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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Nov. 26, 1998
Vol. 50 No. 177
20 Pages 50¢
Home Of Beth Bowen

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "At most Thanksgiving gatherings, there's a turkey on the table and at least one around the table."

Anybody worried about eating too much today should have a look at the holiday menu put out by those health nuts.

The Council of Science and Health has fully annotated every component of the typically Rabelaisian meal with a list of the natural carcinogens contained.

The purpose is to remind us that the earth has far greater amounts of natural poisons than any mad scientist could ever inject into our foods.

The menu starts with a cup of hydrazines (cream of mushroom soup), before moving to two tiny clumps of allyi isothiocyante (broccoli spears) and masses of heterocyclic amines (the bird itself).

But take heart, those two extra slices of furfural you were hoping to ingest in the form of white bread — go ahead.

You have to eat 82,600 slices in one day before keeling over dead like a lab rat.

So, please pass another slice of that pumpkin pie. Those diet commercials will soon hit the airways.

And there's a new Thanksgiving feast, for those who want to avoid meat of any color.

According to the experts, vegetarians are finding new ways to be included in the annual stuffing.

Alternate stuffings are made of tofu and other plant products. Almost 30,000 are expected to partake, but it's still a fraction of the almost 70 million real birds that will be consumed between today and Christmas.

One company offers "Tofurky" and it comes with gravy, bread and rice stuffing and beating real turkey with four "drummettes.

There's even seitan (wheat gluten) turkey called "UnTurkey." It comes with lofty promises: "to thrill your guest and titillate conversation."

Tofu turkeys are promoted as being able to ease strains in families split by gastronomic differences — just one of the traditional reasons to take a walk after a Thanksgiving feast.



IN THE SPIRIT — Samuel Ashley joins in the spirit of Thanksgiving as he dons a pilgrim's hat while enjoying "one more bite." Samuel joins his friends and family in wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. (SDN Staff Photo)

Santa Claus visits Snyder on Friday

When the turkey is all gone and the football games are over, it must mean one thing — it's time to shop.

Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, is the busiest shopping day of the year and Snyder merchants are gearing up to make hometowm holiday shopping more enjoyable.

Sales incentives and giveaways are taking place all over town with expanded store hours signaling the official start of the shopping season.

Santa Claus will be at the gazebo on the square from 3-5 p.m. and Christmas lights will be turned on throughout the city at 6 p.m.

Friday's activities start a series of Christmas season events.

The annual lighted Christmas parade will be held Dec. 5, sponsored by the Snyder Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber manager Donna Fowler said floats are still needed for the parade and she is urging everyone to get involved.

All entries must have lights and cash prizes will be awarded.

Also that night, the chamber will be offering coffee, hot chocolate and popcorn.

For more information call the chamber at 573-3558.

Another holiday event will be the Historic Scurry County and Scurry County Historical Commission's lighted Christmas tour Dec. 12 from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased at Eddie Peterson's Pharmacy, Countryplace and American State Bank.

Snyder Gold Coats will once again be sponsoring a residential lighting contest. Judging will take place the third weekend in December and cash prizes will be awarded.

Call the chamber office to enter your residence.

40-unit motel planned here

Construction of a 40-unit motel on East Coliseum Drive is expected to get underway in early 1999.

Bobby Bhakta, owner of several motels in the Abilene area, has purchased a 1.332-acre tract just west of the Scurry County Coliseum and will build a Best Western motel on the site.

Bhakta said the exact layout of the motel has not been determined, but those plans are expected to be completed next week.

"When we get the plans finalized, we will start construction," said Bhakta.

Early vote totals now stand at 854

Sixty-four ballots were cast Wednesday in the Snyder Independent School District $16 million bond issue.

This makes a total of 854 citizens voting early in the early voting period which ends Tuesday.

In the August bond issue, a total of 871 early votes were cast.

The election is set for Dec. 5.

Tom Turkey spared from axe to see another Thanksgiving

WASHINGTON (AP) — His hand on snowy-white feathers, President Clinton spared Tom Turkey from the roaster and sent him to Frying Pan Park "to live out the remainder of his years surrounded by friends, not peas and sweet potatoes."

The president kicked off the holiday season Tuesday with the traditional turkey pardon, where the guest of honor — a 45-pounder bred in Swanville, Minn. — freely strutted the Rose Garden with an official red "Appointment" credential dangling from his neck.

"I must say of all the years I've been here this is the most adventurous turkey we've ever had," Clinton told an audience of children from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington. As the bird made his way to the rear press pen, Clinton urged reporters, "Just ask HIM your questions."

Tom, as many national turkeys have been dubbed through the years, was selected for his "appearance and demeanor," according to a White House briefing paper, and will be sent to the petting zoo at Frying Pan Park in Fairfax, Va.

The ceremony prompted Hillary Rodham Clinton to observe with an irreverent chuckle: "This turkey will go on living and being a symbol of the important power of the president of the United States."

In 1947, President Truman began the annual practice of sparing one turkey from the Thanksgiving dinner table, but President Lincoln also was said to have issued a pardon to placate son Tad.



Drought program times still not known

While the United States Department of Agriculture has approved a $200 million livestock assistance program for farmers and ranchers who suffered losses due to the drought, sign up times for the program have yet to be decided.

It was first announced that the program would start on Monday, but it now appears that it will be no earlier than Dec. 7.

The USDA has said the funds will be available on a county-to-county basis as they are approved, yet no counties in Texas have been approved, said Joe Hefner of the local Farm Service Agency.

However, the USDA has given Jan. 8 as the definite day to quit taking applications.

"Because the time gets shorter each day for signing up, we urge everyone who might be eligible to call us for an appointment after it is determined Scurry County is approved for the program," said Hefner.

Hefner said each county must qualify on its own merits, and assistance is not available on a contiguous basis.

Hefner said producers must meet several guidelines. These include:

— Possess a beneficial interest and have financial risk in the eligible livestock.

— Have completed "person" determination forms.

— Have suffered a 40 percent loss of available grazing for 90 consecutive days or more.

— Are citizens of, or legal resident aliens, the United States.

— Are in compliance with highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions.

— Earn less than $2.5 million gross annual revenue in the 1997 tax year.

Producers must also have a record of the number, type, and weight range of livestock owned during calendar year 1998.

Other information needed is the acres, location and type of grass or forage on which a loss occurred, plus the percent of grazing loss.

The producer should also have information about changes in livestock numbers and dates when changes in livestock numbers occured.

Hefner said producers do not have to bring their feed receipts to the FSA office.

Hefner said the regulations also state that eligible producers may not receive payments of more than $50,000 per person under the program. This is in addition to any benefits received from the Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program Ad hoc disaster of FSA emergency loan.

Eligible livestock include beef and dairy cattle, sheep, goats or swine used commercially for human food or kept for the production of food or fiber on the producer's farm and owned or leased for at least 90 days.

Hefner said benefits would be paid on the lesser:

— The feed value of available grazing land.

— The feed value required for the number of eligible livestock.

Payments will be made to producers after all applications have been received, approved by the couty committee and a national payment factor is applied.

Payments are expected to be issued at the end of January, said Hefner.

The local Farm Service Agency is located at 5309 Big Spring Highway, and the telephone number is 573-0171

Banks, post office to be open Friday

While most city and county employees will have the day off, financial institutions will be open for business as usual Friday.

All city and county offices will be closed Friday with the exception of the city landfill, which will be open. However, the landfill will be closed Saturday.

Financial institutions including American State Bank, West Texas State Bank, First American Bank, Snyder National Bank, and Snyder Savings and Loan will all be open with regular business hours on Friday.

Snyder Post Office will also be open and mail will be delivered as usual Friday.

ASK US

Q—When will the Snyder Daily News begin to accept Santa Claus letters to be included in the Christmas Edition?

A—Get your pencil and paper out because the newspaper wants you to mail your wish list in today to Box 949, Snyder, TX 79549.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Area Forecast: Thanksgiving Day, mostly sunny. High 75-80. SW-W wind 5-15 mph. Rest of Thanksgiving weekend forecast, partly cloudy. Lows 45-55. Highs mainly in 70s.



Greg Resendiz
Partly cloudy

Sunset: 5:41 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:22 a.m.
Of 329 days in 1998, the sun has shone 326 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

"In all things give thanks."

I Thess. 5:18

NOV 26 1998

20 years after deaths Moscone, Milk recalled

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — In the 20 years since the mayor and a city supervisor were gunned down in City Hall, their survivors say they have only just begun to move on.

Hundreds gathered Tuesday to remember Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, the first openly gay person elected to a major public office in this country.

They were killed on Nov. 27, 1978, by Dan White, who had resigned from the board and was turned down when he asked for his position back. White was sentenced to 5½ years in prison.

"A lot of people needed to go through a grieving period; some took action and some turned inward," said Anne Kronenberg, Milk's campaign coordinator. "It was really hard to remain in politics after Harvey and George were murdered."

Mayor Willie Brown, then a state assemblyman, had been in Moscone's office just minutes before White shot Moscone five times. He called the assassinations a "tragedy of all tragedies."

"It was a magical time for many of us," Brown said. "It was a period in which creativity and diversity were just beginning to raise their heads in politics."

Moscone was remembered by many as the first to make city government accessible to San Francisco's diverse racial and ethnic populations and its gay and lesbian communities.

His youngest son, Jonathan, who was 14 when his father died, revealed at the memorial service that he is gay.

"People should know he would have loved me more, knowing I had the courage to come out and be honest," Jonathan Moscone said.

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TINY BOPPER — Hannah Smith is shown with her sticks during a Thanksgiving program held Monday during a Soup Share for parents, teachers and guests of King's Kids preschool. (Staff Photo By Joyce May)



THANKSGIVING PROGRAM — King's Kids preschool students performed a Thanksgiving program Monday at First Baptist Church's Family Life Center. Pictured from left are Averey Wright, Allison Downing and Tana Holley. (Staff Photo By Joyce May)

Plane lands

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — A Northwest Airlines jetliner with 297 people aboard made an emergency landing here after crew members reported electrical problems in the galley.

The DC-10 landed without incident at about 1 p.m. Tuesday at Spokane International Airport, airport spokesman Todd Woodard said.

Teacher threatened over use of racially controversial data

NEW YORK (AP) — A white teacher who had to be taken out of her classroom after community members complained she used a racially insensitive book says her life was threatened and she may not return.

"They had to sneak me out of the school," Ruth Sherman, a third-grade teacher at Public School 75 in Brooklyn, said Thursday. "They were screaming racial slurs and profanities at me." She said one woman lunged at her and threatened her saying, "You'd just better watch it."

Asked if that was a threat, the woman replied: "It's not a threat. It's a promise," according to Miss Sherman. She said she did not recognize her as a parent of anyone in the school.

The children's book that caused the furor in the largely black and Hispanic community is the critically acclaimed "Nappy Hair." Written by black author Carolivia Herron, the book — which celebrates racial differences — is recommended for classroom use by Columbia University's Teacher's College.

Miss Sherman said 50 community residents confronted her at a school meeting on Monday. Only one was a parent of a student in her class. She said that parent had photocopied pages of the book, taken out of context, and distributed them through the neighborhood, with a note about her.

The author defended Miss Sherman.

"She could have taught 'Mary Had a Little Lamb,' or some other books that had nothing to do with the African-American culture," Herron said in a telephone interview from Chico, Calif., where she is an assistant professor of English at California State University.

"Instead, she tried to relate to the culture of the children she was teaching."

The teachers union said District Superintendent Felix Vasquez told Ms. Sherman to report to district headquarters instead of her classroom pending further investigation.

Later Tuesday, school officials decided the book was appropriate classroom material and Miss Sherman could return to the classroom Monday, though they still said the book should have been cleared with the principal.

Miss Sherman says she's not sure how she'll respond to the invitation to return to class.

"I am afraid to go back to that area, not only the school but the area because my life was threatened," Miss Sherman said. At the same time, she said she has received many calls of support from colleagues and gotten flowers from parents who want her back.

"She's a wonderful teacher," said Lydia Flores, mother of 8-year-old Jennifer. "You don't find teachers like that."

Dennis Herring, president of District 32's school board, said the entire incident was the result of miscommunication. He said the photocopies did not properly relay what the book was really about. Taken out of context, he said, "it looks like pictures to degrade African-Americans."

Told in a gospel-like, call-and-response style, the book is about a little girl with the "nappiest, fuzziest, the most screwed up, squeezed up, knotted up" hair. It received rave reviews, including one from The New York Times.

Herron, 52, said the book is based on a story her 80-something uncle tells about her at family gatherings. "My uncle is proud of me and it's his way of telling me that," she said. Besides, "I always loved my hair."

Dead wolf likely shot

PHOENIX (AP) — Wolves are no longer roaming free in Arizona, less than a year after 11 of the animals were released in a highly touted reintroduction effort. At least five are dead.

Investigators found an 18-month-old male wolf dead Monday after radio collar signals indicated he had stopped moving for several hours, said Tom Bauer, spokesman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Albuquerque, N.M.

It appears to have been shot, he said Thursday.

Of the other wolves released earlier this year, four were shot to death, five were recaptured and one is missing and presumed dead. Federal officials have offered a reward for information in three of the shootings; the fourth wolf was shot by a camper, who was not prosecuted.

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PYRAMIDS OF CANNED FOOD — Lea Phillips of Noah Project West, from left, accepted canned goods from the officers of Western Texas College student senate members Elizabeth Covey, senator; Kelly Beck, historian; TJ Wood, secretary; Jason Campbell, senator; Nicol Mazarova, senator; Candace Barrow, parliamentarian; and Kara Wood, vice president. Canned goods were collected from a trick-or-treating project. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



ABWA MEMBERS AND GUESTS — Attending the November American Business Women's Association, Deep Creek Chapter's Thanksgiving dinner included Barbara Scrivner, president; Sharon Gill, guest; Anita Felan, program chairman; Ashly and Margaret Rodriguez, guests. (Contributed Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



11-26-98

North
♠ Q 10 9
♥ A 6 4 3
♦ Q 4 2
♣ 9 6 2

West
♠ 7 3
♥ K Q J 9
♦ J 9 8 7
♣ K 8 4

East
♠ 5 4 2
♥ 10 8 7 2
♦ 10 5
♣ A Q 10 5

South
♠ A K J 8 6
♥ 5
♦ A K 6 3
♣ J 7 3

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ K

Never a truer word spoken

By Phillip Alder

George C. Marshall, in the Biennial Report of the Chief of Staff, United States Army, on Sept. 1, 1945, said, "If man does find the solution for world peace, it will be the most revolutionary reversal of his record we have ever known."

That is, sadly, still true today. However, Marshall used one word that gives a clue to the best line of play in today's deal. What is your solution in four spades? West leads the heart king.

South has only 16 high-card points, but after he adds one point for the fifth spade and two for the singleton heart (more is excessive, in my opinion), he is up to 19 — enough to jump to game.

South has nine winners: five spades, one heart and three diamonds. He has three club losers and a potential diamond loser. One line is to draw two rounds of trumps, then to play on diamonds. If they split 3-3, declarer draws the last trump and claims, the 13th diamond being his 10th trick. And if the opponent with the missing trump has at least four diamonds, South can ruff his last diamond in the dummy. But that line is against the odds.

Better is to ruff a heart in hand at trick two, play a diamond to dummy's queen, ruff a heart with the spade king, lead a trump to dummy, ruff the last heart with the spade ace, overtake the spade jack with dummy's queen, and draw the final trump. That is the first eight tricks in, and South still has the ace-king of diamonds.

Any time dummy's trumps are particularly strong and you have a shortage in hand, think dummy reversal.

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A flower arrangement should usually be about one and a half times the height or width of the container.

Community Calendar

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 or 573-2763.

Just for Today NA; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238 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.

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ABWA has Thanksgiving dinner

Scurry Charter Chapter American Business Women's Association had its Thanksgiving fall enrollment dinner at the Martha Ann Woman's Club on Nov. 12.

Anita Felan gave a program on self esteem and Jo Ann Prince, owner of Friendly Flower Shop for 23 years, gave the vocational talk.

Kerri Kemp, a 1997 graduate of Snyder High School, was awarded the spring scholarship to Western Texas College.

The chapter again will man the food booth for the arts and crafts show set for Dec. 5-6 at the Scurry County Coliseum.

Carol Young gave the invocation and the benediction was by the group. Betty Boyd read the minutes and Grace Bryant gave the treasurer's report, followed by a memorial service for the late Ileta Hall who was a charter member.

Hostess was Leona Wiggins.

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Computer Solutions is a local computer store located at 3405 College Ave. and has been in business since 1991.

"Service has become one of our most important products," said Bullard. "People now realize that computers are not VCR's. Things happen to them which are sometimes hard to understand. We have a lot of people bringing messed up discount store computers into our shop. They are frustrated because they can't get any knowledgeable help with them. We try to offer that help and do it with a smile."

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NOV 26 1998

Antitrust suits: Fine line for what's OK, and what's not

WASHINGTON (AP) — A farsighted entrepreneur gets an idea, works hard, makes shrewd decisions and builds a wildly successful company. It's the American way and Microsoft probably its best-known recent example.

Yet the government says Microsoft violated antitrust laws. Its case hinges on the fact that, even in capitalist America, companies dominating their markets walk a special and fine line between what they can do, and can't.

"The question is what do you do with that market power?" said antitrust lawyer Peter J. Kadzik.

Say the wildly successful entrepreneur wants to make sure the company stays on top. The company buys up some competitors, makes deals with others and gets bigger. People keep buying its products. So far, so good for Microsoft.

Then the company becomes bigger than all its rivals. Understandably, it wants to keep that position and make money. That's where the economics lesson gets complicated, and where the federal antitrust case against Microsoft has its beginnings.

The government alleges Microsoft gained monopoly power and then abused it by pressuring other companies and plotting to limit competition in the growing computer market.

Government lawyers point out that Microsoft has 90 percent of the market for the operating systems that run personal computers. They claim it tried to "crush" rivals such as Netscape Communications.

So far, testimony in the six-week-old trial has focused on Microsoft's alleged plans to "cut off Netscape's air supply" and otherwise undermine competitors.

Microsoft and its billionaire chairman, Bill Gates, deny they did anything wrong. Indeed, such tactics may sound ruthless, but to most Americans raised on get-ahead capitalism they don't sound illegal, antitrust experts acknowledge.

"The antitrust laws have always had this internal irony," said New York antitrust attorney Stephen Axinn. "They are designed to promote competition, which means, basically, bare knuckles duking it out.

"Yet whenever the government brings an anti-monopoly case it seems to be arguing, 'This guy is too big and is competing too heavily,'" Axinn said.

Antitrust laws are deliberately vague, and were written decades ago to curb abuses in the old industrial monopolies such as railroads.

Microsoft claims the laws don't easily apply to the new world of high tech. The Justice Department maintains it knows a monopoly when it sees one — in railroads or cyberspace.

Yet antitrust enforcers know they walk a fine line, despite the well-founded fear that monopolies bring higher prices and fewer choices, said William Kovacic, a George Washington University law professor.

"The government must say, 'If you become preeminent through superior performance, we'll give you a medal. But if you become preeminent or protect your preeminence through improper techniques, we will punish you,'" Kovacic said.

Monopoly is defined by a company's reach and its ability to control the price of its own or a competing product. It's not illegal to be a monopoly, but monopolies must play by different rules.

To win its case, the government must prove Microsoft has a monopoly and abused that power to both squeeze competitors and limit consumers' choices. The

See Antitrust, Page 5

Student moms ask judge to allow them into National Honor Society

COVINGTON, Ky. (AP) — The National Honor Society discriminated against two pregnant teens by rejecting membership in the organization and should be ordered to accept them, lawyers for the girls argued.

