THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

URSDAY

n. 18, 2001
Vol. 52 No. 224
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Ann Everett

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WT-Int. Crude - $29.63
WTIC Posted - $26.75
Natural Gas - $6.909

Judging starts today...

It's stock show time

Judging in the annual Scurry County Junior Livestock Show gets underway this afternoon at 5 o'clock with the judging of hogs. Eddie Smallwood of O'Donnell is serving as the hog judge.

On Friday, show action begins with the judging of lambs at 6 p.m. immediately followed by the goat judging. Steers will be judged 30 minutes after the goat show.

Steve Sturtz of Glasscock County will judge both the lambs and goats, while Michael Schertz of Bridgeport will judge the steers.

The show continues through Saturday when the buyers' meal, awards presentation and auction will take place.

The meal for buyers will be at 11:15 a.m. followed by the awards presentation at noon. The auction gets underway at 1 p.m.

Ricky Miller is the president of the show, while Kirby Sterling is the vice president.

Incoming secretary and treasurer is Susan Blackard, assisted by Jennifer Voss.

Other directors of the show are Billy Grimmett, Skip Craig, Jerry Boyd and Jeff Gilbert.

Serving as show advisors are ag instructors from the Snyder, Hermleigh and Ira school districts.

David Frazier and Mike Williams serve from the Snyder FFA while Jay Waller represents the Ira FFA.

Richard Smith will represent Hermleigh FFA while Greg Gruben serves as Scurry County 4-H advisor.

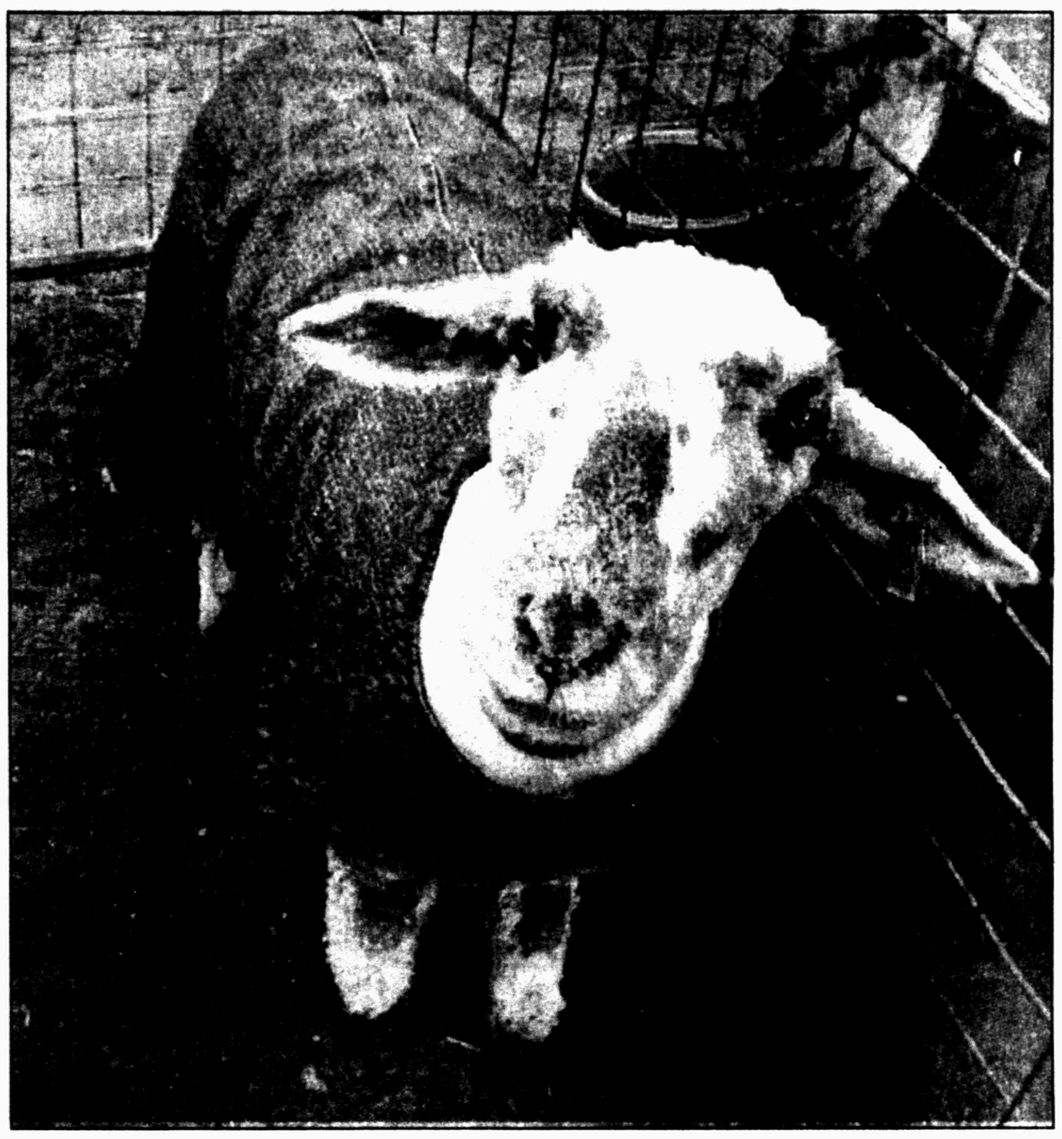
Some of the participants in this week's local show will be showing stock through March as they enter major shows in Fort Worth, El Paso, San Antonio, San Angelo and Houston.

The public is invited to all events at the annex and a snack bar is available.

In conjunction with the show, Hermleigh schools will be out Friday, while Ira will dismiss at noon.

As usual for the stock show, cold weather is in the forecast.

However, the annex area is kept as warm as possible with kerosene heaters provided by the county commissioners.



HOW DO I LOOK? — The annual Scurry County Junior Livestock Show continues at the Scurry County Coliseum ag annex. Steers were to be weighed at 1 p.m. today with lambs and goats to weigh at 3:30 p.m. The actual show gets underway at 5 this evening when Eddie Smallwood of O'Donnell will begin judging hogs. (SDN Staff Photo by Joyce May)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Anything free is worth only what you pay for it."

We don't know which is the most futile, making resolutions for the new year or making predictions.

Every month or so, a strange little publication shows up in the mail. The Skeptical Inquirer is a publication of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal.

Ole what's-her-name argues that we're not very scientific, but that we fit in the paranormal category just fine.

The committee for skeptics each year looks back at last year's forecasts and determines how some of the outlandish predictions fared.

According to some of the most gifted psychics of the supermarket tabloids, the headlines of the past year should have included these events:

—Prince Charles will fly in the space shuttle, where he will announce his engagement to Camilla Parker-Bowles. This was predicted by British astrologer Gloria Goldberg.

—Zambia's Henry Chipewo foretold of interactive TV so sophisticated that by year's end, viewers would be able to tell their TV set what they wanted to eat. In addition, the food would be waiting in the kitchen at the start of the next commercial.

—Sanjiv Mishra of India, who supposedly predicted the Kennedy assassination, missed the mark this year when he said the "shocking true identity of Satan will be discovered and his face will be instantly recognizable to the American public."

—Another psychic, Wanda Tarwinska, said that an earthquake would destroy Los Angeles and San Francisco in May; that President Clinton would announce in February that the Mars Polar Lander had been destroyed by aliens; and that aliens had already slept in the Lincoln Bedroom.

—Predictions made last year by the National Examiner forecast several major events. These included a miracle recovery from Parkinson's Disease by Muhammad Ali, the destruction of Hawaii by an iceberg, and the birth of twins for Carolyn Bessette-Kennedy.

—A seer named Mystic Meg predicted that Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman would star in a hit movie remake of Cinderella, that Caroline Kennedy would run for Congress, and that Jerry Springer would become a crusading Jew for Jesus.

It's probably just as well that we can't see into the future, but we can pretty well predict that our new healthy diet will be sabotaged by a stack of nachos.

20 years for theft...

Jury deliberates for 5 hours, hands down maximum sentence

After deliberating for more than five hours Wednesday afternoon and evening, a seven-man, five-woman jury sentenced Rumaldo Martinez of Lubbock to 20 years in prison – the maximum term he could have received.

The jury also ordered Martinez to pay a fine of $2,500.

Martinez had pleaded guilty in 132nd District Court Tuesday to breaking into the home of Scurry County resident Jerry Early in September.

The 34-year-old man's court-appointed attorney, Jeanie Fuller, then requested that a jury be seated to assess his punishment.

The minimum sentence Martinez could have received was two years and in closing arguments Wednesday afternoon, Fuller asked the jury to consider a punishment "in the low to medium range."

District Attorney Dana Cooley countered this argument by reviewing Martinez' past criminal history and asking, "do we want a man with a record like that preying upon the citizens of Scurry County?"

Early was the first to testify in the trial and told the jury that several items had been taken from his home — including a guitar, television and some guns with little monetary value, but high sentimental value.

"Not only did Martinez take items that he might sell, but he also took guns from Dr. Early that had been used by his grandfather. Items that have yet to be recovered," Cooley told the jury in her closing arguments.

Martinez has been in the Scurry County Jail since his arrest on Sept. 15 for the offense in lieu of a $10,000 bond.

District Judge Ernie Armstrong presided.

Rep. David Counts appointed to key legislative committees

Seniority again is paying off for residents of the 70th Legislative District.

State Rep. David Counts, D-Knox City, Wednesday was appointed to three key legislative committees by House Speaker Pete Laney, D-Hale Center.

Rep. Counts, serving his seventh term representing the rural legislative district that includes Scurry County, was again named chairman of the natural resources committee. This is the third time that Counts will chair the panel that is charting a long-range water plan for Texas.

Rep. Counts also was named to the important redistricting committee. Counts said before the session that redistricting following the 2000 census likely will be the major focus of the current session.

Counts said that loss of population in non-urban areas could threaten the number of rural representatives in the Texas Legislature.

Rep. David Counts

In addition, Speaker Laney named Rep. Counts to the powerful state affairs committee where the majority of hearings of proposed legislation are held each week.

"I am looking forward to being part of Speaker Laney's team again this session," Rep. Counts said. We are fortunate to have such great leadership in the Texas House. I know under the Speaker's guidance, good things will happen for the people of Texas."

Rep. Counts, who was unopposed in his bid for re-election last November, was en route to Washington, D.C. this morning to attend the inauguration. The House of Representatives is adjourned until Monday.

Area sales tax rebates

City	Jan. '01	Jan. '00	+/-	Year '01	Year '00	+/-
Abilene	$1,734,468	$1,756,294	-1.24%	$1,734,468	$1,756,294	-1.24%
Big Spring	$249,781	$261,905	-4.62%	$249,781	$261,905	-4.62%
Colorado City	$30,947	$32,525	-4.85%	$30,947	$32,525	-4.85%
Lamesa	$58,448	$69,039	-15.34%	$58,448	$69,039	-15.34%
Lubbock	$2,029,634	$1,983,105	2.34%	$2,029,634	$1,983,105	2.34%
Post	$19,973	$18,482	8.06%	$19,973	$18,482	8.06%
Roby	$1,015	$1,519	-33.15%	$1,015	$1,519	-33.15%
Rotan	$7,856	$8,141	-3.49%	$7,856	$8,141	-3.49%
Snyder	$101,645	$96,010	5.86%	$101,645	$96,010	5.86%
Sweetwater	$120,823	$136,209	-11.29%	$120,823	$136,209	-11.29%

JANUARY TAX REBATES — Sales tax rebates to the City of Snyder for January were up 5.86 percent compared to the same time in 2000. The payment this year is $101,645 while it was $96,010 last year. January sales tax rebates include local sales taxes collected by monthly tax filers in November and reported to the state comptroller in December.

Connally employee disciplined by TDCJ

DALLAS (AP) — A Texas prison employee was disciplined by supervisors for failing to report what he saw the day seven convicts escaped, but he says he had no clue anything was wrong.

Jerry McDowell, a prison recreation specialist, said Wednesday he was being suspended without pay for three weeks and placed on probation for a year.

Seven prisoners who broke out of the Connally Unit in South Texas on Dec. 13 are still missing. The men overpowered civilian workers and a guard and are suspected in a Christmas Eve robbery that left a police officer dead.

According to an investigative report released last week, McDowell spotted three of the inmates after they had taken the hostages and while they were in the process of escaping.

McDowell, 37, told The Dallas Morning News he did not realize what was taking place.

"I mean, I'm a recreation specialist. ... My way of seeing things is totally different from the way a guard would see it."

Prison authorities would not comment on McDowell's punishment. McDowell was cited in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice report for failing to report unsupervised prisoners.

He said it was common to see unsupervised inmates at the prison.

ASK US

Q—Do you have an 800 number to call to complain about 37th Street being closed so long?

A— There is no 800 number to TxDOT in Austin. Their number is 1-512-305-9196.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 30 degrees; low, 29; 7 a.m. Thursday, 29; .02 of an inch precipitation; total for 2001, .92 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, decreasing clouds, low lower 20s, NW wind 5-15 mph. Friday, partly cloudy, high lower 40s. Friday night, partly cloudy, low mid 20s.

