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WT-Int. Crude - $26.33
WTIC Posted - $23.50

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

Dec. 8, 1999
Vol. 51 No. 188
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Robert Early



RESCUE — Emergency personnel work to free truck driver Carl Robinson from the cab following a accident shortly after 10 this morning. The bottom photo shows the accident scene.

Two persons file for county constable spots

The list of political candidates continues to grow in Scurry County as two persons have filed for vacant constable positions.

Kirk Taylor, operator of Kwik Kar Lube and Tune, has filed on the Republican ticket for the constable position in Precinct 1, while Jeff Duck has filed for the constable position in Precinct 2 as a Democrat.

Precinct 1 covers the immediate Snyder area, while Precinct 2 is the Hermleigh area.

Taylor has lived in Snyder for 10 years. He and his wife, Jodi, have three children. Anthony is six years old, while Hayley is four and Hayden is two.

"First, I am running for Scurry County constable because I love law enforcement and the responsibility and challenge that comes with it. Secondly, I love being able to serve my customers at Kwik Kar Lube and I want to make sure they get the best service possible. Thirdly, I love giving back to my community," said Taylor.

"And since a constable is not paid a salary, I feel that I would really be exercising a community service," added Taylor.

Taylor has previous law enforcement experience and is certified in Texas.

"I would appreciate your vote for Scurry County constable," said Taylor.

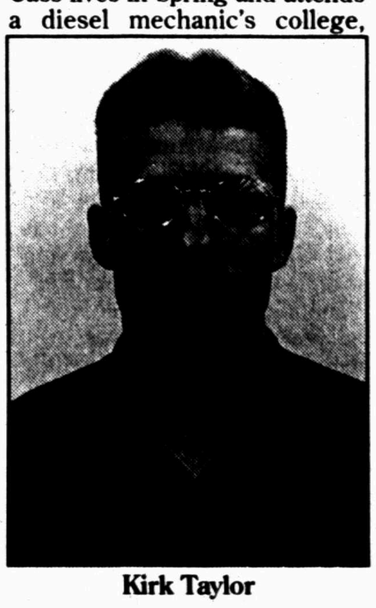
Duck is a truck driver for Patterson Drilling Co.

Duck and his wife. Sudie, have lived in Scurry County for the past four years.

Duck has a background in law enforcement, including serving as a constable for three years and a deputy sheriff for 10 years in Leon County.

He is a native of Oakwood in east Texas. His wife is a dispatcher for the Scurry County Sheriff's Department.

They have three children. Cass lives in Spring and attends a diesel mechanic's college, while Billy Wayne and David attend Hermleigh schools.



Kirk Taylor

These two candidates join Sheriff Darren Jackson, County Attorney Mike Hartman, District Judge Ernie Armstrong and Diana Williamson – who has filed for tax assessor/collector – with no opponents.

Precinct 1 commissioner Ralph Trevey has drawn two opponents for the March Democratic primary. Bill Baldwin and Cloyce Scarberry have both filed for Trevey's spot.

Precinct 3 commissioner Howard Limmer will have an opponent in the Republican primary as Joe Bass has also announced for the post.

THE SDN COLUMN

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Seems impossible to be over the hill when you've never reached the top of it."

The moon and stars must have temporarily been out of alignment.

We actually saw I.E. Martin turn down a refill. He's the part-time mechanic and full-time coffee drinker.

There are ways, however, to know when you're about to overdose on caffeine.

—Juan Valdez names his donkey after you.

—You grind your coffee beans in your mouth.

—The only time you're standing still is during an earthquake.

—You can take a picture of yourself from 10 feet away without using the timer.

—You lick your coffeepot clean.

—You spend vacations visiting Maxwell House.

—You're named employee of the month at the local coffee shop and you don't even work there.

—The coffee shop lets you work the cash register.

—Your eyes stay open when you sneeze.

—You can jump-start a car without cables.

—All your kids are named Joe.

—You go to AA meetings just for the free coffee.

—You build a miniature city out of little plastic stirrers.

—People get dizzy just watching you.

—When you find a penny you say, "Find a penny, pick it up. Sixty-three more and I'll have a cup."

—The Taster's Choice couple invites you over.

—Starbucks owns the mortgage on you home.

—You're so wired, you pickup up radio signals.

—Your goal in life is to "amount to a hill of coffee beans."

—Instant coffee takes too long.

—When someone asks about your health, you reply, "Good to the last drop."

—You go to sleep just so you can wake up and smell the coffee.

—You're offended when people use the word "brew" to refer to beer.

—You name your cats "Sugar" and "Cream."

—Your lips are permanently stuck in the sipping position.

—You don't even wait for water to boil anymore.

—You think being called a drip is actually a compliment.

—You don't tan, you roast.

—You introduce your better half as your "Coffeemate."

—You think CPR stands for "Coffee Provides Resuscitation.

Two injured in accident on Highway 84

Two men were injured — one believed seriously — in a two-vehicle accident that occurred this morning on U.S. 84, eight miles northwest of Snyder.

The two were taken to Snyder's Cogdell Memorial Hospital where they were being evaluated and treated shortly before noon.

The accident occurred in front of the Eiland Ranch shortly after 10 a.m.

A 1997 Ford F-350 XLT pickup, towing a Gooseneck trailer and driven by Joe Walker of Lamar, Colo., was attempting to turn into the ranch when it was apparently hit from the rear by an International truck-tractor owned by J.B. Hunt and driven by Carl Robinson of Fort Worth.

All vehicles were traveling west and went through a pipe fence and came to rest adjacent to a barn.

The Jaws of Life was used to free Robinson from the cab of the truck. Both drivers were taken to Cogdell by Snyder EMS.

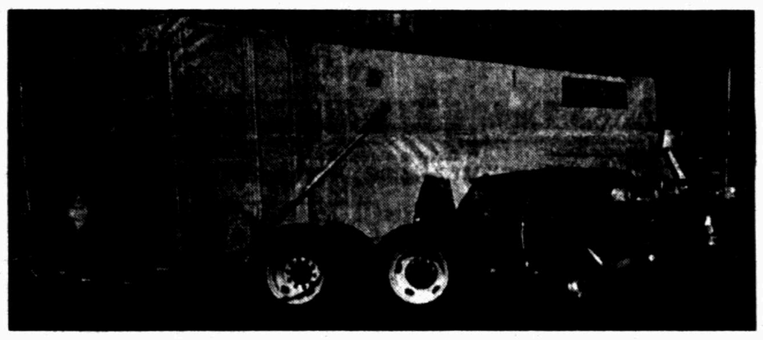
Also responding to the accident were personnel from Scurry County Sheriff's Office, Snyder Fire Department, Department of Public Safety and Texas Department of Transportation.

Bill Eiland, owner of the Eiland Ranch, said he was standing in an adjacent horse corral when the accident occurred.

"I was just waiting for Joe to pull in and pick up some horses," said a visibly shaken Eiland.

His son-in-law, Terry Martin, who was also waiting on Walker to pull in, said a lot more people could have been injured.

"It's hard to believe that no one else was hurt," said Martin.



Truck spills acid in San Antonio wreck

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — An 18-wheeler overturned at rush hour at a major downtown interstate highway interchange today and leaked hydrochloric acid, police said.

The accident happened about 8:45 a.m. as the truck took a curving ramp from Interstate 35 onto Interstate 10 on the northwest corner of downtown, said police spokeswoman Sandy Gutierrez.

Occupants of homes and buildings within a one-mile radius were asked to leave voluntarily or remain indoors. About 2,500 students from Fox Tech High School, and Austin, Travis and Bowie elementary schools were ordered to leave.

"The police department and fire department are working jointly to evacuate any affected areas," said Sgt. Ernest Celaya, a police spokesman.

Celaya confirmed that the leaking cargo was hydrochloric acid. He said the truck driver was taken to University Hospital in undetermined condition for treatment of chemical burns. No other injuries were reported, he said.

Students from the evacuated schools were taken by bus to the Alamo Convocation Center, officials said. An American Red Cross shelter has been opened at Trinity Baptist Church to house displaced residents, said Red Cross spokeswoman Jennifer Fey.

Police closed the southbound lanes of Interstate 35 near the wreck and diverted traffic, Ms. Gutierrez said.

Winds of up to 15 mph were blowing to the north-northwest, away from the downtown area.



Hot checks result in indictment and arrest

A Snyder man who had written several hot checks to businesses in the community was arrested Tuesday following an indictment by the Scurry County grand jury.

On Monday, the grand jury indicted Randy Don Bryan, 36, of Royal Trailer Park, No. 47, for third degree felony theft.

Bryan was taken into custody at 7 p.m. in the 1600 block of 37th Street by deputy Steven Schwartz.

He was later released after posting $5,000 bond, plus a $1,000 Mitchell County bond for theft by check in that county.

In all, he was charged with writing 11 worthless checks from April through August.

Local files suit alleging disability discrimination

A 45-year-old Snyder man has filed a lawsuit in federal court against his former employer, citing age and disability discrimination.

George P. Romero filed the lawsuit Tuesday in Lubbock's U.S. District Court against Weatherford Enterra, U.S. Inc.

Romero accuses the company of firing him after he developed some medical restrictions in May, 1996 after having a pacemaker implanted.

He is being represented by attorney Donald Cummings of Lubbock.

Romero had been with the company 22 years, working as a truck driver and shop hand.

He was laid off four months after the surgery when company officials said there was a reduction in the work force, according to the lawsuit.

He is seeking back pay, loss of benefits and other job-related damages under the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

He is also seeking compensatory and punitive damages under the Civil Rights Act of 1991, based on his belief "that the job termination was undertaken on the part of the defendant with malice or reckless indifference to the rights of the plaintiff to be free from unlawful disability discrimination."

Drama classes schedule show

Snyder High School's drama department will produce a Christmas show entitled *Christmas Follies* Friday and Saturday.

The family-oriented show will appeal to all ages. Curtain time each night is 7:30.

All tickets are $4.

The show will feature a lot of talent at Snyder High School, according to SHS drama instructor Jerry Worsham.

"There will be humor, dance, music and acting," said Worsham.

Included in the presentation will be a Christmas light show.

ASK US

Q—I got a call from a person representing themselves as from the Snyder Chamber of Commerce seeking information. Is the chamber making these calls?

A—No. No one has authorization to use the chamber name.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 68 degrees; low, 33; reading at 7 a.m. Wednesday, 42; no precipitation; total for 1999 to date, 21.86 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear and breezy with lower in lower 30s. Thursday, sunny and cooler. High near 55. North wind 10-20 mph.



Charley Stewart
Sunny & Cooler

Sunset:
5:41 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:30 a.m.
Of 341 days in 1999, the sun has shone 334 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

I couldn't wait for success...so I went ahead without it.

—Jonathan Winters

Civil lawsuit claims sexual assault by Lamar Hunt's son

DALLAS (AP) — A civil lawsuit accuses Lamar Hunt Jr., son of sports magnate Lamar Hunt and a member of one of Texas' most prominent and wealthiest families, of sexually assaulting his mentally disabled sister-in-law.

The Dallas Morning News reported today that plaintiffs' attorneys say Hunt, 43, has acknowledged making unwanted advances on the woman and having sex with her.

The primary evidence cited in the lawsuit is a 10-page handwritten document titled "Confessions of a Sex Addict" they say Hunt gave his wife, Jocelyn Hunt, nearly two years ago.

Donald Flanary, a lawyer who represents Hunt, confirmed Tuesday that his client wrote the document.

He declined to comment further, saying Hunt's family would respond Wednesday. Hunt is the grandson of pioneer Texas oil wildcatter H.L. Hunt.

Jocelyn Hunt cited the purported confession last year when filing for divorce, which is pending with court papers sealed.

Attorney Jack Baldwin, who represents Mrs. Hunt's sister, Judy Fitzpatrick, said no criminal complaint has been filed against Hunt, but "it's an option that's open."

Attorneys said Ms. Fitzpatrick lives in Pennsylvania with another sister who helps care for her and consented to the release of her name. The Associated Press normally does not identify sexual assault complainants unless they or their guardians consent.

In court papers in the lawsuit Baldwin filed Monday in Dallas on Ms. Fitzpatrick's behalf, the woman "has been diagnosed with moderate to severe learning disabilities, cognitive deficits and social deficiencies. ... She has lived with her parents or a sibling for 40 of the 41 years of her life."

The alleged assaults occurred two years ago, the lawsuit says, when Ms. Fitzpatrick was visiting the Hunts at their suburban Dallas home.

"I made unwanted advances on her on consecutive nights," Hunt said in the "confession."

The writer described the sex acts and added, "If this is disturbing, I am sorry, but I think that for whatever reason God wants me to expel this demon."

Political storm centers on boy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration says it recognizes a father's right to assert his claim to take his 6-year-old son back home to Cuba even though the boy says he wants to stay in Miami.

State Department spokesman James Foley said Tuesday that the Immigration and Naturalization Service will contact Juan Miguel Gonzalez "to explain the process by which it will evaluate his rights in the case" of his son, Elian Gonzalez.

The statement followed increasingly strident demands by Cuba for the return of the boy, who arrived unaccompanied in South Florida last month after a boat sank en route from the island to the United States.

"We are committed to working with the family of Elian Gonzalez, including the father, and all relevant Cuban officials to achieve an appropriate resolution to the case," Foley said.

Elian's mother and stepfather died in the illegal attempt to flee to the United States. His father has insisted on the boy's return to Cuba.

Coaxed by relatives to talk publicly Elian said, "I want to stay."

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Despite All Evidence, People Still Drink Themselves To Death

DEAR ABBY: I am a medical student near graduation. In my admittedly brief experience in the local hospitals, I have already seen the damage alcohol and drugs can wreak on a life and the many relationships it poisons. Too often it takes a dramatic, life-threatening and socially costly event to provide a patient "insight" into his problem.

In June 2000, I will receive my medical license. I wrote the following in the selfish hope that it will keep me from having to deliver this bitter news, even for just one night. The words in quotes are my spoken words. The words in parentheses are what I'm really thinking. — HEALER IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR HEALER: The short essay you have written is sobering and thought-provoking. I hope its message will reach those who need to heed it — and remind them to set limits on the amount they imbibe. Read on:

"I realize you must be upset, Mrs. ____." (But you can only imagine how frustrated I am by this daily occurrence.)

