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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY

Jan. 7, 2002
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10 Pages 50¢

Home of Virginia Bloom

Commissioners hike coliseum rental rates

By Brian Brisendine
SDN Staff Writer

The Scurry County Coliseum has a new rental schedule, as approved this morning by the commissioners' court.

The newly-approved rates for coliseum rental are necessary, according to parks director Scott Crenwelge, to remain competitive with area communities who also tout coliseums or similar facilities.

Rate increases ranged from $25 to $50 per day for commercial and non-commercial use of the coliseum.

"The most recent rate schedule we could find was made in 1993," Crenwelge said. "We are recommending just a few small changes today."

Cost for an eight-hour commercial event was set at $750. A commercial event is any sale or event coming from outside the county.

Eight-hour rent for non-commercial use will be $475 for residents or organizations within the county and $375 for all other taxing entities.

Concerts or major entertainment at the coliseum will be charged $1,250 or 15 percent of ticket sales, whichever is higher. Previously, that rate was $1,000 or 10 percent of ticket sales.

Crenwelge said the new rates would be beneficial to the county facility and that he also is working to bring more sporting events to the coliseum.

"With these prices we are staying close to similar facilities in the area, but also staying a little under their costs in order to attract events to Snyder," he said. "And I also hope to get basketball back at the coliseum. I am exploring other options besides just charging the schools to use it."

Not all the rate changes amounted to increases, as the annex rental fees were lowered significantly.

The fee for that facility was lowered from $500 per day to $350.

"We have spoken with several coordinators of rodeo events and ropings that wouldn't even consider our facility at $500 a day," Crenwelge said. "At $350 we already have three events booked next month."

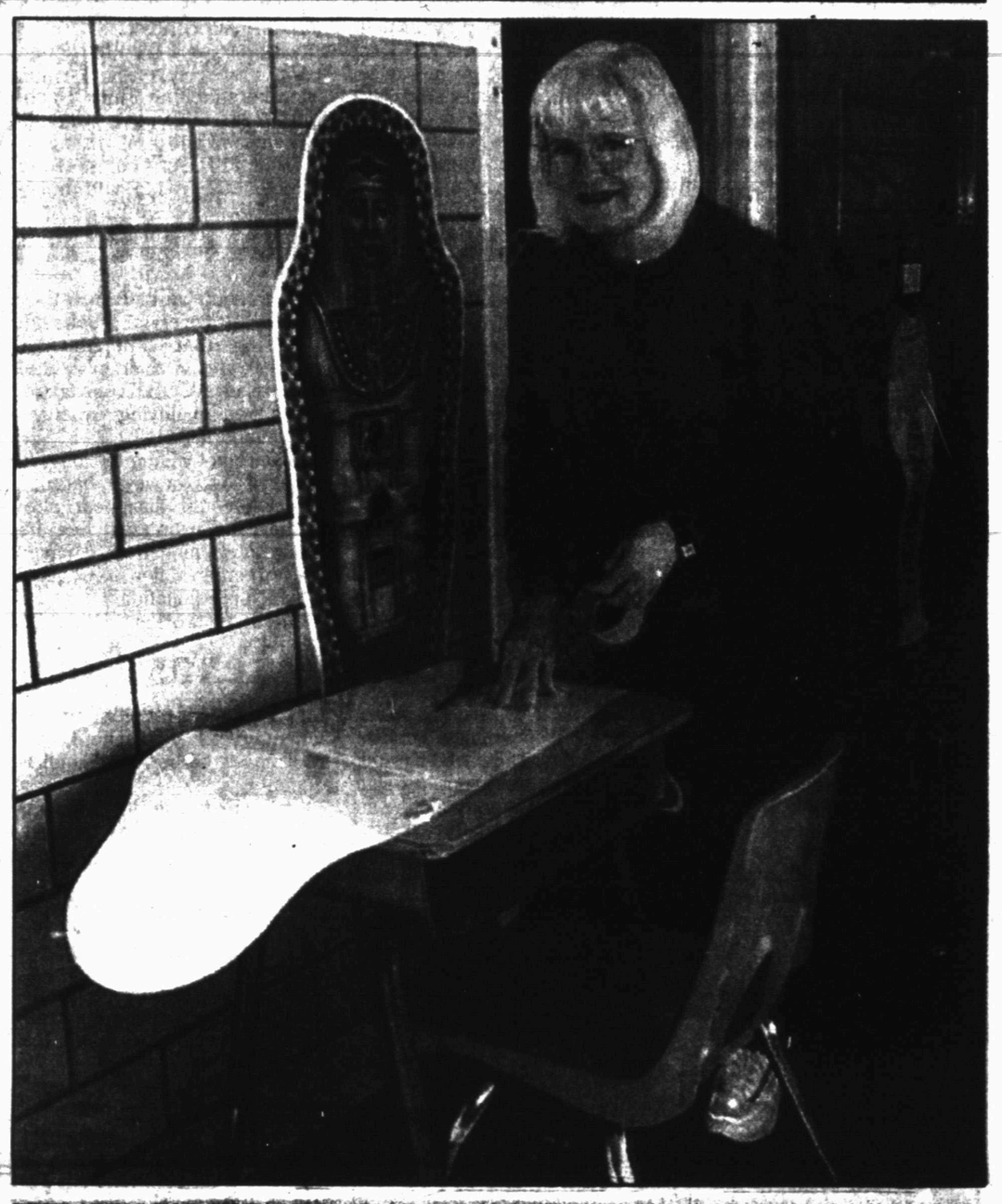
Local ropers also will be allowed to practice in the facility for $50 an hour.

The court approved the rate changes with a unanimous vote before entering into executive session to discuss personnel matters concerning courthouse maintenance staff.

The court took no action after the 40-minute executive session and no line-item transfers or budget amendments were presented.

The court also approved minutes from a previous meeting and paid bills.

County Judge Ricky Fritz presided and all members of the court were present to include Ralph Trevey, Roy Idom, Howard Limmer and Chloanne Lindsey.



PREPARING FOR STUDENTS — Snyder teachers were back in school this morning for a workday. Rebekah Thornton gets her fifth grade room at Northeast Elementary ready for a new semester. After being out for the holidays, Snyder students return to school Tuesday. Hermleigh and Ira students were back in the classroom today. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

WTC faculty and staff back on campus for spring semester

Faculty and staff return to work this week for the spring semester at Western Texas College, with offices opening today and in-service beginning at 9 a.m. on Tuesday. Spring registration is set for next Monday, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the gymnasium, with classes slated to begin Wednesday, Jan. 16.

An ITV training session is scheduled at 9 a.m. on Tuesday in room 7D-106 and an adjunct faculty meeting and meal is set for 6 p.m. in the Student Center.

Wednesday will begin with an opening session for all faculty and staff at 9 a.m. in the Science Lecture Hall followed by a divisional chairperson meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the LRC conference room.

There will also be a faculty association meeting at 1:30 p.m. and two informational sessions on sexual harassment at 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

At 8:30 a.m. Thursday, the Scholarship/Financial Aid Committee will meet in the boardroom, and divisional meetings will be held at 9:30 a.m. An administrative retreat follow-up session will be held from 1-4 p.m. in the Baptist Student Union.

On Friday, there will be two informational sessions on crisis response at 8:30 a.m., and 9 a.m. in the Science Lecture Hall and an admissions hearing at 10 a.m. in the boardroom.

Also at 10 a.m., the Internet Instructional Support Committee will meet in the LRC conference room.

Gas rate increase on council agenda

Snyder's city council will review an ordinance setting new rates for local TXU Gas customers when it meets at 6:30 this evening at city hall.

Residential customers can expect a monthly increase of around $1.62 per month, a 4.39 percent hike, when the new ordinance goes into effect following its second reading in February.

Carolyn House, city director of utilities, said TXU Gas had originally proposed an increase of almost eight percent to the Texas Public Utility Company, but the city chose to fight that large of an increase.

"It's important for our citizens to realize that if the council had not opposed the increase, it would be twice as much as the PUC is allowing," House said.

In another utility-related matter, the first reading of an ordinance requiring the registration of electrical providers is also on the agenda.

This action is necessary due to the deregulation of electricity.

Another ordinance on the agenda for first reading relates to state-mandated water conservation and drought contingency plan for the city.

City Manager John Gayle also is requesting approval to transfer unencumbered appropriation balances within a department, or between departments in the same fund, and Terry Martin will address the council on an expense reimbursement plan for the Snyder Volunteer Fire Department.

City Secretary Jeanne Johnson will present the quarterly financial report for the period ending Dec. 31, and bids for chemicals at the water treatment plant also will be reviewed.

SDN lawsuit hearing date set by judge

With depositions being taken this week, District Judge Royal Hart of San Angelo has scheduled hearing of the Snyder Daily News' lawsuit against the Scurry County commissioners' court for Jan. 29.

The hearing will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the 132nd District courtroom in Snyder.

Judge Hart was appointed to hear the lawsuit alleging violations of the Texas Open Meetings Act by the commissioners' court after District Judge Ernie Armstrong recused himself.

Depositions in the lawsuit that seeks a permanent injunction from further open government violations by the commissioners' court, start Tuesday and will continue Wednesday and Thursday.

The lawsuit on behalf of the Snyder Daily News was filed by Don Richards with the Lubbock law firm of McWhorter, Cobb and Johnson.

The commissioners' court then hired the Houston law firm of King and Pennington to represent it.

al-Qaida weapons, tanks blasted by U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. bombers blasted a large cache of Taliban and al-Qaida armored tanks and weapons as part of the effort to eradicate the remnants of the terrorist network inside Afghanistan, American military officials said today.

Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke said American aircraft flew 118 sorties and conducted four airstrikes in the Zawar and Khost area on Sunday.

That included the third strike in recent days of a military compound in eastern Afghanistan where terrorist leader Osama bin Laden's followers have been regrouping, she added.

"That would be the third time on that complex," Clarke told reporters.

A second senior Pentagon official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the strikes also were designed to hit a major weapons cache found by U.S. military forces in the region.

"We found lots of weapons, tanks and APC's (armored personnel carriers). So instead of going in and blowing them up on the ground — which would take too much time — we just bombed it," the officer said.

The strikes were conducted by long-range B-52 and B-1 bombers, as well as carrier-based strike planes from warships in the Indian Ocean, the officer said.

Khost is known as the headquarters of a former minister in the ousted Taliban regime, Jalaluddin Haqqani, who is high on the U.S. most-wanted list.

Khost also was used as a training base by al-Qaida and was targeted by U.S. cruise missiles following the bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa in 1998. A number of al-Qaida fighters are believed to have slipped into the area after fleeing Tora Bora, the mountain cave complex seized by U.S.-backed anti-Taliban forces last month.

Clarke said construction crews have begun beefing up the former refugee camp sites at the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to deal with detainees taken in the Afghan fighting.

"It will be significantly different construction," Clarke said.

There were 346 suspected Taliban or al-Qaida members in U.S. custody this weekend, she said.

The Pentagon plans tight security for hundreds of al-Qaida and Taliban captives expected at the base and is sending 1,500 military police and other troops to build a prison there.

Already, 1,000 U.S. troops have orders for Cuba — some by way of southwest Asia, where they will help transport the prisoners to the base, officials said. Five hundred more soldiers will be ordered to the base in the coming weeks.

Yates' jury selection begins in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — Prosecutors and defense attorneys are expected to question dozens of potential jurors over the next several weeks to seat a jury to hear the capital murder trial of Andrea Yates, the Houston area mother accused in the drowning deaths of her five children.

Yates, 37, who has pleaded innocent by reason of insanity, could get the death penalty if jurors decide she was sane when she drowned the children ranging in age from 6 months to 7 years.

Selection of a 12-member jury was to begin today in the court of State District Judge Belinda Hill. The potential jurors will be questioned individually. Testimony is not expected to start until February.

Officers arriving at her home within a few moments of her June 20 emergency call to a 911 operator were greeted at the door by Yates, whose hair and clothes were wet. In a back bedroom, four lifeless children were discovered under a sheet on a bed. A fifth body was face down in a half-filled bathtub.

She had drowned them all, she told stunned officers.

Yates faces two capital murder charges: for drowning Noah, 7, and John, 5; and for drowning Mary, 6 months.

ASK US

Q—Where does the newspaper get the drawings that go with the weather forecasts?

A—They are from Snyder public school students. If you are being home-schooled and would like to participate, mail your drawings to Box 949.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Saturday, 53 degrees; low, 26; high Sunday, 56; low, 24; no precipitation.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear, low near 35; SW winds 5-10 mph. Tuesday, sunny, high upper 60s; W winds 5-15 mph. Tuesday night, clear, low upper 30s.

