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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
Nov. 26, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 180
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Cynthia Jackson



HEROES HONORED – 2002 Firefighter of the Year Shane Jones (left) presents the 2003 Firefighter of the Year award to Jason Gruben. He was among the honorees at the 74th annual Snyder Fire/Rescue Thanksgiving banquet Tuesday night. (SDN Staff Photo)

At annual banquet...

Jason Gruben honored with firefighter award

Snyder Fire/Rescue honored its own at the 74th annual Thanksgiving Awards banquet Tuesday night at the Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Full-time and volunteer firefighters gathered for a meal and entertainment provided by Cindy Nix and the Bluff Creek Edition.

The most anticipated award, firefighter of the year, was announced by last year's recipient, Shane Jones.

"This award goes to someone who a fireman will always want with him. Someone who you know will go into a house fire with you and know that you can depend on them, no matter if they're in front of you or behind you," he said.

Jones then revealed the 2003 Firefighter of the Year, Jason Gruben.

Gruben joined the Snyder Fire Deptment in August of 2000 after being a firefighter with Roby Volunteer Fire Dept.

Lt. Jack Callaway presented the award for Rookie of the Year to Nathan Hines who joined the Snyder department in August, 2002.

Five-year service pins were awarded to Kevin Tate, Jay Callaway and Toby Ducheneaux.

Malcomb Crawford, who was unable to attend due to illness, was awarded a pin marking 15 years of service.

Secretary Lori Kincheloe presented the award for 100 percent drill attendance to Jack Callaway and Cy Crawford.

Training coordinator Cy Posey presented the training award to Justin Stribling.

"He went above and beyond. He put in so many of hours in training," Posey said of Stribling.

Darrell Reston was given the workhorse award, but was unable to attend.

An emotional moment came when Captain Sterling Williams presented the Melvin Newton Award to his father, Garlan Williams.

Fire Chief Perry Westmorland presented the officers award to Snyder's Wal-Mart for its support over the past year. R.J. Youngclause, Wal-Mart manager, accepted the award.

One guilty plea entered in Allsup's faked robbery

A 19-year-old Snyder man charged in the staged robbery of Allsup's convenience store in Snyder has pleaded guilty in 132nd District Court.

Quinton Edward Traylor of 3119 39th pleaded guilty to engaging in organized criminal activity. District Judge Ernie Armstrong sentenced Traylor to serve 10 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Traylor was one of five people charged in the faked robbery reported early on the morning of Sept. 13.

Less than a week after the inside robbery, four persons were arrested and a fifth accomplice was later charged.

Store clerk Angel Southern, who also is charged with engaging in organized criminal activity, initially told officers that a white male had walked into the store on south College Avenue and demanded the day's receipts that she was in the process of counting.

The clerk said the man did not display a weapon, but rather demanded the money in a "forceful way."

Three other persons pleading guilty in district court were placed on probation.

Andres Gutierrez III, 18, of 2809 25th Street pleaded guilty to a Sept. 21 charge of forgery.

Gutierrez was sentenced to serve two years in a TDCJ state jail facility, probated for five year. He also was fined $500 and ordered to make restitution totaling $410 to United and to West Texas State Bank.

Andres Hermosillo and Samuel Leiva pleaded guilty to felony driving while intoxicated.

Hermosillo, 41, of 3765 Sunset entered a guilty plea to a Nov. 18, 2001 DWI offense. Hermosillo was given a 10-year probated sentence and fined $1,000.

Leiva, 39, of 1705 Ave. R pleaded guilty to DWI on Aug. 23. He was given a six-year probated prison sentence and fined $1,000.

Both Hermosillo and Leiva were ordered to serve 240 days each in the Scurry County jail.

SDN delivery change noted

The annual Thanksgiving Day edition of the Snyder Daily News will be delivered early Thursday.

The edition will contain the Two-Day Sale advertisements of local merchants, an event that traditionally signals the start of the Christmas shopping season in Snyder.

The edition will be delivered to subscribers by 7 a.m. Thursday. The SDN will resume its regular publication schedule on Friday.

Food and toy drives held in community

At least two civic organizations in Snyder are providing local citizens an opportunity to share with the less fortunate this holiday season.

The Snyder Kiwanis Club again is sponsoring the Goodfellows food drive and the Girl Scouts are spearheading Toys For Kids.

Scurry County families may apply for food donations through the Goodfellows by filling out a form that appears in the newspaper. Deadline to apply is Dec. 6.

There also is an application form in the Snyder Daily News for Christmas for Kids.

Families will then be mailed an appointment time. Items required at the appointment are each child's birth certificate, social security card and proof of family income.

Toys will be distributed Dec. 18-20. For more information call Judi Martin or Alicia Graves at 573-7556.

Residents invited to write letters concerning hospital district election

Because of the peak interest in the issues surrounding the hospital district election, the Snyder Daily News has temporarily suspended its prohibition against letters to the editor.

Local residents are invited to comment, pro or con, on the Dec. 6 election to create a hospital district in Scurry County.

Letters should be brief and to the point, and an attempt will be made to publish them prior to election day.

"We have had a long-standing policy not to run letters to the editor regarding an issue or candidates listed on a ballot once the election is called," said SDN publisher Roy McQueen.

"However, the wide-spread interest in this election and its impact on the community in general has resulted in the decision by the SDN editorial staff to temporarily suspend the policy."

Sendoff, tailgate party Saturday

SHS varsity cheerleaders have organized a big sendoff for the Snyder grid team at 9:45 a.m. Saturday as the Tigers head for San Angelo for the Class 3A quarter final playoff game against Abilene Wylie.

The team bus will leave from the fieldhouse down 37th Street to College Avenue.

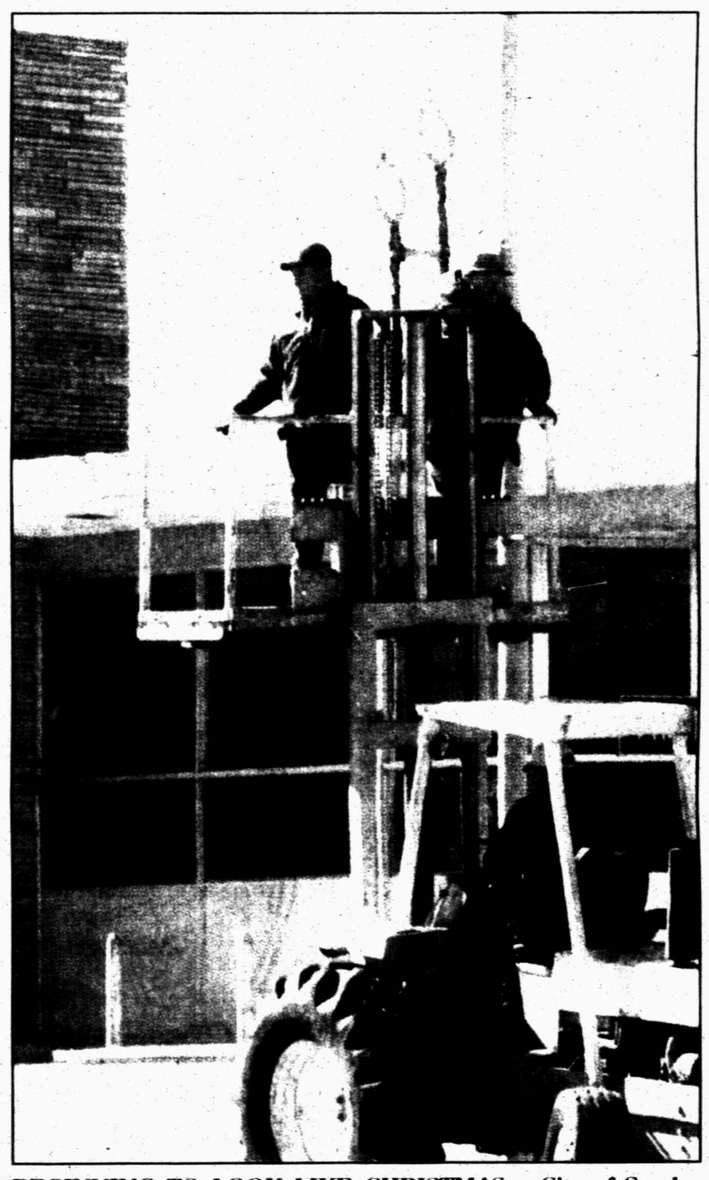
Tiger fans are asked to line up on College Avenue beginning at 37th St. and heading south.

Prior to the 2 p.m. kickoff at San Angelo Stadium, the Tigers Booster Club will hold a tailgate party beginning at noon on the east side of the stadium.

"We'll have 800 hamburgers to serve beginning at noon and continuing until 1 o'clock," said club president Mike Tyrrell.

Cost is a $6 donation and includes chips, cookies and a drink, said Tyrrell.

The tailgate party ends at 1:30.



BEGINNING TO LOOK LIKE CHRISTMAS – City of Snyder employee "elves" put up Christmas decorations on College Ave. Workers are striving to have everything ready for the chamber-sponsored Lighted Christmas Parade Dec. 6. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Jo Ann Nunley



Countless hours are spent on the telephone — landline, cordless, cell, etc. My limited technical knowledge excludes naming the others, but all appear necessary for home and business.

Alexander Graham Bell invented an instrument to transmit speech in 1876. Since then, one wonders how we could get along without telephones.

The world is so dependent on the devices, and for the most part, everyone we call and all incoming calls are courteous and respectful in greetings, handling business and salutations. However, telephone etiquette makes for a better workday and home time.

My first contact with the telephone was a rectangle wood-looking box hanging high on the wall at my grandparents' home. The earpiece was a bell-shaped apparatus at the end of a long wire and you would talk into a metal mouthpiece that extended from the box. It had a handle on its side to crank and an operator's voice came through the earpiece asking for the number you wanted. Then she would connect you with your desired number.

Back then phone messages were brief and to the point. Somewhere from that point, I formed the opinion that the caller was the one to terminate the conversation.

Needing another phone to save steps at home, we purchased a new cordless phone that will do all the things you need and more. Husband Mickey was experimenting with the 10 different features and five caller ID features and eight answering system features. Much to his surprise our friend Sandra Robinson was on the line. He handed me the phone and Sandra and I talked, and we talked and we talked some more. After the affairs of the day were discussed, we continued the conversation by asking each other about our children, grandchildren and several other family members down to the nieces and nephews. Then we would pause, thinking the other must be wanting to say something maybe a little difficult to express. An hour passed this way.

Still thinking she had called me and remembering the caller makes the move to hang up, I would think of something else to keep the conversation going. She had been ironing all this time and finally complained about her neck hurting. We ended the conversation and didn't find out until the next day how the twist of mechanics connected us by way of the husband tinkering with the phone and had a good laugh about it.

Searching through the telephone etiquette guide didn't state this particular situation but many rules on answering the phone were available.

I've been forgiven, but have since noticed when Sandra calls she states her message and doesn't give me a chance to forget who called whom.

ASK US

Q—When will the Snyder Daily News start accepting letters to Santa Claus?

A—Bring or mail them in beginning Friday. The deadline is Dec. 12 in order for them to be forwarded to the North Pole.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Jimmy Griffith...

...lives in Lubbock, but comes to Snyder every Thursday to deliver the Thrifty Nickel. "I'm here every Thursday, except for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Then I'm here on Wednesday." He has been married for 61 years to Mabrelle Griffith and he has two sons, Douglas and Duane.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

The first duty of love is to listen.

—Paul Tillich

NOV 26 2003

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Poinsettia sale

The SHS choir poinsettia sale continues through Monday when deliveries will be made. Cost is $10 and can be ordered from any SHS choir member.

VFW auxiliary meeting

The VFW Auxiliary Post 8231 will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at the post home. Members are urged to attend.

Deadline for Tiger's Lair

The deadline for senior dedications in the Tiger's Lair Yearbook is Monday. A message of up to 35 words, a picture and $45 should be mailed to SHS Student Publications, 2901 37th. Call 574-6138 for more information.

