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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
Jan. 6, 1999
Vol. 50 No. 211
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of Mike Goebel

STORYTIME — Children's librarian Linda Jones reads to youngsters (clockwise from back) Colin Carter, Jeffrey Stewart, and Josh Molter, as Colin's mom, Darla Carter, looks on. Storytime for 4-5-year-olds at the Scurry County Library has changed to 10 a.m. on Wednesdays. (SDN Staff Photo by Joyce May)

106th Congress opens; Hastert to be speaker

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 106th Congress opens with a new House speaker promising a more bipartisan spirit and a Senate impeachment trial sure to make that difficult.

In its first order of business today, the House will elect Rep. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., a self-effacing former high school teacher, to succeed Newt Gingrich as speaker. Hastert will then deliver the oath of office to the other 221 Republicans, 211 Democrats and one Democratic-leaning independent.

Gingrich, R-Ga., decided to resign after his party lost five House seats in the November election and his seat will be vacant until a special election is held next month.

Hastert, chosen unanimously by Republicans Tuesday evening to lead the party, says he'll work to end the partisan combat that held up key bills in the last session and hurt the Republicans at the polls. He added that he'll have to work with Democrats because "a smaller majority makes the dynamics change, obviously."

"He is already figuring out how to be speaker of the whole House rather than just the Republican speaker," said House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Texas, a close ally.

At a reception Tuesday evening, Hastert told reporters he planned to meet today with House Democratic leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri.

Gephardt, on NBC's "Today" show, said that with Hastert in the leadership "we can work out a better relationship. I sure want to do that. I will work very hard to come more than halfway with him to develop a new respect, a new civility."

In the Senate, Republicans led by Majority Leader Trent Lott of Mississippi, return with the same 55-45 majority, still well short of the 60 votes needed in the Senate to overcome minority filibusters.

The House is slated to make some changes in rules governing lawmakers, including easing a gift ban imposed in 1995 to concur with the less restrictive rules imposed in the Senate. The Senate allows its members to receive gifts, including meals, valued at up to $50 and accept up to $100 in gifts from one source in a year. House members have chafed under current rules which bans even such minor gifts as T-shirts.

The House completed its part in President Clinton's impeachment matter when it approved two articles of impeachment against Clinton last month. But it must reappoint the 13 GOP Judiciary Committee members who will act as prosecutors in the Senate trial on whether to remove the president from office.

Lott said the impeachment proceedings will begin Thursday, although it's still unclear when the formal trial would start and how long it would last.

The House, as in most years, will go into recess after the opening session, waiting until after the president's State of the Union address, scheduled for Jan. 19, before getting down to real business.

Probably the two most achievable goals of this session will be reforming Social Security to keep it solvent in the future and increasing consumer protections against health managed-care abuses. Democrats are leery of GOP efforts to allow the private investment of some retirement funds, and Republicans are against Democratic proposals to give consumers greater powers to sue HMOs. But both parties say they are committed to finding middle ground.

Republicans list as among their top priorities increased funding for national security and missile defense, substantial tax relief, more local control over schools and bankruptcy reform.

But not at local post office...

Weather delays some Social Security checks across U.S.

From wire and staff reports

Some Texans are feeling the effects of the winter storm smacking the East Coast.

The Social Security Administration says people in several Texas cities, including San Antonio, Laredo, Georgetown and Corpus Christi, have complained about late checks this month. At least 100 people called U.S. Postal Service officials in San Antonio on Tuesday.

Government officials say the delays are due to weather-related transportation problems, the San Antonio Express-News reported today.

However, the Snyder post office has not received any calls concerning late Social Security checks.

"Our checks all went out on their normal delivery date," said Snyder postmaster Dale Lipsett.

"As a matter of fact," said Lipsett. "Things have been pretty smooth around here, regardless of the delays some parts of the country have seen due to the weather."

Lipsett said this past Christmas was the smoothest he has had since he started his postal career 10 years ago.

"We delivered the Spring J.C. Penney catalogs on Christmas Eve," said Lipsett. "So you know things were running smoothly."

Lipsett was quick to credit local postal employees for their efficient work during the holidays.

Delivery problems for Social Security checks seem to involve those issued by the federal Treasury Department distribution center in Philadelphia, rocked by bad weather over the past week, said Dee O'Neil, a Social Security spokesman in Dallas. He didn't know how many checks were involved.

"We don't know all the facts right now," O'Neil said. "There are some mail delivery problems because of the weather on the East Coast and some mail is not getting out as quickly as it should."

James Coultress, a Postal Service customer relations coordinator in San Antonio, said calls have been coming in from throughout the city.

"There doesn't seem to be any pattern to them," he said. "You might have gotten your check but your next door neighbor didn't get theirs."

The delay has upset many who rely on Social Security for food and shelter.

"I'm lucky; I have a husband who works," said Tina Deckard. "I'm not worried about us. My bills will be there when the check gets here.

"But there's a couple around the corner who depend on Social Security. I made chicken for my family yesterday and I took some to them because they said they had no food."

Ms. Deckard said her neighbors, who are elderly, are embarassed about their plight. She cooked an extra large dinner again Tuesday, carrying plates of food down the street.

O'Neil said the checks were supposed to be delivered last Thursday. He recommended that recipients who haven't gotten theirs call the agency.

Coultress said he sympathized with recipients and stressed that postal officials in San Antonio will deliver checks as quickly as they can.

"We know how important those checks are to people," he said.

Public hearing set on Jan. 14

During a regularly scheduled meeting of Snyder ISD's Board of Trustees, a public hearing to discuss the AEIS (Academic Excellence Indicator System) Report will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, at Snyder Junior High School's library.

The AEIS report includes performance and profile sections for campuses and the district for the 1997-1998 school year.

Demos oppose calling impeachment witnesses

WASHINGTON (AP) — As Republicans struggled for an agreement on how to proceed with President Clinton's impeachment trial, Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle said today his party opposes calling witnesses and urged House prosecutors to stay out of the dispute.

"We didn't involve ourselves in their proceedings and it is very disturbing that they now seem to be intent on involving themselves in ours," Daschle said of the House prosecutors after meeting with Senate Democrats before the 106th Congress was sworn in.

Daschle dismissed demands by House Judiciary Committee chairman Henry Hyde and the 12 other GOP lawmakers named as prosecutors that witnesses be called. "We are not prepared to accept any witnesses," he said.

His counterpart, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, continued his efforts to develop a consensus among Republicans on how long the trial should last.

"I can't give you a magic date," the Mississippi Republican told reporters before ducking into a caucus of GOP senators. "All kinds of variables are coming into play."

He added: "I keep trying to convey to people, we may not know the absolute answer until we get started." All that is certain is that the trial will begin Thursday with the ceremonial swearing-in of senators as jurors.

At the White House, press secretary Joe Lockhart voiced "some obvious frustrations that we don't know what the procedures will be." The president, he said, "is anxious to get this resolved quickly and fairly."

A senior Democrat cautioned he could vote to remove Clinton from office. "I could go either way based on the evidence as I've seen it or heard it. And I've followed it pretty closely," Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W. Va., said this morning in an interview on the C-Span cable TV network.

More than six of 10 Americans in a CBS News poll say they think a full trial of President Clinton is not necessary and almost that many, 60 percent, think a full trial would have a serious negative impact on the country. Only a third think the president's actions are serious enough to warrant his being impeached and removed from office, according to the poll conducted Sunday and Monday.

Beyond establishing a date to formally open the historic perjury and obstruction of justice trial, nearly everything else is unsettled — from whether there will be witnesses to the length of the proceedings. Each party's members met in caucuses this morning.

"It has to be done not only expeditiously, but fairly," Lott said Tuesday after meeting with Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle and Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, who will preside over the first impeachment trial of a president in 130 years.

Daschle told reporters Tuesday that starting the trial without a defined plan for proceeding would be an "invitation to a prolonged process that would take weeks if not months, probably months."

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Education is important. If we couldn't sign our names, we'd have to pay cash."

No payment 'til February.

Sounds alluring right after Thanksgiving. But Christmas is history, and we're on fast track to February — when that first payment suddenly comes due.

We came across a sobering statistic. The average family is said to owe $10,790 in short-term debt. That includes stuff like car loans, store accounts and credit car debt.

If you hope to clear up credit card indebtedness by using a home equity loan, experts say the long-term odds aren't good.

Americans took out 4.2 million home equity loans in the past two years, but seven of 10 familes who paid off their credit cards with that cash are back in the hole in less than a year.

Credit comes with an absolute cost.

With a $1,000 credit card loan, paid off with minimum payment, a borrower will spend nearly as much on interest as on the original purchase.

At an interest rate of 14 percent, a $1,000 balance would take 156 months (13 years) to pay off. That's the amount of time that one kid normally spends in public school. The cumulative interest would be $935.

What about students who are offered credit cards while still in school? A national study found that students who acquire plastic cards from on-campus marketers are more likely to carry larger balances and acquire more cards than those who get them later.

Credit is easy — and often addicting.

Credit cards remind us of the story about the inmate who was relating his reason behind bars.

"You'd never believe I used to live the life of Riley. I wintered on the Riviera, had a boat, fine sports cars, beautiful women and ate in all the best restaurants."

He was asked what went wrong.

"Riley reported his credit cards missing."

ASK US

Q.-Didn't Lone Star get a rate increase last year?

A.-Yes, the city granted a 17-cent per month hike, called a cost of service adjustment, effective last May.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 68 degrees; low, 24; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 31. No precipitation.

Area Forecast: Tonight and Thursday, partly cloudy. Low around 30. High 65-70. Light SW wind tonight increasing to 10-20 mph Thursday.

Tatum Norwood
Partly cloudy

Sunset: 5:56 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:44 a.m.
Of 5 days in 1999, the sun has shone 5 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

"No one is useless in this world who lightens the burden of it to anyone else."

Charles Dickens

U.S. House members from various backgrounds

WASHINGTON (AP) — Among the 434 citizens taking the oath of office today as members of the 106th House of Representatives are singers, scientists and a riverboat captain, not to mention a "Jeopardy" champion and four Mr. Smiths.

It's a diverse group — fewer lawyers than in the past and slight increases in the numbers of blacks, women, Hispanics and Asian-Americans. More than 80 percent are married. One boasts of 34 grandchildren.

The youngest is 28-year-old Rep. Harold Ford Jr. of Tennessee, who was elected in 1996. The oldest is Rep. George Brown Jr., 78, of California. There's also a soccer mom, a former welfare mom, and a rapper-wannabe who intones: "Snatch the future back from the night. Let the mothers lead the fight!"

Rep. David Phelps of Illinois is a gospel singer and Rep. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan once sang folk songs in coffeehouses. Minnesota has a congressman, Rep. Gil Gutknecht, who went to auctioneering school and one, Rep. James Oberstar, who speaks Creole. Rep. Matt Salmon of Arizona is fluent in Mandarin Chinese. An inventor and scientist, Rep. Roscoe Bartlett of Maryland, holds about 20 patents, mostly for breathing devices used by firefighters.

Rep. Mary Bono of California is a gymnast and practices martial arts. Ukrainian folk art fascinates Rep. Bob Schaffer of Colorado. Rep. Don Sherwood of Pennsylvania raises and shows Belgian horses. Rep. Rush Holt of New Jersey is a five-time champion of "Jeopardy."

And Rep. Major Owens of New York has a passion for poems and raps he sometimes performs on the House floor. "Fat cats want to buy your soul," raps Owens. "Saving the children is the mothers' role."

Congress by the numbers offers some insight:

—Of the 434 members, there are 222 Republicans, 211 Democrats and one independent. (The remaining seat, vacated by former House Speaker Newt Gingrich of Georgia, has not been filled.)

—The chamber has 58 women, 39 blacks, 20 Hispanics and five Asian-Americans. In the last House, there were 56 women, 38 blacks, 19 Hispanics and four Asian-Americans.

—Overall, about 84 percent are married. Eighty-eight percent of the men, but only 59 percent of the women, have spouses.

—Together, the representatives have more than 1,070 children. Rep. Ron Packard of California says he's a grandpa to 34. Dr. Tom Coburn, who represents Oklahoma, says he's delivered nearly 3,000 babies.

—About 65 percent are natives of the states they represent. A dozen were born abroad. Rep. Peter Hoekstra of Michigan is from the Netherlands and now represents Holland, Mich. He keeps wooden shoes in his office.

Beyond demographics, there are tales of how they entered politics.

Rep. Bob Brady of Pennsylvania says he got his start in politics in 1965 when a committeeman failed to fix a burned-out street light outside his mother's home. Rep. Mark Souder of Indiana says he was inspired to enter politics at age 14 when he heard former President Reagan deliver a speech. Rep. Jennifer Dunn of Washington says she got her start as a Reagan volunteer. She even named one of her sons "Reagan."

Their occupations and backgrounds are varied — some unconventional.

