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WT-Int. Crude - $27.28
WTIC Posted - $24.50

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY
Jan. 31, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 234
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Jerry Worsham

Until November election...

Rushing appointed to Pct. 1 judge position

By Joyce May
Staff Writer

After meeting in executive session for 15 minutes, Scurry County commissioners appointed a veteran - Wanda Rushing - as interim justice of the peace.

Rushing served as justice of the peace before being defeated by resigning JP Charlie Reynolds in 1994.

She had worked in the office 16 years, the last four as the elected justice of the peace.

The earliest Rushing could be sworn in is 8 a.m. Tuesday, as Reynolds' resignation is effective at midnight. She is expected to serve until the general election in November.

After the votes are canvassed from that election, the winner will be declared and can then take office.



Wanda Rushing

Reynolds resigned his position to enter full-time missionary work in South America.

Seven persons filed for the appointment, including four persons who are candidates for the office on the March 14 Republican primary.

These four are Deborah Boyd, Ben Smith, Dwaine Merritt and Kirby McCravey.

Boyd is currently a clerk in the JP's office, while Smith is the Snyder municipal court judge. Merritt is a former Department of Public Safety trooper and Chevron retiree, and McCravey also retired from the DPS.

The court did not reveal the other two applicants.

In other business, the court appointed Fire Chief Perry Westmoreland and Assistant Fire Chief Tommy "Peewee" Guynes as liaisons between the county and the Texas Forest Service.

Judge Ricky Fritz said the forest service requested that a contact person be appointed due to increased problems with grass fires because of the drought.

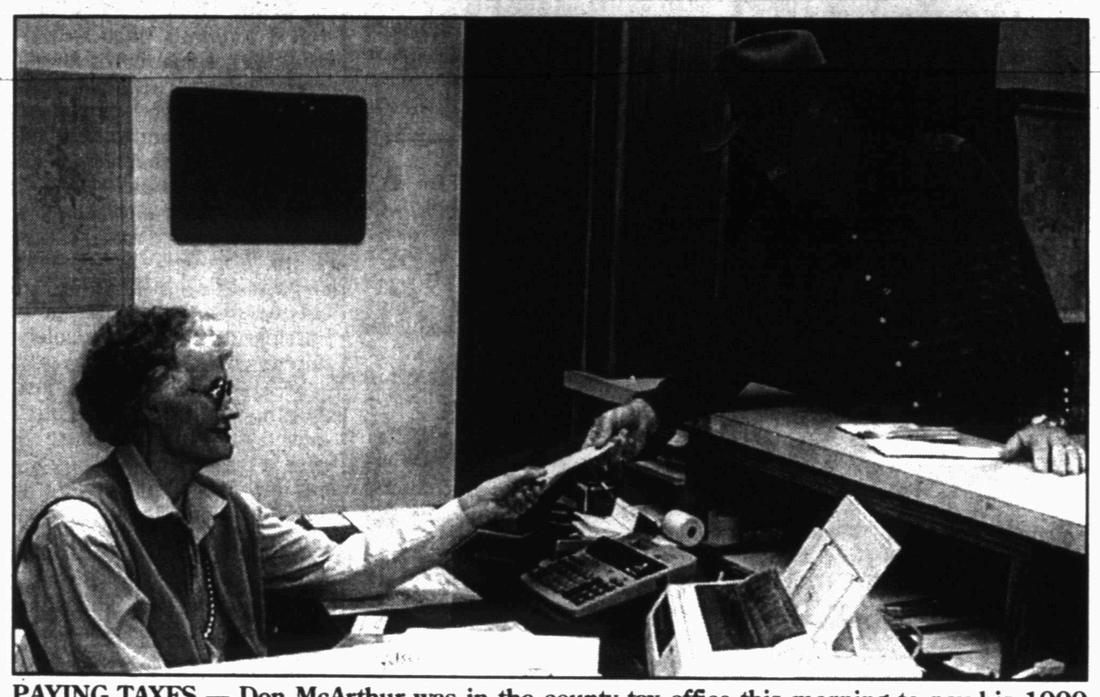
The court also approved one budget amendment in the amount of $15,000 for the parks department. The funding is the county's portion for materials and parts for upgrading the electrical and lighting at Cates Field, the girls' softball park. The city is paying the other $15,000.

Big Country Electric is donating the labor.

Fritz said the electrical problems were found several months ago after a grant was received to replace the lights.

The county's bills were also approved for payment.

Fritz presided and all commissioners were present to include Ralph Trevey, Roy Idom, Howard Limmer and Chloanne Lindsey.



PAYING TAXES — Don McArthur was in the county tax office this morning to pay his 1999 taxes. Property owners have until 5 p.m. today to pay taxes without incurring a penalty. Rona Sikes, tax assessor-collector, takes the payment. (SDN Staff Photo)

Tax paying time is here

Property owners have until 5 p.m. today to either pay their tax bill in person or get it to the post office in time to be postmarked today to avoid a penalty.

Beginning Tuesday, a seven percent penalty will be assessed. That penalty goes up two percent each month until July. This means the penalty will be seven percent in February, nine percent in March, 11 percent in April, 13 percent in May and 15 percent in June.

In July, an 18 percent penalty will be charged plus a 15 percent charge for attorney fees.

The bill is also susceptible to be turned over to delinquent tax attorneys for collection in July.

To avoid the penalty, taxpayers need to make their payments in the tax office by 5 p.m. today. If unable to bring in the payment, it will still be considered on time if postmarked with today's date.

The post office closes at 4:30 p.m. today, but customers can put it in the mail drop inside the post office until 5 p.m. and it will be delivered with a Jan. 31 postmark.

Anyone having questions about their tax bill or anyone who did not receive a property tax notice should call the tax assessor's office.

Air Force again delays training announcement

The announcement from the U.S. Air Force on the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for a proposed low-level flight training plan over Scurry and seven adjoining counties has been delayed once again.

The announcement was expected last Friday, and again today.

The announcement is now set for Wednesday.

Speculation is that the Air Force is favoring this area for the low-level bomber training area that will see B-1 and B-52 bombers conducting training missions over Scurry, Garza, Stonewall, Kent, Dawson, Lynn, Borden and Fisher counties.

A U.S. Senator from New Mexico, Jeff Bingaman, said earlier this month that the Air Force had told him that the "preferred alternative" includes flights over this area.

Air Force officials have said the new training area is needed to streamline the process which currently requires the large bomber pilots to fly from home bases at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene and Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana to areas as far away as Nevada for training.

Members of HEPA (Heritage Environmental Preservation Association) have opposed the Air Force's plans from the early stages.

Rotan-area rancher Buster Welch heads HEPA and has said the main reason his group opposes the low-level training in this area is the impact it would have on cattle operations.

Welch and others have said the flights will be a major disruption to hunting sports, as well.

"This will also affect people in towns as well," Welch has said.

Welch said he felt the New Mexico legislator's information was "99 percent correct."

"We haven't heard anything official from the Air Force," said Welch.

Scurry County airport manager Rodger Sullenger has said the Air Force has visited the local airport and made inquiries about constructing a $1.7 million facility at the site to be used for the proposed project.

Air Force representatives have also visited the chamber of commerce and made inquiries about the local schools and available housing, and picked up information packets to be distributed to 25 families.

Lt. Wes Ticer, of Dyess Air Force Base's public information office, has said the Air Force has obtained similar information from communities in alternative flight plan areas.

"All the information we have disclosed applies to all the possible flight areas," said Ticer.

The final decision on the location of the flight training will be made by the Secretary of the Air Force, and is expected to come within 30 days from the naming of the site.

HEPA members have stated on several occasions if the local site is selected, lawsuits will follow.

SHS decathlon team places fourth in meet

Snyder High School's Academic Decathlon team placed fourth in regional competition in Odessa over the weekend. They also won third place on the Super Quiz competition which was over the topic, *The Sustainable Earth*.

The following individuals won medals.

Justin Guy placed third in language and literature.

Laura Canada received second place in social science.

Kim Moore came in third in language and literature.

Trey Gorman earned several awards including first in math, second in economics, second in music, second in art. Gorman also had the second place overall total points in the Honors division.

Individual gold medals for high point on the SHS team were Josh Gonzales, varsity division; Guy, scholastic division: and Gorman, honors division.

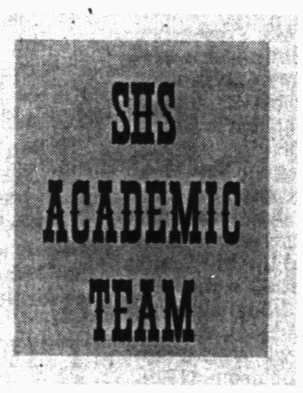
Team members included Gonzales and Carrie Hernandez, varsity division.

Jenny Mayer, Laura Lewis and Guy competed in the scholastic division.

Canada, Moore and Gorman were contestants in the honors division.

Coaches are Beth Bowen and Cindy Herridge.

"Josh and Carrie have only been on the team since the beginning of the semester," Bowen said. "Laura Lewis and Trey have been on the team one week. That is very commendable that these kids stepped in at the last minute and made such an incredible contribution."



The competition included a prepared and impromptu speech, an interview, an essay, and tests in the following areas: math, economics, art (18 pieces); music — jazz (14 songs); social science (infrastructures around the globe); language and literature (novel —*My Antonia*— play— *An enemy of the people*— and five poems) and the super quiz (*Sustainable Earth*).

SHS competed against schools from Lubbock, Amarillo, Abilene, Midland, Odessa, Plainview, Andrews, Hereford and Fort Stockton.

Candlelight vigil will be held Tuesday

A labor union comprised of correctional employees will hold a candlelight vigil at 7 p.m. Tuesday on the grounds of the Scurry County Courthouse.

The vigil will conclude at 8 p.m.

All TDCJ employees are invited to attend, as well as the public.

The vigil is being called to encourage Gov. George W. Bush to call a special session of the Texas Legislature to address staff shortages in the TDCJ, correctional officer pay and safety issues.

A moment of silence will also be observed in honor of TDCJ employee Daniel Nagle who was killed in December while working in the Beeville TDCJ unit.

Tens of thousands of homes without power

From Georgia to New York

BALTIMORE (AP) — Tens of thousands of homes still had no electricity today in the aftermath of a storm that spread a heavy glaze of ice on power lines and tree limbs from Georgia to New York.

The storm, which headed through New England today on its way out of the country, was blamed for at least 16 deaths on its path across the southern Plains and South and up the East Coast.

New York's Kennedy and LaGuardia airports still reported scattered delays today because of ice around the region.

Only 6 inches of snow fell on central Maryland on Sunday, but the ice forced the cancellations of dozens of flights at Baltimore-Washington International Airport. Significant flight delays and cancellations also were reported Sunday at Reagan National Airport and Dulles International Airport in northern Virginia's Washington suburbs.

Pennsylvania's General Assembly called off today's sessions because of slippery roads, and schools were closed or opened late from North Carolina to Maine, including 20 of Maryland's 24 school districts.

The accumulation of ice knocked out power to more than 200,000 utility customers in Virginia, and about 160,000 still had no lights this morning, Virginia Power reported.

In North Carolina, some 30,700 homes and business had no electricity yet this morning, down from more than 85,000 late Sunday.

Although roads were hazardous, North Carolina authorities said there were few accidents and most motorists appeared to stay home Sunday, especially with some stores closed and church services canceled.

"I think people are realizing that they shouldn't be on the roads if they don't know how to drive in it," said Penny Roark, a dispatcher in Watauga County, N.C.

Some schools in North Carolina were closed for a fifth consecutive class day today because of this storm and the aftereffects of the storm last weekend that left more than 20 inches of snow.

South Carolina Gov. Jim Hodges requested $9.2 million in federal disaster aid to help his state dig out. Power was knocked out to about 20,000 customers.

"Snow and ice have pelted South Carolina for a week now," Hodges said in his request to President Clinton. "It's clear this unusual run of winter storms is causing unexpected problems."

In the suburbs of Washington, D.C., authorities said freezing temperatures ruptured a 30-inch water line, sending a torrent of icy water roaring through a College Park, Md., neighborhood and knocking a house off its foundation.

ASK US

Q—Is it illegal to buy a handgun from an individual?
A—No.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Saturday, 45 degrees; low, 14; high Sunday, 52; low, 20; 7 a.m. Monday, 27; no precipitation; total for 2000, .73 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, cloudy, 20% rain chance, low, mid 30s; Tuesday, cloudy, highs lower 40s, 50% precipitation chance; NE wind 10-20 mph.



Roxann Renteria
Rain Chance

Sunset:
6:18 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:37 a.m.
Of 30 days in 2000, the sun has shone 29 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Trifles make perfection, but perfection is not trifle.
—Michelangelo

JAN 31 2000

City could require emission testing for all new cars

HOUSTON (AP) — A deadline put forth by the Environmental Protection Agency has state officials considering bringing back a tailpipe monitoring plan in South Texas that was junked by lawmakers.

A little more than five years ago, Houston-area motorists faced a requirement for strict new tailpipe tests to help comply with the 1990 Clean Air Act's smog-cutting mandates for the area.

But just as the inspections were about to begin, the program was abruptly stopped by the Legislature in 1995 following protests by some residents, elected officials and affected businesses.

Now, with the EPA having set 2007 as the date for smog compliance across Houston, regulators are looking at many measures — including a new tailpipe program looks a lot like the one that was abandoned.

The public is scheduled to comment on the new plan at a hearing tonight in Houston.

"Regardless of the plan they propose, it has to be one that people can understand and, probably more importantly, respect," Whitmire told the Houston Chronicle

Officers on trial in killing of Diallo

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — The bullets tore into Amadou Diallo's heart, spinal cord, lungs, liver, spleen, kidneys and intestines. The unarmed African immigrant was killed instantly in the barrage from four white city cops.

Nearly a year after Diallo's death in New York City's Bronx borough, an upstate jury must decide whether the shooting was a murder or a horrible mistake. Jury selection was to begin today.

