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WT-Int. Crude - $26.28
WTIC Posted - $22.75

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEEKEND

Jan. 1 & 2, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 209
40 Pages 75¢

Home Of Susan Frazier

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They work!

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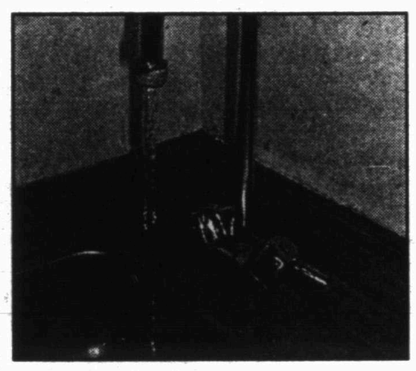

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Another century...

No big deal for Snyder woman in her third

By Wade Warren
Managing Editor

Everyone reading this can now claim that they have lived in two centuries, but very few people will ever be able to say they have lived in three centuries as Hazel Haynes can today.

With the dawning of 2000 at midnight Friday, Hazel has lived in the 1800s, 1900s, and now in the 2000s.

Born in Erath County in 1898, she and her husband traveled to this area in 1936 in a Model T Ford.

"I thought I was pretty good traveling in that old Model T," said Mrs. Haynes. "Because I still remember traveling in wagons and riding horses to go to town when I was a little girl near Dublin, or even walking."

Hazel still prefers automobiles for travelling, and she has yet to ride in an airplane.

"Don't believe I ever will get in one because I don't have to," said the lady who has seen many a change in transportation modes in her lifetime.

"I know cars have wrecks, too. But at least I wouldn't be way up there," as she pointed to the sky.

And after a brief pause, she added, "I'm not getting on any ships, either."

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"We even had to cut wood all summer just to get ready for winter," said Hazel.

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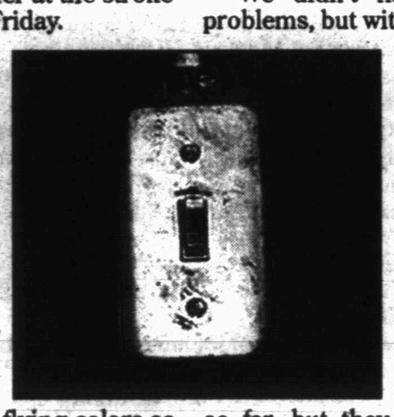

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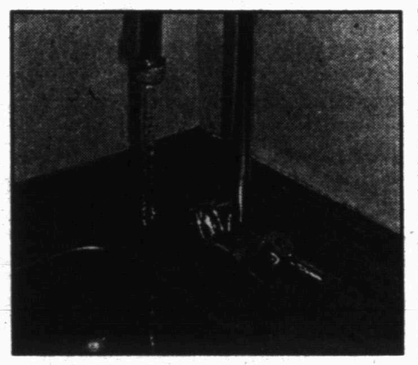

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Woman arrested after taking hostages

OLATHE, Kan. (AP) — A hostage standoff that lasted nearly eight hours ended early Saturday when two of the people being held captive managed to disarm the female suspect, allowing a SWAT team to make the arrest.

No one was injured during the standoff that began around 5 p.m. Friday.

Authorities did not identify the 24-year-old Olathe woman, who had said she was upset about losing her job and had no hope for the future.

Police would not comment on any motive.

FBI spokesman Jeff Lanza said the woman probably would be charged in federal court Monday. She also could face state charges.

Eleven people were trapped inside the Bank of America branch when the woman walked in Friday, Lanza said. Six were taken hostage and five others managed to hide in another part of the building.

The woman released four of the hostages at various times through the evening, and the five others were able to slip out of the building on their own more than four hours later, authorities said.

With just the woman and two employees left in the building early Saturday, a male hostage knocked the gun from the woman's hand and a female hostage picked it up and ran from the bank, police said.

The SWAT team then went into the bank and arrested the woman without incident.

The hostages were taken to the Olathe police department to be reunited with family members and friends. They declined to talk to reporters.

Police were initially tipped to the hostage incident by a frantic call from inside the bank, Olathe police Lt. Larry Griffin said.

One of the bank employees inside the building called KMBC-TV during the ordeal and said everyone was being treated well.

The suspect then took the phone and said the situation happened because she had lost her job, her family and all hope for the future.

She said she would release the hostages if she could talk to a friend named Sean.

"Once I talk to Sean, then I'll talk to them, that's when it all ends," the suspect said. "I want to talk to Sean face-to-face first before I talk to anyone else."

At one point, she yelled to the hostages, "Are you being harmed?" and people in the background were heard saying "No."

Lanza said the incident was the Kansas City area's first hostage situation at a bank in about nine years.

First Christian will dedicate new organ

Reba Bailey, organist at First Christian Church, will present a dedicatory recital of representative works by renown organ composers as well as familiar hymn tune settings next Sunday, Jan. 9, at 3 p.m., in the church sanctuary, Dr. Tim Griffin, pastor, announces.

Reba Bailey

The purpose of the recital is to formally dedicate the church's new 751E Rodgers organ with midi following lightning destroying the former organ this spring during a seasonal thunderstorm.

Bailey is a 1993 magna cum laude graduate of Howard Payne University in Brownwood, having earned the bachelor of music degree with a double major in organ performance and interdisciplinary elementary education.

She was not only the secretary to the dean of the school of music, Bailey also served as staff accompanist as well.

Her honors include the Outstanding Musician Award, the Achievement Award, the Schubert Club Award, in addition to being named "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities."

Mrs. Bailey was a student of Dr. Allen G. Reed, organ professor, and dean of the School of Music at HPU.

Presently, Bailey is a special education resource teacher at Stanfield Elementary. She also teaches piano privately in both her home and Rotan studios. Her husband, Robert, is a resource teacher at Snyder Junior High School, in addition to serving as an elder and minister of music.

The Baileys have two married sons, Jeremy and Jared, both living in Abilene.

Jeremy teaches at Bowie Elementary while Jared works at American Bank and Trust full-time while completing his final graduation requirements from HSU.

The Baileys have three grandchildren. Reba is the niece of Roy and Rita Carter, retired teachers and longtime Snyder residents.

"We are pleased to have someone of Reba's caliber playing the organ in our church, and we are pleased to offer this dedication recital on our new church organ purchased in November," Dr. Griffin said.

Fireworks, celebrations and worship rang in new year

By The Associated Press

It was a come-as-you-like party in a splendid setting. A poet in dreadlocks wore glittering year "2000" glasses; a consultant chose black tie. Nine-year-old Theodore Clemens, in red fleece, wouldn't have stayed home for anything.

"It's like praying to God at the same time you're celebrating New Year's," Theodore said at the New Year's Eve service at Trinity Church in New York City. "It's a God New Year's."

Worshippers worldwide marked the millennium with hymns and homilies at churches and synagogues, in Sikh temples and at Buddhist retreats.

In Dubuque, Iowa, Roman Catholic nuns prayed "for energy, vision and courage" as they walked a labyrinth modeled on one at France's Chartres Cathedral.

Thousands gathered in Dallas for a church service featuring two caged lions. The animals represented the power of God, said Bishop T.D. Jakes, senior pastor of the 24,000-member Potter's House Church.

At Our Lady Queen of Angels Church near Los Angeles' Olvera Street Market, where Cardinal Roger Mahony celebrated Mass, believers spilled into the street.

"We're going to celebrate the New Year together with the Holy Spirit," said Oliva Gamboa, 34, who brought her three young daughters.

At the First Christian Church in Terrell, Texas, members kept up a round-the-clock Bible-reading marathon that began Wednesday and was ending on New Year's Day.

Meanwhile, at the Buddhist temple in Richardson, Texas, members planned to chant for 24 hours.

In Buddhist temples across Japan and South Korea, monks rang out the old year by clanging temple bells 108 times, one for each of the evils of the world that worshippers hoped to dispel. Tokyo's famous Meiji Shrine also rang the bells on live TV as 2000 arrived.

In India, the Dalai Lama joined thousands of Hindus and Buddhists singing hymns of devotion on the banks of the Ganges River.

Residents of the Pacific island nation of Tonga were among the first to greet Jan. 1. At the stroke of midnight, white-clad Tongans by the thousands read a prayer at the royal palace and sang from Handel's "Messiah."

At the Vatican, Pope John Paul II welcomed the millennium with a New Year's greeting as fireworks lit the midnight sky above St. Peter's Basilica.

"The clock of history strikes an important hour," John Paul said.

Most synagogues shunned any observance of this New Year. Rabbis in Israel barred Jerusalem hotels from throwing New Year's Eve parties since it's the Jewish Sabbath and no millennium for Jews, whose calendar makes this year 5760.

There were congregations that combined traditional Jewish observance with a nod to the millennium. The Jewish Center of Teaneck, N.J., held a New Year's dinner after services.

"We can both keep Shabbat and be part of the western world in its excitement tonight," said Rabbi David Feldman, referring to the Sabbath.

New Year's falls in the Islamic Holy Month of Ramadan. Still, many Muslims celebrated the secular milestone outside the mosque.

"As a new year, it is a cultural event," said Yahya Salim, 46, of the Islamic Center of Southern California. "That this happened during the month of Ramadan, I feel it is some kind of blessing."

Many sensed a blessing at Trinity, a Gothic revival Episcopal church that was the focal point of New Year's celebrations before New York's annual event moved to Times Square in 1904.

Melinda Anderson, chief magistrate of Liberty County, Ga., said she came to Trinity's service to give thanks. "At the end of the millennium," she said, "I can't think of anywhere I'd rather be than in church."

The Rev. Samuel Johnson Howard, vicar of Trinity, told parishioners: "You come here tonight seeking some understanding of things past and to hope for future things."

Reshie Bisram of the church's maintenance staff said that if he weren't working, he would come just the same. "A lot of crazy people are on the street," he said. "In church, it's you and God."

—

French explorer Jacques Cartier, who explored the Gulf of St. Lawrence in 1534, is generally regarded as the discoverer of Canada. But English seaman John Cabot sighted Newfoundland 37 years earlier, in 1497. The Vikings are believed to have reached the Atlantic Coast centuries before.

Date Book

Saturday, Jan. 1, 2000

Today is **NEW YEAR'S DAY**; it is the first day of 2000 and the 11th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1831, in Boston, Mass., abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison founded The Liberator, a publication that advocated the end of slavery.

On this day in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which outlawed the practice of slavery in the United States.

On this day in 1992, Mikhail Gorbachev and President Boris Yeltsin of Russia announced plans to transform the Soviet Union into the Commonwealth of Independent States.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Lorenzo di Medici (1449-1492), Florentine ruler-arts patron; Paul Revere (1735-1818), American patriot; Betsy Ross (1752-1836), American patriot; E.M. Forster (1879-1970), writer; J. Edgar Hoover (1895-1972), FBI director; Barry Goldwater (1909-1998), U.S. politician; J.D. Salinger (1919-), writer, is 81; Frank Langella (1940-), actor, is 60.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1942, Oregon won the Rose Bowl by defeating Duke 20-16.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The births of all things are weak and tender, and therefore we should have our eyes intent on beginnings." — Montaigne

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Dec. 29) and new moon (Jan. 6).

Sunday, Jan. 2, 2000

Today is the second day of 2000 and the 12th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1888, Martin Stone was awarded a patent for his invention of the drinking straw.

On this day in 1905, in Chicago, Ill., the I.W.W. was formed at the Conference of Industrial Unionists.

On this day in 1988, President Ronald Reagan and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada signed an agreement lifting trade barriers between the United States and Canada.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Nathaniel Bacon (1647-1676), American colonial leader; James Wolfe (1727-1759), British general; Sir Michael Tippett (1905-1998), composer; Isaac Asimov (1920-1992), writer; Dan Rostenkowski (1928-), U.S. congressman, is 72; Roger Miller (1936-1992), singer-songwriter; James Bakker (1940-), TV evangelist, is 60.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1982, San Diego defeated Miami 41-38 during overtime in an AFC playoff game.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "No tears in the writer, no tears in the reader." — Robert Frost

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Dec. 29) and new moon (Jan. 6).

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Gets leave of absense

EXTON, Pa. (AP) — A man accused with his wife of abandoning their disabled son at a Delaware hospital has been granted a three-month leave of absence from the chemical company he runs.

Richard Kelso, president and chief executive officer of PQ Corp., on Wednesday asked for the time off to deal with "family matters," said John Reed, a spokesman for the Berwyn-based company.

Kelso did not immediately return a phone call Friday seeking comment.

Kelso, 62, and his wife Dawn Kelso, 45, were charged Monday.

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Some raise concerns over swap of militants

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — As freed hostages recovered from their eight-day hijacking nightmare, India's foreign minister said Saturday that their captors had wired their jet to explode and possibly kept extra weapons in the cargo hold.

Despite a joyful and relieved welcome for the 155 passengers and crew from the hijacked Indian Airlines jet, some predicted Saturday that India would pay a heavy price for swapping the release of three Muslim militants for their freedom.

After receiving the three militants Friday, the hijackers fled the airport in Kandahar, Afghanistan, where they had been holding the plane, and disappeared into the desert. Afghanistan's ruling Taliban militia said Saturday they had left the country.

Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh said the five hijackers were Pakistanis. The identity of the hijackers — who wore masks — has not been clear, and Singh did not specify how he knew they were Pakistani.

Singh also said the five hijackers had crossed into southwestern Pakistan to the town of Quetta, citing information he said he received from the Taliban information minister. The Taliban have not announced publicly which country the hijackers fled to. There was no immediate reaction to the allegations from Pakistan.

Freed crew members said the plane had been wired with enough explosives to blow it up, Singh said.

The hijackers may have also had AK47 automatic rifles, pistols and grenades hidden in the cargo hold "from the beginning," he said. On Dec. 26, two days into the seizure, the hijackers got access to the cargo and suddenly appeared with more sophisticated weapons, Singh said.

With joy and tears, the freed hostages were welcomed back Friday evening by a huge crowd of relatives, friends and well-wishers at New Delhi's international airport.

"It was very suffocating inside. I feel great to be able to look at the sun again," said Himanshu Sharma, 12, who was held hostage with his parents and 9-year-old brother.

The only American hostage, Jeanne Moore of Bakersfield, Calif., was in good health, said U.S. Embassy spokeswoman Elizabeth Corwin.

"We were scared a lot — we never knew what was going to happen to us," Moore, a special education teacher, was quoted as saying in Saturday's Los Angeles Times. "It was a very interesting study in people."

Moore's son, Jim, a Bakersfield police officer, left for India on Friday upon news of his mother's release.

Kanwar Thukral, who had a childhood friend on board the flight, said he had mixed feelings about the Indian government's decision to swap the militants for the hostages' release.

"I think releasing these prisoners will give a boost to the militant movement. It will be a crutch for the militants. They know now they can always hold the government hostage," Thukral said. "I guess the government had only one option. But I still wish the militants had not been released."

In a New Year's Eve message to the nation, Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee said the deal was in the nation's long-term interest. "India shall not spare any effort to thwart the phenomenon of terrorism," he said.

The issue of Kashmir is a focus of nationalist feeling in India. The territory has been divided between India and Pakistan since independence in 1947. India has been battling Muslim insurgents in the part under its control, who demand either independence or union with Pakistan.

Masood Azhar, a leader of Harkat ul-Ansar, a group on a U.S. list of terrorist organizations, was the best known of the three men released. In addition, the Indians freed Mushtaq Ahmed Zargar, chief commander of the rebel group Ul-Umar Mujahideen, and Ahmad Omar Sayed Sheikh, who was held in a New Delhi prison.

In the first three days of the hijacking, the passengers said, they were given half of an orange for breakfast and lunch. Later, they were given hard bread.

The Indian Airlines plane was headed to New Delhi from Katmandu, Nepal, when the hijackers took control on Dec. 24, carrying pistols, grenades and knives.

World's computers roll over to 2000

By The Associated Press

The new millennium dawned this morning and the world's computers hummed along as if it were just another day, the feared Y2K bug barely noticeable.

Only a few sporadic glitches popped up Saturday, while experts warned that it could take days, weeks or months before problems are discovered.

From nuclear power plants to ATMs to airplanes, few problems surfaced immediately as the year 2000 began in the South Pacific and swept west.

"The Mouse That Didn't Roar," read a headline in Saturday's Bangkok Post.

Still, the millennial bug — a simple computer glitch when the date changes from 1999 to 2000 — was responsible for a few problems.

A computer linked to radiation monitoring devices at a Japanese nuclear plant failed, but officials said it wasn't considered serious enough to shut the plant. Ticketing machines on some buses in Australia briefly jammed. Forecasting maps at the French weather service initially got the New Year Day date as "01/01/19100." Eight hundred slot machines shut down at a Delaware horse track.

Unrelated to Y2K, U.S. nuclear power plants in Pennsylvania and South Carolina were shut down and a third had trouble with a scheduled startup as the new year approached, officials said. A glitch sent clocks at eight U.S. utilities racing ahead. Officials quickly fixed them.

But the problems didn't compare to the dire predictions that spurred years of preparations and an estimated $500 billion spent worldwide to avoid the worst.

Experts said the time and money was worth it.

"The reason we're in the position we're in is because we spent that money. Had we not spent this money, we would be facing worldwide calamity," said Matt Hotle, vice president of the technology consulting firm Gartner Group.

And they warned that though it appeared to be much ado about nothing, there remained a potential for damage.

"It's always dangerous in the first several hours after an event to be drawing firm conclusions about what's happened. I personally would like to wait a couple of days," said Norman Dean, executive director for the Center for Y2K and Society in Washington.

In Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and other parts of the world considered most at risk for Y2K meltdowns, officials reported no problems.

Computer experts might have overestimated the risk in developing countries, basing their predictions on anecdotal information, Hotle said. "We didn't know what technology was there," he said.

Russian nuclear weapons sites and the country's 29 nuclear reactors, which rely on clumsy Soviet-era technology, suffered no problems. Aging atomic power plants ran without a hitch in Ukraine, which in 1986 suffered the world's worst nuclear disaster with a meltdown in Chernobyl.

The bug was quiet in Western Europe and Africa. Italy, one of the worst-prepared countries in the West, started the new century without trouble.

"I feel like I should be reporting something dramatic, but I'm afraid I can't," said Ian Macfarlane, governor of Australia's central bank. He was almost apologetic as he announced no problems with his country's financial system.

A Y2K glitch in Japan caused vending machines for prepaid train cards to stop working briefly in 13 stations. Phones, electricity and ATMs worked fine in Croatia, though the free phone line to answer Y2K questions was disconnnected. Tamil separatists in Sri Lanka posted a notice on their Web site saying they were Y2K compliant.

As the countdown ticked off before the midnight hour, many countries shut down vital systems to be safe. Airports in several countries canceled flights. Subways in Cairo and Istanbul were closed. Large ships were banned from the Bosporus strait. ATMs in Beijing were shut. Indonesia cut oil production.

In the United States, the bug caused barely a ripple: Banking, energy, transit and communications systems all suffered no breakdowns.

Elsewhere, some of the world's best-known pieces of machinery survived the turnover completely unaffected by the Y2K computer glitch — since they don't use computers.

Old-fashioned clockworks let Big Ben chime in the new year in London, while the Panama Canal let ships through its mechanically operated locks. The United States returned the waterway to Panama's rule on New Year's Eve.

And while most people were calm, many people stockpiled food, cash, gasoline and other essentials, anticipating the crash of an increasingly computerized world.

"It was all nonsense," said Jerome Robbins, a mechanic in Kingston, Jamaica who took his family to see the fireworks over the city's harbor.

Tiguas elect said youngest governor of W. Texas tribe

EL PASO (AP) — A new American Indian governor is the youngest ever of a West Texas tribe embroiled in a battle with the state to keep its casino open.

About 175 people voted Friday in the secret Tigua tribal elections at the tuh-la, a sacred building on tribal land in the Lower Valley. The tribe, which has more than 1,200 members, has voted on new leadership by a show of hands on New Years Eve for more than 300 years.

Albert Alvidrez is the successor to Vince Munoz. He left his position as governor Sept. 7 amid a conflict with the Tribal Council.

"It went smoothly," Alvidrez, 27, said of Friday's election. "Overall, the community is pleased with the work and progress achieved by the Tribal Council over the last year."

But he would not comment on a pending lawsuit filed by the state to shut down Speaking Rock Casino. It's a legal battle that tribal leaders predict will be one of their biggest issues in the coming years.

"This is not the appropriate time or place to discuss that," Alvidrez told the El Paso Times.

Attorney General John Cornyn sued the Tigua Indians in September, arguing that the slot machines and card games at their Speaking Rock casino are illegal.

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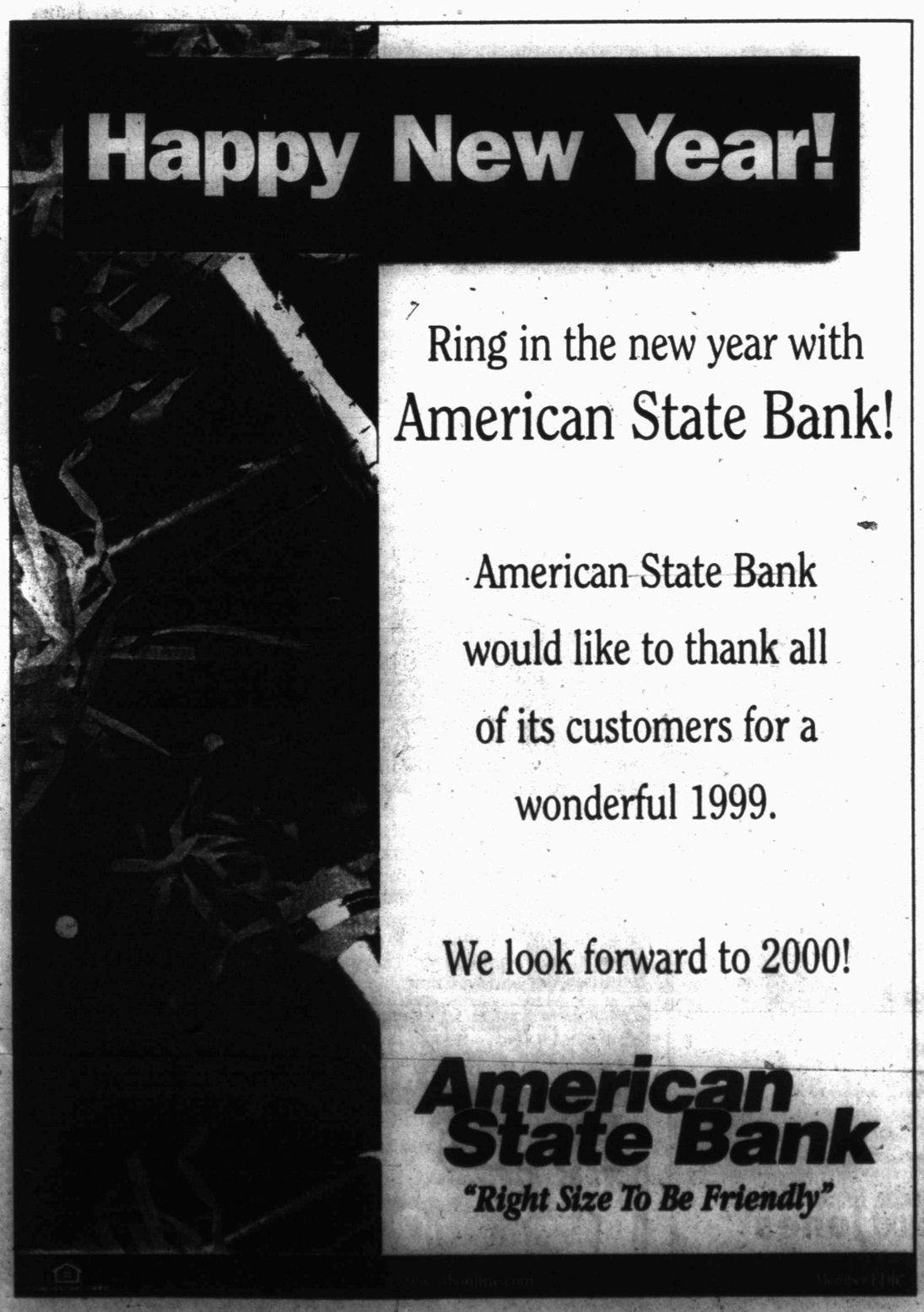

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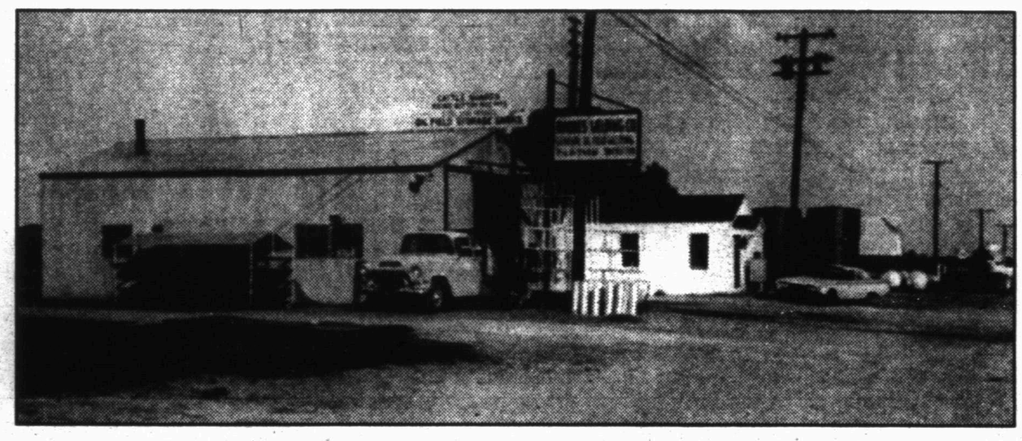

Rhodes Welding Co. on the Lamesa Highway as it appeared in the late 1950's.

The S.E. Rhodes family - front from left: S.E., Iller Verna. Back: Nita, Lowell, Coy E., Jack.

Fifty years ago this month, my grandfather S.E. Rhodes, my father Coy E., and uncles Lowell and Jack had the foresight to start a second company in Snyder from Penwell.

As with most oil boom companies, land and living places were hard to find. Starting with two welding trucks and living in a steel dog-house on rented land, they worked at a pace that equaled the growth of Scurry County.

As land became available, they built a shop that has become a landmark in Snyder. When the Permian Basin picked up the oilfield pace, my father remained to run the Snyder company while S.E., Lowell and Jack ran the Penwell company.

The years have seen many changes, not only in shop and land additions, but in oilfield changes also.

Acquiring new machinery, my father taught himself how to fabricate storage tanks and pressure vessels. These have been the mainstay of our business.

Further diversification of services have allowed us to survive ups and downs of the oil, gas, ranching and farming community.

These men have build a business to which the name Rhodes has, and will always be associated with quality sales and service.

I am proud of these men that have served with honesty and integrity.

As we enter a new millennium, I will carry that same pride and quality of sales and workmanship for the years to come.

May God bless you all this year and all the years to come.

Coy Dale Rhodes
President,
Rhodes Operating Incorporated

First ships pass through after canal transferred from U.S.

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — As the first ships of the new millennium sailed smoothly through the locks Saturday, Panamanians celebrated the New Year, and above all, the handover of the Panama Canal and the U.S-held territory that had long cut this nation in two.

Firecrackers exploded throughout Panama City at midnight, and the canal went on working normally, with no Y2K problems: The controls at the locks are mechanical — not computerized — and haven't changed much at all since the U.S. put the waterway into operation in 1914.

The 12 ships moving through the 50-mile chain of locks and channels had no reported problems, said Panama's Civil Defense Director, Moises Ortega. The United States handed the canal to Panama in a ceremony earlier Friday, ending nearly a century of American jurisdiction over one of the world's most strategic waterways.

In the jubilant ceremony alongside the canal administration building, President Mireya Moscoso and U.S. Army Secretary Louis Caldera signed a document formalizing Panama's possession of the canal and a surrounding strip of land that until recently was home to U.S. military and civilian installations.

Crowds roared and released red, white and blue balloons as the Panamanian flag was raised — for the first time, alone — over the canal headquarters.

"There will be no more fences, no more signs blocking our entrance. The canal is ours and may God bless it," Moscoso said just before raising the flag, as thousands of people jumped in the air and swirled their shirts over their heads in joy.

"We didn't feel sovereign with this enclave in our heart," said Candelario Rodriguez, a 61-year-old peasant from western Panama. "This has great meaning to us."

The stars and stripes didn't flutter over the ceremony. It had been lowered the day before in a quiet ceremony attended by U.S. Ambassador Simon Ferro. Panamanian officials said the Americans were trying to avoid embarrassment at Friday's event.

Some Panamanians said the United States had lost yet another opportunity to commemorate the handover as a gesture — not of weakness, but of respect for a smaller nation.

The handover was the culmination of a process that started 22 years ago, when military strongman Gen. Omar Torrijos and President Jimmy Carter signed the treaties that set the transition period and transfer date of the canal, a marvel of early century engineering, and the surrounding Canal Zone.

In Washington, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor refused Friday to block transfer of the canal. Judicial Watch, a conservative legal foundation, had applied for a court order that would have temporarily restrained the turnover.

The 20-mile by 50-mile strip that makes up the Canal Zone, filled with U.S. military and civilian installations, cut across Panama and was often seen as a remnant of colonialism.

Its origins are linked to the beginnings of the nation. The United States supported Panama's drive for independence from Colombia in 1903. After independence, Panama signed a treaty with Washington for the construction of a canal connecting the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. The United States was given 360,000 acres along the waterway.

Since, relations between Panama and the United States were strained at times over the issue of sovereignty.

Thousands of jubilant Panamanians attended the ceremony, and greeted with cheers the hoisting of Panama's flag over the headquarters.

"This is the culmination of a pending account," said Alcibiades Picota, a 17-year-old student marching with a Panamanian flag. "This is the achievement of complete sovereignty."

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Senator criticizes university's security at nuke laboratories

LOS ANGELES (AP) — California's senior senator is questioning whether the state university system is fit to safeguard nuclear secrets at weapons laboratories in the wake of a spying scandal.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein has recommended that the U.S. Justice Department review whether the University of California should continue running the Lawrence Livermore weapons laboratory near San Francisco and the Los Alamos lab in New Mexico.

"I'm looking at it from a perspective of a secure nuclear program. That's my first priority," Feinstein said in Friday's Los Angeles Times.

In a closed-door Senate meeting in June, Feinstein criticized the university system's nuclear security and a "culture of interaction" that encouraged scientists to share information with non-lab academics.

She questioned whether that is "an appropriate framework for America's essentially deepest and darkest nuclear secrets," according to a transcript of the meeting released last week.

Former Los Alamos scientist Wen Ho Lee was charged Dec. 10 with mishandling nuclear secrets by transferring classified documents into an unsecure computer system. Seven tapes containing classified material are still missing.

A federal judge on Wednesday rejected Lee's request to be freed from jail until his trial, which could be more than a year away.

Berry's World

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"I'll have a little 'hair of the dog.'"

Senior Center Menu

Monday
Chicken & dumplings, carrots, fried squash, red applesauce, brownie

Tuesday
Meat loaf, steamed cabbage, mixed vegetables, tomato wedges, coconut pudding

Wednesday
Country fried steak w/cream gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, peach cobbler

Thursday
Barbecued German sausage, potato salad, baked beans, fruit cocktail, sugar cookie

Friday
Fried fish, macaroni & tomatoes, tater tots, creamy slaw, bread pudding

Senior Center News

Happy millennium new year to each of you. We, the staff, our looking forward to a wonderful year at the Senior Center.

