BEST AVAILABLE COPY

**********FIRM 79903
2410 02-01-10 33P 26S
SOUTHWEST MICRO **C041
2627 E YANDELL DR
EL PASO TX 79903-3724

INSIDE

What's up 2
Dear Abby 3
Sports 5
Scurry County Country 8
Dr. Gott 9

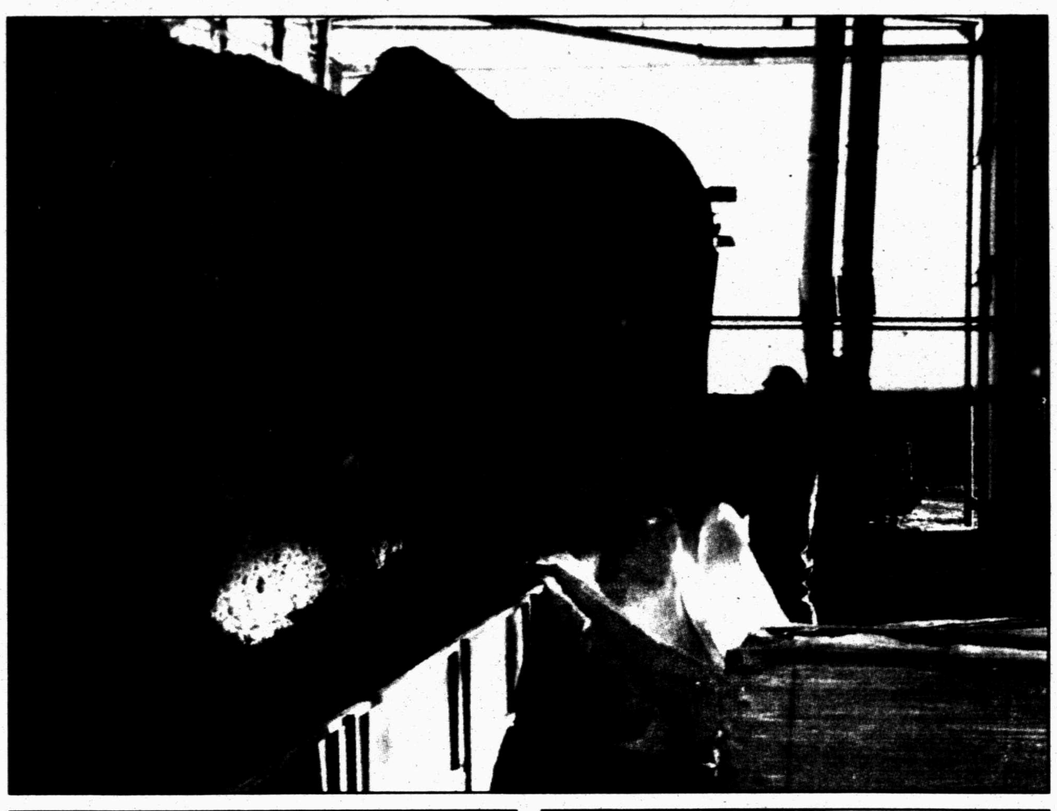
WT-Int. Crude - $32.89
WTIC Posted - $29.50
Natural Gas - $6.77

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

Dec. 17, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 198
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Will Banks







COUNTY COTTON PROGRESSES — Robert Escobedo (top) pulls the tarps from another load of cotton waiting to be ginned. A truck picks up a stack for the gin, (bottom left) while Cruz Martinez, (bottom right) loads cotton bales for shipment. Cotton gins got off to a slow start this year due to the late freeze. (SDN Staff Photos)

11,354 bales ginned...

Cotton quality good this year, quantity down

Scurry County cotton growers had a slow harvest start, but many are hopeful that the crop will still have a positive outcome.

To date, Scurry County gins have processed 11,354 bales.

"The cotton is good this year," said Jim Edmonds, manager of Scurry County Gin. "We've seen very exceptional quality in the cotton and the prices are good, so there's an excellent chance that everyone will do all right this year."

Edmonds reported a count of 1,257 bales so far.

While the season has not been one for the record books, cotton growers know that it could have been worse.

Robbie Robinson, manager of Farmer's Co-op Gin, has seen the ups and downs of farming. He reported a count of 4,600 bales, but said the totals are about half of a normal year.

"This is not the worst year by far, but it has not been the best. In farming, it's hard to know exactly what normal is, but this year we're running about 50 percent of what we normally do."

Inadale Co-op Gin manager David Server, who reported a count of 5,497 bales processed, believes that farmers should be optimistic about the remainder of the harvest.

"For as late as we got started, we're really doing well," he said. "We're ginning good cotton and if the weather holds out, we should gin every bit as well as last year."

Despite the cotton growers' late start, Robinson anticipates the gins should continue to run as normal. barring any surprises from Mother Nature.

"We started later than normal, so we'll be running later than normal. I expect that we will be ginning through the middle or even the end of January."

Two new directors to serve chamber

Two new members of the Snyder chamber of commerce board of directors were recognized Tuesday during the chamber's final board meeting of the year.

Nancy Wilson of Big Country Autoland and Dayton Robertson of YZ Systems will begin two-year terms on the chamber board.



Wilson



Robertson

Outgoing board members Elliott Cox, Paula McWilliams and Darren Jackson also were recognized and presented plaques for their service.

Outgoing president Mike Thornton expressed his appreciation to chamber officials for a successful year.

"I appreciate getting to work with board members, and things are going in a positive direction in Snyder and will get even better. We've had a pretty tough year, but we held together through the tough times," said Thornton.

Thornton also was presented a plaque by executive director Vicki Shroyer.

Incoming president David Harrell named the 2004 executive board consisting of Anita Talbott, president-elect; Jeffrey Martin, vice president; and Elois Pruitt, secretary-treasurer.



Harrell

O'Reilly Auto Parts, Doug and Susie White, Chicken Express and Cash and Pay were all recognized as new chamber members.

The chamber's open house will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday. Shroyer encouraged all chamber members to attend and bring a prospective member as a guest.

She also announced the office would be closed from Dec. 24 through Jan. 1.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN
by Shirley A. Gorman



Christmas is almost here, so if you haven't bought any presents yet you had better get a move on.

Forty million Americans will shop for family, friends and *pets* this holiday season. The American Pet Products Manufacturers Association has announced the Hottest Holiday Pet Products for 2003.

Topping the list are Crunchkins' Crunch Cards, edible dog greeting cards made of flattened rawhide and imprinted with non-toxic ink.

Card front say things like "Merry Christmas from Santa Paws," "For All You Do, A Chew For You," and "Just Bepaws I Love You."

The cards come packaged with a red envelope for mailing.

Talk To Me Treatball ™ is a revolutionary pet toy that enables pet owners to pre-record personal messages for their pet to listen to while their owners are away.

The message is activated when the pet plays with the ball.

Rodi Petford's offers a Christmas Countdown Calendar for cats and dogs. These new calendars come with 24 compartments filled with a selection of pet snacks including tiny bone shaped cookies and hearts with healthy fillings.

From Celltei comes new pet charms that attach to collars or harnesses and come in gold, silver and colored bells, hearts made of Swaroski crystal, and sterling silver heart with a letter inside. Celltei also offers high-end silk and other material pet carriers.

Happy Dog Toys offers JingleBone, a red and green tennis ball bone with jingle bells inside, Holiday Tennis Buddys, which are bouncing plush toys in Santa, reindeer and snowman styles and Holiday Kitten Mitten, which combines pompoms, catnip and jingle bells that dangle from 12 inch fingers on a glove.

Panic Mouse Inc. features Adorned in Christmas wear, where the battery-operated plastic mouse mechanically waves around a wand with a feather attached to the end for cats to chase after for hours.

Polybrite International Inc. offers lighted safety collars and leashes for those festive evenings.

Also for safety, Earthbalance has created Keep Away, an all natural, chemical free, non-staining spray that keeps pets away from the Christmas tree and dangerous ornaments and furniture.

For posh pets, Baker and Company offers 100 percent Woolrich wool dog coats in green, blue or burgundy and safari-themes collars in animal prints.

Several companies offer treat packages including Ciuffo Christmas Box, which contains a mix of treats for pets including dogs, cats and rodents; the Buddy Biscuits Treat Cannister filled with gingerbread shaped, all natural, peanut butter madness wholesome dog treats in a reusable container; a snowman filled with Redbarn Chewy Louie Dog Treats and Doane Pet also offers red, green and natural colored biscuits in a resuable container.

All this may sound too lavish and extravagant, but I guess if you have the money and you really value your pet or pets, why not?

Things were much simpler when I was a kid. I just wrapped a can of dog food for Rebel, the family's Welsh corgi, and put it under the tree. I guess compared to comtemporary standards, Rebel got gypped. But I never heard him complain, not even once.

Crowds cheer anniversary; rain scuttles re-enactment

KILL DEVIL HILLS, N.C. (AP) — A bald eagle soared into the sky today, a symbol of flight, as a poncho-clad crowd cheered the 100th anniversary of man's first powered, heavier-than-air flight. But a heavy downpour scuttled plans to re-enact the flight 100 years to the minute after the seminal event.

President Bush was on hand before the planned attempt to re-enact the Wright brothers' flight — timed to come exactly a century after the brothers from Dayton, Ohio, made their first tentative hops through the air with a delicate contraption fashioned in their bicycle shop.

"On the day they did fly, just like today, the conditions were not ideal," Bush told a crowd of about 30,000 at the Wright Brothers National Memorial.

"The Wright brothers hit some disappointments along the way. There must have been times when they had to fight their own doubts," he said.

"They pressed on, believing in the great work they had begun and in their own capacity to see it though. We would not know their names today if these men had been pessimists."

If the weather improves, organizers planned to try the re-enactment later today, the climax of a six-day festival.

Tom Poberezny, president of the Experimental Aircraft Association, the group working with the re-enactment team, said the attempt could come with as little as 20 minutes notice as thunderstorms move in and out of the area.

"If the weather stays clear and the wind picks up, you can anticipate we'll move quickly," he said.

Kevin Kochersberger, an engineering professor from Rochester, N.Y., was to fly the meticulous reproduction of the 1903 Wright Flyer that was built by the nonprofit group, the Wright Experience of Warrenton, Va.

There had been speculation that Bush would use the centennial of flight to announce a new mission to the moon, but the White House made clear the president had no such intentions.

Actor John Travolta, introducing Bush, told the president, "not only do I vote for that option, but I volunteer to go on the first mission."

Bush made no commitments on a new space mission, but said of Travolta: "We shall call him moon man from now on."

Astronaut Buzz Aldrin, the second man to walk on the moon, delivered the invocation and singer Lee Greenwood performed "The Star-Spangled Banner."

As Greenwood finished the national anthem, a bald eagle was released in the middle of the field to the cheers of the crowd.

Bush did not stay to see the planned re-enactment. As his departing Air Force One passed over the park, it dipped its right wing, as if in salute.

On Dec. 17, 1903, Orville was at the controls for that first hop that lasted all of 12 seconds. He and Wilbur alternated for four flights that day; the last, by Wilbur, lasted 59 seconds and ran for 852 feet.

In the century since, travel by airplane has gone from a barnstormer's novelty act to such a routine that it brings more complaints than ruminations on the extraordinary fact that it simply can be done.

Some still remember the early wonder. John Glenn first went into the air as an 8-year-old boy in the late 1920s. Strapped into the back of a two-seat plane with his father beside him, Glenn buzzed the fields and woods near his native Cambridge, Ohio.

Ira ISD board tables action on lawsuits

Ira school trustees took no action Tuesday after meeting with attorneys concerning possible underpayment of ad valorem taxes by some petroleum companies during 1987-1998.

Representatives of Perry & Kellogg of San Antonio and The Helwig Law Firm of Denver City met with the board in an executive session, said Supt. Dr. Larry Devitt.

"We tabled taking any action on the lawsuits," said Dr. Devitt.

Also in executive session, the trustees completed the annual evaluation of Devitt.

In action items, the trustees approved the district's textbook committee for 2003-2004, and approved the campus and district improvement plans.

The board discussed a new covering for the gym floor, but took no action on its purchase.

For Christmas...

Long holiday on tap for county students

Scurry County students will dismiss from classes early in observance of the Christmas holidays.

Snyder ISD will dismiss classes early at 11:35 a.m. both Thursday and Friday.

Ira will also have a revised schedule on Friday. Classes will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m.

Hermleigh will hold a special Christmas program and an awards ceremony that will begin at 12:30 p.m. Friday. Classes will dismiss after the completion of the program.

Classes will resume at Ira and Hermleigh schools on Jan. 5 while Snyder ISD will begin the second semester on Jan. 6.

ASK US

Q—Will there be a flu vaccine clinic before the holidays?

A—Yes, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Friday in the new lobby of Cogdell Hospital. Cost is $15. It is for ages four and older.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Cade Proctor...

...a four-year resident of Snyder, works for Sunoco in pipeline construction. He has been married to Dena Proctor for nine years. They have two children, Blaine, 8, and Kason, 19 months. Cade's only hobby is the team roping which he practices every chance he gets.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

People always ask me if success is going to change me, and I tell them I sure hope so.

—Randall "Tex" Cobb

DEC 17 2003

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Mike Holmes retirement reception

A retirement reception for Snyder Junior High teacher Mike Holmes will be from 4-5 p.m. today in the junior high library.

Christmas pageant

The Surprising Christmas Pageant will be performed by the children and youth departments of Trinity United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. tonight in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend.

House decorating contest

The house decorating contest will be judged from 6:30-10:30 this evening. To enter your home, contact the chamber at 573-3558.

Ira boosters

Ira boosters will meet at 8:30 this evening in the Ira Community Center.

Coats to be distributed

Coats collected during a recent drive will be distributed from from 9 a.m. until noon Thursday at the Anti-Drug Connection office located at 1904 37th St. Coats can still be brought to the Anti-Drug Connection office as well.

SHS volleyball banquet

Snyder High School volleyball awards banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday in Towle Park Barn. Tickets for parents and family are $5 and are available at the athletic office. There is no charge for players.

Smokey Bear posters

Smokey Bear posters for a contest sponsored by Snyder Garden Club must be turned in by Thursday to classroom teachers or by calling Sandra Browning at 573-7277. Local winners will be announced in January and top posters will advance to the state contest.

Santa at Snyder Healthcare

Santa Claus will visit Snyder Healthcare at 6:30 p.m. Friday. Family and friends are invited to attend.

FBC to present Christmas musical

First Baptist Church will present *A Family Christmas* at 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, featuring more than 150 people. All are invited.

Holy Child

Holy Child, a celebration of the majesty, the mystery and the miracle of Christmas by Marty Parks, will be performed by the Trinity United Methodist praise and worship team at the 11 a.m. service Sunday.

Goodfellows drive underway

Canned goods may be brought to any school campus and monetary contributions can be made at any financial institution for the Goodfellows Food Drive.

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbook

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbooks can still be ordered for $50 for the book only with additional options available for an extra costs. For more information, call 574-6138.

LVN testing dates

LVN testing dates are Jan. 20 and Jan. 27. To reserve a time, you must contact the WTC counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313. Limited seating is available.

Doodle Bug writers club

Members of the Doodle Bug writers club invite all writers to meet at 1 p.m. every other Tuesday at the Golden Village Terrace community room. For more information call 574-1817, 573-7369, or 573-5819.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conversation District is taking orders through Jan. 31 for windbreak trees. Large trees available are Oaks, Pines, Desert Willows, Golden Raintree, Texas Redbud and Chinese Pistache and more. To place orders, call 573-6317.

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.

Boeing to offer all-new passenger jet

SEATTLE (AP) — The Boeing Co. said Tuesday it will go ahead with plans to build its 7E7 Dreamliner passenger plane in a bid to reclaim leadership from European rival Airbus.

Word that Boeing will solicit orders for the jet was coupled with an announcement that the planes would be built in Everett, 25 miles north of Seattle. Both disclosures came at a year-end celebration in Seattle Tuesday after Boeing's board of directors met for two days in Chicago.

Using more composite materials than metal, the 7E7 would weigh less and use 20 percent less fuel than other airplanes. It also would have bigger windows and slightly wider aisles and seats than other models.

The company's new CEO, Harry Stonecipher, said he's optimistic about the 7E7's prospects.

"We are 10 for 10 in bringing successful planes to market," he told a crowd of thousands of Boeing workers at a downtown convention center.

The midsize, 200-plus passenger jet is designed to compete with Airbus' A300 and A310 and to replace Boeing's older 757 and 767.

The 7E7 can't be formally launched until mid-2004, or even enter the market before 2008. But a decision to begin offering it for sale is an important landmark for the company.

The announcement capped an intense rush by other communities to woo the aircraft maker's newest model. Everett was chosen as the building site over Kinston, N.C.; Charleston, S.C.; and Mobile, Ala.

Gov. Gary Locke and the Legislature became determined to win the project, which is expected to create 800 to 1,200 production jobs, after being stunned two years ago by Boeing's decision to move its headquarters to Chicago.

This summer, they agreed to grant the aerospace industry tax breaks totaling $400 million through 2009 — and potentially worth $3.2 billion over 20 years — if Boeing built the 7E7 here.

Locke said that over the long haul, snaring the 7E7 will mean 150,000 jobs for the state — at Boeing and its suppliers, and at other businesses supported by those people.

A plane the size of the 7E7 is in demand, an analyst said, adding that Boeing's decision likely will boost workers' morale.

"This is what they needed to do for a very long time," said Richard Turgeon of Victory Capital Management. "It's a good thing for the company all around."

Dave Goodmanson, who's done electronics work for Boeing for 17 years, said he was proud of Washington's efforts to court the project.

"My dad worked for Boeing, and it's not any more where Boeing sneezes and the whole city gets sick," he said. "But I certainly agreed with what the state of Washington did. Jobs is what it's all about, It'll pay off in the long run."

Boeing had not approved any all-new airplane program since the 777 in 1990.



RECORD CANNED FOOD DRIVE — Snyder High School has just ended a record canned food drive, with more than 8,000 cans being collected through friendly but fierce competition between all four classes. Sophomores captured first place by bringing in 6,559 cans. Seniors landed in second place with 4,859 cans. Third went to juniors who collected 639 cans. Freshmen finished fourth with 262 cans. Excellent community support helped make the 2003 drive so successful. Members of the sophomore class are pictured with some of the canned good they collected. The canned goods will be donated to the Food Cupboard. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

World Almanac

Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2003

Today is the 351st day of 2003 and the 86th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1903, Orville Wright made the first controlled, sustained flight in a power-driven airplane.

In 1939, the British trapped the German battleship Graf Spee, which was then sunk by its captain.

In 1965, Ferdinand Marcos became president of the Philippines.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), poet; Ford Madox Ford (1873-1939), novelist; William Safire (1929-), columnist, is 74; Bill Pullman (1953-), actor, is 50.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1933, the Chicago Bears defeated the New York Giants, 23-21; Harold "Red" Grange made a game-saving tackle as the clock ran down.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "When faith is lost, when honor dies, the man is dead." — John Greenleaf Whittier.

TODAY'S FACT: Onions make you cry because they release a gas that causes a mild sulfuric acid to form in your eyes.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 441 — Medals of Honor awarded by the United States in World War II.

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Dec. 16) and new moon (Dec. 23).

