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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEEKEND

Dec. 13-14, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 195
40 Pages $1.00

Home of Dorthy Duncan

Cogdell Hospital continues to run smoothly

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

As Cogdell Memorial Hospital enters its fourth week without a chief executive officer, operations at the county-owned facility remain on an even keel.

"Everything is going okay," said Cheryl Chance, director of nurses and the acting administrator. ""We're certainly glad to have Ron (Hunt) here, however."

Hunt is the interim chief financial officer provided through the Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospital (TORCH).

Since her appointment as the acting CEO, Chance has said she was comfortable with the medical operations continuing as normal, but the financial matters of the hospital needed immediate attention.

"The financial part has always concerned me," said Chance. "We have to have money to keep operating."

The hospital had $354,203 towards the end of the week with the latest payroll met.

The Cogdell board took Chance's advice and acted first on the employment of Hunt as the CFO.

Chance said the entire hospital continues to operate on a normal basis, and no major changes would be made until a permanent CEO is in place.

"Unless there is a real big problem, we won't be making any major changes," said Chance. "I expect quality care to be given and everyone just do their jobs.

"Everyone's main priority are the patients at this hospital," she added.

Some changes have been made in the physical makeup up the third and fourth floors of the hospital.

Known as Med-3, a former family suite on the third floor has been converted to an office.

Known as the Mize Suite, as former hospital board member Sue Mize and her family contributed funds for furnishing the room, it is now being used by the hospital staff for case management and review.

"I can't say this will be a permanent situation," said Chance. "We just needed the room now and this was the only place to put them (the two utilization and review nurses) on that floor."

Chance said the suite was never used for patients, and was only used about twice a year by patients' families.

(See related story)

Another change is on the fourth floor where the assisted living wing is being developed.

A suite on that floor has been converted into a dining room with plans to serve buffet-style meals to residents of the assisted living wing when the hospital receives its certification from the Texas Department of Health.

Plans to convert that floor to assisted living are progressing well, said the acting CEO.

Chance said the hospital staff had a conference call Thursday with the Texas Department of Health (TDH) and hopes to complete two surveys before the end of the year in order for the hospital to be re-licensed from 99 to 49 beds.

The assisted living floor will accommodate 24 individuals when it is completed.



HAPPY COUPLE — Joel Terry and Kimberly Smith's wedding will be seen by millions of viewers on *A Wedding Story* to be aired later. Joel and Kimberly were wed at Wagon Wheel Guest Ranch on Dec. 6. (SDN Staff Photo)

Closing of suite does not set well with family

Stating that she realized the hospital staff currently has more to worry about than calling her when they change a room's use, Vicki Kallemeyn still is not happy about the Cogdell Memorial Hospital's decision converting the Mize Suite into an office.

"I was a little upset about it," said Kallemeyn.

Her mother, Sue Mize, donated the furnishings for the suite that joined a patient's room on the third floor.

The long-time civic leader in Snyder also was a former hospital board member, longtime member of the hospital auxiliary and Cogdell Foundation board.

"The hospital was her first love," said Kallemeyn, who noticed the change when she was at the hospital visiting.

"We were never contacted about it," said Kallemeyn, saying she would probably make contact with the hospital staff about the change, but added she wasn't for sure who to speak with now in light of recent administration changes.

Kallemeyn said she felt the suite served a good purpose at the hospital.

"When mother was in the hospital in terminal condition, friends could visit with us in the suite without bothering her," she noted.

"That's the reason mother donated it to the community so other families could use it as well," added Kallemeyn.

"I still feel there is a real need for it."

Limited flu vaccine still available here

This year's Influenza virus has not reached epidemic proportions, but it's getting close to it across the country.

Due to the reduction of available vaccine, the Scurry County Health Unit has begun targeting those who are the highest risk for flu.

The unit is still able to inoculate children through the "Vaccine for Children" program. However, due to the short supply, the department will only be able to supply vaccine to healthy children age six months through 23 months, and for chronically ill children six months through 18-years.

"We hope that this will change, but it's just impossible to know how soon that change will happen," said Tammy Tyrrell, R.N.

Residents of Scurry County who have still not been vaccinated for the flu may contact Covenant Family Healthcare Center where there are approximately 100 shots left for ages four and older. The Scurry County Rural Health Clinic also has approximately 310 doses of the vaccine available Friday afternoon.

Linda Winter, SISD staff member who tracks absences

See Flu, Page 4A

Local ranch hosts TV show

By Annie Rowe
SDN Staff Writer

Joel Terry and Kimberly Rae Smith knew that they wanted a West Texas wedding when they recited their nuptials on Dec. 6.

What they didn't know was that their West Texas wedding would be seen by millions of people on *A Wedding Story*, a popular show that airs on The Learning Channel.

The reality-based program follows couples through preparations, plans and jitters of the days prior to, and finally through, the day of the wedding.

"I think this is the best place in the world for a wedding," said Joel. "I knew we wanted something with a barn. Sort of a *Tombstone* look. We've told our guests to wear whatever is comfortable for them. We just want everyone to have a good time."

"We wanted something exemplary of our character," Kimberly added. "Neither of us would be comfortable at the Ritz Carlton or the Anatole Hotel in Dallas. We wanted something that reflected us. We're going to have so many friends and family with us. We're pleased to have everyone with us."

Joel and Kimberly picked a spot that is as much the epitome of West Texas as bailing wires and windmills. The Wagon Wheel Guest Ranch, a charming, rustic homestead in the middle of prairie and mesquites northwest of Snyder, owned by Billy Ray and Pam Browning.

The newlyweds met in Fort Worth when Joel, who is in the Army Reserves, had to attend training to prepare for deployment to Saudi Arabia.

"I went out to a bar with a friend of mine. I didn't go with intentions of meeting anyone. The bar had these big screen TVs and I was watching sports. She had a friend, who knew my friend, and she ended up sitting down at our table, but I still didn't think about someone as beautiful as her being interested in me. Besides, I was watching sports."

It didn't take long after their initial meeting for the pair to make plans for their first date. But that first jump turned out to be a long one.

"I didn't tell her until our first date that I was being deployed to Saudi Arabia the next morning," said Joel.

Joel's deployment postponed the couple's courtship, but they did keep in touch by email.

When Joel returned home Kimberly let him know that she was not only proud of him, but she wanted the relationship to pick up where they had left off.

"She picked me up at DFW Airport in a limo," Joel said.

It wasn't long after Joel's return that he went to work as a program manager for the Dalby Correctional Facility in Post and Kimberly followed him.

"It has been quite a change for me moving to Post," said Kimberly. "But overall, I wouldn't have cared if it was on the moon. I knew that wherever he was, I wanted to be. Now that I've been here awhile I'm beginning to feel at home. There's a lot about West Texas that you can't help but love."

The circumstances leading to the couple being chosen for *A Wedding Story* were on a bit of a whim. Kimberly was a big fan of the show and decided to go to the web site and fill out the application. It took about three hours to complete the form. Kimberly had to answer such questions as "Tell us about some of the ups and downs you have been through in your relationship" and "Describe some romantic things you have done for each other".

See Wedding, Page 4B



Windfarm on county agenda for Monday

The failure by congress to pass an energy tax credit bill last month will apparently have little or no effect on the construction of a new wind farm in Scurry County.

The bill had a provision that would have extended the wind industry's Production Tax Credit for an additional three years for the Dec. 31 expiration.

Scurry County Judge Rod Waller and County Attorney Mike Hartman are scheduled to meet with representatives of Wind-kraft Nord USA Monday.

Representatives of the German-based company also will meet with the commissioners' court Monday.

"I have not been informed of any change in plans for the construction of the wind farms. I expect that everything will move forward as has been discussed since the beginning," said Judge Waller.

The wind farm will be located between Hwy. 180 and Camp Springs Road in Scurry County. Work is expected to begin in mid-2004 and be completed by the end of the year.

Judge Waller anticipates that the goal of the meetings Monday will be an update on additional plans for the project.

Action items for the commissioners for the 10 o'clock meeting includes adopting a resolution for a joint primary in March for both Republican and Democratic parties, a discussion with the Scurry County Junior Livestock Association for the use of the coliseum, and the setting of dates for 2004 meeting of the court.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "A great deal of what is seen depends on what is being looked for."

Here's an early letter from Santa, and in the interest of public service, we're passing it along.

From Santa:

I regret to inform you that, effective immediately, I will no longer serve the southern states – including Texas.

Due to the overwhelming current population of the earth, my contract was renegotiated by North American Fairies and Elves Local 12-25. As part of the new and better contract, I also get longer breaks for milk and cookies, so keep that in mind.

However, I'm certain that your kids will be in good hands with the local replacement, who happens to be my third cousin, Bubba Claus.

His side of the family is from the South Pole. He shares my goal of delivering toys to all the good boys and girls. However, there are a few differences between us.

—There is no danger of the Grinch stealing your presents from Bubba Claus. He has a gun rack on his sleigh and a bumper sticker that reads: "These toys insured by Smith & Wesson."

—Instead of milk and cookies, Bubba Claus prefers that children leave a RC Cola and pork rinds (or moon pie) on the fireplace. And Bubba doesn't smoke a pipe but dips a little snuff. So please have an empty spit can handy.

—Bubba Claus' sleigh is pulled by floppy-eared, flyin' coon dogs instead of reindeer. I made the mistake of lending him a couple of my reindeer one time and Blitzen's rack now overlooks Bubba's fireplace.

—You won't hear 'On Comet, on Cupid, on Donner and Blitzen' when Bubba Claus arrives. Instead listen for 'On Earnhardt, on Andretti, on Elliott and Petty.

—Ho Ho Ho has been replaced by "Yee Haw." And you also are likely to hear Bubba's elves respond, "I her'd dat."

—As required by Texas laws, Bubba Claus' wagon does have a Yosemite Sam safety triangle on the back with the words, "Back Off."

The usual Christmas movie classics such as "Miracle on 34th Street," and "It's a Wonderful Life" will not be shown in your negotiated viewing area. Instead, viewers will see "Boss Hogg Saves Christmas," and "Smokey and the Bandit VI."

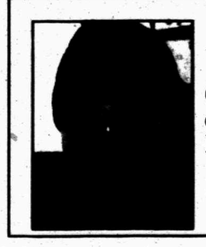
—And finally, Bubba Claus doesn't wear a belt. You might want to make sure that you, the missus and the kids turn the other way when he bends over to put presents under the tree.

Merry Christmas!

ASK US

Q—Are tickets still available for Texas Tech's bowl game in Houston on Dec. 30?
A—Yes. Call 806-742-TECH.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Kenneth Deliglio...

...is a life-long resident of Colorado City, but visits Snyder often to do his shopping. Kenneth plans to wed his fiancee, Joann Dering in January. His favorite hobbies are fishing and building model cars and planes.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Don't be afraid to give up the good to go for the great.
—Kenny Rogers

DEC 14 2003

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Toy Drive

Snyder Wheels Club will host a toy drive until 4 p.m. Saturday at the Sonic to benefit Christmas for Kids.

THEE Place

Rodney Orsborn of Stand Firm World Ministries will be at THEE Place, 904 26th St., at 7 p.m. Saturday. Music by Stand Firm Ministries. For more information, call 573-9799.

Calvary Christmas programs

Calvary Baptist Church, 2405 35th St., will present Christmas programs Sunday. During the 10:50 a.m. service, the adult choir will present *I'll Be Home For Christmas*. The children's ministry will present *The First Leon* during the 6 p.m. service. For more information, call 573-2191.

TSA booster club

The TSA booster club will meet at 7:15 p.m. Monday in the high school shop building.

Coat drive underway

SISD, local businesses and organizations are sponsoring a coat drive through Monday to assist children and families in need. New or slightly used clean coats, hats, gloves and scarves of all sizes are needed. Collection sites are Humble Smith, Snyder CADA, chamber, WTSB, ASB, FAB, Texas Savings and SNB. If necessary, call 574-6012 or 573-1141 to schedule a collection. Coats will be distributed Dec. 17-18 at 1904 37th St. Schools will get coats prior to Christmas holidays. School principals may call above numbers to request a coat, etc.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "God Has Spoken Through His Writings," followed by "Don't Pay Too Much for Your Whistle."

Madrigal Christmas dinners

The annual Madrigal Christmas dinners presented by the SHS choral department will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Martha Ann Woman's Club. Tickets are $15 and can be obtained by calling 573-6301. Friday noon is the deadline. The choir also has a few poinsettias for sale.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception for Kathye Parker and Barbara Shipp will be from 4-5 p.m. Tuesday at the Snyder High School library.

Emmaus community meeting

The Mesquite Country Emmaus Christmas community meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Colonial Hill Baptist Church. Bring desserts. Monetary donations will be accepted for the orphanage in Mexico.

Food Cupboard donations

Snyder Ministerial Alliance seeks donations to the Food Cupboard, non-perishable items only. Contributions can be dropped off at the Food Cupboard on Tuesday between 8 to 11 a.m. Food may also be taken to your home church or to First United Methodist Church from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., where it will be picked up.

Hospice caregivers dinner

An appreciation dinner for past and present Odyssey Hospice caregivers will be held at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the First Baptist church fellowship hall. Harold and Zola Kornegy will furnish the fish.

Doodle Bug writers club

Members of the Doodle Bug writers club invite all writers to meet at 1 p.m. every other Tuesday at the Golden Village Terrace community room. For more information call 574-1817, 573-7369, or 573-5819.

Mike Holmes retirement reception

A retirement reception for Snyder Junior High teacher Mike Holmes will be from 4-5 p.m. Wednesday in the junior high library.

House decorating contest

The house decorating contest will be judged from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Wednesday. To enter your home, contact the chamber at 573-3558.

SHS volleyball banquet

Snyder High School volleyball awards banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday in Towle Park Barn. Tickets for parents and family are $5 and are available at the athletic office. There is no charge for players.

Smokey Bear posters

Smokey Bear posters for a contest sponsored by Snyder Garden Club must be turned in by Thursday to classroom teachers or by calling Sandra Browning at 573-7277. Local winners will be announced in January and top posters will advance to the state contest.

Goodfellows drive underway

Canned goods may be brought to any school campus and monetary contributions can be made at any financial institution for the Goodfellows Food Drive.

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbook

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbooks can still be ordered for $50 for the book only with additional options available for an extra costs. For more information, call 574-6138.

LVN testing dates

Jan. 20 and Jan. 27. To reserve a time, you must contact the WTC counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313. Limited seating is available.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conversation District is taking orders through Jan. 31 for windbreak trees. Large trees available are Oaks, Pines, Desert Willows, Golden Raintree, Texas Redbud and Chinese Pistache and more. To place orders, call 573-6317.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland is available free of charge. Call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakey Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

Today's chuckle

Zebra fish that glows headed to fish tanks

AUSTIN (AP) — The nation's first genetically engineered household pet, a zebra fish that glows fluorescent, could be swimming in fish tanks sooner than expected.



Yorktown Technologies, which is marketing the Florida-grown fish, said Thursday that 5-D Tropical and Segrest Farms would begin shipping limited numbers of the fish to some locations because of high consumer demand. The fish are to be available nationwide on Jan. 5.

The Food and Drug Administration said earlier this week that it won't regulate the fish because tropical aquarium fish are not used for food purposes and don't pose a threat to the food supply.

With the FDA's decision, and barring a federal court order, the GloFish will be legally marketed in every state except California, the only state that regulates genetically engineered fish to protect its native fish populations.

"Public demand for GloFish fluorescent fish has been extraordinary, even greater than we had anticipated," said Alan Blake, co-founder and CEO of Yorktown Technologies. "In response, our distributors have decided to make these fish available immediately to as many consumers as possible."

Joe Diaz, president of 5-D Tropical, said the company hasn't seen such interest in a fish in its 43 years in the ornamental fish business.

Singapore scientists gave the naturally black-and-silver zebra fish a fluorescent red glow by inserting a sea anemone gene.

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Grand Prairie man wins $5,000 in Mega drawing

AUSTIN — Martin Goana of Grand Prairie made his weekly stop to buy *Lotto Texas*® tickets on Tuesday and decided to purchase $5 worth of *Mega Millions*™ tickets, since he was already there. Goana matched four numbers plus the Mega Ball for Tuesday's drawing. The numbers drawn were: 14 - 15 - 48 - 4 - 24 and the Mega Ball was 41.

"Every day, I read *The Dallas Morning News* to check my numbers and this time, there they were, so I looked at the ticket a bunch of times, and finally figured out I actually won," he said. "It's going to be a heck of a Christmas, and now I have enough to paint my house, too."

"The Texas Lottery is big on happy holidays, so Merry Christmas to Mr. Goana," said Texas Lottery Commission Executive Director Reagan E. Greer. "I also know that this isn't the first time the Lottery helps out with household chores, which we're always happy to do, so happy house painting to Mr. Goana."

The 49-year-old Grand Prairie resident has a secret plan in mind, too, but he's not telling his fiancé about it just yet.

"I'm telling everybody I won the day after Christmas," he said.

He purchased the winning ticket at Lucky 1 Food Mart, 1700 Park Row, Suite 100, in Arlington.

The jackpot for Friday's *Mega Millions* drawing was worth an estimated $61 million.

For more information about the Texas Lottery, visit the official Texas Lottery Commission Web site at www.txlottery.org. For more information on *Mega Millions*, visit www.megamillions.com.

Doctor will be monitored by medical board

HOUSTON (AP) — The Texas State Board of Medical Examiners said it will closely monitor a weight-loss surgeon whose operations resulted in one patient's death and serious infections in others.

Dr. Ramesh K. Srungaram, who operated in hospitals in Houston and Lubbock, was put on probation for 71/2 years, fined $25,000 and ordered to operate only in the presence of another surgeon, state regulators said Friday.

He may face additional disciplinary actions in the future, Dr. Donald Patrick, the board's executive director, told the Houston Chronicle.

Srungaram, 52, currently operates at Houston Community Hospital. A spokeswoman at his office, Obesity Surgery Specialists, said the doctor had no comment about the board's ruling.

Cypress Fairbanks Hospital in Houston suspended Srungaram's privileges in June 2002 following a spate of patient complications, according to medical board documents. The hospital later restored those privileges with the understanding that the doctor would work under supervision, but Srungaram resigned.

Srungaram also resigned from Highland Medical Center in Lubbock after his privileges were suspended in August 2002 pending further investigation.

The state medical board said that during a seven-day period in July 2002, four of Srungaram's Lubbock patients developed serious complications after surgery.

Nunn's poem in 11th place

A rhyming poem by Yvonne Nunn of Snyder, *Out-of-Body Trip*, placed 11th in the 72nd Annual Writer's Digest poetry contest.

At first, Nunn was told that her poem was in the top 100 winners. The winners' booklet then listed where her poem placed.

Some 1,800 poems were entered in all.

In recent months, Nunn also won the Sharpwriters of Abilene contest sponsored and judged by Taylor County Judge Barbara Rollins. *Mirror of My Savior Pool House* placed first and Nunn received $25.

In November, she won six awards in Poetry Society of Texas with *Still Pristine* placing second.

In September, she presented a program on the entertainment va'ue of the ballad to 200 women in Arlington. Nunn spoke about past Scurry County folks.

Nunn is a member of the Mesquite Country Writer's Guild, Abilene Writers Guild, High Plains Poetry of Amarillo and Poetry Society of Texas.

Dr. Dillaha wins

Dr. Carl Dillaha is the winner of the Scurry County Child Welfare Board's 2003 fundraiser.

The child welfare board conducted a drawing Saturday for $1,000 worth of merchandise.

Miles graduates

EDMOND, Okla. — Candace R. Miles of Snyder has received a bachelor of art in journalism and public relations at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Officials cancel Big Dig concert

BOSTON (AP) — The Big Dig won't be feted by the Boston Pops.

A concert to mark the opening of a new highway tunnel under the city was canceled Friday after critics questioned a gala celebration for a project that's billions over budget and years late.

"We are being responsive to the concerns about using any public funds for this event," state Turnpike Authority Chairman Matthew Amorello said. Security costs for the event were estimated at up to $150,000.

The concert was to be held inside the Interstate 93 southbound tunnel, which is a major component of the mammoth Big Dig construction project.

The event had come under bipartisan fire in recent days from critics including Republican Gov. Mitt Romney and House Speaker Thomas Finneran, a Democrat. Both said they would not attend the concert, which had been scheduled for Dec. 19.

The Big Dig is burying two miles of Interstate 93 underneath downtown Boston, replacing an elevated highway. One of the largest and most costly public projects in U.S. history, it is expected to be completed by 2005.

The project's cost estimate has ballooned over the years from $2.6 billion to $14.6 billion.

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events

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TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Mega Millions

ATLANTA (AP) — Here are the winning numbers selected Friday in the Mega Millions lottery:

9-16-32-45-46

Mega Ball: 26

Estimated Mega Millions Jackpot: $61 million

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Two Step numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:

10-13-14-35. Bonus ball 26.

Estimated jackpot: $200,000

Cash Five

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

13-15-16-18-31

Pick 3

(Day) 5-4-2

(Night) 1-7-9

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Whatever happened to...

Bryan Limmer, a 1982 Snyder High School graduate, participated in football and was co-captain in 1981. He played baseball and was a member of the National Honor Society and FFA judging teams. He received a four-year collegiate Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo scholarship.



Bryan Limmer
1982



Bryan Limmer
2003

Brian graduated with a degree in animal science from Texas Tech in 1986. He was a member of the Tech meats judging team in 1985, livestock judging team in 1986 and he coached the state champion 4-H meats judging team from Lubbock County in 1987 and the state and national champion on 4-H meats judging team from Gillespie County in 1988. While in Colorado City, he was named Citizen of the Year.

Bryan served as county agent in Gillespie and Mitchell counties before becoming a trust officer for City National Bank in Colorado City. He is now vice president and trust officer for American State Bank in Lubbock and is the trust administrator and department real estate manager overseeing about 90,000 acres of farm and ranch land.

Bryan is involved in the Cooper High School Athletic Booster Club; the County Livestock Association serving as vice president; South Plains Trust and Estate Council; is a 4-H leader and serves as chairman of the executive board of Lubbock County Cooperative Extension. He most enjoys being involved in his children's sports and livestock activities.

Bryan married the former Cari Walker, daughter of Molly and David Kattes of Snyder. They have three children, Griffin, Bailey and Hannah. He has one brother, Jayson, of New Orleans and their parents are Howard and Carolyn Limmer of Snyder.

(Readers are invited to submit information and pictures for this feature. Bring by Snyder Daily News or mail to Box 949 in Snyder, 79550.)

Snyder, Ira, Hermleigh and Fluvanna grads...

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Name _____

Year graduated _____

Parent's name _____

Some general high school activities for which they might be remembered _____

_____

_____

_____

After graduation they (college, military, etc.) _____

_____

_____

_____

Married to _____

Now live in _____

Children _____

_____

Professional work or accomplishment _____

_____

_____

Anything additional _____

_____

_____

Current picture?

Readers are invited to submit information and pictures for this feature. Bring by Snyder Daily News or mail to Box 949 in Snyder, 79550



WINNER — Patty Kuhl, right, won two season passes to either Western Texas College softball or baseball games, sponsored by the Snyder WTC Lion's Club. The drawing was held Wednesday during the Lion's Club Zone meeting, hosted by the Snyder WTC Lion's Club and held in the Pruitt Community Room at Western Texas College. Pictured presenting the season passes is Vicky Rowland, president of Snyder WTC Lion's Club Chapter. (Contributed Photo)

Officials drill frozen river in N.D. search

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — National Guardsmen lowered cameras through river ice and scoured abandoned buildings and roads in North Dakota and neighboring Minnesota on Friday in a search for Dru Sjodin, the college student apparently kidnapped from a mall parking lot.

The search, on foot and in military vehicles including Humvees, was suspended at nightfall after covering nearly 400 square miles. The operation was to resume Saturday.

"We did not have a find today, but we're still hoping to find something before the weekend is over," Maj. Mike Fonder of the Grand Forks County sheriff's department said late Friday.

"It's going to be slow and steady," Maj. Mark Vavra, a spokesman for the Minnesota National Guard, said earlier as teams searched under a bridge near Thompson, 10 miles south of Grand Forks.

Vavra would not say why that stretch of the Red River was targeted. An affidavit unsealed Tuesday said that searchers had found the missing woman's shoe under another bridge about 15 miles away.

Sjodin, 22, of Pequot Lakes, Minn., was last heard from Nov. 22 as she spoke to her boyfriend by cell phone after leaving her job at a Victoria'a Secret in Grand Forks.

Prosecutors have charged Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., 50, a convicted rapist released from prison earlier this year, with kidnapping her.

KEY TO THE KINGDOM
God Has Spoken Through His Writings
IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY
Don't Pay Too Much For Your Whistle
Cox Cable TV Channel 2,
Monday, Dec. 15, 7:00 pm

Private consulting made Clark's income increase

WASHINGTON (AP) — Going from the U.S. military to the nation's biggest investment banking house off Wall Street, Wesley Clark's income soared from less than $100,000 in 1999 to more than $1.6 million last year, according to the Democratic presidential candidate's tax records released Friday by his campaign.

More than half of the retired general's income in the past two years came from speeches and book-writing, Clark's financial disclosure form being filed with the Federal Election Commission shows.

After joining Stephens Group Inc. as an investment banker in his home state of Arkansas in 2000, Clark collected fees of more than $239,000 while sitting on the boards of several corporations. In 14 months, Clark made more than $1 million at Stephens before leaving the company to start his own consulting firm. Clark's checking account at his new consulting business contains $500,000 to $1 million, according to his disclosure form, which requires filers to provide income ranges, not specific amounts.

Clark became chairman of the board last year at WaveCrest Laboratories in Virginia, collecting $195,000 for consulting on the design and distribution of the company's motorized bicycle that is being marketed to the U.S. military.

Clark's net worth is between $3 million and $3.5 million, his campaign says.

During his last full year in the military, Clark's taxable income from his military pay was $58,000, at a time when he was NATO's supreme allied commander overseeing the war in Kosovo.

Calvary Baptist Church
Adult Choir presents

I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS



Sunday, December 14th
at 10:50 am

Calvary Baptist
Children's Ministry
presents,
"The First Leon"
Sunday, December 14th
at 6:00 pm

Calvary Baptist Church
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GM verdict overturned

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — The state Supreme Court overturned an $82 million verdict against General Motors on Friday, saying that the jury was improperly selected for the product-defect case last year.

Under state law, the judge should have excluded five potential jurors who were related to an attorney associated with a plaintiff's law firm, the Supreme Court ruled.

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Snyder district ranks first with BJ Services

By Rebecca Boyd
Snyder BJ Services

BJ Services' Snyder district has been recognized as the company's best district in the United States for 2003. This is the first time the Snyder district has been awarded the company's highest honor for field operations. Part of BJ's Permian Region, the Snyder district employs 70 persons and serves customers in a 29-county area.

The Best District Award is based on maintenance, safety, and environmental practices as well as positive customer evaluations and internal audits during the year. Of a possible 600 points in Best District competition, Snyder led the way with the winning score of 592.5. The Santa Fe Springs/Ventura district finished in second place with 585.62 points. Last year Snyder ranked #2 in the nation.