Somer Chipman, 17, and Chasity Glass, 18, said they met all requirements of society membership at Grant County High School in Williamstown, Ky., but were excluded because they were pregnant.

The American Civil Liberties Union, which is representing the girls, argued Tuesday before U.S. District Judge William Bertelsman that the decision was illegal and discriminatory.

"If they said, "Anyone we catch engaging in sexual activity won't be a member of the National Honor Society' ... We wouldn't be here if that were the rule," Sara Mandelbaum, senior staff attorney with the ACLU's Women's Rights Project.

"It's not about who they catch, it's about who becomes pregnant. ... Only girls can be punished under that kind of rule."

Ms. Chipman agreed, saying "not very many male students are going to come out and say, 'I fathered a child.'"

Mandelbaum asked for an injunction that would admit the girls into the NHS. She said waiting for the matter to be decided in a trial would deny the seniors access to society activities and listing membership on college applications.

But attorney Suzanne Cassidy, representing the school board, said an injunction would be improper.

"Participation in the National Honor Society is a privilege. It is not a right," Cassidy said.

She said that along with scholarship, selection committees for the society consider leadership, service and character.

Bertelsman said he would try to rule on the request for a preliminary injunction by Jan. 1.

The National Honor Society has more than 15,000 members in U.S. high schools. Local chapters use the four criteria as guide lines, then set their own standards for selection of students.

Williamstown is about 30 miles south of Cincinnati.

Berry's World



Nutrition By Ed Blonz, PH.D.

Soup safety

By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: A standard routine in our house is to take leftover chicken bones and make soup stock. We typically put the bones and chicken carcass into a large, covered stock pot — along with an onion, carrots, some garlic and other seasonings — and cover these ingredients with water. The soup typically takes a number of hours to make. Because the process begins after the evening meal, we usually have to take a break overnight, and we put the pot in the refrigerator for this time. On rare occasions, I forget to put the soup into the refrigerator (this just happened, and it's what prompted this letter). When I wake up the next morning, I don't throw the soup out; it seems that another couple of hours of boiling would eliminate any bacteria problems that might have developed overnight. A friend who stayed with us last weekend was aghast that I would do this. With all the recent attention paid to food safety, I now question how accurate — or perhaps foolhardy — my thinking has been. — J.M., Los Angeles

DEAR J.M.: You present an interesting dilemma. Let me start by saying that I don't recommend leaving soups out as a standard routine, and that the absolute safest action would be for you to toss it. This is the advice that you probably would receive if you called any of the food safety hotlines. That said, however, I am not convinced that a soup made in such a way would be unsafe. If the chicken is properly cooked, the bones and carcass go in the pot right after dinner and your stock has been at a full boil for at least an hour, you effectively eliminate any microorganisms that might be present.

When you turn the heat off at the end of the day, the temperature slowly decreases, and the soup turns into an attractive growth medium for whatever might happen on the scene. This includes both airborne microorganisms and those that might be present on wandering insects that could chance upon the pot. Keeping the pot covered between boils is an essential protective measure to reduce this latter danger. It's not foolproof, because a covered pot draws in room air as it cools, but another full boil of at least an hour's length the next morning should eliminate any danger that additional growth might pose. When you've finished cooking it, the soup should be stored in the refrigerator.

The unpredictable risk in this scenario is if the soup is somehow contaminated with heat-resistant spores between the boils, and these spores have sufficient time to grow out and produce a heat-resistant toxin before the soup is boiled again. It's unlikely, but possible. That's the risk you take when making soup this way.

If it is any source of comfort, there is actually a decontamination technique in which a substance is first heated to boiling for an hour, then left to set for a day, then heated to boiling for another hour. It is called "Tyndallization," and the theory is that the first boil destroys most microorganisms, the set time allows any heat-resistant spores to germinate and the second boil eliminates the new spores. One of the keys to the success of Tyndallization is that there be no new contamination during the set time.

So, your soup-making is probably safe — but I have some issues with your "standard routine." Think about what happens when you put a pot of hot soup in the refrigerator: A refrigerator is not a sterile environment, and to inhibit the growth of common microorganisms the temperature should always remain below 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Depending on your refrigerator's cooling capacity and the nature of the other foods inside it, it is very likely that the heat from the soup will raise the temperature within the fridge above the 40-degree point. In fact, the soup may not even chill down to 40 by morning. If you think your soup requires an overnight siesta, give the soup pot a preliminary chill by placing it in a shallow, water-plus-ice bath. This takes the heat edge off, lessens the burden on your refrigerator, and helps ensure that the other contents of the cooler remain in the safety zone.

Send questions to: "On Nutrition," Ed Blonz, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. For e-mail, address inquiries to: ed@blonz.com. Due to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Ed Blonz, Ph.D., is a nutrition scientist and the author of "Power Nutrition" (Signet, 1998) and the "Your Personal Nutritionist" book series (Signet, 1996).

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•Sharon Sartor of Snyder

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Americans spend more than they earn

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans spent more than they earned again in October, borrowing and dipping into their savings, mutual funds and home equity to maintain their standard of living.

The U.S. personal savings rate was minus 0.2 percent last month. That followed a rate of minus 0.1 percent in September and was the worst performance since 1959, when the government began tracking the figure on a monthly basis.

On an annual basis, the rate hasn't been negative since 1933, at the depth of the Depression. The reoccurrence of a negative savings rate doesn't mean the country is sinking into recession, economists said. More likely, it shows Americans are spending some of their gains from the booming stock market.

Some analysts had feared the stock market slump from mid-July through September would dampen consumer spending. The Dow Jones industrial average bounced back to set a new record on Monday. And surveys show consumer confidence rebounded this month after four monthly declines, a promising sign for holiday sales.

In the first half hour of trading today, the Dow fell 11 points to 9,290.

Negative savings occurs when people finance spending by borrowing, selling investments, withdrawing savings or cashing out part of their home equity when they refinance a mortgage.

That can't go on forever, analysts warn. Sooner or later, growth in consumer spending must slow to match income growth. And since consumers account for roughly two-thirds of economic activity, that means U.S. economic growth should slow significantly next year, they believe.

So far this year, economic growth has remained strong because of the consumer, even though the U.S. trade deficit has been climbing toward a record.

The National Association of Realtors said sales of existing homes in October increased 2.1 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.79 million. Though short of the record 4.91 million rate in July, that's still extremely strong. As with personal spending, home purchases are being supported by low interest rates.

Also, the Labor Department said the number of Americans filing first-time claims for unemployment benefits fell unexpectedly by 39,000 last week to a seasonally adjusted 300,000, the lowest level in two months. If maintained, that level would be a positive sign for future income growth.

In October, spending grew at a moderately strong 0.5 percent rate, after solid gains of 0.7 percent in September and 0.4 percent in August. Spending in the latest month was fueled by a 2.2 percent jump in spending on big-ticket durable goods, reflecting brisk auto sales.

Incomes rose 0.4 percent in October after an anemic 0.2 percent increase in September. The most closely-watched component of income, wages and salaries, rose 0.5 percent. Wages edged down 0.1 percent in manufacturing, which has been hurt by loss of export sales to Asian and other countries with faltering economies. They rose 0.9 percent in services.

Farmers' and business owners' income also increased as did interest and dividends, rental income and transfer payments such as Social Security.

Anti-trust

Continued From Page 4

latter is harder to prove.

"It's difficult to say whether consumers were harmed," Axinn said, although government lawyers have pointed out instances when Microsoft allegedly deterred other companies from introducing new or improved products.

Microsoft claims it is not a monopoly and that its actions have actually promoted innovation and improved service to customers. The company seized on this week's America Online-Netscape merger as evidence it still faces tough competition.

Microsoft's lead attorney has compared federal antitrust enforcers to Luddites, the 19th century workers who smashed newfangled machines in a vain effort to hold onto their jobs.

The allegations amount to "a repudiation of the basic principle in our society that creative commercial activity should be encouraged and rewarded," said Microsoft lawyer John Warden.

Microsoft's conduct against rivals may be fierce, but it's legal, he said, adding, "Antitrust laws are not a code of civility."

3 performances set

NEW YORK (AP) — Opera lovers, take heart: Luciano Pavarotti has signed on to sing three performances of Puccini's "Tosca" at the Metropolitan Opera later this season.

Pavarotti will appear as the painter Cavaradossi on March 16, 20 and 25, Met General Manager Joseph Volpe announced Tuesday.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, Nov. 27, 1998

In the year ahead, you are likely be luckier in independent endeavors than you will be in partnership arrangements. Try not to lock yourself into an alliance that has little to offer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Someone either at home, office, or play might prove to be a source of annoyance to you today. If you don't take the situation seriously, it won't spoil your day or affect any relationships. Astro-Graph year ahead predictions make great Christmas stocking stuffers for all signs of the zodiac. Mail $2 and self-addressed stamped envelope for each to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state all zodiac signs you desire.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Excluding using any subterfuge, intrigue or concealed tactics, an effective utilization of your channels of communication will help advance your self-interests and ambitions today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you quickly rid yourself of all that you worked so hard to acquire today, your financial conditions will end up being a mixed bag, with you coming out on the wrong side.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Don't feel bad if you're more likely to do better for yourself today than for others you're trying to help, no matter how altruistic your motives are.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) When it comes to competitive situations today, you might have less to fear from the competition than from yourself. Lack of preparedness could be the real culprit.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Lady Luck is on your side today as long as you're realistic. If you insist on seeing things as you'd like them to be rather than as they are, your hopes and expectations may be dashed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) The day might start out slow and tenuous, but if you hold on tight and don't get careless by letting things slip through your fingers, you'll end up a winner in the final analysis.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you should have to deal with someone today who is very inept, don't get frustrated and lose control. Patience and tolerance will pay off in the long run and all will come out OK.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't allow someone who doesn't belong in your affairs cut him or herself into the game plan. This person could gum up the works that otherwise would be successful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Any partnership arrangement is destined for failure if there is no harmony of purpose. Rather than continue with such a union today, break loose from the ties and go it alone.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) The only thing that could trip you up today is overindulgence of any kind, be it mental, physical or financial. Use good judgment when it comes to the gratification of your whims.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Bet only on your own capabilities today, and not on those of others if you feel inclined to take any gambles. You know your attributes, but theirs are unknown quantities.

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Religious Briefs

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 "The Second Coming of Jesus," followed by Who Cares About Older People?"

Support group ministry

Support groups for divorce recovery, cancer/grief and caring for aging parents are available to adults and meets the second and fourth Thursdays in the First Baptist Church. L.I.F.E. (learning to improve the family experience) is for teens and parents. Child care is provided.

Praise & worship service

Abundant Life United Pentecostal Church will have a Fifth Sunday praise and worship service featuring gospel singing and music at 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Pastor and Mrs. Laman Wilson invite everyone to attend. The church is located at Ave. C and 31st St.

Family Life Community Church

The church is sponsoring a community-wide forum on Tuesday from 7-9 p.m. on what the year 2000 might mean to the church.

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Date Book

Nov. 26, 1998

Today is THANKSGIVING DAY; it is the 330th day of 1998 and the 65th day of fall.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1789, President George Washington proclaimed the first U.S. holiday to be Thanksgiving Day.

On this day in 1966, the Monkees' "I'm a Believer" went gold.

On this day in 1992, Britain's Queen Elizabeth volunteered to pay income tax.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Sarah Grimke (1792-1873), anti-slavery and women's-rights activist; Eric Sevareid (1912-1992), broadcast journalist; Charles M. Schulz (1922-), cartoonist, is 76; Robert Goulet (1933-), singer-actor, is 65; Rich Little (1938-), impressionist, is 60; Tina Turner (1938-), singer, is 60.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1963, Navy quarterback Roger Staubach won the Heisman trophy.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The chief cause of problems is solutions." — Eric Sevareid

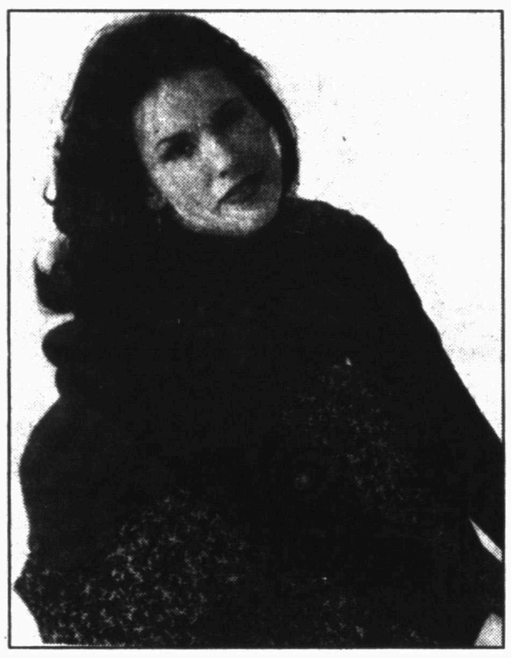
TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1962, a low-pressure system caused severe beach erosion from Virginia to central Florida.

SOURCE: 1998 Weather Guide Calendar, Accord Publishing, Ltd

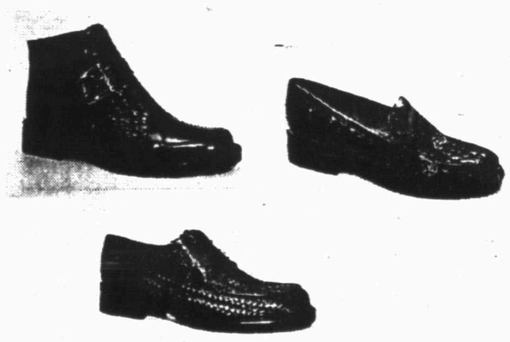
TODAY'S MOON: First quarter.

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Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

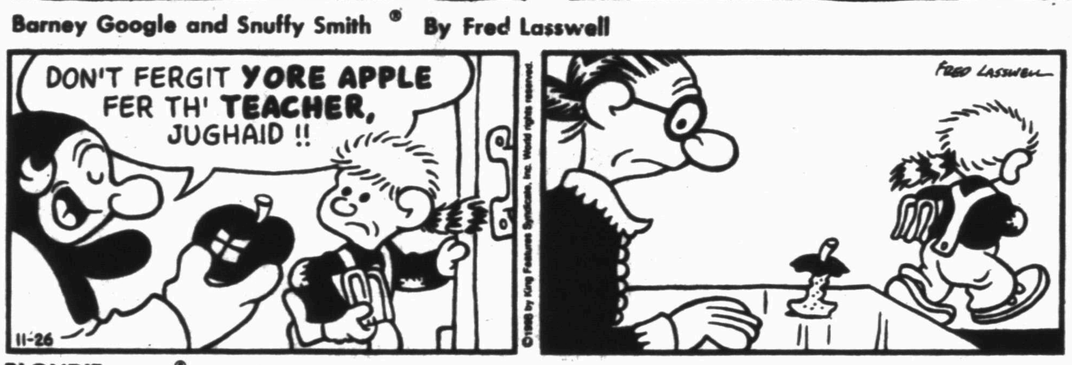
THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



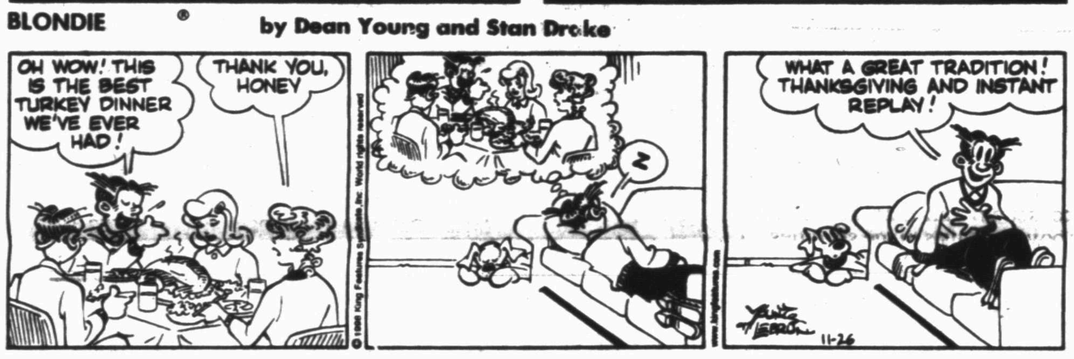
EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



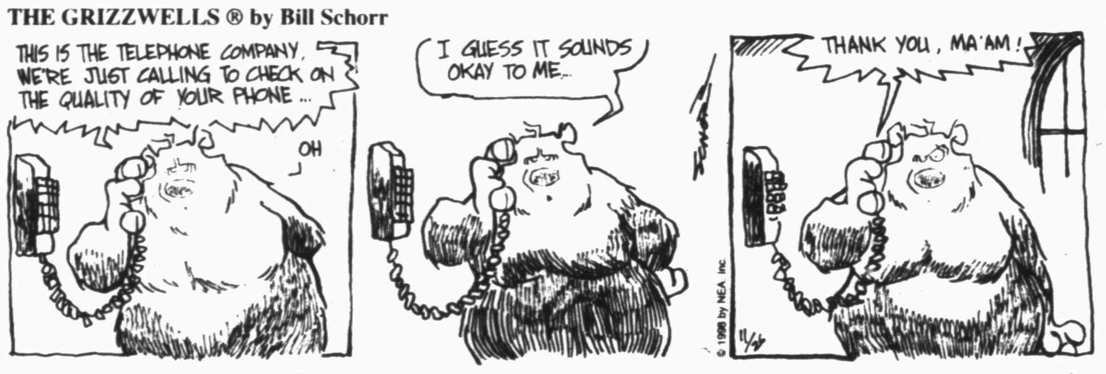
Barney Google and Snuffy Smith ® By Fred Lasswell



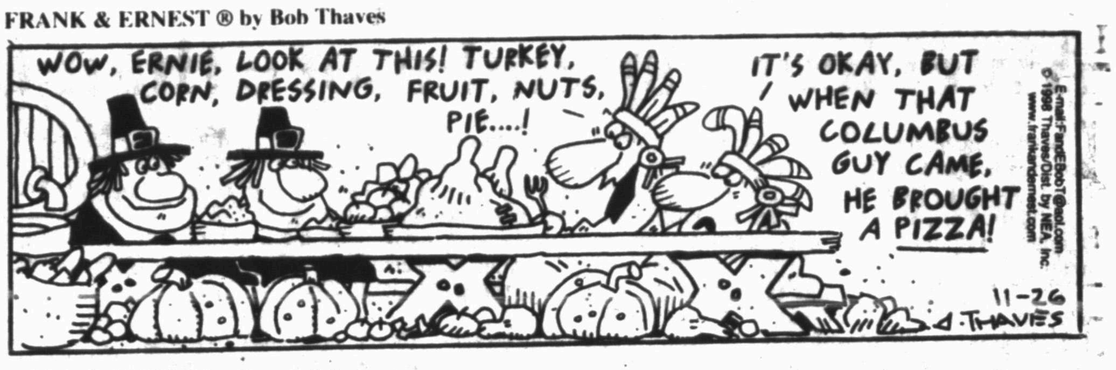
BLONDIE ® by Dean Young and Stan Drake



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



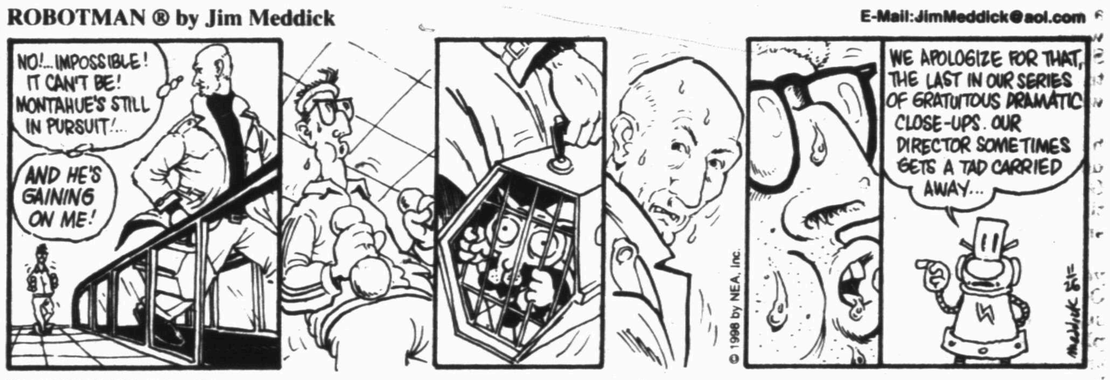
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