Jessica West
Partly Cloudy

Sunset: 6:07 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:42 a.m.

Of 17 days in 2001, the sun has shone 13 days in Snyder.

People who make the worst use of their time are the same ones who complain that there is never enough time.

JAN 18 2001

Nebraska school e-mail project proving popular

NEWCASTLE, Neb. (AP) — What began as an inspired geography lesson resulted in teaching some elementary school students volumes about the global reach of the Internet.

Teacher John Street sent out 25 e-mails last spring asking recipients to forward the message to others and respond with their location so his class of 13 fourth-graders could track the responses on a map.

Instead, the class project put this northeast Nebraska village and its 270 residents on the map.

Street had hoped for several hundred e-mails. But so far, more than 115,000 people have written back, with thousands of new messages arriving each day.

"In my wildest dreams, I never imagined this," Street said.

Within the first six weeks, the class received 20,000 responses — far more than the students could plot with pins on the classroom's wall map.

"We learned all the different countries of the world," said student Tyson Springer, who most enjoyed the photographs of Earth mailed to the class by a NASA scientist.

About half of the students said they had never used e-mail before the project started last April. Now they all want their own accounts.

The class received responses from every continent. Many included attached pictures and Internet addresses.

"The most unusual place we received messages from was Antarctica," said Jennifer Davey, a student who read two messages sent last week from research scientists on the icy continent.

events

LOTTO TEXAS™

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (A) — No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket(s) was/were worth an estimated 9 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 11-22-40-42-47-49

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated 14 million.

Pick 3

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

8-9-5

Bush promises to empower his aides

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Bush wants his vice president and senior Cabinet members to be seen as powerful figures in the new Washington, dismissing as "background noise" the assertion of his critics that he's not smart enough himself to run the government. "My attitude is, I'm just going to have to show them," he said.

Bush said he will try to change regulations and orders issued by departing President Clinton "that I cannot live with," but gives him the benefit of the doubt and said he does not think Clinton is trying to put barriers in the path of the Republican administration.

He said Clinton understands "how disruptive a former president can be" to his successor and said he is sure the Democratic president would not want to do anything counterproductive.

In an interview with The Associated Press, paralleling one conducted 12 years ago with the first President-elect Bush, George W. Bush was reminded that his father had said the then-swelling deficit loomed over his inauguration in 1989, and was asked whether anything comparable looms for his in the era of budget surpluses.

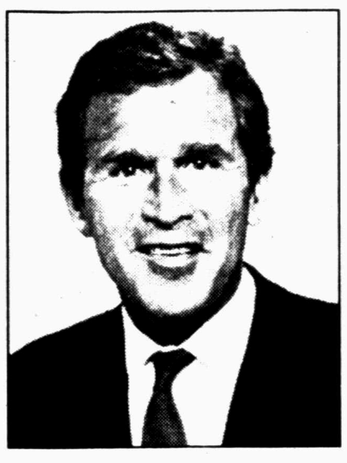
"The biggest crisis that looms is the attitude in Washington," Bush said, sitting in a folding metal chair in the spare conference room of an airport office in Midland, Texas, his home town and the last stop on his way to Washington to become president at noon Saturday.

He said that attitude is "that it's best to tear each other down rather than to get something done, it is better to practice the art of zero sum politics as opposed to practicing the art of the possible."

Bush said he will strive to change that outlook. He said because of the close, overtime election count in which he defeated Vice President Al Gore but did not win the popular vote, the expectation is "that there is going to be continued bitterness."

There are people in both parties ready to "rise above the expectations" and work with him to get things accomplished, Bush said, promising to foster that attitude by consulting both Democrats as well as Republicans, and by showing that he will share credit for success.

"I'm hopeful," he said. "I know there is a lot of ambition in Washington, obviously. But I hope the ambitious realize that they are more likely to succeed with success as opposed to failure."



George W. Bush

In the 1989 interview, Bush's father defended his vice president, Dan Quayle, and dismissed suggestions that after a troubled campaign, his profile was purposely kept low. The president-elect saw the question coming and chuckled about the suggestions that have been made that his vice president is so high-profile as to be dominant.

Bush said he wants Dick Cheney "to be viewed as a powerful part of my administration because the more powerful members are of my team, the more effective they'll be to get things done." He said that also so of Secretary of State-designate Colin Powell and Defense Secretary-designate Donald Rumsfeld.

"I want people to stand in awe of these folks," he said. "I want them to be mindful that they are smart, capable, powerful people." Bush said that is one of the reasons he put Cheney in command of his truncated transition to the White House, so that Washington will see "he's a force to be reckoned with."

"To me, that's how a president is successful, by empowering people within his administration," Bush said.

Cheney was at the foot of the stairs to greet the president-elect Wednesday night at Andrews Air Force Base as he arrived for two days of celebrations and ceremonies before the inauguration on Saturday and his new life in the White House.

Both the president-elect and the first President-elect Bush faced personal criticism as they ran and won. The elder was called a wimp and a lap dog in 1988, the younger was said by critics to be too inexperienced and not smart enough for the job.

Asked about that, Bush said, as his father had in the 1989 interview, that he doesn't let such things bother him.

"I am comfortable with who I am and therefore I can smile when people say he's not smart enough to be the president, and I guess my attitude is I'm just going to have to show them."

Bush, asked whether Clinton's end-of-term executive orders and other actions were meant to put obstacles in his path, said, "I'm going to give him the benefit of the doubt." He said the orders would be reviewed, and those he opposes and can change would be changed. "I don't take it personally, let me put it that way," he said.

The president-elect said "an ex-president can create news" and that "sometimes the effect ... can be counterproductive for the next administration. But I don't think he'll do that. I don't think he would like that."

Clinton is delivering his farewell address to the nation tonight.

Other points raised and answered in the interview:

— Bush said "I must not have made my case strong enough" to black voters that he wants to serve all Americans. He got less than 9 percent of the black vote, the worst GOP showing in 36 years. Bush said one reason was that Gore "ran a very good campaign in the African-American community."

But he said his message obviously didn't get across, and he will try to deliver it again more clearly. "It starts with the inaugural speech Saturday," he said. "I talk about the fact that the American dream does apply to everybody."

Bush also said his support of the death penalty as governor of Texas, where 152 convicts were executed during his six years, may be another factor in the overwhelming black vote against him. "I think there are some people who feel the justice system is not fair, it's unfair for African-Americans," he said, and his stand on capital punishment therefore was held against him.

"Having said that, I'm going to work my heart out to convince all communities that I'm their president," Bush said.

— The president-elect said he would consider proposals for a national election study. Clinton has suggested one to deal with questions raised by the disputed count in Florida and by allegations that black voters were deterred from casting ballots or having them counted.

See Bush, Page 9

Date Book

Thursday, Jan. 18, 2001

Today is the 18th day of 2001 and the 29th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1911, in San Francisco, Eugene Ely landed a Curtiss biplane on the deck of the USS Pennsylvania.

On this day in 1943, the U.S. government banned the sale of pre-sliced bread for the duration of World War II.

On this day in 1966, Robert Clifton Weaver became the first African-American member of the U.S. cabinet. He was secretary of housing and urban development during the Johnson administration.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Charles de Montesquieu (1689-1755), political philosopher; Daniel Webster (1782-1852), U.S. statesman; A.A. Milne (1882-1956), writer; Oliver Hardy (1892-1957), comedian; Cary Grant (1904-1986), actor; Danny Kaye (1913-1987), entertainer; Curt Flood (1938-1997), baseball player-labor figure; Kevin Costner (1955-), actor, is 46.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in The Pittsburgh Steelers defeated the Dallas Cowboys 21-17 to win Super Bowl X.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "If one only wished to be happy, this could be easily accomplished; but we wish to be happier than other people, and this is always difficult, for we believe others to be happier than they are." — Charles de Montesquieu

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Jan. 16) and new moon (Jan. 24).

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Berry's World

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EVERETT PRESENTS PROGRAM — Author of *Pioneer Profiles*, Jean Everett, gave a book review and displayed mementos of early life in Scurry County. Her book is about ordinary men and women who exemplified extraordinary qualities and courage from 1800 to 1900. A rancher, her husband, Jess, did the drawings. The meeting was held at Martha Ann Woman's Club and hostesses were Barbara McGee and Evelyn McCommon. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 16 and the program, "African Safari" will be given by Jimmy Don and Andrea Mason at 6:30 p.m. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

FAREWELL GIFT — Martha Schiebel will soon be moving to Lubbock with her husband, Bill, and Atheneum president Dorothy Kayser presented her a gift of appreciation at the last club meeting. Schiebel has been a nurse, a teacher, a missionary, provided transportation for cancer patients and has served in many other volunteer roles. A charter member of Atheneum, Martha has fulfilled the duties of almost all of the offices and been a faithful supporter of the study club. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

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

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

Snyder Chapter 450 Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Hall, 1912 35th Street; 7:30 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-4048; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Births

Emanuel and Olga Cabrera of Snyder are parents of a six-pound, six-ounce son. He was born at 1:31 p.m. on Jan. 17 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Jan. 17-Vivian Fikes, Billy Massey, Desiree Torrez, Janice Fuentez, Teodora Gutierrez, Wayne Horton and Olga Cabrera.

DISMISSALS: Rachel Bass, Britteny Ronquillo, Robert Lomax and William Winters.

CENSUS: 44 (Med./Surg.-17, Long-term Care-23, ICU-2, Nursery-1 and OB-1)

SHOWER HELD — Keisha and James Dugan of Pocatello, Idaho were recently honored with a family shower by great aunts, Ralphene Canon, Donna Bowman and Bobby Gray. From left are Canon; Bowman; Keisha Dugan, honoree; Myrle Gafford, her grandmother; and Gray. (Contributed Photo)

Philadelphia is birthplace of GS cookies

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Midge Mason had shortbread, not history, on her mind when she joined her Girl Scout troop on Nov. 11, 1932, to bake cookies in the window of the Philadelphia Gas Co.

"I remember that very clearly. My best friend and I baked the cookies on a Saturday morning in the window of the building," said Mason, now 80. "Of course, as a 12-year-old, I had no idea how big the cookie sale would become."

The success of the 1932 and 1933 sales led the Philadelphia Girl Scouts to ask Keebler Baking Co., then based in Philadelphia, to make and package cookies for the troop the following year.

In 1936, the Girl Scouts of the United States of America contracted Keebler to launch a national cookie-making program.

On Tuesday, the Girl Scouts USA unveiled a historical marker at the downtown Philadelphia Gas building to commemorate the start of the national program. The now-defunct Philadelphia Gas Co. was replaced by offices, and the street-level windows are now draped with curtains.

"We are commemorating this spot as the birthplace of the cookie sale because the public responded to the girls' baking in the windows of this building and that led directly to a national sales program," said Susan Anderson, president of the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Mason traveled from her home in Jacksonville, Fla., for the ceremony.

Charles Carson was working at Philadelphia Gas Co. when he let his daughter and her Girl Scout troop use the ovens in the building's window to make cookies for children in day-care centers.

As the girls took the cookies out of the ovens, passers-by asked if the cookies were for sale. The girls sold the extra cookies and used the proceeds to support troop activities.

In 1934, Keebler began commercial production of the Trefoil shortbread cookie, which is still sold by Girl Scouts.

Local Girl Scout troops across the country sold homemade cookies as early as the 1920s — though the organization does not have a record of where — but Philadelphia was responsible for organizing the sale nationally, Anderson said.

Cigars fashionable but harmful

LUBBOCK — Cigar bars, cigar magazines and celebrity cigar smokers have contributed to the wide acceptance of cigar smoking as a fashionable trend. But many trend-followers may not be aware that cigar smoking is equally as harmful as other forms of tobacco.

"One reason cigar smoking is dangerous is because people do not think it is. There is a false sense of security," said Scott Robins, M.D., a physician on staff at Covenant Health System.

According to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), cigar smokers have three times a higher rate of lung cancer than nonsmokers. Cigar smokers also have four to 10 times a higher rate of lung cancer than nonsmokers. Cigar smokers also have four to 40 times the risk of dying from laryngeal, oral and esophageal cancers than nonsmokers.

"Smoking cigars may lead to an increased incidence of head and neck cancer as well as esophageal and lung cancer," Dr. Robins said. "Everyone says they do not inhale cigar smoke, but they do. The risk of cancer is just as high smoking cigars as it is smoking cigarettes."

Cigar smoke is not only dangerous to the smoker, but to bystanders as well. The NCI maintains that cigar smoke generates a greater amount of environmental tobacco smoke, also known as ETS or secondhand smoke, than cigarettes.