We would like to invite all seniors to visit our center and join us for activities and lunch.

There are many seniors in our community who have yet to benefit from our Senior Center, and we would like to encourage all to visit our facility.

Whether you need to receive service or would like to serve through our volunteer program, we look forward to meeting newcomers.

We like to remind the public that we also have faithful volunteers under the age of 60. We have a small staff and would not be able to offer all of the services that we have without our army of volunteers. Please consider joining us in our efforts to serve the community.

Seniors who live alone are reminded that emergency response units are available so that when emergencies do arise they can be received quickly. Phone 573-4035 for further information.

Seniors who enjoy swimnastics at Western Texas College are reminded that the schedule for the spring semester will be set after registration.

Monday
Bridge play begins at 9:30 a.m. and daily exercise at 11. Seniors may play dominoes, pool or quilt anytime Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday
"88" play begins at 10 a.m., the Hoss Clayton Band plays at 11; and the Golden K Kiwanis meet at noon. Seniors are invited to join the Golden K Kiwanis meetings. They are a service organization that supports the Senior Center as well as other organizations.

Wednesday
The Kitchen Band will be entertaining the residents of Snyder Healthcare at 10 a.m. Line dancing and clogging practice will resume Jan. 5.

Thursday
The fabric painting class will meet from 9 until 11:30 a.m. The Sunshine Choir will practice in the dining room beginning at 10 a.m. The domino tournament also begins at 10 a.m. The defending champions are Wana Fisher and Red Trevey.

Friday
The blood pressure clinic and bridge play begin at 9:30 a.m. "88" play begins at 10 a.m. and the sing-a-long at 11:30 a.m.

Former Nixon attorney general dies at age 79

BOSTON (AP) — He served as secretary of defense under Richard Nixon, was the ambassador to Great Britain and ran for the U.S. Senate in Massachusetts in 1984.

But Elliot Lee Richardson was best known as a man of character who, during the height of the Watergate investigation, refused Nixon's orders to fire the special prosecutor in the case, Archibald Cox.

Richardson died Friday of a cerebral hemorrhage at Massachusetts General Hospital. He was 79.

President Clinton remembered Richardson as "a man of uncommon integrity."

"(He) put the nation's interests first even when the personal cost was very high. He was an unparalleled public servant — a lawyer, a diplomat, a soldier, and a prosecutor," Clinton said.

In 1973, Richardson resigned as attorney general in the historic showdown with President Nixon that became known as the "Saturday Night Massacre."

The Republican president was battling Cox over the prosecutor's attempts to subpoena tape recordings of White House discussions believed relevant to the investigation of the Watergate break-in and the suspected cover-up by Nixon and his staff.

Nixon, who eventually was driven from office by the Watergate affair, contended the nine tapes being sought were protected by executive privilege.

Richardson had promised during his confirmation hearings that Cox would have full subpoena powers, and instead of following Nixon's order, he resigned. His deputy, William Ruckelshaus, also refused to carry out the order and was fired.

"The more I thought about it, the clearer it seemed to me that public confidence in the investigation would depend on its being independent not only in fact but in appearance," Richardson wrote in his 1996 book, "Reflections of a Radical Moderate."

Cox eventually was fired by Acting Attorney General Robert Bork, whose nomination to the Supreme Court years later would be denied.

"He was quite thoughtful and erudite," Bork said of Richardson on Friday. "He had interesting insights into politics and the workings of government in general."

In 1994, Richardson added his name to the list of trustees for the defense fund set up to help defray Clinton's legal costs in fighting Paula Jones' sexual harassment allegations and Whitewater charges.

Descended from early New England settlers, Richardson was born in Boston and was related to many of Boston's prominent families.

He graduated cum laude from Harvard University in 1941, served in World War II, and in 1945 became editor and president of the Harvard Law Review. Richardson then practiced law before being appointed U.S. attorney for Massachusetts from 1959-61.

Richardson, who became a partner in the prominent Boston law firm of Ropes & Gray, also served as lieutenant governor of Massachusetts from 1965-67.

In 1969, he was appointed undersecretary of state at the State Department, a position he held until 1970, when he was named to head the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Financial Focus

If you invested in stocks in 1999, you may be shaking your head, wondering what has been going on. On one hand, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was breaking records on a regular basis. On the other hand, the performance of many individual stocks was less than dazzling.

The reason for this disparity between market indexes and individual stocks is that most of the stock market's gains in 1999 were fueled by a relatively narrow band of stocks. The technology industry, in particular, did well, despite the flamboyant rise and fall of some high-flying Internet stocks. Rising oil prices led to a sustained rally in energy stocks. And a strong economy was good news for the "capital goods" sector -- companies that produce heavy machinery and a variety of industrial products.

However, many other areas -- including small-capitalization stocks, health eare and consumer stocks -- did not fare so well. Consequently, your portfolio's overall performance may not have matched the market indexes, especially if your holdings were well-diversified.

Does this mean diversification is a bad idea? Absolutely not. When a small group of stocks -- such as some of the technology stocks in 1999 -- significantly outperforms everything else, it may be tempting to follow the market leaders. But you can't predict when -- or if -- a particular industry will outperform all others. Furthermore, the industries that lead the market one year often flip-flop with the laggards the very next year. Diversification is still the smartest way to manage risk and smooth out your portfolio's returns.

Although no one has a crystal ball when it comes to buying stocks, there are some indicators as to what might happen in 2000:

*Continued bull market? Low inflation and strong corporate earnings may combine to keep the current bull market going. However, we will continue to see individual industries and stocks down from their highs. And, if the Dow Jones Industrial Average closes below 10193, it would mark an official correction, the 109th of this century. Corrections are a normal part of the investing process and generally provide a good buying opportunity.

*Tech stocks still going strong? In general, prospects are good for continued strength in the technology sector, although investors still need to be selective about which stocks they own. Other areas to watch include telecommunications, pharmaceuticals and financial services.

Of course, a favorable outlook for a particular industry does not mean that every stock within that group will do well. You and your investment representative still must make sure your choice fits in with your financial objectives, your tolerance for risk, and your time horizon.

Although stocks grabbed most of the attention in 1999, there was also news from the bond marekt. For most of the year, bond prices fell as interest rates rose. By mid-December, the yield on the 30-year Treasury bond stood at 6.20 percent, up from around 5 percent a year ago.

Higher rates are good news for investors purchasing new bonds because those investors can lock in attractive levels of income. Investors who own those lower-yielding bonds, on the other hand, will see the value of their bonds decline in a higher-rate environment. However, this is a concern only if bonds must be sold before maturity.

The recommended strategy for bond investors remains "laddering," or owning a variety of bonds with short-, intermediate- and long-term maturities. Shorter-term bonds generally pay lower interest but provide maturities. Shorter-term bonds generally pay lower interest but provide money coming due farily soon, which is good news if interest rates rise. Longer-term bonds typically offer higher interest rates, which helps protect your income in the event that interest rates delcine.

As you look to the future, remember why you invested in the first place - to meet your long-term goals. Don't get overly concerned about what happens in the financial market in 2000. Instead, stay focused on what you want to achieve over the next 10, 15 or 20 years -- and make your investment decisions accordingly.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Resolutions for new year are achieved one day at a time

DEAR READERS: My New Year's column has become an annual tradition. These New Year's resolutions are based on the original credo of Al-Anon. I am using its theme with some variations of my own.

Just for today, I will live through this day only, and not set far-reaching goals to try to overcome all my problems at once. I know I can do something for 24 hours that would overwhelm me if I thought I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just for today, I will be happy. Abraham Lincoln said, "Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." He was right. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. I will chase them out of my mind and replace them with happy thoughts.

Just for today, I will adjust myself to what is. I will face reality. I will correct those things that I can correct and accept those I cannot.

Just for today, I will improve my mind. I will not be a mental loafer. I will force myself to read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

Just for today, I will do something positive to improve my health. If I'm a smoker, I'll make an honest effort to quit. If I'm overweight, I'll eat nothing I know to be fattening. And I will force myself to exercise — even if it's only walking around the block or using the stairs instead of the elevator.

Just for today, I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will look as good as I can, dress becomingly, speak softly, act courteously, and not interrupt when someone else is talking. Just for today, I'll try not to improve anybody except myself.

We know so much more about nutrition and how much exercise and sensible living can extend life and make it more enjoyable; so just for today, I'll take good care of my body so I can celebrate many more happy new years.

Just for today, I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it, thereby saving myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Just for today, I will gather the courage to do what is right and take the responsibility for my own actions.

To one and all: A happy, healthy New Year! — LOVE, ABBY

P.S. God bless our men and women in uniform in every corner of the world where our flag is flying. And let us not forget those patriotic Americans who are serving their country in the Peace Corps, as well as those who have served and are now in veterans hospitals and nursing homes.

And as we begin this bright, shiny new year, consider these "Thoughts for the Day" by Sri Sathya Sai Baba:

"If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character.

"If there be beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home.

"If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation.

"When there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world."

**

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

DEAR ABBY: Please help. I fell in love with a married man. He claimed he loved me. My husband caught us. He hates me now and has filed for divorce. My lover called it quits and ran back to his wife.

Can I sue my lover for breach of promise because he PROMISED to get a divorce and marry me? — DESTROYED IN THE U.S.A.

DEAR DESTROYED: I recommend against initiating such a lawsuit. Instead, count your blessings that you haven't been sued for alienation of affection.

**

DEAR ABBY: I read your column often and have recently been especially interested in your letters concerning manners. I am a 22-year-old, old-fashioned man in Dallas. I enjoy opening doors, pulling out chairs, offering a hand in and out of cars, and all the other small but significant signs of respect.

My problem is, it's difficult to find women my age who are receptive to what I consider common courtesy. I can't tell you how many times I've been snapped at with, "I can open my own doors!" or, "I can get out of the car by myself!" My all-time favorite occurred recently in a nice restaurant as I stood up when my dinner partner would leave the table. With a bewildered and condescending look, she said, "Do you have to stand up EVERY time I do?"

It seems as though, in my generation at least, being considerate and showing respect for a woman is considered a sign of disrespect. I have read with interest how many of your readers appreciate well-mannered men; unfortunately, and I mean no disrespect to your readers, I haven't seen a single letter from someone close to my age.

I am beginning to believe that it's better to be rude and inconsiderate on dates. However, I have no intention of changing my ways. My standards are set and anything less would be embarrassing for me. Are there any young women who appreciate "old-fashioned" manners? — DISILLUSIONED IN DALLAS

DEAR DISILLUSIONED: Any young woman who believes that someone who displays consideration and respect is disrespectful needs her priorities reorganized. Good manners are an instant tip-off that a young man is disciplined, thoughtful and well brought up in other areas of his life. Lack of good manners usually indicates a lack of education in that area, or complete self-centeredness.

Not all young women believe as the ones you have encountered do. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: As a feminist graduate engineer, I'd like to give a logical reason why women should appreciate having doors opened for them.

The amount of energy it takes to open a door is a smaller percentage of a man's available energy than it is of a woman's. Multiply this difference by the number of doors opened during the day, and the average woman will see that it's better to accept the courtesy and smile — which also uses less energy than does a frown! — FAITH LEE, HENDERSON, NEV.

DEAR FAITH: I hope your argument will prove persuasive. It's a basic law of physics.

**

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Town in West Virginia slated for Middle East peace talks

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. (AP) — It's not that this Eastern Panhandle town isn't used to political celebrities — just not at this magnitude.

A host of politicians, along with hundreds of staff members and journalists, are scheduled to arrive this week for a new round of peace talks between Israel and Syria.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright are among the dignitaries expected. President Clinton, who is scheduled to arrive Monday, is expected to occasionally sit in during the two-week event.

The last time 1,000 visitors stayed at this quaint town 70 miles from Washington for any length of time was during the Civil War.

"We're going to have to put up with some inconvenience, we recognize that, but we think it's worth it," Mayor Vincent Parmesano said. "It would be wonderful to have something called the Shepherdstown Accord that would go down in history as another step toward peace in the Middle East."

The State Department chose the town for its relative seclusion, 10 miles from the nearest interstate highway. Parmesano said local, state and federal security officers will keep the peace as well as they can.

The venue is a world away from West Virginia's sometimes-backwoods image.

Several presidents have visited over the years, and Nancy Reagan is said to have liked the Yellow Brick Bank, a restaurant at one end of the town's two-block business district lined with coffee shops, gift boutiques, bookstores and an art-film theater.

It's home to Shepherd College and a collection of scholars, artists, software engineers, commuters and retired federal workers.

"On the whole, it's got people who follow a variety of different lifestyles who all manage to get along," said Alan Levitan, a National Park Service worker. "Maybe we're a good role model for the Middle East."

Many buildings in the town display window posters with a simple message for the negotiators: "Peace" in English, Hebrew and Arabic.

Some folks, however, are fretting about traffic jams and the threat of terrorism.

"I think the timing is unfortunate," said Phillip M. Coffey, a retired National Security Agency employee. "All the terrorists are looking for the biggest bang for their buck with this Y2K thing."

GM unveils test car that can deliver 80 mpg; doubts eyed

WARREN, Mich. (AP) — General Motors Corp. is unmasking a five-passenger test car that can travel about 80 miles on a gallon of gasoline — the product of six years of research and hundreds of millions of dollars.

While meeting several goals set out by President Clinton and industry leaders in 1993, the GM Precept also uses technology that is years away from everyday use.

Like Ford Motor Co.'s Prodigy high-mileage car, Precept uses a small diesel engine linked to electric motors.

Such diesel cars could run afoul of U.S. anti-pollution rules like the new standards for auto emissions President Clinton unveiled in November, which even the Precept and Prodigy would not meet.

Engineers say a byproduct of more efficient diesel engines is more nitrogen oxides in the exhaust — a prime component of smog.

"If we are ever going to deliver true environmental benefits with lower emissions ... we've got to convince the federal government to relax the (nitrogen oxide) standards," GM Vice Chairman Harry Pearce said.

While the Prodigy gets about 70 mpg and sticks to the basic outlines of today's mid-size sedans, GM's engineers had to break several conventions to get the extra 10 mpg.

The Precept's Isuzu-built three-cylinder diesel engine is in the rear of the car to improve airflow around the vehicle. One electric motor powers the front wheels while a "multi-purpose unit" built onto the diesel engine acts as another electric motor and a generator, recharging a battery pack under the seats. The motors help the 54-horsepower engine during acceleration and capture energy during braking.

Rather than rearview mirrors, the car uses tiny cameras, and the doors use electronic controls rather than handles.

GM engineers also tried to save weight by using aluminum and titanium rather than steel in many parts. The seats are made of mesh, and even the stereo speakers have a weight-saving design. The result is a car that is the size of a Chevrolet Malibu but weighs about 460 pounds less.

The Precept is the result of the Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles, an effort backed by $250 million in federal funding this year and $980 million from GM, Ford and DaimlerChrysler. All three targeted 2000 as the year to show test cars that had three times a standard sedan's fuel economy and promises of no compromises in safety, performance or price.

Honda and Toyota also will sell vehicles this year that rely on similar power sources, but no automaker has committed to making such cars in any great numbers.

Pearce said the Precept's technology could end up in similar GM vehicles in five to 10 years.

Blasting caps found during traffic stop

ADELANTO, Calif. (AP) — Police arrested a man early Thursday after finding 4,200 blasting caps, gasoline and a cutting torch in his vehicle during a traffic stop.

Police would not comment on the man's plans for the explosives.

James Pellum had three children with him when he was pulled over for a traffic violation in Adelanto, 65 miles northeast of Los Angeles, said police Sgt. Ed Repucci.

During the stop, the officers spotted the caps, which are primers used to detonate larger explosives, along with three gasoline cans, two gasoline generators and an acetylene torch, Repucci said.

Two of the children were turned over to Child Protective Services. The third was released to family members.

Pellum, 39, identified as a resident of Weldon, was charged with possession of a destructive device and child endangerment.

The San Bernardino County sheriff's bomb squad later destroyed the blasting caps, Repucci said. He would not release further information about the arrest.

FFA chief: Air-traffic control system passes key Y2K test

GRAPEVINE (AP) — FAA Administrator Jane Garvey said Friday night that the nation's air-traffic control system passed a key Y2K test.

Ms. Garvey stopped at a nearly empty Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport on an American Airlines flight from Washington to San Francisco designed to boost public confidence in the aviation system.

The jetliner was in flight when Greenwich Mean Time, upon which global aviation systems are based, passed midnight and rolled into the year 2000.

Ms. Garvey said there were no indications of any Y2K computer glitches. The Federal Aviation Administration spent more than $360 million to fix computer systems that might misread 2000 as the year 1900 and malfunction, and airports and airlines had spent millions more to update equipment and programming.

"This is really an example where individuals have dedicated their personal and professional lives to meeting a deadline we could not move," Ms. Garvey said. "They met the challenge. We passed effortlessly and smoothly into the new millennium."

The plane carried only five paying customers, who were vastly outnumbered by reporters and government officials.

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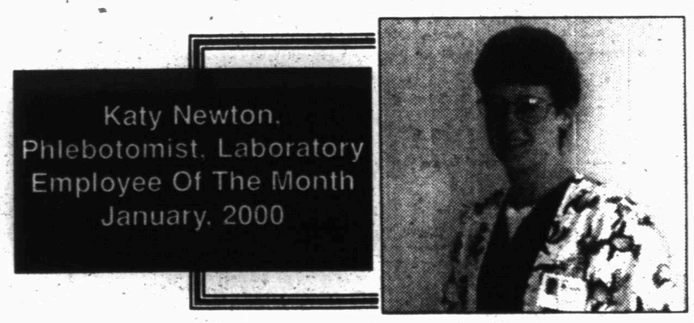


Katy has been employed at Cogdell Memorial Hospital for three years. She graduated from Snyder High School and completed laboratory training at Western Texas College to obtain her license as a Registered Phlebotomy Technician.

Her husband, Billy, is employed by the City of Snyder Water Reclamation Plant. They have two children; their son Brandon is 13, and their daughter Heather is 7 years old.

Katy said the most rewarding aspect of her job is "the look of relief on a patient's face after a successful venapuncture." She also stressed the importance of accurate and professional lab work to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of patients. "This is the prime consideration of all CMH laboratory staff members."

She was selected for this honor following nominations by co-workers. Comments on nomination ballots for Katy included: knowledgeable about her job...dependable...willing to help out on any occasion...kind to everyone...conscientious in her work...always courteous, pleasant, and professional with both patients and fellow employees.

Cogdell Memorial Hospital

SPORTS

Kick returners could play special role in title game

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — When Florida State and Virginia Tech play for the national championship in Tuesday night's Sugar Bowl, the game could turn on a special play by a special teams player.

For the second-ranked Hokies, the play could come from a star such as All-American defensive end Corey Moore or wide receiver Andre Davis, two of many starters who have excelled on special teams. For the top-ranked Seminoles (11-0), the play could come from such unknowns as Todd Frier or O.J. Jackson.

"We all work as hard as we can to prepare on special teams," Florida State coach Bobby Bowden said Friday during media day at the Louisiana Superdome, "but it still comes down to some individual going above and beyond the call of duty and making a play that could win a game."

If the game comes down to special teams play, the Hokies (11-0) feel like they have the upper hand. Virginia Tech's Shayne Graham may not have the power or accuracy of Florida State's All-American kicker Sebastian Janikowski, but the Hokies are the undisputed kick-blocking champions of college football.

"Speed, discipline, athleticism," Florida State punter Keith Cottrell said of the Hokies special teams. "Gosh, that's exactly what you don't want to see on film."

Florida State's punter sounded worried, and with good reason.

"They are the best kick-blocking team in the nation and when you're challenged like that, it forces you to focus," Cottrell said. "I played at The Swamp, in Miami, and I played for a national title last year, yet Virginia Tech is still forcing me to focus more than ever."

In coach Frank Beamer's 13 seasons, the Hokies have blocked 75 kicks in 149 games, with the defense and special teams combining for 57 touchdowns, including eight this season. In the '90s, Virginia Tech has a nation's best 63 blocks. At Blacksburg, Va., home of the Hokies, they call this Beamer Ball.

"I feel pride and joy for the special teams, we have done well," said Davis, who caught 35 passes for 962 yards and nine TDs. "Our coaches tell us time and again that it can be the thing that changes the game around."

Janikowski, the Seminoles 6-foot-2, 255-pounder who has converted 23-of-30 field goals and all 47 extra points, is one player who doesn't care about Tech's special teams excellence.

"I really don't think much about it, and I don't watch much film on it, either," Janikowski said. "I just try to forget about it."

Beamer, who doubles as special teams coach, doesn't. While most teams either start practice with special teams drills, like Florida State does, or end with them, the Hokies hold theirs in the middle. All other workouts stop and Beamer drills the special teams.

"It's that important," Beamer said.

This season was a relatively quiet one with just two blocks, including a punt by Davis. Also, the Hokies are likely to be without leading punt returner Ricky Hall, who broke a bone in his left foot during practice Friday. Last year, Tech blocked eight blocked punts, two blocked field goals and two blocked extra points.

Bowden won't be fooled by a so-called off year.

"We've spent more time on it in practice, because they've always had great special teams at Virginia Tech," Bowden said. "They've always done a great job with that part and this year's is probably as good as they've had. But we're pretty good, too.

"So you're going to have two teams playing with two of the best special teams in the country — I'm talking kickers, blockers and returners and things like that — and it'll play a role in this game."

Cottrell, who averaged 42.8 yards on 44 punts without a block this season, said Tech's special teams are close to overpowering.

"You watch the film and keep fast forwarding and say, 'Maybe they just got lucky on that one, and maybe there was a breakdown in protection,'" Cottrell said. "No way. Those guys are for real, and they are quick, and they are disciplined, and they know what they're doing. And they keep coming."

Moore has four career blocks, including two field goals. He blocked a punt in last year's Music City Bowl that helped Virginia Tech beat Alabama for the first time. John Engelberger, the other defensive end, has five blocks.

"I don't care if you are a starter or second teamer," Moore said. "We all take a lot of pride in our special teams. You block a kick and it turns the game around."

Beamer first took to special teams as a player at Virginia Tech under coach Jerry Claiborne in the late 1960s and then as an assistant under Bobby Ross at The Citadel. By the time he returned to Tech, he was a special teams fanatic.

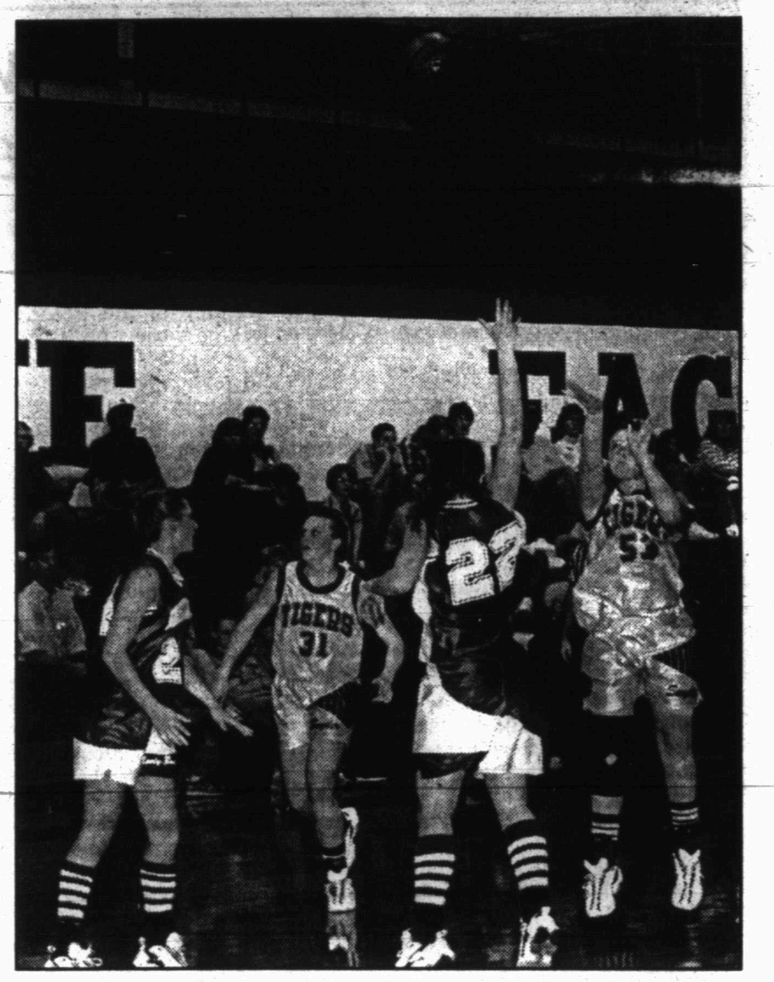
"It was simple for me because it made the most sense: The quickest way to win games was with special teams," Beamer said. "I probably went overboard when I first started being a head coach, but now we have it very well planned out.

"On Sundays, for example, getting ready for the next game, the offensive guy works with the offense, the defensive guy works with the defense and I work with special teams.

"And I bet I study it a lot more than a special teams coach who's also a defensive coach who maybe spends an hour on it then goes back to the defense."

When Beamer travels to Nashville, Tenn., for an upcoming coaches convention, he will tell his colleagues that his special teams method "is the most efficient way to have your coaching staff."

The big test comes Tuesday.



FROM DOWNTOWN — Snyder's Katie Voss puts up a three-point attempt as the third quarter comes to an end during Thursday's win over Breckenridge. The Lady Tigers will be in action again Tuesday when they host Levelland at 6 p.m. (SDN Staff Photo)

College Bowl Schedule

Friday, Dec. 31

Insight.com Bowl
At Tucson, Ariz.
Payout: $750,000
Colorado 62, Boston College 28

Sun Bowl
At El Paso, Texas
Payout: $1 million
Oregon 24, Minnesota 20

Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Payout: $1.2 million
Southern Mississippi 23, Colorado State 17

Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Payout: $1 million
Mississippi 27, Oklahoma 25

Saturday, Jan. 1

Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Payout: $1.9 million
Georgia (7-4) vs. Purdue (7-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Cotton Bowl
Payout: $2.5 million
At Dallas
Texas (9-4) vs. Arkansas (7-4), 11 a.m. (FOX)

Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Payout: $1.4 million
Georgia Tech (8-3) vs. Miami (8-4), 12:30 p.m. (NBC)

Citrus Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Payout: $3.8 million
Florida (9-3) vs. Michigan State (9-2), 1 p.m. (ABC)

Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Payout: $12 million
Stanford (8-3) vs. Wisconsin (9-2), 4:30 p.m. (ABC)

Orange Bowl
At Miami
Payout: $11-13 million
Michigan (9-2) vs. Alabama (10-2), 8:30 p.m. (ABC)

Sunday, Jan. 2

Fiesta Bowl
At Tempe Ariz.
Payout: $11-13 million
Nebraska (11-1) vs. Tennessee (9-2), 8 p.m. (ABC)

Tuesday, Jan. 4

Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Payout: $11-13 million
Florida State (11-0) vs. Virginia Tech (11-0), 8 p.m. (ABC)

National Football League

All Times EST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
East						
x-Indianapolis	13	2	0	.867	417	302
y-Buffalo	10	5	0	.667	289	223
Miami	9	6	0	.600	316	315
N.Y. Jets	7	8	0	.467	289	300
New England	7	8	0	.467	279	281
Central						
y-Jacksonville	13	2	0	.866	372	210
y-Tennessee	12	3	0	.800	345	288
Baltimore	8	7	0	.533	321	257
Pittsburgh	6	9	0	.400	281	273
Cincinnati	4	11	0	.267	276	436
Cleveland	2	14	0	.125	217	437
West						
Seattle	9	6	0	.600	329	279
Kansas City	9	6	0	.600	352	281
San Diego	7	8	0	.467	257	310
Oakland	7	8	0	.467	349	291
Denver	6	9	0	.400	308	306

NATIONAL CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
East						
x-Washington	9	6	0	.600	422	367
N.Y. Giants	7	8	0	.467	281	332
Dallas	7	8	0	.467	326	258
Arizona	6	9	0	.400	221	333
Philadelphia	4	11	0	.267	234	326
Central						
y-Tampa Bay	10	5	0	.667	250	229
y-Minnesota	9	6	0	.600	375	318
y-Detroit	8	7	0	.533	305	299
Green Bay	7	8	0	.467	308	317
Chicago	6	9	0	.400	266	321
West						
x-St. Louis	13	2	0	.867	495	204
Carolina	7	8	0	.467	376	368
Atlanta	4	11	0	.267	251	351
San Francisco	4	11	0	.267	266	419
New Orleans	3	12	0	.200	247	389

x-clinched division title
y-clinched playoff spot

Sunday's Games

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

Monday's Game

San Francisco at Atlanta, 9 p.m.

National Hockey League

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	RT	Pts	GF	GA
Atlantic Division							
Philadelphia	21	11	6	1	49	117	88
New Jersey	21	12	4	2	48	110	91
Pittsburgh	16	17	3	5	40	119	104
N.Y. Rangers	12	18	6	3	33	91	104
N.Y. Islanders	9	21	5	0	23	73	111
Northeast Division							
Toronto	23	11	4	2	52	115	82
Ottawa	19	12	6	1	45	100	89
Boston	13	16	9	2	37	95	104
Buffalo	15	17	5	1	36	89	98
Montreal	12	21	4	1	29	82	95
Southeast Division							
Florida	20	13	3	3	46	108	86
Carolina	14	16	7	0	35	90	100
Washington	13	16	6	1	33	87	100
Tampa Bay	10	20	5	3	28	95	121
Atlanta	8	24	4	3	23	80	134
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
Detroit	25	9	4	1	55	137	90
St. Louis	22	11	4	0	48	112	79
Nashville	13	20	5	2	33	98	112
Chicago	11	21	6	2	30	105	117
Northwest Division							
Colorado	18	16	4	1	41	106	102
Calgary	16	17	5	1	38	87	107
Edmonton	12	17	9	5	38	95	104
Vancouver	12	17	7	3	34	93	108
Pacific Division							
Phoenix	21	12	4	0	46	115	97
San Jose	19	18	4	3	45	115	104
Dallas	19	15	5	1	44	93	91
Los Angeles	17	14	6	2	42	116	107
Anaheim	18	17	4	1	41	96	94

Overtime losses count as a loss and a regulation tie.

Thursday's Games

Ottawa 5, Boston 4, OT
Pittsburgh 9, N.Y. Islanders 3
St. Louis 2, San Jose 1, OT
Nashville 6, Atlanta 0
Chicago 2, Florida 1
Los Angeles 8, Edmonton 2

Friday's Games

Chicago 4, Detroit 4, tie
Dallas 5, Anaheim 4

Saturday's Games

San Jose at Nashville, 2:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Florida, 3 p.m.
New Jersey at Boston, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Washington, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Philadelphia at N.Y. Islanders, 1 p.m.
Vancouver at Calgary, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
San Jose at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.

In Rose Bowl match-up...

Cardinal looking to slow down Dayne

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Stop Ron Dayne? Stanford coach Tyrone Willingham dismisses the idea as ludicrous.

The Heisman Trophy winner wraps up a record-breaking college career Saturday as Wisconsin seeks a second straight Rose Bowl victory. Dayne needs 75 yards rushing against Stanford to reach 7,000 for his career, and he'll be facing the nation's fifth-worst defense.

