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# WELCOME TO 2003

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WT-Int. Crude - $32.49
WTIC Posted - $28.00
Natural Gas - $4.790

**THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS**

**WEDNESDAY**
Jan. 1, 2003
Vol. 54 No. 210
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Stacy Bollinger

# You have to set your priorities when making your New Year's resolutions

**By Brian Brisendine**
**SDN Staff Writer**

Millions of Americans are busy trying to stick to their New Year's resolutions today, the first day of 2003.

Common resolutions heard each year involve dusting off exercise equipment and shedding a few pounds, or taking care of business that's been put off for too long.



**Howard Sterling**

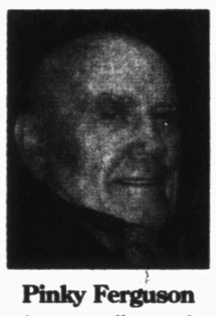
But for a group of domino players at Scurry County Senior Citizen's Center, one resolution rang out loud and clear — finding better domino partners.

Little else mattered to the small, but lively group of seniors busy eyeing their dominoes Tuesday afternoon rather than watching the final hours of 2002 tick away.



**Alvin Orr**

"I have got to get myself a better dominoes partner," said Howard Sterling even as he laid down the winning piece. "That's my goal for 2003."



**Pinky Ferguson**

As Alvin Orr shuffled the dominoes for a new game, he was more thoughtful of his playing mates.

"I'm going to try to be a little nicer to all my domino players here," he said. "We'll see how long that lasts."

Pinky Ferguson had a positive outlook for the new year.

"I am 79 years old and I am resolving to have a good time every single day for the rest of my life," he said.

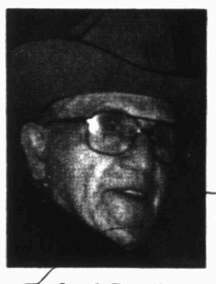
He then pointed at each player around the green table and jokingly continued, "That may mean I'm not going to put up with these guys for the rest of the year."



**Dale Hess**

Dale Hess had a simple resolution, "to make 2003 a better year than 2002."

Buford Sterling, recovering from a stroke in 2002, said his resolution "is to keep getting well. I'm getting better and better and I just want to keep on."



**Buford Sterling**

Regardless of what 2003 or any year brings, the group did agree that there will always be something worth looking forward to — a good game of dominoes with friends in the afternoon.

## THE SDN COLUMN
### MY TURN
by Jo Ann Nunley



Eating black-eyed peas and New Year's resolutions top the to-do list of many today.

Making resolutions for the New Year seems to be a natural thing to do but eating black-eyed peas on Jan. 1 — we wondered why that little uninteresting looking legume's powers prevail.

Tradition has it that each black-eyed pea one eats on New Year's Day represents a dollar that you'll receive in the New Year.

Variations to the southern custom add servings of turnip greens or cabbage and perhaps corn bread for luck and happiness. Some say cabbage stands for paper money and the black-eyed pea for small change. Others say the peas stand for pennies and greens for dollars and corn bread for gold.

According to Better Homes and Gardens, since Roman times, beans or peas have been associated with good fortune and Europeans have long believed that a black-eyed man visiting on New Year's Day foretells lucky prospects. These beliefs fused into the black-eyed pea custom in the U.S. when the tiny peas arrived on ships carrying slaves from Africa.

Although we know where so called good luck really comes from, we'll serve black-eyed peas for the sake of tradition and fun and it surely helps to have a menu for a meal come so easy.

Even if the tradition fails, we've come out ahead nutritionally.

— — —

The following "top ten list" from our e-mail friend Peggy Vernon doesn't have anything to do with resolutions or black-eyed peas for New Year, although the list does provoke ideas to suggest a few resolutions for the head of our household.

**The 10 top reasons why God created Eve.**

**10.** God worried that Adam would be lost in the Garden of Eden because he wouldn't ask for directions. **9.** God knew that someday Adam would need someone to hand him the TV remote. (Parenthetically, it has been noted that men don't want to see what's ON TV; they want to see WHAT ELSE is on.) **8.** God knew that Adam would never make a doctor's appointment.

**7.** God knew that when Adam's fig leaf wore out, he would never buy a new one for himself. **6.** God knew that Adam would not remember to take out the garbage. **5.** God wanted man to be fruitful and multiply, but he knew Adam would never be able to handle labor pains and childbirth. **4.** As "keeper of the garden," Adam would need help in finding his tools. **3.** Adam needed someone to blame for the Apple Incident, and for anything else that was really his fault. **2.** As the Bible says: "It is not good for man to be alone."

**1.** And the No. 1 reason of all [Tada, drum roll, fanfare, etc.] God stepped back, looked at Adam, and declared: "I can do better than that."

# Fourth quarter here full of news

**OCTOBER**

Western Texas College announced plans to purchase buses for its two new athletic programs — baseball and softball. The college also announced it was forming an outreach program at Northeast Elementary School.

A high-speed chase that ended in Howard County started when an Amarillo man ran from Snyder police officers on College Avenue early one morning.

A $2 million settlement was reached in 132nd District Court that involved the deaths of two B & F Well Service employees, and an 18-wheeler carrying $80,000 in newly-minted pennies.

Nationwide, the attention was on the northeast states as snipers began a trail of shooting that saw five people die in the first days of terror.

Joe Graves was named the new postmaster at Ira following the retirement of Leona Wiggins.

Seventeen people were indicted by the Scurry County grand jury on a variety of charges.

Engine No. 5 made its final journey of its career as it was moved from Towle Park to a spot between the coliseum and the Dodson House.

Dayton Robertson was elected president of the Development Corporation of Snyder board of directors.

Another high-speed chase started in Snyder but this time, ended in Lubbock County near Slaton. The man was later indicted here for robbery of the All-sup's store in Hermleigh.

Ira High School senior Celeigh Sterling was crowned homecoming queen during activities that included the Bulldogs defeating Trent, 50-0.

Also in Ira, the school board accepted a settlement of $3,500 for over-billing on fuel charges by Eddins-Walcher Co.

Both Republican and Democratic Parties opened their local office as they prepared for the November election.

The annual heart walk under the direction of Dee Chasteen was held beginning in the parking lot of American State Bank.

Trevlyn Pitner, former Snyder police officer, was named the chief of police in Pampa.

Western Texas College hosted its annual College Day and it was well-attended by students from several area high schools.

Georgia Newell King was named the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. She took the place of Nan Swanson who moved with her husband to California.

Misty McClure and Terrel Culp were named football queen and king for 2002 at Hermleigh.

A petition was circulated calling for a teen curfew in Snyder. The petitions were later presented to the city council but no action was taken on them.

**NOVEMBER**

Over 1,600 early votes were cast for the November general election that saw Rod Waller defeat Janet Stribling for Scurry County judge. Jerry House defeated Robbie Floyd for Pct. Commissioner, and Chloanne Lindsey retained her Pct. 4 commissioner's post by defeating Keith Hackfeld.

The election was not without some controversy, however, as the first totals released indicated both Floyd and Hackfeld had won. A bad computer chip was responsible for the mix-up.

A recount was later held in the county judge's race and Waller remained the winner.

A two-vehicle accident involving a small pickup and a truck carrying butane resulted in the loss of life of a Snyder resident on Hwy. 208 South. Dental records were used to identify Kelly Luna Southard as the wreck victim.

A 38-year-old Snyder man was killed in a freak accident as Forrest King was apparently run over by his own vehicle on CR 248.

A Belgium firm, UCO Textiles, announced plans to re-open the Lorber facility in the industrial park pending approval of a federal bankruptcy judge. The judge granted permission for the sale and the company is in the process of hiring employees to get into production in January.

Snyder school trustees announced plans to interview six applicants for the vacant superintendent's post before naming a lone finalist.

Snyder TV watchers became unhappy with Cox Communication as reception was fuzzy on several channels. A number of letters were written protesting the reception.

Plans are made to locate a new Department of Public Safety building on 37th Street near East Elementary.

Bill Parker announced his resignation from West Texas State Bank and he was replaced in an interim period by John Greene.

Snyder fireman Shane Jones was named the department's Fireman of the Year.

**DECEMBER**

Office space in the county courthouse was shuffled at the beginning of the month as the district attorney's office moved from the fourth floor to the third.

Scurry County's commissioners also gave the okay to enclose the breezeway between the coliseum and the annex at a cost of $40,000.

Celia Morales attended the December city council meeting and told her side of the story for a teen curfew in the city. Council members took no action on her proposal, and District Attorney Dana Cooley said a mentoring program for local teens might be more effective than a curfew in lowering the juvenile crime rate.

The DCOS board was actively working with representatives of UCO Textiles on incentive agreements to aid in the firm purchasing the Lorber facility at the industrial park.

Their work paid off later in the month as the sale of the facility was given the green light by a federal bankruptcy judge in Lubbock.

As part of the deal, the DCOS agreed to pay Big Country Electric Co-op $279,000 over a 15-year period to help offset UCO's electric rates. The company plans to be in operation by the end of this month with some 45 employees on the payroll and the plant operating 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Grand jury members indicted seven people, including three for DWI.

Ira's trustees named a Brownfield native, Dr. Larry Devitt, as their lone finalist for school superintendent. Dr. Devitt will begin his duties Thursday.

Snyder's utility committee met with representatives of Cox Communications about the poor reception on several cable channels. The cable company acknowledged the problems and said they were working to improve the reception. The company said planned rate increases for Snyder would be put on hold due to the problems.

The present superintendent at Jacksboro, Dr. Ronny Collins, was named the lone finalist for the superintendent's post for the Snyder ISD. Final action on Dr. Collins' contract will come next week by the school board.

Cielo Wind Power of Austin announced plans to build wind

See Year-end review, Page 8

## Youth injured by gun Tuesday

A Snyder youth narrowly avoided tragedy Tuesday, while working with his grandfather northwest of town.

Jacob Graves, 11, was holding a .22 caliber pistol when the firearm accidentally went off, sending a bullet through the boy's leg, but missing all bones and arteries.

Graves was with his grandfather, Pee Wee Graves, when the accident occurred.

Sheriff's deputy Drew Price said the boy lost his grip on the pistol and the weight of the gun came down on his finger, triggering the firing mechanism.

Price said the bullet entered the front of his thigh and exited cleanly.

"He was pretty lucky it didn't hit something. Any nearer to the bone and that bullet would have cut an artery."

Graves' grandfather rushed him to Cogdell Memorial Hospital's emergency room, where he was treated and released for the non-critical injury.

A Cogdell employee reported the gunshot wound to dispatchers and Price responded. An offense report for the accidental shooting was filed.

Jacob is the son of Ira Postmaster Joe Graves.

**ASK US**

**Q—When will Gov. Perry be sworn in?**

**A—At noon on Tuesday, Jan. 21. The ceremony will be on the south steps of the Capitol Building.**

**MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR**



**Jeannie Johnson...**

...a 1994 SHS graduate, and her husband, Scott, have a baby girl due today. The couple has two boys, Cody and Tyler. Jeannie is a guard at Price Daniel, and in her ever-decreasing spare time, she enjoys being with her children and working with horses.

**TODAY'S THOUGHT**

**Happy New Year!**

JAN 01 2003

events

# WHAT'S UP?

## ONGOINGS

### WTC testing dates

Western Texas College's testing dates for LVN ASSET COMPASS QUICK-TASP include Saturday at 12:30 p.m.; Tuesday at 9 a.m.,1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.; Jan. 21, 1:30 p.m.; and Jan. 28, 1:30 p.m. For more information, contact the counseling office at 573-8511 ext. 313.

### FBC services televised

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

### 100th birthday reception

A reception to celebrate Sadie Shifflett's 100th birthday is set from 1-3:30 p.m. Monday in the Church of God Fellowship Hall, located at Ave.0 and 21st Street. All are welcome to attend.

### VFW auxiliary meeting

VFW Post 8231 Auxiliary will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday at the post home. Members are urged to attend.

### Support groups

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

### Bass Club meeting

The Snyder Bass Club will hold its first monthly meeting of 2003 at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Kinder Morgan offices on U.S. 180.

### Trinity Bible study

A 10-week study, "Bad Girls of the Bible," begins Wednesday, Jan. 8, at Trinity United Methodist Church. Melissa Petty will lead the study and all women are invited to attend. To order a book or for more information call 573-3988.

### Lions Club meetings

Snyder Lions Club meetings Tuesday and Jan. 14 will be held at Snyder Country Club while repairs are being made at Martha Ann Woman's Club.

### Benefit enchilada dinner

There will be a benefit enchilada dinner for liver transplant patient Carol Carrasco Garza from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 19 at West Elementary Cafeteria. For advance tickets for a $5 donation, call Mickey Carrasco at 573-3343.

### SHS booster club fund raiser

The SHS drama booster club is collecting old cell phones and used printer cartridges for recycling. Drop off at the sheriff's office. For more information, call Jan Scott at 573-8027.

### Choir trip planned

SHS choirs are also planning a trip to Boston on Easter weekend, April 17-21. There are six available positions for anyone who wants to make the trip. For more information, call Ronda Haire, choir director, at 573-6301.

### Tigers Lair yearbook

Orders for 2002 Tigers Lair yearbooks are still being taken. The cost is $50 with additional options available. Call 574-6138 for information.

### Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland is available free of charge. Call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakey Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

# West Virginia doctors defend plans for a possible walk-out

WEIRTON, W.Va. (AP) — As he stood in a hallway at Weirton Medical Center, Dr. Jayapal Reddy was undecided about whether he would join a mass walkout to protest skyrocketing medical malpractice insurance premiums.

But if he does join dozens of fellow surgeons in a strike starting Wednesday, he said it won't be because he is greedy. Reddy, who drives a Subaru with 110,000 miles, said with the rising insurance costs, he must earn $250,000 before seeing $1 in profit.

