most importantly, safe this winter.

TXU Electric & Gas recommends that residents should have their heating systems inspected by a professional technician each year. The checkup will reduce the chances of equipment failure, and will help the unit run more fuel efficiently.

The utility company also recommends that a furnace's filter be replaced or cleaned every 30 days.

To make your home more energy-efficient, TXU recommends checking the weather stripping around doors and windows and replacing it if it is not in good condition.

Also check and see if the attic, basement or crawl space has the recommended level of insulation.

The company recommends keeping blinds or draperies open on sunny days to let the sun's warmth in. This is especially important on any windows or glass doors that receive direct sunlight.

If your home has space heaters, make sure they are free of cobwebs, dust or dirt, and make sure the grill is intact and in place. If the heater is vented, make sure the vent is operating properly.

If the heater has no vent or oxygen cut-off switch, provide outside ventilation through a window that is slightly open.

Make sure space heaters are located away from furniture, draperies and other combustible materials.

Be sure the pilot and main burners on gas appliances produce a blue flame that indicates the gas and air mixture is correct. If the flame is yellow or red, a certified heating and air conditioning contractor should be notified immediately.

When a pilot light has to be relit, first strike a match and hold it to the opening, then slowly turn the gas on. Instructions for each individual appliance should be found near the pilot light.

If you smell gas in the house, don't touch any electrical switch and don't strike a match or do anything that might cause a spark.

Leave your house immediately and go to a neighbor's house and call TXU Gas at 1-800-817-8090.

Don't call from your house because some telephones use a small amount of electricity that may produce a spark.

After making the call, wait until a technician has found the cause before re-entering the house.

events

Lotto Texas

(AUSTIN) — There were no winners in Wednesday's Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 15 34 42 47 3 41

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $9 million.

Pick 3

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

3-5-6

Berry's World



Date Book

Thursday, Dec. 14, 2000

Today is the 349th day of 2000 and the 84th day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1911, explorer Roald Amundsen and four companions reached the South Pole.

On this day in 1962, the United States space probe Mariner 2 flew past Venus.

On this day in 1979, Stan Barrett drove a rocket car faster than 749 mph at Rogers Dry Lake, Calif., becoming the first person to break the sound barrier in a land vehicle.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Nostradamus (1503-1566), physician-seer; Tycho Brahe (1546-1601), astronomer; Spike Jones (1911-1965), bandleader; Don Hewitt (1922-), TV-news producer, is 78; Charlie Rich (1932-), singer, is 68; Lee Remick (1935-1991), actress; Patty Duke (1946-), actress, is 54.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1953, pitcher Sandy Koufax signed a contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Happy he who learns to bear what he cannot change!" — Friedrich von Schiller

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Dec. 11) and last quarter (Dec. 17).

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5 PC CONVERSATION PIT GROUP
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WEDDING SHOWER — Jenifer Clinton, bride-elect of Thomas Bishop, was honoree at a miscellaneous bridal shower on Dec. 10 in St. Elizabeth's Parish Center. The couple plan to exchange wedding vows on Dec. 30 in Eureka Baptist Church in Weatherford. From left are Jean Ann Irwin, aunt of the future bride from Abilene; Vicky Rowland, prospective groom's mother; the honoree; Pat Clinton, mother of the bride-to-be from Springtown; and Frances Hunter, the honoree's grandmother from Abilene. (Contributed Photo)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

Rock and Roll Quilting Club evening meeting; Hermleigh Community Center; for more information call 863-2426; 6:30 p.m.

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

Canyon Gun Club; 1910-25th Street; 7:30 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

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

FRIDAY

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-0538 or 573-0770.

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

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

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

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

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

Rolling Plains Ratite Assn.; The Shack; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 10 a.m.

Reeves announces winner of grants

NEW YORK (AP) — Christopher Reeve joined New York health officials in announcing the winners of $3.6 million worth of grants to fund research on spinal cord injuries.

"I'm especially proud to be a New Yorker today," Reeve said Monday.

The actor was paralyzed in a riding accident in 1995.

The grant money will go to 10 research projects at academic institutions throughout New York state. The grants are the first to be funded by the state Spinal Cord Research Trust Fund, established in 1998.

"We can now foresee the day in the not too distant future when having a spinal cord injury will not result in paralysis," Reeve said. "There's tremendous optimism, but it's going to be very, very expensive."

The trust fund, which is expected to raise $8.5 million a year, is financed through a surcharge on traffic tickets.

"Now we don't want people deliberately speeding down the Thruway in order to help this," Reeve said. "Nevertheless we're very, very grateful."

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North 12-14-00	
	♠ A 9 7 6 ♥ A 10 9 ♦ K 9 8 ♣ J 9 5	
West		**East**
♠ K 4 ♥ J 8 7 4 3 ♦ 7 5 4 2 ♣ A 3		♠ Q 5 3 2 ♥ 5 2 ♦ 10 6 3 ♣ K Q 8 6
	South ♠ J 10 8 ♥ K Q 6 ♦ A Q J ♣ 10 7 4 2	

Vulnerable: Neither
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ 4

Thursday, Dec. 14, 2000

Points are fine, but they aren't eveything

By Phillip Alder

If you worry only about high-card points, you are playing like a robot — and a rather inefficient robot at that. In particular, you should also be aware of two other plus-features. First, a decent five-card suit. For example, A-K-Q-J and A-K-Q-J-10 both contain 10 high-card points, yet the latter is worth one more trick. Second, having intermediates — the nines and 10s of this world — is beneficial too.

Indira Gandhi claimed, "A nation's strength ultimately consists in what it can do on its own, and not in what it can borrow from others." That does not apply to a bridge hand, which usually requires help from the hand opposite. For example, suppose you have J-10-9. That is three losers. Yet opposite A-3-2, you can take two finesses, having a 76 percent chance for two tricks.

Now reduce that suit to J-5-4. It is still three losers in isolation. And opposite A-3-2, you would be very lucky to win two tricks.

Bid up when you have good intermediates; they help to generate tricks, which is, after all, the object of the exercise.

In today's deal, opposite a 12-14 one-no-trump rebid, North's two aces, one king and good intermediates should have him bidding game.

South has seven top tricks: one spade, three hearts and three diamonds. He hopes to collect two more spade tricks by taking two finesses. As long as West has at least one of the missing honors, South will do fine. But note that if South had either J-3-2 of spades or four low clubs, his chances of success would be negligible.

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Fruit cake recipes for family holiday celebrations or gifts

These recipes for fruit cakes may be used for family Christmas and New Year celebrations or to give as gifts to family or friends.

The following recipes were taken from *Tasty Traditions,* by members of the Scurry County Senior Center.

EASY FRUIT CAKE
By Dorothy Lankford

2 cans sweetened condensed milk
2 cans coconut
2 1-lb. pkg. dates
1 lb. candied cherries
1 lb. candied pineapple
1 lb. shelled walnuts
1 lb. pecans

Mix thoroughly and bake for 1 hour in 250 degrees oven in angel food cake pan.

LEMON FRUIT CAKE
By Juanita Ellington

1 lb. butter
1 lb. brown sugar
1 lb. pecans, chopped
6 eggs
1 4-oz. bottle lemon extract
4 c. flour
1 tsp. baking powder
½ lb. candied cherries
½ lb. candied pineapple

Mix butter and sugar. Add eggs, lemon extract and baking powder. Mix well. Add 2 c. flour, cherries, pineapple and nuts. Mix well. Add remaining 2 c. flour.

Place in greased and floured bundt pan, reserving 1 c. cake mix. Place this 1 c. of mix into a small greased and floured loaf pan. Bake at 275 degrees for 2 ½ hours for bundt pan, loaf pan, until tests done.

UNBAKED FRUITCAKE
By Muriel Haney
Mother of Norma Laywell

1½ lb. graham crackers, crushed
8 oz. candied dates, chopped
1 lb. orange slices, chopped
½ lb. miniature marshmallows
1 lb. walnuts, chopped
1 ½ lb. pecans, chopped
1 small jar maraschino cherries, drained, reserving juice
1 small can condensed milk

Combine above ingredients, reserving ½ lb. cracker meal. Melt together milk and 8 large marshmallows. Add ½ of juice from cherries. Pour liquid into original mixture. Knead, adding crackers meal and enough liquid to harden.

Form a loaf, coating outside with remaining meal. Place in a loaf pan that has been lined with waxed paper. Chill at least 2 days before slicing. Keep cool.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Gary Kasparek, William Hibbs and Raymond House.

DISMISSALS: Cynthia Mendoza of Cedar Hill, Shannon Sucre of Lubbock, Leona Flores and Tonya Nobles.

CENSUS: 42 (Med./Surg.-15, Long-term Care-23 and OB-2)

BEALLS

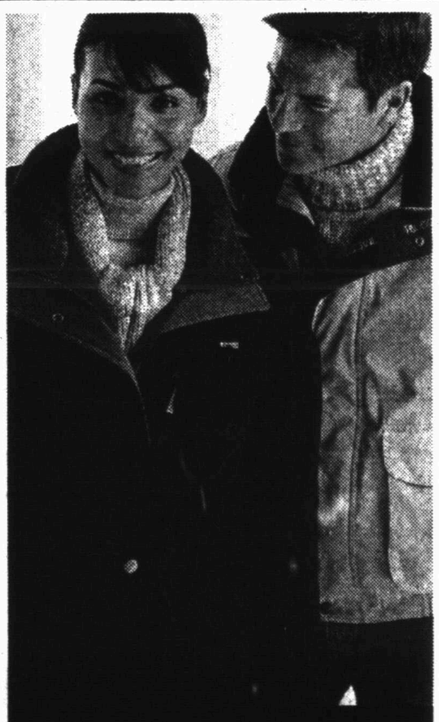
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Friday thru Sunday Only • Storewide Savings on Great Gifts!

