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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
Feb. 2, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 236
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Valerie Hernandez

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Top cats often start out as the underdog."

Man this could stir up a stink.

Wise men have long known that the best way to get in a jam is to try to correct somebody else's kid or order their dog around.

The guy that dreamed this up likely had good intentions, but you know about the road paved with good intentions. It could get your nose busted – or worse.

A pet food manufacturer has announced the establishment of a new hotline that allows humans to call and anonymously report that a person's dog or cat has bad breath.

The company then sends a so-called "tactful" message, informing the pet owner of the mutt's social problem.

Animal experts say that bad breath may be a sign of poor physical or dental health. The company then mails to the owner a free pet dental care kit, which cites the dangers of periodontal disease and other things you might not want to discuss over dinner.

The company says all the communications are handled discretely. We have to assume that it arrives in a brown envelope so that Fido won't have a clue that his halitosis is the very thing people are whispering about.

The bottom line, naturally, is to promote the company's new line of pet foods, which it claims can help solve the bad breath problem by cleaning away plaque and bacteria.

The marketing gimmick is creative, and perhaps could work on two-legged mammals.

Consider receiving a carefully-worded message informing you that an anonymous friend had been offended by your bad breath or other odor.

While you're trying to figure out which "friend," there comes the brown UPS truck with a care package, providing samples of products designed to eliminate those embarrassing personal problems.

In theory it would be a safe way for an employee to report a supervisor for bad breath, especially apparent during the uncomfortable performance review.

It would be a way for a student to let a teacher know that all the other kids have nicknamed her "Snowflake." And an envious coworker could complain about BO.

The office prankster could have a field day. Reporting halitosis in hounds is one thing, but turning in an associate could get ugly.

Isn't it interesting. When a person tells a clean joke, there's a good chance that nobody has ever heard it before.

Correctional officer vigil set for Friday

A candlelight vigil originally scheduled Tuesday evening has been moved to Friday.

A labor union comprised of correctional employees will hold the vigil Friday from 7-8 p.m. on the grounds of the Scurry County Courthouse.

Final decision in 30 days...

Snyder area is recommended for Air Force training flights

By Wade Warren
Managing Editor

An eight-county area that includes Scurry is the recommended site for future training by the U.S. Air Force.

The Air Force said this morning that it is recommending the area as the Military Operations Area (MOA) for training flights for B-52 and B-1 bombers from Dyess Air Force Base and Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana.

The final Environmental Impact Statement for the Realistic Bomber Training Initiative will be released Friday.

The identification of the Snyder area as the preferred alternative is not final, but that decision is expected within 30 days after the release of Friday's environmental impact study. If approved, flying operations would begin in December, 2001.

The local area would use existing military training routes over West Texas and consolidate three existing areas of military airspace into one 40 x 80 mile area over parts of Scurry, Kent, Fisher, Stonewall, Borden, Dawson, Lynn and Garza counties.

This site is said to have the least impact on civilian air space, Air Force officials have said earlier.

The MOA would provide training at 3,000 feet above the ground and higher, said Lt. Wes Ticer, public information officer of Abilene's Dyess Air Force Base.

"Regardless of what people have heard, the airplanes would fly 3,000 feet above the ground, and not 3,000 feet above sea level," said Lt. Ticer.

"If there is a hill 100 feet high, the airplanes will be 3,000 feet above it also," said Ticer said.

The Air Force considered four alternatives, including not adding any new training flights. The other areas were in far West Texas and northeastern New Mexico.

In a meeting last week in Snyder, Dyess Air Space Manager Dwight Williams told a group of citizens that proximity to Dyess and Barksdale was a key factor in recommending the local area.

Williams said fuel costs for flying the bombers range from $10,000 to $13,000 per hour, and the local site will save up to 4,000 hours per year.

That could translate into the Air Force saving up to $40 million annually in fuel costs alone.

One year's fuel savings would easily pay for the $14 million capital investment to establish the transmitter sites here. Included would be one large operations building that the Air Force would like to locate at Winston Field.

The Air Force stressed, however, that no agreements have been made with the county or any landowners where 15-acre sites would be dotted across the area. Two of the sites would be manned and eight are unmanned.

Agreements for lease or purchase of land would be made by the Corps of Engineers, and not the Air Force.

Williams also said the flight training would have a positive impact on Snyder's economy as 33 permanent jobs would be created here with the minimum pay of $30,000 per year.

The annual economic benefit to the community, not including $14 million in construction costs for target sites and a proposed building at Winston Field, would be $1.7 million.

The civil service jobs, with a defense contractor out of San Antonio, originally had been envisioned to be located in Abilene. The workers will be located in Snyder and Dyess will continue to be in charge of the training operations.

"The plan includes eight to 10 flights a day," said Lt. Ticer. "We currently fly about 260 days per year, excluding holidays and weekends."

"With the area being 40 x 80 miles, the potential for one area to be flown over consistently is not there," said Ticer. "We're certainly not talking about constantly flying over one area."

Williams said 80 percent of the flights would be in the daytime, as all aircraft flown at night must be on the ground by 2 a.m.

Presently, low-level flights of 300 feet in the area are originating in Oklahoma, and they will continue, Williams said.

The final record of decision on the recommendation will be made by Lt. Gen. Marvin R. Esmond, deputy chief of staff, Air and Space operations, no later than 30 days from Friday.

The flights have been opposed from the beginning by some area ranchers and farmers who organized HEPA – Heritage-Environmental Preservation Association.

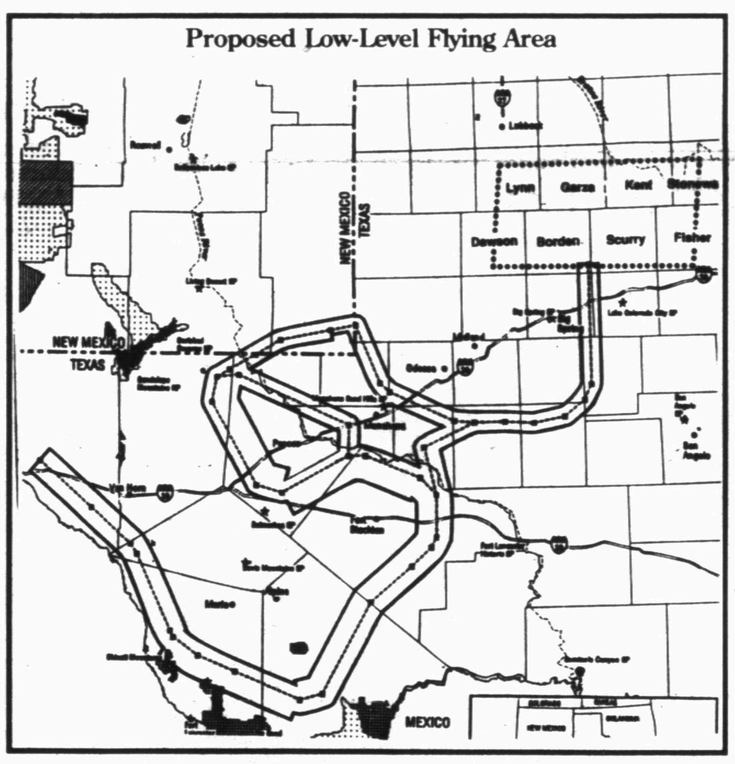
Buster Welch, a Fisher County rancher, heads HEPA and has vowed a court fight to prevent the flights over the eight counties.

Welch has said citizens in this area should not be expected to shoulder the burden of training Air Force pilots at "the expense of the environment, economy, sanity and our children's future."

The Air Force has held 32 public meetings and hearings on the proposed plan, including one in Snyder last year that drew the largest attendance of any of the meetings.

During the next 30 days, the Air Force plans a public demonstration so local residents may hear first-hand the noise level of a fly over at 3,000 feet.

If an emitter is actually located in Snyder, the city itself will gain 2,000 additional feet of noise buffer. Williams said aircraft must stay at least 5,000 feet above those stations for the equipment to function properly.





SIX MORE WEEKS — Snyder's version of the groundhog, the prairie dog, saw its shadow this morning. Legend has it that there will be six more weeks of winter-like weather.



FATAL ACCIDENT — An 86-year-old Lubbock woman was killed this morning in a one-vehicle rollover on U.S. Hwy. 84, near the Inadale Gin. The woman's name was not released pending notification of relatives. The woman was the driver of an east-bound 1999 Buick Century. Two female passengers in the vehicle were transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Hospital. DPS Trooper James Arnwine is investigating the 11 a.m. mishap. (SDN Staff Photo)

Campus spelling bees are beginning

Scurry County campus spelling bees were to kick off this afternoon with grades four through sixth at Hermleigh.

Contestants were to include Brett McClure, fourth grader; K'Leigh Jackson, Kelvin Doggett, Jeff Bilbrey and Brittany Kelley, all fifth graders.

Sixth grader Samantha Berry will also compete.

Hermleigh's seventh and eighth graders will have their spell-off at 12:50 p.m. Thursday.

Those contestants will be Shae Rinehart, Justin Kelley, Lennon Lane, all seventh graders; and eighth graders Valerie West and Brittainy Milota.

Brenda Kuss, who coordinates Hermleigh's spelling bees, will also pronounce the words.

Judges will be Cathy Beckman and Kay Brown.

West Elementary's campus bee will get underway at 9 a.m. Thursday. Danita Covey, coordinator, will also serve as judge. Other judges will be Dorothy Petersen, JoAnne Williams and Nan Swanson.

West Elementary will have 45 students in its bee. They are Juliana Arellano, Veronica Aguilar, William Banks, Laura Boyd, Megan Crisp, Rosa Cruz, Elizabeth Dominguez, Daniela Garcia, Trevor Groat, Tatum Gruben, Paige Gunset, Ashley Hyer, Ciara Latta, Chris Lopez, Amber Luecke, Katie Morrell, Samantha Pena, Claire Pollard, Amanda Orasco, Isaac Rodriguez, Delesa Traylor.

Others are Cody Alaniz, Jason Cave, Layla Constancia, T'Shambra Day, Tyler Ezzell, Kenetra James, Mark Keller, Whitney Kinney, Domingo Luero, Austin Lyle, Krista Murphey, Andrea Nussey, Ashley Pavlovsky, Ashley Pruitt, Jeremy Reed, Jessica Robinson, Antonio Rivas, Kelli Rushing, Breanna Talavera, Shaela Thompson, Ryan Thompson, Stephen Tippens, Caliber Vigneau, Jacci Westbrook.

Two bees are slated Friday as East Elementary students will begin spelling at 8:30 a.m. and Northeast Elementary students will see action at 2 p.m.

Wayne Kennedy, principal, is coordinating East's bee while Vanessa Taylor is in charge of Northeast's spelling bee.

Snyder Junior High School's bee is set for 2:15 p.m. next Wednesday. Virginia Trevey is the coordinator.

Ira School has set its bees for Friday, Feb. 11. The elementary students will begin the spell off at 8 a.m. The junior high spellers will follow. The action takes place in the old gym. Cindy Shoults is the coordinator.

The county bee is set for 9 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 18, in the Fine Arts Theatre at Western Texas College.

The winner will advance to the regional contest in Lubbock that decides who will to the national spelling bee in Washington, D.C.

Bush surprised by McCain win

By The Associated Press

Sen. John McCain opened the Southern front in his battle for the Republican presidential nomination today, boosted by the momentum of a startling landslide over George W. Bush in New Hampshire.

"I know it's going to get more intense now," McCain said on NBC's "Today." "We've interfered with the coronation."

Bush admitted he was taken by surprise. "I think everybody was," he said.

ASK US

Q—Is there a city ordinance concerning the length of time a disabled car can be parked on city streets?

A—No, but officers do enforce the State Transportation Code which defines a car as abandoned when it is inoperable, more than five years old, and has been left unattended on public property for more than 48 hours.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 41 degrees; low, 27; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 27; .15 of an inch precipitation; total for 2000, .88 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy, low, upper 20s; SE wind 5-10 mph; Thursday, partly cloudy; high around 65; SW wind 5-10 mph.



Joe Lara
Warmer

Sunset: 6:20 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:36 a.m.
Of 32 days in 2000, the sun has shone 31 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

If you are not ready today, you will be even less ready tomorrow.

—Ovid

Consolidation of agencies advocated

WASHINGTON (AP) — The global dimensions of crime require that the attorney general and the FBI extend their authority over other law enforcement agencies such as the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, according to a congressional report.

The Commission on the Advancement of Federal Law Enforcement recommended Tuesday that the law enforcement functions of the Treasury Department's ATF be shifted to the FBI and that the Drug Enforcement Administration become a separate division of the FBI.

Congress, which created the commission in 1996 in the wake of law enforcement controversies such as the 1992 Ruby Ridge standoff in Idaho and the 1993 Branch Davidian siege in Waco, Texas, has failed to act on similar recommendations in the past.

The departments of Treasury and Justice, in a joint statement, said the report was "thoughtful and deliberative," but noted that the idea of merging the ATF and DEA into the FBI was not new and had previously been rejected.

