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WT-Int. Crude - $18.38
WTIC Posted - $15.25
Natural Gas - $2.719

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

Dec. 13, 2001
Vol. 53 No. 194
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Melinda Owens

Bin Laden tapes about attacks are released

WASHINGTON (AP) — Osama bin Laden contentedly recalled the Sept. 11 suicide attacks against America on a videotape released today by the Pentagon, saying the destruction exceeded his estimates and the events "benefitted Islam greatly."

"I was the most optimistic of them all" in calculating the possible destruction in the attacks, bin Laden said with eerie detachment. He said he had reckoned that burning jet fuel would "melt the iron structure" of the World Trade Center twin towers, but only above the point of impact.

The hijackings were a martyrdom operation, Bin Laden said in a conversation with two aides and a Saudi sheik, but those who carried them out didn't know the precise details until just before they boarded the planes.

The tape, amateurish in quality but chilling nonetheless, was released as part of an administration effort to support claims that bin Laden was the mastermind behind the attacks that killed thousands in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania. The translation of the Arabic conversation was provided by the administration.

The Pentagon offered a separate statement saying it released the tape after balancing "concerns about any additional pain that could be caused by its release against the value of having the world fully appreciate what we are up against in the war against terrorism."

"There was no doubt of bin Laden's responsibility for the Sept. 11 attacks before the tape was discovered," Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said in the statement.

The tape was released as American warplanes intensified bombing runs aimed at members of bin Laden's al-Qaida network struggling for survival in the mountainous terrain of eastern Afghanistan.

Bin Laden's whereabouts is unknown — a $25 million reward has been posted for information leading to his capture.

Weeks ago, administration officials appealed to American broadcast outlets not to air videotapes made by bin Laden, fearing they might contain coded messages to his followers to carry out additional attacks.

The quality of the tape released during the day had a home quality to it, punctuated by background noises and occasional coughing.

In it, bin Laden discussed some of the planning that led to the attacks, and recalled tuning in to the radio to hear American news broadcasts of the attack.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "At this time of year, it doesn't require snow and cold to dash through the dough."

It seems like the only thing that occurs with as much frequency as reruns of "It's a Wonderful Life" and "Christmas Story" are advertising messages and holiday recipes.

It's no wonder that it's traditional to begin looking a lot like Jolly ole St. Nick by the time the holidays end.

Thanks to the Old Farmer's Almanac, we found a gift idea for man's best friend.

According to the publication, over 60 percent of dog owners and just under 60 percent of cat owners will give their pets a gift in December.

One hundred percent of masters will get nothing in return – unless you count the neighbor's newspaper that Fido hauls in.

It has been suggested that faithful friends be remembered with recipes for homemade Dog Bones and Dog Biscuits and savory fish-shaped Kitty Cakes.

For canine cookies, masters were instructed to look in kitchen shops for tin cookie cutters shaped like dog bones.

For kitty cakes, the cook was told to use a mouse or fish-shaped cookie cutter, resulting in cute little snacks.

We don't doubt that the recipe for the finished product will wag a tail or make 'em purr, but we figure the same results could be achieved with shapeless doggie bones or kitty cakes.

We did, however, discuss the issue with gifting experts who quickly informed us that we were obviously not yet in the spirit of the season – and time is running out.

We think that's unfair, as any newshound worth his salt would gladly receive chocolate chip cookies (round or square) or homemade Christmas candy.

We've never noticed the staff gathering at the break table quibblin' about the shape of food left laying around.

But the experts contend that 'presentation' is as important as the content. That might be an idea.

Buy ole what's-her-name a manual can opener and have it professionally gift-wrapped.

Santa experts, however, say this logic won't get you a smooch under the mistletoe.

An elf on Santa's hot-line said such thinking is a sure way to end up in the dog house – likely without a doggie bone.



HOLIDAY SHOPPING — Klassy Kids owner Gina Jones, left, assists customer Brooke Mackey find a new Christmas outfit for her one-year-old daughter, Bethany, Wednesday afternoon. Jones said business has been good this Christmas season at the children's store on the south side of the courthouse square. (SDN Staff Photo)

Business as usual at SISD

From Local, Wire Reports

It appeared to be business as usual at public schools across the state today, despite an alert yesterday about a vague threat that two people may retaliate against an unknown Texas school for the U.S. bombing in Afghanistan.

Snyder Supt. Gayle Lomax said it was business as usual in the Snyder schools.

"We are taking Gov. Rick Perry at his word for what he said about this being a low-level threat," said Lomax.

"And we believe that our crisis intervention program in place with the local police department is as good as any the state officials could give us," added Lomax.

"We are putting our trust in the local police, fire and EMS departments if anything ever does happen here."

Lomax said the schools and local law enforcement and public safety groups have been practicing the crisis intervention program the past two years.

"We are always in a state of readiness."

The school chief said he wished that such plans were not necessary, but that all changed with the shootings at Columbine and on Sept. 11.

On Wednesday, Gov. Rick Perry said Texas schools are safe.

"The FBI considers it to be a low-level threat. Nonetheless, I believe it's important that school officials are notified and that parents, teachers, administrators and law enforcement personnel are extra vigilant," Perry said.

"Texans sent their children to school today and they should do so tomorrow," Perry said.

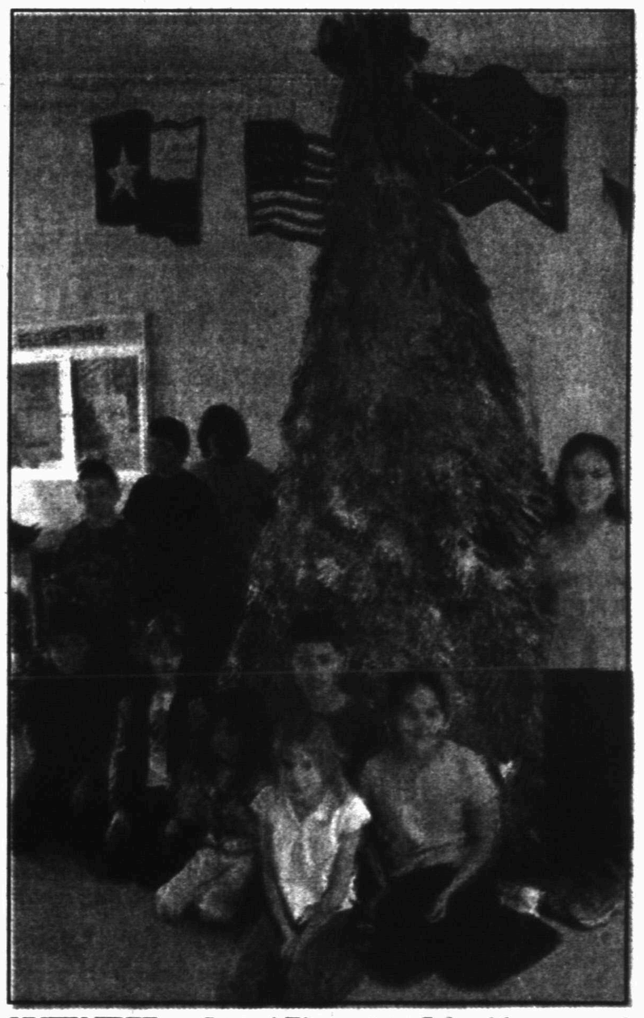
Houston FBI Special Agent Bob Dogium called the Texas threat "vague" and said the information came from a foreign government. No specific school was named.

"We are working with them to try and determine the reliability of it," he said.

Although Dewhurst and Department of Public Safety director Col. Thomas Davis Jr. said a second state was threatened, the FBI said Texas was the only state in which a school was threatened.

A law enforcement official in Washington, speaking only on condition of anonymity, said authorities have not determined if the Texas threat is credible.

"The initial concern is that this might cause undue panic," Dogium said. "Our responsibility is to let them know this is out there."



UNITY TREE — Central Elementary School has created a "unity tree" for Christmas. Hands made from green construction paper and featuring all kinds of decorations were attached to a teepee, made earlier this school year as part of a study on American Indians. The hands represent the students, their families, teachers, staff members, administrators and adopt-a-school partners. The idea came from Kathy Spoor. Some of her students, pictured from left, back to front, are Amanda Daves, Brandon Elam, Kaden McCarter, Michael Brasher, Lieren Tindol, Bridget Garcia, Zac Smith, Emma Nunley, Vanessa Martinez and Alexia Hernandez. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

DPS investigation continues on wreck

Investigation into the Wednesday morning accident on U.S. 180 that killed a Snyder High School senior is continuing, DPS trooper Rick Campos said today.

Trooper Campos said he would again be at the site of the accident in which Stacy Copeland, 18, died.

The mishap occurred in heavy fog and was reported at 7:59 a.m. Copeland was pronounced dead at the scene at 8:29 a.m. by Justice of the Peace Deborah Boyd.

Copeland was driving an Oldsmobile Cutlass eastbound when the vehicle ran underneath a Smith Vacuum Service truck-tanker that was southbound on FM 1611.

Skid marks at the scene indicated Copeland tried to stop her vehicle, but was unable to do so in time to avoid the collision.

The driver of the vacuum truck was Darin Manlief of Snyder.

Manlief told Trooper Campos that he stopped his vehicle at the stop sign on FM 1611, did not see anyone coming, and then pulled out to cross the intersection.

Manlief said he was in the middle of the intersection when he saw the lights of the Oldsmobile, but that it was too late for him to avoid the oncoming car.

Copeland's vehicle traveled completely underneath the tank and the top was sheared. The auto continued eastbound and then veered left and came to rest in a cotton field.

The intersection is controlled by stop signs and flashing lights in the north and south bound lanes of FM 1611. Traffic on U.S. 180 is through-traffic.

Copeland was en route to school from her home on CR 243 when the accident occurred.

Cobb receives five year term in state prison

Welton Cobb, found guilty Tuesday of delivery of cocaine in a drug-free area, Wednesday was sentenced to five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

A seven-woman, five-man jury took about 40 minutes to decide the sentence.

The range of punishment for the crime is two to 10 years confinement and a $10,000 fine.

The sentence was returned around 3:40 p.m. in Judge Ernie Armstrong's 132nd District Court.

The trial started on Nov. 26, but after one day of testimony, snow and ice forced the recess until last Tuesday.

Cobb, 45, of 1201 29th St., was among 26 persons arrested last December in a county-wide drug sweep.

He has been out of jail on a $10,000 bond following his arrest.

District Attorney Dana Cooley prosecuted the case and H. Thomas Hirsch of Odessa was Cobb's attorney

ASK US

Q—Is it a law in Texas that food preparers have to wear rubber gloves. I see some that wear them and others who do not.

A—According to Cindy Nix with the Scurry County health unit, wearing latex gloves is not required.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 59 degrees; low, 37; 7 a.m. Thursday, 38; .02 of an inch precipitation; total for 2001, 19.72 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear; low 25-30; light W winds. Friday, sunny; high near 55. S winds 5-15 mph. Friday night, partly cloudy. Low in upper 30s.



Michael Garza
Sunny

Sunset:
5:43 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:35 a.m.

Of 346 days in 2001, the sun has shone 333 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

America's beauty is not only in its features; its beauty is in the character underneath those features.
—Luci Swindoll

DEC 13 2001

Parolee executed for murder

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Convicted murderer Vincent Edward Cooks went to his death expressing love to his relatives and carrying on an animated conversation with his mother, aunt and other relatives.

