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WT-Int. Crude - $28.65
WTIC Posted - $26.00

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

Jan. 19, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 224
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Demetris Brandon

GOP to offer proposal to retire national debt

WASHINGTON (AP) — Speaker Dennis Hastert is ready to announce that House Republicans will develop a long-term economic plan that envisions paying off the public debt by 2015.

GOP aides, speaking Tuesday night on condition of anonymity, said the Illinois Republican's pledge anticipates setting aside all of the projected Social Security surplus as well as some portion of projected general government surplus funds to eliminate the $3.7 trillion public debt for the first time since since 1835.

No precise details were available.

"If we eliminate this debt, that money can be freed up for use on other priorities like tax relief, investing in our schools, or fortifying our national defense," according to remarks prepared for delivery today by the Illinois Republican.

Hastert made his first public mention of retiring the national debt at a news conference two weeks ago. His decision to expand on the issue several days before Congress convenes underscores the extent to which Republicans are hoping to lay out a legislative agenda to compete with President Clinton's State of the Union address.

Hastert is expected to call on Clinton to join Republicans in their debt retirement effort when he addresses the issue in New Mexico on Thursday.

Republican aides, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said money would still be available for tax cuts that majority Republicans want to enact this year, including relief from the so-called marriage penalty. One aide said the booming economy meant the GOP blueprint could also accommodate the $483 billion multi-year tax cut that GOP presidential front-runner George W. Bush advocates.

Beginning last spring, Republicans sought to position themselves as strong defenders of Social Security, declaring that in a reversal of long-standing practice, Congress wouldn't spend any of the retirement program's surplus on general government needs.

Revised budget estimates expected to be made public next week will show that Republicans met their goal for the current fiscal year. And under current law, excess Social Security funds are used to pay down the national debt.

The speaker is expected to say he is directing the Budget Committee to begin work on legislation to present to the GOP leadership before a budget is passed in the House, and no later than April 15.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "About the time you get good at something, it goes out of style."

We'd have to call it a niche business – the only collection agency in the world dealing strictly with overdue library books.

While there are no fines for late returns in Scurry County and the honor system works pretty well, a firm in Indiana makes a living calling those with overdue books and threatening them with a blemish on their credit reports if fines are not paid.

It all sounds pretty drastic, but the collection agency says its business is booming.

The library folks say a gentle reminder – and they stress gentle - is better than evoking the law that could levy a big fine or jail time.

Guess you can't argue with that.

The firm, as provided by the library staff, listed the top 10 excuses for over-due books.

—1. I lost them in the divorce. Call my ex.

—2. My husband is doing time.

—3. I've got too many to carry.

—4. I hurt my arm.

—5. I don't know where the library is.

—6. I was on the way to return them, but the police impounded my car.

—7. They were in the back seat of the car, and my husband sold it.

—8.We just found them behind the couch. (After four years).

—9. I threw them away.

—10. I haven't had time.

Or how about: "I'm a slow reader."

The last excuse may have been from the Aggies who were working alongside the road.

A passerby watched as one guy would dig a hole two or three feet deep and then move on. The other man would come right behind him and fill in the hole.

Then the scene would be repeated. The first guy would dig a hole, and the second one quickly filled it.

The spectator couldn't stand it. "You're wasting time and money he said. What do you think you are accomplishing for your employer?"

One Aggie replied, "But mister you don't understand. Normally there's three of us - me, Bubba and Mike. I dig the hole, Bubba sticks in the tree and Mike here puts the dirt back."

"Yea," pitched in Mike, "Now just 'cause Bubba's sick, that don't mean we can't work."

Superintendent's contract extended

After meeting for about 40 minutes Tuesday, Snyder ISD board of trustees voted to extend the contract of Supt. Gayle Lomax.

The extension is through June 30, 2003.



Gale Lomax
SISD Supt.

Trustees convened at noon and went into executive session to wrap up Lomax's annual performance. review. The board had met in executive session for about 45 minutes Thursday to begin the evaluation process.

No other items were on the agenda.

All trustees were present to include president Mark McCormick, Bill Moss, Richard Chambers, Glenn Clarady, Janet Stribling, Luann Burleson and Mike Levens.

Juarez named new GM at country club

Terry Juarez, an eight-year employee of Snyder Country Club, Tuesday night was named the club's general manager.

The action came during the club's annual meeting in which three new directors were elected and officers for 2000 were named.

New directors are Billy Huddleston, Ricky Daniell and John DeLille who join holdover board members John Reed, Anita Talbott, Dalton Walton, Christy Thompson, David Harrell and Randy Glasscock.

Directors named Daniell as the new president and Huddleston will serve as vice president. Secretary-treasurer is Jim Dickey.



Terry Juarez
C-Club GM

Juarez began working at the club in 1992 as a cook, moving up to the position of chef in 1993.

The 29-year-old is a 1990 graduate of Snyder High School. He and his wife, Gina, have a two-year-old son, Brandon.

"The country club will be trying to do its best to get everything moving in an upward direction," Juarez said. "We will be reaching out to the community to support it in any way possible."

Lack of funds put prison guards at risk

HOUSTON (AP) — The Texas Department of Criminal Justice is placing prison guards in "grave danger" because of a decline in training, the agency's director of training says.

In a letter to Gov. George W. Bush, Charles D. Godwin accuses TDCJ officials of diverting training funds and lying to the governor and public about the seriousness of the situation.

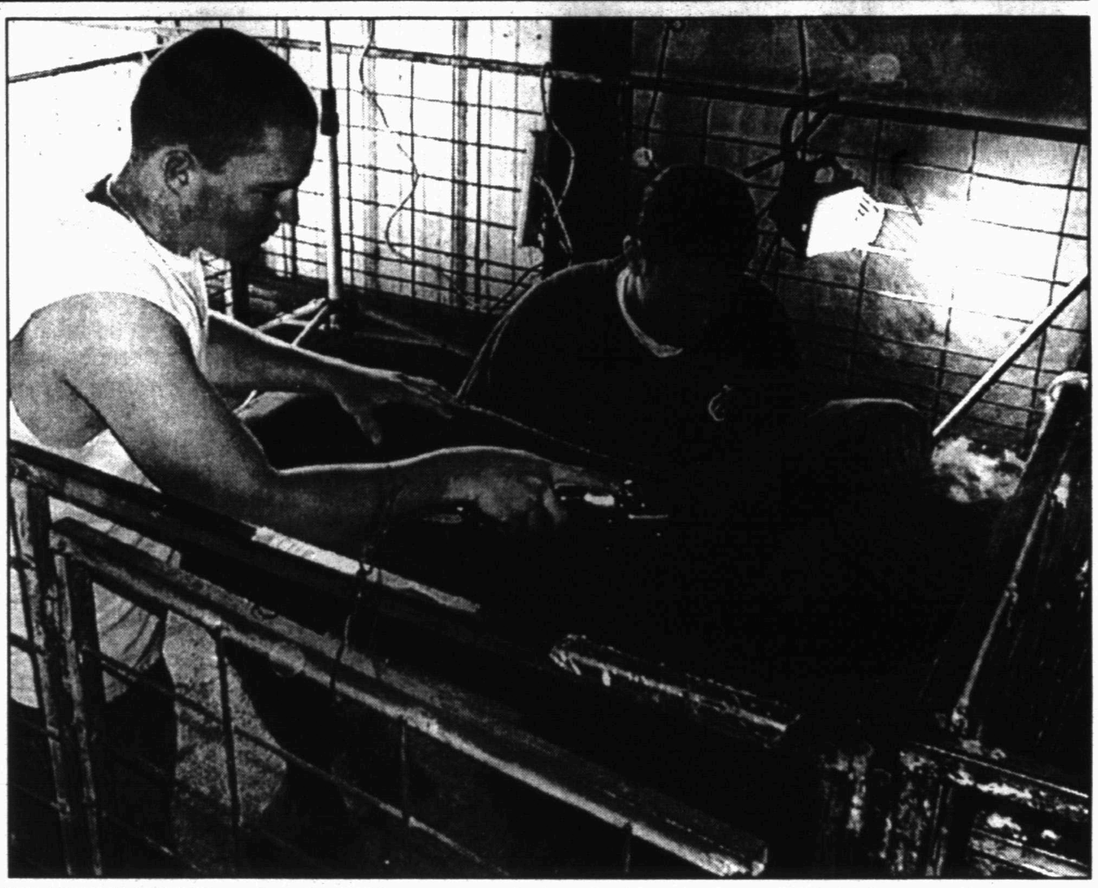
The Jan. 12 letter and an accompanying report outline 32 staff assaults since November 1998 that Godwin said could have resulted in deaths, including the recent stabbing of an officer with a steel rod. He posted a signed summary of the report on the Internet at www.tdcjid.com, an unofficial prisons Web site.

"Governor Bush, the TDCJ administration is deceiving you, as well as the public in Texas," Godwin wrote. "I have in the past witnessed attempts by TDCJ administrators to deceive members of the Board of Criminal Justice. I believe you likewise have been deceived by TDCJ officials as to the seriousness of the situation."

He said the Dec. 17 slaying of correctional officer Daniel Nagle and a subsequent takeover of the McConnell Unit in Beeville by some prisoners "are the direct result of dangerous trends in security over the past several years."

Assaults are at least 10 times more frequent than they were in 1998, he said.

TDCJ spokesman Glen Castlebury said the rate of assaults has increased from 4.3 per 10,000 inmates in 1997 to 7.4 per 10,000 in 1999.



TO THE BARBER — Snyder FFA members Brian Gordon (left) and David Beard clip a hog in preparation for the Scurry County Junior Livestock Association Show and Sale this week. Judging for hogs begins at 5 p.m. Thursday. (SDN Staff Photo by Joyce May)

Grooming underway for annual stock show

Weigh-in of lambs, goats and hogs begins this afternoon for the annual Scurry County Junior Livestock Show and Sale which opens Thursday in the coliseum annex.

Exhibitors will begin the weigh-in process at 5 p.m. today.

Steers will begin weighing-in at 1 p.m. on Thursday.

The show continues through Friday with the auction and awards presentation set for Saturday.

The event is open to the public and there is no admission charged.

Snyder FFA members will operate a concession stand.

The actual show gets underway at 5 p.m. on Thursday as Eddie Smallwood of O'Donnell will begin judging swine.

Steers will be judged on Friday beginning at 6 p.m., followed by lambs and goats.

Jake Fite of Burkburnett will judge the steers, while Steve Sturtz of Garden City will judge both the lambs and goats.

The awards presentation will be at 12:30 p.m. Saturday. Tommy Marricle will conduct the auction, which is slated to begin at 1 p.m.

A buyers' meal will not be held this year.

Ricky Miller serves as the president of this year's show, while Kirby Sterling is the vice president.

Jennifer Voss returns as secretary and treasurer.

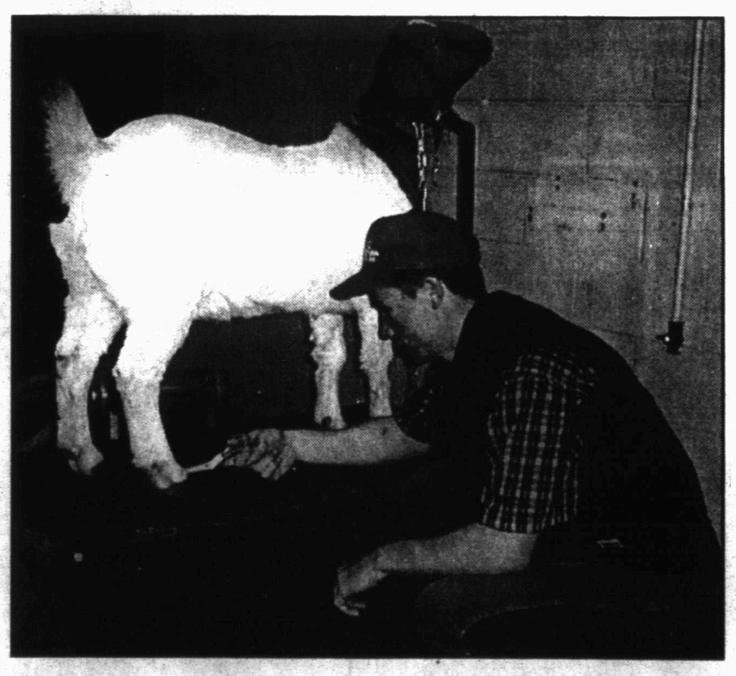
Other directors of the show are Johnny Joe Eicke, Jeff Gilbert, Billy Grimmett, Jim Judah and Jerry Boyd.

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

Serving from the Snyder FFA will be David Frazier and Jerry Conring, while Richard Smith serves as Hermleigh FFA advisor.

Jay Waller will represent the Ira FFA, and Greg Gruben will serve as the 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.



SNIP, SNIP — Snyder FFA member Casey Uptergrove trims the hair around the hoof of a goat in preparation for this week's livestock show and sale. Weigh-in for goats, lambs and hogs begins at 5 this afternoon. (SDN Staff Photo by Joyce May)

Three killed in dormitory fire

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — Fire broke out in a Seton Hall University dormitory early today as hundreds were asleep, killing three people and injuring 54. Screaming students in pajamas hastily grabbed coats and fled into bitter pre-dawn cold, with one leaping from a window.

The blaze in six-story Boland Hall began at about 4:30 a.m., university spokeswoman Lisa Grider said. It apparently started in a commons area on the third floor, pouring thick, black smoke through the building and out of the windows. The cause was under investigation.

Lisa Sepulveda, an 18-year-old student from New York City, said she saw a burned young man moaning as they fled the freshman dorm: "He looked like he had painted his entire body, it was purple and blue and orange."

Two of the dead were found in the commons area; another person was found in a nearby room, and attempts to revive that victim failed, said Donald Campolo, Essex County prosecutor.

Three of the 54 injured were hospitalized in critical condition, Campolo said. Names of the victims were not released.

ASK US

Q.-When is girls Little Dribblers signup?

A.-From 6-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, and 10 a.m. until noon Jan. 29 in the First Baptist Church Family Life Center.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 75 degrees; low, 42; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 42; no precipitation; total for 2000, .73 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy, low, upper 30s; NW-NE wind 10-20 mph; Thursday, partly cloudy, cooler. High around 55. E wind around 10 mph; SE in afternoon.



