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**INSIDE**

Texas lottery results . . . . . 2
Sports . . . . . 5
Classified ads . . . . . 6-7
Midday Stocks . . . . . 7
What's Up . . . . . 10

WT-Int. Crude - $20.83
WTIC Posted - $17.75
Natural Gas - $2.620

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

FRIDAY

Dec. 28, 2001
Vol. 53 No. 206
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Laura Alexander

# Rash of car burglaries hits southwest Snyder

A number of Snyder citizens appear to have fallen victim to a string of burglaries Wednesday night and Thursday.

Police dispatchers received calls from eight individuals reporting items missing from their vehicles. All of the residents lived in the same general area in town.

Snyder Police Sgt. Keith Ward said the burglaries appear to be connected and the case is being investigated.

The first report was made at 7:30 a.m. Thursday by Wade Warren. His vehicle was burglarized while parked at his residence, 2610 32nd Street.

At 7:45 a.m. Dick Crill requested an officer at 2707 34th Street to report items missing from his vehicle.

Bill Wilson Jr. advised Thursday morning his vehicle had been burglarized during the night at 2707 33rd.

Dispatchers received a call at 11:35 a.m. from Ray Alarcon who reported his vehicle was burglarized at 3100 40th Street.

At 12:45 p.m. Thursday, Martha Sanchez reported an auto part stolen from her vehicle at 2215 44th Street.

Donna Bell contacted officers and advised them of a possible burglary to her storage shed at 2105 41st Street. She requested a close patrol.

An officer was dispatched to Mark McCormick's 2805 32nd Street residence just before 4 p.m. Thursday in reference to a cellular phone taken from a pickup parked there.

At 9:15 p.m. Samantha Chaney reported a purse stolen from a vehicle at 2108 35th Street.

Ward said the majority of car burglaries in Snyder are the result of unlocked car doors.

"The main thing you can do to protect yourself against this is lock your doors," he said. "These burglars are just walking up and down the streets checking doors and most of the time, the ones they're going into are unlocked."

Ward also said not to leave valuables in a vehicle over night.

"If you do leave things in your car, don't leave them where they can easily be seen," he said. "You can't keep them out if they really want in, but don't make it easy on them."

## THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

**The feller on Deep Creek says, "Next time the TV goes on the blink, be thankful for what you don't have to watch."**

Dear Santa,

Just so we can get a fresh start for 2002, we want to apologize for all the bad things we did wrong leading up to Christmas.

It appears that you were unhappy with us, why else would you have left that truck tire in front of the news office on Christmas eve?

And the tire is not even in good shape. We can't even give it away, and nobody will haul it off.

We've heard about you leaving lumps of coal for all the bad girls and boys, but this thing is much bigger than a mere lump of coal. And we doubt that it will burn.

And if it did, it would create so much black smoke that the EPA would tell on us and you would leave something worse next Christmas.

Now, we're not taking this thing personally. Since it was left at the newspaper office, it could have been for somebody else or even for the whole staff.

We can think of one or two that might not have lived up to your standards of good cheer.

We had suspected that all of 'em had been naughty at some point during the past year, but a tire that stands almost five feet tall is a cruel and unusual punishment, especially from a person of jolly persuasion.

We have one other theory. We left out some goodies on the break-room table – just for you. We should have known better, since nothing stays on the break table for very long.

One time, we received a case of apples from New York state, and we noticed teeth marks on the cardboard box. Our folks will try just about anything – especially if you sprinkle sugar on it.

That's why we have minimum rodent or insect problems at the office, there are no crumbs left.

Next year, Santa, we promise to get up in the middle of the night and place something special on the break-room table – long after the hungry staff has gone home, just in case this was the reason for the tire.

And Santa, no matter how you may perceive our conduct in the past year, nobody deserves the other item we got for Christmas, an old-fashioned common cold – and still no cure.

Have a good weekend, and we wish everybody a great new year!

ONE LAST HOLIDAY SCENE — The grounds of the Scurry County courthouse had a new look this holiday season as several lighted trees were placed on the courthouse lawn. The gazebo served as a focal point. (SDN Staff Photo)

# New Years Day prompts closings

The New Year's holiday will prompt all local financial institutions to close.

West Texas State Bank, American State Bank, First American Bank, Snyder National Bank and Texas Savings Bank will close Tuesday, but operate with normal hours before and after the holiday.

The Scurry County Library will be closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday and is to reopen Wednesday.

City Hall will be open Monday and closed Tuesday, while county offices will close both days. Both will resume regular hours Wednesday.

The city landfill will be closed Tuesday, but will observe regular hours the rest of the week.

Snyder Postmaster Dale Lipsett said no mail is to be delivered Tuesday, or put in boxes.

# Local businesses may be eligible for SBA disaster loans

Some businesses in Scurry and Borden counties can now apply for low interest economic injury disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These loans are available to help businesses meet normal operating expenses that cannot be met due to the effects of the recent drought.

Drought, excessive heat or high temperatures, and high winds that occurred on various dates from Jan. 1 and continuing, caused many farmers and ranchers to experience reduced income which may have had an adverse economic effect on businesses depending upon these producers.

Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for this loan program but may be eligible for disaster assistance through other federal agencies. However, nurseries that are victims of drought disasters can apply.

To obtain an application or receive additional information, interested business owners may call the SBA toll-free at 1-800-366-6303 or TDD 817-267-4688 for the hearing impaired. The deadline for filing an application is Aug. 5, 2002.

Due to the weather, many producers experienced crop losses and were not able to purchase goods and services at normal levels. Businesses that are dependent upon these producers may have experienced decreased sales, reduced gross profit margins, increased accounts receivable or difficulty in moving inventories at normal levels. The loan can help a business meet installments on long-term debt, accounts payable and overhead expenses that would have been met had the disaster not occurred.

Refinancing of long term debt, however, is not eligible.

# 17 drilling rigs-deal ups Patterson's fleet to 319

Patterson-UTI Energy Inc., the second-largest operator of land-based oil and natural gas drilling rigs in North America, this week announced the acquisition of 17 land-based drilling rigs from Cleere Drilling Company.

The acquisition by the Snyder-based company also included 28 rig-moving trucks as well as other equipment and inventory.

The rigs are located throughout much of Texas and increase the company's total to 319 land-based drilling rigs that operate in oil and natural gas producing regions of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Utah, Mississippi, Alabama and western Canada.

The assets were acquired for $13.5 million in cash, 450,000 shares of Patterson-UTI Energy common stock, and 325,000 warrants convertible into common shares at a price of $26.75.

Mark S. Siegel, Patterson-UTI's chairman, stated, "We are very pleased to complete our first post-merger acquisition at Patterson-UTI Energy. With this acquisition the combined entities have acquired a total of 44 drilling rigs in 2001, a total that is consistent with both Patterson's and UTI's acquisition strategies over the past few years."

Siegel added, "With our strong cash position and $100 million line of credit, we have positioned Patterson-UTI to be able to respond quickly and selectively to unique situations that may arise in the marketplace. We believe that the Cleere assets represent such an opportunity, and are a good fit with our current operations and market coverage."

Cloyce A. Talbott, Patterson-UTI's chief executive officer, said, "We are particularly pleased that Kirk Cleere will be joining the Patterson-UTI team. We expect his expertise and many years of experience to enhance our organization and strengthen our competitive position in the marketplace."

*At crowded intersection...*

# Six killed in NY crash

NEW YORK (AP) — The elderly driver of a commercial van that struck and killed six people near the flagship Macy's department store was questioned by investigators, but has not been charged with a crime, police said.

At least eight other pedestrians were seriously injured Thursday when the van plowed into a crowded intersection in Herald Square.

Police said an officer had ordered the 76-year-old driver, Sidney Weinstein, to move his vehicle because it was double parked during evening rush hour on 34th Street, a midtown street filled with tourists and shoppers during the holidays. He was making a delivery at a nearby shoe store.

The van abruptly moved forward, striking several pedestrians, before it crashed into the back of a bus, police said.

Four people died at the scene, including a 15-year-old boy. Two others died in a hospital. Of nine other people taken to hospitals, at least two were in serious condition today.

Police were not releasing the identities of victims pending notification of relatives.

The van was owned by Worldwide Distribution Services, of Secaucus, N.J., police said. The company declined to comment.

A witness, M.S. Thapa, said the van hit pedestrians in the crosswalk before striking the bus, and that some people were trapped between the two vehicles.

The bus had been trying to make a right turn before the accident, Thapa said. There were no skidding sounds before the van hit the bus, just screams from people and then a crash, he said.

One of New York's prime shopping destinations, Herald Square is known by television viewers nationwide as the terminus of Macy's annual Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Landmarks such as the Empire State Building and Madison Square Garden are just blocks away.

Crowds of onlookers, many there to view Macy's holiday window displays, watched across police lines as ambulances carried away the dead and injured.

"I'm trying to get the smile back on my face and get back on my feet and then one more thing happens," said Carolle York, 40, of Brooklyn.

## ASK US

**Q—When is the opening ceremony for the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City?**

**A—The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. local time, Feb. 8 and will be aired on NBC.**

## FORECAST - ALMANAC

**Snyder Temps:** High Thursday, 49 degrees; low, 20; 7 a.m. Friday, 24; no precipitation; total for 2001, 20.77 inches.

**Area Forecast:** Tonight, mostly clear, low 30-35; NW winds 10-20 mph, becoming NE late. Saturday, partly cloudy, high upper 40s, NE winds 10-20 mph. Saturday night, low 25-30.

Alex Jaramillo
Partly Cloudy

**Sunset:** 5:50 p.m.
**Sunrise:** 7:42 a.m.
**Of 361 days in 2001, the sun has shone 348 days in Snyder.**

## TODAY'S THOUGHT

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

DEC 28 2001

# Giuliani delivers farewell address

NEW YORK (AP) — Rudolph Giuliani bid farewell to New York after eight tumultuous years as mayor, repeating his belief that the World Trade Center site should be reserved primarily for a "soaring, beautiful memorial" to terrorism victims.

"This place has to be sanctified," he said of the 16-acre site in the city's financial district. "It has to become a place, when anybody comes, that they immediately feel the power, strength and emotion of what it means to become an American."

In a speech delivered from the altar of a church just a block from the ruins of the trade center, Giuliani said New Yorkers gave him the courage to lead the city beyond the fear and anguish of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack.

"My strength and energy comes entirely from the people of the city of New York," Giuliani said.

"The people of the city should understand that all of the sources of my strength absolutely endure because you have it and you have that strength and you've displayed it."

Praised for the steady calm he displayed after the terrorist attacks, the two-term Republican departs on Jan. 1 on an extraordinarily high note after an unusually eventful stint at City Hall.

His 55-minute address focused on the highlights, particularly the historic drops in crime rates and welfare rolls during his administration.

"When I became mayor of New York City in 1993, it seemed to me that I had to do something different than other mayors," Giuliani said. "It seemed I had to totally change the direction and course of New York City."

But Giuliani has had his share of troubles. His relationship with the city's minority communities was strained, particularly after the fatal police shooting of one black man, Amadou Diallo, and a brutal attack by police on another, Abner Louima.

His speech was given from what he called the "hallowed ground" of St. Paul's Chapel in lower Manhattan, where George Washington came to pray after his inauguration in April 1789. The small church survived the Sept. 11 attack without so much as a broken window pane.

The grandson of Italian immigrants, Giuliani, 57, said the terrorist attack should not be used as an excuse for Americans to turn against immigration.

"The greatest strength that we have as a city is immigration, and keeping ourselves open to people," he said. "We're like a religion, really, a secular religion. We believe in ideas and ideals. We're not one race — we're many. We're not one ethnic group — we're everyone. We're not one language — we're all of these people."

Giuliani also said the city was especially resilient after the attacks.

# Albuquerque and businesses feeling the collapse of Enron

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Businesses and city officials are happy PNM stepped in to supply natural gas when energy giant Enron filed for bankruptcy-court protection, but the switch has been costly.

The city of Albuquerque will spend about $30,000 a month more to buy gas from Public Service Company of New Mexico in December and January than from its former supplier, Enron.

"I sure wish this was April or May, not December," said Gene Bustamante, energy specialist for the city.

Enron abruptly filed for bankruptcy-court protection Dec. 1. The company told PNM the day before that it would no longer be able to supply its New Mexico customers, PNM spokesman Don Brown said.

PNM's price to customers — even though it's the price PNM actually pays for the gas — will be higher than Enron's.

As one of the world's largest energy trading companies, Enron was able to buy and control large volumes of gas at fixed prices on the wholesale market before demand squeezed supplies and drove prices up.

By locking in a low price, Enron could afford to retail gas at low prices, Brown said.

Some former Enron customers are searching for cheaper sources.

Albuquerque officials have arranged to buy gas beginning in February through a contract that the state has with Utah-based Wasatch Energy Corp.

The city will spend about $60,000 more than estimated for gas until it can switch suppliers, Bustamante said. But the added expense won't hurt the city's budget.

"You always leave a bit of a buffer. We'll end up pretty close to what we budgeted," Bustamante said.