An awards dinner was held December 6 at the Scurry County Coliseum. Ken Scott, Snyder district manager, accepted the district's crystal trophy presented by Ronney Coleman, BJ vice-president of US operations. Bill James, asset manager – BJ Services USA, and others on his staff accompanied Coleman to the event.

Permian Region manager, Sam Daniel, traveled from Midland to congratulate district employees on a job well done and commended Ken Scott as a team leader with vision. The event concluded with the presentation of leather jackets to each employee.

Coleman said, "The Snyder district has set the standard, and now the pressure is on." He noted that no district has won the award two years in a row, but that Sam Daniel "has accepted the challenge to be the best again next year."

Scott is assisted in Snyder by Randy Kindrick, operations supervisor, and John Hunter and Jimmy Pence, field supervisors. Other district managers are Daniel Ramsey, maintenance supervisor; Jim Halverson, facility supervisor; and A. C. Carthel, safety and training supervisor. Gary Kretzschmer is Snyder's district engineer. Bobby Jack Cumbie heads the sales division, and Troy Burton oversees the tool department.

Since 1951, BJ Services has been a major contributor to the Snyder economy. Locals will remember BJ's merge with The Western Company in 1995. In 1996, BJ acquired NOWSCO and in 2003 strengthened its completion services capabilities with the acquisition of OSCA, Inc.

BJ Services Company, one of the Fortune 500, is a provider of pressure pumping and other oilfield services. With roughly $2 billion in annual revenues from combined operations, BJ employs more than 11,000 persons worldwide.



Brady Boone

shot this 8 point buck at a lease North of Lampasas on second weekend of deer season.

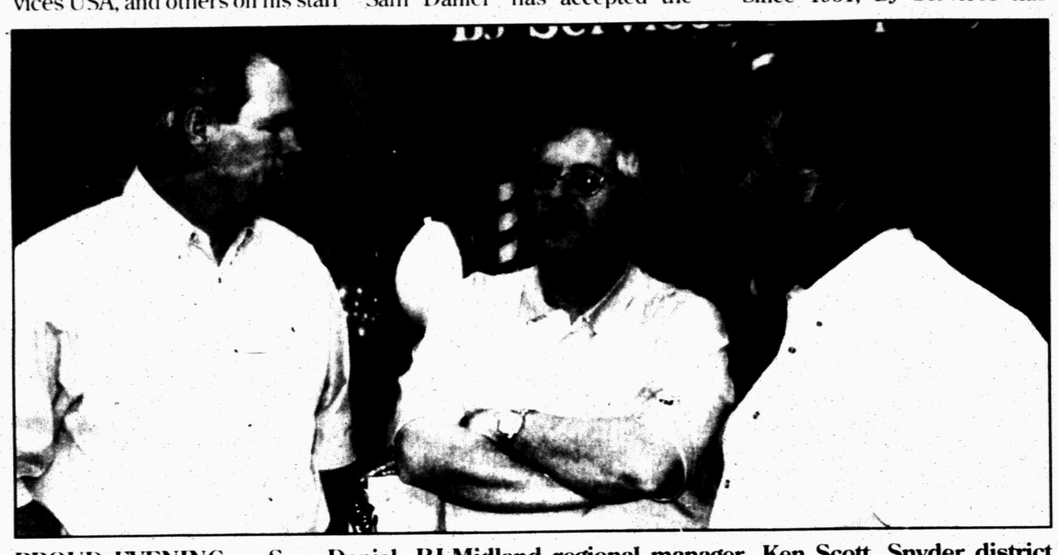
Brady, age 11, is the son of Mary and Roger Boone of Lampasas and the grandson of Travis and Helen Hatter, and great-grandson of Florentz Joyce all of Snyder.



Derek Boone

shot this 10 point buck at a lease North of Lampasas on the first day of deer season.

Derek, age 13, is the son of Mary and Roger Boone of Lampasas and the grandson of Travis and Helen Hatter, and great-grandson of Florentz Joyce all of Snyder.



PROUD EVENING — Sam Daniel, BJ-Midland regional manager, Ken Scott, Snyder district manager, Ronney Coleman, vice-president of US operations, from left, visit during the awards event. (Contributed Photo)



NATION'S BEST DISTRICT — Ken Scott, BJ's Snyder district manager, accepts the Best District Award from Ronney Coleman, vice-president of US operations, right. (Contributed Photo)



FAMILY GATHERING — BJ Services employees and family members attended the awards banquet to recognize the local district. (Contributed Photo)

Wedding

Continued from Page 1

"It was much longer than I expected," she said. "The questions were very involved and it took a lot of thought to answer them. In a way it was good because it really made me think about why I was marrying this man. It's one thing to just say it to someone, but it's another to be asked to write a detailed explanation. I ended up typing for hours."

The company that produced *A Wedding Story* is Banyan Production, based in Philadelphia. The company also produces such shows as Trading Spaces, A Dating Story, A Baby Story, Ambush Makeover and their newest show, Perfect Proposal.

Banyan Productions received thousands of applications to be considered for the show. Only a fraction of those applications are considered and a smaller number still will actually make it onto the show.

Kimberly and Joel made their application in March and finally received an email from Banyan in October. From there the company made plans to visit the Wagon Wheel Guest Ranch to survey the landscape. Shortly thereafter, the couple got the confirmation that their wedding was selected for the broadcast.

Banyan producer Tara Higgins brought a camera crew to the ranch in order to follow the couple as the wedding day approached.

"We're fighting the sunlight right now," said Higgins. "We need to do a lot of filming before Saturday."

Both Joel and Kimberly faced extensive on-camera interviews, shots of the two walking around the ranch, visiting with family and preparing for the final moment when the two would become husband and wife.

"We will take a lot of shots of them walking and making small-talk together. We're even going to film them driving a pickup through the pasture with the cows. Then we'll overlay their voices into the shots," Higgins added.

The stress and apprehension of their wedding and the subsequent television show seems to have emerged somehow into repose for the couple.

"When all of this first started, we were really anxious," said Joel. "But now we're really laid back and just enjoying our family and friends."

"Actually, we're not even going on a honeymoon after this." Kimberly smiled. "We're just going to be alone together and enjoy our hometown honeymoon in Post."

Flu

Continued from Page 1

said school absences are not unusually high for this time of year.

"We don't have an abnormal number of absences so far. We're still looking good throughout the school system as a whole, as attendance is right at 94 percent daily," said Winter.

Cheryl Chance, director of nurses at Cogdell Memorial Hospital, said admissions for flu-like illnesses have slowed down some.

"We don't know if is because of a contagious cycle being completed, or just the ebb and flow of the illness slowing down," said Chance.

Chance said the hospital has plenty of beds available for those needing to be admitted.

Financial Focus

Gifts of Stock Can Brighten Anyone's Holiday

Don't look now, but the holidays are upon us. If you're having trouble thinking of the perfect gift, consider something you can't find at the crowded mall: stocks.

Stocks can be excellent gifts for children and adults. When you give shares of stock to kids, you're helping to teach them the importance of long-term investing and the way our financial system works. And when you give stocks to adults, you'll help them make progress toward their important financial goals.

Giving stocks isn't much more difficult than giving cash, but you do need to do a little number crunching. For starters, you'll need to know what you originally paid for the stock (its "tax basis"), how long you've held the stock and the fair market value of the stock at the date of the gift. Recipients will need this information to determine gains or losses if and when they decide to sell the stock you've given them.

When you give stocks, you're doing so out of thoughtfulness - but you may also be helping yourself. If you're giving away stocks that have appreciated in value, you won't be liable for the capital gains taxes, which can be considerable, even though the maximum long-term capital gains rate has now been cut to 15 percent (for asset sales after May 6, 2003 - currently effective through 2009). And, while you're thinking of taxes related to your gifts of stock, keep in mind that you can give up to $11,000 per year to as many people as you want without incurring gift tax implications.

You can also get tax advantages when you give gifts of appreciated stock to a charity in honor of a loved one. You'll get an immediate tax deduction for the fair market value of your gift, and you won't have to pay capital gains on the stock.

Gifts for retirement

If you have loved ones that are saving for retirement, consider giving them money to add more shares of stock (or bonds or other investments) to their IRAs. For 2003 and 2004, investors may be able to put up to $3,000 in a Roth or Traditional IRA (or $3,500 if they are 50 or older). If your intended recipients have fully funded their IRAs for 2003, they can earmark your gift for their 2004 IRAs.

Stocks and kids

At first, when you tell your children you're giving them a gift of stock, they may give you a funny look. But it really won't take much to get them interested. Try to find stocks issued by high-quality companies with which your children are familiar. Your kids may be excited to be part owners of companies that produce the clothes they wear, the food they like and the movies they watch.

When you do give stocks to your kids, you'll have to be aware of the "kiddie tax." Actually, the kiddie tax is not really a specific tax at all - the term refers to the limitations that the IRS puts on the ability of children under 14 to have unearned income taxed at their lower tax rate. According to the kiddie tax rules for 2003, the first $750 in unearned income - interest, dividends and capital gains - is tax free, and the next $750 is taxed at the child's tax rate, which is typically 10 percent. If your child has unearned income of more than $1,500, he or she will be taxed at the rate that would apply to you if this money were added to your taxable income.

Gifts that last

The holiday season comes and goes in a rush. But when you give gifts of stock to loved ones, your generosity will be felt long after the holidays are just a warm memory.

NEW ISSUE

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Week of December 8, 2003

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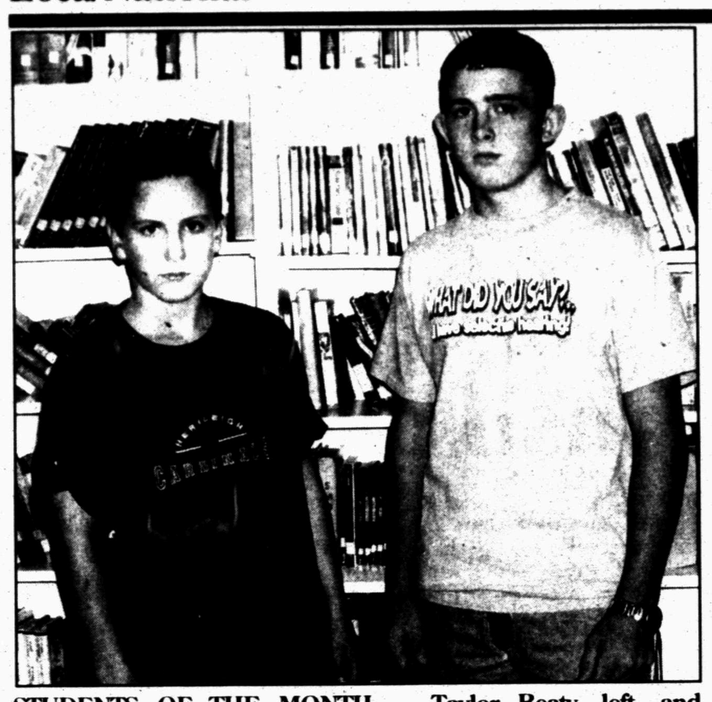
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STUDENTS OF THE MONTH — Taylor Beaty, left, and Johnathon McClure have been named December students of the month at Hermleigh School. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



HOLIDAY GRANT — R. J. Youngclaus, left, Wal-Mart manager, presented a $500 holiday grant to Ricky Fritz, executive director of Scurry Community Services, last week during open house for the new Early Head Start Building. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Bush signs sanctions bill for Syria Friday

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush signed legislation Friday calling for economic penalties against Syria for not doing enough in the fight against terrorism in the Middle East and in Iraq.

Bush signed the bill into law with no fanfare before leaving the White House for the Camp David retreat in Maryland. The White House announced the move Friday evening.

Bush is generally not enthusiastic about such restraints on his diplomatic options and, in a statement, signaled that was the case with this bill as well.

"My approval of the act does not constitute my adoption of the various statements of policy in the act as U.S. foreign policy," he said.

Syria long has been on the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism, along with North Korea, Sudan, Cuba, Iran and Libya. But Syria is the only country on that list to have full diplomatic relations with the United States.

The legislation says Syria has provided a safe haven for anti-Israel terrorist groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad and is accused of pursuing the development and production of biological and chemical weapons.

Bond, balanced budget package signed

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — With a fiscal recovery plan now in place, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said he was ready to push ahead on a variety of issues, using his momentum to further break down the state's deep political divides.

The former Hollywood actor achieved his biggest victory since being elected governor of the nation's most populous state by getting the Legislature on Friday to adopt bills that will put a $15 billion bond measure and new spending restrictions on the March ballot.

The reform package appeared all but dead a week ago when the Democrat-controlled state house rejected the GOP governor's original proposals, which called for a more restrictive spending cap in addition to the bond measure.

But after softening his position, Schwarzenegger sold a large majority of lawmakers on a more modest plan most observers believe can help the state's financial troubles and could lead to further budget reforms.

The big question facing the new governor is how he will use his fresh political clout to meet his other budgetary objectives, which include reforming the state's worker's compensation system and identifying revenue sources to avert a pending cash crisis among city and county governments.

"I will work with everyone," Schwarzenegger said during a bill-signing ceremony Friday placing the reform package on the spring ballot. "That's the thing that everyone has asked me since coming to Sacramento — 'Arnold, how are you going to deal with the Democrats?'"

I can work with them. I go to bed every night next to a Democrat," he said, referring to his wife, Maria Shriver, a member of the Kennedy family.

The package includes a mandate that spending cannot exceed revenues in any year. It prohibits long-term borrowing to pay operating expenses, except for the $15 billion bond.

It also grants the governor authority to force lawmakers to deal with a fiscal emergency by calling a special session and stopping all other business until solutions are adopted.

Perhaps most important, however, is a requirement for the Legislature to begin building a reserve fund. Starting in 2006-07, lawmakers will be required to set aside 1 percent of general fund revenues in a "rainy day" fund and to increase the set aside each year until the reserve fund reaches $8 billion.

The deal also would allow the state to issue up to $15 billion in bonds to finance the deficit. The debt would be repaid in nine years by diverting a quarter-cent portion of the state's existing sales tax. If approved by voters, the bonds would replace about $13 billion in bonds included in the current budget, which are in jeopardy of being ruled unconstitutional by pending court challenges.

Some senators called the plan a sham.

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SPORTS



Sarah Crawford



Sara Thornhill

Thornhill, Crawford earn all-academic team honors

Snyder High School seniors Sarah Crawford and Sara Thornhill have been named to the Texas Girls Coaches Association Academic All-State volleyball team.

To be eligible for the award, players must be graduating seniors with a GPA of 94 or better and be a varsity participant in good standing and of "good moral character" according to the TGCA Web site.

"To be officers in the student council and be able to play a sport as intense as volleyball while still being at the top of their class is really impressive," head coach Laura Moses said.

At Catclaw tourney...

Lady Tigers advance to title game; boys in consolation tilt

ABILENE —Erin Burleson drilled five shots from long range Friday, scoring 19 points and helping to push the Lady Tigers past Jim Ned, 63-56, and into the title game at the Catclaw Tournament.

Snyder (7-2) was slated to face host Abilene Wylie at 6:30 Saturday evening for the trophy. Wylie advanced with a 53-33 drubbing of Austin Anderson.

The Lady Tigers exploded for 23 points in the second quarter, taking a 37-33 lead at halftime, which it never relinquished. The team trailed by two after the opening period, but pushed the lead to nine after a 17-11 third quarter run.

Four Lady Tigers scored in double digits.

Sequoya Powell had her highest point output of the season, draining seven field goals for 14 points. She and Jordan Stansell gave the Lady Tigers a formidable inside presence, as Stansell hit for 11.

Sirena Medrano added 10, while Teddi Crenwelge and Terann Ragland recorded five and four points, respectively.

Ashley Allen hit a game-high 27 for Anderson.

Snyder 48, Anson 35

The Tigers faced the full spectrum of defenses Friday, hitting nine shots from behind the arc to top Anson, 48-35 and advance to the consolation championship game in the Catclaw Tournament.

"We played well in spurts," head coach Bud Birks said. "We did some things better when we took the time and ran our offense."

Birks said Anson threw several defensive looks at the Tigers, alternating between man-to-man coverage and various zone defenses, as well as sending a chaser after the Tiger guards.

Lee Scott again led the Tigers, cashing in for 14 points, while Marcus Villarreal knocked in 12.

Snyder led from wire-to-wire, outscoring Anson 27-21 through the first half, bumping the lead to 39-30 at the end of the third quarter.

Birks said the team went through bouts of inconsistency during the game, especially on defense, but picked it up in the fourth quarter, holding Anson to five points in the final eight minutes.

"We are still only average defensively from where we need to be," he said. "In our defense you have to really work hard. All five have to do the same thing."

Birks said when they took their time and ran the offense, the Tigers got open shots.

"We just need to make the spurts last all game," he said.

Ramon chipped in with eight points, Lico Castillo tallied six and Austin Hatfield added four in the win.

Kasey Melton and Zack Garcia each contributed two.

The Tigers were scheduled to face San Angelo Lake View at 2 p.m. Saturday in a rematch from the Nov. 21 match-up, which Lakeview won, 65-47.

At the time, Snyder was two rounds deep in the playoffs, and the football players had yet to join the basketball roster.

"I thought we competed well in that game (against Lake View)," he said.

Birks said the young players got good experience in that contest and the addition of some older, more experienced players could only help in the rematch.

Turco, Stars shut out Blackhawks

DALLAS (AP) — Bill Guerin and Marty Turco got the slumping Dallas Stars off to a good start in their home-and-home series with the Chicago Blackhawks.

Guerin scored with 5:41 to play and Turco made 16 saves for his fifth career shutout to help the Stars snap a five-game losing streak with a 1-0 victory Friday night.

The teams will meet again Sunday night in Chicago.

The Stars returned home after going 0-4 during a West Coast trip. During the losing streak, they scored only three goals. Dallas is 9-4-2 at home and 3-11-1 on the road.

Chicago, which got 25 saves from Steve Passmore, has won once in 16 games (1-10-2-3).

"We've got to be prepared for the same thing on Sunday," Turco said. "We've got to be a desperate team the rest of the season. We're on the outside looking in. We've put ourselves in a huge hole."

Guerin skated hard to the net and re-directed Mike Modano's pass from the right corner for his 16th goal. It was the difference in what had been a goalie duel between Turco and Passmore.

"Both teams were desperate," said Guerin, who has 13 goals at home this season. "It was one of those games where you need nothing but a win. We have to continue to play with that mentality the rest of the year."

The Blackhawks pulled Passmore for an extra attacker with 1:02 left, then had a six-on-four advantage after being given a power play with 38 seconds remaining. But Chicago, which beat Detroit on Thursday night to end a 15-game winless streak, was unable to put pressure on Turco.

"They played last night so we knew they were going to play tight and rely on their goaltender," Stars coach Dave Tippett said. "Our goaltender had to match it."

The five-game losing streak was the Stars' longest since the 1995-96 season.

Heisman no guarantee for professional success

NEW YORK (AP) — Being the most outstanding player in college football would figure to lead to greatness in the pros.

Instead, recent Heisman Trophy winners have been just lucky to make it into an NFL game this season.

Eric Crouch quit football before his NFL career started; Chris Weinke, Ron Dayne and Carson Palmer haven't produced a yard all season; Danny Wuerffel and Rashan Salaam are out of the league; and Charlie Ward chose basketball over the NFL.

Only three of the last 10 winners — Eddie George, Charles Woodson and Ricky Williams — have had any impact as professionals this season.

So while winning the Heisman on Saturday night would be the crowning moment of a college career for Larry Fitzgerald, Eli Manning, Jason White or Chris Perry, it won't necessarily be a launching pad to NFL greatness.

"It puts you in a very elite group," said Fitzgerald, a receiver for Pittsburgh. "It's something that can never be taken away from you regardless of how your career is after college. It can never be tarnished. That one year you played, you were the best player in college football."

But being the best in college is as good as it gets for some Heisman winners.

For every O.J. Simpson, Barry Sanders and Roger Staubach who won the award and went on to NFL stardom, there were players such as Gino Torretta, Ty Detmer and Andre Ware, whose career highlights were only in college.

Of the 67 winners, just seven are in the Pro Football Hall of Fame, with Sanders and Tim Brown likely to follow.

"A different type of player is successful at the college level as opposed to the pro level," said Gil Brandt, the former personnel director of the Dallas Cowboys and the NFL's senior draft consultant. "So sometimes the best college player doesn't become the best pro player."

Brandt cites a perfect example in this year's Heisman race. White is considered by many to be the favorite to win the trophy after throwing 40 touchdown passes and leading No. 3 Oklahoma (12-1) to the Bowl Championship Series title game in the Sugar Bowl.

But come draft time in April, White's name probably won't be called until the second day, after loads of linemen, defenders and even other stronger-armed quarterbacks who never were in contention to win the Heisman.

White's future is clouded by two serious knee injuries that almost ended his career and a lack of what NFL scouts describe as measurables — speed, size and strength, which usually count more than production in the draft.

"There are a lot of ways to determine who is the best player in college football," Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said. "If it's about draft status, we should wait until the draft and see who the top pick is."

That could end up being Manning, or possibly Fitzgerald, if he decides to leave school early.

Fitzgerald has the skills that make scouts drool — a 6-foot-3, 225-pound frame to go with speed and an ability to catch the ball in traffic that might be unmatched by any recent college receiver.

Manning, the quarterback at Mississippi, has a classic quarterback build, with his 6-5 frame and strong arm to go with his impeccable bloodlines. His father, Archie, is a former college and NFL great, and brother Peyton is the star quarterback for the Indianapolis Colts.

What Fitzgerald and Manning are lacking are teammates to lift their team to the powerhouse level. That is an important factor in the Heisman race, even if it means little for their pro future.

Only once since Notre Dame's Paul Hornung won the award on a losing team in 1956 has a winner played for a four-loss team like Fitzgerald's Panthers (Steve Owens, Oklahoma, 1969).

"White is a player that had the luxury of being part of a very good football team," Brandt said. "Sometimes when you have that luxury then a player with lesser talent is able to succeed. When you get to the NFL everybody is very talented. You have to have a player that has not only the skills but also the speed, height and weight."

Texas A&M QB transfers

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Texas A&M quarterback Dustin Long, who lost the starting job to Reggie McNeal last season, will transfer to Sam Houston State University for his senior season.

"This decision is based solely on playing time," Long said in a statement Friday. "I have an opportunity to maximize my playing time as a senior at Sam Houston State."

As a sophomore in 2001, Long set school records for single game passing yards (399 against Kansas) and with seven touchdown passes against Texas Tech. But he was replaced last season by McNeal.

Long completed 63 of 104 passes for 709 yards for the season.

"I have a lot of admiration and respect and good feelings for him and we all wish him well," A&M coach Dennis Franchione said.

Long had his best game of the season in a 45-22 loss to Missouri, complete 23 of 29 passes for 252 yards and he started the final game of the season against the Texas Longhorns.

Still, he decided to move on.

"Texas A&M is a great school and I've enjoyed my time here," he said.

Woods in the hunt despite bad 1st round

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Tiger Woods was so angry at hitting two balls into the water that he took a drop in an unfavorable spot, likely costing him another shot and sending him tumbling to a triple bogey.

He three-putted for bogey. He chunked chips.

The mistakes are glaring halfway through his $5 million Target World Challenge, although it wasn't difficult to find the upside Friday: Woods is only one shot behind Padraig Harrington, and among a dozen guys separated by just four shots.

"If I can just clean it up and play a good, solid round of golf with no mistakes out there ... ," Woods said.

He didn't finish the thought, nor was it his alone.

Harrington, who held off a Sunday charge from Woods to win last year, used the belly of his sand wedge to roll in two putts birdie putts from off the green, and two other putts from the fringe were conventional birdies, with a butter.

All that came over the final six holes, giving the Irishman a 5-under 67 and a one-shot lead over Woods, David Love III and Chris DiMarco.

"There's a lot of ups and downs out there," Harrington said.

They weren't hard to find.

It was below freezing when Woods woke up.

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SPORTS

Reeling Cowboys try to right ship against rival Washinston

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) — How does 8-5 feel? Not good at all when the last two games were lost by a combined 45 points.

And when the coach is Bill Parcells, it feels downright miserable.

"It makes for a looooooooong week," safety Darren Woodson said. "You can't wait until they blow that whistle for the Washington game. That's the kind of week this is ... a lot of yelling, a lot of screaming. Nothing's going to be right no matter what it is. He's a sore loser, and I think that's what he wants us all to be, sore losers.

"He's doing a good job of that."

After going 1-3 through a tough November schedule, the Dallas Cowboys are in danger of losing their grip on the improbable playoff run they crafted with a 5-1 start. Their final three games, all against teams currently with losing records, will determine whether the quick start in Parcells' first year was just an early fluke.

The homestretch starts Sunday against the Washington Redskins (5-8).

"I'm glad that we have something to play for. That's very important, particularly in your first year," Parcells said. "This is a very, very key game for us."

If other results fall just the right way, the Cowboys can even clinch a playoff berth with a victory. The NFC East title looks out of reach, however, following last week's loss at Philadelphia.

But the trip to Washington is no gimme. The Redskins have lost seven of their last nine, but most of the games have been close. A weight was lifted when they beat the New York Giants last week, ending a three-game losing streak and giving quarterback Tim Hasselbeck his first NFL win.

"It feels really good," Hasselbeck said. "Obviously it feels good for me in terms of proving that we can win games with me in there, but more importantly in terms of the team, we needed this bad. Week after week of just losing, being close, just gets frustrating. It's like walking on a treadmill when you'd rather be outside."

Plus, the Dallas game always means rivalry week in Washington, even though it's been more like bully-bashing in recent years. The Cowboys have won 11 of the last 12, including a 21-14 victory in November that nearly set new standards for unwatchable football until Dallas pulled away in the second half.

"It's our Super Bowl," Washington cornerback Fred Smoot said. "This is the game we're going to rise up. This is the game we want. I hate the idea of spoiling. I'd rather somebody try to spoil us, because that means we're going to the playoffs. But I hate Dallas. I ain't trying to let them out of here a winner — no way."

The Cowboys won the first game by blitzing Patrick Ramsey silly, but Ramsey is out for the season with a foot injury. Hasselbeck, though less experienced, has better mobility and a keener sense of when to get rid of the ball.

To no one's surprise, the teams' hands-on owners made news this week. Washington's Dan Snyder gave an interview that consisted of just one word — "absolutely" — when asked by The Washington Post whether coach Steve Spurrier will return next season. There's no telling whether it was just an off-the-cuff answer or a calculated move against the possibility Spurrier might want to leave, but that one word managed to become big news in a locker room tired of yearly change.

Dallas owner Jerry Jones, meanwhile, made a strong public statement in support of quarterback Quincy Carter, who threw for just 93 yards in the 36-10 loss against the Eagles.

Sideline Views
by Bobby Allen



How will history remember the Ebenezer Ekuban era?