"We believe such a merger would be unnecessary and would be detrimental to our law enforcement efforts."

But the chairman of the five-member group, former FBI Director William H. Webster, said better coordination is crucial if the country is to meet the growing threats of global crime, terrorism and cyber-crime.

"I have serious concerns about the readiness of the federal government to protect Americans and the national security" without structural changes, he said.

The report said the attorney general should be responsible for overseeing all major federal law enforcement policies and practices.

The commission also criticized the recent tendency to "federalize" crimes. It said 40 percent of federal crimes have been put on the books since 1970 and now total more than 3,000. "This situation threatens to overwhelm federal law enforcement capacities, just as dramatic and serious new law enforcement challenges grow in intensity."

Webster acknowledged that others in the past, going back to President Lyndon Johnson, have attempted to restructure the ATF or consolidate law enforcement efforts, with limited success.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said his panel "will study the report and review its recommendations." A hearing on the findings was scheduled for Thursday.

Webster said that while such events as Ruby Ridge and Waco had become "metaphors" for some of the recent problems in law enforcement, they were only part of a larger picture that included some real successes such as law enforcement coordination after the 1995 bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City.

Berry's World



"You blame this wild weather on El Nino. I blame it on Al Gore, who INVENTED El Nino."

Morgan, Mallorye Miller to compete in calf scramble

HOUSTON — Morgan and Mallorye Miller will compete in the calf scramble of the 2000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Morgan, 16, and Mallorye, 14, are both members of Snyder's Future Farmers of America chapter, and they are the daughters of Stephanie and Ricky Miller.

Both will scramble Saturday, March 4, during the matinee rodeo performance. The rodeo performance also will include seven PRCA and WPRA rodeo events and entertainment by Robert Earl Keen.

During the scramble, 28 4-H or FFA members will attempt to catch and halter one of the 14 calves that are released into the 1.86 acre Astrodome arena. With the drop of a hat, the calves will dart into the arena and the challenge will begin.

With youngsters and calves scattered about and moving every direction across the Astrodome floor, the calf scramble is often one of the most chaotic events of the show.

For those who successfully catch a calf, the hard work is just beginning. Each winning individual is awarded a $1,000 certificate toward the purchase of a registered beef heifer. Additional "hard luck" certificates are presented to individuals who don't catch a calf but are recognized for their efforts.

The purchased heifer then becomes a year-long project for the scrambler, feeding, grooming and providing all the care necessary to raise and show a beef animal. Supervised by an agricultural science teacher or county extension agent, winners must keep accurate and detailed records of the animal's progress, submitting records to both the show and the donor to chronicle the heifer's development.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Feb. 3, 2000

In the year ahead, you will be given more opportunities than usual. However, although this is good, you must not scatter your forces in such a way that none will be realized.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Exaggerating your accomplishments out of feelings of insecurity will only exacerbate your thoughts of inadequacy. Don't succumb to these urges. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) How you handle your financial or commercial affairs today must be carefully analyzed first. If you get careless, gains could quickly be replaced by loses.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Be careful today not to put yourself in the minority because of opinions about which you feel strongly. If you see the majority disagrees, drop the subject before it impairs your image.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) There's a chance today that you could have a tendency to overestimate your position and underestimate the size of the problem with which you're dealing. Be realistic.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) This is one of those peculiar days when you might be better off doing business with someone new who could offer a fresh product or approach rather than settling for old standbys.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you're going to best another today, you've got to be smarter and more creative than the other guy. Don't count too heavily on your luck and good looks to get you by.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) To save yourself from suffering any new lumps today, review your old play book first to see how things worked out previously when you dealt with a similar situation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Try to go it alone today. Relying on friends or associates to come through for you might not work out as you hoped, because they'll have their own problems to handle.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) It might be wise to take a hard look at your own behavior today if the entire world has appeared to be out of step with your cadence. Maybe it's you who has to get in sync.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You might have to make a choice today as to what is more important to you, your material affairs or your personal relationships. Choose realistically.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Any gambles you wish to take today must be in proportion to what you hope to gain, or else big risks could incur big losses. It's imperative you know what you're getting into.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Although generally you're a rather friendly and tolerant person, today you could have an inclination to walk around with a chip on your shoulder. Someone will knock it off.

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Family of missing vet seeks closure

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — For almost 50 years, friends and relatives have wondered about the fate of Cpl. Charles E. Sizemore.

Sizemore, known as "Buddy," was just 20 when he was declared missing in the Korean War. With no remains to mourn, his relatives held out hope that someday he might return home.

"It's something all these years you wonder where he would've been, or that maybe he got away," said Sizemore's younger brother Walter.

Then came Monday, when North Korea said they had uncovered his identification tag among hundreds of sets of human remains believed to be American serviceman killed in the Korean War.

While the U.S. government has yet to confirm the claim, the news has put an end to decades of uncertainty for Sizemore's relatives.

"For them to read his dog tag out of all those, it just gets to you," said Patty Springman, a distant cousin who lives in Rushville, where Sizemore lived before he went overseas.

"We always thought all these years that he would come walking back in the door, so it really gives closure to the whole thing," she said.

Pentagon records have Sizemore listed as missing on Nov. 2, 1950. He was assumed to have died in battle, but the family was never given specific details about his death.

"Some people up in Washington said he got killed in a jeep, that he ran over a land mine or something," said Walter Sizemore, of New Caney, Texas.

Since then, the younger Sizemore has always kept an eye out, routinely skimming phone books when he traveled to other towns. On his desk, the 63-year-old keeps a scrapbook filled with pictures of his brother in Korea.

"It's always bothered me because I never got to know him," he said.

Sizemore came from a musical family and often played country music with his father and siblings as "The Singing Sizemores." His friends and family recalled his quick quips and skill as a bass fiddler.

Dee Monroe, 68, called Sizemore his best friend. He still remembers the day Sizemore tried to persuade him to enlist in the Army with him. Monroe wasn't interested.

"That was the last time I got to see him," Monroe said. "Many, many times I've wondered, 'Whatever happened to Bud?'"

FFA, 4-H members ready for Houston

HOUSTON — Seventeen Future Farmers of America and 19 4-H members from Scurry County will be joining other FFA and 4-H members from all over Texas for competition in the show ring at the 2000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Feb. 18-March 5, at the Astrodome.

Scurry County 4-H members include Cody Beaver, Jada Bilano, Kira Shenea Bilano, Jared Royal Boyd, Justin Vaughn Boyd, T'Leah Eicke, Tyrelle Jeffrey Gilbert, Brady Hackfeld, Chelsea Hackfeld, A'Lex Koonce, Malorye Miller, Morgan Miller, Kailea Anne Shaw, Kelsey Lynn Shaw, Corbin Richard Smith, Jordan Rae Stansell, Katie Voss, Anna Tess Williams, Tatum Leigh Williams.

Hermleigh FFA members are Kally Berkley, David Digby, Christopher Doggett, Janet Eckert, Lori Eckert, Kendra Nachlinger, Shae Lynn Rinehart and Valerie West.

Ira FFA members include Nickelynn Bays, Travis Scott Frey, Tyler Joseph Frey, Jeffrey Tyrelle Gilbert, Amber Sanchez, Candace Sanchez, Seth Sanchez, Celeigh Sterling, Kaci Waller.

The junior show, which showcases the animal projects of these FFA and 4-H exhibitors, is held during the second week of livestock competition, beginning Feb. 24. Professional breeders and ranchers will compete for top prize money and global recognition in the livestock industry during the first week of the show, which kicks off Feb. 18.

More than 14,000 entries, representing 1,014 Texas 4-H clubs and FFA chapters, will compete in this year's junior show. A wide variety of animals will be shown in both the junior and open divisions of the livestock competition, including market steers, market barrows, market lambs, market poultry, beef and dairy heifers, breeding gilts, breeding sheep, goats, llamas, ostriches, commercial steers and breeding rabbits.

The four market animal categories (steer, lamb, barrow and poultry) represent animals raised by exhibitors for food sources. The finest animals in each of these categories are eligible for their individual market auctions. In 1999, the Houston Livestock's junior market auction totaled $5,399,375, including a record $550,000 for the grand champion market steer.

In addition to world-class livestock competition, the show plays host to one of the premier horse shows in the country. The Houston Cutting Horse Contest kicks off 20 consecutive days of horse show competition, beginning Tuesday, Feb. 15. The National Cutting Horse Association championship finals follow Feb. 17-20, as well as competition in seven different breeds of horses: Appaloosa, Arabian, Half Arabian, Miniature, Paint, Palomino and Quarter Horse, plus donkeys and mules.

The 2000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo kicks off Feb. 10, with the World's Championship Bar-B-Que Contest, slated Feb. 10-12, in the Astrodome parking lot. Go Texan weekend is Feb. 11-12, including contests, the downtown rodeo parade and the rodeo run.

The streets of downtown Houston will fill with the sounds of horses' hooves, children's laughter, and marching bands on Saturday, Feb. 12, for the annual rodeo parade at 10 a.m. After traveling by horseback to Houston, more than 6,000 trail riders will join the parade festivities. Prior to the parade, the Conoco 10K Rodeo Run will kick off its 13th year as approximately 5,000 runners make their way from downtown to the Astrodome. All entry fees from the Rodeo Run are donated to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Educational Fund.

Go Texas fun continues at the Astrodome complex with teams competing in dominoes, washer pitching and horseshow pitching in the Astroarena and hay hauling in the Astrodome on Saturday. The team penning competition will take place in the Astroarena on Feb.13.

From Feb. 18 to March 5, the winning entries in the Go Texan quilt and photography contests will be displayed in the Astrohall's Western Heritage Gallery.

The Rodeo Lovers' Early Bird Special is back for its second year. The 5:30 p.m. special performances Monday through Friday include calf roping, bareback riding, team roping, steer wrestling, saddle bronc riding and bull riding.

Feature rodeo performances will follow at 7 p.m. after a brief intermission with six cowboys competing in each of the same events as well as a full set of contestants in barrel racing.

C-City auction

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 385 head of cattle for the Saturday, Jan. 29, sale. Compared to last week, feeder steers and heifers were steady to $2 lower. Slaughter cows were steady to $1 higher. Bulls were steady. Bred cows were weak. Pairs were steady. Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
200-300: 115-124
300-400: 94-104
400-500: 87-96.50
500-600: 88.50-92
600-700: 83-84.50
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 91-97
400-500: 87.50-94
500-600: 82-85
600-700: 79-83.50
Replacement cows: 530-595
Bred cows: 400-530
Pairs: 630-760
Cow and calf pairs: 500-600
Slaughter cows: High yielding: 40-43
Slaughter bulls: High dressing: 51.50-52

Lubbock auction

The Lubbock Stockyards Inc. had a run of 755 head of cattle for the Thursday, Jan. 27, sale. Cows were $4 higher. Yearlings and calves were steady. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 36-44
Canner and low cutters: 30-35.25
Slaughter bulls: 42-52
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 95-125
400-500: 90-110
500-600: 85-92.50
600-700: 83-87.50
700-800: 79-85
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 90-105
400-500: 80-95
500-600: 80-85
600-700: 77-83
700-800: 70-77.50
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 75-93
700-800: 65-75
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 625-775
Grade: 500-625
Springers: 325-625
Baby calves: 75-150
Doodlers: 150-235

30
$12.99
1-10x13 (Wall Photo)
1- 8x10
2- 5x7
2- 3x5
16-King Size Wallets
8-Regular Size Wallets
99¢ Deposit
$12.00 Due at Pick up
(plus tax)


AT
Higginbotham Bartlett Home Center
1913 25th Street
Date:
Saturday, Feb. 5
Photo Hours:
10:00-1:00
2:00-4:00
Group charge 99¢ per person
Shugart's inc.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Troubled teens in jail take shared compliments to heart

DEAR ABBY: Remember the letter in your column about the teacher who asked students to write compliments to one another, and then passed them along to each individual? Well, Abby, I used her idea — with wonderful results!

I work in "Chaya," a prison ministry for incarcerated youth in Arizona. Last year, two weeks before Valentine's Day, I gave a talk on love and respect for one another to 25 girls between the ages of 12 and 18. Afterward, I passed out paper and pencils to the girls and instructed them to write a compliment for each girl — and to say nothing if they didn't have anything nice to say. I told them not to sign their names, as all compliments should be given out of love, not the hope of being thanked. Nearly all the girls complimented every other girl.

I took the papers home that night and typed a list of compliments for each girl. I deleted anything negative or questionable, including the few slang terms with which I was unfamiliar. I cut out 25 large red hearts and pasted a compliment list to the back of each one. My children decorated the front with doilies, stickers, pictures and lace.

I distributed the hearts to the girls at the Valentine party we hosted. I asked each girl to read her compliments to herself and then to share the one compliment that meant the most to her, and the one that surprised her the most. It was a meaningful experience, especially for these troubled girls who have had little or no affection or positive affirmation in their lives. The girls told me how much they cherished these hearts, and the staff allowed them to be hung on their walls — which was a great privilege for them.