Ira School photos

The following Ira students will be photographed Tuesday: K-11 retakes and new students. Also, class favorites 6-12; junior and high school basketball. Group pictures (and officers): Junior and high school FFA, FCA, NHS, Student Council. Envelopes for basketball pictures and retakes will be passed out on Monday.

Ira 2004 calendars

Ira's junior class is selling 2004 calendars featuring students from K-12. Cost is $10. Contact sponsors Vicki Flowers or Ron Baker at 573-2628 for orders. Deadline is Dec. 4 for Christmas delivery.

GED test registration

Mandatory pre-registration for the GED test will be from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at the GED testing center on the campus of Western Texas College, Building 7B. The math segment of the GED will begin at 8 a.m. Friday, Dec. 5. For more information about the GED test, call Betty Thompson, 573-2310, or Emily Hataway, 573-8511, ext. 297, or 574-2112.

Sophomore family night out

Sophomore family night out will be Thursday, Dec. 4 at the Spanish Inn. You must present your coupon with your receipt. For more information, call Lynette Cooper at 573-1558.

G/T parents meeting

A meeting for parents of gifted and talented students will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at the West Elementary auditorium.

Annual Christmas parade

Snyder's annual lighted Christmas parade will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 6. Line-up begins at 6 p.m. at Moffett Field. For parade entries call 573-3558 for more information. Santa will be at Towle Park from 4-6 p.m. the same day. Anyone interested in having a booth in the park may call 573-9811.

Child welfare board fundraiser

The Scurry County child welfare board is offering tickets for $1,000 worth of merchandise. A donation of $10 per ticket is requested for a drawing to be held Dec. 6. Tickets are available from any board member or by calling 573-7053 or 573-2376.

Choir Christmas program

"The Christmas Suite" will be presented at 2 p.m. Dec. 7 in the Worsham Auditorium by the combined choirs of Snyder High School, Snyder Junior High and West Elementary. The concert will follow a Christmas dessert buffet in the student center. Tickets are $5 and can be purchased from any choir member.

Early Head Start's new building

Scurry Community Services invite you to the grand opening of Scurry County Early Head Start's new building at 2802 Second St. from 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 9.

LVN testing dates

Testing dates at WTC for LVN ASSET will be 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 9, 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.

WTC spring pre-registration

Pre-registration at WTC continues through Dec. 12. Students should call or go by the counseling center to make an appointment. The number is 573-8511, ext. 313. Students who have not passed THEA (formerly TASP) and are in DRE, DMT and DEN classes must wait until grades are posted.

Madrigal Christmas dinners

The annual Madrigal Christmas dinners presented by the SHS choral department will be held at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 15-16 at Martha Ann Woman's Club. Tickets are $15 and can be obtained by calling 573-6301, after the Thanksgiving holiday.

Extra cookbooks available

Extra Home for the Holidays cookbooks can be purchased at the Scurry County Extension Office for $5 each.

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbook

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbooks can still be ordered for $45 for the book only with additional options available for an extra costs. For more information, call 574-6138.

WTC Lions Club raffle

WTC Lions Club is selling chances for two spring season passes for either baseball or softball. Tickets are $1 each or six for $5. Tickets are available from any WTC Lions Club member. The drawing will be held Dec. 10.

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.

Senior citizens swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens at WTC is held from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesday and next Thursday. For more information, call 573-4035.

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.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Young teenager is perplexed by up-and-down disposition

DEAR ABBY: I am in my early teens and have mood swings. I assume everybody has them, but I have had mine nearly every day for the past five months. One minute I will be laughing about something, the next minute I get "down in the dumps." I can feel happy and sad at the same time.

I haven't told anybody about how I feel — not even my parents. I need to know if this is a real problem, or if this is a part of "growing up." Please help. — **CONFUSED ALABAMA TEEN**

DEAR CONFUSED: You are at an age when there are massive changes occurring in your body chemistry. What you have described can sometimes be caused by hormonal shifts.

However, it is important that you communicate your feelings to your parents and discuss your mood swings with them. From my perspective, they are definitely a part of growing up. But if they continue to trouble you, an appointment with your family doctor should be scheduled.

**

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Mack," and I have seven children. I was a stay-at-home mom while they were growing up. Mack worked in the oil fields. An accident in the fields put him in a wheelchair and now I work while he stays home.

Mack was told he would never again feel anything from the waist down, but he has been fortunate to have regained the use of everything except his left leg.

My problem is, while I am at work, Mack gets drunk and trashes the house. I have tried talking to him about it, but he gets defensive. He says I don't tell him what needs to be done so he doesn't do it. I feel he should look around and do what he knows needs to be done. How do I get him to cooperate? — **STUCK IN TEXAS**

DEAR STUCK: Before your husband can do an effective job around the house, he will have to sober up. Please encourage him to get help for his drinking. The cause might be depression, frustration or anger that he is no longer the primary wage earner and is stuck at home doing what he perceives to be "woman's work." Counseling can help. And an AA meeting is as near as the phone book.

Once Mack has dried out enough to be lucid during your working hours, I recommend you give him a list of the things that need to be done around the house. It's a lot more helpful than giving him an argument later.

**

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Wylie" for 3 1/2 years. Eight weeks ago, he gave me an engagement ring. I immediately shared the news with my friends. He, on the other hand, has told no one about our engagement.

One of the people I told went to Wylie and said, "I heard you're getting married." (He was going to congratulate him.) Wylie responded, "No. Maybe later."

When I heard about it, I asked my man, "Aren't we engaged?" He said yes.

Could he just be leading me on? — **FEELS LIKE A FOOL IN TENNESSEE**

DEAR FEELS: Watch out for wily Wylie. If he denies to others that your engagement is for real, it isn't. Only a cad would behave that way.

**

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $10 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

(EDITORS: For editorial questions, please contact Alan McDermott, amcdermott(at)amuniversal.com)

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Today's chuckle

Instant oatmeal packets on way to Afghan



CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (AP) — More than a thousand packets of instant oatmeal are on their way to an Iowa soldier's unit in Afghanistan after he wrote home saying he missed his favorite breakfast cereal.

Patrick Claus, of Cedar Rapids, is an Iowa National Guard helicopter pilot. He sent e-mails home to his wife, Carolyn, that he would like her to send him some Quaker instant oatmeal from home. She sent 18 boxes. They were gone in 10 days.

Carolyn Claus mentioned the soldiers' interest in oatmeal to Mary Smith, whose husband, Mark, works at the Quaker Oats plant in Cedar Rapids.

The next shipment, courtesy of Quaker Oats, is on its way to Afghanistan. It includes 1,200 packets of instant oatmeal, 1,200 granola bars and 40 pounds of powdered Gatorade.

Patrick Claus, a major with the Boone-based 109th Aviation Company, has been in Afghanistan since Aug. 2. He has daughters aged 4 and 13.

Dying boy's birthday spoiled by thief

HOUSTON (AP) — A dying boy's birthday wish for a toy store shopping spree turned sour after someone stole the goodies he'd collected.

Steven Rael spent three hours on Monday cramming all he could into several shopping carts at a Houston Toys "R" Us. With store employees, friends and representatives of the Texas Wishing Well Foundation at his side, Steven picked a Play Station 2, DVD movies, computer games and a bike.

Steven lost a leg to cancer last year and the disease has spread to his lungs and bones. Doctors didn't expect him to live much beyond his 11th birthday, so celebrating his 13th on Monday was special, his family said.

"I just felt real happy," Steven told KPRC-TV in Houston. "It was the best day of my life."

All in all, he received about $5,000 in toys and donations, said his mother, Diane Lewis. That's much more than she or her fiance could afford to spend, she said.

After the shopping spree, a cab driver helped load the toys into his cab for the ride home. Steven and his family would lead the way in a Hummer they borrowed for the afternoon.

"He hugged me. He cried. He said he was so sorry for what Steven was going through," Lewis said of the cab driver. But he never showed up at their house, she said.

"We just couldn't believe it," Lewis told the Houston Chronicle. "Why would someone do this to Steven? Don't they have a heart?"

LIVE! ON STAGE!

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Cinderella

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2:00 pm and 7:30 pm Performances

Free Passes for children 6th grade & under compliments of

Texas Savings Bank

Come in to receive your ticket 9:00 am - 3:00 pm or pick it up at the drive in window until 6:00 pm

Adult tickets are available at Texas Savings Bank or the Chamber of Commerce Office $5 each

The Ritz Box Office will be open for passes and tickets Saturday, 1-5 pm.

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events

LOTTO TEXAS™ TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 1-5-22-31. Bonus Ball: 17.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Prize: $200,000.

Number matching four of four: 7. Prize: $2,068.

Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 36. Prize: $50.

Number matching three of four: 1,056. Prize: $23.

Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 861. Prize: $18.

Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 5,715. Prize: $7.

Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 10,907. Prize: $5.

Estimated jackpot for Friday night drawing: $250,000.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2-11-27-33-37.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Prize per winner: $0.

Matching four of five: 175. Prize: $364.

Matching three of five: 4,616. Prize: $11.

Matching two of five: 47,081. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

Pick 3

(Day) 7-0-0

(Night) 3-7-7

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Published each Sunday morning and each evening, except Saturday, by Snyder Publishing Co., Inc., 3600 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79549.

Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Snyder, Texas, Publication Number USPS611-520.

POSTMASTER send change of address to P.O. Box 949, Snyder, Texas, 79550.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier in Snyder, $9.25 per month.

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

Roy McQueen, Publisher

Wade Warren, Managing Editor

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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

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Scurry County Country

Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Dannheim, CEA Family and Consumer Sciences, 2605 Avenue M, Snyder, Texas 79549

Continued From Last Week
Suggested freezer storage time: 6-8 weeks.

Fruit, Mince, Nut Pies, Unbaked -- Prepare as usual. The flavor of a pie is fresher when it's frozen before baking. Some sources suggest using quick-cooking tapioca to thicken pie filling instead of your usual thickener. Cornstarch and flour are more likely to separate when the pie is thawed.

Here are some general guidelines if you'd like to adapt your recipe for quick-cooking tapioca: Approximately 1 tablespoon of quick-cooking tapioca is equal to ½ teaspoons cornstarch or 1 tablespoon flour.

Mix the fruit, tapioca, sugar and flavorings and let stand in a bowl for 15 minutes before placing in your pie shell. This helps the tapioca hydrate and absorb the fruit juice. If you find that juicier pies tend to boil over more when baked from the frozen state, add an extra tablespoon of tapioca next time.

When freezing unbaked pies with light-colored fruits — such as apples, peaches, pears and apricots — be aware these fruits may turn dark. The quickest way to prevent this is to treat them with a commercial anti-browning product for fruit, such as Ever-Fresh (TM) or Fruit-Fresh (R). These are found in most supermarkets in the food preservation supplies section. Follow package directions.

Do not cut vents in the top crust before freezing. When ready to bake, cut vents in the upper crust. Place pan on a foil-covered cookie sheet and bake without thawing at 450 degrees F for 15 to 20 minutes. Placing a cookie sheet under the pie helps it bake more evenly and protects your oven should any juices bubble over. Then bake for 20 — 30 minutes at 375 degrees F until the top crust is brown. As pies, pie plates and ovens vary, adjust time and temperature as needed.

One method to help determine doneness is to check the tenderness of the fruit by cutting into the pie through a steam vent with a sharp knife. If the edges of your pie crust are browning too quickly, crimp strips of foil, shiny side up, around the rim of your crust. About a 2-inch wide strip should be sufficient for covering your crust edges.

Suggested freezer storage time: 3-4 months.

Fruit, Mince, Nut Pies, Baked — Make as usual. Cool as rapidly as possible on a wire cooling rack. (Note: Pies baked in metal rather than glass pie plates will cool faster.) Freeze and then wrap. It's easier to wrap a pie after freezing.

To serve, thaw in the refrigerator and serve chilled or reheat in a 325 degrees F oven until warm. As a test of when your pie has warmed, "Joy of Cooking" (Scribner) suggest heating until a knife inserted through a steam vent on top of your pie comes out warm. As recommended for unbaked pies, cover edges with foil if they start browning too rapidly during reheating.