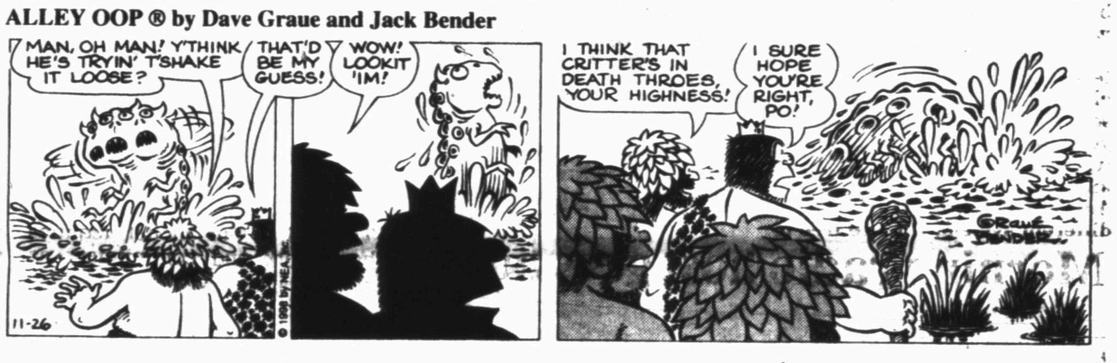
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Inundates
7 Of flowers
13 Fish trap
14 Creepily
15 Engross
16 Small shed
17 Mediterranean, e.g.
18 Turn the page (abbr.)
20 Quarterback Marino
21 Relies (on)
25 Spat
28 Piano piece
32 Author Sinclair
33 Labor organizer Chavez
34 Make amends
35 Riders' needs
36 Idiots
37 Firmly fixed
39 Walks with long steps
41 Unit of light
44 French friend
45 Tiger Woods' org.
48 Person in charge
51 Bar
54 Thriller writer Leonard
55 Prayer
56 Become visible
57 Cracked

DOWN

1 Professional charges
2 Unaspirated
3 Gymnast Korbut
4 WWII agcy.
5 Pull or pug
6 Siberian treeless tract
7 Robber, e.g.
8 Actor Majors
9 . . . man — — mouse?
10 Fruit skin
11 — Vista (web area)
12 Actress Sue —
19 — Aviv
21 Hums
22 Borgnine or Hemingway
23 Authoritative order
24 Soaks
25 Campus area
26 Capable of (2 wds.)
27 On the peak
29 Information agcy.
30 Copenhagen resident
31 Formerly, formerly
37 Poorly lit
38 Newspaper hotshot
40 Harder to find
41 Type of bargain
42 Kennel sound
43 Inclined roadway
45 Mexican money
46 Silk fabric
47 English princess
49 Female deer
50 Epoch
52 Jackie's 2nd mate
53 Energy

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	E	R	A	T	E			P	Y	L	O	N
E	V	A	D	E	R		E	L	A	I	N	E
D	E	N	O	T	E		S	E	R	E	S	T
		S	O	N		C	A	D				
M	V	I		N	O	M	A	D		M	U	M
E	O	N	S		W	I	P	E		E	N	E
T	O	M	E			S	E	D	A	T	E	S
I	D	O	L	I	Z	E			E	R	A	S
E	O	S		N	O	R	A		R	I	S	E
R	O	T		J	O	Y	C	E		C	Y	D
		R	U	M		I	T	S				
F	I	G	U	R	E			D	A	I	N	T	Y
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"WE SHOULD BE THANKFUL THE PILGRIMS CAME OVER ON THE MAYFLOWER INSTEAD OF THE TITANIC."

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



This Is the Day to Take Stock and Give Thanks

by Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR READERS: Today is Thanksgiving Day, and this is my traditional Thanksgiving column.

Take a few minutes to think about what you have to be thankful for.

How's your health? Not so good? Well, thank God you've lived this long. A lot of people haven't. You're hurting? Thousands — maybe millions — are hurting more. (Have you ever visited a veterans hospital? Or a rehabilitation clinic for crippled children?)

If you awakened this morning and were able to hear the birds sing, use your vocal cords to utter human sounds, walk to the breakfast table and read the newspaper, praise the Lord! A lot of people couldn't.

How's your pocketbook? Thin? Well, most of the world is a lot poorer. No pensions. No welfare. No food stamps. No Social Security. In fact, one-third of the people in the world will go to bed hungry tonight.

Are you lonely? The way to have a friend is to be one. If nobody calls you, call someone. Go out of your way to do something nice for somebody. It's a sure cure for the blues.

Are you concerned about your country's future? Hooray! Our system has been saved by such concern — concern for fair play under the law. Your country may not be a rose garden, but it also is not a patch of weeds.

Freedom rings! Look and listen. You can still worship at the church of your choice, cast a secret ballot, and even criticize your government without fearing a knock on the head or a knock on the door at midnight. And if you want to live under a different system, you are free to go. There are no walls or fences — nothing to keep you here.

As a final thought, I'll repeat my Thanksgiving prayer; perhaps you will want to use it at your table today:

Oh, heavenly Father,
We thank thee for food and remember the hungry.
We thank thee for friends and remember the friendless.
We thank thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.
May these remembrances stir us to service,
That thy gifts to us may be used for others. Amen.

***

As an afterthought: Want an instant high? The surest cure for the post-holiday blues is to do something nice for someone. Why not call someone who lives alone and invite him (or her) over for dinner?

Better yet, call and say, "I'm coming to get you, and I'll see that you get home." (Many older people don't drive, and those who do don't like to go out alone after dark.)

Try it. And let me know the results.

P.S. Special greetings to those of you in the military who wrote from remote corners of the world to tell me that you are using my Thanksgiving prayer on this Thanksgiving Day. God bless you!

***

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

Democratic fund-raiser fined $80,000, and also placed on probation

WASHINGTON (AP) — A veteran Democratic fund-raiser was fined $80,000 on Tuesday, placed on 18 months probation and ordered to do 500 hours of community service for soliciting campaign donations from a foreigner and arranging a contribution in a phony name.

U.S. District Judge Henry Kennedy imposed the sentence in response to Miami business executive Howard Glicken's guilty pleas to two misdemeanor counts July 20 in a deal with the Justice Department's campaign finance task force.

Kennedy said the punishment recommended in the plea deal "was stiff and appropriately so."

Glicken, 55, a friend of Vice President Al Gore, also has agreed to enter a conciliation agreement with the Federal Election Commission, subject to that panel's approval, under which he would pay the FEC a civil fine of $40,000.

Glicken promised complete cooperation with the Justice Department's campaign finance task force. He is one of 14 people charged so far in the task force's two-year investigation.

Both of Glicken's crimes involved an April 1993 contribution of $20,000 to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. When he pleaded guilty, Glicken said he knew at the time he was soliciting money from a foreign national and that it was illegal for foreign nationals to contribute to U.S. political campaigns. He also admitted telling the contributor to have another person make out the check and reimburse that person.

The foreign national who made the $20,000 contribution in the name of his secretary was German developer Thomas Kramer. Though he was not named in the Justice Department indictment, the FEC last year fined Kramer a record $323,000 for making $418,600 in illegal campaign contributions to Republican and Democratic federal, state and local parties and candidates in 1993 and 1994.

Kramer had told the FEC that he received a suggestion to make a $20,000 contribution to the Democratic senatorial committee in the name of his secretary, Terri Bradley. Neither Kramer nor Bradley identified the person who made the suggestion.



HUG A FRIEND — Karsten Morrell and Courtney Pollard (from left) give each other a hug during a Thanksgiving program held Monday at First Baptist Church's Family Life Center. The children attend King's Kids preschool. (Staff Photo By Joyce May)

No parade for Strom Thurmond

SPARTANBURG, S.C. (AP) — Strom Thurmond is taking a break from tradition: For the first time in 50 years, he won't be riding in the Jaycees' annual Christmas parade Friday.

Harlem choir planning to expand to other cities

NEW YORK (AP) — The Boys Choir of Harlem has plans to expand to other cities.

The choir, celebrating its 30th year in New York, announced Tuesday that it is establishing satellite choirs in Commerce, Texas, as well as Milwaukee, Miami, San Francisco, Chicago, Detroit.

"We're very excited about the expansion," said Boys Choir director and co-founder Walter J. Turnbull. "Our model requires hard work and commitment as well as artistic vision and social and academic development. We believe every kid can learn."

The programs are in varying stages of development: The Milwaukee project, for instance, is in its second year and has a choir with about 40 boys, while the Chicago project is still in its initial fund-raising stage, said Turnbull.

The Boys Choir program is known for the rigorous standards at its high school, the Choir Academy of Harlem. The academy is attended by about 300 boys and by 200 members of the Girls Choir of Harlem, established in 1979.

Each applicant must audition, though singing ability is not a requirement. Instead, prospective students must reproduce a pitch — a skill necessary to learn to sing.

Parents and guardians are also interviewed and must show a willingness to support their children through the ups-and-downs of the artistic and academic program.

Turnbull said the eventual goal is to set up full-time academies for boys and girls in the six cities.

Morning radio host goes home

HARRODSBURG, Ky. (AP) — Morning radio host Rick Dees has gone home for the holiday.

The audience of "Rick Dees in the Morning" didn't know it, but Tuesday's show came from a small room high above Main Street instead of the show's home station, KIIS-FM in Los Angeles.

BOOKS & GIFTS
"The Rest Stop"

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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Give Thanks

Thanksgiving is an important occasion because it not only reminds us to count our blessings, but to recognize the importance of being good neighbors. And when neighbors work together, everyone prospers.

We're pleased to be able to pitch in and help our neighbors, and thank all of you for your trust and support. May your Thanksgiving holiday be rich in the blessings of family and friends, as you have blessed us with the gift of your friendship.

WEST TEXAS STATE BANK
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Bird has legs up on competition

IRVING — The six-legged turkey is a rare bird indeed. It arrives once a year, as seen on TV. 'Tis a symbol of Thanksgiving, Texas and food. To get a drumstick, you must play football good.

The bird's appearance has become a tradition. After a full day in a smoker, it is an award of nutrition.

For football fans, John Madden's Turkey Leg Awards are right up there with Grandma and pumpkin pie. Every Thanksgiving, whether covering a National Football League game in Irving or in Detroit, Madden awards the legs to the game's grittiest players.

On Thursday, Madden will join fellow Fox Sports broadcaster Pat Summerall at Texas Stadium, where the Cowboys and the Minnesota Vikings won't be playing just for victory -- they're also hungry for turkey legs.

The famous six-legged turkey, created by Irving barbecue wizard Joe Pat Fieseler, will be surrounded by a security force until it's carved up. The 22-pound bird will be shown to television viewers throughout the game.

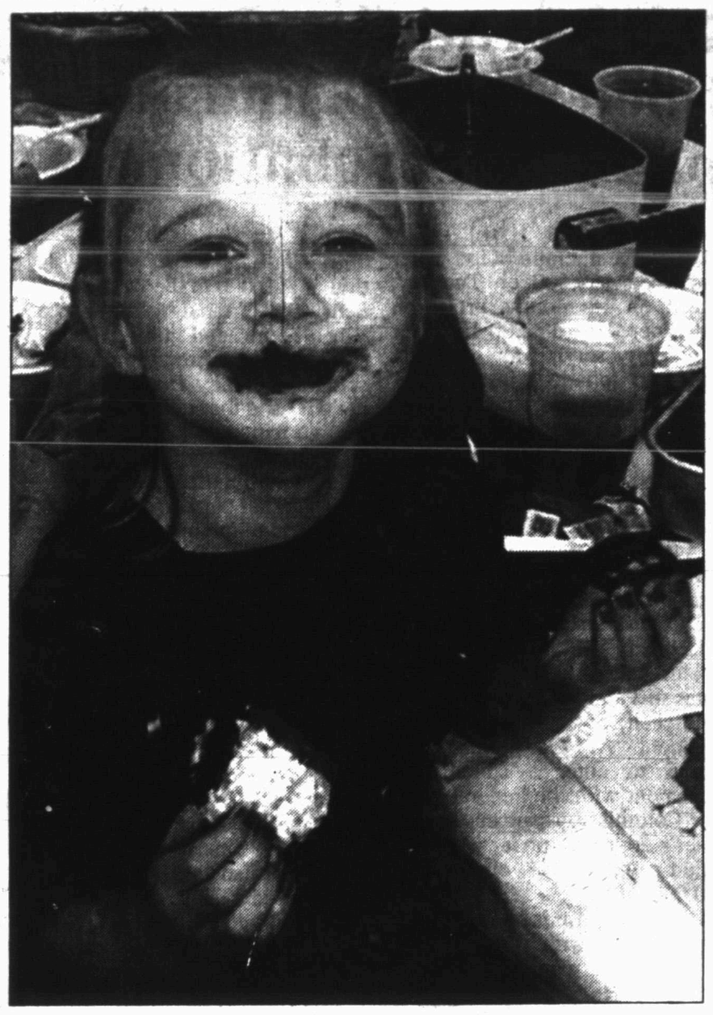
"We had to find turkeys that had a lot of legs on them," Madden said yesterday. "There's only one place you can get a turkey with more than two legs, and that's in Texas."

Fieseler is owner of Harvey's Barbecue Pit in south Irving. If Madden and Summerall are in town for Thanksgiving, he provides the bird. On occasion, he has shipped the bird to Detroit, where the Fox broadcasters go every other year for the NFL's other Thanksgiving game.

Fieseler came up with the idea for the six-legged turkey after a 1990 Thanksgiving game, during which Madden awarded a turkey leg to Cowboys running back Emmitt Smith but lamented on the air that he wished he had enough drumsticks to give to the Cowboys' five-man offensive line.

At the time, Madden and

See Turkey, Page 9



SHARING A SMILE — Malak Wills was happy to share a smile Monday during King's Kids first annual Soup Share. Everyone pitched in to bring ingredients and desserts for the event. (Staff Photo By Joyce May)

TOYS FOR TOTS APPLICATION

HOUSEHOLD NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

MONTHLY FAMILY INCOME $ _____

Please list each child's name, age (12 and under), sex (M or F) and three toys they would like to have. We will try to give at least one toy from each child's list. (Please do not list clothes and shoe sizes.)

Child #1

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

Child #2

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

Child #3

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

Child #4

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

Child #5

NAME _____ AGE ___ SEX __

1 _____

2 _____ 3 _____

Toys will be picked up from the Girl Scout Hut (2501 35th Street) on Tuesday, December 22, 1998. Each family will be notified by phone of their pick up time. Please send all applications to: **TOYS FOR TOTS, c/o Judi Martin, 3106 Hill Avenue, Snyder, Texas 79549-3845. For more information, call 573-3525. The last day for accepting applications is Tuesday, December 15, 1998.**

Arkansas River shiner listed as threatened

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A slender silver minnow that has disappeared from nearly 80 percent of its historic range in the past two decades has been listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service added the Arkansas River shiner to the list Tuesday, finding the 2-inch-long fish is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future in all or a large part of its range.

The fish once inhabited wide, sandy-bottomed rivers and streams throughout the Arkansas River basin in Arkansas, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. It now largely lives in sections of the Canadian River in New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma. A small population also may exist in the upper reaches of the Cimarron River in Kansas and Oklahoma.

The service said releases from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' reservoirs in the shiner's eastern range may need to be modified, but it doesn't expect that flood control and navigation will be affected greatly by the changes.

Releases from Lake Meredith in the Texas Panhandle are not considered for shiner recovery because the service doesn't believe there would be significant benefits. The lake supplies Lubbock, Amarillo and nine other Texas cities.

A recovery plan for the species is to be drafted in the next two years.

"Water conservation efforts will likely be an important component of the plan," said Jerry Brabander, supervisor of the service's ecological services office in Tulsa. "Efforts in the Texas Panhandle have already reduced water used and the rate of groundwater depletion in portions of the region, which not only benefits the shiner but also farmers and municipalities."

The service will encourage states to increase irrigation efficiency and improve conservation of surface and groundwater resources in the High Plains.

"Voluntary conservation of the groundwater resource will be much more effective in recovery efforts for the shiner than any actions attempting to restrict or otherwise regulate withdrawals," he said.

The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club and the Southwest Center for Biodiversity had filed a lawsuit in federal court in New Mexico in March asking that the fish be declared endangered.

Sierra Club spokesman Scott Royder said the lawsuit's only goal was to force the government to designate the shiner as an endangered species.

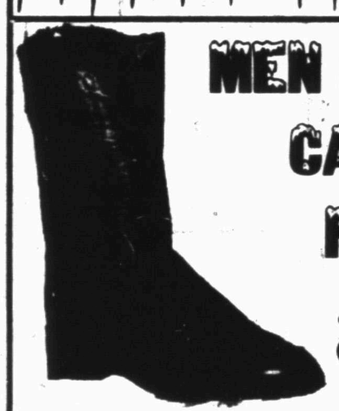
Habitat loss from construction of water impoundments, reduction of stream flows caused by diversion of surface water or groundwater withdrawals, water quality degradation and possible inadvertent collection by the commercial bait fish industry are threatening the fish, the service said.

Chelsea breaks up with boyfriend

NEW YORK (AP) — Chelsea Clinton and her boyfriend have split up, the New York Post reported Thursday.

Miss Clinton, a sophomore at Stanford University, broke up with Matthew Pierce about a week ago, the newspaper said.

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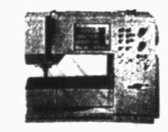
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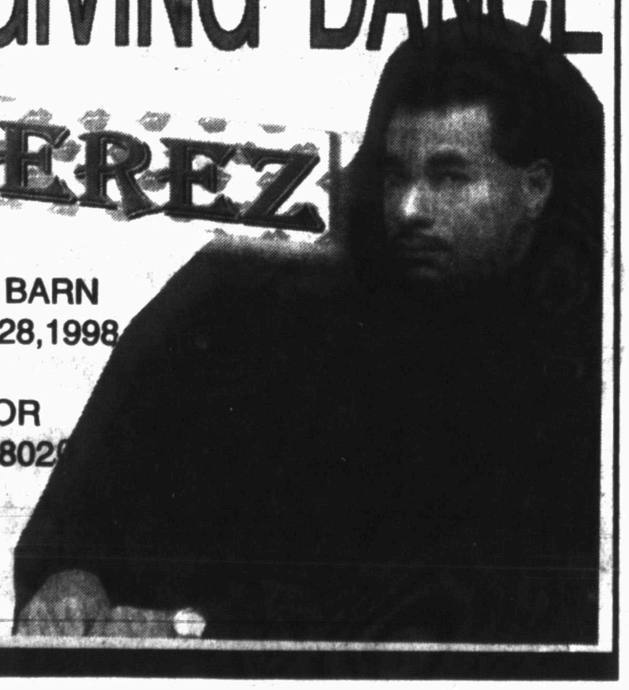
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FEMA taking steps to reduce disaster damage, spending

WASHINGTON (AP) — The personal and economic toll from Hurricane Andrew, the Los Angeles earthquake, the Midwest and Texas floods, Tropical Storm Frances and countless other natural disasters that have hit the United States cannot be quantified.