Stacey Singletary
Partly Cloudy

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

Of 18 days in 2000, the sun has shone 18 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

A good scare is worth more than good advice.
-Ed Howe

JAN 19 2000



LIBERATED WAILING WALL TO SING — The "Liberated Wailing Wall" will be presented in concert at 7 p.m. Thursday at the First Baptist Church. This traveling group of musicians is a branch of Jews for Jesus and uses a variety of instruments to achieve its characteristic sound, including piano, guitar, violin, and dunbek (Middle Eastern drum). The "Liberated Wailing Wall" has recorded 10 albums. This program will consist of music, drama, testimony, and ethnic costuming. There will be no admission charge, but a free-will offering will be taken for those who wish to contribute to the ministry of Jews for Jesus. (Contributed Photo)

Drilling off African coast stepped up

DALLAS (AP) — Triton Energy Ltd. announced it will step up drilling at a major oil find off the coast of Africa.

With governmental approvals in hand, Dallas-based Triton said Tuesday it was contracting a second deepwater rig to speed exploration and development drilling at its La Ceiba Field off the coast of Equatorial Guinea.

That would allow it to drill up to 10 wells this year, according to Triton president and CEO James C. Musselman.

"The idea of going to two rigs is to accelerate the exploration schedule we have," Musselman told The Dallas Morning News.

In October, Triton hit a gusher on the New York Stock Exchange after announcing the La Ceiba find, which had reserves of 300 million to 500 million barrels. The first well lies 22 miles from the coast, and the second a mile away from the first.

The news sent Triton's shares surging 27 percent in trading on Oct. 6, rising $3.88 to close at $18.06. Some of the gain disappeared in early trading the next day, as the stock price dipped to $17.41 by midday.

On Tuesday, after the stepped-up drilling announcement, Triton's stock climbed $2 a share to $27.25.

Last week, the Equatorial Guinea government approved Triton's plan for first-phase production of 52,000 barrels of oil a day, with four wells producing oil by the end of 2000, according to The News.

The company said it planned to use a floating production vessel to store up to 2 million barrels of oil, with the ability to process and ship 60,000 barrels a day.

Triton owns an 85 percent working interest in Ceiba's licenses, with the remaining 15 percent held by South Africa-based Energy Africa Ltd.

Musselman said Triton has the financial strength to develop the West Africa project by itself, with $185 million in cash on its balance sheet.

Public indifferent to tax cut arguments

PITTSFIELD, N.H. (AP) — While Sen. John McCain and Gov. George W. Bush bicker over tax policy, some voters preparing to cast ballots in the upcoming New Hampshire primaries say they have other priorities.

"Tax cuts really aren't a big deal for me," Dave Hauver, a 52-year-old cuff cutter at Globe Manufacturing, said Tuesday after the Texas governor stopped by for a tour. The company makes firefighter coats and pants.

"I'd rather see him put the money into Social Security; I have other issues that are important to me," Hauver said.

Cheryl Kendall, 42, a production worker at the same plant, said: "Honestly, taxes aren't that important to me. I'm middle class, I do OK. Health reform, that's a big thing."

Despite the sentiments, the two rivals for the Republican presidential nomination are battling over the tax issue in the run-up to Monday's Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primaries on Feb. 1.

On Tuesday, McCain signed a pledge saying he would not tax Internet sales. "We should not harm this baby in the cradle," he said. The Arizona senator then challenged Bush to take the same stand. Bush refused and instead urged New Hampshire voters to take a critical look at McCain's own tax plan.

"It's important for the people of this state to analyze everybody's plan," Bush said.

While taxes continue to be a big issue in this sales-tax free state, nationally voters appeared more aligned with McCain's position.

A new Time/CNN poll found that 63 percent of Republicans nationwide favored a small tax cut with more money going to shore up Social Security and reduce the federal debt. The same survey found that only 29 percent of Republicans favored a larger tax cut.

Bush said Tuesday: "If people don't like the tax cut plan, they can find another candidate, and I'm sure they will. ... If you expect ... me to go back in the bus and call up and say, 'What's the latest poll or what's the latest focus group talking about,' you got the wrong candidate."

Overall, McCain has proposed cutting taxes by $237 billion over five years. He has said it is irresponsible to cut taxes further until the financial future of Social Security and Medicare is assured.

Bush's plan would deliver a five-year, $483 billion tax cut. He says the only way to be certain that projected budget surpluses are not spent by the federal government is to refund most of the money to taxpayers.

"I don't think right now that the top 1 percent (of taxpayers) need 38 percent of the tax cuts," McCain said today on NBC's "Today." "That's what his plan calls for.

"There's a growing gap in America between rich and poor," he said. "That's not good for America. We ought to help those people that are not being lifted."

The two candidates also took their tax arguments to the airwaves in new ads.

Bush said McCain trusts "the people of Washington" rather than the people of New Hampshire to spend money. McCain said that unlike Bush, "I won't take every last dime of the surplus and spend it on tax cuts that mostly benefit the wealthy."

With Internet commerce generating an estimated $170 billion in revenue last year, McCain promised to support a permanent ban on taxing access, sales or use.

Bush said he favored continuing a moratorium on taxing e-commerce but wanted to know "what the world looks like" after three to five years of further changes before making a long-term decision.

With his tax-cut plan under fire, McCain put off delivering an education speech this week, but planned to talk about the issue before the primaries here, his spokesman said.

McCain has had trouble getting details straight while rolling out proposals, from health care to taxes, and thereby providing his rivals with ready targets.

But McCain spokesman Howard Opinsky put a positive spin on the delay, saying it would force the Bush camp "to continue to defend their (tax) plan which doesn't devote a penny to Social Security."

Jury acquits teen-age boy

PORT HURON, Mich. (AP) — A jury has acquitted a 14-year-old boy who had been charged with hatching an elaborate plan with three other boys to steal guns, lure students to their school gym and open fire on people they didn't like.

Daniel Fick was found innocent Tuesday of conspiracy to commit murder. "I wasn't scared, but yes I was pretty nervous," he said.

Fick, who was 13 at the time of his arrest, was the only one of the four Holland Woods Middle School students to face trial. Charges against one boy were dropped; the other two accepted plea bargains that will keep them out of jail.

"I respect the jury's decision," prosecutor Mike Wendling said.

Fick's lawyer, Stephen Guillat, said: "There was talk, but these kids and everything else tended to show that that's all it was ...."

Prosecutors said the boys wanted to outdo the April massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., in which two students killed 13 people before turning their guns on themselves.

AP corrects story which ran on Jan. 13

In a Jan. 13 story about research into how viruses infect human cells, The Associated Press erroneously reported that Purdue University researchers had mapped a common cold virus and a poliovirus down to the atomic level.

The Purdue team mapped the common cold virus; a Harvard University team led by James Hogle mapped the poliovirus.

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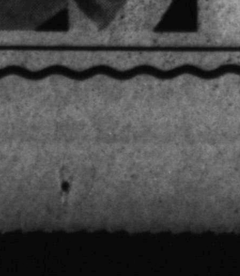
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Faces From The Past...

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

The Prize For The Winner This Week Will Be
Sam Baugh
BEST THERE EVER WAS
Dan Jenkins - Texas College Football Legends
From The **Snyder Daily News**
3600 College Ave. 573-5486

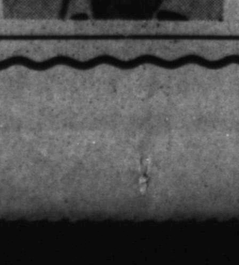
1. 
Texas Savings Bank
LOBBY HOURS 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
NEW DRIVE-IN HOURS 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
P.O. BOX 810 2619 COLLEGE AVENUE SNYDER, TEXAS 79549 (915) 573-9305 1-800-725-9305
LENDER FDIC

2. 
Fast Oil Change
Mark & Angie Strickland
417 27th Street
(Ave E & 25th Street)
915-573-9643

3. 
PLAZA CAFE
FRIDAY NIGHT SEAFOOD BUFFET
5-9 p.m.
Catfish • Shrimp • Fried Clams
Stuffed Crab • Baked Fish
Hwy. 84 Bypass & Huffman

4.
Cutting Edge HAIR SALON
XALYN PALACIOS
574-EDGE (3343)
2109 COLLEGE AVE.
SNYDER, TX 79549

5. 
WEST TEXAS STATE BANK
Member FDIC

6. 
American State Bank
"Right Size To Be Friendly"
573-4041
3810 College Ave.
FDIC

7. 
TIGER FANATICS
Rudy's
4604 College
573-7455

8. 
Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home
3101 College Ave.
573-5454

9. 
SNYDER DAILY NEWS
3600 College Ave
573-5486

10. 
THE SUBWAY A SANDWICH SHOULD BE.
3903 College Ave.
573-9782
Snyder, Texas

LAST WEEK WINNER IS KIM HALL

Faces From The Past Entry Week 103

1. Texas Savings Bank _____
2. Fast Oil Change _____
3. Plaza Cafe _____
4. Cutting Edge _____
5. West Texas State Bank _____
6. American State Bank _____
7. Rudy's Restaurant _____
8. Bell-Cypert-Seale _____
9. Snyder Daily News _____
10. Subway _____

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

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

Last Week's Photos: 1. Nolene Bryce 2. Karen Robertson 3. Ronnie Potts 4. Buddy Powell 5. Patsy Rainwater 6. Jimmy Nix 7. Nelda Martin 8. Joe Breedon 9. Trelsta Angel 10. Linda Allen



LAMB WINNER
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GRAND CHAMI
grand champion
Photo)



HOG SHOWMA
ior hog showman
junior hog show
Photo)



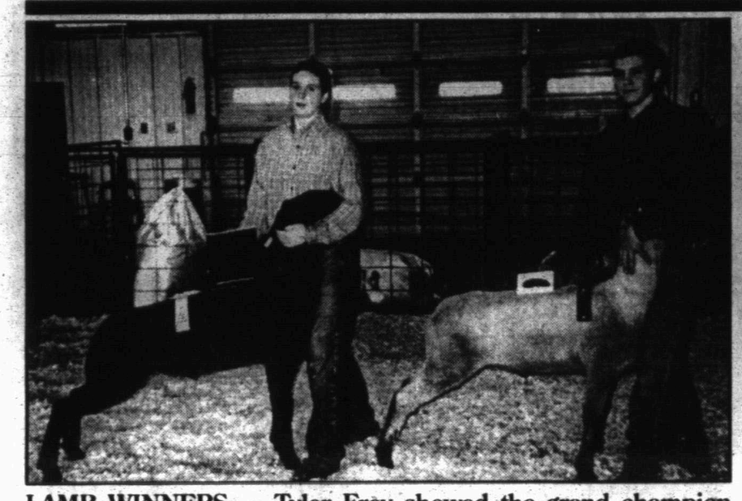
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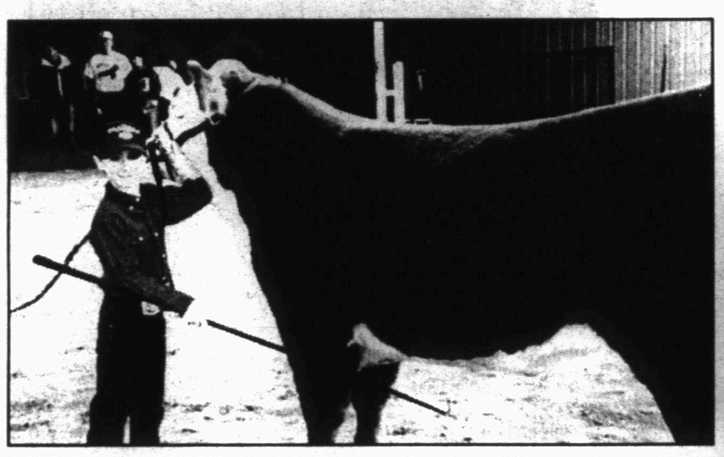
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LAMB WINNERS — Tyler Frey showed the grand champion lamb and Celeigh Sterling exhibited the reserve grand champion lamb at the Ira stock show. (Contributed Photo)



GRAND CHAMPION STEER — Tyrelle Gilbert showed the grand champion steer at the Ira stock show. (Contributed Photo)



HOG SHOWMANSHIP — Candace Sanchez received the senior hog showmanship award and Amber Sanchez received the junior hog showmanship award at the Ira show. (Contributed Photo)



GOAT WINNERS — Wesley Kellner exhibited the grand champion goat and Candace Sanchez showed the reserve grand champion goat at the Ira stock show. (Contributed Photo)

Merger talks begin between companies

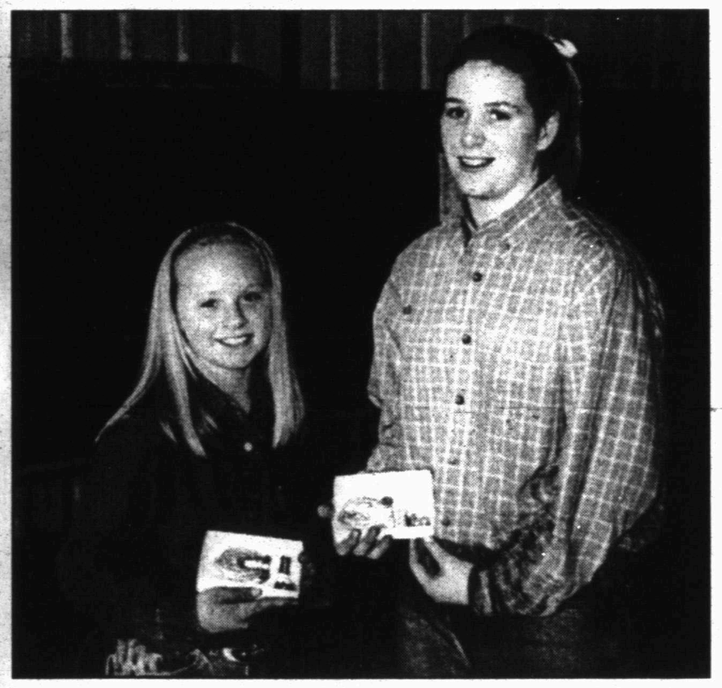
NEW YORK (AP) — Warner-Lambert held talks with Procter & Gamble to gauge interest in a possible three-way deal that would involve P&G buying both the drugmaker and American Home Products, The Wall Street Journal reported today.