Holt of New Jersey and Rep. Vernon Ehlers of Michigan are both physicists. Holt is a Democrat; Ehlers is a Republican. Holt says they joke about having a bipartisan physics caucus "if we can find a room with a chalkboard."

Rep. Don Young of Alaska, a former riverboat captain, claims to be the only licensed mariner in Congress. Rep. Judy Biggert of Illinois used to coach a school soccer team. Rep. Lynn Woolsey of California spent three years on welfare as a working mother. Rep. Christopher Cox of California helped provide an English version of the Russian newspaper Pravda. Rep. Bobby Rush of Illinois co-founded Illinois' Black Panther Party.

Among the millionaires is Rep. James Sensenbrenner Jr. of Wisconsin, who won $250,000 in 1997 with a $1 lottery ticket he bought in Washington. "Well, one of my jobs is to bring money from D.C. back to the state of Wisconsin, but I didn't ever think it would be this way," he said.

Police chiefs should not be elected

SAN ANGELO (AP) — The retiring police chief of San Angelo said the city council, and not the voters, should pick future chiefs.

"I think politics need to be removed from the police department and the system," Russell Smith said during a farewell ceremony Tuesday at San Angelo city hall. "I think we should go out and try to get the best-qualified chief that we can, whether it be from inside the department or outside."

San Angelo is the largest city in the nation that elects, rather than appoints, its police chief.

West Texas Bible Institute Satellite School

Bible History I

INSTRUCTOR: Richard Rogers

24 Week Session at Christian Student Center on WTC Campus

Starts Thursday, January 7 - 7:00-9:00 p.m.

All Bible Students Welcome Tuition Is Free!

TAAS test dates set

The Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) tests will be administered Feb. 23-25.

Enrolled 11th and 12th graders as well as individuals who are out of school are eligible to take any section of the exit level test on which they have not yet met minimum expectations.

TAAS Writing tests will be administered on Feb. 23 to grades 4 and 8 and Exit Level TAAS Math will be given on Feb. 24 and Exit Level TAAS Reading tests will be taken on Feb. 25.

TAAS out-of-school examiness must register by the Jan. 15 deadline in order to take the tests. These spring registration packets are now available in the Snyder High School counselor's office.

Anyone with further questions should call Charlene Light at 574-6050 or Dr. Melissa W. Jones at 573-5401.

Berry's World

"In a perfect world, we wouldn't be 'boomers.'"

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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FACES FROM THE PAST!

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Cory Knipe was last week's winner.

Faces From The Past Entry Week 49

1. Snyder Daily New _____
2. Computer Solutions _____
3. American State Bank _____
4. Betty's Bernina _____
5. Landes Home Furn. _____
6. Wagon Wheel/Rusty Spur _____
7. Rudy's Restaurant _____
8. West Texas State Bank _____
9. Bell-Cypert-Seale _____
10. Snyder Savings & Loan _____

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

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

Last Week's Photos: 1. Randy Dryden 2. Sharon Sumruld 3. Max Snyder 4. Larry Price 5. Janelle Pollard 6. Elcke Perry 7. Eddie Nettles 8. Henry Holly 9. Steve Grimmett 10. Debra Collins

Big defense spending boost seems inevitable

By TOM RAUM
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — One of the surest bets is that the Congress that convenes this week will vote later this year for a sizable increase in defense spending, reversing a 15-year slide. Not only is the Republican-led Congress demanding it, but President Clinton is now on board as well.

Furthermore, the latest confrontations with Iraq all but guarantee Congress will open its checkbook for the Pentagon.

But don't expect base closings to necessarily be part of the mix. Lawmakers can be outspoken when calling for more money for defense readiness and then turn a deaf ear to suggestions that some of that money come in savings from closing bases in their states and districts.

In a political about face, Clinton announced over the weekend he will ask for Pentagon spending increases totaling $112 billion over the next six years, beginning with a $12 billion installment and a 4 percent military pay increase for fiscal 2000.

Clinton earlier balked at the size of increases that congressional Republicans and Pentagon chiefs wanted as he struggled to balance higher military spending with his pledge to prop up the Social Security system and satisfy other nonmilitary priorities.

But the impeachment-weakened president, fighting trial in the Senate, would have little to gain politically in resisting rising demands for higher defense spending coming from lawmakers in both parties.

Clinton has always had a difficult relationship with the military. And many Republicans blame his policies for what they see as the current Pentagon morale and recruiting problems.

"We have a coequal responsibility with the president of the United States to address (national security) threats and to take care of the men and women in uniform and to equip them today and tomorrow and into the future to meet those uncertainties," said Sen. John Warner, R-Va.

Warner, the incoming chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee — he took over the gavel Tuesday from Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C. — moved quickly to underscore GOP support for a boost in defense spending.

He called the nation's military chiefs on Tuesday — a day before the rest of the Senate convened — before his panel to testify on their needs for the future.

And, while they dutifully voiced support for the president's request, under questioning they conceded — readily — that they could do with a lot more.

The military chiefs testified last September that roughly $150 billion in additional spending was needed. "Nothing has changed since we last met," said Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He said Clinton's more modest request "will meet our most critical needs."

Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff said, "It will fix immediate readiness problems. It will not fix tomorrow's readiness problems at all."

Some Republican members complained that some of Clinton's proposed increases reflect accounting tricks more than real new money, such as calculating savings from lower fuel costs. Still, they welcomed the president's overture.

And what about base closings? The subject barely came up during four hours of questioning, although the White House announced the same day that Clinton would ask Congress for authority to close more military bases starting in 2001.

Since the last round in 1995, Congress has rejected several attempts by the Clinton administration to further close bases it considers unnecessary and wasteful.

"Getting rid of the excesses that we have now ... would be very beneficial," Shelton told the Senate panel, suggesting the savings could total $15 billion over the next five years.

Republican pollster Frank Luntz said the impetus for increased defense spending has also been fueled by the recent military conflicts with Iraq.

Symptomitis, a disease caused by believing in TV health ads.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 01-06-99
♠ 7 2
♥ J 2
♦ 10 8 5 4
♣ A J 10 9 7

West
♠ Q J 5 4
♥ 8 6 5 3
♦ 3
♣ 8 6 4 3

East
♠ K 10 9 8
♥ K Q 10 9
♦ A 9 2
♣ 5 2

South
♠ A 6 3
♥ A 7 4
♦ K Q J 7 6
♣ K Q

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 4

Is it infallible?

By Phillip Alder

In no-trump, when you have only one top-trick stopper in the suit led (usually the ace, but perhaps the king if your right-hand opponent wins trick one with the ace), apply the Rule of Seven. Subtract from seven the combined number of cards you have in that suit in your hand and the dummy's. Then, hold up for that number of rounds.

Is it perfect? No! Ignore it when you know the opening lead is from a four-card suit, or when you are more frightened of a switch to another suit. In either of these cases, it is *usually* best to grab the first trick and go about your business.

Well, with respect to this deal, is that intro a bluff? Against three no-trump, West leads the spade four. Do you win trick one? Why?

Note West's lead, the spade four, not the queen. Against no-trump, it is usually best to lead low from Q-J-x-x. Lead the queen only if the higher spot is the nine or 10 (or you know partner is long in the suit).

South has seven top tricks. Yet once the diamond ace is out of the way, four more tricks open up.

The Rule of Seven tells declarer to hold up the spade ace for two rounds. (Seven minus five equals two.) However, here, that should be fatal. An observant East will switch to the heart king at trick two, setting up five tricks (one spade, three hearts and one diamond) for the defense.

What was West's lead? The spade four. And declarer can see the two and three. So if you assume that West is a reliable citizen, he has led from a four-card suit. With the spades splitting 4-4, snatch trick one and lead a top diamond.

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Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY

Just for Today NA; open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Al-Anon brown bag; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; noon to 1 p.m.

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; Horseshoe Courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762; 7 p.m.

Just for Today NA; Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

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

New Horizons AA; closed meeting; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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 appointments; 573-9742.

Just for Today NA; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

People Without Partners; Inadale Community Center; games of 42 and dominos; 6:30 p.m.

Just for Today NA open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238 or 573-8018; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 10 a.m.

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

Just For Today closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238, or 573-8018; 5 p.m.

Two enlist

ARLINGTON — Two with ties to Snyder have enlisted in the U.S. Air Force.

Ricardo Gabriel Hernandez, a 1998 graduate of Snyder High School and the son of Mary and Richard Hernandez of Snyder, enlisted on Dec. 16.

Gary Don Clark of Sweetwater, son of Mary Reeves of Snyder and Donald G. Clark of Sweetwater, enlisted on Nov. 10.

Both are scheduled to receive advance training, following the successful completion of the Air Force's six week basic training course at Lackland Air Force Base.

Hernandez is scheduled to receive technical training in the aerospace maintenance apprentice career field and Clark will receive technical training in the security forces apprentice career field.

Both Hernandez and Clark will be earning credits toward an associate degree in applied science through the Community College of the Air Force while attending basic and technical training schools.

I buried my daughter, Rhonda Wadleigh, recently. Wright Colonial Funeral Home, 200 37th Street, did a beautiful job. They have a lovely home, chapel, good casket selection, excellent price, and near to both cemeteries.

Thelma Gardner

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lone Star Gas Company, in accordance with the Gas Utility Regulatory Act, hereby gives notice of the Company's intent to implement a new schedule of rates for natural gas service to be charged to the residential and commercial customers in Snyder effective January 25, 1999 and to eliminate the Rate Schedule for Public Schools and Commercial Contract Public School Rate. The rate schedule is expected to furnish a 4.63 percent increase in the Company's revenues from residential and commercial customers in Snyder. A Statement of Intent has been filed with the city. If you desire to comment concerning this change of rates, you may contact the City Secretary.

NOAH'S ATTIC

Noah's Attic Resale Shop
1503 26th Street is open every
Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
AFTER CHRISTMAS SALE
THIS FRIDAY ONLY (JAN. 8)

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Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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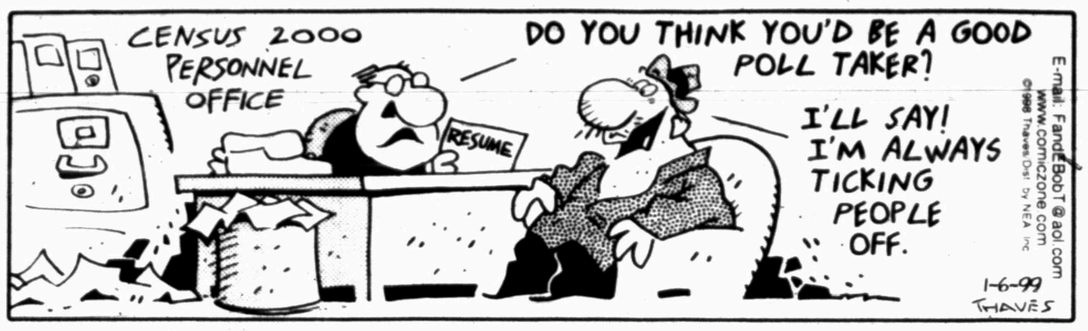

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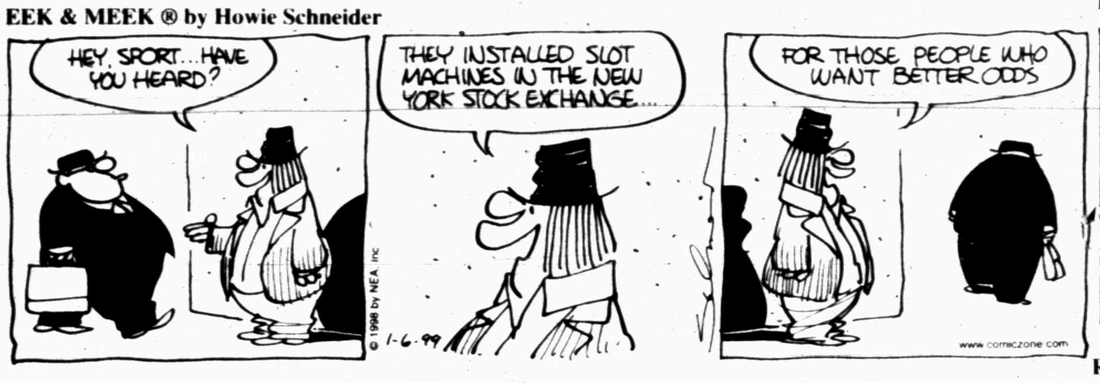