In a surprise decision last month, an appeals court moved the racially charged case to the state capital, agreeing with the defense that a wave of pretrial publicity and protests had made it impossible for the officers to get a fair trial in New York City. Last week, the judge ruled the trial could be televised.

Since the change-of-venue ruling, Diallo's family, the Rev. Al Sharpton and other activists have vowed to keep vigil at the courthouse. On Sunday, Sharpton urged members of Albany's Mount Calvary Baptist Church to join him in demanding justice.

"This has nothing to do with police," Sharpton said from the pulpit. "We're fighting against evil and wickedness in high places. To shoot an unarmed man is a wicked thing."

Plainclothes officers Sean Carroll, 36; Edward McMellon, 27; Kenneth Boss, 28; and Richard Murphy, 27, were indicted on second-degree murder charges in March after firing on Diallo, a street vendor.

The officers were searching Diallo's neighborhood for a rape suspect. He was hit by 19 of 41 bullets in the vestibule of his apartment building.

Prosecutors allege the officers showed a "depraved indifference to human life." And civil rights activists consider the shooting symbolic of widespread police abuse toward minorities.

But the officers have claimed they used deadly force only after Diallo refused to halt and appeared to be reaching for a gun.

New Microsoft allies: Former White House lawyers and AG

WASHINGTON (AP) — Microsoft Corp. is adding to its roster of powerful allies in its antitrust trial, with former White House counsels and two former U.S. attorneys general set to argue that the software giant didn't violate any federal laws.

These lawyers aligning themselves with Microsoft in a legal filing this week also include the general counsel for AT&T Corp. when it agreed in the 1980s to a breakup as part of another Justice Department lawsuit.

An industry trade group, the Washington-based Association for Competitive Technology, confirmed it has been invited to file a "friend of the court" brief on behalf of Microsoft.

The association will argue that federal antitrust laws should protect consumers — not Microsoft's rivals — and that the company's aggressive behavior, "far from being illegal is essential to the continued health and growth" of the industry, said Jonathan Zuck, the group's president.

"There is really no bright line between tough and vigorous and fair competition in the interest of consumers and tough but unfair competition," Lloyd Cutler, a former counsel to Presidents Clinton and Carter who was hired by the industry group, told The Associated Press. "Microsoft's actions fell on the lawful rather than the unlawful side of the line."

A Justice Department official declined to comment on the trade association's arguments.

The government did not identify whom it invited to write its brief. Experts have speculated on former federal judge Robert Bork, University of Iowa professor Herbert Hovenkamp or Washington antitrust lawyer Richard G. Taranto.

Along with Cutler, others supporting Microsoft now include Boyden Gray, counsel to President Bush until 1993; Griffin Bell, attorney general under Carter and a former federal appeals court judge; Howard Trienens, the former AT&T lawyer; and Nicholas Katzenbach, attorney general under President Johnson.

In an unusual twist, Katzenbach had worked side-by-side with lawyer David Boies for IBM on a similar antitrust lawsuit by the government during the 1970s. Boies now is the lead trial attorney for Justice against Microsoft.

"It's a mix of Democrats and Republicans, a politically diverse group," said William Kovacic, an antitrust expert at George Washington University. "Part of the message it sends is, even Democrats don't have to like this case, that there are lots of thoughtful people who don't find this case attractive."

The latest round of legal filings, expected Tuesday, will argue about which antitrust laws Microsoft violated, if any, during the Internet software "browser wars" of the last decade.

The trial judge has already found that Microsoft, whose Windows software runs most of the world's personal computers, abused its monopoly power during its battle with the former Netscape Communications Corp.

"It's going to be very difficult to convince this judge, based on what he's already said, that Microsoft didn't violate the law," said Marc Schildkraut, who investigated the company in the 1990s while at the Federal Trade Commission.

Courtroom arguments are set for Feb. 22, though secret settlement talks continue in Chicago. At a high-tech conference in Europe, Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates declined to comment on the antitrust case but said, "There's a good mediation process going on."

Lecture notes posted online

HOUSTON (AP) — Debra Wright either is an example of free enterprise blending with academia or a threat to the fabric of higher education. It depends upon whom you ask.

Ms. Wright, a sophomore communications major at the University of Houston, is paid to post lecture notes from three of her courses to StudentU.com, which offers class notes from universities across the country on its Web site.

"I think my notes are good. I make good grades in all my classes," Ms. Wright said. "For other people to trust them, that's their responsibility."

Houston-based StudentU.com, along with rivals Versity.com, based in Palo Alto, Calif., and Miami-based Study24-7.com, have gone nationwide with their lecture notes. They're free for anyone who surfs their sites, which generate revenue by selling advertising.

Oran Wolf, who began a campus note-taking business at the University of Houston, said the notes on StudentU.com are designed to augment — not replace — students' own work.

"I'm hoping it opens up an avenue for students to go and participate in lectures," said Wolf, 28.

Net Strategy Corp., an Internet venture capital firm based in Houston, took Wolf and his concept to the Internet this fall. Students at dozens of schools across the country are paid about $300 to audit their classes for the service.

The online notes concept has stirred ethics debates at campuses nationwide and professors' reactions have been mixed.

Peter Wood, associate provost at Boston University, calls note-takers "a problem nibbling at the edge of higher education for a long time." He said he's concerned that attendance will drop in classrooms monitored by online note-takers because students will feel less pressure to show up.

"No matter how much Mr. Wolf and other entrepreneurs say it's beneficial and harmless, the fact remains that it puts the temptation in the way of students who are less motivated and already, perhaps, in peril," Wood said.

But Robert Berry, an assistant professor of finance at the University of Houston, vouches for Wolf, saying he's had the best interests of both students and educators in mind since he opened his business.

"Students always have borrowed notes from friends and classmates," Berry said. "This is a little more formal than the informal network."

Wolf said the students who use the notes establish their quality by rating the monitors' work. He acknowledges that his note-takers may work without a professor's permission, but he's willing to back off if a professor demands that the note-taking cease.

"We don't want to step on any toes," Wolf said. "I love talking to professors and love meeting with them. One of the things we're building is a network of professors so they have a place to put their own notes online."

In the opinion of Texas A&M geography professor Doug Claycomb, classes have grown so large that students feel disconnected from the professors, making disembodied lecture notes a viable substitute to attendance.

"As long as class sizes stay this large, where professors aren't able to have really good interaction with the students ... this is going to continue," Claycomb said. "You can't blame these Web sites for that."

Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Sharp Image Energy Inc. will drill the No. 1 Fluvanna, an 8,500-foot wildcat located one mile southeast of Fluvanna. Location is in Section 485, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Anadarko Petroleum will drill the No. 17 Boyd in the Revilo field, 10 miles west of Snyder. Planned for a depth of 4,000 feet, location is in Section 214, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Anadarko Petroleum will drill the No. 14 Boyd in the Revilo field, 10 miles west of Snyder. The project will be drilled to a depth of 4,000 feet, and location is in Section 214, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Anadarko Petroleum will drill the No. 15 Boyd in the Revilo field, 10 miles west of Snyder. Contracted for a depth of 4,000 feet, drill site is in Section 214, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Anadarko Petroleum will drill the No. 16 Boyd in the Revilo field, 10 miles west of Snyder. The well is planned for a depth of 4,000 feet, and location is in Section 214, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Garza County

Patterson Petroleum will drill the No. 25 John unit in the Happy field, 13 miles south of Post. Planned for a depth of 5,300 feet, location is in Section 19, Block 2, T&NO survey.

Howard County

Saga Petroleum will drill the No. 14 O'Daniel in the Snyder field, five miles southeast of Coahoma. Planned for a depth of 3,200 feet, drill site is in Section 20, Block 30, T1S, T&P survey.

Saga Petroleum will drill the No. 6-R O'Daniel in the Snyder field, five miles southeast of Coahoma. Planned depth is 3,200 feet, and location is in Section 20, Block 30, T1S, T&P survey.

Saga Petroleum will drill the No. 7-R O'Daniel in the Snyder field, five miles southeast of Coahoma. Planned for a depth of 3,200 feet, location is in Section 20, Block 30, T1S, T&P survey.

Date Book

Monday, Jan. 31, 2000

Today is the 31st day of 2000 and the 41st day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1851, inventor Gail Borden of Brooklyn, N.Y., announced that he had invented a form of evaporated milk.

On this day in 1949, "These Are My Children," the first daytime television soap opera, was broadcast for the first time. The show was initially carried by an NBC station in Chicago.

On this day in 1973, the New York City police department reported the theft of one-fifth of all the narcotics it had seized since the year 1961.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Franz Schubert (1797-1828), composer; Anna Pavlova (1882-1931), ballerina; Eddie Cantor (1892-1964), comedian; Tallulah Bankhead (1903-1968), actress; Jackie Robinson (1919-1972), baseball great; Carol Channing (1923-), actress, is 77; Ernie Banks (1931-), baseball great, is 69; Philip Glass (1937-), composer, is 63; Nolan Ryan (1947-), baseball great, is 53.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1988, in Super Bowl XXII, the Washington Redskins defeated the Denver Broncos 42-10.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "There is less in this than meets the eye." — Tallulah Bankhead, on Maurice Maeterlinck's "Aglavaine and Selysette."

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Jan. 28) and new moon (Feb. 5).

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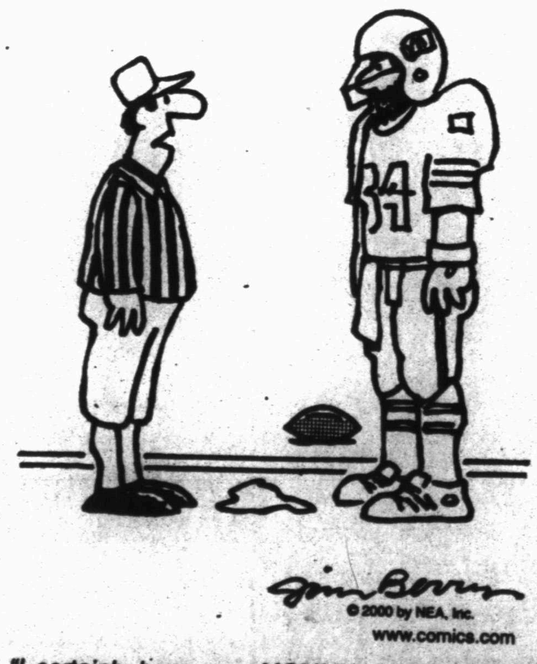
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Berry's World



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"I certainly hope your MOMMY wasn't watching when you were doing that raunchy celebratory dance."

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36 x 40 x 10 - $5,599
36 x 50 x 12 - $7,107
36 x 60 x 12 - $7,791
40 x 40 x 10 - $5,919
40 x 50 x 10 - $7,141
40 x 60 x 12 - $8,246
40 x 100 x 12 - $12,345
40 x 100 x 14 - $13,308
40 x 100 x 16 - $14,078

Jury selection slated in trial of girl's date rape drug death

DETROIT (AP) — There seems no question as to what killed 15-year-old Samantha Reid: a lethal dose of a so-called "date-rape drug" at a party in Grosse Ile, an affluent Detroit River community.

What is disputed is who supplied the drug called GHB — and who knew it was secretly placed. Those questions promise to be at the heart of one of the nation's first trials in a death related to gamma-hydroxybutyrate.

Jury selection was set to begin today in the trial of the four men accused in the fatal GHB sickening of Samantha on Jan. 16, 1999.

The four defendants, all of suburban Detroit, are Erick Limmer, 26, Joshua Cole, 19, Daniel Brayman, 18, and Nicholas Holtschlag, 18. They are charged with manslaughter.

Cole, who will have his own jury as the only defendant alleged to have confessed, also faces three counts of felony poisoning, each carrying a possible life sentence.

The other suspects are charged with two poisoning counts apiece for GHB-tainted drinks allegedly given to Samantha and her friend, who was put in a coma temporarily.

A third girl alleged to have unknowingly ingested the powerful central nervous system depressant was not sickened.

GHB is odorless and nearly tasteless. A person who drinks a soda laced with a few drops of it can lose consciousness within 20 minutes. Victims frequently have no memory of what happened, and the drug is difficult to trace, often leaving the body within 24 hours.

The drug is legal in 30 states and is used by body builders as a steroid. Others take it as an aphrodisiac or, for weight loss, and police say it has been used in a number of sexual assaults.

A medical examiner has testified GHB levels in the girls were more than twice the level found in other fatal cases. Samantha, who fell unconscious and vomited shortly after drinking a GHB-spiked Mountain Dew she first termed "gross," died the next day.

"I don't have any doubt this girl was given GHB, and I don't have any doubt it killed her," said John Gates Jr., Brayman's attorney. "But the real key in this will be the witnesses that were present."

Gates and Brian Dailey — Holtschlag's attorney — said last week they plan to argue their clients were unaware GHB was even around the night in question.

They plan to lay the blame with Cole, whose attorney, John Courtright, said his client spiked the drinks with what he believed was only a harmless intoxicant supplied by Limmer.

"There was no intent to poison or harm these girls," Courtright said. "It disturbs me they're being charged with this poisoning."

Courtright said Cole "had no ideas of the dangers" of the substance and "played with fire" by adding it to the drinks, resulting in "a very tragic case."

Limmer's attorney, Cecil St. Pierre, last week did not return several messages seeking comment. Limmer, who also is charged with possession of GHB and delivery of marijuana, has said he was gone or in his bedroom most of the night the girls were drugged.

Since 1990, GHB has been linked to at least 58 deaths and more than 5,700 recorded overdoses, the Drug Enforcement Administration has said.

In 1990, the FDA banned GHB for public sale amid concerns about its use as a dietary supplement, and a 1998 Michigan law made possessing the drug a felony. Michigan and about 20 other states have classified GHB a controlled substance.

The trial is "extremely important as a message to the community — especially the community of young people — that this is a very dangerous drug that can lead to horribly tragic consequences," said Doug Baker, a prosecutor who will try the case,

Authorities say young people often believe that GHB and other "club drugs" aren't "real drugs" like cocaine, or they take them unknowingly as Samantha did. Recipes and ingredients — some of them common household products — are easily available from the Internet and other sources.

