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

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

TUESDAY

Dec. 28, 1999
Vol. 51 No. 204
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Winnie Fowler

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "A computer is almost human, except that it never blames its mistakes on another computer."

As this millennium draws to a close, the great mystery of Christmas remains unanswered:

"Why does tab A never fit into slot B?"

Really, it's not just a holiday thing, also it's a question that is pondered all year – and it's been longing for an answer for generations.

The problem simply manifests itself during the Christmas gift-giving season – especially if there are little ones around the house.

Just about the time those kids grow up to where they no longer want anything that has to be assembled by Santa in the wee hours of the morning, those rascals have little kids of their own.

Not only do they ask for things that must be assembled and never look like anything pictured on the box – they make grownups hunt for open stores that are selling batteries locked behind the counter.

And because of the lateness of the hour, adults are willing to pay any price – no questions asked – so those "toys" will light up, squeal and make other noises that makes grandpa wish he was as deaf as grandma says he is.

But back to those directions for "easy" assembly. The people who write those instructions must be the same guys who author computer manuals.

Even those with advanced degrees are dumfounded. Putting together a five-year-old's tricycle should not be that difficult. But the scene is never pretty, and rarely is in tune with the merriment of the season.

The experience will make you feel like an idiot, it will make you mad, and often it will make you say words that make you glad that the young folks are sound asleep in bed.

But it's not only toys. Try assembling one of those prefabricated, ready-to-assemble computer desks or book shelves.

An outdoor grill once took five hours to assemble, and the store would have done it for 10 bucks. We've learned that saving money just isn't that important. Pay the folks. They know where slot C is located, and if they end up with too few or too many screws or bolts, you don't have to know and worry about it falling apart.

Putting stuff together is especially frustrating if your tool box consists of only one screwdriver with paint on it. If you need a Phillips head, you will own a straight head screwdriver, etc. And you never get to use the rubber mallet on the deserving party.

And don't forget the instructions about not over-tightening those screws. Now you know...they told you for a reason.

One might easily conclude it's easier to assemble the green stuff and give it, than to assemble what the green stuff will buy.



DOWN IT COMES! — Polly Matthies, Sylvia Voelkel, Pauline Creswell and James Patrick, from left, disassemble a Christmas tree at the Senior Center in preparation for the millennium party Friday to welcome in the New Year. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Storms ravage France as seventeen are killed

PARIS (AP) — A second wave of fierce gales tore up trees and blew roofs from buildings today in France, killing 17 people along the southwestern Atlantic coast and bringing the death toll from recent storms in Western Europe to at least 99, police said.

Following storms that ravaged the north of France on Sunday, a second wave of rain and devastating winds, some up to 93 mph, hit several regions of the country. The new fatalities brought the death toll in France since Sunday to 61.

The severe weather also took a cultural toll. Slabs of roofing of the Notre Dame cathedral were blown off, and a stained-glass window at the Sainte-Chapelle was shattered. Worst hit among France's great monuments was the royal palace and park at Versailles, where the roof was damaged, windows were broken and more than 10,000 trees were knocked down.

France's National Fund for Historic Sites and Monuments estimated that it will cost between $62 million and $77 million to repair damaged cultural monuments.

Today's storm brought torrential rain to the north, causing rivers to overflow their banks. There were no immediate reports of fatalities.

In Paris today, the swollen Seine River flooded riverside roads and walkways in several parts of the city. Paris officials have asked the government to declare the city a natural disaster area.

In the Vendee region, on France's western coast, more than 2,000 people were evacuated from their homes due to floods and spent the night in town halls.

After dawn, weather conditions in most of the country remained calm and no new storms were forecast. But at least 3.4 million homes were without electricity, officials said.

"France has been wounded and many French are faced with cruel hardship just when they were about to celebrate the end of the year and the millennium," President Jacques Chirac said today.

Transport Minister Jean-Claude Gayssot said extensive damage to the country's public transport network, caused mostly by fallen trees or flooding, would not be totally fixed before the end of the year.

Mini weapons are predicted for future

WASHINGTON (AP) — The same technological revolution that bred palm-sized computers will eventually produce tiny biological or chemical weapons that "bad guys" will probably try to use against targets in the United States, President Clinton predicts.

But it won't be all bad, the president suggested. The 21st century should also bring advances in medicine and science, including cures for some forms of cancer, a vaccine for AIDS and a high-tech fix for paralyzing spinal cord injuries, he said in a CBS television interview scheduled for broadcast tonight.

"I wish I was going to live to be 150. I'd love to see what happens," he said.

In his speculative, off-the-cuff remarks, Clinton said a chemical or germ warfare attack is possible in the United States during the new century. But he did not spell out the scenario in which he thought someone might launch such an attack.

"The organized forces of destruction will take maximum advantage of new technologies, and new scientific developments, just like democratic societies do," the president said.

The network released a transcript of the "60 Minutes II" interview on Monday. The interview was taped at the White House on Dec. 22.

"Now you've got these gadgets where you can use as a telephone or a typewriter, and do e-mail and all that," Clinton said. "Well, the same miniaturization will apply to biological and chemical weapons."



Hijackers are seeking $200 million

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP) — The hijackers of an Indian Airlines jetliner have demanded the release of 35 guerrillas and $200 million, India's foreign minister said today.

As negotiations with Indian officials continued, conditions deteriorated for the 155 people held hostage by five hijackers aboard the Indian Airlines plane for the past five days. Many of the passengers are believed to be honeymooners returning from Nepal.

Indian Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh revealed the hijackers demands at a news briefing in New Delhi, India, saying "let the international community and the nation understand the demands."

The negotiations with India began after hijackers threatened Monday to start killing the passengers and crew. It was not immediately clear when the new demand was made.

At least one hostage has been killed since the crisis began.

"We will send an appropriate response through our negotiating team," Singh told reporters in New Delhi after a cabinet meeting. He did not elaborate.

The plane's engines shut down early today, interrupting talks and cutting radio communications. Walkie-talkies had to be brought in to start the third round of negotiations.

The engine problems also caused concern among Indian engineers who said that without power there would be no air circulation. Also, without working engines, heat will no longer be available for the passengers as temperatures at night hover around freezing.

There was no indication as to why the engines were turned off, but engineers said it was not surprising given that they had been running since Saturday morning, when the plane landed in Kandahar.

Singh said earlier today that Indian engineers had direct contact with some of the hostages after they were allowed to approach the plane on the runway and that conditions had improved slightly.

Singh said the aircraft's doors and rear chute were opened to air out the interior of the plane. He also said the hijackers refused to release the remaining women and children.

The Indian government has come under heavy pressure from relatives and supporters of the hostages to end the crisis.

Earlier reports said the hijackers have demanded that India release several Kashmiri fighters and Maulana Masood Azhar, a Pakistani religious leader.

Azhar, who traveled to India in 1992 to help the militants, was arrested in 1994 and is imprisoned in Indian-held Kashmir.

A Muslim cleric, Azhar was the ideologue of the Harkat ul-Ansar, an Islamic militant group active in Kashmir and on a U.S. list of terrorist organizations. The group is believed to have training camps in Afghanistan.

Four years ago, India refused to free Azhar in exchange for six Western tourists kidnapped in Kashmir. One was found decapitated and the others are believed dead.

Muslim militants have been waging an insurgency in Indian-held Kashmir, demanding either independence for the Himalayan state or union with Islamic Pakistan.

The hijackers also have demanded that the body of Sajjad Afghani, a former leader of the Harkat-ul-Ansar rebel group, be exhumed from a grave in India-held Kashmir, the Press Trust of India reported.

Afghani was arrested in 1994 and killed when guerrillas made an abortive bid to escape from the Kot Balwal jail in Jammu, the winter capital of Jammu-Kashmir state.

The Indian negotiators have spoken three times to the hijackers. Indian negotiators who spoke on condition of anonymity said the talks, being conducted by radio, would take time.

Indian officials have said there are five hijackers armed with grenades, pistols and knives. They seized Flight 814 some 40 minutes after it took off Friday from Katmandu, Nepal, on a flight to New Delhi. The plane made stops in India, Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates before landing in Afghanistan on Saturday.

Passengers who have been released said the hijackers stabbed and killed Rippan Katyal after he disobeyed their orders not to look at them.

One passenger, an Indian, was released Sunday for medical reasons. The captors freed 27 hostages and unloaded Katyal's body during a stopover in the United Arab Emirates on Saturday.

Shuttle lands after successful mission

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA ended a year of mishaps with a badly needed success as the space shuttle Discovery and its seven-member crew safely returned to Earth after fixing the Hubble Space Telescope.

Air Force Col. Curtis Brown landed the shuttle at 7:01 p.m. EST Monday at Kennedy Space Center.

"Welcome back to Earth after a fantastic flight," said Mission Control's Scott Altman.

The astronauts were scheduled to return to Houston today after spending the night with their families in Cocoa Beach, Fla.

"These were the most busy, but the most gratifying eight days of our lives," said astronaut Claude Nicollier after walking off the shuttle.

The success of the Hubble repair mission was a much-needed boost for NASA, which in recent months has suffered a series of embarrassments.

"To get up and flying again is a morale boost and the fact that the mission was so successful was equally as important," said Joseph Rothenberg, NASA's associate administrator for space flight. "We've had our ups and downs this year but ended up solid."

ASK US

Q-How many were killed over the Christmas holidays, and how many accidents involved alcohol?

A-As of 3 p.m. Monday, the DPS said 23 persons - with seven accidents involving alcohol.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Monday, 63 degrees; low, 28; 7 a.m. Tuesday, 33; no precipitation; total for 1999, 21.86 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear, low near 30. NW wind 5-10 mph. Wednesday, sunny, high, upper 60s. W-SW wind, 5-15 mph.



Maxine Jaramillo
Sunny

Sunset:
5:49 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:42 a.m.

Of 361 days in 1999, the sun has shone 354 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Within ourselves are the seeds of triumph or defeat.
—Longfellow

Bus crash passengers had warned driver to slow down, one says

HOUSTON (AP) — The driver in a bus crash that killed three people was warned by passengers to slow down, according to a church group chaperone who, along with his family, survived the accident.

David Sumlin, 34, of Houston, said 72-year-old Robert Gene Hawthorn was driving the charter bus confidently and had both hands on the steering wheel when he hit a patch of ice west of Canon City, Colo.

"The back end of the bus fishtailed first, and it alarmed pretty much everyone on the bus," said Sumlin, who talked to reporters Monday at a Houston hospital, where he is being treated for injuries suffered in the Dec. 21 crash.

Moments later, after a second fishtail, Sumlin said the entire busload of teens "was yelling at the driver, 'Slow down,'" according to the Houston Chronicle.

His comments coincide with a preliminary report on the accident — released Monday by the National Transportation Safety Board — that said several passengers indicated the bus was going too fast just before it rolled down the Colorado mountainside.

Hawthorn, who died in the crash, was driving one bus in a caravan of vehicles taking teenagers from two Houston churches home to Texas after a ski holiday at Crested Butte.

Christopher Scarberry, 17, and Matthew Donat, 16, also were also killed.

Investigators and witnesses said Hawthorn, an experienced driver who has driven the mountainous route several times before, lost control of the bus while descending a steep, icy hill.

The bus slid down a 36-foot embankment and flipped on its top. Passengers said they could not tell why the bus began picking up speed shortly before it crashed.

On Monday, Colorado officials said tire tracks that would show how fast the bus was traveling had been erased by a snowplow, which has complicated the investigation.

The bus passed the snowplow as it was going uphill on Highway 50. The plow driver stopped to clean its headlights and then continued down the hill after the bus slid off the road, Colorado State Patrol spokesman Richard Breece said.

"If we had tire marks, there are many methods to tell us the speed," Breece said. "But when half of the evidence is obliterated, all we can go by are the eyewitnesses."

Investigators said they hope to find someone who saw the bus speedometer before the crash.

A Colorado State Patrol report released Monday concluded seven passengers were ejected, but officials say they are still not certain. Fifty two teens, seven adult chaperones and Hawthorn were on board.

An autopsy revealed Hawthorn had severe coronary disease, but test results that could determine whether the driver suffered a heart attack are not expected for at least 10 days.

Sumlin, who works for Compaq Computer Corp. and is a youth group sponsor at Windwood Presbyterian Church, was sitting next to his 8-year-old son, Robin, in the first seat behind the driver. Sumlin's wife, Terry, and the couple's 6-year-old daughter, Morgan, were in the seat behind them.

The couple's children were brought back to Houston on Saturday in a corporate jet and are staying with grandparents.

Sumlin and his wife were flown to a Houston hospital by an ambulance service and are being treated for their injuries.

Funeral services for Scarberry were held Sunday. Services for Donat are scheduled for 11 a.m. today at Houston's Windwood Presbyterian Church, while funeral arrangements for the driver have not been announced.



MOST CREATIVE — The first floor of the Scurry County Courthouse was named most creative during a recent Christmas decorating contest. Pictured are Jana Young, Rona Sikes, Jacqueline Wills, Linda Robinson and Diana Williamson. (SDN Staff Photo)

Tobacco seeking lawsuit dismissal

WASHINGTON (AP) — The tobacco industry is asking a federal judge to dismiss the Justice Department's massive lawsuit that accuses cigarette makers of a decades-old conspiracy to mislead the public about the dangers of smoking.

The government has no legal right to recover Medicare money spent treating smoking-related illnesses, industry lawyers said in documents filed with U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler.