A deal was far from certain, and the level of P&G's interest was unclear, the newspaper said, citing sources familiar with the talks. It was unclear if talks were continuing.

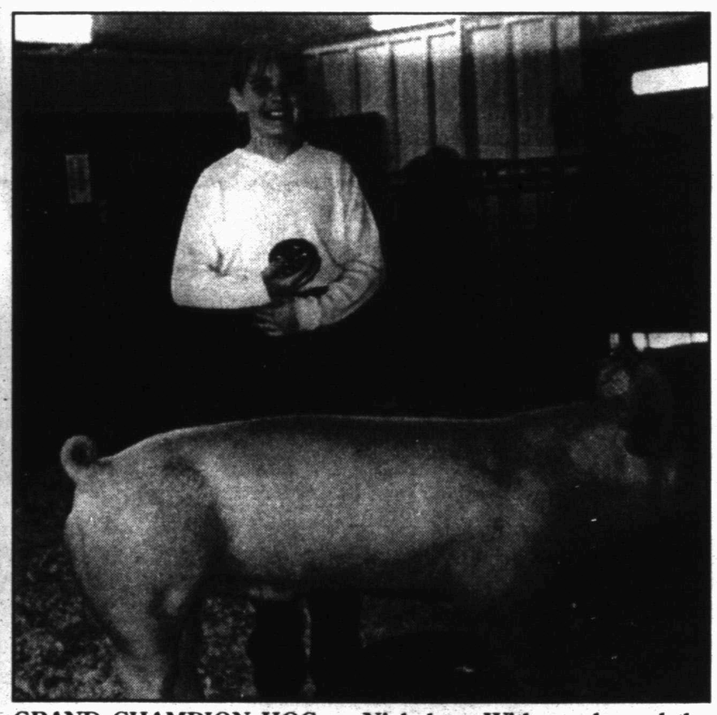
Warner-Lambert in November announced a merger with American Home Products, only to have the deal stalled when rival Pfizer launched a hostile bid for Warner-Lambert, maker of the blockbuster cholesterol drug Lipitor.



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION HOG — Celeigh Sterling showed the reserve grand champion hog at the Ira show. (Contributed Photo)



LAMB SHOWMANSHIP — Celeigh Sterling received the senior lamb showmanship award, and Kaci Waller earned the junior lamb showmanship award at the Ira show. (Contributed Photo)



GRAND CHAMPION HOG — Nickelynn Withers showed the grand champion hog at the Ira stock show. (Contributed Photo)

Stranded snowmobiler survives night

NEWPORT, Wash. (AP) — Stranded in the frigid mountains, Jason Conboy made the ultimate sacrifice to stay alive. He burned his snowmobile.

"I was getting pretty weak, so I started ripping parts off my sled and burning them," said Conboy, 20, of Spokane, after he was rescued Tuesday. "I even burned my helmet."

After running out of flammable parts, he curled up in the hole the fire had formed in the snow.

"I just slept right on top of the coals," said Conboy, who was treated for minor frostbite on his feet after the ordeal. "My boots melted."

Pend Oreille County sheriff's Sgt. Alan Botzheim said temperatures dipped to 12 degrees overnight in nearby Ione and were probably colder near the summit of Baldy Mountain, elevation about 6,000 feet, where Conboy spent the night.

Conboy's plight began Monday afternoon when he and friend Ryan Auer attempted to reach an abandoned mountaintop fire lookout tower.

Winners are listed for Ira Stock Show

Ira's annual stock show was held Jan. 8 with Brian Patterson of Hale Center serving as judge.

The results were as follows. Tyrelle Gilbert showed the grand champion steer.

Wesley Kellner showed the grand champion goat and Candace Sanchez exhibited the reserve grand champion goat.

The senior goat showmanship award went to Candace Sanchez and Seth Sanchez received the junior goat championship.

Goats

First, Wesley Kellner; second, Candace Sanchez; third, Wesley Kellner; fourth, Bubba Walker; fifth, Seth Sanchez.

Lambs

Fine wool lightweight: First, Jase Olvera; second, Jose Juarez; third, Moses Williams; fourth, Jenson Gainer.

Fine wool heavyweight: First, Kaci Waller; second, Nickelynn Withers; third, Jose Juarez.

Fine wool champion: Kaci Waller; fine wool reserve champion, Nickelynn Withers.

Fine wool cross lightweight: First, Travis Frey; second, Candace Sanchez; third, Kaci Waller; fourth, Moses Williams; fifth, Bryce Wilkins; sixth, Jace Olvera.

Fine wool cross heavy lightweight: First, Kaci Waller; second, Celeigh Sterling; third, Tyler Frey; fourth, Chad Nickerson; fifth, Tyrelle Gilbert.

Fine wool cross middleweight: First, Celeigh Sterling; second, Tyler Frey; third, Kaci Waller; fourth, Travis Frey; fifth, Amber Sanchez; sixth, Tyrelle Gilbert.

Fine wool cross heavyweight: First, Tyler Frey; second, Celeigh Sterling; third, Kaci Waller; fourth, Chad Nickerson.

Fine wool cross champion: Tyler Frey; fine wool cross reserve champion, Celeigh Sterling.

Medium wool lightweight: First, Jenson Gainer; second, Moses Williams; third, Tyrelle Gilbert; fourth, Bryce Wilkins.

Medium wool middleweight: First, Candace Sanchez; second, Kaci Waller; third, Travis Frey; fourth, Richard Wilkins.

Medium wool heavyweight: First, Celeigh Sterling; second, Tyler Frey; third, Kaci Walker; fourth, Nickelynn Withers.

Medium wool champion, Celeigh Sterling; medium wool reserve champion, Tyler Frey.

Grand champion lamb: Tyler Frey.

Reserve grand champion lamb: Celeigh Sterling.

Senior lamb showmanship: Celeigh Sterling; junior lamb showmanship, Kaci Waller.

Hogs

Chester White: First, Amber Sanchez; second Wesley Kellner.

Duroc lightweight: First, Lacie Thompson; second, Candace Sanchez; third, Chet Stuart; fourth, Amber Sanchez; fifth, Seth Sanchez.

Duroc heavyweight: First, Kaci Waller; second, Kendyll Pilcher; third, Ashton Smith; fourth, Terryn Autry; fifth, Ashton Smith.

Duroc champion: Lacie Thompson; duroc reserve champion, Kaci Waller.

Hampshire: First and champion, Celeigh Sterling; second and reserve champion, Ashton Smith; third, Rance Dunn; fourth, Seth Sanchez.

Spots/Polands: First and champion, Nickelynn Withers; second and reserve champion, Kaci Waller.

Yorkshire lightweight: First, Kendyll Pilcher; second, John Gainer; third, Wesley Kellner; fourth, Travis Frey.

Yorkshire middleweight: First, Nickelynn Withers; second, Richard Wilkins; third, Celeigh Sterling; fourth, Nathan Wilkins.

Yorkshire heavyweight: First, Rance Dunn; second, Nathan Wilkins; third, Richard Wilkins; fourth, Richard Wilkins.

Yorkshire champion: Nickelynn Withers; Yorkshire Reserve champion, Kendyll Pilcher.

Crossbred lightweight: First, Amber Sanchez; second, Justin Green; third, Candace Sanchez.

Crossbred middleweight: First, Nathan Wilkins; second, Wesley Kellner; third, Nickelynn Withers; fourth, Wesley Kellner.

Crossbred heavyweight: First, Wesley Kellner; second, Terryn Autry; third, Kaci Waller; fourth, Ashton Smith.

Crossbred champion, Wesley Kellner; crossbred reserve champion, Amber Sanchez.

Grand champion hog, Nickelynn Withers; reserve grand champion hog, Celeigh Sterling.

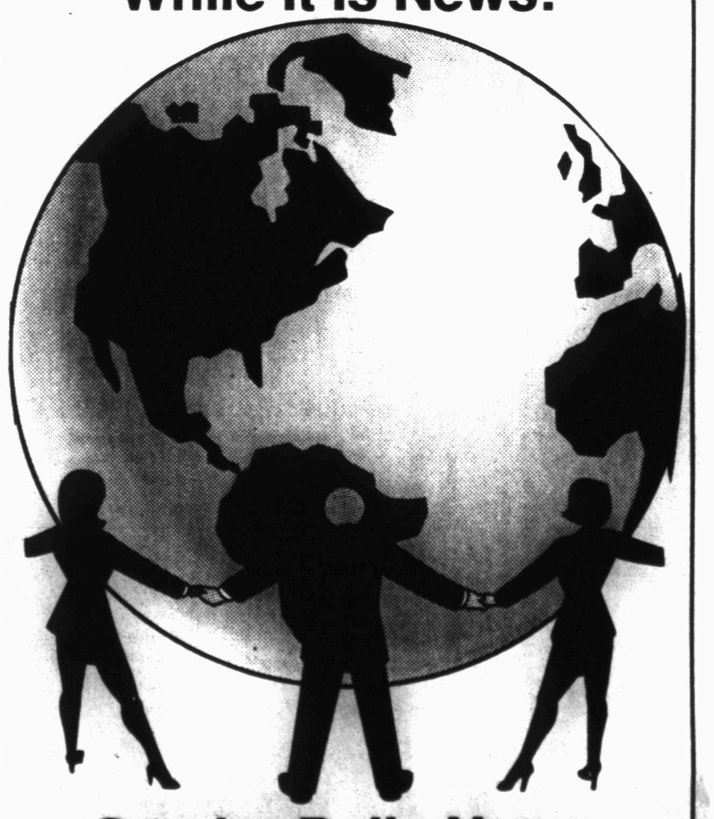
Senior hog showmanship, Candace Sanchez; junior hog showmanship, Amber Sanchez.

Members of the community donated their time, and the following people made donations: Andy Kellner, Dunn Family Farm, Kirby Sterling Family, Riley Sterling, Mrs. Raye Sterling, Sid Wall Family, H.M. Kruse, Doug White family and the Jay Waller family.

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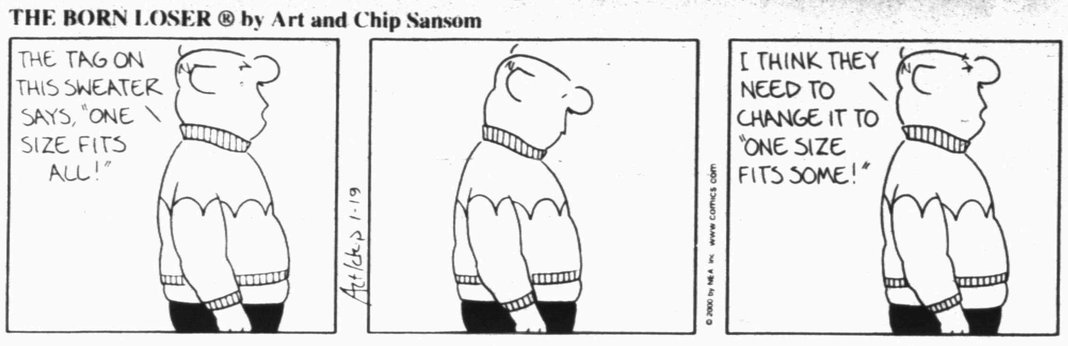
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Comic Page

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EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



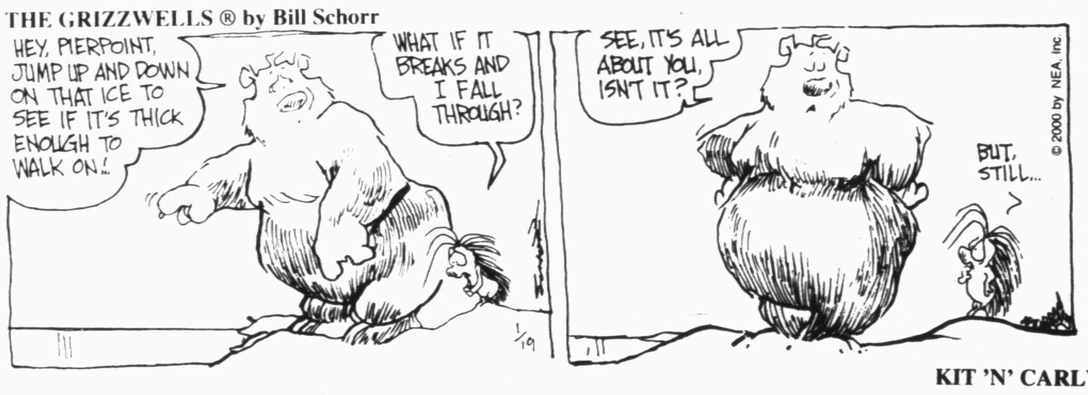
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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Topeka's place
7 Pottery clay
13 Pass by (as time)
14 Cover with netting
15 City in Texas (2 wds.)
16 African-Arabian waters (2 wds.)
17 Type of reading or service
18 GIs' club
20 Paving goo
21 Observed
23 Part of L.A.
24 Wooden pins
25 1944 invasion date
27 Withdraw from the Union
29 Doctrine
31 Brood of pheasants
32 DiCaprio, to friends
33 Sixth sense (abbr.)
34 — Brothers (singers)
37 Blab
40 Wife of Geraint
41 Motorists' org.
43 Pairs
45 Kids' card game
46 Glide on snow
47 Petition
48 Reproductions
51 Nova —
54 Make invalid
55 Most tardy
56 Geography-class items
57 Wears away

