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College students to become tutors, Clinton says

WASHINGTON (AP) — Advancing toward his goal of literacy for all, President Clinton said Saturday that thousands of college students enrolled in work-study programs next year will focus their energies on teaching children to read.

Revisiting a theme of his re-election campaign, Clinton said 20 leading college presidents have pledged to dedicate half of their federally funded work-study slots to those students willing to work as reading tutors for 8-year-olds.

"Right away this should give us thousands of new tutors, a down payment toward our goal of enlisting 100,000 work-study students to help America read," the president said in his weekly radio address.

"To achieve our full potential as a nation we must make sure everyone can read — adults as well as children," he said. "Without literacy, the history books and job manuals are closed, the Internet is turned off and the promise of America is much harder to reach."

Congress created 200,000 work-study slots last fall.

Changing the rules of the program to encourage results, Clinton said he will eliminate the requirement that colleges pay 25 percent of the work-study costs for each student who chooses to become a literacy tutor.

"With Saturday's actions by these college presidents, and with the steps we are taking to help them, college students can now work their way through school by teaching our children to read," he said.

"These students will create a whole new culture of service, working alongside our AmeriCorps volunteers who will be doing the same, inspiring hundreds of thousands of Americans to tutor not just children, but adult learners as well."

In an era of budget limits, Clinton's initiative echoed but did not appear to equal the steps he proposed last August as his campaign train stopped in Wyandotte, Mich., on its way to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

Speaking to a crowd gathered outside the Wyandotte public library, he unfurled an ambitious $2.5 billion plan to combat illiteracy.

The five-year plan he proposed then included $1.25 billion to hire reading specialists for after-school tutoring, $1 billion to pay young people in his AmeriCorps program to help, as well as money for a program to coach parents with low reading skills how to teach their children to read.

Clinton drew instant criticism from the campaign of Republican challenger Bob Dole, which called the idea an admission that public schools have failed and a boon for teachers' unions.

On Friday, Clinton named Carol Rasco, now his domestic policy adviser, to direct the "America Reads" literacy program in the Department of Education.

He said she will head the effort he outlined at Wyandotte to use 30,000 reading specialists and volunteer coordinators "to mobilize a million volunteer reading tutors all across America."

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS
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Home Of Carla Alexander

Oil starts to flow; U.S.-Iraq face off

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Saddam Hussein's gamble is on.

After years of refusals, delays and negotiations, Iraq is exporting oil and making its first food purchases as part of a $2 billion deal with the United Nations.

Apparently, the Iraqi leader is betting the food that will pour into his country will ease civilian hunger, boost his popularity and strengthen his rule.

The United States and its allies have other ideas, though, at least in regard to Saddam's power. They want to keep him cornered and that means keeping sanctions against Iraq in place. They hope the tightly monitored oil-for-food agreement will provide enough humanitarian relief to deflect pressure from the United Nations to lift the entire trade embargo.

"For years, the United States has regarded these limited sales as a trap for Saddam," said Patrick Clawson, a senior research professor at the National Defense University in Washington.

Saddam took the bait in November, dropping objections to a deal that forces him to accept U.N. monitoring, which for years he dismissed as an affront to Iraqi sovereignty.

Oil started flowing again Dec. 10, and the Australian Wheat Board said Friday that it sold 275,000 tons of grain to Iraq in Baghdad's first wheat deal under the U.N. agreement.

"Clearly, Saddam is hoping that this is the beginning of the end for sanctions," Clawson said. "The United States is hoping that this relieves the human suffering of the Iraqi people ... and therefore makes the sanctions sustainable for the future."

The deal with the United Nations allows Iraq to sell $2 billion worth of oil in 180 days, after which the deal can be renewed. Iraq has indicated it plans to ask the United Nations for permission to sell more oil after the first period.

Iraqi officials say the new food will only increase government-subsidized rations from a two-week supply to three, leaving civilians to buy the extra food on the open market, which can be very expensive.

Washington is likely to be wary of any attempts by Saddam to expand the deal.

Critics say Saddam only agreed to the deal because his government was desperately short on cash. They fear that Iraq may use the deal as an excuse to cut its own food subsidies and use the money to bolster the regime.

"There is no question that Saddam is going to use some of the money to increase his security apparatus," said Rend Rahim Francke, executive director of the Iraq Foundation, a Washington-based group that opposes Saddam's rule.

She said recent cracks in the ruling circle show Saddam's need to upgrade security forces — particularly after the shooting attack Dec. 12 that wounded Saddam's eldest son, Odai. And bringing in new police could be costly.

Washington has vowed to closely watch the oil sales and has said it will be looking for any diversions of funds.



NATIVITY SCENE IN IRA - Ira Church of God's nativity scene is a popular sight every year. It is located just west of the highway intersection of U.S. 350 on FM 1606. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Christmas is a time when trees — and parents — get trimmed."

It will happen one of these day. Some lawyer is gonna file a class-action lawsuit on behalf of those who receive fruit cakes for Christmas.

The plaintiffs probably won't get anything better than a fruitcake, but the lawyers will be able to spend next Christmas in Hawaii.

We know a couple of guys who have exchanged fruit cakes for years. It might be more accurate to say "fruitcake" since the same one is passed back and forth each year.

There have been folks who have collected uses for a fruit cake — and they are numerous:

--Use as a step stool for kids to stand on to brush their teeth.

--Crumble it, if you can, and feed to hungry birds this winter.

--Save 'em, and in a few years you can build a patio walk.

--Subject them to DNA testing and get on a TV talk show with your expose.

--Use as a hockey puck.

--Makes a nifty door stop. To avoid broken toes, don't walk around in the dark with bare feet.

--Put in trunk of your car for more weight on icy days.

--When working on vehicle, use as a wheel block.

--Get even with relatives — serve for holiday dessert.

--Carve out inside, insert a clock and give to brother-in-law as a gift.

--Save for spring and use for first base.

--Use with planks for an old-fashioned, rustic book shelf.

--Feed to neighbor's pit bull — late at night.

--Use as a paper weight or to press flowers.

--Put on top of mobile home to keep wind from lifting off roof.

--Use to add extra weights to your dumb bells.

--Drop 10 quick pounds, stock only fruit cakes in the pantry.

--Fill potholes on 30th Street.

--Use for target practice.

Hostages frustrated over conditions

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Hundreds of hostages being held at a crowded diplomatic residence in Lima are frustrated, bored and have little food, water or living space, released hostages say.

"Sleep. That's about all we did all day because there wasn't anything else to do," said Jerico Camino, a business student who was among 38 captives released unexpectedly Friday evening.

About 340 men remain captive in the Japanese ambassador's house. In a statement released Friday night, the guerrillas said that if permitted to speak by telephone with jailed comrades, they would free "a significant number of detained people with no ties to the government."

There was no indication the government was preparing to meet any of the rebels' demands.

Water, chicken, salad and rolls were delivered Friday along with messages of love and support from family and friends, and some fresh clothes. Portable toilets may be next, an indication that four days after the Tupac Amaru rebels took over a party at the residence, a quick end is not in sight.

Camino said there had been a lack of food, water and living space, but that after the first days, captives were allowed to watch TV and are now avidly following the live, round-the-clock coverage of their own plight.

Signs held up Friday morning at a window stated in English, Spanish, German and other languages: No food. No water. No lights.

A fire chief confirmed that utilities to the compound have been cut. The government may be seeking to wear down the rebels, who have had to rely on a gas-powered generator for electricity.

While they are uncomfortable and frustrated, hostages were not being mistreated and asked the government not to try to rescue them by force.

"Although our situation does not permit us to decide the fate that awaits us, we want to repeat our support for an effective negotiation that leads to a peaceful solution ... and discards violence," read a letter from the hostages released to the news media.

Camino said that if the government were to try to storm the residence, "there would be casualties outside as well as in. And I think much more inside. ... It would be a bloodbath."

Though they have released more than 200 hostages, the rebels insist they'll carry their mission to the end to accomplish their goals, notably the release of about 300 of their comrades in Peruvian jails.

"The decision has been made: The people who are held inside the residence will only leave if our imprisoned comrades are also freed," read a statement faxed to The Associated Press, apparently by the Tupac Amaru group.

The statement also threatened attacks on "other key targets in the country."

Rebels seemed organized, carrying out the startling assault with no serious casualties and planning ahead carefully enough to take their own rations with them.

Arkansas businessman played active role

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Arkansas businessman who got a Chinese weapons dealer into a White House reception played an active role in Democratic Party fund raising, newly disclosed documents show. President Clinton acknowledges it was inappropriate for the arms merchant to attend the gathering.

Charles Yah Lin Trie, a longtime friend of the president, has emerged as a new central player in the growing controversy over foreign-linked campaign donations to Clinton and the Democrats.

Documents made public Friday by the Democratic National Committee provide new details about the activities of Trie and another Democratic fund-raiser and key figure in the controversy, John Huang.

In addition to his party fund raising, Trie brought two large manila envelopes containing $640,000 to the Clintons' Whitewater legal defense fund last March, it was disclosed this week. The money was returned in June because of questions about its origins raised by the fund's attorneys.

Trie, who is an international consultant, also arranged the invitation to arms dealer Wang Jun to a Feb. 6 reception held by Clinton.

The president said Friday that he did not recall meeting Wang — whose company, Poly Technologies, has been implicated in arms smuggling into the United States and is closely aligned with communist China's government and military.

"I am disappointed," and "it was clearly inappropriate" that Wang was allowed into the reception, Clinton told a news conference.

Wang is the son of China's late vice president, Wang Zhen. The elder Wang, who died in 1993, was known as a communist hardliner in the 1980s and was a veteran of the Red Army's Long March in 1934-35.

About a month after Trie delivered the questionable donations to the presidential defense fund, Democratic National Chairman Donald Fowler wrote to thank him for his fund-raising work.

"I would like to thank you for your support on behalf of the Democratic National Committee and President Clinton," Fowler told Trie in the April 11 letter. "Your continued support allows the president and his staff to carry out his legislative agenda."

ASK US

Q—What are Kwanzaa celebrations?

A—Kwanzaa, which is Swahili for "first," is an African-American holiday based on giving thanks for the first fruits of the harvest, and observed Dec. 26-Jan. 1.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Friday, 52 degrees; low, 20; 7 a.m. Saturday, 33; no precipitation; total for 1996, 18.24 inches.

Area Forecast: Saturday night, mostly cloudy. Low around 40. S wind 10-20 mph. Sunday, mostly cloudy, windy. High, upper 70s. SW wind 20-30 mph, gusty.



Rudy Ibarra
Windy

Sunset:
5:45 a.m.
Sunrise:
7:39 p.m.
Of 355 days in 1996, the sun has shone 351 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

(Psa 4:3 NKJV) But know that the LORD has set apart for Himself him who is godly; The LORD will hear when I call to Him.

Toy astronaut also scarce in England

LONDON (AP) — A conductor jumped from his red bus into London's traffic-clogged Regent Street, mothers hurried in from out of town, and grandfathers stood in line: The goal — a Buzz Lightyear doll.

The mania that hit the United States this Christmas season over the "Tickle Me Elmo" doll is being mirrored somewhat in Britain over the walking astronaut doll which thinks it can fly in the movie "Toy Story."

And, as in the United States, the doll is hard to come by.

The toy is sought by tens of thousands of British kids for Christmas, but it's arriving on the shelves in vastly fewer numbers. A delivery on Friday of 500 Buzz Lightyears to the Regent Street Disney Store in London's main shopping precinct was booked before it arrived.

"It has all really happened since the video release of the film "Toy Story" kicked in around October," said Michael Osborne, head buyer for Disney Stores in Europe. "We just could not forecast the demand."

Conductor Michael Ross who jumped from his bus when he saw the Buzz boxes unloaded has so far been unsuccessful in his quest.

His son, Matthew, 3, has been talking bout the toy since seeing "Toy Story."

"I'm very disappointed," said Ross. "It's going to make a big difference to our Christmas if I don't get one for him."

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Flu sidelines Tonya Harding

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A broken shoelace nearly stopped Tonya Harding from performing in the Winter Olympics. This time, the flu has prevented her from skating in holiday shows at her hometown rink.

Harding had planned to make rare appearances Saturday and Sunday at the Clackamas Town Center Ice Chalet, where she learned to skate. Agent David Hans Schmidt said Friday that Harding was canceling because of her illness.

Senior Center News

The Senior Center will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday for Christmas. Jan. 1 will also be a holiday and senior citizens are invited to a New Year's Eve party starting at 11 a.m. on Dec. 31.

Bridge games will begin at 9:30 a.m. Monday and again on Friday morning. The Friday Sing Along will begin at 11:30 a.m.

An exercise class which meets at 11 a.m. Monday through Friday will be especially beneficial to everyone who has picked up extra calories because of holiday meals. The gym next door to the center is open each morning for senior citizens who would like to walk there for exercise and there is a stationary bicycle in the center.

Quilting is a year around activity and the center will salute quilters on Friday, National Quilter's Day. Quilts made in the center are sold each year at the center's May Day, with proceeds going to the operating fund of the center.

Senior citizens and others are invited to give an hour each week to listen to students read or to read to them. Volunteers of any age are invited to contact the school district administration office at 573-5401 for more information.

As part of the facelift, the center is replacing chairs in the dining room and would welcome donations for this project. Persons who would like to make donations in honor of special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries or in memory of a relative or friend may designate their gift for the purchase of chairs or other needed equipment.

Information about donations may be obtained by visiting the center at 2603 Ave. M or calling the office at 573-4035.

Arafats extends invitation

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Yasser Arafat has urged Pope John Paul II to open the third Christian millennium with a visit to the Holy Land, adding his invitation to earlier ones from Israelis.

The Palestinian leader extended his invitation in an audience with the pope Thursday.

John Paul accepted vaguely "in the sense that the pope had previously expressed the desire to visit the holy places" in coming years, said the Rev. Ciro Benedettini, a Vatican spokesman.

John Paul has spoken of wanting to tour religious sites in Egypt, Israel, Syria and Iraq around 2000, but has yet to make any firm commitments.

Bethlehem, held to be Christ's birthplace, is part of the lands granted Palestinian autonomy under peace accords with Israel.

On Friday, John Paul granted an audience to a second Nobel Peace Prize winner — Bishop Carlos Filipe Belo of East Timor.

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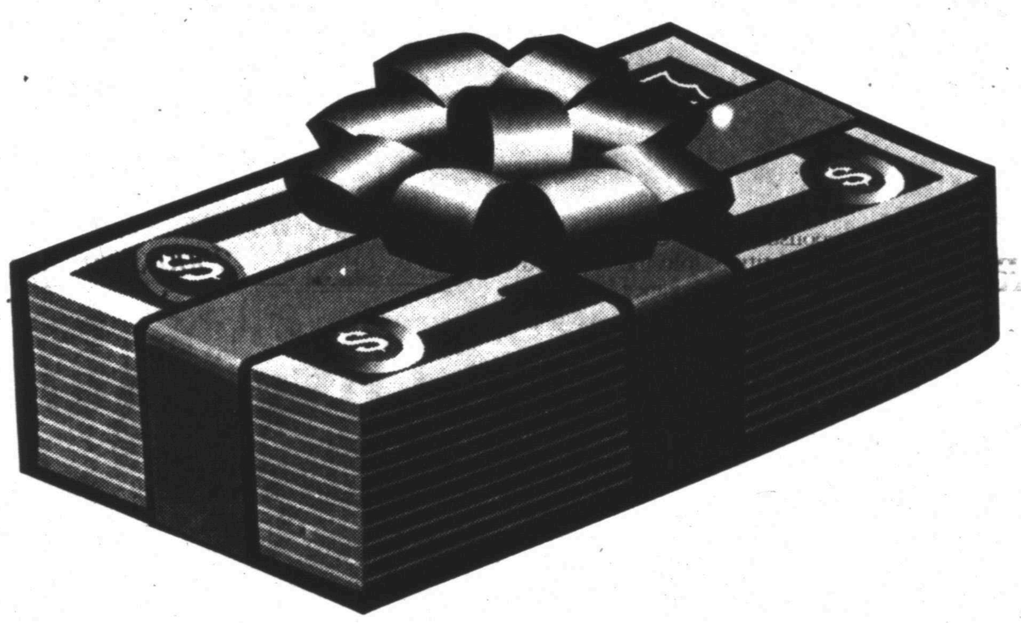
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3 shot in Seagraves; suspect surrenders

SEAGRAVES (AP) — A gunman shot three women in two separate incidents in this small West Texas town Friday, then drove himself to the city's police station and surrendered.

Most seriously wounded was Lowe's Supermarket employee Cassandra Wilson, who underwent surgery Friday afternoon at Lubbock's University Medical Center after receiving at least two gunshot wounds.

Police said the man shot two women at the Dixie Dog lunch stand with a 30-30 rifle, then moved on to the grocery before surrendering around midday.

Witnesses at the restaurant said the man approached the door after firing the two shots through the window, stopped, then returned to his car and drove off.

"The car came by and stopped, then a guy came out with a (rifle) and fired four shots," one witness at the supermarket said.

One woman at the Dixie Dog was shot in the hand, the other in the side. Ms. Wilson was shot both in the hand and side.

Authorities declined to identify the suspect, who was in custody pending charges at the Gaines County sheriff's department in nearby Seminole.

Police said there wasn't an apparent connection to the shootings, and Chief George Perkins said they could have been random.

Jackson, wife strike deal

LONDON (AP) — Michael Jackson has struck a multimillion-dollar deal with his pregnant wife, a London tabloid says.

The Daily Mirror, under the headline "Jacko Buys His Baby," reported Friday that the singer will pay Debbie Rowe $1.25 million when the child is born early next year, and $280,000 a year as long as the couple is together.

The newspaper said Jackson would pay Rowe $2.3 million if their marriage breaks down — on the condition that he get custody of the child and she agrees never to see the child again.

The newspaper quoted an "insider source" it did not name, and there was no way to confirm the report.

Jackson married Rowe, a nurse, in Australia last month when she was six months pregnant.



Sarah Pierce



Calli Pierce

Sisters named to Who's Who

Two sisters, Sarah and Calli Pierce, have been named to the 30th annual edition of "Who's Who Among American High School Students," 1995-1996.

They are among five percent of the nation's high school students who receive this recognition.

Both attend Snyder High School. Sarah is a junior and Calli is a sophomore.

They are the daughters of Dannie and Shann Pierce of Snyder. Grandparents are Ford and Doris Spikes, also of Snyder.

Central AR students earn 4,672 points

Central Elementary Students participating in the Accelerated Reader Program have earned a total of 4,672 points for the current school year.

Every nine weeks, teachers select two "top readers" from their classrooms. They are rewarded with a trip to Burger King where they are treated with a meal, courtesy of the fast-food restaurant.

Burger King is one of Central's Adopt-A-School partners.

The "S" in Harry S. Truman's name was not an abbreviation; his middle name was just "S."

Hong Kong celebrating last Christmas as British colony

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong is celebrating its last British Christmas.

The last colonial Christmas cards are being mailed by Gov. Chris Patten, and it's probably the last time government radio will broadcast Queen Elizabeth II's holiday greeting to her subjects.

But if there's any end-of-era melancholy, it seems confined purely to the dwindling colonial set, for whom Christmas is one of the most evocative ties to the distant motherland.

Hong Kong expects Christmas to survive and thrive long after the colony returns to Chinese rule on July 1. After all, Hong Kong is watching as China itself falls in love with Christmas cheer, and residents see no reason why things should be any different here.

China has guaranteed Hong Kong's religious freedom, and Christmas is to remain a two-day public holiday.

"The Chinese authorities would be very silly to attempt to change it," says Jimmy McGregor, a Scottish-born businessman and member of Patten's cabinet.

But "it won't be quite the same," he said. Without the British presence, Christmas will become more Chinese, he said in an interview. "There's already a psychological difference and it will become a cultural difference in the long run."

This year's decorations reflect a society getting ready for China.

Many neon displays feature the bauhinia, the pink flower that will be the official symbol of Hong Kong when it becomes a semi-autonomous region of China.

One tableau shows an ocean liner, depicting the hope of smooth sailing into China's embrace.

"As Hong Kong loses its colonial identity and acquires a more Chinese one, Christmas decorations will be further influenced by the Chinese culture," Joanna Sin, spokeswoman for a company sponsoring a Christmas lights competition, told the Hong Kong Standard newspaper.

Christmas gains prominence because it falls just six weeks before the Chinese new year, and many of the decorations will stay up to usher in the Year of the Ox.

On a bridge in the Sha Tin district, the Santa is designed to change, at the flick of a computer switch, into Choy Sun, the god of prosperity, who is associated with the new year.

For a colony that is only 8 percent Christian, its Christmas decorations outdo many Western cities. But the themes owe more to Disney than to the Nativity.

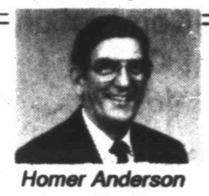
In the old days, the colonials had to improvise to create the Christmas flavor. Lady Jane Akers-Jones, a long-time resident, still remembers foraging through the tropical foliage for plants resembling holly.

Nowadays one need only pop into the nearest supermarket to buy everything from plum pudding to Santa caps.

Indeed, Hong Kong is a major supplier of Christmas decorations to the world. Hong Kong-based FT Holdings International Ltd., which calls itself "one of the leading manufacturers of life-like Christmas trees," has just announced it is offering shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

The old Soviet Union encompassed more than 100 different ethnic groups.

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Homer Anderson

WHAT WOULD JESUS THINK?

Jesus' disciples had great difficulty learning to think like Jesus! They were shocked, angered, frustrated, disappointed, bewildered! They could not act like Jesus because they could not think like Jesus. The Pharisees crucified Jesus because His thinking violated theirs! To the Pharisees, the very thinking of Jesus was blasphemy. Jesus saw the blind, the young, the poor, the sinner, the Samaritan, the sick, the need and the potential in every person and situation.

Obviously it is absurd to expect a man to act like Christ who has not thought and cannot think like Christ. Christ thought the works of God in order to do the will of God. How is your thinking? Christians and churches must be built upon the disposition of Christ. "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" **(Philippians 2:5)**.

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Sentenced to prison

FORT WORTH (AP) — An accomplice in a summer bank robbery in which a guard was shot has been sentenced to a little more than eight years in prison.

Bobby Ray Moore of Abilene was sentenced Friday to 97 months behind bars after pleading guilty to one count of bank robbery, instead of the 135-month sentence he could have been assessed.

Assistant U.S. Attorney John Bradford said he received the lighter sentence because he confessed his involvement in the holdup and cooperated with authorities.

McBryde also ordered Moore to pay $118,663 in restitution to the guard's medical insurer, the bank and the victim of a related carjacking.

Last month, Mark Alan Harris was sentenced to 50 years in prison for the same holdup after he shot a security guard in the back of the head.



BUSINESS OF THE MONTH — Walls Industries, 1600 Scott Street, was named business of the month by the Snyder Chamber of Commerce. Chamber manager Donna Fowler, seated fifth from left, presented Walls manager David Witte with a plaque and expressed appreciation for its contribution to the community. Manufacturer of outerwear clothing, Walls purchased the building from Aileen's in 1976. It has a large outlet store that is open from 9 to 5:30 each day, and 1 to 5 on Sunday. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

First Christian Church
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Sunday, December 22, 1996
"Jesus: Child Savior Or Warrior God?"
Luke 1:67-80

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
Tuesday, December 24, 7:00 p.m.
"Mary's Night" Luke 1:46-55

Dr. Tim Griffin, Pastor

We Approach Faith With Reason
And Then In Faith Go Beyond Reason

2 rescued

GRANTS PASS, Ore. (AP) — Fred Fisher was lying in his bunk on his fishing boat, the El Pescador, when the net apparently hung up on the bottom and the boat began to roll.

"I yelled at the guy on watch to wake up the other guy and grab the survival suits and I would get the raft," Fisher, 43, of Charleston, told The Associated Press by satellite phone Friday from on board the tanker Overseas Ohio. "I deployed the raft and the water took the suits out of our hands and that was that."

Fisher and crewman John Burgess, 50, managed to get into the raft as the boat rolled over and sank. The last they saw of crewman Jason Cox, he was lying on top of his survival suit, but the current was so strong they couldn't reach him.



SENIOR CLASS WINS — Snyder High School senior class won the contest with other classes, bringing the most food to donate to the Goodfellows. Principal Larry Scott reported a school total of 3,183 pounds of food and $310. Sorting the food items are, from left, Ryan Landes, senior; Julie Doolittle, senior; Kelley Garner, freshman; Michelle Lewallen, junior; Traci Eicke, junior; Amy Brooks, freshman; and Sonny Cumbie, freshman. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Financial Focus

Napoleon Bonaparte advised never to interrupt an enemy while he is making a mistake. The reverse, then, should be to caution a friend in error.

Author Jonathan Pond does just that in "The New Century Family Money Book." The book includes the most common investment mistakes of retirees and how to avoid them. Most of these mistakes and their solutions have been discussed in this column. Their importance, however, deserves another look.

SELLING TOO SOON. Pond says that investors over age 50 are more inclined to sell too quickly because they feel they can't afford to take any risks. Many investments fluctuate in value, but a decline is not always a reason to sell. Rather than selling an investment, ask yourself if, knowing what you know now, you would still buy this stock today. If so, you may be better off not only holding onto the investment but also taking the opportunity to buy more at a bargain price.

SHUFFLING INVESTMENTS UNNECESSARILY. Retirees often sell solid long-term growth investments and reposition asssets in those offering fixed income. As long as there is inflation, there is a need for growth.

BUYING THE WRONG ANNUITY. This robs many retirees of precious income. A pure annuity offered by most insurance companies takes a lump-sum investment and guarantees the purchaser, or annuitant, a lifetime income. The amount of income is determined by the amount of the deposit and the age of the annuitant.

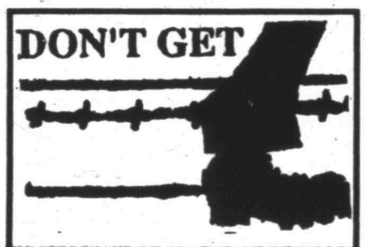
People often buy annuities with guaranteed monthly lifetime distributions. A better approach is to look around for the best annuity with the best rates. Don't rush this decision. Insurance companies and the annuities they offer are not all alike.

FORGETTING ABOUT TAXES. Many retirees immediately begin withdrawing from their tax-sheltered retirement accounts when other taxable money is available. Leaving funds to grow tax-deferred makes more sense than paying taxes on your withdrawal as well as your unsheltered income.

IGNORING INFLATION. This is probably the biggest investment mistake. For retirees who live on the income from their investments, growth investments are still important. They're the only way to stay ahead of inflation. Ask your financial professional to show you several examples of blue-chip stocks or mutual funds that have consistent records of raising dividend payments. Typically, you will find that these investments not only have a history of increasing dividends but also of growing principal. Increasing income and growth of principal are both necessary to keeping up with the rising cost of living.

There are no guarantees in investing, but avoiding these easy mistakes will increase your chances for success.

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Texas Lottery Commission might seek another attorney

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Lottery Commission is considering whether they want Attorney General Dan Morales to replace the attorney representing the commission in a whistleblower lawsuit filed by former employees.

Assistant Texas Attorney General Dennis Garza has been representing the commission in the lawsuit.

However, as president of the South Austin Tejano Democrats, Garza has publicly criticized commission Chairwoman Harriet Miers for her handling of the commission's investigation into GTECH, the lottery's prime contractor.

