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WT-Int. Crude - $28.48
WTIC Posted - $26.00
Natural Gas - $7.537

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEEKEND

Dec. 16-17, 2000
Vol. 52 No. 197
40 Pages 75¢

Home of Marie Dollins



DISTRIBUTING — Numerous volunteers donated their time Saturday morning to distribute food for the Goodfellows annual project of helping feed the less fortunate in our community. From left, Jeremy Bowden, Larry McAden and Edwin Jackson place items in a vehicle. (SDN Staff Photo)

Holiday events abound around the community

Several events are planned in the days before Christmas to celebrate the holiday season.

Faith Baptist Church's adult choir will present *Bethlehem's Child*, a musical drama at 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The church is located at 208 37th Street.

Trinity United Methodist Church will present *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High* during two performances Sunday. The morning performance of the cantata by Steven Taylor will be at 10:45, while the evening performance is at 7 o'clock at the church at 5200 Trinity Boulevard.

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

First Church of the Nazarene will present a Christmas concert featuring Kimberly and Tom Wagner with Compassionate Heart Music at 10:45 a.m. Sunday.

The First Christian Church will present its Christmas program Sunday morning as well.

Those wishing to hear Christmas carols can be at the Snyder Healthcare Center at 10:45 a.m. Monday as the fourth grade classes from East Elementary will be caroling. The group will be at the Scurry County Senior Center at 11:40 Monday morning as well.

The First United Methodist Church will also present their Christmas cantata Sunday. *Heaven's Child* will be presented during regular church hours. At 3 p.m. on Sunday, the church will present the cantata at the Price Daniel Unit.

Several open houses are scheduled for the coming week, as well.

Texas Savings Bank will have an open house Monday through Friday, while West Texas State Bank will host an open house Wednesday through Friday.

American State Bank will hold its open house Thursday and Friday.

The Snyder Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Christmas open house from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesday. Other open house times will be announced during the week.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The most expensive Christmas gifts are usually bought with somebody else's money."

For the guy or gal who has almost everything, the glitzy Dallas retailer Neiman Marcus is ready to race to the rescue – for a few bucks, of course.

The retailer's Christmas Book again has put together the ultimate of luxury gifts.

We tried to order, but either the computer didn't work properly or our plastic card was already over the limit.

The 2000 Christmas Book really is three separate 100-page catalogues featuring more than 500 gifts ranging in price from $12 to $20 million.

The gift that really intrigued would hardly be called a stocking stuffer, but it would cause the elevation in Lake Thomas to rise.

Costing a mere $20 million – credit cards or cash gladly accepted – is a luxury submarine. The 118-foot luxury underwater fantasy sleeps 11 and displaces 380 tons. It has an operating depth of 1,000 feet, a range of 160 nautical miles with speeds of 15 knots.

The fine print tells us the cruising range is 3,000 - plus, sufficient for a transatlantic crossing. In other words, you could putter around the depths of Lake Thomas for hours without refueling or coming up for air.

Folks have come from all over the country to see the gold DeLorean in the lobby of Snyder National Bank. Just envision the traffic jam resulting from folks wanting to see and ride around in the submarine.

Really, we think the convention and visitors bureau (chamber) should actually make the purchase. Because the chamber is likely a few dollars shy of the required $20 million, it could get a hotel-motel tax advance and invest in a few lottery tickets.

The seed money could be recaptured by offering pricey rides in the luxury submarine. In the late evenings, there would be candle-light mud-cat dinners.

If the White House can rent out the Lincoln bedroom, then Snyder could rent out one or more of the sub's 11 sleeping compartments.

We hope some of the community generals jump right on this thing, before some of those greedy abilene civic folks decide that Lake Fort Phantom should be the site of the unique West Texas tourist attraction.

And were there other Christmas ideas?

Certainly, there's a his and her Rokkaku kite for a mere $2,000 a pair, again perfect for the spring West Texas wind.

But if you need a stocking stuffer, try the 180-carat ruby and diamond necklace for $1.4 million.

The necklace is modeled by the cloned Vanna White, a product of the $100,000 1997 Christmas gift idea – a Lifeform Construction Set.

It won't hurt

The amount of flu vaccine being made available to the Scurry County Health Unit is increasing and the unit has scheduled two clinics. Shots will be given at the Scurry County Senior Center on Monday from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., and again from 2-4 p.m.

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

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

Chamber to meet

New and out-going board members of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce will be recognized during the regular monthly meeting of the board at 11:30 Monday morning.

The board will also review the monthly financial statements.

Upcoming events that will be discussed include the chamber's open house Wednesday and the Scurry County Livestock Show January 18-20.



days until Christmas

Commissioners to meet...

Upgrading the county's computers on agenda

In addition to items of routine year-end business, Scurry County Commissioners' Court will discuss upgrading the county's computer system when it meets Monday.

In 1999, the county had upgraded its computer system's backup system and recabled offices in preparation for potential Y2K problems.

County Judge Ricky Fritz said the court would now discuss upgrading the computer system itself that would increase its speed and memory.

In other business, Perry Westmoreland, Snyder EMS manager, will speak to commissioners about the county adopting the Medicare fee structure for ambulance service.

The court is also expected to set the holiday calendar and the regular meeting dates for 2001, and consider seeking bids for fuel, oil, grease, asphalt and gravel.

Bids will be opened for two new vehicles for the sheriff's department and for the leasing of a Bitimous distributor — a piece of seal coating equipment — for the county's road and bridge department.

The 10 a.m. meeting will be in the county courtroom on the third floor of the courthouse.

Band concert is Monday

Icy roads put the chill on the Snyder ISD Christmas band concert Tuesday and the annual event is now set for 7 p.m. Monday in Worsham Auditorium.

The sixth grade band will be playing selected lines from various Christmas songs, while the junior high band will be featured in three numbers.

The junior high songs are *Countdown to Christmas*, *Ode to Joy* and *Christmas Tribute*.

The SHS band will be featured in four holiday songs – *Jingle Bells*, *Silent Night*, *Merry Christmas or Bust* and *Joy to the World*.

Cowboy Ball is Saturday

The Wagon Wheel Guest Ranch will host the Tommy Allsup Christmas Ball Saturday beginning at 8 p.m.

Allsup, who was awarded a Grammy this past spring for playing with Asleep at the Wheel, will have several members of the Texas Playboys in the band. The event will be held in the ranch's party barn.

Tickets are $25 per person and will be available at the door Saturday evening.

Allsup, who also played with Buddy Holly and numerous other entertainers, said he would like to see the ball "be just like it was in the early days of West Texas."

The theme is "A Step Back in Time."

Following the conclusion of the ball at midnight, a breakfast will be served at the Rusty Spur Café. The cost of the breakfast is included in the dance ticket.



CHRISTMAS LIGHTING WINNER — The home of Dwain McGuire, 3096 Highway 180 West, located behind the Ponderosa Motel, won first place in the Christmas lighting contest sponsored by the chamber of commerce. Second place went to Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Fry, 3309 48th; and third place to Lanny and Patsy Covey, 3101 El Paso. Honorable mention went to Leon and Lupe Gutierrez, 1101 30th Street. Gold Coats served as judges. The block of 4500 Galveston is decorated in lights and the committee contemplates prizes next Yule season for outstanding blocks. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

ASK US

Q—Is there a number to call to get ski conditions in New Mexico, and other states?

A—For New Mexico, call 505-984-0606, and for Colorado, 303-825-7669.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Friday, 63 degrees; low, 30; 7 a.m. Saturday, 43; no precipitation; total for 2000, 21.25 inches.

Area Forecast: Saturday night, mostly clear, cold, low lower 20s, E-SE wind 5-10 mph. Sunday, mostly sunny, high around 60, light S wind becoming SW, 10-25 p.m., gusty.

Bailey Minor
Windy

Sunset:
5:44 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:37 a.m.

Of 350 days in 2000, the sun has shone 343 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

You can measure opportunity with the same yardstick that measures the risk involved. They go together.
—Earl Nightingale

Ex-Louisiana official receives five years

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Louisiana's former elections commissioner was sentenced to five years in prison Friday in a multi-million-dollar kickback scheme that allegedly fueled his gambling addiction.

Jerry Fowler, 60, was sentenced in both state and federal court as part of a plea deal. He will serve concurrent sentences in a federal prison.

Fowler reached an agreement with prosecutors on Nov. 27, the day his trial was to have started, essentially acknowledging he bilked the state out of $900,000 between 1991 and 1999. He is believed to have made roughly $3 million on the schemes.

Fowler bought voting machines, unneeded parts and maintenance services for inflated prices from contractors who also participated in the scheme. In some cases he purchased parts that were owned by the state but shipped off to the contractors to send back to Louisiana. The scheme cost the state an estimated $8.6 million.

In an odd twist, the machines worked well and the statewide voting machine system was sometimes cited as a model for the nation.

Fowler was indicted in 1999 in the midst of a re-election campaign for the office he held for 20 years. Two months later, he lost a primary election.

Fowler pleaded guilty in state court to charges of conspiracy to commit money laundering and malfeasance in office. He pleaded guilty in federal court to three counts of filing false income tax returns.

He was not fined, but the federal plea agreement called for him to repay the Internal Revenue Service back taxes on the illegal income he failed to report between 1996 and 1998.

State prosecutors said last month they would seek $1 million in restitution.

KEY TO THE KINGDOM
What the Devil Wants You to Believe
IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY
Lifting Up Christ
Cox Cable TV Channel 2,
December 18, 7:00 pm



Evalyn Tate

Evalyn Tate receives top district award for Kiwanis

Evalyn Tate, current as well as a past-president of the Golden K Kiwanis Club, has received a special award presented by Guy N. Orr, the governor of the Texas-Oklahoma district of Kiwanis International.

The surprise presentation was made last Friday night in Big Spring at the benefit honoring the governor's visit to Division 22, which encompasses Kiwanis clubs located from Snyder to Alpine.

Tate was honored as the outstanding woman Kiwanian in this division, the first time such a presentation been made in this area.

Tate was recognized for her efforts in behalf of the Golden K Club, which consisted not only of her leadership but also for her help with the fund raising projects of the club and for bringing in several new members.

The award consists of a Kiwanis lapel pin with a set of eagle wings above it.

Earnest Lillard, Lt. Gov. of Division 22, helped Gov. Orr in the selection of the recipient of this award. Members of the Golden K Club were present when Tate

Woman's plunge from plane: a tragic accident or suicide?

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — A Hewlett-Packard Co. employee who fell 2,000 feet from an airplane into a backyard garden has left behind a baffled team of investigators who are trying to determine whether her death was a tragic accident or suicide.

Friends and co-workers described Elisabeth Mathild Otto as despondent, possibly from the stress of moving to the United States and starting a new job. They and her husband had suggested she seek psychological help, The San Jose Mercury News reported Saturday, citing sources familiar with her situation. The newspaper also reported that a source close to the investigation confirmed the woman had leaped out.

"We've ruled out foul play on behalf of any of the passengers," FBI spokesman Andrew Black said. "We're looking at it strictly as a possible suicide or an accident."

The FBI said two passengers who saw Otto plunge from the plane were so distraught that they were unable to tell the pilots what had happened. Police were not notified she was missing until 45 minutes after the plane landed in San Jose on Thursday night. Her body was found Friday afternoon.

FBI investigators interviewed passengers and the woman's business associates.

"We are deeply concerned and are helping authorities to determine what happened," Hewlett-Packard spokesman Dave Berman said. "Out of respect for the individuals involved, we are not providing additional information at this time."

The 15-seat de Havilland Twin Otter, which was operated as a commuter service for HP employees, was carrying five passengers and two pilots when it set out on its regular Thursday night flight from the Sacramento area to San Jose.

Soon after takeoff, the plane had to make an emergency landing because a warning light indicated the door was unlocked. The plane landed at 4:48 p.m. at the Sacramento Executive Airport, then took off again at 5:20 p.m. after the door was secured.

Three minutes later, the door opened and Otto plunged out about 10 miles south of Sacramento.

"When that plane hatch was opened, the passenger immediately in front of her turned around and observed a female passenger halfway out of the plane," Black said. "He lunged over the seat, reached for her and was able to grab hold of her shoulder and attempted to pull her back into the plane."

Amid what had to be a deafening and chaotic roar, the co-pilot managed to close the door, Black said. But the crew wasn't told the woman was gone and continued to San Jose, where the plane landed at 6:05 p.m. Police were later called from an HP office a few miles from the San Jose airport.

Black said the other passengers did not notice Otto behaving unusually before the incident.

FAA inspectors determined that mechanical malfunction had caused the door to open, spokesman Jerry Snyder said. The FAA also said inspectors did not believe the pilot erred in continuing to San Jose after securing the door a second time.

events

Texas Million

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Million numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
26-84-16-69

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:
20-10-9-6-29

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
1-4-6

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To our Friends and Loyal Customers...

This letter is to mark both an ending and a new beginning for both me and my wife Mary. As of December 31, 2000 we will retire and no longer do business as J.T. Electric.

I would like to thank all my loyal customers and friends for your continued support over the last many years. J.T. Electric was a great success thanks to you.

We will be re-locating to the Houston area, to be with our children, grandchild and great grandchild, but we will take a piece of you with us, in our hearts and prayers.

Our new address will be, 3441 Bridgette Lane #1, Baytown, Texas 77520. If you should decide to drop a note to stay in touch and we hope you will.

We wish everyone who has touched our lives good health and great happiness. Again, thank you for your many years of continued support of both of us and our business.

Sincerely,
Mary & Tommy Pherigo
J.T. Electric

A List of Blessings

★ LOVE
★PEACE
★HAPPINESS
★PROSPERITY
★FRIENDS LIKE YOU



Thank you for your patronage and friendship.

Please join us for Open House
December 18th - December 22

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CHRISTMAS VALUES

5 PC COUNTRY BEDROOM
Beautiful Plum Grove Tempest Oak. Reg. $1499.95
SALE $899

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4 DRAWER CHEST
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Lots of Storage
SALE $39

5 PC. DINETTE TABLE
with 4 Chairs
Priced in Box
Reg. $199.98
SALE $98

3 PC. COCKTAIL SET
Glass Top
Choice of 3 Colors
Priced in Box
Reg. $79.95
SALE $56

BAR STOOLS
All Wood
Priced From $39

ALL WOOD TWIN BUNK BEDS
Includes 2x6 Bunkbed in rich pine finish and bedding. Reg. 299.95
SALE $218

BEAN BAGS
Several styles to choose from
SALE $19.88 & Up

ALL WOOD DINING GROUP
Includes table, bench and 4 chairs. Choice of honey pine, cherry, natural. Reg. $499.95
SALE $327

5 PC CONVERSATION PIT GROUP
Includes 2 sofas, loveseat and 2 large ottomans. Nice cover. Reg. $799.95
SALE $499

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VARSITY SQUARE NEXT TO ECKERD DRUG SNYDER, TEXAS
STORE HOURS 10 A.M. TO 6 P.M. MON. - SAT.

Nutrition

By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.



What do doctors know?

Dear Readers: I have received a number of letters in response to a column I wrote last month that addressed the fact that medical doctors may not be well informed on issues relating to the use of herbs and other supplements. In my reply, I cautioned that it is still vital to inform your physician of what you are doing. Below are two valuable letters regarding this issue.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: So far, not one primary care doctor I have dealt with knows anything about vitamins, herbs, alternate health-care methods, etc. They just look at and through me as though I have taken leave of my senses when I tell them I take vitamins. However, my ex-primary care doctor was more than willing to prescribe drugs with abandon. There are high blood-pressure pills, Prozac for emotional problems, and many, many refills — without talking about lifestyle. It's almost as if they feel I go to them so they can guess the drug I need — not the best treatment, but a drug. One doctor sort of bragged to me that his father was on all of these "helpers," so they were safe for me, too, as I got older! I question the "primary care" factor in health care plans. Primary care doctors are very often too reluctant to use specialists, and they guess, instead. Specialists seem more likely to acknowledge the advantages of some kinds of alternate care.

Everything you read regarding health care says to be sure to check with your physician. That's only if you care to have your physician look at you as though you have taken leave of your senses. This whole subject is really a dilemma.

Your answer was quite good but, again, you say to check with a doctor. I always do, and then I watch them dismiss me quietly as some nut for taking vitamin E, a multivitamin, etc. Of course, there is the patient's willingness to accept responsibility for the path he or she chooses — also a dilemma. Nevertheless, we have somehow created a situation that is not conducive to the excellent health care we are told we enjoy. — **R.S., Newark, N.J.**

DEAR DR. BLONZ: Your answer was interesting. As a scientist who tries to keep up on the current literature, I find myself torn between what is science and what isn't. I would suggest, however, that you alert your readers to the services of drug and poison information programs available in many — if not most — states. I would much rather have a consumer call and try to get details from these programs rather than from the salesperson in a health food store. I know I am a bit biased — I am the medical director of N.J.'s Poison and Drug Information System — but I have also experienced the worst of worlds associated with health food stores. For example, in response to a great number of calls regarding toxic effects, I went to a health food store to learn about products referred to as Stacker 2 and Stacker 3. Among those calls was one concerning a child who became seriously ill from allegedly licking a tablet.

When I asked about the product in the store, a salesman who looked hardly older than a high-school student told me to buy one over the other because it was stronger and better. He never discussed the fact that the product could be toxic, particularly if taken with certain other preparations.

There will soon be a nationwide toll-free number for these telephone hotline services. There is also federal funding for the development of a network of poison control centers across the country, which will allow single telephone-number access to an individual's local poison control center. Hopefully, it will be operational within a few months. In the meantime, anyone who is interested can find his or her local poison control center by calling information or flipping through the telephone book. Most are willing to answer drug information questions: questions about drug use, interactions with other drugs or food, use of drugs in pregnancy, breast feeding, children, senior citizens, etc.

I do not condemn all nutritional supplements or alternative medicine. I use them myself. I am, however, an educated consumer. I learn about the substances I use from science-based sources, not simply from salespeople or by reviewing lay publications. — **S.M., Medical Doctor, Diplomat of the American Board of Medical Toxicology; Executive Director, N.J. Poison Information & Education System.**

DEAR READERS: Poison Control Centers in many states can be accessed by dialing 1-800-POISON (1-800-764-7661). I will announce the new nationwide number as soon as it is up and running.

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

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

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Parents sue school district for boy's alleged strip search

STEPHENVILLE (AP) — The parents of a 10-year-old boy who was allegedly strip searched by school employees looking for cigarettes have filed suit against the Stephenville school district claiming his constitutional rights were violated.

The lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Fort Worth by Roger and Teresa Salter Thursday seeks unspecified compensatory and punitive damages from the school district and three employees for a Sept. 29 search of the boy.

According to the lawsuit, the boy was strip searched by Gilbert Intermediate School teacher Kevin Ferguson at the request of resource officer Sgt. Ann Shell, who suspected the boy had cigarettes.

Another teacher, Nick Heupel, also witnessed the search.

The boy had been questioned and also patted down prior to the alleged strip search, the lawsuit says, and "nothing was found in either of the prior searches and nothing was found during the strip search."

The lawsuit contends the strip search was illegal, the employees were not properly trained and the district's rules were vague and "encourage the warrantless strip search of young children for no good reason."

After the search, the Slaters removed their son from Stephenville schools.

Superintendent Darrell G. Floyd said the school district had not been informed of the lawsuit.

"Since we have not been officially served, it would be inappropriate to comment," Floyd was quoted by the Abilene Reporter-News Saturday.

Floyd told the newspaper that the district's guidelines for searches comply with state law.

Federal judge clears Burger King of claims by franchiser

DETROIT (AP) — A federal judge ruled Burger King Corp. did not break a promise with a businessman to let him open more than 200 restaurants, setting the stage for the chain's bid to revoke his existing franchises.

"This battle may have been won by Burger King, but the war is far from over," the man's attorney said Friday.

U.S. District Court Judge Marianne Battani ruled Thursday that La-Van Hawkins had signed away any right to sue the Miami-based fast-food chain in a "clear and unambiguous" July 1999 agreement.

Hawkins' Urban City Group sued Burger King in April, accusing the company of fraud and reneging on a deal to let Hawkins open 225 stores within five years. Burger King argued it never made such a promise and countersued, seeking more than $6.5 million it says Hawkins owes on a 1998 loan.

Hawkins sought at least $500 million and an injunction to prevent Burger King from closing his 22 franchises nationwide. Hawkins, who is black, also alleged that Burger King treated him like a pawn, courting him because of his race and then using it against him to squelch his dream of owning a string of Burger Kings in underserved communities.

Battani ruled that Hawkins failed to state a claim for relief and that he signed an agreement that included releasing his right to claims against the company.

Barry Blum, Burger King's lawyer, called Battani's ruling "well-reasoned" and correct, allowing the chain to now focus on pursuing a court order forcing Hawkins to relinquish control of 22 restaurants in Detroit, Chicago, Atlanta, Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

Blum said the "only agreement we had with him ever was for 25 restaurants."

Hawkins attorney Norman Yatooma said his client would ask Battani to reconsider her ruling, then appeal if necessary. He said his client was duped into signing the agreement, believing it would extend his credit line.

Hawkins and his supporters have spent thousands of dollars on radio ads and a letter-writing campaign against the world's No. 2 restaurant chain. Burger King responded with an appeal to Detroit's religious and political leaders.

6 Year Annuity
7%
8 Year Annuity
8% 1st Year
7% 2-8th Years



Ernie Sears
1816 26th Street
573-3858

Researchers at Texas A&M clone disease-resistant bull

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Researchers at Texas A&M University say they have cloned a disease-resistant bull.

After testing hundreds of cattle since the 1970s, scientists at A&M found a bull that was naturally resistant to brucellosis, which in cattle causes abortions, lessens fertility and reduces milk production. The bull also was found to be resistant to tuberculosis and salmonellosis, a bacterial infection that can also kill cattle.

The bull died of natural causes three years ago, but DNA material from it was used to create the cloned calf, which is about a month old, said Diane Oswald, a spokeswoman for A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine.

A&M scientists planned to unveil the calf and discuss their findings at a news conference Monday.

Although the diseases are mostly under control in the United States, they are still found in cattle around the world and could find their way back into domestic herds.

One of the project's researchers, Mark Westhusin, is involved in a $2.3 million effort to clone a dog for the first time.

Thursday Evenings Only From 4:30 to Closing
FAJITAS FOR 2 - $12.49 or
Your Choice of Single Fajitas (Chicken or Beef) $6.29
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Winter Hours: Mon. - Thur. 11-2 & 4:30-8 Fri. 11-2 & 4:30-8:30 Sat. 11-8:30 Closed Sun.
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From morning until night!

Happy 4th Birthday
Brittany Celeste Rios

Love, Mommy

During this week just 'fore Christmas

All through West Texas State Bank
We'll be serving up some special treats,
To show to you our thanks.

It's the Wassail time of year
And time for Gingerbread too.
We've cooked up some special recipes.
We're serving them just for you.

So finish up the shopping,
And tying up those loose ends.
And be sure to drop by the Bank this week,
As we say Merry Christmas to all our friends.

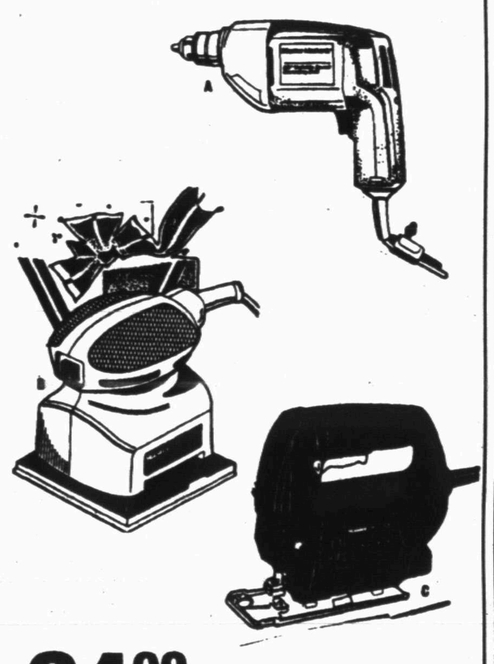
Noel

OPEN HOUSE
December 20, 21, 22
Wassail and Gingerbread 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

WEST TEXAS STATE BANK
FDIC

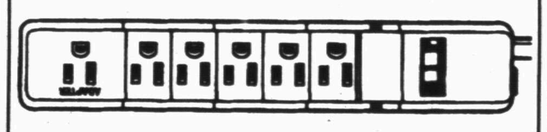
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Holiday Gift Sale



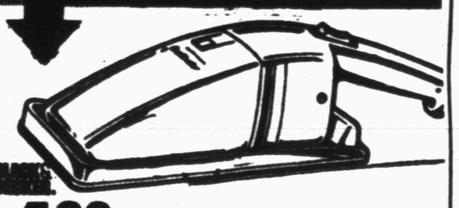
24.99 Your choice
A. 3/8" Variable Speed Drill including chuck key & holder. J 617288 252 273 4
B. Palm Grip Sander Sands flush on three sides. J 617788 252 566 4
C. Jigsaw with Blades Features 3.2 amp motor; 800–3200 spm. J 617488 252 426 4

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH



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3.77
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BARGAIN OF THE MONTH



14.99
Dustbuster 100 Cordless Hand Vac Continuously charges while stored in wall-mountable base. Removable, washable filter included. M 214 715 4

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Saturday 7 am to Noon

Deal to rebuild damaged Bank One Tower scrubbed

FORT WORTH (AP) — A deal between two companies to rebuild the tornado-gutted Bank One Tower downtown has been scuttled, casting the future of the 35-story building and its handful of tenants into doubt.

Dallas-based Trammell Crow development company announced Friday it could not close a deal with Loutex Fort Worth, the limited partnership that owns the Bank One tower.

"We would like to have been able to restore the building to a Class A facility," Jim Eagle, senior vice president and head of Trammell Crow's Fort Worth office, said in a statement.

"This redevelopment project was a complex, one-of-a-kind real estate transaction," Eagle said. "Our decision was made only after extensive analysis."

The statement did not say why Trammell Crow was backing out of the deal for the building.

City officials said they were discouraged by the news that one of the largest buildings in downtown Fort Worth would remain an empty eyesore.

"Certainly, it will be a devastating blow," said City Manager Bob Terrell. "We had counted on it. The former Bank One building is an extremely important landmark for the city of Fort Worth. I'm hopeful that someone else will come in to redevelop it."

Mayor Kenneth Barr said the failed deal could stall renovation or demolition of the Bank One building for at least four months.

"It's blocking us from getting over the damage of the tornado," Barr said.

Loutex had estimated that the tower, which had more than 3,000 windows smashed out, would need repairs totaling more than $35 million, the estimated value of the building.

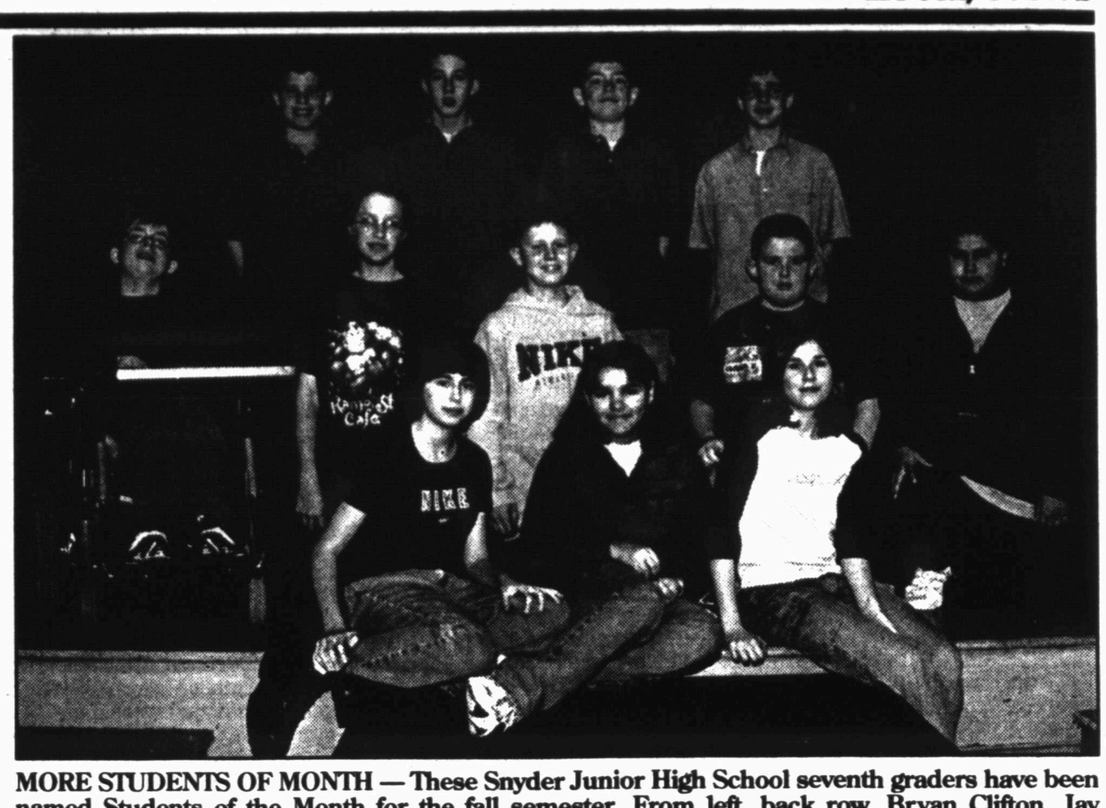
Since the March 28 storms, which included multiple twisters that killed five people and caused at least $450 million in damage, former tenants, including the building's namesake, Bank One, have moved to other offices.

Bank One in October announced it was abandoning the building, which opened in 1974 as the Fort Worth National Bank building and praised as an important architectural work. Bank One will move into new 12-story building across the street next year.

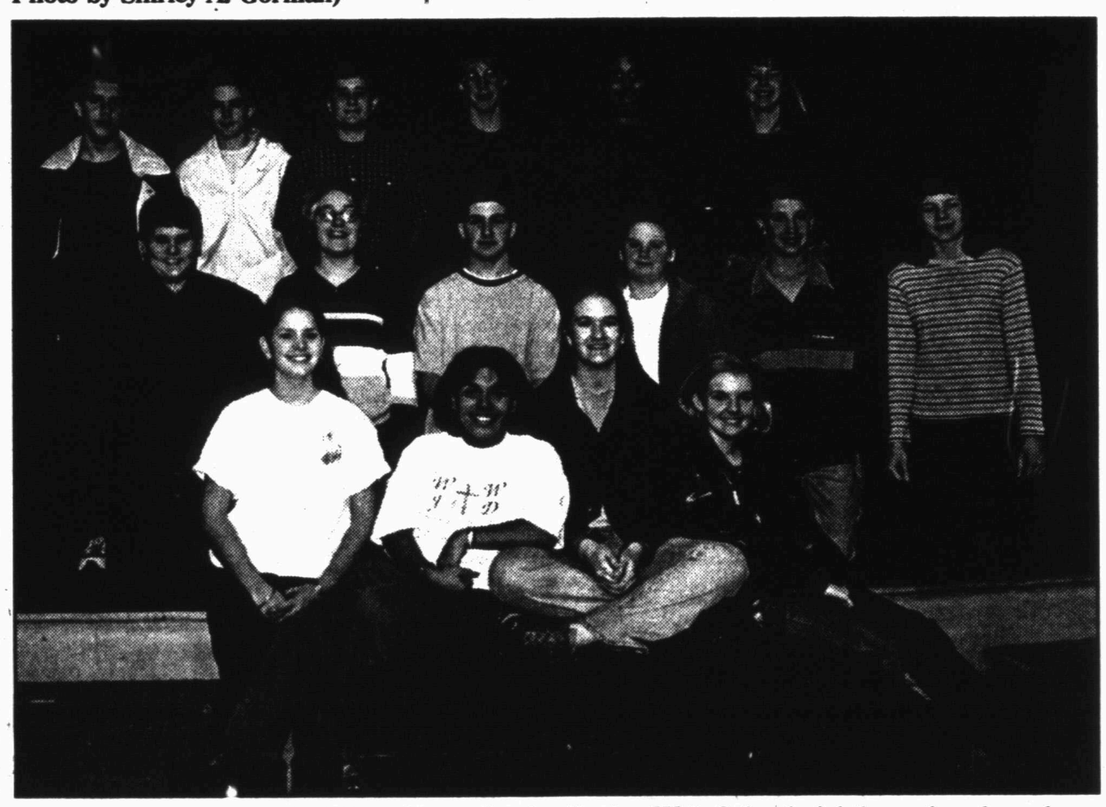
Shannon, Gracey, Ratliff & Miller, one of Fort Worth's largest law firms, earlier this month said it had signed a 13-year lease in the UPR Plaza downtown. The firm's new lease begins Jan. 15.