Reddy is one of dozens of surgeons at four northern West Virginia hospitals who may stop reporting for duty, forcing most elective and trauma surgeries to be diverted to hospitals in Ohio, Pennsylvania or Morgantown.

Meanwhile in Pennsylvania, surgeons around the state backed off their threat to close their practices Wednesday just hours before they were scheduled to walk off the job.

Strike plans were canceled after Gov.-elect Ed Rendell promised to fight for $220 million in aid for doctors this year. The aid offer is tentative one.

Rendell, a Democrat, doesn't take office for another three weeks and even though he still must persuade a Republican-controlled Legislature to accept his plan, there were signs that the offer had averted a large-scale work stoppage.

"We are going to go back to work," said Margo Opsasnick, chief executive at Delta Medix, one of several Scranton surgical groups that had planned to close Jan. 1 because of high insurance costs.

"We are going to take Mr. Rendell's offer as one of good faith, and keep seeing patients," she said Tuesday.

Other physician groups around the state followed suit.

Scranton's biggest hospital, Community Medical Center, notified state officials Tuesday that its neurosurgeons had also agreed to keep working, avoiding a planned closure of northeast Pennsylvania's only trauma center.

"It feels like a huge weight has been lifted off our shoulders," said hospital spokeswoman Jane Gaul.

No such relief came to surgeons in West Virginia. They said they wanted lawmakers to get their message that the state has created a hostile working environment, and doctors are ready to leave.

"I'm under contractual obligation to this hospital until September," Reddy said. "I'm already looking around."

Dr. Jeffrey Wilps and other surgeons met for more than an hour Tuesday with state insurance officials and concluded, "there's no quick fix to this."

"They're just trying to pacify the physicians now. They don't realize it's come to an acute crisis situation," Wilps said.

# Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



## *Workers keep on truckin' to lift spirits of ailing boy*

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been an avid reader for many years, and appreciate the stories you print about acts of kindness.

My 4-year-old nephew, Jacob, is a dwarf. He is a sweet, kind child and has a great personality. He is also very well-adjusted. This past year was especially difficult for Jacob because he needed a shunt installed in his head last spring. In October, he ended up in the University of Chicago Children's Hospital for a month with numerous complications that required tests, procedures and emergency surgeries.

My nephew was fortunate to have his family, friends, neighbors and teachers spend time with him in the hospital. But what made this little boy the happiest was what the city's refuse collectors did after they missed seeing him on their weekly neighborhood rounds. When they were told about Jacob's hospitalization, they surprised him by showing up at the hospital with Matchbox garbage truck toys. Thank you, Homewood Disposal Systems in Homewood, Ill., for employing kind, compassionate workers who value their customers.

All is well in my nephew's world. Thank you for letting me share our joy, Abby. — **HAPPY IN HOMEWOOD**

**DEAR HAPPY:** What an uplifting letter to receive as we begin 2003! It appears Homewood is a community that embraces even its youngest citizens, and demonstrates the good neighbor policy in daily living. It's a lesson we can all take to heart.

And now, because no New Year's Day would be complete without Dear Abby's oft-requested New Year's resolutions, I offer these, based on the original credo of Al-Anon — with a few variations of my own:

**JUST FOR TODAY,** I will live through this day only. I will not brood about yesterday or obsess about tomorrow. I will not set far-reaching goals or try to overcome all my problems at once. I know that I can do something for 24 hours that would overwhelm me if I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

**JUST FOR TODAY,** I will be happy. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. If my mind fills with clouds, I will chase them away and fill it with sunshine.

**JUST FOR TODAY,** I will accept what is. I will face reality. I will correct those things I can correct, and accept those I cannot.

**JUST FOR TODAY,** I will improve my mind. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration. I will not be a mental loafer.

**JUST FOR TODAY,** I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will be kind and courteous to those who cross my path, and I will not speak ill of others. I'll improve my appearance, speak softly, and not interrupt when someone else is talking. Just for today, I'll refrain from improving anybody except myself.

**JUST FOR TODAY,** I will do something positive to improve my health. If I'm a smoker, I'll quit. If I'm overweight, I'll eat healthily — if only for today. And just for today, I'll get off the couch and take a brisk walk, even if it's only around the block.

**JUST FOR TODAY,** I will gather the courage to do what is right and take responsibility for my own actions.

To one and all, a happy, healthy New Year!

**Love, ABBY**

**

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

**

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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## Berry's World




events

LOTTO TEXAS™ TEXAS LOTTERY RESULTS

**Tuesday's Lottery Numbers**
**Texas Two Step**

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

**13-30-2-31**
**Bonus number 32**
**Estimated jackpot: $250,000**
**Pick 3**
**(Day) 7-9-7**
**(Night) 4-5-8**
**Cash Five**
**8-11-21-24-26**


## THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

**Published each Sunday morning and each evening, except Saturday, by Snyder Publishing Co., Inc., 3600 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79549.**

**Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Snyder, Texas, Publication Number USPS611-520.**

**POSTMASTER send change of address to P.O. Box 949, Snyder, Texas, 79550.**

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier in Snyder, $9.25 per month.**

**By mail in Scurry and adjoining counties, one year $88.80 balance of Texas and out of state $113.85.**

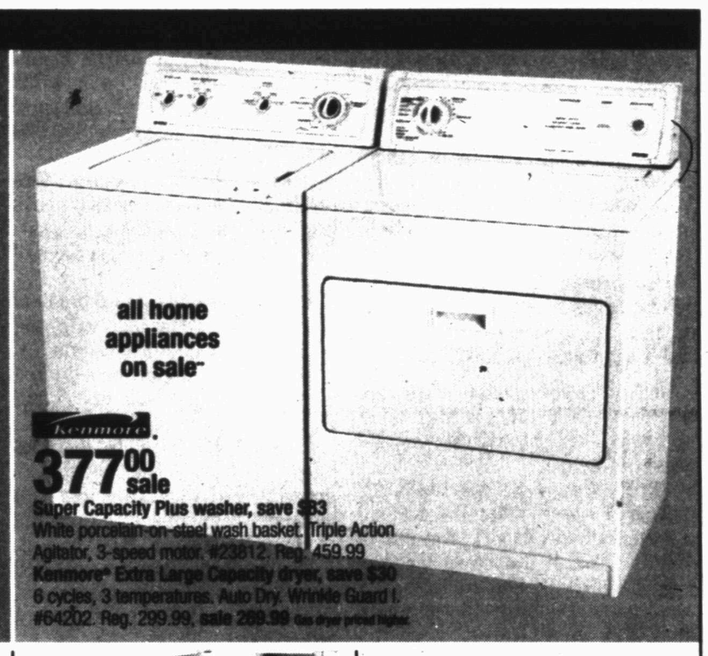
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0% financing until January 2004 on all home appliances over $399 when you use your Sears card*

free delivery with mail-in rebate on all home appliances over $399

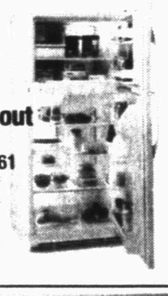


all home appliances on sale*

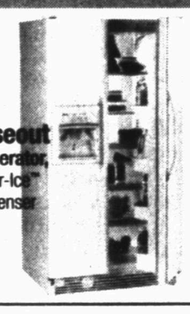
Kenmore 377.00 sale
Super Capacity Plus washer, save $83
White porcelain-on-steel wash basket. Triple Action Agitator, 3-speed motor. #23612. Reg. 459.99
Kenmore Extra Large Capacity dryer, save $30
6 cycles, 3 temperatures. Auto Dry. Wrinkle Guard I. #64202. Reg. 299.99, sale 269.99 Gas dryer priced higher.



Kenmore 79.99 sale
Bagless vacuum, save $20 12-amp. On-board tools, E-Z Change belt and long-life tower filter. #33721. Reg. 99.99



Kenmore 488.88 closeout
18.1 cu. ft.† refrigerator, save $61
Adjustable spill-proof glass shelves. One split shelf. #60842. Was 549.99
While quantities last

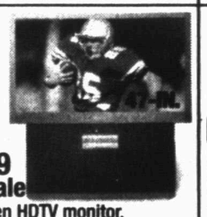


Kenmore 999.88 closeout
25.2 cu. ft.† refrigerator, save $300 Acceler-Ice™ icemaker and dispenser lockout. #52572. Was 1299.99
While quantities last



PRO-FORM 599.99 sale
Crosswalk Advanced treadmill, save $200
Upper-body workout. 2.5-HP treadmill-duty motor, 18x50-in. treadbelt. #29325. Reg. 799.99

0%* financing until June 2003 on all TVs over $499 & camcorders over $299 when you use your Sears card*



SAMSUNG 1699.99 sale
47-in. wide-screen HDTV monitor, save $100 Component input is ideal for DVD. ProChip™ progressive scan. #54011 Reg. 1799.99



CRAFTSMAN 899.88 final
15.5-HP, 42-in. lawn tractor, after $100 savings and $50 mail-in rebate†† #27155. Was 1049.99, closeout 999.88, sale 949.88
While quantities last ††Rebate through Jan. 4. See store for details. In CT rebate given at register.

0% financing until June 2003 on all tractors & treadmills when you use your Sears card*

*See below for important 0% financing details. Excludes outlet stores. Offer good thru Jan. 4.

BIG SPRING:1801 East FM 700-C6, Big Spring TX., Phone: 915-267-1127, Owner: Jody & Terri Swinney, Mon. - Sat. 10-7, Sun. 1-6

SWEETWATER: 604 East Broadway, Sweetwater, TX., Phone: 915-235-8099, Owner: Shawn & Pam Chittum, Mon. - Sat. 9-6, Sun. 12-5

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# Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



## Your Birthday

**Thursday, Jan. 2, 2003**

Your ambitious objectives are likely to be much bigger in the year ahead than they have been in the past. With the greater motivation they'll generate in you, the rewards will be greater as well.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Make room today to spend as much time as possible with the persons with whom you share strong loving bonds. There are more rewards in it for you at this time than usual.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** — This is an excellent day to socialize with individuals who are in your field of endeavor. Through sharing a pleasant activity together, something mutually advantageous could result.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** — There are strong indications today that you could begin to experience a change for the better where your financial circumstances are concerned. Make hay while the sun is shining.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — Someone with whom you may strike up a conversation today might turn out to be in a position to do you a business favor. Don't hesitate to talk shop.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — Chances are a lucky break may put you in the position today to conclude a matter of importance to you that has been bogged down. Jump on it immediately and get it out of the way.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — You are right to feel optimistic today about a recent development, so pay no heed to someone who is thinking negatively about it. Your wishes are about to come true.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — When it comes to career situations today, you are far more likely to be effective if you operate on your own. Others could usurp what you've got going for you.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Everything will work out more smoothly today when you treat your endeavors philosophically and in a carefree manner. By playing things easy, your luck has a chance to work its wonders.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Through the use of indirect tactics you'll have a better chance of achieving your goals. Should an obstacle confront you, you'll quietly find ways to outflank it.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** — A relationship that you've been desirous of cultivating has a good chance of being improved upon today. A situation may arise that'll allow you to take measures to strengthen it.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** — The more meaningful an objective is to you today, the more you'll put into it and the better your chances will be of achieving it. Go after something big without any trepidation.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** — A new alliance you'll make today could turn out to be quite fortunate for you as well as for any other parties involved, especially if one of them is a Leo.

Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092.

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# Lobbyist resigned to prevent retaliation against state doctors

DALLAS (AP) — The Texas Medical Association's top lobbyist said he had to leave the post to keep Gov. Rick Perry from retaliating against doctors' legislative agenda for supporting Democrat Tony Sanchez in last year's governor's race.

Kim Ross, a nationally known political strategist for the medical profession, said he didn't want Perry's perceived animosity toward him to jeopardize three critical issues that the state's largest doctor's group will be pushing when lawmakers convene Jan. 14.

Ross said Perry was chafed after the 37,000-member medical association, usually a reliable supporter of GOP causes, endorsed a Democrat, and that Perry told several physicians in San Antonio last fall that he was particularly displeased with Ross.

"He made it pretty clear," said Ross, 50.

Perry's spokeswoman said she was not familiar with the San Antonio meeting and had no comment on Ross' resignation.

"Gov. Perry has a very good relationship with doctors all over the state," Kathy Walt said.

Ross said he and his boss, Lou Goodman, the association's executive vice president, decided last weekend that he should leave for the good of the organization.

"I pulled myself voluntarily from the lineup," Ross said. "I've labored too many years and doctors have too many needs that are dire in this session for there to be any miscues. I didn't want to be an excuse for them getting hurt."

The doctors' group wants the Legislature to limit how much patients may recover in malpractice lawsuits, require insurance companies to pay physicians promptly and avoid deep spending cuts in Medicaid, the state-federal program for the poor and disabled.

Perry upset doctors when he vetoed a prompt-payment bill the doctors wanted during the previous session in 2001.

In addition to Ross, three other employees at the association are leaving: legislative director Alfred Gilchrist, associate legislative director Connie Barron and Troy Alexander, director of the group's political-action committee.

But Ross said their departures had been in the works.

Ross said he probably would have quit at the session's end in June, anyway.

The group's endorsement of Sanchez turned out to be "a catalyst for an inevitable transition," he said.

Ross, a Dallas native, worked for the medical association from 1979 to 1981, and then returned to the group in 1986 as its top lobbyist after a stint lobbying for car dealers.

—

Italy's ancient Etruscans, forerunners of the Romans, combined their love of music and sports with a penchant for brutality that might have included human sacrifice according to historians.

## Date Book

**Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2003**

Today is the first day of 2003 and the 12th day of winter.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** On this day in 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation took effect.

On this day in 1892, Ellis Island was opened, and for the next 50 years, more than 12 million people came through the island on their way to the United States.

