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WT-Int. Crude - $20.08
WTIC Posted - $16.75
Natural Gas - $2.634

# THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

**TUESDAY**

Dec. 4, 2001
Vol. 53 No. 186
10 Pages 50¢

Home of David & Susan Frazier

# City council updated on cable TV upgrade

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Snyder city council members heard an update on Cox Communications' cable TV work and the Deep Creek park plan during Monday night's council meeting.

Charlie Moore and Michelle Harper, cable company representatives, told council members that the first "node" or area to be turned on would be late Monday night or early next Tuesday.

The first area is located in the northeast part of the community. Other areas will follow until all are operable by mid-January, said Harper, cable systems director from Abilene.

Moore said that construction on the project would be completed by Dec. 21.

"We had some early delays due to permitting problems," said Moore. "And then we lost some work time last week because of the snow. But we're now on track to meet our projections of being through with the construction by the end of the year."

Customers can select from a variety of channel packages ranging from a low of $7.60 per month to a high of $76.90 per month for every channel the company offers.

The basic cable package – now channels 2-13 – will be expanded to channels 2-22 and the cost will remain at $7.60 per month.

The expanded basic package, now $26.85 per month for channels 2-22, will be expanded to channels 2-66 and the cost will increase to $33.95 per month. Applicable taxes will be added.

Harper said the company had mailed out a brochure explaining the new channel lineup and costs, but if customers have questions call the local office at 573-3536.

A public open house for the new system will be held from 4-7 p.m. Monday at the cable offices, 2211 Ave. R.

In other business, the planned renovation of the Deep Creek project is to get rid of an eyesore, council members were told.

"We're working on the project because the creek now is really ugly," said Donna Fowler, executive director of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce.

Fowler and Price Daniel Unit senior warden Wilhelmenia Howard said the process would be slow, but when completed, should be an asset to the community.

Warden Howard said the prison would provide up to 25 inmates to work on the project and plans are to be on site when weather permits.

Plans are to place rock above the water line to cut down on mowing, and to build picnic tables out of railroad ties, add softball fields and RV hookups.

In general, the creek area will be cleaned up and undergrowth and trees will be removed from the creek bed.

In action items, the council voted 5-1 to approve $295,740 in amendments to last year's budget on the first reading.

Council members John Reed, who cast the dissenting vote, and Terry Martin questioned why the figure is so large.

"These budget amendments total over $200,000," said Reed. "I have a problem with that."

Martin said the council goes through hours of budget work, and then is asked to approve $200,000 more with no warning.

"What's the purpose of the budget?" Martin asked.

City Finance Director Jeanne Johnson presented the council with figures of where the extra expenses were incurred.

Johnson said $93,550 in additional money was taken in from hotel-motel tax over what was budgeted, and that 95 percent of that is given to the chamber of commerce.

"This is good because it means more people are coming to our town, but for accounting purposes, it has to show as an additional expense," said Johnson.

She added that the amount was also shown as revenue in the financial statements.

Other expenses adding to the total were in the water, sewer, and sanitation departments as their expenses went up $174,700 with most of the amount reflecting maintenance of equipment, plus chemicals for treating the water, and some overtime due to water-line breaks and overtime for after-hour repairs.

The council also voted to keep the vestment period for retirement at 10 years for city employees, and in an about-face from last month, voted to keep the years of service before retirement at 25 years.

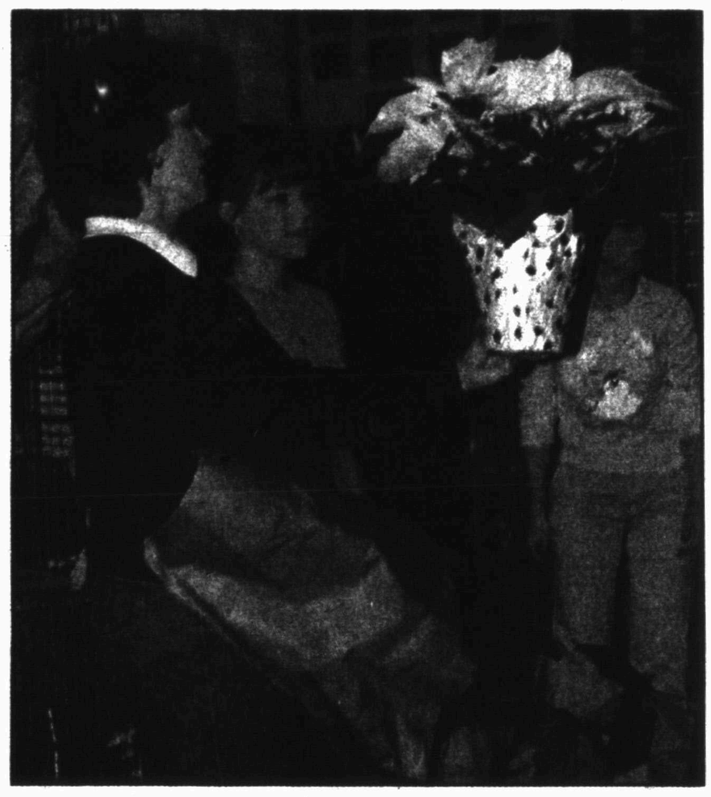
On the first reading of the ordinance in November, the council had voted to drop the time to 20 years.

The council also approved sending out a community survey to utility customers around the first week in January.

The form, seeking citizens' opinion on city services, is to be returned by March 1.

Terry Martin, Vernest Tippens and Mayor Francene Noah will serve on a committee to tabulate the results that will be presented to the council.

Noah presided at the meeting an all council members were in attendance to include Martin, Tippens, Reed, David Harrell, James Ashley and I.E. Martin.



**'TIS THE SEASON — Snyder High Choir students are busy delivering Christmas poinsettias to raise funds for the group. Choir director Ronda Haire inspects one of the potted plants as sophomore Sarah Crawford looks on. Molly Haire, also a sophomore, can be seen in the background arranging the plants. (SDN Staff Photo)**

## THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

**The feller on Deep Creek says, "TV doesn't have a clue about Texas and Texans don't need a clue."**

Texas has been in the press a lot lately, with President Bush hosting Russian President Putin at his Texas ranch near Crawford last month.

We like Colin Powell, the retired general who now serves as secretary of state, but we were amused by his reaction to the Texas outdoors.

Powell, who grew up in New York, said, "I don't do ranch well. I don't care what they say, those cows look dangerous to me."

A friend passed along some info called "What livin' in Texas Really Means."

—Armadillos sleep in the middle of the road with their feet up in the air.

—There are 5,000 types of snakes and 4,998 live in Texas.

—There are 10,000 types of spiders. 10,001 live in Texas.

—Raccoons will test your crop of melons and let you know when they are ripe.

—If it grows, it sticks; if it crawls, it bites.

—Nothing will kill a mesquite tree.

—A tractor is not an all-terrain vehicle. They do get stuck.

—The wind blows 90 mph from Oct. 2 until July 15, then it stops totally.

—"Onced" and "twiced" are words.

—It's not a shopping cart, it's a buggy.

—Fire ants consider your flesh a picnic.

—Graduating first in your class means you left in the 8th grade.

—People actually grow and eat okra. Some eat so much broiled okry they have a hard time keeping their socks up.

—Texans really don't have an accent.

—When the world ends, only cockroaches and mesquite trees will survive.

—Green grass does burn.

—When you live in the country, you don't have to buy a dog. City folks drop them off at your place in the middle of the night.

—The sound of coyotes howling at night only sounds good for the first couple of weeks.

—When a buzzard sits on the fence and stares at you, it's time to see the doc.

—"Fixinto" is one word.

—A tank is a dirt hole in the ground that holds water.

—"Backards" and "forards" mean you know everything.

—You don't have to wear a watch. Texans just work 'til it's done or too dark to see.

And sooner or later everybody agrees about Texas...there's no place they'd rather be.

# Rod Waller files for Scurry County Judge

Rod Waller, a former Snyder mayor, will challenge incumbent Ricky Fritz for the post of Scurry County judge.

Waller officially filed Monday afternoon, subject to the March 12 Republican primary.

Waller was the first to file for the judge's position although Fritz has indicated he will seek a third term.

Waller said "I am running for the office, not against anyone." Waller said he hopes to foster a closer working relation between the county, school district, college and city.

"I want to work to promote the best interests of both the hospital and the coliseum."

Waller has lived in Snyder for 38 years and served as mayor for five years, from 1982 until 1987.

He and his wife, Annette, have three children. Lisa Gray and her husband, Glen, live in Borden County, while Susan Payne and her husband, Carl, live in Big Spring. Their son, Gary and his wife, Deb, reside in Midland.

Waller also has served on a number of boards, including the Colorado River Municipal Water District board of directors since 1987.

Waller also has served as the president of the Western Texas College booster club and president of the West Central Texas Council of Governments and is now a member of the West Central Texas Workforce development board.

Waller and his wife, Annette, are members of First United Methodist Church, where he is chairman of the church council. He also serves as a board member of the Sears Methodist Retirement System.

He is a graduate of Hominy High School in Oklahoma, and attended Angelo State University and Texas Tech.



Rod Waller

Waller, now retired, is the former owner of Arrow Construction Co. in Snyder. His parents are Pearl and the late Jesse Waller.

Incumbent district clerk, Republican Trina Rodgers, announced her re-election plans Sunday while county treasurer Nelda Colvin, a Republican; Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace Deborah Boyd, a Republican, and Precinct 4 commissioner Chlorine Lindsey, a Democrat, all announced Monday they will seek re-election.

Also on Monday, Robbie Floyd revealed his intention to run for Precinct 2 commissioner, a spot being vacated by three-term commissioner Roy Idom.

Democratic Sheriff Darren Jackson has not announced, but filed the necessary papers with the Democratic party chairman Monday.

# Grand jury indicts 11

Fifteen indictments were returned by the Scurry County grand jury Monday, including two persons who were indicted on three counts.

Hadley Dees Vineyard, 21, of 2744 CR 3126 was indicted for the May 19 offense of stealing a vending machine from Sterling Grocery in Ira; the July 14 offense of the unauthorized use of a road packer roller belonging to Price Construction; and the Sept. 11 offense of stealing a firearm from Durwood Kruger.

Vineyard is in jail in lieu of bonds totaling $15,000.

Travis Daniel Wells, 19, of 2904 Denison was indicted for the July 14 offense of the unauthorized use of a road packer roller belonging to Price Construction; for the Aug. 7 offense of damaging a pump jack; and for the Sept. 11 offense of stealing a firearm belonging to Durwood Kruger.

Wells is out of jail on bonds totaling $15,000.

Indicted for burglary of a habitation was Mark Jason Guzman, 18, of 1905 Ave. L.

Guzman is charged with the Nov. 8 offense of burglarizing a home belonging to Regina Ferguson.

Also charged with burglary of a habitation belonging to Regina Ferguson are Issac Rivera Vasquez, 19, of 2305 Ave. M, and Michael Lee Jimenez, 17, of 1704 Donley in Big Spring.

All three are out jail on $10,000 bonds.

Indicted for the Nov. 18 assault of a family member was Alejandro Casarez Jr., 28, of 1803 Scott.

He is charged with choking Rosa Alfaro last month. On July 19, 2000, Casarez was convicted of an assault against another family member. Casarez is free on a $5,000 bond.

Indicted for driving while intoxicated was Andres Hermosillo, 39, of 1410 7th Street. He is charged with DWI on Nov. 18 and he has prior DWI convictions in Scurry County in 1989 and 1991. He is out of jail on a $5,000 bond.

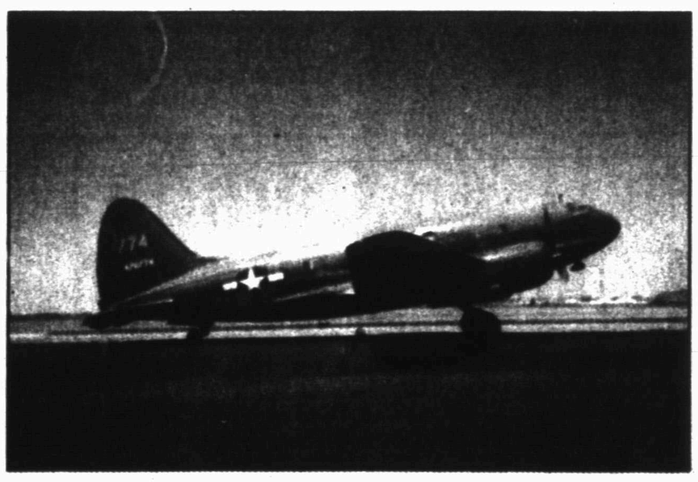
Donald Wade Cannon, 48, of Rt. 1, Box 58 in Abernathy was indicted for the Nov. 12 offense of failure to appear and bail jumping.

Cannon remains at large on a $10,000 bond on an original charge of sexual assault.

Timothy Alan McDowell, 21, of 3005 Beaumont was indicted for the Nov. 22 offense of evading arrest. McDowell is charged with fleeing from a Snyder police officer who was attempting to arrest him. He is out of jail on a $5,000 bond.

Adam Sosa Jr., 21, of 100 E. 37th St., Apt. 66, was indicted for the Nov. 25 offense of evading arrest. He is charged with fleeing from a Snyder police officer who was attempting to arrest him. Sosa is free on a $10,000 bond.

One other person was indicted, but has not been arrested.



**AIRPORT OPEN HOUSE — The 50th anniverary of Winston Field will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The airport serves a variety of aircraft including this U.S. Army C-46. (Contibuted Photo)**

# Voting boxes open until 7 p.m

Voting continues through 7 p.m. today in the Texas Senate District 30 runoff election.