Suggested freezer storage time: 3-4 months

Pumpkin Pie — If you'd like to prepare pumpkin pie ahead, it's easiest and safest to freeze just the crust. Add the filling to the frozen crust just before baking and bake as usual. It takes just a few minutes to mix together the ingredients. As pumpkin pie is a perishable food and shouldn't be left at room temperature more than two hours, your pie is safer to eat when you bake it the day of your meal. Also, the quality of a freshly baked homemade pumpkin pie is usually higher than a frozen one.

Cheesecake, Baked

Make as usual, bake and cool as rapidly as possible on a wire cooling rack. As cheesecake is a perishable food, it shouldn't be left at room temperature more than 2 hours.

After the first hour of cooling, transfer to the top shelf of your refrigerator to complete the cooling. Place in a location where cross-contamination won't occur. Freeze unwrapped, then wrap and place in a rigid container to protect from crushing. Thaw wrapped cheesecake in refrigerator.

Suggested freezer storage time; 4 weeks.

Candy

Make as usual and freeze. Most candies freeze well. One notable exception is chocolate covered cherries. The filling may expand during freezing and break open the candy. Wrap candies individually in freezer plastic wrap and place in a rigid container to prevent crushing. Thaw, wrapped, at room temperature. A whitish fat "bloom" may appear on the surface of chocolate during freezing. This should disappear after candy is thawed.

Suggested freezer storage time: 6-8 months.

A Holiday Wish

So, mark your calendar for B-Day (Bake Day), buy your ingredients, play some holiday music and enjoy yourself as you bake ahead favorite foods.

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Poinsettias Are Not Poisonous

Yes, there is a Santa Claus — and he can safely bring you beautiful poinsettias to fill your home during the holidays. Because, contrary to popular belief, poinsettias are not poisonous.

The myth began 83 years ago in Hawaii. According to the story, the young child of an Army officer stationed there died after eating poinsettia leaves. The true story, however, was revealed by James W. Boodley, PhD. and Professor Emeritus, Cornell University. In 1972, while a visiting professor at the University of Hawaii, Dr. Boodley contacted the hospital where the attending physician had been employed. The physician had died but the hospital put Dr. Boodley in touch with his son who said that the story was not true.

Although he did not know how the story originally got started, he did know that poinsettias were not involved in the death. Nonetheless, once started, the myth continued to be picked up, developing into what is today a widely held yet false belief.

Dr. Boodley's interest was due in part to research conducted the year before, in 1971, by The Ohio State University. There researchers tested the toxicity of poinsettias by adding the plants to a liquid solution, mixing it in a blender and feeding it to 55 rats.

The researchers, writing in the journal Toxicon, concluded that rats, "when given extraordinarily high doses of various portions of the poinsettia, show no mortality, no symptoms of toxicity nor any changes in dietary intake or general behavior pattern."

According to the Society of American Florists (SAF), the poinsettia is the most widely tested consumer plant on the market today and research has proven over and over again that the plant is not toxic.

For example, according to POISINDEX, the national information center for poison control centers, a 50pound child would have to ingest 500600 poinsettia bracts (leaves) to exceed the experiment doses that found no toxicity in the OSU study — doses that are far greater than those likely to occur in a home environment. Even at this high level, no toxicity was demonstrated.

Like other house plants, poinsettias are not meant to be eaten. Nonetheless, the research shows that ingestion of a substantial number of poinsettia leaves will cause little reaction, those reactions including possible nausea and vomiting or mild skin irritation in sensitive individuals due to the latex in the sap.

A study by the Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University found that out of 22,793 reported poinsettia exposures, there was essentially no toxicity significance.

The study used data from the American Association of Poison Control Centers.

Francis Kosher, Ph.D., of the American Council on Science and Health reports in an article, "The Myth of the 'Poisonous' Poinsettia," that in 1996, Dr. Edward Krenzelok, director of Pittsburgh Poison Center, looked at the reallife effects of humans unintentionally consuming any part of the poinsettia. Dr. Krenzelok and his coworkers "analyzed the health effects observed in the approximately 850,000 plant exposures reported to the American Association of Poison Control Centers. Poinsettia exposures accounted for almost 23,000 cases. There were no fatalities among any poinsettia exposures, even among children."

Dr. Koschier reported that "The analysis of the AAPCC data was also evaluated for the types of effects produced in the 21,000 cases involving children. Very few cases (4 percent) even needed evaluation or treatment in a healthcare facility. A total of 92 percent of children ingesting poinsettia parts reported no effect at all."

Dr. Krenzelok "summarized his findings by saying it is 'highly unlikely for any significant adverse effect to occur after ingestion of small to modest amounts of the poinsettia plant.'" He added the wise advice that "If you have questions on an exposure to the poinsettia plant, don't hesitate to call a poison control center for additional advice."

These are just a few of the many resources dispelling the myth of the poisonous poinsettia. So go ahead and enjoy this special holiday floral tradition secure in the knowledge that it is not only beautiful but safe. Share the myth of the poisonous poinsettia with friends and family. And share the holiday magic that the many varieties of poin-settiasfrom red to pink to purple and morebring, when poinsettias, like Christmas, come but once a year.

—

"The Star-Spangled Banner" became the national anthem of the United States in 1931.

—

Because two of Mary Todd Lincoln's brothers were Confederate soldiers, she was accused by some of being a spy for the South during the Civil War.

?Weather Whys?

"Topic: Santa Ana Winds

Q: We often hear about the 'Santa Ana Winds.' What are they?

A: These are warm, dry winds that blow from the east or Northeast into areas of California, says Andrew Odins of Texas A&M University.

"These winds most often occur in southern California near an area called the Santa Ana Canyon, hence their name. The area has some unusual topography and natural features that are ideal for the formation of these winds, which range in speed from 25 to 75 miles per hour.

"The clockwise circulation around high pressure areas forces air quickly down the slopes of the mountains in the region and the dry, desert air becomes even warmer as it moves through the valleys."

Q: How do the Santa Ana Winds affect fires in the area?

A: The strong winds almost always worsen any fire situation they get near, adds Odins. "The brisk winds tend to fan the flames and can make a minor forest fire into a major fire event," Odins says.

"Because Santa Ana Winds are very dry, the low humidity in them dries out vegetation quickly, further worsening fire conditions. The recent fires in California that burned for days received major help from Santa Ana Winds.

"Probably the worst case occurred in 1961 in Bel Air, Calif., when Santa Ana Winds helped fan flames on a fire that burned for three days and burned over 500 homes, many of them belonging to movie stars in the area.

"In 1993, another fire fueled by Santa Ana Winds burned more than 200,000 acres and destroyed 1,000 homes. Santa Ana Winds are most common between October and February, with December having the most wind-aided events."

—

ABOUT WEATHER WHYS

"Weather Whys" is a service of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences. Past and current topics can be viewed via the web at http://rev.tamu.edu/weather-whys/. For more information, please contact Keith Randall at (979) 845-4644 or kr@univrel.tamu.edu. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to news@univrel.tamu.edu.

Appeals court reduces Ford verdict

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A record $290 million punitive-damages verdict against Ford over a rollover accident that killed three people was reduced by a California appeals court Tuesday to $23.7 million.

The Fifth District Court of Appeal, based in Fresno, cut the nation's largest product liability award to conform with a U.S. Supreme Court precedent that in April capped large awards.

The decision is one of dozens of damage verdicts courts across the country are reviewing following the Supreme Court's edict. It is the largest award to be reduced so far.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT

LAKE J. B. THOMAS (200,604 ACRE FEET AT ELEVATION 2258.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	11-24-02	11-17-03	11-24-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	17.56	10.03	17.83
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	18,821	19,778	19,367
PERCENT FULL	9.38	9.86	9.65
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	1.00
IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0
SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

E.V. SPENCE RESERVOIR (517,262 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1898.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	11-24-02	11-17-03	11-24-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	38.37	40.31	40.07
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	37,091	42,646	41,930
PERCENT FULL	7.17	8.24	8.11
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.20	0.00

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION

O.H. IVIE RESERVOIR (554,340 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1551.50 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	11-24-02	11-17-03	11-24-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	28.16	26.72	26.59
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	217,717	203,602	202,368
PERCENT FULL	39.27	36.73	36.51
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

	LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE	THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE	THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY
	11-17-02	11-24-03	11-24-03
	11-11-03	11-18-03	11-18-03
BIG SPRING	3,368,286	3,620,286	4,820,000
ODESSA	15,303,300	14,384,757	17,180,000
SNYDER	1,748,429	1,671,429	1,878,000
MIDLAND	16,132,871	18,658,443	20,358,200
SAN ANGELO	11,494,571	12,794,571	15,054,000
STANTON	260,857	277,571	322,000

Payments To Fit Any Budget

'01 Chevy Metro
$99.99* mo.
#A5048, Auto, A/C, Stereo
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'01 Chevy Blazer Sport
$199.99* mo.
#A7092, V-6, Pewter, CD, Bucket Seats
Sale Price $9,900, 60 months @ 9.9%



'01 Pontiac Grand Am SE
$199.99* mo.
#A3922, Pewter, Auto, 28K Miles, Loaded
Sale Price $9,900, 60 months @ 9.9%



'01 Saturn SL1
$159.99* mo.
#A4055, Sedan Auto, A/C, CD
Sale Price $7,250, 60 months @ 9.9%



'01 Chevy Blazer Sport
$249.99* mo.
Pewter, LS Pkg., CD, V-6
Sale Price $11,500, 60 months @ 9.9%



'01 Ford Mustang
$199.99* mo.
#C6572A, V-6, Auto, Power W/L
Sale Price $9,900, 60 months @ 9.9%



'01 Chevy Cavalier
$159.99* mo.
#G6179B, Auto, 38K Miles, A/C
Sale Price $7,250, 60 months @ 9.9%



'01 Pontiac Grand Am GT
$249.99* mo.
#A3922, Coupe Bright Red-Must See
Sale Price $11,500, 60 months @ 9.9%



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BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



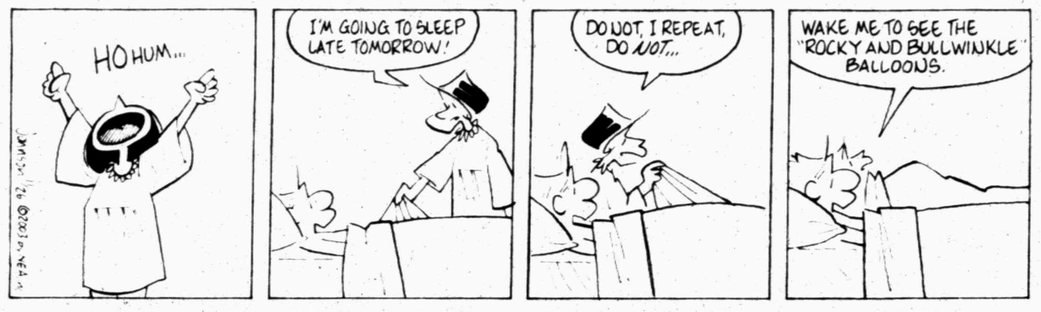
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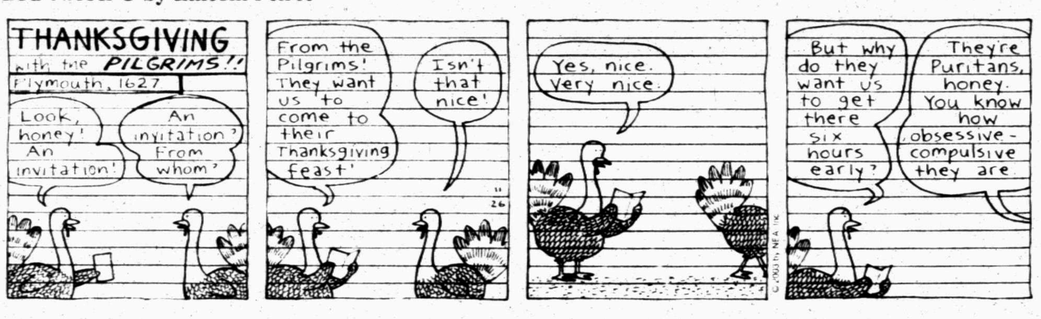
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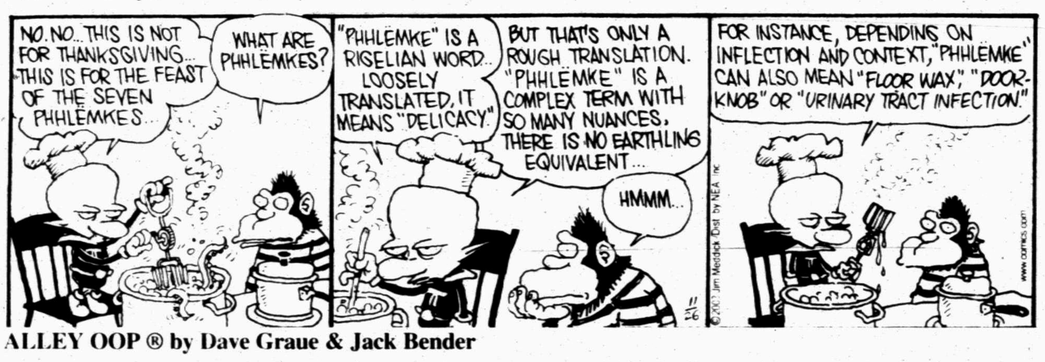
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