Exposure to secondhand cigar smoke has the same risks as exposure to secondhand cigarette smoke. ETS from cigars and cigarettes contain many of the same toxins and carcinogens, such as carbon monoxide, arsenic, ammonia and hydrogen cyanide.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

	North 01-18-01 ♠ 7 3 2 ♥ A K J ♦ Q J 10 9 ♣ A K 9	
West ♠ 9 5 ♥ 9 6 5 2 ♦ K 7 4 3 ♣ 7 6 3		East ♠ K J 10 8 4 ♥ 10 8 3 ♦ A 6 ♣ Q J 10
	South ♠ A Q 6 ♥ Q 7 4 ♦ 8 5 2 ♣ 8 5 4 2	

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		1 ♦	1 ♠
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 9

Thursday, Jan. 18, 2001

Flying through the rain

By Phillip Alder

Saturday, August 26, I flew from New Plymouth to Dunedin via Wellington. Air New Zealand is great. You even get proper knives and forks in the cheap seats.

At Dunedin, I was met by Lindsey Lawrence and Alastair Gunn, who drove me 100 miles through incessant rain (and a little sleet) to Invercargill. I stayed overnight with Erin and Bruce Batcheler, but had to be up early for a 9:30 class on when to overcall and when to double with 5-3-3-2 distribution and a doubleton in the opener's suit.

Amazingly for a Sunday morning, we had 44 enthusiastic players in what is believed to be the southernmost affiliated bridge club in the world. (There is an unaffiliated club on Stewart Island; but perhaps there is one in south Chile or Argentina, or on Tierra del Fuego.)

The basic principle is: With a minimum hand (10-17 points), overcall in a major but double with a five-card minor (unless you can overcall one no-trump). With stronger hands, double first.

In three no-trump, South had seven top tricks: two spades, three hearts and two clubs. He could get two more tricks from diamonds, but would have to lose the lead twice. So, if East had both top diamonds to go with his five spades, declarer was dead. South had to find West with one of the diamond honors. And when having two stoppers in the suit led but two cards to drive out, usually declarer must duck the first trick. South won trick two with the spade queen and played a diamond. When West won with the king, he didn't have another spade to lead, so the contract succeeded.

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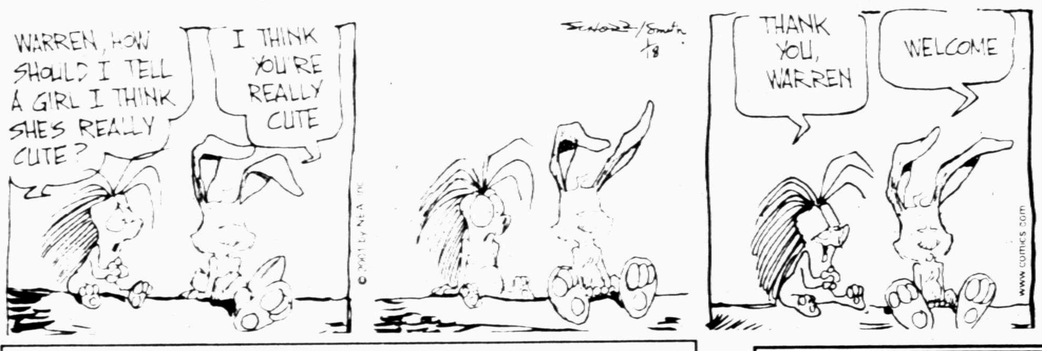
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH ® by Fred Laswell

BLONDIE ® by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Inking pad
7 Hang loosely and sway
13 El — (place of fabulous wealth)
14 Style of type
15 Wreath
16 Mortar ingredient
17 Intense desire
18 Cambridge univ.
20 DDE's domain
21 Repeat
25 Famous vampire
28 German port
32 Ardent
33 Epic poem
34 Haunted-house noise
35 Trace of color
36 Light anchor
37 Put on guard
39 Disagreeable sight
41 Nickname for Margaret
44 Comedian Sparks
45 Kentucky blue grass
48 Burst abruptly
51 Gathers, bit by bit
54 Attractive person (sl.)
55 Predatory birds
56 Ancient Jewish ascetic
57 "Reader's —"

DOWN

1 June 6, 1944
2 First-rate (2 wds.)
3 Type of muffin
4 Awful
5 Dutch city
6 "The Desert Fox"
7 Pronouncements
8 Had a snack
9 War zone, for short
10 Type of club
11 Dryer-trap stuff
12 Opp. of endo
19 A Gershwin
21 Glacial epoch (2 wds.)
22 Thanksgiving bird
23 Balance unsteadily
24 Ruler's realm
25 Outdoor area of a house
26 Underdone
27 Ancient
29 Mom's warning
30 Border
31 Necessity
37 Chemical ending
38 Stayed at an inn
40 — nous (confidentially)
41 Mound
42 God of love
43 Silk fabric
45 Chalky
46 Singles
47 Aide (abbr.)
49 Hawaiian instrument
50 Pigsty
52 Medieval poem
53 Scramble it!

Answer to Previous Puzzle

I	A	T	R	I	C		I	A	M	B	U	S
C	O	R	O	N	A		C	L	A	U	S	E
E	N	A	M	E	L		E	A	S	T	E	R
S	E	M	E		M	M	C		S	T	E	T
				U	S	U	A	L				
B	J	O	R	N		S	P	U	R	T	E	D
A	U	T	O	S				G	E	A	R	Y
B	R	O	T	H				O	L	L	I	E
E	Y	E	H	O	L	E		S	O	L	E	D
				D	A	L	A	I				
U	F	O	S		M	M	E		S	L	E	D
H	U	M	A	N	E		S	A	T	I	R	E
U	S	E	F	U	L		O	P	I	A	T	E
H	E	R	E	B	Y		P	E	R	M	E	D

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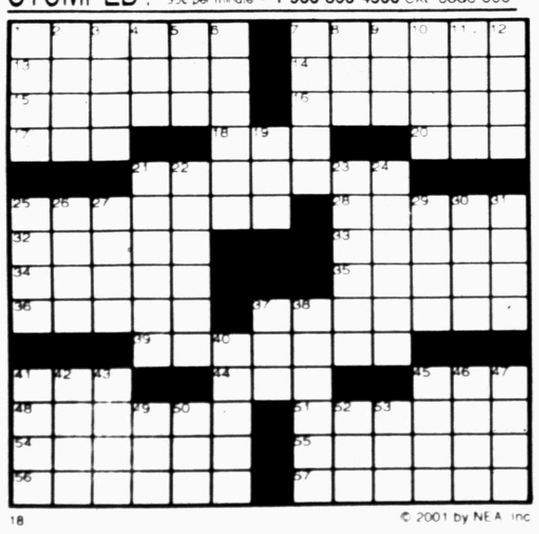

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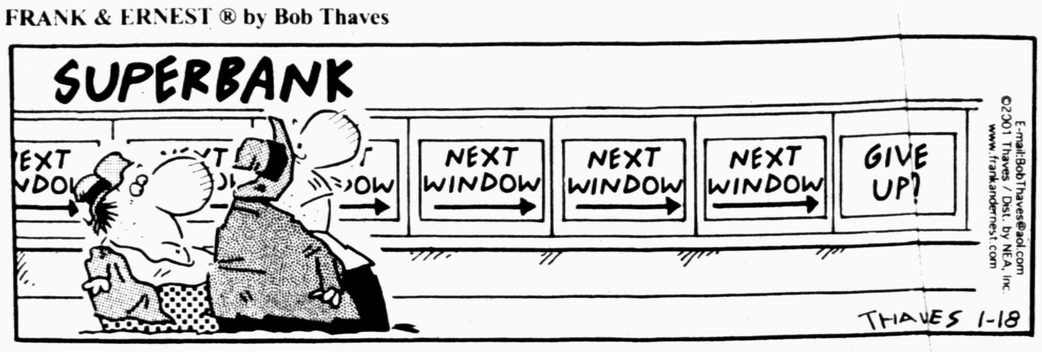
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



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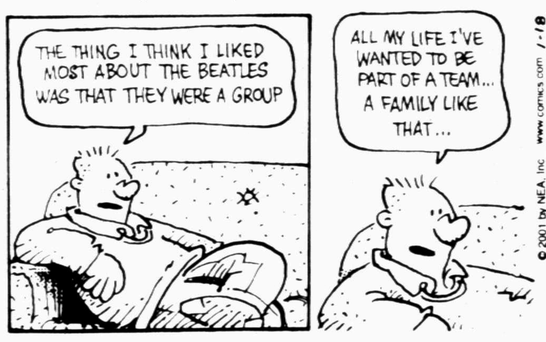
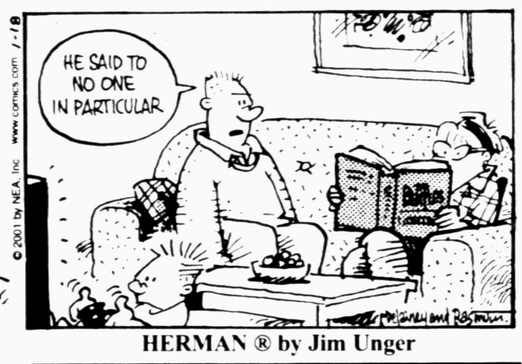
BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen





HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"HOW COME YOU CALL IT A LIVING ROOM, IF A GUY CAN'T DO ANY **LIVING** IN IT?"

"Are they playing overtime? You must be absolutely exhausted."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

SPORTS

Longhorns knock off A&M, 76-58

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Maurice Evans got lost in his game Wednesday night, something Texas coach Rick Barnes was glad to see.

Evans scored 21 points and Texas went on a 26-7 run late to defeat Texas A&M 76-58 in a foul-plagued game.

"I thought Maurice Evans played his best game since he's been at Texas," Barnes said. "I talk to the players a lot about getting lost in the game. I thought he did that tonight. He played a great game tonight all around."

Texas (14-3, 3-1 Big 12) trailed 34-28 at the half, but came out strong, closing the margin to a single point before A&M' s Andy Leatherman drained a 3-pointer and drew the foul.

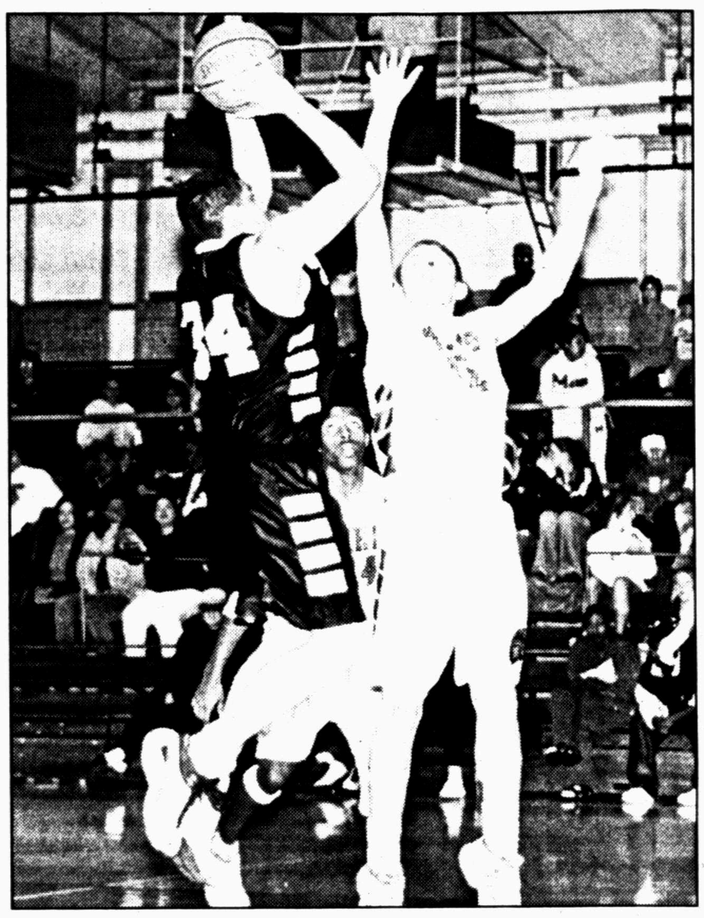
Evans and Brandon Mouton scored back-to-back 3-pointers to give the Longhorns their first lead in more than 10 minutes of play at 43-41. Bernard King, who led the Aggies with 23 points, gave A&M (6-10, 0-4) the lead again with his own 3-pointer.

Evans turned the reins over to Chris Owens down the stretch as the Longhorns turned inside and exploited A&M's weakness inside.

"Our whole halftime meeting was directed at Chris Owens and he really responded," Barnes said.

All 15 of Owens' points came during the second period as Texas switched gears from the perimeter where A&M's defense was at its best, to the paint where they exploited the weakness to run away with the game during the final minutes.

"Once we had it going a little bit it just snowballed from there," Evans said.



JUMP SHOT — Snyder's Josh Mendoza shoots over the top of Lake View's Tim Abbott during the Tigers' victory over the Chiefs on Tuesday. The Tigers wrap up the first of their district schedule Friday when they host Levelland at 7:30 p.m. (SDN Staff Photo)

Reports say Capers to be Texans' first coach

HOUSTON (AP) — Dom Capers, Jacksonville's defensive coordinator, is now the leading candidate among seven candidates to become the Houston Texans' first head coach and may be hired by the NFL expansion team within the next week, according to a published report Thursday.