"The government is asserting causes of action for Medicare recovery that have never been recognized by any court before, that it has never asserted before, that it has publicly stated it does not have and that it has to this date never asserted against anyone other than this group of defendants," the industry's lawyers said.

The Justice Department also is trying to ignore settlements the industry reached with all 50 states, the lawyers said.

The industry already agreed to pay states $246 billion to settle lawsuits filed to recover the cost of treating sick smokers in the Medicaid program, which serves poor and disabled Americans. The federal suit is based on a similar principle, but regarding Medicare and other federal health programs.

The government's lawsuit alleges that cigarette makers conspired since the 1950s to defraud and mislead the public about the dangers of smoking.

When the lawsuit was filed in September, Attorney General Janet Reno said federal health plans spend more than $20 billion a year treating smoking-related illnesses, which take 400,000 lives a year.

The tobacco industry's court filing said Reno acknowledged in April 1997 that the government lacked authority to sue the tobacco companies. Reno has said she was talking about only state-administered Medicaid programs.

The federal suit involves Medicare, the health program for the elderly, and military and veterans' health insurance paid directly by the federal government.

When the Justice Department sued the industry, it also closed an almost 5-year-old criminal investigation into whether tobacco companies lied to Congress or regulatory agencies about the addictiveness of nicotine. The department filed no charges.

Infertile males may find hope in research

WASHINGTON (AP) — Young men left infertile by cancer treatments might still have a chance to be fathers if a successful sperm transplant experiment in mice can be applied to humans.

Scientists transplanted the stem cells from one type of mouse into another. The cells then developed into sperm cells, carrying the traits of the donor male.

The work was done by a team of researchers led by Ralph L. Brinster of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine.

While the work was done only in mice, it could have major implications for some young human cancer patients, Howard J. Cooke of Western General Hospital in Edinburgh, Scotland, reports in an accompanying news article.

Because some cancer treatments can cause mutations in developing and mature sperm cells, men undergoing these treatments often have sperm removed and frozen for later use.

This cannot be done for boys who have not yet gone through puberty since they have no mature sperm cells.

Cooke and colleague Philippa K. T. Saunders say Brinster's work indicates that if immature stem cells can develop successfully after transplantation, they can be frozen and reintroduced into the donor after completion of cancer treatment.

Frozen preservation "of testicular stem cells and post-treatment reintroduction, could protect germ cells from potentially (mutation-causing) cancer treatments and safeguard against infertility," Cooke and Saunders concluded.

However, they caution, doctors must not reintroduce cancer cells into the patient in this process.

They also noted that the ability to separate, preserve and reintroduce stem cells raises the possibility of using gene therapy to correct genetic problems.

But they added: "Ethical problems with this approach abound."

The findings, developed in a study of whether fertility can be restored in infertile males, are reported in today's issue of the journal Nature Medicine.

Burger King recalling toys' containers

MIAMI (AP) — Burger King is voluntarily recalling millions of plastic balls that hold wildly popular Pokemon toys given away in kids' meals after a 13-month-old girl suffocated when one covered her mouth and nose.

"More than 25 million of the 'Poke' balls are part of the recall," Charles Nicolas, a spokesman for the Miami-based restaurant chain, said Monday. "That's because they may pose a suffocation hazard for children under three years of age."

Date Book

Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1999

Today is the 362nd day of 1999 and the seventh day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1832, John Calhoun, Andrew Johnson's vice president, resigned. He was the first vice president of the United States to do so.

On this day in 1895, the Lumiere brothers put on the first commercial screening of a motion picture.

On this day in 1973, Comet Kohoutek reached perihelion (the point in its orbit closest to the sun).

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924), U.S. president; Earl "Fatha" Hines (1905-1983), musician; Terry Sawchuck (1929-1970), hockey great; Maggie Smith (1934-), actress, is 65; Denzel Washington (1954-), actor, is 45.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1975, with 24 seconds left in the game, Drew Pearson caught a 50-yard "Hail Mary" touchdown pass thrown by Roger Staubach, giving the Dallas Cowboys a 17-14 victory over the Minnesota Vikings.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "America was established not to create wealth but to realize a vision, to realize an ideal — to discover and maintain liberty among men." — Woodrow Wilson

TODAY'S MOON: Day before last quarter (Dec. 29).

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Berry's World



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"As Regis would say, 'Is that your final answer?'"

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16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16

Happy Sweet 16

Love

Momma, Daddy, Miranda & Kenny

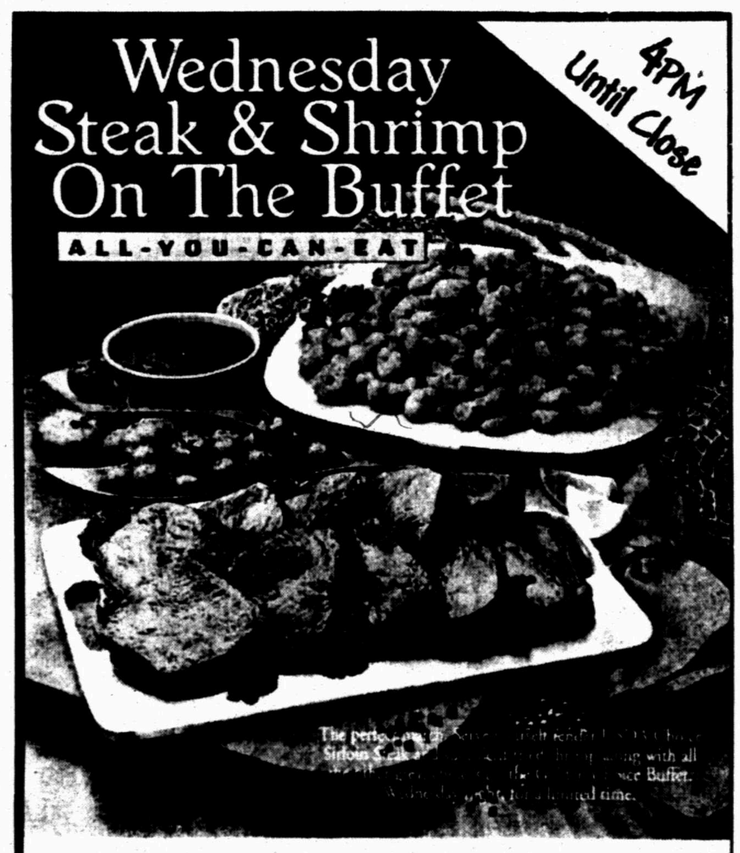


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Wednesday Steak & Shrimp On The Buffet

4PM Until Close

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT



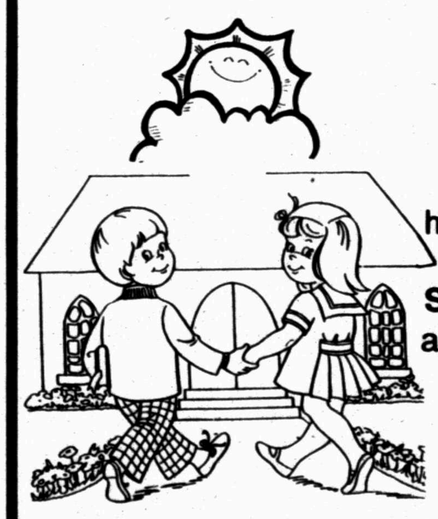
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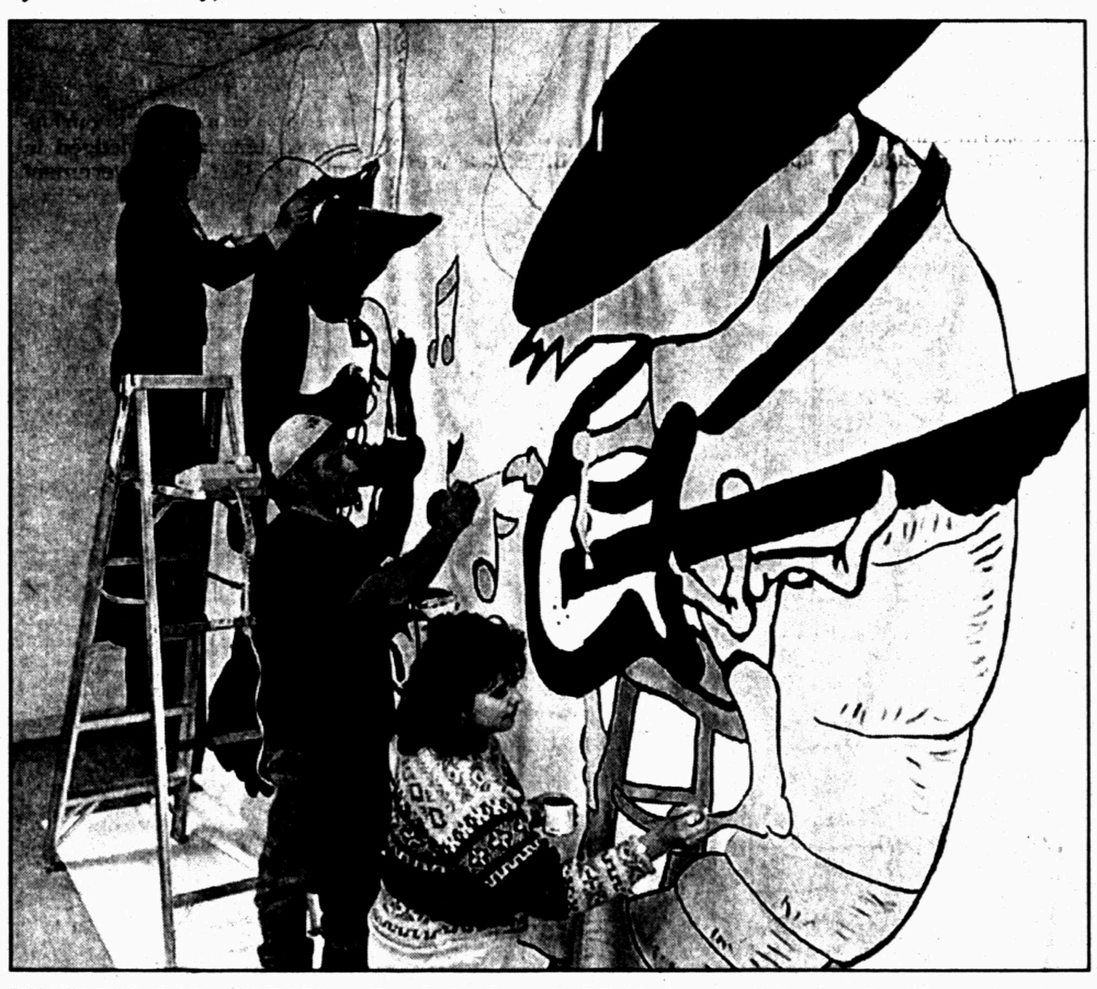
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"I LOVE CHRISTMAS" — Mrs. Suzanne Doolittle's and Mrs. Carolyn Hamby's Stanfield Elementary second grade classes presented "I Love Christmas." directed by Kristi Reneau. Shown in costume from left are, top photo, first row, Kevin Bowers, John Ryan Buchanan, Fransisco Fonseca, Deanna Mills, Tye Holley, Shawn Selders, Krystal Martinez, Sarah Parmer, Mrs. Hamby; second row, Jonathan Verduzco, Meranda Hernandez, Taylor Tyrell, Kyra Lara, Andrea Perez, Anthony Segura; top row, Samana Arizmendi, L.A. Jaramillo, LaTekka Richardson, Monica Escareno, Jessica Kenly and Chris Hart. In the bottom photo are, seated on floor, Christopher Fuentes, Andie Martinez, Meagan Downing, Mitchell Marcon; second row, Mrs. Doolittle, Clint Wall, Dana Garcia, Jerard Delce, Toby Lopez, Shane Hicks, Andrew Zapata; third row, Eduardo Arellano, Larissa Arellano, Natasha Garcia, Kanaan Short, Jodi Hamilton; top row, Amanda Browning, Joshua Taylor, Kayla Kay, Brailee Sanchez and Mary Guerra. (Staff Photos by Jo Ann Nunley)



READYING FOR "SWING" — Tracie McDowell, J.R. Salinas and Sandra Barboza paint decorations for the upcoming West Texas Western Swing Festival to be held May 18-20 at the Scurry County Coliseum, sponsored by the chamber of commerce. The event will include a fiddle contest this year and most of the entertainers performing the last several years will return. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

More than 75 percent of the world's 850 active volcanoes lie within the Ring of Fire, a zone running along the west coast of America from Chile to Alaska and down the east coast of Asia from Siberia to New Zealand.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 12-28-99
♠ A 10 8 3
♥ J 7
♦ A
♣ A K J 7 4 2

West
♠ K 4
♥ 9 2
♦ K Q 10 4
♣ 10 9 8 6 3

East
♠ 7 6 5 2
♥ K 6 5
♦ 9 8 7 6 5 3
♣ ---

South
♠ Q J 9
♥ A Q 10 8 4 3
♦ J 2
♣ Q-5

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	5 NT	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	6 ♥	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ K

Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1999

The greatest player of all time?

Who is the best player of all time? Maybe the winner would be Saturday's subject. But three Italians would figure prominently in the voting, Giorgio Belladonna, Pietro Forquet and Benito Garozzo, though the last has lived in Florida for some years.