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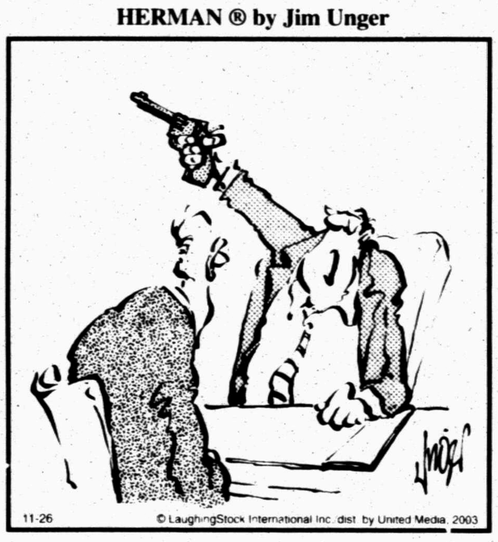
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"Ok, you've got the job! On your mark, get set..."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Talk big
6 Pantyhose shade
11 "Gesundheit!" evoker
13 Groove
14 The Supremes' label
15 Fancy
16 Codgers' queries
17 Birthday number
18 Viper
21 Noblemen
23 After Sept.
26 Golfer's goal
27 Boxing's greatest
28 Luigi's farewell
29 Trudged along
31 Poor box donations
32 Icicle locale
33 Beauts
36 Last word
37 Vanity
38 Bastille Day season
39 Casserole cover
40 Puts up pictures
42 Retina cell
43 Large weight
44 A mind of — own
46 Enormously
49 Taped over
53 Reddish antelope
54 Like gumdrops
55 Pert
56 Seville parent

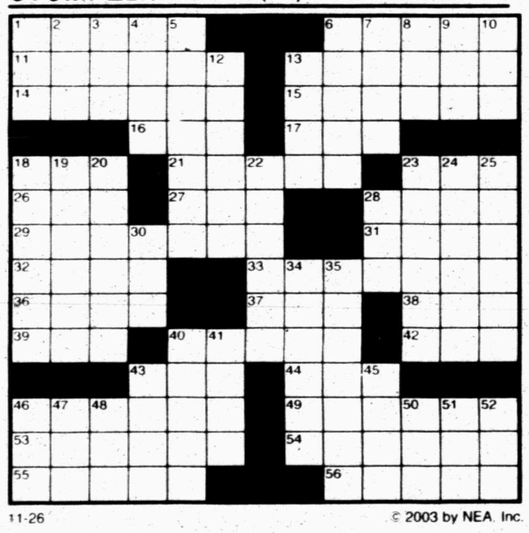
DOWN

1 Loud noise
2 Exultant cry
3 Perform in a theater
4 Loafer, maybe
5 Blonde
6 Small towns
7 Ocean flier
8 A Gershwin
9 Landed
10 Wool producer
12 At a discount (2 wds.)
13 Young horse
18 Charm
19 Deli buy
20 Removed all doubt
22 Broken in, as a horse
23 Slicker
24 Awoke (2 wds.)
25 Flipped a coin
28 Dishonorable one
30 Cave, sometimes
34 Playing marbles
35 Old-time remedy
40 Wreath material
41 Novelist — Seton
43 Herbal brews
45 Long story
46 That fellow's
47 Ms. Thurman
48 Family MDs
50 Melancholy
51 Goof up
52 Change color

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

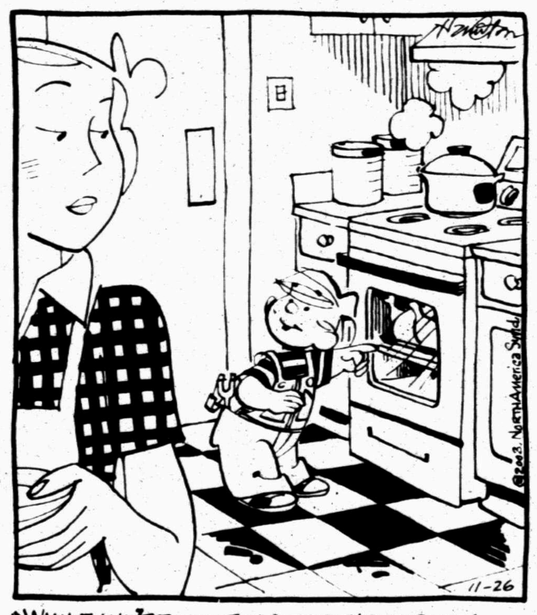
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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



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SPORTS

Tigers get first victory

The Snyder Tigers got a little help from Big Spring Tuesday, winning their first game of the season, 47-46.

The Tigers held an eight-point lead with two minutes left when Lee Scott, who had a game-high 20 points, fouled out, leaving the Tigers with a young, inexperienced lineup on the court.

The Steers whittled away at the lead before pulling even with Snyder with under :10 to play.

The Tigers missed a succession of one-and-ones, before a Big Spring player pounced on a loose ball and called time out with :01 remaining.

The Steers, however, were out of time outs, and Austin Hatfield hit the technical foul shot to give Snyder the edge.

"It was a wild game," head coach Bud Birks said. "Sometimes it's better to be lucky than good. We'll take it."

Hatfield finished with 14 points, and Tucker Early connected for six before fouling out.

The Tigers lost sophomore Cade Simpson with an ankle injury, the severity of which has not been determined. Birks said he expects Simpson to miss significant time, as the injury appeared to be serious.

The Tigers get a break in the pre-district schedule for Thanksgiving, before starting up again Tuesday with a trip to Lubbock to battle Lubbock High. Tip-off is slated for 7:30 p.m. for the varsity.

Sideline Views



by Bobby Allen

Thanksgiving came early this year — at least the giving thanks part, if not all the trimmings.

Tuesday afternoon I had just eaten a turkey sandwich — left over from Sunday when my family ate the obligatory turkey dinner, since Korie and the boys were heading to El Paso Tuesday for the holidays — when the telephone rang.

My wife, who I had just packed off for the six-hour trek west, was on the other end of the line, frantic.

She had been in a collision on the Interstate at Odessa, she sobbed, and could I get down there and pick them up?

A cloud of dirt in the median caught Korie's eye, and before she had time to react, a large sedan emerged from the dust, right into oncoming traffic.

After getting assurances that she and the boys were not hurt, I made a phone call and booked.

I got to them a lot faster than I should have, and not nearly fast enough.

Fortunately, there was and is much for which to be thankful.

Our managing editor, Wade Warren, was the first person I called. He and his wife, Carolyn, are from Odessa, and they helped Korie find her way to a safe, warm place to sit while waiting.

We're thankful Carolyn's mother, Blanche, was kind enough to open her home to a rattled stranger and her two frightened children.

Margaret, whose last name I did not catch in the confusion, was a few cars behind Korie, and gave her and my sons a ride to Blanche's and waited with her until my arrival. Her husband works in Snyder, and she offered to drive Korie, Trent and Trevor back to town. I am in her debt, with much appreciation.

Thankfully, the accident did not seriously hurt anyone involved, including the driver whose out-of-control car caused the wreck. No one hit our car from the rear, even though it was stalled in the middle of a busy Interstate.

Our little car, so steady and reliable for us, took all of the impact. The front end was a twisted ball of metal and plastic, and the passenger's door could barely be opened. Thankfully, Korie had the presence of mind to turn into the oncoming disaster, so that the right front — where no one was sitting — would take all the force.

Joe at the wrecker service explained what would happen, and his German Shepard helped lessen the shock of the intitial sight of the wreckage by tugging on my shoestrings as I walked around the vehicle.

Korie was shaken, and she and the boys all suffered bruises and scratches as those life-saving straps of canvas dug in and did their jobs.

We got home last night, Thanksgiving plans ruined, but the family whole, healthy and together.

As I took my sleeping sons — who weathered the ordeal like a couple of veterans — to bed I stepped on a plastic dinosaur.

But instead of cursing, I took it as a blessing, a reminder of how much I had, and how much I have to lose.

Thankfully, we will all be together for the holidays.

Thank God.

Dallas 124, Chicago 98...

New coach, same result for Bulls

DALLAS (AP) — Except for a different coach, the Chicago Bulls looked pretty much the same.

The Bulls appeared to start with some extra energy, hanging tough early in their first game for interim coach Pete Myers. Then, everything fell apart after halftime.

Michael Finley scored a season-high 28 points, 15 in the decisive third quarter when Dallas made 12 straight shots, and the Mavericks beat Chicago 124-98 on Tuesday night.

It was the sixth straight loss for the Bulls (4-11), and their most lopsided since suffering consecutive 30-point losses the opening week of the season.

"I don't know what we can do to get this turned around," Bulls guard Jamal Crawford said. "Every loss is more frustrating."

Coach Bill Cartwright, a key to Chicago's first three championships as a starting center, was fired Monday. He was 51-100 since taking over Dec. 28, 2001.

"We never blamed it on him. This is not one person's fault," said Tyson Chandler, who led the Bulls with 17 points and six rebounds, all in the first half.

Myers, who had his best season as a player was 1993-94 after replacing then-retired Michael Jordan in the Bulls lineup, is expected to coach only two games. The second is Wednesday night at defending champion San Antonio.

General manager John Paxson will probably name a replacement before the Bulls play their next game after that, Monday at home. Former Phoenix coach Scott Skiles appears to be the likely candidate, but former Orlando coach Doc Rivers — a Chicago native — is also a possibility.

On Tuesday night, the Bulls got beat by Finley, a Chicago native.

Finley's 3-pointer started a 35-15 run over the final nine minutes of the third quarter for Dallas, which won its fourth straight and is undefeated in eight home games.

Finley also had a couple of fast-break baskets, another 3-pointer and a three-point play before Antawn Jamison's three-point play ended the streak of 12 straight made shots. After a couple of misses, Finley's 22-footer made it 102-72 at the end of the third.

"Once they got down, they got that 'Here we go again' look on their faces," Finley said.

Dallas made 16 of 21 shots while scoring 41 points in the third, matching their highest-scoring quarter of the season.

The Bulls played the second half without Scottie Pippen, who took an elbow to the face late in the second quarter.

Astros still in talks with Pettitte

HOUSTON (AP) — Agents for Andy Pettitte met again with Houston Astros officials Tuesday and say the left-hander who is coming off a four-year contract with the New York Yankees may have a decision on his future plans by the middle of next month.

Houston television station KRIV quoted unidentified major league sources as saying the Astros had offered Pettitte a three-year contract.

But Astros owner Drayton McLane said it was premature to talk about an offer. "This was more an exploratory discussion," McLane told KRIV. "For Andy Pettitte to come to Houston, he wants to understand more about the team we are going to have next year and future years going down the road. This was more of an overall general discussion not only about him being a Houston Astro but how our team is going to develop the next several years."

Re-signing Pettitte is the No. 1 priority of the American League champion Yankees, who have said they expect to negotiate with him later in the offseason. Pettitte lives in the Houston area.