"I am calling to inform you of your son's admission to the hospital." (Where we still haven't figured out why people do this to themselves.)

"As I understand it, the paramedics were called" (to a party where no one was sober enough to explain what happened) "and were required to administer CPR in order to revive your son's heart." (While his friends continued their drunken reveling, undisturbed.)

"He is currently on a machine to assist in his ventilation." (Because he drank so much he stopped breathing.)

"His brain suffered a significant period of anoxia." (And if he ever wakes up, he can never have his life back.)

"His condition is serious, but he is receiving expert care." (I wish I could tell you just how worried you should be!)

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a strict Catholic who does not believe in "kinky" activities. It was my second date with a seemingly conservative gentleman. Everything was going well, so I felt comfortable holding hands with him — until he proceeded to stick my pointer-finger in his mouth. We had just come from dinner, so he couldn't possibly have been hungry!

What are your thoughts on this situation? — SHOCKED IN PITTSBURGH

DEAR SHOCKED: It could have been worse. At least he wasn't a thumb-sucker.

Never do anything you're not comfortable doing. There are men out there who will respect you just the way you are. If he's not for you, fix him up with a nail-biter. They'll think they died and went to heaven.

**

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

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Last two teens in wilderness escape taken into custody

CEDAR CITY, Utah (AP) — The last two teens who escaped from a wilderness program were taken into custody early today in Iron County.

The sheriff's office said one boy was walking along the tracks and flagged down a freight train near Latimer, 40 miles northwest of Cedar City.

The train took him to Lund, about 30 miles northwest of Cedar City, and he was turned over to sheriff's officers. He told them where the other youth was and deputies found him walking along the tracks.

"They were just ready to come in," said a deputy, who asked not to be identified.

The two teens, who were in good condition, were taken to a youth detention center at Cedar City.

The two teens were part of a group of eight who allegedly assaulted their counselors and escaped on Saturday.

Mitch Cole, a spokesman for the RedCliff Ascent Therapy Program, had said Tuesday that he thought the last two youths might have been hiding near the Circle Four Farms and sneaking into the hog farm to get food from vending machines and use showers.

He said Beaver County Sheriff Kenneth Yardley had agreed to stake out the farm Tuesday night and continue to search the area today,

Earlier Tuesday, Iron County Sheriff David Benson said he believed the boys had left the desert overlapping the two counties.

"I pulled all of my guys out of the field," he said Tuesday. "It's better to have them in the office working the search nationwide and not out here in the sagebrush."

RedCliff has not been allowed to question the boys in custody because their parents have indicated they have hired lawyers for their sons, Cole said. The boys, ages 14-16, have not been identified.

Five boys, four of whom were captured near Beryl and not Modena as earlier reported, were captured Monday.

Cole had discounted a tip that one of the last two boys had called a girl friend and asked her to wire money to him at Ely, Nev. He also didn't believe the claim by a boy who turned himself in at Circle Four earlier that the remaining two were headed toward Ely.

Ely is 140 miles from where the teens overpowered their counselors during an extended wilderness ng. They escaped into the Utah desert with blankets and food.

"They just didn't want to be out camping," said Stock, an instructor for RedCliff Ascent Inc., which takes teens sent by their parents or courts to the mile-high desert of southwest Utah. "They had it figured out."

The boys split up during their escape, making it harder for authorities to round them up.

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to use for republication all news dispatches in this newspaper and also local news published for republication of special dispatches.

Faces From The Past...

Do You Know These Faces? If You Do... ENTER!! You Don't Have To Know Them All..

The Prize For The Winner This Week Will Be
Prairie Nights To Neon Lights
The Story Of Country Music in West Texas
From The **Snyder Daily News**
3600 College Ave. 573-5486

1.

Texas Savings Bank
LOBBY HOURS 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
NEW DRIVE-IN HOURS 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
P.O. BOX 810
3610 COLLEGE AVENUE
SNYDER, TEXAS 79549
(915) 573-9305
1-800-725-9305
FDIC

2.

Fast Oil Change
Mark & Angie Strickland
417 27th Street
(Ave E & 25th Street)
915-573-9643

3.

PLAZA CAFE
FRIDAY NIGHT SEAFOOD BUFFET
5-9 p.m.
Catfish • Shrimp • Fried Clams
Stuffed Crab • Baked Fish
Hwy. 84 Bypass & Huffman

4.

CUTTING Edge HAIR SALON
XALYN PALACIOS
574-EDGE (3343)
2109 COLLEGE AVE.
SNYDER, TX 79549

5.

WEST TEXAS STATE BANK
Member FDIC

6.

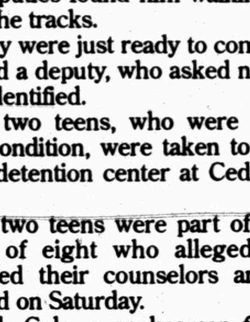
American State Bank
"Right Size To Be Friendly"
573-4041
3810 College Ave.
FDIC

7.

TIGER FANATICS
Rudy's
4604 College
573-7455

8.

Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home
3101 College Ave.
573-5454

9.

SNYDER DAILY NEWS
3600 College Ave
573-5486

10

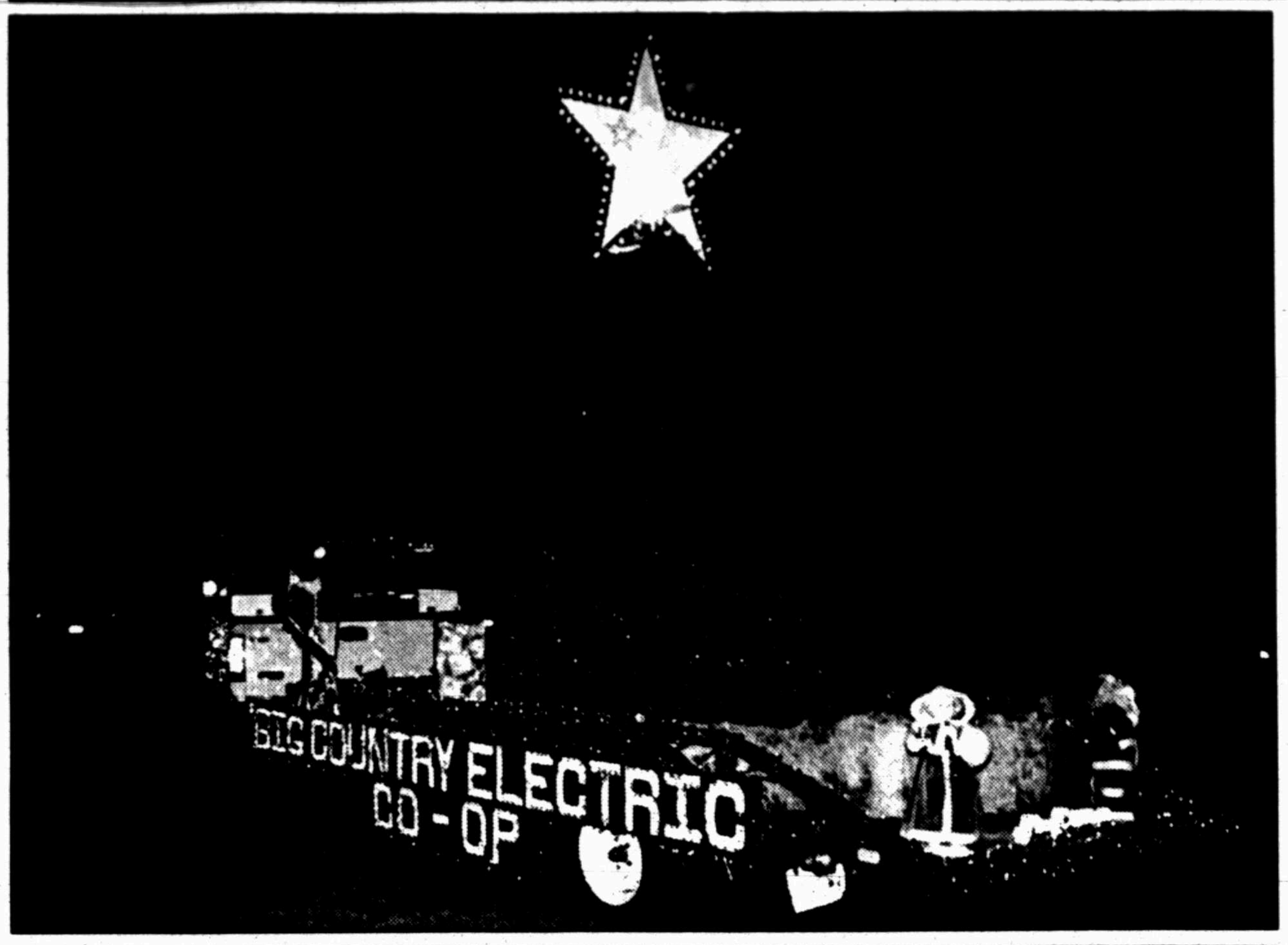
THE SUBWAY A SANDWICH SHOULD BE.
3903 College Ave.
573-9782
Snyder, Texas

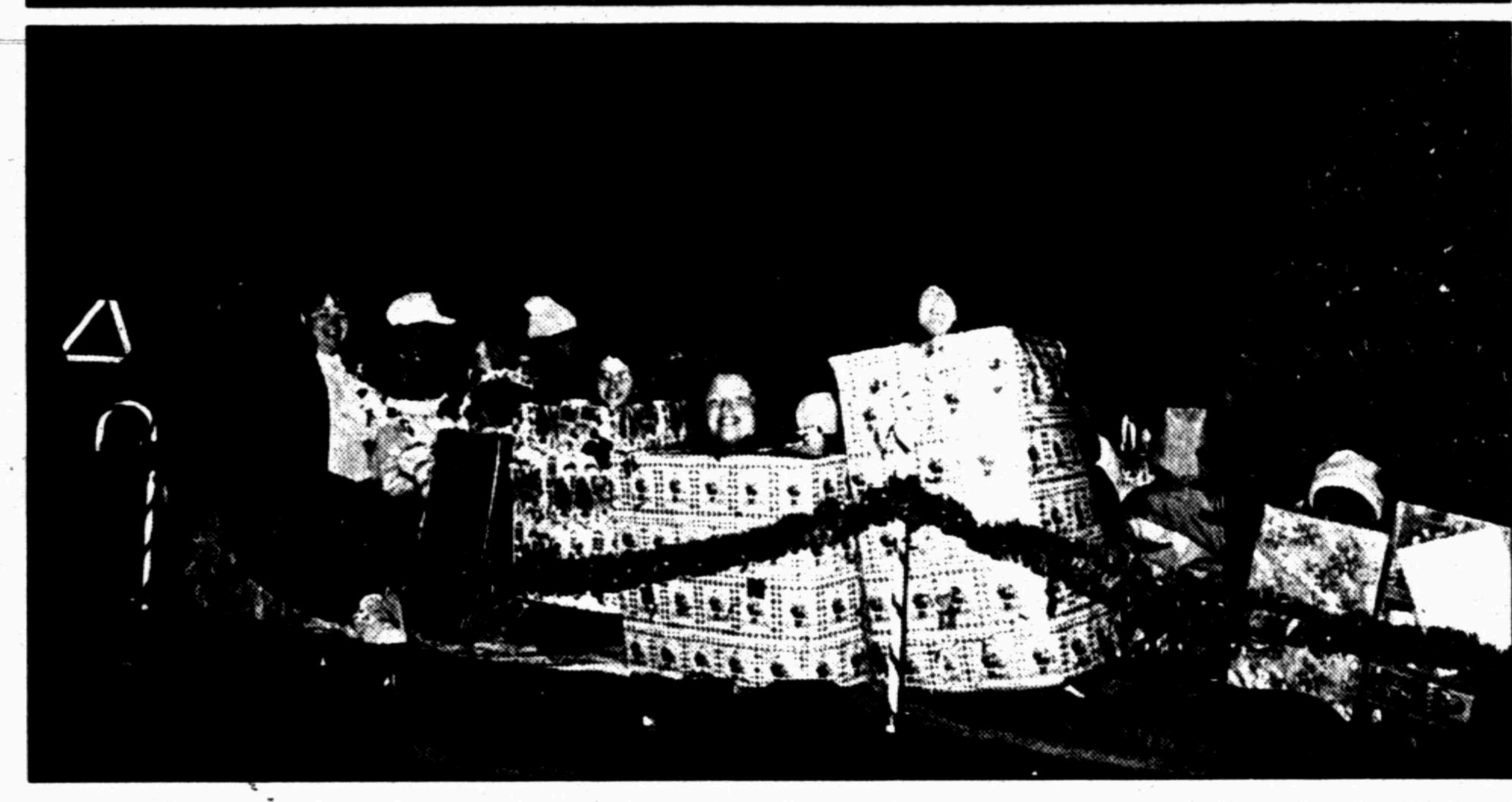
LAST WEEK WINNER IS KATY NEWTON

Faces From The Past Entry Week 97
1. Texas Savings Bank _____
2. Fast Oil Change _____
3. Plaza Cafe _____
4. Cutting Edge _____
5. West Texas State Bank _____
6. American State Bank _____
7. Rudy's Restaurant _____
8. Bell-Cypert-Seale _____
9. Snyder Daily News _____
10. Subway _____
Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

In each advertisement you will find a face from the past. Identify the faces on the entry blank opposite the name of the sponsoring business. **Bring or mail the entry blank to the Snyder Daily News, 3600 College, PO Box 949.** The deadline for entering is 5 p.m. Monday before the next contest appears on Wednesday. The weekly prize winner will be drawn from all the correct entries. The winner will be notified. This week's faces will be identified in next week's contest. Only one entry per person, and please do not make copies of the entry blank. Employees of the SDN are not eligible to enter.

Last Week's Photos: 1. Mark Doty 2. Shawna Chrane 3. Brad Hart 4.Shane Gann 5. Allison Adams 6. Tonya Cox 7. Angie Housden 8. Mark Helms 9. Jayme Gregory 10. Mark Murphy





FLOAT WINNERS — Big Country Electric Co-op, top photo, won second place in the Lighted Christmas Parade Saturday night. Third place winner was the Girl Scout float. (Staff Photos by Jo Ann Nunley)

George Bush gets past two debates without big mistake

PHOENIX (AP) — George W. Bush has participated in two debates without a major mistake, but his sometimes scripted and vague answers continue to raise questions about his readiness to be president.