"I'm sorry for not being a better son," he said, his big gold front tooth flashing in the light of the Texas execution chamber as he talked to the relatives who crowded into the death house to watch him die for killing a Dallas officer almost 14 years ago.

"No more prison," his aunt, Joyce Hearne, said after Cooks, 37, succumbed to the lethal drugs. "Fourteen years is a long time."

"He took my brother, he took my parent's oldest son," said Candy McCarthy, whose brother, Gary, was killed during a Feb. 26, 1988, robbery outside a Dallas market where he was working an off-duty security job.

"It's been torture for our family," she added. "I just don't feel the victim's family has any rights in this."

She, her parents and Mark Strandmo, a former Dallas officer who went through the police academy with McCarthy, watched Cooks die from an adjacent room.

"Cooks was evil, Cooks needed killing and it took the state nearly 14 years to do it. That's too long," Strandmo said, his voice breaking.

One of the prosecutors in the case could not disagree.

"This is just living proof that our system needs to be further streamlined," Janice Warder, now a state district judge in Dallas, said.

Cooks, 37, acknowledged committing robberies but insisted he was not responsible for killing McCarthy, suggesting from the death chamber gurney that witnesses initially identified the killer as 180 pounds and 5 feet 7 inches tall. Cooks was 6 feet tall and weighed 318 pounds.

"You know what these people are doing," he said from the death house. "By them executing me, they aren't going to make it right." he said.

Prosecutors insisted they had the right man and the evidence to prove their case. A Dallas jury agreed.

Cooks became the 17th and final Texas inmate to receive lethal injection this year, making the 2001 execution total in the state the lowest since three were put to death in 1996.

A Fairy Merry Christmas by Brooke McEldowney



'Texas-seven' escaped one year ago today

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Texas corrections officials are confident the circumstances that one year ago led to the escape of seven inmates from a South Texas prison and the subsequent murder of a policeman have been addressed.

"The Serious Incident Review Team report found the flaws in the system and appropriate improvements have been made," Larry Todd, a Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokesman, said Wednesday. "Many of those changes were in the works before the escape."

The prisoners from the Connally Unit near Kenedy in Karnes County, south of San Antonio, fled Dec. 13, 2000, after tricking and overpowering guards and civilian workers.

All serving time for violent crimes, they became known as "The Texas Seven." They were the subjects of a nationwide manhunt and were accused of fatally shooting an Irving police officer Aubrey Hawkins during the Christmas Eve holdup of a sporting goods store in the Dallas suburb.

After six weeks on the run, authorities tracked the fugitives to the Colorado Springs, Colo., area. Four were captured and one killed himself Jan. 22 in Woodland Park, Colo. The other two surrendered after a brief standoff in a motel.

Ringleader George Rivas was convicted of capital murder in August and sentenced to death. A second escapee, Donald Newbury, is set for trial next month. He also faces the death penalty if convicted. Prosecutors have said they similarly will try the four other inmates.

"We must all be reminded that our prison system houses people who have been convicted for major offenses, and many of them have long sentences for violent crimes," Todd said. "That means a young inmate facing 40 years time may want to get back to the free world. And, they've got 24 hours a day, seven days a week to think about it and plan it.

"The Connally escapees planned for several months and were successful. While they were lucky, they also found opportunities that no longer exist today."

The corrections department review team and an independent analysis requested by the agency found prison staff missed critical opportunities to prevent the escape. The staff ignored a fire alarm, failed to report unsupervised inmates and failed to demand proper identification from inmates who had disguised themselves as maintenance workers.

As a result, officials have tightened rules regarding inmate movement within prisons, restricted the use of tools, changed procedures for guards stationed in towers outside prisons and imposed continuous patrols around prison perimeters.

The department also has made changes in how it classifies inmates. Those classifications are used to determine, for example, whether an inmate lives in dormitory-type housing or in a cellblock.

Man dies from injuries suffered on Sept. 11

CHELMSFORD, Mass. (AP) — An Internal Revenue Service employee who was hit by debris from the World Trade Center during the Sept. 11 attacks has died of his injuries.

Dave Bernard, 57, died Tuesday at Massachusetts General Hospital, hospital spokeswoman Sue McGreevey said.

A technical adviser with the IRS, Bernard was in New York for a business meeting in Building 7 of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11.

He was caught in the falling debris from the trade center's north tower moments after it was struck by American Airlines Flight 11.

Bernard suffered two broken vertebrae and serious spinal cord injuries, leaving him without feeling below the waist. He also suffered punctured lungs, nine broken ribs and a fractured shoulder blade.

He is survived by a wife and three children.

"We all had a chance to say goodbye," said son Mark, 30. "That's something that 3,000 other families didn't have."

Central Stars to sing carols on Friday

Catch the Christmas spirit Friday as the Central Stars from Central Elementary go caroling.

The schedule is as follows. (All times are approximate. As soon as they finish at one location, they will go on to the next one.)

- Snyder ISD administration building — 8:40 a.m.
- Cogdell Hospital Long Term Care — 9:15-9:30 a.m.
- West Texas State Bank — 10-10:15 a.m.
- First Baptist Church — 10:45-11 a.m.
- Burger King — 11:30-11:45 a.m.
- Snyder Oaks Care Center — 12:30 p.m.

West Texas State Bank, First Baptist Church and Burger King are three of Central's adopt-a-school partners.

Date Book

Thursday, Dec. 13, 2001

Today is the 347th day of 2001 and the 83rd day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1759, Michael Hillegas opened a musical instrument shop in Philadelphia, Pa. It was the city's first musical instrument shop.

On this day in 1918, the 1st Division became the first American military force to cross the Rhine River in World War I.

On this day in 1985, singer Phil Collins appeared in an episode of television's "Miami Vice." He played a game-show host.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Heinrich Heine (1797-1856), poet; Alvin York (1887-1964), U.S. World War I hero; Ross MacDonald (1915-1983), writer; Dick Van Dyke (1925), actor, is 76; Christopher Plummer (1929-), actor, is 72; John Davidson (1941-), singer, is 60; Ferguson Jenkins (1943-), baseball great, is 58; Ted Nugent (1949-), musician, is 52.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1983, the Detroit Pistons defeated the Denver Nuggets 186-184. It was the highest-scoring game in NBA history.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "It is by its promise of a sense of power that evil often attracts the weak." — Eric Hoffer

TODAY'S MOON: Day before new moon (Dec. 14).

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Lotto Texas

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

The ticket was worth an estimated $16 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 4-7-15-48-49-52

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $20 million.

Pick 3

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

3-5-5

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

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HEART VALVE REPLACEMENT?

If you had heart valve replacement surgery during the period 1997 to 2000, you should know that on January 21, 2000, **St. Jude Medical, Inc.** recalled all of its **Silzone®** coated mechanical heart valves and valve rings due to paravalvular leaking that can require **surgery to replace the defective valve,** and can cause **fatigue, strokes, blood clots** and **heart failure**.

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713-963-0400 or 800-859-9009

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SALE $588

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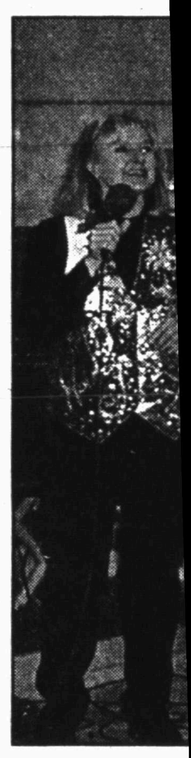
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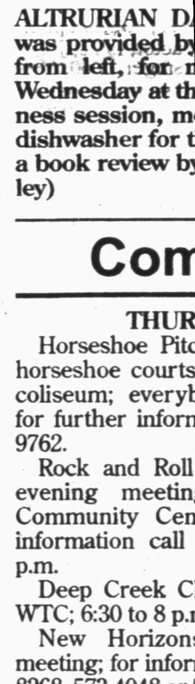
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Services, 1800
Suite B; 1-2 p.m.
ABCL Open
Bridge; Snyder
1:30 p.m.
Cornelius-Dods
open by appoint





HOLIDAY FETE — Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary hosted a Christmas reception for employees Tuesday afternoon in the CMH boardroom. From left are Matt Cross, cardiac rehab; and auxiliary volunteers Joyce Cooper, Juanita Rayborn, Una Orms and Evelyn McCommon; and Janna Helms and Debra Ward, patient accounting. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



ALTRURIAN DAUGHTERS MEET — Musical entertainment was provided by Cindy Nix, Ken Robinson and Ross Preston, from left, for members of Altrurian Daughters Study Club Wednesday at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. During the business session, members voted to give $300 to MAWC toward a dishwasher for the kitchen. Altrurians meet again on Jan. 9 for a book review by Dorothy Rosson. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

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

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

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8268, 573-4048 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8494 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-0538 or 573-0770.

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 5731141; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Defensive Driving Course; for information call 573-2850; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

NA-Just For Today open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-1438; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 10 a.m.

College uses worms

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Santa Monica College is using 300,000 worms to turn garbage into fertilizer.

If all goes as planned, the wigglers that went to work on Monday will consume 150 pounds of food waste daily, producing an organic fertilizer the college may one day sell at a profit.

Births

Catrina A. Lopez of Snyder announces the birth of her son, Joseph Anthony Lopez, at 6:17 p.m. on Nov. 26 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Grandparents are Jose and Gloria Lopez of Snyder.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 12-13-01
♠ A 10 5 2
♥ 2
♦ 4 3
♣ A J 10 8 7 4

West
♠ 3
♥ 3
♦ J 10 9 8 7 6 5
♣ K Q 9 3

East
♠ —
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 4
♦ K Q
♣ 5 2

South
♠ K Q J 9 8 7 6 4
♥ 6 5
♦ A 2
♣ 6

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
			1 ♥
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	Pass	5 ♠	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	6 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ??

Thursday, Dec. 13, 2001

Working down rather than up

By Phillip Alder

Yesterday, I gave a deal in which a king played the key role. I claimed that, on 12-12, one could consider his majesty the 12th card in a suit. However, really a three is the 12th card; we should work downwards not upwards. So, a quick dip into "Right Through the Pack" by Robert Darvas and Norman de Villiers Hart produced another gem.

Would you prefer to declare in or defend against six spades?

Who knows how the auction would go? In the book, the authors just say: "East bid his hearts vigorously, but North-South were not to be denied, and South was eventually allowed to buy the contract at six spades."

At first glance, South looks safe. He can set up dummy's club suit and discard his diamond loser. And that happens after, say, a heart lead followed by a diamond-king shift. As declarer must ruff three clubs, he needs four dummy entries, and he has them: three trumps and a heart ruff with the spade two.

However, the defenders can thwart this plan with a seemingly innocuous play. West must lead his heart. East wins with the seven, then — best — continues with the heart four, which West ruffs with the lowly spade three. Suddenly the contract is unmakable.

Declarer overruffs with the spade five, cashes dummy's club ace, ruffs a club in hand, plays a spade to dummy's 10, ruffs another club, crosses to dummy's trump ace, and ruffs a third club. Now there are two club winners in the dummy — and the spade two — but there is no dummy entry left. South loses trick 13 to East's diamond king.

