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WT-Int. Crude - $29.73
WTIC Posted - $26.50
Natural Gas - $3.360

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
Sept. 11, 2002
Vol. 54 No. 114
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Starcia Ochoa

Snyder native watches 9-11 chaos unfold from New York apartment

By Brian Brisendine
SDN Staff Writer

As the devastation unfolded in New York City last Sept. 11, millions stopped whatever task was at hand to watch unprecedented live coverage on TV.

They saw planes strike and explode, they saw enormous clouds rise as the twin towers of the World Trade Center fell. They watched as people ran for their lives, screaming in horror.



Lesa, Conner and Brenna Starkins

The sights and sounds of that day affected everyone. But few people had the perspective of Snyder native Lesa Barkowsky, daughter of Dr. Ed and Judy Barkowsky.

Mrs. Starkins, with her husband, Greg, and two small children, lived just four blocks from the World Trade Center. The family was at home in their penthouse apartment on the top floor of a 32-floor building only minutes from ground zero — as it is now known — when the day's terrible events began.

The family has since moved out of the city and into the woods of Long Island.

Mrs. Starkins said she and her husband have been back to ground zero and viewed the devastation.

"I first went to ground zero with my husband on the day we moved out of our apartment," she said. "While the movers were packing, we walked around the entire site. It was the first time I had seen the enormous amount of damage to the Borders bookstore building where we went to story-time, the Winter Garden and the Financial Center.

"I was finally able to grasp the sheer size of the area destroyed. The television reports simply couldn't convey that. And the memorials everywhere were overwhelming."

Mrs. Starkins said she has been downtown several times since the attack. Her husband's temporary office overlooked the site, as does his old office, to which he has now returned. She said that the site now "just looks like a huge hole in the ground."

She added that the famous skyline of America's largest city is forever altered.

"It just doesn't look like New York City anymore," she said. "The WTC towers were a reference point — they showed you where downtown was located."

She added that the mood in New York City this week is "somber, reflective and a tad apprehensive."

Following is a personal account by Mrs. Starkins detailing that day's events and the trials she and her family faced.

Several months after 9/11, I began thinking about what my husband and I would tell our children when they are older, and I decided to write down what I could remember.

Our son Connor was almost two and a half years old, and Brenna was just three months old.

We lived in a penthouse apartment on the 32nd floor of a building about 4 blocks south of the World Trade Center. The WTC and the attached World Financial Center were the hub of the neighborhood – the photo shop, the drugstore, the restaurants, the shopping – it was all there.

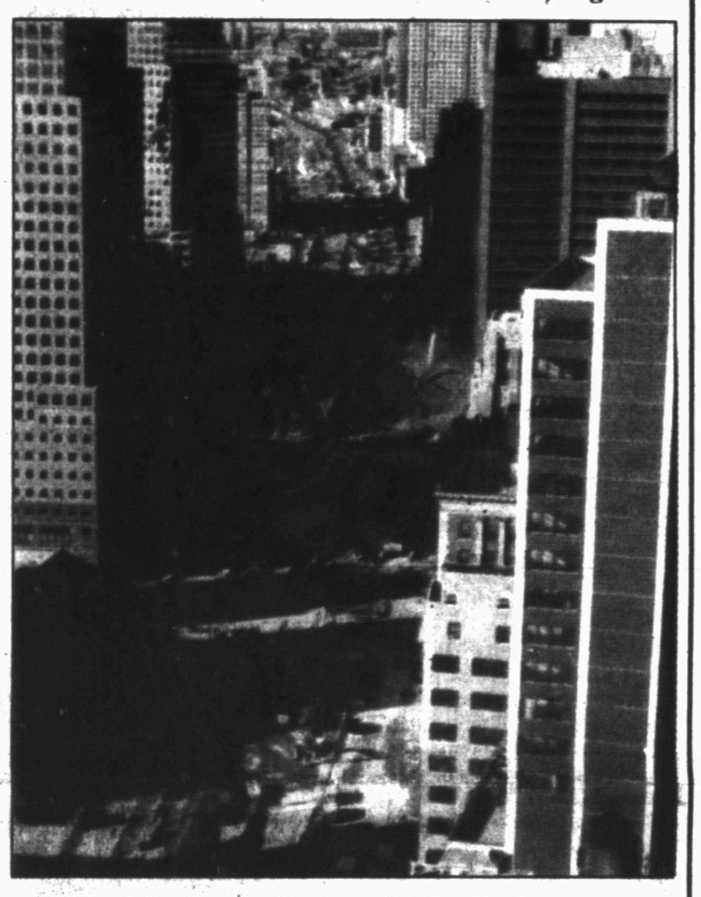
The plazas around the complex and the pedestrian bridges hosted music, dance, art exhibits, craft fairs, Girl Scout cookie sales. Children played in the Winter Garden and the atriums of the World Financial Center during bad weather, and my husband Greg works for Merrill Lynch in the World Financial Center.

Greg traveled to Atlanta on Monday for a business meeting. His plane home was delayed for hours due to bad weather, and he almost decided to stay in Atlanta, but finally arrived home after 1 a.m. Because he got home so late, he slept in the next morning.

On the morning of the 11th, the kids and I were downstairs eating breakfast and watching Elmo when the phone rang just before 9. A friend asked urgently where Greg was, then told me to turn on the TV because a plane had hit the trade center.

Upstairs in our bedroom I turned on NBC and saw a distant picture from midtown of the north tower smoking and on fire, and woke Greg up. Then I ran and opened the terrace door off our bedroom and went out.

See Starkins, Page 3



A view of the destruction from the Starkins' apartment.

Pentagon attack touches SHS grad

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

The terrorists attacks last Sept. 11 were designed to demoralize the American public, but instead the terrorist organizations and their leaders may have produced the opposite of what they had hoped for.



Maj. Andy Contreras

That is the opinion of Army Major Andy Contreras, a 1980 Snyder High School grad who offices in the Pentagon.

"bin Laden thought these attacks would tear the U.S. apart, instead, it worked in reverse," said Maj. Contreras, who also graduated from Western Texas College and the University of Texas.

His parents are Santos and Estolia Contreras of Snyder.

"These attacks put the whole world against him and really unified the American people."

Contreras and his wife, Alexandria, agree that things have changed considerably in Washington, D. C. since a year ago — most of it for the good.

"Up here now, everybody seems to be looking after their fellow neighbor. There's certainly a lot of people here as compared to Snyder, but we have all seemed to have come together."

Contreras first made that observation a year ago as he said he observed strangers offering food, water and even walking shoes to those who fled the Pentagon area trying to get home since all the subways were shut down.

Maj. Contreras was about a mile away when the Pentagon was struck and he now offices in an area that was rebuilt after the attack.

"If you look at a picture of the building after it was hit, I office to the left of the center of the impact area.

Maj. Contreras moved into the rebuilt Pentagon in April.

"It was an eerie feeling," said Maj. Contreras. "When we moved in, I almost felt I was smelling the smoke all over again."

Maj. Contreras serves as the executive officer for the deputy assistant Secretary of the Army for research and technology and is certainly used to death and destruction as he served in Desert Storm from September 1990 until March 1991.

But nothing prepared him for 9-11 and the attack on the Pentagon.

"This is how people must have felt when Pearl Harbor was bombed," said Maj. Contreras. "I would have never imagined that anyone could, or would bomb the Pentagon."

Maj. Contreras said today's anniversary of the attack has produced a lot of mixed emotions.

"I'm proud of the way the country has pulled together, but sorry for the way it came about as a lot of loved ones were lost.

"Just as the Pentagon building was being repaired, a lot of people were being healed at the same time," he said.

"I hope we don't forget what happened. There's a lot of bad guys out there and a lot of evil that we have to be aware of," said Maj. Contreras.

"We can't let our guard down."

Several local residents barely miss New York attacks

Cloyce Talbott, chief executive officer of Patterson-UTI in Snyder, conducts business in New York and was there the day before the attacks on the World Trade Center.

Talbott said he was attending a conference that ran through the week, but he returned to Snyder on Monday, the day before the attacks.

"I was in New York for about a week right before Sept. 11," he said. "That particular conference was scheduled for the same date each year, but they have now postponed it until October."

Talbott said he has traveled to New York three or four times in the past year, but he has not been to ground zero.

"New York is such a huge place that you can go to five or six meetings in a day and be all over the city," he said. "I haven't been to the site. I just don't see a reason for me to go there."

The CEO added that the general attitude hasn't changed in New York and said people "will continue to transact business just like before.

"The biggest change I've seen is in the airports," Talbott said.

Snyder residents Fran Farmer and Darlene Robbins, and Farmer's brother, Steve Floyd, would have been in New York City about 20 minutes before the first airplane crashed into the World Trade Center if it had not been for a premonition by her brother.

"We were supposed to leave Dallas at 6 a.m. a year ago today, but Steve changed our flight to one two hours later," said Farmer. "Otherwise, we would have been in New York City that fateful day."

The three were on their way to a trade show and contest in New York and were actually on the runway in an American Airlines airplane at D-FW Airport when the pilot announced that there would be a delay.

"We were just about ready to taxi for the takeoff when the pilot made that announcement," said Farmer.

"He later came back on the intercom and said the World Trade Center had been hit by an airplane and that all airports in New York had been closed.

"A person on the plane had a cell phone and was talking to someone who was

See Farmer, Page 3

ASK US

Q—Can I purchase extra copies of the Sept. 11 special section published Tuesday in the SDN?

A—A limited number of extra copies are available at the SDN office.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 85 degrees; low, 67; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 67; no precipitation; total for 2002, 15.29 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy; low 65-70; E winds 5-10 mph. Thursday, partly cloudy; isolated showers; high 85-90; E winds 5-15 mph. Thursday night, partly cloudy; low around 70.



Megan Williamson
Showers possible

Sunset:
7:55 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:26 a.m.
Of 253 days in 2002, the sun has shone 246 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

America has stood down enemies before, and we will do so this time. None of us will ever forget this day, yet we go forward to defend freedom and all that is good and just in our world.

—President Bush
Sept. 11, 2001

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN
by Shirley A. Gorman



Where were you when...?

Before Sept. 11, 2001 that question referred to the assassination of John F. Kennedy Jr. Now the question has another significance. Where were you when the terrorists attacked us in our homeland?

On that terrible day one year ago, we had briefly left the office to take a picture. We no longer remember which school or what the photo was. But as soon as we returned we learned an airplane had struck one of the World Trade Center towers.

Then the second tower was struck. Terrorists? We didn't want to believe it; but before the day was over, both towers collapsed claiming more than 2,000 lives; the Pentagon was also attacked and another plane crashed in Pennsylvania before reaching its intended target.

We wanted to go home and turn on CNN. Instead, everyone in the news department got busy doing what news people all over the nation did.

The SDN rarely has the room to run Associated Press photos but we printed three on Sept. 11. Our front-page headline, *Day of terror stuns U.S.* was an understatement, but still reflected the way we felt: shocked and vulnerable.

For the Sept. 12 edition, it was hard to find an AP news story that did not pertain to the attacks. We also followed up with local reports of residents who had loved ones living in or visiting New York, some close to ground zero.

We all focused on the attacks and the aftermath, but like the rest of the country we had to move on. What the terrorists had done to us in our own country and President Bush's call to war against terror, no matter how justified, were scary. And they still are to a certain extent; especially since the debate over Iraq is heating up.

We had not voted for Bush, but after Sept. 11 any lingering doubt that he wasn't the president was swept away. One year later, the attacks still feel a little surreal; almost like a bad dream you can't wake up from.

We recall that soon after the attacks, we heard about a young boy who at first thought the planes slamming into the World Trade Center were "neat." After all, it looked like a cartoon or special effects stunt to him. Until his mother explained that mommies and daddies were in the planes and in the twin towers.