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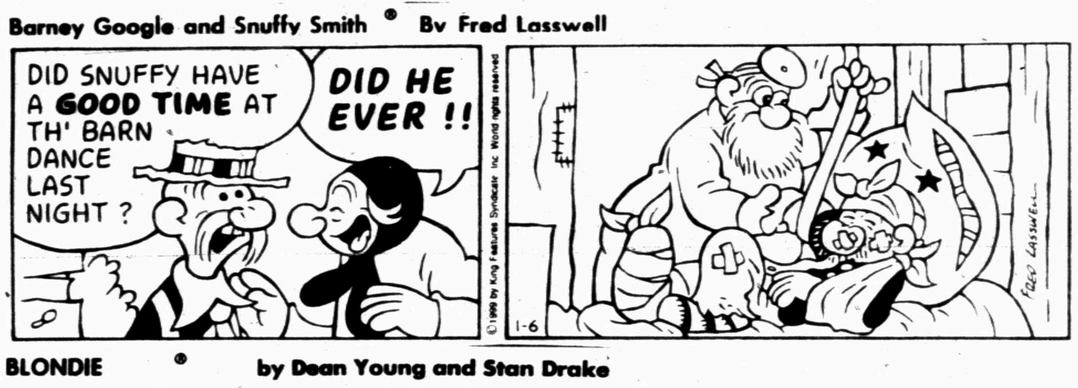

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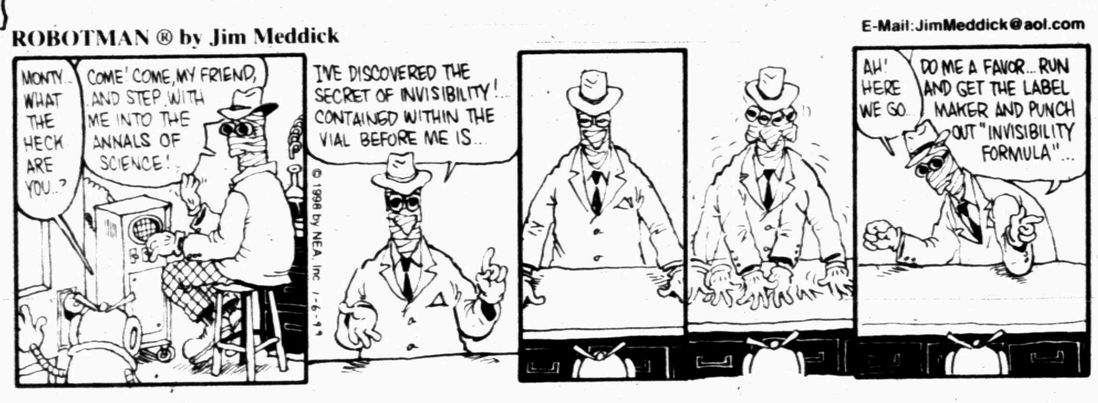

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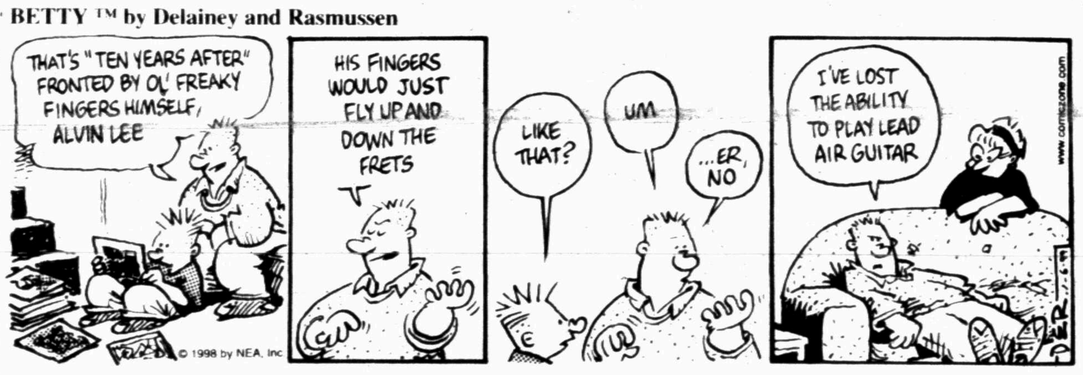

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Baby
7 Draws conclusions
13 Flighty horse
14 Talkative bird
15 Conceive
16 Mystery
17 College honcho
18 Rival of Fox
20 Russian ruler
21 Let's Make — —
23 Shut out
27 Overshadow
32 On or —
33 Teary veggie
34 Molar, for one
35 Road sign
36 On the way (2 wds.)
39 Challenges
40 Dressing gowns
42 Seaweed substance
46 Scale units (abbr.)
47 Phonetic symbol
51 Take out a policy for
53 Sulky
55 Sprinted
56 Exertion
57 Sound system
58 Performable

DOWN

1 In the same place (abbr.)
2 Knot
3 Type of market
4 — — angle
5 Court divider
6 Walk heavily
7 Medicinal root
8 A Bobbsey twin
9 Partly fused glass
10 Units of energy
11 Arrivederci —
12 Featured performer
19 Spelling contest
21 Godfrey or Miller
22 — of London
23 See socially
24 Black
25 Crude person
26 Prefix for biography
28 Freshwater porpoise
29 Dock
30 Single
31 Companion of odds
37 City in Ohio
38 Subside
41 Ancient chariot
42 Helps
43 Flying creature
44 The caama
45 District in Germany
47 — -Romeo (Italian car)
48 Lump
49 European blackbird
50 Poker stake
52 Dakota Indian
54 Alien's craft (abbr.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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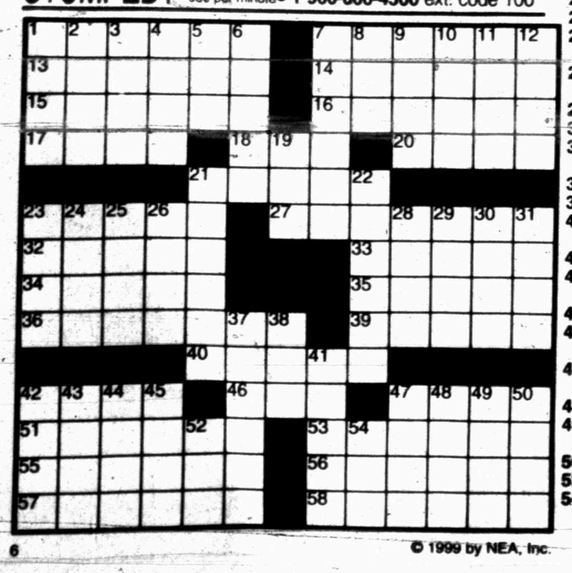

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"If I keep going to school, all the best jobs are gonna be taken."

SPORTS

With deadline near...

Sides closing in on deal to end lockout

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA and the players' union reached an agreement today after a secret all-night bargaining session, ending the 6-month-old lockout and saving what's left of the season, The Associated Press learned.

The deal between commissioner David Stern and union head Billy Hunter was struck sometime around 6 a.m., just 29 hours before the league's Board of Governors was set to vote on canceling the remainder of the season.

Approval is still needed from the owners and the players, and the process of selling the deal to those constituencies began almost immediately.

A season of about 50 games will begin the first week of February, according to a source close to the talks.

Several other sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed the agreement. CNN/SI and Phoenix radio station KGME also reported the deal.

There was no immediate comment from the league or the union, which had been fighting over how to divide an estimated $2 billion in annual revenue.

"I don't think anyone won. Both sides lost on it," Indiana Pacers guard Fred Hoiberg said today. "I think it will take some time to get the game back to where it was. Hopefully, we can get back to work soon and put a good product on the court."

On Tuesday night, Stern had said chances of a settlement were better than 50-50.

"On a scale of one to 10, I'd make it a five-plus," Stern said on CNN.

The league's Board of Governors had scheduled a meeting for 11 a.m. Thursday, and Stern and deputy commissioner Russ Granik had said they would recommend canceling the rest of the season.

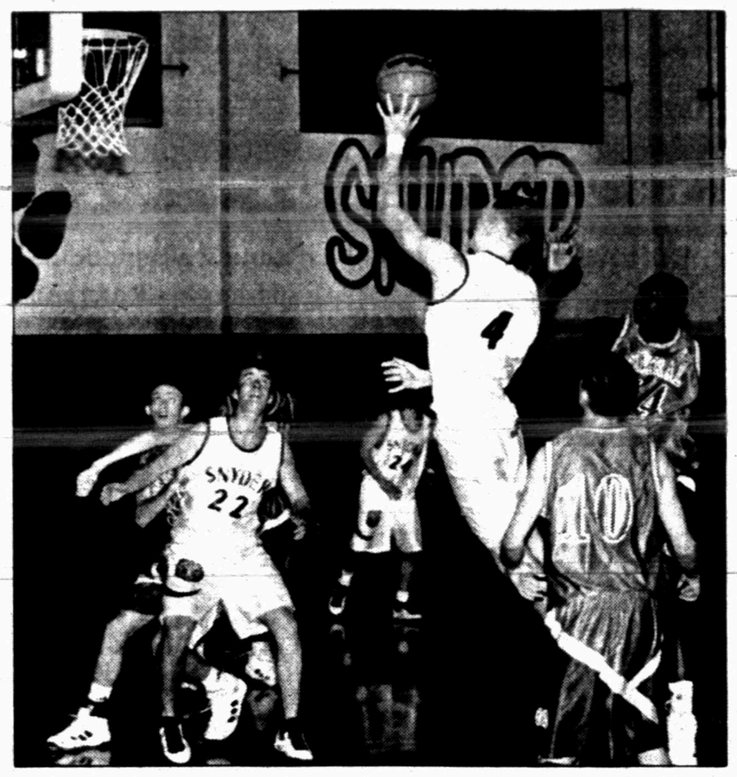
NBA players began arriving in New York on Tuesday for a scheduled vote on whether to support the position of their negotiating committee, which had recommended that players reject the owners' final offer. At least 200 players had been expected to show up for the vote.

NBA players have the highest average salary in professional sports, about $2.6 million annually, and the median salary is about $1.3 million. NFL players average about $900,000, and major league baseball pays an average of $1.45 million.

The owners' last proposal had guaranteed that would continue. The union had wanted higher salaries for the so-called lower- and middle-class players.

It was not immediately known what compromises were made to save the season.

The league wanted a $12.25 million maximum salary for players with at least 10 years' experience, while the union wanted $15 million.



LEFTY — Snyder's Sonny Cumbie switches to his left hand to get off a shot, while Cory Mandrell (22) and Tyler Warren (24) look on against San Angelo Central over the weekend. The Tigers dropped their contest Tuesday night at Levelland, 60-49. (SDN Staff Photo)

Lobos 60, Tigers 49...

Second-half run lifts Levelland over SHS

LEVELLAND — Levelland won the battle of the second half, and by doing so, won the game.

The Lobos outscored Snyder, 34-25, in the final two quarters Tuesday night to capture a 60-49 non-district victory.

The setback leaves the Tigers at 8-11 on the season, heading into Friday's grudge-match against former district rival Lamesa.

Levelland had opened a 17-10 first quarter advantage in Tuesday's ballgame, before Snyder rallied with a 14-9 run in the second period to get within two points of lead by halftime.

Owners of a 26-24 lead to open the second half, Levelland took control. The Lobos held Snyder to just 10 points in the third quarter, then capped the contest with 19 points on the final eight minutes.

Three Tigers finished in double digits, led by senior guard Brady Cobb.

Cobb poured in 13 points on the night, with Sonny Cumbie adding 12 and Cory Mandrell posting 11 more.

Snyder has two contests remaining, both of them against Lamesa, before it opens district play Jan. 15 at Ft. Stockton.

Friday's game against the Golden Tors at the SHS gym wil tip-off at 7:30. Snyder visits Lamesa at 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Lady Tigers drop final 5-4A tune-up

LEVELLAND — It took three quarters of play before the Lady Tiger offense started clicking.

But by then the Lady Lobos had control of the game.

Levelland held Snyder to single digits in each of the first three periods Tuesday night, rolling to a 54-30 victory in the final non-district contest for both teams.

The Lady Tigers, playing without starters Mandy Hess and Ashley Delce due to injuries, were led by Alicia Peoples. The senior post scored 15 of Snyder's 30 points on the night.

Levelland opened with a 12-2 spurt in the first quarter, extending the margin to 23-11 by halftime.

Trailing 37-19, Snyder posted its largest output of the game in the final period. The Lady Tigers scored 11 points over the final eight minutes to trim the deficit to the 54-30 final outcome.

Snyder will carry an 8-11 mark into its District 5-4A opener Friday at Andrews. Tip-off is scheduled for 6 p.m.

Following action against the Lady Mustangs, Snyder returns home Tuesday to host Big Spring.

In district openers...

Lady Cards top Loraine, 68-55; Hermleigh boys fall to Bulldogs

HERMLEIGH — The Hermleigh girls benefitted from a second-quarter run Tuesday night, while the Hermleigh boys were victimized by a third-quarter rally.

The Lady Cardinals used a 25-9 streak to run past Loraine, 68-55, in the district opener for both teams.

Hermleigh's boys squad, still searching for its first victory, saw Loraine string together a 24-6 run in the third quarter to grab the District 19 win, 73-59.

The Lady Cardinals trailed after the first period, before mounting their rally.

Jennifer Roemisch paved the way for Hermleigh, pouring in 23 points and grabbing 12 rebounds.