Copyright 2003, Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

events

LOTTO TEXAS™

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers
Mega Millions

ATLANTA (AP) — The jackpot in the multi-state Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to $85 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's $71 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

There were eight second-prize winners from Tuesday night's drawing. Those tickets, which matched the five lotto numbers but missed the Mega Ball number, were worth $175,000 each. Also, 35 players matched four of the five lotto numbers, plus the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth $5,000.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 16-24-31-46-47. The Mega Ball number was 47.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 28-8-26-2-18.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Matching four of five: 156. Prize: $377.

Matching three of five: 4,414. Prize: $9.

Matching two of five: 41,602. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Texas Two Step

The four winning numbers and the Bonus Ball were:

35-34-3-25 Bonus Ball: 17

Matching four plus bonus ball: None

Matching four numbers: 6; prize: $1,840

Matching three plus bonus ball: 22; prize: $62

Matching three numbers: 844; prize: $21

Matching two plus bonus ball: 751; prize: $16

Matching one plus bonus ball: 868; prize: $7

Matching bonus ball: 8,517; prize: $5

The estimated jackpot for Friday's drawing is $250.000.

Pick 3
(Day) 7-3-7
(Night) 4-9-9

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.

Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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

It's Shopping Time At

BILL WILSON'S Big Country AUTOLAND

CARS...

1994 Buick Regal *RUNS GREAT*	$2,500
1990 Toyota Corolla *2 DOOR, WHITE, 46K MILES*	$3,500
1994 Geo Prizm *4 DOOR, AUTO, 66K MILES*	$5,500
1998 Olds Aurora *WHITE DIAMOND, LEATHER*	$6,500
2001 Chevy Cavalier *4 CYL, AUTO, 39K MILES*	$6,500
1996 Cadillac Deville *NORTHSTAR SYSTEM*	$6,850
1998 Cadillac Eldorado *ONE OWNER, WHITE DIAMOND*	$9,500
2001 Chevy Impala LS *LIKE NEW, LOADED*	$12,900
2001 Pontiac Grand Am GT *V6, BRIGHT RED, 26K MILES*	$11,200
2001 Olds Alero GLS *WHITE, TAN LEATHER, SUNROOF, 19K MILES*	$13,500
2003 Chevy Cavalier *2 DOOR, SPORT, BLACK, 24K MILES*	$9,500
2003 Pontiac Sunfire *2 DOOR CD, SUNROOF, 12K MILES*	$9,900

TRUCKS...

2001 Chevy 1500 Excab Z71 *WHITE*	$18,500
2001 Ford F150 4X4 *LONG BED*	$10,000
2000 Chevy C1500 Excab *53K MILES*	$11,500
1999 Chevy Suburban LS *57K MILES*	$13,000
2000 Chevy TxOk *PEWTER, 51K MILES*	$10,500
2001 Chevy Suburban LS *5.3 V8*	$18,850
1999 GMC 2500 4X4 *REGULAR CAB*	$6,500
1989 Ford F250 *RED, LONG BED, SUPERCAB*	$2,500
1983 Chevy C350 *DUALLY*	$1,500
1997 Ford F150 XL *V8*	$3,750
2001 Chevy Blazer LS *2 DOOR*	$8,900
2001 Chevy Suburban *4X4*	$17,900

East Traffic Circle • Snyder, Texas
(325) 573-5456 or 1-800-573-5459

Rival 'network' planned

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Thirteen bishops have agreed to form a network of dioceses and congregations that disapprove of the Episcopal Church's consecration of an openly gay bishop.

Pittsburgh Bishop Robert W. Duncan will be the moderator of the new Network of Anglican Communion Dioceses and Parishes, which he said is not breaking with the Episcopal Church, the U.S. branch of the global Anglican Communion.

Dioceses joining the network are Duncan's see in Pittsburgh and those based in Albany, N.Y.; Fresno, Calif.; Charleston, S.C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Orlando, Fla.; Parrish, Fla.; Dallas; Fort Worth; Peoria, Ill.; Springfield, Ill.; Salina, Kan.; and Albuquerque, N.M.

The purposes of the network is "to tell the truth to America that the Episcopal Church is telling a lie with the things they approved this summer," Duncan told The Associated Press Wednesday.

Bishops, clergy and lay delegates from the dioceses will hold a constituting convention in Plano Jan. 19-20 to approve an organizational "charter" and a theological platform.

The 15-point draft platform, posted on the network's new Web site Wednesday, says progay actions by the Episcopal Church and the Vancouver diocese of the Anglican Church of Canada have "torn the fabric" of the worldwide Anglican Communion and violated trust with other branches of Christianity.

The proposed platform says adherents oppose all actions of Episcopal conventions, bishops and priests that contradict "the church's commonly accepted scriptural teaching on marriage."

Conservative Episcopal leaders have debated various ways to protest the national church's leadership following the consecration of the Rev. V. Gene Robinson as the church's first openly gay bishop.

Another point of contention is the church's vote to recognize — though not endorse — the fact that some bishops are allowing same-sex blessing ceremonies.

The network would try to get the church to reverse its decision, he said.

National/

A mall and th



Pollut

DALLAS (AP
in U.S. cities cau
deaths from he
does from lung
respiratory ailm
new study sugg
The statistical
lished Tuesday
journal of the
Association.
"It certainly
when we first
results," said lea

Too

Checkou

ENOLA, Pa
heard of ro
authorities a
what may just
ern malady: ch
Authorities
woman was b
ceries at the
Store in P
Commons or
when a prob
coupons she
to use caused
A woman be
apparently c
she would be
appointment,
long the
would take, po
"She just ash
going to be m
East Pennsbor
Mark Green sa
The first wo
got angry an
woman behin

Decem

DIET COK
COC
3 LITER B
$1
6
$
REG. O
ENERGY
RED
3F
ALLSU
BUY
GAL
OF F
ALLS
MILI

A mall and the right visitor by Jef Mallett



Pollution ups chances of heart disease

DALLAS (AP) — Air pollution in U.S. cities causes twice as many deaths from heart disease as it does from lung cancer and other respiratory ailments, a surprising new study suggests.

The statistical analysis was published Tuesday in Circulation, a journal of the American Heart Association.

"It certainly did surprise us when we first observed these results," said lead author C. Arden Pope III, an epidemiologist at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. "We just sort of anticipated that breathing particles into your lungs would most likely have a direct impact on your lungs."

Still, Pope stressed that the lungs are intricately involved. For example, lung inflammation from breathing polluted air can lead to heart disease.

The study analyzed data from a survey of 500,000 adults who enrolled in an American Cancer Society survey on cancer prevention in 1982.

It expands on a study by Pope and others published in the March 2002 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association. Researchers said that study contained the strongest evidence yet linking air pollution with lung cancer deaths.

In this round of research, Pope and the others looked at the incidence of heart attacks and other cardiovascular diseases, and respiratory diseases. They then crunched those numbers with air pollution data for more than 150 cities kept by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Even after taking into account other risk factors, such as smoking, diet, weight and occupation, the scientists found that air pollution increased the chances of heart disease.

"This link was stronger for cardiovascular disease than respiratory disease," Pope said. "Substantially more than two-thirds of deaths due to air pollution are cardiovascular deaths, or heart diseases, if you will, versus respiratory deaths."

The pollution risk is from what scientists call combustion-related fine particulate matter — soot emitted by cars and trucks, coal-fired power plants and factories.

Pope said his findings are consistent with other research that suggests air pollution provokes inflammation and speeds up narrowing of the arteries.

Ralph Delfino, a University of California at Irvine epidemiologist, said the study is "quite important."

Today's chuckle

Checkout rage leads to husband's arrest

ENOLA, Pa. (AP) — You've heard of road rage. Local authorities are investigating what may just be a new modern malady: checkout rage.



Authorities said a woman was buying groceries at the Giant Food Store in Pennsboro Commons on Dec. 9 when a problem with coupons she was trying to use caused a delay.

A woman behind her, apparently concerned she would be late for an appointment, asked how long the transaction would take, police said.

"She just asked if it was going to be much longer," East Pennsboro Township Sgt. Mark Green said.

The first woman, police said, got angry and cursed at the woman behind her, then finished her transaction and left.

The second woman also finished her transaction, left the store and was walking toward her car when she was allegedly confronted by the first shopper's husband, who had driven into a handicapped parking space to wait for her, police said.

Arrest documents allege he got out of the vehicle, grabbed the woman and shoved her, and also knocked over her shopping cart, spilling her groceries onto the parking lot.

The woman sustained bruised legs and a swollen wrist. The man faces charges of simple assault, harassment, and disorderly conduct.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Teenager gets grounded for sky-high phone bill

DEAR ABBY: My 13-year-old daughter, "Karen," met a boy on the Internet. I guess she felt she needed to talk to him because she called him on the telephone. Unfortunately, he lives in Spain, and she ran up an $1,100 phone bill. Karen had no idea it cost that much to call him, and of course she didn't ask for my permission.

I grounded Karen until she works off the debt, which will probably take six months. I also took away her phone and Internet privileges and made her quit the school volleyball team.

Karen has ADHD, so we've had some problems with her in the past. I don't want to overreact and make her rebel or run away like I did when I was her age. What I do want is to teach her responsibility. What do you think? — **UNHAPPY MOM IN OHIO**

DEAR UNHAPPY: I don't blame you for being angry, but you have gone a little overboard. It's time to reconsider the multiple punishments you've levied on your daughter. You say you don't want to overreact or make her rebel. Yet you have cut off her contact with the outside world — no phone, no Internet, no sports. I agree she should pay at least part of the phone bill, but as she does, you should gradually reinstate her privileges.

**

DEAR ABBY: You dispensed some wonderful advice in your Thanksgiving Day column. You wrote, "If you're feeling down and want an instant 'upper,' the surest way ... is to do something nice for someone else." I'd like to echo your sentiments and encourage your readers to keep the doldrums at bay by volunteering.

Volunteering not only benefits the recipients of service, but often the volunteer feels better as a result of giving back. Volunteering reduces social isolation and disconnection, boosts spirits, combats stress and builds stronger communities.

According to the most recent study by the Points of Light Foundation and Indiana University, respondents said that volunteering as a family improves communication, promotes positive values, emphasizes the importance of teamwork, teaches kids empathy, respect, friendliness and tolerance, and creates a new generation of dedicated volunteers.

Please encourage your readers who might be dreading this holiday season to volunteer. Giving to others is the best way to nourish your own spirit. — **ROBERT K. GOODWIN, PRESIDENT AND CEO, POINTS OF LIGHT FOUNDATION**

DEAR ROBERT: Thanks for an inspiring reminder that the surest way to forget your own troubles is to do something nice for those less fortunate. The adrenaline rush you'll get is more powerful than speed, and the "high" is perfectly legal. Everyone has something to give, and the most precious gift isn't money — it's TIME.

Readers, to find projects in your local communities or wherever you spend your holiday vacations, call toll-free (800) 865-8683 and enter your ZIP Code, or visit www.1-800-Volunteer.org. Families can find project ideas, activities for kids and other helpful resources by exploring the Web site. Since the holiday season is upon us, don't procrastinate. Reach out and grab the opportunity to help someone.

**

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

**

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

COPYRIGHT 2003 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Stay lifted in death row case

WASHINGTON (AP) — A divided Supreme Court on Monday lifted a last-minute stay that had spared a condemned Texas inmate from the death chamber.

The court decided 5-4 to allow Texas to resume plans to execute Kevin Lee Zimmerman, who had challenged one of the drugs used to carry out the death penalty. Zimmerman received a reprieve last week about 20 minutes before he could have been put to death for a fatal stabbing and robbery at a Beaumont motel in 1987.

Justice Antonin Scalia stopped the punishment, to give the high court more time to look at his case.

The temporary stay was vacated Monday in a brief order, over the objections of the court's more liberal members: Justices John Paul Stevens, David H. Souter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer.



Playing dolls and climbing trees.
Pretty dresses,
Banged up knees.
A little sugar,
Lots of spice!
Being **SEVEN**'s very nice.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY BRITTANY
Love,
Daddy, Mommy and Nana

ALLSUP'S

December 14, 2003 thru December 27, 2003

ALLSUP'S #156 3611 COLLEGE AVE. SNYDER, TEXAS 573-8735
ALLSUP'S #276 HWY. 84 HERMLEIGH, TEXAS 863-2412

16 OZ. COFFEE OR CAPPUCCINO AND A 2.5 OZ. PACKAGE OF MRS. FRESHLEY'S GEM DONUTS (CHOCOLATE, SUGAR OR CRUNCH) 99¢

Allsup's Your Holiday Battery & Film Stores

DIET COKE, SPRITE OR COCA-COLA 3 LITER BTL. $1.69

6 PACK $1.89

ALLSUP'S ICE CREAM 1/2 GALLON / REG. $3.79 $2.99

MICHIGAN SCOTCH PINE CHRISTMAS TREES 5-7 FT. $15.99

HORTENSIA OR MARDI GRAS PAPER NAPKINS FAMILY PACK 99¢

REG. OR SUGAR FREE ENERGY DRINK RED BULL 3 FOR $5

OR INDIVIDUAL CANS $1.99 EACH

8.3 OZ.

SANTA FE FLOUR TORTILLAS 12 CT. / $1.59 REG	99¢
BAR-S CHOPPED HAM 12 OZ. PKG. / $2.29 REG	$1.49
ALLSUP'S WHITE BREAD 24 OZ. PKG. / 59¢ EACH OR	2 FOR $1.09
ALLSUP'S WHEAT BREAD 24 OZ. PKG. / 69¢ EACH OR	2 FOR $1.29
SHURFINE 9 INCH PAPER PLATES 40 CT. / $2.89 REG	$2.59
SOLO PLASTIC CUPS 16 OZ. / 20 CT.	$1.59
SHURFINE GRANULATED SUGAR 4 LB. BAG	$1.99
SHURFINE BROWN OR POWDERED SUGAR 2 LB. BAG	$1.29
SHURFINE FLOUR 5 LB. BAG	$1.19
FOLGERS CLASSIC ROAST OR COLUMBIAN 11.5-13 OZ	$2.99
PLAINS EGG NOG QUART	$2.09
TENDERCRUST BROWN'N SERVE ROLLS 12 PACK	89¢
HOT POCKET CHICKEN POT PIE EACH	$1.59
SHURFINE WHIPPING CREAM 1/2 PINT	89¢
SHURFINE DIPS FRENCH ONION OR GREEN CHILI 1/2 PINT	$1.29

FUJI QUICK SNAP 400 CAMERA REG. $7.79 $4.99 EA.

27 EXP.

ALLSUP'S COMBO MEALS

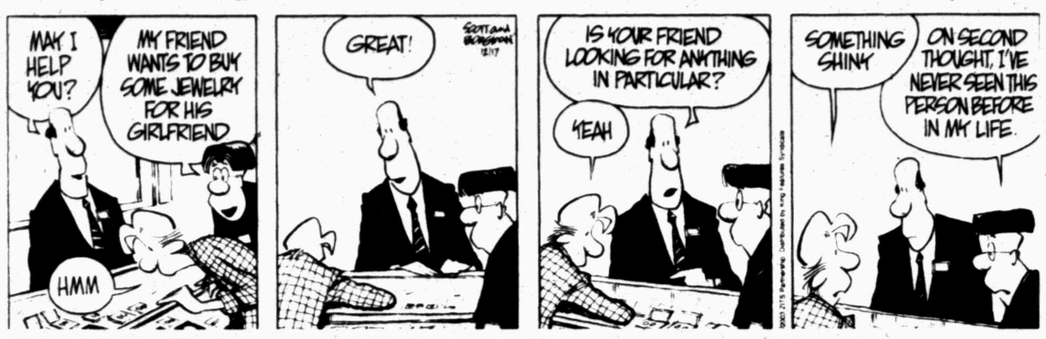
COMBO NO. 1	2 CORN DOGS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	$1.99
COMBO NO. 2	2 HOT LINKS WITH BREAD & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	$1.99
COMBO NO. 3	3 TAMALES, HOWLERS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	$1.99
COMBO NO. 4	SAUSAGE/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE OR 22 OZ. FOUNTAIN DRINK	$1.29

ALLSUP'S "MOO" BUY 12 GALLONS OF FRESH ALLSUP'S MILK... GET ONE FREE!

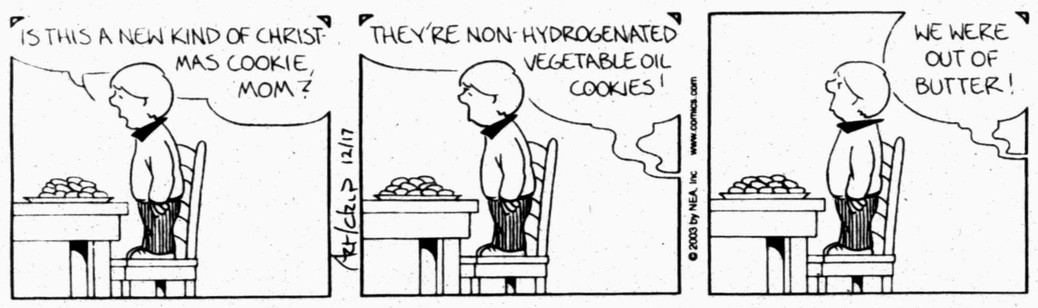
Collect Self Stick "Moo" Stamps Today & You Could Win FREE Milk For A Year!