But the feds have decided the cost of lives lost and damaged, ruined property and economic disruption has become too high.

Having spent in excess of $20 billion over the last 10 years to rebuild from natural disasters, the Federal Emergency Management Agency is weighing new steps to minimize personal and property damage, particularly for people living in flood plains.

The outcome is of major significance to Texas, which has been buffeted again and again by sometimes deadly floods — such as the one in mid-October that cost 31 lives.

In recent years, FEMA has sought to nudge people to safer ground by offering to buy out their flood-prone properties. And this year, the agency has been encouraging local communities to join Project Impact, a federal-local effort designed help make them "disaster resistant."

But now Washington is contemplating more muscular tactics to discourage people from living in areas susceptible to repeat floods.

In a National Press Club speech earlier this month, FEMA Director James Lee Witt said his agency is considering denying access to the federal flood insurance program to certain homeowners who have had repeated losses.

"People need to accept the responsibility and the consequences of their choice to live in high-risk areas," Witt said.

People who live in high-risk areas should be charged fair-market rates for flood insurance instead of the lower subsidized prices currently available, Witt suggested. And FEMA is considering ending flood insurance for homeowners who have filed two or more claims that total more than the value of their home and who refuse to either elevate the home or accept a buyout.

The changes, which FEMA plans to present to Congress next year, would save the agency nearly $1 billion by 2010.

"We have a high rate of repetitive losses, especially in the Harris and Montgomery County areas," Buddy Young, who is head of FEMA's regional headquarters in Denton, said in an interview. "This new direction will have a tremendous impact on those areas if we do some of the things we are talking about doing."

Texas ranks second only to Louisiana in repetitive-loss payments, the National Wildlife Federation found in a study earlier this year. Texas received $525 million of the nearly $2.6 billion paid out in repetitive-loss claims between 1978 and mid-1995, the group said.

A Houston-area home along the San Jacinto River topped the national list of repetitive loss payments. Owners of the home, valued at $114,000, received $806,591 in flood insurance payments in the last 18 years. In Grand Prairie, in the Trinity River floodplain, owners of a $187,000 home collected $655,280 over the same period.

In all, the National Wildlife Federation said Texas led the nation with 1,305 single-family residences receiving insurance payments that exceeded the homes' value.

FEMA, which has bought out thousands of flood-prone properties nationwide in recent years, has identified 35,000 properties nationwide with two or more flood loss claims in the last decade. In Texas, 3,461 properties, nearly a quarter of them located in Houston, have racked up $206 million in repeat loss claims.

Officials have been making strides to take some of the flood-prone property off the books.

After the devastation of the 1994 southeast Texas floods, FEMA teamed with local officials to buy out the owners of 723 pieces of heavily damaged property mainly in Harris, Liberty and Montgomery counties. The land, purchased for $23 million, is now used mainly as parkland or for recreation.

Local officials said they welcome FEMA's buyout strategy.

Turkey

Continued From Page 8

Summerall worked for CBS. They moved to Fox in 1994 and took the Turkey Leg Awards with them.

Fieseler, who said he prefers to be called Joe Pat, likes to embellish the tale of the turkeys.

"The story I like to tell is that these turkeys grow on a farm near the nuclear plant in Glen Rose," he said.

A dissection of a six-legged turkey shows that two legs are attached by bones and skin. The four other legs are fastened with -- gasp! -- 3-inch wood skewers.

The smoked turkey is more of an artistic overstatement than an abomination of nature.

But that has not stopped critics of the six-legged turkey from calling Fox Sports to complain.

"It is amazing the amount of mail we've gotten," said Summerall, who lives in northeast Tarrant County. "They think we're being cruel to animals by growing six-legged turkeys."

The 22-pound turkey is chock full of meat. Not counting its four additional feet. Until you taste a smoked six- legged turkey, you really aren't living. But Harvey's stops taking orders two days before Thanksgiving.

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Warning signs for nervous breakdown

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: How can you tell if you're having a nervous breakdown?

DEAR READER: This term is often used to describe a mental or emotional crisis that interferes with normal life or requires hospitalization. A "breakdown" may be triggered by an overload of stress, anxiety or depression; it can also be a consequence of serious disorders — including schizophrenia, bipolar mood disorder and endogenous depression — that are unrelated to outside events.

A person heading for this type of crisis may detect some warning signs: ill temper, a feeling of loss of control, exhaustion or hyperactivity, distorted reality, the development of irrational or eccentric opinions and convictions, and antisocial behavior (such as becoming isolated, verbally abusive or violent, or developing obsessive and self-destructive habits). He or she might increase the use of mind-altering substances, such as alcohol, to escape overwhelming anxiety or depression.

Actually, drugs themselves can cause the equivalent of a nervous breakdown. The mental alterations associated with alcohol, crack, heroin, cocaine, marijuana and hallucinogens are indistinguishable from those seen in deeply disturbed patients — and these changes can occur with so-called "recreational use."

Treatment depends on the problem's severity. Counseling and medication are helpful in most cases. If patients cannot manage daily life or pose a danger to themselves, hospitalization is necessary.

As a general rule, anyone who begins to question or fear for his or her sanity should seek professional help. Psychiatrists, psychologists, therapists and other mental-health professionals can either assist patients with emotional problems or refer them to specialists if necessary. In addition to private help, most communities offer mental-health services for little or no fee.

People with drug or alcohol problems usually need medical intervention because of physical dependence. Counseling is available for a concerned friend or distraught spouse, as well as for the patient.

DEAR DR. GOTT: In my teens, I engaged in purposeless and repetitive knuckle-cracking. Now my finger joints are enlarged and sore, probably due to my adolescent habit. Can anything be done to correct this?

DEAR READER: The symptoms you are experiencing are usually caused by tissue swelling, although such swelling usually regresses once the knuckle-cracking habit has been outgrown. Another, less likely cause is calcium deposits — the hallmark of osteoarthritis, which commonly affects all of us as we age. To my knowledge, knuckle-cracking does not aggravate this type of arthritis. Although not always the case, calcium deposits in the finger joints can be surgically removed if they are painful and interfere with normal motion.

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DR. GOTT



PETER GOTT, M.D.

GOODFELLOWS



Scurry County families may apply for Goodfellows food donations by filling out this form. The deadline to apply is Dec. 12th. Applications should be mailed to: Goodfellows, P.O. Drawer 112, Snyder, Texas, 79550.

Home's Monthly Income $ _____
Do You Receive: Food Stamps _____ AFDC __ SS/SSI __
Father of Home _____
Age _____
Last or Present
Employer _____
Work Phone _____
Mother of Home _____
Age _____
Last or Present
Employer _____
Work Phone _____
Home Address _____
Home Phone _____
Mailing Address _____
Another Telephone Where
You Can Be Reached _____
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NOV 26 1998

Richardson says decision on SRS jobs will be made by Christmas

AIKEN, S.C. (AP) — A decision on whether to build a linear accelerator to produce tritium, a key element in nuclear warheads, at the Savannah River Site will be made by Christmas, U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson says.

Richardson visited the site for a few hours Tuesday to attend briefings with scientists designing the accelerator and the pit-disassembly-and-conversion facility, which also could be located at SRS.

At the pit-disassembly-and-conversion facility, workers would take apart the "pits," or radioactive cores of nuclear weapons, and convert the pure plutonium metal inside into a form suitable for use as fuel for commercial nuclear reactors.

Each plant would bring 400 permanent jobs and more than 1,000 construction jobs to the site.

Tennessee Valley Authority nuclear plants in Alabama and Tennessee also are contenders for the tritium mission. The Pantex plant near Amarillo, Texas, is a finalist for the pit facility.

Richardson said politics will not come into play when he makes his decision. "This is a decision that will be made on merit and not on politics," Richardson said. "This is why today's extensive technical briefings and discussions were so important.

"I have got all the data I need, and now is a time to reflect."

During his visit, Mr. Richardson ate lunch with Gov.-elect Jim Hodges and spoke via telephone with U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C.

After Tuesday's visit, Richardson visited TVA's Bellefonte, Ala., plant, where he said the site was a "major contender" for producing tritium. He will visit the Pantex plant next week.

The linear accelerator at SRS would produce tritium for the nation's nuclear weapons program. Besides Bellefonte, Richardson wants to consider TVA's Watts Bar nuclear plant near Spring City, Tenn., for production of the radioactive gas.

Escapee calls jail to say he's OK

SULPHUR SPRINGS (AP) — It was considerate, if nothing else.

An escapee from the Hopkins County Jail took the time to call authorities to let them know he's OK.

Gary Davis, 36, slipped away Sunday night. He was part of a crew of inmates painting the inside of a jail extension and walked out a door that had been opened for ventilation, officials said.

The Tennessee man had been in the lockup since Sept. 21 on a felony burglary charge.

A search turned up nothing. Then Davis made a phone call to jailers Monday night, apparently to assure them he had no hard feelings.

"It was nothing we did, and nothing against us," chief deputy Rickey Morgan told the Sulphur Springs News-Telegram. "He just felt like his attorney wasn't doing a good job. He said his attorney told him he was 'dumb as a box of rocks.'"

A telephone operator was unable to trace the call and authorities said they have no leads on his whereabouts.

"He could be all the way back to Tennessee by now," Morgan said. "But we'll keep looking for him until he gets found. He'll turn up somewhere."



HELPING HANDS — Snyder High School students, along with parent and faculty volunteers, helped to prepare a Thanksgiving Day meal for the less fortunate of Scurry County. Pictured clockwise from left are Irene Hernandez, Linda Jones, Amy Brooks, Vanessa Jones and Jenny Mayer (front). (SDN Staff Photo)

Player in pyramid scheme pleads guilty

NEW YORK (AP) — A man charged in what authorities have called the biggest pyramid scheme in U.S. history faces up to five years in prison after pleading guilty to reduced charges.

Michael A. Bennett pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges of obstruction of justice, perjury and conspiracy in U.S. District Court in Manhattan.

Bennett, the former head of Syracuse-based office equipment leasing business Bennett Funding Group Inc., admitted signing backdated checks and lying about his role in transactions when he testified before the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The government claimed Bennett tried to thwart a federal probe into a scheme to steal $700 million from 22,000 investors in 46 states, many of them elderly people who had entrusted their life savings to the company. Most of the victims lived in New Jersey, New York, Florida, Pennsylvania, Texas and California.

The government accused the company of swindling investors by selling bogus leases and reselling the same leases more than once. The company filed bankruptcy in March 1996.

Bennett, who originally faced up to 30 years in prison, will be sentenced in February. Under a plea agreement, he will be sentenced to up to five years in prison. Bennett also will be fined $250,000 on each of the three charges.

The charges against Bennett and three others, including his older brother, Patrick R. Bennett, were brought last year. Patrick Bennett, the company's former chief financial officer, is scheduled to stand trial next week.

Bankruptcy trustee Richard Breeden has determined the Bennetts owe more than $1 billion to its investors and has sued the family for $1.65 million in compensation and damages.

Teenagers are hormones with feet.
—Marsha Doble

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December 5, 1998



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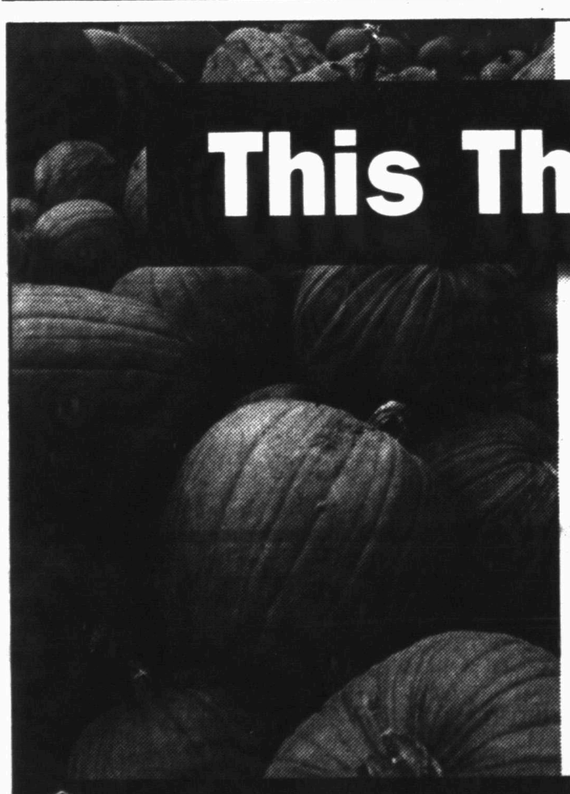
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APPLICATION FORM

Name of Applicant:_____ Birthdate:_____
Address:_____ Phone Number:_____
Spouse:_____ Birthdate:_____
How Long at this Address:_____
( ) Own Home ( ) Buying
( ) Renting $_____ Monthly Amount
Are You:
( ) Widowed ( ) Divorced
( ) Handicapped How:_____
Number of People living in this Household:_____
( ) Adults ( ) Children Ages:_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
Income:
( ) Employed Where:_____
Gross Weekly Income: $_____
( ) Spouse Employed Where:_____
Gross Weekly Income: $_____
( ) No One Employed
Other Income:
( ) Social Security: Amount $_____
( ) Public Welfare: Amount $_____
( ) Supplemental Income: Amount $_____
( ) Other: _____
Additional Comments - Repairs Needed:

Mail to: P.O. Box 541, Snyder, Tx. 79550
Applications Need To Be Returned By January 15, 1999

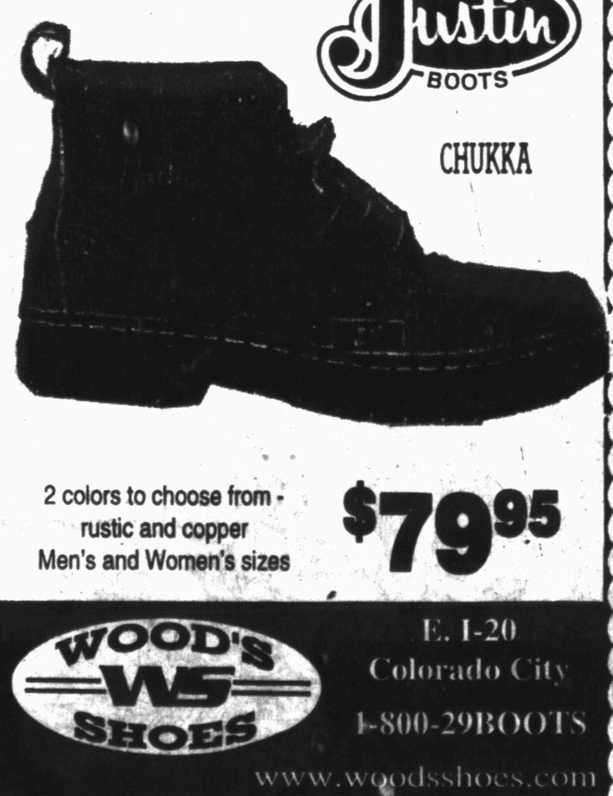
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Baggage-sizing...

Continental sues Delta over equipment

HOUSTON (AP) — Continental Airlines has had enough with two baggage-sizing devices Delta Air Lines installed at the San Diego airport — and with the ensuing complaints from passengers.

Now the Houston-based carrier has sued Delta to force its competitor to stop using the equipment at security checkpoints shared by both airlines at San Diego International Airport.

The lawsuit, filed late Monday in a San Diego court, alleges the equipment has created traffic jams at the security area and forced some Continental customers to return to ticket counters to check their bags.

"Continental customers shouldn't be penalized by Delta's imposition of its unfriendly baggage policies," Mark Erwin, Continental's vice president of airport services, said Tuesday.

"At airports around the world we share X-ray machines with other airlines," Erwin said. "It is universally understood that the airline which operates the checkpoint will not use it to disadvantage other carriers or their passengers."

The lawsuit seeks an injunction and unspecified damages against Atlanta-based Delta for its alleged interference with contractual rights Continental has with its customers and for unfair competition.

According to the suit, Delta installed Plexiglas cutouts in front of two X-ray security machines in August to make sure carry-on bags are small enough to fit under plane seats or in overhead bins.

The security machines are shared by Delta, Continental, Denver-based Frontier Airlines and America West, based in Tempe, Ariz.

Delta spokesman Bill Berry said all four carriers, including Continental, agreed last spring to have the equipment installed and even paid part of the $3,000 cost.

"The four carriers who use that particular security area agreed to conduct a test and we proceeded, and for some reason Continental elected to withdraw," Berry said.

Delta has installed the sizing equipment in less than a dozen cities around the country in an effort to crack down on carry-ons. The airline has received few complaints from its passengers, Berry said.

"The response has been very positive," he said. "It makes the cabin a lot more orderly, and it definitely makes for a much safer environment."

But Continental contends it has received complaints daily about the equipment, prompting the carrier to place a representative at the security checkpoints in San Diego to assist passengers in bypassing the sizing cutouts.

"We have received gripes from people who just can't believe it to people who feel it's a serious infringement on what they consider a normal carry-on," Continental spokesman Dave Messing said.

The airline holds that any limits on carry-on bags should be imposed by individual carriers. Additionally, Continental is in the midst of a $14 million project to expand overhead bins on more than 150 of its planes.

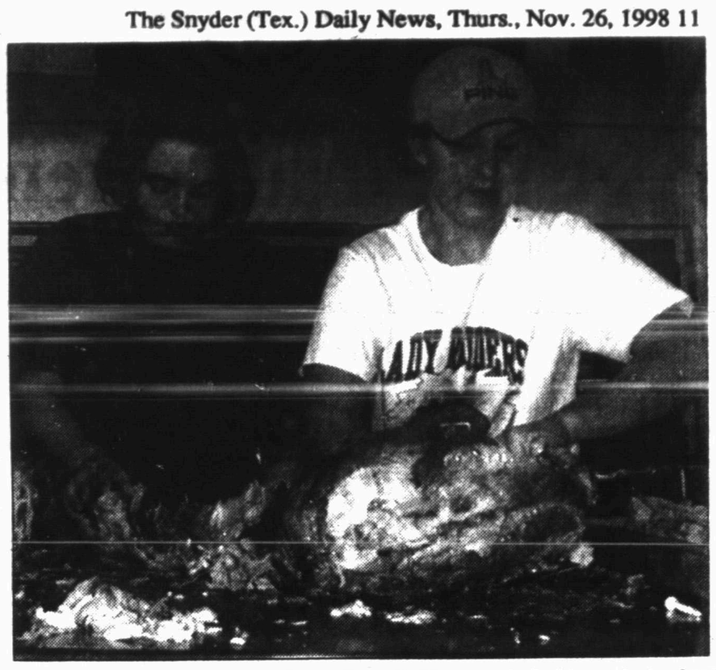
Messing said Continental asked Delta to remove the cutouts in September. When they were not removed, the airline sued.

America West and Frontier have expressed no complaints about the equipment, Berry said. Frontier spokeswoman Elise Eberwein said, "We're OK with it. This carry-on thing has gotten out of hand — everybody knows it."

Continental is the fifth-largest air carrier in the nation; Delta is the third-largest.

Also Tuesday, Continental issued a letter to United Airlines requesting the company change its plans to install baggage sizers at three security checkpoints at the Denver International Airport that Continental passengers must use.

Joe Hopkins, a spokesman for the Illinois-based carrier, said the sizers cannot be installed unless all airlines who used the checkpoints agree. However, he said there are "sound reasons" for installing the equipment and insisted the idea "is backed by the majority of our customers."