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Santa's image sought

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Everyone knows the public side of the jolly old fellow in the red suit who delivers gifts on Christmas. But what about Santa Claus the man?

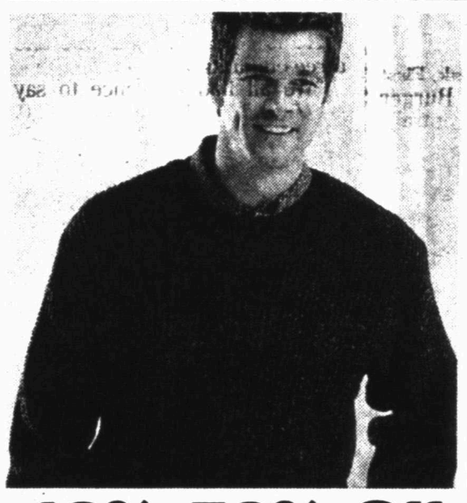
Americans revealed an interesting image of the private side of Saint Nick in a poll conducted by Zogby International.

When he's not busy being Santa Claus, most Americans believe Kris Kringle drives a pick-up truck, works as a motivational speaker and relaxes to easy-listening and classical music.

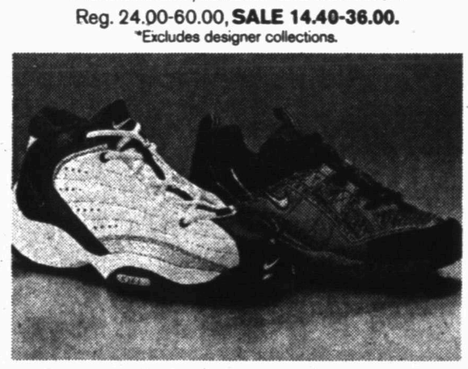
"People have this image of what this legendary character is like. What we wanted to do was find out who they think this person would be aside from what he does on the big day," said Alan Crockett, a Zogby spokesman.

The poll of 1,043 "Santa believers" nationwide was conducted.

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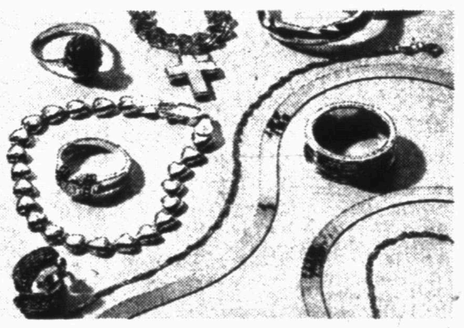
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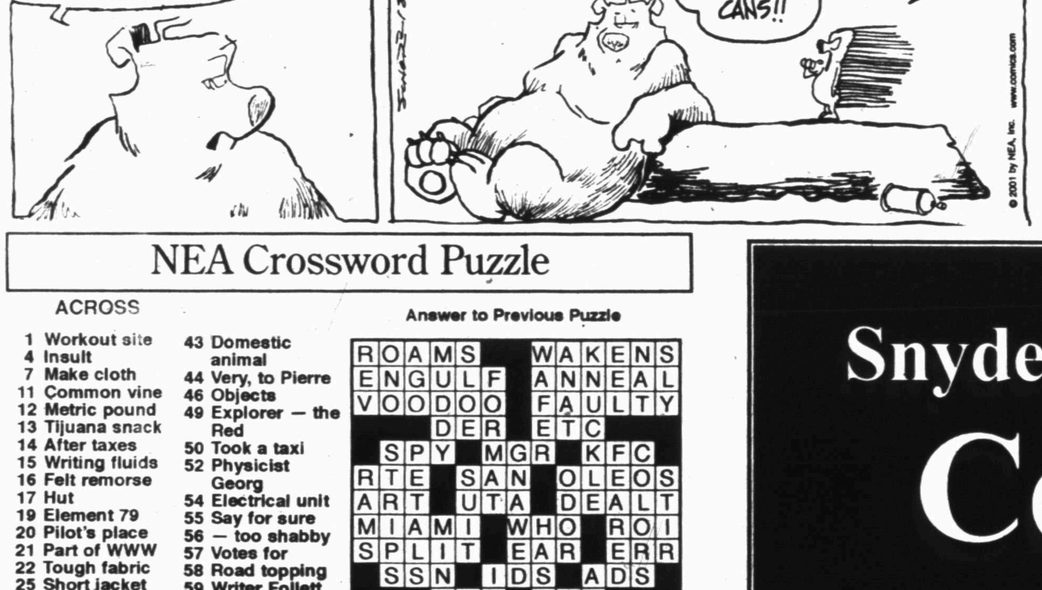
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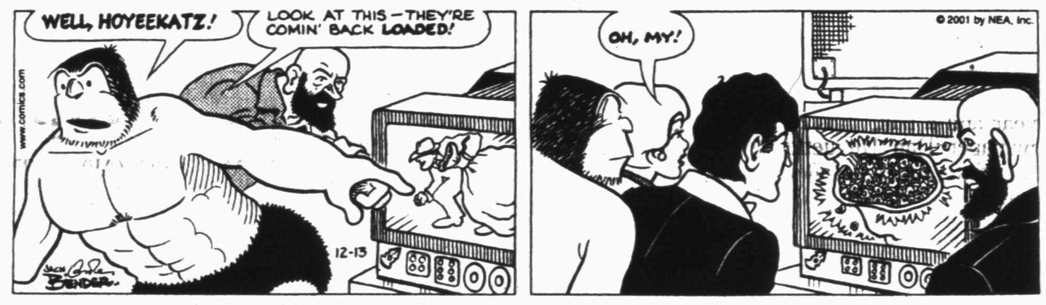
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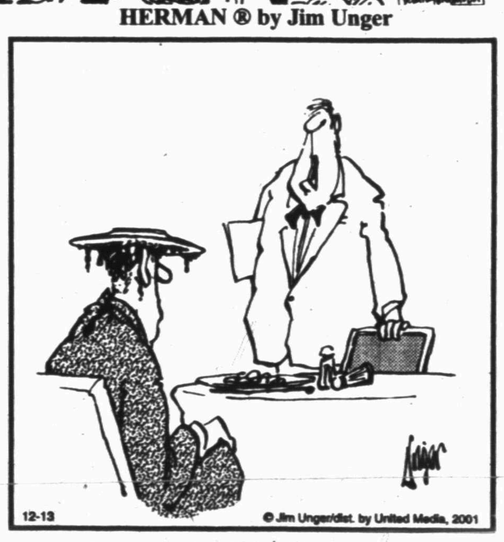
ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"Is the lady coming back, sir?"

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Workout site
4 Insult
7 Make cloth
11 Common vine
12 Metric pound
13 Tijuana snack
14 After taxes
15 Writing fluids
16 Felt remorse
17 Hut
19 Element 79
20 Pilot's place
21 Part of WWW
22 Tough fabric
25 Short jacket
28 Help
29 Alcove
31 Curved path
33 Senate vote
34 Reform Party's Perot
36 Mark of Zorro
37 Odors
40 Musical toy
42 Raucous songbird
43 Domestic animal
44 Very, to Pierre
46 Objects
49 Explorer — the Red
50 Took a taxi
52 Physicist Georg
54 Electrical unit
55 Say for sure
56 — too shabby
57 Votes for
58 Road topping
59 Writer Follett

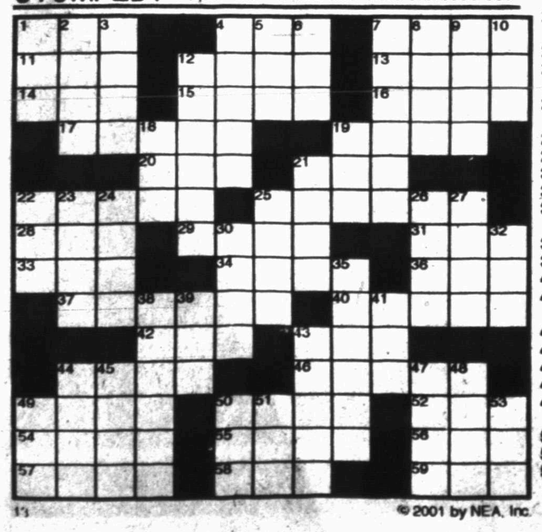
DOWN

1 Cotton seeder
2 Designer St. Laurent
3 Ancient tale
4 Small
5 Sort
6 USCG reception
7 Electronic flash
8 Actor Newman
9 Decorated a cake
10 Head movement
12 Contribute (2 wds.)
18 Plead
19 Semisolid substance
21 Food steamers
22 Actress Francis
23 Scurries
24 "Waterboy" Sandler
25 Shows disapproval
26 Heckle
27 Hydrox rival
30 Paris airport
32 Business VIP
35 Hockey player
38 Tosses out
39 Vegas lead-in
41 Did lunch
43 Kind of vinegar
44 "Iliad" locale
45 Tick off
47 Brother
48 Brake part
49 Role for Madonna
50 Squeal on
51 Roe
53 Everest, e.g.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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Snyder Daily News

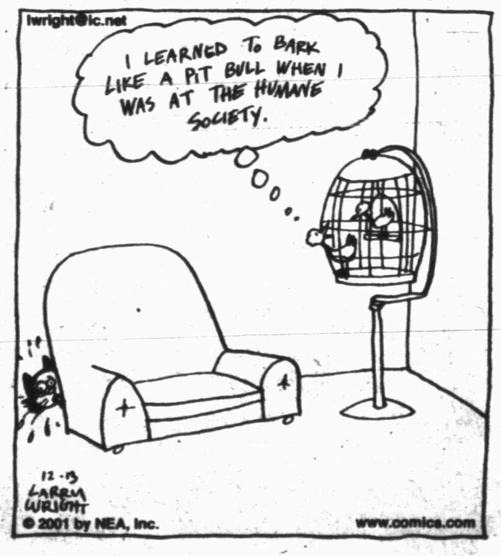
Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



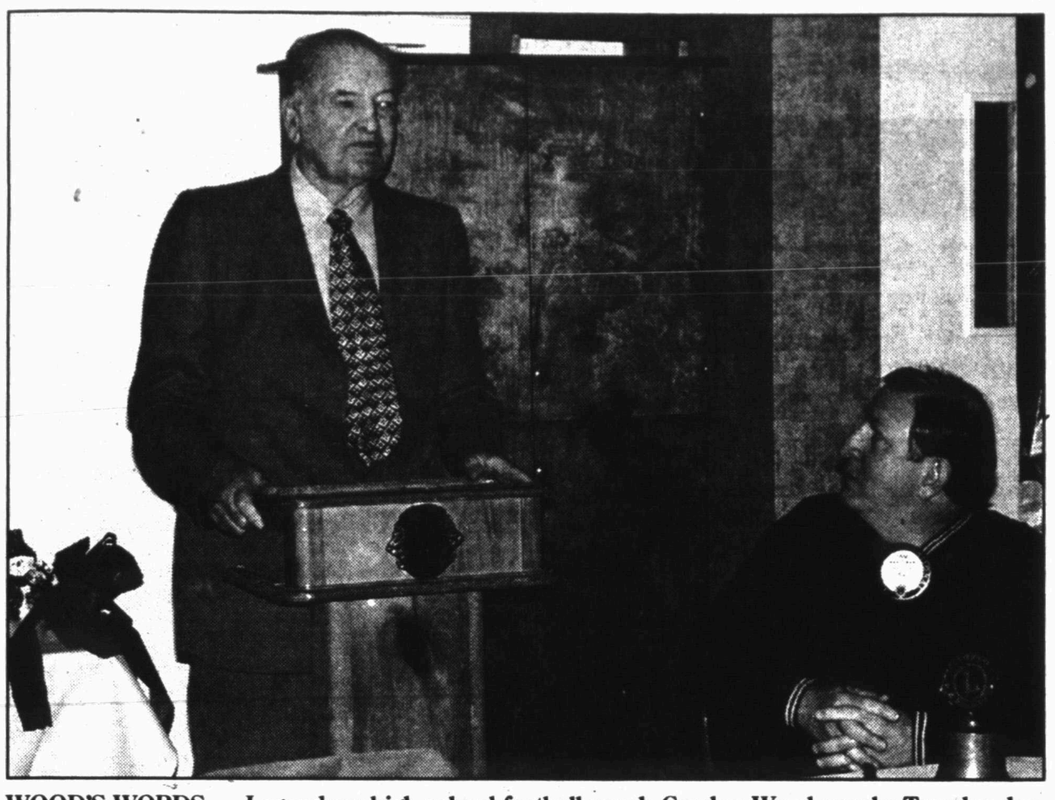
"I KNOW SOME SWELL HIDING PLACES FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