DEC 17 2003

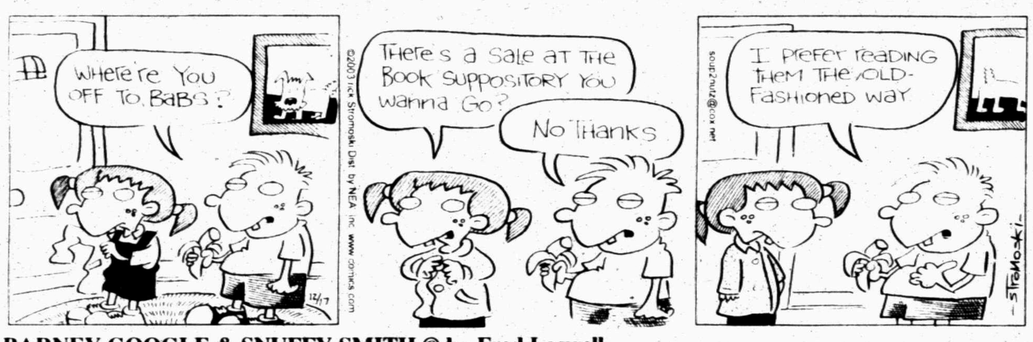
ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



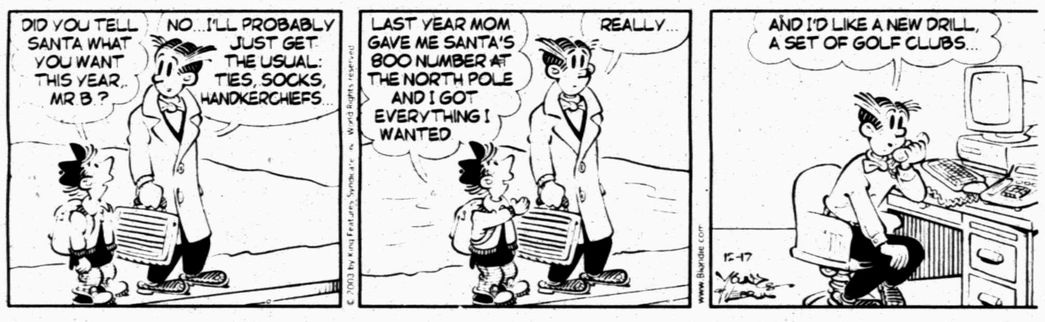
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Narrow ravine
6 Prima —
11 Inmate's hope
12 Removed the tangles
13 Metro
14 Chooses
15 "Never Say Never —"
16 Round starter
17 Mo. neighbor
18 Poetic contraction
19 Apiece
23 Neutral or first
25 Yarn
26 — Kippur
29 Restless
32 Teacup part
33 Left Bank friend
34 Seat formally
35 Balloon sound
36 Secure a contract
38 Track meet event
40 Osprey kin
41 Zodiac beast
42 SAC letters
46 Mule's sound
48 Plenty
49 God depicted in pyramids
52 Drink
53 Expire
54 Flavored the popcorn
55 Rib
56 The ones here

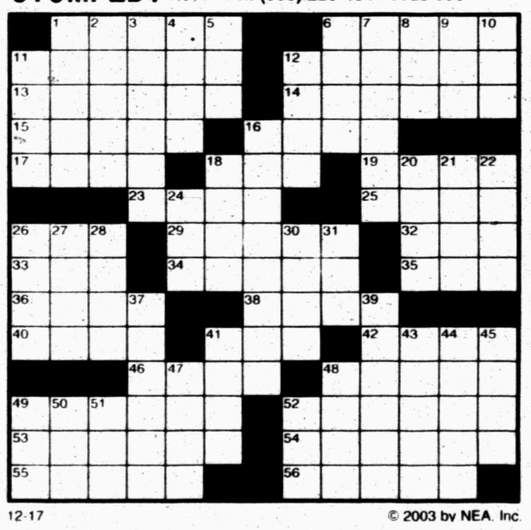
DOWN

1 Dial
2 Civic
3 Meadow sound
4 Laird's household
5 Attention getter
6 Barbie —
7 Folded egg dish
8 Brokaw's network
9 Hockey goal
10 Paid notices
11 H.S. exam
12 High notes
16 Kind of cake
18 Neutral colors
20 Senior cit. group
21 Muse of history
22 Tough fiber
24 Water, on the Seine
26 Ivy League member
27 Actor — Sharif
28 North Woods st.
30 Garment part
31 Cen. fractions
37 Rubble
39 Modest
41 Not cautious
43 Hisses
44 "Tiny Alice" playwright
45 Wine and dine
47 Stand up
48 Bombay nanny
49 Choose
50 Take notice of
51 Keogh relative
52 Ego ending

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for answers ● Touch-tone or rotary phone 95¢ per minute **(900) 226-4344** code 000

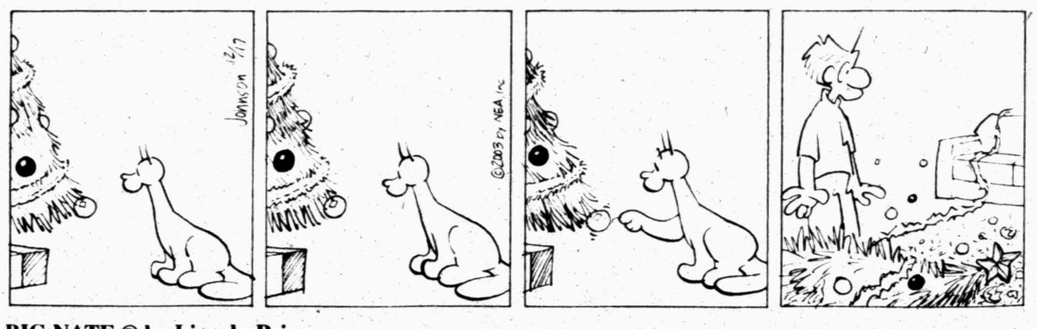


12-17 © 2003 by NEA, Inc.

FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



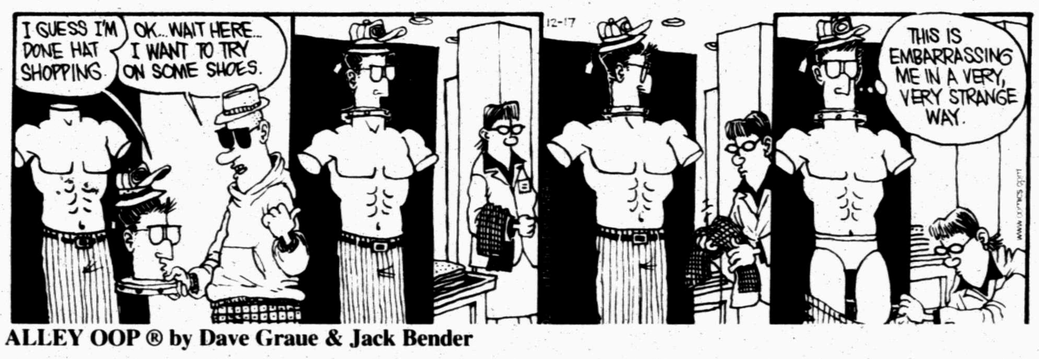
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



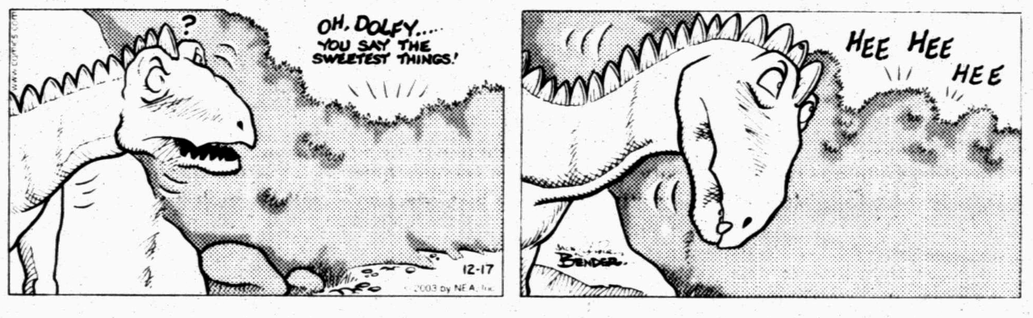
BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



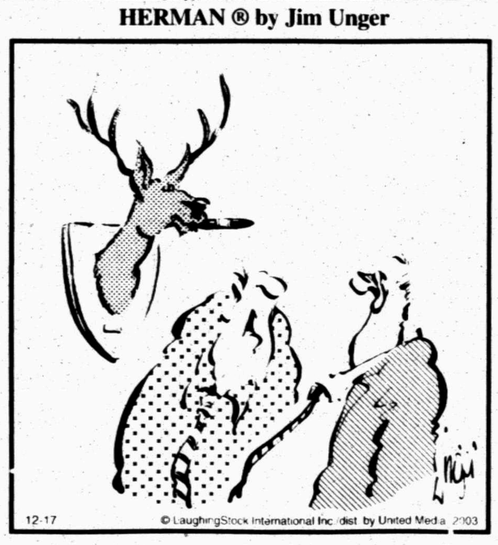
ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"This rascal chased the wife's mother 20 feet up a tree."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"WELL, IF I CAN'T ASK SANTA FOR A PONY... YOU MIGHT AS WELL CROSS THE SADDLE OFF MY LIST, TOO."



TWICE AS HA
field, left, and
rematch from

Lad

ROTAN —
Bulldogs got
Lindsey Wilson
ble defensive s
game in a 52-
Rotan Tuesday
The Lady Bu
to a an 18-4 fir
holding the L
mers without a
five minutes in
"The girls
played extrem
start of the ga
Brent Parr said

Repo fired

NEW YORK
Jim Fassel wil
New York Gian
disappointing
ball sources to
ed Press today
The sources
condition of
Fassel would
remaining two
Bowl team th
and expected
the Giants (4-
straight game
place in the N
Fassel's fi
reported by
which said its
from Giants p
The Giants
conference fo
the team woul
General

Nat

AMERICA

	W	L
y-New England	12	
Miami	8	6
Buffalo	6	8
N.Y. Jets	6	8

	W	L
x-Indianapolis	11	
Tennessee	10	4
Houston	5	9
Jacksonville	4	10

	W	L
Cincinnati	8	6
Baltimore	8	6
Pittsburgh	5	9
Cleveland	4	10

	W	L
y-Kansas City	12	
Denver	9	5
Oakland	4	10
San Diego	3	11

NATIONA

	W	L
x-Philadelphia	11	
Dallas	9	5
Washington	5	9
N.Y. Giants	4	10

	W	L
y-Carolina	9	5
New Orleans	7	

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

SPORTS



TWICE AS HARD — Big Spring's Erin Partee fights off a double-team from Tigers Austin Hatfield, left, and Lee Scott during Tuesday's game. The Steers claimed a 61-59 victory in the rematch from Nov. 25. (Photo Courtesy of *Big Spring Herald*)

Tigers fall at Big Spring; Birks pleased with effort

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

BIG SPRING — Despite a two-point loss, Snyder head coach Bud Birks was unequivocal about the play of his club Tuesday at Big Spring.

"There was great effort and intensity," he said. "It's the best game we've played this year."

The Steers topped the Tigers, 61-59, and Birks said the tilt would help the team find its strengths and weaknesses as the district schedule approaches.

"It gives us a good idea of what we need to do to be successful," he said.

The Tigers reached the line 23 times against the Steers, converting 14 for a 61 percent clip, an area Birks said the team needs to work on.

"It shows we are being aggressive," he said. "Make three more of those, and we could have won. We need to take it inside and not settle for jump shots."

Because the Tigers lack height on the inside, Birks said he wants the squad to focus on position.

"We did a pretty good job, but we need to concentrate on blocking out," he said. "The three things we need to work on improving are blocking out, turnovers and free throws."

"It's the best game we've played this year."– Bud Birks

Lee Scott paced the Tigers with 18 points, and converted five of six from the charity stripe.

Austin Hatfield also was five of six from the line, contributing 11 points, while Lico Castillo canned 13.

"I thought Lico and Austin played well, and Tucker (Early) and Zack (Garcia) did a good job," Birks said. "We did good things — we ran our offense well, but we can shoot better."

Early returned to action after a bout of severe tonsillitis, helping the Tigers down low and spelling Garcia. Both players contributed four points.

Isaac Ramon added six and Kasey Melton scored three points.

Big Spring's Wes Smith led all players with 22 points, and Jordan Cobb hit for 17.

The Snyder freshman blew an eight-point halftime lead to bow to Big Spring, 78-64.

After rolling to a 40-32 halftime lead, the freshmen were outscored, 23-6, in the third quarter. In all, Big Spring bested Snyder, 44-24, over the final 16 minutes.

Tagaba Kyei led the way with 16 points for Snyder, while Ryan Mitchell connected for 15.

Michael Martinez also scored in double figures, posting 11 points, while Jamie Arnold and Ricky Sanchez added five each.

The Tigers will host fifth-ranked Abilene Wylie at 7:30 Friday night.

Lady Bulldogs rout Rotan

ROTAN — The Ira Lady Bulldogs got 22 points from Lindsey Wilson and a formidable defensive stand to start the game in a 52-32 victory over Rotan Tuesday.

The Lady Bulldogs raced out to a an 18-4 first quarter edge, holding the Lady Yellowhammers without a field goal until five minutes in the game.

"The girls came out and played extremely well at the start of the game," head coach Brent Parr said. "We are showing signs of a good team that plays good defense and controls the ball and the tempo of the game."

The Lady Bulldogs came out with a similar defensive intensity to start the second half, limiting Rotan to just one two-point field goal in the third quarter.

Amanda Calley chimed in with 13 points, and Kelbi Pitner recorded nine for Ira, which travels to Stanton Friday at 5:30 p.m.

"Lindsey continues to play extremely well and Amanda is gaining confidence in her shooting and has begun to step up her play as an offensive threat," Parr said. "(Stanton) always has a tough team, and it will be a challenge for us. We will learn a lot about ourselves heading into the Christmas break."

Rotan downed the Bulldogs, 56-49, taking advantage of an 11-point first quarter edge to hang on for the win.

Jake Barnes and Jess Wall continue to shoulder the offensive load for the Bulldogs, putting in 14 and 15, respectively.

The Bulldogs also travel to Stanton Friday, with tip-off scheduled for 7 p.m.

Rodriguez gets involved in trade talks as meetings end

By the Associated Press

Alex Rodriguez got personally involved in trade talks, trying to move along his deal to Boston. Omar Vizquel may not be able to save his swap back to Seattle.

A day after the winter meetings wrapped up, it was hard to tell the session ever ended. The moves kept coming, with Mark Redman, Reggie Sanders, Jose Guillen and Michael Barrett on the go and New York planning to introduce Gary Sheffield at Yankee Stadium.

But the biggest deal of all remained the potential blockbuster between Texas and Boston — Rodriguez for Manny Ramirez. With so much money involved, all sides are getting involved.

Rodriguez, the AL MVP, and Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein got together with Gene Orza, the No. 2 official at the players' union.

"I did meet with A-Rod and Theo today," Orza said. "But I'm not going to discuss the substance of the discussions."

Texas Rangers owner Tom Hicks is trying to work out the trade directly with Red Sox owner John Henry.

"At this time negotiations are at a sensitive point," Hicks said in a statement. "Due to this fact, we will have no further comment on this situation today."

Said Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras: "They're moving and plodding along."

If the Red Sox get Rodriguez, there's been speculation they would then trade Nomar Garciaparra. Early whispers had him going to either the Dodgers or Angels, although there were indications those teams may not actively seek him.

Instead, there was talk the Red Sox might package Garciaparra with pitchers Scott Williamson and Byung-Hyun Kim and send him to the Chicago White Sox for star outfielder Magglio Ordonez.

Earlier in the day, Cleveland and Seattle agreed on deal to send Vizquel to the Mariners for Carlos Guillen in a swap of shortstops, a baseball source told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

But for the trade to become final, Vizquel had to pass a physical. And after going through tests Tuesday at Safeco Field, he was told he'd failed. He had two surgeries on his right knee last season.

Report: Fassel to be fired at season's end

NEW YORK (AP) — Coach Jim Fassel will be fired by the New York Giants at the end of a disappointing season, two football sources told The Associated Press today.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Fassel would coach the team's remaining two games. A Super Bowl team three seasons ago and expected to contend again, the Giants (4-10) have lost six straight games to drop to last place in the NFC East.

Fassel's firing was first reported by SportsLine.com, which said its information came from Giants players.

The Giants scheduled a news conference for later today, but the team wouldn't say why.

General manager Ernie Accorsi did not immediately return a phone message.

In seven seasons as the Giants' coach, Fassel is 60-54-1, including the postseason. He took the team to the playoffs three times, including a loss to the Baltimore Ravens in the 2001 Super Bowl. Last season, the Giants made the playoffs at 10-6, then blew a 24-point third-quarter lead against the San Francisco 49ers and lost their wild-card game 39-38.

Before becoming the Giants' head coach, Fassel was the offensive coordinator with the Arizona Cardinals. He has been thought to be a candidate for Arizona's head coaching job if it should become vacant.

He also was head coach at the University of Utah from 1985-89.

British Open champ joins European tour

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Ben Curtis is full of surprises.

First, he stunned the golf world by winning the British Open in his first major. Ranked 396th in the world, he beat an intimidating collection of stars, including Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh.

A month later, Curtis refused to let a $6 million World Golf Championship get in the way of his wedding, so he got married between the third and final rounds.

Next up for Curtis might be the most unusual step of all: The 26-year-old from Ohio is joining the European tour.

"Why?" Tiger Woods wondered when told of the decision.

Curtis can expect that kind of reaction.

Winning the British Open put a silver claret jug in his trophy case, $1.1 million in the bank and a five-year PGA Tour exemption in his pocket.

That means he can play his choice of $5 million tournaments on perfectly manicured courses, with the best practice facilities, and compete against the best players in the world.

For most guys in his position, that PGA Tour exemption is the best perk that comes with winning a major.

Sports Briefs

Twilight time change

The twilight time at the WTC golf course will begin at 1 p.m. daily from December through February.

Horn, Johnson fined for end zone shenanigans

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — New Orleans Saints receiver Joe Horn was fined $30,000 by the NFL for making a choreographed cell-phone call in the end zone to celebrate a touchdown.

NEW YORK (AP) — Cincinnati Bengals receiver Chad Johnson was fined $10,000 by the NFL for holding up a sign directed at the league while celebrating a touchdown catch.

Johnson, who has repeatedly been fined by the league for uniform violations and touchdown celebrations, held up the sign that read: "Dear NFL: Please don't fine me again."

Spurs ink Popovich to extension

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich signed a contract extension through the 2007-08 season.

Popovich, who is also the team's general manager, has led the Spurs to a pair of NBA championships during his seven years as coach, including last season's victory over the New Jersey Nets. He has a career record of 355-195.

National Football League

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	12	2	0	.857	296	222
Miami	8	6	0	.571	268	237
Buffalo	6	8	0	.429	240	228
N.Y. Jets	6	8	0	.429	246	255

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Indianapolis	11	3	0	.786	410	288
Tennessee	10	4	0	.714	375	287
Houston	5	9	0	.357	214	333
Jacksonville	4	10	0	.286	242	291

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	8	6	0	.571	322	335
Baltimore	8	6	0	.571	343	271
Pittsburgh	5	9	0	.357	250	290
Cleveland	4	10	0	.286	232	273

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Kansas City	12	2	0	.857	433	284
Denver	9	5	0	.643	347	253
Oakland	4	10	0	.286	249	317
San Diego	3	11	0	.214	268	387

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Philadelphia	11	3	0	.786	315	249
Dallas	9	5	0	.643	263	244
Washington	5	9	0	.357	256	314
N.Y. Giants	4	10	0	.286	216	331

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Carolina	9	5	0	.643	268	266
New Orleans	7	7	0	.500	308	299
Tampa Bay	7	7	0	.500	260	201
Atlanta	3	11	0	.214	248	380

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	8	6	0	.571	370	297
Minnesota	8	6	0	.571	354	315
Chicago	6	8	0	.429	253	291
Detroit	4	10	0	.286	226	339

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-St. Louis	11	3	0	.786	400	288
Seattle	8	6	0	.571	352	300
San Francisco	6	8	0	.429	336	285
Arizona	3	11	0	.214	197	407

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Saturday's Games

Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 12:30 p.m.
Kansas City at Minnesota, 4 p.m.
New England at N.Y. Jets, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday

Miami at Buffalo, noon
N.Y. Giants at Dallas, noon
Detroit at Carolina, noon
Washington at Chicago, noon
Tennessee at Houston, noon
Cincinnati at St. Louis, noon
Baltimore at Cleveland, noon
New Orleans at Jacksonville, noon
San Diego at Pittsburgh, 3:05 p.m.
Arizona at Seattle, 3:15 p.m.
San Francisco at Philadelphia, 3:15 p.m.
Denver at Indianapolis, 7:30 p.m.

Monday

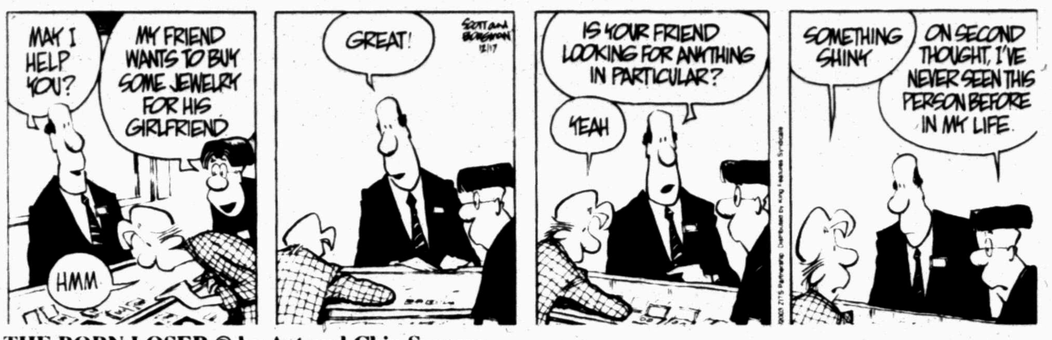
Green Bay at Oakland, 8 p.m.