PREPARING TURKEYS — Randi Haggard (left) and Andra Lancaster were two of several Snyder High School students who helped Wednesday to prepare turkey for the fourth annual Thanksgiving Day dinner to be held today at The Shack. The event is made possible through the cooperation of the Rotary Club, Lawrence IGA, The Shack, and the SHS student council. (SDN Staff Photo)

Former newspaper photographer dies

SULPHUR SPRINGS (AP) — Award-winning photographer Larry D. Barr of Denton, whose career included positions with the Denton Record-Chronicle and Sulphur Springs News-Telegram, has died. He was 49.

Barr died Nov. 20 at Denton Regional Medical Center. Memorial services will be Sunday at Asbury United Methodist Church in Denton, where he was a member.

Interment will be in Allison Cemetery in Gordonville.

Barr was a self-employed photographer.

3 charged in casino scheme

BAY ST. LOUIS, Miss. (AP) — Three people were jailed Wednesday on charges of passing phony cashier's checks at two Mississippi coast casinos.

The three are charged with bank fraud and counterfeiting.

Kenneth Alex, 31, Kelly Lewis, 28, and Sheila Gallaway, 38, all of Houston, Texas, are accused of cashing a fake $46,500 cashier's check at the Grand Casino on Nov. 19. The trio are suspected of unsuccessfully trying to cash another fake check at Treasure Bay Casino on Nov. 20, according to the U.S. Secret Service.

The suspects took photos to "an insider in the Texas Department of Public Safety in Houston," said Larry Rowlett, special agent in charge of the Secret Service in Mississippi.

The three got "genuine" driver's licenses with other people's names, and then got a computer operator to made fake cashier's checks written in the amount of $46,500, Rowlett said. The checks also had a fake bank's name.

First the trio went to Grand Casino, where Alex went inside while the others waited outside in a car with a cell phone and computer, Rowlett said.

When Alex gave the teller the check, the teller called the telephone number for the bank. Lewis answered on the cellular phone, Rowlett said, clicked on the computer keyboard as if she was checking bank records, then verified the check.

The teller gave $46,500 in markers to the subject, who played about $2,000 to $3,000 worth, and got the remainder in cash and left, the Secret Service said.

At Treasure Bay, Rowlett said a teller got suspicious when she called the bank and got a recording. Gallaway ran out but she and the others were captured, Rowlett said.

When the teller got suspicious she notified casino security and surveillance personnel, said Bob Peyton, Treasure Bay's assistant general manager.

"We were really fortunate," Peyton said.

Jean Wiesenburg, spokeswoman for Grand Casino, would not comment, saying company policy prohibits comment on criminal investigations.

Texas DPS spokesman Tom Vinger said his agency tries to ferret out any employees who issue fraudulent documents.

"Obviously we know this kind of activity goes on undetected, but when we do catch them, we will put them behind bars," Vinger said.

Former prison official indicted for sexual abuse

HOUSTON (AP) — A former supervisor at a federal prison camp in East Texas has been indicted on nine counts of violating the civil rights of four female inmates he is accused of sexually abusing over the past two years.

The federal indictment against Charles Keith Alexander, 36, was announced Tuesday by James DeAtley, U.S. attorney for the southern district of Texas.

Federal prosecutors allege Alexander, while serving as cook supervisor at the prison camp in Bryan, engaged in sexual activity with three female inmates on six occasions from summer 1997 through July 1998.

He also is accused of engaging in sexual contact with a fourth inmate with the intent to "abuse, humiliate, harass, degrade, arouse and gratify" from January 1998 through March.

If convicted, Alexander faces up to one year in prison and a $100,000 fine on each of the first six counts, and up to six months in prison and a $5,000 fine on the three other counts.

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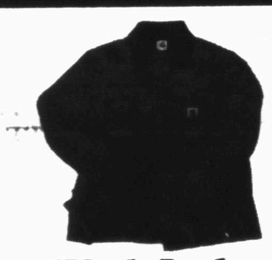
Boys and Girls Jeans
Half-Elastic Jeans
Colors: Red, Black, Blue Denim
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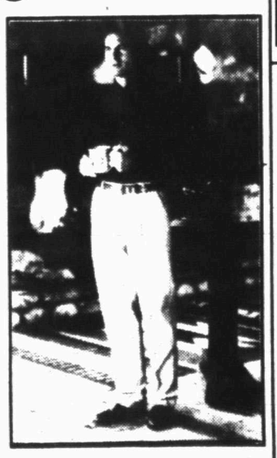
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Jacket (as pictured) $56.98
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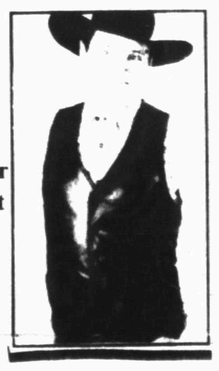


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Ladies Clothes
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Blouses, Skirts..... 1/2 Price
Denim Dresses $49.98

Videotaping of cheerleaders sending registered sex offender back to prison

FORT WORTH (AP) — A 38-year-old registered sex offender will be returned to prison for touching and videotaping young cheerleaders last month at a football game in Arlington.

State District Judge sentenced David James Manchen to 20 years in prison at a probation revocation hearing Tuesday .

Manchen had received 10 years deferred adjudication after he pleaded guilty to indecency with a child in 1995 for an incident involving a daughter's friend.

As part of his deferred adjudication, Manchen was not allowed within 300 feet of areas where children gather, including public parks and playgrounds.

Manchen was arrested Oct. 10 at a home in southeast Arlington. Police said that a few days earlier, parents caught Manchen using a hand-held camcorder to videotape cheerleaders ages 8 to 12 years old.

When parents noticed Manchen filming the cheerleaders, they approached him and asked him to leave, police said. Although Manchen agreed to leave, he did not want to surrender the videotape.

One man bought the video for $10, saying his daughter was on the tape, and then turned it over to authorities, police said.

A short segment of the video shows the football game. Police said most of the video is of specific body parts of the young cheerleaders.

On cross examination, Assistant District Attorney Greg Pipes asked Manchen if the tape was made for his sexual stimulation.

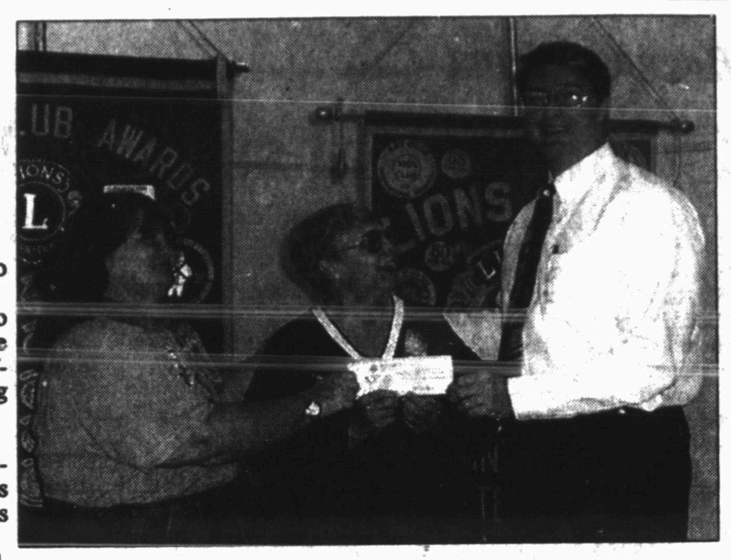
"Well, yes," Manchen replied. "Yes, it was."

Manchen was originally charged with indecency with a child for fondling a young girl, a friend of his daughter's, who was spending the night at his house.

"My hand shouldn't have been there, but that's when I was doing the heavy drinking," he said.

"Are you a pedophile?" Pipes asked Manchen.

"I wouldn't classify myself as one," he replied. "I do stupid things."



LIONS HELP TOY FOR TOTS — Judy Martin and Peggy Vernon accept a check for Toys for Tots which the Girl Scouts heads up. Each Lions Club member brought a gift or donated $10. Decorated boxes were to be placed today at Snyder Daily News, Circle In Grocery, KSNY and Wal-Mart for those wishing to donate toys. Also pictured below is Lion Bob Moore, minister of education and administration at Colonial Hill Baptist Church. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



Companies try to profit from rating hospitals, doctors

NEW YORK (AP) — If you give consumers information about the performance of hospitals and doctors they'll use it to decide where to seek better health care.

Nice theory, yet it hasn't worked out in practice. The public has largely shunned the many report cards produced by state governments and trade groups, but now a new crop of businesses is entering the field in search of profits.

Some examples include:

— Healthcare Report Cards Inc., a division of a Colorado physician practice management company, this fall put its hospital report cards on the Internet.

Body piercing could need parental OK

AUSTIN (AP) — Before visiting the body-piercing shop, young Texans might soon need mom or dad to sign on the dotted line.

A bill filed in the Legislature would require notarized parental permission before anyone younger than 18 can get any part of their body pierced.

The same bill, by state Sen. Frank Madla, D-San Antonio, would also put body-piercing shops under the same rules as their brethren, tattoo parlors, which are inspected annually to make sure they are sanitary. Many body piercers share space with tattoo artists, but the state doesn't examine piercing facilities or equipment.

State law already requires parental permission before minors can get tattoos, but that law is routinely violated, the Austin Statesman-American reported. Body piercers think youngsters looking to express their independence by getting their ears, nose, navels or other appendages pierced would find a way to do it despite regardless of state law.

"Navels and tongues will come and go, but nipple piercing is classic. It's been around for centuries," Sarah Ritzenthaler, a piercer at Forbidden Fruit in Austin, told the newspaper.

Some body piercers think licensing the shops would be a good idea.

"I definitely think there should be some sort of regulation. There are too many people poking holes in people who shouldn't be," said Bill Ragland, a piercer at Custom Tattoos from the Soul in Austin.

"I've seen some pretty bad piercing from shops here in Austin," Ms. Ritzenthaler said. She said the legislation wouldn't stop young people from piercing themselves but would crack down on "hacker shops."

"It'll shut down the shops that aren't clean," she said, "and I can tell you right now, there are a lot of them."

Parents of girl killed by Edcouch police officer sue city for $20 million

McALLEN (AP) — The parents of a teen-ager killed by an Edcouch police officer are battling the city of Edcouch in court for $20 million.

Manuel and Guillermina Hidalgo filed the suit in federal court seeking $20 million from the city for alleged wrongful death and civil rights violations, Katherine Julia, an attorney for the family, said Tuesday.

Iris Hidalgo, 18, a McAllen High School honor student was found floating face-down in a canal near the Edcouch water treatment plant on March 24, 1996. Her throat had been slit.

The suit was filed earlier this year and is expected to go to trial next year.

Defendants are the city of Edcouch; its police chief, Eloy Zarala; its city manager, Delmira Trevino; and Gilberto Chavero Jr., a former Edcouch policeman who was convicted in August of last year and sentenced to life in prison for raping and killing Miss Hidalgo.

The lawsuit alleges that Chavero had a history of stopping young women for alleged traffic violations and detaining them for up to forty minutes. Complaints about his traffic stops were made by other officers and citizens to city officials, the family alleges.

On March 23, 1996, Ms. Hidalgo was stopped by Chavero while she was driving in Edcouch. Chavero made her get out of her car, handcuffed her, raped her and killed her, according to the lawsuit.

The Hidalgos accuse the city of not doing a comprehensive background check on Chavero, whose criminal record as a juvenile reportedly included arrests for arson and burglary of a McAllen police car in 1988.

The lawsuit alleges he was also the subject of other criminal investigations as a juvenile.

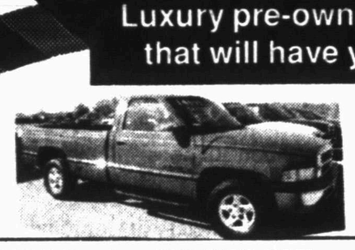
The family also alleges that a psychological evaluation of Chavero determined he had an unstable work history, bad temper and learning and language disabilities.

"I think this is just a case where the city of Edcouch completely dropped the ball and did not conform with the standards that should be expected of all police departments," Ms. Julia said.

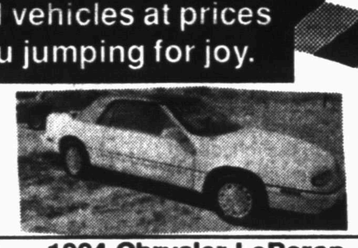
The city argues that it is not liable for Chavero's crime.

Tidings Of *Comfort & Joy*

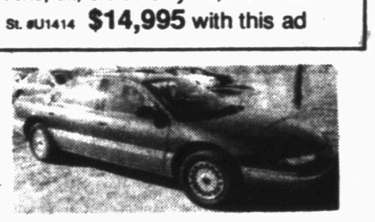
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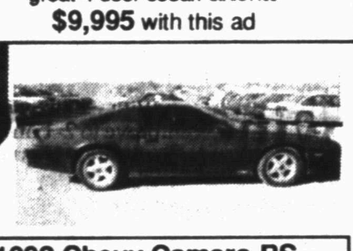
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On January 1, 2000 A Computer Problem Could Be *Your* Problem.

(Even if you don't own one)

On that day, many systems could fail or make big mistakes. It's called, "Y2K," or the "millennium bug."

The Year 2000 problem refers to computer programs designed in the 1970s and '80s that aimed to save memory space by using two-digit numbers rather than four to designate years. Unless the problem is corrected, many computers won't be able to tell the difference between 2000 and 1900.

What Y2K Means To The Church

As this opportunity develops, it could present untold possibilities for the Church. Many could be afflicted with physical, emotional, financial and spiritual needs. This would not be a local problem--it could afford international ministry opportunities. Although disaster may not adversely affect every local situation or place, it is always prudent to be responsible and not reactive during a potential crisis.

1. We have a responsibility to trust. We have a responsibility to see and understand the real meaning of this event and to respond accordingly. But we must trust in God regardless.

2. We have a responsibility to repent. It seems God is asking "Whom or what do you place your trust?" In our modern day society we have seemingly placed more of our trust in the god of science and technology than the God of Abraham. Our first response should be to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

3. We have a responsibility to prepare. The Bible says, **"A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it"** (Prov. 22:3). It is not unbiblical to prepare and plan. We should trust God to give us the resources we need to live and be a blessing to others in their time of need and this includes the ability to see what is coming and to prepare accordingly.

4. We have a responsibility to give and serve. Jesus came to serve and to give. Likewise, we are called to do the same. All the best planning in the world is for naught if God isn't blessing your endeavors.

What We Are Doing

We are hosting a community-wide forum for Christians offering information and the opportunity to ask relevant questions. Our hope is that each church will begin making plans as they are led.

When And Where. Tuesday evening, December 1st, at FamilyLife Community Church from 7:00-9:00pm. The first 25 guests will receive a free Y2K planning guide, ***"Becoming A Voice Of Reason During A Time Of Uncertainty."*** Childcare will not be provided.

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Cincinnati	2
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Seattle	5
KansasCity	4

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Chicago	3
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SPORTS

Dallas faces Vikings' test

Cowboys understand Moss' big-play ability

IRVING (AP) — Get ready for a double dose of rookie sensation Randy Moss.

The Dallas Cowboys secondary got the news Tuesday that Minnesota wide receiver Jake Reed won't play against them Thanksgiving Day. That means more work for the game-breaking Moss.

"It doesn't matter who is in there," said Dallas defensive back Kenny Wheaton. "The Vikings don't run routes. They just throw the ball downfield. In some cases, they are just playing jump ball."

Wheaton said Moss, who had a career-high eight catches for 153 yards and scored a touchdown in Sunday's 28-14 victory over Green Bay, is a defensive back's worst nightmare.

"He has the attitude that if a ball is in the air, it's his," Wheaton said. "You think you have a guy covered and they throw it anyway."

Vikings coach Dennis Green said Reed's lower back injury will require surgery and he won't play against the Cowboys.

"This means Randy will start and get more plays than the 25 or so he has been averaging per game," Green said. "It usually takes rookies a year or so to get into the groove, but Randy has already done that. He's faster than most people realize and has exceptional hands."

Safety Darren Woodson said Moss gives the Vikings a dimension of danger they've never had before.

"We've played Minnesota before minus Moss and we know what we have to do," Woodson said. "If Deion (Sanders) is back it will make it easier for us. Without him it will be tough. Their offense is very explosive."

Sanders has been hobbling around Valley Ranch with a sprained big toe. He had to leave in the first half of the Cowboys' 30-22 victory over Seattle last Sunday and was replaced by Charlie Williams.

Randall Cunningham comes into the game with the highest passer rating in the NFL. Minnesota has the third-highest rated offense in the league and has averaged 32 points per game.

The Dallas defense ranks 23rd against the pass in the NFL.

Williams, who has played sparingly at cornerback, could have a big target on his chest.

"I know they're coming my way," Williams said. "There is no sense running from it. They have big receivers and it's hard to make a play on them. I'm rooting for Deion to get healthy."

Secondary coach Mike Zimmer said the Cowboys might as well get their air raid helmets on.

"We're going to be seeing a lot of Moss," he said. "We're just glad some of our young guys got to play last week."

The Cowboys were one of 20 NFL teams who passed on Moss in the draft. Because of Moss' off-field problems, the Cowboys, already hurting in public relations, couldn't take a chance on him.

"Our hands were pretty much tied," said owner Jerry Jones.

Pair of young receivers must step up for Dallas

IRVING (AP) — At halftime of Sunday's game against Seattle, rookie wide receiver Jeff Ogden hit the dressing room running and feverishly rifled through his playbook.

Ernie Mills had been knocked out of the game for the Dallas Cowboys, and the free agent from Eastern Washington was pressed into immediate duty.

"I told him to put the book down because if he didn't know the plays by now he'd never know them," wide receiver Michael Irvin said. "I told him to just relax."

Ogden said: "I was just trying to refresh my memory about some things. It was like the teacher giving you five minutes before the exam."

Ogden passed the test. He caught four passes and earned praise from quarterback Troy Aikman.

"Somebody said my eyes looked as big as half-dollars," Ogden said. "Maybe they did. We were playing Seattle, and I knew the whole state of Washington was watching me."

Ogden and Pat Jeffers, who played for Denver last year, both played against the Seahawks in the 30-22 victory. Dallas got Jeffers in a trade with the Broncos on Aug. 30.

They will log extra time against Minnesota on Thanksgiving Day because Mills is out for the regular season with an internal injury and coach Chan Gailey sometimes uses as many as five wide receivers.

Jeffers has one catch for 11 yards this year.

"Both of us have been practicing hard, and coach Gailey isn't afraid to use young guys who have worked in his system," Jeffers said. "He has confidence in both of us, and that means a lot."

It's Jeffers' third year in the NFL, but he's caught a total of only four passes.

The Cowboys (8-3) will have to match the firepower of the Vikings (10-1) in the Texas Stadium game, and that means Billy Davis, Jeffers or Ogden will have to have a big day if Minnesota double-teams Irvin.

"Somebody else has to step up with Ernie out," Aikman said.

Ogden, who earned a scholarship at Eastern Washington as a walk-on, said he has been amazed how hard and accurate Aikman throws the ball.

"On one play, I was coming out of my route looking for Troy and the ball hit me in the face mask," said Ogden, who made the catch. "Now, that's accuracy."

Dallas needs a huge offensive day because the Vikings, who have already clinched a playoff spot, are averaging 32 points per game. The Cowboys' beat-up secondary could have trouble staying with the likes of Randy Moss and Cris Carter. Jake Reed will miss the game because of back trouble.

"It could be a shootout. You never know," Aikman said. "Minnesota has made tremendous offensive strides and can really score points. We'd like to keep their offense on the sideline by moving the ball."



LADY BENGAL SIGNEE — Snyder senior Keisha Gafford signs a letter of intent to play golf at Idaho State University, while her father Greg Gafford (center) and Snyder coaches Matt Glenn (left) and Primo Gonzales look on. Gafford has made consecutive trips to the state tournament as a member of the Lady Tiger squad. (SDN Staff Photo)

SJHS Black tops Steers

The third quarter doomed Snyder Gold, while Chris Sorrells was lighting it up for Snyder Black.