3 repo workers jailed after van with 2 kids inside taken

HALTOM CITY (AP) — Three workers for a repossession company were jailed after police said they towed a minivan several blocks with two small children still buckled up inside the vehicle.

When the childrens' father realized what was going on, he jumped onto the side of the moving tow truck, and, later, flagged down a police officer.

The father, a Fort Worthman, and his two-year-old boy and five-year-old sister, were unharmed, said Haltom City police Detective Dennis Ochs.

Haltom City is a northeast suburban of Fort Worth.

"They were extremely traumatized by the ordeal," Ochs said, referring to the family, whose names were withheld.

Ricky Carl Stephens, 32, owner of Roadrunner Auto Recovery in Haltom City, was arrested on three counts of aggravated kidnapping and one count of aggravated assault, police said.

Employee Ryan Wade Beene, 22, of North Richland Hills was arrested on three counts of aggravated kidnapping.

Jonathan Russell Williams, 20, who was helping out with the repossession job, also was arrested on three counts of aggravated kidnapping, police said.

Stephens and Beene were in Haltom City Jail last night with bail set at $100,000 and $75,000, respectively. Williams was released after posting $15,000 bail.

Roadrunner had been hired to repossess the minivan for failure to make payments, Ochs said. On Friday morning, the children's father had dropped by his place of employment to pick up his paycheck when the abduction happened.

The Fort Worth man left his two children in his 1991 Oldsmobile minivan with a 31-year-old family friend, police said. The 2-year-old was strapped in a car seat and his sister was wearing a seat belt.

Internet ads, commercials target women in bowl ads

NEW YORK (AP) — TV's priciest commercials had Internet companies digging deep in their wallets and a few messages to an audience that Super Bowl advertisers have seldom addressed — women.

Seventeen dot-coms, ranging from three online job sites to a pet supply retailer, a used car site and a company that makes an Internet appliance, were among about three dozen advertisers who paid a record average of $2.2 million for a 30-second commercial on the telecast on ABC.

Only three dot-com advertisers were involved in last year's Super Bowl telecast, and this year's large participation helped pushed the ad price up nearly 38 percent from last year's $1.6 million average.

This year's football teams did their best to keep the audience watching throughout the nearly 31/2-hour contest by leaving the outcome in doubt until the last play as the St. Louis Rams beat the Tennessee Titans, 23-16.

Even though they spent big bucks, two Internet companies even poked fun at themselves in their ads.

The online broker E-Trade in one of its three ads showed two men and a monkey in a garage, clapping in time to cha-cha music. "Well, we've just wasted $2 million. What are you doing with your money," it said.

Lifeminders.com, a Web site that delivers personalized e-mail to its members, ran an ad that consisted of a typewritten message that started by saying "This is the worst commercial on the Super Bowl." But the ad explained that while the company wasn't good at advertising, it was good at alerting its subscribers to items they may be interested in seeing and avoiding junk mail.

Three online job sites tangled in the telecast — Monster.com, Hotjobs.com and Kforce.com. Among the other dot-coms, the pet supplier Pets.com featured its sock puppet singing Chicago's "Don't Go" in a plea for pet owners to stay home with their pets and log on.

Healtheon/WebMD, which runs an internet health care site, showed film taken earlier this year of revered former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali shadow boxing with text indicating he hopes the Internet can help make medical advances.

Autotrader.com ran an ad that showed how it helped a man find a red convertible and financing for it. Netpliance, which makes a device that allows people to connect to the Internet without a computer, featured the Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders and other "Web heads" in black-rimmed glasses.

Internet companies didn't provide the only new ripple in this Super Bowl telecast. Some companies appeared to recognize that women watch the game too.

Chicago man charged in serial killings

CHICAGO (AP) — A 37-year-old man was charged Sunday in the slayings of 10 women on the city's South Side, police officials said.

Andre Crawford was arrested Friday after police received a tip about him, Chicago police Cmdr. Frank Trigg said.

Crawford was charged with 10 counts of first-degree murder, 11 counts of aggravated criminal sexual assault and one count of attempted murder.

Trigg said Crawford confessed to the murders of seven women that were part of a string of murders that stretched back six years on Chicago's South Side. He also admitted to three other murders that police hadn't linked to the case, Trigg said.

Investigators have connected him to the murders through DNA testing, Trigg said.

Crawford also was identified in a lineup.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Woman's spiked bar drink could have been last call

DEAR ABBY: The letter about club drugs really hit home. I would like to warn all young women about the potential for their drinks to be "dosed" with these drugs without their knowledge.

I went to a neighborhood bar over Thanksgiving weekend, and found myself feeling very woozy and over intoxicated for the amount I had to drink. I had left my drink on the bar while I went to use the ladies room, and when I came back, it tasted strange. Since it was a new drink, I assumed the bartender had mixed it differently.

Shortly after consuming this drink, I became sick to my stomach and lightheaded. A fellow I had chatted with — and who coincidentally had offered to watch my drink — started asking me questions about how I felt and if I wanted a place to crash. I have no doubt he had less than innocent intentions.

Fortunately, two gentlemen by the names of Andrew and Chris came to my aid. They stayed by my side, talking to me, keeping me alert, calling a car service for me and making sure the other guy didn't bother me.

I left the bar before thanking them; so, Abby, please let me thank them now.

Ladies: Do not leave your drink unattended, no matter what! And if the drink tastes "funny," don't drink it! While most of these drugs are tasteless and odorless, others have a salty taste. Just be careful! And to all the Andrews and Chrises out there — thank you. — CHRISTINE IN MIDLOTHIAN, VA.

DEAR CHRISTINE: You are a lucky young woman. You had a very close call. The young man who doctored your drink is a predator.

Your comments about never leaving a drink unattended are important. I hope young people will pay attention. It may seem like a cold reality, but it's part of being streetwise and self-protective.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a volunteer at a local animal shelter, and I'm deeply concerned about pet owners who do not take full responsibility for the safety of their pets. Every day dogs and cats are brought in off the streets without tags or identification. Many of them are wonderful, loving pets who belong to someone who didn't bother to put identification on them for one reason or another. As a result, thousands of these wonderful animals are put to death every year because their owners can't be located.

Abby, it is heartbreaking to have to euthanize healthy animals due to lack of shelter space and available homes. Please inform your readers of the importance of putting ID tags on their pets. It could save a lot of heartache. — ANIMAL LOVER IN BEND, ORE.

DEAR ANIMAL LOVER: I'm pleased to publicize this important reminder to pet owners. Dogs and cats are curious creatures who often like to wander. If the animal is picked up, proper identification can literally mean the difference between life and death, so please don't procrastinate.

**

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 01-31-00
♠ 7 3
♥ A 9 8 5
♦ A 10 3
♣ 7 6 4 3

West
♠ Q J 9 2
♥ J 7 6 2
♦ 7 4
♣ K Q 2

East
♠ K 10 8 6 5
♥ K Q 10 4
♦ 5
♣ 9 8 5

South
♠ A 4
♥ 3
♦ K Q J 9 8 6 2
♣ A J 10

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	5 ♦	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ Q

Wrong contract, right play

There will be days when partner puts you into the wrong contract. But rather than grumble to yourself, concentrate on the matter at hand. You can always discuss his bidding after the session is over, at the bar, or in the car on the way home.

How would you try to make five diamonds? West leads the spade queen.

Immediately, you see that three no-trump has 10 top tricks. And five diamonds has only those same 10 sure winners. Yet to be fair to partner, he had a tough bid over three diamonds. Shooting out three no-trump with two low spades would have been a gamble. His jump to five diamonds cannot be called "wrong."

Did you decide to take two club finesses? True, one will work some three-quarters of the time. However, it is better to guarantee the contract than to run the risk of failing.

If you watched an expert play this contract, he would probably preserve the diamond two. He would win with the spade ace, play a heart to dummy's ace, ruff a heart with the diamond eight, play the diamond six to dummy's 10, ruff another heart high, lead a high diamond to dummy's ace, and ruff the last heart with a high trump. Not that it matters in this deal, but he has retained flexibility, keeping something like the king-two of diamonds opposite dummy's three.

Now South would exit with his remaining spade. Suppose East wins the trick and switches to a club. South finesses the 10 or jack, endplaying West. He must either lead back into South's club tenace or concede a ruff-and-discard.

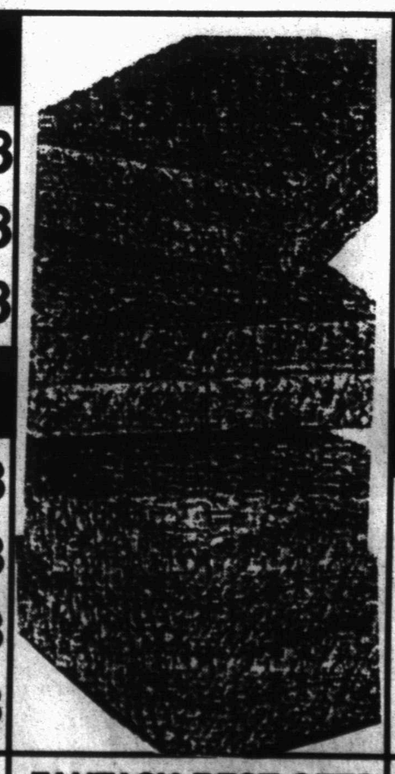
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Queen Size Set .... Sale $298
King Size Set ..... Sale $398

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SALE $99

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Twin Size Set ..... Sale $98
Full Size Set ..... Sale $128

Twin Full Iron Bunkbed
Very Sturdy Built, Choice of Black, White, Red or Blue.
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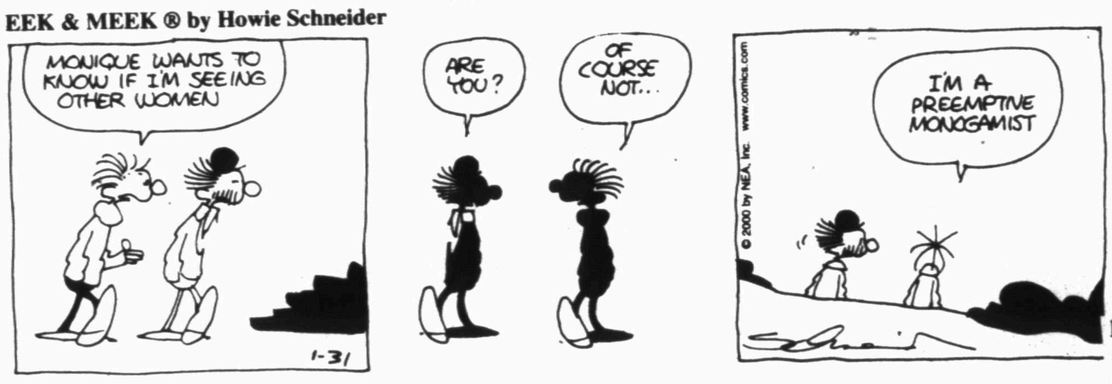
Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © By Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © By Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



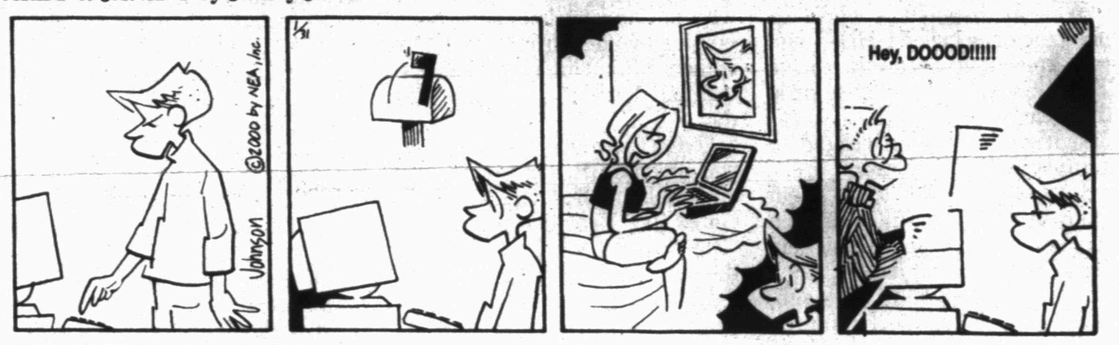
THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



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BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail:JimMeddick@aol.com



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen



KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Actor Marlon
7 Like some horns
13 French tower
14 One devoted to religious work
15 Got ready to be shot
16 Names
17 Uncle
18 Med. specialty
20 Imitate
21 Recount
23 Zero
24 Toothpaste tops
25 1944 invasion date
27 Galley with two banks of oars
29 Convent lady
31 Opposite of "oui"
32 Exist
33 Obtained
34 Hit a baseball
37 Athletic contest
40 Exhort
41 Condensation
43 Regrets
45 Pod item
46 Prevaricate
47 "Gosh!"
48 Colonize
51 Lacking vigor
54 Reverberations
55 Type of piano
56 London's river
57 Bullfighter

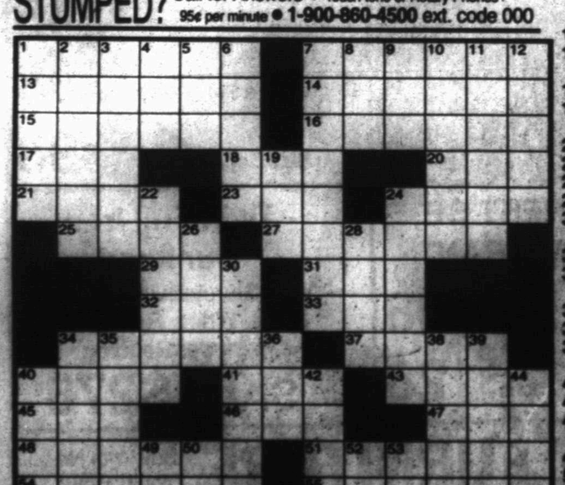
DOWN

1 Assail
2 Encircled
3 Astray
4 Jets' org.
5 Poor mark
6 Ancient
7 Activity at a soft-drink plant
8 Baseball stat
9 Model Carol
10 Deep bow
11 Siberian treeless tract
12 Affirmations
19 Calligrapher's item
22 Woolly
24 Middle
26 Circular tent
28 Hyatt unit
30 Without reason
34 Type of birth
35 Writer Christie
36 "Agnus —"
38 Oregon city
39 Balance unsteadily
40 Distress
42 Littlest
44 Take care of (2 wds.)
49 Male turkey
50 Civil War general
52 Naval addr.
53 Type of pine

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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"SH-H-H. DAD AN' RUFF ARE HAVING A SNORIN' CONTEST."