Kendra Dacus dropped in 15 points, with Brady Wood posting 12 more, while garnering 10 rebounds. Randi Herrington also notched 12 points for the Lady Cards, while Sheena Callaway chipped in four and Amber Yruegas finished with two.

For the Hermleigh boys, it was Caleb Callaway pacing the action with 22 points and 10 boards.

The Cardinals trailed by just a point, before the third-quarter run gave Loraine control.

Callaway led all scorers. Billy Lambaren posted 19 points and hauled in 12 rebounds, with Joey Garza and Andy Luna adding eight points apiece. Rocky Gill finished with two points.

Both Hermleigh squads take a break from league action on Friday to compete in the Westbrook tournament.

Hermleigh returns to District 19 play Tuesday when it travels to Blackwell.

Lady Dusters are finding a way to win

WACO — The Lady Dusters are finding a way to win and that is a welcome sight to head coach Valery Jackson.

Western Texas committed 32 turnovers Tuesday night but got the job done on the defensive end, notching a 76-64 victory over Panola at the Southwest Shootout.

"The 32 turnovers isn't something you like to see this close to conference play," Jackson said. "But we overcame our mistakes to win the game. That's the biggest difference in our play since coming back from Christmas. This semester we're finding a way to win and that's what you have to do to be successful."

The Lady Dusters, who improve to 11-4 on the season, got balanced scoring, with four players posting double digits.

Rosalind Lawrence led the way with 16 points, while Crystal Williams and April Walker poured in 12 apiece. Christy Wells finished with 10 points.

"We did a good job shooting the ball," said Jackson. "We struggled with our shooting percentage at times earlier this season, but we've come back and shot the ball well in our last four games."

Friday's home date with Blinn at Scurry County Coliseum marks the final tune-up before WTC begins WJCAC action. Friday's contest is slated for a 6 p.m. tip-off.

The Lady Dusters open conference play on the road against New Mexico on Monday, before returning home to host Howard Jan. 18.

WTC 76, Panola 64

WTC: Rosalind Lawrence, 16; Crystal Willams and April Walker, 12; Christy Wells, 10; Latasha Vizcorrondo and Mary Cavazos, 6; Carrie Fincher and Pam Odhuong'o, 5; Kathy Tran and Heather Moon, 2.

NCAA BASKETBALL SCORES

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Delaware 75, Boston U. 74, OT
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Penn 74, Lafayette 62
Providence 90, West Virginia 87, OT
Siena 107, Quinnipiac 90
St. Peter's 60, Marist 46
Syracuse 74, Villanova 52
Towson 62, Northeastern 52

SOUTH
Clemson 80, N. Carolina St. 72
E. Tennessee St. 77, W. Carolina 48
High Point 93, Puerto Rico 83
Kentucky 68, South Carolina 61
N.C.-Asheville 75, Montreat 63

MIDWEST
Loyola, Ill. 80, Wright St. 67
Miami, Ohio 73, E. Michigan 49
Michigan 82, Indiana 70
Notre Dame 87, Pittsburgh 64
SW Missouri St. 71, Illinois St. 68

Ryan to be enshrined

ALVIN (AP) — Nolan Ryan might have been the only man in America wondering Tuesday morning whether he'd be elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

"My first thought was, 'What if I don't get that phone call?'" Ryan said.

His worries couldn't have been more unfounded.

Baseball's greatest power pitcher was named on 491 of the 497 ballots cast by 10-year members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America. With one more vote, he would've broken the record percentage of his former New York Mets teammate Tom Seaver.

"It's certainly an honor that I was thought of on that level," Ryan said. "Tom was obviously one of the best pitchers I ever saw throw the baseball."

Also elected Tuesday were George Brett and Robin Yount. It's the first time three rookie candidates have been elected since the inaugural class of 1936.

With the same aplomb he showed while throwing seven no-hitters, shattering the strikeout record at 5,714 and surpassing the 300-victory plateau, Ryan said induction into the Hall is a dream come true.

"I had no idea whether I had the ability or the talent to make the big leagues, and then when I made the big leagues, I wasn't sure whether I belonged there or not," he said.

In Alvin — just south of Houston, where Ryan became baseball's first million-dollar man in 1980 when he signed with the Astros — the 51-year-old pitcher-turned-businessman said the honor was all he could hope for.

"It really does kind of top off my career. I feel very fortunate," Ryan said. "I feel like I had the opportunity to live the childhood dream of so many American boys growing up."

In a news conference at the Nolan Ryan Center on the campus of Alvin Community College, Gov. George W. Bush introduced Ryan to a crowd of reporters and well-wishers.

"He is as Texan as Texan gets," said Bush, who owned part of the Rangers during Ryan's tenure and in recent years appointed Ryan, an avid outdoorsman, to the state Parks and Wildlife Commission.

Bush, who now oversees the Texas Rangers peace officers, offered to track down the sportswriters who did not vote for Ryan.

"We're going to be looking for those six writers who must never have seen him play," Bush said.

While naysayers cite his .526 career winning percentage (324-292) — the lowest of any 300-game winner — and his record 2,795 walks, it's undisputed that Ryan contributed to the first real success each of his four franchises enjoyed:

—He earned a save in his only appearance in the 1969 World Series, which the Mets won in a stunning upset of the Baltimore Orioles.

—His Angels made their first playoff appearance in his eighth and final season there.

—The next season, the Astros reached the playoffs for the first time with the Ryan Express on board. He helped them make it back in 1986.

—Ryan's signing with the Rangers rescued the franchise from anonymity, helped garner public support for The Ballpark in Arlington and laid the groundwork for their current success.

"I don't think there's any question the organization crossed the threshold when it signed Nolan Ryan," team president Tom Schieffer said. "When he performed to the level he did, he captured the imagination of the country."

Ryan will be the sixth former Astro in the Hall of Fame and the fifth former Ranger; none of the previous wore the hat of a Texas team on their plaque.

Ira splits with Klondike

IRA — Playing in their final district tune-up, the Ira Bulldogs continued their run of success that has carried them to a 14-4 non-district record.

Ira used 20 points from Logan Daves and another 18 from Jerek Brown to run past Klondike, 58-42, Tuesday night at Bulldog gym.

In girls action, the Lady Cougars rallied in the fourth quarter to knock off the Ira girls, 45-39. The setback leaves the Lady Bulldogs at 11-7 entering Friday's district opener at Grady.

Morgan Clements paced the Ira girls with 15 points, while Korby Calley and Kristen Harless dropped in eight apiece. Audra Oliver and E'Lissa Goolsby notched four points each.

For the Ira boys, it was a second quarter run that put the Bulldogs up for good.

After opening up a three-point advantage in the first period, Ira outscored the Cougars, 21-13, in the second quarter to grab a 30-19 halftime lead.

Daves and Brown led all scorers, with Jose Juarez adding five points. Drew Wall finished with three points, while Nathan Smith, Bryce Wilkins and Terry Jamison chipped in two apiece.

Both Ira squads travel to Grady Friday night. Girls action is slated for 6:30, with the boys getting underway at 8 o'clock.

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010 LEGAL NOTICES

BID NOTICE
The City of Snyder is accepting bids for the purchase of a 1999 dump truck. The bids will be received until Tuesday, January 13, 1999 at 3:30 p.m., at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

BID NOTICE
The City of Snyder is accepting bids for the purchase of a new 3 ton truck cab and chassis. Bids will also be accepted on a service body for this truck. The bids will be accepted until Wednesday, January 20, 1999 at 3:00 p.m. The opening for this will be at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

BID NOTICE
The City of Snyder is accepting bids for the purchase of a new 1999 ½ ton extended cab pickup for use in the street department. The bids will be accepted until Wednesday, January 20, 1999 at 3:30 p.m. The opening for this will be at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF SCURRY §
To those indebted to, or holding claims against the Estate of GENE LLOYD COX, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,485:
The undersigned, having been duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of GENE LLOYD COX, Deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by Ricky Fritz, Judge of the County Court of said County, on the 29th day of December, 1998, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said Estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said Estate to present them to JEREL LEEN BEDARD, 410 30th, Snyder, Texas 79549, within the time prescribed by law.
Executed this 29th day of December, 1998.
(s)JEREL LEEN BEDARD
Administrator
of the Estate of
GENE LLOYD COX, deceased

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ALFALFA HAY. Small squares (65 lbs) Large squares (1500 lbs) 573-8911 or Pager 1-800-508-4212.

FOR SALE: Coastal hay. 1-915-728-5550 (Colorado City).

HAY FOR SALE! HEAVILY FERTILIZED. $50-$60 A ROLL DELIVERED. LIMITED QUANITY. 915-667-7470.

260 MERCHANDISE

DAVID YANDRICK Guarantees his work as an automobile mechanic, with 36 years experience. Former owner of Kwik Kar Lube. I would appreciate your business. 573-1011.

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

PALLETS for sale. Call 573-5486 Snyder Daily News.

REMODELING SALE! Gas Wall Heaters * Gas Hot Water Heaters * Tub Faucets & Shower Massage * Priced To Sell! See at Purple Sage Motel.

PLAY IT SMART... GET INTO THE CLASSIFIEDS 573-5486

290 DOGS, PETS, ETC.

FREE PUPPIES! Ready for a new home. Mother, Blueheeler/Austraian mix. 4 males/2 Females. Call 573-4729 or 573-1485.

MISS YOUR PAPER?
Your Snyder Daily News should be delivered to you by 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Your Carrier strives to give Prompt Service, but should your paper be missing...
PLEASE CALL
573-5486
Before 6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday

310 GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE
Association for Retarded Citizens open each Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., 2504 Ave. W. Good used Children's clothes. Donations of Useable & Sellable items accepted. For local piclup on items, call 573-4186, 573-5374 or 573-3729.

315 WANT TO BUY

WANTED FURS & RABBITS. Elmdale Fur Co., will be in town Jan. 14th & 28th, Feb. 4th & 11th @ Ezell Key & Feed 10:30-11:00. Questions call 915-677-6052.

325 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Western Crest Apartments
3901 Ave. O
•1 or 2 Bedroom
•Washer/Dryer Connections
•Covered Parking • Sparkling Pool
•Playground •Satellite TV Available
•Corporate Housing Upon Request

Windridge Village Apartments
5400 College Ave.
•1 or 2 Bedroom
• Sparkling Pool • Clothes Care Facility
•Great Location •Satellite TV Available
•Corporate Housing Upon Request
Office Located At 3901 Ave. O
573-1488

2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT: $275/MONTH. All Bills Paid, including cable. No Pets. Call 573-5773.

3 Bedroom & 1 Bedroom Apartments. Bills & Cable T.V. Paid. Deposit Required. 806 23rd. For information 573-7081.

ONE BEDROOM furnished apartments, deposit required, no utilities paid. 573-9047 or 728-3929.

FOR RENT: 1 Bedroom furnished apartment in Hermleigh. 863-2700.

THIS IS WHERE ALL THE ACTION IS
The SDN Classified Ads
573-5486

330 HOUSES FOR RENT

2404 28th: 2 Bedroom, Carport, completely remodeled. $350/month $200/deposit. References. 573-8739.

HOMES FOR RENT
313 32nd.....3-2-1.....$450
1913 30th.....2-1.....$350
2806 Ave. E. 3-2 Remodeled $350
Sarah Jamison 573-4028
Elizabeth Potts 573-8505

RENT OR SALE: 3003 41st, 3-1-2 living areas, CH/A, Separate Laundry Room. $350/month $200/deposit. 338-8815.

Small 1 bedroom house, $175/month plus bills. $100/deposit. 2505 27th. (2) Small Duplexes, $250/month, bills paid. $150/deposit. 573-7008.

335 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

3 bedroom Mobile Home w/no bills paid. 573-3279, 573-5879, no answer 915-728-8482.

3 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME FOR RENT. $250/month. 573-1711.

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

340 MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

$1000 PARK ALLOWANCE IN MIDLAND. Call Jay at A-1 Homes for information about Allowance with purchase of new home. Limited Time, Hurry! 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

$500 TOTAL MOVE IN COST on Special 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Homes. Hurry they won't last long! Call Jay at A-1 Homes 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000. (Example: S.P. $38,600, down payment $500, 11.5% A.P.R., 360 months, payment $377.30 W.A.C.

ABANDONED HOME! CALL 1-800-755-9133 or 563-9000.

LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME call Calvin, The Credit Doctor. Divorces, Bankruptcy, Bad Credit/ No Credit, 95% approval rate. 915-563-9000 A-1 Homes, Midland, Tx

LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME? Don't settle for second best. Call Billy at A-1 Homes, Midland, 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

HEY if you didn't need a New Home, you wouldn't be looking at this ad, Right!!! Lets skip the double talk & let me put you in a New Home, TODAY. I'll do whatever I can to put you in a new or used home! Call John at, 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

START THE NEW YEAR OFF with a new home! Call Billy at A-1 Homes 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

WE BUY USED MOBILE HOMES. A-1 Homes 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

TRADE IN YOUR USED HOME in any condition, for a new one at A-1 Homes Midland, ask for Jesse James, Credit Bandit. 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

NEED A NEW HOME? Looking for low payments. Call The Credit Doctor, Calvin. A-1 Homes 7206 W. Hwy. 80, Midland, Tx. 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

HEY GUYS I'VE MOVED!!! Come see the best selling homes on the market. Fleetwood has no competition at all. Whats the worst thing that can happen? I tell you to come get your new home. Ask for John at, 915-563-9000 or 1-800-755-9133.

$1400 REBATE on 1999, 16X80, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Only at A-1 Homes, Midland. West Hwy. 80, 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

$1800 REBATE on 1999 Doublewide, 28X62, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with Study. Only at A-1 Homes, Midland. West Hwy. 80, 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

A-1 Homes Wants You to trade in your used home on a NEW home today. It is worth more than you think, at A-1 Homes, Midland. West Hwy. 80, 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

$500 DOWN on a NEW 3 bedroom. $193/month $240 months, 10% APR W.A.C. at A-1 Homes, Midland. West Hwy. 80, 1-800-755-9133 or 915-563-9000.

BANKRUPTCY, REPO'S, DIVORCES! Does not mean you can't BUY A HOME! Call A-1 Homes, Midland. Ask for Jesse James, Credit Bandit. 1-800-755-9133 or 563-9000.

FACTORY REBATE $1400 TO $1800 ON SELECT FLEETWOOD HOMES. CALL J. HITE HOMES, ABILENE, 800-378-0998 OR 793-9999.

FOR SALE: Mobile Home, 2502 26th. Owner Finance. 915-949-9138.

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

360 REAL ESTATE

4 PLOTS in Garden of Christas, in Hillside Memorial Gardens. Reasonably Priced. Call 915-394-4691.

Special Financing Available! Easy Terms! 3 bedroom house at 1207 26th Street. Nice porch, permanent siding, new carpet, newly painted interior. Price $26,000, low down payment, $295 per month. Call toll free: (915) 425-9998 or 425-9994.

FOR SALE IN ROBY: Nice large home, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Basement, Large Wrap Around Porch, Fenced Back Yard. REDUCED to $37,500. Call 915-776-2464 or 817-645-8153.

FOR SALE: Large 2-1 Brick House w/detached garage. 2301 Ave. M 863-2750.

Nice 2-1-carport house. Also 3 bedroom house w/2 room house for storage, w/carport. Cheap! 573-6689.

TWO HOUSES For Sale, Rent or Trade. 316 35th and 317 34th. Will finance with down payment. 573-3639 or 574-1410.

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

Prestigious...3-2½-2 $87.5T
117 A. Near Ira 3-1¾-1 $95T
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Fresh & Ready 3-1-cp $29T
3-1-1 Near schools $24,500
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3-1¾-2 Austin Stone $56.5T
2-1-2 2CP 911 17th St.
3-2-2cp Nice/Large Hermleigh
Updated..3-3-2 Private $114T.
Residential Lots Colonial Hill.
A-Frame 3-2-1 Shop 11 Acres.
Reduced .78A 3-2-CP $45T
5+A's Spacious Liv. 3-3½-2.
6.555 Acres Hwy 84 & Ave. E
Lovely Ced. Cr. 3-2½-2 Study
Towle Park 4-2 4519 Fredonia
14A 1 mile E. 180 2 water wells
Office..Shop + Additional Lot!
Atten: Investors 2-1-1 $23.5T
Shirley Drum 573-1550
Ford Spikes 573-6602

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REALTORS
3405 Snyder Shopping Center, Suite B
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Stevenson Real Estate
2405 25th Street
573-5612 or 573-1755
Bill Dryden, Broker/Owner

Elizabeth Potts, Realtors
1707 30th Suite C
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Terri Matthies, Owner Broker

1929 Santa Fe 4-3-3 Office.
2807 Ave. W... Unique 4-2½
5 Acres S. Hwy. 208 Spacious Home!
3 Acres 4-3 Corral $60's
3310 Ave. V 3-2-2 Nice!
Ira 3-2-2 CP-Shop+12.7A $78T.
2 Acres 2-1 CR $20's
Downtown Bldg. 3-Offices
Parkview Area 4-2-2 $97T Call.
138.9 Acres CR 473 Wells/Pens!
Unique! 3-1¾-2cp...Call!
Exclusive! 3-1.....$34T
218 36th 3-2-1.....Call
Close to Park! 3-2½-2 Nice.
Reduced 3-1 Assume...Call!
We Have Several Country Listings & Land!
Sarah Jamison 573-4028
Rita Knox 573-7082
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GREAT PLACE TO BUY...SELL TRADE OR RENT
573-5486

Clinton to seek base closings' approval

WASHINGTON (AP) — After failing two years in a row, President Clinton will try again to persuade Congress to let the Pentagon close more domestic military bases.

As part of his budget proposal for the fiscal year that begins in October, Clinton will ask Congress next month to grant authority to begin two new rounds of base closings starting in 2001, National Security Council official Robert Bell said Tuesday.

Bell would not say which — or how many — bases the administration wants to close.

Congress approved several rounds of base closings earlier this decade but since the last round in 1995 has rejected two attempts by the Clinton administration to further shrink the far-flung network of bases developed during the Cold War.

Bell said it would take about a 10 percent cut in the overall U.S. military base structure to make it fit today's smaller military, which has shrunk steadily since the end of the Cold War.

The key point, Bell said, is that the Pentagon needs to be able to cut its costs in order to pay for the kinds of force improvements that Congress says are urgently needed. "It's going to be incumbent on Congress to cooperate and give us that authority," he said.

The administration hopes it can win congressional approval by arguing an urgent need to achieve more defense savings and by pointing to examples in which communities have turned the setback of a base closing into long-term economic gain, officials said.

On Capitol Hill, the nation's top military officers pressed the case for more base closings.

"Getting rid of the excesses that we have now ... would be very beneficial," Army Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the Senate Armed Services Committee. He said the savings could amount to up to $15 billion over the next five years.

Bell said the administration is counting on savings from new base closures of $2 billion to $3 billion through 2005.

Clinton has come under attack from many congressional Republicans for allowing the state of readiness of U.S.-based troops to deteriorate in recent years.

From 65-67...

Medicare eligibilty age may be raised

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans would have to work two years longer or risk retiring without health insurance under a revived proposal to raise the eligibility age for Medicare from 65 to 67.

"It's a controversial proposal, obviously," said Sen. John Breaux, D-La., chairman of the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare.

An hourlong discussion at a meeting Tuesday revealed that many of the commission's members believe the fact that Americans are living longer means a higher eligibility age could save Medicare money with minimal disruption to people's lives.

"We know the downsides on it," Breaux said. "I think there's been some good discussions on how to alleviate some of the obvious problems that are created by increasing eligibility age."

The commission, which must make recommendations for Medicare's future to Congress and President Clinton by March 1, has made no final decisions.

Without changes, Medicare is expected to face cash shortages starting in 2008 — just as the nation's huge baby boom generation is nearing retirement age.

Congress and Clinton would have to enact any changes to the program, which now provides health insurance to more than 38 million elderly and disabled Americans.

Breaux helped achieve Senate passage in 1997 of a proposal to raise Medicare's eligibility age, only to see it rejected as too controversial in later negotiations with the House and Clinton administration.

At Tuesday's meeting, only two of the 17 commission members expressed strong reservations about the basic idea of raising Medicare's eligibility age.

The proposal would slowly raise the Medicare eligibility age to 67, increasing it by about a month each year. People now age 62 and older would not be affected. People 38 and younger would feel the full brunt of the change, not getting Medicare benefits until age 67.

The change would be the same as the eligibility-age increase that Congress approved more than a decade ago for Social Security.

Rep. Jim McDermott, D-Wash., and Samuel H. Howard, chairman of a Nashville, Tenn., company that operates health plans, said they feared such a change would hurt people who work at jobs requiring physical labor and minorities with lower life expectancies.

Others suggested those problems could be avoided by letting at least some people younger than age 67 pay an extra fee to enroll in Medicare early.

"If we are going to raise the age, I think there's general agreement to have a way to allow those who would have had it earlier to get it," said Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Calif., the commission's co-chairman.

Congressional leaders have promised only to hold hearings on the commission's recommendations. Clinton administration officials also have also declined to comment on specific proposals until after the recommendations are formally submitted.

Clinton has proposed opening Medicare to people as young as 55 who are willing to pay $300 to $400 a month to buy into the program.

Some commission members said that would go too far. "We don't want to create ... incentives to retire early that don't exist now," said Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas.

Markets Midday

Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)

