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WT-Int. Crude - $26.28
WTIC Posted - $23.50

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

Jan. 13, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 219
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Crystal Garcia

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "If you are unable to laugh at yourself, surely others will do it for you."

Snyder's Amy Patton likes to collect famous Texas sayings. We send 'em back and forth, so here's some old ones and perhaps some fresh ones to enjoy:

—Scarce as hen's teeth and frog fangs. (A rare occurrence.)

—I hope to be kicked to death by grasshoppers if it ain't the truth. (I'm not lying.)

—He could bite through a side of bacon without greasing a gum. (He has a big mouth.)

—His hogs are so poor it takes six of 'em to make a shadow. (Poverty stricken.)

—You could ride to town on that blade without a blanket. (A dull knife.)

—You can't tell how deep a well is by measuring the length of the pump handle. (Looks can be deceiving.)

—I think the ole gal swallered a watermelon seed. (She's pregnant.)

—I've seen cows hurt worse than this and get well. (Reference to a rare steak.)

—Nobody ever drowned in sweat. (Hard work never hurt anybody.)

—He's making three tracks in the dirt. (He's so tired he's dragging.)

—Watch out or you'll plow up snakes. (Be careful what you say or you'll create a problem.)

—An empty bucket makes the most racket. (A superficial person usually talks a lot, but says nothing of importance.)

—Some folks are all right until they get two pairs of britches. (Prosperity often ruins people.)

—Get down and cool the seat of your pants. (Come in and visit for a while.)

—Call in the dog and see if they're wet. (Wonder if it's raining outside.)

—He's trying to throw a wide loop with a short rope. (Trying to be something he isn't.)

—A dry well teaches us the worth of water. (We seldom appreciate the important things in life.)

—Every time I stand up, my mind sits down. (Unable to think clearly.)

—The time to kill a snake is when it raises his head. (When a problem arises, tend to it.)

—Every man is born free and equal. If he gets married, that's his fault. (Marriage is restrictive.)

—A bird in the hand causes a big mess. (Things aren't always what they seem.)

—He'd foul up a two-car funeral. (Error-prone.)

—He's a hundred dollar saddle and a twenty dollar horse man. (Lacks a sense of value.)

—Friendly as fire ants. (Hostile.)

—Nothing dries as quick as a tear. (Problems soon will pass.)

—Dirt shows up on the cleanest cotton. (Misdeeds by the pious are evident to everybody.)

—How's momma and them? (A greeting meaning, How are you?)

—You can cut off a dog's tail, but you can't sew it back. (A bad mistake can't be corrected.)

Founded in 1950...

Open house set at WTSB on anniversary

West Texas State Bank will celebrate its 50th anniversary Friday with an open house at its facility during regular lobby hours, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The bank opened Jan. 14, 1950 with total assets of $2,560,900.96. Today that figure stands at $85,139,844.98.

The bank was chartered in Sept. 1949, and organizing directors authorized the purchase of a lot on the southwest corner of the Snyder square for $16,000 for the bank building.

It is still at the same location, although the building has undergone several changes.

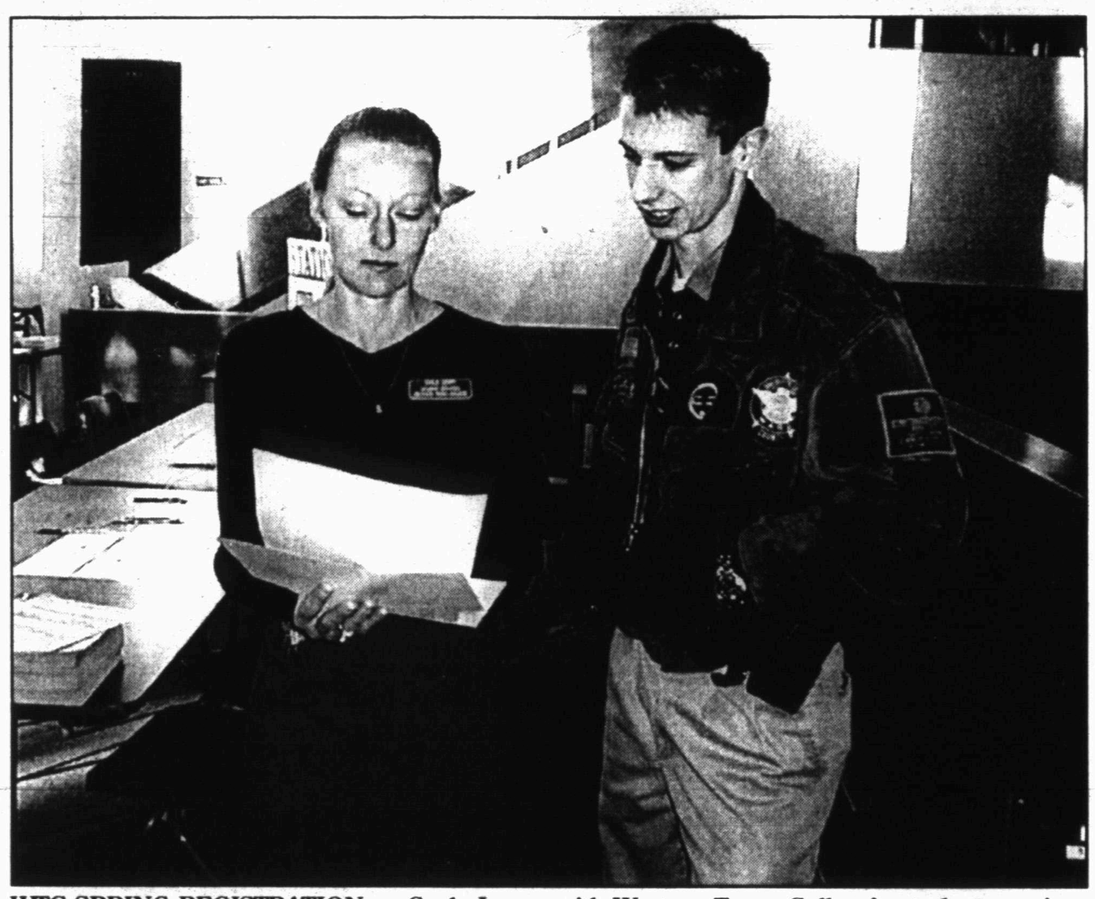
Wayne Boren was named chairman of the new bank and Nolan Watson was named president. Other officers were Horace E. Eiland, vice president; Hugh Taylor, vice president; H.W. Cargile, cashier; and Olian Vinson, Billy Lloyd and Billy Holman as assistant cashiers.

The first directors were Wayne Boren, Herman Doak, B.C. Drinkard, H.H. Eiland, Weldon Johnson, M.H. McWhirter, George E. Parks, Hugh Taylor and Nolan Watson.

Bill C. Parker now serves as the president and chief executive officer, a position he has held since 1986.

Besides Parker, other members of the WTSB board are Martin Brooks, chairman; John Greene, executive vice president; Terry Martin, R.C. Patton, James Brown, Harold Denson, Bill Eiland, Dale Stuard and Dan Cotton.

Other officers are Derwin Thompson, senior vice president and cashier; Forrest Pendleton, vice president; Shawn Ragland, vice president; John Shirley, vice president; Donna Koonce, assistant vice president; Anita Clinkinbeard, assistant vice president; Joyce Pace, assistant cashier; Todd Sorrells, assistant cashier ; and Jennifer Voss, assistant cashier.



WTC SPRING REGISTRATION — Gayla Leary, with Western Texas College's student services office, checks Jay Ball's registration material before he moves to the next station during registration this morning. Classes begin Tuesday. (SDN Staff Photo)

Snyder trustees to consider employee retirement plan

Two items which could have long-term effects on the local school district will be considered Thursday when the Snyder ISD board of trustees meet at 6 p.m.

Trustees will consider an employee retirement incentive program, and a proposal to reduce energy costs.

Trustees will also meet in executive session to discuss the annual evaluation of Supt. Gayle Lomax.

Other items on the agenda include a resolution seeking renewal of a grant for $18,300 for assistance in paying for a school resource officer, and a request to submit an application for a reading improvement grant.

The Academic Excellence Indicator System will also be presented to the board.

Prior to the meeting, a reception will be held in the district's board room for the trustees in recognition of Texas School Board Month.

Hermleigh board will discuss extension of superintendent's pact

Hermleigh ISD's board of trustees will meet this evening at 6 o'clock for its regular monthly meeting that will include the annual evaluation of Supt. Jerry Church.

The board will conduct an executive session for Church's evaluation.

Following the closed session, the board will consider the superintendent's contract.

In other matters, the board will consider appointing Church as the district's integrated pest management coordinator, and consider the adoption of Texas Association of School Board policy updates.

The meeting will be held in the high school building.

Bomb plans found in Blanco

BLANCO (AP) — Officials nine months ago had found a bomb diagram at the home of the teen-ager suspected of building a pipe bomb found this week at a Central Texas high school.

A search warrant obtained Tuesday for the Blanco area home of 17-year-old Justin Byars contained details about another search at his house last April.

In that search, investigators found the diagram at the home after hearing that Byars "had made a statement that he was going to kill a lot of people," the warrant said.

The diagram was consistent with the design of the pipe bomb found Monday at Blanco.

Prosecutors say phone records link suspects

In explosives smuggling case

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — Federal officials say cellular telephone records link a woman arrested last month in Vermont to two Algerians suspected of trying to smuggle explosives into the United States.

In court documents filed Wednesday, federal prosecutors for the first time tied Canadian Lucia Garofalo with Algerians Abdel Ghani and Ahmed Ressam.

Their arrests stirred fears of terrorist attacks over the holiday season. Ressam had a one-night reservation at a motel near Seattle's Space Needle, which was cited as one reason for the cancellation of the New Year's bash there.

Ms. Garofalo was arrested trying to cross the border at Beecher Falls, Vt., on Dec. 19. Five days earlier, Ressam was arrested in Washington state allegedly trying to carry bomb materials into the United States. And on Dec. 30, Ghani was arrested in New York City and accused of attempting to meet up with Ressam.

"There is a close and concerning link between Ms. Garofalo and the investigations that are under way in New York and Seattle," Assistant U.S. Attorney Tristram Coffin said.

Attorneys for Ms. Garofalo, a 35-year-old mother of three, have disputed the government's allegations and say they do not prove she was part of a conspiracy.

Magistrate Judge Jerome Niedermeier agreed to continue holding Ms. Garofalo without bail until her trial on immigration violations, tentatively scheduled for Feb. 14.

The alleged telephone links are circuitous, prosecutors said. But they said that was how the terrorist organization that Ghani and Ressam belonged to operated. Previously, Ressam and Ghani have been linked to the Algerian Armed Islamic Group, known by its French acronym GIA.

Assistant U.S. Attorney David Kirby said there were a series of telephone calls between people who have ties to Ressam and Ms. Garofalo last month around the time of both their arrests.

"The timing of the link is remarkable in that it occurs during the December period when the defendant and Ressam were committing their crimes," Kirby wrote.

Ressam, who was arrested at Port Angeles, Wash., has pleaded innocent to five charges related to bomb-making. Ghani, 31, was charged with being Ressam's accomplice.

The individual common to most of the players was a man named Raja Aslam, prosecutors said. A telephone number registered to Aslam allegedly was in Ms. Garofalo's pocket when she was arrested.

"Records show that on Dec. 14, 1999, the date Ressam tried to bring explosives into the United States, Garofalo called this cell phone," according to court records.

Ms. Garofalo's attorney, Maryanne Kampmann, said that did not prove Ms. Garofalo was part of a conspiracy. She said Ms. Garofalo did not know who made the call.

Ms. Garofalo told Kampmann someone else had used her phone, although Coffin said that did not explain the telephone number in Garofalo's pocket.

"It may be the gentleman who used the phone left the scrap of paper in her car. We are talking one phone call. There is no other contact," Kampmann said.

Additional calls were placed from a number assigned to Aslam to one that prosecutors said was assigned to Abdel Ghani and to the cell phone belonging to an unidentified person.

"Records disclose that over the period Dec. 11 to 19, this latter (person) called a number belonging to Abdel Ghani over 20 times, including six times on Dec. 19, the day that Garofalo was arrested," Kirby wrote.

Other telephone records showed contacts between a cell phone belonging to Aslam to a cell phone "somewhere in Vermont during the early morning hours of Dec. 15, 1999."

Prosecutors have alleged that Ms. Garofalo was turned back on that date when she tried to cross the border at Pittsburg, N.H. They allege that she later crossed the border successfully but illegally. On a third attempt, they said, she was arrested.

Aslam, a Pakistani taxi driver who lives in New York City, denied knowing Ms. Garofalo, Ghani or Ressam.

Banks set to close Monday

Local financial institutions will be closed Monday in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Students in Snyder schools will have the day off, but Hermleigh and Ira students will attend classes as usual.

However, Hermleigh and Ira students will not attend classes on Friday. It is a student holiday for Hermleigh and a staff development day for Ira.

Western Texas College will not begin spring 2000 classes until Tuesday due to Monday's holiday.

The Texas Workforce Commission, located on the WTC campus, will not be open.

Snyder Post Office will also be closed on Monday. Mail will be placed in boxes, but there will be no home deliveries.

Neither the city nor the county observes the holiday, so city hall, the courthouse and other city and county facilities will be open.

ASK US

Q—How many births and deaths were reported in Scurry County in 1999?

A—There were 125 births and 141 deaths. The numbers could increase slightly as all birth and death certificates may not have been filed.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 79 degrees; low, 40; 7 a.m. Thursday, 41; no precipitation; total for 2000, .73 of an inch degree.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear; low, mid 20s; Light, variable wind. Friday, sunny. High, mid 60s. S wind 10-20 mph.



Larissa Blackard
Sunny

Sunset:
6:02 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:44 a.m.
Of 12 days in 2000, the sun has shone 12 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

The important thing is not to stop questioning.
—Albert Einstein

JAN 13 2000

Sources: Government favors Microsoft breakup

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department favors breaking Microsoft into three parts, people close to the government's antitrust trial say.

A federal judge would have to agree to such a dramatic action, but if it did occur, it would dismantle the software empire built by Bill Gates that is among America's most successful companies.

Government lawyers, who early in the trial last year dismissed as unlikely any suggestions they might seek a breakup, now believe that any lesser sanctions would be inadequate to limit Microsoft's expansive influence over the nation's technology industry, sources said.

If U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson were to accept such a solution, it would carry enormous implications for the way consumers worldwide buy and use software for their computers.

Justice Department lawyers laid out their proposal favoring to break Microsoft into three parts during a secret meeting last week in Washington with representatives of 19 states, people familiar with the talks said. The states are also suing the company over alleged antitrust violations.

The Justice Department, which disclosed last month that it had hired as its adviser a financial consulting firm, Greenhill & Co. LLC, argued that lesser sanctions — such as prohibiting the company from abusing its influence or publishing its wholesale prices — would be inadequate to rein in Microsoft.

The Justice Department declined to publicly discuss its plans Wednesday.

Microsoft spokesman Jim Cullinan said "the notion of breaking up Microsoft is an extreme and radical proposal not justified by what has been presented in this case."

Microsoft lost more than $18 billion in stock market value Wednesday. The company's shares closed down $3.561/4, or 3.3 percent, at $105.811/4.

The government expects to formally present the breakup plan next week when it meets privately again in Chicago with U.S. Circuit Judge Richard Posner, the federal mediator who is holding ongoing settlement talks.

Those close to the discussions indicated little progress has been made so far in those discussions, as the sides remain far apart on important issues.

The government's endorsement of a breakup — considered the "death penalty" among possible remedies — could spur Microsoft to seek a lesser sanction in settlement. But it could also stymie the sensitive negotiations and encourage Microsoft to battle the case through America's courts for years.

It wasn't immediately clear exactly how the government envisions the restructuring of one of America's most successful companies, with $19.7 billion in sales last year alone. But one source said lawyers ruled out dividing Microsoft into one company to sell its dominant Windows operating system, another to sell its software applications and a third to sell its Internet content — because these companies still would wield extraordinary control over Windows and the industry's most popular software programs.

Another breakup option that had been under consideration includes dividing Microsoft into smaller duplicate companies, dubbed "Baby Bills" after the company's famous billionaire chairman, that would be set against each other in the market.

The 19 state attorneys general, who have hired their own advisers separately from Justice, are deciding whether to endorse Justice's breakup proposal but are leaning in favor of it, sources said. At least one state has cautioned that a breakup could be unduly disruptive to consumers, who rely on Windows as a de facto standard to run their software applications and their PCs.

Network programs to have anti-drug theme

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The U.S. government gave up its right to network advertising time in a deal to promote anti-drug messages on some of the nation's most popular television shows, Salon.com reported this week.

The exchange allowed the networks to earn $25 million by reselling the ad time at higher prices, according to reports published Wednesday by the online news and arts company headquartered in San Francisco.

Salon.com, without citing sources, said shows that have participated since the program began are NBC's top-rated "ER," CBS's "Chicago Hope," and ABC's "The Practice" and now-canceled "Home Improvement."

"Cosby," "Providence," "The Drew Carey Show," "Sabrina the Teenage Witch" and "General Hospital" also reportedly participated.

Former Federal Communication Commission chief counsel Robert Corn-Revere called the arrangement "insidious."

"Government surreptitiously planting anti-drug messages using the power of the purse raises red flags," he told Salon.com. "Why is there no disclosure to the American public?"

The arrangement began after Congress approved a five-year, $1 billion program to pay for anti-drug advertising in 1997. Networks were persuaded to sell advertising at half-price so the government could actually get $2 billion worth of ads.

However, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy later gave up some unused advertising time, allowing networks to sell it for full price. The office also agreed to credit networks for unused ad spots based on the length of anti-drug episodes and the number of viewers who watched.

"I know it's allowed us to make some deals we wouldn't normally make before," said Alan Levitt, the drug-policy official running the campaign. "We can make it more flexible for (media outlets)."

As part of the program, the White House office's former ad-buying firm occasionally reviewed scripts under development and commented on them, said Kayne Lanahan, senior vice president at News Corp. One, the media and marketing arm of the Fox network.

Rosalyn Weinman, NBC's executive vice president for content policy and East Coast entertainment, said the network and the anti-drug office had conversations when the office had "specific concerns." She said there was no "script approval."

A CBS spokesman said the network was "proud to be working with the government in regard to the war on drugs."

Rob Dwek, Fox's former executive vice president of comedy and drama series, said the financial incentives had "no impact on what we do creatively."

An executive at UPN confirmed its participation in the program, while officials at ABC declined to comment.

Salon.com quoted an unidentified contractor for the drug office as saying "Smart Guy" on the WB network was altered after the contractor complained that two kids using drugs were depicted as being cool and popular.

Rick Mater, WB's senior vice president for broadcast standards, confirmed that the White House "did sign off" on scripts.

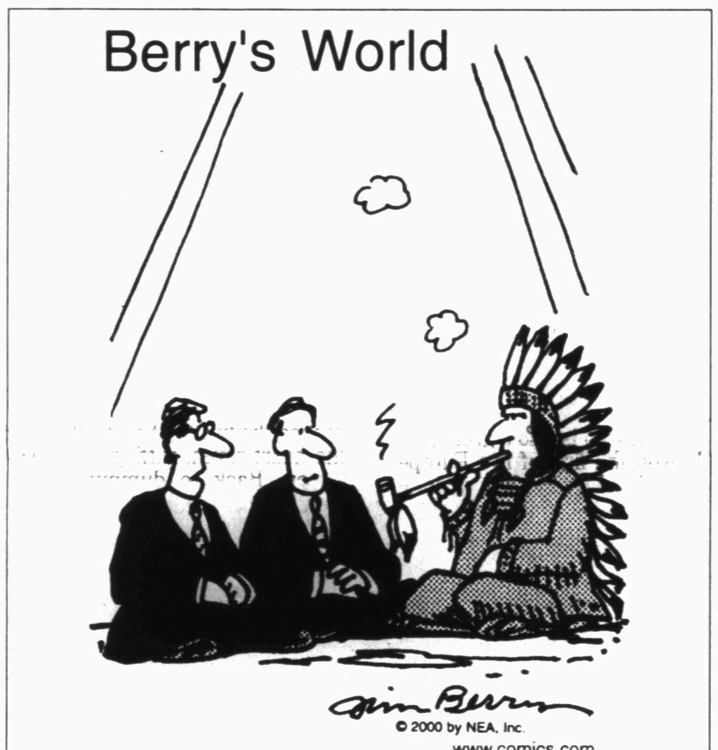
Levitt said in "almost every instance" people with creative control of the shows did not know about the program.

"I had not a clue about any financial incentives," said John Tinker, the executive producer last season of "Chicago Hope." "It smells manipulative. All of this is disturbing."

The arrangement was lambasted by media critics.

"It sounds to me like a form of propaganda that is, in effect, for sale," said Bill Kovach, curator of the Nieman Foundation. He called it a "form of mind control."

Levitt, who confirmed the basic outlines of the program, defended it.



"Now, this is something that one doesn't often see these days — A PIPE SMOKER."

Teens arrested in Internet scam

GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP) — Four teen-age boys have been charged in what police say was an Internet scam that used stolen credit card numbers to defraud hundreds of people around the country.

The boys, ages 14 to 16, obtained credit card numbers by tricking America Online and Earthlink subscribers into transmitting their account information to the teens over the Internet, Detective Jay Davies said.

The information allowed the teen-agers to obtain the passwords, addresses, phone numbers and credit card numbers of people in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Florida, Nebraska, Texas and elsewhere.

The alleged cyber scammers then used the credit card numbers to make about $8,000 in purchases, arranging to have the merchandise delivered to unoccupied homes, according to Davies.

Police were alerted when John Bertino of Galloway Township complained that charges for $1,000 in "kids stuff" — including a Sony Playstation — had shown up on his Visa credit card.

America Online spokesman Rich D'Amato said Wednesday that the company warns subscribers against giving out their passwords or other sensitive information and that AOL staffers will never ask a subscriber for a password or billing information.