Ekuban, a defensive end and first-round pick in 1999 who has recorded a whopping 12.5 sacks in five years, blasted head coach Bill Parcells in an interview with the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Thursday, saying his deactivation for last Sunday's showdown with Philadelphia was "handled in a very classless manner."

Ekuban said he found out by noticing his equipment had been removed — the day of the game.

It is not usually a good idea to call your boss "classless," but it is an even worse idea to do it in the papers.

Particularly if your boss is Bill Parcells, who is lopping off heads left and right since the Cowboys have lost the past two games, and who has shown no hint of sentimentality when it comes to players — especially those he didn't have a hand in selecting.

Of course, Ekuban will be given a pink slip. The question now is whether it will happen this week or at the end of the season.

Ekuban was one of Jerry Jones' infamous reaches in the draft when Jones held the GM title (technically, he still does, but we all know who is running the show now)..

One thing everyone knows about the Tuna — it's his way or no way.

See ya' Ebenezer.

Free Rasheed Wallace.

Another North Carolina alum, Wallace, held a vitriolic interview with the Portland newspaper, *The Oregonian*, dropping a racial epithet every other word, and basically accusing the NBA power structure of exploiting black athletes to enrich itself.

"I'm not like a whole bunch of these young boys out here who get caught up and captivated into the league. I see behind the lines. I see behind the false screens. I know what this business is all about. I know the commissioner of this league makes more than three-quarters of the players in this league," Rasheed, who has been fined for everything from improper uniform to accosting officials after games, said.

He is the best player on a team that is not-so-lovingly referred to by Portland fans as the Jail Blazers.

Wallace set a record for technical fouls in a season in 00-01, getting teed-up 41 times that year.

He also is cashing checks to the tune of $17 million dollars this season, making him the fourth-highest paid player in the league.

Fortunately, most of us aren't at the mercy of such callous and exploitative bosses.



FIRST DEER — J.P. Wibon, 11, shot his first deer, a six-point buck, Nov. 28 in Scurry County. The animal was taken down with a .22 Hornet. J.P. is the son of Trey and Kara Wibon. (Contributed Photo)

Tampa not conceding season

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Jon Gruden is adamant about the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' approach to the rest of the season.

The Super Bowl champions may be perilously close to missing the playoffs for the first time since 1998, but their coach isn't conceding anything as long as there's a chance to salvage a winning record.

That means don't look for rookie Chris Simms to make his debut at quarterback any time soon, nor for Gruden to make other lineup changes for the sake of evaluating young players.

"We're in the regular season. We're not going to just start giving away reps to anybody that isn't the No. 1 player at their position," Gruden said.

"It's awfully hard 14, 15 weeks into the season to just give a quarterback game reps. Brad Johnson leads the NFC in yardage. He's at the top of the league in touchdown passes, and he gives us the best chance to succeed. That's our No. 1 goal, to succeed and win."

The Bucs (6-7), who've yet to win consecutive games, can climb to .500 for the first time in six weeks by beating the Houston Texans (5-8) on Sunday. If that isn't enough to motivate the team, then there's Tampa Bay's slim playoff hopes.

With three games remaining, the Bucs trail Dallas (8-5), Seattle (8-5) and Green Bay (7-6) in the race for two NFC wild-card berths. At 6-7, San Francisco and New Orleans are also in contention.

Mavs blow out Lakers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks built a 20-point lead in the fourth quarter, then went into Hack-a-Shaq mode to snap a 26-game losing streak on the Lakers' home court.

The tried and true tactic worked. Shaquille O'Neal missed seven of 10 free throws in the final 12 minutes and the Mavericks beat the Lakers 110-93 on Friday night, exactly 13 years to the date since the road losing streak began.

"We stuck together. We played aggressive and we were mentally strong," said Dallas guard Steve Nash, who had 23 points. "It was important for us to end the streak against the Lakers, so in many ways, it was a big win."

Dirk Nowitzki and Antoine Walker scored 27 points each for the Mavericks, who also stopped their road losing skid at four games — their longest since 1999-00.

Dallas' Josh Howard had 17 points and 13 rebounds starting in place of Michael Finley, who sprained his right big toe in a one-point loss to the Clippers on Wednesday night.

Nowitzki added 12 rebounds and Walker had 10.

National Football League

AMERICAN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
East						
y-New England	11	2	0	.846	269	209
Miami	8	5	0	.615	241	203
Buffalo	6	7	0	.462	214	200
N.Y. Jets	5	8	0	.385	240	255
South						
Indianapolis	10	3	0	.769	372	281
Tennessee	9	4	0	.692	347	261
Houston	5	8	0	.385	211	317
Jacksonville	4	9	0	.308	229	264
North						
Baltimore	8	5	0	.615	331	251
Cincinnati	7	6	0	.538	281	297
Pittsburgh	5	8	0	.385	250	284
Cleveland	4	9	0	.308	212	250
West						
x-Kansas City	11	2	0	.846	388	267
Denver	8	5	0	.615	324	233
Oakland	3	10	0	.231	229	305
San Diego	3	10	0	.231	247	349
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
x-Philadelphia	10	3	0	.769	281	222
Dallas	8	5	0	.615	236	244
Washington	5	8	0	.385	256	287
N.Y. Giants	4	9	0	.308	209	286
South						
Carolina	8	5	0	.615	248	249
New Orleans	6	7	0	.462	263	292
Tampa Bay	6	7	0	.462	244	198
Atlanta	3	10	0	.231	241	342
North						
Minnesota	8	5	0	.615	344	302
Green Bay	7	6	0	.538	332	276
Chicago	5	8	0	.385	240	281
Detroit	4	9	0	.308	209	294
West						
x-St. Louis	10	3	0	.769	373	266
Seattle	8	5	0	.615	330	273
San Francisco	6	7	0	.462	298	244
Arizona	3	10	0	.231	180	387

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Sunday, Dec. 14
Buffalo at Tennessee, noon
Minnesota at Chicago, noon
Atlanta at Indianapolis, noon
Seattle at St. Louis, noon
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Jets, noon
Detroit at Kansas City, noon
Houston at Tampa Bay, noon
San Francisco at Cincinnati, noon
Jacksonville at New England, noon
Cleveland at Denver, 3:05 p.m.
Baltimore at Oakland, 3:05 p.m.
Dallas at Washington, 3:15 p.m.
Carolina at Arizona, 3:15 p.m.
Green Bay at San Diego, 3:15 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at New Orleans, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 15
Philadelphia at Miami, 8 p.m.

National Basketball Association

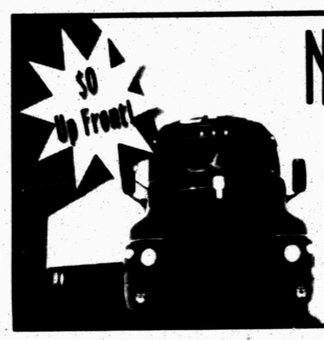
EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Philadelphia	12	11	.522	—
New Jersey	11	11	.500	½
Boston	11	12	.478	1
Miami	7	15	.318	4½
Washington	7	15	.318	4½
New York	7	16	.304	5
Orlando	3	20	.130	9
Central Division				
Indiana	18	5	.783	—
New Orleans	17	7	.708	1
Toronto	13	9	.591	4½
Detroit	14	10	.583	4½
Milwaukee	11	12	.478	7
Atlanta	7	17	.292	11½
Cleveland	6	16	.273	11½
Chicago	5	16	.238	12½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
Dallas	14	8	.636	—
Denver	14	8	.636	—
Houston	13	8	.619	½
Minnesota	13	9	.591	1
San Antonio	14	10	.583	1
Memphis	12	9	.571	1½
Utah	12	10	.545	2
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	18	4	.818	—
Sacramento	15	5	.750	2
Portland	10	10	.500	7
Seattle	10	10	.500	7
Golden State	10	11	.476	7½
L.A. Clippers	7	11	.389	9
Phoenix	8	14	.364	10

Friday's Games
Denver 86, Philadelphia 77
Minnesota 110, Washington 91
Boston 114, Toronto 111
Indiana 103, Atlanta 92
Miami 91, Memphis 88
New Jersey 99, Orlando 95
Seattle 93, Detroit 72
Milwaukee 109, Chicago 95
Sacramento 100, Utah 93
Dallas 110, L.A. Lakers 93
New Orleans 96, Golden State 85

Saturday's Games
Orlando at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Boston at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.
Denver at New York, 6:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Portland, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Miami at Toronto, noon
Milwaukee at Seattle, 2:30 p.m.
Utah at Philadelphia, 5 p.m.
Washington at New York, 6 p.m.
Phoenix at Sacramento, 8 p.m.

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To those indebted to, or holding claims against the Estate of BILLIE MACK SULLENGER, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,859:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executrix of the Estate of BILLIE MACK SULLENGER, deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by ROD WALLER, Judge of the County Court of said County, on the 11th day of December, 2003, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said Estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said Estate to present them to AVANEL SULLENGER, 2805 33rd Street, Snyder, Texas 79549, within the time prescribed by law.

EXECUTED this 11th day of December, 2003.

(s)AVANEL SULLENGER
Independent Executrix
of the Estate of
BILLIE MACK SULLENGER,
deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
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COUNTY OF SCURRY §

To those indebted to, or holding claims against the estate of PATRICIA CAROLE HAYNES, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,858:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executor of the estate of PATRICIA CAROLE HAYNES, deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by ROD WALLER, Judge of the County Court of said county, on the 10th day of December, 2003, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said estate to present them to Billy Don Haynes, 2903 FM 644, Hermleigh, Texas 79526, within the time prescribed by law.

Executed this 10th day of December, 2003.

(s)BILLY DON HAYNES
Independent Executor
of the Estate of
Patricia Carole Haynes
deceased

NOTICE OF ESTRAY
Date: 12/12/03
Number: 124
1.Person Reporting Estray, Name: John Jasso, Address: 5000 C.R. 473
2.Date estray reported to sheriff: 12-08-03
3.Location of estray when found: 5000 CR 473
4.Location of estray while impounded: Scurry County impound pens at coliseum
5.Description of estray. Kind of animal: bovine pair
Breed: cow = hereford, calf = charolais x.
Color: cow = red and white, calf = white bald face yellow body.
Sex: Both females.
Age: cow = 10+ years, calf 4-6 months.
Size: cow = 1000 lbs. ±, calf = 350 lbs. ±
Brand, Mark, Identifying Characteristics: calf = none, cow had brand on left side possible L over UC, an underbit in left ear.
Darren Jackson
(Sheriff of Scurry County, Texas)
(Designee of Sheriff of Scurry County, Texas)
Deputy Sheriff W.C. West

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ORDER DEMOLITION
ATTENTION: **Marie Cox**; I have surveyed the property located at 309½ 25th St., (W75' Lot 3, Block 31, Grayum and Nelson Addition of the City of Snyder). I declare the structure(s) to be unsafe as defined by Ordinance No. 324 and intend to order demolition of the structure(s) on or about December 30, 2003. If no objections are received by this date the demolition order will be issued.

Tom Valentine
Code Enforcement Officer
City of Snyder
(325) 573-4959

NOTICE OF SALE
Landes Storage, Inc. at 2112 25th St. Snyder, Texas is selling the following property to satisfy a landlord's lien according to Chapter 59. The following tenants property will be sold: Gracie Wells.

The property includes various household goods, appliances (double door refrig., stove), mattress and box springs.

The sale will be held at 2112 25th St., Snyder, Texas on 01-12-04 at 10:00 A.M. Prior to the sale you can contact Gary Landes at 325-573-2326 or 325-207-0890 to look at the items and give a written bid on the entire unit. Any and all items can be withdrawn at the sole discretion of Landes Storage, Inc.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Scurry County Commissioners' Court will receive and open bid proposals for two new vehicles for the Scurry County Sheriff's Department, Monday, December 15, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., during Regular Session of Commissioners' Court. Specifications may be obtained at the County Judge's Office, Scurry County Courthouse, Snyder, Texas.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Scurry County Commissioners' Court will receive and open bid proposals for Air Conditioning at the Scurry County Coliseum, Monday, December 15, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., during Regular Session of Commissioners' Court. Specifications may be obtained at the County Judge's Office, Scurry County Courthouse, Snyder, Texas.

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

Career Growth with a Dynamic Company
Senior Living Properties, LLC
RN DIRECTOR OF NURSING

Great opportunity to work with a friendly, respected, tenured organization in Texas who boasts that greater than 20% of our employees have been with us over 5 years! We are a leader in the Texas Long Term Care arena. New leadership and a dynamic vision set us apart!

We have an opening for a Director of Nursing in the Lamesa area to join our innovative and compassionate Team of Professionals. Do the work you love, enhance your clinical skills and receive supervisory training.

If you are a creative and team oriented professional, come and join us!!! Above average salary, company contributions towards benefits and bonus potential are just some of the things we offer. Relocation and tuition reimbursement are also available. Please forward your resume to fax 325-766-3647 or email: sandralecroy@aol.com.

EOE

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

ALWAYS A WINNER THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

Lost & Found

LOST
female grey cat. **$500 reward**
1-888-254-2097
http://www.ellenmarquez.com/lostcatphotos/

LOST
Medium build part Cocker Spaniel, black & white, collar, brass bell, tags w/home phone. REWARD! 573-8649, 573-0060, 868-0381, 719-252-8894

Vehicles

1986 Ford crew cab.
Runs good! $2,750 573-7296

***2000 Chevy** 1500 LS ext. cab., 4-dr., SWB, tow package, 50K miles, new Michelin tires, tool box, rails, mats, receiver hitch. Loaded! Great truck! $16,000
573-6839

Business Services

BAR-R-DOZER
-Raygene Shipp-
•Brush control
•Road blading & repair
•Cleaning & building tanks
Free Estimates
No charge for road time!
325-338-5656 325-962-2416

Chimney Cleaning & Repairs
Walter Banks or Darrell Craig
573-4736 573-2472
Leave Message

COMPUTER REPAIR
Home & Business
Networking Software & Hardware upgrades. Complete new systems at very competitive prices. **574-1885** after 6p.m.

Duke and Son
Concrete, Masonry, House Leveling, Patchwork (brick & concrete). 573-5911, 573-2477

Housecleaning
For the holidays or on regular basis. Responsible, mature, and dependable. References.
573-0722

HOUSECLEANING
Need help? Call Lori 207-4251 or 573-2457, leave message.

R & J CONSTRUCTION
Metal buildings, Roofs
Carports & Fences
John Green 573-3976

WILL HAUL
Clean your garage or house.
Will move furniture.
For estimates call
Tim **573-3047**

Antique Restoring
& Furniture Refinishing
Re-gluing & Veneering
Free Estimates, Work Guaranteed
863-2342 Hermleigh, TX

Tilling-Leveling
Front-end loader,Walk-behind tiller, Tractor tiller, Small acreage plowed. 325-573-8264

Employment

CHURCH ORGANIST
wanted to play for Sunday morning services, special evening services, & Wednesday evening choir practice.
First Presbyterian Church, Snyder. Call church office at 573-6915, leave message.

Full-time secretarial position.
Apply at Texas Workforce Commission, order #1240620. EOE Employer paid ad.

Spray technician needed with 2 years experience & resume.
Hinton C&S 325-573-0878

Employment

Driver/Transportation
MAVERICK ANNOUNCES PAY RAISE TO .35 CPM
Flatbed OTR Drivers
Needed Immediately
- Largest pay increase in our history
- Weekends at home
- $500 Sign-on bonus & $550 orientation pay
- 23 yrs old & 1 yr OTR req.
- New per diem pay option

Maverick Transportation
1-800-289-1100
CALL TODAY!
www.maverickusa.com

Full-time Secretary
First Baptist Church. Looking for a multi-tasked person with strong organizational skills and strong computer skills. Pick up application at 1701 27th St.

Help Wanted
Warehouse Furniture
Apply in person.
1806 Varsity Square

Housekeeper
needed part-time at Purple Sage Motel, weekdays and some weekends. Needs phone. Must be non-smoker & hard working. Training & uniforms provided.
Apply in person.

NEEDED
OTR flatbed truck driver. Minimum 4 years experience, clean driving record. Come by 3707 College Ave. or call 573-3032, ask for Rudy.

Night clerk, Friday & Saturday, 11p.m.–7a.m. Smoke free office. Computer skills helpful but will train. Apply in person, **Purple Sage Motel**.

Opportunity for experienced auto parts counter person. Benefits include: paid medical insurance, profit sharing/401k, paid vacations. Send resume to:
1905 35th St.
Snyder, TX 79549
or call 432-528-0169 for interview.

Personal Care Attendants
needed immediately in Snyder area. Call 325-677-2047 or 1-800-671-2369, ask for Tonya.

Weaver Pipeline Services
Roustabout Crewmen, & Welder's Helper
Requirements:
21 years of age and older
Driving record must meet insurance requirements
Benefits:
100% Employee Health/Dental Ins.
401K Retirement Plan
Physical/Drug Screen
4668 FM 1607
Applications will be accepted for 1 week only
(Apply In Person, NO CALLS)

Snyder ISD - Carpenter
responsible for all carpentry related maintenance for district. Salary commensurate with experience. Employment date: Jan. 1, 2004. Applications may be obtained by contacting Mike Carter, Director of Maintenance at 2910 Ave. M, Snyder, TX. 325-573-2993 Snyder ISD is an equal opportunity employer.

SUBWAY
Applications now being accepted.
Apply in person only,
3903 College Ave.

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

Mitchell County Hospital District
Colorado City Job Listings:
Full Time Positions with Benefits

1. **Mitchell County Hospital Nursing Staff Needed: LVN 7pm to 7 am; CRNA 7pm to 7am; & RN 7pm to 7am**
2. **Wallace Medical Prison Unit in Colorado City is taking applications for an LVN for the 3pm to 11pm shift.**
3. **Mitchell County Hospital Dietary Dept. is taking applications for Dishwashers.**

For further information contact Sandra Sullivan, Human Resources at (325)728-3431 ext. 290 for more information.

Day Care

Wanting to watch children, birth & up. Will take & pick up from school.
Misty, Bridgett 207-0118

Woman's Column

Come in for a new look at Hair Razors for the holiday season.
Call Gina, 573-0189.

MARY KAY COSMETICS
Complimentary Facial or Reorders!
Call Geraldine Thames
915-573-9433, 1812 38th Snyder

Farmer's Column

$1000 REWARD
for information on 7 stolen calves. I will not prosecute the informer. George Maule

Farm Equipment

8400 Tractor, MFWD,
4700 hours. Clean! $64,000
325-868-0139 325-573-0878

Recreational Vehicles

1997 Coleman Bayport fold down camper, sleeps 6, AC. Extra clean! $3,900
Financing available.
See at Dupree Automotive
1212 25th St. 573-9001

ATC 200X Yamaha 3 wheeler. Runs good. $300 574-1885 after 6p.m.

Merchandise

Aspen Mulling Spices
SuZs Candles & Crafts
1907 40th St.

CAROL'S
BABY...and Before
!!Christmas Wear!!
(infant & toddler)
½ Price!
1809 25th 573-0990

COMPUTERS FOR SALE
Good working used computers. Complete video, sound/speakers, modem, internet ready, monitor, keyboard & mouse.
STARTING at $45.
Call 432-263-0700, BIG SPRING.

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, etc.
Sales & Rentals
3706 College **573-7582**

½ cord mesquite wood for sale. $75 Call 573-1596. Ask for J.R.

Cream leather couch, chair, ottoman, $400. Like new champagne sleeper sofa, $100. Cherry coffee & end tables, $80. 5 miles West of Hobbs school, CR 1614. 573-6970

Merchandise

Firewood!! Mesquite & Oak
Local cutter. Part seasoned. 24"-22"-20"-18". Some split. Delivered
573-1216, leave message

FOR SALE
black, medium duty, 2 axle utility trailer w/ramps, 2003 model.
817-825-1129 or 573-4882

Free refrigerator magnet with any $15 purchase at SuZs Candles & Crafts
1907 40th

Great Holiday Gifts
Shelled pecans for sale.
573-2505

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

Gwen's Greenhouse
We crack pecans & sell pecans.
573-5153

HOMEOWNERS LOOK!!
Builder's Special - Truckload Trees
Red Oak & Live Oak
We Deliver, We Plant, We Guarantee
Decker's Farm Supply & Nursery
Stanton, TX 432-756-3444

Kerosene heater, like new,$50. Upright Kirby, good vacuum, $20. 573-2772

Mesquite Firewood
$80 cord $15 extra for delivery & setup. Call 573-4949.

Metal picnic tables w/benches. Metal wood racks. Call 573-7683 after 5p.m.

SANTA SPECIAL
Metal detectors by White's Electronics.
325-728-2494 Colorado City

***Standard** bench & weights. Like new! $100
573-1648

Steelcase walnut credenza, computer desk w/bookshelves, Storkcraft bassinet & changing table, wicker bookcase, Lane recliner, other merchandise.
573-4048 432-557-9908

Unique Christmas Gifts
Metal windmills, 11"–18", all colors. Come by 303 36th St.
573-5291

Large Selection of Books
Cooking - Gardening
Ranching - Texas History
Sports & Lots More!!
Come by Snyder Daily News

Newspaper End Rolls
$1.00 & Up
Call 573-5486 or come by Snyder Daily News today!

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

CAROL'S
CRITTER CORNER
Tropical Fish/Small Animals
Bunnies – $9.99
1809 25th 573-0990

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

Kiss unwanted items goodbye

by selling them in the
Snyder Daily News
CLASSIFIEDS

573-5486

Garage Sales

INSIDE MOVING SALE
Saturday & Sunday
1622 Voss Lane
All must go. All new low prices!

Apartments For Rent

1 bedroom furnished apartment, bills paid. 573-5709

College Park Apartments
4503 College
2 bedroom apartment available in clean, quiet, 16-unit complex.
Locally owned. 573-0340

Exceptional 1 bedroom furnished apartment, upstairs, CH/A, bills paid, private. $475/mo. + deposit. 573-5525 573-0990

January Move In Special
Call For Details
Western Crest & Windridge Village
3901 Ave. O
Snyder, TX
573-1488
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath, Pool
2 Bedrooms, 2 bath
W/D Connections, Pool & Playground

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

Apartments For Rent

Fieldcrest Apartments
1 bedroom/1 bath - $325 (very big bedroom)
2 bedroom/1+ bath - $350
***We pay water**
***You pay electricity**
700 E. 37th
(across from coliseum)
573-3519 573-1681

Golden Terrace Village Apartments
1 & 2 Bedrooms
Especially for Senior Citizens age 62 +
Rent Based On Income
To Apply: Please Call 915-573-1416
Locations @:
2006 37th St.
1607 52nd St.
1911 Martha Ann Blvd.

Houses For Rent

***2-1-1** 118 Browning $200/mo., $100/dep.
***2-1** 212 35th St. $250/mo, $100/dep.
References required.
1-888-596-6218 1-325-669-1501

3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A, near park. $525/mo., $200/dep. Call 432-524-4327.

Brick, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, single car garage, CH/A. Very nice! 2805 37th $400/mo., $200/dep. 573-9433

Heritage Homes Realtors
3741 Highland 2-1-1
$375/mo., plus deposit
Call Shirley Drum
573-5056 207-0506



Great Family Home!!
3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, dining room, CH/A, on 5 acres. Close in! $66.5T



Call **Bill Dryden** to view today!
Stevenson Real Estate
573-5612 (W) **573-9739** (H)

Stevenson Real Estate

573-5612 2405 25th Street Snyder, Texas

We can handle all your Real Estate needs!!
Full Service Firm
Residential–Commercial–Rentals–Farm & Ranch– Investments
Visit our new website at stevenson-realestate.com

★★ RESIDENTIAL LISTINGS ★★

2803 El Paso new carpet, flooring & paint, 4-2¼-2cp, plus office ..... Call
Large Family Home -- 2807 Westridge 6 bdrms, 4 baths, 4-car garage Reduced $175T
2609 37th 3-3-2 ..... $107.5T
4517 Galveston 3-2-2-2 living areas .. Call
3201 Houston 3-2-2, lrg den .. Red. $92T
2904 34th 2-2½, 2 living areas .. $89.5T
Great Location 4000 Jacksboro 3-2-2 $87.5T
3310 Ave. V 3-2-2 ..... Reduced $55T
4109 Eastridge 3-2-2, new carpet & tile .. $41.5T
Edge of Town - 1601 Hilltop Lane - Brick 3-1-2cp plus storm cellar $49.5T
3749 Avondale 3-1¾ $39T
Investors - 2609 Ave. U Brick Duplex $35T
Edge of Town CONTRACT PENDING $31.5T
3702 Austin CONTRACT PENDING 26.5T
224 33rd St. 2-1-2 living areas $25T
3005 Ave. T 3-1 ..... Reduced $7.500
Small Cabin C-City Lake 1-1 ..... $14T
Trailer to be moved 2-2 ..... $12.5T
Several residential lots, East 35th St. ..... Call

★★ COUNTRY LIVING ★★

McBeth Pecan Farm 3 bedroom house with 15+ acres ..... Reduced!
1745 Keller 3-1½-2, barn plus 15 acres Move right in! ..... Call for details
150 Acres + 3-2, 2 LA's ..... Call for details
Will sell house + 8 acres $37.5T

★★ COMMERCIAL LISTINGS ★★

Great Location - Apx. 4 acres - 10,000 sq.ft. + or -, 600 37th St. ..... Reduced $100's
Need Several Offices? 2515 College Ave. Living Quarters in back ..... Call!
Car Lot - 709 Hwy 180 ..... $40T
Houston & 37th - Apx. 28.6 acres ... $75T
Downtown - 1818 26th $35T
North College Ave $15T
1100 25th St $25T
East 37th - Bldg. with 1½ acres $35T
Westerner Golfland ..... Call for details
1822 26th St. $44.5T

★★ LAND ★★

13 lots South of Northeast Elementary $15T
South of W. Hwy 180 81.39 Acres $32.4T
190 Acres SW of Hermleigh, approx. 150 acres cult., approx. 40 pasture $425/ acre
Several lots in Round Top Acres area Call
160 acres east - Cult & pasture $375/acre
Several lots with Mobile Home hook-ups -- shop & water well $15T
Lot at 25th & Y $12.5T
Lot at 28th & Y $6.500
New! Approx 158 acres cult. $375/acre

Buying or Selling? Call us today!



Wenona Evans
573-8165



Kayla Moreland
573-4809
207-1946



Lora Lord
573-7076
207-2781



Bill Dryden
Broker/Owner
573-9739

DEC 14 2003

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

ALWAYS A WINNER

Houses For Rent

Wonderful luxury town home. Spacious master suite downstairs, guest room and bath upstairs, double garage, patio, maintained yard. **No Pets.** $300 dep/$600 mo. References required. Dupree Rentals. 573-9001 Mon-Fri. 8 am - 6 pm.