Abby, I would like to thank the person who came up with that idea, and you for printing it. It took some work on my part to make sure no one was hurt by insults, but that was a responsibility I enjoyed because I got to read all the outpouring of love. — **LITA JOHNSON, PHOENIX**

DEAR LITA: You took a terrific idea and ran with it, which is to your credit. We all need positive reinforcement from time to time.

It appears that everyone, including yourself, benefited from the assignment — the surest sign that it was a real winner!

**

DEAR ABBY: I have been going out with my brother's wife, "Angie." They are separated and she has filed for divorce. For the past five years, my brother has alternated living with his wife in one house and with another "lady" in a different house.

I have always liked Angie, and have seen her go through much unhappiness with him. I have always wished to be with her and to treat her with the respect she deserves, but she has always tolerated my brother's double life.

Last month she left him. That's when I decided to express my feelings to her. I was surprised to learn that she has always had the same feelings for me. We started talking on the phone, and now have gone out a couple of times. There has been no "fooling around," and there won't be before her divorce is final.

My brother and I are not close. We have had our share of disagreements, and I know he will feel that I am doing this to get back at him. I really care for Angie, and I don't know what to do. Any advice for me? — **CONFUSED IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR CONFUSED: Yes, if you and Angie are meant for each other, waiting a few months should not make a difference to any future you have together. Put the romance "on hold" until her divorce is final. To have an open romance now will only complicate her divorce. There is already enough tension between you and your brother, so don't add to it.

**

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

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Illegal contribution costs company

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Miami computer company already fined $1 million by the Justice Department for illegally contributing to Democratic candidates has agreed to pay another $209,000 to the Federal Election Commission.

Future Tech International used corporate funds to reimburse employees who contributed to President Clinton's 1996 campaign and several House and Senate Democrats, including Sens. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts and Robert Torricelli of New Jersey, according to documents released by the FEC.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 02-02-00
♠ K J 10 7
♥ K 3
♦ A Q J 9 4
♣ A 9

West
♠ 8 4
♥ J 9 8 6 5 4
♦ 6 5
♣ Q 5 2

East
♠ 9 6 5 2
♥ A Q
♦ K 3 2
♣ K 6 4 3

South
♠ A Q 3
♥ 10 7 2
♦ 10 8 7
♣ J 10 8 7

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		1 ♦	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ 6

Christmas answers, part two

By Phillip Alder

First, the answers to the supplementary tie-breaker questions in the Christmas competition:

3. Dummy has A-J-9, you have K-5-4 in hand. What is the name of the play when, needing three tricks from the suit, you start with dummy's jack? It is a backward finesse. It is normally against the odds because it requires two cards to be well placed — the 10 and queen — rather than only one card — the queen — for the normal finesse.

4. What are probably representations of Charles VII of France; Charlemagne, Emperor of the Franks; Julius Caesar; and Alexander, the Greek Emperor? Our deck of cards is derived from one developed in France. In that deck, these were the representations of the kings of spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs, respectively.

5. Bokk, Juvenia, Millwarkey, Moscito, No Name, and Saffle Spade — which one is not a bidding system? Millwarkey. Bokk and Saffle Spade come from Sweden; Juvenia and No Name are Polish; and Moscito, which started by stinging opponents in Australia, was developed by two New Zealanders.

6. What is the leading of an unsupported high honor card to create an entry in partner's hand called? A Deschapelles Coup, named after Guillaume of that ilk, who was a top whist player.

Here is an example of the Deschapelles Coup. Defending against three no-trump, East wins the first two tricks with his heart honors. Now there is only one lead to defeat the

Where is West's entry? As South is marked with the spade ace from his initial response, West's only potential in-card is the club queen.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF A BUSINESS SEPARATION PLAN

On January 10, 2000, TXU Electric Company (TXU Electric) filed its application for approval of its Business Separation Plan filing with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission). A summary of the application follows.

The Commission has established Docket No. 21950, "APPLICATION OF TXU ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS PLAN TO IMPLEMENT BUSINESS SEPARATION AS REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 39.051 OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATORY ACT" for TXU Electric's Business Separation Plan application. In addition, in Order No. 1, the Commission severed matters from TXU Electric's Business Separation Plan pertaining to Competitive Energy Services. The Commission has established Docket No. 21987, "COMPETITIVE ENERGY SERVICES ISSUES SEVERED FROM APPLICATION OF TXU ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS PLAN TO IMPLEMENT BUSINESS SEPARATION AS REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 39.051 OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATORY ACT" to address these matters related to Competitive Energy Services.

The application was filed pursuant to the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) §39.051, which requires electric utilities to (1) separate its business activities from one another into a power generation company, a retail electric provider, and a transmission and distribution utility; and (2) separate from its regulated utility activities its customer services business activities that are otherwise already widely available in the competitive market. TXU Electric petitions the Commission for approval of its business separation plan filed pursuant to PURA §39.051(e), approval of its separation plan for competitive energy services filed pursuant to PURA §39.051(a); and approval of a good cause exception so that TXU Electric may continue to provide its e-Wise® Low-Income Program until January 1, 2002.

Persons who wish to intervene in either or both proceedings or comment upon the actions sought should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas, 78711-3326, or call the Commission's Office of Customer Protection at (512) 936-7120 no later than February 22, 2000. Hearing- and speech- impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136.

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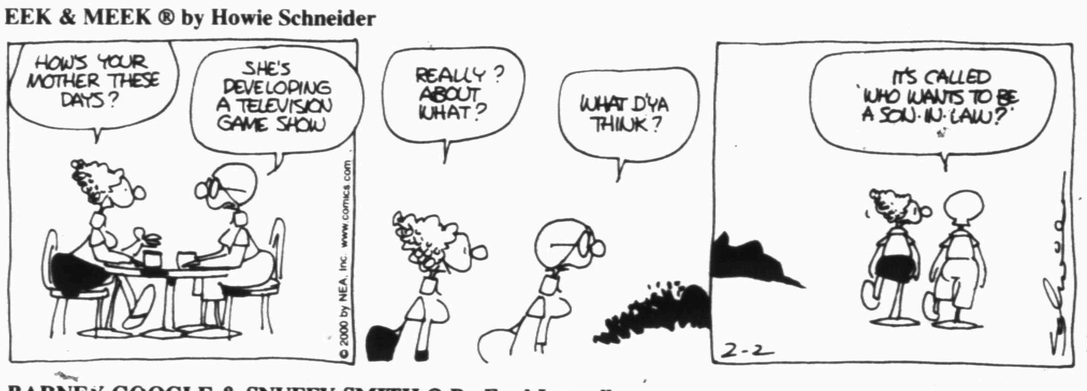
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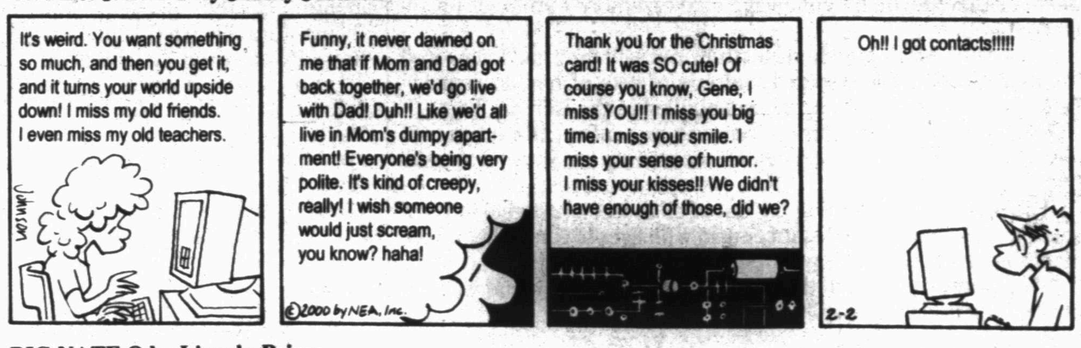
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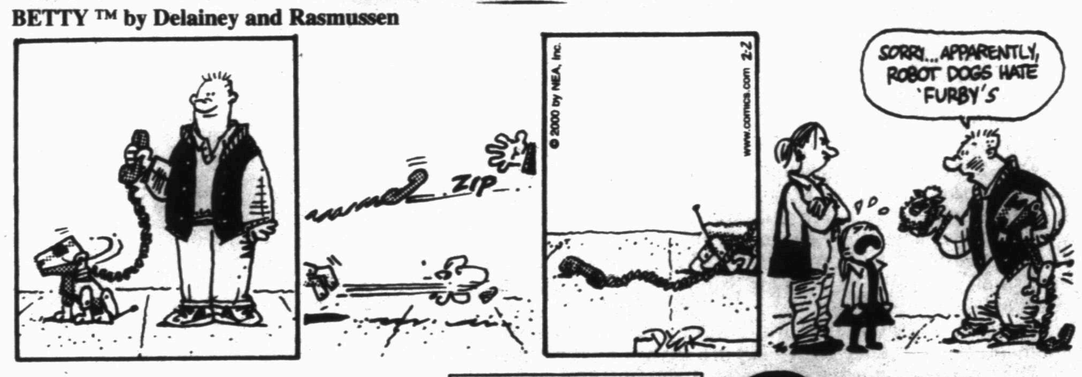
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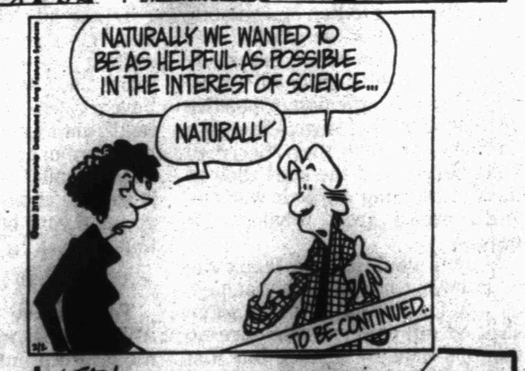


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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Lift with effort
7 Shoot from an airplane
13 Scuffle
14 Waver
15 Coveted
16 Meaning
17 Dad
18 Temp. unit
20 Existence
21 Small person
23 "Para" ending
27 Contradict
32 Fable writer
33 Chick noises
34 Aches and —
35 Green quartz
36 Author Caldwell
39 Good-for-nothing
40 Care for
42 Have — on (show compassion for)
46 Actress Joanne —
47 Uses a chair
51 Stalwart
53 Quiescent
55 Inexpensive cigar
56 Polar lights
57 Demolishes, to insurance companies
58 Closer

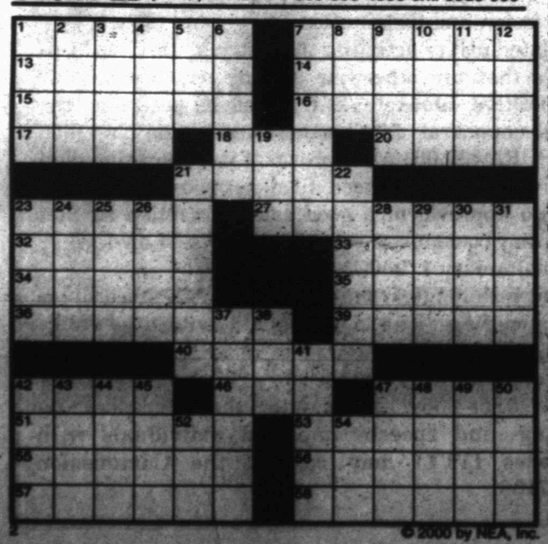
DOWN

1 Pace
2 Popular sandwich type
3 Inv. Inits..
4 India's place
5 — de France
6 Donkey
7 Mark of disgrace
8 Half a score
9 Nerve network
10 Tropical fruit
11 Marshes
12 Art deco illustrator
19 Scramble it!
21 Stomach enzyme
22 Sixties radical
23 Superhero's attire
24 Use your ears
25 Information agcy.
26 Honky- —
28 Social misfit
29 Close firmly
30 Church part
31 River in Belgium
37 Pushes gently
38 Blunder
41 — B. Anthony
42 Attention-getting sound
43 "Leave — — Beaver"
44 Run
45 Exercise system
47 FDR's mother
48 Believe — — not
49 Wear out
50 Wound mark
52 Zero
54 Cal. box

Answer to Previous Puzzle

W	R	E	S	T	S			I	T	A	L	Y
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By Eric
Sport