"Because it involves a pending suit and a lawyer who is representing us, I thought I ought to ask our attorneys to review the situation and take whatever action is in the best interest of the Texas Lottery Commission," Ms. Miers said.

Garza is assigned to represent the commission in a lawsuit filed by Tommy Headrick, Feliciano Acevedo and Billie Myrick. All three were fired in 1995 for improperly carrying weapons while on duty. Their lawsuit says the real reason was their attempts to raise concern about "improprieties" at the agency, according to their attorney, Doug Brothers.

The commission began investigating GTECH after lottery director Nora Linares disclosed last month that Mike Moeller, a close friend now in prison on unrelated corruption charges, worked as a consultant for GTECH for five months in 1992-93.

Ms. Linares has said she did not know until recently about Moeller's $6,000-a-month contract with GTECH.

Garza joined other Hispanic organizations this week in attacking Miers' handling of the Lottery Commission investigation into Ms. Linares and GTECH. He said in a news release issued Tuesday that Ms. Miers was "orchestrating a mudslinging campaign against Nora Linares to further the Republican Party agenda."

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Bud Pinkerton

Pinkerton named manager of IGA #100

Bud Pinkerton has been transferred from IGA in Big Spring to manage the Lawrence IGA #100, located at 4111 College Ave.

Pinkerton worked for Furr's for 17 years, Don's Value King for two years, and has been with Lawrence IGA for almost a year. He lives in Snyder and commuted to IGA in Big Spring for the past several months.

He was named manager of the Snyder store on Dec. 2. Glad to be working back in Snyder, Pinkerton said Lawrence IGA #100's hours are from 6 a.m. to midnight, seven days a week.

Pinkerton and his wife, Teresa, have two children, Geoffrey, 11, and Bandee, who will be four on Christmas Day.



PRICE DANIEL PLANT MANAGER — Mike Munden, right, is currently serving as the furniture plant manager at the Price Daniel Unit. Munden, a 15-year-veteran of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, transferred from the Navasota Unit. He and his wife Gayle have four girls — Alecia, 17; Tammy, 15; Christy, 12; and Jolynn, 9. Munden started his career with TDCJ after serving many years with the Waco police department. He is shown with Marvin Horton, TDCJ internal affairs officer from Lubbock. Coincidentally, Horton was Munden's lieutenant when he started and retired from the Waco PD. (SDN Staff Photo)

Shorted Christmas lights may have caused fire killing 2 girls

ALAMO (AP) — Shorted Christmas lights may have triggered a house fire that killed two young girls and badly burned two other siblings, firefighters said.

The dead, identified as 10-year-old Brenda and 12-year-old Karina Rodriguez, tried to hide from the flames Thursday night in separate closets, Edinburg Fire Chief Johnny Economedes said Friday.

Economedes said an older brother rescued one sister from the flames then re-entered the house to search closets for the other girls. He burned his hands in the process.

Juan Rodriguez, 16, is hospitalized along with his seven-year-old sister, said Economedes.

Economedes said neighbors saw what they thought was lightning around the eaves of the house after the children's mother, Sylvia Rodriguez, took another youngster to a hospital. The teen-age boy was left in charge.

"They had put Christmas lights around the roof. The neighbors thought they saw lightning, but it was the lights arcing badly — then a big flash," said Economedes. "The lights shorted out, and the whole house all around was on fire."

The cause of the fire remains under investigation, however. Fire officials said it appears that the blaze was started by the Christmas lights or an indoor space heater may have ignited some nearby clothing.

Thomas recovering

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Dave Thomas, founder and pitchman of Wendy's fast-food hamburger chain, was recovering Friday from quadruple bypass surgery, a company spokesman said.

Thomas' surgery was "routine" and doctors expect him to make a full recovery, spokesman Denny Lynch said.

Lynch said Friday night he was not certain when Thomas would be released from the hospital, which has not been identified.

Thomas, 64, was admitted Dec. 14 after suffering chest pains. Bypass surgery reroutes blood around blocked heart arteries. Thomas had not previously suffered heart problems, Lynch said.

His folksy manner and self-deprecating humor in the Wendy's radio and television ads in the United States and Canada have been credited with helping the fast-food chain prosper.

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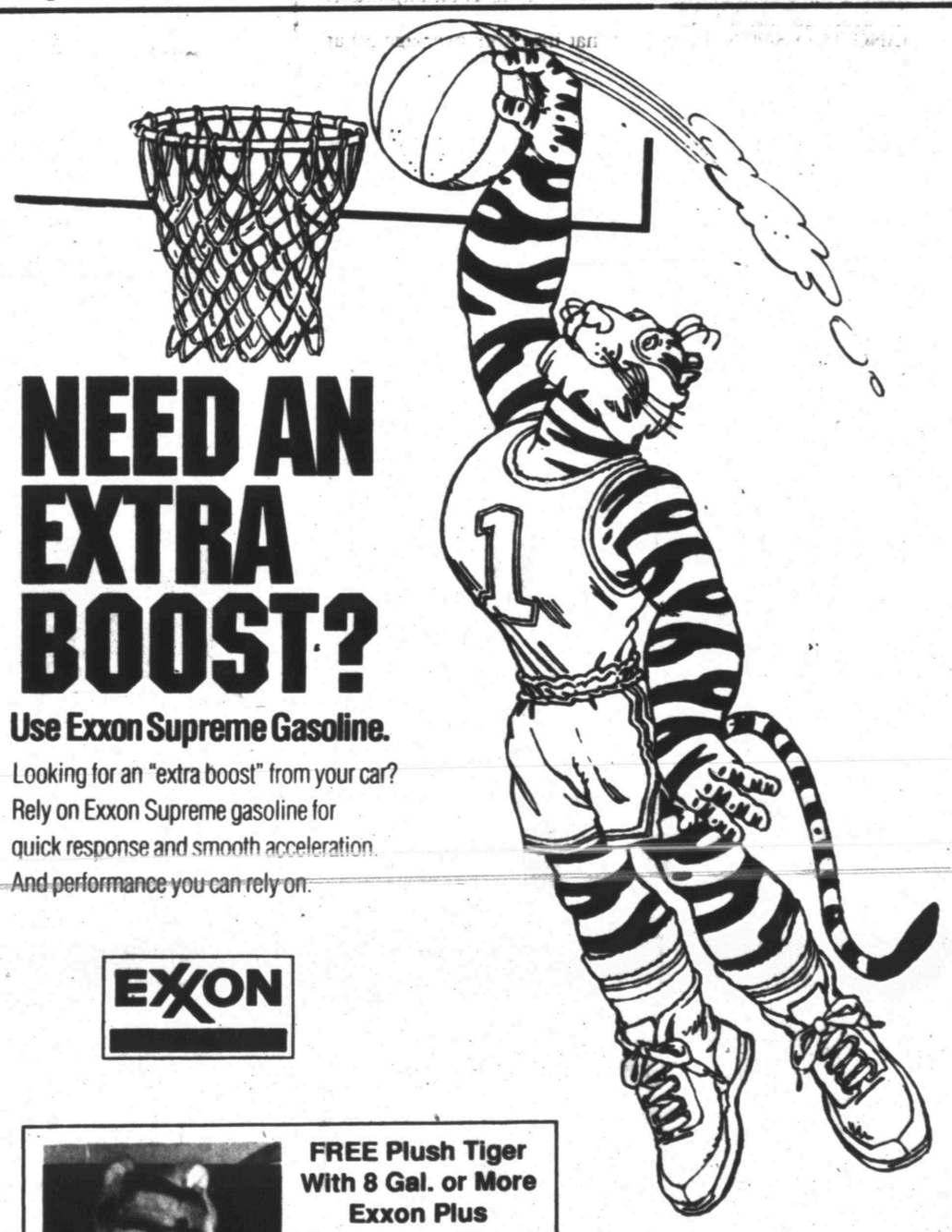
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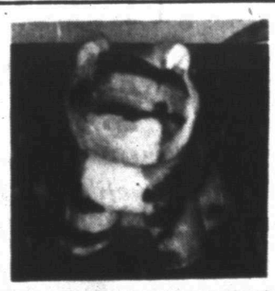


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SPORTS

Key games highlight final regular season week

By The Associated Press

It would be a terrible time for the Carolina Panthers to lose their first game at home this season.

If they don't, against the Pittsburgh Steelers Sunday at Charlotte, the Panthers will be the NFC West champion and get a first-round bye in the playoffs no matter what the San Francisco 49ers do against the Detroit Lions Monday night.

The Panthers and 49ers each are 11-4, but Carolina has beaten San Francisco in both meetings this year.

The Steelers (10-5), the AFC Central champion, will pit its Jerome Bettis-led rushing attack against the Panthers' NFC third-ranked rushing defense (91.8 yards per game). Bettis, second in the AFC with 1,421 yards, was slowed by injury and gained only nine yards on six carries in a 25-15 loss to the 49ers last week, but Erric Pegram gained 103 yards on 20 carries.

Another key matchup will be that of Steelers' quarterback Mike Tomczak, who has thrown 17 interceptions, against linebackers Kevin Greene, a former Steeler, who leads the NFL with 14½ sacks, and Lamar Lathon, second in the league with 13½ sacks, and cornerback Eric Davis, who has intercepted five passes in eight games. Pittsburgh also has a solid sacker in linebacker Chad Brown, tops in the AFC with 13.

Saturday in the NFL, New England plays at the New York Giants and New Orleans is at St. Louis.

In other Sunday games, Kansas City will be at Buffalo, Minnesota at Green Bay, Indianapolis at Cincinnati, Atlanta at Jacksonville, Dallas at Washington, Arizona at Philadelphia, Denver at San Diego, Houston at Baltimore, Seattle at Oakland, Miami at the New York Jets and Chicago at Tampa Bay.

Cowboys at Redskins

The Cowboys (10-5), the NFC East champion, will close out a fine comeback season, while the Redskins, 7-1 before faltering to 8-7, would like to go out a winner in the final game at RFK Stadium. The Cowboys have the NFL's top overall defense (259.9 yards per game) and top pass defense (165.3).

Cardinals at Eagles

The Cardinals (7-8) will be trying for a season sweep against the playoff-bound Eagles (9-6), whose NFC No. 1-ranked offense (352.3), has been struggling recently.

Broncos at Chargers

The Chargers will try to even their record to 8-8 the day before coach Bobby Ross's 60th birthday. A victory would be a club-record best for the Broncos (13-2). They were 13-3 in 1984. Quarterback John Elway has won 17 games against the Chargers.

Oilers at Ravens

Rookie Eddie George has run for 1,283 yards for the Oilers (7-8), who also have the second best rush defense (84.3) in the NFL. Quarterback Vinny Testaverde of the Ravens (4-11) leads the AFC with 30 touchdown passes.

Seahawks at Raiders

Three of the last four losses for the Seahwaks (6-9) have been by a total of 14 points. Seven of the losses for the Raiders (7-8) have been by six points or fewer.

Chiefs at Bills

The Chiefs (9-6) could clinch a playoff spot with an eighth straight victory in a regular-season finale. It would be their seventh straight playoff berth. A victory would put the Bills (9-6) into the playoffs for the eighth time in the past nine seasons. The loser would not necessarily be eliminated.

Vikings at Packers

Brad Johnson has completed 63 of 90 passes for 654 yards and eight touchdowns in the past three games for the Vikings (9-6). Brett Favre has passed for 3,697 yards and 36 touchdowns for the Packers (12-3) and will be looking for his 50th career win. Both teams are in the playoffs.

Colts at Bengals

A victory would clinch a playoff berth for the Colts (9-6) and give them their first 10-win season since 1977. A .500 record would be the Bengals best since they were 9-7 in 1990. Carl Pickens needs six receptions to become the first Bengal to catch 100 passes in a season.

Falcons at Jaguars

The Jaguars (8-7) need to win for a chance at the playoffs. Their current four-game win steak is the best in the AFC. Kicker Morten Anderson of the Falcons (3-12) needs eight points for an NFL record-tying 11th 100-point season. Kicker Nick Lowery of the Jets holds the

Kotite calls it quits at New York

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP) — Rich Kotite went out as the New York Jets' coach Friday in a manner that was as confusing as the team's play during his two years as head man — he fired himself.

"I was not fired, I am not quitting," Kotite, 4-27 as the team's coach, said in announcing that he was stepping down after Sunday's game against Miami.

The move came after a meeting Thursday with Leon Hess, the team's owner, and Steve Gutman, its president.

It was called by Kotite, who didn't want to drag out the inevitable into Christmas week. And it was Kotite as the de facto general manager who made the decision that a change was necessary.

"When you're 3-13 and 1-14, that just doesn't cut it," Kotite said.

"We've been everything but respectable. A change has to be made. I hold myself accountable... It hasn't worked.

"If you take emotion out of this and I did, it's clear that the head coach should step down."

Kotite's departure was hardly unexpected given this season's 1-14 record, worst in the Jets' long history of losing. Ten days ago, after a 34-10 loss at New England, he acknowledged the inevitable by citing the team's record.

In some ways, dismissal day was like a celebration.

"Rich Kotite is the Rock of Gibraltar," Hess said in a statement released by the team.

Hess, who said, "I'm 80 years old, I want results now," when he hired Kotite two years ago, was not present.

Gutman called Kotite, a native New Yorker, "a member of the family."

"He came to this job thinking he'd be fulfilling the dream of his life," Gutman said. "It became more a nightmare than a dream."

The nightmare began in 1994, the final year of Kotite's four years as coach of the Philadelphia Eagles. After going 39-22 there, and starting the 1994 season 7-2, he lost his last seven games.

That left Kotite at 4-34 in his last 38 games and put his career mark at 41-56.

SDN Sports Week

Thursday

SHS Tigers vs. Childress at noon in Caprock Holiday Tournament in Lubbock at Monterey High School Box.

Hermleigh boys and girls varsity in Colorado City Holiday Classic.

Hermleigh Junior High at Loraine, 7:30 p.m.

Friday

SHS Tigers in Caprock Holiday Tournament in Lubbock.

Hermleigh boys and girls varsity in Colorado City Holiday Classic.

Saturday

SHS Tigers in Caprock Holiday Tournament in Lubbock.

Hermleigh boys and girls varsity in Colorado City Holiday Classic.

Bowling News

Jack-N-Jill
Standings as of 12/18/96

Team	Won	Lost
B.J. Services	42	22
House of Anticks	40	24
Holcomb	39	25
Rogers Backhoe Service	38	26
KSNY	38	26
Buchanan Printing	30¼	33¾
Misfits	29¾	34¼
Landes Home Furn.	28	36
Ace Hardware	27	37
Should of Been's	29	31
Red Man Pipe & Supply	28	32
CNB	27	33
J.C. Wells	19	41

High Series Scratch: Ginger Moore, 505.
Handicap: Michelle Ewing 521.
High Game Scratch: Georgie Tarver 196.
High Game Handicap: Michelle Ewing 199.
500 Series: Michelle Ewing 257.
Splits: Georgie Tarver 5-10; Norma Seabourn 3-10, 5-10; Alma Posey 4-5; Wanda Johnson 3-10.
500 Series: Ginger Moore 505; Wanda Johnson 500.

Bowlers of the Week: High Scratch Series, Dennis Snyder, 543, Wanda Johnson 542. High game, Kevin Jones 213, Dorothy Matthews 201.
Converted Splits Deborah Beall 5-6; Elbert Klein 3-10; Norma Seabourn 3-10, 4-5; Manuel Garcia 2-7; Helen Kellner 9-10; Dorothy Matthews 5-6; Dennis Snyder 2-7, 3-10, 5-6.

Roll-N-Hope
League Standings as of 12/16/96

Team	Won	Losts
Eddins-Walcher	40	20
Fuller Food	36	24
Carousel Arcade	31	29
IGA	30	30

Men's Commercial
League Standings as of 12/17/96

Team	Won	Losts
Reef Chemical	120	76
E.D. Walton Const.	119	77
Bar-H-Bar	110	86
Levens Gas & Oil	105	91
Whit Parks Auto	1048	92
The Shack	99	97
Stephens Office Supply	89½	107½
Price Const.	83¼	112¾
Blue Sunoco	81½	1114½
Racers	68¾	127¼

High Series Scratch: Rick Mammolite 552.
High Series Handicap: Barney Tate 622.
High Game: Greg Hodge 223.
High Game Handicap: J.C. Harrison 240.
Splits: Glen Cox 3-10; Don Pavlovsky 2-7.

NFL glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
x-NewEngland	10	5	0	.667	395	291
Buffalo	9	6	0	.600	299	257
Indianapolis	9	6	0	.600	293	303
Miami	7	8	0	.467	308	297
N.Y.Jets	1	14	0	.067	251	423
Central						
x-Pittsburgh	10	5	0	.667	330	239
Jacksonville	8	7	0	.533	306	318
Cincinnati	7	8	0	.467	341	345
Houston	7	8	0	.467	321	298
Baltimore	4	11	0	.267	350	417
West						
x-Denver	13	2	0	.867	381	259
KansasCity	9	6	0	.600	288	280
Oakland	7	8	0	.467	319	265
SanDiego	7	8	0	.467	294	366
Seattle	6	9	0	.400	289	355

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
x-Dallas	10	5	0	.667	276	213
y-Philadelphia	9	6	0	.600	334	322
Washington	8	7	0	.533	327	302
Arizona	7	8	0	.467	281	368
N.Y.Giants	6	9	0	.400	220	274
Central						
x-GreenBay	12	3	0	.800	418	200
y-Minnesota	9	6	0	.600	288	277
Chicago	7	8	0	.467	264	271
Detroit	5	10	0	.333	288	344
TampaBay	5	10	0	.333	187	274
West						
y-Carolina	11	4	0	.733	349	204
y-SanFrancisco	11	4	0	.733	374	24
St.Louis	5	10	0	.333	289	396
Atlanta	3	12	0	.200	292	442
NewOrleans	3	12	0	.200	216	325

x-clinched division title.
y-clinched playoff spot.

Saturday's Games
New England at New York Giants, 12:30 p.m.
New Orleans at St. Louis, 4 p.m.

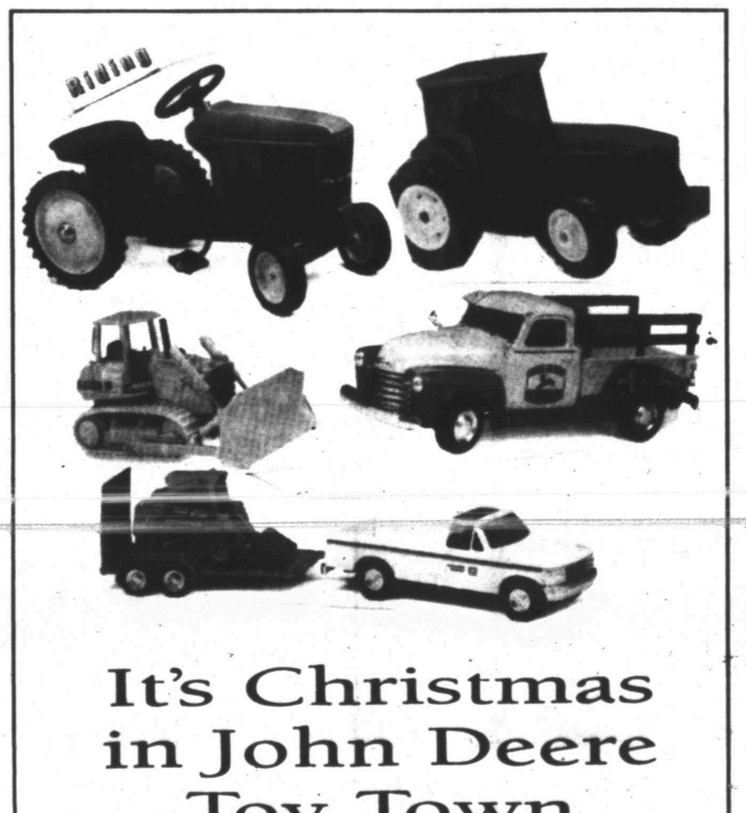
Sunday's Games
Arizona at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Houston at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Miami at New York Jets, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Dallas at Washington, 4 p.m.
Seattle at Oakland, 4 p.m.
Denver at San Diego, 8 p.m.

Monday's Game
Detroit at San Francisco, 9 p.m.
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SPORTS

Ira teams vying for 3rd place now

Blackwell's Lady Hornets got their stinger out in the third period en route to a 63-53 win over Ira here Friday to claim a berth in the championship game of the Dog Pound Tournament.

Leading 37-32 at intermission, the Lady Hornets came out in the third quarter and outscored the Lady Bulldogs 12-4.

The win put Blackwell's girls in Saturday's 6:30 p.m. title match with Westbrook, a 69-60 victor over Roby.

Ira's girls take on Roby in the the third place game at 3:30 p.m.

Highland and Midland Trinity were to meet for consolation at 12:30 p.m.

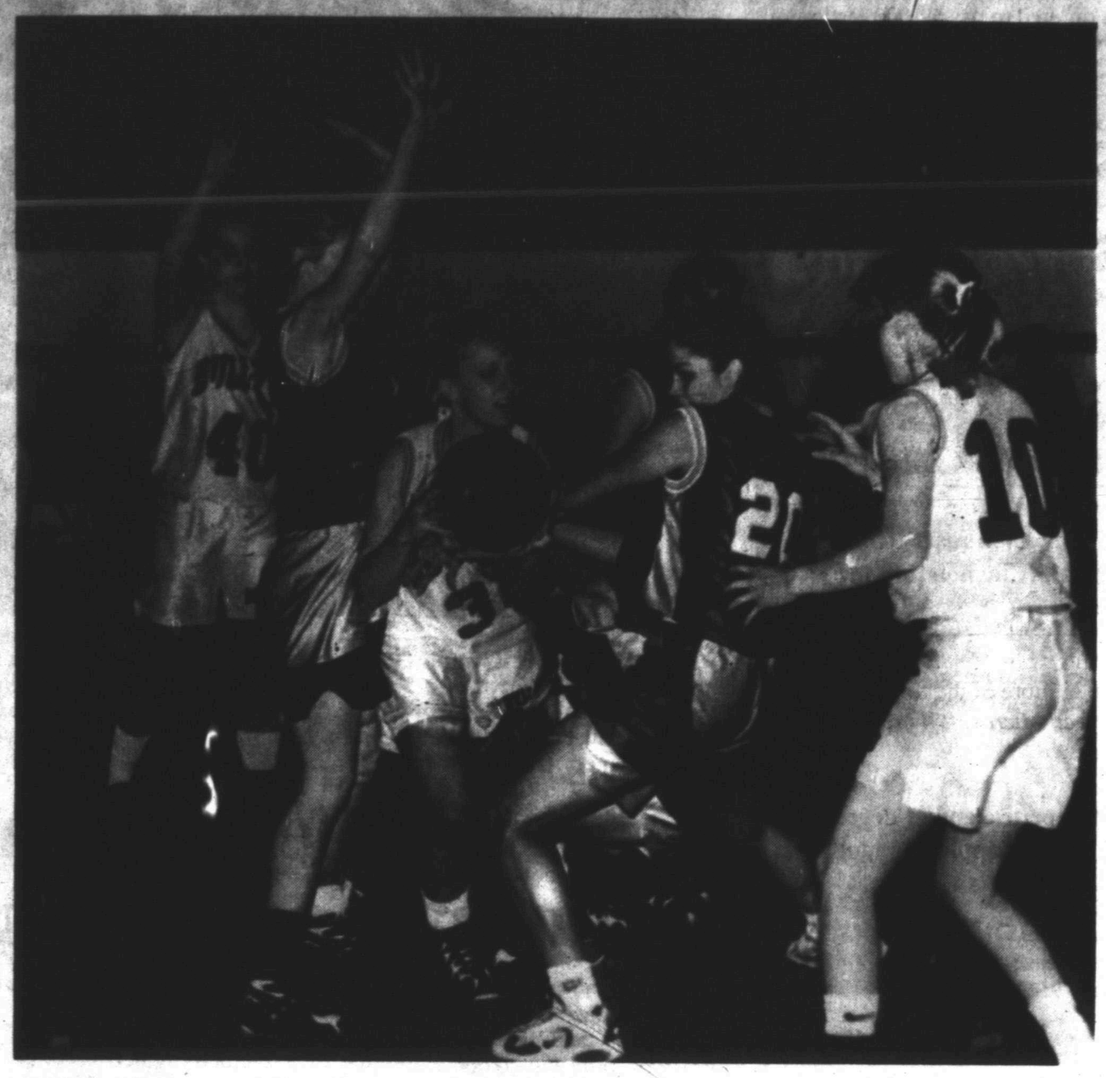
Ira got 21 points from Jamee Goolsby, 16 from Terri Robinson and 10 from Lisha Leatherwood.

Ira's boys will also be playing for third place on Saturday. The Bulldogs were defeated 81-56 Friday by Highland. Logan Daves scored 28 points for the 'Dogs. Jerek Brown popped for 14.

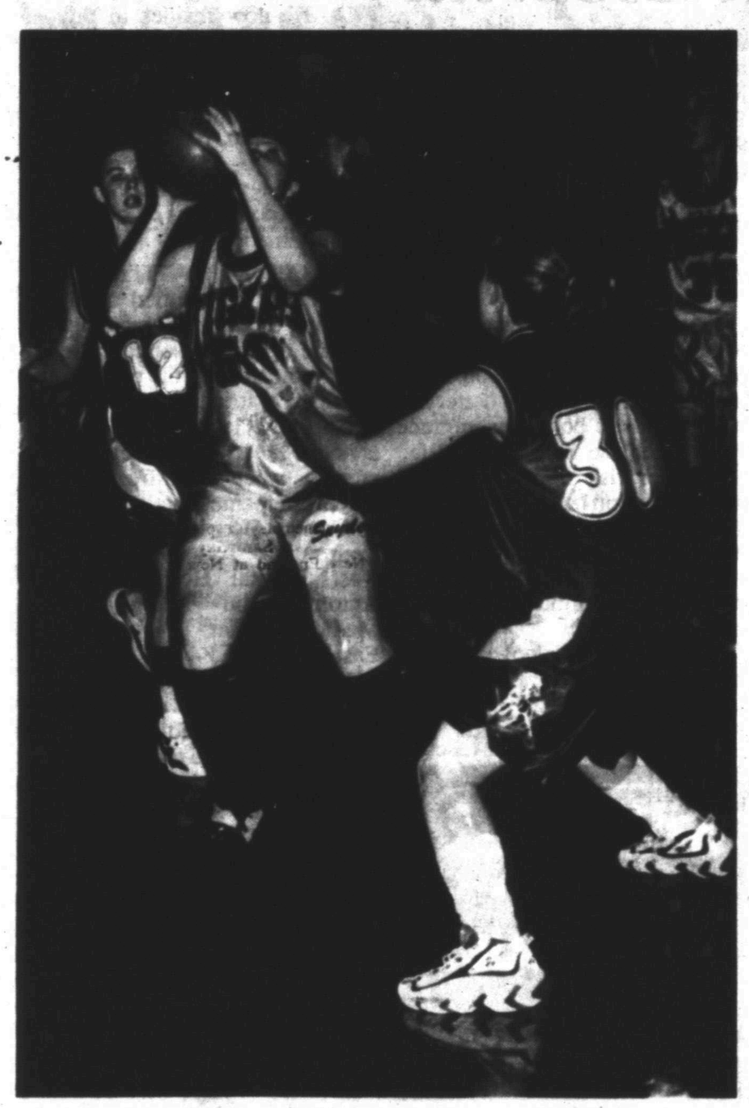
The contest was a close one through the first half, but the Hornets outgunned Ira's freshman-dominated team 22-10 in the third quarter and 25-16 in the fourth.