Garozzo learned the basics from an Ely Culbertson book, although he didn't understand English then. His game improved in Egypt, where he lived from 1946-50 and 1951-54. He joined the Blue Team in 1961, partnering Forquet. It was Garozzo's first exposure to a strong-club system, yet they won the Bermuda Bowl. Forquet and Garozzo won 10 world-team titles together. After the retirement of the Blue Team, Garozzo formed a wonderful partnership with Belladonna.

Garozzo is renowned for imaginative card-play, and especially when defending, he has produced many beautiful falsecards — as in this deal.

After winning with dummy's diamond ace, you want to avoid losing a trick in each red suit. It is reasonable to play a heart to the queen at trick two. If the finesse loses, there's a trump in the dummy to ruff a diamond return. And on, say, a spade switch, you can presumably draw trumps and take discards on dummy's clubs.

Fine, but when South led dummy's heart seven, East — you know who — smoothly played the king!

As it was a pair event, South thought he could now win a valuable overtrick. So, he played a trump to dummy's jack, then tried to return to hand with a club. Garozzo ruffed and led a diamond to his partner's queen for one down. Incredible!

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Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Dec. 27-Beverly Ainsworth of Fluvanna, Ralph Carrasco, Opal Minton, Richard Sumruld, Zackary Deere, Thelma Ford, Otis Martin, Ida Webb and Loyd Webb.

DISMISSALS: Kaden Clay, Jasper Pence of San Angelo, Robert Scott, Wanda Cody, Rebecca Digby, Paul Sawyer, Lillian Sellers and Jeannine Thompson of Lake Tomahaw.

CENSUS: 45 (Med./Surg.-19, Long-term Care-24, OB-1 and Nursery-1).

The koala of Australia is perfectly adapted to one tree, the eucalyptus, and doesn't need anything else, not even water. It is one of the few land animals that do not need water to supplement their food.



Soothe winter chills with homemade tapioca pudding

Cold weather brings thoughts of comfort foods that warm the body and soothe our winter chills. When the temperature starts to drop, try whipping up a batch of Minute Tapioca Pudding — America's Original Comfort Food.

An easy treat that takes only 10 minutes to prepare, homemade tapioca pudding is sure to satisfy family and friends. This wholesome snack that contains all-natural ingredients is delicious and soothing, whether served warm or chilled.

Since the original tapioca pudding recipe is so versatile, you can make several flavor varieties that will tantalize the tastebuds throughout the winter!

MINTUTE TAPIOCA PUDDING

1/3 cup sugar
3 Tbsp. Minute Tapioca
3 cups milk
1 egg, well beaten
1 tsp. vanilla

MIX sugar, tapioca, milk and egg in medium saucepan. Let stand 5 minutes.

COOK on medium heat, stirring constantly until mixture comes to full boil. (Pudding thickens as it cools.) Remove from heat. Stir in vanilla.

COOL 20 minutes, stir. Stir before serving. Serve warm or chilled, Makes 3 cups.

Chocolate Tapioca Pudding: Add 3 squares semi-sweet baking chocolate to ingredients in saucepan. Prepare as directed.

Eggnog Tapioca Pudding: Substitute ½ tsp. Rum extract for vanilla extract. Add 1/8 tsp. Nutmeg. If desired, substitute 3 cups half-and-half for milk. Prepare as directed.

For additional pudding variations and recipes, visit the Minute Tapioca web site at www.minute-tapioca.com.

Winter brings dark days for golf addicts

PALMER, Alaska (AP) — The darkest days of winter can be darker still for golf addicts — especially those who live in Alaska.

So, when temperatures at Palmer Golf Course, about 35 miles north of Anchorage, reached into the 40s on Wednesday and the snow melted away, course director Jeff Barnhart got an idea.

Why not open the course for a free day of golf?

"This is the best opportunity to give Anchorage golfers a present two days before Christmas," Barnhart said.

The course was to be open Thursday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. because that's "the only daylight hours we have," he said. And he cautioned that course conditions wouldn't be ideal. Before the big melt, more than a foot of snow lay on the ground and that was before it rained.

Barnhart admitted that the 18-hole course is pretty squishy.

Alaska golfers are a hardy bunch, he said. He expected more than 50 to take to the links.

"These golfers, especially in Alaska, it won't faze them," he said. "These crazy people in Alaska will come out here and play a couple of hours and then do their Christmas shopping."

Donations received

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Four charities are a little better off thanks to billionaire investor Warren Buffett.

Buffett and his wife, Susan, have donated 2,500 shares of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. stock worth about $134 million to the charities. A spokeswoman at Berkshire Hathaway, Buffett's investment company, declined to identify the charities.

Berkshire Hathaway's Class A common stock closed at $53,400 on the New York Stock Exchange Monday.

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ROBIN WILLIAMS
BICENTENNIAL MAN
PG 7:00, 9:20
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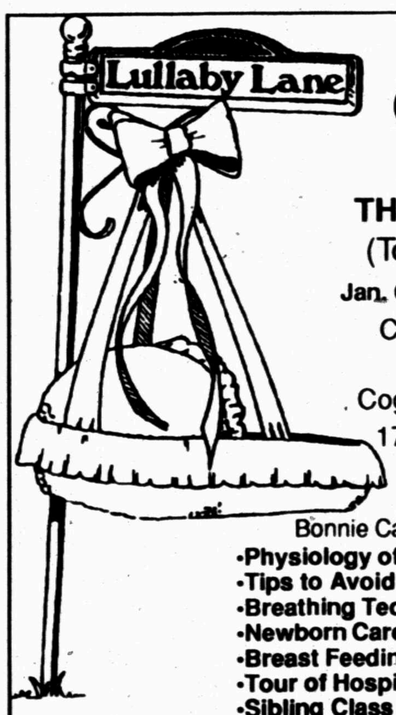
Sun. 9:30 a.m. Bible Classes, Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. Midweek Devotional in Family Center
Mon. - Fri. 8:05 a.m. "Five Minutes with the Master" KSNY 101.5 FM

AFRAID OF Y2K?

In Luke Chapter 21 Jesus gives us at least five rules that tell us how to behave in the face of impending hard times. They are good rules for us to consider this week, especially in this time of concern about Y2K. See if you agree:

1) "Watch out that you are not deceived" (vs. 8).
2) "Do not be frightened" (vs. 9).
3) "Make up your mind not to worry" (vs. 14).
4) "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life" (vs. 34).
5) "Be always on the watch, and pray" (vs. 36).

Jesus gives good advice for *any* millennium!



Prepared Childbirth Classes
THURSDAYS 7-9 p.m.
(Total of Five Classes)
Jan. 6, 2000 through Feb. 3, 2000
Classes Will Be Held at
Board Room at
Cogdell Memorial Hospital;
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(South Parking Lot)
Instructor:
Bonnie Carroll, RN - Linda Briseno, RN
•Physiology of Pregnancy and Delivery
•Tips to Avoid Complications
•Breathing Techniques
•Newborn Care
•Breast Feeding Techniques
•Tour of Hospital OB Department
•Sibling Class (for future big brothers and sisters - included in final class)
Please wear comfortable clothing; bring a coach, two pillows and a blanket.
Open To Any Expectant Parents
The fee is $40.00 per couple, payable prior to the first class, unless enrolled in the LULLABY LANE program.
Class Size Is Limited
To Reserve 574-7467
Next Class Begins March 16, 2000
For more information, please contact COGDELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 915-573-6374 LINDA BRISENO, RN, OB Nurse Manager or WILMA DILLARD, Community/ Patient Relations.
Cogdell Memorial Hospital

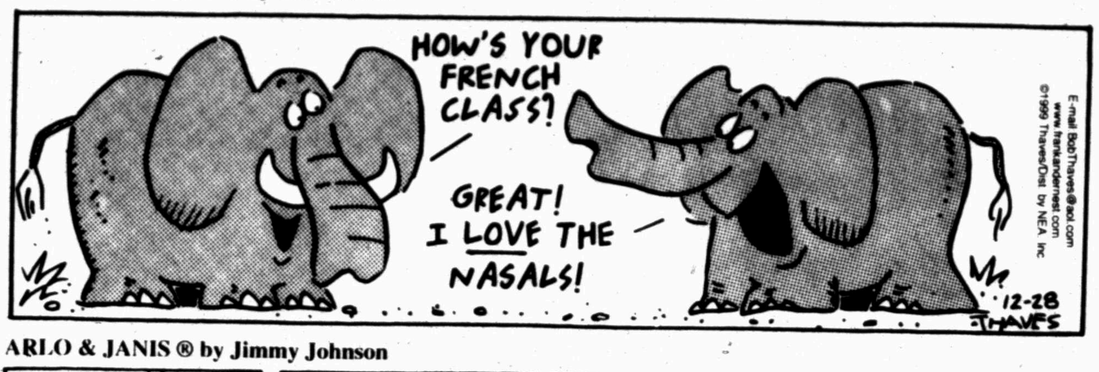
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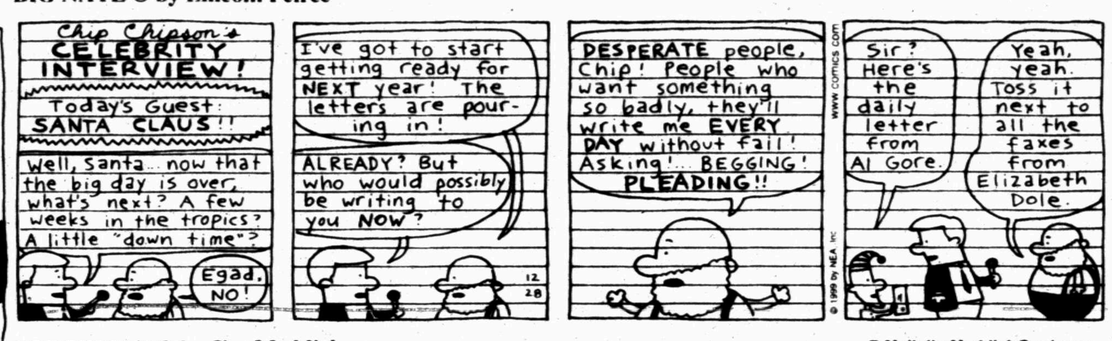
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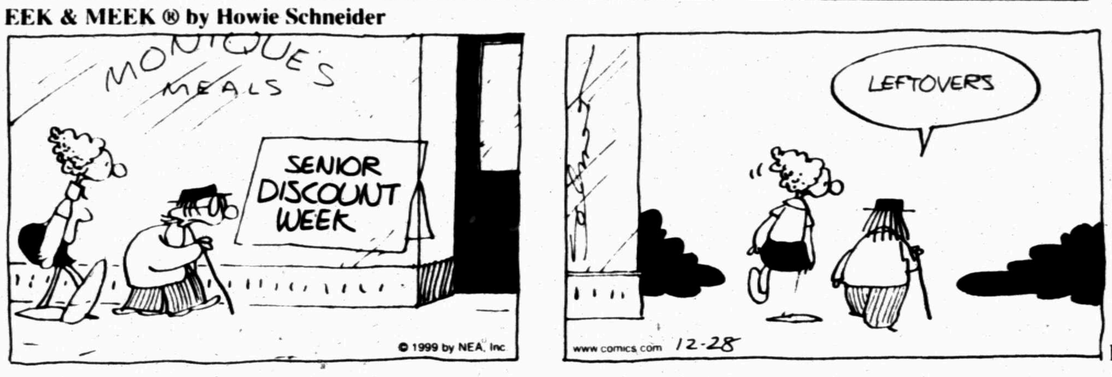
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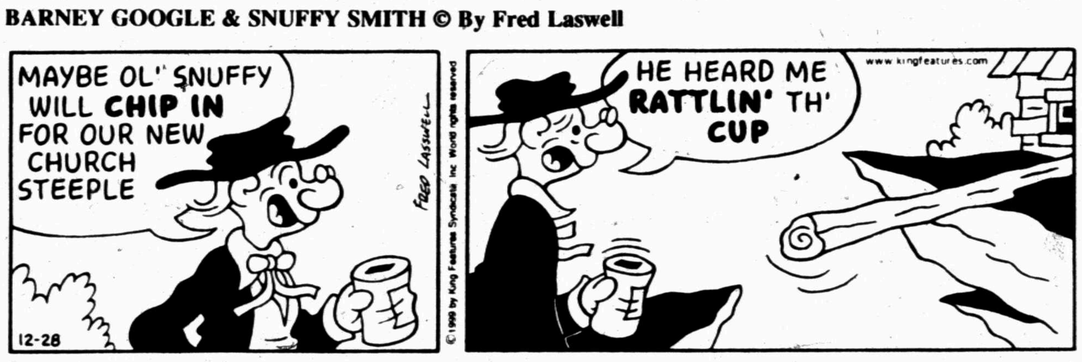
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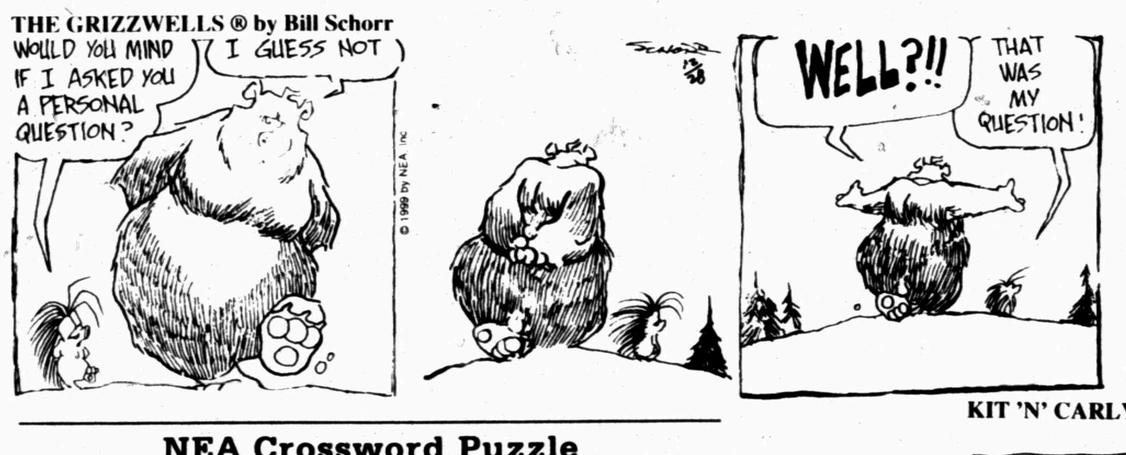




BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright









NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Climbing plants
6 Vigor
10 Demeaned
12 Realm
14 Drained
15 Like many winter jackets
16 Ums' kin
17 Lemony quaff
19 Advise, old-style
20 In a kingly manner
23 Merlot and Tokay
26 Unclaimed mail dept.
27 Fuss
30 Tennis player Andre —
32 Avoided adroitly
34 Type of tank
35 Had confidence
36 School-home org.
37 Fish part
39 You don't want these in gravy
40 Thesaurus entry
42 Astronaut Slayton
45 Language suffix
46 Meadow
49 Ammonia compounds
51 Self-confidence
54 Beats
55 Blood fluid
56 Snick and —
57 Complies

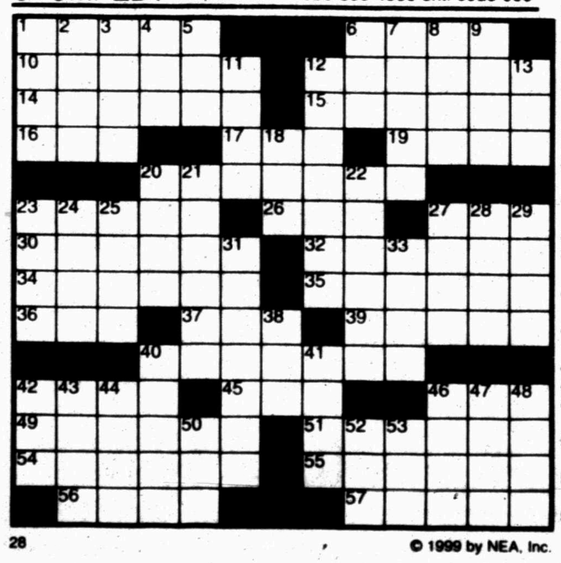
DOWN

1 Flower holder
2 Construction beam (2 wds.)
3 Snoozes
4 Kreskin's forte
5 View
6 Menagerie
7 Atlanta university
8 Bargain event
9 Laced
11 1944 invasion date
12 Inhabitant
13 Compass pt.
18 June honoree
20 Balance
21 Change into bone
22 Beautiful
23 Stinging insect
24 "By the time — — . . ."
25 California valley
27 Take — — view of (disapprove)
28 Intense
29 Racetrack term
31 Coldness
33 Grad
38 Negative answers
40 It's often common
41 Tide type
42 Skip (stones) on water
43 Australian birds
44 Potter's need
46 Misplace
47 TV award
48 Arabian garments
50 Wide shoe size
52 Middle East org.
53 Sci. room

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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HERMAN® by Jim Unger



"Mom, why don't you get a divorce and marry someone with more money?"



"I CAN HEAR YOU SNORING ALL THE WAY UP IN MY ROOM, WHILE I'M S'POSED TO BE TAKIN' A NAP."

SPORTS

After holiday break....

Tigers return with 82-54 blowout win

BROWNWOOD — Maybe a little time off is just what the doctor ordered for the Snyder Tigers.

After a five-day layoff, Snyder broke a three-game skid Monday with a commanding 82-54 romp over O'Donnell in the second round of the Brownwood tournament.

The Tigers (9-8), who received a bye in the opening round, were to have faced Wichita Falls in a semifinal match-up this afternoon. The Coyotes knocked off Snyder in last year's championship tilt. This year's winner will face Canyon in tonight's title game at 8:30.

"I think the break did us some good," said Snyder coach Bud Birks. "The kids were more enthusiastic and more intense than they have been in the past few games. That had been our problem lately, we would do things right for awhile, then we would lose our focus for a bit. But today, the kids had fun and kept their focus throughout the whole game."

O'Donnell, which knocked off Bangs in the opening round, was no match for the Tigers' strength inside. Snyder's Sonny Cumbie, Jared Thornhill and Michael Loper combined for over half of the Tigers' points, all of them coming from inside the paint.

Five of Snyder's first six buckets came underneath, before Cumbie kicked the ball back out top to Greg McAnaw for a three-pointer to establish the Tigers' advantage.

"We got the ball inside real well," said Birks. "That's something we had talked about before the game. We fed the post early, then we kept going inside all game long."

Thornhill's 17 points paced the Tigers, with Cumbie adding 16 more. McAnaw poured in 13 points, including three long-range baskets, and Loper finished with 12.

In other tourney action, Canyon earned its spot in the final with victories over Colorado City and Brownwood. Wichita Falls routed Grape Creek, 95-35, before topping Sonora, 71-59.

Snyder	**21**	**30**	**14**	**17— 82**
O'Donnell	**12**	**14**	**06**	**22— 54**

Snyder
Cumbie 7 2-2 16, Wofford 3 2-2 8, Knirsch 1 0-0 2, Scott 1 0-0 2, Pinkerton 3 2-2 8, Hester 2 0-0 4, McAnaw 3 4-4 13, Thornhill 7 3- 6 17, Loper 6 0-0 12. **Totals 33 13-16 82.**

O'Donnell
Henderson 3 3-4 10, Childress 3 0-0 6, Luera 1 0-0 3, Sanchez 1 1-3 3, Olivan 7 0-0 18, Reed 2 0-0 4, Lee 3 4-9 10. **Totals 20 8-16 54.**

Three-point goals: Snyder 3 (McAnaw 3), O'Donnell 6 (Olivan 4, Henderson, Luera).

When Aggies, Nittany Lions meet tonight...

Slocum, Paterno looking ahead

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — On the practice field, Texas A&M coach R.C. Slocum is thinking ahead to next season. At gametime tonight in the Alamo Bowl, it's still 1999.

The No. 18 Aggies meet No. 13 Penn State at the Alamodome in a game neither team envisioned early this season. Each had high expectations dashed by disappointing losses.

But each team insists it's happy to be in San Antonio.

"This is still a continuation of this season," Slocum said. "It's another additional opportunity to play against a very good football team. We're going to do everything we can to try to win this game."

Some Texas A&M workouts recently have been extended and geared toward looking at younger players and plans for next year, Slocum said.

Nittany Lions coach Joe Paterno acknowledged he's done the same.

Neither coach, though, expects to glide through the Alamo Bowl, which is sponsored by Sylvania.

Paterno hopes his players can have enough stamina late in the game to face the two big Texas A&M running backs, Ja'Mar Toombs and D'Andre Hardeman, who weigh more than 500 pounds combined.

"They're going to wear on us," Paterno said, adding that those players remind him of running back T.J. Duckett of Michigan State.

Penn State (9-3, 5-3 Big Ten) started the season 9-0 and reached a No. 2 ranking before losing its last three games, to Minnesota, Michigan and Michigan State. It had been 85 years since a Penn State team lost the last three regular-season games.

"I don't like the term 'slump,' " Paterno said Monday. "I thought our kids played hard, they played tough. Some things didn't go that well."

Paterno praised Penn State's opponents and said tonight's game provided an opportunity for the Lions to recover.

"We have a lot of fine seniors who have had great careers at Penn State and certainly don't want to go out with four losses in a row," Paterno said.

In his 34 years as Penn State's coach, Paterno has never had a four-game losing streak. And with a record of 19-9-1, Paterno has won more bowl games than any other coach.

"We, obviously, didn't get to do some things (this season)," Paterno said. "You wonder how you can kind of end it up with something that's very positive."

Once the Lions realized they would face Texas A&M, and not a lesser opponent, they became excited about the Alamo Bowl and wanted to come to town 10 days early, Paterno said.

Slocum is not fooled by the Lions' three-game losing streak.

"They won nine straight games, and then, as Joe said, the three teams they played were all very good teams," Slocum said. "It wasn't like they were blown away. Those were good teams that are as good as any in college football."

Slocum is impressed with Penn State's defense. Penn State, like Texas A&M, has been referred to as "Linebacker U."

"They are athletic. They move to the ball well. They create a lot of problems," Slocum said. "For us to have any success, I think we'll have to have a balanced attack and try to get a few yards here and there."

Penn State has three All-America defensive players — linebackers Brandon Short and LaVar Arrington and defensive end Courtney Brown.

Arrington takes issue with the notion that Texas A&M is the premier school for linebackers.

"I was kind of upset when I got here and heard it," Arrington said. "Penn State is Linebacker U. I will defend it on the field. I will defend it off the field until the day I die."

For both Texas A&M and Penn State, it's no mystery what it'll take to win the Alamo Bowl.

"We've got to play the kicking game, we've got to minimize turnovers and not give up big plays on defense," Slocum said.

"Amen," Paterno said.

Jones lectures veteran Cowboys

IRVING (AP) — Jerry Jones gave his veteran players a little reminder of how much winning means to him.

The Dallas Cowboys owner called a group of players into his office Monday and spoke for about 20 minutes. With the team needing a victory Sunday to make the playoffs, it's easy to guess what he spoke about.

"I don't think anyone has ever questioned how passionate Jerry is about the Cowboys and how passionate he is about winning," quarterback Troy Aikman said. "It was reiterated for those that maybe didn't know that."

Aikman — who joined Dallas in 1989, the same year Jones bought the team — said he doesn't remember the owner ever holding such a gathering.

"Jerry got his point across," safety Darren Woodson said, smiling. "It was his meeting."

"It was needed," defensive lineman Alonzo Spellman said. "It starts at the top. Jerry is unbelievable in how he takes care of business. It was a good thing."

Despite consecutive losses to teams long ago eliminated from the playoffs, Dallas (7-8) can earn the NFC's last wild-card spot with a victory Sunday over the New York Giants.

The Cowboys assumed all weekend their offseason had begun following a loss to New Orleans on Friday. After the game, everyone spoke about this season in the past tense, including Jones, who said he felt "a little foolish and stupid" for having spent $41 million in bonuses for this team.

Yet a stunning series of losses over the weekend kept the Cowboys' playoff hopes alive and well. Although New York, Carolina and Green Bay also are 7-8, Dallas is the only team that can win and be certain of making the playoffs.

"We've had second chances out the gazoo," said Cowboys coach Chan Gailey, as much relieved as he is frustrated. "Let's see if we can do something with this game in order to take advantage of it."

The Giants would be eliminated by losing to the Cowboys. Dallas has tiebreaker advantages over the Panthers and Packers. This will be only the fourth time an 8-8 team makes the playoffs.

Gailey explained the formulas to players at a team meeting Monday so they would understand how drastically their outlook has improved since the Saints game.

"I hope it's a great lift," Gailey said. "You went through the weekend thinking there was no chance, and now you do have a chance. We can't lay in that Friday stupor."

Gailey said he doesn't want players focusing on the if-then playoff scenarios. If anything, they should see this as a playoff game because if they win, they go on and if they lose, they go home.

Lakers win 19th straight over Mavs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant made two foul shots with 8.6 seconds remaining Monday night as the Los Angeles Lakers edged Dallas 108-106 for their 19th straight victory over the Mavericks.

The Lakers, who also have beaten the Mavericks 19 straight times at home, never trailed, but with Dirk Nowitzki and Michael Finley leading the way, the upstart Mavericks took them down to the wire.

Finley tried a 3-point shot from the top of the key in the final seconds that would have given Dallas the victory, but he missed, and Bryant got the rebound as time ran out.

Shaquille O'Neal had 35 points, 14 rebounds and three blocked shots, and Bryant scored 13 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter for the Lakers, whose 24-5 record is the NBA's best.

Ron Harper shot 8-of-9 to add 17 points and Robert Horry had 11 points, eight rebounds and eight assists for the Lakers, who won their ninth straight game — the longest streak in the NBA this season — and 16th in their last 17.