Albuquerque saved about $250,000 a year since it began buying gas from Enron in 1998, he said.

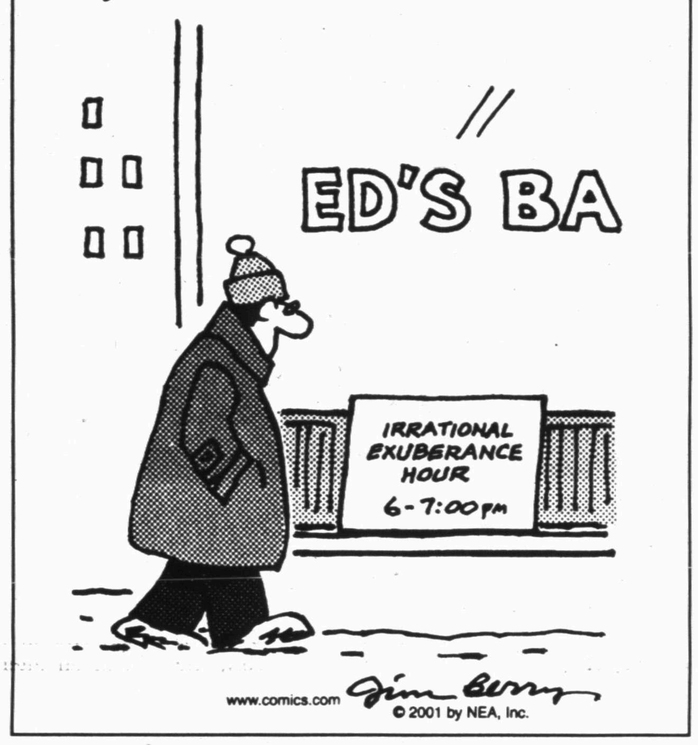
Enron guaranteed the cities of Albuquerque and Farmington that it would always beat PNM's price for natural gas by at least 5 percent.

Sometimes gas from Enron was as much as 18 percent less, Bustamante said.

Market prices for gas have fallen steadily since April after hitting record levels that tripled bills last winter.

Albuquerque usually spends about $2 million a year on natural gas, Bustamante said. Last year, the city spent $3.5 million because of last winter's high prices.

Berry's World




# Toddler kidnapped on Christmas Eve found alive, well

CHICAGO (AP) — A Christmas nightmare finally ended for a mother when her 16-month-old daughter was found in West Virginia, days after being snatched from a Chicago bus station by a stranger.

Jasmine Anderson was found Thursday after a nationwide search that led authorities to a home in Williamson, W.Va., where the kidnapping suspect allegedly took the toddler after the Christmas Eve abduction, said Thomas J. Kneir, special agent in charge of the FBI's Chicago office.

The child was apparently in good health and in the custody of West Virginia authorities until she could be reunited with her parents.

Police arrested Sheila Matthews, 33, who has been charged with one count of federal kidnapping. She was taken into custody and was scheduled to appear in court in West Virginia today.

A tip from a relative of Matthews' boyfriend led to the arrest.

"We're really grateful to everyone who helped," said the child's mother, Marcella Anderson, fighting back tears. "Especially the family members who were brave enough to come forward and had really good hearts, and God bless everyone."

Police say Matthews took the child to cover up a lie she made to her boyfriend. Matthews told him she had a baby while he was in a California prison, and when the man was released, she told him her mother was caring for the baby in Chicago, police said.

"When she went to the Greyhound station that night, she was looking to abduct a baby," said Philip Cline, chief of detectives for the Chicago Police Department. "And unfortunately Marcella was there with Jasmine."

Anderson said she and her two daughters were waiting for a bus home to Milwaukee on Monday when a woman with a tattoo on her neck approached the family. The woman offered to give them a ride home to Milwaukee.

The woman also suggested that she hold Jasmine while Anderson took her other daughter with her to the ticket counter. Anderson was waiting in line to return the tickets when the woman disappeared with the toddler, Anderson said.

According to police, Matthews and her boyfriend later took the toddler to the house of one of his relatives in a Chicago suburb on Christmas Day.

Matthews "tried to pretend that the baby was her own," Cline said, dressing the girl in a Christmas dress and even posing with her in a photo later obtained by police.

Early Wednesday morning, the couple traveled with Jasmine to West Virginia. But their hosts spotted a photograph of Jasmine on television and called police on Thursday.

The boyfriend was questioned and released, said Randy Coleman, a spokesman for the West Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety.

A woman also named Sheila Matthews pleaded guilty in 1988 to a kidnapping charge in Washington. That woman abducted a 2-1/2-year-old girl from her parents in Seattle in 1987. The Chicago Police Department could not confirm whether that woman and the one arrested Thursday are the same.

Nancy Matthews, the alleged abductor's grandmother, told The Charleston Gazette in West Virginia that it was not the first time her granddaughter had been accused of taking someone's child.

"Throw the book at her," Nancy Matthews said. "She has done this two more times. She was in jail in Seattle, Washington, for one and a half years for kidnapping."

## Date Book

**Friday, Dec. 28, 2001**

Today is the 362nd day of 2001 and the eighth day of fall.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** On this day in 1832, Vice President John Caldwell Calhoun became the first president to resign from office. He resigned to run for a Senate seat that had become vacant.

On this day in 1869, Dr. William Semple of Mount Vernon, Ohio, patented chewing gum.

On this day in 1973, Alexander Solzhenitsyn published "The Gulag Archipelago," a book about labor camps in the Soviet Union.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924), U.S. president; Earl "Fatha" Hines (1905-1983), musician; Terry Sawchuck (1929-1970), hockey great; Maggie Smith (1934-), actress, is 67; Denzel Washington (1954-), actor, is 47.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** On this day in 1975, in a game against the Minnesota Vikings, Roger Staubach of the Dallas Cowboys threw a 50-yard touchdown pass to Drew Pearson with 24 seconds remaining in the game. The Cowboys won 17-14.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." — The Bible, Proverbs 27:1

**TODAY'S MOON:** Between first quarter (Dec. 22) and full moon (Dec. 30).

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events LOTTO TEXAS TEXAS LOTTERY RESULTS

**Pick 3**

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

4-5-3

**Cash Five**

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

1-9-22-25-39

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# Terrorist attacks erased doubts about Bush

By WILL LESTER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sept. 11 dramatically transformed a political year that began with uncertainty about George W. Bush's legitimacy as president after his contested election.

The president and his foreign policy team became clear winners in 2001 in a political world turned on its head, analysts say. Much of the year's politics before the attacks became irrelevant.

"He lost the popular vote and ended the year with stratospheric poll ratings. He began the year as Clark Kent and ended up as Superman," said conservative analyst Marshall Wittmann of the Hudson Institute.

Public concerns about terrorist attacks, homeland defense and the anti-terror war overseas rearranged political priorities across the board. And that came on top of a political year that was already remarkable.

"It was a truly extraordinary period," said Thomas Mann a political scholar at the Brookings Institution. "We had four mega-events over the last year."

Mann described the events this way:

—"The most controversial presidential election in history."

—"A change in party control of the U.S. Senate in mid-session."

—"A sudden shift from a decade of prosperity to recession and the reappearance of deficits."

—"And we had September 11th."

Three of those four events have helped shape today's political reality. The fourth — the contested presidential election — has faded into the background.

Tom Daschle of South Dakota, the Senate majority leader, became the most prominent Democrat when Vermont Republican Jim Jeffords became an independent in May. Then-Majority Leader Trent Lott of Mississippi and Senate Republicans were pushed from power.

## Washington Today

Talk of balanced budgets, changes in Social Security and social programs requiring substantial new money faded as the economy tanked.

Issues like national security, missile defense and international coalition building moved to the forefront for the first time in a decade.

"A new seriousness overtook American politics," said Mann. "It was a radical change from the 1990s when politics was so nasty and trivial because the stakes were low. Now there is a real threat."

Beneficiaries were the members of the experienced foreign affairs team put together by Bush — especially Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of State Colin Powell and Vice President Dick Cheney, a former defense secretary.

Another politician whose fortunes soared after Sept. 11 was New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. His health problems and an embarrassing divorce were dominant images of the mayor before the attacks. But his steady, calm manner afterward earned him widespread respect.

The intense focus on the anti-terror campaign pushed news about most politics — especially the 2004 presidential race — far from view.

Democrats who needed to build their national profiles found they got almost no public attention for political activities.

Al Gore, the former vice president and Democratic presidential nominee won the popular vote in the 2000 election. He was evenly matched against Bush in polls before Sept. 11. After the attacks, Bush led Gore in a hypothetical matchup by a 2-1 margin.

The public had a favorable view of almost everyone serving in government and for government in general. The attacks had reminded them they need government to keep them safe.

"By suspending politics for two months, everybody's evaluations went up — of state legislators, governors and the president," said Bruce Cain, a political scientist from the University of California-Berkeley. "It was an interesting national experiment — the less politicians attacked one another, the higher the public's estimation of government and politics."

But Democrats have decided they can fight politically about domestic issues, while supporting Bush on the war. And by year's end, both parties had resumed the partisan political fight.

Democrats are betting a slumping economy and an easing of terrorism fears could give them an opening on their top domestic issues in the 2002 congressional elections.

But any hopes they had of challenging Bush's claim to the presidency are gone.

"Whatever happens in the future, questions about George Bush's legitimacy have completely disappeared," said University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato.

And the question about who can lead a sharply divided nation has been answered.

"It was an awful way to get there," said political scientist Merle Black of Emory University, "but Americans did find a leader."

# Former teacher of year charged with indecency

PLANO (AP) — A school administrator who in 1985 was named Plano's teacher of the year has been charged with felony child indecency based upon a former student's allegations the man fondled him more than a decade ago.

Joe Wayne Cates, 44, coordinator of the Plano Independent School District's after-school programs, turned himself in Dec. 21 at the Collin County Jail and was released shortly after posting $25,000 bail on second-degree felony charges, The Dallas Morning News reported in its today editions.

Neither Cates nor his attorney could be reached for comment Thursday, the newspaper said.

The charges came three weeks after a Collin County sheriff's deputy found Cates inside his car on a rural county road with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head, officials said. That incident took place two weeks after Plano police began investigating the former student's complaints.

According to an affidavit prepared by Plano police to secure an arrest warrant, the investigation began in October when Plano Independent School District officials received an e-mail from a man who said he was a student at Hendrick Middle School from 1987 to 1988 and had been sexually abused by Cates in the summer of 1989, records show.

The man told district officials that he was coming forward because he wanted to make sure Cates was no longer working with children, according to the affidavit.

The man, now 26, told police investigators that the abuse took place at Cates' home in east Plano the night before his former teacher was scheduled to take him on a trip with a church youth group, the police affidavit states. Investigators said in the affidavit that the man told them Cates fondled him while he slept in Cates' bed.

Cates served as director of the youth program at the Reformed Church in Plano for 16 years before resigning the position voluntarily in early November. As youth leader, Cates wrote children's plays and led youth trips across the Southwest, church officials said.

Officials with the church, where Cates until recently served as youth program director, expressed surprise and disbelief at the allegations.

"I've known this gentleman for 22 years, and I've trusted him with my family and I'd do it again," said the Rev. Jack Buteyn, the church's senior pastor.

Danny Modisette, deputy superintendent for the PISD, said Cates was placed on paid leave earlier this month. He declined to elaborate.

Cates, a 1975 graduate of Plano High School, began his teaching career at Hughston Elementary School in Plano in 1979. In 1985, while serving as a physical education teacher at Hughston Elementary School, Cates was named the Plano district's teacher of the year.

He also served as a teacher and assistant principal at Wilson Middle School from 1980 to 1986 and as a teacher at Hendrick in 1986 and 1987 before moving to the district's Special Programs Center. He worked at the center as a teacher, assistant principal, and associate principal until 2000.

If indicted and convicted on the indecency charge, Cates could face a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

## Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 12-28-01
♠ A Q 3
♥ 10 5 4
♦ 7 3
♣ A Q 10 6 2

West
♠ 8 5 2
♥ A K 2
♦ Q 9 8 5 4
♣ 7 4

East
♠ 7 6
♥ Q 9 8 7
♦ K 10 2
♣ J 9 8 5

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

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

| South | West | North | East |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 ♠ | Pass | 2 ♣ | Pass |
| 2 NT | Pass | 3 ♠ | Pass |
| 4 ♠ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

Opening lead: ♥ A

Friday, Dec. 28, 2001

### The queen captures the wrong jack

By Phillip Alder

What is a knave? It might be a rascal, or a serving-boy, or a playing-card jack. For about the first 50 years of Bridge Magazine in England, it was always a knave, never a jack. And Lady Mary Wortley Montagu wrote: "We are no more free agents than the queen of clubs when she victoriously takes prisoner the knave of hearts." Hmm — no bridge player she. All right, that was written in 1759, well over 100 years before auction bridge was invented.

How should South use a queen to capture a knave in this deal? Against four spades, West begins with three rounds of hearts. At trick four, East shifts to the diamond two.