SPORTS



WOOD'S WORDS — Legendary high school football coach Gordon Wood speaks Tuesday during the Lions Club meeting while club vice-president Bob Moore looks on. Wood promoted his recent autobiography *Coach of the Century*. (SDN Staff Photo)

Wood recalls offer to coach Snyder Tigers

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

After winning nine state championships and almost 400 games, there isn't much that legendary high school football coach Gordon Wood regrets about his career.

The 87 year-old former coach has been retired for 14 years, giving him ample time to ponder his career record of 396-91-15.

Looking back, he does believe things would've turned out differently if he'd accepted another job offer in the spring of 1946.

At the time, Wood was the head coach at Roscoe where rental property was scarce. The apartment he, his wife and daughter lived in was so bad, Wood began shopping for job offers after the 1945 season.

On a Saturday evening that next spring, Wood was offered the head job at Snyder High School. He told the trustees to give him until Tuesday to decide.

That Monday, a different apartment came available and Wood remained in Roscoe another year.

"I really enjoyed coaching at Roscoe at the time. The only reason I was going to leave to begin with was because the living conditions were so poor," Wood recalled Tuesday after speaking at the Snyder Lions Club meeting. "Things would have been different though if I'd have accepted the job at Snyder."

Wood left Roscoe the next year for Seminole, before coaching stints at Winters and Stamford where he earned his first two state crowns. A short stay at Victoria preceeded a 26-year stint at Brownwood where they won seven state titles.

Wood had his share of success wherever he went, and he believes he could have been equally successful at Snyder.

"I never lost to a Snyder team in the handfull of times that we played them, but Snyder had some great athletes," Wood recalls. "At Roscoe, we were in the same district. The town of Snyder was more than twice as big as Roscoe, but we always beat them.

"But I think I could have won some games at Snyder. If we wouldn't have found another place to live in Roscoe, I would've had that chance."

Wood recalled the time he beat a Tiger team coached by Speedy Moffett. The following Monday, one of Wood's players found a clipboard under the visitors bench.

On the clipboard were Moffett's list of eight things the Tigers must do to win the game.

"The very first thing on the list said, 'Don't punt the ball to Pruitt. He's dangerous and can return the ball for a touchdown,'" Wood remembered. "Then the very last thing said, 'Whatever happens, don't punt the ball to Pruitt.'

"When I read the thing I thought back to Friday's game. On their first possession, Snyder had to punt the ball. It was a 40-yarder right to Pruitt who returned it 85 yards for a touchdown.

"But we were offside on the play, so they punted again. This time it was another 40-yarder right to Pruitt who ran 90 yards for a touchdown.

"You know. Kids don't always do what you say."

Since his retirement after the 1985 season, Wood has kept busy following the sport he loves. He still sees about four high school games a week during the playoffs, many of which feature coaches who once played under him.

"What I miss the most about the game is the relationships with people, the coaches, teachers, parents and the kids," Wood admitted. "We were always like one big family, and that hasn't changed. I'm still in contact with a lot of my former assistants and players."

The graduate of Abilene Wylie High School and Hardin-Simmons University also stays busy promoting his recently released autobiography *Coach of the Century*.

"The book has been a lot more fun than I thought it would be. It's also been very successful," Wood said. "I've written a couple of other small books about coaching football, but never one just about my life and coaching career."

His coaching career started in 1940 and spanned 45 years. He still ranks as the winningest Texas football coach of all time, and is unquestionably one of the most successful high school coaches in the nation.

The only thing left to ponder is what might have been if he hadn't found that apartment in the spring of '46.

Texas trades Oliver for Everett

BOSTON (AP) — When the Boston Red Sox acquired Carl Everett, they looked beyond his troubled past and fell in love with his power and speed.

Two years later, they found another team willing to do the same.

The Red Sox managed to unload the temperamental outfielder on the Texas Rangers early Thursday, taking on left-hander Darren Oliver and his 6.02 ERA in exchange.

"It's been a struggle for the last year and a half," Boston general manager Dan Duquette said at the winter meetings after the deal was announced at about 1:15 a.m. "This an extremely interested fan base. Some players can respond to the pressures of this market and play very well. ... It just didn't work out here."

Everett was an All-Star his first season in Boston, hitting .300 with 34 homers and 108 RBIs in 2000. But he clashed with two Boston managers this year and struggled on the field, batting .257 with 14 homers and 58 RBIs before his season ended Sept. 8 because of a knee injury.

Boston — Everett's fifth organization — has been trying to dump him all offseason, a task that was more difficult because he is still owed $17.15 million over the next two years.

"We're certainly not blind," Rangers general manager John Hart said. "It's well-documented the problems Carl has had in Boston. At the same time, we recognize the opportunity a new fresh start in Texas will provide to Carl."

Everett adds another bat to a team that was third in the league in hitting with a .275 average but last in pitching with a 5.71 ERA. Last year, the Rangers paid $252 million for shortstop Alex Rodriguez and finished last in the AL West.

"We talked to some of our senior players, some of our leaders. To a man, they were extremely supportive," Hart said. "Our players want to win. It's not often that you're able to add potentially 30 homers and 30 doubles and good defense."

The 31-year-old Oliver went 11-11 last season with a 6.02 ERA in 28 starts and was extremely hittable, allowing 260 baserunners in 189 innings.

Oliver has one year and $5 million remaining on a $19 million, three-year contract, plus $4.5 million of a signing bonus; Hart said some money would change hands as part of the deal.

"It wasn't a huge economic cost for us," Hart said.

But the Red Sox are glad to have Oliver instead of Everett, who has shown a volcanic temper and an ability to alienate fans and teammates alike.

Last year, he exploded in anger at umpire Ron Kulpa, who asked Everett to move his foot in the batter's box. Everett head-butted Kulpa and had to be restrained.

Spurs top injury-riddled Raptors

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs are playing well, and they're avoiding some tough opponents.

A week after Michael Jordan missed a game against the Spurs because of injury, San Antonio only had to face Vince Carter for half of a 108-95 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Wednesday night.

San Antonio improved to 15-4, the best record ever for the franchise after 19 games. The Spurs won for the fifth straight time by taking advantage of Carter's bruised right calf late in the second quarter.

On Dec. 4, Jordan was unable to play in San Antonio because of a sore knee, and the Spurs won 103-88 over the Washington Wizards.

"You never like to come out without your star," Toronto coach Lenny Wilkens said. "It just takes something out of what we do. He caught a knee in the calf. He was pretty sore and wasn't able to come back. That, plus we didn't have Antonio Davis, either. We were sort of handicapped."

Carter, who came into the game No. 2 in the NBA in scoring at 27.0 points, finished with six points in 21 minutes on 3-of-10 shooting.

"It's real sore right now," Carter said. "In the second half, I couldn't make it to the court."

Tim Duncan had 28 points and 13 rebounds, and Steve Smith scored 17 points for the Spurs.

Alvin Williams scored 16 points, and Keon Clark added 14 for Toronto. Hakeem Olajuwon had nine points and nine blocked shots, and his seven first-half blocks tied the record by a San Antonio opponent in one half.

"I really wasn't looking to block every shot," Olajuwon said. "I just wanted to challenge every shot and change what they wanted to do."

San Antonio's David Robinson was impressed by Olajuwon, who was playing his first game in San Antonio since leaving the Houston Rockets in the offseason.

"It was real weird not seeing him in a Rockets uniform," Robinson said. "He showed he still has those shakes and those moves. He is going to be a real good addition for them. He's a real presence down low, he rebounds well, and he blocks a lot of shots."

San Antonio, which led 54-47 at halftime, opened the third quarter with an 18-9 run to lead 72-56 with 6:03 left in the period.

After Toronto cut the lead to 75-64, but San Antonio closed the quarter with a 6-0 run to lead 86-68 on Antonio Daniels' 19-foot shot at the buzzer.

San Antonio extended its lead to 96-75 on Charles Smith's three-point play with 8:25 remaining. Toronto got no closer than 11 the rest of the way.

Sports Briefs

Yankees to announce Giambi signing

NEW YORK (AP) — New York plans a news conference today at Yankee Stadium to announce a seven-year contract with Jason Giambi worth about $120 million.

New York also reached a preliminary agreement on a $10 million, two-year contract with outfielder Rondell White and is close to agreeing to a two-year deal with lefty Sterling Hitchcock for about $12 million.

Nuggets' coach suspended for remarks

DENVER (AP) — Nuggets coach Dan Issel was suspended for four games by the team for shouting a profanity and insensitive ethnic remark at a fan.

Issel made the remarks as he walked off the court after a 99-96 loss to the Charlotte Hornets on Tuesday night. The coach responded to a taunt from the fan by yelling back, "Go drink another beer, you Mexican ...," adding an expletive at the end of the sentence.

The suspension will cost the coach more than $112,000.

National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	13	7	.650	—
Boston	12	7	.632	½
New York	11	10	.524	2½
Orlando	11	12	.478	3½
Washington	9	12	.429	4½
Philadelphia	8	13	.381	5½
Miami	4	16	.200	9

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	13	6	.684	—
Milwaukee	11	7	.611	1½
Toronto	12	10	.545	2½
Indiana	12	11	.522	3
Charlotte	10	11	.476	4
Cleveland	9	12	.429	5
Atlanta	8	14	.364	6½
Chicago	4	16	.200	9½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	15	4	.789	—
Minnesota	15	5	.750	½
Dallas	13	9	.591	3½
Utah	10	12	.454	6½
Denver	7	14	.333	9
Houston	7	16	.304	10
Memphis	5	15	.250	10½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	16	3	.842	—
Sacramento	17	6	.739	1
Phoenix	14	9	.609	4
L.A. Clippers	12	10	.545	5½
Portland	10	10	.500	6½
Seattle	10	15	.400	9
Golden State	8	14	.364	9½

Wednesday's Games

Washington 82, Miami 80
San Antonio 108, Toronto 95
Minnesota 98, Utah 87
Phoenix 114, Sacramento 88
L.A. Clippers 114, Seattle 94

Thursday's Games

Houston at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
New York at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Memphis at Denver, 9 p.m.
Orlando at Golden State, 9 p.m.