The teen-agers, whose names weren't released, are all students at the same high school. They were arrested between Dec. 23 and Jan. 6 and charged with fraud, conspiracy, credit card theft and receiving stolen property.

Polls: Majority thinks Elian should be returned to Cuba

WASHINGTON (AP) — A majority of Americans think 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez should be returned to Cuba to be with his father after being rescued off the coast of Florida clinging to an inner tube, two polls say.

Elian was found Nov. 25 off the coast of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., after a boat accident that killed his mother and 10 other people.

Federal officials say he should be returned to his father, but a Florida judge has said he cannot be returned until a March hearing. Attorney General Janet Reno said Wednesday that only a federal court can make such a ruling.

A CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll found that 56 percent approve of the boy's return while 36 percent thought he should stay. Last month, people were about evenly split, but the decision by the U.S. government decision to return him to his father in Cuba may have increased the number who support that move, said Lydia Saad, managing editor of the Gallup Poll.

"Public opinion can be altered by an official decision," she said. "There's a degree of authority to the decision — particularly on an issue where the public did not have strong opinions."

Men supported the boy's return to his father in Cuba by a slightly larger margin than women, and people with college educations were more likely than those with less education to favor his return.

A WLTV-Channel 23 poll of Miami-Dade County residents in southern Florida indicated that nine of 10 Hispanics oppose his return to Cuba, while a majority of non-Hispanic whites and blacks say he should go home.

The ABC poll of 1,016 adults was conducted Jan. 5-9. The CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll of 1,633 adults was taken Friday through Monday. Both polls have error margins of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Date Book

Thursday, Jan. 13, 2000
Today is the 13th day of 2000 and the 23rd day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1910, an opera was broadcast by radio for the first time.

On this day in 1966, President Lyndon Johnson appointed Robert Weaver secretary of Housing and Urban Development. He was the first African-American to serve in the Cabinet.

On this day in 1982, an Air Florida jet crashed into the Potomac river in Washington, D.C., killing 80 people.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Salmon P. Chase (1808-1873), Supreme Court chief justice; Sophie Tucker (1884-1966), singer; Robert Stack (1919-), actor, is 81; Gwen Verdon (1925-), dancer-actress, is 75; Charles Nelson Reilly (1931-), actor-director, is 69; Frank Gallo (1933-), artist, is 67; Jay McInerny (1955-), writer, is 45; Julia Louis Dreyfus (1960-), actress, is 39.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1974, the Miami Dolphins won the Super Bowl by defeating the Minnesota Vikings 24-7.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "A good many things go around in the dark besides Santa Claus." — Herbert Clark Hoover

TODAY'S MOON: Day before first quarter (Jan. 14).

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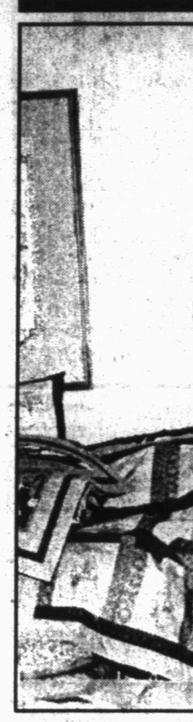
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NOCONA BOOTS
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Colorado City

The Following Financial Institutions Will Be Closed Monday, January 17 In Observance Of

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
—January 17—

Please Transact Your Business Accordingly
Texas Savings Bank
American State Bank
West Texas State Bank

Lifestyles



ART OF QUILT
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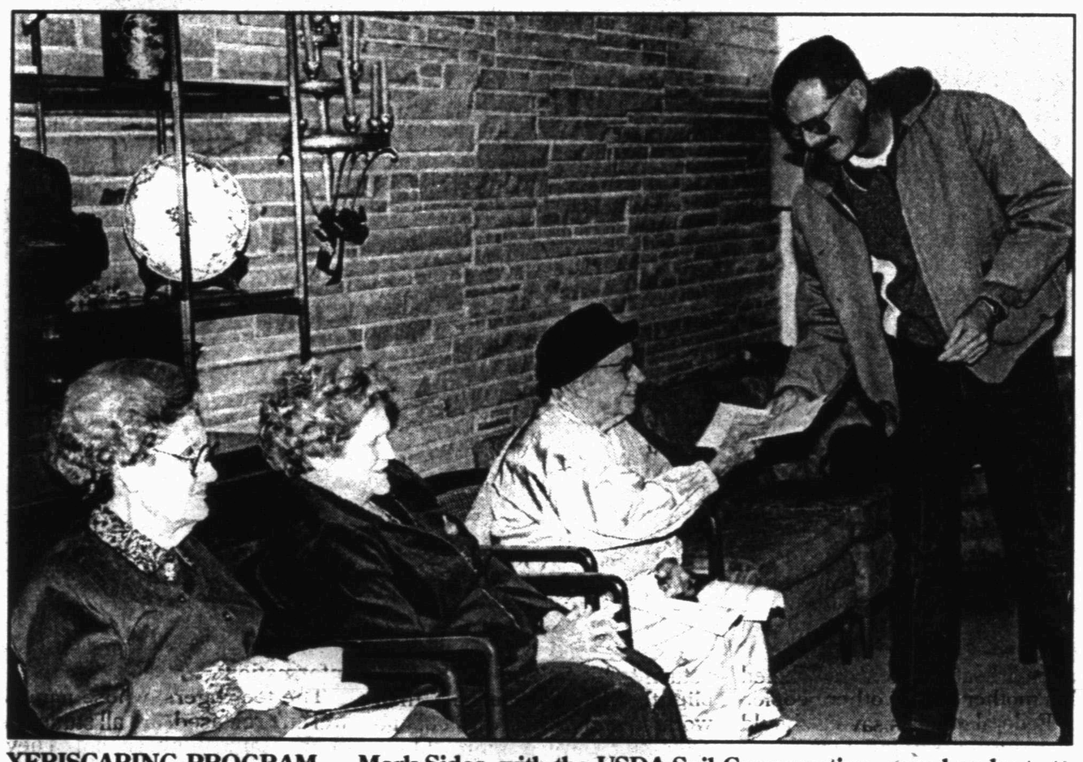
THURS
Snyder Palette C
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LLL Club; fellows
Baptist Church; 9:3
Noah Project Ad
tee; MAWC; noon.
Canyon Gun C
Street; 7:30 p.m.
Al-Anon brown ba



Sun



ART OF QUILTING — Janelle Pollard, left, and Paula McWilliams shared many of their handmade quilts, pillows, wall hangings and other items made by various quilting techniques with Atheneum Study Club members. They also displayed many of their friends handiwork, some used very old, sentimental fabrics, embroidered pieces and buttons. Pollard and McWilliams have attended a quilting club once a week for several years. The "Stitching a Memory" program was Tuesday at the Martha Ann Woman's Club and hostesses were Janet Brown and Burnell Hargrove. On Feb. 8 a dinner meeting, including husbands, will be held at MAWC for a program on lighthouses, by Dexter Norwood. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



XERISCAPING PROGRAM — Mark Sides, with the USDA Soil Conservation, gave handouts to members of the Snyder Garden Club, LaVerne Hood, Gussie Gray and Gertrude League, from left. Sides program topic was "Keys to Native Plants and Xeriscaping," talking mainly about plants conducive to this area. Hostesses were Gray and Sandra Browning. The next meeting will be held at Martha Ann Woman's Club on Feb. 3 at 9:30 a.m. and Anna Sears will give the program "Keys to Oriental Style Designs." (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Snyder Palette Club; airport terminal bldg. On W. 37th; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

LLL Club; fellowship hall of First Baptist Church; 9:30 a.m.

Noah Project Advisory Committee; MAWC; noon.

Canyon Gun Club; 1910 25th Street; 7:30 p.m.

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.

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.

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



Evening of Praise

with Ken Young and Hallal

Sunday, January 16, 2000, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

East Side Church of Christ

201 31st Street Snyder, Texas 79549 (915)573-3583

Ask Anne & Nan

By Anne B. Adams and Nancy Nash-Cummings



Recycling old furs

DEAR ANNE AND NAN: I own a beautiful-but-outdated fur stole, which hangs in my closet. I have offered to have it restyled into a jacket for family members, but get no takers. I own a fur jacket, so I have no interest in another. Do you know a professional "stuffed animal-maker" who can fashion me either a cute cat or teddy bear from the stole? It will have to be quite a large animal, I presume. My stole will then not be a total loss. — **LORRAINE AYRES, Whittier, Calif.**

DEAR LORRAINE: Marjorie Edlen is the owner of From the Heart and has been making teddy bears, rabbits and dolls out of old fur coats, army uniforms, quilts wedding gowns and blankets for over 10 years. For more information, you can give her a call at 1-888-476-2273, e-mail her at edlen(AT)misslink.net or write to her at 67 S. Seminar St., Galesburg, IL 61401. Another place that converts old furs to bears is Marti and Phillip Smith's World's Smallest Teddy Bear Factory (508-746-8613), at 21 Ashberry St., Plymouth, MA 02360. Susan Lawrence of Unity Road, Claremont, N.H. 03743 (603-542-4321) makes all sorts of items out of old furs — muffs, hats, lap robes — and she'd be happy to try a teddy bear out of old fur coats. Fur-Get-Me-Not is a California company that's been transforming furs into teddy bears for years. For more info, or to receive ordering information, call 1-800-551-BEAR.

DEAR ANNE AND NAN: My step-daughter, who lives in an old home in Palestine, Texas, has been looking in vain for lace curtains at least 108 inches long — she would even take sheers in a pinch. Can you help? — M.D., Lancaster, Ohio

DEAR M.D.: The Country Curtains catalog has some pretty lace curtains which are 108 inches long. The lace has an all-over pattern of roses and meandering vines. The curtains have scalloped edging at the bottom and both sides. The fabric is 75 percent cotton and 25 percent polyester. Each panel (Rose Fantasy, number 5071) of the 108-inch curtain is $59 plus shipping. To order, call 1-800-456-0321.

Write to "Ask Anne & Nan" at P.O. Box 240, Hartland, VT 05048. Our new book, "Clean It, Fix It, Find It," is ready. The price is $14.95 plus $4.00 S and H. Add $1.00 for each additional book. Mail your order to Enfield Distribution, P.O. Box 699, Enfield, NH 03748. Or call toll-free (888) 216-7611.

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Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Jan. 12-Todd Dobson, Billie Martin, Joe League and Valerie Lopez.

DISMISSALS: Jo Baumann of Loraine, Deana Cooper, Riley Martinez, Lula Gaddis, Allena Higgins, June Lightsey, Faustino Lopez, Otis Martin, A. Rodgers and Margaret Weaver.

CENSUS: 43 (Med./Surg.-17, Long-term Care-25, ICU-1)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North ♠ Q 9 3 ♥ A K 7 6 4 ♦ A K 6 ♣ 4 3	01-13-00
West ♠ A 4 ♥ --- ♦ Q J 10 9 5 4 ♣ A Q J 10 2		East ♠ 8 6 2 ♥ Q 5 3 2 ♦ 8 3 2 ♣ 9 7 6
	South ♠ K J 10 7 5 ♥ J 10 9 8 ♦ 7 ♣ K 8 5	

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
Pass	1 ♦	Dbl.	Pass
2 ♠	4 ♣	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ Q

A third top Italian

By Phillip Alder

Two weeks ago, I wrote about Benito Garozzo and Giorgio Belladonna, two of the famous Italian Blue Team. Both partnered Pietro Forquet, who is also a great player. He won the first of five European Championships in 1951, when only 26 years old, and he has collected 15 world team titles.

At the table, he is cool, calm and calculating. Away from it, he is very friendly. He also runs bidding competitions for magazine readers. His problems usually fall into one of two categories: You have a very weak hand that, because of the auction, is much more useful than you might think; or you have a powerful hand, but before you get a chance to speak, the other three players act as if they hold strong two-bids.

In this four-spade contract, it looked as though Forquet would lose four tricks (one spade, one heart and two clubs), because when East got in with the heart queen, he would switch to a club. How did Forquet get home?

From the bidding, West was marked with at least 11 minor-suit cards, but if he also had two spades, everything would be all right. The key play came at trick one: Forquet ducked! West continued with another diamond to dummy's king, Forquet discarding a heart from hand. Now came a spade to the king and ace; West exited with a third diamond, on which declarer threw a second heart. After playing a spade to dummy's nine, Forquet cashed the two top hearts, then led the heart seven, ruffing out East's queen. Back to dummy with a trump, Forquet pitched two club losers on the six-four of hearts.

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JAN 13 2000

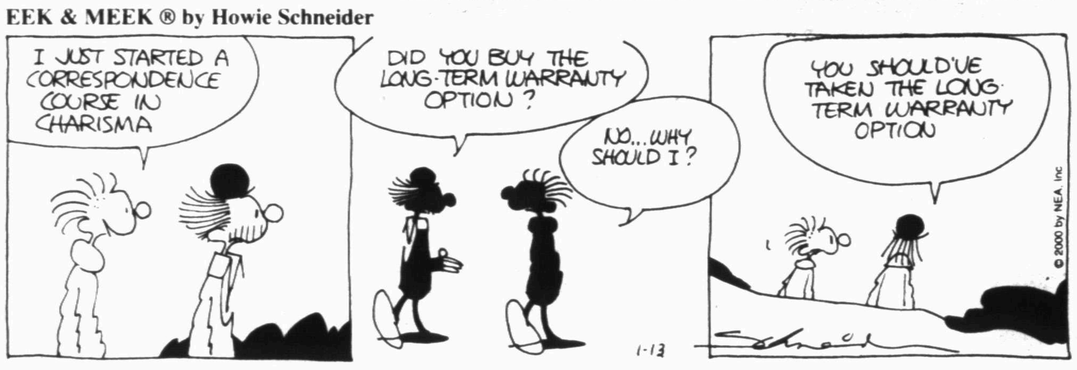
Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © By Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © By Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Certain apartment
7 Sweet
13 Theatrical company
14 Family groups
15 Line on a map
16 Pontius —
17 Scarce
18 Health resort
20 Jacob's son
21 Equatorial constellation
23 Sculptor George —
27 Medieval science
32 About
33 Eagle's nest
34 Arrow poison
35 Change a clock
36 Merit
39 Kate Nelligan movie
40 Like some seals
42 Dramatic conflict
46 Pod item
47 Phonetic symbol
51 California county
53 Pilfered
55 Hidden shooter
56 Group of nine
57 Past and future
58 Braces oneself

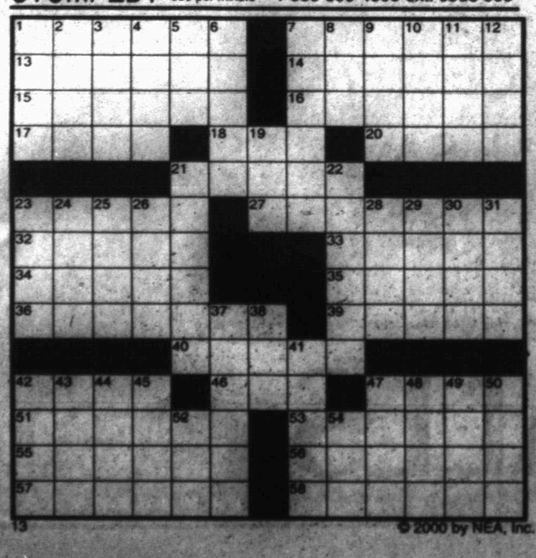
DOWN

1 Mix
2 Celestial bear
3 Rude person
4 Garage job
5 Clean-air org.
6 Succinct
7 Minnesota capital (2 wds.)
8 Psychic Geller
9 — monster
10 Arabian garments
11 Nerve network
12 River in Belgium
19 Harper Valley grp.
21 Actress Bloom
22 Afraid
23 Go swiftly
24 Emerald Isle
25 Pate de foie —
26 Farm measure
28 Part of the foot
29 Irish-Gaelic
30 Manner
31 Abominable Snowman
37 Fumes
38 Before, to a poet
41 Puts at rest
42 Aide (abbr.)
43 Left
44 TV actor Ken —
45 Snoozes
47 First-rate (2 wds.)
48 Type of club
49 Supper, e.g.
50 No ifs, — or buts
52 Society-page word
54 Explosive inits.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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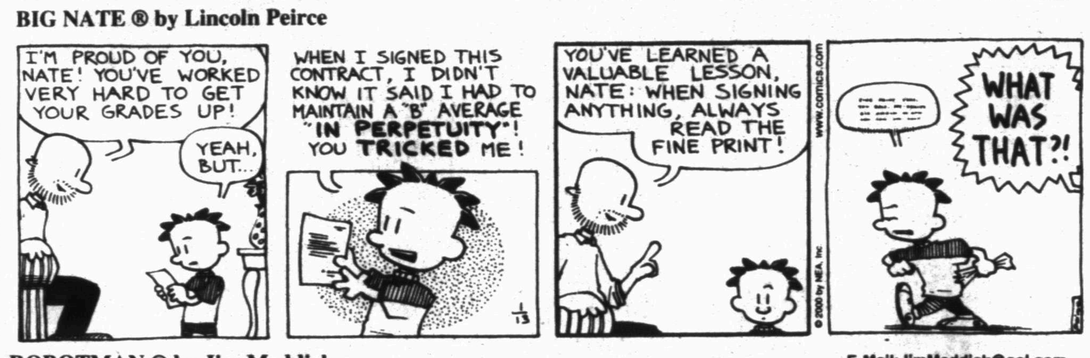
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail:JimMeddick@aol.com



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



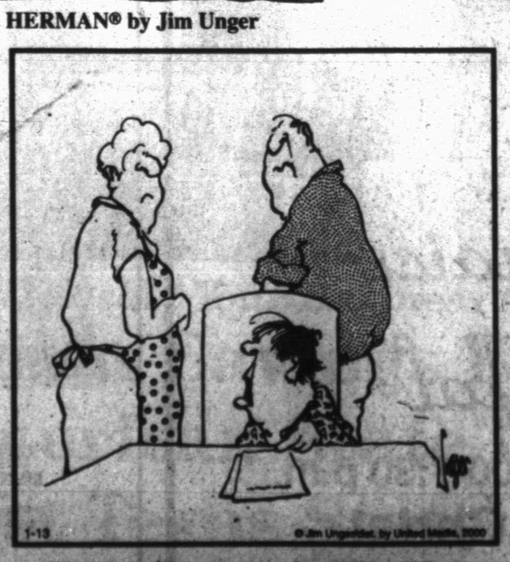
BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen



KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



HERMAN® by Jim Unger



"I gotta write a poem about Dad. What rhymes with 'el dummo'?"





"MAYBE HIS HEART IS IN THE RIGHT PLACE, BUT WHY CAN'T THE REST OF HIM STAY IN HIS OWN YARD?"

SPORTS

Lady Dusters host WJCAC tilt tonight

After a 2-15 start to their season, the Western Texas Lady Dusters are hoping a little home court atmosphere might change their luck.

Western Texas hosts only its second home game of the season when Odessa (11-6, 1-0) visits the WTC gym at 7:30 tonight in a Western Junior College Athletic Conference match-up.

The Lady Dusters moved from the Scurry County Coliseum to their gymnasium on campus during the offseason, but have played only once in their new home site, falling to Ranger, 82-66, two months ago.

"We're really looking forward to playing at home and having some community support," WTC coach Valery Jackson said. "The girls have been real positive in practice the past few days, so we've had a couple of pretty good workouts. We're still working hard to become a better basketball team."

The Lady Dusters will face a veteran Odessa line-up comprised of four sophomores and a freshman post player. The Lady Wranglers' main weapon is forward Brianna Evans who averages 13.8 points per game.

"Part of our game plan is to pressure the ball, and change up our defenses," Jackson said. "They have a couple of pretty good guards, but we think we can get to them some with full-court pressure."

Offensively for the Lady Dusters, sophomore Crystal Williams paces the squad with 11 points per outing, followed by Daniell Brown who averages nine per game.

"Offensively, we've got to shoot the ball better," Jackson stated. "We're shooting our free throws well, but we have to shoot better from the floor. If we put that with our hustle and defensive play, then we should do well."

WTC made only 22 percent of its shots in the conference opener, including a 7-of-39 effort from two-point range.

In other action around the WJCAC, Frank Phillips hosts New Mexico, Howard travels to Midland, and Clarendon visits South Plains.

The Lady Dusters will be back on the road Monday for a match-up with Clarendon at 6 p.m.

Jets, Parcells talk about return

NEW YORK (AP) — Bill Parcells could become the highest-paid coach in NFL history if he returns for one more year with the New York Jets.

NFL sources told The Associated Press that Robert Wood "Woody" Johnson IV, the winning bidder Tuesday in the sale of the team, is willing to pay Parcells more than the $4 million Seattle coach-general manager Mike Holmgren makes.

The sources, speaking on the condition of not being identified, said Johnson is willing to abide by any decision Parcells makes. But Johnson also let it be known during a two-hour meeting with Parcells on Wednesday that the new owner's first choice is Parcells, who stepped down on Jan. 3.

Johnson paid $635 million to the estate of the late Leon Hess for the Jets. The sale must be approved by 24 of the league's 31 owners, who will meet Tuesday in New York and are expected to accept Johnson into their ranks.

By then, Johnson might have committed in the neighborhood of $5 million to Parcells for one season of coaching. Although there are several other possible scenarios — Parcells overseeing the day-to-day operations while someone else coaches; Parcells hiring an assistant head coach to handle much of the daily chores, but with both being on the sidelines for games — Johnson clearly prefers the same situation as the last three years.

That means Parcells calling the shots.

The most logical head coaching candidate on the current staff is linebacker coach Al Groh, who also was defensive coordinator in the past for Parcells.

Johnson met with Parcells and team president Steve Gutman at the Jets' offices. Johnson also met various staff members in what was characterized as "a good introductory meeting and an opportunity to get acquainted."

For now, Johnson can't conduct any official team business. Gutman was to be among the Jets' representatives at a hearing today over Bill Belichick's contract — it was Belichick's resignation as coach the day after Parcells resigned that created the Jets' coaching mess.