High	Low	Last		
AMR Corp s	67 7-16	66¼	66¼	+2 13-16
AT&T Corp	82 7-16	81	81 13-16	+2 5-16
AirTouch	83½	79⅝	80⅝	+ 2¼
Albertsons		65	64	64¼ + ½
AlldSignal	44⅝	43 15-16	44⅝	+ 9-16
Alltel	62	61 9-16	61 13-16	+ ¼
AmOnline s	151¾	150	151 3-16	+ 4¼
AmStores	38 3-16	37 61-128	37 9-16	+ ¼
Ameritech	60 15-16	60 3-16	60⅝	— ¼
AndarkPtr s	30 15-16	30 1-16	30 15-16	+ ¼
Armcolnc	5¾	5⅛	5¼	+ 5-16
AtlRichfld	66⅝	65 11-16	65 11-16	+ ⅜
ATMOS Egy	31¼	31⅛	31⅛	— ¼
Avlall	11 11-16	11 9-16	11 11-16	+ ⅛
BP Amoco	92⅝	92	92	+1 1-16
BakerHughes	18 13-16	18¼	18 11-16	+11-16
BankAmerica	63¾	62	63⅞	+2 9-16
BellAtl s	57⅞	56¾	57	+2 7-16
BellSouth s	49 1-16	48 11-16	48 15-16	+ 1-16
BethSteel	10 3-16	9 13-16	10 1-16	+13-16
BurlNoSFe s		33 9-16	33 33⅛	+ ½
CBS Corp	33⅝	32⅛	33⅛	+ ¼
Caterpillar	48⅝	47 9-16	48	3-16+15-16
CenSoWst	27 13-16	27⅝	27⅝	— ¼
Chevron	82 5-16	81¼	81⅛	+ ⅜
Citigroup	54¼	52 1-16	53 13-16	+2 9-16
Coastal s	34 15-16	34¼	34	13-16+ 7-16
CocaCola	69 1-16	68 5-16	68⅝	— 3-16
ColgatePalm	91	1-16	90	90 — 1
ComclMetals	26¼	26¼	26¼	+ 5-16
Cooperln	48¼	47 15-16	48¼	+ 7-16
CyprusAmax	10 9-16	10 5-16	10⅝	+ 1-16
DaimlrChry n	108⅝	107⅛	108	5-16+2 3-16
DallSemicn	42 5-16	39 13-16	41	7-16+ 1⅛
DeltaAirl s	57⅛	56	7-16	56 15-16+2 7-16
Dillards Inc	29 5-16	28 9-16	29	5-16+1 1-16
DowChem	91⅞	91	91	1-16+ 1⅜
DuPont	58	56¾	57	13-16+ 1⅛
EastmanChem	47⅛	46	5-16	46 5-16— ⅜
EstKodak	71¼	71	3-16	71 5-16— 3-16
EDS Corp	50⅛	49⅝	49	15-16+ ¼
Entergy	31	7-16	31¼	31⅛+ ⅜
Exxon	73¼	72	11-16	73 + 1
FstBksAm	19 15-16	19	15-16	19 15-16+ 1-16
Flowers		24	23¾	23¾— ¼
FordMotor s	61 15-16	60	61	13-16+2 5-16
GTE Cp	69⅝	67⅞	69	+ 1⅜
GenDynam s	58 13-16	57	13-16	58 11-16+ 3-16
GenElec	104 3-16	102	11-16	103 13-16+ 1¼
GenMills	79⅝	78	13-16	79 — ⅞
GenMotors		78	74⅛	77⅞+ 3¼
GaPacGP	66 13-16	63	7-16	66 11-16+4 3-16
GlobalMar	9⅝	9	3-16	9⅝+ ⅜
Goodrich	37⅞	36	5-16	36 7-16+ 5-16
Goodyear s	53⅜	52¼	52	15-16+11-16
GtAtlPac	30 7-16	29¾	30⅛	— 5-16
Halliburtn		32	31¼	31⅛+ 1
Hanson ADS	39 1-16	38	15-16	39 + 7-16
HarteHanks s	27 13-16	27⅝	27⅞+	¼
HomeDepot	59⅛	58⅝	59⅛+	¼
HoustonInds	32¼	31	13-16	32⅛+ ¼
IBM	192⅜	190	5-16	191 13-16+2 3-16
IntlPaper		43⅛	43	43⅜+ 9-16
JohnsonJn	83⅛	82	7-16	82 13-16— 3-16
K mart	16 9-16	16	1-16	16 7-16+ ⅜
Kroger Co	58 1-16	57	57	1-16— 9-16
Litton	65	64	3-16	64 5-16— 3-16
LockheedM s	42 15-16	41⅛	42⅛	+1 11-16
Lowes Cos s	52⅛	51	3-16	51 15-16+1 1-16
Lubys	15⅝	15¼	15¼	— 5-16
LucentTech s	119⅝	116¾	118	11-16+4 9-16
MayDeptStrs	62 9-16	61	7-16	62 5-16+ 9-16
MediaOne		50	48¾	49⅛+ 2⅛
Medtronic	72 13-16	72	5-16	72 9-16+ ⅛
Mobil	87 15-16	86	5-16	87 3-16+ 1⅜
Monsanto	48¾	47⅛	47	9-16— 3-16
MorganJP	109 15-16	108⅛	109⅝+	2⅛
Motorola	68 15-16	66	9-16	67⅝— ⅛
NCR Corp	44	5-16	43¼	43⅛— ⅞
Navistar	32¼	30	1-16	31⅛+1 11-16
OryxEngy	13 13-16	13	5-16	13 11-16+ ¼
Penney JC		46	45	7-16 45 7-16
PennzEnrgy s		16⅝	16⅛	16 7-16
PepBoys	15¾	15¼	15	13-16+ 1-16
PepsiCo	41⅞	40⅝	41	9-16+13-16
PhelpDodge	52 3-16	50	3-16	51½— 7-16
PhilipPet	42⅝	42	42	9-16— 1-16
PilgrmPrd B	21¼	21⅛	21⅛+	9-16
Polaroid		20⅝	20	20⅝+ ⅜
Praxair	36⅞	36¼	36	13-16+ 9-16
ProctGamb	91¼	90	11-16	90⅞— 11-16
PubSNwMx	20 3-16	20⅛	20	3-16+ 1-16
RoyalDut	47⅞	47⅛	47	5-16— 1 9-16
SBC Comm s	52 11-16	52	5-16	52 9-16+ 3-16
SaraLee s	28 3-16	27⅞	28	1-16+ 1-16
Scripps EW	49 9-16	49	5-16	49⅝— 1-16
SearsRoeb	44 1-16	43	13-16	43 15-16+ 9-16
SherwinW	30 11-16	30⅛	30⅛+	5-16
SmithklBchm	75	73	15-16	74 1-16+ 1⅛
SouthernCo	29 3-16	28	15-16	29 — ¼
SwstAirl s		25	24⅛	24⅛+ ⅛
SprintFON n		82⅝	81⅛	82 + 1-16
SprintPCS n	22 5-16	21	11-16	22 + 1-16
Sunoco Inc	37 1-16	35⅛	36	13-16+ 1⅛
TNP Ent s	37⅞	37½	37½	— 3-16
Tandy	45 5-16	44⅛	44⅛+	1⅛
TempleInland	63	61	15-16	62⅛+ 1-16
Tenneco	35⅞	34¼	35⅞	— 1-16
Texaco		54	53¼	53⅜+ 9-16
TexInd	27 13-16	27	9-16	27 11-16+ 3-16
TexasInst	91½	90¼	91¼	+2 3-16
TexUtil	46¼	46⅛	46⅛	+ 3-16
Textron	77 15-16	77	3-16	77 13-16+15-16
TriconGlbR	49 7-16	48	15-16	49⅛+ 5-16
Trinityinds	39 3-16	38	11-16	38⅞— 1-16
TritonEngy				8¼ 88
Tyler	6 7-16	6	3-16	6 7-16+ ¼
US West Inc	63 15-16	62	9-16	63 13-16+11-16
USX-Marathn	29 1-16	27	15-16	28 15-16+ 1-16
USX-USS		26⅛	25⅞	26 + 1⅛
UnCarbde		43¾	42	7-16 42⅞+ ⅜
UnionPacif		49⅞	48	5-16 48⅞+2 7-16
UnitedTech		114¼	112	1-16 112⅞+15-16
Unocal		31⅛	30⅞	30⅞+ ⅜
Venator Grp		7	6	9-16 6 15-16+ ¼
WalMart		82	9-16	81⅛ 82⅛+ ⅞
WellsFargo	40 7-16	39	13-16	39⅞— 5-16
WstnGasRs		6	9-16	6⅞ 6 9-16+ ⅜
WinnDixie		45⅞	45	3-16 45 9-16— 3-16
Xerox Corp		121	118	9-16 119⅞— ⅜

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1 Year: $85.80
6 Mos.: $46.20

By Mail Out Of County
1 Year: $113.85
6 Mos.: $61.60

Tuesday quiet for local officers

Tuesday was a quiet day for local law enforcement personnel.

A 32-year-old male was booked into jail at 6:59 p.m. on county warrants for issuance of bad checks and misdemeanor theft. The subject had been arrested earlier in Wheeler County and transported back to Scurry.

In other activity, officers investigated reports of reckless drivers and assisted motorists in unlocking their vehicles.

Births

Austin James O'Banion welcomed his brother, Brandon Ryan O'Banion, born at 4:30 a.m. on Jan. 2. Brandon weighed eight pounds, three ounces. They are the sons of Jack and Tammy O'Banion of Powder Springs, Ga.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Dan Santo of San Clemente, Calif., and Acworth, Ga. Paternal grandparents are Dr. and Mrs. John O'Banion of Snyder.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Hugh Boren Jr., Kenneth Kellner of Ira, Eloise Massey, John Mathis, Sidney McCann, Marilyn Chauncy, Deonica Vasquez.

DISMISSLAS: Norma Gaytan and daughter; Andrea Rodriquez, Brett Banks, Victor Beinhauer of Hermleigh, Buford Browning, Evelyn Chandler of Decatur, Jimmy Clayton, Janie Dever, Maurine Holman, Ruiz Girl, Jan Woods of Marble Falls.

CENSUS: 47 (Med., Surg.-17, Long-term Care-25, OB-2, Nursery-3).

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Preventing Alzheimer's

DEAR DR. GOTT: Is there anything I can do to avoid getting Alzheimer's disease? My grandmother died of it and I'm scared silly.

DEAR READER: There really isn't any proven way to avoid Alzheimer's disease, although some reports have indicated that estrogen therapy in women and vitamin E supplements (in both sexes) may exert a protective effect. Recently, Dr. Robert Friedland, associate professor of neurology at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, performed a study showing that exercise throughout life may protect some patients against this dreaded affliction. The investigators showed that jogging, biking, golf, weight training, ice skating, tennis, swimming and racquetball were beneficial. Dr. Friedland hypothesized that regular exercise "enhances the metabolic activity of nerve cells in the appropriate brain regions." Although these findings must be confirmed in a larger study, they are intriguing. Of course, regular exercise is known to benefit all of the major organ systems in the body; if the Alzheimer's link is also proven, so much the better.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Alzheimer's Disease." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am a 21-year-old woman with an embarrassing problem. I have a pilonidal cyst that keeps getting infected. Although my doctor prescribes antibiotics when necessary, my symptoms are recurring more frequently, usually about four times a month. I have a small hole near my tailbone, which drains thick pus and causes pain. My doctor says that in her experience, surgery is the only cure. However, the surgeon she referred me to told me that the incision would be about three inches long and would extend more than an inch deep. Should I get a second opinion?

DEAR READER: Don't waste your time and money. Have the surgery. Pilonidal cysts are congenital malformations of the skin over the lower spine, which failed to fuse during embryonic development, leaving you with an open hole in the area of the coccyx. Bacteria readily enter this defect and set up infection that is chronic. The only sure cure is an operation to remove the infected material, which lies deep in the tissues, and close the hole. While the prospect of surgery is understandably daunting, the procedure is curative and will permanently relieve your symptoms. Yes, you could see another surgeon, but I believe that his conclusions would be identical to those of your present physician and her consultant.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Is there anything I can take to treat premature ejaculation? I'm only 22 and nothing has helped, even behavioral therapy.

DEAR READER: An article in the Journal of Urology (Vol. 159, 1998) showed that the use of the prescription antidepressant Anafranil was an effective remedy for premature ejaculation. Ask your doctor to consider prescribing this drug.

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If convicted in Senate...

Bill Clinton would lose more than his job

WASHINGTON (AP) — If the impeachment case against President Clinton led to conviction in a Senate trial, Clinton would lose far more than his job.

Under a 1958 law, Clinton would lose his $151,800 annual pension. He also would lose related benefits funded by Congress, such as the annual stipend former presidents traditionally receive to run an office and staff.

Although Congress may change that law, presidential and constitutional scholars said that is unlikely, even given Clinton's current stratospheric job approval ratings. The national mood may well change if the impeachment process leads to Clinton's removal from office, scholars said.

"Ordinary people will probably be outraged if he got a pension if he was impeached and convicted," said Akhil Reed Amar, a constitutional scholar at Yale University Law School.

Punishment could stop with the provisions of the 1958 pension law, but the senators who would be Clinton's jury in an impeachment trial this month could also take other steps. The Constitution spells out some possible consequences of a Senate conviction. Others could be negotiated by the White House, senators and Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr.

Senators, if they chose, could disqualify Clinton from seeking federal office again. Such punishment would take a separate, majority vote in the Senate, after the two-thirds vote required to convict and remove the impeached president.

"I think that's unlikely, and it's piling on, but the Senate could do it," said Dennis W. Johnson, a George Washington University political science professor who teaches a course on the relationship between the White House and Congress.

Clinton could also face criminal prosecution for perjury or other charges related to his relationship with a former White House intern. Several impeached federal judges were criminally prosecuted in addition to being thrown out of office by the Senate.

"We have never had a president that was removed from office, so there's no specific precedent," said Mark Klugheit, Senate special counsel during the 1989 impeachment trial of former federal judge Alcee Hastings. In that case, the Senate convicted Hastings of bribery charges and removed him from office even though he had been acquitted years before in a criminal trial. He is now a Democratic House member from Florida.

"Criminal prosecution depends on a bunch of things, including whether Starr believes impeachment is enough, or if he feels further prosecution is warranted," Klugheit said.

Starr has indicated he might not press for criminal prosecution, and such an assurance could be part of any negotiated deal to censure Clinton.

Documents in leaks case to be released

WASHINGTON (AP) — A judge has rejected Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's request to maintain the secrecy of court documents showing that two of President Clinton's top aides were not in jeopardy of being prosecuted in the Monica Lewinsky case.

In a ruling made public Tuesday, U.S. District Judge Norma Holloway Johnson said there was no need to keep confidential the documents showing White House aides Bruce Lindsey and Sidney Blumenthal were only fact witnesses and never targets for prosecution.

Documents Starr had made public to Congress already had divulged that fact, the judge said. The ruling does not state why Starr wanted to keep the information secret.

Johnson also ordered the release later this week of additional documents from the investigation into whether Starr's office illegally leaked grand jury evidence from the Lewinsky probe to the news media.

Those documents show among other things that on Oct. 30 the judge rejected an appeal from Starr to reconsider her earlier ruling ordering his prosecutors to attend a hearing and prove they weren't the source of news media leaks about the Lewinsky case.

Starr denied such leaks, but Johnson had concluded there was circumstantial evidence that at least two dozens such leaks could have come from Starr's office and that further investigation was warranted.

The leaks probe continues even though the Lewinsky grand jury investigation has ended and the evidence has now been made public as part of the impeachment proceedings against Clinton.

"The court will unseal these papers because continued secrecy is not necessary to prevent disclosure of matters occurring before the grand jury," the judge said in the ruling made public Tuesday.

In a lengthy footnote in the ruling, she rejected the request from Starr's office that "all references to the target/nontarget status" of Blumenthal and Lindsey be kept secret when the new court documents are released.

A target is someone who has been informed by prosecutors that they are likely to be indicted.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, Jan. 7, 1999

In the year ahead, many of your stronger traits and aspects of your personality could begin to take precedence over your more moderate ones. This is fine as long as you don't make unreasonable demands on others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) It's quite possible that you might take it upon yourself to champion an unpopular view and try to impose these ideas on others today. Forget it, you're not likely to be very successful. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You have an ability to appreciate unusual things, but when shopping today, you could carry this a bit too far and purchase items you'll consider to be white elephants tomorrow.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Faulty judgment or irrational decisions could force you to retrace your steps later. Remember, what you don't have in your head, you'll have to have in your feet.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) As an Aries, there aren't too many things you can't do once you set your mind to it. However, if something beyond your scope needs fixing today, call in an expert.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Unless you put a lid on it, a big dent in your bank book of some extra cash you've accumulated is likely to occur today. Don't squander what you've saved.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Before you rearrange today's events or schedule, it's best to first check with your spouse. Even though your intentions might be good, your priorities could be miles apart.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) There's a strong chance today that you could develop a tendency to focus on insignificant details. It'll get to a point where it obliterates the big picture, and you may find yourself at odds with companions. Slow down.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Delusions of grandeur could cause you to try to match the extravagance of some big spenders you'll be spending your day with, and that would be just plain foolish.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) By all means seek counsel and advice from intelligent friends if you have an important decision to make. However, reserve the right to make the final judgment yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) If you view the ample opportunities that exist around you today with indifference, chances are their true worth will be wasted. Take the time to evaluate what's going on.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You must take care not to blow things out of proportion if you should have a difference of opinion with a friend or a serious rival today. Be tolerant, and live and let live.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) How you conduct yourself today in situations that bring you before the public will make all the difference between a good impression and a poor one. The latter will be difficult to eradicate.