Randy Hendricks, one of Pettitte's agents, told KRIV that they met with Houston officials to clarify some matters previously discussed.

Hendricks wouldn't comment on any offers from the Astros other than to say the Astros are interested.

"We wouldn't be back if Andy weren't interested," he said.

Deep Frenship club outlasts Lady Tigers

Frenship outlasted the Lady Tigers Tuesday, scoring 15 points in each of the final two quarters to secure a 63-54 victory.

The Lady Tigers (2-2) were led by Sarah Henson, who scored a game-high 13 points. Sirena Medrano and Jordan Stansell each pumped in 12.

Senior Erin Burleson hit for six before fouling out late. Terann Ragland added six and Teddi Crenwelge contributed five points.

The Frenship junior varsity also upended the junior ladies, 68-63.

The Lady Tigers will break for the holidays before joining the boys at Lubbock High Tuesday. The girls varsity contest gets underway at 6 p.m.

Lady Bulldogs rally late but fall shy against Sterling City

The Ira Lady Bulldogs are showing signs of coming of age.

After a close, 39-30, loss to Lubbock Roosevelt Saturday, the team struggled getting out of the chute Monday before mounting a furious rally in the fourth quarter in a 49-47 loss to Sterling City.

Lindsey Wilson scored 21 points on 70 percent shooting and Kelbi Pitner grabbed 13 boards and connected for 16 points, as the Lady Bulldogs scored 22 points in the final quarter against the Lady Eagles.

"Sterling City played a good ball game," Ira head coach Brent Parr said. "We struggled executing offensively and defensively most of the game. We played really well the last four and a half minutes."

Parr said the Lady Bulldogs had some opportunities to take the lead in the fourth quarter, after scoring just 12 points in the opening half — three in the first quarter.

"We continue to improve as a team and are becoming more aggressive," he said. "If we ever put four quarters together we will be a very good team."

Amanda Calley dished out six assists and added six points for Ira, while Alana Pulis and Whitney Payne contributed two each.

Against Roosevelt on Saturday, the Lady Bulldogs led in the first half before getting outscored by 12 over the final two quarters.

Pitner had a team-high 10 points and hauled in nine rebounds, while Calley hit for eight points and recorded three assists and four steals.

Shae Allen, Brittany Dickerhoff and Payne each added a bucket.

The Ira Junior High girls were stopped by Klondike Monday, 63-13. Rebecca Juarez posted seven points, Kaci Waller had four and Laura Juarez added two.

The Lady Bulldogs get back into action Tuesday at Roscoe, with a 6:30 p.m. start.

North Texas claims nailbiter over NMSU

LAS CRUCES, N.M. (AP) — North Texas' Nick Bazaldua had missed two earlier field goals, but this one looked like a tap-in.

"I knew I was going to make this one," Bazaldua said of his 24-yard field goal on the last play of the game that gave the Mean Green a 13-10 win over New Mexico State Tuesday.

Bazaldua missed field goals from 52 and 51 yards in the first half, but his game-winner went right through the middle of the uprights.

Patrick Cobbs ran for 216 yards for North Texas (9-3, 7-0 Sun Belt), picking up 61 of them on seven carries in the game-winning drive.

"I won't put anyone on a pedestal, but Cobbs did a great job, along with their whole offense," NMSU coach Tony Samuel said.

North Texas, headed to the New Orleans Bowl for the third straight year, won its 18th consecutive Sun Belt Conference game.

"Our kids never panicked," North Texas coach Darrell Dickey said.

New Mexico State (3-9, 2-5) tied it at 10-all on Dario Aguiniga's 49-yard field goal with 4:28 left. Aguiniga, the school's all-time leading field goal kicker, also missed two other attempts, including a 24-yarder on the last play of the first half.

Aguiniga's field goal resulted from an NMSU drive that started at the Aggies' 3. The big plays in the drive were a 32-yard run by Eric Higgins to the NMSU 40 and a screen pass from Paul Dombrowski to Tony Bostic for 26 yards.

North Texas then put its final drive in the hands of Cobbs. He picked up first downs on fourth-and-1 and on third-and-7 to get the set up Bazaldua's game-winner.

Cobbs, who had 37 carries and extended his school record of consecutive 100-yard rushing games to eight, scored on a 1-yard run in the first quarter. North Texas needed just eight plays to go 93 yards.

New Mexico State tied it with 36 seconds left in the quarter on quarterback Buck Pierce's 1-yard run.

Pierce broke his right ankle late in the third quarter and was on the sideline in crutches.

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Tecxas High School Football Playoff Pairings

CLASS 5A
DIVISION I
Region I Quarterfinals
San Angelo Central (9-3) vs. Arlington Lamar (12-0), 6 p.m. Saturday at Brownwood.
Region II Quarterfinals
Tyler Lee vs. The Woodlands (12-0), 4 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium.
Region III Quarterfinals
Galena Park North Shore (11-0) vs. Houston Lamar (10-1), 2 p.m. Saturday at Rice Stadium.
Region IV Quarterfinals
Austin Westlake (8-4) vs. Harlingen (8-3), 8 p.m. Friday at Corpus Christi's Buccaneer Stadium.
DIVISION II
Region I Regionals
Lubbock Monterey vs. Southlake Carroll (12-0), 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Lowery Field, Lubbock.
Abilene High (8-4) vs. Irving, 8 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium, Irving.
Region II Regionals
Allen vs. Klein Forest, TBA Saturday at SHSU Bower.
Dallas Carter vs. Leander (11-1), TBA.
Region III Regionals
Katy (11-1) vs. PA Memorial, 2 p.m. Saturday, Reliant Astrodome.
Fort Bend Hightower vs. Aldine Nimitz, 5 p.m. Saturday, Reliant Astrodome.
Region IV Regionals
Schertz Clemens vs. CC King (10-2), 4 p.m. Friday at Alamodome.
SA O'Connor (10-2) vs. PSJA North (11-1), 4 p.m. Saturday at Alamodome.

CLASS 4A
DIVISION I
Region I Quarterfinals
EP Riverside (9-2) vs. North Crowley (7-4), TBA.
Region II Quarterfinals
Dallas Kimball (9-3) vs. Texarkana (12-0), TBA Friday at Tyler's Rose Stadium.
Region III Quarterfinals
Beaumont Central (10-2) vs. Bay City (11-1), 2 p.m. Saturday at Thorne Stadium.
Region IV Quarterfinals
Kerrville Tivy (10-2) vs. CC Calallen (12-0), 8 p.m. Saturday at Alamodome.
DIVISION II
Region I Regionals
Pampa (11-1) vs. Aledo (9-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Wichita Falls.
Plainview (10-2) vs. Denton Ryan (11-1), 6:30 p.m. Saturday at Abilene.
Region II Regionals
Wylie (10-2) vs. Kilgore (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Texas Stadium.
Dallas Highland Park (11-1) vs. Ennis (12-0), 1 p.m. Friday at Texas Stadium.
Region III Regionals
Nederland (9-3) vs. La Marque (12-0), 7 p.m. Friday, Rice Stadium.
Waller (8-4) vs. El Campo (10-2), 2 p.m. Friday at Katy Stadium.
Region IV Regionals
SA Alamo Heights (11-1) vs. Gregory-Portland (9-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Alamo Heights.
New Braunfels Canyon (9-2) vs. Mission Sharyland (11-1), 8 p.m. Friday at Alamodome.

CLASS 3A
DIVISION I
Region I Quarterfinals
Snyder (8-4) vs. Abilene Wylie (8-4), 2 p.m. Saturday at San Angelo Stadium, San Angelo.
Region II Quarterfinals
Gainesville (12-0) vs. Forney (11-1), 4:30 p.m. Friday at Texas Stadium, Arlington.
Region III Quarterfinals
Jasper (10-2) vs. Manor (10-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Bryan.
Region IV Quarterfinals
Burnet (12-0) vs. Sinton (8-4), 3 p.m. Friday at Corpus Christi's Buccaneer Stadium.
DIVISION II
Region I Regionals
Sweetwater vs. Vernon (9-2), 2 p.m. Saturday at Lowery Field, Lubbock.
Merkel (9-3) vs. Kennedale (11-1), 6 p.m. Saturday at Wichita Falls.
Region II Regionals
Gilmer (12-0) vs. Tatum (8-4), TBA.
Atlanta (8-4) vs. Jefferson (8-4), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sam Parker Field, Mount Pleasant.
Region III Regionals
China Spring (10-2) vs. Bellville (12-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Round Rock ISD.
Marlin (8-4) vs. La Grange, TBA.
Region IV Regionals
Liberty Hill (11-1) vs. Port Isabel (8-3), 2 p.m. Saturday at Seguin.
Rice Consolidated (10-2) vs. Devine (7-5), 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Seguin.

CLASS 2A DIVISION I
Region I Quarterfinals
Shallowater (11-1) vs. Canadian (10-2), 5 p.m. Saturday at Kimbrough Stadium, Canyon.
Region II Quarterfinals
Jim Ned (12-0) vs. Maypearl (11-1), 6: p.m. Friday at Birdville ISD Complex.
Region III Quarterfinals
Elysian Fields (10-2) vs. San Augustine, 7:30 p.m. Friday at Kilgore.
Region IV Quarterfinals
Comfort (10-2) vs. Karnes City (12-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Alamo Stadium.
DIVISION II
Region I Regionals
Sonora (6-6) vs. Holliday, 6:30 p.m. Saturday at Sweetwater.
Coahoma (10-2) vs. Panhandle (12-0), (tentative) 7 p.m. Friday at Lowery Field.
Region II Regionals
Bangs (8-4) vs. Italy (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Birdville FAAC.
Crawford (12-0) vs. Whitewright (9-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Waxahachie.
Region III Regionals
Omaha Paul Pewitt (8-4) vs. Garrison (12-0), 1 p.m. Saturday, Maverick Stadium, Marshall.
Troup (11-1) vs. Timpson (8-4), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Murphy Stadium.
Region IV Regionals
Rogers (11-1) vs. Randolph (10-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Round Rock Stadium.
Ganado (11-1) vs. Poth (8-4), 7 p.m. Friday at Victoria.

CLASS 1A
Region I Regionals
Sunray (11-1) vs. Anton (12-0), 7 p.m. Friday at Canyon.
Stratford (10-1) vs. Crosbyton (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Dick Bivins Stadium, Amarillo.
Region II Regionals
Albany (11-1) vs. Roby (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Shotwell Stadium, Abilene.
Windthorst (11-1) vs. Roscoe (9-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Buckaroo Stadium, Breckenridge.
Region III Regionals
Gilmer Union Hill vs. Chilton (11-1), 7 p.m. Saturday, Athens.
Joaquin vs. Bosqueville, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Athens.
Region IV Regionals
West Sabine (11-0) vs. Shiner (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Katy.
Burkeville vs. Falls City, 7:30 p.m. Friday at A&M Consolidated.

SIX-MAN
Region I/II Quarterfinals
Whitharral vs. Sanderson, 6 p.m. Friday at Midland Greenwood.
Valley vs. Fort Davis, 6 p.m. Saturday at Garden City.
Region III/IV Quarterfinals
Strawn vs. Zephyr, 7:30 p.m. Friday at DeLeon.
Richland Springs vs. Calvert, 7:30 p.m. Friday at Gatesville.

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Woman's Column

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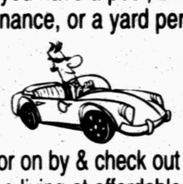
GARAGE SALE
Association for Retarded Citizens open each Tuesday and Thursday, 8a.m.-3:30p.m., 2504 Ave. W. Good used children's clothes. Donations of useable & sellable items accepted. For local pickup on items, call 573-4186, 573-5374 or 573-3729.

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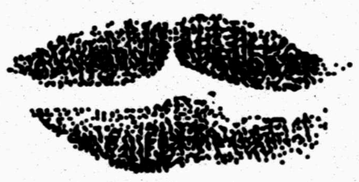
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Dallas police officer found innocent

DALLAS (AP) — A former narcotics officer was cleared Tuesday of charges that he helped frame innocent Mexican immigrants who were sent to jail after being found with what turned out to be fake drugs.