NFL Glance

All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
East						
x-Indianapolis	13	2	0	.867	417	302
y-Buffalo	10	5	0	.667	289	223
Miami	9	6	0	.600	316	315
N.Y. Jets	7	8	0	.467	289	300
New England	7	8	0	.467	279	281
Central						
y-Jacksonville	13	2	0	.866	372	210
y-Tennessee	12	3	0	.800	345	288
Baltimore	8	7	0	.533	321	257
Pittsburgh	6	9	0	.400	281	273
Cincinnati	4	11	0	.267	276	436
Cleveland	2	14	0	.125	217	437
West						
Seattle	9	6	0	.600	329	279
Kansas City	9	6	0	.600	352	281
San Diego	7	8	0	.467	257	310
Oakland	7	8	0	.467	349	291
Denver	6	9	0	.400	308	306
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
x-Washington	9	6	0	.600	422	367
N.Y. Giants	7	8	0	.467	281	332
Dallas	7	8	0	.467	326	258
Arizona	6	9	0	.400	221	333
Philadelphia	4	11	0	.267	234	326
Central						
y-Tampa Bay	10	5	0	.667	250	229
y-Minnesota	9	6	0	.600	375	318
y-Detroit	8	7	0	.533	305	299
Green Bay	7	8	0	.467	308	317
Chicago	6	9	0	.400	266	321
West						
x-St. Louis	13	2	0	.867	495	204
Carolina	7	8	0	.467	376	368
Atlanta	4	11	0	.267	251	351
San Francisco	4	11	0	.267	266	419
New Orleans	3	12	0	.200	247	389

x-clinched division title
y-clinched playoff spot

Monday's Game
New York Jets 38, Miami 31

Sunday, Jan. 2
Arizona at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at New England, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
New Orleans at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Oakland at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Seattle at New York Jets, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Chicago, 1 p.m.
New York Giants at Dallas, 4:05 p.m.
Miami at Washington, 4:15 p.m.
San Diego at Denver, 4:15 p.m.
Tennessee at Pittsburgh, 4:15 p.m.
OPEN: Cleveland

Monday, Jan. 3
San Francisco at Atlanta, 9 p.m.

NBA Glance

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Miami	17	9	.654	—
New York	17	11	.607	1
Orlando	15	12	.556	2½
Philadelphia	16	14	.533	3
Boston	11	15	.423	6
New Jersey	10	18	.357	8
Washington	10	18	.357	8
Central Division				
Indiana	18	9	.667	—
Charlotte	17	10	.630	1
Milwaukee	16	12	.571	2½
Toronto	15	12	.556	3
Detroit	13	14	.481	5
Atlanta	11	16	.407	7
Cleveland	11	16	.407	7
Chicago	2	23	.080	15
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
San Antonio	20	10	.667	—
Utah	17	10	.630	1½
Denver	14	12	.538	4
Minnesota	12	13	.480	5½
Houston	9	19	.321	10
Dallas	9	20	.310	10½
Vancouver	6	21	.222	12½
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	24	5	.828	—
Portland	20	7	.741	3
Phoenix	18	10	.643	5½
Seattle	18	10	.643	5½
Sacramento	15	10	.600	7
L.A. Clippers	9	18	.333	14
Golden State	6	22	.214	17½

Monday's Games
Minnesota 107, Orlando 105
Charlotte 108, Atlanta 104
Indiana 103, Chicago 91
Utah 92, Phoenix 91
Philadelphia 100, Vancouver 93
San Antonio 105, Golden State 83
L.A. Lakers 108, Dallas 106

Tuesday's Games
Minnesota at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
New York at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Sacramento, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Denver, 9 p.m.
Seattle at Portland, 10 p.m.

Local Basketball Schedule

TODAY
Snyder varsity boys vs. Wichita Falls, at Brownwood tourney, 1 p.m.
Snyder varsity boys vs. Canyon or Brownwood-Sonora winner, 5:30 or 8:30
Ira varsity boys vs. Keene, at Fort Worth Classic, 11:30

WEDNESDAY
Snyder varsity girls vs. Lake Travis, at Abilene High tourney, 3 p.m.
Ira varsity boys at Fort Worth Classic

THURSDAY
Snyder varsity girls vs. Eastland or Abilene High, 9 a.m. or noon
Ira varsity boys vs. Kennedale or Brookeland, at Fort Worth Classic, 11 a.m. or 6:30

FRIDAY
Hermleigh boys and girls at Klondike, 2 and 3:30

MONDAY
Western Texas at Southwest Shootout in Waco

NEXT TUESDAY
Levelland at Snyder varsity girls and boys, 6 and 7:30
Levelland at Snyder JV boys and girls, 6 and 7:30
Ira girls and boys at Klondike, 6:30 and 8 p.m.
Hermleigh girls and boys at Loraine, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Jets fly past Miami, 38-31

MIAMI (AP) — Dan Marino threw two costly interceptions, Ray Lucas threw two fourth-quarter touchdown bombs Monday night and the New York Jets beat the Miami Dolphins for the second time in 15 days, 38-31.

The Jets (7-8), playing only for pride, came from behind twice in the second half. Lucas' 50-yard scoring pass to Wayne Chrebet put New York ahead 31-28 with 10:41 left, and his next pass less than two minutes later went to Dedric Ward for a 56-yard touchdown and a 38-28 lead.

The Dolphins (9-6) lost for the fifth time in seven games. But even if they lose again Sunday at Washington, they can still back into a wild-card playoff berth if Seattle or Kansas City lose.

With Miami's defeat, the Buffalo Bills clinched a playoff berth.

Suns believe supplement caused seizure

PHOENIX (AP) — The Phoenix Suns team doctor believes a sports dietary supplement that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration wants off the market probably caused the seizure that nearly killed forward Tom Gugliotta.

The product contains furanone, a chemical name for gamma butyrolactone. The FDA said gamma butyrolactone, or GBL, and two related chemicals have been linked to 144 serious illnesses, including three that resulted in death.

The supplement is marketed as a means of helping athletes sleep after strenuous physical activity and as an aid in muscle recovery.

College Bowl Schedule

Monday, Dec. 27
Motor City Bowl
Marshall 21, Brigham Young 3

Tuesday, Dec. 28
Alamo Bowl
Texas A&M (8-3) vs. Penn State (9-3), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Dec. 29
Music City Bowl
Kentucky (6-5) vs. Syracuse (6-5), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Holiday Bowl
Kansas State (10-1) vs. Washington (7-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 30
Humanitarian Bowl
Boise State (9-3) vs. Louisville (7-4), 3 p.m. (ESPN2)
Micronpc.com Bowl
Virginia (7-4) vs. Illinois (7-4), 7 p.m. (TBS)
Peach Bowl
Mississippi State (9-2) vs. Clemson (6-5), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Dec. 31
Insight.com Bowl
Boston College (8-3) vs. Colorado (6-5), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Sun Bowl
Oregon (8-3) vs. Minnesota (8-3), 2:15 p.m. (CBS)
Liberty Bowl
Colorado State (8-3) vs. Southern Mississippi (8-3), 5 p.m. (ESPN)
Independence Bowl
Mississippi (7-4) vs. Oklahoma (7-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
Georgia (7-4) vs. Purdue (7-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)
Cotton Bowl
Texas (9-4) vs. Arkansas (7-4), 11 a.m. (FOX)
Gator Bowl
Georgia Tech (8-3) vs. Miami (8-4), 12:30 p.m. (NBC)
Citrus Bowl
Florida (9-3) vs. Michigan State (9-2), 1 p.m. (ABC)
Rose Bowl
Stanford (8-3) vs. Wisconsin (9-2), 4:30 p.m. (ABC)
Orange Bowl
Michigan (9-2) vs. Alabama (10-2), 8:30 p.m. (ABC)

Sunday, Jan. 2
Fiesta Bowl
Nebraska (11-1) vs. Tennessee (9-2), 8 p.m. (ABC)

Tuesday, Jan. 4
Sugar Bowl
Florida State (11-0) vs. Virginia Tech (11-0), 8 p.m. (ABC)

Kids Millenium Lock-In
Friday, December 31 9:30 p.m. - 12:30
Includes: Bowling Shoes, Music, Refreshments, Party Favors, Contests & Prizes.
For Tickets Call 573-2811
Snyder Lanes

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1989 Ford Lariat, super cab, 250, rebuilt motor, low mileage, extra clean. **573-6889**.

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Now Hiring Certified Nurses Aides. Contact Brenda Row in person @ Snyder Oaks. E.O.E.

Now interviewing for experienced breakfast cook, waitstaff & dishwashers. Apply at White Buffalo Cafe between 4:30– 6p.m. 573-7812.

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Would like to buy 5 to 20 acres in the country. Call 573-7664.

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2 bedroom apartment for rent. Good location, reasonable. Call 573-0996.

2 Bedroom Apartments. Furnished or unfurnished. All bills paid, no pets. $250-up. Call 573-5773.

2 bedroom duplex, partially furnished, close in. $175/mo. plus deposit. 573-5525

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Houses For Rent

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

1 Bedroom House for rent. Unfurnished, water paid. 3112 Ave. V. $170 month. 573-7337.

2-1-1cp House w/refrigerator. 207 Elm. $200/mo., $200/dep. 573-0993. Ask for Kathy.

2 Hud Approved Rentals
203 36th...3-1.....$395
2805 Ave. X...3-1.....$360
Call Stevenson Real Estate 573-5612
Wenona Evans 573-8165.

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

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

For Rent: 2 bedroom house, 201 34th. 1 bedroom garage apartment & (2) small Mobile Homes (1 person each), 2709 Ave. 0. 573-2101.

HOUSES FOR RENT
3733 Sunset.....3-1-1.....$375
3010 39th.....3-1.....$375
2307 40th.....3-1-cp.....$375
Sarah Jamison.....573-4028
Elizabeth Potts Realtors.....573-8505

Several 2 & 3 bedroom houses & Mobile Homes, CH/CA. Rent or owner finance. Hud approved. 573-2251.

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

Mobile Homes For Rent

2bd.-1bth unfurnished Mobile home, stove & refrigerator included. 5 acres, 2-horse barn, hay barn, 1 car garage w/storage. 1 mile west of Hermleigh.$350/mo., $250/dep. 574-8118 or 863-2426.

3-2-2cp Mobile Home, fenced yard, CH/A, w/stove. 735-2637 or 575-0877.

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

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Mobile Homes

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(915)520-2177

Large Mobile Home w/den, shop/office, acre of land. Rent or Owner Finance. 1311½ College. 573-2251.

SI ESTA CANSADO de pagar Renta. Pero su credito esta mal, o no tiene credito. Venga a verme en **A-1 HOMES, Midland, TX.** O hableme al telefono **563-9000** y pregunte por **Cuco Arellano**, para ayudarle en su casa mobil nueva o usada.

Real Estate

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160 Acres Improved pasture, 7 water wells. 3-2-3cp updated brick home. Large metal barn, working pens, lighted roping arena. 3 miles north of Snyder, $168,000. 573-0362/1-915-721-9216 mobile or 915-486-2039..

2-1-1 House, CA, fenced yard, storm windows. 573-0807, leave message.

For Sale By Owner: 2-1-1 CH/A. 3004 Ave. U. 573-7629.

For Sale By Owner: 4-2-2cp brick on 4 acres, CH/A. $55T OBO. 574-2876.

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Real Estate

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

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

Perfect First Home 119 Peach, 3-1, Storage Room, Newly remodeled. $15,500. Call 573-1793 after 6pm.

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3406 Snyder Shopping Center, Suite B
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3503 Jacksboro Terms! $49.5T
4004 Irving Nice! 3-2-2 . . . . . $58.5T
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2200 21st Cute! 2-1 1.6 Acres . . $35T
3608 Irving Neat! 3-1-1 . . . . . $30's
2601 28th Open Concept 3-2-2 . $70's
3405 Kerrville Updated! 3-2-2. . $50's
3201 Ave. U Pic. Per.2-1-2cp . . . $30's
Investors 2812 Ave. W 2-2-Apts. . $25T
3402 Irving Darling! 3-1-1 . . . . . $40's
2701 34th 3-1½-2 Attractive . . . $80's
2608 47th Immaculate! 4-2-2 Formal Dining . . . . . Call to View!
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316 32nd 2-1-1 Nice! **ONLY $22.5T**
3728 Austin 3-1¾-1 Very Large **$36T**
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2210 32nd 3-2-2cp + Utility.....$39.5T
Super Nice! 3-1¾-1-1cp 402 35th ...$35T
Ready!! 3-1-1 4004 Eastridge.....$32.5T
Country SW-Ira ISD 2-1¾ 2 A's.....$37T
Nice Yard! 3-1¾-1 2205 44th $48.5T
3-2-2cp Hermleigh Nice Large.... $52.5T
A Frame 3-2-1 Shop 11 Acres.....$65T
Cedar Creek 3-2-2 + Den Lovely.....$86T
PRETTY! Close In 4-2 5 A's or 36 A's.....Opt
Co. Dream Home 4-1¾+2, Lots of storage, 20 Acres, Pool ,Several Out Bldgs.....$185T
14.49 Acres 3-2 Hot Tub, Spk. Syst.... $105T
3-1¾-1 3728 Austin HANDY.....$36T
Unique 4-1¾+½-2cp 223 25th.....$25T
4-1¾ Great Storage 3733 Dalton.....$47.5T

Shirley Drum: 573-1550
Doris S. Spikes: 573-6602

STEVENSON REAL ESTATE
2405 25th Street
573-5612 or 573-1755
Bill Dryden Broker/Owner

110 35th 3-2-1 .....$31T
2113 Ave. I 3-2-Shop.....$30T
3108 39th 2-1-cp $25T
Investment Property 3 Houses.....$25T
4608 Ave. R 3-1½-1 One Acre.....$40's
3012 Austin 2-1-Corner.....$14.5T
300 36th Street 2-1-1 .....$13T
312 36th Street 2-1.....$17.5T
709 North Ave. W.....$11.5 T
3810 Noble Drive 2-1.....$15T
2211 27th 4-2.....$39.5T
118 Milburn 2-1-cp $12.5T
1901 29th 3-2-1 .....$20's
3301 Ave. A 3-1.....$13.5T

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Commercial Lots-Blgs-Acreage

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Doris Beard.....573-8480
Bill Dryden.....573-9739
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THIS IS WHERE ALL THE ACTION IS! The Snyder Daily News 573-5486

Weapons, explosives found at airline mechanics home

GRAPEVINE (AP) — An American Airlines mechanic was charged today with possessing bomb-making materials after police said they found ammonium nitrate and a cache of assault rifles at his home — along with white supremacist and anti-government literature.