On Tuesday, the Texas governor insisted he is the most qualified of the Republican presidential contenders because he's been an entrepreneur and runs the nation's second-largest state.

"That's what people have to decide in this campaign. Who's been in the position to make decisions?" Bush told reporters the morning after his second presidential debate.

"The other two elected officials have spent a lot of time in Washington," he said, referring to two of his rivals, Sens. John McCain of Arizona and Orrin Hatch of Utah. "If you listened very carefully, everybody was attacking Washington last night."

While Bush has failed to silence questions about his political heft, his rivals have been equally unable to dislodge him from the front of the pack despite subtle and not-so-subtle attacks.

That has been the dynamic of the GOP contest in recent weeks, and may spur fresh attacks when the group debates again in Des Moines, Iowa, on Monday, their final meeting before a fresh round of debates in January.

Hatch raised the issue of Bush's experience in Monday's debate here, saying Bush should consider being his running mate because nearly five years as governor don't qualify him to be president.

"You should have eight years with me and boy, you'll make a heck of a president after eight years," Hatch said, only half in jest.

McCain pounced after Bush failed to answer directly a question about the foreign policy of Dean Acheson, President Truman's secretary of state and the subject of a biography that Bush previously said he is reading.

After answering a question on another subject, McCain returned to Acheson and spoke about the secretary briefing Truman on North Korea invading South Korea.

A jocular McCain poked at Bush again Tuesday from New Hampshire where he was campaigning, telling reporters: "I thought (Hatch's) line about vice president was one that we all wanted to use, but he's used it first."

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 12-08-99
♠ 6 5 2
♥ 7
♦ Q 4 3
♣ K 10 9 8 6 2

West
♠ A Q 10 7 4
♥ A 9 2
♦ 10 8 7 6 5
♣ ---

East
♠ 9 8 3
♥ Q J 10 4 3
♦ 9 2
♣ Q 7 3

South
♠ K J
♥ K 8 6 5
♦ A K J
♣ A J 5 4

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 7

The number-one criterion

By Phillip Alder

What separates experts from less good players? There are several factors, but the primary answer is counting. Experts do lots of counting, whereas less good players do not; otherwise, they would also be experts. Now there is some help at hand for the ambitious in "Countdown to Winning Bridge" by Tim Bourke and Marc Smith (Master Point Press).

You learn about the basics of counting, then get to practice both as declarer and as a defender. Also, each of the 19 chapters ends with a list of the lessons gleaned therein.

This is an instructive deal. How would you plan the play in three no-trump? West leads the spade seven: two, three, jack.

You have six top tricks: one spade (from trick one), three diamonds and two clubs. If the missing clubs are 2-1, there is an easy overtrick available. But what if clubs are 3-0? Who has the tripleton?

Perhaps you feel because West is longer in spades than East, you should play East for long clubs. However, suppose North had become the declarer in three no-trump. East would have led the heart queen. Now you would have been inclined to play West for the club length. Watch out for this pitfall.

The answer is to delay the decision, first cashing your three diamond tricks. Here, you see East discard on the third round. This makes it clear to play a club to dummy's king. When West discards, you finesse the club jack, cash the club ace, and run the rest of the clubs.

The book is $18.95 postpaid from Baron Barclay Bridge Supplies. Call (800) 274-2221 to order.

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Aggies' Silver Taps remembers victims

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Many stood for an hour or longer in the brisk night air, hands shoved deep into coat pockets or clasping the hands of loved ones, eyes downcast or straining to pierce the darkness.

By 10:15 p.m. Tuesday more than a thousand people had gathered along the edges of the rectangular plaza in the heart of the Texas A&M campus, but none spoke. Only the sound of distant traffic, an occasional cough or beep of a digital watch broke the silence.

Then hymns pealed from nearby Albritton tower, signaling the start of Silver Taps, a century-old Aggie tradition held each month when a student has died. Tuesday's ceremony was a solemn final tribute to 11 students killed in the school's worst on-campus disaster — the Nov. 18 collapse of the annual bonfire stack.

At last came the slow rhythm of marching boots and the gleam of white dress uniforms moving through the sea of shadowy figures. The leader of the Ross Volunteer Firing Squad gave his orders softly, and the cadets' maneuvers were punctuated by the thud of rifle butts against pavement.

Gunfire shattered the stillness as the squad delivered its 21-gun salute, startling birds from the trees and making the crowd flinch after each of three volleys.

As the echoes of the shots died away, buglers atop the domed Academic Building at the end of the plaza began to play "Silver Taps," a special arrangement of the military funeral song.

The sweet, solemn notes mingled with sniffles and a few sobs from the students and grieving relatives below.

Homeless couple is charged in deaths of six firefighters

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP) — A homeless couple has pleaded innocent to involuntary manslaughter charges following a blaze in an abandoned warehouse that killed six firefighters.

Thomas S. Levesque, 37, and Julie S. Barnes, 19, remained jailed after their arrests on Tuesday on $1 million bail.

Prosecutors say the pair had stayed on the second floor of the abandoned warehouse for several months. They say Friday night's fire began when a candle was knocked over during an argument.

The two allegedly fled after failing to rescue their pets and did not try to report the blaze.

Two firefighters entered the flaming building after hearing reports of squatters inside only to radio for help after becoming lost in thick smoke. Four other firefighters tried to find them, and all six died.

The fire was believed to be the nation's deadliest for firefighters since 1994, when 14 firefighters perished in a Colorado forest.

A break in the case came Tuesday afternoon when a woman who appeared to be Barnes was recorded on a convenience store videotape telling a clerk that her dog, cats and clothes had been inside the burning building. A man who appears to be Levesque stands nearby.

The tape, broadcast by WFXT-TV, shows the clerk asking Barnes if she and Levesque were the homeless people authorities had been looking for in connection with the fire.

"They think we were in there, but we weren't in there," Barnes says. "I wasn't nowhere around when it started."

Fire Chief Dennis Budd said he could feel only sadness, not anger.

"I feel grief right now and I don't have any room for that," Budd said. "One more piece of the puzzle has been eliminated."

Homeless advocates pointed to overflowing shelters and emphasized the dilemmas of street life.

"They can't panhandle, they can't loiter, we don't have enough shelter beds, so when they go into abandoned buildings it's trespassing," said Nicole Witherbee, policy coordinator for the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless. "So where is it they're supposed to be?"

Firefighters continue to sift through the smoldering rubble. The body of one firefighter was found early Sunday, and another was found early today.

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We're having a party just for you!
Tara Trevey, Theresa Stephens, Valerie Greene & Virginia Trevey invite you to an evening of Christmas.
Friday, December 10, 1999
6 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Come & Go
Valeries Academy of Music
2411 Ave. R
(Across From Snyder National Bank)
Start your shopping with: •Angel Fire Candles
•Gooseberry Patch Cookbooks & Calendars
•Mary Engelbreit Books & Mugs • Holiday Clothing
•Gingham Closet Pillows
BRING A FRIEND!

Have you ever admired the Christmas displays around town but just didn't want to go to the trouble to put one up yourself?
We have the answer at
YOU STAR VIDEO & Williams U-Rent Storage
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Come see our new supply of outside yard decorations including:
Angels - $40 Buck Deer - $45
Doe Deer - $43 Sleighs - $41
Snowman - $41 Star - $28
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Snyder High School Drama Department presents
Yuletide Follies
Friday & Saturday, December 10th & 11th
7:30 p.m., Tickets $4
Snyder High School Worsham Auditorium
The show will be family oriented and will have something to appeal to all ages. The show will feature a lot of the talent at Snyder High School, including humor, dance, music and acting. A dazzling Christmas Light Show has been put into Worsham Auditorium for the performance. A cast of approximately 50 actors, singers, dancers and technical staff will be included in the production.

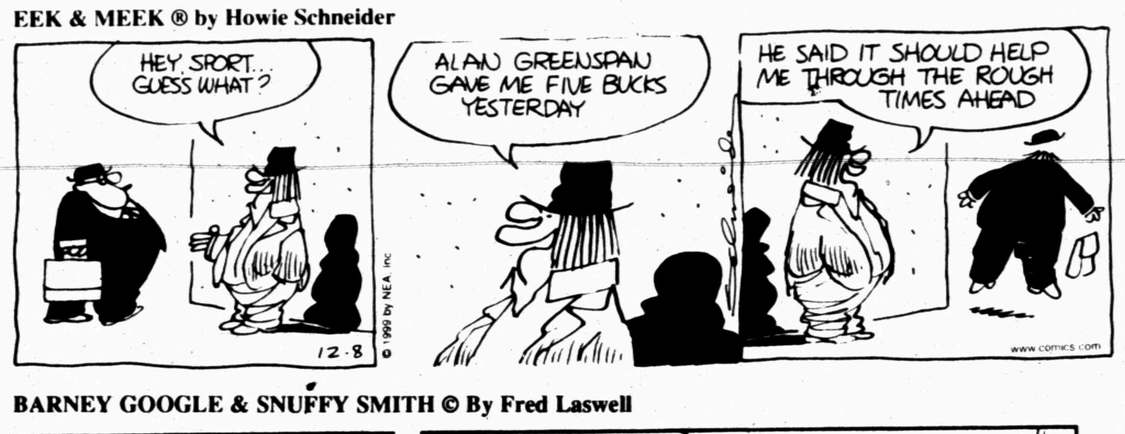
Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Places for bracelets
7 Acquired relative
12 Rowboat part
13 Discomfort
14 Ancient Jewish ascetic
15 — Scholar
16 Afternoon party
17 Prohibit
18 AAA plan
21 "Cheers!"
23 Nest-egg inits.
26 Pointed tools
28 Auld Lang —
29 After deductions
30 Prank
31 Gave an opiate to
33 Not precise
36 She gets what she wants
37 Above (poet.)
38 Actress Perlman
40 Once more
41 Draft agcy.
42 Loiter
44 Sea eagle
45 Coal holder
46 Actor Silver
48 Most twisted
51 Conceive
55 Raises (prices)
56 Against
57 Neighbors on
58 Runs away to wed

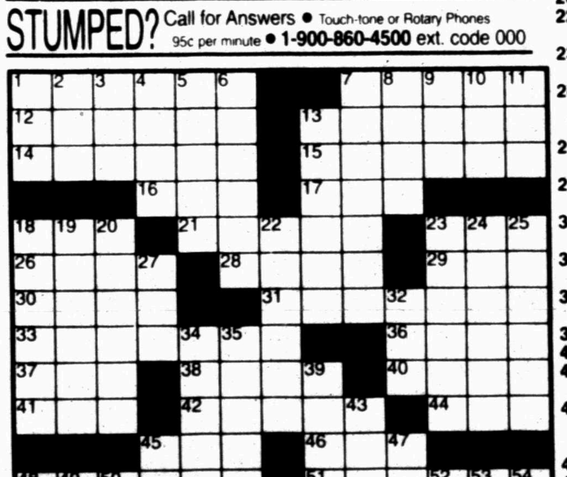
DOWN

1 "— is me!"
2 Ethiopian title
3 Apr. 15th org.
4 Barracuda
5 Fork parts
6 Sly ones
7 Took a breath
8 Inert gas
9 Young boy
10 Enzyme end
11 Director Craven
13 Debonair
18 Items on dashboards
19 Strong cords
20 Seniors
22 Chowder ingredient
23 Speak in a monotone
24 Thread-winding machine
25 Very early (2 wds.)
27 Boston Red —
32 Pie — — mode
34 Monet and Manet
35 Monotonous shouts
39 Get there
43 Swiss song
45 Most wonderful
47 Infamous Roman emperor
48 Pugilists' org.
49 Steal
50 Debtor's note
52 Serpent
53 Cal. box
54 Type of curve

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	H	U	T	T	O			H	E	R	O	D
B	I	S	H	O	P		B	Y	R	O	A	D
L	E	N	A	P	E		E	D	I	C	T	S
		I	A	N			A	R	A			
K	I	N		Z	E	B	R	A		K	I	M
A	C	I	D		D	I	E	T		I	D	A
R	E	B	A			G	R	E	E	N	E	R
A	M	B	L	I	N	G			A	D	A	R
T	A	L		S	O	I	L		R	E	T	E
E	N	E		L	I	E	I	N		R	E	D
			P	A	S		K	I	P			
B	Y	G	O	N	E		I	G	U	A	N	A
B	O	A	R	D	S		N	E	R	V	E	D
C	U	B	E	S			G	R	E	E	T	S

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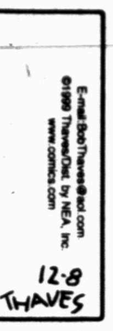


"As you can see, the Genius fixed my washer!"





"IT'S TOO NICE OF A DAY TO STAY INSIDE. LET'S GO TO THE MALL!"







SPORTS

Lady Tigers stumble, 61-46

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

Following his squad's 61-46 loss to Midland Lee Tuesday night, Snyder Lady Tiger coach Sam Tipton mulled over the remainder of the season.

"I take responsibility for this loss. I didn't have the team mentally and physically ready to play," remarked Tipton. "But that won't happen again. We have to get better in a lot of areas before district starts. The good news is that we've got time to get better."

Snyder (3-5) committed 29 turnovers Tuesday, including 10 in the first quarter, stumbling to a 61-46 setback to Midland Lee.

Through the first three periods, the Lady Tigers struggled against the Lady Rebels' press, and couldn't find a rhythm on the offensive end. Lee was able to penetrate the Snyder defense for close-range shots throughout the first half to take a 33-19 lead into the locker room.

"Our execution was very poor on offense. We didn't run our press breaker correctly. And we didn't play very good defense," said Tipton. "Those things are my fault. When you struggle in that many phases of the game, then the coach didn't do a very good job of getting the team ready. Every season has its highs and lows, and this is definitely our lowest point."

After Snyder trimmed the deficit to 10 points early in the second quarter, Lee put together a 10-3 run over the next four minutes to pull away again. The Lady Tigers committed seven turnovers during the stretch, with their only points coming on three Kameron Kallemeyn free throws.