But good has come from the 9-11 nightmare. Patriotism has been reborn. The display of Stars and Stripes is still a comforting and reassuring sight. The heroism of New York City policemen, firemen and transit authority officers has made the nation look at those professions with renewed respect.

Americans have reevaluated their lives and their priorities. Families have grown closer together. Millions of dollars have been donated to the victims and their families. We recently watched a network news program about 63 babies born after Sept. 11. It was encouraging to see them all in a group picture.

Life does go on.

The magnitude of hate the terrorists and Middle Eastern people have for America is mind boggling. Terrorists can't destroy our way of life unless we allow them too. Getting rid of them is a monumental undertaking. God bless the nation, the armed forces, our president and other leaders. The war on terror is far from over.

SEP 11 2002

Firefighters want to shed hero mantle

NEW YORK (AP) — John Hemsley spent his vacation in Myrtle Beach, S.C., trying to hide. He dodged questions about what he did for a living and wore no paraphernalia associated with his work.

"I spent my week trying to be incognito," he said.

Hemsley was tired of being a hero.

As a New York Fire Department captain in an Upper East Side firehouse that lost nine men in the attacks, Hemsley was thrust into the strange limelight of the post-Sept. 11 world, in which ordinary men suddenly became icons.

He's done a high school graduation, a grammar school moving-up ceremony, multiple church groups and too many benefit dinners to count. He's signed autographs, posed for pictures and given hugs. He's polished and repolished his speech, thanking the public and praising the American spirit.

"I felt an obligation to do it," he said. "But it was still overwhelming."

By the time summer arrived, "I was barely limping across the finish line."

In the altered cultural landscape after Sept. 11, New York firefighters and, to a lesser extent, NYPD and Port Authority police officers, have been elevated to almost mythic status. It is a mantle that some have relished, but most have worn uncomfortably.

In a profession that frowns on self-promotion, many have come to see the hero status as a burden, something they never asked for and feel they can't live up to. Others have even argued that it's dangerous.

"It's a big thing to have to shoulder," said firefighter Mike Heffernan, who lost his brother on Sept. 11. "Especially on top of the grieving you're still doing."

In the days immediately following Sept. 11, city firehouses became meccas of grief; firefighters, the objects of worship. Hundreds showed up with flowers, poems and gifts.

The flow has abated considerably, but some firehouses remain besieged.

In Lower Manhattan, when a fire company responds near ground zero, firefighters have to stop on the way back to sign autographs and work the crowd, said firefighter Tommy Narducci, a member of Engine 10.

"Anytime we're near the rig, forget it," he said. "It's photography central."

In the months that followed Sept. 11, as sales of firefighter action figures and anything FDNY skyrocketed, the department was bombarded with requests for public appearances. Gruff men, used to going to the corner bar after work, became speechmakers and black-tie dinner regulars. They popped champagne backstage with singer Bono of U2 and threw out the first pitch at playoff games. FDNY members served as pageant judges, graduation speakers and parade marshals. Countless appearances have taken them from Simsboro, La., to Paris, France.

The demand on police officers has been less, but some have been similarly flooded with invitations. Port Authority police dog handler David Lim, who was pulled from the rubble but lost his canine partner, Sirius, has rung the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange, traveled to Alaska to start the Iditarod dog sled race and presided over the Chinese New Year Parade in San Francisco. At a recent charity auction he attended in San Diego, someone bought one of Lim's Port Authority hats for $650.

"After the anniversary," he hopes, "things will naturally calm down."

Hemsley, being a captain, shouldered much of the responsibility in his house, Engine 22, Ladder 13. His willingness, albeit reluctant, took the pressure off others, like firefighter Peter Clinton, one of just three men from the house's Sept. 11 day shift who lived.

Most people living near NYC suffered stress after Sept. 11

ATLANTA (AP) — Most people living near New York City suffered extreme stress after Sept. 11, but few sought help, according to a government report examining the psychological effects of the attacks.

The study of 3,512 people in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut found that 75 percent reported having emotional problems after Sept. 11, but only 12 percent asked for help, even from friends and family.

Researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention concluded that more needs to be done to address psychological effects of disasters, and they called on government agencies to add emotional care to the usual plans for responding to disasters.

About half of the respondents reported attending religious or community memorial services after the attacks.

Nearly half said they felt anger after the attacks, and some reported increased smoking and drinking after Sept. 11, other indicators of emotional distress.

The study also examined ways in which men and women responded to the stress differently. Women were more likely than men to smoke more as a result of the attacks, 27 percent compared to 15 percent. Men were more likely to drink more alcohol, 4 percent compared to 2 percent.

The telephone survey was conducted between Oct. 11 and Dec. 13 of last year. Respondents were 1,774 Connecticut residents, 638 New Jersey residents and 1,100 people living in New York.

A separate study released Thursday by the CDC examined whether Manhattan residents with asthma saw their condition worsen after the attacks. About a quarter, 34 of the 134 respondents, said it did get worse.

People on the southern end of Manhattan, near the World Trade Center, were more likely to report their asthma got worse after Sept. 11 than those who lived farther north.

The survey noted that symptoms typically worsen in the fall, so that the study can't gauge the "absolute impact" of the attacks.

The telephone interview of people older than 18 living south of 110th Street in Manhattan was conducted between Oct. 16 and Nov. 15.

Report says symptons are lingering

NEW YORK (AP) — Nearly a year after rushing to the World Trade Center, nearly 600 firefighters and paramedics remain on leave or limited duty because of respiratory problems or stress, department officials reported Monday.

Out of the 300-plus firefighters who developed a severe and persistent condition dubbed "World Trade Center cough," about half are still on medical leave or light duty, or are awaiting evaluations for disability retirement.

In all, some 500 firefighters might eventually retire on disability because of respiratory problems, said Dr. David Prezant, the department's deputy chief medical officer. That is about 4 percent of the city firefighter workforce.

He spoke in a telephone briefing arranged by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which is publishing a report by him and colleagues in a special Sept. 11 issue of its Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

In the publication, Prezant and colleagues said that as of Aug. 28, 358 firefighters and five department paramedics were on medical leave or light duty because of respiratory illness that appeared after the trade center tragedy.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Committed gay couples don't have the choice of marriage

DEAR ABBY: A mother wrote asking if it was wrong to insist her gay son visit her without his partner because she did not support his lifestyle. You compared her son's lifestyle to being married with a spouse.

Sorry! This man and his partner are NOT married.

Before I was married, my husband and I did not sleep together at my parents' home. My parents were not naive, but they did not want unmarried people sharing a bedroom in their home. — **FEELS THE SAME IN WASHINGTON**

DEAR FEELS THE SAME: From that, I infer you and your husband are now welcome to share accommodations in your parents' home because you are married. Until unions among committed gay couples are formally recognized, the son and his partner are as close as they can get to being "married." To discriminate against people for something they're not legally permitted is wrong. **Read on:**

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for saying that people are born gay and don't choose to be that way. As the mother of a gay child, I know it's true. It's frustrating to continually hear that my child should be "deprogrammed" to be heterosexual or that somehow being gay was a personal choice. Nothing could be further from the truth. — **SHARON IN LEXINGTON, KY.**

DEAR SHARON: Over the decades during which my mother wrote this column, she never once told me she had received a letter from — or encountered — anyone who told her he or she had "chosen" to be a homosexual. During the many years that I worked with my mother, neither did I. As an honorary consultant to the Group for Advancement of Psychiatry, I once asked this question at a meeting, "Is homosexuality a choice?" Not one physician said a patient had related that his or her sexual orientation was chosen. **Read on:**

DEAR ABBY: Thanks for plugging PFLAG. Hopefully, that mother will learn she didn't lose a son; she just lost precious time with him she can never reclaim.

As the sibling of a gay person, I'm bewildered that people think someone would "choose a lifestyle" that is reviled, assaulted, denied civil rights and otherwise abused by the rest of the population. — **BOB IN ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.**

DEAR BOB: You make a valid point. What I find particularly worrisome is that gay teenagers are among those at highest risk for alcoholism, drug abuse and suicide because of discrimination at a time when they are most vulnerable.

**

DEAR ABBY: That mother should be happy her son is honest about his gay orientation. My husband isn't. When I find him sending nude photos back and forth to guys from gay chat rooms, he lies and says he's only "curious." He also claims he's just chatting online — and then I find he is meeting them. I ask, "Are you having safe sex?" and can't get an answer because he won't admit he's having sex.

He lies to himself, Abby, which makes it easy to lie to me, his family and his macho friends. I'm trying to find counseling for both of us and the marriage, but funds are limited. My husband refuses to admit there's a problem. — **ALONE AND ANGRY IN CINCINNATI**

DEAR ALONE: Go to your computer and type in: www.ssnetwk.org. It's the site of the Straight Spouse Network. You'll find it provides a bonanza of information, including peer support, a reading list and the locations of support groups worldwide. (A new one has just been started in Cincinnati!) You may be justifiably angry, but you are NOT alone in this problem, as you will soon discover. I wish you the best of luck.

**

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

**

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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Date Book

Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2002

Today is the 254th day of 2002 and the 83rd day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1789, the U.S. Senate confirmed President George Washington's nomination of Alexander Hamilton to be secretary of the Treasury.

On this day in 1973, Salvador Allende, Latin America's first democratically elected Marxist leader, died when Chile's armed forces staged a coup. The military, with the backing of the Nixon administration, replaced Allende with the vicious dictator Augusto Pinochet, who ruled over Chile for the next 17 years.

On this day in 2001, over 3,000 people were killed when terrorists flew commercial airplanes into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. A fourth plane, whose target remains unclear, crashed into a Pennsylvania field, killing everyone aboard.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: O. Henry (1862-1910), writer; D.H. Lawrence (1885-1930), writer; Paul "Bear" Bryant (1913-1983), football coach; Brian DePalma (1940-), director, is 62; Kristy McNichol (1962-), actress, is 40.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1946, the Brooklyn Dodgers and the Cincinnati Reds played 19 innings, only to end up in a scoreless tie.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Be still when you have nothing to say; when genuine passion moves you, say what you've got to say, and say it hot." — D.H. Lawrence

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Sept. 6) and first quarter (Sept. 13).

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FBI finishes searching Florida building

BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP) — Federal investigators completed their search Tuesday of the former headquarters of American Media Inc. after scouring the building for 12 days looking for clues in last year's anthrax attack.

"We wrapped up and we left," FBI spokeswoman Judy Orihuela said. She declined to comment further.

Hundreds of samples were collected from the quarantined building, but investigators would not say if they found the source of the anthrax that fatally infected photo editor Robert Stevens last fall.

Stevens was the first of five people to die nationwide in the bioterror attacks.

Armed with new techniques to search for anthrax spores, investigators returned to the building in Boca Raton Aug. 28, hoping new evidence would revive the stalled 11-month-old investigation.

After the Oct. 7 quarantine, American Media moved its headquarters to offices nearby to publish its six supermarket tabloids.

events

LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Two Step numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:

7-10-23-28

Bonus number 12

Estimated jackpot: $200,000

Pick 3

(Day) 3-6-1

(Night) 6-4-3

Cash Five

7-17-18-22-24

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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By Phillip A

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there are five: three

Starkins recounts day of terror in New York

Continued from Page 1

We had a clear view of the top two-thirds of the twin towers from our balcony, and the north tower was clearly on fire. It looked like many floors were burning.

I remember going back downstairs and strapping Connor into his booster seat so he wouldn't see the other television, and calling my father in Snyder. I remember thinking that some sightseeing pilot was either very stupid or had had a heart attack.

I was in the living room with Connor, and Greg was watching NBC in the next room, when we heard an enormous roar and explosion. Our building shook, and Connor got frightened. Greg shouted that another plane had just hit the other tower.

We then ran upstairs to the terrace and saw the enormous, fiery hole in the south tower. Sirens were blaring, people were shouting and crying and streaming into the streets below. Papers were flying everywhere. Things were falling from both towers.