On this day in 1928, Utah's Bryce Canyon was established as a national park.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531), Swiss clergyman; Betsy Ross (1752-1836), seamstress; E.M. Forster (1879-1970), writer; J. Edgar Hoover (1895-1972), U.S. President; B(ernard) Kliban (1935-1990), cartoonist.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** On this day in 1954, Rice halfback Dicky Moegle was on his way to a 95-yard touchdown when Alabama fullback Tommy Lewis jumped from the bench and tackled him. The referee gave the touchdown to Moegle and Rice went on to the win the game.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "If I had to choose between betraying my country and betraying my friend, I hope I should have the guts to betray my country." — E.M. Forster

**TODAY'S MOON:** Between last quarter (Dec. 26) and new moon (Jan. 2).

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# Today's chuckle

## 'Polar bears' take frigid swim

NEW YORK (AP) — For many Americans, the morning of New Year's Day is for recovering from a hangover. For the Polar Bear, it's for invigorating the soul.



Members of the Coney Island Polar Bear Club dive headlong into the chilly waters of the Atlantic Ocean on New Year's Day, celebrating an annual tradition that dates back 100 years.

"Only in Coney Island would you meet a group of people like this," said John D'Aquino, a Manhattan sound engineer who joined the club 4 1/2 years ago.

And a disparate group they are — from computer animators to postal workers, all linked by the singular belief that swimming in frigid water is good for one's health.

"We have no scientific evidence to back this up; it's all anecdotal, of course," said Ken Krisses, the club's president for the past 15 years. "But we don't ever get sick."

The New Year's dip is the club's premier event, drawing more than 100 swimmers. But every Sunday from late November to late April, 20 to 25 Polar Bears trundle down to the sands of Coney Island and after a round of calisthenics to get the blood flowing, splash around in the frigid water.

"I never liked to wear a hat in wintertime, so my parents always said I should join the Polar Bears. Go figure," Krisses said.


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# Baby girl taken into custody after ingesting some cocaine

RICHMOND (AP) — Child welfare officials took an 11-month-old girl and three siblings into custody after a test showed the baby ingested cocaine.

The girl's mother, Regina Griffin, 23, testified in a custody hearing Tuesday that her sister sells crack cocaine from the house they share, but that she did not know how the baby ingested the drug.

"She keeps it in her room, sometimes on the dresser," Griffin said of her sister in Judge Robert Kern's state District Court.

Griffin took the child to the hospital late Monday morning because she was continually scratching herself and would not take her bottle.

At the hospital Griffin told nurses the baby might have swallowed some cocaine.

Estella Olguin, spokeswoman for Children's Protective Services, said the state took emergency custody of the child Monday evening.

Griffin's daughters, ages 7 and 2, along with an 11-day-old son, also were removed from the home, Olguin said.

Another child, a 5-year-old girl, was not at the house and remains in the care of her father.

Doctors told investigators the baby suffered no permanent injury from the drug but that it could have caused serious health problems.


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RE-OPENING JANUARY 2



Robbie, Sarah, Bethany & Gunnar Jamison are the new proud owners of the **Auto Clinic** (formerly Davenport Auto Clinic), where Robbie has worked for the past seven and one-half years. The Jamisons would appreciate the continued support of all Davenport customers. They would like to invite you to come see all the changes being made, and give them the opportunity to serve you with all your automotive repair needs.

Sarah would like to thank her customers and friends at Elizabeth Potts Realtors, where she has worked for the past five years. She appreciates the trust that was placed in her and the opportunity to serve the community. She asks that she be allowed to serve you, the customer, in a new way at the **Auto Clinic**.

The **Auto Clinic** has been in business for over 20 years and is located at 405 26th Street, behind Skinny's on Coliseum Drive.

AUTO CLINIC

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(Behind Skinny's on Coliseum Dr.)
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Robbie & Sarah Jamison, Owners



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1/2 OFF SWEATERS FOR HIM & HER

1/2 OFF ATHLETIC SHOES FOR HIM & HER

1/2 OFF ACTIVEWEAR FOR HIM & HER

1/2 OFF MISSES & JRS. DRESSES & PANTSUITS

1/2 OFF CHILDREN'S PLAY SETS

We Will Be Closed New Year's Day


JAN 01 2003

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**THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom**




**SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski**




**BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell**




**BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun**




**THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr**




## NEA Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

1 Hold dear
6 Office worker
12 Alien
14 Tree with catkins
15 Professor's goal
16 Moonshot mission
17 Cartoon Chihuahua
18 Ariz. neighbor
19 French wine
21 Harbor boat
23 Fairy-tale character
26 Play on words
27 Hideaway
28 Spooky noise
30 Capp and Jolson
31 Source of metal
32 City near Kyoto
33 More frosty
35 Churchill gesture
37 Telegraph signal
38 Family member
39 One, to Fritz
40 Before, to Byron
41 Actor — Sparks
42 Wind up
43 Psyche components
44 Veer
46 Poached edible
48 Silly
51 Empathize
55 Earlier
56 Barracks bane
57 Greek letters
58 Books

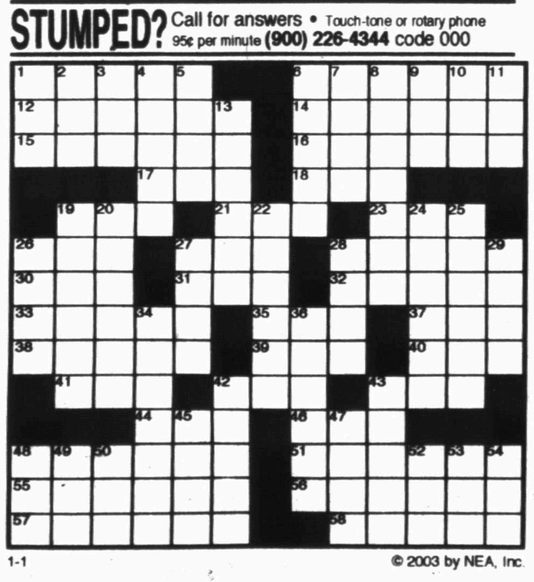
**DOWN**

1 Rover's doc
2 Stone Age tool
3 Cohort of Boris and Bela
4 Reversal (hyph.)
5 Limerick locale
6 Nasal tone
7 Cry of dismay
8 Shore birds
9 "— Be There"
10 Earth's star
11 Tango number
13 Tall player
19 Roman god of fire
20 Out of the rain
22 Bumpy
24 Type of gasoline
25 Dervishes
26 Forked over
27 Rowboat
28 Film director Joel —
29 Capshaw or Moss
34 Whirling
36 Large ducks
42 Big pitchers
43 Snow house
45 Perplexed
47 Polite chap
48 Road show grp.
49 — de plume
50 Deep distress
52 Jacket feature
53 Golfer's peg
54 Hosp. areas

Answer to Previous Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | A | W | | G | R | A | B | | | H | A | Y |
| I | R | A | | R | E | L | Y | | M | O | P | E |
| L | B | S | | I | D | L | E | | A | G | E | S |
| T | O | T | A | L | S | | S | P | Y | | | |
| | R | E | E | L | | | | B | O | L | E | |
| | | | R | E | C | E | S | S | | O | R | O |
| R | A | N | I | | A | M | P | | B | O | I | L |
| A | L | E | E | | M | I | A | | A | N | N | E |
| T | U | X | | T | O | R | R | I | D | | | |
| | M | T | N | S | | | | M | D | S | E | |
| | | | U | P | C | | B | A | Y | O | U | S |
| P | A | C | K | | A | G | O | G | | N | B | A |
| A | C | H | E | | K | A | N | E | | A | I | M |
| L | E | I | | | E | G | G | S | | R | E | S |

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# Snyder Daily News Comics

**DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketchams**

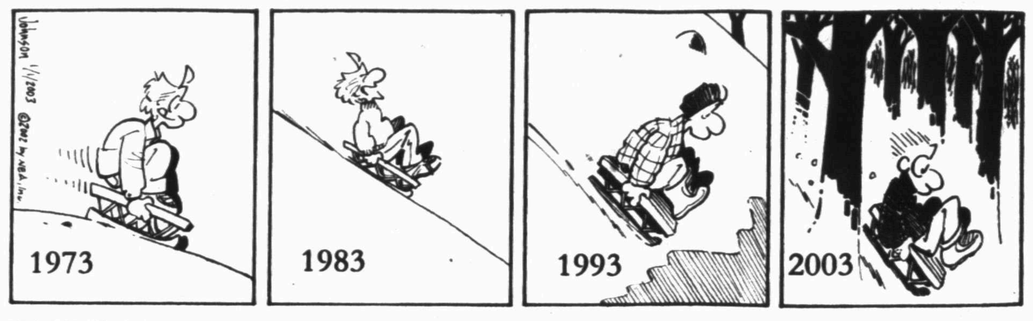



"THE BOYS ARE FINE. DENNIS IS PLAYING WITH HIS *FIRE* ENGINE... HENRY'S PLAYING WITH HIS *SEARCH* ENGINE."

**FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves**




**ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson**




**BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce**




**MONTY ® by Jim Meddick**




**ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender**




**BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen**




**HERMAN ® by Jim Unger**




"I thought that was last year."

**KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright**



# SPORTS

## Parcells to coach Cowboys

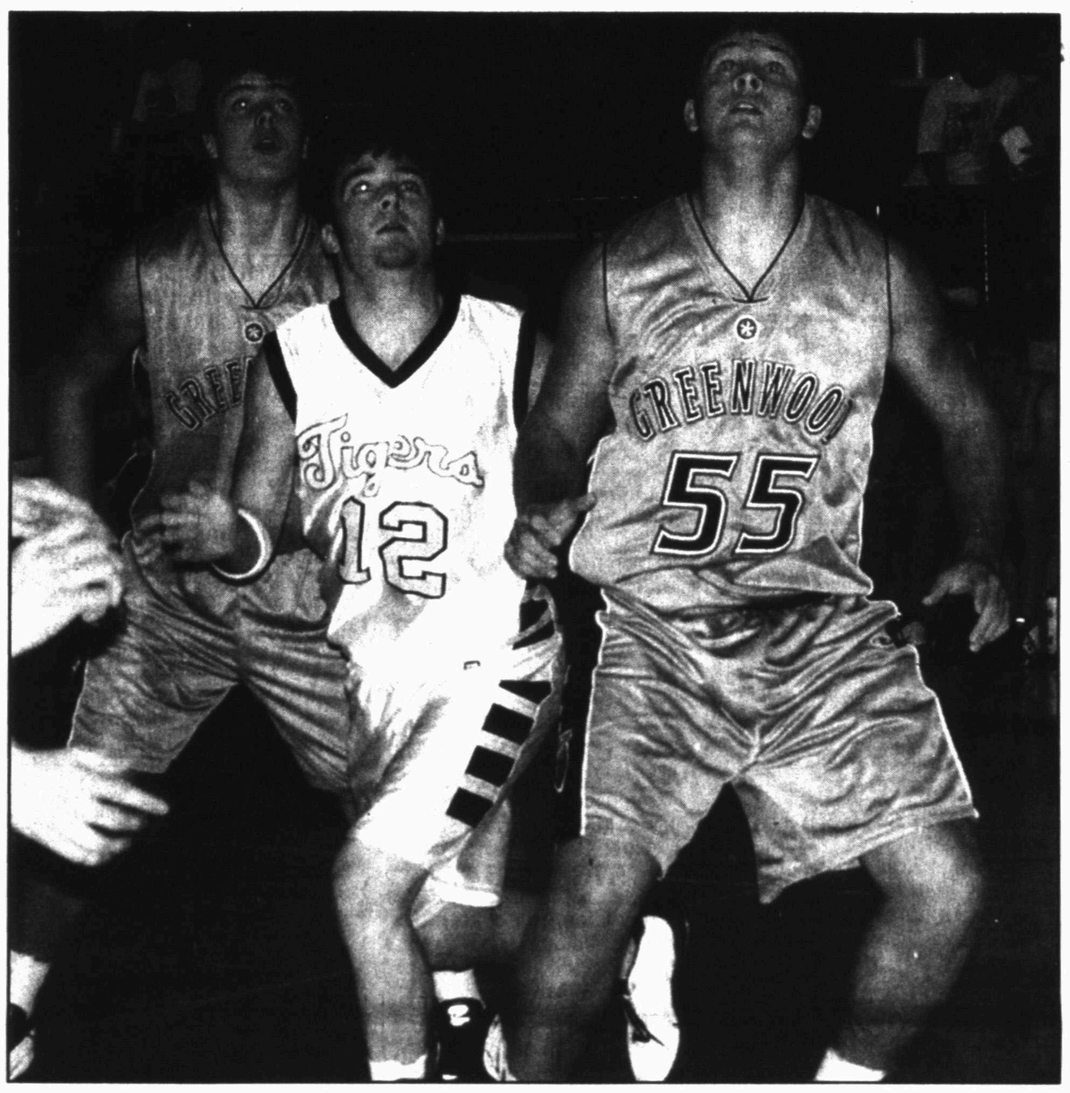
Bill Parcells told ESPN today he has officially agreed to become the coach of the Dallas Cowboys.

Parcells said he and Cowboys owner Jerry Jones finalized the deal this morning and another source said that he had signed a copy of a four-year contract worth $17.1 million.

Parcells will be formally introduced Thursday at a late-afternoon news conference in Dallas as he assumes the reins of a team that has suffered through three consecutive 5-11 seasons.

"I'm going to do it," said Parcells, breaking a three-year hiatus from the NFL.

Parcells, 61, becomes the sixth coach of the Cowboys and replaces Dave Campo, who was fired Monday. Parcells has not coached in the NFL since the 1999 season with the New York Jets. He won two Super Bowls with the New York Giants, reached the Super Bowl with the New England Patriots.



WEDGED IN — Colby Driggers battles Midland Greenwood's Chris Boss (55) and Shane McNeely for position under the boards during Tuesday's 46-36 triumph. The Tigers used a stingy man defense to hold the Rangers to three third quarter points. (SDN Staff Photo)

## Tigers pass Greenwood test heading into district action

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

If Tuesday's game was a test to see how the Tigers could compete in District 3-3A, then they passed with flying colors.