Following a third quarter in which both teams struggled from the field, Snyder began to show signs of life in the final stanza.

After falling behind, 50-28, the Lady Tigers went on a 12-3 run to crawl within 13 points at the three-minute mark.

Ashley Delce was the only starter on the floor during Snyder's run. She was joined by Callie Bane, Rina Geiger, Lexie Beard and Katie Voss. The mix-and-match line-up provided a spark to the Lady Tigers, who were able to feed the ball inside to Delce. The junior post poured in 12 points in the fourth, after sitting out all but four minutes of the first half, due to foul trouble.

"We are going to decide pretty quickly who wants playing time, and who doesn't," said Tipton. "The girls who work hard in practice, and execute what is designed for them, will get the most playing time."

Delce finished with 17 points to lead the Lady Tigers. Kameron Kallemeyn added 11 points, thanks in part to a 7-of-9 effort from the free-throw line.

Next on the Lady Tigers' schedule is the Abilene Wylie Catclaw Tournament. Snyder opens the event Thursday at 6:30 against Stamford.

Mid. Lee	**19**	**14**	**11**	**17**	**—**	**61**
Snyder	**07**	**12**	**09**	**18**	**—**	**46**

Lee
Bryson 5 6-13 16, Ross 5 5-7 17, Warren 4 0-0 8, Dickey 4 0-0 8, Long 2 0-0 4, Kennerly 1 1-2 3, Byrd 1 0-0 2, Neatherlin 0 2-2 2, Jay 0 1-4 1. **Totals 22 15-28 61.**
Snyder
Delce 8 1-7 17, Kallemeyn 2 7-9 11, Beard 3 1-2 7, Geiger 2 0-0 4, Eicke 1 0-1 3, Bane 0 2-2 2, Voss 0 2-4 2. **Totals 16 13-25 46.**
Three-point goals: Lee 2 (Ross 2), Snyder 1 (Eicke). Rebounds: Lee 15 (Bryson 4), Snyder 29 (Kallemeyn 10). Total fouls: Lee 22, Snyder 19. Fouled out — None.

Tigers shine in win over Lubbock High

LUBBOCK — The Snyder Tigers base their game plan on tight man-to-man defense and precision offensive execution.

On Tuesday night against Lubbock High, the Tigers displayed both.

Snyder surrendered an average of only 10 points per quarter Tuesday, and found the range on the offensive end to grab a 55-40 victory over Lubbock High at the Westerner gym.

The win improves the Tigers' record to 5-5 heading into the Seminole tournament, which tips off Thursday.

Against the Westerners, the Tigers produced equal doses of outside buckets and inside scoring, while stifling Lubbock with its tight defense.

Snyder senior Greg McAnaw poured in a game high 20 points, including a trio of three-pointers.

With McAnaw hitting from the outside, Sonny Cumbie and Heath Pinkerton went to work in the paint. Cumbie rattled home 13 points, with Pinkerton adding 12 more, as the duo combined for 19 of the Tigers' 31 points in the first half.

The Westerners could manage only four points in the opening quarter, and were held to only eight in the third.

Snyder, which has found itself in foul trouble many times this season, committed only 16 infractions in the contest. The Westerners attempted only six free throws, while the Tigers posted a 10-of-15 effort from the line.

Snyder opens the Seminole tourney against district foe Andrews at 4:30 Thursday.

Snyder	**12**	**19**	**12**	**12**	**—55**
Lubbock	**04**	**14**	**08**	**14**	**—40**

Snyder
McAnaw 7 3-3 20, Cumbie 6 1-1 13, Pinkerton 5 2-3 12, Kerr 2 1-2 5, Scott 0 2-2 2, Thornhill 1 0-2 2, Hester 0 1-2 1. **Totals 21 10-15 55.**
Lubbock
Mendez 4 0-0 9, Johnson 3 0-0 7, Amaya 3 0-0 6, Perez 1 0-0 2, Coleman 0 3-4 3, Abanobi 1 0-0 2, Baker 0 1-2 1, Randle 3 0-0 6, Holley 2 0-0 4. **Totals 17 4-6 40.**
Three-point goals: Snyder 3 (McAnaw 3), Lubbock 2 (Mendez, Johnson). Total fouls: Snyder 16, Lubbock 18. Fouled out — Abanobi, Randle.

Hermleigh bows to Westbrook

HERMLEIGH — Slow starts can be difficult to overcome. The Hermleigh Cardinals discovered just how difficult Tuesday night against Westbrook.

Hermleigh's boys and girls squads stumbled in the early going on Tuesday and couldn't make up the lost ground, as the Westbrook Wildcats grabbed a pair of Class 1A non-district victories.

In girls' action, the Lady Cardinals managed only 17 first half points in a 65-44 setback to Westbrook.

The Lady Wildcats took advantage of the Lady Cards' first half slump by registering 35 points over the first two quarters to take a 35-17 halftime lead.

Hermleigh started to turn things around in the second half. The Lady Cardinals put up 27 points, but couldn't overcome the early deficit.

Crystal Jackson poured in 16 points to pace Hermleigh. Randi Herrington dropped in nine points, with Sheena Callaway adding six. Kendra Dacus tallied five points, while Brandy Wood totaled four. Sabrina Terry and Samantha Smith finished with two points apiece.

In boys' action, the Hermleigh Cardinals (3-6) had a hard time keeping-pace with the high-scoring Wildcats. Westbrook averaged over 20 points per quarter to take an 84-64 victory.

Hermleigh scored 39 points in the first half, but still trailed by 11 as the third quarter opened. The Wildcats continued torrid scoring pace in the second half to preserve the win.

Joey Garza's 22 points led Hermleigh's effort, while Caleb Callaway added 17. Billy Lambaren drained 14 points, with Tony Garza chipping in five. Andy Luna finished with four points.

Both Hermleigh squads will be in action Thursday when they open play at the Westbrook Tournament.

Cowboys release kicker, sign veteran Murray

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys were expected to sign veteran field goal kicker Eddie Murray today to replace Richie Cunningham, who was released because of his kicking slump.

Murray, who last kicked for the Minnesota Vikings in 1997, worked out at Texas Stadium on Tuesday. He kicked field goals for the Cowboys during their 1993 Super Bowl championship season.

Nicknamed Eddie "Money" during that season, he made 28-of-33 with a long of 52 yards to rank fifth among NFL kickers.

Murray will have to clear waivers before he can be signed by the Cowboys.

The Cowboys released Cunningham Tuesday although he was showing signs of getting out of his slump.

With an offense that's struggling to score touchdowns, the Cowboys have needed an accurate kicker more than ever. Instead, Cunningham hit just 12 of 22 field goals. He was just 3 of 10 on kicks of 40 yards or more.

Cunningham maintained he's done nothing differently from his first two seasons, when he was 63 of 72. For his career, he was perfect on 95 extra points.

Ira squads topple Blackwell

BLACKWELL — It was another typical night on the hardwood for Ira High School. The Lady Bulldogs did what they needed to win, and the Ira boys chalked up another blowout.

The Lady Bulldogs held off a late charge by Blackwell to record their seventh victory of the year, 52-49, while the Ira boys (9-0) hammered the Hornets by 50 points for the second time this season, 77-27.

The Lady Bulldogs led throughout the contest, holding a 14-point advantage at one time. Blackwell made a second half run to trim the margin to six points, before hitting a three-pointer in the final seconds.

"Our legs were tired from the tournament over the weekend, so this was one that we were happy to just get away with the win," said Lady Bulldog coach Jason Weese. "We've won a few close ballgames, because our girls truly believe that if the game is tight, they'll win it in the end. And that makes a big difference."

Morgan Clements poured in 22 points for Ira, despite Blackwell's defense, which guarded her man-to-man, while the rest of the Lady Hornets played zone.

Korby Calley drained 11 points, with Tara Allen adding nine. Celeigh Sterling tallied seven points, and Jamie Goolsby finished with three.

For the Ira boys, it was a repeat performance of their first meeting with the Hornets. After pounding Blackwell by 51 points earlier in the year, the Bulldogs picked up right where they left off.

Ira opened up a 12-point lead in the first quarter, then blew the game open with a 26-1 run to start the second half.

"We started kind of slow," said Ira coach Bubba Edwards. "We didn't score until the six-minute mark of the first quarter. But the guys kept after them and really got things going in the third quarter. With the big lead it gave us an opportunity to work on some different things, like a new press and our zone defense. Once again, everybody I put on the court did the job they were supposed to do."

Jerek Brown paced the Bulldogs on the scoreboard and on the glass, pouring in 22 points and hauling down 12 rebounds.

Logan Daves grabbed nine rebounds to go along with 15 points, while Richard Wilkins' 14 points were a season-high for the senior.

Drew Wall drained seven points, with Nathan Smith and Terry Jamison adding six apiece. Bryce Wilkins tallied four points, while Jase Olvera finished with two and Seth Sterling chipped in one.

JV boys fall to LHS

LUBBOCK - During a game in which the lead traded hands several times through the first three quarters, a fourth period scoring streak by Lubbock High decided the outcome.

Lubbock outscored Snyder, 19-12, in the final frame to notch a 57-53 victory Tuesday night in boys' junior varsity action at Westerner gym.

Jamaal Pruitt's 11 points paced Snyder. Tovares Brandon poured in nine points, with Brandon McGuire and Chris McLeod adding eight apiece.

Tate Thompson finished with seven points, while Wade Pinson tallied six. Colter Bedell and Shay Franks chipped in two points each.

NBA Glance

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Miami	14	4	.778	—
New York	11	9	.550	4
Philadelphia	10	10	.500	5
Boston	8	8	.500	5
Orlando	9	10	.474	5½
Washington	5	15	.250	10
New Jersey	3	15	.167	11
Central Division				
Toronto	12	6	.667	—
Indiana	11	7	.611	1
Charlotte	10	7	.588	1½
Milwaukee	10	8	.556	2
Cleveland	8	8	.500	3
Detroit	9	10	.474	3½
Atlanta	8	9	.471	3½
Chicago	1	14	.067	9½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
San Antonio	14	6	.700	—
Utah	10	7	.588	2½
Denver	9	8	.529	3½
Minnesota	7	7	.500	4
Houston	7	12	.368	6½
Dallas	7	13	.350	7
Vancouver	4	14	.222	9
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	15	4	.789	—
Portland	15	5	.750	½
Sacramento	11	4	.733	2
Seattle	13	5	.722	1½
Phoenix	12	6	.667	2½
L.A. Clippers	4	13	.235	10
Golden State	2	15	.118	12

Tuesday's Games
Toronto 101, Cleveland 98
New York 89, Golden State 83
Indiana 83, San Antonio 77
Detroit 116, Milwaukee 112
Vancouver 104, Dallas 95
Phoenix 110, Orlando 107
Miami 86, Portland 76
L.A. Lakers 91, Washington 80
Wednesday's Games
Houston at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Denver at Boston, 7 p.m.
Golden State at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Utah, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at Seattle, 10 p.m.

Women's College Basketball Scores

EAST
George Washington 95, Albany, N.Y. 46
Marist 58, Fordham 55
Quinnipiac 65, Colgate 46
SOUTH
Alabama St. 81, Mobile 60
Elon 71, W. Carolina 67
Evansville 72, Murray St. 58
Florida 82, Florida St. 74
Furman 95, High Point 71
Georgia Tech 103, Charleston Southern 65
Liberty 64, Boise St. 47
Louisiana-Monroe 58, Alcorn St. 51
MVSU 80, Ark.-Pine Bluff 66
North Carolina 74, Georgia Southern 55
Tennessee 92, Memphis 69
Virginia 77, Loyola, Md. 63
MIDWEST
Creighton 55, Kansas 54
Dayton 76, Miami, Ohio 46
E. Michigan 48, Wayne, Mich. 26
Illinois 80, Illinois St. 58
Missouri 66, S. Illinois 61
SE Missouri 83, Oakland City 72
UMKC 82, Southwestern, Kan. 47
Valparaiso 64, Indiana 60
Vanderbilt 76, Michigan 60
W. Illinois 71, Bradley 64
SOUTHWEST
Baylor 87, SW Texas 62
Texas 85, Houston 61
Texas-San Antonio 58, Texas-Pan American 48
FAR WEST
Nevada 70, Pepperdine 55
New Mexico St. 75, UTEP 46
S. Utah 73, Montana Tech 52
San Jose St. 62, Sacramento St. 60

National Hockey League

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	RT	Pts	GF	GA
Atlantic Division							
Philadelphia	16	8	4	1	37	84	63
New Jersey	14	9	3	2	33	72	63
N.Y. Rangers	9	14	4	1	23	63	77
Pittsburgh	8	14	3	4	23	76	76
N.Y. Islanders	6	15	3	0	15	49	75
Northeast Division							
Toronto	16	9	4	2	38	83	61
Ottawa	14	11	2	1	31	74	68
Boston	11	9	7	0	29	70	69
Buffalo	11	14	3	1	26	72	77
Montreal	9	17	2	1	21	59	74
Southeast Division							
Florida	14	9	2	2	32	66	57
Carolina	12	9	7	0	31	68	69
Washington	10	11	5	1	26	66	73
Tampa Bay	9	14	4	2	24	75	86
Atlanta	7	16	2	2	18	60	92
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
St. Louis	17	9	2	0	36	86	63
Detroit	16	8	3	1	36	90	64
Nashville	9	16	1	2	21	65	81
Chicago	7	16	4	2	20	75	88
Northwest Division							
Colorado	13	12	3	1	30	79	77
Vancouver	11	11	6	1	29	76	86
Edmonton	8	13	6	4	26	66	74
Calgary	10	15	3	1	24	70	90
Pacific Division							
Phoenix	18	7	3	0	39	92	65
San Jose	15	13	4	2	36	93	83
Los Angeles	14	7	6	1	35	86	68
Dallas	13	12	3	1	30	62	63
Anaheim	13	12	3	1	30	71	66

Tuesday's Games
Washington 4, N.Y. Islanders 2
New Jersey 2, Pittsburgh 1
Calgary 3, Montreal 3, tie
Carolina 4, St. Louis 2
Wednesday's Games
Ottawa at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at N.Y. Rangers, 7:30 p.m.
Nashville at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Florida at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Vancouver at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Colorado at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Men's College Basketball Scores