Parcells also may be on hand for the hearing. He certainly has a vested interest in what happens with his former defensive coordinator and hand-chosen successor.

No determination on Belichick's status is expected this week. Belichick wants to talk to the New England Patriots about their vacant coaching position, but the Jets would demand compensation from the Patriots — or any team — because Belichick's contract has three years remaining.

Longhorns use surge in second half to top A&M

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Texas A&M hung with No. 15 Texas until the second half. That was when Ivan Wagner and William Clay took over.

Wagner and Clay both scored 14 of their 16 points in the second half as the Longhorns won 78-51 Wednesday night.

The Longhorns (10-4, 2-0 Big 12) beat the youthful Aggies (4-9, 0-2) for the 13th straight time, but it took them well into the second half to take control.

Texas A&M shot only 17 percent from the field in the first half and still the Longhorns could manage only a 28-23 lead. Wagner, who finished with seven assists and five steals, saw to it that the second half was different.

Texas built a 39-29 lead with 13:30 to play in the second half when Wagner's 3-pointer started a 20-5 run that finally gave it control of the game.

"I wanted to come out here and just do what I've been doing all year," Clay said. "I told Coach I felt better pressuring the ball. I wanted my defense to create my offense. Coach told us to attack them because they wanted us to shoot."

The Aggies haven't beaten the Longhorns since Jan. 12, 1994, and they didn't come close Wednesday night.

Freshman Bernard King had 19 points for the Aggies, but he didn't get much help.

"In the second half, I don't know what happened," King said. "Their pressure defense got to us. They played very good defense. A lot of our shots were just misses. Every game is a learning experience for us."

The Aggies helped the Longhorns by shooting just 29 percent from the field, the seventh lowest figure in school history.

Texas built a shaky 12-8 lead with 10:42 to go in the first half, but the Aggies used a 10-0 run to take an 18-12 lead with 7:41 left.

Charlotte guard killed while racing teammate

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Investigators believe Charlotte Hornets guard Bobby Phills was drag-racing with teammate David Wesley at more than 75 mph when Phills lost control of his Porsche, skidded into oncoming traffic and was killed.

"It looks like they were drag-racing, which is legally defined as spontaneous speed competition," Charlotte-Mecklenburg police spokesman Keith Bridges said today. The speed limit where Phills wrecked is 45 mph.

Phills, 30, was leaving a team practice at the Charlotte Coliseum about 11 a.m. when he lost control of his car less than a mile from the arena. Police said his car collided head-on with a vehicle headed to the arena. Phills was killed instantly. A minivan rear-ended the other car, police said. The drivers of the other vehicles were hospitalized

No charges have been filed against Wesley, who was driving a Porsche that wasn't involved in the accident.

The Hornets' starting point guard has refused to talk to police, Bridges said. He said any charges must await completion of the crash investigation, probably sometime next week.

Both Phills and Wesley have been charged with speeding in the past, according to The Charlotte Observer.

Stunned and tearful teammates and Hornets officials gathered at the accident scene. Minutes earlier, Phills and the other players had been practicing for Wednesday night's game with the Chicago Bulls. The game was postponed.

Capt. L.E. Blydenburgh, the police crash investigator, said Phills lost control of his Porsche on a hilly curve where the posted speed was 45 mph. "The skid marks indicate he was not going in a straight line," he said.

Bridges said Phills' 1997 convertible, with the vanity plate "SLAMN," left skid marks several hundred feet long and came to rest in one of the opposite lanes. Firefighters had to cut his body from the wreckage.

SJHS boys fall to Steers

BIG SPRING — Snyder's seventh grade boys were edged by Big Spring in junior high hoops action earlier this week.

Snyder Gold dropped a 40-38 decision to the Steers, while Snyder Black fell, 26-17.

Wyl Wiggins poured in 10 points to pace Snyder Gold, with Alan Gray adding eight. Jason Ramos dropped in six points, while Lico Castillo and Austin Hatfield tallied five apiece. Jonathan Hembree and Cade Owens chipped in two points each.

For Snyder Black, it was Eder Borrego leading the way with seven points. Brandon Bragg drained four points, and Jarrod Fletcher, Jerry Ashley and Brandon Treat registered two apiece.

Both Snyder squads will be in action again today when the Andrews tournament tips off. Tourney action is slated through Saturday.

NFL Playoffs

All Times EST
Wild Card Games
Saturday, Jan. 8
Tennessee 22, Buffalo 16
Washington 27, Detroit 13
Sunday, Jan. 9
Minnesota 27, Dallas 10
Miami 20, Seattle 17

Divisional Games
Saturday, Jan. 15
Miami at Jacksonville, 12:35 p.m. (CBS)
Washington at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m. (FOX)
Sunday, Jan. 16
Minnesota at St. Louis, 12:35 p.m. (FOX)
Tennessee at Indianapolis, 4:05 p.m. (CBS)

Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 23
AFC championship, TBA (CBS)
NFC championship, TBA (FOX)

Super Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 30
at Atlanta, 6:18 p.m. (ABC)

Pro Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 6
at Honolulu (ABC)

Local Basketball Schedule

TODAY
Odessa at Western Texas, at WTC gym, 7:30
FRIDAY
Fort Stockton at Snyder 9th, JV and varsity boys, 4:30, 6 and 7:30
Fort Stockton at Snyder varsity and JV girl, 6 and 7:30
Ira girls and boys at Sands, 6:30 and 8 p.m.
Hermleigh girls and boys at Highland, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

	W	L	Pct	GB
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
Miami	22	11	.667	—
New York	21	14	.600	2
Philadelphia	19	16	.543	4
Orlando	16	20	.444	7½
Boston	15	19	.441	7½
New Jersey	14	20	.412	8½
Washington	12	24	.333	11½
Central Division				
Indiana	23	11	.676	—
Detroit	19	15	.559	4
Milwaukee	20	16	.556	4
Toronto	19	16	.543	4½
Charlotte	18	16	.529	5
Cleveland	15	20	.429	8½
Atlanta	12	21	.364	10½
Chicago	5	27	.156	17
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
San Antonio	24	12	.667	—
Utah	22	11	.667	½
Minnesota	17	15	.531	5
Denver	17	17	.500	6
Dallas	11	24	.314	12½
Houston	10	24	.294	13
Vancouver	10	25	.286	13½
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	31	5	.861	—
Portland	27	8	.771	3½
Seattle	23	13	.639	8
Sacramento	20	12	.625	9
Phoenix	20	14	.588	10
L.A. Clippers	10	24	.294	20
Golden State	6	28	.176	24

Wednesday's Games
Toronto 108, Orlando 102
Boston 95, L.A. Clippers 88
Indiana 117, Washington 102
Detroit 114, New York 108
Chicago at Charlotte, ppd., death
L.A. Lakers 103, Milwaukee 94
Seattle 103, Denver 93
Portland 95, Cleveland 75
Phoenix 95, Vancouver 92
Thursday's Games
L.A. Clippers at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Miami at Utah, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Friday's Games
Orlando at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
New York at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Atlanta at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Miami at Denver, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Cleveland at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Portland at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.

College Basketball Scores

MEN
EAST
Buffalo 71, Cent. Michigan 58
Canisius 68, Marist 61
George Washington 83, American U. 72
Holy Cross 68, Colgate 51
Lehigh 81, Army 64
Md.-Eastern Shore 55, Albany, N.Y. 52
Navy 77, Bucknell 70
Rutgers 71, Providence 61
St. Bonaventure 76, St. Joseph's 71
Temple 78, Fordham 61
Villanova 80, La Salle 72
SOUTH
Arkansas 74, Georgia 54
Cincinnati 72, Tulane 59
Duke 82, Georgia Tech 57
Florida 82, LSU 57
Florida St. 60, Clemson 57
James Madison 70, Old Dominion 66
Louisiana Tech 62, Centenary 51
Memphis 78, South Florida 74
Mississippi St. 61, Mississippi 59
N.C. Charlotte 92, Houston 74
N.C. State 65, Virginia 62
N.C.-Asheville 77, Charleston Southern 62
Richmond 59, East Carolina 55
UAB 56, Louisville 50
Vanderbilt 76, Tennessee 73
Virginia Tech 80, Duquesne 59
Wake Forest 66, North Carolina 57
William & Mary 73, Va. Commonwealth 65
MIDWEST
Evansville 70, Drake 62
Indiana St. 56, Illinois St. 54
Iowa St. 66, Nebraska 65
Kansas 87, Kansas St. 79
Kent 80, E. Michigan 67
Marquette 69, DePaul 60
Marshall 91, Toledo 90
Miami, Ohio 86, Ball St. 84, 3OT
Minnesota 85, Iowa 82
Missouri 100, Colorado 86
N. Iowa 50, Bradley 46
Notre Dame 86, Boston College 77
Purdue 69, Illinois 66
SW Missouri St. 70, Wichita St. 63
Tulsa 75, Creighton 67
W. Michigan 91, Bowling Green 82
SOUTHWEST
Texas 78, Texas A&M 51
FAR WEST
SMU 79, Hawaii 73
Southern Cal 91, UCLA 79

WOMEN
EAST
Boston College 67, St. John's 50
Bucknell 64, Navy 58
Connecticut 75, West Virginia 35
Delaware 74, Canisius 62
Holy Cross 75, Colgate 60
Iona 79, Siena 75
La Salle 73, Duquesne 58
Lehigh 78, Army 60
Providence 77, Pittsburgh 76
Rutgers 60, Georgetown 48
SOUTH
Belmont 78, Troy St. 77
Coastal Carolina 61, Winthrop 58
High Point 27, Radford 19
Howard 75, Md.-Eastern Shore 57
Jackson St. 100, Arkansas Baptist 51
Louisiana-Monroe 69, Centenary 41
Maryland 68, Florida St. 67
N.C.-Asheville 63, Charleston Southern 56
Norfolk St. 55, William & Mary 52
MIDWEST
Cent. Michigan 61, E. Michigan 51
Kansas St. 73, Baylor 58
Kent 84, Ohio 54
W. Michigan 67, Akron 55
Wichita St. 63, Creighton 53
Wisconsin 74, Northwestern 60
SOUTHWEST
Oklahoma 87, Texas A&M 59
Oklahoma St. 71, Texas 69
Texas Tech 75, Colorado 50
FAR WEST
No major team scores reported from the FAR WEST.

Sports Briefs

Seahawks hire defensive coordinator

SEATTLE (AP) — Steve Sidwell was hired as Seattle Seahawks defensive coordinator. Sidwell, 55, fills the gap left by the death of defensive coordinator Fritz Shurmur.

An 18-year league veteran, Sidwell was defensive coordinator for New England the last two years.

Brewers, White Sox make trade

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The Milwaukee Brewers traded right-hander Cal Eldred and infielder Jose Valentin to the Chicago White Sox for right-handers Jaime Navarro and John Snyder.

Eldred was 2-8 with a 7.79 ERA in 20 games last year. Valentin, a career .240 hitter, batted .227 with 10 homers and 38 RBIs.

Navarro returns to Milwaukee, where he pitched from 1989-94, including 17-11 with a 3.33 ERA in 1992. Snyder was 9-12 with a 6.68 ERA in 25 starts last season.

Rangers re-sign Oliver

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Texas agreed with left-hander Darren Oliver on a $19 million, three-year contract.

Oliver, traded to St. Louis by the Rangers two years ago, was 9-9 with a 4.26 ERA in 30 starts last season.

Hollandsworth agrees with Dodgers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Todd Hollandsworth, 1996 NL Rookie of the Year, agreed to a $1.45 million, one-year contract with the Dodgers.

Hollandsworth, a 26-year-old outfielder who will be eligible for free agency after this season, hit .284 last year with nine homers and 32 RBIs.

Marshall player charged in attack

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. (AP) — Marshall football player Carlos Smith was charged in a racially motivated attack on a city police detective's son.

Smith, a senior defensive end, was charged with unlawful wounding, a felony. Five other players also taunted the boy but have not been charged in the Dec. 19 attack, police said.

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Legal Notice

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting bids for the purchase of new 3 yard side load containers. The bids will be received until Friday, January 28, 2000 at 3:30 in the accounting department at the City Hall. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting sealed bids on a pre-engineered metal building to be located at the City of Snyder's landfill. Bids will be received until January 27, 2000 at 3:00 p.m. at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting sealed bids on a hot water washer that will be used at the City of Snyder's Landfill. Bids will be received until January 27, 2000 at 3:30 p.m. at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

REQUEST FOR BIDS ON TEXAS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

Sealed proposals for landscape development on SH 350 at Round Top Road in Snyder covered by CL 693-3-36 in Scurry County , will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 P.M., February 3, 2000, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the letting official, by the specified deadline regardless of the method chosen by the bidder for delivery.

Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Micheal Molter, Area Engineer, Snyder, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will insure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex, or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award.

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8-D-22101 8-76-0693-03-036

Lost & Found

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Personal

"ATTENTION WIVES: If your husband owns a semi-truck and is not making money, convince him to lease to Booker Trans. and we will pay you $1000.00. Call (800)569-4633 x 300, M-F, 8-5, for details."

Vehicle

1981 Ford F150 P/U. Rebuilt 351 engine, new paint. $2500. 573-3046.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Mass hysteria blamed for illness at Tennessee school

By The Associated Press

It started with a funny smell, first noticed by a teacher in a school kitchen. She felt sick to her stomach and several of her students felt strange.

Soon, by the dozens, students throughout the school complained of nausea, dizziness, headaches and drowsiness.

Before it was over, more than 170 students, teachers and others sought emergency treatment during the November 1998 outbreak at Warren County High School in McMinnville, Tenn. The school of 2,000 students was closed for more than two weeks. Nearly $100,000 was spent on emergency care alone.

A raft of government investigators studied the school grounds and analyzed blood samples. They examined puddles and grease traps and even checked an air space above the foundation. They looked for viruses, germs, pesticides, herbicides, poisons — anything that could conceivably make so many people ill so quickly.

They found nothing.

In an article published in today's New England Journal of Medicine, they blame the outbreak on mass hysteria — real symptoms set off by spreading anxiety.

The investigators say such outbreaks are much more common than recognized at schools and in other close-knit communities. And they say cases of mass hysteria — now called "psychogenic illness" — will probably become more frequent and more severe with rising public worry over biological terrorism.

New technology may also be promoting new forms of hysteria. Dr. Ron House, a University of Toronto researcher who has studied mass hysteria in Canada, said Internet messages about real or imagined symptoms of conditions like chemical sensitivity now appear to be touching off such outbreaks in people at great distances from one another.

The phenomenon, though, has long historical roots. Hundreds of outbreaks of mass hysteria have been documented over the past century, often among schoolchildren, soldiers and factory workers. Some historians attribute a feverish medieval mania of jerky movements, known as Saint Vitus' Dance and once blamed on demons, largely to mass hysteria.

"In a previous era, spirits and demons oppressed us. Although they have been replaced by contemporary concerns about invisible viruses, chemicals and toxins, the mechanisms of contagious fear remain the same," said Dr. Simon Wessely of Guy's School of Medicine in London.

The Tennessee investigators are emphatic in saying that no virus, chemical or toxin spread the illness through the school.

"We did the most thorough environmental and epidemiological study that was humanly possible," said Dr. Timothy Jones, a federal epidemiologist now at the Tennessee Department of Health and lead author of the report.

He said it is still possible the outbreak was touched off by a real chemical smell, though such a chemical was never discovered. But he said mass hysteria soon took over and brought on the vast share of illness.

In fact, the investigators found some classic hallmarks of contagious anxiety: Victims were about three more times more likely than others to have seen another sick person or to know that a classmate was ill. Sixty-nine percent were women, compared with 52 percent of the school population.

Psychogenic illness is imperfectly understood. Females have long been thought prone to it, though some experts now dismiss that as the bias of male researchers.

Killer executed in Texas

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A man who strangled a woman and child who lived next door to him was put to death Wednesday, the 200th execution in Texas since capital punishment resumed in the state in 1982.

Earl Carl Heiselbetz Jr., 48, was executed by injection for the 1991 killings of Rena Rogers and her 2-year-old daughter, Jacy. Early Thursday, a convicted killer was executed in Oklahoma.

Strapped to a gurney before the execution began, Heiselbetz looked at his mother and father, who were watching through a window nearby, and said: "Love y'all. See you on the other side."

Heiselbetz had said he could not remember killing the woman and child, who were his closest neighbors in a secluded area near the Sabine National Forest in east Texas.

Mrs. Rogers and her daughter disappeared after returning home from a midmorning trip to the grocery store. Their remains were found a month later in a barn.

Prosecutors said Heiselbetz confessed after the bodies were found. They said Heiselbetz, an unemployed truck driver, had gone over to the Rogers house to make 1-900 calls for a sweepstakes and might have been caught there when the woman and her daughter came home.

Texas leads all states in executions since the Supreme Court allowed the death penalty to resume in 1976.

Settlement may be coming soon

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — Kimberly-Clark Corp. and a subsidiary of Southern Co. have agreed to a settlement that could reopen a Mobile pulp mill, restoring about 150 jobs.

The settlement would give Mobile Energy Services Corp., or MESC, an option on the pulp mill assets, which it could eventually turn over to a group of investors to re-start the mill at half its original capacity.

Kimberly-Clark would pay MESC about $53 million, minus $23 million already paid as part of the termination of a contract, said Craig Price, a spokesman of the Dallas-based paper company.

Kimberly-Clark, in turn, would get a long-term deal with MESC guaranteeing market-based prices on electricity and steam.

The settlement would end more than a year of legal battles between the companies.

"It just brings some stability to that site," Price said.

Plus, transferring the pulp mill would allow the paper manufacturer to avoid the estimated $6 million bill for demolishing the 58-year-old mill, he said.

The two companies still must negotiate the terms of the pulp mill transfer.

In 1998, MESC filed for bankruptcy and also filed a lawsuit claiming, among other things, that Kimberly-Clark refused to sell the mill. Kimberly-Clark claimed that MESC and the Atlanta-based Southern Co. had not proposed a viable plan.

MESC bought the energy plant from Scott Paper Co. about five years ago for $350 million. Shortly after that, Scott merged with Kimberly-Clark.

Triplet boys die in Maine house fire

UNITY, Maine (AP) — As neighbors and family friends wept, the bodies of three 7-year-old triplets were pulled from the charred wreckage of their home.

The boys were identified as Josh, Marcus and Brydon Freyer. Carmen Freyer, 28, the boys' mother, was hospitalized in good condition after escaping with her 2-year-old daughter. A firefighter collapsed at the blaze and later died.

Neighbor Todd Converse helped save the daughter after hearing Freyer calling for help Wednesday. He ran into a smoke-filled, glass-enclosed porch in the back of the house in this college and farming town about 30 miles southwest of Bangor.

"I saw two little feet and I grabbed her," he said. The diaper-clad child was covered with soot, he said. As rescuers led Freyer away, she looked back at her home and repeatedly screamed "I love you."

Two neighbors sobbed and held each other while watching the house burn: Danielle Creasy, who said she baby-sat the triplets, and family friend Tammy Knowlton.

Teachers from Unity Elementary School, where the triplets were enrolled in a special-education program, watched silently. Neighbors said the boys' father, Kurt Freyer, was out of state driving a truck.

Firefighters also mourned the loss of comrade Robert M. Jones, 48, the Waldo County sheriff and a part-time firefighter. He was pronounced dead at MaineGeneral Medical Center, a hospital spokesman said. Jones used to be chief of the Unity fire department.

Firefighter Mike Heath appeared shaken after learning of Jones' death, throwing down his helmet and coat. He was consoled by other firefighters and deputies.

"Right now, I'm not even thinking straight," said Dennis Turner, the town fire chief, who said he had known Jones since 1972.

State fire marshals are investigating the blaze.

Report on Columbine is delayed

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — Officials investigating the Columbine High school massacre say they are nearly finished with their final report on the attack but will not meet a tentative deadline set for later this month.

Investigators are still reviewing hundreds of interviews and other evidence, said sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis.

"There's just so much material, and to try to decide what goes in the report and what doesn't is difficult," Davis said Wednesday. He couldn't say when it would be finished.

Columbine students Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold shot and killed 12 students and a teacher on April 20 before killing themselves in the nation's deadliest school shooting.

Gov. Bill Owens said he did not want to set any "artificial deadlines" on such an important case.

"I hope they take as much time as it needs to make sure we have answered these questions," he said. "I wouldn't want to hasten that result."

A Jefferson County judge has issued a temporary injunction blocking the release of parts of videotapes made by the gunmen that mention the names of students.

The injunction was sought by the family of a student whose name appeared on materials left behind by Harris and Klebold, said sheriff's spokeswoman Kathi Grider.

The order issued Tuesday effectively blocks the release of the tapes for at least three weeks, Grider said.