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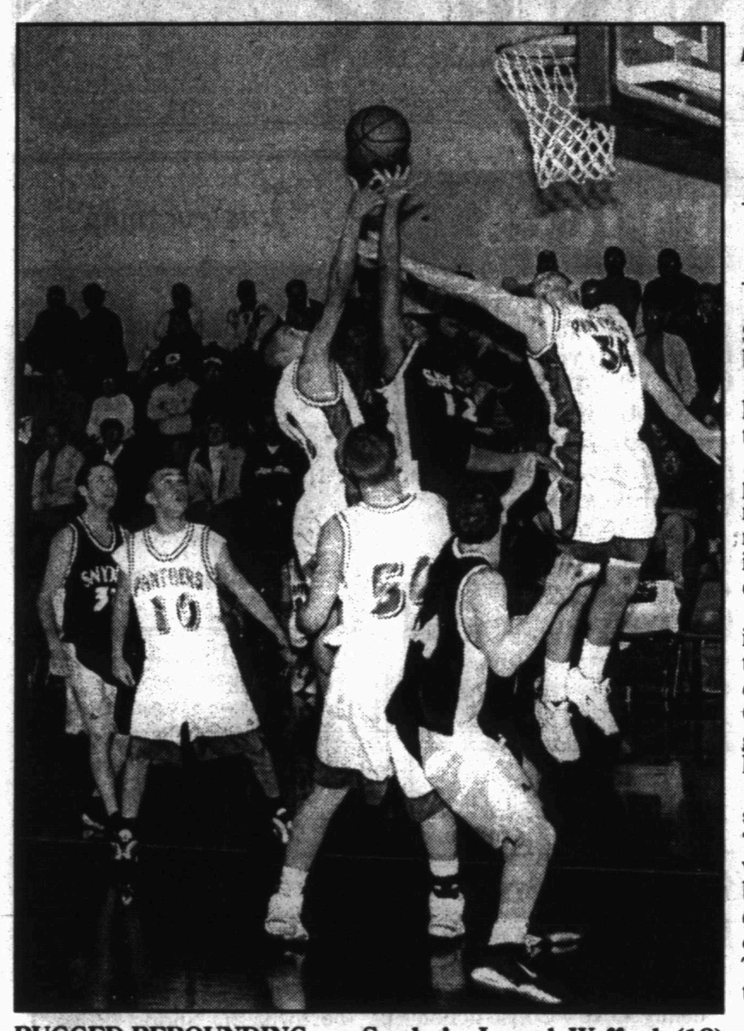
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SPORTS



RUGGED REBOUNDING — Snyder's Jamaal Wofford (12) battles two Fort Stockton players for an offensive rebound Tuesday night during the Tigers' 61-51 victory over the Panthers. (SDN Staff Photo)

Snyder 61, Fort Stockton 51...

Tigers tighten grip on 5-4 title

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

FORT STOCKTON — The Snyder Tigers didn't play flawless basketball Tuesday night.

But on the road against a team looking for revenge, it came pretty close.

Snyder went 22-of-32 from two-point range, grabbed 30 rebounds, and held off a determined Fort Stockton team to register a 61-51 district victory Tuesday at Panther gym.

With the win, the Tigers (19-9) improve to 6-0 in league play and take one step closer to their second consecutive district crown. One victory over the next four games would guarantee Snyder at least a share of the 5-4A title.

"We played pretty well tonight," said Snyder coach Bud Birks. "There were a few instances where we made bad decisions, but we didn't have many breakdowns in our execution. I'm extremely proud of our guys. They played hard against a tough team."

Fort Stockton was looking to avenge the narrow, one-point loss it suffered at Snyder in the district opener, and the Panthers' game plan was apparent early on.

Luke Groth, the Panthers' 6-6 post player, was the focal point of his squad's attack. Groth touched the ball on 10 of Fort Stockton's 11 first-quarter possessions.

The Tigers were able to limit Groth's production to 10 points in the first half, with two of those points coming on a pair of free throws with no time left on the clock.

Snyder opened up a 29-22 halftime advantage thanks in part to Heath Pinkerton's performance in the first period. Pinkerton poured in 13 points in the opening stanza, as the Tigers' flex offense produced open looks in the paint. The junior finished with 21 points.

"The last time we played Fort Stockton, they defended the flex by taking away our first pass to start the offense," said Birks. "So this time we had a few different ways that we could start the flex, and it allowed us to get some easy buckets in the first quarter."

Following the break, Snyder's seven-point lead slowly dwindled in the third quarter.

Pinkerton was forced to sit after picking up his third and fourth fouls midway through the period. With the Tigers' leading scorer on the bench, the Panthers regained some momentum.

Groth started getting free underneath, registering eight points in the third quarter to cut Snyder's advantage to four points entering the final frame.

But the Tigers rebuilt their cushion in the first four minutes of the fourth quarter. A pair of buckets from Pinkerton, and one apiece from Jamaal Wofford and Jared Hester, pushed the lead back to seven points at 53-47.

The Panthers had one final run in them, cutfing the deficit to three points on a layup by Groth with 2:06 showing on the clock.

But Fort Stockton would get no closer. Snyder handled the Panthers' full-court pressure down the stretch, and Hester went 4-for-6 from the free-throw line in the final minute to preserve the victory.

Hester turned in a stellar performance for the Tigers. The senior poured in 14 points and hauled down a game-high 10 rebounds from his point guard spot.

Groth paced the Panthers with 25 points and seven rebounds.

In the district standings, Snyder holds a three-game lead over Fort Stockton and Andrews, with four games left on the schedule.

The Tigers continue the district race Friday when they visit Sweetwater at 7:30.

Snyder	**20**	**09**	**16**	**16**	**— 61**
Ft Stockton	**11**	**11**	**19**	**10**	**— 51**

Snyder
Pinkerton 10 0-0 21, Hester 5 4-8 14, Cumbie 3 2-4 9, Wofford 3 2-2 8, McAnaw 0 2-2 2, Thornhill 2 1-1 5, Kerr 1 0-0 2. **Totals 24 11-17 61.**
Fort Stockton
Groth 10 5-9 25, Sawyer 3 5-7 11, Alvarez 2 2-4 8, Tipton 2 0-0 4, Russell 1 0-0 3. **Totals 18 12-20 51.**
Three-point goals: Snyder 2 (Cumbie, Pinkerton), Fort Stockton 3 (Alvarez 2, Russell). Rebounds: Snyder 30 (Hester 10), Fort Stockton 24 (Groth 7). Total fouls: Snyder 20, Fort Stockton 18. Fouled out — Pinkerton.

District 5-4A Boys

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Snyder	6	0	19	9
Fort Stockton	3	3	13	14
Andrews	3	3	11	16
Sweetwater	2	4	8	17
Big Spring	2	4	15	14
Lake View	2	4	10	15

Tuesday's results: Snyder 61, Fort Stockton 51; Big Spring 80, Andrews 64; Lake View 57, Sweetwater 49.
Friday's games: Snyder at Sweetwater; Fort Stockton at Andrews; Big Spring at Lake View.

SHS girls stay in playoff race

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

FORT STOCKTON — With two of District 5-4A's playoff berths still undecided, the Snyder Lady Tigers made sure they took care of business Tuesday night.

Snyder used its active zone defense, and an offensive scheme that moved the ball rapidly, to jump back into a tie for second place in the district standings with a 54-28 victory over Fort Stockton at Panther gym.

The win, combined with Lake View's loss to Sweetwater, puts the Lady Tigers in a three-way tie for the runner-up spot with Lake View and Big Spring at 5-3.

Snyder closes out the district schedule at home against Lake View on Tuesday, after visiting first-place Sweetwater on Friday.

"We control our own destiny for the playoffs," said Lady Tiger coach Sam Tipton. "We're in a three-way tie, and two of us are going to playoffs, and the other will stay home. We're going to do everything we can to make sure we're one of the two that advances when it's all said and done."

The Lady Tigers controlled the action Tuesday night with their zone defense. The Prowlers were unable to work the ball inside, forcing them to take long jump shots that rarely fell.

Fort Stockton was a meager 26 percent from the field on the night, connecting on only 12 of 47 attempts.

On the other end of the floor, the Prowlers' zone defense couldn't keep up with the quick ball movement of the Lady Tigers.

Snyder's crisp passes resulted in open looks at the basket, before Fort Stockton could rotate the zone. The Lady Tigers capitalized both in the paint, and from the perimeter.

Sophomore post Katie Voss poured in a game-high 21 points, with seven of them coming in the first period, and 10 more in the fourth quarter.

From the outside, junior guard T'Leah Eicke made the Prowlers pay for their slow rotation with a pair of three-pointers, and a total of 10 points on the night.

"Fort Stockton got a few good looks from about 12 feet in the first quarter. But after we recognized what they were doing, we adjusted and they didn't get many open shots after that," Tipton stated. "On the offensive end, our girls moved the ball quickly and were patient enough to wait for the defense to open up for a good shot attempt."

Snyder led by 11 points at halftime, 24-13, but quickly stretched the margin in the third quarter. A 13-2 run pushed the tally to 37-15 five minutes into the second half.

Also on the positive side for Snyder was the return of Rina Geiger who has been out of action since early December with a fractured ankle. The junior guard played the final four minutes of the game, but isn't at 100 percent, yet.

"Rina's best asset has always been her quickness, and she's not where she was before the injury," said Tipton. "But we knew that going in. We just wanted to get her feet wet a little bit, and let her get a feel for the game. We don't want to rush her back and injure the ankle again, so she'll be eased back into things."

Snyder's meeting the Lady Mustangs in Sweetwater tips off Friday at 6:30.

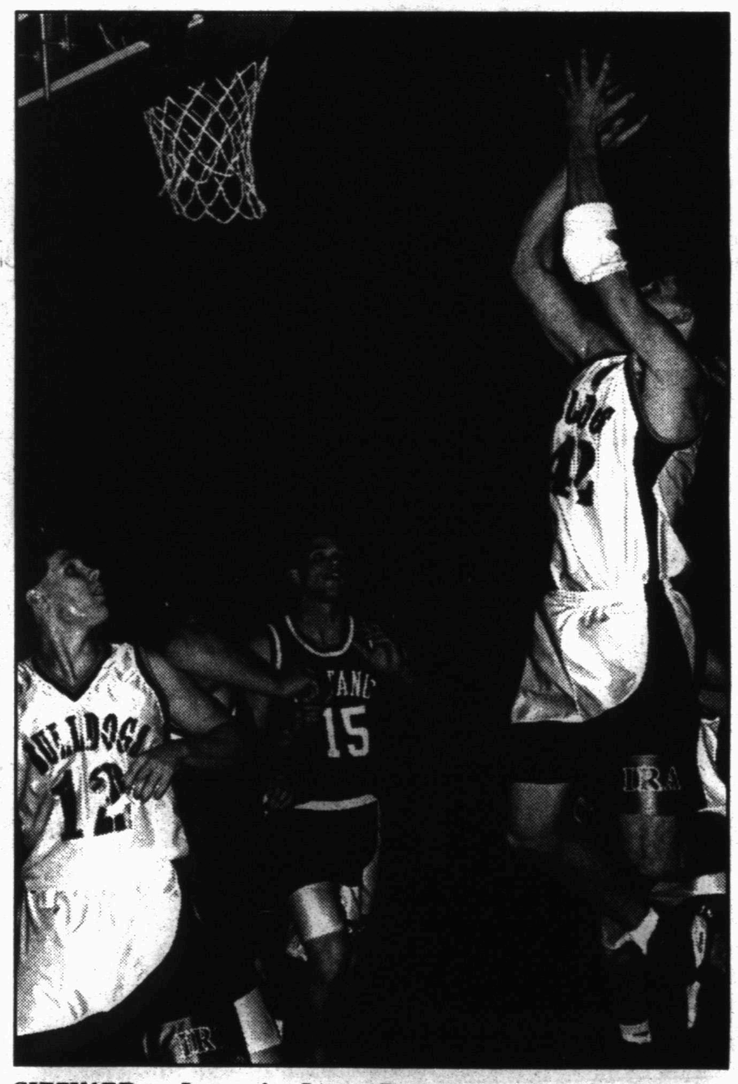
Snyder	**11**	**13**	**21**	**09**	**— 54**
Ft Stockton	**04**	**09**	**08**	**07**	**— 28**

Snyder
Voss 7 7-8 21, Kallemeyn 5 1-2 11, Eicke 2 4-4 10, Murray 3 0-0 6, Bane 0 3-4 3, Haarmeyer 1 0-0 3. **Totals 18 15-18 54.**
Fort Stockton
Cavness 4 0-2 8, Quintero 1 1-4 4, Gonzalez 1 1-2 3, Stennett 2 1-2 5, Valeriano 2 0-0 4, Primera 2 0-0 4. **Totals 12 3-10 28.**
Three-point goals: Snyder 3 (Eicke 2, Haarmeyer), Fort Stockton 1 (Quintero). Rebounds: Snyder 32 (Murray 7), Fort Stockton 25 (Gonzalez 6). Total fouls: Snyder 10, Fort Stockton 15. Fouled out — Primera.

District 5-4A Girls

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Sweetwater	8	0	26	2
Snyder	5	3	10	15
Lake View	5	3	12	15
Big Spring	5	3	15	11
Andrews	1	7	7	17
Fort Stockton	0	8	6	26

Tuesday's results: Snyder 54, Fort Stockton 28; Big Spring 48, Andrews 36; Sweetwater 37, Lake View 24.
Friday's games: Snyder at Sweetwater; Fort Stockton at Andrews; Big Spring at Lake View.