"Nobody has stopped him. To think that we can stop him probably borders on the absurd," Willingham said. "We have not uncovered a secret to stopping Ron Dayne yet."

But that's not the only problem facing injury-riddled Stanford, which will be playing in its first Rose Bowl in 28 years.

"Nobody has stopped him. To think that we can stop him probably borders on the absurd."

The Cardinal's top defensive player, tackle Willie Howard, is hobbled by a torn ligament in his right knee and it's unclear how much he'll be able to play. Center Mike McLaughlin, who has started 45 straight games, is questionable after hurting his knee this week in practice.

And Troy Walters, who broke four Pac-10 career receiving records this season and won the Biletnikoff Award as the nation's top receiver, is doubtful after dislocating his right wrist in practice on Tuesday.

But, after initially ruling Walters out of the game, Willingham said Friday he is not giving up hope the flanker can play.

"With Troy, I always hold open the possibility that a miracle will take place and that we'll have the opportunity to get him in there," Willingham said. "As of right now, Troy has really done nothing. I don't know if there will be sufficient recovery for him to play."

Walters, wearing a cast on his right arm, suggested Thursday he might make a cameo appearance to be able to say he played in the Rose Bowl. On Friday, Willingham said neither Walters nor Howard would play such a role.

"If it was just a ceremonial type of thing, I would only let them do the coin flip," the coach said.

The biggest injury concern for Wisconsin is coach Barry Alvarez's knee. He has spent most of this season coaching from the press box and getting around the practice field on a golf cart.

Alvarez said Friday he'd love to be on the sideline for the game, but won't know until game time whether his knee is ready. He had surgery twice this season, the second operation just six weeks ago. He still walks with a cane.

Wisconsin, trying to become the first Big Ten team to win back-to-back Rose Bowls, has won seven straight games since freshman Brooks Bollinger took over as the starting quarterback. But for the No. 4 Badgers, the star is Dayne.

Dayne rushed for 6,397 yards in regular-season games, an NCAA record. He has had an additional 528 yards in three bowl games, including 246 against Utah in the 1996 Copper Bowl and 246 against UCLA in last year's 38-31 Rose Bowl win.

The 258-pound Dayne has 13 games of at least 200 yards rushing in his career, including three of the last four games this season.

Stanford defensive coordinator Kent Baer, whose unit ranked 110th out of 114 Division I schools this year, said he knows Dayne has the ability to demolish defenses.

"Yeah, I'm concerned," Baer said. "I lay awake at night thinking that may happen."

No. 22 Stanford (8-3) took a bumpy road to the Rose Bowl, losing its opener 69-17 at Texas and losing at home to lowly San Jose State before winning its first outright Pac-10 title.

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SPORTS

Agreement reached on Houston stadium

HOUSTON (AP) — Contractors building the Houston Astros' new home have signed final agreements guaranteeing a public cost of $248.2 million.

Partners in construction of Enron Field on Friday signed final agreements guaranteeing a public cost of $248.2 million. Total cost will be $251.5 million, with the Astros making up the difference, said Harris County-Houston Sports Authority Chairman Billy Burge.

Signed agreements mean the project will be completed under budget and in time for the Astros' opening game. It's an exhibition contest against the World Champion New York Yankees on March 30.

Voters had been promised, after approval of a stadium referendum in 1996, that the facility would cost less than $250 million in public funds.

"We told the community we would keep it at $250 million or less," said Burge.

He and others said Enron Field compares favorably with other recent retractable-roof stadiums, which cost more and took longer to build.

Meanwhile, a seat-license plan was expected to raise more than $65 million toward construction of a retractable-roof football palace next to the aging Astrodome, which has been an Astros' venue.

Keeping costs down, Burge said, is "unusual for a project of this size and scope, one that has a lot of moving parts to it."

Bonds financing the construction will be retired through user fees, a hotel-motel occupancy tax and a rental car tax.

About one-third of the project construction cost will come from the Astros.

The team will also put $2.5 million a year into a maintenance fund and pay for $18.9 million of the $32 million in "enhancements" to the original plans and offset by cost reductions in other areas.

Sports authority members feared earlier that $57 million in added costs to construct a stadium for Houston's new NFL team will endanger possible construction of an arena for the Houston Rockets.

In Independence Bowl...

Ole Miss downs OU with late FG

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — Mississippi provided its football fans with a New Year's Eve to remember.

The Rebels, after seeing a 21-3 halftime lead slip away, drove for a game-winning field goal in the final 2:17 Friday night to beat Oklahoma 27-25 at the Independence Bowl.

Les Binkley's 39-yard field goal as time expired gave the Rebels (8-4) their second straight victory in this bowl and their fourth straight postseason victory.

"Happy New Year, and it really is," coach David Cutcliffe said. "I thought first of all we deserved one like this after what we've been through in the fourth quarter this year."

The Rebels had closed out the regular season with three-point losses to Georgia and Mississippi State, games in which they failed to hold fourth-quarter leads.

It appeared the same might happen this time after Oklahoma (7-5) scored its third touchdown of the second half to take a 25-24 lead. But the Rebels rebounded to win.

"While they were driving, we talked about what we were going to do, how we were going to approach it. We felt we could get it done," Cutcliffe said.

Deuce McAllister's 42-yard kickoff return gave Ole Miss the ball at the 43-yard line. He then carried for 8 and 9 yards on the first two plays of the drive.

Later, Oklahoma was penalized five yards for having too many players on the field on a third-and-2 play.

"They said defense broke the huddle with 12 men on the field. We don't huddle," Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said. "I've never heard of defense being called for breaking the huddle with 12 men on the field, have you?"

The penalty gave Ole Miss a first down at the 27. Three plays later, on third down, Binkley came on and cleanly made the game-winner as time expired.

"I felt pretty confident," said Binkley, who had hit from 49 yards during the regular season. "I didn't hit it great, but good enough to go in."

Oklahoma quarterback Josh Heupel was 39-of-53 for 390 yards, all Independence Bowl records, and led two scoring drives in the third quarter to pull Oklahoma within 21-18. He was 10-of-12 for 109 yards on the drives as the Sooners outgained Ole Miss 148-15.

A 29-yard field goal by Binkley capped a 14-play drive for Ole Miss and gave the Rebels a 24-18 lead with 11:18 remaining in the game.

Heupel appeared to commit a costly turnover when he fumbled at the Rebels 20 on Oklahoma's next drive, but Ole Miss didn't take advantage and Oklahoma got another shot. The Sooners drove 79 yards, including a 24-yard run by Quenton Griffin and a 22-yard completion to Brandon Daniels, before scoring the go-ahead touchdown on a 17-yard pass to Griffin.

McAllister caught a 25-yard touchdown pass and had an 80-yard TD run — longest in the bowl's history — in the first half. The Rebels also scored on a short pass from Romaro Miller to Adam Bettis.

The Sooners drove to the Ole Miss 18 on their first possession, but Tim Duncan missed a 35-yard field goal. The Sooners also lost two fumbles, Heupel had a pass intercepted in the end zone, and a fake field goal on the final play of the half resulted in a 17-yard loss.

"Give Ole Miss credit," Stoops said. "They made more plays than we did and won the football game. We made a few too many mistakes that cost us the game."

Buffs pound BC, 62-28

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Colorado's offense isn't really one-dimensional. It just seemed that way against Boston College.

The Buffaloes rushed for 365 yards, with Cortlen Johnson accounting for 201, simultaneously running out the clock and still scoring enough to embarrass the 25th-ranked Eagles 62-28 Friday in the Insight.com Bowl.

It was the sixth consecutive postseason victory for Colorado (7-5), the longest active streak in the country, and the first for coach Gary Barnett, who lost twice in the Rose Bowl as coach at Northwestern.

He said the game plan emphasized passing, and the ease with which the Buffaloes ran surprised him.

"When you can run the ball the ball as effectively as we did today, it changes your whole team," Barnett said of the 51-26 imbalance in running plays to pass attempts.

Quarterback Mike Moschetti had no touchdowns passing, but scored one on a 2-yard draw.

"We were talking last night about how we were going to have a field day," Moschetti said. "But football is a funny sport. We didn't expect to run the ball on them, but they took away our passing game with some of the things they were doing, and you can't get the best of both worlds. You've got to give up something."

Johnson opened the scoring with a 10-yard run, knifing between safeties George White and Pedro Cirino after running untouched through the line. Johnson, who got his yardage on 15 carries in less than three quarters, set up Moschetti's TD on Colorado's next possession with a 30-yard run.

The Buffaloes (7-5) scored on a 21-yard interception return by Rashidi Barnes, an 88-yard punt return by Ben Kelly that set an Insight.com record, a 2-yard run by Johnson and the first of two short field goals by Jeremy Aldrich to score a school-record 24 points in the second quarter.

They added Aldrich's second field goal, an 18-yard scoring run off a lateral pass to Roman Hollowell and a 4-yard run by backup quarterback Zac Colvin in the second half.

Ducks upset Gophers in Sun Bowl, 24-20

EL PASO (AP) — The Oregon Ducks knew that Billy Cockerham was really a running back in a quarterback's body.

So, they stacked up to stop Minnesota's elusive playmaker and also stuffed Thomas Hamner, whom Gophers coach Glen Mason hailed as having as good a year as Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne, in a 24-20 upset in the Sun Bowl on Friday.

"We tried to keep a lot of players near the line of scrimmage to stop the run and force the pass and it paid off," Ducks coach Mike Bellotti said.

Without their running game working, the 12th-ranked Gophers were rattled and Oregon capitalized.

The victory came with 1:32 left when Keenan Howry made a sliding 10-yard catch of a pass from Joey Harrington, capping an 87-yard drive that featured a fourth-and-11 conversion with three minutes left.

Howry was the accidental hero.

"The play was designed to go to the running back, who was circling out of the backfield," Howry said. "But Joey found me in the back of the end zone.

"Even though I knew there was some time left on the clock, I had confidence in my defense," Howry added.

And why not?

The Ducks' defense limited Cockerham, who had rushed for more than 100 yards four times this season, to 26 yards on the ground and Hamner to just 64 yards on 20 carries.

"We knew to have a chance, we were going to have to come up and stop the run," said linebacker Dietrich Moore, who sealed the victory by sacking Cockerham and forcing a fumble in the closing seconds.

Close calls and comebacks are nothing new to the Ducks (9-3).

"We've done that so many times this year," Harrington said. "I don't want to say it's becoming old hat, but we just have a feeling in the huddle. No one is nervous. No one is fidgety. Everyone just knows we're going to come down and get the job done."

The Ducks, 4-1 this season in games decided on the final possession, improved to 20-7 in games decided by a touchdown or less in Bellotti's five years as coach.

Howry's TD reception capped an 87-yard drive highlighted by Tony Hartley's 23-yard catch over the middle on fourth-and-11 from the Gophers 44 with three minutes left.

The Ducks' sixth straight victory made Bellotti the first Oregon coach with two nine-victory seasons and also denied the Golden Gophers (8-4) their first nine-win season since 1905.

It also provided a measure of comfort for the Pac-10, whose teams were 0-3 in bowls after the league endured a spotty regular season.

"This will bring a little bit of respect to the Pac-10," Harrington said. To win against the 12th-ranked team in the nation on national TV is just awesome."

Colorado St. falls, 23-17

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Southern Mississippi could manage only a field goal in the second half of the Liberty Bowl. Thanks to Adalius Thomas and his defensive teammates, it was enough to hold off Colorado State.

Thomas had three sacks in the second half as the Golden Eagles shut out Colorado State in the final two quarters to preserve a 23-17 victory Friday for their second Liberty Bowl win in three years.

Thomas also had eight tackles and broke up a pass.

Thomas seemed to be everywhere and he needed to be, as the Golden Eagles' defense spent nearly 19 minutes on the field in the second half. Even so,Kevin McDougal, who averaged 116 yards per game, got just 17 of his 59 yards in the half.

The Rams finished with 268 yards total offense, their second-lowest total of the season. They got 116 yards after halftime.

Southern Miss led 20-17 at halftime and managed only a 25-yard field goal by Brant Hanna midway through the third quarter.

Sports Briefs

Hokies' WR injured

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Ricky Hall, Virginia Tech's leading punt returner and a starting wide receiver, broke his left foot in practice Friday and probably will miss the national championship game against Florida State.

Dr. Duane Lagan, the Hokies' team physician, said it was "pretty doubtful" that Hall could play in the Sugar Bowl on Tuesday night.

Hall broke a bone in the foot midway through the Hokies' practice at Tulane University. He was running a pass route and "just put his foot down wrong. He wasn't touched," Lagan said.

Arrington enters draft

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Penn State linebacker LaVar Arrington said he is giving up his senior year as expected and making himself eligible for the NFL draft.

Draft experts predict that Arrington will be among the top picks in the draft, with his teammate Courtney Brown and Florida State's Peter Warrick.

FSU kicker headed to NFL

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Florida State's Sebastian Janikowski will take his final collegiate kicks in the Seminoles' national title game against Virginia Tech.

The Florida State kicker will leave school a year early to take his powerful left leg to the NFL.

Not only has Janikowski kicked 50 field goals the past two seasons, but most of his kickoffs go beyond the end zone, making it impossible for opponents to return the ball.

Rider's suspension ends

ATLANTA (AP) — Isaiah Rider's suspension is over after one game and he is expected to return to the Atlanta Hawks for their game against the Milwaukee Bucks on Tuesday.

Whether Rider — averaging 23.0 points per game, 10th in the NBA — starts at Milwaukee "is strictly a coaching decision," team spokesman Arthur Triche said Friday. "Nothing has been determined."

Rider was suspended indefinitely Thursday after he missed a team flight and a shootaround prior to a 106-105 overtime loss to the Detroit Pistons.

He showed up about an hour before the game and was involved in a players-only meeting in the Hawks' locker room. The Hawks said Rider hadn't contacted the team all day.

Lions' safety fined for hit

DENVER (AP) — The NFL has fined Detroit Lions free safety Ron Rice $5,000 for a hit on the Broncos wide receiver Ed McCaffrey during Denver's 17-7 victory on Christmas Day.

Rice was fined for "unnecessary roughness and for striking an opponent in the head with a forearm," an NFL spokesman said.

Hull scores 600th goal

DALLAS (AP) — Brett Hull scored his 600th and 601st goals in Dallas' 5-4 victory over Anaheim to become the 12th player in NHL history to reach the milestone.

Hull fired a one-timer past goalie Guy Hebert to tie it at 4 with 13:24 left in the third period. Hull added the winning goal 2:13 later, connecting from the left circle.

Hull and his father, Bobby, are the first father-son combination in the 600 club. Bobby Hull had 610 goals.

Transactions

By The Associated Press

BASEBALL
American League

TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Named Dick Crippen executive director of community development.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

ATLANTA HAWKS—Activated G Isaiah Rider from the suspended list.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

NFL—Fined Detroit FS Ron Rice $5,000 for unnecessary roughness against Denver WR Ed McCaffrey in a game on Dec. 25.

CHICAGO BEARS—Signed OL Keno Hills. Placed RB Curtis Enis on injured reserve.

DENVER BRONCOS—Placed OL Tony Jones on injured reserve. Signed CB Jason Suttle from the practice squad.

PITTSBURGH STEELERS—Placed TE Mitch Lyons on injured reserve. Signed OLB Reggie Lowe from the practice squad.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League

NHL—Suspended New York Islanders F Gino Odjick for one game for actions against Pittsburgh D Darius Kasparaitis on Dec. 30.

DALLAS STARS—Activated LW Jere Lehtinen from injured reserve.

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS—Reassigned LW Martin Sonnenberg, C-LW Robert Dome and G Craig Hillier to Wilkes-Barre-Scranton of the AHL.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Suspended RW Stephane Richer indefinitely without pay, for failure to report to Detroit of the IHL. Recalled LW Kyle Freadrich from Detroit. Reassigned D Ian Herbers to Detroit.

VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Recalled RW Trent Klatt from Syracuse of the AHL.

Women's College Basketball

EAST
Providence 76, Fairfield 69
West Virginia 80, Oklahoma St. 76
SOUTH
Chattanooga 73, Appalachian St. 67
Texas A&M-CC 81, Jacksonville 65
Tulane 76, LSU 72
Xavier 68, Kentucky 67
MIDWEST
Evansville 73, Illinois St. 45
SOUTHWEST
North Texas 90, Columbia 60
TCU 95, South Alabama 55
FAR WEST
BYU 62, Weber St. 52
Mississippi St. 98, CS Northridge 64

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Miami	19	9	.679	—
New York	18	12	.600	2
Philadelphia	17	15	.531	4
Orlando	15	14	.517	4½
Boston	12	16	.429	7
New Jersey	12	18	.400	8
Washington	10	20	.333	10
Central Division				
Indiana	20	9	.690	—
Charlotte	18	11	.621	2
Toronto	17	12	.586	3
Milwaukee	17	13	.567	3½
Detroit	15	14	.517	5
Cleveland	12	17	.414	8
Atlanta	11	18	.379	9
Chicago	2	25	.074	17
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
San Antonio	21	10	.677	—
Utah	18	10	.643	1½
Denver	15	13	.536	4½
Minnesota	13	14	.482	6
Houston	10	20	.333	10½
Dallas	9	21	.300	11½
Vancouver	6	23	.207	14
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	25	5	.833	—
Portland	22	7	.759	2½
Sacramento	17	10	.630	6½
Phoenix	18	11	.621	6½
Seattle	18	12	.600	7
L.A. Clippers	9	20	.310	15½
Golden State	6	23	.207	18½

Thursday's Games
Indiana 109, Charlotte 99
New York 89, Washington 86
New Jersey 102, Orlando 92
Minnesota 94, Chicago 76
Detroit 106, Atlanta 105, OT
Milwaukee 91, Cleveland 90
Houston 122, L.A. Clippers 100
Toronto 109, Dallas 104
San Antonio 98, Vancouver 88
Boston 102, Denver 94
Portland 108, Philadelphia 90
Friday's Games
No games scheduled
Saturday's Games
No games scheduled
Sunday's Game
Orlando at Miami, 7:30 p.m.

Men's College Basketball

EAST
East Carolina 92, Fairfield 89
N.C. Charlotte 98, George Washington 93, OT
Princeton 51, Holy Cross 41
West Virginia 74, James Madison 50
SOUTH
Tulane 75, SMU 70
MIDWEST
Nebraska 90, Minnesota 78
Notre Dame 85, St. Peter's 67
SOUTHWEST
Baylor 72, Ark.-Pine Bluff 45

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To those indebted to, or holding claims against the estate of MARGARET M. ADAMS, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,531:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executor of the estate of Margaret M. Adams, deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by RICKY FRITZ, Judge of the County Court of said county, on the 2nd day of September, 1999, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said estate to present them to Milton S. Adams, 11599 East FM 1606, Hermleigh, TX 79526, within the time prescribed by law.

Executed this 29th day of December, 1999.
(s)MILTON S. ADAMS
Independent Executor
of the Estate of
Margaret M. Adams,
deceased

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ORDER DEMOLITION

ATTENTION: Eneida Garcia, I have surveyed the property at 3205 Avenue G, (S50' of lot 1, Block 22, Nunn Addition) Snyder, Texas. I declare the structure on the above mentioned property to be a dangerous structure as defined by Ordinance NO. 324 of the City of Snyder, and intend to order demolition of said building on or about January 31, 2000. If no objections are received by this date the demolition order will be issued.
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Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.
P.O. Box 949 Snyder, Texas 79550

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$15.90 for 5 days, get 6th day FREE! 15 words or less

Employment

Attn: Own a Computer?
Put it to work
$25 – $75/hr PT/FT
888-800-6339 ext. 1177
www.healthycareer.com

Employment

Full-time employment at Veterinary Clinic. Send resumes to P.O. Box 949S, Snyder, TX 79550.

Any time is the right time to use the classified ads. Call today!

JOB VACANCY
WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE
SNYDER, TEXAS 79549

POSITION: Aide for Reading Computer Lab Salary: College Scale. **DUTIES:** Responsible for preparation, operation and use of computers by students in the reading lab. **Qualifications:** Good communication and people skills. **Special Qualifications:** General proficiency with the operation of computers – Windows 97. **DEADLINE FOR RESUMES:** January 14, 2000. SEND APPLICATIONS/RESUMES TO: Ms. Terry Busby, Director of Human Resources, Western Texas College, 6200 College Ave., Snyder, TX 79549-9502. **DATE OF EMPLOYMENT:** JANUARY 2000

WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION AND IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED AND CONSIDERED WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, CREED, SEX, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, VETERANS STATUS, OR DISABILITY.

Employment

3 IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Permanent position with a fast growing progressive manufacturer in Lubbock. We desire **one candidate** with an engineering degree, preferably with a background in cotton gin sheet metal, or related Ag experience. A **second candidate** with some experience in gin sheet metal plan layout and a **third candidate** being a capable CAD operator to be trained in our field. All applications confidential. Send applications or resume to:

Kimbell Gin Machinery, PO Box 1356
Lubbock, Texas 79408
or Fax (806)762-8038
Attn: Engineering Dept.

***No phone applications or employment services considered**

Needed: Medical Assistant at Snyder Medical Clinic. Apply in person or send resume to 5206 Trinity Blvd., Snyder, TX 79549. For information call 573-8594.

Employment

Drivers: Regional Flatbed Carrier, Home weekends guaranteed, Competitive pay, Quality insurance, 401K, 1995 or newer Conventionals w/satellites. Call Lori @ 800-710-1829. Dept.–8A.

Full-time and part-time paramedic, intermediate and basic levels needed for Mitchell County EMS. Competitive salary and benefits. Please contact Shane Terry, EMT–P at (915)728-3483.

§ Hiring Immediately §
Truckdrivers needed for oil field work. Prefer ex-Dowell, ex-BJ, ex-Halliburton hands. Must be able to travel. No need to relocate. Class A CDL, clear driving record, 2 years truckdriving experience a must. Call 1-800-588-2669 Mon–Fri, 8a.m.–5p.m. No calls after 5p.m.

Employment

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

Ware Medical Unit w/ Mitchell County Hospital District is accepting applications for a Correctional LVN position. Good benefits. Contact D. LeMaster, R.N., D.O.N., at (915)728-2162, ext. 4265.

Wallace Medical Unit with Mitchell County Hospital District is accepting applications for a Correctional LVN position. Good benefits. Contact Ms. LeMaster, R.N., D.O.N., at (915)728-2162, ext. 4265.

Instructions

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of **Defensive Driving Course**. Saturday, January 8th, 8a.m.–3p.m., Texas Savings Bank, 2619 College Ave. For more information call 573-2850. No reservations needed. CO199-CP315.

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of **Defensive Driving Course**. Mon. & Tue., January 10th & 11th, 6p.m.–9p.m., Texas Savings Bank, 2619 College Ave. For more information call 573-2850. No reservations needed. CO199-CP315.

Financial

1000 New Customers needed No Credit! No Problems! Loans $100 to $446. Apply by phone @ 573-1761 or come by Security Finance, 511 Coliseum Drive, Snyder, TX.

Woman's Column

MARY KAY COSMETICS
Complimentary Facial or Reorders! Call Geraldine Thames, 915-573-9433, 1812 38th St. Snyder.

Farmers Column

Alfalfa, small squares $5. Call 573-5656.

Hay For Sale: Rox candy square bales. Call Ross Preston (915) 573-1217.

Merchandise

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, Etc. Sales & Rentals
3706 College 573-7582

Firewood!! Oak & Mesquite! Local cutter. Part seasoned. 24"-22"-20"-18". Some split. Delivered. 573-1216

Glass top dining table w/6 chairs. Double-sided refrigerator. Baby bed. 573-6193 leave message.

GUARANTEED USED APPLIANCES: Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Ranges & Freezers. WESTERN AUTO 2510 Ave. R.

Pecans For Sale
$1.50 – $2.00 per lb., includes cracking if desired. GWEN'S GREENHOUSE.

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SERVICE & REPAIRS
ON ALL BRANDS
AMERICAN
Equipment & Trailer
3707 M.L.K. Jr. Blvd. Lubbock, TX
806-747-2991

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AGRAVET DOG FOOD
Special! 50 lb. $9.88
3014 Varsity Square 574-2472

Want To Buy

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

Apartments For Rent

1 Bedroom Furnished apartment. All bills paid. Rent by 2 weeks or month. 573-3279, 573-5879, 728-8482.

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

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

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

KINGSWOOD & EASTRIDGE APARTMENTS

100 37th Street
Snyder, Texas
915-573-5261
TTY 1-800-735-2989

- One bedroom from $240
- Two bedroom from $286
- Cent. A/C Heat
- Carpet
- Playground
- Laundry Rooms
- Resident Manager

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Western Crest Apartments

3901 Ave. 0
- 1 or 2 Bedroom
- Covered Patio • Sparkling Pool
- Playground • Satellite TV Available

Windridge Village Apartments

5400 College Ave.
- 1 or 2 Bedroom
- Sparkling Pool • Clothes Care Facility
- Great Location • Satellite TV Available

Office located at 3901 Ave. 0
573-1488

Super Clean 2 bedroom, brick duplex. Appliances, CH/A. 573-1012 Leave message.

Houses For Rent

3507 Irving, 3-1-1 house, CH/A. $400/mo., $200/dep. 573-9567, leave message.

Houses For Rent

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

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

3766 Dalton, 2-1 house w/carport & storage building, CH/A. $380/mo., $200/dep. 573-9567, leave message.

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

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

For Rent: $350/mo. 4—2 with utility room. 4104 Ave. U. References required. Call 573-6641 evenings.

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

House for Rent: 2-1 w/fireplace & den. $150/dep., $325/mo. Call 573-4473.

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

Lease, excellent condition! 3-1-1, CH/AC, fenced. 3726 Ave. U. 573-0712.

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

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

Mobile Homes For Rent

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

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

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

Mobile Homes

1st Time Home Buyers. We Can Help! 915-673-8488.

Abandoned Home, take over payment. Call Juan @ 915-721-9005.

Cute Little House. Very Affordable. Call 915-673-7353.

FACTORY REBATE
$1400 To $1800 On SELECT FLEETWOOD HOMES. CALL J.HITE HOMES, ABILENE
800-378-0998 or 793-9999.

HORSE LOVER'S DREAM
1/2 Acre & Doublewide–$100 down! (915)520-4411.

Horse Lovers Dream Home, on 5 Acres. Possible Owner Carry. Call Brendan 915-721-2101.

Golden Terrace Village IV
1911 Martha Ann Blvd.
New Apartments Ready For Rent
1 bedroom especially for Senior Citizens age 62+. Rent based on income. To apply, please call.
915-573-1416

Mobile Homes

INSTANT HOUSING!! MOVE in within 24 hours! Call Mike at 915-669-1375.

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

USED BUT NOT USED UP
As low as $999!
(915)520-2178

Mobile Home Lot(s) for Sale

(2) Mobile Home Lots 150x250 each. Corner of Q & Green. Both $3000/OBO. 573-5549.

Real Estate

$1000 TOTAL MOVE-IN!!!
If you have you new home built by Key Homes, Inc. Paid child care and interest rate reduction to as low as 1% to qualified lower income buyers. Good credit essential. Maximum income limits apply. Financing provided by or guaranteed by USDA, Rural Development, formerly known as Farmer's Home. NO MIP! You do not need to own a piece of land. Our plans, your color choices!! Call now for a pre-qualification appointment. (915)520-9848.

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

Real Estate

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

Fixer Upper! 2 bedroom, 2 bath, water well, out of city limits. Priced reduced. 573-3758.

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

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

HOMES FROM $5000
Foreclosed and repossessed. No or low down payment. Credit trouble O.K. For current listings, call 1-800-311-5048 ext. 30186.

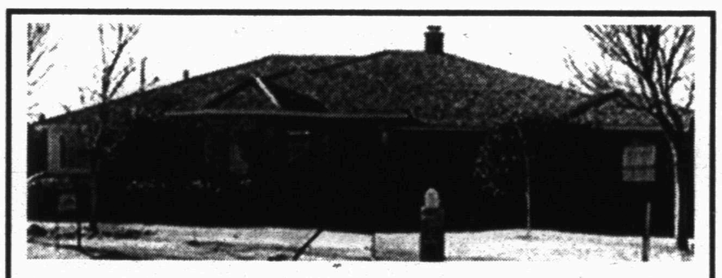
Owner Financed!
$2000 Down, $375 total monthly payment. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, new storm windows, large laundry room, fenced. 126 20th Place.
$3000 Down, $475 total monthly payment. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, brick, fenced, CH/A. 3002 38th.
Call Candy @ 573-3304.

For results, use Snyder Daily News Classified ads. 573-5486

2608 47th Lovely custom built home has four bedrooms with generous sized closets, two full baths, dining room and breakfast area. Family room with fireplace, landscaped, fenced, sprinkler system.

Call us for more details and to view! $100,s.