SPORTS

In Super Bowl thriller...

Rams tackle Titans, 23-16

ATLANTA (AP) — This was why they invented the Super Bowl.

This one had long touchdowns, record-setting performances, courageous comebacks and a thrilling finish. Nobody could have asked for more than the St. Louis Rams and Tennessee Titans supplied Sunday.

That the Rams held on — by inches — for a 23-16 victory didn't necessarily make the Titans losers. Each team could leave the Georgia Dome with pride.

"It was a fight to the finish," said Rams receiver Isaac Bruce, who caught the 73-yard game-winning pass from Kurt Warner just 18 seconds after the Titans overcame a 16-0 deficit to tie it. "It was one of the best games I've ever played in. I am just proud to be part of this."

As were the Titans, who fell just short when Kevin Dyson was tackled by linebacker Mike Jones at the 1 as time ran out.

"To come this far and be a half-yard short is just a sick feeling," Dyson said. "But this team leaves here winners inside."

They weren't winners on the scoreboard because Jones made a classic tackle on the final play. It was the last of a Super series of second-half plays providing a scintillating finish.

"I said, 'This time, no matter who it is, I can't let him in the end zone,'" Jones said. "'We got a chance to win this game. Get him on the ground.'

"They've got the hearts of warriors. They were down 16-0, and a lot of teams would have tucked tail."

At the end, all of these warriors were worn out. The Rams' defenders barely could stand, and the Titans' attackers were just as wobbly.

"Football is the most emotional roller coaster you can be on," Dyson said. "It leaves you with nothing left emotionally."

Tennessee could do nothing in the first half, which the Rams dominated. St. Louis gained 294 yards to 89 for the Titans. The Rams ran 44 plays to 24 for Tennessee. League MVP Kurt Warner, who also won the game's most valuable player award, already had 19 completions and 270 yards.

But it was just 9-0 on Jeff Wilkins' field goals of 27, 29 and 28 yards. Every time the Rams, whose 526 points were the third-highest in league history, got near the end zone, they couldn't get it in.

"We were getting points, but we knew we had to get the ball in the end zone," said Bruce, who would make six catches for 162 yards. "We couldn't win with just field goals."

They stopped kicking for points on their first drive of the second half, when Warner found rookie Torry Holt for a 9-yard score. The touchdown came three plays after safety Blaine Bishop was carted off the field with a neck injury. He later returned to the Dome after going to the hospital for X-rays, which were negative.

St. Louis (16-3), a city that never had a pro football champion, was up 16-0 and looking at a potential rout.

Finally, Steve McNair and Eddie George got on track for the Titans (16-4), who took the difficult wild-card route to their first Super Bowl. McNair engineered a 12-play, 66-yard drive that included 23-yard run to the St. Louis 2. George scored from the 1, but a 2-point pass went behind Frank Wycheck.

Emboldened, the Titans forced a Rams punt for the first time, and George scored on a magnificent 2-yard run on which he broke three tackles. Suddenly, it was 16-13, and when the Rams once more went 3-and-out, Tennessee was in charge.

"In the second half, the guys buckled down and made things happen," said McNair, who showed no signs of a painful toe injury that has plagued him for the last month.

They had to make things happen one more time to even things, and thanks to Mike Horan's 30-yard punt, they did. Al Del Greco made a 43-yard field goal with 2:12 to go, and the first overtime in Super Bowl history seemed likely.

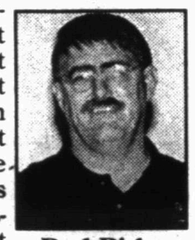
"Isaac is our go-to guy," said Warner, who set a Super Bowl record with 414 yards passing. "He's made big plays for us all year."

Warner came back for a deep pass that was a bit short. Cornerback Denard Walker fell as he tried to go for Bruce, leaving an alley that Bruce sped down for the winning touchdown.

Despite Fort Stockton loss...

Tigers, Panthers tilt still key to 5-4A title

Thanks to Friday's outcomes, Tuesday's anticipated showdown between the Snyder Tigers and Fort Stockton Panthers has lost some of its luster, but not its importance.



Bud Birks

After Snyder pulled out a one-point over Fort Stockton in the district opener, the two teams seemed destined to meet again with the 5-4A title on the line. But the Panthers' 10-point loss to Sweetwater on Friday threw a kink in the scenario.

Now a victory on the road Tuesday will not only keep Snyder atop the standings, it will tighten the Tigers' grip on the district crown.

"Fort Stockton is always tough, especially at their place, so it's still going to be a battle," said Snyder coach Bud Birks. "Just because Sweetwater beat them on Friday it doesn't change anything. They're still the same team we beat by one point at home, and we're going to approach them the same way."

In the first meeting, the Tigers ran out to a six-point lead in the opening quarter, and held a 13-point advantage at the end of the third period.

But a furious fourth-quarter rally gave the Panthers a chance to win in the final seconds, before a shot at the buzzer rolled off the rim.

Snyder's main focus Tuesday will once again be on 6-6 post Luke Groth. The Fort Stockton senior is averaging 20 points per game in district action, and poured in a game-high 19 points in the last meeting.

"Groth is an outstanding player," said Birks. "He can score on the inside, and shoot the short to medium-range jump shot, as well. Last game, we helped out our post defender by bringing down a guard to help defend him."

While the Tigers hold down the top spot in the standings at 5-0, the Panthers sit one game back in a second-place tie with Andrews at 3-2.

Tip-off for Tuesday's match-up is scheduled for 7:30, following the varsity girls' game at 6 o'clock.

Snyder goes back on the road Friday when it visits Sweetwater, before returning home to host Lake View and Andrews. The Tigers close out the district schedule with a visit to Big Spring.

District 5-4A Standings

BOYS	District		Season		GIRLS	District		Season	
Team	W	L	W	L	Team	W	L	W	L
Snyder	5	0	18	9	Sweetwater	7	0	25	2
Fort Stockton	3	2	13	13	Lake View	5	2	12	14
Andrews	3	2	11	15	Snyder	4	3	9	15
Sweetwater	2	3	8	16	Big Spring	4	3	14	11
Big Spring	1	4	14	14	Andrews	1	6	7	16
Lake View	1	4	9	15	Fort Stockton	0	7	6	25

Tuesday's games: Snyder at Fort Stockton; Big Spring at Andrews; Lake View at Sweetwater.

Tuesday's games: Snyder at Fort Stockton; Big Spring at Andrews; Lake View at Sweetwater.

Lady Dusters look to end slump tonight

With the 6-16 Frank Phillips Lady Plainsmen in town, tonight's the night the Western Texas Lady Dusters are hoping to break out of their slump.



Valery Jackson

Coming off a pair of strong performances Western Texas (2-20, 0-2) will be looking for its first conference win when it hosts Frank Phillips (6-16, 2-4) tonight at 7:30 at the WTC gym.

The Lady Dusters turned in their best efforts of the conference season in their last two outings, only to fall to New Mexico and Midland. But WTC coach Valery Jackson believes that could change tonight.

"If we play even half as well tonight as we did in our last two games, we should win," said Jackson. "But I'm trying not to force the issue with the girls. We want to play relaxed. The last time we thought we should win for sure, we played poorly in a loss to South Plains."

The Lady Dusters' game plan tonight will feature full-court pressure on the Lady Plainsmen's young guards. WTC's quick back court will look to force turnovers that equal easy buckets.

"We've struggled shooting the ball all year," Jackson said. "One way to remedy that is to shoot layups instead of jump shots. So we want to try to force some turnovers and get some easy baskets off of them."

Staring at the guard spots of the Lady Dusters will be sophomores Carrie Fincher and Crystal Williams. They'll be joined by Mary Cavazos on the wing, and freshmen LaKeisha Ross and Cassie Wilson in the paint.

Western Texas will be on its home floor again Thursday when it hosts Howard at 7:30.

Sports Briefs

Bass club to meet

Snyder Bass Club will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Texas Savings Bank basement. The meeting is open to the public, and anyone interested in getting more information about the club is invited to attend.

Election of directors and officers, and this year's tournament schedule will be discussed.

Pitching clinics scheduled

Fastpitch softball pitching clinics will be held every Wednesday. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

3-on-3 tourney scheduled

A girls' 3-on-3 basketball tournament for fourth, fifth and sixth graders will be held Saturday. Deadline to enter is Thursday and entry fee is $30. For more information, call the Boys' and Girls' Club at 573-3344.

Sign-ups approaching for Little Dribblers

Girls' Little Dribblers sign-ups will be held Friday and Saturday at the First Baptist Family Life Center. Players must bring a parent or guardian, birth certificate, and a registration fee of $25. For more information, call 573-5356.

Softball tryouts scheduled

Tryouts for Stars of Texas 18-under traveling softball team will be held Sunday in Abilene. The squad will be coached Perry Young of Brownwood. For more information, contact Young at (915) 784-9609.

Sheriff wants Thomas charged

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — A sheriff has urged a prosecutor to consider charging Derrick Thomas in a highway wreck that killed a passenger and left the Kansas City Chiefs linebacker paralyzed from the chest down.

However, Clay County Prosecutor Don Norris said he did not plan an investigation of the Jan. 23 crash on Interstate 435. An icy snow was falling at the time, and Norris said he viewed the accident as weather-related.

Jordan fires Wizards' coach

WASHINGTON (AP) — From the day Michael Jordan pledged to put his "imprints and footprints all over" the Washington Wizards, he gave coach Gar Heard the cold shoulder. Jordan spent virtually no one-on-one time with the coach while negotiating in secret to replace him.

Jordan was not around when he fired Heard on Saturday night. He was in Atlanta for the Super Bowl, while Heard and his players were feeling good about a gritty victory over the Cavaliers. General manager Wes Unseld was left to deliver the news.

Slap shot fractures McCleary's larynx

MONTREAL (AP) — Trent McCleary, who came within minutes of dying after being hit in the throat by a slap shot Saturday night, felt well enough to write a note to his Montreal Canadiens teammates.

"Doing great, everybody," he said in the handwritten message delivered by team doctor David Mulder.

McCleary, unable to speak, is no longer in danger of dying, Mulder said. He is recovering from a fractured larynx and collapsed lung. Doctors expect him to spend at least a week in hospital, but it is not clear if he will be able to play again.

Ninth grade boys whip Ponies

Snyder's freshman boys never slowed down on the offensive end, while keeping the clamps on Sweetwater defensively to post a 66-40 victory Friday night.

The Tigers registered 23 points in the first quarter and 26 in the fourth, while holding the Mustangs to single digits in the last three periods.

Josh Mendoza poured in 14 to pace Snyder, with Logan Hill knocking down 13 more.

Josh McGaha tallied 10 points, while T.J. Jones drained eight. Colby Driggers scored seven points, and Josh Montoya and Tyler Pollard finished with four apiece. Clay Williams, Chance Greenwood and Brady Reed chipped in two points apiece.

Local Sports Schedule

TODAY

Frank Phillips at Western Texas, 7:30

TUESDAY

Snyder JV and varsity boys at Fort Stockton, 6 and 7:30

Snyder varsity and JV girls at Fort Stockton, 6 and 7:30

Sands at Ira girls and boys, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Highland at Hermleigh girls and boys, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Howard College at Western Texas, 7:30

FRIDAY

Snyder JV and varsity boys at Sweetwater, 6 and 7:30

Snyder varsity and JV girls at Sweetwater, 6 and 7:30

Ira girls and boys at Borden County, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Hermleigh girls and boys at Trent, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

Freshman girls nab 44-33 win

After falling behind, 22-5, in the second quarter, Snyder's ninth grade girls spent the rest of the contest digging themselves out of the hole to record a 44-33 come-from-behind victory over Big Spring.

The Lady Tigers, who had lost to Big Spring in their previous two meetings, trailed by 18 points at one time, and were on the bottom end of a 26-24 tally as the fourth quarter opened.

Snyder scored 20 points in the fourth period to rally past the Lady Steers. Hailey Putnam poured in nine of her 15 points in the final frame, with Afton Schwertner dropping in seven of her 12 in the same span.

Chaelyn Robinson finished the game with nine points, while Esha Ward added five and Zipporah Peoples chipped in three.

Snyder will be in action again tonight when it visits Lamesa at 6:30.

Ira JH knocks off Coyotes

GAIL — Ira had a pair of 20-point scorers to help carry it to two victories over Borden County, in junior high basketball action.

Jake Barnes poured in 26 points to lead the Ira boys to a 43-32 win, while April Lollar knocked down 21 points in the Lady Bulldogs' 45-29 victory.

Jess Wall, Wesley Kellner and Brandon Crane posted three points apiece in the boys' game. Justin Taylor, Bubba Walker, Roy Torres and Brandon Graves added two each.

Also turning in strong performances for Ira were defensive anchors Phillip Payne, Rusty Josey, Kevin Graves and Chad Everton, and guards Thomas Henderson and Nathan Wilkins who handled the Coyotes' pressure.