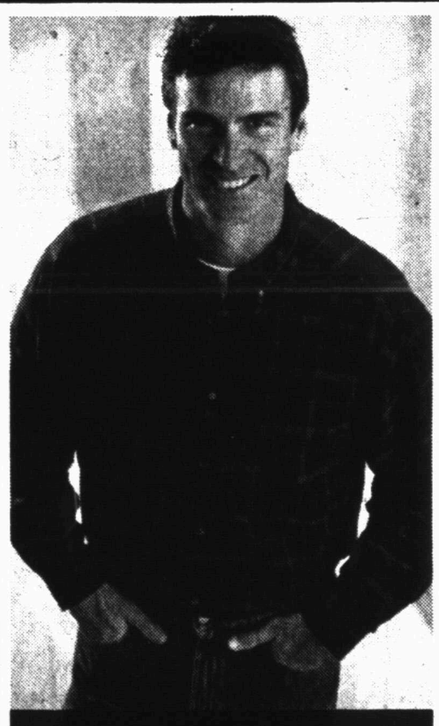
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Choose from an array of styles and colors. S-XL. Orig. 24.00-56.00, SALE 11.99-38.99.
*Excludes designer collections.

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When you take EXTRA 30% OFF already-reduced styles. Orig. 68.00-98.00, then 46.99-67.99, SALE 32.89-47.59.

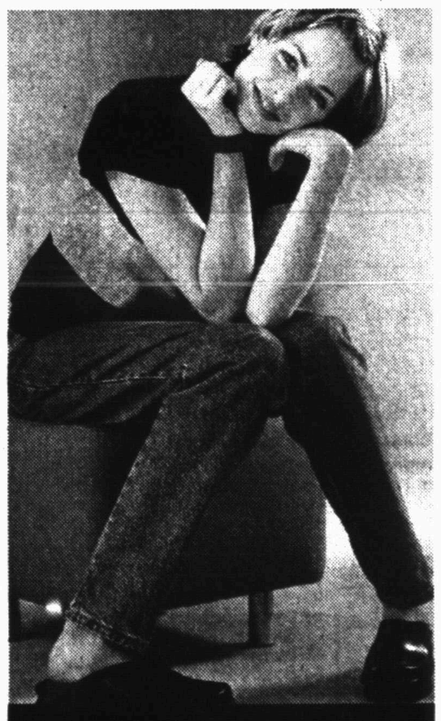
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By GAS® and It's Our Time®. Choose from a variety of styles and colors. Juniors' S-L. Orig. 28.00-32.00.
*Excludes designer collections.



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When you take an EXTRA 33% OFF already-reduced styles. Microfiber, leather and more. Orig. 40.00-320.00, then 29.97-239.97, SALE 19.99-159.99.



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Sale 29.99 Misses', Petites' & Jrs.' Levi's® Red Tab™ Jeans
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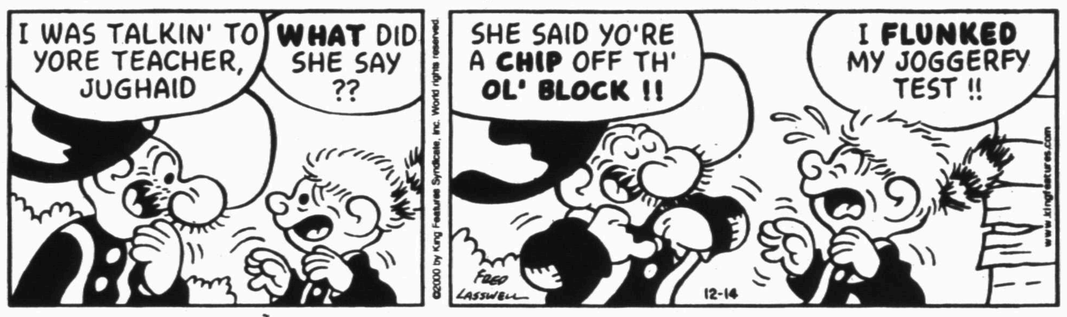
THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



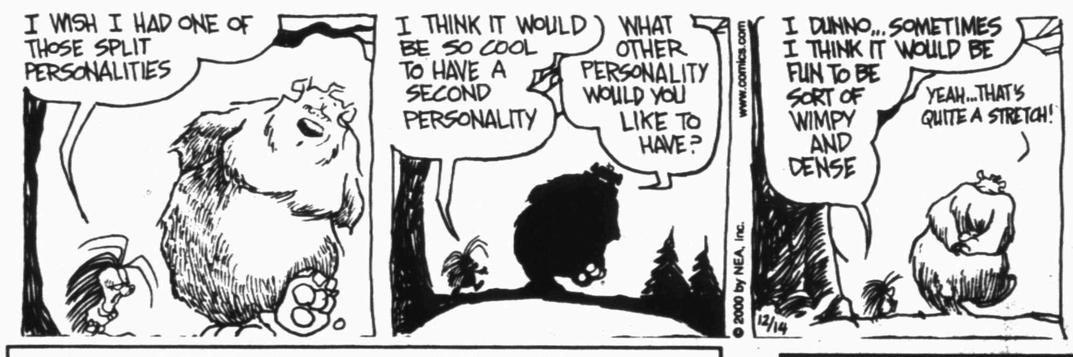
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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Psychology 101, for one
7 Grand — Dam
13 Make visible
14 Pressing
15 Former U.S. president
16 Go over again
17 Workers' assn.
18 "Rose — — rose"
20 Chap
21 Celebrity
23 Superlative suffix
24 Author Jean M. —
25 Eyelid problem
27 Did farming
29 Bernstein, for short
31 Large tub
32 Bullring cry
33 Anglo-Saxon letter
34 Diplomat
37 Architect Saarinen
40 Baseball scores
41 Deli bread
43 Start for "dynamic"
45 Had a snack
46 Above (poet.)
47 Barbara — Geddes
48 Park sights
51 Glacial epoch (2 wds.)
54 Having feet
55 T-shirt fabric
56 Looks fixedly
57 Rise

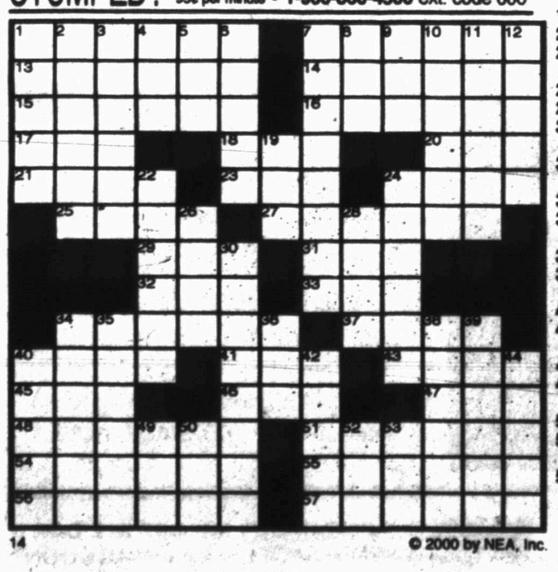
DOWN

1 — B. DeMille
2 Sorrel
3 Tear out
4 Spoil, as food
5 Opp. of NNW
6 Macabre
7 Remedial
8 Crude metal
9 "Yuck!"
10 Part of NFL
11 Came after
12 — alcohol
19 Fast plane
22 Stockings
24 Tennis pro Gibson
26 Skinny fishes
28 Put on board
30 Psychological disorders
34 Chicken serving
35 New York lake
36 Caustic substance
38 Refund
39 Eugene's place
40 Grates
42 Novelist Jong
44 Fragrant
49 Women's patriotic soc.
50 Paris season
52 Type of lettuce
53 And so on (abbr.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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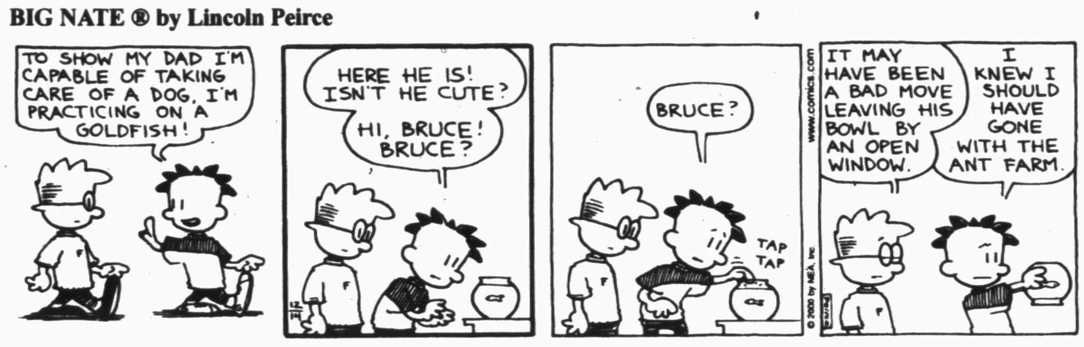
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



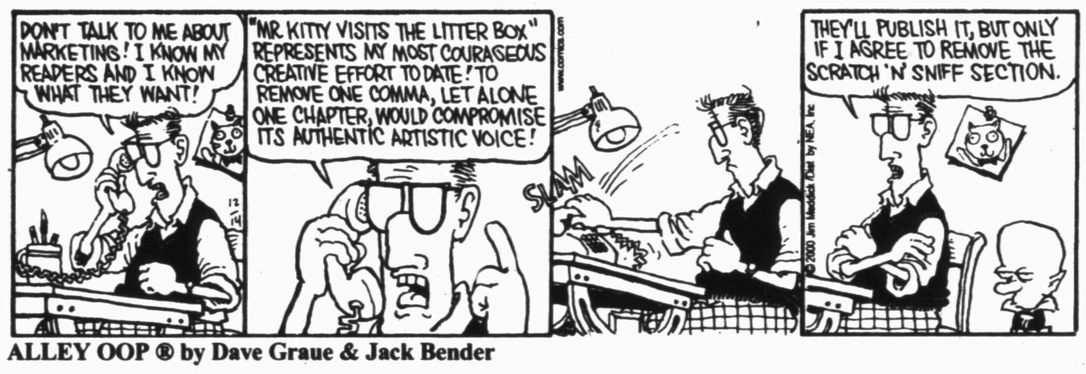
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"Is that chicken too well-cooked for you?"