Voters may cast their ballot for either Republican Craig Estes or Democrat Greg Underwood at regular polling places.

The election is open to all registered voters in Scurry County and all others in the 36-county Texas Senate District.

Voters may cast ballots in the runoff election even if they did not vote in the Nov. 6 election.

**ASK US**

**Q—When will the results of the parks survey be tallied?**

**A—Survey responses will be entered into a computer database on Friday.**

**FORECAST - ALMANAC**

**Snyder Temps:** High Monday, 66 degrees; low, 54; 7 a.m. Tuesday, 60; no precipitation; total for 2001, 19.70 inches.

**Area Forecast:** Tonight, mostly cloudy, 20% rain chance; low, mid 50s; S winds 10-20 mph. Wednesday, slight rain chance; decreasing clouds, breezy; high mid 60s; SW winds 15-25 mph.



Brennen Baze
Cloudy

**Sunset:**
5:42 p.m.
**Sunrise:**
7:28 a.m.
**Of 337 days in 2001, the sun has shone 324 days in Snyder.**

**TODAY'S THOUGHT**

**Cherish your visions and your dreams, as they are the childen of your soul, the blueprints of your ultimate achievemnts.**
**—Napoleon Hill**

DEC 04 2001

# Judge says ex-SLA fugitive cannot withdraw her plea

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former Symbionese Liberation Army fugitive Sara Jane Olson lost an attempt to withdraw her guilty plea for a 1970s police bombing plot, drawing scathing remarks from a judge who questioned her honesty.

"I couldn't for a minute accept a guilty plea from a person who I believed was innocent," Superior Court Judge Larry Paul Fidler said Monday in denying her plea attempt. "I couldn't sleep. I intend to sleep well tonight."

Olson left the courthouse without comment. Her attorney, Shawn Snider Chapman, said she was considering an appeal.

Olson remained free on $1 million bond was scheduled to be sentenced Jan. 18. She could face 20 years to life.

"She's an escape artist and every time she's boxed in she looks for a way out," Deputy District Attorney Michael Latin said. "'It's time to face the music."

Before ruling, Fidler gave Olson a chance to take the stand for cross-examination about her role in the case. She refused.

"It speaks volumes that Ms. Olson will not submit to cross-examination," the judge said.

Olson, 54, was a fugitive for more than 20 years until her 1999 arrest on charges she tried to murder officers by planting bombs under police cars to in 1975 avenge the deaths of six SLA members in a 1974 shootout. The bombs didn't explode.

She had been living in Minnesota as the wife of a doctor and mother of three children and had changed her name from Kathleen Soliah.

The status of her case has seesawed since Oct. 31, when she announced a surprise decision to plead guilty to possessing bombs with intent to murder police officers. But her plea was thrown into question when, immediately after leaving the courtroom, she told reporters she was really innocent.

Fidler ordered her back to court a week later to explain herself. She reaffirmed her plea but asserted she was guilty under the theory of aiding and abetting, adding that she did not possess bombs and never tried to blow up police cars.

Then last month she asked to withdraw her plea and go to trial.

"We don't accept guilty pleas from innocent people," Fidler said Monday. "I took those pleas twice. I hate to put it (this way), but were you lying to me then or are you lying to me now?"

Christmas Cartoon




# Bankrupt Enron gets operating funds

HOUSTON (AP) — Enron Corp. took steps to bolster its weak financial footing following the beleaguered energy company's historic bankruptcy filing, arranging $1.5 billion in financing and slashing 4,000 jobs, or 20 percent of its work force.

Enron employees filed out of the company's 50-story mirrored glass tower headquarters in downtown Houston on Monday with their personal belongings stuffed in cardboard boxes. Several employees reported they were given 30 minutes to clear out.

"The whole thing, it's a nightmare," Joann Matson, a laid-off human resources coordinator, said as she carted her belongings to a car.

Enron, once the world's biggest buyer and seller of energy, imploded in recent weeks after acknowledging it engaged in questionable accounting practices and overstated its profits by more than half a billion dollars over the past four years.

The disclosure caused its credit rating to collapse and led Dynegy Inc. to scrap a $8.4 billion buyout of Enron.

Enron filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection and sued Dynegy for at least $10 billion in damages on Sunday, claiming its smaller, crosstown rival wrongly abandoned the buyout — accelerating Enron's demise. Dynegy countered with a lawsuit against Enron.

Enron told a New York bankruptcy judge Monday that the company had arranged up to $1.5 billion in financing to keep operating as it reorganizes.

Under terms of the agreement with lenders J.P. Morgan Chase and Citigroup, Enron will receive $250 million immediately. Another $250 million will be available when the company provides the lenders with a "satisfactory business plan," Enron said in a statement.

Enron would get another $1 billion from the lenders to be used in part to pay debt on one of its pipelines.

The company currently has $500 million in cash, but normally operates with about $2.5 billion on hand, said Martin Bienenstock, a lawyer representing Enron.

"With this financing in place, Enron can continue to do business and move forward to implement the first steps of its reorganization," Enron chairman and chief executive Kenneth Lay said in a statement.

But some analysts warned that the financing still may not be enough to entice traders back into its fold.

Fitch Inc., the credit ratings agency, said in a statement Monday that Enron's physical assets — the pipelines and power operations — are largely encumbered, and its trading business is heavily damaged as cash, credit and traders evaporated over the last several weeks.

Fitch said that Enron would emerge from Chapter 11 a much smaller company — or completely liquidated, unable to restore its core trading business.

In the bankruptcy filing, Enron listed just under $50 billion in assets and $31.1 billion in liabilities. It is one of the biggest corporate bankruptcies in U.S. history.

The legal battle between Enron and Dynegy was shaping up to be a contentious one, with Enron fighting for its prized Northern Natural Gas pipeline. Enron claims Dynegy has no right to acquire the pipeline in return for a $1.5 billion investment.

Dynegy returned the punch, suing several Enron subsidiaries not included in the bankruptcy case over the pipeline.

"It is a demonstration of sheer desperation that Enron would attempt to keep both Dynegy's $1.5 billion and the pipeline," Dynegy chairman and chief executive Chuck Watson said.

Todd Zywicki, a professor of law and bankruptcy expert at George Mason University, said Enron's lawsuit will at least temporarily keep the pipeline in its hands as the bankruptcy case buys the company some time to try to restore its financial health.

"It does look like it will be quite a messy battle between the two," he said.

Enron shares were up 14 cents to close 40 cents a share in trading Monday on the New York Stock Exchange. A year ago, Enron traded near $85.

Many employees who lost their jobs following the layoffs have also seen their retirement benefits take a hit as the stock plummeted.

"I'm disappointed. It's been sad, a lot of tears," said Rod Jordan, 63.

Jordan said he lost "a good five figures" through the Enron stock he had bought and through the company 401(k) plan, which was invested heavily in the stock.

An information sheet distributed to laid-off employees said each would receive a $4,500 severance package pending a ruling from a New York bankruptcy court.

## events

### Lotto Texas Texas Lottery

**RESULTS**

**Cash Five**

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery:
13-19-22-23-37

**Pick 3**

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
4-0-4

## Train crashes

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — Two trains collided on a scenic route along the Panama Canal, killing the engineer of one train and slightly injuring 10 American tourists, rail officials said Monday.

The passengers injured in Sunday's accident were treated at a hospital in Panama City for cuts and bruises and released the same day.

The train they were riding in crashed into another train waiting to change rails at a crossover in the city of Gamboa, 25 miles northwest of Panama City.

Thomas Kenna, spokesman for the U.S.-based Kansas City Southern Rail Network, which operates the Panama Railway Company, said the cause of the crash was under investigation.

## Date Book

**Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2001**

Today is the 338th day of 2001 and the 74th day of fall.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** On this day in 1779, in Williamsburg, Va., the first law school in the United States was established at the College of William and Mary.

On this day in 1909, the submarine E-1 departed Newport, R.I., on a voyage to the Azores. It was to be the first crossing of the Atlantic by a submarine under its own power.

On this day in 1960, the musical "Camelot" opened on Broadway. The production starred Julie Andrews, Richard Burton, Robert Goulet and Roddy McDowell.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881), writer; Samuel Butler (1835-1902), writer; Lillian Russell (1861-1922), singer-actress; Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926), poet; Stewart Rawlings Mott (1937-), business executive-philanthropist, is 64; Deanna Durbin (1922-), actress, is 79; Jeff Bridges (1949-), actor, is 52.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** On this day in 1980, in Cleveland, track-and-field athlete Stella Walsh was killed by a stray bullet shot during a robbery. The autopsy revealed that Walsh was a man.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "Our grand business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand." — Thomas Carlyle

**TODAY'S MOON:** Between full moon (Nov. 30) and last quarter (Dec. 7).

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Berry's World




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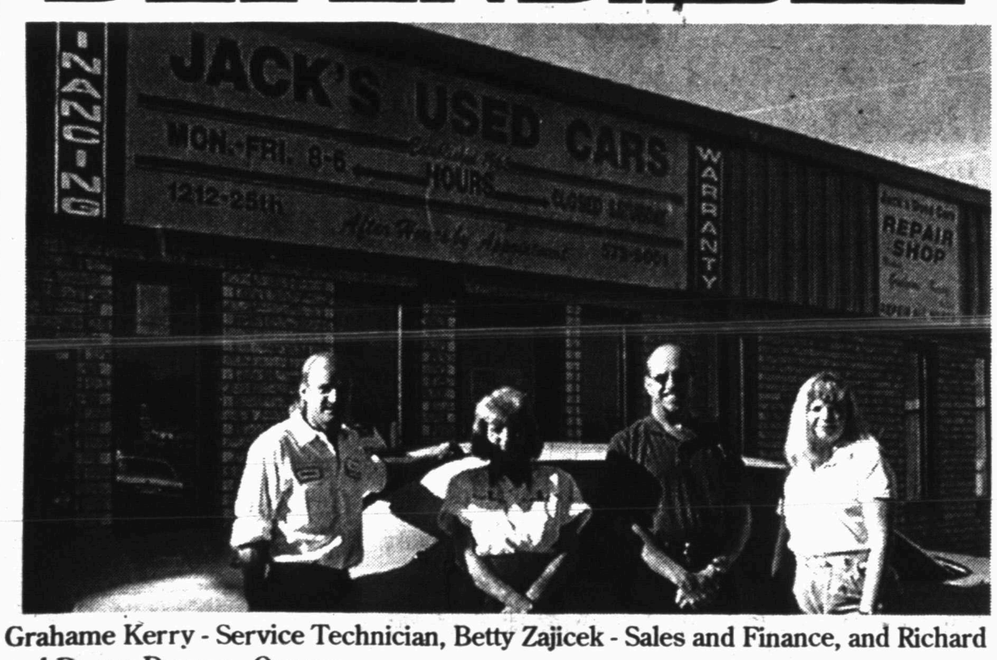
By mail in Scurry and adjoining counties, one year $88.80 balance of Texas and out of state $113.85.

Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to use for republication all news dispatches in this newspaper and also local news published for republication of special dispatches.

NIX'S CAFE
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10% Senior Discount Every Saturday
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ALL THE CATFISH OR PORK RIBS YOU CAN EAT
Every Thurs., Fri. and Sat. - 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
$7.50
Reg. Rib Plate $6.50, Reg. Fish Plate $6.25
Hours
Mon. - Wed. 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Thurs, Fri, Sat. 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
CLOSED SUNDAY

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Grahame Kerry - Service Technician, Betty Zajicek - Sales and Finance, and Richard and Donna Dupree - Owners.

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5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
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With Coffee/Tea
(Senior Discount - 60 and Over)
3907 College Ave. 573-3542



MADRIGAL DINNER SCENE — Rachel Cave, Bobby Sands, Jeff Scott, Logan Martin, Kendall Brewster and Carlos Martinez, from left, light candles in the closing song at the Snyder High School's Madrigal Dinner Monday. Performing were the a cappella choir and the varsity and junior varsity drama students. The final performance is tonight at the SHS student center. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

# This is a Santa-sized treat

Surprise Santa this year with a really big cookie. Santa's Stockings, giant cranberry-oat cookies, are a fun project for parents and kids to make together.

Parents or older kids can mix the simple ingredients while younger kids will enjoy patting the dough into stocking shapes. When it's time to decorate, everyone can participate. Putting the candies and frostings into separate bowls will keep any creative mess to a minimum!

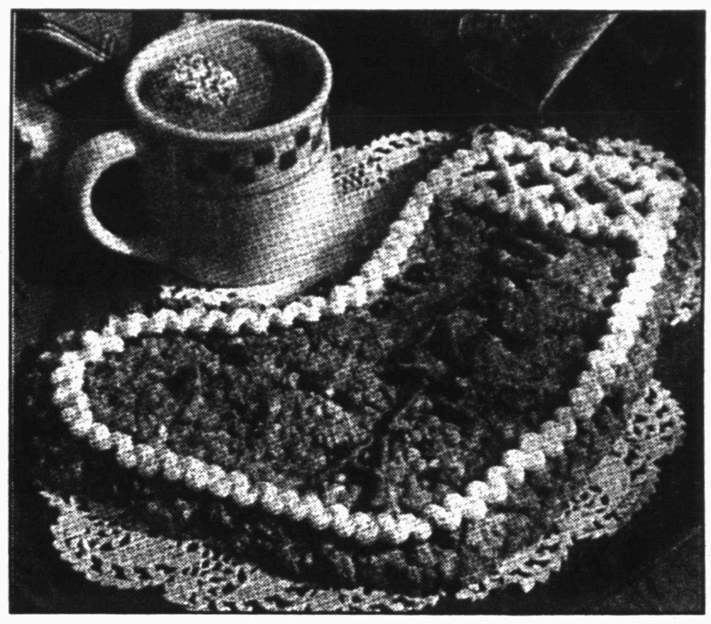
**SANTA'S STOCKING**
**4 Jumbo Cookies**

½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened
2/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
¼ cup granulated sugar
1 egg
2 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
¾ cup all-purpose flour*
½ teaspoon baking soda
2½ cups Quaker oats (quick or old fashioned, uncooked)
1 cup dried cranberries
Decorator icing
Assorted candies
*If using old-fashioned oats, add 2 tablespoons more flour.