SKYWARD — Ira senior Logan Daves puts up a shot Tuesday night, while teammate Jerek Brown (12) looks on during the Bulldogs' 62-44 victory over Sands. (SDN Staff Photo)

Cards win overtime thriller; Hermleigh girls top Highland

HERMLEIGH — It took three players to pour in over 20 points apiece, but the Hermleigh Cardinals finally disposed of the Highland Hornets.

Three Cardinals finished with over 20 points Tuesday night to lead the Hermleigh boys to an 87-77 double-overtime victory over Highland.

In girls' action, the Highland never had a chance as the Lady Cardinals jumped on top by 14 points in the first quarter, then cruised to a 56-32 win.

Hermleigh's boys improve to 5-2 in District 19-A competition, while the Lady Cards climb to 4-3 in the league standings.

Hermleigh controlled the opening minutes of the boys' contest, before the Hornets posted 24 points in the second quarter to stake a 34-28 halftime lead.

But the Cardinals came flying back in the third period. Joey Garza poured in nine of his 23 points in the third to give his squad a 50-49 advantage heading into the fourth quarter.

Highland responded once again to knot the game at 63-63, forcing the first extra session.

Tough defense by both squads dictated the action in the first overtime. Each team mustered eight points, pushing the game into another four-minute stanza.

Hermleigh's Billy Lambaren, who had 17 points in regulation, poured in nine more in overtime. Lambaren's production spurred a 16-6 Cardinal run in the second session to give Hermleigh the 87-77 victory.

In addition to Lambaren and Garza, Caleb Callaway and Andy Luna were also on target for the Cardinals. Callaway finished with 23 points and 10 rebounds, while Luna tallied 15 points, seven assists and four steals. Lambaren and Garza pulled down 11 rebounds apiece.

While the boys' match-up featured high-power offense, the Lady Cardinals used a stingy defensive effort to secure their win.

The Hermleigh girls began the game by surrendering only two points in the first period, then finished it by allowing only four in the four quarter.

The Lady Cards built a 16-2 lead in the opening quarter on the strength of Randi Herrington and Kendra Dacus, who poured in six points apiece in the eight-minute span.

Highland tried to rally, outscoring Hermleigh four points over the 16 minutes, before the Lady Cardinals' defense tightened up in the fourth quarter.

Dacus finished with a game-high 19 points, while Herrington notched 17 points and registered six steals.

Brandy Wood and Samantha Smith posted six points, with Wood also grabbing seven rebounds. Sheena Callaway and Crystal Jackson added four points each.

Both Hermleigh squads will be in action again Friday when they visit Trent. The girls' game tips off at 6:30, followed by the boys' tilt at 8 o'clock.

Local Sports Schedule

THURSDAY
Howard College at Western Texas, 7:30
FRIDAY
Snyder JV and varsity boys at Sweetwater, 6 and 7:30
Snyder varsity and JV girls at Sweetwater, 6 and 7:30
Ira girls and boys at Borden County, 6:30 and 8 p.m.
Hermleigh girls and boys at Trent, 6:30 and 8 p.m.
Golf: Snyder varsity boys host Snyder Invitational, first round
Golf: Snyder varsity girls at San Angelo Classic, first round

'Dogs whip Mustangs, 62-44

IRA — With the district title already in hand for Ira, the Bulldogs gave Sands a lesson in championship basketball.

Ira chalked up its 25th win of the season Tuesday night, dominating Sands, 62-44, at Bulldog gym.

Ira, which wrapped up the District 18-A crown on Friday, maintained its unblemished league mark and improved to 25-2 overall.

In girls' action, Sands scratched out a four-point lead in the opening quarter, then slowly added to their advantage to topple the Ira Lady Bulldogs, 53-35.

But this night belonged to the Bulldogs, who capped it off with the presentation of their championship trophy.

"The kids were excited tonight," said Bulldog coach Bubba Edwards. "The guys knew they were going to get the district trophy after the game, and we opened up a big lead early on and never looked back."

Ira dictated play from the opening tip, grabbing a 21-8 advantage in the first quarter.

With the Mustang defense collapsing on Ira post Logan Daves, the Bulldogs looked elsewhere for offensive production in the first half.

Sophomore point guard Nathan Smith stepped up to pour in 12 points, and missed only two shots on the night. Daves still managed to finish with 19 points.

"Nathan had the hot hand for most of the night," Edwards said. "Sands was really focused on Logan. Even though he still had 19 points, we couldn't go to him like we wanted to at times."

Jerek Brown also posted 12 points for the Bulldogs, with Richard Wilkins and Drew Wall adding six apiece. Bryce Wilkins dropped in four points, while Terry Jamison tallied two, and Jase Olvera chipped in one.

For the Ira girls, it was Morgan Clements pacing the team with 21 points.

Tara Allen knocked down six points, with Celeigh Sterling accounting for four. Jamee Goolsby registered three points, and Davi Barnes finished with one.

Both Ira squads close out their district schedules Friday when they visit Borden County. Girls' action tips off at 6:30, followed by the boys' tilt at 8 o'clock.

The Class 1A playoffs begin Feb. 22.

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Legal Notice

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting sealed bids for the purchase of polymer to be used at the water treatment plant. Bids will be received until February 8, 2000 at 3:00p.m. The bids will be opened at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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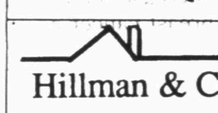
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HealthBeat

Simple tests could help save babies

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The mother's story mixes heartache with anger: Her seemingly healthy 8-month-old baby died suddenly one morning. No warning, just a panicked phone call from the baby sitter that Jim had quit breathing.

Doctors called it SIDS. But Jamie Lazzaro later discovered her baby instead had suffered from a genetic metabolic disease — a treatable one, if only the hospital had run a simple $25 test to detect it when Jim was born.

Few hospitals test newborns for a group of 30 rare but devastating metabolic diseases, although experts say diagnosis at birth might prevent several hundred deaths and life-threatening illnesses a year.

For many, staying healthy can be as simple as a special diet.

"It's a bitter pill to swallow," Lazzaro says. "If there was a test, then why didn't we get it?"

That's a question more people may be asking soon. As scientists complete mapping of the human genome later this year, they'll be poised to develop countless new tests to detect rare diseases before symptoms appear.

But just because a test is determined valuable doesn't mean doctors quickly embrace it.

Consider the inherited metabolic diseases, which have such tongue-twisting names that many go by acronyms like VLCAD and MCAD.

Most are "fatty acid oxidation disorders," in which patients lack enzymes that change stored fat into energy. If patients go longer than about eight hours without eating, or catch an illness that causes vomiting, they can suddenly die. Undigested fats also clog their hearts and livers. Other disorders cause a toxic buildup of amino acids.

Affected babies appear healthy at birth. But the first attack sometimes is lethal, and early childhood is the riskiest period.

Every state now tests every newborn for two rare diseases that cause retardation if untreated: hypothyroidism and the metabolic disease phenylketonuria.

Now, using technology called tandem mass spectrometry, doctors also can test for these 30 other devastating metabolic diseases. It requires just a drop of blood, costs less than $25, takes mere minutes.

But it does require special training and a $400,000 machine.

Plus, many doctors know little about metabolic diseases, or that they're treatable. They are fairly rare, altogether thought to strike one in 5,600 births.

"It's been a hard road" to persuade states to add the tests to standard newborn disease screening, said Dr. Charles Roe of Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas.

"I find this very difficult to deal with. ... These are unnecessary deaths."

Adds David Millington, who, along with Roe, developed the test at Duke University: "It's the most useful test ever done on most people at birth, by far."

North Carolina, Massachusetts and Wisconsin have begun offering supplemental testing for metabolic diseases. South Dakota hospitals just started mailing blood samples to Baylor for testing, and some in Texas do, too. About two-thirds of Pennsylvania hospitals and some in other states hire Pittsburgh-based Neo Gen Screening for testing.

Parents also can seek testing on their own from Neo Gen or Baylor.

That's how Jamie Lazzaro learned VLCAD killed her baby.

When Jim was 8 months old, he vomited one night but seemed OK by morning. Hours later, he died while napping. The pathologist noted a puzzling enlarged heart, but termed the death SIDS.

A year later, pregnant again, the Louisville, Ky., woman learned about metabolic diseases, and wondered. She sent Jim's medical records to Roe, who says about 3 percent of SIDS cases turn out, like Jim, to be a metabolic disease gone undiagnosed.

Post-mortem diagnosis is important — it alerts that other children in an affected family need testing.

What's an expectant parent to do?

Ask if your hospital offers supplemental metabolic testing, Roe says. If the hospital doesn't, parents can get more information about the diseases or how to seek a test by calling 1-800-4BAYLOR or checking www.neogenscreening.com on the Internet. Check www.fodsupport.org for information for affected families.

And stay tuned, because tandem mass spectrometry is powerful enough that as treatments become available — a requirement for routine testing — more tests can be easily added.

It "is going to really revolutionize newborn screening," said Neo Gen Screening president Edwin Naylor.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Lauran Neergaard covers health and medical issues for The Associated Press in Washington.

Breast Cancer...

Study: Fraternal twins have higher risk

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Fraternal twin sisters face more than twice the risk of developing breast cancer after menopause than women who aren't twins, according to a study in today's Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

The study found that women who were fraternal twins were 2.1 times more likely to develop breast cancer than women who were not. The risk for identical twins was no different from the risk for women born solo.

For women with a male twin, the risk was elevated but not statistically significant, researchers said.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that about 175,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer yearly and more than 43,000 die from it.

Fraternal twins are produced when the mother releases more than one egg and both are fertilized. Identical twins, which are less common, come formed when one fertilized egg splits early in an embryo's development, giving both twins an identical genetic makeup.

Women who are twins should not become overly concerned, but should follow the recommended guidelines for breast cancer screenings including regular mammograms, said the lead author, Dr. James Cerhan, an epidemiologist with the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center.

"The importance of this study is that it adds to a small but growing body of research that suggests that intrauterine exposures may influence later breast cancer risk," Cerhan said.

Cerhan said the study was motivated by previous studies that found that a mother's estrogen and other hormone levels are substantially higher when she is pregnant with twins, and that intrauterine exposure to elevated levels of these hormones may increase the risk of developing breast cancer as an adult.

The researchers said that to their knowledge, their finding that the relative risk is highest for female fraternal twins has not been reported previously, though earlier studies have associated being a twin with an elevated breast cancer risk.

"This is very interesting," said Chung-cheng Hsieh, a professor of medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester and adjunct associate professor of epidemiology at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Hsieh led a study published in 1992 that also found a higher risk of breast cancer in women who were twins.

Government partners with two companies

WASHINGTON (AP) — It is easier to find at Wal-Mart or even in a box of Cheerios than at your local bank.

At least, that is the initial plan for the new Sacagawea dollar coin, which is being aggressively marketed by U.S. Mint officials mindful of the debacle with the Susan B. Anthony dollar.

Since last Thursday, cashiers at Wal-Mart and Sam's Club store checkouts have been making change with the Sacagawea coin instead of dollar bills. And thousands of Cheerios boxes will include coins or certificates for coins.

"Through the end of February, we will be the exclusive holder," said Laura Pope, spokeswoman for Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer. "We're giving it back automatically to customers unless you request dollar bills."

The Anthony coin, often mistaken for a quarter because of its similar size and ridged edge, was a flop, and the government was stuck with nearly two-thirds of the 857 million coins produced between 1979 and 1981. Supplies eventually ran out and the Mint produced a final 1999 encore run.

The silver-colored coin bore the likeness of suffragette Susan B. Anthony. The new dollar coin, with an image of the Shoshone Indian woman who helped the Lewis and Clark expedition explore the West, has a gold-colored surface and a smooth edge.

"Right away, this gets the new golden dollar coin into cash registers across the nation," said Philip Diehl, director of the U.S. Mint. "We've achieved a huge objective in the first week, something the Susan B. Anthony dollar never had the chance to achieve."