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"IF YOU GET LOST, I'LL BE IN THE TOY DEPARTMENT."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



SPORTS

Remembering Snyder's state tournament team...

1980 Tiger squad had 'never say die' attitude

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

When stacking up Snyder High School teams of the past, several football squads come to the front, as do a number of baseball, volleyball, golf, tennis and softball teams.

But on the hardwood, one Snyder Tiger squad stands out above all others.

The 1980 Tiger cagers posted a 28-5 record and remain Snyder's only team to advance all the way to the state tournament.

While SHS has had its share of talented teams in the past 20 years, the '80 squad wasn't loaded with future college players. Instead it was the Tigers' belief in themselves that made the biggest difference, according to Larry Scott, an assistant coach on the '80 team under George Byerly.

"They weren't all great athletes," said Scott, now the SHS principal after a successful stint as head coach. "But they had a never say die attitude. They always believed they were going to win, and they never gave up."

The Tigers relied on that attitude throughout the season, with six of their victories coming by three points or less, two of them in the postseason.

> ***"Those kids always held to the belief that they were going to win. And they never gave up"***
>
> ***—Larry Scott***
> ***asst. coach on '80 squad***

Snyder rallied from a four-point deficit in the final minutes to knock off Borger, 68-66, and earn its trip to Austin, where the Tigers made another remarkable comeback.

In a game that perhaps epitomizes the 1980 Tigers team, Snyder trailed Waxahachie by 14 points entering the fourth quarter of their state semifinal match-up.

But as much of the large crowd exited the building, the Tigers erased the deficit with solid defense and precision free-throw shooting to grab a 65-62 victory.

"Waxahachie was really solid and they had pretty much controlled the game. I remember that I took my team back to the hotel, because I thought the game was basically over," said current SHS coach Bud Birks who coached Nazareth High School to the state tournament that same year. "I couldn't believe it when I heard later that Snyder had won."

Birks, whose Nazareth squad fell to West Lamar in the semifinals, wasn't the only person to leave early, according to Scott.

"It was the late game on the first day of the tournament, so the place was packed when the game started," Scott remembered. "But by the time the fourth quarter started, I bet there were about 5,000 people there.

> ***"I remember that I took my team back to the hotel, because I thought the game was basically over. I couldn't believe it when I heard later that Snyder had won."***
>
> ***—Bud Birks***
> ***former Nazareth and current Snyder coach***

"The next day a fan from another town came up to one of our guys and said that he was sorry we had lost, because he was pulling for us. And our player said, 'But we won.' That other guy couldn't believe it."

Snyder mayor Dayton Robertson was a member of the 1980 team, and it's something he hasn't forgotten.

"I still think about it quite a bit," said Robertson. "It was pretty surreal, and I feel very fortunate to have been a part of it. We weren't dominated by one player. Every night it would be a different guy that stepped up, and it was an incredible thing to be around."

The Tigers earned a trip to Austin with their ability to win close games, a characteristic that current coaches still search for.

"Every year, the best teams in the state are the ones who find a way to win close ballgames," explains Snyder girls' basketball coach Sam Tipton who knows a thing or two about close games. Tipton played on Gruver High School teams that made back-to-back state tournament appearances.

"The first year we went, we won our last five games by a total of 10 points," Tipton said. "Some teams just have that ability to make something good happen for themselves near the end of a game.

"Every year at the state tournament you hear losing coaches say that their team was as good as the other guys. But it was the other team that made something happen. Coaches still don't know why some teams have that ability and some don't. But if you had a formula for it, you would be extremely rich, overnight."

The 1980 Tigers saw their string of comebacks come to an end in the championship game, as Beaumont Hebert claimed its first of three consecutive titles with an 88-53 victory.

Despite the loss in the finals, Snyder had put together a remarkable season, which many people didn't expect.

"It was an incredible run," remarked Scott. "It was just one of those years. We went to the state tournament. Our girls won their only district title in school history, and Western Texas College won the men's junior college national championship, all in that same year."

Since then, the deepest Snyder has advanced is the regional quarterfinals, which they did in 1988 and again last season.

So until the Tigers return to Austin, the 1980 squad will always be the benchmark of success.



STATE RUNNERS-UP — The 1980 Snyder Tigers is the only basketball squad in SHS history to advance to the state tournament. Pictured in the team photo are, standing from left, Head Coach George Byerly, Thomas Selmon, Keith Wallace, Mark Preston, Eric Arnold, Brent Taylor, Barry Blackmon, Dayton Robertson, Kris Seale, Brad Richardson, Kyle Short and Assistant Coach Larry Scott. Kneeling are Stocky Roberts, Damon Clawson and Malcolm Rainwater.

New Cowboys quarterback forced to learn the hard way

IRVING (AP) — Anthony Wright is getting a quick, extreme lesson in what it's like to be an NFL quarterback.

The Dallas Cowboys' second-year pro got the first significant playing time of his NFL career in an emotional game against Washington. His first start comes Sunday night on ESPN against the hard-charging New York Giants. His second start could be on Monday Night Football on Christmas in Tennessee, where the reigning AFC champs rarely lose.

Troy Aikman is used to three-game stretches like that. Not Wright, a recent fourth-stringer who until two weeks ago hadn't taken a snap in a game that counted since 1998, his senior year at South Carolina, when the Gamecocks went 1-10.

"I never saw myself at this point so quickly," said Wright, who is still amazed at having a locker roughly halfway between Aikman and Emmitt Smith. "It is kind of overwhelming.

"But this is exciting for me. I've gotten a lot of calls from my family and friends. They're all excited for me. And getting the chance to start this week, especially with it being on ESPN, I know this is a great opportunity for me."

The Pittsburgh Steelers thought enough of Wright to keep him around all last season even though he never played a down. They used him this preseason, including against the Cowboys, then released him.

Dallas added him to the practice squad Aug. 30. When Aikman had a concussion in the opener, the Cowboys instead promoted Clint Stoerner, an undrafted rookie who'd been on the team all summer.

Stoerner later returned to the practice squad. In October, another third-stringer was needed. Again, Stoerner was picked.

Then, in late November, Miami and Kansas City showed interest in Wright. Faced with the choice of using him or losing him, Dallas added Wright to the 53-man roster a few days before Thanksgiving.

"I tried not to concern myself with what was going on around me," Wright said. "I knew they liked me or I wouldn't have been here. They told me to stay patient and that's what I did."

In a season where little has gone right for the Cowboys (5-9), that move may wind up being one of the best.

Wright, who made his NFL debut two weeks ago in a mop-up role against Tampa Bay, was forced into action Sunday when Aikman suffered another concussion and played three solid quarters as Dallas beat Washington 32-13.

Wright will start Sunday as Aikman already has been ruled out. The veteran is unlikely to play the meaningless finale, a game that would have plenty of meaning for someone as inexperienced as Wright.

"I'm not going to jump out there and say we've got the next Joe Montana or anything," Cowboys coach Dave Campo said. "All I'm saying is that this kid has some talent and some of the physical tools.

"He's got the arm to go deep. He's got the legs to run. He's got pretty good touch and he's got a strong arm. Now how does he handle when the pressure is on? That's what we'll be looking for this week."

Against Washington, Wright completed 3-of-5 passes for 73 yards. He did not throw any interceptions or have any fumbles, which is signifcant because he handed off a whopping 37 times, including twice to receivers.

The 6-foot-1, 195-pound Wright describes himself as a younger Randall Cunningham. The older Cunningham is another Dallas backup, but he's slowed by a groin injury.

"I feel like I can move, but I have confidence in my throwing abilities," Wright said. "I hope I can get the opportunity to do a little more of that this week."

High School Basketball State Finals

BOYS		GIRLS		COMBINED	
Most Finals Appearances		**Most Finals Appearances**		**Most Finals Appearances**	
Snook	13	Nazareth	16	Nazareth	21
Big Sandy	9	Canyon	16	Canyon	20
Bowie	9	Victoria	13	Victoria	15
Dimmitt	9	Duncanville	9	Snook	14
Port Arthur Lincoln	9	Levelland	9	Moulton	13
Krum	9	Claude	9	Dimmitt	12
Most State Titles		**Most State Titles**		**Most State Titles**	
Snook	10	Nazareth	14	Nazareth	15
Port Arthur Lincoln	7	Canyon	9	Canyon	11
Bowie	7	Levelland	7	Snook	11
Buna	7	Abernathy	6	Bowie	9
Pampa	5	Claude	6	Abernathy	8
Athens	5	Duncanville	5	Buna	8
Houston Wheatley	5	Slaton	5	Dallas S. Oak Cliff	8
Krum	5	Victoria	5	Levelland	7
LaPoynor	5	Waco Midway	5	Duncanville	7
Morton	5	3 others tied with	4	Dimmitt	7

Spurs bow to Pheonix

PHOENIX (AP) — Shawn Marion had 17 points and 16 rebounds Wednesday night as the Phoenix Suns never trailed in a 103-93 victory over the San Antonio Spurs.

Jason Kidd had 17 points and nine assists and Cliff Robinson added 15 points as the Suns won their third in a row and fifth in six games.

Rodney Rogers scored 12 of his 14 in the first half and fouled out with 3:46 to play.

Tim Duncan's participation was a game-time decision after he hyperextended his left knee in San Antonio's 91-83 victory at Utah on Monday night. Duncan finished with 15 points and 11 rebounds in 34 minutes but was just 4-for-12 from the field.

Derek Anderson scored 26 for the Spurs, including 14 of 16 free throws. David Robinson had 18 points. San Antonio made 18 of its first 19 free throws and wound up 33-for-43 at the line.

Marion was just 6-for-16 shooting but was 5-for-10 and scored 13 in the second half.

The Spurs were without Avery Johnson because of a bruised left thigh.

Mario Elie, who had been starting at guard for Phoenix while Penny Hardaway recovers from a knee injury, broke his left hand with 54 seconds to play in the first half. He will be out

Phoenix shot out to an 18-8 lead, led by as many as 14 in the second quarter and was up by 18 in the third.