[illegible] is always difficult to reach that contract when you have an eight-card major-suit fit. This is especially true when you have an unguarded suit, like the hearts here.

Declarer won the diamond shift at trick four, drew trumps, and played off his three top clubs. However, when the jack didn't fall, South had to admit defeat. He could establish the club 10 with a ruff, but he had no dummy entry left.

South should cash the spade jack, then cross to the spade ace. If the trumps break 4-1, declarer draws trumps and hopes the clubs run. Here, though, when spades divide 3-2, South leaves the missing trump outstanding and moves to clubs. He plays a club to his king and a club to dummy's ace. When everyone follows, declarer ruffs a low club in hand, returns to dummy with a trump, and cashes the club queen to catch the knave. Finally, the club 10 is South's 10th trick.

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## Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

### *Mom who's after golf pro may get stuck in the rough*

**DEAR ABBY:** My mother is divorced and currently dating "Scott," a golf pro. He lives with another woman I'll call Alice. When Scott and my mother met in a bar a year ago, he was honest about the fact he was living with someone. Alice is the woman Scott left his wife for. They moved here together from another state. However, he told my mother his relationship with Alice was essentially over and he was waiting for the "right time" to leave.

According to Scott, he owns no furniture or household appliances, and the truck he drives is in Alice's name. He says if he had any assets his ex-wife would claim them. He's not even listed in our local phone book.

My sisters and I see red flags and have warned Mother. She ordered us to stay out of her life. Mother believes if she holds out long enough, Scott will leave Alice and come running to her. She believes everything he says.

This has caused a huge rift in our family. I know Mother doesn't want to be alone, but her desperate attempts to turn this "romance" into something lasting frighten me. She did give Scott an ultimatum about leaving Alice, which he did briefly, and then returned to her — but Mother continues to see him.

I don't understand why Mother isn't angry and has so little pride and self-respect. It has taken all my strength not to call Alice and tell her what is going on. Scott is taking advantage of TWO women.

Abby, am I way off base, or does this situation have all the makings of a disaster? — **LOVE IS BLIND AND STUPID IN MILWAUKEE**

**DEAR LOVE IS BLIND:** Your mother knows the risk she is taking. She is after a swinger with a serious "handicap." Sadly, even if she wins, she's going to wind up with a loser.

Please try not to judge her harshly. If you can, involve her in activities where she might meet someone eligible who shares her interests. Then cross your fingers and pray.

**

**DEAR ABBY:** I am married. I love my husband, but I kissed another man. I feel awful about this. It was crazy, but I enjoyed the momentary escape from reality. Any advice on how to deal with this? — **FEELING GUILTY IN MICHIGAN**

**DEAR FEELING GUILTY:** What you did was impulsive, foolish and risky, and sent the wrong message to the man involved. Before it happens again — and you feel even worse — please schedule some sessions with a counselor to find out what made you vulnerable to this indiscretion.

**

**DEAR ABBY:** My wife and I are looking forward to entertaining in our home. Neither of us drinks alcohol, and we prefer not to have any in our home. Can you help us with an appropriate way to communicate that to our guests? — **T. TOTALLER IN ST. LOUIS**

**DEAR T.:** Actions speak louder than words. An appropriate way to get your message across is simply to serve a variety of tasty, non-alcoholic beverages at your gatherings.

If one of your guests mentions it, don't hesitate to tell that person exactly what you have told me. In your home, you make the rules.

**

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

**

**For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)**

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We Never Thought You Would Make It To 16.
NOW YOU ARE 18!
Love, Momma, Daddy, Miranda & Kenny

# TMP, owner of Monster.com, bows out of HotJobs bidding

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — The owner of Monster.com declined to enter a bidding war for rival Internet career site HotJobs.com, clearing the way for Yahoo! Inc. to buy HotJobs for $436 million.

HotJobs formally accepted Yahoo's offer Thursday, the same day Monster decided not to sweeten its 6-month-old offer for HotJobs.

Two weeks ago, Yahoo made an unsolicited bid for HotJobs in hopes of wooing the No. 2 help-wanted site away from No. 1 Monster, which is owned by TMP Worldwide Inc. of New York. Hot Jobs said it would accept Yahoo's cash-and-stock offer unless TMP increased the all-stock bid the companies agreed upon in June.

Analysts had expected a bidding war between TMP and Yahoo, but TMP said Thursday it already had offered "full and fair value" for HotJobs and would not change its terms. HotJobs will pay TMP a $15 million breakup fee and $2 million for expenses.

"We look forward to competing with HotJobs in this dynamic and growing marketplace," TMP's chairman and chief executive, Andrew McKelvey, said in a statement. A spokesman for Monster, based in Maynard, Mass., declined to comment further.

TMP's offer for HotJobs was worth about $12.20 per share at first, but TMP's stock has declined since then, making the deal worth $9.19 a share at the close of business Wednesday. Yahoo's offer values HotJobs at $10.50 per share.

HotJobs CEO Dimitri Boylan predicted the alliance with Yahoo will help his site realize its goal of toppling Monster.com as the leader in the $1 billion market for online job postings.

"This is going to be a very powerful combination. It should make things a lot more interesting, both domestically and internationally," he said in an interview Thursday.

With revenue expected to be down 37 percent this year, Yahoo is hunting for new ways of making money beyond advertising. New York-based HotJobs charges employers and recruiters to post job openings and to access its database of resumes.

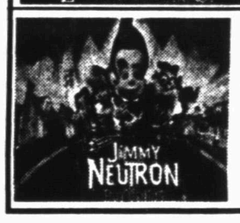
Yahoo hasn't determined whether it will lay off any of HotJobs' 525 workers after the deal closes in the first quarter of 2002, Boylan said.

Shares of HotJobs fell 30 cents, nearly 3 percent, to close at $10.37 Thursday on the Nasdaq Stock Market. Yahoo shares rose 26 cents to $17.77, and TMP moved up $1.85, more than 4 percent, to $43.73.

On the Net:
http://www.hotjobs.com
http://careers.yahoo.com
http://www.monster.com


CINEMA I & II
1907 Snyder Shopping Center
573-7519

PG 13
Matinee 2:00
Evenings 7:00




G
Matinee 2:15
Nightly 7:15 & 9:15


MOVIES

**JIMMY NEUTRON: BOY GENIUS G**

**Voices Martin Short, Patrick Stewart** In this computer-animated family film, a boy genius with very childlike emotions must rescue his parents when all of the adults in his hometown of Retroville are kidnapped by invading aliens. Jimmy arms himself with his inventions and blasts off into space.

**THE LORD OF THE RINGS PG13**

A masterpiece of design and storytelling. The story is never dull and the ending will leave viewers astonished and at the same time, hungry for more.


VFW
NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION
BEGINNING AT 8:00 P.M.
"TEXAS MESQUITE"
Door Prizes & Food



Did you take
FEN-PHEN?

The diet drug Fen-Phen was marketed under several names including **Redux**, **Pondimin**, **Fenfluramine**, or **Dexfenfluramine**. If you took these diet drugs, you should know that it may not be too late to opt-out of the nationwide class action for the purpose of pursuing a lawsuit against the drug company individually

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DEC 28 2001

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun

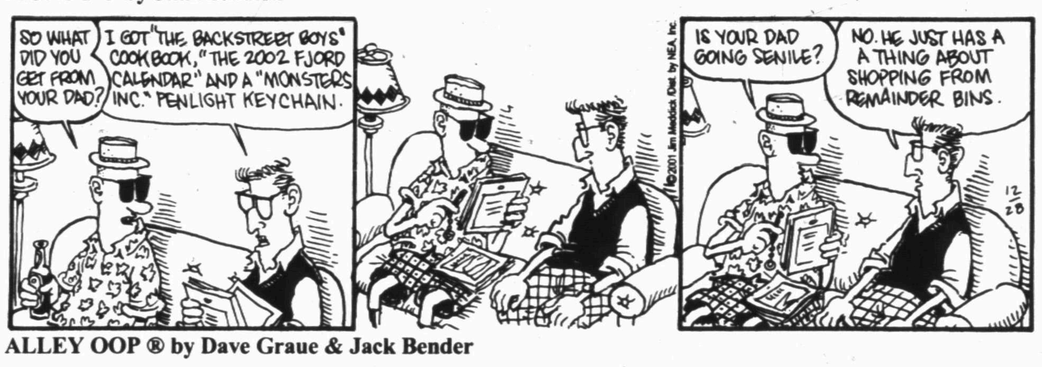
THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr

FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves

ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson

BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

MONTY ® by Jim Meddick




ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"I love doing that!"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

## NEA Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

Chess piece
Body part
Food fish
Savvy about (2 wds.)
Ostrichlike bird
Norway's patron saint
Peer at
— Margret
Appliance
Hanger-on
Hindu kingdom
Musical notes
Before, to Blake
Confidence
Familiarize
Legal matter
Plead
1040 org.
Those holding office
Large deer
Poker stake
Loafers
Mr. Stengel
Woody's ex
Acquired
Unwanted plants
Tavern sign (2 wds.)
Small brook
Ben —
Bruins sch.
Aunt Bee's nephew
French summer
Gaudy sign
Nut center
Melancholy
Spot

**DOWN**

Home furnishing
Gemstone
Leak
Lowers oneself
Nursemaids
Reagan nickname
Etiquette
Wig
Humerus neighbor
Fasten boards
Behind, on a ship
Tabby
Estrada of TV
Bi- + one
Split apart
Gorbachev's domain
Acorn bearers
Robins' beaks
Sycamore, e.g.
Pig's pad
Oklahoma town
Tethers
Egg dish
Cheat
Harmonize
Flared, as a skirt
Rub lightly
Director Kazan
Poker cards
Dripping sound
Computer term
Actress Hagen
Whichever

Answer to Previous Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | W | A | S | P | | | T | A | S | K | S | |
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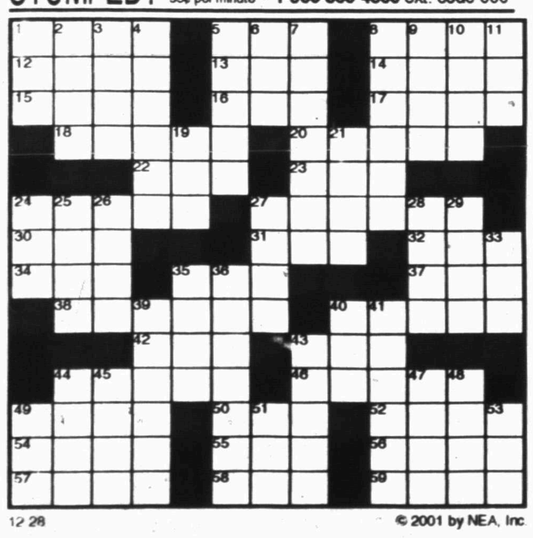
STUMPED? Call for Answers • Touch-tone or Rotary Phones 95¢ per minute • 1-900-860-4500 ext. code 000



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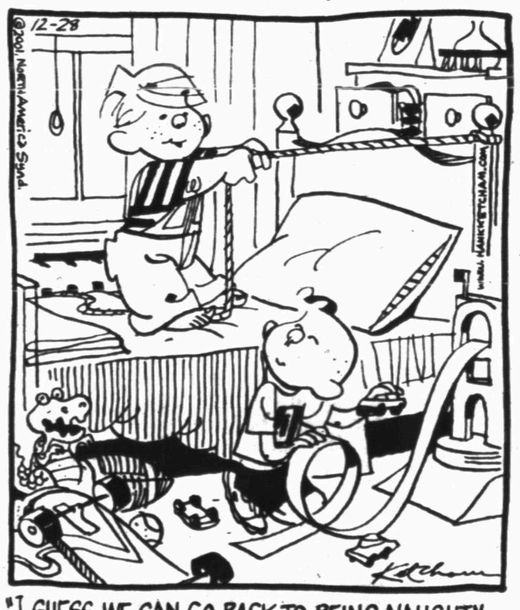
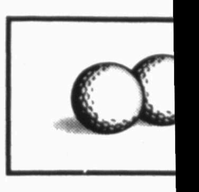
# Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham




"I GUESS WE CAN GO BACK TO BEING NAUGHTY, 'CAUSE SANTA WON'T BE MAKING NEXT YEAR'S LIST FOR A WHILE."



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## Natio

By The Associat
All Times E

AMERICAN CON

| East | W | L |
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| x-New England | 10 | 5 |
| Miami | 9 | 5 |
| N.Y. Jets | 9 | 5 |
| Indianapolis | 5 | 9 |
| Buffalo | 2 | 12 |
| **Central** | **W** | **L** |
| y-Pittsburgh | 12 | 2 |
| Baltimore | 9 | 5 |
| Tennessee | 7 | 7 |
| Cleveland | 6 | 8 |
| Jacksonville | 6 | 8 |
| Cincinnati | 4 | 10 |
| **West** | **W** | **L** |
| y-Oakland | 10 | 4 |
| Denver | 7 | 7 |
| Seattle | 7 | 7 |
| Kansas City | 5 | 9 |
| San Diego | 5 | 10 |

NATIONAL CONF

| East | W | L |
|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | 9 | 5 |
| N.Y. Giants | 7 | 7 |
| Arizona | 6 | 8 |
| Washington | 6 | 8 |
| Dallas | 4 | 10 |
| **Central** | | |

## Red Sox sell fo

BOSTON (AP) —
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## Mets, Angels s

NEW YORK (AP)
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## Cartwright wil

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## Steelers' Ward

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Ward has been fin
Ravens safety Rod W

# SPORTS

## Ira notches sixth straight victory, 75-44

The Ira Bulldogs captured their sixth consecutive victory Thursday with a 75-44 win over Jayton in the opening round of the Jayton Jaybird tournament.