Friday's Games

New York at Washington, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Portland at Utah, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

NCAA Basketball

MEN

EAST

Boston U. 79, Dartmouth 58
Cent. Connecticut St. 107, Long Island U. 76
Harvard 70, New Hampshire 65
Kansas 78, Princeton 62
St. Bonaventure 97, Ohio 85

SOUTH

Georgia St. 85, Campbell 71
Louisville 75, Coppin St. 49
South Alabama 68, Bethune-Cookman 55
VMI 90, Charleston Southern 69
W. Michigan 55, Virginia Tech 51

MIDWEST

Creighton 76, Nebraska 70
Iowa 101, Drake 59
Ohio St. 88, Santa Clara 41

FAR WEST

BYU 101, Fort Lewis 53
Boise St. 77, Wyoming 74
Denver 63, Air Force 53
Nevada 85, S. Oregon 54
Oregon St. 51, Portland St. 46
Pacific 52, Idaho 48
Southern Cal 86, Long Beach St. 68

WOMEN

EAST

Fairleigh Dickinson 82, St. John's 52
George Washington 58, Rutgers 54, OT
St. Peter's 65, Monmouth, N.J. 64
UMBC 52, Towson 38

SOUTH

Chattanooga 87, Tennessee St. 67
Louisville 96, Coppin St. 45
N.C.-Wilmington 80, Coll. of Charleston 68
Virginia Tech 80, Radford 46

MIDWEST

Iowa St. 82, Iowa 64
Michigan 74, Toledo 46
North Dakota 84, Minn.-Duluth 62
Notre Dame 71, W. Michigan 48
Wright St. 78, Ohio 74

SOUTHWEST

Texas A&M 84, Sam Houston St. 71

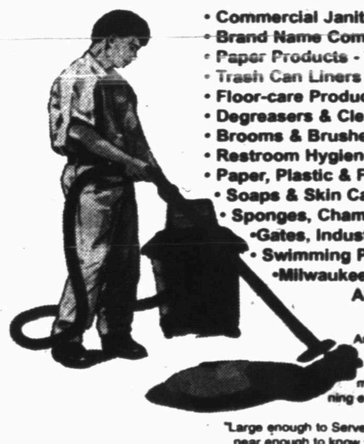
FAR WEST

BYU 74, Oregon 58
Colorado 81, Wyoming 57
San Francisco 69, Fresno St. 67
Santa Clara 70, Pacific 61

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Monday, Dec. 17
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For Election of Officers.
All Members &
Prospective Members
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Basketball Sign-Ups
Scurry County Boys
and Girls Club
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The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations will conduct an accreditation survey of this organization on **January 15, 16, 17,& 18th, 2002**. The purpose of the survey will be to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards. The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which accreditation should be awarded the organization.

Joint Commission standards deal with organizational quality of care issues and the safety of the environment in which care is provided. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent and valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission's field representatives at the time of the survey. Information presented at the interview will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for a public information interview must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be addressed to:

Division of Accreditation Operations
Organization Liaison
Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
One Renaissance Boulevard
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

The Joint Commission will acknowledge such requests in writing or by telephone and will inform the organization of the request for any interview. The organization will, in turn, notify the interviewee of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

This notice is posted in accordance with the Joint Commission's requirements and may not be removed before the survey is completed.

DATE POSTED: 12/12/01

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SDN Classifieds 573-5486

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A MESSAGE FROM THIS NEWSPAPER AND THE DPS TROOPERS

Man linked to downing of planes receives life in jail

MIAMI (AP) — Moments after denouncing his trial as a "propaganda show," the leader of a Cuban spy ring received a life sentence for his role in the infiltration of U.S. military bases and in the deaths of four Cuban-Americans whose planes were gunned down five years ago.

Gerardo Hernandez, 36, was one of five secret agents convicted in June after a crackdown on spies operating inside the United States. The six-month trial focused on the two private planes that were shot down by Fidel Castro's government in 1996.

"This was a crime against America. The threat was to the country at large and to this community," said chief prosecutor Caroline Miller.

Before hearing his sentence Wednesday, Hernandez labeled his trial a "propaganda show" and blamed his prosecution on the political clout of Miami's Cuban exile community. He plans to appeal.

Ramon Labanino, a Cuban intelligence officer who supervised two agents assigned to infiltrate the U.S. Southern Command, was also expected to receive a life term for espionage conspiracy. His sentencing was set for today.

Hernandez and Labanino were arrested following a 1998 indictment accusing Cuba of planting 14 agents in Miami.

The Cuban government has insisted the men were protecting their country from U.S.-based terrorism.

Paul McKenna, Hernandez's attorney, wasn't surprised by the life term.

"It's a big-league case, and you expect big-league sentences," he said.

Hernandez is the only spy who has been charged with and convicted of murder conspiracy in the attack on the planes in 1996.

Prosecutors accused Hernandez of knowing about the plot to shoot down the planes because he warned two agents who infiltrated the spy ring not to fly during a four-day period that included the day of the attack. No evidence presented at trial, however, indicated that he knew Cuba would fire on the planes.

The fliers who were shot down were members of Brothers to the Rescue, which patrols the sea looking for Cuban refugees. The group had been warned by the U.S. and Cuban governments that its planes risked being shot down after two years of incursions in Cuban airspace.

Relatives of the four dead fliers spoke in court.

"Every night and every day, I have been praying for justice," said Eva Barba, mother of Pablo Morales, one of the victims.

Hernandez's mother, Carmen Nordela, 67, traveled from Havana for the hearing. She sat calmly when the sentence was announced.

"I was told to expect this," she said later. "My son told me to be strong."

After the sentencing, Hernandez called his wife of 13 years, Adriana Perez, 31, in Havana.

"He was in good spirits because he is sure that his cause is just," Perez told The Associated Press. "He said that he had felt safe with his mom there and that he had been thinking of me."

The prosecution's case centered on computer diskettes seized in Hernandez's North Miami Beach apartment. Messages that passed between the spy ring and Havana were peppered with communist rhetoric, denunciations of the United States and snide references to prominent Cuban exiles.

The other three convicted spies — Antonio Guerrero, Fernando Gonzalez and Rene Gonzalez — are scheduled for sentencing later this month.

Plant Upper Colorado SWCD windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservative District (SWCD) has tree order forms now available. Windbreak seedling choices are evergreens, hardwoods, and wildlife packets. Evergreen varieties include Afghanistan Pine, Austrian Pine, Eastern Red Cedar and Pinyon Pine. Some of the hardwood varieties are Bur Oak, Dessert Willow, Fourwing Saltbush, Green Ash and Sand Plum.

Additional hardwood varieties are available. There are several wildlife packets suited to meet the habitat needs for different wildlife species. Each packet included an assorted mix of plant species that will provide sources of food and cover for deer, dove, quail, squirrels and turkey.

Spring and fall plantings insure good root development for seedlings if adequate moisture is available. Rainfall is normally limited in West Texas and doesn't provide enough ground moisture for young seedlings and shrubs.

Regular watering should be done from March through November and the soil should not be allowed to dry out during the winter.

Weed competition should be taken into consideration when planting. Weeds can utilize the valuable moisture and nutrients from the young trees. Mechanical or hand weeding are two ways to keep the areas around your trees weed free. Less labor-intensive methods include the use of mulch or weed barrier fabric (synthetic or natural).

The reduction of evaporation is an advantage in the use of mulch or weed barriers. Weed fabric allows moisture penetration for the purpose of water conservation, while denying sunlight to weeds.

For more information call or come by the Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District Office. The office is located in the Scurry County USDA Service Center at 5309 Big Spring Highway, or phone 915-573-6317 ext. 3.

Ask Hollywood by Holly Wood

Q: My stepdad remembers a movie about two teen-agers who go to a junkyard and build a spaceship out of car parts. They use it to get the scrap left by the moon landing. He also said that Andy Griffith starred in it. Does this movie exist? If so, is it available on video? — **D.Y., Calhoun, Ga.**

A: Your stepfather's memory for obscure television is outstanding. Andy Griffith starred in the 1979 TV movie "Salvage." Griffith's character faces two challenges — building the spaceship and maneuvering around the bigwigs at NASA who are trying to stop him. The movie was the jumping-off point for "Salvage 1," a TV series that ran for 20 episodes. Unfortunately, the film is not available for rental or purchase.

Q: My favorite show, "The Pretender," has been taken off the regular show time, and now all we get are reruns. Please! Is there anything else we can see that has Michael T. Weiss and Andrea Parker in it? Can you tell me about Weiss' personal life? — **M.J.L., Santa Maria, Calif.**

A: You can see Michael T. Weiss in the 2001 movie "Bones," and you can hear his voice in the animated TV series "The Legend of Tarzan." Andrea Parker's recent work has been limited to "The Pretender" TV movies, but I'm sure she'll pop up in something soon.

To answer your second question, Weiss is a Chicago native and began his acting career as a child, appearing in several TV commercials. He is 6-feet-3-inches tall, and he was born on Feb. 2, 1962. He earned a B.F.A. from the University of Southern California. His first major role was that of Mike Horton on "Days of Our Lives" in the late '80s. Weiss is a multi-talented guy. Not only can he act, but he can also name each state in the United States in alphabetical order, he is a certified scuba diver, and he can wiggle his ears. I don't know whether I can get any more personal than that without being accused of stalking.

Q: I loved Freddie Prinze on "Chico and the Man." Can you tell me who Freddie Prinze Jr.'s mother is? Were she and Freddie Sr. married? — **R.D., Flushing, N.Y.**

A: Freddie Prinze (born Frederick Karl Pruetzal) married Katherine Cochrane, the mother of Freddie Prinze Jr., in 1975, but they divorced in 1977. Sadly, Prinze died in 1977 after shooting himself in the head with a .32 caliber pistol. There's still some debate over whether it was a suicide or an accident. If you have cable, you can see reruns of "Chico and the Man" on TVLand at 5 a.m. EST. Check local listings to make sure of the time. (I haven't been up at 5 a.m. since I was too young to know better, so I'd tape it if I were you.)

TRIVIA: Freddie Prinze changed his name from Frederick Pruetzal to indicate that he was "The Prince of Comedy."

(Send your questions to Ask Holly Wood, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016, or write to HollyWood85@hotmail.com. Because of the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.)