After failing to score in the third quarter, Snyder Gold fell to 1-1 on the season with a 32-27 setback to Big Spring in eighth grade action.

The Tigers, paced by six points from T.J. Jones and Zach Starnes, held a 19-13 halftime lead.

Stafford Gray finished the contest with five points, while Clay Williams rattled home four more. Brady Reed, Colby Driggers and Trey Roland posted two points apiece.

In the other eighth grade matchup, Sorrells drained 21 points to lead Snyder Black to a 49-31 win over the Steers.

The victory improves Snyder's record to 2-0 on the season.

Josh Montoya posted eight points in the contest, with Will Davis pouring in seven. Cory Lyons registered four points, while Randall Rich and Matt McCormick notched two each.

Both squads hit the hardwoods again next Thursday when they host Andrews at 5 p.m. and 6:15.

7th grade nabs two wins

Both Snyder seventh grade boys basketball squads upped their marks to 2-0 with convincing victories over Big Spring.

Snyder Black surrendered only nine first half points to the Steers en route to a 43-17 blowout, while Snyder Gold got 17 points from Blake Grimmett in its 40-31 win.

SJHS Black was paced the play of Kenneth Fabre who poured in nine points on the evening.

Malcom Wells drained seven points for the Tigers, with Garret Clayton, Tucker Early, Clayton Floyd, Justin Stoker and Brad English adding four apiece.

Zach Cain, Joe Maldonado and Matthew Vasquez chipped in two points each.

With Grimmett leading the way for the Gold squad, Kris Hatley, Lee Scott, Tye Collier, Andrew Bane and Peter Perez sank four points apiece. Marcus Villarreal added three more for the Tigers.

Both teams will be in action next Thursday when they host Andrews at 5 p.m. and 6:15.

SHS golfer signs with Idaho State

When Keisha Gafford wraps up her senior year on the Snyder girls golf team, her competitive playing days won't be over.

Gafford signed a National Letter of Intent to play golf at Idaho State University as a member of the Lady Bengal linksters.

Many factors weighed in the decision to sign with ISU, according to Gafford.

"It's great up there," the SHS golfer said. "It's not a huge town, but there's so many other things to do. Plus they have a good psychology department and I really like the coach and the other girls."

Idaho State, with an average enrollment of about 8,000 students, is located in Pocatello.

The Lady Bengals have tournaments scheduled in Hawaii and Pebble Beach, Calif. among other places.

"It'll be a lot of fun to get to play some great courses," said Gafford, who will receive a full ride at ISU. "There are only two seniors on the squad, so I should get play in the top five my first year and I'm looking forward to it."

JV muzzles Cubs, 81-57

Just prior to Snyder varsity's romp over Brownfield on Tuesday, the junior varsity Tigers did a little trouncing of their own.

Snyder raced to a 10-point halftime lead, then widened the gap in the final two quarters for an 81-57 victory.

With the win, the Tigers improve to 2-1 on the year heading into Friday afternoon's 2 o'clock match-up with Frenship at the SHS gym.

Snyder got the job done in the paint, with Jared Thornhill posting 18 points and Heath Pinkerton accounting for 17 more.

Jamaal Wofford led the Snyder charge from the perimeter with 13 points, while Trevor Kerr and Michael Loper poured in nine apiece.

Layne Scott and Brandon McGraw drained five points each, with Jessie Haines adding two more.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

AMERICAN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
East						
Buffalo	7	4	0	.636	247	217
Miami	7	4	0	.636	201	158
N.Y.Jets	7	4	0	.636	267	178
NewEngland	6	5	0	.545	237	215
Indianapolis	2	9	0	.182	177	298
Central						
Jacksonville	8	3	0	.727	277	230
Pittsburgh	7	4	0	.636	208	199
Tennessee	6	5	0	.545	242	217
Baltimore	4	7	0	.364	167	216
Cincinnati	2	9	0	.182	180	287
West						
x-Denver	11	0	0	1.000	370	190
Oakland	7	4	0	.636	190	215
SanDiego	5	6	0	.455	165	216
Seattle	5	6	0	.455	235	192
KansasCity	4	7	0	.364	204	235
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
Dallas	8	3	0	.727	289	171
Arizona	6	5	0	.545	227	274
N.Y.Giants	4	7	0	.364	189	226
Philadelphia	2	9	0	.182	92	253
Washington	2	9	0	.182	211	318
Central						
x-Minnesota	10	1	0	.909	348	184
GreenBay	7	4	0	.636	290	224
Detroit	4	7	0	.364	225	247
TampaBay	4	7	0	.364	192	233
Chicago	3	8	0	.273	180	244
West						
Atlanta	9	2	0	.818	304	208
SanFrancisco	8	3	0	.727	323	237
NewOrleans	5	6	0	.455	206	235
St.Louis	3	8	0	.273	197	264
Carolina	2	9	0	.182	215	274

x-clinched playoff berth

Monday's Game

New England 26, Miami 23

Thursday, Nov. 26

Pittsburgh at Detroit, 12:35 p.m.

Minnesota at Dallas, 4:05 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 29

Arizona at Kansas City, 1:01 p.m.

Atlanta at St. Louis, 1:01 p.m.

Carolina at New York Jets, 1:01 p.m.

Indianapolis at Baltimore, 1:01 p.m.

Jacksonville at Cincinnati, 1:01 p.m.

Tampa Bay at Chicago, 1:01 p.m.

Tennessee at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.

Buffalo at New England, 4:05 p.m.

New Orleans at Miami, 4:15 p.m.

Philadelphia at Green Bay, 4:15 p.m.

Washington at Oakland, 4:15 p.m.

Denver at San Diego, 8:20 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 30

New York Giants at San Francisco, 8:20 p.m.

Cox aims racist allegations at NFL

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP) — Bryan Cox lashed out at the NFL again Wednesday for being a racist league after he was fined $10,000 for unnecessary roughness

The New York Jets linebacker, who has been fined $146,000 in his career and filed two lawsuits against the league, drew the fine for hits Sunday against Steve McNair and Eddie George of Tennessee. Cox, who is black, criticized the NFL for having a "slave Negro, house Negro mentality."

"Because if you believe this league is a racist league, which I do," Cox said, "the good-ol'-boy network is alive and kicking. How many black owners are in this league? How many black coaches? How many coaches in this league that proved they can't win anywhere, but they keep resurfacing as head coaches?

"Also, the thing that with this league being over 70 percent black, and within the league office all the black people that are in any position of authority are always pitted against the players in the league," added Cox, who played and behaved well since joining the Jets in August as a free agent.

"I feel like that's unfortunate and I don't like that.

Both Gene Washington, who is responsible for fines, and Harold Henderson, the NFL's labor relations director, are black.

Cox has been fined eight times by the league, including $87,500 in 1996 for directing an obscene gesture at an official. He also has been fined for his role in fights; for unnecessary roughness; for spitting; for criticism of officiating; and for obscene gestures to the crowd.

He also expressed annoyance at where his fine money goes, hinting again that racism is involved.

"They've fined me over $200,000 in my career, and they give my money to the Brian Piccolo Cancer Fund, the Vince Lombardi Cancer Research Center, ALS Neuromuscular Research Foundation or the NFL Players Assistance Trust Fund," he said. "Although those are very needy organizations, with the amount of money that I've been fined over the years, I would like to be able to have appointed where that money would have been donated to.

"I just feel that in my neighborhood (East St. Louis, Ill.), there are a lot of kids that have a need."

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SPORTS

Prior to Thanksgiving match-up...

Aggies heap praise on Texas runner

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Texas running back Ricky Williams is getting rare praise from the least expected source — archrival Texas A&M.

There is still the usual growling and chest-pounding as the two teams prepare to go at each other Friday for the 105th time, unless the subject is Williams, poised to become big time football's all-time leading rusher.

Are the Aggies trying reverse psychology on Williams?

"He's like the Michael Jordan of college football," said Aggies running back Dante Hall. "He can run around you, he can run over you, he can catch, kind of like Michael Jordan can shoot, dunk on you, anything."

Williams needs 63 yards against the sixth-ranked Aggies to break the NCAA record of 6,082 yards by Pittsburgh's Tony Dorsett from 1973 to 1976. The Aggies expect him to get it.

"I'm going to predict that Ricky Williams will get his 63 yards," inside linebacker coach Alan Weddell said. "It's an honor to be on the football field with a great player like Ricky. I'm sure it's an honor for him to be on the field with a great defense like ours."

The Aggies may be just acknowledging the obvious.

"He has everything," Hall said. "Most running backs don't have all of the components, but he does, so he'll get it. Even if I didn't want him to get it, he will, but he deserves it. He deserves to win the Heisman. No one deserves it more than him."

The Aggies' Wrecking Crew defense ranks No. 2 nationally against the run, but they haven't been too successful against Williams. And they don't seem too worried about keeping Williams from his record.

"To me, it's like the baseball home run record. You'd like to see him get it, you just hope it's not against you," quarterback Randy McCown said. "I think he's worked extremely hard and he's very deserving of the record. I wouldn't mind if he got it as long as we win the game."

In three previous outings against A&M, Williams has averaged 163.7 yards per game and 7.1 yards per carry.

"A lot of good running backs have gotten 60 yards against us, and he's a great running back," safety Rich Coady said. "It's not like he got all 6,000 yards against us.

"It won't hurt our feelings if he gets the record. He's done so much for that program."

How do the Aggies tackle Williams?

"Very carefully," Coady said. "You have to get a chest on him and then grab for something, a piece of clothing, a shoe and then hope the rest of the team can get there."

As a freshman, Williams gained 163 yards on 14 carries and scored twice as the Longhorns beat the Aggies 16-6 in 1995. Williams got 145 yards on 22 carries in Texas' 51-15 victory in 1996, and had his best effort — 183 yards on 33 carries — in a 27-16 loss last year.

Now, the Aggies have one last shot at Williams, averaging 183.5 yards and 16.2 points this season.

"A lot of people say one person can't tackle him," linebacker Roylin Bradley said. "You can't stop him, just contain him and keep him from running 300 yards and keep him out of the end zone."

Williams has rushed for 1,865 yards this season and scored 26 touchdowns. He was held to a season-low 43 yards by Kansas State.

"A lot of teams will put eight or nine guys in the box to try and shut down Ricky Williams, but that opens the rest of the team up," Coady said.

Local Sports Schedule

TODAY
Basketball: Snyder varsity girls vs. Amarillo High, Frenship tourney, 6 p.m.
FRIDAY
Basketball: Snyder varsity girls at Frenship tourney.
Basketball: Frenship at Snyder JV & varsity boys, 2 p.m., 3:30.
Football: El Paso Jesus Chapel vs. Greenville Christian, TAPPS six-man state championship at Ira, 2 p.m.
Football: Balmorhea vs. Samnorwood, six-man quarterfinal at Ira, 6 p.m.
SATURDAY
Basketball: Ranger at WTC, Scurry County Coliseum, 3 p.m.
Football: Borden County vs. Groom, six-man quarterfinal at Floydada, 3 p.m.

Eight Wolfpack players dismissed

RALEIGH (AP) — Eight North Carolina State athletes have been disciplined for their roles in the fatal shooting of a student who fired shots at a house party.

Three football players were dismissed from the team and their scholarships revoked, coach Mike O'Cain said Tuesday.

"They have brought embarrassment and disrespect to our football program, our athletic department and to our university," O'Cain said.

Two wrestlers and three gymnasts won't be allowed to participate in team activities for an undetermined time, athletic director Les Robinson said.

In all, 10 people have been charged during an investigation into the Sunday morning death of Neil Davis Jr., 21, of Fayetteville. His funeral is today.

Davis was shot with his own gun during a struggle after he fired shots at a house where the athletes were partying and drinking in an off-campus area populated by students.

Police said the students charged across the road into Davis' bedroom in search of "street justice."

O'Cain met with the players involved Monday night and Tuesday. They told him they believed Davis fired several rounds from a BB gun and not a pistol.

Police said Davis, apparently irritated by the party noise, fired rounds from a 9 mm pistol and a bullet fragment grazed a student's shoulder.

TCU coach eyeing Sooners' head job

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Florida defensive coordinator Bob Stoops and TCU head coach Dennis Franchione are expected to be among the first to be interviewed by Oklahoma officials looking for a new football coach, according to published reports.

The Daily Oklahoman reported that Stoops was expected to meet today at an undisclosed location with Oklahoma officials to discuss the vacancy. The Tulsa World reported that Stoops and Franchione were expected to interview this weekend.

There had been unconfirmed reports Tuesday that Stoops was in Norman to interview for the job, but Florida athletics director Jeremy Foley said he did not know of any meeting between Stoops and OU officials.

Oklahoma athletics director Joe Castiglione said later that, "Neither myself nor anyone in an official capacity has interviewed Stoops or anybody else in Norman."

The Oklahoman said sources close to Stoops and OU said he played golf in Gainesville, Fla., and was the keynote speaker Tuesday night at a Florida Quarterback Club meeting.

On Tuesday, Georgia coach Jim Donnan, named in media reports as topping the wish list of Castiglione, tried to quiet talk that he could be headed west for the Sooner camp.

Donnan, offensive coordinator at OU from 1985 through 1989, said Tuesday he wanted to stay in Georgia and that OU officials hadn't contacted him.

"As I've stated to this group (the media) on numerous occasions, as I've stated to the recruits, as I stated to the whole team (Monday), I have every intention of being at this place as long as they'll have me," Donnan said.

"I feel to this point I've done a good job saying what I'm going to do and sticking by it."

Stoops is credited with building a defense that helped lead Florida to the national championship in 1996. He is in his third season with the Gators. He coached at Kansas State before that.

His name also has been mentioned for the coaching vacancy at Iowa, his alma mater. Hayden Fry retired Monday.

"Bob knows there is a real rebuilding job to be done at Iowa," a source who confirmed today's meeting told the Oklahoman. "He views the opportunity to win at Oklahoma as immediate; it's not a rebuilding job. Even though they have been down, he knows the resources and talent that they have and the type of talent that they can attract."

It has only been three days since the OU regents terminated John Blake, who compiled a 12-22 record in three seasons.

Another name that cropped up as Blake's possible successor was that of Franchione, the man who led Texas Christian to a 6-5 season this year.

Two Dallas-Fort Worth area television stations, WFAA and KXAS, also reported that Franchione is under consideration to replace Blake.

High School Playoff Pairings

CLASS 5A

DIVISION I
Region I
Quarterfinals
Odessa Permian (10-2) vs. Duncanville (9-3), 1 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium, Irving
DIVISION II
Regionals
Region I
Midland Lee (11-1) vs. Copperas Cove (10-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, San Angelo Stadium, San Angelo
Amarillo (9-3) vs. South Grand Prairie (8-4), 1 p.m. Saturday, Dick Bivins Stadium, Amarillo

CLASS 4A

DIVISION I
Quarterfinals
Region I
WF Rider (4-8) vs. Plainview (10-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jones Stadium, Lubbock
DIVISION II
Region I
Pampa (10-2) vs. Stephenville (11-1), 7 p.m. Friday, Texas Stadium, Irving
WF Hirschi (7-5) vs. Borger (9-3), 1 p.m. Saturday, Jones Stadium, Lubbock

CLASS 3A

DIVISION I
Quarterfinals
Region I
Monahans (6-6) vs. Breckenridge (12-0), 7 p.m. Saturday, Jones Stadium, Lubbock
DIVISION II
Regionals
Region I
Colorado City (10-2) vs. Childress (10-2), 2 p.m. Saturday, Lowery Field, Lubbock
Crane (12-0) vs. Iowa Park (9-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Shotwell Stadium, Abilene

CLASS 2A

Quarterfinals
Region I
Sonora (10-2) vs. Canadian (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Lowery Field, Lubbock

CLASS A

Regionals
Region I
Wheeler (9-2) vs. Sudan (9-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dick Bivins Stadium, Amarillo
Gruver (8-3) vs. O'Donnell (10-1), 2 p.m. Friday, Dick Bivins Stadium, Amarillo

SIX-MAN

Quarterfinals
Region I
Groom (12-0) vs. Gail Borden County (11-1), 3 p.m. Saturday, Floydada
Region II
Samnorwood (8-4) vs. Balmorhea (7-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Ira

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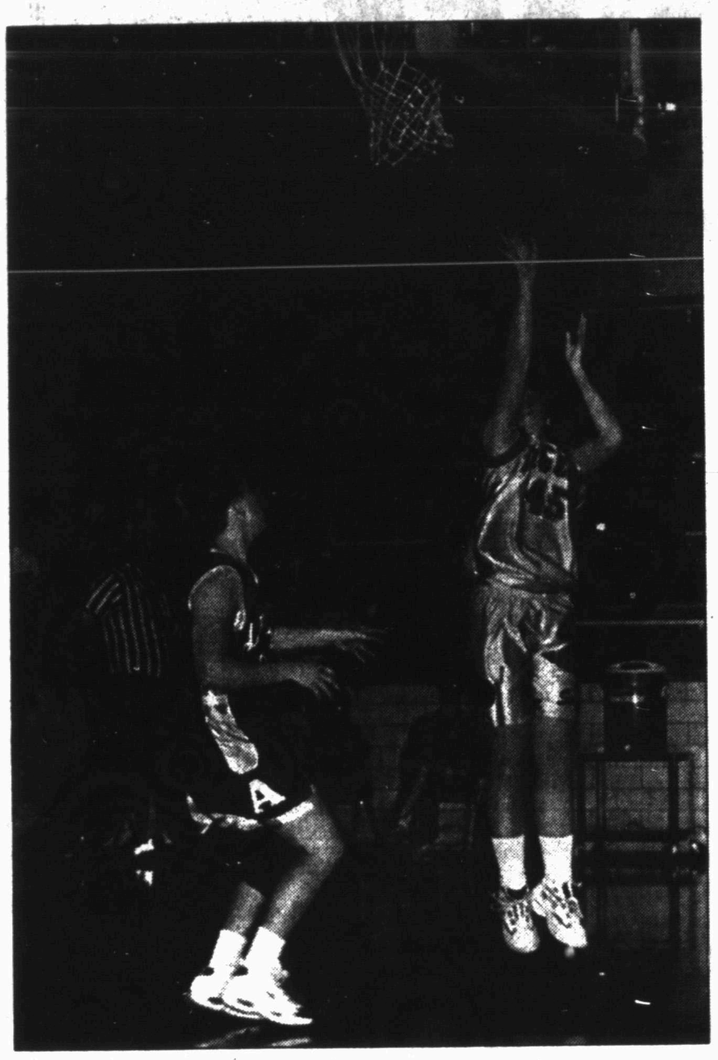
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The editors of this 1998 Holiday Business Review and Reference Guide would like to commend SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER for investing in the Big Spring community.

SPORTS



LADY TIGER LAYUP — Snyder's Kameron Kallemeyn scores a bucket in Tuesday's action against Abilene High at the SHS gym. The Lady Tigers begin the Frenship tourney tonight at 6 against Amarillo High. (SDN Staff Photo)

Steelers set for slippery Sanders

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — Like a human pinball, Barry Sanders bumps and spins, dips and rolls through NFL defenses. Somehow, the tilt light never comes on.

"Barry is certainly the key to making everything go," Pittsburgh coach Bill Cowher said. "He's just one of those guys you enjoy watching, except when you're the opponent."

But that's exactly what the Steelers (7-4) will be when they take on Sanders and the Detroit Lions (4-7) on Thanksgiving Day.

This has not been a vintage year for the Lions. They benched quarterback Scott Mitchell after two games and went with rookie Charlie Batch. They wasted leads and lost to Cincinnati, Chicago, Arizona and Philadelphia.