Faye Blackledge (H) 573-1223
Heritage Homes Realtors
3405 Snyder Shopping Center
Snyder, Texas 79549 915/573-5056



2600 47th *Corner House* This beautiful home has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, double garage, formal dining and formal living area. Family room with picture frame paneling including cathedral ceiling, fireplace with wood stove insert.
Call for an appointment to view! $100's

Faye Blackledge (H)573-1223
HERTIAGE HOMES REALTORS
3405 Snyder Shopping Center
Snyder, Texas 79549
915/573-5056

BEELINE IT TO THE CLASSIFIEDS
THEY'RE BUZZIN' WITH ACTION 573-5486

Elizabeth Potts Realtors
1707 30th Street **573-8505**
Temi Matthies
Owner/Broker
Annette Waller
573-9467

Sarah Jamison
573-4208

Dee Kemp
573-1152

Rita Knox
573-7082

3728 Austin 3-1¾-1 Great Backyard $36T
3007 39th 4-2-1cp Make Offer... $39.5T
218 36th 3-2-1 Nice..... $37T
3605 Jacksboro 3-2-2 ..... Only $68T
2913 N. Hwy 208 2-1-2..... $28T
Fluvanna 2-1¾+2cp $45T
3814 Ave. V 2-1 Evap. Air $22T
2608 48th 3-2-2 Story Sell/Rent . $89.5T
5310 Etgen 3-2-2 Fireplace Reduced. $86T
Reduced 3303 Irving 4-2-2 ..... $112T
2704 28th 3-1½-2.... Basement & Pool
2808 Westridge 4-3-2 w/ Pool . Reduced
3015 Denison 3-2¾+2 Lots of Extras $105T
W. Hwy 180 3-2-2cp with 2 Acres . $39.5T
1154 CR 241 3-2-2 + Shop..... $74T

2205 41st 3-2 ..... Cute
316 32nd 2-1-1 ..... $22.5T
211 34th 3-1¾+1 Detached... Only $27T
2307 41st 3-2 CH/A Make Offer . $29.5T
3750 Avondale 3-1¾+1 ..... Only $31.5T
1861 Tuscola 3-2-2 Fireplace..... $115T
2600 47th 3-2½-2 Lots of Extras $110T
311 36th 4-1¾+1cp CH/A Deck.. $38.5T
406 32nd 3-1-1 Needs Updating!... $27T
4-2 with 5 A's Fireplace Barn Cellar . $100T.
W. Hwy 180 &3-2 Shop + Pecn Orchard
155 Acres South, 182 Acres West, 160 Acres SE
160 Acres with Cabin ..... Fisher County
Royal Cedar Lots Available..... CALL
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Real Estate

JACK & JACK
611 Coliseum Dr.
Ford Spikes, Owner/Broker
573-8571 573-3452

2-1-1 Corner 308 Ave. B ..... Starter Home
Good Local 3-1-1 726 Avondale $325T
2111 43rd 3-P/1-1cp+Den $65T
2210 32nd 3-2-2cp+Utility $89.5T
1901 29th 3-1/1 ..... $27T
Reduced! Lovely 3-2-2 300 Irving $112T
Duplex @ Hermleigh 4-2/2 ..... $13T
2266 Sunset 3-1-2cp $39T
1509 39th 2-1-cp $30T
2711 Ave. U Remodeled Older 3-2-2 Office
Super Nice! 3-1-1/1-1cp 102 35th $55T
Mobile Home Lot ..... Owner Finance
1804 39th Nice 3-1 Great Master BR $25T
1 Acre NICE 3-2-2 Close In $45T
Red. Great Floor Plan 3500 Kerrville $60T
Ready!! 3-1-1 1001 Eastridge $32.5T
Country SW In ISD 2-1-1/2 A's $37T
Nice Yard! 3-1-1/1-1 2206 Hill $48.5T
1-13/4 Great Storage 3733 Dalton $47.5T
228 Acres 3-1 Brick $80T
3-1-1 Plus Apt 3300 Cherry $62.5T
3 Acres 3-1-1/2 Barns & Stalls $85T
2-1-2-2 cp 3 Lots 911 17th $37T
3-2-2cp Nice & Large Hermleigh $52.5T
A-Frame 3-2-1 Shop 11 Acres $65T
3-13/4 2107 Bird Agency Exclusive $43.9T
Starter Home 2-1-cp 1431 N. Ave P $18.9T
Mobile Home To Be Moved 2-2 ..... $1T
Cedar Creek 3-2-2 Den Lovely $86T
Picture Perfect 3-2-1 Det. 2219 Elm $86T
Pretty Close In 1-2 w/5 Acres or 30 A's Out
2.56 Acres 3-1-1 Detached $38.5T
Country Dream Home! 3-1-1/2 Wonderful
Storage 20 A's Pool, Several Out Bldgs $185T
11.49 Acres 3-2 Hot Tub/Spa/Sprk Sys $106T
301 Acres Fisher County 3-2 Good Grass
Attractive! 3-2-2 2211 20th $42T
3-1/2-1-1 628 Austin Handy $26T
3-3-2 300 Eastridge $30T
Large 2 Bd 2 Stor Bldg, Covered Patio $4T
Good Location 3-2-2 Deck & Shop $52.9T
Unique 4-1-1/1-1-2cp 2232 4th Street $25T
Commercial Yard & Residence 9 A's $140T
Reduced 6 Acres 2 Story In ISD 4-1/2 ..... $40T
Colorado City 4.3 acres 3-2-2cp $60T

HUD LISTINGS
Shirley Drum 573-1550
Doris S. Spikes 573-6602

Farms & Ranches

Approximately 35 Acres for sale on Camp Springs Road, 7 1/2 miles east of prison. $2500 down, $233.29/mo. 573-7337.

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!
Get Your Classified Ad in by 4:00 p.m.the Day BEFORE You Want It in the Paper!
(4:00 p.m. Friday for Sun. & Mon.)
ALL ADS ARE CASH in advance unless you have an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News.
ALL GARAGE SALES must be paid in advance.

GARAGE SALE
Advertise your garage full of "Don't Needs" in
SNYDER DAILY NEWS
573-5486

Stevenson Real Estate

Wenona Evans
573-8165

573-5612

Doris Beard
573-8480

Bill Dryden
573-9739

2.89 A's w/2 House ..... N. Hwy. 208!
2212 43rd 3-1 ..... $34.9T
Hermleigh Brick Duplex 2 bd-lg den . $43.5 T
2205 41st St. 3-2-2 cp ..... $43.9 T
Red. 5310 Etgen 3-2-2 Liv. & Dn/fpl .. $86T
2601 Ave. W Assumable Loan 3-2-1 . $45T
3600 41st 3-2-2 HUD Home $65T
3750 Highland 3-1-CH/A $29.5T
Clairemont Hwy 3-2 15 A's ..... $75T!
3742 Avondale 3-1 ..... $33.9T
2210 32nd Street 3-1 ..... $39.9T
2266 Sunset 3-2-2cp $39.5T
2310 42nd St. 3-1 ..... $25T
2704 34th 2-2-2 Livingroom, Den ... $72T
Reduced 402 35th 3-2-1 TV Cover.... $28T
New Home! 3309 Irving 3-2-2 ..... $115T
Reduced 3001 Crockett 4-3-2cp .. $94.9T
4200 Lubbock 3-2-2 + Shop $72.9T
Commer. Site-Office-10 A's Hwy 84 & 180
Acreage-14 to 650 Acres Available!
Commercial Industrial Lot..... N.College!
Camp Springs Appx 35 A's Great Homesite!

RENTALS AVAILABLE!
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snydertex.com/stevensonrealestate/index.htm

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Faye Blackledge
Owner/Broker
573-1223

Joan Tate
573-8773

Debby Miller
573-2075

Dolores Jones
Owner/Broker
573-5308

573-5056

"Ask About Our Buyer's Incentives"

3-2-2 Brick w/shop 3509 Kerrville .. $60T
4-2-2 Close to schools3606 Jacksoro . $62T
3-2-2 Isolated Master 2907 Ave. W . $65T
3-2-2 Brick w/shop 4200 Lubbock... $72.9
3-2-2 FP, isolated master 2601 28th . $74.5
3-2-Den, brick,CH/A 5310 Etgen Dr. $86T
3-3½-2-2 Story Brick 2911 Ave U... $93T
4-2½-2 Oversized Den 2807 Ave. W. $95T
3-2-2 Dining/study/pool 2704 28th . $150T
2-1-1 Sunken Den 2950 Gary Brewer $88T
3-2-2 LA/Dining 2803 Denison... $84.5T
4-2-2 Formal LA/Dining 2608 47th . $132T
4-2-FP/Storm Cellar on 10+A's..... $130T
3-2-2CP w/1 A', FP, step-up Kitchen . $70T
3-2-2 on 3 acres w/ step down Master $69T
3-1¾ on 3 Acres w/roping arena.... $78T
3-1-2 Brick on 1 acre $38T
3-2-1984 Lancer MH w/2 A's $43T
Duplex in Herleigh w/shared den .. $43T
****Investment & Rental Property****

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

CARDS OF THANKS

Thank You

We take this means to express our sincere thanks to our many friends who were so kind to us in our darkest hour of sorrow when our loved one was called away. We deeply appreciate the kind words and beautiful flowers that were sent; also the food that was prepared. Our special thanks goes to the Cogdell Hospital Staff. May you have just such friends if such sorrow ever visits your home. May Heaven's richest blessings fall on each of you.

The Family of Lillian Cearley

Dellene Leatherwood
Phillis Leatherwood
Jerry Cearley
Raymond Cearley
Robby Cearley

Third quarter happenings are reviewed

The economy and its long and short-term impact continued to be the focus of various taxing entities as they began preparations for their coming fiscal year.

Snyder ISD began budget work facing mandated state salary increases of $850,000. Supt. Gayle Lomax said the district was looking at a "lean year" due to the drop in taxable values and the salary increases.

Here are the highlights from the third quarter of 1999.

July

Walls Industries announced that it would be moving some of its operations to Mexico. This action resulted in the closing of plants in Sweetwater and Big Spring, but the company announced the Snyder plant would remain open. Plant manager David Witte said 95 people are employed locally.

Citizens celebrated the Fourth of July with the annual Chamber of Commerce-sponsored activities in Towle Park.

The holiday traffic claimed one life in Scurry County as a 22-year-old Hardin-Simmons student returning from his home in New Mexico was struck by another vehicle as he attempted to change a flat tire. The accident occurred on U.S. Highway 84, 13 miles northwest of Snyder.

Combined bank deposits for the second quarter of 1999 were $220.1 million – a drop of $2.8 million for the same period in 1998.

The county received its second big rain of the summer as Union residents saw 5.2 inches measured in their gauges. Deep Creek was on the rise again, but not as much as was in June. The water did not reach the College Avenue bridge again, but the low water crossing underneath the bridge on 28th Street was well under water and had to be barricaded.

The 64th annual Scurry County Rodeo got underway and Kasey Nachlinger was crowned rodeo queen. Junior Miss was Kassey Burney and Little Miss was Emma Nunley.

Indianapolis quarterback Peyton Manning flew into Winston Field with writers from Sports Illustrated. Manning did an interview with Sammy Baugh at his ranch near Rotan.

An oil well blowout near Lake Thomas caused some anxious moments for some residents in the Sour Dough addition as Borden County sheriff deputies rousted many out of bed. The well was eventually capped by employees of Cudd Pressure Services, although two of their employees were injured by foam spraying equipment.

J.D. Barham, and the rest of Cowjazz, were recognized by the Will Rogers Cowboy Award Show for duo-group of the year in ceremonies at the Will Rogers Coliseum in Fort Worth.

The Snyder City Council voted to refinance some water and sewer bonds to save the city over $48,000 in interest annually. The bond money was used to fund water and sewer lines to the Price Daniel Unit.

Adrian Gonzales told of his experiences at Boys State in Austin in June.

Brandon Claxton found a Sundown High School senior ring which has been lost for three years and identified it as belonging to Kelley Willson. Claxton located the owner of the ring via the Internet.

Toward the end of the month, the city began spraying for mosquitoes as over 17 inches of moisture had been measured at the city's water treatment plant.

Snyder residents Norma Duke and Larry Thompson were married in Colorado despite the two being in a life-threatening motorcycle wreck only five days earlier.

August

Snyder National Bank dedicated its new drive-in facility in memory of the late Sue Mize. Bank president Joe Jackson called the opening of the facility a "red-letter day" for the bank.

The Weldon Halford home in the 200 block of 23rd Street was heavily damaged by fire believed to have started from a cutting torch.

Scurry County commissioners adopted a resolution supporting the Texas, Mexico and Asian Corridor on a 3-0 vote. Precinct 2 commissioner Roy Idom abstained.

Work on the Beacon Motel was continuing as new owner Gene Thompson vowed to make the landmark motel "as good as new."

Snyder ISD began the new year with its annual convocation of teachers at Worsham Auditorium.

Parents buying back-to-school items for their youngsters got a tax break from the state as the first weekend in August was sales tax-free on many items.

Lynda Beaver retired as postmaster at Fluvanna after serving for 18 years.

Snyder ISD trustees adopted a new code of conduct handbook for the coming school year, ruling out camouflage clothing – even for students in the S.T.A.R. Program.

Western Texas College conducted two Success Seminars for incoming freshmen.

School started in Snyder with 175 fewer students than the previous year. In 1998, 2,991 students attended the first day of classes while 2,816 reported in August.

Arrow Construction furnished the labor and equipment to paint the Roscoe, Snyder & Pacific Railroad engine in Towle Park.

Three Snyder school campuses — Central, Northeast and Stanfield — received exemplary status by the Texas Education Agency.

A historical marker honoring the arrival of the Santa Fe Railroad in Snyder was unveiled on the lawn of the courthouse.

A pilot for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Program escaped injury when his plane went down east of Snyder. Carlos Velasques said the event was plenty scary, however.

Ira ISD began their classes with an exemplary rating from the Texas Education Agency.

Karl Thomas was named the new major at the Price Daniel Unit, while David Denison was named as Windham School principal.

Six more jobs were cut at SACROC as a result of the merger between PennzEnergy and Devon Energy of Oklahoma City. Unit superintendent Pete Hagist said the outlook at the unit was still positive because the unit was becoming profitable because of "a lot of people working hard over the past four years."

A small building at the city's water treatment plant was destroyed when chemicals inside the structure caused an explosion. There were no injuries.

Snyder ISD adopted the district's new budget of $18.4 million and maintained the existing tax rate of $1.50 per $100 valuation.

Rep. David Counts and the executive director of the Texas Department of Economic Development visited in the city for a meeting with local and civic economic development leaders.

Jimmy Kiker retired from Big Country Electric Cooperative after serving the co-op for 43 years.

September

The Scurry County Appraisal District began work on its 2000 budget at a figure lower than its present one by $4,500.

The 1999 Snyder Chamber of Commerce banquet was held at the Scurry County Coliseum with a luau theme. Honored were Carol Haynes with the Education Excellence Award, Devon Energy with the McLaughlin Award, Betty House with the Chamber Choice Award, Lawrence IGA with the Business of the Year, Ralph Miller received the Winston Award and Donna Gray received the Sizemore Award.

The Vestal Award was presented to Ollie Peek, while Jack McGlaun and the late G.A. Parks were honored with Texas House of Representative resolutions.

Rep. David Counts and U.S. Congressman Charlie Stenholm recognized youths who attended the chamber's junior leadership course earlier in the summer.

Scurry County Fair began to seek entries for the 34th annual event.

Christy Garcia was selected as the queen of the annual Dieciseis de Septiembre Fiesta at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.

Scurry County Commissioners voted to give all county employees – including those at Cogdell Memorial Hospital – a 1.5 percent raise. In August, the hospital board had voted to give a 3.9 percent merit raise to employees.

Hospital board chairman Jim Bob Cave and board member Dr. Mark Weaver said the county's action could compromise the long-term future of the county-owned hospital.

The local cable TV company – now Cox Communications – was the subject of a public hearing at city council which drew just one speaker. Bob Stanfield complimented the employees of the company, but still said the company offered "terrible TV."

During the same meeting, the council voted to keep the city's existing tax rate for the coming year - $0.3935 per $100 valuation. It also voted to keep all city services, including water and sewer rates, the same as last year's.

The third annual Taste of Scurry County was held with over 20 food establishments offering selections from their menus.

Scurry, Lampasas and Comanche counties were added to the quarantine list for the movement of commercial bee operations due to Africanized, or "killer bees" being found in the counties.

Western Texas College had near record enrollment as nearly 1,298 students enrolled for the fall semester. The largest enrollment ever was 1,319 in 1984.

Trey Gorman, Snyder High School senior, was named a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist.

Scurry County Commissioners Court approved the 2000 tax rate of $0.5494 per $100 valuation. The vote was 3-1 with Commissioner Roy Idom voting against the rate. The 1999 rate was $0.51 cents per $100 valuation.

The Taylor quints – Aleksi, Jacob, Jonah, Kenedy and Zachary – celebrated their third birthday. The quints' parents are Brent and DeShonna Taylor.

Five seniors – Sally Barham, Jodi Dennis, Lauren Hackfeld, Janette Allen and Debbie Foster – were nominated for 1999 Homecoming Queen at Snyder High School. Allen was named queen at the half of the football game with Seminole.

Jack Gorman Jr. took over the president's spot of the Development Corporation of Snyder. Roy McQueen had chaired the board for the past two years.

Snyder VFW Post #8231 celebrated its 53rd anniversary.

United Supermarkets hosted a Y2K awareness program at Scurry County Coliseum that featured representatives from various utilities.

Snyder Chrysler closed and left 10 people without jobs.

On the last day of the month, the Cogdell Memorial Hospital board vented its frustration toward the commissioners court for lowering its subsidy and cutting the merit raise percentage for hospital employees.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Stick to Lipitor for cholesterol

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 66 and have high cholesterol, for which my physician prescribed Lipitor. I have yet to take the medicine, however, because my wife insists that it can cause liver damage. She is a great believer in chiropractic medicine and her practitioner sold me an expensive conglomeration of eight different vitamin supplements. I'm confused. What advice should I follow?

DEAR READER: With all respect to your wife, I'd recommend the Lipitor. In the main, this prescription medicine is effective and seldom causes side effects. True, in rare instances, it is associated with reversible liver damage. This is the reason why most doctors check cholesterol levels once or twice a year — and, at the same time, obtain a simple blood test of liver function. If the enzyme level rises to unacceptable levels, the dose of Lipitor can be modified or — better yet — another cholesterol-lowering drug can be prescribed.

For the average adult with high cholesterol, mega-vitamin therapy will not do the trick. Your wife's chiropractor is into a money-making scheme that you should avoid. As I have written before, reputable chiropractors do not treat diseases or conditions that exceed the practitioners' qualifications. The honest chiropractor sticks to spinal manipulation and other techniques to relieve back pain and other afflictions, rather than treating medical diseases — such as diabetes, heart disease and high cholesterol — that are outside the boundary of his or her training.

Return to your physician, express your wife's concerns, describe her proposed solution, and see what he says. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Cholesterol." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 68-year-old man who has thus far refused a routine sigmoidoscopic exam. The reason is simple: I could not possibly drink the large amount of liquid cleansing agent that I believe is necessary in preparation for the test. Any suggestions?

DEAR READER: The solution, too, is simple: You don't have to take a laxative before having a routine flexible sigmoidoscopy. In preparation for this simple office procedure, patients are ordinarily required to use two disposable enemas the morning of the test. That's it. Quick and easy.

Liquid cleansing agents are reserved for patients who must undergo colonoscopy, a much more involved examination of the colon. In my opinion, you should have the sigmoidoscopy without being daunted by the preparation, for which you needn't take a laxative.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My doctor insists that I have my spleen removed because of ITP. What do you think?

DEAR READER: Like any other medical term, ITP needs to be translated. Idiopathic means of unknown cause; thrombocytopenia means a deficiency of platelets, the tiny blood cells that form the basis of blood clots; purpura means bruising, the consequence of insufficient clotting.

Although, by definition, the precise cause of ITP is unknown, scientists have discovered that patients with the disorder often exhibit anti-platelet substances in their bloodstreams. Therefore, the basis of the disease may be an unusual reaction in which patients become allergic to their own normal platelets, destroying them in the process.

Most cases of ITP are benign and require no treatment. But they must be closely monitored to assess the degree of platelet deficiency. The ailment becomes a problem only when purpura affects the brain or when bruising occurs in moist body tissues, such as the mouth, when it is termed "wet purpura." In such patients, the first step in therapy is to use cortisone, drugs to block the body's immune response, neutralize the anti-platelet substances, and allow new and healthy platelets to function without interference.

Some researchers have reported a 20-percent cure rate in patients treated with cortisone alone. However, this encouraging response is not consistent and has not been universally confirmed.

If cortisone is ineffective, or if, for some reason, patients do not tolerate the drug, specialists move to the next level of treatment: splenectomy, surgical removal of the spleen. The purpose of this operation is to get rid of the organ that traps (and kills) platelets and provides a major source of anti-platelet antibodies. Splenectomy produces long-standing remissions in up to 80 percent of patients with ITP.

The third step of treatment (for refractory cases that do not respond to cortisone or surgery) is powerful anti-immune drugs, such as vincristine. Because these drugs are so dangerous, they are used only as a last resort.

The major drawback to splenectomy is that people without spleens are more susceptible to serious infection, because the organ acts as a filter for bacteria that enter the bloodstream, and the spleen is the source of many infection-fighting proteins.

I believe that patients with ITP should be under the care of hematologists, specialists in blood diseases. If you have been given cortisone unsuccessfully, you are probably a surgical candidate. This is a decision best made in conjunction with your hematologist. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Blood — Donations and Disorders." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am writing to describe my experience with a chiropractor. I suffered for almost 20 years with back, shoulder, neck and hip pain following an auto accident. My medical doctors exhausted treatment options, so in desperation, I sought out a local chiropractor.

I underwent four treatments before I felt any relief, but after that, my improvement was steady and miraculous. My feet weren't numb, my face no longer tingled, I had no more headaches, I could breathe better and walk without pain. I was no longer constipated. My mood improved, my toenails even grew in better.

I hope you will print this for all to read. It will assure me of your fairness. I am merely one of many people who have been helped by chiropractic therapy. I told one medical doctor what I was doing and she was open-minded enough to smile and say: "Well, you can't argue with success. I think you should keep going." What do you have to say?

DEAR READER: "You can't argue with success. I think you should keep going." (I'm smiling.)

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NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION

Witness protection - who needs it?

NEW YORK (AP) — Somewhere in northeast Ohio, an 88-year-old retiree peacefully enjoys his dwindling days. His name is Angelo Lonardo. His previous job, back when he was called "Big Ange," was underboss of the Cleveland mob.

In a Phoenix suburb, his face altered by plastic surgery and his pockets lined by proceeds from a best seller, Salvatore Gravano enjoys a new life in the sun. He's a killer best known as "Sammy The Bull," and he was John Gotti's right-hand man.

Both Lonardo and Gravano became government informants, turning on their Mafia cohorts. Both appear likely targets for revenge. Yet both have abandoned the federal Witness Protection Program. And neither lives in fear of his life.

They're not alone. From Arizona to Buffalo, from New Jersey to parts unknown, the fear of Mafia retribution has disappeared among mob rats both in and out of the program.

"I'm not running from the (expletive) Mafia," the ever-eloquent Gravano recently snarled — and there's probably no need to, according to mob experts.

"The mob's ability to go out and find people has always been greatly overstated," says Jerry Capeci, author of three books on John Gotti and New York's Mafia.

"It's been diminished even more by the large number of turncoats, and by the large number of ready, willing and able shooters in jail doing life or long time," continues Capeci, now a spokesman at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Bill Bonanno, one-time boss of the New York crime family that still bears his name, agrees that today's mob lacks the juice to punish its ever-growing legion of informants.

"I doubt it could happen," says Bonanno, who retired to Arizona years before Gravano. "Someone asked me what Gravano's neighbors are thinking. My only response is that must be the safest street in the world."

Why? Here are some reasons offered by Mafi-ologists:

— The new generation has no interest in settling old scores. Henry Hill, the informant behind the movie "GoodFellas," joined the Witness Protection Program in 1980 and dropped out seven years later. To the mob's new blood, what there is of it, Hill might as well be '50s boss Albert Anastasia.

— Omerta, the mob law of silence, is long dead. There are so many informants that targeting just one is pointless.

— Once a witness testifies, the incentive to whack him drops drastically.

But what of revenge? It's a dish best served in mob movies at the local Blockbuster Video.

The stereotype of mobsters leaving the family only in body bags, most prominently perpetuated by the Corleone family in "The Godfather" movies, was never entirely true.

There's one other obvious reason: the mob lacks the clout it once wielded.

In Cleveland, where Lonardo became a made man in the 1940s, authorities now say there are only two made members left. That wasn't the case in 1984, when Lonardo — facing a sentence of life without parole — cut his deal.

He testified in Kansas City about the mob skim of casino money from Las Vegas, and in New York about the Mafia's ruling commission. He was enlisted in the witness protection program but eventually decided to bolt its constricting rules and regulations.

"He's supposedly living in northeast Ohio, and he's no longer concerned about anything," says Rick Porrello, a Cleveland-area policeman, mob author and keeper of the American Mafia Web site (www.americanmafia.com).

The same dearth of mob troops in Cleveland is now standard in most of the other 23 cities where the Mafia once operated. Currently, only New York and Chicago have traditional, functional mob families.

The evidence of the witness defections is anecdotal; federal officials refuse to acknowledge when a cooperating witness joins the protection program, much less leaves it. But it's clear that more folks are saying arrivederci than previously.

Gravano left the witness program in 1997, but he hardly dropped out of sight.

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Sunday, Jan. 2, 2000

In the year ahead, you should experience a consistent rise in both your popularity and career matters. Much of this will be due to someone who believes in you and goes to bat for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) People are saying nice things behind your back today, so if your ears are ringing, pay it little heed. Your biggest boosters are coming from those involved in your career. Capricorn, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and self-addressed stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Discussions with friend or associates today aren't likely to be just idle chatter. What is discussed will inspire you or have real educational value.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Either go off by yourself or associate only with those who have something to contribute to your goals and ambitions. You can lay the ground work today for achieving a large objective.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Because it will be obvious to others that you are sincere and believe in what you say, it should be no trouble at all winning people over to your way of thinking today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) This could be a good day to take the time to sit down and figure out ways to make those adjustments in your financial affairs that would afford you greater security. Then take positive action.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Communicate today with any close, personal relationships that may need shoring up, because conditions in general are in pretty good harmonic balance at this time in this realm.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You might have a lot on your plate today, but once you get started you'll be amazed at how much fun you'll have at getting things done and accomplishing all you set out to do.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Team involvements seem to be your cup of tea today. You'll not only have a good time with them, but your contribution will be substantial and you'll know how to encourage others as well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Make today one where you can concentrate on completing tasks or chores that need to get done around the house. Chances are the rest of the family will pitch in and help as well.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Don't get yourself jockeyed in a position where someone else calls the shots today. You'll be more effective if your mobility isn't hampered and you can do what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Turn to those today who truly believe in you and have your best interests at heart if you need support in any way. They'll be your springboards for encouragement and reinforcement.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Without even trying, your leadership qualities will be very much in evidence today by how you go about things and how you deal with others. People will quickly back you up.

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Monday, Jan. 3, 2000

If you are approached in the year ahead by a loyal acquaintance who has a proposal to offer you, don't be hesitant to check it out and join him or her if all looks well. It could result in an exciting joint venture.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) By closely observing how a friend successfully handles all of his or her relationships today, you can learn some valuable techniques that can be tailored to suite your own affairs. Major changes are ahead for Capricorn in the coming year. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 and self-addressed stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Although people have discouraged drop-in company in the past, today could be an exception. If you're in the neighborhood and want to pop in on a pal, do so. It could be good for both.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Concerning your financial and commercial dealings, small factors could have more significance than usual. Pennies you make or save now could be compounded into dollars for the future.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Even though you may not be aware of it, your thinking and constructive suggestions will have an inordinate impact on persons with whom you'll be involved.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Take advantage of some confidential information of a financial nature that is shared with you today. It's not meant for publication, but it is meant for you to enjoy what it offers.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Valuable information could be exchanged today through associating with friends whose views and objectives closely parallel your own. Encourage a frank discussion.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Almost everything you do today you'll do quite well. If you should be confronted with a challenge in front of an audience, you'll handle it in a most outstanding fashion.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Take seriously any team effort you're involved in today, be it in sports or business. Because your associates will be playing to win, they'll be expecting the same of you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If there is a subject you need to discuss with your mate where you're looking for his or her support on how you want to handle an issue, do so today. You'll have a meeting of the minds.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You will be successful all day long because you'll be able to conceive sound ideas and know how to implement them in a productive manner.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Don't be discouraged today if returns aren't up to your expectations, because small gains have a way of adding up into something substantial when allowed to accumulate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Although you have a tendency to relish spontaneous involvements, today you're likely to find more enjoyment from activities which have been well thought out and soundly planned.

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Easy identification

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — A man gave police a head start on identifying him after he walked into a bank and handed the teller a note demanding money.

It was on the back of a report from a prior arrest.

On one side of the note, 19-year-old Osman S. Brown said he was carrying several pounds of explosives, police say. On the other side was an arrest report from Dec. 15, when Brown was charged with opposing an officer.

Texans rang in year 2000 with parties

By The Associated Press

Packed among a throng of 260,000 New Year's revelers in downtown Austin, 11-year-old Katie Fulmer wondered about all the fuss over the new millennium.

"I think 2000 is not going to be any different than any other year," she said Friday night as residents packed the streets of Texas' capital for the city's New Year's party.

For her dad, Rich, the moment was a bit more nostalgic.

"It's her first millennium," he said, as if she could expect more.

The Fulmers joined their neighbors across the state in greeting the new year with celebrations filled with music, fireworks and light shows.

At "A2K: Austin on the Verge," multicolored lights reflected off of the city's buildings and the Capitol in the final minutes of 1999.

When 2000 finally arrived, there were cheers, applause and the sound of noisemakers echoing through downtown. Partygoers kissed, hugged and made celebratory calls on their cell phones under raining confetti.

"The best part is all of these people," said Nick Turner, 12. "It makes it more fun."

Austin police said complete arrest figures would be released Saturday afternoon, but only about a two dozen arrests for minor crimes were made in the hours immediately following the party.

Performing on a downtown outdoor stage, singer Lyle Lovett had the crowd in a frenzy just before midnight when three local gospel choirs joined him for his finale.

"I can't think of any other place I'd rather be on this night than Austin, Texas," Lovett told a screaming audience.

Earlier Friday, people watched free concerts by Shawn Colvin and Kelly Willis from office building windows, hotel balconies and the street.

Wearing fashions ranging from evening gowns and tuxedos to blue jeans and cowboy boots, partygoers danced, rollerskated, threw confetti and blew noisemakers with the Capitol taking a temporary back seat to the year 2000.

"I think it's crazy," 14-year-old Amy Donsbach shouted as she danced with friend Leta Coursol and her mom, Brenda Coursol. The Coursols — decked out in silver sparkling party hats and glasses — traveled from Houston to party in Austin.

In Dallas, the downtown celebration culminated with the lighting at midnight of a city landmark, the double-sided Pegasus sign atop the historic Magnolia Building.

The red neon lights cast a glow that could be seen for miles as thousands of revelers gathered below to ring in the New Year.

One celebrant, Don Rose of Dallas, said the sign's twin panels are appropriate for the city.

"Dallas isn't a one-horse town," he said.

The 35-by-50 foot flying red horse is a replica of one erected 65 years ago by Magnolia Petroleum Co., the predecessor to Mobil Corp.

The original horse, now owned by the city, was too damaged to fly again and was dismantled in July for the $600,000 restoration project.

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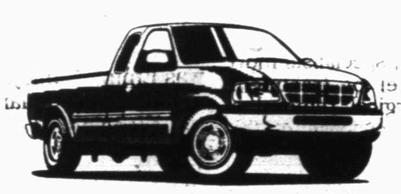

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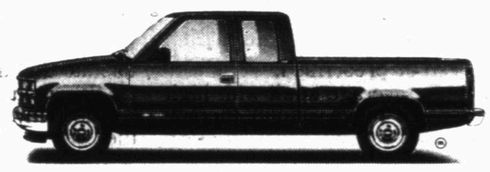

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1996 1 TON FORD SUPERCAB DUALLY XLT
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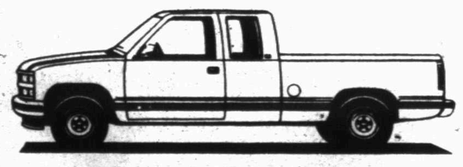

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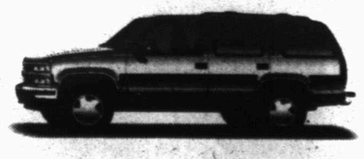

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Russian jets, artillery strike at Grozny

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Plumes of black smoke hung over Grozny Saturday after waves of low-flying Russian jets unleashed scores of bombs on the shattered city in one of the biggest attacks yet on the Chechen capital.

A major Russian drive to take Grozny entered its second week Saturday with federal forces apparently still far from capturing the city center. Rebel fighters in heavily fortified positions have inflicted steady losses on the Russian forces, although no figures were available.

Several large buildings were burning Saturday and smoke from the fires covered parts of the Chechen capital after the overnight bombardment. Russian artillery on surrounding hills fired hundreds of shells in between the jet attacks, and the shelling continued Saturday.

The stepped-up effort to take the city came as acting President Vladimir Putin visited Russian forces in Chechnya to praise them for the campaign to crush separatist rebels. The visit coming on Putin's first full day in office underlined his determination to win the war in Chechnya.

"This is not simply about restoring honor and dignity to the country, no," Putin told the servicemen in Gudermes, a city east of the capital of Grozny that Russian troops took several weeks ago. "This is about more serious things. This is about how to bring about the end of the breakup of Russia, that is your fundamental goal."

Civilian residents in Grozny were stunned by the overnight attack on the city. Chechen officials had no details on possible casualties.