Jere Wayne Haney, 42, of Grapevine, was stopped Monday by airport police for a traffic violation. The airport officers said they found dozens of airline-serving sized liquor bottles in his car, then searched his home, and called Grapevine police when they found the weapons.

Haney was arraigned this morning on the charge of possessing components of explosives, a third-degree felony, and bond was set at $10,000, said Grapevine police spokesman Bob Murphy.

The airline had no immediate comment on the case, spokeswoman Gloria Midkiff said this morning.

FBI spokeswoman Marjorie Posche said this morning the agency is investigating whether Haney has ties to any extremist groups that have threatened violence. She said the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is looking into whether Haney owned the firearms legally.

Using a search warrant Monday night, investigators spent several hours going through Haney's one-bedroom apartment. They found a 50-pound bag of ammonium nitrate, which has the potential to fuel an explosion equal to a box of dynamite, Murphy said.

"That would be the big-bang component," Murphy told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Police also found a dozen weapons, including four assault-style rifles, and 62 boxes of ammunition. There was also a "fairly large quantity" of white supremacist and anti-government literature in the apartment, including a "how-to" bomb making book, Murphy said.

No bombs were completed or were in the process of being completed in the apartment.

Police at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport said they stopped Haney Monday morning for running a stop sign. He was arrested on suspicion of driving with a suspended license.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Wednesday, Dec. 29, 1999
You could find yourself more enterprising and ambitious in the year ahead than you have been for quite some time. These admirable qualities will propel you to bigger and better feats.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Be careful not to be too blunt in dealing with a companion's methods today. You're bright enough to find a clever way of getting your points across without hurting this person. Capricorn, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and self-addressed stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) An early testy development could create tension with associates today, but don't use this as a reason to take things out on the whole world. Revert to being the nice person you are.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Be careful that your concepts don't override reason and common sense in an attempt to be original today. Make practicality your number one priority and you'll succeed.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) A lack of confidence in yourself today might tempt you to dodge an assignment for which you truly have the know-how and talent to accomplish. Push those doubts to the side and move forward.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You might have to unravel a financial tangle caused by an associate today, but once you get involved, you'll quickly turn things around and make things well again.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) The position of your mate or a family member may be diametrically opposed to yours, but through genuine give-and-take a compatible solution will be found.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If your directions are fuzzy, you can expect your co-workers to get off to a slow start. Should you see this in the making, quickly jump in and restate your desires so they can be met.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Overtaxed muscles might not want to function at top peak today, so don't push things. Instead get involved in activities that call for more relaxed efforts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You'll get a lot further with others today if you don't get overly assertive when attempting to further your personal aims. Cooperation comes through shared concern for one-another.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Try to leave as little as possible up to chance today or you could find yourself just running around in circles. Map out a plan of action first and then proceed.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Count your pennies before going shopping today and you'll be able to keep your spending under control. Not to do so could put you in jeopardy of acquiring debt you don't need.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) A sudden burst of energy and enthusiasm may compel you to start a number of tasks simultaneously. However, in order to be productive, regroup and do only one job at a time.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	65⅝	63 11-16	64 15-16	—15-16
AT&T Corp s	51⅜	48¾	51	+ ½
Albertsons	33 7-16	32¼	33 1-16	+ ⅜
Alltel	78¼	76¾	78¼	+ 13-16
AmerOnline s	78 15-16	75⅜	78½	— ½
AndarkPtr	33 3-16	32 13-16	33⅛	+ 1-16
AtlRichfld	85½	84 15-16	85 7-16	— 3-16
ATMOS Egy	20¾	20 9-16	20 9-16	— 1-16
Avnall	8	7⅞	7 15-16	+ 1-16
BP Amoco s	59½	59	59 3-16	— 1-16
BakerHughes	21 7-16	20 9-16	21 3-16	+ ½
Bank of Amer	49 11-16	49 1-16	49 9-16	+ 9-16
BellAtl	61¾	60 11-16	61⅜	+ ⅜
BellSouth s	47⅛	45 13-16	47	+ 2⅛
Beth Steel	8⅜	8⅛	8 5-16	+ ⅛
BurlNoSFe	24 3-16	23⅞	24 3-16	+ ¼
CBS Corp	60⅞	60⅜	60 13-16	+ 9-16
Caterpillar	46 13-16	46⅜	46 13-16	+ ⅜
CenSoWst	20 9-16	20 5-16	20⅜	+ ⅛
Chevron	86½	84 15-16	86 5-16	+ 1 11-16
Citigroup s	54 13-16	54 7-16	54⅝	+ ⅛
Coastal	34 11-16	33⅞	34 9-16	+ 15-16
CocaCola	59⅜	58 15-16	58 15-16	— 9-16
ColgatePal s	63¼	62 5-16	62½	— ½
ComclMetals	33¾	33⅜	33½	— ¼
Cooperln	40⅞	40⅝	40⅝	— 1-16
DaimlrChry	75 3-16	74⅜	74 11-16	+ 1 3-16
DallSemicn	63⅜	61 7-16	62⅞	+ 1½
DeltaAirl	49 3-16	48 9-16	48¾	— ¾
Dillards Inc	19 15-16	19 3-16	19½	— 3-16
DowChem	131¾	128 5-16	131 9-16	+ 2 3-16
DuPont	64	63	63 15-16	+ 1 1-16
EastmanChem	45 15-16	44 13-16	45 15-16	+ ¾
EstKodak	65 1-16	64⅜	64½	+ 5-16
EDS Corp	65¾	64⅝	65¾	+ 1¾
Entergy	25⅞	25¾	25 13-16	+ ⅛
ExxonMobil	82 9-16	81½	82½	+ 1¼
FstBksAm	18⅛	18⅛	18⅛	— ⅛
Flowers	16⅜	16 1-16	16 5-16	+ 3-16
FordMotor	52¾	52 7-16	52½	+ ⅛
GTE Cp	70⅞	69½	70⅜	+ ¾
GenDynam	51 3-16	50 3-16	50¾	—11-16
GenElec	158½	157⅛	157 9-16	—15-16
GenMills s	34¾	34 5-16	34⅜	+ 3-16
GenMotors	72½	71¼	72⅜	+ 1⅝
GaPacGP s	49 3-16	47⅞	49	+ 1
GlobalMar	16⅞	16 3-16	16⅞	+ ⅝
Goodrich	25¾	25	25⅝	+ ⅜
Goodyear s	26½	26 1-16	26 7-16	
GtAtlPac	27¾	27 5-16	27 11-16	+ ⅛
Halliburtn	40 7-16	39⅝	40 3-16	+ 11-16
Hanson ADS	40⅝	40 3-16	40 9-16	+ ⅜
HarteHanks	20 15-16	20⅞	20⅞	
HomeDepot	99 15-16	97½	99½	+ 1 11-16
HomeDepot wi	66¼	65 5-16	66¼	+ 15-16
Honeywellintl	56 3-16	54 13-16	56	+ 1⅜
IBM s	110¾	109 1-16	109 13-16	+ 1-16
IntlPaper	56 3-16	54¼	56 3-16	+ 1 15-16
JohnsonJn	97¾	95 13-16	96	— 1¾
K mart	10 7-16	10 5-16	10 5-16	+ 3-16
Kroger Co s	19 3-16	18⅞	19	— 3-16
Litton	47 11-16	47 3-16	47½	+ 7-16
LockheedM	19 13-16	19 9-16	19⅝	— 1-16
Lowes Cos	60	59½	59 15-16	+ 7-16
Lubys	10	9⅞	9⅞	— 1-16
LucentTech s	76⅜	74¼	75¾	— 3-16
MayDeptStr s	31⅛	31	31 1-16	+ 1-16
MediaOne	77 5-16	76⅜	77⅛	+ ⅛
Medtronic s	37⅛	36¾	36¾	—11-16
Monsanto	36⅜	35⅜	35 13-16	—11-16
MorganJP	128¼	126	126½	
Motorola	143¼	141 5-16	142 3-16	+ 13-16
NCR Corp	37 5-16	36¼	36 5-16	— 9-16
Navistar	46⅜	45½	45½	— ⅛
Penney JC	18 7-16	18 1-16	18⅜	+ ⅛
PepBoys	9⅜	9 1-16	9 1-16	— ⅛
PepsiCo	37⅛	36⅛	36 11-16	+ ¼
PhelpDodge	62¼	60 15-16	61¾	+ ¾
PhilipPet	46⅜	45 5-16	46 5-16	+ 9-16
PilgrmPrd B	7⅞	7¾	7 13-16	— 1-16
Polaroid	18¾	18 1-16	18 3-16	— ⅝
Praxair	49	48¼	48¾	+ ½
ProctGamb	111	110	110⅛	— 1⅛
PubS NwMx	16⅜	16 3-16	16⅜	+ 3-16
ReliantEngy	23 5-16	23 1-16	23 3-16	
RoyalDut	59¼	58¾	59⅛	+ 1⅛
SBC Comm	49 15-16	49⅛	49⅛	+ 3-16
SaraLee	22⅛	21 15-16	22 1-16	— 1-16
Scripps EW	44	43⅜	43 11-16	— 5-16
SearsRoeb	29 15-16	28¾	29 13-16	+ 3-16
SherwinW	20¾	20 3-16	20 11-16	+ ½
SmithkiBchm	62⅛	61 9-16	61 15-16	— 1-16
SouthernCo	23 15-16	23¾	23 13-16	+ 3-16
SwstAirl s	16 1-16	15⅞	15 15-16	— 3-16
SprintFON s	69 15-16	69 3-16	69 9-16	+ 5-16
SprintPCS	105½	104¼	105 1-16	—11-16
Sunoco Inc	23 11-16	23 9-16	23 9-16	
TNP Ent	41¼	41 3-16	41¼	+ 1-16
Tandy s	50⅛	48 1-16	49 3-16	+ 2 3-16
TempleInland	63⅛	61⅛	63	+ 2⅛
Texaco	55⅛	54 9-16	54¾	+ ⅝
Texind	40	39¾	39⅞	+ 1-16
TexasInst s	108	106⅛	107⅜	+ ⅜
Tex Util	34 13-16	34½	34¾	+ 1-16
Textron	74¼	73 3-16	74⅛	+ 11-16
TriconGlbR	38 9-16	38 7-16	38½	— ⅛
Trinityinds	28⅝	27 9-16	28⅜	+ ⅝
TritonEngy	20¼	19 13-16	20 1-16	+ ⅛
TylerTech	3 11-16	3⅜	3⅜	
US West Inc	70⅝	70 1-16	70 7-16	+ 11-16
USX-Marathn	26⅛	25¾	25⅞	+ 1-16
USX-USS	31 15-16	31¼	31¾	+ ¼
UnCarbde	64 15-16	62 13-16	64¾	+ 1½
UnionPacif	42 13-16	42 1-16	42 7-16	+ 7-16
UnitedTech s	62½	61⅜	62	+ 1
Unocal	34⅜	33⅛	34	+ 1
Venator Grp	6 15-16	6 11-16	6 13-16	+ 3-16
WalMart s	69 11-16	68 9-16	68 15-16	— ½
WellsFargo	41 7-16	41 1-16	41⅛	+ ¼
WstnGasRs	12½	12 3-16	12¼	— ⅜
WinnDixie	24½	24	24⅜	+ 9-16
Xerox Cp s	22¼	21¾	21⅞	— 5-16

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Dell	51 11/16	-5/8
Wal Mart	69 1/8	-5/16
Compac	27 1/2	-1 1/4
Dol. Gen.	23 3/16	+3/16
GTE	70 1/2	+7/8
SBC Comm.	49 3/16	+1/4
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Millionaire Marsh remains in hospital

By the Associated Press

Stanley Marsh III, millionaire oilman and television station owner, remained in critical but stable condition Monday at an Amarillo hospital with pneumonia.

Marsh, 61, was rushed Wednesday to Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital.

"He was rushed to the hospital choking," Wendy Marsh, his wife of 33 years said Monday. "He was coughing in bed. His youngest son was home from college and tried to sit him up. He called 911 and administered CPR."

Marsh is able to talk with family members and respond to "yes" and "no" questions, his wife said. He remains hooked to a ventilator.

"I don't know how long he will be in the critical care unit. One doctor says one week and one says two weeks," Mrs. Marsh said.

"He is his typical active self in that he wants to go home. It's a question of one day at a time. One doctor compared it to walking across an icy pond where you take one slow step at a time."

She said doctors have told her it could take from six months to a year for Marsh to make a full recovery.



BEST USE OF LIGHTS — The third floor of the Scurry County Courthouse earned the award for best use of lights during a recent Christmas decorating contest. Pictured are Larry Thompson and Joan Bunch. (SDN Staff Photo)



BEST THEME — The second floor of the Scurry County Courthouse was awarded best theme in a Christmas decorating contest. Julie Williams is pictured. Judges were Kathryn Roberts, Pete Greene and Joyce May. (SDN Staff Photo)

NW contrite after long delay

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Northwest Airlines is trying to put distance between a flight delay this weekend that left 101 passengers stranded on a plane for a few hours and a January debacle in Detroit that inspired a national rights bill for air travelers.