Yet it hasn't seemed to bother Sanders.

He leads the NFC with 1,192 rushing yards on 247 carries. That puts him on pace to rush for 1,734 yards, which would be the third-best season of his brilliant career.

"I think the problem with us has been that certain segments have not gone well," Sanders said. "We have not have enough segments during the course of a game, enough times this year for us to win a lot of games.

"But, we've been right in there. There's been some games where we've played well defensively or offensively, but just not all together."

Sanders has tied Walter Payton for most career 1,000-yard seasons with 10. He now trails Payton by 1,756 yards in his quest to become the NFL's all-time leading rusher. And with 75 career 100-yard games, he trails Payton by just two.

"You know, you've just got to try to limit his long runs," Cowher said. "I mean, he's going to get his runs, but you've just got to try to limit the long runs that he gets."

The Steelers, who are still in the thick of the AFC Central race, have done a fairly good job of containing Sanders in the past. During his rookie year, the Steelers held Sanders to just one yard on five carries in a 23-3 triumph.

In three games against Pittsburgh, he has broken two 44-yard runs, but never gained more than 108 yards in a game.

And the most important statistic of all: Pittsburgh won all three games.

The Steelers have dominated Detroit since the late 1960s, posting an 8-1 record during that time. The Lions' lone victory was a 45-3 pounding on Thanksgiving Day in 1983.

Detroit, which has won its last two games, believes anything is possible Thursday, especially since the Lions are not yet mathematically eliminated from the NFC playoff picture.

The playoff picture is much more intense for the Steelers.

Last Sunday, the Steelers rebounded from two losses to Tennessee in three weeks to defeat the AFC Central-leading Jacksonville Jaguars (8-3) in Three Rivers Stadium for the fourth year in a row. It pulled Pittsburgh within a game of the division lead.

A loss would have dropped the four-time defending division champion Steelers three games behind with five to play and virtually forced them to play for a wild card.

"We're trying to wind up for a big playoff drive," Steelers running back Jerome Bettis said. "We're already chasing Jacksonville and we can't afford to fall behind any further.

"We had that good win at home. Now we've got to hold serve on the road."

If the Steelers do that, Bettis — a Detroit native — figures to carry a big share of the load. Despite a brace on his left knee,Bettis pounded into the line 26 times for 77 hard-earned yards in the big win against Jacksonville.

"It's been a problem," said Bettis, who has carried 214 times for 764 yards. "I don't have the balance I'd like to have. The brace on my knee doesn't give me the ability to do some things."

Tubbs' Horned Frog hoopsters...

TCU flourishing in run-and-gun scheme

FORT WORTH (AP) — Mr. Modesty he's not, but Billy Tubbs has got Texas Christian running and gunning again and talking polls and playoffs.

"I really liked last year's team, but it was just another steppingstone in the building process," claims the king of feverish, frenetic Billy Ball.

"This team has a ways to go ... but it has a chance to be really, really good. I hope our cause is not only to be good but to make some targets in the NCAA Tournament."

Furthermore, he says his 5-1 Horned Frogs liked and expected their early national ranking, and he made it perfectly clear he wants more of the same.

TCU, ranked 25th in the preseason Associated Press poll, lost an 87-85 verdict to Rhode Island in its opener and tumbled out of the Top 25 after the first week.

But with preseason All-American Lee Nailon settling into his comfort zone, Ryan Carroll recovering from an ankle injury, newcomer Marquise Gainous coming on strong and Vladimir Jaksic deadly from 3-point range, Tubbs seems convinced the Frogs can improve on last year's super season.

And how good was that? The TCU record book breathlessly details the team's stroll through the Western Athletic Conference to the playoffs.

"... The Horned Frogs produced a WAC Pacific Division title, the WAC's first-ever unblemished (14-0) conference record, 16 straight victories, a scoring clip of nearly 100 points per game, a No. 13 ranking by AP, a school record 27 regular-season victories and some fancy team shooting..."

A typical Tubbs steppingstone?

"We've developed some believers in our program," says a smiling Billy, who is starting his fifth year with the Frogs. "I think there's been a tremendous attitude change around the country as far as TCU goes."

But the biggest change has been within the program and the university.

"We're expected to win," he said. "When I looked at our schedule this year, there was not a game that wasn't winnable. That doesn't mean we're going to win them all. Hell, we've already lost one.

"But even that was certainly a winnable game."

The Frogs are banging on the door again after winning five in a row, capped off by Monday night's 94-85 triumph over Arkansas State.

Tubbs says he thinks a 94-93 squeaker over Oral Roberts hurt the team's AP ranking more than the Rhode Island loss, but he considers both only temporary setbacks.

The Frogs close out November with their most severe test of the young season Saturday night at No. 12 Oklahoma State (3-0), and a victory would command renewed attention.

"Schools like us, to move up, have to do some things impressively," says Tubbs.

But he expects the Frogs to take some knocks in the process of becoming even a better team that last year's club.

Sports Briefs

Playoff games

Ira's Bulldog Stadium will host a pair of playoff football games Friday.

El Paso Jesus Chapel and Greenville Christian square off at 2 p.m in the TAPPS six-man title game, before Samnorwood and Balmorhea meet at 6 p.m. in the six-man quarterfinals.

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010 LEGAL NOTICES

WESTERN Texas College will be accepting bids on the lease/purchase of (1) laptop computer, (4) computers, (1) projector, and (2) printers until 4:15 p.m., Dec. 10, 1998. Further information concerning the bid may be obtained by contacting the Business Office at Western Texas College, telephone 915-573-8511, Ext. 203.

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020 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Convicted man back in jail

HOUSTON (AP) — A central figure in one of Houston's most notorious murder cases is back behind bars, eight years after his parole that outraged many here.

Michael Davis, 45, was known as Walter Waldhauser Jr. when he was convicted in 1981 of arranging the 1979 murders of John and Diana Wanstrath and their 14-month-old son, Kevin.

After serving less than a third of his 30-year sentence, he was paroled in 1990, changed his name and enrolled in law school. Most recently, he was a partner in a Dallas company that buys life insurance policies from HIV-positive clients.

His business venture, which pays patients less than face value for the policies and then cashes in when they die, is what led to his most recent arrest Friday for failure to report his employment and change of address.

He remained at the Collin County Jail without bond Wednesday awaiting a Dec. 7 hearing on the alleged violations.

"It's very rare you get a chance to smile in my job, but this is one time I certainly had a smile," said Andy Kahan, director of the Houston Victims Assistance Center, who notified the state parole board about Davis' whereabouts.

Kahan was particularly upset that Davis was among ex-convicts allowed to check in with parole officers just once a year. Davis remained under annual report rules, a practice that was ended in 1995 for new parolees.

"The real question is, how many other Waldhausers are out there, who are knowingly violating their annual report rules with no one to check on them," Kahan said.

Davis got off with a 30-year sentence for testifying against Allen Wayne Janecka, the gunman, and Markham Duff-Smith, Diana Wanstrath's adopted brother who inherited most of the dead family's $800,000 estate.

Davis admitted to arranging the murder and being present at the scene of the crime. The other two men were condemned.

Duff-Smith was executed in 1993. Janecka won a retrial and again was sentenced to death row, where he remains.

Family criticized over deformed cats

MARSHAL (AP) — Owners of a local farm are fighting criticism for inbreeding cats to produce intentionally deformed animals.

Karma Farms is raising what it calls "Twisty Kats." The cats are missing all or part of a vital bone in their front legs, forcing them to crawl or hop only on its hind legs.

A group called the Citizens of the United States Against Cat Cruelty and Abuse has begun an Internet campaign to shut down the farm, even threatening to boycott local businesses.

In a petition sent to the farm, located north of Marshall, the activists decried the farm's breeding practices and questioned the morality of breeding cats with a known deformity.

"Your obvious disdain for the pain and suffering you are causing these cats, which have never harmed you in any way, shape or form, is morally unethical and utterly deplorable," the petition reads.

Vickie Ives Speir, co-owner of Karma, vigorously defended her breeding operation as well as the Twisty Kats, saying that they are well-adjusted and inspirational.

"First of all, we do not breed Twisty Kats for sale to the general public," she said. "All of the Twisties are our pets — we love them very much and cared too much for them at birth to have them destroyed."

Mrs. Speir said the initial litter was an accident. With the birth of an additional litter, the farm has one male and one female that are able to reproduce.

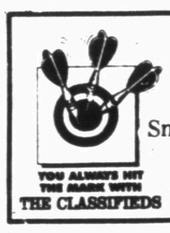
In an e-mail letter from Mrs. Speir to Carol Porter, a representative of the Humane Society of North Texas, Mrs. Speir said she "bred the single litter of Twisty kittens on purpose because their dam, who has the Twisty factor, was so admired by so many people."

One arrest made, offense report filed Wednesday

Officers made one arrest and filed one offense report Wednesday morning.

A 21-year-old female was arrested at 9:57 a.m. at Municipal Court and transported to the police department to lay out fines for expired motor vehicle registration and no liability insurance.

Lori Chandler requested the animal warden at 10:01 a.m. in the 2800 block of Ave. W in reference to her dog biting someone. An offense report for dog bite was filed.



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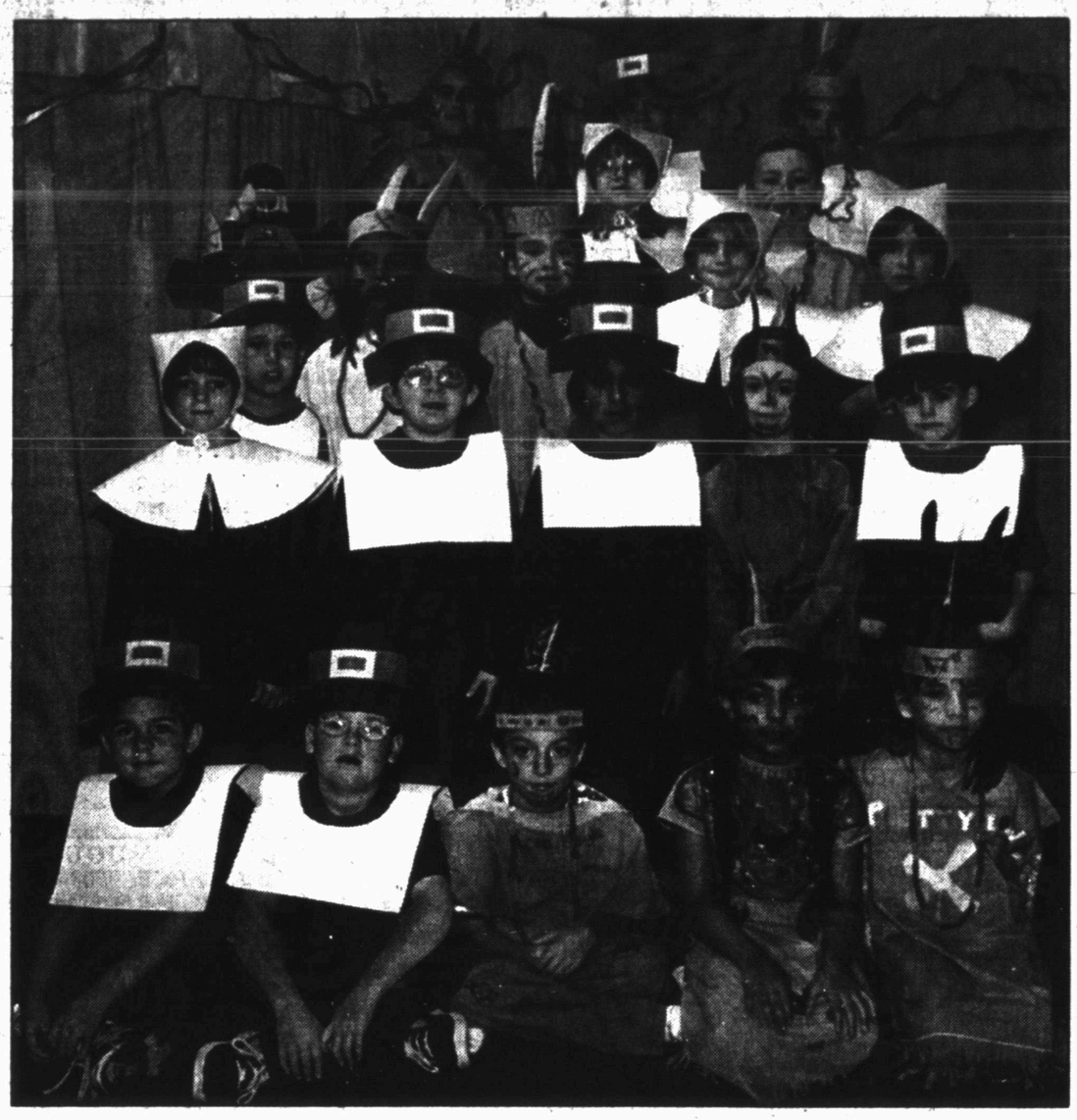
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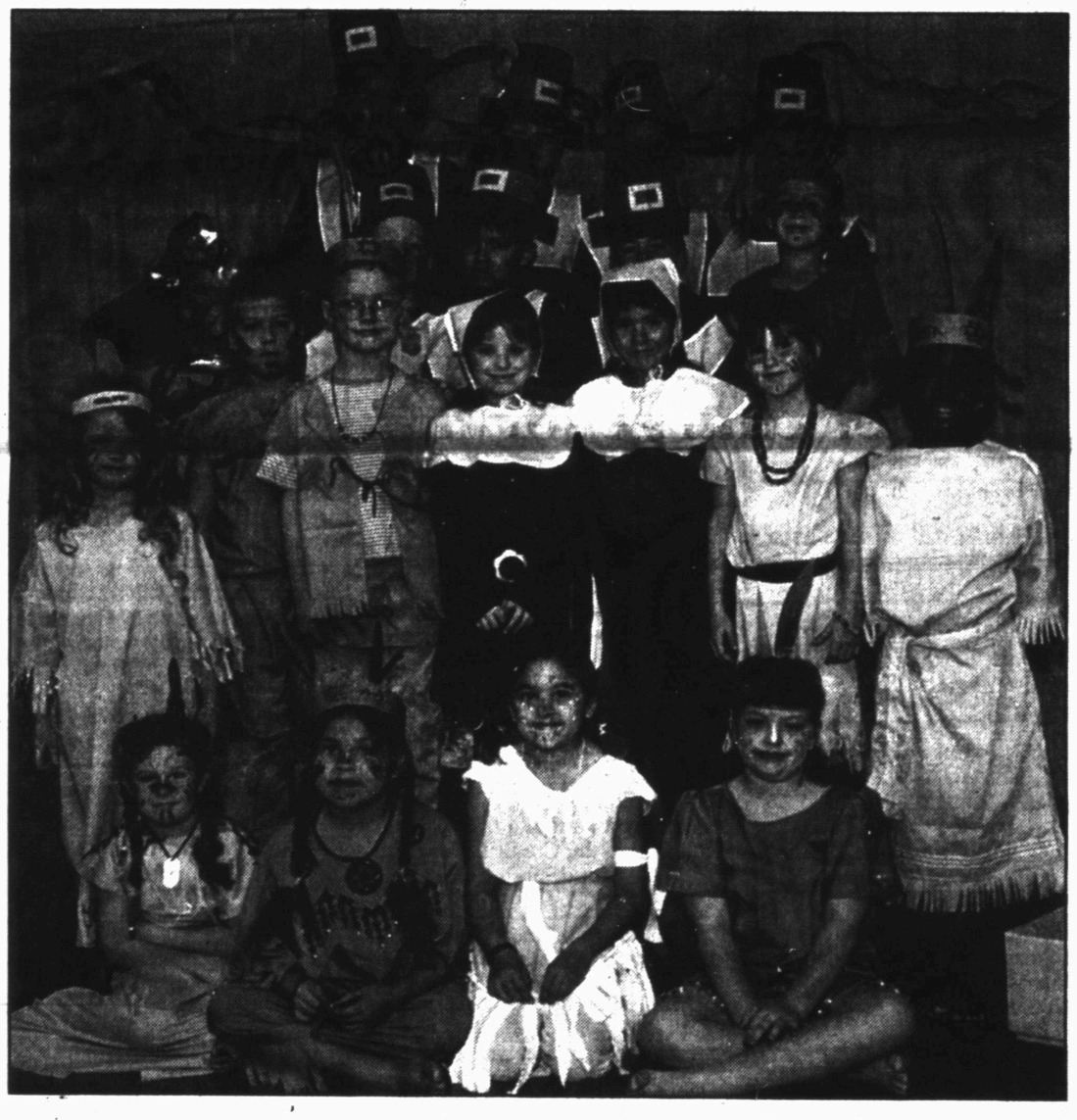






Because Norway is so far north, it has long periods every summer whe.. the sun shines 24 hours a day.

THANKSGIVING PLAY — Stanfield students recently presented a Thanksgiving play. Melissa Rosson's students (top left photo) are from left, row one, Jordan Gafford, Ava Reyes, Jordan Wright, David Zalman, Jesse Conner; row two, Maxine Jaramillo, Tahlia Cox, Kaycee Westlund, Monica Rivera, Tilatha Akins, Heather Steelman; row three, Robert Albarez, Heather Vasquez, Robert Villa; row four, Jerry Silva, Randy Loveall, Daniela Chavez; row five, Chase Arrendale, Kailea Shaw, Fabian Gutierrez; Carolyn Martin's students (top right photo) from left, front row, Erik Arias, J.R. Brace, Forest Clayton, Zoe Briseno, Kimberly Rodriguez; second row, Sharla Nolan, Eric Lindsey, Gus Gonzalez, David Strayhorn, Tanner Lenderman; third row, Aaron Chaidez, Antonia Silva, Megan Villegas, Kendra Iglehart, Jessie Deavers; fourth row, Lecy Blauvelt, Samuel Lee; top row, Jarred Rascon, Matthew Medrano, Gina Hermosillo; Neoma Harlin's students (bottom right photo) are from left, Holly Manlief, Erica Maldonado, Brittney Rivera, Teryn Sullenger; first row, Alix Rieser, Keagan Herrley, Devon Stansell, Ashley Bean, Kira Bilano, Amy Fogleman, Shaguita Sneed; second row, Zane Berryhill, Alex Escobeda, Ted Cerda, Clint McFatridge; third row, Joe Lara, Joseph Garza, Bryan Thompson, Jaime Martinez. (Staff Photos By Shirley A. Gorman)



Movie director, actor embroiled in $200 million lawsuit

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Director Tony Kaye's squabble with "American History X" star Edward Norton has landed in court with a $200 million lawsuit.

Kaye alleges he wasn't allowed to remove his name from the movie's credits after Norton insisted on making several changes that lengthened his role.

"What would have been a great film is now a good film," Kaye said.

He contends the Directors Guild of America was silent when New Line Cinema and Norton interfered with his work. New Line and the Directors Guild are co-defendants in the lawsuit filed Monday in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C.

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Republicans want Reno off campaign finance case

WASHINGTON (AP) — Angry Republicans are exploring ways to pry the campaign finance investigation away from Attorney General Janet Reno now that she has again refused to order an independent counsel probe of Vice President Al Gore.

"I am becoming more and more convinced we've just got to take this matter out of the hands of the attorney general, who appears to be acting politically," said Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah. "Personally, I think it is going to take legislation."

Reno advised a special court Tuesday that there is "clear and convincing" evidence Gore did not lie to campaign finance investigators last year about how a Democratic media fund was financed.

"The evidence fails to provide any reasonable basis for a conclusion that the Vice President may have lied," Reno wrote: "There are no reasonable grounds to believe that further investigation is warranted" of Gore's statements.