Michael Harrison, director of administration for the law firm, said the firm gave up on the tower about two months ago.

The Western-themed Reata restaurant atop the tower is one of the handful of businesses left in the damaged tower.



MORE STUDENTS OF MONTH — These Snyder Junior High School seventh graders have been named Students of the Month for the fall semester. From left, back row, Bryan Clifton, Jay Weaver, Dustyn Williams, Garrett Pinson; middle row, Tanner Hunter, Amber Luecke, Tyler Hogan, Johnathon McClure, Ozzie Benitez; front row, Krista Burleson, Rachel Herrera, Ashley Hyer. Not pictured are Yulianna Arellano, Teddi Crenwelge, Emily Jones, Amber Reston. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH — These Snyder Junior High School eighth graders have been named Students of the Month for the fall semester. Back row, from left, Adrian Brooks, Thomas Hefner, Logan West, Kasey Melton, Eric Guadaramma, Kelsey Shaw; middle row, Jason Hook, Traci Jordan, Chris Smauley, Jamie Stanley, Tanner Bloom, Paige Anderson; front row, Marisa Munoz, Corie Hernandez, Brianna Burk, Jessica Davis. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Arrest made 22 years after barmaid's Halloween death

UNIONTOWN, Pa. (AP) — A man imprisoned for beating a man to death was charged with homicide Friday for allegedly killing a barmaid on Halloween 22 years ago after authorities said DNA evidence linked him to the crime.

James Sullivan, 53, is accused of killing 29-year-old Linda Mae Covach on Oct. 31, 1978, when police say she was raped and then struck with a heavy object.

They said semen found on Covach's body matched a blood sample taken from Sullivan, who is being held at the State Correctional Institution in Pittsburgh for the 1987 beating death of a man.

Sullivan, who called the charge "devastating," was returned to prison after his arraignment to await a Dec. 22 preliminary hearing.

State police reviewing unsolved crimes were assigned to the Covach case earlier this year. They said Sullivan was questioned in 1979 after his roommate told police he had confessed to the murder, but charges were never filed.

"We did have evidence at the time linking him with her, being with her at the time of the murder," said State Police Sgt. Charles Depp.

Covach's body, hands clutching strands of hair believed to belong to her attacker, was found by a hunter in a patch of weeds.

Preservation of evidence collected long before DNA testing was instrumental in solving crimes gave police a break in the old case, Fayette County District Attorney Nancy Vernon said.

"Victims may be gone, but they are not forgotten," she said before Sullivan's arraignment.

Edward Smith, who was Covach's boss when she worked at a Sears store in the 1970's, said he was pleased that police had finally solved the murder.

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Financial Focus

Consider 'Zero Coupons' for Meeting Specific Goals

Do you have a time-specific investment goal in mind? Maybe you want to send your child to college in 18 years. Or maybe you want to buy a summer home in 10 years. If so, then you might want to consider the number zero — as in zero coupon bonds.

What's the difference between a zero coupon bond and a regular bond? When you buy a conventional bond, you receive interest payments on a regular basis over the life of the bond. When the bond matures, you'll receive the bond's "par value," typically $1,000.

When you purchase a zero coupon bond, you receive a deep discount from its face value, and you receive no interest payments during the bond's lifetime. When it matures, you receive the full-face amount — your initial investment plus the accumulated interest compounded over the life of the bond. And if you purchased a zero coupon bond that's issued by a state or local government entity, the interest you earn will compound free of federal taxes, and possibly state and local taxes, as well.

Suppose, for example, that you've just had your first baby and you want to start a college savings plan. You estimate college costs will be approximately $40,000 per year when your child enrolls for college in 2018, and you assume a four-year degree program. You could buy $160,000 worth of face amount government agency zero due in 2018, at a cost of $46,000 today, assuming a 7 percent semiannual yield.

Zero coupon bonds are issued by the U.S. Treasury, government-sponsored enterprises, corporations and municipalities. Zero coupons issued by the Treasury generally are considered the safest, because they're backed by the U.S. government. But municipal zeros also offer a high degree of safety, and, because the interest they provide is typically tax-exempt, their total return may be higher than Treasuries. However, municipal zeros may be subject to the alternative minimum tax.

If you purchase a zero coupon bond that is not tax-exempt, you need to be aware that, even though you don't receive interest payments while you hold the bond, you still must pay income taxes each year on the interest. That's why you may want to consider putting a taxable zero coupon bond in an IRA, 401(k) or other tax-deferred retirement plan. If you do this, however, make sure to consult with you tax adviser before. In fact, it's a good idea to see your tax adviser before you even purchase a zero coupon bond.

You can find zero coupon bonds in maturities ranging from one to 40 years, although most of them mature in 20 years or less. That's why zero coupons have the flexibility to help you plan for a variety of financial goals. And, since you invest a relatively small amount up front, you may be able to afford more than one zero coupon at a time.

In the investment world, the word "zero" doesn't sound like much. But it can be just the number you're looking for when you know how much you're going to need — and when you're going to need it.

Teen allegedly impersonated doctor in hospital in Virginia

FAIRFAX, Va. (AP) — A teen-ager, aspiring to be a doctor, allegedly gave medical directions to nurses and prescribed medication and minor medical procedures for patients without being challenged, officials at a suburban Washington hospital disclosed Friday.

Officials at Inova Fairfax Hospital said at a news conference that the 17-year-old high school student is being investigated for allegedly impersonating a physician. No charges have been filed.

Using a hospital pager, the teen-ager allegedly intercepted home telephone messages intended for one of the hospital's doctors. He then is accused of calling in medical prescriptions and even ordering minor medical procedures for the patients at the hospital, Inova Fairfax, officials said.

Dr. Russell Seneca, chief of surgery, said no one was injured or harmed as a result of the youngster's actions and that his orders — surprisingly to some of the doctors — "were appropriate for the circumstances."

In all, the teen-ager called in medical directives — including ordering blood tests and direction that oxygen to be administered — for 12 patients during the Dec. 7-8 overnight shift at the hospital.

Janice Moore, a hospital spokeswoman, said that all of the dozen directives were carried out by hospital personnel, except for the last one when officials became suspicious.

"This individual allegedly spoke with nurses and gave medical orders" over the telephone, hospital administrator Steve Brown said, adding that the youth's voice and manner appeared to raise no suspicion from nurses.

Hospital staff only became suspicious when a doctor noticed the resident physician whom the teen-ager allegedly was impersonating over the phone on the night of Dec. 7 actually was not on call at the time.

Hospital officials said they are not sure whether similar impersonations might have occurred before Dec. 7, or how many patients might have been affected.

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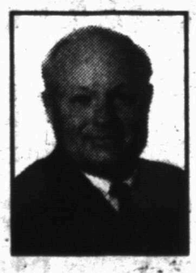
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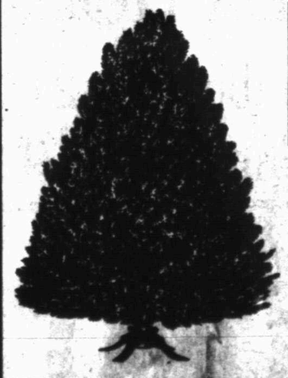


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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2000

You're entering an interesting cycle in which a number of beneficial changes could be in the offing for you in the year ahead, both socially and materially. Make the most of them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Should you have to share your authority position with another today, complications could arise. Your best chances for success will be with endeavors you handle alone. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Treat serious matters with the respect they deserve today. Left unresolved, complications could develop and rear their ugly heads down the line and cause considerable inconveniences.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Warning signals could be flying today where joint ventures are concerned. Be especially careful about taking a gamble on someone to do something you can't do yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Although you might be a good strategist today, you may not be equally adroit where the execution of the idea is concerned. Make a good game plan and follow it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You may be quite adroit at performing physical chores or tasks today. Unfortunately, your performance isn't apt to be equally as impressive when handling human relationships.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Do without today rather than knowingly accept a bum deal with strings attached just because you think you have to have it now. Be patient and wait for the right transaction.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Don't expect business or personal relationships to behave the way you desire unless you set that shining example yourself today. People emulate what is dished out to them.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Use procedures that are fair but firm when dealing with others today, and be especially considerate of their feelings. People with whom you'll be involved will not tolerate heavy-handedness.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Provided your expectations are feasible today, things should work out reasonably well for you. It's one of those days when nobody will get something for nothing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Your efforts will be well coordinated and effective today so long as you avoid impulsive behavior. Otherwise, problems could develop just when you think you're about to fulfill an objective.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Keep an open mind and any situation can be adjusted to your satisfaction today. What could be your worst enemy, however, is any unfairness you project to others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Be extremely careful about getting involved in an arrangement with a friend today that requires an investment on your part. If things go awry, a friendship could be hurt.

Monday, Dec. 18, 2000

There's a strong possibility that you might establish yourself with new friends who know how to get things done. They'll show you how to get ahead faster.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) A wise move today would be to study in great depth any new venture in which you've been contemplating getting involved. Much can be learned at this time to make it a success. Astro-Graph year ahead predictions make great Christmas stocking stuffers for all signs of the Zodiac. Mail $2 for each to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10158. Be sure to state the Zodiac signs you desire.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) It may be a bit unusual, but today you could be a better achiever if you establish more than one important objective. Each will feed off the other, pushing you on to important achievements.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) One of the greatest gifts you possess today is your ability to make light of serious situations and turn them into pleasurable activities. Even the sourpusses might crack a smile.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Chances are you may not personally orchestrate events, but an important change could take place today from which you'll benefit more than those who bring it about.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you're looking to accomplish something important today, team up with an ally who can help you get it done. You're far luckier in team situations than in going it alone.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) An unexpected opportunity could arise today to utilize your special talents of organization and stick-to-itiveness. You'll show others how things should be done.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) No one knows how to get along with others better than you will today. Wherever you go, you'll make your presence felt and garner impressive popularity with your peers.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) First complete whatever you've left dangling from the prior week. Then by applying your personal imprint to two important projects, the results you want will be realized.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Although this is the start of a work week, there's a good chance you're going to get the opportunity today to try something fun you've always wanted to do but never got around to.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) So long as you're not foolish with your resources today, you shouldn't have to deprive yourself of something you desire. You'll be able to acquire it without blowing the entire wad.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You could be very fortunate at this time where new endeavors are concerned, so begin today being assertive and pressing forward in a new venture in which you recently became interested.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Intuitive signals you receive today could be very revealing. Should you be getting strong perceptions concerning your status or material security, do not ignore them.

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Surviving Siamese twin progressing

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — A baby girl recently separated from her weaker conjoined twin sister after a 20-hour operation has made considerable progress, one of the doctors who performed the surgery said Friday.

The 4-month-old girl, Jodie, is behaving like a "bright, alert and interested child," and at times appears twice her age, Adrian Bianchi said at an inquest into the death of her weaker sister, Mary, who never was expected to survive the operation in September.

"We expect her to lead a relatively normal and hopefully good quality life with her family," Bianchi said.

Jodie's lower limbs are aligned normally, although with a degree of deformity, he said.

She also recovered well from a separate operation to cure an infection contracted 15 days after her birth, the doctor said.

Jodie and Mary were born with fused spines that left them joined at the abdomen. Doctors said both would die without the surgery but that separation would kill Mary, who was kept alive by Jodie's heart and lungs.

The girls' parents, a Roman Catholic couple from the Maltese island of Gozo, had opposed the separation on religious grounds. Doctors went to court to win the right to separate the girls.

The coroner, Leonard Gorodkin, said he accepted the decision of the courts that the operation causing Mary's death was lawful — a decision that followed painful debate over whether the two girls were separate individuals.

Gorodkin said he was sure the girls' parents had been "horrified" at the discussion in the courts.

"For them, the twins were two persons," he said. "For them, they clearly had two daughters who they loved equally."

"I only hope that the love they clearly have for their surviving twin Jodie will bring them pleasure and joy in the future and will lessen the pain following the loss of Mary," he added.

—

Liberia was declared an independent republic in 1847.

Texas Tech business school to get $25 million from alum

LUBBOCK (AP) — Texas Tech University will receive its largest cash donation ever Saturday when graduate-turned-network and fiber optic executive Jerry Rawls gives $25 million to endow the university's business school.

"Isn't that wonderful," said Tech President David Schmidly, who played freshman basketball at Tech with Rawls. "What has made him successful is combining his engineering degree from Tech with his business acumen and talent. We want to produce more of these incredible entrepreneurs."

And with $25 million Tech should be well on its way, Schmidly said.

"Its been a long time since that college has had any advancement," he said. "It's almost like you pinch yourself and say, 'Has this really happened to us.' We can now partner the business school with other colleges and pursue some other things that will strengthen Texas Tech's position in higher education."

Rawls told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal that he never imagined returning to make such a donation.

"My aspirations never quite got that large," Rawls said. He told the newspaper he decided to make the donation to the business school after meeting with Tech officials.

"They needed help and they thought it would be important that it be directed at the business school," Rawls said. "The business school is an important aspect of Texas Tech."

Besides the possibility of a new joint business and engineering degree, the endowment will help with recruitment of a new business school dean and allow additional scholarship money for the 20 percent of Tech's undergraduate students attending the business school, Schmidly said.

Mike Moses, deputy chancellor of Texas Tech's University System, said the university approached Rawls about the donation last November. Moses said Rawls took six to eight months to consider how he wanted his donation to help his alma mater.

"He really took a close look at the university," Moses said. "He wanted to help, but he wanted his gift to go to a place where it would really make a difference. He wanted it to be meaningful."

The donation is especially meaningful considering it is Tech's largest ever and going to an area where the university really needs it, Moses said.

"It is a pretty profound moment in the history of Texas Tech," said the deputy chancellor, who is about to take over the helm of the Dallas Independent School District. "I am very proud for the university and I am very appreciative of this individual."

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SPORTS



I'M OPEN — Snyder post players Ashley Delce (33) and Kameron Kallemeyn (43) call for the ball during Friday night's district contest at Levelland. The Lady Tigers knocked off the Loboettes, 32-27, and will put their 1-0 league mark on the line at 6:30 Saturday night when they host Lake View. (SDN Staff Photo)

In District 4-4A opener...

Lady Tigers knock off state-ranked Loboettes

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

LEVELLAND — It wasn't fast paced, and it certainly wasn't flashy. But the Snyder Lady Tigers wouldn't trade Friday night's district opener for anything in the world.

Snyder took away Levelland's inside game over the final three quarters, and used an 8-2 run in the final frame to chalk up a 32-27 victory Friday night over the seventh-ranked Loboettes.

The Lady Tigers, off to their best start in school history, improve to 10-2 on the year and 1-0 in district action, while Levelland falls to 12-2 and 1-1.

"The great thing was that we didn't play a perfect game, but we never lost faith," said Snyder coach Sam Tipton. "Our girls fully expect to win every time they step on the floor, and there wasn't a time in tonight's game when they didn't believe they would win."

Snyder, whose scheduled district opener with Lake View on Tuesday was postponed until Saturday, was tight to start the game. Levelland pounded the Lady Tigers in the paint, with Tara Vaughn scoring eight points to give the Loboettes an 11-6 lead.

But Snyder quickly settled down and picked up its defensive intensity in the second quarter. Vaughn managed only one bucket in the second period, as the Lady Tigers limited the Loboettes to only three second-quarter points.

"We were so pumped to play this game, that we came out a little tight," Tipton stated. "We were focused and ready to play this game on Wednesday, you could see it in the girls during practice. When you stay that keyed up for that long, sometimes you're tight at the start. But after that initial run, we were fine."

After knotting the tally at 14-14 by halftime, the Lady Tigers seized control of the game with its defensive effort in the paint, followed by an offensive outburst.

Snyder continued to clamp down on Vaughn, shutting out the Loboettes' leading scorer over the final 22 minutes of the game.

On the other end, the Lady Tigers methodically broke Levelland's defense. Snyder, determined from the start to work the ball inside, attempted only seven shots from outside the paint.

Snyder guards T'Leah Eicke, Cameron Mackey and Kristin Murray fed the ball to Ashley Delce 14 times, resulting in a game-high 18 points for the senior post.

The two squads traded the lead in the third quarter, with Delce and fellow senior post Kameron Kallemeyn accounting for all six of Snyder's points to keep the game knotted at 20-20 heading into the fourth quarter.

"Tonight's game was a match-up of two very similar teams," said Tipton. "We're both post-oriented, and we do so many similar things. The team that executed the best was going to win the game, and overall we did a better job of feeding our post players."

After totaling only 20 points through the first three periods, Snyder seized the lead for good with eight points in a span of three minutes to open the fourth quarter.

A bucket by Delce was answered by Levelland's Amber Rose, before two more points from Kallemeyn put the Lady Tigers up, 24-22.

Then following an empty trip by the Loboettes, T'Leah Eicke drained a three-pointer on her only shot attempt of the night to stretch Snyder's advantage to 27-22.

Delce made one of two free throws to push the margin to six points, Snyder's largest lead of the game.

Levelland trimmed the deficit to one point at 28-27, but was held scoreless over the final 2:35.

Delce posted three more points, and Murray added a free throw for the 32-27 final outcome.

With a district win under their belt, the Lady Tigers must now turn around and duplicate the effort on Saturday against Lake View. The game is set for 6:30 p.m. at the SHS gym.

"This was such a big win for our girls," Tipton remarked. "To beat the seventh-ranked team in the state in their own building is a great accomplishment, so I told the girls we would worry about Saturday's game starting Saturday afternoon. First, I want them to enjoy this victory."

In Friday's other district action, Plainview rolled over Andrews, 69-26. Big Spring held off Frenship, 51-46, and Estacado downed Lake View, 65-52.

Snyder	**06**	**08**	**06**	**12**	**—**	**32**
Levelland	**11**	**03**	**06**	**07**	**—**	**27**

Snyder
Delce 7-15 4-7 18, Kallemeyn 3-5 0-0 6, Eicke 1-1 0-0 3, Mackey 1-2 0-1 2, Murray 0-1 1-2 1, Geiger 1-2 0-0 2. **Totals 13-26 5-10 32.**
Levelland
Vaughn 5-15 0-0 10, Rose 3-6 0-0 7, Robertson 3-14 0-1 6, Flowers 0-4 4-6 4, McDonald 0-3 0-0 0, Wilson 0-1 0-0 0. **Totals 11-43 4-7 27.**
Three-point goals: Snyder 1 (Eicke), Levelland 1 (Rose). Rebounds: Snyder 20 (Delce 8), Levelland 24 (Vaughn 6). Total fouls: Snyder 11, Levelland 9. Fouled out — None.

Ira cagers nab pair of victories

IRA — The Ira Lady Bulldogs pride themselves on defense, and Friday night they had something to be proud of.

Ira limited Highland to only 10 points through the first three quarters Friday night, en route to a 54-27 non-district victory at Bulldog gym.

Ira's boys also chalked up a win, scoring 36 second-half points to put away Stamford's JV, 62-53.

The Lady Bulldogs improve to 6-5 on the year, while the boys move to 4-5.

In the girls' match-up, Ira built a 12-8 lead in the opening quarter, before completely shutting down the Lady Hornets in the second. The Lady Bulldogs put together a 13-0 run to stretch their advantage to 25-8 by halftime.

Highland managed only two points in the third period, as Ira continued to pull away in the second half.

Morgan Clements poured in 23 points to pace the Lady Bulldogs, while Kristen Harless added 12.

Tosha Walker tallied seven points. Michelle Nettles netted four, and Tara Allen finished with three.

In the boys' game, Ira trailed at halftime, 27-26, before rallying over the final two quarters.

The Bulldogs exploded for 19 points in the third period, and added another 17 in the final frame to pull out the victory.

Nathan Smith's 13 points led the Bulldogs.

Seth Sterling and Cade Tucker registered 11 points apiece, and Jess Wall dropped in 10.

Both Ira squads will be in action again Tuesday at Trent.

High School Football Playoffs

CLASS 5A
Division I Championship
Midland Lee (12-2) vs. Austin Westlake (14-0), 12:07 p.m. Saturday, Royal-Memorial Stadium, Austin
Division II Semifinals
Arlington Lamar (9-4) vs. Tyler John Tyler (11-3), 7 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium
Katy (14-0) vs. SA Marshall, 2 p.m. Saturday, Kyle Field, College Station
CLASS 4A
Division I Championship
Denton Ryan (12-2) vs. Bay City (13-1), 4 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium
Division II Semifinals
Wichita Falls (14-0) vs. Ennis (12-2), 1 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium
West Orange-Stark (14-0) vs. CC Calallen (13-1), 2 p.m. Saturday, Astrodome
CLASS 3A
Division I Championship
Abilene Wylie (14-0) vs. Gatesville (14-0), 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Birdville FAAC, Haltom
Division II Semifinals
Forney 41, Muleshoe 17
Marlin (11-3) vs. La Grange (12-2), 1 p.m. Saturday, Waco ISD, Waco
CLASS 2A
Division I Championship
Sonora (14-0) vs. Blanco (10-4), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Waco ISD, Waco
Division II Semifinals
Celina 59, Stanton 7
Refugio (14-0) vs. Mart, 2 p.m. Saturday, Bobcat Stadium, San Marcos
CLASS 1A
Semifinals
Stratford (14-0) vs. Collinsville (11-2), 4 p.m. Saturday, Sweetwater
Burkeville 29, Beckville 6
SIX-MAN
Championship
Highland (14-0) vs. Panther Creek (14-0), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, San Angelo Stadium

Local Schedule

SATURDAY
Basketball
Lake View at Snyder freshman girls, 11 a.m.
Lake View at Snyder JV and varsity girls, 5 and 6:30
Snyder JV boys at Sweetwater tourney, 9 a.m. and 1:30
TUESDAY
Basketball
Snyder girls at Big Spring, varsity at 6 p.m., JV at 7:30
Snyder boys at Big Spring, JV at 6 p.m., varsity at 7:30
Ira varsity girls and boys at Trent, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Rangers send Perisho to Detroit for minor leaguers

DETROIT (AP) — The Detroit Tigers acquired pitcher Matt Perisho from the Texas Rangers on Friday for minor league pitchers Kevin Mobley and Brandon Villafuerte.

Perisho, 25, was 2-7 with a 7.37 ERA in 34 games for Texas last season. He made 13 starts.

He pitched briefly for the Anaheim Angels in 1997 and for the Rangers in 1998-99, and has a career record of 2-11 with a 7.29 ERA.

"Perisho is a young left-hander whose pitching style suits Comerica Park," general manager Randy Smith said in a statement. "He's got a good fastball and excellent changeup and is a pitcher we feel can make a contribution in 2001."

To make room on the 40-man roster for Perisho, the Tigers designated right-handed pitcher Victor Santos for assignment.

Mobley, 25, was 6-0 with a 2.70 ERA last season at Double-A Jacksonville.

Villafuerte, who turns 25 on Sunday, spent most of the season at Triple-A Toledo.

District 4-4A Girls

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Plainview	**2**	**0**	**14**	**1**
Snyder	**1**	**0**	**10**	**2**
Big Spring	**1**	**0**	**10**	**2**
Estacado	**1**	**0**	**10**	**3**
Levelland	**1**	**1**	**12**	**2**
Lake View	**0**	**1**	**7**	**6**
Andrews	**0**	**2**	**10**	**5**
Frenship	**0**	**2**	**9**	**6**

Friday's games: Snyder 32, Levelland 27; Estacado 65, Lake View 52; Plainview 69, Andrews 26; Big Spring 51, Frenship 46.
Saturday's game: Lake View at Snyder; Big Spring at Estacado.

National Hockey League

All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	15	10	5	0	35	99	73
Pittsburgh	14	13	3	1	32	89	92
Philadelphia	13	12	6	0	32	81	86
N.Y. Rangers	15	17	1	0	31	113	120
N.Y. Islanders	9	15	4	2	24	70	87

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	18	8	4	0	40	95	69
Toronto	17	8	4	2	40	105	71
Buffalo	16	10	2	1	35	83	75
Boston	10	15	3	3	26	76	107
Montreal	9	20	3	0	21	75	95

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	12	11	6	1	31	72	77
Carolina	12	12	4	1	29	71	83
Atlanta	11	13	6	1	29	86	101
Tampa Bay	9	15	3	2	23	81	103
Florida	6	13	6	5	23	66	86

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	21	4	3	0	45	101	54
Detroit	18	11	2	2	40	102	89
Nashville	11	14	6	1	29	71	85
Chicago	10	18	2	2	24	78	101
Columbus	9	19	2	2	22	64	100

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	21	6	5	0	47	100	72
Vancouver	16	9	4	2	38	107	82
Edmonton	16	13	4	0	36	97	89
Calgary	9	14	6	4	28	73	94
Minnesota	8	17	5	2	23	61	79

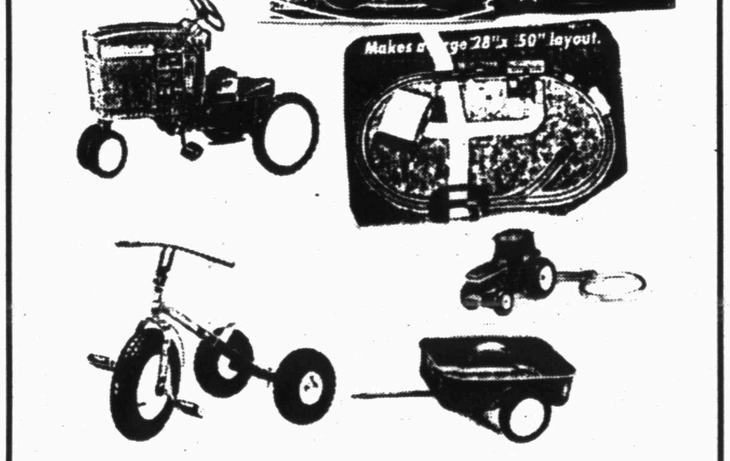
Pacific Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	18	6	4	0	40	84	60
Dallas	17	8	4	1	39	84	62
Los Angeles	15	9	7	0	37	107	91
Phoenix	14	8	8	0	36	77	67
Anaheim	12	15	4	3	31	86	104

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

Thursday's Games
Washington 2, Minnesota 1
Ottawa 4, Calgary 2
Edmonton 6, Nashville 2
Phoenix 3, Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Rangers 5, Los Angeles 5, tie
San Jose 2, Columbus 1
Friday's Games
Carolina 5, Buffalo 3
St. Louis 6, Atlanta 3
Florida 4, Pittsburgh 1
New Jersey 2, Montreal 1
N.Y. Islanders 3, Toronto 2
Detroit 5, Colorado 3
Dallas 4, Chicago 1
Anaheim 6, N.Y. Rangers 4
Saturday's Games
Carolina at Boston, 7 p.m.
Florida at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Montreal, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Washington, 7 p.m.
Detroit at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Nashville, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Columbus at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Dallas at Minnesota, 2 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Anaheim, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 23
DANCE
9:00-1:00
Conjunto Mi Gusto
American Legion
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SPORTS

Tigers set for district after rout of Wylie

ABILENE — After struggling through a five-game stretch a few weeks back, the Snyder Tigers seem to have things in order heading into district play.

Snyder hammered Abilene Wylie, 73-50, to close out its non-district schedule Friday night, and improve to 7-6 heading into league action.

The Tigers, who had fallen to 4-5 earlier in the month, head into district play having won three of their last four games.

"We're playing a lot better than we were a couple of weeks ago," said Snyder coach Bud Birks. "But we must continue to work hard to improve, because once district starts, the intensity level picks up, considerably."

Against the Bulldogs, the Tigers were paced by the play of their three senior big men. Jared Thornhill (6-3) poured in 18 points to lead Snyder's offensive effort, while Shante Taylor (6-6) and Heath Pinkerton (6-3) added 14 apiece.

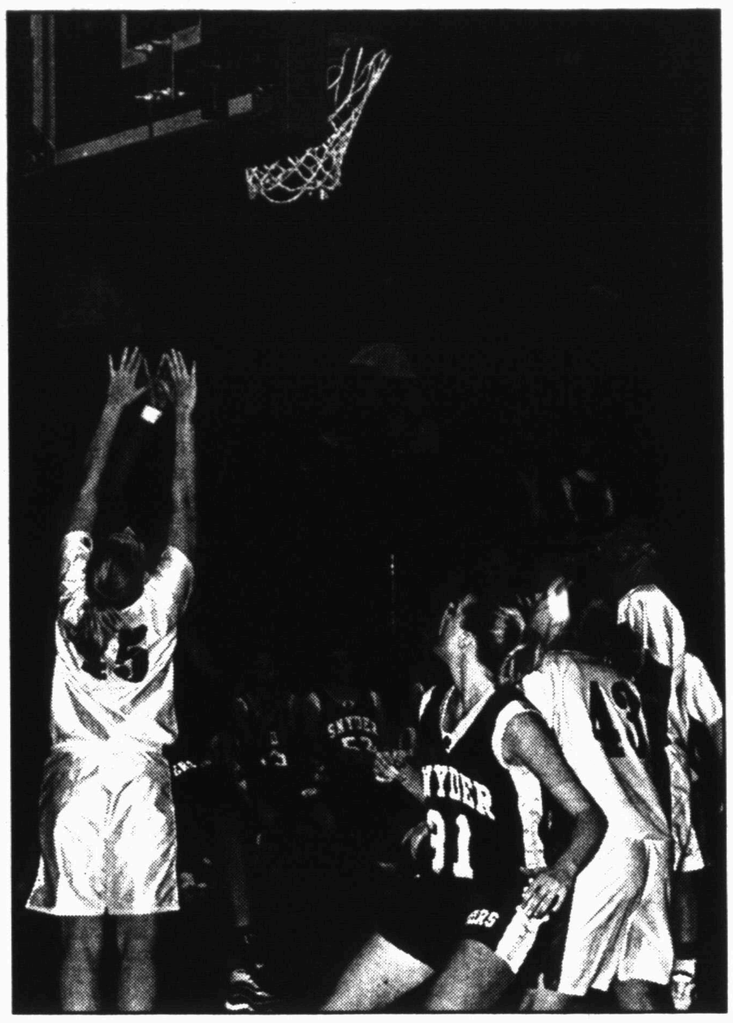
The Tigers raced to a 10-point lead in the opening quarter and never looked back.

Snyder was consistent on the offensive end, posting 15 or more points in all four quarters.

The Tigers open district play at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Big Spring.

Snyder	**21**	**20**	**15**	**17 —**	**73**
Wylie	**11**	**15**	**11**	**13 —**	**50**

Snyder
Taylor 7 0-0 14, McGuire 1 0-0 2, Wofford 4 0-0 9, Thompson 4 0-0 8, Pinkerton 6 0-1 14, Landes 1 0-0 2, Pruitt 3 0-0 6, Thornhill 9 0-1 18. **Totals 34 0-2 73.**
Wylie
Edwards 3 3-3 9, Ikemba 0 1-2 1, Austin 2 0-0 4, Rariden 0 1-2 1, Kiger 6 5-5 19, Plourde 1 0-0 2, Hanner 3 8-9 14. **Totals 14 18-21 50.**
Three-point goals: Snyder 2 (Wofford, Pinkerton).



BLOCKING OUT — Snyder senior Kristin Murray (31) moves into rebounding position Friday during the Lady Tigers' 32-27 victory over Levelland. (SDN Staff Photo)

Depleted Cowboys face tough test...

Giants hope to make guarantee come true

IRVING (AP) — Jim Fassel's playoff guarantee could come true before his New York Giants even take the field Sunday.

While waiting for an evening kickoff against the Dallas Cowboys, the Giants would clinch their first playoff berth since 1997 if Detroit or New Orleans lose.

New York's players, though, aren't worried about all the scenarios. They like the simplicity of knowing that if they beat the Cowboys, they make the playoffs and win the NFC East.

"All I know," safety Sam Garnes said, "is if we win out, we're where we want to be."

The Giants (10-4) have rebounded from consecutive losses with three straight wins. The turnaround was sparked in part by Fassel's stern, uncharacteristic boast that "this team is going to the playoffs."