Putin says transition will be orderly, after Yeltsin resigns

MOSCOW (AP) — Acting President Vladimir Putin assured Russians there would be no "vacuum of power" after Boris Yeltsin's surprise resignation, and on his first full day in office Saturday visited Russian troops in Chechnya to reiterate support for their campaign.

Putin handed out awards to the soldiers battling rebels in the breakaway republic, where Russia's successes in the latest war have helped elevate him to the country's most popular politician.

"This is not simply about restoring honor and dignity to the country, no," Putin told the servicemen in Gudermes, a city east of the capital of Grozny that Russian troops took several weeks ago. "This is about more serious things. This is about how to bring about the end of the breakup of Russia, that is your fundamental goal."

Yeltsin named Putin — whom he raised from political obscurity five months ago when he appointed him prime minister — to act as president until new elections are held, which the constitution requires within 90 days of resignation.

"At no minute will there be a vacuum of power in the country," Putin said in a nationally televised speech Friday aimed at reassuring Russians astonished by Yeltsin's move. "I want to give notice that attempts to act outside the framework of Russian law, of the Russian Constitution, will be decisively cut short."

Putin's firm words and sober demeanor were in marked contrast to Yeltsin's emotional appearance on television about 12 hours earlier.

Obituaries

Verna Lee Roe

1916-1999

Funeral service for Verna Lee Roe, 83, is set for 4 p.m. Sunday in the Colonial Hill Baptist Church where she was a charter member.

The Rev. Miller Robinson, retired minister, and Dr. Tommy Culwell, pastor, will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Roe, a resident of Odessa and a longtime Snyder resident, died Thursday, Dec. 30, in Odessa Medical Center following a lengthy illness.

Born March 25, 1916 in New Mexico, she married Myron Roe on Feb. 24, 1939 in Melrose, N.M. The Roes moved to Snyder from Clovis, N.M., in 1941 and established Roe Home and Auto Supply.

The oil boom of 1950 prompted them to build a new store across the street and a half block south of the original location on what is now South College Ave. In 1959, they moved to Highland Shopping Center and changed the store name to Roe's Furniture and Appliance.

Mrs. Roe was active in church, a youth leader for many years, president of WMU and served on many committees. She also served as president of Martha Ann Woman's Club and was an active member of the Art Guild Study Club. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Rosie Floyd, in 1991; a son, Jerry Lee Roe, in 1999; and by three brothers and one sister.

Survivors include her husband, Myron Roe of Odessa; a daughter-in-law, Dorothy Roe of Irving; a son-in-law, A.C. Floyd of Snyder; six grandchildren, Jason and Jennifer Roe of Austin, Sharon Brooks of Odessa, Walt Floyd of Snyder, Cindy Vera of Boston, Mass., and Deana Jeffcoat of Flower Mound; and six great-grandchildren.

Bonita Floyd

1934-1999

Bonita Joy Floyd of Onalaska, mother of Kelli McCright of Snyder, died Wednesday, Dec. 29, at a daughter's home in Houston after a sudden illness.

Graveside service for Mrs. Floyd, 65, is set for noon Tuesday in the Snyder Cemetery.

Born on Feb. 14, 1934 in Polar, she married Clint Eldon Floyd on June 11, 1954 in Snyder. He died in 1985. She was a homemaker.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Bonnie Lyons.

Survivors include two other daughters, Dawn Beane of Odessa and Tanya Isenburg and her husband, Alan, of Houston; one son, Guy Brandon Floyd of Houston; one brother and his wife, Charles Ray and Betty Lyons of Onalaska; three granddaughters, Jessica, Lacy and Jacey; and one great-granddaughter, Asypen.

The family suggests memorials to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, 120 Wall Street in New York City, 10005.

Family visitation will begin at 5 p.m. Sunday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Etheline Schwartz

1930-1999

HAWLEY — Etheline Schwartz, mother of Marilyn Lockhart of Snyder, died Friday, Dec. 31, at her home.

Graveside service for Mr. Schwartz, 69, was set for 2 p.m. Sunday at New Hope Cemetery. The Rev. Roland Gregory will officiate and Lawrence-Adams Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Born in Kaufman County, she was a daughter of the late Sam and Nora Lee (Harris) Smith. Mrs. Schwartz, reared in Stamford, lived in Snyder for many years. She married Cecil Schwartz on May 13, 1950 in Abilene. A homemaker, Mrs. Schwartz moved to Hawley in 1984.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, one sister and one son.

Survivors include her husband, Cecil Schwartz of Hawley; another daughter, Norma Jane Story and her husband, Bill, of Abilene; another son-in-law, Bill Lockhart of Snyder; one brother, Tommy Ray Smith of Stamford; one sister, Pauline Goss of Mountain Grove, Mo.; five grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Minnie Alma Love

1913-1999

Services are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home for Minnie Alma Love, 86, of Goldthwaite, formerly of Snyder.

Mrs. Love died Saturday, Jan. 1, at Coryell Memorial Hospital in Gatesville after a brief illness.

Born Oct. 19, 1913, Mrs. Love was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, J.W. Love on Sept. 2, 1998.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Towana and Doyle Webb of Goldthwaite; a brother, Jim McMahon of Harper; two sisters, Jeannie Woods and Ida Mae Price, both of Boerne; and four grandchildren.

Wayne Buchanan

1939-1999

Wayne Buchanan, longtime resident of Snyder, died Dec. 31, 1999 in Lubbock after a brief illness.

Service for Mr. Buchanan, 60, is set for 2 p.m. Monday in the Wright Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens. The Rev. Dave Phillips, pastor of Northside Baptist Church, will officiate.

Family visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Born May 28, 1939 in Cooper, he married Jan Jackson on Sept. 28, 1964 in Snyder. Mr. Buchanan was a mechanic and a member of the Northside Baptist Church. He served in the Army in Germany from 1960 to 1963.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother.

Survivors include his wife, Jan Buchanan of Snyder; one daughter, Sherrie Buchanan of Bryan; six brothers, Dub Buchanan, Buck Buchanan, Weldon Buchanan and Valton Buchanan, all of Snyder, J.B. Buchanan of Hermleigh; and Tommy Buchanan of Houston; five sisters, Louise Tatom, Ruby Johnson and Joyce Buchanan, all of Snyder, Geneva Sheer of Cooper and Evelyn Wiggins of Colorado City; and several nieces and nephews.

Five people arrested as new century begins

The early morning hours of the new century saw five people arrested.

Department of Public Safety troopers took a 68-year-old male into custody at 1:47 a.m. Saturday on Hwy. 208 for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

Two subjects were arrested at 2:55 a.m. Saturday after officers were called a second time to a residence in the 300 block of 20th Street in reference to loud music.

A 21-year-old male was jailed for disorderly conduct/unreasonable noise and resisting arrest. A 29-year-old male was arrested for interfering with public duties and resisting arrest.

Public intoxication resulted in the arrest of a 23-year-old female and a 29-year-old male at 4:08 a.m. Saturday. Officers took the two into custody in the 2700 block of 38th Street.

In activity Friday, officers filed an offense report for Class C theft at 12:01 p.m. at Town & Country North in reference to a gas drive-off.

Michael Custer spoke to deputies at 1:29 p.m. in reference to a burglary in the 4400 block of West Hwy. 180. An offense report for burglary of a habitation was submitted.

At 1:39 p.m., Sam Barrientez notified officers of damage done to his house in the 1300 block of 17th Street. An offense report for criminal mischief was filed.

Dispatchers received a 911 call at 6:01 p.m. in reference to a possible overdose. One person was transferred to Cogdell Memorial Hospital and an offense report for attempted suicide was filed.

Officers received a report of possible gunshots in the area of 300 24th Street at 12:03 a.m. Saturday. Officers were unable to locate anyone with a gun, but a second report was received shortly after the first in reference to fireworks in the area.

At 1:55 a.m. Saturday, several officers responded to a report of a fight in the 2000 block of Avenue N. Several subjects were issued criminal trespass warnings.

Some open, some closed on Monday

It is back to the books Monday for students in Ira and Hermleigh as the spring 2000 semester gets underway.

Snyder students will not return until Tuesday, but Snyder ISD teachers must report Monday for a workday.

Administrative offices at Western Texas College open Tuesday and registration for the spring semester begins Jan. 13.

Citizens are also reminded that county offices will be closed Monday.

Personal, Professional Service
BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Independently Owned & Operated
WCFH
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th Street
Snyder, Texas
915-573-6200

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Library closed

The Scurry County Library will be closed Monday for the New Year's holiday. Regular hours will resume Tuesday.

Decidation recital

Reba Bailey, organist for First Christian Church, will present a recital of dedication at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9. The performance will feature the church's new Rodgers 751E organ plus midi.

Chili, beans, corn bread supper

The Lady Tigers Softball Booster Club is sponsoring an "all you can eat" chili, beans, and corn bread supper Friday, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the high school cafeteria. Tickets are $5 each.

Fund established

Employees of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Price Daniel unit have established an account at West Texas State Bank to benefit the wife and three young children of correctional officer Daniel Nagle, killed while on duty at the McConnell unit at Beeville. Donations may be made in his name at West Texas State Bank.

TSA selling pecans

The Technology Student Association of Snyder High School is selling an assortment of pecans and peanuts as a fundraiser to help finance a trip to the state contest. Call 573-8961 for further information.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "The Scheme of Redemption," followed by "Getting to Know God's Presence."

Grand jury

The Scurry County grand jury will convene at 9 a.m. Tuesday in 132nd District Court. Some 12 felony cases are expected to be presented.

Cancer Society to meet

The Scurry County unit of the American Cancer Society will meet at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the Cogdell Hospital board room to make plans for the Relay for Life.

Masonic stated meeting

Scurry Masonic Lodge #706 will have a stated meeting Tuesday. A meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed by open lodge at 7:30. All master masons are invited.

Softball booster club

The Snyder Lady Tigers softball booster club will meet Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the West Elementary cafeteria.

Children's Day Out

Children's Day Out at First United Methodist Church resumes Tuesday. The program has been expanded to include infants and now receives children 6 months through 4 years of age. A limited number of partial scholarships are also available. To reserve a space for the spring semester, call Barbara at 573-4770.

Lions Club

The Snyder Lions Club will resume meeting Tuesday in the Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Amateur radio operators

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

Private applicator certification meeting

There will be a private applicator certification meeting on Jan. 11 at 8:30 a.m. in the agriculture room at Western Texas College. Those planning to attend must contact the county extension office by Jan. 7.

Social security reps

Representatives of the Social Security Administration will be at the Senior Citizens Center in Snyder on Tuesday, Jan. 11.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception in honor of Dan Cotton and Vesta Orr will be hosted by Big Country Electric Cooperative from 3-5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, at Snyder Country Club. Cotton has been the cooperative's attorney for 32 years, and Orr is former general manager of the coop.

Library extends hours

Scurry County Library has extended its Saturday hours and will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. M-W-F and from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Road to Recovery program

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

TAAS tests

TAAS tests will be administered Feb. 22-24. Out-of-school examinees must register by Jan. 12 at Snyder High School. Anyone with questions should call Charlene Ligh at 574-6050, or Dr. Melissa Jones at 573-5401.

Texas Million

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Million numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:
9-47-53-72

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:
2-12-21-29-37

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
7-5-7

Scurry County Folks

by Shirley A. Gorman

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Stokes shares stories

Ira woman helmed cafeteria for years

For 32 years, Jerry Stokes managed the cafeteria for the Ira Independent School District, adding a dash of love to each dish prepared; often mixing pleasure with work as she laughed at humorous situations which were anything but funny at the time, and playing an occasional practical joke.

She especially loved baking desserts and bread. Students loved her rolls and peach cobbler, but their hands down favorite meal was stromboli, an elaborate ham and cheese sandwich seasoned with special spices.

Throughout the years, Jerry provided more than nourishing meals. She was almost a grandmother to the students, often giving them her change to buy a soft drink.

She paid homage to each graduating class of seniors, preparing a special luncheon complete with a cake she furnished herself, and a table decorated just for them.

The extra touches Jerry provided did not go unnoticed, and they were always appreciated. When one senior class returned from a trip to Florida, they brought back gifts for her.

MEMORIES — Jerry Stokes looks through a special scrapbook she received when she retired as cafeteria manager for Ira School, a position she held for 32 years. The book is filled with pictures, e-mail, memories and mementoes of her three decades plus at the school. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Someone was always giving her flowers, Jerry said, and last year she was surprised with a big birthday cake.

And even though she officially retired in May, Jerry still returns to school every now and then to help out. Some students have even asked her to come back and prepare oatmeal for breakfast.

When Jerry retired, David Brown, who teaches at Ira, collected the numerous e-mails she received and arranged them into a special scrapbook.

Richard Long, who taught ag for 17 years, wrote her a special letter which is included in the book.

Students and faculty members created special quilt blocks which are being pieced together for a quilt, honoring Jerry's years of dedication, service and love.

In June, a special retirement reception was held in her honor.

While Jerry came to know and execute the duties of her job very well, it wasn't so easy when she was first named cafeteria manager in 1967.

She had only substituted a few times when then-Superintendent Roy Sallee asked her to take the job. The woman who held the position quit after six weeks, so Jerry said "yes."

"I'm not sure why I took the job," she laughed.

As she tackled her new duties, she said she really had cause to wonder. But after a while, the work "got into my blood, "just like anything else."

Jerry said she was a real "green horn" when she started. With only a husband, the late T.H, and one son, Bobby, to cook for, she said she had never prepared a lot of food. But she "learned by doing," and in time,

See Stokes , Page 3B

1/2 Price Sale Continues
All Next Week

O'Neal and Virginia Bloom of O'Neal's Interiors and The Pleasure's Mine want to thank everyone for their patronage this past year and look forward to serving you in 2000.

Have A Safe and Happy New Year!

The Pleasure's Mine
2502 Ave. R Snyder, Texas 915 / 573-6536 Layaways
Virginia Bloom Owner

School Menus

Snyder

All meals are served with choice of milk. Breakfast menu offers a choice of assorted cereal, toast w/Jelly and juice.

BREAKFAST
Monday
Holiday
Tuesday
Pancakes w/Syrup
Wednesday
Breakfast Burrito w/Salsa
Thursday
Biscuits w/Cream Gravy
Friday
Cinnamon Roll
LUNCH
Tuesday
Hot Dog on a Bun or
Salisbury Steak w/Tx Toast
Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy
Carrots
Chilled Fruit
Wednesday
Stuffed Potato
W.K. Corn
Tossed Salad
Apple Crisp
Thursday
Lasagna w/French Bread
Green Beans
Fruit Salad
Chocolate Pudding
Friday
Corn Dog or
Rib Sandwich
Baked Beans
Broccoli w/Cheese
Cookie

Ira

All meals are served with choice of milk.

Monday
Corn Dogs
French Fries
Pork & Beans
Peaches
Tuesday
Patty Melts
Chips
Pinto Beans
Cake
Wednesday
Beef Patties
Creamed Potatoes
Green Beans
Rolls
Pears
Thursday
Chicken Spaghetti
Vegetable Salad
Carrots
Cookies
Friday
Sandwiches
Chips
Brownies

Scurry County Library News & Views

BOOK FEATURE

"The 3 Keys to Employment," by Ken Blanchard.

This essential guide offers managers detailed, hands-on answers in their journey to empowerment. Written in an easily accessible format, the book examines the three keys to empowerment. It clearly outlines the promises and challenges of each stage of the journey — sharing information, creating autonomy, and replacing the hierarchy with teams. This will provide a clear roadmap in a user-friendly action guide.

NEW NON-FICTION

"Where to Find It in the Bible Ultimate A to Z Resource," by Ken Anderson.

"Home Security: Your Guide to Protecting Your family," by Better Homes & Gardens.

"Adventures of a Psychic," by Sylvia Browne.

"How Come Every Time I Get Stabbed in the Back my Fingerprints Are On the Knife?" by Jerry B. Harvey.

NEW FICTION

"Desert Crop," by Catherine Cookson.

"Hunting Badger," by Tony Hillerman.

"Remember Me," by Laura Hendrie.

"All That Glitters," by Gilbert Morris.

LIBRARY HOURS

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Mon. & Wed.

10 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Tues. & Thurs.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Sat.

Bridal Registry

Jami Anderson and Richard Johnston, III
Tracey Palacios and Brian Hilburn
Katrina Carrasco and Eric Garivay
Molly Corbitt and Jeffrey Armstrong
Valarie Winkles and Thomas Scull
Rachel Moore and Ralph J. Shanafelt
Stephanie West and Cody Lewis
Jennifer Rigsby and Adam Davis

Infant Registry
Wedding Invitations
• Tuxedo Rentals
Phone In Orders Welcome
Free Delivery To Bridal Shower

Classic Interiors
2520 Ave. R East Side of Square 573-1701
Open Mon. - Fri., 9:30-5:30, Sat. 10:00-4:00

Rabbit population growing too fast

SHERIDAN, Wyo. (AP) — Bugs Bunny should plan to hop right on past this town.

The City Council has approved official use of lethal force on a rapidly growing rabbit population.

"Rabbits are eating through siding, flower bulbs in the ground, destroying gardens, chewing through wires and cables," Police Chief Vince Yardas told the council, which approved the bunny death penalty earlier this month.

Sheridan animal control officials estimates at least 400 rabbits are within the city limits, mainly in the northern part of town.

They say two officers spend about 14 hours per week trapping rabbits and responding to calls about the animals.

Not everyone sees capital punishment as a solution.

Classified Ads 573-5486

MARRY IN BAPTIST CHURCH — Mat Powell and Emily Everhart of Austin were united in marriage on Sept. 18 at the First Baptist Church in Sweetwater. Parents of the couple are Johnny and Terrie Powell of Snyder and Ed and Linda Everhart of Sweetwater. The couple reside in Austin. (Contributed Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

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

West
♠ J 8 6 4 2
♥ 9
♦ K 8 6 5
♣ 9 7 2

East
♠ Q 9 7 5
♥ Q J 8 3
♦ A Q
♣ K 10 4

South
♠ 10
♥ K 10 7 6 5 2
♦ 9 3 2
♣ A Q 3

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		1 ♦	Dbl.
1 ♥	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
2 ♥	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥	All pass

Opening lead: ♣ 2

It looked too easy: Draw two rounds of trumps ending in the dummy and discard a diamond loser on the second top spade. Almost everyone would have done that — and gone one down. Hamman, though, asked himself what would happen if the trumps split 4-1, which was not unlikely given East's takeout double. Hamman saw that he would be all right if the clubs were 3-3.

Declarer cashed his club ace, played a spade to dummy's king, discarded his last club on the spade ace, and ruffed a club in hand. Only now did Hamman cash the heart king and play a heart to dummy's ace. On dummy's remaining club jack, Hamman threw a diamond loser and conceded four red-suit tricks.

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The world's top-ranked player

First, I hope all my readers and their families enjoy a wonderful, healthy 2000.

Let's end the week and start the year with the player at the top of the World Bridge Federation's ranking list: Bob Hamman. The gentle giant of bridge lives in Dallas. Away from the table, he is a friendly fellow with a rakish sense of humor. When playing, though, he has an incredible desire to win. Yet if his partnership has a disaster, he gets on with the next deal; he doesn't allow the bad result to affect his concentration.

Hamman has won nine world titles: seven Bermuda Bowls, one Team Olympiad (Venice 1988) and one Open Pairs (Las Palmas 1974).

Hamman is renowned for his virtually error-free play. This deal occurred during the 1983 U.S. trials. After the competitive auction ended in three hearts, West made the unfortunate lead of the club two: five, 10, queen. What next?

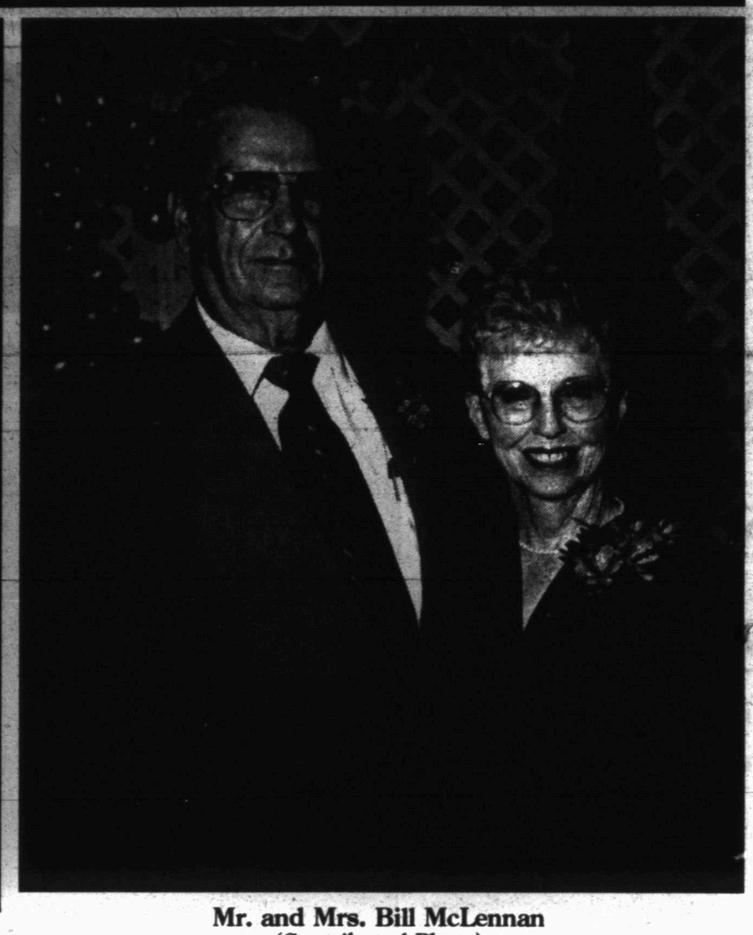
Placido Domingo calls acquaintance

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Part-time daycare teacher Heather McPherson got a phone call at work from a man she'd met years ago — and it was music to her ears.

Italian tenor Placido Domingo, apparently impressed by a chance meeting with McPherson in 1994 during which she sang a couple of songs for him, decided to track her down Wednesday prior to his performance in "The Three Tenors" concert at the San Jose Arena.

It took Domingo three calls to contact McPherson at the Pacific Gas & Electric child care center, where awestruck co-workers took turns passing the phone just to hear his voice.

Domingo left McPherson a backstage pass to his concert, and McPherson said it was "amazing" to meet him.



Mr. and Mrs. Bill McLennan
(Contributed Photo)

Mr. and Mrs. Bill McLennan celebrated 50th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Bill McLennan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Friday. They were married in Stamford on Dec. 31, 1949.

Bill and Betty were longtime residents of Scurry County. He was employed with Monsanto Chemical Co. until his retirement when they moved to Lueders.

Their daughters and sons-in-law are Terrie and Johnny Powell of Snyder and Debby and Burton Sandefur of Roscoe.

Grandchildren are Mat and Emily Powell of Austin, Sheri Sandefur of Lubbock and Beverly and Wayne Poehls of Crowell. Kelley Poehls of Crowell is their great-grandchild.

SALES DIRECTOR — Joan Head, center, recently achieved the status of Independent Sales Director with Mary Kay Inc. The announcement was made at a reception Tuesday evening in the First Baptist Church Garden Room. Shown with Head are Sharon Strickland from Lubbock, left, and Audie Denney from Orange, Calif. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Community Calendar

MONDAY

Al-Anon, Park Club in Winston Park; noon.

Scurry County Museum's hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Manic Depression (Bipolar) support group; Family Life Community Church, 904 26th Street; 7 p.m.

Scurry County AA; closed meeting; Park Club; for more information, call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292, 8 p.m.

Nuestra Vueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.

New Horizons 12 & 12, closed meeting; Park Club; 7 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5 to 6 p.m.; 2501 35th. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

Storytime at the Scurry County Library for 4- and 5-year-olds; 10 a.m.

Just For Today NA, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 573-4203, 573-8018 p.m.

THURSDAY

Al-Anon brown bag; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; noon to 1 p.m.

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; horseshoe courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762; 7 p.m.

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

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

THE CYCLE OF BULB FORCING

For many years, bulb forcing has been a favorite way to bring bursts of color into any room during the winter days. Garden At Home is pleased to present a line of fall bulbs that can be forced using water or soil. Our ornamental containers, designed with both function and artistry in mind, are a welcome variation on traditional bulb vases.

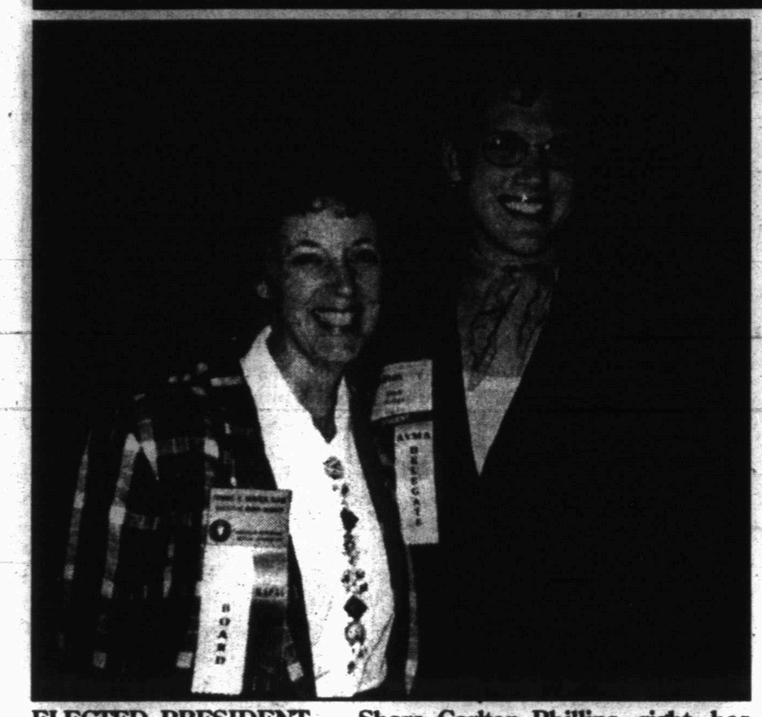
Bulb forcing is simulating the normal outdoor cycle of a bulb but exposing it to warmth sooner than it would be outdoors. Beautiful and easy to grow, bulbs perform well for everyone from the novice to the expert gardener.

Bulbs Available
•Paperwhites
•Hyacinth
•Crocus
•Amaryllis

McWilliams Pharmacy
3706 College 573-7582

ONCE-IN-A-MILLENNIUM SALE 2000
Beginning January 3rd
7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (Jan. 3rd only)
30 - 50% Off
All Fall & Winter Apparel
also
Closeout on all Woodrich Men's Wear 50% Off
All Sales Final
Linda's Merle Norman & Style Shop
1413 Hailey Sweetwater 915-235-1397

Lulu's back from vacation!
and
will be open Monday, January 3
Lulu's Beauty Shop
1909 23rd 573-4131



ELECTED PRESIDENT — Shara Carlton Phillips, right, has been elected president of the Student American Veterinary Medical Association. She is pictured with Dr. Bonnie Weaver, AVMA executive board member representing District 8 and A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine faculty. (Contributed Photo)

Ex-resident named SAVMA president

Shara Carlton Phillips of Bryan, a former Snyder resident and Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine student, has recently been elected president of the Student American Veterinary Medical Association.

As president, she will serve as liaison between SAVMA and AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association). She will also be a member of SAVMA's executive board and chair the organization's House of Delegates, and various public relations and organization activities.

As national president, her AVMA duties will include a voting seat in AVMA's House of Delegates and participation in AVMA's executive board meetings.

During her tenure, Phillips will attend multiple AVMA HOD and executive board meetings, as the representative of SAVMA and students in general. She will also chair both of the SAVMA HOD meetings during her term.

Phillips has also held other positions in the organizations. From spring, 1997 to summer, 1999 Phillips served as a delegate to SAVMA's HOD. From fall, 1996 to spring, 1999 Phillips served as a committee chair for the Student Chapter of AVMA's symposium committee.

From fall, 1999 to the present, Phillips has been a member and ICU volunteer of the Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society. From fall, 1998 to the present, she has been a member of the American Animal Hospital Association.

Phillips has earned several honors and awards including being named to the National Dean's List in 1996. In 1998, she received SCAVMA's Vet Kem Award for the Promotion of Veterinary Medicine and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

For 1998-2000, Phillips received the Texas A&M Academic Excellence Award, Aggie Spirit Collegiate License Plate Scholarship.

From 1992-1996, Phillips received a Texas Tech University McFadden University Scholars Scholarship. She was also inducted into the Golden Key and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Societies in 1995.

She was also named to Texas Tech President's and Dean's listings several times.

Phillips graduated from Snyder High School in 1992. She earned a bachelor of science in veterinary medicine at Tech in the fall of 1997. She will graduate from A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine in May.

She is the daughter of Dennis and Mary Carlton of Galveston, former Snyder residents. Carlton is the financial aid director of Texas A&M Galveston. Mary is employed in the public relations department at the University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston.

Her twin sister, Lisa Carlton, who also graduated from SHS in 1992, is a labor and delivery nurse in Houston.

Phillips is the granddaughter of Oveita Carlton of Snyder and Irene Hudgins of Hermleigh.

Phillips married Anthon Kael Phillips in May, 1995. Following graduation, they will return to Lubbock where she will practice small animal medicine and he will finish his education at Texas Tech.

Public Records

New Vehicle Registrations

Gelco Corporation and Wood Group Inc., 2000 Ford from Wilson Motors.

Patterson Drilling, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Emily Roe Cox, 2000 Ford Explorer from Wilson Motors.

Michael and Jennifer Rodriguez, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Jerry House, 1999 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

J.E. Nance Jr., 2000 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Vonnie and Jean Black, 2000 Chevrolet Tahoe from Big Country Autoland.

Raul Garcia, 2000 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Alden Carthel, 2000 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

James and Janet Wesson, 1999 GMC Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

Stacy Browning, 1999 Ford van from Wilson Motors.

Terry McAdams, 2000 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Elizabeth Hall, 2000 Ford Explorer from Wilson Motors.

Tim Dacus, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Kirk and Jodi Taylor, 1999 Mercury van from Wilson Motors.

Rojack Transportation, 2000 Lincoln from Wilson Motors.

Stan and Anita Tinney, 1999 GMC Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

Patterson Drilling, 2000 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Pete and Virginia Lowrance, 1999 Chevrolet Tahoe from Big Country Autoland.

Bill and Nita Brooks, 1999 Ford Explorer from Wilson Motors.

Janell Bearden, 2000 Chevrolet Cavalier from Big Country Autoland.

Gayla Dill, 2000 GMC Yukon from Big Country Autoland.

Marriage License

Lewis Tat Dodson Jr. and Trista Diane Gaskins, both of Snyder.

Jesus Salinas and Amanda Ann Hicks, both of Snyder.

Andrew Peter Cameron and Carman Mireles, both of Hermleigh.

Ray Scott Wright and Rena Dell McWhorter, both of Snyder.

Michael Shawn Justiss and Lisa Jo Jones, both of Ira.

Clinton Albert Lewis and Stacy Rene Taylor, both of Havelock, N.C.

Robert Antonio Sapien and Tiffany Dawn Martin, both of Snyder.

Mark Allen Menard of Albuquerque, N.M. and Alice Beth Winsor of Hobbs, Tex.

Action in District Court

In the marriage of Julie Denise Bearden and Michael Shane Bearden, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Jeffrey Grant Reed and Cathy Ann Reed, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Janie C. Villegas and Phillip G. Villegas, divorce granted.