EAST
Boston College 50, Holy Cross 43
Boston U. 58, Harvard 57
Connecticut 78, Arizona 69
Cornell 78, Clarkson 42
Duquesne 77, Canisius 67
Fairleigh Dickinson 83, Bloomfield 63
La Salle 83, Penn 76
Marist 72, American U. 63
North Carolina 91, Buffalo 67
Princeton 50, Bucknell 48
Providence 56, Rhode Island 47
Syracuse 86, Albany, N.Y. 46
SOUTH
Alabama St. 66, Montevallo 62
Alcorn St. 95, Belhaven 44
Jacksonville St. 81, Georgia St. 79
Kentucky 86, N.C.-Asheville 41
Liberty 64, Richmond 61, 2OT
Louisiana-Monroe 77, Southern Miss. 63
MVSU 82, Ark.-Pine Bluff 62
Marshall 82, W. Virginia St. 46
Maryland 76, Winthrop 65, OT
Mississippi 75, Va. Commonwealth 62
Mississippi St. 88, S. Carolina St. 58
Morehead St. 74, Wright St. 72
N.C. Charlotte 75, Miami 65
UAB 91, South Alabama 86
Vanderbilt 74, Hofstra 46
W. Kentucky 92, Murray St. 70
MIDWEST
Akron 79, Cleveland St. 72
Bowling Green 69, Oakland, Mich. 57
Chicago St. 64, Ill.-Chicago 52
Dayton 63, Marquette 60
E. Illinois 69, Butler 60, OT
Indiana 73, Missouri 68
Indiana St. 53, W. Illinois 51
Iowa 67, N. Iowa 59
Michigan St. 66, Kansas 54
Purdue 86, Illinois St. 75
Wisconsin 61, Texas 45
SOUTHWEST
Houston 84, Rice 71, OT
Oklahoma 66, Arkansas 52
Sam Houston St. 81, Baylor 64
Tulsa 69, SW Missouri St. 60
FAR WEST
BYU 78, Arizona St. 67
California 67, San Jose St. 52
Pepperdine 96, Cal St.-Fullerton 63
Utah 77, Utah St. 42
Washington St. 59, Portland 56
Wyoming 83, Mount St. Mary's, Md. 69

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Full-time positions for CNAs. Sick time, vacation, holidays & insurance. Must have good references. Contact: Elia Gonzalez D.O.N. Valley Fair Lodge, 1541 Chestnut, Colorado City.

$ HIRING IMMEDIATELY $ Truckdrivers needed for oil field work. Prefer ex-Dowell, ex-BJ, ex-Halliburton hands. Must be able to travel. No need to relocate. Class A CDL, clear driving record, 2 years truckdriving experience a must. Call 1-800-588-2669 Mon-Fri, 8am - 5pm. No calls after 5 pm.

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

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Craft Show
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November 1 - December 23
Next To Mel Center & More
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The Publisher is not responsible for copy omissions, typographical errors, or any unintentional error that may occur further than to correct it in the next issue after it is brought to his attention.

$15.90 for 5 days, get 6th day FREE! 15 words or less

Instructions

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of **Defensive Driving Course.** Mon. & Tue., December 13th & 14th, 6p.m.-9p.m., Texas Savings Bank, 2619 College Ave. For more information call 573-2850. No reservations needed. CO199-CP315.

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1000 New Customers needed No Credit! No Problems! Loans $100 to $446. Apply by phone @ 573-1761 or come by Security Finance, 511 Coliseum Drive, Snyder, TX.

Farmers Column

Fresh Top Cane Hay for sale. I.B. Hudson, call 573-0438.

Hay For Sale: Rox candy square bales. Call Ross Preston (915) 573-1217.

GARAGE SALE
Advertise your garage full of "Don't needs" in
SNYDER DAILY NEWS
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12 X 24 finished building. Built to last! Free delivery. Terms. Morgan Buildings of Lubbock. (806)794-6772.

(2) 220 Electric heater/AC with sleeves, $75 each. See at Purple Sage Motel. 573-5491.

486-66 Computer 210 MB Hard drive, Windows 95, color monitor, keyboard, mouse, laser printer, 40X CD-ROM, sound card w/speakers, $295. Call 573-5683 after 5pm.

4 Wheeler & Jet ski storage building. 12 X 16 Morgan building-free delivery. 0 down + $69/mo. (806)794-6772. Morgan Buildings of Lubbock.

8 X 10 Storage building-at your house!! No security deposit + $31/mo. Call Morgan Buildings of Lubbock. (806)794-6772.

Merchandise

Computers For Christmas! 500 MHZ Computers w/17"monitor. Lots of extras. $0/down, $79/mo. Kathy (915)574-1656.

Merchandise

Factory-Second Spas, scratches, blemished, show room models must go. Morgan Spas. (806)794-6772 of Lubbock, TX.

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

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

Hay Barn: 22 X 40, no floor. Call Steel Structures by Morgan Buildings. (806)794-6772 of Lubbock.

Nintendo 64 (2) controllers for $80. Good Condition. Games at $20 each. Austin at 573-2927.

UNCLAIMED ORDER !! 12 x 24 Morgan building. Heavy wood floor. Will deliver. (806)794-6772 of Lubbock, TX.

Used 5 person Morgan spa. $2900 cash. Will deliver to your house. (806)783-9530.

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

AKC Registered Pekinese puppies. Males, 6 weeks old, smoke colored. $150. 573-5513.

Garage Sales

4-Family Garage Sale
4106 Midland
Thurs 8:30 - ? & Fri. 8:30 - ?
Christmas decorations, Humidifier, Fur coat, Toy box, C. Russell prints, Antiques & misc.

GARAGE SALE
Association for Retarded Citizens open each Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m.-3:30p.m., 2504 Ave. W. Good used Children's clothes. Donations of Useable & Sellable items accepted. For local pickup on items, call 573-4186, 573-5374 or 573-3729.

HUGE GARAGE SALE
112 Elm
Tues. Dec. 7 - Fri. Dec. 10
12:00 Noon till ??
Round table, Child's desk & chair, Toys, Dishes, Clothes, Sweaters, Coats & lots of misc. Please bring small change.

Want To Buy

Want to Buy: Fixer Upper, House that needs work. Call 573-2333.

Apartments For Rent

1 Bedroom Furnished apartment, bills/cable paid. Rent by 2 weeks or month. 573-5879, 573-3279, 728-8482.

Super Clean 2 bedroom, brick duplex. Appliances, CH/A. 573-1012 Leave message.

Pool Company, an industry leader in oil field services, has immediate openings in the Snyder Area for experienced Derrick Workers.

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Qualified applicants should apply at:

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Snyder, Texas 79549
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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS ALWAYS A WINNER

Apartments For Rent

Apartment for Rent: 1 bedroom, stove, refrigerator, bills/cable paid. $190/month & up. Also 2-1-1 house, HUD approved. Call 573-7081

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•Playground • Satellite TV Available

Windridge Village Apartments
5400 College Ave.
•1 or 2 Bedroom
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•Great Location • Satellite TV Available
Office located at 3901 Ave. 0
573-1488

Houses For Rent

1208 25th, New Carpet, 2-1, Water & Cable paid, Appliances. $300/month $150/deposit, References. Dupree Rentals, 573-9001.

2-1, carport, w/refrigerator, 207 Elm. $200/mo, $200 dep. References required. 573-0993, Kathy.

2709 38th, 2-1-1, fenced yard. $275/mo., $150/dep. References. Dupree Rentals 573-9001.

3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, 2-car garage. 4111 Eastridge. $570/month plus $250/deposit. HeritageHomes Realtor. 573-5056.

3 Bedroom House, carport. $325 per month plus deposit. References required. No Pets. 573-9812.

For Rent: Extra nice, clean house, 2-1-1, CH/A. 573-6487.

HOUSES FOR RENT

2405 37th	2-1	$300
3010 39th	3-1	$375
2605 47th	3-2-2	$800
Sarah Jamison		573-4028
Elizabeth Potts Realtors		573-8505

Small neat unfurnished 2 bedroom house. 509 33rd, $275/mo. 573-2649 before 5 p.m.

Mobile Homes For Rent

3 Bedroom Mobile Homes for rent. $250/month. 573-1711.

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom Mobile home. Stove & refrigerator furnished. CH/A, water paid. 573-7318.

Mobile Homes

CUTE 2 + 2. (915)520-2179.

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$1400 To $1800 On SELECT FLEETWOOD HOMES. CALL **J.HITE HOMES, ABILENE**
800-378-0998 or 793-9999.

Owner Transferred - MUST SELL! Lender willing to work on easy terms. Call T.J. (915)520-4411.

THREE BEDROOM HOME- was $22,500 - now **$17,399!** 520-2177 or (800)520-2177. Se Habla Espanol!

Mobile Home Lot(s)

For Sale: Mobile Home site on 5 acres, in the city. Only $7,500. 915-573-4425 or 573-1550.

Real Estate

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For Sale By Owner: 3-2-2 carport, 1900sq. ft.,hardwood and saltillo tile floors, immaculate. 1,000 sq.ft. studio, 300 sq.ft. outbuilding, deck. 2600 35th, Colonial Hill subdivision. $90,000. Call 501-880-8125 or 573-1248 (Ben), or 573-6351 (Joann).

For Sale By Owner: Owner financing available. 2 & 3 bedroom homes. Low, low monthly payments. Low down payment. Call Kelly (915)425-9994.

HOUSE FOR SALE: Nice house, CH/A. 3009 39th St. Close to schools. Good location!! Will take $18,500. Please call 573-4101.

Nice Country Home: 15 miles east of Snyder. 3-2-2, 2200 sq.ft., acres available. (806)745-9701 or (806)794-7919.

Owner Finance: $2000/Down $375/mo. total payment. 3-1, laundry room, fenced yard & storm windows. 126 20th Place, 573-3304, Carolyn.

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

3-1¾-1cp+Den 2111 43rd	$55T
Updated! 3-1¾+2cpStorage Shop	$43.9T
Great Floor Plan 3-2-2 3509 Kerrville.	$60T
228 Acres 3-1 Brick	$80T
3-1¾-1 1901 29th Street	$27T
Reduced! Lovely 4-2-2 3303 Irving	$112T
3-13/4- 2107 43rd Agency Exclusive	$54.9T
5 Acres 3-1¾+2 Barnes & Stalls	$78T
Picture Perfect 3-2-1-1det. 2219 41st	$45T
Good Location! 3-2-2+deck & shop	$72T
Large 2 Bd 2 Stor. Bldg. Covered Patio	$54T
301 Acres Fisher County 3-2 Good Grass	
Attractive! 4-2 2211 27th St.	$42T
3-2-2 4005 Eastridge	$30T
5 Acres 2 Story Ira ISD 4-1¾	$55T
Commercial Yard & Res. 9 Acres	$150T
Colorado City 4.45 Acres 3-2-2cp	$60T

HUD LISTINGS
Shirley Drum 5731550
Doris S. Spikes 573-6602

Eliabeth Potts, Realtors
1707 30th, Suite C 573-8505
Temi Matthies, Owner/Broker

Heritage Homes Realtors
573-5056
Debby Miller
573-2075

Country 3-2 3 Acres $69T
2601 28th 3-2-2 Corner Pool
Visit our web site:
http://www.snydertext.com/heritage_homes

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Hurricane forecast 'moderate'

DENVER (AP) — People who live in Caribbean Basin states and countries should hang onto their stockpiles of plywood, because a nationally known hurricane forecaster says while the number and intensity of storms will ease next year, it won't be by much.

William Gray and his colleagues at Colorado State University in Fort Collins are calling for a "moderate" season in 2000 with 11 named storms, seven hurricanes and three intense hurricanes.

Their 1999 forecast, of 14 named storms, nine hurricanes and four major hurricanes, was one of the more accurate in recent years, with the June 1-Nov. 30 season featuring 12 named storms, eight hurricanes and five major hurricanes.

In a draft forecast released on Tuesday, Gray said the minor moderation that is expected in the coming season is because the La Nina phenomenon, which has been present for the past two years, is expected to diminish in strength.

"This should weaken its enhancing effect on hurricane formation in the Atlantic Basin" which is made up of the North Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico, the report said. However, Gray said the underlying trend of a more active and intense season will continue.

"I think 2000 will continue the new era of increased Atlantic conveyor belt strength and hence ... the probability of more intense hurricanes," Gray said. "Following a period of suppressed major hurricane activity from 1970 to 1994, it is expected that 2000 will continue the upward trend established in 1995."

The years 1995-1999 were the most-active five consecutive years of hurricanes on record in the Atlantic Basin, producing 65 named storms, 41 hurricanes and 20 major hurricanes.

He said the residents along the U.S. Atlantic Coast, including peninsular Florida, have a 45 percent chance of being hit by one or more major storms with winds above 100 miles per hour. The long-term chances are only 31 percent.

Gray has been issuing the forecasts for 16 years, and last year the National Hurricane Center joined him in making a prediction for the size and severity of the storm season.

Of 1999's major hurricanes, Bret, Cindy, Floyd, Gert and Lenny were Category 4, which are characterized by top sustained winds of 131 to 155 mph, and Floyd was considered the most destructive in the U.S., damaging or destroying 12,000 homes and leaving an estimated $6 billion in damage in North Carolina alone.

Colorado City livestock auction

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 1,113 head of cattle for the Saturday, Dec. 4, sale. No comparison because no sales were held the previous week due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
200-300: 108-117.50
300-400: 102-110
400-500: 94-104
500-600: 84-90
600-700: 77-81
700-800: 72.50-77
800-900: 70-76
Feeder heifers:
200-300: 91-94
300-400: 84-93
400-500: 83-90
500-600: 78-85
600-700: 74-79
700-800: 71-79
800-900: 70-73
Replacement cows: 460-570
Bred cows: 350-456
Pairs: 620-670
Older cow and calf pairs: 500-570
Slaughter cows: High yielding: 32-35
Slaughter bulls: High dressing: 52

Lubbock Stockyards livestock auction

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. had a run of 853 head of cattle for the Thursday, Dec. 2, sale. Cows were steady. Yearlings and calves were $2 better. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 33-40
Canner and low cutters: 26-33
Slaughter bulls: 42-50
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 95-120
400-500: 85-105
500-600: 80-92
600-700: 75-84
700-800: 75-80
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 85-95
400-500: 77-88
500-600: 74-80
600-700: 72-77
700-800: 65-75
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 75-89
700-800: 62-73
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 600-725
Grade: 450-575
Springers: 350-550
Baby calves: 100-150
Doodlers: 175-240

Happy 40th Birthday Robert
Love Ya!