The tapes initially were viewed by a magazine reporter who wrote of their contents. Other reporters, and victims' families, then were allowed to see the tapes.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	64 7-16	62¾	63 13-16	— 1⅛
AT&T Corp s	56	54 11-16	55⅛	+ ½
Albertsons	32 13-16	32¼	32⅜	— ½
Alltel	78¾	78⅛	78¾	+ ⅝
AmerOnline s	62 15-16	60⅝	61¾	+ 1¾
AndarkPtr	33 13-16	33 5-16	33¾	+ ⅜
AtlRichfld	77 3-16	75¼	76⅝	— ⅜
ATMOS Egy	19⅝	19½	19½	
Aviall	8 7-16	8 5-16	8 5-16	— 1-16
BP Amoco s	56¾	55⅝	56⅝	+ 1-16
BakerHughes	23 5-16	22 7-16	22 13-16	+ 5-16
Bank of Amer	47 9-16	46⅞	47	+ ½
BellAtl	57 3-16	56 11-16	56¾	— ⅛
BellSouth	45 1-16	44 1-16	44¾	+ 3-16
Beth Steel	7 15-16	7 13-16	7⅞	— 1-16
BurlNoSFe	26 3-16	25 13-16	26	+ ⅜
CBS Corp	60⅝	59⅜	60⅛	+ 5-16
Caterpillar	53⅜	52 7-16	52¾	+ 1⅛
CenSoWst	20¾	20 9-16	20 9-16	— 1-16
Chevron	87⅞	86⅛	87 13-16	+ 1 1-16
Citigroup s	55½	54 11-16	55	+ 1-16
Coastal	33 13-16	33½	33 11-16	+ ⅛
CocaCola	61 7-16	60 7-16	60¾	— ¾
ColgatePal s	64⅜	63 13-16	64¼	— ⅛
ComclMetals	32 3-16	32 3-16	32 3-16	
Cooperin	42 15-16	42⅛	42¾	+ 1-16
DaimlrChry	78 11-16	77¾	77 15-16	+ 1 3-16
DallSemicn	62⅝	60¾	61½	— ¾
DeltaAirl	51½	50⅛	50½	— 1½
Dillards Inc	20 3-16	19 13-16	19 13-16	— ¼
DowChem	137 15-16	136½	137¼	— ½
DuPont	69⅜	68 9-16	69 3-16	+ ⅛
EastmanChem	49⅞	49 9-16	49 11-16	— 3-16
EstKodak	61	59⅞	60 11-16	+ 1
EDS Corp	67 13-16	66 9-16	66 15-16	— ¼
Entergy	25 13-16	25 9-16	25¾	— 1-16
ExxonMobil	85	83⅛	84⅞	+ 1⅜
Flowers	14 3-16	13⅞	13 15-16	— ¼
FordMotor	54⅜	53¾	53⅞	+ 3-16
GTE Cp	67⅛	66½	66 9-16	— ⅛
GenDynam	54⅜	53⅜	53 13-16	+ 13-16
GenElec	154	153	153½	+ 1 1-16
GenMills s	33⅜	32⅞	33 3-16	— ⅛
GenMotors	77½	76 1-16	76 9-16	+ 3-16
GaPacGP s	48 15-16	46½	46 13-16	— 1 15-16
GlobalMar	17 1-16	16 1-16	17	+ 1¼
Goodrich	27⅞	27⅝	27⅞	+ ⅛
Goodyear s	28¾	28 7-16	28½	+ 1-16
GtAtlPac	28⅞	27 13-16	28¾	+ ¾
Halliburtn	38 13-16	38¼	38⅝	+ ⅜
Hanson ADS	39¾	39½	39⅝	— ¼
HarteHanks	21 5-16	20 11-16	21 5-16	+ ¾
HomeDepot s	62⅜	61 3-16	62 1-16	+ 1
HoneywellIntl	60	59½	60	+ 9-16
IBM s	119 15-16	115¾	117⅛	— 2½
IntlPaper	55½	54 9-16	55 5-16	+ 7-16
JohnsonJn	94 7-16	93 1-16	94 1-16	+ 9-16
K mart	9 11-16	9 9-16	9⅝	
Kroger Co s	18 13-16	18 5-16	18 9-16	
Litton	50 7-16	50 1-16	50 5-16	— ⅛
LockheedM	21 7-16	20 13-16	20⅞	— 5-16
Lowes Cos	53	52 5-16	52 9-16	— ⅜
Lubys	10 7-16	10 3-16	10 3-16	— 5-16
LucentTech s	56⅜	55⅛	55⅞	— 1-16
MayDeptStr s	32⅞	32¾	32⅞	— ⅛
MediaOne	80½	79½	79⅞	+ ⅜
Medtronic s	42⅞	41 15-16	42⅞	+ 13-16
Monsanto	36¼	35⅞	35 15-16	— ¼
MorganJP	123 5-16	121 5-16	122 15-16	+ 3 5-16
Motorola	137 5-16	134¼	137 3-16	+ 3⅛
NCR Corp	35⅞	35⅛	35⅛	— 11-16
Navistar	44⅛	43 13-16	43⅞	— ⅛
Penney JC	22¾	21⅞	21 15-16	— 7-16
PepBoys	8 7-16	8 5-16	8 7-16	+ 1-16
PepsiCo	36⅛	36	36⅛	+ 1-16
PhelpDodge	66⅞	65 9-16	66 11-16	+ 1¼
PhilipPet	44 11-16	44⅛	44 11-16	+ ⅝
PilgrmPrd B	7⅞	7⅞	7⅞	— 1-16
Polaroid	19 7-16	18½	19	+ 1 1-16
Praxair	54 7-16	53½	54 3-16	+ ⅝
ProctGamb	117	115 7-16	115½	— 1½
PubS NwMx	16 9-16	16½	16½	
ReliantEngy	23 15-16	23 7-16	23 11-16	— ⅛
RoyalDut	62 1-16	61 9-16	61 11-16	— 5-16
SBC Comm	42 15-16	41 15-16	42	+ 3-16
SaraLee	20⅜	19 15-16	20 3-16	+ 3-16
Scripps EW	47⅞	47 1-16	47¾	+ 3-16
SearsRoeb	32⅞	32 1-16	32⅜	— 9-16
SherwinW	19⅜	19	19¼	— 1-16
SmithklBchm	65 13-16	64 9-16	64⅝	— ¼
SouthernCo	24¾	24 5-16	24 7-16	— 5-16
SwstAirl s	16 7-16	16 1-16	16 3-16	— 7-16
SprintFON s	64 9-16	64 1-16	64½	+ 1⅛
SprintPCS	96 3-16	94⅜	94 13-16	— ⅛
Sunoco Inc	22½	22⅛	22⅛	— 3-16
TNP Ent	41¾	41¾	41¾	— 1-16
Tandy s	48⅛	47 1-16	47⅝	+ 2 1-16
TempleInland	66 3-16	65½	65⅞	— 3-16
Texaco	58¼	57½	58 1-16	+ ½
TexInd	41 7-16	41⅜	41 7-16	
TexasInst s	102½	98⅝	99¼	— 1¾
Tex Util	36 9-16	36 3-16	36 7-16	— ⅛
Textron	71½	69 11-16	69 15-16	— 1¾
TriconGlbR	37 7-16	36¾	37 7-16	+ 1
TrinityInds	26 13-16	26½	26⅝	+ 1-16
TritonEngy	25⅜	24⅝	24⅞	+ 7-16
TylerTech	6	5 13-16	5 15-16	+ ⅛
US West Inc	66 7-16	65 13-16	66	+ ⅛
USX-Marathn	26¼	25 11-16	25⅞	— 1-16
USX-USS	31⅜	30¾	31 1-16	+ ⅜
UnCarbde	66⅝	65 13-16	66⅜	— 3-16
UnionPacif	46 3-16	45⅜	46 1-16	+ ¼
UnitedTech s	65½	64	65¼	+ 11-16
Unocal	32⅛	31⅛	31 3-16	— ⅝
Venator Grp	6 13-16	6½	6½	— 5-16
WalMart s	66⅛	65 1-16	65 5-16	+ ¼
WellsFargo	40½	39 11-16	40 5-16	+ 2
WstnGasRs	11¼	11	11¼	+ 5-16
WinnDixie	23 15-16	23 1-16	23¼	— 11-16
Xerox Cp s	23 9-16	23⅛	23 5-16	— ⅛

Local Interest STOCKS

Patterson	14 1/16	+1/4
Dell	42 15/16	+1 1/8
Wal Mart	65 5/16	+1/4
Compac	29 1/8	-1/2
Dol. Gen.	22 7/16	-1/8
GTE	66 1/16	-5/8
SBC Comm.	41 1/4	-9/16
Tx Instr.	99 15/16	-1 1/16
LU	55 15/16	+9/16
Cisco Sys.	104 3/4	+15/16

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JAN 13 2000

California, Texas are among states with dirtiest air last year

WASHINGTON (AP) — California and Texas were among the states with the worst smog problem last year, an environmental group said today after assembling preliminary air quality data from the states.

The findings by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group said that nationwide there were at least 7,672 incidents in which air at a monitoring site failed to meet the tougher federal health standards imposed by the Clinton administration for smog.

That standard, which requires monitoring over an eight-hour period, was withdrawn last year because of a court challenge. But the group said even under the less stringent one-hour standard that was reimposed, there were 592 incidents in 32 states of smog standards being exceeded.

The findings, based on data obtained from the states, were preliminary and in some cases incomplete, the group said. But it provided a general outline of the air pollution problem nationwide during the peak ozone months. When complete data is in it is expected to exceed the dirty air problems of 1998, the group said.

California had by far the largest number of breeches of the eight-hour health standard with 1,217, followed by Texas (555), North Carolina (539), Pennsylvania (512), Ohio (461), Georgia (407), Tennessee (344), Indiana (320), Maryland (319) and Kentucky (316).

The group said it could provide no data for California as to the number of days that unhealthy smog levels were detected somewhere in the state because the information was incomplete. Nevertheless, California, as in past years, was expected to lead the pack, the group said.

The groups said Texas followed with 79 dirty air days, Tennessee (74), Georgia (72), North Carolina (68), Kentucky (57), Pennsylvania (51), Ohio (46), New Jersey and Maryland, (both 44), and Virginia (42).

CBS criticized for electronic imaging

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — CBS's decision to digitally superimpose its logo over an NBC sign on a news broadcast has raised ethical questions within its own ranks.

CBS used technology on New Year's Eve to cover up a giant NBC-sponsored screen that appeared in a camera's view of Times Square behind Dan Rather. Instead, viewers saw CBS's eye logo.

While the new technology has been used in entertainment and sports broadcasts, it is particularly sensitive in news, where broadcasters say they take pains not to deceive viewers.

Rather called CBS's decision a mistake and said viewers should have been informed of the alteration.

"There's no excuse for it," Rather said in today's New York Times. "I did not grasp the possible ethical implications of this and that was wrong on my part."

He added: "I'm troubled that this was done."

CBS News President Andrew Heyward said Wednesday he considered the digital technology an extension of graphics that allow words to be flashed on the screen. No consideration was given to informing viewers that their picture was altered on New Year's Eve.

Heyward said that its use was internally debated, and was a "close call." He said there are reasonable people who consider it wrong, "even people at CBS News."

But Heyward's boss, CBS President Leslie Moonves, said that "anytime there is an NBC logo on our network, we will block it."

Moonves later amended his statement in response to reporters' questions. He said CBS would not block out a rival's logo if it was part of a legitimate news event.

"If someone used the NBC logo to commit a murder, we wouldn't cut it out," Moonves said.

Some ethical experts, however, consider it a serious issue.

"This may seem like an innocent little corporate coup, but there are bigger implications in terms of eroding people's confidence in what they see on the screen," said Richard Kaplar, vice president of The Media Institute, a communications think tank in Washington.

Digital manipulation has caused problems for the media before. Time magazine apologized to readers in 1994 for featuring a darkened version of O.J. Simpson's face on its cover. ABC similarly acknowledged a mistake in 1994 when Cokie Roberts was introduced as reporting from the Capitol when she was actually standing in a studio in front of an image of Capitol Hill.

Heyward said it was unfair to compare CBS's move to ABC's "clearly deceptive" action with Roberts.

"If we had placed a sign or a banner over the Jumbotron, I don't think anyone would have had a problem with it," he said.

The technology is used regularly on "The Early Show" to impose the morning news broadcast's logo in places like the side of buildings or the middle of New York's Fifth Avenue. Heyward said it was done in a "whimsical and creative" way.

In some sports events, digital imaging is used to place advertising billboards where none really exist. But CBS Sports President Sean McManus said CBS hasn't done this, and that major sports leagues have it written into their contracts that broadcasters can't do it.

CBS's only use of the imaging is to superimpose the first down marker on football fields, he said.

"I don't see electronic signage as something you are going to see a lot of in sports events," he said.

Meanwhile, Heyward acknowledged that he was disappointed CBS News wasn't given more airtime on New Year's Eve.

Man formally charged in hotel shooting

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — A man accused of gunning down four co-workers in a hotel and killing a fifth person during an attempted carjacking was indicted Wednesday on 20 counts, including several counts of murder and attempted murder.

"We will be seeking the death penalty," said Hillsborough County Assistant State Attorney Pam Bondi.

Silvio Izquierdo-Leyva, 36, was charged with five counts of first-degree murder, seven counts of attempted first-degree murder with a firearm, three counts of aggravated assault with a firearm, two counts of armed carjacking and three counts of attempted armed carjacking.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

In the year ahead, conditions in general should be more favorable for you than they've been for some time. Several things for which you've been hoping looks like they could be gratified.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your luck picks up momentum as the day wears on and will be at its strongest when the finish line comes into sight, so if you should get off to a faulty start, don't drop out of the race. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 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) Some pleasant tidings to which you'll be the recipient today will put you in an optimistic frame of mind and make everything you do easier and luckier for you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Explore any idea or opportunity you get today that you think could help improve your financial position. Chances are you will be onto a real winner.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Don't be arrogant nor pushy, but pull all the important strings for yourself today. You are likely to be more fortunate in arrangements where you are in charge.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Through a rather lucky channel, career or financial opportunities could develop for you today. Be hopeful in all your involvements regardless of how poor they appear on the surface.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Be realistic today, but also be expectant in situations where you have to deal with several people simultaneously. Everything should work out for both you and them.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Aim for meaningful targets today and don't be afraid to raise your sights a bit higher than usual. You're especially lucky now where your goals and ambitions are concerned.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Because you'll possess the ability to deal with them effectively, large issues aren't apt to rattle you one bit today. You'll have faith in your judgment and procedures.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Don't ask from others anything for which you have no immediate need or can do for yourself. People will be receptive to your request for favors when you need them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your success is likely to be predicated upon team work today rather than from a singular effort on your part. Join up with another whenever you can.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Side ventures can yield you a second source of income during this time frame, but you might have to roll up your sleeves and push good fortune along a bit.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Make a concerted effort today to strengthen all your relationships, because good things can happen at this time through contacts you have socially.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Cover mouth, wash hands is good advice for cold season

DEAR ABBY: Because the season of colds and flu is upon us, I'd like to share with you a verse I think can be credited to the late Ish K. Bibble, a comedian on the "Kay Kayser Kollege of Musical Knowledge," a popular radio program in the '40s:

"I sneezed a sneeze into the air;
"It fell to earth I knew not where:
"But you should have seen the looks on those
"In whose vicinity I sneze!"

Abby, please remind your readers to remember this little verse the next time they feel a sneeze or cough coming on, whether on the street, in a theater, a supermarket, a plane, train or boat — and especially in MY vicinity! Always use a handkerchief, a tissue, your hand or even your shoulder. Those around you will be grateful.

Thanks for passing this along, Abby. — HATES THE SNIFFLES

DEAR HATES: You're welcome. No one wants to be sneezed upon — and colds and flu germs are nothing to be sneezed at. My experts tell me that the hands are the most frequent spreaders of disease. Cold germs can be picked up by touching doorknobs, elevator buttons or telephones that were first handled by infected individuals. When the hand is then used to touch the mouth or nose, or to scratch an eyelid, the cold is transferred to the next "victim." The most effective way to avoid cold and flu germs is to frequently wash one's hands in warm, soapy water.

**

DEAR ABBY: My granddaughter is being married next April. She and her boyfriend have been living together for four years. It will be the second marriage for her and the third for him.

My question: Do they share the expense of the wedding equally, or does my granddaughter assume the whole financial responsibility? Her fiance says, "The bride pays for everything — and if you want to marry me, you'll pay for it." Is that right? — ALICE IN ATLANTA

DEAR ALICE: That depends on how you look at it. From my perspective, not only will your granddaughter "pay for it" — she'll pay for it and pay for it and pay for it. He should be ashamed of himself for attempting to place the entire financial burden on her shoulders. He and your granddaughter are a couple and should split the cost of their wedding 50-50. She should think twice about marrying this fellow.

**

DEAR ABBY: A church here in Minneapolis made up a list of all their male parishioners who died during service in any war.

They put this list on the wall for everyone to see.

A 4-year-old boy was standing and looking at the list when the minister came by.

The boy asked the minister, "What is this list for?"

The minister replied, "That is all our male parishioners who died in the service."

The boy asked the minister, "Was it during the 9 o'clock or 10:30 service?" — ORVILLE M. ANDERSON, MINNEAPOLIS

DEAR ORVILLE: That's a cute story. Did it really happen, or are you pulling my prayer shawl?

**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Life quality an issue with cancer

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 59-year-old female smoker who was devastated to learn that I have lung cancer. My doctor has referred me to a cancer specialist, whom I am scheduled to see in about two weeks. Frankly, I am leery that radiation or chemotherapy may severely jeopardize the quality of whatever life I have left. What should I do?

DEAR READER: This is a truly difficult situation that many cancer patients have to face. There is no clear-cut answer to your question, because the healing effects of radiation/chemotherapy depend on your general state of health, the exact type of cancer that you have, how extensively it has spread, and the very real issue of how long you want to live (and under what circumstances). Let's examine some options.

First, the more information you have, the better. So, I would urge you to meet with the oncologist to explore what choices you have. It may well be that a brief course of therapy would put the cancer in remission. In this instance, a temporary disruption of your quality of life may be a small price to pay.

On the other hand, if your malignancy is particularly aggressive and has spread to other parts of your body, you may be a candidate for so-called palliative therapy, methods to make sure that your remaining life continues to be productive — at least for awhile — and that you are relatively free of pain and suffering.

In my experience, you would probably profit from intense initial therapy. If the treatment is effective, fine; if not, you can always opt for palliation. The oncologist can advise you.

Aside from accepting or rejecting treatments, you have the responsibility to indicate to the oncologist exactly what your wishes are with respect to quality of life. He or she should incorporate these wishes into the treatment plan.

Finally, let me share two anecdotes from my own practice.

Jack is a 64-year-old man who was diagnosed with lung cancer a year ago. The malignancy had spread to bone and liver. He insisted on aggressive therapy: surgery followed by radiation and chemotherapy. Although he almost died during the operation, he survived, obtained the prerequisite additional therapy, and — to this day — is alive and well, a miracle in the truest meaning of the word.

In contrast, Jennifer is a 72-year-old grandmother with a small lung cancer that was removed six months ago. She also elected to have radiation and chemotherapy, but was vehement that she wanted to avoid side effects of the treatment. Unfortunately, this was not to be; right from Day One she experienced a variety of symptoms, including nausea, vomiting, weight loss, baldness, malaise, weakness and depression. She became bedridden and is now receiving high doses of morphine under the care of hospice. Her quality of life suffered from the treatment and she will probably die before this column is printed.

My answer to your question is admittedly long-winded. But I think that it's important for cancer patients to have an active role in their treatment. One way to accomplish this goal is to work closely with an oncologist, as well as with the other members of the therapy team.

I wish you well. My prayers are with you.

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Are You:
( ) Widowed ( ) Divorced
( ) Handicapped How:_____
Number of People living in this Household:_____
( ) Adults ( ) Children Ages:_____
Income:
( ) Employed Where:_____
Gross Weekly Income: $_____
( ) Spouse Employed Where:_____
Gross Weekly Income: $_____
( ) No One Employed
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( ) Social Security: Amount $_____
( ) Public Welfare: Amount $_____
( ) Supplemental Income: Amount $_____
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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Some buy back of national debt planned

WASHINGTON (AP) — Responding to the new era of budget surpluses, the Clinton administration today announced rules that will allow the government to buy back up to $30 billion of the national debt this year.

Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers, in announcing the new procedures, said the goal was to save taxpayers' money on interest payments while making sure the huge Treasury securities market does not lose any of its appeal for investors.

The federal government has already posted back-to-back budget surpluses for the first time since Dwight Eisenhower was president. Current projections show the $3.6 trillion total debt held by the public could be eliminated over the next 15 years if surpluses currently projected materialize.

Economists have cautioned that such surpluses will be contingent on a host of factors that can't be known at the present time. These include how well the economy performs and how well the White House and Congress can resist the temptation to use a portion of the projected surpluses to boost spending or cut taxes.

The plan Summers announced today will have the debt buybacks conducted in a "reverse auction" process in which holders of government securities who want to sell their bonds back to the government will be given the chance to bid on what price they would accept.

Summers said this process will ensure that the government will not pay more than the going market price for the securities.

The announcement of final rules for the procedure followed an August release of preliminary rules, which were modified after Treasury reviewed public comments.

The debt buybacks would be the first since 1972. The government is in a position to make the purchases because of the huge projected budget surpluses over the next decade. The surpluses have been the subject of intense debate between the administration and Congress involving such politically charged issues as protecting Social Security and providing tax relief.

The total national debt is $5.76 trillion. Of that amount about $3.6 trillion is held by the public in the form of Treasury securities. This is the portion that would be bought back. The rest of the debt, some $2 trillion, is held by the government's large trust funds, most significantly the Social Security trust fund.

'Roe' defending anti-abortionist

HOUSTON (AP) — It was Roe vs. Wade in court again, almost 30 years after the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

Jane Roe was still Norma McCorvey, who brought the 1973 lawsuit.

But the Wade in court on Wednesday, facing Ms. McCorvey across a nearly empty courtroom, was Kristin, the Dallas County criminal court judge who bears the name of her legendary father-in-law, former District Attorney Henry Wade.

The issue was still abortion, sort of, but rather than being in court to pursue a monumental legal precedent, Roe was in Wade's court to defend one of the country's most ardent anti-abortion activists.

"What a difference Jesus makes," the Rev. Flip Benham, who was on trial for yet another charge of misdemeanor trespass, told the Houston Chronicle.

Henry Wade has long since retired, but both his namesake son and daughter-in-law now serve on the bench in Dallas.

The two famous names were fated to be linked again when Benham's case, stemming from a June 1999 charge of trespassing while picketing a Dallas abortion clinic, was assigned to Kristin Wade's court.

"It seems more than a little ironic," said Benham during a recess of the trial that was expected to end today.

As he picketed clinics across the country and sought souls to convert, Benham never thought he would bag the biggest trophy of all, he said — the woman who bulldozed the legal barriers to abortion.