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	54 13-16	54⅛	54 7-16	—13-16
AT&T Corp s	51¾	50¾	50⅞	— 1⅝
Albertsons	30⅛	29⅝	29⅞	— 5-16
Alltel	74⅞	72⅛	73 1-16	+ 2 1-16
AmerOnline s	58 7-16	55⅝	58	+ 2¼
AndarkPtr	34⅜	33⅝	34⅛	— ⅛
AtlRichfld	75 7-16	73 11-16	74 1-16	— 3-16
ATMOS Egy	17¾	17 9-16	17¾	
Aviall	7 11-16	7 9-16	7 9-16	— 1-16
BP Amoco s	55⅛	53⅜	53¾	— ¾
BakerHughes	24½	24	24⅛	
Bank of Amer	48½	47½	47⅞	— 9-16
BellAtl	60⅛	59⅛	59⅝	+ 1-16
BellSouth	45 15-16	44 15-16	45 3-16	— ¾
Beth Steel	6 13-16	6 9-16	6 11-16	+ 1-16
BurlNoSFe	23¾	23¼	23 11-16	— 7-16
CBS Corp	58⅜	57½	58 1-16	— 9-16
Caterpillar	44¾	44 3-16	44⅝	+ 1 7-16
CenSoWst	19¾	19⅝	19 11-16	— ½
Chevron	83¾	82 9-16	83 5-16	+ ⅛
Citigroup s	58⅝	54 11-16	57 11-16	— 9-16
Coastal	37 13-16	36 13-16	37	— 1-16
CocaCola	57⅞	56⅝	56 15-16	— 1 3-16
ColgatePal s	60½	59¾	59 15-16	+ 5-16
ComclMetals	32½	32	32 5-16	+ 3-16
Cooperln	38 1-16	37 7-16	37 9-16	— ⅛
DaimlrChry	65⅞	65¼	65¼	— ½
DallSemicn	69⅜	68½	69⅜	+ 9-16
DeltaAirl	47 3-16	46¼	46⅜	— 1
Dillards Inc	19 15-16	19 9-16	19 11-16	+ ⅛
DowChem	119½	114⅛	115 9-16	—4 5-16
DuPont	61	60	60¼	+ ⅜
EastmanChem	39¾	39⅝	39 11-16	
EstKodak	61 5-16	60½	61	— 1-16
EDS Corp	69 9-16	67⅞	68⅝	— 7-16
Entergy	25½	25⅛	25⅛	— ⅜
ExxonMobil	84⅞	83¼	84¾	+ 1 9-16
FstBksAm	17⅝	17⅝	17⅝	+ ¼
Flowers	12 1-16	11⅞	11⅞	— 3-16
FordMotor	50 9-16	49⅜	49⅜	— 7-16
GTE Cp	70 7-16	69⅞	70 3-16	+ 1-16
GenDynam	49 7-16	48 5-16	48⅜	+ 1-16
GenElec	137⅝	134¼	134 9-16	—1 7-16
GenMills s	30 13-16	29½	30 3-16	— 1-16
GenMotors	86 3-16	83	83¼	— 2
GaPacGP s	40 13-16	39¾	40⅛	— ⅜
GlobalMar	19 15-16	19¼	19⅜	+ ½
Goodrich	25 7-16	25¼	25 7-16	+ ¼
Goodyear s	24	23 1-16	23 3-16	—13-16
GtAtlPac	27 7-16	27	27 3-16	+ 3-16
Halliburtn	37⅜	37	37 3-16	+ 13-16
Hanson ADS	36 13-16	36 3-16	36 3-16	— 7-16
HarteHanks	24 13-16	24⅛	24 13-16	+ 11-16
HomeDepot s	61	59⅝	60 9-16	— 7-16
HoneywellIntl	49	47¾	48 13-16	+ 1 3-16
IBM s	115	110⅜	113⅛	+ 3 3-16
IntlPaper	47 15-16	46 15-16	47⅜	—11-16
JohnsonJn	86 5-16	85⅛	85 15-16	+ 1⅛
K mart	8 15-16	8⅝	8 13-16	+ ⅛
Kroger Co s	17 13-16	17 5-16	17 7-16	— 5-16
Litton	43 1-16	42½	42 11-16	— ⅛
LockheedM	18¾	18¼	18⅜	— 5-16
Lowes Cos	47¼	45 13-16	47 3-16	+ ⅛
Lubys	10 15-16	10⅞	10⅞	+ 1-16
LucentTech s	55 9-16	54 11-16	55 5-16	— 5-16
MayDeptStr s	31 1-16	30 11-16	30 13-16	— ¼
MediaOne	79¾	78 3-16	78 5-16	—1 5-16
Medtronic s	46 9-16	45 11-16	46 9-16	+ 3-16
Monsanto	40 7-16	37 5-16	39 13-16	+ 1⅜
MorganJP	122¼	121	121½	— 1⅛
Motorola	138¾	136 15-16	138¾	+ 1⅞
NCR Corp	40	39¼	39¾	+ ½
Navistar	40¼	39 23-32	39 15-16	+ ¼
Penney JC	18 13-16	18 9-16	18⅝	— 3-16
PepBoys	7⅛	7 5-16	7⅛	+ ⅛
PepsiCo	33 15-16	33¼	33⅜	— 9-16
PhelpDodge	59¾	58 5-16	59	+ ⅛
PhilipPet	41 3-16	40½	41	+ 5-16
PilgrmPrd B	7 7-16	7¼	7⅜	+ 1-16
Polaroid	26⅛	25	25 3-16	
Praxair	41	39 15-16	40¼	— ¾
ProctGamb	99 15-16	98⅜	99⅜	— ⅛
PubS NwMx	16½	16 1-16	16 7-16	+ ¼
ReliantEngy	22 11-16	22½	22 11-16	+ ⅜
RoyalDut	56⅛	55⅜	56⅛	+ 1
SBC Comm	43	42 9-16	42 15-16	+ 9-16
SaraLee	18⅜	17¾	17⅞	— 7-16
Scripps EW	48⅜	48	48	— ⅛
SearsRoeb	31 5-16	30⅞	31 3-16	— ¼
SherwinW	18⅜	17 11-16	17 13-16	— ⅝
SmithKlBchm	61 5-16	60⅜	60¾	+ 9-16
SouthernCo	25⅜	25⅛	25 5-16	— 1-16
SwstAirl s	15¾	15 9-16	15 9-16	— ⅛
SprintFON s	63 7-16	62⅛	62 3-16	—1 3-16
SprintPCS	112⅛	110 5-16	110⅜	—1 7-16
SprintPCS wi	56	55⅛	55⅛	— ⅜
Sunoco Inc	23⅝	23	23⅝	+ ½
TNP Ent	41¾	41⅝	41¾	+ 1-16
Tandy s	47 5-16	46 1-16	47	+ 1
TempleInland	56¼	55 1-16	55⅜	— ⅞
Texaco	53⅝	52¾	53 3-16	+ 13-16
TexInd	38 3-16	37¾	38⅛	+ ⅝
TexasInst s	116½	114 7-16	115⅛	+ 2
Tex Util	35⅝	35	35 3-16	— 3-16
Textron	61¼	59¾	61	+ 1
TriconGlbR	30 7-16	29⅜	29 9-16	—1 3-16
TrinityInds	24⅛	23½	23 15-16	+ ½
TritonEngy	26¼	25½	26 1-16	+ 13-16
TylerTech	4 7-16	4 1-16	4⅜	+ 3-16
US West Inc	70½	68¾	69 15-16	+ 15-16
USX-Marathn	25 3-16	24 13-16	25	+ 5-16
USX-USS	25 3-16	24 13-16	24 15-16	+ 1-16
UnCarbde	57⅛	55	55⅛	— 2⅝
UnionPacif	40¼	39 9-16	39 11-16	— ⅝
UnitedTech s	54¼	53 3-16	53½	— 3-16
Unocal	29	28 9-16	28⅞	+ 3-16
Venator Grp	6 5-16	6¼	6¼	— ⅛
WalMart s	59 3-16	57 15-16	58¾	+ 1-16
WellsFargo	40½	39 13-16	39⅞	— 9-16
WstnGasRs	13	12 15-16	12 15-16	— 1-16
WinnDixie	19½	19 1-16	19 1-16	— 7-16
Xerox Cp	21 3-16	20⅞	21⅛	+ 5-16

Local Interest STOCKS

Patterson	18 3/8	+1 1/8
Dell	38 3/4	-3/16
Wal Mart	58 13/16	+1/8
Compac	28 5/16	-3/16
Dol. Gen.	20 3/4	0
GTE	70 3/16	+3/16
SBC Comm.	42 7/8	+1/2
Tx Instr.	115 1/2	+2 3/8
LU	55 1/4	-1/2
Cisco Sys.	116 9/16	-1 1/4

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Scurry County Country

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Integrated pest management for the turf grass manager

IPM is defined as a multi-disciplinary, ecologically based pest management system that used all available methods to keep pests at non-damaging levels while minimizing the effects in man, the environment, and turf.

A sound IPM program is based on the acceptable and tolerance of pests at damage levels which do not significantly reduce the quality of the turf.

Once pest damage reaches a specific pro-defined level of infestation or damage, specific control measures may be taken, using pesticides only when control of the pests cannot be obtained with other non-chemical methods. It is this reduced reliance on pesticides, which is an important factor in managing golf courses, parks, athletic fields, and landscapes for water quality. A sound IPM program will include:

*A written copy of the program defining all aspects of pest management.

*A written document, a set of acceptable pest-tolerance thresholds (weeds allowed in the rough, or number of white grubs per square foot of turf, etc.)

*Non-chemical control measures to be taken for specific pest infestations.

*Cultural practices which may help reduce the impact of some pest (certification to reduce compaction — this reducing goose grass population, planting of insect and disease resistant varieties of turf grass, sterilization of top dressing soils to keep weed seeds off greens and tees, and other sanitary practices).

*Scout for pests frequently.

*Keep accurate records of pest infestation found, actions taken and results.

The written copy of the IPM program is very important in that it requires the turf grass manager to determine and write out all of the factors in his/her program. The grounds manage should use the writing of the program to gather information from the greens committee, manager and coaches as to what they expect from him/her in terms of proper pest management.

The greens committee and club manager may help in determining pest threshold levels that are acceptable on the site. Once in written form, the plan will be a source of information and an education tool for the grounds manager and staff about the proper management of pests in the landscape.

Thresholds are preset levels of acceptable pest damage or infestation that will determine when control measures must be taken. Thresholds will change from site to site; for example a few broadleaf weeds may be acceptable in a fairway or the rough but not on a green.

Thresholds will also change from pest to pest, for example a small outbreak of dollar spots on a green may be allowed without much concern or any control measures being taken, but an outbreak of cythium blight on a green would require instant applications of control measures.

Non-chemical control methods may include the use of mechanical or attractant traps for insects, the release of beneficial predatory insects or nematodes, and the use of biological insecticides such as Bacillus popilliae for control of white grubs. The planting of turf grass that is resistant to some pests is an important way to reduce the need for pesticides. There are several cultivators of tall fescue and perennial rye grass on the market, which are infected with an endophyte fungus, which makes them resistant to some surface-free insects.

Unfortunately, there are a limited number of biological control methods available for turf grass, and the ones available may be slow in control, and the golf course may be forced to accept some pest damage even with their use.

The cultural practice a grounds manager use can significantly impact pest infestation.

The simple way to keep pest damage and infestation to a minimum is too keep the turf as healthy and stress-free as possible by effective use of basic cultural practices. The grounds manager must have a thorough knowledge of all of the turf grasses on the site to effectively manage the turf. Mowing of the turf at a height that is too low may cause the grass to be under stress, which in turn makes the turf more susceptible to insect and disease infestation. A dense turf is one of the best controls for reducing weed infestation, because it simply out competes the weed.

Aerification of compacted soils will help reduce population of certain weeds, like goose grass and spurge, and increase the rooting capability of the turf. The use of fans on greens which have poor natural air flow may reduce the stress on bent grass turf by increasing transpirational cooling and drying out of wet soils this will then reduce thinning of the turf, and reduce the chance of disease infestation.

There should be a written scouting plan for insects in the IPM program. Since most grounds managers are out on their site several times a day, they are able to look for problems constantly. But there are some problems the grounds manager may be able to predict, such as germination of crabgrass when soil temperatures reach 60 degrees F., or brown patch infections when daily temperatures and relative humidity are high.

These predictable occurrences should be included in the IPM program so that other members of the staff will know when to look for them. The grounds manager should take the time to train his staff to look for potential pest problems.

Once a pest infestation is observed, the grounds manager should first record the pest type, infestation level, and location and then determine if it is at a threshold level that requires control measures.

If so, record the control measures taken and the results. It is important that the grounds manager keep these records, because they may help in predicting future pest problems and the best control measures to take. Mapping of pest populations may help the grounds manger determine problems areas, and reduce the need for blanket pesticide applications. If the grounds manger knows from previous years that crabgrass and goose grass were problems on only certain areas of the playing field, he or she may elect to apply pre emergent herbicides only to those areas.

This will reduce the amount of pesticide required, the cost of application, and the chance of water contamination from the pesticide. Frequent outbreaks of pests on a given area may also indicate to the grounds manager that there are other possible problems with the turf and its environment, such as low soil PH, nutrient deficiencies, soil compaction, poor drainage, restricted airflow, or damaged or improperly working irrigation heads.

Texas Parks & Wildlife

By Jim Lionberger, wildlife biologist

Quail management practices should begin soon

Now is the time for landowners and land managers to begin planning the bobwhite quail management practices. Practices such as discing and spot grazing can stimulate the growth of forbs that quail and other wildlife species prefer as food. This is achieved by creating a soil disturbance, resulting in a backward swing of the plant succession process. In addition to providing food in the form of seeds and greens, forb production is also advantageous by attracting insects that are very important in the diet of nesting hens and quail chicks. Quail chicks depend heavily upon insects as food during their first eight to ten weeks of life. Practices such as half-cutting can provide quality loafing cover for quail by increasing the cover value of mesquite.