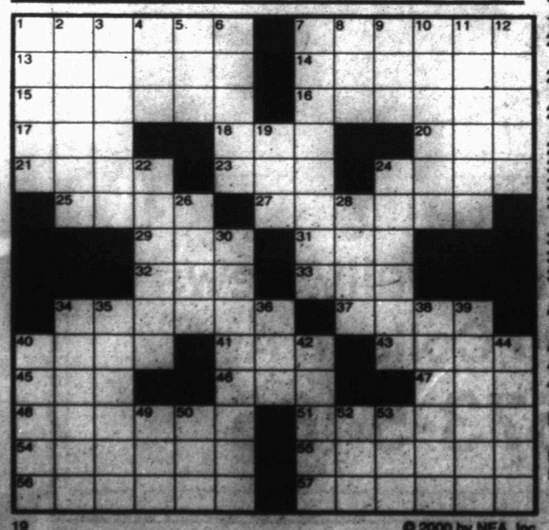
DOWN

1 Boat parts
2 United
3 Dozed
4 Health resort
5 Ninny
6 1988 Olympic Games site
7 Burning oil
8 Chemical suffix
9 Aged
10 Endured
11 Glacial period (2 wds.)
12 Comes close
19 "Mayday!"
22 Used a hammer
24 Sounded like a baby chick
26 River in Belgium
28 Sac
30 Slow as — .
34 Tooth coating
35 Quarrelsome woman
36 Chatter
38 Desired
39 "Thelma and —"
40 "Dallas" family name
42 Bridal path
44 Chairs
49 Engage in small talk
50 Paris season
52 Ford, e.g.
53 Ear (comb. form)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	P	R	I	T	E			S	P	R	E	A	D
I	R	O	N	I	C			I	G	U	A	N	A
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K	E	E	P	E	R			S	N	A	R	E	S

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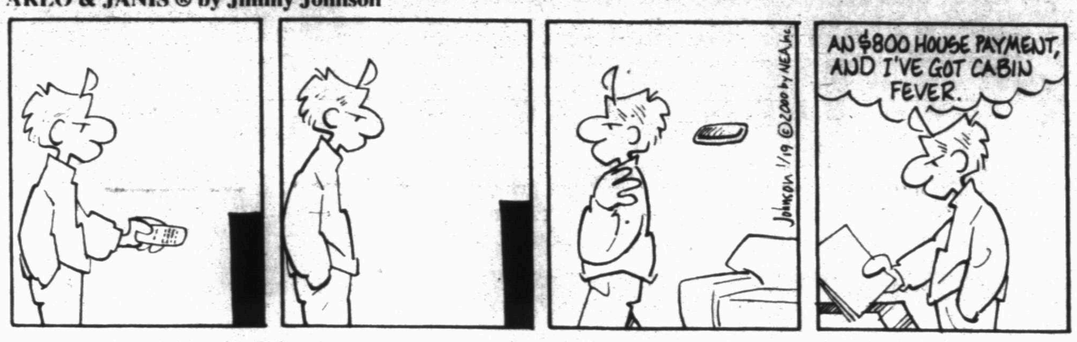


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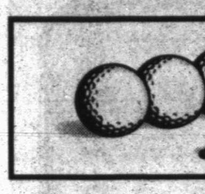
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Tige

By Eric Dr
Sports E

The Sweetwate
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Snyder used a
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UP AND IN — another two point looks on during Staff Photo)

Nationa

Monday's
Boston 105, Washington 1
Milwaukee 107, Atlanta 10
Philadelphia 101, New Jer
Seattle 82, L.A. Lakers 81
Golden State 113, Orlando
New York 105, Detroit 94
Charlotte 115, Toronto 94
Minnesota 101, Indiana 10
Houston 121, Dallas 111
San Antonio 99, L.A. Clipp

Tuesday's
Chicago 92, Miami 85, OT
Houston 90, Portland 89
Seattle 99, Cleveland 80
Sacramento 104, L.A. Clip

Wednesday'
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7 p
Toronto at Boston, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Washington, 7 p.
Milwaukee at Indiana, 7 p.
New Jersey at New York,
Portland at San Antonio, 8
Charlotte at Chicago, 8:30
Minnesota at Utah, 9 p.m.
Cleveland at L.A. Lakers,

Thursday's
Detroit at New Jersey, 7:3

SPORTS

Tigers down Ponies, stay on top

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

The Sweetwater Mustangs played some of their best basketball of the night in the first quarter. And what it got them was a 10-point deficit, thanks to eight minutes of near flawless play by the Snyder Tigers.

Snyder used a 24-point first quarter outburst as a springboard to its second straight District 5-4A victory Tuesday night, knocking off Sweetwater 63-50, at the SHS gym.

The win gives the Tigers (15-9) sole possession of first place in the district standings with a 2-0 mark, while the Mustangs fall to 7-13, 1-1.

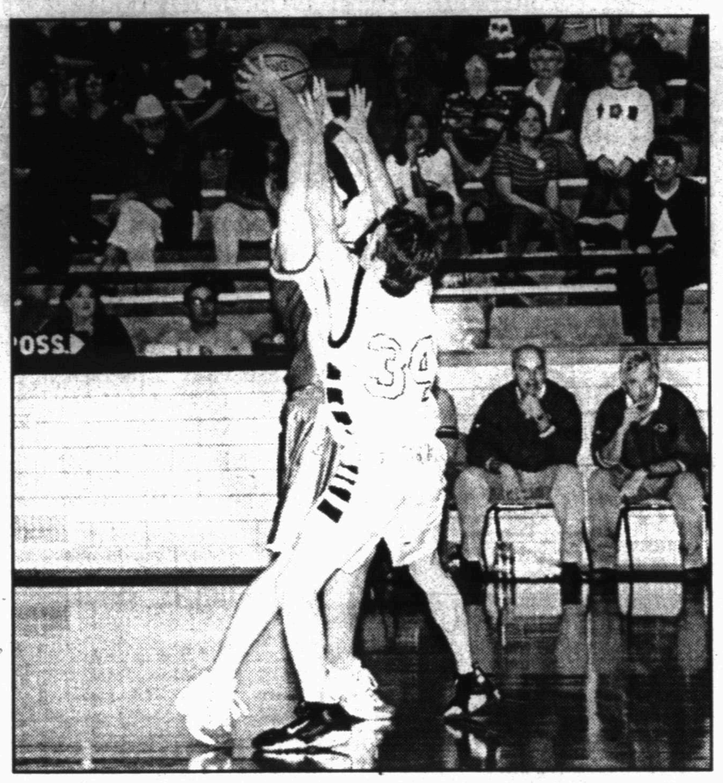
Snyder drained four of seven three-point attempts in the first quarter, and grabbed five offensive rebounds. The Mustangs were able to connect on some difficult shots, but got no second chances as the Tigers dominated the boards. Sonny Cumbie's 10 points in the period paced Snyder.

"The team we have this year is able to run the floor a little better than teams we've had the past few years, and that enables us to put together some runs," said Snyder coach Bud Birks. "Sweetwater hit some really difficult shots in the first quarter to stay in the game. Our guys did everything right in defending them. They just managed to hit the tough shots."

Cumbie continued his torrid pace in the second quarter, posting three of Snyder's first four buckets to finish the first half with 16 points.

"Our game plan going in was to work the ball inside," Birks stated. "We knew we were bigger than them underneath and we wanted to take advantage of it. Sonny did a great job of finding ways to score, and all of our kids did a terrific job on the glass."

The Mustangs kept pace with the Tigers in the second half, thanks in part to the Tigers' misfortunes at the free-throw line. Snyder was 10 of 23 from the stripe in the second half, including a 6-of-15 effort in the fourth quarter.



THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU'RE GOING — Snyder senior Greg McAnaw applies pressure to a Sweetwater ballhandler Tuesday night during the Tigers' 63-50 district victory over the Mustangs at the SHS gym. The win keeps Snyder atop the district standings. (SDN Staff Photo)

But Sweetwater still struggled against the Tigers' tight man-to-man defense. The Mustangs connected on only nine of 26 shot attempts in the second half. Snyder continued to work the boards, grabbing 16 rebounds in the fourth quarter.

Cumbie finished with a game-high 26 points and 12 rebounds. Justin Howard paced Sweetwater with 12 points, 10 of them coming in the final eight minutes.

The Tigers are the district's only unbeaten team, thanks to Fort Stockton's 72-52 win over Andrews. In the league's other contest, Lake View knocked off Big Spring, 66-55.

Snyder faces its first road game of the district schedule Friday when it takes on Lake View at the San Angelo Central gym at 7:30.

Sweetwater	14	08	14	14 — 50
Snyder	24	13	14	12 — 63

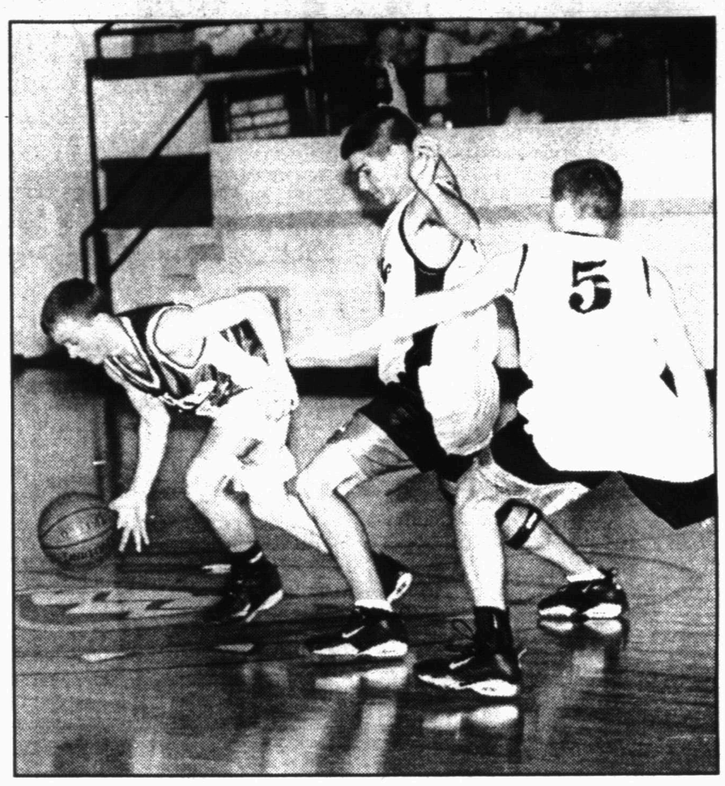
Sweetwater
Carr 4 1-2 10, Torres 4 1-3 9, Bishop 2 4-8 8, Soto 3 0-0 6, Howard 4 4-5 12, Dawes 1 0-0 3, Carson 1 0-0 2. **Totals 19 10-18 50.**

Snyder
Cumbie 8 8-10 26, Pinkerton 3 4-7 10, Wofford 4 0-1 9, Hester 2 1-4 5, McAnaw 1 0-0 3, Thornhill 3 0-0 6, Knirsch 0 2-4 2, Loper 1 0-0 2, Scott 0 0-2 0, Kerr 0 0-2 0. **Totals 22 15-30 63.**

Three-point goals: Sweetwater 2 (Carr, Dawes), Snyder 4 (Cumbie 2, McAnaw, Wofford). Rebounds: Sweetwater 27 (Torres 6), Snyder 39 (Cumbie 12). Total fouls: Sweetwater 19, Snyder 17. Fouled out — None.

Team	District W	L	Season W	L
Snyder	2	0	15	9
Fort Stockton	1	1	11	12
Lake View	1	1	9	12
Andrews	1	1	9	14
Sweetwater	1	1	7	14
Big Spring	0	2	13	12

Tuesday's results: Snyder 63, Sweetwater 50; Lake View 66, Big Spring 55; Fort Stockton 72, Andrews 52.



I NEVER TOUCHED HIM —Ira's Richard Wilkins gets help from Nathan Smith (5) while defending a Borden County player Tuesday. The Bulldogs remained unbeaten in district play with a 57-30 victory over the Coyotes. (SDN Staff Photo)

In 1A hoops battle...

Bulldogs overpower Borden County, 57-30

IRA — The showdown between the Ira Bulldogs and Borden County Coyotes never materialized. The Bulldogs didn't let the Coyotes put up a fight.

Ira maintained its perfect district record with a 57-30 thrashing of Borden County at Bulldog gym Tuesday night, dropping the Coyotes to 1-2 in the league standings.

While Ira controlled the boys' action, the state-ranked Borden County girls knocked off the Lady Bulldogs, 57-26.

In the boys' battle, Ira's quick-strike offense and tight defense frustrated the Coyotes throughout the first half.

The Bulldogs put together a 10-4 run in the first quarter, then followed it up with a 15-3 streak in the second period.

Ira, which improves to 21-2 on the year, limited Borden County to only seven points in the first 16 minutes of action, and opened up an 18-point advantage by halftime.

The Coyotes' offense finally got on track in the second half. Borden County posted 11 points in the third quarter, but couldn't limit Ira's production.

The Bulldogs answered the Coyotes with 32 second-half points to pull away for the win.

Logan Daves led Ira's effort with 21 points, while Jose Juarez also finished in double figures with 10.

Nathan Smith posted eight points, with Jerek Brown notching seven. Jase Olvera finished with four points. Bryce Wilkins added three, and Drew Wall and Richard Wilkins chipped in two apiece.

In the girls' match-up, Borden County showed its strength in the opening period.

The Lady Coyotes outscored Ira, 21-2, in the first eight minutes of the game, before the Lady Bulldogs settled down to post 13 points in the second quarter.

But Borden County's defense took over again in the second half, limiting Ira to seven points.

Morgan Clements' 12 points paced the Lady Bulldogs. Celeigh Sterling dropped in five points, with Tara Allen adding three and Michelle Nettles chipping in two.

Both Ira squads take a break from district competition Friday when they visit Guthrie. Girls' action tips off at 6:30, followed by the boys' game at 8 o'clock.

Ira returns to the league Tuesday when it hosts Westbrook.

Lady Tigers gain confidence in 40-33 setback to Sweetwater

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

The Snyder Lady Tigers didn't get the win, but they proved they're a title contender to themselves and to the rest of the district.

Snyder gave Sweetwater its only scare of the district race so far, before falling, 40-33, Tuesday night at the SHS gym.

The Lady Mustangs, who improve to 22-2 on the year, had walked over their previous three district opponents, before the Lady Tigers gave them a run for their money.

"This game should keep our girls' confidence up," said Snyder coach Sam Tipton. "We didn't want to lose, but I think we proved to ourselves that we're as good as anybody."

It looked early on as if Sweetwater would run away with its fourth district win. The Lady Mustangs opened up an 11-0 lead in the first quarter, before Snyder (8-13, 3-1) came roaring back.

A five-point possession featuring an Ashley Delce bucket and a three-pointer from T'Leah Eicke powered a 14-3 Snyder run that tied the tally with three minutes left in the half.

Sweetwater held a 19-16 advantage at halftime, thanks to the Lady Mustangs' patience. Sweetwater guard Abigail Browning stood and held the ball for the last possession of each of the first three quarters, running a total of 4:10 off the clock.