"I shocked them and everybody else," Fassel said. "But I believed in them, and that's why I said it, more than anything else. That makes me proud."

If things go really well this weekend for New York — such as beating the Cowboys while New Orleans and St. Louis lose — the Giants could even snag a first-round bye. That would make their finale against Jacksonville moot, essentially giving them two weeks off.

Despite the usual bluster about not taking bad teams lightly, New York can say it with a straight face this week. Dallas (5-9) whipped Washington last Sunday, one week after the Giants struggled to beat the Redskins. While there were extenuating circumstances to both games, it's enough to keep New York from dismissing Dallas.

"They are not going to lay down for us at all," said Giants linebacker Jessie Armstead.

The Cowboys will be without quarterback Troy Aikman, who suffered a concussion against Washington. The Giants might miss him, considering they intercepted Aikman five times when the teams played in October.

Then again, providing yet another sobering thought for New York, that game still came down to Aikman's final pass, which was incomplete.

Aikman's replacement is Anthony Wright. He'll be making his first NFL start while playing in just his third NFL game.

Although Wright played three full quarters against the Redskins, he threw only five passes, completing three. The Cowboys ran on his other 37 snaps, a decision coaches insist was prompted by the team's success on the ground and not an indictment of Wright's arm.

Dallas coach Dave Campo expects the Giants to "throw the kitchen sink" at the inexperienced Wright.

Campo's hope is Wright is so unknown that New York won't know what to expect. The coach admits that even he's looking forward to finding out how Wright does.

"He has handled himself very well," Campo said. "He's a poised guy and he can run. From a skills standpoint, he is a complete quarterback. But we have to see how he handles the pressure."

Dallas got lucky last week because Washington passed a lot. New York is more likely to follow the traditional game plan teams have used against the Cowboys: run, run, run.

Ron Dayne and Tiki Barber combined for 203 yards against Dallas last time. Three individual runners have gone over 200 against the Cowboys this season, the first time any NFL team has allowed that.

Dayne and Barber should be rested, too, considering quarterback Kerry Collins threw for 333 yards against Pittsburgh last week, making him the first Giant since Phil Simms to go over 3,000 yards in a season.

"They've got a lot of weapons over there," said Cowboys cornerback Phillippi Sparks, who played for the Giants the past seven seasons. "They're playing a lot better now than they were the first time."

Dallas has not won consecutive games since starting last season 3-0.

Mavericks end two-game skid

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — With Don Nelson back on the sideline and Dirk Nowitzki hitting his shots, the Dallas Mavericks looked like themselves again.

Nowitzki scored a career-high 36 points, and Steve Nash had 18 points and 13 assists as Dallas beat the Philadelphia 76ers 112-94 Friday night to stop a two-game losing streak.

Nelson missed Dallas' previous three games while consulting with doctors about how to treat his prostate cancer. He rescheduled some appointments and, thanks to team owner Mark Cuban's private plane, arrived 40 minutes before Friday's tipoff.

Nobody was happier to see Nelson than Nowitzki, who finished 13-of-19 from the field after shooting 1-for-10 Wednesday against Indiana.

"About 40 minutes before the game, he saw me and said, 'What's the deal with your shot?'" Nowitzki said. "All I said was, 'I don't know.'"

Whatever it was, Nowitzki figured it out, and the 76ers couldn't stop him. It didn't help that Philadelphia was missing defensive leader Eric Snow, out after undergoing ankle surgery.

"That's no excuse," said Allen Iverson, who had 26 points and shot 12-for-12 from the foul line. "We've got guys who are pros, who have been playing all of their lives. We can't use that as an excuse."

Sixers coach Larry Brown gave much of the credit to the Mavericks, who shot 46 percent from the field.

"They were sensational," Brown said. "They ran a pick-and-roll about 50 times with a different guy every time. They ran their stuff better and defended better than we did."

Nelson will have surgery Jan. 4, and will miss 6-to-8 weeks. Assistant Del Harris, who coached the team during the three-game absence, will fill in again.

"That was a game that it's fun for coaches to coach in," Nelson said. "It was great competition, it's what I live for. I could hardly stay away."

He wasn't slated to return to the Mavericks until the team's game at Detroit on Sunday. But he moved up a blood test and a bone scan until Friday morning and was able to make the game.

"Once I found that I could get that done in the morning, the toughest part was getting here," Nelson said.

Michael Finley had 25 points, and Howard Eisley added 16.

Sports Briefs

Shaq graduates from LSU

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Eight years and millions of dollars after he played his last college game, Shaquille O'Neal received his bachelor of arts degree from LSU, fulfilling a promise he made to his coach, his family and himself. The 7-foot-1, 320-pound Los Angeles Lakers center earned a bachelor's degree in general studies with a minor in political science.

O'Neal, 28, sat with his fellow students at the afternoon degree ceremony, but was on the platform with the academics for the morning commencement service. While in the NBA, O'Neal attended summer school at LSU, but for the most part earned credit through its independent studies program.

Van Poppel signs with Cubs

CHICAGO (AP) — Right-handers Todd Van Poppel and Jeremi Gonzalez agreed to one-year contacts with the Chicago Cubs and avoided salary arbitration.

Van Poppel was 4-5 with two saves and a 3.75 ERA in 51 games last season, all but two appearances coming out of the bullpen. He gets a raise from $400,000 to $850,000. Gonzalez has missed the last two seasons because of two operations on his right elbow.

USC hires Pete Carroll

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Pete Carroll, fired from his two NFL coaching jobs and out of college football for 17 years, accepted the coaching position at Southern California. He succeeds Paul Hackett, fired two days after the Trojans completed a 5-7 campaign. It was their first losing season since 1991.

Carroll, who turned down the USC job three years ago, was out of coaching this year after being fired by the New England Patriots following the 1999 season. They were 27-21 in three years under Carroll, reaching the playoffs twice.

Broncos' RB out final two games

DENVER (AP) — Denver Broncos running back Terrell Davis, sidelined by the onset of a stress fracture in his lower left leg, will miss the final two games of the regular season and could be out for the playoffs after tests revealed no change in his condition.

Vick will return for junior year

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP) — Virginia Tech quarterback Michael Vick announced he will return for his junior season, saying he wants to work on a few things before heading to the NFL. Vick had a disappointing season after injuring his right ankle Oct. 28 against Pittsburgh.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	17	6	.739	—
New York	14	10	.583	3½
Miami	12	12	.500	5½
Boston	9	13	.409	7½
Orlando	9	14	.391	8
New Jersey	8	14	.364	8½
Washington	4	19	.174	13

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	14	7	.667	—
Charlotte	15	9	.625	½
Milwaukee	12	11	.522	3
Toronto	12	11	.522	3
Indiana	11	12	.478	4
Detroit	10	13	.435	5
Atlanta	6	17	.261	9
Chicago	3	20	.130	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	17	6	.739	—
Minnesota	14	9	.609	3
Dallas	15	10	.600	3
Houston	13	9	.591	3½
San Antonio	13	9	.591	3½
Denver	11	13	.458	6½
Vancouver	7	16	.304	10

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	15	6	.714	—
Phoenix	15	7	.682	½
Portland	17	8	.680	—
L.A. Lakers	16	9	.640	1
Seattle	13	12	.520	4
L.A. Clippers	8	17	.320	9
Golden State	6	17	.261	10

Friday's Games
Charlotte 103, Washington 89
Cleveland 103, Indiana 95
Dallas 112, Philadelphia 94
Sacramento 104, Boston 81
Utah 89, New York 58
Minnesota 99, Detroit 90
Atlanta 85, Chicago 74
Milwaukee 104, Toronto 97
L.A. Clippers 98, Phoenix 88
Seattle 99, Miami 81
Portland 106, Orlando 96
L.A. Lakers 98, Vancouver 76

Saturday's Games
Utah at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Denver at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Miami at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games
L.A. Lakers at Toronto, 1 p.m.
Orlando at Vancouver, 3:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at New York, 6 p.m.
Dallas at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at L.A. Clippers, 9 p.m.

National Football League

All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Miami	10	4	0	.714	283	182
N.Y. Jets	9	5	0	.643	294	277
Indianapolis	8	6	0	.571	378	303
Buffalo	7	7	0	.500	263	314
New England	4	10	0	.286	239	301

Central

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Tennessee	11	3	0	.786	291	191
x-Baltimore	10	4	0	.714	286	138
Jacksonville	7	7	0	.500	328	282
Pittsburgh	7	7	0	.500	263	231
Cincinnati	3	11	0	.214	161	329
Cleveland	3	12	0	.200	161	395

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Oakland	11	3	0	.786	403	263
x-Denver	10	4	0	.714	440	340
Kansas City	6	8	0	.429	322	318
Seattle	5	9	0	.357	270	339
San Diego	1	13	0	.071	226	376

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	10	4	0	.714	283	208
x-Philadelphia	10	5	0	.667	335	238
Washington	7	7	0	.500	258	242
Dallas	5	9	0	.357	281	313
Arizona	3	11	0	.214	200	410

Central

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Minnesota	11	3	0	.786	359	307
Tampa Bay	9	5	0	.643	336	217
Detroit	8	6	0	.571	277	277
Green Bay	7	7	0	.500	303	281
Chicago	4	10	0	.286	193	318

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	9	5	0	.643	310	272
St. Louis	9	5	0	.643	479	412
Carolina	6	8	0	.429	271	236
San Francisco	5	9	0	.357	362	384
Atlanta	3	11	0	.214	216	377

x-clinched playoff spot

Saturday's Games
Washington at Pittsburgh, 12:30 p.m.
Oakland at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Detroit at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Denver at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
San Diego at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
New England at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Green Bay at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Chicago at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
Indianapolis at Miami, 4:15 p.m.
Baltimore at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Dallas, 8:35 p.m.
Open: Philadelphia

Monday's Game
St. Louis at Tampa Bay, 9 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 23
Jacksonville at New York Giants, 12:30 p.m.
San Francisco at Denver, 4:15 p.m.
Buffalo at Seattle, 8:35 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 24
Arizona at Washington, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
Miami at New England, 1 p.m.
New York Jets at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at San Diego, 4:05 p.m.
Minnesota at Indianapolis, 4:15 p.m.
Carolina at Oakland, 4:15 p.m.
Open: Cleveland

Monday, Dec. 25
Dallas at Tennessee, 9 p.m.
End Regular Season

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

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Legal Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Scurry County Commissioner's Court will receive and open bid proposals for the lease of a new Bituminous Distributor.On Monday, December 18, 2000, at 10:00 a.m., during Regular Session of Commissioners' Court. Specifications may be obtained at the County Judge's Office, Scurry County Courthouse, Snyder, Texas.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Scurry County Commissioners' Court will receive and open bid proposals for two new vehicles for the Scurry County Sheriff, Monday, December 18, 2000, at 10:00 a.m., during Regular Session of Commissioners' Court. Specifications may be obtained at the County Judge's Office, Scurry County Courthouse, Snyder, Texas.

Announcements

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Proven Income. 800-277-9424

Work from home and get
up to $1200/$1500 mo. PT
or $6000/$8000 mo. FT
No experience needed.
Will Train! Free recorded
information 24hrs. 888-456-4451

WORK FROM HOME
Up to $1200–$1500/mo. PT
or $6000–$8000 FT
No Experience Needed.
Will Train!
Free Recorded Information
24 hrs. 888-239-8534
www.successcycle.com/bestopportunity

Business Services

Antique Restoring
& Furniture Refinishing
Re-gluing & Veneering
Free Estimates, Work Guaranteed
863-2342 Hermleigh, TX

Bar R Hauling
Tractor & Equipment
Loading Winch (if needed)
915-962-2416/Mobile 338-5656

Chimney Cleaning & Repairs
Walter Banks or Darrell Craig
573-4736 573-2472
Leave Message

Experienced dependable licensed female caregiver with references. Call 574-6866.

Business Directory of Services

Backhoe Service — TRIPLE T — Dump Truck Service
SEPTIC SERVICE
State Licensed — Install & Repair
STATE APPROVED SEPTIC SYSTEMS
Serving Snyder & Surrounding Areas
1-888-345-4384

Bullard's Internet Service
Join the Snydertex.com online community, serving Scurry County
Local Storefront, New Computers, Repairs Upgrades, Software, Networking
If you are our customer, we fix your Internet problems for free
3405 College Ave. 573-4801

RONNIE WOOLDRIDGE
Painting Contractor
*Interior & Exterior Painting
* Wall & Ceiling Repairs
* Minor Carpentry & Repairs
* Wall Paper Hanging
* Varnish Work
573-8015

Let Us Help You With Your Business Advertising Needs Today! Call 573-5486

Plumbing Repair Services — Coventry Plumbing
Telephone (915) 573-3085
M-19955
1311 College Ave. Snyder, Texas 79549
Jim Coventry Owner

Lee's Construction
"No Job Too Small"
Residential
Remodeling & Repair
STEVE LEE Snyder, Texas 79549
915/573-2709 Mobile 915/725-3165

SPARLIN CONSTRUCTION
Welding Fabrication Fencing
Metal Buildings Carpentry Painting
Bud Sparlin Mobile 575-4182 or 573-4766
1945 Santa Fe Ave. Snyder, Texas 79549

Janie's Creations
915-573-4396
Custom Window Treatments with a Creative Touch!
Drapes, Valances, Pillows, Plus.

DALE'S ELECTRIC
We Do All Kinds Of Electrical Work
New & Repairs
403 33rd St.
573-5330
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Dale Swigert

Over 10,000 People Read The Snyder Daily News Every Day! For Just $65 A Month You Could Advertise Your Business And Get Quick Results!

Used – Like New (Buy Or Sell)
GOLF BALLS
B & M GOLF DISCOUNT
Owners: Bob & Monette O'Day
NEW LOCATION! 4502 El Paso
Call For An Appointment
915-573-2814 or 915-574-1997
DECEMBER SPECIAL
Buy 2 Dozen, Get 1 Dozen FREE
Titleist Precepts Strata, etc. $12 dz
Top Flites Pro Staff Pinnacles, etc. $7.50 dz

Hillman & Company
573-4884
•FREE ROOF INSPECTIONS — HAIL DAMAGE — • Assistance with Insurance Claims
•RESIDENTIAL All Types — • COMMERCIAL All Types
ELK — • Free Estimates • Bonded • Quality Workmanship
Sales Representative - BillCovey

DAVID HOLT
Insurance Services
All Types Insurance
Specializing In
LONG TERM CARE
1800 26th St. P.O. Box 97 Snyder, TX 79550
Office: 915-573-3255 Toll Free: 877-571-3255 Res: 915-573-6526

B & B HOUSE LEVELING & FOUNDATION REPAIRS
Free Estimates
We accept Visa & MC
10 Year Guarantee
Owner Rick Burrow
Office: (915)675-6613 1-800-335-4037

TOTAL COVERAGE IRRIGATION
Do you have a freeze sensor for your sprinkler system? If not call
Jim Thomas
(915)651-5030 (915)574-1562
Texas Irrigators Lic. #6312

BUSINESS DIRECTORY ADS JUST $65 A MONTH CALL 573-5486 TODAY!!

Business Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
Tuesday through Friday 4:00 p.m. prior day
Sunday & Monday 3:00 p.m. Friday
Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.
P.O. Box 949 Snyder, Texas 79550

For Classified Power, Call
573-5486
Fax 573-0044

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Advertisers Should Check Their Ad On The First Day of Insertion!
The Snyder Daily News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within 5 days from date of first publication. No allowance can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement. All ads are cash unless customer has an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News.
The Publisher is not responsible for copy ommissions, typographical errors, or any unintentional error that may occur further than to correct it in the next issue after it is brought to his attention.

$16.95 for 5 days, get 6th day FREE! 15 words or less

Business Services

Minor Auto Repair, Tune-ups, Brake jobs, etc. Very reasonable!! Call Kenny at 573-4027.

The Carpet Store & More
915-235-8180 Sweetwater, TX
Flooring, Renovations, Custom Cabinets. Open Mon. – Sat.

Too Much To Do?
Let us clean while you shop!
Experienced, reasonable, references.
Bridgette/574-2495 Melanie/573-7524

Will Haul
Clean your garage, attic, old estate or house. For estimates call Tim **573-3047.**

Employment

ATTN: **Work From Home**
$500-$5000 Month FT/PT
Mail Order/Internet
1-800-690-2540
www.destinyofwealth.com

Fee for service RNs needed for Snyder and surrounding areas. Send resume to P.O. Box 1849 Brownwood, TX 76804, or for more information call 1-800-665-4471.

Maintenance man needed. Starting pay, $8 an hour. Call 573-2219.

Employment

FIRE YOUR BOSS and WORK AT HOME
Earn $500–$2000/Mo.
Flex. hours. 1-800-722-4285 or
www.workathomenow.com

FULL TIME TANKCLEANERS NEEDED: Midwestern Services, Inc. in Snyder is currently accepting applications for tank cleaners. Will train. Crews average 50–55 hours per week. 70% travel required, transportation provided to and from the job site. For information call (915)573-6385. **Hourly wage + bonuses.** 100% drug free. EOE

Heavy Equipment Operator
Must have CDL, good driving record. State wide work. Experience a must. Call John at 1-800-684-4422.

Any time is the right time to use the classified ads. Call today!

Employment

Lose 40 pounds in 2 Months
Natural & Doctor Recommended
1-888-252-1759
www.ezfitness4life.com

LVN NEEDED: Good Benefits, Meals, Holidays, Vacation. Apply in person to Terri Owens, Director of Nurses at Kristi Lee Manor, 1941 Chestnut, Colorado City, TX.

Nail Tech & Hair Stylist
Wanted Full-Time.
THE CUTTERY
2417 College Ave.
Booth Rental – Be Your Own Boss
Talk To Gina

Positions available for LVNs. Vacation, sick time, holidays, life & health insurance, 401K, retirement. Contact Elia Gonzalez, D.O.N. @ Valley Fair Lodge 915-728-2634.

Due to expansion Sun Loan Company has an immediate opening for an Assistant Manager and Manager. We are a multi state company specializing in consumer loans.

We Offer
- ✓ On the Job Training
- ✓ Advancement Opportunities
- ✓ Competitive Salary
- ✓ Paid Vacation and Holidays
- ✓ 401k Plan
- ✓ Excellent Insurance Package
- ✓ Smoke-Free Environment

If you are team oriented and enjoy working in a professional, but relaxed atmosphere, then apply in person at Sun Loan Company, 2519 College Ave., Snyder, TX 79549.

Employment

MERCHANDISER- Key responsibilities of this position are to merchandise Company products in large volume stores; place and maintain point of sales materials; organize Company products in the customer's stock room; stock all sales areas and vendors; place pricing, shelf talkers, and larger signs and banners; build displays; cultivate and maintain positive relations, and maintain impeccable housekeeping standards at all selling points. Must live in the Snyder area, as the starting point will be from that area, coming to Abilene once a week for meetings. A Company vehicle will be provided. Must have good driving record. Apply at Coca-Cola, 2074 N. 1st Street, Abilene, TX 79603 between 8a.m. and noon. EEO/AAP/VET Employer. Applications will be accepted through Friday, December 22, 2000.

Now accepting applications and resumes for sheriff of Scurry County. Applications may be picked up in the Treasurers office, 2nd floor Scurry County Courthouse. Deadline is 10:00 a.m. December 18, 2000.

Employment

PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT needed in Hermleigh, Inadale to assist aged and disabled individuals in their homes. Tasks include assistance with personal care, light housekeeping, heavy lifting, and other tasks assigned. Hours vary according to client served. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and free of any criminal history charges. Contact Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital Home Health at 235-1701 (ext. 413) or fax resume to 235-1783.

TUPPERWARE
PT/FT Flexible Hours
Executive Income
Sue Bogard
915-573-0766/Leave Message
For Appointment

We are looking for a man or woman to represent FARM BUREAU INSURANCE.
FARM BUREAU INSURANCE is a multi-line Company offering auto, home, life, health and commercial insurance.
This Position Offers:
- •Two Year Training Income
- •Established Assigned Accounts
- •Bonuses & Company Incentives
- •License Assistance

Please send resume to:
Scurry County Farm Bureau
Attn: Sales/Resume
1903 Snyder Shopping Center
Snyder, Texas 79549

Financial

1000 New Customers Needed
No Credit! No Problems!! Loans $100 to $467. Apply by phone at **573-1761** or come by **SECURITY FINANCE, 511 Coliseum Drive,** Snyder, TX

Advance-Fee Loans or Credit Offers
Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit **before** you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC HELP. A public service message from Snyder Daily New and the Federal Trade Commission.

Woman's Column

Holiday Gift Wrapping!
Call Amanda @ 573-5363.

MARY KAY COSMETICS
Complimentary Facial or Reorders! Call Geraldine Thames, 915-573-9433, 1812 38th St. Snyder.

Farmer's Column

Bar R Dozer
Farm & Ranch Work
Grubbing, Terrace, Tank Repair
915-962-2416/Mobile 338-5656
Free Estimates! Raygene Shipp
Located in Snyder–No Road Time Charge!

Looking for farmland to rent or lease. Prefer cotton acres. Many years farming experience. Contact Robert Romero at (915)863-2481.

Sporting Goods

GUNS
(1) Double-barrel 20 gauge
(1) Pump 12 gauge
(2) Rifles
(1) Pistol
Call 574-1270

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

ALWAYS A WINNER THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

Merchandise

100 gallon aquarium w/oak stand & canopy. Fish, plants, driftwood, lights & filters. $400 573-1700/725-5112

2 pc. sectional w/reclining ends. Earth tones, excellent condition! Also, old office desk. Call 573-3653.

AVON...Cash & Carry!
All Your Favorite Products
Jewelry – Candles – Gifts
2608 College Ave.
1 – 5:30 T-W-TH-F-S
573-5525
Ind./Sales/Rep.

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, Etc. Sales & Rentals
3706 College 573-7582

DEAL OF THE YEAR IS BACK!!
Direct TV with Free Installation!
Excellent Channel Choice!
Best Digital Picture!
$89.00 plus tax!
Offer ends 1-14-01. Call 573-6269.

"EVERYTHING MUST GO"
Failing Health. Closed Nail Salon.
Furniture to Polish.
Serious Inquiries Only.
573-7354

Unshelled Pecans, $1.00lb.
Call 573-7542.

Merchandise

DISH
FREE Satellite System
FREE Basic Install
FREE 3 Month Movies
Cable & Wireless Customers
Some Restrictions Apply
For More Information
573-2948/575-0990
Locally Owned & Operated

Firewood By The Cord.
Mesquite – $145
Split Oak – $155
573-1535 Leave Message

Firewood!! Oak & Mesquite!
Local cutter. Part seasoned. 24"-22"-20"-18". Some split. Delivered. 573-1216

For Sale: Brown rocker-recliner w/massage, $100. **573-9506,** leave message.

GUARANTEED USED APPLIANCES: Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Ranges & Freezers. WESTERN AUTO 2510 Ave. R.

Pallets for sale, $1.00. Call 573-5486 or come by Snyder Daily News.

SANTA SPECIAL
Metal Detectors
By Whites Electronics
915-728-2494 Colorado City

Any time is the right time to use the classified ads in The Snyder Daily News. Call 573-5486 now!

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

(2) 3-mo. old female kittens to be given away. Call 573-2888.

CHRISTMAS PUPPIES
Mini-Schnauzers, salt/pepper, (2) males, 7 weeks old. $150 573-1705-(D), 806-756-4430-(N)

For Sale: Beautiful little American Eskimo puppies. Call 573-3368.

GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS
Adorable, Tiny Tea Cup
Chihuahua Puppies
Perfect Play Mate or Companion!
573-2333

Just In Time For Christmas!
Chocolate Point Siamese Kittens
12 weeks, shots/wormed. $50
Call 573-3114

Want To Buy

WANT TO BUY!
Fixer-Upper House, outside of city limits. Call 573-2333.

WANTED: 20 or more acres near Ira or between Ira and Snyder. Jay Allen **573-6665.**

For results, use Snyder Daily News Classified ads. 573-5486

Apartments For Rent

1–2 Bedroom Apartments
Furnished/Unfurnished, all bills paid, no pets. Start at $275/mo. More information 573-5773

1-bedroom duplex $250/mo. plus deposit.
1-bedroom duplex $200/mo. plus deposit.
Good neighborhood. No pets.
573-7484

2 Bedroom, 1 Bath Apartment, CH/A, $350/month. 4500 Ave. U. Call **573-2219.**

2 bedroom apartment for rent. Good location, reasonable. Call 573-0996.

Golden Terrace Village Apartments
1 & 2 Bedrooms
Especially for
Senior Citizens age 62 +
Rent Based On Income
To Apply: Please Call
915-573-1416
Locations @:
2006 37th St.
1607 52nd St.
1911 Martha Ann Blvd.

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

Houses For Rent

2204 40th, brick, nice 3 or 4 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A, washer/dryer, stove/refrigerator, 2-car garage + storage. $500/mo. 573-9066 or contact 1809 38th.

2790 Dalton: 3-1-1, CH/A, $395/mo.
573-1550 or 725-8503

2 bedroom brick duplex. Appliances, CH/A. 573-1012

2 bedroom country house. City water & cable, no pets. Call 573-2919.

3-2 Brick, lg. fenced back yard, CH/A, new refrigerator/stove, washer/dryer connection. 2210 30th. $350/mo., $200/dep. **915-837-0146**

3 bedroom, 1 bath, partly fenced. $275/mo., $100/dep. 573-2859 after 6p.m.

3 Bedroom, 1 Bath, separate garage, CH/A. 300 20th, $275/month. Call **573-2219.**

3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, w/fireplace, patio, $450/mo. + deposit.
4113 Eastridge 573-1640

4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, CH/A. 2406 Ave. L. $350/month.
573-2219

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 2400 Beaumont, $300/month w/references & deposit.
573-9812.

Several 2 & 3 bedroom houses, CH/A. Rent or sell, owner finance. 573-2251 after 5p.m.

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

Houses For Rent

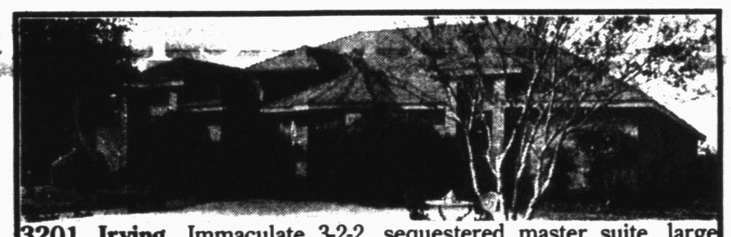
HOUSES FOR RENT
3789 Highland.....3-2.....$400
2307 40th.....3-1.....$375
2204 43rd.....2-2.....$350
3212 42nd.....4-2.....$475
3902 Eastridge.....3-1-2.....$400
Sarah Jamison 573-4028
Elizabeth Potts Realtors 573-8505

You can make a bale of money selling through Snyder Daily News classifieds. Collect your no-longer-used items and advertise them for sale. 573-5486.

JACK & JACK
Realtors
611 Coliseum Dr
Ford Spikes, Owner/Broker
573-8571 573-3452

Neat 3-2³/₄ + Den 2944 Gary Brewer Rd $76.5T
2701 34th Updated-Nice 3-2-2+sunroom $86T
Beautiful 3-2³/₄-2 + Nice garage apartment 2018 37th St.....$185T
Lovely 4-1& (2)³/₄-2cp Pool 2907 33rd.....$117T
Red. Wonderful Location 3-2³/₄-2 Fpl.....$85.9T
Nice-New Listing 302 36th Pl. 3-1.....$32.5T
Lovely Country Setting 80 Acres 4-2 + Barns w/Pens
3 Acres 3-2-2cp 1966 sq ft $65T
Nice & Roomy 3-2-2+2 Living Areas...$92.5T
Red! Nice Home Close In 2.37 A's 3-1³/₄-2
Good Size Home 3-1³/₄-2cp 308 23rd $27.5T
Ira ISD 2 A's, Sheds, Water Well 2-1³/₄ $33T
Good Starter Home 211 34th 3-1³/₄ $27T
Reduced-LOVELY 4-2-2 3303 Irving $99.9T
ATTRACTIVE! 4-2-2 2211 27th St. $42T
Good Farm 3 miles out,....160 Acres 3-1³/₄-2
C. City 4+A's Lovely Home 3-2-2.....$60T
2 Acres 2-1³/₄ w/storage bldg. & shop $27T
Eastridge 4104 Nice 2-1-1+ office...$30T
IRA BULLDOG CORNER STORE HWY 350
Nice Quiet Area 3-1³/₄-1 2205 44th.....$46T
Starter Home 2-1-1 707 27th St.....$20T
3-1-1 + Apartment 3300 Cherry.....$50T
1.84 A's-Close In 3-2-2 @ Reduced Price!
Wonderful Game Rm + 4-1³/₄-4 2208 45th $65T
Good Size Home 2805 Ave. V 3-1³/₄-1cp..$46.5T
Large 2505 Sq. Ft. 4-1³/₄-2.....2800 35th
Price Lowered Country Dream Home 4-1³/₄ Wonderful Storage, 20 A's, Pool, Out Buildings.....$175T
14.49 Acres 3-2-Hot Tub, Sprinkler System...$95T
Fixer-Uppers: 1011 28th & 2311 Ave. M
3774 Dalton Dr. Lg Home 3-1³/₄-1cp..$37.5T
1907 15th 3-1-2cp.....$20T
Red! 2810 El Paso 53+Sunroom, 2865 sq ft $78.5T
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

You only thought you could not afford luxury.
Think Again!! Check out our
NEW LOWER PRICES!!
at: Windridge Village
5400 College Ave. or
Western Crest
3901 Ave. O
We Have Apartments for Hud Housing & Section 8 Qualifiers
Office Located at 3901 Ave. O 573-1488



3201 Irving... Immaculate 3-2-2, sequestered master suite, large open living room w/fireplace. Dining room w/wet bar, modern kitchen w/adjoining pantry/utility. Beautiful corner lot, professional landscaping, sprinkler system. Assumable VA Loan @ 6.5% w/equity, or FHA/Conv. $94,500. 915-573-5597

Elizabeth Potts Realtors
1707 30th Street 573-8505
Temi Matthies
Owner/Broker
Annette Waller
573-9467


Sarah Jamison
573-4028


Dee Kemp
573-1152

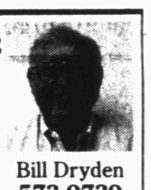

Rita Knox
573-7082

3602 Kerville 3-2-2, New Carpet . $55T
4509 Fredonia 3-2-2, Fpl.. Ready for You
6 to 22 Acre Tracts-Rooftop Owner Finance
1209 Coliseum 3-2-2cp, 3 A's Owner Finance
2233 Sunset 3-1-1 w/$1000 buyers Allowance
4014 Irving Great Buy! 3-2-2-Fpl Only $65T
Dunn 3-1½ Nice..... Only $35T
10.14 A's 5 BR Hm/Shop/Country/Pecan
1601 Ave. E 2-1-2cp CH/A $22T
Reduced ! 80 Acres, 4 bdr., Creeks/Pens
2266 Sunset 3-2-2Cp Spacious.....$33T
REDUCED! Near Schools 4-2-2 $99.9T
2907 33rd Colonial Hill 4-3 Pool.. Reduced!
3718 Sunset 3-1³/₄-1cp $48T
Lg. Metal Shop w/4 covered Parking spaces
211 34th 3-1³/₄-1 detached.....$27T
New Listing! Edge of Town-unique log home!
585 Armadillo Dr. Brick Home.13 A's
2605 33rd Magnificent Custom Home
218 29th 2-1 Owner Finance–Call for Info
3011 40th 4-2-New siding, paint $24.9T
217 35th 3-1 with storage $25T
Edge of Town 3-2³/₄.....$76.5T
2411 28th .....ONLY $9,000
Nice! Country Home. w/barns/ Acreage
2501 48th New Listing Pool-Shop-RV
Rent or Sell 3724 Ave. U 3-1-Cp. $25.9T
4110 Jacksboro 3-2-2 F.P., Patio... $75.5T
2647 Pleasant Hill Rd 3-2-2-fpl 1 Acre
1861 Tuscola 3-2-2.....$85.5T
1801 22nd Reduced Comm., 7 offices/yd
2606 47th Lg lot Great Neighborhood $8T
2708 48th 4-2-2 Brick Call us Today $88.5T
Beautiful 2 Story on 37th ..... Call
1804 38th 3-1½-1cp Brick..... $52T
Approx. 7 Acres Rooftop..... Call
REDUCED! Best Buy Motors... $16.9T
Commercial Building . RENT OR SELL
IRA 3-2-2cp on ½ Acre Needs Work. $30T
134 20th 2-1 Owner Finance Starter Home
3015 38th 3-1-1 CH/A Wood Burning Stove
4304 Lubbock Ave. 3-2-1 ..... CALL!
3704 Muriel Sell or Lease. Cute Home
3500 Ave. W 3-3-2.....$85.9T
Cedar Creek 4-2³/₄-2 Nice ..... Call
New Tile! 2308 42nd St. 3-1.....$35T

Shop Early! Buy A Home!