When You See This 2nd Grade Teacher Tomorrow Wish Her A
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
She's 40!

Give A Wonderful Gift Of History This Christmas...

WEST TEXAS
A Portrait Of Its People and Their Raw And Wonderous Land

"West Texans are blessed with natural resources, of rich farm land, a good climate and enough water to let us get by. But West Texas is not easy. You have to work for what you get," writes John T. Montford, Texas Tech University's chancellor, in the foreword to *West Texas*.

Advance praise for *West Texas*:

"West Texas likes to kid itself, but its history outshines its hi[illegible]. It's easier to criticize West Texas for what it doesn't have than to discover the virtues it has. West Texas is not just its rugged landscape or its open society, it has to be both. It is land and people in a revolving process, the land shaping the people who shape the land. Without both, you have neither. A unique land, therefore, breeds a unique society. And Mike Cochran and John Lumpkin understand that and tell it well in *West Texas*."
— A. C. Greene, Texas historian and author of *A Personal Country*, a West Texas classic

"This is probably the only coffee table book anybody will actually read."
— [illegible] Tarleton State University

"Few if any writers know West Texas better than Mike Cochran and John Lumpkin, which makes this book a great read."
— Michael Levy, publisher of *Texas Monthly*

Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave. 573-5486

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
AMR Corp	64 5-16	62½	63¾	+ 1 11-16
AT&T Corp s	57 15-16	56 13-16	57⅜	— ½
Albertsons	30⅛	29½	30 1-16	+ 7-16
Alltel	90⅝	89 9-16	89 13-16	+ 1
AmerOnline s	82¾	79⅝	81¾	+ 1¾
AndarkPtr	29 1-16	28 7-16	28½	— ½
AtlRichfld	87⅛	85	86⅞	+ 1½
ATMOS Egy	22 1-16	21 13-16	21⅞	— 3-16
Aviall	7½	7⅜	7 7-16	+ ⅛
BP Amoco s	59 63-64	59 9-16	59 13-16	+ 9-16
BakerHughes	20⅝	19 13-16	20 9-16	— 9-16
Bank of Amer	51 9-16	50⅛	51⅛	— 1⅛
BellAtl	64¾	63 13-16	64⅝	+ ⅝
BellSouth s	45⅞	45 5-16	45 13-16	— 1-16
Beth Steel	6 11-16	6 9-16	6⅝	+ 1-16
BurlNoSFe	28 11-16	28	28⅝	+ ⅝
CBS Corp	55 15-16	54½	55⅞	+ 1 179-256
Caterpillar	45 11-16	44 13-16	45⅜	+ 1-16
CenSoWst	20	19 15-16	19 15-16	
Chevron	88⅞	88 3-16	88 7-16	— 1 5-16
Citigroup s	57 9-16	56½	56⅝	— 9-16
Coastal	34	33 5-16	33 5-16	— 11-16
CocaCola	60⅞	60 1-16	60 13-16	+ 13-16
ColgatePal s	58 9-16	57 1-16	57 3-16	— 7-16
ComclMetals	31¾	31⅝	31 11-16	+ 1-16
CooperIn	41⅝	40 13-16	41¼	— 5-16
DaimlrChry	68⅛	67 9-16	68	
DallSemicn	63⅜	62⅝	63	— ¾
DeltaAirl	52¼	51¼	51½	+ 5-16
Dillards Inc	18½	18¼	18½	+ ¼
DowChem	118	115½	117 15-16	— 1-16
DuPont	60 15-16	59⅜	59 13-16	— 1 7-16
EastmanChem	41⅝	41¼	41⅝	+ ¼
EstKodak	62½	61½	61⅞	+ ½
EDS Corp	68⅜	67⅝	68¼	+ 1½
Entergy	26	25⅞	26	— 1-16
ExxonMobil	83⅝	82⅝	83⅛	— ¾
FstBksAm	18⅛	18⅛	18⅛	
Flowers	17⅛	16⅝	16 13-16	— ⅜
FordMotor	50⅝	50 1-16	50 9-16	+ 7-16
GTE Cp	74¼	73 3-16	74 1-16	+ 7-16
GenDynam	50 15-16	50⅜	50½	— 1-16
GenlElec	142	138½	141¾	+ 3⅜
GenMills s	37⅛	36⅞	37	
GenMotors	74 13-16	72 7-16	74½	+ 1⅞
GaPacGP s	41⅝	41	41 3-16	+ ⅞
GlobalMar	14¾	14 1-16	14 3-16	— 11-16
Goodrich	21½	21⅜	21⅜	— 1-16
Goodyear s	29 15-16	29 5-16	29⅜	— 15-16
GtAtlPac	24 15-16	24 11-16	24⅞	+ ⅛
Halliburtn	35	34	34¾	— 13-16
Hanson ADS	41⅛	40 9-16	41⅛	+ ½
HarteHanks	20 11-16	20 1-16	20⅜	
HomeDepot	85⅜	83⅜	85 5-16	+ 2 1-16
HoneywellIntl	61⅜	60 7-16	60⅝	— 1 1-16
IBM s	117⅜	115½	116¾	+ ½
IntlPaper	54½	53 3-16	54 5-16	+ 1 15-16
JohnsonJn	93 5-16	91 9-16	91 9-16	— 1 13-16
K mart	9 13-16	9 7-16	9 13-16	+ 5-16
Kroger Co s	16½	15⅞	16	— ⅛
Litton	46 1-16	45½	46 1-16	— 3-16
LockheedM	20	19 9-16	19⅞	+ ¼
Lowes Cos	53⅜	52¾	53	— ⅛
Lubys	11 5-16	11⅛	11¼	+ ⅛
LucentTech s	80 7-16	79⅜	80⅜	+ 5-16
MayDeptStr s	31⅜	31	31¼	
MediaOne	80 7-16	79 13-16	80	— ½
Medtronic s	37⅜	36 11-16	37 5-16	+ ⅝
Monsanto	45⅜	44 7-16	44⅝	+ ⅝
MorganJP	133⅞	131 11-16	132 5-16	— 1 1-16
Motorola	136 7-16	131½	136 5-16	+ 4 13-16
NCR Corp	33⅛	32¾	33 1-16	+ 5-16
Navistar	38 11-16	37¾	38⅛	+ 1-16
Penney JC	19 11-16	19 7-16	19½	
PepBoys	9½	9⅜	9⅜	— 1-16
PepsiCo	37 7-16	36 9-16	37¼	+ 5-16
PhelpDodge	56⅞	55⅞	56¾	— 1-16
PhilipPet	48	47⅝	47 13-16	+ 3-16
PilgrmPrd B	7 7-16	7⅜	7⅜	— ⅛
Polaroid	18⅝	18⅜	18⅜	— 3-16
Praxair	44⅞	44¼	44 5-16	— 11-16
ProctGamb	111 5-16	109 15-16	110 9-16	+ ⅝
PubS NwMx	17	16¾	16 13-16	— 3-16
ReliantEngy	23 9-16	23 3-16	23¼	— ½
RoyalDut	56½	55⅞	55⅞	— ¾
SBC Comm	54½	53 9-16	54 7-16	— ¼
SaraLee s	23¾	23 3-16	23 7-16	+ ⅛
Scripps EW	47 7-16	46 1-16	47 7-16	+ 1¼
SearsRoeb	33 1-16	31⅜	31 13-16	— 1¼
SherwinW	21¾	21 1-16	21 7-16	+ 5-16
SmithklBchm	65 3-16	64 11-16	64⅞	— 1 13-16
SouthernCo	23½	23⅜	23½	+ ¼
SwstAirl s	16¾	16⅜	16⅝	+ 5-16
SprintFON s	70¼	68⅞	70 1-16	+ 1 3-16
SprintPCS	98 1-16	96 9-16	97 5-16	+ 3
Sunoco Inc	23⅞	23½	23½	+ 1-16
TNP Ent	41	41	41	— ⅛
Tandy s	77¾	75⅜	77 3-16	+ 1 7-16
TempleInland	62¾	60⅞	62⅜	+ 1 7-16
Texaco	56 15-16	56⅜	56 7-16	
TexInd	38¼	38	38 3-16	— 1-16
TexasInst s	107¼	104⅝	106⅝	+ 2¼
Tex Util	35⅜	34⅞	34 15-16	— 9-16
Textron	73⅝	72⅛	73½	+ 1½
TriconGlbR	40⅜	40⅛	40 5-16	+ 1-16
TrinityInds	28⅞	28⅝	28⅝	— 5-16
TritonEngy	19⅞	18½	19⅛	— 1
TylerTech	4	3⅞	3⅞	— 3-16
US West Inc	66 11-16	65⅞	66½	+ 1 5-16
USX-Marathn	25	23 15-16	24	— 1 1-16
USX-USS	27¾	27	27½	— 3-16
UnCarbde	60	58 7-16	59⅞	+ ¼
UnionPacif	46 7-16	45½	46 1-16	+ ¾
UnitedTech s	57¾	56⅛	57 11-16	+ 1 9-16
Unocal	33½	33 1-16	33 5-16	— ⅝
Venator Grp	7 3-16	7	7⅛	
WalMart s	59 3-16	58 3-16	59	+ 1
WellsFargo	44	43½	43 9-16	— ½
WstnGasRs	12⅝	12½	12⅝	+ 1-16
WinnDixie	23 9-16	23 1-16	23⅛	— ⅜
Xerox Cp s	26	25¼	25⅜	— ⅛

Local Interest STOCKS

Patterson	11 3/16	-7/8
Dell	44 7/8	-1/2
Wal Mart	59	+1
Compac	26 7/16	+1/8
Dol. Gen.	23 7/8	-3/16
GTE	74 3/16	+87/256
SBC Comm.	54 7/16	-1/2
Tx Instr.	107 3/16	+2 13/16
LU	80 3/16	+3/16
Cisco Sys.	100 7/16	-1 1/16

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52 employees helped New York students cheat

NEW YORK (AP) — Teachers and administrators helped New York City students cheat on standardized tests by giving them questions in advance and even marking answer sheets for them, investigators say.

Fifty-two school employees in the nation's largest school system took part in crude cheating schemes designed to improve elementary and middle schools' performance on the tests, investigator Edward Stancik said.

Stancik, in releasing the results Tuesday of a 17-month probe, called the cheating "the largest case of its kind anywhere in the country." It spanned from 1996 to this year at 32 schools.

The fallout of inflated scores, he said, is that "children don't get the help they need, parents don't know how well or poorly their students are doing and the public doesn't know which schools are functioning well."

New York schools have come under pressure to raise test scores in recent years, often with consequences for administrators at campuses where performance lags.

The cheating scandal is the latest testing flap to hit the district. This summer, an error by a testing company erroneously showed more than 8,600 students failed a test last spring, sending them to summer school.

The investigation in the 1.1 million-student system began after some teachers came forward with information about cheating in their schools.

In one case, third-graders in 1998 reported an exam proctor told them to write their reading test answers on a piece of scrap paper before putting them on the official test.

According to children who took the test, the proctor — a principal — walked around the room and pointed out incorrect answers before giving each child an "official" form to record the approved responses.

As a result, Stancik said, the number of third-graders reading at grade level at the school seemed to jump 22 percent in a single year.

Proctors at other schools gave answers outright or even wrote on a child's exam, the report charged. And even before the tests were administered, some teachers prepared their classes by using actual questions from the tests.

Stancik recommended that at least 12 of the educators named in the report be fired immediately.

Schools Chancellor Rudy Crew said he would take Stancik's report seriously and review the allegations. He said all employees named in the report have been removed from their jobs pending results of his investigation.

Crew called cheating "the down side of raising academic standards," and said he would try it by increasing the number of outside monitors who observe school testing.

United Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten said the report cited incidents ranging from "overzealousness" to "a few instances of outright fraud," and called for guidelines to help clarify what is "appropriate practice" for tests.

Indictment in O'Hair case won't impede investigation

AUSTIN (AP) — A federal prosecutor says an indictment against a former convict in custody in Detroit on charges that he conspired to kidnap atheist leader Madalyn Murray O'Hair is not the end of the investigation into her disappearance.

The atheist leader has been missing since 1995 along with her son Jon Garth Murray and adopted daughter Robin Murray O'Hair.

Gary Karr, 51, is accused of conspiring with others to plot and carry out the kidnappings and extortion of the three. Authorities have said they were killed but their bodies have not been found.

Karr and others allegedly stole more than $500,000 in money, gold coins, vehicles, watches and other jewelry from the O'Hairs. The indictment does not identify the other suspects.

"Today's indictment is not the final chapter in this investigation," said Bill Blagg, U.S. attorney for western Texas. "We are continuing our thorough effort to make sure that justice is served in this matter."

Defense lawyer Thomas Mills Jr. of Dallas, who will represent Karr in Texas, said, "I'm shocked that Mr. Karr would be indicted."

Ms. O'Hair is best known for a case that led to a 1963 Supreme Court decision that, along with a decision the previous year, struck down organized prayer in public schools as unconstitutional.

Town & Country Topics

By Kathryn Roberts, County Extension Agent

Make sure your food gift arrives safely

Food is a popular choice for holiday gifts. You don't need to worry about color or size. Most foods won't break when shipped. If the recipient doesn't like the gift, it can be pawned off on friends, neighbors or office parties.

Food gifts, however, have their own worries. A major concern is whether it will arrive safely and in good shape.

Mail-order companies have excellent safety records, but hazards do exist. Shipping delays may allow frozen items to thaw and spoil. Even if the package arrives safely, it still may spoil unless someone is there to take care of it.

You can protect yourself against these mishaps. The USDA'S Meat and Poultry Hotline offers these safety tips when sending and receiving perishable items.

*If you're ordering from a mail order company, ask how the gift will be packaged and mailed. It should be packed in foam or heavy corrugated cardboard. If it's perishable, it needs to be packed ice cold or frozen with a cold source such as dry ice or a frozen gel pack. It also should be labeled "Perishable — Keep Refrigerated" and mailed by overnight delivery.