Mobile Homes

3B-2B-3CP, CH/A, 6 lots, water well, fenced, large shop, 959 N Ave. R., $5,000/dwn, $500/mo. 573-2251

For Sale By Owner
1/2 blk. + 1 lot, water well, w/2 3-2 mobile homes (1 doublewide), cellar, 20x20 building, chain link fence. 573-9777

GARAGE SALE

Advertise your garage full of "Don't needs" in
SNYDER DAILY NEWS
573-5486

Want To Rent

3 bedroom, 2 bath, prefer in the country. 325-573-7919 Cliff 903-935-0860

Cemetery Plots

For Sale
(5) cemetery lots in Hillside Gardens. Sell each or multiple. $600/each. 866-854-3952

Commercial Buildings for Sale or Lease

Business building for rent. 1900 37th St. 573-5285

PLAY IT SMART ... GET INTO

573-5486

Real Estate

3702 Ave. V
3B-2B-1CG, CH/A, brick, fenced yard. No owner finance. $42,500 573-2251

3718 Ave. V
3B-1B-1CG, CH/A, cellar, fenced yard. Good condition. $37,500 $2,500/dwn., $550/mo. 573-2251

COUNTRY HOME
4B-2B-2CG, panel-ray heat, room AC's, own septic system. $5,000/dwn., $600/mo. 1811 Huffman 573-2251

For Sale By Owner
Owner financing provided. Low down, low monthly. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 133 Milburn. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

For Sale By Owner
Owner financing provided. Low down payment, low monthly. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 living areas, fenced backyard, close to schools. 418 29th St. Call Kelly 432-425-9994.

I BUY HOUSES
(325) 207-2122

Lake Thomas house for sale. 2-story w/balcony, 1½ bath. Call 325-207-3372.

LAND/HOME FORECLOSURE
DIRECT TO THE PUBLIC!
FINANCING AVAILABLE
#5516 Call 1-800-955-0021 x1406

Owner Finance
2-1, fenced, large rooms, remodeled bath & kitchen. 218 29th St. $1,000/dwn., $350/mo. 12 yrs
Call **207-0508**

Owner Will Finance
3 bedroom, 1 bath.
Low down payment, low monthly payment. 2811 Ave. X
Call Milton, 806-790-0827.

Redecorate for down payment. 3-2-2 luxury brick, Colonial Hills, fenced, trees. $78,500 573-4425 573-1550

Snyder 1½ miles
3-2-2 brick home, new carpet and paint. 160 acres cotton, 510 yield. 806-780-6399

Elizabeth Potts Realtors

1707 30th Street 573-8505
Temi Matthies Owner/Broker
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY — REALTORS®
Visit Our Updated website @ epottsrealtors.com *"Be Searching"*


Dee Kemp
573-1152


Annette Waller
573-9467


Keith Hackfeld
573-2873

2803 El Paso 4-2-office, lrg CP. Nice $109.5T
New! 2701 47th 4-2½-2 + shop $150T
3004 42nd 3-1-1, bri SOLD $37T
2205 42nd 3-1-1 + big bldg $34T
513 34th 2-1. Clean. Nice! $17T
2609 37th 3-2¾-2. Nice. Lrg Owner Finance
3401 Houston 3-1¾, lrg living, w/FP $62T
3201 Houston 3-2-2, very nice $92T
Colonial Hill CONTRACT PENDING 110T
2605 33rd 3-4½-3, plus office CALL
SUPER NICE! 4021 Eastridge 3-2-1 Red $47T
403 36th 3-2-2, fireplace, CH/A $49.5T
4000 Jacksboro 3-2¾-2 huge kitchen $87.5T
2415 O'Neil 4-2 mobile home $50T
Building & 1½ lots 1310 25th $13T
900 25th Call
Comm. Bldg. 1802 College $16T
Shop w/2 offices & waiting room,fenced yard..87 A's 23rd St. "Old Gail Rd" Call
Reduced 3311 College Ave. $38T
1701 25th St. $90T
2309 25th Call
1801 22nd Reduced Commercial office/yd
1706 25th St. CALL
2005 26th St. $45T
3-2-2 brick home - 50 acres. 40 acres pasture. 8 acres orchard. NE of Snyder on CR 1105 Reduced $98T
105 acres pasture & cult. mobile home. SW Hermleigh $55T

5 acres. Mobile Home 2-1-shop. 4 mi. West of Hermleigh Reduced $16T
For Sale or Rent: 378 CR 251 2-1-1 with 2 acres $35T
320 Acres, CRP & hunting IRA
6 to 22 acres tracts Owner Finance
Corner Lot: 17th & Ave. T $3,200
960 Acres Ira - 480 A's CRP & 480 A's shinnery, brck 4-3 shop. Excellent quail hunting
196 Acre blackland farm NE Dunn on FM 1606. good cotton yield Call
7.5 Acres - Round Top Acres - Tank stocked w/fish, dock, windmill, water well – Great Home Site Call
480 A's Fisher Co., Great hunting place - water, turkey, deer, quail, doublewide, bunk house. D6 Cat & tractor Call!
Camp Springs - 147 Acres, windmill, concrete water storage, earth tank, 41 acres cropland Call
620 Acres pasture & 152 cultivation, hunting, quail & dove. SW Hermleigh
160 Acres - Farm - East of Dunn on CR 4136 $475/acre
152 Acres - East of Dunn - Farm on CR 4136 $475/acre
109 Acres, South City Limits, native grass, great country location, close in! $325/acre Call

JACK & JACK Realtors

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

REDUCED! Lrg 2 story 4-3-2, pool, 6.44 Acres
3-1¾-2cp, 2 storage areas, 220 35th...$35T
Fluvanna 3-2, den on .34 A's water well. Bargain
REDUCED! 600 29th 2-1-1, office, den...$18T
Owner Finance Lrg. Mobile Home 2-2, 302 24th Nice $20T
3773 Dalton 3-1¾-1cp, den, dining...$35T
REDUCED! 1.7 UNDER CONTRACT $65T
111 Peach 2 or 3-1 ..... $9.5T
80 acres 5 mi. SE of Hermleigh. 3-2-2 + office + shop & out building ..... Call
Good Shop Bldg. or Garage 1802 College $16T
Commercial Property for Sale or Lease
Stonewall Co. 1,315 acre cattle operation. Water well + 6 earth tanks. Deer, quail, turkey & hogs ..... Call

We Will Work For YOU! We Need Listings
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

HERITAGE HOMES REALTORS

* 573-5056 *
3405 Snyder Shopping Center
REALTORS® — EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY


Tresa Cornett
Agent/Owner
574-1024


Joan Tate
573-8773


Shirley Drum
573-1550


Dolores Jones
Broker/Office Mgr
573-5308


Faye Blackledge
Broker/Owner
573-1223

EXCLUSIVE LISTINGS

New Listing 2104 41st 4-1-1 ..... Call
208 35th Neat 2-1, dining $23T
Round Top Acres Wonderful family home! 3-2, game room, small office. 5 acres $100's
3501 Houston - 3-1¾-1, fenced, storage bldg., close to Jr. High & West Elem. ..... $50's
3115 Ave. T w/ Contract Pending $26T
208 Chestnut on 4 lots, 3-2 Very cute $55T
3750 Sunset - 3-1½-2 ..... $53.5T
2411 27th - Extra nice older home - 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, carport ..... $50's
2801 34th 3-1¾-2 ..... A Steal at $78T
2901 Westridge - Wonderful Area & Great Home - 3-2, 2 LA's, 2 car garage ..... $100's
4507 Galveston - You will love this! - 3-2-2, with pool ..... Call for more details
109 34th - First Home! - 3-1 ..... $20's
Charming 3110 Ave. U 3-2-cp $49,500
Bank Acquired! Beautiful 3-3 ½, office 1613 Augusta
4003 Midland - Nearly new 4-2-2, open concept $90's
3606 Hill Ave. 3-2-1 ..... $44,900
2501 36th - Bec Contract Pending **tom Home** Very spacious 4-3½-3 ..... Call to view!
3002 37th - Updated & Cute, brick 2-1 ..... $51T
Hermleigh 3 bedroom house w/4 apts $100T
835 Dunn - Hermleigh 3-2½, living, den $25T
Like New! 4-2 doublewide $39.5T
New Listing! Contract Pending 2, corner lot, beautiful yard $47.5T
2306 29th Contract Pending $13,590

OTHER LISTINGS

3201 Houston - Walk to school - Immaculate 3-2-2 ..... $90's
2803 El Paso - Open Concept - Updated 4-2 plus office ..... $100's
2609 37th 3-3-2, 3 LA's, hobby room REDUCED
513 34th Updated 2-1. Great rental prop. $17T
One of a kind! Custom, 2605 33rd ..... Call
2274 McMullan - Mobile home site, has well $5T
1815 Garden Lane - Four lots, shop with loading area and income property $10T
1626 Pecan Farm Rd. - Pecan Farm/Approx. 800 trees, 15 acres, MH, equipment, truck $100T
3749 Avondale - Updated & Nice 3-1¾, storage $30's
C-City 1640 Austin 3-1-cp $12.5T

COUNTRY HOMES

Underground home - 42 acres, 3-2, sun porch, hot tub & MUCH MORE! ..... Call
Great Location 3-2-2cp, play room, roping arena, barns, 3 acres ..... Reduced $78.5T
Gary Brewer Rd. 3-2-cp, 1 acre, fresh paint. ..... REDUCED $72T
Country Charm Contract Pending $68T
Hermleigh - 80 A's, 3-2-2, 22 out buildings $100's
Brick, 2-1-1, bar Contract Pending ..... $30's

LAKE PROPERTY

C-City - 3-2-2, 1 acre, extra lot for MH ..... $60's
C-City - Beautiful 2-story, 3-2-2, balcony, landscaped, formal living & den ..... $100's

LAND

Prime Location 2567 Blockline Rd. 4 acre tract $15T
28 lots Warren Crest Addition $3,900 each
398 acres, 300 in CRP - Rental prop. & hunting
Lot - Prime Location, Colonial Hills $3,400
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Dr. Gott By Peter Gott, M.D.

Canadian drugs — again

DEAR DR. GOTT: I found it interesting and disturbing that you would recommend the illegal practice of U.S. consumers who order their prescription drugs from Canadian pharmacies. Saving money is not a good reason for breaking the law.

Unscrupulous suppliers may have such prescriptions approved by equally unscrupulous Canadian physicians, in order to circumvent Canadian law, but many such medications are unregulated in their manufacture and contents. Therefore, except in specific circumstances — such as experimental therapy for potentially fatal illnesses — the filling and delivering of domestic prescriptions in a foreign country violates both state and federal licensure laws. The real issue here is public safety, not cost.

This practice is a serious problem and I hope that you will print a retraction of your position.

DEAR READER: And retract I will.

Judging from the information that you sent me, which included a copy of a letter from the Food and Drug Administration, the practice of ordering prescription medicines from Canada is both unwise and illegal. I hereby apologize to you and to my readers.

In my defense, however, I have patients who regularly visit Canada (and other foreign countries, such as Greece) where the cost of prescriptions is a fraction of what people have to pay in the U.S. Because the foreign pharmacists honor prescriptions by American physicians, and the medicines are labeled as being American-made by prestigious drug companies, I believed that such a practice was harmless. Apparently, I was wrong. Thank you for writing.

Now, if you don't mind, please tell me how we can help our senior citizens who are on a financial "edge" because they have to pay so much to obtain the medications they need. Judging from my experiences with the Veteran's Administration (VA), federal subsidies are not likely to solve the difficulty, and Medicare payments for prescription drugs are merely a political tool that will create more problems than they solve — an unfortunate reality of bureaucracy, under which politicians authorize the injudicious use of public funds.

If you choose to answer me, I'll print your letter in a future column. By the way, would you also comment on the recent revelation that the VA itself has been purchasing drugs from Canada?

DEAR DR. GOTT: As a result of gallbladder surgery, my stomach is so big that I look 8 months pregnant. My surgeon says to be patient; the situation will resolve over time. What's your advice?

DEAR READER: Be patient, the situation will resolve over time. The effects of gallbladder surgery may take up to 6 months to return to normal.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: My doctor retired and I do not care for the young physician who took over the practice. After one appointment and an examination, I've decided not to return to him. What is the best way to find a new doctor? I don't want to have to pay for another physical exam, only to discover that I don't like the doctor doing it. Is it acceptable to make an appointment for a talk — a get-together — to make the determination?

DEAR READER: You bet. Most good doctors encourage prospective patients to meet with them for a free get-acquainted interview. This is entirely appropriate.

In addition, you may not need an initial exam; the new physician should be able to gain the information he requires by reviewing the medical file compiled by your previous practitioner.

To find a new doctor, ask your friends whom they use, contact your local hospital for a list of primary care physicians on staff, or request (from the county medical society) the names of family doctors serving your community. Then, by a process of elimination based on your get-acquainted visits, choose the doctor with whom you feel most comfortable. Also, if you have joined a health maintenance organization, make sure that your new physician is a member of the plan; otherwise, your choice could lead to a considerable financial commitment.

Picking a physician is a lot like buying a car: you may want to check out the new models and take a spin before making a purchase. Some automobiles look great but perform badly; others may not be flashy but function reliably. Test-drive your doctor before making a purchase.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 8-year-old son has been tested and found to be allergic to dogs. But he desperately wants one. I've been told that some breeds can be tolerated by allergic people because of the difference in shedding dander. On the other hand, I've also heard that the components in canine saliva and urine are equally important allergens. Can you help me?

DEAR READER: As a general rule, most people who are allergic to animals react to dander, the tiny flakes and scales that the creatures shed from their skins. The severity of the allergic reaction is usually impossible to predict until the person is in direct contact with an animal. Lab tests may indicate an allergy, but the actual reaction may, in fact, be a minor one.

Although I am a great believer in child/dog bonding and doubt that saliva and urine play much of a role in allergies, you may want to investigate further before purchasing a pet. Specifically, does your son develop nasal congestion, rash, wheezing, runny eyes or other allergic symptoms when exposed to other peoples' dogs?

If you cannot answer this question, allow your child to spend an afternoon with a neighbor's pet. If no reaction is forthcoming (or it is mild), I'd go ahead and buy a dog — the heck with the allergy tests.

On the other hand, if your son reacts violently, you may have to settle on purchasing a snake.

In my view, the dander/saliva/urine issue isn't as important as your child's actual experience "in the field." Keep in mind that most youngsters are more than willing to put up with minor allergic symptoms (such as sneezing) for the privilege of having their own pets.

As a child, my brother developed severe eczema on one hand as a reaction to his pet cat. Would he give up the cat? Not on your life. He eagerly accepted the trade-off. So, try the experiment I mentioned. It may be very instructive.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My wife, 80, is in fairly good health but she has leg pains when she goes to bed. She describes numbness and a pins-and-needles sensation, but is unwilling to see a doctor because she is afraid he will cut her nerves. Is there anything she can take?

DEAR READER: First of all, a visit to the doctor will not result in surgery. Your wife needs an opinion and a diagnosis, not an operation. If surgery is an option, she can decide later.

Second, you took the time to write me, so you must be concerned about your wife's health. Based on the scarce information you provided, I am unable to diagnose your wife's affliction. Therefore, I strongly recommend that she see a doctor. She could have a vascular or nerve problem with her legs that is curable or, at least, treatable. Please let me know what the doctor concludes.

If readers would like to contact Dr. Gott, they may write him through your newspaper or send their mail directly to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.

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CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS 2003 TOY APPLICATION

Family Name _____
Street Address _____
Phone# _____
Total Monthly Family Income $ _____Work $ _____
SS/SSI $ _____AFDC $ _____
Food Stamps $ _____Child Support _____

Please only list toys for each child from birth through age 17 (3 toys per child). **DO NOT list clothes and shoe sizes.** If you have more children than space allows, use an additional sheet of paper.

Child #1 Name _____
age _____circle: male female
1 _____2 _____
3 _____
Child #2 Name _____
age _____circle: male female
1 _____2 _____
3 _____
Child #3 Name _____
age _____circle: male female
1 _____2 _____
3 _____
Child #4 Name _____
age _____circle: male female
1 _____2 _____
3 _____
Child #5 Name _____
age _____circle: male female
1 _____2 _____
3 _____
Child #6 Name _____
age _____circle: male female
1 _____2 _____
3 _____
Child #7 Name _____
age _____circle: male female
1 _____2 _____
3 _____

Please mail the above application to: **Christmas For Kids** P.O. Box 1202 Snyder, TX 79550-1202 by Friday, Dec. 12. Keep this lower part for your information. Appointment cards with date and time will be mailed out to the address you listed on your application. Bring the following items to your appointment: each child's birth certificate and SS card, proof of total family income (for example: a pay stub), and the appointment card we mailed to you. Toys will be distributed Dec. 18th - 20th at 2501 35th Street. For more information, please call Judi Martin and Alicia Graves at 573-7556.

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS
TOY DRIVE
at
WAREHOUSE FURNITURE
1814 Varsity Square
Saturday, December 13th 10 am-6 pm
Bring a new, unwrapped toy and register for a Bean Bag Chair to be given away.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Keiko, star of 'Free Willy' movies, dies

OSLO, Norway (AP) — Keiko, the killer whale made famous by the "Free Willy" movies, has died in the Norwegian fjord that he made his home after a multimillion dollar campaign failed to coax him back to the open seas.

The whale, who was 27, died Friday afternoon after the sudden onset of pneumonia in Taknes Bay, 370 miles northwest of the capital, Oslo. He was old for an orca in captivity, though wild orca live an average of 35 years.

David Phillips, executive director of the San Francisco-based Free Willy-Keiko Foundation, said Keiko had been in good health but started showed signs of lethargy and loss of appetite on Thursday.

"This is a long sad day for us," Phillips said.

Keiko was led to the remote Norwegian bay last year after he turned up in Norway, to the delight of local residents but the disappointment of his trainers who had hoped he would return to the wild after years in captivity.

One of his handlers, Dale Richards, also said Keiko died quickly. "We checked his respiration rate and it was a little irregular ... he wasn't doing too well," Richards told The Associated Press. "Early in the evening, he passed away."

Keiko — which means "Lucky One" in Japanese — was captured in Iceland in 1979 and sold to the marine park industry.

Starting in 1993, the six-ton mammal starred in three "Free Willy" movies, a heartwarming box-office franchise from Warner Brothers in which sympathetic humans help set a long-captive killer whale free.

The drive for the real-life reintroduction of the movies' star started after he was found ailing in a Mexico City aquarium. The project — to reintegrate Keiko with a pod of wild killer whales — cost millions of dollars and stirred interest and ire worldwide.

Keiko was rehabilitated at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, then airlifted to Iceland in 1998. His handlers there prepared him for the wild, teaching him to catch live fish.

Keiko was released from Iceland in July 2002, but he swam straight for Norway on a 870-mile trek that seemed to be a search for human companionship.

Bush's next budget to include restraints

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's next budget will propose spending restraints and other steps as part of a plan to slash federal deficits in half in the next five years, a White House budget official says.

The election-year goal, which the Bush administration has been touting for months, will be featured at a time when conservatives have been chastising the White House for allowing too much spending.

It also comes as the government reported a $43 billion deficit for the month of November. A month earlier, the red ink totaled $69.5 billion.

Bush's predecessor, President Clinton, presided over four straight years of budget surpluses.

White House budget officials have said they expect this year's deficit to be around $500 billion — shattering last year's record shortfall of $374 billion. That means the goal would be around $250 billion in red ink by 2009, they said.

In an interview Friday, Joel Kaplan, deputy director of the White House budget office, said Bush would halve the deficit "by pursuing very aggressively his pro-growth economic policies, and by leading the Congress toward overall policies of fiscal restraint. And if the Congress adheres to those two programs, we'll be successful in halving the deficit from its '04 peak within that time period."

Bush will unveil his 2005 budget in early February.

Kaplan provided few specifics about how the deficit would be cut in half.

The president will once again propose that tax cuts first enacted in 2001 be made permanent, instead of expiring as this decade ends, Kaplan said. That could cost $1.4 trillion over the next 10 years, boosting the deficit, according to congressional budget analysts.

In interviews this week, lawmakers, aides and lobbyists have said administration officials are trying to keep overall spending increases for agencies at very low levels next year, perhaps at or below the 4 percent range that Bush said last year should be adequate.

Because the economy is expected to continue its rebound, most budget projections in recent months have shown deficits peaking in fiscal 2004, which runs through next Sept. 30, and then gradually growing smaller.

Last July, the White House forecast a deficit of $475 billion in 2004, falling to $238 billion — half the size — in 2006.

In August, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projected shortfalls peaking at $480 billion in 2004, dropping to $225 billion in 2006.

But such estimates assume lower rates of spending growth than have occurred in recent years, no major setbacks for the economy and no new tax cuts.

Man arrested on theft warrant

Arrests

A 62-year-old man was taken into custody at 11:00 p.m. Friday. The man was arrested on Hwy. 84 near the Snyder city limits on a warrant for theft from Nevada.

At 12:54 a.m. Saturday, a 21-year-old man was taken into custody in the 1800 block of Texas Ave. and charged with driving while intoxicated.

Harassment

A woman reported to police at 7:35 p.m. Friday that she had been harassed by her ex-husband's girlfriend in the parking lot of a local business.

Animal attack

A caller reported from the 900 block of German Street in Hermleigh that her goat was being severely attacked by a pit bull. The dog was captured and a deputy located the owner advising her of the situation and told her to keep the dog secure.

Gas drive off

Both Snyder Town and Country locations experienced gas drive off Friday. At 7:05 a.m. a clerk at Town and Country north reported that the driver of a pickup had driven away without paying for $15 worth of gas. A short time later at 8:28 a.m. a caller reported from Town and Country east that someone had driven away without paying for 24.59 in gas.

Obituaries

Billie Stone

1930-2003

DeKALB — Billie Ruth Stone, longtime secretary in the Scurry County judge's office, died Friday, Dec. 12, in a Texarkana, Texas hospital.

Service for Mrs. Stone, 73, is set for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Austin Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in DeKalb. Bates-Rolf Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



Billie Stone

Interment will be at 4 p.m. Monday in the City of Coleman Cemetery pavilion.

Born Feb. 17, 1930 in Coleman County, she was a legal secretary and was secretary to the county judge in Scurry County for 29 years.

Born Feb. 17, 1930 in Coleman County, she was married to V.A. "Stoney" Stone who died Feb. 13, 1997. She also was preceded in death by a brother, Bob Miller on Aug. 2, 1998.

The Stones moved to Snyder from Midland in 1962, and she worked briefly in the district clerk's office and then for the law firm of Rosser and Carroll before becoming the secretary of the county judge and commissioners court. She retired in 1993, having worked for five county judges and 17 commissioners.

In Snyder, she was a member of the Colonial Hill Baptist Church and the Hermleigh chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law, Randy and Karen Stone of Dallas and Mitch and Rhonda Stone of DeKalb; a daughter and son-in-law, Sandi and Phillip Stokes of Fort Worth; a brother and sister-in-law, Don and Doris Miller of Midland; a sister, Mary Davis of Coleman; another sister-in-law, Jean Miller of Mohave Valley, Ariz.; and five grandchildren.

Bob Farquhar

1929-2003

IRVING — Robert "Bob" Farquhar, native of Fluvanna and brother of Truss Farquhar, died Wednesday, Dec. 10.

Funeral service for Mr. Farquhar, 74, will be at 11 a.m. Monday at the DFW National Cemetery in Dallas.



Bob Farquhar

Born to Frank and Nancy Farquhar on Jan. 2, 1929 in Waco, he graduated from Fluvanna High School in 1947. He entered the Navy, serving aboard the USS Perkins, USS Neosho, USS Cadmus, retiring as a chief petty officer in August 1969.

Mr. Furquhar returned to Texas, settling in China Spring and was employed by C-Line Products in management until he retired. He later owned and operated the Dubl-R Hamburger in Waco. Mr. Farguhar was an active member of the China Spring Lions Club and served as its president.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Tommy Farquhar and Bill Farquhar; two sisters, LaVerne Farquhar, and Joye Browning; and a grandchild, William Farquhar.

Survivors also include his wife, Helen Farquhar of Irving; five children, Nancy Thomas of Irving, Michael Farquhar of Dallas, Frank Farquhar of Tucson, Cindi Farquhar of Irving and Jenny Baxley of Havelock, N.C.; a sister-in-law, Juanita Farquhar of Snyder; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Texas Lions Camp, Box 290247 in Kerrville, 78029.

Edith Puryear

1913-2003

ROTAN — Edith Lucille Hardin Puryear, a native of Scurry County, died Wednesday, Dec. 10, in Rosewalk Village Nursing Home in Lafayette, Ind., where she had live for five years.

Funeral service for Mrs. Puryear, 89, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Weathersbee-Ray Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in the Cottonwood Cemetery.

Born Dec. 20, 1913 in rural Scurry County, she attended a one-room school at Cottonwood near Rough Creek and graduated from Rotan High School.

She married Hassie Reaves Puryear on Dec. 18, 1932. They made their home in Rotan and he died in 1972.

Mrs. Puryear was a homemaker and seamstress. She worked the nursery at the First Baptist Church and also was a clerk at Thriftway Grocery for about 20 years. She also managed cattle at two locations for more than 20 years.

Mrs. Puryear was a member of the First Baptist Church, Eastern Star, PTA, Fisher County Sheriff's Posse and a Girl Scout leader.

Survivors include a daughter, Sharron Howard of West Lafayette, Ind.; a sister, Daisy Roberson of Gainesville; and two granddaughters.

Raymond Wood

1917-2003

Raymond D. Wood died Saturday, Dec. 13, at his Snyder residence.

Service for Mr. Wood, 86, is set for 11 a.m. Monday in the Lighthouse Assembly of God Church with the Rev. Danny Williams officiating.

Burial will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Hiwasse, Ark., with the Rev. Jack Austin officiating.

Mr. Wood was born April 11, 1917 in Quay, N.M. He married Elizabeth Smith in 1941 and she died in December 1974. He married Christine Burnett Van Dyke on July 29, 1975 in Lubbock.

He also was preceded in death by a daughter, Ruby Beatrice Mathews in 1989.

Survivors include his wife, Christine Wood of Snyder; a son, Johnie G. Wood of Bentonville, Ark., a daughter, Carol Adams of Cuba, N.M.; eight grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; two nieces; and nine nephews.

Memorial donations may be made to the Lighthouse Assembly of God Church building fund.