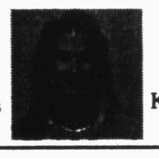
Stevenson Real Estate
573-5612
2405 25th Street
Snyder, Texas


BillyDurham
573-0446


Bill Dryden
573-9739


Doris Beard
573-8480


Wenona Evans
573-8165


Kayla Moreland
573-4809

New Listing 2018 37th. ..... Call
2106 42nd 3-1-2 CH/RA.... $34.5T
3742 Avondale 3-1½ CH/A . $33.9T
2803 Ave. Y 2-1½-1 ..... $18.5T
New on Market 123 34th 3-2-1cp $59.5T
New Listing 2511 30th 3-2-3 with office, and RV Cover $96.5T
Quality Home, Cedar Creek, Custom Built, Call
3606 44th 3-2-2 Pretty Decor.....$73.5T
2608 47th 4-2-2 Reduced.. $124.9T
2705 35th 4-3-2 New Roof, office $119.5T
3310 Ave. V 3-2-2 Owner Says Sell. $62T
Reduced 3500 Ave. W 3-3-2... $85.9T
2700 46th 3-2½-2-2 LA's Nice Yard $119T
2907 33rd 3-3-cp + pool.... $117.5T
3503 Kerrville 3-2-2..... $54.9T
2701 34th 3-2 Nice tile $86T
FM 1607 3-2 cp w/5 Acres $69.5
3402 Irving Neat 3-1-1 LA+Den $39T
Hermleigh 3-2-2cp Lg. fam. rm. 5 A's $77.5T
2212 43rd 3-1 CH/A $39.5T
2411 28th 1-1 Dining.. Only $10T
3717 Avondale 3-1-1..... $35T
2266 Sunset 3-2-2cp Liv & Den. $33T
304 34th 2-1½ CH/RA .. $24.9T
2706 28th 3-2½-2 ..... $95.5T
279 CR 243 10 A's, Shop 3-2-2cp $69.5T
221 29th 3-2-cp Mobile Hm/RV cover $19.9T
409 20th 3-1 CH/A $15T
CR 3114 - SW - 3-2 w/116 A's.. $84.9
4110 Jacksboro 3-2-2 ..... $75.5
2810 El Paso 4 or 5 bd-3bth Red. $78.5T
1861 Tuscola 3-2-2.. Reduced $85.9T
Hermleigh 3-2 w/acreage Call for Details
3-2-2 brick w/2 LA's, nice shop & storage plus 3-2-2 rental home on 7.49 acres . $120T
College Ave. Large Office Bldg.. $48T
Commercial Bldgs N & W side of square
Farmland - 142 Acres and 243 Acres .. Call
146 Acres - South of Town... $46.5T
Hwy 180 - 80 Acres $42T
155 Acres, 116 in CRP .. Close in N.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT:
snydertex.com/stevensonrealestate/index.htm

HERITAGE HOMES REALTORS
3405 Snyder Shopping Center Suite B
915-573-5056


Dolores Jones
Broker/Owner
573-5308


Joan Tate
573-8773


Debby Miller
573-2075


Shirley Drum
573-1550


Faye Blackledge
Broker/Owner
573-1223

New Listing! 2509 48th Cul-de-sac 3-2½-3 F.L. and dining, large kitchen/den, inside atrium, R.V. covered parking $100's
3509 40th Brick 3-2-1cp large utility & hobby room, large shop..... $55T
321 35th Corner 3-1-detached garage $27T
3505 Irving Cute 3-1³/₄-detached garage.....Assumbale Loan
New Listing 2110 42nd 3-1-rear garage, Creative Financing.....$30's
3100 El Paso Pretty as a Picture..$75T
Dine By Fireplace 3-2-2.....$110T
3-2-2 Beautiful Home & Yard.....$85T
Reduced 3-2-2 Den, Beautiful Kitchen, Landscaped
Country 3-2-2 rock fireplace, Wood Floors, Pool
Close In 2 Acres, pond 2-2-office.... $100's
Brick 3-1³/₄-1cp 160 Acres.....$100's
2206 44th 3-1³/₄-1 Assumable Note...$40's
2902 34th Extra Nice 3-2-2-den-F.L... $90's
Ready for New Family 3-3-office, basement.....$100's
North - 4-1³/₄ 80 Acres.....$100's
2701 34th Updated! 3-1³/₄-2..... $86T
2907 33rd Spacious 4-3 Pool.....$100's
2205 44th 3-1³/₄-1..... $46T
Close In Pretty 3-2-w/cp 14 A's.....$95T
Hwy 84 3-2-2 Shop 10 Acres..... $100's
Victorian 2-1 w/wrap around porch $55T
E. 23rd 3-2-shop, covered patio, 9A's...$120T
3500 Ave W Great View 3-3-2...$85.9T
4110 Jacksboro Doll House 3-2-F.L.-2.... $70's
3303 Irving GREAT BUY 4-2-2...$99.9T
4107 Avondale Brick 3-1-1.....$38T
3409 Apple COZY 3-2-fireplace .....$40's
206 32nd Roomy 4-2-1.....Wants Offer
3605 Jacksboro Large Den 3-2-2...$60's
2609 37th Large, close to schools...$100's
New Listing 3-2³/₄-2 Den.....$118T
2810 El Paso LOTS for the MONEY $78.5T
1861 Tuscola 3-2-2 Sm. Acreage $89.9T
IRA 3-2 Mobile Home 18 A's.....$68T
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THANK YOU

To those who expressed their sympathy in so many beautiful and practical ways during our recent bereavement, we extend our heartfelt thanks.

The Family of Tinney Rainwater

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Hypoglycemia is actually quite rare

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have attacks of hunger and weakness that I believe are due to hypoglycemia. My doctor tells me there's no such thing, it's just a symptom. How can I diagnose this?

DEAR READER: For decades, hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) was a popular wastebasket diagnosis to explain the hunger and weakness experienced by people — usually somewhat apprehensive young female adults — several hours after a meal.

Within the last few years, however, authorities have come to believe that, based on reliable scientific studies, hypoglycemia is actually quite unusual and should not be diagnosed unless two criteria are met. The patient must have symptoms at the time the blood sugar is low (less than 45 milligrams per deciliter), and the symptoms must be reversed by raising the blood sugar. When it appears, hypoglycemia is a symptom, not a disease, that often indicates the presence of an insulin-secreting tumor in the pancreas. Such a tumor must be surgically removed.

Many normal people have occasional blood sugar readings below 45, but they have neither symptoms nor health problems.

Conversely, some adults with normal blood sugars experience sweating, nervousness, hunger, thirst, and weakness — the classical symptoms of "hypoglycemia" — without hypoglycemia. This has become known as the "post-prandial syndrome," meaning that symptoms occur after eating, for no apparent reason.

Therefore, your doctor was probably correct, provided he or she checked your blood sugar at the time you were experiencing symptoms — and the reading was normal.

When given this information, folks may become disappointed because they no longer have a disease to explain how they feel. This is especially true when knowledgeable physicians then suggest that the people may suffer from anxiety attacks, panic reactions or emotionally maladaptive behavior.

Fortunately, the non-surgical treatment for most hypoglycemia and post-prandial syndrome is the same: frequent small meals, avoidance of refined sugar products and alcohol, and high protein (such as cheese) or fruit snacks.

Many Americans eat improperly, imprudently and excessively: too much sugar, soda and junk food. Therefore, the hypoglycemia diet usually solves the problem by providing a more nutritious and better-balanced diet. To relieve your symptoms, try it. **To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Hypoglycemia." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.**

DEAR DR. GOTT: We use a salt substitute. Are we getting enough iodine?

DEAR READER: Not all salt is iodized. This chemical additive was popularized years ago, before the advent of refrigerated transport that made seafood available to inland citizens. If you are eating a balanced diet — including seafood — you are unlikely to become iodine-deficient. However, to be on the safe side, review your eating preferences with your doctor. Iodized salt is not ordinarily necessary for good health.

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2000

DEAR DR. GOTT: What is diverticulitis? Is there a diet to prevent it?

DEAR READER: As we age, we often develop small sacular out-pouchings in the lining of the large intestine. This harmless condition, called diverticulosis, causes no symptoms whatsoever.

Sometimes, however, these sacs become infected, leading to abdominal pain and fever. This is called diverticulitis and can progress to bowel abscesses or intestinal bleeding.

Antibiotics usually cure the inflammation and relieve symptoms, but the affliction tends to recur. Thus, on occasion, surgery is required to remove badly infected portions of colon, especially if bleeding is present.

In the past, doctors believed that dietary roughage (salads, bran, nuts and so forth) caused diverticulosis to turn into diverticulitis. Therefore, practitioners formerly prohibited their patients from eating indigestible food.

We now know that such prohibitions are unnecessary. In fact, roughage is presently considered to be beneficial for most people — even those with diverticulosis — because it stimulates normal evacuation and, in some instances, appears to lower blood cholesterol levels.

Notwithstanding, there is still considerable debate about the role of seeds in causing diverticulitis; some specialists adhere to the view that the small indigestible seeds in raisins, strawberries, raspberries and other fruits may lodge in diverticular sacs, leading to blockage, inflammation and bleeding.

At present, there is no unanimous consensus on whether patients with diverticulitis should avoid seeds. In my practice, I straddle the fence by discouraging seed-containing foods (including jams) for patients who have had serious attacks of bowel inflammation. I don't advise restrictions in other cases. But, as with most medical dogma, the final word is not yet in. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Diverticular Disease." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have overactive saliva glands which cause very annoying, thick, sticky, large amounts of saliva. Ear-nose-and-throat specialists haven't been able to pinpoint a cure. I'm on antidepressants and have diverticulosis.

DEAR READER: Overproduction of saliva is a common consequence of foreign material in the mouth; this material can range from chewing gum to dentures. In addition, some particularly tense and nervous persons may have an idiosyncratic reaction: Rather than experiencing the usual dry mouth, they produce excess saliva. Some medicines, including antidepressants, inhibit formation of saliva. I doubt that diverticulosis, a common and harmless bowel condition, is contributing to your problem.

I suggest that you see a dentist, since the ENT specialists haven't been able to diagnose your problem. Dentists are often very skilled at diagnosing conditions affecting the mouth.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My roommate has a problem with gas. I know that you probably think it's funny, but we can hardly breathe, let alone laugh. It gets worse when she's nervous. Help!

DEAR READER: Intestinal gas is one of mankind's most ubiquitous problems. Fortunately, it is more of a social issue than a medical ailment. The condition results from bacterial action on certain complex carbohydrates that reach the colon undigested.

Here are some suggestions for your roommate: Avoid the cabbage family, gas-producing legumes (such as beans) and products containing sorbitol (an artificial sweetener); be careful not to swallow air when eating; chew foods thoroughly and don't drink carbonated beverages. Good luck to you both.

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Seven mobsters were machine-gunned in the St. Valentine's Day massacre in Chicago on Feb. 14, 1929. The seven members of the Bugs Moran gang were lined up against the wall of a garage by Al Capone's men, who were dressed as police, and murdered.

Senior Center Menu

Monday
Spaghetti w/meatballs, whole kernel corn, Harvard beets, fruit salad, oatmeal cookies

Tuesday
Meat loaf, steamed cabbage, blackeye peas, jellied vegetable salad, brownie

Wednesday
Cheesy chicken, golden carrots, broccoli, perfection salad, pineapple upside down cake

Thursday
German sausage, pinto beans, potato salad, sliced onion, coconut pudding

Friday
Fried fish, potato pancakes, tomatoes & green beans, pea salad, apple cobbler

Senior Center News

More flu vaccine has arrived and the Scurry County Health Unit has scheduled two clinics to be held at the Scurry County Senior Center at 2603 Ave. M. The first clinic will be from 9-11:30 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. on Monday. The second will be from 9-11:30 a.m. on Wednesday. Those receiving a flu shot should bring their Medicare card or $5.

A big thank you to every volunteer who helped with the Scurry County employees' Christmas dinner and the coffee can fund raiser. We welcomed the opportunity to have the county employees visit our facility. The coffee can fund raiser was great fun. Choosing from the wide variety of goodies provided by volunteers was difficult.

Monday
Bridge play begins at 9:30 a.m., the Nine-Ball tournament is at 10, and daily exercise at 11. The Advanced Reading students from East Elementary will provide special music at 11:30.

Tuesday
"88" play begins at 10 a.m. Aubrey Wilson has expressed a desire, on behalf of himself and the other members of Hoss Clayton's Band, to continue to provide music on the first and third Tuesday of each month. All volunteers who use their individual talents to support the center are appreciated. The Golden K Kiwanis will meet at noon in the conference room.

Wednesday
Seniors may enjoy bingo from 10-11:45 with a break for exercise at 11. Cozy Jones will provide piano music at noon. Line dancers and cloggers will practice at the center at 1 and 2 p.m., respectively.

Thursday
The Sunshine Choir will entertain at Snyder Oaks at 10 a.m. Carla Thompson will play and sing in the dining room at 11:30 a.m.

Friday
The blood pressure clinic and bridge play begin at 9:30 a.m, Eighty-eight begins at 10 a.m. and the sing-a-long at 11:30 a.m.

The Senior Center will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25-26, for the Christmas holiday.

Gonzales to take Washington job; Perry to fill post

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Supreme Court Justice Al Gonzales has been tabbed to be White House counsel for President-elect Bush, creating a void on the Republican-dominated court.

Gonzales, 45, served as legal adviser to Bush's governor's office from 1995 to 1997. He then served as secretary of state for two years before Bush appointed him to the state's highest civil court in 1999. He was re-elected to the court this year.

In 1996, Gonzales helped get Bush dismissed from jury duty in a drunken driving case in Austin, arguing that it would be improper for Bush to sit on a criminal case in which he might be asked to grant clemency.

Gonzales has told court associates he had accepted the job in Bush's Washington administration. How soon he would leave the court was unclear.

"I've had discussions with the governor about working in Washington but any final decision and any announcement of that decision will have to come from him," Gonzales said.

He said he has told Bush he and his family are willing to move to Washington.

The White House counsel advises the president on all legal issues concerning the Office of the President and the White House, including policy, ethics and whether to sign or veto legislation.

With the selection of Gonzales, Bush has all but completed his White House staff.

Gonzales was appointed by Bush to the state court in 1999 to fill the unexpired term of retiring Democrat Raul Gonzalez.

It was a political slam dunk for the GOP as it put a Republican in every statewide elected office. The other eight justices are Republican.

Although Bush has yet to resign from his state office, picking Gonzales' replacement will likely fall to Lt. Gov. Perry, a Republican who is set to take over Bush's office.

Whoever is appointed will serve until 2002, when the seat will be open for election to fill the remaining four years of the six-year term, said Perry spokeswoman Kathy Walt.

Texas Democratic Party Chairwoman Molly Beth Malcolm said the party will fight for the seat in the 2002 election. "Texas Democrats absolutely will have good candidates up and down the ballot in 2002," she said.

At a press conference to announce the appointment of Democratic Rep. Henry Cuellar of Laredo as his secretary of state, Perry said he had just learned of Gonzales' move.

"I am excited for George Bush that he is going to have that quality of an individual working with him," Perry said. "Certainly, there are going to be a number of appointments that are coming up very soon in this year that we will be dealing with."

Court watchers were immediately interested in who Perry would put on the court.

Cris Feldman, staff attorney for the non-profit Texans for Public Justice, which monitors the court, said he expected a conservative would get the nod.

"School prayer, restricting abortion, and promoting school vouchers are among the issues important to Perry's backers," Feldman said. "Odds are we will see that in his choice of appointment."

Gonzales sat on the court for several abortion cases in which it was asked to decide if an unmarried, minor girl could have the procedure without notifying her parents.

In its first ruling on such a case, Gonzales sided with the majority in deciding a teen-age girl could have an abortion without telling her parents. The March case was not a constitutional challenge of the state law but sought only an interpretation.

In several other cases, the court has voted against girls seeking to bypass the notification law or sent their cases back to lower courts.

Texas Watch, which has criticized the current court as being tilted in favor of business interests over consumers, said it will be high-profile appointment for Perry to make.

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Compromise budget hailed

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton and congressional leaders are hailing a compromise budget package boosting spending on schools, health and other programs that the clamorous, lame-duck 106th Congress sent him before finally adjourning for the year.

In its final major act of the year Friday, Congress cleared more than $450 billion in spending, the last remaining piece of this year's $1.8 trillion federal budget. The House voted 292-60 to approve the bill, so thick it stood well over a foot tall, while the Senate passed it by voice.

"If we continue to invest in our people and create opportunities for them, if we continue to honor and reward work, our possibilities are truly without limit," Clinton said in his weekly radio address Saturday.

Also praising the measure was House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., who said its spending increases would bolster education, health, Medicare and efforts to help low-income communities.

"I am happy to say that the peace of the holiday season has brought finality to the presidential elections and to the work of the 106th Congress," Hastert said in a written statement.

Completion of the measure — and Congress' adjournment — came 21/2 months after the Oct. 1 start of the 2001 fiscal year. To give Clinton time to study and sign the legislation, lawmakers passed two bills temporarily keeping agencies open through next Wednesday. That brought to 22 the number of such stopgap measures this year.

The 107th Congress convenes on Jan. 3 and will see a Senate party split of 50-50 and a House narrowly controlled by the GOP. Seventeen days later, Republican George W. Bush will become president and begin a relationship with Congress that will be productive only if there is bipartisan cooperation.

Looking ahead, the Senate passed a pair of resolutions introduced by Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., and Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., praising each other.

Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, struck a similar note of bipartisanship in the Republican radio address Saturday. "The simple fact is that next year, especially in the Senate, neither party can accomplish anything without the cooperation of the other," he said.

Completion of the spending package meant that the 13 annual spending bills would spend a record $634.5 billion, according to Senate Budget Committee estimates. That would be about $48 billion higher than last year, $11 billion more than Clinton requested and $34 billion more than Republicans set in Congress' budget last spring.

More snow and cold on tap in Plains and PNW

By The Associated Press

The nation's midsection braced for subzero wind chills and another bout of snowfall on Saturday, further complicating a massive effort to restore power to tens of thousands of homes left dark and cold since a midweek storm.

The forecast called for wintry weather in states across the western half of the country, including piercing winds in Arkansas and Missouri, blizzard warnings in the Dakotas and freezing rain mixed with snow in Chicago.

The Pacific Northwest also prepared for more snowfall, a day after wind gusts knocked out power to at least 100,000 homes and businesses.

"You might as well go into hibernation at this point," said Evan Bookbinder, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Springfield, Mo. "This is ridiculous for December."

Arkansas remained the trouble spot for power outages, with about 90,000 Entergy customers still without lights late Friday. Wind chills were predicted to be as low as 35 below zero Saturday.

More than 6,000 utility workers from around the country were spread throughout the state to restore electric service.

"As soon as they get the power up, it goes right back out," said Shelia Magness with the Office of Emergency Services in Lincoln County, which experienced water problems after the storm knocked out power to water plants and filtration systems. "Limbs are still falling as they fix the lines and it breaks again."

United Airlines said it has canceled 50 percent of its flights at O'Hare International Airport on Saturday due to stormy weather.

National Weather Service forecasters predicted freezing rain and snowfall up to 2 to 4 inches in Chicago, which already had up to 16 inches of snow on the ground from two storms earlier in the week.

The week's storms have contributed to more than a dozen deaths, including five in Arkansas.

The power outages have created a big demand for generators in Arkansas.

"We've just been taking generators to folks all over the county," said Jim Johnson with the Dallas County Office of Emergency Services.

Mother calls police when son refuses to go to school

• ***Problems with son***

A mother called police at 8:03 a.m. Friday in reference to her 15-year-old son refusing to go to school. Officers responded and advised that the boy was released to juvenile probation officers.

An offense report for aggravated assault was taken in connection with the incident, but investigating officers were unavailable Saturday morning with additional details.

• ***Disturbance***

Officers were called to Warehouse Furniture at 10:38 a.m. Friday in reference to a subject their having an altercation with his girlfriend.

A criminal trespass warning was served to a woman.

• ***Runaway***

A woman called police at 4:33 p.m. Friday to report that her niece had not returned home from school. Officers located the juvenile in the 3100 block of Avenue T and escorted her to the police department where she was released to her aunt.

• ***Criminal mischief***

An offense report for criminal mischief was filed at Snyder Lanes bowling alley at 9:37 p.m. in reference to someone breaking out the rear glass door.

• ***Class A assault***

A male subject came to the Law Enforcement Center at 11:46 p.m. Friday and reported that he had been assaulted in the United parking lot.

• ***Loud music***

Officers issued a subject a citation for disorderly conduct/noise at 12:42 a.m. Saturday at the Fieldcrest apartments after a complaint of loud music.

• ***Arrests***

At 4:07 p.m. Friday, a 19-year-old woman was taken into custody in the 3200 block of College for failing to pay a fine for speeding.

A 22-year-old man was arrested at 12:42 a.m. Saturday in the 2700 block of Avenue O on outstanding Department of Public Safety warrants from Midland for not wearing a seatbelt and failing to appear in court on the ticket.

Misdemeanor driving while intoxicated landed a 19-year-old man in jail at 2:18 a.m. Saturday. Officers arrested him in the 1600 block of East Hwy. 180.

A 21-year-old woman was arrested for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated at 2:46 a.m. Saturday in the 100 block of 37th Street.

Alcohol-related charges also landed three subjects in jail at 3:51 a.m. Saturday. An 18-year-old man was arrested for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated while two other males, ages 17 and 18, were arrested for public intoxication.

• ***Accident***

Charles Bethel was transported to Cogdell Memorial Hospital for treatment around noon Friday after rolling his pickup about three miles east of Ira on F.M. 1606.

Obituaries

Mozelle Hall

1923-2000

Funeral service for Mozelle Mitchell Hall, a native of Scurry County, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday at First Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Nan Swanson, pastor, will officiate. Assisting will be the Rev. James Manley, pastor of Abundant Life Church, and the Rev. Walter McCall, chaplain for Community Care Hospice of Odessa.



Mozelle Hall

Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Hospital. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Hall, 77, died Friday, Dec. 15, in Snyder Healthcare Center after a brief illness.

Born July 2, 1923 in Snyder to pioneer settlers Richard H. and Maude Harless Mitchell, she married Arvel Hall May 30, 1942 in St. Augustine, Fla. He died Feb. 4, 1998.

Mrs. Hall, was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church. She was a homemaker and worked in retail. Mr. and Mrs. Hall were among the first staff members at Western Texas College from 1971-1975. Mrs. Hall worked in student services.

Survivors include a son, Richard Keith Mitchell of Snyder; a sister, Loree Klutts of Snyder; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Pallbearers include Wayne Glass, Waylon Glass, Randy Davis, Preston Wilson, Michael Grace and Alan Floyd.

Honorary pallbearers will be Roy Baze, Don Harless, Jack Harless, Howard Crenshaw, Kenneth Pitner and Dean Floyd.

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3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Robert Kitchens

1929-2000

CROSS PLAINS — Robert D. Kitchens, brother of G.W. Kitchens of Snyder, died Friday, Dec. 15, at Brownwood Regional Medical Center.

Service for Mr. Kitchens, 71, was set for 2 p.m. Sunday at Higginbotham Funeral Home Chapel with burial to follow in Cross Plains Cemetery.

Mr. Kitchens married Annie M. Fraizer in Portales, N.M.

He was preceded in death by a son, Alvie Dale Kitchens.

Survivors include his wife, Annie M. Kitchens of Cross Plains; a daughter, Evelyn C. Tyler of Brownwood; two sons, Jesse C. Kitchens and Walter Kitchens, both of Cross Plains; three other brothers, Jesse Foy Kitchens of Abilene, Clyde Kitchens of Odessa and Claude Kitchens of Slaton; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Leon C. Bruns

Funeral services were held for Leon C. Bruns, a former resident of Snyder, Texas, Saturday, December 9, 2000 at Trinity United Methodist Church. He died suddenly on Wednesday, December 6, 2000, at his home in Sonora, Texas. Arrangements were made under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born February 9, 1945 in Roscoe, Texas, Mr. Bruns is survived by a sister, Blanche Lane of Snyder; a brother, Roland Bruns of Snyder; a brother, Howard Bruns of Snyder and a brother Truett Bruns of Roscoe, Texas.

Survivors include a granddaughter, Erica M. Johnson of Bonham, Texas; a daughter, Lana L. Loper of Las Vegas, Nevada; a daughter, Christy L. Johnson of Bonham, Texas; a son, Bryan K. Bruns of Las Vegas, Nevada, children of Sandra Neely of Bonham, Texas; and a step-son, Brian N. Potter of Colorado City, Texas, son of Theo Holt of Big Lake, Texas.

Survivors also include an aunt, Gladys Kuss of Hermleigh, many nephews, nieces, cousins, in-laws and friends.

Mr. Bruns, 55, was preceded in death by his father and mother, Erwin and Faye Bruns of Snyder.

Leon worked in West Texas in the oil and gas business for most of his life, living in Snyder, Big Lake and Sonora, Texas, and branching out to Bakersfield, California, within the last couple of years. He previously owned a Bar-B-Q restaurant in Sonora, Texas.

Leon Bruns was interred at the Roscoe Cemetery in Roscoe, Texas, December 9, 2000.

Paid Obituary

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Snyder school board meeting

The Snyder ISD board of trustees will meet at noon Monday to continue the evaluation of Supt. Gayle Lomax. The meeting will be in the school administration building.

Johnny Ray Watson concert

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

Ham dinner

Hermleigh High School Beta Club will host a ham dinner from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Sunday in the Hermleigh cafeteria. Cost is $6 for adults and $3 for children under 10.

East reading night

East Elementary will hold Family Reading Night from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday. Parents are encouraged to attend with their children. Refreshments will be served and childcare is provided.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "What the Devil Wants You to Believe," followed by "Lifting up Christ."

4-H horse club meeting

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

Retirement reception

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

Senior citizen swimnastics

Snyder Senior Citizen Center swimnastics is held from 1-2 p.m. on Thursdays, and from 10-11 a.m. on Mondays. For additional information, call 573-4035.

Raw peanuts for sale

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

Windbreak trees

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

Glory Room open

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

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Vocational nurse program testing

Testing for the March vocational nursing class at WTC is set for 9 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 5. Testing in the extended application process is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Jan. 11, 9 a.m. Jan. 17 1:30 p.m. Jan. 31 and 9 a.m. Feb. 9. To schedule an appointment, call 573-8511, ext. 313.

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.

Authorities search for car possibly linked to escape from Texas prison

KENEDY (AP) — Texas authorities were on the lookout Friday for a car possibly involved in the escape earlier this week of seven violent offenders from the Connally Unit in South Texas.

According to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, a medium-dark colored two-door compact automobile, likely a Chevrolet Cavalier or the similar Pontiac Sunbird, was seen near the Kenedy Wal-Mart where the escapees ditched the pickup truck they stole upon their breakout Wednesday.

The car's most distinguishing feature is a front license plate set on the passenger side of the bumper, rather than the center.

Because there have been no reports of stolen vehicles around Kenedy, authorities believe the escapees had outside help in fleeing the area.

Ground searches were halted Thursday afternoon once it became apparent that the inmates likely had left the immediate area around the prison, about five miles south of Kenedy and 65 miles southeast of San Antonio.

The seven escapees, including two convicted murderers, overpowered 10 civilian workers and a guard in the maintenance shop where they worked, stole work clothing, and tricked and overpowered another guard at the back gate.

The inmates stole a prison system pickup truck, later abandoned at the Wal-Mart, and 16 firearms. All are considered armed and dangerous.

Date Books

Saturday, Dec. 16, 2000

Today is the 351st day of 2000 and the 86th day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1811, Missouri suffered an earthquake that geologists believe registered 12 on the Richter scale.

On this day in 1951, "Dragnet," starring Jack Webb, debuted on the NBC television network.

On this day in 1985, actors Sylvester Stallone and Brigitte Nielsen were wed.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), composer; Jane Austen (1775-1817), writer; George Santayana (1863-1952), philosopher; Noel Coward (1899-1973), playwright-actor; Margaret Mead (1901-1978), anthropologist; Arthur C. Clarke (1917-), writer, is 83; Liv Ullmann (1939-), actress, is 61; Lesley Stahl (1941-), broadcast journalist, is 59.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1984, wide receiver Art Monk of the Washington Redskins caught 11 passes in a game against the St. Louis Cardinals, setting a season record of 106 receptions. The Redskins won the game 29-27.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Wit ought to be a glorious treat like caviar; never spread it about like marmalade." — Noel Coward

TODAY'S MOON: Day before last quarter (Dec. 17).

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2000

Today is the 352nd day of 2000 and the 87th day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1903, at Kitty Hawk, N.C., Orville Wright piloted an experimental aircraft named Flyer One on its first flight. The flight lasted 12 seconds.

On this day in 1955, Carl Perkins wrote "Blue Suede Shoes."

On this day in 1989, "The Simpsons" debuted on the Fox television network.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), poet; Ford Madox Ford (1873-1939), writer; Erskine Caldwell (1903-1987), writer; Willard F. Libby (1908-1980), chemist; William Safire (1929-), journalist, is 71; Bob Guccione (1930-), publisher, is 70.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1944, the Green Bay Packers defeated the New York Giants 14-7, winning the NFL title.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Speak out in acts; the time for words has passed, and only deeds will suffice." — John Greenleaf Whittier

TODAY'S MOON: Last quarter.

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Bush taps Powell for first Cabinet job

AUSTIN (AP) — President-elect Bush is naming retired Gen. Colin Powell as his first Cabinet choice, selecting the popular hero of the Persian Gulf War as his secretary of state.

Bush was to formally make the announcement Saturday in Crawford, Texas, near his 1,600-acre ranch, about a two-hour drive north of here.

It comes as Bush begins the process of naming his Cabinet and top White House staff members.

"I think America will be pleased" with his selection, Bush said Friday. Bush's selection of Powell, who was chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the administration of Bush's father, had been long expected.

Bush will name Stanford University administrator Condoleezza Rice as his national security adviser Sunday, along with other top White House appointments, GOP officials said. Rice also served under former President Bush, as a Russia specialist on the National Security Council staff.

But even as Bush sought to project an image of unity and harmony, assembling a Cabinet was proving difficult.

The job of the third member of the national security triad — defense secretary — was a matter of contention within the Bush camp, pitting Powell against Vice President-elect Dick Cheney, said people close to the process, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Powell was pushing for the selection of Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge as defense secretary, while Cheney, a former defense secretary, wants the job to go to former Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind., the sources said.

Ridge, who as an Army enlisted man won the Bronze Star for combat service in the Vietnam War, is Powell's favorite, said the sources.

However, they said, Coats, a former member of the Senate Armed Services Committee who is popular with Senate leaders, is being pushed by Cheney.

One individual who won't be in Bush's Cabinet: moderate Democratic Sen. John Breaux of Louisiana. Reaching across party lines, Bush invited Breaux to Austin for lunch on Friday. He had been widely rumored as a possible Cabinet choice, perhaps energy secretary.

Bush would not say if he had made a specific job offer to Breaux, but he told reporters the Democrat did not want to leave the Senate, which will be evenly split between the parties beginning in January. "He wants to stay in the Senate and to work to get something done," Bush said.

Powell, 63, was traveling to Texas from Washington with Vice President-elect Dick Cheney, aides to the two men said.

Powell is a popular figure and many Republicans had wanted him to run for the White House. He is also arguably the one Bush nomination most palatable to Democrats. Those in both parties have predicted his confirmation by the Senate would be fast and overwhelming.

Bush, who takes office Jan. 20, said he hoped to complete his Cabinet selections "over the course of the next couple of weeks." He said he had "assembled a White House staff that is a group of extraordinary Americans who have agreed to serve the country."