Nick Morin
Warner

Sunset:
5:57 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:44 a.m.
Of 6 days in 2002, the sun has shone 6 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Time is the inexplicable raw material of everything.
—Arnold Bennett

JAN 07 2002

Snyder FFA teams 5th overall at state

Snyder High School's Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter faired well at the recent state leadership competition held at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville.

Overall, 14 members on the ag issues forum, junior quiz and senior quiz teams earned fifth place in the overall sweepstakes standings.

The agricultural issues forum team of Jacindah Judah, Cliff Beights, Morgan Miller, Laci Hackfeld, Amanda Greenwood, Emily Long and Beth Parsley, ended their year as the third best team in the state.

Overall there were over 150 teams from around the state that competed. Snyder students did a 15-minute presentation over the pros and cons of xenotransplantation, which is the use of animal organs and parts in humans.

David Frazier, FFA advisor, said the team became interested in the topic when former FFA member Matthew Blocker went through a similar process this summer when a pig value was used to replace one of his heart valves, Frazier said.

The Junior FFA knowledge team consisting of Soslan Jusoyev, Paige Anderson and Logan West placed third in the state contest. They were one of 450 teams in the competition. In addition, West was named fifth high individual. Quiz teams must complete a 100-point test that covers parliamentary procedure as well as FFA history and policies.

Frazier said Jusoyev, Anderson and Paige, all first-year FFA members, did a great job at a difficult contest.

The senior FFA knowledge team placed seventh at state. Members include Cindy Nachlinger, Marci Kruger, Amanda Greenwood and Emily Long.

In all, 514 teams competed in the contest. Frazier said finishing in the top ten is an elite honor.

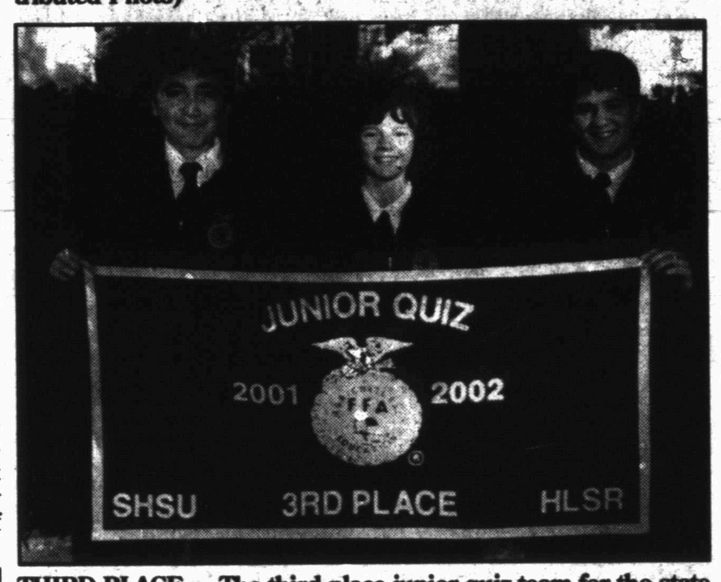
In order to advance to the state contest, Snyder's FFA teams had to place first or second in district competition and then win the area contest held at Howard College.

"Considering the number of teams competing in the state," David Frazier said, "being able to compete in the final 10 at the state competition is an honor in itself."

He added that Snyder's three teams represented their area, district and school very well.

Warren Beard also serves as an FFA advisor.

THIRD BEST IN STATE — Snyder High School's agricultural issues forum team ended its year as third best in the state. Team members include back row from left, Jacindah Judah, Cliff Beights, and Morgan Miller; front row from left, Laci Hackfeld, Amanda Greenwood, Emily Long and Beth Parsley. (Contributed Photo)



THIRD PLACE — The third place junior quiz team for the state of Texas was Snyder FFA's team consisting of Soslan Jusoyev, Paige Anderson and Logan West. (Contributed Photo)

SEVENTH PLACE — The senior quiz team placed seventh in the state FFA contest. Team members include from left, Cindy Nachlinger, Marci Kruger, Amanda Greenwood and Emily Long. (Contributed Photo)

Health insurance glitch delays benefits

HOUSTON (AP) — A paperwork delay has caused the approximately 4,500 Enron Corp. workers laid off by the foundering energy giant to go without health insurance temporarily, forcing at least one ex-employee to put off cancer surgery.

Many employees, including Mike Black, had planned to continue their Enron benefits after their expiration last month under federal rules set up by the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, or COBRA.

But Black, who had to cancel skin cancer surgery set for last Thursday, and his fellow former Enron mates learned the company failed to complete all the necessary paperwork in time for coverage to continue into January.

Enron planned to have COBRA information mailed to workers three weeks after their termination, but spokeswoman Karen Denne said it's taken longer than expected.

Ex-workers should receive the paperwork by Jan. 15, Denne said.

The delay has left Black, a systems programmer who can't afford the operation without insurance, in limbo.

"I'm still waiting for my second unemployment check," Black said.

Black, 54, said he's been unable to get any COBRA information from Enron, the insurance plan administrator or the insurance company.

It seems as if "they're all pointing fingers at each other," Black told the Houston Chronicle.

Matt Isbell, president of consulting company COBRA Resources, said the problem is not unusual because of the complex process. Companies have 44 days to notify an individual they can buy the coverage, Isbell said.

During that time, former workers are on their own until they receive COBRA coverage. After that, qualifying expenses are reimbursed.

Black's not willing to front his surgery costs, however, because COBRA could disappear altogether if Enron switches its bankruptcy filing from Chapter 11, or reorganization, to Chapter 7, which is liquidation.

Another worker, Candace Womack, didn't find out her insurance had lapsed until New Year's Day, when she got out of the hospital from heart surgery and needed to buy prescriptions.

Womack, who worked in software support, carried health insurance for her family.

"I'm getting a little ticked about the situation," said Womack, 51, who added that she was able to sign up for COBRA coverage before she walked out the door after she was laid off from another company in the mid-1990s.

Hackers deface Texas Lottery's Web site

DALLAS (AP) — The Texas Lottery's Web site was attacked and temporarily defaced by hackers over the weekend, say state officials who are investigating the security breach.

Sunday night's attack was not the first for the Texas Lottery Commission's Web site.

Keith Elkins, the lottery commission's communications director, said other hacking incidents have been reported to the Texas attorney general's office and to the FBI.

After the latest attack, the Web site was corrected by early today.

"It's not the first time we've been hacked into, and we take it very seriously," Elkins, the lottery commission's communications director, told The Dallas Morning News in today's online edition.

State officials are investigating how the Web site was defaced. Officials learned about the problem at 10:45 p.m. Sunday.

Visitors to the site were greeted by a page that replaced the lottery commission's normal design.

Elkins said hackers left "graffiti" on the site, meaning information wasn't altered and only the appearance was changed.

"It's not a lotto drawing night," said Elkins. "It's an inconvenience to our players, and ... it's frustrating for us."

Last June, a hacker tapped into the Lottery Commission's Web site, posting a message that urged readers to dump their computer programs in favor of another system.

LOTTO TEXAS
TEXAS LOTTERY

Lotto Texas

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

The ticket was worth an estimated $9 million.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 54-31-1-3-51-41.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $12 million.

Pick 3

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

0-5-4

Will keep wrinkles

RADNOR, Pa. (AP) — Actor and director Robert Redford insists he'll keep his wrinkles.

Redford, who turned 64 in August, told TV Guide in its Jan. 12 issue that plastic surgery is not in his future. "I'm not a facelift person. I am what I am," Redford said.

Redford, interviewed as his annual Sundance Film Festival was set to open in Park City, Utah, said he did not want to put down the practice. "It is OK for some people," he said.

But the "trade-off is that something of your soul in your face goes away," he said.

Explosives detection teams in short supply for airports

HOUSTON (AP) — Teams of bomb-sniffing dogs and their handlers, in demand at airports since terrorists targeted New York and Washington, have been working seven days a week in the months since the attacks.

Still, there aren't enough of the explosives-detection K-9 units to go around.

The Federal Aviation Administration plans to have 300 explosives-detection teams in place at 80 of the nation's busiest airports by the end of 2003, says an agency spokeswoman. Currently, about 175 teams work for the FAA at 40 airports.

In Houston, trained dogs and the police officers they are paired with are part of the nation's defense against terrorism following the Sept. 11 attacks. The explosives-detection K-9 unit is the only one for 250 miles.

At kennels just west of Bush Intercontinental Airport, a group of German shepherds and Belgian malinois — Annie, Azor, Simba and Nero — are paired with Houston Police Department officers.

"Our teams have been working 12-hour days, six to seven days a week since the attacks," officer Charles Vaughn, Azor's handler, told the Houston Chronicle in today's editions.

The number of teams assigned to the HPD unit will increase from six to nine this year.

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If Your Birthday Numbers Match Birthday Bash Cash Numbers You Can Win Cash!!

Today's Birthday Bash Cash $60

Bash Cash value increases $10 when there is no winner.

Weekend Birthday Bash Cash Numbers

0 5 - 0 3 - 6 0
Month Day Year

Deadline 5 p.m. Monday, 01-07-02

New Birthday Bash Cash Numbers In The Tuesday Edition Of The Snyder Daily News

HOW TO PLAY:
-You win if BASH CASH numbers match your birthday in sequence.
-Each BASH CASH starts with $50.
-BASH CASH increases $10 each time there is no winner.
-NEW BASH CASH numbers will be published Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday Editions of The Snyder Daily News.

ELIGIBILITY:
-Resident of Scurry County
-Must be at least 16 year old.
-Employees of the Snyder Daily News , their spouses and children are not eligible.

TO CLAIM BIRTHDAY BASH CASH
-Prize must be claimed in person by deadline.
-In case of multi-winners prize will be divided equally.
- Prize is claimed at Snyder Daily News, 3600 College Ave.
-Must provide proof of birthday and legal residence.
-Proof: driver's license, voter registration card, birth certificate, phone book, utility bill or other documentation.

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AA CEO backs decision to eject agent

DALLAS (AP) — American Airlines chief executive Don Carty says he backs a pilot's decision to remove an armed Arab-American Secret Service agent from a Christmas Day flight at the Baltimore-Washington International Airport.

"I am completely convinced that our captain acted appropriately and in the best interests of security on his airplane," Carty said in a weekend statement for American employees on the company's Web site and on the company's hotline. "Our captains deal with law enforcement professionals who carry firearms on airplanes all the time."

Carty said he believed the pilot had the agent removed solely in the interest of the flight's safety.

The pilot described the man, who was flying to Waco, Texas, to join the security detail protecting President Bush at his ranch in nearby Crawford, as acting "very hostile" and making "loud, abusive comments." That raised more suspicion about the safety of allowing him aboard, the pilot said.

Lawyers representing the Secret Service agent disputed the pilot's account, saying the agent was cooperative, calm and professional throughout the encounter and was the victim of racial bias. The agent, through his lawyers, is demanding an apology from American Airlines and civil rights training for its flight crews.

The Secret Service has not commented on the incident beyond saying it is conducting an inquiry.

Airline records show that the captain doubted the authenticity of the agent's badge and photo identification and kept him off the Christmas Day flight for 1 1/4 hours before ultimately taking off late without him.

"In the judgment of an experienced pilot backed by SOC and law enforcement in Baltimore, this agent was not behaving appropriately," Carty said. "And our captain simply was not going to let an angry man with a gun on his airplane and I back that completely."

Carty said the airline doesn't condone intolerance and that he believes the agent's removal has been blown out of proportion.

"He, of all people, should understand the security concerns that motivated our Captain, who, under federal law has responsibility for the flight and for the lives of our customers on board," Carty said.

Bush told reporters after the incident that he would be "madder than heck" if a government inquiry into the incident found one of his Secret Service protectors was discriminated against.

The agent's attorneys said he hasn't sought compensation from American Airlines but hasn't ruled out a lawsuit, either. If he did receive any money, he would give it to victims of the Sept. 11 attacks, they said.

Dangerous pilots hard to identify, flight schools say

WASHINGTON (AP) — Many of the nation's flight instructors are focusing on ways to screen would-be pilots after a Florida teenager commandeered a plane and crashed into a skyscraper.

Charles J. Bishop of Palm Harbor, Fla., was killed Saturday after the four-seat plane crashed into the 28th floor of a 42-story Tampa skyscraper.

The 15-year-old was supposed to be performing a preflight check on the 2000 Cessna 172R as his flight instructor had requested, but instead took off without permission, police said. No one inside the building was injured.

Bishop's death — after hijackers crashed planes into New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon last Sept. 11 — has sparked concerns about possible security gaps for those who fly small aircraft.

"You don't know how an individual's mind is going to work," said Joe Siligato, owner of Spirit Mountain Aviation, a flight school and charter service in Cody, Wyo.

Tampa Police Chief Bennie Holder said Sunday that Bishop left a note expressing support for terrorism leader Osama bin Laden, suggested he crashed the plane on purpose and said he acted alone. Holder said there was no indication Bishop specifically targeted the building or "had any intention of harming anyone else."