League sources at the Senior Bowl told the Houston Chronicle that Capers was traveling to Houston for a second round of interviews Thursday with owner Bob McNair and general manager Charley Casserly.

Sources said Wednesday night that Capers' hiring could be imminent if Texans officials can work out a long-term contract with the former Carolina Panthers coach.

Recently, McNair announced he would not hire his head coach until after the 2001 season. But he said the Texans would continue to interview candidates.

Now, McNair has apparently changed his mind about waiting because he doesn't want to risk losing a coach who was so impressive in his initial interview, according to the Chronicle.

The newspaper said Capers, who will be paid by the Panthers through the 2006 season, is attractive for salary reasons to the Texans who could then elevate his income in 2002 when the team plays its first season.

Capers, following the Panthers' ascent to the NFC Championship Game in their second season, received a 10-year contract extension and is now owed nearly $9 million from the Panthers.

The Texans paid a $700 million expansion fee and are now spending millions more on scouting and other areas, with no incoming revenue other than what is being used to pay their share of the new Reliant Stadium.

The report said McNair could feel more urgency about Capers because the coach is scheduled to interview with Buffalo this weekend.

Capers, who was voted NFL Coach of the Year after Carolina's 1995 and 1996 seasons, withdrew from consideration for the New York Jets job before Tampa Bay assistant head coach Herm Edwards was hired on Wednesday.

The Texans' interviews of candidates, which began with the regular season's end, can continue until Feb. 15, according to the NFL.

Art Shell, who resigned earlier this month after four years as offensive line coach of the Atlanta Falcons, interviewed earlier this week.

Other candidates included Denver Broncos offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak; Ted Cottrell, Phillips' defensive coordinator at Buffalo; University of Miami coach Butch Davis; and St. Louis assistant head coach Jim Saunders.

Snyder JV whips Chiefs

SAN ANGELO — Snyder got on track early, then dominated the third quarter to knock off Lake View, 56-31, Tuesday in junior varsity boys' action.

Snyder ran out to a 14-6 lead in the opening period, then put the game away with a 20-4 run in the third quarter.

Colby Driggers poured in 18 points to pace the Tigers, while Corey Clay added 10.

Brad Spells drained nine points. Tyler Pollard netted six. Clay Williams posted five points, and Jay Scott and Josh McGaha dropped in four apiece.

Snyder will be in action again at 6 p.m. Friday when it hosts Levelland.

Buzzer shot pushes Mavs past Hornets

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Howard Eisley was supposed to be a decoy. He ended up a hero.

On a play drawn up for Eisley to attract attention away from the ball, he instead wound up all alone in the corner and hit a wide-open 3-pointer as time expired to lift the Dallas Mavericks to a 91-90 victory over the Charlotte Hornets on Wednesday night.

"I have no idea how I got that open," said Eisley, who scored 11 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter. "I was just there and I yelled for Dirk (Nowitzki) and hit the shot."

Dallas interim coach Donn Nelson said the play was designed for either Nowitzki or Michael Finley to tie the game with a two-point shot.

"I felt good about the momentum and thought we could have won in overtime," Nelson said. "I wanted the two to send it into overtime."

But it didn't work out that way, partly because Nowitzki nearly turned the ball over.

Jamal Mashburn's free throw extended Charlotte's lead to 90-88 with 7 seconds left. After a Dallas timeout, Finley inbounded the ball to Nowitzki, who nearly lost it while looking to pass. As the Hornets closed in, Nowitzki spotted Eisley alone in the corner and passed to him.

Eisley barely looked before he tossed it up, and the ball swished through the hoop as the clock hit zero.

"Nowitzki nearly turned it over, and I guess we all went after the fumble," Mashburn said.

Freshmen notch 51-38 victory

SAN ANGELO — Snyder scored almost half its points in the third quarter Tuesday to fuel a 51-38 victory over Lake View in freshman boys' action.

After posting only four points in the second period, the Tigers dropped in 21 points in the third quarter to pull away from the Chiefs.

Lee Scott's 16 points paced the Tigers, while Blake Grimmett added 15 more.

Jacob Rodriguez notched six points. Marcus Villarreal and Justin Boyd tallied five apiece, and Israel Sosa and Tucker Early finished with two each.

The Tigers will be back on the court at 4:30 Tuesday when they host Big Spring.

Ira teams split hoop contests

After struggling for three quarters, Ira's junior varsity boys got on track in the final period, only to fall short of the Grady Wildcats, 55-50.

The Bulldogs managed only 12 points in the first half and 11 more in the third quarter, before posting 27 points in the final frame.

Tyler Frey poured in 19 points to pace the Bulldogs, while Cole Shafer added 13.

Nathan Wilkins tallied nine points. Jerry Jamison registered five, and Josh Wilson and Steven Herrera chipped in two apiece.

In junior high action, Wes Kellner helped carry Ira to a 32-25 victory over Borden County.

Kellner drained 24 points for the Bulldogs. Travis Frey dropped in four points, and Chad Nickerson and Brandon Crane finished with two apiece.

Local Sports Schedule

TODAY
Basketball

Snyder 7th and 8th grade girls at Big Spring tourney

FRIDAY
Basketball

Levelland at Snyder girls, varsity at 6 p.m., JV at 7:30

Levelland at Snyder boys, JV at 6 p.m., varsity at 7:30

Hermleigh, idle

Ira, idle

SATURDAY
Basketball

Snyder 7th and 8th grade girls at Big Spring tourney

Sports Briefs

Super Bowl party

A Super Bowl party will be held Jan. 28 from 4-9 p.m. at the Boys and Girls Club. Refreshments will be provided, and door prizes will be given away each hour. Admission is $1 for members, and $2 for non-members.

Camby suspended, fined $25,000

NEW YORK (AP) — Knicks center Marcus Camby was suspended for five games and fined $25,000 by the NBA for trying to sucker punch San Antonio's Danny Ferry.

Ferry, who had poked Camby in the eye, was suspended for one game and fined $7,500.

Camby's wild, roundhouse punch did not strike Ferry because Knicks coach Jeff Van Gundy stepped between them at the last moment. Camby's head collided with Van Gundy's, opening a cut above the coach's left eye that required about a dozen stitches.

Vaughn will miss half of season

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Anaheim Angels slugger Mo Vaughn will miss at least half the upcoming season because of a ruptured tendon in his left arm.

The 33-year-old Vaughn, who hit .272 with 36 homers and 117 RBIs in a career-high 161 games last season, will undergo surgery Feb. 6 to repair a distal biceps tendon rupture.

Buckeyes hire new coach

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio State has a new coach — Jim Tressel — and it didn't have to travel far to find him.

Tressel, who guided Youngstown State to four I-AA national championships in 15 seasons, will be introduced on Thursday as the Buckeyes' new coach. He replaces John Cooper, who was fired on Jan. 2.

Tressel, 135-57-2 with the Penguins, also served as the school's athletic director. He is moving to the I-A level for the first time.

NCAA Basketball

MEN
EAST
Dartmouth 84, Colgate 68
Delaware 76, Penn 66
Fordham 70, Rhode Island 65
Holy Cross 6[illegible], Bucknell 45
Kent St. 58, Buffalo 52
La Salle 82, Duquesne 69
Lehigh 89, Army 81
Navy 89, Lafayette 67
St. Peter's 74, Loyola, Md. 68
Villanova 86, Virginia Tech 74
West Virginia 70, Rutgers 68
SOUTH
Alabama 82, Mississippi 63
Bethune-Cookman 74, Morris Brown 64
Coll. of Charleston 76, Stony Brook 55
East Carolina 68, Old Dominion 63, OT
George Mason 73, William & Mary 64
Georgia 75, Florida 72
LSU 85, Centenary 44
Louisville 79, Houston 67
Marshall 72, Miami (Ohio) 68
Maryland 81, Wake Forest 71
Mississippi St. 83, Tulane 66
N.C.-Asheville 61, Elon 58, OT
North Carolina 92, Clemson 65
Richmond 41, N.C.-Wilmington 37
South Alabama 77, Valdosta St. 51
South Carolina 57, Vanderbilt 49
Stetson 77, UCF 68
UNC-Greensboro 67, N. Carolina A&T 65
Winthrop 67, High Point 56
MIDWEST
Akron 83, Bowling Green 80
Ball St. 52, Toledo 51
Cent. Michigan 75, Ohio 69
Charlotte 73, DePaul 62
Cincinnati 90, UAB 83
Drake 77, Illinois St. 68
Illinois 63, Northwestern 49
Indiana 77, Penn St. 69
Indiana St. 77, Evansville 66
Kansas 84, Nebraska 62
Marquette 72, South Florida 68
Minnesota 70, Purdue 67
N. Illinois 58, E. Michigan 52
S. Illinois 80, Wichita St. 72, OT
SW Missouri St. 74, Creighton 67
SOUTHWEST
Arkansas 82, Auburn 72
Oklahoma St. 76, Baylor 65
Texas 76, Texas A&M 58
Tulsa 82, TCU 66
FAR WEST
Gonzaga 81, Portland 57
Pepperdine 81, Loyola Marymount 65
Stanford 84, California 58
WOMEN
EAST
Canisius 91, Niagara 71
Dartmouth 68, Stony Brook 59
Georgetown 77, Syracuse 74, OT
Holy Cross 76, Bucknell 53
Lehigh 77, Army 55
Navy 77, Lafayette 62
Rutgers 74, West Virginia 50
Virginia Tech 64, Boston College 52
SOUTH
Chattanooga 69, Furman 62
Hampton 73, St. John's 65
Providence 77, Miami 60
Radford 84, Winthrop 60
UNC-Greensboro 85, N. Carolina A&T 57
MIDWEST
Ball St. 80, Ohio 66
E. Michigan 86, W. Michigan 78
Iowa St. 68, Missouri 67
Kansas St. 72, Texas 63
Kent St. 71, Miami (Ohio) 69
Ohio St. 79, Iowa 52
Texas Tech 66, Nebraska 50
SOUTHWEST
Oklahoma 97, Texas A&M 84
Oklahoma St. 61, Kansas 53
FAR WEST
Loyola Marymount 84, Pepperdine 75
Montana St. 66, Weber St. 59

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Philadelphia	29	9	.763	—
New York	24	13	.649	4½
Miami	23	17	.575	7
Orlando	17	20	.459	11½
Boston	14	25	.359	15½
New Jersey	13	26	.333	16½
Washington	7	33	.175	23
Central Division				
Milwaukee	23	15	.605	—
Charlotte	23	18	.561	1½
Toronto	20	19	.513	3½
Cleveland	18	19	.486	4½
Indiana	18	21	.462	5½
Atlanta	14	23	.378	8½
Detroit	14	24	.368	9
Chicago	6	32	.158	17
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
11	725	—		
Sacramento	26	10	.722	1
L.A. Lakers	25	12	.676	2½
Phoenix	23	13	.639	4
Seattle	21	20	.512	8½
L.A. Clippers	13	28	.317	16½
Golden State	11	26	.297	16½

Wednesday's Games
Philadelphia 99, Chicago 88
Dallas 91, Charlotte 90
New Jersey 108, Washington 89
Minnesota 89, Utah 81
Toronto 98, San Antonio 91
Denver 121, Vancouver 97
Sacramento 111, Boston 106
Phoenix 89, Seattle 80

Thursday's Games
Atlanta at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Orlando at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Miami at Portland, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Boston at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's Games
Washington at Toronto, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Cleveland at Denver, 9 p.m.
Golden State at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Miami at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Minnesota at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Houston at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Boys' Little Dribblers Results

MINOR DIVISION

Nuggets 36, Wolfpack 9
Nuggets: Bubba Perales, 15; Rey Juarez, 10; Kenyon Gafford, 5; Shade Roemisch, 4; Kasey Young, 2. **Wolfpack:** Jordan Gafford, 7; Doug Brunson, 2.

Pistons 31, Grizzlies 29
Pistons: LaShondrick Richardson, 16; Jared Cave, 8; Riley Davis, 7. **Grizzlies:** Jake Crenwelge, 20; Seth Sanchez, 5; Garrett Hale and Alex Hernandez, 2.

Knicks 31, Kings 18
Knicks: Rance Dunn, 23; Tye Holley and Kelton Garcia, 4. **Kings:** Brandon Lunsford, 7; Ty Burton, 6; Colton Curry, 3; Kaden Seale, 2.

Lakers 32, Trailblazers 7
Lakers: Brandon Ramirez, 22; Quintin Bass, 4; Toby Lopez, Isaac Martin and David Strayhorn, 2. **Trailblazers:** T.J. Wright, 4; Seth Cotton, 3.

Pistons 37, Wolfpack 11
Pistons: LaShondrick Richardson, 17; Riley Davis, 8; Jared Cave, Colby Berrera and Matthew Rios, 4; Gage West, 2. **Wolfpack:** Jordan Gafford, 5; Kylor Fine, 4; Scott Smith, 2.