"We didn't go out and force them to do something when they were holding the ball, because shortening the game going to hurt us," Tipton said. "And coming out to get them is what they want you to do, so they can run their shuffle offense and create mismatches underneath. We didn't want that."

Sweetwater finally got its first bit of breathing room since the opening period when it went on a 7-2 run to start the third quarter. Browning held the ball for almost two minutes, before Sharon Ballenger scored with two seconds left for a 28-20 Sweetwater lead.

After the Lady Mustangs stretched the margin to 11 points early in the fourth, Snyder went back to the inside to make up ground. Ashley Delce had six points in the fourth, and Kameron Kallemeyn had four.

The Lady Tigers trimmed the deficit to five points, before Sweetwater ran it back to 10. Cameron Mackey's drained a three-pointer at the buzzer for the 40-33 final score.

Delce finished with 13 to lead the Lady Tigers, while Ballenger scored 26 of her squads' 40 points.

"If we just do a couple a little things different, we win this game," said Tipton. "If we block the shooter out right before half, and if we don't give up the first three buckets because we're so nervous, we win. We don't have to make up a whole bunch of ground to beat these guys. And now the girls can see that."

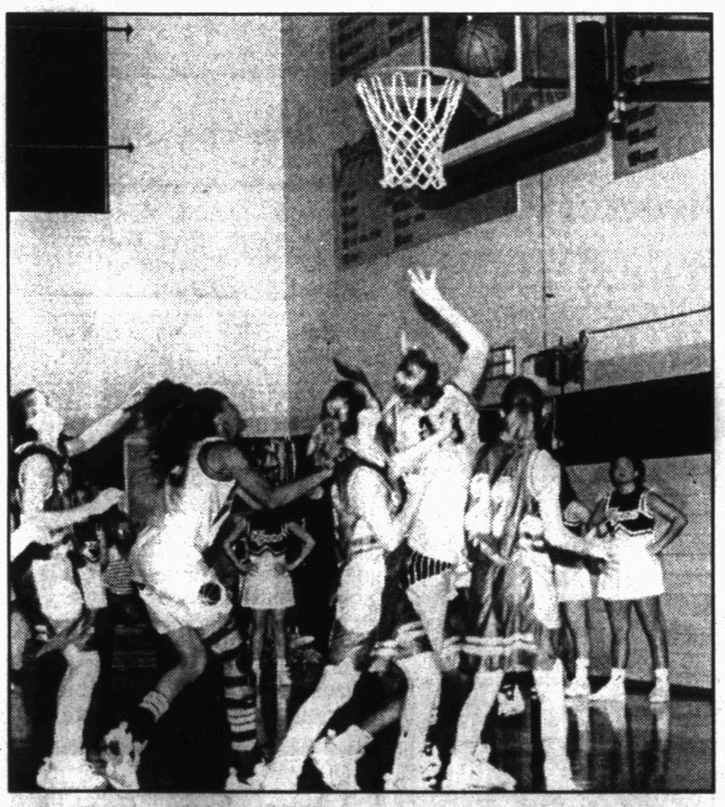
Snyder will look to hold on to second place in the district standings when it meets Lake View on Friday at the San Angelo Central gymnasium.

Sweetwater	11	08	09	12 —	40
Snyder	02	14	04	13 —	33

Sweetwater
Ballenger 9 4-5 26, Washington 4 2-4 10, Ranefeld 0 2-2 2, Mitchell 1 0-0 2. **Totals 14 8-11 40.**

Snyder
Kallemeyn 4 0-1 8, Eicke 1 1-2 4, Murray 1 0-0 3, Mackey 1 0-0 3, Voss 1 0-0 2, Delce 4 5-7 13. **Totals 12 6-10 33.**

Three-point goals: Sweetwater 4 (Ballenger 4), Snyder 3 (Eicke, Murray, Mackey). Rebounds: Sweetwater 17 (Washington 5), Snyder 17 (Delce 4, Kallemeyn 4). Total fouls: Sweetwater 12, Snyder 16. Fouled out — Delce.



UP AND IN — Snyder's Kameron Kallemeyn (43) puts in another two points Tuesday night, while teammate Ashley Delce looks on during the Lady Tigers' setback to Sweetwater. (SDN Staff Photo)

Cardinals cage Gorillas, 64-58

HERMLEIGH — It took a comeback effort, but the Hermleigh Cardinals got what they were looking for.

Hermleigh held on to second place in the district standings, rallying past Trent, 64-58, Tuesday night at Cardinal gym. In girls' action, Trent improved to 21-0, while the Lady Cards fell to 2-2 in district play after dropping a 66-41 decision.

The Hermleigh boys struggled offensively in the first half, and headed to the locker room on the bottom end of a 27-22 tally.

But Andy Luna jump-started the Cardinals in the third quarter. Luna nailed four three-pointers and totaled 14 points in the period, as Hermleigh surpassed the Gorillas, 46-41, heading into the final frame.

Joey Garza's six points in the fourth helped the Cards preserve the victory,

Luna finished with a team-high 21 points, while Billy Lambaren poured in 19. Caleb Callaway tallied 13 points, with Garza adding nine, and Jared Higgins chipping in two.

Lambaren and Callaway grabbed eight rebounds apiece, and Higgins dished out six assists.

In the girls' match-up, Hermleigh struggled early against the highly touted Lady Gorillas.

Trailing 34-17 at halftime, the Lady Cards tried to trim the deficit in the third quarter. Crystal Jackson dropped in eight points to spur a Hermleigh run that cut the margin to 44-31, heading into the fourth period.

Trent put together another run in the final eight minutes to pull away.

Jackson rattled home 12 points to pace the Lady Cards, while Sheena Callaway registered nine. Samantha Smith accounted for seven points. Brandy Wood and Randi Herrington finished with five each, and Toni Martinez drained three.

Wood also hauled down seven rebounds, and Herrington was credited with six assists.

National Basketball Association

Monday's Games
Boston 105, Washington 101
Milwaukee 107, Atlanta 101
Philadelphia 101, New Jersey 96
Seattle 82, L.A. Lakers 81
Golden State 113, Orlando 100
New York 105, Detroit 94
Charlotte 115, Toronto 94
Minnesota 101, Indiana 100
Houston 121, Dallas 111
San Antonio 99, L.A. Clippers 93

Tuesday's Games
Chicago 92, Miami 85, OT
Houston 90, Portland 89
Seattle 99, Cleveland 80
Sacramento 104, L.A. Clippers 98

Wednesday's Games
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Boston, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Washington, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Indiana, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Portland at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Utah, 9 p.m.
Cleveland at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Detroit at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Denver at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Utah at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Orlando at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

District 5-4A Girls

Team	District W	L	Season W	L
Sweetwater	4	0	22	2
Snyder	3	1	8	13
Big Spring	2	2	12	10
Lake View	2	2	9	14
Andrews	1	3	7	13
Fort Stockton	0	4	6	22

Friday's results: Sweetwater 40, Snyder 33; Big Spring 45, Lake View 43; Andrews 61, Fort Stockton 50.

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Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Dan Richardson, Area Engineer, Abilene, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

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Employment

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is now accepting applications for R.N., D.O.N.
Send resume to:
Gloria Mann, Administrator
210 37th St.
Snyder, Texas 79549
(915)573-9377 (Ph.)
(915)573-8306 (Fax)
E.O.E.

WANTED: General Laborers through supervisors needed at manufacturing facility. Paid vacation, holiday, hospitalization, workers compensation. Good potential for growth. Apply at American Limestone Company 2515 Apron Drive Bldg #75 Big Spring, TX. (At Industrial Park south of Western Container) or Fax resume to (915)267-2207. No phone calls please!!!

Financial

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

Farmers Column

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Farm Equipment

1961 Ferguson Tractor–gasoline. Starts easy, runs good! Tandem disk 6', Shredder, (2)-tool bars w/plows, 6' scraper. 573-1521.

Merchandise

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

For Sale: GE sher and dryer. $300 fo SOLD Call 573-6539.

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

Nice, all wood, oval table w/4 chairs & 2 leaves, $150. 573-8857, ask for Tracy.

Paper end rolls for sale at Snyder Daily News. Prices vary by size. Great to cover tables, pack items when moving etc.

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Duplex w/sunroom, appliances, CH/A, garage. 573-1012 Leave message.

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Call Stevenson Real Estate 573-5612
Wenona Evans 573-8165.

3 bedroom 1 bath, CH/A. 2100 41st. Call 573-9068.

Freshly painted, unfurnished 2 bedroom, 1 bath, nice neighborhood. $150/dep., $275/mo. 573-2428.

Large County Home, for rent, 12 miles Snyder. 3-2½-2, FP, full built-in kitchen. $700 OBO. 573-8571/573-1550.

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Several Used Homes for sale starting at only $1,250!! For information call 1-800-299-9990.

$$Tax Refunds! Invest in a home you will be proud to own. New 4 bedroom fully loaded $388 per month. Call **1-800-755-9133,** 5% down, 11.25 APR, 360 mos, WAC.

Real Estate

116 Browning 2-1-1, fenced yard, $9,900 cash as is OR $12,900 with new carpet, paint etc. 573-9001.

Real Estate

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1804 39th Nice 3-1 Great Master Br	$35T
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Reduced Lg. Home 3-1¾+1-1cp+Den 2111 43rd	
Great Floor Plan 3-2-2 3509 Kerrville.	$60T
228 Acres 3-1 Brick	$80T
3-1¾-1 1901 29th Street	$27T
Reduced! Lovely 4-2-2 3303 Irving	$112T
3-1¾ 2107 43rd Covered Patio	$54.9T
3 Acres 3-1¾+2 Barnes & Stalls	$78T
Good Location! 3-2-2+deck & shop	$72T
Large 2 Bd 2 Stor. Bldg. Covered Patio	$54T
301 Acres Good Grass 3-2 F isher County	
Attractive! 4-2-2 2211 27th St.	$42T
3-2-2 4005 Eastridge	$30T
5 Acres 2 Story Ira ISD 4-1¾	$55T
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Dr. Gott
By Peter Gott, M.D.



High cholesterol can be inherited

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 45 year old healthy woman who is physically active, weighs 120 pounds, and consumes a low-fat diet. I was shocked when a recent serum cholesterol level was reported at 320. My doctor has prescribed a cholesterol-lowering drug. Why did this happen to me?

DEAR READER: You appear to have inherited a genetic makeup that predisposes you to excess blood cholesterol. Your doctor was correct to prescribe drug therapy, in addition to dietary restrictions. Because you are unable to metabolize excess cholesterol, and run the risk of arterial damage and heart attack, the medicine should help you. At your age, your cholesterol should be below 220 milligrams per deciliter. A proper dose of medicine should bring your levels into the normal range.

As you've discovered, high cholesterol levels are not necessarily correlated with obesity. You are slim, yet have a problem that, fortunately, your doctor is addressing. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Cholesterol." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My wife and I are now caring for my nephew, who has been diagnosed with olivopontocerebellar degeneration. What can we expect in the future?

DEAR READER: Olivopontocerebellar degeneration is one of a rare group of neurological disorders, usually hereditary, that are marked by progressive and severe malfunction of portions of the brain and upper spinal tract. These diseases are marked by untreatable loss of nerve function, leading to difficulty coordinating and walking, blindness, problems with feeling and sensation, and, in some cases, mental deterioration.

Your nephew has a grim prognosis, I'm afraid, and will require increasing assistance in carrying out even the most mundane of everyday activities. He certainly should be under the care of a neurologist, who can advise you about future problems and coordinate the many resources you will need to administer home care.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I recently experienced a chill. When I took my temperature, it was only 96.2. Since then, I haven't felt well. My temperature has never risen above 99 and is usually around 97. What could cause this?

DEAR READER: The first explanations that come to mind are a badly functioning thermometer or a problem with your technique. While we all feel chilly on occasion, an unexplained chill may indicate an infection or other illness. First purchase a new thermometer and make sure you are using it properly. Then, if your body temperature is indeed low — or if you continue to feel under the weather — check with your doctor for a complete examination.

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Astro-graph
By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Jan. 20, 2000

The more effort you apply and the harder you work, the greater your successes will be in the year ahead. Instead of this being drudgery, it will turn out to be exhilarating for you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Brushing aside matters that need tending could create a new series of problems for you that will serve to compound that which you neglect today. Keep up with your duties. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Because you could be a bit of a risk taker today, you must be careful not to allow yourself to be toted into participating in an activity that has very slim chances for success.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) It's a rarity for you to ever be intimidated by another, yet today just because you think you're expected to do something a certain way, you could act against your better judgment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Depending upon just how you attempt to get your points across today will depend upon whether they're well received or not. You might make your case, but create an enemy in the process.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Unless you're careful today, a friend or an associate could drag you down a path where you might suffer a financial loss of some kind. Don't blindly follow your pals.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) In any competitive activity in which you engage today, to be on the safe side automatically assume your opposition is at least as capable as you are, if not better.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) There's a good chance you might have to deal with a few responsibilities today that won't be to your liking. Grin and bear it, they can't be ignored.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Be particularly careful with whom you pal around today. The wrong types could draw you into a situation not of your making, but for which you can be held accountable.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Only virtuous intentions will stand up under today's aspects, so be honest with yourself as to what your true motives are when you go after something that affects others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Watch what you say and when you say it today. If you speak out of turn or gossip about anybody, know that it will be played back and repeated to the party of the assault.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Adopting an attitude of expecting more from others than you're prepared to reciprocate in kind will be self-defeating today. This will be especially true concerning material matters.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Any agreements or contracts to which you commit yourself today must be carefully scrutinized, because there could be hidden fine points that go against your best interests.

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Entrepreneur donates 1,000 artworks

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Software tycoon Peter Norton and his wife are donating nearly 1,000 works of contemporary art from their private collection to 28 museums in the United States.

The paintings, sculptures, prints and photographs will be distributed in themed packages.