Aides said Bush could name the team on Sunday.

Among them will be a justice on the Texas Supreme Court, Al Gonzales, as White House counsel, officials close to the process said.

Gonzales, 45, was the second Hispanic to serve on the court. Before Bush appointed him to the bench, he served as Texas secretary of state and as the governor's staff general counsel.

Andrew Card, a former U.S. transportation secretary, has already been announced as Bush's chief of staff.

The rest of the White House staff was expected to include Karen Hughes as a senior adviser and communications director, Josh Bolton as policy director and Ari Fleischer as chief spokesman. Each worked on the election campaign.

The list also may include Lawrence Lindsey as Bush's chief economic adviser, although some question about his exact title remained. Lindsey was out of the country on vacation and the announcement of his post could come later.

Bush has decided to name his campaign chairman, Don Evans, as commerce secretary, the sources said. He also was leaning toward Robert Zoellick, a State Department official during his father's administration, as U.S. trade representative.

Man admits killing 7 women

PARIS (AP) — Police searched the countryside Friday for the bodies of seven young mentally handicapped women who disappeared from central France more than 20 years ago, after a former bus driver confessed to their murders.

Emile Louis, a 66-year-old retiree, was placed under investigation and jailed late Thursday in the city of Auxerre, in the Yonne region, southeast of Paris.

Louis, who regularly drove the women to school, confessed that he killed them after they agreed to have sexual relations with him, an Auxerre prosecutor said. He was taken in for questioning on Tuesday.

Despite his confession, he may escape conviction; legal officials are struggling to find ways to charge him with murder. Under the French statute of limitation, people cannot be charged with murder more than 10 years after the event.

"Mr. Louis understood when he confessed to the murders that he could call on the statute of limitations," Pierre Gonzalez, a lawyer for an association defending the victims, said in a telephone interview.

So far, Louis has been placed under investigation for "kidnapping and arbitrary detention," but not for murder.

Police focused their grim search for remains on the countryside surrounding Auxerre, where Louis says he buried them.

Eleven women, aged 16 to 27, disappeared from the region between 1977 and 1979. Louis was placed under investigation for seven of those cases in 1981, but the charges were dropped.

—

Charles Lindbergh died at the age of 72 at his home in Hawaii in 1974. He was the first man to fly solo, non-stop across the Atlantic.

Dog tracks are running once again in the Rio Grade Valley

HARLINGEN (AP) — Muzzled and yearning, the dogs burst from their boxes and dash after their bait. At the rim of the track, the men holler, "C'mon, baby." Inside, the money moves and the beer flows.

It could be 1994, back before Harlingen's Valley Greyhound Park collapsed under the pressure of dwindling profits. The towering stands and sandy track stood desolate for six years.

Now the dogs are back. Under the care of new owners, bolstered by the television "simulcast" of horse and dog races from other tracks, Harlingen's greyhounds sprang back to the chase Friday night.

"We've been waiting for this for a long time," said Chuck Zebrowski, squinting at the dogs.

The track calls Zebrowski a "fan educator" — he calls himself a "betting buddy." He deciphers the dogs' statistics, interprets the squirms and gazes of the greyhounds when the track workers march them in front of the eager gamblers.

"Are they aware and twitching? Pulling at the leash?" Zebrowski says. "Are they excited because they know they're going to race?"

Despite the excitement, some skeptics see dog racing as a fading pastime. These are days of casino ships gliding up and down the shoreline, vigorous lottery advertising campaigns and the new possibility of internet gambling. Can the gritty, old-fashioned allure of the dog track still compete?

Managers of Sam Houston Race Park, the Houston horse track that bought the deserted Harlingen facilities in January for $2.3 million, think the dogs are a safe bet.

"Ask us in three months," quips Mike Vitek, vice president of finance.

"People love the grace and speed of the dogs," Texas Greyhound Association director James Louis Frey says. "And it's also fast action.

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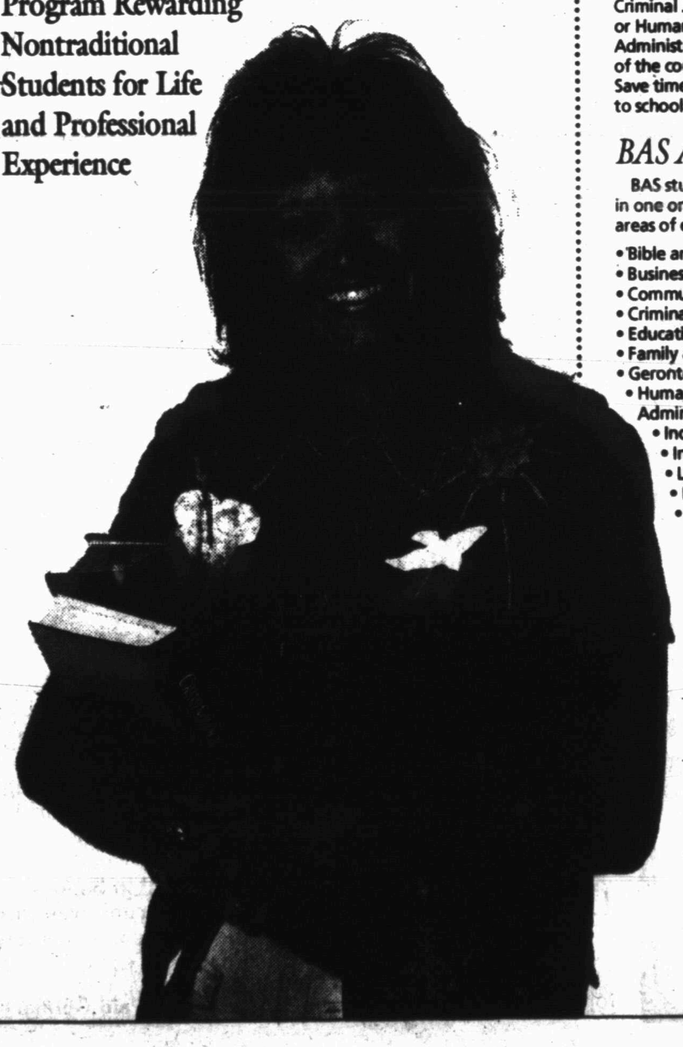
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- Sociology

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Local pup finds new home with C/W singer

A cute yellow lab puppy from Snyder has a new home on a Nashville farm, thanks to a charity auction in Fort Worth.

Snyder High School sophomore English teacher Phyllis Graham and her husband, Mark, donated "Little Buster" to a charity auction held in Fort Worth the first weekend in December.

When country and western singer Tanya Tucker saw the puppy she reportedly "fell in love with it" and bought it for her son, Beau, for $1,100. She outbid several interested parties. The puppy's new home is a farm Tucker owns.

It was all quite unexpected though. Phyllis had actually traveled to Fort Worth to deliver one of "Little Buster's" siblings to a friend, and sell the other puppies in the litter. However, the NCHA (National Cutting Horse Association) Futurity Celebrity Cutting and Auction was being held at the Will Rogers Memorial Center, where Phyllis was to meet her friend.

While carrying the puppy she was to deliver, Phyllis had wandered into an exhibition hall, which was a restricted area. When a woman called out to her, Phyllis thought she was going to be asked to leave. However, that was not the case. The woman was very interested in the puppy, and asked Phyllis if she would donate it to the charity auction.



LITTLE BUSTER — Whitney Graham, Phyllis Graham's step-daughter, holds Little Buster before he found a new home on a Nashville farm. (Contributed Photo)



PARENTS — "Tex," on left, and "Maddy"on right, are Little Buster's parents. He was one of 12 in a litter, and one of two males. (Contributed Photo)

Since that puppy was already spoken for, Phyllis let them have Little Buster instead.

Phyllis said that the woman who had always donated a puppy to the annual auction was no longer able to do so. She added that she and her husband have been asked to donate another puppy next year.

Phyllis said she was also offered $500 for one of the other puppies she had, but as it was already spoken for, she had to say no. However, she has received several requests from people who really want a puppy from the next litter.

After Tucker had bought the puppy at the auction, she did not pick it up until the next day. It took most of that day before Phyllis and the singer got together and Little Buster was on his way to a new home. Phyllis said she visited with Tucker for about 30 minutes. While waiting to meet with the singer, Phyllis said she had to take the puppy out to her pickup, narrowly missing a $500 fine for having an animal in the motel room past the deadline.

Little Buster was one of two males in a litter of 12 puppies born Sept. 17 to Zephyr's Lady Madeline "Maddy" and J. Wayne The Tejas Duke "Tex." Phyllis owns Maddy and has had her for about three years.

Lee Idom, who attends the University of Texas at Austin, owns Tex. Lee is the son of Roy and Gay Idom of Snyder. Tex lives with them.

Though not in Fort Worth to compete, Phyllis said she and her husband own horses and like to compete in weekend and summer cutting events held in the area. Phyllis said riders usually try to separate a couple of cows from the herd. At the Fort Worth cutting show, a celebrity teamed with an experienced cutter and a youth. This year's winning team was Buster Welch, area farmer and rancher, actor Barry Corbin and Jill Farmer.

Other celebrities attending were Alice Walton, daughter of the late Sam Walton, Lynn Anderson, Jay Novacek, and Kix Brooks of Brooks and Dunn.

The charity auction benefits Cancer Care Services and other National Cutting Horse charities.

—

The National Cutting Horse Association began in 1946. Today, it promotes cutting competition, standardizes contest rules, and preserves the cutting horse's heritage. More than 1,400 NCHA-approved shows and limited-age events are held annually. With purses totaling more than $19 million, quite different from the days of the Old West when cutting was born. The cutting horse has always and will continue to be a ranch necessity.

On the ranch no rules are needed, and the objective of separating a particular cow from the herd is not done under the watchful eye of a judge. However, it's an entirely different story in the arena. The NCHA also produces cutting horse shows.

Since 1978, NCHA membership has more than tripled, growing to more than 12,000 members in 1999.

Above information from http://www.nchacutting.com/about.htm

Scurry County Folks

By Shirley A. Gorman

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Microsoft stocks fall 9 percent

SEATTLE (AP) — Microsoft stock fell nearly 9 percent in early trading Friday after the software giant warned that a worldwide slowdown in computer sales will put its quarterly revenue and profits about 5 percent lower than earlier estimates.

The forecast followed pessimistic reports from computer makers Gateway Inc., Compaq Computer Corp. and semiconductor giant Intel Corp.

Revenue for the quarter ending this month is expected to be about $6.4 billion, with earnings per share of 46 or 47 cents, Microsoft said Thursday.

Analysts surveyed by First Call/Thomson Financial were expecting 49 cents per share.

Shares fell $4.75 to $50.75 in early trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market. Microsoft, one of the 30 companies in the Dow Jones industrial average, is now more than 55 percent off its 52-week high of $119.94.

"It's always important to note that it's not like the business is shrinking," said industry analyst Dwight Davis with Summit Strategies in Kirkland. "It's just that the growth rates aren't as high as they had hoped."

Microsoft "has a history of low-balling their estimates and then coming out and doing better than expectations," he said, though he said it rarely lowered its numbers midway through a quarter.

For the fiscal year ending in June, Microsoft now expects revenues of about $25.2 billion, about 5 percent lower than previously expected.

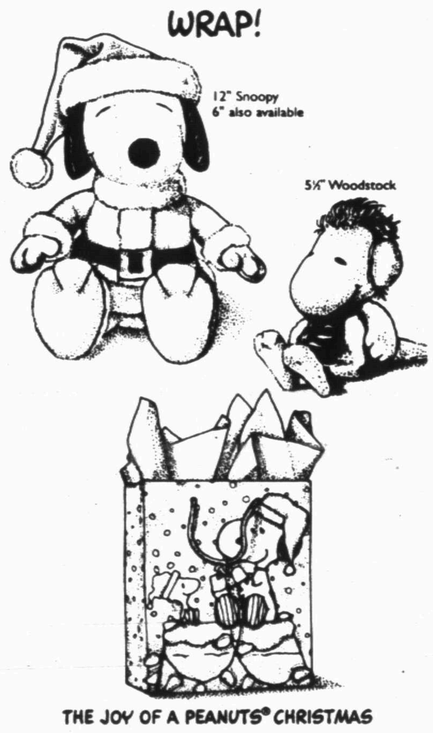
Earnings per share will be about $1.80., not $1.91.

In a conference call with analysts, John Connors, Microsoft's chief financial officer, said the reduced expectations came more from software such as Office than from operating systems like Windows 2000.

"The PC is far from dead."

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WAL-MART DONATES TO ALLIANCE — Wal-Mart employees chose the Ministerial Alliance to be recipient of a $730.55 contribution. Pictured from left are Solia Cantu, Carmen Carranza, Veronica Garcia, employees; R.J. Youngclaus, Wal-Mart manager; Jerry Vestal, president of Scurry County Ministerial Alliance; and Phyllis McGinnis of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, representing one of the nine churches in the alliance that helps the Food Cupboard. (SDN photo)

Wal-Mart makes donation

The utilities division of Ministerial Alliance and the Food Cupboard were chosen by employees of Wal-Mart to receive $730.55 for the annual charity donation.

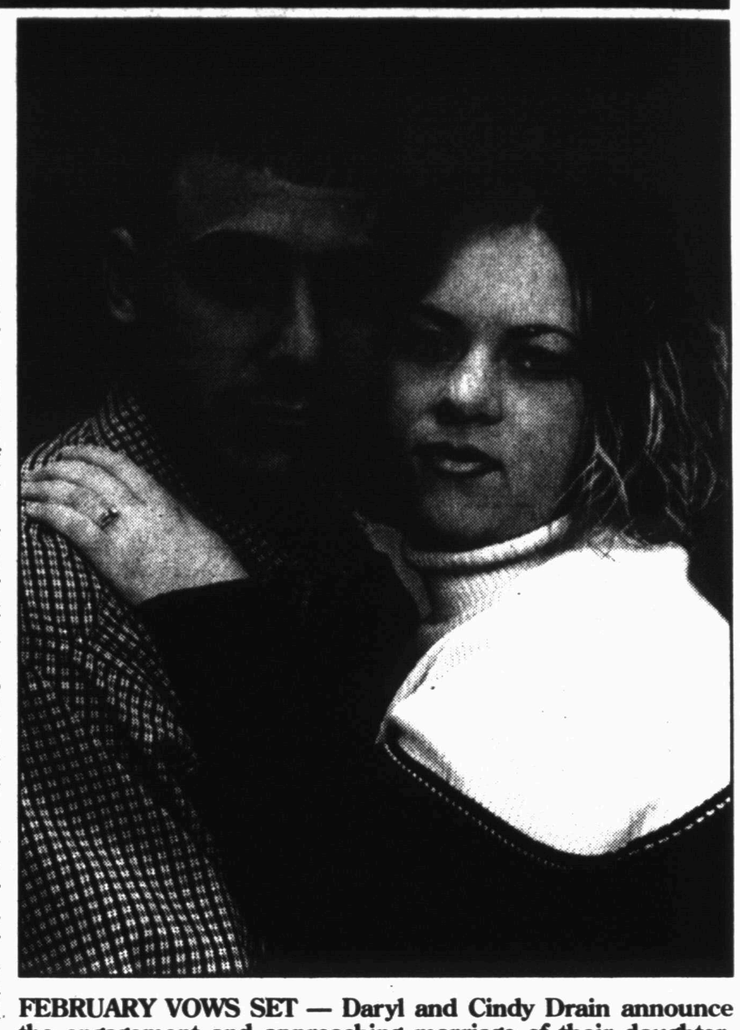
This year, the Snyder store associates selected the ministerial alliance as beneficiary of its 10th annual holiday fund because of the positive impact the organization has on the local community.

Wal-Mart's tradition of holiday fund-raising began in 1991 with this program and as of last year contributions to local non-profit organizations totaled more than $5.1 million.

With 2,560 stores, 465 SAM'S Clubs in the United States and more than 1,025 internationally, in 1999 raised and donated more than $163 million for charitable organizations.

Nine churches participate in donating to the Food Cupboard. They include Colonial Hill Baptist, East Side Church of Christ, First Christian, First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, Grace Lutheran, St. Elizabeth Catholic, Trinity United Methodist and Word Is Life.

The Food Cupboard, located on Coliseum Drive, is open each Tuesday.



FEBRUARY VOWS SET — Daryl and Cindy Drain announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kassie Drain, to Sammy Meche. He is the son of Dee and Regina Thibodeaux of Sulphur, La., and David and Betty Breaux of Iowa, La. The wedding is set for 2:30 p.m., Feb. 17 in the atrium of Willow Park Inn. (Contributed Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



In the end, tricks — not points — count

By Phillip Alder

We have been looking at hand evaluation in no-trump contracts. Yet the bottom line is: Do you have the tricks for your contract? With a long, solid suit, you won't need so many points — as long as the opponents cannot win the setting trick first, of course. In particular, if you have a long, solid minor, think no-trump.

An opponent opens one of a major. You have a long, solid minor and tricks on the side. You wish to be in three no-trump, but have no stopper in the opener's suit. How do you find out if partner has that critical guard? You jump to three of the opener's major.

Here is the most famous deal featuring this bid. It was board 72 of the 1981 Bermuda Bowl final between Pakistan and the United States, in Port Chester, N.Y.

The Pakistani North-South pair bid and made four diamonds after a trump lead, for plus 130.

In this room, Jeff Meckstroth's three-heart overcall asked his partner, Eric Rodwell, to bid three no-trump with a heart stopper. Meckstroth's subsequent redouble expressed doubt. Rodwell, although knowing one minor was wide open, decided to gut it out.

West wanted to find his partner's ace so that East could return a heart through declarer's king. If West had selected a club lead and East had switched to the heart jack at the right moment, the contract would have gone six down for minus 2,200 (old scoring). However, West led a spade, so Rodwell took his nine tricks for plus 750. The U.S. team gained 12 international match points, when it could have lost 20. Do not try this at home. Leave it to trained professionals!

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	North	12-16-00
	♠ 2	
	♥ 10 8	
	♦ A K Q 10 8 5 2	
	♣ 6 4 2	
West		**East**
♠ Q 9 8 7		♠ J 5 4
♥ A Q 9 6 4		♥ J 3 2
♦ 6		♦ J 3
♣ K 9 7		♣ A Q J 5 3
	South	
	♠ A K 10 6 3	
	♥ K 7 5	
	♦ 9 7 4	
	♣ 10 8	

Vulnerable: Neither
Dealer: West

South	West	North	East
	1 ♥	3 ♥	Dbl.
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl.
Pass	Pass	Redbl.	All pass

Opening lead: ??

Bridge Scores

Friday, Dec. 8

Monte West directed all games at the Snyder Country Club.

A Group

1. Johnnie Van Dever, Ann Spitler
2. Christine Stuard, Peggy Hardin.
3. Billisue Stuard, Durelle Gorman.
4. Suzy Reed, Anita Talbott

B Group

1. Christine Stuard, Peggy Hardin.
2. Billisue Stuard, Durelle Gorman.
3. Suzy Reed, Anita Talbott.
4. Nina Nesbit, Dora Blakey.

Sunday, Dec. 10

1. Linda West, Monte West.
2. Barbara Yorgesen, Nona Morrison.
3. Margaret Birdwell, Jane Hinton.

School Menus

Snyder

All meals are served with choice of milk.

BREAKFAST
(East, Northeast and Stanfield)

Monday
Cereal
Juice

Tuesday
Strawberry Toaster Pastry
Juice

Wednesday
Sausage in a Biscuit
Juice

BREAKFAST
(Other Schools)

Monday
Biscuit w/Gravy
Assorted Dry Cereal
Toast w/Jelly
Juice

Tuesday
Cinnamon Toast
Assorted Dry Cereal
Toast w/Jelly
Juice

Wednesday
Sausage in a Biscuit
Assorted Dry Cereal
Toast w/Jelly
Juice

LUNCH

Monday
Hamburger on a Bun or
Chili w/Corn Bread
Tossed Salad
Oven Fries
Applesauce

Tuesday
Hot Dog on a Bun or
Macaroni & Cheese
Green Peas
Tater Tots
Chilled Fruit

Wednesday
Pizza or
Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich
Potato Chips
Apple
Cookies

Ira

All meals are served with choice of milk.

BREAKFAST

Monday
Sausage
Biscuits
Gravy

Tuesday
Oatmeal
Toast
Juice

Wednesday
Cereal
Toast
Juice

LUNCH

Monday
Hamburgers
French Fries
Ranch Style Beans
Cookies

Tuesday
Hot Dogs
Tater Tots
Pinto Beans
Pears

Wednesday
Ham Sandwich
Chips
Orange
Cookie

Hermleigh

All meals are served with milk.

BREAKFAST

Monday
Juice
Toast & Jelly

Tuesday
Fruit
Sausage/Biscuits

Wednesday
Juice
Dry Cereal
Toast

Thursday
Christmas Holidays

LUNCH

Monday
Tuna Sandwiches
Potato Wedges
Relish Cup
Fresh Fruit

Tuesday
Toasted Cheese Sandwiches
French Fries
Relish Cup
Fruit

Wednesday
Ham Sandwiches
Potato Chips
Lettuce & Tomatoes
Fresh Fruit

Tom Hanks won't be running for public office anytime soon

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Hanks heeded cries of "Run, Forrest, run" in "Forrest Gump." But the actor says he won't be running for public office anytime soon.

Talk of a political future for the "Cast Away" and "Saving Private Ryan" star swirled when he appeared in public service announcements to raise money for a World War II memorial on Washington's National Mall.

"I would not want to live in a country that would have me as a leader in any sort of political bent," the Oscar-winning actor says in an interview airing Sunday on the CBS news program "60 Minutes."

Hanks also is a longtime contributor to Democratic candidates, most recently supporting Vice President Al Gore in his presidential bid and Hillary Rodham Clinton's run for the U.S. Senate from New York.

Runaway didn't get far

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A teen-ager apparently running away from home didn't get very far on the dolly bar connecting two trailers of a commercial rig.

A passing motorist spotted the 16-year-old run from the bushes and jump between the trailers while it was stopped at an intersection on Interstate 205.

The driver called Oregon State Police. Troopers stopped the truck.

Bridal Registry

Sarah Fisher and Brian Fields
April Whittenburg and Joshua Levens
Annie Burt and Tommy Reeves
Jalene Young and Carl McBroom
Tammy Logston and Chris Winter
Kristy Bollinger and Brian Miller
Jenny Hunter and Dalvin Hampton
Sherrie Buchanan and Dale Stanley
Mauna Flora and Dell Blackwell
Kassie Drain and Sammy Meche

Infant Registry

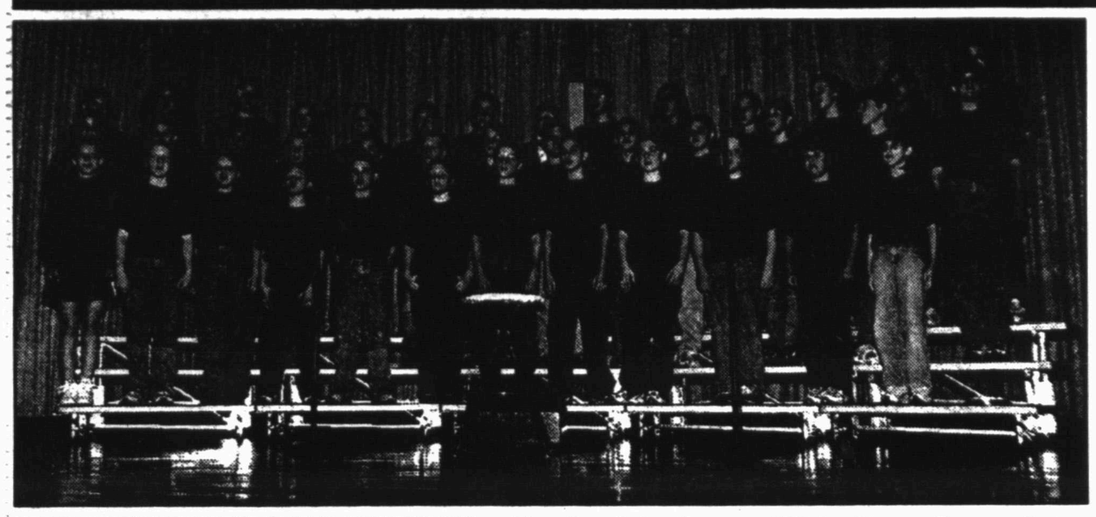
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STUDENTS PRESENT DKG PROGRAM — Zeta Lambda chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International met recently at West Elementary to hear the honor choir directed by Judy Brown. The DKG business meeting followed in the speech arts room to discuss "student population curriculum." Monette O'Day gave the meditation and hostesses included Kay Carter, Jean McMillon, Ralphene Cannon, Beverly Robertson and Durelle Gorman. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Stirls note 60th wedding anniversary

Walter and Viola Stirl will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary with a come-and-go reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday in the Roscoe Community Center.

Walter, born Nov. 26, 1917 in DeWitt County, and Viola Schwarz, born Jan. 8, 1922 in Scurry County, met when Walter came to West Texas in 1939 to pull cotton. They married Dec. 22, 1940 in the First Salem Lutheran Church in Roscoe.

The Stirls still live on the same land, west of Inadale, that they have farmed for over 50 years.

Walter has served on many boards including Farm Bureau, Soil Conservation, Tax Review, Inadale Gin and the Hermleigh School board. He also served as an adult 4-H leader for over 30 years and took an active part in their children's school activities at Hermleigh.

Viola serves on the Scurry County Fair committee and is a Sunday school secretary/treasurer for First Salem Lutheran.

The Stirls have four children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Walter and Viola Stirl
(Contributed Photo)

Community Calendar

MONDAY

Rock and Roll Quilting Club; Hermleigh Community Center; everyone is invited for free quilting lessons, and special projects are to help someone in need; call 863-2426 for more information; 8 a.m. to noon.

Al-Anon Brown Bag Open Meeting, Snyder Park Club in Winston Park; noon.

Weight Watchers meeting; Trinity United Methodist Church; for more information call Nathalie at 573-1868 during the evening; weigh-in is at 5 p.m.

Scurry County Museum's hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Manic Depression (Bipolar) support group; Family Life Community Church, 904 26th Street; 7 p.m.

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

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

Overeaters Anonymous, Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; more information call 574-1254, 573-8322 or 573-3733; 6:30 p.m.

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

AA Beginner's Meeting-Open; Snyder Park Club, 1212 37th Street; 7 p.m.

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

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5 to 6 p.m.; 2501 35th. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

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

Spiritual Solutions for Living Problems Book Study; Snyder Park Club; 6 p.m.

Just For Today NA, open meeting; Park Club; for information, for information call 574-1292 or 573-8018, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Al-Anon brown bag; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292, 573-2101 or 573-0695; noon to 1 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

SATURDAY

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

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

SUNDAY

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

Scurry County Library News & Views

Book Feature

"Baby Days," by Barbara Rowley

This is the ultimate easy-to-use reference book for those looking for ways to entertain, educate and enjoy a young child — and themselves.

From birth through age three may be the pivotal years in a child's development. Finding enough activities to fit the busy life, budget, and energy levels of the average parent isn't easy. With "Baby Days" parents have the perfect all-in-one-place activity and idea resource.

New Adult Non-Fiction

"Texas Country Reporter: Stories From the Backroads," by Bob Phillips.

"The Backyard Bird Feeder's Bible: The A-to-Z Guide to Feeders, Seed Mixes, Projects and Treats," by Sally Roth

"Leonard Lee Rue III's Way of the Whitetail," by Dr. Leonard Lee Rue III.

"Our Last, Best Shot: Guiding Our Children Through Early Adolescence," by Laura Sessions.

New Audiocassettes

"The Rescue," by Nicholas Sparks.

"Voices in the Summer," by Rosamunde Pilcher.

"Carousel," by Richard Paul Evans

"The Sky is Falling: by Sidney Sheldon.

New Junior Non-fiction

"Nasa Space Vehicles," by Michael D. Cole.

"Micromonsters: Life Under the Microscope," by Christopher Maynard.

"Fishing for a Dream: Ocean Lullabies and Night Verses."

Library Hours

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.—Mon., Wed. and Fri.

10 a.m. to 9 p.m.—Tues. and Thurs.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.— Sat.

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Christy Bollinger & Brian Miller
Jenny Hunter & Dalvin Hampton
Sherrie Buchanan & Dale Stanley
Mauna Flora & Dell Blackwell

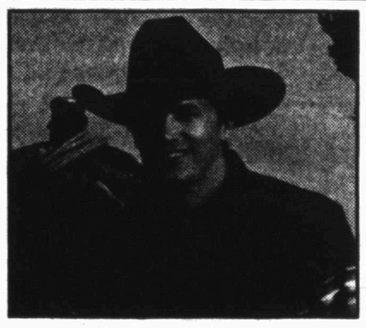
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Ben & Kris Murphy
Brad & Brooke Gober
Jody & Shelly Duggan

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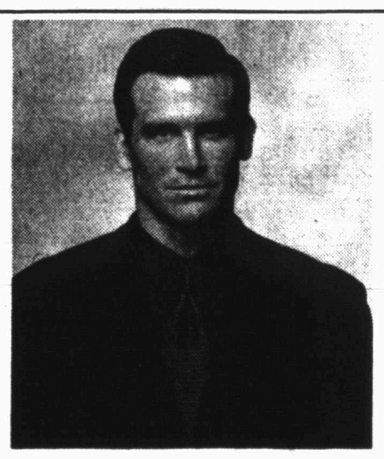
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As Christmas nears, nation's stores are getting nervous

NEW YORK (AP) — The clock is ticking for America's stores.

The holiday season opened with a strong start the day after Thanksgiving, but mall traffic has been down and sales have been lackluster since then.

And with 10 days left until Christmas, stores are realizing that it's going to take a lot more than a few prayers to meet their sales expectations.

Many stores, such as Sears, are expected to cut prices even more to get shoppers into the malls this weekend.

And e-tailers like Kmart's Bluelight.com are offering free upgrades to express and priority delivery to try to extend the shopping season. For most e-commerce sites, the season ended on Dec. 11, the last day that shoppers can order gifts via standard mail.

"You are going to see big-time promotions," said John Konarski, vice president of research at the International Council of Shopping Centers. "It is sort of a cat-and-mouse game. Consumers are holding out for the big deals, and retailers are wondering how much they should give in."

John Morris, an analyst at Gerard Klauer Mattison, said that he is seeing second and third markdowns being taken on holiday goods. Much of the promotions are coming from the big chains and discounters, like Wal-Mart and Kmart.

In addition to its planned 48-hour sales this weekend, Sears is now offering shoppers $10 discount certificates on a purchase of $20 or more for those arriving on Saturday between 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

All this, of course, is good news for the customers.

"There will be a lot of big bargains to be had," Konarski said.

Stores were already bracing for a difficult season because of a number of factors. Stock market volatility and a slowing economy have made people more cautious about buying things they don't necessarily have to have.

However, stores and analysts have been "shellshocked" over the deterioration of traffic and sales since Thanksgiving, according to Kurt Barnard, publisher of Barnard's Retail Marketing Report, based in Upper Montclair, N.J.

According to the International Council of Shopping Centers, sales at specialty stores in the nation's malls declined 9.8 percent for the week ended Dec. 10, compared with the year-ago period.

Mall traffic, which has been down since Thanksgiving, further deteriorated this past weekend, according to RCT Systems, a research firm. The number of visitors declined 3.7 percent compared with the year-ago period.

Some retail executives are blaming the lackluster sales on the drama surrounding the presidential election and the lack of must-have clothing items. But some analysts said people are getting nervous about their economic future.

Michael P. Niemira, vice president of Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, predicted this year's holiday sales will turn out to be the weakest since 1996.

Calvary sets Christmas programs

Sunday will be a day of Christmas celebration at Calvary Baptist Church. The adult choir will present "2000 Decembers Ago" at 10:50 a.m. The Christmas program will mark the dawning of a new hope with the birth of Christ some 2000 years ago.

Doug Proffitt will be the narrator. Soloist Sheila Sorrells will be featured. Steve Highfield directs the adult choir.

The children and youth will present the play, "Wonderful Christmas," at 6 p.m. Janelle McAden will direct the play.

Calvary Baptist Church is located at 2405 35th Street. Call 573-2191 for more information.