We will close
Wednesday, Dec. 17
at 6:00 p.m.
SONIC
America's Drive-In
4100 College Ave. 573-7620

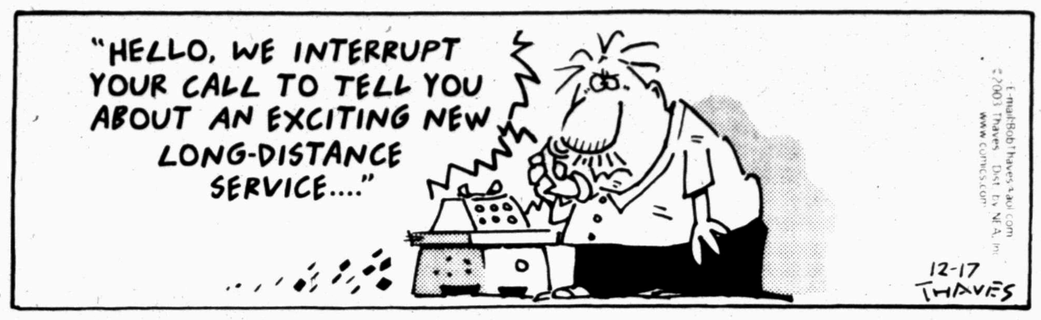
Special Last Minute Gift Ideas
There is still time for you to bring by that special picture and have it copied with a special message on to a
T-Shirt, Sweatshirt, Cap, Round or Square Mouse Pad
Puzzles, have fun putting together a puzzle made from your special picture!
Personalized Refrigerator Magnets
10" Teddy Bears with personalized T-Shirts
12 Picture Calendars with one picture for each month
1 picture calendars 11"x17"
Poster Calendars 15"x26" cloth
STEPHENS OFFICE SUPPLY & PRINTING
1808 26th Street 573-3403

DEC 17 2003

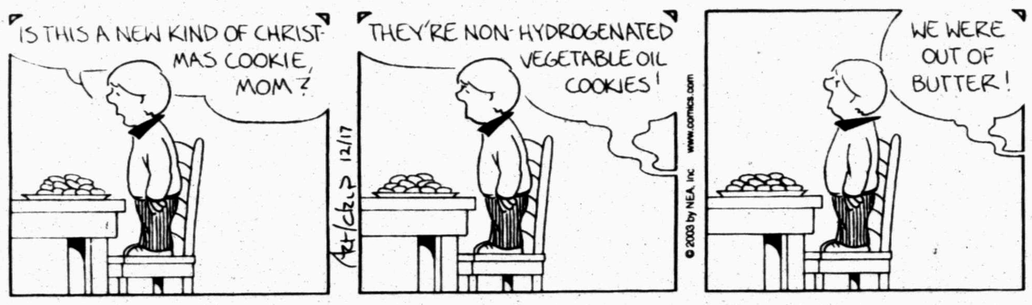
ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



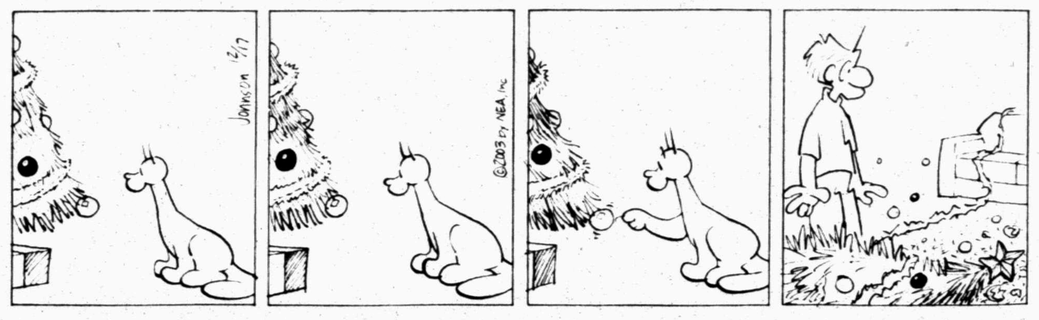
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



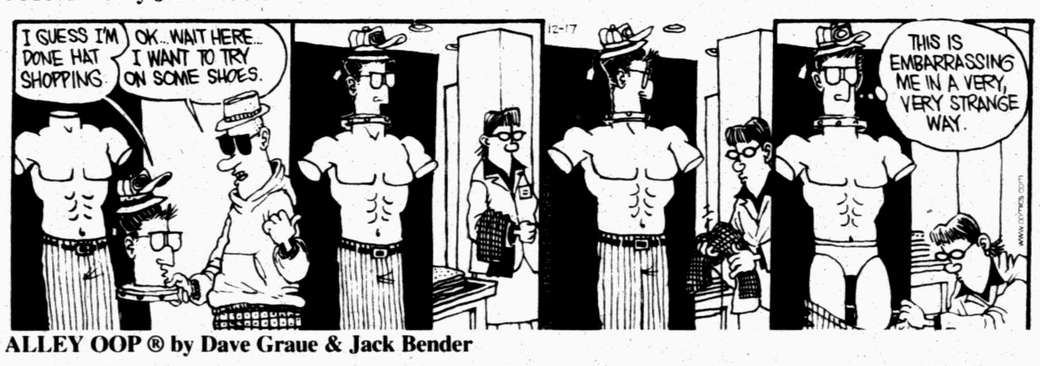
BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



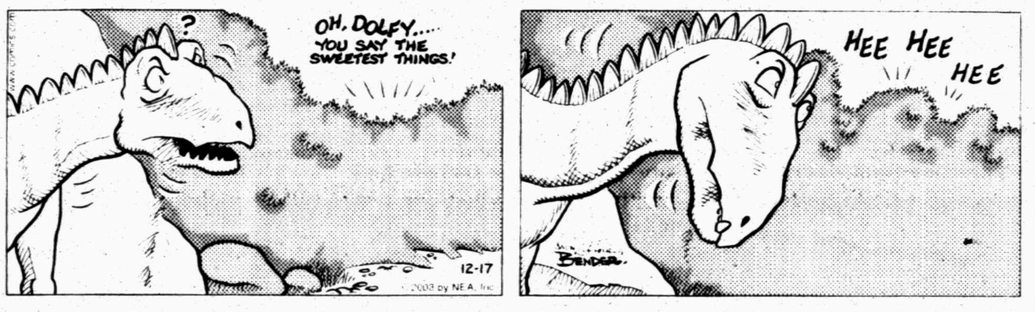
MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



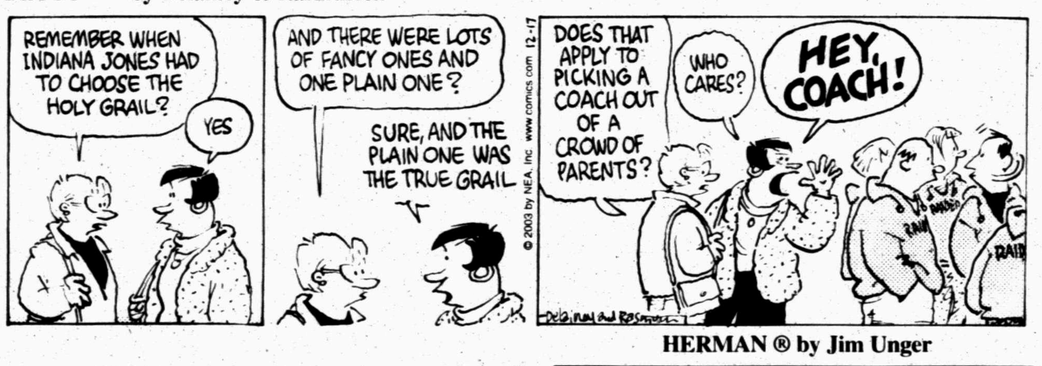
ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



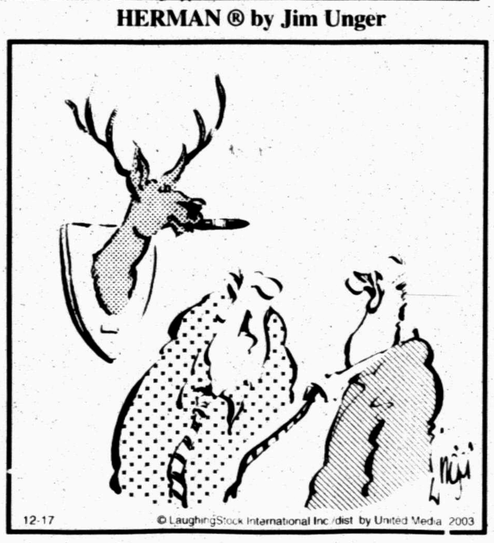
BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Narrow ravine
6 Prima —
11 Inmate's hope
12 Removed the tangles
13 Metro
14 Chooses
15 "Never Say Never —"
16 Round starter
17 Mo. neighbor
18 Poetic contraction
19 Apiece
23 Neutral or first
25 Yarn
26 — Kippur
29 Restless
32 Teacup part
33 Left Bank friend
34 Seat formally
35 Balloon sound
36 Secure a contract
38 Track meet event
40 Osprey kin
41 Zodiac beast
42 SAC letters
46 Mule's sound
48 Plenty
49 God depicted in pyramids
52 Drink
53 Expire
54 Flavored the popcorn
55 Rib
56 The ones here

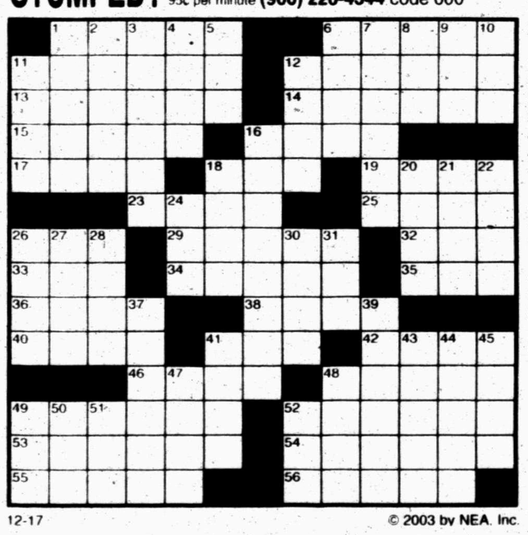
DOWN

1 Dial
2 Civic
3 Meadow sound
4 Laird's household
5 Attention getter
6 Barbie —
7 Folded egg dish
8 Brokaw's network
9 Hockey goal
10 Paid notices
11 H.S. exam
12 High notes
16 Kind of cake
18 Neutral colors
20 Senior cit. group
21 Muse of history
22 Tough fiber
24 Water, on the Seine
26 Ivy League member
27 Actor — Sharif
28 North Woods st.
30 Garment part
31 Cen. fractions
37 Rubble
39 Modest
41 Not cautious
43 Hisses
44 "Tiny Alice" playwright
45 Wine and dine
47 Stand up
48 Bombay nanny
49 Choose
50 Take notice of
51 Keogh relative
52 Ego ending

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for answers • Touch-tone or rotary phone 95¢ per minute **(900) 226-4344** code 000



12-17 © 2003 by NEA, Inc.

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"WELL, IF I CAN'T ASK SANTA FOR A PONY... YOU MIGHT AS WELL CROSS THE SADDLE OFF MY LIST, TOO."

"This rascal chased the wife's mother 20 feet up a tree."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright





TWICE AS HA
field, left, and
rematch from

Lad

ROTAN —
Bulldogs got
Lindsey Wilso
ble defensive
game in a 52
Rotan Tuesday
The Lady Bu
to a an 18-4 fir
holding the L
mers without
five minutes in
"The girls
played extren
start of the ga
Brent Parr sai

Repo
fired

NEW YORK
Jim Fassel wi
New York Gia
disappointing
ball sources t
ed Press today
The source
condition of
Fassel would
remaining two
Bowl team th
and expected
the Giants (4
straight game
place in the N
Fassel's f
reported by
which said its
from Giants p
The Giants
conference fo
the team wou
General

Nat

AMERICA

	W	L
y-New England	12	
Miami	8	6
Buffalo	6	8
N.Y. Jets	6	8

	W	L
x-Indianapolis	11	
Tennessee	10	4
Houston	5	9
Jacksonville	4	10

	W	L
Cincinnati	8	6
Baltimore	8	6
Pittsburgh	5	9
Cleveland	4	10

	W	L
y-Kansas City	12	
Denver	9	5
Oakland	4	10
San Diego	3	11

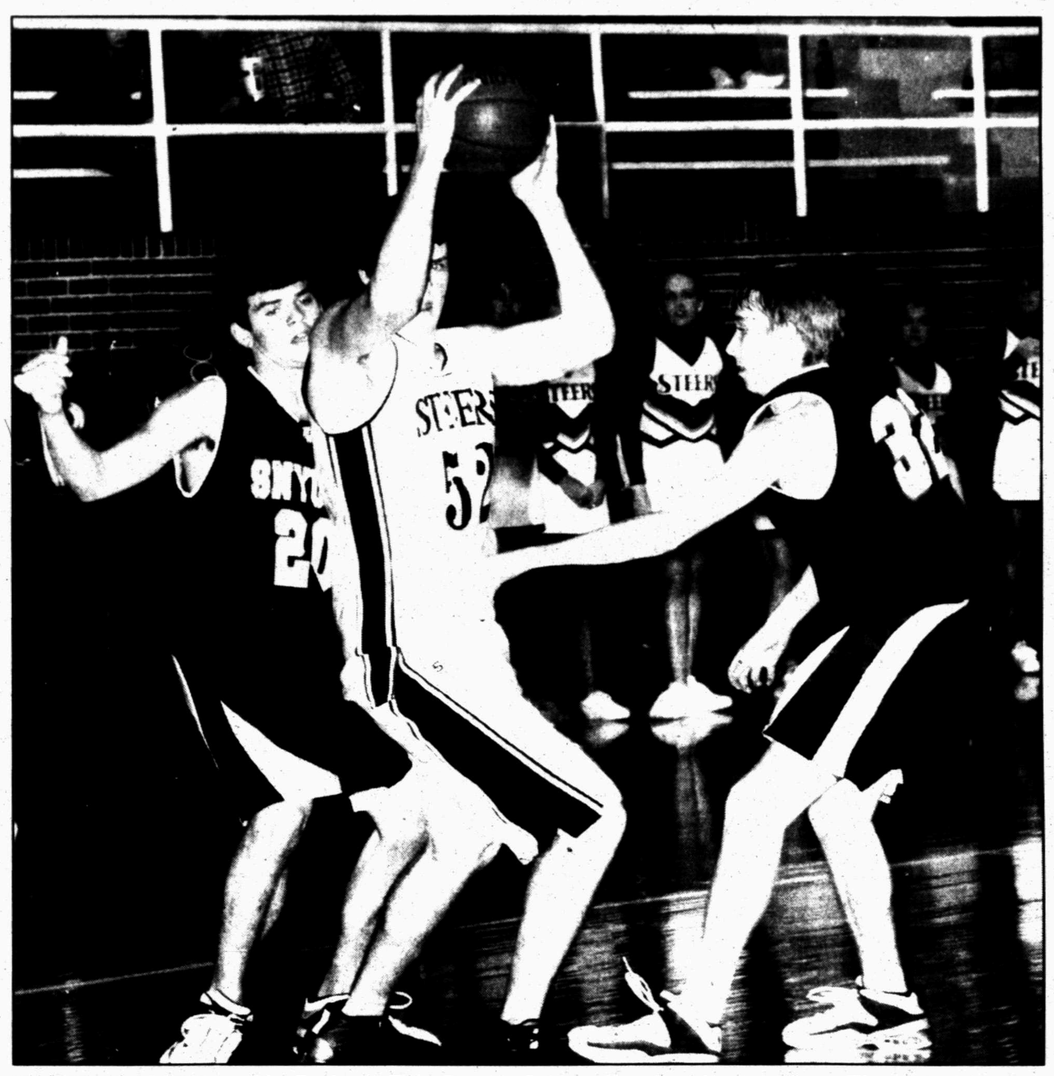
NATIONA

	W	L
x-Philadelphia	11	
Dallas	9	5
Washington	5	9
N.Y. Giants	4	10

	W	L
y-Carolina	9	5
New Orleans	7	

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

SPORTS



TWICE AS HARD — Big Spring's Erin Partee fights off a double-team from Tigers Austin Hatfield, left, and Lee Scott during Tuesday's game. The Steers claimed a 61-59 victory in the rematch from Nov. 25. (Photo Courtesy of *Big Spring Herald*)

Tigers fall at Big Spring; Birks pleased with effort

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

BIG SPRING — Despite a two-point loss, Snyder head coach Bud Birks was unequivocal about the play of his club Tuesday at Big Spring.

"There was great effort and intensity," he said. "It's the best game we've played this year."

The Steers topped the Tigers, 61-59, and Birks said the tilt would help the team find its strengths and weaknesses as the district schedule approaches.

"It gives us a good idea of what we need to do to be successful," he said.

The Tigers reached the line 23 times against the Steers, converting 14 for a 61 percent clip, an area Birks said the team needs to work on.

"It shows we are being aggressive," he said. "Make three more of those, and we could have won. We need to take it inside and not settle for jump shots."

Because the Tigers lack height on the inside, Birks said he wants the squad to focus on position.

"We did a pretty good job, but we need to concentrate on blocking out," he said. "The three things we need to work on improving are blocking out, turnovers and free throws."

"It's the best game we've played this year."– Bud Birks

Lee Scott paced the Tigers with 18 points, and converted five of six from the charity stripe.

Austin Hatfield also was five of six from the line, contributing 11 points, while Lico Castillo canned 13.

"I thought Lico and Austin played well, and Tucker (Early) and Zack (Garcia) did a good job," Birks said. "We did good things — we ran our offense well, but we can shoot better."

Early returned to action after a bout of severe tonsillitis, helping the Tigers down low and spelling Garcia. Both players contributed four points.

Isaac Ramon added six and Kasey Melton scored three points.

Big Spring's Wes Smith led all players with 22 points, and Jordan Cobb hit for 17.

The Snyder freshman blew an eight-point halftime lead to bow to Big Spring, 78-64.

After rolling to a 40-32 halftime lead, the freshmen were outscored, 23-6, in the third quarter. In all, Big Spring bested Snyder, 44-24, over the final 16 minutes.

Tagaba Kyei led the way with 16 points for Snyder, while Ryan Mitchell connected for 15.

Michael Martinez also scored in double figures, posting 11 points, while Jamie Arnold and Ricky Sanchez added five each.

The Tigers will host fifth-ranked Abilene Wylie at 7:30 Friday night.

Lady Bulldogs rout Rotan

ROTAN — The Ira Lady Bulldogs got 22 points from Lindsey Wilson and a formidable defensive stand to start the game in a 52-32 victory over Rotan Tuesday.