But, in July 1995, she reversed her position on abortion and was baptized by Benham in a backyard swimming pool the following month. She has since started her own ministry, the church of No More Roe.

Obituaries

Anastacia Bonilla

1009-2000

Anastacia Jimenez Bonilla, longtime Snyder resident, died Wednesday, Jan. 12, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.



Anastacia Bonilla

Services for Mrs. Bonilla, 90, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Wright Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens. Max Zamorano of New Braunfels will officiate.

Wake service will be at 7 p.m. Friday at the funeral home chapel. Lunch will be served at noon Saturday at the 37th Street Church of Christ.

Born on Jan. 22, 1909 in Presidio, she married Augustine Bonilla in 1952 in Snyder. He died in 1994. Mrs. Bonilla, a homemaker, was a member of Iglesia De Cristo in Snyder.

She was also preceded in death by one son, Ruben J. Tavarez in 1990; two sons-in-law, Ben Orosco and Felix Orosco; and one grandson, Leo Orosco.

Survivors include two sons, Ramon J. Tavarez and Roy J. Tavarez, both of Snyder; two daughters, Josephine T. Orosco and Catalina T. Orosco, both of Snyder; a sister, Pilar Ochoa of Houston; 28 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren; and 15 great-great-grandchildren.

Sidney McCann

1904-2000

Sidney Morgan McCann, a resident of Snyder since 1947, died Wednesday, Jan. 12, in University Medical Center in Lubbock following a brief illness.

Funeral service for Mr. McCann, 95, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in the Lighthouse Assembly of God Church. The Rev. Frankie Santiago, Mr. McCann's son-in-law of Roscoe, and the Rev. Danny Williams, pastor of the Lighthouse Assembly of God, will officiate.

Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 3, 1904 in Conroe, he moved with his family to Sweetwater as a child where he lived for a number of years. He worked in the shipyards in Houston during World War II and worked for the railroad in Slaton before moving to Snyder in 1947. He married Audine Jourdan on March 30, 1953 in Portales, N.M.

Mr. McCann was a butcher and worked for Rainbow Market for many years. Before his retirement, he worked for Everybody's Thriftway. He was a member of the Lighthouse Assembly of God in Snyder.

Mr. McCann was preceded in death by four brothers and three sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Audine McCann of Snyder; two daughters, Sheila Santiago of Roscoe and Nelda McClintock of Lubbock; two sons, Earl McCann and David McCann, both of Snyder; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a niece, Nan Earnhart of Chesterfield, Mo.

Pallbearers will be Bear Williams, David Brooks, Adolf Herrera, Ursula Santiago, Jamie Santiago and Michael Martin.

Family visitation will be held from 6 to 8 this evening at Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Johnie Herrley

1929-2000

Johnie Lou Herrley, a longtime Snyder resident, died early today at her home in Snyder after a brief illness.



Johnie Herrley

Funeral service for Mrs. Herrley, 70, is set for 10 a.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Officiating will be the Rev. Larry McAden, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Born May 22, 1929 in Snyder, she married Dillard Herrley on Sept. 21, 1946 in Odessa.

Survivors include her husband, Dillard Herrley of Snyder; two sons and daughters-in-law, Keith and Karen Herrley and Kirk and Kathy Herrley, all of Snyder; a daughter, Sheila Kemp of Snyder; two brothers, Claude Buttrell of Big Timber, Mont., and Afton Buttrell of Odessa; and seven grandchildren.

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

Louise Ely

1921-2000

HAMLIN – Louise Ely, the sister of two Snyder residents, died Wednesday, Jan. 12, in a Lubbock hospital.

Funeral service for Mrs. Ely, 78, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in the Foster-Adams Funeral Home with the Rev. James Brigham officiating. Burial will follow in the Hamlin Memorial Cemetery.

A lifelong resident Jones County, she attended school at Flat Top and graduated from Hamlin High School. She married Wallace Ely in 1966, and he preceded her in death.

A member of the First Baptist Church, she had worked as an operator for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, retiring in 1969. She also was a member of the VFW Auxiliary.

Survivors include a daughter, Janice Dominey of Slaton; two brothers, Donnie Jenkins of Snyder and Buddy Jenkins of San Angelo; four sisters, Dorothy Nell Fudge of Snyder, Christine Stremmel of Stamford, Laverene Harrison of Rotan and Nancy Mayo of Floydada; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

John Weaver

1942-1999

DULUTH, Ga. — A memorial service has been set for 1 p.m. Saturday at Bill Head Funeral Home Chapel for John Amon Lee Weaver who died Nov. 3, 1999 from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident near Jacksonville, Fla. He was 57.

Mr. Weaver was born on Nov. 5, 1942 in Houston and attended school in Snyder. He attended the University of Texas where he was a member of the Alpha Tou Omega Fraternity. Mr. Weaver was a U.S. Marine veteran and a member of the Stone Mountain Hog Chapter and the North Georgia Hog Chapter.

Survivors include his wife, Bianca Mullins Weaver of Duluth; a daughter, Denise W. Jones of Suwanee, Ga.; a son, Dr. John Kevin Weaver of St. Simons Island, Ga; his mother, Opallee Weaver of Lilburn, Ga., and formerly of Snyder; and two granddaughters.

The family suggests memorials to the Georgia Transplant Foundation, 57 Executive Park South NE, Suite 200, Atlanta, Ga. 30329-2224.

Nine jailed on Wednesday

Nine subjects were arrested Wednesday and early today on charges ranging from outstanding warrants to public intoxication.

At 12:15 p.m., deputies picked up an 18-year-old male in the 1800 block of 19th Street on Municipal Court warrants for Class C assault/family violence, failure to appear, no liability insurance and no valid Texas driver's license.

Officers took a 36-year-old male at 4:41 p.m. in the 1900 block of 19th Street on warrants for public intoxication and failure to appear.

An 18-year-old male was arrested at 5:24 p.m. in the 2600 block of Avenue E on warrants for no insurance and failure to appear.

Outstanding warrants for no driver's license, no liability insurance and two counts of failure to appear resulted in the arrest of a 35-year-old male. Officers arrested him in the 2900 block of Avenue Y.

At 7:28 p.m., a 27-year-old female was booked into custody on two warrants for issuance of a bad check.

Three subjects were arrested at 10:51 p.m. in the 100 block of Browning. Two 17-year-old males were jailed for public intoxication while a third subject, 19, was charged with minor in possession of alcohol and misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

A 54-year-old male was picked up on U.S. Hwy. 180 at 1:45 a.m. today for public intoxication.

Rosa Valdez of 2902 Avenue F notified officers at 10:04 a.m. that she found a bicycle in her yard. At 6:41 p.m., she called officers again advising she had returned home to find another bicycle in her yard. Offense reports for found property were filed.

Deputies filed an offense report for Class C assault at 3:12 p.m.

Department of Public Safety troopers worked a two-vehicle accident at 7:20 a.m. Wednesday at the intersection of 37th Street and Avenue E. Involved were a 1998 Jeep Wrangler driven by Crissida Ann Tyler, 16, of 2701 47th Street and a 1991 Geo Prism driven by Belia Nakamura, 44, of 808 25th Street.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

SISD trustees reception

The public is invited to a reception in honor of the board of trustees of the Snyder schools to be held from 5:15 to 6 p.m. today in the board room in the school administration building.

Masonic Lodge

Scurry Masonic Lodge No. 706 will work in the E.A. Degree starting at 7:30 this evening. All Masons are invited.

WTSB anniversary

An open house to commemorate the 50th anniversary of West Texas State Bank will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday at the bank, 1901 26th Street.

Evening of praise

East Side Church of Christ, 201 31st Street, will present an Evening of Praise with Ken Young and Hallal Music at 6 p.m. Sunday.

Assembly of God revival

First Assembly of God Church, 1809 College Avenue, will host a revival starting Sunday. The Rev. Jerry Wilkerson is the evangelist. Sunday services are at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Weekday services through Thursday are at 7 p.m. For more information call 573-3316.

Jeremiah People

Colonial Hill Baptist Church will present Jeremiah People, America's premier Christian musical theatre group, at 7 p.m. Monday. The public is invited.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "The Second Coming," followed by "Getting to Know God's People and Praise."

AARP meeting cancelled

Monday's AARP meeting has been cancelled due to the closing of the Senior Center for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Parkinson's Disease support group

The regular monthly meeting of the Parkinson's Disease community support group will be held from 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday in the Cogdell Hospital board room.

Amateur radio operators

Snyder area radio operators will conduct its weekly check in/ragchew net at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. The 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).

WTC dance

The Western Texas College Intramural Department will host a fundraiser dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Jan. 21, in the National Guard Armory. The dance will feature DJ Danny Gonzales of Post. Admission is $8 a couple and $5 for singles. WTC students with a valid college ID will be admitted free.

Ira yearbooks

Ira 2000 Bulldog annuals are on sale through Wednesday, Jan. 26. Cost is $26 with name on cover or $22 without name.

Ira school pictures

Spring portraits and friendship pictures will be taken at Ira on Wednesday, Jan. 26. Each student will be photographed. Class group pictures also will be taken for grades K-12.

Windbreak trees

Windbreak trees are available from the Soil and Water Conservation District, 5308 Big Spring Hwy. Deadline for orders is Jan. 31.

WTC driver education

Registration for driver education at Western Texas College continues for the Jan. 24 class. The class will end on Feb. 22 and the cost is $300. Call 573-8511, ext. 229 to reserve a spot in the class.

WTC basic education classes

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

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.

Pick 3

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

3-0-8

(three, zero, eight)

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — One ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated $4 million.

The ticket was sold in: Marshall.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 15-27-29-46-48-49.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $4 million.

Israel wants settlers to remain on Golan

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli negotiators insisted in peace talks with Syria that Jewish settlers be allowed to stay on the Golan Heights after an Israeli troop withdrawal, and did not commit to a pullback from all of the plateau, according to a U.S. document published today by an Israeli newspaper.

The text, presented to the negotiators by President Clinton last week to summarize positions in the peace talks, also confirmed that Syria has agreed to joint management of the Golan's water sources and accepted the establishment of an early warning station on the heights to be run by American and French forces.

JAN 13 2000

Experts: Earth life may have come from Mars

ATLANTA (AP) — Microbe-bearing rocks could have been ejected from Mars and seeded the Earth with life billions of years ago, or the exchange could have gone the other way, a study says.

"The question is, are we really Martians?" said Mauri Valtonen of the Turku Observatory in Turku, Finland, a member of an international team of astronomers and biologists who examined the question of whether primitive life forms could have been exchanged between planets.

They concluded it is theoretically possible.

In a study presented Wednesday at the national meeting of the American Astronomical Society, experts said their calculations show that if life ever existed on Mars then it could have been carried to Earth aboard some 5 trillion rocks blasted from the Red Planet by impacting asteroids.

The team also studied the possibility of microbe-bearing asteroids sailing into the Earth from solar systems beyond the sun. This probability was found to be very low.

"The ancestral cell for life on Earth must have originated somewhere in our own solar system," said Curt Mileikowsky, an astronomer of the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm and a leader of the research team.

In their calculations, the astronomers considered how frequently Mars would have been hit by asteroids powerful enough to blast rock away from the Red Planet and send it flying toward Earth. Although only a few Mars rocks have been found on Earth, the team calculated that tons of the material are here.

The team also calculated the pressure, temperature, acceleration and radiation a microbe would have to endure to live through a journey from Mars to Earth.

At least two well-known microbes, Deinococcus radiodorans and Bacillus subtilis, said Mileikowsky, would be capable of surviving the trip. He said the microbes have been tested in laboratories and found to be highly resistant to heat, radiation and acceleration forces.

Mileikowsky said to survive, a microbe would have to be near the core of a Mars rock. This would protect it during its journey through the vacuum of space and the searing fall to Earth.

"If the size (of the rock) is more than a football," he said, "heat would not have time to get inside."

The astronomers estimated that up to 11/2 percent of the microbes inside such a rock would survive.

The existence of life on Mars is now unlikely, but astronomers say that early in solar system history the planet had water, an atmosphere and mild temperatures. For this reason, it is believed that there once could have been Martian life. Scientists at the Johnson Space Center in Houston say they have found what they believe is evidence of ancient life inside a Martian asteroid, but the conclusions are controversial.

The experts also calculated that up to a trillion Earth rocks were blasted into space and traveled to Mars. This means Earth microbes could have journeyed to Mars.

"Because of the heavy traffic between Earth and Mars, we couldn't decide which came first," Martian life on Earth, or the reverse, said Mileikowsky.

In other research, a team of astronomers found that a primordial soup of complex organic chemicals that could be the precursors of life is cooked up very quickly after the birth of stars.

"Life could have had an easier time starting than we thought before," astronomer Sun Kwok said at the AAS meeting.

Kwok, of the University of Calgary, Canada, said a study by the Infrared Space Observatory showed that large organic molecules evolve within only a few thousand years from chemicals in the cloud-like envelope surrounding some stars.

Infrared spectra readings of short-lived, carbon-rich stars that are engulfed in clouds of gas and dust show that the clouds are rich in some of the most advanced organic molecules ever detected in outer space, Kwok said.

"There is no doubt now that such complex molecules exist and the stars are able to make them with no difficulty," said Kwok.

Such chemicals would eventually be ejected into interstellar space, he said, which makes it possible that they could end up on planets such as Earth where, under the right conditions, life could have evolved.

Among the chemicals detected was acetylene, a building block for benzene and other aromatic molecules that, in turn, can form complex hydrocarbons, the chemical stuff of life.

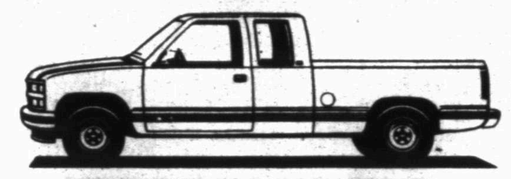


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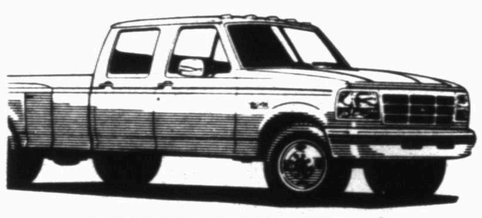
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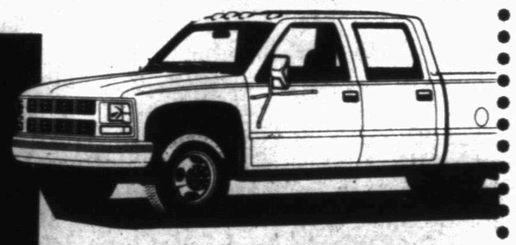
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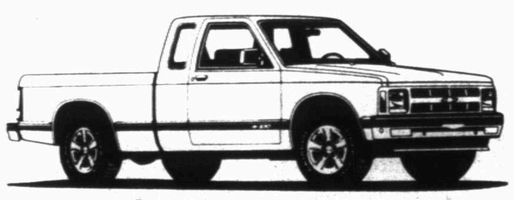
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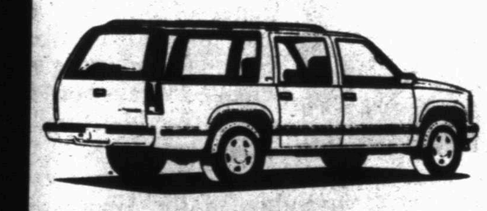
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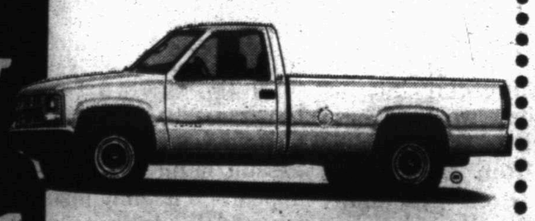
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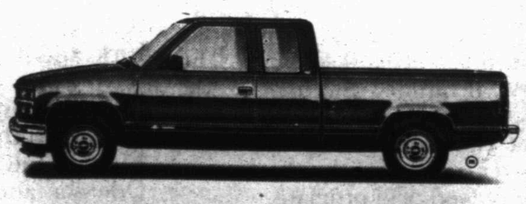
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Area squads hope to celebrate success in 2000

A special edition of
The Snyder Daily News
Jan. 13, 2000

Tigers' goal to defend district championship

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

Even though they will compete in the same district, against the same five teams this season, the Snyder Tigers are in brand new territory.

For the first time under Head Coach Bud Birks, the Tigers set out to defend the district title. And for the first time in many years, they're favored by many to do just that.

Snyder tips off District 5-4A basketball action tonight at 7:30 as the reigning league champions. The Tigers are 13-9 heading into the opener, as compared to 9-11 at the same time a year ago.

But even though he has three key contributors from last year's team, and a solid core of players around them, Birks doesn't care to get caught up in the hype of being the defending champion.

"The way I look at it is that we're not the favorite," Birks said. "That's the way we have to approach in order to stay hungry enough to battle for the title. Last year is in the past. That was a different team. I think that's how the kids look at it, too, because I don't see any complacency on their part."

Birks' vote for district favorite heading in is Fort Stockton, the Tigers opponent in tonight's opener at the SHS gym.

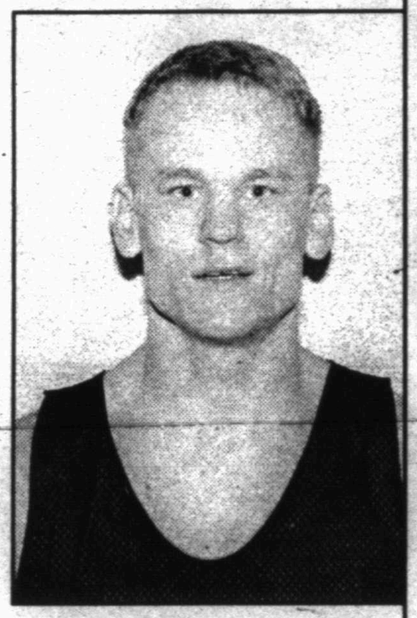
The Panthers (10-11) return post power Luke Groth, who finished second in the district's MVP balloting a year ago, and a talented back court to supplement him.

"Fort Stockton is who I would pick for a favorite," said Birks. "They have the most players coming back, and Groth is really good.

"They're going to be tough, but then again everybody is. I don't see anybody that's just head and shoulders above the rest. It's going to be a war every night, and the team that plays the toughest and executes its game plan, will be the team that comes out on top."

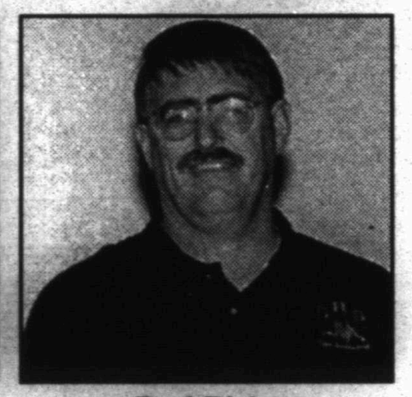
Sonny Cumbie
6-3, senior
post

"Sonny is a very intelligent player. He's very tough minded, and always draws the opponent's best post player. He's also an excellent shooter, and gives us another threat from the perimeter."





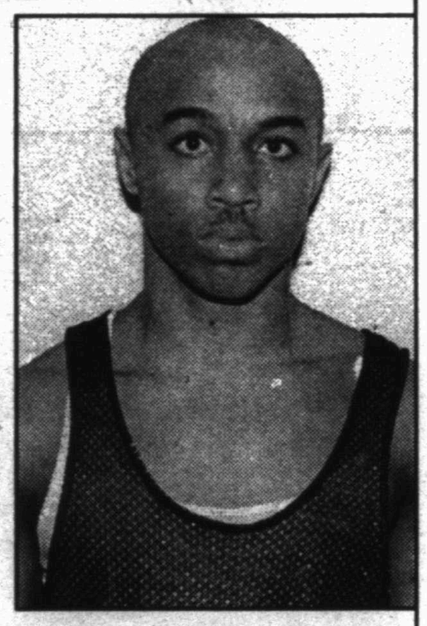
Ben Reed
Asst. Coach



Bud Birks
Head Coach

Jamaal Wofford
5-9, junior
guard

"Jamaal is very quick and explosive. He has the ability to go up on a dime. He can pull up and hit the jump shot on the move, and is a good scorer. His defensive skills are also improving."



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Tigers continued...

Birks' prediction for this year is exactly how last season's 5-4A race played out. The Tigers dropped only one district game to finish in a first-place tie with Lake View, but the majority of those wins came down to the wire. All but two of Snyder's victories were close for most of the game, and three Tiger wins came in the final 10 seconds.

With most of the teams sporting comparatively close records heading into the opener, Birks' prediction could hold up.

Snyder owns the best record at 13-9, followed by Big Spring's mark of 13-10. Next is Fort Stockton at 10-11, followed by 8-11 Lake View, and the 8-13 Andrews Mustangs. Sweetwater rounds out the non-district standings at 6-13.

The Tigers sport the best record thanks to a stretch of strong play over the last few weeks. Snyder won five of its last six district tune-ups, and took the crown of the Brownwood tournament.

The key to the Tigers' success of late has been stellar defense, a mainstay on Birks' teams, and balanced scoring inside and from the perimeter.

Heading up the action in the paint is Sonny Cumbie. The senior was a first-team all-district selection a year ago, and has picked up right where he left off.

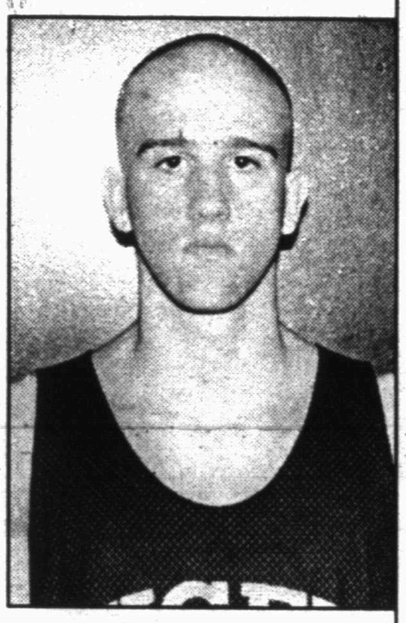
"Sonny is a solid player, all the way around," Birks remarked. "He's an intelligent player, who knows how to get himself in a position to score and get rebounds. He's very tough-minded, and that's important when you're playing underneath the basket. He'll end up drawing the job of guarding the opponent's best big man."