But Reno has two more independent counsel decisions — about President Clinton and his former deputy chief of staff Harold Ickes — in the next two weeks, She vowed her 120-member campaign finance task force would continue the two-year-old investigation that has already charged 14 people, including prominent Democratic donors and fund raisers.

That didn't sit well with Republicans, who have spent two years demanding the entire case be handed to an independent counsel.

"Once again, the attorney general has failed to follow the law," said Rep. Dan Burton, R-Ind. "The attorney general has made it clear she is committed to protecting the president." Burton faulted her for rejecting the advice of FBI Director Louis J. Freeh to order an independent counsel, which Freeh has been advocating for a year.

Steve Forbes, a would-be Republican presidential candidate in 2000, said, "This raises the question of Ms. Reno's fitness to remain in office." Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., suggested asking a court to order Reno to turn the case over to a counsel.

"Whether an independent counsel should be appointed to investigate narrow issues such as the improper placement of phone calls or misstatements to investigators is not the issue," Hatch said. "They keep cutting this into such slivers that literally you can't get to the ... issue of corruption.

"If she doesn't act appropriately in the next two (independent counsel decisions), then I am going to do everything in my power to take it out of not just her hands but all future attorney generals," Hatch said.

This was the second time in a year that Reno refused to have an outside prosecutor examine Gore, removing a potential obstacle to his ambition to run for president in 2000. Gore spokesman Christopher Lehane said, "The vice president is pleased."

This inquiry began in July when Gore's counsel turned over handwritten notes by Gore's former deputy chief of staff, David Strauss, about a Nov. 21, 1995, meeting that Gore attended. The notation "65% soft/35% hard" called into question whether Gore was told that some of the money in a Democratic media fund for issue advertisements was coming from so-called hard money, which can be used to promote specific candidates but which cannot be raised on federal property.

Ex-casino chef feeds poor people

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — At 11:30 a.m., the hungry beggars and crapped-out gamblers begin lining up.

Standing along Pacific Avenue, a poker chip's throw from Resorts Casino Hotel, they rub their hands to keep warm. They shuffle ahead, one step at a time, eyes on the church door, hoping the line keeps moving so they can get in for the first lunch sitting.

In this world of uncertainty, they know two things for sure: One is that they are hungry. Two is that "Sister Jean" will feed them, just as she always has, no questions asked.

Then the door swings open and Jean Webster welcomes them. They file in and sit down, 10 to a table, for a hot lunch of scalloped potatoes, three-bean soup, sliced pears and barbecued chicken.

"I see you made it back," she tells one man, smiling broadly and clapping him on the back as he pulls out a folding chair. "Uh huh," he says.

Ripe from living on the street, his stench overwhelms the aroma wafting out of the kitchen. Webster doesn't flinch.

Why should she? After a dozen years feeding Atlantic City's poor — first out of her home, now out of First Presbyterian Church — Jean Webster has seen and smelled it all.

A former casino chef, Webster, 63, found her calling when she saw a man rummaging through a garbage can in search of food. Now she runs a soup kitchen that feeds up to 400 people a day, five days a week.

She tends to the other half in this gambling mecca, the ones who don't even have enough money to get into the $4.99 casino buffets.

They call her "Sister Jean" or "Saint Jean" or "the Mother Teresa of Jersey."

"She doesn't get turned off by offensive looks. She cares for them and tells them somebody loves them," said Kent Pipes, executive director of the Salt and Light Corp., a nonprofit charity.

"She is a living miracle, in terms of the blessings she gives to others," said Redenia Gilliam-Mosee, senior vice president at Bally's Park Place Casino Hotel, who has known Webster for 20 years.

Born in New York, Webster moved here at age 5 with her father, a handyman. She worked as a chef at Caesars Atlantic City, Trump Taj Mahal and the Playboy Casino.

Then came that day in 1986.

"I saw a man eating out of a garbage can when I was on my way to work at the Playboy Casino. I took him to Pizza King and told them to give him whatever he wanted. Then I gave him some more later at my home," she said.

She didn't stop there. With her own money, Webster fed up to 35 people a day out of her home, even spending money for her heart medicine.

Talk about irony: Her big heart has trouble working. By Webster's count, she has had 17 heart attacks in 15 years, the last one in early November.

Her cardiologist looks at her health a bit differently. "It's not real heart attacks, but she gets these spells where she requires hospitalization," said Dr. Rashmikant Desai, who wouldn't elaborate.

Kevorkian hit with first-degree murder charge for man's death

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — Dr. Jack Kevorkian arrived smiling at the police station Wednesday after getting what he wanted: a first-degree murder charge for his nationally televised euthanizing of a terminally ill man.

Kevorkian was released on $750,000 personal bond after being arraigned on charges of first-degree murder, criminal assistance to a suicide and delivery of a controlled substance.

"He brought it upon himself," Prosecutor David Gorcyca said. "I am following the law as I am required to do."

Thomas Youk, who suffered from Lou Gehrig's disease, was seen on videotape seeking Kevorkian's help in dying. Parts of the tape were aired Sunday by CBS' "60 Minutes," which finished No. 3 in the weekly Nielsen ratings. and Gorcyca filed charges after receiving an unedited tape from CBS.

"A review of the tapes involving Mr. Youk and Kevorkian present sufficient facts and probable cause to support charges of assisted suicide," Gorcyca said. "Not withstanding Mr. Youk's consent, consent is not a viable defense in taking the life of another, even under the most controlled environment."

Kevorkian is believed to have injected Youk with a fatal dose of potassium chloride at the 52-year-old man's Waterford Township home on Sept. 17, three weeks after Michigan's first assisted suicide law went into effect.

Michael Schwartz, one of Kevorkian's ex-lawyers, called the charges repugnant. He said the assisted suicide charge and the homicide charge by definition conflict with each other.

"You can't say that there was a suicide and at the same time say there was a homicide. Homicide is not a suicide — that's impossible," he said.

Kevorkian, 70, has acknowledged a role in some 130 assisted suicides since 1990, but said Youk's death was his first euthanasia. In previous cases, he said, he had an apparatus that let the patient start the flow of drugs or lethal gas.

Kevorkian has been charged with murder before. The first time stemmed from the 1990 death of Janet Adkins of Portland, Ore., the first person whose death he attended. The charge was dropped by a judge who ruled the state had no law banning assisted suicide. A 1992 charge was dropped for the same reason.

The retired pathologist also was acquitted in three trials involving five deaths. A fourth trial was declared a mistrial.

Kevorkian's face was not shown on the "60 Minutes" video when Youk was being injected, but he said during the show and in subsequent interviews that he was challenging prosecutors to charge him.

"They must charge me. Because if they do not, that means they don't think it was a crime," Kevorkian said on "60 Minutes."

In a 20-minute hearing Wednesday, Magistrate Robert A. Crawford set Kevorkian's bond at $250,000 for each of the three felony counts. Kevorkian did not have to put up any money but could forfeit it if he violates terms of the bond. The murder charge carries an automatic life sentence.

FTC says light cigarettes may not be low tar after all

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal regulators are starting an ad campaign warning that a test used to rate cigarettes as "light" or "low tar" may be inaccurate, misleading consumers into thinking they are buying a safer product.

The Federal Trade Commission also is seeking scientific assistance to develop a better test.

"Both the accuracy and the continued validity of this method have come under question," the FTC says in the letter seeking help from the Department of Health and Human Services.

The trade commission, which regulates advertising and labels, says it plans an education campaign warning smokers about the limitations of the testing method, which the agency itself developed some 30 years ago.

"Don't count on the numbers. There's no such thing as a safe smoke," is the theme of the program being designed, Lee Peeler, the agency's associate director for advertising practices, said Wednesday.

"In looking at tar and nicotine numbers, you need to know that the amount of tar and nicotine you get will vary significantly, depending on how you smoke the cigarettes," Peeler said. "It's not like eating a cookie."

Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., called for an immediate ban on the use of the terms "light" or "ultra light" in cigarette advertising.

"Light cigarettes are a deadly sham," Lautenberg said as his office released internal company documents showing that smokers of Marlboro Lights receive more tar than those who smoke regular Marlboro. Tar is a dangerous element of cigarette smoke that leaves a residue in the lungs.

One document, from R.J. Reynolds, states that under the current tests "the amount of 'tar and nicotine' on a cigarette label cannot give the smoker meaningful information. ... He is more likely to be misled than informed."

"This is a lot more complicated than taking one industry document and saying this is what the facts are," responded tobacco industry spokesman Scott Williams.

The Federal Trade Commission has had doubts about the tar and nicotine tests for some time, seeking comments last year on ways to improve them.

events WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

VFW bingo

The VFW will hold bingo games at 6:30 this evening.

Lighting of the Star

The fifth annual lighting of the star in Gail will be at 7 Friday at the Borden County courthouse. The courthouse and museum will open at 5 p.m. for refreshments.

Grace Lutheran Church craft room

The craft room will be open Saturday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Masonic Lodge meeting

Scurry County Masonic Lodge 706 will have a stated meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. All Master Masons are invited to attend.

Drivers license office hours

The drivers license office will be closed through Monday, reopening on Tuesday.

Choir sets Madrigal dinner

Snyder High School's choir will present the 7th annual Madrigal Dinner at 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday in the ballroom of Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Jump rope for heart campaign

The fourth grade jump rope for heart campaign continues until Wednesday. Fourth graders will be seeking donations for the event which will benefit the American Heart Association.

Ira picture day

Wednesday is picture day at Ira schools. It is for anyone not photographed in September or those wanting another package. Pictures will also be taken of basketball and cross country teams, high school class favorites and clubs.

WTC cheerleader fundraiser

WTC cheerleaders are selling $5 chances for a massage. Proceeds go to cheerleading scholarships. The winners will be drawn at the Lady Dusters' home game Tuesday.

SHS choir sells poinsettias

SHS Choir members are selling Christmas poinsettias. Cost is $10 poinsettias come in red, white and the jingle bell variety. Students are raising money to help support the choir trip to Disney World next spring.

SHS Class of '89

The SHS Class of 1989 is seeking addresses of classmates in preparation of the 10-year reunion. Addresses of class members should be given to Christy at 573-8392.

Medical fund

A medical fund for heart patient Sherylyn Timora has been established at West Texas State Bank. Make contributions to the Sheryln Timora Medical Fund.

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.

Lighted Christmas parade

Entries are needed for the annual Lighted Christmas parade set for 6 p.m. Dec. 5. All entries must have lights. For more information call 573-3558 or in evenings call 573-3822.

Benefit roping and dance

A benefit team roping and dance will be held Dec. 5 at the Scurry County Colisum annex to help pay for medical bills for Richard Reid. Ropers may sign up at 11 a.m. with the events starting at noon. The dance is at 8 p.m. For more information, call Shannon Blair at 573-2066, or Shana May at 573-3005.

Adult education classes

Adult basic education classes that can lead to a GED are underway at Western Texas College. Students may enroll at any time in Room 209 of the WTC library. Both day and evening sessions are held Tuesday and Thursday. Call 573-8511, Ext. 322, for more information.

Road to Recovery program

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

Europe is gripped by cold

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Preying on the poor, the homeless and alcoholics, an Arctic cold front continued to claim lives throughout Europe with 10 more deaths reported Wednesday, bringing the total killed to at least 95.

Most of the victims were in Poland, where police have reported 49 deaths — including eight discovered Wednesday — since the frigid weather arrived Nov. 16.

In Romania, a 73-year-old man was found frozen to death on a Bucharest street, raising the toll there to 31. France has reported eight deaths, including at least three homeless people, while Bulgaria and Italy have reported three each and Croatia announced its first cold-related death.

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Iridescent moth blown north by hurricane

SAN BENITO — They suspect it rode in on the wind.

A disoriented moth traveled thousands of miles from Central America on Hurricane Mitch's coattails, only to have its life cut short Nov. 1 when it was slammed by a South Texas truck.

Moments before the incident, San Benito resident Dr. Terry Fuller watched as the vivid flash of iridescent green skipping across a field to the side of Helen Moore Road.

"It was so dramatic... so colorful, flying in the daytime. I never would have thought it was a moth," Fuller said.

A birder and butterfly enthusiast, Fuller reeled off lists of butterflies in his mind as he watched, trying to categorize the species from its glittering green color and swallowtail grooves.

He has counted and identified 235 birds and 56 species of butterflies flying through his own backyard on their way south or back north again, but the flashes of green stripes were unlike anything he had ever witnessed.

When the creature flew into the truck, then tumbled to the pavement, Fuller went to retrieve it. Gently picking it up off the road, he noticed a discrepancy in the antennae. Butterflies instead have clublike pairs. This one had antennae with tiny end points.

Fuller raced home to flip through photos in his butterfly book, but came up with nothing.

He later discovered his butterfly was actually a moth common in [illegible] species had no business being this far north, and therefore was not listed in North American and Mexican butterfly books.

"It's as out of place as a big giant mammal crossing the road," Fuller said. "Probably secondary to (Hurricane) Mitch, the moths were driven farther north. Normally, they don't come up here."

After posting its description on a web site for Texas bird and butterfly aficionados, in less then 24 hours, a flood of responses came in from butterfly cyberspace as far away as Australia and Russia.

It is formally known for its Latin name, Urania fulgens. Enthusiasts refer to it as the "swallow-tailed moth," or also the "the Mexican sunset moth," because it is diurnal, unlike most moths which fly at night.

What Fuller had found was rare indeed. So rare that in Texas, this was only the third official record of the moth being seen. Nationally, it may be either the third or [illegible]

Mike Quinn, and entomologist and vice president of the South Texas Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association, initially was stumped by the species.

"It is breathtaking, iridescent... It's a large showy thing," Quinn said. "You know you've got something when you see that thing.

Murder case...

Paroled woman wants to clear her name

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A woman convicted of murder in Fort Stockton based partly on controversial evidence analyzed by the Bexar County medical examiners office has been paroled.

Sonia Cacy, 51, was sentenced to 99 years in prison for the murder of her aging uncle, Bill Richardson, whom she was accused of dousing with gasoline and setting on fire. She was paroled Monday from a prison in Gatesville after serving six years.

Freedom is just the first step, Ms. Cacy said.

"I want my name cleared. I want to be found innocent," she told the San Antonio Express-News.

Ms. Cacy became eligible for parole so quickly by getting credit for time served, good behavior and working a prison job, according to her lawyer, Eric Rabbanian.

She will remain under state supervision the rest of her life unless her conviction is overturned, Rabbanian said.

Her 1993 conviction and the disputed forensic evidence used in her trial have received national media attention focusing on the reliability and power of expert witnesses.

Crucial to the prosecution's case was a finding by the Bexar County medical examiner's office lab that traces of gasoline were detected on Richardson's charred clothing.

A second analysis also done for the trial, however, detected no gasoline.

Since the trial, outside experts have reviewed the same Bexar County lab analysis and have not found gasoline.

The defense claimed Richardson, a heavy smoker, probably died of a heart attack, and the fire likely was caused by a cigarette.

Ms. Cacy and her lawyers say they soon will ask the trial court in Pecos County to set aside her conviction. They will argue the Bexar County experts were wrong and that Cacy had a listless defense lawyer at the time who did not call any credible expert witnesses to rebut the prosecution's case.

"This case has gotten national attention because crime labs do crank out these expert results, and they often go unchallenged," said Gerry Morris, an Austin attorney preparing the legal papers the defense plans to file.

Neither the prosecutor nor the Bexar County crime lab admit to making a mistake.

"I have not seen any information to lead me to believe we convicted an innocent woman," said Pecos County District Attorney Albert Valadez.

Dr. Vincent DiMaio, the Bexar County medical examiner, said he stands behind his lab technicians.

"The cases have been reviewed internally, and everyone still says the gasoline is there. As to the person dying of a heart attack, that's absurd," DiMaio said.

Michael J. Fox tells People magazine he has Parkinson's

NEW YORK (AP) — Breaking seven years of silence, Michael J. Fox revealed he has Parkinson's disease.

"It's not that I had a deep, dark secret," the 37-year-old actor, best known for his roles in the "Back to the Future" movies and the old sitcom "Family Ties," reveals in the Dec. 7 issue of People magazine. "It was just my thing to deal with."

By talking about the incurable disease Fox feels he can help himself, his family — he's married to actress Tracy Pollan, 38, and they have a 9-year-old son and 3-year-old twin daughters — and other sufferers of the disease.

Double slaying, suicide studied

BACLIFF (AP) — Authorities believe a broken relationship could be the reason a man walked into a rural Galveston County eatery Tuesday and killed his ex-girlfriend and another man before turning the 12-gauge shotgun on himself.

Patrons at the Spillway Fishing Pier and Grill called police shortly after 7 a.m. after a gunman ordered them to leave, striking one as they rushed out the door. They reported that the gunman ordered Janet Ivey, 39, and William Baker, 67, into a storage closet.

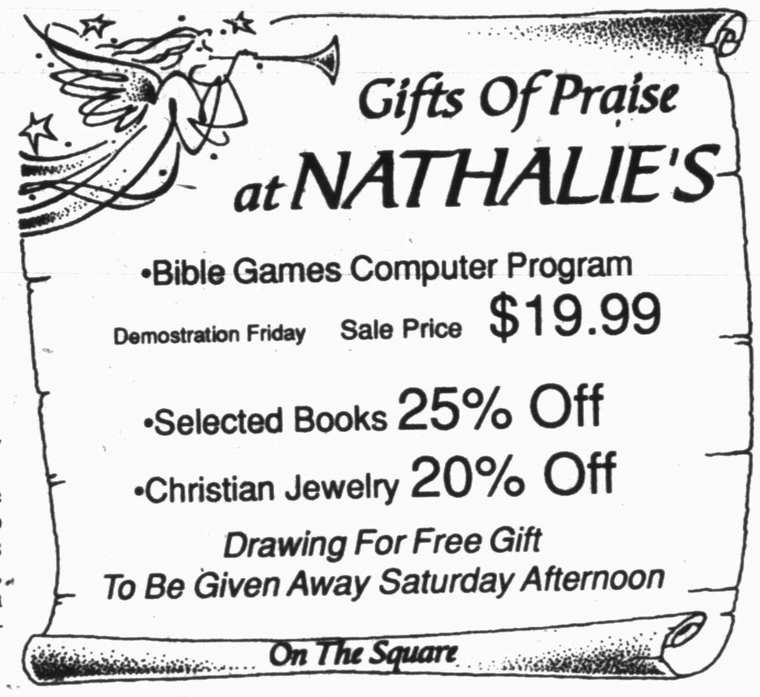
The fatal shots were fired while authorities were en route, witnesses said.

A trail of blood led deputies to the closet minutes later. Inside were the bodies of Ms. Ivey, of San Leon; Baker, of Leakey, and the gunman, whose identity was withheld pending notification of relatives, officials said.

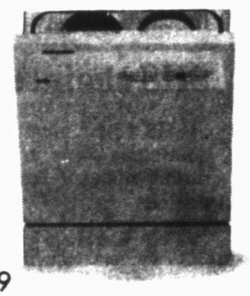
"Investigators believe the gunman entered the establishment with the intent to do harm to the clerk and the male victim," Sgt. Ray Tuttoilmondo of the Galveston County sheriff's department said.

Tuttoilmondo also said it appeared someone had tried to break into an office area where "books, money and things of that nature are kept," but it wasn't clear late Tuesday if robbery was a partial motive.

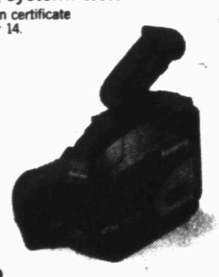
Friends and relatives of both the assailant and Ms. Ivey said the man had been despondent since the couple split up over the summer.



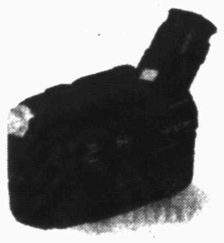
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