The Lady Bulldogs raced out to a an 18-4 first quarter edge, holding the Lady Yellowhammers without a field goal until five minutes in the game.

"The girls came out and played extremely well at the start of the game," head coach Brent Parr said. "We are showing signs of a good team that plays good defense and controls the ball and the tempo of the game."

The Lady Bulldogs came out with a similar defensive intensity to start the second half, limiting Rotan to just one two-point field goal in the third quarter.

Amanda Calley chimed in with 13 points, and Kelbi Pitner recorded nine for Ira, which travels to Stanton Friday at 5:30 p.m.

"Lindsey continues to play extremely well and Amanda is gaining confidence in her shooting and has begun to step up her play as an offensive threat," Parr said. "(Stanton) always has a tough team, and it will be a challenge for us. We will learn a lot about ourselves heading into the Christmas break."

Rotan downed the Bulldogs, 56-49, taking advantage of an 11-point first quarter edge to hang on for the win.

Jake Barnes and Jess Wall continue to shoulder the offensive load for the Bulldogs, putting in 14 and 15, respectively.

The Bulldogs also travel to Stanton Friday, with tip-off scheduled for 7 p.m.

Rodriguez gets involved in trade talks as meetings end

By the Associated Press

Alex Rodriguez got personally involved in trade talks, trying to move along his deal to Boston. Omar Vizquel may not be able to save his swap back to Seattle.

A day after the winter meetings wrapped up, it was hard to tell the session ever ended. The moves kept coming, with Mark Redman, Reggie Sanders, Jose Guillen and Michael Barrett on the go and New York planning to introduce Gary Sheffield at Yankee Stadium.

But the biggest deal of all remained the potential blockbuster between Texas and Boston — Rodriguez for Manny Ramirez. With so much money involved, all sides are getting involved.

Rodriguez, the AL MVP, and Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein got together with Gene Orza, the No. 2 official at the players' union.

"I did meet with A-Rod and Theo today," Orza said. "But I'm not going to discuss the substance of the discussions."

Texas Rangers owner Tom Hicks is trying to work out the trade directly with Red Sox owner John Henry.

"At this time negotiations are at a sensitive point," Hicks said in a statement. "Due to this fact, we will have no further comment on this situation today."

Said Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras: "They're moving and plodding along."

If the Red Sox get Rodriguez, there's been speculation they would then trade Nomar Garciaparra. Early whispers had him going to either the Dodgers or Angels, although there were indications those teams may not actively seek him.

Instead, there was talk the Red Sox might package Garciaparra with pitchers Scott Williamson and Byung-Hyun Kim and send him to the Chicago White Sox for star outfielder Magglio Ordonez.

Earlier in the day, Cleveland and Seattle agreed on deal to send Vizquel to the Mariners for Carlos Guillen in a swap of shortstops, a baseball source told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

But for the trade to become final, Vizquel had to pass a physical. And after going through tests Tuesday at Safeco Field, he was told he'd failed. He had two surgeries on his right knee last season.

Report: Fassel to be fired at season's end

NEW YORK (AP) — Coach Jim Fassel will be fired by the New York Giants at the end of a disappointing season, two football sources told The Associated Press today.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Fassel would coach the team's remaining two games. A Super Bowl team three seasons ago and expected to contend again, the Giants (4-10) have lost six straight games to drop to last place in the NFC East.

Fassel's firing was first reported by SportsLine.com, which said its information came from Giants players.

The Giants scheduled a news conference for later today, but the team wouldn't say why.

General manager Ernie Accorsi did not immediately return a phone message.

In seven seasons as the Giants' coach, Fassel is 60-54-1, including the postseason. He took the team to the playoffs three times, including a loss to the Baltimore Ravens in the 2001 Super Bowl. Last season, the Giants made the playoffs at 10-6, then blew a 24-point third-quarter lead against the San Francisco 49ers and lost their wild-card game 39-38.

Before becoming the Giants' head coach, Fassel was the offensive coordinator with the Arizona Cardinals. He has been thought to be a candidate for Arizona's head coaching job if it should become vacant.

He also was head coach at the University of Utah from 1985-89.

British Open champ joins European tour

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Ben Curtis is full of surprises.

First, he stunned the golf world by winning the British Open in his first major. Ranked 396th in the world, he beat an intimidating collection of stars, including Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh.

A month later, Curtis refused to let a $6 million World Golf Championship get in the way of his wedding, so he got married between the third and final rounds.

Next up for Curtis might be the most unusual step of all: The 26-year-old from Ohio is joining the European tour.

"Why?" Tiger Woods wondered when told of the decision.

Curtis can expect that kind of reaction.

Winning the British Open put a silver claret jug in his trophy case, $1.1 million in the bank and a five-year PGA Tour exemption in his pocket.

That means he can play his choice of $5 million tournaments on perfectly manicured courses, with the best practice facilities, and compete against the best players in the world.

For most guys in his position, that PGA Tour exemption is the best perk that comes with winning a major.

Sports Briefs

Twilight time change

The twilight time at the WTC golf course will begin at 1 p.m. daily from December through February.

Horn, Johnson fined for end zone shenanigans

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — New Orleans Saints receiver Joe Horn was fined $30,000 by the NFL for making a choreographed cell-phone call in the end zone to celebrate a touchdown.

NEW YORK (AP) — Cincinnati Bengals receiver Chad Johnson was fined $10,000 by the NFL for holding up a sign directed at the league while celebrating a touchdown catch.

Johnson, who has repeatedly been fined by the league for uniform violations and touchdown celebrations, held up the sign that read: "Dear NFL: Please don't fine me again."

Spurs ink Popovich to extension

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich signed a contract extension through the 2007-08 season.

Popovich, who is also the team's general manager, has led the Spurs to a pair of NBA championships during his seven years as coach, including last season's victory over the New Jersey Nets. He has a career record of 355-195.

National Football League

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	12	2	0	.857	296	222
Miami	8	6	0	.571	268	237
Buffalo	6	8	0	.429	240	228
N.Y. Jets	6	8	0	.429	246	255

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Indianapolis	11	3	0	.786	410	288
Tennessee	10	4	0	.714	375	287
Houston	5	9	0	.357	214	333
Jacksonville	4	10	0	.286	242	291

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	8	6	0	.571	322	335
Baltimore	8	6	0	.571	343	271
Pittsburgh	5	9	0	.357	250	290
Cleveland	4	10	0	.286	232	273

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Kansas City	12	2	0	.857	433	284
Denver	9	5	0	.643	347	253
Oakland	4	10	0	.286	249	317
San Diego	3	11	0	.214	268	387

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Philadelphia	11	3	0	.786	315	249
Dallas	9	5	0	.643	263	244
Washington	5	9	0	.357	256	314
N.Y. Giants	4	10	0	.286	216	331

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Carolina	9	5	0	.643	268	266
New Orleans	7	7	0	.500	308	299
Tampa Bay	7	7	0	.500	260	201
Atlanta	3	11	0	.214	248	380

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	8	6	0	.571	370	297
Minnesota	8	6	0	.571	354	315
Chicago	6	8	0	.429	253	291
Detroit	4	10	0	.286	226	339

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-St. Louis	11	3	0	.786	400	288
Seattle	8	6	0	.571	352	300
San Francisco	6	8	0	.429	336	285
Arizona	3	11	0	.214	197	407

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Saturday's Games

Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 12:30 p.m.
Kansas City at Minnesota, 4 p.m.
New England at N.Y. Jets, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday

Miami at Buffalo, noon
N.Y. Giants at Dallas, noon
Detroit at Carolina, noon
Washington at Chicago, noon
Tennessee at Houston, noon
Cincinnati at St. Louis, noon
Baltimore at Cleveland, noon
New Orleans at Jacksonville, noon
San Diego at Pittsburgh, 3:05 p.m.
Arizona at Seattle, 3:15 p.m.
San Francisco at Philadelphia, 3:15 p.m.
Denver at Indianapolis, 7:30 p.m.

Monday

Green Bay at Oakland, 8 p.m.

We will close
Wednesday, Dec. 17
at 6:00 p.m.
SONIC
America's Drive-In
4100 College Ave. 573-7620

Special Last Minute Gift Ideas
There is still time for you to bring by that special picture and have it copied with a special message on to a
T-Shirt, Sweatshirt, Cap, Round or Square Mouse Pad
Puzzles, have fun putting together a puzzle made from your special picture!
Personalized Refrigerator Magnets
10" Teddy Bears with personalized T-Shirts
12 Picture Calendars with one picture for each month
1 picture calendars 11"x17"
Poster Calendars 15"x26" cloth
STEPHENS OFFICE SUPPLY & PRINTING
1808 26th Street 573-3403

DEC 17 2003

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

BUSINESS DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

Air Duct Cleaning

Our Service Provides
CLEAN AIR!!
10 years experience
CARPET CLEANING
EXPRESS
573-2661

Auto Service/ Oil Changes

AUTO CLINIC
We Do All Major & Minor Repairs & Complete Custom Exhaust Systems
Let us save you money!!
405 26th St. (Behind Skinny's on E. Hwy.)
(W) **325-573-0495** (H) **325-573-4028**
Robbie & Sarah Jamison, Owners

JOHN'S
MACHINE & RADIATOR
1604 College Ave, Snyder
(325) 573-9710
Your complete automotive machine shop!!
• Radiator Service: repair & rebuild
• New Radiator Sales • Rebuilt Engines
• Engine Kits & Parts
• Machine Work: blocks, heads, etc...
Your business is greatly appreciated.
New Owners: Randy & Christy James

Beauty/Salons

Rose Ann's Holiday Specials
Permanent Cosmetics
•$10 off touch up •$20 off for new clients
Mineral Body Wraps
•$10 off a body wrap. Receive 2 wraps the same day & get $30 off
Photo Rejuvenation
Call for great prices!!
Nancy's Art Style
(325)573-0109 (325)242-0036

Carpet/Cleaning

KING CARPET
•Cleaning •Floor Coverings & Air Duct Cleaning
24-HR Fire & Water Restoration
Free Estimates On All Jobs
Carpet - Tile - Laminate - Linoleum
Residential & Commercial Installation
Minor Remodeling & Repairs
3707 COLLEGE AVE.
325-573-3032

CARPET CLEANING
EXPRESS
Your Local Carpet Cleaning Specialist
*Water, *Fire & *Smoke Damage
24 Hour Emergency Services
573-2661

Hotshots

Roland Hotshot Services
"Need anything hauled anywhere?"
25,000 lbs & below
40' flat deck trailer, 12,000 lb wench
•Commercial •Oilfield
•Farm & Ranch •Residential
Low Rates
Joey Roland
325-207-2137

Christmas Decorating

Christmas Lights & Decorations
Installation & Removal
Free Estimates
References Available
CALL
574-1463 or 436-9019

Carpet Cleaning

Superior Carpet Cleaning
SPECIAL
$15 per room
Using state of the art equipment
Leaves carpet cleaner & dryer!!
573-1780

Catering

DUNN-RIGHT B.B.Q.
CATERING
Specializing in Briskets & Ribs
Homemade Sauce
•Weddings •Anniversaries
•Reunions • Private Parties
Call Kerry Clay
(325) 573-8349
(325) 207-2934 (mobile)

Construction

NEED A CARPENTER?
Repair - Remodel
Paint - Build
James Mills
573-0081

Lee's Construction
"No Job Too Small"
Residential
Remodeling & Repair
STEVE LEE
Snyder, Texas
79549
325/573-2709
Mobile
325/207-1879

SPARLIN CONSTRUCTION
Welding *Metal Buildings*
Fabrication *Carpentry*
Fencing *Painting*
Bud Sparlin
574-2206 573-9752
or 575-4182
2701 48th St.
Snyder, TX
79549

CIRCLE M WELDING & Services Inc.
• Welding • Residential
• Fabrication • Roustabout
• Concrete Work
• Backhoe Services
Office: **325-573-8005**
Fax: **325-573-8047**
7393 West Hwy 180 Snyder, TX 79549

A & J Construction
•Farm •Ranch &
•General Welding
•Metal Fences •Metal Buildings
•Carports
207-0911 575-2996
573-7961

Electric

DALE'S ELECTRIC
403 33rd St.
Commercial or Residential
573-5330
James c# 207-1228
Dale c# 207-1227

Let SDN help keep your business in the public eye!
Advertise Your Business Right Here!!

Fitness

Tiger Health & Fitness
3409B Snyder Shopping Center
573-3414
Membership includes:
*24 hr access 7 days/wk *Group classes
*Over 5000 lbs of free weights *Circuit weights
*Cardio equip. *6000 sq.ft. facility
Also available:
*Certified personal trainers
*Supplements *Sports drinks
*Wolff sunbeds *Lotions *Herbal body wraps

Elite Fitness
912 25th St.
• Nautilus • Cybex
• Precor • Tuff-Stuff
Health -
It's your best investment.
575-2942

Insurance

Stewart
Insurance Services
• GREAT RATES
• GREAT SERVICE
All Lines of Insurance
904 26th St. Snyder, TX
573-8401

A PROUD PAST WITH A SOLID FUTURE
GERMANIA SINCE 1896
Property • Auto • Life Insurance
KUBENA INSURANCE AGENCY
325-863-2754
Marsha Kubena, Agent

ALLSTATE INSURANCE
•Best Rates In Town•
All Lines of Insurance
Yo vendo Seguros para México
3201 College Ave.
573-4076

Masonry

Straight Line Masonry
*Brick *Block *Stone
*Custom Fireplaces
Residential/Commercial
Repairs - Houses
Retaining Walls
Free Estimates
Paul Dickerhoff
573-0258 436-9143 (C)

Plumbing

Plumbing Repair Service
Telephone
(325) 573-3085
Coventry Plumbing
M-19955
1311 College Ave. Snyder, Texas 79549
Jim Coventry Owner

Real Estate

DeLoera Realty
"The Spouses That Sell Houses"
Abel & Sherry DeLoera
"Se Habla Español"
2709 35th St. Snyder, TX 79549
Hm: (325) 573-9353
Cell: 575-2575/2578
saluteguns@aol.com

Advertising Pays
Call 573-5486 Today!!!

Storage Rentals

North Ave. E Storage Buildings
10' x 20'
Fenced Boat
& Trailer Storage
DAVID HOLT
573-3255

Tree & Lawn Service

M M TREEMASTERS
• Tree & Shrub Trimming, Pruning & Shaping
• Deep Root Fertilization Injection
• Bucket Truck for those high to reach spots
• Trees & Shrubs Planted & more
21 yrs. experience References available.
325-573-4937

Complete Field, Lawn & Irrigation Service
** Fertilizer Available **
Foliar feed or Granular
For a healthy lawn call
HINTON C & S
(325) 573-0878
TX Commercial Lic #284642 Floral Certificate #298929
TX Irrigation Lic. #6312

Internet Service

Dell Computer Dealer
Local support if you buy from us
Internet Business Consulting
Now affiliated with
#1 Internet Consulting Corp.
Free Internet Business Analysis
Internet Access Provider
Dialup and Broadband Wireless
If you have Internet problems, we fix them for free.
Networking, Repairs, Upgrades
In house technician.
Bullard's Computer Solutions, Inc.
3405 College Ave.
573-4801
dbullard@snydertex.com

FOR AS LOW AS $2.50 PER DAY
($65 per month)
You Can Advertise Your Services In The
BUSINESS DIRECTORY
Call 573-5486

Lost & Found

LOST
female grey cat. **$500 reward**
1-888-254-2097
http://www.ellenmarquez.com/lostcatphotos/

LOST
Medium build part Cocker Spaniel, black & white, collar, brass bell, tags w/home phone. REWARD! 573-8649, 573-0060, 868-0381, 719-252-8894

Vehicles

1978 Dodge ½ ton with camper shell, with 1968 440 motor. $1500 573-4335

1987 Cadillac D'Elegance 4-dr sedan. Great condition! Runs perfect. Safe, plush ride! $2,000 Snyder 832-656-4415

***2000 Chevy** 1500 LS ext. cab., 4-dr., SWB, tow package, 50K miles, new Michelin tires, tool box, rails, mats, receiver hitch. Loaded! Great truck! $16,000 **573-6839**

Business Services

BAR-R-DOZER
-Raygene Shipp-
•Brush control
•Road blading & repair
•Cleaning & building tanks
Free Estimates
No charge for road time!
325-338-5656 325-962-2416

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

COMPUTER REPAIR
Home & Business
Networking Software & Hardware upgrades. Complete new systems at very competitive prices. **574-1885** after 6p.m.

Duke and Son
Concrete, Masonry, House Leveling, Patchwork (brick & concrete). 573-5911, 573-2477

Housecleaning
For the holidays or on regular basis. Responsible, mature, and dependable. References.
573-0722

Tilling–Leveling
Front-end loader,Walk-behind tiller, Tractor tiller, Small acreage plowed. 325-573-8264

Employment

CHURCH ORGANIST
wanted to play for Sunday morning services, special evening services, & Wednesday evening choir practice. First Presbyterian Church, Snyder. Call church office at 573-6915, leave message.

Full-time secretarial position. Apply at Texas Workforce Commission, order #1240620. EOE Employer paid ad.

Full-time Secretary
First Baptist Church. Looking for a multi-tasked person with strong organizational skills and strong computer skills. Pick up application at 1701 27th St.

NEEDED
OTR flatbed truck driver. Minimum 4 years experience, clean driving record. Come by 3707 College Ave. or call 573-3032, ask for Rudy.

Part time secretary position, 8a.m.–Noon, Mon.–Fri. $6.75 per hour. Must have strong computer skills. Send resume to: Hinton C&S Farms, 1510 Voss Lane, Snyder, TX 79549.

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

Employment

NOW HIRING
Lone Star Industries is now taking applications for permanent employees at our cement plant in Maryneal, Texas. High school diploma or GED is required. Mechanical skills or mobile equipment experience would be helpful. Starting salary is $13.18/hr. Excellent benefits include Group Medical and Life Insurance, Vacations, Holidays, Retirement, and 401K.
To receive an application, please contact Judy Hill at (325) 288-4221 between 9:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. Monday thru Friday. You may also contact her by email at **jhill@lonestarind.com**
Applications will be taken until January 7, 2004.
Lone Star Industries is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

ATTN: SNYDER
Postal positions. Clerks/carriers/sorters. No exp. required. Benefits. For exam, salary, and testing information call (630)393-3032 ext. 2158 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. 7 days

Farmer's Column

$1000 REWARD
for information on 7 stolen calves. I will not prosecute the informer. George Maule

Recreational Vehicles

ATC 200X Yamaha 3 wheeler. Runs good. $300 574-1885 after 6p.m.

Merchandise

2 used pianos, $40 each today. $5 dropped daily until sold. Pioneer Furniture, 2310 College

All Jewelry
Buy 1, get 2nd for ½ price!
SuZs Candles
1907 40th St.

COMPUTERS FOR SALE
Good working used computers. Complete video, sound/speakers, modem, internet ready, monitor, keyboard & mouse. STARTING at $45. Call 432-263-0700, BIG SPRING .

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

Great Holiday Gifts
Shelled pecans for sale.
573-2505

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

HOMEOWNERS LOOK!!
Builder's Special - Truckload Trees
Red Oak & Live Oak
We Deliver, We Plant, We Guarantee
Decker's Farm Supply & Nursery
Stanton, TX 432-756-3444

Last Minute Shopping!!!
Gift Baskets
SuZs Candles
1907 40th St.

Mesquite Firewood
½ cord, cord. Custom cut any size. Split & delivered.
573-7683 after 7p.m.