Joining Cumbie down low will be a host of Tigers.

Junior Jared Thornhill has stepped up in the last few

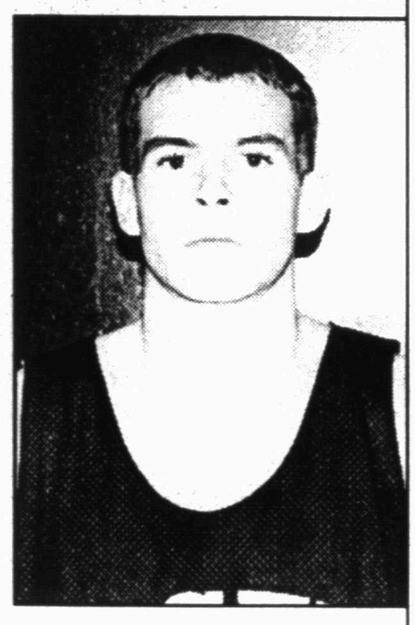
Gregor Knirsch
6-1, junior
guard

"Gregor is a good shooter. It has taken him some time to adjust to the physical style of the American game, but he has good skills and will help us this season."



Layne Scott
6-2, senior
post

"Layne is an excellent team player, and he'll surprise you with his ability to rebound and block shots. He's a super kid who just loves to contribute to the team."



DISTRICT 5-4A BOYS CAPSULES

FORT STOCKTON

MASCOT: Panthers
COLORS: Blue and White
COACH: Doug Davalos
98-99 RECORD: 15-14
99-00 RECORD: 10-11
STANDOUTS: Luke Groth, Nathan Sawyer.

LAKE VIEW

MASCOT: Chiefs
COLORS: Blue and White
COACH: Mitch Freeman
98-99 RECORD: 25-9
99-00 RECORD: 8-11
STANDOUTS: Will Moore, Michael Gonzales.

BIG SPRING

MASCOT: Steers
COLORS: Black and Gold
COACH: Jim Avery
98-99 RECORD: 10-19
99-00 RECORD: 13-10
STANDOUTS: Lance Brock, Jason Woodruff.

ANDREWS

MASCOT: Mustangs
COLORS: Black and Gold
COACH: Gary Schiffner
98-99 RECORD: 10-23
99-00 RECORD: 8-13
STANDOUTS: Drew Fields, Chris McCain.

SWEETWATER

MASCOT: Mustangs
COLORS: Red and White
COACH: Jim Pruitt
98-99 RECORD: 7-22
99-00 RECORD: 6-13
STANDOUTS: Derrick Carr, Lance Bishop.

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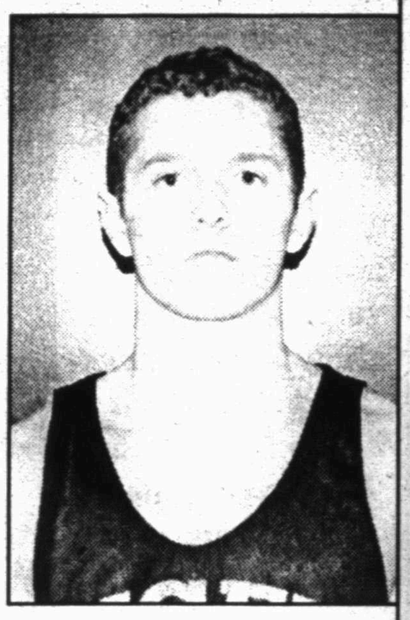
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Tigers continued...

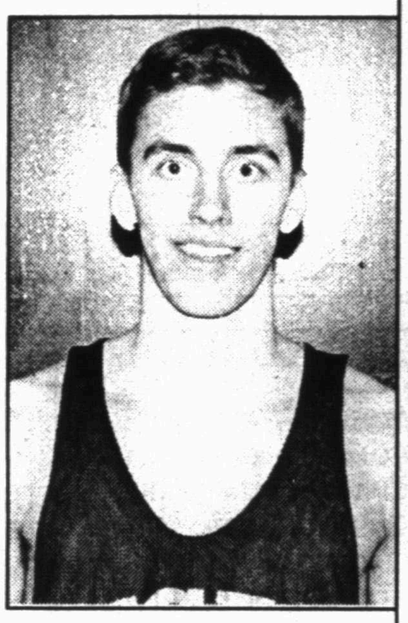
Heath Pinkerton
6-3, junior
post

"Heath is a scorer. He'll find a way to get the ball in the hole inside and outside, and he's quicker than people think. He doesn't mind playing different positions to help the team."



Trevor Kerr
6-0, senior
post

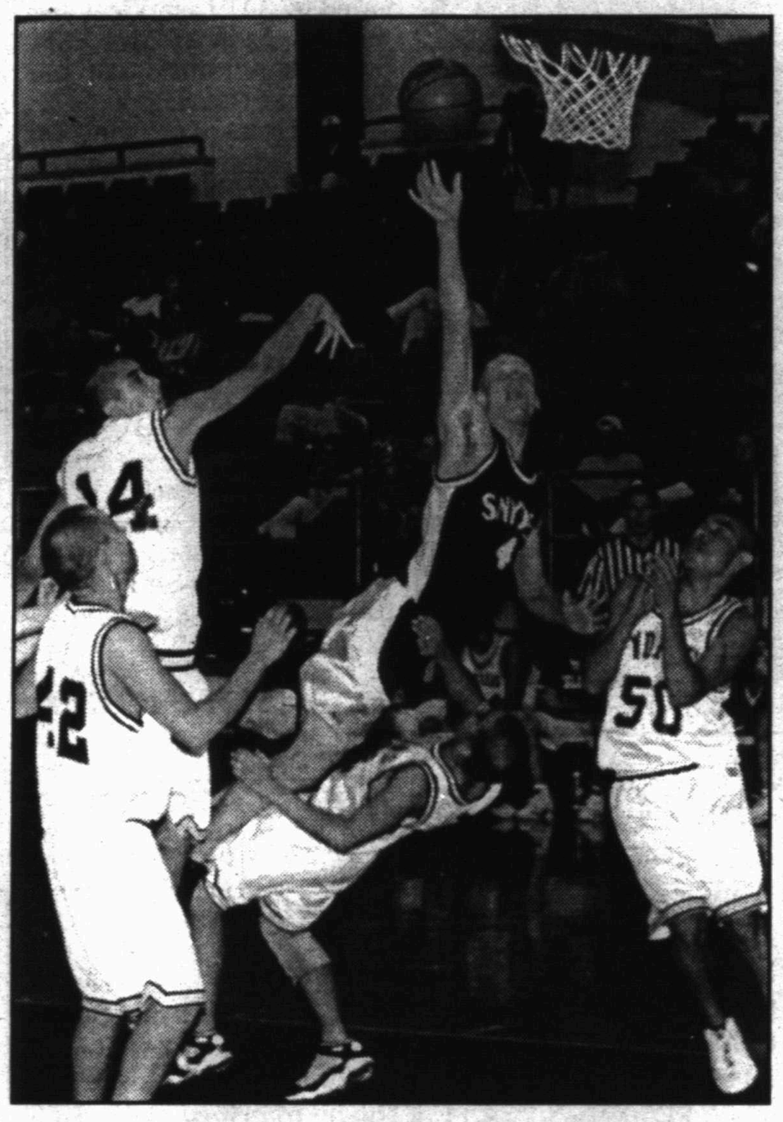
"Trevor is very intelligent on and off the court. He's unselfish, and enjoys playing defense. He can defend post or perimeter players., either one. He's a lot of fun to have on the team"



games, and could see more minutes in the second half of the season.

"Jared is an outstanding low-post scorer," said Birks. "He's very aggressive on the offensive end, and is getting better defensively. He's going to help us out a lot."

Also working in the paint will be seniors Layne Scott, Michael Loper and Trevor Kerr, along with junior Heath Pinkerton. Pinkerton draws double duty in some match-ups, playing down on the block at times, then popping out to play on the wing at others.



TIMBER — Snyder senior Sonny Cumbie leans over a player on his way to the basket during non-districT action earlier this season. (SDN Staff Photo)

The back court is where the Tigers are most experienced. Senior Jared Hester, the 5-4A newcomer of the year last season, runs the squad from the point, with fellow returnee Greg McAnaw playing the off-guard.

Birks calls Hester "one of the top point guards I've had here." The senior is extremely solid on the defensive end, and can handle the ball under pressure without turning it over.

McAnaw can man the point if necessary, but is usually left to do what he does best — shoot. The senior is the best three-point shooter on the Tiger roster, and can defend against the opponent's best spot-up shooter.

Snyder has been starting the game with a three-guard line-up, as of late, with Jamaal Wofford joining Hester and McAnaw in the back court. Wofford is an explosive player who can penetrate, then pull up for the jump shot, or pass to an open teammate underneath.

Rounding out Snyder's crew of guards is foreign exchange student Gregor Knirsch. Knirsch, like Wofford, can break down a defense off the dribble and he possesses a shooter's touch.

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Tigers continued...

"We've got kids that can contribute at a number of different positions," said the SHS coach. "Our players coming off the bench have been playing real well lately, and that makes such a big difference.

"Everyone of these kids is very unselfish. They just want what's best for the team, and that makes it so much more enjoyable to coach, when you have a group like that."

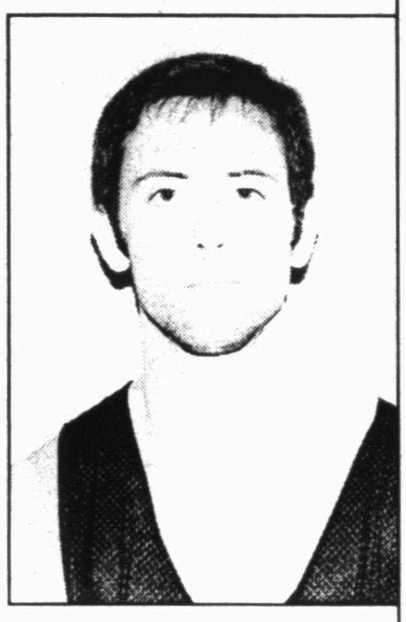
The Tigers' quest for a second consecutive district championship gets underway at 7:30 tonight at the SHS gym against the Panthers.

Snyder edged Fort Stockton on its own home floor in last year's opener, and won the second meeting, as well.

Following the Panthers, it will be the SweetwATER Mustangs paying a visit to Snyder, before the Tigers hit the road to face Lake View next Friday at San Angelo Central High School's gymnasium.

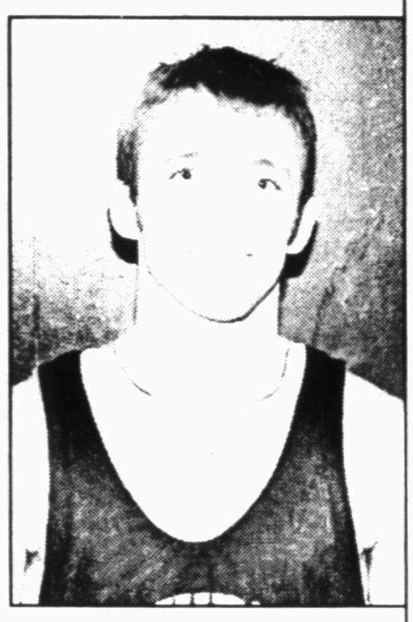
Jared Hester
5-11, senior
guard

"Jared's one of the top point guards I've had here. He's unselfish, and is an oustanding defender and a good shooter. He's the glue that holds this team together."



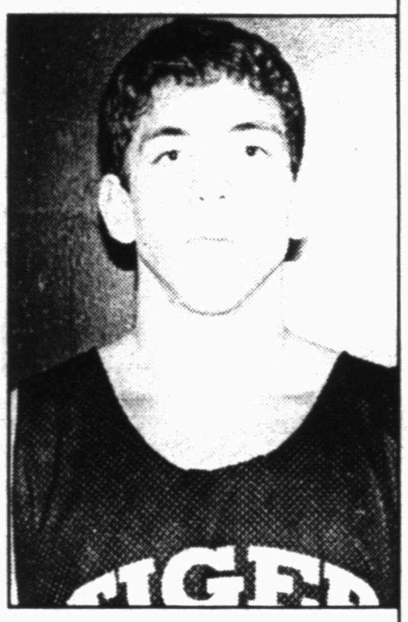
Greg McAnaw
5-9, senior
guard

"Greg is a pure shooter, who has also greatly improved as a defender. He's a competitor and usually draws the task of guarding the opponent's best shooter."



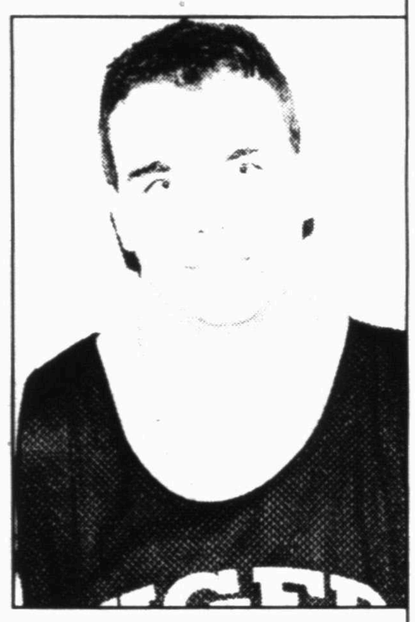
Jared Thornhill
6-3, junior
post

"Jared is our best low-post scorer. He's very aggressive on the offensive end, and will take it up tough. He's an aggressive rebounder, and is getting better defensively."



Michael Loper
6-1, senior
post

"Mike is a kid that will bang on the inside. He's tough, but also quick underneath. He battles for rebounds and loose balls, and brings a lot of energy onto the floor."



District 5-4A Boys

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Snyder	0	0	13	9
Big Spring	0	0	13	10
Ft.Stockton	0	0	10	11
Lake View	0	0	8	11
Andrews	0	0	8	13
Sweetwater	0	0	6	13

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

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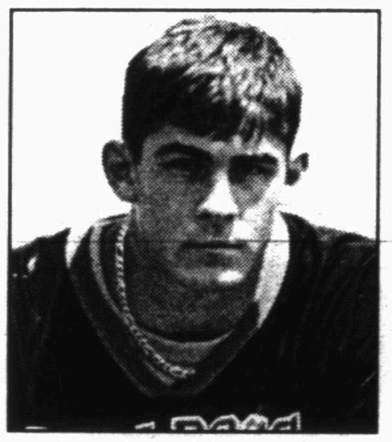
Jene Steakley & Gayla Erwin
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Ira sets sights on state tourney

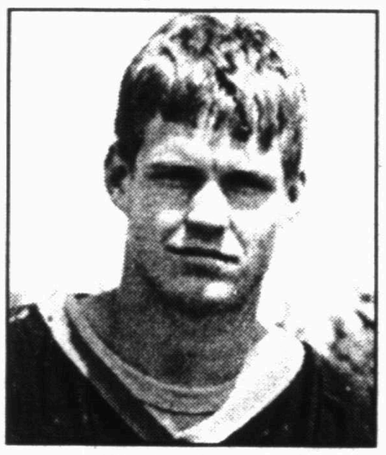
By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

IRA — After getting a taste of basketball success during the 1999 campaign, the Ira Bulldogs have set their goals even higher for the 2000 season.

The Bulldogs don't want just another taste of success. They want to feast at the state tournament.



Logan Daves



Jerek Brown

Ira returned all five starters from last year's squad that advanced all the way to the regional tournament, and the experience showed in the first half of the season. The Bulldogs dropped only two non-district contests, and hold the No. 10 ranking in Class 1A.

While the early season success was enjoyable, Ira remains focused on larger goals, according to Coach Bubba Edwards.

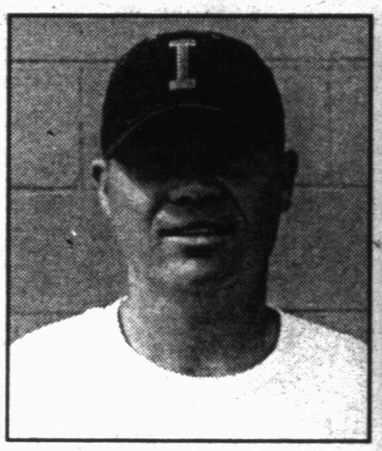
"It's nice to win 16 straight ballgames, but now it's time to go to work," the second-year Ira coach said. "Our kids have their sights set on a district title, and advancing through the playoffs. They know it's going to be tough, but they're working hard to reach those goals."

The Bulldogs walked way from their first two district tilts with victories over Grady and Westbrook, giving them a jump start on the league title.

One of the key ingredients to Ira's success will be the play of 6-7 standout Logan Daves. The senior leads the squad in scoring and is a big part of the Bulldogs' offense.

"Logan is a great player, who also has good players around him," said Edwards. "He's aggressive and can intimidate some opposing players, just by his size. Everybody has a role on this team, and everybody understands theirs."

That understanding of the system is one reason the Bull-



Bubba Edwards
Head Coach

dogs have crushed many opponents this season. Ira players picked up rather quickly on Edwards' system during his first year at the helm, but the added months experience have made a big difference.

"My job is a lot easier this year, because the guys know what they're supposed to," Edwards stated. "I don't have to try to teach them new things all the time. All I have to do now coach them to execute properly, and make minor adjustments here and there when they're needed."

Along with Daves, a host of Bulldogs have been turning in strong performances. Seniors Jerek Brown, Drew Wall and Richard Wilkins, along with sophomore point guard Nathan Smith, have proven to be a formidable fivesome with Daves in the mix.

But Ira's talent doesn't end with its starters, as depth will



AIRBORNE — Ira's 6-7 post player Logan Daves soars above an opponent for the opening tip. (SDN Staff Photo)

also play a role in the Bulldogs' postseason plans. Seniors Jose Juarez and Jenson Gainer, juniors Bryce Wilkins, Terry Jamison and Seth Sterling, and sophomore Jase Olvera have all contributed at crucial times already this season.

Last year's squad wasn't as deep, due to inexperience in the new system, and it hurt the Bulldogs in the regional semifinals. When Daves fouled out in the fourth quarter, Ira struggled down the stretch and Eden took advantage by outscoring the Bulldogs, 22-11, in the final frame to notch a 56-54 victory.

"There's no doubt about it, our depth is a big help this year," stated Edwards. "Everybody on this team understands how things work. They understand their roles on the team, and they can step in and contribute when we need it. And you must have that to be a really good team."

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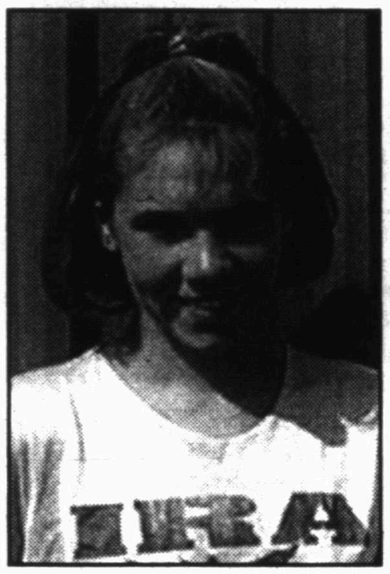
Young Ira girls learning fast

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

IRA — The Ira girls might be young, but the Lady Bulldogs are playing well beyond their years.

Ira features three freshmen and only two seniors on its roster this season, but the inexperience hasn't been a big obstacle yet for the Lady Bulldogs. Ira sports a 14-7 overall record, with a 1-1 mark in district play.

The winning record hasn't come easy though, as the Lady Bulldogs continue to learn each time they step onto the court.



Morgan Clements

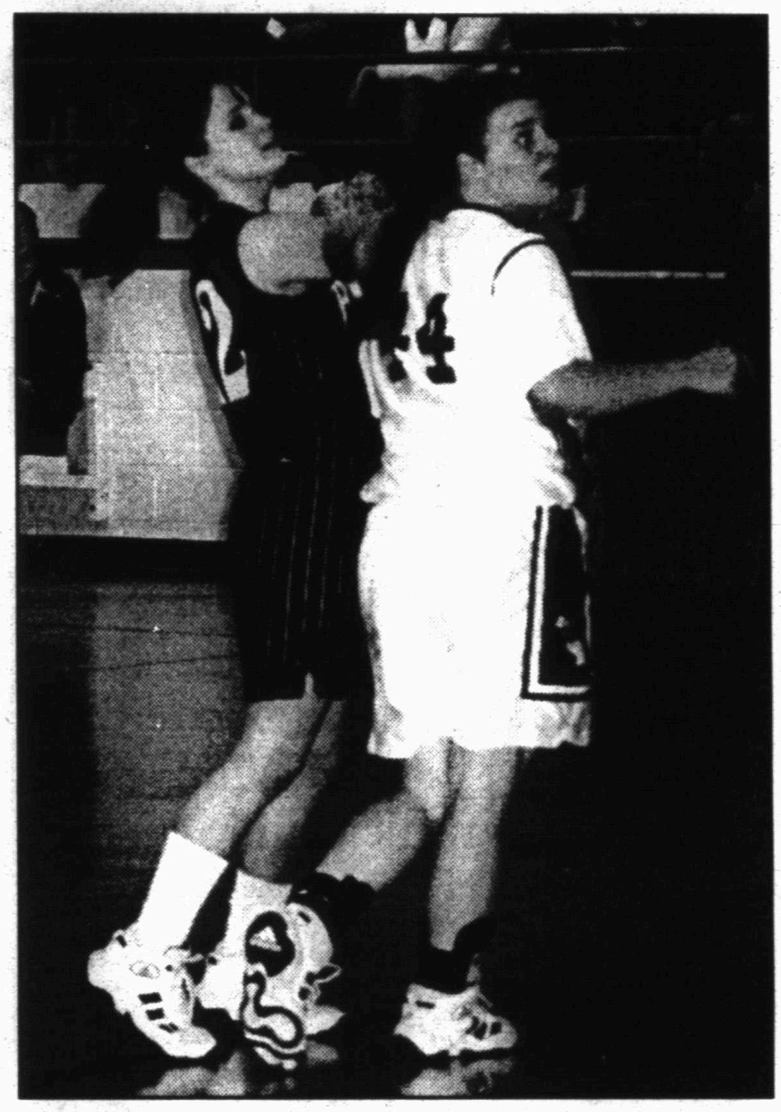
"We're definitely young," said Ira coach Jason Weese. "But these girls work hard everyday in practice, and they try to correct their mistakes. They are very team-oriented, and it's showed in their play."