Ira ISD vs. Federal Oil Inc., et al, case consolidated with Scurry County delinquent tax suit against Federal Oil Inc.

Deed Records

Roy M. Collier to Roy M. Collier II, the west 50 feet of Lot 1 and the east 75 feet of Lot 2, both in Block 48 of the Original Town of Hermleigh.

Arrow Construction Co. Inc. to Anthony and Virginia Arispe, a 0.5165-acre tract in the southwest one-quarter of Section 180, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Andrew M. Cuomo, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, to Loyd Edward and Mary Jane Raschke, Lot 25 and the east 10 feet of Lot 24 in Block 2 of the Park Place Addition.

Andrew M. Cuomo, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, to Jim Rosson, Lot 10 in Block 1 of the Highland Terrace Addition.

Stanley Calvin and Sylvia Guynes to Claudette Durham, the south 100 feet of the west one-half of Lot 9 in Block 37 of the Blankenship Addition.

John Wesley Partain to Lynn Fenton, Lot 15 in Block 2 of the First Replat of the Noble Heights Addition.

Cathy A. Reed to Jeffrey G. Reed, Lots 6 and 7 in Block 1 of the Park Place Addition.

Cathy A. Reed to Jeffrey G. Reed, the west 70 feet of Lot 2 in Block 1 of the Highland Second Addition.

C.W. and Joy Howell to First Baptist Church of Snyder, the west 50 feet of Lot 4 in Block 49 of the Original Town of Snyder.

TWU ordered to pay professor

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas Women's University must pay $300,000 to a disabled professor who was penalized after asking for sick leave, a federal judge ruled Thursday.

After she was diagnosed with a debilitating neurological disorder, tenured therapy professor O. Jayne Bowman was stripped of the opportunity for scholarly activity and suffered a salary cut, U.S. Magistrate Judge Calvin Botley ruled Thursday.

Johnson is SDN winner

William Johnson of 308 20th Street is the December winner of a free year's subscription to the Snyder Daily News. Each month a drawing is held from the names of those who either subscribed or renewed for six months or more.

Stokes shares memories

Continued From Page 1B

the students came to "think of me as the best cook in the world, bless their hearts," Jerry said.

She recently recalled the hard work they did, including washing dishes by hand. They had to be loaded into baskets and carried from one tub to the next. The final rinse was in water heated over an open fire.

When Jerry first went to work at Ira's cafeteria, two other women were also employed there. Some years they would add a part-time worker, depending on how much the student population fluctuated, Jerry said.

Her workday started at 7 a.m. The others came in a half-hour later. Quitting time was 3:30 p.m. when school let out.

The school received commodities from the state, and Jerry also recalled purchasing groceries from White Swan. Today the groceries are purchased through bids, a practice she doesn't really like.

While the school still receives state commodities they aren't as plentiful as previous years and feature less fruit and more processed foods.

Jerry said they had to follow guidelines as well as recipes provided by the state. Occasionally she created her own, even though she really wasn't supposed to do that. Today the state sends out updated booklets every other month.

During her tenure, Jerry also witnessed other changes.

One of the biggest was the construction of the present cafeteria that has a dishwasher as well as a walk-in freezer.

Another change was adding a daily breakfast, a mandate from the government.

Cafeteria workers were required to attend summer seminars, however, since she was caring for her husband who had been sick for 15 years, she wasn't always able to participate.

During her tenure, Jerry worked for five other superintendents besides Sallee. They included Myron Crawford, Ron Plumly, Ted Bedwell, Jay Martin and Rick Howard.

As Jerry worked she said she always found time to laugh at a humorous situation, or to play a practical joke or two.

After she decided to retire, Jerry said she wanted to have fun and a good time during her remaining months on the job. That's just what she did.

One time she filled a squirt gun with water and every time a plate was cleaned off, she'd squirt the student.

Another day, she and another worker pretended the box which contained the milk cartons had a leak in it, and when students looked inside she squirted them.

Jerry said they were having the best time when she noticed that Principal Rodney Schneider was standing in the doorway looking at them.

They wondered what the consequences of their joke would be, but when Jerry asked him if they "should come to the office now or later" he just grinned and walked away.

Another incident happened several years ago. At the time, a man came daily to haul the garbage away. Jerry said they wrapped any leftover food in foil and placed it in a clean gallon bucket which they gave to the truck driver.

That practice almost got them in trouble one day, Jerry laughed.

Superintendent Sallee always preferred to eat lunch in the cafeteria, even when away on business.

One day he returned after all of the left-over food had already been placed in the bucket. As they prepared his lunch, Jerry said Doris Byars was "jumping around" trying to keep him from seeing what we were doing."

Another time, worker Dean Brown and Jerry decided to fix the dishwasher. Instead, they blew out an "O" ring and water "went everywhere," Jerry laughed. Dean later found the "O" ring and put it in a scrapbook for her.

Over the years, Jerry said the job provided "lots of fun, heartache and tears. I loved the kids and I did it all for them."

She said the school board had charged "me to 'feed the kids' and that is just what I did. I appreciate that they never cut me back on what I served," she said.

Deciding to retire was the "hardest decision' for Jerry to reach. "I had been saying I was going to retire for years. I'm 72. I finally decided it was time to quit."

Since retiring, Jerry hasn't had too much time to miss her job. She helps care for a brother who has cancer and whose wife recently underwent open-heart surgery.

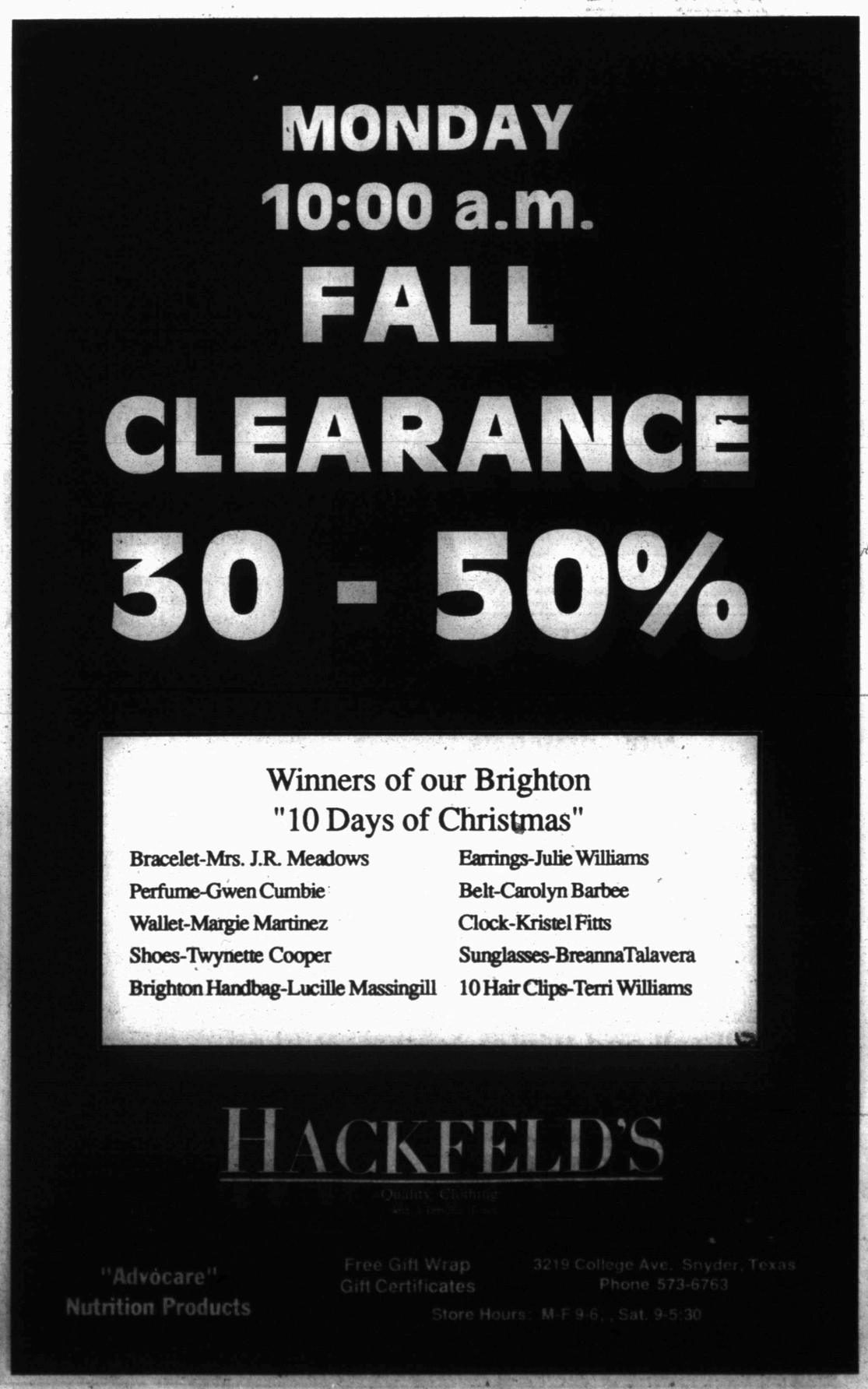
She also has a new great-grandson as well as two granddaughters and four grandsons.

Her son Bobby and his wife, Kathy, live in Odessa.

Jerry also enjoys bus tours. In June, she went to Branson, Mo. for a fun-filled trip. She traveled to Colorado two summers ago. She loves bus trips and always has a good time.

Jerry's husband had been a pumper and they moved to Ira when the company he worked for transferred them there. While the community has been her home for decades, she admits that she did not always feel that way.

"That was the first time I way away from my mom and dad and I thought I had come to the end of the world," Jerry recalled.



Stocks set slate of new records

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks ended a blockbuster year by setting a full slate of new records Friday. A rally that capped an unprecedented fifth straight year of double-digit gains gathered momentum amid growing confidence that the Year 2000 will cause no major troubles in the world's financial markets.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 44.26 to close at 11,497.12. The previous record of 11,484.66 was set Wednesday.

Broader stock indicators also rose to new highs in the quiet abbreviated New Year's Eve session.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 32.22 to 4,069.09 and the Standard & Poor's 500 rose 4.76 to 1,469.23, according to preliminary figures.

As the trading year wound down, gains came to 25.2 percent for the Dow, 84.3 percent for Nasdaq and 19.5 percent for the S&P 500.

The rally occurred on extremely light volume as many Wall Street players started their New Year's weekend early. Those who were present were initially anxious to evaluate any impact of the Year 2000 computer conversion before resuming active trading.

But early indications were positive, with Japan, South Korea and Australia reporting no major disruptions as the new year rolled in. That helped investors gain confidence that financial markets in the United States and Europe will enter the new millennium unscathed by computer malfunctions, analysts said.

"The U.S. and Europe have been aware of Y2K for far too long, and have spent far too much money, to have left things unchecked," said Jim Weiss, deputy chief investment officer for equities at State Street Research and Management Co. in Boston.

"We can't breathe a complete sigh of relief yet, but for every day that goes by without a problem, confidence will increase exponentially," he said.

U.S. markets were unperturbed by the latest political turmoil in Russia. President Boris Yeltsin unexpectedly resigned, elevating Prime Minister Vladimir Putin to the presidency at least until elections are held in 90 days.

Russian investors celebrated the change, sending the stock market to a 15-month high before trading closed early because volume had exceeded daily limits. After a long slump stemming from a devastating collapse in August 1998, the Russian markets had been looking up in recent weeks.

But the change should have little impact on U.S. financial markets, said Weiss.

"It may be viewed as a mild positive," Weiss said. "Yeltsin had evolved into a volatile figure, so the prospect of more stable leadership may be encouraging."

Vimpel, a Russian telecommunications company that trades on the New York Stock Exchange, rose. Also rising was the Templeton Russia Fund, which invests primarily in Russian companies.

With little domestic news to move U.S. markets, investors bought the stocks that have dominated trading all year long. Qualcomm gained in the first day of trading following a 4-for-1 stock split.

Home Depot, which joined the Dow Jones industrials this fall, rose. A 3-for-2 stock split took effect Friday.

Leading overseas markets, including exchanges in Japan, Germany, Britain and France, were closed Friday for the New Year's holiday.

Hackers set up fake note on rail page

LONDON (AP) — Hackers broke into an official Web site and issued a false warning that train service in Britain had been canceled Friday due to millennium bug problems.

The warning, which read "No trains today," was discovered on Railtrack's Internet site at about 9 a.m., officials said. The hoax message also sent greetings to all Railtrack directors and "all the sheep in Wales."

Instead of the usual menu, which lets people check train timetables around Britain, the hoax message said no trains would run from New Year's Eve until Jan. 3 because of Y2K computer problems. The rest of the site was still operating, but more difficult to access, officials said.

After discovering the hoax, computer experts had it fixed by 11:30 a.m., said Railtrack spokeswoman Lynn Harvey.

"It was annoying rather than a problem," Harvey said. "People were inconvenienced."

Many Britons rely on the Web site to check timetables to plan their travel arrangements. Particularly with the long holiday weekend, the number of people relying on train service was expected to be high.

"This is a prank which is supposed to be amusing," Railtrack, the company that runs Britain's rail lines, said in a statement. "Unfortunately it will affect hundreds and thousands of people who are trying to get into London for the Millennium Eve celebrations."

Scurry County Service Men & Women

(Editor's Note: Citizens are invited to write their servicemen and servicewomen stationed stateside and overseas. Anyone having additions, changes or corrections to the list should submit them in writing to the Snyder Daily News, P.O. Box 949, Snyder, TX, 79550, or bring them by the office at 3600 College Ave. Sorry, no addresses will be accepted over the telephone.

PFC Marisa Barrera
263 Mt. Co.
Box 78
Ft. Hood, TX 76544

LCPL Joe Bilano Jr. USMC
1/1 A CO.Wpns. Pit.
U.I.C. 39712
FPO AP 96609-9712

MNDelton C.
"Cole" Drum II
9320 S.P.I.D.
463-29-0621
Apt. 3706
Corpus Christi TX 78418

Sgt. Cory & Jamie Fisher
C Co 702D MSR
Unit II 15092 Camp Cosey
APO AP 96224-0353

Capt. Amadeo B. Garza
CJSOTF/ILIZDA Complex
Operation
Joint Endeavor
APO AE 09780

Scott & Amy Graham
29 Ridgecrest Dr.
Hope Mills, NC 28348

SR Justin C. Herrington
456-39-8525
First Division
USS Dubque LPD-8
FPO AP 96663-1711

Sgt. Michael R. Hill
ALPHA Co. 10th Signal BT.
10640 South Riva Ridge Loop
Ft. Drum, NY 13602

PFC Jones, N.J.
Assault Amphibian School Battalion
MCB Box 555041
SCOLS Co. 2100 Awaiting
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055-5041

LCPL Quintin L. Kasparek
47-016 C Hui Iwa Place
Kanohe, HI 96744

Clinton Albert Lewis
VMAQ4...OOPL
Cherry Point, N.C. 28533-0061
Phone: 252-223-0435

Sgt. Michael D. Long
C-Trp ¼ Cav.
CMR 464 Bx. 306
APO AE 09226

Chase Minter
4300 Horizon North Parkway
Apartment #1626
Dallas, TX 75287

St. Edwin A. Neeley
51 MXS
PSC 3 Box 2689
APO AP 96266

Melchor Para
2/1 Weapons CO. 81 PLT
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055

Lt. Col. Greg Pavlik
15015 Preston Court Drive
San Antonio, TX 78247

Michael A. Perez
HHC 2-35 INF. 25 ID
Schofield Barracks, HI 96857

SRA Brad Pilgrim
40 AS (Det. 1)
Unit 70414 Box 14
APO AE 09882

Mark & Stacy Pilgrim
#72 Baer Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89115

Angie Ramirez
Avi Dept. b-4Div.
USS-Wasp (LHD-1)
FPO AE 90 556-1660

Lance Cpl. Freddie & Christy Rocha
6675-B Larkspur Ct.
29 Palms, Calif. 92278

Jason Sealy
P.O. Box 71402
Ft. Bragg, N.C. 28307

Johnathan A. (Adams) Scott
5509 B Langley Way
Bolling AFB DC 20336

Roy Tavarez
WPNS Co. 3/3 Dragons
MCBH
KanoeheBay, HI 96863

SSgt. W.S. Warren
PSE 559 PO BX 5530
FPO AP 96377-5530

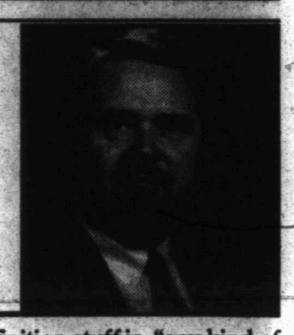
Pvt. E-l Daniel A. Wells
B Co. 73d Ord. ETL 1st PLT
Fort Gordon, Ga. 30905

Col. Joe Dan Wilson
1302 Pepperidge
O'Fallon, Il 62269

EM3 Wittie, Shawn D.
NPS 0001-2
101 NN PTC Circle
Goose Creek, S.C. 29445

Minding Your Own Business

By Don Taylor



I admit it. I am a collector of stuff. By definition stuff is, "any kind of matter," "personal belongings," and "worthless objects."

My stuff qualifies under the first two definitions, but my wife and I disagree over the third. I feel that my stuff is valuable. She is not so easily convinced.

In my collection are several 1950s and '60s 45 rpm records. One of my favorites is a Jerry Fuller song titled, "It's up to you." Rick Nelson recorded it on the Imperial label in 1962.

Since this is the first column of the new year, the song title - It's up to you - would be a good foundation for dealing with the future. You can decide what kind of year it's going to be. Will it be a rerun of the ho-hum or will it be the most prosperous and exciting year you've ever had? Take your pick - it's up to you.

Take this challenge

I encourage you to try this seven-step challenge as the new year begins. I'll be your partner. You can drop me a quick note during the year to let me know how it's going.

Step One - Take a personal inventory. Here are some starter questions. Do you have any habits you'd like to break? What skill or skills would you like to develop? What income would you like to earn? What pressure or stress would you like to eliminate? What dream would you really like to accomplish this year? etc.

Step Two - Identify one or more things you'd really like to change. Don't pick too many or you'll lose your focus before you get started. Begin with one or two really important items.

Step Three - Write them down. Trust me on this one. There is power in the written word. Write your items as goals. Make a copy for your purse or wallet. Make a copy for your desk or work area. Put a copy in your car. Look at your list often. Remind yourself that these are important goals.

Step Four - Use the S.T.A.R. System. For you to really accomplish your goals they must be Specific, Trackable, Achievable and Realistic. Don't forget to establish a time frame. Most of us work better when we have a specific deadline or completion date.

Step Five - Create an action plan. Break your goals down into smaller, more easily measured steps. For example, if you want to write a book, first create an outline of chapters and their contents. Don't try to write the entire book at once. If you completed just one page per day you would write 365 pages a year.

Step Six - Identify barriers and sources of support. Yes, you will have obstacles to overcome. The most worthwhile progress doesn't come easy.

I often find family and friends to be sources of support and encouragement. However, if your family and close friends aren't supportive, don't give up. Keep looking until you find someone with common interests.

Step Seven - Commit to the process and visualize the end result. The number one reason why people fail to achieve their goals is that they are not committed to the process. Don't quit. Don't give up. Take one more step. Try one more time. Sometimes it helps when you hit those tough spots to visualize your ultimate success. See yourself as the victor, and give it one more shot. Remember that elbow grease is the best lubricant for success.

I do want to hear from you when you accomplish your goals. Just drop a note to: Don Taylor, PO Box 67, Amarillo TX 79105. And remember, it really is up to you.

Don Taylor is the co-author of Up Against the Wal-Marts. You may write to him in care of Minding Your Own Business, PO Box 67, Amarillo, 79105.

Ventura says he won't back Buchanan

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura, highest elected official from the Reform Party, says he will not endorse Pat Buchanan even if he wins the party's presidential nomination next year.

"No, no, I don't think I can support him," Ventura told USA Today in an interview appearing in Friday's editions. "I find him very shallow. He says he is a grassroots guy, but I find that fraudulent."

While Ventura has been cool to Buchanan's candidacy in the past, his remarks in the interview — conducted in his office in St. Paul, Minn. — apparently were his most pointed to date.

The governor said the Reform Party needs a centrist candidate and that although Buchanan has "softened his rhetoric," he remains a right-wing candidate determined to bring his conservative cadre into the party.

Ventura said that would harm the party's attempt to grow into a viable national alternative.

He told the paper that if the Reform Party race comes down to a contest between Buchanan and New York tycoon Donald Trump, he would support Trump.

Black & Decker is fined by CPSC

WASHINGTON (AP) — Black & Decker will pay a $575,000 civil penalty to the Consumer Product Safety Commission for failing to report defects in one of its toaster lines quickly enough, the commission said Thursday.

The commission also alleged that Black & Decker withheld consumer complaint information and important engineering documents during the commission's investigation.

The Spacemaker T1600 Type 1 toasters, sold between 1994 and 1996 and still under recall, can cause food to burn, the commission said. The toaster, which sits beneath a kitchen cabinet, has a door that opens automatically, its food rack extending outward. The Consumer Product Safety Commission that can allow flames to escape and risk fire in the cabinet.

More than 1,000 people complained of food fires to Black & Decker. Twelve of the incidents involved burn injuries, the commission said, and 850 involved property damage.

Though Black & Decker denied the charges and said it violated no law, the company agreed to pay the civil penalty. The fine represents one of the largest ever paid to the commission.

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THURSDAYS 7-9 p.m.
(Total of Five Classes)
Jan. 6, 2000 through Feb. 3, 2000
Classes Will Be Held at
Board Room at
Cogdell Memorial Hospital;
1700 Cogdell Boulevard
(South Parking Lot)
Instructor:
Bonnie Carroll, RN - Linda Briseno, RN
•Physiology of Pregnancy and Delivery
•Tips to Avoid Complications
•Breathing Techniques
•Newborn Care
•Breast Feeding Techniques
•Tour of Hospital OB Department
•Sibling Class (for future big brothers and sisters - included in final class)
Please wear comfortable clothing; bring a coach, two pillows and a blanket.
Open To Any Expectant Parents
The fee is $40.00 per couple, payable prior to the first class, unless enrolled in the LULLABY LANE program.
Class Size Is Limited
To Reserve 574-7467
Next Class Begins March 16, 2000
For more information, please contact COGDELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 915-573-6374 LINDA BRISENO, RN, OB Nurse Manager or WILMA DILLARD, Community/Patient Relations.
Cogdell Memorial Hospital

Crack usage drops; U.S. murder rate decreases

NEW YORK (AP) — There were fewer murders this year in American cities, a drop experts credited to the decreasing use of crack cocaine, the aging of baby boomers and a sense of community goodwill.

However, a slight rise in murders in several big cities — including the nation's two largest, New York and Los Angeles — has experts worried that sweeping gains made by strenuous crime-fighting in recent years could be reversed by complacency.

New York City will finish the year with the country's highest murder tally — as of Wednesday, there were 661 murders, compared with 629 in 1998. As of Dec. 14, Los Angeles had 414 murders, compared with 404 on that date last year.

"The economy is good, crime is down, so we turn our attention to other things," said James Alan Fox, a criminal justice professor at Northeastern University. "The problem with crime is if we don't pay attention to it, the rate of crime can rise as quickly as it fell."

FBI statistics, complete only through June, show a drop of 13 percent in murder across the country and a 10 percent drop in all violent crime. An Associated Press survey of the 10 largest cities shows murders up in five, and down in the other five.

Overall, the number of homicides is far below the figures of a decade ago — even in those cities showing a rise.

For instance, New York City had its highest murder tally, 2,262, in 1990. The dramatic drop in killings has left the city with a murder rate comparable to the 1960s.

In fact, five of the city's 76 police precincts have had no murders at all this year.

Fox said several large cities seem to have reached a homicide rate plateau after seeing dramatic declines.

"I call it the criminal justice limbo stick — how low can you go?" Fox said. "What comes down often goes back up again. It's like going on a diet. Big cities have taken off the weight — now they need to maintain it."

Other large cities with homicide increases include Phoenix (234 so far, 202 in 1998); San Antonio (95, 89 in 1998); San Diego (58, 42 in 1998); and San Francisco (59 through November, 58 during that same period last year).

Chicago, the nation's third-largest city, had the highest number of murders in the country last year with 703. This year, it could have its lowest rate in more than 30 years; through Monday, 632 murders had been reported there.

Other large cities posting declines are: Baltimore (306, 314 in 1998); Boston (31, 35 in 1998); Dallas (159 through November, 222 through November 1998); Detroit (411 through November, 500 in 1998); Houston (237, 254 in 1998); Philadelphia (295, 335 in 1998); and Washington, D.C. (226, 252 in 1998).

Eric Monkkonen, a professor at the University of California at Los Angeles who studies urban murders, said he thinks a factor in the drop is the simple obeying of laws.

"I think everyone is tired of the violence," Monkkonen said. "The last eight years or so showed that there are huge social and economic benefits to peace."

Fox spelled out several factors that he believes have contributed to plummeting homicide figures in the 1990s, the most obvious being the decline in the crack cocaine market. Murder rates nationwide skyrocketed in the 1980s when crack-related violence plagued cities, he said.

Less obvious factors include the aging of baby boomers — older people commit fewer crimes — and more community involvement with local police, church groups and other service organizations, Fox added.

Can injecting insulin head off diabetes?

WASHINGTON (AP) — Neil Gilbert doesn't have diabetes, but every day the 21-year-old injects himself with a small dose of insulin. He's hoping it will protect him from ever getting the disease.

When Gilbert was about 14, doctors predicted the Acton, Mass., teen would likely develop Type 1 diabetes within three years. His sister had the disease and medical tests showed his own body was losing its ability to regulate blood sugar.

So Gilbert became one of the first high-risk children enrolled in early studies to see if taking insulin might prevent, or at least delay, diabetes. Seven years later, Gilbert is a healthy college student. He doesn't know yet if the insulin is working or if his doctors' dire disease prediction was just off by a few years.

But "I don't want to be a diabetic," Gilbert says, so he plans to keep taking the shots. "Would I really want to take the chance?"

Now doctors are renewing their hunt for thousands more Americans like Gilbert, a final push to complete another major study they hope will answer whether insulin — either injected or in an experimental pill form — is protective.

The 800-person study actually began in 1995, but doctors still need about 300 more people at risk for developing diabetes to complete enrollment — and finding them is hard.

Doctors must test about 30,000 relatives of diabetics to find 300 who fit the study's criteria, says Dr. Jay S. Skyler of the University of Miami, lead researcher of the study financed by the National Institutes of Health.

"A lot of people have forgotten it's under way," he said in renewing scientists' call for volunteers.

Up to 1 million Americans have Type 1 diabetes, also called juvenile diabetes even though people of any age can get it. Patients' immune systems destroy pancreas cells that secrete insulin, a hormone necessary to convert sugar into energy.

Type 1 diabetics need regular insulin shots to survive. Still, over time, high blood sugar levels put them at risk for blindness, kidney disease and other life-threatening complications.

Most at risk are close relatives of diabetics, who in general are 10 to 20 times more likely to develop the disease than anyone in the general population.

But the only way for family members to know if they are most at risk is to get tested, which is free for study volunteers.

The first step is a fairly easy blood test that detects certain antibodies, or immune cells, that attack insulin-producing pancreas cells.

Some 96 percent of people who take that test get good news: They don't have the dangerous antibodies, and thus are at low risk of developing diabetes despite their family connections. That's the end of their participation — and the reason researchers must test so many thousands of people for the study.

People who have the dangerous antibodies can then choose more sophisticated testing that measures pancreatic function and whether they have a gene that seems to protect against diabetes. Putting those tests together determines people's risk of developing diabetes within the next five years.

Anyone whose risk is more than 50 percent may enroll in the insulin injection part of the study. Anyone whose risk is 25 to 50 percent may enroll in a second part of the study, where participants swallow either an experimental insulin pill or a dummy pill every day.

Some people decide they can't handle knowing just how high their risk is, while others want to try anything that might protect them, Skyler said. Children often are enrolled in his study because "their parents have another child with diabetes and want to do anything they can to protect another little one."

If doctors can fill the study in the next few months, they hope to know in 2002 if insulin shots help prevent diabetes, and in 2004 if the experimental insulin pills have any effect.

For information on finding a clinic participating in the study, check the American Diabetes Association at http://www.diabetes.org/ada/dpt-1.asp on the Internet.

Q & A

Don't drink and drive

(In response to a growing concern among parents, educators and other members of the community, Snyder Daily News, in cooperation with Al-Anon support groups and the Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, is devoting this column to your questions about the increasing threat of substance abuse.)

Don't Drink and Drive!

We've all enjoyed the holidays and that's good, but for other families it wasn't much of a holiday. Why, you ask? Because many of these families have lost loved ones due to alcohol related accidents.

Some of the fatalities were DWI related, some were under the influence, but others were innocent families out for a family drive. No matter the circumstances involved, many lives have been affected and changed forever.

Last year in Texas alone there was 1,792 fatalities that were alcohol related.

Below are some other statistics for last year.

15,935 people were killed in alcohol-related traffic crashes—an average of one every 33 minutes. These deaths constituted approximately 38.4% of the total 41,471 total traffic fatalities. (NHTSA, 1999)

About 1,058,990 were injured in alcohol-related crashes-an average of one person injured approximately every 30 seconds. About 30,000 people a year will suffer permanent work-related disabilities.

Every weekday night from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., one in 13 drivers is drunk (BAC of .08 or more). Between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. on weekend mornings, one in seven drivers is drunk.

In 1998, there were nearly two alcohol-related traffic deaths per hour, 44 per day and 306 per week. That is the equivalent of 2 jetliners crashing week after week. (NHTSA, 1999)

While most drivers involved in fatal crashes have no prior conviction for DWI, those who do are at significantly greater risk of causing a drunk driving crash. (NHTSA, 1997)

During the period 1982 through 1999, approximately349,472 persons lost their lives in alcohol-related accidents.

Sadly this happens every day

DEATH OF AN INNOCENT

I went to a party, Mom, I remembered what you said.
You told me not to drink, Mom, so I drank soda instead.
I really felt proud inside, Mom, The way you said I would.
I didn't drink and drive, Mom, even though the others said I should.
I know I did the right thing, Mom, I know you are always right.
Now the party is ending, Mom, as everyone is driving out of sight.
As I got into my car, Mom, I knew I would get home in one piece.
Because the way you raised me, Mom, so responsible and sweet.
I started to drive away, Mom, but as I pulled out into the road.
The other car didn't see me, Mom, and hit me like a load.
As I lay here on the pavement, Mom, I hear the Policeman say.
The other guy is drunk, Mom, and now I am the one who will pay.
I'm lying here dying, Mom, I wish you would get here soon.
How could this happen to me, Mom? My life just burst like a balloon.
There is blood all around me, Mom, and most of it is mine.
I hear the medic say, Mom, I'll die in a short time.
I just wanted to tell you, Mom, I swear I didn't drink.
It was the others, Mom, The others didn't think.
He was probably at the same party as I.
The only difference is he drank and I will die.
Why do people drink, Mom? It can ruin your whole life.
I am feeling sharp pains now. Pains just like a knife.
The guy who hit me is walking, Mom, and I don't think it is fair.
I am here dying and all he can do is stare.
Tell my brother not to cry, Mom, Tell Daddy to be brave.
And when I go to heaven, Mom, put "Daddy's Girl" on my grave.
Someone should have told him, Mom, not to drink and drive.
If only they had told him, Mom, I would still be alive.
My breath is getting shorter, Mom, I am becoming very scared.
Please don't cry for me, Mom, when I needed you, you were always there.
I have one more question, Mom, Before I say good bye.
I didn't drink and drive,
so why am I the one to die?
Author Unknown

Don't be the one who takes the life of another because you think it's okay to just have one drink and drive.