Highland will take on Roby, a 70-46 winner over Westbrook in the finals at 8 o'clock Saturday. Ira meets Westbrook for third place at 5 o'clock.

Blackwell and Trinity were to play at 2 p.m. in the consolation game of the boy's bracket. Blackwell advanced by blasting Westbrook JV 90-50 on Friday while Trinity knocked off Highland JV 77-25.



TWO OF TWO DOZEN — Erica Garvin (53) goes up for a layup in the Lady Tigers' win over Sweetwater Friday night in double overtime. Garvin tossed in 24 points in the win. Others shown are Melanie Kidd (35) and Lady Mustangs Vanessa Lehrmonn (12) and Kori Clemens (30). (Photo by Stephanie Whittenburg)



CONTACT — E'Lissa Goolsby (32) controls the rebound in the Ira girls' game against Blackwell Friday night. The visitors won 63-53. Also shown from Ira are Jamee Goolsby (40) and Korby Calley (10). (SDN Staff Photo)

Girls win in 2nd overtime

Erica Garvin scored all 6 points in the second overtime as the Lady Tigers overcame strong free throw shooting by the Sweetwater Lady Mustangs in a dramatic 55-53 double-overtime win Saturday in Tiger Gym.

As well as the Lady Mustangs shot their free throws (23 for 31), it was two critically missed free shots that helped the Lady Tigers to victory.

With 2.8 seconds left in the second overtime and the Lady Mustangs down by three, Lindsay Leopard was fouled while shooting a 3-point shot. As she stepped to the line, she missed the first of her three free throws. When she missed the second, Haley Brown was called for distracting the free throw shooter, giving Leopard another shot.

Leopard made the second shot, but missed the third, giving the Lady Tigers a 2-point lead. But in the excitment, Sweetwater got the rebound and shot the ball from 10 feet from the basket. The shot was missed and Garvin got the rebound to seal the victory.

The Lady Tigers had their opportunities to win in both the first overtime and in regulation.

In the first extra period, the Tigers had the ball with 11 seconds left and the score tied at 47. Coach Rick Archer called timeout and set up a play to win the game. Haley Brown got off a 3-point attempt with four seconds left, but it was short. Tiffany Garza got the rebound and shot again just before the buzzer to win the game, but the shot rimmed out, forcing the second overtime.

The Lady Tigers controlled the ball for the final 45 seconds of regulation with the score tied at 42. Erica Garvin got trapped in the corner and her pass to Mandy Hess went out of bounds with 12 seconds remaining. Sweetwater, having no timeouts left, tried to get off a shot, but it missed at the buzzer.

Garvin, who finished with 24 points, had 8 in the first half. She continued to dominate the lane against the Lady Mustangs, scoring 10 points in the second half. Also, Tiffany Garza and Alicia Peoples added to the inside power of the Lady Tigers by adding 8 points each.

Also scoring for the Lady Tigers, now 11-7 for the season, were Melanie Kidd and Mandy Hess with 4, Haley Brown 3, and Brooke McGuire and Leslie Daniell 2. Sweetwater, 11-6, was led by Vanessa Lehrman with 15 and Brooke Swindle with 14.

Snyder junior varsity girls lost to Sweetwater, 47-28. Scoring for Snyder were Lexie Beard 12, Renee Trevino 6, Terrie Moore 4 and Felsha Biggers, Laura Lewis and Kaycee Marricle 2 each.

Tigers fall to Bobcats

SAN ANGELO — Coach Bud Birks' Tigers will get a much-needed rest after falling to the Central Bobcats here Friday, 70-53.

"These kids are a pretty resilient bunch. They've already forgotten about that game and are ready for the next one," said Birks.

Snyder led 12-10 after the first quarter here Friday and trailed just 30-28 at halftime. The injury-plagued team hung tough to go into the final period behind just 45-39, but couldn't stay with the Bobcats in the fourth.

"It was basically a close game for most of the game," said Birks, who wouldn't blame the loss on multiple team injuries.

"They outplayed us and deserved to win."

Snyder lost Alvin Fabre (knee) and Jeremiah Johnson (ankle) earlier in the week and got Chris Riggins (injury-discipline) back for Friday's game. Birks said Matthew Fambro (knee) should be able to return for the Caprock Tournament, which begins Dec. 26.

"We're at the point where we've got to start fitting people back into the mix and at the same time find a way to adjust to new ones that are injured," said Birks.

Rick Henderson tallied 13 points for Snyder, now 12-5 on the season. Jimmy Taylor scored 12, Riggins 11 and Justin McNair 9.

In one other game Friday, Snyder junior varsity fell to San Angelo Central, 62-49. Ian Hobbs led Snyder with 17 points. Cory Mandrell bagged 8.

Next action for Snyder will be noon on Dec. 26 when the Tigers take on Childress in the Caprock Tournament in Lubbock. The game will be played in the Monterey Box.

NBA glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	18	7	.720	-
NewYork	17	7	.708	½
Washington	12	12	.500	5½
Orlando	9	12	.429	7
Philadelphia	7	17	.292	10½
NewJersey	5	16	.238	11
Boston	5	17	.227	11½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	22	3	.880	-
Detroit	20	4	.833	1½
Cleveland	16	8	.667	5½
Atlanta	15	8	.652	6
Charlotte	13	11	.542	8½
Milwaukee	13	11	.542	8½
Indiana	11	12	.478	10
Toronto	9	17	.346	13½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	21	4	.840	-
Utah	20	4	.833	½
Dallas	9	15	.375	11½
Minnesota	8	17	.320	13
Denver	7	19	.269	14½
SanAntonio	5	17	.227	14½
Vancouver	5	22	.185	17

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A.Lakers	19	8	.704	-
Seattle	19	9	.679	½
Portland	14	12	.538	4½
L.A.Clippers	10	16	.385	8½
GoldenState	9	17	.346	9½
Sacramento	9	17	.346	9½
Phoenix	8	16	.333	9½

Friday's Games

New York 110, Philadelphia 103
Atlanta 109, New Jersey 95
Cleveland 91, Toronto 82
Detroit 84, Indiana 75
Utah 98, Orlando 93
Denver 108, Vancouver 93
Portland 107, Dallas 77
Seattle 102, L.A. Clippers 86

Saturday's Games

Detroit at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Miami at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Orlando at Milwaukee, 9 p.m.
Portland at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Utah at Cleveland, 1:30 p.m.
Toronto at Indiana, 2:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Boston, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Golden State, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Seattle, 8 p.m.
Washington at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

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Probation slated

GREENVILLE (AP) — A Greenville woman received five years' probation Friday in connection with an arson fire in June, one of more than 40 suspicious blazes that plagued the city last summer.

Felicia Rena Alex, 21, was sentenced to five years' deferred adjudication, a form of probation, and was ordered to pay $1,000 restitution. State District Judge Richard Bosworth also ordered her to perform 240 hours of community service on a charge of conspiracy to commit arson.

She had originally been charged with engaging in organized crime, but pleaded guilty to the lesser offense earlier this month. Her sentence also covered a drug possession charge to which she had pleaded guilty.

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BIG BOOST — The Kiwanis Goodfellows got a big boost this week for the good deeds they do in the community in the form of a $615 check Wal-Mart presented the group. The money represents a percentage of sales on Saturday, Nov. 30. Kiwanis member Scott Gassiot is shown receiving the check from Wal-Mart associate Solia Cantu. Also shown from left are Veronica Garcia and Mark Henson, store manager. (SDN Staff Photo)

Baby with seven transplanted organs released from hospital

MIAMI (AP) — A toddler who had seven organs replaced eight month ago is healthy enough to leave the hospital and go home for the holidays, her doctors said Friday.

"We told everyone not to get us anything for Christmas because she is our gift," said grandfather Paul Ernde. "She has given special meaning to the holidays."

Blond-haired, blue-eyed Caitlin Ernde, now 15 months old, was admitted to the University of Miami Jackson Children's Hospital in April to replace her ailing liver, pancreas, stomach, both kidneys and her large and small intestines.

She was born with a rare condition that kept her intestines from contracting. As a result, she had to be fed intravenously, which ultimately caused her liver to fail and threatened other organs.

Doctors in her hometown of Pensacola gave her a 10 percent chance of surviving the year. But her grandparents took her to Miami for a second opinion.

"When we first saw her, we thought she was a good candidate for transplant," said Dr. Andreas Tzakis. "We were concerned about the wait for a donor at first, but within five weeks we had one."

In April, Tzakis led a team of surgeons that performed all seven organ transplants. Doctors said the surgery, while rare, was not a first.

Because she required specialized care after surgery, it was impossible for her parents, Michael and Trisha Ernde of Fort Rucker, Ala., or her grandparents, Paul and Donna Ernde of Pensacola, to care for her.

So Mayda and Tod Rennison helped out at the hospital.

"It's going to be really hard to have to say good-bye," said Mayda Rennison.

Physicians said Caitlin will have to be monitored for the next five months, fed intravenously for about a year, and take a battery of medications to boost her immune system for the rest of her life.

But her risk of infection and organ rejection has decreased, and although she's now taking 16 medications a day through a stomach tube, she is expected to live a fairly normal life, Tzakis said.

"Ten years from now, if she is still doing well, she will have the same expectancy as any other 11-year-old," Tzakis said.

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Joe Michael Bass
(Harley Bynum photo)

Bass graduates from area college

Joe Michael Bass of Snyder graduated Dec. 13 from Abilene Christian University with a bachelor's of applied studies business degree in accounting. He was hooded and escorted by his wife, Carol S. Bass.

During his commencement address, Dr. Royce Money, president of ACU, praised Bass as a Vietnam and Gulf War veteran as well as dedicated student.

Bass is a retired master sergeant of the U.S. Air Force after serving over 20 years. He was chief air traffic controller and received countless awards and recognition for his leadership abilities.

He also wrote a computer program that has been adopted by the FFA. He now resides in Snyder with his wife. They have three daughters: Julie Clinkinbeard, Jamie Bass and Jackie Bass, and one son-in-law, John Clinkinbeard.

Three settle suits

AUSTIN (AP) — Three Texas hospitals have settled lawsuits accusing them of paying employees and agents to solicit children and Medicaid-eligible patients for their psychiatric units.

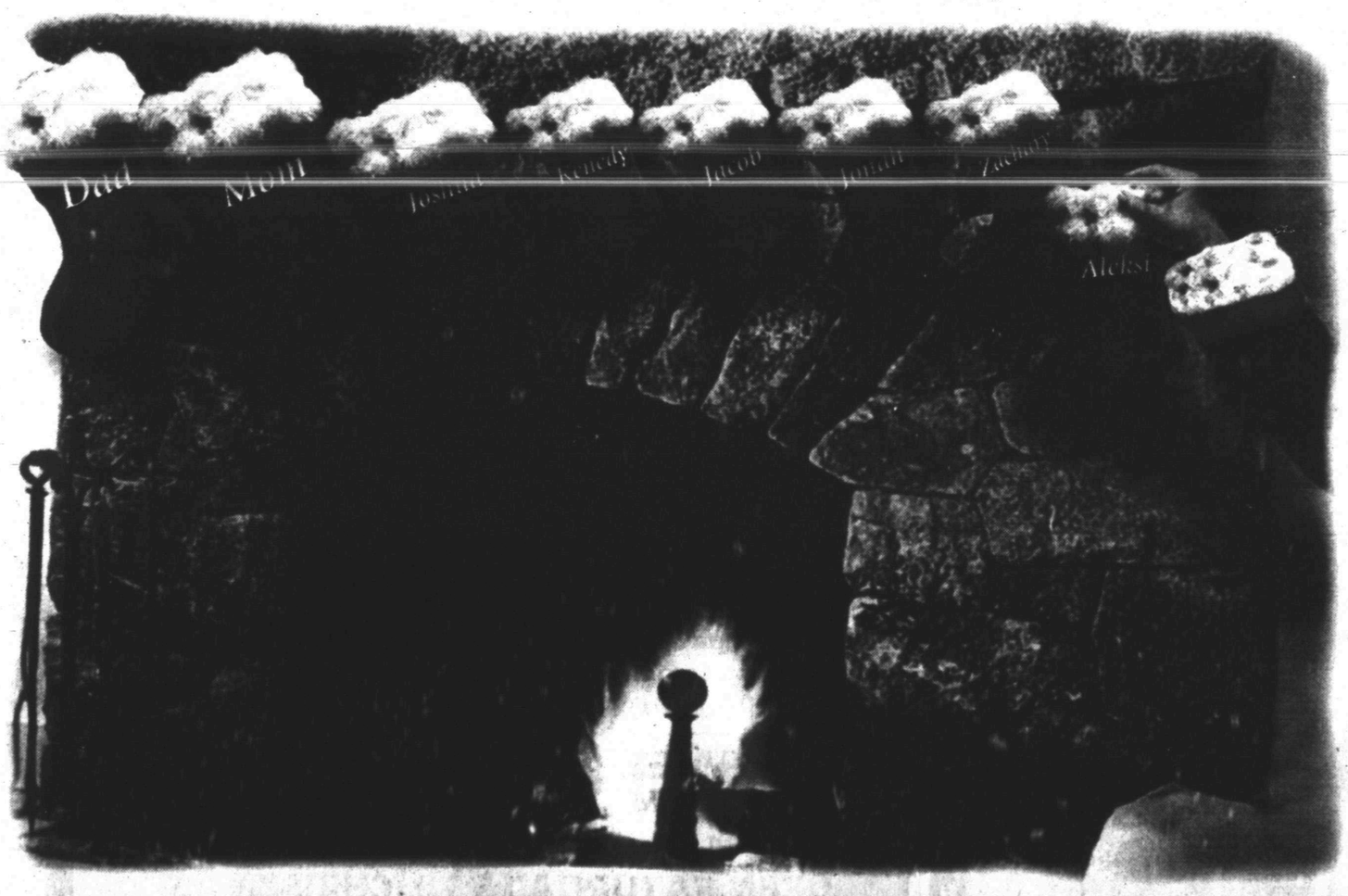
Attorney General Dan Morales announced on Friday the settlement between his office and the Texas companies that run Pasadena General Hospital and Bayshore Counseling Associates; Southwest General Hospital in San Antonio; and Trinity Valley Medical Center in Palestine in East Texas.

He said the hospitals allegedly paid employees and others to solicit patients, including children, for admission into their psychiatric units. Morales said some psychiatric admissions at the hospitals were inappropriate and possibly unnecessary.

The lawsuits claimed the hospitals violated the state's Marketing Practices Act and Illegal Remuneration Act. State law prohibits payment based on the number of patients admitted.

As part of the settlements, the hospitals will pay the state $275,000.

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CANNED GOODS FOR GOODFELLOWS — Snyder Cablevision customers donated some 1,500 canned goods for the Goodfellows annual holiday food drive. Scott Gassiot, chairman of the Goodfellows, is shown at left. Archie Kountz, general manager of TCA Cable TV, is shown at right. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Suit has store Santas on edge

AUSTIN (AP) — A lawsuit that accused a shopping mall Santa of trying to lift the skirt of a teen-age girl last year has sent a chill through Austin-area store Santas this year.

Now many worry whether they can hold or hug a child. And surveillance cameras might be recording every move.

"It's not as easy to be a Santa today as it used to be," Rex Voland, a 43-year-old Kris Kringle, told the Austin American-Statesman. "We're all being twice as careful. You have to be very careful what you say to people, how you have the child on your lap and how you hold them."

Last Christmas, the father of a teen-age girl filed the lawsuit against an Austin mall and a Santa after the girl accused the Santa of trying to lift the girl's skirt.

Three Ring Service Inc., an entertainment company, and Barton Creek Square mall were sued last year after a Bastrop girl said one of the company's Santas tried to lift her skirt and rubbed her thigh.

Allen Danziger, the company owner, says the lawsuit is groundless, but his company now tapes all encounters to defend itself in case similar claims are made.

Danziger believes the lawsuit, which is pending, is the reason Barton Creek Square dropped his company and hired another Santa provider this year. A mall official wouldn't discuss the reason for the change.

While his company copes with the loss of what he says is a $100,000 contract, Danziger said the lawsuit "wrecked" his former employee and made his Santas change how they deal with the public.

"Once burned, you make changes," he said. "Some of my Santas, they'll hold on to the chair, they won't even hold the children during the photos. You can't say, 'I love you.'"

Robin McDurham, owner of Kidstuff Party Co., said it's good that parents and children are more alert to the dangers of child molestation. In 1994, an Austin man was charged with indecency with a child after he dressed up in a Santa suit and allegedly fondled a 7-year-old girl.

But the chance that an innocent touch can be construed as fondling can drive entertainers to near-paranoia.

"In the paranoia, a lot of the warmth is lost, I think," she said. "Are we going to be afraid of Santa Claus? Is that where we're heading?"

Voland sees some parents watching him very closely.

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CHRISTMAS CHEER — Snyder Junior High School 8th grade reading students helped bring some Christmas cheer to the residents of Snyder Healthcare. In this photo, Rina Geiger presents cookies to Snow Kennedy and Ruth Seldon while Brian Coffman, David Beard and Lance Foreman look on. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Video to be screened in prison

DALLAS (AP) — After a fruitless, 11-month search for suspects, authorities are trying something new in the hope of finding the person who kidnapped and killed a 9-year-old Arlington girl.

Police have received thousands of tips regarding the abduction and murder of Amber Hagerman, who was dragged screaming from her bicycle while riding in an abandoned parking lot Jan. 13. Her body was found days later in a creek bed, her throat slashed.

Still, they have made no arrests.

Police plan to show a CrimeStoppers video — with pictures of the crime scene and a description of the killer's behavior — not only on television but in more than 90 prisons across the state.

"I've got a daughter myself, and I wouldn't want nothing like that to happen to her," inmate Charles Wilson, a non-violent offender at the Hutchins Unit, told Dallas television station WFAA.

The killer could already be behind bars, but the police may not know it.

"Sometimes people commit offenses, will intentionally get themselves arrested at a later date simply to take them out of the general population and, in their mind at least, take them away from the police presence on the outside," said Arlington Sgt. Mark Simpson.

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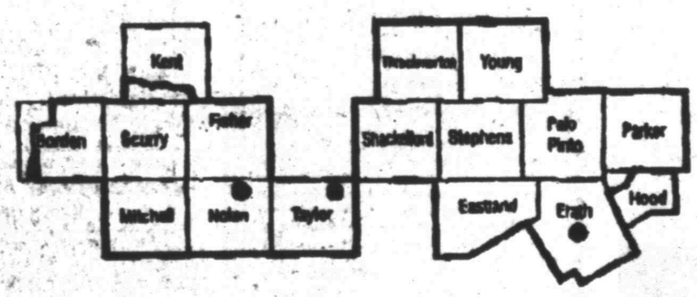
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IN HOME CARE: Is now hiring RN's, LVN's, & CNA's. Companions and sitters. For more information call Laurie McConnell 1-800-551-6451. 8-5 pm.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE - INSTITUTIONAL DIVISION has the following positions available at the Wallace Unit located in Colorado City, Texas:

PLANT MAINTENANCE MANAGER 1 - Boiler, Water & Wastewater Supervisor, annual salary $25,140 plus benefits. Minimum qualifications: Associate degree in engineering or related field with two (2) or more years full-time wage earning experience as a licensed stationary engineer "OR" high school diploma or GED certificate and three (3) years full-time wage earning experience as licensed stationary engineer in an industrial/institution setting, such as a hospital, college, etc. "OR" high school diploma or GED certificate and five (5) years full-time wage earning experience in technical, mechanical, or electrical application in an industrial setting. Must be able to obtain a Class "C" water and wastewater license within a year.

Applicants must submit a State of Texas Application for Employment to TDCJ-ID Facilities Division Personnel, ATTN Terri Hall P.O. Box 4011 Spur 59 off Hwy 75 North, Huntsville, TX 77342-4011 by 5:00 P.M. Monday, January 06, 1997. A complete job description and all application forms may be obtained at the above address or by calling the Facilities Division Personnel Office at (409) 294-6423 or 294-6912.

FOOD SERVICE SALES

Affiliated Foods Inc., is seeking locally established, experienced professional for commission sales in the Big Spring, Snyder, Sweetwater area. Excellent compensation, car and benefit package for an established producer. Send/fax resume and salary history to:

AFFILIATED FOODS INC.
PERSONNEL/KAY KROPFF
POB 30300
AMARILLO, TX 79120

Registered Nurses
Pool Your Talents With Us!

Hendrick Medical Center is seeking experienced RNs for Resource Pool positions in the following areas:

Operating Room
Medical Telemetry
Medical/Surgical

Qualifications
- TX RN license
- 3-4 years recent OR, Med Surg or Medical Telemetry experience
- Able to work two 12-hour shifts per week

Benefits:
- $28/hr. + $3.50/hr shift & weekend differential
- Housing & Mileage reimbursement available

Qualified candidates, please call or fax resume to:

HENDRICK MEDICAL CENTER
ATTN: Pam Eason, Human Resources
1242 North 19th Street
Abilene, Texas 79601
(915) 670-3181
(800) 933-2289
FAX (915) 670-4417

Equal Opportunity Employer
- Smoke-Free & Drug Free Environment

MEDICAL SECRETARY NEEDED for Snyder Office. Good typing and [illegible]. Medical Terminology helpful. Contact: Mediplex Home Health, 4200 College Ave. 573-0181

NEED OILFIELD HAND: Must have CDL Class A License. Apply at Leamco on Roby Hwy.

PRISON HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR Supervises the administration and operations of a hospital-based medical clinic located at the TDJC Price Daniel Unit. The successful candidate will have demonstrated healthcare experience; a Baccalaureate degree, and at least two years of management or supervisory experience. Previous PHSA and/or TDCJ experience a plus. Highly developed communication, interpersonal and motivational skills required. Combinations of experience and/or education may be accepted in lieu of stated requirements. Must be willing to relocate. EOE. Send resume's to Barbara Parker, in Human Resources, Cogdell Memorial Hospital, 1700 Cogdell Blvd., Snyder, Tx 79549 915-574-7282 or fax 915-573-9667.

TDMHMR-MENTAL RETARDATION AIDE: Provides training and supervision for people with mental retardation. Will office in Snyder, Texas. Certified Nurse Aides urged to apply:
Human Resource Services
West Texas State Operated Community Services
501 Birdwell Lane, Suite 25-A, Big Spring, TX 79720
Tobacco & Drug Free Workplace
(915) 263-9762 or 263-9731. EOE.

The Scurry County Farm Service Agency (FSA) Office will be accepting applications for temporary employment from 12-20-96 thru 12-31-96. Employee will be responsible for application of assigned farm programs related to Scurry County. Basic computer & office skills required. Agricultural background helpful. Must be able to work with the public. Some travel required. Applications can be picked up at 5309 Big Spring Hwy. EEO EMPLOYER.

$$$$$TOP PAY$$$$$ Truck Drivers Needed for Oil Field Jobs. Must be able to travel. No need to relocate. Must have Class A CDL, clear driving record & 2 years truck driving experience. Call 1-800-588-2669 Monday-Friday 8a.m.-5p.m.

Night clerk for Sat/Sun/Mon 11:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m. Non-smoker. Needs phone. Apply at Purple Sage Motel.

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180 INSTRUCTIONS

ACT TRUCK DRIVER TRAINING
JTPA/VA APPROVED
1-800-282-8658
273 CR 287 Merkel, TX 79536.

210 WOMAN'S COLUMN

Babysitter needed for infant. References. 3 days per week. Send resume to P.O. Box 949 J.

Babysitter needed for infant. References. 8:00-5:30 Mon-Fri. 573-3204 after 5:30.

MARY KAY COSMETICS. For a complimentary facial and reorders call Geraldine Thames, 915-573-9433, 1808 38th St. Snyder, Tx.

PAT'S HOME SEWING
ALTERATIONS & other SEWING
6 YRS. EXPERIENCE w/ established business. 710 30th Street. 573-3810.

PATSY'S NAIL SALON: Manicures, Pedicures, Overlays & Gift Certificates. Monday-Saturday by Appointments Only. 573-5549. 1550 North College Ave.

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You \ extras," particularly the old and unusual, may indeed be valuable to them. Call us today to place a garage sale listing. You'll be collecting cash on the miscellaneous odds and ends!
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260 MERCHANDISE

16" Husky Chain Saw, new motor, w/extras. 6-String Acoustic Guitar w/case. Full set Golf Clubs, bag, pull cart. 915-728-3039.

2 dinettes-1 glass top table $45/$55. Dark wood dresser-6 drawers/mirror $75. Jenny Lind babybed/mattress/bedding $85. 573-5525 or 573-0502.

Chrome bed rails for pickup, good condition. $50 OBO. 1½ ton Hydraulic floor jack, $20. 573-6657.

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, Etc. Sales & Rentals
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Used Microwave Convection Oven. Exercycle-motorized machine. Boys trick bicycle-like new. Call 573-9051.

PRIMESTAR X-MAS SPECIAL!!
December 16 through December 31 Call Cooper Appliance for the best deal on Primestar-573-6269-Merry Christmas!

RENT TO OWN: TV/VCR combination, refrigerator/freezer, VCR etc. RCA 18" satalitte sales/ service, installments, 100% finance. STRICKLAND TV 2413 College Ave 573-6942 or 573-6956

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METAL DECTECTORS BY WHITES ELECTRONICS. 915-728-2494 Colorado City.

290 DOGS, PETS, ETC.

¼ Aussie ¼ Blue Heeler puppies for sale. Ready to go $50 each. Call 573-9534.

ALL BREEDS GROOMING. Boarding, Collars, Leashes, Harnesses. Hill's Science Diet Dog Food. Scurry County Vet Clinic. 573-1717.

FOR SALE: 3 female full-blood Boxer puppies, 6 weeks old, fawn/ white. 573-5513.

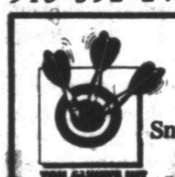
FOR SALE: 3 female Pomeranian puppies. Will be 40 days old Christmas day. 573-6839.

PUPPIES TO BE GIVEN AWAY: Just in time for Christmas. Call 573-6154 after 5:00.

TO GIVE AWAY: Border Collie puppy, female, 7 weeks old. Very Smart. 573-5525 or 573-0502.

FOR SALE: 2 YR. OLD LOVEABLE AKC CHIHUAHUA. 573-3970.

FOR SALE: AKC Scottish Terrier, 8 week old male. 915-392-2471.



Call
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Snyder Daily News
Classified Ads

315 WANT TO BUY

WANT TO BUY: POOL TABLE, IN GOOD CONDITION. ALSO GOOD USED PIANO. CALL 573-0737.