In the girls' match-up, Lindsey Wilson also finished in double figures with 12 points. Amanda Calley registered five points, with Diane Aguinaga adding three, and Franki Briseno and Lacy Thompson adding two apiece.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Miami	26	16	.619	—
New York	26	16	.619	—
Philadelphia	24	19	.558	2½
Boston	20	23	.465	6½
Orlando	20	25	.444	7½
New Jersey	17	27	.386	10
Washington	14	30	.318	13
Central Division				
Indiana	28	15	.651	—
Charlotte	24	18	.571	3½
Toronto	24	19	.558	4
Milwaukee	24	20	.545	4½
Detroit	22	21	.512	6
Cleveland	18	26	.409	10½
Atlanta	16	26	.381	11½
Chicago	8	33	.195	19
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	27	15	.643	—
San Antonio	28	16	.636	—
Minnesota	24	17	.585	2½
Denver	19	22	.463	7½
Dallas	17	26	.395	10½
Houston	17	27	.386	11
Vancouver	12	30	.286	15
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	34	10	.773	—
Portland	33	10	.767	½
Sacramento	27	15	.643	6
Seattle	28	17	.622	6½
Phoenix	24	18	.571	9
L.A. Clippers	11	32	.256	22½
Golden State	9	32	.220	23½

Saturday's Games

Detroit 90, Philadelphia 88
Minnesota 96, Utah 94
Toronto 106, Chicago 89
Indiana 94, Miami 84
Portland 81, San Antonio 67
Washington 103, Cleveland 98
Charlotte 100, Phoenix 79
Orlando 103, Atlanta 87
Dallas 107, Denver 96
Milwaukee 101, Seattle 99
L.A. Clippers 98, New Jersey 93

Sunday's Games

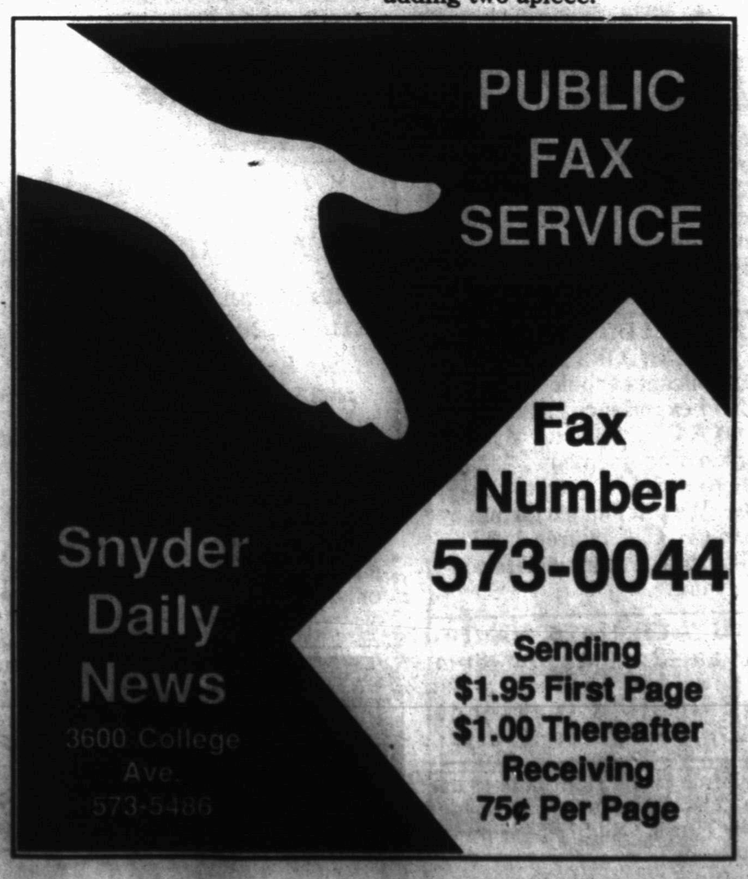
New York 120, Sacramento 111
Houston 89, L.A. Lakers 83

Monday's Games

Detroit vs. Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Orlando, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Denver, 9 p.m.
Milwaukee at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Boston at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Washington at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Seattle at Utah, 9 p.m.
Chicago at Portland, 10 p.m.



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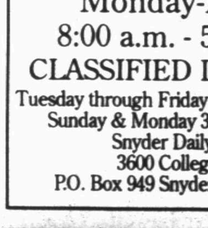
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Prize Patrol brings area woman riches

WINGATE (AP) — When a caravan of strangers pulled their cars into Ginny Jackson's driveway on Sunday, she thought the group might need directions.

That happens quite frequently, she said, because her home is located at the end of a gravel road that veers off U.S. Highway 277, about 26 miles south of Abilene.

"I thought someone had gotten lost and stopped here for directions," Mrs. Jackson told the Abilene Reporter-News.

But when the Publishers Clearing House Prize Patrol greeted Mrs. Jackson at her front door with an oversized check for $21 million, the 52-year-old woman was dumbfounded.

Even as her husband, Jack, came driving into the yard from his brother's house, where he had gone to watch the Super Bowl, Mrs. Jackson said she was still expecting someone to jump out and say it was all a big joke.

Instead, Dave Sayer, head of the Publishers Clearing House patrol, made it all a little more believable when he handed the woman a $250,000 check and told the couple they had their choice of a Lincoln Towncar, a Lincoln Navigator or $50,000 cash.

Mrs. Jackson said she wanted the Navigator; she already has a luxury car.

The couple will receive $1 million before the year is out, Sayer said, with the remainder of their winnings paid over the next 30 years, according to the newspaper.

Mrs. Jackson, only the 31st Publishers Clearing House winner of $1 million or more, said she has played the annual sweepstakes for years now but was beginning to lose hope.

"If I didn't win this year, I was going to give it up for good," she said.

Mrs. Jackson said she planned to donate some of the money to her church and use some to help her two daughters finish school. The couple also said they planned to make some financial investments.

Wingate is about 32 miles southeast of Sweetwater.

Globalization gap tops agenda's forum

DAVOS, Switzerland (AP) — Bill Gates told world business leaders today that Microsoft would refrain from the trend of media mergers and stick to creating software.

Steve Case, chief executive of America Online, said his company's blockbuster merger with Time Warner would enable them to use new technologies to create "compelling" consumer services they would have been unable to develop as single companies.

Gates and Case spoke at a panel discussion as the six-day World Economic Forum shifted its focus to the future of the Internet, and continued with debates on ways to narrow the gap between rich and poor nations.

Case said AOL and Time Warner wanted to continue building bridges to make telephones, televisions and computers work better together.

"The next step is trying to think through from a consumer standpoint what is the best way to use these new devices to take advantage of new networks," Case said. Then, the company could build services that "really can improve people's lives."

Gates congratulated Case on the merger announced earlier this month, but said Microsoft wasn't planning any media takeovers of its own.

"The strategy that my company is pursuing has really been the same for the last 25 years," Gates said. "It would be fun to own a movie studio, but I don't have any expertise, so we're going to stay away from that.

"Instead, I think there's room for a company who's main goal is to create software and allow that software to be a very empowering tool," he said.

Indonesia's President Abdurrahman Wahid and his South African counterpart Thabo Mbeki were scheduled later in the day to address ways of narrowing the divide between rich and poor countries.

The resort town of Davos was calm today under a new blanket of snow, following a violent demonstration against big business interests Saturday that police said caused an estimated $62,500 in damage.

The protest coincided with President Clinton's visit, but the demonstrators were kept well away from him.

The Iranian foreign minister's delegation was hit twice Saturday with paint bombs, hurled by Swiss-based exiles, state security service chief Rolf Schatzmann said today.

Kamal Kharrazi's car was hit while traveling from the minister's hotel to the conference, Schatzmann said, and Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Hossein Adeli was hit later by a paint-filled projectile in his hotel lobby. Police arrested two Iranian exiles in the first attack, and a woman in the second. No one was injured, he said.

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright met Sunday with Egypt's Foreign Minister Amr Moussa and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in an attempt to push forward Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking. With negotiations resuming in Jerusalem, Albright has been trying to keep alive hopes for a framework accord by a Feb. 13 deadline.

In the absence of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, who canceled his trip last week, a session that was to have featured Arafat and Barak was canceled.

Arafat, who addressed the forum panel today after Mideast diplomacy talks on the sidelines Sunday, charged that Israel's "delaying tactics" in peace talks were creating a bottleneck that was threatening the entire region's peace process.

Jordan's King Abdullah asked the delegates for their help in persuading Middle East leaders and their people to seize the moment and make peace.

Russia faced renewed criticism over its economic and political situation, this time from U.S. financier George Soros, who argued that, "with the political developments moving in the wrong direction, the International Monetary Fund should pull out of Russia."

Foreign institutions and investors "have lost the ability to influence the direction of events" in Russia, said Soros, chairman of Soros Fund Management.

For 10 years "we had the ability to influence things in Russia and move them in the right direction, and we flubbed it," Soros said. He pointed to the conflict in Chechnya as a worrying sign of political trends there.

On Saturday, the IMF's No. 2 official, Stanley Fischer, said the fund might delay paying Russia the second installment of a $4.5 billion loan until after presidential elections in March.

New Hampshire polls show Bush, McCain very close

WASHINGTON (AP) — George W. Bush and John McCain are very close in most polls of likely voters in New Hampshire's Republican presidential primary, with the high stakes emphasized by a new survey that shows McCain gaining ground in South Carolina.

Bush, the Texas governor and national GOP front-runner, has been drawing close in New Hampshire, site of the first nominating primary Tuesday, by winning the support of undecided Republicans, veteran pollsters say. The stakes of the New Hampshire primary were highlighted by a CNN-Time poll in South Carolina that shows Bush at 52 percent and McCain at 32 percent, a large but shrinking lead for Bush. In November, he led McCain 62 percent to 15 percent in the state McCain has said is crucial for his campaign, with an early primary Feb. 19.

McCain led by 10 points in the CNN-USA Today tracking poll, but polls by the American Research Group and the University of New Hampshire for WMUR and Fox News still had the race too close to call.

About half of the likely New Hampshire primary voters in one new poll cited a candidate's position on issues as the most important factor in deciding who should be president, although no one issue dominated.

And at least one-third of all likely voters in New Hampshire said they had yet to make a firm decision, polls suggested.

On the Democratic side in New Hampshire, Vice President Al Gore has built a lead by pulling even with Bill Bradley among two groups of voters — independents and men — where Bradley had been the strongest. That lead has narrowed in the last couple of days, however.

REPUBLICANS

Bush and McCain, the Arizona senator, are tied in several of the latest pre-primary polls, while McCain holds a slim lead in a couple of others.

When asked in a Boston Herald-WCVB poll which issue is the most important in their decision, 15 percent chose the economy, 13 percent picked taxes and 12 percent said education. Social Security-Medicare and moral issues each were chosen by 11 percent of respondents, followed by 9 percent who said abortion.

The quality selected most often by likely Republican voters is a candidate who stands up for what he believes, followed by a strong and decisive leader, in a University of New Hampshire-WMUR-Fox News tracking poll. Only 4 percent said having the best chance of winning in November is most important, something Bush supporters have used as an argument to support their candidate.

DEMOCRATS

Gore built a lead in most polls from the days leading up to the Iowa caucuses Jan. 24 to the days just after. His lead was in double digits in several polls until a recent Bradley surge brought it back under 10 points. Gore led 48-41 in the Boston Globe-WBZ-TV poll, 48-39 in the Boston Herald-WCVB poll and 53-42 in the UNH-WMUR-Fox News poll. The CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll showed Gore with a 51-45 edge and Gore led Bradley 49-37 in an MSNBC poll.