Discing should be performed by mid-March prior to the beginning of the growing season. The soil disturbance caused by discing can stimulate the growth of forbs or "weeds" that are preferred food items for quail and other wildlife species. Disc in strips near existing woody cover such as a brushy field border or timbered creek. Using a tandem disc at a depth of three to six inches should work well. Different soil types will result in different forb response to discing.

Discing on bottomland soils may produce forbs, such as annual sunflower and giant ragweed. Discing on upland soil may produce croton, partridge pea, Western ragweed and broomweed.

"Spot or flash grazing is another practice that can stimulate forb growth. This practice involves heavy, short duration grazing of small enclosures such as waste area or traps. Forb growth is stimulated as a result of soil disturbance created by the hoof action of the grazing animals. "Spot" grazing should be completed and cattle removed by mid-March, prior to the growing season.

Half-cutting is best performed on smooth banked, multi-trunked mesquite. A "living brush pile" is created by cutting halfway through the topside of the outer trunks approximately 3 feet above the ground. The trunks or limbs should be pulled outward, away from the center, allowing the tops to lie on the ground forming a wagon wheel patterns. Half-cutting should be performed in late spring or early summer when the sap is flowing. Half-cut mesquites should be spaced approximately 75 yards apart.

Free Technical assistance with your wildlife management efforts is available through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Private Land Enhancement Program. For technical assistance in the Snyder area contact Jim Lionberger, wildlife biologist at 915-863-2755.

March 1 deadline for ordering trees

Due to the number of requests for Red Oak last year, the district Upper Colorado SWCD has located a source for 12 and 15-inch containerized seedlings.

The Southern Red Oaks are priced at $2.50 each. One gallon containerized Afghan Pine and Live Oaks are also available. Both the Afghan Pine and Live Oak are priced at $5.50 each.

The last day to order these trees is March 1. Place orders as soon as possible.

Faces From The Past...

Do You Know These Faces? If You Do... ENTER!! You Don't Have To Know Them All..

The Prize For The Winner This Week Will Be
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(Ave E & 25th Street)
915-573-9643

3.

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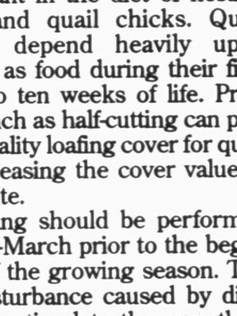
American State Bank
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FDIC

7.

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Rudy's
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8.

Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home
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9.

SNYDER DAILY NEWS
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10

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Faces From The Past Entry Week 105

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5. West Texas State Bank _____
6. American State Bank _____
7. Rudy's Restaurant _____
8. Bell-Cypert-Seale _____
9. Snyder Daily News _____
10. Subway _____

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

In each advertisement you will find a face from the past. Identify the faces on the entry blank opposite the name of the sponsoring business. **Bring or mail the entry blank to the Snyder Daily News, 3600 College, PO Box 949.** The deadline for entering is 5 p.m. Monday before the next contest appears on Wednesday. The weekly prize winner will be drawn from all the correct entries. The winner will be notified. This week's faces will be identified in next week's contest. Only one entry per person, and please do not make copies of the entry blank. Employees of the SDN are not eligible to enter.

Last Week's Photos: 1. Wayne Winkles 2. John Zalman 3. Else Thompson 4. Janet Taylor 5. Eddie Skains 6. Zetta Pettit 7. Keith Maddux 8. Roy Miller 9. Dora Ann Mapes 10. Vicki Mebane

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Search expanded for crash victims

PORT HUENEME, Calif. (AP) — As hopes for finding survivors dwindled, an ocean search of the Alaska Airlines crash site expanded today, and investigators obtained tapes made between pilots of Flight 261 and a maintenance crew in Seattle.

The tapes apparently capture the conversation as the crew tried to troubleshoot what was going wrong, Jim Hall, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said on morning talk shows today.

"Obviously these pilots were struggling to maintain control of this aircraft for a significant period of time. It's going to be very important to this investigation to understand why they were unsuccessful in this effort," Hall said on NBC's "Today."

The tape was handed over Tuesday to federal investigators by Alaska Airlines for analysis by officials in Washington, D.C., Hall said.

Search boats bobbed across the choppy and chilly Pacific early today as friends and relatives of victims kept an anguished vigil.

Coast Guard and Navy ships combed a debris field 10 miles offshore overnight, finding only tiny, twisted pieces of wreckage. Eighty-eight people were aboard as the plane when it nose-dived into the ocean Monday afternoon; no survivors have been found in the 59-degree water.

Ships used for salvage operations were making their way today to the crash site from San Diego, said Vance Vasquez, a civilian spokesman at the Port Hueneme Naval center.

The ships include the Kellie Chouest, a Navy-contracted civilian vessel with remote-controlled subs.

Army: Human error caused misfiring

FORT HOOD (AP) — A soldier entering the wrong data into a howitzer's computer caused the early morning shelling of ranch land and homes in King, about seven miles north of the Fort Hood Army base.

In a prepared statement, Fort Hood officials said an improper compass reading was entered into a computer of a Paladin 155-millimeter self-propelled howitzer the night of Jan. 26. The incorrect compass reading changed the howitzer's firing direction 180 degrees from southeasterly to northwesterly.

A howitzer is a short cannon, usually on a carriage, that shoots shells at a high angle.

The barrage of one illumination round and 11 explosive rounds puckered the ranch land with craters six feet across and shook people out of bed.

Artillery training remains postponed until the pending investigation is completed.

"The formal investigation will determine if changes are needed to current operating procedures, if any training changes need to be implemented, and if any disciplinary actions are warranted," the statement says.

Fort Hood spokeswoman Lt. Col. Mary Cummings declined to elaborate on the artillery training the soldiers operating the howitzer received or what the disciplinary actions would involve.

"Clearly the investigation is going to look at what happened and make a recommendation to the chain of command as to what should happen," Cummings said.

Doug Coffey, public information officer for the Paladin's manufacturer, United Defense LP, said the weapon has safety features to ensure the weapon is pointed in the right direction. Soldiers aim the weapon using navigation and global-positioning systems.

"It went through the last eight years of service, and (generally) it has proved to be highly accurate," Coffey told the Killeen Daily Herald. "The onboard automatic fire control system is accurate to 30 meters at a range of 30 kilometers."

Coffey added that since the Paladin first was used in 1992, the vehicle and its weapons system have maintained a 90 percent readiness rate, and the system has a reliability of 4,000 hours of use before potential problems arise.

There have been at least three other reported live-fire incidents at Fort Hood since 1993.

Three Texas National Guard soldiers died in 1993 when they accidentally were fired on by a Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

In July 1998, two AH-64D Longbow Apache helicopters were accidentally fired on by a Bradley crew.

Obituaries

Robert Scott

1925-2000

Funeral service for Robert C. Scott, retired Texas Electric Co. employee, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel.

Homer Anderson and Bill Looney, ministers of the 37th Street Church of Christ, will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Mr. Scott, 74, died Tuesday, Feb. 1, at his home following a lengthy illness.

Born Nov. 28, 1925 in Sweetwater, Mr. Scott was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He married Jane Samuels on April 16, 1948 in Sweetwater.

A member of the 37th Street Church of Christ, Mr. Scott retired from Texas Electric after 39 years of service. He also had served as an elder of the East Side Church of Christ.

Mr. Scott was preceded in death by a brother, Maurice Scott; another brother; and one sister.

Survivors include his wife, Jane Scott of Snyder; two daughters and sons-in-law, Teresa and Bud Pinkerton of Snyder and Cathy and Richard Balderrama of Alvin; two sons and daughters-in-law, Scotty and Diane Scott of Weslaco and Mark and Glynda Scott of Garland; a sister, Glenn Swan of Gail; three brothers, Thornton A. Scott of Stanton, Billy Scott of Sweetwater and Wendell Scott of Vermillon; and 10 grandchildren.

Melba Huddleston

1922-2000

Melba J. Huddleston of Snyder died Sunday, Jan. 30, in a Lubbock hospital.

Funeral service for Mrs. Huddleston, 77, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Nalley-Pickle and Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring. The Rev. Charles Day, pastor of Snyder's Avenue D Baptist Church, will officiate. Interment will follow in Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring.

Born on Feb. 28, 1922 in Erath County, she married R.C. Huddleston on Aug. 27, 1966 in Amarillo. She lived in Amarillo for 27 years and in Snyder the past 10 years. Mrs. Huddleston was a member of the Avenue D Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her father, Marlin Haynes.

Survivors include her husband, R.C. Huddleston of Snyder; one son, R.C. Huddleston Jr. of Skiatook, Okla.; her mother, Hazel Haynes of Wink; five brothers, Marshall Haynes of Wink, Roscoe Haynes of Andrews, Billy Don Haynes of Violet Hill, Ark., Leon Haynes of Pearidge, Ark., and Jimmy Haynes of Seagraves; two grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a cousin, Cleo Wemken of Snyder.

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Lawyers file class action suit against America Online

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawyers filed a class-action lawsuit against America Online Inc. on behalf of 8 million of its customers, claiming the latest version of its software cripples existing Internet accounts with rival companies.

The lawsuit, filed earlier this week in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Va., near AOL's corporate headquarters, follows scores of complaints lodged by customers of the online service about problems they encountered after installing version 5.0 of AOL's Internet software.

AOL spokesman Rich D'Amato said today the lawsuit "has no basis in fact or law."

AOL has said previously that complaints about interference by its software were overblown and the result of customers not understanding that if they click "yes" during installation to allow AOL to become their default Internet browser, AOL largely takes over all the online functions on the computer.

"The 5.0 software provides users with the ability to select AOL as their default Internet connection, but only if they make the choice to do so," D'Amato said. "It's designed to provide a more stable online environment, but it doesn't prevent users from accessing the Internet through another provider."

Critics, have complained that the new software can suddenly interfere with connections to rival Internet services.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Emma Guzman of Hermleigh, Georgene Galloway, Teresa Courtney of Ira, Saundra Holley and Norma Shaw.

DISMISSALS: Kathy Medina, Karina Ruiz, Carolyn Allen, Inez Beaver and Agustin Castillo.

CENSUS: 38 (Med./Surg.-13, Long-term Care-25)

3 offense reports filed on Tuesday

No arrests were reported Tuesday, but three offense reports were filed.

At 12:14 p.m., Lou McMillan advised officers she had found a camera in her driveway that did not belong to her. A report for found property was submitted by officers.

Tammy Deere notified deputies at 1:20 p.m. that someone had stolen a toolbox from her pickup at 8539 CR 3105. A report for theft was taken by deputies.

Officers submitted an offense report for family violence at 10:12 p.m.

A minor accident occurred at 10:51 a.m. in the 3000 block of College. Involved were a 1992 GMC Jimmy driven by Jeffery Mark Brewer, 28, of 3608 Avenue U and a 1993 Chevrolet Lumina driven by Mercedes Delagado Vargas, 70, of 503 35th Street.

At 3:58 p.m., Department of Public Safety troopers responded to a one-vehicle accident on U.S. Hwy. 84 at the Scurry/Mitchell county line. Involved was a 2000 Volvo truck tractor driven by Thomas Golson, 51, of Pensacola, Fla., that jackknifed in the median. There were no injuries.

103 units of blood drawn during drive

A total of 112 people registered for the three-day Scurry County blood drive and 103 units were drawn.

The drive began Jan. 25 with a community blood drive at the Family Life Center of First Baptist Church. Eighty-eight people registered and 85 units of blood were drawn.

On Jan. 27, the drive moved to Cogdell Memorial Hospital were 20 people registered and 14 units of blood were drawn.

The drive was to go to the Price Daniel Unit on Jan. 27, but was rescheduled to Jan. 28 because of inclement weather. Only four employees registered for the drive on Friday and 4 units of blood were drawn.

Scurry County blood drives are sponsored by Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the Scurry County Advisory Council of United Blood Services.

Several donors were awarded gift certificates from local merchants.

Dwain Williams, Oscar Haney, Irma Perez and Kathy Spoor were given Burger King certificates while Ronnie Black, Mike Velasquez, Gini Grimmett and Ken Spoor were given Grandy's certificates.

Recipients of Jaramillo's gift certificates were O.L. Lane, Amanda Huff, Anna Rodriguez, Ricki Webb, Matt Cross and T.J. Callahan.

Pizza Hut coupons were given to Syble Bley, Margaret Rodriguez, Manny Rios, Bryant Roberson, Laurie Stark and Kerry Smith.

David Tate, Kent Holmes, Larry Anderson, Mack Kruse, Amy Clemmer and Theresa Rakov were given certificates to Rudy's.

Spanish Inn certificates were given to Richard West, Ethel Head, Joyce May, Dava Robbins, Trish Payne, W.A. Martin and Chris Bane.

Recipients of Subway certificates were Susan Frazier, Bernice Tippens and Sherry Early.

Rafael Chacon and Jamie Alvarez were each given a $12.50 gift certificate to the Rusty Spur Café. L.V. Anderson won a $20 gift certificate to Tiger Health and Fitness.