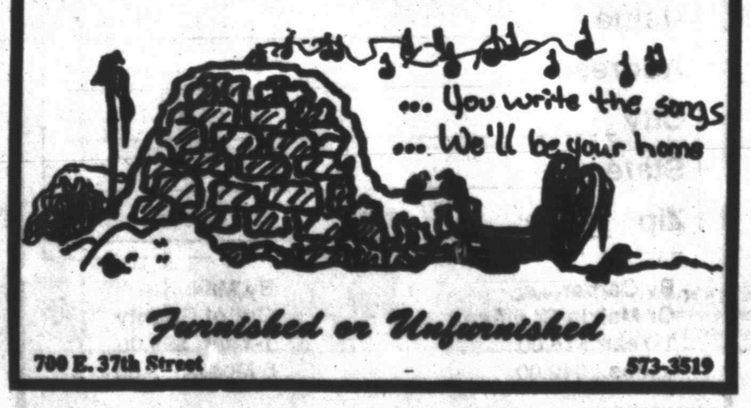
320 RENT OR LEASE

KEY MOBILE HOME PARK on West 37th St. Large Lots. Now Locally Owned. 573-2149.

325 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

KINGSWOOD & EASTRIDGE APARTMENTS
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Snyder, Texas
915- 573-5261
- One Bedroom From $240
- Two Bedroom From $286
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Considering a moo-oo-oo-oove to greener pastures?
Come By
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3901 Ave. O or Call 573-1488
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ASK ABOUT OUR SPECIALS!

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ARE YOU TIRED OF THE ELEPHANT WALK UPSTAIRS?
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1 bedroom furnished apartment. Deposit required. No utilities paid. Call 573-9047.

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Large 1 bedroom Apartment w/all bills paid. Furnished/Unfurnished. $250 move in.
Also 2 bedroom. 573-5525 or 573-0502.

SMALL 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT. 2812 AVE. W. 573-0382.

Small furnished Apartment. All bills paid. $250/mo. $150/dep. 573-2942 after 6:00-leave message.

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

330 HOUSES FOR RENT

2 bedroom 1 bath for rent. $275/mo. $100/dep. Available January 10th. 324 29th. 573-6703 after 5 p.m.

2 BEDROOM house for rent. References required. 573-9047.

3-1-1 CH/A w/fenced yard & new carpet. 3410 Ave V. $395. Available January 1st. 573-0712 after 5:00.

COUNTRY 2 BEDROOM HOUSE. CITY WATER & CABLE. 573-2919.

COUNTRY HOME: 3-1-2 plus carport, utility room. $300/mo. $275/deposit. Rent 1 year or lease to own. 573-3147.

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3-1 CH/A. $350/mo. $100/dep. References required. 3105 40th St. 573-1640.

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2 & 3 BEDROOM Mobile Home for rent starting at $275. 573-1711.

340 MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

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360 REAL ESTATE

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Nice Office Buildings
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Colonial Hill Bldg Lot $12T
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2704 47th 2-story $87.5T
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3710 Austin 4-2 $35T
4111 Eastridge 3-2-2 $37T
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4102 College
573-5612 or 573-1755

2309 42nd 3-2-1 shop $44.9T
3750 Sunset 3-1½-2 CH/A Fpl
Outside City 3-2-2cp. $80T
Towle Park Lg. 3-2-2 $89.5T
2210 Sunset 2-1 CH/A $27.5T
New List Excl. Country 23A
Creek Lg. 3-2 super nice $145T
3001 34th 3-2 $59.9T
2808 Ave. T 3-2-2 Bsmnt. $65T
15A House, Ponds, Barns
Lmsa.Hwy House Lg.Shp $35T
4008 Jacksboro 3-2-2 $53.5T
2212 43rd 3-1 $39.9T
2217 Sunset 3-1-1 Red. $31.5T
2 Houses outside Snyder $65T
4514 Galveston 3-2½-2 $100T
Colonial Hill 3-2-2 $89.5T
Com.Bldg Lmsa Hwy $27.5T
2304 30th 3-1 $30T
1904 Ave. M 2-1-1 $25T
2903 36th 3-3-2 loft $89T
Country 3-2-2cp Red. $58T
3118 Ave.T 2-1-1 $18.5T
200 35th $28.5T
Lmsa.Hwy 3 ComBldg $49.5T
Bill Dryden 573-9739
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32nd St. Historic home.
Lovely 4 bd. homes, $100T+.
160 Acres with nice home.
4502 Galveston 3-2-2 $80's.
4300 Ave. U 3-2-2 Red. $50's.
208 38th 3-1-½A. $30's
Priced in $30's-2212 43rd, 21633rd, 3214 40th, 2701 Ave. U, 2807 Ave. X, 2213 42nd, 2113 42nd, 3781 Dalton, 311 36th, 3724 Rose Circle.
Priced in $40's-3750 Sunset, 2309 42nd, E. 23rd, 1407 Scurry, 3604 Ave. B.
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Bargain Buy 3-2-2 $20T.
Dolores Jones 573-5308
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Wenona Evans 573-8165
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CITY REAL ESTATE
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- 2 Large Comm. Bldg. w/Office and Land.
- 3-2 w/15 Acres
- Choice Lots and Ac. with or without houses.

Clarence Payne
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#1 CHEAP HOUSE, small mo. payments
#2 WIDE 42nd 2 bedroom $36.5
#3 RENT OR SALE 3111 38th Pl.
#4 SECTION of land & 1/2 Section
#5 REASONABLE BUY on 1204 21st
Roswell Rigsby Real Estate
573-7682

3700 Muriel 3704 Nobel
$11,900 each or both $22,000. Cash only. Will trade for cars. Call 573-9001.

FOR SALE: 2-1-1 fenced back yard w/storm cellar & trees. $18,000. 573-8029.



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That's right! Buy a classified Want Ad (20 words or less) for 8 consecutive days, and we'll give you the same ad for 4 days FREE! Buy 8 days get 4 days FREE. Ads must be paid for in advance, no exceptions. 20 words or less. Non-refundable. Ad must start by Dec. 23.

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Lockheed and 'McDonnell' to compete for rocket contract

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Air Force named Lockheed Martin Corp. and McDonnell Douglas Corp. on Friday as the finalists for a $1.4 billion contract to build the nation's next generation of military rockets.

The all-purpose rocket program, dubbed the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle, will eventually replace the entire line of medium- and heavy-lift military launch systems — the Delta, Atlas and Titan systems.

In their place would come a single, modular system that could be used in different combinations to carry satellites into low, medium or high orbits at 25 percent to 50 percent less cost than current launchers. EELV would also serve missions for NASA and commercial users as well as the military.

Air Force Secretary Sheila Widnall called the announcement "the next significant step toward low-cost, reliable access to space for the nation, not just for the Department of Defense."

The announcement is a victory for Denver, home of Lockheed Martin's main rocket plant, and for Huntington Beach, Calif., where McDonnell Douglas assembles its launchers. Left out of the running were two other competitors, Boeing Co. of Seattle, which has announced plans to buy McDonnell Douglas, and Alliant Techsystems Inc. of Minneapolis.

"America needs this program for economic and commercial reasons as well as for defense," Widnall said.

The decision appears to reflect a desire to stick with proven builders of past rocket launchers. Lockheed builds the Atlas and Titan launchers; McDonnell builds the Delta rocket line.



TOYS DONATED — Girls Scouts, who are collecting toys for the annual Toys for Tots campaign, received a boost Thursday when Leo Whitely, Burger King manager, far right, standing, presented three boxes of toys donated by customers, in exchange for a free Whopper meal. Girl Scouts shown are from left, back row, Tamara Maresch, Angie Reynolds, Alicia Martin, Marisa Huffman; front row, Rebecca Pavlovsky, Tressie Martin, Kerissa Simmons. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Simpson granted full custody of Sydney, 11, and Justin, 8

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — O.J. Simpson says his children are at last where they want to be, where they should be and where their mother would want them to be.

Grandparents Louis and Juditha Brown say Sydney, 11, and Justin, 8, may be in harm's way with their father.

An Orange County judge on Friday gave Simpson full custody of the two children he temporarily handed over to the Browns while he successfully fought charges he killed their mother, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman on June 12, 1994.

Judge Nancy Wieben Stock found the Browns, who had battled Simpson for custody, failed to show Simpson "would be clearly detrimental to their well-being." Rather, the judge suggested, the children could flourish with Simpson.

"The children share a relationship with their father that appears to be strong, positive, and healthy, with powerful psychological bonding," she said in her ruling.

Simpson reacted with joy. "I know 100 percent that Nicole wanted the children to be with me," he told The Associated Press.

Ms. Simpson's parents said they feared for their grandchildren in what the Browns described as a violent home.

"We love Sydney and Justin and pray for their safety and well-being as they return to their father," the grandparents said in a statement. Their attorney said the Browns may appeal.

The custody decision temporarily overshadowed the wrongful death trial against Simpson. Friday, which once promised riveting testimony by Simpson, ended with technical testimony by a photo witness and a forensic toxicologist.

The trial will resume Jan. 6 after a two-week holiday break.

Simpson's photo authenticity expert, Robert Groden, was denounced in court by the plaintiffs as a conspiracy buff and high school dropout unqualified to analyze, much less debunk, an evidence photo.

Groden told jurors that a photograph — of Simpson wearing the same kind of rare Italian shoes as those that left bloody shoe prints at the killing scene — was a fake.

Later, Fredric Rieders, founder of National Medical Services laboratory in Willow Grove, Pa., testified that EDTA, a chemical used by laboratories to preserve blood samples, was detected on some blood samples, including a sock found in Simpson's bedroom and the back gate at Ms. Simpson's condo.

The testimony was elicited to suggest that the blood had been planted by police after being obtained from a test tube sample of Simpson's blood.

The defense tried to arrange the witness schedule so Simpson himself would return to the stand and have the last word before the break, but scheduling problems and time constraints made that impossible.

At his estate, Simpson celebrated the custody decision with relatives and a few friends. A red-and-gold trimmed tree surrounded by presents awaited the children, although it was uncertain when they would return to the mansion.

"I'm personally happy and happy for my family. It's probably the best Christmas present anyone could hope to have and in the long run it's going to be the best thing for everyone," Simpson told the AP.

Appeals Court upholds $1 million jury award

HOUSTON (AP) — A state appellate court has upheld a jury award of $1.01 million in punitive damages against two anti-abortion groups for disruptive protests during the 1992 Republican National Convention.

The decision Thursday by the 14th Court of Appeals came on an appeal by Operation Rescue, Rescue America and two anti-abortion activists of the 1994 jury award to Planned Parenthood of Houston and Southeast Texas.

"The evidence of appellants' conduct in this case, such as firebombing ... and death threats, is so egregious as to be highly offensive and repugnant to law-abiding citizens," the majority opinion signed by Justice Ross A. Sears said.

The three-judge panel also upheld a permanent injunction for buffer zones at the Houston-area abortion clinics and doctors' homes.

But in a dissenting opinion, Justice Maurice Amidei said the permanent injunction was constitutionally overbroad and that he would have reversed the award by a Houston jury, sending it back to the lower court.

"This judgment does not include damages for personal injuries, and seems excessive for what was involved," Amidei wrote.

Planned Parenthood spokeswoman Susan Nenney noted that her group had already seized several thousand dollars in assets last year from Dallas-based Operation Rescue toward the court judgment.

"One of the important things about the affirmation is that it affirms our right to continue to pursue their assets, which we will do with all vigor," Ms. Nenney said Friday.

Flip Benham, director of Operation Rescue, was not surprised at the court's decision but said it would be appealed.

"We win in the streets, we always lose in the courtroom," said Benham, contending that the number of abortions, as well as support for abortion, has dropped. "We're just going to keep coming at them until it stops, the killing is going to stop."

Jurors ordered Operation Rescue to pay $350,000 in punitive damages; Rescue America $355,000; Rescue America leader Don Treshman $155,000; and the Rev. Keith Tucci, an Operation Rescue leader, $150,000.

Treshman, whose home phone number in Baltimore is unpublished, could not be reached for comment.

However, Richard Schmude, counsel for Treshman and Rescue America, said he would petition for a rehearing, but expected he would ultimately have to appeal to the Texas Supreme Court.

"I am very disappointed at the court," he said. "We did not get justice. We will get justice in this case."

The jury award also gave Planned Parenthood $204,585 in actual damages for such costs as security, fences, vandalism and lost business.

Actual damages cover financial loss; punitive damages punish and deter wrongdoing.

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
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010 LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 31, 1997, TCA Cable TV will make the following changes to the cable channel line up:
TV Land will be added to the Standard service on cable channel #25. E! Entertainment TV, currently on cable channel #25 will no longer be available as part of the cable service. Inquires regarding these changes can be made by contacting TCA Cable TV at 573-3536.

PUBLIC NOTICE
BID 96-384
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The Southwest Colligate Institute for the Deaf of Howard County Junior College District is now accepting bids for the following:

NEW DORMITORIES

Specifications may be obtained from DSA, Inc.,P.O. Box 702, Cleburne, TX 76033, 817-645-8864. Bids should be sent to Terry Hansen, Vice-President for Administrative Systems, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, 915-264-5175. Sealed bids will be accepted through 2:00 p.m. on January 28, 1997 at which time they will be opened in the Tumbleweed Room of the Dora Roberts Student Center and read aloud. The Bids will then be tabulated and final determination of bid award will be made at a future Board meeting.

Technical questions should be directed to J. Phillip Furqueron, Architect, 500 Johnson Street, Big Spring, TX 79720, 915-267-3794. Bidding questions directed to Terry Hansen, Vice-President for Administrative Systems, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, 915-264-5175. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

REQUEST FOR BIDS
ON TEXAS HIGHWAY
CONSTRUCTION
Sealed proposals for 388.22 km of thermoplastic pavement markings at various locations covered by C 908-00-37 in Taylor County, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 p.m., January 7, 1997, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the letting official, by the specified deadline regardless of the method choosen by the bidder for delivery.
Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Lauren Garduno, P.E., Abilene, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Constructoon and Maintenance Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder. The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will insure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award. Usual rights reserved.
08-D-125 08-76-0908-00-037

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
OF PROPOSED BUILDING MAINTENANCE WORK FOR THE
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Sealed proposals for: **Partial Repainting**
Snyder Maintenance and Engineering Building
Scurry County

will be received by the **Abilene District Office** of the **Texas Department of Transportation** located at:

4250 N. Clack, Abilene, Texas

until **2:00 P.M., Thursday, January 16, 1997**

then publicly opened and read.

There will not be a formal Pre-Bid Meeting for this project. All prospective bidders are strongly advised to visit the site of the proposed work at the Texas Department of Transportation, 111 N. Ave. V, (US 84 south access road), Snyder, Texas (telephone 915-573-0142) and apprise themselves of all conditions pertaining to the proposed work.

Bidding documents, including proposal/agreement form and specifications, will be available at:
Texas Department of Transportation
4250 N. Clack
P.O. Box 150
Abilene, Texas 79604
(915) 676-6859

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SECURE
A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
TO CONSTRUCT ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE

MIDWEST ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (the "Utility") hereby gives notice that it intends to secure a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity from the Public Utility Commission of Texas to construct a 69,000 volt transmission line (the "Transmission Line") in Scurry County, Texas. Persons with questions about this project should contact: Vesta Orr or Jimmy Kiker at (915) 776-2244 or Jerry Scrivner at (915) 573-3161. Persons who wish to intervene in the proceeding or comment upon action sought, should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas at P. O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the Public Utility Commission's Office of Consumer Affairs at (512) 936-7120. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the commission at (512) 936-7136. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is February 18, 1997, and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the commission by that date.

The Transmission Line is designed to operate at 69,000 volts and be supported by unguyed concrete poles on single-pole structures. The estimated cost associated with the project is $799,285 for substation and transmission facilities. The location of the Transmission Line as proposed by the Utility, is as follows: the Transmission Line originates at the proposed SN TX Substation site within the SN TX Park I approximately 1.3 miles northeast of the intersection of US Highways 84 and 180 east of Snyder. The proposed substation is located in the NW/4 of Section 75, Block 3, H&GN RR. Co., Scurry County, Texas. From this point of beginning, the Transmission Line will exit the substation generally south-southeast for a distance less than two hundred feet, then turn east for approximately one-tenth mile. From this point, the Transmission Line will turn ninety degrees and proceed north approximately one-half mile before crossing County Road 132 approximately 1.4 miles east of it's intersection with US Highway 84. Prior to crossing County Road 132, the entire facility is within SN TX Park I. After crossing County Road 132, the Transmission Line will turn ninety degrees and proceed west along the north side of County Road 132 for a distance of approximately one-quarter mile. From this point, the Transmission Line will turn ninety degrees and again proceed north approximately one-half mile, then will turn ninety degrees to again proceed west approximately one-quarter mile. From this point, the Transmission Line will turn ninety degrees and again proceed north approximately one-half mile to connect with the existing transmission line that parallels the south side of FM 1673. The location of this intersection with existing facilities will be approximately two miles east of Avenue E in Snyder.

An alternate route for the Transmission Line has also been identified. The location of the alternate route for the Transmission Line is the same as the above route to the point just north of County Road 132 approximately 1.4 miles east of it's intersection with US Highway 84. After crossing County Road 132, the alternate route would turn ninety degrees and proceed east along the north side of County Road 132 for a distance of approximately one-half mile. From this point, the alternate route would turn ninety degrees and proceed north along the west side of County Road 141 approximately one mile to connect with the existing transmission line that parallels the south side of FM 1673. The location of this intersection with existing facilities would be approximately three miles east of Avenue E in Snyder.

A map illustrating the location of the Transmission Line and alternate route may be reviewed at Midwest Electric Cooperative, Inc. headquarters: 1010 W. South 1st Street, Roby, Texas or at the Midwest Electric Cooperative, Inc. branch office: 2100 College Ave., Snyder, Texas. A copy of the map illustrating the location of the Transmission Line and alternate route may be obtained at Midwest Electric Cooperative, Inc. headquarters: 1010 W. South 1st Street, Roby, Texas 79543.

Feeling great about The Snyder Daily News Classifieds

Card Of Thanks

Thank You

We wish to thank each and every one for the food, cards, visits, beautiful floral offerings and contributions made in memory of Henry Wenetschlaeger. Words can not express our deep appreciation to friends and neighbors for the love and concern you showed us during our time of need. May God's richest blessings be yours.

Opal, James, Joni,
Bryan, Brandin, Stephanie,
Brandy, Timothy and Zachary

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Going home for the holidays

Proves vexing for Mexican Americans

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Thousands of Mexican Americans who are returning to their homeland for the holidays are fighting delays because of red tape and confusion at Mexican customs checkpoints.

When Juan Ruiz drove to Mexico at Thanksgiving, he waited in line in the rain for what seemed like hours before, cold and angry, he paid a bribe and was on his way.

"It's not the way to treat people who send millions of dollars into Mexico every year," said Ruiz, a San Antonio businessman and rancher who travels to Coahuila.

For many, returning home in cars bearing U.S. license plates mean a confusing, time-consuming ordeal for Mexican countrymen, or paisanos, especially around Christmas.

"The bridge is bumper to bumper for car permits, much more than last year," Olivia Bravo, owner of Sanborn's Insurance in Laredo, told the San Antonio Expres-News for its Saturday editions.

Since Thanksgiving, about 2,000 people have inquired with the Mexican consulate in San Antonio about entering Mexico in a vehicle.

"Ignorance is the worst thing that happens to paisanos in Mexico," said Julio Bastarrachea, spokesman for the Mexican consulate in San Antonio.

"It's not knowing what they are allowed to do and not allowed to do, what documents, everything," Bastarrachea said.

Ignorance makes motorists easy prey to extortion by a border official who will invent a requirement or overlook discrepancies for a mordida, or bribe.

This year, Mexico's government has stepped up its "Programa Paisano" to thwart corruption and ease the hassle. Ads have been running on the Spanish-language television networks Univision and Telemundo to educate the public on travel to Mexico.

Agents from Mexico's comptroller's office, wearing green shirts, have been posted at immigration offices along the 2,000-mile border to discourage bribes and take complaints.

In addition, motorists can join a caravan with a police escort for the 150-mile drive from Nuevo Laredo to Monterrey.

Was toddler framed for murder in 1971?

ATLANTA (AP) — Tracy Rhame had always been told she was a killer, that she caused the death of her 4-month-old brother by throwing him from his crib when she was only 2.

But her intuition told her otherwise, and she pressed for answers about the 1971 case. Now, 25 years later, her stepfather has been indicted on charges of killing the baby and framing her.

Jan Barry Sandlin, 46, was charged Thursday with murder, aggravated assault and cruelty to children and will be extradited from Florida, where he is in prison for armed robbery, prosecutor Lee Anne Mangone said.

"You're telling me I'm being charged with murder?" Sandlin said in a telephone interview from prison. "I'm a little dumbfounded. I can't even start to imagine where this came from. As far as the child dying, that's true. As far as me having anything to do with it, no."

Ms. Mangone, the head of the DeKalb County district attorney's Crimes Against Children unit, said Mrs. Rhame, now married and living in Savannah, had been told that she had tossed 4-month-old Matthew Golder from his crib, and the coroner at the time pronounced the death an accident.

There is no listing for Mrs. Rhame in Savannah, and Ms. Mangone said the woman didn't want to talk to a reporter. But the prosecutor gave this account:

"All her life she was told she was responsible for her brother's death. When she asked questions, she didn't get a lot of details. Tracy just wasn't comfortable with that," Ms. Mangone said. "This really is a lifelong quest for her."

She asked police for details of her brother's death when she was 17. Police gave her a report and told her it had been ruled an accident. She was told there was nothing more that could be done.

Over the next several years, Mrs. Rhame, who had joined the Army and was stationed in South Korea, constantly analyzed the few details she had. "She knew all of her life she couldn't have done that. When she got back she ... was committed to finding out what happened," Ms. Mangone said.

With the help of a family friend who worked for the FBI, Mrs. Rhame contacted various authorities and was directed to the DeKalb County medical examiner in 1995. Mrs. Rhame asked for the autopsy records and none were found.

That got the attention of Medical Examiner Joe Burton, who reviewed hospital records and determined that the baby's injuries were inconsistent with a fall from a crib.

"In 1971, the county had an elected coroner who really wasn't qualified to make the determination of cause of death. There was no examination, no autopsy and no interviews," Burton said on Friday.

The medical records indicated the baby died from multiple blows to the head, he said.

Sandlin, the children and their mother, Kathy Almon, were living in an apartment in suburban Decatur in 1971 when the baby died. Sandlin said he and Ms. Almon married after Matthew's death and divorced in 1979.

Assault calls lead to arrests

Reports of family disturbances resulted in two arrests Friday in Snyder.

Following a report at 1:34 p.m. of an altercation involving a mother and daughter, officers arrested a 36-year-old female for Class A assault. An offense report for family violence was also submitted.

A disturbance call reported at 9:58 p.m. resulted in the arrest of a 19-year-old male on Class C assault charges. An offense report for family violence was also submitted. The man was taken to Cogdell Hospital for evaluation of injuries received from the incident. He was treated at the emergency room and then booked into jail.

In other activity Friday, Elida Rodriguez requested an officer in reference to her vehicle being damaged while parked at West Elementary around 5 p.m. An offense report for Class B criminal mischief was submitted.

A report of possible prowlers was made at 7:55 p.m. from the 2800 block of Avenue F.

A report of a gas drive-off from Snyder One-Stop was made at 10:09 p.m. in reference to someone not paying for $10.47 worth of gas.

In activity early Saturday morning, an officer was requested in the 100 block of Ash at 12:27 in reference to an assault. An offense report for Class A assault was submitted and criminal trespass warnings were issued.

A gas drive-off from Allsup's in Hermleigh was reported at 6:34 Saturday morning in reference to someone not paying for $7 worth of gas.

Births

Tim and Stacy Derryberry announce the birth of their son, Kutter Zane. Weighing eight pounds, two ounces, he was born in Lubbock Methodist Hospital on Dec. 14, and was welcomed by a sister, Jordan.

Grandparents are Alvin and Glenda Botts, and Danny and Cherrian Derryberry, all of Snyder.

What's Up?

Calvary Baptist Church

Calvary Baptist Church choir will present "Near to the Heart of God," a Christmas musical, during the Sunday service at 10:50 a.m. The 6 p.m. service will feature the youth presenting the Christmas play, "I Wonder About Christmas." The public is invited to all services.

'Wise Men in Bethlehem'

The youth at The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints will present "The Wise Men Arrive in Bethlehem" at 6 p.m. Sunday. The public is invited.

'Tree of Light' to air

The First Baptist Church presentation of "Tree of Light" will air at 5:30 p.m. Monday on Channel 2.

Key to Kingdom series

The Key to the Kingdom series continues on TCA Cable TV Channel 2. The next tape, "I Can't Possibly Obey That," will air at 7 p.m. Monday.

Mass schedule changed

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church will not have Christmas Day Mass beginning at midnight this year. Instead, Mass on Christmas Eve will begin at 10 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day will begin at 10:30 a.m.

St. John Catholic Church in Hermleigh will have Christmas Eve Mass at 7 p.m.

Volleyball fund-raiser

Snyder's Lady Tigers volleyball team is holding its annual fund-raiser. The team is offering a Win Win Discount Card, good for savings at 15 local businesses. The cards are $5 each and good for one year. For information, call Patty Grimmett at 573-6301 or 573-9416.

Angel Tree ministry

Angel Tree is a volunteer ministry of Prison Fellowship that provides Christmas gifts for children of prison inmates. The ministry needs families, churches, Sunday School classes or other organizations to help in purchasing these gifts. Any group that can help provide a Christmas gift for some children in Snyder whose parent is in prison is asked to call a Colorado City number, 728-5829, after 5 p.m.

Boys & Girls holiday events

Scurry County Boys & Girls Club will hold events during the school holidays, including a free throw contest, spot shot and layup contests. Students should sign-up for each contest. The club will be open daily from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Tournaments will be held in the gameroom in ping pong, pool, air hockey and bumper pool as well.

Pick 3

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

8-0-1

(eight, zero, one)

Cash 5

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 4-7-12-13-38.
Estimated jackpot: $103,250.
Number matching five of five: 2.
Matching four of five: 583. Prize: $531.
Matching three of five: 20,680. Prize: $25.
Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.

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Santa's slap sets stage for dispute

PLAISTOW, N.H. (AP) — Jolly old St. Nicholas is accused of slapping a 7-year-old Cub Scout who yanked off his costume beard, but some community members are rallying around the retired electrician who plays Santa.

"I am a friend of Santa and his wife and I am devastated," said scout leader Margot Collins.

Roy Keiser was entertaining a group of Cub Scouts when they began accusing him of being a fake, and one scout gave his beard a tug, said Collins.

The beard was glued to his face, and some skin came off, so he allegedly struck the child.

The boy's father asked police to file an assault charge.

"We had to tell him that wasn't the real Santa," Kenneth R. Provencher said. "The real Santa wouldn't have done that."

Police were moving cautiously; no charges had been filed by Friday.

Town Selectwoman Merilyn Senter, an old friend of Keiser's, said she probably would have slapped the boy, too.

"I just don't understand how these kids were allowed to yank at him. I question, where was the discipline?" Senter said.

The 65-year-old Keiser is well known in the Merrimack Valley, having served as St. Nick in nearby Merrimac, Mass., for 20 years.



CHRISTMAS BOWS — Snyder Day Care was the recipient of two boxes of Hallmark bows which will be used to decorate children's presents. Kim Fritz, left, assistant director, accepted. Playing Santa Claus was Jimmy Apel who represented Big Country Resource Conservation and Development. Also shown is Terry Hefner, local soil conservationist. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Bows donated to Snyder Day Care

Some two boxes of Hallmark bows were donated to Snyder Day Care this week. According to Kim Fritz, assistant director, the bows will decorate the children's Christmas presents.