Saddle
beautiful, heavy tooled, 16" padded seat, Yoakum circle Y. Very nice, super comfortable. $950 Snyder 832-656-4415

SANTA SPECIAL
Metal detectors by White's Electronics.
325-728-2494 Colorado City

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

Merchandise

Unique Christmas Gifts
Metal windmills, 11"–18", all colors. Come by 303 36th St. 573-5291

Newspaper End Rolls
$1.00 & Up
Call 573-5486 or come by Snyder Daily News today!

PALLETS FOR SALE
2 For A $1.00
Call 573-5486 or come by Snyder Daily News

Garage Sales

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

MOVING SALE
3611 Hill Ave.
Fri. & Sat. 8a.m. – Noon
Everything Must Go!!!
Nice furniture, Refrigerator, Household & decorative items.

NOAH'S ATTIC
1503 26th St.
Thursdays & Fridays
10a.m. – 5:30p.m.

Apartments For Rent

College Park Apartments
4503 College
2 bedroom apartment available in clean, quiet, 16-unit complex.
Locally owned.
575-3084 573-0340

January Move In Special
Call for Details
Western Crest & Windridge Village
3901 Ave. O
Snyder, TX
573-1488
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath, Pool
2 Bedrooms, 2 bath
W/D Connections, Pool & Playground

Houses For Rent

1611 Firestone
Wonderful luxury town home. Spacious master suite downstairs, guest room & bath upstairs, double garage, patio, maintained yard.
No Pets. $300/dep., $600/mo.
References required.
Dupree Rentals 573-9001
Mon.–Fri., 8a.m.–6p.m.

***2-1-1** 118 Browning
$200/mo., $100/dep.
***2-1** 212 35th St.
$250/mo, $100/dep.
References required.
1-888-596-6218 1-325-669-1501

For best results, use Snyder Daily News classifieds. They really work! 573-5486

Houses For Rent

Heritage Homes Realtors
3741 Highland 2-1-1
$375/mo., plus deposit
Call Shirley Drum
573-5056 207-0506

Want To Rent

3 bedroom, 2 bath, prefer in the country. 325-573-7919 Cliff 903-935-0860

Commercial Buildings for Sale or Lease

Business building for rent.
1900 37th St.
573-5285

Real Estate

For Sale By Owner
Owner financing provided. Low down, low monthly. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 133 Milburn. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

For Sale By Owner
Owner financing provided. Low down payment, low monthly. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 living areas, fenced backyard, close to schools. 418 29th St. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

Lake Thomas house for sale. 2-story w/balcony, 1½ bath. Call 325-207-3372.

LAND/HOME FORECLOSURE
DIRECT TO THE PUBLIC!
FINANCING AVAILABLE
#5516 Call 1-800-955-0021 x1406

Owner Finance
2-1, fenced, large rooms, remodeled bath & kitchen. 218 29th St. $1,000/dwn., $350/mo. 12 yrs
Call **207-0508**

Owner Will Finance
*2811 Ave. X 3-1
*3115 Ave. T Large 2-1, w/attached 1-1 apartment
Low down payment, low monthly payment.
Call Milton, 806-790-0827.

Redecorate for down payment. 3-2-2 luxury brick, Colonial Hills, fenced, trees. $78,500 573-4425 573-1550

JACK & JACK
Realtors
611 Coliseum Dr
Ford Spikes, Owner Broker
573-8571 573-3452
REDUCED! Lrg 2 story 4-3-2, pool, 6.44 Acres
3-1¾-2cp, 2 storage areas, 220 35th...$35T
Fluvanna 3-2, den on .34 A's water well Bargain
REDUCED! 600 29th 2-1-1, office, den...$18T
Owner Finance Lrg. Mobile Home 2-2, 302 24th Nice.....$20T
3773 Dalton 3-1¾-1cp, den, dining...$35T
REDUCED! 1.7 UNDER CONTRACT $65T
111 Peach 2 or 3-1.....$9.5T
80 acres 5 mi. SE of Hermleigh, 3-2-2 + office + shop & out building.....Call
Good Shop Bldg. or Garage 1802 College $16T
Commercial Property for Sale or Lease
Stonewall Co. 1,315 acre cattle operation. Water well + 6 earth tanks. Deer, quail, turkey & hogs.....Call
We Will Work For YOU!
We Need Listings
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

MISS YOUR PAPER?
Your Snyder Daily New should be delivered to you by 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Your Carrier strives to give prompt service, but should your paper be missing...
Please Call 573-5486
Before 6:30 p.m.
Monday through Saturday



On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Spinach, olive oil pose no health threats

DEAR DR. BLONZ: A friend who is a chiropractor and self-described nutrition expert tells me that raw spinach is good for you but cooked spinach undergoes a chemical change that makes it toxic. I enjoy spinach either way, but wondered if there was any basis for this idea? **— J.M., Jacksonville, Fla.**

DEAR J.M.: A toxin is a poisonous substance produced by a living organism. There are naturally occurring toxins in a number of commonly consumed foods, but it is unlikely that we would ever consume enough to cause a problem. For example, you can find trace amounts of hydrogen cyanide — a deadly poison — in uncooked lima and kidney beans. It would be difficult for someone to eat sufficient amounts of raw legumes in one sitting to cause a serious threat. Perhaps I should rephrase that: It would be difficult to eat enough legumes to bring about cyanide poisoning. Legumes are fine when cooked, as most of the cyanide gets destroyed during the cooking process.

It makes little sense that spinach would be toxic when cooked but represent no problem when eaten raw. One characteristic that might be connected to this scenario is the fact that spinach contains oxalate (oxalic acid), a naturally occurring compound that can prevent the absorption of minerals such as calcium. Spinach also contains calcium — 120 milligrams in 1/2 cup — but the oxalate does not allow the calcium to be absorbed. The resulting calcium oxalate compound passes through the digestive system. (This explains why spinach should not be considered a good dietary source of calcium.) The oxalate in spinach does not make it "toxic." Continue to enjoy your spinach, but consider looking elsewhere for nutrition advice.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: A friend of mine told me she had heard on a TV cooking show that when you heat extra virgin olive oil it produces cancer-causing agents. I have only heard good things about olive oil, so I was surprised to hear this. Did my friend understand this correctly? If so, what would be the best oil or fat to cook with? My husband has high cholesterol so I have been trying to use as little animal fats and hydrogenated fats as possible. Thank you for whatever light you can shed on this issue. — C.S., Walnut Creek, Calif.

DEAR C.S.: Normal heating of an extra virgin olive oil does not cause the production of cancer-causing agents. One possible point of confusion might be the fact that an unfiltered extra virgin olive oil can contain natural fruit sediment. Although fine for brief sauteing, the sediment can smoke a bit when heated. This is not the same as producing a carcinogen. It is also not the same as an oil reaching the smoke point, which is a breakdown that occurs in any oil that is subjected to high temperatures. I agree with you that olive oil is good stuff. You can consider using a filtered oil or a pure olive oil (not extra virgin) for your high-heat cooking. There are other oil options, including peanut, canola and grapeseed oils.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I found some packaged macaroni/dry pasta shapes that have been in a package and wrapped in three plastic bags on a shelf. I believe I have had them for more than five to six years. There is no sign of bugs or anything, but I am supposing that they cannot or should not be consumed. A few people said it would be OK to consume, but I do not think so. If not, would it be OK for the macaroni to be used for artwork with children/high school age people? Or should I play it safe and just toss out? There is no expiration date on any of the packages. **— N.S., San Diego, Calif.**

DEAR N.S.: Shelf-life estimates for dried pasta can range from as little as six months up to two years. It could last longer if the product has been well sealed (with no exposure to oxygen), and stored at 70 degrees Fahrenheit in a dry, dark environment. Given that this is in a kitchen cabinet, five to six years would be pushing it. From a health standpoint it may be safe to consume, but it's likely that the taste and quality were left back in the last millennium.

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

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

Copyright 2003, NEA

Journalist remembers Saddam

(EDITOR'S NOTE — Associated Press reporter Salah Nasrawi was refused the right to work as a journalist in his native Iraq after his coverage of the first Gulf War. He has since reported from Tunisia and Egypt.)

By SALAH NASRAWI
Associated Press Writer

The setting was a government-sponsored seminar about farm production, and the man in charge wouldn't become Iraq's dictator for another five years. But we all knew Saddam Hussein was already carving his path to power through blood and fear.

The 1974 meeting in a converted theater went on for weeks during which one official after another was fired, ostensibly for not meeting production goals, but in reality for failing to meet the ruling Baath party's loyalty standards. At one session I and other reporters watched as Saddam berated an Agriculture Ministry bureaucrat, blaming him for a shortage of potatoes and ordering him dismissed immediately.

As the man was leaving, a Saddam aide told him, loudly enough for others to hear, what we took to be the real reason for his dismissal: "You should say 'Your Excellency, Sir' every time you address his excellency."

That was my first encounter with Saddam. He was then about 37 and deputy chairman of the ruling Revolution Command Council. Over the years, as he rose higher in the secretive power structure, I would see him from time to time, usually from a distance.

In 1978, at an Arab summit called by Iraq to punish the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat for talking peace with Israel, Saddam rose to propose expelling Egypt from the Arab League.

Then came what sounded like a personal threat to dissenters: Iraqis, Saddam warned, would "chase you into your bedrooms."

Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr, then Iraq's president and the summit chairman, seemed embarrassed as several delegates looked to him to rein in his subordinate.

In the end, Egypt was expelled. A year later al-Bakr was forced to resign, and Saddam became Iraq's all-powerful leader.

In February 1989, I had a rare opportunity to see Saddam up close and ask him a question. It was during his summit with Jordan's King Hussein and Presidents Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Ali Abdullah Saleh of Yemen.

Iraq's eight-year war with neighboring Iran had recently ended, and Saddam looked triumphant at having managed to summon three key Arab leaders to support Iraq in what he hoped would become a special four-party Arab council.

My question was, why was he setting up such a group? He glared at me before answering: "It is a platform of fraternity and solidarity."

Last October, Mubarak revealed Saddam's real intention: to build a military alliance for a war against his neighbors, especially Kuwait. He got no takers, but a year later invaded Kuwait anyway.

I last came face to face with the dictator on Jan. 6, 1991, 10 days before the U.S. war to expel the Iraqis from Kuwait got under way.

The occasion was a Palestinian ceremony in Baghdad. Saddam was in an olive-green uniform with holstered pistol, seated in the front row of an auditorium as Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat told a cheering audience that he would follow the "Iraqi knight (Saddam) on his white horse leading his army to liberate Jerusalem."

"Thou shalt enter the mosque as thou did in the first time," Arafat said, citing a passage from Islam's Quran.



Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	12.61	12.25	12.61	+ .09
AT&T Corp	19.02	18.69	18.75	— .22
Albertsons	21.03	20.50	21.02	+ .69
Alltel	45.84	45.60	45.75	— .17
AmEl Pw	29.35	28.95	29.30	+ .47
AndarkPtr	49.49	48.75	49.44	+ .49
ATMOS Egy	24.59	24.44	24.52	— .08
Avnall	15.62	15.39	15.61	+ .07
BP PLC	46.84	46.55	46.73	+ .90
BakerHughes	30.57	30.08	30.30	— .28
Bank of Amer	77.94	77.38	77.94	+ .44
BellSouth	27.42	27.10	27.18	+ .21
BurlNoSFe	31.88	31.60	31.84	— .04
Caterpillar	81.03	80.13	80.87	— .15
CenterPoint	9.45	9.35	9.41	— .02
ChevronTex	82.06	80.95	82.03	+ 1.33
Citigroup	47.83	47.50	47.65	— .29
CocaCola	50.73	50.47	50.57	— .11
ColgatePal	53.70	53.20	53.65	+ .49
CmclMetals	29.19	28.41	28.61	+ 1.51
ConocoPhill	62.09	60.76	62.08	+ 1.12
Cooper Inds	56.73	56.21	56.73	+ .50
DaimlrChry	43.98	43.80	43.89	+ .09
DeltaAirl	11.50	11.17	11.29	— .22
Dillards Inc	15.56	15.18	15.56	+ .28
DowChem	40.09	39.73	39.97	— .33
DuPont	44.60	44.05	44.52	+ .04
EastmanChem	37.97	37.43	37.97	+ .25
EstKodak	23.72	23.29	23.70	+ .10
EDS Corp	22.77	22.51	22.66	— .04
Entergy	55.18	54.82	54.87	— .28
ExxonMobil	38.74	38.42	38.73	+ .26
FootLocker	22.23	21.70	22.23	+ .53
GenDynam	86.87	85.60	86.87	+ 1.20
GenlElec	30.65	30.44	30.59	— .06
GenMills	47.24	46.85	47.20	+ .12
GenMotors	49.61	49.12	49.35	— .25
GaPacific	28.85	28.39	28.76	+ .16
Goodrich	30.00	28.57	28.90	+ .44
Goodyear	6.95	6.71	6.93	+ .08
GtAtlPac	7.28	7.05	7.28	+ .11
Halliburtn	25.52	24.70	25.52	+ .38
Hanson PLC	34.54	34.25	34.25	— .17
HarteHanks	21.42	21.18	21.36	— .16
HomeDepot	34.92	34.03	34.85	+ .49
Honeywellntl	30.21	29.95	30.14	— .35
IBM	94.20	93.55	93.75	— .23
IntlPaper	41.11	40.65	41.00	+ .04
JohnsonJn	49.53	49.20	49.26	— .16
KinderMorg	55.90	55.36	55.89	+ .19
Kroger Co	17.35	17.15	17.34	+ .01
LockheedM	49.34	49.04	49.34	+ .34
Lowes Cos	54.55	53.05	54.49	+ .93
Lubys	3.70	3.65	3.65	— .05
LucentTech	2.92	2.87	2.90	
MarathonOil	31.03	30.74	30.90	+ .16
MayDeptStr	27.66	26.67	27.66	+ .87
Medtronic	47.49	47.20	47.36	+ .01
Motorola	13.37	13.08	13.28	— .05
NCR Corp	35.74	35.44	35.70	— .02
Navistar	44.60	43.85	44.56	+ .13
PNM Rescs	27.90	27.57	27.58	— .35
Penney JC	23.84	23.00	23.84	+ .52
PepBoys	20.91	20.55	20.87	— .04
PepsiCo	47.44	47.02	47.17	— .23
PhelpDodge	69.35	67.94	69.35	+ .77
PilgrimsPride	14.80	14.32	14.42	— .48
Praxair s	37.47	37.15	37.37	— .08
ProctGamb	98.72	98.02	98.08	— .57
RadioShack	29.55	28.83	29.53	+ .29
RoyalDut	49.55	49.10	49.52	+ .77
SBC Comm	24.99	24.81	24.98	+ .20
SaraLee	21.15	21.02	21.06	— .14
Scripps EW	94.27	93.98	94.18	+ .18
SearsRoeb	44.50	43.21	44.50	+ .91
SherwinW	34.08	33.65	33.81	— .24
SouthernCo	29.63	29.36	29.36	— .19
SwstAirl	15.79	15.54	15.69	— .15
SprintFON	15.27	15.00	15.22	+ .11
SprintPCS	4.69	4.57	4.68	— .04
Sunoco Inc	49.90	49.06	49.84	+ .83
TXU Corp	22.89	22.46	22.48	— .32
TempleInland	60.25	59.94	60.09	— .21
TexInd	31.08	30.65	30.68	— .40
TexasInst	28.48	27.50	27.96	+ .04
Textron	56.98	53.86	56.50	+ 2.63
TimeWarner	17.50	17.32	17.43	— .10
TrinityInds	30.60	30.24	30.44	— .21
TylerTech	9.36	9.00	9.11	— .24
UnionPacif	67.25	66.70	67.25	+ .11
USSteel	31.15	30.51	31.10	+ .40
UnitedTech	93.59	92.88	93.25	— .27
Unocal	34.98	34.70	34.98	+ .14
VerizonComm	34.11	33.91	34.04	+ .13
WalMart	52.13	51.00	52.10	+ .80
WellsFargo	57.15	56.93	57.04	— .11
WstnGasRs	45.60	45.00	45.55	+ .88
WinnDixie	9.20	8.92	8.98	— .16
Xerox Cp	12.31	12.06	12.28	+ .19
YumBrands	33.30	32.95	32.96	— .33

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 12-17-03
♠ A 8
♥ Q 10 6 5
♦ J 8 6 4 3 2
♣ 5

West
♠ J 9 5 4
♥ 7
♦ Q 9
♣ K 9 8 7 3 2

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

South
♠ K Q 7 6
♥ A K 8 3 2
♦ 10 5
♣ J 6

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	??	

Opening lead: ♣ 7

You have a great offensive hand, but it is not so good for defense. In this situation, you want to try to win the auction. This is Klinger's advice: With a weak responding hand, when you know of a nine-card fit and you have at least 10 cards in two suits, jump immediately to game. So, blast straight into four hearts.

Now East has a major headache. To pass is dangerous; the opponents might be stealing. To double is dangerous; it might result in a silly four-spade contract.

If East does pass, Klinger says that four hearts makes easily. Is he right?

If East doubles, West will probably run to five clubs, which can be defeated by only two tricks. However, it isn't obvious for either North or South to double (although maybe North should do so holding an ace).

Four hearts is easy after a major-suit lead, but suppose West starts with a low club. East wins with the ace and plays three rounds of diamonds. Now South must guess to ruff with his heart eight — not an easy play to find. If South ruffs high, the defense gets a trump trick. (If West leads queen and another diamond, the same situation arises.)

Remember, though, to bid high with a good fit to take bidding space away from the opponents.

Copyright 2003, Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

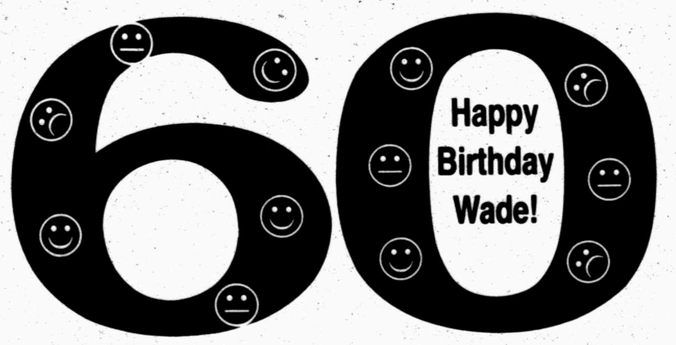
Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2003

It isn't as laydown as he claims

By Phillip Alder

While hunting through "100 Winning Duplicate Tips" by Ron Klinger (Cassell, 2003), I started to write up this deal. But I ran out of space. So, here it is without yesterday's lengthy introduction.

Look at the North hand. Your partner opens one heart, promising at least five cards in that suit. After West passes, what would you respond?



DEC 17 2003

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Scurry County Country

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

BULBS IN CONTAINERS

Narcissus 'Erlicheer' does well in containers

Bring a little springtime into your home during the winter this year by growing some bulbs inside in containers. Indoor displays are relatively inexpensive, and some choices may be planted afterwards in the flower bed permanently.

Except for the coldest portions of Texas, tulips and hyacinths will not re-bloom another year successfully, but Roman hyacinths, grape hyacinths, muscari, certain narcissus and daffodils, Neapolitan onions and grape hyacinths often do well outside for many years, and can also be grown indoors.