Heat oven to 350 F. Spray two large cookie sheets with nonstick cooking spray; dust with flour. Trace two large stocking shapes on each sheet.

In large bowl, beat butter and sugars with mixer until creamy. Add egg, milk and vanilla; beat well. In medium bowl, combine flour and baking soda; stir in oats and cranberries. Add to mixer bowl; beat well. Divide dough into 4 equal portions. With moistened hands, pat dough onto prepared cookie sheets into ¼-inch thick stocking shapes.

Bake 12 to 14 minutes or until edges are light golden brown. Cool 2 minutes on cookie sheets. With wide spatula carefully transfer cookies to wire racks. Cool completely. Decorate as desired.



# Kids pick action toys as top choice

The experts have spoken, and they want action-action-packed play, that is! Kids across the country have voted for their favorite toys and the high-speed, versatile "Gearhead Street Savage RC Vehicle" is number one in the 14th Annual Duracell Kids' Choice Toy Survey.

The 2001 "Top 10" toys in the kid-tested, kid-approved survey are:

1. Gearhead Street Savage RC Vehicle (DSI Toys, Inc.)
2. Racin' Rider RC Cycle (Little Tikes)
3. CAT Tough Loader (Fisher-Price)
4. Barbie "Sing With Me" Karaoke Machine (KIDdesigns)
5. Shootout Soccer (Mega Bloks)
6. Power Pop-Up T-Ball (Sport-Fun)
7. Kawasaki Mega Deluxe Drum Pad (DSI Toys, Inc.)
8. Radio Flyer Racer Pedal Car (Radio Flyer, Inc.)
9. E-Shoop Hula Hoop (Wham-O Inc.)
10. Rock-A-Bye Chou Chou (Zapf Creations)

Survey results are based on the votes of more than 700 children, ages four to eleven, who "play tested" 25 of the year's best new toys and games for a seven day period in 15 YMCA summer camps nationwide.

According to Julie Creighton, director of the Duracell Kids' Choice Toy Survey, "One of the most surprising findings of this year's "Top 10" is the extent to which so many of the toys are updated versions of the classics that have appealed to kids for generations. Whether a hula hoop, pedal car or a remote control motorcycle, these toys remain popular largely because of the active play benefits they offer."

Radio control vehicles have become classics in their own right, and kids voted two of them-the high-speed Gearhead Street Savage RC Vehicle and the easier-to-operate Racin' Rider RC Cycle-to the first and second place spots, respectively.

Toys like Shootout Soccer, which invites kids to design their own soccer stadium and then to "kick" the ball into a goal, represent traditional "imaginative play" toys that have been enhanced for greater appeal. The same holds for the E-Shoop Hula Hoop, a hula hoop that features an electronic counter and timer, and Power Pop-Up T-Ball, which releases a spring-action-operated ball at just the right height for youngsters to hit with a bat.

Although there remain clear differences between boys' and girls' favorites, girls' choices bridged the gap more than boys' choices in 2001. Such traditionally "masculine" toys as Gearhead Street Savage, CAT Tough Loader and Radio Flyer Pedal Car all found a place among the girls' "Top 10" picks. The boys' list, on the other hand, did not include any toys that would be considered traditionally "feminine," such as the Rock-A-Bye Chou Chou doll or Cafe Play Boutique Bakery.

The toys named in the survey range in price from $15 to $160 and are available at many retail stores and Web sites where toys are sold. More information about the toys can be found at www.duracell.com or by calling 1-800-BEST-TOYS.

—

100,000 people are employed in the Christmas tree industry.

—

Oregon produces the most real Christmas trees.

# Bridge

**By Phillip Alder**



| | North | 12-04-01 |
|---|---|---|
| | ♠ 8 6 5 3 | |
| | ♥ 4 3 | |
| | ♦ Q 8 7 6 | |
| | ♣ J 10 4 | |
| **West** | | **East** |
| ♠ 4 | | ♠ K 7 |
| ♥ 9 8 6 5 2 | | ♥ A 10 7 |
| ♦ J 9 3 | | ♦ 10 5 4 2 |
| ♣ A Q 7 6 | | ♣ 8 5 3 2 |
| | **South** | |
| | ♠ A Q J 10 9 2 | |
| | ♥ K Q J | |
| | ♦ A K | |
| | ♣ K 9 | |

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

| South | West | North | East |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 ♣ | Pass | 2 ♦ | Pass |
| 2 ♠ | Pass | 4 ♠ | All pass |

Opening lead: ♥ 9

**Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2001**

## All the conventions fit to print

**By Phillip Alder**

Mike Lawrence has put out another excellent CD-ROM: "Conventions." He covers many of those in common use today, but also includes a few recommendations of his own, and mentions dealing with interference. During each section, he tells you whether he thinks the treatment is indispensable, or worthwhile but not vital, or dangerous for those with poor memories.

There are many bidding quizzes and a few declarer-play problems, though I have produced this deal from a pair of bidding hands given on the disk. You are in four spades. West leads the heart nine. East wins with the ace and shifts to a club, West taking two tricks in the suit. Then West exits with a diamond to your king. Having lost three tricks, should you cash the spade ace, hoping to drop the king, or should you enter dummy by ruffing the third heart and follow with the spade finesse?

South opens two clubs, strong, artificial and forcing. North responds two diamonds, waiting. He holds either a bad hand (fewer than eight points) or no decent suit to show. South's two-spade rebid is natural and forcing. Finally, North's jump to four spades promises support (I prefer at least four trumps, but Lawrence doesn't object to only three) but denies an ace, king, void or singleton.

Mathematically, taking the spade finesse is correct. Also, if West had a singleton spade king, he probably would have led a third club, conveniently putting you into the dummy for the trump finesse.

The disk costs $64 including postage. Full details can be found at http://www.michaelslawrence.com.

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## Congressman asks for lion's safety to be evaluated

TYLER (AP) — Some Americans want to help a big cat that is caught in the cross-fire in Afghanistan.

A congressman has asked the State Department to help a group save the tortured lion that currently resides in a war-torn zoo in Kabul.

Rep. Ralph Hall sent a letter last week to Secretary of State Colin Powell asking that the safety of the African lion, Marjan, be evaluated. Hall also asked for an Afghan contact so that the Tyler-based Tiger Missing Link Foundation can provide food or money for the care of the lion.

Marjan is missing one eye from when a brother of an Afghan guerrilla tossed a hand grenade at the animal. Taliban soldiers would later visit the zoo to stone the lion.

Brian Werner, director of the Tyler foundation, said Marjan is a survivor.

"They may have broken his body, but I don't think they've broken his spirit." he said.

The Tyler foundation has joined with five other nonprofit groups to feed and medically stabilize Marjan, then possibly move the lion to another location if the zoo permits it.

Hall's office said Monday that they had not received a response yet from Powell's office.

# Community Calendar

**TUESDAY**

Snyder Fire Dept. Auxiliary; central Fire Station; 7 p.m.ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.

Beginners' AA open meeting; Snyder Park Club, 1212 37th Street; 573-8268, 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5 to 6 p.m.; 2501 35th. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

**WEDNESDAY**

Spiritual Solutions for Living Problems Book Study; Snyder Park Club; 574-1292; 6 p.m.

NA Just For Today, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 573-1438; 8 p.m.

**THURSDAY**

Snyder Garden Club; "Celebrate Your Christmas Visions," members are to bring supplies and share ideas about making natural Christmas ornaments at BeBe Borens home; 10:30 a.m. business meeting, pot luck luncheon at 11.

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; horseshoe courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762.

Rock and Roll Quilting Club evening meeting; Hermleigh Community Center; for more information call 863-2426; 6:30 p.m.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; WTC; 6:30 to 8 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8268, 573-4048 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8494 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

**FRIDAY**

Free blood pressure clinics; Senior Citizens Center; 9:30 to 11 a.m.

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

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 1:30 p.m.

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-0538 or 573-0770.

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 8 p.m.

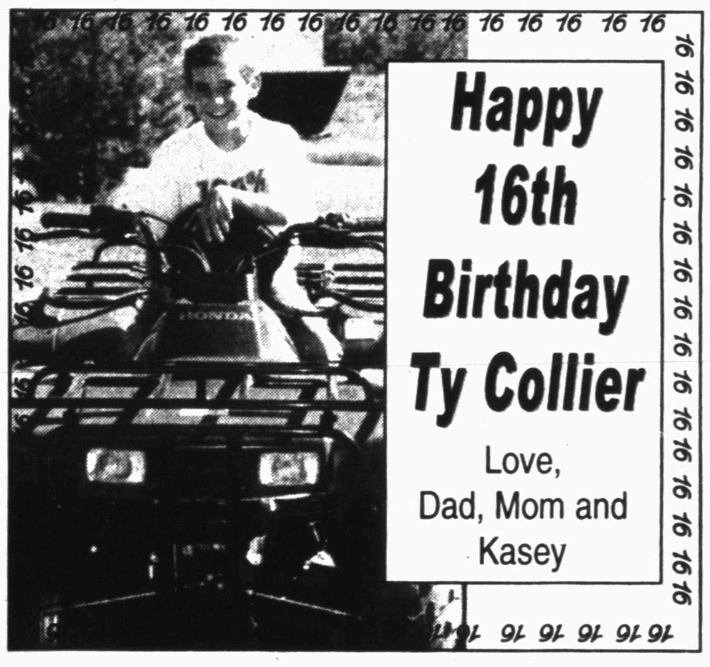
Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 5731141; 8 p.m.

**SATURDAY**

NA-Just For Today open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-1438; 7 p.m.

**SUNDAY**

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 10 a.m.



**Happy 16th Birthday Ty Collier**

Love,
Dad, Mom and Kasey

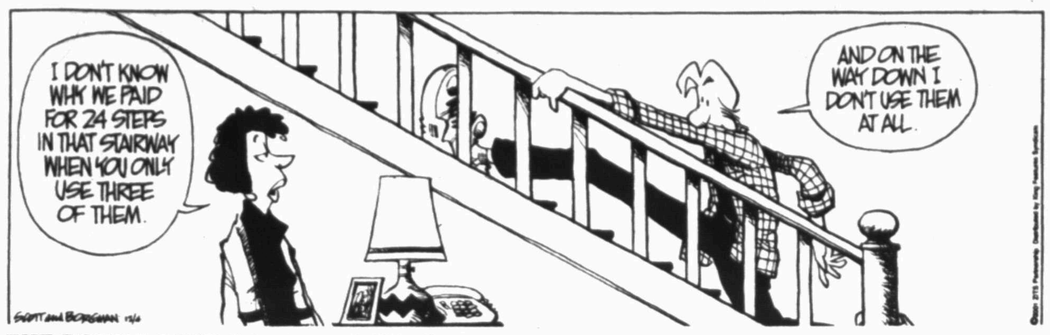
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But Will Be Available For Banquets Or Parties
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573-2348,
573-5277 FAX
Snyder, Texas

**ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman**




**THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom**



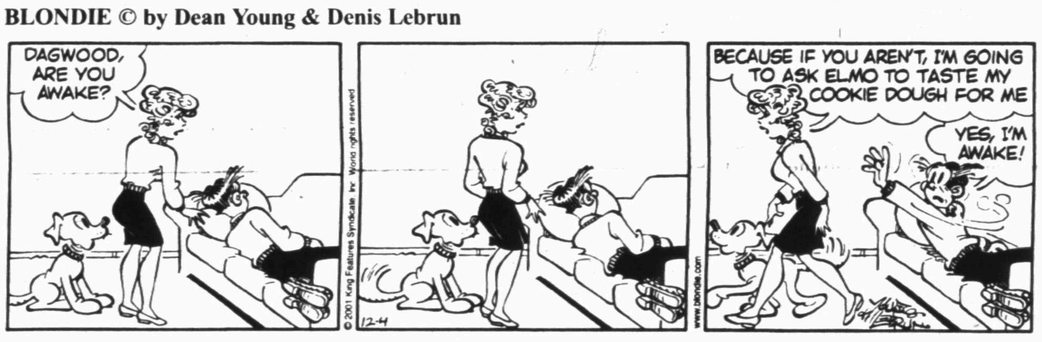

**SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski**




**BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell**



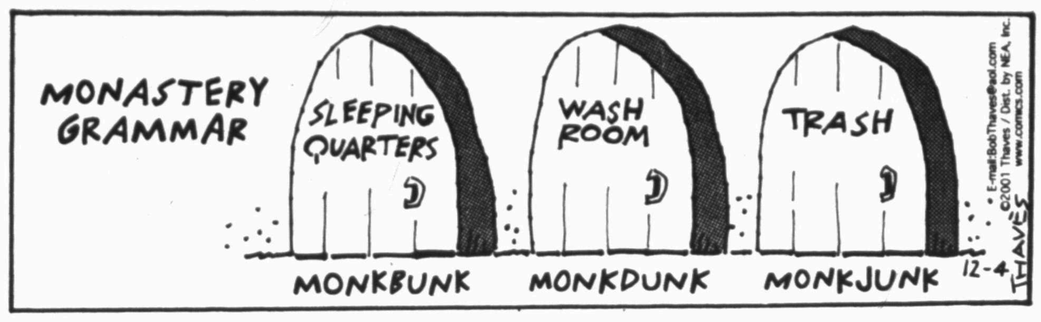

**BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun**




**THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr**




**FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves**



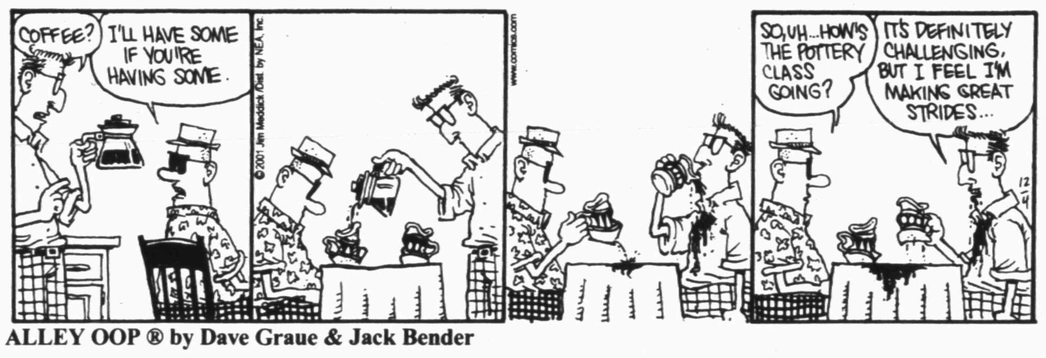

**ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson**




**BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce**




**MONTY ® by Jim Meddick**




**ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender**




**BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen**




**HERMAN ® by Jim Unger**




"Do you mind keeping the noise down!"