Jimmy Apel, representing Big Country Resource Conservation and Development, made the presentation, along with Terry Hefner, local soil conservationist.

The bows were from Gifts In Kind America which distributes millions of donated products each year.

Apel's agency coordinates the donations for this area. Recipients pay only a nominal fee which often covers transportation costs.

Through this program, the agency has donated computer software to churches and schools and a color dot matrix printer to the hospital in Fisher County.

In the past, Snyder Day Care has received bibs and books through this same program.

Man sentenced

LUBBOCK (AP) — A West Texas businessman was sentenced Friday to 15 months in federal prison for failing to report to the Internal Revenue Service money he embezzled from a business once owned by a former Lubbock mayor.

ABC loses lawsuit brought by Food Lion; damages studied

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — In a case that put hidden-camera journalism on trial, Food Lion won a lawsuit against ABC that charged the company with fraud for sending reporters undercover as grocery store employees for a "PrimeTime Live" expose.

The jury, which ruled Friday, was told to return on Dec. 30 to decide whether to award Food Lion damages.

The ruling was the second setback for the network in court this week. In Miami on Wednesday, a savings and loan executive who claimed "20/20" portrayed him as a crook won $10 million in a libel suit against ABC.

The Food Lion lawsuit opened up a new legal attack against the media, because the Salisbury-based supermarket chain passed on a difficult-to-win libel suit and instead sued for fraud.

"What this means is that people will bypass bringing libel action and settle for other tort theories," said David Hudson, an attorney with the First Amendment Center in Nashville, Tenn.

The case was closely watched by news organizations to see if journalists can pose as employees of a business to get in the door.

"It's an important decision because some type of deceptive reporting goes on all the time. That's how news is broken," Hudson said.

The jury found that the network and four news producers committed fraud and trespass to get a story about allegedly unsanitary practices at the supermarket chain.

In a victory for ABC, U.S. District Carlton Tilley said Food Lion cannot seek damages for lost business attributable to the broadcast. However, Food Lion can seek compensatory and punitive damages from events prior to the broadcast.

Food Lion contended the broadcast cost it $1.7 billion to $2.5 billion in lost sales and stock value. It has not said how much it will seek in punitive damages.

"Certainly, we would hope the media would be mindful of this decision and accept it as establishing some appropriate guidelines and limitations," Food Lion attorney Richard Wyatt Jr. said. "I have no idea whether it will actually change investigative reporting."

ABC defended how it reported the story.

"We never engage in undercover activities lightly, but sometimes they are necessary to bring stories of real importance to the public's attention. Our report on Food Lion was such a story," the network said.

The "PrimeTime Live" segment accused Food Lion of selling old food, cheese gnawed by rats and spoiled chicken washed in bleach to kill the odor.

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Ben Miller enjoys ranching, artistic projects

Writes text and draws illustrations for first book about Adolph Bayers

Scurry County Folks

by Shirley A. Gorman

Ben Miller, who lives on a ranch west of Fluvanna, never met Adolph Bayers, renowned bit and spur maker, but he feels as if he knows him quite well.

The rancher and artist recently completed the text and illustrations for "Artistry in Silver and Spur: The Adolph Bayers Legend," the first of five volumes cataloging Bayers' own records of all of the bits and spurs he had made.

Pictures of ranching activities and interviews with area ranchers are also included.

Bayers, who lived on a farm near Gilliland, died in 1978. His shop was located in a building behind his home.

The newly published first volume centers on spurs, numbered from 2-298. A second volume of spurs will also be published. Two volumes will be devoted to bits. The final volume will include the earliest bits and spurs Bayers made before he adopted his numbering system.

Bayers recorded a lifetime of work in a series of spiral notebooks and looseleaf papers, Miller said. After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II, he started recording the bits he made around 1951. Later, he began another volume for spurs.

Later records included a numbering system Bayers created to help him keep track of his work.

The records all followed the same style. The pattern was shown on one page plus specifications and who ordered it was listed on the opposite page.

Miller said brown ink was used in the first volume to preserve the look of the original records as much as possible.

"Artistry In Silver and Spur" is self-published by J. Martin Basinger Companies of Slaton. Before he died, Bayers gave all of his records to Basinger, who is spearheading the project.

Miller, also a friend of Basinger, became involved in March of this year. "I started out sharing a few ideas I had and before I knew it I was doing all the writing," Miller laughed.

He worked steadily from April through September, poring over Bayers' records as he compiled the text. He also photographed as many pairs of spurs and bits as possible.

Miller enjoyed interviewing area ranchers who shared personal stories of Adolph Bayers. Bob Moorhouse, president and general manager of the Pitchfork Ranch, was one of several interviewed.

Area ranchers provided photos for the book and Miller also drew several illustrations.

Gathering material and photos was not nearly as hard work as organizing the first volume was, Miller said.

Though Miller said he does not "consider myself a writer," Basinger praised his work in the opening pages of "Artistry in Silver and Steel."

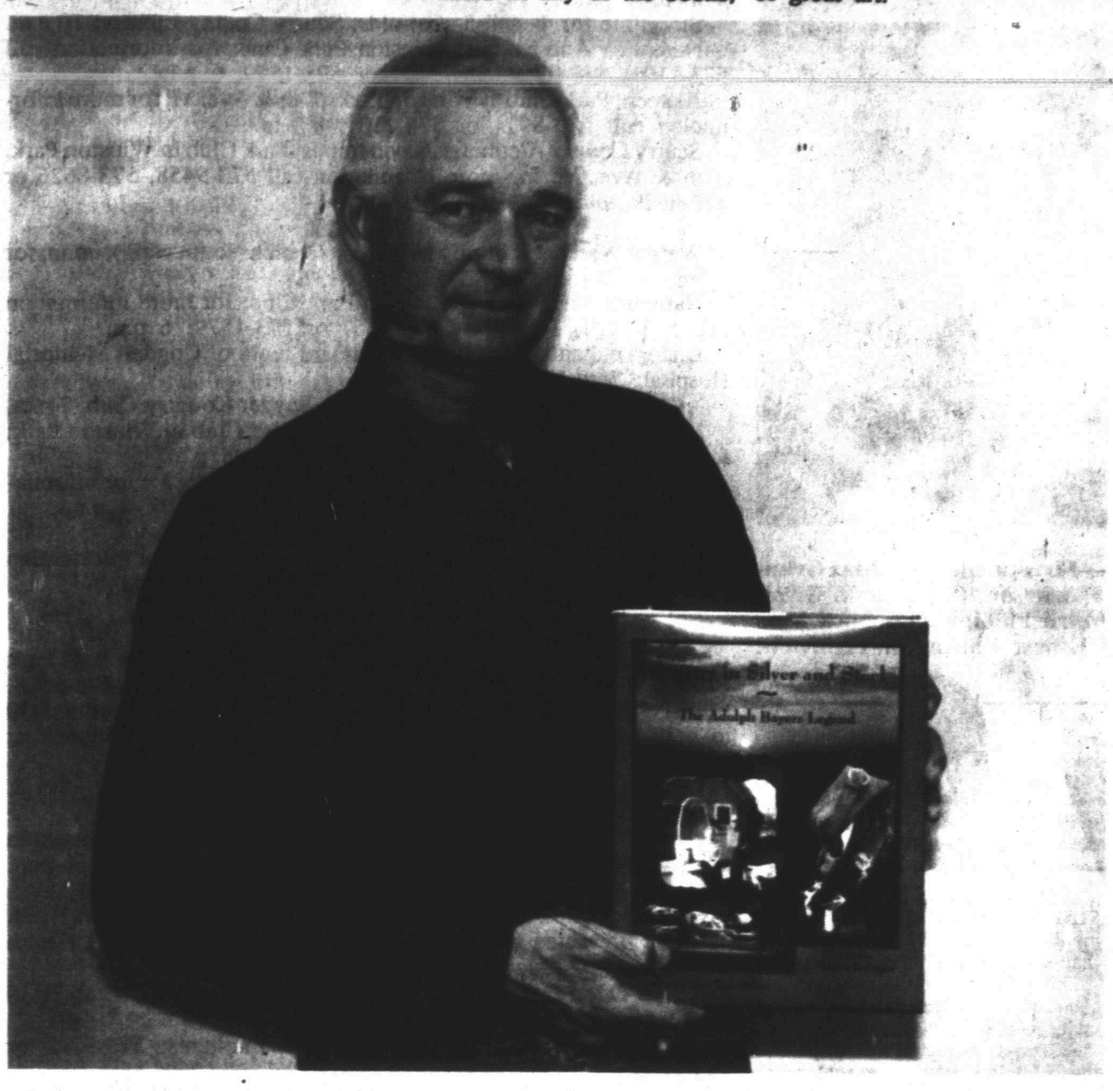
"...Ben has a wonderful literary ability, but even more than that, he has a background and natural feel for the general subject matter of these books..."

Miller said he and Basinger are pleased with the first book. "It is our hope that Bayers will get the recognition he deserves for the great artist he was. In metal, pencil and paper, he was a real genius."

Miller said the book series will help identify the real Bayers' bits and spurs from fake ones. "If it isn't listed in any of the books, then it's not a genuine Bayers," he added.

Miller has a great respect for Bayers' work. When touching one of Bayers' bits or spurs, he said they give him a "warm feeling, just like touching any other piece of great art."

Many area ranchers, including some of Miller's family members who first settled in the area in 1900, ordered bits and spurs from Bayers.



AUTHOR — Ben Miller has written the text and has drawn several illustrations for the first volume in a five volume series on the bits and spurs made by Adolph Bayers. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Though once sold for a fraction of their value today, Miller said Bayers never wanted to charge more for his product because he was afraid cowboys might not be able to afford them.

While Miller's livelihood is ranching, he also has a creative side which is often expressed through painting, drawing and sculpting.

His love of painting dates to early childhood. In fact, he said he cannot remember a time when he did not want to paint or draw. He prefers oil painting.

But drawing is more fun because it comes fairly easily to him. Miller said he has "to work harder at painting."

Through the years, Miller attended workshops by favorite artists such as Fritz White and John Zahorek. "I learned a lot from looking over other artists' shoulders," he added.

"Art comes from life. I know my subject very well because it's what I see every day."

In recent years, his choice of subject matter has been influenced by a safari to Africa.

A few years ago, he used to show his work at various events, including the Western Heritage Classic in Abilene, West of the Pecos Rodeo and Art Show and the Old West Ranch Show in Post.

Miller started sculpting later in life. One Christmas his three boys received modeling clay, but he said he was the one who really enjoyed making things. He's been doing that ever since.

"There is something almost addictive about the feeling of warm clay," Miller said.

He credits Robert Taylor, former resident who created the White Buffalo statue on the square, with being one of his mentors, someone who helped him get started.

See Folks, Page 4B

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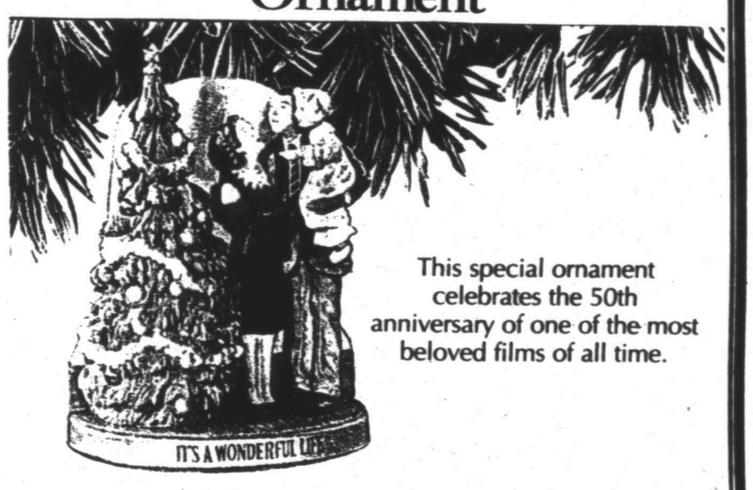


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ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED — Mr. and Mrs. Ray Max Grimmett announce the engagement of their son, Chad Caton Grimmett of Washington, to Catherine Marie Phillips of Lubbock. Miss Phillips is the granddaughter of Ernest Ebeling of Plainview. (Photo by Wadleigh Studio).

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	12-21-96
	♠ A 9 8	
	♥ A 7 6	
	♦ A J 6 5 3	
	♣ 7 4	
West		East
♠ 4 2		♠ 3
♥ K J 3 2		♥ Q 10 9
♦ 10 8 2		♦ K Q 9 7
♣ J 9 8 2		♣ A K Q 10 5
	South	
	♠ K Q J 10 7 6 5	
	♥ 8 5 4	
	♦ 4	
	♣ 6 3	

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: East

South	West	North	East
			1 ♣
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♣ 2

By Phillip Alder

The holiday decorations were up in the bridge club. The tall tree was decked out with numerous lights and candy canes. The Senior Life Master enjoyed this time of year. The club felt warmer, the members smiled more often, he was bought more drinks.

Suddenly a hot toddy was put into his hand.

"Thank you very much," said the SLM. "Sit beside me for a few moments. You remind me of an incident that occurred many Christmases ago."

The SLM passed the young man a sheet of paper. This deal was written on it.

South was Arhair Barber (explained the SLM). Put him in a red coat and he would have passed as Santa Claus, no questions asked. He was playing with the apple pie of his eye, Locretia Ness-Lomond. Relations between them had been more than cordial at the beginning, but then they started to play bridge together. Locretia was a much stronger player. This deal was the last pine needle in a painful session.

In four spades, East took two club tricks, then switched to the heart 10. After winning with dummy's ace, Arhair immediately drew trumps. Yet now he had to lose two heart tricks, so finished one down.

"Nothing I could do," observed Arhair.

In a strained voice, Locretia said, "Play on diamonds immediately, using my trumps as entries. You can establish and cash the diamond jack as your 10th trick."

As they walked out of the card room, Arhair tried to defend himself. It was an error. Locretia finally lost her temper. She pushed Arhair into our tree. It was crushed, and when Arhair stood up, he looked like a green pincushion.

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Community Calendar

MONDAY

Storytime at Scurry County Library will be held for four- and five-year-olds; 1916 23rd Street; 10 a.m.

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

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

Narcotics Anonymous; Winston Park Club; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 6 p.m.

Alateen; Park Club at Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for more information call 573-8971 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for more information call 573-9458, 573-8626 or 573-8929; 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

Weight Watchers; Trinity Methodist Church (south wing); noon; for more information, call 1-800-359-3131.

Narcotics Anonymous; Winston Park Club; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 6 p.m.

Dialogue, cancer support group; board room of Cogdell Memorial Hospital; 7 to 8 p.m.

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

New Horizon Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-1141 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956, 573-2101,573-1141 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

LLL Club; fellowship hall of First Baptist Church; 9:30 a.m.

Al-Anon meeting (smoke free), noon to 1 p.m., brown bag. Park Club in Winston Park. For information call 573-4203 or 573-5525.

TOPS TX56, (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; 2501 35th. For information call Peggy Eubank at 573-6509.

Codependents Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-7358; 7 p.m.

New Horizons Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club Addition in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349 or 573-8626; 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 appointments; 573-9742 or 573-2763.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 573-8929; 8 p.m., open meeting (last Friday of the month is the birthday meeting, pot luck at 7 p.m.).

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349; 10 a.m.

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

Narcotics Anonymous Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 5 p.m.

Beginners Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club at Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 7 p.m.

Senior Center Menu

MONDAY
Chicken Strips
Cream Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Black-eyed Peas
Swedish Salad
Coconut Pudding

TUESDAY
Closed — Holiday

WEDNESDAY
Merry Christmas

THURSDAY
Chopped Sirloin Steak
Mushroom Sauce
Steamed Rice
Green Peas
Tossed Salad
Lemon Refrigerator Dessert

FRIDAY
Fried Fish
Golden Hominy
Tomatoes & Okra
Macaroni Salad
Tropical Apples

Until 1834, the Chinese city of Canton was the only port open to foreigners, though no foreign women were allowed.





GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY — Louie A. Jr. and Pauline (Greene) Ashley celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 28 at their home along with their children and grandchildren. Louie and Pauline were married Dec. 8, 1946 in Dunn. Their children are Brenda Williams of Eldorado, Texas; Deborah Ashley of Snyder; and Jimmy and Jo Ann Ashley of Slaton. Their grandchildren are Jennifer Williams of Laredo, and Sara and Andrew Ashley of Slaton. (Current photo by Harley Bynum).

President invites Cyrus to White House dinner

RUSSELL, Ky. (AP) — Billy Ray Cyrus is taking his achy breaky heart to the White House.

The country singer, whose father is a Democratic state representative, has been invited to dinner Saturday with President Clinton, Cyrus' manager Al Schiltz said. The two met for the first time Aug. 25, when Cyrus sang the national anthem at the president's campaign stop in Ashland.

On Wednesday, Cyrus and state Rep. Ron Cyrus were at Russell High School, where the singer handed out a $40,000 check to his own charity foundation and his father distributed five grants of $1,000 each to local charities.

The gymnasium was packed with screaming students released from classes for an hour to greet the school's most famous graduate.

The singer, who gained fame with the 1992 hit "Achy Breaky Heart," also announced plans for a charity concert next February in Ashland.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

Snyder Duplicate Bridge Scoreboard

FRIDAY

Dot Casey directed Friday, Sunday and Tuesday games for the local Duplicate Bridge Club at the Snyder Country Club.

FRIDAY

Nine tables.

N-S

1. Anita Talbott, Louise Thompson.
2. Ann Davis, Monte West.
3. Durelle Gorman, Billisue Stuard.

E-W

1. Tizzy Hall, Rube McKinley.
2. Dora Blakey, Nona Morrison.
3. Martha Fagin, Dorothy Rosson.

SUNDAY

Three tables.

1. Linda West, Monte West.
2. Margaret Birdwell, Jane Hinton.
3. Rube McKinley, Barbara Yorgesen.

TUESDAY

Four tables.

1. Linda West, Monte West.
2. Jane Hinton, Louise Thompson.
3. Rube McKinley, Barbara Yorgesen.

At Nathalie's On The Square M-F 9-5:30, Sat. 10-5

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Bridal Registry

Jayme Gregory Olsen and Steve Olsen
Kima McLarty and Scott Coltharp
Juli Smith and Russell Schlegel
Elaine Whitfill and Michael Bragg
Holly Barkowsky and Bart Bynum
Lisa Duncan and Michael Steadham
Jill Voss Freeman and Jason Freeman
Laci Naylor and Greg Box
Amanda Olsen and Daniel Espinosa
Emilee Taylor and Joe Don Marrow, Jr.

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~~~~~~~~~

GOP leaders urging support for Gingrich

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republican leaders are working to shore up support for Speaker Newt Gingrich, just as his ethics case is experiencing a series of bizarre developments.

Three weeks before the House elects a speaker for the next Congress, the GOP leadership is calling rank-and-file members to urge against a rush to judgment on Gingrich — even if the House ethics committee investigation into a college course he once taught takes an unfavorable turn.

On Jan. 7, Gingrich hopes to become the first Republican speaker to win re-election to the job since 1929.

Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., said Republicans cannot "defend Newt blindly." He added that Gingrich owes members an explanation of statements by a Republican lawmaker that the speaker provided erroneous information to the ethics panel.

Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn., repeated that he would abstain in the speaker's election if the ethics panel's report on Gingrich is not released by then.

The ethics case has evolved into a confusing sequence of events.

—Gingrich's longtime lawyer in the case, Jan Baran, said Wednesday that he was terminating his representation of the speaker before the ethics committee. It was learned that J. Randolph Evans, a legal malpractice specialist from Atlanta, became Gingrich's chief defense attorney.

—Thursday morning, Rep. John Linder, R-Ga., a close friend of Gingrich, said the speaker had provided erroneous information to the ethics committee but blamed the error on Baran.

–Thursday evening, Baran and Gingrich spokesman Tony Blankley issued a statement that Baran was still part of the defense team but "Randy Evans has assumed responsibility as lead counsel with the committee."

The statement said Baran and his firm "continue to represent Newt Gingrich. They are no longer representing him directly before the ethics committee or its special counsel, but are continuing to assist Newt and others in that proceeding."

Gingrich's office had the statement faxed to Republican lawmakers.

The House ethics committee's four-member investigative panel has been looking into whether Gingrich ran afoul of tax law in financing the college course with tax-exempt donations, and whether he gave accurate and complete statements during the inquiry.

Linder, R-Ga., the new, Gingrich-named head of the House Republican campaign organization, said he talked with the speaker last weekend.

"There's no argument that Newt signed an erroneous statement," Linder said in an interview. "The question the committee has to decide is, Did he willfully mislead the committee? This would be a pretty dumb way to do it."

Linder said Baran "was hired and paid a lot of money to not let Newt make mistakes." Instead, Linder contended, Baran "provided documents to the committee that Newt signed, that conflict with statements Newt made to the committee earlier."

Linder declined to provide details of the erroneous material, but said that Gingrich submitted his original statements to the committee in late 1994.

The ethics committee held daily closed-door meetings last week, but made no announcement on whether it found reason to believe the speaker violated standards of conduct.

Linder and other close allies of Gingrich have telephoned dozens of Republicans in recent days urging them not to prejudge the speaker, and to be judicious in their public comments. The list included all Republican freshmen and a dozen or so lawmakers who might be hesitant to vote for Gingrich.

"I've spoken with 40 members in the last 10 days," Linder said. "We thought the committee might have come up with something and I told them to wait to hear from Newt first, don't start any fires. I'm getting 100 percent cooperation."

However, King said that after hearing of Linder's comments on possible erroneous statements, he believed Gingrich owed lawmakers an explanation.

"Linder is indicating false information was given to the committee," King said. "It was either Newt or his lawyer. I don't want to rush to judgment against Newt, but we can't just have a leap of faith and defend Newt blindly.

Redman makes hall of fame

Dale Redman, owner and president of Snyder-based Reef Chemical Company, a manufacturer of oilfield production chemicals, has been elected to the Texas Business Hall of Fame Foundation's vice president of Special Projects.

Redman, born and reared in Post, will plan and supervise activities to help the Foundation fulfill its mission. Redman earned a BBA from Texas Tech University in 1984.

The Texas Business Hall of Fame Foundation is a non-profit organization of 90 directors who are business leaders from cities throughout the state. For the past 14 years, the foundation has been recognizing exceptional achievement in business by inducting Texas Business legends into the Texas Business Hall of Fame.

The group's mission is to support education in the state by awarding scholarships to graduate business students attending Texas colleges and universities. To date, more than $800,000 has been awarded in scholarships.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Father Discovers His Will Is Way to Guide His Children

by Abigail Van Buren

© 1996 Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: I have always known that making a will is important, especially if one has children. But for years I procrastinated and never seemed to find the time to do it.

I have finally made out my will — and in the process, I have discovered something significant.

I didn't want to leave my children with "just a will," because the legal wording didn't tell them anything about what I feel is really important — how much I love them. So, I have written my kids a letter that's kept with my will. In it, I explain what I had hoped to teach them over the years, the kind of adults I want them to become, the moral code by which I would like them to conduct themselves, how I pray they value their mother and each other.

Such a letter was not an easy one to write, but now that it's done, I have found it has helped me to be a much better parent. Because I have written down what is important to me, I am now able to focus on those issues with my children, and do a better job of rising above the "noise level" of daily living.

Abby, please suggest that your readers try this. They may find it helps them in ways a will never could in defining their goals and guiding their children. It doesn't have to be a long letter (in fact, it's probably better kept brief) as long as it comes from the heart.

PLEASED PARENT
IN WISCONSIN

DEAR PLEASED PARENT: I have long been an advocate of organizing one's thoughts on paper, and many readers have confided to me that just the process of writing their problems on paper has made them feel better. I think your suggestion is valuable. A "personalized parent's guide" could be a valuable tool for both the parent and child.

***

DEAR ABBY: Our father passed away earlier this year. All his adult life he wore a St. Christopher medal and his college ring, which he treasured and never removed.

After the funeral viewing, I wanted to keep these items (one for me and one for my brother) to remember Dad by. My brother felt that Dad should be buried with these items because they were so special to him.

After some trouble, we decided to keep the jewelry, knowing how much Dad cherished them. Do you think we did the right thing?

LOVING DAUGHTER
IN LAKELAND, FLA.

DEAR LOVING DAUGHTER: Yes — without a doubt.

***

DEAR ABBY: My brother used to brag that he had slept with you and your sister. You see, he was born July 11, 1918, in the same hospital in Sioux City, Iowa, as you were. Since mothers and babies remained in the hospital for 10 days at that time, he is positive that you did sleep with him in the same nursery.

LOIS BILES,
LONG BEACH, CALIF.

DEAR LOIS: According to my birth certificate, my twin sister and I were delivered at home by Dr. Frank Murphy. We never saw the inside of a hospital until we had our tonsils removed when we were 4 years old.

Now, please remind your brother that a gentleman never discusses with whom he has slept.

***

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

DEAR ABBY: I want to thank you for Operation Dear Abby. I was in the Navy for five years. Holidays were a miserable time for me until I received the Operation Dear Abby letters. Not having a close family, I truly appreciated the heartfelt gestures from everyone. It made me feel very proud to receive the love and support from you and the caring citizens of our country. I cried real tears of happiness with the encouragement I received from so many whose faces I did not know.

I am now medically retired, but I still remember the joy I received. So now I send letters to those who are stationed overseas.

I can't thank you enough for remembering the military men and women who give up their families to give strength and protection to our greater family — our nation. God bless you and all of those who have ever sent those letters and gifts. I will be forever grateful.

NAVY PRIDE,
RIVERDALE, CALIF.

DEAR NAVY PRIDE: Thank you for a beautiful letter, which I'm sharing with all those who have worked so hard to make Operation Dear Abby a success. May the holiday be healthy and happy for all of you.

***

DEAR ABBY: I have a Christmas story I would like to share with you:

Just about 14 years ago, our family spent the Christmas holiday skiing at Keystone, Colo. On Christmas morning, as is our custom, we were all gathered in the living room, opening our presents as the radio played lovely carols. Our grandson Peter, age 6, struggled up to me with a large box he'd obviously wrapped himself with many pieces of Christmas wrap and lots of Scotch tape! Placing it in my lap, he said, "This is for you, Granddaddy."

I, of course, showed great excitement to be receiving anything so large. With great ceremony, I carefully unwrapped it. I looked inside and said, "Well, Peter, what a joke you've played on your old grandfather — you forgot to put anything in this box!"

With a startled look, he raised on his tiptoes, looked in the box and then looked at me, saying, "Oh, no, Granddaddy, I didn't give you an empty present. I filled it with love!" In that moment, our 6-year-old grandson gave us a gift we shall never forget and taught us the true meaning of Christmas.

DAVID B. PICKFORD,
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

DEAR MR. PICKFORD: Thank you for sharing your priceless gift. You should be very proud of your grandson.

***

DEAR ABBY: I must comment in regard to the letter from "Hell on the Home Front" — the Florida mother whose young daughter had returned to the nest.

For one thing, being out on her own has to be hell on the 18-year-old. She is fresh out of high school with no experience or realization of what life is about or the responsibilities entailed. I am 28 years old, and being on my own is no easy task.

The daughter may be crying out for guidance and companionship. Instead, her mother is looking at her daughter as a burden and distraction — and even a destroyer of her marriage. That mother should take the time to speak with her daughter instead of telling her what to do or acting as if she were 18 years old herself. Obviously, they did not get along in the first place.