Some flight schools reacted immediately to the new threat. Greg Russell, general manager of CSG Aviation Services in Columbus, Ga., said he plans to convene his employees Monday to review security procedures.

"We've already made some drastic changes since September 11 and we'll probably make sure we do a little more now," Russell said.

Andy Dutzi, director of The Flight School at Palm Springs, Calif., said he has a 15-year-old student, and in light of the Tampa crash he intends to talk to teachers or counselors at the boy's school to ask about his state of mind.

Dutzi said his school requires flight instructors to be present with student pilots during preflight checks, but not all of them follow that order. He said he fired a flight instructor six weeks ago for repeatedly ignoring the rule.

Most instructors said there was little they could do to prevent a similar situation, where instructors have gotten to know and trust a student.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Wife seeks modest suggestion for covering her sister-in-law

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "John," and I are in our mid-20s. We have been married for over a year. During this time his younger sister, "Caitlin," has made numerous trips to visit us. She is charming, thoughtful and wholesome, and I look forward to her visits. Not only are Caitlin and John very close, but I consider her to be my best friend. Although I enjoy her company, there is one thing about her visits I'm not crazy about.

John and I live in a one-bedroom apartment, and she has only the den couch to sleep on. While this provides her no privacy, she still prefers sleeping in the buff. When she undresses for bed, it makes no difference if John is present or not. When she wakes up in the morning, she'll stroll into the kitchen "as is" for coffee while on her way to take a shower. If John and I are in the kitchen, too, she's not shy about standing around in her birthday suit, chit-chatting with us as she sips her coffee. I've always maintained a casual attitude about this, but actually, I would prefer not to see her walking around in the nude.

I realize that females are not required to cover themselves around males in their own family. I wasn't that modest around my brother, either. But now that I'm married to Caitlin's brother, is it still acceptable? I'm very uncomfortable. — **SENSITIVE SISTER-IN-LAW**

DEAR "SIS": If you and your sister-in-law are so close that you consider her your best friend, level with her about the fact that her nudity is making you uncomfortable. On her next visit, have a nice terry-cloth bathrobe waiting for her in the den. If she forgets to use it on her way through the kitchen to her morning shower, throw her a couple of oven mitts. I'll bet she gets the hint.

**

DEAR ABBY: Hi. I'm writing about the relationship between my dad and me. I'm 13 and my parents are divorced. They are now married to different people.

My dad forgot all about me for the first five years of my life. I finally got in touch with him and visited him for a few weekends, but now, he doesn't answer my phone calls. He won't talk to me because he lost his job and owes almost $1,000 in child support. I think he's afraid to answer my calls because he thinks we're going to cuss at him about the child support, when all I really want to do is talk to him.

I've tried writing to him, but he doesn't write back. What can I do besides calling him or writing him? Please give me your advice. — **LONESOME TEEN IN RIVERSIDE, MO.**

P.S. My stepdad hates me. I'm not comfortable with him.

DEAR LONELY TEEN: Sometimes people become parents before they're completely grown up themselves. Try to be patient with your father. Having lost his job and fallen behind in his child support, he may consider himself a failure and be ashamed to face you.

Write him one more note and say: "Dad, I need you to be part of my life. Just hearing from you is more important than money. I love you." Then cross your fingers. If you don't hear from him, the fault is his — and it's no reflection on you.

**

Pauline Phillips and her daughter Jeanne Phillips share the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

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

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Gas leak kills three gorillas

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Clorine gas leaked from a storage container and filled a gorilla habitat at a zoo Sunday, killing three animals.

The gas also sickened the nine other gorillas and two staff members who tried to free the animals. The zookeepers were treated at a hospital and released.

Staff at the Gladys Porter Zoo were treating the western lowland gorillas, including a young male in serious condition.

Firefighters arrived about 4 a.m. and found three gorillas unconscious and others suffering from chlorine inhalation. They provided oxygen to the animals, said Cesar Garcia, an EMS supervisor on duty Sunday night.

Authorities suspect a nearby space heater caused a fire that melted the plastic container of chlorine.

The zoo identified the dead gorillas as 10-year-old Kayla, her 11-month-old son, Makoko, and a 2-year-old female named Uzuri.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 01-07-02
♠ 10
♥ 10
♦ A 10 6 5 4 2
♣ J 10 9 8 2

West
♠ 9 5 4 2
♥ Q 9 7 5 4
♦ K
♣ Q 6 4

East
♠ K J 8 7 3
♥ A K 8 2
♦ Q 7
♣ 5 3

South
♠ A Q 6
♥ J 6 3
♦ J 9 8 3
♣ A K 7

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
		2 ♠	Dbl.
2 NT	3 ♥	3 NT	Dbl.
4 ♦	Dbl.	4 ♥	Dbl.
Pass	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ 5

Let's look at the women's event

Running concurrently with the Bermuda Bowl was the 13th Venice Cup for women. The two U.S. entries and several European teams were considered potential winners. All the favorites qualified for the quarterfinals. There, the USA-1 team met Germany. After 64 of the 96 boards, Germany led by only 18. However, Germany won the penultimate session by 68-10. The match was effectively over, and the final score was 264-196. This was the best piece of card-reading during the match.

Two spades showed 3-9 points with at least 5-5 in either the majors or the minors. (This sort of warfare is popular in Europe.) East's double announced both majors. South's two no-trump was a strength-showing inquiry, North's three no-trump indicating a maximum(!) with the minors. Following some control-bidding (cue-bidding) by North, South ended in five diamonds.

After winning with her heart king, East shifted to a low spade. German declarer Sabine Auken stopped to assess the situation. It looked as though the club finesse was doomed. If so, to avoid losing one heart, one diamond and one club, she would need an endplay. Backing her judgment, Auken finessed the spade queen, cashed the spade ace, ruffed a heart in the dummy, played a club to her ace, ruffed her last heart, and cashed the diamond ace. Now Auken played a club to her king, ruffed her final spade in the dummy, and exited with a trump. East had to win with her queen and return a major, allowing declarer to discard her club seven and to ruff in the dummy. Brilliant!

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Ten people treated

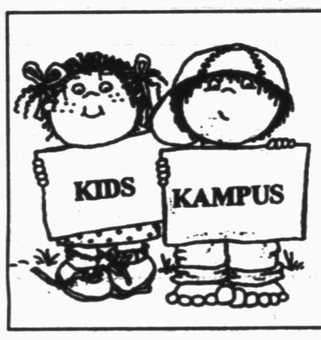
DALLAS (AP) — Ten worshippers at a South Dallas church were overcome by carbon monoxide fumes Sunday and taken to the hospital after a furnace malfunctioned.

Lt. Doug Dickerson, spokesman for Dallas Fire Rescue, said when firefighters arrived at 12:30 p.m. at Templo Esmirna Asamblea de Dios, they found a number of people complaining of headaches, nausea and other symptoms associated with carbon monoxide exposure.

The church service, attended by 50 to 60 people, began at 9:30 a.m. Dickerson said people started getting sick in the first hour.

Berry's World

DATELINE AFGHANISTAN: Evidence against global warming is overwhelming.



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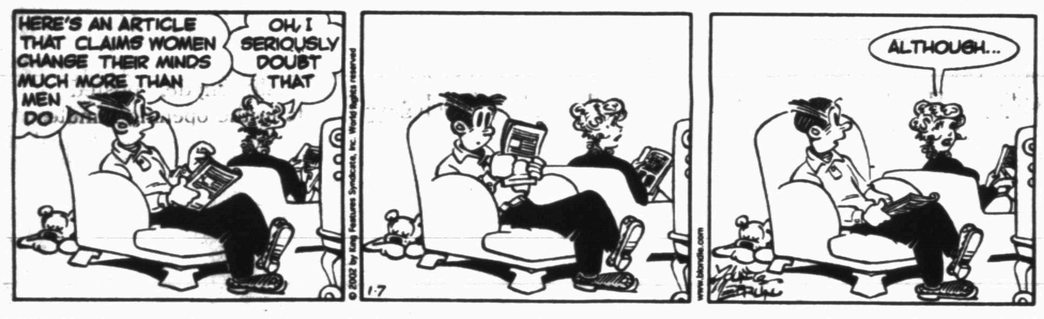

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Hang around
5 Library sound
8 45 or 78
11 District
12 Pooch's comment
14 Yes, to Miss Piggy
15 Poet's new day
16 Horror-film servant
17 Coffee maker
18 Garment pieces
20 Flipped a coin
22 Naval off.
23 Overdue
24 Urged on
27 Box-score stats
29 No, at Loch Ness
30 Bandanna
34 More shiny
37 Collar
38 Tear to bits
39 Spiny plants
41 Memo
43 Beauty pack
44 Defense skill
46 Whitish gems
49 Here, in Paris
50 Chairperson
52 Willing to try
54 Owl's query
55 Fashion magazine
56 Non-flying birds
57 Atom fragment
58 Actor Mineo
59 Wise person

DOWN

1 Well-known uncle
2 Gridder Aikman
3 Flying prefix
4 Union soldier
5 Type of cheese
6 Monopolize
7 Jeer
8 Shake awake
9 Blender setting
10 Object to
13 Play
19 Conclusion
21 Obi
24 UK part
25 Guy's partner
26 College maj.
27 Tall grass
28 Shivery sound
30 Reunion attendees
31 Business abbr.
32 Dine
33 Hoover's org.
35 Tijuana Ms.
36 Do a slow burn
39 Mug
40 Sayings
41 Cheesy snack
42 Winter constellation
43 Clothes horse
44 Fruit or bird
45 Lampreys
47 Tibetan monk
48 Complacent
51 Pie — — mode
53 Wind dir.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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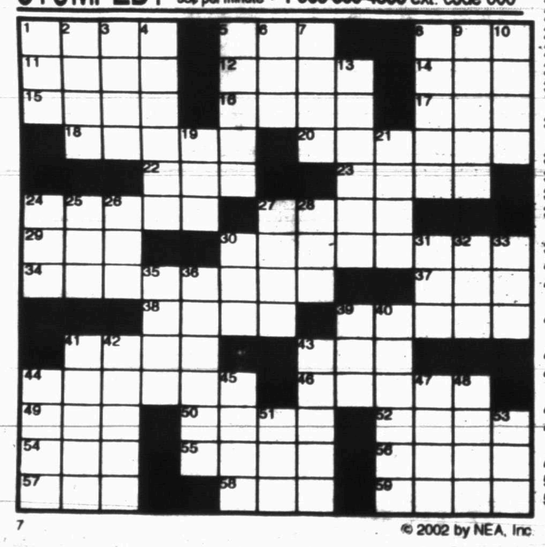

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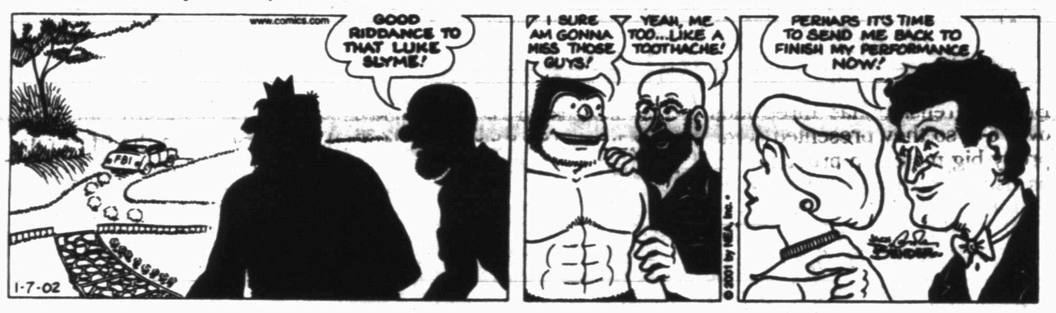

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

Snyder Daily News
Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"I WISH MARGARET WOULD STOP CALLING TO TELL ME THAT SHE'S NOT SPEAKING TO ME."

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"Tell Sandra, lover-boy is here."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

Snyder Fren

By Eric
Sports

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Sny

Men's Comme

Team
*The Shack
Blue Sunoco
Rogers Backhoe
YZ Systems
Anadarko
Snyder Iron
Patterson
WTP Energy
Timely Finance
Snyder Brick
NAPA
Cutting Edge
*First-half winners

High series: Cory
629; Gary Kinder, h
High game: David
214; Bobby Lord, ha
Splits and special
Glasscock and Da
Roger Batchelor, 2-
10; Butch Evans, 6-

Nati

By The Assoc
All Time
AMERICAN CO

	W	L
y-New England	11	
x-Miami	11	
x-N.Y. Jets	10	
Indianapolis	6	1
Buffalo	3	1
Centr		
	W	L
y-Pittsburgh	13	
Baltimore	9	
Cleveland	7	
Tennessee	7	
Jacksonville	6	1
Cincinnati	6	1
We		
	W	L
y-Oakland	10	
Seattle	9	
Denver	8	
Kansas City	6	1
San Diego	5	1
NATIONAL CO		
Ea		
	W	L
y-Philadelphia	11	
Washington	8	
N.Y. Giants	7	
Arizona	7	
Dallas	5	1
Centr		

SPORTS

Snyder falls to Frenship, 61-47

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

WOLFFORTH — After a disappointing performance in the second half Thursday against Plainview, the Snyder Tigers played inspired basketball for all four quarters on Saturday, but still had nothing to show for it in the end.