## NEA Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

1 Amazing act
5 Judge Bean
8 Stomach muscles
11 Hindmost
12 Keats work
13 Arm bone
15 Tooth problem
16 TV spots
17 — & The Beimonts
18 Orange veggie
20 Camera "leg"
22 Crusade
25 Gaze at
26 Glimpse
27 Sturm — Drang
28 Be parched
31 Object
33 Terminate
34 Sips
38 Region
39 "— Daba Honeymoon"
40 Abrupt
41 Delivers a message
44 Teachers' org.
45 Easy toss
48 Inc. cousin
49 Fall guy
51 Newly
53 Interlude
54 Mix up
55 Egg — yung
57 Pious assent
61 Mo. neighbor
62 40-cup brewer
63 Mounted
64 Wedding-column word
65 Record
66 Experiment

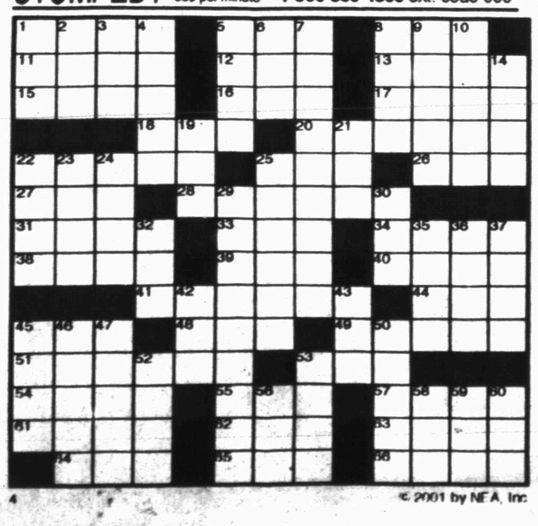
**DOWN**

1 Monastic title
2 Common Market initials
3 Ooh's mate
4 Deuces' successors
5 Gallivant
6 Strange
7 Not long ago
8 Volkswagen kin
9 Radar objects
10 Get nosy
14 TV's Rooney
19 Media corp.
21 Legal thing
22 Interrogate
23 Golden Rule word
24 Perfect place
25 Mythical sailor
29 Wholesome
30 Affection
32 French sea
35 Close relative
36 Chief exec
37 Remain
42 Chicago trains
43 Health resort
45 Endure
46 Frequently
47 Sea water
50 Not touching
52 Sea eagle
53 Bell
56 Incan treasure
58 Skier Tommy
59 Curve
60 Mesh fabric

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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# Snyder Daily News Comics

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**KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright**



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# SPORTS

# Eight Big 12 teams earn bowl bids

DALLAS (AP) — A record eight football teams from the Big 12 Conference will appear in postseason bowls this year. Nebraska still has an outside chance to appear in the biggest one of them all — the Rose Bowl, where the national championship will be decided.

The Bowl Championship Series rankings came out on Monday. Nebraska (11-1) had a surprise No. 3 ranking, which means the Cornhuskers could go to the Rose Bowl if Tennessee (No. 2 in the BCS rankings) loses to LSU on Saturday.

Colorado (10-2) which qualified for a BCS bowl by beating Texas Saturday for the Big 12 championship, is ranked No. 4 in the BCS rankings, behind undefeated Miami (No. 1) and Tennessee, which leapfrogged past Florida by beating the Gators on Saturday.

Should Tennessee beat LSU, it will be Tennessee and Miami in the Rose Bowl, and both Nebraska and Colorado would appear in either the Fiesta, Orange or Sugar bowls. Those BCS bowl lineups won't be announced until Sunday.

The six other bowl-bound Big 12 teams got their invitations Monday — Oklahoma (10-2) to the Cotton Bowl, Texas (10-2) to the Holiday Bowl, Texas Tech (7-4) to the Alamo Bowl, Kansas State (6-5) to the Insight.com Bowl, Texas A&M (7-4) to the Galleryfurniture.com Bowl and Iowa State (7-4) to the Independence Bowl.

LSU likely would play Oklahoma in the Cotton Bowl, should the Tigers lose to Tennessee on Saturday. That game is scheduled for Jan. 1. OU plays Texas every year in Cotton Bowl stadium, in Dallas, but has never played in the 65-year-old bowl classic.

Texas, which could have earned an invitation to the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1 in Pasadena by beating Colorado, will instead be in San Diego on Dec. 28, playing in the Holiday Bowl in San Diego against Washington (8-3), which tied for second in the Pac-10.

"Not many teams have the chance to win 11 games and finish in the Top 10, and that's something we want to do. It'll be a great matchup with Washington, and I know Rick (Neuheisel) will have his team ready," Longhorns coach Mack Brown said.

The Longhorns are seeking to post 11 victories for the first time since 1983 and for just the fifth time ever. Texas also is looking to finish in the Top 10 for the first time since 1983. Texas was in the Holiday Bowl last year, losing a 35-30 shootout with Oregon.

The Alamo Bowl was Texas Tech's first choice, but it had been believed that the bowl would select Texas A&M to oppose Iowa (6-5). Instead, the Alamo Bowl invited Texas Tech (7-4). Texas A&M suffered from losing its last three games, against Texas Tech, Oklahoma and Texas.

Texas Tech lost to Texas, Nebraska and Oklahoma, but beat Texas A&M and Kansas State.

"We are extremely excited to invite Texas Tech and their high-powered offense to San Antonio," said Norman T. Dugas, Jr., chairman of the Alamo Bowl. "An Iowa-Texas Tech matchup will give us two of college football's most exciting offenses battling it out in the Alamodome."

"We are the best team for them, and they are the best bowl for us," Texas Tech coach Mike Leach said at a news conference.

"We are looking forward to a great game with Iowa," Tech athletic director Gerald Myers said. "This game will be between two football teams on the rise."

The Red Raiders led the Big 12 in passing, and Iowa's Hawkeyes led the Big 10 in pass offense.

Kansas State will play Syracuse (9-3) in the Insight.com Bowl on Dec. 29, A&M will play in the Galleryfurniture.com Bowl on Dec. 28 against the winner of Saturday's game between TCU (5-5) and Southern Mississippi (6-4), and Iowa State will play in the Independence Bowl on Dec. 27 against an SEC team still to be named.

## Local teams hit the road

Everybody's on the road for tonight's basketball action.

Snyder's boys and girls, along with Hermleigh and Ira, are the visitors for this evening's five basketball contests.

The Lady Tigers (3-4) visit San Angelo Central at 6:30 while the Tigers (0-7) travel to face Lubbock High at 7:30. Hermleigh's girls and boys will be at Luders-Avoca for games starting at 6 o'clock, and the Ira boys visit Forsan for a 6:30 tip-off. Ira's girls have the night off.

Tonight's match-up with the Lady Cats and this weekend's Hill Country Classic in Austin are the only tune-ups left for the Lady Tigers before they open district play next Tuesday at San Angelo Lake View.

After today's meeting with the Westerners, the SHS boys are on the hardwood again at 11 a.m. Thursday against Ballinger in the opening round of the Wylie Catclaw Tournament.

Hermleigh squads are scheduled to take part in the Patton Springs tournament starting Thursday, and both Ira teams will be at the Stanton tourney.

## Cowboys owe $1.73 million

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys have agreed to pay $1.73 million to settle a class-action lawsuit claiming the team violated state and federal consumer protection laws by hiring a telemarketing company to fax unsolicited advertising to thousands of people.

The plaintiff, Omnibus International, alleged that the so-called "junk faxes" hurt legitimate advertising as well as consumers and businesses.

Dallas Cowboys spokesman Rich Dalrymple said the team had no comment about the settlement.

Plaintiff's lawyer Julius Glickman of Houston said American Blast Fax sent the fax at least once to 125,000 locations. Those recipients will be notified they are eligible for up to $500 for each unsolicited fax.

If any funds remain, the Cowboys have agreed to donate it to charity, Glickman said.

"We are hopeful that junk faxers will begin to get the message that businesses and families want to be left alone and don't want advertisers tying up and using their fax machines," Glickman said.

The settlement, which still must be approved by a Dallas judge, combines the Dallas case with a similar lawsuit filed in Fort Worth.

In April, the Texas House overwhelmingly rejected a measure to shield the football team and some other businesses from potentially costly class-action lawsuits.

## Jr. high girls roll over Atkins

Highlighted by a shutout, Snyder swept four games from Lubbock Atkins in girls' junior high basketball action Monday.

Snyder blanked Atkins, 49-0, in a seventh grade tilt, while the eighth grade Gold squad posted a 45-18 victory and Snyder Black chalked up a 25-6 win.

In the seventh grade match-up, Jordan Stansell poured in 14 points and Kaitlyn Greenlee added 11 to pace the Lady Tigers.

Brianna Bernal tallied eight points. Katie Crenwelge drained six. Terann Ragland and Courtney Tyrrell finished with four apiece, and Kendra Burns chipped in two.

On the eighth grade level, Snyder Gold got 17 points from Sequoya Powell to lead the way.

Sarah Henson rattled home seven points. Shaela Thompson scored six, and Emily Jones had five. Teddi Crenwelge registered four points, and Jessica Taylor, Erica Little and Sirena Medrano posted two each.

Morgan Bilderback's seven points fueled Snyder Black.

Kenetra James accounted for six points, and Ashley Pruitt added four. Gena Dooley, Ciara Latta, Lindsey Morin and Ashley Pavlovsky finished with two apiece.

## Sports Whirl

*By SDN Sports Editor Eric Drennan*

Catching up while wondering how a berth in the discount furniture bowl will sit with the faithful in Aggieland.

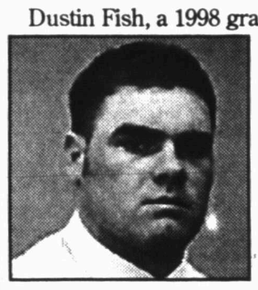


Tyson Thompson

Western Texas College cowboy Tyson Thompson earned a free trip to the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo by securing the PRCA Rookie of the Year honors in the bareback event.

Like many WTC team members, Thompson also rodeos professionally. He finished the PRCA season as the highest ranked bareback rider among first-year competitors.

Thompson is rewarded with air travel and accommodations for two at the national finals Dec. 11-12 in Las Vegas, Nev.



Dustin Fish

Dustin Fish, a 1998 graduate of Snyder High School, put together another solid year on the gridiron for Eastern New Mexico University.

The senior offensive tackle earned Second-Team All-Lone Star Conference honors for the Greyhounds, which finished the season with a record of 6-4.

According to the Greyhounds' sports information office, "Fish was one of five senior linemen for ENMU in 2001. At 6-6, 310 pounds he handled many of Eastern's major blocking assignments.

"He helped the Greyhounds score 318 points in 10 games to break the old ENMU single-season record of 317 points. He also contributed to 3,655 yards of offense as the Hounds averaged 4.6 yards per carry and 8.7 yards per pass."

Dustin is the son of David and Dawn Fish.

Post head coach and Snyder native Richard Gorman has the Bold Gold rolling through the football playoffs.

The Antelopes (10-3) square off with the Van Alstyne Panthers (11-2) in a Class 2A Division I semifinal tilt at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Cowboy Stadium in Coppell.

If Gorman's gridders can notch their 11th victory, they'll play for the state championship next week against either Hemphill (12-1) or Blanco (13-0).

And here's one from our senior pressman Willie Davis.

According to Willie, the Dallas Cowboys had an anthrax scare last week at practice.

While hustling downfield, a Cowboys' player looked down to see a white substance he had never seen before.

The FBI was quickly called in and a government official verified the finding as a false alarm. "Yep," the G-man reported. "That's the goal line."

## Jordan out of action for tonight's tilt with Spurs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michael Jordan's body is telling him to rest. He's listening — for at least one game.

After getting fluid drained from his right knee for the second time this season, Jordan will miss the Washington Wizards' game at San Antonio tonight.