Anderson sank a 3-pointer and David Robinson had a rebound stuff to cap a 9-0 run that cut the lead to 85-80 with 9:22 to play.

But Cliff Robinson sank a pair of jumpers around a fast-break stuff by Marion to boost the lead back to 91-80 with 6:51 remaining. San Antonio never got closer than nine again.

Local Sports Schedule

TODAY

Snyder JV boys at Sweetwater tourney

Ira JV at Sands tourney

FRIDAY

Snyder JV and varsity girls at Levelland, 6 and 7:30

Snyder varsity boys at Wylie, 6:30

Highland at Ira girls and boys, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Roby at Hermleigh girls and boys, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Philadelphia	17	5	.773	—
New York	14	8	.636	3
Miami	12	11	.522	5½
Boston	9	12	.429	7½
Orlando	9	13	.409	8
New Jersey	8	14	.364	9
Washington	4	18	.182	13
Central Division				
Cleveland	13	7	.650	—
Charlotte	14	9	.609	½
Toronto	11	10	.524	2½
Indiana	11	11	.500	3
Milwaukee	11	11	.500	3
Detroit	10	12	.455	4
Atlanta	5	17	.227	9
Chicago	3	19	.136	11
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
Utah	16	6	.727	—
San Antonio	13	8	.619	2½
Minnesota	13	9	.591	3
Dallas	14	10	.583	3
Houston	12	9	.571	3½
Denver	10	13	.435	6½
Vancouver	7	15	.318	9
Pacific Division				
Phoenix	15	6	.714	—
Sacramento	14	6	.700	½
Portland	16	8	.667	½
L.A. Lakers	15	9	.625	1½
Seattle	12	12	.500	4½
L.A. Clippers	7	17	.292	9½
Golden State	6	16	.273	9½

Wednesday's Games

Chicago 104, Boston 86
Indiana 97, Dallas 92
Philadelphia 102, Washington 82
Detroit 92, Atlanta 89
Charlotte 101, Sacramento 90
Phoenix 103, San Antonio 93
Milwaukee 111, Utah 102
Seattle 94, Vancouver 93
Portland 96, L.A. Lakers 86
Miami 94, L.A. Clippers 88, OT

Thursday's Games

New York at Toronto, 8 p.m.
Denver at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's Games

Charlotte at Washington, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Atlanta at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Toronto at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Miami at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Orlando at Portland, 10 p.m.
Vancouver at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Pacers use late run to top Mavs

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Jalen Rose scored 24 points, Reggie Miller added 22 and the Indiana Pacers used a 10-0 run midway through the fourth quarter to beat the Dallas Mavericks 97-92 Wednesday night.

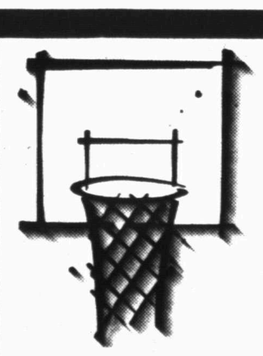
With three of their key players seeing extended minutes for the second straight night, the Pacers evened their record at 11-11. It's the sixth time this season, not including 0-0, that the Pacers have had a .500 record.

Travis Best played 45 minutes and had 15 points, eight assists and four steals, while Jermaine O'Neal added 15 points. Rose played 45 minutes and shot 10-for-17 from the field with eight assists, while Miller also played 45 minutes and was 9-of-12 from the field.

Howard Eisley scored a career-high 27 for Dallas, including 17 in the third quarter. Michael Finley added 24 points before fouling out in the final minute.

NCAA Basketball

MEN
EAST
Iona 61, Hofstra 60
Seton Hall 80, Penn 78
St. Bonaventure 99, Siena 85
SOUTH
Bethune-Cookman 74, Savannah St. 51
LSU 87, McNeese St. 68
Louisiana-Monroe 71, Louisiana College 67
Maryland 93, UMBC 67
Md.-Eastern Shore 85, Stony Brook 79
Mississippi 58, SE Louisiana 46
UAB 65, Chattanooga 59
MIDWEST
Michigan 89, Bowling Green 71
Northwestern 83, St. Peter's 56
Ohio St. 71, St. John's 58
SOUTHWEST
No major team scores reported from the SOUTHWEST.
FAR WEST
Colorado 80, UMKC 64
Denver 54, Oregon St. 53
Pacific 87, Texas-Pan American 68
San Diego 74, Portland St. 60
UC Irvine 98, UC San Diego 60
WOMEN
EAST
Cent. Connecticut St. 59, Yale 54
Hartford 82, Albany, N.Y. 60
Massachusetts 56, New Hampshire 39
Seton Hall 61, Towson 52
Stony Brook 75, Monmouth, N.J. 59
SOUTH
Alabama St. 81, Troy St. 71
MIDWEST
Wright St. 81, Marshall 67
SOUTHWEST
Texas Tech 79, Oregon 75, OT
FAR WEST
Pacific 67, Fresno St. 57
Santa Clara 85, Cal Poly-SLO 61



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Putin pardons American businessman

MOSCOW (AP) — President Vladimir Putin on Thursday pardoned Edmond Pope, the first American convicted of espionage in Russia in 40 years, and let the businessman leave the country after eight months in prison.

Pope, who had been given 20 years prison time, was released from Moscow's Lefortovo prison, taken straight to the airport and flown to Frankfurt, Germany, said his lawyer Pavel Astakhov.

A presidential spokesman told AP that Putin pardoned Pope on humanitarian grounds and to preserve good relations with Washington. The pardon cited "the health condition of the convict and his personal appeal, and also ... the high level of ties between the Russian Federation and the United States of America."

Putin, who arrived in Cuba late Wednesday for a visit to the former communist ally, had indicated last week that he would release Pope. Thursday was the first day that Putin could pardon Pope under Russian law.

A White House spokesman expressed relief.

"We're happy that he will soon have the opportunity to be reunited with his family back in the United States," P.J. Crowley said in Stratford-on-Avon, England, where he was traveling with President Clinton.

Pope, of State College, Pa., has suffered in the past from a rare form of bone cancer, and his family feared that it may have returned. His wife, Cheri, said that he had lost about 25 pounds and two teeth, probably due to the poor prison diet. Russia's Security Service, the agency that prosecuted Pope, said a prison doctor examined him before his release and pronounced his health "normal."

Pope's mother, Elizabeth, said her son and his wife were heading for Frankfurt for a medical evaluation. However, Astakhov said that the Popes would travel immediately to the United States from there.

"It's like waking up from a horrible nightmare," Elizabeth Pope, told AP from her home in Grants Pass, Ore. "I will be much happier when I see him and I am able to put my arms around him."

Pope's imprisonment and conviction by what observers said was a biased Moscow court last week on charges of obtaining plans for a top-secret Russian Navy torpedo had cast a pall on U.S.-Russian relations.

"Obviously it's something that President Putin has now put behind us." Crowley said.

Liliya Shevtsova, a political analyst with the Carnegie Moscow Center, suggested that Putin had pardoned Pope in hopes of favorable treatment under the U.S. president-elect, George W. Bush. "It looks like there was some kind of trade-off," he said, adding that Pope's guilt "clearly was not proven."

The case also raised questions about the growing power of the security services in Russia and fueled fears among foreigners trying to do business there.

Pope has protested his innocence, saying that the plans he purchased were not secret and that the technology had already been sold abroad and published in open sources. Pope sent a letter to Putin asking for clemency on the eve of his conviction, his wife said.

"We regret this decision wasn't made during the judicial process," Astakhov said. "But freedom is the main thing that Pope needs now."

Pope's wife Cheri went to the prison early Thursday along with U.S. Embassy officers. A clutch of reporters and TV crews waited at the gates of the high-security prison, which is surrounded by a cinderblock wall topped with coiled, barbed wire.

The Security Service said Pope was handed his personal belongings and given the chance to ask questions about the pardon. He had none, the service said.

Portable toilets used in zoning dispute

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — To hear landowners tell it, a Central Texas town's restrictions on zoning have let the neighborhood go to pot.

To protest what Don Holmes calls unfair zoning regulations for the main roads into Kerrville, he has placed 22 used portable toilets for sale at his own lot along Texas 16 this month.

The frustrated automobile salesman has been stewing ever since Kerrville's planning and zoning commission recommended the City Council deny him a conditional use permit for a "high-end" used car dealership.

"I'm trying to make a public statement about how messed up the zoning rules are," Holmes, 64, of Waring told the San Antonio Express-News in Thursday's editions. "I could literally do anything I want to over there but try to sell cars."

The yellow toilets, for sale at $150 each, next door to a new multimillion-dollar hotel along one main downtown approach, have caught the gaze of angry merchants and those devoted to promoting a more sanitary image for this city about 230 miles southwest of Dallas.

The manager of the new $2 million-plus Hampton Inn next door to Holmes' property says the toilets are hurting his business.

Tim Dolan, city planning director, said the "gateway district" zoning designation that dates from 1997 is designed to promote land uses that encourage tourism, recreation and visitation. But he said septic cleaning services and utensils are among acceptable uses.

"It is permissible," Dolan said of Holmes' loo lot.

But City Attorney Kevin Laughlin said a Jeep on sale on Holmes' property could present a problem.

Holmes has already sold two of the used "porta-cans," which he is also pitching as deer blinds.

"I'm on my way over there right now to put signs on them that say, 'one owner' and 'low mileage,' Holmes said Wednesday.

Antitrust review of merger has reached a critical vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — After months of scrutinizing potential competitive harms, antitrust regulators secured additional concessions from America Online and Time Warner in the final hours before a critical review and expected vote on the deal.

The Federal Trade Commission, meeting Thursday to decide whether to approve the $111 billion merger, gained pledges aimed at protecting consumer choice for Internet content and access.

The companies, in those assurances late Wednesday, sought to allay concerns that the combined business could make it difficult for competitors to get Time Warner's vast array of content, according to sources familiar with the negotiations.

Some believe the concessions offered by the firms that would limit their ability to dominate still-emerging Internet services will be enough to win over a majority of the five-member commission.