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Peas may ward off stink bugs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pecan growers can help protect their trees from damaging stink bugs by planting peas around their orchards, a new government study concludes.

The stink bugs will be lured to their favorite speckled purple hull peas and pig out on them instead of the moneymaking nut trees, the Agriculture Department's research service said.

Stink bugs are the biggest pests to Mississippi pecan growers. They usually start out infesting soybean fields, then move to pecan trees and stay through the harvest season, the Agriculture Research Service said.

In a recent field study, the research service's entomologist Michael T. Smith found that damage to the nut trees from the bugs within the pea-protected areas was about 50 percent lower than in areas without the border crop.

"It's like building a moat around a castle," Smith said. "The bugs stop at the trap crop to dine and don't make it to the farmer's moneymaking crop."

The pea variety also offers an ongoing feast to the stink bugs because it produces pods throughout the season, the research service said.

Stink bugs can cause two types of damage to pecan trees: so-called "black pit" and "kernel spot."

Black pit occurs when a stink bug, with its needlelike nose, pierces the nut and spews a chemical on the kernel, causing it to turn black and cease development.

Kernel spot occurs when stink bugs drill through the pecan's shell, "spit" on the kernel to make it soft and suck the meat out, leaving a black spot on the kernel.

Colorado City cattle auction

COLORADO CITY — The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 710 head of cattle for the Saturday, Jan. 3 sale. Bulk supply medium large 1-2, 300-600 lb feeder steers and heifers. 10 percent feeder cattle over 600 lbs with balance mostly feeder cattle under 600 lbs.

Feeder Steers:
200 to 300: 97 to 102
300 to 400: 91 to 101
400 to 500: 83 to 91.50
600 to 700: 62 to 68

Feeder Heifers:
200 to 300: 66 to 72.50
300 to 400: 60 to 70
400 to 500: 65 to 72
500 to 600: 56 to 61
600 to 700: 53 to 58.75.

Young bred cows: 380 to 490

Medium age to older cows and calves: 500 to 600

Slaughter cows: high yielding 34.50 to 38.

Slaughter bulls: high dressing 45 to 46.50.

Cow and calf pairs: 420 to 450.

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Shurfine Crispy Rice Cereal SPECIAL $1.99 13.5 oz
Shurfine Spring Water SPECIAL 2 for $1 16.9 oz
Griffin's Grape Jelly SPECIAL $1.59 12 oz
Allsup's Light, Whole or Shurfine 2% Milk SPECIAL 2.59 Per Gal.

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

$76 billion surplus forecast this year

WASHINGTON (AP) — The administration today projected a budget surplus of more than $76 billion for this year. "We can say the era of big deficits is over," President Clinton said.

The president, convening a White House ceremony to tout the figure, immediately squelched any speculation that the extra revenue would be used to cut taxes.

"Like any family with long-term financial needs and a little more earnings than we expected, we can't go out and spend the surplus today. We have to plan for the future," said Clinton.

"Before we consider any new spending or tax cuts, first we must set this surplus aside until we save Social Security for the 21st century." He also cited "investment needs" in education and health research.

The administration's Office of Management and Budget released its latest forecast for fiscal 1999, bringing the projected size of the surplus — for the budget year ending Sept. 30 — closer to congressional estimates of about $80 billion.

The administration's newest estimate is significantly higher than its analysis last year, which estimated a fiscal 1999 surplus of $54.2 billion.

"We can say the era of big deficits is over. We are now entering the second year of an era of surpluses," Clinton said. He noted that when he took office in 1993, the fiscal 1999 projections were for a $404 billion deficit.

The Congressional Budget Office is due to release its own projections later this month, in advance of the president's annual budget submission to Congress. In its August update, CBO was even more optimistic than the president's budget analysts, projecting an $80 billion surplus for fiscal 1999.

Report on ways to combat imported steel woes delayed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration has missed a congressional deadline for coming up with a plan to combat a rising flood of imported steel into the United States in the wake of the Asian financial crisis.

Administration officials insisted that the report could still come out this week. "Maybe today, maybe tomorrow," White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said today. Officials attributed the delay to President Clinton's desire to consult more fully with members of Congress. Clinton said he had a two-hour meeting on the issue Tuesday.

Industry officials and members of Congress said the delay reflected divisions within the administration over two camps — one arguing for tough protectionist measures sought by the industry and its union and an opposing camp that is arguing that such measures would run counter to the administration's efforts to help countries hurt by the global financial turmoil.

Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., inserted language in the budget bill last fall ordering the administration to tell Congress by Tuesday what its plans were to cope with the sharp rise in steel imports over the past year.

One administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the report in its present form is about 20 pages long and essentially is a status report showing what actions have been taken so far.

Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., has been urging the administration to initiate its own steel protection cases against a larger number of countries than the three cases filed by the industry against Japan, Russia and Brazil.

Other lawmakers expressed unhappiness Tuesday about the missed deadline and the indications the administration will shy away from more dramatic steps to curb imports.

"I'm not interested in a status report because I already know where we have been and where we are. I want this report to show where we are going," said Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio.

Parolee with long record executed for '88 murder

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Convicted killer John Glenn Moody blamed drugs in part for his violent past and it was a lethal dose of drugs that served as punishment to end his life.

Moody, with halting speech and fighting back tears, expressed remorse Tuesday night for pain and suffering he caused as he received a lethal injection in the Texas death chamber.

But the West Virginia native, whose record before the murder of a 77-year-old Abilene woman included 21 convictions over 19 years, did not specifically acknowledge murdering the woman at her home more than a decade ago.

"I am very sorry," Moody, 46, said as he lay strapped to the death chamber gurney, needles inserted into his hands. Several friends and family members and two relatives of murder victim Maureen Louise Maulden watched through windows a few feet away.

He said he hoped those involved in his case and those watching him die would experience a final judgment "more merciful than mine."

"I've got to go now," he added. "I love you."

Eight minutes later he was pronounced dead.

The first execution of the year in Texas, where 20 inmates — the most in the nation — were executed in 1998, was delayed for more than two hours.

Obituaries

Mabel Brock McCain

Mabel McCain

1908-1999

Mabel Brock McCain passed away Jan. 3, 1999. Services will be held at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1999 at the First Christian Church in Eastland, Texas.

Mabel Roach was born in Eldorado, Texas, Schleicher County, April 16, 1908. She was the daughter of the late pioneer ranchers John and Pearl Roach. She moved with her parents in 1925 to Abilene, Texas. She graduated from Hardin Simmons College in 1928 with a B.A. Degree. She received her M.E. Degree from Hardin Simmons University in 1952.

She was a former school teacher and County Superintendent of Scurry County, Snyder, Texas, from the late 1930s until the latter 1940s, returning to teaching in 1948. She touched the lives of many children, men and women that were associated with her.

She was formerly very active in many civic affairs. She was a Lifetime Member of National Education and Texas State Teachers Association. She was the first president of Snyder's Teacher's Credit Union. She was a member of the Art Guild Study Club for 33 years and the first chairman of the Scurry County Library Board, a member of the Cancer Board and an Honorary Member of Delta Kappa Gamma. She was on the March of Dimes Board and was Secretary and Treasurer of the Girl Scouts for over 20 years.

On June 26, 1928 she married Gaston Brook. To this union one child, Jonnie Delle Cogdell, was born.

In 1967 she married C.M. McCain, a friend of over 30 years, and moved to Eastland, Texas. After moving to Eastland, she served twice on the Board of the First Christian Church. She is a former member of the Abilene Women's Club, Lone Cedar Duplicate Bridge Club and the Eastland Civic League.

She is survived by one daughter, Jonnie Delle Cogdell of Lubbock, Texas; two granddaughters, Connie Cogdell of Lubbock and Mrs. John (Carol) Courtney of Houston; two great-grandsons, John Cogdell Courtney and David Martin Courtney; one sister, Mary Lee Casey of Dallas, Texas. She was preceded in death by one sister, Mrs. Gene (Mildred) Galbraith of Abilene in 1987.

The family suggests memorials to the First Christian Church of Eastland, Texas or a charity of your choice.

Pallbearers will be Pat Falls, Jack Gorman Sr., Rudy Aguilar, Bradford Landers, Jack Westbrook, Lanham Riley, E.A. Birdwell, Ron Stephens, Rick Hobbs, Bob Perkins and Bill Hoffman.

Honorary pallbearers will be Horace Williams, Richardson Hopson, Dr. Bob Alexander, Jack Bishop, Perry Vines, Troy Cross, Ron Vaughn, Alton McCain, Bill Brown, John Kidd, Fred Brown and Jimmy Randals.

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M.K. Hardee

1924-1999

TULIA — M.K. "Moe" Hardee, a native of Scurry County, died Monday, Jan. 4, at his home in Tulia.

Funeral service for Mr. Hardee, 74, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the Wallace Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Charles Davenport, pastor of Tulia's First Baptist Church, will officiate.

Graveside service is set for 4 p.m. Thursday in the Andrews Cemetery. The Rev. Milton Jochetz, a retired Methodist minister, will officiate.

Born Nov. 3, 1924 in Snyder, he grew up in Scurry County, living in Snyder and Ira. He graduated from Snyder High School and began his farming career in Scurry County in 1942.

He married Ruby Ray Roberson on Dec. 24, 1942 in Snyder. In 1956, the Hardee family relocated to Swisher County and he farmed the same irrigated land for 42 years.

Survivors include his wife, Ruby Hardee of Tulia; a daughter, Jerry Lynn Crow of Andrews; a son, Dennis Hardee of Alpine; four sisters, Geraldine Neithercutt of Lubbock, Gradine Sterling of Snyder, Pat Gaylen of Tulia and Martha Jo Johnson of Edmond, Okla.; two brothers, B.B. Hardee of Colorado City and Dicky Dan Hardee of Starkville, Miss.; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Laura Stewart

1911-1999

COLORADO CITY — Laura Stewart, the mother of Janice Scrivner of Snyder, died this morning in Cogdell Memorial Hospital following a lengthy illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Stewart, 87, of Colorado City is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Colorado City Calvary Baptist Church with the Rev. Sammy Elliott, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in the Colorado City Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Aug. 20, 1911 in Midland, she married Paul Stewart on Dec. 19, 1928 in Colorado City. He died in 1985.

Mrs. Stewart was a homemaker and a member of the Calvary Baptist Church.

She was also preceded in death by a brother and a sister.

Survivors also include a son, Bob Stewart of Abilene; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Bruce W. Farmer

1912-1999

Bruce W. Farmer, longtime Snyder resident, died Tuesday, Jan. 5, at Snyder Oaks Care Center after a lengthy illness.

Graveside service for Mr. Farmer, 86, was set for 4 p.m. today at Hillside Memorial Gardens. The Rev. Jim Mosley of Abilene was to officiate and arrangements were under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born on March 18, 1912 in Brookston, Tex., he married Evie Diffee on May 21, 1932 in Hugo, Okla.

Mr. Farmer was a mechanic, moving to Snyder 44 years ago from Seagraves where he was engaged in farming. He worked for the Western Company for 33 years, and was the first mechanic hired by Eddie Childs after he started the Western Company in Seagraves.

He was preceded in death by one son, Doyle Farmer, on Dec. 29, 1995.

Survivors include his wife, Evie Farmer of Snyder; a daughter, Anita Farmer of Snyder; three sons, Bruce T. Farmer of Snyder, Herman B. Farmer of Long Beach, Calif., and Tim G. Farmer of Lake Whitney; two sisters, Betty Jo Terrell of Quanah and Monnie Downs of Powderly; two brothers, Wayne Farmer of Paris, Tex., and Marshall Farmer of Redding, Calif.; 10 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the West Texas Rehabilitation Center, 4601 Hartford St., Abilene, 79605-9989.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Rotary meeting

The Snyder Rotary Club will resume its regular noon meeting on Thursday.

Snyder Bible Institute

Bible History I will be taught for 24 weeks beginning Thursday in the Christian Student Center on the WTC campus. Richard Rogers of Sunset International Bible Institute Satellite School will be the instructor. Classes meet from 7-9 p.m. All Bible students are welcome and tuition is free.

Historical commission

The Scurry County Historical Commission will meet at 5 p.m. Thursday in the Scurry County Library.