"Sunday Dinners for Two" gift certificates from the Shack were given to Bryant Roberson and Lisa Tate.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Ira booster club

The Ira booster club will meet at 8:15 this evening in the school cafeteria. Playoff games and the sports banquet will be discussed.

Marriage course

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

Lady Tiger softball booster club

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

Scout food drive

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

Retirement reception

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

Youth dance

There will be a dance Friday at the Latin American Center for junior and senior high school students from 8-11:30 p.m. DJ is Raymond Rodriquez. Cost is $3 per person or $5 per couple. The dance will be chaperoned.

Valentine dance

Hermleigh High School's senior class will sponsor a Valentine dance Saturday at Towle Park barn from 7 p.m. until midnight with a live DJ. Cost is $5 per couple, or $3 each. Proceeds help finance the class trip.

Church of God fundraiser

The Church of God will sell tamales at $6 per dozen, or serving barbacoa plates or burritos with beans, rice and salad Saturday and Sunday beginning at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 15th and College Ave.

Commissioning service

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

Relay for Life

Team captain meetings for the American Cancer Society's relay for life will be held at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the Cogdell Hospital board room. Team packets and other information may be picked up. All team captains need to attend.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "Three Gifts We Enjoy in Christ," followed by "How to Function Biblically in Today's Family."

Senior Citizens swimnastics

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

Weigh down workshop

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

Amateur radio operators

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

Open house

An open house of the new district office of State Rep. David Counts will be held at 9:30 a.m. next Wednesday at 1800 26th Street.

MAWC fish fry

Martha Ann Woman's Club will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 11, at the clubhouse from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $4 for children six and under. Price includes drink, dessert and no gratuity. Tickets will be delivered by calling 573-3427, 573-6443, or 573-6717. Proceeds go toward maintaining the clubhouse.

Enchilada plates

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

WTC basic education classes

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

WTC planetarium shows

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

Cash Five

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

14-22-28-32-38

(fourteen, twenty-two, twenty-eight, thirty-two, thirty-eight)

Pick 3

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

8-7-1

(eight, seven, one)

FEB 02 2000

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Walking faster burns more caolories

DEAR DR. GOTT: A group of us walk for an hour after work. I cover about three and a half miles, the others about two. They claim that they burn up just as many calories as I do. Are they correct?

DEAR READER: Because your walking is more labor-intensive and you walk faster during your one hour of exercise, you are burning up more calories than are the slow pokes. Caloric expenditure is a function of both duration and level of activity; therefore, people will metabolize more calories in an hour of strenuous exercise than they will during the same period of mild/moderate movement. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Weight Control Through Calorie Control." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 59 years old and a smoker. A few weeks ago I had a routine chest X-ray that showed a nodule in my right lung. This was followed by a CT scan that was interpreted as confirming a solid, round, 2-inch mass. A CT-guided biopsy was inconclusive but suggested an infection, so I was referred to an infectious disease expert.

The doctor just talked to me and examined my X-rays; he never examined me. After this, he wrote a report urging an open lung biopsy. How could he conclude this without an examination? I really hesitate having lung surgery.

DEAR READER: Solid pulmonary nodules are always a serious concern for physicians, because of the possibility of cancer. I do not know why the specialist failed to examine you; an exam would ordinarily be an integral part of such a consultation. Nevertheless, I cannot fault his conclusions. Despite extensive testing, the diagnosis of your pulmonary nodule remains in doubt. Consequently, you may have to bite the bullet and undergo the definitive test: an open biopsy. No one looks forward to surgery, but this may be your best option.

Of course, you don't have to follow the specialist's recommendations: You have every right to a second — or even, third — opinion. Ask your primary care physician to coordinate this — or, if you wish, to refer you to an **experienced surgeon.**

DEAR DR. GOTT: Here in northern Minnesota, there is a long-held belief that women tolerate the cold better than men do because of a layer of fat that keeps them warm. Is there any truth in this?

DEAR READER: Anyone with extra body fat has additional insulation against cold. Therefore, as a general rule, stout people appear to be more resistant to cold weather than do thin individuals. However, there are other factors as well, such as acclimatization and level of activity. Strictly speaking, there is no gender-related tolerance to cold: Thin women will feel the cold about as much as thin men will.

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American Airlines responds to ruling

DALLAS (AP) — Less than two hours after a federal court cleared the way for a competitor to begin long-haul service from Dallas Love Field, American Airlines said it plans to expand its flights from the airport.

The U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals on Tuesday upheld a 1998 U.S. Department of Transportation ruling that permits wide-ranging nonstop flights out of Love Field. Writing on behalf of the court, Judge Emilio M. Garza stated that decades-old flight restrictions that the cities of Dallas and Fort Worth agreed to cannot override federal law.

The decision gives the go-ahead for Legend Airlines to begin service at Love this month.

American Airlines' response was to immediately announce that the company will expand its flights at Love starting May 1, offering service to Chicago and Los Angeles.

"Now that the rules are clear, we will be competitive," spokesman John Hotard said.

The airline also has petitioned the city of Dallas for two more gates at Love Field, which would give Fort Worth-based American three gates if approved.

Legend Airlines Chief Executive Officer T. Allan McArtor said the 5th Circuit ruling appears to be the end of the road for the startup's opponents, who have battled in state and federal courts, as well as on Capitol Hill, to keep Legend from taking off.

"It would certainly appear that this puts all of these issues to bed," McArtor said of the appellate court's ruling.

Fort Worth Mayor Kenneth Barr said Tuesday night that he and other city leaders were disappointed by the court's decision.

"Until we actually get a copy of the ruling and have a chance to look at it, we really don't know what the impact of it is, but I can tell you it is a ruling that is adverse to the position we take," Barr said.

"The city of Fort Worth made commitments and entered into agreements. We've honored those commitments all the way for years, and to have this ruling by the courts and the legislation by Congress more or less gut those agreements is very disturbing."

Dallas-based Legend last week announced plans to do long-haul flights to Washington, Los Angeles and Las Vegas with 56-seat jets with wide leather seats and mini-TV screens for every passenger in its renovated 21-year-old DC-9s.

"I feel terrific," McArtor said. "I've always felt confident that we would prevail in this fight and our team has been preparing to put Legend service in the air. We're very excited about it."

The airline is still waiting for a final operating certificate from the Federal Aviation Administration.

Bulldozer operator killed by avalanche

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — The latest in a series of avalanches that stranded motorists on a scenic highway south of Anchorage this week killed a bulldozer operator clearing snow.

Kerry Brookman was working on the Seward Highway when the snow smashed into the bulldozer and pushed it about 500 feet Tuesday afternoon, Alaska Railroad spokesman Scott Banks said.

A helicopter crew working on avalanche control in the area spotted Brookman and pulled him out.

"They saw his arm protruding from the snow, dug him out and flew him to the hospital," Banks said.

Brookman, 53, died of severe torso injuries.

Two other bulldozers from the state Department of Transportation were working alongside Brookman, a 21-year railroad employee. One of the machines was also caught in the avalanche, but the operator wasn't hurt, Banks said.

The accident came about four hours after a helicopter rescued nine cold and weary travelers trapped for about 20 hours between avalanches on scenic coastal highway, 40 miles from Anchorage.

The motorists, who had kept in touch with rescuers by cellular phone, were flown out in three groups and taken to a diner for breakfast. They were in good condition.

"We ate everything they had in the restaurant, and now we're starting all over again," said Darwin Peterson. "I told my wife when we get back home, I'm not going as far as the post office for the rest of the winter."

Some had wrapped up for the night in sleeping bags, while others were in a van that had a propane heater. They spent the time playing cribbage, getting acquainted and talking to troopers by phone.

Most Alaskans carry warm clothing, sleeping bags and survival gear when they travel long distances in the winter.

Blizzard conditions has prevented rescuers from dropping supplies such as food and blankets Monday night, when temperatures dipped into the low teens. The rescuers had to wait for the weather to clear to reach the motorists.

Ten other motorists trapped by another avalanche elsewhere along the highway were rescued late Monday by a construction crew that used a front-end loader to clear away snow.

Alternating freezes and thaws in December created a base of crusty, unstable snow.

Texas inmate admits slaying

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — An alleged serial killer held in Texas says he stabbed a Tucson man to death in 1988 in a rage over a debt, police say.

Tucson homicide Detective Karen Wright said Tommy Lynn Sells told her he killed transient Kent A. Lauten, 40, once a Phoenix resident, with a pocket knife several hours after they had fought over money.

Lauten's body was found Dec. 18, 1988, when a 12-year-old saw a hand protruding from a shallow grave at a transient camp to which the boy had gone to dig sand for his grandfather. Police estimated Lauten had been buried for about two days.

Wright said Sells, a drifter, told her he goes into uncontrollable rages and described himself as a "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."

Wright interviewed Sells last week at the Val Verde County Jail in Del Rio, Texas, where he was being held.

Texas authorities said recently that Sells admitted slitting the throats of Kayline Harris, 13, and Krystal Surles, 11, on Dec. 31, near Del Rio, where he has lived the last two years.

Date Book

Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2000

Today is the 33rd day of 2000 and the 43rd day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the war between Mexico and the United States.

On this day in 1915, Balto, an Alaskan sled dog, was the lead dog in a dog-sled team that raced 600 miles to deliver diphtheria serum to Nome, Alaska.

On this day in 1990, the president of South Africa, F.W. de Klerk, promised to release jailed nationalist Nelson Mandela.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: James Joyce (1882-1941), writer; George Halas (1895-1983), football coach; Jascha Heifetz (1901-1987), violinist; James Dickey (1923-1997), poet; Liz Smith (1923-), columnist, is 77; Tom Smothers (1937-), comedian, is 63; Farrah Fawcett (1947-), actress, is 53.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1956, at the winter Olympic games at Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy, Tenley Albright won a gold medal for figure skating.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "All weddings, except those with shotguns in evidence, are wonderful." — Liz Smith

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

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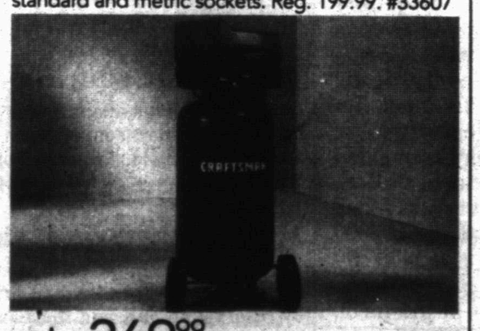
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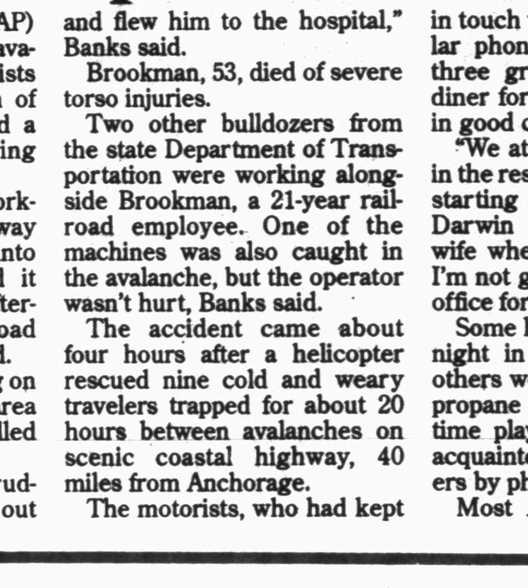
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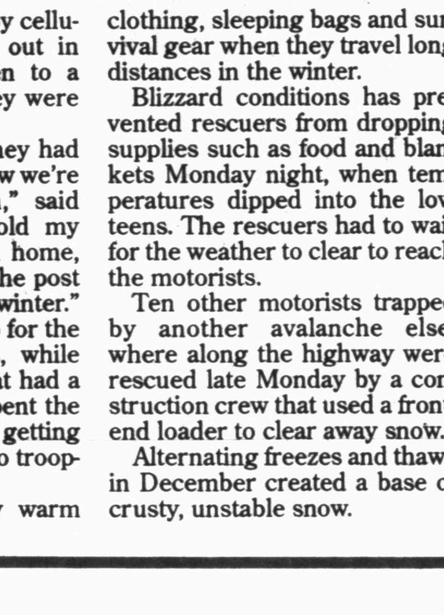
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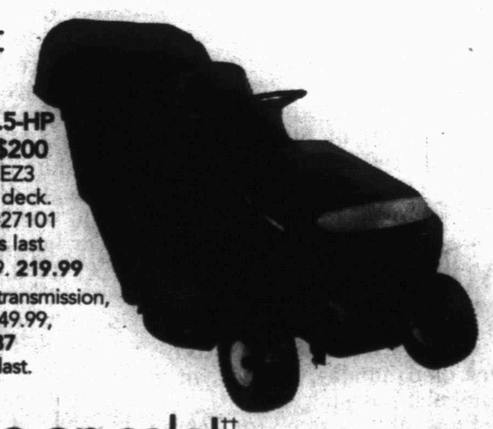
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