My first reaction was shock and fear. We suddenly understood that this was no accident, and the stock exchange and other possible targets were just across Broadway from us. Then, I was overcome with sheer fury. I was still on the phone with my father, and I held the phone out so he could hear the pandemonium.

Greg and I went downstairs and started packing up our big stroller with things for the kids. I answered several emails and phone calls, but couldn't seem to make many outgoing calls.

Then the intercom rang. It was Flo, the concierge. She was extremely upset and said the fire and police departments were evacuating the building and they were coming up to get us. She said she would wait for us to be sure we got out. We left with Brenna still in her pajamas and knocked on the other doors on our floor.

Everyone was gone but one neighbor, who was watching the towers from the living room windows and decided to stay. The elevator arrived with 2 guys from the building staff. We got on the elevator and, as the doors shut, the power went out, then came back on. We quickly opened the doors and got out. Greg shoved the stroller back into the apartment and we ran down the stairs — Greg carrying the diaper bag and Connor, and me carrying Brenna and my purse.

The further down we went, the smokier it got. We thought maybe our building was on fire, but we decided the only thing we could do was keep going to the lobby.

When we got to the lobby, it was black as night outside and the lobby was filled with very thick smoke and dust. People were saying that a tower had fallen. I don't think we really took that in.

The staff and fire/police were handing out masks, but in a few moments told us to take the kids back upstairs a few flights to find some cleaner air. We went to the third floor and found a woman who opened her apartment to everyone coming back up from the lobby. She had a studio apartment facing north to the parking garage.

A large TV was blaring and the apartment was packed full of people, kids and dogs. One policeman who had been at the scene and had seen the tower fall on the staging area for the emergency personnel seemed to be in shock. One woman just kept crying the whole time. The mothers pooled resources and shared bottles, diapers and pacifiers, and Greg tried to distract Connor from the television by looking out the window at the street below.

We saw the second tower fall on TV, then the debris cloud hit the windows like a huge wave and it was black outside again. We couldn't even see the garage across the street, and the apartment air got quite smoky. One man watched TV intently until they mentioned where the kids from P.S.234 had been taken, then he ran out the door to find his children.

After the air cleared again, I looked outside. It looked like we were on the moon. Cars were parked on the West Side Highway at crazy angles. Everything was covered with what looked like a foot of beige dust. Papers were flying everywhere.

Someone came upstairs and told everyone to leave the building. We went to the lobby, and the building and deli staff had opened the deli and were passing out packages of cookies, bottles of water, and deli aprons soaked in water to put over our heads.

A plain-clothes officer with a badge hanging around his neck grabbed us and told us that everyone with kids had to go in a van. Apparently there was a gas leak at the Downtown Athletic Club next door. He took us across the street and put me in with the two kids. He told Greg to take an apron and meet us at the American Park restaurant at the southern tip of Battery Park.

After everyone with kids got in the van, he told Greg to get in the front seat. Then the officer drove like a madman down West Street to the park and over the park sidewalks to the restaurant. I remember seeing an umbrella stroller sitting in the park by itself covered with dust. Someone had obviously just picked up the kid and run. That image is stuck in my mind.

We got out of the van and were hustled onto a ferry that was pulled in nose-first to the seawall. It didn't matter where the ferry was going — as long as it was away from here. Everyone on the ferry was very quiet. Some people were covered with dust. The ferry went up the Hudson River by Battery Park City and the World Financial Center.

The trade center was just a hole in the sky and an enormous plume of smoke. The smell was like nothing else I have ever smelled. Not just fire, but more. It burned our throats and made us cough.

One of the Gateway Plaza apartment buildings looked like it had been burned out. I couldn't figure out if it was where my friend had lived.

The ferry let us off in Jersey City. The landing was lined with doctors and photographers. We felt like refugees from a war zone. We didn't know where to go, so we "borrowed" a shopping cart from BJ's Wholesale and set out to find a phone. The streets were empty and silent except for military jets roaring by overhead.

A security guard put us all in his Jeep and drove us to the train station at Hoboken but no trains or buses were running. While Greg got pizza, another mother and I changed diapers on the stoop of a bank. By this point, Brenna had dirtied her pajamas and was wearing only a diaper. Several people stopped and offered assistance, and we went to a man's apartment for the afternoon to regroup and try to use the phone.

Later in the day, Greg finally reached a colleague in New Jersey and arranged to stay with his family for the night, so our hosts took us back to the train station.

After about an hour sitting in the station, the train began moving. Connor finally fell asleep, exhausted. Brenna was happily napping in the Snuggly in her diaper. The woman across from me had an ugly gash down her leg that had been hastily bandaged.

Everyone on the train was unnaturally quiet. At one point, we could see the smoke rising from the WTC site. At one station, I watched a woman and her two children run crying into the arms of her husband, who had just gotten off the train, which brought tears to my eyes. How many were not coming home?

After that, a lot of scenes stick in my mind. We stayed with Greg's family for the next two months, with the four of us sleeping in one room. The smoke from the site drifted all the way out on Long Island, and we could smell it again.

We were allowed back into the apartment about a week after 9/11. After walking up 32 flights in the pitch dark, we had about 5 minutes to take clothes and important documents. The smell from all the rotting refrigerators was overpowering. A reservation slip from Windows on the World (a restaurant in the World Trade Center) was on our terrace. "Missing" posters covered every telephone pole, bus shelter and wall all over Manhattan.

We went to a wedding in Manhattan the first weekend where the guests drove in from all over the country. We went to a memorial service, the largest and most heart-wrenching I have ever seen.

A few weeks later, we managed to talk our way past about 10 security checkpoints manned by armed National Guardsmen and police and take Connor's bed and a suitcase. We took Connor to the building to pack a box of toys and say goodbye.

The playground across the street where he used to play was piled with burned-out fire trucks and ambulances. Connor just recently stopped asking when we were going back to our "old house." Maybe we would have moved back if we hadn't had the kids, but we decided not to – too many questions about air quality, asbestos contamination, possible future attacks.

Our lives have changed in the obvious ways. Greg's commute has now gone from a 7 minute walk to an hour and a half plus by car, train and subway. We live in the woods of Long Island, we drive everywhere instead of walking.

In addition, I am incredibly sad for the lives lost, the neighborhood destroyed. I am incredibly grateful that we were so lucky in so many ways. I like to think I know now what's really important, but sometimes I feel helpless to protect it, to protect my family.

Attack victims will get some tax breaks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Taxpayers who lost a spouse or a job in the Sept. 11 attacks will get a break when it comes to selling a home.

Those affected by the attacks will able to exclude all or part of the gain they receive from selling their home even if they did so before meeting the usual two-year requirement, the Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service announced Thursday.

The tax law requires a person to own a home for two of the five years before the sale to exclude any gain. Certain exceptions are made for health problems and other unforeseen circumstances.

The announcement Thursday clarifies that the Sept. 11 attacks should be one of those unforeseen circumstances and gives the IRS discretion to make determinations.

A person qualifies as affected by Sept. 11 if their spouse or home co-owner was killed in the attacks, if their primary residence was damaged, if they lost their job and became eligible for unemployment benefits or if they are unable to pay living expenses because of a change in employment.

Treasury and IRS officials said they will issue the regulations soon.

On The Net:
IRS: http://www.irs.gov/
Department of the Treasury: http://www.treasury.gov/

'What-ifs' continue today

WASHINGTON (AP) — The weapons were crude, the plot staggering in its conceit. Bring down buildings, kill, shake America to its core.

A year later the what-ifs — the myriad ways disaster might have been averted if only certain things had happened years ago, weeks earlier, minutes before — hang out there still, like the trails of smoke that took months to vanish from the fallen giants of New York.

Nagging questions remain about how the terror attacks unfolded over two hours and a few minutes in four airplanes on a bright blue morning. About how 19 terrorists could turn the skies so dark in airliners that ripped straight into one skyscraper, angled crazily into another, punched into a fortress and came down in a field.

Even now, U.S. officials don't know whether Osama bin Laden dispatched his terrorists or just sat back with a measure of foreknowledge and much anticipation, his ear glued to the radio. They don't know if he's dead or alive, either.

No one knows what the terrorists knew. Some, it is believed, did not know the details of their mission even as they pulled it off. U.S. officials think some did not realize they would die that day.

Yet a year of investigation has filled in more of the puzzle.

It is thought with more conviction that the plane that hit the Pentagon was meant to all along. Early theories that those hijackers might have been target-shopping, perhaps headed at first for the Capitol, are discounted.

Authorities also believe the White House was the intended target of Flight 93, the plane that crashed in Pennsylvania.

In New York, the takeout of the World Trade Center spoke for itself.

Early suppositions about the significance of Sept. 11 have fallen away. There was no particular or symbolic reason for moving on that day, authorities now think. As far as the hijackers were concerned, it was just another day to enter paradise.

The what-ifs? They go on and on:

—What if lead hijacker Mohammed Atta and the accomplice traveling with him had missed their flight, as they almost did?

—What if the traffic violations that brought three of the four suspected hijacking pilots to the attention of the law had revealed something more sinister?

—What if FBI headquarters had paid more attention to warning signs from its agents?

—What if United Flight 93 in Newark, N.J., already running 40 minutes late and still on the tarmac when the first hijacking was reported, had been delayed even longer? Soon after, no airliners were allowed to take off.

Most what-ifs will never be answered beyond a doubt. Congressional inquiries and history's need to know seek answers to the most profound — what if the government had been better prepared, had systematically gone after al-Qaida in the months or years before, had somehow been less innocent?

The hijackers came to the United States with valid papers, most a few months before the attacks. For the most part, they learned or polished their flying skills and did little more than they had to do. They were focused.

Farmer recalls last Sept. 11

Continued from Page 1

watching TV and we just sat there in silence until we left the airplane," said Farmer.

Farmer said they were inside the terminal when the second airplane hit and what she remembered most about the situation was the silence that gripped the terminal.

"The silence in that airport is what made an impact on me," said Farmer, president of Snyder's branch of First American Bank.

"There was no panic, it was totally quiet."

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North 09-11-02 ♠ K 9 2 ♥ 5 2 ♦ 4 3 ♣ K Q J 10 9 7	
West ♠ Q 10 8 7 4 ♥ K 9 4 ♦ K J 8 6 ♣ 2		East ♠ 6 5 3 ♥ J 10 8 3 ♦ 10 9 7 ♣ A 8 5
	South ♠ A J ♥ A Q 7 6 ♦ A Q 5 2 ♣ 6 4 3	

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 7

Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2002

Sit on your hands to slow down play

By Phillip Alder

Michael Caine, that dashingly handsome (or so women tell me!) British actor, said, "The basic rule of human nature is that powerful people speak slowly and subservient people quickly — because if they don't speak fast, nobody will listen to them."

Powerful bridge experts play slowly; the less capable, quickly — and inaccurately.

In this deal, take your time. You are South, declaring in three no-trump. West leads the spade seven. How would you continue?

First, count your top tricks. After the lead into the spade tenace, there are five: three spades and two red-suit aces. And five tricks can be established in clubs. Next, read the lead. Assuming West has led his fourth-highest spade, East cannot have a high spade. The only three missing spades higher than the seven — the eight, 10 and queen — must all be in West's hand.

However, if you win the first trick with the spade jack and an opponent can hold up the club ace until the third round, there will be no dummy entry. (For the experts: East will know the club position as soon as West plays the two. That must be a singleton, because with a doubleton club, West would play high-low. And if West had three clubs, South would have a singleton, which is impossible given his one-no-trump opening bid.) The solution is to win the first trick with the spade ace.

You drive out the club ace and eventually overtake your spade jack with dummy's king to run the rest of the clubs. Win trick one cheaply, and you are down.