Tulips, crocuses, scillas and hyacinths, along with those daffodils and narcissus with labels stating they must have more cold exposure than your climate zone allows, must have at least six and preferably eight weeks of prechilling before planting. Do this by placing them in paper bags (not plastic) in the hydrator of the refrigerator where the temperature should remain around 42 degrees F.

The bulbs then need to be planted in containers and allowed time to build up a supply of roots before sprouting or flowering. Set pots under the protection of shrubs or in a partially darkened shed or garage during this period.

Bring them out into the light after several weeks. If the pot is large, place bulbs at the suggested depth, give them a chance to root, then finish off the top of the container with your additional choice of pansies, violas, or alyssum in white, lavender or purple shades to provide more color and "filler."

It's sometimes possible to purchase specially made small glass containers with a bulbous top, for growing a single hyacinth. The plant rests on the top part of the container, and the roots soon crowd the waterfilled base.

Earthenware bowls with drainage holes at the bottom resting on a saucer — are probably the most suitable for growing bulbs in soil the home. Highly glazed pots do not allow as much air circulation or passage of water. Use a good quality potting medium and water with rainwater rather than tap water, if possible.

Water cautiously — if plants do not receive enough water, they will give less of a show, but if there is too much un-drained water, the leaves will yellow and the bulb may decay.

Certain kinds such as the 'Paperwhites' or 'Soleil d'Or' may be flowered in shallow, glazed containers by resting them among large pebbles, and cautiously watering up to the basal plate.

The pots can be placed on the windowsill immediately, but do not allow the water level to drop at any time. As the roots begin to grow, they may be able to anchor the leaves and flower stem, but often thin, greendyed sticks are used as props.

The 'Paperwhites' are some of the best for this kind of indoor forcing, as well as narcissus such as 'Erlicheer,' (a double form of the 'Cheerfulness,' 'Yellow Cheerfulness,' and 'Winston Churchill.') These bulbs can be recycled outside after being flowered indoors.

Varieties to plant outside after flowering: Narcissus, Tazettas: Erlicheer, 'Cheerfulness,' Yellow Cheerfulness, 'Winston Churchill,' 'Hawera,' 'Tete a Tete,' 'Cragford,' 'Ice Follies,' Golden Dawn' and 'Geranium.'

Paperwhites: 'Papyraceus' is the reliable oldfashioned paper white that does well in South Texas and coastal areas. Look for some of the strains that originated in Israel — these are bred for hot climates. Summer Snowflake (Leucojum aestivum) will survive the heat and relatively mild winters of Texas, but the Spring Snowflake (Leucojum vernum) is much more difficult to grow and reflower here.

Scurrying Around Snyder

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

Get Out of the Kitchen When Company's Coming: Cook Ahead

"Ponder well on this point: The pleasant hours of our life are all connected by a more or less tangible link, with some memory of the table."

— Charles Pierre Monselet, French Author (1825-1888)

Gathering round the table for a special meal with family and friends can be a source of joy and feed both body and soul. Cooking late into the night before your meal, however, can greatly diminish the pleasures of the table. Cooking too far ahead can decrease the quality and safety of your food.

Here are some tips to put the focus back on family and friends rather than frenzied (and possibly unsafe) food preparation.

1. Begin by limiting the number of foods you serve to a few favorites, so you have less to prepare. For example, do you need two (or more) desserts? Remember; desserts spelled backwards is S-T-R-E-S-S-E-D.

2. Unless food will be frozen, it's safest to start preparing most perishable foods no more than a day before a meal. For example:

• Assemble a vegetable casserole a day in advance, refrigerate and then bake the day of your dinner. Plan 15 to 20 minutes additional heating time for the refrigerated cold casserole. Heat until it's hot and steamy throughout.

• Cut washed fruits and vegetables within a day of your meal for salads and relish trays. (NOTE: Wash fruits and vegetables covered, such as in storage containers or one-time use plastic bags in the refrigerator. Store fresh-cut produce above raw meat, poultry and fish and below cooked items.

Avoid leaving cut and/or peeled fruits and vegetables at room temperature for more than two hours. This includes the TOTAL of preparation time and serving time.

• Keep cut fruits, such as apples, pears, bananas and peaches, from turning brown by coating them with an acidic juice such as lemon, orange or pineapple juice. Or use a commercial ant-darkening preparation with fruits, such as Ever-Fresh ™ or Fruit-Fresh®

FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S DIRECTIONS FOR TIMING AND METHOD OF APPLICATION. Cover and refrigerate cut fruit until ready to serve. (NOTE: Bananas don't keep as long as the other fruits mentioned – cut close to serving time.)

• Non-perishable foods such as cakes and cookies can be prepared a few days in advance and still will taste good. Or, they can be frozen for longer storage. For more information on freezing baked goods, such as pies, cookies, cakes, etc. read "Chill out over the Holidays: Bake Ahead & Freeze!" at **lancaster.uni.edu/food/ftnvdc99.htm** or call the Scurry County Extension Office @ (325) 573-5423.

3. Special tips for handling meat:

• As a general rule-of-thumb, purchase fresh raw meat, poultry or seafood no more than 1 to 2 days before your holiday meal. Freeze for longer storage. These foods taste freshest if cooked the day of your meal.

• If you have frozen your meat, poultry or seafood, plan time for safe thawing in your refrigerator. Allow approximately 24 hours for each 5 pounds of weight. For turkey, make sure you remove the bag containing the neck and giblets from the body cavities.

?Weather Whys?

Topic: Haze

Q: What exactly is haze?

A: Haze is usually defined as fine particles of dust or smoke that are dispersed through portions of the atmosphere, says Andrew Odins of Texas A&M University.

"These particles are so small that they cannot be felt or seen individually with the naked eye," he explains. "These particles tend to decrease visibility in the area and because of the way they refract light, can give a tint to the sky that can range from brown, green, grey or other colors. Under stagnant air conditions, the air can be trapped in valleys or canyons and produce a layer a haze that can stretch for miles."

Q: Where can haze occur?

A: Just about anywhere, and in recent years, some of the worst cases have occurred in Latin American and in Southeast Asia, Odins says.

"Forest fires and brush fires in some areas of the world produce hazy conditions that can be seen from space. The thick smoke can wander over huge portions of the Earth, including parts of the United States. Because haze is basically bad air, it can be very hazardous to human health, especially to people who have difficulty breathing.

Long-term exposure can produce lung and eye diseases and that's why a concerted effort has been made to make sure that logging companies and others are aware of the risks associated with haze."

ABOUT WEATHER WHYS

"Weather Whys" is a service of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences. Past and current topics can be viewed via the web at http://rev.tamu.edu/weather-whys/. For more information, please contact Keith Randall at (979) 845-4644 or kr@univrel.tamu.edu. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to news@univrel.tamu.edu.

Markets

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stock yards, Inc had a run of 570 head of livestock for the Thursday Dec. 11, sale. Cows were $2 to $3 cheaper. Calves and yearlings were $2 to $3 cheaper. Trading and demand were good

Slaughter cows:
(High dressing, cutters, utility) 45-54
Canners and low cutters: 35-46
Slaughter bulls: 50-62
Feeder steers:
300-400: 105-130
400-500: 95-105
500-600: 90-100
600-700: 85-95
700-800: 85-92.50
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 95-110
400-500: 89-103
500-600: 87-95
600-700: 82-90
700-800: 80-85
Feeder bulls – Good and choice
500-600: 80-100
700-800: 75-88
Cow and Calf Pairs
Good: 675-850
Grade: 575-650
Springers: 425-750
Baby Calves: 125-200
Doodlers: 150-250

Colorado City

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 390 head of cattle for the Wednesday, Dec. 10, sale. Market was active and demand good. Feeder and stocker steers and were steady to $1 lower. Bred cows and pairs were steady to $20 higher on bred cows. Packer cows and bulls were $3 to $5 lower.

Feeder Steers:
300-400: 110-132
400-500: 100-112
500-600: 97-106
600-750: 87-95
Feeder Heifers:
300-400: 90-109
400-500: 91-100
500-600: 97-95
600-750: 80-88.25
Replacement cows:
Bred cows: 640-780
Pairs: 740-880
Packer cows: 46-51.50
Old Shelly: 35-40
Packer cows: 50-57.75

The tail propulsion of dolphins is more efficient than that of ship propellers — dolphins use less energy to achieve a given speed.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT

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

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	12-15-02	12-8-03	12-15-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	17.48	17.53	17.53
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	18,661	18,962	18,761
PERCENT FULL	9.30	9.45	9.35
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00
IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0
SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

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

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	12-15-02	12-8-03	12-15-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	37.87	39.63	39.39
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	35,750	40,635	39,940
PERCENT FULL	6.91	7.86	7.72
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION

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

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	12-15-02	12-8-03	12-15-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	28.01	26.33	26.18
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	216,192	199,900	198,476
PERCENT FULL	39.00	36.06	35.80
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00

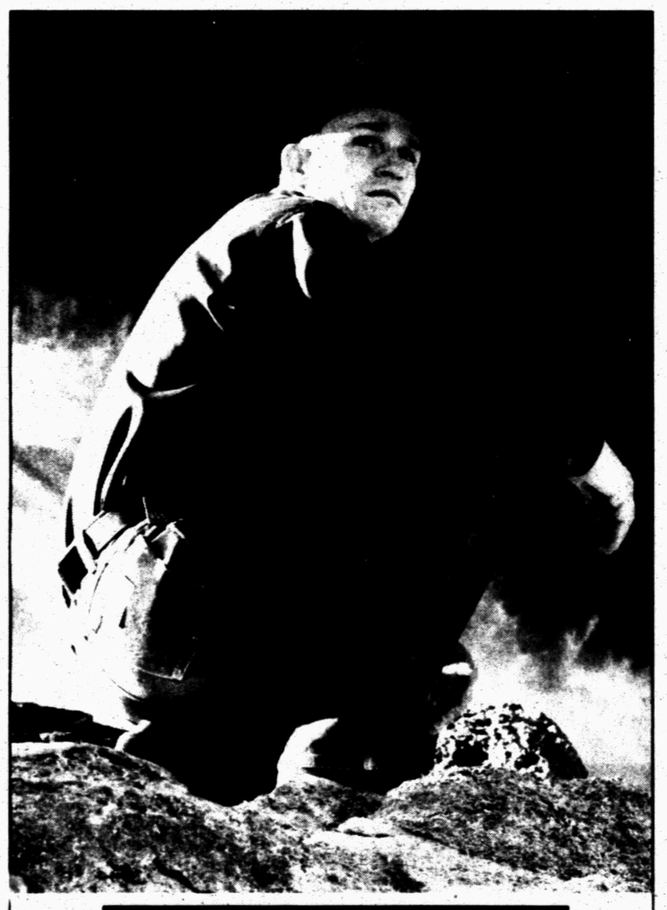
* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

	LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 12-8-02 12-2-03	THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 12-15-03 12-9-03	THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY 12-15-03 12-9-03
BIG SPRING	3,273,429	3,345,714	4,150,000
ODESSA	12,674,400	13,336,143	14,160,400
SNYDER	1,637,143	1,594,286	1,846,000
MIDLAND	16,508,243	16,256,529	17,376,400
SAN ANGELO	11,774,000	12,394,286	15,095,000
STANTON	243,571	242,143	275,000

Driver Acce$$ Cash Card
Give The Gift of Convenience
An Easy Way To Pay
No applications, no waiting, no hassles. It's that simple
McCormick Marketing, Inc.
2401 Ave. Q 573-6365



ORIGINAL FIT COWBOY CUT JEANS
Wrangler
A COWBOY CUT ABOVE
HACKFELD'S
Quality Clothing...with a Personal Touch
3219 College Ave.
Open Mon-Sat 9am-6pm, Sun. 1 pm-5pm, Open Christmas Eve
Gift Certificates Available

First Baptist Church
would like to invite you to
"A Family Christmas"
Musical
Featuring the First Choir, Orchestra and Drama
Saturday, December 20th & Sunday, December 21st
6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church, Snyder
1701 27th Street

TEXAS HERMANN SONS FRATERNAL LIFE INSURANCE
SENIOR SURVIVOR PROTECTION
• Protect the lifestyle of your spouse
• Protect remaining mortgage, bills
• Protect senior retirement
GOALS & GIFTING
• Education gifting for grandchildren
• Church or missionary gifting
• Charitable gifting
When gifting, seek competent legal/tax advice
Call An Agent Today!
Hermleigh #256
Roscoe #257
Sharon Gardner - 915-766-3552
Serving Texas Families Since 1890
Order of the Sons of Hermann in Texas, San Antonio
www.texashermannsons.org
HERMANN SONS HSFI FRATERNAL INSURANCE



State/Nat

Dr. G

By Peter G

More on

DEAR DR.
pleasure of readi
umn about a pers
a burning sensa
and throat. You li
ble causes, but u
not mention "bu
drome," a tricky
the most experie
I had the oppo
doctoral degree
pain manageme
School of Denti
training, we bec
"burning mouth
distinct phenom
monly, it affects
females. The cau
is suspected to
consequently, th
treatment plans
control of inappr
nerve hyperactiv
DEAR READ
being so polite
knowledge con
mouth syndrom
sionals are as f
cious.
I am printing
abbreviated form
drome needs t
Judging from m
rare phenomenon
I am publishin
tion about your fa
hopes that reade
expertise can rec
in no way meant
a compliment!
So, readers, if
facial pain, ple

Connery to a

ROME (AP) –
to a campaign
hunger, Sean Co
in a holiday-seas
promote the w
Nations food age
In the comme
Food Program,
actor delivers a
footage that show
sends food to
remote areas aro
International b
ing BBC World
the ad over the C

Chec

For

QUALIFYIN
6,000 GVW

FULL SIZE
2003 Expe
2003 Excu

F-SERIES
New 2004
New 2004
New 2004
2003 F-25
2003 F-35
2003 F-45

E-SERIES
2003 E-15
2003 E-15
2003 E-25
2003 E-25
2003 E-35
2003 E-35
2003 E-35

*Not all buyers q
1/31/04. See de
regarding the abo

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



More on 'burning mouth syndrome'

DEAR DR. GOTT: I had the pleasure of reading your recent column about a person who described a burning sensation in the mouth and throat. You listed several possible causes, but understandably did not mention "burning mouth syndrome," a tricky diagnosis for even the most experienced dentist.

I had the opportunity to pursue a doctoral degree in education and pain management at the UCLA School of Dentistry. During our training, we became familiar with "burning mouth syndrome" as a distinct phenomenon. Most commonly, it affects post-menopausal females. The cause is unknown but is suspected to be a neuropathy; consequently, there are several treatment plans built around the control of inappropriate peripheral nerve hyperactivity.

DEAR READER: Thank you for being so polite about my lack of knowledge concerning burning mouth syndrome. Not all professionals are as forgiving and gracious.

I am printing your letter, in abbreviated form, because this syndrome needs to be addressed. Judging from my mail, it is not a rare phenomenon.

I am publishing specific information about your facial pain center in hopes that readers who need your expertise can receive it. This act is in no way meant to punish you; it is a compliment!

So, readers, if you have maxillofacial pain, please contact Dr. Bradley Eli, Director, San Diego Headache and Facial Pain Center, 9850 Genesee Ave. Suite 220, La Jolla, CA 92037.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have a gas problem that is monumental and a great embarrassment. I work in a crowded office with several other people, and no matter what I eat, I have to pass gas shortly thereafter. And it goes on all day. Can you help me?

DEAR READER: Intestinal gas is a common problem that is often age-related, usually associated with improper eating habits (swallowing without chewing thoroughly, eating too fast), dietary factors (such as eating beans, legumes and carbonated beverages), and the inadvertent swallowing of air. Also, patients with an inability to digest lactose (milk sugar) often experience excess gas after consuming dairy products, unless these products use pre-digested milk, such as Lactaid.

If your problem makes you a social liability, you should see your doctor for specific advice. In the meantime, I suggest the following:

— Try altering your eating habits. Avoid foods that you have found contribute to your gas buildup.

— Take Gas-X or other similar compounds that are available without prescription.

— Make sure you're not eating too fast and swallowing air.

You may need further testing, but your doctor can decide about that issue, with or without the advice of a gastroenterologist.

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

If readers would like to contact Dr. Gott, they may write him through your newspaper or send their mail directly to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.

Copyright 2003, NEA

Connery to appear in ads

ROME (AP) — Adding his voice to a campaign against global hunger, Sean Connery is to appear in a holiday-season television ad to promote the work of a United Nations food agency.

In the commercial for the World Food Program, the Scottish-born actor delivers a message following footage that shows how the agency sends food to hungry people in remote areas around the world.

International broadcasters including BBC World have agreed to air the ad over the Christmas period.

Woman convicted in deaths of three babies

MONTICELLO, N.Y. (AP) — A woman was convicted Tuesday of killing three of her infant children during the 1980s, a case brought after mummified remains were found in a storage shed in Arizona this year.

After about four hours of deliberations, a jury found Diane Odell, 50, guilty of second-degree murder, ruling that she acted with a depraved indifference to human life.

Odell stared straight ahead as the verdict was read. In one hand she held a rosary; in the other, her lawyer's hand.

The babies died shortly after they were born between 1982 and 1985 in Kauneonga Lake, about 80 miles north of New York City. Odell was arrested in May after the remains, wrapped in towels and blankets, were found in cardboard boxes in a storage shed in Safford, Ariz.

Second-degree murder carries a minimum sentence of 15 years in prison and a maximum of 25 years to life.

As she was led out of the courtroom in handcuffs, Odell turned and addressed her common-law husband, Robert Sauerstein, and six of her eight surviving children.

"Don't cry guys," she said. "Love you."

Odell's lawyer, Stephan Schick, said he would appeal.

Prosecutor Steve Lungen told jurors during closing arguments Monday that Odell hid the remains to hide her crime.

"She talks about ringing in her ears," he said. "The screaming in her ears she's telling you about, that's the screaming of those babies. She's been hearing it for 27 years."

Schick, who called no witnesses, said Odell delivered the babies without medical help at home because she was scared to tell her mother she was pregnant. Schick maintained the babies died naturally and Odell carried their remains from state to state because she couldn't bear to part with them.

In a recording played at trial, Odell described delivering the babies, passing out and waking up to find them dead.

"I think I should go to jail," Odell said in the recording. "It's hard to live every day, every day, knowing that you have to look at yourself in the mirror, and know that you didn't have the courage or the tenacity to stand up for three little kids that — who needed a mother and a life, because if — if my mother hadn't been alive, none of this would ever have occurred."

During the three-day trial, Lungen tried to prove the infants did not die of natural causes. A prosecution pathologist testified that they died of traumatic asphyxiation and showed no congenital defects or heart abnormalities.

Odell also had another baby whose remains were found in 1989 in a car at a junkyard in Sullivan County. Prosecutors did not have enough evidence to pursue the case.

Sauerstein, the husband, said that Odell felt bad about what happened to the babies, and that the family believes she did not kill them.

"She's a very good person. My kids are very upset," he said.

The couple's son, 14-year-old Robert D. Sauerstein, said he was proud of his mother. "She's the best," he said.

Housekeeper convicted of stealing items

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A housekeeper convicted of stealing jewelry, cell phones and clothes from "Beverly Hills, 90210" co-star Ian Ziering was sentenced to a year in county jail and three years probation.