An MRI on Monday revealed no serious damage to the knee, leaving Jordan hopeful he might return for the second game of the road trip, Thursday at Houston.

"My body is sending me messages, and I need to listen," Jordan said. "I hope to be ready to play on Thursday."

Jordan last missed an NBA game because of injury on March 5, 1993, also against San Antonio. It was the second of two games he missed while hospitalized with a foot infection.

Jordan hyperextended his knee during a preseason game, and it has been sore and swollen for much of the season. In addition, he's had tendinitis in both knees since he resumed workouts earlier this year.

At 38, Jordan has barely been able to practice for more than a week. When he does, he can't make it through the entire session.

Jordan is averaging 24.8 points and 38 minutes and is shooting just 40 percent, well below his career average. He also leads the league in shots taken and shots missed.

"We're pleased with the results of Michael's examination," Wizards general manager Wes Unseld said. "Michael will rest the knee for a few days and continue his treatment so that he can return as soon as possible."

Unseld said that "Michael wants to play every minute of every game," but that coach Doug Collins "will manage Michael's minutes in an effort to minimize the soreness in the knee."

The wear and tear of an NBA schedule has always been the biggest threat to Jordan's second comeback. He was slowed by back spasms and two cracked ribs, as well as the knee tendinitis, in workouts to get in shape over the summer.

Going into the season, he had hoped to play about 32 minutes per game, but the lack of support from his teammates has forced Collins to use him more. The Wizards are 5-11.

## Sports Briefs

### Packers rally past Jags

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Brett Favre threw three touchdown passes, and ran 6 yards for the game-winner with 1:30 left Monday night to rally the Green Bay Packers from 14 points down for a 28-21 victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Favre rolled around left end on a bootleg, then just squeezed into the corner of the end zone for the go-ahead score.

Mark Brunell led the Jaguars (3-8) to midfield on their late desperation drive, but he was sacked on second-and-short, and two plays later lost a fumble to end yet another close loss.

Favre threw for 362 yards to help the Packers (8-3) stay one game behind Chicago for the NFC Central lead with the teams set to meet next Sunday.

### Teen earns PGA Tour card

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Seventeen-year-old Ty Tryon became the youngest player to earn his PGA Tour card when he posted a bogey-free 66 and finished tied for 23rd at qualifying school.

Tryon, a junior in high school, finished at 18-under 414 at Bear Lakes Country Club.

Pat Perez rallied over the final holes and closed with an even-par 72 to win the tournament at 27-under 405 by one stroke over Bob Burns, Pete Jordan and Kenneth Staton.

### Houston stadium keeps Enron name

HOUSTON (AP) — Astros officials have said that as long as Enron Corp. continues to exist and maintains regular payments on its $100 million, 30-year commitment, the downtown Houston stadium will stay Enron Field.

## National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Jersey | 10 | 6 | .625 | — |
| Boston | 9 | 6 | .600 | ½ |
| New York | 9 | 9 | .500 | 2 |
| Orlando | 9 | 9 | .500 | 2 |
| Philadelphia | 8 | 8 | .500 | 2 |
| Washington | 5 | 11 | .312 | 5 |
| Miami | 2 | 13 | .133 | 7½ |

**Central Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Detroit | 11 | 5 | .688 | — |
| Milwaukee | 9 | 5 | .643 | 1 |
| Toronto | 11 | 7 | .611 | 1 |
| Indiana | 10 | 10 | .500 | 3 |
| Charlotte | 7 | 9 | .438 | 4 |
| Cleveland | 6 | 11 | .353 | 5½ |
| Atlanta | 6 | 12 | .333 | 6 |
| Chicago | 2 | 13 | .133 | 8½ |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Midwest Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| San Antonio | 11 | 4 | .733 | — |
| Dallas | 12 | 6 | .667 | ½ |
| Minnesota | 10 | 5 | .667 | 1 |
| Denver | 7 | 9 | .438 | 4½ |
| Houston | 7 | 11 | .389 | 5½ |
| Utah | 6 | 11 | .353 | 6 |
| Memphis | 4 | 13 | .235 | 8 |

**Pacific Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L.A. Lakers | 15 | 1 | .938 | — |
| Sacramento | 13 | 5 | .722 | 3 |
| Phoenix | 12 | 7 | .632 | 4½ |
| Portland | 9 | 8 | .529 | 6½ |
| Seattle | 9 | 10 | .474 | 7½ |
| L.A. Clippers | 8 | 9 | .471 | 7½ |
| Golden State | 7 | 11 | .389 | 9 |

**Monday's Games**

Orlando 113, Memphis 71
New York 89, Houston 86
Phoenix 110, Golden State 93

**Tuesday's Games**

Denver at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
New York at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Sacramento, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Houston at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Washington at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Utah, 9 p.m.
Miami at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

**Wednesday's Games**

Denver at Boston, 7 p.m.
San Antonio at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at New Jersey, 8 p.m.
Dallas at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

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## Instructions

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

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Delivery Available
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Newborn through Teens.
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**4018 Eastridge:** 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fenced yard, corner lot, garage. New carpet & paint. $400/mo., $200/dep.
Dupree Rentals *1212 25th
*573-9001 *8a.m.–6p.m.

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## Houses For Rent

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*3702 Sunset, 3-1-1 w/den.
*2220 45th, 3-2-1. Both with CH/RA & $475/mo. **573-6193**

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**BY OWNER**
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**FOR SALE BY OWNER**
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**CRP Acreage** w/3-1¾-2 + Office + Great Shop
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**Monday through Saturday**

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# Pentagon: Test of missile defense system successful

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. military says it completed its third successful missile defense test, knocking a dummy warhead out of space more than 100 miles over the South Pacific.

Monday night's successful test means the Pentagon can move on to more complex and realistic trials of the missile defense system, which the military says is necessary "to deter the growing threat of ballistic missiles carrying weapons of mass destruction."

Critics say the tests are too costly and unrealistic, arguing that long-range missiles are a minor threat. Missile defense backers, including President Bush, say hostile nations could develop and aim long-range missiles at the United States.

An interceptor missile launched from Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands collided with the dummy warhead at about 10:30 p.m. EST, the military said. The test was nearly identical to a successful one in July.

Bad weather had blocked the test launch on Saturday and Sunday and delayed Monday's missile launch from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., for nearly an hour.

A modified Minuteman II missile took off from Vandenberg at 9:59 p.m. EST, the Pentagon said. Instead of explosives, its warhead carried sensors to track its progress during the test.

The dummy warhead also carried a large balloon to be jettisoned in an attempt to fool the interceptor — a tactic that the interceptor in this test successfully ignored.

After 22 minutes, the interceptor missile was launched from Kwajalein Atoll in the South Pacific. That missile carried a "kill vehicle" that homed in on the dummy warhead to collide at 15,000 mph and destroy it in space.

Critics say the fact that the interceptor, before its launch, got precise location data from the dummy warhead makes the test unrealistic.

The head of the Pentagon's Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, Lt. Gen. Ronald Kadish, said last week the test was designed to test only certain parts of the interceptor system and was not meant to be realistic.

Monday's test is the fifth in the missile defense program. The interceptor knocked down a dummy warhead in two of the four previous tests. Each test costs about $100 million.

Russia has objected to the U.S. missile defense program, saying it will eventually violate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty. That pact bans missile defense systems so that a nation could not develop a shield behind which it could safely launch a missile attack.

Bush and Russian President Valdimir Putin failed to agree on a plan to change or scrap the treaty during their November summit.

# Police search O.J.'s home

MIAMI (AP) — Federal agents searched O.J. Simpson's home early today as part of an investigation into an Ecstasy drug ring and the theft of equipment used to steal satellite television signals.

Eight other people were arrested in Miami and two in Chicago as part of a two-year investigation called Operation X, FBI spokeswoman Judy Orihuela said.

Simpson had not been arrested or indicted and Orihuela wouldn't discuss his connection to the investigation. Nine other homes in Miami were also being searched by the FBI along with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the Miami-Dade Police Department.

Agents arrived at about 6 a.m. and the former football great was at home. In a shot from a television helicopter, Simpson could be seen walking in the backyard in a bathrobe. About two hours after agents arrived, Simpson left the home alone in his sports utility vehicle without talking to reporters.

Simpson attorney Yale Galanter arrived at the house and spoke to agents for about 15 minutes. He also left the home without speaking to reporters.

Orihuela said the ring imported Ecstasy from Holland and stole equipment used to counterfeit cards that activate satellite television receivers.

The incident was not Simpson's first brush with the law since he moved to the neighborhood 15 miles southwest of Miami last year.

# 11 die in bus fire

MOSCOW (AP) — A bus carrying merchants burst into flames near a Moscow market early Tuesday, killing 11 people and injuring two.

The fire was most likely caused by the explosion of a gas cylinder, said Yevgeny Bobylyov, a spokesman for the Moscow Fire Service. The passengers were likely using the gas canister to cook food, NTV television reported.

The driver and one other person managed to escape through the front door of the burning bus, while the others apparently ran to the back door, which did not open, Alexander Nazarov, fire chief of Moscow's eastern district, told NTV.



## CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS 2001 TOY APPLICATION

Parents Name
Street Address
Phone#
Total Monthly Family Income $

Child Name
Age Sex
1
2
3

Child Name
Age Sex
1
2
3

Child Name
Age Sex
1
2
3

Child Name
Age Sex
1
2
3

Child Name
Age Sex
1
2
3

Child Name
Age Sex
1
2
3

**PARENTS:** List toys that each child wants. Please, do not list clothes or shoe sizes. When picking up toys, parents need to bring a picture ID, proof of address, income, and child's Social Security Card. Applications accepted only through Wednesday, December 12th. Send applications to Christmas for Kids c/o Judi Martin P.O. Box 1255, Snyder, Texas 79550-1255. For more information, call Judi at 573-7556.