At least three commissioners still were weighing how vote Wednesday, sources familiar with the agency's review said.

The agency's staff has issued no recommendation on the deal before the vote.

One commissioner, Orson Swindle, has indicated he supports the deal, sources said, but other commissioners have reservations. They include commission Chairman Robert Pitofsky, who in recent days has met with merger opponents to hear their lingering fears.

Commissioner Mozelle Thompson, who has spoken of a number of problems with the merger, appears most likely to oppose it, sources said.

"It wouldn't be unusual in this kind of setting if people waited to make their mind up at the table," said Kevin Arquit, a New York antitrust lawyer and former director of the FTC's Bureau of Competition. "There are people that want to hear a discussion."

Officials of the companies refused comment, but some people familiar with the review, as well as financial analysts, believe the deal ultimately will be approved with strings attached.

"I think it will go through with strong conditions," said Scott Cleland, an analyst with the Precursor Group.

European regulators already have signed off on the merger.

Even if the FTC approves the deal, the companies still need clearance from the Federal Communications Commission, which has said it would act by year's end.

The major hurdle has been the FTC, which has struggled for months to grapple with the unprecedented marriage of old and new media. AOL is the nation's largest Internet provider with 26 million subscribers and a name associated with its wildly popular instant messaging service and other products.

Media powerhouse Time Warner runs some of the best-known names in entertainment, including HBO and movies and music from Warner Brothers, and in journalism, such as CNN and Time Inc. The company also controls cable lines capable of serving almost 21 million homes.

The government feared that together, the two companies could shut out competitors for emerging Internet services, such as superfast Web access.

Los Angeles OKs more police corruption deals

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The City Council has approved two more settlements of lawsuits stemming from a police corruption scandal, bringing to 45 the number resolved so far at a cost of about $31 million.

More than 70 lawsuits and 80 claims are pending, and city attorneys estimate settlement costs could top $125 million.

The council on Tuesday agreed with a city attorney's office recommendation to pay Robert Andrade and Olga Alatorre $400,000 each.

Andrade claims disgraced former officer Rafael Perez and his ex-partner, Nino Durden, searched for drugs in his apartment without his permission.

Perez has said he and Durden stole about $1,000 from Andrade's apartment and parts of their arrest report were false. Andrade served two years in prison before his conviction on drug charges was overturned and he was deported to Tijuana in April.

Alatorre, who says she was illegally searched by Perez, was convicted of cocaine possession and sentenced to four years in prison. She served almost three years before she was released and deported to Mexico.

Perez exposed the scandal last year when he detailed alleged corruption in the Los Angeles Police Department's Rampart station in exchange for a lighter sentence for stealing cocaine from an evidence room.

More than 100 convictions have been thrown out as a result of the scandal in which officers of Rampart's anti-gang unit are said to have beat, robbed and framed suspects. Three officers were convicted Nov. 15 of perjury and conspiracy in the first trial stemming from the allegations.

Nutrition By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.



What is iron's role?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I read that acid is important for the absorption of iron. What acid in the body absorbs iron? How exactly does iron work once it is absorbed? — **J.M., Seattle, Wash.**

Dear J.M.: It is not an acid that is at play with iron absorption. The body produces an iron-binding protein that is released in the digestive tract. Its job is to grab on to dietary iron and help it through the absorption process. The amount of the binding protein present tends to reflect the body's need for iron.

The connection with acid probably relates to the fact that iron needs to be in solution (dissolved) before it can be absorbed, and iron is more soluble in an acid solution. From a food standpoint, acid foods might include tomato-based products, foods containing vinegar (acetic acid), orange and other citrus juices, or vitamin C (ascorbic acid).

There is one exception to the iron-acid pairing, and that is a form of iron found in meat, fish, eggs and other animal products. This type of iron, called "heme" iron, is absorbed at a much more efficient rate and doesn't require acid. Other iron sources include enriched cereals and breads, nuts, seeds, legumes, dried fruits, and dark green, leafy vegetables.

Iron, regardless of where it comes from, is used in a number of enzymes, but its main use is as the main ingredient in heme, which is an oxygen-carrying substance. Perhaps this is why iron that is already incorporated into heme has an easier time being absorbed.

Heme becomes hemoglobin (HEEM oh globe in) inside the red blood cells, and there it carries oxygen from the lungs to metabolically active cells in our body. The cells use the oxygen, giving off carbon dioxide as a waste product. The hemoglobin then carries the carbon dioxide back to the lungs, where it can be exhaled in exchange for fresh oxygen that is picked up for a return trip to the cells.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I had some trouble with the article you wrote regarding mosquito bites. Over 20 years ago I was advised to take 100 milligrams of vitamin B1 twice a day. Believe me, it has worked. I have told many people about this, and it has worked for them. — **J.S., Garden Grove, Calif.**

Dear J.S.: To make oneself uninviting to mosquitoes would be a wonderful asset. I have anecdotal reports that some are able to achieve this using vitamin B1 (thiamine), but independent research has failed to confirm that this works with any degree of reliability. If it works for you, that is great. If it works for your friends, even better. I have concerns, however, about recommending a megadose of a nutrient without more substantiation.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I hope you can help me with an embarrassing problem I have with the back of my hands. It seems all I have to do is tap them with my finger or hit them by mistake and they bleed under the skin, causing a very ugly bruise. Please respond as soon as possible. Thank you. — **J.D., Edison, N.Y.**

Dear J.D.: The blood-clotting mechanism is a complex series of biochemical reactions, the end result of which is the creation of an insoluble plug that prevents blood cells from leaking out of the vessel. In the case of a bruise, the bleeding takes place under the skin.

As we age, our skin tends to become thinner. So, too, can the walls of our blood vessels. A weakness in our blood-vessel walls can contribute to an increased tendency to bruise. This can occur in good health, but a number of health conditions, medications and diets can play a role here.

Discuss your bruising tendency with your physician to verify that there isn't any underlying condition or medication at play here. From a dietary standpoint, I would aim for at least five servings of fruits and vegetables a day. Vitamin C and the other nutrients found in many of these foods are involved with the formation of collagen, a substance used to form blood vessels.

Finally, Commission E, an expert committee on herbal remedies, approves the use of bilberry for vascular disorders, including capillary weakness.

Send questions to: "On Nutrition," Ed Blonz, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. For e-mail, address inquiries to: ed@blonz.com. Due to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Ed Blonz, Ph.D., is a nutrition scientist and the author of "Power Nutrition" (Signet, 1998) and the "Your Personal Nutritionist" book series (Signet, 1996).

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Man who attacks woman with brick gets 25 years

NEW YORK (AP) — A crack addict with a long criminal record was sentenced to the maximum of 25 years in prison Wednesday for bashing a woman in the head with a 6-pound paving brick.

Paris Drake, 37, was convicted last month of assault and criminal possession of a weapon for the attack on Nicole Barrett, 28, near Grand Central Terminal.

Barrett, who was on her way to a temporary job when attacked in 1999, has since moved back to Texas.

Bad weather kept her from attending Drake's sentencing, but in a statement she told her attacker that he was lucky she didn't die.

"What you did should have killed me," she said. "Miraculously for me, it didn't. Lucky for you too, because you would have faced a murder charge. They still can't tell me how I survived, and certainly nothing you did that day kept me from dying."

Drake said he was sorry for what happened to Barrett, but "I still maintain my innocence. This was a miscarriage of justice."

Justice Laura Visitacion-Lewis said the attack was "so senseless, so vicious and so brutal that it is still difficult to understand."

"He shattered not only her body, her physical being, but also her hopes, her plans and her life," the judge said. "It's an assault from which, despite our best wishes for her, she might never recover."

The judge said that since 1985, Drake had not been out of prison for longer than six months at a stretch.

Notice

Due to technical difficulties originating in New York the Midday Stocks are unavailable today.

California surveillance firm doubles as Santa's workshop

CLOVIS, Calif. (AP) — Far from the North Pole, at a company better known for keeping an eye out for crooks, workers are busy looking out for needy good girls and boys.

Tonka trucks, Barbie dolls and basketballs are piled around a Christmas tree at a Pelco video security systems warehouse. Wooden trains sit on a desk. A little red wagon and bicycle are scattered in an office. Candyland and Battleship games fill the back seat of a saleswoman's car.

They are merely a fraction of the estimated 140,000 toys given by Pelco and its 1,200 employees in a donation drive that is often fiercely competitive among assembly lines. The effort culminates Thursday when the toys amassed at Pelco's headquarters in this city on the edge of the Sierra foothills are trucked away to the Marine Toys for Tots program.

"It's unbelievable, it's like taking a whole Toys R Us and dumping it upside down in one pile," said David McDonald, president of the company, which matches the employees' gifts.

Bill Grein, vice president for Marine Toys for Tots Foundation in Quantico, Va., had never heard of Pelco until Wednesday, but said a gift of that size was amazing. Some corporations give more, but rarely does such abundant giving come from the workshop floor.

With 1 million security systems around the world — from casinos to the Statue of Liberty to Buckingham Palace — McDonald could probably identify the naughty and the nice. But he'd rather play a big brother of a different kind, presiding over the toy campaign.

Last year, Pelco donated 73,768 toys.

"The ones who make the least, give the most," said Marilyn J. Stebles, an executive assistant in Pelco's manufacturing division. "They know what it's like."

Irene Estrada grew up in a poor area of neighboring Fresno and knows the heartache of going without toys on Christmas. Through soda and candy sales, she and co-workers raised about $3,000 this year.

"We think about the ones who don't have a job," she said as she took a break from pressing parts onto sheet metal. "We can give them what their own mother can't give."

The toy take has grown exponentially since 1993 when two workers noticed a barrel for donating toys was woefully empty.

Mary Erisman and a colleague worked the shop floor, rolling the barrel up and down the aisles calling for contributions. As toys began to flow in — 808 that year — competition grew among assembly lines.

Now three teams compete year-round for bragging rights. They raffle prizes, sell tacos and hold bake sales.

Team leaders talk of sleepless nights, delayed surgery and even giving up dating as the contest gets down to the wire.