Jurors deliberated five hours beginning Monday afternoon before reaching the verdict in favor of former Senior Cpl. Mark De La Paz, who was the arresting officer in many of the disputed cases. In all, more than 80 cases were dismissed after tests revealed the purported drugs were actually gypsum powder or other legal substances.

Prosecutors had alleged De La Paz, 36, lied in arrest warrants about seeing drug transactions take place between four innocent immigrants and confidential informants. He was also charged with lying to a prosecutor and an FBI agent about seeing the transactions.

The informants were former drug dealers who have pleaded guilty to civil rights violations and are cooperating with prosecutors. They were paid $1,000 a kilogram in busts they set up, the defense said.

De La Paz would not comment.

Paul Coggins, De La Paz's attorney, had argued that De La Paz was duped by a crafty drug informant who masterminded the scheme. He said it was not a crime to be fooled.

Coggins said he rested his defense after calling just one witness because he knew the government had not proved its case.

"There's just way too many holes in the government's case. The case reeked of reasonable doubt," he said.

"He was just a hardworking police officer working to get drugs off the streets. He just got duped by drug dealers wanting to make money," said Dallas Police Association President Glenn White.

De La Paz could have been sentenced to as much as 10 years in prison if he had been convicted.

He was fired in April after being indicted and had been on administrative leave since January 2002, when the FBI began investigating the case. De La Paz will now petition to get his job back.

"Certainly the verdict indicates that the officer was not guilty of any wrongdoing, and it sheds a good light on the police department," said police spokesman Sgt. Gil Cerda, who noted that firing an officer named in a federal indictment is normal police department protocol.

The city has been hit with seven lawsuits with a total of 21 plaintiffs, all alleging they were incorrectly charged with drug possession, according to the Dallas City Attorney's Office.

Judge halts using wells in a Michigan county

BIG RAPIDS, Mich. (AP) — A judge on Tuesday ordered the company that produces Ice Mountain bottled water to stop drawing water from wells in a Michigan county, saying the operation has damaged the environment.

The ruling came in a lawsuit filed by environmentalists who said the company's water-bottling operation has depleted neighboring lakes, streams and wetlands.

Ice Mountain is one of the most popular brands of bottled water in the Midwest. Its parent company is Nestle Waters North America, the maker of brands such as Poland Spring, Arrowhead and Deer Park.

The company operates four wells in Mecosta County, in western Michigan, and pumps the water to its nearby bottling plant.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's water division had granted a permit allowing Ice Mountain's water-bottling plant to withdraw up to 400 gallons per minute, or 576,000 gallons per day.

Since production started, the plant's average pumping rate has been around 200 to 250 gallons per minute, company spokeswoman Deborah Wudyka has said.

But Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Root said that is still too much.

"I am unable to find that a specific pumping rate lower than 400 gallons per minute, or any other rate to date, will reduce the effects and impact to a level that is not harmful," Root wrote.

Ice Mountain Spring Water spokeswoman Deborah Muchmore called the ruling unwarranted and "quite extreme."

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Nov. 27, 2003
A hopeful new cycle could be emerging in the year ahead where your dreams can become realities. Surprisingly, however, many things you thought you wanted will no longer be important and will be replaced with greater ambition.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — It's not that you'll be motivated today by the "what's in it for me" syndrome, but more by the practical aspects of a financial situation. This will strongly influence your actions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Taking a back seat to others could prove to be quite difficult for you today, so you'll need to be careful as to how you conduct yourself when dealing with associates. Be a leader, not a dictator.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Being so serious-minded today, hunches you get at this time on ways to improve your material lot in life may seem too good to be true. What you sense could be accurate, so act on them.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Hanging out with doers today will have a stimulating effect upon your own industriousness. Seek out companions who have ambition, determination and tenacity to rub off on you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Occasionally we all need a nod of approval from others for our efforts, and this may be the case for you today. Knowing you are appreciated will spur you on to bigger and better things.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Loud, raucous places or boisterous people could be especially unnerving to you today, so avoid the kinds of places that draw them. Seek the quieter spots where people talk in softer tones.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You could do rather well in a joint venture at this time with an associate who is serious-minded and ambitious. You're of a like mind and as such can produce a harmonious relationship.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — There is great power in unity, so try to be open-minded today rather than opinionated when discussing an important issue with someone with whom you have an arrangement.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — A task that you have dreaded doing may beg for attention today. It won't be as arduous or distasteful as you thought if you attack it with a cheerful attitude. Make your work fun.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You may find yourself in need of some form of social outlet today. However, you're likely to find things more pleasurable if you restrict yourself to spending your time with intimate friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — If you have a number of small domestic chores adding up that you've been sweeping under the rug lately, chances are you're not going to find a better day than today to do them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Rather than your frankness and honesty annoying others today, they'll be impressed by your practical approach to issues. You'll tell things like they are, without being harsh or critical.

Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Visit www.bernice4u.com for more advice.

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Date Book

Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2003
Today is the 330th day of 2003 and the 65th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1862, Charles Lutwidge Dodgson sent 10-year-old Alice Liddell a story, titled "Alice's Adventures Under Ground," as a Christmas present. The manuscript was noticed by novelist Henry Kingsley, who suggested that Dodgson turn it into a book. In 1865, the book was published under Dodgson's nom de plume, Lewis Carroll.

On this day in 1922, British archeologists Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon entered King Tutankhamen's tomb. It was the first time the tomb had been entered by humans in more than 3,000 years.

On this day in 1927, Ford announced the introduction of the Model A.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Sarah Moore Grimke (1792-1873), abolitionist and women's rights activist; Charles M. Schulz (1922-2000), cartoonist; Robert Goulet (1933-), singer and actor, is 70; Tina Turner (1939-), singer, is 64.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1956, Rev. Bob Richards won a record-breaking second gold medal in the pole-vaulting competition of the Olympic games in Melbourne, Australia. He went on to become the first athlete featured on a Wheaties cereal box.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The way I see it, it doesn't matter what you believe just so you're sincere." — Charles M. Schulz

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Nov. 23) and first quarter (Nov. 30)

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Best to address depression

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a sad mommy with two young children. As long as I can remember, I've been depressed. I feel worthless, yet I cover up quite well. I'd bring this up with my family physician, but I fear that he will ignore me, think badly of me or dismiss my complaints. Even when I take the children to the pediatrician, I'm afraid to raise the issue, so I smile and playact.

I guess my question to you is how do I get the nerve to stand up and say I need help?

DEAR READER: This can be a daunting task for anybody, especially a young mother who is expected to be perfect.

However, you have shown great courage by taking a first step and writing to me.

Although your family physician is a resource you could consider, he or she may not feel comfortable treating your depression, one reason being that there are about two dozen anti-depression drugs now available and the choice of which one to use can be challenging.

Likewise, you could investigate counseling services in your community. However, such counselors — unless they are M.D.s — cannot prescribe anti-depressants.

Consequently, I recommend a straightforward, honest approach. Get your family doctor — or your obstetrician — on the telephone, explain that you are struggling with depression, and ask for a referral to a psychiatrist who specializes in psychopharmacology, the use of medicines to treat depression. Once you are "plugged into" such a resource, the psychiatrist will interview you, prescribe an anti-depressant, adjust the dose and work with you to change your life for the better.

Depression is not simply an "emotional" condition. It is due to an imbalance of chemicals within the brain that can be successfully treated with medication. You have already found the nerve to ask for help; now take the next step toward your goal of good health.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Mental and Emotional Illness." 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: For the past few months, I have experienced attacks of sudden and prolonged vertigo that occur without warning or pattern. My doctor ordered a stress test and a cardiac ultrasound exam, both normal. Last week, I had a normal CT scan of my head. What is my next step? My life is totally disrupted; I no longer can drive.

DEAR READER: Your doctor has appropriately addressed this serious problem by testing you for a cardiac disorder and a brain tumor. At this point, you need to be examined by an ear, nose and throat specialist. Most cases of vertigo result from tiny flakes of calcium that float in the fluid of the inner ear and occasionally irritate the nerves in that area, leading to vertigo. The otolaryngologist may be able to help you control your attacks by using head-repositioning maneuvers, or you may need to take medicine, such as Antivert, for relief.