Frenship used its size advantage on the inside, and made the most of 34 trips to the free-throw line to turn away Snyder, 61-47, in a District 4-4A tilt at Wolfforth.

For Snyder, it was the second consecutive District 4-4A setback after opening league play with a win to drop the squad to 1-2 in the standings and 5-13 on the season. Frenship improved to 1-2 in the conference and 13-7 overall.

Despite the overwhelming size difference in the paint, Snyder battled back from a pair of early deficits to knot the tally at 26-26 by halftime.

Frenship held an 11-4 advantage in the first period, before a pair of three-pointers by Chris McLeod spurred a Tiger run that tied the game at 13-13 heading into the second quarter.

Another long-range bucket from McLeod, and one from Nick Landes kept Snyder in the game in the second quarter.

The Tigers managed only two baskets from two-point range and missed nine free throws in the first half, but outplayed Frenship on the defensive end.

"I thought our kids played hard all night," said Snyder coach Bud Birks. "Frenship has three kids over 6-5 so they presented some pretty big match-up problems for us. But our kids got after them, and that's exactly what we asked them to do."

Snyder grabbed its lead of the night two minutes into the third quarter on a McLeod layup. The Tigers held a 32-31 advantage with 3:34 left in the period, before Frenship closed the quarter with an 11-6 run.

Frenship had padded their lead to only nine points midway through the fourth, before things took a turn for the worse.

Snyder senior Tate Thompson picked up a technical foul and was ejected after a brief confrontation with one of Frenship's 6-7 post players.

No foul was called on the opposing player. During Birks' argument of the call, the Snyder coach was whistled for a technical, giving Frenship six free throws and the ball.

Five of the six free throws were good, giving Frenship a 14-point lead and putting the game out of reach.

"It was a very physical game, and I'll leave it at that," Birks said. "We had a spell in the third quarter where we didn't execute well on the offensive end. And then when the technicals were assessed, that pretty much decided the game."

McLeod finished with 21 points as did Frenship's Darold Crow.

The Tigers drained only 33 percent of their shots on the night, compared to 51 percent for Frenship.

Snyder is in action again Tuesday at Andrews.

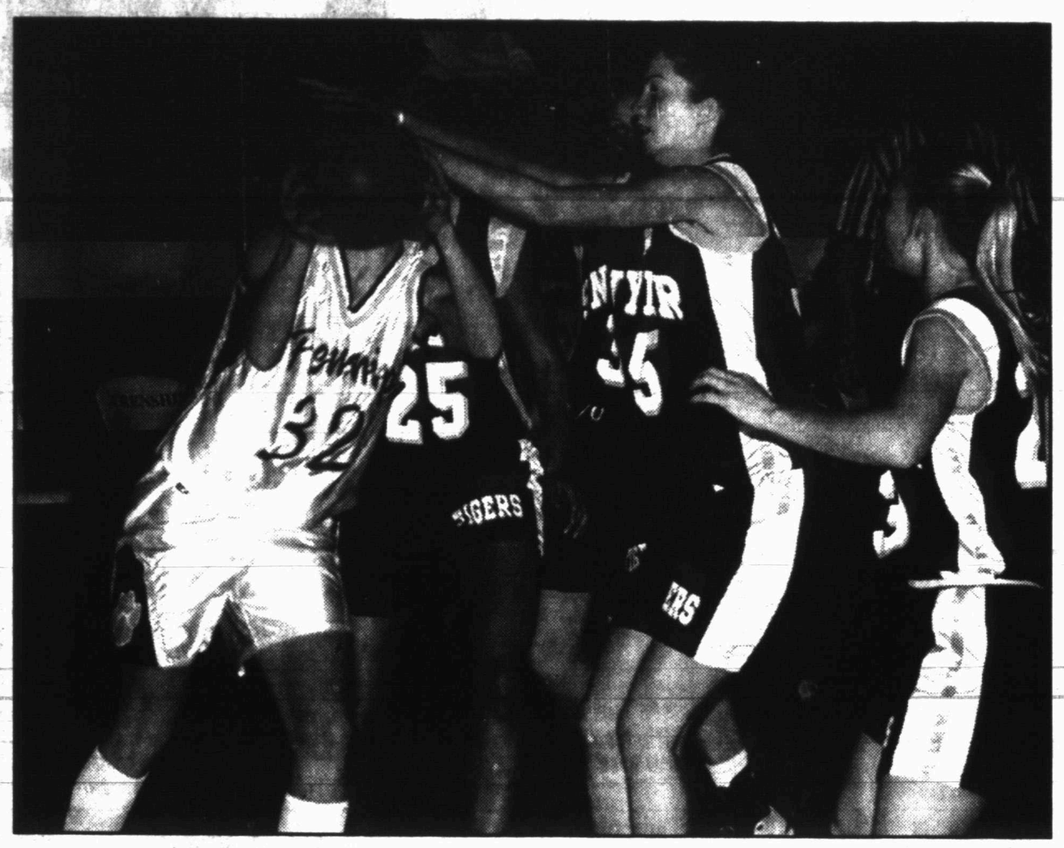
In other district games Saturday, Andrews edged Big Spring. Levelland took care of Lake View, and Estacado pounded Plainview.

Snyder	13	13	11	10 —	47
Frenship	13	13	16	19 —	61

Snyder
Clay 1-3 0-0 2, Mendoza 0-2 0-0 0, McLeod 5-9 7-12 21, Landes 2-4 2-4 7, Jones 1-2 0-4 2, Scott 3-7 1-2 7, Dorsett 0-1 0-0 0, Driggers 0-3 4-7 4, Thompson 0-2 4-4 4, Bedell 0-3 0-0 0. **Totals 12-36 18-33 47.**

Frenship
Quinn 4-5 3-4 11, D. Crow 7-10 7-12 21, Lamontagne 0-1 2-2 2, Stroud 0-1 0-0 0, Blake 2-8 0-0 5, H. Crow 3-3 3-3 9, Kelley 0-1 2-2 2, Leano 0-2 2-4 2, Sutton 2-4 5-7 9. **Totals 18-35 24-34 61.**

Three-point goals: Snyder 5 (McLeod 4, Landes), Frenship 1 (Blake). Rebounds: Snyder 20 (Clay 5, Scott 5), Frenship 25 (D. Crow 8, H. Crow 8). Total fouls: Snyder 28, Frenship 21. Fouled out — Stroud.



BLOCKED — Snyder's Afton Schwertner (35) tries to block the shot of Frenship's Crystal McReynolds during district action Saturday night. Looking on for Snyder are Zipporah Peoples (25) and Chaelyn Robinson (23). (SDN Staff Photo)

SHS girls downed by Frenship

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

WOLFFORTH — With the Lady Tigers still in the learning process on the offensive end, Snyder has had to rely on its defense for the most part this season.

When their defensive tactics faltered Saturday night, the Lady Tigers were left to fighting an uphill battle.

Frenship was forced into only 12 turnovers, and shot almost 50 percent from the floor to claim a 61-28 district victory in Wolfforth.

The setback dropped Snyder to 1-4 in the District 4-4A standings and 6-13 on the year, while Frenship improved to 2-3 and 13-9 overall.

In their second game in a span of three days, the Lady Tigers seemed one step behind Frenship on the defensive end. Snyder also committed 26 turnovers on the night.

"We have to play good defense, and take care of the ball to give ourselves a chance," said Snyder coach Mike Martin. "Right now, we're as effective on the offensive end as we want to be, so we can't afford to give the other team extra chances and easy baskets."

Snyder managed only one bucket and three points in the opening quarter to trail 14-3 after only eight minutes of action.

The Lady Tigers picked up their offensive play in the second quarter with nine points, but surrendered 18 on the other end.

Trailing 32-12 to start the second half, Snyder posted nine points in the opening minutes of the third quarter, before Frenship put the game away for good with a 9-2 run to close out the period.

Sophomore Erin Burleson and junior Afton Schwertner finished with six points apiece to lead Snyder on a night when the Lady Tigers connected on only 26 percent of their shots.

Frenship countered with a 22-of-48 effort from the field, spurred by Crystal McReynolds' 14 points. Stacy Russell added 13 for Frenship.

Snyder plays its third game in six days when it travels to face Andrews (2-3, 13-6) on Tuesday.

Snyder	03	09	11	05 —	28
Frenship	14	18	14	15 —	61

Snyder
Burleson 2-5 2-4 6, Schwertner 2-4 2-3 6, Peoples 0-0 2-4 2, Putnam 1-3 0-0 2, Robinson 2-8 1-3 5, Drum 1-3 1-2 3, Daniell 0-5 1-2 1, Lollar 0-1 1-2 1, Chambers 0-2 0-0 0, Russell 1-4 0-0 2. **Totals 9-35 10-20 28.**

Frenship
Stewart 3-7 0-0 7, McReynolds 6-11 2-4 14, Russell 4-5 5-9 13, Hutchinson 2-6 0-0 5, Gruner 2-5 1-1 5, Booher 0-1 4-4 4, Alderman 0-1 0-0 0, Robertson 0-3 0-4 0, McNiel 3-6 0-0 6, Knight 2-3 3-4 7. **Totals 22-48 15-26 61.**

Three-point goals: Snyder 0, Frenship 2 (Stewart, Hutchinson). Rebounds: Snyder 26 (Peoples 9), Frenship 21 (Russell 3, Stewart 3, McReynolds 3, Gruner 3, Alderman 3). Total fouls: Snyder 24, Frenship 20. Fouled out — Russell.

Lions down Cowboys in finale

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — Emmitt Smith's run at history wasn't enough to spark the Dallas Cowboys in perhaps their most embarrassing loss of the season.

The Cowboys' star running back became the first rusher in NFL history to surpass 1,000 yards in 11 straight seasons as Dallas lost 15-10 to the lowly Detroit Lions on Sunday.

Smith broke the record he shared with former Lion Barry Sanders on a 13-yard run on his 13th carry late in the third quarter. He finished the game with 77 yards and a touchdown on 18 carries to complete his 12th season with 1,021 and increase his career total to 16,187, behind only Walter Payton's 16,726.

Still, Smith wore an anguished look as he trudged off the field at the end of a Cowboys' loss to one of the worst Lions' team in franchise history.

"It's very sour," Smith said.

In the final NFL game at the Silverdome, Ty Detmer triggered the Lions' offense as Detroit (2-14) managed to avoid joining Carolina and six other teams in league history with 1-15 records.

Detmer, filling in for injured rookie Mike McMahon for the second game, was 24-of-40 for 242 yards with two TDs and no interceptions. He threw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Johnnie Morton with 5:37 left for the game-winner.

Detroit's go-ahead touchdown drive started with Cory Schlesinger's 20-yard run and Aveion Cason's 19-yard run. After Schlesinger ran for 2 yards on a third-and-1 at the Dallas 18, Detmer found Morton for the touchdown. The 2-point conversion failed.

The sold-out crowd erupted as Morton dropped to the turf after the touchdown and undulated his body with a dance called "The Centipede."

Safety Marty Carter intercepted Quincy Carter's long lob at Detroit's 19 to hurt Dallas' comeback hopes.

The Cowboys forced Detroit to punt after three plays, which gave them the ball back on their 40 with 3:23 left. But Dallas turned the ball over on downs less than a minute later, all but ending the game.

"This is a tough end to a tough season," Cowboys coach Dave Campo said. "It's very difficult for a young team to bounce back off a big win like we had last week (a 27-21 win over playoff-bound San Francisco), and we couldn't do it today. That was disappointing."

Many Lions players shook hands and slapped hands with fans in the front for about 10 minutes after the game.

"We pulled out two wins at the end of the year that no one else in the league cares about," Detroit kicker Jason Hanson said. "But they were nice wins."

After playing 30 miles north of Detroit for 27 years, the Lions will return downtown next season to play at Ford Field, a new $315 million indoor stadium that will play host to the 2006 Super Bowl.

Despite Sunday's win, the Lions matched the worst record in franchise history. The Cowboys finished 5-11 for the second straight year.

Carter completed 11 of 26 passes for 158 yards and threw one interception.