What is my number-one tip for someone who wishes to improve? Play more slowly.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF PROPOSED
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
Special Election
NOVEMBER 5, 2002

Explanatory Brief for HJR 2
HJR 2 would amend the constitution to allow the commissioners court of a county to declare the office of constable dormant if that office has been vacant for at least seven consecutive years. The records of a constable office that is declared dormant will be transferred to the county clerk. If the office is declared dormant, the previous office-holder does not continue to hold the office. The office may not be filled by election or appointment unless the commissioners court votes to reinstate the office or a majority of votes cast in an election held on the issue favor reinstatement. The reinstatement election may be held if the commissioners court on its own motion orders such an election, or the reinstatement election must be held if the commissioners court receives a petition signed by 10% of the registered voters of the constable precinct.
The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows:
"The constitutional amendment authorizing the commissioners court of a county to declare the office of constable in a precinct to be dormant if the office has not been filled by election or appointment for a lengthy period and providing a procedure for the reinstatement of the office."
Este es el informe explanatorio sobre la enmienda propuesta a la constitución que aparecerá en la boleta el 5 de noviembre de 2002. Si usted no ha recibido una copia de los informes in español, podrá obetener una gratis por llamar al 1/800/252/8683 o por escribir al Secretario de Estado, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, TX 78711. **PUBLISHED BY SECRETARY OF STATE GWYN SHEA**

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SEP 11 2002

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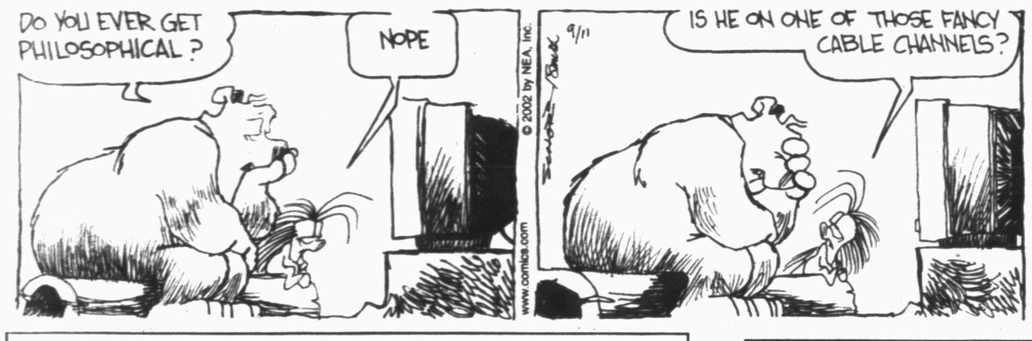
BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Philanthropist
6 Tack on
12 Deleted
14 Wool coat
15 Make a difference
16 Fright
17 New Haven student
18 Water, to Pierre
19 Scratch
21 TV accessory
23 Close kin
26 Prevaricate
27 Comic — Brooks
28 Jamie Lee's mom
30 Ms. Thurman
31 Dos Passos trilogy
32 Senior
33 Rudner and Moreno
35 Banjo cousin
37 Timetable info
38 Vista
39 Reserved
40 Graceful tree
41 FICA ID
42 Maude portrayer
43 Juice-based drink
44 Want-ad abbr.
46 Nanny's charge
48 Frauds
51 Encroach on
55 California team
56 — at (maligns)
57 Like a forest
58 Doze

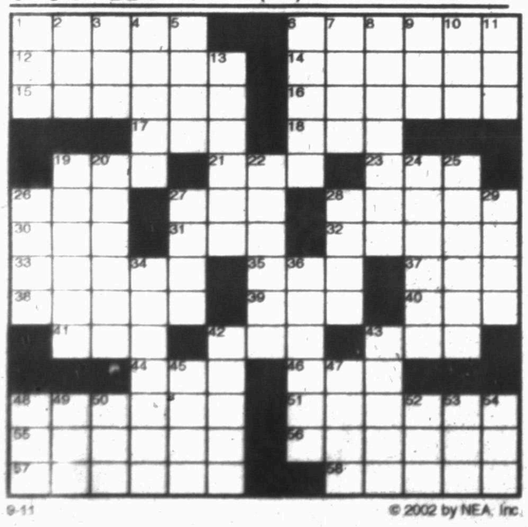
DOWN

1 Rare mineral
2 Retiree's kitty
3 Wine cask
4 Fragrant compound
5 Wobble
6 Following
7 Cop a —
8 Study
9 Poetic adverb
10 Cpl. or Sgt.
11 German article
13 Goads
19 Copies
20 Slackens off
22 Contract section
24 Truly
25 Common bug
26 Ermine and mink
27 Reflect
28 Young kangaroo
29 London streetcar
34 Incorporated
36 Tan slacks
42 Domineering
43 Tylenol competitor
45 Electric swimmers
47 Motels of yore
48 Gee's opposite
49 "Double " Fantasy" singer
50 Historian's word
52 Tarzan companion
53 Pop singer Kiki —
54 Parapsychology topic

Answer to Previous Puzzle

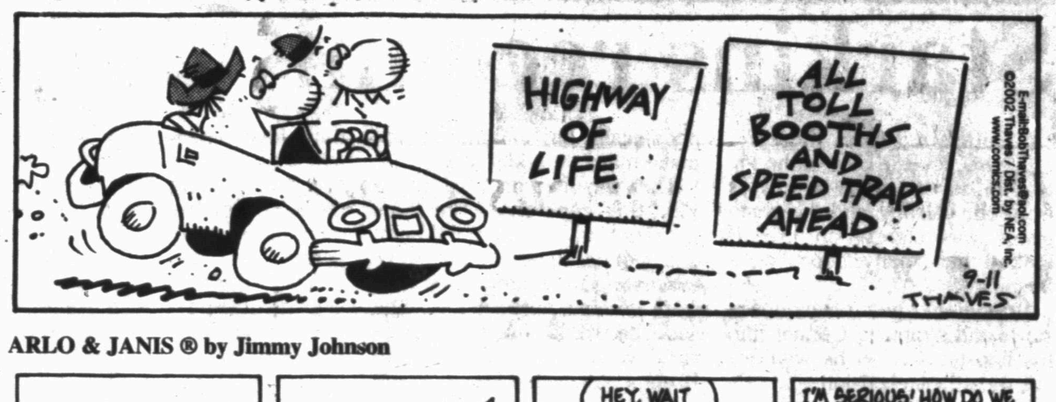
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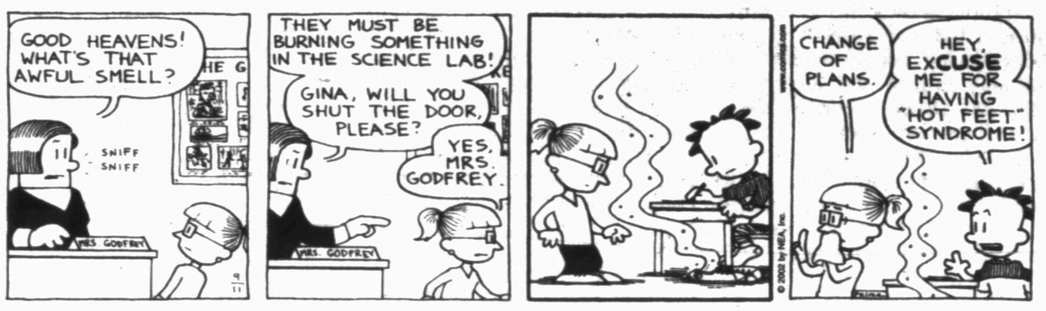
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



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BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



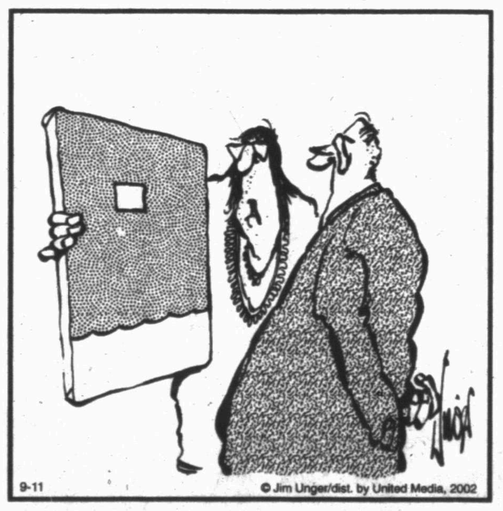
ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



Snyder Daily News Comics

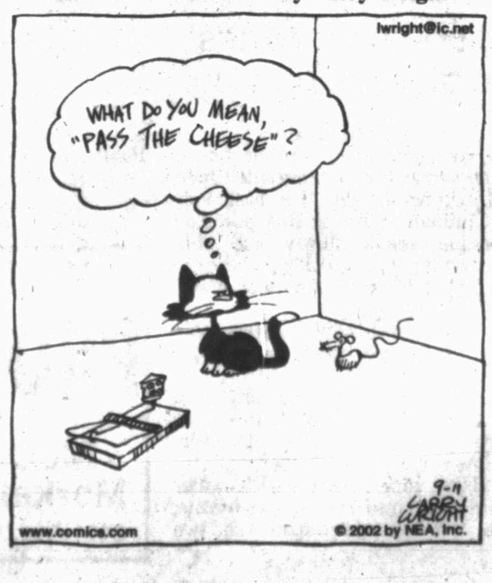
DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



A TIME TO REMEMBER

"This is 'Moon Over the Ocean,' painted basically from memory!"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



SPORTS

Freshmen victorious in both matches...

SHS spikers have mixed results at Midland Lee

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

The Snyder varsity volleyball team returned from Midland Tuesday night with two losses, but with encouraging words from their head coach.

"They are really coming along as a team," Laura Moses said. "Everybody did an excellent job."

Snyder dropped a three-set match to Midland Lee, 15-7, 9-15 and 8-15. Shelley Fisk pumped in nine service points, and Kelby Drum added eight points in the hard-fought contest.

Snyder dropped a close, two-set match to Monahans, 12-15 and 11-15. Kelsi Johnson contributed 8 points in the defeat.

The losses dropped the varsity squad to 9-12 on the season, but Moses said the team is improving with each match. "They were both good matches," Moses said. She said the entire team put out maximum effort in both contests, so much so that she said she could not single out any one player. "Everyone did excellent job."

The junior varsity netters dropped both matches at the meet, losing to Midland Lee 5-15 and 6-15 before falling to Monahans 10-15, 15-12 and 6-15. Head Coach Wendy Parks said she was not pleased with the effort of her team during the Midland match, though some individuals played well.

"We didn't move our feet and play together as a team," she said. She said the team played with more effort against Monahans, coming back from a 0-13 deficit in the first game, but still lacked cohesion as a unit.

She said Courtney Cox played a good all-around game, and Jacy Beccue added some solid hits in the matches. Parks said Kayla Guerrero played good defense and contributed consistent passing throughout the meet.

"We just aren't playing as a team right now," she said, adding that she wanted to see a better effort at the Lamesa tourney this weekend.

"I want to see them flying to the ball — I don't want to see any ball hitting the floor without a team effort to reach it."

Freshmen head coach Shelley Hayes said her team also is starting to jell. "We finally came together as a team," she said. "We saw some good things that we have been working hard on."

The freshmen won both matches, improving their season record to 7-5.

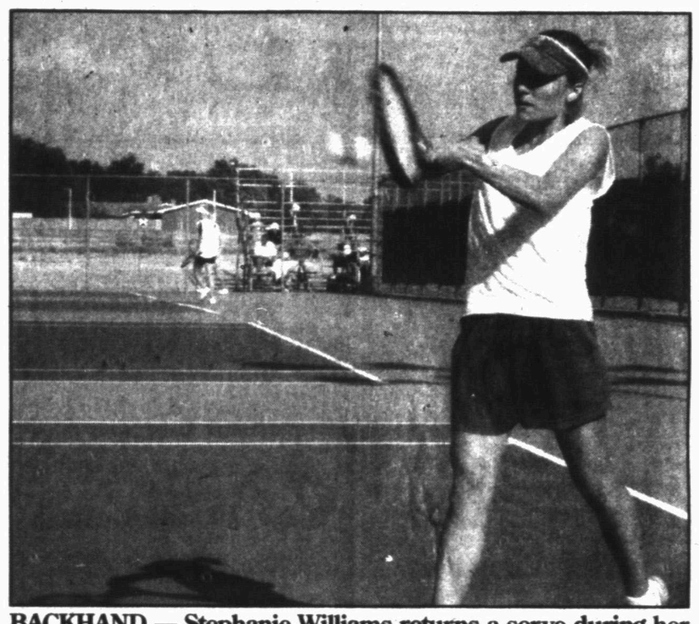
The squad defeated Monahans 15-10, 4-15 and 15-6, with Jessica Taylor contributing nine points and Teddi Crenwelge adding seven in the match.