Ira improved to 9-3 on the season and is in action again at 8 tonight against Trent.

The Bulldogs raced to a 34-18 halftime lead against the Jaybirds, then used a 19-9 run in the fourth quarter to widen the gap.

Nathan Smith poured in 17 points to pace Ira.

Jase Olvera added 15 points. Jake Barnes tallied 14, and Eric Dickerhoff finished with 10.

Cade Tucker dropped in eight points. Jess Wall posted seven, and Cole Shafer and Todd Wall chipped in two apiece.

In other high school basketball action, the Snyder Lady Tigers were to have squared off with Abilene Cooper this afternoon, while the Snyder Tigers were in action at the Brownwood tournament.

**HUNTER — Dakota Owens, son of Todd and Karen Owens, shot his first buck recently in Mitchell County. (Contributed Photo)**

## Longhorns, Huskies set for battle tonight

SAN DIEGO (AP) — There's no shortage of motivation for the No. 9 Texas and No. 21 Washington in the Holiday Bowl.

Both teams are coming off devastating losses, and the Longhorns have the added burden of having lost last year's Holiday Bowl.

Going into Friday night's game, some Longhorns admit they're still down about their 39-37 loss to Colorado in the Big 12 championship game on Dec. 1 that cost them a shot at playing Miami in the Rose Bowl.

"It was hard, but if you're going to be at Texas and play for championships, you're not going to win them all, and if you don't win one, I'm glad they're down," coach Mack Brown said. "If you ever get so losing's not important to you and it doesn't hurt you, then you shouldn't be playing this game.

"Last year in this Oregon game, they were crushed. And I think that's brought back some memories. We don't want to leave here feeling like we did last year."

Texas lost 35-30 to Oregon in last year's Holiday Bowl. Despite throwing four interceptions, Chris Simms still moved the Longhorns into position to win in the closing minutes, only to watch his receivers drop two passes in the end zone and another pass that might have been a touchdown.

Even though the Holiday Bowl might have the feel of a consolation prize, the Longhorns (10-2) can become just the fifth team in school history to win 11 games if they beat the Huskies (8-3).

Washington is trying to get over the sting of a 65-7 loss at No. 1 Miami on Nov. 24.

Major Applewhite, Texas' career passing leader who's backed up Simms all season, will start his final college game. He earned it after replacing the turnover-plagued Simms in the Colorado game and leading a rally that fell just short.

"We're just trying to treat it like any other position — the guy that gives us the best chance to win at that time, we put in the game, and our guys understand that," Brown said.

Washington coach Rick Neuheisel, a former quarterback, knows what Applewhite brings.

"It is obvious when Major Applewhite goes in the game, the team lifts," Neuheisel said. "That's not a knock on Chris Simms; I think Chris Simms is going to play for a long time.

"The point of the matter is, Major Applewhite knows how to play the position, he knows how to shoulder the blame associated with the position, he knows how to deflect the credit — he deflects it to his teammates. That's why teammates obviously love playing for him."

Washington has an interesting situation at quarterback, where sophomore Cody Pickett has played most of the season with a separated throwing shoulder. Despite the injury, he set a school record with 455 yards passing against Arizona on Oct. 20, and scored the winning touchdown on a 3-yard run with 13 seconds left.

Pickett's toughness shouldn't come as a surprise. He's the son of former rodeo star Dee Pickett and was a rodeo cowboy himself growing up in Idaho.

"As his dad says, he just rubs a little dirt on it," Neuheisel said. "I'm amazed. I've had that injury and I know how painful it is. He's been remarkable in his ability to just do it."

Pickett probably will have surgery in January, but isn't thinking that far ahead.

"We've got Texas," he said. "We've got to redeem ourselves from the Miami deal."

The Huskies committed seven turnovers against Miami, including Pickett's five interceptions.

## Alabama edges Iowa State, 14-13

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — Four years without a bowl win might not seem so bad to Iowa State. To Alabama, it was an eternity.

The Crimson Tide (7-5) ended that drought thanks to a blocked punt, Andrew Zow's late touchdown and Iowa State's field-goal troubles in Thursday night's 14-13 Independence Bowl win.

The Cyclones (7-5), in back-to-back bowl games for the first time in 23 years, no longer take losing for granted.

The Cyclones missed two fourth-quarter field goals, three overall, and had a blocked punt that set up Alabama's winning score.

The final miss was Tony Yelk's 47-yarder that floated inches to the right with 38 seconds left.

"I thought it was good," Iowa State coach Dan McCarney said. "The guy who has the best seat in the house said it was no good, so I have to trust his judgment."

Zow lofted a 27-yard scoring toss to Terry Jones Jr. with 4:44 left, two plays after Waine Bacon blocked Yelk's punt.

"Thank God, Terry Jones had long fingernails," Alabama coach Dennis Franchione said. "It seemed like that ball was in the air for about 10 minutes."

Iowa State drove into field-goal range in the final minute. Yelk and his teammates began celebrating as his kick headed for the uprights, thinking the kick was going through.

Alabama picked up its fourth straight victory despite a sputtering offense and Iowa State quarterback Seneca Wallace's 284 yards passing.

It was the Tide's record 29th bowl win, but the first since a 17-14 victory over Michigan in the 1997 Outback Bowl.

The game turned when Shontua Ray recovered the ball following Bacon's block.

Zow was 11-of-19 for 119 yards with an interception, and he rushed for an 8-yard score in the first half.

"Offensively, we would make a play and then back up and make a play then back up," Franchione said. "We never got into any kind of rhythm."

## Knight settles in hunting lawsuit

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Bob Knight has reached a settlement with a man who accused the Texas Tech basketball coach of pressuring him to lie about a 1999 hunting accident.

The Wisconsin State Journal reported Friday that the lawsuit was dismissed Thursday. Details of the settlement were not included in court documents, the newspaper said.

Catherine Rottier, an attorney representing Knight, said the settlement was reached shortly before Christmas. She declined to reveal specifics.

Thomas Mikunda of Exeland filed suit Aug. 6, claiming Knight pressured him to falsify details about the Oct. 12, 1999, hunting accident in northwestern Wisconsin. He claimed Knight negligently shot at a grouse, even though Mikunda was in the line of fire, hitting him in the back and shoulder.

Mikunda claims Knight then coerced him into backing his version of the accident to avoid problems with his coaching job at Indiana University.

## National Football League

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

| East | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-New England | 10 | 5 | 0 | .667 | 333 | 266 |
| Miami | 9 | 5 | 0 | .643 | 289 | 269 |
| N.Y. Jets | 9 | 5 | 0 | .643 | 275 | 259 |
| Indianapolis | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 367 | 434 |
| Buffalo | 2 | 12 | 0 | .143 | 244 | 377 |
| **Central** | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
| y-Pittsburgh | 12 | 2 | 0 | .857 | 301 | 179 |
| Baltimore | 9 | 5 | 0 | .643 | 274 | 240 |
| Tennessee | 7 | 7 | 0 | .500 | 277 | 324 |
| Cleveland | 6 | 8 | 0 | .429 | 237 | 253 |
| Jacksonville | 6 | 8 | 0 | .429 | 255 | 223 |
| Cincinnati | 4 | 10 | 0 | .286 | 177 | 265 |
| **West** | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
| y-Oakland | 10 | 4 | 0 | .714 | 360 | 280 |
| Denver | 7 | 7 | 0 | .500 | 307 | 293 |
| Seattle | 7 | 7 | 0 | .500 | 255 | 284 |
| Kansas City | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 272 | 297 |
| San Diego | 5 | 10 | 0 | .333 | 310 | 296 |

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

| East | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | 9 | 5 | 0 | .643 | 302 | 174 |
| N.Y. Giants | 7 | 7 | 0 | .500 | 248 | 263 |
| Arizona | 6 | 8 | 0 | .429 | 248 | 316 |
| Washington | 6 | 8 | 0 | .429 | 196 | 276 |
| Dallas | 4 | 10 | 0 | .286 | 209 | 302 |
| **Central** | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
| x-Chicago | 11 | 3 | 0 | .786 | 281 | 190 |
| x-Green Bay | 10 | 4 | 0 | .714 | 332 | 228 |
| Tampa Bay | 8 | 6 | 0 | .571 | 289 | 253 |
| Minnesota | 5 | 9 | 0 | .357 | 274 | 347 |
| Detroit | 1 | 13 | 0 | .071 | 255 | 390 |
| **West** | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
| x-St. Louis | 12 | 2 | 0 | .857 | 430 | 243 |
| x-San Francisco | 11 | 3 | 0 | .786 | 350 | 255 |
| Atlanta | 7 | 7 | 0 | .500 | 264 | 325 |
| New Orleans | 7 | 7 | 0 | .500 | 323 | 331 |
| Carolina | 1 | 13 | 0 | .071 | 240 | 342 |

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

**Saturday, Dec. 29**
Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 9 p.m.
**Sunday, Dec. 30**
Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Miami, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Arizona at Carolina, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Dallas, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia, 4:05 p.m.
Seattle at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.
Oakland at Denver, 4:15 p.m.
Washington at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m.
Open: New England

## Sports Briefs

### Red Sox sell for $90 million less

BOSTON (AP) — The owners of the Boston Red Sox refused to turn over documents detailing offers made to buy the team.

State Attorney General Tom Reilly would not say if he will subpoena the bids, but he said the team owners' refusal raises questions about why they sold the team for a reported $90 million less than the highest bid.

That discrepancy will shortchange by $50 million homeless shelters, hospitals and other charities designated to benefit from the Yawkey Trust, the team's outgoing majority owner, Reilly said.

### Mets, Angels swap Vaughn, Appier

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Mets took another big step in upgrading the worst offense in the majors, finalizing a trade to acquire former MVP Mo Vaughn from the Anaheim Angels for pitcher Kevin Appier.

Vaughn was owed $50 million in salary and bonuses over the next three years but agreed to rework the contract. The Angels will pay the remaining $8 million of Vaughn's signing bonus and some of Vaughn's salary will be deferred each of the next three years.

Vaughn has 299 career home runs and adds protection for Mike Piazza. But Vaughn comes with some negatives. He is 34 and did not play last season, recovering from a ruptured left biceps tendon. He also led the league with 181 strikeouts in 2000, his last full season.

### Cartwright will lead Bulls

CHICAGO (AP) — Bill Cartwright, who has five NBA championship rings as a player and coach with the Chicago Bulls, will be the team's new head coach, The Associated Press learned.

### Steelers' Ward fined by NFL

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Hines Ward has been fined $10,000 by the NFL for taunting Baltimore Ravens safety Rod Woodson on Dec. 11.