District 4-4A Boys Basketball

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Estacado	3	0	18	5
Plainview	2	1	10	8
Levelland	2	1	11	12
Andrews	2	1	11	7
Frenship	1	2	13	7
Snyder	1	2	5	13
Big Spring	1	2	9	10
Lake View	0	2	6	12

Saturday's results: Frenship 61, Snyder 47; Andrews def. Big Spring; Levelland 67, Lake View 63; Estacado 70, Plainview 48.

Tuesday's games: Snyder at Andrews; Plainview at Big Spring; Estacado at Levelland; Frenship at Lake View.

Friday's games: Estacado at Snyder; Big Spring at Levelland; Frenship at Andrews; Lake View at Plainview.

District 4-4A Girls Basketball

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Plainview	5	0	19	1
Estacado	4	1	17	5
Levelland	4	1	18	5
Andrews	2	3	13	6
Big Spring	2	3	11	9
Frenship	2	3	13	9
Snyder	1	4	6	13
Lake View	0	5	2	17

Saturday's results: Frenship 61, Snyder 28; Andrews def. Big Spring; Levelland 62, Lake View 17; Plainview 77, Estacado 58.

Tuesday's games: Snyder at Andrews; Plainview at Big Spring; Estacado at Levelland; Frenship at Lake View.

Friday's games: Estacado at Snyder; Big Spring at Levelland; Frenship at Andrews; Lake View at Plainview.

Snyder Bowling Leagues

Men's Commercial League

Team	W	L
*The Shack	171.5	100.5
Blue Sunoco	156.5	115.5
Rogers Backhoe	151	121
YZ Systems	147	125
Anadarko	139	133
Snyder Iron	137	135
Patterson	131	141
WTP Energy	125.5	146.5
Timely Finance	124	148
Snyder Brick	121.5	150.5
NAPA	118.5	153.5
Cutting Edge	109.5	162.5

*First-half winners

High series: Cory Maxfield, scratch, 629; Gary Kinder, handicap, 667.
High game: David Carroll, scratch, 214; Bobby Lord, handicap, 237.
Splits and special mentions: Mark Glasscock and David Carroll, 3-10; Roger Batchelor, 2-7; Eddie Abel, 5-10; Butch Evans, 6-7-10; Wayne Monroney, 152 triplicate.

Jack N Jill League

Team	W	L
Stone Welding	38	18
Renegades	35	21
Bluebonnet Farm	34	22
Countryplace	33.5	22.5
Timely Finance	32	24
Snyder Iron	32	24
Goobers	30.5	25.5
Leatherwood's	29.5	26.5
Collision Specialists	24	32
Team 10	19.5	36.5
YZ Systems	14	42
BCEC	14	42

High series: Scratch: Cory Maxfield, 483; Vicky Renshaw, 489. Handicap: Chris Northcut, 603; Cindy Aikin, 606.
High game: Scratch: Edwin Jackson, 215; Vicky Renshaw, 197. Handicap: Edwin Jackson, 259; Vicky Renshaw, 236.

National Football League

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
East						
y-New England	11	5	0	.688	371	272
x-Miami	11	5	0	.688	344	290
x-N.Y. Jets	10	6	0	.625	308	295
Indianapolis	6	10	0	.375	413	486
Buffalo	3	13	0	.188	265	420
Central						
y-Pittsburgh	13	3	0	.812	352	212
Baltimore	9	6	0	.600	284	262
Cleveland	7	9	0	.438	285	319
Tennessee	7	9	0	.438	336	388
Jacksonville	6	10	0	.375	294	286
Cincinnati	6	10	0	.375	226	309
West						
y-Oakland	10	6	0	.625	399	327
Seattle	9	7	0	.562	301	324
Denver	8	8	0	.500	340	339
Kansas City	6	10	0	.375	320	344
San Diego	5	11	0	.312	332	321

NATIONAL CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
East						
y-Philadelphia	11	5	0	.688	343	208
Washington	8	8	0	.500	256	303
N.Y. Giants	7	9	0	.438	294	321
Arizona	7	9	0	.438	295	343
Dallas	5	11	0	.312	246	338
Central						
y-Chicago	13	3	0	.812	338	203
x-Green Bay	12	4	0	.750	390	266
x-Tampa Bay	9	7	0	.562	324	280
Minnesota	5	10	0	.333	287	371
Detroit	2	14	0	.125	270	424
West						
y-St. Louis	14	2	0	.875	503	273
x-San Francisco	12	4	0	.750	409	282
New Orleans	7	9	0	.438	333	409
Atlanta	7	9	0	.438	291	377
Carolina	1	15	0	.062	253	410

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Sunday's Games
Indianapolis 29, Denver 10
Detroit 15, Dallas 10
Washington 20, Arizona 17
Green Bay 34, N.Y. Giants 25
Chicago 33, Jacksonville 13
Pittsburgh 28, Cleveland 7
New England 38, Carolina 6
Cincinnati 23, Tennessee 21
San Francisco 38, New Orleans 0
St. Louis 31, Atlanta 13
Miami 34, Buffalo 7
Seattle 21, Kansas City 18
N.Y. Jets 24, Oakland 22
Philadelphia 17, Tampa Bay 13
Open: San Diego

Monday's Game
Minnesota at Baltimore, 9 p.m.
End of Regular Season

National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
New Jersey	21	11	.656	—
Boston	20	12	.625	1
Washington	17	14	.548	3½
Orlando	17	18	.486	5½
New York	14	18	.438	7
Philadelphia	14	19	.424	7½
Miami	8	23	.258	12½
Central Division				
Milwaukee	18	13	.581	—
Indiana	20	15	.571	—
Toronto	18	15	.545	1
Detroit	16	15	.516	2
Charlotte	14	18	.438	4½
Cleveland	13	20	.394	6
Atlanta	12	20	.375	6½
Chicago	6	26	.188	12½

WESTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Midwest Division				
San Antonio	23	8	.742	—
Minnesota	23	9	.719	½
Dallas	22	11	.667	2
Utah	17	16	.515	7
Denver	10	21	.323	13
Houston	10	23	.303	14
Memphis	9	24	.273	15
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	24	6	.800	—
Sacramento	26	9	.743	½
L.A. Clippers	18	15	.545	7½
Phoenix	18	16	.529	8
Seattle	17	16	.515	8½
Portland	14	18	.438	11
Golden State	12	22	.353	14

Saturday's Games
Minnesota 112, Atlanta 96
Boston 90, New York 81
New Jersey 89, Charlotte 80
Detroit 101, Cleveland 91
Orlando 118, Golden State 109
Utah 113, Chicago 111, OT
Indiana 81, Houston 79
San Antonio 105, Dallas 103
Sacramento 118, Phoenix 112
Portland 96, Philadelphia 88
L.A. Clippers 86, Milwaukee 83

Sunday's Games
Seattle 89, Memphis 77
L.A. Lakers 109, Toronto 89
Miami 92, Golden State 84
Sacramento 115, Milwaukee 101

Monday's Games
Denver at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Portland at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Boston at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
New York at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
L.A. Clippers at Washington, 7 p.m.
Portland at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Memphis, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Detroit, 8 p.m.
New York at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Utah, 9 p.m.
Milwaukee at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

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States look to delinquent taxpayers for money to close budget deficits

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — States strapped by a slowing economy are turning to delinquent taxpayers to help balance tight budgets.

Ohio for three months is offering taxpayers who owe taxes — but have not been caught — the chance to come forward and pay the taxes they owe, minus half the accumulated interest and with no penalties. It is the first time the state has offered such a program.

After the amnesty ends, the state is promising to pursue delinquent taxpayers with a beefed-up auditing division.

"We're getting delinquent taxpayers on the roll, it's not costing us much money, and then they're on the rolls forever," said Thomas Zaino, commissioner of the Ohio Department of Taxation.

Ohio, Arizona, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada and New Hampshire all recently proposed or held such amnesties, estimating they can raise at least $224 million. Supporters say states are able to recoup money they likely would never see otherwise, while opponents argue people who least deserve it are getting a break.

At least 39 states and the District of Columbia previously have enacted tax amnesties since Arizona raised $6 million in a two-month program beginning in November 1982, the first such program recorded by the Washington, D.C.-based Federation of Tax Administrators.

"For this office, they are a leading economic indicator," said FTA spokeswoman Verenda Smith. "When we start to hear talk of amnesties in the state legislatures, we know there are some serious budget problems facing state governments."

This time around, some states, — like Ohio — are targeting individuals and businesses. Others, like Nevada, are offering the deal mainly to businesses. Louisiana's program, open to everyone from individuals to major corporations, expects to raise as much as $150 million.

"We're going to give up a little penalty and interest, but we're going to get the tax and get them off the books," said Danny Brown, spokesman for Louisiana's Department of Revenue.

Ohio lawmakers approved the amnesty in June as the economy began to slow and the state's Medicaid costs soared. The amnesty, which started Nov. 15 and ends Jan. 15, had raised $17.13 million as of Jan. 4, exceeding the original estimate of $17 million.

So far, more than 14,000 taxpayers have applied with back payments ranging from under $10 to more than $1 million.

Among other states:

—Arizona hopes this month and next to raise $10 million by allowing any taxpayer registered as delinquent to pay their taxes without fear of penalties. The money is needed to balance the state's $1.5 billion budget deficit.

—Beginning in May, Michigan hopes to raise $15 million to $50 million by accepting delinquent taxes without added penalties.

—Maryland raised $39.2 million in September and October last year, about $30 million of which will be used to make up shortfalls in the state's mental health programs.

"When you look at it from the standpoint of not having to cut education and health care as much, it's a balance, and what we thought would be a fair and just tradeoff with this economic picture right now," said Michigan Rep. Marc Shulman, a suburban Detroit Republican and chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

Some lawmakers, such as Michigan Republican Rep. Randy Richardville, oppose letting delinquent taxpayers come in from the cold.

"It's unfair to the average taxpayer who goes out there and pays his bills on time," Richardville said.

Ohio Senate President Richard Finan also opposed the idea and came close to opposing Ohio's proposal.

"Why should we even semi-reward people who don't do what the rest of us do regularly?" said Finan, a Cincinnati Republican. "The only reason I finally agreed to this is the commissioner looked me in the eye and said 'Senator, these are people we would never catch anyway.'"

In Columbus, a client came to accountant Lisa Trachevski recently with a confession: He owed about $475 in back taxes for most of the second half of the last decade.

Trachevski told him about Ohio's tax amnesty. Her client, a former factory worker now employed in the meatpacking industry, wants to participate and is trying to scrape together the money.

"If he can save a couple of hundred dollars in penalties, he's going to try really hard to get a check together," Trachevski said.

U.S. lets other nations act as proxies

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is encouraging proxy wars on terrorism in the Philippines, Yemen and Somalia by quietly providing intelligence, training and artillery while the locals do most, if not all, of the fighting.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said last week that the Bush administration is working with every nation in the U.S.-led coalition against terrorism and "encouraging them to take steps internally."

"Things have been happening in a variety of countries that have been very helpful," Rumsfeld told reporters. Nations will be encouraged to continue their support, "and I would suspect that most countries will be cooperative in trying to be helpful."

President Bush promised in the last days of 2001 that "next year will be a war year." However, he has suggested that the wars won't be as bold and obvious as the Afghanistan conflict. Instead, they will rely heavily on diplomatic and intelligence efforts.

In Somalia, for instance, the United States has been conducting reconnaissance flights to search for al-Qaida terrorist camps. It also is following the work of an alliance of Ethiopian-backed faction leaders who oppose Somalia's transitional government. The group has called for an international force to destroy bases where alleged terrorists are operating.

A more visible proxy campaign has been in the Philippines, where the United States armed government troops with hundreds of sniper rifles, mortars, grenade launders and other weapons for use against Abu Sayyaf, a Muslim extremist group linked to the al-Qaida network headed by Osama bin Laden.

Philippine neighbor Indonesia is another American surrogate, soon to take part in a U.S.-sponsored counterterrorism training program. Despite Indonesia's rocky political history because of bloodshed in East Timor, the United States is helping the Muslim country with hopes of preventing Southeast Asian nations from turning into a major al-Qaida hub.

A more covert battle looms in Yemen, whose president met privately last November with Bush. At the time, U.S. aides discussed a multimillion-dollar aid package for the Arab nation; weeks later, U.S.-trained and equipped Yemeni forces attacked a tribal group believed to be harboring al-Qaida operatives.

Engaging in proxy wars means fewer American casualties and the ability for the United States to avoid a visible link to nations with less than stellar reputations.

"You want them to do as much of the heavy lifting as you can get them to do," said Robert Pfaltzgraff, a military specialist at Tufts University.

The host countries usually welcome the U.S. involvement because a boost in economic and humanitarian aid often accompany it. The northern alliance in Afghanistan, for example, abided by U.S. efforts "not out of any love of the United States, but because they needed outside support," Pfaltzgraff said.