The team then beat host Midland Lee in three sets, 15-13, 8-15 and 15-8. Bianca Gonzales led all scorers with 10 service points.

"Bianca played really well," Hayes said. "She came through with some big serves, and Erica Little helped with strong setting."

The varsity and freshmen teams next host Colorado City Saturday, with the freshmen getting under way at noon and the varsity taking the floor at 1 p.m. Prior to the games, the team will host a Meet the Lady Tigers event in the gym at 11:30 a.m.

The JV will be at the Lamesa tournament Friday and Saturday.



BACKHAND — Stephanie Williams returns a serve during her match Tuesday versus Big Spring. Williams cruised to a 6-1, 6-1 triumph as Snyder took the meet. (SDN Staff Photo)

Sports world remembers Sept. 11

By the Associated Press

The sports world honors the anniversary of Sept. 11 with moments of silence in baseball, observances at European soccer games and a candlelight vigil at U.S. Olympic headquarters.

All major league night games Wednesday will pause in silence at 9:11 p.m. local time. A videotape then will be shown in memory of those who died in the attacks. During afternoon games, the moment of silence and video were scheduled for the seventh-inning stretch.

Wednesday's 16-game schedule was unaffected by the government's decision Tuesday to raise the United States' security alert warning to "high risk."

During the day baseball games, a logo was to be displayed on the field, outfield walls, bases and lineup cards, incorporating the Stars and Stripes, the major league baseball logo, a red-white-and-blue ribbon and the phrase "We Shall Not Forget."

Players' caps will feature the American flag, and each fan attending a game will receive a T-shirt featuring the logo. Fans will be encouraged to wear the T-shirt during the game, specifically for the moment of silence.

Some players, like Mets closer John Franco and Twins closer Eddie Guardado, would have preferred a day off to reflect. Commissioner Bud Selig made the call for the games to go on.

"I think it's important to play, for the same reason the president said it was important to try to get things back to normal," Selig said. "It's a sensitive question, and I can see both sides. It's very personal. There's no right or wrong.

The U.S. Olympic Committee scheduled a morning ceremony, with its athletes holding a candlelight vigil at night.

USOC staff members and training center athletes were to observe two minutes of silence at 8:46 a.m. MDT throughout the complex in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The Olympic torch at the visitors center will be lighted for 24 hours and flags at the USOC will fly at half-staff.

The Meadowlands Racetrack and Monmouth Park will be closed. The Meadowlands had a thoroughbred and simulcast card scheduled, and Monmouth Park had simulcast racing scheduled.

Area Sports Calendar

THURSDAY
Football: Ira JV at Dawson, 6:30 p.m.
Football: Snyder freshman at Lubbock Cooper, 7 p.m.
Football: Ira junior high, split squad, 6 p.m.
Football: Borden County junior high and JV at Ropes, 6 p.m.
Volleyball: Snyder junior high at Midland Christian, 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY
Football: Benjamin at Ira, 7:30 p.m.
Football: Ropes at Borden County, 7:30 p.m.
Football: Hermleigh at Moran, 7:30
Baseball: Howard JC at WTC, 2 p.m.
Volleyball: Snyder junior varsity at Lamesa Tourney.

SATURDAY
Volleyball: Snyder varsity and freshmen vs. Colorado City, noon.
Volleyball: Snyder JV at Lamesa Tourney.
Tennis: Snyder at Levelland, 9 a.m.

MLB Standings

National League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Atlanta	91	51	.641	—
Florida	71	73	.493	21
Montreal	71	74	.490	21½
Philadelphia	70	75	.483	22½
New York	68	75	.476	23½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	83	61	.576	—
Houston	78	67	.538	5½
Cincinnati	71	73	.493	12
Pittsburgh	63	82	.434	20½
Chicago	61	84	.421	22½
Milwaukee	51	94	.352	32½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	89	56	.614	—
San Francisco	83	61	.576	5½
Los Angeles	82	62	.569	6½
Colorado	65	80	.448	24
San Diego	61	84	.421	28

x-clinched division

Tuesday's Games
Florida 6, Philadelphia 4, 1st game
Florida 2, Philadelphia 1, 2nd game
Cincinnati 3, Pittsburgh 0
Atlanta 12, N.Y. Mets 6
Montreal 6, Chicago Cubs 2
Houston 11, Colorado 4
St. Louis 8, Milwaukee 3
Arizona 8, San Diego 2
San Francisco 5, Los Angeles 2

Wednesday's Games
Pittsburgh (Benson 7-6) at Cincinnati (Dessens 7-7), 12:35 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Trachsel 9-10) at Atlanta (Marquis 8-8), 1:05 p.m., 1st game
Montreal (Yoshii 4-6) at Chicago Cubs (Al.Benes 1-1), 2:20 p.m.
Los Angeles (Nomo 13-6) at San Francisco (Rueter 12-7), 3:35 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Leiter 12-11) at Atlanta (Millwood 16-6), 7:05 p.m., 2nd game
Florida (Penny 6-5) at Philadelphia (B.Myers 3-4), 7:05 p.m.
Colorado (Cook 1-1) at Houston (Saarloos 6-4), 8:05 p.m.
St. Louis (An.Benes 5-4) at Milwaukee (Sheets 9-15), 8:05 p.m.
San Diego (Eaton 0-1) at Arizona (Batista 7-6), 9:35 p.m.

Thursday's Games
N.Y. Mets (Middlebrook 1-3) at Montreal (Ohka 13-7), 7:05 p.m.
Florida (Tejera 8-7) at Philadelphia (Roa 3-3), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Smyth 1-3) at Cincinnati (Estes 5-12), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Finley 5-4) at Houston (C.Hernandez 7-5), 8:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Daal 11-7) at Colorado (Stark 9-3), 9:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Jensen 11-8) at San Diego (Ol.Perez 3-3), 10:05 p.m.

American League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	91	53	.632	—
Boston	81	62	.566	9½
Toronto	65	80	.448	26½
Baltimore	64	79	.448	26½
Tampa Bay	48	96	.333	43

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	84	61	.579	—
Chicago	71	74	.490	13
Cleveland	64	80	.444	19½
Kansas City	55	89	.382	28½
Detroit	52	93	.359	32

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	91	53	.632	—
Anaheim	89	55	.618	2
Seattle	84	60	.583	7
Texas	67	77	.465	24

Tuesday's Games
N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 2, 1st game
N.Y. Yankees 3, Baltimore 1, 2nd game
Toronto 5, Cleveland 4
Boston 12, Tampa Bay 1
Minnesota 11, Detroit 4
Texas 3, Seattle 2
Chicago White Sox 12, Kansas City 4
Anaheim 5, Oakland 2

Wednesday's Games
Detroit (Redman 8-14) at Minnesota (Radke 7-4), 1:05 p.m.
Toronto (Smith 0-3) at Cleveland (Burba 5-5), 7:05 p.m.
Boston (P.Martinez 17-4) at Tampa Bay (P.Wilson 6-9), 7:15 p.m.
Baltimore (Stephens 1-4) at N.Y. Yankees (O.Hernandez 8-4), 7:50 p.m.
Seattle (Garcia 15-10) at Texas (Lewis 1-2), 8:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 17-10) at Kansas City (May 3-9), 8:05 p.m.
Oakland (Lidle 8-10) at Anaheim (Lackey 8-3), 10:05 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Chicago White Sox (Garland 10-11) at Kansas City (Sedlacek 3-5), 2:05 p.m.
Boston (Wakefield 9-5) at Tampa Bay (V.Zambrano 6-6), 2:15 p.m.
Seattle (Franklin 6-3) at Texas (Park 8-6), 3:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Mays 3-6) at Cleveland (Sabathia 11-10), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Douglass 0-2) at N.Y. Yankees (D.Wells 16-7), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Mulder 17-7) at Anaheim (Callaway 1-0), 10:05 p.m.

Cordero, Rangers top Mariners, 3-2

ARLINGTON (AP) — Francisco Cordero earned his eighth save in nine chances Tuesday night, striking out Seattle in the ninth in a 3-2 victory over the Mariners.

He ended the game with a two-strike fastball to Bret Boone to seal the Rangers' second straight win over the Mariners. Seattle won 10 of its first 12 against Texas this season.

"He's a great pitcher," said Rangers catcher Ivan Rodriguez, who went 2-for-3. "He's very tough to hit. The last pitch to Boone was 97 miles per hour on the (corner)."

Cordero is finally healthy after missing most of last season with a back injury and sitting out more than a month this season with a strained right shoulder.

Sports Briefs

Meet the Lady Tigers

The SHS volleyball program will host a Meet the Lady Tigers Saturday at 11:30 at the SHS gym. Cost for lunch, drink and dessert is $5.

Men's club championship

The Scurry County Golf Course will the men's club championship Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m. Cost is $20 per man. Call the pro shop at 573-7101 to register.

Volleyball tournament

Our Lady of Guadalupe will host a Jamaican volleyball tournament Sept. 22 at 9 a.m. at the church. Entry fee is $70 per team. Call Lewis at 573-7321 for more info.

Player refuses to enter game

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Kansas City Royals shortstop Neifi Perez refused to enter the night's game as a defensive replacement, later saying he was only joking with manager Tony Pena.

Mesa rejects stadium for Cardinals

PHOENIX (AP) — Mesa residents rejected a proposal to build a $350 million stadium for the Arizona Cardinals in their city.

Jones homers in four straight at-bats

ATLANTA (AP) — Braves outfielder Andruw Jones became the 11th player in NL history to homer in four straight at-bats, though the streak began three days earlier.
Jones hit a pair of solo homers off Pedro Astacio of the New York Mets before the streak ended with a two-run single in the fifth.

Webber denies lying to grand jury

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Chris Webber, making his first public statement since being indicted on federal charges, said he did not lie to a grand jury and that he tried to help prosecutors in their case

Snyder netters top Big Spring Tuesday, 11-8

After falling to Big Spring 9-10 for the district title last year, the Snyder varsity tennis team got a modicum of revenge against the Steers Tuesday, winning a tight meet, 11-8.

"It was a really good win for us," said head coach Ted Phillips. "Big Spring is a real good team."

The Tigers took six of the seven doubles matches, which left the team needing only four singles victories to take the match. The early doubles victories put all the pressure on the Big Spring squad, according to Phillips.

The girls' doubles team took all three matches to give Snyder its margin of victory. Pat Vargas and Andra Dunham cruised to a two-set triumph, 6-2, 6-0. Cozy Jones and Kara Brumley did Vargas and Jones one better, dropping only one game on their way to a 6-1, 6-0 win. Jackie Beccue and Afton Sutter won in straight sets, 6-2, 6-4.

"Cozy had a great day," Phillips said. "She just dominated her matches." Jones took her singles match 6-0, 6-2.

The boys' doubles won two out of three, with Curt Phillips and Adam Rodgers winning in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4. Horacio De Paz and Tanner Reed won a tough three-set match, 2-6, 7-5, 6-2. Rankin Hardin and Matt Hale were defeated 3-6, 4-6.

Tanner Reed won the only boys singles match for Snyder, beating Big Spring's Justin Ferrel 7-6, 6-2.