"Each candidate's base of support has shifted somewhat," said R. Kelly Myers, the pollster for the Herald-WCVB poll. He said Gore has closed the gap among independents and men, while Bradley was getting stronger support from more liberal Democrats.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	54 13-16	54	54⅜	+ ½
AT&T Corp s	49 5-16	48½	48 11-16	— 3-16
Albertsons	30⅛	29 9-16	29 13-16	— 1-16
Alltel	66 3-16	64½	65⅜	+ 1⅜
AmerOnline s	59	55 13-16	56 7-16	—2 7-16
AndarkPtr	32 15-16	32½	32 9-16	— 5-16
AtlRichfld	78 5-16	76⅝	76⅞	—1 9-16
ATMOS Egy	17	16⅞	16⅞	+ ⅛
Aviall	7¾	7⅝	7⅝	— 3-16
BP Amoco s	53 15-16	52¾	53	—15-16
BakerHughes	23¾	23	23⅜	+ 2 9-16
Bank of Amer	47 1-16	46 5-16	46 13-16	+ 1 1-16
BellAtl	58¼	57 1-16	57 13-16	+ 3-16
BellSouth	43 7-16	42¼	42⅝	—13-16
Beth Steel	7⅛	6⅞	6 15-16	— ⅛
BurlNoSFe	24½	23⅝	24⅜	+ ⅛
CBS Corp	60	57 9-16	58	— 3
Caterpillar	43⅜	43	43⅜	— ⅛
CenSoWst	20 1-16	19¾	19 15-16	+ 1-16
Chevron	82 1-16	80¾	81 13-16	— ¾
Citigroup s	57⅝	56¼	57¼	+ 1⅛
Coastal	36 1-16	35⅜	36	— ¼
CocaCola	58 7-16	56 9-16	57 9-16	+ ⅝
ColgatePal s	59 11-16	58½	58 15-16	— 9-16
ComclMetals	31⅞	31⅝	31¾	— ⅜
CooperInd	38 3-16	37 5-16	37 15-16	+ ⅛
DaimlrChry	66 5-16	65 1-16	65 3-16	—1 3-16
DallSemicn	68	67	67	+ ¼
DeltaAirl	48⅛	46 15-16	47	— ¼
Dillards Inc	19¼	18¾	18 15-16	— 5-16
DowChem	116⅛	114	114⅞	+ ⅛
DuPont	59 13-16	58½	59⅝	+ ⅜
EastmanChem	40	38 5-16	39 3-16	— ¾
EstKodak	62½	61 5-16	62	+ ¼
EDS Corp	66⅝	64	64⅛	— 1½
Entergy	24 7-16	23⅝	24 5-16	+ 11-16
ExxonMobil	79 3-16	77⅞	78⅞	
FstBksAm	17¼	17⅛	17¼	+ ⅜
Flowers	12 5-16	12⅛	12⅛	— 3-16
FordMotor	50 3-16	49 9-16	49⅞	+ ⅜
GTE Cp	69	67 11-16	68 9-16	+ 115-256
GenDynam	47⅛	46½	46 13-16	— 7-16
GenElec	135 15-16	133 1-16	134 15-16	+ 5-16
GenMills s	30⅞	30 1-16	30 5-16	+ 1-16
GenMotors	80⅞	79¼	80 5-16	+ 1 5-16
GaPacGP s	40¼	38½	38 9-16	— 2⅛
GlobalMar	18⅛	17⅜	17 15-16	+ ⅜
Goodrich	25 3-16	24⅝	24¾	+ 1-16
Goodyear s	23⅜	23	23 5-16	— ⅛
GtAtlPac	27 3-16	26¾	27⅛	— ⅛
Halliburtn	36½	35½	36⅛	+ 5-16
Hanson ADS	36	35 1-16	35⅞	+ 11-16
HarteHanks	23 9-16	23⅛	23⅛	— ¼
HomeDepot s	56 11-16	55 5-16	55⅞	+ ¼
HoneywellIntl	46 7-16	45 3-16	46 5-16	+ 1⅛
IBM s	112 13-16	111	111 15-16	+ 9-16
IntlPaper	47 7-16	46½	46 9-16	—1 5-16
JohnsonJn	85 3-16	82 13-16	82 15-16	—1 9-16
K mart	8 13-16	8 9-16	8 9-16	+ 1-16
Kroger Co s	17 5-16	16 13-16	17	+ 7-16
Litton	43¼	42 11-16	42¾	— 5-16
LockheedM	18⅜	18 3-16	18 7-16	— 7-16
Lowes Cos	44 11-16	43 1-16	43⅝	—15-16
Lubys	11 5-16	11⅛	11¼	+ 3-16
LucentTech s	55⅛	54¼	54 9-16	—1 3-16
MayDeptStr s	32 1-16	31⅜	31 9-16	+ 5-16
MediaOne	77¾	76¾	76 15-16	—13-16
Medtronic s	44 13-16	43¼	43½	—1 5-16
Monsanto	36⅜	34⅛	35	— 1
MorganJP	122¼	118½	122⅛	+ 4 1-16
Motorola	130⅛	127½	129 15-16	+ 1 11-16
NCR Corp	38½	38	38½	+ 1-16
Navister	39½	38½	39¼	+ 13-16
Penney JC	19¼	18 7-16	19 3-16	+ 13-16
PepBoys	7 9-16	7 3-16	7 3-16	— 3-16
PepsiCo	33 15-16	33¼	33⅜	+ ½
PhelpDodge	57 13-16	56	56⅛	—2 3-16
PhilipPet	40½	39¼	40⅛	+ ¼
PilgrimPrd B	7 13-16	7 11-16	7 11-16	+ ⅛
Polaroid	24⅝	23 11-16	24⅛	+ ⅛
Praxair	41	38½	40⅛	—11-16
ProctGamb	100 13-16	98⅜	99 7-16	— ⅞
PubS NwMx	15⅞	15 9-16	15⅝	+ 3-16
ReliantEngy	22⅜	22 3-16	22 5-16	+ ⅛
RoyalDut	54	53 3-16	53⅜	— ½
SBC Comm	40	39 1-16	39 13-16	+ 9-16
SaraLee	18 7-16	18 1-16	18 5-16	+ ⅛
Scripps EW	48	46¾	46⅞	— 1⅛
SearsRoeb	30⅜	29 13-16	30¼	+ 3-16
SherwinW	17 9-16	17⅜	17½	+ 1-16
SmithkiBchm	61 3-16	59 13-16	59 15-16	+ 2
SouthernCo	25 9-16	25¼	25 9-16	+ ¼
SwstAirl s	15¾	15⅝	15¾	+ 1-16
SprintFON s	61⅜	60	61	+ ¾
SprintPCS	104 15-16	101⅝	102 13-16	+ 11-16
SprintPCS wi	52	50½	52	+ ½
Sunoco Inc	22⅞	22½	22 11-16	+ 1-16
TNP Ent	41	41	41	+ 1-16
Tandy s	49⅛	48½	48 9-16	+ ⅛
TempleInland	58¾	56¼	56¼	— 2¼
Texaco	52½	51⅞	52⅛	— 5-16
TexInd	37 7-16	36⅜	36⅝	—1 1-16
TexasInst s	107½	105⅜	105 7-16	—1 13-16
Tex Util	35 3-16	34¾	35 1-16	
Textron	60	59¼	60	+ 1
TriconGlbR	29 5-16	29 1-16	29 3-16	+ 5-16
TrinityInds	23¾	23⅜	23⅜	— ⅛
TritonEngy	23 11-16	22 15-16	23 9-16	+ 9-16
TylerTech	4 9-16	4 7-16	4 7-16	— ¼
US West Inc	65¾	65⅛	65¼	
USX-Marathn	24 9-16	24½	24 5-16	— 5-16
USX-USS	25 9-16	24 9-16	24⅝	—15-16
UnCarbde	55⅜	54 5-16	54⅝	+ 5-16
UnionPacif	41⅛	40 7-16	40 13-16	+ 3-16
UnitedTech s	53¾	52½	52 9-16	+ 5-16
Unocal	29	28½	28½	— 5-16
Venator Grp	5 15-16	5⅝	5 11-16	— ¼
WalMart s	55½	54⅛	54½	— ⅝
WellsFargo	39 3-16	38 5-16	38 15-16	+ 3-16
WstnGasRs	13	12 15-16	12 15-16	+ 1-16
WinnDixie	20	19¾	20	
Xerox Cp	21 3-16	20 11-16	20⅞	+ ⅜

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Prison expansion plans good news for Pecos

PECOS (AP) — Soon there will be one prisoner for about every seven residents in Reeves County.

And to those who live here, that's great news.

With a long-running drought, the closure of a sulfur mine and depressed oil prices, residents in this West Texas county are welcoming the major expansion of the county's minimum-security prison, which has a contract with the U.S. Bureau of Prisons to house federal inmates.

When construction is finished this summer, and the number of beds has been doubled to 2,000, the prison will employ an additional 200 people — residents of a county that long has relied on irrigated cotton- and cantaloupe-farming, ranching and oil.

"I'm glad they're doing it," said Larry Windham, owner of the Gibson True Value hardware store. "Anytime you create jobs, it's got to help the town."

Danny Rodriguez, principal of Pecos High School, said the town is "looking forward to working with any industry, including the prison. It's a good neighbor for us."

"It will be very good for the economy," added Pecos Mayor Dot Stafford. "I always hate to say prisons are good for a city, but it's a necessity we have to face."

When the Reeves County Detention Center first opened in 1986, hundreds more people lived in the county, which is about 210 miles east of El Paso on the northern edge of the Chihuahuan Desert. But in recent years, drought, layoffs and little activity in the oil patch have driven people away.

Today, the biggest employer in this town of about 11,000 (the county population is about 14,000) is Anchor West, a division of Wisconsin-based Anchor Foods. The factory, which processes and packages frozen vegetables and onion rings, employs about 750.

The second biggest employer is the school district.

With the expansion, the prison will be third. When the new half opens Sept. 1, more than 400 people will work there.

"This project couldn't have come at a better time, when we've seen a downturn in sulfur mining and oil and gas," said Reeves County Judge Jimmy B. Galindo, who pushed to enlarge the prison. He said it can only benefit the town, where many shops have closed and many houses have fallen into disrepair.

The construction alone has been a boon to the local economy, with about 100 residents working on the project, Galindo said.

Private investors are financing the expansion by selling $40 million in bonds, he said. Money to run the prison and pay salaries comes from the Bureau of Prisons, which pays a daily fee for each inmate.

The prisoners are mostly Mexican nationals who are serving time for immigration or drug offenses in Texas and other states and who ultimately will be deported. Local criminals are held at a separate jail in town.

Besides creating jobs, the expansion will help the community by raising even more money for the county general fund, said Warden Rudy Franco. Already, the prison generates almost $1 million a year for the fund by paying rent and for services such as bookkeeping and accounting.

In addition, the prison buys some of its food and supplies from local merchants.

Galindo said the idea of expanding the prison dawned on him shortly after he was elected as county judge — the county's top elected official — in 1995. Before taking office, he went to work as a corrections officer at the prison so that he could understand the life of those who work there.

"That was one of the things that helped me to realize this was an unpolished jewel of the community," he said. "I looked at it as an economic enterprise."

Then, in February 1996, a riot by 172 inmates threatened the prison's agreement with the Bureau of Prisons, Galindo said. Federal officials wanted new management at the facility.

The night of the melee, Galindo met Franco, then the warden at the La Tuna Federal Correctional Institution near El Paso. Dispatched to the scene, Franco sent officers outfitted in gas masks and riot gear marching along the fence, and within hours, officials had regained control.

Less than three months later, Galindo asked Franco to come to Reeves County as warden.

Town searching for answers after slaying

PALESTINE (AP) — Nothing in Geraldine Davidson's life seems to answer why the 84-year-old widow's body was found floating in the Neches River.

She was the organist at the Grace United Methodist Church and gave piano lessons to local children.

She loved cats and only owned objects of sentimental value.

"The biggest thing that has everybody scratching their head is that she is the least likely candidate to be robbed or murdered," Rev. David Luckert of Grace United Methodist Church told the Tyler Morning Telegraph.

"The question is why her?"

Friends of Mrs. Davidson reported her missing Wednesday night and a police search of her large home on South Sycamore Street found no sign of her or her car.

Then, the next morning, a passing driver spotted Mrs. Davidson's bound, gagged, cinder block-weighted body in the river.

Police do not have a motive for the slaying and limited clues about the crime.

Rumors have circulated she may have been alive when she was placed in the river, but Assistant Chief of Police Mike Medders said there is no solid evidence to support that.

"She was abducted and she was (driven) around in the trunk of her own car for several hours before she was put into the Neches River," Medders said. "Until we get the autopsy back, we're not going to know the exact cause of death."

Shortly after finding her body, police pulled over five young people driving her car.

An unnamed 20-year-old man and three juveniles were arrested.

The teens have not been charged for the murder, but capital murder charges are pending against the 20-year-old man, who is being held for violating his probation.

Police say they have arrested those involved.

The only clue into the mystery of Mrs. Davidson's death is she reported a knife-wielding man had robbed her of a small amount of cash in her home.

The department is trying to make a connection between the robbery and her death, Medders said.

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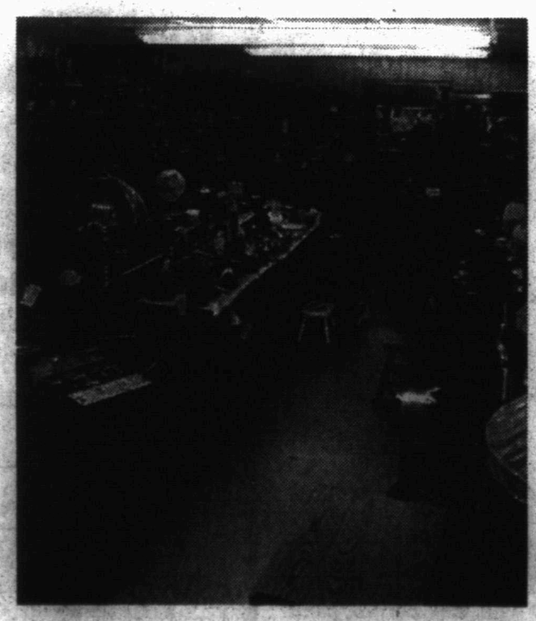
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WASHINGT Austin, Texas, the list of Am cities, propelle strong finance municipal em cuse University The study, rated the gov nation's 35 l terms of reve grades from A agement crit human resourc mation technol Phoenix was an A or A- in a Austin finished age because of use of informat Indianapolis and Virginia B aged B+. New phia, Honolulu, Diego, San Ant Long Beach, Ca A common fa scored well wa ship, said Patric director of the C formance Proje Maxwell Schoo

Elk, de of proc

CRESTON, Io prices drove Jeff out of the hog ma ago. Possible p them to the elk m ward. "I used to rais Jeff Tussey said. be in a hog con tion 10 hours a da Six years late have expanded t tional farming o beef cattle and 1,0 and soybeans — 60 elk. The Tusseys Across Iowa, pe to alternative for to diversify their tions and add some cases, they ing a change —

Dr. G

By Peter Go

Gout can

DEAR DR. G band, who is 60, r his gout medicine didn't hurt anym experiencing bac this be a result o won't see a docto your answer. Co his kidneys? DEAR READ could. The prim tions of gout inv (acute and chroni the kidneys (uric renal damage). Although your pain might be du as mundane as m spinal arthritis, could be caused neys. He needs such as a urinal ultrasound. Sir, p doctor. To give yo mation, I am send of my Health Gout." Other read like a copy should long, self-addres envelope to P.O. B ray Hill Station, 10156. Be sure t title. DEAR DR. GO nosed with perip thy due to excessi sumption. My doc Elavil and told me ing, which I did. four months of so still tingle and hur right track? DEAR READ abuse is a comm peripheral neuropa tion of nerves in legs, marked by gling, pain and wea certainly on the ri continuation of alc Remember that

Austin, Phoenix judged best-run cities in survey

WASHINGTON (AP) — Austin, Texas, and Phoenix lead the list of America's best-run cities, propelled to the top by strong finances and well-trained municipal employees, a Syracuse University survey found.

The study, released Sunday, rated the governments of the nation's 35 largest cities in terms of revenues, assigning grades from A to F on five management criteria: finances, human resources, capital, information technology and results.

Phoenix was alone in winning an A or A- in all five categories. Austin finished with an A- average because of a B grade on its use of information technology.

Indianapolis, Minneapolis and Virginia Beach, Va., averaged B+. New York, Philadelphia, Honolulu, Milwaukee, San Diego, San Antonio, Seattle and Long Beach, Calif., all had Bs.