Please send your questions on drugs or addiction to P.O. Box 695, Snyder, Texas 79550. All questions and personal inquires may be submitted anonymously. Twenty-four-hour confidential information is available by calling (915) 573-1141 or 1-800-658-6722. Information on help groups and individual's phone numbers may be found in the SDN Community Calendar.

State abortion licensing law on hold

AUSTIN (AP) — Abortion rights activists on Thursday cheered a federal judge's order that blocks the state from expanding licensing requirements for abortion doctors.

U.S. District Judge John Rainey in Houston has issued a temporary injunction to prevent the state from enforcing the licensing requirements that took effect Sept. 1.

Passed by the Legislature last spring, the law requires doctors' offices to be licensed if the physician performs more than 300 abortions a year.

It also increases the criminal liability of doctors who operate abortion clinics without a license. Rainey said changes to the Abortion Facility Reporting and Licensing Act violate the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution and are unconstitutionally vague.

"(The law) was obviously an attempt to color the procedure as more dangerous than it is and force doctors to not do this unless it's their full-time job," said Kae McLaughlin, executive director of Texas Abortion Rights and Reproductive Rights Action League.

If Texas Attorney General John Cornyn appeals the order, a trial likely will take place. Spokesman Mark Hechmann said Cornyn's office has not decided whether to appeal.

"We're evaluating the judge's ruling," Hechmann said.

Medical clinics in Houston, Denton and Austin and five doctors challenged the law in October.

Rainey said the law is unconstitutional because it sets physicians who perform abortions apart from those who perform other outpatient surgeries, violating their right to equal protection under the law.

Requirements to ensure that patients receive care in a manner that enhances their dignity, maintains their self esteem and meets their expectations are unconstitutionally vague, Rainey said.

Rainey said state data indicated 12 doctors statewide, or 20 percent of the abortion providers, would have to obtain licenses under the new law.

"It's a great victory for physicians," said Craig Smyser, a Houston lawyer for the group of doctors who challenged the law.

Licensing and additional education requirements for doctor's staff members would have raised the cost of abortions as much as $60, Smyser said.

"That may no sound like a lot, but a number of women who seek abortions are poor," he said.

Bill Price of Texans United for Life said the law is meant to make abortions safer.

"These places are really in the pursuit of the dollar, not the pursuit of helping women," Price said.

"It seems to me like if you're pro-woman or even pro-abortion, you would be in favor of any attempt to make the abortion procedure safer," Price said.

Prior to Sept. 1, state law provided doctors an exemption from licensing if abortions made up less than 51 percent of their practices.

GOLDEN TERRACE Village Resident of the Month

Merlyn Jones

Ms. Jones was born in Dermott, Scurry County and grew up in Fluvanna. For 15 years she operated a beauty shop at Ave. G. here in Snyder. Ms. Jones has two boys; Kelton Pinkerton of Corpus Christi and Wendell Pinkerton of Colorado City Lake, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. After Mr. Pinkerton died, she later married Hollis Jones and they lived in Baird after he retired until his death last January. Last February, Ms. Jones moved to Golden Terrace Village.

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Cogdell Memorial Hospital

Quality care for the next Century.

Country Life

by Deanie Francis Mills

Not an end-of-the-world movie junkie

Though I consider myself a bona fide movie junkie, there is one kind of movie that I don't care for and avoid whenever possible, and that is the end-of-the-world scenario.

For years movie-makers traded on the idea that mankind would attempt to destroy itself in a nuclear holocaust that would leave all the major cities and most points in-between hollow burned-out shells. Those people who did survive would become human cockroaches, living underground and battling each other to the death for precious commodities.

But it seems we humans didn't cooperate very well with this vision of the future. Turns out we had an annoying streak of common sense that enabled bitter enemies to weigh seriously the reality of pointing nuclear warheads at one another. Consequently mutual, unilateral disarmament began.

My own father, a retired Marine Corps master gunnery sergeant who did a tour in Vietnam, worked after retirement as a high-risk security guard at the Pantex Nuclear Plant in Amarillo. He says the moment he knew it was all over was the day the plant managers brought the Russians through on a tour.

So the filmmakers had to look around and come up with some other way for mankind to destroy itself and landed on the obvious choice: computers.

The movie *Matrix*, starring Keanu Reeves, was a box-office smash and showed a futuristic science fiction horror scenario where the computers eventually take over the world, "harvesting" human infants as its primary energy source, and hooking directly up to unknown people in order to enslave them.

Their entire lives then become "virtual,"—fake lives lived entirely in their minds while the computer matrix uses their bodies for other purposes.

And yes, movies are fiction, but they prey on the fears and doubts common to all of us—that of having all we hold dear destroyed in some sort of cosmic event over which we have no control.

The media, a very subtle blending of news and entertainment, picks up on those fears and preys on them, airing all sorts of stories on TV news-magazine programs about the ways we will be rendered obsolete by computers as soon as the clock strikes 12:01 a.m. on Jan. 1, 2000.

Commercial marketers, sensing a gold mine, then move in and exaggerate all those little doubts and fears into outright alarm, warning us that unless we spend our money on such items as security systems, guns, alarms, and a basement full of survival gear, we will be overrun by the hysterical rioters and looters that will descend upon the land as soon as the lights go off or they find themselves unable to send e-mail.

What all this alarmist propaganda does is trade on one fact and one fact only: mankind is inherently evil, and therefore, will destroy itself as soon as it becomes inconvenienced.

You know, when pilots were shot down during the Vietnam War and imprisoned in horrifying conditions in such infamous places as the "Hanoi Hilton"—sometimes for years and years—you would think that they would go insane from the beatings and the starvation.

Some did, certainly, but you might expect that they would all turn on one another and fight to the death for the last grain of rice.

But here is what they really did. Forbidden to speak to one another and often caged up in solitary confinement for years, the men devised an elaborate alphabet system, where they would tap out letters and words on the walls of their cells, and in that way, were able to communicate with one another all up and down the row of cells. It was painstakingly slow, but highly effective.

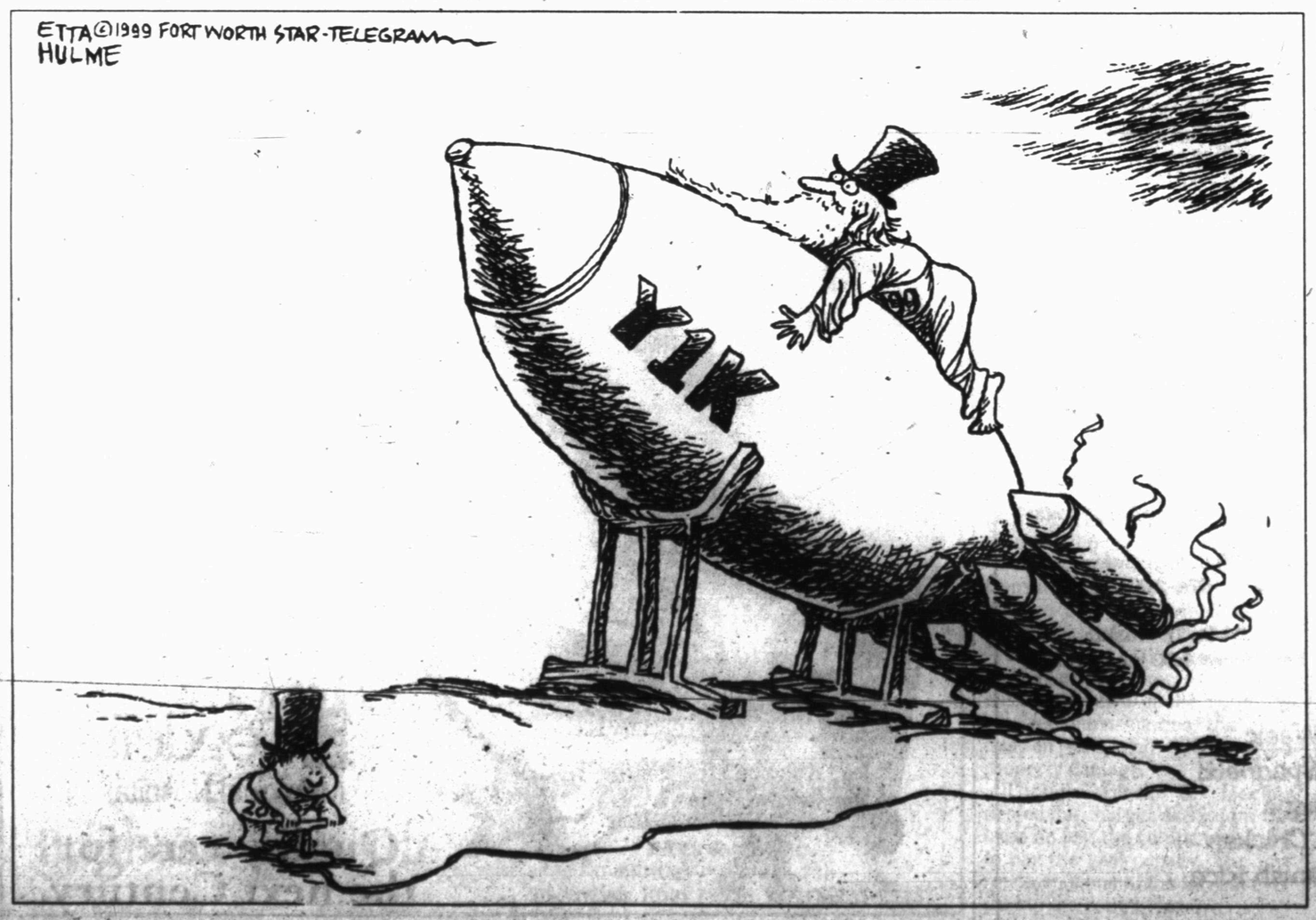
Using this tapping system, they actually taught one another college courses and Bible studies; they acted out favorite movies for each other—line by line—they exchanged talk about families, kept track of dates and news from home, conducted church services and Christmas celebrations, and most importantly—they kept each other alive and defiant in the face of some of the most horrendous cruelty man is capable of inflicting on man.

You see, what all these doomsdayers and naysayers fail to take into consideration is one more irrefutable fact: the astonishing spirit possessed by all children of God; the tremendous capacity for love, faith, and hope in the face of terrible loss; and the amazing bond of community.

What happens when natural disasters occur? People come out from all over the world, offering their expertise, helping hands, money, supplies, and thousands of little kindnesses. Do people loot and rob? Sure. Some do. But many hundreds more bring search dogs and other equipment, doctors bring medicine, volunteers bring food and blankets.

We tap on those walls, my friends. We tap and tap.

I don't know if this predicted Y2K problem with computers is going to be a minor inconvenience or a worldwide shut-down, but I do know one thing: the spirit of a loving God works in and through each and every one of us. And no matter what happens, we'll join hands, lift our candles in the darkness, and find our way to the light.



Letter to the Editor

Thank you all for your help

Dear Editor:

Thursday, Dec. 16, our father and husband, Ross Carroll, suffered heart arrhythmia while attending a Christmas program at East Elementary. Fortunately there were those present, both strangers and friends, who helped enormously. Perry and Karen Westmoreland of Snyder EMS were there as parents, but our family knows God put them there.

Daddy was unconscious and needed immediate care. Within ten minutes, he was in an ambulance headed for Cogdell Hospital. His cardiologist directed us to Lubbock and after a six-day hospital stay, an angiogram and a pacemaker-defibrillator implant, his prognosis is good.

Our family wishes to thank Snyder EMS, East Elementary staff, Janie Carroll's 4th grade class and co-workers, the audience angels who cared for Daddy, and all our family and friends for their help and prayers during that difficult time.

We have much to be grateful for in the year 2000, not the least being a part of the great town of Snyder.

Janie Carroll
Molly and David Kattes
Ena and Ross Carroll

EDITORIAL COMMENT

George W. Bush made right choice

Guest Column
By Charles T. Terrell

God Bless George W. Bush for his instant answer at the Iowa debate as to what political philosopher or thinker do you most identify with and why. He said Jesus Christ. If Jesus Christ was not a thinker, who is? Governor Bush was the only candidate with the correct response. This is not a new George W. In a letter written in December of last year, responding to correspondence from a group of young Christian business leaders in Austin he responded as follows.

"Christ is my savior. In the mid-80s, I accepted Jesus into my life. Words matter, but my walk, matters more. The walk reflects the heart."

President Clinton's walk has indicated to our youth that it is OK if you can get away with it. Our kids are saturated with sin and violence through television, movies, and the Internet without protection from the same government that doesn't allow prayer in our schools or on our football fields. We are allowing the development of sick and evil young minds at a record pace. Consider the murders by kids at an epidemic rate. Isn't it interesting that we deny our kids the power of prayer and then watch professional athletes kneeling on the playing field? We also encourage prayer in our prisons. Why wait until then when lives have been lost or ruined?

We need a president who knows the power and love of Jesus Christ and earnestly wants to do His will. We need prayer returned to our schools for all religious belief.

If you look at any five-year-old child of any race or any environment, you observe innocence. What we do to that child in the next ten years of his or her life will determine whether he or she becomes a good citizen or a monster.

We need a leader who understands that phenomenon, a strong Christian leader. That person is George W. Bush.

The Stillwater (Okla.) NewsPress

Prosecuting Linda Tripp:

Of all the shady deals and characters, of all the reprehensible actions and people involved in the Whitewater/Monicagate controversy, the only person likely to suffer any punishment is the only person who can be construed as having done the right thing: Linda Tripp.

Tripp is being prosecuted under Maryland wiretapping law for her recording of conversations with Monica Lewinsky. It was the tapes of those conversations, turned over to Starr, that left Clinton no more room to dodge. It was the smoking gun Starr had sought for so long.

Perhaps Tripp wasn't such a great friend to Lewinsky. But Tripp knew the president of the United States, the political (if not moral) leader of the free world, was breaking the law and she brought the evidence to the one person in a position to do something about it.

Whatever Tripp's politics, she did what was right. For this, she is being prosecuted in state court under an ambiguous law when she may — or may not — have been granted immunity (that is one of the issues being decided).

Tripp's travails should be a lesson to all Americans — abide by the law at your own risk. Tripp is being prosecuted for doing the right thing. Who is next?

Beaumont (Texas) Enterprise,

Presidential candidates' privacy zone

After months of basically ignoring the media hoopla in the campaign for the presidency, many voters are finally starting to focus on the candidates. ... In addition to the issues being discussed, however, a familiar sub-theme is once again popular in this election cycle: How much of a candidate's personal life should be revealed to the voters and who gets to draw the line? ...

A candidate's private life, barring some extraordinary event, shouldn't be the reason voters approve or reject someone in the voting booth. Nowadays most Americans believe that what should be off-limits are events of the candidate's youth and long-ago misdeeds that weren't felonious or violent. To their credit, most voters seem to realize that a candidate's positions on the major public issues are what should matter.

Generally speaking, candidates should have the right to set the boundaries on discussion of their private lives. Though they will be asked lots of prying questions in a national contest, they should have the right to say simply, "That's none of your business." ...

The ultimate decision, as always, rests with the voters. If they think a candidate is too reticent about a personal issue that deserves larger debate, they can always tilt to his or her opponent. ...

The Comet of Thibodaux, La.,

The mishandling of the jail takeover:

Why do prisoners usually refrain from starting riots and taking over prisons? The simple answer is that they have a strong disincentive to do so. Law enforcement officials are usually careful to not give in to their demands and not negotiate meaningfully with hostage-takers.

The FBI, apparently, has no such requirement.

The federal law enforcement agency brokered a deal with the eight Cuban detainees who earlier this month took over the St. Martin Parish Prison. That deal allowed six of the eight to return to Cuba, despite the fact the United States has no deportation treaty with the communist nation to our southeast.

The FBI has opened a potentially troublesome can of worms by negotiating with and giving in to hostage-takers. Now, far from having a disincentive to keep them from causing trouble, prisoners actually have a precedent that tells them: Take prisoners and get your way.

We hope the questionable decision to cave in to the demands of terrorists does not further endanger the lives of law enforcement officers who daily put themselves in harm's way guarding the people society sends to jail.

... There is no excuse for the prisoners leading a riot and taking hostages. For the FBI and the Immigration and Naturalization Service to reward them by granting their wishes is inexcusable.

We hope future jail disturbances will be handled with the swift and harsh discipline they deserve. To do otherwise needlessly endangers the prison professionals whose lives depend on maintaining law and order in a hostile environment.

Once forbidden SS ideas now considered

By WALTER R. MEARS
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The campaign television ad was devastating for its simplicity: Two hands tearing up a Social Security card.

That was nearly 36 years ago, against Republican Barry Goldwater, who proposed that Social Security be made voluntary and was accused of trying to destroy the system.

Ten presidential campaigns later, voluntary or private savings options are on the Republican table, debated but not denounced as system-breakers. The leading GOP candidates favor private investment plans, as partial or even full alternatives to the current system.

The Democrats oppose taking money out of Social Security revenues to go into individual accounts.

Vice President Al Gore and Bill Bradley have debated the Social Security issue, although their positions are similar, including their promises to lead that, too, although they differ on how much of the surplus to reserve for Social Security. Gov. George W. Bush proposes a tax cut that would use much of the projected surplus. Sen. John McCain wants to put 62 percent of the surplus into Social Security financing.

AP Analysis

the way to long-term solutions, without venturing detailed terms. They both favor using budget surpluses to shore up financing of benefits when a swelling retirement-age generation begins straining the system.

Republicans generally favor President Clinton proposed the same thing, but McCain said he isn't delivering.

Then again, nobody has. Social Security financing was supposed to be on the agenda for action in 1999, before the campaign season. Nothing was done, so the problem will be waiting for the next president, in 2001.

The candidates to be that president all pledge to keep the system sound, while avoiding discussion of the politically distasteful steps that might require.

"I'm not going to get into going down the whole list of possibilities," Bradley said. Gore said that as president he would guarantee a solution, and without raising the benefit age.

Republican candidate Steve Forbes proposes a remodeled system in which workers could stay in Social Security or opt for personal retirement accounts. They could put up to two-thirds of their Social Security taxes into their own accounts.

That sounds a bit like the old Goldwater proposal. "I would like to suggest one change, that Social Security be made voluntary, that if a person can provide better for himself, let him do it," Goldwater said in 1964, stirring one of the issues that hit him in the election he lost to Democrat Lyndon B. Johnson's landslide.

Conservative Gary Bauer, who advocates a 20 percent cut in Social Security taxes so people can make their own investments, said the Forbes plan would jeopardize benefits. Forbes insists his plan is sound and affordable, and that under it, future workers can gain greater returns and "retire with far more than they ever could receive under the current system."

Bush and McCain favor more limited individual account plans, putting part of the 12.4 percent payroll tax into personal accounts in the stock market or other securities.

On taxes, incidentally, Goldwater said in 1964 that Social Security levies would eventually exceed income taxes on most Americans. His critics scoffed. It happened. Indeed, Forbes says three-quarters of Americans now pay more in Social Security taxes than in income taxes.

Bush has said that as president, he would risk political capital, and take whatever hits might come in the polls, to take the steps needed to guarantee future benefits. Then, not now.

The objective in a campaign is to build political capital, not spend it.

And getting down to details on Social Security is a sure way to spend it.

The only way to get to a long-term solution, Bradley said, "is if you have a leader who's going to be able to push a bipartisan approach to the problem and get people around the table to decide how we're going to get there."

Bradley said that's what happened in 1983, when the system was reformed to ward off a crisis in financing. "We got people around the table, Republicans and Democrats, and came up with a solution," he said.

Ronald Reagan was president at the time, and signed the overhaul bill he said lifted a dark cloud from Social Security — a system he once had assailed as "the flagship of the liberal cause."

During his first presidential campaign, in 1976, Reagan's mention of the possibility that Social Security funds might be invested in industry drew an opposition chorus, one GOP critic accusing him of "wild-eyed socialism." Reagan backed off, saying he'd never suggested putting Social Security funds into the stock market.

It isn't a far-out idea now. Clinton proposed it, unsuccessfully, to Congress this year.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Walter R. Mears, vice president and columnist for The Associated Press, has reported on Washington and national politics for more than 30 years.

Street drugs being used in research

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of university researchers buy cocaine, heroin and other street drugs with government grant money for studies on addiction but are almost never monitored by federal agents to make sure the narcotics are put to proper use.

Even when there evidence of abuse arises, the government doesn't always check up. A University of Minnesota researcher died of a cocaine overdose shortly after he bought a fresh supply of the drug with grant money.

University officials told The Associated Press the Drug Enforcement Administration never investigated.

DEA officials would not discuss the Minnesota case or any other investigation. But they said DEA lacks the staff to do regular checks on the 4,500 researchers registered by the agency to buy drugs for experiments.

Instead, it relies on universities and state agencies that license researchers for primary oversight.

Agents perform background checks when researchers apply for registration, review research proposals and visit laboratories before granting permission. About 535 of those registered are authorized to conduct research with the most dangerous drugs, including heroin, morphine and LSD.

The drugs must be kept under lock and key, their use carefully recorded, the DEA said.

The drug-fighting agency also tracks researchers' drug purchases, but it rarely conducts surprise checks because it lacks sufficient staff. Just 400 agents monitor drug manufacturers, distributors, analytical laboratories, pharmacies and doctors. Thus, they ordinarily don't check a researcher unless they receive a report of a problem.

"Monitoring is a local issue," said Dr. Alan Leshner, director of the National Institute of Drug Abuse, which provided $250 million in grants last year for researchers to study heroin, cocaine and marijuana. Between 1,500 and 2,000 of the institute's grant recipients employ street drugs in their research.

Researchers undergo rigorous federal screening before they receive government grants. Research proposals are carefully scrutinized, and experiments are monitored by institutional review boards.

"There's an entire infrastructure in place to oversee research," said Leshner.

Researchers say they must follow strict rules about storage and account for the drugs used in experiments.

"It would be tough to trick the system," said David Self, a Yale University researcher who has administered cocaine to rats in a federally funded study on addiction. "But it has happened in my field."

Dr. Keith Kajander, who ran a University of Minnesota dental school lab on pain research, fatally overdosed on cocaine in April shortly after he used federal grant money to buy a fresh supply from a California distributor.

Kajander, 45, bought at least 80 grams (almost 3 ounces) of cocaine with federal money since 1996 even though his grant proposals did not mention the drug, police reports show. His DEA registration allowed him to buy the cocaine.

The university receives $70 million annually in federal grants for medical research, half of which involve controlled substances, and has more than 1,000 researchers working with drugs. Yet the DEA never investigated the school after Kajander's death, said Dr. Richard Bianco, assistant vice president of the academic health center. The university has strengthened its policies on drug buys.

Kajander's death wasn't the university's first problem with research drugs. In 1998, burglars stole almost $4,000 worth of ketamine, a PCP-type "club drug" used as an anesthetic for humans and animals. And in 1991, a campus janitor stole heroin, cocaine and other drugs from a laboratory and died of an overdose.

Other states also report problems. Legislative auditors in Montana are investigating the 1998 theft of painkiller drugs from an animal laboratory at the University of Montana.

Twelve of the 2,413 drug cases under investigation by the DEA's office of diversion control in the last fiscal year involved researchers. Seven remain open. The closed cases resulted in letters of admonition or administrative hearings, officials said.

Although the DEA said it relies on state and university officials for primary oversight, some states, like the DEA, lack the capacity to do regular inspections.

And Dale Cooper, compliance officer at the University of Minnesota, said his survey of 26 universities found only three with written policies for research use of controlled substances.

"The universities tend to dump it off on a compliance office," said Cooper. "They don't tend to take it on as an institutional responsibility."

Oregon adoption records to be opened

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — An Oregon appeals court unanimously upheld the nation's first voter-passed law giving adopted people access to their birth records, and the state began processing their applications.

A three-judge panel of the state Court of Appeals said that mothers who put their children up for adoption have no constitutional guarantee of privacy, despite promises they received that their identities would be protected.

Opponents of the law had argued that it would subject birth mothers to harassment by children they gave up years ago, and they asked the appeals court to reconsider its ruling. They could also appeal to the Oregon Supreme Court.

The appeals court also lifted an injunction barring the state Health Division from releasing birth documents.

As of Wednesday, 1,468 Oregonians had applied to obtain their birth certificates, and the first certificates could be mailed out by the end of next week, said Edward Johnson, registrar for vital records at the state Health Division.

If another injunction is granted, the process would stop in place, he said.

"This is wonderful news for all of the people out there who have had one wall after another put in front of them all their lives," said Helen Hill, an adoptee.

The National Council for Adoption said the ruling is a betrayal of birth mothers who gave up their children for adoption with the understanding they would remain anonymous.

"The state of Oregon is saying to all of the people who were promised privacy in the past, 'We were lying to you,'" said Bill Pierce, spokesman for the Washington, D.C.-based group.

The law passed with 57 percent of the vote in November 1998 but never took effect because of a lawsuit by several anonymous birth mothers. A trial judge upheld the law in July, but the order preventing release of records remained in effect during the appeal.

"At no time in Oregon's history have the adoption laws required the consent of, or even notice to, a birth mother on the opening of adoption records or sealed birth certificates," the appeals court said in an opinion written by Judge Paul De Muniz.

The case has been watched by adoption advocates nationally. In September, the Tennessee Supreme Court upheld a 1996 state law giving adoptees access to their records. Just three other states — Alaska, Kansas and Delaware — have opened adoption records.

The Oregon law allows adoptees 21 or older to obtain their original birth certificates, which often contain birth parents' names.

A 33-year-old woman who does not want to be contacted by the daughter she gave up for adoption seven years ago lamented Wednesday's ruling.

"It's open season on birth mothers. Oregon is saying, 'Go find your birth mother. Go hunt her down,'" said the woman, who spoke on condition of anonymity and was not part of the lawsuit. "If somebody were to show up at the door, and one of my other children were confronted with this, it would be traumatic."

But Hill said birth mothers are still in control.

Neighbors go to court over building of Mormon temple

BOSTON (AP) — One day, the 69,000-square-foot Mormon temple could attract worshippers from all over the Northeast and Canada.

Right now, it's attracting a controversy.

Sitting atop a hill, the towering, boxy building of white granite dominates its upscale neighborhood of single-family homes in a Boston suburb. And it's not particularly welcome.

Some neighbors say a Massachusetts zoning law that allowed the temple to be built in Belmont violates the First Amendment by giving advantages to religious groups.

Three residents who want the temple demolished — even though it is 80 percent complete — are taking their case to a federal appeals court Monday.

"If an atheist group wanted to build the same thing the Mormons wanted to, they couldn't do it," said Mark White, an attorney for the three residents.

The law in question, known as the Dover Amendment, prohibits zoning restrictions on property used for religious purposes. The residents say it is unconstitutional because it discriminates against secular groups.

"In most towns, the zoning regulations are pretty strict," White said Thursday. "In some towns, you can't even park your car on the street. And yet under Dover, if you are a religious organization, you can put up a 70,000-square-foot building."

The lawsuit was filed last year by Margaret Boyajian, Charles Counselman and Jean Dickinson. A federal judge in June denied their claims, upholding the constitutionality of the Dover Amendment.

Oral arguments are scheduled for Monday in the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. No decision is expected immediately.

Counselman, a professor of planetary science at the Massachusetts Institute of Science, insists he and his neighbors aren't biased against the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He says they only object to the size of the temple.

"This temple building is not only much larger than the houses around it, but it also sits on the highest point in town," Counselman said. "It towers over the neighborhood. It will be a big attention-getter, which is not what you want in the neighborhood that you live in."

The $30 million temple will be finished in late winter or early spring, said Ken Harvey, a lawyer for the Mormon Church.