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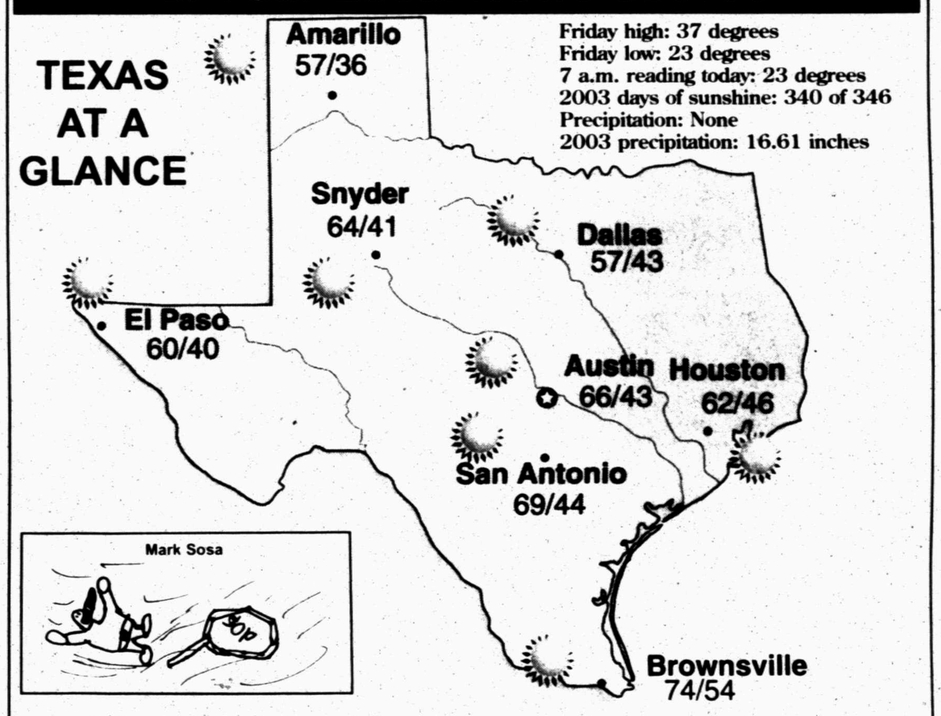
325-573-6200

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Sun 12/14	Mon 12/15	Tue 12/16
64/41	69/33	47/22
A mainly sunny sky. High 64F. Winds WSW at 10 to 20 mph.	Windy with times of sun and clouds.	Windy with sunshine. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the low 20s.
Sunrise 7:38 AM, Sunset 5:39 PM	Sunrise 7:38 AM, Sunset 5:39 PM	Sunrise 7:39 AM, Sunset 5:39 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–
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Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	65	44	sunny	El Paso	60	40	sunny	Midland	66	43	sunny
Amarillo	57	36	sunny	Fort Stockton	68	44	sunny	Raymondville	74	50	sunny
Austin	66	43	sunny	Gainesville	55	35	sunny	Rosenberg	62	46	sunny
Beaumont	60	45	sunny	Greenville	56	40	sunny	San Antonio	69	44	sunny
Brownsville	74	54	sunny	Houston	62	46	sunny	San Marcos	67	43	sunny
Brownwood	65	43	sunny	Kingsville	72	50	sunny	Sulphur Springs	56	38	sunny
Corpus Christi	69	51	sunny	Livingston	59	40	sunny	Sweetwater	66	44	sunny
Corsicana	58	43	sunny	Longview	57	39	sunny	Tyler	57	40	sunny
Dallas	57	43	sunny	Lubbock	64	38	sunny	Weatherford	57	39	sunny
Del Rio	69	45	sunny	Lufkin	60	40	sunny	Wichita Falls	58	35	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	45	31	rain	Houston	62	46	sunny	Phoenix	68	44	mst sunny
Boston	31	29	sn shower	Los Angeles	63	48	rain	San Francisco	54	42	rain
Chicago	35	29	pt sunny	Miami	78	56	t-storm	Seattle	47	39	rain
Dallas	57	43	sunny	Minneapolis	30	19	cloudy	St. Louis	34	28	cloudy
Denver	49	28	pt sunny	New York	37	36	snow	Washington, DC	36	33	mixed

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Dec 8	Dec 16	Dec 23	Dec 30

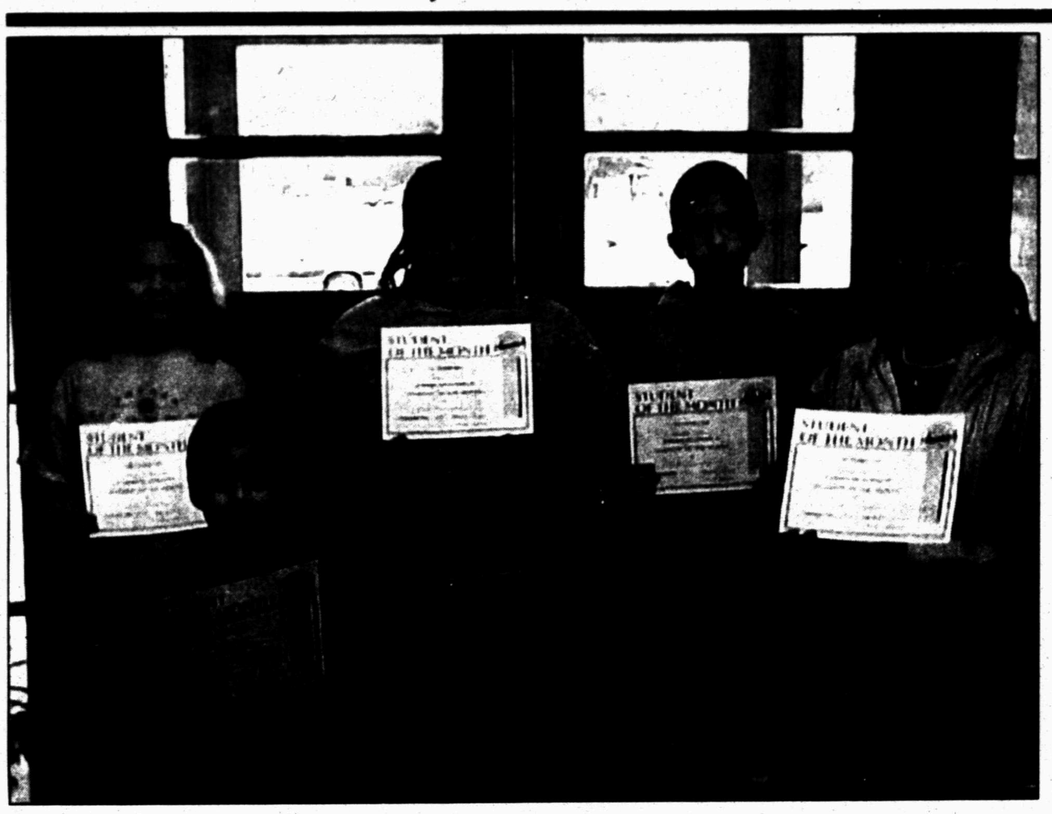
UV Index

Sun 12/14	Mon 12/15	Tue 12/16
Low	Low	Low

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 — 11

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DEC 14 2003



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH — West Elementary students of the month for November are from left, Maggie Marshall, Robert Martinez, Chelsea Moss, Johnathan Tarter and Monica Escareno. (Contributed Photo)

Senior Center News

MONDAY
Chicken Pot Pie
Southern Fried Okra
Tossed Salad
Oatmeal/Raisin Cookie
TUESDAY
Baked Ham
Baked Sweet Potato
Green Beans
Macaroni Salad
Peach Whip
WEDNESDAY-Christmas Dinner
Chicken Kiev
Baked Corn
Buttered Baby Carrots
Spinach Salad
Assorted Pies
THURSDAY
Vegetable Soup
Grilled Cheese Sandwich
Fried Potato Rounds
Dill Pickle Spears
Bread Pudding
FRIDAY
Fried Fish
Broccoli w/Cheese
Parslied Potatoes
Creamy Slaw
Peach Cobbler

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•Visual Examination •Contact Lens Fitting
•Wide Selection of the latest fashion frames •Low Vision Aides
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Snyder, Texas
(915) 573-5571
Mon., Wed., Fri. 9-5
Tues., Thurs., 9-6

—

The 10,000-mile long Mid-Atlantic Ridge, an underwater chain of mountains that extends southward from Iceland, is the longest mountain range in the world.

—

In the Napoleonic era, it took about four hours to send a message from Paris to Rome by semaphore.

Senior Center News

East Elementary students will entertain Monday beginning at 11:40. The children participate in the Accelerated Reader Program and this field trip is an award for their accomplishments. Senior citizens are asked to be in the dining room by 11:30.

The Christmas dinner is scheduled for Wednesday. Serving begins at 11:30 a.m. If you have not registered for this meal, call 573-4035 on Monday.

If the center must close for bad weather, the information will be announced on KSNY local news at the same time that school closings are mentioned. We try to remain open, but the safety of seniors is most important.

Senior citizens may arrange transportation by calling the center and asking for Valerie. Transportation is available during the mornings Monday-Friday. We do not transport to other towns.

Meal-on-wheels is offered by the center. Not all citizens qualify for this service. Contact Glenda for application for the meals.

MONDAY

Play party bridge beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the bridge room. Skip-Bo begins at 10 a.m. in the eighty-eight room. Dominoes, pool, and quilting are always available. Don't miss the carolers at 11:40 and lunch at noon. Each plate costs $4 for guests under 60 and we suggest $2.50 for senior citizens.

TUESDAY

Senior citizens may play eighty-eight beginning at 10 a.m. The Aubrey Wilson Country Band will entertain in the dining room from 11 a.m. till noon. The Booster Club will meet at noon in the conference room.

WEDNESDAY

The Senior Center Christmas dinner will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m., but seniors may participate in regularly scheduled activities. The Ladies Pool begins at 9 a.m., Skip-Bo at 10 a.m. in the bridge room, and Pinochle at 1 p.m. also in the bridge room.

THURSDAY

The fabric painting class will not meet due to the Christmas rush. Their next meeting will be in January. The Sunshine Choir will entertain residents of Snyder Oaks from 10-11 a.m.

FRIDAY

Blood pressure readings and the bridge tournament begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue throughout the morning. Eighty-eight

FDA approves wrinkle filler

WASHINGTON (AP) — People hoping to smooth wrinkles around the nose and mouth won an alternative to collagen Friday — a wrinkle filler called Restylane long used in Europe.

Restylane is the third injectable wrinkle treatment to win approval from the Food and Drug Administration.

Botox temporarily paralyzes muscles beneath the skin to smooth frown lines between the eyes.

Collagen is used to fill other wrinkles, including those Restylane can treat. Both wrinkle fillers last about six months, FDA said.

"It's another option," FDA's Dr. Celia Witten said of Restylane. "They're both effective."

Restylane is made with hyaluronic acid, a substance normally found in the skin that helps keep it plump.

In studies, 138 patients had wrinkles on one side of the nose injected with Restylane and the other side with collagen. Both sides appeared comparable.

Side effects include a slight tendency toward increased bruising, swelling and pain with Restylane, in roughly 3 percent of patients. But the problems were mild and resolved in less than two weeks, Witten said.

Most of the patients studied were Caucasian. Maker Q-Med AB of Sweden has agreed to do more research on whether Restylane will cause any pigment alternations if used by non-Caucasians, although FDA said widespread use in other countries hasn't raised concern.

A Q-Med spokeswoman said shipments would begin within two months.

DON'T FORGET!
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The perfect gift for everyone
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and
New Year's Day
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DINING IN BUFFET
LUNCH BUFFET
Monday-Saturday: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm $5.85
Children 4-10 $3.95
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Flight centennial takes off in N. C.

KILL DEVIL HILLS, N.C. (AP) — A weeklong celebration honoring the 100th anniversary of the first flight by the Wright brothers opened Friday with airplane exhibits and school children looking forward to talking to astronauts aboard the international space station.

Keith Yoerg, a 13-year-old great-great-grandnephew of Wilbur and Orville Wright, joined the visitors to the Wright Brothers National Memorial park Friday and was talking about his own dreams of going into space some day.

"I probably wouldn't be as into it if I wasn't part of the family because I've had so many great opportunities to meet people," he said. "So it's kind of like, kindled my want to become an astronaut."

The usually placid Wright Brothers National Memorial park has undergone a $10 million transformation with two stages for musical acts, nearly 50 temporary tents housing 100,000 square feet of exhibit space and 35 aircraft displays between now and the anniversary on Wednesday.

A Family Christmas slated Dec. 20-21 at First Baptist

By Shirley A. Gorman
SDN News editor

The hustle and bustle of the Christmas holiday keeps families on the go, but if they can spare the time to attend *A Family Christmas* at the First Baptist Church, it could be the highlight of their holiday.

This special production is debuting in Snyder and performances are set for 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 20-21, in the church auditorium.

Written by associate pastor Alan B. Celoria, *A Family Christmas* will feature a cast of 150, including a 50-voice choir, a 30-voice children's choir, a 30-piece orchestra and a drama group of 30.

FBC church members as well as guest soloists and musicians will combine to put on what arguably could be the biggest local church presentation in 25 years.

The presentation will include two different dramas that will tell the "complete Christmas story from Jesus' birth to age 2," according to Celoria.

Nineteen songs will be featured.

Celoria said *A Family Christmas* is the "biggest thing I have ever done in my 34 years in the ministry. I guarantee all will receive a blessing. This has something for everyone."

For the past 10 years, Celoria said this has been an ongoing project because he has written all of the music, drama and orchestration.

He noted that FBC began working on bringing *A Family Christmas* to life in August. They chose to perform twice before Christmas rather than on Christmas Day because they want to give more people a chance to attend. All are invited.

In January, *A Family Christmas* will be published by Genevox Music Group, the largest publisher of Baptist music.



Rachael Dupree, Stacey Clifton and Autumn Castillo (from left)

Snyder 6th grade girls attend special program

Three Snyder sixth grade girls were recently selected to participate in the "Distinguished Youth of Texas Scholarship Program" held in Austin.

Autumn Castillo, daughter of Freddy anf Tami Castillo; Stacey Clifton, daughter of Rod and Charlotte Clifton; and Rachael Dupree, daughter of Richard and Donna Dupree, were among the approximately 300 candidates in the scholarship program.

The Distinguished Youth Program is designed to recognize girls who rank high academically and who are leaders in their schools and communities.

Judging criteria includes scholastic record, service to school and community, personality projection and interview.

In addition, there were several optional events in which candidates could participate. At the finals, Stacey Clifton received the second place trophy in the poster contest.

Special guests included Miss Teen of America, Ashlie Kelly of Pasadena; and Miss Teen of America, Andrea Hatch, of Boise, Idaho.

Colleges sweeten deal for students with apartments

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Forget flip flops and shower caddies. Today's college students are demanding private bathrooms and more living space — and they're getting it.

Across the nation, colleges and universities are building new residential facilities that cater to every student's desire, from high-speed Internet connections and cable television to their own bedrooms in apartments and suites.

Duquesne University recently entered into an agreement to purchase an 850-bed apartment tower, and housing officials are mulling over plans to add six floors to a suite-style dorm at the urban campus in Pittsburgh.

At Penn State, officials took out a $75 million bond to construct housing for 800 juniors and seniors at its University Park campus. The dorms will feature clusters of single rooms with private baths around common living and study areas.

"Twenty years ago, students were expected to come in and share a room and share a bathroom down the hall with 40 people," said Michelle Fryling, a spokeswoman for Indiana University of Pennsylvania, about 45 miles northeast of Pittsburgh.

"Many of today's students may never have shared a room with a brother or sister, and they have different expectations of what residence hall life should be," she said.

And construction isn't limited to dorms: Instead of banning cars for freshmen, West Chester University of Pennsylvania is putting up two student parking lots. Many universities are investing in recreation centers with swimming pools and tennis courts.

"It's surprising if they're not building a new rec center," said Lander Medlin, executive vice president of the Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers.

Medlin says the college building boom comes as higher education institutions compete for students. According to a survey by the American School & University's magazine, the median cost per square foot to construct a new residence hall in 2002 reached $150, compared to $82 in 1993.

Administrators believe the construction will pay off. About 1,800 students entered into a lottery for the 800 new spaces at Penn State, said Lynn DuBois, associated director of housing.

"Students today come from households where they're used to having more space. That translates to having more space in colleges," said Meg Lauerman, a spokeswoman for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, which plans to add 1,000 beds in new apartments because market research says students who live on campus are more likely to graduate and earn better grades.

"And we know from recruiting experience that college students are interested in living facilities," Lauerman said. "It does factor in to their decision."

And don't forget the meal plan. Michael Hager, Nebraska's associate director of housing administration, says the university recently renovated one dining hall from a buffet-style cafeteria to a market-style eatery where students can custom order the meat in a Mongolian grill plate to vegetarian pizza freshly baked in a wood oven.

All the pressure to spend has some smaller private colleges worried they can't compete with bigger public universities.

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School Menus

Ira

All meals are served with choice of milk and breakfast also includes juice.

BREAKFAST
Monday
Pancakes
Sausage
Tuesday
Homemade Cinnamon Rolls
Wednesday
Sausage on a Stick
Thursday
Apple Cinnamon Muffins
Friday
French Toast Sticks
Bacon

LUNCH
Monday
Chicken Fried Steak/Grill Cheese
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Peas
Bread
Cookies
Tuesday
Spaghetti & Meat Sauce/Peanut Butter Sandwich
Salad
Bread Sticks
Banana Pudding
Wednesday
Ham/Turkey
Dressing & Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Sweet Potatoes
Green Beans
Hot Rolls
Fruit Salad
Thursday
Barbecued Chicken Strips/Steak Fingers
Corn on the Cob
Black-eyed Peas
Bread
Friday
Hamburgers/Corn Dogs
Chips
Lettuce & Tomatoes
Fruit

Snyder

All meals are served with milk and breakfast offers a choice of juice and cereal and toast.

All Schools
BREAKFAST
Monday
Biscuit & Gravy
Tuesday
Pancakes w/Syrup
Orange Halves
Wednesday
Ham & Egg in a Biscuit
Thursday
Mini Corn Dogs
Sliced Apples
Friday
Cheese Toast

LUNCH
Elementaries
Monday
Hot Dogs
Hard Shell Tacos
Mixed Vegetables
Spanish Rice
Fresh Fruit
Tuesday
Barbecue Beef Sandwich
Chicken Parmesan Sandwich
French Fries
Lettuce & Pickles
Chilled Pears
Wednesday
Chicken Quesadilla
Chef Salad
Campfire Beans
Mexicorn
Blueberry Muffins
Thursday
Crunchy Corn Dog
Turkey & Cheese Sub
Potato Salad
Peas & Carrots
Fruited Gelatin
Friday
Pepperoni Pizza
Cheeseburger
Tater Tots
Tossed Salad
Ranch Dressing
Brownie

Junior High
Monday
Hot Dogs
Hard Shell Tacos
Pepperoni Pizza
Cheeseburger
Lettuce & Pickles
Mashed Potatoes
Spanish Rice
Fresh Fruit
Tuesday
Barbecue Beef Sandwich
Chicken Parmesan Sandwich
Pepperoni Pizza
Cheeseburger
French Fries
Lettuce & Pickles
Chilled Pears
Wednesday
Chicken Quesadilla
Soft Chicken Taco
Pepperoni Pizza
Cheeseburger
Lettuce & Pickles
Campfire Beans
Mexicorn
Blueberry Muffins
Thursday
Crunchy Corn Dog
Turkey & Cheese Sub
Pepperoni Pizza
Cheeseburger
Lettuce & Pickles
Potato Salad
Peas & Carrots
Fruited Gelatin
Friday
Pepperoni Pizza
Cheeseburger
Hamburger
Beef Burrito
Salad Bar
Tater Tots
Tossed Salad
Ranch Dressing
Brownie

High School
Monday
Hot Dogs
Hard Shell Tacos
Hamburger
Beef Burrito
Pepperoni Pizza
Salad Bar
Mashed Potatoes
Spanish Rice
Fresh Fruit
Tuesday
Barbecue Beef Sandwich
Chicken Parmesan Sandwich
Hamburger
Beef Burrito
Pepperoni Pizza
Salad Bar
French Fries
Lettuce & Pickles
Wednesday
Chicken Quesadilla
Soft Chicken Taco
Hamburger
Beef Burrito
Pepperoni Pizza
Salad Bar
Campfire Beans
Mexicorn
Blueberry Muffins
Thursday
Crunchy Corn Dog
Turkey & Cheese Sub
Hamburger
Beef Burrito
Pepperoni Pizza
Salad Bar
Potato Salad
Peas & Carrots
Fruited Gelatin
Friday
Pepperoni Pizza
Cheeseburger
Hamburger
Beef Burrito
Salad Bar
Tater Tots
Tossed Salad
Ranch Dressing
Brownie

Top Plays

By Michael Kuchwara

In 2003, Broadway was still looking for a hit to match "Hairspray," winner of eight Tony Awards, including best musical.

Briefly the hot-ticket honor was held by the Roundabout Theatre Company's revival of "Nine," starring Antonio Banderas. The drama Pulitzer Prize went to "Anna in the Tropics," with the judges basing their decision on reading Nilo Cruz's script not viewing the play.

Richard Greenberg's "Take Me Out," the story of a gay baseball player, won the 2003 Tony Award for best play.

The fall Broadway season held several big-budget musicals, "The Boy From Oz," "Wicked" and "Taboo," opening to less than unanimous critical acclaim.

"Shakespeare's "Henry IV" opened in Lincoln Center. Critis said Kevin Kline's portrayal of Falstaff perhaps best of the year.

Force has no place where there is need of skill.

—Herodotus



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kyle Pruitt
(Contributed Photo)

Nitsch, Pruitt wed

Jennifer Elaine Nitsch and Robert Kyle Pruitt were united in marriage at 5 p.m. on Nov. 29 in the Pruitt Community Room at Western Texas College.

Deborah Boyd, Scurry County Justice of the Peace and sister of the groom, officiated the double-ring ceremony.

The bride's mother is Carolyn Corporon from Palacios. The groom is the son of Elois Pruitt of Snyder and the late Dr. Franklin Pruitt, and Marjorie Pruitt of Fort Worth.

Vows were exchanged before an archway covered with tulle and adorned with greenery and white roses. Pillars were entwined with greenery and topped with ceramic cowboy boots filled with roses and greenery.

Kevin Pruitt, the groom's brother, conducted the recorded wedding music.

The bride, given in marriage by her mother, wore a white floor-length beaded bridal gown by Demetrics. She also wore a matching off-the-shoulder coat and satin ballerina slippers. She carried a large bouquet of mixed spring flowers. The attendants carried nosegays of matching flowers.

Following the ceremony, the bride and groom presented each mother with a yellow, long-stemmed rose.

The bride's attendants included Valerie Furnas, cousin of the bride from San Angelo, Kathy Watt, groom's cousin of Dallas; Tammy Elliott, a friend from Abilene; Kimberly Rae Dean, college friend of the groom and Michelle Chambers, both from Fort Worth; and Laurie Burton, groom's niece from Lubbock.

Flower girl was Hannah Beck and ring bearer was Matthew Allen Carrell, son of the bride.

Ushers were Robert Nitsch, the bride's brother from Lubbock, and Robert Elliott from Abilene.

The groom wore a white Western dress shirt with a silver brocade vest and a buffalo nickel bolo tie. He also wore black Western jeans and silver boots. The bride's son, Matthew, wore matching attire.

April Boyd, niece of the groom, registered guests at a table centered with a heart-shaped basket holding bubbles that were given to guests to use as the bride and groom departed. April also presented each guest with a program.

The reception was held in the WTC cafeteria and was catered by Krasi Kolarov, manager of the WTC food service. Silver and crystal appointments with a Texas tray, decorated the table and white tea lights graced the tiered services.

The groom's three-tiered wedding cake was decorated with strawberries dipped in white chocolate. It was topped with a Western bride and groom, backed by a horseshoe. Also served was punch from a tiered fountain and mints and cookies from a Cowboy cookie jar.

The bride graduated from Snyder High School in 1993 and the groom in 1984. He is in the U.S. Army and the couple lives in Tacoma, Wash.

Guests were from Palacios, Burnet, Dallas, Austin, Lubbock, Abilene, Fort Worth, San Angelo and McKinney.

Bridal Registry

CHRISTINA HOLDER AND MARK CAVE
PAIGE BELL AND JIM CULP
SHANNON HALL AND SAM ROBINSON
BECKY EATON AND MARK CYPERT
KK MCCLAIN AND ANDREW VINSON
NATALIE HILL AND BEAU BLAIR
JAMIE BURLESON AND KYLE MITTENDORF
JENNIFER HALL AND TODD HALL

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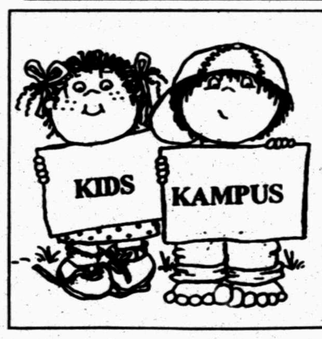

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VIEWING NATIVITIES — Daughters of the American Revolution members met in the home of Lois Bartels to view her nativity collection and those brought by other members. Bartels told the group the first nativity was by St. Francis, a human nativity in a stable in Italy. "As a child, each Christmas my mother would use homemade items for a nativity scene under our tree and that probably sparked my love for them." Prior to refreshments prepared by Jo Flynn, members exchanged Christmas ornaments. In the top photo, Maribeth Vestal and Virginia Clark are shown at the serving table with Bartels. In the photo at left, Judy Moss and Tizzy Hall observe a miniature nativity. (Staff Photos by Jo Ann Nunley)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 12-13-03
♠ 6 3
♥ A 5 2
♦ K J 10 9 8 7
♣ 7 4

West
♠ Q 9 8
♥ J 9 7 4 3
♦ 5 4
♣ Q 10 8

East
♠ 10 5 4 2
♥ K 8
♦ A Q 2
♣ J 9 6 2

South
♠ A K J 7
♥ Q 10 6
♦ 6 3
♣ A K 5 3

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: North-South

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ 4

Saturday, Dec. 13, 2003

Go for the likely, not the implausible

By Phillip Alder

The Senior Life Master was admiring the Christmas decorations in the club when a young woman sat down next to him.

"Pretty, aren't they?" she asked, almost rhetorically.

"Yes," the SLM replied. "So are you."

"Thank you."

You remind me (continued the SLM) of someone who used to play at this club, Clarinda Brownell-Compton. She was a good player who would never have misdefended this deal, but she was sitting West, not East.

On a napkin, the SLM wrote down the North and East hands from today's diagram.

Defending against three no-trump (explained the SLM), Clarinda led her fourth-highest heart. Declarer played low from the dummy, so East, Justin Hazard-Little, won with his king and returned the eight. Declarer won with his queen and played a diamond to dummy's eight. How would you plan the defense?

Without answering, the young woman asked the SLM about North's jump to three no-trump.

I like it (he replied). But if you have a game-invitational sequence to three diamonds, using it is feasible.

Now the deal. Can you believe that Justin won the first diamond trick with his queen? Clarinda couldn't and terminated their partnerships — bridge, golf and romance — after the session.

The declarer won East's black suit return and drove out the diamond ace, with the heart ace still in the dummy as an entry. As you saw, if East ducks the first diamond, dummy's suit and the contract are dead.

"Good luck this afternoon," finished the SLM as the woman moved into the duplicate room.

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Couple to co-host Sundance Film awards

NEW YORK (AP) — Zooey Deschanel and Jake Gyllenhaal, who played discontented discount store employees last year in the independent film "The Good Girl," will team up again to co-host the Sundance Film Festival Awards.

The ceremony is scheduled to air live from Park City, Utah, on the Sundance Channel at 9 p.m. EST Jan. 24.