Grizzlies 35, Bulls 10
Grizzlies: Seth Sanchez, 10; Jake Crenwelge, 9; Clint McFatridge, 6; Ernesto Arellano and Garrett Hale, 4; Alex Hernandez, 2. **Bulls:** Will Stewart, 4; Nick Zajicek, Anthony Taylor and Dominic Cabrera, 2.

Wolfpack 21, Kings 17
Wolfpack: Jordan Gafford, 13; Kylor Fine and Doug Brunson, 4. **Kings:** Brandon Lunsford, 6; Kaden Seale and Colton Curry, 4; Ty Burton, 3.

MAJOR DIVISION

T-Wolves 32, Magic 29
T-Wolves: Jamie Arnold, 12; Brent Bollinger and Tyler Driggers, 9; Cody Reed, 2. **Magic:** Ryan Mitchell and Ricky Sanchez, 8; Cody Burney, 6; Charone Hill, 5; Jimmie Schooler, 2.

Raptors 28, Rockets 26
Raptors: Brandon Jones, 13; Brooks Gafford, 7; Joel Rocha, 5; Layton Westmoreland, 2; Bryce Westmoreland, 1. **Rockets:** Brandon Robbins, 18; Pedro Villa and Travis Hatfield, 4.

Rockets 47, Blue Devils 39
Rockets: Pedro Villa, 21; Brandon Robbins, 12; Travis Hatfield, 10; Terrance Wells, 4. **Blue Devils:** Lance Day, 23; Michael Mann, 6; Kaden Billingsley, 4; Austin Calley and Daniel Saenz, 3.

Tarheels 28, Celtics 14
Tarheels: Donald Jeffery, 13; Ryan Claxton, 6; Jacob McFatridge, 4; Craig Robertson, 3; Cole Russell, 2. **Celtics:** Andy Garvin, 5; Dustin Murdock, 4; Juan Ramirez and Rudy Martinez, 2; J.W. Wesson, 1.

T-Wolves 53, Warriors 22
T-Wolves: Brent Bollinger, 22; Jamie Arnold, 14; Tyler Driggers, 9; Cody Reed, 8. **Warriors:** Corbin Clements, 12; Chase Medina, 5; Preston Munson, 3.

Magic 38, Celtics 25
Magic: Ryan Mitchell and Cody Burney, 10; Charone Hill and Ricky Sanchez, 6; Matt Schoolcraft, 4; Jimmie Schooler, 2. **Celtics:** Dustin Murdock, 19; Andy Garvin, 4; Juan Ramirez, 2.

Blue Devils 35, Tarheels 34
Blue Devils: Lance Day, 19; Michael Mann, 12; Austin Calley and Daniel Saenz, 2. **Tarheels:** Donald Jeffery, 12; Ryan Claxton, 11; Craig Robertson, 5; Jacob McFatridge, 4.

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Lost & Found

Lost: Blue Tick Hound dog, orange collar with tags. Answers to "X-Man". Lost around Sewer Plant. 573-6607; 574-6805 (work)

Lost: Diamond wedding ring set. REWARD! 915-574-2899

Vehicles

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Study examines both sides of workplace injuries debate

WASHINGTON (AP) — Both opponents and supporters of new federal workplace safety rules are seizing on a National Academy of Sciences study that found that while some jobs can be associated with injuries to the back, wrist and other areas, the work-injury relationship is complicated.

The study, issued Wednesday, said the injuries can be reduced with well-designed intervention programs. But its release in the final week of the Clinton administration, which proposed the rules in November, renewed attacks on the regulations that have been vehemently opposed by the business community as ill conceived and overly costly.

The erogonomic rules were included among the items that aides to President-elect Bush have indicated were subject to reconsideration in the new administration. The rules take effect in October, and overturning them could be complex, requiring a new rulemaking process that could take months.

Business groups urged Bush and Congress to intervene.

"Delaying enforcement of the ergo rule — to allow a full review of the NAS study — and reopening the rulemaking process should be the first order of business for the White House and Congress after inauguration," said Randel Johnson, U.S. Chamber of Commerce vice president for labor policy.

The National Association of Manufacturers agreed.

"If there ever was any doubt that the rule should be overturned by Congress or the courts, this study removes it by underscoring ... the lack of clarity about the exact causes of musculoskeletal disorders," NAM's director of employment policy, Jenny Krese, said. "While we strongly believe the panel was biased in favor of the regulation, we welcome the study's admission that there are dozens of complex and difficult-to-determine factors."

But OSHA Administrator Charles Jeffress said the study validated his agency's call for new workplace safeguards.

"This study affirms what OSHA's found in its rule making, that in fact these disorders are work-related and that ergonomics programs do make a difference," Jeffress said.

"What this study says is that the science is good, that this rule is based on good science. In fact it should be read as an encouragement to those people who have ergonomics programs and should be read as a validation of OSHA's issuing approval."

The academy's report confirmed that particular jobs can be tied to workplace injuries and estimated that these cases lead to 70 million doctor's visits annually at a cost of billions of dollars in lost wages and decreased productivity.

The study said scientific evidence shows that disorders of the lower back and upper extremities can be attributed to working at particular jobs, including those involving heavy lifting, repetitive and forceful motions and stressful environments.

"However, the connection between the workplace and these disorders is complex, partly because of the individual characteristics of the workers — such as age, gender and lifestyle," commented Jeremiah A. Barondess, chairman of the panel that wrote the report. Barondess is president of the New York Academy of Medicine.

The study found that back pain made up the overwhelming share of workplace problems, along with muscle and bone disorders and wrist injuries, including carpal tunnel syndrome. It estimated that these maladies cost the country $45 billion to $54 billion annually in compensation, lost wages and lowered productivity.

Back disorders were related to jobs that involved heavy lifting, those where workers have to twist or turn their bodies from side to side and where they experience whole-body vibration.

But, the study added, back pain also occurred in jobs where workers faced a rapid work pace, monotonous work, low job satisfaction, little decision-making power and high levels of stress.

Repetitive motion, force and vibration were the primary risk factors in shoulder, arm and wrist injuries.

For muscle and bone disorders the men at greatest risk were carpenters, construction laborers and operators of industrial machinery. Among women it was nurses and nursing support, domestic and commercial cleaning and janitorial work.

Driver's past under investigation after California Capitol accident

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The man believed to have slammed his tractor-trailer into the state Capitol had agreed to undergo anger-management counseling for the latest in a string of legal and mental problems, according to court records.

Police were investigating whether the driver, whom the trucking company identified as 37-year-old Mike Bowers, 37, deliberately rammed the building Tuesday night and had a grudge against any state officials.

Bowers, of Hemet, Calif., had not made any threats, police said Wednesday.

"We don't find at this point that there's a reason to believe a terrorist action was involved," said California Highway Patrol spokesman Ray Blackwell.

Bowers' legal woes and parole violations in the last 15 years included convictions for battery on a peace officer and beating his girlfriend's children, state Department of Corrections spokesman Russ Heimerich said. He was admitted to mental hospitals in 1995 and 1998.

Bowers was released in November 1999 on the order of a Riverside County judge, and on Jan. 2 he pleaded guilty to spousal abuse, officials said. He was placed on three years' probation and ordered to attend anger-management classes.

Kelle Simon, president of Dick Simon Trucking Inc. in Salt Lake City, said Bowers had complained to a fleet manager about family problems, but Simon didn't know the nature of the situation. Bowers had been working for the company for eight days, officials said.

Officials are still cleaning up the mess and tallying the damages to the Capitol. Repairs could be costly because the 1874 Capitol was restored to historic standards two decades ago, at a cost of $68 million, and those standards must be maintained, said Assemblyman Dennis Cardoza.

"I would suspect it's in the millions of dollars," he said.

The truck broke through a wall into a hearing room and damaged two arched columns on the Capitol's south porch. The fire that erupted from the truck scorched the building's outside walls to the third floor.

Because the Senate chambers are above a damaged porch, the Senate planned to meet Thursday with its 39 members crowded into a committee room in the annex.

On the Net:
State of California:
http://my.ca.gov
State Capitol History:
http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pdf/caleg11.pdf

Lone Star critters are en route to Washington, D.C.

DALLAS (AP) — Hotel room reserved, travel arrangements made and invitation to the inaugural ball on hand, a unique group of Texas natives are ready for President-elect Bush's official welcome to Washington.

And it could get a little furry.

A select group of animals synonymous with the Lone Star state have been invited to lend a Texas flair to the Beltway.

"They were looking for the biggest and brightest in Texas to come to Washington for this event," said Fort Worth Zoo spokeswoman Courtney Grafa, who expects to fly in a hawk, a roadrunner, an armadillo and an alligator for Friday night's Texas Black Tie & Boots Ball.

The University of Texas' beloved longhorn mascot, Bevo, is making the trek via trailer — a three-day road trip each way. Once in Washington, Bevo will be featured in Saturday's inaugural parade.

Reveille, Texas A&M's mascot collie, is to join the school's band on a jet to Washington where he will mingle with guests at the ball.

"Even a lot of Texans don't realize some of these animals are native to Texas. It's a real opportunity to educate people and show the great wildlife we have here in Texas," Grafa said.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -Morning stocks:

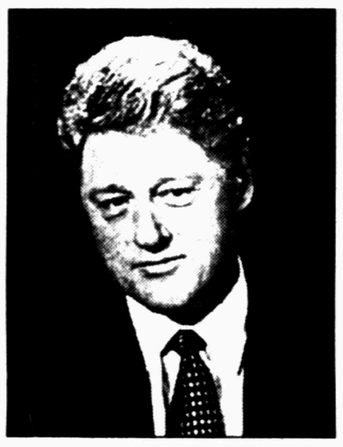
	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp s	38 00	36 88	37 88	+ 88
AOL TimeWrn	49 33	48 00	49 11	+ 32
AT&T Corp	24 31	23 75	24 06	— 06
Albertsons	26 44	25 50	26 38	+ 75
Alltel	68 69	66 94	67 31	— 81
AmEl Pw	41 25	40 44	41 06	+ 38
AndarkPtr	58 88	56 38	56 64	—3 01
ATMOS Egy	24 38	24 06	24 31	+ 31
Aviall	6 00	5 81	5 94	+ 13
BP Amoco	50 94	50 63	50 81	+ 81
BakerHughes	41 13	38 94	39 00	—2 06
Bank of Amer	49 63	48 25	49 38	— 19
BellSouth	44 69	44 13	44 31	— 06
Beth Steel	2 56	2 38	2 50	+ 19
BurlNoSFe	29 44	29 25	29 31	+ 19
Caterpillar	42 00	40 50	41 31	—3 35
Chevron	80 56	79 81	79 81	— 44
Citigroup s	54 00	53 38	53 88	+ 06
Coastal	75 56	73 75	74 19	—2 38
CocaCola	58 06	57 19	57 94	
ColgatePal	57 70	55 60	57 70	+ 1 15
ComclMetals	20 94	20 75	20 88	— 13
Cooperin	46 38	45 44	45 94	— 13
DaimlrChry	45 35	44 81	44 98	+ 1 23
DallSemicn s	30 00	28 94	29 88	— 31
DeltaAirl	47 56	46 19	47 50	+ 1 13
Dillards Inc	15 31	14 88	14 88	— 44
DowChem s	31 94	31 44	31 69	— 25
DuPont	44 31	42 63	43 31	—1 00
EastmanChem	45 81	44 81	44 81	— 94
EstKodak	42 44	41 81	41 88	
EDS Corp	57 13	56 31	56 94	+ 81
Entergy	36 19	35 50	35 63	+ 06
ExxonMobil	80 56	79 63	80 19	— 06
FstBksAm	18 06	18 06	18 06	+ 13
Flowers	15 75	15 56	15 69	+ 13
GenDynam	68 56	67 00	67 81	+ 1 06
GenElec s	47 38	46 63	47 00	+ 31
GenMills	41 44	40 88	41 06	— 19
GenMotors	56 25	54 88	55 88	+ 1 00
GaPacGP	29 19	28 56	28 94	— 06
GlobalMar	27 31	25 75	25 94	—1 00
Goodrich	34 00	33 50	33 69	
Goodyear s	24 12	23 89	23 95	+ 01
GtAtlPac	9 19	9 00	9 13	+ 19
Halliburtn	39 31	37 69	37 81	—1 19
Hanson ADS	33 75	33 69	33 75	+ 13
HarteHanks	23 63	23 44	23 56	+ 06
HomeDepot	47 13	46 31	46 50	+ 13
HoneywellIntl	48 50	47 63	48 13	+ 13
IBM	108 00	103 50	107 69	+ 11 00
IntlPaper	36 75	35 75	36 19	— 38
JohnsonJn	93 88	92 56	93 50	+ 1 81
K mart	7 63	7 13	7 50	+ 38
Kroger Co	24 38	24 00	24 31	+ 19
Litton	79 00	78 88	78 94	
LockheedM	32 80	31 88	31 98	— 04
Lowes Cos	48 06	47 31	47 38	— 75
Lubys	5 56	5 44	5 50	+ 06
LucentTech	18 94	18 50	18 75	
MayDeptStr	36 94	35 31	35 81	—1 13
Medtronic	54 31	53 00	54 13	+ 13
Motorola s	22 75	22 13	22 69	+ 25
NCR Corp	41 81	39 13	40 19	—1 50
Navistar	27 56	26 19	26 88	— 94
Penney JC	12 94	12 44	12 75	— 13
PepBoys	4 75	4 63	4 69	+ 13
PepsiCo	45 75	45 00	45 69	+ 31
Pharmacia	56 56	55 75	56 25	+ 38
PhelpDodge	48 63	47 50	48 19	— 19
PhilipPet	55 75	54 63	54 75	— 69
PilgrmPrd B	8 50	8 13	8 44	+ 19
Polaroid	8 25	7 69	7 88	+ 19
Praxair	42 56	41 94	42 25	— 50
ProctGamb	71 19	69 75	70 81	+ 63
PubS NwMx	24 88	24 44	24 56	+ 13
RadioShack	50 44	49 69	50 44	+ 31
ReliantEngy	34 06	32 88	33 44	+ 31
RoyalDut	59 69	59 00	59 56	+ 19
SBC Comm	50 94	50 06	50 31	
SaraLee	21 88	21 38	21 75	+ 25
Scripps EW	63 69	62 69	62 81	— 63
SearsRoeb	35 52	34 03	34 35	— 40
SherwinW	26 88	26 00	26 13	— 94
SouthernCo	28 00	27 00	27 19	— 31
SwstAirl	30 25	29 30	29 90	+ 70
SprintFON	27 94	27 38	27 50	— 69
SprintPCS	30 69	29 38	30 69	+ 88
Sunoco Inc	29 75	29 44	29 63	+ 19
TXU Corp	36 63	35 50	35 69	— 25
TempleInland	50 94	50 00	50 25	— 31
Texaco	59 63	58 88	58 94	— 81
TexInd	29 81	29 13	29 19	— 50
TexasInst s	50 88	48 38	50 75	+ 19
Textron	48 44	47 81	48 00	+ 06
TriconGlbR	35 94	35 31	35 69	+ 56
TrinityInds	23 94	23 50	23 50	— 56
TritonEngy	27 69	26 69	27 19	—1 31
TylerTech	1 88	1 88	1 88	+ 13
USX-Marathn	27 44	26 88	26 94	— 50
USX-USS	16 94	16 50	16 69	
UnCarbide	47 63	47 00	47 31	— 19
UnionPacif	52 63	52 38	52 44	— 19
UnitedTech	73 06	72 13	72 81	+ 69
Unocal	33 94	33 19	33 19	— 56
Venator Grp	13 63	12 75	12 94	— 25
VerizonComm	54 81	53 94	54 81	+ 88
WalMart	54 50	53 44	54 00	+ 06
WellsFargo	49 75	48 31	48 56	— 81
WstnGasRs	28 44	27 44	28 06	— 31
WinnDixie	18 19	17 94	18 13	+ 06
Xerox Cp	7 81	7 50	7 75	