Berry's World



Family planning

Bridge
By Phillip Alder



	North 01-19-00	
	♠ A 9 7	
	♥ A 5	
	♦ A Q 9 6	
	♣ A J 10 5	
West		**East**
♠ J 8		♠ 6 4 2
♥ Q 10 3		♥ K J 9 8 6 2
♦ J 4 2		♦ 10
♣ Q 9 8 3 2		♣ K 7 4
	South	
	♠ K Q 10 5 3	
	♥ 7 4	
	♦ K 8 7 5 3	
	♣ 6	

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: West

South	West	North	East
	Pass	1 ♣	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	5 NT	Pass
7 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ 3

This country has enjoyed considerable success on the international stage without gaining a world-team victory. Its best result was second in the 1993 Bermuda Bowl, losing in the final to the Netherlands. Its top pair, Geir Helgemo and Tor Helness, won the elite Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship in 1998 and 1999. They were the only pair to reach a grand slam in this deal from last year's event.

With 4-4 in the minors, it is normal to open one diamond. Yet when you have such a strong hand, one club is better because it increases the chances of finding a minor-suit fit. Four no-trump was Roman Key Card Blackwood with diamonds agreed. Five diamonds showed one key card: either an ace or, as here, the diamond king. Five no-trump confirmed that all six key cards (four aces and the king-queen of diamonds) were held and that North had grand-slam aspirations. Knowing that North's heart losers would disappear on his spade winners, Helgemo had no hesitation in jumping to seven diamonds. (True, seven spades makes too, but seven diamonds is the better contract.)

For this performance, the pair from Norway was given the Romex Award by the International Bridge Press Association for the best-bid hands of the year.

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The bronze medal winner

By Phillip Alder

We have learned that Iceland (320 per 1,000 inhabitants) and Finland (305) head the list of countries with the greatest percentage of Internet surfers. Which nation occupies the third spot? No. 3 is only one user per thousand behind Finland.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	61⅜	60 3-16	60 3-16 +	5-16
AT&T Corp s	53	52½	52 11-16—	11-16
Albertsons	33	32¼	32 11-16 +	⅜
Alltel	80⅞	79 11-16	80¼ +	¾
AmerOnline s	63	60¼	62 13-16 +	2 5-16
AndarkPtr	36 7-16	35 13-16	35 13-16—	⅝
AtlRichfld	76 5-16	75 9-16	75 11-16—	⅜
ATMOS Egy	18⅞	18¾	18¾	
Aviall	8⅜	8⅛	8⅛—	¼
BP Amoco s	56⅜	55¾	55⅞ +	⅛
BakerHughes	23⅞	22 13-16	23 —	⅝
Bank of Amer	49 3-16	47½	48 13-16 +	13-16
BellAtl	58½	57½	57⅞—	1⅛
BellSouth	45⅛	44 1-16	44 13-16 +	1-16
Beth Steel	7 15-16	7 13-16	7 15-16 +	1-16
BurlNoSFe	25 7-16	24⅞	24 15-16—	11-16
CBS Corp	59⅝	58	59¼ +	1¼
Caterpillar	50 11-16	49 15-16	50 3-16 +	¼
CenSoWst	20½	20⅛	20 7-16 +	5-16
Chevron	89	87 13-16	87 15-16—	1⅜
Citigroup s	60 1-16	57⅞	59¾ +	1 13-16
Coastal	38 15-16	37¾	37¾—	1¼
CocaCola	65	63¾	64 1-16—	15-16
ColgatePal s	63¼	62¾	63⅛ +	⅛
ComclMetals	33 3-16	32⅝	33 3-16 +	3-16
CooperIn	43¼	42 7-16	43¼ +	11-16
DaimlrChry	73⅛	72 9-16	73 —	⅞
DallSemicn	66¾	64¼	64 13-16—	1 7-16
DeltaAirl	52⅜	51 3-16	51 3-16—	15-16
Dillards Inc	20½	19 11-16	20½ +	½
DowChem	133 3-16	131 1-16	132¾ +	2 7-16
DuPont	66⅝	65⅝	66 1-16 +	9-16
EastmanChem	47 3-16	46¼	46 7-16—	⅜
EstKodak	60½	59 9-16	60 1-16 +	3-16
EDS Corp	66 11-16	65⅛	66¼ +	1⅛
Entergy	24 9-16	24¼	24 7-16—	⅛
ExxonMobil	85	83 11-16	84 15-16 +	9-16
FstBksAm	17⅝	17⅜	17⅝	
Flowers	13 15-16	13 11-16	13¾—	⅛
FordMotor	54⅞	54⅛	54½ +	¼
GTE Cp	68¼	67⅛	67½—	⅝
GenDynam	51¼	50⅛	51¼—	9-16
GenElec	150 15-16	146¼	148 11-16 +	11-16
GenMills s	33 5-16	32 11-16	32 13-16—	3-16
GenMotors	83 7-16	82¼	82⅜—	⅛
GaPacGP s	42½	41¾	42 1-16—	⅜
GlobalMar	19 7-16	18½	18 11-16—	⅝
Goodrich	28⅜	28⅛	28⅛—	3-16
Goodyear s	28⅛	27 11-16	28 +	7-16
GtAtlPac	28 15-16	28¾	28 15-16 +	3-16
Halliburtn	42⅜	41 1-16	41⅜—	5-16
Hanson ADS	37⅛	36¾	36¾—	2 7-16
HarteHanks	25 3-16	24⅞	24⅞—	⅜
HomeDepot s	61 7-16	60⅛	61¼ +	¾
HoneywellIntl	59	55¼	55¼—	3¾
IBM s	116 11-16	113 1-16	113 15-16—	2 1-16
IntlPaper	53 13-16	51¾	53⅛ +	1 7-16
JohnsonJn	92 1-16	90⅝	91 7-16 +	¼
K mart	9 15-16	9⅝	9 15-16 +	3-16
Kroger Co s	18	17¾	18	
Lilton	49⅛	47½	47 9-16—	1 5-16,
LockheedM	20 7-16	20	20 5-16 +	5-16
Lowes Cos	53 11-16	53 3-16	53 3-16—	1-16
Lubys	11¼	11⅛	11 3-16 +	3-16
LucentTech s	51 15-16	49 13-16	51 15-16 +	1 11-16
MayDeptStr s	33¾	33	33 9-16 +	⅜
MediaOne	79 5-16	78 9-16	78 13-16—	11-16
Medtronic s	44 15-16	44¼	44⅝ +	¼
Monsanto	37	36½	36¾—	3-16
MorganJP	125½	122 13-16	125 1-16 +	1¾
Motorola	145 7-16	142 11-16	144 1-16—	3-16
NCR Corp	34 7-16	33 9-16	33⅝—	13-16
Navistar	45¾	44¼	44⅝—	5-16
Penney JC	21⅛	20 15-16	21⅛—	1-16
PepBoys	8 3-16	8¼	8 3-16 +	¼
PepsiCo	36⅞	36 1-16	36⅛—	⅛
PhelpDodge	64¾	63⅝	64 1-16 +	¼
PhilipPet	44 13-16	43 13-16	43 13-16—	⅝
PilgrimPrd B	8 7-16	8¼	8¼—	3-16
Polaroid	20⅜	19 11-16	20¼ +	⅝
Praxair	50 7-16	49⅜	49 7-16—	1 11-16
ProctGamb	116	113 11-16	115⅜—	1 9-16
PubS NwMx	16 3-16	15 13-16	16 3-16 +	¼
ReliantEngy	23¼	22 13-16	23 3-16 +	¼
RoyalDut	60 11-16	59⅞	59 15-16—	3-16
SBC Comm	41	40 11-16	40 13-16—	5-16
SaraLee	20 3-16	19 11-16	20 1-16 +	3-16
Scripps EW	47¾	47 7-16	47 7-16—	⅛
SearsRoeb	33 7-16	32	33⅜ +	1⅜
SherwinW	18 11-16	18½	18 9-16	
SmithIntBchm	63¼	61 15-16	62¾ +	1⅜
SouthernCo	24	23 5-16	23⅞ +	½
SwstAirl s	15 11-16	15½	15 9-16—	3-16
SprintFON s	64½	63¾	64¼ +	⅛
SprintPCS	104½	101¼	102⅜ +	1 13-16
SprintPCS wi	51¾	51¾	51¾ +	1⅜
Sunoco Inc	23⅞	23⅜	23½—	3-16
TNP Ent	42 3-16	42 1-16	42⅛ +	⅛
Tandy s	49¾	48⅜	49½ +	5-16
TempleInland	63 9-16	62 9-16	63 7-16 +	13-16
Texaco	60 11-16	60 5-16	60 7-16—	⅜
TexInd	41	40 15-16	41 —	⅛
TexasInst s	112	108⅞	110 —	⅜
Tex Util	36 3-16	35 9-16	36⅛ +	⅜
Textron	64⅝	62⅞	64½—	2⅝
TriconGlbR	34¾	33 13-16	33 15-16—	1
TrinityInds	26	25⅜	26 +	⅜
TritonEngy	27⅛	25 15-16	26 5-16—	15-16
TylerTech	6	5⅞	6	
US West Inc	70 11-16	70	70 9-16—	3-16
USX-Marathn	26 13-16	26¼	26 11-16 +	¼
USX-USS	29 13-16	29 1-16	29¼ +	7-16
UnCarbde	62½	61 13-16	62 1-16 +	11-16
UnionPacif	43 11-16	43⅛	43⅜—	1
UnitedTech s	63½	61 7-16	63 7-16 +	11-16
Unocal	32⅜	31⅞	32 —	¾
Venator Grp	6 11-16	6 9-16	6⅝—	⅛
WalMart s	65 13-16	65⅛	65 3-16—	⅜
WellsFargo	38⅞	38	38¾—	⅛
WstnGasRs	12 3-16	12 1-16	12⅛ +	1-16
WinnDixie	23	22 13-16	22 13-16—	3-16
Xerox Cp s	23 9-16	22 13-16	22⅞—	⅝

Local Interest STOCKS

Patterson	15 5/8	+1/8
Dell	41 7/8	-3/16
Wal Mart	65 7/16	-1/8
Compac	30 9/16	-5/16
Dol. Gen.	22 11/16	+1/8
GTE	67 7/8	-1/4
SBC Comm.	40 13/16	-5/16
Tx Instr.	110 7/16	+1/16
LU	51 5/16	+13/16
Cisco Sys.	111 3/16	-13/16

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Scurry County Country

Town & Country Topics

By Kathryn Roberts, County Extension Agent

Credit-reporting: Disputing inaccurate information

The credit reporting process can be confusing for consumers. Consumer reporting agencies are companies that gather and sell information about your bill paying history.

The most common consumer reporting agencies are credit bureaus. The reports are governed by the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) in an effort to promote accuracy and ensure the privacy of information used in consumer reports.

Here is a list of suggested tips on getting your consumer report and disputing inaccurate information:

***Get a copy of your consumer credit report.** The three major bureaus are: Equifax (1-800-685-1111), Experian (1-800-397-3742), and Trans Union (1-800-916-8800). There is a charge for your bureau report of up to $8 per copy of your report. You are entitled to one free report a year if you can certify in writing that (1) you are unemployed and plan to look for work within 60 days. (2) You are on welfare, or (3) your report is inaccurate because of a fraud. You can also request a free report within 60 days of being denied credit.

***Evaluate the report.** Look for any information that is not reported correctly. If there are errors on the report: (1) write the credit reporting agency with a description of the information you believe is incorrect, (2) enclose a copy of the report with any explanation, (2) include identifying information on the letter such as complete name and address. Once your dispute has been received, the credit report agency will then investigate your claim.

***Information investigation.** The credit reporting agency must verify the information within 30 days, unless they consider your dispute frivolous. Disputed information that cannot be verified must be deleted from your file. Some examples of deletion are: (1) if your file shows an account that belongs to another person, (2) if the item is complete the bureau must complete an account that belongs to another person, (2) if the item is incomplete the bureau must complete it or bring up to date, (3) if the information is found false it must be either corrected or deleted.

***Accurate negative information.** When negative information is found accurate, only the passage of time can assure its removal. Accurate information can remain on your report for seven years with some exceptions like bankruptcy or government insured loans or guaranteed student loans.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) published a 20-page booklet on "Building A Better Credit Record with more information about this subject: CCCS at 1-800-333-4357 for a copy of the booklet or contact the FTC toll free at 1-800-FTC-HELP.



SHOWMANSHIP — Candace Sanchez received the senior goat showmanship award and Seth Sanchez received the junior goat showmanship award at the Ira stock show. (See story and photos, page 3) (Contributed Photo)

Northwest wheat farmers counting on fed purchases

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Northwest wheat farmers are worried that the federal government may not come through on its promise to buy millions of tons of surplus wheat.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture said in October that it would purchase as much as 3.3 million tons of surplus wheat and flour. But the sale is dependent on approval by the White House Office of Management and Budget.

Following two years of depressed prices and the recent loss of two large wheat sales to Pakistan, Northwest growers hope the promised government purchases will boost prices for their crop.

The wheat would be used in international food relief programs.

Wayne Hammon, government relations director for the National Association of Wheat Growers in Washington, D.C., said he expects the wheat program will be renewed.

Quest for hardier chicken has reached genetic level

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Chicken soup might make a person feel better when ill, but what about the chicken?

A common parasite found in the birds can make them too scrawny for market, prompting poultry farmers to spend millions each year in drugs and vaccines. Now, two companies are trying to build a better chicken.

Demegen Inc. of Pittsburgh and Avigenics Inc. of Athens, Ga., announced plans last week for joint research on chickens with a genetic trait that allows them to resist the parasite coccidiosis.

The parasite, which does not affect humans, irritates the intestines of chickens and interferes with the absorption of food. That can hinder growth in the six to eight weeks from birth to slaughter, said Yvonne Vizzier, a poultry science professor at Mississippi State University.

Demegen and Avigenics estimate that $600 million is spent by the poultry industry annually on penicillin and other antibiotic drugs that keep the bug at bay. Vizzier said the cost is probably much higher.

"It's been a chronic problem in the poultry industry, and it would be wonderful if someone could do something about it," she said Friday. "Anything that would reduce those costs would have to be looked on favorably."

Another problem is that the drugs are having less effect as the birds become resistant to them.

Several other companies are already in the hunt for hardier chickens, said Hans Cheng, a U.S. Agriculture Department poultry researcher in East Lansing, Mich.

"It's premature to talk about their prospects, but it is good to see companies developing compounds that would work much quicker than traditional breeding," Cheng said.

Scientists say chickens, unlike plants, are difficult to breed naturally to make them resistant to disease. Early success can easily be reversed, and erratic mating "makes it hard to keep the gene pool stable," Vizzier said.