Community Calendar

MONDAY

Storytime at the Scurry County Library for 4- and 5-year-olds; 10 a.m.

Rock and Roll Quilting Club; Hermleigh Community Center; everyone is invited for free quilting lessons, and special projects are to help someone in need; call 863-2383 for more information; 8 a.m. to noon.

Scurry County Museum's hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Stargazers Family Community Education Club; 7 p.m.

NA-Just for Today; Park Club at Winston Park; 573-1438.

Manic Depression (Bipolar) support group; Family Life Community Church, 904 26th Street; 7 p.m.

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

TUESDAY

Gateway Family Services parenting discussion group, focuses on a variety of parenting issues and special challenges; no charge; call 573-1822 for more information; 10:30 a.m.

Alpha Study Club; Scurry County Library; 2 p.m.

Weight Watchers meeting; Colonial Hill Baptist Church; for more information call Kathy at 573-1289 during the evening; weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m.

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.

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

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 35th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Trinity United Methodist Church. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary; board room; all members are urged to attend; 10 a.m.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson at the coliseum annex; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

AA Big Book study, closed meeting; contact numbers are 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Snyder Chapter 450 Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Hall, 1912 35th Street; 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

Hermleigh Community Center Family Night; 6:30 p.m.

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

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

Don't call me 'dude'

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP) — Arvin Mayor Juan Olivares had just one request of a Kern County sheriff's deputy during a traffic stop — "Don't call me dude."

Olivares planned to file an official complaint with the sheriff's department, seeking to have the deputy fired for what he called disrespectful behavior.

"I asked him five times, 'Please, officer, don't call me dude.' I'm not a dude. I'm 41 years old, I'm a businessman, I'm a Christian and I consider myself a gentleman," Olivares said Monday.

Olivares is mayor of Arvin, a city of 20,000 in Kern County, about 20 miles south of Bakersfield.

The deputy stopped Olivares and Arvin City Councilwoman Carmen Acevedo in Bakersfield on Nov. 23. Olivares, who was driving, said he was ticketed for having illegally tinted windows on his vehicle, and Acevedo received a citation for having an open container of beer.

Bridge Scores

Jane Hinton directed bridge Friday.

Friday, Dec. 5

1. Jane Hinton, Pat Floyd.
2. Dora Blakey, Nina Nesbit.

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Sat 10:30 am - 8 pm

Bridal Registry

Brandie Herrley & Jose Barrera
Jami Brown & Heath Hamrick
Mesha Pate & B.K. Box
Lila King & Dale Beard
Julie Priddy & Caleb Wilson
Shana Lynn Blackard & Jody Rae Holt
Becky Eaton & Mark Cypert
Kimberly McClain & Andrew Vinson
Jessica Emrich & Nathan Zalman

Infant Registry

MERLE NORMAN
Glenda Glasscock

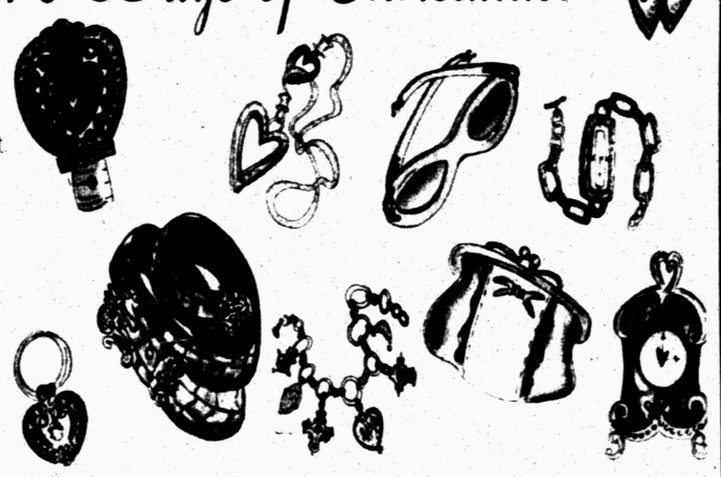
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Dec. 18th win a Bracelet.
Dec. 19th win a Clock.
Dec. 20th win a Necklace.
Dec. 21st win a Belt.
Dec. 22nd win Sunglasses.
Dec. 23rd win a Watch.
Dec. 24th win a Wallet.



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Scientists report encouraging progress in treating Ebola virus

LONDON (AP) — The first treatment to show any promise against the deadly Ebola virus has cured one-third of the monkeys it was tested on — raising hopes that a lifesaving therapy for people may be on the horizon.

Experts said the results represent the biggest advance yet in the quest for a drug against Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever, one of the most feared diseases. World Health Organization doctors said they plan to try the drug on humans during the next outbreak.

"You take the patients from their families, they die in the ward, you bury them. Everybody is dying and you cannot do anything," said WHO Ebola expert Pierre Formenty, speaking from the front line of the latest outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo. "If you can save one or two, it will be nice to come back and try to save lives and not just control outbreaks by burying people."

In the study, outlined this week in The Lancet medical journal, scientists at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases used a protein that blocks blood coagulation, considered to be a major problem in the disease.

Although it is called Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever, bleeding only occurs in about 40 percent of cases and is often not the cause of death. The affliction is so named because when there is hemorrhage, it is dramatic. The disease most often involves a shock syndrome where multiple organs shut down at once.

The death rate varies from about 50 percent for milder strains of the virus to about 90 percent for the Zaire strain, which is the type ravaging the community in Mbomo, deep in the bush of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Since the outbreak began in October, 31 people have been infected and 29 have died.

Scientists believe the virus cranks up the body's production of a substance called tissue factor, which is involved in making blood clots. The body's ability to regulate the thickness of the blood goes awry, clots start to congest the blood vessels and blood backs up, said the study's leader, Army virologist Thomas Geisbert.

Many strategies have cured mice and other rodents of Ebola, but when those treatments were tried in monkeys they didn't work.

In this study, researchers injected 12 monkeys with a high dose of the Zaire strain of the Ebola virus, which is 100 percent fatal in monkeys.

Then, starting either 10 minutes after the lethal injection or 24 hours later, the scientists gave nine of the monkeys daily shots of the anticoagulation protein for 14 days. The other three monkeys got fake injections.

Tests showed clotting activity was dampened in the monkeys who got the treatment.

Three of the nine monkeys treated, or 33 percent, lived. All the monkeys who received the fake treatment died.

"We saved the lives of three out of nine monkeys. They are still eating biscuits in my lab. The virus is gone. They are healthy. They are cured," Geisbert said.

Almost as impressive was the finding that those monkeys that were treated but died anyway survived for an average of 12 days — about four days longer than monkeys who had not been given the treatment.

Experts said that delay in death could be crucial.

"What we're doing with Ebola is we're buying time. The difference between Ebola and AIDS is that with Ebola, you do have the possibility of an immune response and to get well — if you can hang around long enough," said C. J. Peters, director for biodefense at the Center for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases at University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas.

"It remains to be seen whether that's going to be enough time for the immune response to kick in," said Peters, who was not connected with the research. "If the immune response doesn't kick in, you still have something that will buy you time and hopefully we'll have an antiretroviral drug some day."

Peters said the monkey results are encouraging for humans because they provide a very stringent test. If anything, he said, death rates from Ebola are higher in monkeys than in humans.

Experts say any treatment would need to be used in conjunction with a rapid diagnostic test to catch the disease early.

In another advance in the battle against Ebola, WHO scientists reported success with a new diagnostic test they used for the first time in the Mbomo outbreak.

In a telephone interview with The Associated Press, Formenty said a simple dipstick that turns blue in the presence of Ebola seems as accurate as genetic tests that are not practical for rural areas of Africa, where most Ebola outbreaks occur.

Emergency workers usually try to determine who has Ebola by observing patients' symptoms and asking about their contacts. Formenty said the test, which produces results in half an hour, helps identify Ebola patients quickly.

Matthias Borchet, an epidemiologist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine who was not involved with developing the test, called it an important advance.



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Public Records

Marriage License

Eric James Courtney and Juanita Melissa Garcia, both of Snyder.

Jonathan Michael Taylor of Snyder and Kasey Jo Wemken of Fluvanna.

Filed in District Court

Excalibur I, successor in interest to Cross Country Bank Inc., vs. Buna McCright, suit on account.

Drive Train Inc., a New Mexico corporation, vs. B&F Well Servicing Inc., suit for foreign judgment.

Allied Crude Purchasing Inc. vs. Dusty Tom Burney, suit on note.

Scurry County vs. American Tower Corp., et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Babcock Slick Wireline Co., et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Davidson's Foods Inc, dba Davidson's Supermarket, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Miocene Oil and Gas, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Timothy Bolding, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Terry and Paula Bowden, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Alonso and Maria Castillo, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Charley and Lucia Garcia, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Ricky and Lucy Garcia, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. J.C. Herley, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Robert and Rosalinda Ramirez, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Darrell and Dana Robertson, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Willie Thompson, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Wilbert Walker and Melvin Walker, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Action in District Court

In the marriage of Roger Doyce Lyons and Abby Gale Lyons, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Jennifer Mae Short and James Ural Short, divorce granted.

Deed Records

Robert L. Cardwell, individually and attorney-in-fact for William Ruth Cardwell, to Vernon and Sandra Groce, tract one being the west 100 feet of Lot 4 in Block 46 of the Original Town of Snyder; tract two being the east 50 feet of Lot 4 in Block 46 of the Original Town of Snyder; tract three being Lot 4 in Block 55 of the A.C. Wilmeth's Addition; tract four being Lot 16 in Block 1 of the Forrest Addition; tract five being the west 50 feet of Lot 1 in Block 45 of the Original Town of Snyder.

J.O. Sheid Jr., attorney-in-fact for Bonnie Durham Sheid, to Troy Roy Smith and Heather Kelley, 108.56 acres in the southwest part of the north 460 acres of Section 146, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Nita Gale Chaney to Shelby Merket, Lot 1 in Block 1 of the Park Place Addition.

The Light House Assembly of God, Snyder, to Richard Rios, the east 60 feet of the west 120 feet of the north 140 feet of Lot 2 in Block 74 of the Grayum and Nelson's Second Addition.

Christine Scrivner, independent executrix of the estate of Jerry Scrivner, to Christine Scrivner, 60.312 acres in the northeast part of Section 396, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Viola Margaret Payne to Marvin A. Payne, John D. Payne and Margaret Payne Hetrick, the south 212 acres out of the west one-half of Section 104, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Barbara I. Pollock to the Barbara I. Pollock Trust, tract one being the southwest one-quarter of Section 141, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract two being the southeast one-quarter of Section 574 and the west 196.62 acres out of the north one-half of Section 574, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract three being the northeast one-quarter of Section 541 and the east 123.8 acres out of the north one-half of Section 574, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract five being 80 acres out of the north one-half of the northwest one-quarter of Section 541, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Nona Lee Clark, individually and as independent executrix of the estate of Anice E. Wallace, et al, to Kristi Womack, the south 76 feet of Lot 12 and the south 76 feet of the west one-half of Lot 11 in Block 35 of the A.C. Wilmeth's Addition.

Charles Richard McCord, executor, to Terry B. and Mary E. Hagins, Lot 14 and the north 18 feet of Lot 15 in Block 3 of the Martin Addition, Section 3.

Christine D. Scrivner, individually and as independent executrix of the estate of Jerry M. Scrivner, to Russell R. and Gloria J. Robinson, 60.312 acres in the northeast part of Section 396, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Nora Lee Clark to Robert E. and Carolyn J. Barbee, 1.7 acres out of the northwest one-quarter of Section 136, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc. to Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Lot 7 in Block E of the Replat of Towle Place Addition.

Bill C. and Barbara B. Parker to Troy Dee and Brooke Ann Botts, Lots 1 and 2 in Block 9 of the Warren Crest Addition.

Charmaine Baker, Lynn Morgan, Barbara Ellen Whitson Hollis and Robert A. Whitson to Stanley Clark, Lots 6 and 7 in Block 16 of the A.C. Wilmeth's Addition.

Avanel Sullenger, independent executrix of the estate of Billie Mack Sullenger, to Avanel Sullenger, tract one being Lot 6 in Block 15 of the Winston Co. Inc. Replat of the Colonial Hill Addition; tract two being the west one-half of the northeast one-quarter of Section 137, Block 3, H&TC survey.

Billy Don Haynes, independent executor of the estate of Patricia Carole Haynes, to Timothy Ray Kotrla, tract one being an undivided one-fifth interest in 9.682 acres in Section 56, Block 3, H&TC survey; tract two being an undivided one-fifth interest in 308.5 acres, being the north one-half of Section 59, Block 3, H&TC survey.

Billy Don Haynes, independent executor of the estate of Patricia Carole Haynes, to Billy Don Haynes, tract one being 12.05 acres in Section 56, Block 3, H&TC survey; tract two being the northeast one-quarter of Section 94, Block 3, H&TC survey; tract three being a 0.44-acre tract in the southeast corner of Block 59, Original Town of Hermleigh.

Man convicted

EBENSBURG, Pa. (AP) — A man who led police on a seven-mile chase before fatally shooting a state trooper last year was sentenced Thursday to life in prison.

The jury convicted Mark Leach, 46, a day earlier. He could have received a death sentence, but jurors opted for the lesser penalty because Leach was under mental duress at the time of the shooting and had no criminal history.

Trooper Joseph Sepp died from a gunshot wound to the head after the shootout in Ebensburg, about 70 miles from Pittsburgh.

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Grandmother of slain children had been asked to take two

CLINTON, Ill. (AP) — A woman accused of drowning her three young children in a car submerged in a lake had asked her mother to take custody of two of them just months before their deaths, the mother said Thursday.

Two hours after Amanda Hamm cried as a judge read the first-degree murder charges against her, her mother, Ann Danison, said she couldn't help but wonder if she could have averted the tragedy.

"She was my only child. My only grandkids. I don't have any more," Danison said, her voice breaking. "And I'll never have them."

Six-year-old Christopher Hamm, 3-year-old Austin Brown and 23-month-old Kyleigh Hamm drowned Sept. 2 when the car they were in plunged off a boat ramp into Clinton Lake. Hamm and her boyfriend, Maurice Lagrone Jr., were on the lakeshore when rescuers arrived.

Hamm, 27, and Lagrone, 28, are charged with first-degree murder and appeared in court separately Thursday. Neither entered a plea, and each remains in custody on $5 million bond.

Her knees shaking, Hamm cried and wiped her eyes as a judge read the charges against her and told her she could be eligible for the death penalty. Lagrone stood motionless with his hands behind his back.

Speaking to The Associated Press in her home, Danison said she "hurt for" Hamm when she saw her in court, "but at the same time I was mad, too."

Danison said she believes Hamm is guilty but that Lagrone somehow "brainwashed" her into believing she was doing the right thing.

"Amanda is not a violent person. What she did was wrong. I can't accept what happened," Danison said.

Danison said Hamm had asked her to care for two of her sons so she could move to St. Louis with Lagrone. But Danison told her she could take only Christopher.

Kyleigh's father also said he knew Hamm wanted to move. "She didn't think she could take all the kids with her, but I never thought anything would happen," Shane Senters told WCIA-TV of Champaign.

Authorities have refused to disclose a motive in the case, although they say they have one and that it doesn't involve life insurance money. The case is being handled by a special prosecutor because Danison is the office manager for the state's attorney.

Hamm's court-appointed attorney, Steve Skelton, said he may ask to move the trial from Clinton, a central Illinois town of about 7,500. "The massive amount of media coverage makes a fair and impartial trial in the current venue unlikely," he said.

Lagrone has not yet hired an attorney.

Danison described her daughter as a high school dropout who had been treated for alcohol abuse but who seemed to calm down after becoming a mother.

"Amanda's a very depressed person, low self-esteem, very insecure. But she'd laugh with the kids. She always had a great Christmas for them. ... She'd plan for their birthdays," Danison said.

Scurry County Anti-drug Connection

The best things in life are drug free

The Snyder Daily News, in cooperation with the Scurry County Anti Drug Connection and Al-Anon support groups devote this column to current information on substance abuse, and how we, as a community, can work together to create a safe and drug free environment for our children.

MEDIA CAMPAIGN FLASH

CAMPAIGN ENCOURAGES PARENTS TO GIVE THE PRICELESS GIFT OF TIME THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

** Involved Parents Remain the Number One Factor in Preventing Teen Drug Use **

The holiday season is often associated with frenzied activity, but it is also a time when parents have the opportunity to spend more quality time with their children.

This year, the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign is urging parents to give their teens the priceless gift of time by remaining involved in their lives and scheduling meaningful family time throughout the holidays. This time can be used to begin an ongoing dialogue about the benefits of staying free of marijuana and other drugs.

According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, each day more than 4,700 teens under age 18 try marijuana for the first time. The good news is that parents are the most important influence on their teen when it comes to marijuana use and other risky behaviors.

Two-thirds of youth ages 13-17 say that upsetting their parents, or losing the respect of family and friends, is one of the main reasons they don't smoke marijuana or use other drugs.

Family activities provide parents with natural opportunities to communicate important messages about staying-drug-free, while also enhancing relationships with their teens. Parents can also help to keep their kids drug-free by monitoring where they are and who they are with, and setting rules with clear consequences for breaking them.

Lower levels of marijuana use were found among teens whose parents monitored their activities and peer relationships, limited the time spent watching TV, gave them responsibilities around the house, and recognized their teen's successes and good behavior.

The Media Campaign is offering the following FREE materials to help parents connect with their teens over the holidays and start a dialogue to help keep them drug-free:

"Gift of Time" E-Card

This holiday season, parents can send this e-card to their teens to secure priceless time to do the things they love — together. The pre-written text on the card invites teens to spend some one-on-one time during the holiday season; parents can also add a personalized note suggesting activities that can be done together. Cards can be customized and sent by visiting www.TheAntiDrug.com/sharing_listening/giftoftime.asp.

Holiday Tips for Parents

Teens need Parents' Presence for than Presents this holiday season. These three simple tips help parents give the priceless gift of time and show them ways to start a dialogue with their teen about staying drug-free.

At the holidays, the "gift of time" can be the best gift parents ever give to their children and it can have lifelong benefits. The tips can be viewed at www.TheAntiDrug.com/advice/got_tips.html.

Additional online resources are available on the Media Campaign's Web site for parents at www.TheAntiDrug.com.

The site features helpful advice for parents, articles and an opportunity to sign up for the Media Campaign's free parenting tips e-mail.

Above information provided by ***National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign***

For more information on how you and/or your business or organization can be involved in promoting a drug-free community, contact the Scurry County Anti-Drug Connection at the Snyder Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 574-1931 or 573-1411.

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Date Books

Saturday, Dec. 13, 2003

Today is the 347th day of 2003 and the 82nd day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1577, Sir Francis Drake sailed from England on a voyage around the world.

In 1642, Dutch explorer Abel Tasman became the first European to sight what is now Tasmania.

In 1928, George Gershwin's composition "An American in Paris" premiered in New York City.

In 2001, terrorists attacked the Indian Parliament building with rifles, explosives, and grenades; 14 people were killed.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Heinrich Heine (1797-1856), poet; Mary Todd Lincoln (1818-1882), first lady; Dick Van Dyke (1925-), actor, is 78; Christopher Plummer (1927-), actor, is 75; Cathy Rigby (1952-), gymnast and actress, is 51; Steve Buscemi (1957-), actor, is 46.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1956, the Brooklyn Dodgers traded Jackie Robinson to the rival New York Giants. Rather than switch teams, Robinson retired.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Every age thinks its battle the most important of all." — Heinrich Heine

TODAY'S FACT: The leotard was named after Julius Leotard, a French gymnast of the 19th century.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 107 — number of symphonies composed by Franz Joseph Haydn.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Dec. 8) and last quarter (Dec. 16).

Sunday, Dec. 14, 2003

Today is the 348th day of 2003 and the 83rd day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1799, George Washington died at Mount Vernon, his home in Virginia.

In 1819, Alabama became the 22nd U.S. state.

In 1911, explorer Roald Amundsen became the first person to reach the South Pole.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Nostradamus (1503-1566), astrologer, physician; Margaret Chase Smith (1897-1995), senator; James Doolittle (1896-1993), aviator; Spike Jones (1911-1965), bandleader and comedian; Lee Remick (1935-1991), actress; Patty Duke (1946-), actress, is 57.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1988, after losing the first 17 games of the season, the Miami Heat defeated the Los Angeles Clippers, 89-88, for the franchise's first win.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "We'll just keep going until people get sick to death of us and then it'll be over." — Spike Jones.

TODAY'S FACT: The melody of "The Star-Spangled Banner" comes from a British drinking song called "Anacreon in Heaven."

TODAY'S NUMBER: 2,664 — weight in pounds of the largest great white shark ever caught.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Dec. 8) and last quarter (Dec. 16).

All information from The World Almanac.

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The abandoned Skylab space station made a spectacular return to Earth in 1979, burning up in the atmosphere and showering debris over the Indian Ocean and Australia.

Delaware is also known as the First State.

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Proverbs 24:5

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Psalm 143:11

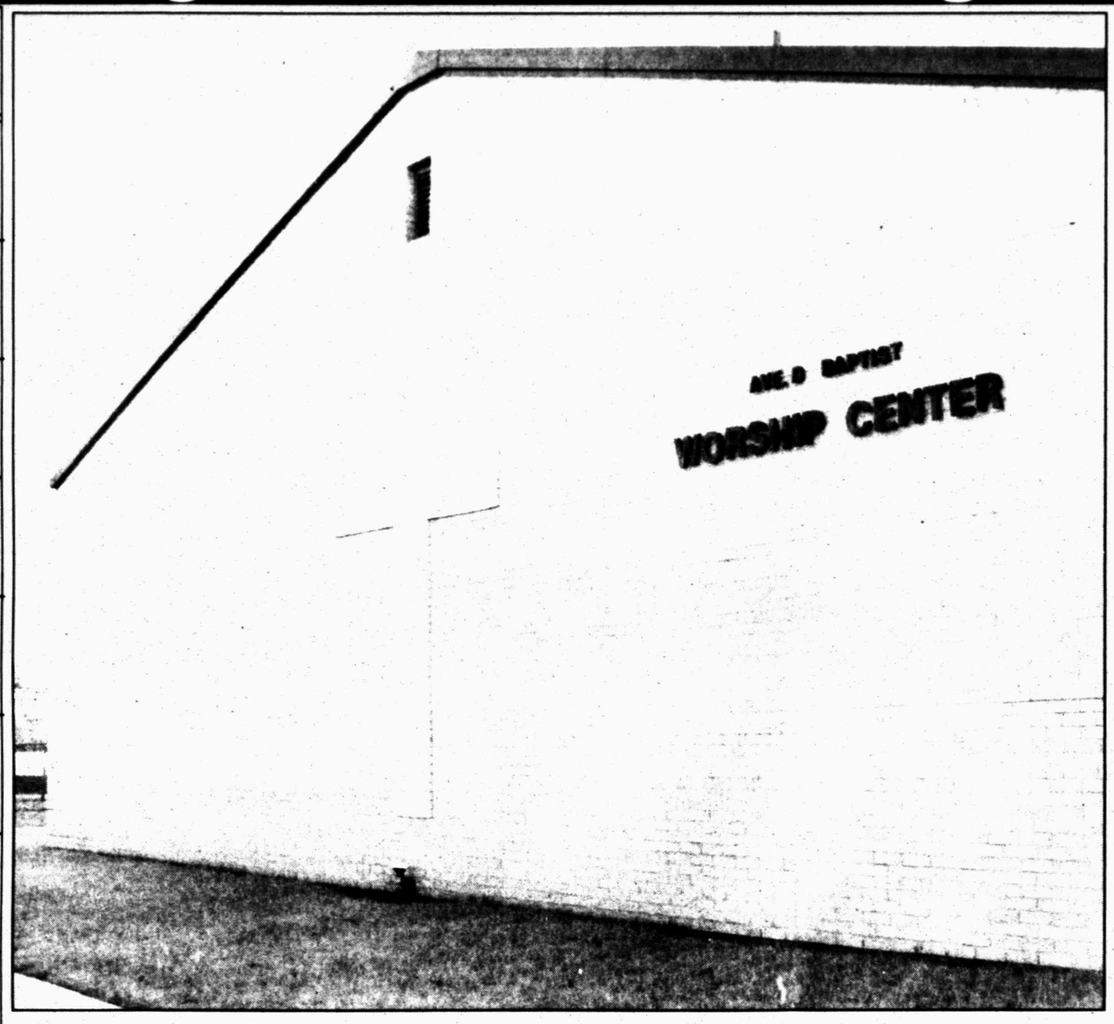
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Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

Psalms 31:24

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AFFILIATION: Southern Baptist

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Tom Woodward

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Psalm 143:11

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Proverbs 3:24

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Proverbs 8:14

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National

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Girl feels deserted by mother who no longer seems herself

DEAR ABBY: My mom has not been herself ever since her boyfriend beat her. For example, we were baking a cake. I accidentally bumped into her and she got really mad. We used to just laugh about things like that.

As a matter of fact, she doesn't laugh at all anymore.

I miss the mom who would play games with me or blast up the music when we were in the car together. She used to dance with me, or make me soup and crackers even when I wasn't sick. Sometimes Mom would make hot chocolate with marshmallows, and we'd sit on the porch and talk about everything. All my friends thought she was the coolest, and they wished their moms were like her.

Now she's caught up with her boyfriend and college and never has time for me. We don't talk and she doesn't dance with me anymore. I miss her so much. What can I do? — **FEELS LIKE AN ORPHAN**

DEAR FEELS: It's time to talk to your mother. No one has a right to raise a hand in anger against another person, and that includes her abusive boyfriend. She needs to know about the help that's available from the Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233.

I sincerely hope your mother sees the light, and that you get your loving, fun-filled parent back soon. From your description, it appears the joy has gone out of her life, too.

**

DEAR ABBY: Four years ago, my 68-year-old mother-in-law, "Gladys," moved into our home with us. Now I don't know how much longer I can take living in the same house with her. I have a full-time job, plus all the household duties to take care of when I get home. Gladys doesn't lift a finger to help, and does nothing but complain about how bad she feels day in and day out.

Please give me some advice. I don't want to hurt my mother-in-law's feelings, but I am burned out. I don't even like being at home anymore. — **TOO MUCH TO HANDLE IN ILLINOIS**

DEAR TOO MUCH: With three adults living under the same roof, there is no reason why you have been stuck with "all the household duties" — assuming Gladys is in reasonably good health. I don't know if your mother-in-law is depressed or if complaining is her way of communicating.

So have a frank discussion with your husband. Marital or family counseling may be in order. Gladys may be no spring chicken, but she isn't over the hill. She should have some friends and a social life of her own. It's possible that all of you might be happier if Gladys moved to an independent living complex with contemporaries.

**

DEAR ABBY: My friend "Delia" died recently, causing a lot of people to be very upset. Surprisingly, her death hasn't affected me at all. Friends have called, sobbing hysterically. I haven't shed a tear. Could it be because I refuse to believe it? Or that I don't really care? Please help me. I am confused. — **SCARED IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR SCARED: Losing a friend is traumatic, and people react to trauma in different ways. I seriously doubt that your friend's death has "not affected you at all." More likely, you're numb.