Community singing

Join in singing praise and worship songs and enjoy special music at a community worship set from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday in the Scurry County Coliseum. The public is invited and there is no admission charge. Bring lawn chairs to sit on floor level, or seating in stands is also available.

Y2K preparedness workshop

The FamilyLife Community Church will hold a Y2K workshop from 8 a.m. until noon Saturday at the church, 904 26th St. Admission is free.

Retired teachers meeting

The Scurry County Retired Teachers Association will meet at noon Monday at The Shack Restaurant. Mrs. Sherma Barham will bring a program on home health care.

Weigh Down Workshop

A new weight-loss class with a spiritual emphasis will be over 12 weeks in the 37th Street Church of Christ Family Center. The class will meet from 5:30 to 7 p.m. each Monday starting Jan. 25. There will be an orientation at 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 11. For more information call 573-9688 or 573-5774.

Bible study tapes

Bible study video tapes air weekly on cable TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "Don't Worry, Be Happy," followed by "A Child's Heaven."

Library storytime change

Beginning this month, Storytime for 4-5-year-olds at the Scurry County Library will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Ira Bulldog annual

Ira's 1999 Bulldog annuals are on sale until Jan. 26, the last time they will be offered this school year. The cost is $26 with name on cover or $22 without. Contact Becky Hudgins at the school. There are only a few left.

1998 First Methodist cookbook

The First United Methodist Church's 1998 cookbook, compiled by the Angel Seekers Sunday School Class and dedicated to the memory of Ruby Anderson, can be purchased at the church or Classic Interiors. The cost is $10 and all proceeds benefit the Lord's Acre projects.

Support groups

Four different support groups meet the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. The groups include divorce recovery, cancer-grief support group, a group for parents of teens and a group for adult-children caring for elderly parents.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District is selling windbreak trees. Both evergreens and hardwoods are available. Call 573-6317, or come by the office at 5309 Big Spring Highway.

Social Security visits

Representatives of the Big Spring Social Security office will be at the Snyder Senior Center on Tuesday. For additional information, call 1-800-772-1213.

Pick 3

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

3-3-0

(three, three, zero)

Cash Five

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

2-9-13-18-19

(two, nine, thirteen, eighteen, nineteen)

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Some Home Caregivers Could Not Care Less

DEAR ABBY: You hear so much about caregivers abusing children in the home, but the same thing can happen to the oldsdy when you rely on home care. My mother and stepfather had live-in care until he passed away. My sister and I were left with full responsibility for Mom, who is 95 and has Alzheimer's disease. We debated putting her in a nursing home, but decided she'd be better off in familiar surroundings, so we kept her at home with "Inga," a live-in caregiver who had been recommended by a previous live-in. We visited Mom often, usually the two of us together.

Mom can barely walk with a walker, so we don't try to take her out anymore. Imagine our shock when the police called one night, saying they had Mom at the police station. Inga had been arrested for shoplifting. After being put into a squad car, she told police she had left Mother in a car in the parking lot. However, she refused to tell them who my mother was! Miraculously, Mom remembered her address, but not her name. The police went to her home, found someone in the house (to this day we don't know who), and located my phone number.

We had questioned Inga about missing items at the house. Food disappeared unusually fast and so did detergent. Phone bills and utilities were also higher than usual. We don't know how many times Mom had been left alone in the car during Inga's shoplifting sprees. Because of her poor memory, Mom couldn't tell us. When we cleaned out Inga's closet, we found many stolen items. Later, neighbors told us they had seen strange people coming and going out the back door. We suspect they had been sleeping in the attic or the basement.

We now have another live-in who seems trustworthy, but my sister and I drive by the house occasionally at night, talk to Mom's neighbors, and vary the days and hours we visit. No one in this situation should have a set routine. Relatives should drop in unexpectedly and keep their eyes open. If something doesn't seem right, it probably isn't.

STILL IN SHOCK IN ILLINOIS

DEAR STILL IN SHOCK: Your letter is sure to be a wake-up call for many children of older adults. The obvious lesson to be learned is the importance of hiring through a reputable agency. When selecting and evaluating a respite-care service, help is available from the local Alzheimer's Association. In its "Respite Care Guide: How to Find What's Right for You," the association suggests that a prospective caregiver be asked the following questions:

— "What is your training?"

— "Why are you interested in this job?"

— "What are your past/current home-care experiences?"

— "Have you ever worked with someone with dementia?"

— "When/how often are you available? Do you have backup if you're unable to come?"

— "Are you bonded?"

— "Who can I talk to at your agency if I have a concern?"

— "Tell me about yourself ... your interests? Hobbies?"

— "Why did you leave your past job?"

— "Do you have any references?"

Do not settle on someone who doesn't make you feel comfortable. Interview several helpers, if necessary, to find the right person for your particular situation.

To purchase the "Respite Care Guide," call the Alzheimer's Association's toll-free number: (800) 272-3900. The cost is $1.75 per booklet. The guide can also be purchased at local Alzheimer's Association chapters.

***

Everybody has a problem. What's yours? Get it off your chest by writing to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069. For a personal reply, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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Grammy nominations largely female

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Grammy voters saluted a spectrum of styles this year — from country pop to introspective rock to empowering hip-hop — as women dominated the major album, record and song categories.

Lauryn Hill, whose solo debut "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill" was met with critical and popular acclaim, received the most nominations Tuesday with 10, including best new artist and producer of the year.

Hill will compete against a nearly all-female field — including Madonna, Sheryl Crow and Shania Twain — for album of the year. Garbage, with lead singer Shirley Manson, also was nominated in the category.

Grammy voters also favored women for record of the year. Twain's "You're Still the One" will compete against Celine Dion's "My Heart Will Go On," the Brandy & Monica duet "The Boy Is Mine," and Madonna's "Ray of Light." The sole male entry, the Goo Goo Dolls, was nominated for "Iris."

This year, eight of the 10 Grammy nods for record and album of the year went to female artists, doubling last year's nomination totals.

"I'm really happy women are getting a chance to break through," said Natalie Imbruglia, whose single "Torn" was nominated for best female pop vocal and her album "Left of the Middle" for pop album.

Last summer, women also broke new ground on Broadway, winning for the first time Tony Awards in direction — Julie Taymor, for her work on the Disney musical "The Lion King" and Garry Hynes for the Irish drama "The Beauty Queen of Leenane."

"Women are taking over," said Diane Warren, whose "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing" was nominated for song of the year. "It does seem to be the day of the female artists."

The 41st annual Grammy Awards will be presented Feb. 24 at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles during a three-hour ceremony on CBS.

Among the 460 nominations in 95 categories were such eclectic choices as shock rocker Marilyn Manson, Andy Griffith, former President Jimmy Carter and pop stalwarts Boy George and Cyndi Lauper.

Diversity also marked the best new artist category. Australian pop sensation Imbruglia, teen idols the Backstreet Boys, opera singer Andrea Bocelli, the country trio Dixie Chicks and Hill will compete.

Canadian chanteuse Dion may have sung on two of the top-selling albums of 1998 — the "Titanic" soundtrack and her own "Let's Talk About Love" — but she earned just four nominations.

Twain kept her success in the family. Her husband, Robert John "Mutt" Lange, who produced and co-wrote much of Twain's material, had five nominations, tying with recording engineer Jeff Balding for the most among men.

Madonna received five nominations for the "Ray of Light" album, which prompted the best reviews of her career.

"I'm ecstatic! I'm thrilled! I'm incredibly blessed!" Madonna said.

Nominations for song of the year, a writer's award, went to "Iris" by John Rzeznik of the Goo Goo Dolls; "Lean on Me" by Kirk Franklin; "My Heart Will Go On" by James Horner and Will Jennings; "You're Still the One" by Twain and Lange; and Warren's "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing."

She was lauded twice in the R&B song category — for writing "A Rose is Still a Rose" for soul queen Aretha Franklin, and for penning "Doo Wop (That Thing)."

Officer, facing assault charges, shoots himself

LUBBOCK (AP) — A police officer who had agreed to turn himself in on spousal abuse charges instead drove to his sister's home and shot himself in the head, officials said Tuesday.

Larry Pena, a 10-year Lubbock police veteran, was in extremely critical condition Tuesday evening at University Medical Center.

Police received a frantic call from one of Pena's relatives at 3 p.m. Pena shot himself with a small-caliber handgun as officers approached the garage of his sister's home.

"He was inside, threatening to shoot himself and a family member was trying to talk him out of it," said police spokesman Bill Morgan. "As officers approached, they heard two gunshots in close succession."

Pena, 36, and his 29-year-old wife have three children.

He was on administrative leave after allegedly hitting and kicking his wife at their home on Jan. 1. He had agreed to turn himself in Tuesday.

The wife told police that she and Pena got in an argument after a party. She said Pena kicked her in the head, dragged her into a bedroom and pinned her against a wall.

A police report stated that she suffered a broken finger, bumps to her forehead and other cuts and bruises.

Datebook

Jan. 6, 1999

Today is the sixth day of 1999 and the 17th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1838, Samuel F.B. Morse demonstrated the telegraph in public for the first time, in Morristown, N.J.

On this day in 1964, the Rolling Stones began their first tour, performing in London with the Ronettes and Marty Wilde.

On this day in 1994, Nancy Kerrigan was attacked after skating practice by a man wielding an iron bar.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Joan of Arc (1412-1431), saint; Carl Sandburg (1878-1967), writer; Tom Mix (1880-1940), actor; Sam Rayburn (1882-1961), U.S. politician; E.L. Doctorow (1931-), writer, is 68; Lou Holtz (1937-), football coach, is 62; Louis Freeh (1951-), FBI director, is 48; Nancy Lopez (1957-), golfer, is 42; Howie Long (1960-), football player-commentator, is 39.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1976, Ted Turner purchased the Atlanta Braves for the reported sum of $12 million.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Peace rules the day, where reason rules the mind." — William Collins

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Jan. 1) and last quarter (Jan. 9).

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Actress marries

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alex Kingston's romance on "ER" may be rocky but everything is smooth in real life. The British actress has married a writer she met on a blind date.

Ms. Kingston, 35, and Florian Haertel, 34, were wed Dec. 29 in Santa Fe, N.M., her publicist, Nancy Seltzer, said Tuesday.

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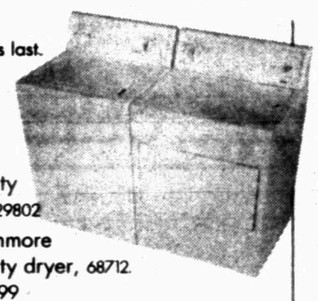

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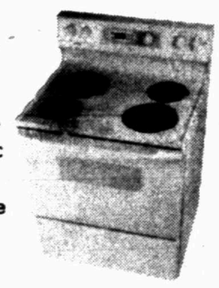

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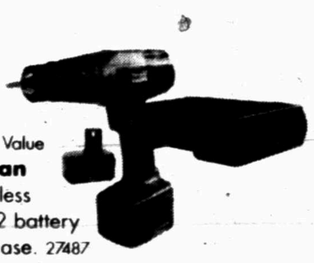

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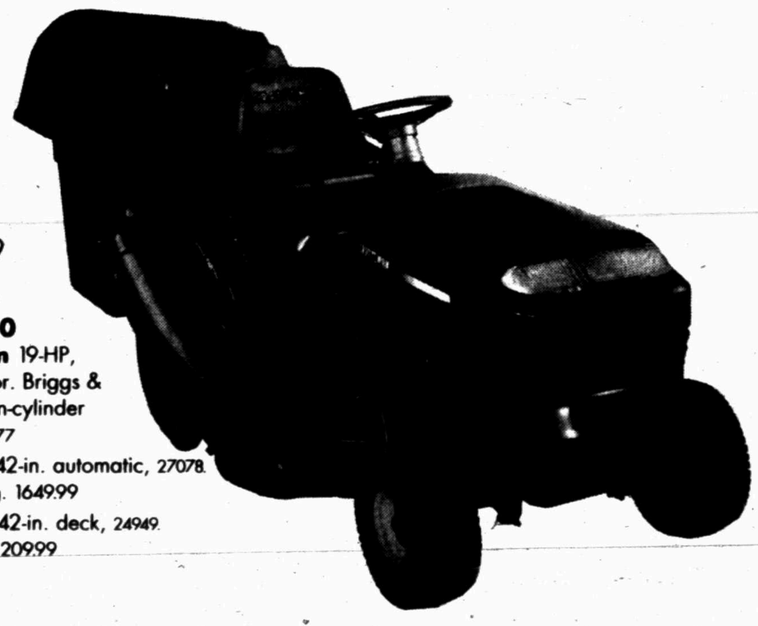

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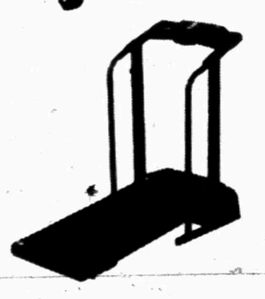

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