Leading the way for Lady Bulldogs in 2000 is Morgan Clements. The junior has consistently totaled 20 or more points per outing thanks to her tenacious work on the inside, and an excellent touch from the free-throw line.

"Morgan has the total package," Weese said. "She can play inside and be extremely productive, and she can also handle the ball and shoot from the perimeter. She's strong on the defensive end, and rebounds well. That's a total player."

Ira's two seniors are also key contributors. Korby Calley and Jamee Goolsby provide leadership for the young team, which is still learning the game.

"You can never predict who it will be that steps up on any given night for us, because every girl on this team is capable of getting the job done," said Weese. "One night it might be a senior, and the next night it might be a freshman. Our freshmen have played great all year long, despite their inexperience. That's one reason we've been able to win some ballgames."



BUCKET AND A FOUL — Ira senior Tara Allen gets fouled while attempting a three-point basket. (SDN Staff Photo)

Kali Clements, Michelle Nettles and Celeigh Sterling are the youngest of the Lady Bulldogs. Sterling often draws a starting role, and is getting a taste of the action early in her high school career.

Also putting in quality minutes for Ira are juniors Mikanna Herring, Kristen Harless, Tara Allen and Davi Barnes.

The Lady Bulldogs will have their hands full in their battle for a playoff spot. Competing in the same district are state-ranked Borden County and Grady, which has a mark of 17-2 on the year.

Ira dropped its league opener to Grady, before leveling its loop record at 1-1 with a win over Westbrook on Tuesday.

"This is a tough district," Weese remarked. "You've got Borden County, that went to the state tournament last year, and Grady who are really good. And Westbrook and Sands aren't too bad themselves, so there are no easy victories in this district. But our girls will keep working hard in practice, and keep battling in each game, because that's the kind of kids they are."

The Lady Bulldogs visit Sands, then host Borden County, before traveling to Guthrie for a non-district tilt.

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Lady Dusters looking

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

Coming off their most successful finish in recent years, the first half of this season isn't exactly what the Western Texas Lady Dusters had in mind.

WTC recorded 18 victories last year for its third winning campaign of the '90s, and came in fifth in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference, its highest finish since 1994.

So the high hopes of building on last year's success makes the Lady Dusters' current mark of 2-16 even more painful for Head Coach Valery Jackson and her squad.



Valery Jackson

"Our record is tough to take because there have been games when we played well, but didn't get the win," said Jackson. "Now, there have been games where we didn't play well enough to win. But there have also been times when we played pretty good, but had one breakdown or two, here or there, and it cost us the ballgame. It's like we're so close, but its just out of reach, and that's the frustrating thing."

The Lady Dusters have also faced some adversity this season, including the death of a former teammate, a rash of injuries, and a tough schedule.

Pamela Odhuong'o, a starter the past two years at WTC, passed away in the fall after battling an illness for almost a year.

Once they returned to the court, the Lady Dusters were besieged by injuries to key players. April Walker, a sophomore who saw quality minutes last season, remains out with a broken ankle.

Add to the mix, five games against nationally-ranked opponents, and it's easy to see why Jackson refers to the first part half of the season as frustrating.

But the adversity is nothing new to Jackson, a former WTC player, now in her third year on the Lady Dusters' sideline.

Western Texas had compiled a record of 11-48 in the two years prior to Jackson's arrival. In only her second

Lady Dusters

Jan. 10	at Howard	6:00
Jan. 13	Odessa	7:30
Jan. 17	at Clarendon	6:00
Jan. 20	South Plains	7:30
Jan. 24	at New Mexico	6:00
Jan. 27	at Midland	6:00
Jan. 31	Frank Phillips	7:30
Feb. 3	Howard	7:30
Feb. 7	at Odessa	6:00
Feb. 10	Clarendon	7:30
Feb. 14	at South Plains	6:00
Feb. 17	New Mexico	7:30
Feb. 21	Midland	7:30
Feb. 24	at Frank Phillips	6:00

WJCAC Statistics

SCORING

Player	Team	Avg.
Katrina Jordan	South Plains	19.2
Lanna Quintyne	South Plains	18.3
Fatime Ndiaye	Midland	16.4
Tanya Robertson	Frank Phillips	14.9
Grace Gantt	Howard	14.2

REBOUNDS

Player	Team	Avg.
Katrina Jordan	South Plains	11.9
Lanna Quintyne	South Plains	9.75
Koretha Johnson	Howard	9.67
Nana Lobela	Midland	8.86
Marquita Ryan	New Mexico	7.88

ASSISTS

Player	Team	Avg.
Thorlan Buchanan	New Mexico	7.50
Shaletha Ashley	Howard	6.17
Trineka Freeman	South Plains	4.30
Meredith Coleman	South Plains	4.28
Kristin Warren	Frank Phillips	4.00

STEALS

Player	Team	Avg.
Ashanti Nix	Howard	4.17
Tashean Thomas	Howard	3.83
Lanna Quintyne	South Plains	3.00
Tanisha Harris	Howard	2.67
Carrie Fincher	Western Texas	2.33

Good Luck
Western Texas
Lady Dusters

to turn things around

year, Jackson's 18 wins last season were the most by a WTC coach since Kelly Chadwick guided the Lady Dusters to a regional championship in 1988, which was Jackson's freshman year at Western Texas.

"My first year as a coach here, we had to instill a work ethic and a desire to win," Jackson said. "But these girls have that. The effort is there. It's there in practice and it's there in the games. Our biggest problem has been shooting the ball."

Shooting problems have been the Lady Dusters' downfall this season. In the WJCAC opener against Howard, Western Texas connected on only three of 16 attempts in the first half, and finished with a shooting average of 22 percent.

The Lady Dusters' second conference outing proved how even a small improvement in the shooting department can make a big difference.

Against Odessa, WTC improved to 33 percent from the field, and led for much of the contest. The Lady Dusters held a four-point advantage with six minutes left in the game, before the Lady Wranglers went on a 16-4 run down the stretch.

"We played well again, except for a few stretches, and it cost us," Jackson said after the 71-62 setback to Odessa. "We have a lot of things to work on, but I'm still seeing a lot of positive things, too. LaKeisha Ross is starting to come around. She's one of our best post players, but we've only had her for six games because of injury."

Jackson does admit that the disappointing start to the season has taken its toll on the team, mentally, but says the girls are focused on becoming a better basketball team.

"It's been tough on the girls. It's hard to play your heart out every night, and come up on the bottom end," Jackson remarked. "But they keep battling. They come right back to practice the next day ready to go. They know that if they keep playing hard, eventually good things will happen to them."

WJCAC CAPSULES

MIDLAND COLLEGE

MASCOT: Lady Chaparrals
COLORS: Green and Gold
ENROLLMENT: 4,000
COACH: Ron Jones
'99 RECORD: 28-2
'99 CONF. RECORD: 14-0
'00 RECORD: 13-4
'00 CONF. RECORD: 1-0
STANDOUTS: Julie Rampley, Fatima Ndiaye.

HOWARD COLLEGE

MASCOT: Lady Hawks
COLORS: Red and Gray
ENROLLMENT: 2,100
COACH: Ron Mayberry
'99 RECORD: 27-3
'99 CONF. RECORD: 12-2
'00 RECORD: 13-4
'00 CONF. RECORD: 1-0
STANDOUTS: Grace Gantt, Koretha Jonson.

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE

MASCOT: Lady Texans
COLORS: Blue and Orange
ENROLLMENT: 3,500
COACH: Lyndon Hardin
'99 RECORD: 18-12
'99 CONF. RECORD: 9-5
'00 RECORD: 8-8
'00 CONF. RECORD: 0-1
STANDOUTS: Katrina Jordan, Lanna Quintyne.

WJCAC Preseason Poll

1. Midland College
2. Howard College
3. South Plains College
4. Western Texas College
5. New Mexico Jr. College
6. Odessa College
7. Frank Phillips College
8. Clarendon College

NEW MEXICO JR. COLLEGE

MASCOT: Thunderbirds
COLORS: Red and Gold
ENROLLMENT: 2,700
COACH: Ara Baten
'99 RECORD: 20-9
'99 CONF. RECORD: 8-6
'00 RECORD: 6-8
'00 CONF. RECORD: 1-0
STANDOUTS: Erica Gonzales, Thorlan Buchanan.

WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE

MASCOT: Lady Dusters
COLORS: Blue and Green
ENROLLMENT: 1,200
COACH: Valery Jackson
'99 RECORD: 18-12
'99 CONF. RECORD: 6-8
'00 RECORD: 2-15
'00 CONF. RECORD: 0-1
STANDOUTS: Crystal Williams, Carrie Fincher.

ODESSA COLLEGE

MASCOT: Lady Wranglers
COLORS: Blue and White
ENROLLMENT: 5,000
COACH: Tricia Floyd
'99 RECORD: 15-11
'99 CONF. RECORD: 5-9
'00 RECORD: 11-6
'00 CONF. RECORD: 1-0
STANDOUTS: Breanna Evans, Summer Sparnan.

FRANK PHILLIPS COLLEGE

MASCOT: Lady Plainsmen
COLORS: Blue and Gold
ENROLLMENT: 1,200
COACH: Cheree Monden
'99 RECORD: 6-23
'99 CONF. RECORD: 1-13
'00 RECORD: 4-13
'00 CONF. RECORD: 0-1
STANDOUTS: Melissa Kinnear, Tanya Robertson.

CLARENDON COLLEGE

MASCOT: Lady Bulldogs
COLORS: Green and White
ENROLLMENT: 800
COACH: Denise Reed
'99 RECORD: 6-16
'99 CONF. RECORD: 1-13
'00 RECORD: 6-7
'00 CONF. RECORD: 0-1
STANDOUTS:

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Hard-nosed Cards seek success

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

Some ball clubs use finesse, while others rely on hard work and determination to get the job done.

The Hermleigh Cardinals are the latter.

Hermleigh is much improved from last year, thanks in part to six seniors whose work ethic has carried over to the rest of the team.

Seniors Joey Garza, Tony Molina and Caleb Callaway battle in the paint for the Cardinals, while classmates Jared Higgins, Andy Luna and Angel Vasquez strike from the perimeter. But no matter where they're positioned, the group of upper-classmen is the heart and soul of the Hermleigh squad.

"We have a great group of seniors this year," said Cardinal coach Juan Rios. "They are hard workers, who will give you everything they've got every game, and their efforts have carried over to the rest of the team."

The Cardinals missed the playoffs last year, after advancing to the bi-district round in 1998. But Coach Rios' team has their sights set on the postseason, once again.

The strength of the Cardinals is on the inside, where Garza and Callaway do the majority of their damage.

Both players are tenacious rebounders, and possess the skills to score on the inside. Garza leads the team in scoring.

"Joey and Caleb have done a real good job for us this season," Rios said. "They're both good at getting position underneath, so we get a lot of second-chance opportunities."

Joining Garza and Callaway in the paint is Billy Lambaren. The junior has made major



Juan Rios
Head Coach

contributions so far this season, and will be a key part of the Cardinals' quest for a postseason berth.

Luna is the team's designated sharpshooter. The senior guard can spot up and drain a three-pointer, or use his speed to drive past defenders.

"Andy's speed makes him a valuable player," said Rios. "He can shoot the ball from the outside, but then when teams start defending him tight, he can drive past them. That opens up a lot, because he can either penetrate and shoot, or dish the ball to one of our post players, and he's an excellent passer."

Along with the six seniors, three juniors, two sophomores and three freshmen complete Hermleigh's roster.

Juniors on the roster are Chris McClure, Alfonso Rangel and Lambaren. Chris Bilberry and Jeremy Roemisch represent the sophomore class, with Terrel Culp, Tony Garza and Juan Yruegas competing as freshmen.

With an even mix of experienced upper-classmen and energetic youth, the Cardinals are on the rise once again.

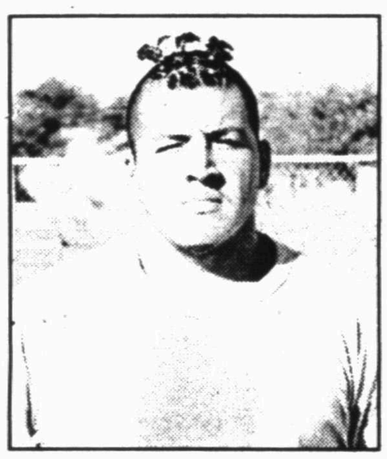
Offensively, Hermleigh has been able to score with just about anybody, and Rios understands that the strength of his team is on the offensive end.

"We can score some points," Rios remarked. "We just have to keep working hard on the defensive end. If we can limit our opponent's production, even just a little, then we have a good chance to win."

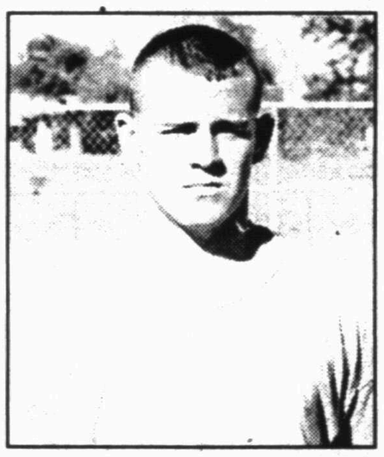
The Cardinals are 1-1 in district play, and will be in action tonight at Highland at 8.



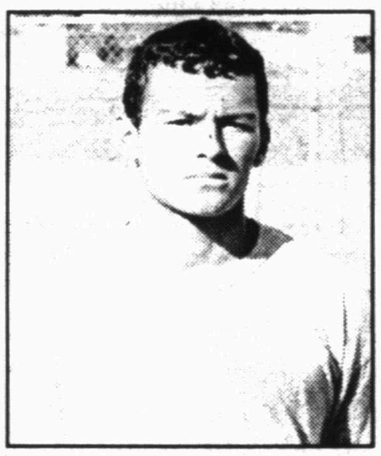
TIP — Hermleigh's Billy Lambaren (50) stretches for the ball during the opening tip-off. (SDN Staff Photo)



Joey Garza



Caleb Callaway



Andy Luna

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Lady Cards eye playoff berth

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

Success breeds success, and the Hermleigh Lady Cardinals have had their fair share in the past few years.

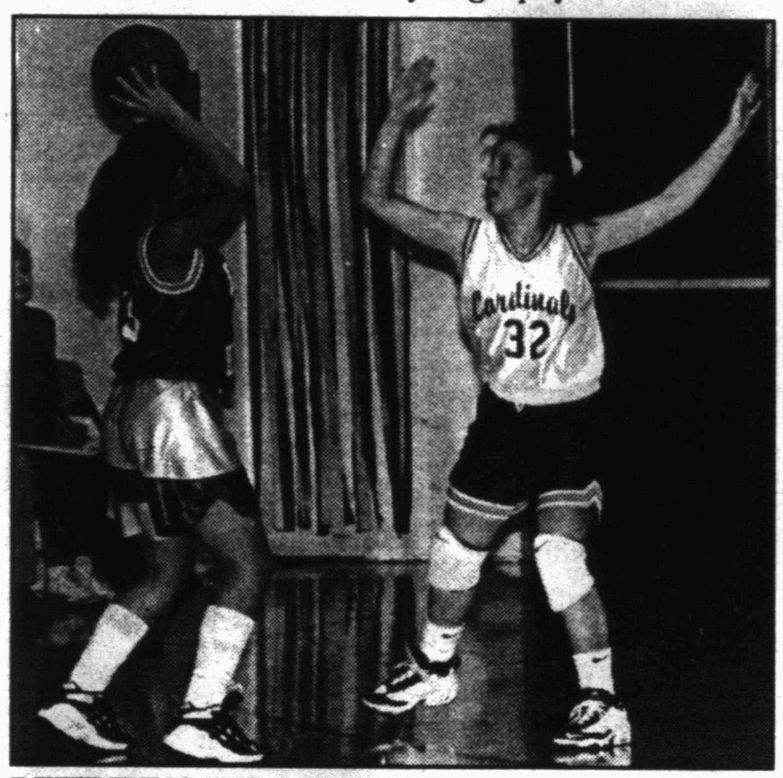
Hermleigh, 1-1 in district play, is a traditional entrant in the postseason, and has 16 players ready to make another run at the playoffs.

With 16 Lady Cardinals in uniform, Coach Rocky Clindaniel can rely on strength in numbers in the 2000 campaign.

"We do have a lot of girls out for basketball," Clindaniel said. "I think when you have some success, kids want to be a part of it, and that has been the case here."

Hermleigh's senior leaders have experienced success in the past, and are looking to continue the streak this year.

Seniors Kendra Dacus, Brandy Wood, Randi Herrington, Tracey Luna, Crystal Jackson and Janna Hinz know what it takes to win on a consistent basis, and they're able to instill their work ethic in the younger players.



DEFENDING THE PERIMETER — Hermleigh senior Randi Herrington, best known for her shooting skills, shows she can play on the defensive end, as well.

Wood, Dacus, Hinz and Jackson do the majority of their damage in the paint.

Joining the four seniors underneath are junior Samantha Smith, sophomores Sabrina Terry, Kendra Nachlinger, Cheyenne Walker, Amber Yruegas, Lacy Doggett and Kally Berkley.

But it's the senior posts who help anchor the squad, which is loaded with shooters.

The Lady Cardinals have no problems converting from the perimeter. Some times this season, Hermleigh has finished a contest with more baskets from three-point range than from inside the arc.

Heading up the Lady Cardinals' troupe of sharpshooters is Randi Herrington. The senior guard and leader of the team can get on shooting streaks that can bury opposing teams.

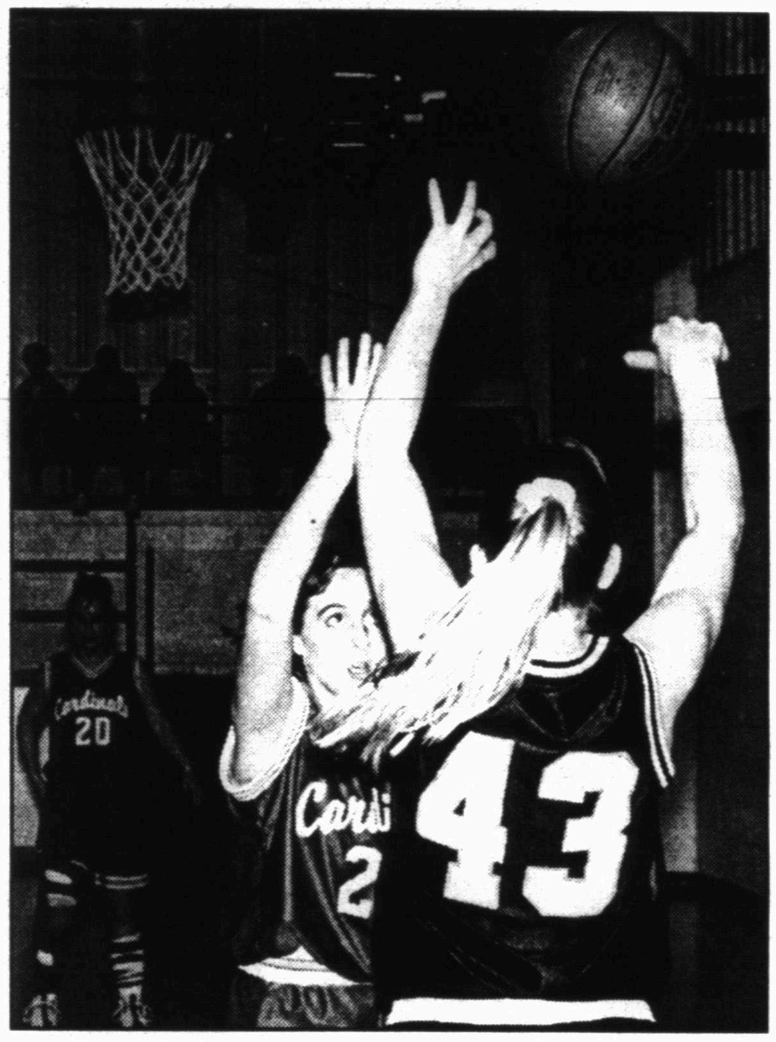
"We have quite a few girls who can shoot the ball very well," Clindaniel said. "And as long as you can shoot the ball, you feel like you're never out of a ballgame."



Rocky Clindaniel
Head Coach

Fellow senior Tracey Luna also roams the perimeter for Hermleigh, along with juniors Sheena Callaway and Toni Martinez, and freshman Misty McClure.

"We have several girls who can contribute when they're on the floor," said Clindaniel. "Our younger players still have some things to learn, but that will come. We just want to improve every time we step on the floor, whether it's in a game, or at practice."



BLOCKING THE PATH — Hermleigh senior Kendra Dacus defends against a pass, while fellow Lady Cardinal senior Brandy Wood (20) looks on. (SDN Staff Photo)

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Lady Tigers get fresh start with new coach

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

When Sam Tipton took the job as head girls' basketball coach at Snyder High School last spring, he had a plan in mind that could turn the Lady Tiger program around.

First on the list was to bring forth from his a complete and total dedication to winning.

Check.

Next was to instill in them a work ethic that would prepare them for victory.