Grief is an individual process. Some people cry. Others carry around a load of anxiety or ache inside. Still others "postpone" the grieving until they can handle it. Please don't judge yourself harshly. Everyone grieves in his or her own way.

**

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

DEAR ABBY: My teenage sister and I both live at home with our single mom. Lately she has been acting like a teen in love — giddy, staying out late, and hiding to take her phone calls. We have even caught her kissing this man, "Gary."

Mom denies any romantic relationship with Gary, who is married with children. But when his name comes up, she talks endlessly about how mean and horrible his wife is. Mom has never met his wife, so she must be getting her information from Gary.

We overheard him tell Mom that his wife had found his cell phone bill and knew that he was calling Mom a lot. So last month, Mom bought Gary another cell phone. We can't afford that! We struggle to pay our bills, and my sister and I have loaned Mom money for her car insurance.

Mom has often expressed a fear of being alone. We are happy that she is feeling good about herself and dating again, but with Gary, she's headed for trouble. We don't want her hurt. How can we help? — **WORRIED ABOUT MOM IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR WORRIED: Be there to offer emotional support, because your mother is on thin ice. Gary's wife is already suspicious, and it's only a matter of time until he gets caught. The situation is bad. Your mother is lying to herself, lying to you, and setting a terrible example. Learn from her mistakes.

**

DEAR ABBY: I have been living with "Adrian" for eight years — and he still doesn't want to commit to anything other than living together. I have tried explaining the issues of security, honor and respect, and the fact that I have proven I'm a worthy partner and deserve to be his wife.

Adrian is 45 and was married once. I am 39 and have been divorced twice. He uses my divorces as justification for not wanting to give up his independence.

He recently bought a new home. It is solely in his name because I couldn't afford to help with the closing costs or pay half the mortgage payment. I have a good job and contribute to all our bills. I am not looking for a free ride and have always been willing to pay my own way. After eight years, I do not have one joint bill nor do I own any thing with him jointly.

When I try to discuss marriage with Adrian, he becomes angry and verbally abusive. Is this how you treat somebody you love? I feel I'm being punished for wanting a future with him. Please give me some sound advice. — **WANTS RESPECT IN MARYLAND**

DEAR WANTS RESPECT: You are an intelligent woman. You fail to see the security in this relationship because there is none. Meanwhile, Adrian is sitting in clover. For eight years he has enjoyed the benefits of a roommate and bed partner. If you protest, he keeps you in line by becoming abusive. Does that sound like love to you?

Ask yourself, Why have I tolerated the situation for so long? If it's a secure future you want, you won't find it with Adrian. He has already demonstrated that the only things he "loves" are himself and his tangible assets. If you leave you'll be available to meet someone who can give you a secure future. Please don't wait. Pack your bags now.

**

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To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

(EDITORS: If you have editorial questions, please contact Alan McDermott at amcdermott(at)amuniversal.com.)

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Indiana man enters innocent plea

HAMMOND, Ind. (AP) — A convicted killer who authorities say lured teenagers into his apartment with offers of alcohol and drugs pleaded innocent Friday to strangling one of them and burying the body in a basement tomb of concrete.

David Maust told the judge he wants to represent himself. A hearing on his request was scheduled for Dec. 19.

Maust, 49, was a tenant of the rundown apartment house where investigators this week unearthed the bodies of three teenagers who had been reported missing in recent months. Only one count of murder was filed against him while officials continue the investigation.

During the brief arraignment hearing Friday in Crown Point, Maust looked around the courtroom, and he appeared to smirk as he was escorted out.

Maust, who has been in police custody since Tuesday, has a criminal record that includes a murder conviction for the death of a 15-year-old boy in Illinois and a conviction in Texas for committing bodily injury to a child, police said.

Lake County Coroner David Pastrick identified the remains found this week as those of Michael Dennis, 13; James Raganyi, 16; and Nick James, 19.

Dennis and Raganyi were last seen Sept. 10 at a home near where Maust lived in the northwestern Indiana city.

About three weeks later, on Oct. 2, police arrested Maust on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, alleging he had given Dennis and a 12-year-old boy marijuana and beer at his home during August. Maust was released on $300 bond the same day and later pleaded innocent to the charge.

Dennis and Raganyi were friends and had visited Maust in his [illegible] apartment, where he had given them money, beer and marijuana during the [illegible]. A friend of the boys told detectives [illegible].

James was last seen in May but reported missing two weeks ago. He died of blunt trauma to the head, Pastrick said, but strangulation and suffocation were the suspected causes of death for the younger boys.

Maust confessed to strangling Raganyi with a rope while drinking with him Sept. 10, a police detective said.

Lake County Prosecutor Bernard Carter declined to say what [illegible] sexual abuse was involved.

Texas Democrats angry about hotel

DALLAS (AP) — Some Texas Democrats say they're getting the shaft when it comes to hotel assignments for next year's Democratic National Convention in Boston.

The delegates from President Bush's home state were assigned to stay at the Hilton Hotel at Boston's Logan Airport, forcing them to fight traffic through an underwater tunnel to get to the heart of the city.

The state's 263-member delegation stayed at the Marriott at Los Angeles International Airport during the 2000 convention. Some of those delegates said they were disappointed with this year's assignment as they recalled battling gridlock to get to the meetings.

"People think we can't put Democrats in the win column," said state Rep. Roberto Alonzo, D-Dallas, who was a 2000 delegate. "But even though our state is not in the win column, we contribute tons of money to all the nominees that run.

"It just so happens that Bush is from here. We can't help it."

Democratic National Committee officials denied Texas was being snubbed. Lina Garcia, a spokeswoman for the convention committee, said the Texas delegation's size made it tough to find suitable accommodations.

"I'm from El Paso, and I understand how they feel," Garcia told The Dallas Morning News for a Friday story. "At the last convention, some delegates were 17 miles away. For this convention, the Texas delegation will be 3.3 miles away.

"There are five or six other delegations that are farther out."

Officials with the Texas Democratic Party declined to comment on the assignments, which were made public on Thursday.

Some delegates said they would enjoy their experience in Boston no matter where they had to stay.

"At the end of the day, we'll remember the balloons, the confetti," said Theresa Daniel, a 2000 delegate from Dallas. "And at least we won't be late for our plane ride home."

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Speaker for all seasons

by Don Newbury

Following is a Christmas fable, excerpted from my book, *Life by the Seat of the Pants.*

Howard Payne University students have requested that I read this account about a dozen times — during most of my presidential years and most years since. Now, it is offered to you, gentle readers.

Once there was a toy store that sold jingle bells. There were big loud ones that went "JINGLE-JINGLE." The medium-sized ones went "Jingle-Jingle," and there was a little one that went "jingle-jingle," even if you shook it real hard.

As Christmas drew near, people bought lots of toys and stuff, including all of the jingle bells — except one. There was a whole lot of shaking going on as they tried out the various bells. They heard the big ones go "JINGLE-JINGLE," the medium-sized ones go "Jingle-Jingle" and the littlest jingle bell go "jingle-jingle," even if they shook it real hard. Soon all of the big and medium-sized bells were gone. Shoppers claimed that the littlest jingle bell was too small.

* * * * *

When Christmas Eve came, all the toys were gone, too, but one shelf held a single item—the littlest jingle bell. How sad it felt; tears rolled down its silver face, soiling the tiny satin ribbon. It was sobbing, about to give way to slumber.

The little shopkeeper lowered the blinds and checked the locks. Retail is tough, he thought, expecting moments later to be home by a crackling fire with family and friends. But wait! There was a clattering noise outside. He heard the hoof beats of reindeer, and the unmistakable "ho-ho-ho" of Santa Claus himself!

"If he's running low on toys, he's come to the wrong place. I feel sorry for the children of the world, but I'm sold out—except for the littlest jingle bell.

* * * * *

He ushered Santa in, apologizing that the store was a wreck and the toys all gone. "Oh, I've got plenty of toys," Santa answered, "But a jingle bell fell off my sleigh. Do you have one I could buy?"

The littlest jingle bell's heart jumped for joy. "I'm sorry," said the little shopkeeper, "I'm all sold out except for one, and I'm afraid it's too small."

"Curses," thought the littlest jingle bell, "Let Santa decide. His money's good, too."

"Who knows?" Santa countered, "I don't want one that will wake up the children when we land on the rooftops. Maybe it will be just right for my sleigh."

* * * * *

The littlest bell was on an emotional roller coaster! Quickly, tears were dried, and it gutted up to emit the loudest "jingle-jingle" possible, hoping that somehow, Santa would have a powerful shake to bring out a louder ring. The bell imagined how wonderful it would be, attached to Santa's sleigh, flying through snowy skies around the world. Ha! Most of the other bells would be on humdrum assignments, hanging from chimneys and Christmas trees. Santa gave it a hearty shake. The littlest jingle bell went "jingle-jingle," just like it always did. St. Nick, by the way, shook it real hard. He stroked his beard thoughtfully, then said, "You're right. It *is* too small." And he bounded from the shop, looking for another store open late on Christmas Eve."*

* * * * *

That's the fable. Freshmen hearing it for the first time can't believe the ending. I explain that sometimes that's the way life is. Years later, even on commencement day, graduates urge me to "read the littlest jingle bell story next year for the freshmen."

Of course I say I will. We're all just kids at heart.

# # # # #

*I first heard this story recited by a longtime Stephenville friend Dwain Bruner. He doesn't know where it originated, either!

Dr. Newbury is a columnist/author/speaker in the Metroplex. His column appears in 100 Texas newspapers. To obtain his books, see website at www.speakerdoc.com, e-mail newbury@speakerdoc.com or call 817-447-3872.





Open Government Barometer

Number of Executive Sessions held by public entities in 2003.

Snyder ISD	11
Hermleigh ISD	7
Ira ISD	7
City of Snyder	5
DCOS	4
Cogdell Hospital	3
WTC	1
Scurry County	0



Letter to the Editor

Voter apathy

Dear Editor:

While I am pleased with the outcome of the (hospital district) election, I am extremely disappointed that so few people chose to excercise their right to vote. A very small minority made a decision for the majority.

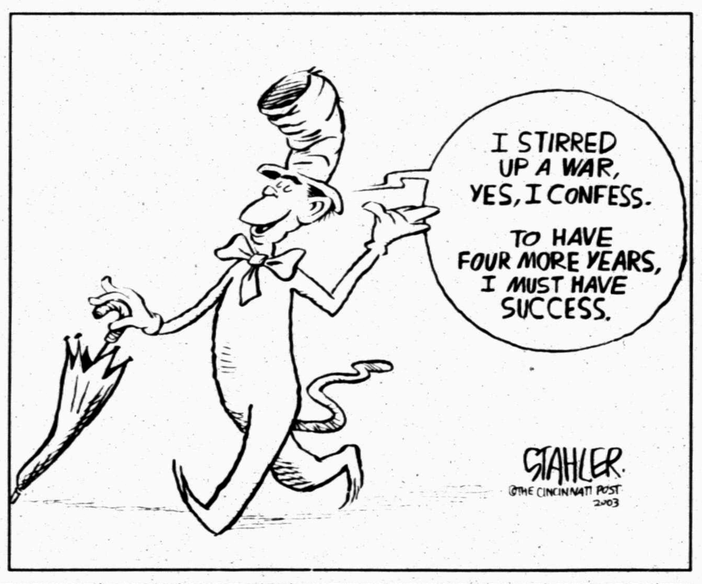
I can understand the disenchantment of national and state politics. I do not understand how people will not vote at the grass roots where their vote counts most. When I voted, I discussed with an election judge the small number of people that voted in my precinct. It was suggested that many people chose to go Christmas shopping. Somehow we must get our priorities straight.

(On Dec. 7)... our thoughts will focus on those who gave their lives at the attack on Pearl Harbor. Somehow I can't help but think that this is an afront to them and all the others who have worn the uniform of our country to defend our nation and our freedoms.

If we continue down this path of apathy, we set our nation up to be governed by a demagogue. Is this what you really want?

Ron Shaw







The Village Idiot by Jim Mullen

Honk if you love peace and quiet

I ran into Gene at the Gas and Go last Saturday. I had just picked up an old chair at a garage sale and it was sticking out of the back end of my pickup. Gene makes a living buying furniture and knickknacks at local auctions that he fixes up and sells to dealers or weekenders. He looks at the chair and tells me what he thinks it's worth.

"You have to come up and see the goats," he says. "We named one after Sue for letting us use her van to take them to the breeder." Gene's wife, Dominique, raises animals.

Yeah, I think, Sue will be thrilled. As I remember, it took her about three weeks to get the smell of goat out of her van. While we're standing at the pumps we're catching up on other things. As part of his business people ask Gene to come their houses to appraise their furniture, to see if he'll restore it for them or sell it for them.

"Mrs. Hammond, out on Irish Hill, called me and asked me to come look at her stuff. She's 89, he's 93. She told me the place had been in her family since 1845. So I'm walking through the house and they have some very nice things. A china cabinet, a few good antiques, a ton of cut glass. So we get to the second floor and I go into their bedroom and it's wonderful. It looks just the way it did in 1845, down to the wallpaper. I'm not even sure it was wired for electricity. I'm poking around and on top of the dresser is a beautiful old chamber pot. So I pick it up to see the markings on the bottom when I realize they still use the thing. It's full. Well, it was full. And what kills me is that people think I have a cushy job."

I ask about their geese. I really hate their geese. They surround my car when I pull up, they nip the back of my legs and make an awful racket.

"We got rid of them. You should see what they did to the lawn," he says. "You couldn't step anywhere. We couldn't take it anymore. We thought we were going to eat them but Dominique couldn't stand the thought of killing them. So we gave them to friends. Mrs. Vermulcek, the woman with the farm across the road from us, took one. She was so excited. She was going to cook it the way they did in the old country.

"'You should come to dinner tonight, you will love the way I cook it.' So she picked up a goose and took it across the street to her house. There on the front lawn, in front of Dominique, she wrings its neck and starts pulling out feathers. Dominique didn't eat for two days."

We had long finished pumping gas while he was telling the story. I looked up and there were three cars lined up waiting to get at the gas pumps we had been blocking. No one had honked, no one had rolled down their window and cursed at us, no one had even revved their engines to let us know they were waiting. We waved our apologies, jumped in our cars and left.

When friends want to know the biggest difference between living in the city and the country, sometimes I find it's hard to pick only one thing — writing a check without ID; saying hi to a bank teller by name; knowing who's inside the grocery store by the cars outside; not batting an eye when a car goes by with a dead deer strapped to the roof. But that's not the difference. No honking is the difference.

Jim Mullen is the author of "It Takes A Village Idiot: A Memoir of Life After the City" (Simon and Schuster, 2001). He also contributes regularly to Entertainment Weekly, where he can be reached at jim_mullen@ew.com

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

The Bryan-College Station Eagle

Right track for minority Aggies

Texas A&M President Robert Gates has it right. For the good of the school and the good of the state, A&M must attract more minority students. At the same time, students shouldn't be admitted simply because they are minority.

That may sound contradictory, but really it isn't.

Why is it important for A&M to have a larger minority enrollment? There are many reasons. A university, particularly one that is state supported, should represent the people of that state. A&M should have a healthy diversity of students from all parts of the state, all income levels, all cultures and backgrounds, different philosophies and interests and so on. A great university of course is about a great education, but that education extends beyond books and lectures. A great education includes interacting with people students will be living with and working with for their rest of their lives. It is about learning and appreciating other cultures.

A state-supported school shouldn't just be the bastion of the white and the well-to-do. All Texas children should believe that, if they study hard, they will have an opportunity to attend an A&M. If they believe they have no chance, then they will never try to gain admission.

It is well-known that an Aggie education is one of the best available and if all segments of the Texas population are to thrive, then more Texans must have the opportunity to gain that wonderful education.

At the same time, why shouldn't race be considered for admission to A&M? If A&M wants more minority students, why not just admit more, regardless of grades or test scores or school and community activities. Quite simply, if A&M is going to maintain its edge and build upon its already fine record, it cannot afford to change its admission standards. Students who come to A&M should be up to the challenge an A&M education requires. They must have a realistic chance of being successful.

So if race isn't to be a factor in admissions, how does A&M increase its minority enrollment? Gates says the school will do a better job reaching out to high schools with large minority enrollments, encouraging students there to apply themselves and then apply to A&M. A&M will send the message that there is a place for them on the College Station campus. And, for those students from households with incomes of $40,000 or less many of the minority A&M will offer Regents Scholarships that will ease the financial burden of attending school here.

The Brazosport Facts

Gun-related tragedies

A negotiated addition to a government spending bill would undercut the effectiveness of background checks on gun buyers.

If the proposal becomes law, records on background checks of gun purchasers would be destroyed within 24 hours. The records are kept for 90 days under the current law.

The move is setback in the fight against gun violence. That lawmakers would weaken that law while terrorists target the United States is even more worrisome.

The Associated Press reported that Attorney General John Ashcroft first called for the change in 2001. Negotiations between the White House and lawmakers resulted in its addition to the appropriations bill Tuesday.

A Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence spokesman told the AP that the change would hamper the FBI's ability to trace gun sales accidentally or purposefully made to buyers with criminal records or a history of mental illness.

Earlier this year, the AP reported, Justice Department officials said federal agents were ordered to retrieve 3,429 guns that had been sold to unqualified buyers in 2002. The illicit sales were discovered from among 4.2 million background checks.

A report released by Americans for Gun Safety in January of 2002 found that 1,142 illegal gun purchases had been allowed in the first 18 months after the Brady Law requiring background checks went into effect.

Even though illegal sales account for a small number of total gun transactions, records should be kept long enough to ferret out mistakes and intentional violations of the law.

Instead of weakening the Brady law, Congress and the White House should strengthen it.

It is highly irresponsible to make it easier for criminals to buy guns without being detected.

The San Antonio Express-News

Anti-drug policies in schools

Tough anti-drug policies at public schools are necessary. But sometimes, enforcement gets ridiculous.

Officials in Shreveport, La., last week crossed the line between stern and stupid.

The Shreveport Times reported that a Bossier Parish school board committee handed a one-year suspension to a high school student for possession of Advil.

School officials discovered the over-the-counter pain reliever when they searched the girl's purse because of a tip that students had been smoking cigarettes.

A ban on bringing pills to schools is not unusual. Even over-the-counter drugs can lead to mischief among reckless students.

But a yearlong suspension is overkill for such a minor offense. School officials had a range of punishment available, including none.

When anti-drug rules are enforced with such excessive zealousness, they transform zero tolerance to zero common sense.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram

"B-On-Time"

The premise behind a law creating a new state-financed college loan program known as "B-On-Time" sounded straightforward: Encourage students to avoid dithering or dawdling by offering to forgive repayment if they graduate in four years (five for disciplines such as architecture and engineering) with a B average.

But higher-education finance is never as simple as it seems.

Just as the program is kicking in, it's already causing consternation among college officials and students.

In its first two years, the program will fund loans with money that the state got through bond refinancing. But starting in January, students at state universities that have raised their tuition will see part of that increase put into a state fund to pay for B-On-Time loans in future years.

There's confusion about how the state will calculate the amount that schools must put into that collective pot.

Then there's discontent among students who consider the program's structure unfair because only those attending public schools — undergraduates and graduates — will pay toward the fund, even though the loans are available to undergraduates at either public or private colleges.

One college professor writing in the online bulletin of the Texas Association of College Teachers also questioned whether the forgiveness provision will steer students to easier classes to keep up their grade points or cause them to blame their instructors if they fall below a B and don't avoid repaying thousands of dollars.

WTC News
WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE

Happy Holidays
from
Western Texas College



Sunday, December 14, 2003
Western Texas College, 6200 College Ave. Snyder, TX 79549

WTC Westerners Gearing Up For Spring



Coach Billy Hefflinger



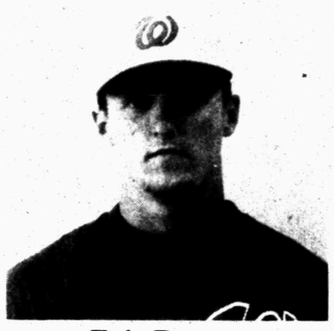
Heath Conner
Student Assistant



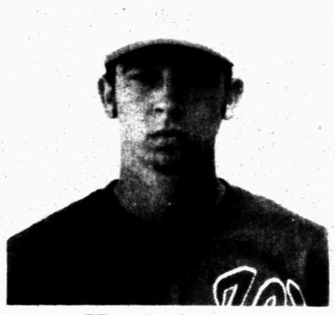
Chris Bennett



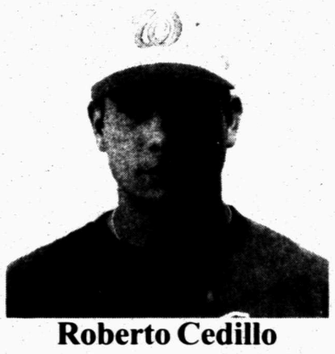
John Bewley



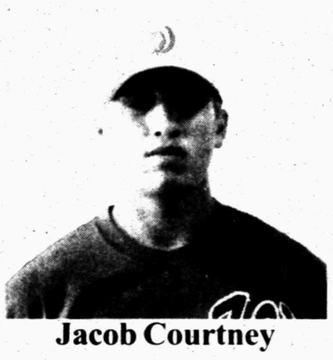
Eric Brown



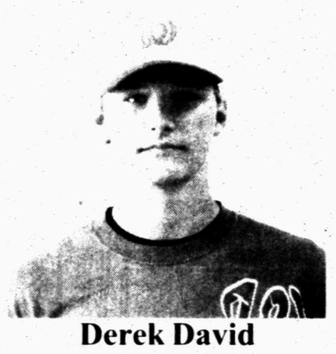
Hank Casey



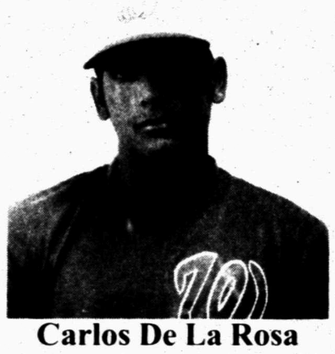
Roberto Cedillo



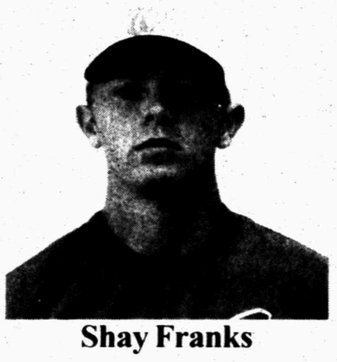
Jacob Courtney



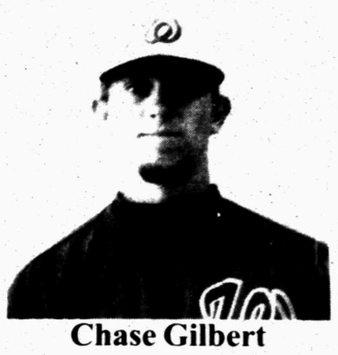
Derek David



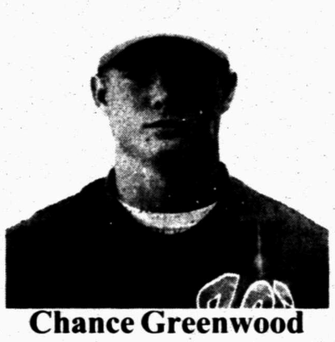
Carlos De La Rosa



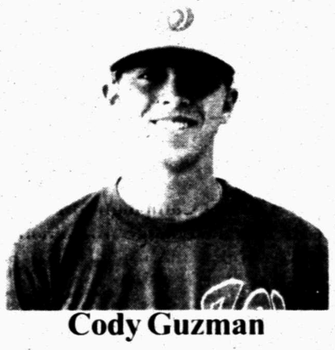
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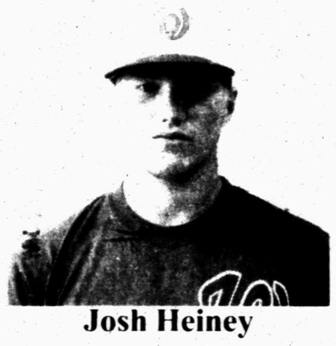
Chase Gilbert



Chance Greenwood



Cody Guzman



Josh Heiney



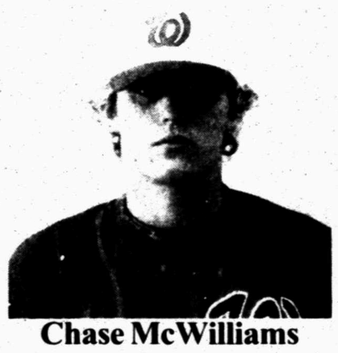
Logan Hill



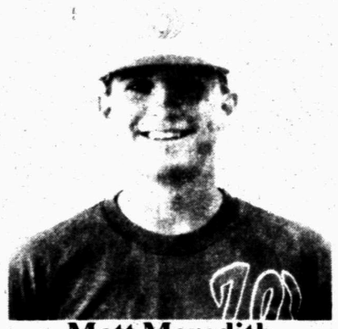
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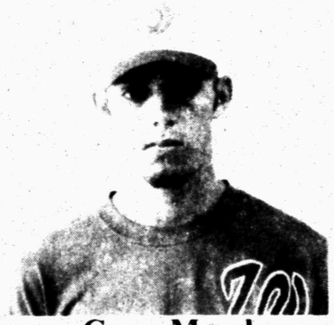
BK McLaughlin



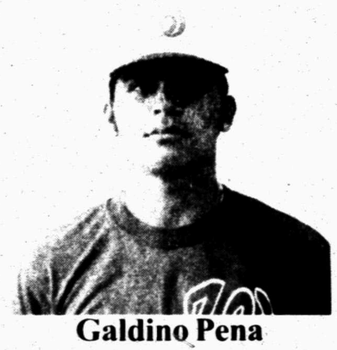
Chase McWilliams



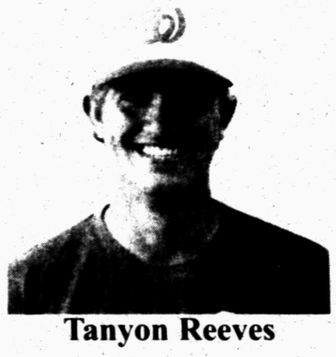
Matt Meredith



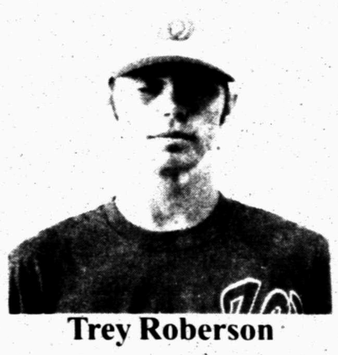
Casey Mund



Galdino Pena



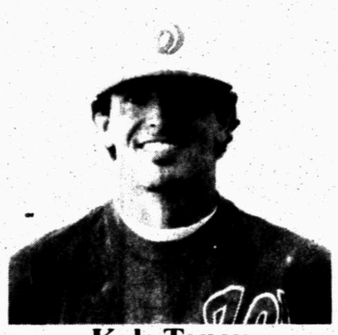
Tanyon Reeves



Trey Roberson



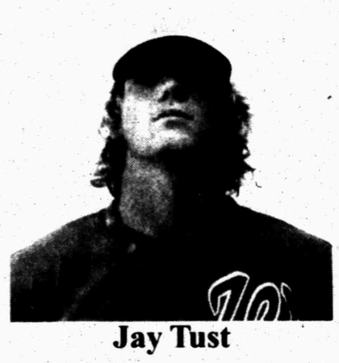
TJ Sagen



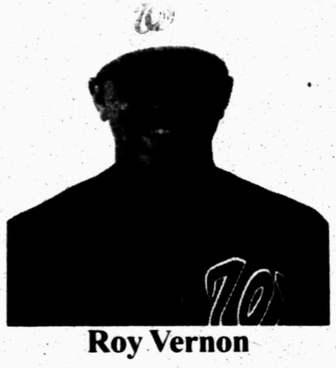
Kyle Toney



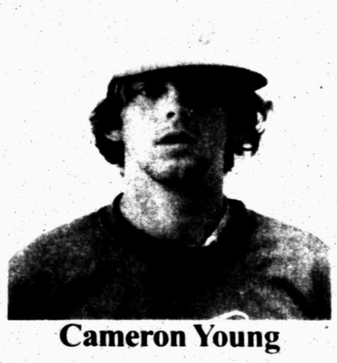
Tyler Trout



Jay Tust



Roy Vernon



Cameron Young

After a busy fall, with putting in a new team philosophy, Coach Billy Hefflinger says the Westerner baseball team is starting to come around. "I am very excited about this upcoming season," says Hefflinger. "There is a new sense of excitement inside the program, and it will lead to a positive experience for the players in the classroom and on the baseball field. With the addition of new players and players from last year, the team chemistry is great and could be the best unity for a team that I have been around. I also want to say that the administration, faculty and staff have been very supportive of the team this fall."