A common factor in cities that scored well was strong leadership, said Patricia W. Ingraham, director of the Government Performance Project at Syracuse's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. The project was financed by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

"Where there is a strong mayor, there is a well-run city, which attracts residents and visitors," Ingraham said. "Contrary to what many of us think, the days of mediocre city management are coming to an end."

She said the most improved cities are those that were in the worst shape five to eight years ago — Detroit, Philadelphia, New York and Washington, D.C.

Detroit, for example, has earned nine upgrades from bond rating agencies. Washington has eliminated its debt, and Philadelphia is tracking its revenues and expenditures better after both cities flirted with bankruptcy, the report said.

New York, the first major city to use technology for organizing crime-fighting efforts, was praised for establishing a Web site that allows it citizens to apply for licenses and permits through the Internet.

Skater's husband's dream comes true

PROVO, Utah (AP) — A week after giving birth to her daughter, Sonya Hansen found herself standing in the middle of an ice rink with a video camera trained on her husband as he fulfilled his Olympic dream: to drive a Zamboni!

Forget about the speed and raw excitement of bobsledding, speed skating or ski jumping. For some, thrill means driving around an ice rink at 9 mph.

For the uninitiated, the Zamboni ice resurfacing machine is that large, blocky thing that cleans up the ice between periods of hockey games or during breaks at figure-skating competitions. And it seems to have just as many fans as the sports it cleans up after.

So when Olympic organizers in Salt Lake City created "wannabe camps" for adults with gold medal aspirations but 9-to-5 lives and talents, they included the popular Zamboni Camp along with bobsledding and the skeleton, a type of head-first luge.

For Blake Hansen, here was his chance of a lifetime. Wrapped in a Colorado Avalanche jersey, Hansen and an instructor drove around the Seven Peaks Ice Arena. Not far away was his wife — a video camera plastered to her face, tape rolling.

"He's like a little boy at Christmas," Mrs. Hansen said.

"I've finally fulfilled a dream," Hansen exclaimed as he jumped down from the machine that revolutionized the maintenance of hockey rinks, turning a labor-intensive 90-minute job into a mechanized 15-minute task.

Frank Zamboni's 1947 creation is often the target of much good-natured ribbing. Charlie Brown himself once remarked in a Peanuts comic strip: "There are three things in life that are fun to watch: a rippling stream, a fire in the fireplace, and a Zamboni going around and around."

Hansen's love of hockey is closely tied with the Zamboni. When asked about his fascination with it, he answered: "Well, it clears the ice."

Yes, but why the fascination with a 10-foot tall, 9,000-pound ice-melting machine?

"It clears the ice, for hockey," he said, as if he, too, couldn't quite comprehend the allure.

Some people think the Zamboni — no one really bothers to call it by its other trademark names — is merely the machine that scrapes ice off the rink and applies a coat of hot water in its place. But the true devotee knows, just like you know the taste of a good hot dog, it's much, much more.

Dan Corsbie, for instance, flew to Utah from Urbandale, Iowa, to attend the camp. His son paid for his spot at camp as a Christmas present. Corsbie, a retired officer for the juvenile courts, became a Zamboni fan when his 12-year-old grandson started playing in a pee-wee hockey league in 1993.

"I walk down to the glass to get a closer look at the Zamboni," Corsbie said. "It's the size of the machine. It's the gears. It just fascinated me."

And on his day of heaven on Earth, he wasn't at all disappointed.

"Oh, it's more than I thought it would be. You must try it. You absolutely must try it," he said after guiding the machine past where his son watched and waved.

Each participant at the Salt Lake Organizing Committee's Zamboni Camps paid $75 to learn the details of getting the ice just right for Olympic events. Camp director Bob Bills said he got the idea from his days as a manager of a speed skating rink.

"People were constantly wanting to drive the Zamboni," he said. "I don't know. It's mesmerizing."

Drugs to treat AIDS may also help slow spread of disease

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The medicines that transformed the treatment of AIDS also may be slowing its spread, but health experts worry this victory will be wiped out by a new complacency among those at risk.

Protease inhibitors and other drugs have changed AIDS from a death sentence to a treatable chronic disease over the past four years. In the process, they lower people's virus levels dramatically, often to the point where the virus cannot be detected on the most sensitive tests.

Doctors have speculated that since many people have vastly lower virus levels in their bodies, they are also probably less likely to pass the virus on to others through sex.

Indirect evidence of this was made public Sunday at the 7th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.

Dr. Thomas C. Quinn and others from Johns Hopkins University conducted a study in Uganda of 415 heterosexual couples in which one partner was infected and the other was not. The goal was to see if the risk varies depending the AIDS carrier's virus levels.

As it turned out, Quinn said, "the higher the viral load, the greater the risk of transmission. If you had sex with a person with very low virus, your probability of getting infected was low."

In fact, when virus levels fell low enough, there was no transmission of the virus at all in these heterosexual couples during 30 months of follow up.

However, the study does not mean that AIDS transmission cannot occur in such couples. Experts warn that even though the risk is low, there is probably always some risk of unprotected sex with someone infected with HIV.

"It's wonderful news, and there is a lot we can learn from it," said Dr. Helene Gayle, AIDS chief at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Should the prevention message be different? No."

Experts point out differences between Africa, where AIDS is spread chiefly by heterosexual encounters, and the United States, where the disease is often transmitted between homosexual couples.

Furthermore, AIDS is rarely treated in Africa, so those with low virus levels have strong immune systems that hold the virus down. Doctors say it is theoretically possible that Americans with drug-suppressed HIV carry more of the virus, so their risk of transmission could be greater.

Dr. Michelle Roland of the University of California at San Francisco said it is reasonable to think lowering the amount of AIDS virus in infected people will slow the disease's spread. But even if the overall risk is lower, "it is impossible to predict what will happen in a given couple at a given time."

Elk, deer attract new breed of producers in Iowa state

CRESTON, Iowa (AP) — Poor prices drove Jeff and Peni Tussey out of the hog market a few years ago. Possible profits attracted them to the elk market soon afterward.

"I used to raise a lot of hogs," Jeff Tussey said. "I didn't want to be in a hog confinement operation 10 hours a day."

Six years later, the Tusseys have expanded their more traditional farming operation — 100 beef cattle and 1,000 acres of corn and soybeans — to include about 60 elk.

The Tusseys aren't alone. Across Iowa, people are looking to alternative forms of agriculture to diversify their existing operations and add profitability. In some cases, they simply are seeking a change — and finding it in nontraditional livestock such as deer and elk.

"They're more the adventurous, risk-taker types," said Steve Pedersen of the state Department of Agriculture. "We still are largely a state of pork and beef, corn and soybean producers. But as we continue on in this new millennium, I think we will see continued diversification."

About 4 percent of Iowa farms — 2,800 operations — now deal in nontraditional livestock, Pedersen said. There are roughly 67,000 traditional operations, which produce such animals as cattle, hogs, sheep, turkeys and chicken.

There are incentives for farmers producing alternative crops and livestock.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2000

Some type of side interest you've never exploited previously could become a primary enterprise for you in the year ahead. It may come about through outside factors.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) An exchange of information with colleagues could provide you with some valuable business information today, so don't pass up any opportunities to do so, even at a social gathering. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) The ways and means to further a secret ambition you've been nurturing may be handed to you today by Lady Luck. Be ready to move when she signals.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Don't let your personal desire become too important in your dealings with others today. You'll be luckier and come out better if you relegate them to second place.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Both a combination of hard work and some luck will be the key factors in making conditions for personal acquisition look more favorable than usual for you today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Rely upon past experiences you've learned to apply constructive uses to in your commercial involvements today, especially when team work is required.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Subtlety can be used today to achieve an important objective when meeting with others on a head-on-head encounter. Use the indirect method to outflank your opponents.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Competent allies enhance your chances for success today, so team up with winners today rather then attempting to be a freewheeling entrepreneur.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Take advantage of the good conditions today that have a direct bearing on your career, because advantageous trends are now flowing in your favor.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Convivial contacts you make today could prove to be a boon to you. Don't reject any invitations you get where you might have an opportunity to meet some new people.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Share as much time today as possible with individuals who have a good head for featuring their nests. These associates could prove to be rewarding for you in material ways.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) This is an excellent day for you to try to touch base with key contacts who are pursuing the same endeavors as you. Something propitious could result for you and them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Don't leave until tomorrow any matters that are of importance to you financially. This is one of your best days of the week for handling such matters.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Gout can cause further problems

DEAR DR. GOTT: My husband, who is 60, recently stopped his gout medicine because his toe didn't hurt anymore. Now he is experiencing back pain. Could this be a result of his gout? He won't see a doctor until he reads your answer. Could gout affect his kidneys?

DEAR READER: Indeed, it could. The primary complications of gout involve the joints (acute and chronic arthritis) and the kidneys (uric acid stones and renal damage).

Although your husband's back pain might be due to something as mundane as muscle strain or spinal arthritis, his discomfort could be caused by gouty kidneys. He needs further testing, such as a urinalysis and renal ultrasound. Sir, please see your doctor. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "About Gout." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I was diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy due to excessive alcohol consumption. My doctor prescribed Elavil and told me to stop drinking, which I did. However, after four months of sobriety, my feet still tingle and hurt. Am I on the right track?

DEAR READER: Alcohol abuse is a common cause of peripheral neuropathy, a malfunction of nerves in the arms and legs, marked by numbness, tingling, pain and weakness. You are certainly on the right track: discontinuation of alcohol is a must.

Remember that you may have become vitamin deficient while you were drinking. This can cause neuropathy, so I suggest that you take a daily multivitamin supplement. To complicate matters further, there are many other causes of neuropathy, including diabetes, vascular disease, cancer and a variety of neurological disorders. Interesting to note in your case, Elavil, an antidepressant, has also been reported to cause neuropathy in some patients.

Given the wide range of possibilities, your doctor has her work cut out for her. In my opinion, you should stop the Elavil and undergo further testing. Your physician might even choose to have you examined by a neurologist, a move that I would endorse. In my experience, the neuropathic symptoms of alcoholism typically disappear in a matter of weeks; therefore, in your case, something else may be going on. That something needs to be identified.

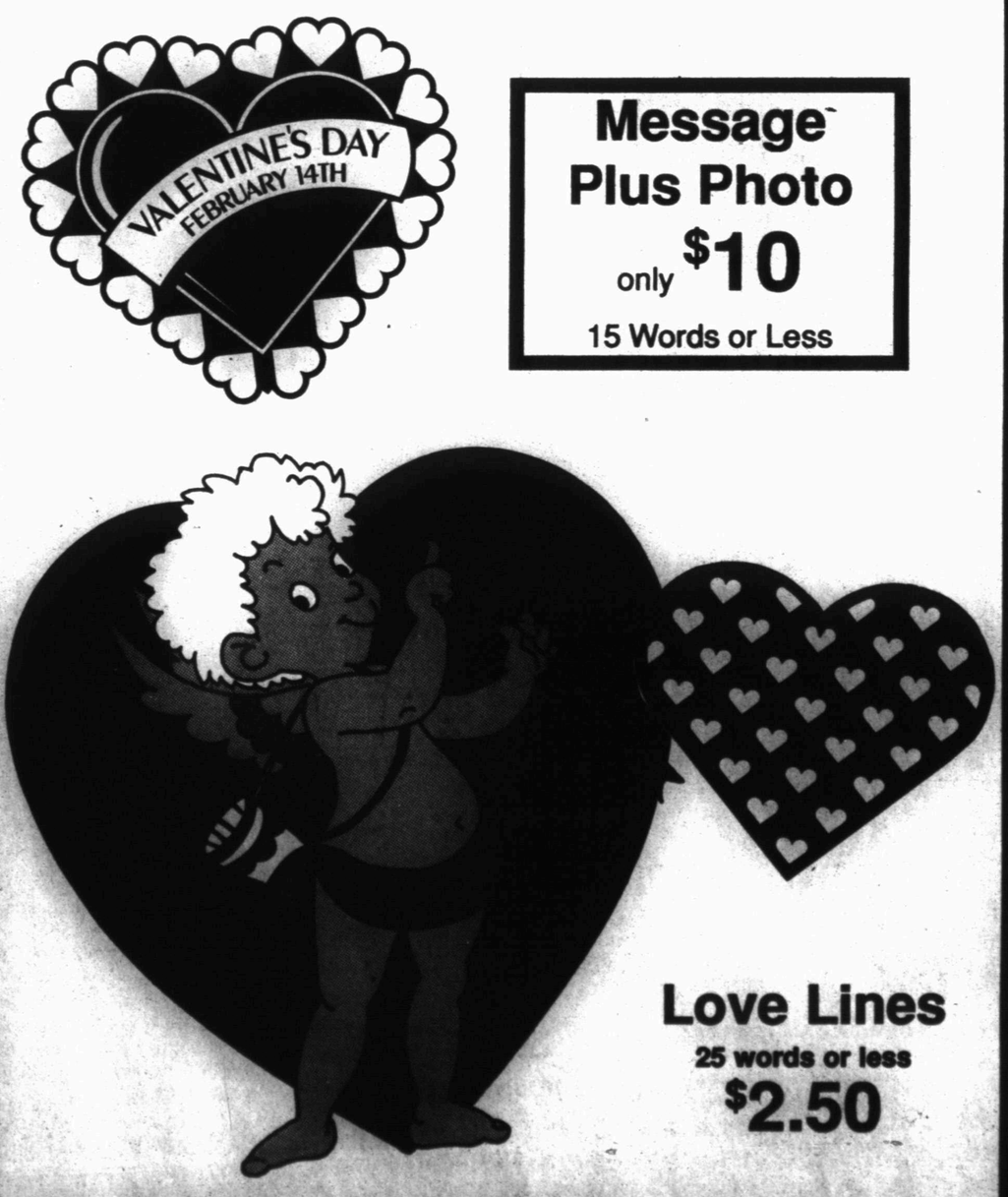
DEAR DR. GOTT: Whenever I get white patches on my tonsils, I have bad breath. What can I do about this?