# Markets

**Midday Stocks**

NEW YORK (AP) -

| | High | Low | Last | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AMR Corp | | 21.61 | 21.15 | 21.20 + .26 |
| AOL TimeWm | | 34.25 | 33.60 | 33.79 + .21 |
| AT&T Corp s | | 17.50 | 17.11 | 17.42—.02 |
| Albertsons | | 33.94 | 33.62 | 33.88 + .34 |
| Alltel | | 64.71 | 64.36 | 64.60—.38 |
| AmEl Pw | | 41.40 | 41.05 | 41.22—.28 |
| AndarkPtr | | 53.00 | 52.17 | 52.60—.20 |
| ATMOS Egy | | 19.55 | 19.46 | 19.55 + .09 |
| Aviall | | 5.20 | 5.15 | 5.16—.02 |
| BP PLC | | 44.49 | 43.80 | 44.05—.34 |
| BakerHughes | | 34.80 | 33.45 | 34.18 + .13 |
| Bank of Amer | | 62.15 | 60.60 | 60.88—.55 |
| BellSouth | | 38.63 | 38.28 | 38.41—.38 |
| vjBeth Steel | | .47 | .36 | .41 + .05 |
| BurlNoSFe | | 28.70 | 28.14 | 28.19—.36 |
| Caterpillar | | 47.70 | 47.22 | 47.59 + .18 |
| ChevronTex | | 86.69 | 85.58 | 86.00—.45 |
| Citigroup | | 47.50 | 46.96 | 47.10 + .19 |
| CocaCola | | 47.05 | 46.36 | 46.46—.07 |
| ColgatePal | | 58.12 | 57.83 | 57.99—.11 |
| ComclMetals | | 33.30 | 32.95 | 32.95—.05 |
| CooperIn | | 41.10 | 40.75 | 41.04 + .29 |
| DaimlrChry | | 41.45 | 40.72 | 41.28 + .28 |
| DeltaAirl | | 28.59 | 28.13 | 28.16 + .09 |
| Dillards Inc | | 16.10 | 15.65 | 15.65—.55 |
| DowChem | | 37.22 | 36.80 | 37.05 + .08 |
| DuPont | | 43.70 | 42.93 | 43.42 |
| EastmanChem | | 37.61 | 37.29 | 37.30—.20 |
| EstKodak | | 30.82 | 30.21 | 30.26—.22 |
| EDS Corp | | 69.72 | 68.60 | 69.42 + .77 |
| Entergy | | 37.32 | 37.10 | 37.16—.14 |
| ExxonMobil s | | 38.07 | 37.71 | 37.75 + .09 |
| FootLocker | | 15.90 | 15.60 | 15.85 |
| GenDynam | | 82.30 | 81.91 | 82.00 + .03 |
| GenElec | | 38.21 | 37.46 | 37.66 + .74 |
| GenMills | | 50.37 | 49.99 | 50.06—.31 |
| GenMotors | | 49.48 | 49.15 | 49.42 + .39 |
| GaPacGP | | 32.26 | 31.95 | 32.17 + .12 |
| Goodrich | | 24.45 | 24.24 | 24.26 + .17 |
| Goodyear s | | 22.38 | 21.91 | 22.06—.03 |
| GtAtlPac | | 24.40 | 23.90 | 23.98—.41 |
| Halliburtn | | 21.73 | 20.90 | 21.11—.95 |
| Hanson ADS | | 33.53 | 33.16 | 33.53 + .57 |
| HarteHanks | | 25.52 | 25.40 | 25.50 + .10 |
| HomeDepot | | 47.45 | 46.92 | 47.04 + .65 |
| Honeywellntl | | 33.34 | 32.53 | 32.62—.38 |
| IBM | | 114.51 | 113.61 | 113.63—.50 |
| IntlPaper | | 39.74 | 39.35 | 39.56—.02 |
| JohnsonJn s | | 57.65 | 57.18 | 57.25—1.06 |
| K mart | | 5.99 | 5.84 | 5.92 + .11 |
| KinderMorg | | 49.50 | 49.00 | 49.50 + .35 |
| Kroger Co | | 25.50 | 25.26 | 25.28—.09 |
| LockheedM | | 47.19 | 46.60 | 46.82—.17 |
| Lowes Cos s | | 45.41 | 44.90 | 45.08—.47 |
| Lubys | | 7.08 | 7.06 | 7.06—.04 |
| LucentTech | | 7.57 | 7.40 | 7.50 + .14 |
| MayDeptStr | | 34.78 | 34.30 | 34.57 + .04 |
| Medtronic | | 47.55 | 46.87 | 47.04—.46 |
| Motorola | | 17.15 | 16.70 | 16.85—.05 |
| NCR Corp | | 38.00 | 37.64 | 37.97 + .36 |
| Navistar | | 38.00 | 37.05 | 37.27 + .46 |
| Penney JC | | 25.00 | 24.36 | 24.37—.33 |
| PepBoys | | 16.70 | 16.40 | 16.54 + .24 |
| PepsiCo | | 49.04 | 48.50 | 48.54—.24 |
| Pharmacia | | 44.21 | 43.86 | 43.96—.20 |
| PhelpDodge | | 34.93 | 34.55 | 34.58 + .08 |
| PhilipPet | | 56.55 | 55.54 | 55.97—.20 |
| PilgrmPrd B | | 14.15 | 13.65 | 14.07 + .38 |
| Praxair | | 52.39 | 52.00 | 52.23 + .12 |
| ProctGamb | | 76.95 | 76.08 | 76.55 + .25 |
| PubS NwMx | | 26.56 | 26.35 | 26.56 + .21 |
| RadioShack | | 28.39 | 26.11 | 26.17—2.23 |
| ReliantEngy | | 25.18 | 24.85 | 24.90—.32 |
| RoyalDut | | 49.30 | 48.71 | 49.09 + .19 |
| SBC Comm | | 38.43 | 37.57 | 37.78—.29 |
| SaraLee | | 22.42 | 22.13 | 22.26 + .01 |
| Scripps EW | | 64.10 | 64.00 | 64.08 + .40 |
| SearsRoeb | | 44.40 | 44.00 | 44.02—.33 |
| SherwinW | | 28.00 | 27.81 | 27.97—.03 |
| SouthernCo s | | 22.82 | 22.71 | 22.80—.01 |
| SwstAirl s | | 18.88 | 18.51 | 18.76 + .26 |
| SprintFON | | 21.72 | 21.34 | 21.42—.28 |
| SprintPCS | | 26.10 | 25.65 | 25.74 + .30 |
| Sunoco Inc | | 37.10 | 36.55 | 36.76 + .19 |
| TXU Corp | | 45.00 | 44.65 | 44.90—.02 |
| TempleInland | | 56.81 | 56.11 | 56.54 + .14 |
| Textind | | 34.00 | 33.85 | 33.98 + .10 |
| TexasInst | | 31.49 | 30.81 | 30.95—.03 |
| Textron | | 39.32 | 39.10 | 39.12—.08 |
| TriconGlbR | | 49.00 | 47.91 | 49.00 + 1.02 |
| TrinityInds | | 27.02 | 26.87 | 26.93 + .09 |
| TylerTech | | 3.40 | 3.35 | 3.35—.04 |
| USX-Marathn | | 27.81 | 27.36 | 27.69 + .02 |
| USX-USS | | 16.74 | 16.36 | 16.51 + .35 |
| UnionPacif | | 54.15 | 53.44 | 53.47—.73 |
| UnitedTech | | 60.24 | 59.45 | 59.56 + .65 |
| Unocal | | 33.81 | 33.46 | 33.60—.41 |
| VerizonComm | | 47.70 | 47.15 | 47.20—.27 |
| WalMart | | 54.69 | 54.20 | 54.32—.26 |
| WellsFargo | | 42.94 | 42.55 | 42.55 + .10 |
| WstnGasRs | | 30.88 | 30.35 | 30.36—.28 |
| WinnDixie | | 14.10 | 13.75 | 13.75—.21 |
| Xerox Cp | | 8.42 | 8.26 | 8.38—.03 |

DEC 04 2001

# Bloomberg spent record amount in mayoral race

NEW YORK (AP) — Media mogul Michael Bloomberg spent $92.60 per vote to become New York's next mayor, eclipsing the U.S. record for self-financed campaigns and following a trend in recent high-stakes campaigns.

Documents filed Monday with the Board of Elections showed Bloomberg spent $68,968,185 in the race to succeed Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

"It's an astronomical number," said Rachel Leon, executive director of the public interest group Common Cause, which tracks campaign spending. "It breaks all previous records that we know of."

To put the Bloomberg expenditures into perspective, Texas billionaire Ross Perot spent $62 million on his failed bid for president in 1992 — about the same figure spent by Wall Street multimillionaire Jon Corzine, who won a Senate seat in New Jersey last year.

In the five weeks leading up to Election Day, Bloomberg spent $28 million — double the $14 million spent by his Democratic rival, Public Advocate Mark Green, during the entire campaign.

The old spending record for a campaign in New York state was set last year, when Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton and Republican Rick Lazio spent a combined $69.3 million in their U.S. Senate race. Bloomberg and Green together spent an estimated $83 million.

Bloomberg, the owner of a financial information company that bears his name, paid for the campaign entirely with his own money. He declined to take part in the city's campaign finance system, which would have provided him public funds with strict spending limits.

Bloomberg had no immediate comment Monday, but in the past he has made no apologies for his spending.

"If somebody wants to go out and take their own money to try to make the world a better place, I can only tell you my hat is off to them," he said during the campaign.

Giuliani, whose endorsement of Bloomberg is credited with helping the billionaire win the election, was barred by the city's term limit law from running for a third consecutive term. Bloomberg takes office Jan. 1.

In the final five weeks of the campaign, Bloomberg paid media consultants Squier, Knapp and Dunn more than $9.1 million on television and radio ads, paid pollsters Penn, Schoen and Berland about $8 million and spent $9.6 million on mailings.

Details of Green's campaign filings were to be made available today.

# Three men claiming to be Americans emerge from defeated Taliban units

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. and allied Afghan forces are holding three former Taliban fighters who claim to be American citizens, defense officials said.

One of them, an injured man who identified himself as John Walker, is receiving medical treatment from U.S. forces after emerging from a battle-scarred fortress in Mazar-e-Sharif. Walker, 20, who converted to Islam when he was 16, suffered grenade and bullet wounds, CNN reported.

His parents identified him from video and photographs as John Philip Walker Lindh of Fairfax, Calif.

Walker's father, Frank Lindh, said Monday he had hired a lawyer and wanted to visit his son, who had studied Arabic and Islam in Yemen and Pakistan.

"We're also very grateful the special forces picked him up. We know John is safe and we're very grateful for that," Lindh said on CNN's "Larry King Live" program. "We've had no communication of any kind from the government yet."

Two other people who claim to be Americans are under the control of the northern alliance, a defense official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. The official knew few details about these two, whose identities have not been established and whose physical condition could not be determined.

Asked about Walker, Rear Adm. John Stufflebeem, the deputy director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said he could not say whether Walker is considered a prisoner of war or whether he would be returned to the United States.

Stufflebeem said Walker's status has "not yet been defined."

"The only thing that I can say about this individual is that this is somebody who claims to be an American citizen," he said. "That claim is being respected for the moment, until facts can be established."

Lindh said he was concerned about some statements his son reportedly made supporting the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the Taliban's resistance to the U.S. anti-terrorism campaign.

"I don't know of any information that he's done anything wrong," Lindh said. "I hope he could be debriefed and come home."

The U.S. government could find it difficult to successfully bring criminal charges against Americans fighting for the Taliban.

A case against Walker "would be a tricky thing to prosecute because the Constitution requires two eyewitnesses to the act of treason," University of North Carolina law professor Eric Muller said. "I would think somebody in the Justice Department will have to take a very careful look at this." Also, President Bush's military tribunals are limited to foreign nationals, not U.S. citizens.

Another possible avenue would be to charge American Taliban fighters with seditious conspiracy, which has a lower standard of proof. That's one of the charges that radical Islamic cleric Omar Abdel-Rahman, who plotted to blow up New York City landmarks, was convicted on in 1995. One of Abdel-Rahman's sons also was captured while fighting for the Taliban in Afghanistan.

On the 58th day of the U.S. military campaign in Afghanistan, which Bush undertook in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, U.S. officials said American special operations forces were now in northeastern Afghanistan near the Tora Bora mountain base where Osama bin Laden may be hiding.

The officials said the U.S. special forces were working with local Afghans to collect information they hope will lead them to bin Laden and his top lieutenants. U.S. special forces have been operating in most parts of Afghanistan for several weeks, but U.S. officials had not previously disclosed their presence near Tora Bora, a mountain base that veteran Afghan fighters describe as an impregnable fortress.

Stufflebeem said the U.S. special forces were not conducting a cave-to-cave search for bin Laden. The main focus of the U.S. effort in that area, he said, was bombing targets believed to be linked to bin Laden. He denied reports that U.S. bombs had mistakenly struck villages in the Tora Bora area.

"This is an area that is pretty well-known" to U.S. military planners as "an area where Taliban and al-Qaida forces have been and in numbers," he said. "We have heard anecdotal reports that this is an area where Osama bin Laden has been using some of his wealth to buy local village chieftain support."

Stufflebeem said U.S. pilots are reporting seeing portable surface-to-air weapons fired at them around Kandahar.

# Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



## *Batterer's pent-up anxiety erupts in escalating violence*

**DEAR ABBY:** First, thank you for providing years of excellent advice and comfort to the American people. I must, however, take exception to your response to "Never Been Hit Before," whose wife slugged him in the jaw while he was driving on the freeway. I am a psychotherapist. There are some important things to know about domestic violence:

The abused husband should know that the situation will escalate. The type of anger she displayed is never about the issue. This is about the release of pent-up anxiety in the abuser. The abuse will escalate because it takes more and more anger and violence to get the abuser to the physical release she needs. Think of cocaine and how the "high" keeps demanding larger and larger doses of the drug, and you get the picture. That is why we call such people "rageaholics."

The most probable reason the wife stopped going to anger management classes is that, like most abusers, she doesn't WANT to change. She has what she wants — a victim upon whom to focus her rage in order to get release. That is why so many abusers cry and feel loving toward their victims afterward. They are not remorseful, but momentarily grateful for the short-lived end of their own terrible anxiety, most often caused by feeling insecure and out-of-control about their own lives. They will use their victims again and again when the anxiety returns.

Abuse of this sort is an addiction. The children are being emotionally harmed every time they see and hear their father abused. He should gather them up and leave, or make sure that his wife does — without the children. Neither he nor his children are safe. What is to prevent her from driving her family into oncoming traffic next time, picking up a weapon, or in his absence abusing the children when she needs to feel in control again?

The loss of her husband, children and home might convince her to give up her addiction. Even then, however, there are no guarantees.

All we as professionals can do is attend to the safety of the rest of the family. The husband is obviously capable of making changes and must be urged to do so — not given the job of being his wife's therapist by explaining her challenges to her. It could trigger the next outburst of violence.

Please rethink your advice to this man, Abby. He's in a dangerous spot and must get out. — **CYNTHIA MORROW, PSY.D.**

**DEAR DR. MORROW:** Thank you for your letter, a short course, really, on why batterers do what they do. I received a stack of mail critical of the advice I gave to "Never Been Hit Before" — and it was deserved. Mea culpa. "Never" needs to seek professional help, both legal and psychological, before his wife's outbursts further traumatize him and their children, and I hope he wastes no time in getting it.

**

**DEAR ABBY:** My daughter is 10 and in the fifth grade. She's begging me to let her shave her legs. I know a few girls on her basketball team shave, but I think it's ridiculous for a girl her age.

I believe 10-year-old girls are supposed to have hair on their legs. My girlfriend disagrees. She says if my daughter is uncomfortable with her appearance, I should let her shave. Should I relent? — **MOTHER UNDER PRESSURE**

**DEAR MOTHER:** I see no reason to refuse your daughter permission. Girls her age want to blend in, and if shaving her legs will help her to do that, then I vote with your girlfriend.

**

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

**

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

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# Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



## Your Birthday

**Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2001**

The year ahead is an excellent period to further your knowledge either concerning your work or your future. What you gather and assimilate will greatly improve your chances for big success.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** — Don't be unduly offended today if associates aren't receptive to your ideas and thoughts. That fiery temper of yours could cause you to say things you shouldn't. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — This is not the time to make large financial commitments of any kind. What you do in haste today could produce long-term ramifications. Sleep on things first.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** — Any promise you make today under duress will be deeply resented by you. You either won't honor the commitment or do a lousy job if you do. Both can hurt your reputation.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** — There's a good chance you could make things harder on yourself than need be if you behave rashly today. You need time to operate effectively and leave yourself some wiggle room.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — Again today you could find yourself caught in the middle between two quarreling friends. If their situation continues to flare up, you might be wise to avoid them for a while.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — It's not like you to be hasty or impulsive in handling either career or personal matters, yet today that's exactly what you may do. Unfortunately, the results could be damaging.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — Do not accelerate your sales pitch today if you find what you have to offer is being rejected. Continue a soft sell, which may work in time, because a hard sell definitely won't.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — It's best not to ask for financial favors from friends today. If you get a negative response, you won't like them anymore, and if you can't pay them back promptly, they won't like you.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — It will be to your disadvantage today to have an active imagination if you use it to conjure up negative thoughts when trying to make an important decision.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Persons who usually pick up your overload may be nowhere to be found today, so you had better be prepared to fend for yourself, especially if an important job must be done.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** — Due to complicated developments with a friend today, it might be difficult for you to deal diplomatically with your pal as you normally would. It might be wise to walk away instead.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** — It won't be enough to be tenacious today in order to achieve an objective; you're going to have to employ a great deal of tact also. Disgruntled co-workers could be disruptive.