JAN 18 2001

Polls give Clinton high job approval

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton prepares to leave office with some of the highest job approval ratings of any president in the last half century, says a new poll. But people still have their doubts about him personally.

An ABC News-Washington Post poll released Wednesday night showed that 65 percent approve of his job performance, about the same as the job



Bill Clinton

approval rating Ronald Reagan had at the end of his term. They had the highest end-of-term ratings of any presidents in the last half-century.

The approval of Clinton's job performance has tracked closely with public perception of economic conditions. As the economic recovery began to gain momentum in the summer of 1996, the president's approval rating crept above 60 percent.

The public's view of Clinton is sharply divided along partisan lines, with 93 percent of Democrats approving of his job performance and only 32 percent of Republicans. Clinton gets positive marks from different groups. Six in 10 Republicans and conservatives approve of his handling of the economy. Three-fourths overall approve of his handling of the economy and of race relations, while almost that many approve of his handling of foreign affairs. Only half approve of his handling of health care, and six in 10 approve of his handling of the welfare system.

As he prepares to leave office Saturday, Americans are decidedly less upbeat on personal measures of Clinton. Three-fourths say he does not have high moral and ethical standards, and almost that many say he is not trustworthy. Two-thirds said he is a strong leader, and half say he will be thought of as an outstanding or above-average president. And six in 10 say he should not be charged with a crime for lying under oath about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

People remain sharply divided on whether Clinton should have been impeached, with just over half saying he should not have been. They also are split on whether they have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the president. The ABC-Post poll of 1,513 adults was taken Jan. 11-15 and has an error margin of 2.5 percentage points.

Looking ahead, half of Americans said they are at least somewhat optimistic about the next four years, according to another new poll, as President-elect Bush prepares to take office at the same time that confidence in the economy is slipping.

About four in 10 say they're confident Bush has the right goals and policies as well as the right personal characteristics to be president, according to the NBC News-Wall Street Journal poll released Wednesday evening. Almost that many say they are only somewhat confident he has those goals and characteristics.

Just over half, 53 percent, said the conditions faced by Bush will be more difficult than those that faced Bill Clinton when he became president in 1993. Roughly the same number felt that Clinton faced more difficult circumstances that Bush's father did when he became president in 1988.

The NBC-Journal poll of 1,018 adults was taken Saturday through Monday and has an error margin of 3 percentage points.

Republican polling done the day after the presidential election, found that voters who backed Bush did so both because of his personality and his agenda. According to the GOP poll, more people thought Bush was intelligent — a question raised about him during the campaign — than thought Democratic nominee Al Gore was honest, one of the major criticisms of the Democrat.

And the poll found that Gore won the last week of the election campaign " because the Democrats trashed George Bush, especially in the African-American community and made black voters vote against George Bush."

No issue too small in nominees' fight

WASHINGTON (AP) — When President-elect Bush picked Gale Norton to head the Interior Department, her environmentalist opponents started calling residents of the mountain hamlet of Buena Vista, Colo., about her role in a nearby housing subdivision.

Seeking to elevate the long-settled dispute over a 180-acre parcel to national prominence, environmental groups flew some of the local critics to Washington to argue against Norton's nomination.

In the big-money battles over Bush's Cabinet nominees, no expense is too much and no issue too small for either side to pursue for political advantage.

Democrats seeking to defeat former Sen. John Ashcroft's nomination as attorney general dug up speeches, writings and rulings dating back more than three decades as they sought fodder to argue he was too conservative.

Republicans fought back, rifling through the rulings and court transcripts of a federal judicial nominee from Missouri that Ashcroft successfully blocked. GOP officials cited that material to counter critics' allegations that the former senator blocked the nomination because the judge was black.

"We've known all along that information would be the essence" of the confirmation battles, said Juleanna Glover Weiss, a spokeswoman for the Bush transition. "We were ready for that."

Several Internet sites supporting and opposing Norton and Ashcroft have sprouted in the past two weeks. The Sierra Club also is running radio and television ads attacking Norton, and groups on all sides are urging their members to call or e-mail senators to weigh in on the nominations.

Opponents of New Jersey Gov. Christie Whitman's nomination to head the Environmental Protection Agency even mailed senators copies of a 1996 photograph that shows her frisking an unarmed black man during a drug sweep. Critics say Whitman did not do enough to stop racial profiling by New Jersey state troopers.

In Norton's case, the Environmental Working Group and the League of Conservation Voters brought three critics of the Colorado subdivision to Washington for a news conference in the Capitol on Thursday.

Norton represented developer Glen Stephens in a successful effort to get county approval for the subdivision, which includes 82 housing lots of an acre or more each. Opponents said the development would violate county guidelines and damage habitat for a herd of about 850 elk.

"She jammed her way through with little regard to the wishes of anyone in this community," said Dave Wright, a video documentary producer who lives near Buena Vista. "If you're going to serve in public office, then these little past abrasions eventually do have to come back to haunt you."

At one point during the controversy, Stephens bought an ad in a local newspaper calling efforts to block the project "socialism" and declaring, "To oppose population growth is to oppose God."

Norton's spokeswoman, Jeanie Mamo, said the development was meant to provide affordable housing for workers at a nearby state prison. Norton helped work out a compromise that set aside 30 percent of the parcel for elk habitat, Mamo said.

"I don't see anything unusual about that," Mamo said.

The role of background research even led to a spat itself. Republicans said they were upset that Ashcroft's opponents used material gathered for the campaign of the late Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan, who defeated Ashcroft in November for one of Missouri's Senate seats after his death in a plane crash during the campaign.

Marc Farinella, Carnahan's former campaign manager, worked with the liberal group People for the American Way to show his Ashcroft research to reporters and others. Farinella said he was acting on his own and was not connected to Carnahan's widow, Jean Carnahan, who was appointed to the Senate seat.

GOP researchers delved into the background of Ronnie White, the black Missouri Supreme Court justice Ashcroft helped deny a federal judgeship. Ashcroft called white "pro-criminal," citing the jurist's dissents in several death penalty cases, in successfully persuading the Senate to reject White's nomination.

Ashcroft's critics question whether racial bias led to Ashcroft's opposition of White, a charge Ashcroft strongly denies.

Republican researchers looked up White's dissents in recent death penalty cases as well as trial transcripts in the case of a multiple cop killer that White, in a dissent, said should have been spared execution. Although White said there was evidence that Jim Johnson was suffering flashbacks to the Vietnam War, the transcript shows Johnson gave police a detailed confession and told authorities he made up the flashback story, a Republican National Committee memo says.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, Jan. 19, 2001

Although the methods you use in the year ahead might be construed as being a bit peculiar or unconventional, several secret ambitions are likely to be fulfilled because of them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Friends with compassionate natures are the ones most likely to respond to any special kind of favor you may need today. Forget the hard hearts. They're not likely to even hear you. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) That natural-born asset you possess for easily dealing with large groups or organizations will be put to work today. Good things could happen, be they of a social or commercial nature.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Today is likely to be one of your better days for achieving material objectives. Don't place limits on yourself, because you're capable of realizing more than one goal.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) What sets you apart from others today is your fantastic way of packaging your comments. You're able to make even criticisms sound like you're doing the person a favor.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) An elusive objective you're been trying to achieve may be harnessed today because of some subtle but powerful changes that transpire. It pertains to your work or finances.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Don't pussyfoot around today if there is an important matter you want to resolve. Go directly to the principle party involved and a successful agreement can be reached.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) A task or chore that has become routine could be given new life today simply by putting a new spin on the reasons you're doing them. Your thoughts can produce productive alterations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You have the ability today to make one who takes life a bit too seriously feel thrilled to be able to spend some frivolous time with warm, kind friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Find time and ways to express your ideas today if you're feeling creative and inventive. Your imagination and desires aren't running amuck — they're working for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Persons with whom you'll be sharing your day will find good reasons to remember your words, actions and behavior today because of all the nice things you say or do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) If you're perceptive enough to analyze conditions accurately today, you could realize some substantial gains financially. Be alert for subtle development to make this possible.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) That natural magnetism and charisma you possess and use so effectively could come into full play for you today. You'll be able to attract the right people for all the right reasons.

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Woman receives 16 months in prison

BALTIMORE (AP) — A woman who bought a rifle her neighbor used in a deadly shooting rampage was sentenced Wednesday to 16 months in a federal prison.

Constance Waugh, 49, pleaded guilty in July to lying on a federal form when she purchased the rifle for Joseph Palczynski, who had a criminal background that prevented him from buying it.

Palczynski was shot and killed by police after holding his girlfriend's mother and two others hostage for four days in March.

Waugh said she bought the rifle for Palczynski as a gift, but later admitted she knew he could not buy it himself because he had a criminal assault record. She used his money to buy the rifle.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Canceled wedding raises question of returning gifts

DEAR ABBY: A friend of mine just canceled her wedding that was to take place a month from now. We already had an engagement party and a bridal shower for her.

I assumed since the wedding was canceled, the gifts would be returned. Instead, my friend asked me how much I spent so she could reimburse me, because she likes my gift too much to return it. She further stated that members of her family had refused to take back their gifts when asked. I was too shocked to respond to her question.

How should I have answered her question about how much I spent for her gift? (By the way, she was engaged once before but canceled the wedding before the shower.)

The gifts from the engagement party were never returned — so now I have given two engagement gifts and a shower gift to someone who never got married.

Which leads to another question — should she ever become engaged again, must I give her a third gift? — **CONFUSED IN WEST CALDWELL, N.J.**

DEAR CONFUSED: Since you have already given two engagement gifts and a shower gift, I see no reason why you should feel obligated to give again should your friend get in the way of cupid's arrow. Tell her exactly how much you spent for the wedding gift she's keeping so she can reimburse you for the expense. She's trying to do the right thing and shouldn't be criticized for it.