Older teen-agers (or should we call them young adults?) need their self-esteem and confidence bolstered. They do not need to be pushed out the door. Please sign me ...

HAPPY TO HAVE HAD A MOTHER WHO SAT AND TALKED TO ME IN L.A.

DEAR HAPPY: I agree with you that there are fences that need mending in the household. The daughter may be immature and cannot be expected to know what she hasn't been taught.

***

CONFIDENTIAL TO EDWARD PHILLIPS IN MINNEAPOLIS: Happy birthday, son. You were well worth the labor pains!

***

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Yankee Candles
Dreamsicles

Bride & Groom Registry

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Jina Miller & Michael Fields	Amanda Olsen & Daniel Espinoza
Misty Murphy & Mark Smith	Jayme Gregory & Steve Olsen
Wendy Puente & Andre Puente	Elaine Whitfill & Mike Bragg
Holly Rutkowsky & Bart Bynum	Lisa Duncan & Michael Steadham
Laci Naylor & Greg Box	Emilee Taylor & Joe Don Morrow, Jr.

Bridal Consultant, Accessories and Rentals

Baby Shower Registry

Jennifer Rios
"Bunnies" Bears

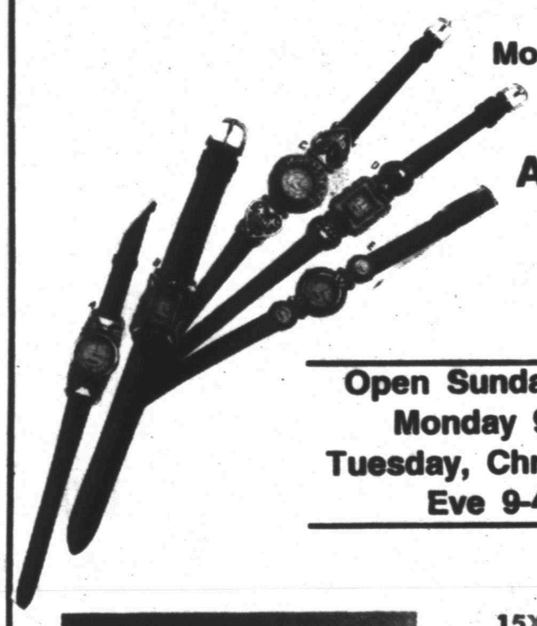
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W. Texas oil vendor sells unusual items

By TODD MARTIN
San Angelo Standard-Times

SAN ANGELO — There's probably no way to prepare yourself to walk inside Jim Baca's bizarre museum.

Baca is known to some as the operator of the oldest continually operating self-service gas station in town.

To others, he's known as a gasoline and diesel wholesaler who delivers to farmers and ranchers throughout the area.

He owns Concho Oil Co., but he lives Chicken Jimmy's Junk and Antiques.

Baca's bright yellow business cards list 900 to 908 S. Chadbourne St. as his address.

After a tour of two buildings' worth of junkyard treasures, Baca said, "You should see what I have at my house." Now, that would require a brave soul.

A friend helped Baca pick the name. "It's because I sell my stuff cheap, cheap, cheap," he said.

The two gas pumps out front are full-service. They're decorated with a smattering of pedal cars — sort of an earlier version of the Big Wheel — and metal street signs to help lure customers inside.

One small room contains oil-related relics like metal cans once used to transport crude.

It also contains an extensive collection of Playboy magazines. "I have every one since 1956," he boasted. There's even a sign on the door prohibiting those under 17 from entering without a parent.

But a larger room next door is open to all audiences. The door stays open.

You step inside to shelf after shelf of way-off-the-beaten-track goods.

A tour is really the only way to see the best of the best.

"This is a Jolt Meter," he said, pulling from a shelf a small, rusted appliance that resembles a scale with round face, numbers and a small hand similar to a clock.

"Lincoln Continental used these in the 1940s," he said of the crude, early marketing tool.

Apparently, Lincoln knew a ride in one of its cars would register a lighter "jolt" than a ride in a Cadillac. So salesmen encouraged buyers to compare the two kinds of cars with the Jolt Meter.

Chicken Jimmy wants $50 for it. The story is free.

There is also a pair of 1936 Olympics yearbooks written in German. Baca is hoping for someone who reads German to come by and translate the account about Jesse Owens, the black sprinter who embarrassed the Nazis by winning the 100- and 200-meter sprints and the broad jump in Berlin that year.

The Summer Olympics book goes for $150. The Winter Olympics book is priced at $100.

There's one of those leather-lined football helmets that dates to 1933 and bears the name J. Berwanger. Baca said sports enthusiasts tell him Berwanger was the first player ever picked in the college draft. He never actually played.

One shelf holds the 1980 Dallas Cowboys wives' cookbook, several square Coca-Cola bottles and a pair of boots with the name of a defunct beverage called Rondo.

Hidden in one of many dusty corners is a marker resembling a tombstone. A closer look at the old mile marker reveals the inscription "S.A. 6 miles."

Baca said it dates to the 1880s.

Adolph Bayers' work preserved in silver, steel

(Editor's Note:) The following information was adapted from "Artistry in Silver and Steel: The Adolph Bayers Legend."

Adolph Bayers, the youngest of seven children, grew up on the family farm near the Gilliland crossroads. His family was among the earliest settlers in the area.

Bayers was fascinated with the farm's shop. When not in school or helping his dad farm, he liked to work with metal in the shop.

At a very young age, he began experimenting with a process of "sweating on" silver cutouts onto iron. Many believe that much of Bayers' expertise was learned through trial and error.

The date he made his first pair of spurs is unknown, but it is throught to have been sometime in the 1930s. At the time, his basic tools consisted of forge, hammer and anvil.

Bayers once said he had filed that first pair out by hand. Eventually, it was traded to William "Bill" Ryder for five bushels of wheat which were later traded for a small gasoline engine, used to power a grinder.

During the 1930s and 1940s, Bayers worked on the family farm. Any free time was devoted to making knives, spurs, bits, belt buckles and an occasional piece of jewelry.

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Bayers enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served in the Pacific for four years. On the U.S.S. Kittyhawk, Bayers' on-board duty was that of machinist and die-maker.

He made handmade knives which the other sailors liked. After Bayers was discharged in 1946, he returned home to work on the family farm.

Prior to the war, Bayers had been able to sell the knives he made but his spurs and bits were not then popular. However, when he returned, he received so many requests that he began to make them again.

For the next several years, Bayers worked on new designs of bits, spurs and D-rings. He constructed tools from parts obtained from salvage yards.

He also married and began a family. His shop was set up in a building behind the main frame house. He had already made as much of his own equipment as he had been able to.

Bayers eventually purchased equipment once used in the McChesney factory. Even though some were in poor condition, he was able to get everything back into working order.

He especially valued the McChesney press and rowel dies which were great time savers. However, he liked the trip hammer best of all. Prior to aquiring that, Bayers had had to hammer out all of his work by hand.

In time, he perfected some techniques and picked the metals he preferred to use. For the one piece spurs — heel hands and shanks of one piece of steel — he preferred to use old Ford car axles.

These were obtained from Model Ts and other Fords up to around the 1948 model.

Besides spurs, Bayers for a time also made bits that were a one-piece design. In time though, he began to make the cheek pieces and mouth pieces separately, welding them together later with an acetylene torch.

Bayers also made several styles of bits and spurs from stainless steel which had to be welded because of their hardness.

Bayers also used both German and silver overlay in his work.

It is generally thought that Harold Barry, a renowned polo player, played a great part in spreading Bayers' products around the world.

In fact the number 218, one of Bayers' most popular of the polo style spurs, can be traced to Barry. As he traveled, he often brought bits and spurs which fellow polo players had requested.

As Bayers' reputation and business grew, he adopted a record-keeping system. He proved to be equally adept with pencil and paper as he was with silver and steel.

Using old ledgers and notebook paper, Bayers drew detailed drawings of each pattern of bit and spur. He included special notes concerning dimensions and customer information.

Spur patterns were given even numbers, beginning with 2. Bit patterns were given odd numbers beginning with 1. Often, customers created their own pattern while Bayers worked out the construction and work details.

Throughout his life, Bayers charged modest prices for his work. For example, a pair of plain unmounted spurs sold for $16 to $18.

He charged the same fees regardless of how affluent his customer might be. He wanted to make sure cowboys could afford his work.

Bayers continued working until his death of cancer in 1978. At the time, he was several years behind on his orders.

The order sheets and uncashed checks for each customer were found after Bayers died. He had always refused to take payment for work that was not finished.

Bayers' widow, Fannie Lois, sold the shop and equipment to J. Martin Basinger and Bilby Wallace. The shop and its contents were donated to the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum on the campus of West Texas A&M University (formerly West Texas State University.)

Before he died, Bayers gave his records to Basinger, who preserved them so they could be published in a five book series.

The first volume listing spurs from 2-298 was self-published in November. "Artistry in Silver and Steel: The Adolph Bayers Legend" may be obtained from OTO Companies in Slaton.



ADOLPH BAYERS — This photo, from "Artistry in Silver and Steel," shows Adolph Bayers operating a roller he made to obtain a uniform thickness for his silver. (Contributed Photo)

Scurry County Folks

Continued from 1B

by Shirley A. Gorman

When sculpting, Miller said the easiest method for him is to start "from the inside out and work up a skeleton."

Though he prefers bronze sculpting, it is such a time-consuming hobby (because of trips to the foundry where the final stages of the work are completed) that he does not really have as much time to devote to it as is needed.

However, he still does some commission work. A current project is a bronze of two red wolves due this winter.

Miller, who has one sister, grew up on a ranch in the Fluvanna area. Some things never seem to change, he said. Like the weather, which was often hot and dry when he was a boy growing up in the area.

"We had the 'good life' then but didn't really appreciate it. We thought we were missing out because we lived in the country. But there was never a time when we did not have something to do."

He graduated from Post High School and Texas A&M.

Even during the hard times, Miller said he sticks with ranching "because of the little degree of independence it gives me."

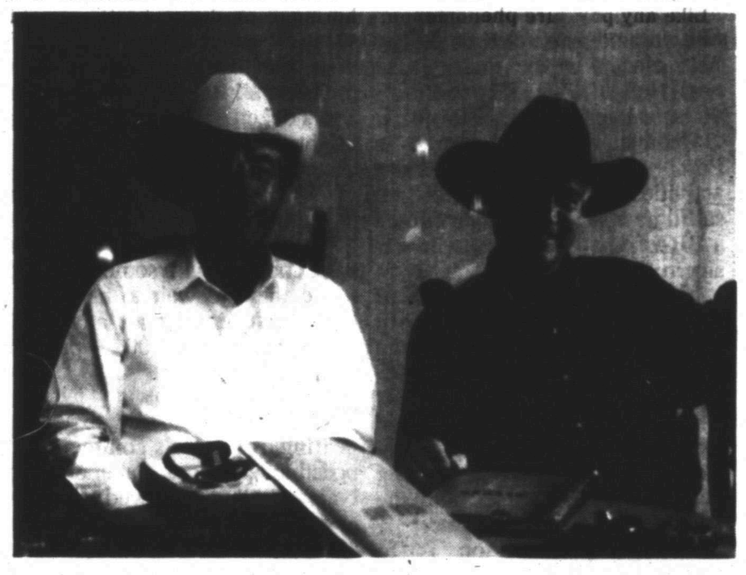
Miller is the nephew of Ralph and Dewey Fay Miller, known locally as longtime supporters of the AJRA finals once held in Snyder.

Miller is married to Paula, who teaches school at Borden County. They have three sons, none of whom seems to be following in their dad's ranching footsteps.

Clay, 22, is an agriculture/economics major. Clint, 20, is majoring in computer science and electrical engineering. Of the three boys, Colton, 16, is the artist. He likes to draw and paint.



Illustration by Ben Miller, published in "Artistry in Silver and Steel."



WORKING TOGETHER — J. Martin Basinger, left, and Ben Miller have completed the first book of a five volume series, based on Adolph Bayers' records. (Contributed Photo)

Cops charged with shakedown plot as feds spring undercover sting

CHICAGO (AP) — Seven Chicago police officers were arrested Friday on federal charges of plotting to shake down and rob drug pushers who actually were undercover investigators running a sting operation.

The indictments are the most serious charges of police corruption in years in a city once notorious for graft.

Officials said the investigation, code named Broken Star, is continuing. Police Superintendent Matt Rodriguez said the next step is determining whether high-ranking police knew about the shakedowns and robberies.

He called the seven policemen "traitors to their profession" and said their actions were "unconscionable and disgusting."

The defendants all pleaded innocent Friday afternoon. They were ordered held over the weekend until another hearing Monday.

The investigation focused on the 15th police district, or Austin district, a rough area long plagued by gangs, drugs and violence. Six of the seven officers are from one of the district's five tactical units — the department's elite, front-line troops.

The police department began investigating after residents complained, and the FBI was brought into the case, authorities said.

Authorities said the defendants brazenly told undercover investigators — whom they thought were drug dealers — they would not be troubled if they paid off.

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OSB declares black English second language

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Levi Smith doesn't want his three children speaking Black English with phrases like "He be at the store," even though the Oakland School Board says it's a legitimate language.

"There's no 'we be doin' this' in our home," says Smith, who is black.

But many black students in Oakland do use the language, prompting a school board decision to officially recognize Black English, also known as Ebonics — a term combining "ebony" and "phonics."

While the district is believed to be the first in the nation to vote for such recognition, it could become a trend. Los Angeles Superintendent Sid Thompson said his district — the nation's second largest behind New York — is prepared to follow Oakland's example.

Just what impact the board's unanimous decision will have in the classroom remains to be worked out. Possibilities include placing Black English-speaking students in classes that will help them learn standard English. Wednesday night's vote also creates a program to train teachers to understand Black English.

"It's not to have the teachers teach Ebonics. It's to have the teachers understand the language," McClymonds High Principal Willie Hamilton said. "It happens with other non-English-speaking or limited English proficient students, and we felt the same should be done for African-American students."

The board is expected to apply for federal funds for bilingual programs to cover the cost of training teachers, even though the government has rejected such requests in the past.

Members insist the vote was sparked not by the lure of federal money, but by the dismal scores posted by black students — who make up 53 percent of the 52,000-student district, but 71 percent of those enrolled in special education courses.

"Whatever we are using now is not working," school board member Toni Cook said.

Shirley Watson, a black teacher at Oakland High School, said teachers should understand the origins of Black English, which has roots in Africa. Students still must learn standard English, "but not in a way that puts them down," she said.

But some critics call the acceptance of Black English racist, saying it creates a lower standard for black students. Others say the school board should be concentrating on more tangible needs — like providing adequate books and supplies.

"It is a Band-Aid on a wound that is gushing blood," said Jeff Duncan, a part-time English teacher. "A Band-Aid is better than nothing, but I'm really tired of the school board having such low expectations for its students."

Many students, he said, think recognizing Black English makes them look stupid.

"We are like lab rats," said 18-year-old Shawn Kemp, a senior at McClymonds High School. "At a white school, you don't see them talking about white English. ... Do I seem like I'm speaking another language?"

Shana Woods, a 17-year-old junior from nearby Emeryville, said she hoped the policy would not spread to her district.

"I would agree with respecting it but not correcting it," she said. "But I don't really want teachers to understand it. That's the whole point of it — for them not to know what we're saying."

The American Speech, Language and Hearing Association has classified Black English as a social dialect with its own lexicon and syntax.

In Black English, words lose a "d" following a vowel, so "good" becomes "goo," and the final "th" is sometimes replaced with "f," so "with" becomes "wif." Also, the verb "to be" is not conjugated, as in "He be at the store," and speakers use double or triple negatives — "I'm not going back there no more."

As for Smith, an Oakland father of three, he said the rules will remain the same in his home.

"I understand the history," he said. "But it's broken English. That's what it is. And I don't allow my children to use broken English."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Is surgery the only option?

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 66-year-old woman with spinal stenosis. I've been told that my pain can be treated with physical therapy, medication, surgery, or injections. I've tried therapy without success. Medicine doesn't work. I don't want surgery. Yet my doctor is reluctant to give me shots. What do you suggest?

DEAR READER: Spinal stenosis means that some hard tissue, such as a bony arthritis spur, is pressing on the soft and delicate spinal cord, leading to pain, numbness and — perhaps — weakness.

In a person your age, the most common cause is arthritis, although other causes, such as a herniated disc or a growth, must be considered. The diagnosis can be made by an MRI scan or a special kind of X-ray test, called a myelogram.

You're correct about the therapeutic possibilities. Physical therapy and pain medication often relieve the symptoms of mild stenosis. Severe forms may require surgery to remove (or repair) the spur or deformed disc.

Like any pressure phenomenon, spinal stenosis is associated with irritation and swelling of the affected tissue. Therefore, cortisone shots (epidural steroid injections) may miraculously reduce symptoms of stenosis by neutralizing the inflammation caused by the pressure.

In my experience, this technique is often very successful. But it is not for everyone and the benefits may not be permanent. Based on your MRI or myelogram, your physician — in conjunction with an orthopedist or neurosurgeon — should be able to determine if you are a candidate for steroid injections.

Ask your doctor about this. If, because of the severity of the problem, the shots would not be appropriate, you should consider surgery as a last resort.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 79 and, as part of my annual check-up, had a normal PSA test. How often should I have this done?

DEAR READER: The Prostate Specific Antigen blood test is one of several ways to identify prostate cancer. Most experts recommend that it be obtained in conjunction with the rectal exam, because the two tests are safe, easy to perform and complement each other.

A man your age should have a rectal exam done annually. Barring any abnormality, he need not have a PSA for three to five years, at the discretion of his physician.

In short, annual (normal) PSA tests are not necessary, unless the doctor suspects a problem (from symptoms of the rectal examination) or wishes to follow up on an equivocal result.

For example, the normal PSA is 0 to 4 micrograms per liter. If, at 79, yours was 4 and three years later 8, your physician would probably choose to obtain an additional test in a few months. If it were 12, you would require further testing, such as an ultrasound.

If it stabilizes at 8 (a common minor abnormality probably related to simple prostatic overgrowth), the doctor might repeat it in two or three years' time.

To give you more information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "The Prostate Gland." 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.

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DEAR DR. GOTT: What is melatonin and what does it do?

DEAR READER: Melatonin is a hormone produced by the pineal gland, which lies deep within the brain. Secreted only in the absence of visible light, melatonin helps regulate the rhythm of sleep. For some animals and birds, it is the signal for migration, hibernation and a host of other physiological cycles. In short, the hormone is one of many substances that controls the body's biological clock.

Melatonin secretion is suppressed by bright light — brighter, for example, than indoor lighting. Therefore, many authorities believe that melatonin and light serve complementary functions: melatonin to put us to sleep, light to keep us awake.

In fact, the response curves of melatonin and light are about 12 hours out of phase with each other. Generally speaking, light is a more powerful phase-shifter than is the hormone.

Melatonin levels are 10 times higher at night than during day time, even in nocturnal animals. Therefore, melatonin is not, strictly speaking, a "sleep hormone."

As we age, we produce less melatonin, perhaps accounting — at least in part — for the fact that about one-third of persons 65 years or older suffer from chronic insomnia, roughly double the rate in younger adults. In the elderly, the primary problem is staying asleep, whereas young insomniacs have difficulty falling asleep.

No one has yet discovered the precise cause of this phenomenon. And no one knows exactly where melatonin fits into this scheme. Studies consistently show inconsistent results, which have been variously ascribed to dosing, timing, physiologic variation, interaction with prescription drugs, individual patterns of brain chemistry, night-to-night variability, and other factors.

Despite scientific confusion about the sleep/melatonin connection, extravagant claims in popular books and other media have prompted elderly insomniacs to purchase large quantities of supplemental melatonin pills, leading to a $200 million to $350 million industry. Because the hormone is present in some foods (notably bananas and rice), it is legally considered to be a dietary supplement, not a drug, and does not need pre-market approval from the Food and Drug Administration.

In Canada and Great Britain, it is regulated as a drug; but in the United States, it is one of several hormones sold without a prescription. This makes its users unwitting subjects in a huge uncontrolled experiment, an observation that should cause us all to pause.

Melatonin supplements are not devoid of risks. Chronic use has been reported to cause daytime sleepiness, reduced fertility, suppression of male sex drive, retinal damage, and low body temperature, according to reports published in the Oct. 2, 1996, Journal of the American Medical Association.

Furthermore, most brands of melatonin are manufactured without rigorous quality control. Some are made from bovine pineal glands. Thus, the phrase "all natural" on the container may be misleading, as may the actual dosage and presence of other, unwanted ingredients.

Most experts agree that short-term use of the hormone is appropriate for most healthy adults who need a temporary sleep aid. For example, melatonin can help overcome jet-lag and help shift workers who rotate between night and day jobs. Also, melatonin may regulate the sleep patterns of the blind, who often sleep erratically because they cannot perceive the light necessary to stabilize their biological clocks.

Although several studies are underway to define the role of melatonin as a sleep aid, information on the hormone's safety and efficacy is still sparse. Until such information becomes available, prudent consumers should avoid long-term use of the hormone, reserving it only for potential temporary benefit.

To give readers more information, they can request my Health Report "Sleep/Wake Disorders." Simply 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.

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ValuJet has to charter aircraft

ATLANTA (AP) — ValuJet won federal permission to use other airlines to fly passengers to Dallas and two Florida vacation spots after selling about 15,000 tickets it couldn't honor itself.

ValuJet chartered airplanes and found seats on other airlines Thursday for 860 passengers flying from Atlanta to Dallas-Fort Worth, and West Palm Beach and Fort Myers in Florida

ValuJet had announced plans Nov. 25 to expand its service to those cities, but the Atlanta-based discount carrier did not have Federal Aviation Administration approval to add the five planes it would need.

The FAA late Thursday gave ValuJet permission to charter planes and crews through other airlines. The airline had to cancel seven flights while awaiting approval.

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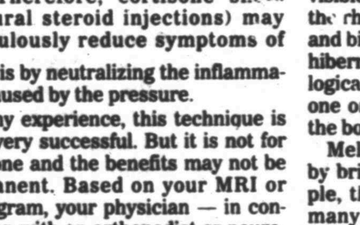
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Gross Weekly Income: $_____
( ) No One Employed
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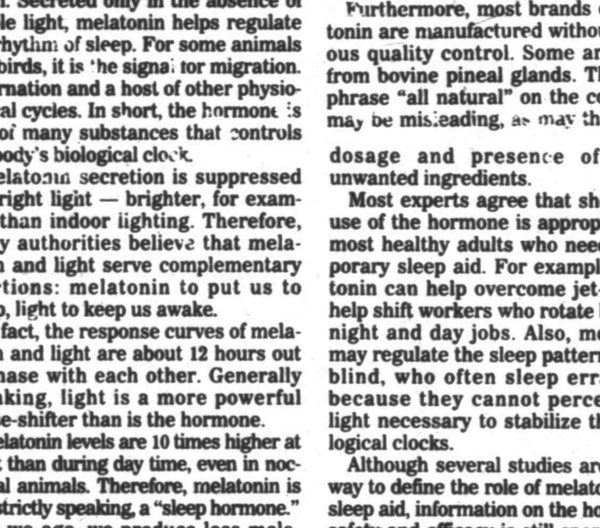
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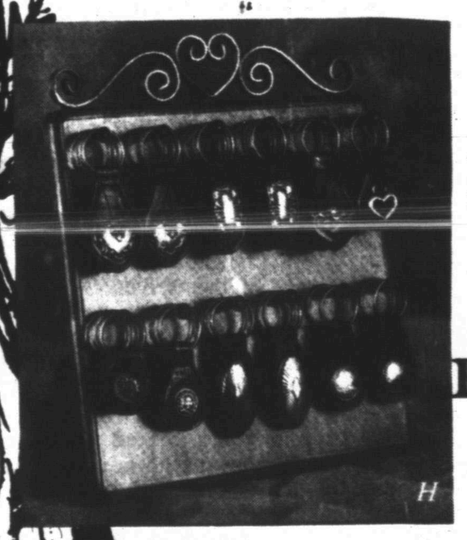
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A not-so merry Christmas greeting

(To be sung to 'Walking In a Winter Wonderland')

Christmas time, it's upon us;
To the store, shopping we must.
A depressing thought,
Too many presents we've bought;
And maxed out all our credit cards again.

We will smile, but we'll be jokin'
'Cause the gifts, are just a token.
For Mary and Jim
But we put up with them,
Just because they co-signed for our truck.

Refrain:
In the meadow you won't find a snowman,
That's cause Mother Nature chose not to comply;
She says "Don't you know what it is all about, man?
You're a farmer so I think I'll make it dry."

But now it's up, with the tree,
Pre-fab deluxe, model III;
Comes with its own lights,
So shiny and bright
Shows we really have the Christmas spirit here.

When we are done, we'll retire
To the den, by the fire;
We hope the logs last,
For they've shut off our gas;
No worry 'bout the kinfolk coming here.

Refrain:
Just in case you think we are depressing,
And not exactly full of Christmas glee,
We'd respond that we are still expecting
To someday win the Texas Lottery.

So we wish, for you a good one,
Holiday cheer, we will send some;
It's the thought that counts,
And that's what amounts
To your present again from us this year!

Merry Christmas
Bill McClellan

Santa: All I want is my own credit card



DEANIE FRANCIS MILLS

Downloaded from the Internet, some letters to Santa:

Dear Santa,
Last Christmas you left me a sled. This Christmas please leave some snow.
Your pal, Jed

Dear Santa,
I don't need any new toys this X-Mas. All I want is my own credit card.
Your fan, Frank

Dear Santa,
This X-Mas I would like a toy that doesn't break when my father plays with it.
Love, Michael

Santa Claus,
Can you get me a trip to the moon on the next space shuttle? I've never been anywhere except Salt Lake City.
Your fan, Howard

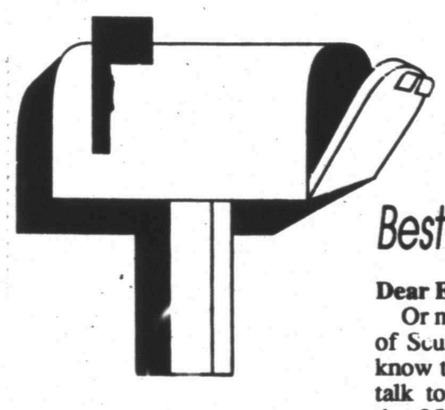
Dear Santa Claus,
I think you should leave a big present for my grandma. She knew you when you were a kid.
Love, Jordan

Dear Santa,
How many days do you have to be good? I have been good two days and I will try again on Monday.
I love you, Christina

Dear Santa,
I want a bat that can hit home runs. The bat I got last year strikes out too much.
Your friend, Willy

Dear Santa Claus,
I am writing this letter to you for my cat Barney. Barney has been a good cat all year and I hope you will bring Barney some nice toys.
Love, Paula
P.S. Barney would like a rubber nose.
May you all have a happy, homey, and safe holiday.
Love, Deanie





Noteworthy

Editor,
Students enrolled in life science classes at Western Texas College donated 33 pints of blood during last week's blood drive. I would like to publicly commend these men and women for their efforts to aid their fellow man during this season of giving.
Joe G. Carter
Biology Department
Western Texas College

Been blessed

Dear Editor,
I would like to thank the residents of Golden Terrace Village and Wilbur and Bonnie Fry for the wonderful Christmas gifts.