Using a pesky man press defense, the Tigers held the increasingly frustrated Rangers to three points in the third quarter on their way to a convincing 46-36 win.

"This was a big win for us," said head coach Bud Birks. "It gives us a measuring stick for district. They have played a lot of teams in our district."

The Tigers granted seven field goals and gave up 14 points in the first quarter, but stiffened after that, allowing just four field goals and 22 points in the final three stanzas.

"I thought we played hard and smart," Birks said. "(Greenwood) didn't like the man pressure, and we got better as the game went along."

The Rangers' discouragement boiled over early in the third quarter, as post player Ty Smith fouled out after being slapped with a technical after jostling with Snyder center Josh Mendoza under the paint.

Both players were hit with a foul by the referee, and Smith took umbrage with his foul, saying something to the official that resulted in the technical foul and his removal from the contest.

The Tigers were cold in the middle quarters, then heated up in fourth quarter with 18 points and a comfortable victory.

Logan Hill came down with several big rebounds, out-jumping and out-hustling his much larger Greenwood counterpart, and Colby Driggers drained three from behind the arc to provide a spark for Snyder.

"Colby is getting better and getting healthy," Birks said. He said Hill gained a lot of confidence from the Brownwood tournament, and gives the Tigers an added dimension in the paint.

"Logan's a really good jumper and a tough kid," he said. "He got some tough, big rebounds for us. He really gives us something positive inside."

Lee Scott led the Tigers with 15 points, including two lay-ups off of steals in the fourth quarter that took the steam from the Rangers' comeback bid.

Josh Mendoza pumped in 11 and grabbed several key rebounds with a forceful presence inside.

The Tigers are off until Tuesday, when they host Andrews at 8 p.m. at the high school gym.

The junior varsity squad held a 20-point advantage at the end of three periods en route to a 53-39 beating of Greenwood.

"We played well, and got after them," said JV coach Zack Williams. "They didn't like the pressure, and we got out and ran and shot well."

The JV squad led by just two late in the second quarter, but a 6-0 run to close out the first half provided the springboard for the dominating victory.

Lico Castillo paced the junior Tigers with 16 points — 12 of which came via the three-pointer, and Isaac Ramon and Zack Garcia canned nine.

Jason Ramos hit two from downtown to add eight points to the JV's total.

The Junior Tigers play host to Andrews Tuesday at the high school gym before the varsity tilt.

Tip off is scheduled for 6:30.

## Lady Tigers' defense controls Lady Rangers

The Lady Tigers defense once again stymied the opposition, holding the host Lady Rangers to four third quarter points to seize a 51-36 victory at Midland Greenwood.

"We are pleased with the effort," said assistant coach Stephanie McKnight, adding that the intensity of the team picked up noticeably in the second half. "We pressed the whole game, and in the second half we were more effective."

Snyder (15-4) outscored Greenwood by 12 in the second half, with the team spreading the ball — and the points — around.

Freshman Sequoya Powell continued her improved play with seven points and nine boards, and Sirena Medrano and Hailey Putnam paced the Lady Tigers with nine points each

Zipporah Peoples drained eight points, and Dara Chambers and Erin Burleson notched seven each.

The Lady Tigers open district play Friday night at Denver City, with a 6:30 start scheduled.

The junior varsity topped Greenwood, 37-32, behind 15 points from standout Brianna Burk.

Kayla Guerrero pumped in eight and Dominique Braziel and Kelsey Shaw contributed seven points each.

The JV ladies also will open district at Denver City at 5 o'clock Friday afternoon.

## Boise St. crushes Cyclones; TCU cruises

By The Associated Press

Maryland's first bowl victory in 17 years had coach Ralph Friedgren thinking about the effects the win will have on the program.

"It's a great season," Friedgen said. "I would think this would put us high up in the polls. I think it sends a message to all our recruits to come and be a Terp."

Scott McBrien ran for two touchdowns and Curome Cox returned an interception 54 yards for another score as the No. 20 Terrapins beat Tennessee 30-3 in the Peach Bowl on Tuesday night.

Nick Kovak kicked three field goals for the Terrapins.

Maryland All-American linebacker E.J. Henderson had three sacks, four tackles for a loss, broke up four passes, forced a fumble and was selected the defensive Most Outstanding Player.

McBrien, the Most Outstanding Player on offense, finished 11-of-19 for 120 yards.

The Volunteers (8-5) completed their worst season since 1988, and gave coach Phillip Fulmer the most losses of his 11-year career.

"I take full responsibility for the game and the lack of execution," Fulmer said. "Our discipline wasn't what it needed to be.

**Purdue 34, Washington 24**

At El Paso, Washington took a 17-0 lead in the first quarter of the Sun Bowl, but Kyle Orton led Purdue's comeback, passing for 283 yards and two touchdowns.

Orton went 25-of-37 with no interceptions for Purdue (7-6). Joe Tiller has had a winning record since taking over as coach in 1997. Although Purdue has gone to six consecutive bowl games under Tiller, it lost the last three before Tuesday.

John Standeford caught 10 passes for 105 yards and a touchdown for Purdue.

Cody Pickett was 25-of-54 with one interception and a touchdown for Washington (7-6).

**No. 21 Virginia Tech 20, Air Force 13**

Lee Suggs rushed for two touchdowns, and Ronyell Whitaker forced a fumble near the goal line as time expired to lift Virginia Tech over Air Force.

Suggs extended his NCAA record by scoring in his 27th straight game, and Bryan Randall was 18-of-23 for 177 yards as the Hokies (10-4) beat the Falcons (8-5).

Virginia Tech's swarming defense limited Air Force to three points after the first 71/2 minutes. Chance Harridge completed just one of his first 13 passes, but drove Air Force to the Virginia Tech 10 with 17 seconds left.

Anthony Butler rushed for 75 yards for Air Force, which finished the season with five losses in its last seven games despite leading the NCAA in rushing.

**Fresno State 30, Georgia Tech 21**

At San Jose, Calif., Rodney Davis ran for 153 yards and two touchdowns to lead Fresno State in the Silicon Valley Classic.

The Bulldogs (9-5) had not won a postseason game since beating Southern California in the 1992 Freedom Bowl, a string of four straight losses.

Freshman backup quarterback Damarius Bilbo passed for a touchdown and ran for another for the Yellow Jackets (7-6) after replacing the ineffective A.J. Suggs, but also threw four interceptions.

**TCU 17, No. 23 Colorado State 3**

At Memphis, Tenn., Ricky Madison ran for 111 yards and a touchdown to lead TCU (10-2) to a win in the Liberty Bowl, the 500th victory in school history.

Madison ran for 107 of those yards in the rainy second half as TCU's offense came alive after a sloppy opening by both teams.

Cecil Sapp finished with 106 yards for Colorado State (10-4).

**Boise State 34, Iowa State 16**

At Boise, Idaho, Brock Forsey scored three touchdowns to lead Boise State to a win in the Humanitarian Bowl.

Forsey finished the season with 32 touchdowns, the second-highest season total in Division I-A. Barry Sanders has the record with 39 for Oklahoma State in 1988.

## Lady Bulldogs struggle against Roby with district action around the corner

The Ira Lady Bulldogs suffered through a 60-29 loss to Roby Tuesday, and head coach Brent Parr said the loss was the result of poor play against a top opponent.

"We are struggling and not playing to our capabilities," said Parr. "Roby has a really good team. Hopefully we'll get over it."

Missing Lindsey Wilson — the team's top rebounder and second-leading scorer — didn't help the Lady Bulldogs (12-7), who Parr said are learning to turn the intensity up.

"Our girls play as hard as they know how," he said. "In order to be a great team, we have to find that next level. Playing teams like Roby and seeing how hard they work will benefit us in district play. That's the level we want to be."

Celeigh Sterling was the only lady in double figures, canning 17 points.

The Lady Bulldogs begin district play Friday night, when they host Grady at 6:30.

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## National Basketball Association

| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Atlantic Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
| New Jersey | 23 | 9 | .719 | — |
| Boston | 19 | 12 | .613 | 3½ |
| Philadelphia | 19 | 12 | .613 | 3½ |
| Orlando | 18 | 15 | .545 | 5½ |
| Washington | 14 | 17 | .452 | 8½ |
| New York | 10 | 17 | .370 | 10½ |
| Miami | 11 | 19 | .367 | 11 |
| Central Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Indiana | 23 | 8 | .742 | — |
| Detroit | 20 | 10 | .667 | 2½ |
| New Orleans | 18 | 15 | .545 | 6 |
| Milwaukee | 13 | 18 | .419 | 10 |
| Atlanta | 12 | 18 | .400 | 10½ |
| Chicago | 11 | 20 | .355 | 12 |
| Toronto | 8 | 23 | .258 | 15 |
| Cleveland | 6 | 27 | .182 | 18 |
| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | |
| Midwest Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Dallas | 25 | 5 | .833 | — |
| San Antonio | 19 | 13 | .594 | 7 |
| Houston | 17 | 13 | .567 | 8 |
| Utah | 17 | 13 | .567 | 8 |
| Minnesota | 17 | 14 | .548 | 8½ |
| Memphis | 9 | 22 | .290 | 16½ |
| Denver | 6 | 24 | .200 | 19 |
| Pacific Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Sacramento | 23 | 9 | .719 | — |
| Phoenix | 19 | 12 | .613 | 3½ |
| Portland | 18 | 12 | .600 | 4 |
| Seattle | 16 | 15 | .516 | 6½ |
| L.A. Lakers | 13 | 19 | .406 | 10 |
| Golden State | 12 | 18 | .400 | 10 |
| L.A. Clippers | 12 | 19 | .387 | 10½ |

**Monday's Games**
Orlando 112, Washington 95
Miami 93, Atlanta 84
New York 96, San Antonio 95
Portland 85, Detroit 74
New Jersey 102, Cleveland 88
Minnesota 104, Phoenix 98
Milwaukee 110, Dallas 107
Utah 107, Toronto 85
Seattle 79, Denver 77
Golden State 104, Philadelphia 98

**Tuesday's Games**
Boston 96, Memphis 89
Chicago 102, Portland 87
Washington 105, San Antonio 103
Indiana 89, New Orleans 86
Philadelphia 83, L.A. Clippers 75
Houston 103, Milwaukee 80

**Wednesday's Games**
Miami at Atlanta, 2 p.m.
Toronto at New York, 7 p.m.

**Thursday's Games**
Washington at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

## National Hockey League

| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Atlantic Division | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
| New Jersey | 20 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 45 | 85 | 73 |
| Philadelphia | 17 | 10 | 8 | 1 | 43 | 82 | 77 |
| Pittsburgh | 15 | 15 | 3 | 5 | 38 | 109 | 115 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 16 | 16 | 5 | 0 | 37 | 98 | 106 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 15 | 20 | 5 | 1 | 36 | 99 | 129 |
| Northeast Division | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
| Ottawa | 23 | 9 | 5 | 0 | 51 | 120 | 83 |
| Boston | 21 | 11 | 4 | 1 | 47 | 115 | 92 |
| Toronto | 19 | 14 | 4 | 1 | 43 | 111 | 93 |
| Montreal | 16 | 14 | 5 | 3 | 40 | 104 | 114 |
| Buffalo | 8 | 22 | 5 | 2 | 23 | 79 | 106 |
| Southeast Division | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
| Tampa Bay | 17 | 13 | 5 | 3 | 42 | 113 | 107 |
| Washington | 18 | 16 | 3 | 1 | 40 | 102 | 107 |
| Carolina | 15 | 15 | 5 | 3 | 38 | 84 | 95 |
| Florida | 10 | 11 | 9 | 7 | 36 | 86 | 109 |
| Atlanta | 10 | 21 | 1 | 4 | 25 | 90 | 130 |

| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Central Division | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
| Detroit | 22 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 52 | 118 | 88 |
| St. Louis | 20 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 47 | 125 | 97 |
| Chicago | 18 | 13 | 6 | 0 | 42 | 86 | 82 |
| Columbus | 13 | 19 | 3 | 2 | 31 | 104 | 115 |
| Nashville | 10 | 17 | 6 | 4 | 30 | 76 | 99 |
| Northwest Division | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
| Vancouver | 22 | 11 | 5 | 0 | 49 | 121 | 97 |
| Minnesota | 20 | 11 | 7 | 1 | 48 | 104 | 89 |
| Edmonton | 17 | 13 | 4 | 4 | 42 | 101 | 99 |
| Colorado | 14 | 9 | 9 | 5 | 42 | 102 | 92 |
| Calgary | 11 | 18 | 6 | 3 | 31 | 78 | 105 |
| Pacific Division | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
| Dallas | 20 | 10 | 9 | 1 | 50 | 119 | 79 |
| Los Angeles | 16 | 14 | 4 | 3 | 39 | 97 | 100 |
| Anaheim | 15 | 14 | 6 | 3 | 39 | 97 | 100 |
| San Jose | 15 | 15 | 4 | 3 | 37 | 103 | 112 |
| Phoenix | 13 | 16 | 6 | 3 | 35 | 98 | 116 |

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# News Briefs

## Tobacco firms cleared in smoker's death

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Two major tobacco companies won a rare West Coast court victory when a federal judge cleared them of responsibility in the death of a lifetime smoker.

U.S. District Judge Saundra B. Armstrong ruled Tuesday that there was insufficient evidence to find Philip Morris Cos. and R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. liable in the death of 81-year-old Frank Robert White.

The verdict came shortly before jury deliberations were to begin in the case.

White's children and widow argued that the man's 1999 death was caused by the companies' failure to make safer cigarettes or to provide adequate warnings of smoking risks.

White, who began smoking at 14, had heart disease and pulmonary disease when he died. But he never developed lung cancer — the disease most directly linked to smoking.

Stephen J. Kaczynski, lead counsel for Reynolds, praised the ruling.

The judge "rightfully ruled that the plaintiffs had failed to show that the company's products were defectively designed or that Mr. White had not been warned about the risks of smoking," he said in a statement.