"The northern alliance needed weapons, it needed air support, and once it got the capabilities, they were able to overrun the Taliban," he said.

The same went for Pakistan, a key U.S. ally in the Afghanistan battle. One of the few nations that formally recognized — and sometimes aided — the Taliban government, Pakistan did an about-face after the Sept. 11 attacks. It allowed American forces to use its airspace during the bombing campaign and is pursuing Taliban members who have fled Afghanistan.

Influencing the attitude change was more than $50 million in U.S. aid and the lifting of economic sanctions because of nuclear tests that Pakistan has conducted in the past.

While the United States may have intelligence agents scoping potential terrorism operations in other nations, Gen. Tommy Franks, the U.S. war commander, said American forces have yet to put any "boots on the ground" outside Afghanistan.

"We have a great many activities going on in several countries in the region, but we're not involved in this kinetic activity, such as we've been involved in in Afghanistan," he said Friday.

Rumsfeld has said repeatedly that the multinational coalition would feature an ever-changing cast of players, with each nation dealt with individually.

"The Bush administration can't attempt the same approach to 60 different countries, which range from ones that are sometimes hostile to some of our closest allies," said Anthony Cordesman, a military analyst with the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"We don't have 'a' coalition," Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke told foreign reporters. "What we have is evolving, changing coalitions, which change over time as circumstances and demands and needs require."

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AOL TimeWrn	32.60	31.15	32.13	+ .18
AT&T Corp s	18.50	18.26	18.47	+ .10
Albertsons	31.75	31.29	31.29	—.55
Allfel	62.58	61.70	62.10	—.48
AmEl Pw	43.95	43.05	43.58	+ .31
AndarkPtr	54.70	53.50	54.50	+ .65
ATMOS Egy	21.99	21.82	21.98	+ .18
Avisll	7.77	7.61	7.77	+ .14
BP PLC	46.07	45.68	45.94	—.34
BakerHughes	35.72	34.78	35.60	+ .40
Bank of Amer	63.38	62.40	62.83	—1.04
BellSouth	40.29	40.00	40.18	—.12
vjBeth Steel	.57	.55	.55	
BurlNoSFe	29.99	29.50	29.85	+ .10
Caterpillar	54.09	53.60	53.65	—.21
ChevronTex	90.00	89.42	89.86	+ .56
Citigroup	52.20	51.55	51.80	—.40
CocaCola	47.00	44.80	45.02	—1.41
ColgatePal	56.05	55.45	55.91	—.33
ComclMetals	35.65	35.59	35.63	—.11
Cooperin	34.41	33.75	33.75	+ .30
DaimlrChry	45.10	44.37	44.38	—1.24
DeltaAirl	32.47	31.76	32.39	+ .21
Dillards Inc	16.59	16.10	16.41	+ .23
DowChem	37.00	36.40	36.41	—.34
DuPont	45.20	44.90	45.13	+ .01
EastmanChem	42.97	41.70	42.78	+ 1.04
EstKodak	28.48	27.65	27.70	—1.19
EDS Corp	67.29	66.65	67.05	+ .25
Entergy	39.40	38.05	39.18	—.13
ExxonMobil s	40.09	39.68	39.89	—.11
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FootLocker	16.85	16.40	16.40	+ .32
GenDynam	84.30	82.85	84.23	+ 1.42
GenElec	40.85	40.45	40.48	—.47
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K mart	5.05	4.61	4.99	+ .28
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Lubys	6.99	6.00	6.81	+ .81
LucentTech	7.24	7.04	7.06	—.04
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MayDptStr	36.70	36.32	36.41	+ .30
Medtronic	49.28	48.65	48.73	—.26
Motorola	15.80	15.30	15.33	—.22
NCR Corp	41.33	40.63	41.33	+ .43
Navistar	40.00	39.40	39.98	+ .54
PNM Resrcs	28.62	28.42	28.62	+ .06
Penney JC	26.95	26.65	26.88	+ .26
PepBoys	16.69	15.85	15.95	—.75
PepsiCo	48.35	47.75	48.00	—.36
Pharmacia	41.45	41.00	41.00	—.35
PhelpDodge	34.97	34.13	34.88	+ 1.09
PhilipPet	60.45	59.82	60.05	—.22
PilgrimPrd B	14.07	13.92	13.93	—.14
Praxair	55.64	55.33	55.45	—.09
ProctGamb	78.49	77.81	78.21	—.24
RadioShack	31.46	30.40	31.40	+ 1.77
ReliantEngy	26.80	26.20	26.47	+ .12
RoyalDut	49.33	48.60	48.91	—.35
SBC Comm	40.30	39.95	40.08	+ .09
SaraLee	21.48	21.22	21.31	—.14
Scripps EW	68.96	67.85	68.49	+ .42
SearsRoeb	50.24	49.75	49.84	+ .19
SherwinW	28.05	27.86	27.89	—.02
SouthernCo s	24.94	24.63	24.81	
SwstAirl s	19.24	18.97	19.10	—.01
SprintFON	19.87	19.50	19.84	+ .38
SprintPCS	22.70	21.70	21.80	—.65
Sunoco Inc	37.82	37.30	37.70	+ .24
TXU Corp	47.25	46.81	47.00	—.07
TempleInland	58.85	58.51	58.67	+ .06
Textrnd	37.49	37.20	37.20	—.29
Texaslnst	30.80	29.54	29.56	—.84
Textron	43.94	43.49	43.64	—.19
TriconGlbR	51.95	51.22	51.75	+ .85
Trinityrids	27.21	26.73	26.73	—.25
TylerTech	4.75	4.64	4.65	+ .01
UnionPacif	60.15	59.82	60.01	+ .01
USSteel	18.85	18.40	18.76	+ .31
UnitedTech	66.05	65.39	65.60	—.22
Unocal	35.60	35.20	35.45	+ .16
VerizonComm	51.07	50.60	51.02	+ .41
WalMart	58.10	57.40	57.91	+ .31
WellsFargo	43.98	43.75	43.88	+ .17
WstnGasRs	32.20	31.72	32.20	+ .23
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Xerox Cp	9.83	9.52	9.81	—.24

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JAN 07 2002

Demos push tax credit for companies that hire and give raises to employees

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seeking to direct any economic stimulus to workers, Senate Democrats are pushing a new tax credit to reward companies when they hire employees, give them raises or boost their hours on the job.

The credit, proposed by Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, would give a corporate income tax refund to companies paying more in Social Security payroll taxes in 2002 than they did last year. The refund would equal the 6.2 percent in payroll taxes that businesses pay for each of their workers above the 2001 limit.

Daschle, D-S.D., said the credit would provide an immediate jolt to the economy, create jobs and have minimal impact on the budget deficit because it would expire after only a year.

"If you increase your payroll, if you hire new people, restore hours that have been cut or give your workers a raise, you'll be reimbursed," Daschle said in announcing the proposal last Friday.

Democrats and Republicans ended 2001 at odds over legislation to stimulate the economy, largely in a dispute over tax relief versus aid to the unemployed. House Republicans managed to pass two separate plans, but neither came to a vote in the Senate.

With President Bush renewing his emphasis on the economy over the weekend, Daschle's job creation tax credit represents a new wrinkle in that debate and contrasts with GOP corporate tax breaks that were not linked directly to job gains.

"It is consistent with the focus of the Democratic Party, which is on employment and not on investment," said Hank Gutman, a partner at the KPMG accounting firm. "They're groping for a way to get cash in the hands of companies and target where that cash is going."

The credit would be a boon to those companies able to expand and boost workers' incomes in spite of the sluggish economy, said Dorothy Coleman, director of tax policy at the National Association of Manufacturers.

"It would provide a great benefit for those companies that are hiring," she said.

Others were less certain. For one thing, most small businesses pay regular income taxes, not corporate income taxes, and would be left out.

Intel, AMD selling fastest microprocessors

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Intel Corp. and Advanced Micro Devices Inc. today will begin selling the fastest models yet of their flagship processors, the electronic brains of personal computers.

Intel's new top Pentium 4 chips run at 2.2 gigahertz and 2 GHz, or 2.2 and 2 billion of cycles per second. AMD's latest, the Athlon XP 2000+, clocks in at 1.67 GHz.

Despite the speed difference, AMD says its Athlons are more efficient and perform better than faster Intel chips when it comes to running many of the most popular applications.

But Intel's new chips are the first to be built using a new process that allows smaller transistors and other features, including doubled on-chip memory and a 30 percent reduction in overall processor size.

That means the chips have a performance boost of roughly 10 percent, in addition to the boost that comes from increased processor speed, said Louis Burns, general manager of Intel's Desktop Platform Group.

Analysts also expect the new process technology to help Intel meet demand for the Pentium 4 as well as improve profit margins by increasing the number of chips produced from each silicon wafer.

"The cost structure is better. And they'll get more performance out of them," said Hans Mosesmann, an analyst at Prudential Securities. "It's a very good deal for Intel."

Intel's previous top chip was the 2 GHz Pentium 4, which was introduced in August. It was built using the older process technology.

The 2.2 GHz Pentium 4 will cost $562 when purchased in volumes of 1,000. The new 2 GHz chip is priced at $364 in volumes of 1,000. The Athlon XP 2000+ costs $339.

On the Net:
Intel: http://www.intel.com
AMD: http://www.amd.com

Date Book

Monday, Jan. 7, 2002

Today is the seventh day of 2002 and the 18th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1830, the first tickets for travel on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad were sold.

On this day in 1908, in Jefferson County, Ky., the first full-time county health department in the United States was established.

On this day in 1962, for the second time, Chubby Checker's "The Twist" became the No. 1 pop song in the United States. The song also reached No. 1 in 1960.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Millard Fillmore (1800-1874), U.S. president; Charles Peguy (1873-1914), writer; Charles Addams (1912-1988), cartoonist; Jean-Pierre Rampal (1922-2000), flutist; Jann Wenner (1947-), publisher, is 56; Kenny Loggins (1948-), musician, is 54; Nicolas Cage (1964-), actor, is 38.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1927, at a high school in Hinckley, Ill., the Harlem Globetrotters played their first game.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The bird of paradise alights only upon the hand that does not grasp." — John Berry

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Jan. 5) and new moon (Jan. 13).

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Rear Adm. Chester W. Nimitz Jr. is dead

NEEDHAM, Mass. (AP) — Rear Adm. Chester W. Nimitz Jr., a decorated World War II submarine veteran and only son of Navy Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, died with his wife, Joan Labern Nimitz. He was 86 and she was 89.

The couple faced deteriorating health and chose to take their own lives, a day after a New Year's Day celebration with their family, said their daughter, Betsy Van Dorn.

"This was not unexpected," she said. "They had lived their whole life together and wanted to die together."

The two had married in 1938.

Nimitz followed his father to the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., and the Navy, before moving on to a career with high technology companies.

After graduating from Annapolis in 1936, he served for three years on the cruiser Indianapolis before taking command of two submarines and a submarine division, according to a statement from his family.

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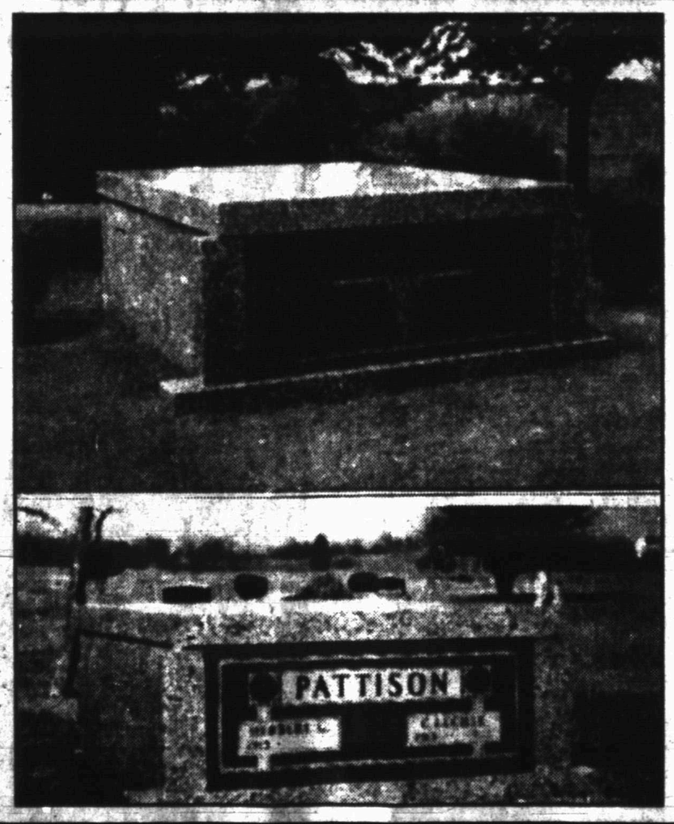

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Enron bankruptcy case should be moved to Texas, creditors report

NEW YORK (AP) — A group of Enron Corp. creditors will try to convince a New York bankruptcy judge today to move the case to a court in Houston, where the energy company is based.