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National

Co

HERNDON, ditional ways increase orga failed, several advisory comm ing for bolder a

Among the organs of those cards in life eve object, offering tives for donat ing that a fa donation unless wise.

The committ the first time M is charged with retary of health ices on transpla

Today, the co sider how be organs that are on Monday, the tion.

"If we're serio the problem i we're going to something diffe been doing," s Berry Jr., a liver ient and preside west Transplant las.

Most of the years to boost do revolved around tion, and that Berry said. "I've 15 years and I ha thing but it gets

Several states programs to tak people who have ing life without p the family, but fa almost always fo said Gail Agrawa

Dr. G

By Peter Go

Steroid

DEAR DR. G band, 38, has rheu for which he takes have been trying second child, unsu year and a half. Co tion affect his abil wish?

DEAR READE can interfere with of sperm, causi infertility. This i unusual side effec (and other steroi been reported to o

Here is what I su before the expens ience of referring y a urologist for a fer

Under his docto your husband can t of prednisone. Th methods he can us is necessary bec comes to depend o sudden cessation ous.) After a mont drug, his sperm return to normal. T nant for six month cessful, bravo! If band should have a and sperm count.

The obvious qu How does he con arthritis? Again, th doctor fits in. Pr steroidal anti-inflan (NSAiDs) — such brex and Arthrote stantially reduce h could try plain old er ibuprofen, leavin tion drugs as a bac

This strategy re sideration of two p the infertility: I ho tinuing prednisone enormous differen

# Committee considering payment for organs

HERNDON, Va. (AP) — Traditional ways of trying to increase organ donation have failed, several members of a new advisory committee said, pressing for bolder action.

Among the ideas: Harvesting organs of those who sign donor cards in life even if their families object, offering financial incentives for donation, and presuming that a family consents to donation unless they state otherwise.

The committee, meeting for the first time Monday and today, is charged with advising the secretary of health and human services on transplant issues.

Today, the committee will consider how best to distribute organs that are donated now, but on Monday, the focus was donation.

"If we're serious about solving the problem in this country we're going to have to think of something different than we've been doing," said Dr. Phil H. Berry Jr., a liver transplant recipient and president of the Southwest Transplant Alliance in Dallas.

Most of the effort in recent years to boost donation rates has revolved around public education, and that hasn't worked, Berry said. "I've been talking for 15 years and I have not seen anything but it gets worse."

Several states allow transplant programs to take organs from people who have consented during life without permission from the family, but family wishes are almost always followed anyway, said Gail Agrawal, a law professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"The reality is nobody wants to add to the grief of the family," she said.

Still, several committee members said, most people don't realize that even if they have signed a donor card, their organs will probably not be donated if their family objects.

Donation should simply be expected, said Roger W. Evans, a private investigator in Rochester, Minn.

"When a family refuses to donate, that's functionally equivalent to a homicide," he said. "Why not make it clear that without that gift of life, there's going to be consequences?"

Others on the committee suggested that the homicide comparison was too strong but agreed that expectations should change.

More than 80,000 people are on organ transplant waiting lists, and more than 5,700 died waiting last year. The families of many potential donors are never approached about donation, and less than half of those who are asked say yes.

One of the more controversial ideas for boosting donation involves financially compensating donor families. Some fear that families in financial need will be coerced into donation; others fear the idea will repel people motivated by altruism.

Federal law bars paying for organs, but over the weekend, an American Medical Association committee recommended that the issue be studied.

Earlier this year, the American Society of Transplant Surgeons convened a panel of ethicists that concluded compensation is ethical if it's small enough to be seen as a thank you, and "not so large it becomes a bribe," said Dr. Francis L. Delmonico, chief of transplant services at Massachusetts General Hospital.

The committee was created to inject expert opinion into what has been an emotional debate over how to allocate scarce organs. In recent years, there's been a fierce fight over the geographic lines that govern the distribution system.

Since taking office, HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson has pushed the discussion away from distribution issues toward ways to increase donation. He doubled the committee's membership to 40 and charged it with considering donation as well as allocation.

"If I can get these individuals, these leaders to lower their rhetoric and their animosities about who gets what and where, I will have accomplished a great deal," Thompson said.

# Teen didn't think killing would happen

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. (AP) — On a police audiotape, Eric McKeehan described how he wanted a massacre "bigger than Columbine." He allegedly wanted "preps" and Puerto Ricans to die. He said other students looked down on him, and imagined New Bedford High School if he were "on top."

But in the end, he told police he didn't think the killing would ever actually happen.

On Monday, McKeehan, 17, listened to the sometimes-inaudible tape, on which he described to police the plan that he and four other teen-agers allegedly hatched to unleash a bloody massacre upon classmates and teachers.

The tape, recorded after McKeehan was arrested Nov. 24, was played at a bail hearing.

McKeehan told police he wanted "to see how New Bedford would be if they were on top," according to a transcript of the tape, adding, "Just imagine another Columbine, but at New Bedford High, you know what I mean?"

McKeehan, held without bail since his arrest, has pleaded innocent to conspiracy to commit murder, conspiracy to commit assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and possession of ammunition.

He is one of five teen-agers charged in the case, and one of two charged as adults. Police say the youths plotted to smuggle guns into the school, detonate explosives and kill as many students and faculty as possible.

The alleged plot was foiled in part after one of the teens warned a teacher.

McKeehan's brother Michael, 15; Steven Jones, 16; and another 16-year-old have been charged in juvenile court with planning the attack and are in police custody. Amylee Bowman, 17, who warned a favorite teacher about the plot, also is charged as an adult. She has been released, but must report to a probation officer once a day.

Police had been investigating the plot since Oct. 17, when rumors of it began circulating around the school. An officer found bomb parts in a search of McKeehan's home on Oct. 24, but didn't pursue the case because she didn't think the homemade device would explode.

The students were arrested after a school janitor found a letter outlining the plot.

Michael McKeehan and Jones will have their hearings on Thursday. The unidentified 16-year-old will undergo a psychological evaluation before his next court appearance Dec. 28.

# PUC delays vote on benchmark rates

AUSTIN (AP) — Power companies are waiting eagerly to see how low the Public Utility Commission goes in setting electricity rates that longtime utilities will charge some customers after Jan. 1.

New power companies say the proposed rates are too low to let them cover their costs as they try to compete with established utilities such as TXU and Reliant.

The benchmark rates are a critical part of the state's deregulation plan.

The rates are supposed to be low enough to give customers who do not switch electric providers a break on their bills, but high enough to provide room so competing companies can offer better rates, said PUC spokesman Terry Hadley.

In an indication of the PUC's dilemma in striking a balance, the agency on Monday delayed approving the so-called price-to-beat rates. The PUC said it would gather more information from the power companies who want to lure customers away from the giants.

The PUC had been expected to approve the price-to-beat rates for TXU, Reliant and other "incumbent" utilities for when deregulation begins Jan. 1.

One proposal calls for a 17 percent rate cut for Reliant customers in Houston, which drew complaints from upstart competitors to the big power company.

"We think that makes it very difficult for us to compete," said Gael Doar, a spokeswoman for the New Power Co.

PUC estimates show rate cuts for TXU's Dallas-area customers by about 14.5 percent.

Instead of approving the benchmark rates Monday, the PUC asked the competing companies to file affidavits stating whether they will participate in electric deregulation when it starts for most of the state and in what markets they will compete.

The affidavits are due Wednesday, the same day that a legislative oversight committee is scheduled to hold a hearing on deregulation. The lawmakers are expected to discuss the price-to-beat issue.

A PUC decision on rates could come Friday.

Gillan Taddune, Texas regional manager of another new company, Green Mountain Energy Co., said the PUC has the responsibility to ensure there is a competitive market. Green Mountain is part of a group of providers that said Reliant's proposed rates were too low.

"If there is no competitive market, the result is unregulated monopolies and then what do you do with unregulated monopolies?" Taddune said.

Janee Briesemeister, a policy analyst for Consumers Union in Austin, said it's not the PUC's job to ensure that competing providers make enough money.

"Nowhere does the law tell the PUC that they should set prices for consumers high enough to make New Power and Green Mountain and other companies happy," Briesemeister said.

## Dr. Gott

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



## *Steroids may affect fertility*

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** My husband, 38, has rheumatoid arthritis for which he takes prednisone. We have been trying to conceive our second child, unsuccessfully, for a year and a half. Could the medication affect his ability to fulfill our wish?

**DEAR READER:** Prednisone can interfere with the production of sperm, causing temporary infertility. This is a decidedly unusual side effect of prednisone (and other steroids), but it has been reported to occur.

Here is what I suggest as a trial, before the expense and inconvenience of referring your husband to a urologist for a fertility evaluation.

Under his doctor's supervision, your husband can taper his dosage of prednisone. There are several methods he can use. (The tapering is necessary because the body comes to depend on the steroid, so sudden cessation can be dangerous.) After a month or so off the drug, his sperm count should return to normal. Try to get pregnant for six months. If you're successful, bravo! If not, your husband should have a semen analysis and sperm count.

The obvious question now is: How does he control his painful arthritis? Again, this is where his doctor fits in. Prescription nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAiDs) — such as Vioxx, Celebrex and Arthrotec — may substantially reduce his pain. Or he could try plain old over-the-counter ibuprofen, leaving the prescription drugs as a backup.

This strategy requires the consideration of two problems. First, the infertility: I hope that discontinuing prednisone will make an enormous difference. Second, the arthritis: as you know, prednisone — and other cortisone derivatives — are spectacularly successful in treating arthritis pain, especially pain caused by rheumatoid arthritis. However, this benefit comes at enormous cost. Chronic use of prednisone is associated with a stunning and distressing number of side effects, including alteration of facial characteristics, osteoporosis, susceptibility to infection, diabetes, cataracts and many others. Consequently, if your husband's pain can be controlled with NSAiDs, he could be spared the long term, serious consequences of steroid therapy, which INVARIABLY occur in every user.

Talk this over with your husband and his physician, and - by all means - let me know what path you choose.

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

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** I am a 44-year-old mother of three. Is there any harm in having sexual relations during menstruation?

**DEAR READER:** There is no medical contraindication to having sex at the time of menstruation. In fact, many couples prefer this pattern because pregnancy is impossible when a woman bleeds as part of a normal cycle. Some women experience an increase in sexual urges at the time of their period.

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# Female Air Force pilot sues over Muslim clothing rules

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Air Force's highest-ranking female fighter pilot sued on Monday to try to overturn a policy requiring servicewomen to wear restrictive Muslim clothing when off base in Saudi Arabia.

Female military personnel in Saudi Arabia must wear black head-to-foot robes called abayas and ride in the back seat when off base. They can only leave base if they are accompanied by a man.

Lt. Col. Martha McSally says the policy is unconstitutional. It discriminates against women and violates their religious freedom, forcing them to wear clothing and follow customs mandated by a religion other than their own, her lawsuit says.

McSally said the regulations undermine her authority as an officer and require her to send the false message that she believes women are subservient to men.

Servicewomen are the only federal employees based in Saudi Arabia to face such requirements, the lawsuit says.

Air Force Major Jay Steuck, a Defense Department spokesman, said he had not seen the lawsuit, in which Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld was named defendant. The department does not comment on pending litigation, he said.

At least five senators have asked Rumsfeld to change the policy.

The U.S. Central Command has defended it. Following local custom makes servicewomen less likely to face harassment or attack or become the subject of cultural controversy, it says.

McSally filed suit in federal court in Washington, D.C., after her complaints to her superiors failed to change the policy.

McSally, 35, was one of the first seven female Air Force fighter pilots. In the mid-1990s in Kuwait, she became the first woman in U.S. military history to fly a fighter jet in combat.

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Minister
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The Joy of a Clean Conscience
There is probably no greater burden to bear in life than the burden of a guilty conscience. Likewise, one of the greatest joys of life is the joy of a clean conscience. How do I get rid of guilt and find a clean conscience? That may well be the most pressing question of life. There are several ways to go about this.
One way of dealing with guilt is to simply deny responsibility. Some go so far as to reject the idea of right and wrong in principle. More probably take the simpler path of refusing to accept responsibility for their wrongs. This can lessen the sense of guilt and ease the conscience. There is a problem with this approach. We feel better, but we continue to do what is wrong, usually growing worse in our conduct. We simply feel better about the wrong things we are doing.
Another way of dealing with guilt is try to make up for our wrongs. Doing good is good and feels better. Our pride grows and we can look ourselves in the mirror. But when have we done enough to make up for our wrongs? There is no real answer and it is difficult for a sensitive soul to ever be fully at ease when they consider the wrongs in their life.
Jesus offers a third way. He offers complete forgiveness to those who would face their wrongs and turn away from them. It is a humbling thing to do, but for two thousand years people have found that it is a powerful thing to do. In repentance guilt can be erased, responsibility taken and transformation begun! Jesus died to offer forgiveness. It is his blood that can cleanse a guilty conscience, Hebrews 9:14. In baptism we wash away our sins, calling on His name, Acts 22:16. There is joy in a clean conscience, and there is power to live better!
Dale Huff

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

# Few turn out for parks meeting in Ira

By Brian Brisendine
SDN Staff Writer

Only four citizens were in attendance at the Ira Community Center Monday night for the first of three public meetings to gauge community feelings about Scurry County's parks and recreation facilities.