Chris Bennett is the son of Dwight and Bobbie Sue Bennett. He is a graduate of Kermit High School in Kermit, Texas. Chris is a freshman and his major is undecided.

Eric Brown is the son of Ted and Cindy Brown. He is a graduate of Lake Havash High School in Lake Havash City, Arizona. Eric is a freshman and plans to major in general.

Aaron "Hank" Casey is the son of Terry and Cathy Casey. He is a graduate of Abilene Wylie in Abilene, Texas. Hank is a freshman and plans to major in pre-law.

Roberto Cedillo is the son of Lupe and Ana Cedillo. He is a graduate of Midland High School in Midland, Texas. Roberto is a sophomore and his major is undecided.

Jacob Courtney is the son of Charles and Tonya Courtney. He is a graduate of Hale Center High School in Hale Center, Texas. Jacob is a freshman and plans to major in art.

Derek David is the son of Ronald and Patricia David. He is a graduate of B. F. Terry High School in Rosenberg, Texas. Derek is a freshman and plans to major in engineering.

Carlos De La Rosa IV is the son of Carlos and Blanca De La Rosa. He is a graduate of San Angelo Central High School. Carlos is a sophomore and plans to major in criminal justice.

Shay Franks is the son of Terry and Billie Franks. He is a graduate of Snyder High School. Shay is a freshman and plans to major in golf landscape technology.

Chase Gilbert is the son of Ragon and Melody Gilbert. He is a graduate of Permian High School in Odessa, Texas. Chase is a sophomore and plans to major in art.

Chance Greenwood is the son of Walt and Kay Cave. He is a graduate of Snyder High School. Chase is a freshman and his major is undecided.

Cody Guzman is the son of Rick and Lynn Guzman. He is a graduate of Mineral Wells High School in Mineral Wells, Texas. Cody is a sophomore and his major is undecided.

Josh Heiney is the son of Robert and Kay Heiney. He is a graduate of Cleveland High School in Portland, Oregon. Josh is a sophomore and his major is undecided.

Jack "Logan" Hill is the son of Ray and Tami Hill. He is a graduate of Snyder High School. Logan is a freshman and his major is undecided.

Ruben "Rafe" Martinez is a son of Ruben and Mary Ann Martinez. He is a graduate of Seguin High School in Seguin, Texas. Rafe is a freshman and plans to major in Kinesiology.

Brian "BK" McLaughlin is the son of Brian and Bobbie McLaughlin. He is a graduate of Junction High School in Junction, Texas. Brian is a freshman and his major is undecided.

Chase McWilliams is the son of Larry and Vicki McWilliams. He is a graduate of Colleyville Heritage High School in Colleyville, Texas. Chase is a freshman and his major is undecided.

Matt Meredith is the son of John and Cherrye Meredith. He is a graduate of Olney High School in Olney, Texas. Matt is a sophomore and plans to major in sports medicine.

Chase "Casey" Mund is the son of Brad and Laurie Mund. He is a graduate of Wall High School in Wall, Texas. Chase is a freshman and plans to major in ag business.

Galdino L Peña III "Trey" is the son of Galdino and Janie Peña. He is a graduate of Lake View High School in San Angelo, Texas. Trey is a freshman and plans to major in athletic training.

James "Tanyon" Reeves is the son of Bobby and Robin Reeves. He is a graduate of Shallowater High School in Shallowater, Texas. Tanyon is a sophomore and plans to major in wildlife management.

Trey Roberson is the son of Marty and Veanna Roberson. He is a graduate of Lubbock Christian High School in Lubbock, Texas. Trey is a sophomore and plans to major in business.

T. J. Sagen is the son of Mark and Jeri Sagen. He is a graduate of Lincoln-Way High School in New Lenox, Illinois. T. J. is a sophomore and his major is undecided.

Landon Thompson is the son of Michelle Owens. He is a graduate of Permian High School in Odessa, Texas. Landon is a sophomore and his major is undecided.

Kyle Toney is the son of Kenny and Teresa Tony. He is a graduate of Alvarado High School in Alvarado, Texas. Kyle is a sophomore and plans to major in math.

Tyler Trout is the son of Richard and Cathy Trout. He is a graduate of Snyder High School. Tyler is a freshman and his major is undecided.

Jay Tust is the son of Chris and Lynne Trust. He is a graduate of Stadium High School in Federal Way, Washington. Jay is a sophomore and his major is undecided.

Roy Vernon is the son of Charlie Vernon and Jill West. He is a graduate of Early High School in Mullin, Texas. Roy is a sophomore and plans to major in Biology.

Cameron Young Jr. is the son of Cameron and Becky Young. He is a graduate of Arlington Heights High School in Fort Worth, Texas. Cameron is a freshman and his major is undecided.

DEC 14 2003

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



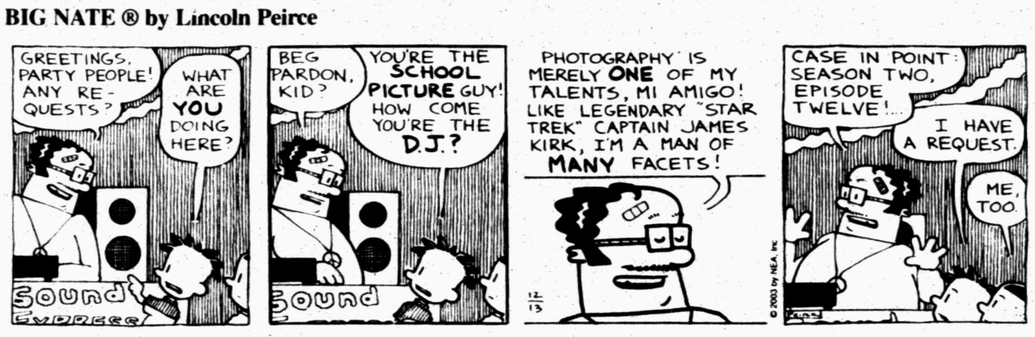
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



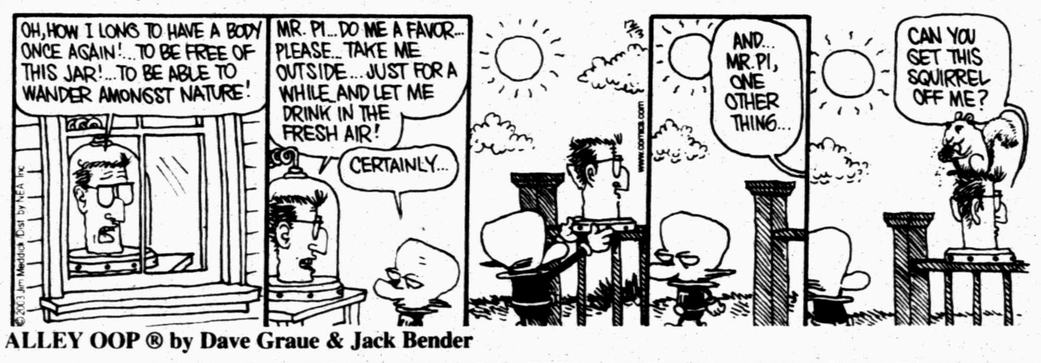
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



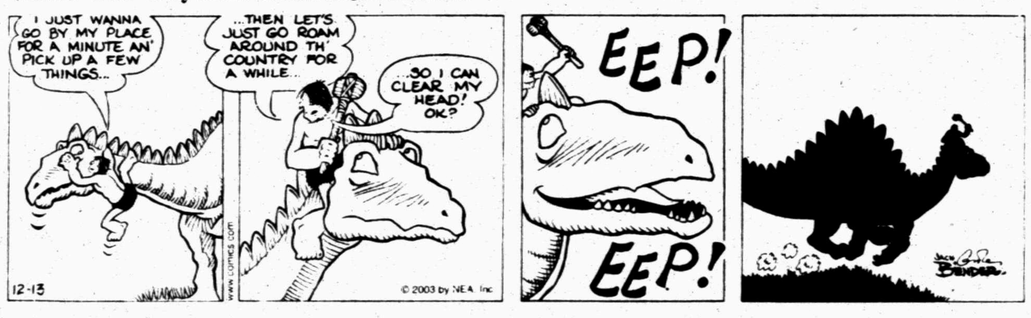
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MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

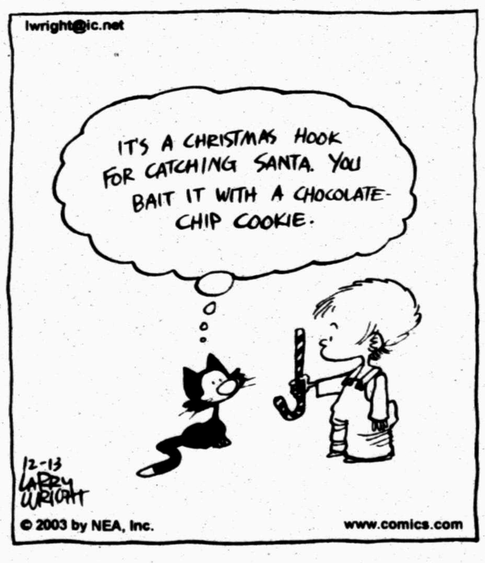


HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"Here ... tell your mother we're out. She won't believe me."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Gullet
4 Household animal
7 Slam
11 Pale gray
12 Word of honor
13 Huron neighbor
14 Pressure meas.
15 Diagnostic aid (hyph.)
16 Shoestring
17 Pamphlet
19 Intuition
20 Small gulf
21 Civil War general
22 Cleric
25 Be cleverer
28 Jurist — Fortas
29 Garment for Claudius
31 Bunk
33 Metal in pewter
34 Insult
36 Plastic — Band
37 Even-tempered
40 Theories
42 Popular cruise stop
43 Wildebeest
44 Monumental
46 Poet — Nash
49 Winged god
50 Extra
52 Father's lad
54 She, in Montreal
55 Pitcher in a basin
56 Mature
57 Piano parts
58 Take vows
59 Function

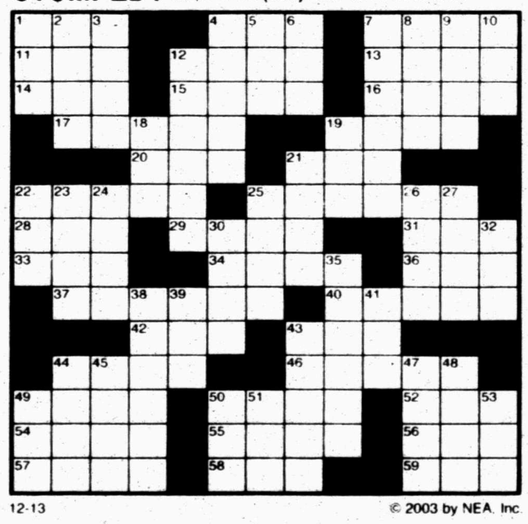
DOWN

1 Chart
2 Prof.'s grader
3 Buzz
4 Dance all night
5 Airport info
6 Quaker pronoun
7 Opinion
8 Sheik, usually
9 Amiable
10 Opposite of haw
12 Farm vehicle
18 Goat's-hair garment
19 Animal doc
21 Occasion for leis
22 Large tank
23 Stork cousin
24 Bronze coin
25 Leer
26 Reed instrument
27 "Hercules" TV spinoff
30 Scandinavian city
32 Hairstyles
35 Horseshoes throw
38 Stands up
39 Desk item
41 Flop
43 Flared, as a skirt
44 — Stanley Gardner
45 Many, in combos
47 Birthright seller
48 Eggy drinks
49 Cartoon mice — and Meek
50 Gull's cry
51 Have bills to pay
53 Once named

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"DO PEOPLE WEAR DRESS-UP CLOTHES IN HEAVEN, OR IS THIS JUST A 'CHURCH THING'?"

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Sunday, Dec. 14, 2003

Situations that have an effect upon your work or career could be subjected to unexpected shifts in conditions in the year ahead. If you're alert, clever and prepared, you can manipulate these changes to work to your advantage.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Before agreeing to or affixing your signature to anything today about which you're doubtful, ask a lot of questions and/or do the necessary research to avoid getting yourself in a fix.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Keep your guard up today so that you won't be lured into making an expensive purchase or drawn into a situation initiated by another for selfish purposes. In either case, it could be costly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Your independence is an admirable quality that others find commendable. However, today you could carry this too far by failing to allow teamwork to take precedence.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Although there are plenty of times when it's wise to be innovative and find ways to take shortcuts, today may not be one of those. To be on the safe side, stick to tested procedures.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Be extra mindful of your social graces today at group gatherings with friends. People in general might be a bit unnerved at this time and you could easily push the wrong button.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Don't try to micromanage the affairs of those who look to you for guidance today. In your effort to protect them, you could go over the line and be a hindrance to them rather than a help.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Just because someone is very knowledgeable in one subject doesn't mean this person is qualified as an expert in all other areas. Be discriminating today as to whom you go to for advice.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Although you might not be careless with your resources or possessions today, another in whom you place your trust could be irresponsible or accident-prone with them. Guard your valuables.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Try not to depend too heavily on the support of others today. Associates who you think are squarely lined up behind you could switch allegiance in midstream and leave you drowning.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Someone in your inner circle could be a bit difficult to deal with today. However, even if it's a person with whom you've crossed swords previously, don't act in kind. Be above it all.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Be conscious of the complexities involved when volunteering to help another today. The burdens you elect to assume might place you in situations beyond your capabilities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — When establishing your objectives today, take into consideration the methods and procedures needed to accomplish them. If you don't think things through, you'll become erratic and uncertain.

Monday, Dec. 15, 2003

You might have to make a second surge in the year ahead on an endeavor you've devoted both time and funds to but which has thus far proven unfruitful. This added effort will garner the gains for which you've been hoping.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Should you find yourself in a tight competitive career situation today, don't hesitate to use whatever ethical edge you have at your disposal. If you hold back, you could lose.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Fall back and bank on tried and true information you've had in your files for a long time. The data will work for you just as well today as it has in the past. Facts don't change, only situations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — You may have to alter your position today on an important career matter. Although the change may be a bit difficult for you to make, the fact that you know it's a wise one will help you to do so.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Your skillful management of others today, without them feeling manipulated, will help guide them to behave in ways that will be the best for all concerned even though they may not want to.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — In order to reap rewards today that would be more important and greater than cash, make doing a good job your major objective. The recognition you'll receive, as well as pride, will be priceless.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — A friend who has been helpful to you many times in the past may once again step forward today and help you get an opportunity you've wanted. It'll be a big one that comes in a small package.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may not know it, but you could be tested today by someone in a high position with a small assignment designed to see if you're worthy of something quite larger. Do your best.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — It's OK to be serious about your undertakings, but maintain a happy attitude in the process. If your outlook is cheerful, you will be able to handle difficult situations today with relative ease.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — This is a good day to focus on financial affairs. Your business acumen is quite high today and, to your choosing, you should be capable of making either dimes or dollars.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You're likely to be in a gregarious mood today, which is good. However, direct and use your outgoing persona to fit in comfortably with important cliques with whom you'd like to mingle.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Give greater significance today to high achievement rather than succumbing to self-doubts or feelings of inadequacy. You're quite capable of accomplishing anything you pursue.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — If you wish to add impact to your words today, speak in a straightforward fashion rather than beating around the bush. Others will respect you more if you tell it like it is.

Major changes are ahead for Sagittarius in the coming year. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today. Mail $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to state your zodiac sign. Visit www.bernice4u.com for more advice.

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Government will seek death penalty against clinic bomber

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Prosecutors said Thursday they would seek the death penalty against serial bombing suspect Eric Rudolph for a blast that killed a police officer at an abortion clinic.

Attorney General John Ashcroft authorized prosecutors to seek the death penalty in the 1998 bombing that also seriously injured a nurse, U.S. Attorney Alice Martin said

"This is an important step toward seeking justice in this case," Martin said.

Rudolph's attorney, Richard Jaffe, said he was not surprised by Ashcroft's decision. "Of course, seeking it and getting it are two different matters," Jaffe said.

"We continue to maintain that the case is nothing like what's been portrayed by the media, not by a long shot."

Rudolph, 36, was captured May 31 in North Carolina after a five-year manhunt following the Birmingham bombing. He also is accused in the 1996 Olympic bombing in Atlanta that killed one woman, and two bombings in Atlanta in 1997.

In papers filed Thursday, prosecutors set out aggravating factors that the government believes make the death penalty appropriate, such as intent to kill and planning the attack.

The bomb exploded outside New Woman All Women Health Care on Jan. 29, 1998, killing officer Robert D. Sanderson, who was working off-duty as a clinic security guard.

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F-SERIES TRUCKS					
New 2004 F-150 SuperCab Styleside	$25,755	N/A	0.9%	$300	**$25,755**
New 2004 F-150 SuperCrew 4X2	$30,255	N/A	2.9%	$300	**$39,255**
New 2004 F-750 Medium Duty	$44,115	$5,500	0.9%	N/A	**$44,115**
2003 F-250 SuperCab/4X2 XLT (gas)	$26,765	$3,000	0%	$300	**$26,765**
2003 F-350 Crew Cab/4X4 8´ Dual Rear Wheels/XLT	$38,735	$3,000	0%	$300	**$38,735**
2003 F-450 Chassis/4X4 Super Duty Reg Cab	$43,840	$3,000	0%	N/A	**$43,840**
E-SERIES WAGONS / VANS / CUTAWAYS					
2003 E-150 Cargo Van Commercial	$26,055	$3,000	0%	$300	**$26,055**
2003 E-150 Wagon XLT 5.4L V8*	$31,890	$3,000	0%	$300	**$31,890**
2003 E-250 Cargo Van Commercial	$27,040	$3,000	0%	$300	**$27,040**
2003 E-250 Extended Cargo Van Commercial	$28,845	$3,000	0%	$300	**$28,845**
2003 E-350 Super Duty Cargo Van Commercial	$28,440	$3,000	0%	$300	**$28,440**
2003 E-350 SD Extended Cargo Van Commercial	$29,875	$3,000	0%	$300	**$29,875**
2003 E-350 Cutaway SD Chassis 138´´ WB Strd.	$25,115	$3,000	0%	$300	**$25,115**

*Not all buyers qualify for Ford Credit Financing. $16.67 Ford Credit APR finance charge per month per $1,000 financed with 10% down. Offers good on retail deliveries from dealer stock through 1/31/04. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. **For qualified taxpayers. Tax deductions are computed on an individual basis. Please consult your accountant / tax advisor regarding the above tax law and the implications as they apply to your particular situation. Deductions limited by your percentage of business use.



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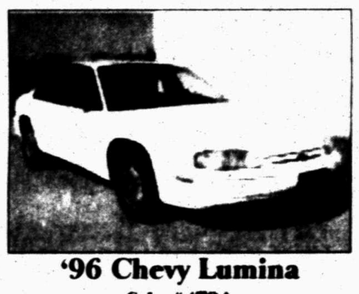
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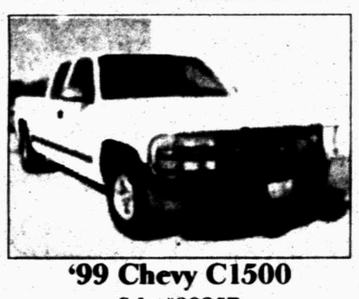


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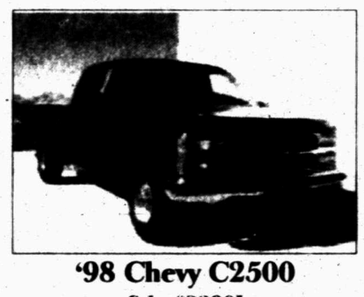
'99 Chevy C1500
Stk. #3925B
$249/mo
***$9,997



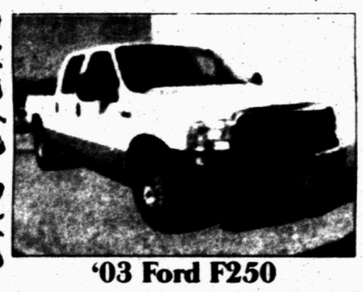
'03 Ford F150 S/C 4x4 Fx4
Stk. #3902
$429/mo
*$22,997



'01 Dodge 1500 Reg. Cab Auto
Stk. #487
$179/mo
*$9,497



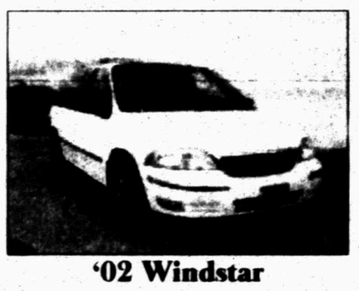
'98 Chevy C2500
Stk. #39901
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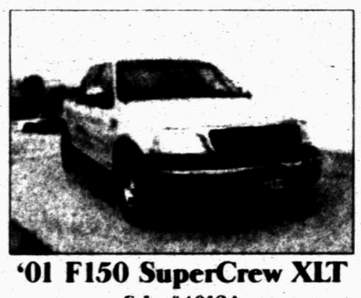
'02 F150 s/c XLT
Stk. #476
$389/mo
*$18,997



'02 Windstar
Stk. #469
$289/mo
*$15,497



'95 Cadillac Deville
Stk. #356A
$59/wkly
**$6,997



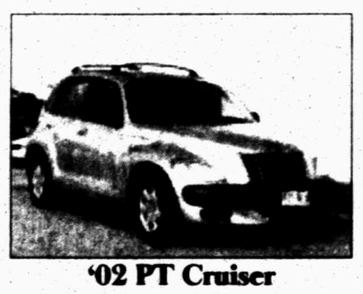
'01 F150 SuperCrew XLT
Stk. #4012A
$339/mo
*$17,997



'02 Pontiac Sunfire
Stk. #450
$169/mo
*$8,997



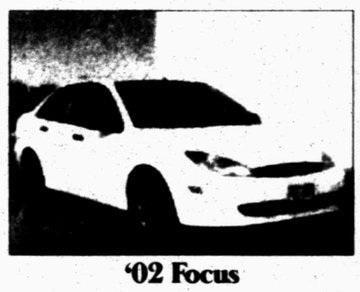
'96 Grand Marquis
Stk. #3893B
$49/wkly
**$5,997



'02 PT Cruiser
Stk. #470
$219/mo
*$11,497



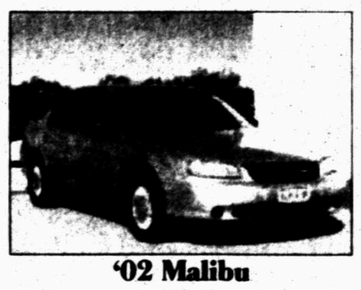
'90 Aerostar
Stk. #475A
$49/wkly
**$5,997



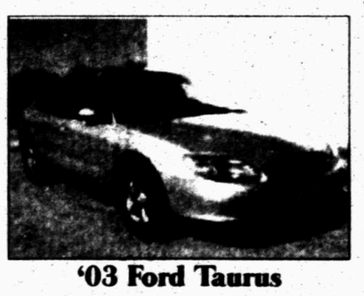
'02 Focus
Stk. #3928A
$159/mo
*$7,997



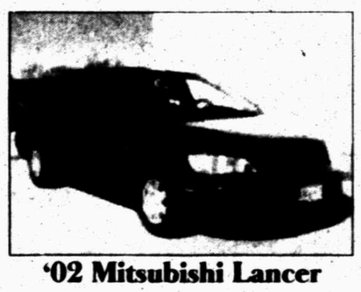
'92 Tempo
Stk. #466
$39/wkly
**$3,997



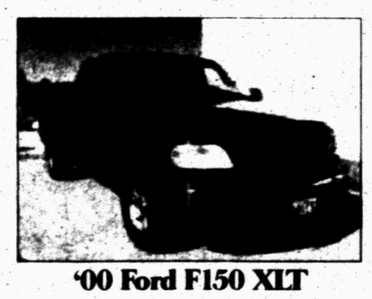
'02 Malibu
Stk. #461
$189/mo
*$9,997



'03 Ford Taurus
Stk. #484
$229/mo
*$11,997



'02 Mitsubishi Lancer
Stk. #454
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Stk. #473
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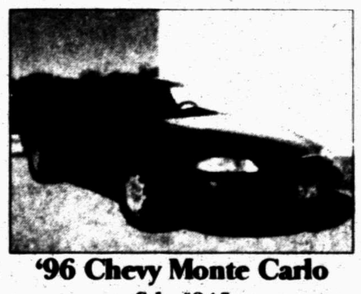
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** 20% Down & TTL, 130 weeks, 23.95% WAC
* 10% Down & TTL, 60 months, 9.9% WAC

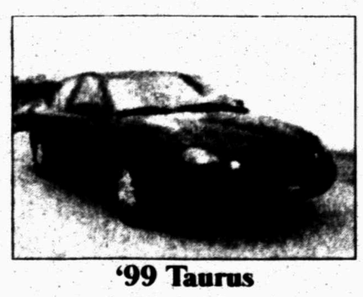
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