Aside from Jones, Dunham, Afton Sutter and Stephanie Williams all won their singles matches, with Williams combining with Joseph Ynguanzo for a 6-4, 6-3 win.

Next up for the tennis team is a trip to Levelland for a dual meet with Hobbs and host Levelland Saturday. The Levelland match is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m., with the Hobbs matches slated for 1 o'clock that afternoon.

Snyder ladies at Western Lone Star Tournament

Defending Snyder Country Club champion Anita Talbott was defeated in the first flight of the opening round of match play at the Western Lone Star Senior Ladies Tournament in Canadian, Tex. Talbott lost to Irita Colson 1 up.

Other Snyder participants include Susie Reed, who lost in the second flight 3-2. Peggy Hardin took her match in the third flight 6-5.

Two Snyder residents squared off in the sixth flight, with Juanita Hester defeating Jo Sterling 3-1. Also in the sixth flight, Esther Guelker was beaten 1 up.

The tournament will run through Friday.

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Insurance in New York now costs more

NEW YORK (AP) — Property insurance in New York has become far more costly and harder to obtain after the Sept. 11 attack, raising concerns that major buildings will be underinsured.

"Terrorism was covered by insurance prior to Sept. 11 but never priced into insurance," said P.J. Crowley, vice president of the Insurance Information Institute, a nonprofit organization supported by the property and casualty insurance industry.

"We price insurance based on things that happen on a frequent basis," Crowley said. "We now have an experience of a major terrorism attack."

Many insurers in Manhattan are not writing new policies and when they do are limiting risks and raising premiums as much as 300 percent, said T.J. Derella, vice president of the Professional Insurance Agents of New York State. The problem is particularly acute near the World Trade Center site.

Fewer policies and higher premiums have been seen to lesser extents in other U.S. cities and at "trophy" properties and government buildings, analysts say. Across the country, properties as diverse as Jewish charity buildings and bridges are more costly to insure because they are potential targets for terrorists.

Although property owners are reluctant to discuss their coverage, Derella said he suspects "major properties" in New York are quietly going underinsured because of rising premiums. The agents' group also said property owners once covered by one company are now forced to carry smaller policies with various companies.

Gary Walunas, whose Broad Street Florist shop is not far from ground zero, said he lost $15,000 to $20,000 in business after the attack. The shop was in a closed-off zone, without electricity for a week and telephone service for three weeks.

His insurance company, Utica National, reimbursed part of his losses. But when his policy was up for renewal, he said, the annual rate increased from $1,000 to $1,500 and the deductible doubled from $250 to $500.

"Many businesses are having similar problems, and some can't get as much insurance as they need because they just can't afford it," he said.

Utica National spokesman Mike Austin said he could not comment on specific cases but said premiums reflect the terrorist threat.

"Everyone is paying for the cost of terrorism. If our company can get reinsurance, it's become very, very expensive now," he said. "Since Sept. 11, we try not to concentrate risk in one building or one block."

Rising insurance costs are considered a drag on the sluggish economy in lower Manhattan, where commercial vacancy hovers near 15 percent, twice the rate of a year ago. The city comptroller is expected to release the results of a survey next month on the economic impact of the insurance changes.

The troubles actually started before Sept. 11, when the economy took a downturn; premiums began to climb to make up for the decline in insurance companies' investment income.

But the attacks caused companies an estimated $50 billion in losses — far more than the total blamed on 1992's Hurricane Andrew, which drove a dozen insurers out of business.

Gregory Serio, superintendent of the New York Insurance Department, said the attacks "could not have come at a worse time."

Families join public in mourning Flight 93

SHANKSVILLE, Pa. (AP) — A bell tolled 40 times Wednesday, once for each victim of United Flight 93, as thousands of people gathered in a grassy field remembered the passengers and crew hailed as heroes for struggling to take back their hijacked plane.

The tolling, accompanied by the reading of each victim's name, led up to the moment that the plane crashed at 10:06 a.m. last Sept. 11.

It followed a moment of silence for world peace and a fly-over by three military planes.

Relatives and friends came to western Pennsylvania take part in the ceremony, which began at 9:30 a.m. with a performance by the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra.

More than 500 toured the site privately Tuesday, including Alice Hoglan, whose son Mark Bingham died in the crash.

"It helps me a lot to know it's such a beautiful place," said Hoglan, 52, of Los Gatos, Calif.

Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge, who was governor of Pennsylvania at the time of the Sept. 11 disaster, was scheduled to speak.

Flight 93 crashed in the countryside about 70 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. Investigators say people on board confronted the four terrorists and brought the plane down far from its intended target, perhaps the U.S. Capitol or the White House.

President Bush was expected to visit the site later today, after the ceremony, and meet privately with families at the actual crash site, which remains enclosed behind a metal fence.

Rising cost of labor could threaten Southwest's profits

DALLAS (AP) — By just about any measure, Southwest Airlines defied the headwind that battered the airline industry after Sept. 11.

It was the first major carrier to resume advertising eight days later, it launched the first fare sale two weeks after the terror attacks, and it didn't cut flights or lay off workers.

While the other six largest carriers lost $7.3 billion last year, and another $2.8 billion so far this year, Southwest has continued to post profits, although they are much smaller.

As it did in the early 1990s, Southwest has eked out profits during an industrywide slump by charging lower fares for basic service and cutting costs to the bone.

Last week, American Airlines announced it too would cut costs by eliminating 7,000 jobs and making other changes. Analysts generally applauded the move, but doubted that rivals like American could mimic Southwest.

"American and even US Airways in bankruptcy are never going to reduce their cost structure to Southwest's level," declared Ray Neidl of Blaylock & Partners, a longtime airline industry analyst.

But Southwest could still hit rough weather. It faces serious challenges to controlling costs, especially from its heavily unionized work force.

Southwest's profit margin is so thin — 4.5 percent of revenue this year, down from 9.2 percent last year and 10.7 percent in 2000 — that significantly high labor costs could throw it into the red.

Southwest prides itself for never having layoffs and facing only one brief strike in its 31-year history. Days after Sept. 11, when the outlook for travel was still doubtful, the airline went ahead with a payment to employee profit-sharing plan.

But if chief executive James Parker hoped the payment and the absence of layoffs would appease his employees, he may have miscalculated.

Southwest is locked in difficult negotiations with its 4,100 pilots, who on Monday ratified a contract extension that would give them a 35 percent raise over four years.

Sexual assault investigated

Sexual assault

Scurry County sheriff's deputies are investigating a sexual assault reported Tuesday morning.

A woman contacted authorities at the sheriff department at 7 a.m. Tuesday in reference to a possible assault. Deputies spoke with the woman and advised an offense report for sexual assault would be submitted.

No other information was released due to the ongoing investigation.

Accident

Snyder police officers responded to the scene of a two-vehicle minor accident Tuesday morning at 30th Street and Ave. E. Involved were a 1998 Ford Explorer driven by Consuelo Hodges, 24, of 301 23rd Street and a 1988 Chevrolet pickup driven by Amanda Villa, 27, of 2804 Ave. H.

No injuries were reported.

Prowlers

A woman requested an officer at her residence in the 2800 block of Ave. V early today after hearing voices outside her window.

A man in the 2700 block of Ave. M reported his dogs were barking just before 4 a.m. today and requested an officer check the area.

Close patrols were initiated in both instances.

Gas drive off

A clerk at Town and Country East reported a gas drive off Tuesday afternoon in the amount of $15.99, but was unable to provide a description of the vehicle or its driver.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Ritalin therapy? Only after testing

DEAR DR. GOTT: We are having trouble with my 7-year-old grandson because he has temper tantrums, spits and kicks at his teachers and is very disruptive in school. Friends have recommended Ritalin therapy for hyperactivity disorder, but his father refuses this therapy, even though he himself was on it for years because of Attention Deficit Disorder. Please give us advice that will change his mind.

DEAR READER: I'm afraid I cannot. I, too, am concerned about the current fad of stimulant overprescribing. Therefore, I agree with your grandson's father that Ritalin therapy may not be an appropriate solution to the child's outbursts.

In my opinion, your best bet is to involve the boy's pediatrician. This physician is the person most familiar with your grandson's health issues, can make a valid judgment about drug treatment or alternative therapy (such as counseling) and can refer the child to appropriate specialists if needed. I believe that youngsters should not be prescribed stimulant medication without first being thoroughly tested by a health professional who is trained in such disorders, including ADHD. Once the family has the necessary information available, you can make more reliable decisions regarding treatment. Thus, my answer to your plea is: Keep an open mind and rely on the experts for advice.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My son has suffered from asthma for years. He was told by a lung specialist that the condition would probably worsen after age 40. This has proved to be correct, and he's been hospitalized several times. Medication seems to be ineffective. What can be done?

DEAR READER: Sometimes asthma worsens with age; often, however, it improves. The reasons for this are unknown. On the bright side, today there is a virtual armamentarium of medication, both to treat the disease and to prevent recurrences. These medicines come in pill, liquid and aerosol form. Also, steroids, such as prednisone, are more widely used now to treat acute asthma attacks that resist standard therapy.

I don't understand why, in view of the many effective drugs available, your son appears to be having more problems with his asthma. Perhaps he is reacting to something in his environment, including air pollution, animal dander or tobacco smoke — all of which can cause asthma in a susceptible individual. In any case, he should once again put himself under the care of a pulmonologist, who will experiment with various types and dosages of medicine until an appropriate combination is discovered.

I might add that asthma can lead to emphysema. If your son has developed this affliction, he may experience repeated infections, difficulty breathing and exercise intolerance. Such symptoms are not due directly to the asthma, but to the emphysema. In such an instance, the pulmonologist will alter his approach to the management of your son's chronic respiratory disorder.

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 a self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title.

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Sept. 12, 2002

The year ahead will be offering you many fresh opportunities to meet new people and to get involved in new activities. The contacts you make could turn out to be extremely fortunate for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — When you put your energies toward doing worthwhile things for others today, Dame Fortune will step in and help you end up doing well for yourself in the process. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Don't underscore your brainstorms today just because someone else gives them a thumbs down. They may be too big for that person, but not for you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Your material prospects look encouraging both today and tomorrow, but you must take the bull by the horns and do things on your own in order to get the good luck that's waiting for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — If you let that old axiom, "If you want something done right, do it yourself," guide you today, it will substantially enhance not only your productivity, but your financial returns as well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Several important objectives that could be meaningful to you in material ways can be achieved today if you apply yourself. After you get the ball rolling, Lady Luck will intervene.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Your aspirations and expectations have very good chances of being fulfilled today, so don't allow negative thinkers to rain on your parade.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — The only thing that can beat you at this time is sizing up your competition unrealistically by empowering them with qualities they do not possess. You're the one with the edge today.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — The impression you make on others today will be long remembered. Keep your guard up so that you don't do anything to tarnish your usual easy-going nature.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Lady Luck will be doing her part to help you develop new sources for meeting your material needs and wants, though she does expect that you will be able to recognize the opportunities and do something about them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — When you take an interest in what is best for others, and show a willingness to help them achieve their desires today, is when things will prove to be good for you as well. Don't be too self-involved.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — If you handle a number of things today that you've been letting slip by the boards lately, this can be an extremely productive day for you. Make a list of priorities and get going.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — That outgoing, optimistic manner you possess will help to enhance your popularity today with the opposite gender. Just don't prejudge anyone, because you could be passing up a good catch.

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SEP 11 2002

Scurry County Country

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Texas' Cattle Tuberculosis Action Plan Focuses on "High-Risk" Animals

Texas livestock health officials have presented a compromise plan to the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) that, if approved, would eliminate a federal regulation requiring steers to be identified with approved ear tags, and feeder heifers to be tagged and tested for cattle tuberculosis (TB) when they leave Texas after Jan. 1, 2003. The "Texas Cattle Tuberculosis (TB) Action Plan," which is under review by the USDA, would instead target surveillance on "at-risk" cattle populations within Texas. Cattle TB is a bacterial disease that can cause infected cattle to develop internal lesions in the lungs, lymph nodes or on other organs.