*Make sure any unusual items come with storage and preparation instructions. It's frustrating to open a package that you know is food, but you're not sure if it's safe, how to store it or even what to do with it.

*If you're sending your own perishable food gift, first freezer it solid. Then pack it as recommended above. Fill any empty spaces with crushed paper or foam "popcorn" air spaces encourage thawing. Also, label it "Perishable — Keep Refrigerated.

*Regardless of how it's sent, let the recipient know the expected delivery date so someone can be home to receive it. Otherwise, it may sit on the doorstep or at the post office for hours or even days. Don't have a perishable item delivered to an office unless you know it will arrive on a work day and there's refrigeration space available to keep it cold.

*If you receive a food item marked "Keep Refrigerated," open it immediately, and check its temperature. Ideally, the food should arrive frozen or partially frozen with ice crystals still visible. At the very least, it should be refrigerator cold to the touch.

*It perishable food arrives warm, notify the company if you think you or the sender deserves a refund. Do not eat it. It's the shipper's responsibility to deliver perishable foods on time. It's the customer's responsibility to have someone at home to receive the package.

*Refrigerate or freeze perishable items immediately upon receipt. Even if a product is partially defrosted, it's generally safe to refreeze, although there may be some loss in quality.

For more information contact the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-800-535-4555.

Date Book

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1999

Today is the 342nd day of 1999 and the 77th day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1886, the American Federation of Labor was founded in Columbus, Ohio. Samuel Gompers was the organization's first president.

On this day in 1941, one day after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, the United States declared war upon Japan.

On this day in 1961, the Beach Boys released their first single, "Surfin'."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Eli Whitney (1765-1825), inventor; Diego Rivera (1886-1957), artist; James Thurber (1894-1961), humorist; Sammy Davis Jr. (1925-1990), entertainer; Jim Morrison (1943-1971), singer; Kim Basinger (1953-), actress, is 46; Sinead O'Connor (1966-), singer, is 33.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1992, Barry Bonds signed a record $24.7 million contract with the San Francisco Giants.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "You can fool too many of the people too much of the time." — James Thurber

TODAY'S MOON: Day after new moon (Dec. 7).

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Dr. Gott By Peter Gott, M.D.

Identify type of excess protein

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: After finding too much protein in my blood, my doctor ordered a bone marrow examination. It was normal. What does excess protein signify?

DEAR READER: Let me try to simplify a very complicated issue.

The body's organs produce many types of proteins that circulate in the bloodstream. Each protein has a specific function. By subjecting a small sample of cell-free blood to a tiny electrical charge, scientists can separate the various protein groups from one another. Because proteins vary in weight, light proteins will migrate farther than heavy ones in the electrical field. This characteristic forms the basis for a medical test called serum electrophoresis, during which the blood proteins are separated, identified and quantified.

Human blood usually contains five major groups of protein: albumin, alpha-1 giobulin, alpha-2 globulin, beta-globulin and gamma-globulin. These proteins can be further divided into classes by more sophisticated tests, yielding the forms called immunoglobulins: IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG and IgM. Depending on the protein characteristics in the blood, doctors can diagnose certain diseases. For example, low serum albumin is often seen in malnutrition or liver disease. Antibodies, the body's infection-fighting proteins, are usually included in the IgG (or gamma globulin) fraction.

Patients sometimes show abnormal proteins (or an excess of a particular protein) in the blood. The most common abnormality is an "M spike," an over-abundance of IgM; this is seen in myeloma and other forms of plasma (blood) cell cancer. Your doctor performed a bone marrow test to make sure that your plasma cells, many of which are in the marrow, were normal.

Your excess proteins could represent a normal variation but, as I mentioned, the type of protein should be identified. Your doctor may choose to do this by further analysis using complex tests.

DEAR DR. GOTT: In reading about vitamins, I noticed that some dosages are expressed in milligrams, others in units. I understand milligrams but what are units?

DEAR READER: Traditionally, the method of measuring vitamins A, D and E has been the international unit (IU). Other vitamins and minerals are measured in grams, milligrams or micrograms. The international unit is a reflection of activity, not quantity; this has been found to be a useful shorthand when comparing the active components of vitamins. For example, retinoic acid and beta carotene, like 30 other compounds, can be turned into vitamin A. Technically, vitamin A is retinol; 1 microgram of which is biologically equivalent to 6 micrograms of beta carotene. To complicate matters further, 3.33 IUs of retinol is equal to 10 IUs of beta carotene.

Take my word for it; my head is swimming. You and I will be less confused if we simply follow tradition on this one. Nutrition handbooks and food labels usually list vitamins A, D and E in international units. Let's leave it at that. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Fads I: Vitamins & Minerals." 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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DR. GOTT



PETER GOTT, M.D.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO INCREASE RATES

Pursuant to Tex. Utilities Code § 104.103 (1999), TXU Lone Star Pipeline, a Division of TXU Gas Company ("Applicant") hereby gives notice of intent to change the city gate rate of TXU Lone Star Pipeline (formerly known as "Lone Star Pipeline Company") established by Order of the Railroad Commission of Texas in Gas Utilities Docket No. 8664 ("GUD 8664").

Applicant proposes a two-part transportation rate that consists of a demand charge per MMBtu based upon the contractual demand for city gate service and a volumetric charge per MMBtu based on actual delivered volumes. This transportation rate would result in a revenue increase to Applicant. Applicant also proposes to increase the storage rate applicable to city gate deliveries established in GUD 8664. The storage rate would consist of a monthly demand charge for capacity and a monthly demand charge for deliverability. The deliverability demand charge would only be charged during the months of November through March.

The proposed effective date of the change is December 20, 1999. The change is a major change, and will result in an increase in annual revenues of approximately $20.3 million or sixteen percent (16%). The change will affect 1.3 million residential and commercial customers. The rate change will affect transportation and storage rates at the city gate for TXU Lone Star Gas-Transmission, who in turn sells the gas to TXU Lone Star Gas which serves 1.3 million residential and commercial customers in Texas under the rates established by the local regulatory authorities in municipalities and the Railroad Commission in environs areas.

A Statement of Intent to make such a change has been filed with the Railroad Commission of Texas in GUD 8976 and is available for inspection at the Commission's office at 1701 North Congress in Austin, Texas, and at the offices of Applicant at 301 South Harwood in Dallas, Texas. Copies of the Statement of Intent have also been sent to the appropriate city official of each incorporated city served by TXU Lone Star Gas. Any affected person may file in writing comments or a protest concerning the proposed change in the rates with the Docket Services Section of the Office of General Counsel, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, at any time on or before 4:00 p.m., Thursday, December 30, 1999. Any person or agency who has a justiciable or administratively cognizable interest who desires to be designated as a party may petition for leave to intervene and request to become a party to this proceeding. The final date for intervention in this case shall be 4:00 p.m., Thursday, December 30, 1999.



GOODFELLOWS

Scurry County families may apply for Goodfellows food donations by filling out this form. The deadline to apply is Dec. 13th. Applications should be mailed to: Goodfellows, P.O. Drawer 112, Snyder, Texas, 79550.

Home's Monthly Income $ _____
Do You Receive: Food Stamps ___ AFDC __ SS/SSI __
Father of Home _____
Age _____
Last or Present
Employer _____
Work Phone _____
Mother of Home _____
Age _____
Last or Present
Employer _____
Work Phone _____
Home Address _____
Home Phone _____
Mailing Address _____
Another Telephone Where
You Can Be Reached _____
List Ages of Children at Home
Boys: _____
_____
Girls: _____
_____
Total Number of People at Home _____

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Obituaries

Daisy Martinez

1942-1999

Funeral service for Maria Desideria "Daisy" Martinez, a former resident of Snyder, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.

Fr. Leo Moras, pastor, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Mrs. Martinez, 57, died Sunday, Dec. 5, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock following a lengthy illness.

Born Jan. 16, 1942 in Raymondville, she married Lorenzo Martinez on Dec. 12, 1957 in Seminole.

A homemaker, Mrs. Martinez had lived in Snyder for 43 years before moving to Lubbock in 1991.

Survivors include her husband, Lorenzo Martinez of Lubbock; a daughter, Anita Lopez of Snyder; six sons, Juan Martinez and Rumaldo Martinez, both of Lubbock, Saturnino Martinez and Jose Martinez, both of Snyder, Mike Martinez of Odessa, and Rosendo Martinez of Fort Hood; her mother, Eva Flores Leyva of Lovington, N.M.; four brothers, Thomas Leyva Jr. of Snyder, Romero Leyva of Perryton, and Ruben Leyva and Roberto Leyva, both of Lovington; three sisters, Eva Jimenez of Snyder, Maria Santos Carrisalez and Delia Hernandez, both of Lovington; and 28 grandchildren.

Geraldine Sanders

1913-1999

Geraldine Sanders, a longtime resident of Snyder, died Saturday, Dec. 4, in Harris Methodist Southwest Hospital in Fort Worth.

Funeral service for Mrs. Sanders, 86, set for 11 a.m. Friday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens. The Rev. Tony Wofford, pastor of Word Is Life Deliverance Church, will officiate, assisted by Yvonne Grant, Mrs. Sanders' sister from Fort Worth.

Born Oct. 6, 1913 in Newton, Kan., she married C.B. Sanders on Jan. 18, 1946 in Snyder. He died June 29, 1992. She was also preceded in death by a brother, Gervis Muse.

Mrs. Sanders was a domestic worker and was a member of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Snyder. She had lived in Fort Worth the past five years.

Survivors include five daughters, Marcia Sanders of Snyder, Yvonne Grant and Diane Riley, both of Fort Worth, Esther Gift of San Diego and Karen Shelley of Vallejo, Calif.; two sons, C.B. Sanders Jr. of Fort Worth and Hubert Gift of San Diego; 33 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

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Martha Snow

1934-1999

Martha L. Snow, co-owner of Trailertopia, died at 6:33 this morning in Cogdell Memorial Hospital following a sudden illness.

Services for Mrs. Snow, 65, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Aug. 31, 1934 in Sweetwater, she married Hayden "Hank" Snow on April 6, 1973 in Lovington, N.M.

Mrs. Snow had moved to Snyder from Midland in 1993. She and her husband owned and operated Trailertopia in Snyder.

Mrs. Snow was a longtime resident of San Angelo and had worked as a nurse for Shannon Hospital. She was a member of Snyder's First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Hank Snow of Snyder; two daughters and sons-in-law, Diana and Eric DeLaCruz and Vicki and Ken Gard, all of Snyder; three sons and daughters-in-law, Cliff and Judy Holmes of Snyder; Bruce and Susan Snow of Brandon, Mo., and Scott and Jeannie Snow of College Station; one sister, Mildred Motel of Snyder; 13 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Bobby Atkins

1943-1999

SWEETWATER - Bobby Ray Atkins, the brother of Dana Riggins of Snyder, died Tuesday, Nov. 30, in a San Bernardino, Calif., hospital.

Funeral service for Mr. Atkins, 56, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in the Sweetwater Cemetery.

Born Jan.8, 1943 in Sweetwater, he married Charlene Stern on Sept. 19, 1979 in Victorville, Calif. Mr. Atkins was a cook and a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife, Charlene Atkins of Rialto; two sons, Bobby Ray Atkins of Spain and Antonio Atkins of Arlington; a daughter, Wanda Saddler of Sweetwater; five other sisters, Ardell Willis of Lubbock, Karla Taylor of Dallas, Peggy Reed and Gwendolyn Atkins, both of Sweetwater, and Donna Jordan of Haskell; two brothers, Pleza Atkins and Ronald Atkins, both of Sweetwater; his mother, Mae Dee Atkins of Sweetwater; and 10 grandchildren.

Pauline Chambers

1905-1999

SMACKOVER, Ark. — Pauline Lambert Chambers of Smackover, the mother-in-law of Elouise Lambert of Snyder, died Tuesday, Dec. 7, in a Smackover nursing home after a brief illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Chambers, 94, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church in Smackover. Burial will follow in Cross Roads Cemetery in El Dorado under the direction of Young's Funeral Home.

She was owner of Lambert's Department Store for 50 years. A 1923 graduate of Camden High School, she graduated from El Dorado College and was a charter member of the Smackover Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Chambers was also a member of the Eastern Star and the First Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Minor A. Lambert; her second husband, George A. Chambers; a son, Derald Lambert; and a grandson, Mark Lambert.

Other survivors include a son, Donald Lambert of Smackover; five grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Gail Baker

1911-1999

KINGSTON, Okla. — Gail Arthur Baker, former Hermleigh resident, died Monday, Nov. 29, in a Madill, Okla., hospital following a lengthy illness.

Graveside service for Mr. Baker, 88, was held Dec. 1 in Kingston Cemetery under the direction of Watts Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 28, 1911 in Stone County, Mo., he grew up in Missouri, Oklahoma, California and Texas. Having lived in Marshall County and Amarillo, he moved to Kingston about 11 years years ago from Hermleigh. He was a self-employed roofer and was a Baptist.

Mr. Baker married Martha Darlene Blackwell on March 19, 1948 in Midland.

Survivors include his wife, Martha Baker of the home; seven sons, Danny Baker of Snyder, Robert Baker and Tommy Baker of Kingston, David Baker of Lebanon, Jerry Baker and Freddy Baker of Summerfield, Fla., and Gail Arthur Baker Jr. of Amarillo; four daughters, Martha Neves of Snyder, Betty Baker and Mary Groever of Kingston, and Linda McBroom of Enos; a brother, Lester Baker of Washington; 38 grandchildren; and 26 great-grandchildren

Ennis' only hospital to close down Jan. 31

ENNIS (AP) — Baylor Medical Center officials announced Monday they plan to close Ennis' only hospital Jan. 31.

The acute-care facility has struggled for years in this community of 17,000 people southeast of Dallas. But Baylor officials say the 48-bed hospital could not survive the passage of the 1997 Balanced Budget Act and cuts in federal reimbursements that followed.

Congress approved the measure to control rapidly rising health-care costs. But Baylor regional executive Tim Parris said the cuts will end up closing other rural-community hospitals like Ennis.

Officers probe family assault

One offense report was filed in Scurry County during the past 24 hours.

Officers submitted a report for Class A assault/family violence at 2:59 a.m. today.