Each and every one of you have touched my life in such a special way. I have come to realize that over the past seven years the best gift that I have received is the gift of friendship. You all are the greatest!

I would also like to thank my board of directors: J.B. Tate Jr., C.D. Gray Jr., Gay Hickman, Elizabeth Potts and Bill Seale. I could not ask for a better group of people to work with. You have been wonderful to me and my family.

Have a very Merry Christmas and may God bless all of you as I have been blessed with you in my life.
Alisa Cain
manager,
Golden Terrace Village

Best I could

Dear Editor,
Or maybe I should say Citizens of Scurry County. I want you to know that the CMH board let me talk to them about the petitions that 257 of you signed to try to get a dress code for the nurses to wear white uniforms so that the elderly people would know that they had a nurse taking care of them.

I don't know that I did any good, but there may be some one out there that would like to write the CMH board or the CEO.

So many of you have asked me what, if anything, had I got done about it.

I did the best I could for you and may God bless each of you.
Merry Christmas
& a Healthy New Year
Texa Ball

Outraged

To The Editor,
In reference to the article that you ran in the Dec. 12 issue about Brock Gard. How insensitive can you be towards this family? If this was your family, would you want to see this in the paper, on the front page of all places? Have they not suffered enough losing a child, or are you just trying to add to their heartbreak?

I find it impossible to believe that you could find nothing else to write about but this. This is a very personal thing; if the family wants anyone to know the details let them be the one to decide, not you. This is not a murder case or a theft; it is something very personal to them. What business is it of anyone's but theirs? Let this family be; they have had enough misery without your help.

I thought this was the season for compassion and thinking of your fellow man. To those of us who care deeply for these people, we are outraged at your insensitivity and to them we apologize for you.
Lisa Bussey

In the spirit

To The Editor,
You can find the spirit of Christmas in the strangest places. I would like to share with you an experience I encountered on Dec. 17, 1996.

It was a cold, gray and windy morning as I started out to school. Luckily from where I live, it's less than a three minute trip.

Once inside the school house, I started to warm up from the cold that chilled my body. Tuesday is the class library day. As the class entered the library there on the counter were coffee and hot chocolate to help warm us up.

Now, Mrs. Canon, the librarian, and Mrs. Williams, a teacher, were there to read to the class. Both ladies were very inspirational with their readings.

As I sat there listening to them, drinking my hot chocolate, the spirit of Christmas was there. It's not what they were reading so much that touched me; it was the gift that they were giving — their time as well as their talents. This gift is very hard to understand where I live, because most of my neighbors are not quite that giving of themselves.

I do attend school twice a day, and yes, I did get a second blessing at noon, too. This time there were two men, Mr. Presswood and Mr. Erwin. They were also ready to read. Once again, I sat down with hot chocolate in hand and warmth in my soul, watching these two men giving up their time to share the gift of giving with me and my classmates.

I would like to give these individuals something in return. A thank you from the inmates at the Price Daniel Unit for the gifts that keep on giving, human compassion and kindness.

You have helped make my Christmas a lot better.

Special thanks to the Windham School personnel for their efforts in order for this to take place.
Merry Christmas '96'
& Happy New Year
Michael Poe



EDITORIAL ROUNDUP EDITORIAL COMMENT EDITORIAL ROUNDUP EDITORIAL COMMENT

TV ratings system

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram

The proposed ratings system for television programming falls short, just like the movie rating system from which it was derived.

Worse than that is the attitude expressed by Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, in response to criticism of the proposed system. Valenti says the ratings devised by the TV industry are the ones that will be used, period. If Congress attempts to force the industry to use some other ratings system, he says, TV will go to court.

The telecommunications bill passed this year, Valenti points out, does not force the industry to rate its programming. It allows voluntary rating, which has led to the proposed system that misses the mark.

Valenti's position seems to be that the television industry will only do the right thing if forced, and then only after a legal battle. Surely there are other folks in the in the industry who understand what a public relations gaffe this is.

The six-category system proposed by Valenti is weak and confusing and substitutes the industry's judgment based on meaningful information about sex, violence, etc., contained in specific programs. To Valenti, it is the vendor who is right, not the customer.

The similar movie rating system has led so much criticism that the TV industry should have learned something from the bad example. If Valenti is to be believed, the industry only learned that it could ignore the requests for content information sought by parents and others concerned about the programming that comes into their homes.

Cutting bilingual education

The El Paso Times

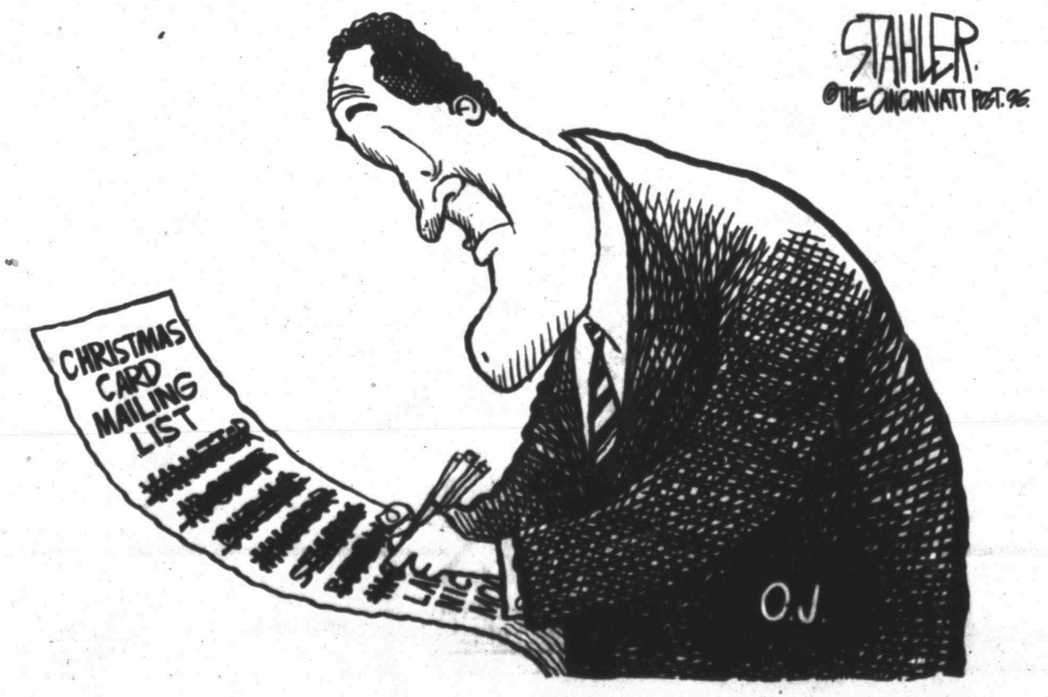
Bilingual education works.

It's mainstreaming more than 30,000 El Paso children this year who have low proficiency in the English language. And it's helping workers displaced by the North American Free Trade Agreement to learn English and find a better job.

So why is the federal government cutting funds for bilingual programs at a time when the Supreme Court is hearing a case for English-only? It doesn't make sense, not when the emphasis is for immigrants and others who lack the proper language skills to learn English.

The Department of Education proposes cutting $33.4 million nationwide from current bilingual education programs. That money would instead fund more bilingual education teacher training and more research, which lost some funding two years ago.

While few dispute the need for more teacher training, it should not be at the expense of children or adults learning to speak the nation's language. ...



During Pitts' alleged spying, FBI agents had money woes

WASHINGTON (AP) — At the time the FBI says Earl Pitts volunteered to sell secrets to Moscow, his fellow New York FBI agents were quitting in droves to escape cost-of-living pressures.

In the mid-1980s when the bureau paid the same salaries throughout the nation, "the New York office had a problem retaining agents," FBI spokesman Joe Valiquette said. "People resigned right and left to enter the private sector because they couldn't afford the cost of living."

"Quite a few agents could only find housing they could afford in Pennsylvania," Valiquette added. "They commuted two hours each way (through New Jersey) to Wall Street daily. Others resigned rather than transfer to New York."

Rank-and-file agents and bureau executives, particularly in New York, clamored for years for regional cost-of-living allowances.

On Oct. 1, 1988, the first FBI cost-of-living allowances were instituted in New York and gave agents there a 25 percent raise. Agents transferring to New York thereafter were given a $20,000 moving allowance.

The raise came a year and nine months after Pitts and his wife, an FBI file clerk, were transferred to New York on Jan. 3, 1987, from an assignment in rural northern Virginia.

The pay increase also came a year and two months after Pitts wrote a Russian official at the United Nations volunteering to sell U.S. secrets, a grand jury has charged.

"The only motive we have for him so far is money," a federal law enforcement official said Thursday, requesting anonymity.

A federal grand jury charged in a 12-count espionage indictment Thursday that Pitts sold FBI secrets for $124,000 cash and $100,000 in an account in Russia during 1987-92. Pitts' attorney, Nina Ginsberg, said he will plead innocent.

Also on Thursday, law enforcement officials told The Associated Press how FBI agents slipped a phoney FBI property tag on a hidden camera to preserve their undercover sting operation designed to catch Pitts spying.

Thanks to that misleading maneuver, Pitts continued selling secrets to undercover bureau agents posing as Russian spies for more than a year after he discovered a surveillance camera hidden in his office, the FBI said.

Man slashes doctor who treated girl for leukemia

NEW YORK (AP) — Eleven years after a man attacked a nurse at a hospital that treated his daughter for leukemia, he returned and slashed the girl's doctor and four other people with a razor, police said.

James Aaron Rowe, 39, also cut himself in the neck and wrist before being subdued Thursday. None of the wounds was life-threatening, said Dr. Robert Kelly, chief medical officer for New York Hospital.

In 1985, Rowe was committed to a mental facility after slashing a nurse treating his daughter, Natima Rowe. His daughter died in 1991 at age 12. He eventually pleaded guilty to the attempted murder and served eight years in prison.

"Apparently he was dissatisfied with the treatment," Deputy Inspector James Campbell said.

On Thursday, Rowe showed up at the hospital's pediatric hematology clinic, asked for the doctor who had treated his daughter, and slashed the doctor in the face along with a nurse, two other hospital workers and an adult visitor, police said.

The doctor and a computer operator needed surgery, while the others were treated in the emergency room, Kelly said. All were released except the computer operator.

The hospital didn't release the victims' names, but a friend of the doctor's identified him as Jim Bussel.

"He saved my daughter's life on her third birthday," said Tom Goodman, whose child had a rare blood disease.

"He is a doctor who tries to save lives. To think that somebody tried to injure him and possibly take his is ironic and tragic."

Bussel went home from the hospital, but will not be able to play Santa Claus in the annual Children's Blood Foundation Christmas party today, Goodman said.

Authorities said Rowe has been arrested more than 20 times since 1974 and convicted of assault, weapons possession and auto theft. He was wanted on a warrant for grand larceny issued in February.

In the 1985 assault, he was originally found unfit to stand trial and committed to a mental facility before he pleaded guilty to attempted murder. He was sentenced in 1990 to seven to 14 years in prison and was released a year ago.

Rowe's last known address was a New York apartment.

The graves of some pre-Columbian Indians have been found to contain kernels of popcorn.

Date Book

Dec. 21, 1996

Today is the 356th day of 1996 and the first day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1620, the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Mass.

On this day in 1978, police arrested serial killer John Wayne Gacy.

On this day in 1988, Pan Am Flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing all aboard and several people on the ground.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Joseph Stalin (1879-1953), Soviet dictator; Heinrich Boll (1917-1985), novelist-poet; Kurt Waldheim (1918-), U.N. secretary general, is 78; Joseph Paterno (1926-), football coach, is 70; Jane Fonda (1937-), actress-activist-fitness instructor, is 59; Frank Zappa (1940-1993), singer; Chris Evert (1954-), tennis player, is 42.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1969, Vince Lombardi coached his final football game.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Being thus arrived in a good harbor, and brought safe to land, (the pilgrims) fell upon their knees and blessed the God of Heaven who had brought them over the vast and furious ocean." — William Bradford

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1994, high levels of carbon monoxide were trapped in Chicago for the first of two straight days by a temperature inversion.

SOURCE: 1996 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (Dec. 17) and full moon (Dec. 24).

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Dec. 22, 1996

Today is the 357th day of 1996 and the second day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1944, U.S. General McAuliffe refused German demands to surrender Bastogne.

On this day in 1956, the first gorilla to be born in captivity was born.

On this day in 1984, Bernhard Goetz shot four teen-agers on a New York City subway car.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924), composer; Connie Mack (1862-1956), baseball player-manager; Edward Arlington Robinson (1869-1935), poet; Claudia "Lady Bird" Johnson (1912-), U.S. first lady, is 84; James Wright Jr. (1922-), congressman, is 74; Steve Carlton (1944-) baseball great, is 52; Diane Sawyer (1945-), broadcast journalist, is 51; Maurice and Robin Gibb (1949-), singers, are 47; Jan Stephenson (1951-), golfer, is 45.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1985, San Francisco 49ers running back Roger Craig became the first player in NFL history to have 1,000 yards rushing and 1,000 yards receiving in the same season.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Nuts!" — Gen. Anthony McAuliffe

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1969, the southern coast of the Mediterranean island of Cyprus was struck by six waterspouts.

SOURCE: 1996 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (Dec. 17) and full moon (Dec. 24).

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ST. NICK OF TIME by Jimmy Johnson



Power struggle spoils holiday at rural church in S. Carolina

REMBERT, S.C. (AP) — There is no Christmas at Mount Pisgah Baptist Church this year.

The sandy brown brick building has no wreath on its doors, no baby Christ in a manger outside. The sign is defaced, the pastor's name scratched out.

A 133-year-old rural black church that withstood Reconstruction, Jim Crow and segregation, Mount Pisgah is now torn by infighting so severe that the pastor gets heckled during sermons, competing collection plates are passed around, and police once had to shut the place down when the arguing got out of hand.

"I've never seen such a mess," said 75-year-old Coleman Dennis, a deacon at Mount Pisgah, which proudly counts county council members and law enforcement officers among its 300-plus mostly middle-class members. "We need to fall down on our knees and pray to God for a solution, because right now, I don't know what we're going to do."

Marvin Hodge was Mount Pisgah's minister for two years until the deacons and board of trustees Oct. 5 voted 17-6 to fire him. They accused him of failing to report church tithes and offerings, raising money in the church's name without turning the proceeds in and divulging private conversations.

The deacons then sued to keep Hodge from stepping onto church property. And an organization of Baptist churches in South Carolina revoked Hodge's ordination after he demanded the deacons be stripped of their power.

Last week, Hodge and his supporters countered with a lawsuit of their own. They argued that while the deacons nominated Hodge, they have no right to fire him because the congregation hired him by a majority vote and has confirmed him every year since then. The church has no written bylaws.

During the furor, the locks have been changed several times to keep people out. There have been shouting matches and spitting, booing, heckling and yelling during church services.

Members have passed around competing collection plates, one for those who support the minister and another — during the sermon — for those who want him gone.

The church has not had a regular service for three straight Sundays.

On Dec. 1, more than 20 law enforcement officers quelled a shouting match between Hodge supporters trying to escort him to the pulpit and detractors blocking the front door.

The next Sunday, when the children were to present their Christmas play, state Judge Howard King closed the church, citing a "real threat and danger to the individuals involved" and to the community. King dissolved his order last week, but police shut the church when members started arguing outside before the Dec. 15 service.

Hodge and his lawyer refused repeated requests for comment.

The deacons "are power struck. They've been controlling things for years," said Maggie Lane, a Hodge supporter. "This pastor wants younger people to come in. He wants to give other people a chance."

Naomi Sanders, spokeswoman for the church members who want Hodge gone, countered: "Traditionally, the deacon board has been the highest power in the church. Plus, his ordination has been revoked. Even if he came back here, he couldn't preach anyway."

King has ordered both sides to meet in his courtroom Jan. 2 to work out their problems.

"Will we be back together before Christmas?" Mrs. Sanders said. "To be honest, I don't know. It doesn't look likely, but you never know. It is the Christmas season, after all."

Gunshots from smuggled gun cited

MORELIA, Mexico (AP) — An inmate serving a sentence for murder has been shot dead at a Morelia prison, and authorities told Mexico's official news agency Friday that a fellow convict with a smuggled gun was to blame.

The inmate slain Thursday was identified as Miguel Varon Banderas, 33, serving a 20-year sentence for homicide and kidnapping, the government news agency Notimex quoted prison officials as saying.

Prison Director Adolfo Suarez Teran told Notimex he did not know how a gun could have been smuggled through several layers of security at the prison in Morelia, some 135 miles west of Mexico City.

Calvary Baptist Church Choir presents

NEAR TO THE HEART OF GOD

A Musical For Christmas

December 22, 1996

*Services begin 9:45 a.m. *Christmas theme during the day.
*Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

*Evening Services feature the youth presenting the Christmas play, "I Wonder About Christmas".

Calvary Baptist Church
2405 35th Street (4 blks. west of College Ave.)
573-2191

You'll be surprised by how warm you'll feel when someone else is wearing your coat.

It feels good to help those in need. That is why we're hoping you'll join us during the "St. Mary Cure For The Cold" coat drive. From November 18 to January 18, we invite you to drop off an old or new coat at the location listed below. Your donation will be distributed by the Scurry County Ministerial Alliance. And, in return for your generosity, you'll receive a special St. Mary Christmas ornament. With your help, the "St. Mary Cure For The Cold" will make this a warm winter for everyone.

Recipient: Scurry County Ministerial Alliance
The Scurry County Ministerial Alliance is an organization dedicated to helping Scurry County's less fortunate. Made up of religious leaders throughout the county, the alliance has graciously volunteered to help distribute coats by holding two "shopping days." During this time, those in need may come pick out a free coat for the winter.

Drop-Off Location: St. Mary Family Healthcare Center
Dr. Jim Burleson's office, 5301 Trinity Blvd. B • For additional information, call Carla at (915) 573-4926.

Sponsoring Physicians:
Nazem Abdelfattah, M.D., *Family Practice* • Jim Burleson, M.D., *Family Practice*
Gary Nussey, M.D., *Family Practice* • Paul Thompson, M.D., *Family Practice*

ST. MARY FAMILY HEALTHCARE CENTER
Building Healthier Communities

St. Mary Cure For The Cold

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We'd like to thank the following co-sponsors for helping us with the "St. Mary Cure For The Cold":

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Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

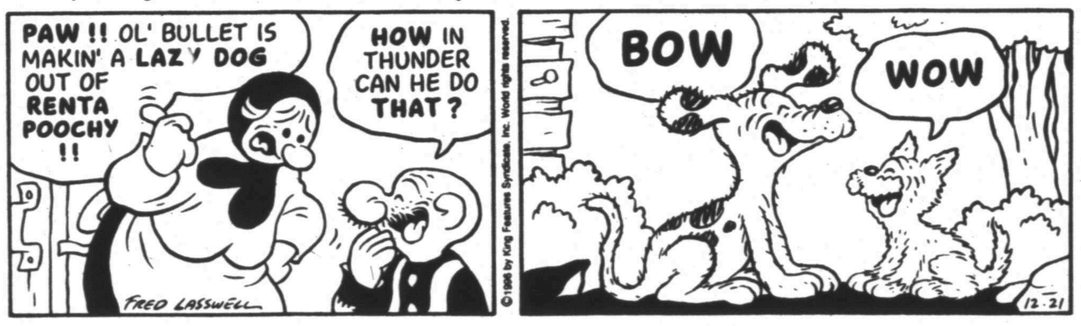
THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



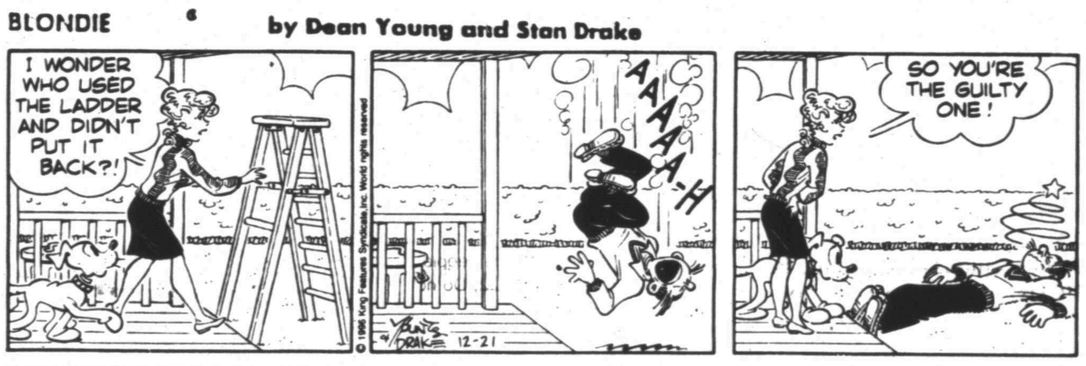
EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



Barney Google and Snuffy Smith ® By Fred Lasswell



BLONDIE ® by Dean Young and Stan Drake



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Rain clouds
6 Antelope
11 Dolts
13 Lines
14 Christmas tree decoration
15 Remove the gift paper from
16 Cowboy Rogers
17 Mosquito genus
19 Elaborate poem
20 Actor Sharif
22 Gambler's cube
23 Part of a fan
24 Cozy
26 New Delhi resident
28 — -jongg
30 Drag
31 Harper Valley grp.
32 Still
33 Dentist's concerns
36 Tree snake
39 Dissipated man
40 What suitors do
42 Wyatt —
44 Actress Lupino
45 Frosty
47 Workers' assn.
48 Lobster claw
50 Smoother
52 Package
53 Mortar ingredient
54 Requires
55 Irritated spots

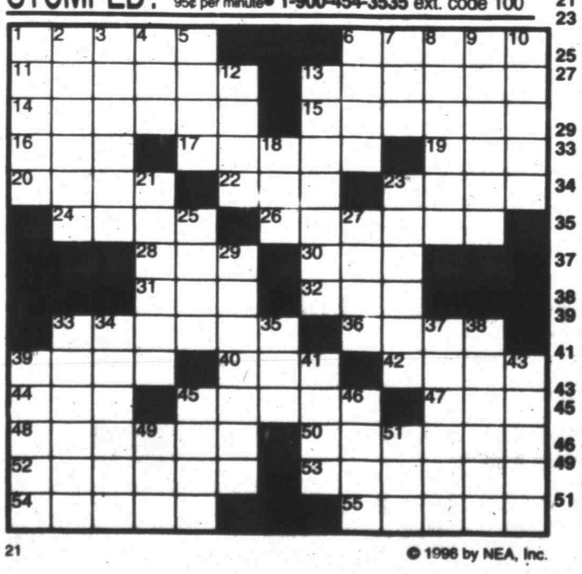
DOWN

1 Explosive (sl.)
2 Certain expressions
3 Worship quorum
4 Cow genus
5 Virginia willow
6 Convent dwellers
7 Cone-bearing shrub
8 Polar lights
9 Introduction, to a commercial perhaps
10 Colorado ski resort
12 Dog-drawn vehicle
13 Like Prince Charles' mother
18 Roman 502
21 Wrinkle
23 Foot part (2 wds.)
25 Shark
27 Battle between two people
29 Wacky
33 Seaweed product
34 Shade of difference
35 Conciliatory bribe
37 Actress Luise —
38 Actress Dahl
39 Become mature
41 Oil-exporting assn.
43 Coastal cities
45 Loch — monster
46 — St. Laurent
49 Ungentlemanly one
51 Comedian — Philips

Answer to Previous Puzzle

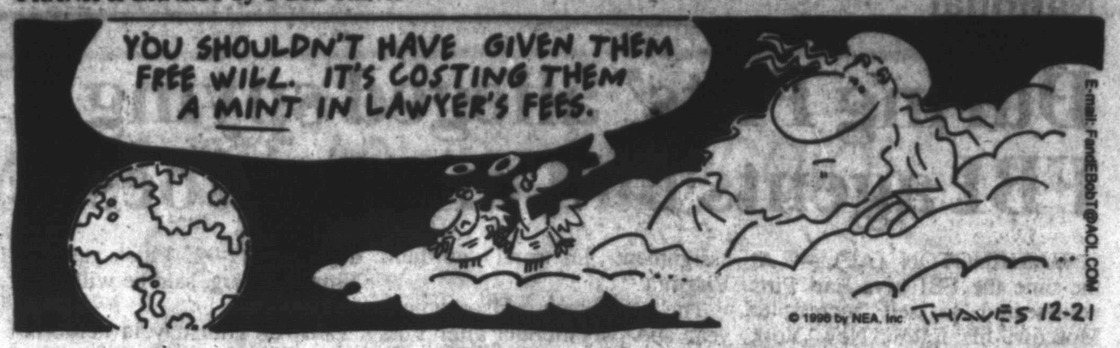
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O	B	E	S	E			W	A	I	V	E	
L	L	D		O	D	O	R		N	I	S	I
I	A	G	O		Y	O	U	N	G	E	S	T
V	I	E	R		A	N	N	O		S	O	E
E	N	D	O		N	A	G	S		T	R	A

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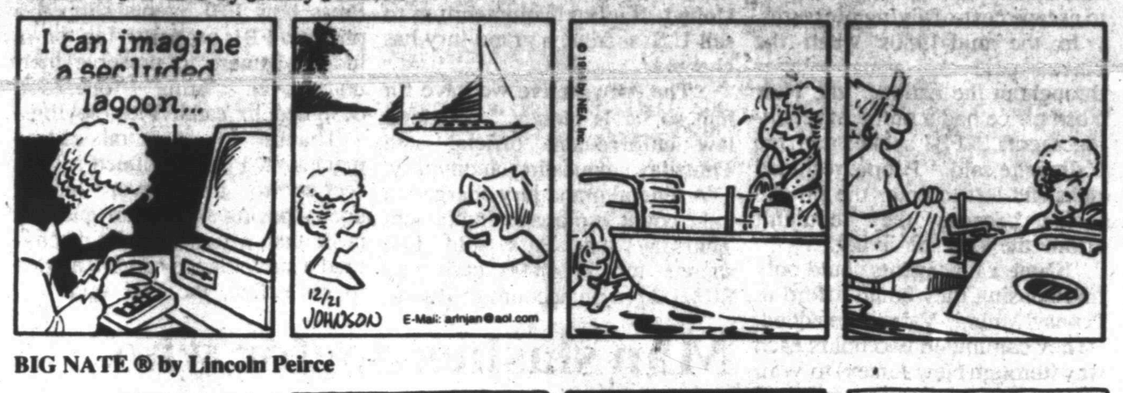


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FRANK & ERNEST by ® Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

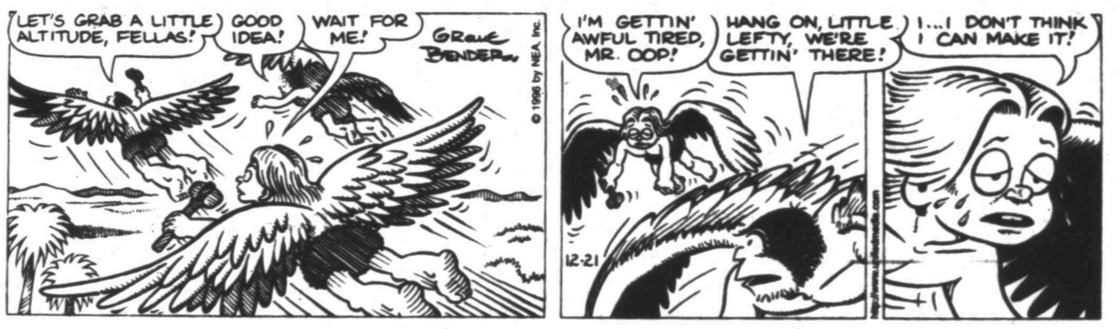


ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail: JimMeddick@aol.com



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender

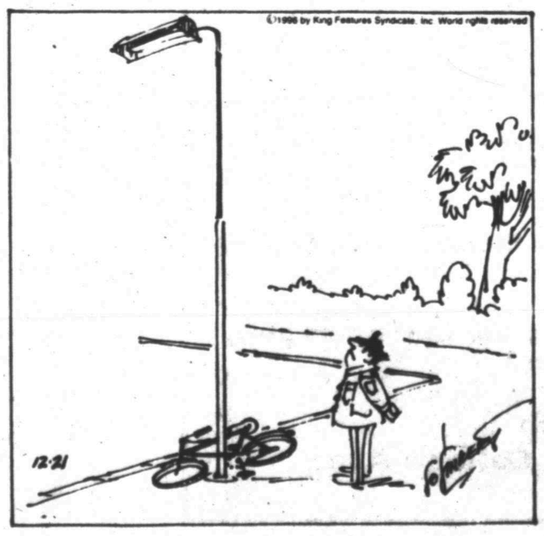


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"Please deliver everything to the right address. I work the return desk the day after Christmas!"