"The competition totally drives it," Stebles said. "Why would I give up all my boyfriends for a month? I want to win."

In the final hours, team leaders were scrambling to spend the last of their cash. Erisman, who buys all the matching gifts, had to buy 11,000 toys two hours before the deadline last year.

On the Net:
http://www.toysfortots.org
http://www.pelco.com



Teen drug use holds steady for the fourth year in a row

WASHINGTON (AP) — Illicit drug use among teen-agers held steady in 2000 for the fourth straight year, and cigarette smoking declined significantly, the government reported Thursday.

The annual Monitoring the Future survey, a benchmark for teen drug, alcohol and tobacco use, had mostly good news, with drops among eighth-, 10th- and 12th-graders. But it also found use of the drug ecstasy, a favorite at dance clubs, increasing for the second year running.

And the number of high school seniors using heroin hit its highest point since the survey began in 1975.

The survey of 45,000 students in 435 randomly chosen schools nationwide found that use of cocaine and hallucinogens such as LSD dropped, with marijuana use unchanged from 1999.

The results were being released by Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala and Barry McCaffrey, White House drug policy director.

After increasing through the mid-1990s, teen drug use leveled off — and in some cases, dropped — in 1996. This year, usage was steady no matter how it was measured — in the last month, year or ever.

The survey, which teens fill out anonymously, found that between 1997 and 2000:

—For eighth-graders, use of any drug fell from 22.1 percent to 19.5 percent.

—For 10th-graders, it fell from 38.5 percent to 36.4 percent.

—For 12th-graders, it fell from 42.4 percent to 40.9 percent.

The survey also looked at specific drugs and found that 36.5 percent of seniors had used marijuana in the past year. For 10th-graders, it was nearly as high — 32.2 percent, and for eighth-graders, 15.6 percent. Those figures were all steady from 1999.

Marijuana use peaked in 1979, when just over half of seniors used the substance. The low for marijuana use among 12th-graders was 1992, when just over one in five used it.

Alcohol use remained widespread, though largely unchanged, with nearly three in four high school seniors drinking at least once in the past year. It was two in three for 10th-graders, and just over 40 percent for eighth- graders.

A smaller but still significant chunk of teens reported binge drinking at least once in the two weeks before the survey. Thirty percent of 12th-graders, 26.2 percent of 10th-graders and 14.1 percent of eighth-graders said they had binged, defined as consuming five or more drinks in a row.

Binge drinking peaked in 1981 at 41 percent and the low was 27.5 percent in 1993.

Military News

Brenton T. Burk

Brenton T. Burk has received an Air Force ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) college scholarship offer.

The cadet was selected on the basis of comprehensive tests, high school scholastic achievement, and extra-curricular activities.

Upon graduation and completion of the ROTC program, the cadet will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air Force.

Burk is the son of Tracy L. Hardin of Corsicana and Tim Burk of Snyder.

He is a graduate of Corsicana High School.

Mike Martinez

Marine Corps. Pfc. Mike Martinez, son of Julia and Mike Martinez of Snyder, recently reported for duty with the 3rd Transportation Support Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, Okinawa, Japan.

Martinez is a 1999 graduate of Snyder High School and joined the Marine Corps in September 1999.

Benjamin W. Greene

Marine Corps Cpl. Benjamin W. Greene of the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, grandson of Gaye N. Greene of Snyder, recently supported rescue and recovery efforts for the USS Cole after the Oct. 12 attack that left 17 sailors dead and many others wounded in the port of Aden, Yemen. Sailors and Marines were called to respond to the terrorist bombing, forming the Joint Task Force Determined Response.

Greene's unit provided immediate security during repair efforts and towing operations.

Greene's unit is an expeditionary intervention force with the ability to rapidly organize for combat operations in virtually any environment.

Green is a 1996 graduate of Central High School of San Angelo and joined the Marine Corps in May 1997.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, Dec. 15, 2000

If you're dissatisfied with your present circumstances, the year ahead is a good time to make a change. You could open up doors of opportunity you didn't know existed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You may get what you want today in fulfilling your ambitions at work, but your cohorts might not be too pleased about it. The price you pay could be more than you bargained for. Sagittarius, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper. P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) So long as you're industrious and enterprising, everything should go well for you today. However, the moment you begin to depend upon chance to aid your efforts, it'll be a different story.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If things in the big world out there do not go your way today, do not take your frustrations out on innocent family members when you get home. Instead, plan to resolve things quietly.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Optimism is always important in order to be able to succeed in life, but today you must also be able to see the less attractive contingencies so that you can deal with them realistically.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Chances are you and your mate will get along fine today, until it comes to ways your funds should be spent. Do not take it upon yourself to make an independent transaction.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Before you jump in today and take over something you feel another isn't managing properly, be certain you're up to handling it. It could make you look foolish if you fail as well.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Although some of your perceptions could be accurate today, you'll not be batting a thousand with all of them. Before you act on anything, distinguish between the two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Treat all business or commercial negotiations you have with a friend today the same as you would with a casual contact. It could save a friendship down the line.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You won't have any trouble sizing up situations today. The trouble begins when you act against this better judgment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Part of your strength is your ability to be able to sort out that which is tarnished from that which is pure. This is well and good, but don't apply this to friends today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) It isn't like you, but today you could have a tendency to evaluate issues from an emotional perspective rather than a logical one. Get back in character before it causes you trouble.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Although your ideas or concepts could make sense to you today, they may not be equally understandable to your associates. Don't press them to comply if they can't see the end results.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Clean hands are first line of defense to fight off colds

DEAR ABBY: Christmas came early last year: Our copier repairman at work gave me his cold. I spent Christmas Eve and Day with my cat, because I dared not inflict my cold on my elderly parents.

Abby, please remind your readers to cover their mouths when coughing or sneezing. A big thank-you. **Sign me ... AAACHOO!**

DEAR AAACHOO: You're welcome. (Gesundheit!)

As important as covering one's mouth when coughing or sneezing may be, it is equally important for EVERYONE to frequently wash their hands during cold season. Contrary to popular belief that colds are caught from germs flying through the air, more colds are caught because people cough and sneeze into their hands, and then touch objects that are touched by others (door handles, elevator buttons, stair rails, telephones). When their contaminated fingers touch their eyes or noses — THAT is how colds are transmitted.

Frequent hand-washing (or sanitizing) is the best defense. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: As we all know the importance of washing our hands because illness can be transmitted by touching our eyes, nose and mouth, it amazes me that strangers have an uncontrollable desire to test a newborn infant's hand grasp. Don't they know that babies comfort themselves by putting their hands into their mouths?

It's flu season, Abby, so please ask your readers to try to keep their hands to themselves when they see a baby. Only their smiles, coos and kind words are appreciated by their parents. — **CALIFORNIA MOTHER OF TWO**

DEAR MOTHER OF TWO: That makes good sense to me. Although tiny babies are almost irresistible, adults must bear in mind that the immune systems of infants are fragile, and make the effort to lessen their exposure to illnesses they may be ill-equipped to fight off.

**

DEAR ABBY: Why is it that after a couple has dated for more than two years, everyone assumes that they are ready to get married and that the woman is anxiously holding her breath waiting for the ring?

I am 31 years old and have been in a relationship for three years. While we are very happy, we feel we still need time before moving on to the next step. It amazes me when family and friends chastise my boyfriend and pity me because I haven't been so "lucky" as to have gotten engaged.

Abby, please tell people that it's NOT OK to assume every woman is dying to get married. I find this degrading and old-fashioned. I realize that everyone has good intentions, but if one more person asks me when he's finally going to pop the question, I just might "pop" that person. — **HAPPILY DATING IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR HAPPILY DATING: Before popping off, please consider that your family and friends are traditional thinkers. Your attitude is extremely contemporary. Until the last 15 or 20 years, it was most women's dream to be married — and if they were in a steady relationship for more than two years without a commitment, the problem often was that the boyfriend was unwilling.

Years ago, girls used to dream about a little white house with a picket fence. Now, they're likely to dream about a corporate office with a couple of windows.

**

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Next president has big plans, big problem and jocular style

WASHINGTON (AP) — Now comes tim to show what "compassionate conservative" means in law, the bully pulpit and budgets.

That odd and intriguing phrase out of Texas helped put George W. Bush on the map and en route to the White House; a new kind of Republican, it was said, who wants government to be smaller, except where he wants it to be bigger.

Daring to take the status quo out of Social Security, pledging to make integrity his calling in the White House, promising bipartisanship in a system of government that thrives on partisan struggle, Bush has so much to do.

But he's walking squarely into a chorus of doubters who say the protracted postelection contest, its messy ending in the Supreme Court and a Congress split almost down the middle will make it hard to get anything much done.

It's a tall order for a man who likes to be in bed by 9:30 p.m. when he can, in contrast with night owl Bill Clinton.

Judging by his style, at least, a less intense presidency seems on the horizon, a more relaxed way of doing things, despite all the things he's promised: a big tax cut, better schools and free drugs for poor seniors among them.

As new as Bush is as a leader to most Americans, his manner is vaguely remembered, part Ronald Reagan, part dad.

Like Reagan, he sets broad goals and delegates the details. Like his father George Bush and like Clinton, he can schmooze and charm.

Meetings should be genial, as is his nature, but to the point. Decisions, when they come, are made with no looking back.

At least, that's how it has been in Texas.

"People are his medium, and always there's good humor," says Clay Johnson, a boyhood friend and chief of staff in the Texas governor's office. "Not a lot of contemplation and commiserating or ruminating."

Bush was a get-along guy in Texas, and he made much in the campaign of his ability to bond with his state's Democrats, who are not quite the same breed as Democrats from everywhere else.

Bush is the type who will motion you to sit down and stay if you enter his office and find him on the phone, those who have worked with him say.

"He has this instant intimacy thing where he really disarms people," says Doug Wead, who worked with him in his father's 1988 presidential campaign.

"It's almost like he invited you into the bathroom while he's taking a bath."

Not to mention snapping the towel at your behind when you leave.

"A uniter, not a divider," Bush calls himself.