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp		23.06	22.50	22.60—.40
AOL TimeWrn		32.80	30.68	32.66 + .16
AT&T Corp s		16.20	15.80	16.08—.42
Albertsons		31.18	30.55	30.97 + .01
Alltel		61.80	61.15	61.71—.14
AmEl Pw		42.36	41.45	42.10 + .55
AndarkPtr		51.60	50.52	51.39—.48
ATMOS Egy		20.08	19.80	20.08 + .23
Aviall		6.62	6.01	6.52 + .22
BP PLC		44.08	43.81	44.00—.10
BakerHughes		33.90	32.90	33.90 + .41
Bank of Amer		62.35	61.85	62.10—.78
BellSouth		38.12	37.52	37.83—.31
vjBeth Steel		.81	.52	.59—.10
BurlNoSFe		28.31	27.51	28.04 + .04
Caterpillar		51.15	50.50	50.86—.14
ChevronTex		85.95	85.11	85.65 + .05
Citigroup		48.00	47.05	47.32—.83
CocaCola		46.49	45.76	46.08 + .10
ColgatePal		57.49	56.84	57.36 + .40
ComclMetals		33.50	33.09	33.41 + .38
Cooperin		37.06	36.78	36.97 + .02
DaimlrChry		40.37	39.94	40.25—.51
DeltaAirl		30.81	30.07	30.25—.60
Dillards Inc		14.85	14.41	14.65—.22
DowChem		36.35	35.60	35.87—.52
DuPont		42.78	41.85	42.29—.71
EastmanChem		37.51	37.00	37.23—.29
EstKodak		31.15	30.65	30.78—.33
EDS Corp		68.90	67.75	67.95—.95
Entergy		38.11	37.20	37.87 + .57
ExxonMobil s		37.60	36.72	37.07—.35
FstBksAm		30.50	30.50	30.50 + .05
FootLocker		16.10	15.25	16.00 + .01
GenDynam		80.75	79.85	80.14 + .16
GenElec		37.25	36.55	37.20 + .15
GenMills		49.38	48.33	49.28 + .94
GenMotors		48.11	47.50	47.75—.81
GaPacGP		29.09	28.35	29.07 + .32
Goodrich		23.94	23.13	23.91 + .35
Goodyear s		23.82	23.32	23.57—.20
GtAtlPac		22.85	20.71	22.60 + 1.94
Halliburtn		13.75	12.89	13.51 + .24
Hanson ADS		33.61	33.45	33.61 + .06
HarteHanks		26.35	26.24	26.24 + .07
HomeDepot		48.35	47.15	47.92—.43
HoneywellIntl		33.30	32.90	33.05—.65
IBM		122.30	121.02	121.59—1.61
IntlPaper		39.68	39.15	39.66—.27
JohnsonJn s		56.33	55.85	56.33 + .28
K mart		6.04	5.99	6.01—.03
KinderMorg		49.97	48.95	49.49 + .09
Kroger Co		20.09	19.97	20.00 + .06
LockheedM		46.48	45.90	46.42 + .02
Lowes Cos s		45.94	45.26	45.44—.70
Lubys		6.98	6.25	6.29—.79
LucentTech		6.91	6.58	6.88—.85
MayDeptStr		34.50	33.90	34.31—.44
Medtronic		47.67	46.65	47.63 + .52
Motorola		16.45	16.09	16.18—.74
NCR Corp		36.79	36.25	36.55—.43
Navistar		38.30	37.50	38.23 + .53
Penney JC		23.25	22.76	22.86—.28
PepBoys		17.75	17.46	17.51—.31
PepsiCo		47.90	46.75	47.84 + .75
Pharmacia		42.74	42.42	42.65 + .03
PhelpDodge		34.01	32.80	33.03—.99
PhilipPet		56.15	55.38	55.90—.37
PilgrmPrd B		13.82	13.52	13.82 + .20
Praxair		52.78	52.10	52.49—.13
ProctGamb		80.50	79.00	80.40 + .45
PubS NwMx		25.95	25.56	25.90 + .34
RadioShack		29.12	28.45	29.00 + .29
ReliantEngy		25.45	24.60	25.22 + .17
RoyalDut		47.59	47.22	47.42—.33
SBC Comm		38.25	37.86	37.98—.26
SaraLee		21.94	21.28	21.74 + .12
Scripps EW		64.18	64.00	64.02—.28
SearsRoeb		45.82	45.10	45.82—.18
SherwinW		26.60	26.35	26.50—.07
SouthernCo s		23.39	22.82	23.27 + .35
SwstAirl s		19.41	19.01	19.21—.29
SprintFON		19.39	19.13	19.27—.08
SprintPCS		23.27	22.70	22.75—.52
Sunoco Inc		36.50	35.59	36.45 + .20
TXU Corp		45.04	44.10	44.99 + .58
TempleInland		55.72	54.83	55.72 + .06
Textind		38.75	37.90	38.01—.41
TexasInst		31.26	30.60	30.97—1.23
Textron		38.40	37.60	37.94—.37
TriconGlbR		50.99	49.79	50.87 + .32
TrinityInds		26.95	26.52	26.67—.15
TylerTech		3.90	3.81	3.85—.11
USX-Marathn		27.85	27.32	27.84—.12
USX-USS		17.71	17.20	17.45—.51
UnionPacif		54.85	53.58	54.73 + 1.10
UnitedTech		61.35	60.25	60.46 + .96
Unocal		33.35	33.00	33.21—.14
VerizonComm		47.60	46.90	47.32—.05
WalMart		54.09	53.10	53.73—.60
WellsFargo		43.60	43.10	43.35—.05
WstnGasRs		30.65	29.83	30.52 + .22
WinnDixie		13.20	12.82	13.17 + .23
Xerox Cp		8.45	8.22	8.36—.22

DEC 13 2001

JDL members charged in alleged bomb plot

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The chairman of the Jewish Defense League and a member of the extremist organization are accused of a bombing scheme aimed at the office of an Arab-American congressman and a prominent Los Angeles mosque.

JDL chairman Irv Rubin, 56, and Earl Krugel, 59, were held without bail Wednesday after being charged with the failed bombing plot.

Authorities said the two men held a series of meetings in October to plan the bombing of the King Fahd Mosque and the San Clemente office of freshman Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif.

During one secretly audiotaped meeting, Krugel allegedly said Arabs "need a wakeup call" and the JDL needed to do something to one of their "filthy" mosques, according to an affidavit.

Investigators also say Rubin wanted to "blow up an entire building" but lacked the technology.

The pair was arrested Tuesday night after explosive powder was delivered to Krugel's home by a longtime JDL member who had turned federal informant, U.S. Attorney John Gordon said. Other bomb components and weapons were seized at the Los Angeles home.

"If you cross the line from lawfully expressing your political or religious belief to committing violent acts then you will likely end up facing federal prosecution," Gordon said.

Rubin and Krugel were charged in a federal criminal complaint with conspiracy to destroy a building by means of an explosive, which carries up to five years in prison, and possession of a destructive device related to a crime of violence, which carries a 30-year mandatory sentence.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Victor Kenton ordered both men held without bail and set a preliminary hearing for Dec. 27.

The case was broken when an informant who claimed to have committed crimes for the JDL, including planting a bomb at a mosque, contacted an FBI agent on Oct. 18, according to an affidavit. A day later, the informant was instructed to place a bomb at the King Fahd Mosque.

The informant said JDL members had learned how to build a napalm bomb with Styrofoam and gasoline.

It was not immediately clear when the alleged plot began. The suspects allegedly considered other targets, including a bar and a tattoo parlor they believed were owned by white supremacists.

Rubin's attorney, Peter Morris, said his client had nothing to do with the explosives. "It seems to us that, given the timing the government's action is part of an overreaction to the Sept. 11 events," he said.

Rubin's wife, Shelley, said her husband and Krugel were innocent and authorities were "on a witch hunt against Jews to show that they're evenhanded toward Muslims."

Krugel's attorney, Charles L. Kreindler, said the materials seized from his client's house were all legal, and suggested that this may be a case of government entrapment.

"The government has been very proactive in this case. They may have sent somebody in to set these guys up," he said. "There's no evidence they have ever been involved in any violent activities."

Tajuddin Shuaib, director of the King Fahd Mosque, said he was astonished by the alleged plot. No threats were received to the estimated 1,000 people who have used the mosque to pray during the Ramadan season, he said.

"I can't understand why people would do such a thing. We are not against Jews. We are not against anybody. We are like any church or synagogue or temple," Shuaib said.

Issa, 46, the grandson of Lebanese immigrants, serves on the House Committee on International Relations and supports Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations. He called the arrests "shocking news."

"All agree this was an unusual act by a small band" of individuals, Issa said in Washington. Flanked by several Jewish lawmakers, he said: "Perhaps in another country, we would be adversaries. We're not going to be divided by ethnic backgrounds."

Rubin, who has been chairman of the JDL since 1985, has made a career out of confrontation, challenging white supremacists to fist fights and burning a Confederate flag outside a courthouse. By his own count he has been arrested more than 40 times. In 1980, he was tried and acquitted of soliciting the murders of Nazis in the United States.

The JDL, whose symbol is a raised fist inside a Star of David, has the motto "Never Again," referring to the World War II murder of 6 million Jews. It was founded in 1968 by Meir Kahane to mount armed response to anti-Semitic acts in New York City.

Kahane, who left the JDL in the 1980s, was shot to death in New York in 1990. El Sayyid Nosair, 36, an Egyptian-born Muslim, was convicted in connection with the shooting.

The JDL claims nearly 13,000 members nationwide, but experts say it may have only a few dozen active members.

On the Web:
Jewish Defense League:
http://www.jdl.org/

Berry's World



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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, Dec. 14, 2001

The successful methods you develop to channel your energies, ambitions and hopes in the year ahead will prove to have a far greater impact on your successes than you first suspect.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — New ideas or concepts you formulate today should not be put on the back burner for future initiation. They are more likely to take off better and easier now while they're hot.

Sagittarius, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/0 this newspaper. P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Sometimes it is wise to rely on a hunch or intuition and this may be one of those days. If you get a feeling concerning a commercial deal, your chances of it being correct are good.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — There is justification for any optimistic feelings you may be having today. Your chart indicates this is one of those days where your hopes and expectations can be realized.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Try to develop something you think has both social and commercial

potential today. Your will have the best chances for success if you include only directly involved persons.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Give your time and attention today to that new endeavor in which you've suddenly become interested. It has lots of promise to be quite fortunate for you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Don't be timid today about going after a challenging objective, because you're now in an excellent cycle for accomplishing your aims. Any obstacles can be quickly overcome.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — There's a good chance that today you could meet someone whose interests and ideas merge well with yours. This new association could turn out to be a dynamic one.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — It's time you take action on all those certain changes you've been thinking about for a long time. You are in a fortuitous cycle to bring new ideas into being.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — If you are in need of a business favor today, you'll have better luck going to someone you know socially than you will if you ask an associate. He or she could be a competitor.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Elevate your sights and shoot for higher objectives than usual today. Everything points to the fact that you can make impressive strides now where your work or career is concerned.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Developments that need your special touch for management and reorganization may vie for your attention today. Instinctively, you'll know what needs to be fixed and how to do it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Sniff out where the good deals are today, because you have a good nose, not only for business, but for adding extensively to your earnings.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Breadwinning wives enjoy happy partnerships at home

DEAR ABBY: I must respond to "Confused Young Woman in Love," who wonders whether a relationship can work between a man and a woman who earns significantly more than he does.

It most certainly CAN. I have been blessed 10 times over by a loving husband who made less than half what I did when we married. Today, eight years later, he's a stay-at-home dad, and I am the income provider.

My husband and I were both comfortable with who we were as individuals when we met. Our marriage has grown, and our love and commitment have deepened despite not only the income disparity, but also other areas of difference in our lives.

The ability to bring in money for the family is important, but not nearly as important as cultivating a loving, nurturing, supportive environment for yourself, your spouse and your family. That ability comes from the heart — and is not dependent upon how much money a person makes. — **BLESSED IN DENVER**

DEAR BLESSED: I agree. And many other couples will attest to that. **Read on:**

DEAR ABBY: I make substantially more than my husband — about 30 percent more. You know what he thinks? He thinks I deserve MORE.