The January incident "was a bunch of planes coming in unable to come into a gate," said Jon Austin, a Northwest spokesman. "This is completely different circumstances. This is a single flight with a lengthy outbound delay."

Still, he said Northwest "will be happy to offer our apologies and offer something that underscores how apologetic we are."

Three passengers on Flight 1020 offered similar accounts of the approximate four-hour delay Sunday, which the carrier said was caused by snow and freezing rain at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, one of Northwest's three hubs.

The flight was scheduled to leave at 6:40 p.m. and arrive at Washington-Dulles International Airport a little after 10 p.m. Passengers boarded the plane about 7:30 p.m., and it didn't push away from the gate until almost 8 p.m.

The plane was taken to a site away from the terminal for deicing. It sat there and later on a runway for almost three hours before crew members told passengers at about 11:15 p.m. that the flight was canceled because of poor weather, passenger Amber Hepp said Monday.

After they finally got off the plane, passengers said they were denied access to their luggage.

"Everything that could have gone wrong did go wrong," Hepp said.

Passenger Matthew Stennes said "as we were sitting there, there were tons of other planes taking off. So it was really suspicious that it was weather-related."

Northwest was sued and severely criticized after several thousand passengers were left stranded in planes at Detroit Metropolitan Airport during a January snowstorm because no gates were available. Some passengers sat for eight hours in conditions that included no food, no water and overflowing toilets.

The incident was one of many that led to a national passenger rights bill implemented earlier this month in which major airlines promised to be more responsive to customer complaints.

In September, Northwest introduced a "Customers First" plan that promised passengers facing a two-to-four-hour delay of Northwest's making would get a packet that includes a five-minute phone calling card, 500 frequent-flier miles and a meal voucher.

While passengers were offered hotel discount vouchers, Hepp said no such gifts were extended on Sunday.

"We didn't even get fed on the plane," she said.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Bone density test shows osteoporosis

DEAR DR. GOTT: I recently had a bone density test that showed a value of -3.01. My doctor insists that this is normal for an 87-year-old woman and that no treatment is needed. Do you agree?

DEAR READER: No, I don't.

Before explaining my answer, let me give you some information about bone density. In measuring the density of your bones, the densitometer compares your result in relation to an idealized, younger, pre-menopausal female. Therefore, any post-menopausal woman automatically has a negative result. The greater the negativity, the greater the calcium loss from bones. The cut-off is -2.5. Any value that exceeds -2.5 indicates osteoporosis. Your level of -3.01 is clearly beyond the limit. Unsurprisingly, you — as well as many men and women your age — have osteoporosis.

Just because this deficiency is virtually universal is no reason to deprive you of treatment, however. You are still at high risk of vertebral and hip fractures. Therefore, I disagree with your doctor. In my opinion, you should be given medical therapy in the form of calcium/vitamin D supplements, coupled with medication, such as Fosamax, Miacalcin or Evista.

If your physician is unwilling to address this problem, I suggest that you either change doctors or request a referral to an endocrinologist or osteoporosis clinic. If you can improve your bone density with treatment, the quality of your life and the level of your independence should be markedly improved. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Osteoporosis." 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: In a recent column about keloid (scar) formation, you said: "Some folks, including black people, are more prone to keloid formation." I object to your wording because it sounds patronizing. Why couldn't you have said "especially black folks"?

DEAR READER: This non-issue is hardly worth a reply. But I certainly had no wish to antagonize African-Americans. I don't object to substituting "especially"; however, I offer the following re-write. "Some folks are more prone to keloid formation; such scarring may be particularly troublesome in black people." OK?

DEAR DR. GOTT: My husband has had jock itch for most of his 85 years. His groin is a mess, despite the use of medicated creams and powders, a low-carbohydrate diet and frequent changes of underwear. What can he do?

DEAR READER: Your husband would probably be best served by seeing a dermatologist. However, while he is waiting for his appointment, he should try over-the-counter Lamisil cream, a potent antifungal preparation. If the cream is effective, he can always cancel his appointment with the specialist.

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Healer selling church

PRINCETON (AP) — The Rev. Leroy Jenkins' church is not happening now.

His not-yet-complete $1.2 million, 2,500-seat cathedral is up for sale.

Jenkins, 63, who planned to relocate his ministry from Ohio to a site just west of this Collin County town of 2,900, says animosity from local politicians persuaded him to abandon his plan to relocate from Ohio his church, originally called the Church of What's Happening Now.

Also, the charismatic minister said, he feels he might accomplish more by continuing a traveling ministry.

Jenkins arrived in Princeton eight months ago and announced his intentions to build a church on a seven-acre tract near Princeton.

"From the things I understand, the City Council in Princeton wanted me gone, and some other people had said things that made me fearful," Jenkins said from Tampa, Fla.

Princeton city councilwoman Pat Talley said the council didn't try to discourage Jenkins.

"I have never heard any of my constituents or any of the other council members make any comments about him," Ms. Talley said. "I really don't know what he is referring to."

Councilman Harold Grounds concedes that the minister's claim to have a well of holy water didn't sit well with him.

"I'm kind of skeptical of somebody who starts talking about holy water," Grounds said. "If he had come in here as a regular evangelist, that would be different."

Jenkins preached just once in Princeton, during an Oct. 10 service at the church site that he said drew 1,500 people.

However, he said, he heard reports that some Princeton council members had referred in public meetings to his church as a cult, among other things, and that had offended and threatened him.

"But I also feel that I'm needed too much in the world to just stay in one place," he told The Dallas Morning News. "I think I can do more by just traveling."

Jenkins said in August that donations from his 20,000-patron ministry would convert a former cattle barn into his new complex.

The money, by Jenkins' account about $700,000, has done its job. The red brick, cavernous building, graced with 10-foot-high windows, is almost completed and sits on a newly blacktopped parking lot. Adjoining it are two other smaller buildings that are nearing completion.

The asking price for the whole thing: $850,000, including the auditorium.

"I like that property," Jenkins said. "But I felt threatened by some of the things I was hearing and didn't want to stay there by myself."

Jenkins, who considers himself a traditional preacher, has served time in a North Carolina prison for conspiracy to commit arson, been acquitted of federal tax-evasion charges in Ohio and spent 18 months on probation in a Florida theft case.

Jenkins has added some flavor and kindness to the local landscape, some of his recent acquaintances said.

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BEST OVERALL — The fourth floor of the Scurry County Courthouse was named best overall in a recent Christmas decorating contest. Employees decorated the floor with a "Twas the Night Before Christmas" theme. Pictured are Candy Jones, Jerra Holley, Ann Everett and Frances Rios. Not pictured are Dana Cooley, Ernie Armstrong, Jennifer Calley, Trina Rodgers and John Cline. (SDN Staff Photo)

Y2K worries won't go away this weekend, officials say

NEW YORK (AP) — Y2K computer worries won't go away this weekend, even if nothing goes wrong. Glitches are likely weeks, even months, into the new year. And a few may linger until 2001 and beyond.

The Gartner Group, a technology consulting firm, estimates only 10 percent of all Y2K failures will occur during the first two weeks of January.

Yet an Associated Press poll taken earlier this month found that only 16 percent of respondents think Y2K problems will last more than two weeks. And the number who think the problems will be confined to less than a few days has increased from 22 percent to 36 percent.

Most Y2K planners are aware that Jan. 1 is no magic date, but they fear a quiet weekend might leave the public with a false sense of security.

"There is too much focus on New Year's weekend," said Bruce McConnell, director of the International Y2K Cooperation Center. "If you think that the only time to worry about the Y2K bug is on Jan. 1, then you're underestimating the problem."

Besides having new problems appear later in the year, glitches that strike on Jan. 1 might go unnoticed initially, even after employees return to work and restart computers. The full effects might not be felt until smaller glitches compound and disrupt business supply chains.

Several weeks must pass, McConnell said, "to have a good idea just how big an event Y2K is."

Ron Weikers, a Philadelphia attorney specializing in Y2K litigation, warned companies not to declare victory right away. Such statements, he said, could come back to haunt them.

Still, New Year's Day weekend will be a peak period for Y2K problems, and most major companies and government agencies will be watching their systems closely. John Koskinen, President Clinton's top Y2K adviser, will preside over a $50 million crisis center built for this weekend.

If there are any problems involving embedded chips that control power plants and other major equipment, Koskinen said, they would most likely strike around Jan. 1.

Beyond that, most glitches will probably be administrative, causing inconveniences such as incorrect billing — but no catastrophe. And they'll be more manageable because they won't hit all at once.

The government has identified three crucial time periods:

— Dec. 31, when the rest of the world celebrates the new year;

— Jan. 1, when the new year arrives in the United States; and

— Jan. 3, the first business day, when systems experience peak usage.

Koskinen's group will also look for trouble on Feb. 29, because some computers might not recognize 2000 as a leap year. Even Dec. 31, 2000, could be problematic because some computers might not be expecting 366 days next year.

The Y2K problem stems from a long-standing practice of using only two digits to represent a year in computer programs and embedded chips. Left uncorrected, "00" might appear as 1900, throwing off systems that control power, phones and billing.

In an AP telephone poll of 1,010 people, taken Dec. 15-19, the most frequently mentioned concern was the power supply, mentioned by a third, followed by banking and financial services, the transportation system, phone systems and food distribution. The poll's margin of error was plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Jan. 1 is not necessarily the first time a computer will encounter 2000, and some problems already have appeared.

A few years ago, some merchants began having trouble with credit cards expiring in 2000. In early October, some federal computers needed repair because Oct. 1 starts the federal fiscal year.

And in a twist from Maine, model 2000 cars were incorrectly marked horseless carriages — the designation that the state uses for pre-1916 vintage vehicles.

Notices with 1900, not 2000, also have come from banks, courts and at least one college.

Some problems also occurred during Y2K testing, or as Y2K fixes introduced new errors.

The National Federation of Independent Business cites a recent survey that Y2K already hit one in 20 small businesses. Most glitches were fixed quickly, the federation said.

According to the Gartner Group, 30 percent of all failures will have occurred before 2000. And problems, growing steadily each quarter, will peak early in the new year. But they won't completely disappear until after 2001.

"Systems only fail when transactions are run," said Lou Marcoccio, Gartner's research director.

For example, glitches may arise when businesses finish their first billing cycle of the new year. That could happen anytime in January.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Overeaters find support they need among sympathetic peers

DEAR ABBY: The rules for dieting during the holidays you printed prompts this letter. I want to tell you and your readers about my weight loss and recovery from compulsive overeating through Overeaters Anonymous.

Before I found OA at age 19, I had failed at every diet I tried. I wasn't able to stop shoving food down my throat. Back then, I could easily consume eight candy bars, a pint of ice cream and half a pizza in one sitting — then wait for the food to digest so I could go back for more. My emotional state, as you might imagine, was equally tortured. I had suicidal thoughts.

Luckily I found OA which, as many know, is based on Alcoholics Anonymous and has a spiritual component. I walked into my first meeting a confirmed atheist, but I was so desperate that I was ready to try anything. And it worked!

I lost 45 pounds, Abby, but more important, I have kept it off for more than 18 years. One of my closest friends lost 102 pounds through OA and has kept it off for nearly two years. My sponsor, who guides me through the program, lost 250 pounds and has kept it off for 27 years. I'm not making that up.

Incredibly, I don't miss the foods I used to wolf down. I eat nothing sweeter than fresh fruit, and I haven't been plagued by the relentless cravings I used to suffer. OA changed the way I relate emotionally to food. I love life now, and often can't wait to get up in the morning.

Please tell your readers they can find OA in the phone book under Overeaters Anonymous or through directory assistance. — GRATEFUL IN L.A.

DEAR GRATEFUL: I'm delighted to do it. I hope your letter will inspire others who are waging the battle against compulsive overeating and who are unaware that help is available.

Overeaters Anonymous has more than 8,000 groups in 58 countries. Local chapters are listed in the telephone directory. There are no dues or fees, and no membership lists are kept. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively. There is no shaming, no weighing and no embarrassment. You will be welcomed with open arms into a fellowship of compassionate women and men who share a common problem.

There are chapters in almost every city, but if you have difficulty finding one near you, visit the Web site: www.overeatersanonymous.org, or send a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope to OA World Service Office, P.O. Box 44020, Rio Rancho, NM 87124-4020.

**

CONFIDENTIAL TO "IMPATIENT TEEN": Although it may seem to you that time is standing still, before you know it, you'll be old enough to date. Henry Van Dyke summed it up nicely in the poem "Time Is":

"Too slow for those who wait,
"Too swift for those who fear,
"Too long for those who grieve,
"Too short for those who rejoice,
"But for those who love,
"Time is eternity."

**

Abby shares her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "Abby's More Favorite Recipes." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 per booklet ($4.50 each in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Booklets I and II, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

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SYNDICATE

Rapper producer faces possession of weapons charge

NEW YORK (AP) — Rapper-producer Sean "Puffy" Combs has been released on bail after spending a day behind bars for weapons possession in the wake of a shooting at a Times Square dance club.

Combs was arrested Monday after police allegedly found a stolen pistol in his car as he and actress-singer Jennifer Lopez left Club NY where two men and a woman were wounded in the 2 a.m. shooting.

"I do not own a gun," a weary Combs told reporters after being arraigned on weapons charges late Monday. "I do not carry a gun. The charges and allegations against me are 100 percent false."

Combs was released on $10,000 bail and ordered back in court on Feb. 14.