**

DEAR ABBY: I would like to respond to "Not Very Graceful in Provo, Utah," who asked how women in high heels could walk so gracefully.

When I went through modeling school in the 1950s, we were taught to walk in high heels by:

(1) Placing the toe area down first, followed very quickly by the heel, so the whole foot was down at the same time.

(2) Walking with knees slightly flexed.

(3) Pulling our ribs "out of the abdomen" (figuratively speaking) without doing anything special with the shoulders, not to lean back, and most important, standing up straight.

If she follows these instructions, she will walk smoothly. Balancing a book on top of the head can be added later. I'm sure models are still taught these techniques. — **DEIRDRE MADDEN, MEDINA, OHIO**

DEAR DEIRDRE: May I be frank? Thank you for the input, but it seems like a lot to remember just to make it from point A to point B. I also heard from a foot specialist who asked me to remind women that more important than walking gracefully in high heels is to wear shoes that fit properly. An entire industry (bunion removal) was spawned by the popularity of ill-fitting, spike-heeled shoes.

**

DEAR ABBY: My mother recently passed away. I have been receiving fruit baskets, flowers, Mass cards and sympathy cards from my friends, co-workers and family.

I realize that I must send thank-you notes for baskets, flowers and Mass cards. Is it also necessary to send a note back if someone sent me a printed card with their signature or a printed card with a written note to me? — **MOURNING IN WORCESTER, MASS.**

DEAR MOURNING: I would. Everyone who has made the effort to reach out to you in your time of sorrow should be acknowledged.

**

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

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Bush interview continues below

Continued From Page 2

"I'll give you my perspective," Bush said. "Never should we have an election where elected officials are able to guess the intent of a voter, and if that's what they're going to look at then that's something I would welcome."

— He doesn't know whether the outgoing Democratic administration is trying to set a trap for him by forecasting economic growth without recession, but "the facts will be what they are," and talk will not withstand numbers should there be a slump. "I don't know if they're trying to set me up," he said. "There are a lot of people who are very concerned about the vitality of our economy, and I'm one of them."

Bush said his $1.6 trillion, 10-year tax cut, would be "an insurance policy against economic slowdown."

— Bush said energy policy "needs to be on the front burner now," and not dropped from the national priority list when there is no crisis. He said he favors conservation, but it will not save enough energy to meet future demand. "Therefore we need more supply and we can find supply in an environmentally friendly way and this is going to be a monumental battle because there are some who just do not believe that you can drill a gas well without forever damaging the environment," Bush said.

Offshore gas drilling is in dispute in Florida, where his brother, Jeb, is governor. Bush said the problem there and on other coastlines is "visual pollution" along with the risk of actual damage. While he said he supports offshore drilling, he also said he will consult with governors and support those who back bans off their state coastlines.

He said oil and gas exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is a different matter, because it is wilderness that can be tapped without environmental damage. "It's an area where we can develop and protect," he said.

— The president-elect, an adviser and troubleshooter for his father during his term, said he will "bounce things off" the former president as he deals with the work of the new administration.

"First of all, he'll be my Dad," Bush said, "and I say that because there's nothing like having your Dad say, 'Son, I love you,' or 'Son, you're doing fine,' when you may not be doing fine.

"Secondly, I'm going to bounce things off him sometimes.

"I bet I talk to him maybe once a week or once every two weeks," Bush said.

"It was going to be an e-mail relationship," Bush said, "but now that presidential e-mail is subject to open records, it's going to be a phone call relationship."

Appellate court ruling gives new life to 19th century claim

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A lawsuit that alleges the King Ranch's founder committed fraud and conspiracy is now cleared for trial after an appellate ruling.

Justices of the 13th Court of Appeals, in a 2-1 decision last week, overturned two summary judgments that stymied a civil case filed in the 1800s by the heirs of William Chapman, a friend and business partner of Texas legend Richard King.

The lawsuit contends that Chapman's widow was cheated out of her share of the original ranch by King and Robert Kleberg, King's son-in-law. Chapman died in 1859.

The Jan. 11 court opinion, written by Justice Federico G. Hinojosa, was a jolt to King Ranch officials, who plan to ask the court to reconsider its decision, said Jack Hunt, chief executive and president of King Ranch Inc.

"We just think this court's action is incredible," Hunt said. "It's unprecedented."

But the Chapman heirs, who claim the ranch's wealth was built upon an original sin of deceit that occurred more than a century ago, could get their day in a Nueces County court if the appellate opinion stands.

"We want recognition of the Chapman role in the development of South Texas and our rightful share of the property interest," said Edward Caleb Coker, a great-great-grandson of William Chapman.

The King and Kleberg families created a cattle empire that dominated South Texas. A pillar of the ranching industry known for vast land holdings, profitable cattle breeds and generations of loyal cowboys, the King Ranch is larger than Rhode Island.

The lawsuit focuses on the original 15,449 acres of land known as the Rincon de Santa Gertrudis, which King and other business partners owned in the 1800s. The suit's claims are based on deeds, letters and court documents written long ago.

The original acreage launched King, a steamboat captain, into the cattle business, and by the time he died in 1885, King had added more than 600,000 acres to his holdings.

Today the property covers parts of the King Ranch, Kingsville and the Kingsville Naval Air Station.

Last week, court justices cited evidence that appeared to show a jury trial was merited in the modern-day lawsuit, in part because of Kleberg's conflict in the 19th-century case.

In the dissenting opinion, Justice Bonner Dorsey wrote there is no evidence showing King directed Kleberg to cheat the Chapman family, pointing out: "The Chapmans did not take nothing by their 1879 lawsuit."

Five children are killed in Texas trailer fire

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A fire swept through a one-room trailer in a dilapidated mobile home park near the Mexican border, killing five children under the age of 11, police said.

Rescuers found the children's bodies burned beyond recognition and huddled in a corner of the trailer's charred, mangled frame. The fire broke out hours after Maria Martinez, 30, and her seven children had moved into the park.

Martinez was away from the trailer along with her infant child and 13-year-old son when the fire began Wednesday night. Justice of the Peace Oscar Tullos said she apparently had taken a child to a neighbor's to warm a bottle of milk, locking the door as she left.

The children — aged 3, 5, 7, 8 and 10 — probably died instantly, investigators said.

"The children were consumed right away," Tullos said.

It was unclear what sparked the blaze. The home had no electricity, and Martinez told police there were neither matches nor candles inside.

The family was using a car battery to generate power earlier in the day, the mother told police.

"But there's no way to find a cause so soon," Fire Marshal Raul Salazar said. "We just don't know."

Smoke was still thick in the air as investigators loaded the tiny bodies into a trailer and took them away for autopsies. Curious neighbors huddled in the street.

Heat ate holes in the trailer's fiberglass and aluminum body, and blew out the windows.

"Have you ever seen a matchbox go up?" Assistant Fire Chief Lenny Perez asked, nodding toward the trailer's scorched skeleton. "We knocked the fire down real quick, but it was too late."

Investigators were to continue poking through the debris at first light Thursday.

The mother and her oldest son, meanwhile, were being questioned by police. They were being taken to a shelter for the night, police spokesman Orlando Rodriguez said.

"This mainly makes you count your blessings," Rodriguez said.

The fire did not spread to other units in the trailer park, a strip of sagging homes hemmed by factories and fields in Brownsville, in south Texas.

Beneath a mesquite tree sat a rusting Oldsmobile with Mexican plates — the family car, police said. Authorities did not know how long Martinez has lived in Brownsville, or where the father of the children is.

The family had just moved up the street from a colonia on the outskirts of Brownsville.

U.S. Border Patrol agents on routine duty noticed smoke and called firefighters, who arrived to find the home completely engulfed in flames.

Jackson admits extramarital affair and fathering a child

WASHINGTON (AP) — Civil rights activist Jesse Jackson revealed today that he had an extramarital affair that resulted in the birth of a daughter. "I fully accept responsibility and I am truly sorry for my actions," he said.

Jackson, a Baptist minister and one-time aide to Martin Luther King Jr., issued a statement admitting that he fathered the child, now 20 months old, and has provided "emotional and financial support" since her birth. "As her mother does, I love this child very much," he said.

"I was born of these circumstances, and I know the importance of growing up in a nurturing, supportive and protected environment," Jackson said. "So I am determined to give my daughter and her mother the privacy they both deserve."

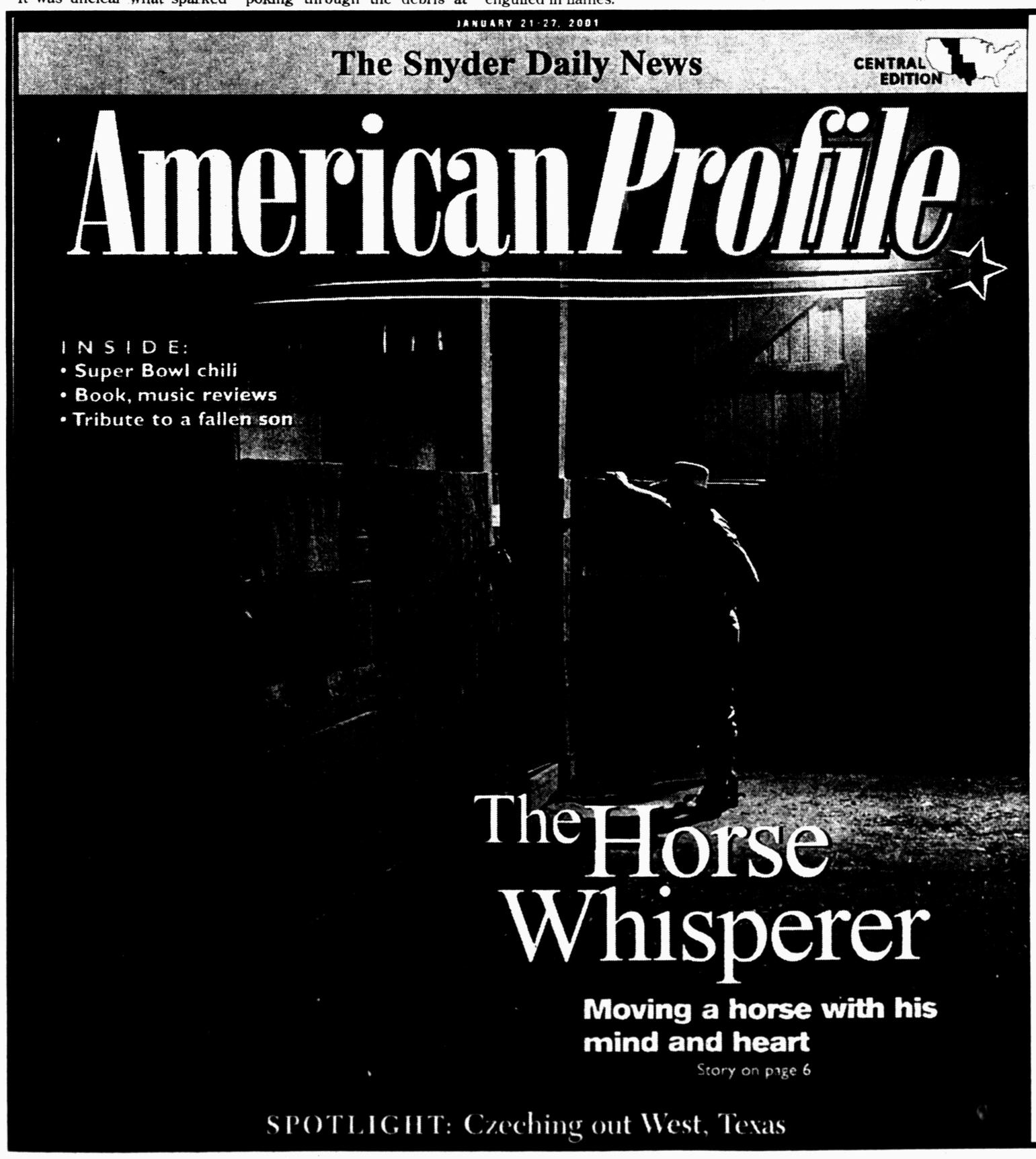
Jackson did not say why he issued the statement. His New York-based spokesman, John Scanlon, said later that Jackson acted to get out in front of anticipated tabloid reports about the child, who Scanlon said was the result of an affair Jackson had with a woman who worked in the Washington office of Jackson's advocacy group, the Rainbow-PUSH Coalition.

"He's obviously concerned for his family, for his child and the child's mother," Scanlon said.

"This is no time for evasions, denials or alibis," Jackson's statement said. "No doubt, many close friends and supporters will be disappointed in me. I ask for their forgiveness, understanding and prayers."

Jackson was a steadfast presence at President Clinton's side as the president struggled with the public revelation of his affair with Monica Lewinsky and the impeachment proceedings that followed. It was Jackson who went to the White House to pray with Clinton's family on a grim weekend in August 1998, as Clinton admitted the truth to his wife and daughter and, in a nationally televised speech, to the nation.