"In June, Texas lost its 'free' status for cattle tuberculosis (TB), because, during the past year, two of the state's 153,000 cattle herds were found to be infected. These two herds-a dairy and a purebred beef herd–have been depopulated and another 150 nearby or epidemiologically linked herds have tested negative for the disease," said veterinarian Dan Baca, who is the TB epidemiologist for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency.

"Nonetheless, under current federal regulations, Texas breeding cattle now must have a TB skin test and be officially identified with an ear tag prior to being transported out of state. The TB test can be waived only if the breeding animals originate from a TB accredited-free herd, are going directly to a slaughter plant or are transported to an approved (restricted) feedlot. About 150,000 breeding cattle are hauled from the state each year," said Dr. Logan TAHC executive director and Texas' state veterinarian.

Dr. Logan explained that, when the USDA downgraded Texas' cattle TB status in June, the federal agency delayed its implementation of interstate movement regulations for feeder cattle until Jan. 1, 2003. She said more than 1.5 million steers, feeder heifers and feeder bull calves are moved from Texas each year, and the federal regulations would require official ear tags be placed on the animals prior to movement.

"We have worked closely with Texas cattle associations, which formed a Texas TB Working Group, our neighboring states and the USDA to formulate an alternative plan that would eliminate the feeder regulations involving tagging and testing in 2003, while still providing for cost-effective disease surveillance tailored to our state's needs," said Dr. Logan.

"During the past five years, less than one in three million Texas feeder cattle have been found to have TB, so we see these animals as a negligible risk for the disease," said Dr. Baca. "On the other hand, we will continue to support the testing and identification of breeding cattle destined for a herd out of state. Breeding animals reside in herds for a number of years, and we certainly don't want to put receiving states or herds at risk."

"In the Texas TB Plan, we have asked that additional USDA inspectors be added in US slaughter plants, to ensure that carcasses are thoroughly examined for internal lesions indicative of cattle TB. Meat inspection is the basis for finding cattle TB cases, and enhancing this disease surveillance method could help us find any remaining infection in Texas," said Dr. Logan. She pointed out that abnormal tissue is collected and forwarded to USDA laboratories for confirmation. Positive cases then are traced to their herd of origin.

"Because cattle TB in Texas was detected during the past 12 months in a Texas dairy and in a purebred beef herd, we believe targeted live-animal testing should be conducted in these 'at-risk' populations," she said. "The Texas TB Plan calls for testing the state's 880 dairies, as well as about 2,400 of the state's purebred beef cattle herds. Because testing efforts of this magnitude would overwhelm the TAHC veterinary staff, we would seek cooperative funding with the USDA to compensate accredited private veterinarians for 'fee-basis' work, in order to minimize the cost of testing for producers."

"We also see a need to strengthen requirements for feeder cattle entering Texas from Mexico," said Dr. Baca. He explained that, from 1997-2001, 109 cases of cattle TB were detected in Mexican feeder cattle that were grazed or fed in Texas. "The USDA in April implemented more strict entry requirements for Mexican feeder cattle. However, these animals do present a risk, and the 12 TAHC commissioners proposed a regulation at their meeting July 30 that would allow these animals to go only to approved pastures, quarantined feedlots or to designated pens within feedlots. These restrictions would reduce the chance of Mexican feeder animals commingling with Texas breeding or dairy cattle and possibly spreading TB."

Dr. Logan said the 12 TAHC commissioners will vote on the proposed regulation at their next meeting in October. The commissioners also have proposed additional regulations for Mexican-origin roping and rodeo steers.

"Mexican horned steers, which are frequently used for roping or rodeo stock, pose a cattle TB risk to our domestic livestock, as these animals are often commingled with domestic herds when they're not being used for recreation," said Dr. Logan. "Six of these Mexican rodeo animals slaughtered last year were found to have TB."

She said the TAHC commissioners also proposed regulations July 30 that would require that Mexican horned cattle (these are most often used for rodeos and roping events) originate from herds that had tested negative for cattle TB within 12 months before importation. This is in accordance with the new USDA interim rule, published April 20, 2002, that covers Mexican cattle importation. At the port, the horned animals would be required to be tested again by a USDA veterinarian and moved under permit to a premise. After being held for 60 to 120 days, the animal would be permanently identified and retested for cattle TB at the owner's expense prior to being allowed to move freely. Owners of the Mexican horned cattle would be required to have the animals retested annually for cattle TB.

"We are working with the roping and rodeo steer groups to raise the level of awareness about these new proposed TAHC regulations and are seeking their cooperation to ensure that recreational cattle are TB-free," said Dr. Logan.

"By developing the Texas TB Plan with the cooperation of our cattle industry TB working group, we have addressed the intent of the USDA's regulation to prevent the spread of tuberculosis and to find and eradicate the disease within our state, if there are additional infected herds," said Dr. Logan. "If the USDA approves our plan, we believe we can enhance our disease surveillance in a cost-effective, efficient manner, with minimal disruption to Texas' largest agriculture industry."

Markets

Colorado City

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 913 head of cattle for the Wednesday, Sept. 4, sale. Compared to last week: Feeder steers were steady. Feeder heifers were steady to $1 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls were steady to $1 higher. Slaughter bulls were steady. Cow and calf pairs were steady to $40 higher. Trade was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
300-400: 99-103
400-500: 85-94
500-600: 80-83
700-750: 78.50-79
800-875: 70.50-75
Feeder heifers:
400-500: 90-95.50
500-575: 76-76.50
600-700: 72.50-75.50
700-750: 62-69
Replacement cows:
Bred cows: 2-8 months: 550-710
2-5 months: 320-460
Cow & calf pairs: 625-790
4-6 years old: 605-760
Slaughter cows:
Breakers: 1000-1250 Lbs.: 34.25-35.25
Boners: 1000-1200 Lbs. 35.50-38
1150-1350 Lbs.: 37.25-39
1000-1250 Lbs.: 34-36.25
800-1000 Lbs.: 31-36
Under 750 Lbs.: 25.75-31
Slaughter bulls:
Yield Grade 1-2: 1010-1650: 42-45

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. had a run of 594 head of cattle for the Thursday, Sept. 4, sale. Cows were $1-$2 cheaper. Yearlings and calves were steady. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 32-38
Canner and low cutters: 28-33
Slaughter bulls: 41-51
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 90-110
400-500: 85-100
500-600: 78-88
600-700: 73-78
700-800: 70-77
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 85-100
400-500: 75-85
500-600: 72-80
600-700: 70-75
700-800: 65-75
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 72-82
700-800: 64-73
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 700-800
Grade: 550-675
Springers: 400-675
Baby calves: 100-175
Doodlers: 225-285

Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Dannheim, CEA–Family and Consumer Sciences, 2605 Avenue M, Snyder, Texas 79549

Reducing Fat in Cooked Ground Beef

A study in the Journal of The American Dietetic Association has good news for beef eaters. Nutrition researchers found that a simple rinsing process reduced the fat content of cooked ground beef crumbles by as much as 50 percent. And, blotting can be used to reduce the fat content of cooked burgers, meatballs and meatloaf.

So whether you buy ground beef for taste, convenience or price, you also can enjoy the health benefits of lower-fat ground beef with a few easy steps.

Reducing Fat in Cooked Ground Beef Crumbles by Rinsing and Draining:

By following the easy steps below, you can cut the fat in your favorite recipes that call for cooked ground beef crumbles, such as chili, Sloppy Joes, spaghetti with meat sauce and tacos.

This technique will allow you to take advantage of lower-priced, higher-fat ground beef and still enjoy the benefits of a leaner product.

1. Brown ground beef in skillet over medium heat 8 to 10 minutes or until no longer pink. Stir occasionally to break beef into large pieces (about ½-inch).
2. Meanwhile microwave 4 cups water in 1-quart glass measuring cup or microwave bowl on HIGH 5 to 6 minutes or until very hot, but not boiling (150?to 160 ?F).
3. Drain fat from skillet.
4. Using a slotted spoon, remove beef crumbles to large plate or other container lined with 3 layers of white, non-recycled paper towels. Let sit 1 minute; blot top of beef with more paper towels.
5. Place beef in a fine mesh strainer or colander and set it on a 1 ½-quart (or larger) sturdy bowl. Pour hot water over beef to rinse fat. Drain 5 minutes.
6. Proceed as recipe directs.

If your recipe calls for browning ground beef with onion or garlic, these items can be added during the cooking process. Rinsing the beef after cooking results in minimal flavor loss. Additional seasonings and herbs may be added after rinsing as desired.

Reducing Fat in Cooked Ground Beef Burgers, Meatballs and Meatloaf:

The steps below show how you can reduce the fat in pan-broiled ground beef burgers. Simply blot the beef with white, nonrecycled paper towels. Paper towels, made for microwave use are recommended.

1. Remove ground beef from refrigerator and shape into 4-ounce patties (½-inch thick, approximately 4 inches in diameter). Cook immediately.
2. Heat nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot (about 5 minutes). Do not add oil. Place patties into skillet.
3. Cook 10 to 12 minutes for medium doneness or until centers are no longer pink and juices show no pink color. The USDA recommends cooking to at least medium (160?F) doneness. Turn once halfway through cooking.
4. Remove patties to large plate lined with 3 layers of paper towels. Let stand 1 minute. Turn over after 30 seconds.
5. Season as desired and serve.

Blotting easily can be used with meatballs and meatloaf. The meatballs or meatloaf should be roasted on a rack in a shallow pan so that the fat drips away during cooking. Place cooked meat on a surface lined with several layers of paper towels. The sides and top (if not glazed) may be blotted with paper towels to further reduce fat.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT

LAKE J. B. THOMAS (200,604 ACRE FEET AT ELEVATION 2258.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	9/9/01	9/2/02	9/9/02
ELEVATION (FEET)	13.86	17.02	16.80
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	12,315	17,763	17,344
PERCENT FULL	6.14	8.85	8.65
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00
IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0
SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

E.V. SPENCE RESERVOIR (517,262 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1898.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	9/9/01	9/2/02	9/9/02
ELEVATION (FEET)	44.55	40.06	39.79
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	56,555	41,900	41,104
PERCENT FULL	10.93	8.10	7.95
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.20	0.30

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION.

O.H. IVIE RESERVOIR (554,340 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1551.50 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	9/9/01	9/2/02	9/9/02
ELEVATION (FEET)	33.33	28.80	28.56
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	274,257	224,224	221,784
PERCENT FULL	49.47	40.45	40.01
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

2002 INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

	LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 9/2/02 8/27/02	THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 9/9/02 9/3/02	THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY 9/9/02 9/3/02
BIG SPRING	6,542,857	6,893,000	7,680,000
ODESSA	29,474,143	27,806,857	29,705,000
SNYDER	3,549,000	3,366,143	3,849,000
MIDLAND	29,916,000	29,576,857	30,504,000
SAN ANGELO	17,528,714	16,582,286	17,244,000
STANTON	101,286	118,571	185,000

NEW BOOKS

The Oldest Ranch in Texas

The Life of Price Daniel
Texas Giant

Grandmother Stories
From the Heart of Texas

Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave. 573-5486

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Problems reported in Florida voting

MIAMI (AP) — Florida's first big test of its new elections system turned into a nightmare Tuesday as polling stations opened late and problems cropped up with the touch-screen voting machines brought in after the 2000 debacle. Hundreds of would-be voters were turned away.

Gov. Jeb Bush ordered polls statewide to stay open an additional two hours, with those in the Central time zone finally closing at 10 p.m. Bush had sharp words for officials in Miami-Dade and Broward counties, where there were many complaints.

"It's shameful," Bush said. "The state put up money — significant sums of money — for training, for machines. ... There's no excuse for not having precinct workers in a precinct for voting, no excuse for not turning on the machines."