A Michigan scientist, Lyman Crittenden, already has made chickens genetically resistant to a type of cancer, but Cheng said no one has yet announced success in fighting off the more common parasite.

Demegen already has a patent for getting disease-fighting genes into plants such as tobacco and cotton. Avigenics has been attempting to improve chickens and eggs and is trying to clone a chicken, said Carl Marhaver, the company's chief executive officer.

The partners hope to sell their hardier birds to U.S. poultry producers.

"Chickens are bred for different markets, whether for Kentucky Fried Chicken or to be sold at the grocery store, but generally the bigger the better," said Richard Ekstrom, Demegen's president.

His company's scientists used 200 disease-fighting molecules previously identified in frogs, bugs and other animals as models. Then they fashioned a man-made molecule that resists the parasite and can be attached to chicken genes.

61 more counties are added to Livestock Assistance Program

AUSTIN — Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs has announced that 61 additional Texas counties have been approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency for the Livestock Assistance Program for a total of 161 counties.

LAP, administered by FSA, provides direct payments to eligible livestock producers in approved counties that suffered grazing losses due to natural disasters during 1999. Nationwide $200 million has been allocated for livestock producers for weather-related losses as part of the $8.7 billion farm assistance package passed in October.

An extra $10 million in funding was approved in H.R. 3194, which provides $576 million in additional emergency funding.

For drought-related losses, LAP benefits are available in approved counties where precipitation was 40 percent or more below normal for at lest four months and where there was at least a 40 percent loss of available grazing during a 90-day period due to drought.

Eligible producers must have suffered a 40 percent or greater loss of grazing for a 90-day period during 1999. Eligible livestock include beef and dairy cattle; buffalo or beefalo; when maintained on the same basis as beef cattle; sheep; goats; swine; and equine animals used commercially for human food or kept for the production of food or fiber on the owner's farm or ranch.

The approved counties include Scurry, Borden, Callahan, Fisher, Haskell, Howard, Jones, Kent, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Shackelford, Taylor and Tom Green.

For more information on the Livestock Assistance Program, producers should contact their local USDA — Farm Service Agency.

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

January and February garden checklist

*Now is an excellent time to transplant mature or established trees and shrubs while they are dormant.

*Make flower and vegetable garden plans now before the rush of spring planting. Time spent in armchair gardening before the fireplace will pay off in improved plant selections. Besides, it's fun to page through the garden catalogs.

*Sow seeds in flats or containers to get a jump on plant growth before warm weather arrives. Petunias, begonias, and impatiens should be sown in early January. Warm temperature plants, such as tomatoes, peppers, marigolds, and periwinkles, should be sown in late January or early February.

*Apply a light application of fertilizer to establish pansy planting. Use one-half pound of ammonium sulfate per 100 square feet of bed area. Repeat the application every 4 to 6 weeks, depending on rainfall. Dried blood meal is also an excellent source of fertilizer for pansies.

*Prepare beds and garden area for spring planting.

*Select and order gladiolus corns for February and March planting.

*Check junipers and other narrow-leaf evergreens for bagworm pouches. The insect eggs overwinter in the pouch, and start the cycle again by emerging in the spring to begin feeding on the foliage. Hand removal and burning of the pouches are ways of reducing the potential damage next spring.

*The life of the plant received as a Christmas gift can be prolonged with proper care. Keep the soil moist, but provide drainage so that excess moisture can flow from the pot. Keep the plant out of range of heating ducts and away from heating units. Keep in a cool room at night, preferably at 60 to 65 degrees F.

*Don't fertilize newly set out trees or shrubs until after they have started to grow, and then only very lightly the first year.

*When buying plants, the biggest is not always the best especially when dealing with bare-root plants. The medium to small sizes (4 to 6 feet) are usually faster to become established and more effective in the landscape than the large sizes.

*Prune bush roses during February or early March. Use good shears that will make clean cuts. Remove dead, drying and weak canes. Leave 4 to 8 healthy canes and remove approximately one-half of the top growth and height of the plant.

*Now is an excellent time to select and plant container-grown roses to fill in those bare spots in your rose garden.

*When pruning shrubs, first prune out any dead or damaged branches. Then thin out by removing about one-third of the canes or stems at ground level, remove the oldest canes only; and last, shape the rest of the plant, but do not cut everything back to the same height.

*Plant dahlia tubers in late February and early March.

*In Central and South Texas, the following flower seeds may be sown directly without protection in well prepared flower beds in February or March: nasturtiums, annual phlox, California poppies, cornflower and larkspur. Petunia plants may be set out in sunny, well-drained locations, with little chance of cold damage except in far North Texas.

*Water foliage plants as well as other containerized plants only when needed and not by the calendar.

*Climbing roses should be trained but not pruned. Weave long canes through opening in trellises or arbors and tie them with jute twine or plastic wire plant ties. Securing canes now prevents damage from winter winds, and contributes toward a more refined look to the garden when roses are blooming. Wait until after the spring flowering period to prune climbing or once-blooming shrub roses.

C-City auction

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 1,288 head of cattle for the Saturday, Jan. 15, sale. Compared to last week: Feeder steers and heifers were $1 to $4 higher, slaughter cows were steady and bulls were $1 higher. Bred cows and pairs were mostly steady. Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
200-300: 118-123
300-400: 109-119
400-500: 101-110
500-600: 90-96.50
600-700: 82.50-85
700-750: 82-83.50
Feeder heifers:
200-300: 102-116
300-400: 92-100
400-500: 87-94.50
500-600: 83-89
600-700: 78.50-82.50
700-800: 74-80
Replacement cows
Bred cows: 530-630
Older cows: 420-510
Pairs: 640-750
Cow and calf pairs: 570-640
Slaughter cows: High yielding: 40-41.50
Slaughter bulls: High dressing: 50.25-55

Lubbock auction

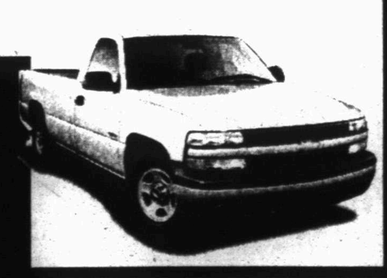
The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. had a run of 1,205 head of cattle for the Thursday, Jan. 13, sale. Cows were steady. Calves and yearlings were steady. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 35-42.50
Canner and low cutters: 29-34.50
Slaughter bulls: 43-51
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 100-125
400-500: 90-110
500-600: 87-100
600-700: 84-90
700-800: 77-85
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 90-105
400-500: 83-95
500-600: 80-88
600-700: 80-84
700-800: 72-77.50
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 77-92.50
700-800: 65-77
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 650-820
Grade: 500-650
Springers: 350-625
Baby calves: 75-200
Doodlers: 175-260

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Missile intercepter failed to hit target

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon said today it may take several weeks to determine why a prototype missile interceptor — a key part of its proposed national missile defense — failed to hit its target over the Pacific Ocean.

Up to the expected moment of impact Tuesday night, the interceptor appeared to be on track to the target, a mock warhead launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., Pentagon spokeswoman Cheryl Irwin said today.

"It was extremely close," she said. But there was no immediate indication of what went wrong, she added.

The interceptor, a high-tech "kill vehicle" designed to destroy a missile warhead by ramming it head-on, was launched from Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands about 20 minutes after the target lifted off from Vandenberg.

An official who monitored the test Tuesday night from the Pentagon said today the interceptor seemed to have "seen" the target, using its on-board sensors, as the two objects closed toward each other. That is one of the final crucial steps to an intercept. The official discussed the matter on condition of anonymity. .

The Pentagon, working with Boeing Co. and other contractors involved in the project, is undertaking an extensive review of the test data, and the results may not be known for several weeks, officials said.

"An intercept was not achieved for reasons unknown at this time," spokesman Air Force Lt. Col. Rick Lehner said Tuesday night.

Lehner said the 121-pound, 55-inch long interceptor, built by Raytheon Corp., was launched successfully from Kwajalein Atoll. "What happened after it got into space we do not know," he said.

The mock warhead was meant to simulate a nuclear attack on the United States, and a successful intercept would have provided a dramatic boost to the Pentagon's effort to show a limited missile defense system can work.

Rep. Curt Weldon, R-Pa., a leading supporter of missile defense, issued a statement today while traveling in Europe in which he called on Congress to give the Pentagon more money to "work out the kinks" in the program.

Protestors want Elian returned to Cuba

MIAMI (AP) — Attorneys for relatives of Elian Gonzalez said they would go to federal court today to challenge the Immigration and Naturalization Service's ruling that the 6-year-old boy must be returned to his father in Cuba.

"Elian has the right to representation," attorney Roger Bernstein said in an interview on NBC's "Today" show. "Elian has the right to be heard."

The INS' top official has ruled that Elian should be sent back to his father. The boy was rescued at sea by the Coast Guard after his mother and stepfather drowned Nov. 25 trying to reach the United States.

Last week, Attorney General Janet Reno lifted an INS deadline to return the boy to his father in order to give Elian's relatives in Miami time to challenge the INS decision in federal court.

Reno has determined that the boy's status is an immigration matter, solely in the jurisdiction of federal law, and brushed aside a Miami family court judge's ruling delaying the boy's return.

The INS also rejected a second asylum petition filed last week on behalf of Elian by his great-uncle, Lazaro Gonzalez. The INS ruled that only the boy's father can represent his son before the agency.

On Tuesday in Washington, leaders of several groups that want Elian returned to his father warned they were prepared to call for protests and acts of civil disobedience if the child is not sent back soon.

The groups, including the Cuban American Alliance Education Fund, urged Reno to enforce the INS decision and release the boy to his father's custody in Cuba before Congress or the courts become any more involved.

"The attorney general doesn't even need to wait" for the courts and Congress to act, said Rep. Jose Serrano, D-N.Y. "She has the final say. There is still time for her to send Elian back to Cuba."

The groups denounced Congress for considering legislation that would grant U.S. citizenship to the boy over his father's objections.

Obituaries

Doris Bennett

1919-2000

Doris Melba Bennett of Snyder died Tuesday, Jan. 18, in Snyder Healthcare Center after a brief illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Bennett, 80, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Officiating will be Bill Looney, involvement minister at 37th Street Church of Christ. Burial will follow in the Gail Cemetery.

Born Sept. 20, 1919 in Gail, she was reared in Borden County and married Willis Bennett on Nov. 15, 1942 in Gail. He preceded her in death.

Mrs. Bennett was a receptionist at the Scurry County Senior Center and a member of 37th Street Church of Christ. She had been a resident of Snyder since 1976.

Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth and Shirley Bennett of Gail; a brother and sister-in-law, Delmo and Martha Pearce of Austin; and four grandchildren, Clint Bennett of Austin, Holly Downs of Montgomery, Brande Wells of Sweetwater and Shelley Simmons of San Angelo.

Memorials may be made to the Borden County EMS in Gail.

Paul Sawyer

1908-2000

Paul Sawyer of Snyder died Tuesday, Jan. 18, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Graveside service for Mr. Sawyer, 91, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the Snyder Cemetery. Dr. Marty Akins, pastor of First Baptist Church, will officiate.

Born on Aug. 27, 1908 in Brownwood, he married Cleo Dorothy Pinkerton on May 24, 1931 in Lovington, N.M. She died in 1983. He owned Sawyer Construction Co. and was a member of the First Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by a son, Travis Welsey Sawyer in 1998; and three sisters.

Survivors include two sons, Douglas Carrol Sawyer of Snyder and James Paul Sawyer of Kerrville; three daughters, Dorothy Fay Newton of Odessa, Janice Elaine Cates of Midland and Kay Wardlaw of Canyon; one sister, Jimmie Millhollon of Brownwood; 16 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Jerry Helms

1929-2000

ROTAN – Funeral service for Jerry Paul Helms is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Weathersbee Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Larry Holder will officiate, and burial will follow in the Cottonwood Cemetery.

Mr. Helms, 70, died Tuesday, Jan. 18, in the Fisher County Hospital.

Born in Scurry County, he married Patsy Edwards in 1951. Mr. Helms worked as an iron ore miner for Kaiser Steel. A U.S. Army veteran, Mr. Helms was a Baptist and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy Helms of Rotan; a daughter, Rita Pruitt of California; a son, Randy Helms of Rotan; a brother, Dell Ray Helms of Rotan; and four grandchildren.

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Supreme Court hears free-speech arguments

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court justices jousted today over the free-speech rights of abortion demonstrators and what limits can be placed on their "sidewalk counseling" outside clinics.

At issue is a Colorado law that requires protesters to stay at least eight feet away from people entering health-care clinics, unless someone agrees to closer contact to talk or take a leaflet.

"You certainly can convey anything you want to convey orally from a distance of eight feet," Justice Sandra Day O'Connor told attorney Jay A. Sekulow, representing three protesters who challenged the law. If a person wants to take a leaflet "they can and will and it would be the same if it were one foot or eight feet," she added.

Justice Antonin Scalia challenged Colorado Solicitor General Michael E. McLachlan's argument that the law was neutrally written.

"I think we know what it's aimed at, which is abortion protesters," Scalia said, adding that counseling someone to consider the consequences of abortion is "a totally different entity when you do it from eight feet away."

The Colorado Supreme Court upheld the law, and Sekulow asked the justices to reverse that ruling. A decision is expected by July.

The law "makes the peaceful distribution of a leaflet, the display of a sign ... a crime if prior consent is not obtained," Sekulow said.

McLachlan said the measure was aimed to protect vulnerable people seeking health care.

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy questioned whether the law would bar all protest activity outside a medical office, even if it is only one office in a tall building.

"It seems to me that this is troublesome," Kennedy said.

Scalia and Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist asked if the same type of limits could be set on labor picketing.

Justice Department lawyer Barbara D. Underwood, arguing in Colorado's support, said such a law could be passed if labor picketing created the same problems.

"In the public forum out in the street, can we have a law that enables people to turn off unwelcome speech?" Scalia asked.

Rehnquist suggested that the traditional concept of public speech is "someone on a soapbox ... not that you're one-on-one with someone one-eighth of an inch away."

Eighteen states also are backing Colorado.

The demonstrators are being supported by, among others, the AFL-CIO and the American Civil Liberties Union. The AFL-CIO's brief said its member unions have a "vital interest" in citizens' free-speech right.