Check.

The third step was to implement an offensive and defensive system that would allow them to win.

Check.

With those three steps accomplished, he only thing left to do when district competition rolled around, was to go out and win ball games.

Check.

After a slow start, in which the Snyder squad looked uncomfortable in its new system, the Lady Tigers are now flourishing under Tipton, opening the District 5-4A race with a pair of victories.

Snyder will be looking to up its mark to 3-0 tonight, and hold onto its share of the league lead, when it hosts Fort Stockton at 6 o'clock.

The Lady Tigers seem to be hitting their stride as district action begins heating up, and that's just the way Tipton intended it.

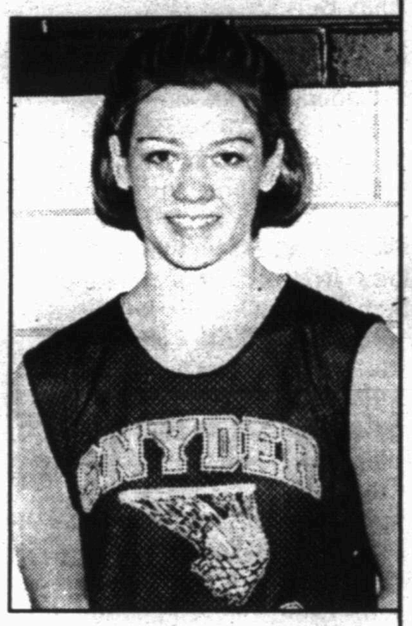
"That's why you play 17 or 18 non-district games, so you can work on the things that you need to work on," Tipton remarked. "Come playoff time, nobody's going to ask you how many non-district games you won. The ones we're playing from here on out are the only ones that count."

Snyder struggled to put teams away when they had the chances earlier this season and most of last, and it cost them a few victories.

But now the Lady Tigers have found a way to keep it together down the stretch, overcoming adversity to win

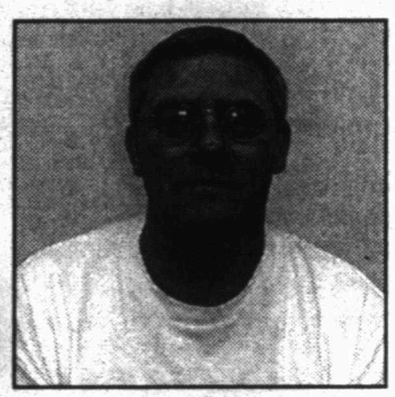
Callie Bane
5-6, junior
guard

"Callie is a very coachable player. She's a very hard worker, and has come a long way since her knee injury last year. She's improving each game, and will contribute for us this season."





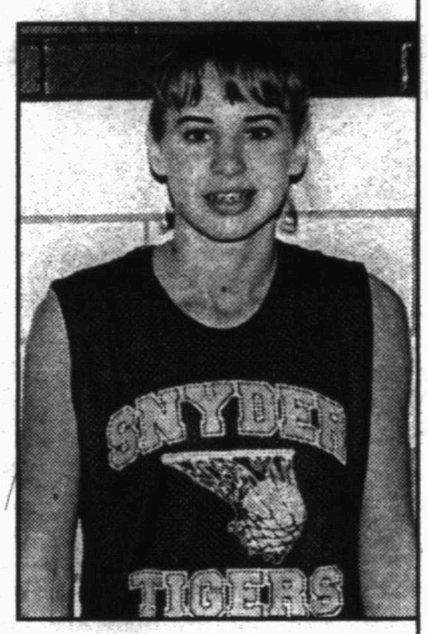
Brent Parr
Asst. Coach



Sam Tipton
Head Coach

Taylor Daniell
5-8, sophomore
guard

"Taylor is quick and eager to learn. She's just a sophomore, but she can handle the ball and is a good shooter. This year will be a great learning experience for her."



Good Luck To All The Tiger Teams!

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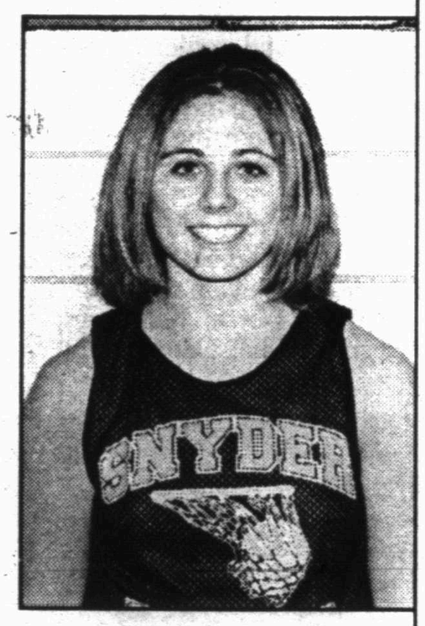
Lady Tigers continued...

their first two district games by a total of four points.

Tipton gives an easy answer as to why his squad can perform in clutch moments, when it used to struggle.

Cameron Mackey
5-1, junior
guard

"Cameron has the skills to be a great point guard. She is still learning what it takes to play the position, but she has quickly turned into a player who can direct our offense."



"Attitude and desire are two of the biggest factors in winning," Tipton said. "These girls have always had the desire. They've always wanted to win. They just needed to be showed how to use that desire to their advantage.

"We beat Big Spring the other night simply because our kids refused to lose. They absolutely refused to be beaten. By all rights, that's not a game many teams in our situation are supposed to win.

"Trailing by a point, with under 30 seconds left, without the ball, on the road, in a hostile environment. It doesn't sound like we had very much going for us. But our kids decided they weren't going to be beat, and that decided the outcome. They found a way to win."

Giving the Lady Tigers and added boost against Big Spring was junior post Ashley Delce. Delce, an all-district selection a year ago, missed the last nine games prior to district, after undergoing surgery to repair a previous knee

Rina Geiger
5-8, junior
guard

"Rina was starting to really get the hang of our system when she was injured. She is quick and always hustles. And she is such a competitor. She takes her game very seriously."



DISTRICT 5-4A GIRLS CAPSULES

FORT STOCKTON

MASCOT: Prowlers
COLORS: Blue and White
COACH: Shauna Showers
98-99 RECORD: 4-23
99-00 RECORD: 6-20
STANDOUTS:

LAKE VIEW

MASCOT: Maidens
COLORS: Blue and White
COACH: Rob Young
98-99 RECORD: 15-14
99-00 RECORD: 9-12
STANDOUTS:

BIG SPRING

MASCOT: Lady Steers
COLORS: Black and Gold
COACH: Kathy Loter
98-99 RECORD: 6-23
99-00 RECORD: 10-10
STANDOUTS: Latrisha Rollins, Melissa Forth.

ANDREWS

MASCOT: Lady Mustangs
COLORS: Black and Gold
COACH: Ray Courtney
98-99 RECORD: 9-19
99-00 RECORD: 6-12
STANDOUTS: Katie Faris, Rani Robins.

SWEETWATER

MASCOT: Lady Mustangs
COLORS: Red and White
COACH: C.E. Carmichael
98-99 RECORD: 29-4
99-00 RECORD: 20-2
STANDOUTS: Sharon Ballenger, Lisa Rannefeld.

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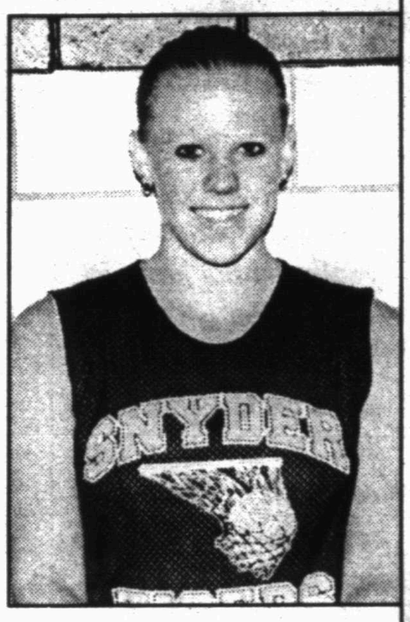
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Lady Tigers continued...

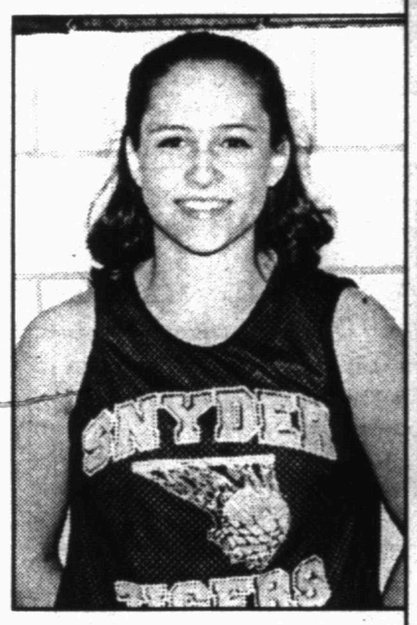
Amber Haarmeyer
5-6, senior
guard

"Amber is the only senior on the team, and she is a great role player. More than once this year, she has come into a game and provided us with the spark we needed."



T'Leah Eicke
5-4, junior
guard

"T'Leah is probably the best outside shooter that we have. She also gets after it on the defensive end. She has made big strides so far this season, and is a key part of our ballclub."



injury.

"Ashley makes a big difference when she is on the floor," said Tipton. "She can alter opponent's shots, and affect many different aspects of the game. We are a much better ballclub when we have a healthy Ashley Delce."

Joining Delce down low for the Lady Tigers is fellow junior Kameron Kallemeyn and sophomore Katie Voss.

Kallemeyn has been solid since the season began, with Voss picking up her game when Delce left with the injury.

Tipton has the option of going with a three-post set, putting all three players on the floor at the same time.

"We have a triple-post set, but we haven't used it, because we always had somebody hurt and couldn't work on it," Tipton stated, "But we still might down the road. Our posts have been the strength of this team for much of this season."

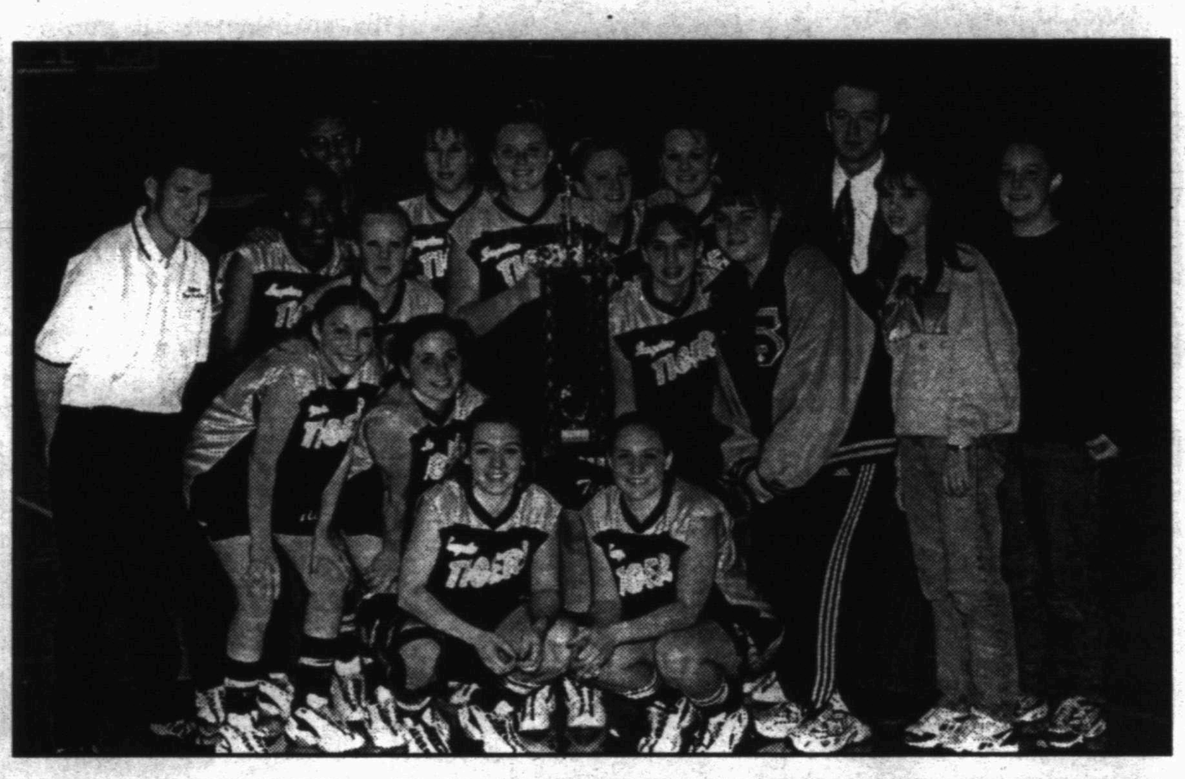
Junior Kristen Murray can also battle underneath, or hop outside and play on the wing.

Murray, Delce, Kallemeyn and guard Callie Bane are the four juniors who have been on the Lady Tigers' varsity squad since their freshman year.

Bane's output has risen in the past few weeks, as has her playing time.

Running the show in the backcourt is junior point guard Cameron Mackey. After struggling early on, Mackey has made great strides and is turning into a strong point guard.

"Cameron has come so far since the season began," Titpon stated. "She's really worked hard and is becoming a pretty good point guard ."



TOURNEY HARDWARE — The Snyder Lady Tigers celebrate their runner-up finish earlier this season at the Concho Valley Classic in San Angelo. Snyder has had reason to celebrate again, here of late. The Lady Tigers are 2-0 in district play, winning the two contests by a totalk of four points. (SDN Staff Photo)

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Lady Tigers continued...

Starting at the other guard spot is T'Leah Eicke, the Lady Tigers designated long-range shooter.

Eicke leads the team in three-point shooting, and has played point guard in some situations this season.

Also available at guard are senior Amber Haarmeyer and sophomore Taylor Daniell.

After taking on Fort Stockton tonight at 6 o'clock at the SHS gym, the Lady Tigers host district favorite Sweetwater on Tuesday.

The Lady Mustangs have reeled off a record of 20-2 thus far, knocking off Big Spring and Fort Stockton in the first two district games.

Snyder visits Lake View next Friday, in what could be a playoff-deciding contest.

The Lady Tigers and the Maidens battle down the stretch in two meetings last year, and should match up well again.

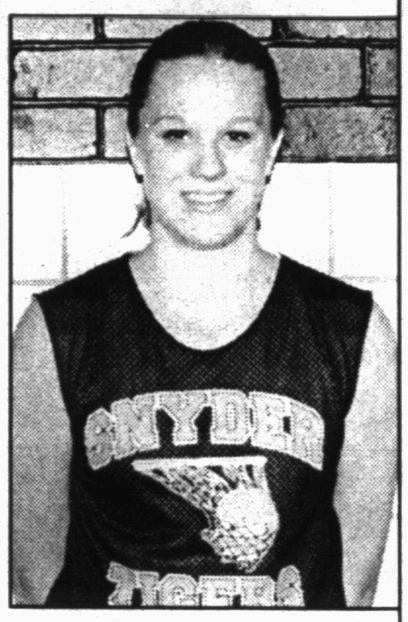
District 5-4A Girls

	District		Season	
Team	W	L	W	L
Snyder	2	0	7	12
Sweetwater	2	0	20	2
Lake View	2	0	9	12
Ft.Stockton	0	0	6	20
Big Spring	0	0	10	10
Andrews	0	0	6	12

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

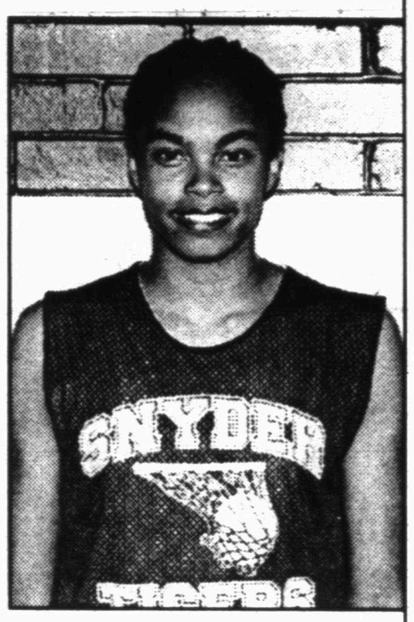
Kristen Murray
5-11, junior
guard

"Kristen has really started coming on, as of late. She works hard to make herself a better player, and it has showed in her performance."



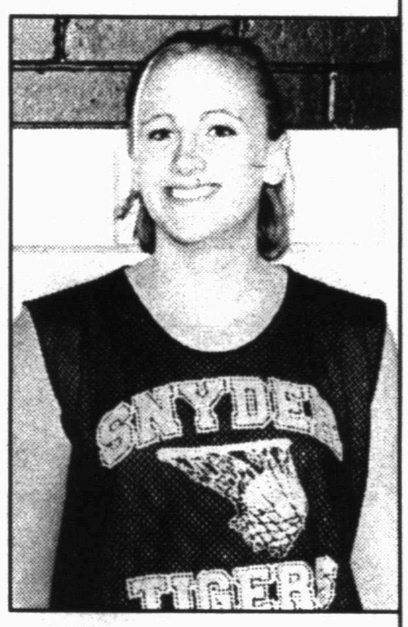
Ashley Delce
6-0, junior
post

"Ashley is a pure athlete, and an impact player. Her effort can raise the level of play of everyone around her. She's a great scorer around the basket, and we're excited about having her back."



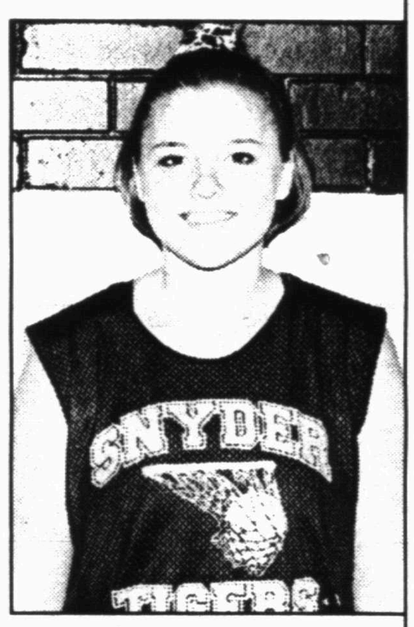
Kameron Kallemeyn
5-11, junior
post

"One thing is for sure, when the game is on the line, Kameron will go to war for you. She's a hard-nosed player, who won't back down from anyone. Every team needs a player like Kameron to make it go."



Katie Voss
5-11, sophomore
post

"Katie is just a sophomore, but has had to raise her game to another level this year, due to some other injuries. She has learned so much this year that she will only better in the future."



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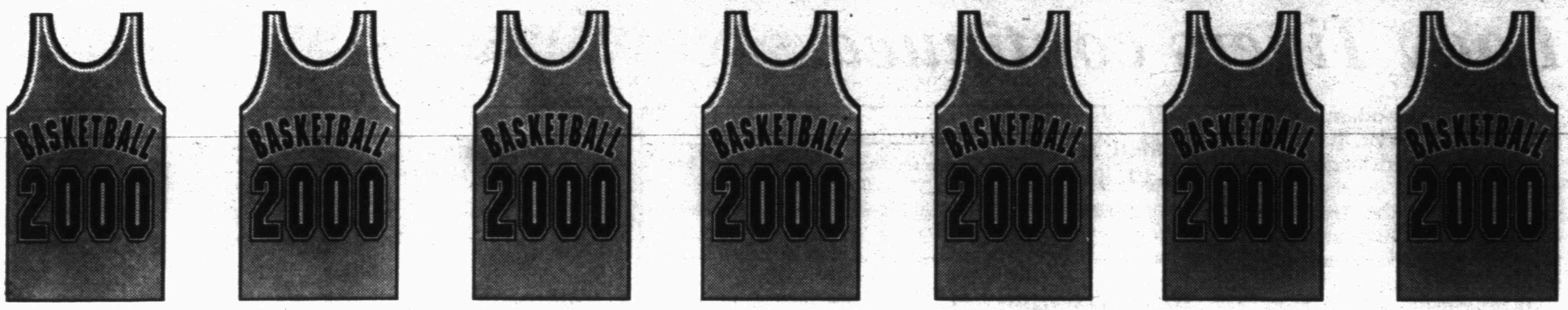
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Tigers

Jan. 14	Fort Stockton	7:30
Jan. 18	Sweetwater	7:30
Jan. 21	at Lake View	7:30
Jan. 25	at Andrews	7:30
Jan. 28	Big Spring	7:30
Feb. 1	at Fort Stockton	7:30
Feb. 4	at Sweetwater	7:30
Feb. 8	Lake View	7:30
Feb. 11	Andrews	7:30
Feb. 15	at Big Spring	7:30

Lady Tigers

Jan. 7	Andrews	6:00
Jan. 11	at Big Spring	6:00
Jan. 14	Fort Stockton	6:00
Jan. 18	Sweetwater	6:00
Jan. 21	at Lake View	6:00
Jan. 25	at Andrews	6:00
Jan. 28	Big Spring	6:00
Feb. 1	at Fort Stockton	6:00
Feb. 4	at Sweetwater	6:00
Feb. 8	Lake View	6:00

Ira

Jan. 7	Grady	6:30
Jan. 11	at Westbrook	6:30
Jan. 14	at Sands	6:30
Jan. 18	Borden Co.	6:30
Jan. 21	at Guthrie	6:30
Jan. 25	Westbrook	6:30
Jan. 28	at Grady	6:30
Feb. 1	Sands	6:30
Feb. 4	at Borden Co.	6:30
Feb. 8	Open	

Hermleigh

Jan. 4	at Loraine	6:30
Jan. 7	at Southland	6:30
Jan. 11	Blackwell	6:30
Jan. 14	at Highland	6:30
Jan. 18	Trent	6:30
Jan. 21	Open	
Jan. 25	Loraine	6:30
Jan. 28	at Blackwell	6:30
Feb. 1	Highland	6:30
Feb. 4	at Trent	6:30