Several members of the parks committee appointed in October by the commissioners' court were on hand to answer questions, of which there were few.

Scurry County resident Whit Parks asked if the local rodeo grounds would fall under the parks department being considered.

"The rodeo grounds are falling apart and in my opinion, Scurry County is losing an asset if it lets that happen," Parks said. "Anybody in the county who rodeos has to drive almost two hours to get to a decent facility. I think if we had better rodeo facilities, it would draw a lot of people in to this community."

Committee member Mike Dennis told Parks that anything is possible at this time and that the rodeo grounds will be added to the list of facilities to be considered.

"We are only limited by our desires to improve what we have, or our lack of desires," he said. "The people on this committee really have no authority to do anything. We can only seek information and then provide that to the commissioners' court. But I know we are all willing to do whatever we can to better the situation in Scurry County."

Committee member Jerry Webb told the audience the county's parks are in need of renovation.

"It's no secret that the parks system in Scurry County has been deteriorating over the years," he said. "Unless we come together and do something positive, that will continue to happen. Every park or recreation facility in the county is already, or will be soon, in need of work. And we need to replace some things instead of just repairing them and putting a new coat of paint on."

Cloyce Talbott, also a committee member, emphasized the need for a master plan before the county moves further.

"It's important to understand what the purpose of this project is and that is why we need a master plan," Talbott said. "The plan will outline what we're going to do and where we're going to do it. Some facilities will be improved and others will be abandoned.

"The master plan, I think, will be a minimum of five years of work and maybe as many as 10. But it's very important. We need this community to all be focused in one direction and that's what a master plan will do."

Developing a master plan could cost as much as $75,000, Talbott added.

A question also was raised about the availability of grant funds to help alleviate the county's fiscal responsibilities.

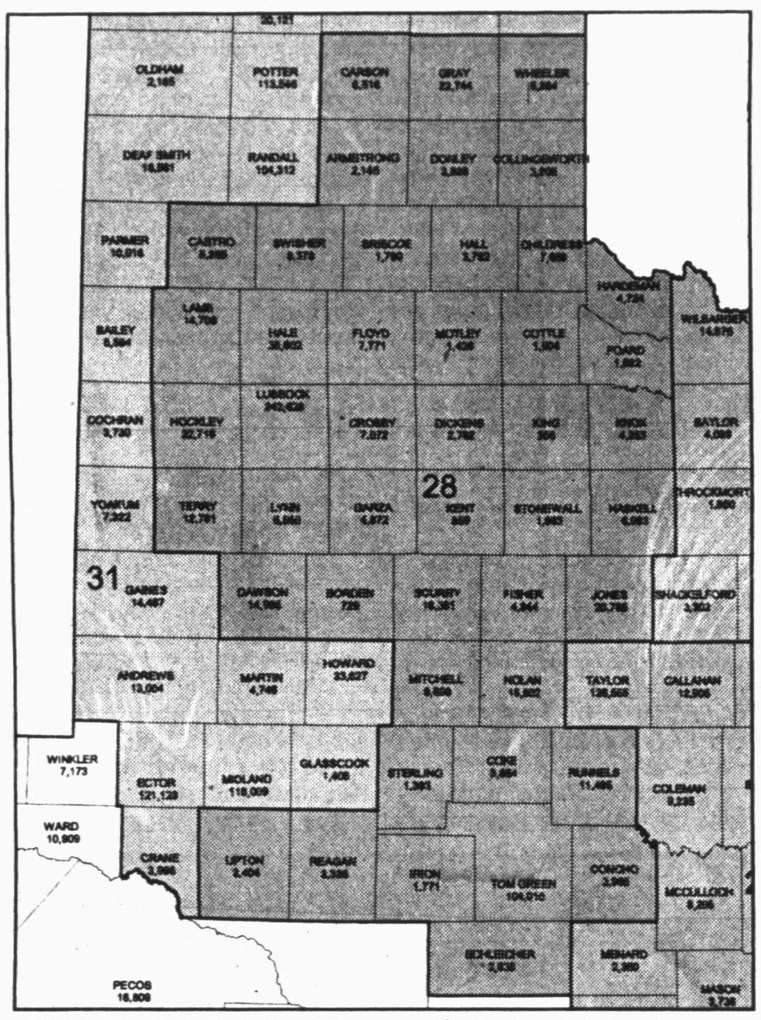
Committee member Tommy Jones noted that there are millions of dollars in grant money available, but again stressed that a master plan is necessary to receive many of them.

The committee issued a citywide survey last month and received more than 500 completed forms back, according to Dennis.

"That's almost a five percent return, which is very good," he said. "There are national polls that don't receive that much of a return."

Forms were due last week, but they also will be accepted at the two remaining public meetings.

Another meeting is slated for 6:30 tonight in the Hermleigh Community Center. The final meeting will take place in the Towle Park Barn at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.




**SENATE DISTRICT 28 – The new district Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, will represent beginning Jan. 1, 2003, if re-elected, is shown in dark gray. Duncan filed for another term Monday in Austin. Scurry County is now in District 28, having been moved from District 30. In the state representative race to represent Scurry County, San Angelo residents, attorney Drew W. Darby and real estate salesman and magazine publisher Scott Campbell, announced plans to run for the office being vacated by Rep. Rob Junell.**

# Obituaries

## Iva Lee Krop

1921-2001

Funeral service for Iva Lee Krop, longtime resident of Snyder, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Union Baptist Church. J.M. Mosley, a former pastor, and Clifton Griffith, pastor, will officiate. Interment will follow in the Snyder Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.



Iva Lee Krop

Mrs. Krop, 80, died Sunday, Dec. 2, in Seminole Memorial Hospital following a long battle with cancer.

Born May 20, 1921 near Purves in Erath County, Mrs. Krop moved to Scurry County in 1946. Two years ago she moved to the Memorial Health Care Center in Seminole, to be near her daughter. Mrs. Krop was a member of Union Baptist Church. She had been a longtime member of the TOPS organization.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harvey (Boog) Krop in 1978; one granddaughter, Katrina Krop; her parents Jesse and Dora Landes; one brother, Bob Landes; and a brother-in-law, Foster Whitehead.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Donna and O.L. Bronner of Seminole; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Billy and Nola Krop and Kent Krop, all of Snyder; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Loys and Dorothy Landes of Rotan, Cecil and Maxine Landes of Avondale, Ariz., and Coy and Annette Landes of Crowley; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Inez Whitehead of Temple and Patricia and Lawrence Outlaw of Snyder; two sisters-in-law, Odessa Wood of Odessa and Mae Hancock of Snyder; other special family members, Halley Jones of Temple, Mervene Felty of Sequim, Wash., Wayne Hilcher of Plano and Michelle Kuhl of Snyder; three aunts, Floye Johnson of Snyder, Enda Shifflett of Mesa, Ariz., and Leamon Blumberg of San Diego; an uncle, Lester Malone of Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Nephews will serve as pallbearers.

Family visitation will be from 6-8 this evening. Lunch will be provided by the women of the Union Baptist Church at noon Wednesday.

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## Lorna Thompson

1954-2001

Lorna Beth Thompson, 47, died Monday, Dec. 3, at her home in Snyder following a long illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Thompson, is set for 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Cremation will follow. Officiating will be Jim Fullingim and assisting will be Keith Hackfeld.



Thompson

She was born Feb. 15, 1954 in Artesia, N.M. Mrs. Thompson, a homemaker, had also worked as a secretary for Amco Medical, West Texas State Bank and Cotton and Cotton. She was a member of the Faith Baptist Church.

Family visitation will be 6-7:30 this evening at the funeral home.

Survivors include two daughters and a son-in-law, Shanna and Michael Porter of Snyder and Holly Williams of Abilene; a son, Jeff Williams of Abilene; a brother, Rick Bautisto of Boerne; two sisters, Sandra Smith of Hughes Springs and Kathy Newkirk of Red River, N.M.; her parents, Audean and Laurin Bautisto of Hughes Springs; two grandchildren, Shyann and Savanna Porter of Snyder; eight nieces and nephews; and a special friend, Mark Mueller of Snyder.

## Geraldine Sims

1917-2001

Geraldine Riley Sims, 84, died Monday, Dec. 3, in Trigg Memorial Hospital in Tucumcari, N.M., after a lengthy illness. She had been a resident of Autumn Days Assisted Living in Tucumcari.

Funeral service for Mrs. Sims is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel with interment to follow in the Snyder Cemetery. The Rev. Iola Alender, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Tucumcari, will officiate.

Born April 1, 1917 on the Riley Ranch in Scurry County, she was the daughter of Ira and Anna Lanham Riley, pioneer ranchers.

She graduated from Snyder High School and became a Western Union operator, living in Odessa, Chicago, Los Angeles and Portland. She then homestead in Homer, Alaska. After retiring from Western Union, she became a typesetter for the All Church Press in Fort Worth, retiring in 1978.

Family visitation is set for 6-7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

She was preceded in death by a son, Bob Sims.

Survivors include a sister, Dorothy Randall of Tucumcari; two brothers, Lanham Riley of Aledo and James Riley of Lincoln, Neb.; three grandchildren, Sean Riley, Whitney Riley and Berin Riley; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

## Letha Hollis

1915-2001

CRANE – Letha Hollis, a former resident of Snyder, died Friday, Nov. 30, in Fairfax, Va., after a long illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Hollis, 86, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Shaffer-Nichols Funeral Home with the Rev. Steve Baker, pastor of the Crane First Baptist Church, officiating.

Born July 28, 1915 in Clairemont, she moved to Crane with her family at an early age. She married T.J. "Jimmy" Hollis in 1935. He preceded her in death as did her parents, Billy and Prudy Chaffin; and three brothers, Joe, Ed and Jack Chaffin.

She lived in Midland for the past 35 years, but previously had lived in Crane, Big Lake, Snyder, Lovington, N.M. and Hobbs, N.M.

Survivors include a son, Allan Hollis of McLean, Va.; two granddaughters; and one great-granddaughter.

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events

# WHAT'S UP?

## ONGOINGS

### Snyder FFA booster meeting

The FFA booster club will meet at 7 tonight in the SHS ag building. The officers will meet at 6:30.

### GED testing dates

GED testing for the first time or re-testing will be held today, 5-9 p.m.; Thursday 5-9 p.m.; and Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For further information, call Molly Kattes at 573-2919 or Emily Hataway at 573-8511, ext. 297 or 574-2112.

### Hospice open house

Community Care Hospice staff and volunteers will host an open house from 5 to 6 this evening in the First Baptist Church Garden Room. Everyone is invited.

### Korean War display

The Scurry County Museum is honoring veterans of the Korean War with displays of memorabilia through today.

### "Married for Life"

"Married for Life" information night will be at 7 tonight at The Word of Life Church, 312 Coliseum Drive. Home Bible study groups will soon start. For information, call Doug or Donna Nehring at 573-7471.

### Ira booster club

The Ira booster club will meet at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday in the school cafeteria.

### FBC support groups

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

### Auxiliary jewelry sale

Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will have a sterling silver jewelry sale from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday in the hospital's front lobby to benefit the auxiliary.

### Benefit concert

Everyone is invited to a benefit concert at 4 p.m. Saturday at Towle Park Barn by Heart-N-Soul, a local Christian band. Proceeds will be used to help defray expenses incurred by Richard Bross following his heart attack and surgery.

### Country gospel music

Country gospel music will begin at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Senior Citizens Center. Call 573-3996 for more information.

### AARP banquet

The AARP installation banquet will be held at 5:30 p.m. Monday at Martha Ann Woman's Club. Reservations must be made by Thursday by calling 573-9080.

### Weigh Down workshop

Registration for a Weigh Down workshop will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, at His Joy Ministries, 904 26th. Classes begin Jan. 3. For information call 573-9615 or 573-8401.

### Home for the Holidays

Home for the Holidays has been rescheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at the First United Methodist Church. If you have already reserved a spot, you do not have to call again, For more information call the Scurry County Cooperative Extension office at 573-5423.

### Nurse testing dates

Testing for the next class of the Vocational Nursing program at Western Texas College will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, Jan. 22, and Jan. 29, with the last day to interview set for Feb. 2. Classes are scheduled to begin March 4. Potential students must bring a photo ID. To schedule an appointment, call the Counseling Center at 573-8511 ext. 313.

### Windbreak trees

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

### Seniors helping seniors

Snyder High School's senior class would like to help senior citizens decorate for Christmas. Students will provide the labor by putting up lights or decorating Christmas trees, etc. Call 573-6301 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday to make arrangements.

### VFW membership drive

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

# Man taken into custody for felony DWI

***Arrests***

Snyder police officers arrested Christopher Blane Mills, 24, of 1336 N. Ave. R just after midnight this morning on felony charges of driving while intoxicated. He was taken into custody in the 1900 block of 18th Street.

Mills' passenger, a 36-year-old woman, also was arrested for public intoxication and transported to jail.

A 49-year-old man was taken into custody at 2:30 p.m. Monday on an outstanding warrant from Winkler County for probation violation.

***Disturbance***

A woman called 9-1-1 Monday morning to report her granddaughter creating a disturbance in her home and assaulting her. Officers were dispatched and advised an offense report for assault and family violence would be submitted.

***Theft***

Linda Tippens Monday reported a theft at her residence on Muriel Dr. Officers advised a report for Class A theft would be submitted.

***Gas drive offs***

A clerk at Town and Country East reported a gas drive off of $32.59 Monday morning. Officers responded and contacted family members of the driver to arrange for payment.

A drive off was reported at Rip Griffin's Truck Stop at 3 p.m. Monday and another at Handi Mart just after 6 p.m.