We are a team. Our incomes go toward supporting our family, and the more either of us makes, the better.

Were I that woman, I wouldn't hide my income, but neither would I bring it up. If he's the man she thinks he is, he won't care about her income when he learns what it is. Or, if it does bother him, he won't let it affect their relationship. A real man will get over it. — **CATHY W. IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR CATHY W.: That's true. **Read on:**

DEAR ABBY: Yes, it is possible to have a good relationship when the woman makes more money. I am a successful professional and earn a very good salary. My husband is an artist. He makes very little in the way of money.

When we married, relatives on both sides of the family predicted we would be divorced within two years. Ten years later, we are still together and the naysayers are the ones who are divorced. I have a wonderful man who happens not to be rich in money, but he is rich in the inner qualities that are the most important. — **BEEN THERE IN CANADA**

DEAR BEEN THERE: You have your priorities in the right order, and I commend you for it. Thank you for the input.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am 53. Six months ago, the love of my life was killed in an automobile accident.

My question is, what are the possibilities and probabilities that I will find true love again in my lifetime? I have always felt that true love comes only once in a lifetime for a few — and never for most.

Am I being foolish to think that it could happen to me more than once? — **HOPEFUL IN DENVER**

DEAR HOPEFUL: Not at all! I'm a firm believer that people have more than one opportunity to find true happiness.

Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. Grief counseling or a grief support group will help you to put the rest of your life in perspective. Please don't wait.

**

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

**

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $10 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Bush invokes executive privilege

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush invoked executive privilege for the first time today to keep Congress from seeing documents of prosecutors' decision-making in cases ranging from a decades-old Boston murder to the Clinton-era fund-raising probe.

The administration informed a House committee of the decision prior to a congressional hearing on the Boston case involving the FBI's handling of informants.

In a memo to Attorney General John Ashcroft, the president explained his decision.

Bush wrote that the "discloure to Congress of confidential advice to the attorney general regarding the appointment of a special counsel and confidential recommendations to Department of Justice officials regarding whether to bring criminal charges would inhibit the candor necessary to the effectiveness of the deliberative process by which the department makes prosecutorial decisions."

Law enforcement officers get few calls Wednesday

•Criminal trespass

Snyder officers served a woman with a criminal trespass warning Wednesday evening ordering her to stay away from two residences in the city. The wife of the woman's ex-husband complained to police of harassment and requested the warning.

•Overdose

9-1-1 operators received a request for an ambulance in the 1600 block of 8th Street at 10:30 p.m. Wednesday in reference to a subject overdosing on medication. Snyder EMS responded along with two patrol units and offense reports for overdose were submitted.

•Gas drive off

A clerk at Rip Griffin's Truck Stop reported a gas drive off worth $10 Wednesday afternoon.

Snyder ISD will meet tonight

Snyder ISD's board of trustees will hear yearly improvement plans presented by representatives of the individual campuses when they meet at 6 this evening.

Such plans are required by the Texas Education Agency, said Supt. Gayle Lomax.

Trustees will also review the annual audit report presented by representatives of Davis, Kinard & Co., of Abilene, and begin the yearly evaluation of Supt. Lomax.

The board will meet in executive session for the evaluation.

Other agenda items include adoption of a resolution pertaining to selling tax-foreclosed property by the Scurry County Tax Assessor-Collector, and the approval of the teaching contract for Kimberly Geeslin who will be teaching science and coaching at Snyder Junior High.

The trustees will also review several Texas Association of School Board policies.

HISD board to evaluate Church

The board of trustees of Hermleigh schools will meet at 7:30 p.m. today to begin the annual evaluation of Supt. Jerry Church.

The trustees will also consider the resignation of Vance Reynolds from the board. Reynolds is moving to San Antonio, said Church.

The trustees will also review TAAS results and the abstinence curriculum for the 2002-2003 school year will also be discussed.

Jeff Duck has also requested to speak to the trustees during tonight's meeting to be held in the high school building.

Stenholm to seek 13th term

Rep. Charles Stenholm announced Wednesday he will seek a 13th term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Stamford Democrat cited his experience and his ability to work with bipartisan coalitions and said he is excited about representing new people in the recently reorganized 17th Congressional District.

"I am excited about the opportunity to represent these new constituents, and I look forward to getting to know them in the months ahead," Stenholm said.

Stenholm was first elected to Congress in 1978 and has been re-elected every two years since then. Stenholm is ranking minority party member of the House Agriculture Committee and he is the leader of the conservative Blue Dog Democrats.

Stenholm said "the terrorist threat facing our nation following the events of Sept. 11, a federal budget that is once again spiraling out of control and the crisis facing rural American" are among the challenges that he looks forward to working on.

The 63-year-old Stamford native is to run in 2002 in a newly redrawn 32-county 17th Congressional District which now also includes Garza, Glasscock, Irion, McCulloch, Schleicher, Sterling and Tom Green Counties.

Locally, all incumbents have formally filed for re-election with the exception of Republican County Judge Ricky Fritz, but Fritz has said he will seek a third term.

Last week, former Snyder Mayor Rod Waller, also a Republican, announced for the judge's post.

Other Republicans who have filed for re-election include Trina Rodgers, district clerk; Nelda Colvin, treasurer; county clerk Joan Bunch; and Deborah Boyd, Precinct 1 JP.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Roy Idom said he will not seek a fourth term. Republican Robbie Floyd has announced for the precinct 2 post.

The first Democrat to file for re-election was Precinct 4 Commissioner Chloanne Lindsey. On Friday, Sheriff Darren Jackson filed for re-election on the Democratic ticket.

The filing deadline for both parties ends Jan. 2.

Fire destroys home; no injuries

Flames engulfed a home on 22nd Street during the night, destroying the structure, but no one was injured.

Snyder Fire Marshal Cy Posey said the residence belonging to Marilynn Graves was "a total loss."

Dispatchers were alerted to the blaze at 11:44 p.m. Wednesday and the fire department responded to the 2904 22nd St. residence.

Nineteen firefighters responded to the location with three fire trucks and stayed on the scene until almost 4 a.m., Posey said.

The cause of the fire is believed to be electrical, but the case remains under investigation, he said.

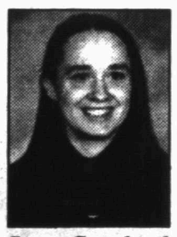
No one was in the home when the fire broke out.

Obituaries

Stacy Copeland

1983-2001

Funeral service for Stacy J. Copeland, a Snyder High School senior, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in the Wright Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Mike Henson, pastor of First Baptist Church, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.



Stacy Copeland

Miss Copeland, 18, died Wednesday, Dec. 12, from injuries sustained in a two-vehicle accident west of Snyder.

Born Oct. 30, 1983 in Lawton, Okla., she enrolled in Snyder High School last spring and was a member of the choir. An employee of Sonic Drive In, she was a DECA student and a former member of the Snyder Sharks swim team and basketball team.

Survivors include her mother, Carolyn Copeland of Snyder; her father, Ben Copeland of Altus, Okla.; a brother, Jonathan Copeland of Lubbock; her grandparents, Bill and Nancy Brown of Frederick, Okla.; several aunts and uncles, including Nancy and Manuel Copeland of Frederick; and a special family friend, Billy Smith of Snyder.

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Jan Lanier

1946-2001

Janelle Martin "Jan" Lanier of Snyder died Tuesday, Dec. 11, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

Funeral service for Mrs. Lanier, 55, is set for 10 a.m. Saturday in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel in Sweetwater with the Rev. Lance May officiating. Burial will follow in the Decker Cemetery.



Jan Lanier

Born Oct. 16, 1946 in Santa Anna, she was a 1965 graduate of Sweetwater High School and married Bob Lanier in 1975 in Snyder.

A member of Colonial Hill Baptist Church in Snyder, Mrs. Lanier had worked as a beautician in both Sweetwater and Snyder before becoming a supervisor for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice distribution center in Snyder for eight years.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Nancy Martin, on March 5, 1999.

Survivors include her husband, Bob Lanier of Snyder; a son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Tyfani Lanier of Amarillo; a sister, Linda Fry of Amarillo; a brother, Greg Martin of Dallas; her father, Melvin Martin of Sweetwater; a stepdaughter, Cindy Hendley of Eula; a son-in-law, Scott Hendley of Potosi; two grandsons, Cody Lanier and Justin Lanier of Amarillo; two step-grandchildren, Shay Hendley of Eula and Sloan Hendley of Potosi; and two nieces, Pamela Ludlum of Sweetwater and Janet Watson of Amarillo.

Family visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at McCoy Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Jack McDonald, Tommy Linam, Tommy Lanier, Todd Thomas, Scott Hendley and Pepper Purpera.

The family suggests memorials to a favorite charity.

Mrs. Cruseturner

1922-2001

ALTO, Tex. – Audie Faye Cruseturner, the sister of five Snyder residents, died Wednesday in Alto.

Funeral service for Mrs. Cruseturner, 79, is set for 1 p.m. Friday in the O.T. Allen & Son Funeral Home Chapel with Carl Allen officiating. Burial will follow in the Old Palestine Cemetery in Alto.

Born March 8, 1922 in Purdon, Tex., she was a homemaker and a member of the Wells Church of Christ. Mrs. Cruseturner had lived in Alto for 26 years and had also lived in Baton Rouge, La.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jessie and Bell Williams Lane; and a son, Calvin W. Jongberg.

Survivors include her husband, Robert O. "Boety" Cruseturner of Alto; a daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Steve Linebaugh of Huntsville; three brothers, J.V. Lane, Robert Lane and Calvin Lane, all of Snyder; three sisters, Mattie Morris and JoAnn Mayers, both of Snyder, and Odie Simmons of Texarkana, Tex.; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be James Ward, Harold Jackson, Bobby Jackson, Steve Linebaugh, Jeremy Jackson and Kenneth Hicks.

Thelma March

1926-2001

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS — Thelma F. March, former Snyder resident, died Sunday, Dec. 9, at her home.

Service for Mrs. March, 75, was held Wednesday at Shannon Rufe Snow Drive Funeral Chapel.

Mrs. March, born on Jan. 3, 1926 in Centralia, Ill., lived in Snyder eight years, moving to Odessa in 1998.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John March, in 1985,

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Amy Summerville of Odessa and formerly of Snyder; a daughter and son-in-law, Susan and David Yonker of North Richland Hills; grandchildren, Mary Stauffer and her husband Fenn of Arlington, Mark Senn of California, Tyler Summerville of Walnut Hill, Ill., and Aaron Yonker and Amber Yonker of Fort Worth; a niece, Greta Sharp and her husband Richard of Walnut Hill, Ill.; a nephew, John Dee Martin and his wife Marie of Colorado Springs; and special friends, Sally Palmer Summerville and her family of Snyder.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Night out with the band

Everyone is invited to eat dinner at the Snyder High School cafeteria from 5-6:30 this evening. Following the meal, the Snyder bands will present a free Christmas concert. Cost of the meal is $5 for adults, and $3 for children.

Prison cookie project

The deadline is today for the Price Daniel Unit cookie project. Everyone approved for the project is asked to take the cookies by the First Baptist Church at 1800 26th St. The cookies will be distributed at the unit Saturday.

Weigh Down workshop

Registration for a Weigh Down workshop will be held at 7 tonight at His Joy Ministries, 904 26th. Classes begin Jan. 3. For information call 573-9615 or 573-8401.