Lopez was also arrested, but prosecutors dropped charges against her "based on the evaluation of the evidence," said Wayne Brison, a spokesman for the Manhattan district attorney's office.

Two of the victims were in stable condition Monday, and the third refused medical attention.

Police said the shots were fired by 19-year-old Jamal Barrow, a fellow rapper who was found outside the club with a pistol. He was charged with three counts of attempted murder and was being held pending arraignment.

Assistant District Attorney Matthew Bogdanos said a witness reported that both Barrow and Combs pulled out guns during a dispute inside the club.

A short time after the shooting, Combs and Lopez, both 29, left the club in a 1999 Lincoln Navigator belonging to Combs' recording company, Bad Boy Records.

The sport utility vehicle was stopped because the couple had left the scene of a crime, said Detective John Giammarino, a police spokesman. The car ran at least one red light before it finally pulled over about 10 blocks from the club, he added.

A gun — which police said was not used in the shooting — was found in full view on the front right seat; Combs and Ms. Lopez were in the back seat, with a driver and bodyguard in the front. A police source who spoke on condition of anonymity said the gun had been reported stolen from Georgia.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Grozny: Russia claims success

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Russian commanders claimed today that they had advanced to about a mile from the center of Grozny, but there was little sign that federal troops were close to taking the pulverized city.

Defense Minister Igor Sergeyev said Russian troops and a pro-Moscow band of Chechen fighters had occupied outlying regions of Grozny and were advancing on the center from all sides.

Sergeyev said the troops were facing "fierce resistance" but that they had managed to "drastically change" the situation in the city. He gave no details to back up his claim that the forces had achieved a breakthrough.

At the same time, Sergeyev precluded storming the city with massed infantry units, saying Russia would not risk the kind of massive losses the military incurred in the 1994-96 Chechen war.

Col. Gen. Valery Manilov said Russian troops were just over a mile from the center at some points.

However in Grozny's center, there was little indication that federal troops were making significant advances against the well-defended militants, who are holding heavily fortified positions.

The pro-Moscow Chechen fighters said they were coming up against unexpectedly fierce resistance. Russian forces also had to contend with trenches filled with burning oil and thick smoke as they tried to move forward, the military said, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency.

Grozny is the last major city still held by the Chechen rebels, now that Russian forces occupy almost all of Chechnya's lowlands. Its fall would be a major political victory for the federal forces, and would boost already high public support for the Russian offensive, which began in September.

In Moscow today, President Boris Yeltsin handed out awards to top Russian generals, praising the Chechnya campaign as a major success that is bringing the beleaguered armed forces new respect.

Even if the rebels lose Grozny, the war is likely to drag on, with the rebels retreating to the mountainous south and waging a guerrilla campaign.

On Monday night, Grozny's main boulevard was deserted except for an occasional truckload of rebel fighters speeding past, zigzagging between the deep shell craters that pock the streets.

Barak tries to keep coalition together

JERUSALEM (AP) — Trying to resolve his first coalition crisis, Prime Minister Ehud Barak negotiated today with a key faction that has threatened to quit his government over budget demands, possibly undermining Israel's peace talks with Syria and the Palestinians.

The ultra-Orthodox Shas party, the second-largest in Barak's coalition, was seeking millions of dollars in state funds to keep afloat its scandal-ridden network of private schools.

After 30 hours of marathon negotiations, the two sides appeared close to compromise this afternoon, with Shas expected to receive an extra $25 million for its schools.

"There are a few minor details that are being finished now, but overall, I think agreements have been reached," said Shas legislator David Tal.

Had Shas quit, Barak would still have had enough votes to keep governing, with the expected support of Arab and secular parties that are not part of the coalition now.

However, the prime minister has said since taking office in July that he needs a broad coalition for making peace with Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinians. Without Shas, his coalition in the 120-member parliament would shrink from 68 seats to 51.

A second round of peace talks with Syria was scheduled to begin Monday in West Virginia. Barak has made a deal with Damascus a top priority of his administration.

After a break of nearly four years, negotiations between Israel and Syria resumed earlier this month. In exchange for peace, Syria is demanding the return of the strategic Golan Heights, captured by Israel in the 1967 war.

"We want to keep this government going for four years, and we want to make peace with Syria," Eli Goldschmidt, a legislator from Barak's One Israel party and chairman of parliament's Finance Committee, told Israel TV's Channel Two. "We cannot do that without Shas."

Shas' ultimatum marked the first time Barak, a career military man with relatively little political experience, has had to handle a major political crisis. Still, the prime minister appeared unruffled, and political commentators said they expected the dispute to be settled in time for Thursday's key vote on the 2000 state budget.

Washington Monument has a fiery 'waterfall'

WASHINGTON (AP) — At midnight Dec. 31, the Washington Monument will turn into a giant sparkler.

Brilliant white sparkles will cascade down the face of the obelisk, like a series of waterfalls that begin at the bottom and rise higher and higher as a new 55-foot segment is lit each second of a countdown ticking of the final seconds to the new century.

After 10 seconds, the entire 550-foot height will be shimmering.

It's sure to draw oooh's and aaah's from the big crowd expected to celebrate the millennium on the National Mall with President Clinton and a host of celebrities. But not everyone is excited about using the monument for the glitzy, century's-end finale.

One congressman said it's a "desecration" to use it for such a production. The National Park Service, charged with preserving the monument, initially protested the idea but acquiesced after the White House urged officials to find a way to make it happen.

The 114-year-old monument to the first president is encased by scaffolding for workers carrying out a $10 million restoration project.

"We just cleaned the monument and there was concern about putting fireworks up there that could cause black powder burns or whatever," said Dave Barna, chief spokesman for the Park Service. "We also have some concerns about whether that's the appropriate use for this monument."

The Interior Department, which oversees the Park Service, said the pyrotechnic waterfalls affixed to the scaffolding point outward and will be about 6 feet from the face of the monument, far enough away to prevent damage.

Obituaries

Frank Nachlinger

1912-1999

Funeral service for Frank J. Nachlinger is set for 10 a.m. Wednesday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Glenda Johnson, pastor of the Hermleigh Methodist Church, and Dr. Rex Reynolds, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hermleigh, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Hermleigh Cemetery.

Mr. Nachlinger, 87, died Sunday, Dec. 26, after a sudden illness.

Born June 26, 1912 in Smithville, he married Benn Stevenson on Nov. 24, 1938 in Hermleigh. A long-time resident of Hermleigh, he was a farmer and at one time he had owned Nachlinger Pest Control. He was a member of the Hermleigh Lions Club, Hermleigh Masonic Lodge and Hermleigh Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Benn Nachlinger of Hermleigh; two sons and daughters-in-law, Butch and Shad Nachlinger of Hermleigh and Larry and Karen Nachlinger of Snyder; two sisters, Viola Gracey of Houston and Helen Wadleigh of Snyder; a brother, W.A. "Bill" Nachlinger of San Jose, Calif.; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Edyth Jones

1926-1999

AUSTIN – Edyth Ann Nash Jones, a former Snyder resident, died Friday, Dec. 24, in Austin after a long battle with cancer.

No services are planned and remains will be cremated.

Born Feb. 21, 1926 in Layfayette, La, she grew up in Fort Smith, Ark., and in Tulsa, Okla.

She received her registered nursing degree in El Paso and married Wilton N. Jones in 1946. After he completed military service and medical school, they moved to Snyder in 1953 and Mrs. Jones assisted Dr. Jones in opening Battenfield-Jones Hospital and in maintaining a family medical and surgical practice for more than 25 years.

She owned and operated a crafts store, This 'n That, in Snyder for many years, moving in 1988 to Van Buren, Ark., to live on its historic Main Street.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Becky Jones and Joe Doherty of Austin and Penny and Eddie Bane of Andrews; a son, Tim Jones of Beaverton, Ore.; a grandson, Andrew Alsup of Austin; two granddaughters, Ali and Karli Bane of Andrews; and two stepsisters, Pat Crump of Searcy, Ark., and Joan Stainer of Tulsa.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice Austin, 4107 Spicewood Springs Road, Suite100 in Austin, 78759; or to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, P.O. Box 97100 in Dallas, 75397.

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Raymond Smith

1942-1999

ABILENE — Raymond Wayne Smith, 57, of Abilene, former Snyder resident, died Monday, Dec. 27, at his sister's home in Merkel.

Service is set for 1 p.m. Thursday at Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home Chapel of Memories, 542 Hickory. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery in Snyder.

Born on Aug. 2, 1942, Mr. Smith attended Snyder schools and later worked for Bailey Construction. He married Kay Pylant on Dec. 1, 1961. She died in January, 1975.

He was also preceded in death by a daughter, Stephnie, and his father, Weldon Smith.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Debra and Pat Fenner of Hawley; his mother, Flora Dell Smith of Abilene; three brothers, Billy Smith and Noah Smith of Abilene, and Charlie Smith of Merkel; a sister, Nancy Bilbrey of Merkel; two grandsons, Matthew and Astin Smith, and a granddaughter, Stephnie Smith, all of Hawley; and his mother-in-law, Stella Pylant of Snyder.

Family visitation will be at the funeral home from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday and friends will gather following the graveside service at the home of Darlene Amox, 2211 33rd in Snyder.

Dorothy Cox

1916-1999

Funeral service for Dorothy Bolding Cox was set for 2 p.m. today in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel.

Ernest Jackson, a nephew, and David Miller of the East Side Church of Christ were to officiate. Burial was to follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Mrs. Cox, 83, died Saturday, Dec. 25, in Keene.

Born Feb. 4, 1916 in Dunn, she married Edward Lee Cox on Dec. 16, 1933 in Colorado City. He died on Feb. 10, 1984.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, Ernest Bailey Bolding and Pauline Alexander Bolding.

Mrs. Cox was a retired nurse and had worked at Cogdell Memorial Hospital for 23 years. She was a member of the East Side Church of Christ.

Survivors include a nephew, Ernest Jackson of Joshua; and a niece, Sue Gilley of Fort Worth.

Activity light for law enforcement

Activity was light Monday for local law enforcement personnel.

Officers were called to the 4000 block of Eastridge shortly after 1 p.m. as Erminia Garza reported the theft of some rings. A Class B offense report for theft was filed by officers.

Carla Garcia requested an officer at 8:40 p.m. in the 3000 block of Avenue N to report the theft of some money from her residence.

Officers also received a report of harassing telephone calls to a residence in the 3400 block of Avenue U.

The fire department responded to a report of a fire in a metal building behind McDonald Welding at 10:40 p.m. The 6 ft. x 8 ft. building was destroyed, as were its contents.

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events

WHAT ?d

ONGOINGS

Amateur radio operators

Snyder area radio operators will begin a wee at 7:30 this evening. This net will operate on fr tone 67. All licensed amateurs are welcome to mation call Mike @ KM5TC (573-2222), or Davi

Softball booster club

A meeting of the Lady Tigers softball booster Thursday in the West Elementary cafeteria.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel at 7 p.m. Monday are "The Scheme of Redempti to Know God's Presence."

American Cancer Society meet

The Scurry County unit of the American Cancer p.m. next Tuesday in the Cogdell Hospital board ro Relay for Life.

Children's Day Out

Children's Day Out at First United Methodi Tuesday. The program has been expanded to receives children 6 months through 4 years of a partial scholarships are also available. To reser semester, call Barbara at 573-4770.

Lions Club

The Snyder Lions Club will resume meetin Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Private applicator certification

There will be a private applicator certificatio 8:30 a.m. in the agriculture room at Western Te ning to attend must contact the county extensio

Fund established

Employees of the Texas Department of Crimi unit have established an account at West Texas S wife and three young children of correctional offi while on duty at the McConnell unit at Beeville. in his name at West Texas State Bank.

TSA selling pecans

The Technology Student Association of Snyde an assortment of pecans and peanuts as a fundrai to the state contest. Call 573-8961 for further info

Social security reps

Representatives of the Social Security Admin Senior Citizens Center in Snyder on Tuesday, Ja

Library extends hours

Scurry County Library has extended its Satu open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library is open fr W-F and from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday and Thu

Road to Recovery program

Volunteers are needed to take patients to Abil a week for cancer treatment. Following approval ety, drivers will be provided liability insurance an fuel expenses incurred for the trip. For more in Road to Recovery volunteer coordinator Martha S leave a message, or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five num the Texas Lottery:

6-15-28-33-37

(six, fifteen, twenty-eight, thirty-three, thirty-s

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 number Texas Lottery, in order:

2-9-5

(two, nine, five)

Seattle cancels pla Space Needle cele

SEATTLE (AP) — The mayor has canceled the city's New Year's Eve celebration in the park below its landmark Space Needle, citing the possibility of terrorist acts in a city rattled by demonstrations and a border arrest.

"It is safer to be prudent," Mayor Paul Schell said Monday. "This is already an unprecedented, unpredictable New Year's, and we did not want to take chances with public safety, no matter how remote the threat might seem."

International media coverage of the event makes it "impossible for federal officials to rule out the area as a terrorist target," he said.

However, the mayor said federal officials have not advised him of any specific threat.

The city's nerves were strained in recent weeks by the sometimes violent protests during the World Trade Organization conference. Both Schell and Police Chief Norm Stamper came un dling of Stamper l will resig

And on man was les and c nitroglyc sive mat from Can Ahmed R motel roo dle.

An est had been the 75-ac below the the city's foot landr World's F ditional g Year's Eve

Afterno cus perfo as planne — the ce nium part the Needl center wi and the g