Last August, Clinton awarded Jackson the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. At that time, Jackson lavished praise on his wife, Jackie, and his five children for supporting him in his long civil rights career.



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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Police arrest 3 protesters

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a preview of what may come on Inauguration Day, police arrested three protesters Thursday, after two of them dangled outside the third floor of the Interior Department with a huge banner opposed to the new Bush administration's environmental policies.

The protest by Greenpeace-USA activists came on the opening day of confirmation hearings for Interior Secretary-designate Gale Norton. Members of the group have expressed concern that Norton would allow energy exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Two of the men used ropes and pulleys to lower themselves outside the third floor of the department's headquarters, unfurling a red-white-and- blue banner which read "Bush and Norton: Our Land, Not Oil Land!"

After 45 minutes, the activists lowered themselves to the street and surrendered peacefully. Police arrested a third on the roof.

Craig Culp, 41, of Baltimore, Bob Lyon, 30, of Chicago, and Pat Keys, 26, of Washington, have been charged with disorderly conduct, which carries a fine of up to $50.

Anticipating the largest inaugural demonstrator presence since tens of thousands marched against the Vietnam War in 1973, an army of law enforcement officers representing 16 agencies has added new twists to their usual precautions for President-elect Bush's swearing-in at the Capitol and the inaugural parade route to the White House.

For the first time, people attending the parade will have to pass through police and Secret Service checkpoints and have their bags searched. Demonstrators will be allowed to bring signs, but not the puppets or stilts used in recent protests, Secret Service spokesman Jim Mackin said.

U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler was scheduled to hear arguments Thursday from demonstrators seeking an injunction against the security plans. The demonstrators contend that the 16 checkpoints and other restrictions are unconstitutional and not intended to protect Bush so much from harm as from embarrassment.

High-ranking Russian official arrested

MOSCOW (AP) — A high-ranking Russian official at the center of a Kremlin corruption scandal was arrested after arriving at John F. Kennedy airport in New York. Russia's Foreign Ministry quickly protested Thursday.

Pavel Borodin headed the Kremlin property administration under former President Boris Yeltsin, and currently is secretary of the Russia-Belarus Union.

Late last year, Russian prosecutors closed a more than two-year-old investigation into whether he and other members of Yeltsin's inner circle received kickbacks from two Swiss firms that held lucrative contracts to refurbish Kremlin properties.

Switzerland had kept the case open. U.S. officials arrested Borodin late Wednesday under a year-old Swiss warrant on money-laundering charges. Borodin was scheduled to appear in U.S. District Court in Brooklyn on Thursday, federal prosecutors said.

Mother wants her twin girls returned

NEW YORK (AP) — The mother of the twin girls at the center of a trans-Atlantic adoption battle said Thursday she wants her babies returned to her.

"I really want my girls back. I really do," Tranda Wecker, 28, said in an interview on CBS' "The Early Show."

Wecker's 6-month-old girls were initially adopted through an Internet service by a California couple, Richard and Vickie Allen, who say they paid about $6,000 in fees to adoption broker Tina Johnson.

The Allens claim the girls were taken from them two months later and given to a British couple who whisked the children to England.

The British couple, Alan and Judith Kilshaw, say they paid Johnson an additional $12,000.

Wecker said on Thursday she no longer wanted to go through with the adoption and had lost trust in the adoption process.

"My babies' future is now up in the air. I mean, I love my girls. ... I feel like I was betrayed," Wecker said, adding that she had not made "a dime" from the transaction.

The FBI said on Wednesday it had begun a preliminary investigation into the case and that it was looking into several complaints about adoptions. British authorities also expressed concern.

Johnson, who runs Caring Heart Adoption from her San Diego home, could not be located for comment. Her Web site appeared to have been taken down.

The Kilshaws, also appearing on the CBS program Thursday, said they would not give up the children and blamed the Allens for going public with the situation.

"We will fight to keep them," said Alan Kilshaw.

Woman tells police rings were returned

• ***Rings returned***

Liffin Molter notified police at 9:34 a.m. Wednesday that the rings she had reported stolen Tuesday had been returned. She requested no further action.

• ***Attempt to locate***

A mother requested officers attempt to locate her 15-year-old daughter at 11:09 a.m. Wednesday in reference to being told the girl was not at school. The woman called back at 5:41 p.m. and said the juvenile had returned home.

• ***Arrest***

A 27-year-old man was taken into custody at 4:40 p.m. Wednesday on misdemeanor warrants for bail jumping and failure to appear.

• ***Accident***

Officers took an accident report at 11:38 a.m. Wednesday in the 1900 block of 37th Street. Involved was a 2001 Volvo tractor towing two 1999 Great Dane box trailers, all owned by Ryder Truck Rental.

Cedric Carter, 37, of Grand Prairie was the driver of the truck, which struck a sign owned by the Texas Department of Transportation.

Taco John's and Hair Station are both under new ownership

Patrons can expect to see some changes in appearance at two local businesses that have recently changed ownership.

Taco John's is now owned by Ron and Katherine English, an Abilene couple that are also Burger King franchisees in West Texas.

In a totally different field of business, Shanna Covington is the new owner of The Hair Station, 2005 26th Street.

The Englishes headquarter in Abilene where they have a Burger King restaurant.

"This is our first venture into the Mexican food quick service restaurant business," Ron English said. "We selected Taco John's because after visiting with the franchise owner in Cheyenne, Wyo., we liked the quality of food, the pricing structure and the value the food gives for the price."

The Snyder location is the only Taco John's in the state of Texas, English said. He hopes to bring more to the state.

"We have purchased the rights to develop 64 counties in West and Central Texas.

The Englishes have been in the franchise business for 11 years. They currently own ten Burger King restaurants located throughout West Texas including locations in Midland, Odessa, Fort Stockton, Colorado City, Brownwood and Abilene.

"Abilene is our headquarters," English said. We will continue to develop the Taco John's franchise as well as the Burger King one."

As for local changes, English said the building would get a facelift.

"There will be a décor improvement interior wise and some exterior building improvements. This will include new menu boards and a new façade around the building."

He expects the renovations to begin in March at the earliest.

English said he and his wife are very community oriented.

"Our philosophy is that since we are doing business in the community, we like to participate in the community. We want to participate as a good corporate citizen."

He said he hopes to meet as many community leaders as possible and looks forward to serving Snyder.

"Being from West Texas ourselves, it gives us a good feeling because we know how important business is to local communities. We look forward to Snyder. It will actually be for us the training ground for the other restaurants as we begin to develop them."

The local manager is Randy Silva. The restaurant currently employs ten.

"We hope business will necessitate us to add at least five more in the next few months," English said. "Beyond that, we are hoping to double the number of employees we currently have."

David and Sherry Thompson were the former owners of the restaurant.

Over at The Hair Station, Shanna Covington is settling in as the new owner.

She will not be a hair stylist, but will be managing the business.

"I have not had a salon before," she said. "I am an artist. I just wanted to do some of this on my own. I believe the timing was great. I believe God got me to this place. Everything just went like clockwork with the closing. It's a God thing."

Covington said she has "great expectations and plans for expansion."

"We are going to expand, and we will take it one step at a time."

She said the business will expand its line of hair products as well as its jewelry and gift items.

"We are hopeful that within two weeks we will be opening a new tanning bed room."

Covington is now in the process of painting murals on the businesses' walls.

"I am painting Greek columns on the wall. It is going to be really neat and exotic."

She said the business will offer the same hair stylists and "the same warm atmosphere."

"We don't want to change, we just want to add — to make things bigger and better."

Renea Wunderlich is a new hair stylist and nail tech at The Hair Station.

Others that are both hair stylists and nail technicians are Carol Hildebrand and Evette Peterson.

Sandy Pollard, Debi Olsen and Lois Eicke are also hair stylists.

Together, Covington and her husband, Phil, have three children —Mycah Hilburn, 16; Amanda Covington, 13; and Sarah Covington, 11.

Obituaries

Georgia Mooty

1918-2001

Georgia Mooty, a longtime Snyder resident, died this morning in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock following a lengthy illness.

Services for Mrs. Mooty, 82, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Georgia Mooty

Born Sept. 27, 1918 in Delight, Ark., she married Lloyd Leon Mooty on Nov. 21, 1936 in El Dorado, Ark. He died Nov, 8, 1987.

Mrs. Mooty was a homemaker and a member of the Colonial Hill Baptist Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Linda Everett of Lubbock; a son, Bob Mooty of Lubbock; a sister, Mary Bugg of Delight, Ark.; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Deep Creek Cloggers

Deep Creek Cloggers will offer clogging lessons for beginners at 7 tonight at the American Legion building, 1800 Ave. R. Call 573-0807 or 573-3315 for more information.

GED testing dates

Testing for GED (high school equivalency) is Friday and also next Friday. For more information call Molly Kattes, 573-2919, or Emily Hataway, at home at 574-2112, or 573-8511, ext. 297 at WTC between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Married for Life outreach

Outreach night for the Married for Life seminar will be held at 7 p.m. Monday in the Word is Life Deliverance Church, 312 Coliseum Drive. Groups will be forming soon. For information, call 573-7471.

Tiger Swim Sharks

Snyder Tiger Swim Sharks will start practice Monday at the WTC pool. The team is for ages 7-18, and workouts will be held from 4-5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

WTC swimming pool opens

The WTC swimming pool is now open for public use. Lap swimming: M-F 6:30-8 a.m., and 12-1 p.m. Open swimming: M-TH 7-9 p.m. Cost is $2 per person or $50 for a semester pass. The pool is also available for parties on Fridays and Saturdays. For more information, contact Lisa Christensen at 573-8511, ext. 290

Ira school photos

Spring portraits and friendship pictures will be taken at the Ira schools Wednesday. Each student will be photographed, as will each class group. Sitting fee cost for the friendship pictures is $2 per person.

Ira annual deadline

Next Thursday is the deadline to purchase a 2001 Ira Bulldog yearbook with your name on the cover. Cost is $26. Price without name is $22.

Life Changing Power

The Potter's House Christian Fellowship Church will sponsor a "Life Changing Power" revival at 7 p.m. next Thursday and Friday at Central Elementary, 2700 Ave. K. Daniel Gutierrez is the evangelist. Call 573-0510 for more information.

'Music Man'

Snyder High School's Fine Arts Department will present "The Music Man" at 7:30 p.m. next Thursday through Jan. 27 and at 2 p.m. on Jan. 28. Adult tickets are $6, student tickets are $5 and reserve seat tickets are $8. Directors are Ronda Haire, choir director, and Brad Vincent, drama director.

Chili supper

Ira Baptist Church will sponsor a chili supper Saturday, Jan. 27, to raise funds for the GA and RA programs. The meal will be served from 5-7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Cost is $5 for adults, tickets for children under 12 are $3.50 and a family can eat for $20.

Ex-resident on 'Nick News'

Julie Zeck Smithey, former Snyder resident, and her fifth grade class in Adriana, Mich., will be featured on "Nick News," which airs at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28, on Nickelodeon. Smithey's students wrote letters explaining what they thought should be done with the Kennewick Man, a 9,000- year-old skeleton unearthed four years ago in Washington State.

Girl Scout cookie sale

Girl Scouts are taking cookie orders until Sunday, Jan. 28, for delivery in February. Anyone not contacted by a Girl Scout who wishes to order cookies may call Carla at 574-8004 or Peggy at 573-6725.

Credit union annual meeting

The annual membership meeting of the Scurry County School Federal Credit Union will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29, in the SHS cafeteria.

Vocational nurse program testing

The next testing dates for the March vocational nursing class at WTC are 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, and 9 a.m. Friday, Feb. 9. To schedule an appointment, call 573-8511, ext. 313.

Medical fund

A medical fund has been established at West Texas State Bank to defray medical expenses of Christa Lane Arnold who was born four months premature to Ruby and Larry Arnold. The baby is in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock with medicine expenses alone totaling over $900 per day. The account number at the bank is 3113906-01. Arnold is a DJ at KSNY.

1981 class reunion

The SHS class of 1981 reunion committee is seeking current addresses of class members for a reunion scheduled June 29-30. Submit names, addresses and e-mail addresses at shsclassof81@hotmail.com, or by calling Beth Bowen (573-2670), or Charlotte Clifton (573-2430).

Adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at WTC are held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. until noon, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include E.S.L., GED and refresher courses. Certified teachers and Spanish speaking aides teach these classes. Call 573-8511, ext. 322.

WTC continuing ed classes

Western Texas College's Continuing Education Department will present "The Great American Debt Opportunity" on Jan. 29 and "Spend Smart" on Jan. 30. Each session will last from 6 to 9 p.m. and both will be located in building 15A. The cost for each is $40. The textbook for "The Great American Debt Opportunity" costs $43, but it is not required. Call 573-8511, ext. 390 to reserve space in either class.

Discovery School registration

Registration for summer Discovery School at First United Methodist Church is underway. The session is for June and July. Registration will continue until classes are filled. Summer hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for children ages six weeks through five years. For more information, call 573-4770.