DEAR READER: Tonsils are lymph glands at the back of the throat. They serve to filter microorganisms out of the air we breathe. On occasion, the tonsils themselves become infected, leading to sore throat, white patches and — as you've discovered — halitosis.

At these times, you should be examined by a doctor and probably have a throat culture for strep bacteria. I am certain that antibiotic therapy would go a long way in making you more comfortable and improving your breath.

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Bring your Valentine Messages & Photos to the Snyder Daily News by 5:00 p.m., February 11, 2000. You can pick up your photos after Valentine's Day.

SNYDER DAILY NEWS
3600 College Ave. 573-5486

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Sheppard wants 1954 testimony barred

CLEVELAND (AP) — Sam Reese Sheppard was 7 years old and fast asleep on the night in 1954 when his mother was brutally murdered in her bedroom.

He would later watch his father, Dr. Sam Sheppard, convicted of the crime and serve 10 years in prison before a retrial and acquittal left him free in the case that inspired "The Fugitive" TV series and film.

Now the younger Sheppard is trying to clear his late father's name — via a wrongful imprisonment suit against the state of Ohio. Pretrial proceedings began today, with motions and possibly the deposition of new witnesses promising to delay jury selection and testimony.

Only hours after today's hearing began, Judge Ronald Suster adjourned court for the day, just after Sheppard's lawyer asked him to prevent prosecutors from presenting testimony from the original 1954 trial.

Prosecutors plan to have the testimony of 19 witnesses from the first trial read to the jury considering the lawsuit. The testimony will be read because the witnesses are either dead or unable to appear. But Sheppard's lawyers argued that the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the first trial was unfair because witnesses' testimony had been publicized well before they appeared in court.

Assistant County Prosecutor Steve Dever said the 1954 trial was tainted "by external forces" but that the Supreme Court made no comments about the validity of what the witnesses said.

Unlike the first two Sheppard trials, the case this time won't be simply about an ultra-sensational murder or the rights of the media against those of a criminal defendant.

Instead, it will examine whether the criminal justice system is capable of terrible mistakes and whether, if it makes errors, it can be held accountable, Sam Reese Sheppard said.

"The legal system has this image that it's fair, that it can do no wrong," said Sheppard, now 52. "At the same time, it has no mechanism to clear anybody's name for posterity. The police, the prosecutors, the politicians can literally destroy people's lives and walk away and say, 'We weren't wrong.'"

At trial, Sheppard's attorneys plan to argue it is more likely than not that the doctor was innocent. A win would send the case to the state Court of Claims, which could award him damages estimated at about $2 million as his father's heir.

GOP, Demos both devise ways of easing the marriage penalty

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republicans today were putting the final touches on legislation to ease the income tax "marriage penalty" paid by millions of two-income couples that would be broader and cost much more than a similar proposal from President Clinton.

An estimated 25 million families pay higher income taxes because of marriage, according to the Treasury Department. The tax hits most often when the higher-earning spouse makes between $20,000 and $75,000 a year, congressional estimates show — and remedying this disparity is a goal of Republicans and Democrats alike.

"Fixing the marriage penalty has the overwhelming support of the American people and enjoys bipartisan support in Congress, so there is absolutely no excuse why we can't get this done for millions of married couples right now," said Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, the House Ways and Means Committee chairman, who planned to announce details of the measure later today.

The GOP bill, estimated at roughly $180 billion over 10 years using projected surplus dollars, would adjust the lowest 15 percent income tax bracket upward for married couples, according to Ways and Means Committee sources speaking on condition of anonymity.

If that change were to be fully phased in this year, married couples would pay the lowest income tax on their first $52,500 of income, compared to $43,850 under current law. The bracket adjustment, aimed at helping couples whether they itemize deductions or claim the standard deduction, would be phased in over several years, the sources said.

Two other provisions are similar to those proposed by Clinton, who last week outlined a 10-year, $45 billion plan to fix the marriage penalty.

Like the president, House Republicans would increase the standard income tax deduction for married couples to twice that for single tax filers, although the GOP's change would begin in 2001. Using this year's numbers, that would translate into a standard deduction of $8,800, compared to $7,351 now.

Few survivors found after airplane crash

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — A few shivering survivors were found amid scores of corpses floating in the waters off the Ivory Coast this morning, hours after a Kenya Airways jet carrying 179 people slammed into the Atlantic Ocean after takeoff.

Guided by spotlights from helicopters above, rescuers in boats scoured the nighttime waters for survivors. The cold ocean temperatures made it unlikely anyone could be alive after a few hours, officials said.

At least 10 people survived. By late morning, 86 bodies had been brought to shore, rescue workers said.

The plane, an Airbus 310, took off at 9:08 p.m. Sunday into relatively clear skies. It was destined for Lagos, Nigeria, but crashed into the ocean after just one minute in the air, according to George Dapre Yao, the head of air traffic at the city's Felix Houphouet-Boigny Airport.

One Nigerian survivor who was plucked from the water said the plane was having problems immediately after takeoff.

"It wasn't quite balanced, and the next thing we knew we were in the water," Samuel Ogbada Adje said, wrapped in a blanket at Abidjan's port.

It wasn't clear what had gone wrong. Some witnesses said they heard two loud sounds, as if the plane or parts of it slapped the water twice.

Adje, who suffered a swollen eye, was propelled into the water by the force of the crash, he said. He and others waited at least two hours for rescuers.

"If they had come sooner, a lot of us would have been saved," he said angrily before being pushed into an ambulance and driven away.

Lt. Col. Blaise Grah, an Ivorian firefighting official, defended the rescue.

"Two hours, we believe, is a reasonable time, given the materials that had to be gathered, the vastness of the ocean and the imprecise information we were given," about the location of the wreckage, he said.

Yao said Flight 431 was carrying 10 crew members, 167 adult passengers and two children. Kenya Airways, however, said the 179 people on board consisted of 168 passengers and 11 crew.

The flight originated Sunday as Flight 430 out of Nairobi, Kenya, and was to have landed in Lagos that afternoon.

Space shuttle launch delayed

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A last-minute problem with a critical computer delayed space shuttle Endeavour's launch today on a mission to map a still-unknown planet: our own.

NASA held the countdown at the 20-minute mark while engineers scrambled to solve the problem. Endeavour would not have lifted off on time anyway because of rain and thick, dark clouds.

Shuttle managers had two hours this afternoon to get Endeavour off the ground with six astronauts and 13 tons of radar equipment, but it didn't look good, at least from a weather perspective.

"See you tomorrow," Air Force Capt. Clif Stargardt, a meteorologist, jokingly told one reporter. "I don't think we'll launch."

The computer in question is needed to send signals to separate the two rocket boosters and external fuel tank following Endeavour's launch. There are two such computers on board, and only one malfunctioned. Both are required for launch, however.

Earlier, following an 11th-hour engine review, NASA had cleared Endeavour for launch.

Car burglaries are under investigation

The Snyder Police Department is investigating a string of car burglaries that took place in the western portion of the city over the weekend.

Sgt. Brian Haggard said the incidents are believed to be related and in all instances the vehicles were left unlocked.

At 9:53 a.m. Sunday, Mrs. Don Atwood of 3609 Jacksboro reported the theft of a CB, floor console and cell phone charger from her vehicle.

Tommy Trammel of 3609 Jacksboro reported the theft of a senior jacket at 10:25 a.m. Sunday.

The third report came in at 12:43 p.m. Sunday when Jo Ann Cotton reported the theft of CD's and a tennis racket from a vehicle parked at 3011 El Paso.

At 2:18 p.m. Sunday, Justin Derryberry notified officers that two cell phones had been taken from a vehicle at 3606 Kerrville.

Patricia Warren reported a cell phone stolen at 2:47 p.m. from her vehicle at 2902 33rd Street.

Kim Gorman notified officers at 5:52 p.m. Sunday that a paintball gun and a backpack had been stolen from a vehicle parked at 3101 Austin.

5 subjects taken into custody here

Five subjects were taken into custody late Sunday and early this morning.

Three of those subjects were arrested by officers at 11:05 p.m. Sunday in the 3900 block of Avenue V.

Mary Savell, 32, of Andrews was picked up on a TDCJ warrant for parole violation.

A 19-year-old female was jailed on outstanding city warrants for speeding and failure to appear, and a 20-year-old male was arrested for minor in possession.

At 12:41 a.m. today, officers took two subjects into custody in the 4400 block of Avenue U. An 18-year-old male was arrested for public intoxication and evading arrest, while a 24-year-old male was charged with public intoxication.

In other weekend activity, an offense report for dog bite was filed at 10:54 a.m. Sunday.

Department of Public Safety troopers were called to the scene of a one-vehicle rollover at 8:32 p.m. Sunday that resulted in one person being transferred by helicopter to Lubbock's University Medical Center.

William Allen, 19, of Abilene was first transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Hospital where he was stabilized, and then transferred to Lubbock.

He was listed in serious condition in the UMC's surgical intensive care unit this morning.

Births

Shanna Fisk of Snyder announces the birth of her daughter at 5:40 p.m. on Jan. 29 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. She weighed seven pounds, 9 ½ ounces.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Jan. 29-Shanna Fisk; Jan. 30-Inez Beavers, Agustin Castillo, Bennie Hellums, Margaret Linville and Meliton Zuniga .

DISMISSALS: Jan. 29-Geraldine Grady, Luis Lara, Maria Martinez; Jan. 30-Thomas Martin, Maria Rivas, Patricia Scott, Betty Wood, Joe Brown and Ramon Tavarez.

CENSUS: 44 (Med./Surg.-18, Long-term Care-24, OB-1 and Nursery-1)

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WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
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Snyder, Texas
915-573-6200

Obituaries

Loyd Dempsey

1917-2000

PARIS, Tex. — Loyd Boyed Dempsey of Houston, a former Snyder resident and deacon of Morningside Baptist Church, died at 2:15 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 30, in Columbia Bayshore Hospital in Pasadena after a lengthy illness.

Funeral services are pending at the Gene Roden's Sons Funeral Home in Paris.

Born Sept. 8, 1917 in Spiro, Okla., he was married to Purnie Saffell Dempsey for 57 years. Mr. Dempsey was an oil company engineer and had lived in Paris prior to moving to Snyder. He moved to Houston about six months ago. Mr. Dempsey retired from Southern Pacific Lighting and Gas in California. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Purnie Dempsey of Pasadena; three sons, Bill Dempsey, Keith Dempsey and Stuart Dempsey, all of Houston; three brothers, Lloyed Dempsey, Billy Dempsey and D. Keith Dempsey; and two sisters-in-law, Vivian Cochran and Janet Hall, both of Snyder.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Windbreak trees

Windbreak trees are available from the Soil and Water Conservation District, 5308 Big Spring Hwy. Deadline for orders is today.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 this evening are "How Can You Forsake God," followed by "What Is a Family?"

SHS baseball boosters

The Snyder baseball will meet at 7:30 tonight in the SHS football fieldhouse. All booster members are urged to attend to see new uniforms and T-shirts on display. Also it is the last chance for parent ads.

Senior Citizens swimnastics

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

Financial aid workshop

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

Amateur radio operators

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

AARP board meeting

A meeting of the board of the American Association of Retired Persons will be held at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Marie Armstrong's home, 3209 Houston.

Marriage course

A 13-week course, "Covenant Marriage: Communication and Intimacy Course" will be presented by the North College Ave. Baptist Church starting at 6:45 p.m. Thursday. The course is designed to strengthen a marriage and equip persons to assist others who are struggling in a relationship. For more information or pre-registration, call 573-9540 or 573-7930.

Lady Tiger softball booster club

The Lady Tiger softball booster club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday in the West Elementary cafeteria.

Scout food drive

Scouts will hand out bags Thursday, and collect them on Saturday. No glass containers or perishables. If you need a bag picked up, call 338-1865.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception to honor Bill and Anne Overhulser will be held from 3-5 p.m. Friday at Snyder Country Club.

Commissioning service

A commissioning service for ministry in Guatemala for Charlie and Pat Reynolds will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday at the First Baptist Church. A reception will follow.

Weigh down workshop

The weigh down workshop is a 12-week Bible-based weight loss program. Orientation will be held next Monday and the first class will be Feb. 21. All meetings will be at Trinity Methodist Church at 7 p.m. For more information, call the church office at 573-3988, or Dorothy Petersen at 573-7044.

MAWC fish fry

Martha Ann Woman's Club will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 11, at the clubhouse from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $4 for children six and under. Meals will be delivered by calling 573-3427, 573-6443, or 573-6717. Proceeds go toward maintaining the clubhouse.

Enchilada plates

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church will be selling enchilada plates on Saturday, Feb. 12, at the Guadalupe Center at 1311 Ave. K from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Plates are $5 for adults and $2.50 for children and include three beef enchiladas, rice, beans, salad, dessert and tea.

WTC basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at Western Texas College are taught Tuesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m., and from 6-9 p.m. Classes include G.E.D. and E.S.L. refresher courses. For additional information, call 573-8511, ext. 322.

WTC planetarium shows

The planetarium at WTC is available for spring offering of star shows. Presentations will be held Friday by special arrangements. Shows are by reservation only and there is no charge. Shows are available to fit any age group. For reservations call 573-8511, Ext. 312.

Road to Recovery program

Volunteers are needed to take patients to Abilene or Lubbock one day a week for cancer treatment. Following approval American Cancer Society, drivers will be provided liability insurance and can be reimbursed for fuel expenses incurred for the trip. For more information, contact ASC Road to Recovery volunteer coordinator Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 to leave a message.

Lotto Texas

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

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 50 were: 3-13-20-25-46-47

Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $10 million.

Pick 3

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

7-2-4

(seven, two, four)

Court upholds multimillion-dollar award

DALLAS (AP) — A multimillion-dollar verdict levied against a group of anti-abortion protesters accused of harassing a Dallas doctor in the early 1990s has been upheld by a federal appeals court.

Norman T. Tompkins and his wife, Carolyn, won the jury case four years ago. They claimed they were forced to move from their Dallas practice to Gainesville after enduring 10 months of harassment.