West teacher appreciation days

West Elementary parents are asked to bring Christmas refreshments to the teachers' lounge or office today and Friday.

FFA chapter show

Snyder FFA Chapter Show will be held Saturday in the Scurry Coliseum annex. Swine must be checked in by 7 p.m. Friday. Goats and lambs must be checked in by 7 a.m. Saturday and the show begins at 9 a.m. Show order will be goats, lambs and then swine. For information, call 574-6046.

Faith Revival Church fundraiser

Faith Revival Church will sell enchilada plates from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at the church, 3212 Ave. J. Cost is $5 per plate.

Guest speaker at IUMC

Snyder High School graduate Steven Carter of Lakewood Village will be the guest speaker at 10:30 a.m. Sunday at Ira United Methodist Church. His daughter, Michelle, a member of a Dallas Symphony, will provide the special music. Carter also graduated from Western Texas College, the University of Texas and the University of Texas Southwest Medical Center, where he now teaches. Carter is the daughter of Nona Carter Jones of Snyder.

Scouts selling popcorn

Boy and Cub Scouts are selling all varieties of popcorn. Call Rhonda Fletcher at 573-7065 or 338-1865 by Saturday.

Mesquite Country Writers Guild

The Mesquite Country Writers Guild is now accepting submissions for the winter issue of *Bards of a Feather*. The deadline is Saturday. The theme is open. Mail submissions to Pam Mauldin, Box 237, Ira, 79527 or e-mail to upside@nwol.net.

Nurse testing dates

Testing for the next class of the Vocational Nursing program at Western Texas College will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, as well as Jan. 22, and Jan. 29, with the last day to interview set for Feb. 2. Classes are scheduled to begin March 4. Potential students must bring a photo ID. To schedule an appointment, call the Counseling Center at 573-8511 ext. 313.

VFW special meeting

The VFW will meet at 6 p.m. Monday for the election of officers. All members and prospective members are invited to attend.

Christmas for Kids toy distribution

Christmas for Kids volunteers will distribute toys Monday and Tuesday. Those who are eligible will be contacted by telephone. For more information, call 573-7556, or 573-9238 and ask for Judi.

Chamber open house

Snyder Chamber of Commerce will host a Christmas open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. next Thursday.

Home for the Holidays

Home for the Holidays has been rescheduled for 6 p.m. next Thursday at the First United Methodist Church. Anyone attending is asked to bring a pair of scissors for a take home craft. If you have already reserved a spot, you do not have to call again, For more information call the Scurry County Cooperative Extension office at 573-5423.

CADA Christmas schedule

The Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse will be closed Dec. 21-Jan. 2 for the holidays.

Windbreak trees

Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District is taking orders for windbreak trees, both evergreen and hardwoods. Call 573-6317.

Seniors helping seniors

Snyder High School's senior class would like to help senior citizens decorate for Christmas. Students will provide the labor by putting up lights or decorating Christmas trees, etc. Call 573-6301 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday to make arrangements.

VFW membership drive

The VFW is conducting its annual membership drive. Membership is restricted to veterans who served overseas in times of conflict or war. For more information, contact the post commander Jim Bailey at 573-5338.

Noon prayer service

The First Presbyterian Church hosts a prayer service from noon until 12:30 p.m. each weekday. Everyone is invited.

FBC support groups

Support groups dealing with divorce, death, cancer or caring for elderly parents meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church educational building. A special group for students facing these problems is held at the same time.

Military support group

Family members, volunteers, friends, and active or inactive soldiers of Scurry County interested in forming a local Military Support Group are asked to contact Dale or Elaine Byrd at 573-8088 after 4 p.m., or e-mail dbyrd@nwol.net. The purpose of this group is to provide an avenue of mutual support, assistance, community resources, and a network of communication.

DEC 13 2001

Obesity may soon kill more Americans than cigarettes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's obesity epidemic has gotten so bad it soon may overtake tobacco as the leading cause of preventable deaths, the surgeon general said today. He called for changes in policies — from schools to the fast-food industry — to trim Americans' waistlines.

Some 300,000 people a year die from illnesses directly caused or worsened by being overweight. The toll threatens to wipe out progress fighting cancer and heart disease, and could even exceed cigarettes' harm, Surgeon General David Satcher warned.

Some 60 percent of adults are overweight or obese, as are nearly 13 percent of children, rates that have steadily risen over the past decade. The reason isn't a mystery: People eat more calories — too often by shunning fruits and vegetables in favor of super-sized junk foods — than they work off. But how to solve the problem is vexing, as warning after warning from health officials has gone unheeded.

Satcher said a key is treating obesity not just as a personal responsibility but one shared by the community and industry. He called for a national attack on obesity like the one federal health officials declared on smoking.

Among his recommendations:

—Schools must provide daily physical education for every grade. P.E. has gradually been disappearing, particularly for older students. Just 6 percent of schools require it for high-school seniors.

—Schools must provide healthier food options, and better enforce federal rules restricting students' access to junk food in the vending machines present in most middle and high schools. Agriculture Department rules say school lunches should contain no more than 30 percent fat but the national average is 34 percent, and a recent survey found just 20 percent of high-school lunches provide proper vitamin levels.

—Communities must create safe playgrounds, sidewalks or walking trails, particularly in inner cities. Employers should provide time for workers to get physical activity on the job. After all, healthier workers mean employers' insurance and absenteeism costs will drop.

—Industry should promote healthier food choices, including "reasonable portion sizes."

Ironically, the poor have a tendency to be fattest. Among the reasons, Satcher cited fast food crowding out access to healthier foods in inner cities. He urged communities to study fast-food marketing practices, comparing the situation to tobacco companies' targeting of inner-city minority communities in the 1990s. And he encouraged government-funded attempts to increase the availability of affordable fruits and vegetables.

"Sometimes the most fattening foods are the cheapest," Satcher lamented in an interview.

The National Restaurant Association rejected as "simplistic" the idea that fast-food joints cause obesity, and the National Soft Drink Association urged more focus on Satcher's exercise recommendations, calling vending machines in schools adequately regulated.

Consumer advocates praised the report for finally acknowledging that people's environments can either help or hinder weight loss. But, "talk is cheap," said Margo Wootan of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, asking how the government would implement Satcher's recommendations.

The Agriculture Department has targeted childhood obesity as a major concern and will take some action, though just what hasn't been decided, said Ron Vogel of the special nutrition program. Officials are helping schools to improve lunch nutrition. While USDA has authority to restrict use of vending machines only if they are in cafeterias, it is considering whether to seek broader authority.

As for physical education, the Education Department can't force schools to require it, a decision made locally, said spokesman Dan Langan. But this fall, it did provide $5 million in grants to help 18 school districts begin or expand P.E. classes.

As for overweight Americans, don't get discouraged if a diet doesn't cause as much weight loss as expected, Satcher said. Even losing 10 pounds can reduce someone's risk of getting diabetes or heart disease, as can simply walking 30 minutes a day.

"Every pound counts," he said.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Lightheadedness may not be due to a TIA

DEAR DR. GOTT: Last May, I passed out while eating lunch. It happened in seconds, without warning. Somehow I managed to dial 911 and also call my wife at the beauty salon. However, I don't remember making either phone call. I regained consciousness in the ambulance. At the hospital, I was tested with an MRI scan, blood work, carotid Doppler and echocardiogram. All were normal, including cholesterol of 170.

I take Cozaar for hypertension and am about 30 pounds overweight. Since the attack, I've had several transient episodes of lightheadedness.

I was diagnosed with a transient ischemic attack (TIA) or mini-stroke. Wouldn't the MRI have shown this? How could I have made those phone calls? None of the doctors I've spoken to have ever heard of such a thing.

DEAR READER: This is certainly puzzling. I conclude that you probably did not faint at all but had a temporary brain malfunction, marked by amnesia and other neurological symptoms, that could certainly have been caused by a TIA. This condition would not show up on an MRI because there was no significant damage to brain tissue. A blood clot, if one were present, dissolved too quickly to be seen on the scan.

Although your doctors seem to be content with your "diagnosis of exclusion," I'm concerned that you may have suffered what is called a "partial seizure." You do not mention having had a brain wave test (EEG); in my opinion, this should be performed. If you do, indeed, suffer from seizure activity, you could have another episode at an inappropriate time, such as while driving. In addition, such a condition needs treatment.

I urge you to obtain a consultation with a neurologist, who will examine you and order further testing. I am sure that your primary care physician would welcome input from such a specialist.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Stroke." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a pharmacist. I was diagnosed with itch mites several weeks ago. Medicine, such as Kwell, worked — but only for a time. I was at a loss to discover the source of the mites. Finally, I concluded that the pigeons nesting under the eaves of my house could be infected with North American fowl mites that were entering through the bathroom window and nesting in the bath towels. I sprayed the windowsills with an insecticide and kept the window closed. Boy, what a difference! No more itching. I hope that my experience will help some of your readers.

DEAR READER: I'm sure it will. I believe that you should receive a public health award for identifying an unusual source of itch-mite infestation. Keep up the good work.

DEAR DR. GOTT: For years I suffered from warts under my arms and on my lower legs. I went to a dermatologist who instructed me to stop using a standard blade razor. Since I changed to an electric razor, no more warts. I just thought your readers might be interested in my experience.

DEAR READER: While I can't offhand come up with a reason why changing razors would solve your problem, I try never to argue with success. Perhaps your technique might help readers with similar situations. Thanks for writing.

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Group therapy helps breast cancer patients feel better

By The Associated Press

Group therapy can help breast cancer patients feel better, but it won't help them live longer, a study found.

The study was set up to check a surprising mind-over-body finding reported by researchers in 1989: Patients who got support therapy in addition to their medical treatment lived an average of 18 months longer.

This time around, it didn't happen.

The study was led by Dr. Pamela J. Goodwin of the University of Toronto and was reported in today's New England Journal of Medicine.

The 158 women assigned to group therapy did not live any longer than the 77 who got only medical treatment, confirming two other recent studies. However, women in the therapy groups did report less pain and emotional distress — especially if the levels were high to start with.

Dr. David Spiegel of Stanford University, who led the earlier study, said improvements in both treatment and social acceptance of cancer may explain the difference between his research and the later studies.

The breast cancer death rate has been dropping substantially since the late 1990s because of earlier detection and more effective treatments, he wrote in an accompanying editorial. Also, he speculated that cancer carried such a stigma a few decades ago that support groups back then made a bigger difference in helping people cope with the disease.

Spiegel's research found that patients whose breast cancer had spread lived an average of 37 months if they got group therapy, compared with 19 months if they did not.

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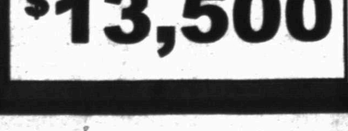
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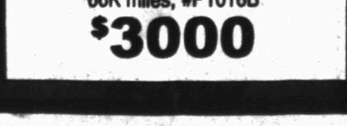
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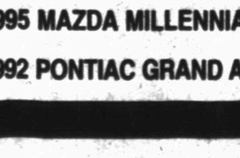
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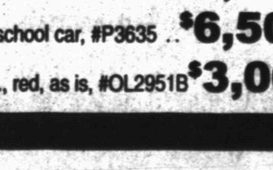
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