## College Bowl Schedule

All Times EST

**Tuesday, Dec. 18**
**New Orleans Bowl**
**$750,000**
Colorado State 45, North Texas 20

**Wednesday, Dec. 19**
**GMAC Bowl**
**Mobile, Ala.**
**$750,000**
Marshall 64, East Carolina 61, 2OT

**Thursday, Dec. 20**
**Tangerine Bowl**
**At Orlando, Fla.**
**$750,000**
Pittsburgh 34, N.C. State 19

**Tuesday, Dec. 25**
**Blue-Gray Classic**
**At Montgomery, Ala.**
Blue 28, Gray 10
**Las Vegas Bowl**
**At Las Vegas**
**$800,000**
Utah 10, Southern California 6

**Thursday, Dec. 27**
**Seattle Bowl**
**$750,000**
Georgia Tech 24, Stanford 14
**Independence Bowl**
**At Shreveport, La.**
**$1 million**
Alabama 14, Iowa State 13

**Friday, Dec. 28**
**Galleryfurniture.com Bowl**
**At Houston**
**$750,000**
Texas A&M (7-4) vs. TCU (6-5), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
**Music City Bowl**
**At Nashville, Tenn.**
**$750,000**
Boston College (7-4) vs. Georgia (8-3), 5 p.m. (ESPN)
**Holiday Bowl**
**At San Diego**
**$2 million**
Texas (10-2) vs. Washington (8-3), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**Saturday, Dec. 29**
**Motor City Bowl**
**At Pontiac, Mich.**
**$750,000**
Toledo (9-2) vs. Cincinnati (7-4), Noon (ESPN)
**Alamo Bowl**
**At San Antonio**
**$1.2 million**
Texas Tech (7-4) vs. Iowa (6-5), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
**Insight.com Bowl**
**At Phoenix**
**$750,000**
Kansas State (6-5) vs. Syracuse (9-3), 5:30 p.m. (ESPN2)

**Monday, Dec. 31**
**Humanitarian Bowl**
**At Boise, Idaho**
**$750,000**
Louisiana Tech (7-4) vs. Clemson (6-5), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)
**Sun Bowl**
**At El Paso, Texas**
**$1 million**
Washington State (9-2) vs. Purdue (6-5), 2:15 p.m. (CBS)
**Silicon Valley Classic**
**At San Jose, Calif.**
**$750,000**
Fresno State (11-2) vs. Michigan State (6-5), 3 p.m. (FOXSN)
**Liberty Bowl**
**At Memphis, Tenn.**
**$1.3 million**
Brigham Young (12-1) vs. Louisville (10-2), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
**Peach Bowl**
**At Atlanta**
**$1.8 million**
North Carolina (7-5) vs. Auburn (7-4), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**Tuesday, Jan. 1**
**Outback Bowl**
**At Tampa, Fla.**
**$2.2 million**
Ohio State (7-4) vs. South Carolina (8-3), 11 a.m. (ESPN)
**Cotton Bowl**
**At Dallas**
**$2 million**
Arizona (7-4) vs. Oklahoma (9-2), 11 a.m. (FOX)
**Gator Bowl**
**At Jacksonville, Fla.**
**$1.4 million**
Virginia Tech (8-3) vs. Florida State (7-4), 12:30 p.m. (NBC)
**Citrus Bowl**
**At Orlando, Fla.**
**$4.25 million**
Michigan (8-3) vs. Tennessee (10-2), 1 p.m. (ABC)
**Fiesta Bowl**
**At Tempe, Ariz.**
**$11-13 million**
Colorado (10-2) vs. Oregon (10-1), 4:30 p.m. (ABC)
**Sugar Bowl**
**At New Orleans**
**$11-13 million**
Illinois (10-1) vs. Louisiana State (9-3), 8:30 p.m. (ABC)

**Wednesday, Jan. 2**
**Orange Bowl**
**At Miami**
**$11-13 million**
Maryland (10-1) vs. Florida (9-2), 8 p.m. (ABC)

**Thursday, Jan. 3**
**Rose Bowl**
**At Pasadena, Calif.**
**$11-13 million**
Miami (11-0) vs. Nebraska (11-1), 8 p.m. (ABC)

## National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

| Atlantic Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Jersey | 18 | 9 | .667 | — |
| Boston | 17 | 10 | .630 | 1 |
| Washington | 14 | 14 | .500 | 4½ |
| New York | 13 | 15 | .464 | 5½ |
| Orlando | 13 | 17 | .433 | 6½ |
| Philadelphia | 12 | 16 | .429 | 6½ |
| Miami | 5 | 21 | .192 | 12½ |
| **Central Division** | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Milwaukee | 16 | 9 | .640 | — |
| Indiana | 18 | 13 | .581 | 1 |
| Detroit | 14 | 12 | .539 | 2½ |
| Toronto | 15 | 13 | .536 | 2½ |
| Charlotte | 13 | 15 | .464 | 4½ |
| Cleveland | 11 | 17 | .393 | 6½ |
| Atlanta | 11 | 18 | .379 | 7 |
| Chicago | 4 | 23 | .148 | 13 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

| Midwest Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| San Antonio | 20 | 6 | .769 | — |
| Minnesota | 19 | 8 | .704 | 1½ |
| Dallas | 20 | 9 | .690 | 1½ |
| Utah | 15 | 15 | .500 | 7 |
| Denver | 9 | 18 | .333 | 11½ |
| Memphis | 8 | 20 | .286 | 13 |
| Houston | 8 | 21 | .276 | 13½ |
| **Pacific Division** | W | L | Pct | GB |
| L.A. Lakers | 20 | 5 | .800 | — |
| Sacramento | 21 | 9 | .700 | 1½ |
| Phoenix | 17 | 13 | .567 | 5½ |
| L.A. Clippers | 15 | 13 | .536 | 6½ |
| Seattle | 15 | 15 | .500 | 7½ |
| Portland | 13 | 15 | .464 | 8½ |
| Golden State | 12 | 17 | .414 | 10 |

**Wednesday's Games**
New Jersey 91, Cleveland 89
Memphis 107, Chicago 85
Milwaukee 107, Atlanta 97
Dallas 126, San Antonio 123, OT
Indiana 89, Orlando 82
Charlotte 99, Washington 93
Phoenix 97, Houston 91
Utah 99, Boston 86
Minnesota 94, Denver 91
Sacramento 89, Portland 74
Golden State 101, L.A. Lakers 90
Philadelphia 100, L.A. Clippers 86
**Thursday's Games**
Indiana 108, Washington 81
Atlanta 100, Miami 96
New Jersey 88, Detroit 75
Dallas 89, Chicago 74
Utah 99, Portland 87
Phoenix 84, Boston 82
Seattle 101, L.A. Clippers 90
**Friday's Games**
New York at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Memphis at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Denver, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Toronto at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
**Saturday's Games**
Boston at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Washington, 7 p.m.
Indiana at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Utah, 9 p.m.
Denver at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Toronto at Seattle, 10 p.m.
**Sunday's Games**
Miami at Detroit, 6 p.m.
San Antonio at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7 p.m.
Boston at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
Houston at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Portland, 10 p.m.

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**BID NOTICE**

Ira ISD is accepting bids for Masonry, Heat/AC, Electrical, Plumbing, Demolition, Carpentry, Signs, Flooring & Painting, for the remodeling of the Ira Community Education Center. Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. January 11, 2002 , at the office of the Ira ISD Superintendent, P.O. Box 240, Ira, TX 79527. Bids will be opened and read aloud at 8:00 a.m. on January 14, 2002. Any bids received after closing time will be returned unopened. Specifications may be obtained from the Business Office of Ira ISD, 6143 W. FM 1606 Ira, TX 79527.

Ira ISD reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive all formalities.

## Lost & Found

**FOUND**

**on west** Hwy 180, (2) female Shepherd/Heeler mix. Probably litter mates, approx. 9 mos, old. Very sweet! Can be claimed or adopted. Call 573-7378 after 5p.m. or leave message.

**Lost: Motorola flip-up** cell phone @ Wal-Mart. Reward for return to Ottus Boyd.

## Vehicles

**1985 Chevrolet pickup,** 4x4. Runs good! $2,500 Call 573-5069.

**1985 Mercury Sable,** grey, $4,300. 573-9586 after 6p.m. or 725-8641, leave message.

**1993 Silverado ext.** cab, loaded, $5,250 OBO. 573-4425 or 573-1550.

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**Chimney Cleaning & Repairs**
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**Growing Company seeking gas plant operator.** Must have high school diploma. Minimum 2 years experience in gas plant/oil field. Instrumentation/electrical helpful. Send resume to P.O. Box 949C, Snyder, TX 79550.

**Housekeeper needed at** Days Inn. Apply in person at 800 E. Coliseum Dr.

**KITCHEN HOSTESS - First Baptist Church.** Responsible for the planning, total preparation and serving of a meal for approximately 100 people on Wednesday nights. This also includes purchasing supplies and the cleaning and sanitation of the kitchen. Experienced in food service a plus. Training in food safety and sanitation rules preferred. Pick up application in church office at 1701 27th and return by December 30th.

**Any time is the right time to use the classified ads in The Snyder Daily News. Call 573-5486 now!**

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**Drug Testing Required**
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**Town & Country Food Stores**
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2805 Ave. V 3-1 ....$42T
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3797 Dalton 2-1-1....$25T
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Comm. bldgs. N, S, W sides downtown
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6194 CR 4131 Brick home 40-160 A's Red. $95T
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# California rates many roads as poor

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — California rates more than a third of its roads as poor, a higher percentage than any other state, according to a study released Thursday by a group financed primarily by the highway construction industry.

The state rated as "poor" 37 percent of its 168,000 miles of road, according to the report by The Road Information Program, which completed the study for Transportation California, a group of contractors, unions and other organizations.

TRIP said its analysis of 2000 information from the Federal Highway Administration found that California spent $82 per resident on maintenance — less than any other state. The FHA doesn't break down per capita spending on roads.

TRIP said Georgia gave its roads the best rating, with none in poor condition.

The other states with the highest self-reported percentage of "poor" roads, according to TRIP, were Louisiana, at 27 percent; Massachusetts, at 25 percent; and New Jersey and Missouri, both at 21 percent. On average, states reported that 11 percent of their roads were in poor condition.

TRIP cautioned that though all states reported to the federal government on the quality of their roads, there was no way to ensure they used identical standards.

According to the report, the other states that spent the least were Illinois, which spent $94 per person and ranked 9 percent of its roads as poor; Michigan, which spent $106 per person and ranked 15 percent as poor; Minnesota, which spent $108 per person and ranked 4 percent as poor; and Ohio, which spent $109 per person and ranked 6 percent as poor.

The study also recommends that voters in California approve Proposition 42, on the March 5 ballot, which would use gasoline sales taxes for road maintenance.

The TRIP analysis included interstates, freeways, major state roads and arterial roads, which are the major roads of a community, research director Frank Moretti said.

Dennis Trujillo, a spokesman for the California's Department of Transportation, said the state is dedicating about $1 billion a year to maintenance and repairs. Cities and counties received an additional $400 million last year for maintenance as part of the state's Congestion Relief Program. The state currently has $6 billion in general road improvements under way.

Gov. Gray Davis "has reversed a trend of 16 years of disinvestment in transportation," said Trujillo. "I believe our system is second to none, but there's room for improvement."

# Insurance commissioner urges review of policies

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Insurance Commissioner Jose Montemayor is reminding homeowners to carefully review their homeowners insurance policies considering several changes related to mold coverage.

Montemayor on Thursday also encouraged consumers to shop around for insurance because of rising rates.

"We know that consumers who shop around for their insurance coverage can save money. The educated insurance shopper also knows what discounts are out there. It's all on our Web site," Montemayor said.

Jerry Johns, president of industry group Southwest Insurance Information Service, agreed with Montemayor that consumers should carefully examine policies, but said insurance agents are the best source for information.

"We fully recognize that insurance customers will have questions about new homeowners insurance coverages and every company doing business in this state is poised to answer those inquiries," Johns said.

Last week, Allstate Texas Lloyds announced it does not plan to offer comprehensive insurance coverage to customers who renew their policies beginning in March.

The company will offer a new, expanded basic coverage called HO-A-Plus, which includes a $5,000 limit on remediation of mold resulting from covered water damage.

Several insurers, including Allstate, have stopped writing new comprehensive insurance policies, citing rising costs due to mold claims as one of the major factors.

Responding to the developing insurance crisis, Montemayor last month ordered that coverage for removing mold caused by water damage remain in Texas homeowner insurance policies. But he said the policies will not cover the more expensive costs for testing, treating and disposing of mold beyond immediate damage.

# Poinsettia growers meeting demand for variety of colors

ALBANY, Ga. (AP) — Red, white and pink poinsettias simply aren't enough anymore.

Greenhouses have introduced a palette of new colors for the traditional Christmas plants with names like Plum Pudding, Strawberry and Cream, and Cortez Burgundy to meet designer tastes.

"Breeders have come up with many different colors and forms," said Jim Barrett, a University of Florida poinsettia specialist. "Most of the excitement now is with the new and different stuff."

Poinsettias are the nation's top-selling potted flower, in greatest demand from early November to late December. The plants became associated with Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's after first being featured on the sets of holiday television specials in the 1960s and 1970s.

U.S. growers produce 75 million to 80 million poinsettias a year, worth about $250 million. Barrett said early demand for the plants was greater than normal this year.

"With the economy slow, we believe retailers were trying to create a shopping atmosphere," he said. "Retailers were trying to foster that good feeling on the part of their customers."

The University of Florida is the nation's main test site for poinsettia varieties and recently hosted a variety trial demonstration that featured 115 types.

Many of the new varieties were developed by the Paul Ecke Ranch of Encinitas, Calif., north of San Diego, which has produced more than 65 varieties ranging in color from purple to champagne.

The Ecke family is credited with successfully promoting poinsettias as Christmas flowers by getting them on television and in consumer and gardening magazines during the holidays.

"By the mid-1970s, poinsettias were pretty well looked upon by the general public as being a Christmas plant," Barrett said. "It was their marketing effort that did it."

The colorful flowers of the poinsettia are not really flowers at all. They are bracts — modified leaves that change from green to other colors. The actual poinsettia flowers resemble small yellow balls in the center of the bracts.

Barrett said consumers rate the new colors and varieties very highly in surveys.

The Plum Pudding variety, available to retailers for the first time this year, has been a huge success, Barrett said. It has purple bracts to blend with the growing use of purple and silver in holiday decorations.

In the Strawberry and Cream variety, the first bracts are strawberry pink and later ones have streaks of cream color.

The Winter Rose, with red bracts that curl into the shape of rose petals, is also available commercially for the first time this year.

Vickie Collins, owner of the Lawn Barber Nursery near Albany in southwest Georgia, said she stocked a few of the rose variety this season and they quickly sold out.