Problems were reported in 13 counties, including six of the seven that were sued after the 2000 vote. The glitches ran the gamut: Ballots jamming and tearing in machines, workers unable to get machines working for hours, at least 600 people leaving polls without casting votes, Democratic voters given Republican ballots.

"I frankly wonder what in the hell have they been doing for two years," said Secretary of State Jim Smith, Florida's top elections official.

The state changed voting laws and outlawed punchcard ballots after the 2000 presidential election. It spent $32 million to reform its election system, and more than half of the state's voters were expected to use new touchscreen machines Tuesday instead of punchcard and butterfly ballots.

But problems began immediately.

Former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, who was seeking the Democratic nomination to challenge Bush this fall, was delayed from voting after workers struggled to get the touchscreen machines operating. She waited several minutes while an election official booted up one of the 18 machines. Some voters left, exasperated.

Elsewhere, ballots jammed as workers put them through optical scanners and dozens of polls workers didn't show up.

"It's deja vu all over again," said Democratic national Chairman Terry McAuliffe. "Even before the polls close, we know that election reform in Florida has failed its first test."

Republican national Chairman Marc Racicot said some problems could have been expected in the first election after such widespread changes.

With just over two months before the next federal elections, the Republican-controlled House and the Democratic-controlled Senate have passed separate elections overhaul measures.

Government raises terror alert warning

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation steeled itself against a possible attack after the government raised the terror alert to its second highest level, based on new intelligence warning of possible strikes on the Sept. 11 anniversary.

Nine U.S. embassies were closed. And Pentagon officials said today that the U.S. military command in charge of the region from East Africa through the Arabian Peninsula to Pakistan raised its security level overnight to the highest level.

Three embassies and four consulates received envelopes containing an unidentified white powder in the mail on today, an administration official said. None of the diplomatic posts was shut down. The identities of the countries were not disclosed.

In each case the powder is being quarantined, and tests were planned to determine whether the powder was anthrax or another lethal substance, the official said.

The U.S. military expanded jet fighter patrols over some 10 cities and armed missile launchers that had already been stationed near several Washington sites, defense officials said.

Federal officials told Americans to go ahead with their plans to commemorate Sept. 11 at gatherings and not change their work, school or travel schedules.

The message came attached to an announcement by Attorney General John Ashcroft that U.S. intelligence had uncovered the first specific threats against U.S. interests abroad and less credible information that terrorists might attack America again.

"U.S. intelligence has concluded that lower-level al-Qaida operatives may view the Sept. 11 anniversary as a suitable time to lash out in even small strikes to demonstrate their worldwide presence and resolve," Ashcroft said Tuesday.

"Widely dispersed, unsophisticated strikes are possible," he warned.

President Bush approved raising the level of the civilian alert from a "significant risk" of attacks — code yellow — to a high danger, or code orange. It is the highest civilian alert level imposed since the system was established in March.

Nation pauses, remembers unforgettable terror attacks

By JERRY SCHWARTZ
AP National Writer

America paused today to remember the unforgettable — with the tolling of bells, with recitations of the names of the dead, and above all, with silence. "Today, we remember each life," said President Bush.

In New York and in Washington, at a field in southwestern Pennsylvania the end of a convulsive year that began on Sept. 11, 2001, was marked with solemnity.

The stillness started in New York, with a moment of silence at ground zero, the massive hole where the World Trade Center once stood, until terrorist-guided jetliners cut through a crystal blue sky a year ago and obliterated its towers.

The 2,801 names on the city's list of the dead were read, one by one. On a gusty day, their loved ones cried and dropped roses in a "circle of honor."

"They were our neighbors, our husbands, our children, our sisters, our brothers and our wives. They were our countrymen and our friends. They were us," said Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Gov. George Pataki followed the moment of silence with a reading of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. And then Rudolph Giuliani, the former mayor who guided the city with quiet strength in the days after last Sept. 11, began the reading of the names.

"Gordon M. Aamoth Jr.," he intoned. "Edelmiro Abad. Maria Rose Abad. Andrew Anthony Abate ..."

The time was 8:46 a.m. EDT, the instant when American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the north tower of the gargantuan complex.

To the mournful tones of a string quartet, family members of the dead — and notables such as New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State Colin Powell and actor Robert De Niro — picked up the list where Giuliani left off.

At 9:03 a.m., the moment the second tower was struck, the ringing of a bell interrupted the recitation of names.

Killer executed

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Convicted killer Tony Lee Walker went to his death hunting for the words to the Lord's Prayer.

Choking back sobs as the lethal drugs began flowing through tubes inserted into his arms, Walker, 36, struggled to say the prayer, stammering as he reached the words "... thy kingdom come."

"Help me, chaplain," he asked Richard Lopez, the prison chaplain standing next to him.

As Lopez completed the prayer, Walker, 36, gasped and sputtered several times before he stopped breathing, a tear running down the right side of his face.

Eight minutes later, he was pronounced dead.

Before attempting the prayer, Walker, convicted of raping and fatally beating a 66-year-old Daingerfield woman in an attack where her husband also was killed, expressed thanks and love to friends in Switzerland and England.

"To my family," he said, pausing and his voice cracking, "Nothing."

WTC enrollment breaks record set last September

As anticipated, enrollment at Western Texas College rose dramatically this fall, breaking the record set last year by more than 300 students.

Dr. Greg Williams, WTC president, reported 1,638 students Tuesday as compared to last year's record of 1,330.

"That is just incredible," Dr. Williams said. "To have that high a percentage increase is amazing and exciting. This is great news for our campus and also for the community of Snyder."

The president said the spike in enrollment is "the result of a community effort" and said the community will benefit in turn.

"More Snyder kids are staying home and coming to WTC for the first years of college and that's a plus," he said. "More students out here is also great for local businesses."

Dr. Williams said the total contact hours the college will be credited with has not been figured, but he hopes the number will be available by the college's next board meeting.

That number also is expected to rise dramatically because of the increased number of full-time students living in on-campus housing, which is at capacity.

The college receives funding from the state based on the number of contact hours, the total amount of time students spend in the classroom in a semester.

"We couldn't be happier with these numbers," Dr. Williams said. "But we are continuing to move forward and hopefully we will continue to grow."

Hermleigh board postpones meeting

Hermleigh ISD's board of trustees postponed Tuesday night's meeting until 10:30 a.m. Saturday due to the lack of a quorum.

Saturday's agenda items include the construction of a combination garage, shop and storage building to be built on the campus.

If approved, the trustees will discuss whether a budget amendment is necessary to fund the building.

Trustees also will consider adopting a resolution calling for school funding equity and discuss various board policies.

The meeting will be held in the high school building.

Obituaries

Bertha Botts

1922-2002

Bertha Botts, 80, died Tuesday, Sept. 10, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Graveside service for Mrs. Botts, a homemaker, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the Snyder Cemetery with the Rev. F.R. "Bear" Williams officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born April 6, 1922 in Oklahoma City, she married Joe "Jody" Botts on Oct. 3, 1975 in Snyder. He survives.

She was preceded in death by one brother, Marvin Hubbard.

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"Charley" Clifton

1930-2002

HOBBS, N.M. — Charles Wesley "Charley" Clifton, the grandfather of Buster Mabrey of Snyder, died Monday, Sept. 9, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

Funeral service for Mr. Clifton, 72, is set for 2:30 p.m. Thursday in the Grace Fellowship Church with Terry Simmons, pastor, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Chapel of Hope Funeral Home.

Born April 23, 1930 in Corsicana, he married Louise Clifton in June, 1949.

Survivors include his wife, Louise Clifton of Hobbs; three daughters, Katy Clifton and Mollie Lewis, both of Hobbs, and Vicki Thille of Farmington, N.M.; a brother, Bill Clifton of Ashland, Mo.; two sisters, Gene Ham of Hobbs and Katherine Cook of Wolfforth; nine other grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

SHS school pictures

School pictures will be taken at Snyder High School today and Thursday through English classes. Packets will be given for students to take home and pre-payment is required. Anyone not wishing to buy photos must still have picture taken for the yearbook.

FBC support groups

Support groups dealing with divorce, death, cancer or caring for elderly parents meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church educational building. A special group for students facing these problems is held at the same time.

SHS *Rumors*

Snyder High School drama department will present *Rumors* Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and at 2 p.m. Sunday at Worsham Auditorium. Tickets are $5 for adults and $4 for students.

FBC services televised

First Baptist Church services are televised on channel 2 at 3 p.m. each Thursday.

Scurry Lodge #706

Scurry Lodge will have an awards night beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday. Several 25 and 50-year pins will be presented. All Masons, their families and friends are invited. Refreshments will be served.

Scholarship fundraiser

Borden County Parents Club will sell Krispy Kreme donuts at Wal-Mart starting at 8 a.m. Saturday.

Country and gospel music

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

FFA lamb, goat clinic

Warren Beard will hold a lamb and goat clinic for Snyder FFA exhibitors at 2 p.m. Sunday at the SHS ag shop. Do not bring animals, but be prepared to take notes. For information, call 574-6046.

Support groups

Adult family violence support group and children's family violence support group meets at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at Gateway Family Service. For information call 573-1822.

Alzheimer's support group

An Alzheimer's meeting for caretakers, family members and interested persons will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the library of Colonial Hill Baptist Church.

Farm Bill computer training

The training session will be held at 1:30 p.m. next Wednesday at the Workforce Training Center at WTC. For an appointment call 573-5423 by 5 p.m. Monday. Dr. Jackie Smith will answer questions about the farm program. Bring accurate figures and appointments will be made to speed the process.

Gospel concert

Toney Brothers Quartet will present a Gospel concert at 7 p.m. next Wednesday at the First Baptist Church in Hermleigh.

Stanfield Elementary garage sale

Stanfield will hold a garage sale from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20. Follow the signs on campus. Donations will be accepted through Thursday, Sept. 19 at the school office. Proceeds used for out of town field trips. This is being held in conjunction with the second grade study project, "needs and wants" - ways to make money. First graders will be selling lemonade.

Guadalupe Church Jamaica

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church will hold its Jamaica celebration Sunday, Sept. 22. The event will start at 8 a.m. and conclude at 8 p.m. There will be food, volleyball, live music and the event is a fundraiser for the church.

Bible school

Son Canyon River Adventure Bible School will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church from 6:30-8 p.m. every Wednesday in September, and on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Open to all children from infants to 7th grade. Call the church office at 573-3988 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesdays.

SHS class of 1988 homecoming

The SHS class of 1988 will meet at 5 p.m. for the before game booster meal at the high school and then attend the game between the Tigers and Ft. Stockton on Sept. 27. There will be a get-together after the game. Call Meredith at 254-223-3193 for more information.

Lord's Acre fish fry

First United Methodist Church's Lord's Acre fish fry is 5-7 p.m. Oct. 1. Adult tickets are $7 and children's tickets – 10 and under – are $3.50. Tickets available at the church office or at the door.

Trains and things

Scurry County parks department is looking for loans of model trains and railroad-related items to be displayed during the Oct. 12 White Buffalo Festival. Items are needed by Oct. 7.

Call to poets

Call to poets: Mesquite Country Writers Guild, publishers of the poetry newsletter, *Bards of a Feather*, request for publication in the Winter issue 2003, one poem per contributor, 20 words or less. Theme: Winter, New Year, Valentine, March winds. The deadline is Nov. 1. Payment, one copy of *Bards*. Send poem to Pam Mauldin, P.O. Box 237, Ira, Tex. 79527 or e-mail to upside@netwest.com.

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.

Pickup yearbooks

There remains some Tiger's Lair yearbooks to be picked up. They are available in room 220 at SHS. Also, there are some yearbooks for sale for $60.

SEP 11 2002

Snyder remembers 9-11





SDN Photos by:

Brian Brisendine
Shirley A. Gorman
JoAnn Nunley
Wade Warren