## Foul play eyed in woman's disappearance

MODESTO, Calif. (AP) — A week after a pregnant woman disappeared, family and friends gathered in a candlelight vigil and police said they now think she was the victim of foul play.

Laci Peterson "was always a very active, positive and outgoing person and a very tough young lady, and that's why we're not giving up hope," said her friend, Kathleen Connor.

Hundreds of people attended the vigil in Modesto on Tuesday evening, which was meant to show faith that Peterson was still alive.

But earlier Tuesday, police said that as time wore on and they found nothing, they had entered a new phase of the investigation.

"It is becoming more apparent that her disappearance is the result of foul play. The investigation is progressing with that as the main focus, but we have not ruled out other possibilities," said homicide detective Jon Buehler said.

Peterson, 27, has not been seen since the morning of Christmas Eve, when her husband, Scott, said he left her at home to travel to Berkeley for a solo fishing trip. He reported her missing that evening when he returned home. Peterson is eight months pregnant.

At a news conference Tuesday afternoon, police said Scott Peterson has turned over a time-stamped parking receipt from the Berkeley Marina. Police said they are not focusing on him, or anyone else, as a suspect.

Since the woman's disappearance, hundreds of volunteers and police officers have scoured East La Loma Park and rural areas, towns and rivers outside Modesto. Scott Peterson told police his wife was planning to walk their golden retriever at the park the morning she disappeared, though police have said they believe she never made it there. A neighbor found the dog, its leash still attached, on Christmas Eve.

A reward for information leading to Peterson's safe return stands at $500,000.

## ME's office in Houston lose infant's body

HOUSTON (AP) — The Harris County Medical Examiner's Office does not know how it lost the body of an infant boy who died shortly before Christmas.

"Obviously, there are some checks and balances that need to be scrutinized," Rudy Flores, a spokesman for the office, said in a story in the Houston Chronicle on today. "Right now, I have no answers for how this happened."

Octavius Demile Freeman was 27 days old when he died Dec. 23 at the hospital where his mother had taken him earlier in the day when she discovered he was not breathing. The baby appears to have died of natural causes, but the office has not made an official ruling.

The Medical Examiner's Office picked up the body the day the baby died and performed an autopsy the following day.

But when a funeral home employee came for the body on Saturday, it could not be found, Flores said.

After spending the next two days searching for the body, the Medical Examiner's Office decided Monday to contact the Commissioners Court, the Sheriff's Department and finally the family.

The baby's mother, Katrina Jones, said the office should have called sooner.

"There must be something really wrong going on there," said Jones, 20. "How can you lose a newborn baby?

"It is hard enough that he is gone, but now this. I am just trying to keep from going crazy."

The District Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Department and Houston Police Department are now investigating the disappearance and continuing the search, including calling funeral homes in hope of finding the body.

District Attorney Chuck Rosenthal said the incident appears to have been unintentional.

This case is not the first time the Medical Examiner's Office has come under fire for its treatment of bodies.

## New Braunfels' fire department chief resigns

NEW BRAUNFELS (AP) — The city's fire department chief has quit after a city investigation prompted by discontent among rank-and-file firefighters.

Almost all of the members of the New Braunfels Firefighters Association had given Chief Jack Collier a vote of no confidence in November, triggering the city manager to launch a 31/2-week investigation that included interviewing 80 employees.

Collier quit Monday in what was described as a "management departure." He said it was neither a firing nor a resignation.

The firefighter association's president, Scott Renken, said firefighters were annoyed with Collier's habit of not following the standard operating procedures he disliked instead of changing them.

But Collier saw other forces at work in the firefighters' ire.

"When I came here, the department had pretty much been allowed to run itself," Collier said. "I tried to implement some accountability and responsibility for their actions. Some of them didn't like that. In fact, a lot of them didn't like it."

## Information sought on plan to divert water

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — Gov.-elect Bill Richardson has asked the outgoing state engineer not to act on Albuquerque's application to pump nearly 100,000 acre-feet of water annually from the Rio Grande.

Richardson does not intend to try to influence the outcome of a hearing on the permit, but he does not want his administration bound by important decisions made in the waning days of Gov. Gary Johnson's administration, Richardson's spokeman, Billy Sparks, said Monday.

"It was a matter of course that we didn't want to have last-minute decisions hamper our administration, regardless of the nature of them," Sparks said.

A hearing that began in early December on Albuquerque's application was continued until February by Victor Kovach, the state-appointed hearing officer who will review the plan.

"We're not taking a position one way or another on the specifics of the issue," Sparks said.

Richardson, in a letter to state Engineer Tom Turney in early December, said the final decision on Albuquerque's application "is vital to the economic welfare of the entire Rio Grande Valley and will affect water use in our state for decades to come."

# Yemen arresting extremists in search of terrorist cell members

SAN'A, Yemen (AP) — "Scores" of Muslim militants with suspected terror links have been arrested during a search for a terrorist cell targeting foreigners and secular-minded politicians, a security official said today.

The arrests followed the weekend assassination of veteran leftist politician Jarallah Omar and the Monday killings of three American missionaries in southern Yemen. Both attacks were committed by suspected Muslim extremists.

Omar, deputy secretary general of the Socialist Party, was buried today in the capital, San'a, amid tight security measures.

The security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said authorities hope the militants' arrests will lead them to a terrorist cell plotting attacks on foreigners and secular-minded politicians. He declined to give the number of those arrested, saying only there were "scores of suspects."

Another official, also speaking on condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press that security measures were beefed up around foreign embassies and major hotels in San'a for fear of possible terrorist attacks. He did not elaborate.

The existence of the alleged cell was revealed in confessions by Abed Abdul Razak Kamel, the main suspect in the killing of the three American missionaries in a Baptist hospital in Jibla, 125 miles south of San'a, Yemeni officials said.

On Tuesday, officials close to the investigation said Yemeni interrogators suspect Kamel has connections to Osama bin Laden's terror network. Yemen is bin Laden's ancestral homeland and has been a fertile recruiting ground for his al-Qaida organization.

Pharmacist Donald W. Caswell, 49, of Levelland, who was wounded in the Jibla shooting, left the hospital Tuesday after treatment for abdomen wounds, a U.S. diplomat said on condition of anonymity.

Caswell and other Americans who worked at the Jibla hospital were driven to San'a in U.S. Embassy vehicles, the diplomat said.

Meanwhile, an FBI team has been in Jibla since Monday but U.S. diplomats refuse to say whether its members were allowed to question Kamel directly. However, they said the Americans "are very close" to the interrogation.

During past investigations of attacks on U.S. targets here, Americans working alongside Yemenis have complained of having limited access to suspects.

While the U.S. Embassy said it was too early to tell if terrorism was behind the Jibla shooting, Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul-Kader Bajammal included the slayings in a list of terrorist acts he presented to parliament Monday.

Bajammal accused "extremist elements in several (Yemeni) parties of having links with al-Qaida." He did not elaborate.

In the Jibla attack, a gunman slipped into the hospital cradling his hidden gun like a baby. He entered a room where the director was conducting a meeting and opened fire at about 8:15 a.m. Monday, officials and witnesses said.

After shooting three people in the head, killing them instantly, the gunman headed to the pharmacy and shot Caswell in the abdomen.

The International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention identified the dead as purchasing agent Kathleen A. Gariety, 53, of Wauwatosa, Wis.; Dr. Martha C. Myers, 57, of Montgomery, Ala.; and hospital director William E. Koehn, 60, a Kansas native who moved to Yemen in 1975.

Gariety's body was to be flown to the United States. Myers and Koehn, who each spent more than two decades in Yemen as missionaries, were buried Tuesday in a missionary cemetery on the hospital grounds.

The official news agency Saba quoted an official saying the suspect told interrogators he plotted the attack in collaboration with Ali al-Jarallah, who Yemeni officials say is a Muslim extremist and member of the fundamentalist Islamic Reform Party. He was arrested for shooting Omar dead on Saturday.

Tens of thousands of Yemenis today escorted the veteran politician's body to its final resting place at the Martyrs' Cemetery in San'a. The burial was attended by a representative of President Ali Abdullah Saleh and was held under heavy security.

Yemen long has tolerated Muslim extremists, who take refuge in its lawless tribal strongholds. It has been a key front in the U.S.-led war on terrorism and its government signed on as Washington's partner after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Like elsewhere in the Arab world, anti-American sentiments are running high in Yemen over Washington's perceived support for Israel and its standoff with Iraq.

The United States has stepped up its military presence in the region following the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole off Yemen by an explosive-laden boat. The attack, blamed on al-Qaida, killed 17 U.S. sailors.

# FBI expanding search for men believed to have crossed border

WASHINGTON (AP) — FBI agents are expanding their dragnet for a growing list of foreign-born men they believe may have entered the United States illegally from Canada in a false ID case that has heightened terrorism fears around the New Year's holiday, government officials say.

The officials, some of whom work in law enforcement, told The Associated Press on Tuesday night the government has identified several more men it fears may have used fake passports to get into the country around or after Christmas Eve.

Authorities identified five such men on Sunday and asked the public's help in identifying them.

The FBI and Homeland Security officials are considering making the names and photos of about a half dozen more men public as early as today, the officials said, speaking only on condition of anonymity.

Officials cautioned they have no specific evidence the men are involved in a terrorist plot, but said the men may have connections to a fake ID and smuggling ring that involves some people with terrorist connections.

"We don't have any idea of what their intentions might be, but we are mindful that there are still some out there who would try to harm America and harm Americans and so therefore we take every threat seriously, every piece of evidence seriously," President Bush said Tuesday in explaining why he has ordered the search.

Much of the search so far has focused on New York City, home to a large New Year's Eve celebration that went off without incident.

But the broader investigation into fake IDs has spanned several countries, including Canada, Pakistan and Britain, the officials said.

Because intelligence indicated several men were trying to use fake passports to get into the United States before New Year's Day — a holiday of symbolic significance to Islamic terrorists — U.S. officials were making aggressive efforts to track them down and make sure they posed no threat, the officials said.

# Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

## *Electric face-lift is baloney*

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** I'm 49 years old and my face is starting to sag around my mouth and jaw line. I recently received an advertisement for a "time machine," a gadget that sends electrical impulses through the skin to stimulate and tighten the underlying muscles. A face-lift without surgery! Before I invest in this $130 product, I'd like your opinion about it.

**DEAR READER:** Judging from the brochure you enclosed, the product is quite a breakthrough, but I remain skeptical. As I've written before, any pseudo-medical therapy that sounds too good to be true probably is. Facial tissue doesn't sag because of weak muscles. As we age, the subcutaneous tissues and the skin itself lose elasticity, thereby providing less support, with resulting wrinkles and sagging.

Current treatment for this unavoidable condition includes surgery to remove flaccid skin, collagen injections (which really just add subcutaneous stuff to stretch the skin), Botox shots (which paralyze muscles, thereby smoothing the skin — temporarily, and topical creams (which simply add water to wrinkled skin).

Therefore, you can stimulate the facial muscles until the cows come home; it won't make any difference. Don't waste your money on expensive devices that are aggressively promoted but have unproven benefit.

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** My daughter-in-law has suffered from spasmodic torticollis for two years. Botox injections relieve the pain temporarily. What other therapy would you suggest?

**DEAR READER:** Torticollis (wry neck) refers to spasm and pain in the neck muscles. The condition can present real problems if it is severe and/or chronic.

I believe that a combination of physical therapy (massage, heat, ultrasound, gentle stretching exercises, and so forth) and a prescription muscle relaxant might benefit your daughter-in-law. Ask her doctor about this. Also I've read of cases that were helped by hypnosis and biofeedback.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Managing Chronic Pain." Other readers who would like a copy should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** Is there any non-surgical treatment for fatty tumors? I have probably 200 over my body and need advice.

**DEAR READER:** First of all, you need an ironclad diagnosis. Not all lumps under the skin are benign lipomas. Therefore, you should heed your doctor's suggestions about diagnosing your problem (which I removed from your question for space reasons). If you do have benign fatty tumors, the cure is surgery. No one knows the cause of lipomas, which occur most commonly on the torso. Usually they are relatively small and barely noticeable. However, on occasion, they can grow quite large — perhaps exceeding the size of a hen's egg. They do not need to be removed unless they are large or appear in locations — such as belt lines or bra lines — where they can be irritated by friction.

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JAN 01 2003

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

# Passengers confused about gun rules

DALLAS (AP) — Airline passengers confused about whether tighter airport security has changed the rules for packing heat can rest assured: Guns and ammo are still allowed in checked bags.

On the Transportation Security Administration's list of do's and don'ts for passengers, questions about guns are among the most frequent, especially among passengers in Texas and elsewhere with an affinity for firearms.

"The gun policy hasn't changed," said Ed Martelle, a spokesman for the Transportation Security Administration, which now oversees all aviation security issues following the Sept. 11 attacks.

All checked luggage will be screened for explosives beginning today, a move that concludes more than a year of security deadlines set out by Congress after the hijackings.

Firearms have never been permitted inside the passenger cabin, except in the case of law enforcement officers. But passengers have always been able to transport unloaded guns in the cargo hold away from passengers' reach. The latest round of security doesn't change that.

Gun owners such as Jerry Patterson, who as a state senator helped craft Texas' concealed weapons law that took effect in 1996, had wondered what to expect come the new year regarding guns.

"I frequently carry a handgun in checked baggage," said Patterson, now Texas land commissioner. "I guess we'll see."

Passengers also remain confused about a long-standing rule outlawing guns in carryon bags.

# Groups urging government to rethink policy on alien registry

WASHINGTON (AP) — Muslims, Arab-Americans, civil libertarians and others are urging federal officials to refrain from wholesale arrests if visitors from countries considered high risks for harboring terrorists fail to meet deadlines for registering with the U.S. government.

Hundreds of people were detained in southern California two weeks ago when the registration deadline arrived for the first group of visa holders. That prompted angry demonstrations and a lawsuit against the federal government.