# Jackpot winner contacts commission

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Lottery Commission has heard from the winner of this week's $36 million Lotto Texas drawing.

Kristina Tirloni, a spokeswoman for the commission, said the caller claiming to have the winning ticket passed the initial ticket inquiry, which confirms the winning ticket through another series of numbers printed on it.

Lottery Commission officials will now wait for the claimant to take the next step: bringing the ticket to lottery headquarters in Austin for the final validation process. The final claim must be made within 180 days from the drawing date.

Tirloni said the claimant decided to seek legal advice first, a common practice among lottery winners.

Wednesday's winner will receive an initial payment of $1,460,149.20. The winner can expect a check for $1,440,000 each December for the next 24 years.

The winning numbers weren't an assortment of birthdays, anniversaries or ages, but six numbers selected at random by a computer, a "quick pick" — 8, 20, 40, 44, 47 and 51.

Sankar Saja, who owns Riverside Food Mart in Fort Worth, the store that sold the winning ticket was sold, said he's not as excited about the $360,000 — 1 percent of the winnings — that his store will receive as he is about the additional business the publicity will generate.

"I still have to work," said Saja, who came to Fort Worth from Calcutta, India, in 1994. "Money comes and goes. I am excited about the business it will bring."

# New state law will mean consumers will pay more, say insurance firms

HOUSTON (AP) — Consumers can expect higher premiums for health care coverage in Texas, Humana officials caution, as the insurer complies with a state statute mandating prompt payments to doctors and hospitals.

Three of Humana's subsidiaries have paid $2.1 million in what the company calls "overpayments" above their legally contracted rates to the providers serving plan members, as well as $1.25 million in administrative penalties to the Texas Department of Insurance.

The move follows a $9.25 million settlement this summer between the insurance department and 17 health plans, which agreed to pay restitution and fines to providers dating to Aug. 1 last year.

Insurance Commissioner Jose Montemayor said the penalties were justified because his agency received complaints about thousands of claims that were paid late. House Bill 610, the "prompt-pay" law approved by the Legislature in 1999, calls for insurers to pay claims within 45 days.

"We thought we were pretty good about paying claims — over 96 percent accuracy following the newly enacted House Bill 610," Dr. Gary Goldstein, chief executive officer of Humana's Central Texas Region, said in Friday's editions of the Houston Chronicle. "We've been working diligently changing systems and doing everything possible to comply."

That's not how the insurance department and health care providers see it.

"Physicians and providers who had not been paid for their services would disagree with the characterization that honoring the contract penalty and statutory requirements is an 'overpayment' and a 'windfall' to the medical profession," Montemayor said in a statement released Thursday.

"Had Humana paid claims timely and fully implemented the prompt-pay statutory requirement, it would not have been subject to an administrative penalty and restitution," he added.

The Texas Medical Association maintains that by postponing payments, insurers add to their bottom line.

"If they delayed just one day beyond the state-mandated 45 days, they earn themselves $87,000," Dr. Tom B. Hancher, the association's president, said of Humana.

That calculation is based on the delay to pay contracted rates to physicians throughout the state. In 15 days, it's estimated that Humana would pocket $1.3 million, Hancher said.

From the insurers' perspective, penalties are hardly the answer. The money has to come from somewhere, they say, so employers and consumers may end up shouldering the burden.

## Markets

### Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

| | High | Low | Last | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AMR Corp | 22.15 | 21.55 | 22.04 | + .54 |
| AOL TimeWrn | 33.29 | 32.86 | 32.99 | + .56 |
| AT&T Corp s | 18.35 | 17.99 | 18.22 | + .25 |
| Albertsons | 32.30 | 32.00 | 32.13 | —.25 |
| Alltel | 62.93 | 62.65 | 62.67 | + .17 |
| AmEl Pw | 43.47 | 42.84 | 42.87 | —.34 |
| AnderkPtr | 57.85 | 56.25 | 57.85 | + 1.82 |
| ATMOS Egy | 21.44 | 21.01 | 21.17 | —.13 |
| Aviall | 7.69 | 7.53 | 7.60 | + .20 |
| BP PLC | 46.74 | 46.25 | 46.68 | + .83 |
| BakerHughes | 37.98 | 36.81 | 37.85 | + .91 |
| Bank of Amer | 64.10 | 63.00 | 63.98 | + 1.03 |
| BellSouth | 39.05 | 38.82 | 38.93 | [illegible] |
| [illegible] | .46 | .46 | .46 | —.03 |
| BurlNoSFe | 29.10 | 28.70 | 28.70 | —.23 |
| Caterpillar | 53.04 | 52.80 | 52.84 | + .08 |
| ChevronTex | 91.05 | 90.35 | 91.00 | + .69 |
| Citigroup | 51.80 | 50.94 | 51.60 | + .86 |
| CocaCola | 47.44 | 47.05 | 47.16 | —.78 |
| ColgatePal | 58.30 | 57.81 | 57.90 | —.26 |
| ComclMetals | 36.59 | 35.56 | 35.56 | —.44 |
| CooperIn | 35.70 | 35.30 | 35.65 | —.05 |
| DaimlrChry | 42.42 | 42.25 | 42.26 | + .68 |
| DeltaAirl | 28.98 | 28.20 | 28.79 | + .47 |
| Dillards Inc | 16.14 | 15.94 | 16.10 | + .10 |
| DowChem | 34.01 | 33.92 | 33.99 | —.01 |
| DuPont | 42.95 | 42.52 | 42.68 | + .23 |
| EastmanChem | 39.10 | 38.88 | 39.03 | + .04 |
| EstKodak | 30.93 | 30.35 | 30.59 | + .05 |
| EDS Corp | 69.69 | 68.70 | 68.93 | —.67 |
| Entergy | 39.23 | 38.57 | 38.59 | —.36 |
| ExxonMobil s | 40.08 | 39.85 | 40.07 | + .28 |
| FootLocker | 15.97 | 15.75 | 15.80 | —.12 |
| GenDynam | 79.00 | 78.60 | 78.65 | + .13 |
| GenElec | 41.12 | 40.65 | 40.94 | —.01 |
| GenMills | 52.80 | 52.58 | 52.65 | —.21 |
| GenMotors | 48.79 | 47.95 | 48.79 | + .82 |
| GaPacGP | 28.10 | 27.75 | 27.76 | —.14 |
| Goodrich | 26.68 | 26.50 | 26.60 | + .03 |
| Goodyear s | 24.13 | 23.92 | 24.11 | + .12 |
| GtAtlPac | 24.74 | 24.40 | 24.42 | —.23 |
| Halliburtn | 13.36 | 13.06 | 13.28 | + .30 |
| Hanson ADS | 34.11 | 33.46 | 34.11 | + .66 |
| HarteHanks | 27.96 | 27.75 | 27.95 | + .13 |
| HomeDepot | 51.99 | 51.65 | 51.93 | + .49 |
| Honeywellnl | 33.48 | 33.04 | 33.31 | + .30 |
| IBM | 123.88 | 122.50 | 123.28 | —.22 |
| IntlPaper | 41.00 | 40.50 | 40.65 | + .40 |
| JohnsonJn s | 60.09 | 59.90 | 59.96 | —.06 |
| K mart | 5.36 | 5.25 | 5.33 | + .09 |
| KinderMorg | 56.59 | 56.21 | 56.45 | —.18 |
| Kroger Co | 21.05 | 20.85 | 21.01 | + .09 |
| LockheedM | 46.95 | 46.40 | 46.88 | + .48 |
| Lowes Cos s | 46.98 | 46.52 | 46.86 | + .21 |
| Lubys | 6.02 | 5.90 | 6.02 | + .10 |
| LucentTech | 6.18 | 6.06 | 6.14 | - |
| MayDeptStr | 37.35 | 36.77 | 37.26 | + .49 |
| Medtronic | 51.68 | 51.14 | 51.46 | + .22 |
| Motorola | 14.93 | 14.70 | 14.85 | + .04 |
| NCR Corp | 37.46 | 37.21 | 37.25 | + .10 |
| Navistar | 41.01 | 40.25 | 41.00 | + .64 |
| Penney JC | 26.65 | 26.21 | 26.56 | + .35 |
| PepBoys | 18.05 | 17.85 | 17.85 | —.14 |
| PepsiCo | 49.65 | 49.06 | 49.17 | —.23 |
| Pharmacia | 43.25 | 42.82 | 43.15 | + .55 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| PhilipPet | 60.70 | 60.10 | 60.64 | + .74 |
| PilgrmPrd B | 13.76 | 13.60 | 13.76 | + .13 |
| Praxair | 55.00 | 54.28 | 54.50 | —.31 |
| ProctGamb | 80.30 | 79.68 | 79.69 | —.46 |
| PubS NwMx | 28.52 | 28.20 | 28.43 | + .03 |
| RadioShack | 30.37 | 29.80 | 30.27 | + .01 |
| ReliantEngy | 26.70 | 26.31 | 26.50 | —.25 |
| RoyalDut | 49.90 | 49.54 | 49.89 | + .75 |
| SBC Comm | 40.06 | 39.75 | 39.80 | + .11 |
| SaraLee | 22.45 | 22.11 | 22.27 | —.15 |
| Scripps EW | 67.58 | 67.20 | 67.42 | + .18 |
| SearsRoeb | 48.10 | 47.60 | 48.04 | + .04 |
| SherwinW | 27.40 | 27.15 | 27.35 | + .04 |
| SouthernCo s | 25.29 | 24.89 | 25.18 | —.22 |
| SwstAirl s | 18.84 | 18.65 | 18.70 | —.09 |
| SprintFON | 19.40 | 19.20 | 19.26 | —.07 |
| SprintPCS | 24.98 | 24.55 | 24.96 | + .51 |
| Sunoco Inc | 38.03 | 37.53 | 38.00 | + .92 |
| TXU Corp | 47.15 | 46.32 | 46.59 | —.32 |
| TempleInland | 56.60 | 55.95 | 56.25 | + .17 |
| Texlnd | 37.50 | 36.90 | 37.25 | + .45 |
| TexasInst | 29.18 | 28.51 | 28.60 | —.15 |
| Textron | 42.95 | 41.90 | 42.83 | + 1.57 |
| TriconGlbR | 49.70 | 49.11 | 49.11 | —.46 |
| TrinityInds | 27.73 | 26.99 | 27.65 | —.08 |
| TylerTech | 4.10 | 3.40 | 3.41 | —.59 |
| USX-Marathn | 30.18 | 29.85 | 30.15 | + .26 |
| USX-USS | 18.32 | 17.85 | 18.15 | + .49 |
| UnionPacif | 57.26 | 56.87 | 57.00 | —.05 |
| UnitedTech | 65.90 | 65.57 | 65.72 | + .16 |
| Unocal | 36.12 | 35.52 | 36.11 | + .58 |
| VerizonComm | 48.91 | 48.14 | 48.65 | + .24 |
| WalMart | 58.74 | 58.20 | 58.66 | + .29 |
| WellsFargo | 43.59 | 43.25 | 43.47 | + .07 |
| WstnGasRs | 33.60 | 32.52 | 33.53 | + .91 |
| WinnDixie | 14.84 | 14.39 | 14.45 | —.19 |
| Xerox Cp | 10.03 | 9.64 | 9.97 | + .35 |