Pena staying in Cabinet for 2nd term

WASHINGTON (AP) — Juggling candidates in an eleventh-hour bid for diversity, President Clinton shifted Transportation Secretary Federico Pena to the Energy Department Friday and nominated Arkansan Rodney Slater to succeed him.

Plugging the last holes in his second-term Cabinet, the president also selected Andrew Cuomo, son of former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, for housing secretary and White House aide Alexis Herman to be labor secretary.

The nominees must be confirmed by the Senate.

Slater and Herman are black, giving Clinton three blacks in the 14-member Cabinet. But it was the abrupt addition of Pena that showed how much Clinton wanted to appoint a Cabinet that, as he said in 1992, "looks like America."

In a series of late-night meetings Thursday, the president had settled on a tentative list of nominees that had federal regulator Elizabeth Moler penciled in as Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary's replacement.

After the names seeped outside his tight inner circle, Clinton decided to reconsider the list because no Hispanics were slated for Cabinet posts. Hispanic Rep. Esteban Torres, D-Calif., had been mentioned for labor, but he wasn't getting the job.

With Thursday turning into Friday, the president swapped Moler for Pena. Aides argued that Pena, 49, is a stronger manager with more agency experience, but conceded that Clinton was looking for a Hispanic. Though Pena wanted out of transportation, he was never ruled out for other Cabinet posts, aides said.

The president said he did not buckle to special-interest groups.

"The pressure was pressure I put on myself," he said at a news conference unveiling domestic policy appointments. "I believe that one of my jobs at this moment in history is to demonstrate with the team I put together that no group of people should be excluded from service to our country."

The about-face overshadowed his other choices:

—Slater, 41, has been a rising star since Clinton brought him into his Arkansas administration. As federal highway administrator, he traveled more than 300,000 miles and operated a $20 billion budget.

—Herman, 49, runs the White House's public liaison office, charged with energizing and soothing Democratic constituencies, including minorities. "She is my eyes and ears" to the business and labor communities, Clinton said. Herman, once dubbed "the queen of schmooze" for winning over roomfuls of political types, said: "I understand work, and I understand workers."

—Cuomo, 38, is an assistant secretary at HUD. Stepping from his father's shadow, Cuomo pledged to help Clinton fulfill "the promise of a stronger and sweeter tomorrow." His marriage to a Kennedy heiress, Kerry Kennedy, was dubbed "Cuomolot."

Clinton bucked labor groups to appoint loyal aide Herman. And Cuomo was considered too abrasive and inexperienced by a faction within the administration, which was said to include outgoing Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros.

Clinton put four blacks, two Hispanics, three women and no Republicans in his 1992 Cabinet. Counting newly nominated, returning members and Friday's choices, the second-term Cabinet would have three blacks, one Hispanic, four women and a Republican.

In another nod to Hispanics, Clinton named Aida Alvarez, director of federal housing enterprise oversight at HUD, to replace Small Business Administration Director Phil Lader.

Clinton had already nominated Rep. Bill Richardson, a Hispanic Democrat from New Mexico, to be U.N. secretary. Though not traditional Cabinet posts, the U.N. and SBA have been given Cabinet-level status by presidential fiat.

Back To Basics

By Ellen Baker

1997 is almost here. What goals do you have for self-improvement in the new year? How about taking a class or two at Western Texas College?

A variety of courses offered could help with new or improved job skills, such as computer courses or business or accounting classes. WTC also provides opportunities for recreation and leisure activities, such as water aerobics or fine arts classes.

How about taking a photography class, learning Spanish or improving business and professional speaking skills? Other classes offered are creative writing, history or racquetball. These are just a few of the many classes available at Western Texas College.

Students who are 55 or older and are not enrolled in a degree progam are exempt from the TASP (Texas Academic Skills Program) test. This test is an evaluation of reading, English and math skills and is given to students who are enrolled at a state supported college or university, unless exempt. For those who are 55 plus, this could be just the right time to consider taking courses.

Registration begins Jan. 13, and classes begin Jan. 15. The college reopens Jan. 6 from winter break.

For more information, call 573-8511. Everyone is encouraged to begin the new year by doing something nice for themselves.

WTC is here to help.

Western Texas College is located at 6200 College Avenue in Snyder. The admissions office is in the Learning Resource Center. In Snyder, the phone number is 573-8511 ext. 394. Outside of Snyder, call us toll-free at 1-888-GO TO WTC (468-6882).

Reports: New York crime rate down due to strategies

NEW YORK (AP) — The number of murders in New York City fell to its lowest rate in nearly three decades as the city's crime rate dropped for the third year in a row, published reports said.

New York's crime rate dropped 16 percent below last year's figures and is down 47 percent since January 1993, The New York Times and New York Post reported.

"It's really remarkable," Mayor Rudolph Giuliani told the Times. "I don't think there's ever, in history, been a city with three consecutive years of double-digit drops in crime statistics."

Through Dec. 15, 937 murders were reported, reflecting a nearly 17 percent drop from last year and 50 percent since 1993.

At this rate, New York City should have fewer than 1,000 murders this year, the lowest total since 1968, authorities said.

The decline in serious crimes — murder, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, grand larceny and auto theft — means that New York could end with the sharpest drop in crimes since the end of Prohibition.

"The 1,000 mark has the same impact as the Dow Jones breaking a century number," Thomas Repetto, the head of the Citizens Crime Commission, told the Post. "It has a considerable psychological impact ... that New York is headed back to the days when crime was much less of a problem."

No large American city's statistics have declined as much as New York's during the last three years, the Times reported.

Experts credited the New York Police Department's aggressive new crime-fighting strategies, the record number of violent criminals in jail serving long prison terms and demographics that show a decline in the number of would-be criminals.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Sunday, Dec. 22, 1996

In the year ahead, you could do well in enterprises or endeavors that are both glamorous and imaginative. Look for your biggest opportunities in areas that have these elements.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today, your natural tendency could be to help those who need you, but you must take care not to bite off more than you can chew. Capricorn, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Instead of discovering too late that spending a lot of money won't guarantee a good time, try to find inexpensive ways to have fun.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Small disagreements can be blown out of proportion today if you debate a contentious issue with a colleague. Select less-volatile topics of conversation.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Allow yourself adequate time today if you have a number of errands to run. You could get a bit careless if you feel pressed for time. Drive sensibly.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Continue to be extremely prudent where your finances are concerned. Subdue the inclination to spend more than you know you should.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today you might experience more stress than usual in your personal relationships. People who usually back you up might try to block you instead.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If everything doesn't proceed according to plan today, don't make matters worse by pointing the finger at others.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Do not let peer pressure force you to do things against your best judgment today. It is better to stand alone and be right than to bend to the will of the majority.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The spotlight will be on you today, whether you welcome it or not. Do not behave in a manner that could tarnish your image. Critics will be watching.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Usually, you're pretty good at gauging the abilities and limitations of others. Today, however, you might expect too much from people.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Do not let a friend's material wealth cause you to be discontented today. You might be more aware of what others have and ignore your own blessings.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Your willingness to give people the benefit of the doubt is one of your best attributes. Today, however, you might judge harshly without good reason.

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Your Birthday

Monday, Dec. 23, 1996

The restlessness that has plagued you for the last year looks as if it will be put to rest in the year ahead. Many constructive experiences are likely to occur.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today you might have to push yourself a bit in order to be productive. However, once you get on a roll, you will have fun. Major changes are ahead for Capricorn in the coming year. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today. Mail $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Make sure to state your zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Start building meaningful bonds today with a person you've met recently. This relationship has potential.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Your strong suit today could be your ability to gauge other people's needs. This will be a terrific asset when dealing with family members.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you plan to make special preparations for the holidays, try to do as much as possible today. If you start early, the festivities will be more fun.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Today you can reap a profit because of your ability to manage your resources. Do not let others make decisions for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Projects you monitor personally should work out to your satisfaction today, even though you may have to motivate some reluctant associates.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) For best results today, keep a low profile and give others credit, even for some things you have done yourself. It might not be fair, but it will be friendly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Something that was successful for an associate could also work out to your advantage today, provided you follow his methods to the letter.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A significant objective you've yet to attain is doable today if you set your expectations a few notches higher than usual. Do not let challenges intimidate you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) It will be advantageous to be as concerned about long-term plans as you are about short-term plans. Keep this in mind today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Do not resist change today, especially if it is obvious that you can alter a situation for the better.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Today you might have to make a decision you've been trying to avoid. Unfortunately, the longer you let it go, the less control you'll have over the results.

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NBC plans sitcom

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC has singled out Jenny McCarthy to star in a situation comedy premiering next fall.

"She's got 'must see' written all over her and terrific potential as a breakout comedy star," NBC Entertainment President Warren Littlefield said Thursday of the former Playboy Playmate of the Year.

Ms. McCarthy, who recently quit as co-host of the MTV game show "Singled Out," stars in another MTV show that debuts in February.

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 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.

Marisa Barrera:
PFC Barrera, Marisa
263 Mt. Co.
Box 78
Ft. Hood, TX 76544

Ward & Rachel Baze
Ward & Rachel Baze
1506 Bundrane Apt. 119
Killeen, TX 76543
Delta Company
1st Battalion
22 Mechanized Regiment
4th Infantry Division

Scott M. Cole
RM3 Scott M. Cole
USS Safeguard ARS 50
FPO AP 96678-3221

Cole Drum:
QMSN Delton C. Drum II
MCM Rotational Crew Golf
463-29-0621
Unit 60535
FPO AE 09501-4507

Tony & Robin (Rogers) Ferard:
Tony & Robin Ferard
1925 D AMA R.D.
AMR
Honolulu, HI 96818

Cory & Jamie Fisher:
Cory & Jamie Fisher
101 South Reynolds St.
Apt. H
#406
Alexandria, VA 22304

Scott & Amy Graham:
Scott & Amy Graham
29 Ridgecrest Dr.
Hope Mills, NC 28348

Michael D. Long
Sgt. Michael D. Long
C-Trp 1/4 Cav.
CMR464 Bx. 306
APO AE 09226

Ross Hill:
Pvt. Hill, Michael R.
ALPHA Co. 10th Signal BT.
10640 South Riva Ridge Loop
Ft. Drum, NY 13602

Ed Neeley:
AIC Neeley, Ed
3128 Postal Service Cntr.
Nellis AFB
NV 89191-0041

Melchor Parra:
Melchor Parra
2/1 Weapons CO. 81 PLT
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055

Michael A. Perez:
Michael A. Perez
HHC 2-35 INF. 25 ID
Schofield Barracks, HI 96857

Brad Pilgrim
SRA Pilgrim, John B.
40 AS/DELTA (Deployed)
APO AE 09012

Mark & Stacy (Wright) Pilgrim:
Mark & Stacy Pilgrim
1006 C
Pinehurst Estates
Lakehurst, NJ 08733

Angie Ramirez:
Angie Ramirez
NTC
(Service School Command)
Combat System Dept.
ATD/BLDG 633
Great Lakes, IL 60088

Adam Scott:
Scott, Jonathan A. (Adam)
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American State Bank

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Public Records

New Vehicle Registrations

E.D. Walton Construction Co., two 1997 Chevrolet pickups from Big Country Autoland.

Wade Hatter, 1996 Chevrolet Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

Clyce Miller, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Patterson Drilling Co., three 1997 Chevrolet pickups from Big Country Autoland.

Thomas and Vina B. Strayhorn, 1996 Chevrolet Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

GELCO Corporation and B.J. Services, 1997 Ford Explorer from Jordan Ford.

D.L. Peterson Trust, 1997 Ford pickup from Williamsburg Motors.

Robert Chambers, 1997 Ford Mustang from Wilson Motors.

Trevlyn and Patti Pitner, 1997 Ford Explorer from Wilson Motors.

SWEPI, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Tennessee Pipeline, 1977 GMC pickup from Big Country Autoland.

John Velasquez, 1996 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Matthew D. Adair, 1997 Pontiac from Big County Autoland.

Isaul and Kristie Montez, 1997 Chevrolet Blazer from Big Country Autoland.

Allen Keaton, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Dwight D. Rickman, 1996 Dodge pickup from Snyder Chrysler.

Kinnith M. May, 1996 Dodge pickup from Snyder Chrysler.

Don A. Jenkins, 1996 Ford Thunderbird from Wilson Motors.

John L. Cox, three 1996 Chevrolet pickups from Big Country Autoland.

Garry Eckert, 1996 GEO wagon from Big Country Autoland.

John W. and Velma B. Pickering, 1997 Buick from Big Country Autoland.

Wayne H. and Sandra K. Nowell, 1997 Dodge pickup from Snyder Chrysler.

Marriage License

John Devin Phariss and Mary Katherine Simmons, both of Westbrook.

Christopher Darwin Harber and Misty Dawn Baker, both of Oklahoma City.

Jack Dale Beall and Sebrina Lee McCauley, both of Snyder.

Action in District Court

Murphy and Associates Inc. vs. Ember Oil Co. Inc., et al, order for dismissal with prejudice.

Terry and Thomas Vasquez, individually and as next friend of Augustin Vasquez, a minor, vs. David Landin and City of Snyder, order of dismissal.

In the marriage of George R. Larralde and Maria Guadalupe Larralde, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Kimberly Nacoe Mueller and Rodney Blain Mueller, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Tina Louise Adams and Jeffrey David Adams, divorce granted.

Deed Records

Henry G. Cisneros, secretary of Housing and Urban Development, to William R. and Jacquelin M. Patton, all of Lot 3 in Block Z of the Eastridge Addition.

W.D. and Linda Myers, D'Ann and Ross Preston, Danna and Marc Daughtry, Debbie and Joe Roemisch to J.T. Myers, all the southwest one-quarter of Section 244, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Roy J. and Susan K. Rosson to Bryan Lee and Teresa Kay French, the south 50 feet of Lot 16 and the north 25 feet of Lot 17, both in Block 3 of the Scott and Browning Addition.

Sydney E. and Loretta K. Worthen to Roy J. and Susan K. Rosson, the north 5 feet of Lot 14 and the south 72 feet of Lot 15, both in Block 8 of the Bassridge Addition.

Catarino Guerrero to Bobby Joe and Kemma Nolan, all of Lots 1 and 2 in Block 48 of the Wilmeth Addition.

Joe W. and Muriel J. Vincent to Joe B. and Sally A. Dobson, all of Lot 11 in Block E of the Towle Place Addition.

Marie Shy to Merced L. and Alberto L. Hernandez, one acre in the north one-half of Section 210, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Susan Wright Key to Max A. and Valerie Drum, all of Lot 11 in Block 3 of the Cedar Creek Addition.

H.E. Lewis to Stanley Clark, all of Lot 7 in Block 13 of the Gross Subdivision of the Scarborough Addition.

Marilyn Fay Graves to Leopoldo and Maria G. Aguilar, 13.707 acres in the northeast one-quarter of Section 191, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Julian Riley Filler to Glynda Dupy, all of Lot 18 and the south 48 feet of Lot 19 in Block 5 of the Von Roeder Heights Addition.

Lee Brown, Earline Faulkenberry, Juanita B. Cooks Hicks and Ted R. Brown, Trustee of the Ted R. Brown 1993 Trust, to Richard Todd and Paige S. Shaw, all the northeast one-quarter of Section 14, Block 3, H&GN survey.

JCD Family Partnership LTD to Philip A. and Eva A. Robinson, 3.5 acres in the northeast one-quarter of Section 381, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Erminia Terrazas to Roseann Lujan, all of Lot 3 in Block 34 of the Cody Heights Addition.

Hazel Haynes to Jimmy Haynes, 33.43 acres in Section 124, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Assistant superintendent says schools need money

AUSTIN (AP) — Taxpayers in Socorro Independent School District have dug deep in their pockets to pay for classroom computers but more funds are needed to prepare students for the future, an administrator testified Thursday.

"Right now, what we're doing is minimal," Sue Shook, assistant superintendent for strategic planning at Socorro ISD in El Paso, testified in a lawsuit by more than 80 school districts against the State Board of Education.

The school districts contend the state board is withholding an estimated $89 million in state aid that should be spent on computers and other technology statewide.

Rather than the $30 per student they got this year, the districts say they should be getting $55 per student.

State lawyers say the board doesn't believe it has the legal authority to distribute the extra money. They cite a discrepancy between the education law's provision for increased technology funding and the state budget, which doesn't provide for the increase.

In addition, state lawyers say, a decision in the case should be delayed until the Legislature has a chance to act. Lawmakers meet in regular session beginning in January.

State district Judge F. Scott McCown took the case under advisement after Thursday's hearing concluded.

Ms. Shook said her school district spends about $220 per student on technology, with $100 of that coming from bond proceeds that will no longer be available after this year.

More state funds would allow the school district to accelerate its technology plan, perhaps paving the way for more computers. Currently, the school district has one computer in every classroom connected to the Internet, she said.

Poll: public getting the message about risk with air bags

WASHINGTON (AP) — The vast majority of adults believe it is dangerous for a child to ride in a car's front passenger seat when it has an air bag, according to an Associated Press poll.

Suggesting the public has gotten the message that air bags can kill or injure children, 83 percent of those polled said the passenger-side air bag made the ride more dangerous for children age 12 or under.

Yet seven in 10 said they wanted at least one air bag in their car, indicating they also recognize that air bags have saved the lives of hundreds of adults.

Air bags, which deploy up to 200 miles per hour, have saved more than 1,600 lives. But the force of a deploying air bag has been blamed for the deaths of at least 32 children, mostly by delivering a knockout blow to the head and neck in low-speed accidents they otherwise would have survived.

In the poll, even more adults — 88 percent — said it was important when a car had dual air bags to put small children in the back seat. Only 10 percent said it was not important to put a child age 12 or under in the back seat all the time.

The high percentage was consistent across all types of adults — young and old, with or without college educations and those with or without small children.

This year, automakers, the government and insurance and safety groups have undertaken a public information campaign stressing that children age 12 and under should sit in back seats.

"No question the message is getting out," said Art Spinella of CNW Marketing Research in Bandon, Ore.

"I'm impressed that many people knew" to put a child in back, said Mike Flynn of the University of Michigan's Office for the Study of Automotive Transportation. Although he warned there can be "a disconnect between what people know and the way they actually behave."

Automakers and government officials believe changing behavior is essential to preventing more deaths of children from air bags. They also have said repeatedly that air bags should be used with seat belts so children are not pulled toward the dashboard in pre-impact braking.

The poll of 1,003 adults was taken by telephone Dec. 11-15 by ICR of Media, Pa. Results have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

A majority said if they were buying a car today, they would want air bags on both the driver and passenger side. More than three-quarters of that majority said they would be willing to pay more for a car with dual air bags.

"The majority of people still perceive air bags as better than no air bags," said Spinella. "They understand that air bags can save your life."

Nearly three-quarters of those polled said car owners should have the option to disconnect air bags.

Birth defect

NEW YORK (AP) — The artist formerly known as Prince confirmed Thursday that his first child was born in October with some kind of problem, but he would not elaborate.

Appearing on NBC's "Today" with wife Mayte, the former Prince said: "All I can say is that I'd like to believe that we're both enlightened individuals that know that if you leave things in God's hands you'll find out everything, and you'll find out the answer to the plan. So anything that happens, we accept."

LEGENDARY TEXIANS

Joe Tom Davis



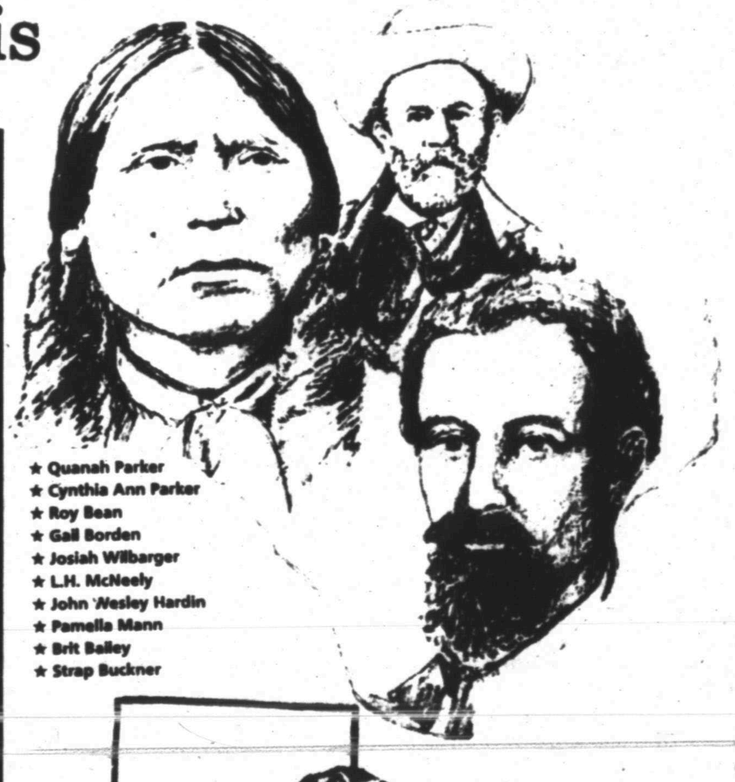
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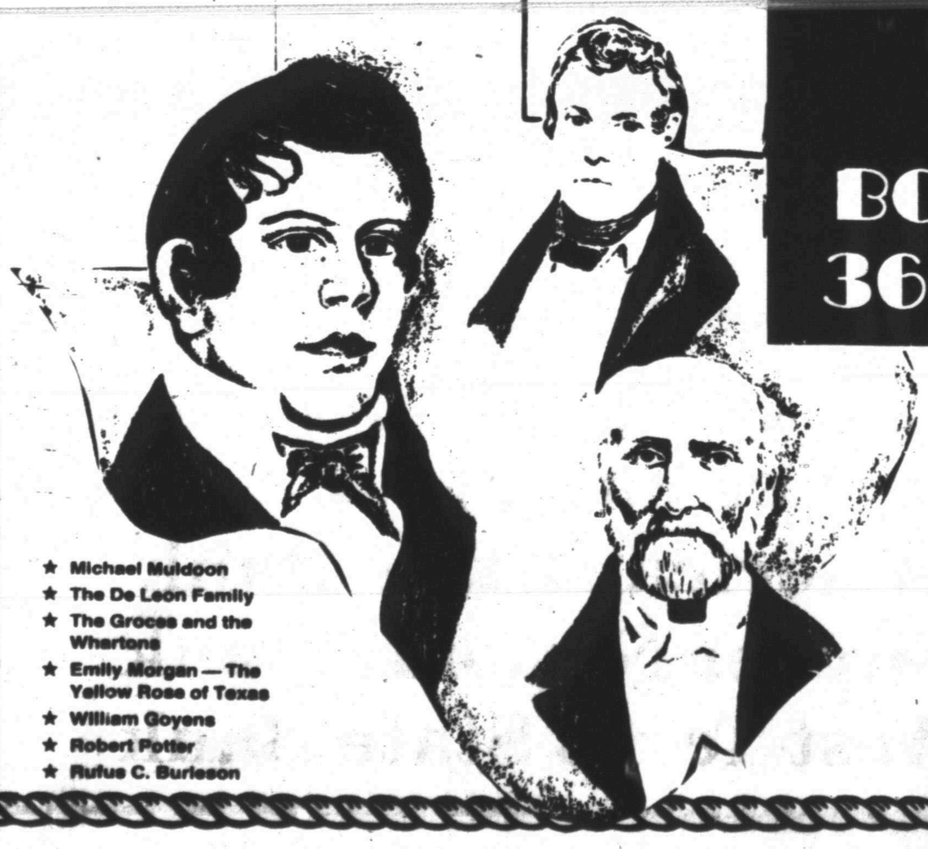
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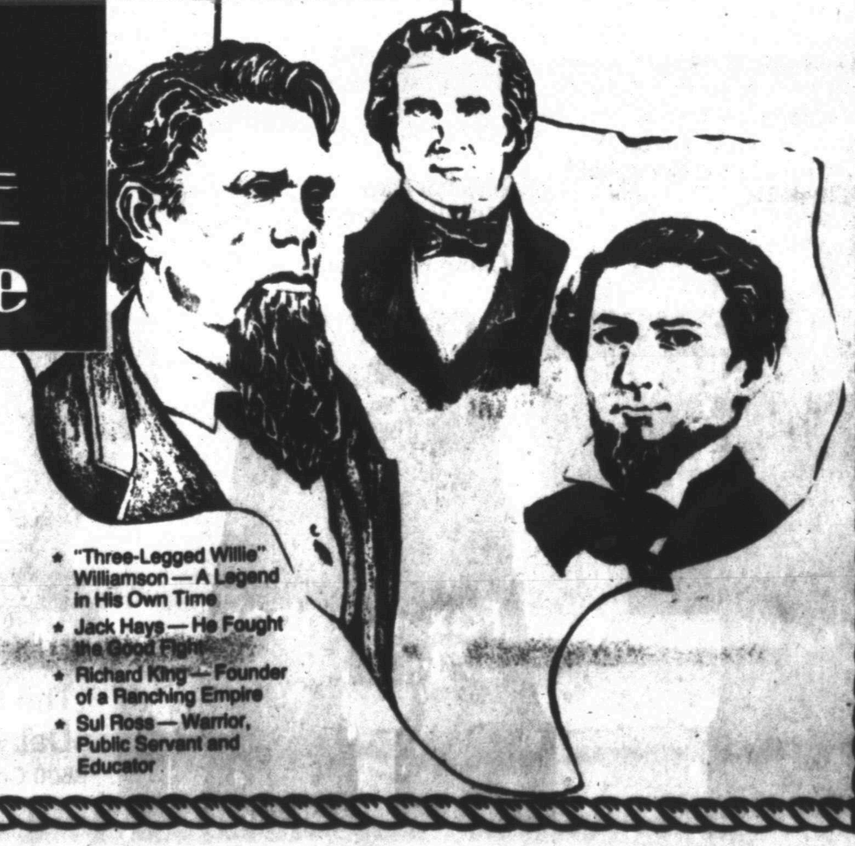


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