Large creditors, such as energy traders Dynegy Inc. and El Paso Corp., and smaller ones, like the Southern Ute Indian Tribe of Colorado, believe it would be more convenient and economical to hear the case near the location of many Enron creditors and assets. Dynegy and El Paso are based in Houston.

In a motion filed by Dynegy and other creditors, lawyers also say there is "an emotional interest to be served" by moving the case to Houston, where thousands of Enron employees were laid off and many more witnessed the rapid evaporation of their retirement plans when the company's stock plummeted.

Analysts say these creditors might also be hoping for a potentially more favorable hearing in Houston, whose economy has suffered as a result of Enron's demise.

Lawyers for Enron, and a handful of creditors opposed to relocating the proceedings, are expected to argue that it would be less expensive and more accomodating if the case were administered in New York, home to the armies of lawyers and bankers working on both sides.

Howard B. Comet, an attorney for Weil, Gotshal and Manges LLP in New York, said it would also be easier for business partners and potential witnesses involved in Enron's worldwide operations to participate if the proceedings took place in New York.

"The focus of the financial restructuring is here," Comet said.

Citigroup Inc. of New York, Barclays Bank PLC of London and Dresdner Bank AG of Frankfurt are among the creditors opposed to changing venues.

Under the federal rules of bankruptcy procedure, a case may be transferred from one district court to another "in the interest of justice or for the convenience of the parties." The basic criteria considered by judges ruling on previous change-of-venue motions have been: the proximity of creditors, debtors and witnesses; the location of assets, and the cost.

"Judges have considerable discretion in making the call," said Robert Christmas, a bankruptcy expert with the law firm Nixon Peabody LLP in New York.

Christmas said moving the case to Houston would create "an atmosphere of pressure that does not exist in New York."

"That gives creditors the ability to have unhappy employees tramping around the courthouse," he said.

Christmas said few cases of this size have ever been moved, but that Judge Arthur J. Gonzalez could be swayed by the fact that so many of Enron's energy-trading partners are located in and around Houston.

Cases have been moved in the past if there were a lot of small creditors based in one area. However, new technologies have made it possible for interested parties to participate in the proceedings from thousands of miles away. For example, Houston-based lawyers for Enron creditors gave testimony last week via teleconference.

Enron collapsed late last year when revelations of questionable accounting practices and mounting debt caused investors and traders to lose confidence in the company. Its stock price, trading above $85 a year ago, is now firmly below $1 per share.

Enron's filed for protection from creditors under Chapter 11 of federal bankruptcy law on Dec. 2 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. One of the company's smaller subsidiaries, Enron Metals and Commodity Corp., is based there.

Lawyers for the Southern Ute tribe, a natural gas supplier, said the decision to file for bankruptcy in New York "is indicative of Enron's desperation to avoid facing the facts at its home in Houston."

Families of WTC victims say compensation fund is unfair

NEW YORK (AP) — Several dozen family members of World Trade Center victims and four members of Congress on Sunday called for revisions to the interim rules governing the federal victims' compensation fund.

"It would be terrible if the families of those victims were to be victimized again by the regulations that are being enacted by the special master," Rep. Peter King said at a news conference.

Special Master Kenneth Feinberg, the lawyer appointed to oversee the government fund, said he hoped to address the concerns.

Under the rules announced by Feinberg on Dec. 20, the compensation that family members receive would depend on the victim's family size, age and earnings. Feinberg has said that the average family would receive about $1.6 million.

The regulations give the family of each victim $250,000 for non-economic losses such as pain and suffering. Life insurance and pension fund payments would be subtracted from the awards, but charitable contributions would not.

"We're talking about a $250,000 cap," said Rep. Felix Grucci, a Republican. "You could slip and fall on the sidewalk as you walk out of here — and I'm not suggesting that anybody do that — but probably earn more on a slip-and-fall claim than these people will get for losing their loved ones."

Relatives who apply to the fund would largely give up their right to sue.

Beverly Eckert said she was on the phone with her husband, Sean Rooney, who worked at Aon Corp. in the south tower of the World Trade Center, for the last half-hour of his life until the tower collapsed.

"This is about fairness," Eckert said. "We're here because the figure that Special Master Kenneth Feinberg selected for pain and suffering in no way represents what the people who died went through."

When asked about the $250,000 award for pain and suffering, Feinberg said, "We're reviewing all the regulations. I am concerned that there are families of the victims who are troubled by this."

Feinberg has until Jan. 21 to finalize the rules.

On the Net:
Victims' Compensation Fund: http://www.usdoj.gov/victim-compensation

Researchers asked to make 'odor bomb' for the military

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A group of scientists are experimenting with the worst smells imaginable to help the military develop an "odor bomb" so foul it could clear crowds.

"What they would be interested in is something to keep people out of certain areas," said Pamela Dalton, a researcher at the Philadelphia-based Monell Chemical Senses Center. "We are going for odors that every culture has experienced and the experience is negative."

The Pentagon asked Monell to help develop the stinky but non-lethal weapon. The center's work on putrid odors was reported in the Jan. 7 issue of Chemical & Engineering News, the weekly newsmagazine of the American Chemical Society.

About 50 Monell researchers are probing human phermones, inquiring about food cravings or sniffing body odors. Dalton's job is to investigate what odors offend people.

"Whether people are born with preferences for odors or whether it is learned, we don't know," said Dalton.

Researchers have looked for odors that produced a negative reaction in all cultures, such as human waste, rotting animal flesh and garbage.

They focused on biological odors, believing they were most likely to be recognized, Dalton said.

Dalton cautioned that the military could be a long way from developing such an offensive weapon, and that scientists are still trying to work out some bugs.

"How do you contain these odors until you are ready to use them?" she asked.

Tiger Woods has no plans to withdraw

KAPALUA, Hawaii (AP) — Saying he was aware of a threatening letter containing cyanide sent to the U.S. Embassy in New Zealand, golfer Tiger Woods said he had no plans to withdraw from a tournament in that country.

"Things like this do happen," Woods said Sunday. "You have to go on living your life. It's unfortunate that people have these types of views and do these types of acts."

Police and U.S. Embassy officials said the embassy received a letter last month containing cyanide and threats to disrupt the New Zealand Open slated to run Jan. 10-13.

Jon White, assistant police commissioner in Wellington, New Zealand, said the threats were directed at the tournament, rather than Woods individually.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2002

If you're looking for excitement, the year ahead will please you. Adventurous work interlaced with numerous, happy experiences can put you on the path to many elevating and stimulating encounters.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You won't have to paint a sign on your head today that says, "I'm a pretty nice person, so pay attention to me." The way you conduct yourself will say all that for you. 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.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Even though there may be one or two tough nuts to crack, the friendly fashion in which you handle competitive situations today makes you the big winner.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Something extra you have going for you today enables you to succeed where others come up short. It's your philosophical attitude that treats victory and defeat just the same.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Today, it would be a serious mistake to stop others out of pride, who are working on your behalf to make something good happen for you. Smile and say, "Thank you."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — The cooperation and fairness you display toward associates today will at the end of the day be met with equally fair concessions to help you achieve what you seek. Remain hopeful.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You'll be luckiest today in areas that could directly affect your career. Move on things immediately and with all your effort the moment the opportunity presents itself.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Take advantage of any chances you get today to expand your social circle. There's a good chance you could meet someone who'll add excitement to your life.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today you might be privileged to receive support from not only well wishers, but from strangers who'll actively lend you a hand to alter things for the better.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Select companions today from those persons who know how to finish what they start. The types you hang out with will greatly influence your productivity.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — With the proper motivation and focus on your financial affairs, your chances to add to your material resources look very good. Get yourself up and going.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — There won't be too much that will intimidate you or your organizational skills today. In fact, you will almost relish using your wits to tackle challenging developments.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Stay in familiar fields today, because you're likely to derive more rewards and benefits from spadework you've previously begun than from new situations.

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Dallas woman dies in wreck on I-20

RUSTON, La. (AP) — A van flipped on I-20 after its driver fell asleep, killing a Dallas woman inside.

Yung H. Cha was not wearing her seat belt when the westbound van she was riding in drove into the median about 4:30 a.m. Sunday, said Troop F Operator Roger Aultman.

The driver, Min K. Lee of Coppell, Texas, overcorrected and lost control of the vehicle before it flipped several times and came to rest on the road, Aultman said.

Lee was wearing his seat belt and suffered moderate injuries while the van's other eight passengers suffered minor injuries, he said.

Cha, whose age was unavailable, was taken to Lincoln General Hospital in Ruston, where she died shortly after.

Lee was cited with careless operation of a vehicle.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Plug-in scents are harmless

DEAR DR. GOTT: Thank you for your series on plug-in deodorizers. After using them for several months, I developed an extreme sensitivity to odors. I can no longer go into a room containing them, nor can I tolerate the smell of perfume. Why don't people give up this charade and thoroughly clean their homes? There is nothing like the smell of a freshly cleaned home.

DEAR READER: True, but the freshly cleaned smell is usually bleach, soap, ammonia, disinfectant or some other manufactured scent.

Since I first raised the issue of possible health hazards from plug-in deodorizers, I have received a satisfactory response from the S. C. Johnson and Son Corp., the major manufacturer of these products. Scientific testing showed that the scent emitted from these products is not associated with health risks, as I subsequently reported in this column.

Nonetheless, I can appreciate your unfortunate sensitivity to commercial odors. Because this type of reaction is so unusual, I suggest that you review the problem with your physician — or an allergist.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: My lymph glands have been swollen and sore for several months. My blood test for mono is normal. What is causing my problem and how can I correct it?

DEAR READER: Lymph nodes are strategically situated glands that act as filters in the body. They are also part of the immune system.

Lymph glands enlarge in the presence of infection. A foot infection, for example, will cause tenderness and enlargement of the nodes in the groin; a hand infection leads to uncomfortable swelling of the glands under the arm.

Furthermore, viral illnesses (such as influenza and mononucleosis) cause generalized lymphatic enlargement. Finally, primary disorders of lymph nodes, such as malignant lymphoma, cause swelling (usually without pain), as can leukemia and cancer cells that spread from other organs, are filtered out and lodge in lymph nodes.

Because your glands are painful, I suspect that an infection is to blame. Cytomegalovirus infection and toxoplasmosis are two common diseases that mimic mono. Your doctor, using special blood tests, can check you for these disorders.

In my opinion, persistently swollen lymph nodes should be biopsied, if no clear-cut cause can be documented for the enlargement, painful or not. During this simple operation, usually performed under local anesthesia, the surgeon removes all or part of a gland for microscopic analysis. This enables a pathologist to determine whether the swelling is secondary to a normal lymphatic reaction or due to a serious disorder, such as cancer.

Other than the usual advice to take good care of yourself (with a balanced diet, adequate rest and moderation in your activities) there's not much more you can do to solve your problem. Consequently, I urge you to return to your doctor for further testing and advice.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 92 and in reasonably good health. During a neighbor's party, I ate several sugar cookies that were soft, mushy and clearly under-baked. The next day, I had several wicked attacks of diarrhea. Could the cookies have been to blame?

DEAR READER: I don't know. Slack-baked products do not ordinarily cause health problems such as intestinal upset and diarrhea. I suppose the answer to your question depends, to a degree, on the ingredients in the cookies. I do not suggest that you raise this issue with your hostess. The next time you're invited to your neighbor's house for a party, skip the home-baked goods and stick to the Wild Turkey. (Just kidding.)

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Oil Patch News

Borden County

Manzano Oil Corporation will drill the No. 1 Debo, a 7,300-foot wildcat located 12 miles northwest of Gail. Location is in Section 9, Block 31, T6N, T&P survey.

Kent County

Oxy USA will drill the No. 1-A Cogdell deep, an 8,000-foot wildcat located 13 miles southwest of Clairemont. Drill site is in Section 772, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Garza County

Bright and Co. has completed the No. 1 Cotter, one mile northwest of Close City. The wildcat was finaled to produce eight barrels of oil and no water. Perforations were from 8,784-788 feet, and location is in Section 1303, Block 1, EL&RR survey.

Howard County

Westport Oil and Gas Inc. will drill the No. 42-W Kloh in the Howard-Glasscock field, 11 miles southeast of Big Spring. Planned for a depth of 2,700 feet, location is in Section 13, Block 33, T2S, T&P survey.

Westport Oil and Gas will drill the No. 46-W Kloh in the Howard-Glasscock field, 11 miles southeast of Big Spring. Also planned for a depth of 2,700 feet, drill site is in Section 13, Block 33, T2S, T&P survey.