An official of the American Civil Liberties Union said those arrests may dissuade others from coming forward.

"It seems unlikely that a hardened terrorist is going to voluntarily register with the government," said Dalia Hashad, the ACLU's Arab, Muslim and South Asian advocate. "What is more likely is that law-abiding people who were planning to register will now be afraid to come in because of the arrests.".

Justice Department spokesman Jorge Martinez said no changes are planned because of the incidents in southern California.

# Snyder officers arrest four people

***•Arrests***

Deputies arrested Roderick Hamlett, 21, of 509 35th Street at 2:24 p.m. Tuesday on an outstanding Mitchell County warrant for failure to identify himself as a fugitive.

A 36-year-old woman was taken into custody at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday in the 1400 block of 26th Street for theft by check.

At 1 a.m. today, officers arrested a 25-year-old man in the 3000 block of Ave. T for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

DPS troopers took a 23-year-old man into custody from 37th Street and Ave. E at 1:30 a.m. today for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

Officers arrested a 29-year-old man in the 2100 block of 40th Street just after 4 a.m. today for public intoxication.

***•Accident***

Officers responded to a hit and run accident in the 3100 block of 41st Street at 1:15 a.m. today.

Involved was a 1994 Chevrolet pickup driven by Jose Louis Chavez, 19, of 3806 Galveston and a parked 2002 Ford F-350 pickup owned by Weaver Services. Chavez fled the scene on foot, but was apprehended in Towle Park and transported to Cogdell Hospital where he was admitted for observation.

***•Thefts***

Travis Hatter reported that someone broke into the Winston Brothers barn and took several items. Reported missing were a chainsaw, a drill and a .22 caliber single-shot rifle. Officers responded and advised an offense report for burglary of a building would be submitted.

***•Close patrol***

At 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, dispatchers were advised several juveniles were seen at Snyder High School and officers initiated a close patrol for the remainder of the night.

***•Noise disturbance***

A resident of the Kingswood Apartments at 10:30 p.m. Tuesday reported loud music coming from one of the units and officers contacted a woman who turned the music down.

***•Gas drive offs***

A clerk at Rip Griffin's Truck Stop reported a gas drive off worth $27.47 at 8:40 a.m. Tuesday.

A drive off in the amount of $26.50 was reported at 11:30 p.m. Tuesday from Allsup's in Hermleigh. An offense report for Class C theft was submitted.

# Obituaries

## Raquel Benson

**1975-2002**

Raquel Renee Alvarado Benson of Snyder died Monday, Dec. 30, in Scott & White Medical Center in Temple after a lengthy illness.

Funeral mass for Mrs. Benson, 27, is set for 2 p.m. Friday at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with Fr. Leo Moras officiating. Burial will follow in Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Rosary will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Mrs. Benson was born on April 19, 1975 in Rotan.

Survivors include a daughter, Paula Ann Victoria Aguilar of Snyder; two sons, Adrian Miguel Angel Aguilar and Danny James Lopez, both of Snyder; her mother and stepfather, Victoria and Armando Alvarado of Waco; her father, Roy O'Valle of Houston; a sister, Melissa Alvarado of Waco; and a nephew, Abraham Jacob Alvarado of Waco.

## Ethel O. Lyles

**1910-2002**

OVALO — Ethel O. Lyles, mother of Beth Teal of Snyder, died Monday, Dec. 30, at her home in Payne Springs.

Graveside service for Mrs. Lyles, 92, is set for 11 a.m. Thursday in the McBee Cemetery near Ovalo under the direction of Fry-Bartlett Funeral Home in Tuscola. The Rev. T.C. Melton will officiate.

Born on May 15, 1910 in Kaufman County, she married Abra B. Lyles and moved to Plainview in 1949. They owned Lyles Scale Co. until they retired in 1972 and moved to Mabank in 1976. She was a former resident of the Ovalo community. Mrs. Lyles was a member of Turner-Haden Baptist Church in Wills Point.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jim and Emma Connely Burleson; her husband in 1988; two brothers, Alvin Burleson and Algie D. Burleson; two sisters, Stella Lyles and Janell Burleson; an infant daughter, Betty Joyce Lyles; and a son, Gene Lyles.

Survivors include another daughter, Reta Gotcher and her husband Ray of Irving; a son-in-law, Dillard Teal of Snyder; one sister, Modene Smith of Abilene; seven grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

## Morine Starnes

**1917-2002**

ODESSA — Morine Starnes, 85, former Snyder resident, died Dec. 25, in the Casa Del Sol Nursing Home in Las Cruces, N.M.

Graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. Friday in the Sunset Memorial Gardens in Odessa. Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home is in charge of arrangement.

Mrs. Starnes was born on Feb. 8, 1917 in Cleburne. She moved to Odessa in 1946 from Snyder. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

Survivors include her son, John Keith Starnes of Las Cruces, N.M.; three sisters, Nellie Bunch of Colorado City, Ruth Maedgen of Mesquite and Mattie Belle Haney of New Iberia, La.; two grandchildren; and a niece, Anita Brown, and a sister-in-law, Beulah Starnes, both of Snyder.

## Raymond Stansell

**1935-2002**

Raymond D. Stansell Sr., longtime Scurry County resident, died Sunday, Dec. 29, at his home in the Dunn community after a sudden illness.

Service for Mr. Stansell, 67, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Vernon Groce, pastor of the Church of God, will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.



Mr. Stansell

Born on Aug. 10, 1935 in Wheeler County, he married Vera Shifflett on Dec. 7, 1956 in Snyder. He was a truck driver for Ashland Oil Co. and attended the Church of God in Snyder.

Three brothers, James Stansell, Luke Stansell and Glen Ray Stansell preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Vera Stansell of Dunn; two sons, Raymond D. Stansell Jr. of Dunn and Barney Stansell of Canyon City, Colo.; a daughter, Rebecca Irwin of Lubbock; a brother, Bill Stansell of Fluvanna; a sister, Velda Padilla of Wichita Falls; and seven grandchildren.

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# Year end review

Continued From Page 1

turbines in Borden County that will provide a boost to that county's tax base.

Bobby Hataway and Jerry Parker were recognized by the city for 25 years of service.

Hermleigh schools had to cancel classes for two days due to flu, or a flu-like illness. Other schools across the state cancelled their classes also, but Snyder and Ira missed the flu bug.

A few days later, long-time Hermleigh superintendent Jerry Church announced his retirement. Church had been superintendent at Hermleigh for 24 years. He was honored with a reception later in the month.

Scurry County Museum, under the leadership of Charlene Akers, received a $100,000 grant to be paid over three years.

David Boyd, Ann Smartt and Dr. Greg Williams were named new chamber of commerce directors.

Cogdell Memorial Hospital announced plans were being finalized for a rural health clinic at the hospital. Nurse Practitioner Christine Heady will be the health provider under the direction of Dr. James Burleson.

J.B. Tate Jr. announced his retirement from Texas Savings Bank. Tate has served on numerous boards in the community and has spearheaded the senior citizen housing projects.

Snyder merchants enjoyed a brisk shopping period during the holidays as most reported sales as good as last year.

Happy New Year and let's see what 2003 brings to Snyder and Scurry County.

## Remains belong to murder suspect

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The state medical examiner's office has positively identified the body found Dec. 15 in Iron County's western desert as that of Texas murder suspect Daniel Arthur Fling, an FBI spokesman said.

Hikers found skeletal remains on Dec. 15 in a remote wooded area north of Modena, Utah, about 230 miles southwest of Salt Lake City.

Fling was a law student at the University of Oklahoma in 1998 when he allegedly shot Greg Randall, 35, in Fort Worth, Texas, over an obsession he had with Randall's girlfriend.

Investigators always suspected the remains were Fling's. The FBI said Tuesday their theory was confirmed.

Fling would have been 25 in 1998.

No identification was found on the body, but the remains were about six miles from where Fling's truck was found on April 25, 1998, Iron County Sheriff Dude Benson said.

A gun matching that used in the 1998 homicide and an Oklahoma Sooners cap like the one Fling was known to wear also were found in the area, investigators said.

Fling apparently killed himself with a 12-gauge sawed-off shotgun.

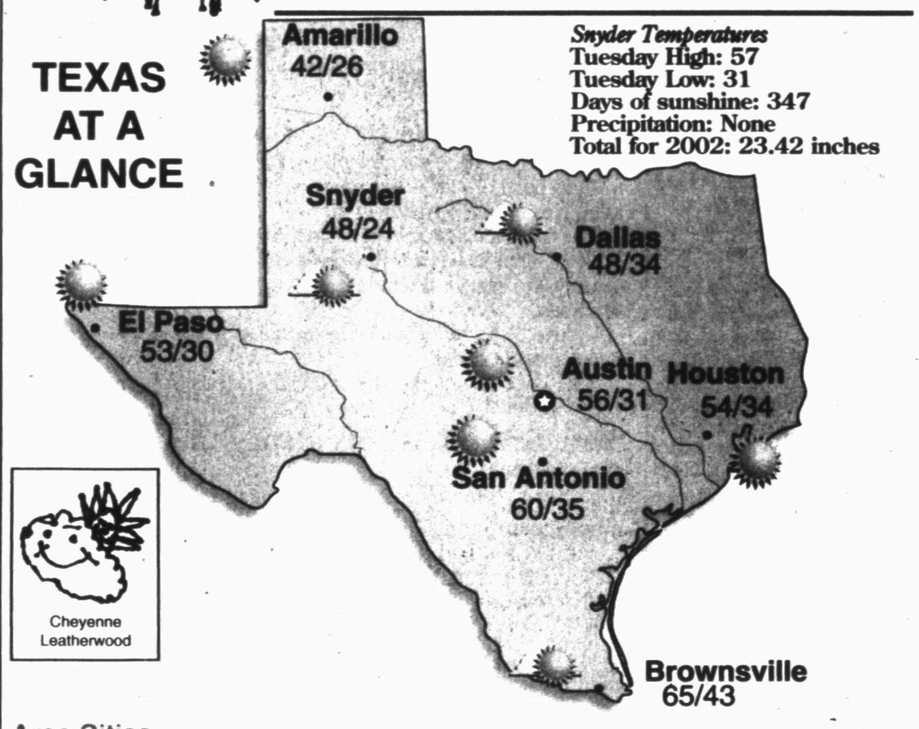
## Today's Weather

### Local 3-Day Forecast

| Thu 1/2 | Fri 1/3 | Sat 1/4 |
|---|---|---|
| 48/24 | 55/28 | 60/29 |
| Mostly sunny skies. High 48F. Winds NNW at 15 to 25 mph. | More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the upper 20s. | Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 20s. |
| Sunrise 7:46 AM, Sunset 5:49 PM | Sunrise 7:46 AM, Sunset 5:50 PM | Sunrise 7:46 AM, Sunset 5:51 PM |

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### TEXAS AT A GLANCE




*Snyder Temperatures*
Tuesday High: 57
Tuesday Low: 31
Days of sunshine: 347
Precipitation: None
Total for 2002: 23.42 inches

### Area Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Abilene | 50 | 29 | windy | El Paso | 53 | 30 | sunny | Midland | 51 | 30 | sunny |
| Amarillo | 42 | 26 | sunny | Fort Stockton | 53 | 32 | sunny | Raymondville | 63 | 38 | windy |
| Austin | 56 | 31 | sunny | Gainesville | 45 | 26 | mst sunny | Rosenberg | 54 | 33 | sunny |
| Beaumont | 53 | 33 | mst sunny | Greenville | 45 | 27 | mst sunny | San Antonio | 60 | 35 | sunny |
| Brownsville | 65 | 43 | mst sunny | Houston | 54 | 34 | sunny | San Marcos | 57 | 32 | sunny |
| Brownwood | 53 | 28 | sunny | Kingsville | 62 | 38 | sunny | Sulphur Springs | 46 | 27 | windy |
| Corpus Christi | 59 | 39 | sunny | Livingston | 51 | 28 | sunny | Sweetwater | 50 | 26 | mst sunny |
| Corsicana | 49 | 31 | windy | Longview | 46 | 27 | pt sunny | Tyler | 48 | 32 | pt sunny |
| Dallas | 48 | 34 | mst sunny | Lubbock | 49 | 26 | sunny | Weatherford | 47 | 27 | mst sunny |
| Del Rio | 61 | 36 | sunny | Lufkin | 50 | 31 | pt sunny | Wichita Falls | 50 | 30 | mst sunny |

### National Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Atlanta | 53 | 33 | cloudy | Houston | 54 | 34 | sunny | Phoenix | 70 | 47 | sunny |
| Boston | 31 | 27 | snow | Los Angeles | 74 | 52 | mst sunny | San Francisco | 61 | 52 | cloudy |
| Chicago | 29 | 25 | sn shower | Miami | 81 | 68 | cloudy | Seattle | 57 | 47 | rain |
| Dallas | 48 | 34 | mst sunny | Minneapolis | 29 | 15 | pt sunny | St. Louis | 29 | 25 | snow |
| Denver | 47 | 27 | mst sunny | New York | 33 | 29 | mixed | Washington, DC | 40 | 36 | cloudy |

### Moon Phases

| Last | New | First | Full |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dec 27 | Jan 2 | Jan 10 | Jan 18 |

### UV Index

| Thu 1/2 | Fri 1/3 | Sat 1/4 |
|---|---|---|
| 3 Low | 3 Low | 3 Low |

The UV Index is measured on a 0-11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 — 11

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# Bridge

By Phillip Alder



Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2003

## The most unusual deal of last year

By Phillip Alder

First, I hope you and your families enjoy a happy and healthy New Year.

For the inaugural column of this year, here is the most amazing deal of last year. It sets a record that will be hard to beat.

First, though, look only at the West hand. You open a thin one heart because you like your suit quality and nine major-suit cards. North, on your left, overcalls two diamonds. Your partner jumps to four hearts. South, on your right, is there with five clubs. You pass. North raises to six clubs. And your partner doubles. What would you lead?