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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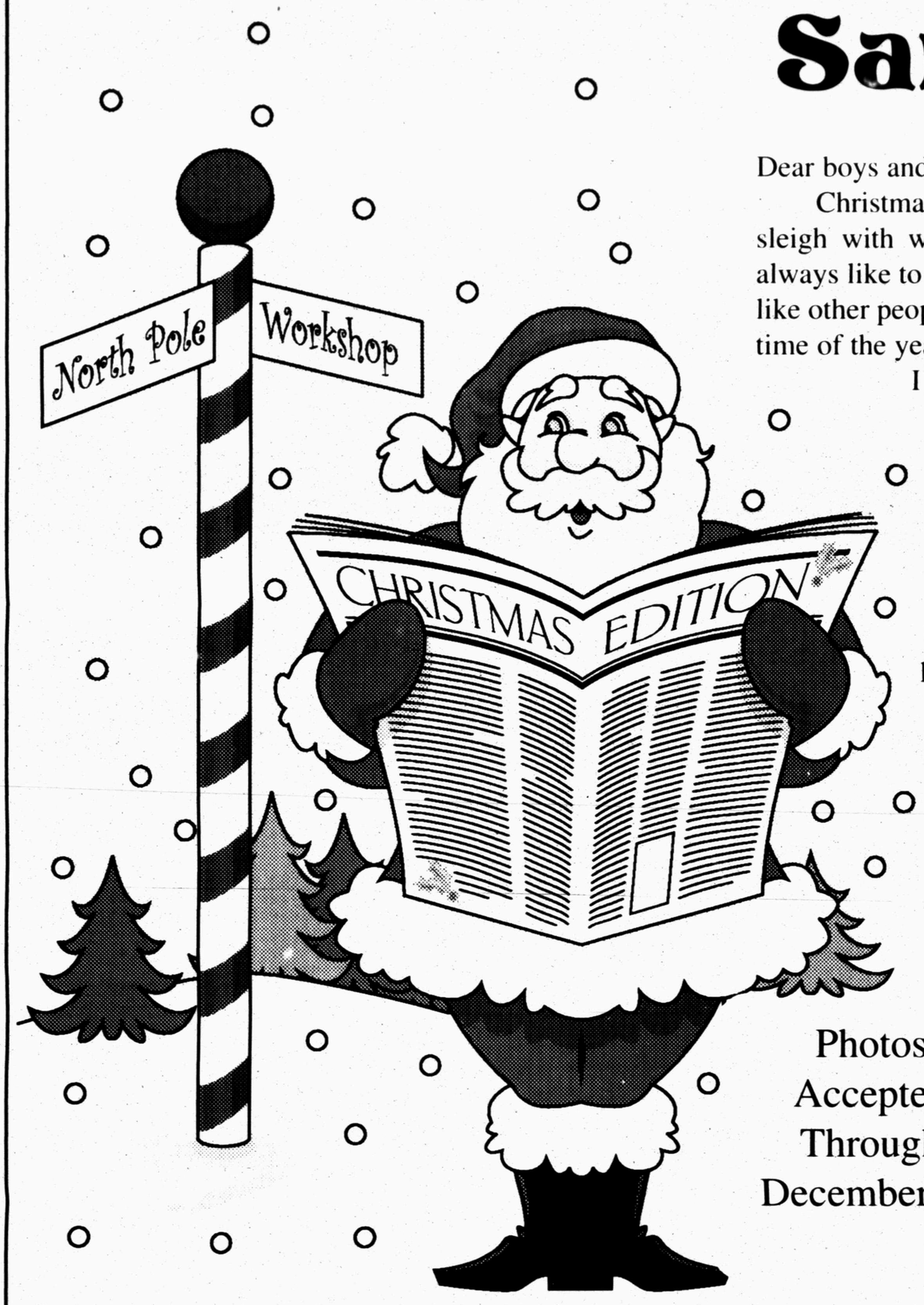
Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	13.10	12.70	12.77	—.06
AT&T Corp	20.07	19.65	19.70	—.27
Albertsons	21.44	21.25	21.36	+.14
Alltel	45.30	44.90	44.91	—.32
AmEl Pw	27.74	27.51	27.55	+.03
AndarkPtr	44.92	44.59	44.60	—.31
ATMOS Egy	24.85	24.70	24.73	—.02
Aviall	15.81	15.65	15.72	—.10
BP PLC	42.87	42.56	42.61	+.01
BakerHughes	28.53	28.30	28.49	+.16
Bank of Amer	75.27	74.29	74.79	—.26
BellSouth	26.37	26.16	26.18	+.03
BurlNoSFe	29.87	29.60	29.71	+.04
Caterpillar	75.50	74.68	74.70	—.34
CenterPoint	9.75	9.62	9.72	—.04
ChevronTex	75.16	74.68	75.03	+.46
Citigroup	47.29	46.61	46.72	—.16
CocaCola	46.65	46.18	46.35	
ColgatePal	52.49	52.10	52.37	—.05
CmclMetals	25.99	25.30	25.30	—.52
ConocoPhill	57.70	57.30	57.36	+.14
Cooper Inds	53.62	53.22	53.29	+.18
DaimlrChry	38.55	38.01	38.04	+.18
DeltaAirl	12.74	12.20	12.20	—.35
Dillards Inc	17.11	16.85	17.01	+.14
DowChem	37.74	37.29	37.53	+.24
DuPont	41.66	40.96	41.45	+.90
EastmanChem	35.92	35.54	35.71	+.17
EstKodak	24.45	24.11	24.17	—.09
EDS Corp	21.85	21.49	21.54	—.23
Entergy	52.89	52.72	52.76	+.24
ExxonMobil	36.22	35.84	36.17	+.35
FootLocker	22.25	21.50	21.69	—.26
GenDynam	80.25	79.75	79.92	+.02
GenElec	29.25	28.65	28.77	—.14
GenMills	45.35	45.05	45.07	
GenMotors	42.85	42.56	42.65	+.05
GaPacific	27.06	26.80	26.91	—.01
Goodrich	27.39	26.90	26.91	—.38
Goodyear	6.89	6.65	6.66	—.13
GtAtlPac	8.06	7.70	7.70	—.19
Halliburtn	23.31	23.05	23.13	—.12
Hanson PLC	34.70	34.44	34.58	+.68
HarteHanks	21.48	21.21	21.26	—.05
HomeDepot	36.77	36.08	36.16	—.46
HoneywellIntl	29.89	29.50	29.55	—.15
IBM	90.00	89.18	89.34	—.09
IntlPaper	37.82	37.41	37.51	—.01
JohnsonJn	51.54	49.26	49.46	—1.23
KinderMorg	55.44	55.17	55.20	—.20
Kroger Co	19.03	18.83	18.84	—.06
LockheedM	46.03	45.80	45.91	+.26
Lowes Cos	58.83	58.01	58.01	—.69
Lubys	3.78	3.70	3.73	+.03
LucentTech	3.13	3.07	3.07	+.02
MarathonOil	29.75	29.50	29.59	—.07
MayDeptStr	30.57	29.85	29.85	—.56
Medtronic	44.88	44.40	44.78	+.23
Motorola	13.79	13.45	13.71	+.26
NCR Corp	34.91	34.50	34.50	+.22
Navistar	42.75	42.02	42.05	—.50
PNM Rescs	28.14	27.90	28.01	+.03
Penney JC	25.29	25.02	25.03	+.10
PepBoys	20.63	20.26	20.30	—.01
PepsiCo	48.24	47.81	47.83	+.08
PhelpDodge	63.25	62.19	62.39	+.88
PilgrimsPride	14.90	14.60	14.60	—.05
Praxair	72.70	72.14	72.19	+.04
ProctGamb	97.06	95.82	96.03	—.84
RadioShack	31.40	31.07	31.21	—.23
RoyalDut	45.25	44.93	44.94	+.34
SBC Comm	23.55	23.31	23.32	—.14
SaraLee	20.71	20.50	20.57	+.12
Scripps EW	93.00	92.80	92.80	—.18
SearsRoeb	55.81	55.04	55.08	—.57
SherwinW	32.67	32.48	32.48	+.06
SouthernCo	29.35	29.01	29.22	+.21
SwstAirl	18.14	17.64	17.64	—.28
SprintFON	15.20	15.02	15.03	—.12
SprintPCS	4.64	4.47	4.48	—.06
Sunoco Inc	48.12	47.68	47.77	+.09
TXU Corp	22.15	22.00	22.05	—.01
TempleInland	56.67	56.00	56.17	—.06
TexInd	29.50	28.92	28.95	—.25
TexasInst	29.90	29.11	29.24	—.21
Textron	49.95	49.49	49.60	—.14
TimeWarner	16.35	16.12	16.14	+.05
TrinityInds	25.86	25.59	25.59	—.12
TylerTech	8.38	8.26	8.26	—.07
UnionPacif	63.99	63.44	63.73	+.27
USSteel	24.43	24.00	24.28	+.32
UnitedTech	85.70	85.09	85.58	+.17
Unocal	31.80	31.50	31.63	—.01
VerizonComm	33.15	32.69	32.71	—.32
WalMart	56.20	55.20	55.25	—.79
WellsFargo	57.48	57.05	57.15	
WstnGasRs	44.19	43.87	43.99	+.12
WinnDixie	8.96	8.72	8.93	+.13
Xerox Cp	11.97	11.59	11.84	+.40
YumBrands	34.40	34.02	34.03	+.16

NOV 26 2003



Santa Photos

Dear boys and girls,

Christmas is only a few days away. I am already loading my sleigh with wonderful toys and many good things for you. I always like to know what good children want for Christmas, and like other people I enjoy seeing pictures of children at this happy time of the year.

I have made arrangements with the Snyder Daily News to publish photos of children in your area. Just have your mom or dad bring a photo of you to the Snyder Daily News office and make arrangements to have it published in the Christmas Edition.

You will need to provide your own photo for this special edition. After the photo has been processed your mom or dad can pick up the photo at the Snyder Daily News.

I hope to see your photo in the Snyder Daily News and wish you a very Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas
Santa

Photos Accepted Through December 13



Trent and Trevor, 3-year-old twins of Bobby and Korie Allen, wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Trent would like Santa to bring him a new tricycle while Trevor is asking for a riding tractor.

Bring your favorite photograph of your child, grandchild or other children to the Snyder Daily News so that it may be included in the special "Christmas Edition". The photo will appear in the special edition along with the child's message to Santa for only $12.50. The Snyder Daily News reserves the right to reject photos not suitable for reproduction in the newspaper.

HAVE YOUR CHILD'S PHOTO AND MESSAGE TO SANTA PUBLISHED IN THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CHRISTMAS EDITION , DECEMBER 24.

QUALITY PHOTOS:

Due to reproduction requirements, photos submitted should be glossy prints. Pre-scanned, digital reproductions or digital discs cannot be accepted.

PHOTO RETURN:

For your convenience you may want to provide the Snyder Daily News with a self-addressed, stamped envelope so that your Santa Photo can be returned. Or you may wish to stop back by the Snyder Daily News office after Christmas and pick-up your photo. Photos not claimed by March 1, will be discarded.



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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Economy and Medicare give Bush boost

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush is on a roll: The economy is roaring, consumers are optimistic, a prescription drug benefit for 40 million Americans awaits his signature, and his campaign war chest is growing ever-fatter.

After steadily rising casualties in Iraq and differences with allies on trade and other issues, Bush was ready for some good news. He quickly incorporated it into his re-election message Tuesday.

The biggest development was the passage of the new drug coverage for seniors under Medicare, a step Bush heralded as evidence he is breaking the partisan gridlock in Washington. For years Medicare has been a trademark issue of the Democrats, but the Senate's vote Tuesday broke their hold.

"Some said Medicare reform can never be done," Bush said in Las Vegas. "For the sake of our seniors, we've got something done. We're acting."

Final passage of the bill came as Bush campaigned in Nevada and Arizona, two states with a high percentage of older Americans, a prime political target of his re-election drive.

Top GOP hope Congress will approve gigantic spending bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Top Republicans hope Congress will approve a gigantic $373 billion spending bill when lawmakers return next month, but Democrats angry over White House victories in the bill are showing no inclination to cooperate.

Congressional and Bush administration bargainers on Tuesday finished writing the measure, a sprawling package that finances 11 departments and dozens of programs from the FBI to airport improvements to foreign aid. It covers the budget year that began Oct. 1, leaving majority Republicans well short of their goal of demonstrating efficiency by finishing Congress' routine spending work promptly.

GOP leaders planned to bring both chambers of Congress back to work the week of Dec. 8. But it was possible final votes might not occur until January — the start of a year featuring presidential and congressional elections.

The bill has something that appeals to almost every member of Congress, such as money for popular programs like schools, veterans health care and projects for lawmakers' districts. But Democrats and some Republicans were irked over the White House's unyielding stance on several 11th-hour disputes.

Limits on how large television networks can grow were raised even though lawmakers had agreed last week not to do that. The administration — which had threatened vetoes on at least three issues — also prevailed in fights on overtime pay, federally financed private school vouchers for District of Columbia students, food labels, gun background checks and other issues.

"My way or the highway is the president's mantra," said Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va.

Births

Neri and Shanon DeLoera of Snyder announce the birth of a daughter, Sierra Katelyn DeLoera, at 3:56 a.m. on Nov. 24 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Sierra weighed five pounds, 14 ounces.

Paternal grandparents are Felipe and Anita DeLoera Jr. of Roscoe and maternal grandparents are Larry and Kathy McClintock of Sweetwater.

Economic outlook starting to improve

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's manufacturers saw orders for big-ticket goods go up in October by the largest amount in more than a year, an encouraging sign that the economic recovery was on firm footing at the start of the final quarter.

The Commerce Department reported today that new orders for "durable" goods rose by 3.3 percent last month, up from a 2.1 percent rise registered in September.

"Businesses are more confident that the recovery is real, that it is beginning to turn into an expansion and that general economic conditions will continue to improve into 2004," said David Huether, chief economist at the National Association of Manufacturers.

Consumer spending held steady in October, while people's incomes grew by a solid 0.4 percent, the department said in a second report. The figures matched economists' forecasts. The growth in income was encouraging because it provides a critical foundation for future spending.

New claims for unemployment benefits last week dropped by a seasonally adjusted 11,000 to 351,000, the lowest level since January 2001, the Labor Department said in a report that provided fresh evidence that the jobs market is turning around.

New-home sales declined by 3.5 percent in October from the previous month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.1 million units, the Commerce Department said in another report. Even with the drop, October's sales pace represented the fifth best month ever on record and marked a 10 percent increase from the same month a year ago. Economists expect home sales to set a record high for all of 2003.

On Wall Street, stocks were mixed. The Dow Jones industrials were off four points, while the Nasdaq was up seven points.

TORCH to provide interim CFO for Cogdell Memorial

In a teleconference meeting Tuesday afternoon, the Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of managers agreed to contract with the Texas Organization of Rural and Community Hospitals (TORCH) for an interim chief financial officer.

It is expected TORCH will have an interim CFO at the hospital on Tuesday morning.

The board also agreed to allow TORCH to begin the preliminary work necessary to search for a chief executive officer.

The former CFO, Jared Squires, is now at the Covenant hospital in Levelland, while George Parsley, former CEO, left the hospital when Covenant Health Systems terminated its management agreement.

Participating in the teleconference were board chairman Carl Williams, and members Bill Voss, Terry Williams and Dink Foree.

Man arrested on parole violation warrant

• ***Arrests***

Deputies arrested a 48-year-old man at 8:54 a.m. Tuesday on an outstanding parole violation warrant. Taken into custody at his residence at 4129 CR 267 was Larry Ewing King.

Deputies arrested a 22-year-old male at 8:16 a.m. on U.S. 84 for driving with a suspended license.

At 9:59 a.m., a 35-year-old female was arrested in the 1500 block of 25th Street for surety withdrawal on an original charge of driving while license suspended.

A 24-year-old female was arrested at the jail at 10:15 a.m. Tuesday on an outstanding warrant for theft by check.