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Snyder Daily News

3600 College Ave. 573-5486

JAN 07 2002

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Fifty tons of offensive weapons seized

JERUSALEM (AP) —The Palestinian captain of a ship seized by Israel with 50 tons of offensive weapons on board said in jailhouse interviews today that the shipment was intended for the Palestinians and that he got his smuggling instructions from a Palestinian Authority official.

Israel has accused Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat of ordering and financing the weapons shipment, a charge denied by the Palestinian Authority.

The argument over the shipment overshadowed a four-day truce mission by U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni, who flew home today.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon branded Arafat a "liar" and "bitter enemy" over the affair and said his Cabinet would convene soon for a fundamental review of Israel's relationship with the Palestinian Authority.

Despite the rising tensions, Zinni on Sunday chaired a meeting of Israeli and Palestinian security officials who agreed to keep working toward a truce. Zinni gave both sides some "homework" to be completed before his expected return Jan. 18, participants said. Israel is to further ease restrictions on Palestinians, while the Palestinians are required to arrest more militants and dismantle terror groups.

In Zinni's absence, security meetings are to continue, Palestinian officials said.

"It is clear that while serious challenges remain, there are real opportunities for progress," the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv said in a statement.

Today, the European Union's foreign policy chief, Javier Solana, held talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders to keep the momentum toward a cease-fire going.

Blair wants Pakistan to condemn terrorism

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — British Prime Minister Tony Blair arrived today in Islamabad to press Pakistan's government to condemn terrorism unequivocally as a step toward defusing a dangerous showdown with India.

Blair, who was to meet President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, joined India on Sunday in pressing for a clear statement from the Pakistani government, implicitly rejecting its recent crackdown on Islamic militants as insufficient. He declined to talk to reporters today about the dispute between the two nuclear-armed neighbors until after meeting with Musharraf.

Indian and Pakistani forces exchanged heavy artillery fire across the border in disputed Kashmir on today, and the Indian army claimed six Pakistani soldiers were killed. Other Indian officials said eight suspected militants and eight civilians were killed in separate incidents in the region.

India said its military shot down a small, unmanned Pakistani aircraft that entered Indian air space Sunday over Kashmir. Pakistan denied the claim, saying an Indian aircraft crashed and India was trying to cover it up through "baseless propaganda."

Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes today ruled out reducing India's military buildup along the border.

"The troops are on the front line and, no, we are not reducing the troops," Fernandes said in Bangalore. "But we are taking several diplomatic initiatives to explain our stand to the international community and expect some action from Pakistan."

Pakistani authorities have announced the arrests of dozens of militants in the past two weeks, including the leaders of the two groups India blames for a Dec. 13 assault on its Parliament.

India claims the attack, which killed 14 people including the five assailants, was carried out with support from Pakistan's intelligence service. Pakistan has denied any government role.

Pakistani police said Sunday that security forces arrested 42 Muslim militants, raising the number of detainees held in the crackdown against groups opposed to Indian rule over two-thirds of Kashmir to about 300.

However, Musharraf, in an interview broadcast on Chinese Central Television, ruled out handing over 20 alleged terrorists that New Delhi wants extradited to India in connection with attacks on Indian territory. Islamabad has said that India has not provided enough evidence that the men were criminals.

If there is evidence against the suspects, "we will deal with them according to the law of our own land," Musharraf said. "We are certainly not at all considering handing over anybody to anyone."

Blair called for a "complete rejection" of terrorist actions by Pakistan.

Paramedics transport motorcyclist to ER

Accidents

Snyder officers responded to three accidents in the city during the weekend.

Paramedics transported a 43-year-old Snyder man to the Cogdell Hospital ER after a 1:15 p.m. motorcycle accident on Ave. E.

Gilbert Arizmendi of 604 19th Street was driving a 1978 BMW motorcycle when the accident occurred near the railroad tracks. No other vehicle was involved, and Arizmendi was treated and released.

Officers were dispatched to the 2900 block of Ave. L just after 4 p.m. Saturday to a two-vehicle accident.

Involved were a 1983 Cadillac driven by Leslie Earl Dean, 15, of 903 30th Street and a parked 1984 Ford pickup owned by Raul G. Villanueva. No injuries were reported.

At 1:20 p.m. Saturday, Heath Allen Albert of Amarillo reported a hit-and-run accident damaging his 2001 Chevrolet pickup while it was parked at the Willow Park Inn.

Thefts

Donnie Mason reported a break-in at his 3007 38th Street residence and officers submitted a report for burglary.

Francisca Ferrusca requested officers at her residence at 2002 Ave. O in reference to missing items. Officers filed an offense report for theft.

A clerk at Tiger Mart reported a theft Sunday afternoon. An officer was dispatched and submitted reports for theft.

Snyder officers arrested an 18-year-old man at 37th Street and Coliseum Dr. Saturday morning for driving without a license and with no insurance.

Arrests

A 27-year-old woman was taken into custody at 11:45 a.m. Saturday in the 300 block of 20th Street for theft by check.

Officers arrested a 19-year-old man in the 300 block of 25th Street early Sunday on charges of driving while intoxicated. His vehicle was towed.

A 31-year-old female was taken into custody at 10 a.m. Sunday in the 1700 block of 25th Street for driving with a suspended license

Criminal mischief

Joe Hernandez reported damaged property in his apartment in the College Park complex. Officers filed a report for Class B criminal mischief.

Disturbance

A man requested an officer and an ambulance at his residence at 2:15 p.m. Sunday in reference to a family disturbance. Two officers and Snyder EMS responded and submitted a report for Class A family violence and transported one juvenile to the police department.

Fight

A man called 9-1-1 Sunday morning to report a fight in progress on Peach Street and told the operators there might be guns involved.

Three officers responded, but there was no fight upon their arrival and no weapons were found. The man advised a woman caused the disturbance while looking for her daughter, but she had left the area.

Gas drive offs

A clerk at Town and Country East reported an $18 gas drive off at 7 p.m. Saturday.

A drive off was reported from Rip Griffin's Truck Stop just before 2 p.m. Sunday in the amount of $18.55. And another was reported for $25 at 6 p.m.

Obituaries

Nina Duncan

1914-2002

Funeral service for Nina S. Duncan, a former resident of Snyder, was set for 2 p.m. today in the 37th Street Church of Christ. Dale Huff, minister, was to officiate. Burial was to follow in the Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale-Funeral Home.

Mrs. Duncan, 87, died Friday, Jan. 5, at Lynn Lodge Nursing Center in Longview.

Born Oct. 9, 1914 in Rochester, she married Walter Howard on Dec. 29, 1934. He died on Jan. 23, 1959. She married Vernon Duncan who died Oct. 18, 1985.

A longtime resident of Snyder before moving to Longview, Mrs. Duncan was a housewife and member of the 37th Street Church of Christ.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Kathy and Mike Welsh of Longview; a sister, Algerene "Mutt" Logsdon of Knox City; a granddaughter and husband, Becky and Randy Sharp of Longview; two great-grandchildren, Jeffrey and Jennifer Laurens of Longview.

She was preceded in death by two brothers and two sisters.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Ubaldo Basaldua

1932-2002

DUMAS — Ubaldo Mata Basaldua, father of Gilbert Basaldua of Snyder, died Friday, Jan. 4, at his residence in Dumas.

Service for Mr. Basaldua, 69, was held this morning in Templo Elim Asamblea de Dios. Jose Conterras, pastor, was to officiate. Burial was to follow in Lane Memorial Cemetery at Sunray directed by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home.

Born Oct. 21, 1932 in Mission, Mr. Basaldua was a retired farmer and had lived in Dumas since 1969.

Survivors include three other sons, Ubaldo Basaldua of Fort Worth, James Basaldua of Tennessee and Ruben Basaldua of Abilene; a daughter, Norma Almanza of Dumas; a brother, Santos Basaldua of Tulia; two sisters, Josephine Varges of San Antonio and Rosa Villeral of Phoenix; and six grandchildren.

Warren Kincaid

1924-2002

AMARILLO – Warren J. Kincaid, the stepfather of Julie Sentell of Snyder, died Saturday, Jan. 5.

Funeral service for Mr. Kincaid, 77, is set for 11 a.m. Wednesday in the Paramount Terrace Christian Church with the Rev. Roy Wheeler, minister emeritus, and the Rev. Scott Schlotfelt officiating. Burial will follow in the Llano Cemetery under the direction of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors.

Born in Des Moines, Iowa, he graduated from Drake University in 1948. He became a certified public accountant in 1949 and was employed by Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co. and a predecessor firm from 1948-61 in Chicago and Dallas.

He joined a financial services firm in Dallas and served as executive vice president from 1961-63. Mr. Kincaid moved to Amarillo in 1963 to join Southwestern Investment Company and served as treasurer and chief financial officer. He also served as a director of S.I.C.'s subsidiary companies which included Western National Life Insurance Company, until December, 1979.

In January, 1980 he joined Amarillo National Bank as senior vice president and trust officer, and retired as executive vice president in March 1991. He continued to serve as a bank director until his death.

A member of the Paramount Terrace Christian Church, he was a past member of the Amarillo Board of City Development, chamber of commerce board, United Way board, and a member of Amarillo County Club.

He married Martha Gene "Genie" Stephenson on Jan. 27, 1992. She survives.

Survivors also include three sons, Steve Kincaid of Amarillo, Bob Kincaid of Houston and Bill Kincaid of Denver; two daughters, Joan Robinson of Amarillo and Janet Stein of Houston; a stepson, Don Stephenson of Dallas; and nine grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Warren J. Kincaid HOSTS Education Fund, Amarillo National Bank, P.O. Box 1 in Amarillo, 79105; or to a favorite charity.

WCFH

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WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

200 East 37th St. Snyder, Texas

915-573-6200

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Crazy Like Jesus," followed by "Why You Can Believe the Bible."

Sonshine School

Sonshine School at 37th St. Church of Christ will resume classes at 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Lions Club meetings

The Snyder Lions Club will resume regular meetings at noon Tuesday with a program about the Texas Boys Ranch.

Snyder FFA booster club

The Snyder FFA booster club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the SHS ag building. The officers will meet at 6:30.

Country and gospel music

There will be country and gospel music beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Snyder Senior Center. Call 573-3996 for more information.

Weight Watchers

Persons interested in attending Weight Watchers meetings in Snyder should contact Mary at 766-3139 or Kathy at 573-1289 and leave name and telephone number.

FBC support groups

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

Relay for Life meeting

The Scurry unit of the American Cancer Society will hold a Relay for Life meeting at 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17, in the board room at Cogdell Hospital.

Ira school pictures

Spring portraits and friendship pictures will be made at Ira School on Jan. 23. Also, each class group, K-12, will be photographed. Each student will also be photographed. The friendship pictures have a sitting fee of $2 per person in the picture. Orders may be placed from proofs that will be received. Call 573-2628 for more information.

Funeral expense account

An account has been opened at West Texas State Bank for donations to assist in funeral expenses for accident victim Stacy Copeland. Contact Lisa Williams at 573-2980 or Beth Bowen at 573-2670, for additional information.

Windbreak trees

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

VFW membership drive

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

Nurse testing dates

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

MAWC monthly luncheon

Martha Ann Woman's Club will have its monthly game day and luncheon Wednesday, Jan. 23. Serving will begin at 11:30 a.m. and games of choice will follow throughout the afternoon.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland is available free of charge. Call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakey Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

Interest in life insurance has grown after Sept. 11 attacks

DALLAS (AP) — The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 have caused more people to consider buying or increasing life insurance, according to industry officials.

More than 1.4 million life insurance applications were underwritten in October by U.S. and Canadian companies, an 8.6 percent increase from a year ago, according to the MIB Group Inc., an insurance-industry trade group.

"It's been a sudden, undeniable increase," said Byron Udell, founder and chief executive of AccuQuote, a retail life insurance brokerage firm in Northbrook, Ill. "It's so obvious what caused it."

Scott Black, who owns a public relations firm in Dallas, said the attacks involving hijacked airliners caused him to roughly double his life insurance coverage to $1 million.

"I have to travel often for clients," Black said. "I pictured myself being on one of those airplanes and it had a profound effect on me. It just really hammered home that we had better re-evaluate the life insurance that I have."

Black, 37, and his wife, Stacy, a 36-year-old teacher, analyzed their financial needs. They planned to have enough insurance to let Stacy pay off the mortgage and still leave money to plan for their 3-year-old son's college costs.

Financial planners say not everyone needs to increase their life insurance, which is typically used to replace a worker's income.

"There comes a point in some people's lives where they become financially independent, and once you're no longer earning income and the family is no longer dependent on your earned income, then there is probably not a traditional need for life insurance," Mary Durie, a certified financial planner at Quest Capital Management in Dallas, told The Dallas Morning News.

An unmarried person with no one depending on his income might not need insurance either, but a single person taking financial care of his parents might.