East's jump to four hearts isn't textbook, but he was hoping that either it would make (it wouldn't; one down is certain and two down is likely) or it would be a good sacrifice (it is because North-South can make five clubs).

However, North had debatably bid the slam, expecting South to have some of East's high cards for her venture to the five-level.

The deal occurred during the semifinal stage of the Danish National Pairs Championship, played almost 12 months ago.

West found the disastrous start of the heart ace. (Any non-heart card defeats the slam.)

The declarer, Ellen Jensen, ruffed, trumped a spade to get into the dummy, discarded her diamond on the heart king, and called for the diamond king, ruffing away East's ace. Then declarer played a trump, bringing down the ace and king. Jensen had made her doubled slam despite missing all five key cards: the four aces and the trump king.

May all your leads be better in 2003 and beyond!

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North 01-02-03
♠ A 4
♥ A J 8 6 2
♦ K Q 5
♣ K Q 2

West
♠ 10 9 7 6 3
♥ 10 7
♦ A J 10 8
♣ 9 8

East
♠ J 8 2
♥ K 9 4 3
♦ 7 6 2
♣ J 6 3

South
♠ K Q 5
♥ Q 5
♦ 9 4 3
♣ A 10 7 5 4

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: East-West

| South | West | North | East |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Pass | 1 ♥ | Pass |
| 2 NT | Pass | 6 NT | All pass |

Opening lead: ♠ 10

# Edwards preparing to run for president

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Sen. John Edwards is beginning the New Year with a series of gatherings, interviews and fund-raisers that many close to him believe will lead to an announcement that he will seek the presidency in 2004.

Edwards, a first-term Democrat and former trial lawyer, has spent months making the rounds at Democratic functions in Iowa, New Hampshire and elsewhere.

But aides and others close to Edwards say that, even as he prepared to run, he held off making a final decision.

"The senator has said for a long time now that he would make up his mind by the end of the year or early next year," spokesman Mike Briggs said Tuesday. "We're about at that point."

Edwards planned to host about three dozen friends at his home in Raleigh on New Year's Day. A round of interviews, including an appearance on NBC's "Today," was expected on Thursday. He also was scheduled for two fund raisers here Saturday.

Edwards will likely be part of a crowded Democratic field in the 2004 presidential race. Vermont Gov. Howard Dean and Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry are already running, and associates expect Missouri Rep. Dick Gephardt to announce he's running within the next week.

Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman is leaning toward a run, though he hasn't set a final timetable for his decision. Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle is still talking with supporters with a plan to decide by mid-January.

Edwards has been working for weeks with political advisers putting together the framework for a presidential campaign organization, said one Democratic Party operative, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Consultants likely to serve in key roles include two former political advisers to former Vice President Al Gore — Nick Baldick, who heads Dewey Square Group, and David Ginsberg, a research and media consultant. Steve Jarding, who heads Edwards' PAC, the New American Optimists, will also fill a key slot, the operative said.

"I think all of them expect that he is going to run," he said.

Edwards, 49, would be up for Senate re-election in 2004, a factor that had to be weighed in making a decision on the presidential race.

Edwards is expected to announce formation of a presidential exploratory committee on Thursday, trying to get a jump on several of his colleagues in Congress who are also expected to join the Democratic race.

As the lone Southerner among the half-dozen potential candidates eyeing the race, Edwards has gotten a lot of attention. He was an early hit with Democratic activists who saw him as telegenic, well-spoken — with a hint of a Southern drawl — and able to connect with voters.

The last three Democratic presidents — Lyndon Johnson of Texas, Jimmy Carter of Georgia and Bill Clinton of Arkansas — have been from the South. The ability to win some Southern states to go with the Democrats' base of strength in the Northeast and West Coast is seen as a key to victory with both parties battling for states in the industrial Midwest.

Edwards grew up as the son of a textile mill employee, born in South Carolina but spending his teenage years in Robbins, N.C., and working in the mills during college breaks. He became a successful trial lawyer in Raleigh, winning personal injury cases against big companies and amassing a fortune of $14 million.

# Parents sue county, judges over son's boot camp death

FORT WORTH (AP) — The parents of an 18-year-old who died after falling ill at a Mansfield boot camp are suing Tarrant County and its 19 judges who managed the correctional center.

Attorneys for the parents filed a federal lawsuit Tuesday in Wichita Falls, contending that the judges who supervised the Tarrant County Community Correctional Facility failed to ensure that its staff provided proper medical care for Bryan Alexander of Arlington.

Alexander died of pneumonia in January of 2001, two days after he was taken to a Fort Worth hospital.

Tarrant County Assistant District Attorney Ann Diamond declined to comment on the lawsuit, saying she had not had time to review the complaint.

The boot camp's former nurse, Knyvett Reyes, was sentenced in August to four years of community supervision. She was convicted of negligent homicide in Alexander's death for failing to provide the teenager with timely medical care.

A $755 million wrongful death lawsuit filed by Alexander's family is pending. A visiting state district judge in October denied a motion to add the county's 19 criminal court judges to the case.

It does not seek specific monetary damages but asks for a jury trial to determine compensation for loss of Alexander's life, medical, funeral and burial expenses and lawyer's fees.

"After Bryan Alexander died, the Tarrant County criminal judges removed the probationers from the boot camp, and soon after the county closed the entire facility," Fort Worth lawyer Jeff Kobs said in a prepared statement in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

# Twins killed in fatal accident

ATHENS (AP) — A traffic accident on a wet roadway killed a set of 18-year-old twins and seriously injured their father and two other people, authorities said.

Shaun and Bryan Jones, 18, of Athens were killed in Monday's wreck on U.S. Highway 175 in East Texas. They were in a compact sports utility vehicle driven by their father, Earnest Jones, 43. Authorities said the vehicle hydroplaned on the wet roadway and collided with a truck.

Earnest Jones was in serious condition with internal injuries at East Texas Medical Center Tyler on Tuesday. A Department of Public Safety report shows he was wearing a seat belt, as was Bryan. Shaun was not wearing a seat belt.

"The thing about these two boys, they came into this world together and they went out together," grandfather Carl Jones said in a story in Tuesday's Athens Daily Review. "They were close."

Also injured in the wreck were Byron Eggleston, 20, and Stephanie Willis, 19, both of Jacksonville. Both were in serious condition with internal injuries at ETMC Tyler and Mother Frances hospital, also in Tyler.