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2.79 Your choice 4-Pk. AA or AAA E 105 668, 356 592 F12
Bargain
Coleman 4.99 16.5-Gal. Storage Crate With hinged lid. W 159 053 F6
Bargain
Holmes 19.99 1500W Radiant Heater Maxflow fan system for better airflow, comfort control thermostat, auto safety shut-off and instant tip-over protection. M 662 106 1
9.99 12', 8-Gauge Booster Cables With storage bag. G 724 310 86
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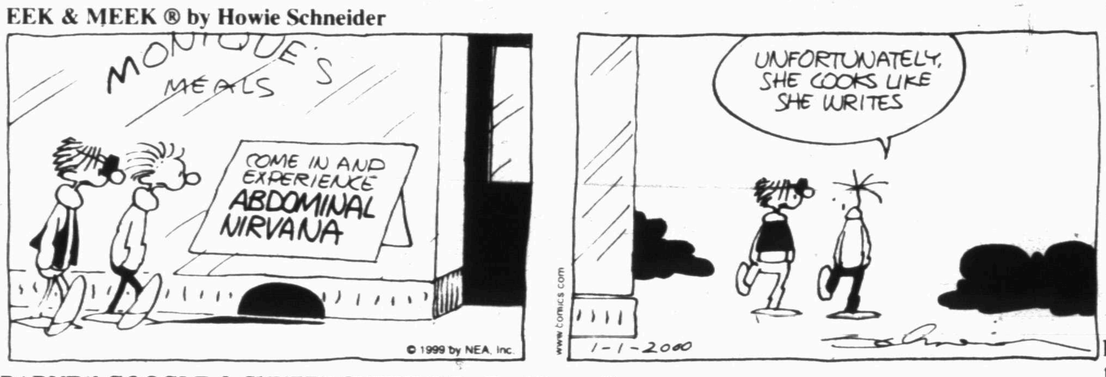

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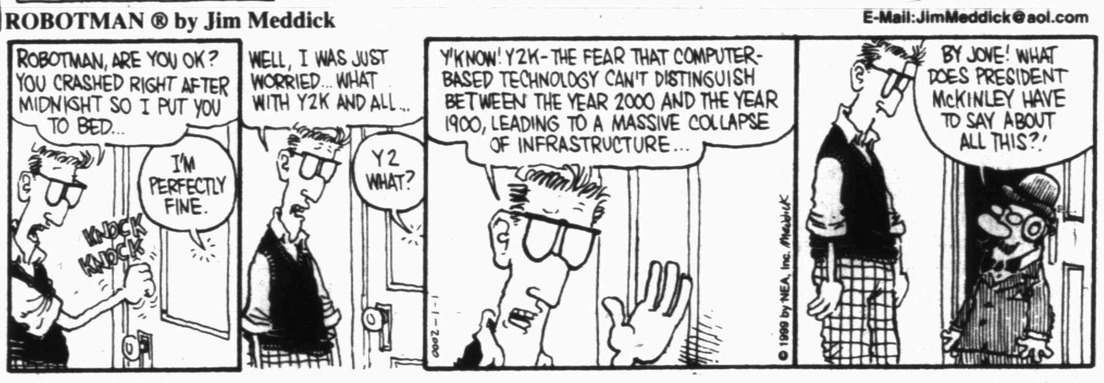

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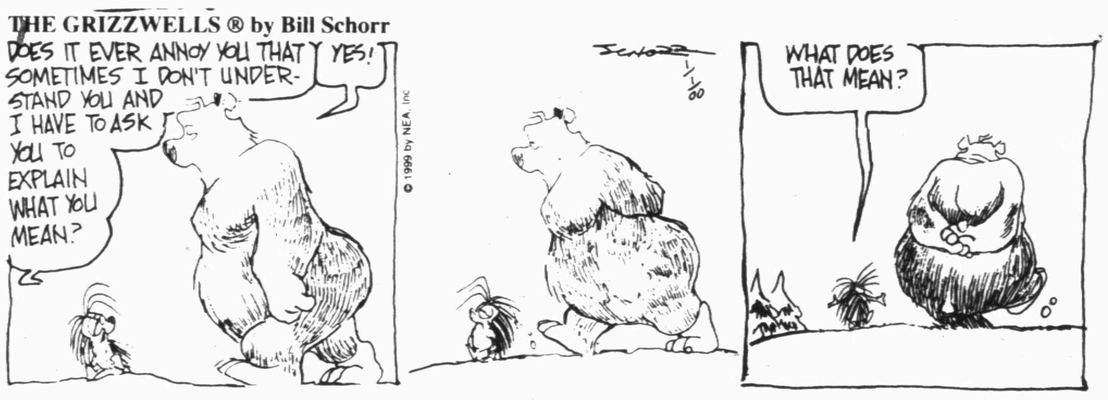

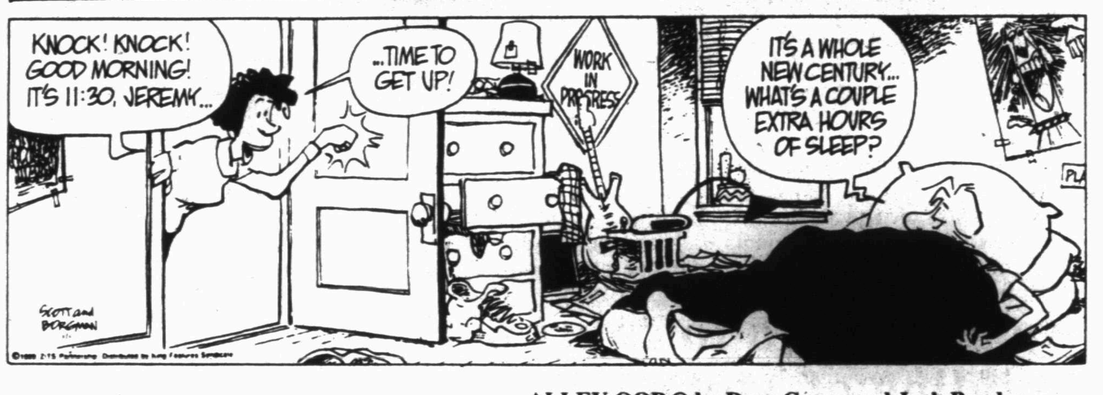

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Tetley rival
7 Child of a close friend, perhaps
13 Eluder
14 Sedative
15 One who behaves
16 Lariats
17 March 15, e.g.
18 Succor
20 Guitarist Atkins
21 Diogenes, e.g.
23 Donald Trump's ex
27 Please greatly
32 Made of cereal
33 Mate's relative
34 Not suitable
35 Construction-site sight
36 Capable of feeling
39 Light anchor
40 Romulus' brother
42 Salon offering
46 Swiss river
47 Pocket bread
51 Acts like a thief
53 Baseball's Dwight —
55 Music-buff's purchase
56 Group of nine
57 Hire (2 wds.)
58 Appropriate

DOWN

1 18-wheeler
2 Eager
3 Reporter Lois —
4 Puts 2 and 2 together
5 Poor grade
6 Orderly arrangement
7 Actress Hawn
8 Org. formed in 1941
9 Store computer data on this
10 Waistband
11 Plains Indian
12 Robin's home
19 Neither Dem. nor Rep.
21 Former entertainer Eddie —
22 Becomes clear
23 Adjective ending
24 Wind indicator
25 — — angle
26 Fiber knots
28 About (2 wds.)
29 Happy
30 Suspend
31 Bird call
37 Cause
38 Entertainer Sumac
41 Yens
42 "Yo!"
43 Comics' Kett
44 Offensive odor
45 Foal's mom
47 Southern bread
48 The same (Lat.)
49 Bluish green
50 Warhol or Williams
52 DiCaprio, for short
54 Single

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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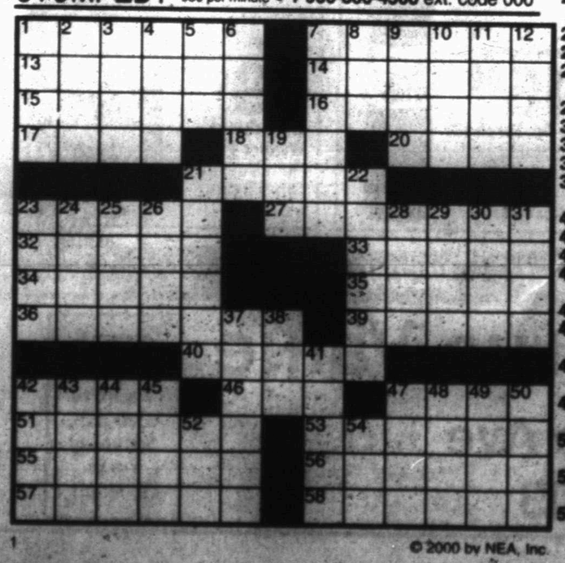

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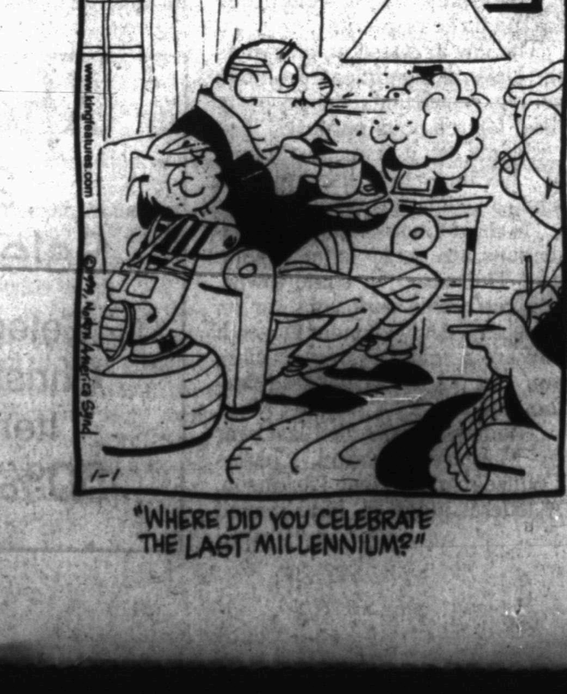
"What made you give up the 'fight game'?"

ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



"WHERE DID YOU CELEBRATE THE LAST MILLENNIUM?"

Criminal justice system moves to new home

HOUSTON (AP) — The brand-spanking new Harris County criminal courthouse doesn't have the mold on the walls, the grease on the ceilings and the wear five decades of justice put on its predecessor.

For state District Judge Ted Poe, that's not necessarily good.

"The old courthouse had a character to it, with each of the courtrooms different," said Poe, a Houston judge for 18 years. "The four old courtrooms were massive rooms with big ceilings, as if to say something important takes place here.

"A certain amount of that atmosphere probably will not occur in the new building."

Trucks finished hauling the nation's third-largest criminal court system Thursday to its new $98 million home, where Harris County's criminal system will be under one roof for the first time in three decades.

The building replaces the two old criminal courthouses nearby, including the main one built in 1951 and the converted Fire Station Building. The district attorney's office already has moved in from its own building down the street.

"I'm getting old, and change is hard on old dogs," said District Attorney John B. Holmes Jr., who arrived at the office in the early 1970s and has been at the helm since 1979.

"It's nice and new. It smells like somebody hasn't urinated in the corner," Holmes said. "It was nice being in our own facility, but I think everyone is going to enjoy the new building.

"We still have a lot of little bugs that have to be addressed, though."

Key cards allowing employees access to secure areas aren't all working properly yet. Holmes himself had trouble this week getting through a gate to his parking spot.

The judges' private elevator still isn't working, but Poe pointed out that there was no such animal in the old place.

"I'm used to coming in through the front door. It's no big deal to me," he said.

Also moving from various other locations to the new 20-story courthouse are the grand jury rooms, the district clerk and prisoner intake. The building is linked to the county jails, bringing an end to orange-clad chain gangs that once were common on downtown streets.

The new building, called the Harris County Criminal Justice Center, is home to a total of 15 county misdemeanor courts and 22 criminal district courts. County officials planned the move for the typically slower holiday period. No trials are scheduled until Jan. 10.

The county's 24-hour prisoner intake courtrooms already are operating in the new building, so officials said the move does not affect plans for the New Year weekend. Two temporary courtrooms are ready to handle other minor matters during the move.

Poe and some other judges plan to start holding some court proceedings that do not involve juries on Monday even as contractors continue to work out bugs.

"If we waited until everything was signed off and ready, we wouldn't get started for another millennium," Poe said. "We're going to start Monday and work through any problems we have."

For all his complaints about the new place's sterility, Poe concedes the county needed to build it. Less-senior judges have been stuck for years in cramped spaces wherdriguez of the courts administrator's office acknowledged that the new building might someday fall into the same category and technology and growth march on.

"That building (the old courthouse) was probably state of the art when it opened," she said, noting the ornate granite work and other fine touches there. "But after 50 years it's kind of dingy, and after 50 years, this one might become dingy, too."

Judge won't stop computer program

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A hacker's computer program that copies DVD movies could cause big problems for the film and electronics industry, but a county judge refused to stop its distribution.

The DVD Copy Control Association is suing to prevent 72 Web site programmers from making the software available on the Internet. Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge William Elfving denied the group's request for a restraining order.

The software, called DeCSS, allows users to unlock the security code on DVDs and copy movies to personal computers that don't have the DVD's decryption keys.

The association alleges that distributing either the software or the codes is an unauthorized use of the group's trade secrets. But many site programmers who posted the program said they were simply providing software to play DVDs on computers with Linux operating systems.

"People have a legal right to play the materials that they've already purchased in a different format," said Tara Lemmey, president of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a San Francisco-based nonprofit organization that seeks to protect civil liberties and free speech on the Internet.

The lawsuit, however, says protecting the DVD encryption technology is critical to the future of DVDs.

"Without such copy protection, the motion picture companies would not have allowed their copyrighted motion pictures to be available in this new digital video format," the lawsuit says.

Whether or not the hackers broke the law could be determined after they reveal how they broke the encryption code, said Claude Stern, a Palo Alto intellectual property attorney.

The case is scheduled to go to court Jan. 14.

Courts have repeatedly found that consumers can make personal copies of material they have purchased, such as copying a music compact disc onto a cassette tape. But judges have yet to weigh in on newer technologies, such as DVDs, which offer higher quality sound and video than videocassettes.

Ron Coolley, a Chicago-based intellectual property lawyer, said that even if the DVD Copy Control Association succeeds in shutting down the Web sites providing DeCSS, the code has been revealed and would likely flourish until better encryption technologies are developed.

"It's an example of technology running past the law. There are legal means of stopping this or trying to slow it down, but unfortunately the Internet moves at the speed of light," Coolley said.

The primary worry by industry officials is that, once copied, the video will be freely distributed over the Internet.

Similar concerns have been raised by the music industry, which has been striving to combat widespread music piracy as increasingly available technology makes it easy to spread high-quality digital music files in formats such as MP3.

Earlier this month, Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. decided to delay production of DVD audio/video players from its Panasonic and JVC subsidiaries by six months because of the DeCSS program, despite strong advance sales.

The industry organization DVD Video Group projects nearly 4 million homes will have installed such players by year's end.

Mentally retarded man receives reprieve

HOUSTON (AP) — A mentally retarded condemned murderer who has been on the Texas death row for almost 20 years will avoid a scheduled date with the executioner next month after a federal appeals court gave him an indefinite reprieve.

A three-judge panel of the New Orleans-based 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted the reprieve Wednesday to Johnny Paul Penry, convicted of the 1979 rape-slaying of a Livingston housewife.

Penry, who has been on death row since 1980, had been set for lethal injection Jan. 13 for the murder of Pamela Mosely Carpenter at her home 70 miles northeast of Houston. Mrs. Carpenter was the sister of former Washington Redskins kicker Mark Mosely.

The appeals court will hear oral arguments in the case on Feb. 10.

"The stay was granted basically on the grounds that the court was unable to address Penry's claims in the amount of time it was given," Heather Browne, a spokeswoman for the Texas Attorney General's Office, said Thursday..

Attorney John E. Wright of Huntsville, one of several defending Penry, said he considered the court order a victory.

"The major issue in this case is whether or not we've gotten to the point in this country where the consensus is that mentally retarded people ought not be executed," he said. "I'm hopeful that the court will see things our way."

Wright said the appeal also asks the court to consider Penry's "terribly abusive" background, as well as questions about Penry's sentencing and how police extracted a signed confession.

Trinity County District Attorney Joe Price views the court's stay as just another hurdle in a 20-year fight for justice.

"It's something we knew could happen and doesn't really come as a surprise," he said Thursday. "But there's not anything about the appeal we're overly concerned about."

Penry came within hours of execution in 1986 before the U.S. Supreme Court halted the punishment. The court vacated his death sentence in 1988, saying jurors should have been told Penry was mentally retarded before it considered his punishment.

Penry subsequently was retried and sentenced again to death in 1990. That conviction and sentence was upheld in 1995.

Penry has an IQ estimated at between 50 and 60 and the reasoning capacity of a 7-year-old.

The Supreme Court has never ruled that mental retardation is a reason for an exemption from execution. But the justices found the Texas criminal justice system lacked a vehicle to introduce mitigating circumstances to jurors and that mental retardation should be considered as a mitigating factor in a death penalty trial.

According to a confession, Penry went to the woman's home where he had delivered an appliance two weeks earlier and forced his way inside, threatening Mrs. Carpenter with a pocket knife.

Year 2000 celebration

By Marialisa Calta

I have spent the last year or so avoiding the use of the "m" word. That's "m" as in "millennium," and I am mighty tired of reading and hearing about it. The "y" word (as in Y2K) also drives me crazy.

But I have to admit that I am looking forward to the coming New Year's with some interest. My usual program — rent a movie and open a bottle of cheap sparkling wine — doesn't seem quite up to this once-in-a-thousand-year event. So I've been researching some over-the-top recipes for this special New Year. They come from "Jasper White's Cooking from New England"; from Gillian Duffy's "Hors d'Oeuvres"; and from "Foie Gras, a Passion," by Michael A. Ginor, which gets my vote for Most Indulgent Cookbook of 1999.

These recipes will feed your fantasies even if you don't make them for you and your special New Year's guest or guests. After all, what better night to dream?

Happy New Year.

CHAMPAGNE-CRANBERRY SORBET

For the syrup:
- 2-1/2 cups sugar
- 4-1/4 cups water

For the sorbet:
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1-1/2 cups fresh or frozen cranberries
- 3/4 cup water
- 1 bottle (750 mL) champagne or sparkling white wine
- juice of 1/2 lemon

To make the syrup (you can do this several days ahead of time): Combine the sugar and water in a saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Continue boiling, uncovered, for 3 minutes, stirring to dissolve the sugar. Allow to cool. Cover tightly and store in the refrigerator. The syrup should be well-chilled.

To make the sorbet, begin the night before you are planning to serve it. Put the sugar, cranberries and water in a small saucepan over medium heat. Stir to dissolve the sugar and cook until the cranberries pop.

Put the cranberry mixture in a fine sieve held over another bowl. Strain the cranberries, pressing as much through the sieve as possible. You should have a generous cup of juice. Discard the pulp. Pour the champagne or sparkling wine into a 3-quart bowl. Add the cranberry juice, the sugar syrup and lemon juice. Mix well and strain again through a fine strainer. Refrigerate until well-chilled.

Pour the chilled mixture into a shallow pan. Cover with a lid or plastic wrap and freeze overnight (it won't freeze completely because it contains alcohol).

The next morning, remove the sorbet from the pan and, working in batches if necessary, process it until smooth in a food processor. Pour it into a covered container and freeze until ready to serve. Yield: 2 quarts, or about 8 servings.

— Recipe from "Jasper White's Cooking from New England," by Jasper White (Harper & Row, 1989)

TERRINE OF CAVIAR AND SMOKED SALMON CUBES

- 3 sticks unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1-3/4 pounds smoked Norwegian or Scottish salmon; 1 pound cut into 1/2-inch cubes, the rest thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- juice of 1/2 lemon, or more, if needed
- 1/4 teaspoon finely chopped chives
- 1/4 teaspoon finely chopped dill
- 1/4 teaspoon finely chopped parsley
- 6 to 7 ounces black caviar (see note)
- toast and lemon wedges

Melt the butter over low heat. Remove pot from heat and set aside to cool; allow the milk solids to sink to the bottom. Carefully pour off the oily part (clarified butter). Discard the milky solids. Let the clarified butter cool to room temperature.

Working in batches, put the salmon cubes, clarified butter and cream into the bowl of a food processor and puree until fluffy and completely smooth. Transfer the puree to a large bowl and stir in the lemon juice and herbs. Taste, and add more lemon juice if needed. Set the mousse aside.

Line a 4-cup terrine with plastic wrap, leaving overhanging edges that can be folded over the top when the terrine is full.

Cover the bottom of the terrine with a layer of the sliced salmon. Using a metal spatula, spread a thin layer of salmon mousse on it, then a thin layer of caviar. Repeat the layers, until the terrine is full. (The last layer should be sliced salmon). Fold the plastic wrap over the top of the terrine and chill for at least 24 hours.

To unmold, unfold the plastic wrap on top. Invert the terrine on a platter and, holding the sides of the plastic wrap taut, lift the terrine (you may need to tap the terrine once or twice.) Cover loosely and chill.

When ready to serve, slice the salmon terrine thinly with a chef's knife dipped in hot water. Accompany it with toast and lemon wedges arranged on a platter.

It will keep in the refrigerator at least a week.

Note: Black lumpfish roe, available in supermarkets, will run and discolor the terrine. If you are on a budget, buy American sturgeon caviar. If you're not, go for the Russian. Yield: 20 to 25 servings.

— Recipe from "Hors d'Oeuvres," by Gillian Duffy (William Morrow, 1998)

WHITE TRUFFLE AND FOIE GRAS BAKED POTATO

- 4 large baking potatoes, preferably Russet or Yukon Gold
- 4 ounces unsalted butter
- 1/4 cup white truffle oil
- 2 medium white truffles, 1 ounce each
- 12 ounces foie gras, cut into 4 slices
- coarse salt
- freshly ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Wash and dry the potatoes and bake on a rack for 45 minutes, or until cooked through. Slit the potatoes lengthwise and scoop out the inside with a spoon, being careful to keep the skins intact. Cover the skins with aluminum foil to keep warm. Mash the potato flesh with a fork, incorporating the butter and truffle oil, and season with salt and pepper to taste. Using a mandoline or a truffle slicer, thinly slice the truffles. Reserve the slices, but chop the ends and extra scraps very finely and add them to the potato mixture. Cover the mixture to keep it warm.

Heat a saute pan over medium-high heat. Season the foie gras with salt and pepper and sear it in the hot pan until both sides are brown, 30 to 45 seconds per side. Pat the slices dry with a paper towel. Reserve the foie gras fat in the pan.

To serve: Fill the potato shells with the mashed-potato mixture. Top with a slice of seared foie gras and cover with a white truffle slice. Season with salt and pepper and drizzle with the reserved foie gras fat. Yield: 4 servings.

— Recipe from "Foie Gras, a Passion," by Michael A. Ginor (John Wiley & Sons, 1999)

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Packer ownership ban priority for lawmakers

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — One by one, miles away from the fields and feedlots where they make their living, farmers stepped to the microphone to voice their support for a number of initiatives aimed at saving the family farm.

Hearing those concerns at the Midwest Farm Price Crisis Forum was a panel of lawmakers from Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota.

The forum panelists, a loose-knit but growing group of 14 state lawmakers — many of whom also farm — rallied with about 40 producers to focus on farm issues. The group hopes to build on its success in passing price reporting legislation earlier this year.

Clear Lake, Iowa, farmer Chris Petersen said rallies like the one held Wednesday help states work together on farm issues and prevent outside forces, like multinational corporations, from playing them against each other.

"These people right here are the freedom fighters," said Petersen, gesturing to the group assembled.

Four years ago his farm was paid off, but Petersen has since been forced to remortgage and has struggled, he said.

Every year he has to give up more of his equity, and time is running out for a return to profitability, Petersen said.

"My pocket only goes so deep," he said.

The state lawmakers Wednesday approved nine issues to introduce in their coming respective legislative sessions. Foremost among them are banning packer ownership of livestock and pushing for enforcement of antitrust laws.

"This is something we absolutely have to do," said John Crabtree, of the Center for Rural Affairs, a farm advocacy group based in Walthill.

Other issues may have received more attention but vertical integration — packers owning the livestock they slaughter — is just as important, said Crabtree.

Low prices are one problem, but packers controlling both ends of the market is a bigger concern, he said.

Many farmers have told him, "When my market's gone, I'm gone," Crabtree said.

Petersen said many farmers have been forced to take contracts from packers to remain on the land, but he doesn't want to be part of that.

"We've got the freedom to farm," Petersen said. "Now we want the right to farm."

Strong Demand Predicted

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — An economist predicts hog farmers could make money next year because of a strong demand for pork and a decline in the number of hogs being marketed.

The predicted upswing would follow two years of devastating losses.

"We're expecting hog production to turn profitable after the first of the year," Iowa State University Extension economist John Lawrence said. "The question is, how long will this strong demand continue?"

The quarterly hogs and pigs report released this week by the Agriculture Department said the number of hogs and pigs on U.S. farms on Dec. 1 is down 4 percent from a year ago and 2 percent from Sept. 1.

Lawrence said the report showed that a yearlong liquidation of hogs coupled with strong demand for pork should turn the hog market around.

During December 1998, hog prices fell to their lowest level ever, when prices were adjusted for inflation. The losses drove many hog farmers out of business.

Gov. Bush heads to New Hampshire

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — New Hampshire will be seeing a lot of George W. Bush next month, as the Texas governor responds to a stiff challenge from Arizona Sen. John McCain.

Bush will spend 14 or 15 days in the state where he trails McCain in the polls. McCain has tentative plans to spend 22 days in New Hampshire before the Feb. 1 presidential primary.

Aides say Bush had planned to increase his presence in the state months ago and is not related to McCain's rise in the polls.

"As you get closer to the date of decision, you're obviously going to spend more time there," said Tom Rath, a Bush campaign adviser.

Bush himself has said he plans to show voters more of his "feisty side," and he indicated he may get more aggressive in contrasting himself with McCain.

McCain spokesman Mike Dennehy said McCain will continue to focus on his own campaign, but "if we are attacked, we will fight back."

Hatch sues MPR

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Minnesota Attorney General Mike Hatch sued Minnesota Public Radio on Tuesday for sharing its fund-raising donor lists with the Democratic National Committee and others, saying MPR broke laws governing charitable organizations.

In the lawsuit, Hatch charged that MPR allowed 100 organizations to use its member information, including at least nine instances where MPR exchanged member phone numbers.

"This translates into 3 million member names, addresses and phone numbers disclosed for fund-raising solicitations," according to Hatch's summary of the lawsuit.

MPR Senior Vice President Will Haddeland did not immediately return a phone call seeking comment.

It was revealed last summer that at least two dozen public television stations had exchanged membership lists with political groups, causing political problems in Washington for public broadcasting, which has nonprofit status.

$1 million raised

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. John McCain's presidential campaign has raised more than $1 million through its Web site, campaign officials said Tuesday.

McCain — who expects to report raising $13 million for his campaign by the end of the month, plus $2 million he transferred from his Senate account — has received 12,255 contributions via the Internet since May. Under rules adopted earlier this year by the Federal Election Commission, those contributions are eligible for federal matching funds.

"The Internet has proven to be the campaign tool of the new millennium," McCain said.

McCain's fund raising has picked up in recent weeks as polls show him ahead or tied with Republican front-runner George W. Bush in the first primary state of New Hampshire.

Step up efforts

PEABODY, Mass. (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Steve Forbes said Tuesday he wanted to step up law enforcement efforts in cyberspace.

"If I'm president, the Justice Department will be doing more to see if (Internet) sites are doing things that shouldn't be done," he said.

Forbes was responding to a question about pedophiles using the Internet, but he also said he would crack down on Web sites that incite violence. Forbes also spoke out against the use of the Internet to stalk or threaten people.

Immigrants hidden in cargo containers

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Thirty illegal immigrants from China who crossed the Pacific in specially outfitted cargo containers were arrested when they emerged from their hiding places after the boxes were unloaded.

Twenty-one people were detained at the Port of Long Beach and nine others were arrested at neighboring Los Angeles Harbor. Officials were trying to determine Wednesday whether the two smuggling attempts were related.

"It wasn't a traditional rite of passage where they come over in a broken boat. This was a very sophisticated operation," said Rosemary Melville, deputy district director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Los Angeles.

The groups traveled in "soft top" containers — canvas-covered boxes about the size of a tractor-trailer. The containers were equipped with food, water, battery-powered lights, portable potties, cell phones and ladders for climbing out. Pacific crossings typically take 10 to 12 days.

The smaller group arrived in Los Angeles Harbor on Christmas aboard the Danish ship OOCL Netherlands. Harbor police spotted a stowaway on the dock Tuesday. That person led police to the container.

That night, a worker at the Maersk terminal in Long Beach spotted Chinese immigrants wandering around. Guards took seven women, 12 men and two boys into custody.

They had been in a container that arrived Christmas Eve aboard the MS Sine Maersk and was unloaded onto a trailer.

"They were in relatively good health," said Art Wong, a port spokesman. "They had ski jackets and parkas. They wore jeans or khakis."

The immigrants had duffel bags filled with personal items, and some had portable tape players for entertainment during the journey.

The ships' crews were not suspected of any involvement, Ms. Melville said. Wong said it would be unlikely for anyone to discover the stowaways during the crossing.

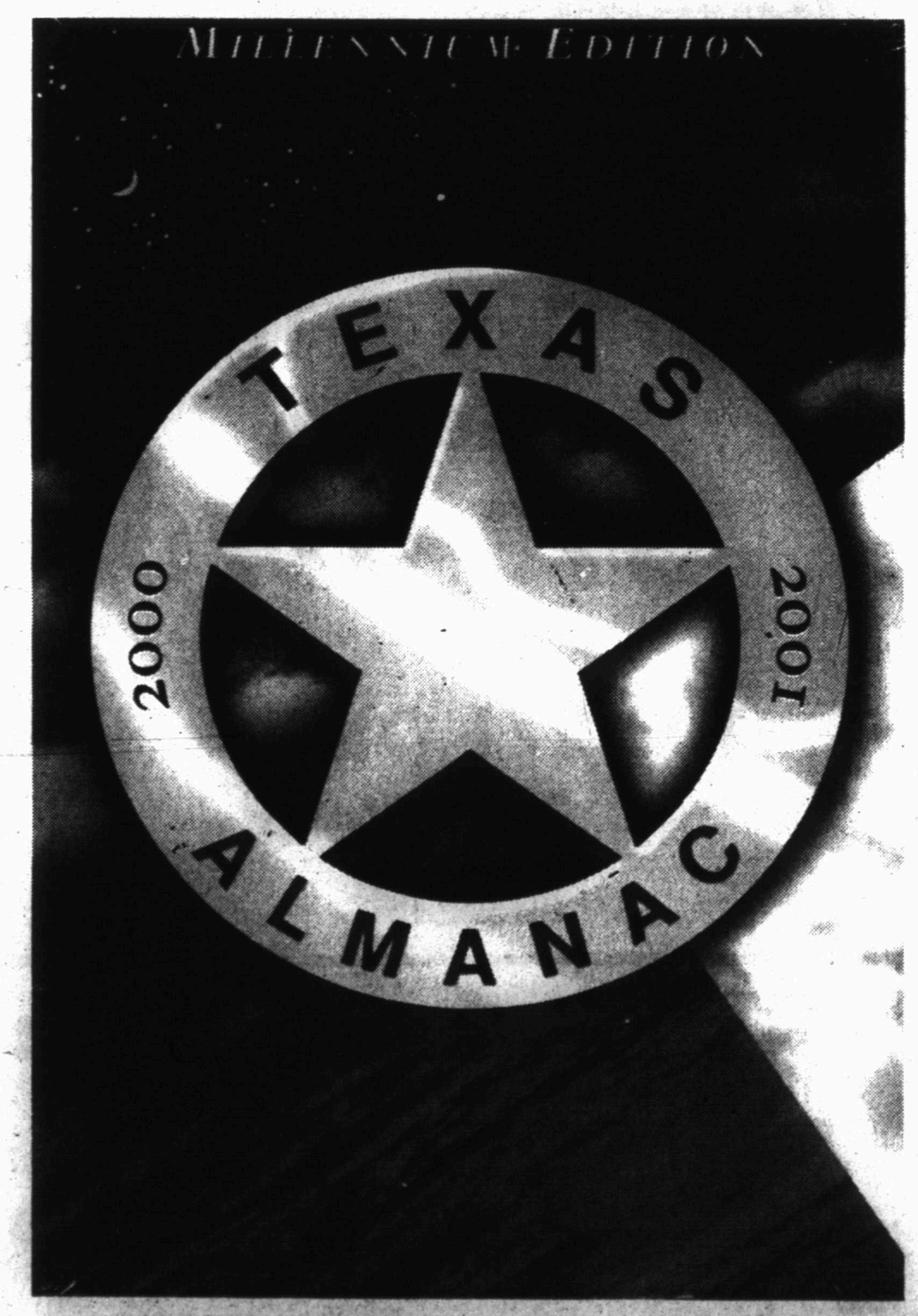
"There's literally thousands of these boxes, and typically a crew of 15, so it's not like anybody would walk by and hear them," Wong said.

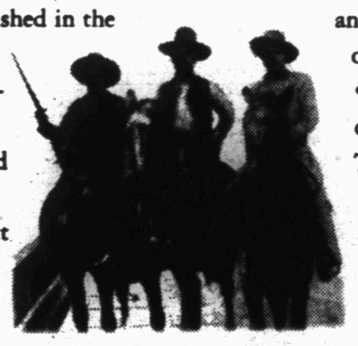
The immigrants were being questioned by the INS. Little was known about them, but most were apparently from Fujian province in southeast China, Ms. Melville said. Both containers were loaded in Hong Kong.

Ms. Melville said two of the immigrants told interviewers they were each charged $50,000 by smugglers and had paid $5,000 in advance for the voyage.

Smugglers have used soft-top containers to smuggle immigrants to other West Coast ports. After 19 people were found in a container shipped to Tacoma, Wash., in April, an INS official said it was part of a troubling trend.

New Shipment Just Arrived





THE TEXAS RANGERS have been at the core of Texas' mystique since the group was established in the mid-1800s. They have been hailed as white-hatted heroes by some and reviled as corrupt, bigoted bullies by others. Both opinions have been correct at different times during more than 160 years.

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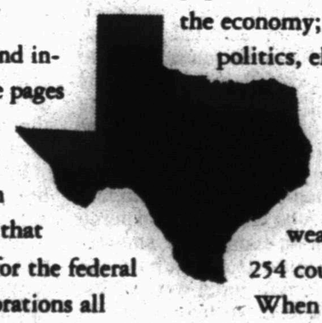

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