Elderly man injured by Pit Bull

A 77-year-old Snyder man was attacked by a Pit bulldog Tuesday afternoon while walking his dog in the 3100 block of 39th Street.

A 911 call came in at 2:07 p.m. stating that a man was being attacked. Snyder EMS responded and Jake LaRoux of 3021 38th Street was transported to Cogdell Memorial Hospital where he was treated and released.

Animal Control Officer David Tate took the dog to the animal shelter where it is being quarantined.

Eric Arellano owns the bulldog. He was not issued a citation.

According to Tate, LaRoux was out walking his dog when the incident occurred and his dog was also injured.

"That is what actually started the attack," Tate said.

Tate did not know what kind of dog LaRoux has, but said it is a smaller animal.

In other law enforcement activity, officers filed an offense report for runaway at 8:29 a.m. Tuesday after a woman reported her 15-year-old daughter leaving the residence without consent. The girl was located at 11:15 a.m.

Rick Hopper requested to speak with an officer at 6:02 p.m. at 3728 Austin in reference to damage to a fence and a window at the vacant house. An offense report for Class B criminal mischief was filed.

Six subjects were arrested Tuesday.

Deputies took a 24-year-old female into custody at 2:50 p.m. on warrants for no valid Texas driver's license, failure to appear and issuance of a bad check.

At 10:48 p.m., four subjects were taken into custody on the Lamesa Highway near the SACROC Unit office for public intoxication. Arrested were two females, ages 17 and 18, and two males, ages 17 and 21.

A charge of misdemeanor driving while intoxicated resulted in the arrest of a 22-year-old male at 12:59 a.m. today by officers in the 1500 block of East Coliseum Drive.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Patsy Kleck of Gail, Thomas Martin, Beulah Starnes, A.U. White of Ira and Margie Norred.

DISMISSALS: Haldean Cave, Kyler Ewing, Doris Stokes, S.W. Trevey, Rose Villa, Christina Arnold, Eloise Massey and Haley Roe of Big Spring and baby boy.

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ONGOINGS

Senior Citizens swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens will be held from 2:30-3:30 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday, starting Thursday, at the WTC pool. For more information, call 573-4035.

Assembly of God revival

First Assembly of God Church, 1809 College Avenue, is hosting a revival with the Rev. Jerry Wilkerson as the evangelist. Weekday services at 7 p.m. continue through Thursday. For more information call 573-3316.

10-week study

"The Blessing," a 10-week Bible study by James Smaulley and John Trent, is being taught at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Trinity United Methodist Church by the Rev. Lloyd Stice. For more information, call 573-3988.

Ira early release day

Ira students will be released at 2:30 p.m. Thursday. Friday is a student holiday and classes will resume Monday.

Diabetes support group

The Diabetes support group will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday in the Cogdell Hospital cafeteria.

Historical Commission to meet

The Scurry County Historical Commission will meet at noon Thursday for a Dutch- treat luncheon at The Shack.

Liberated Wailing Wall

The "Liberated Wailing Wall" will be presented at 7 p.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church. This traveling group of musicians is a branch of Jews for Jesus and uses a variety of instruments to achieve its characteristic sounds - including piano, guitar, violin and dunbek (Middle Eastern drum).

Relay for life rally

A rally to organize the 2000 Relay for Life will be held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the high school student center. Businesses or individuals interested in sponsoring or participating are asked to attend.

Bible study

A 10-week study, "To Live As Christ," by Beth Moore is being held at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday at the Trinity United Methodist Church. Shirley Stice is the teacher. For more information, call 573-3988.

Goldcoat luncheon

Snyder Goldcoaters will meet at noon Friday at Rudy's.

WTC dance

The Western Texas College Intramural Department will host a fundraiser dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, in the National Guard Armory. The dance will feature DJ Danny Gonzales of Post. Admission is $8 a couple and $5 for singles. WTC students with a valid college ID will be admitted free.

Teen dance

A dance will be held from 8 p.m. until midnight Saturday at the Teen Center inside the Boys and Girls Club. There will be door prizes for food, video rentals and a drawing for a CD player. The dance is for teens in grades 9-12 and cost is $2.

Financial aid workshop

A financial aid workshop will be held in Snyder High School's student center at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 1. Kathy Hall will conduct the workshop.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "Growing Through Grief," followed by "Marriage: What Did God Intend?"

WTC driver education

Registration for driver education at Western Texas College continues for class that begins Monday. The class will end on Feb. 22 and the cost is $300. Call 573-8511, ext. 229 to reserve a spot in the class.

Lions Club speaker

Bill Stevens of Abilene, executive director of the West Texas Oil and Gas Association, will be guest speaker at noon Tuesday at the Snyder Lions Club.

Amateur radio operators

Snyder area radio operators will conduct its weekly check in/ragchew net at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. This net will operate on frequency 146.920 with PL tone 67. All licensed amateurs are welcome to check in. For more information call Mike @ KM5TC (573-2222), or David @ KC5GFM (573-8182).

Ira yearbooks

Ira 2000 Bulldog annuals are on sale through next Wednesday. Cost is $26 with name on cover or $22 without name.

Ira school pictures

Spring portraits and friendship pictures will be taken at Ira next Wednesday. Each student will be photographed. Class group pictures also will be taken for grades K-12.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception in honor of Ruby Neves will be held from 10 a.m. until noon Friday, Jan. 28, on the third floor of the Scurry County courthouse.

Calvary Baptist 50th anniversary

Calvary Baptist Church will observe its 50th anniversary on Sunday, Jan. 30. Former pastors and staff will speak at the 9:45 a.m. service. Former pastor Glenn Border will speak at 10:50 a.m. A reunion from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. will be held in the fellowship hall.

Pick 3

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

1-9-5

Cash Five

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

7-15-29-33-39

JAN 19 2000

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Computer's photo memory leaves much to be desired

DEAR ABBY: There is an explosion of computer-related activities in the photo industry. Between digital cameras, photo restorations and putting pictures onto CDs, business is good.

The downside is the public's lack of important information about printing pictures on their computers. Most of the customers I talk with don't realize that these are not photographs. They are simply ink printed on paper and will fade rapidly. (This includes the paper designed for computer photos.)

What sets real photographs apart is the fact that they go through developer, bleach-fix and stabilizer. This assures that your memories will be around to be handed down to your children, and their children.

Another problem is: Computers crash, and you can lose images forever. Memories of your wedding, children, family gatherings and vacations are priceless. So always shoot some film, or have negatives made from PC photos. We try to educate our customers, but more needs to be done to let the general public know this.

As a professional photographer, and as a dad, I know how important it is for photographs to last for generations. — **THOMAS S. ROBERTSON, PRESIDENT, 1-HOUR PHOTO CORP., OLD BRIDGE, N.J.**

DEAR THOMAS: Your letter is sure to be an eye-opener for many who have been lulled into thinking that the new technologies have made sharing pictures as easy as "point and click."

Caveat emptor: Let the buyer beware. A little extra work may be required for families who would like their computer photographs to last a lifetime or beyond. Having negatives made as a backup is a sensible precaution.

**

DEAR ABBY: This is a long overdue thank-you. Nine years ago, I decided to go back to school to become a teacher. I didn't know if I really wanted to return to school at my age because I would be 40 upon graduating. Then I read a letter in your column about someone in a similar situation. After thinking about your answer to that question, I decided to enroll.

In no time at all, I completed my studies and went to work in a wonderful elementary school with a great staff and precious children. Now I actually enjoy going to work every day.

I'll be forever grateful, Abby, for that little "push" I needed to get me started. If you print this, please do not mention my name, city or state. — **GRATEFUL IN THE GOLDEN WEST**

DEAR GRATEFUL: Thank you for an upper of a letter. The item you are referring to was published many years ago — and for anyone who is unfamiliar with it, here it is! It is a letter that I'm proud to say has changed many lives for the better. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I am a 36-year-old college dropout whose lifelong ambition was to be a physician. I have a very good job selling pharmaceutical supplies, but my heart is still in the practice of medicine. I do volunteer work at the local hospital on my time off, and people tell me I would have made a wonderful doctor.

If I go back to college and get my degree, then go to medical school, do my internship and finally get into the actual practice of medicine, it will take me seven years! But, Abby, in seven years I will be 43 years old. What do you think? — **UNFULFILLED IN PHILLY**

Dear Unfulfilled: How old will you bill in seven years if you don't go to medical school?

**

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Microsoft rejects monopolist label

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge erred when he ruled that Microsoft Corp. was a monopoly that abused its influence, the software giant says in its first formal response to the court's tough rebuke of its conduct.

Lawyers said Microsoft violated no federal antitrust laws and that its popular Windows software doesn't represent a monopoly in the high-tech industry because it doesn't control the price or availability of software to run the world's personal computers.

Shunning the monopolist label affixed in a Nov. 5 ruling by U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson, Microsoft's lawyers Tuesday repeated earlier assertions that the judge inappropriately considered as the company's only competition other software that runs Intel-compatible PCs.

"This purported market is too narrow ... because it excludes many of the most serious competitive threats faced by Microsoft's operating systems," the lawyers wrote. "Having an extremely popular product does not make the company a monopolist."

But even as its lawyers argued that Microsoft wasn't the industry titan described by the government, the company on Tuesday announced that its second-quarter profits soared 22 percent to $2.44 billion on $6.11 billion in revenues for the period ending Dec. 31. Its stock climbed more than $3 to close above $115.

Settlement talks are expected to continue before a federal mediator in Chicago, though sources speaking on condition of anonymity indicated last week there has been little progress.

In its legal filing, the company's lawyers said the government alleged that Microsoft used its power to crush the threat posed to Windows by Internet software from Sun Microsystems Inc. and the former Netscape Communications Corp. At the same time, the government said Microsoft was a monopoly that had no effective competition.

The government "cannot have it both ways," the lawyers wrote.

The Justice Department said in a statement Tuesday that Microsoft's legal filing "ignores the court's findings of fact and distorts key legal precedents." It said the company's arguments "would give a monopoly virtually unlimited freedom to use its power to crush competition, harm consumers and stifle innovation."

Citing rare passages praising Microsoft in the judge's blistering finding from weeks ago, the company said its decision to give away its Web browsing software with Windows helped consumers by improving familiarity with the Internet and cutting their costs.

Microsoft did not cite related passages in which the judge ruled that the company "harmed consumers in ways that are immediate and easily discernible," and that "no consumer benefit" came from its actions because it refused to sell a version of Windows without any Internet software.

The company also contested the judge's findings that it had limited the ways the nation's computer makers could distribute Windows to hurt rival software manufacturers, as alleged by the government. Microsoft's lawyers said the company's copyrights allowed it to restrict changes to its product.

The judge wrote that internal Microsoft documents about these restrictions showed the company was more worried about computer makers promoting its software rivals than with preserving its Windows copyrights.

Microsoft lawyers also argued against the judge's November finding that it bundled its Internet software with Windows to discourage sales of Netscape, not to help consumers by offering more efficient software for using the Internet.

The attorneys cited a June 1998 decision in a related case by a federal appeals court that Microsoft's bundling of its Internet software with Windows 95 was legal because consumers benefited.

FBI agent charged in wrong-way accident

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — An FBI agent who prosecutors say was drunk and driving the wrong way down a highway has been charged with vehicular homicide in the deaths of two brothers.

Prosecutors filed the charges against Miami-based agent David R. Farrall on Tuesday after receiving a Florida Highway Patrol report on the Nov. 23 accident.

Farrall, 36, was charged with two counts each of vehicular homicide, DUI manslaughter and manslaughter while driving with an unlawful blood-alcohol level. Farrall's blood-alcohol level of 0.17, more than twice Florida's legal limit of 0.08, the arrest affidavit said.

Farrall's attorney, Bruce Udolf, said he had arranged for his client to surrender voluntarily this week.

The agent faces up to 30 years in prison if found guilty in the deaths of Maurice Williams, 23, a youth minister, and his brother Craig Chambers, 19, a scholarship student at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton.

According to the FHP report, Williams was driving north on Interstate 95 when Farrall, driving south in the northbound lane, crashed into them near Pompano Beach.

Initially, the Highway Patrol said Williams was the wrong-way driver. A month after the fatal wreck, the agency admitted its error and apologized to the brothers' family.

Date Book

Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2000
Today is the 19th day of 2000 and the 29th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1853, Verdi's "Il Trovatore" premiered in Rome.

On this day in 1869, Susan B. Anthony was elected president of the American Equal Rights Association.

On this day in 1937, Howard Hughes flew across the United States in seven hours, 28 minutes and 25 seconds, establishing a new record.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: James Watt (1736-1819), inventor; Robert E. Lee (1807-1870), Confederate general; Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849), writer; Paul Cezanne (1839-1906), painter; Jean Stapleton (1923-), actress, is 77; Phil Everly (1939-), singer, is 61; Janis Joplin (1943-1970), singer; Dolly Parton (1946-), entertainer, is 54.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1937, Nap Lajoie, Tris Speaker and Cy Young were elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The day is coming when a single carrot, freshly observed, will set off a revolution." — Paul Cezanne

TODAY'S MOON: Day before full moon (Jan. 20).

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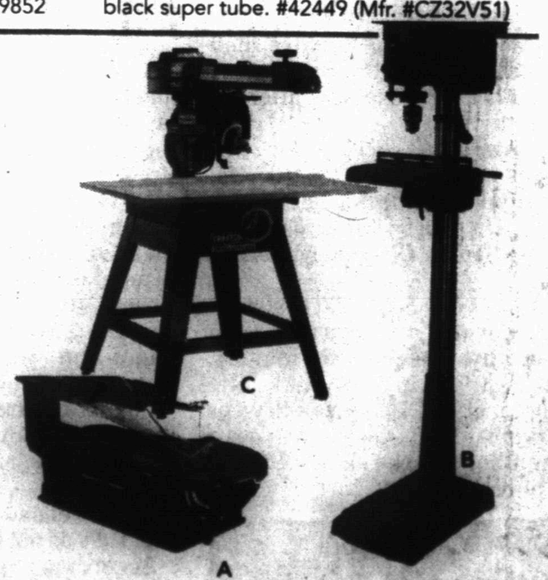
SWEETWATER: 604 East Broadway Sweetwater, TX. Phone: 915-235-8099 Owner:Marilyn K. Fatter Mon.-Sat. 9-6, Sun. 12-5

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