Gloria Lopez, 48, was convicted Aug. 15 of grand theft from Ziering's home and petty theft for stealing a cell phone from one of Ziering's friends.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Dec. 18, 2003

In the year ahead you'll be inclined to concentrate on creative endeavors rather than on the status quo. You could instinctively know that in order to reach your full potential, you must bring out the best that's in you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Do not ignore wise advice given to you by a friend today concerning a situation that involves another just because it might be an unpleasant solution. The alternative could be worse.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Career opportunities are apt to be of a fleeting nature today, so if something good occurs, don't sit on your laurels — you must act fast. Dillydallying dulls any advantage you might have had.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Try not to let your feelings or emotions override your practical inclinations today. What you do from the heart must be approved by your head first, or the consequences could be unsettling.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Be careful not to get involved in tantalizing challenges today where your common sense tells you the odds are stacked against you. You, better than most, know that jousting with windmills is futile.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Trying to be all things to all people doesn't work, so although you might find it uncomfortable choosing a side, jumping back and forth makes things more disturbing. Follow your dictates.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Your earning abilities are very good today, but bonuses might not come from doing your everyday job. Small, unexpected tasks that pop up may be what bring home those extra bucks.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Inexpensive activities usually turn out to be just as enjoyable as costly ones, and this could be the case today. In fact, high-priced involvements could turn out to be simply a pain in your purse.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Your goals are likely to be important only to you today, so don't get upset if someone you were hoping would assist you has other plans. You can be successful on your own.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — The facts will serve as your sword and buckler today, so be forewarned that if you exaggerate or embellish the truth as it exists you could rust your own armor from within.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — The thief that is likely to empty your wallet today is apt to be your low resistance to extravagant items. If you're not careful and prudent now, you'll later regretfully review your follies.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Friends and acquaintances you know socially are apt to be the ones who will prove to be the most fun today. It won't be that your family bores you, but you may need a break from them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — In the very matters where you are usually a realist, you could adopt some wishful thinking today. It might be soothing to put your head in the clouds, but it'll be your feet that have to go the mile.

Copyright 2003, NEA

Network Associates unit bought by BMC

NEW YORK (Dow Jones/AP) — Network Associates Inc. said it agreed to sell its help-desk software unit, Magic Solutions, to BMC Software Inc. for $47 million as part of an effort to focus on its core network security business.

The Santa Clara, Calif., company, which is best known for its McAfee antivirus software, has seen its performance lag its main rival in the high-growth security business, Symantec Corp.

Magic Solutions accounted for about $14.4 million, or 6 percent, of the company's third-quarter revenue of $226.9 million. Sales for Magic Solutions declined during that period, although the company did manage to return the unit to a slim profit for the quarter.

ATTENTION

Business Owners/ Ranchers/Farmers

Take 100% Federal Income Tax Write-Off
In The First Year With The Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003!

Check with your CPA or Tax Consultant Immediately and make sure you qualify for these tax savings!

Ford Incentives and Estimated Tax Deductions

QUALIFYING VEHICLE 6,000 GVWR OR HIGHER	WELL EQUIPPED MSRP	CASH BACK	ALTERNATIVE APR % AS LOW AS*	SMALL BUSINESS CASH	ESTIMATED TAX DEDUCTION FOR 2003**
FULL SIZE SUV's					
2003 Expedition/4X2 Eddie Bauer	$39,335	$4,000	0%	N/A	**$39,335**
2003 Excursion/4X2 5.4L Triton V8 XLT	$38,945	$4,500	0%	N/A	**$38,945**
F-SERIES TRUCKS					
New 2004 F-150 SuperCab Styleside	$25,755	N/A	0.9%	$300	**$25,755**
New 2004 F-150 SuperCrew 4X2	$30,255	N/A	2.9%	$300	**$39,255**
New 2004 F-750 Medium Duty	$44,115	$5,500	0.9%	N/A	**$44,115**
2003 F-250 SuperCab/4X2 XLT (gas)	$26,765	$3,000	0%	$300	**$26,765**
2003 F-350 Crew Cab/4X4 8´ Dual Rear Wheels/XLT	$38,735	$3,000	0%	$300	**$38,735**
2003 F-450 Chassis/4X4 Super Duty Reg Cab	$43,840	$3,000	0%	N/A	**$43,840**
E-SERIES WAGONS / VANS / CUTAWAYS					
2003 E-150 Cargo Van Commercial	$26,055	$3,000	0%	$300	**$26,055**
2003 E-150 Wagon XLT 5.4L V8*	$31,890	$3,000	0%	$300	**$31,890**
2003 E-250 Cargo Van Commercial	$27,040	$3,000	0%	$300	**$27,040**
2003 E-250 Extended Cargo Van Commercial	$28,845	$3,000	0%	$300	**$28,845**
2003 E-350 Super Duty Cargo Van Commercial	$28,440	$3,000	0%	$300	**$28,440**
2003 E-350 SD Extended Cargo Van Commercial	$29,875	$3,000	0%	$300	**$29,875**
2003 E-350 Cutaway SD Chassis 138´´ WB Strd.	$25,115	$3,000	0%	$300	**$25,115**

*Not all buyers qualify for Ford Credit Financing. $16.67 Ford Credit APR finance charge per month per $1,000 financed with 10% down. Offers good on retail deliveries from dealer stock through 1/31/04. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. **For qualified taxpayers. Tax deductions are computed on an individual basis. Please consult your accountant / tax advisor regarding the above tax law and the implications as they apply to your particular situation. Deductions limited by your percentage of business use.





East Hwy. 180 Across from Coliseum Snyder, Texas
1-800-545-5019 915-573-6352

FORD
LINCOLN
MERCURY

NICE VEHICLES...
NICE PRICES AT
WILSON MOTORS

DEC 17 2003

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Explosives-laden truck slams into bus

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — An explosives-laden truck speeding toward a police station slammed into a bus and blew up before dawn today, killing at least 10 Iraqis in the latest in a series of bombings since the weekend arrest of Saddam Hussein.

A senior Iraqi security offical blamed the attack on Saddam loyalists seeking revenge for his capture. To the north, U.S. forces launched a major sweep in the town of Samarra, breaking down doors and searching shops for guerrilla leaders in an effort to stamp out the insurgency in the area, which has seen a number of ambushes on U.S. forces.

The coalition scored a major victory Saturday by nabbing Saddam, who Iraqi officials revealed today was being held in the Baghdad area. Violence has continued in the capital and in predominantly Sunni areas west and north of Baghdad, once Saddam's power base. In the northern city of Mosul, assailants shot and killed a policeman today, police said. And Iraqi security forces there opened fire on pro-Saddam protesters, injuring nine, witnesses said.

The driver of the explosive-laded truck had planned to strike the police station in al-Bayaa, a poor district in southwestern Baghdad, Deputy Interior Minister Ahmed Kadhim Ibrahim said.

The explosion in al-Bayaa wounded 20 people, hospital officials said. The charred, crumpled bus lay in the intersection after the blast. Body parts were scattered in the area. A pink plastic sandal was left in the street. Two nearby cars were destroyed.

Medhat Ghanem, 32, said he was on the sidewalk waiting for a bus today when he saw the yellow truck speed down the main road and explode.

"After the explosion, I fell to the ground and was unconscious for a bit. Then I found that my leg was broken," Ghanem said in a hospital where his leg was put in a cast.

Ibrahim blamed Saddam's supporters. "They were trying to avenge the cowardly leader, whom they saw as a hero in the past," Ibrahim said.

Four days ago, police said, attackers fired rocket-propelled grenades at the al-Bayaa police station.

Israeli vice PM eyes W. Bank withdrawal

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's vice prime minister stepped up his calls for a sizable withdrawal from the West Bank today, urging a clear "separation" between Israelis and the Palestinians.

Egyptian mediators, meanwhile, wrapped up their latest effort to persuade Palestinian militant groups to halt attacks on Israelis. No progress was reported. In an effort to boost the cease-fire effort, Egypt's foreign minister next week will make his first trip to Israel in two years, both countries said.

In new violence, Palestinian militants detonated two bombs near an Israeli guard post near the Egyptian border in the Gaza Strip, causing significant damage but no injuries, the army said.

Palestinian sources said a 20-year-old man was killed when soldiers fired on a crowd of bystanders near the tower. The army said it had shot a Palestinian gunman, but had no details on his condition.

Israel has said it is committed to the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan, which envisions an independent Palestinian state by 2005. In its early stages, the plan requires Israel to halt settlement activity in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, while calling on the Palestinians to dismantle militant groups.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has talked of taking unilateral action if peace efforts fail. Sharon is expected to announce details of his plan on Thursday.

The United States and the Palestinians oppose one-sided actions, saying a peace deal must be reached through negotiations.

Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia said today he would welcome any Israeli withdrawal from Palestinian territories. But he urged Sharon to honor the road map.

"It is better for us to agree on the issues to reach a permanent agreement to put an end to the conflict ... not to take unilateral steps," he said.

Since taking office in October, Qureia has been trying to arrange a meeting with Sharon, but the two sides have not been able to agree on an agenda. Palestinian officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the meeting could take place as soon as next week.

U.S., four Central American countries OK free trade pact

WASHINGTON (AP) — Overcoming a last-minute snag on textiles, the United States reached a free trade agreement today with four Central American countries.

Negotiators reached agreement in all areas, including textiles and agriculture, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick announced at a news conference with the trade ministers of Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras.

"Negotiations began last January, and today we have fulfilled that vision with a cutting-edge, modern free-trade agreement to tear down the tariff walls that block trade between the United States and Central America, between friends and neighbors," Zoellick said.

A fifth nation, Costa Rica, abruptly left the talks on Tuesday complaining about excessive demands being made by the United States for the nation to open up its market to foreign competition in telecommunications and insurance.

U.S. officials expressed hope that the differences with Costa Rica can be resolved in coming weeks so that it will be included when the administration submits the Central American Free Trade Agreement, or CAFTA, to Congress early next year.

The breakthrough in textiles came after an all-night bargaining session. Some of the Central American trade ministers had expressed pessimism that an agreement could be reached during this negotiating round and predicted that the talks would have to recess and start again in January.

The free trade deal covering Central America has stirred strong opposition among U.S. sugar cane and sugar beet farmers, who fear competition from lower-priced Central American sugar, and from the U.S. textile industry, which is concerned that the deal will open the beleaguered industry to even more foreign competition.

The deal, which will phase out virtually all trade barriers among the participating countries over the next decade, represents the sixth free trade deal the United States has achieved.

Births

Benjamin and Nelda Martinez of Snyder announce the birth of their son, Brice Chevy Martinez, born at 6 p.m. on Dec. 12, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. He weighed two pounds, 10 ounces and is 15½ inches long.

Grandparents are Frank and Gloria Martinez Sr. and maternal grandparents are Manuel and Beatrice Dela Rosa, all of Snyder.

Snyder man arrested for PI

• Arrest

A disturbance in the 2400 block of Muriel at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday resulted in the arrest of one individual after a man contacted police and reported that he was having trouble with his girlfriend. Upon officers' arrival, a 33-year-old man was taken into custody and charged with public intoxication.

• Minor accident

A minor accident was reported at Towle Park Road and Ave. Z at 8:22 a.m. Tuesday. The mishap involved a 2001 Pontiac Aztec driven by Patsy Huffman Massey, 65, of 4201 Denison and a 2000 Ford E-450 truck driven by Kimila Kay Powell, 37, of Fluvanna. There were no injuries.

• Assault

An officer was requested at Cogdell Memorial Hospital at 9:40 a.m. Tuesday to speak to a subject who had earlier been involved in an altercation in the 3800 block of Austin. An offense report for Class A assault was submitted.

• Disturbance

A caller reported a fight between two subjects at McDonald's at 9:08 p.m. Tuesday. Officers were advised that the subject who had allegedly started the fight had already left the scene.

• Theft

A report of wood stolen from 31st and Ave. X was received by police at 8:48 p.m. Tuesday. Officers ultimately located the subject with the wood and it was returned. No charges were filed.

Obituaries

Willis Ratliff

1928-2003

Graveside service for Willis Rube Ratliff is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Clairemont Cemetery with the Rev. Eric Swenson of Spur officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Ratliff, 75, died Monday, Dec. 15, at his home in Snyder.

Born May 8, 1928 in Clairemont, he married Shirley Bihr on Aug. 29, 1955 in Billings, Mont.

Mr. Ratliff was a trapper and was preceded in death by two brothers and one sister.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley Ratliff of Spur; a daughter, Tanzea Bode of Mason; a son, Chester Ratliff of Spur; two sisters, Myrtle Bohanon of Clairemont and Betty Fuchs of Houston; a brother, James Ratliff of Snyder; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Shelley McMullan

1952-2003

Shelley Lee McMullan, a former Snyder resident, died Monday, Dec. 15, at her home in Amarillo.

Funeral service for Ms. McMullan, 51, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Buddy Payne, pastor of the First United Methodist Church, will officiate.



Ms. McMullan

She was born Jan. 23, 1952 in Snyder and had lived in Amarillo since 1994.

Survivors include two daughters, Pam Alarcon of Snyder and Jana Lane of Amarillo; a son, Tommy Lane of Snyder; her parents, Billy Bob and JoAlyce McMullan of Snyder; three sisters, LaTrix Gladson of Fort Worth, Janis Key of Snyder and Jessica Burton of Granbury; and eight grandchildren.

Joe Simmons

1937-2003

Joe Morgan Simmons, a former resident of Snyder, died Tuesday, Dec. 16, in the Fort Stockton Nursing Center after a brief illness.

Service for Mr. Simmons, 66, is set for 11 a.m. Friday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Steven Pena, pastor of the First Assembly of God Church, will officiate. Burial will follow in Snyder Cemetery.

Born Sept. 1, 1937 in Snyder, Mr. Simmons was an oilfield worker.

He was preceded in death by his father, Walter Alvis Simmons in 1980; and a sister, Kay Simmons in 1967.

Survivors include two daughters, Edith Gail White of Alpine and Mary Joe Blackman of Crosby; a son, John Edmond Simmons of Spicewood; his mother Edith (Morgan) Simmons of Snyder; nine sisters, Tommie Chaney of Cedar Creek, Helen Sturdivant and Patsy May of Snyder, Nell Compton of Seymour, Bonnie McElvie of Newcastle, Nora Tolson of Tomball, Ginger Briggs of Iowa Park, Penny Taylor of Belton and Vickie Davis of Munford, Tenn.; four brothers, Jim Simmons of Katy, Jack Simmons of Texarkana, Jerry Simmons of Tomball and Sammy Simmons of Clyde; six grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Personal, Professional Service
BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Comfort Keepers
325-573-9999
Matt & Becky Cross, owners
www.comfortkeepers.com
Non-Medical, In-Home Care
• In-home Companionship
• Meal Preparation
• Grocery shopping
• Transportation
• Light Housekeeping & more
Screened, Bonded & Insured

WCFH
Independently Owned & Operated
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th St.
Snyder, Texas
325-573-6200

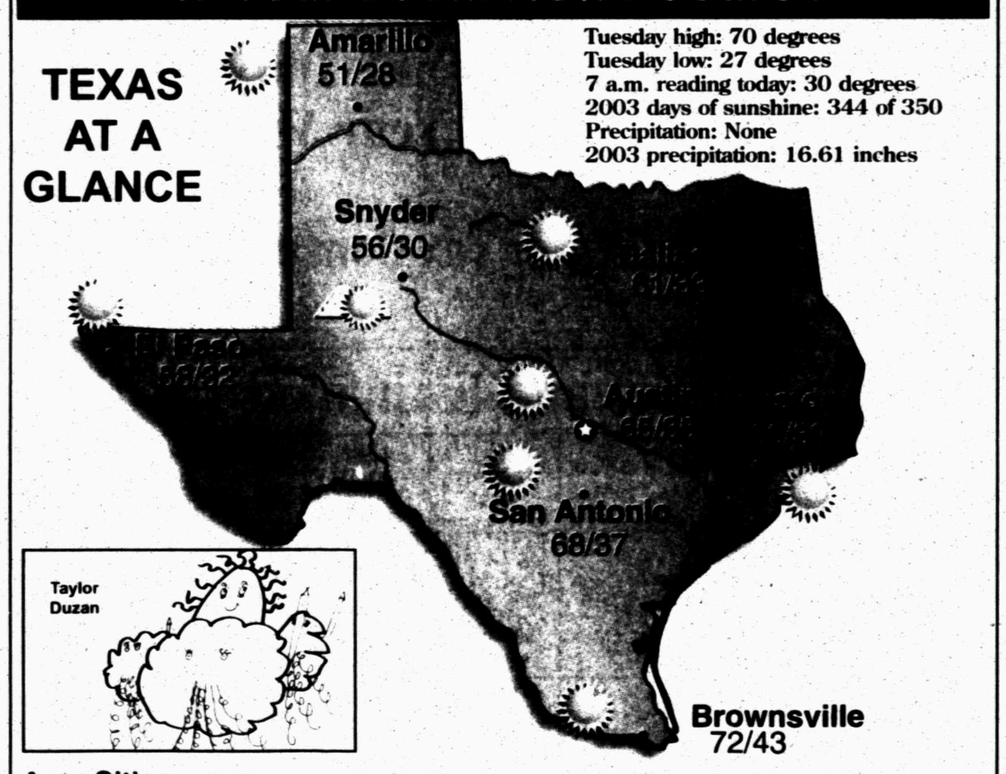
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 12/18	Fri 12/19	Sat 12/20
56/30	57/35	63/37
Sunny skies. High 56F. Winds NNE at 10 to 20 mph.	Sunny. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.	Fair. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise 7:40 AM Sunset 5:40 PM	Sunrise 7:41 AM Sunset 5:41 PM	Sunrise 7:41 AM Sunset 5:41 PM

Come Rain or Shine–
THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS
Is Your Local News Source

TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Tuesday high: 70 degrees
Tuesday low: 27 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 30 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 344 of 350
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 16.61 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Abilene	57	33	sunny	El Paso	58	32	sunny	Midland	57	31	sunny
Amarillo	51	28	sunny	Fort Stockton	59	33	sunny	Raymondville	72	40	sunny
Austin	65	35	sunny	Gainesville	59	29	sunny	Rosenberg	66	38	sunny
Beaumont	64	38	sunny	Greenville	60	29	sunny	San Antonio	68	37	sunny
Brownsville	72	43	sunny	Houston	66	39	sunny	San Marcos	66	35	sunny
Brownwood	61	33	sunny	Kingsville	71	41	sunny	Sulphur Springs	59	33	sunny
Corpus Christi	69	42	sunny	Livingston	63	34	sunny	Sweetwater	58	33	mst sunny
Corsicana	63	33	sunny	Longview	60	35	sunny	Tyler	59	34	sunny
Dallas	61	33	sunny	Lubbock	56	29	sunny	Weatherford	60	28	sunny
Del Rio	65	37	sunny	Lufkin	63	35	sunny	Wichita Falls	58	29	sunny

National Cities

Atlanta	47	31	pt sunny	Houston	66	39	sunny	Phoenix	77	48	mst sunny
Boston	39	29	windy	Los Angeles	73	53	sunny	San Francisco	64	51	mst sunny
Chicago	34	30	flurries	Miami	65	53	mst sunny	Seattle	52	41	pt sunny
Dallas	61	33	sunny	Minneapolis	31	26	flurries	St. Louis	39	31	windy
Denver	46	25	sunny	New York	40	31	windy	Washington, DC	41	30	pt sunny

Moon Phases

Last	New	First	New
Dec 16	Dec 23	Dec 30	Jan 21

UV Index

Thu 12/18	Fri 12/19	Sat 12/20
Low	Low	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

©2003 American Profile Hometown Content Service