These attributes will be summoned to turn a campaign thick with promises, followed by a struggle laced with hard feelings, into achievements.

Those qualities will be gathered, too, to advance an overarching pledge: to sweep Washington clean of all that has soiled the place — its bitterness and dishonor.

During a campaign premised on the expectation that federal budgets will run black ink for at least a decade, Bush's IOUs to citizens piled up:

He owes the nation better education, to be achieved with more money and by making schools and states more accountable for their performance.

He owes poor seniors free prescription drugs — soon.

He owes the military another raise — $750 for the average soldier next year.

He owes Americans a more reliable supply of energy — and no messing with the Strategic Petroleum Reserve for political gain. Instead, he'll fight to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska to oil exploration and spur domestic production generally.

But he owes nature something, too: His assurance that it will be protected when or if that oil comes out of the ground.

Bush gave the most weight and immediacy to a handful of promises:

—Education: The first legislation he sends to Congress will be his education reforms, he says. They would toughen performance standards on schools and states, increase spending for college scholarships and offer poor parents in persistently failing schools money to transfer to other public schools or private schools.

Many Democrats share his emphasis on greater accountability in education. But they don't like his school vouchers.

—Social Security: Bush left some major blanks on Social Security but his direction was clear. He wants to let younger workers divert some of their Social Security taxes into private accounts that they can use to build a bigger nest egg.

He hasn't said how young is young, how much they can sock away, how he'd pay for the transition or how, exactly, he'd keep the main Social Security program solvent.

Bush carefully avoided ruling out a higher retirement age or a cut in benefits for younger workers. That was no accident; actuaries say tough choices like those cannot be avoided.

Many Democrats are strongly against the partial privatization of Social Security.

—Taxes: He's promised to lower all income tax rates, and ruled out income tax increases, in a 10-year, $1.3 trillion package that strikes many Democrats as much too expensive.

His plan would drop the lowest rate to 10 percent from 15 percent and the highest to 33 percent from 39.6 percent.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Emphysema worsens as patients tire

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 68-year-old husband has pretty bad emphysema. Why is his breathing more labored in the afternoon? What treatment is available for him?

DEAR READER: Emphysema, a potentially severe and crippling disorder, is a form of chronic lung disease marked by destruction of alveoli, the feathery air sacs that provide for the elimination of waste carbon dioxide and the intake of fresh oxygen by pulmonary tissue.

Patients with mild emphysema suffer few consequences. However, those individuals with significant disease experience air-trapping; because they cannot readily exhale stale air, the lungs become overinflated. There is no room for oxygen-rich air. Therefore, carbon dioxide is retained, leading to breathlessness, more rapid and labored respiration and intolerance to exercise — even the most modest sort, such as walking.

Because emphysema patients have to work so hard simply to breathe, their respiratory muscles easily tire; hence, the affliction typically worsens as the day wears on or during exercise.

Emphysema is a common consequence of cigarette smoking, air pollution, repeated respiratory infections and asthma.

There are several ways your husband can improve his breathing.

First, he should be prescribed antibiotics for any lung infection, no matter how trivial, because even small areas of inflammation can further compromise his already overworked respiratory system.

Also, if he is prone to asthma (bronchial spasm and wheezing), he would be helped by bronchodilators, drugs to relax the airways and permit him to breathe more easily. Such medicines are available in pill, liquid and aerosol forms.

Second, your husband should have regular respiratory therapy under the guidance of a qualified professional. Mucus plugs can be dislodged and coughed up by gravity drainage as part of a treatment program, including nebulized medication administered as vapor from a machine. Further, special breathing exercises, taught by a respiratory therapist, may enable your husband to learn how to use accessory breathing muscles (in the chest wall) to compensate for the over-work of breathing.

Third, low-flow oxygen, delivered from a tank or oxygen concentrator through a plastic tube to the nose, may make your husband more comfortable by supplying the extra oxygen he so desperately needs. The supplemental oxygen can be used continually or, preferably, intermittently to relieve breathlessness and permit him more independence.

Fourth, you should make every effort to ensure clean air in your husband's environment. Prohibit smoking in the house or anywhere near him. Use air conditioners and air purifiers when applicable. If he has allergies, such as hay fever, consult an allergist to determine if treatment, such as desensitization injections, might be beneficial.

Finally, consider having your husband see a pulmonologist, a physician specializing in lung disorders. Such a doctor may be able to offer further specific advice to assist your husband. For example, some emphysema patients with large areas of trapped air (bullae) are greatly helped by undergoing surgical resection of these blocked areas, thereby permitting better-functioning lung tissue to expand and begin working.

Although emphysema is permanent and, for all practical purposes, incurable, there are many ways to treat the disease and increase patients' comfort and independence, while minimizing disability. To give you related information, **I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Living with Chronic Lung Disease." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the tide.**

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Investigators hear more crash testimony

WASHINGTON (AP) — Government investigators struggling to find out why Alaska Airlines Flight 261 took a fatal plunge into the Pacific summoned engineers, inspectors and others to give their ideas Thursday on what caused the crash. They expected the testimony to point to a part in the aircraft's tail called a jackscrew.

A sample jackscrew was prominently displayed in the entrance hallway outside the National Transportation Safety Board public boardroom where the second day of testimony was under way.

On Wednesday, investigators released a series of reports that included the riveting transcript of the cockpit voice recorder, a dramatic re-enactment of the plane's final moments.

It reflected how pilot Ted Thompson and co-pilot William Tansky overcame one nose dive, only to fight their fatal second descent until the crash off California that killed all 88 people aboard.

In addition to engineers and inspectors, board members scheduled testimony Thursday from Alaska Airlines and aviation officials familiar with the DC-9/MD-80 aircraft's mechanical qualities. The board's technical experts were interviewing the witnesses.

The NTSB will not determine the cause of the accident until it completes its hearing, but much of the information so far is focused on problems with the jackscrew, and grease applied to it. The part controls the DC-9/MD-80 horizontal stabilizer system.



Send Everyone In Snyder A Christmas Card!

Place a Personal Greeting Card in the December 24th Edition of the Snyder Daily News for Only $25

Include a Photo of your choice (family, yourself, kids, baby, pets, etc.) and a 15 Word Message.

SAVE TIME & POSTAGE!

Please bring your Photo and Message to the SDN by Monday, Dec. 18. Happy Holidays!

Snyder Daily News
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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Winter storms moving East

By The Associated Press

Residents across the Plains coped with widespread power outages and treacherous travel early Thursday as freezing rain, frigid temperatures and heavy snowfall pounded the area and pushed eastward.

More than 200,000 homes and businesses in Arkansas and Texas alone were without electricity after Wednesday's ice storms caused power lines to fall.

The slick roads and heavy snowfall caused at least 10 traffic deaths, including five in Indiana.

"This is as much snow as we've seen in the last 15 years and we got it all in one whack," said Charles Ward, city superintendent in the small southeastern Kansas town of Colony. The area received about 14 inches of snow.

Springfield, Mo., also had received more than 14 inches of snow.

The remnants of the storm that began Tuesday were expected to continue Thursday, with more chilly temperatures.

Many residents were also faced with the daunting task of digging out from all the snow.

"Now it's time for the sore backs to kick in," said Jim Wright of Springfield, Mo., who spent close to an hour moving snow from his driveway while his daughter made snow angels. "You've got to love winter."

In Arkansas, where about 202,000 people were without electricity, a pileup of about 15 tractor-trailer trucks and cars shut down parts of Interstates 55 and 40. At one point, 80 semi-trucks were backed up on another highway.

Icy roads lead to several accidents in area

Icy roads Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning led to a number of accidents along U.S. Hwy. 84 and kept Department of Public Safety troopers busy.

At 3:45 p.m. Tuesday, a one-vehicle accident occurred 4.4 miles east of Snyder on U.S. 84. Involved was a 1985 BMW driven by Jamie Lynn Hislop, 21, of Leander. The woman's vehicle slipped off the road and hit a sign, but she was not injured.

A two-vehicle accident occurred at 4:20 p.m. four miles east of Snyder on U.S. 84. Involved were a 1996 Ford Explorer driven by Sun Hwan Wi, 49, of Lubbock and a 1997 Chevrolet Suburban driven by Matthew Seth McCutcheon, 22, of Kerrville.

Neither was injured.

According to DPS trooper James Arnwine, the Explorer was passing the Chevrolet in the inside lane when it hit a patch of ice, lost control and struck the Suburban.

A one-vehicle rollover happened at 4:33 p.m. Tuesday 3.5 miles east of Snyder on U.S. 84

A 2000 Chevrolet van pulling a trailer and driven by Juan Antonio Mendoza, 29, of Cedar Hill was traveling eastbound when the driver lost control on the icy pavement, slid into the center median and overturned twice.

Passengers in the vehicle included Cynthia Mendoza, 24; Oscar Mendoza, 5; Michael Mendoza, 3; and Mark Anthony, 6.

Cynthia Mendoza was admitted to Cogdell Memorial Hospital while the others were treated and released.

The slippery pavement led to another accident at 4:35 p.m. Tuesday 3.2 miles east of Snyder.

A 16-year-old female was not injured when she lost control of the 1997 Ford pickup she was driving. The vehicle slid into the center median and overturned on its side.

Another one-vehicle rollover occurred at 6:02 p.m. Tuesday, a mile north of Hermleigh on U.S. 84. Involved was a 1991 Freightliner truck driven by Lindsey David McCoy, 43, of Troy.

According to Arnwine, McCoy was eastbound when a smaller car lost control in front of him resulting in him losing control as well. He slid into the center median and overturned twice.

He was treated and released at Cogdell.

At 12:30 a.m. Wednesday, Trooper Arnwine was called to another wreck 20.1 miles west of Snyder in Garza County.

The mishap involved a 1992 Ford pickup driven by Robert Thiebaud Kessler, 35, of Cedar Hill.

According to Arnwine, Kessler was eastbound when his vehicle hit a patch of ice causing him to lose control. The vehicle went through the center median and across the westbound lanes where it struck a fence and continued through the pasture westbound.