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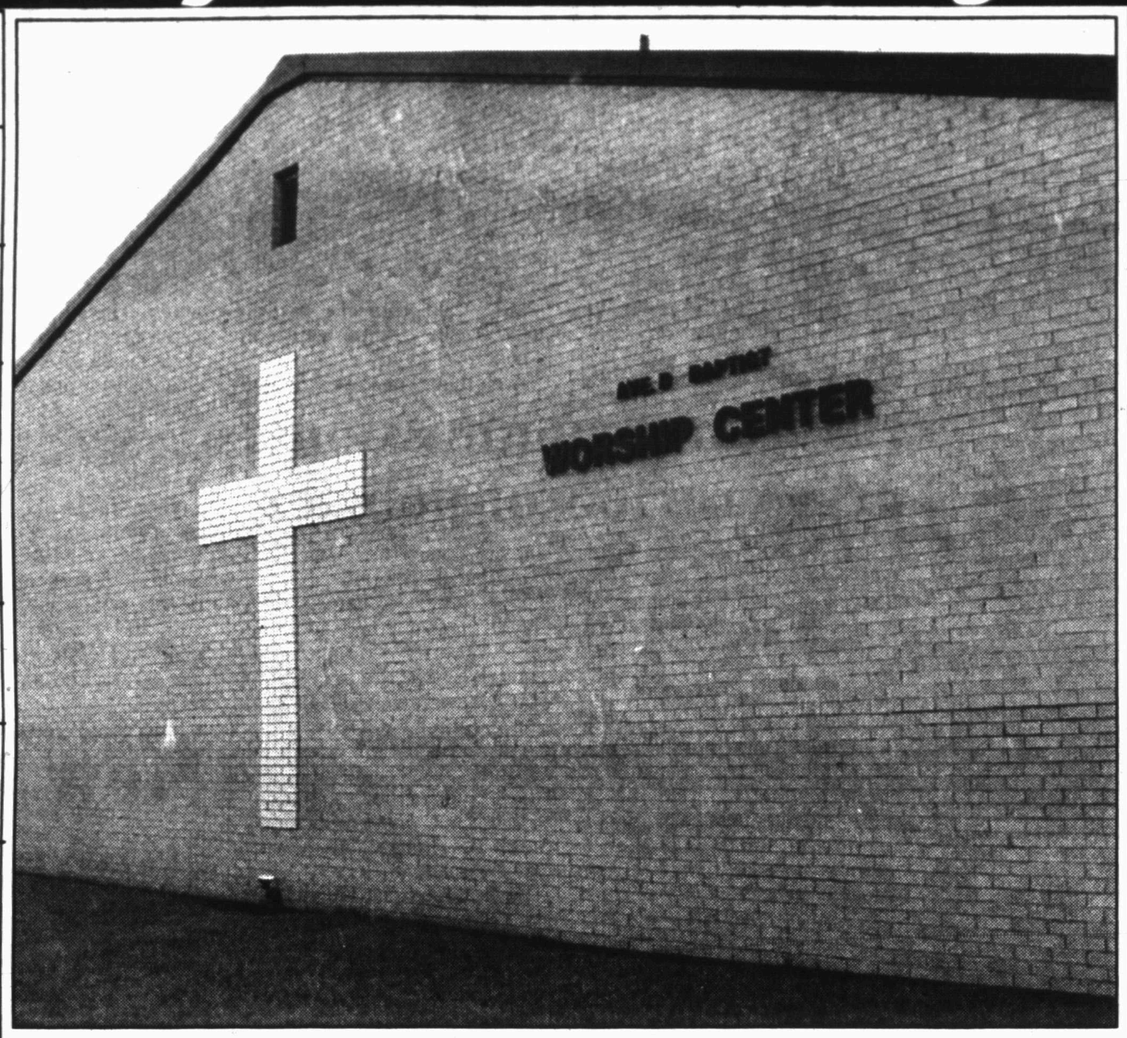


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# Chandra Levy mystery endures nearly eight months after she disappeared

WASHINGTON (AP) — No suspects. No telltale clues. Not even a trace of Chandra Levy has surfaced in the baffling case of the missing federal intern.

Nearly eight months after the 24-year-old disappeared in Washington, police are no closer to finding her, despite the avalanche of publicity the case has received because of Levy's link to Rep. Gary Condit, D-Calif.

"No new developments to report, let's put it that way," Sgt. Joe Gentile, a police spokesman, said last week.

Two police detectives and an FBI agent who specializes in difficult cases remain assigned to the investigation, considerably less manpower than the scores of officers pressed into service last summer to scour Washington parks and buildings.

Levy's parents, Dr. Robert and Susan Levy of Modesto, Calif., asked as far back as June that police treat the disappearance as a crime, which might have allowed police to be more aggressive in questioning people in their search for clues. Gentile, however, said the case remains a missing person investigation because there is no evidence of a crime.

"We know they're still working on it and we hope they'll be able to help us solve it, to find Chandra, hopefully alive," Levy's father said in a telephone interview. "Or if not, to find out what happened."

Susan Levy described the mystery as "a living hell."

Billy Martin, the Levys' Washington lawyer, said Levy most likely was the victim of a "well-planned kidnapping and removal."

Had Levy been the victim of a random attack, Martin believes that her body probably would have been found by now. Police also probably would have found some physical evidence — blood, for instance — in or near her apartment.

"It's highly unusual for no evidence of Chandra or her whereabouts to turn up, which leads us to conclude that Chandra has met with some professional or professionals who have removed every trace of her," said Martin, a former federal prosecutor.

Levy lost her job as an intern at the Bureau of Prisons in late April. She was last seen April 30 at a gym near her apartment. Police believe she spent the morning of May 1 surfing the Internet. Her parents received an e-mail from her that day that discussed airplane fares for her planned trip home to receive a graduate degree in public administration from the University of Southern California.

Her trail ends there, and interviews with friends, neighbors, coworkers, employees at the gym she frequented and Condit have shed little light on what might have happened to her.

Several days elapsed before Levy's parents called police and Condit, their congressman, to say she was missing. When police searched her apartment a few days later, they found her wallet, computer and luggage. Only her keys were missing.

They also stopped by Condit's apartment around the same time for the first of four interviews with the congressman.

Condit failed to tell investigators he was having an affair with Levy until his third interview, more than two months after Levy vanished, a police source says. He has denied any involvement in her disappearance and police say he is not a suspect.

Martin said police should have done more early in the investigation, when leads and memories were fresher.

"There were numerous leads, surveillance photos from apartment buildings in the immediate area, several things that could have been done that were not done," Martin said. "But I can't be critical of the police because they did not feel at that time that a crime had been committed."

He had stronger criticism for Condit, who Martin said was neither candid nor cooperative with investigators in the days after Levy disappeared.

Condit has said no one in Washington "has been more cooperative" than he, although police expressed exasperation that they needed several interviews to get what they considered a complete picture of Condit's relationship with Levy as well as his reconstruction of her comings and goings in late April.

While the investigation continues, the media coverage has waned since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Gone are the news cameras that were a fixture at locations in California and Washington, including Levy's apartment. There, the only visible reminder of Levy is a weathered yellow ribbon that hugs a tree near the building's entrance.

The building manager says he can't bring himself to take it down.

# Census Bureau says South, West fastest-growing states

WASHINGTON (AP) — Barry Russo's new hometown of Rye, N.H., looks nothing like the northern New Jersey suburb he retired from. Rush-hour traffic doesn't exist. A weekend trip to the bank means a 10-minute ride on rural roads instead of a half-hour trip down busy boulevards.

With the latest Census Bureau estimates showing New Hampshire as one of the country's fastest-growing states, Russo hopes Rye doesn't lose its tranquility.

New Hampshire was the only state among the 10 fastest-growing between April 1, 2000, and July 1, 2001, that wasn't located in the South or West. Nevada, Arizona and Colorado topped that list, surpassing the national 1.2 percent growth rate during that time.

"It's definitely a more rural feel," said Russo, who moved to Rye from Ridgewood, N.J., three years ago and now wants to help local planners. "If I could prevent the 'Jerseyfication' of it, I'd like to be aware of it."

Overall, the country's population increased from 281.4 million counted in the April 1, 2000, census, to 284.8 million this past July 1, according to bureau estimates released today.

North Dakota and West Virginia had the steepest declines, as slower economies continued to chase residents out of the states while failing to attract enough newcomers to take their place.

Weather and more vibrant economies have long drawn more people to Southern and Western states than other parts of the country for decades. The population of Nevada, for instance, rose 5.4 percent during the 15-month period, climbing to 2.1 million.

"I hesitate to say when growth is going to stop. There's been a long westward movement in this country," said John Haaga, a demographer with the private Population Reference Bureau.

"More recently, it stopped being movement to the West Coast and filled in" other Western states, he said.

Cities like Las Vegas, Atlanta, and Denver act as a hub for growth spilling into new, sprawling suburbs. Bigger homes and more land in the suburbs typically mean longer commutes for big-city workers.

It is also happening in New Hampshire, said Tyler Young, assistant planner for the state's office of planning. The state's population rose nearly 2 percent to 1.3 million.

Some of the biggest growth there occurred in coastline communities between Massachusetts and Maine that have become more popular with Boston commuters.

"It's like the 'restaurant syndrome' — you want to tell people you found a great place to eat, but you don't want to ruin the secret either," Russo said.

Most of the trends in the latest report mirrored those of the 1990s, Haaga said.

North Dakota saw the biggest population drop the past year — down 1.2 percent to 634,448. No state lost population between 1990 and 2000.

Three other states — West Virginia, Iowa and Louisiana — also lost residents last year. Pennsylvania, Wyoming, New York, and Nebraska all had slight increases.

# Astro-graph

**By Bernice Bede Osol**

**Your Birthday**

**Saturday, Dec. 29, 2001**

Knowledge you've acquired through both education and experience can be put to constructive uses in the year ahead to further your ambitions and goals. What you know can make you.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — This is a tough world where performance, not promises, will suffice. Today will prove this point if you attempt to get by on merely your charm, wit and good looks. 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)** — Because you want to be a nice person, today you might say what people want to hear instead of telling the truth. Sadly, however, this may only build them up for a big let down.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** — You have enough character qualities upon which to trade, so don't use affectations today, such as pretending to be something other than you really are. It'll dishonor the real you.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — Be understanding today if someone for whom you have high regard doesn't live up to your expectations. Others can't always be what we'd like them to be.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — If you speak without thinking, it could cause you to say the wrong thing to the wrong person today and put you in the position of being unable to retract your statement.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — Before you dip into your wallet today, remember there is always a day of reckoning if you buy what you can't afford. Make sure your purchases will be worth it.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — Have faith in yourself today, but be careful you don't treat others in a haughty or condescending manner. They have some good skills also even if they're not the same as yours.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Don't wait on others to plan your day. If you're not a self-starter, you're unlikely to have anything to show for your wasted hours. Set an agenda and abide by it.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Someone who knows your weak spots might attempt to manipulate you today for his or her own purposes. Beware of acquaintances bearing flattery or accolades.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** — All the big thinking in the world is not going to cut the mustard for you today nor produce any desirable end results; only rolling up your sleeves and working for what you want will do so.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** — You could be inclined today to color facts to suit your circumstances. Unfortunately, viewing matters from a realistic perspective is necessary to achieve your purposes.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** — Expect disappointment today if you believe you should receive more than what you're entitled to. Your rewards will come in proportion to effort expended.

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## Movie legend is honored on birthday

BERLIN (AP) — Movie legend Marlene Dietrich was honored on what would have been her 100th birthday in Berlin, the city where she was born but which she shunned for years after turning her back on Nazi Germany.

Wreaths from President Johannes Rau and the city government were laid in a ceremony Thursday at Dietrich's grave in the German capital, where she was born Maria Magdalene von Losch in 1901. Rau sent a message lauding her commitment to "democracy and freedom in Germany" during the Nazi era.

# Dr. Gott

**By Peter Gott, M.D.**

## *What causes chronic diarrhea?*

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** For the past 20 years, my wife has suffered constant diarrhea. She has had numerous normal tests, including sigmoidoscopies, CT scans, lower GI X-rays and fecal lab analysis. Medication doesn't seem to help, although she continues to take one or two doses of Immodium AD everyday so that the situation is at least under control. What do you recommend?

**DEAR READER:** On the strength of your short summary about your wife's chronic problem, I doubt I can outguess the team of doctors that has followed her case for 20 years.

In dealing with chronic diarrhea, physicians usually attempt to identify serious causes, such as colitis, cancer and infection. Your wife apparently had the necessary tests to rule out dangerous intestinal disturbances. Therefore, if she hasn't done so, I recommend that she obtain a consultation with a gastroenterologist.

There may be something in her diet causing her diarrhea or she may have a metabolic deficiency, such as lactose intolerance (an inability to digest milk products) or celiac disease (an extreme sensitivity to gluten, a protein in wheat and other grains). The specialist will be able to identify these conditions (or any unusual disorder) and offer treatment. If thorough testing fails to reveal the basis of your wife's problem, she may be left with a diagnosis of exclusion, such as irritable bowel syndrome.

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

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** Because of dermatomyositis, I have been prescribed steroids, with good results. However, whenever I try to taper the dose, I regress and suffer from painful joints and weak eye muscles. I know that this awful disease affects everyone differently. What can you tell me about it?

**DEAR READER:** Dermatomyositis, also known as polymyositis, is a chronic disease of unknown cause marked by inflammation and scarring of muscles and skin, leading to weakness and atrophy (shriveling). The affliction, which is probably an autoimmune disorder, resembles similar diseases, such as lupus and progressive systemic sclerosis.

Dermatomyositis usually begins as muscle pain, rash, sore joints and mild weakness. Fever, malaise and weight loss may be present. As the disease progresses (as it will without treatment), severe weakness develops — especially in the shoulder girdle — with eventual lower body involvement that can cause the patient to be bedridden or confined to a wheelchair. Speaking may be difficult; the esophagus can become inflamed, affecting swallowing; the rash enlarges; joints become more stiff and painful.

The diagnosis is based on muscle testing and biopsy. In about 15 percent of cases, there is an unsuspected cancer hidden in the body.

Treatment of the disorder, using high doses of cortisone steroids, is generally satisfactory and halts the progression of the disease. The drugs may have to be continued indefinitely. Nonetheless, remissions and apparent recoveries are not rare (especially if a cancer is found and removed). In most instances, the prognosis is guarded. I believe that patients with this disorder should be under the care of rheumatologists, specialists in autoimmune diseases.

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## About 230 federal, state, local cops die in line of duty during year 2001

WASHINGTON (AP) — The fall of the World Trade Center made 2001 the deadliest year for law enforcement in almost three decades.

About 230 federal, state and local officers were killed in the line of duty this year, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. Seventy-one of them lost their lives after terrorists rammed planes into the Twin Towers of New York's World Trade Center on Sept. 11 and caused them to collapse.