Man found in teen's closet

MOUNT VERNON, Ohio (AP) — A man lived in a 15-year-old girl's bedroom closet for three weeks before her mother found out and had him arrested, a prosecutor said.

Jeffrey Scott Martin, 26, was arrested and charged with corrupting a minor through sexual contact and illegally using a minor in nudity-oriented material. He faces 91/2 years in prison.

The girl's mother discovered Martin when she opened the closet to put away some sweaters and found blankets, a pillow and dishes, prosecutor John Baker said Thursday. Her daughter then admitted that Martin had been living there since Nov. 17, he said.

Several pictures of the girl, including one in which she is naked, were also found in the closet, Baker said.

The two met about seven months ago over the Internet, Baker said.

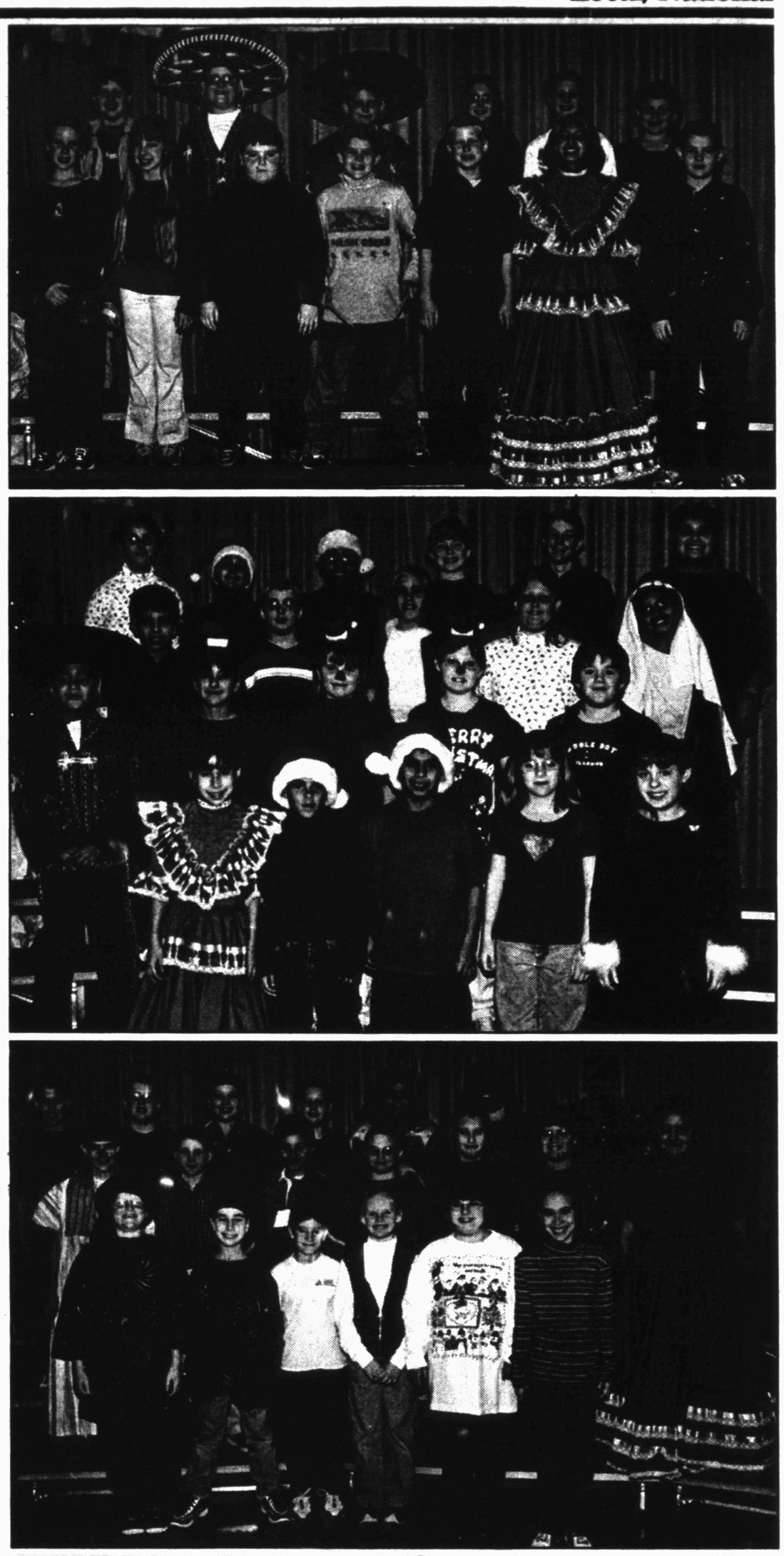
Martin has been absent without leave from his Army unit at Fort Knox, Ky., since Oct. 18.

He was arrested Saturday in his pickup truck, which was parked near the girl's home.

Scurry Health Unit to charge flat fee

Effective Jan. 1, 2001, the Scurry County Health Unit will charge a flat fee of $5 per person for Health Unit Administration services. No charge may be made to patients for the cost of vaccines provided through federal grant funds, whether administered in public clinic or by private physicians.

If an administration fee (personnel, salaries, rent, utilities, supplies, etc) is charged, no one receiving an immunization in public clinics may be denied vaccine provided through federal grant funds for failure to pay the administrative fee or failure to make a donation to the provider. Public Law 100-177.



DECEMBER IN OUR TOWN — Three Northeast fifth grade classes recently presented *December In Our Town*. Stacy Bollinger's students (top photo) are from left, Tanner Butler, Brooks Gafford, Chad Franks, Alayna Alexander, Devin Davidson, Ashley Farquhar; bottom row, Erin Hogan, Nicole Means, Preston Munson, Craig Robertson, Loren Toombs, Alex Urias, J.W. Wesson. Debbie Shaw's students (middle photo) are back row from left, Samantha Daves, Josh Hoover, Will Clay, Kelly Holdren, Cody Burney, Marcus Medrano; third row, Greg Resendiz, Eldon Morris, Blane Knipe, Rebecca Goolsby, Christina Villa; second row Anthony Ramos, Laura Landa, BranDee Harbin, Kimberly Harlan, Guy Baldwin; front row, Jessica DeLeon, Jake Alaniz, Joel Rocha, Stacey Elam, Destinee Naegele; Teresa Wall's students (bottom photo) are from left, top row, Wes Richardson, Allen Jones, Levi Mayfield, Jacob Scifres, Gabby Aguilar, Rachel Scott, Chassie McDonald; middle row, Joseph Hefner, Dustin Murdock, Roy Rivera, Kristina Chandler, Shayla Wilson, Ashlei Lopez, Natasha Hernandez; bottom row, Travis Hatfield, Dylan Bunch, Derek Compton, Cayelea Rhodes, Alison Cox, Michelle Yruegas. Special helpers were Lupe Lopez, who played the guitar; Luis Alaniz, coach Charles Porter, Bobbie Taylor, Barbara Owen, Rebekah Thornton, Brandon McCraw and Lupe Garcia. (Staff Photos by Shirley A. Gorman)

Share the warmth in Snyder this holiday season, with the Snyder Oaks & Snyder Health Care Nursing Homes.

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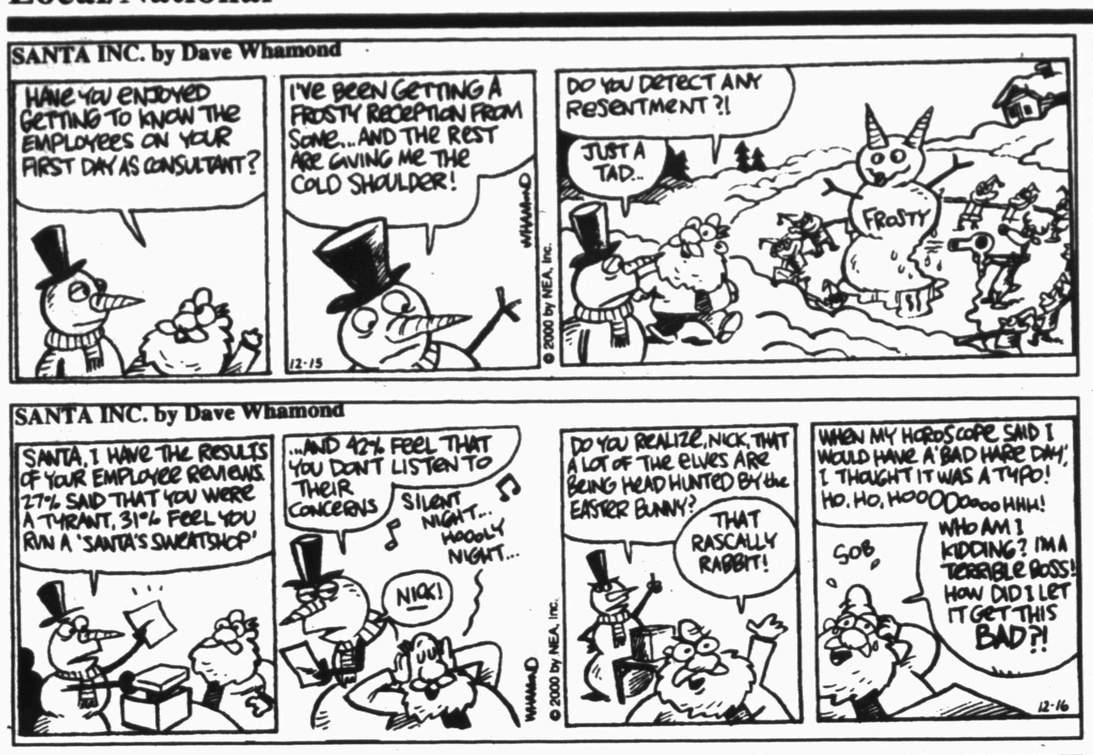
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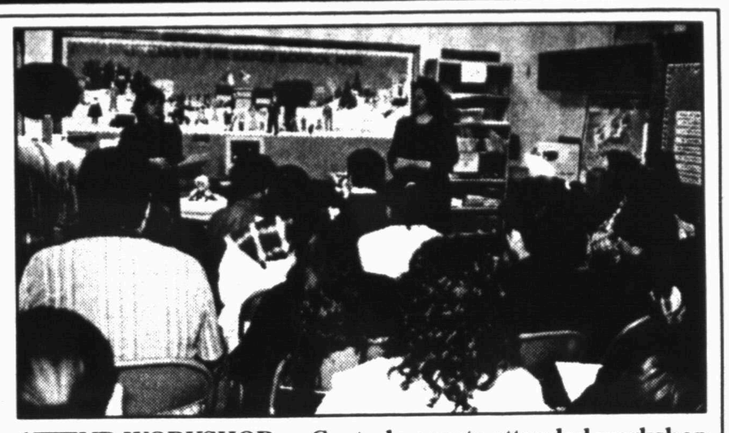
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Central presents workshop for parents



ATTEND WORKSHOP — Central parents attended workshop last week. (SDN PHoto By Shirley A. Gorman)

Central Elementary School presented a special program last week for parents, emphasizing the importance of reading and how to help their child.

Central houses pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, first grade and third grade classes.

In the 76th session, the Texas Legislature made changes to state law to help all children in Texas learn to read.

The new requirements applied to children who entered kindergarten in the 1999-2000 school year and kindergarten thereafter.

The goal of the Texas reading initiative is that all students will read on grade level or above by the end of grade 3 and continue to read on grade level or above their schooling.

To best serve the needs of Texas public school children, children, parents, teachers, administrators, business leaders and community members all need to be involved in improving the reading skills of our children.

The state law required students enrolled in kindergarten during the 1999-2000 school year to be the first students who had to meet the new testing requirements of the Texas Education Code.

These children who will be in the third grade during the 2000-2003 school year must pass the Grade 3 statewide assessment in reading in order to be promoted to fourth grade. These same students must satisfy additional requirements in the fifth grade in 2004-2005, and in the eighth grade in 2007-2008.

A new statewide reading test is being developed based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. It will replace the TAAS test in the 2002-2003 school year.

Extra instruction to help strengthen the skills needed to be a successful reader will be provided through the child's school.

A student will have two more opportunities to take and pass the reading test before the next school year.

Public Records

New Vehicle Registrations

Because of the federal Driver's Privacy Act, the Scurry County Tax Assessor-Collector's office is prohibited from releasing vehicle registrations. The law was effective Dec. 1.

Marriage License

Victor Hugo Holguin and Martha Ann Sanchez, both of Snyder.

Pedro Silva and Carlota Lopez Garcia, both of Snyder.

Brian James Miller and Kristy Kay Bollinger, both of Snyder.

Billy Joe Rawlings and June Pettijohn Bennett, both of Snyder.

Filed in District Court

The Frank Thompson Family Limited Partnership vs. SPT Feeders, Glenn Reynolds, Dick Crill and C.D. Gray Jr., petition for declaratory judgment.

South Plains Textiles Inc. vs. Dick Crill, suit for damages.

South Plains Textiles Inc. vs. C.D. Gray Jr., suit for damages.

South Plains Textiles Inc. vs. Glenn Reynolds, suit for damages.

Action in District Court

In the marriage of Paul Ray Farmer and Connie Ann Farmer, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Jody Guyneth Taylor and Stephen Kirk Taylor, divorce granted.

Scurry County vs. Santos Gutierrez, et al, judgment for plaintiff.

Scurry County vs. Bedell Plugging Inc., et al, judgment for plaintiff.

Scurry County vs. Noel Denton Marsalis, et al, judgment for plaintiff.

Scurry County vs. Velma D. Davis, et al, judgment for plaintiff.

Grunick Recovery Management Inc. vs. Jose F. Yuguanzo, order of non-suit.

Deed Records

David Cotton, Trustee, to Michael L. Seal, Lot 8 in Block K of the Replat of the Towle Place Addition.

Maurine Wall, independent executrix of the estate of Grover Lee Wall, to Maurine Wall, tract one being the southwest one-quarter of Section 161, Block 3, H&TC survey; tract two being the southeast one-quarter of Section 148, Block 3, H&TC survey; tract three being the east one-half of the north 250.38 acres of the west one-half of Section 143, Block 3, H&TC survey.

Joe Jackson, Trustee, to Snyder National Bank, the east 75 feet of the north 50 feet of Lot 2 in Block 49 of the Blankenship Addition.

Swartz and Brough Inc. to Joe Villa, Lot 33 in Block 3 of the Replat of the Highland Park Addition.

Lois Hayes to Calvin Ray Lane, the east 87 feet of Lot 4 in Block 31 of the Grayum and Nelson Heights Addition.

Michael W. and Donna S. Hartman to Julia Jimenez and Javier F. Alfaro, Lot 4 in Block 2 of the Scott and Browning Addition.

Jerri Thompson and Marlon Garrett to Evariste and Lorenza Zuniga, the west 90 feet of the north one-half of Lot 2 in Block 22 of the Original Town of Snyder.

Oscar and Paula Garza to Veronica and Joe Carrisalez, Lot 21 in Block 8 of the 1st Replat of the Parkway Addition, Section 2.

Phyllis Elaine Sumruld, Life Estate, to Kleta Wallace, Jay Don Sumruld and Stacy Lynn Pool, 40 acres in Section 13, Block 1, J.P. Smith survey.

Jo Ann Everton, Trustee, to Loyce Hayes, all of Lot 11 in Block 1 of the Morningside Subdivision of Blocks 9-10, 15-16, and 25-26 of the Adams Addition.

West Texas State Bank to Bob F. Head, 437.43 acres in Sections 21 and 26 of the J.P. Smith survey.

West Texas State Bank to Ronnie Wooldridge, tract one being Lot 5 in Block 3 of the Park Place Addition; tract two being the south 105 feet of the west 135 feet of Lot 4 in Block 11 of the Blankenship Addition.

Stephen Kirk Taylor to Jodi Guyneth Taylor, Lot 11 in Block 2 of the Morningside Subdivision of Blocks 9-10, 15-16 and 25-26 of the Adams Addition.

Clarence Collins, Timothy L. Collins and Wesley L. Collins to Myron Fenton, part of the southwest one-quarter of Section 28, Block 3, H&TC survey.

Myron Fenton to Martha Guerra, Lots 3 and 4 of Fenton's Replat of Block 18 of the Lundy's Park Addition.

Jessie Anita Boyd to Marshall W. Parham, Lot 18 and the east 5 feet of Lot 17 in Block 1, Section 1 of the Martin Addition.

Glenn Parham to Marshall W. Parham, Lot 6 in Block D of the Replat of the Towle Place Addition.

Aubrey and Doris Wilson to Earl and Linda Hardy, the south 40 feet of the southwest one-quarter of Section 210; all the north 120 acres of the northwest one-quarter of Section 205; and all the west 40 acres of the northwest one-quarter of Section 205, all in Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kansas farmers need hay

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Dwindling hay supplies after last summer's drought have left Kansas ranchers scrambling this winter to feed their cattle. Some have had to look for hay as far away as Canada.

The problem is especially acute because the drought not only cut production of alfalfa, but many ranchers were forced to begin feeding hay earlier than usual this fall when their pastures dried up.

"Everything is pretty tight, and especially grinding alfalfa," said Gary Mills of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's livestock and grain reporting office in Dodge City. "We continue to import some hay from surrounding states and even had hay shipped in here from Canada — a lot of freight on that."

The Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service estimated that the state will produce this year 6.07 million tons of all types of hay, down 16 percent from a year ago.

Robinson cattleman Larry Oltjen harvested only half as much bromegrass hay this year as he did a year ago at his northeast Kansas ranch.

"Some guys are scrambling to find hay to feed. We had to start feeding a little early," he said. "Hay is going to be scarce, especially if the snow stays," which keeps herds from grazing on pasture and requires hay feedings.

Oltjen expects to have enough on hand for his own cattle this winter but said some of his ranching neighbors are worried.

"We are going to see old piles of hay from the last two or three years — they are going to get fed up this year," he said. "There wouldn't be any hay left."

About a dozen semitractor-trailer truckloads of the Canadian hay have gone into southwest Kansas, the USDA's Mills said.

Prices have leveled off in the past two weeks but remain high.

Some dairy-quality hay in southwest Kansas fetches as much as $120 a ton, compared with prices between $95 and $115 a ton a year ago. Prices for scarce grinding alfalfa have soared to $85 to $100 a ton, with some contracts as high as $105 a ton, Mills said. Last year at this time it sold for $40 a ton.

Supplies are holding up better in southeast Kansas, which got more rain this past summer than most parts of the state.

Hamilton rancher Mike Collinge was feeding more hay to his cattle when frigid temperatures and heavy snows hit this week. He expects to have enough hay on hand to make it through winter.

"We were in pretty good shape for us to begin with," he said. "Unless it is just a bad, bad, bad one ... we are set for quite a little snow."

Expansion Proposed

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Gov. Parris Glendening has proposed a $65 million expansion of a program that pays farmers in southern Maryland to stop growing tobacco.

The governor said Thursday he will seek legislation to set up an annuity to pay tobacco farmers. The move is aimed at luring reluctant farmers who fear the state will renege on payments over the 10-year life of the program.

The new money would also be used for agricultural preservation, provided the farmers promise never to grow tobacco again.

McCain wants campaign finance vote to be first

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. John McCain said Friday he wants the Senate to consider his campaign-finance bill before President-elect Bush begins sending his legislative proposals to Congress.

"I believe we have 60 votes," the number needed to limit debate on the bill, McCain, R-Ariz., said on CBS' "The Early Show."

"I will insist we bring it up at the earliest and address it," McCain said of the measure, which would ban contributions of "soft money" in federal campaigns. Such contributions are used to sell an issue rather than directly promote a candidate.

"We can get it done before the Bush legislative agenda comes over. I think that would be in the best interest of the new administration as well as the country," he said.

McCain, who lost the Republican presidential nomination to Bush, said centrist lawmakers of both parties will have a significant effect on legislation in the next two years because both houses of Congress are so evenly divided.

The makeup of the "centrist coalition" will change depending on the issue, he said. "It's not as if there's a monolithic group of people in the center. There is a group that want to work together on specific issues that are important to them."

McCain indicated he does not necessarily view the rise of moderates' influence as rejection of the agenda pushed by conservatives who control Congress. "There's sort of a move to the center in American politics and so I don't think either the right or left will lose their representation or their voice."

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Amarillo debates the fate of red brick roads

AMARILLO (AP) — It's a bumpy ride along more than 16 miles of red brick roads in this Panhandle city, where complaints have led to a Public Works Department report on how to smooth things over.

While the thought of paving over the 70-year old brick roads has preservationists peeved, fixing the roads brick-by-brick could cost more than $24 million.

Paving over the bricks would cost about $4 million.

"There's no question, red bricks make a very strong, long lasting pavement," Public Works Director Mike Kennedy said. "The issue is by today's standards, you can't build a brick street for the cost you could back in the 30s. It's an issue of how much money do you want to spend, and what do want to spend it on."

Red brick roads have been a prominent feature in downtowns throughout West Texas and the Panhandle. The downtown districts of Lubbock, Abilene, San Angelo, Pampa and Dalhart are among the West Texas cities set apart by the distinct red brick.

"The first thing tourists ask us is where is the red brick from and how long have they been there," curator of the White Deer Land Co. Museum in Pampa, Anne Davidson, said. "They are quaint. They call for a lot of conversation."

The bricks also invoke a great deal of emotion from Davidson and others in the region.

"If our city fathers ever decided to cover over them, I am going to have to go lay out there over them and they are going to have to blacktop over me," Davidson said.

Pampa, about 45 minutes northeast of Amarillo, has become intent on protecting its red brick roads.

When the nearby city of Clarendon did some highway work and found red bricks underneath, Pampa city officials bought the red bricks to replace bricks destroyed during construction projects.

"We love them," Davidson said. "We never have a weed come through them and they are really some of the smoother streets we have in town."

Amarillo's brick roads have become worn out as the city's population and traffic increased over the years, said Wes Reeves, the president of Center City, a group of Amarillo businesses who want to revitalize the downtown.

"We'd like to help the city, rather than fight them, to come up with solutions to repave with brick," Reeves said. "Brick streets really don't need that much maintenance. It would be unwise to pave over them when in fact we could just patch over them that way you don't have to go back in every ten years and do maintenance.

"Preservation is not always the most expensive alternative."

But it's too expensive for the likes of Amarillo resident Edmund Johnston, who has lived on a partially brick street for more than 25 years.

"There is a $20 million difference between having paved streets and bricked streets," he said. "That's just too much of a difference for taxpayers to have to foot the bill. It's not fair to tax the whole community when we don't have that many brick streets to begin with."

Johnston said one possible compromise would be for the city to pay for the cost of paving. Those interested in maintaining the brick streets would pay the difference.

"Those who are going to benefit the most should foot the bill," he said.

Amarillo Mayor Kel Seliger said he opposes re-bricking more than "about a block" of downtown.

Luiese Tyson, who lives in a historic Amarillo neighborhood that still maintains its brick streets, said paving over the bricks would be a mistake.

"I certainly don't think asphalt would be an improvement," she said. "They are thinking about very short term improvements to something that makes very unique neighborhoods. Other cities are spending millions and millions of dollars to add brick streets to special areas. When you enter the area with bricks you know it is a special part of the city."

Kennedy realizes there are a wide range of opinions on what his department should do. He says he will meet with Amarillo residents and businesses to try and come up with some sort of resolution before any work begins.

"We're suggesting that the brick streets in downtown areas, the very worst ones, ought to be replaced," he said.

Reeves said it was ironic that money could determine the future of brick streets, because a lack of money probably is why many West Texas cities still retain their red brick roads.

"You go to other places and you don't see brick streets," Reeves said. "It seems to be something that's kind of unique about West Texas. It probably was that a lot of these areas didn't have the money to repave. I doubt it was that they thought this was beautiful."

New organization grants wishes

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Make-A-Wish Foundation has granted thousands of requests from children with life-threatening illnesses, sending youngsters to Walt Disney World or introducing them to their favorite pop stars.

But there are some wishes the foundation won't grant. For the past year, Make-A-Wish has refused to arrange hunting trips.

That's where Hunt of a Lifetime has come in.

The organization, formed to grant hunting requests no longer met by Make-A-Wish, has arranged several trips, including a safari with rock 'n' roll wild man and ardent hunter Ted Nugent.

"Make-A-Wish just makes me want to puke my guts out," Nugent said. "What could be more pure than the last wishes of a young child? And to deny that because of political correctness? That's just outrageous."

The Motor City Madman will travel to South Africa in July with Zachary Martin, a 16-year-old from Yreka, Calif., with bone cancer.

"Jeez, going hunting in Africa, and with Ted Nugent. It's been a dream of mine to hunt with him ever since I started watching his shows," Zachary said.

Nugent, the singer of "Cat Scratch Fever," said he and the teen-ager will go bowhunting for zebra, warthogs and impalas.

"Let me tell you, when you go hunting with Ted Nugent, there is no Janet Reno around to stop you. There is nothing more beautiful than that," Nugent said this week.

Make-A-Wish has granted 83,000 wishes but put a stop to hunting outings, said Jim Maggio, a spokesman for the charity.

"It's a safety concern, basically with exposing the kids and other participants to the potential for danger from a weapon being handled by someone who is in a weakened state from a life-threatening disease," Maggio said.

Animal rights groups had criticized hunting trips arranged by Phoenix-based Make-A-Wish.

"We see something ironic here," said Heidi Prescott, director of the Fund for Animals. "They're teaching a child to kill and cause another living being to suffer at a time when that child, we would figure, would be empathetic about the quality of life."

Hunt of a Lifetime was founded by Tina Pattison, a bus driver from suburban Erie, Pa., whose stepson, Matt, died last year during chemotherapy for lymph node cancer.

Before Matt's death, Pattison tried to raise money to send him hunting — Make-A-Wish still allowed such trips but wouldn't help because he was too old at 19. The people of the little town of Nordegg in Canada heard his story and raised money for Matt to fly to a hunting camp by helicopter. He shot a moose whose antlers were 41/2 feet across.

Cash donations made at Matt's funeral were used to start Hunt of a Lifetime, which mostly runs on contributions.

"Some people said the money ought to go to Make-A-Wish, but I don't think that's what Matt would have wanted because it forbids the very thing he was all about — hunting," Pattison said. "I don't want anyone whose child is sick to have to go through the headaches I did."

So far, five youths have hunted for free through arrangements made by Hunt of a Lifetime. Comedian Jeff Foxworthy will take a 20-year-old cancer patient from Delaware deer hunting early next year.

Pattison said the Nebraska and North Carolina chapters of Make-A-Wish agreed to refer young people to her. Nugent, Foxworthy and other hunting guides donate their services.

Christine Manning of Penn Run, Pa., said she watched Hunt of a Lifetime work wonders for her 14-year-old son, Andrew, who had seven operations in seven months this year and grew depressed with a disease that makes blood vessels grow rapidly in his right thigh. Last month, Andrew shot a 700-pound bull elk.

"He had been immobile on the couch, and you should have seen him shoot down out of that tree," she said. "He ran to the animal on pure adrenaline, I guess."

On the Net:
Make-A-Wish Foundation at http://www.wish.org
Hunt Of A Lifetime at http://www.huntofalifetime.org

Q & A

'Holiday Blues'

The Snyder Daily News, in cooperation with Al-Anon support groups and the Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (SACADA), are devoting this column to current information and your questions about the increasing threat of substance abuse.

Do You Suffer From the "Holiday Blues?"

The holidays can be a difficult time for many people. While it's a time to be with family and friends, the season also can cause much stress and fatigue. There are increased demands placed on your time, your patience, and your wallet. How to make the most out of the holidays without letting yourself down could be the biggest challenge you face this season.

Take Time for Yourself

"With all the holiday hype, I feel like I'm expected to do too many things at once."

Try making a schedule, and figure out how best to maximize your time.

Learn how to say "no" to commitments that you don't think you can manage.

Relax, take a walk, and collect your thoughts.

Reflect on what the holidays mean to you personally.

Exercise three times a week.

You Can Party — Healthfully

"Fattening food everywhere, and at every party there's so much alcohol."

Be mindful that high fat, high sugar foods can cause depression, and/or hyperactive, stressful behaviors in some people. According to the International Center for Nutritional Research, eating a lot of sugar and fats and increasing alcohol consumption may cause illness (intestinal toxemia, i.e. diarrhea) and vitamin deficiencies. Instead, try to eat fiber foods like fresh vegetables, salads, and fruit; consume smaller portions of protein; drink a lot of water; reduce alcohol consumption; and allow at least three hours after eating before going to bed.

When hosting a gathering, make healthful food and drink alternatives available to your guests. Salsa is a great substitute for cheese dip or sour cream, sorbet beats ice cream, and ginger ale and sparkling cider are festive holiday beverages. Plan games and activities for your guests, and be quick to make introductions. As a guest, reach for pretzels and sliced veggies, not chips.

The Truth About Holiday Drinking

While alcohol may make you feel less depressed temporarily, abusive drinking will only create problems.

Afraid of looking like a wet blanket?

Nurse a glass of lemon-lime soda with cranberry juice - and top it with a cherry!

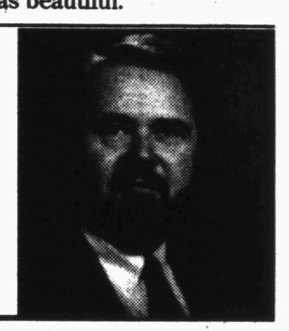
"I'm going broke buying holiday gifts."

Spend moderately and be creative. Make a budget plan and stick to it. Gifts made from the heart are priceless. Make someone dinner or bake them cookies or offer to baby-sit. Run errands for a friend in lieu of a present, or just visit with them — your time is a precious gift.

Sure-fire holiday stress-reducers: Exercise three times a week. Avoid caffeine. Try something new. If you feel bad, don't ignore your feelings — talk with someone you trust. Volunteer your time to community organizations. Remember that the "holiday blues" can be manageable. Brief periods of sadness and stress at this time are normal for most people. If, however, you are experiencing serious prolonged depressive problems — such as hopelessness, loss of energy, significant appetite and sleep changes, and/or thoughts of suicide — you should seek help from a professional. Happy Holidays!

Minding Your Own Business

By Don Taylor



How to Measure Your Own Success

How do we measure our success? Usually, we go by our feelings. We seldom measure our own success very analytically.

The intent of this column is to give you some new ways to measure your success. You can use this column to gauge your strong and weak areas. Once you know how you're doing, you can congratulate yourself for the positives and create a plan to correct the negatives.

How am I doing?

*** Don't compare yourself to others.** All too often we look at the lives of others to measure our own success. The problem with this measurement is that you can always find someone who appears to be doing better than you. In truth, they may only be better at keeping up external appearances.

The questions most successful people ask are, "Am I making progress toward my goals?" "Am I the same person in all areas of my life?" Is my life well balanced?" "Am I proud of what I do?"

If you can answer yes to these questions and others like them, you're doing fine. How much money Bill Gates has, and how slim and attractive some movie star is, are not relevant measurements to your achievements.

*** Chart your own course.** A common characteristic of achievers is that they decide where they want to go. They decide which mountain to climb and which battle to fight. They have a plan and are guided by their goals.

Goals have three major benefits. First, they help us establish direction in our lives. Second, they give us a benchmark with which to measure our progress. Third, they can help us keep our focus.

Don't underestimate goal power. You do have the power to change your direction and chart a new course. If you don't take control of your own life, someone else will do it for you.

*** Prove your success financially.** I believe money is a method of keeping score and tracking progress. Whether you own your own business or work for someone else, wealth does bring some security and give you options. I do not believe it is the most important, nor do I believe it is the only way to measure success.

There are many measurements you can use. If you're a business owner ask these questions:

Are both sales and profits increasing? Is your debt decreasing as a percentage of assets? Are you earning more from your business than you could working for someone else? Are you building wealth (asset value) on your balance sheet?

Now let's look at your personal finances. Do you have more than one active credit card? Do you pay off your credit cards every month? Do you have more than one car payment? Have you borrowed against your home's equity? Are you building wealth on your personal balance sheet?

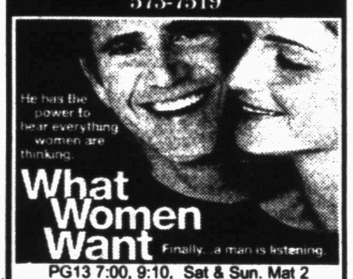
I know these are tough questions. However, if you will answer them honestly, you'll probably discover some areas on which to focus your financial improvement strategies.