## Scurry County Rainfall Since 1911

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| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | April | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1912 | * | 1.90 | .77 | .72 | 1.68 | 2.54 | 1.30 | .76 | .80 | 2.80 | * | 1.12 | 14.39 |
| 1913 | .25 | .58 | 1.57 | 2.48 | 1.52 | 2.44 | 2.58 | .24 | 2.44 | 3.45 | 3.79 | 3.05 | 24.39 |
| 1914 | .22 | .04 | 1.04 | 4.06 | 2.59 | 4.78 | 3.03 | 5.54 | 1.22 | 3.58 | 1.59 | 1.27 | 28.96 |
| 1915 | .22 | .83 | 1.00 | 8.03 | 2.25 | 2.70 | .50 | 4.48 | 5.40 | 3.77 | ** | .82 | 30.09 |
| 1916 | .15 | * | .34 | 3.58 | 1.67 | .65 | 1.40 | .49 | 1.52 | 2.00 | .76 | .05 | 12.61 |
| 1917 | .34 | * | .34 | .88 | .99 | .83 | 1.04 | 2.18 | 1.53 | ** | .02 | * | 08.15 |
| 1918 | .32 | .57 | .21 | .45 | 2.46 | 1.14 | ** | .34 | 1.20 | 3.73 | .62 | 1.28 | 12.32 |
| 1919 | .99 | .21 | 3.43 | 3.45 | 2.19 | 3.72 | 1.82 | 2.93 | 3.20 | 5.63 | 1.13 | ** | 28.70 |
| 1920 | 1.08 | .25 | ** | ** | 4.66 | 4.01 | .50 | 11.27 | 2.37 | 1.55 | .22 | * | 25.91 |
| 1921 | .13 | .96 | 1.05 | .30 | .87 | 7.05 | .70 | .40 | 3.15 | .70 | * | .03 | 15.34 |
| 1922 | .58 | .02 | 1.20 | 7.43 | 5.19 | 4.48 | .05 | 1.75 | ** | .93 | 1.65 | ** | 23.28 |
| 1923 | .40 | 2.25 | 2.05 | 4.28 | .75 | 2.40 | .93 | 2.10 | 2.00 | 6.88 | 3.15 | 1.30 | 28.55 |
| 1924 | ** | .05 | 1.15 | 4.34 | 4.27 | .45 | .57 | 1.55 | 1.40 | 2.00 | ** | * | 15.78 |
| 1925 | .40 | ** | ** | 2.75 | 4.26 | .25 | 1.13 | 2.47 | 5.00 | 3.55 | ** | ** | 19.81 |
| 1926 | .75 | * | 1.98 | 4.20 | 3.10 | 1.47 | 1.91 | 4.35 | 2.59 | 3.60 | 1.10 | 3.30 | 28.35 |
| 1927 | 1.25 | 1.20 | .90 | 1.83 | .70 | 3.05 | 6.35 | 3.85 | 5.30 | .05 | * | .50 | 25.85 |
| 1928 | .40 | .80 | .40 | .27 | 5.35 | 1.17 | 5.87 | 2.82 | .98 | .35 | 1.52 | .28 | 20.21 |
| 1929 | .60 | * | 1.99 | 1.05 | 3.97 | .50 | 2.76 | .61 | 2.51 | 1.61 | .52 | .10 | 16.22 |
| 1930 | 1.02 | * | .27 | 4.05 | 5.00 | 2.52 | .10 | 1.67 | .25 | 4.95 | 1.85 | 1.25 | 22.95 |
| 1931 | 1.40 | 1.15 | .57 | 1.62 | 1.30 | 1.10 | 1.74 | .18 | .13 | 5.35 | 1.80 | 1.80 | 18.14 |
| 1932 | 1.78 | 3.01 | .05 | 2.25 | 3.57 | 3.12 | 1.12 | 5.79 | 10.60 | 43 | * | 4.10 | 35.82 |
| 1933 | .20 | 1.63 | .70 | .10 | 2.30 | .02 | 3.60 | 1.90 | ** | 2.63 | 1.20 | 1.13 | 15.46 |
| 1934 | .35 | .22 | 2.70 | .56 | .65 | .30 | .21 | 1.25 | 1.58 | .24 | 2.69 | .03 | 10.78 |
| 1935 | .05 | 1.03 | 1.61 | .42 | 4.07 | 4.09 | 4.58 | .21 | 2.54 | 1.79 | 2.11 | .67 | 23.13 |
| 1936 | .64 | 1.12 | .44 | 1.03 | 2.40 | .33 | .92 | ** | 9.01 | 1.79 | .77 | .67 | 18.06 |
| 1937 | .17 | .25 | 1.36 | .06 | 4.25 | 1.55 | 1.45 | 2.38 | 1.76 | .44 | .68 | 1.03 | 15.40 |
| 1938 | 1.55 | 3.51 | 1.73 | 1.00 | 3.35 | 2.76 | 3.51 | .12 | .94 | 1.22 | .84 | .06 | 20.59 |
| 1939 | 2.42 | .20 | 1.00 | .29 | 6.38 | 7.46 | .65 | 2.28 | * | 1.66 | 1.09 | .71 | 24.14 |
| 1940 | .22 | 1.50 | .32 | 1.44 | 1.37 | 2.81 | .30 | 3.51 | .78 | .49 | 2.63 | .29 | 15.66 |
| 1941 | .91 | 2.04 | 2.20 | 4.85 | 5.97 | 5.39 | 6.70 | 2.66 | 2.37 | 9.81 | .21 | .91 | 44.02 |
| 1942 | .14 | .09 | .54 | 1.50 | 1.10 | 1.48 | 2.56 | 6.35 | 3.59 | 3.61 | 1.80 | 1.50 | 24.26 |
| 1943 | .15 | ** | 1.30 | .60 | 4.37 | 2.17 | .19 | .05 | .37 | .25 | 1.31 | 1.49 | 12.25 |
| 1944 | .83 | 1.84 | .20 | .69 | 7.34 | 1.11 | 6.04 | 1.13 | 2.22 | 1.05 | 2.49 | 2.41 | 27.35 |
| 1945 | 1.20 | .36 | 1.25 | 1.03 | 1.45 | 2.51 | 5.44 | 3.00 | 2.60 | 4.02 | .34 | .48 | 23.68 |
| 1946 | 1.53 | * | .53 | .41 | 3.49 | 2.42 | .04 | 1.52 | .97 | 2.71 | .75 | 2.60 | 16.97 |
| 1947 | .30 | * | .92 | .36 | 6.64 | 2.13 | .80 | 1.06 | 1.77 | .37 | 1.81 | 1.60 | 17.76 |
| 1948 | .21 | 1.98 | .06 | .29 | 4.38 | 1.67 | 7.30 | * | * | 2.55 | * | * | 18.44 |
| 1949 | 2.30 | .47 | .23 | 3.22 | 3.69 | 3.70 | 1.04 | 1.94 | 2.32 | 1.82 | * | .55 | 21.28 |
| 1950 | .40 | .66 | * | 2.55 | 7.37 | 2.00 | 3.03 | .98 | 4.20 | ** | * | ** | 21.19 |
| 1951 | .14 | .67 | .30 | 1.06 | 1.42 | 1.57 | .80 | 1.42 | 2.36 | .48 | ** | .04 | 10.26 |
| 1952 | .12 | .18 | .80 | 2.19 | 1.60 | * | 3.18 | 1.85 | 2.42 | * | 1.89 | .90 | 15.13 |
| 1953 | .15 | .48 | 1.17 | 1.75 | .66 | .08 | 1.73 | 3.30 | .98 | 3.70 | .10 | .15 | 14.25 |
| 1954 | .30 | .03 | .10 | 2.93 | 3.55 | 1.20 | .18 | .81 | ** | .64 | .55 | .07 | 10.36 |
| 1955 | .46 | .18 | .39 | .21 | 6.21 | 1.40 | 3.21 | .61 | 1.59 | 3.39 | .10 | * | 17.75 |
| 1956 | .19 | .11 | * | 2.97 | 2.50 | .45 | 1.88 | .24 | * | 1.77 | .28 | 1.01 | 11.40 |
| 1957 | .53 | 2.80 | .16 | 3.61 | 7.13 | 2.29 | 2.93 | .82 | 1.38 | 1.52 | 2.83 | .04 | 26.04 |
| 1958 | 1.01 | 1.11 | .94 | 3.72 | 2.73 | 2.32 | .55 | 2.06 | 1.44 | 2.41 | .55 | * | 18.84 |
| 1959 | ** | .21 | 1.03 | .97 | 2.46 | 6.95 | 5.05 | .37 | .57 | 2.23 | .20 | 1.22 | 21.22 |
| 1960 | 1.40 | .26 | .02 | .28 | .97 | .47 | 6.28 | 2.56 | .35 | 3.40 | * | 1.18 | 17.16 |
| 1961 | 1.87 | .54 | .66 | .71 | 2.12 | 5.90 | 3.63 | .26 | 2.95 | 2.22 | 3.36 | .56 | 24.79 |
| 1962 | .01 | * | .60 | 1.16 | .22 | 5.16 | 2.23 | 1.36 | 6.47 | 2.30 | .69 | .81 | 21.01 |
| 1963 | ** | .23 | .43 | 1.16 | 3.05 | 2.46 | .17 | .47 | 1.63 | 1.15 | 2.21 | 1.13 | 14.09 |
| 1964 | 1.15 | .25 | .57 | .04 | 2.07 | 2.72 | .94 | .88 | 1.70 | 1.34 | .71 | .57 | 12.94 |
| 1965 | .15 | .46 | .03 | .29 | 7.21 | 3.20 | 1.21 | 3.14 | 1.05 | 2.11 | .40 | .41 | 19.66 |
| 1966 | .72 | .55 | .47 | 4.51 | .91 | 3.32 | .68 | 5.20 | 1.98 | 1.04 | .15 | * | 19.48 |
| 1967 | * | .14 | 1.59 | .47 | .10 | 8.44 | 1.58 | .94 | 3.19 | 1.91 | .91 | .57 | 19.64 |
| 1968 | 2.19 | 1.68 | 2.02 | 3.39 | 2.90 | 1.60 | 1.44 | .87 | .74 | .37 | 3.30 | .19 | 20.63 |
| 1969 | * | .40 | 1.24 | 1.01 | 5.72 | 2.46 | .70 | .55 | 2.95 | 3.65 | .62 | 1.98 | 21.28 |
| 1970 | * | 1.15 | 2.25 | 1.31 | 3.30 | 1.40 | * | .50 | 2.11 | 2.42 | * | .26 | 14.70 |
| 1971 | * | .49 | * | .56 | 3.77 | 2.02 | 1.78 | 16.7 | 4.0 | 3.62 | .27 | .45 | 33.66 |
| 1972 | * | .05 | * | 3.35 | 2.95 | 1.03 | 1.07 | 7.60 | 7.59 | 6.25 | .29 | .03 | 30.21 |
| 1973 | 2.09 | 2.47 | 3.19 | 1.25 | 1.12 | 2.07 | .87 | * | 4.14 | .29 | * | * | 17.49 |
| 1974 | .19 | .35 | .50 | 2.32 | .62 | 2.37 | .10 | 6.41 | 8.24 | 5.80 | .63 | 1.08 | 28.61 |
| 1975 | .33 | 2.04 | .15 | .31 | 3.33 | 1.14 | 6.24 | 2.43 | 5.38 | .58 | 2.36 | 1.01 | 25.30 |
| 1976 | .02 | * | .31 | 4.79 | 1.09 | .56 | 6.16 | .45 | 5.30 | 6.69 | .12 | * | 25.49 |
| 1977 | .58 | .63 | 1.77 | 3.81 | 1.35 | 4.03 | 4.71 | 5.38 | .07 | .37 | .30 | .09 | 23.09 |
| 1978 | .46 | 1.28 | .11 | .15 | 7.37 | 2.70 | 1.01 | 1.79 | 5.68 | 1.84 | .86 | * | 23.25 |
| 1979 | .62 | .68 | 1.26 | .17 | 3.88 | 3.02 | 4.05 | 2.73 | .02 | .44 | 1.19 | 2.40 | 20.46 |
| 1980 | .50 | .53 | .48 | .59 | 5.77 | 1.94 | .96 | .60 | 11.91 | .44 | .55 | 1.43 | 25.70 |
| 1981 | .56 | .70 | .59 | 6.60 | 1.51 | 3.08 | 1.53 | .81 | .58 | 3.27 | .70 | .16 | 20.09 |
| 1982 | .68 | .35 | .81 | 2.25 | 8.04 | 6.59 | 2.71 | 1.19 | .52 | .28 | 1.48 | 1.72 | 26.62 |
| 1983 | 2.91 | .43 | .47 | 1.17 | 3.11 | 1.37 | .42 | 1.22 | .20 | 4.33 | 1.06 | .10 | 16.79 |
| 1984 | .52 | .01 | .30 | * | .81 | 1.75 | 1.76 | 2.0 | 2.70 | 4.15 | 1.78 | 2.40 | 18.19 |
| 1985 | .10 | 1.06 | 2.71 | 4.55 | 5.28 | 2.30 | 3.16 | .18 | 2.96 | 4.79 | .36 | * | 27.45 |
| 1986 | .19 | .35 | .29 | 1.19 | 3.73 | 3.96 | 3.58 | 3.89 | 3.88 | 6.53 | .71 | 1.88 | 30.20 |
| 1987 | .18 | 2.82 | .15 | .71 | 7.76 | 3.17 | 1.35 | * | 1.96 | .06 | .05 | .92 | 19.13 |
| 1988 | .25 | .55 | .77 | 1.06 | 1.61 | 1.20 | 3.81 | 4.51 | 1.02 | 5.52 | .22 | .72 | 21.24 |
| 1989 | .76 | 1.72 | .19 | .53 | .48 | 2.95 | .11 | 2.71 | 1.21 | .82 | .03 | .16 | 11.67 |
| 1990 | 1.14 | 1.90 | 3.11 | 4.20 | .19 | .21 | 5.69 | 4.16 | 5.30 | 1.60 | 1.57 | 1.42 | 30.49 |
| 1991 | 1.64 | * | * | .19 | 3.68 | 5.83 | 4.10 | 1.90 | 5.16 | 2.21 | .93 | 4.27 | 29.91 |
| 1992 | 1.81 | 4.48 | .56 | 1.61 | 6.04 | 3.87 | 2.43 | 2.07 | .95 | * | 2.10 | 1.79 | 27.71 |
| 1993 | .96 | .80 | 1.25 | 1.83 | 1.25 | 3.32 | 1.58 | 1.27 | 1.55 | 1.83 | .46 | .19 | 16.29 |
| 1994 | .53 | .47 | .11 | .81 | 3.40 | * | .54 | .23 | 2.76 | 2.16 | .41 | .79 | 12.21 |
| 1995 | .81 | .90 | 1.29 | .48 | 6.40 | 1.93 | .88 | 1.23 | 5.11 | .64 | .12 | .19 | 19.98 |
| 1996 | .21 | * | .39 | 1.33 | .29 | 2.75 | 1.22 | 3.33 | 2.82 | 1.10 | 4.80 | * | 18.24 |
| 1997 | .42 | 4.48 | .18 | 5.55 | 2.07 | 6.74 | .31 | 1.52 | .68 | 1.25 | 0.36 | 2.13 | 25.69 |
| 1998 | 1.20 | 1.56 | 2.03 | .21 | .31 | .26 | .18 | .76 | .02 | 1.43 | 2.28 | 0.26 | 10.50 |
| 1999 | .95 | 0 | 1.74 | 2.12 | 1.55 | 7.23 | 3.68 | 2.04 | 1.83 | .66 | .00 | .06 | 21.86 |
| 2000 | .73 | .75 | 5.83 | .11 | .84 | 5.55 | .97 | * | * | 4.05 | 2.07 | .30 | 21.20 |
| 2001 | 1.36 | 2.11 | 1.74 | .19 | 3.29 | .57 | .19 | 1.99 | 3.51 | 1.02 | 3.73 | 1.07 | 20.77 |
| 2002 | .39 | 1.09 | 3.89 | 3.13 | 2.95 | 2.24 | 2.80 | 0.77 | 1.22 | 5.82 | 0.31 | 0.98 | 25.59 |
| Avg. | .65 | .85 | .97 | 1.67 | 3.12 | 2.62 | 2.10 | 2.17 | 2.48 | 2.35 | 1.02 | 0.84 | 21.04 |

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JAN 01 2003



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FREE air fares for two to any of the following destinations when the first 20 buyers take delivery of a new car or truck on January 2nd, 2003.

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**Anaheim** -Hampton Inn Anaheim for 5 nights at $99 or Hilton Anaheim for 7 nights at $129
**San Clemente** - San Clemente Inn (Condo) for 7 nights at $159
**San Diego** - Radisson Harbor View for 7 nights at $ 189
**Orange County** - Hyatt Regency for 7 nights at $214
**San Francisco** - Crowne Plaza Hotel Resort for 7 nights at $279
**Avon, CO** - Christie Lodge (Condo) for 7 nights at $199
**Washington, DC** - Crown Plaza for 7 nights at $249

**FLORIDA**

**Daytona Beach** - Best Western Mayan for 7 nights at $99, Best Western Inn and Suites for 7 nights at $109, Best Western Mayan for 7 nights at $99 or Sea Club IV(Condo) for 7 nights at $109.
**Ft. Lauderdale** - Sheraton Yankee Clipper at $129, Wyndham Resort for 7 nights at $139 or Pierpoint Resort for 5 nights at $75.
**Orlando** - Econolodge Hawaiian 5 nights at $65, Wyndham Orlando Resort 5 nights at $99, Ramada Plaza Gateway for 5 nights at $65 or Westgate Vacation Villas (Condo) for 7 nights at $119
**Weston** - Vacation Village at Weston (Condo) for 7 nights at $119
**Tampa** - Sailport Waterfront Suites for 7 nights at $139
**Cocoa** Beach - Hilton Cocoa Beach for 5 nights at $169
**Miami** - Clarion Hotel and Suites for 7 nights at $189

**HAWAII**

**Honolulu** - Outrigger Maile Sky Court 10 nights at $199, Sheraton Princess at $249 or Castle Hawaiian Monarch for 10 night at $199
**Kaui** - Kaui Islander for 10 nights at $199 or The Maiki Club at Prmceville (Condo) for 7 nights at $299
**Maui** - Maui Seaside for 10 nights at $199 or Kaanapali Shores for 10 nights at $279
**Mashpee, MA** - Sea Mist Resort (Condo) for 7 night at $139
**Branson, MO** - Holiday Hills for 7 nights at $ 149

**MEXICO**

**Cancun** - Club Las Perlas for 7 nights at $109 or Cancun Clipper Club (Condo) for 7 nights at $159
**Puerto Vallarta** - Plaza Las Glorias for 7 nights at $99 or Club Villas Vallarta (Condo) for 7 nights at $139

**NEVADA**

**Las Vegas** - Sahara Resort and Casino 6 nights at $99, Westgate Flamingo Bay (Condo) for 7 nights at $199 or MGM Grand at $139
**Reno** - Plaza Resort Club (Condo ) for 7 nights at $199
**New York City, NY** - Travel Inn for 7 nights at $210
**Bushkill, PA** - Villas at Treetops (Condo) for 7 nights $199
**Fairfield Glade, TN** - Fairfield Glade Resort (Condo) for 7 at $199

**TEXAS**

**Galveston** - Four Seasons on the Gulf (Condo) for 7 nights at $199
**Canyon Lake** - Hill Country Resort (Condo) for 7 nights at $199
**S. Padre Island** - Inverness at South Padre (Condo) for 7 nights at $199

**INTERNATIONAL VACATION OPTIONS**

**BAHAMAS**

**Freeport** - Xanadu Beach Resort 5 nights at $99
**Nassau** - Holiday Inn Junkanoo Beach 5 nights at $229

**ALL-INCLUSIVE RESORT OPTIONS**

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**Jamaica, Montego Bay** - Sandals Inn (all ages) 7 nights at $199
**Jamaica, Ocho Rios** - Sandals Ocho Rios (couples only) 7 nights at $249
**Mexico, Playa Car** - Club Viva Maya 7 nights at $149
**Mexico, Puerto Vallarta** - Club Viva Vallarta 7 nights at $149
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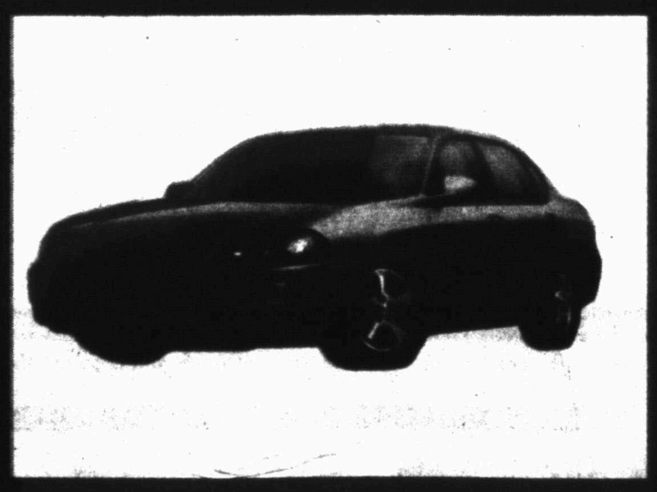
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