City officers worked three accidents Tuesday.

At 4:06 p.m., officers handled a two-vehicle mishap in the 3000 block of College. Involved were a 1996 Ford Contour driven by Christy Lynn Pratt, 45, of 2812 Avenue U and a 1998 Chevrolet Astro van driven by Brian Earl Hunt, 22, of Lubbock.

Officers responded to an accident at 4:10 p.m. in the 400 block of Coliseum Drive. Involved were a 1988 Cadillac Sedan DeVille driven by Edward Marcus Brown, 78, of Abilene and a 1985 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme driven by Trena Selane Bouher, 44, of 2200 Avenue Z.

A hit and run accident report was filed at Culligans, 3805 College, at 4:20 p.m. in reference to an unknown vehicle striking the building and leaving the scene.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Nellie Martinez, Angela Schulze, Akasha Barber and Haldean Cave of Jayton.

DISMISSALS: Alicia Bowlin, and Belinda Tavarez and baby girl.

CENSUS: 38 (Med./Surg.-14, Long-term Care-23, OB-1)

Births

Ben and Carlye Boyd of Kingsland announce the birth of their seven-pound son, Sean Michael Boyd. Sean was born at 9:09 a.m. on Dec. 7 in the Georgetown Hospital.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Gaylon Boyd of Snyder and maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Phil Williams of Kingsland. Great-grandparents are Elois Pruitt of Snyder and Mr. and Mrs. Ottus Boyd , all of Snyder.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Ira booster club

The Ira Booster Club will meet at 8:15 tonight in the school cafeteria.

Band concert

Snyder bands – 6th grade, junior high and high school – will present a Christmas concert at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Worsham Auditorium. Admission is free.

Long-term care support

A long-term care family support meeting will be held at 2 p.m. Friday in the board room at Cogdell Hospital. Norma Adams, nurse executive, will provide information on recent changes in advance directives.

Yuletide Follies

Snyder High School's drama department presents Yuletide Follies at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the Worsham Auditorium. Tickets are $4.

St. Elizabeth spaghetti dinner

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church is having a spaghetti dinner on Sunday from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. The meal will be in the Parish Hall and tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for children. Proceeds go to youth activities.

Christmas bazaar

A Christmas bazaar will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at North College Avenue Baptist Church at 208 N. College Ave.

Retired teacher party

The Scurry County Retired Teachers will have a Christmas party at Mrs. Marge Mathis' ranch home (Polar Route, 5231 CR 2128) on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

Burrito sale

Mt. Sinai Assembly of God will have a burrito sale from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at 2613 Ave. A. Prices range from $1 to $1.50, depending on ingredients. For call-in orders or delivery call 721-1467 (mobile), or 573-4852 or 573-8162.

Christmas dance

First Presbyterian youth will sponsor a Christmas dance for all area youth from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Saturday in the basement of the church. Proceeds will be used to finance church youth activities. Admission is $5 per couple or $3 per person. For more information, call 573-6915.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "The New Heaven and Earth," followed by "Getting to Know God's Power."

Snyder Lions meeting

Lions Club members are to bring a toy to Tuesday's meeting for Toys for Tots, or pay a $10 fine to be used as a cash donation. The meeting will be at noon in the Martha Ann Woman's Club.

East Elementary T-shirts

East Elementary's physical education department is selling millennium T-shirts in order to buy new equipment. Limited sizes are available. Youth are $6 and adult sizes are $7. Call 573-1769 or go by the school office.

Christmas wish list

Scurry County Child Welfare Board, in conjunction with local financial institutions, is working to make Christmas special for county foster children. Trees are set up in the lobby of each bank and citizens can help share Christmas with a child by choosing a star from one of the trees. Purchase and wrap the gift and return it to the CPS office at 3409 Snyder Shopping Center by Dec. 17. Monetary donations are also accepted.

Candlelight service

First Baptist Church will present a Candlelight Service of Remembrance at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19. The service is sponsored by the Support Group Ministry in recognition of the difficulty that family members who have lost loved ones have during the holiday season.

Library extends hours

Scurry County Library has extended its Saturday hours and will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. M-W-F and from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Road to Recovery program

Volunteers are needed to take patients to Abilene or Lubbock one day a week for cancer treatment. Following approval American Cancer Society, drivers will be provided liability insurance and can be reimbursed for fuel expenses incurred for the trip. For more information, contact ASC Road to Recovery volunteer coordinator Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 and leave a message, or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:

5-16-24-27-39

Pick 3

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

3-0-4

Borden, Scurry to get funds

Scurry and Borden counties have been added to the list of counties designated as primary natural disaster areas as a result of losses caused by drought that occurred from July 1 through Aug. 31.

U.S Congressman Charlie Stenholm made the announcement that Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman has designated Borden County.

The Department of Agriculture has reviewed the Damage Assessment Report and determined that there are sufficient production losses to warrant a secretarial disaster designation.

In accordance with the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, contiguous counties are also designated. These include Scurry as well as Dawson, Garza, Howard, Lynn, Martin and Mitchell.



Elderly see health costs jump

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite the help Medicare coverage provides, older Americans will spend, on average, more than $2,400 in out-of-pocket expenses for health care this year, an advocacy group said today.

"Although Medicare provides critically important health insurance for older Americans, its coverage is not comprehensive," said David Gross, lead author of a new report from AARP, the nation's largest organization of older adults.

Americans age 65 and older are eligible for Medicare, the nation's health insurance program for the elderly and disabled. It provides wide-ranging coverage and averages payments in benefits of more than $5,000 per year per person.

This year, Medicare participants still will spend an average of $2,430 out of pocket for health care, AARP said. That's about 19 percent of average income among the elderly.

Prescription drugs, which are not covered by Medicare, will account for the biggest chunk of the expenses, about 17 percent or $413.

AARP was releasing the report today at a news conference in Des Moines, Iowa. The group, which supports adding drug coverage to Medicare, is peddling the issue in Iowa because it attracts early campaigning by presidential candidates who face the country's third oldest population there.

The out-of-pocket costs a Medicare beneficiary must pay include a $45.50-a-month Medicare premium, as well as deductibles and co-payments.

Also, Medicare does not cover many expensive services and products in addition to prescription drugs, including routine physicals, eyeglasses and most dental care.

Many beneficiaries purchase private supplemental insurance policies, known as Medigap, to cover some of the expenses. But those too can be costly.

Medicare beneficiaries who enrolled in HMOs, which often offer extra benefits at no charge but have other restrictions, will have the lowest out-of-pocket health care costs this year, averaging $1,630, AARP said.

AARP based its figures on the most recent Department of Health and Human Services survey of Medicare beneficiaries, done in 1995. The AARP study excluded spending on home health care and long-term nursing-home care, but included costs of short nursing-home stays for rehabilitation after illness or injury and private insurance premiums.

A similar study released by AARP last year found that health-care spending by Medicare beneficiaries averaged $2,149 in 1997, but AARP researchers said it cannot be meaningfully compared with today's report.

Post office makes profit for 5th year

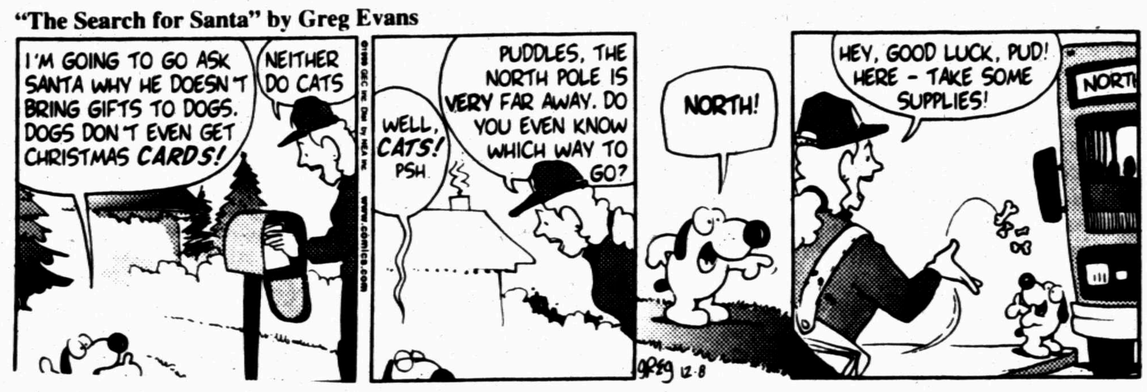
WASHINGTON (AP) — Postage rates won't go up until at least 2001, thanks to continuing profits at the Postal Service.

The post office brought in a $363 million profit in fiscal 1999, the fifth straight year the agency has been in the black, Richard Porras, the chief postal financial officer, said Tuesday.

The price of stamps went up in January, but because the increase was small — from 32 cents to 33 cents for first class mail — some industry observers thought another increase would be needed in 2000. Speculation flared this fall that the lengthy process of raising rates was about to begin.

But Porras indicated a combination of saving through automation and cost-cutting at the agency had helped the bottom line enough that a new rate case will not begin before next year. Because the law sets out a complex process of at least 10 months before rates can be raised, that would mean higher rates could take effect no sooner than early 2001.

"The Search for Santa" by Greg Evans



TOYS FOR TOTS APPLICATION

HOUSEHOLD NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

MONTHLY FAMILY INCOME $ _____

Please list each child's name, age (12 and under), sex (M or F) and three toys they would like to have. We will try to give at least one toy from each child's list. (Please do not list clothes and shoe sizes.)

Child #1

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

Child #2

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

Child #3

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

Child #4

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

Child #5

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

For families with more than 5 children, please attach a separate sheet of paper.)

Toys will be picked up from the Girl Scout Hut (2501 35th Street) on Thursday, December 23, 1999. Each family will be notified by phone of their pick up time, so please list a phone #. Only adults will be allowed to pick up toys. Please send all applications to: TOYS FOR TOTS, c/o Judi Martin, 3106 Hill Avenue, Snyder, Texas 79549-3845. For more information, call 573-3525 or 573-6725. Applications will be accepted through Saturday, December 18, 1999.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, Dec. 9, 1999

Chances are you'll find yourself far more active and productive in the year ahead than previously. You may now start to take on many projects you previously only thought about doing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) As long as selfishness does not enter the picture, there is nothing wrong with being assertive today in order to advance your personal interests. It takes imitative to produce results. Sagittarius, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and self-addressed stamped envelope to Astro- Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Remove yourself today from outside influences or distractions in order to do what needs doing. You'll perform more effectively under solitary conditions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Your zest for life is contagious today and you'll stimulate even those who are usually lethargic or uninspired. The stir of activity you'll generate will be most welcomed.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) All you have to do today is set your sights on a singular objective that is of primary importance to you. Put all your energy in it and you'll be standing in the winner's circle.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Knowledge to which you'll be exposed today could have a deep impact on you in ways that could help fatten your bank account. What you'll learn you'll be able to put to constructive uses.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Some transformations that are in the offing today may turn out to be important changes that could benefit you both philosophically and personally. Flow with the tide.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Good things will transpire from your wonderful cooperative spirit today. Your thoughtfulness is just what is needed to bolster your associations with others.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Personal gratification and feelings of self-worth will be enhanced today by your good work, not to mention the respect you'll garner from others.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Explore in greater detail a venture you're presently contemplating. You appear to be on the right track today and could easily achieve the support of the powers that be.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Your unselfishness is admirable and your efforts will prove to be effective in setting the right example for those in your charge. It may become a cornerstone of their philosophy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Don't be reluctant to discuss interests that are important to you with others today, because the approval you've been hoping to receive can now be attained.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Properly channeled, your ambition and imagination could prove to be a dynamic combination for you today. The success and personal gain for which you're hoping are more likely.

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Home appliances, electronics, lawn & garden and tools

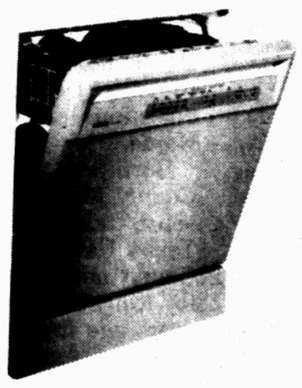
ONE DAY ONLY! December 11, 1999

super saturday sale

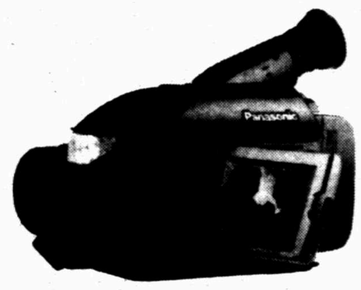
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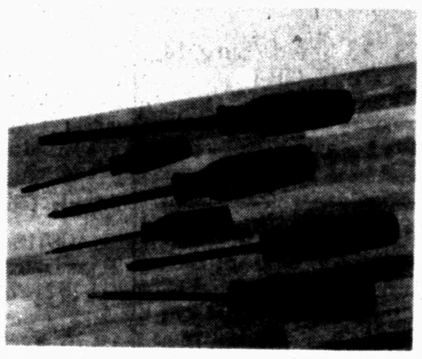
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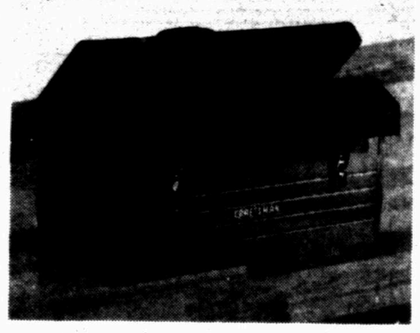
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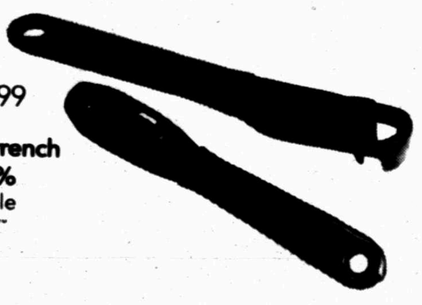
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2½- and 3⅞-in. Handi-Cut® pair. #37204



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SWEETWATER: 604 East Broadway Phone: 915-235-8099 Owner:Marilyn K. Fattor
BIG SPRING: 1801 East FM 700-C6 Big Spring, TX Phone: 915-267-1127 Owner: Lyndon R. Smith Mon.-Sat. 10-7, Sun. 1-6

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