• ***Burglary***

Officers are investigating a burglary at the Strayhorn Storage building in the 2300 block of Avenue L that was reported shortly after 9 p.m. At least four more storage units were broken into and owners are to be contacted to determine if items are missing.

• ***Assault***

Deputies were called to the 4200 block of Avenue R at 1:12 this morning in reference to an assault. A report for Class B assault was submitted.

• ***Identity theft***

A woman contacted officers Tuesday about someone using her Social Security number. She was advised of the proper steps to take.

• ***Illegal dumping***

Deputies were called to the bridge on CR 277 as someone had been dumping tree limbs onto the side of the road.

• ***Fire***

The Snyder Fire Department responded to a waste oil storage tank on fire at 12:34 p.m. Tuesday near CR 370 and Hwy. 180.

• ***Buses shoe polished***

Officers were called to Snyder High School at 9:18 p.m. Tuesday in reference to Big Spring buses being painted with shoe polish.

Obituaries

Jake King

1909-2003

Jake Carlston King, longtime Snyder resident, died Tuesday, Nov. 25, at his home in Snyder after a sudden illness.

Graveside service for Mr. King, 94, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in Hillside Memorial Gardens with the Rev. Charles Day, pastor of Avenue D Baptist Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Feb. 22, 1909 in New Boston, he was married to Ida Mae Pearson who died in 1996.

A resident of Snyder since 1924, Mr. King was a veteran of World War II. He was a farmer and oilfield worker and a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

He also was preceded in death by his parents, Willie and Effie Nelson King; two sisters, Eula Daniels and Bertie Sandlin; and two brothers, Jesse King and Junior King.

Survivors include a brother, J.W. King of Lubbock; a sister, Pearl Cagle of Snyder; three nieces and their spouses, Frances and Pete Pitner of Snyder, Jeanne and Eddie Watson of Brownwood and Barbara and Billy Rinehart of Arlington; two nephews, Bobby Joe King and wife Susie of Snyder, and Jesse King of Pasadena.

Lane Echols

1907-2003

Funeral service for Lane Echols, 96, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in Faith Baptist Church. John B. Echols Jr., a grandson, and Larry White, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.



Lane Echols

Mrs. Echols, a longtime Scurry County resident, died this morning in Snyder Oaks Care Center after a lengthy illness.

Born Nov. 10, 1907 in Shelby County, she married Burton Echols on June 25, 1925 in Tenaha.

They moved to Scurry County in 1933 where they farmed until Mr. Echols' death in 1963. Mrs. Echols was a homemaker and a member of Faith Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents; eight siblings; and two children, Van Echols and Edyth Henderson.

Survivors include her children and their spouses, Mary and Guy Baber of Hobbs, N.M., John and Nita Echols of Navasota, and Janet and Ted Bigham of Snyder; a special niece and nephew, Kay and Tommy Echols of Snyder; 11 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Family visitation will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. Friday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Vivian Fikes

1913-2003

Vivian Elizabeth Fikes, a former resident of Snyder, died Wednesday, Nov. 26, in Lubbock's Hospitality House.

Services for Mrs. Fikes, 90, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born March 27, 1913, she was married to Joseph Daniel Halpain who died in 1947. She married Edwin Lloyd Fikes, and he died in 1971.

Mrs. Fikes owned and operated a laundry in Snyder for about 10 years and she also worked in a number of restaurants, including Sally's.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Billy Gene Halpain and Donald Wayne Halpain; and two stepdaughters, Eddie Lee and Maxine Fikes.

Survivors include a daughter, Debra Chaney of Waco; two sons, Joe Lee Halpain of Kemp and Jack Andrew Halpain of Lubbock; two stepdaughters, Ramona Fikes of Plano and Faydell Christian of Arkansas; two stepsons, Edwin Lloyd Fikes Jr. of Lubbock and William Fikes of Odessa; 16 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

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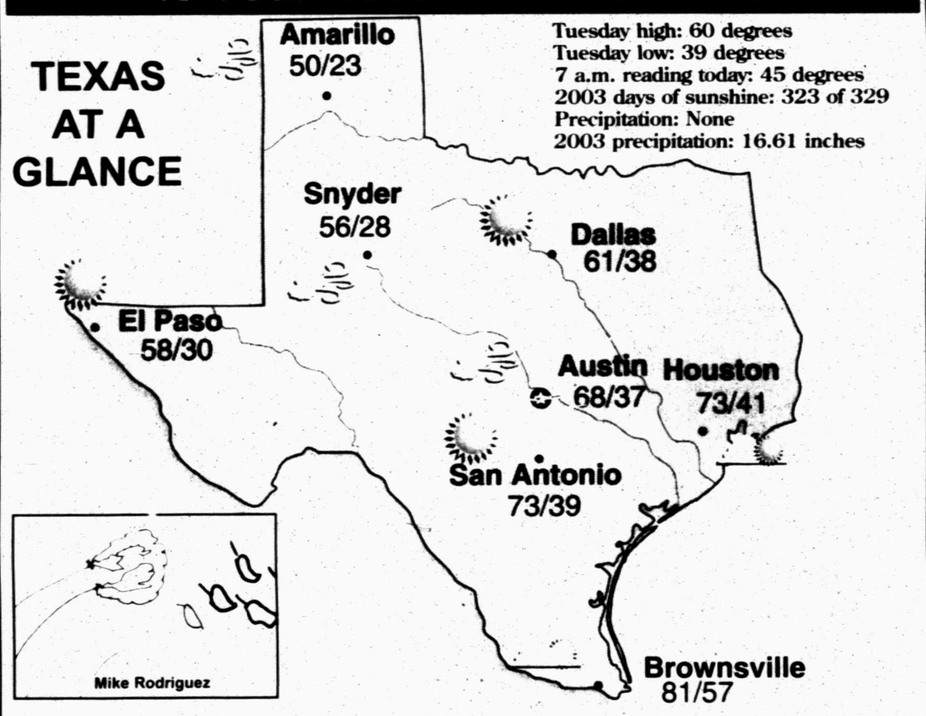
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 11/27	Fri 11/28	Sat 11/29
56/28	56/32	65/39
Sunny and windy. High 56F. Winds N at 20 to 30 mph.	Sunshine. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise 7:24 AM / Sunset 5:38 PM	Sunrise 7:25 AM / Sunset 5:38 PM	Sunrise 7:26 AM / Sunset 5:38 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–
THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS
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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Tuesday high: 60 degrees
Tuesday low: 39 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 45 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 323 of 329
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 16.61 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	58	32	sunny	El Paso	58	30	sunny	Midland	57	30	windy
Amarillo	50	23	windy	Fort Stockton	59	32	sunny	Raymondville	80	53	pt sunny
Austin	68	37	windy	Gainesville	59	34	sunny	Rosenberg	73	41	pt sunny
Beaumont	73	41	rain	Greenville	60	34	sunny	San Antonio	73	39	sunny
Brownsville	81	57	cloudy	Houston	73	41	pt sunny	San Marcos	69	37	windy
Brownwood	63	34	sunny	Kingsville	79	47	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	61	35	sunny
Corpus Christi	77	47	pt sunny	Livingston	70	36	mst sunny	Sweetwater	58	31	sunny
Corsicana	63	37	sunny	Longview	64	37	mst sunny	Tyler	63	36	sunny
Dallas	61	38	sunny	Lubbock	55	25	windy	Weatherford	60	33	sunny
Del Rio	67	39	sunny	Lufkin	69	37	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	59	32	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	67	47	rain	Houston	73	41	pt sunny	Phoenix	71	47	sunny
Boston	50	46	cloudy	Los Angeles	73	53	mst sunny	San Francisco	61	53	pt sunny
Chicago	47	30	cloudy	Miami	82	70	pt sunny	Seattle	48	44	rain
Dallas	61	38	sunny	Minneapolis	30	24	cloudy	St. Louis	49	33	pt sunny
Denver	33	16	windy	New York	55	52	cloudy	Washington, DC	60	53	cloudy

Moon Phases

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

UV Index

Thu 11/27	Fri 11/28	Sat 11/29
4 Low	4 Low	4 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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NOV 26 2003

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CAT Engine 3126 210 HP High Torque
22.5 x 8.25 Wheels
12,000 lb Front Axle, 224" Wheelbase



'03 Chevrolet 7500 Kodiak
295 HP 8100 V8 Gas, 6 Spd Manual Eaton
Trans., Rear Axle 6.10, 11R22.5G Tires
31,000 GVWR



'03 Chevrolet 7500 Kodiak
295 HP 8100 V8 Gas, 6 Spd Manual Eaton
Trans., Rear Axle 6.10, 11R22.5G Tires
PTO, 19' Van Body, 31,000 GVWR



'03 Chevrolet C5500 Kodiak
300 HP Duramax Diesel, 6 spd Allison Trans.
Hydr. Brakes, 19,500 GVWR, CA 120", A/C,
T/C, AM/FM, PTO Ready



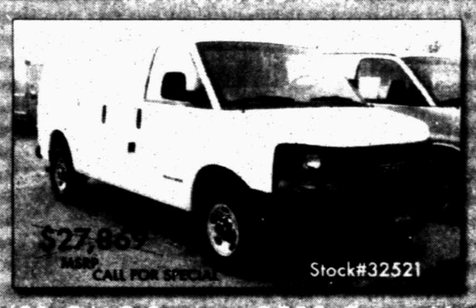
'03 Chevrolet C5500 Kodiak
300 HP Duramax Diesel, 6spd Manual Trans,
Rear Axle 4.78, 19,600 GVWR, 108 CA
T/C, PTO, 225/70R 19.5F Tires



'03 Chevrolet 4500 Kodiak
6600 Duramax Diesel, 5 Spd Allison Auto Trans.
16,000 GVWR, Rear Axle 4.30
225/70R 19.5F Tires



'03 GMC Savana 2500 Cargo Van
7,500 GVWR, 5300 V8, Automatic Trans
Tinted Glass, Side & Rear Doors



'03 GMC Savana 2500 Cargo Van
9,600 GVWR, 6000 V8, Automatic Trans
Power Locks, T/C, Front Bucket Seats
Side Hinged Doors



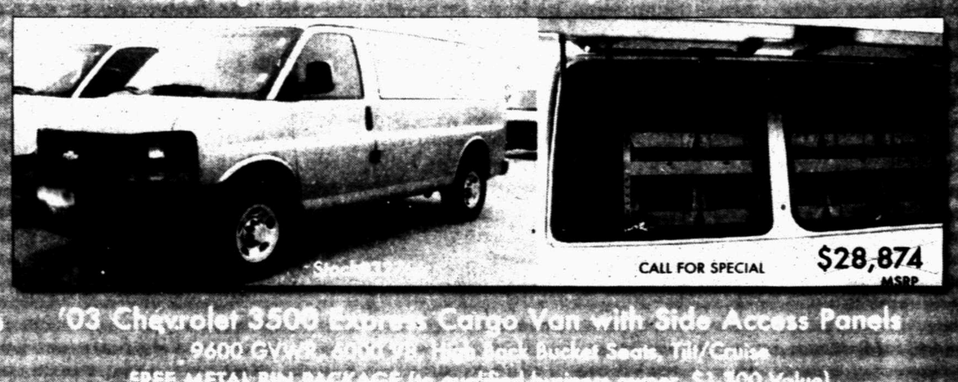
'03 GMC Sonoma Reg Cab LWB
4300 V6, Automatic, T/C, Vinyl Floor Covering
HD Suspension Package, White



'03 Chevrolet 3500 Express 15 Pass.
LS Trim, Hinged Doors, 6000 V8
Power Seats, Power Windows and Locks
9,600 GVWR Deep Tint Glass, Dome



'03 Chevrolet 2500 Express Cargo
6000 V8, T/C, Automatic
Tinted Glass, Side & Rear Doors, White
Hinged Side Doors



'03 Chevrolet 3500 Express Cargo Van with Side Access Panels
9600 GVWR, 6000 V8, High Back Bucket Seats, Tilt/Cruise
FREE METAL BIN PACKAGE ($1,500 Value)
HD Trailering Equipment, Tinted Glass Rear Doors, Hinged Side Doors

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