The vehicle then slid around and went back through the fence, rolled twice across the westbound lane of travel, landed upright and continued across the east bound lane through another pasture for 300 yards until it finally struck a railroad track. The vehicle then finally came to a rest.

"He made a big circle," Arnwine said.

McCoy was treated and released from CMH.

DPS Trooper Rick Campos also worked two accidents Wednesday morning.

The first was a one-vehicle accident at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday 2.4 miles north of Inadale on U.S. 84.

The mishap involved a 2000 Pontiac Grand Am driven by Jeffrey William Ahr, 19, of St. Hedwig, Tx. The driver was not injured.

According to Campos, Ahr was southbound when he attempted to pass a vehicle. "When he changed lanes, he slid off the road and hit a culvert."

At 11 a.m., the trooper was called to an accident 1.5 miles north of Hermleigh on U.S. 84 involving a 1994 Isuzu Rodeo driven by Wacey Dennis Pruitt, 21, of Fort Worth.

Campos said Pruitt was southbound in the left lane when he attempted to change lanes. His vehicle went out of control and into the ditch, rolling over twice and then striking a power pole.

He was not hurt.

29-year-old jailed on sexual offenses

• ***Felony arrest***

Dorteyo Maldonado, 29, of 1814 Avenue K was booked into Scurry County Jail at 4:24 p.m. Wednesday on Jackson County Oklahoma felony warrants for two counts of lewd molestation and two counts of forcible sodomy.

• ***Other arrests***

A 23-year-old man was booked into jail at 9:36 a.m. Wednesday to lay out a fine for public intoxication.

At 4:01 p.m. Wednesday, officers took a 39-year-old man into custody for not paying a fine for failure to wear a seatbelt and for failure to appear.

Public intoxication landed a 34-year-old man in jail at 8:51 p.m. Wednesday. He was arrested in the Burger King parking lot.

A Department of Public Safety trooper arrested a 56-year-old man at 11:56 p.m. Wednesday on West Hwy. 180 for driving while intoxicated.

• ***Harassment***

A woman contacted police at 6:31 p.m. Wednesday in reference to her estranged husband harassing her at work. An officer contacted the man and advised him to stop calling the business.

• ***Loud music***

Dispatchers received a complaint of loud music in the 2100 block of Gilmore at 1:30 a.m. today. Officers made contact with a subject who did turn the music down.

Choirs will present Christmas concert

If you haven't gotten all the way into the Christmas spirit yet, a good way to catch it tonight will be by attending the annual Christmas Choir Concert by the school choirs.

Beginning at 7 o'clock in Worsham Auditorium, the sixth grade, junior high and high school choirs will perform.

Hermleigh ISD to meet tonight

Hermleigh ISD's board of trustees will meet at 7 p.m. this evening and will begin the annual evaluation of Supt. Jerry Church.

Another once-a-year item on the agenda is the review of the Texas Education Agency report card to the district.

The district is rated as recognized by the agency.

Church said he would also update the board on a possible TIF grant for the school.

"The grant will not be awarded until this spring, but I want the board to be aware of the technical updates that would be available with the grant," said Church.

The meeting will be in the high school building.

Missing funds just bookkeeping error

Some $15,000 in funds from the Ira school district thought to be missing is apparently a bookkeeping error, Supt. Jim Rumage said this morning.

"Our accountants had taken some records back with them, and while going though them on Wednesday, discovered what they believe is the error. We are still having them check it out thoroughly, but they now feel it was just an error in bookkeeping," said Rumage.

Rumage made this report to the Ira school board this morning during its regular monthly meting.

In other business this morning, the board adopted a fixed asset policy, and set the vaccination policy for teachers who may be subject to blood-borne pathogens.

"This primarily affects our coaches," said Rumage, who said the vaccinations involve administering the vaccine against hepatitis B.

The board took no action on a proposed professional service contract with GSW engineers for improvements to heating and cooling systems, and for lighting.

Obituaries

Mary Doak

1913-2000

Mary Clark Doak, a longtime resident of Snyder, died Friday, Dec. 1 in San Antonio where she had resided the past five years.



Mary Doak

Mrs. Doak was the widow of Herman E. Doak, longtime Gulf oil distributor and director of West Texas State Bank.

A memorial service for Mrs. Doak, 87, is set for 11 a.m. Saturday in Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Dr. Craig Curry, pastor of the First United Methodist Church, and Dr. Rex Reynolds, pastor of Hermleigh's First Baptist Church, will officiate. Interment will be in the Snyder Cemetery.

Mrs. Doak was born May 31, 1913 in Hayden, Ariz. She moved to Snyder in 1930 and married Herman Doak in 1932. Mrs. Doak had been a member of the First United Methodist Church since that time. She was active in many phases of church and community life through the years. As an avid and talented artist in all needlework, she enjoyed sharing her craft with others. She was a member of the Nancy Caton Sunday School Class, the Altrurian Daughters Club, Martha Ann Woman's Club and she was a docent at museums in Snyder.

Mrs. Doak also was preceded in death by her sister, Mercie Skiles, and her parents.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Mary Ann and Harold Hooks of San Antonio; her son, William H. Doak of Milwaukie, Ore.; four grandchildren, Lindsey Roberts, James Doak, Lena Doak and Katie Abney; two great-granddaughters, Stephanie Marie and Catherine Grace; her sister, Mildred Gamble of Abilene; and numerous other family members and friends.

Family members will receive friends from 6 to 7 p.m. Friday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

The family suggests memorials to the First United Methodist Church or to a favorite charity.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Cheri Hollis

1954-2000

Cheri Hollis, 46, died Monday, Dec. 11, at her home in Snyder following a sudden illness.

Ms. Hollis will be cremated and a memorial service is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the First Assembly of God Church under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home. The Rev. Larry Lakey, Assembly of God minister from Mesquite, will officiate.

Ms. Hollis was born Oct. 26, 1954. She was preceded in death by her father, Milton Hollis in December, 1999.

Survivors include her mother, Dolly Hollis of Snyder; a daughter, Melissa Hood of Snyder; and a son, Seth Hood of Austin.

Independently Owned & Operated

WCFH

WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

200 East 37th St. Snyder, Texas

915-573-6200

FOR INFORMATION GO TO WWW.AMERICANMEMORIALS.COM

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Seniors helping seniors

Snyder High School seniors are assisting senior citizens this holiday season by helping put up outside Christmas lights and other decorations. For assistance, call 573-6301 and ask for Beth Bowen.

Northeast family reading night

The family reading night at Northeast Elementary will begin at 6:30 this evening. Pizza and soft drinks will be served and childcare will be available.

Early head start registration

Scurry Community Services announces registration for the new Early Head Start program to begin Jan. 3. Applications will be taken from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. today through Friday at Snyder Day Care, 2800 2nd St. Bring birth certificate, proof of income, social security card and immunizations records. Call 573-7403 for additional information.

West Family Reading Night

West Elementary's Family Reading Night is held each Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. Refreshments, prizes and childcare are provided.

Central Stars go caroling

Central Elementary's choir, "The Central Stars," will carol Friday. Under the direction of Sheila Sorrels, the choir will perform at Snyder Healthcare Center at 9 a.m., Snyder Oaks at 10 a.m., Burger King at 11 a.m., First Baptist Church Chapel at 1 p.m. and West Texas State Bank lobby at 2 p.m.

Cub Pack 61

Cub Scout Pack 61 will meet at 7 p.m. Friday at the Scout Hut. Dress warmly as the scouts will go caroling after the meeting.

Johnny Ray Watson concert

Johnny Ray Watson will be in concert at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Church of the Hills. Everyone is invited to attend and additional information can be obtained by calling 573-7794.

Christmas musical

Faith Baptist Church's adult choir will present "Bethlehem's Child," a musical drama, at 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the church, 208 37th Street.

Christmas cantata

Trinity United Methodist Church will present "Lord, I Left Your Name On High," a Christmas cantata by Steven Taylor at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, and at 7 p.m. Monday. Everyone is invited to the performances that lasts about 30 minutes.

Christmas programs

Calvary Baptist Church, 2405 35th, will have a day of Christmas celebration Sunday. The adult choir will present "2000 Decembers Ago" at 10:50 a.m. The children and youth will present "Wonderful Christmas' at 6 p.m.

Christmas concert

First Church of the Nazarene will present a Christmas Concert featuring Kimberley and Tom Wagner with Compassionate Heart Music at 10:45 a.m. Sunday. A nursery is provided and there is no charge.

4-H horse club meeting

The 4-H horse club meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the East Elementary cafeteria.

Retirement reception

A reception in honor of Rona Sikes will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. next Thursday in the county courtroom on the third floor of the courthouse. Mrs. Sikes has served as county tax assessor-collector since Jan. 1, 1985. The tax office will be closed during the reception.

Raw peanuts for sale

The women of The Church of God in Ira are selling raw peanuts for holiday cooking. The cost is $10 for a five-pound bag. To order, call Sheila Alexander at 573-8148, or Juanita Hester at 728-3312.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado SWCD will take orders for windbreak trees until Jan. 31. Evergreens are $2 and hardwoods are $1 for 12 to 18 inches tall. Come by 5309 Big Spring Hwy or call 573-6317.

Glory Room open

The Glory Room, a Christian library located at Trinity United Methodist Church, is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Everyone is asked to return materials so that others may check them out. If other hours are needed, contact the church at 573-3988.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients is available every day free of charge to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland. For more information call Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

Adult basic education classes

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

Tiny particles of pollution harmful

By The Associated Press

You don't have to be able to smell or see air pollution to die from it.

A study of the nation's 20 largest cities confirms that small amounts of particles less than one-fifth the width of a human hair are enough to raise the death rate. And the death rate climbs steadily along with the number of these fine particles.

The study, conducted by researchers at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, supports Environmental Protection Agency standards that were set in 1987 and revised in 1997, said Bob Perciasepe, EPA assistant administrator for air quality.

The findings should squelch criticism that earlier research at the EPA, Harvard and elsewhere was inconclusive, said James H. Ware, dean of the Harvard School of Public Health.