"The incredible bravery and selfless sacrifice our officers displayed that day was no different than every other day of the year in communities across America," said Craig Floyd, chairman of the Memorial Fund.

The death toll for law enforcement officers is the highest since 1974, which was the deadliest year ever for police. About 270 police were killed in 1974.

The early 1970s saw high death rates because police departments were not yet equipped with bullet-proof vests and violent crime was soaring.

The police department of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, based in New Jersey, lost 37 officers in the Sept. 11 attacks. The New York City Police Department lost 23 officers.

By state, New Jersey suffered the most deaths in 2001, losing 41 officers. Next came New York with 31, Texas with 20 and California with 12.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

# Tension mounts between India, Pakistan

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Indian and Pakistani troops shelled each other in disputed Kashmir overnight, sending villagers fleeing for safety and convincing many that war was getting closer.

The shelling, which broke up two days of relative calm, came after the nuclear-armed rivals on Thursday exchanged diplomatic and economic sanctions seen as the toughest since they last fought a war in 1971.

The latest surge in tension erupted after a Dec. 13 suicide attack on India's parliament that left nine Indians and five attackers dead. India accused Pakistan of supporting the attackers. Pakistan denied the charge.

The armies fired mortars at each other for five hours Thursday night in the Poonch sector along the cease-fire line that divides Kashmir between India and Pakistan, an Indian army official said on condition of anonymity.

He said there was also intermittent small arms fire across the border, but that the exchanges died down this morning. There was no immediate comment from Pakistan.

Villagers in the Indian-ruled portion of Kashmir fled their homes with cots, clothes and fears that India and Pakistan will go to war for the fourth time since they became independent from Britain and were separated in 1947.

"The war is about to break out," said Sumitra Devi, an elderly woman sheltering with her sons and grandsons at a dilapidated school at Koota in Jammu-Kashmir state.

Devi's house was demolished in the 1971 war with Pakistan, and she said she was already packed Thursday when soldiers came to her village, Mangoo Chak, and told people to evacuate.

The Indian army told some 5,000 people in 17 villages in Kashmir to leave their homes within 36 hours, officials told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity today. The army had already warned about 10,000 people in 24 villages near the Pakistani border to move.

Tens of thousands of soldiers, squadrons of fighter jets, artillery and ballistic missiles face each other along the 1,100-mile border that reaches from the Himalayas in the north to the Arabian Sea in the south. Both sides say they don't want war, but each says it is ready.

"There is no measuring scale that we have to say how near or how far we are to war," Indian Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh said Thursday night. "I will just say this: Don't worry. We are ready."

A Pakistani government spokesman, Gen. Rashid Quereshi, responded in kind. "We have the capacity to react and retaliate in all conceivable ways," he said.

India and Pakistan traded sanctions Thursday, each ordering half of the other's embassy staffs sent home and announcing bans on overflights by the other's national airlines.

The Bush administration urged the leaders of the two countries, which both possess nuclear weapons, to come to an understanding at a South Asia summit next week in Nepal. "They need, to resolve their differences through dialogue," State Department spokesman Philip Reeker said.

The Group of Eight leading industrial nations today expressed its serious concern today about the escalating tensions between India and Pakistan and called on both nations to resume dialogue, Russia's Foreign Ministry said.

In a statement initiated by Russia, a traditional friend of India, the G-8 also put pressure on Pakistan to take further steps against terrorist groups acting from its territory. The G-8 also includes the United States, Italy, France, Britain, Germany, Canada and Japan.

Like two of the wars the neighbors have fought, the tension has its roots in Kashmir, a mostly Muslim province that is divided between Hindu-majority India and Muslim Pakistan but claimed by both.

India accuses Pakistan of fomenting violence in its part of Kashmir, where Islamic guerrillas have waged a separatist war that has killed tens of thousands.

# Man arrested on warrant for probation violation

***•Arrests***

Officers arrested a 21-year-old man in the 2200 block of 42nd Street on an outstanding Caldwell County warrant for probation violation on an original charge of driving without a license. He was taken to jail and his vehicle was left at his residence.

***•Burglary***

Colby Miller requested a deputy in Fluvanna in reference to his house being burglarized. A deputy was dispatched to the location and an offense report for burglary of a habitation was submitted.

***•Criminal mischief***

Michael Hildebrand requested an officer in the Wal-Mart parking lot after seeing a subject scratch his vehicle. An officer responded and advised a report for Class B criminal mischief would be submitted.

***•Spotlighting***

Officers stopped three men for spotlighting around the Lincoln School at 11:40 p.m. Thursday. The men were issued several citations and were told to leave the area.

***•Juveniles***

Officers responded to a report of juveniles shooting a BB gun near the Boys' and Girls' Club. The juveniles were located and escorted to a family member and advised of the complaint.

***•Gas drive of***

A clerk at Rip Griffin's Truck Stop reported a gas drive off in the amount of $10 Thursday afternoon. No description of the vehicle was given.

## Births

Margaret Silva of Snyder announces the birth of her daughter, Gabrielle Silva, on Dec. 26. Gabrielle, was born in Cogdell Memorial Hospital and weighed seven pounds, four ounces. Grandparents are Angelita Silva of Snyder and Frances Lopez of Clovis, N.M.

## Obituaries

### Margry Sorrells

**1922-2001**

Margry Sorrells, a Snyder native, died Thursday, Dec. 27, in August Health Center in Lubbock after a lengthy illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Sorrells, 79, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the 37th Street Church of Christ. Dale Huff, minister, will officiate. Burial will follow in Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Sorrells

Mrs. Sorrells was born May 1, 1922 in Snyder and married Vollie E. Sorrells on June 9, 1943 in Long Beach, Calif.

Mrs. Sorrells, a homemaker and a member of the 37th Street Church of Christ, moved to Snyder from Big Spring in June, 1981.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Roy and Myrtle Brown.

Survivors include her husband, Vollie E. Sorrells of Snyder; one daughter and son-in-law, Betty and Mike Ezzell of Austin; and two grandchildren, Michael Ezzell and his wife Amy of Stillwater, Okla., and Marla Warren and her husband Ryan of Galveston.

Family visitation will be held 6-7:30 this evening at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

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### Iva Franks

**1912-2001**

Iva Mae Franks, a longtime Snyder area resident, died this morning in Snyder Oaks Care Center after a lengthy illness.

Services for Mrs. Franks, 89, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Nov. 13, 1912 in Ira, she married L.D. Franks on Dec. 19, 1932 in Colorado City. He died July 7, 1973.

A homemaker, Mrs. Franks had lived most of her life in Snyder except for a period of 13 years in Bonham. She was a member of the Morningside Baptist Church.

She was also preceded in death by a sister, Maxine Grimmett.

Survivors include two daughters, Rosanell Richburg of Dallas and Tommie Dorman of North Richland Hills; a son, Kenneth Franks of Tampa, Fla.; eight grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

### Claudia Day

**1927-2001**

Claudia Day of Snyder died Wednesday, Dec. 26, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a sudden illness.

Graveside service for Mrs. Day, 74, was set for 2 p.m. today in the Slaters Chapel Cemetery in Nolan County under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Claudia Day

Born June 23, 1927 in Winters, she married Velta J. Day on Dec. 18, 1947 in Winters.

A homemaker, Mrs. Day was a longtime member of 4th & Elm Street Church of Christ in Sweetwater. After living in Sweetwater for many years, she moved to Snyder last December.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William H. and Cora Hubach Hord; a sister, Corine Oliver; and a brother, William H. Hord.

Survivors include her husband, Velta J. Day of Snyder; one daughter, Velma Jean Ward of Snyder; one son and daughter-in-law, Velta James and Jimmie Day of Snyder; a sister, Barbara Gray of Winters; one brother, Rance Hord of Sterling City; four grandchildren, Michael Allen Ward and his wife Sandy of Snyder; Melissa Jean Wells and her husband Donald of Snyder; Jodi Latrisha Wall and Jennifer Robin Phillips, both of Amarillo; and four great-grandchildren, Christopher Ward, Hunter Ward, Amanda Wells and Chase Gaines.

### Jesse Ballard

**1909-2001**

LUBBOCK — Jesse Ballard of Lubbock, died Monday, Dec. 24, in Bender Terrace Nursing Home in Lubbock.

Service for Mr. Ballard, 92, was set for 10:30 a.m. today in the Trinity Church Chapel with Paul Jantzen, pastor, officiating. Burial was to follow at 3 p.m. today in the Pyron Cemetery near Hermleigh with Charles Addington, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Roscoe, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Chapel of Angels Funeral Home.

Born Oct. 6, 1909 in Loraine, he married Laora Florence Martin on Nov. 20, 1932. They moved from Texas to Los Angeles where Jesse built over 500 homes. Due to Florence's illness, they returned to Texas and she preceded him in death in 1959.

Later he married Bessie Lemon Stephenson of Lubbock in 1963 in Anaheim, Calif. She died in 1993.

A general contractor in Lubbock for more than 30 years, Mr. Ballard was a member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America for 54 years. He built nine churches in Lubbock, including Trinity Church. Mr. Ballard was a member of the First Assembly of God and had been a member of an organized Southern Gospel Quartet for some 25 years.

Survivors include two sons, Wayne Ballard of Lee Summit, Mo., and Glen Ballard of Lubbock; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

### Jean Steadmon

**1926-2001**

BIG SPRING – Jean Steadmon, a native of Scurry County, died Wednesday, Dec. 26.

Funeral service for Mrs. Steadmon, 75, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel with the Rev. Claude Craven officiating. Burial will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

Born Jan. 12, 1926 in Hermleigh, she married Ruben Steadmon on April 15, 1950 in Carlsbad, N.M. A homemaker and a Baptist, Mrs. Steadmon had lived in Big Spring since 1967.

Survivors include her husband, Ruben Steadmon of Big Spring; a daughter, Donna Ridenour of San Antonio; a son, David Steadmon of Denver; a brother, Bill Randell of Lake Isabella, Calif.; and a sister, Sarah Skelton of Taylor.

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## events WHAT'S UP?

### ONGOINGS

**CADA holiday schedule**

The Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse will be closed for the holidays through Wednesday.

**New Year's Eve celebration**

Far Above & One Generation will provide music and Doorkeeper of His Glory dance troupe will perform at 8 p.m. Monday at Thee Place, 904 26th. Call 573-9799 for more information.

**Masonic Lodge meeting**

Scurry Lodge No. 706 will have a slated meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday with work in the E.A. degree.

**Weigh Down workshop**

Registration remains open for the Weigh Down workshop that begins at 7 p.m. Thursday at His Joy Ministries, 904 26th. Call 573-9615 for further information or to sign up.

**Lions Club meetings**

The Snyder Lions Club will resume regular meetings at noon Tuesday, Jan. 8, with a program about the Texas Boys Ranch.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Military support group**

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

**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.

# Three killed when helicopter on moose rescue run crashes

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A helicopter on a mission to pluck moose from a heavily traveled area clipped a steel cable and crashed through a frozen resorvoir, killing three people.

The crash caused a brief power outage to about 7,000 customers because the cable anchored power line pylons.

The helicopter crashed just after taking off Thursday afternoon, falling upside down and breaking through the ice.

One of the men who was dropped off jumped into the frigid waters of the Mountain Dell Reservoir to try to save the victims, but authorities believe they had been killed on impact.

"We watch for lines, but sometimes, when trying to get the job done, you just lose sight of them," said Larry Dalton, Division of Wildlife Resources conservation outreach chief.

Mountain Dell is a major source of drinking water for Salt Lake City and the city's Department of Public Utilities shut down its water-treatment plant at Mountain Dell to avoid contamination from leaking fuel.

"None of it got into the drinking water supply," said LeRoy W. Hooton Jr., director of public utilities. Experts were at the site sampling water and deciding what kind of cleanup will be necessary.

The accident happened about 10 miles east of Salt Lake City near Interstate 80, which was briefly shut down after the crash.

The helicopter was being used to transport moose from the Parleys Canyon area, where a half-dozen of the animals have been hit and killed by vehicles in the past month.

The DWR has transplanted about 25 moose from the heavily traveled area in the last month, and had hoped to move 15 to 20 more on Thursday. However, only four had been moved during the morning due to poor visibility.

The chopper was not transporting a moose at the time of the accident.

The crew catches the moose by throwing nets over the animals from the air. One member jumps on the animals, blindfolds and hobbles them, then wraps them in large bags.

Once a moose is secured, the helicopter hoists it to a staging area where it its loaded onto a trailer for relocation.

The Division of Wildlife Resources contracted with Helicopters by Oz, doing business as Helicopter Capture Services, for the work.

The crash killed the pilot, John E. Olson, a passenger who worked for the helicopter company and a third person who was a photographer for the Division of Wildlife Resources.

Just before the crash, Olson had dropped off his son, John J. Olson, so he could collect some nets used in capturing the moose. He unsuccessfully tried to rescue his father.

"These people were very good at what they do," Dalton said. "The ones who perished were all excellent folks.