*** Satisfy your personal needs.** Are you happy, fulfilled and ready to start each new day? Do you have interests outside your work or business? Do you have time for family, friends and loved ones? Is your schedule flexible enough to include some fun? If you can't answer yes to these questions, you may need to reevaluate your priorities.

While I believe our attitude controls much of our happiness and success, sometimes we get caught in the trap of bad decisions. If you're still breathing, it is not too late to make changes. That is why we measure our success. To see what we need to change in order to improve.

Don Taylor is the co-author of Up Against the Wal-Marts. You may write to him in care of Minding Your Own Business, PO Box 67, Amarillo, TX 79105.

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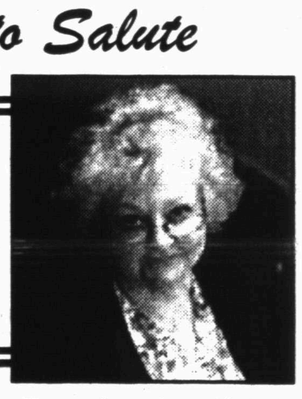


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Robert De Niro Ben Stiller
Meet the Parents
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Sue Austin is originally from Andrews, Texas where at age 14 she had her first job as a soda jerk at the Corner Drug. She attended Andrews High and received her GED and later graduated from the LVN program at Pima County Community College in Tuscon, Arizona. She has been employed at the Price Daniel Unit as a Pharmacy Tech since June of 1992.

Ms. Austin has two children, Archie and Michelle, and one "very nice" son-in-law, Danny. She also has three "very good looking" grandkids, Bryant, age 15, Tresley, age 9, and Landon, age 7. In her spare time, Sue enjoys listening to all kinds of music and watching A&E and the History Channel on television.

Sue says the most rewarding aspect of her job is that she has a lot of fun and works with a lot of crazy people. Her co-workers have plenty to say about her as well..."*Sue Austin is very dependable, knowledgeable and honest.... She has a smile for everyone--easy to talk to, eager to help... Ms. Austin has been friendly and helpful to me since I've been here. She is a wonderful person to be around... Her door and heart is always open to us... You can't work with Ms. Austin and not feel something for her.*"

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Mutation of gene doubles life span

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mutation of a gene whimsically named "I'm not dead yet" can double the life span of fruit flies, a laboratory discovery that researchers said may lead to drugs to help people live longer and, perhaps, even lose weight.

Researchers at the University of Connecticut Health Center have found that the life span of fruit flies was extended from an average of 37 days to 70 days when a gene was modified on a single chromosome. Some flies in the study lived 110 days.

The same long-life gene exists in humans, said Dr. Stephen L. Helfand, senior author of the study, and "offers a target for future drug therapies aimed at extending life."

In human terms, a doubled life span would be about 150 years.

Helfand said the gene mutation appears to work by restricting calorie absorption on a cellular level — in effect, putting the cells on a diet. This raises the possibility, he said, of one day developing a pill that would both extend life and control weight.

"From what we know about this gene, that makes perfect sense," he said.

Helfand said a key finding of the study, which was appearing Friday in the journal Science, is that not only did the fruit flies live longer, but they also seemed to maintain a high quality of life.

"It is not an empty or hollow increase in life span. It prolongs active adult life, and I think, delays the onset of aging," he said.

Some life-extension studies showed that animals tended to trade vigor and energy for a longer life, he said.

But the mutant flies "do well throughout their longer life," Helfand said. "By the time that 80 to 90 percent of normal flies are dead, these mutants are still doing just fine."

Blanka Rogina, a co-author of the study, said female flies with the mutated genes were able to reproduce throughout life. They had the energy for the fruit flies complex courtship ritual and could lay up to 2,000 eggs in their lifetime, compared with about 1,300 eggs normally, she said.

The long-life gene was named for a comical line — "I'm not dead yet" — from a Monty Python movie, Helfand said. The gene's name was suggested by co-author Robert A. Reenan and has been shortened to "Indy."

"In academic circles," explained Helfand, "sophomoric humor, such as in Monty Python, is very common."

There have been other studies that found long-life genes in fruit flies and nematodes. There also have been experiments in mice that show calorie restriction — a severe diet — can extend life by up to 50 percent.

But Huber Warner, associate director for research into the biology of aging at the National Institute of Aging, said the Indy gene discovery is more significant because "it may be a different way to get the same effect that caloric restriction achieved in mice and other organisms."

He said it may be possible to develop a drug that inhibits metabolism in the same way as the mutated Indy gene. Such a drug would have to be tested extensively in animals to assure that it is safe, Warner said.

Jones receives engineer license

ABILENE — Joe Dan Jones, son of Charles and Glenna Jones of Snyder and design engineer for the Snyder area TxDot office, has received his professional engineer license.

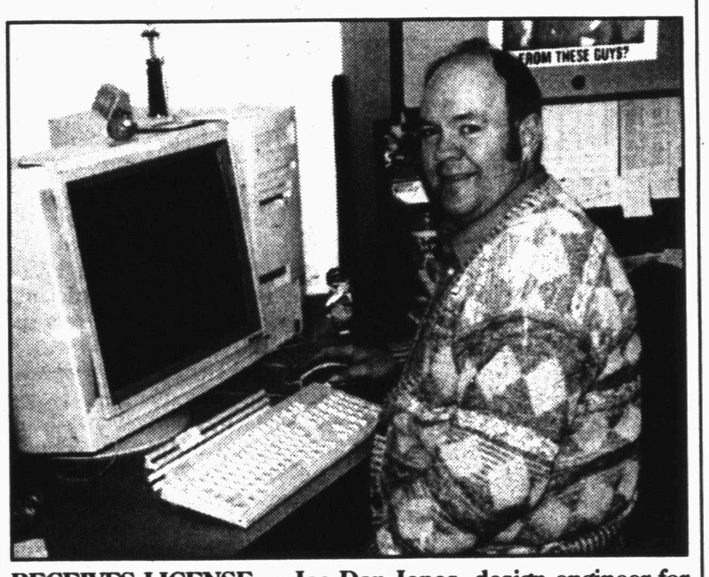
A 1971 graduate of Snyder High School, Jones received a mechanical engineering technology degree from Texas Tech in 1975. He began his TxDOT career in June 1992 as an engineer technician II, and by August 1998 had worked his way up to engineer technician V. He was named an engineer assistant II in August 1999. In November he was promoted to his present position of Snyder area design engineer.

In his position of design engineer, Jones has multiple duties. He performs area office plans, specifications and estimates (PS&E) for construction and complex maintenance projects, hydraulics, roadway, and pavement designs. Jones trains and supervises designers, conducts some of the pre-construction meetings, manages the PS&E for the Snyder area office and performs area engineer activities in the absence of the area engineer.

Prior to joining TxDOT, the new professional engineer was operations superintendent for Cities Service Company, Natural Gas Liquids Division in Lake Charles, La., and later owned and operated Classic Paint and Body Shop in Snyder.

Jones and his wife, Linda, have four daughters. Tiffany is engaged to be married in March 2001, and will graduate from Texas Tech Pharmacy School in May 2001. Alicia is in her fifth year of architecture school at Texas Tech University and is scheduled to graduate next December. Their third daughter, Vanessa, is a sophomore at Texas Tech, majoring in elementary education. Melissa is a junior at Snyder High School.

Jones serves on the West Texas Vehicle Inspection Team for the National Street Rod Association. He is a member of East Side Church of Christ.



RECEIVES LICENSE — Joe Dan Jones, design engineer for the Snyder area TxDot office, has received his professional engineer license. (Contributed Photo)

Fed panel nixes listing talc as cancer-causing

WASHINGTON (AP) — A panel of federal scientific advisers, having concluded that talc powder doesn't cause cancer, is turning its attention to the hazards of estrogen and wood dust.

The National Toxicology Program advisory committee is considering whether to recommend that steroidal estrogen — the type used in post-menopausal treatments — should be added to the federal list of cancer-causing agents because of an association with endometrial cancer and breast cancer.

And an association between cancers of the nose and sinuses and the concentrations of wood dust in industrial uses has the group considering adding that dust to the cancer-causing list.

On Thursday, after a daylong debate, the group declined to add talc power to the list and deadlocked over whether to list a type of fibrous talc.

Some studies have associated the use of talc in feminine hygiene products with ovarian cancer. But the scientists voted 7-3 that the evidence wasn't convincing enough.

The committee of scientists advises the National Toxicology Program, a branch of the National Institutes of Health that every two years updates the federal list of proven and suspected cancer-causing substances.

On Wednesday, the panel voted to add ultraviolet radiation — those sunburn-causing rays long known to cause skin cancer — to the official carcinogen list.

The NTP typically follows its advisers' recommendations, but an officially updated carcinogen list isn't expected until 2002.

Talc has long been controversial. When studies first appeared suggesting it migrated into the ovaries to cause tumors, many feminine hygiene products replaced talc with cornstarch.

One panelist, Michelle Medinsky, a toxicologist from Durham, N.C., said she had been prepared to vote to list talc as a substance "reasonably believed to cause cancer."

But after listening to hours of industry attacks on the science, "the evidence has knocked me out of the 'reasonably' category into 'not list,'" she said before the panel voted.

The scientists scrutinized two forms of talc. One form is widely used in the home and cosmetics while the second, fibrous talc — also known as asbestiform talc — has a variety of applications. It has been associated with lung cancer in miners, though industry analysts challenge that.

Scurry County Service Men & Women

(Editor's Note: Citizens are invited to write their servicemen and servicewomen stationed stateside and overseas. Anyone having additions, changes or corrections to the list should submit them in writing to the Snyder Daily News, P.O. Box 949, Snyder, TX, 79550, or bring them by the office at 3600 College Ave. Sorry, no addresses will be accepted over the telephone.

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Ssgt Brad Pilgrim & Dawn Pilgrim
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Bush presidency could signal change over refuge in Arctic

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — The village of Kaktovik lies on the flat, frozen tundra of the Arctic coast, thousands of miles from the courtrooms of Tallahassee and Washington, D.C.

But Kaktovik's 238 residents, most of them Inupiat Eskimos, kept a close watch on the seesawing presidential contest.

"We have cable TV and we watch CNN," said Alfred Linn Jr., president of the village tribal council.

Theirs is more than a passing interest.

Kaktovik is the only community within the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. President-elect George W. Bush has said opening the area to oil exploration and development would be a major part of his energy strategy. Vice President Al Gore had opposed such activity in the refuge.

Linn voted for Bush. Like most Kaktovik residents, he supports oil development in the coastal plain for the economic benefits it could bring to this isolated community, where unemployment is at about 30 percent.

Most of the 19 million-acre refuge is off-limits to development. But the 1.5 million-acre coastal plain is estimated to contain anywhere from 5.7 billion to 16 billion barrels of oil. President Clinton has repeatedly turned back attempts by Alaska's Republican congressional delegation to open the area to drilling.

Development advocates may now have an ally in the White House, but they acknowledge they still must win support from a divided Congress and the public. High home heating oil and natural gas prices and talk of planned power outages in California may help their argument, said Cam Toohey, executive director of the pro-drilling lobby Arctic Power.

"I think that will generate more interest in domestic oil and ANWR than anything else," Toohey said. "One thing we have is a lot of oil. "When the winter gets cold and it gets darker, people will appreciate that more and more, including politicians."

Environmentalists and the Gwich'in Indians of Interior Alaska say oil development would jeopardize wildlife.

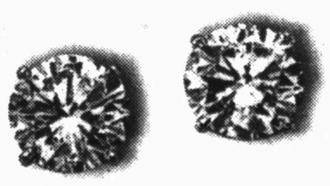
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Letters to the editor

Keller due recognition

Dear Editor:

This is in reference to the article about the Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse celebrating their 10th anniversary.

Hats off to the staff and personnel at the CADA office. They have done an outstanding job in this and surrounding communities. I personally know how hard they work to provide the services that they do and I thank them for all that they do.

I was disturbed, however, to see one major factor left out of that article, one that this community needs to recognize. Simply put: Karon Keller! The article never mentioned the eight or so years that Karon Keller served as the executive director of SACADA.

Karon was a key player in the writing, implementation and management of most of the programs that the Snyder Area Council offers today. She spent many hours, days and sometimes weeks, ensuring that the council received money and the guidelines were followed. She even shed many a tear when the council didn't receive or lost grant money. That council was her heart and she worked hard. She helped build that council into what it is today and I think this community needs to remember that.

We are very fortunate to have the Snyder Area Council in our own community and that it has the personnel and staff that care so much about its mission. I ask that you please give recognition to those who have and still do work at the council, their job is not always easy, but they do it because they simply love the people and the kids.

Sincerely,
Gabby Scott

I like made in the U.S.A.

Dear Editor:

Our thoughts turn to a passage of scripture in Isaiah "Wherefore the Lord said for as much as this people draw near me is taught by the precept of men.

In our race for president our leaders were shown going to church. Wonderful! The following is from my understanding. The media said Bush had won. Mr. Gore phoned Mr. Bush and conceded the election found media wrong and changed his mind: Media said Gore won many people in northern Florida had an hour to vote and did not thought the election was over and did not vote. They could not change their mind when they learned the truth and go vote the polls were closed.

Our law makers in the House of Representatives both state and federal have the right to impeach judges from the Supreme Court down who by their interpretation of laws party correct or politically correct.

Yet these lawmakers seem to be more party loyal than loyal to our country and its Constitution and Bill of Rights and no prayer in public by children, taking part in declining elections that seem to be left to other authorities such as time and dates. Saying abortion is not murder, yet saying a 1-minute-old baby can be murdered.

Our president, breaking laws which a citizen would be fined and put in jail for, goes Scot free.

Party above righteousness. Presidents making executive orders that leave our country at risk. Presidents sending troops all over the world, then running for office of president and saying their votes should not be counted. Presidents who give away our possessions that our men have built and died for such as Panama Canal, then turn running of canal over to possibly one of our, or could be worst enemies, China.

Presidents who appear to be willing to be United Nations have control of many of our landmarks and parks to say nothing about a one world government and a one world court which would make our nation no longer sovereign.

You have to change what is said in our Bill of Rights to legislate on guns, no prayer in public schools and many other things. It is reported that the 16th amendment was never ratified legally. Some states changed the wording when they gave or sent in their approval.

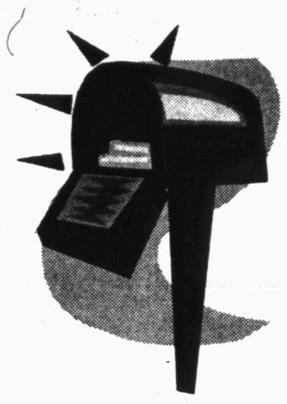
Legally, if true, the IRS is illegal.

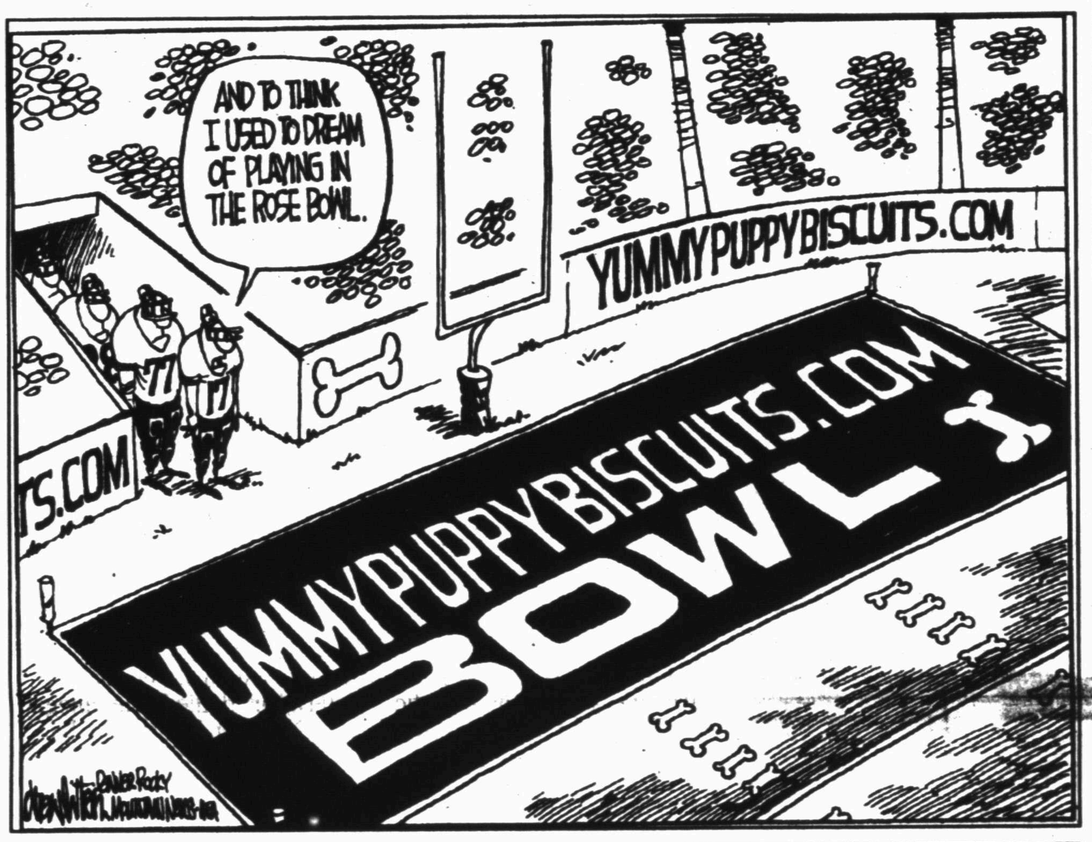
Whether you agree with me or not, more people who think their vote does not count and who do not agree with what is happening, should make themselves heard and not sit and do nothing.

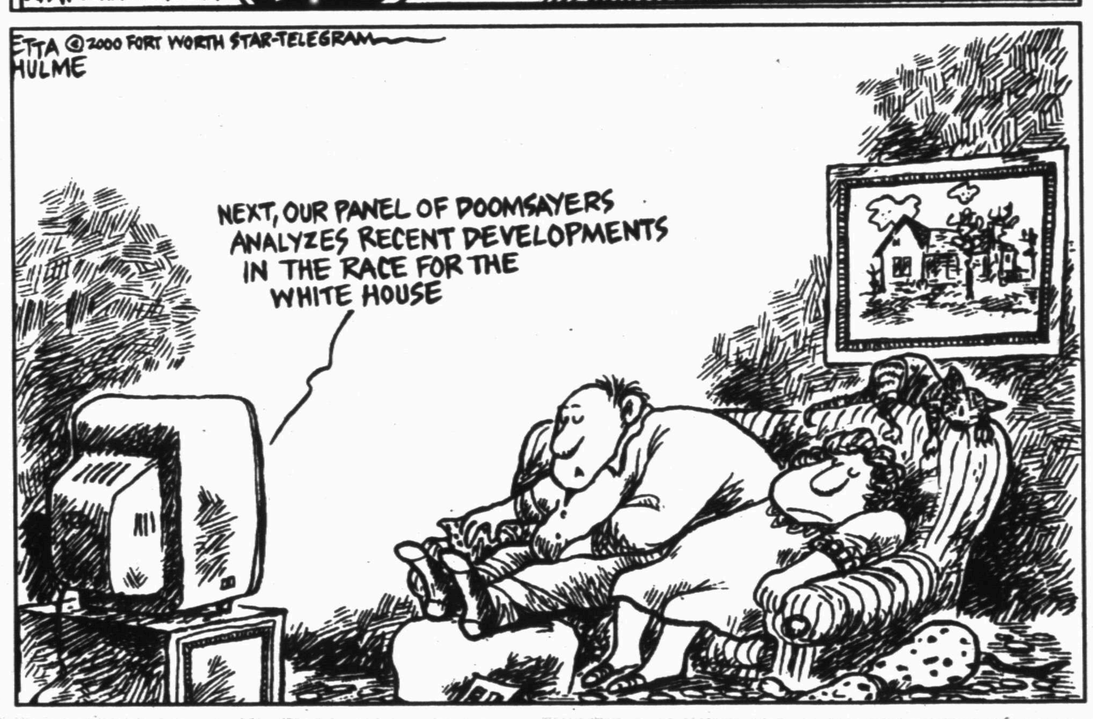
Most of the people, when their money is threatened, become vocal. Your liberty is much more important than your government money. Look at how most of our factories have gone to China, Japan, Mexico and Canada. An import tax of $8 two or three years ago would have brought back our shoe factories.

I like made in U.S.A.
Yours truly,
Surry H. Gillum

P.S. I want to compliment our paper for printing letters to the editor, especially those a couple of weeks ago, which dealt with our elections and votes, and the fine letter of Dr. Nussey this last week.







Saints and Sinners By George R. Plagenz

Keep holy the Sabbath

Which of the Ten Commandments gets broken most often? Is it the one forbidding adultery? Stealing? Coveting? Lying? Swearing? Cheating?

How about the one that commands us to go to church? We don't ordinarily consider that one to be a serious sin, but there was a Lutheran pastor in Holt, Mich., a few years ago who told his congregation that missing church regularly was grounds for being sent to hell. It was "go to church or go to hell."

You might expect that such a harsh doctrine would be certain to empty the church of most of its members, but it had just the opposite effect. When Rev. William Richardt became pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in a suburb of Lansing, there were 100 in the congregation. He built the membership to 1,600, making it the fastest-growing congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

In the first year of Richardt's pastorate, 60 members were excommunicated, most of them for nonattendance. But 25 "repented" and were granted reinstatement after agreeing to be regular churchgoers in the future.

"The commandment about sanctifying the holy day is no less important than the commandment against killing or committing adultery," Richardt said. "Breaking any of the commandments — unless followed by repentance — will land the sinner in hell."

He backed up his position with scripture. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die," said Ezekiel in the Old Testament. Jesus amended that to, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

"We don't put a specific number on how many Sundays a person can miss before being excommunicated," Richardt said. "But we expect that if one is in town and isn't doing something that has a higher priority, he will be in church."

If someone was absent from worship two or three Sundays in a row, he was contacted by letter. If the absences continued five or six weeks running, someone would call to explain the seriousness of his sin. If that didn't work, excommunication was the next step. One couple and their teenage son were excommunicated because they had attended services only four times in 41 weeks.

Letters of excommunication would carry the dire warning, "This means you are declaring yourself a non-Christian and that if you were to die, you would not be in heaven but would be spending eternity in hell."

Now a Methodist church in Georgia is adopting Richardt's stern measures. But it stops short of consigning anybody to hell for chronic absenteeism. Every member of the church got this letter:

"This is to notify you that all church members will be required to attend Sunday services at least twice each month to remain in good standing as active members ... Unless you have some legitimate reason for not being in church, you will be taken off the church rolls.

"The challenges of this century are simply too great for the church to permit false statements of loyalty from its so-called members. We feel that God must be saying to the churches of this day, 'Shape up or ship out.'"

How is the hard-line approach working? The pastor says that since the letter went out, there has been a 56-percent increase in attendance. If you are having attendance problems, maybe you should try something like this at your church.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Houston Chronicle

Placing accountability above education

A regents committee of the University of Texas System has asked system officials to devise a way to measure the effectiveness of campus administration and the academic achievements of students and faculty.

Behind the request lurks the efficiency expert's compulsion to subject even philosophical endeavors to quantitative analysis. More disturbing is the unstated fear that some faculty members are not teaching and some students are not receiving a university education worthy of the name.

Some of the assessments proposed to make UT campuses accountable to the regents involve numerical data: number of graduates vs. number of students admitted; external research funding attracted; books and papers published by faculty; etc. If these numbers were inferior to the numbers for similar campuses in other states, the regents might properly conclude that something was amiss.

However, none of these numbers would measure the quality of the education received or the utility of the research performed. That is the function and duty of professors, department chairmen and deans. If the faculty and deans no longer perform this function at UT campuses, wholesale personnel changes would be in order.

Engineers, accountants and other professionals must take state licensing exams, but standardized testing of English, history and philosophy majors would be more expensive than useful. A student's understanding of civilization's great literature and intellectual currents cannot be ascertained by a multiple-choice test. Any attempt would more likely degrade the curriculum than encourage excellence.

As UT-Austin President Larry Faulkner noted in a memo to UT System officials, the curriculum for science majors is changing faster than statewide standardized tests could be written and handed out.

Some professors, by oral examination and reading students' essays, know how much their charges are learning; other professors wouldn't recognize their students on the sidewalk and leave the grading of exams and papers to assistants.

San Antonio Express-News

Trucking provision should be enforced

The North American Free Trade Agreement, approved seven years ago, included a provision that would allow Mexican trucks to operate anywhere in Texas and in the three other states bordering Mexico.

But on December 1995, when the provision was to go into effect, the White House balked on grounds that Mexican trucks were unsafe for U.S. highways. Thus, such vehicles have not been able to go beyond U.S. border towns.

Most people who know the political situation question the rationale. The Clinton administration, fearful of losing the political and economic support of U.S. labor unions, gave in to loud protests led by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Despite occasional protests from the Mexican government, Mexican trucks still do not travel beyond a 20-mile U.S. border zone.

However, as a five-member NAFTA panel said recently after meeting in Mexico City, the time has come to start lifting such restrictions. The United States has had five years to get ready for the Mexican trucks.

Perhaps many trucks and drivers from south of the border will not meet U.S. safety requirements. But that is why this nation has, or should have, inspectors at all U.S. crossing points to stop them cold.

However, Mexican companies have made tremendous progress in upgrading their vehicles and preparing drivers. They should be allowed on U.S. highways as agreed.

U.S. officials at border checkpoints do not have to be overwhelmed by the inspections. Washington ought to consider a proposal to issue a sticker good for 90 days to every Mexican vehicle inspected. A truck with a valid sticker would be allowed to bypass an inspection unless it had an obvious safety problem.

Four years ago, Mexico displaced Japan as the second largest U.S. trading partner. Trade between the two nations already is $200 billion, and most of those goods travel through Texas.

Lifting the trucking restriction would make the flow of these goods much easier.

Amarillo Globe-News

A bit of inaugural cheer

An optimist could find little to cheer about in the seemingly interminable battle to determine the next president of the United States.

Here, though, is a tiny hook upon which to hang some optimism. It's the 20th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified Jan. 23, 1933.

This amendment establishes Jan. 20 as the date on which a president takes the oath of office.

Why is this a blessing for Americans wishing for an end to this incessant squabbling? Because prior to ratification of the 20th Amendment, the president took office on March 4.

Imagine, then, this struggle continuing through January and February. In this age of 24-hour television news channels — not to mention the Internet — it's almost more than a sane mind can bear. Thanks to the 20th Amendment, however, deadlines are bearing down on the litigants and we just might get an end to it all very soon.

There.

How's that for a bit of cheer?

Waco Tribune-Herald

Groundwater regulation needed

With Texas droughts a chronic problem and with development keeping a torrid pace, the state needs more urgency about protecting its water sources.

A sense of that urgency is present in plans being discussed by several Central Texas cities and counties, including Bosque County, to form a groundwater conservation district to protect the Trinity Aquifer.

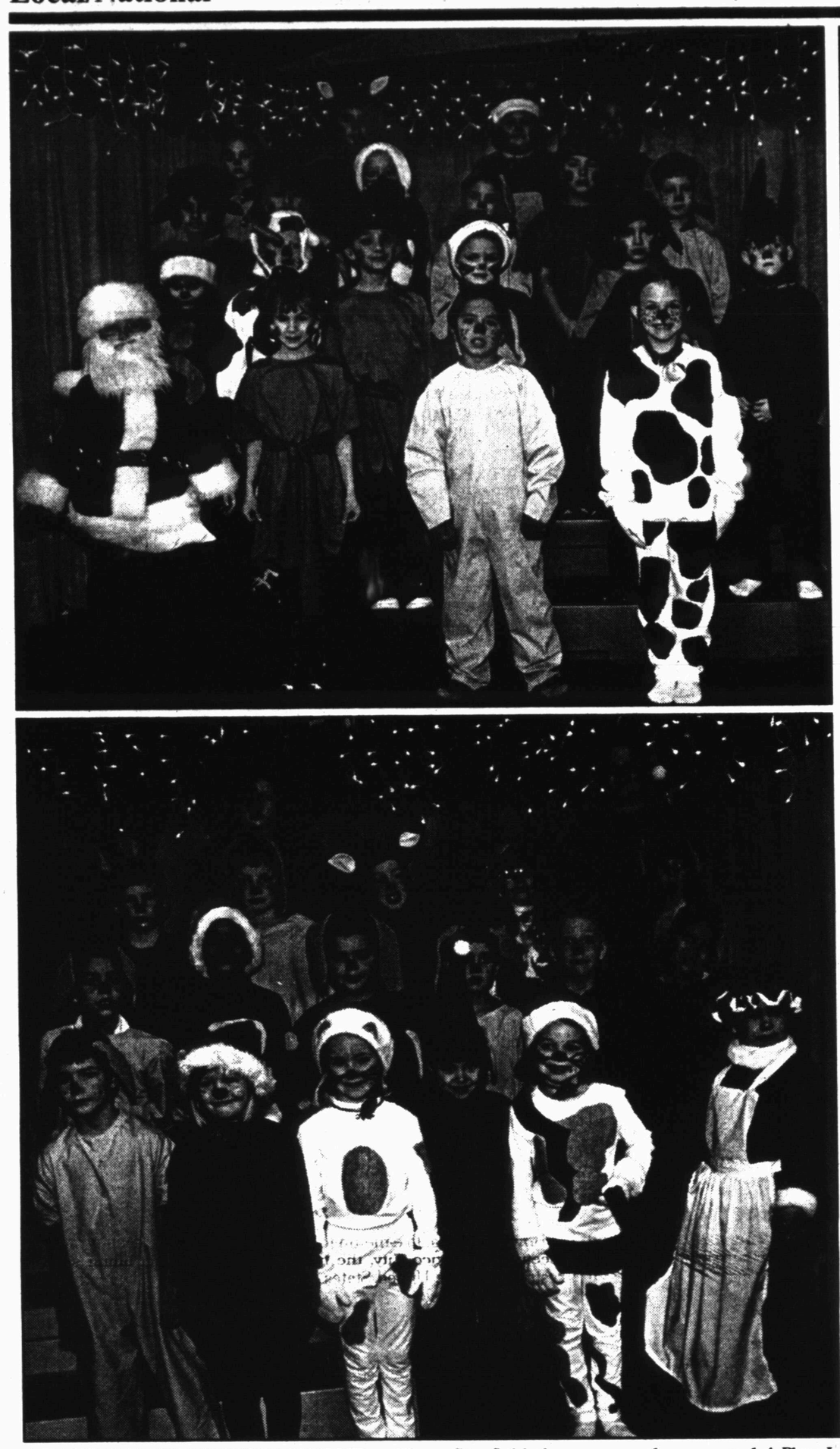
Such a district would help regulate the use of groundwater for industry and agricultural purposes and control contamination.

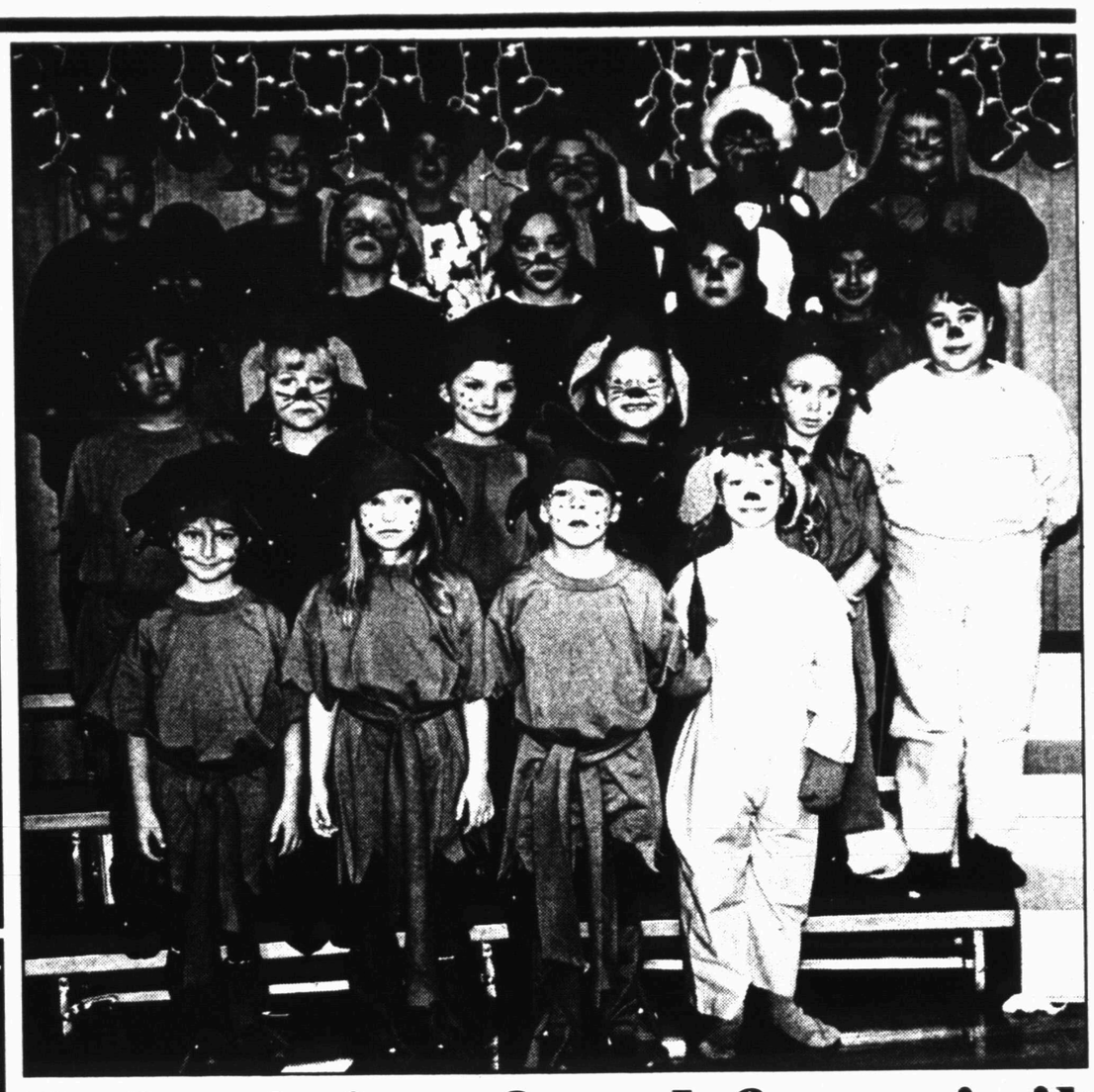
It's something Texas should be doing as a state.

Texas regulates surface water but not groundwater except in regional operations like the one being considered by the Leon-Bosque Resource Conservation and Development Council.

The legislature would have to approve the council. We hope the conditions that brought the Leon-Bosque interests together will impress on all lawmakers the need to take statewide action on this issue.

Before the Leon-Bosque district could be created, it must be approved by the Texas Legislature and voted on by the citizens of each county wanting to participate in the district.





A PLACE IN THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR — Three Stanfield classes recently presented *A Place In The Christmas Choir*. Reba Bailey directed the play. Sherry Patterson's students (top left photo) are from left, front row, Collin Parsons, Baylee Lewis, Alex Pesina, Nicole Molter; second row, Michelle Vasquez, Paden Kinney, Eric Overton, Samantha Rogers, Megan Quintana, Kaden McCarter; third row, Cassandra Garcia, Ethan Nakamura, Kailey Glen, Taylar Presley, Kelton Garcia, Dylan Rodriguez; fourth row, Xalee Northcutt, Ricky DeLuna, Amanda Daves, Marissa Medrano. Sheila Collier's students (top right photo) are from left, front row, Jacob Mitchell, Lieren Tindol, Chad Pechacek, Kimberlin Willson; second row, Adrian Benavidez, Kaylee Lord, Jeffrey Stewart, Ashton Burton, Darlene Kaska, Kaitlin Bass; third row, Demetri Gunderson, Dakota Carroll, Amanda Gutierrez, Ariel Villasana, M.J. Diaz; fourth row, Alex Jaramillo, Shade Roemisch, Deidre Foree, Max Morin, Louisa Guzman, Dylan Early; Neoma Harlin's students (third photo) are from left, front row, Justin Gonzales, Kaitlin Horton, Taylor Freeman, Savannah Valdez, Brooke Bollinger, Jessica Pineda; second row, Jonathan Craig, Shanerica McGaha, Nick Morin, Anthony Lopez, Chance Young, Jim Torres; third row, Aeric Batchelor, Brandon Scott, Alexis Morgan, Priscilla Molinar, Amanda Villa; fourth row, Staphany Arizmendi, Melinda Worley, Daniella Jaquez, Kevin Bowers. (Staff Photos by Shirley A. Gorman)

Palestinian freed from jail

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP) — A Palestinian was ordered released from jail Friday after being locked up for three years on secret government evidence, though he was never charged with a crime.

Attorney General Janet Reno lifted a stay that had kept Mazen Al-Najjar imprisoned. The Justice Department had no comment.

Al-Najjar's attorney Martin Schwartz did not know when his client would be released from the Manatee County Detention Center, but said the man's elated family was headed there.

"We are absolutely ecstatic Janet Reno has come to her senses and stopped this unconstitutional detention," Schwartz said.

"I feel so happy. I give thanks to God," said Al-Najjar's sister, Nahla Al-Arian.

Al-Najjar had been on the verge of freedom several times, most recently Tuesday, when Reno stopped his release, saying she wanted more time to review the case. His family, stunned by the news, had been waiting at the detention center with an $8,000 check to post his bond when the stay was issued.

The government has maintained that Al-Najjar had links to Mideast terrorists and was a threat to national security.

Al-Najjar denied the allegations. Not even his lawyers have seen the evidence against him.

His battle for freedom has been a seesaw struggle through immigration hearings, federal court proceedings and the high reaches of the Department of Justice.

After the Board of Immigration Appeals cleared the way for his release earlier this week by lifting an order that blocked it, federal immigration attorneys immediately turned to Reno.

As the cell doors slammed shut again, the 43-year-old academic said he knew he had to be patient and tell himself it might take more time.

Immigration Judge R. Kevin McHugh had ordered Al-Najjar's release early this month, saying the government failed to give him enough information to defend himself.

Medal winners for 2000 are announced

WASHINGTON (AP) — From classical to country, from the novel to the stage, this year's recipients of National Medals of Arts and National Humanities Medals cover a wide spectrum of American culture.

Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton are to present the 24 medals — 12 in each category — in ceremonies at Constitution Hall in Washington on Wednesday.

The arts medal recipients announced Thursday include country singer Eddy Arnold, jazz master Benny Carter and classical violinist Itzhak Perlman.

Also on the list are singer and filmmaker Barbra Streisand, writer Maya Angelou, playwright Horton Foote and theater director Harold Prince. Painter Chuck Close and sculptor Claes Oldenburg are also listed.

Dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov, who received one of the annual Kennedy Center honors earlier this month, is also slated to receive an arts medal.

"Through their remarkable contributions, brilliant performances and intriguing broadcasts, they have truly touched our hearts, opened our minds and moved our spirits," said Chairman Bill Ivey of the National Endowment for the Arts, which takes part in recommending the arts winners.

Arts patronage won a medal for Lewis Manilow.



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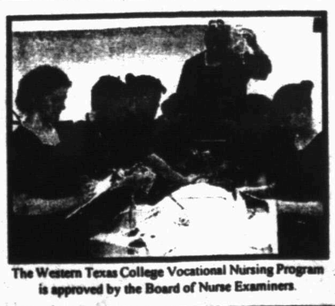
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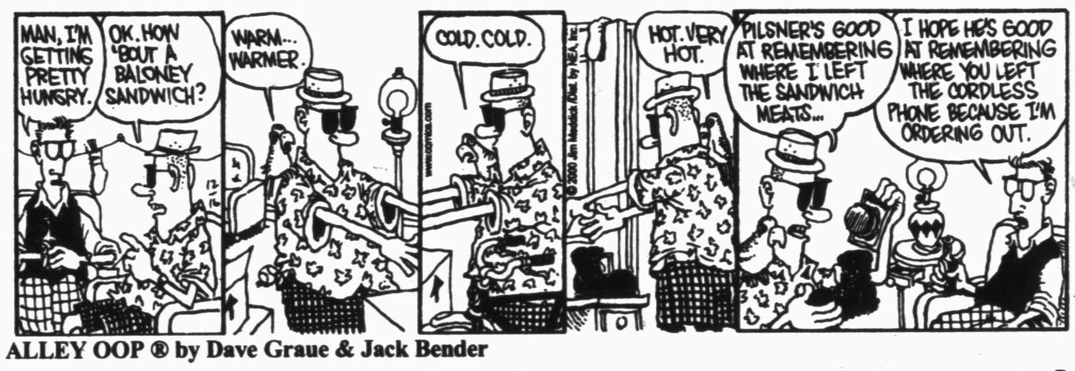
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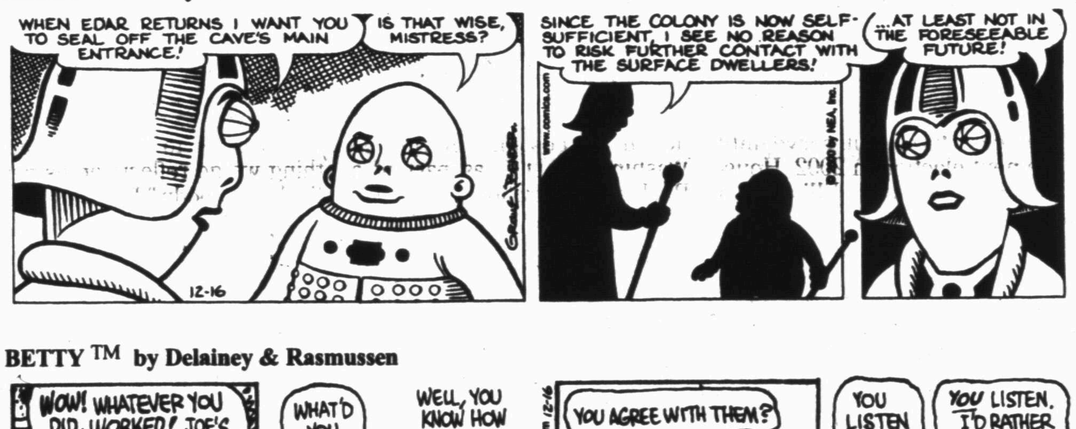
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"Put those back!"

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Ponders
6 Jest
10 Style of type
12 Caught some rays
14 Actress Bullock
15 Cried and cried
16 — Na Na
17 Depot (abbr.)
19 Playful child
20 Remarkably
23 Great Lake
26 Pugilist's org.
27 Act like a thief
30 Certain compound
32 Playwright O'Neill
34 Ebb
35 Made buzzing noises
36 Aircraftsman
37 Mail center (abbr.)
39 — nous (confidentially)
40 Dressed in
42 Bird sound
45 Pt. of a min.
46 Edge
49 Most depraved
51 Skirt and —
54 Develops
55 Close relative
56 Spanish pronoun
57 "— — Grows in Brooklyn"

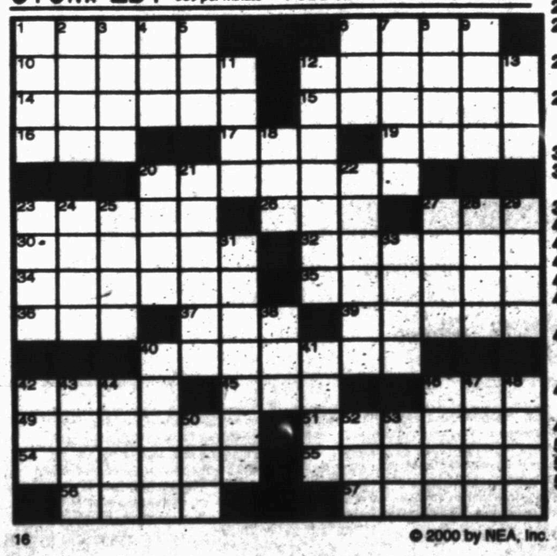
DOWN

1 Girl's title
2 Mormon State
3 Ms. Turner
4 Atty.'s deg.
5 Male title
6 Sine — non
7 Oneness
8 Not outwardly
9 Furtive glimpse
11 Acting group
12 Cleaned with a mop
13 Pres. Inits.
18 Kind of marble
20 Seaport in Alaska
21 Nervous (2 wds.)
22 Ms. Bacall
23 Charter
24 Addict
25 Boulder
27 Lease payment
28 Unusual person
29 George Eliot's "Adam —"
31 Feasts
33 Saucer-shaped bell
38 Native metal
40 Littlest
41 Missile abbr.
42 That dam org.
43 Tightrope
44 Wallach and Whitney
46 German industrial region
47 "Understood" (2 wds.)
48 Simple
50 Red or Dead
52 Mauna —
53 Baseball player Mel —

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"ALL I REALLY NEED THIS YEAR IS A TON OF BATTERIES."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



Philly proposes leasing out historic City Hall

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — You can't fight city hall, but in the City of Brotherly Love, you might be able to lease it.

Developers and a top city official have proposed leasing Philadelphia's ornate City Hall to developers so that most of its nine floors could be used for restaurants, shops and offices.

Extensive water damage and decades of neglect have left the 100-year-old landmark crumbling. With the building already in the midst of a $130 million exterior cleaning, a report this week said City Hall would need another $220 million overhaul to restore and preserve it.

That's just too much for financially strapped Philadelphia, where some are hoping instead that they can get developers to spend their own money to modernize the building.

"I think in this new century in an urban environment you've got to become radical," said City Controller Jonathan A. Saidel, who proposed leasing out the building. "The building is an absolute centerpiece of Philadelphia but has been allowed to decay to the point where we must act quickly to restore the building to the jewel it should be for the city."

Modeled after the Louvre in Paris, City Hall has been the geographic and emotional heart of Philadelphia for the past century. Its lofty wedding-cake layers and tower-capping William Penn statue — which for generations was the highest point in the city's skyline — were the site of Tom Hanks' court battles in the Oscar-winning "Philadelphia" and the backdrop for the Earth's decayed wasteland in the futuristic "12 Monkeys."

The world's largest solid masonry building, City Hall is considered the best example of French Second Empire architecture in the United States. Its angled slate roofs, paired columns and symmetrical protruding pavilions lead to a majestic central open-air courtyard.

"It's a building you are drawn to almost like a beacon, architecturally and also for what it stands for," said Greta Greenberger of the Foundation for Architecture in Philadelphia, which conducts tours of City Hall. "It's also special because it still is used for what it was built for — the center of the city's government."

Its 695 rooms and 14.3 acres of floor space dwarf the U.S. Capitol and make it the nation's largest municipal building. Completed in 1901, it remains the most expensive municipal building ever built — $24.3 million in 1901. That is more than $6.3 billion in 1996 dollars, or six times the estimate for two proposed Philadelphia sports stadiums.

Under Saidel's plan, the city would offer a 99-year lease to developers, who then could get a 20 percent federal tax credit because of City Hall's status as a national historic landmark. About one-third of the building would be leased back to the city for use by the mayor, City Council and some city courts.

Only about 10 percent of city offices remain in City Hall. If the building were leased privately, many of the offices and courts would be moved to other municipal buildings.

A private developer could "recreate the building and its surrounding plazas as a tourist destination, a lively day and evening venue for Philadelphians, an accessible government facility and a link to surrounding attractions," Saidel said.

Mayor John F. Street agreed City Hall is in desperate need of repair and appointed a task force to study the plan.

Historians believe City Hall's 548-foot-high brick and marble structure began graying from coal smoke and rain even before the 30-year construction was completed. Water that leaked through the roof and up through the granite foundation has caused damage in nearly every room.

By the 1970s and '80s, amid the city's most serious financial woes, regular maintenance was abandoned for emergency-only repairs. City Hall visitors complained of urine-stained floors, vandalized bathrooms and crumbling offices. The street-level entrance to the grand staircase has been closed since then.

Lieutenant governor's race heats up in state Legislature

AUSTIN (AP) — Now that America has a president-elect, Texas lawmakers are ready to pick a leader of their own.

For the first time, the state Senate will elect one of its members to replace the outgoing lieutenant governor. Lt. Gov. Rick Perry will ascend to Texas governor once George W. Bush resigns to become president.

Bush hasn't indicated when he'll step down.

In Texas, the second-in-command position is arguably the state's most powerful because the lieutenant governor presides over the Senate and controls the flow of legislation. He also keeps a vote as a legislator.

Unlike other states where the lieutenant governor is elected as part of a ticket, the Texas governor and lieutenant governor are separate elected posts.

Perry was the state's first Republican lieutenant governor.

Under state law, once Perry becomes governor, the Senate has 30 days to convene to elect a successor who will serve until the next election in 2002. Houston Sen. Rodney Ellis — a Democrat and the Senate pro tempore — will preside over the chamber until a lieutenant is named.

The odds-on favorite would be a Republican because the GOP owns a 16-15 Senate majority. While there is some speculation that a unified Democratic caucus could put one of its own in the job, political analysts think that's unlikely.

"I don't think there's a scenario where a Democrat would get this job. I just don't see it," said political consultant Bill Miller, who has worked for both Democrats and Republicans. "A Republican will hold the job. The question is which Republican will Democrats support?"

The favorites are Republican Sens. J.E. "Buster" Brown of Lake Jackson, Teel Bivins of Amarillo, Bill Ratliff of Mount Pleasant, David Sibley of Waco and Jeff Wentworth of San Antonio.

Democrat Ken Armbrister of Victoria, a Bush ally during the presidential campaign, is another hopeful.

Sibley and Armbrister refused to discuss the race until a vacancy becomes official.

But Sibley has been campaigning for the post for months. Ratliff and Bivins wrote their fellow senators that they would not ask for votes.

Wentworth, meanwhile, took a different approach. The day after Election Day, he phoned his colleagues to discuss the tight presidential race and its impact on state government.

Bivins kept a close eye on the presidential race by monitoring ballot recount efforts in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., for Bush's campaign. He has been mentioned as possibly moving to Washington, D.C. as part of a Bush administration.

If not, Bivins says he wants to be lieutenant governor but has no idea if the senators would elect him.

"I have written a letter telling my colleagues that I would like to serve," Bivins said. "I view this process as a sixth-grade class election. I don't think any amount of campaigning is going to change someone's mind about who would be the best candidate."

Said Brown: "It's very similar to a football team who has a quarterback who's running the team and gets hurt and another quarterback comes in, and your championship team manages to continue to perform."

One scenario is that a compromise candidate, one who could fill the position but wouldn't run for the office in 2002, could be chosen.

Wentworth and Brown have been named by Democratic Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos as possible compromises.

While Brown is a popular member among his colleagues, his own party has asked him not to run for lieutenant governor after he was forced to apologize for allegedly sexually harassing a female office clerk.

Democrats have vowed to remain unified in their choice. That puts pressure on the GOP to unite behind a single candidate and not split their 16 votes.

Ellis, the Democratic Senate pro tempore, has not ruled himself out.

"Anybody in the Texas Senate would be honored to be the presiding officer," Ellis said.

"I've been talking to members of the Senate to make sure the honor and dignity and decorum are upheld. All the senators realize we need to make sure anything we do reflects on us positively as a body," he said.

Ellis could be too liberal to earn the support of his colleagues. He voted against requiring parental notification before a minor girl has an abortion, and his unsuccessful push for a stronger hate crimes bill deeply divided the Senate.

Ellis also angered some colleagues in 1995 by secretly taping his conversations with them during a debate for a television documentary on democracy.

The GOP owns every statewide office in Texas and Republicans aren't likely to break that up with a family feud, Wentworth said.

"It would be nearly impossible for a Republican to explain to his constituents after being so many years in the minority, why after we get a one-vote majority, we would continue to vote for the other party," Wentworth said.

On the Net:
http://www.senate.state.tx.us/

FBI, other experts say tapes have no nuclear secrets

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI and weapons lab experts have concluded that 10 computer tapes dug out of a New Mexico landfill do not contain nuclear secrets illegally downloaded by a fired scientist, a federal law enforcement official said Friday.

Checking out the story told by nuclear scientist Wen Ho Lee after he pleaded guilty to mishandling secret data, FBI agents, garbed in white protective clothing, had unearthed the 10 pocket-sized tapes at a landfill containing trash collected from the Los Alamos National Laboratory, according to two federal law enforcement officials. They spoke on condition they not be identified.

During a debriefing that he agreed to as part of his deal to plead guilty, Lee had told investigators this fall that he threw the computer tapes, consisting of downloaded data on nuclear secrets, into the trash at Los Alamos National Laboratory in 1999.

The tapes were examined both by the FBI laboratory and by experts from Los Alamos before a final conclusion was reached, officials said.

Federal officials could not say Friday whether FBI agents would resume digging at the dump. The excavation that had begun in late November was suspended Dec. 8 after the tapes were found. FBI officials said at the time that the agents doing the digging were exhausted.

While the latest finding raises new doubts about Lee's assertion that he dumped the tapes, officials have acknowledged they have no physical evidence to disprove his story, The Washington Post reported.

Lee told investigators after he was freed from prison in a plea bargain in September that he got rid of the tapes after losing his security clearance by putting them in a trash bin outside the Los Alamos laboratory.

Lee was investigated by the FBI from 1996 to 1999 about the alleged loss of data on the United States' latest nuclear warhead, the W-88, to China.

He was indicted on 59 felony counts, including alleged violations of the Atomic Energy Act, after being fired for security violations in 1999. He pleaded guilty to a single felony when it was shown that the lead FBI agent in the case had given false testimony. The government dropped the other 58 counts in a deal it said was designed to learn what happened to the tapes and to recover them if possible.

WCFH

A Remembrance Tree For Our Loved Ones

With the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, it is important for us to pause for a moment to think of those who are or have been the shining lights in our lives. Some, sadly, are gone now, but the warm memories of moments shared with them, will remain with us always.

In our front yard, we have placed a special outdoor remembrance tree. Each one of the hundreds of lights is shining brightly to honor those special people in our lives. We hope you will drive by to see the lights and be reminded of the ones who have been the guiding lights in our lives.

Most of all, we trust that this Christmas season will reflect upon the One who said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

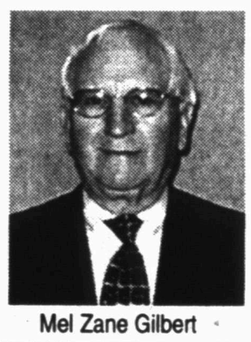
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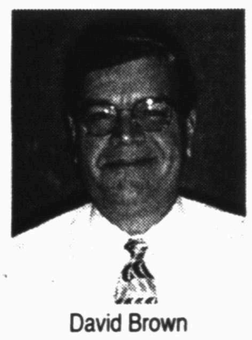
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

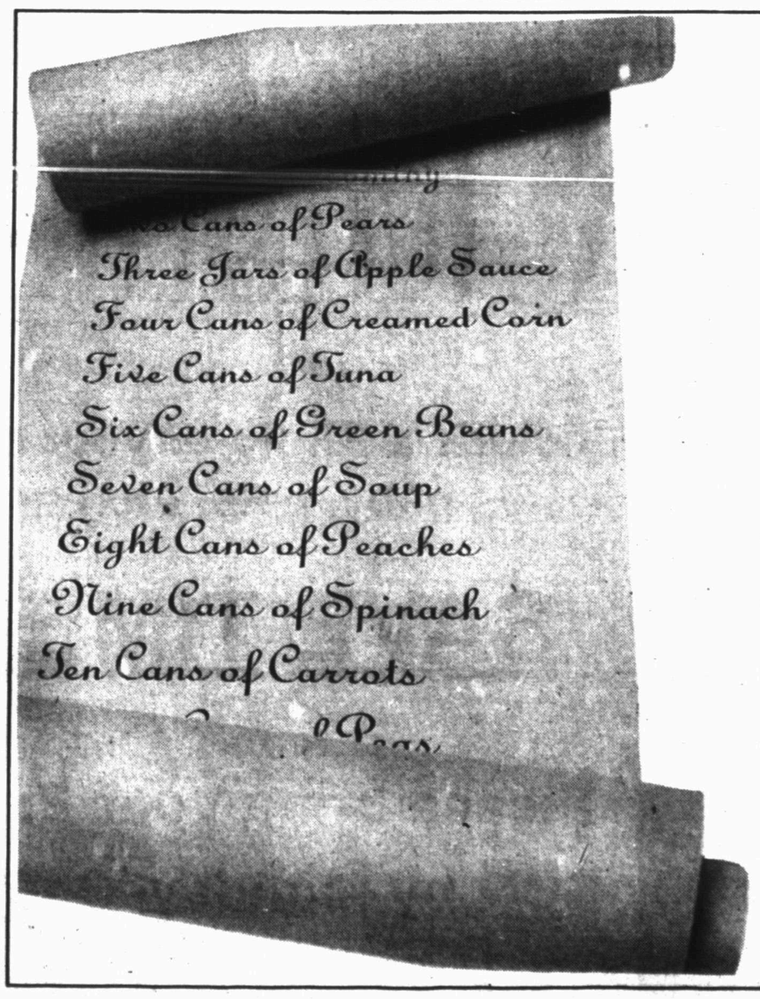
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An Event Worth Singing About

This is your chance to spread some Christmas cheer! Covenant Family Healthcare Center is holding an area-wide food drive, and you can help out by bringing non-perishable food items to our clinic! Food will be collected Monday, December 4 through Tuesday, December 19 and then donated to the Food Cupboard on Wednesday, December 20. So grab a few cans of veggies, soup or whatever else you've got, and get over to our clinic!

Covenant Family Healthcare Center
5009 College Ave. • 573-1300

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Life with disabled daughters was filled with sweet sorrow

DEAR ABBY: We have read the poignant essay "Welcome to Holland" in your column several times. It's the metaphorical account of the shock a mother received upon discovering her beloved baby had been born with Down syndrome.

She likened the experience — and the events leading up to it — to the carefully laid plans for a fabulous vacation in Italy. "You plan for months," she says, "and when the time finally comes and your plane lands, the flight attendant says, 'Welcome to Holland.'" Those of us who have parented children born with birth defects are all too familiar with the shock the writer felt when she learned she was one of us — her plans for an "Italian vacation" would never be.

Mrs. Kingsley wisely decided that if you have to face a fate that cannot be changed, you'd best make the most of it. "If life hands you lemons, make lemonade."

Well, please welcome us back from Holland! Our first daughter was born with epidermolysis bulosa, an extremely rare and debilitating skin condition that causes the skin to break into blisters. As the blisters slowly heal and break down again, they leave scars similar to those caused by a third-degree burn. Most victims go through life with a sizable part of their body swathed in bandages. Our daughter also lost an arm above the elbow to skin cancer.

Eleven years later, our second daughter was born with the same affliction. She lost a leg above the knee.

Both girls went through public schools and on to college. One became a state champion debater; the other went to state competitions in choir. We tried to be faithful stewards of the precious lives God had entrusted to our care — binding up their wounds and shielding them from the assaults of the world.

Four years ago, Tana, our older daughter, embarked on her final journey — she went home at age 50. A few months ago, her younger sister, Darla, went to be with her. She was 42.

We don't regret our decision to stay in Holland. We know we filled the needs of two beautiful children who, but for us, might have fared even worse in this world than they did. We have over a half-century of wonderful memories — and we have each other.

To prospective parents, we can only say we hope you get to make it to Italy. However, if you don't — Holland's not the worst place in the world. Much depends on your perspective.

God bless you, Emily Perl Kingsley, for your courage and willingness to share. God bless you, Abby, for providing the forum. — **BILL AND JEANNE MAULTSBY, ORANGE, TEXAS**

DEAR BILL AND JEANNE: I cried when I read your poignant letter. It proves the truth of the saying that regardless of what we think, God doesn't make our path steeper than we can climb. I'm glad that you have each other. You deserve each other — and that's the highest compliment I can pay.

**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

DEAR ABBY: May I offer some words of advice for those who make it easy pickings for burglars? Stealing during the holidays is like taking candy from a baby. Most homes display lovely gift packages under Christmas trees. If no precautions are taken, homes become a "marketplace" from which thieves can "shop" with impunity. It is also a time when stores are teeming with careless, unsuspecting shoppers who are stressed out looking for last-minute gifts, and rushing around trying to get everything done. Pickpockets and muggers delight in how easy it is to rob shoppers during the holiday season.

Abby, I would like to provide your readers with some tips to help them avoid becoming victims this holiday season:

— Thieves hate bright lights, so install outside lights and keep them on at night. If you plan to be away, purchase timers for your indoor lights and set them to make it appear that someone is at home. (Lights left on 24 hours a day are a dead giveaway that the house is empty.)

— Be sure to have your mail and newspaper delivery halted until you return. If it piles up, it's a sure sign that you're not there.

— Leave curtains, shades and blinds in the normal position.

— Be certain door and window locks are in working order — AND USE THEM.

— Do not leave blinds or curtains open so that one peek in the window reveals piles of gifts under the tree — or elsewhere. Allowing thieves to see the gifts is like extending an invitation.

— Going out for the evening? Turn on some lights, as well as your radio or television. It will make your dwelling appear to be occupied.

— Beware of couriers delivering packages. Criminals sometimes use that ruse to get a look inside, or if you appear to be alone, to force their way in. Thieves also pose as agents seeking charitable donations. Always ask for identification, ask to see permits, and also ask how the funds will be used.

— When shopping, be alert and aware of what's going on around you.

— Park in a lighted garage or lot, and be sure your path to the store is well-lighted. Familiarize yourself with your parking location so you needn't wander around looking for your car when you return. Be sure to place all packages in the trunk of your car and lock your car.

— Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay by credit card or check. To deter pickpockets and purse snatchers, don't overburden yourself with packages. Carry your purse close to your body, securely closed and not dangling by the straps. Men, carry your wallet in an inside pocket or in your front pants pocket.

— Teach your children to go to a store clerk or security guard if they become separated from you. And if you feel unsafe, do not hesitate to ask a security guard to escort you to your car.

— A final warning: Be sure your valuables are inventoried and marked. That way, if thieves succeed in robbing you, you have proof of loss and will be able to identify and claim your stolen items should they be recovered.

Happy, safe holidays to you and your readers, Abby. — **"OFFICER KRUPKE," NEW YORK CITY**

DEAR "OFFICER KRUPKE":

I think you are great.
Although your letter left me
in a much-saddened state.
I pray that your warnings
aren't taken as quips.
Thank you for your important tips.

**

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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FBI agents protest presidential clemency

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly 500 current and retired FBI agents marched to the White House Friday in an unprecedented protest, opposing any presidential clemency for an American Indian activist convicted of killing two FBI men.

Carrying a "Never Forget" banner lettered in red, a line of women stood two-by-two for the march to the White House gate with a petition to President Clinton signed by 8,000 current and former agents.

Secret Service agents at the White House gate rejected the envelope, however, telling their fellow federal officers that no packages or documents can be accepted for security reasons. The FBI agents planned to mail the petition.

Susan Lloyd, an FBI field office spokeswoman who joined the protesters, said the vast majority of those in the demonstration were active agents who applied for the day off.

"None of this is on government time," she said. The officers were escorted by about 30 District of Columbia police on motorcycles.

The protest supported FBI Director Louis Freeh's recommendation against clemency for Leonard Peltier, who is serving two consecutive life sentences in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan. Freeh told Clinton such an act would "signal disrespect" for law enforcement.

"There are situations in which mercy is warranted, but clearly what this man has done puts him outside of the reach of any presidential pardon," said John Sennett, president of the FBI Agents Association, which has about 9,000 active and 1,000 retired members. Sennett, interviewed at the scene, is an FBI agent based in New York.

Agents said they knew of no similar public display by active agents in the past.

"FBI employees, like other federal workers and citizens, have the right to express their views on issues they feel passionately about," said bureau spokesman Mike Kortan at FBI headquarters, noting that the demonstrators were on their own time. "While today's event is unusual, it underscores the passion and depth of feeling of FBI employees across the country and around the world on this issue."

A handful of Peltier supporters shouted at the orderly line of officers as they passed. "Peltier is a political prisoner," said a man who identified himself as P.J. Smith of Washington.

The White House has refused comment on all questions about possible pardons. A White House spokesman said Clinton would review pending requests for executive clemency before he leaves office in January, including that of Peltier.



Send Everyone In Snyder A Christmas Card!

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

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

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